

APPROVED DRMT Meeting Notes, February 14, 2018

Prepared by Chad Theismann, Clallam County

DRMT Members Present: Hansi Hals/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Cathy Lear/Clallam County, Shawn Hines/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (alt), , Robert Phreaner/Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, Pete Walker/ Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (alt), Robert Brown/Dungeness Beach Association, Ann Soule/City of Sequim, Matt Heins/Riverside Property Owners-Estuary Tidelands, Lorenz Sollman/Dungeness Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Joe Holtrop/Clallam Conservation District, Robert Beebe/Riverside Property Owners, Mike Gallagher/Washington Dept. of Ecology, Tom Martin/Clallam County PUD#1, David Garlington/City of Sequim (alt)

Others Present: Carrol Hull (Clallam County League of Women Voters), Marguerite Grover (Sequim Realtors), 2 representatives from Washington Water Trust, Jacob Melly (Clallam County Environmental Health)

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

Hansi called meeting to order. Introductions were made, sign in sheets circulated. Matt moved to approve January notes as provided; Robert Brown seconded. None opposed, motion carried.

Public Comment:

- Powell announced a memorial service for Virginia Clark at the River Center on March 8 at 1:00 to gather and tell stories about her impacts to the community.

II. Update on SB 6091 (bill regarding water for development), Michael Gallagher, WA Dept. of Ecology SW Regional Office

- Purpose of presentation is to provide information on this new law. Signed into law January 19, 2018.
- Mike provided a handout of his presentation titled "ESSB 6091 Ecology's Initial Policy Interpretations".
- Summary of new law-
 - Focuses on 15 watersheds that were impacted by the Hirst decision;
 - Establishes standards for rural residential permit-exempt wells in the rest of State;
 - Allows rural residents to have access to water from permit-exempt wells to build a home;
 - Allows a maximum of 950 or 3000 gallons per day depending on watershed;
 - It retains the current maximum of 5000 gallons per day limit for permit-exempt domestic water use in watersheds that do not have existing instream flow rules;
 - It invests \$300 million over the next 15 years in projects that will help fish and streamflows.
- Mike provided a map of watersheds in Washington State and their status for domestic permit-exempt withdrawals.
- In watersheds that have a previously adopted plan, local watershed planning units are to update the watershed plan. The watersheds have until 2019 or 2021 to update these plans. For these watersheds, the maximum annual average withdrawal is 3000 gallons per day per connection.
- In watersheds without a previously adopted plan, Ecology is to establish and chair watershed committees. The plans are due 2021. Maximum withdrawal 950 gallons per day and Ecology may limit to 350 during drought years. Counties in these areas have to ensure that building permit applicants adequately manage stormwater onsite.
- Watersheds with instream flow regulations and a reserve for permit exempt wells those rules apply for future permit exempt wells. All the rest of the WRIAs in the State have no instream flow regulations and the 4 exemptions under RCW 90.44.050 apply.
- The new law impacts only new domestic uses.
- Existing wells are exempt from the provisions of the new law.
- Counties must continue to follow RCW 90.44.050 for water supply for subdivisions.
- What is domestic use? Legislature did not define domestic use in the new law. Ecology is interpreting. The Legislature chose to specify that during drought only 350 gallons per day may be used for indoor domestic use in select basins. Ecology interprets that this would apply to indoor and outdoor uses.
- Under the new law, applicants relying on permit-exempt well for a new home may use a maximum annual average of 950 or 3000 gallons for their indoor and outdoor use, depending on which WRIA they're in.
- The new law imposes a \$500 fee which is paid to the local Building Dept. at the time of applying for a new permit.
- Counties must record relevant water use restrictions (950 or 3000 gallons per day).
- The new law directs Ecology to initiate a metering pilot program in the Dungeness Basing and in Kittitas County. Ecology is developing a process to purchase and provide meters. This new process will hopefully be in place by June.
- Legislature authorized \$300 million for 15 years to be used for restoring and enhancing streamflows statewide. A likely candidate locally for a portion of this funding may be the Dungeness Off-channel Reservoir. Ecology has not yet

developed criteria for approving funding. Hansi pointed out that the Dungeness watershed is not a priority watershed.

- New law allows rural growth to continue ahead of the water for water solutions.

III. “Eyes Over Puget Sound” (EOPS) Presentation- A Visual Picture of Puget Sound Health, Julia Box, WA Dept. of Ecology, Long-term Marine Monitoring Unit

- Purpose of presentation is to provide information on new tool to measure long term health of Puget Sound.
- Once a month, The Dept. of Ecology takes to the air and travel by boat to obtain high-resolution aerial photo observations and gather water data at our monitoring stations and via state ferry transects. This provides us a visual picture of the health of Puget Sound, which we call Eyes Over Puget Sound or EOPS.
- EOPS empowers citizens to:
 - See what is currently happening in Puget Sound;
 - See how weather and climate are shaping Puget Sound water quality;
 - Use as free educational material for your own endeavors.
- Measures status and trends in water quality variables on a monthly basis in 37 stations throughout Puget Sound. The eventual goal of the project is to be able to provide information on a real-time basis.
- Baseline date goes back to 1999.
- More info at <https://ecology.wa.gov/Research-Data/Monitoring-assessment/Puget-Sound-and-marine-monitoring/Eyes-over-Puget-Sound>

IV. Sablefish (black cod) Aquaculture, Kurt Grinell and Jim Parsons, Jamestown Seafood and Jamestown S’Klallam Tribal Council

- Purpose of the presentation is to provide an overview of the aquaculture efforts to raise sablefish by the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe.
- This 3 year pilot project is still in feasibility phase.
- Partners include NOAA, U of WA School of Fisheries Science, and Troutlodge Marine.
- What is a sablefish? Aka black cod or butter cod. Has a very high oil level. No swim bladder, the sablefish controls buoyancy through lipid levels.
- Adults are deep dwelling (750-1500 feet deep), found from Baja up to Aleutian Islands.
- One of the most valued finfish in our marine waters, but few aquaculture operations exist.
- Aquaculture Issues with raising sablefish:
 - Obtaining broodstocks- limited readily available broodstocks;
 - Determining when the best time for spawning;
 - Survival rates in different rearing containers;
 - Reviewed temperature and found best temperature for survival was around 15 degrees celsius;
 - Best food for rapid growth. They like live food, so they had to feed with rotifers. Still working on determining best way to address their nutritional needs.
 - Vaccine for “frunk” to limit antibiotic use. Worked with vet and had some preliminary luck with a vaccine.
- Better understand how these fish grow in order to maximize commercial viability.
- Depth of net pens at the research facility is 30 feet. These fish typically live at 750-1500 feet deep and are acclimatizing to much shallower depths in net pens. What they found through radio tagging was the fish were coming up at night to feed so the shallower depths for the pens did not seem to limit their growth.
- One of the only active net pen farms for sablefish is up in British Columbia.

V. Other Business/Announcements/Follow-ups

- On February 23 the Strait ERN is hosting a discussion on net pens and reporting on the conclusions of the Cypress Island net pen failure.
- Plug for Salish Sea Conference starting April 4th in Seattle.

Meeting adjourned 4:42

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