

APPROVED DRMT Meeting Notes July 11, 2018

Prepared by Chad Theismann, Clallam County

DRMT Members Present: (CHECK) Hansi Hals/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Cathy Lear/Clallam County, Shawn Hines/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (alt), Lorenz Sollman/Dungeness Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Joe Holtrop/Clallam Conservation District, Ann Soule/City of Sequim, Jenn Ziogas (alt)/Dungeness River Audubon Center, Mary Ellen Winborn (Clallam County DCD), Marc McHenry/USFS, Matt Heins/Riverside Property Owners-Estuary Tidelands, Judy Larson/Protect the Peninsula's Future.

Robert Phreaner/Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, Pete Walker/ Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (alt), Robert Brown/Dungeness Beach Association, , Matt Heins/Riverside Property Owners-Estuary Tidelands, 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: (DOUBLE CHECK) Carrol Hull (Clallam County League of Women Voters), Rico Gonzales (Clallam County Environmental Health), Gary Smith (Water Users Association, Neil Harrington (JKST), Chris Walbillig (WDFW), Tomas Setubal (Olympic Nat'l Park)

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

Hansi called meeting to order. Introductions were made, sign in sheets circulated.

- February notes were reviewed. Ann motioned to approve, Matt seconded. None opposed. Judy abstained do to absence.
- Chad noted other months minutes will be available for review at next month's DRMT meeting.

Public Comment:

- None.

II. Olympic National Park Lake Toxicity Report, Tomas Setubal, Mountain Lakes Team, Olympic National Park

- Purpose of presentation is to provide an overview of the project.
- Project has been going on since 2005.
- This program is part of the vital signs
- 9 mountain lakes monitored in ONP, 650 mountain lakes. This project chose the 9 based on a random distribution.
- Why monitor lakes? They are integral part of the mountain ecosystem, they are "petri dishes in the sky"
- ONP is part of the Nat'l Atmospheric and Deposition Program, which has been monitoring rainfall for nitrogen and sulfur since 1984. Current station is near the Hoh Ranger Station.
- ONP has really low nitrogen deposition and acidification, relative to North Cascades Nat'l Park and Mt. Rainier Nat'l Park. This is due to distance from heavy industries and partially due to sedimentary rock that binds these particles.
- ONP is a particular good place to monitor due to distance from industries and physical characteristics of the rock, so ONP serves as a very good baseline.
- Why high lakes? Relative isolation and snow binds toxic compounds by cold fractionation.
- One interesting finding was high mercury content. Mercury is a naturally occurring element, but the organic form of mercury accumulates in animal tissue. Lake Ozette also has high mercury levels.
- This project is not actively monitoring mercury.
- This project assists in understanding how toxic compounds accumulate in mountain lakes.
- Objective of the program is: to look for trends in atmospheric deposition, are there impacts, and how are there impacts seen.
- Fish species present- cutthroat, rainbow, and brook trout.
- Reviewed data from Dungeness River wate4rshed lakes including Heather and Gladys Lakes.
- Project also measures the timing of freezing and thawing using remote cameras.
- This project does not involve any biological monitoring such as amphibians or fish.
- The results of this study have not been fully analyzed or published.

III. Green Crab Update, Lorenz Sollman

- Purpose is to provide a review on green crab issues and an update on current trapping efforts and results of the trapping.
- Most monitoring is performed by citizen scientists, as most of the State programs have lost their funding.
- Crab team currently has 3 monthly monitoring sites, 26 volunteers from April through September, and monitors as much as time/tides allow.
- 2017 trapping summary: 96 green crab caught, 3607 traps set. In 2018, 45 traps set, more systematic and refined effort.
- 55 caught in the Salish Sea to date in 2018, this is a decrease from 2017.
- 34 crabs caught in Oct of 2017. They have upped their effort in 2018, 581 to date. This large increase is due to increased effort and more trapping locations.
- Genetic tests revealed crabs were coming from the outer coast, not Sooke, BC. Larvae get transported by currents and the genetic test confirmed this.
- Model was created by SeaGrant and many others to see larvae distribution, which confirms how larvae are distributed by tides and currents.
- The Crab Team also looks for molts once per month as an indicator. Molts indicate crabs are present.
- There is some research into trapping using a pheromone being conducted at Oregon State University. Using green crab specific pheromone provides for targeted trapping, limiting by-catch and mortality.
- Trapping and collaborative efforts have increased in Canada.

IV. Lower Dungeness Wildlife Unit- History/Status, Chris Walbillig, WDFW Assistant Regional Habitat Program Manager, Darric Lowery, WDFW Region 6 Wildlife Area Manager, and Danielle Zitomer, WDFW Area Habitat Biologist

- Purpose of presentation is to provide information on
- Introduced Danielle Zitomer, new Habitat Biologist covering the Elwha Watershed to Hood Canal Bridge.
- Further information on Darric and Chris's presentation can be found at https://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/management_plans/
- WDFW purchased 148 acres near mouth of Dungeness River and initiated restoration efforts in 2002. Area commonly referred to as River's End.
- 2010 WDFW entered into partnership with Dungeness Farms, Inc. which will provide additional hunting opportunities. In 2010, WDFW slated this area for agriculture, Dungeness Farms as well as others were not in support due to area is in the floodplain and they had concerns over erosion of bare soil covering up shellfish beds.
- An effort is beginning to redevelop North Olympic Wildlife Plan. This effort began in 2010. In this plan, the WDFW will review plans for land acquisition in the Dungeness Watershed.
- WDFW purchased 51 acres at 3 Crabs and underwent restoration activities and to provide additional public access.
- Matt voiced an opinion on WDFW's 2010 land acquisition at 3 Crabs- all but 5 acres is tidelands.
- 1:36
- Discussion was had regarding acquisition of some property near Morse Creek that had a cabin on. Chris stated there were challenges and limitations with funding sources to acquire this area.
- Concerns were raised over a conservation easement on the Delta Farm. Matt voiced his preference is to hand management of that area over to a local organization such as the North Olympic Land Trust.

V. Other Business/Announcements/Follow-ups

- DRMT 30th Anniversary Update- reminders- photo contest underway, JKST working on writing a series of articles- the first one will be a history and accomplishments, another article coming in August that will provide information on activities/accomplishments in the last 5 years. Shawn provided this information in a previous email to the Team.
- On June 27, the County hosted an Open House to disseminate information on the Towne Road Realignment. About 35-40 citizens attended. Briefly discussed some options for road realignment, and the preference was for a round-about.

- Next Thursday there will be a Public Hearing in front of the Hearing Examiner for the County permitting process on the Towne Road Realignment/Levee Setback. Comments from citizens have been primarily been positive with some individuals wanting their property to be purchased.
- Marc reported that the Draft Environmental Assessment for the Forest Service Upper Dungeness Road Plan is available to the public for comment. Closing date for public comments is August 2.

Meeting adjourned 4:38

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