

APPROVED DRMT Zoom Meeting Notes May 12, 2021

Prepared by Shawn Hines, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

DRMT Members Present: Hansi Hals/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Robert Beebe/Riverside Property Owners, Tom Martin/PUD#1, Ann Soule/City of Sequim, Powel Jones/River Center, Shawn Hines/JST, Mike Auget/NOLT, Danielle Zitomer/WDFW, Ann Soule/City of Sequim, Tony Corrado/PPF, Jenna Ziogas/River Center, Cathy Lear/Clallam County, Judy Larson/PPF

Others Present: Cheryl Baumann/NOPLC Coordinator, Sarah Doyle/NOSC, Bob Simmons/WSU Extension, Randy Johnson/JST, Debbie Kill/Olympic National Forest, Hilton Turnbull/JST, Nate Roberts/NOSC, Greg Ballard/Clallam County, Brittany Port, David Nason, Wayne Carlson, AHBL, Inc., Lance Vail/member of public, Alex Scagliotti/Graysmarsh

~~I. Introductions / Review Agenda / Approve April 2021 Draft Meeting Notes~~

Hansi called meeting to order, introductions. Shawn noted the meeting will be recorded for note taking purposes, and that last month's notes are not ready for review, so notes approval was postponed to next meeting. Hansi recognized Powell Jones as today's Alternate Chair, as Hansi will need to depart early.

Public Comment: No public comment.

II. 2021 SRFB Project Proposal Presentations (East NOPLC)

Introduction – Cheryl Baumann, Coordinator, North Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon

Cheryl announced appreciation for DRMT members as champions for the Dungeness watershed. Cheryl reminded us that North Olympic Peninsula (NOP) Lead Entity for Salmon is a watershed consortium that works with all restoration practitioners on NOP to advance restoration and protection actions. Consortium includes JST, Lower Elwha, Makah Tribes, City of Sequim, City of PA, Clallam County, citizens, nonprofits. Annual or sometimes biannual grant round from Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration and Salmon Recovery Funding Board programs. There are two proposals this round, and the project sponsors from East End will present to DRMT today and answer questions, and then DRMT will submit preferences and comments to Lead Entity prior to their making final decisions on which projects are funded. Virtual site visits were provided to NOPLC. Cheryl introduced project sponsors, starting with Nate Roberts, of North Olympic Salmon Coalition and then Hilton Turnbull with Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. Each provided a PowerPoint presentation, and followed up with Question/Answer session.

[Further information on the projects was sent via email after the meeting adjourned, including the following links at the State Recreation and Conservation Office]:

- Dungeness Riparian Recovery, Phase III - <https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=21-1101>
- Upper Dungeness River Large Wood Restoration - <https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=21-1062>

Question/Answer Sessions:

Dungeness Riparian Recovery, Phase III

Nate Roberts and Sarah Doyle, North Olympic Salmon Coalition

Q: Will future phases include treating some of the places that have already been treated, but invasive still emerging

A: Yes, 2-3 years after they were treated.

Q: Is River Lupine different than lupine sold in nurseries?

A: Some Native Plant nurseries carry the river lupine, but most lupine sold at other nurseries are the more showy variety.

Q: When WDOT does hydro-seeding, is that the native lupine?

A: Not sure, but the lupine at restoration sites seems to be larger than the river lupine.

Upper Dungeness River Large Wood Restoration, Phase III (30 minutes, including Q/A)

Hilton Turnbull, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Q: Slide showing survival rate of salmon eggs vs flow. Data stops in 2016. Have you looked at the data after Phase 1 and Phase 2 complete?

A: Too early for Phase 2, but we do have updated spawning data from WDFW. It's difficult to correlate a biological response with habitat, but we can say that reintroducing large wood is going to improve habitat conditions in areas that salmon are spawning in. There is also a presentation available discussing effectiveness of LWD that can be forwarded for those who missed that.

Q: In those depositional reaches, is there room for grading the floodplain to the geomorphic grade line? E.g. a larger scale project bringing in heavy equipment to fill in the low spots, pull down the high spots?

A: We've researched a number of those large scale "Stage Zero" projects occurring on other National Forest lands. We've determined that type of project isn't the right fit for upper Dungeness. Conditions don't warrant that type of project; we think we can meet our objectives through heavy ballasted ELJs. There are other rivers/watersheds that could benefit from that type of project.

Q: Change in redd counts before/after?

A: Redds all get mapped. There has been anecdotal increases in spawning in project areas, but too early to say whether there's a specific correlation. Basically, we're restoring reaches where salmon want to spawn, and were trying to improve the habitat conditions within those reaches.

NOPL's Scoring Summary

Cheryl Baumann, Coordinator, North Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon

- Cheryl thanked the presenters, then summarized the grant round. Started with 7 or 8 projects, ended up with 5 across the NOP. Very robust discussions beginning in January until now, with initial presentations, site visits with state review panel. Initial review had no concerns with any of the projects, as far as eligibility.
- Technical Review Group: 17 scored, only 1 wasn't able to score. Will send to Shawn who will forward to you for your information on how TRG scored. Project sponsors really like to hear your comments. Your scores and comments are compiled by Shawn and forwarded to Cheryl, who shares with Lead Entity Group. That meeting will be held at the end of the month.
- We knew we would have limited funding this year, but there is additional funding to be tapped. Usually in economic downturns, there is usually stimulus funds to get boots on the ground. Construction projects/restoration projects are good for economy, plus huge environmental return. Legislation session ended in April, most of the funding has stayed at same level as pre-pandemic, and even some increases. A lot of support from Legislature. Will also be looking for other sources, like stimulus.
- NOPL meets 5/26. Get scores to Shawn by 5/21, Shawn to get them to Cheryl by 5/24.

III. Canyon Forest Reforestation Project

Deborah Kill and Kim Crider, USFS

- Powell introduced Deborah Kill, NEPA Coordinator/Planner for ONF. Kim is also on call to help answer questions. In process of sending out materials for public scoping; there will be broad public outreach, and further detail coming in the future. This is just an overview of preliminary proposals regarding the Canyon Forest Restoration Project.
- Last summer conducted field reviews of four stands, shown in map provided by Deborah. Located on both sides of Dungeness.
- Scoping materials will eventually be on ONF's website, and DRMT will be notified when the materials are ready: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/olympic/landmanagement/projects>
- You can also get put on email distribution list from the website.
- Looking at approximately 2,200 acres of thinning.
- Questions:
 - Q: What are the canopy percentages? What are the disturbances mentioned, other than fires?
 - A: Some of these stands were previously clear cut and have grown up into current conditions. The major past disturbances was past management through the even age clearcutting treatments. There are different canopy desired conditions depending on the type of stands.
 - Q: Difference between commercial thin and a stewardship project? Specifically wondering if since this will be more of a commercial thin we are used to, will the proceeds be able to directly benefit Olympic National Forest? Such as road maintenance funding, or implementing Dungeness Watershed Action Plan items?
 - A: Always looking for avenues to utilize revenue for restoration opportunities beyond the direct action itself, whether it's a traditional direct timber sale, we do have avenues to use those receipts for restoration opportunities.
 - Q: These projects often happen in recreationally rich areas. Any impact on recreational opportunities, pos or neg?
 - A: There may be times when during the thinning project, equip has to sit on the road, which would mean closing the road temporarily. Still working at timing. Still preliminary.
- Yewah announced a sustainable recreation concept that is just starting to be discussed. She can provide more info as that project evolves. There is some info on website. [Link was provided after the meeting: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/olympic/home/?cid=FSEPRD886824>]
- Kim clarified canopy cover question: usually try to retain at least 40% canopy cover, per our Forest Plan.

IV. Clallam County Stormwater Ordinance 1:57

Brittany Port, David Nason, Wayne Carlson, AHBL, Inc. and Greg Ballard, Clallam County

- Civil Engineering/planning/landscape architecture/surveying/structural engineering firm. Assisting Clallam Cnty with adoption of new stormwater ordinance. Here today to discuss some of the new sw regulations. In draft form. Working with stakeholder group to develop the regulations for the county. In draft form currently. Status update today.
- Intros, settlement agreement with Ecology, SW manual applicability, small project drainage manual, costs
- DOE Settlement Agreement: this agreement was the impetus for adopting new SW regulations countywide. While negotiations allowed County to be removed as Phase 2 NPDES permittee, it did require PA urban growth area to have the Ecology SW manual apply in its entirety. Outside of Urban growth area, manual applies with modified thresholds, and County has developed a small project drainage manual for small projects to minimize impacts on residents.
- Exceptions:
 - Within Urban Growth Area: (consistent with Phase 1 NPDES permit): forest practices, commercial ag (excluding the construction of impervious surfaces), pavement maintenance, underground utility projects)
 - Outside UGA: emergency land clearing, grading or filling; routine landscape maintenance; routine maintenance of SW drainage facilities; clearing, grading or filling of less than 100 cubic yards; construction or expansion of detached accessory buildings 400sf or less in size
- Within UGA: Ecology manual will apply and requires drainage review for all projects that disturb more than 7,000sf, or result in 2,000sf of new plus replaced hard surface.
 - For projects that trigger drainage review, Ecology manual has 2 sets of requirements depending on project size
 - For projects that are in the range of 2,000-5,000 sf of new/replaced hard surfaces, or less than ¾ acre of veg to awn, or 2.5 ac of native to pasture, min requirements 1-5 are required to be met. For larger proj, all 9 min requirements are required to be met.
- Outside UGA: smaller projects will be eligible to utilize the Small Project Drainage Manual, which can be completed by a homeowner without engaging an engineer. Can use this manual: If proj is on less than 1 acre and creates less than 5,000sf of new plus replaced hard surface or 10,000sf of land disturbing activity. And if the proj is on more than 12 acre and creates less than 7,000sf of new plus replaced hard surface or 12,000sf of land disturbing activity or converts 1.5 acres of veg to lawn or 5 acres of veg to pasture.
- Larger residential projects that don't fall under those thresholds must use Ecology Manual, rather than Small Proj Drainage Manual, but with modified thresholds for when the minimum requirements apply.
- All other projects outside of UGS are subject to the Ecology Manual.
- Construction SW Best Management Practice for all. Different requirements depending on inside or outside UGA. Also some Countywide applicability, depending on whether below thresholds.
- Ecology Manual – David Nasom discussed that any construction project needs small drainage review, usually it's with the Ecology Manual, to reduce impact of SW on downstream properties, and reduce water quality impacts.
- Small Project Drainage Manual: developed with the intent that a homeowner can complete a plan without an engineer, like on single family residential project to mitigate impact of new hard surfaces.
- Judy Larson asked how different this version of Small Project Drainage Manual is from the one developed about 10 years ago with Clallam Conservation District, working with Carol Creasey at County?
- David said the new manual is very similar in concept; used that as starting point. Follows similar methodology in helping homeowners permit their projects. Provide a "recipe" for homeowners to follow for BMPs. Very similar, with some of the same BMPs, yet easier and more clear.
- Packet with application form, drainage plan, erosion and sediment control plan, dispersal drainage easement.
- Goal would be to help develop a drainage plan. Goal to mitigate the impact of increased SW runoff volumes and peak flow rates from the new hard surfaces. Promoting infiltration and dispersion, biofiltration, etc.
- BMPs in manual: infiltration trenches, raingardens, drywells, other BMPs possible, but the focus is on BMPs that an average project would be able to utilize.
- "Recipe"/step-by-step guides in developing drainage manual for folks to follow in creating a drainage plan, with many tips to being effective with their design, such as reducing hard surfaces in order to reduce number of trenches or dispersal areas needed. Suggestions, etc. Many links to resources provided, such as soil maps, etc.
- Each BMP is sized differently, design-specific.
- Manual discusses example plans to show how roof water can be dispersed to native areas, example exhibits, setbacks that are needed for the BMP to be effective, etc. How to design infiltration trenches based on their land

conditions. How to design rain garden to mitigate runoff from roof or driveway. Provide charts of needs, simple-to-follow charts for varying conditions.

- Some example costs provided depending on what BMPs used and on size.
- Questions, feedback welcome. David provided Draft Manual via email [and attached] so folks can provide feedback.
- Tony: next steps? Brittany: County has settlement agreement with Ecology. County needs to comply with that, including adopting SW ordinance, public open houses, stakeholder work group. Seeking extension to extend agreement and the grant with Ecology. There has been a change in direction with how the manual is going, new format. Engaging stakeholders on 5/21 at meeting. Hope to present final manual after that, and hold public open house. Exact schedule not available yet, but likely into 2022.
- Greg Ballard said they are seeking additional time. Redid the ordinance. Hoping to get to planning commission soon, perhaps draft copy on next planning commission agenda.
- Judy said PPF has provided comments previously as workgroup members to Diane who was previously the lead at County. How are the differences between previous and new version? Why is there a new effort to change from previous? Also, is something like burning to clear land considered a soil disturbance requiring SW permits of some sort? Brittany characterized differences between the ordinances: new one reused a lot of what Diane had created, but in new one tried to adopt Ecology's Manual as much as possible and not repeat redundant info, for example eliminated definitions that were already included in 2019 Ecology Manual. Summarized minimum requirements. Focused on what we are modifying. More Qs about how burning is handled. Wayne said they would check on that.
- Ann asked for brief description of what a drainage easement says. City of Sequim is downhill from a lot of County properties that are developing right now. Brittany said she doesn't know if that definition is prepared yet. Drainage easement would need to be recorded on title. This is something that could use continued discussion, suggestion from City welcome.
- Bob Simmons suggested that there are a number of resources already available on raingardens, such as a manual and how to videos. See www.raingarden.wsu.edu.

V. Other Orders of Business, Announcements & Standing Agenda Items

- Standing Item: Other Project Updates and/or Announcements
 - Powell participated in Stream Stewardship program by WSU Extension and said it was outstanding with a great lineup.
 - Powell said RC expansion is coming along nicely. Excited for in person meetings.
 - Cheryl said NOBLE is partnering with Carol Creasey on her project to survey stormwater inputs into the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Eric Carlson and Laura Kaywall are helping to support that project in the field. Funded by EPA money through PSP and Strait ERN. Goal to get an inventory of where we have runoff into the strait. Will be ranked and prioritized, then an engineering firm will do preliminary design on fixes that could be accomplished through a Phase 2 funding.
 - Bob Simmons: conducting stream steward training. Powell and also Ann Soule are contributors. 6 week program, two sessions per week showcasing projects happening in our area. Will be offering in fall and in spring.
- Standing Item: Review Next Agenda for any additions.
Draft June Agenda: Stormwater Strategies/Outreach Project, *WSU*; Carlsborg Well/Water Right Update, *Clallam County and PUD*; NOSC Riparian Planting, NOSC 30-Yr Anniversary Highlights, *NOSC*
- Recap on NOBLE Scoring:
 - Instructions for DRMT on scoring were sent via email by Shawn. We've been doing it the same way since 2002 (at least). Let Shawn know if any questions.
 - Submit scores to Shawn one week from today, on Wed the 19th so that Cheryl can have them by that Friday to give Cheryl more time. Only one score per member organization. If your organization is a project sponsor then do not score; if you are a TRG or LEG member don't score, but an alternate TRG/LEG member on DRMT can score.
 - Judy noted Tony would be scoring for PPF.
 - Links to materials from PRISM provided by Cheryl after the meeting.

Public Comment:

- Judy: City of Sequim doing Comprehensive Plan amendments. Are there any special considerations for critical recharge areas. Kudos to Powel on his chairing today.

Meeting Adjourned