

## **APPROVED DRMT Meeting Notes, November 8, 2017**

Prepared by Chad Theismann, Clallam County

**DRMT Members Present:** Scott Chitwood/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Robert Phreaner/Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, Shawn Hines/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (alt), Ann Soule/City of Sequim, Ben Smith/Water Users Association, Cathy Lear/Clallam County, Shawn Hines/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (alt), Cathy Lear/Clallam County DCD, Joe Holtrop/Clallam Conservation District, Matt Heins/Riverside Property Owners-Estuary Tidelands, Robert Beebe/Riverside Property Owners, Judy Larson/Protect the Peninsula's Future, David Garlington/City of Sequim, Hansi Hals/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Lorenz Sollman/Dungeness Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Marc McHenry/USFS.

**Others Present:** Cheryl Baumann (N. Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon), Carrol Hull (Clallam County League of Women Voters), Bill Strehle (Resident), Phil Martin (Resident), Darcy McNamara (WSU Ext. Jefferson County).

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### **I. Introductions/Review Agenda/Review and Approve DRMT Draft Meeting Notes**

Scott Chitwood called meeting to order. Introductions were made, sign in sheets circulated. Ben moved to approve November notes as provided, Cathy seconded, Ann abstained. None opposed, motion carried.

#### *Public Comment:*

- Judy asked the group about sending out information about Protect the Peninsula's Future, she will send out an informational brochure.
- Cathy provided information about the upcoming public information forum on Clallam County Shoreline Master Program update at the John Wayne Marina on November 14, 2017 6:00 pm. Representatives from the Planning Department will be there to provide information and to answer any questions.
- Bob P. announced a people's hearing on Atlantic Salmon Net Pens on November 8 at the Landing Mall in Port Angeles at 5:30. This hearing is put on by Students of the Salish Sea and this meeting will provide another opportunity for community voices to be heard.

### **II. Dungeness River Audubon Center Outreach, Powell Jones, Director, Dungeness River Audubon Center**

- Purpose of presentation is to provide the mission of the Dungeness River Audubon Center (DRAC) and what they do.
- The purpose of the Audubon Center is to foster an appreciation for outdoors, stewardship of the watershed, and get people outside.
- What does the DRAC do?
  - Nature information center;
  - 400 events per year;
  - 8000+ walk-in visitors and 8000+ attending events;
  - 3 full time staff, 2 part time, 70+ volunteers.
- Some organizations that utilize the DRAC?
  - Clallam County Environmental Health;
  - Clallam County Dept. of Community Development;
  - Olympic Park Association;
  - OPMS
  - Dungeness Wildlife Refuge;
  - Olympic Trails Coalition;
  - Olympic Peninsula Mycological Society.
- Education keys of the DRAC:
  - Educate not advocate;
  - Partnerships and cooperation to leverage impact;
  - Provide information;
  - Serve all ages;
  - Education provided by staff, volunteers, and outside educators.
- River Festival:
  - Focused on organizations that support Dungeness watershed;
  - Yearly festival;
  - 25 exhibitors;
  - ~1500 participants in 2017.
- DRAC services:
  - Supported by Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe;
  - Aimed at current and new residents and volunteers;

- Focused on introducing people to Dungeness River watershed with class time and field trips;
- Organizations that assist DRAC include NOSC, Dungeness Farms, WA State Hatcheries, Olympic National Park, USFS, Clallam County, and private landowners.
- Program for 5<sup>th</sup> graders:
  - Focus on health of Dungeness River using scientific inquiry;
  - Aligned with school curriculum;
  - Nearly all Sequim, Port Angeles, and Port Townsend schools participate;
  - ~10,000 students served, ~300 field trips in 14 years.
- Railroad Bridge Park information includes:
  - Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe owns and DRAC manages;
  - Is an Olympic Discovery Trail hub;
  - Restoration projects are a focus of park;
  - Provides public access;
  - Cultural imprint for past to present.
- Current membership of DRAC ~350 members.
- Current campaign to raise money to address growing use of the DRAC.
- Seeking new partnership to increase watershed awareness.

### **III. Sequim-Dungeness Water Users Association (SDWUA) Updates, Ben Smith, President, SDWUA**

- SDWUA is made up of 7 irrigation companies/districts- Agnew Irrigation District, Clallam Ditch Company, Cline Irrigation District, Dungeness Irrigation Group, Highland Irrigation District, Sequim Prairie Tri Irrigation Company,
- The SDWUA started in 1998 to speak as one voice for the different irrigation companies/districts.
- 2017 conservation accomplishments:
  - Installed 4,620 feet of 4-12 inch lateral pipeline and 290 feet of mainline pipe in Agnew Irrigation District;
  - Installed 11,225 feet mainline pipe and 720 feet of lateral pipeline in Dungeness Irrigation District;
  - Installed 7,220 feet of 2-18 inch pipeline and aquifer recharge capable of infiltrating 1+ cfs in Sequim Prairie Irrigation Tri Irrigation Company;
- Cline Irrigation District, Dungeness Irrigation Group, Clallam Irrigation Association and Highland Irrigation District conducted aggressive ditch maintenance.
- The Dungeness Water Exchange (DWE) had four aquifer recharge sites in 2017. Clallam Conservation District led design and construction of all four sites. One site, The Jakeway ceased operation after June 30 due to system capacity challenges because of sedimentation at their diversion.
- Discussion about aquifer depletion. Cassalery Creek aquifer is ~80% used up. Ben pointed out that if any of the subwatersheds (such as Cassalery Creek watershed) reach 100% used up; it impacts the ability to drill new wells in the entire WRIA.

### **IV. Green Crab Update Field Trip, Lorenz Sollmann, Dungeness Wildlife Refuge/US Fish and Wildlife**

- Trapping efforts yielded 96 green crabs (55 male, 41 female) from April 10 through October 20 of 2017.
- Locations where green crab have been found on the North Olympic Peninsula- 1 female in Sequim Bay, 34 in Makah Bay, 1 male green crab was found in Port Angeles Harbor and is undergoing genetic testing to determine the origin- testing results no back yet.
- 1 caught in Padilla Bay, 1 caught on Whidbey Island.
- Reviewed different trapping locations and dates along Dungeness Spit with their success rates.
- UW and the Crab Team is analyzing all the data, crunching the numbers and working to refine the trapping effort to determine trapping efficiencies.
- Ben inquired about whether eradication efforts have been successful. Lorenz answered there is very limited data to support an established green crab population has been successfully eradicated. There has been success on a small scale in San Francisco Bay in limited estuaries, but they are unable to keep those efforts up.

### **V. North Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon- Workplan and Capital Budget Update**

- The Lead Entity strives to advance salmon restoration and protection across the North Olympic Peninsula with initiating government entities including Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, Elwha Klallam Tribe, Makah Tribe, City of Sequim, City of Port Angeles, Clallam County, and private citizens

- The Lead Entity runs a grant round that gives out funding from the State's Capital Budget for restoration and protection activities that partners and restoration practitioners complete.
- Project sponsors are waiting for funding from the capital budget.
- In an email from a State agency director- because Legislature goes back into session in January, there could be a change in the party that controls the Senate, which could give control to the Democrats in the House and Senate they could pass a capital budget. However, they would require a super majority to pass the bonding package that pays for the capital budget.
- Adopting a budget before the end of March is possibility, but not a probability.
- Bottom line is the Lead Entity doesn't know when there will be resources.
- Total ask on capital budget- partnership asks for 40 million, 33 million for watershed 6-7 million for long term capital projects.
- Monday November 20 is the last open call for projects to get on 2018 workplan.
- Technical Team will be scoring the projects into December, then January the Lead Entity group comes together and reviews the projects and draws a line on which projects can get funding. This process drives sponsors and partners towards higher priority projects.

#### **VI. Other Business/Announcements/Follow-ups**

- Shawn announced that November is the month for open nominations for 2018 DRMT Chair and for the DRMT Executive Committee.
- Ben wants to keep his name is for Water Users representation on the Executive Committee.
- Ben nominated Matt and Bob for Executive Committee. They both accepted the nomination.
- 2018 is DRMT's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Executive Committee is discussing ideas for celebration(s).

Meeting adjourned 4:32

**DRMT Website: <http://tinyurl.com/DRMTweb>**