

APPROVED DRMT Meeting Notes October 10, 2018

Prepared by Chad Theismann, Clallam County

DRMT Members Present: Hansi Hals/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Cathy Lear/Clallam County, Joe Holtrop/Clallam Conservation District, David Garlington/City of Sequim (alt), Ann Soule/City of Sequim, Powell Jones/Dungeness River Audubon Center, Robert Phreaner/Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, Robert Beebe/Riverside Property Owners, Danielle Zitomer/WDFW, Tom Martin/Clallam PUD #1.

Others Present: Mark Ozias (Clallam County Commissioner), Carrol Hull (Clallam County League of Women Voters), Phil Martin (resident), Cheri Scalf (WDFW), Kiely Stromber (sp?) (WDFW) Carol Creasey (Clallam County DCD), Kirk Solomar (sp?)(NRCS), Rebecca Benjamin (NOSC), Bob Simmons (WSU Extension)

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

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

Public Comment:

- Joe introduced Kirk Solmar (sp?) new NRCS employee that replaced Jim Poffel.
- Comments on September notes- clarify statement in Section 2 in the 6th bullet so it's grammatically correct. No additional comments received from members that were present at the meeting.
- Discussion of operating procedures to determine if quorum was present. Only 7 voting members present, so no quorum and no motion on September notes.
- Ann announced the 4th year of "Imagine a Day Without Water" put forth by the American Waterworks Association. The goal of the day is to raise awareness about the value of water and the need to invest in water infrastructure.
- Hansi announced an article in the Seattle Times that discussed the implications Climate Change in particular of a ½ degree increase in temperature.
- Rebecca Benjamin announced that the 165 creosote pilings are currently being removed from Dungeness Bay. Additionally, they will place 3 steel pilings for purple martin nesting site. This is the tail end of the Three Crabs restoration project. Funding through Floodplains by Design.
- Bob Simmons, WSU Extension, announced that the Stream Stewards class is full. The DRMT was introduced to this class at the August 2018 regular meeting.

II. Off-channel Reservoir Support, Carol Creasey, Clallam County, Ann Soule, City of Sequim

- Purpose of presentation is to consider a resolution to support the proposal in seeking money from the legislature.
- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Council signed a similar resolution in support of the proposal on October 9.
- Two page draft resolution was distributed. Seeking comments from the group.
- Commissioner Mark Ozias thanked the group for having him here today and for developing this resolution. He expressed the importance of the DRMT in developing proposals such as the Off-Channel Reservoir.
- Hansi asked for clarification on the 30-50% flow retention statement in the 3rd bullet on the 2nd page. Ann and Joe responded 25 cfs is approximately 30-50%. Hansi suggested saying 25 cfs or 30% of flow retention. The group discussed verifying the numbers and including both cfs and a percentage. Joe clarified that 30-50% is saved by not diverting and that it retains up to 25 cfs.
- Discussion of changing water short and flow limited. Ann feels water short is broader statement and reflects the benefits of the reservoir are broad. No further discussion.
- Hansi summarized the 1st bullet on the 2nd page should read "Streamflow restoration: The reservoir provides significant flow benefits during the River's critical period for migrating salmonids: avoidance of 30-50% of late summer irrigation diversions will retain up to 25 cfs of existing streamflow."
- Hansi summarized 3rd bullet will read- "Habitat and floodplain restoration: up to 25 cfs flow retention especially improves side channel habitat important for certain species in certain life stages."
- Ann noted that it isn't clear that 25 cfs represents 25-30% of the river flow and feels it is an important benchmark. Group discussed and wanted to verify this number.
- Bob Simmons mentioned and asked for clarification on the 3rd sub-bullet under the 4th bullet on the 2nd page regarding storm water. Hansi, Carol, and Ann responded that the reservoir will capture the water prior to entering the urban areas thereby lessening storm water volumes.
- Tom Martin asked if the purpose of the reservoir was for streamflow restoration only, or does it include mitigation of new groundwater withdrawals. Hansi and Ann Soule replied for restoration. He wanted to add language that

clarified the statement in the 2nd page, 2nd bullet- "Recharging the shallow aquifer has streamflow benefits and mitigates consumptive groundwater withdrawals." Discussion was had and sentence should read "Recharging the shallow aquifer has streamflow benefits and will offset impacts from consumptive groundwater withdrawals."

- Tom Martin stated he preferred dual purpose.
- Danielle pointed out a typo on 1st page in the 4th bullet- "fins" should be "finds".
- Hansi re-iterated that the changes discussed will be incorporated and it will be distributed via email for signatures.
- Ann noted that the DRMT roster needs to be updated.

III. Jimmycomelately Chum Status, Cheri Scalf, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Field trip was planned but due to the low numbers of returning chum, field trip was cancelled.
- Jimmycomelately (JCL) has had a summer chum supplementation program from 1999-2003.
- Since 2015 there has been a downward trend in the number of returning spawners.
- This year has been grim- the total of returning fish has been about ½ of what was expected.
- All returns throughout Hood Canal have been lower than expected except for Union Creek.
- To learn more about the potential reasons for low returns see the Hood Canal Coordinating Council website for a link to a 150 page report that discusses ocean conditions that have played a role in the numbers of returning adults as well as high flows 3 or 4 years ago.
- The age composition of returning adults- mostly 3-4 year olds.
- There were 0 in the trap today, Cheri feels like the run is over.
- Hansi reported the chinook run on Dungeness is exceeding the predicted- the current count is 883 adults.
- Cheri noted 39 coho had come into JCL.

IV. DRMT Goals and Current Work

- Hansi added this agenda item for discussion due to the field trip to JCL trap being cancelled.
- Hansi asked the question- is the meeting schedule relative to the identified work and goals appropriate. She feels a monthly meeting is appropriate; she is seeking a group discussion.
- Robert pointed out there are no by-laws that require the meeting to be 3 hours.
- Rebecca Benjamin, NOSC, offered an anecdote from a group in Jefferson that was meeting once per month and they changed to once every two months and the change actually spurred involvement.
- Bob Simmons, WSU Ext., mentioned that if the DRMT went to every other month and a member or interested citizen missed a meeting, it would be 4 months before the next meeting.
- Cathy supported monthly meetings.
- Joe also brought up that the DRMT is also a community forum where citizens can come and find out information related to the Dungeness Watershed. If the meeting went to every other month, there would be less opportunity for people to become involved.
- Ann stated the continuing discussions and updates are the thread that supports a monthly meeting.

V. Other Business/Announcements/Follow-ups

- Bob Simmons reported that WSU Extension is putting on a Realtors Shoreline Workshop on Oct 26 at the Port Hadlock campus. Realtors can get continuing education credits.

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:50.

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