



January 14, 2015

APPROVED Meeting Notes

Dungeness River Management Team

Dungeness River Audubon Center, Sequim, WA

2:00 – 5:00 P.M.

Notes prepared by: Shawn Hines

Team Members/Alternates in Attendance:

Scott Chitwood, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Judy Larson, Protect the Peninsula's Future
Robert Brown, Dungeness Beach Association
Shawn Hines, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (alt)
Cathy Lear, Clallam County (alt)
Tom Martin, Clallam County PUD #1
Ann Soule, City of Sequim

Others in Attendance:

Phil Martin, resident
Tobey Clarkin, URS Corporation

Ivan Stocker, Graysmarsh
Kate Dean, NOPRCD
Cindy Jayne, NOPRCD
Darlene Schanfald, Sierra Club, Washington Chapter
Jolene Sanborn, interested citizen
Mike Sanborn, interested citizen
Steve See, interested citizen
Patty See, interested citizen
Bob Lake, ODT
Ian Miller, WA Sea Grant
Lyn Muench, Dungeness River Audubon Center

I. Introductions/Review Agenda/Review & Approve November DRMT Draft Meeting Notes

- Scott Chitwood called meeting to order. Introductions were made, sign in sheets circulated. Approval of December 2014 DRMT meeting notes was postponed to February because of a lack of a quorum, in part due to a field tour taking place at the same time.

Public Comment

- James Beebe brought up the topic of low snowpack. Scott Chitwood noted that we are at 23% of average (as of December 2014), and he reminded the group that there are two SNOTEL (SNOpack TELEmetry) sites in Clallam County: "Waterhole" (near Hurricane Ridge) and "Dungeness". Data for both (plus one from Jefferson County, "Mount Crag") can be accessed via the Resources links on the DRMT website: <http://home.olympus.net/~dungenesswc/links.htm>
- Robert Brown mentioned that a recent discussion on the geoduck aquaculture plans for the Dungeness drew a very large audience. The February DRMT agenda includes a presentation by Taylor Shellfish, so we may want to explore other venue options to accommodate a larger than usual public audience. Shawn will look into it.
- Darlene Schanfald, who is on the board of the group (Sierra Club, Washington State Chapter) who hosted the recent geoduck discussion gave a brief summary of the issues discussed at that presentation. She said that 365 acres of Dungeness Bay are being leased, with 30 acres to be seeded initially, for geoduck farming. She noted potential ramifications to the aquatic habitat, and suggested the topic is timely as it relates to the County's Shoreline Master Program update, and that Ecology won't sign on SMP unless community allows aquaculture. Darlene took the opportunity to also announce the public meeting on the SMP tonight at 6:00PM at the John Wayne Marina. Scott Chitwood noted the recent presentation on this topic was one side of the story, and we will hear Taylor Shellfish's side at the next DRMT meeting.
- Cathy Lear encouraged folks to attend tonight's public meeting on the SMP and said there will be interesting information on the bluffs and houses at risk. There will also be a public hearing February 4th.
- It was noted that there have been some recent DRMT membership changes. Shawn will facilitate formalizing the changes with County/Tribe.

II. Climate Change on the Olympic Peninsula (Kate Dean and Cindy Jayne, North Olympic Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council, Ian Miller, WA Sea Grant)

- Cindy Jayne is Project Manager and Kate Dean is Project Administrator for the Planning for Climate Change on the North Olympic Peninsula Project. The North Olympic Resource Conservation and Development Council (NORCD) was awarded grant (from WA Department of Ecology, passed down from EPA) to develop

policy recommendations on climate change. Project Team includes staff from NORCD and Adaptation International (consultants), plus many partners who meet monthly.

- Project Goal: create a Climate Change Preparation Plan for North Olympic Peninsula that will inform the comprehensive and strategic planning processes of the partners (comp plans, shoreline plans, water plans, stormwater mgt. plans, etc.).
- Focus: East Jefferson County and Clallam County along the Strait.
- Project Steps:
 - Conduct high level assessment summarizing trends and projected changes in the climate.
 - Identify Vulnerabilities through workshops.
 - Write Projected Climate Changes and Impacts Report.
 - Develop Adaptation Strategies through workshops.
 - Develop Climate Preparation Plan and outreach materials.
 - Monitoring.
- Currently a draft document is out for review. Another set of workshops are coming up.
- Kate introduced Ian Miller, WA Sea Grant, Coastal Disaster Specialist, who was brought on the project to look at sea level raise on the peninsula. Ian discussed some of the science the project is looking at and referenced several of the resources the project is using to come up with local projections of impacts to climate change. Ian's PowerPoint presentation included local projections for temperature, precipitation, soil water storage, snow water equivalent, runoff, etc.
- Tom Martin mentioned a National Academy of Sciences report he read which concluded that climate change is within the range of natural variability. Ian responded that he has read reports that say the opposite. He also pointed out that when researching these topics, he looks for reports that show the ensembles that show the averages (using many different models). He wouldn't trust a projection, for example, that used only one model.
- James Beebe asked if geological factors are taken into account in projections. Ian said that yes, the projections include global climate cycling.
- Cindy Jayne showed results (also emailed to DRMT) of the Water Resources Workshop, one of several workshops related to the overall project. The Water Resources Workshop occurred on November 12th, and the results included identification and ranking of regional vulnerabilities based on only those who participated in that workshop (i.e., the results are somewhat subjective).
- Discussion ensued about the results, including some suggested clarifications on some of the results and narrative that was included with the results. Tom Martin commented that irrigation water use should be added to the surface water vulnerability matrix for the Dungeness River.
- Kate provided some background about the process for the resulting vulnerability ranking table, stating that there were breakout groups, etc. Of primary importance was getting the right people at the table to engage in discussion, though she recognizes that it is highly subjective. That is why they are reviewing it with others now.
- For questions or additional comments on the draft water resources workshop results, please contact Cindy Jayne: cindyjaynept@gmail.com

III. Climate Change – Other Local / State Activities (Bob Lynette, Renewable Energy Consultant and Climate Change Educator)

- Bob Lynette represents the Olympic Climate Action Group (<http://olyclimate.org>) which is participating in the NOPRCD project that was just discussed. He wanted to discuss what local and state agencies are doing to mitigate impacts to climate change, and to minimize future impacts. He stated that right now, we are at 1990 levels for greenhouse gas emissions; however, we will not meet the limit goal for 2025. Washington ranks 8th best for emitters (10 tons per capita). 44% of greenhouse gas emissions come from transportation.
- Bob mentioned the Climate Impacts Group as the experts that the legislators look to for recommendations related to climate change. They produced an extensively peer-reviewed report: *Climate Change Impacts in*

the US (2014). <http://www.globalchange.gov/browse/reports/climate-change-impacts-united-states-third-national-climate-assessment-0>

- Forest Service report discusses possible impacts on the following: including insects, diseases, species, vegetative growth, wildfires: *Adapting to Climate Change at Olympic National Forest and Olympic National Park (2011)*: http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw_gtr844.pdf
- Washington's Climate Impacts Group has several documents on regional climate impacts planning.
- Bob discussed Carbon Pollution Accountability Act (Cap and Trade), and Carbon Washington, a revenue-neutral carbon tax campaign.
- Objective of Olympic Climate Action Group (the group he represents): gather and share the best available science and traditional knowledge on probable local impacts of climate change, best means to reduce/mitigate and adapt to these impacts.
- Port Townsend has a Climate Action Plan. Clallam County has a Climate Action Plan, but limited to County Government. The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe has a climate adaptation plan (DRMT website, Resources tab, Publications): <http://home.olympus.net/~dungenesswc/links.htm>

IV. Envision Skagit 2060 (John Lombard, Lombard Consulting)

- John Lombard worked on this project (<http://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/EnvisionSkagit> 2008-2013, which sought to develop and implement a broadly-supported, 50-year plan to protect the Skagit and Samish River watersheds' many environmental values, maintain highly productive natural resource industries, and accommodate population growth in livable, walkable, and economically vibrant communities within the Skagit. John suggested that the DRMT may want to consider doing something similar in our area, and if so – the DRMT would be the likely “Steering Committee” to help guide the process. He noted that the “secret to their success in the Skagit project was that the lead committee was a citizen-led group.
- John showed the DRMT a presentation about the Skagit project, and stated that the Skagit's main issue was population growth.
- *Envision Skagit 2060: Highlights* was handed out to the team. The Highlights outlined the project's history, technical analysis, citizen committee, regional discussion/implementation, and reflections (including possible transferable lessons and potential applicability to the Dungeness).
- One of the obstacles during the process was due to “Agenda 21”; opponents of the project thought it was an Agenda 21 conspiracy, which made it difficult for the process; it weakened forward progress. Lesson learned: prepare for this type of rhetoric ahead of time. Another lesson learned was that the modeling, though interesting, took a lot of time, was expensive, possibly not worth the effort.
- The final report, completed 2011, can be accessed at the Skagit County website (above).
- Robert Brown pointed out that with that amount of population growth, infrastructure would need to get built up. John said they did some relevant studies: agricultural viability, climate change, fiscal impact of growth.
- James Beebe asked about the driving factor behind the growth. Industries expanding north from Seattle? James noted that for Sequim, growth is more about people wanting 5-acre lots. Not really industry-related growth (other than Walmart and Costco). And if you don't let the residents in, there's no way to grow.
- Tom Martin asked about the Skagit Water Rule and impact of Swinomish case. John said that was built into all the future scenarios for only a few small sub-watersheds in which there are chronic water shortages.

Public Comment

- Scott Chitwood recognized former Clallam County Commissioner, Mike Doherty, in the audience. Mr. Doherty suggested that the group might be interested in the state-wide climate studies that are available [<http://ces.washington.edu/db/pubs/topic42.shtml>] including discussions of impacts to the economy. He also reminded attendees that the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe has a recent climate

change preparedness strategy [accessible via DRMT website, as well as the Tribe's website:
http://www.jamestowntribe.org/programs/nrs/nrs_climchg.htm

V. Adjourn

Action Items or Items Needing Follow-up	Date Recommended	Date Completed
Team needs to know who will be new Clallam County representative.	12/10/14 (by Robert Brown)	02/11/15: Clallam County DCD Director, Mary Ellen Winborn, is the new DRMT representative for Clallam County.

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