

## Dungeness River Management Team Cooperative Management of Our Watershed's Resources

Coordinated by Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and Clallam County 1033 Old Blyn Highway • Sequim, WA 98382 • (360) 683-1109

March 26, 2010

Cynthia Nelson Watershed Lead Washington Department of Ecology PO Box 47775 Olympia, WA 98504-7775

RE: Planning Unit Support Grant Request (For the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011)

Dear Cynthia,

The Dungeness River Management Team (DRMT), planning unit for East WRIA 18, strongly supports Clallam County's request to Ecology for Planning Unit Support funding for the July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011 project period. The DRMT continues to work toward implementation of the 2005 approved and adopted WRIA 18 Elwha-Dungeness Watershed Plan (WRIA 18 Plan). Planning Unit Support funding is important for continuing to achieve WRIA 18 Plan implementation goals.

One of the key recommendations in the WRIA 18 Plan is to set instream flows in the Dungeness watershed and develop strategies for providing a sustainable water supply for people and aquatic resources, including several listed salmonid species. Subcommittees have been providing input on a draft Dungeness Instream Flow and Watershed Management Rule, and the DRMT has provided opportunities for team members and the community to learn more about rule development at its monthly meetings. At the same time, DRMT meetings have continued to provide a forum for exchanging information on technical studies, issues and projects referenced in the WRIA 18 Plan that are occurring in the Dungeness River Watershed Planning Area (East WRIA 18). For example, in 2009 team members participated in productive discussions about and exchanged information and comments on the following sampling of topics:

- Carlsborg Pilot Aquifer Recharge Test Results
- Jimmycomelately Restoration Project
- NASA's "North Olympic Peninsula Solutions Network" Dungeness Flow Prediction Project
- Meadowbrook Feasibility Study
- Clallam County Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan
- Pacific Salmon Treaty Council process and outcomes
- Aquifer Recharge Feasibility Study
- Dungeness Ground Water Model
- Microbial Source Tracking of fecal coliform
- Juvenile Salmon Life History in the Dungeness River Estuary
- Project proposals (including DRMT ranking process) for Salmon Recovery Funding Board
- Routine updates from City of Sequim, US Forest Service (Olympic National Park), Puget Sound Partnership and Ecology

Planning Unit Support funding has helped provide a foundation for partners to pursue WRIA 18 Plan implementation. Meeting coordination and detailed note-taking and distribution to DRMT and community members (via e-mail and the DRMT website) facilitates the information exchange so that constructive planning for and achievement of Watershed Plan implementation goals moves forward.

Thank you for considering supporting the DRMT (via Clallam County) in its efforts to implement the WRIA 18 Plan and improve the condition of natural resources in the Dungeness basin.

Sincerely,

Steve Tharinger, Chair

Dungeness River Management Team (DRMT membership listed below)

Clallam Conservation District (Advisory)

Clallam County

Clallam PUD #1 (Advisory)

City of Sequim

**Dungeness Beach Association** 

Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS) (Advisory)

Dungeness-Quilcene Watershed Planning

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

North Olympic Land Trust

Protect the Peninsula's Future

Riverside Property Owners

Sequim-Dungeness Water Users Association

Sports Fisheries

US Forest Service (Advisory)

WA Department of Fish and Wildlife

WA Department of Ecology