



Dungeness River Management Team
Cooperative Management of Our Watershed's Resources
Coordinated by Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and Clallam County
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To: Public Utility District No. 1 of Clallam County Board of Commissioners and Clallam County Board of County Commissioners

From: Dungeness River Management Team

Date: April 14, 2010

Subject: Letter of support for a Carlsborg Urban Growth Area Wastewater Treatment and Water Reuse project.

For more than 20 years the Dungeness River Management Team (DRMT) has been dedicated to improving the health of the rivers, streams and aquifers of the Dungeness River Watershed Planning Area. With this purpose and mission in mind, we the members of the DRMT strongly support the development of a wastewater treatment and water reuse project for the Carlsborg Urban Growth Area.

The DRMT urges the Public Works Board to provide funds for this project to support the physical and biological health and efficient use of water supplies in the area, which are of great value and importance to both people and ecosystems. The mission of the Public Works Board is to provide financial and technical assistance to Washington communities for critical public health, safety, and environmental infrastructure that supports economic vitality. This project will support our common goals by:

- protecting public health by eliminating failing on-site septic systems and controlling a source of nitrate pollution in the area's groundwater,
- enhancing environmental health by augmenting flows in Matriotti Creek and establishing more productive riparian and aquatic ecosystems, and
- improving water systems' efficiency by using reclaimed water to supply non-potable, municipal uses, thereby replacing the use of treated drinking water and river diversions for such purposes.

Moreover, the project supports economic opportunity by providing the infrastructure needed for urban development and to accommodate future growth in the Carlsborg Urban Growth Area. Future residential, commercial, and industrial development would be focused in the Urban Growth Area and be directed away from the surrounding rural areas and open spaces. The project would absorb growth with less impact on the river and creeks than without the project.

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The DRMT believes the project could be a significant benefit to the future of the Dungeness River watershed, and should be considered primarily for its need, value and importance. It also aligns with the DRMT efforts to support, promote and implement the water reuse recommendations of the 2005 Elwha-Dungeness Watershed Plan.

However, the team is aware of and appreciates public concerns over the project's costs. Because finances greatly affect the project's feasibility, the Team supports the County's and PUD's efforts to attract alternative sources of funding. Any reductions in the project's economic impact on connected customers will not only improve its likelihood of development, but will also support establishment of a community-based stewardship ethic toward our water resources.

Finally, the Team would appreciate periodic updates and review of plans, proposals and outreach associated with the project. We look forward to hearing about progress on the various project elements.

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