

December 16, 2011

Clallam County Board of Commissioners 223 East 4<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 4 Port Angeles, WA 98362

## RE: Importance of maintaining the Streamkeepers

Dear Commissioners:

The Dungeness River Management Team wanted to thank the Board for its actions to retain and transfer the Streamkeepers program to the Public Works Department. All of us greatly appreciate this result.

We recognize that during this time of diminished financial resources the need to balance a large list of County services is a difficult task. We asked you to develop a plan to save the program because of its importance and you did just that. Your solution maintains a portion of the staff support needed to manage this large network of highly qualified volunteers and the badly needed data that they collect and compile. The data already collected will be used and the data that needs to be collected will be addressed.

It is our wish that we always have a Streamkeepers program to count on. Your decision has helped greatly in this regard. A big "thank you" goes out to all three of you from all of us. Happy Holidays!

Respectfully, and on behalf of the Dungeness River Management Team,

Scott Chitwood Chairman