

APPROVED DRMT Meeting Notes, May 11, 2016

Prepared by Sam Brend, Clallam County

DRMT Members Present: Shawn Hines/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (alt), Cathy Lear/Cl. County, Robert Beebe/Riverside Property Owners, Robert Phreaner/Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society Conservation Committee (OPAS-CC), Peter Walker/(OPAS-CC) (alt), Ann Soule/ City of Sequim, David Garlington/City of Sequim (alt), Michele Canale, North Olympic Land Trust, Judy Larson/Protect the Peninsula's Future, Matt Heins/Estuary Tidelands Riverside Property Owners, Lorenz Sollman/Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge/USFW, Joe Holtrop/Clallam Conservation District, Marc McHenry/U.S. Forest Service (alt), Robert Brown/Dungeness Beach Association

Others Present: Sam Brend/Clallam County, Phil Martin/resident, Marguerite Glover/Sequim Association of Realtors, Bill Strehl/County resident, Cheryl Baumann/NOPL for Salmon, Jeremy Pratt/GEI

I. Introductions

- Scott Chitwood called meeting to order, made introductions.
- Ann Soule suggested Mike Gallagher should review notes, specifically the section "codified as an amendment to chapter RCW 90.54" as this code has not been changed in a very long time. Ann Soule motioned to postpone approval of the minutes, Judy Larson seconded. Shawn to contact Mike Gallagher. Motion carried.

Public Comment

- Cathy mentioned there is a microplastics and effects on marine environment presentation at the library, Monday night at the Sequim Library at 5pm.
- Joe Holtrop notified there is a meeting regarding changes to Ag exemptions in Clallam County's Critical Areas Ordinance which will be held at the Dungeness School House on Tuesday, May 24th at 6pm. 26th there is one in Forks.
- Lorenz updated us on the project on Sequim Bay. Asbestos abatement will start next week (floor tiling), and destruction next month.
- Scott addressed a question Judy had about sewage volume for the Tribe. All of the tribal properties in S. Sequim Bay produce 56,000 gallons per day. It would rise to 112,000 gallons per day once/if hotel expansion takes place. The ultimate build out looks like 158,000 gallons per day.

II. 2016 SRFB-PSAE Project Proposal Presentations (NOPL)

- The North Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon is a consortium and it includes the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, the Elwha Tribe, the City of PA, the City of Sequim has a seat, partners like the Conservation District, the Land Trust, the NOSC, and private citizens. Work to direct and advance restoration and recovery on the North Olympic Peninsula. Look at what funding is available and see what needs to be done to get that funding for partners. There are three projects that are requesting funding in the Dungeness Area. There is no money this year, they spent that money on a project that needed money last round, but they are running the grant for what they'll allocate next year.

Robert Knapp- Dungeness River Floodplain Restoration

- Robert gave an update on the Dungeness River Floodplain Restoration project. So far have purchased 7 out of 9 parcels and have torn down three structures, tenants have found places to live. There are a few more underground utilities to be removed and a bit more restoration to be done.
- Moving into the "Kincade Phase" from the "Robinson Phase". Was contacted by property owner who had seen the Robinson Phase work. The area is known as Kincade Island. The restoration site includes 1400' of major side channel and 2,300' of main stream river, remove remnants of levees, purchase, restore and conserve forever 16 to 37 acres of floodplain.

- Remove approx. 200 ft of hard armoring. Remove concrete slab and infrastructure that had a cabin onsite before it got wiped out. Various car parts and tires to be removed.
- Talked about the benefits of the project including salmon habitat, dissipating high energy flows, good area for aquifer recharge, can spread out on floodplain and soak in, flood risk reduction.
- Have the key land owner on board (Dickinson) and are reaching out to other land owners. The Dickinson property is the one just over 16 acres. But the entire funding amount would cover the total 37 acres. (all parcels would come to 37 acres)
- \$2.2 million- cost of the overall project, shows match of \$385,000 in the project description (Robert will have to check on that)
- Some dikes may have to remain to protect infrastructure (Fish Hatchery Road)

Joe Holtrop- Dungeness Off-Channel Restoration Design

- The Conservation District has worked on many ditching and piping projects and it is becoming more difficult to save water through ditch piping as most of the easy projects have been done, so now more storage is needed as a backup to the snowpack melt.
- There was another location they were looking at on the West side of the river but was never pursued, could get water into it but it would need to be pumped out so the operating costs would be pretty high.
- Location is at River Road and Happy Valley intersection- DNR land. This design is gravity fed flow into and out.
- Judy- Why did they never do anything with the gravel pit on Silberhorn Road?
- Similar reason to the Atterbury reservoir, they could get water into it, but it would have to be pumped out and there isn't very much irrigated land downstream of that site. Looked at it for Aquifer Recharge also but the water table is within 10 feet, were worried it would adversely impact water flow on Hwy 101.
- Average September flows on Dungeness- 172 cfs; Lowest recorded= 70 cfs in 2005 and came close last year. Up to 50% of the flow is diverted for irrigation. Have to ensure that 62 cfs remain in the river. Since 2000, about 60 miles of ditch have been piped.
- Reservoir would reduce diversions by 12 to 20 cfs. Water to fill the reservoir will come out of the river when it is running high, diverting small amounts at a time. Don't have to take water out of the reservoir until later in the season.
- Highland irrigation connects on south side. There will be some improvements to the ditch system. Will be used to irrigate 2/3 to 3/4 of the irrigated land on the east side of the Dungeness River. A month to 6 weeks in the irrigation season, this land to be supplied by reservoir.
- Another benefit to this project is storing stormwater runoff that currently causes significant flooding.
- Judy- Is there anything in the county's storm water plan to help with runoff in the Bell Hill Area?
- Cathy- Mary Ellen hoping to pick up this year or next.
- Joe- runoff in this area mostly from forested land, not impervious surfaces. But now can intercept runoff from Happy Valley Road and store in reservoir.
- The site has just been harvested, plan to include recreation trails, etc. because people currently use recreationally. A landscape architecture intern will be working on the master plans for the site which will include various stakeholders.
- Evaporation is not taken into account, looked mostly at cost effectiveness in the design of this reservoir. Estimated 100 acre feet lost in evaporation per year, and this is a 1500 acre feet reservoir.

- Could be a landing site for water fowl? Yes, which may be a concern for water quality. But looking at a wetland treatment at the outlet.
- \$23.38 to 26.44 million dollar budget for construction, \$1.25 million for the design and permitting
- Looking at who the property owner would be, potentially Clallam County, managed under county parks, also potentially Highland Irrigation District, maintenance will have to be done by the irrigators.
- WA water trust is the lead on feasibility study that was completed in 2014, they are the lead on the proposal for the Dept. of Ecology. City of Sequim has been looking for funding opportunities. Ozias has been discussing this with legislatures. Have not heard any negative feedback expect for price.
- Can do a sale to another public entity, it has to be appraised, zoned as Commercial Forest, 319 acres, not very good forest land, DNR would like to get rid of it, probably not too pricey.
- There is no transfer of water rights from river to reservoir, only change is timing of diversions, 15,000 acre feet will not be diverted, 20-30 cfs for last 4-6 weeks that will not have to come out of the river.
- Robert- monitoring valve on outflow & inflow? Details will all be incorporated into final design. There will be a limit on amount taken out. What is capacity of outtake? Right now the Highland District averages 10 cfs during irrigation season. Don't know what their capacity is.
- The reservoir will be lined, which will be the biggest anticipated costs. There will be a sediment basin too at the inlet to the reservoir. Some structure that can be easily cleaned out.
- Will there be algae control? The fluctuating volume should suppress the growth of vegetation. The final design will cover that.
- 15 million- total cost of irrigation ditch/pipelines, this is twice that approximately, good investment with climate change
- Ross- city's reuse water to be put to use in big picture. Some people are opposed to reuse water for irrigation. Reclaimed water rule did not get passed, they are re-writing it.

Cathy- Lower Dungeness Floodplain Restoration

- Currently asking for \$1.8 million PSAR Large CAP funds. Initially requested 3 million but came in 2nd and the number one took all the money. The very expensive project turned some money back. Know there is \$1.2 million coming back, but don't know if there is any more, so are asking \$1.8 to be safe.
- Army Corp levee is a little over 2.5 miles long. Goal is to reconnect the river to its floodplain.
- Acquired over 200 acres of floodplain.
- In the Puget Sound Recovery Plan, in NOPL as the #5 on the list.
- This is the 2nd phase of a multi-phased project. 1st phase started around 2000 at River's End was purchased, from school house to mouth of river. Removed houses, decommissioned wells and septic, replanted which is still underway.
- Jamestown S'Klallam did a marsh reconnection project.
- Decided ready to move on to second phase. There are still parcels to be purchased within first phase, and there are willing sellers, but don't have funds just yet. Have moved upstream and purchased 110 acres, with partners, WDFW and WSDOT in terms of property ownership.
- In 2nd phase did similar things: purchased property from landowners, moved or demolished houses. Jamestown has a crew that is working on removing invasive plants.
- For mitigation from widening Hwy 101, they purchased about 40 acres of degraded wetland here, at Towne Road, east and they are restoring that.
- Currently, the environmental assessment is underway, the design is underway, 40 acres have been purchased between Towne Road and the river. Construction comes next.

- Where will Towne Road go? It has between 400-600 trips a day, is a connector road for the community and businesses. There are management problems if kept in place and could be dangerous for the community. Would like to place it as far away from the river as possible, still within the floodplain. Would be a 24 ft wide road and better than it currently is.
- Robert- What about the parking spot that is so heavily used? People will still be able to walk on the part of the levee that remains but where they will park is unsure. Floodplains by Design, a funder, recreation is a major issue for them.

Cheryl- Scoring / Grant Round Info

- Cheryl passed out the Technical Review Group score sheets for all the projects. All projects were close in their scoring. The technical team also makes recommendations. All projects are technically sound. Want to get funding all the way down to all nine projects. The Little River Project came in at the top, and that is wood restoration on the tributary of the Little River to the Elwha.
- Typical regular funds would be about \$2.9 million next year. Shows could fund the first project and \$1.5 of Cathy's project and then would be shortfall of \$211,000. Dependent on Salmon Recovery dollars and PSAR funding.
- Hoko Restoration has applied for Floodplains by Design which is state legislative money. And Anne and Joe have put in for Floodplains by Design.
- Best case scenario could get 2 PSAR large caps.
- Shawn- there is a score sheet the DRMT needs to fill out as a citizen group. Was sent out, and will send out again. Return scores and comments to Shawn by a week from Friday (20th).

III. Scott Chitwood- Update on North of Falcon Salmon Management

- Co-manager pre-season planning for the area from Manzanita, Oregon to Canadian Border (is a sub-region for salmon planning). For the last 30 years has happened in the middle of April, except for this year.
- N. of Cape Falcon, Non-Treaty: Chinook- 70,000 Coho- 18,900; Treaty: Chinook- 40,000 coho- 0 (from Seiku river out to Ocean). 90% of the argument was about coho
- Seiku River down to Manzanita agreed to. Seiku River into Puget Sound not agreed to.
- Non-treaty numbers are 50% commercial 50% recreational.
- S. of Cape Falcon, Non-Treaty: Chinook- 1,920 Coho- 33,500
- Scott showed us the life cycle of salmon from 2012 to 2018 overlaid with the blob, drought and high water events that affected abundance of smolt leaving and the return of salmon. 2015 had a very low return and the tribe is expecting similar returns until 2018 because of the environmental circumstance that occurred during these salmon's life cycles.
- In negotiations tribes were advocating at starting from zero while the Department of Fish and Wildlife was insisting business as usual.