

DRAFT DRMT Zoom Meeting Notes March 9, 2022

Prepared by Shawn Hines, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

DRMT Members Present: Hansi Hals/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Ben Smith/Dungeness Water Users Association, Shawn Hines/JST (alt), Judy Larson/ Protect the Peninsula's Future, Tony Corrado/Protect the Peninsula's Future (alt), Cathy Lear/Clallam County, Danielle Zitomer/WDFW, Jenna Ziogus/Dungeness River Nature Center (alt), Robert Beebe/Riverside Property Owners, Ann Soule/City of Sequim, Bob Phreaner/OPAS, Kim Williams/Clallam Conservation District (adv), Yewah Lau/USFS (adv), Mike Gallagher/ECY, Matt Heins/Estuary-Tidelands, Rebecca Mahan/Clallam County (alt)

Others Present: Nicole Gutierrez/WWT, Emily Dick/WWT, Robert Knapp/JST, Phil Martin/resident, Genie Mixon/Dungeness Meadows resident, Marguerite Glover/Sequim Realtors, Randy Johnson/JST, Joel Greene/Streamkeepers, Maggie/CELP, Adrian Carroll-Perkins/ECY, Dainis Kleinbergs/ECY

I. Introductions

Hansi called meeting to order, introductions were made, and Draft February 9, 2022 DRMT meeting notes were reviewed. Robert Beebe moved to approve February meeting notes, Judy Larson seconded the motion. Notes were approved accordingly.

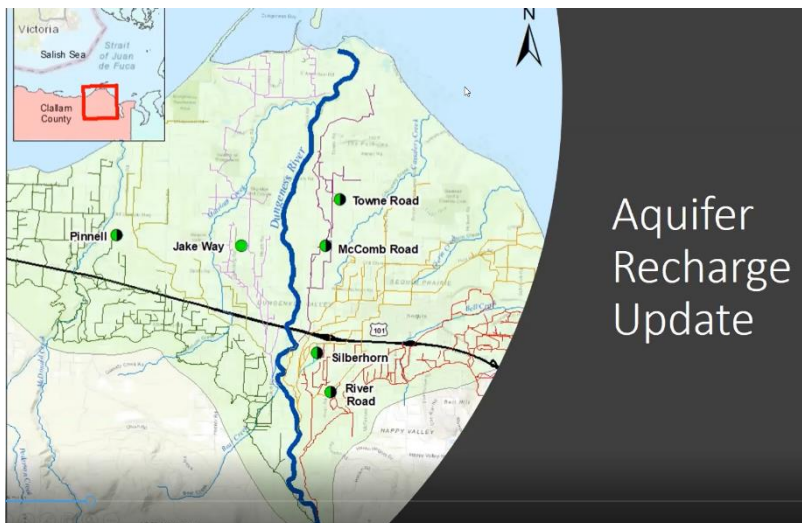
Public Comment

- Ben noted reservoir 30% design was presented to Commissioners. Reservoir work group will be reviewing soon.

II. Dungeness Rule, Exchange, Mitigation Updates [slides attached]

Mike Gallagher, Ecology, and Nicole Gutierrez and Emily Dick, WWT

- Emily and Nicole presented updates on Exchange Operations, Meter Pilot, Aquifer Recharge and Financials.
- In 2013, State declared in Rule no new uses in Dungeness Rule area. Exchange created to assist with flow restoration/maintaining streamflows and providing new water for development through mitigation.
- WWT manages Exchange with an Advisory Council (meets annually).
- Exchange update: can now apply for mitigation online (launched July 2021): <https://www.dungenesswaterexchange.org/>
- Since 2013, 461 mitigation certificates issued. 2021 one of the busiest years, 89 certificates. Indoor most frequently purchased mitigation package. Streamlined mitigation packages, such as no longer offering Extended Outdoor, as of 2022, as well as other consolidations.
- Mitigation obligation: 26.8 acre-ft per year, out of 130-acre ft/yr supply. 20 percent is allocated.
- Meter pilot update: Clallam Conservation District coordinates this effort. 247 meters in the system as of March 8, 2022. Meters not required until development final. WaterScope database allows monitoring, displays leaks. In future, want to streamline meter dataset with mitigation certificate dataset.
- Aquifer recharge: 26.8 acre-ft needs to be offset by certificate holders. AR is how we do that; infiltrate mitigation water at 5 sites across watershed.



- AR used for both mitigation recharge (via the 130 acre-ft supply), and for restoration infiltration (via maximum allocation water).
- Max allocation: when flows are above instream flow 475 cfs, can take max allocation amount to infiltrate.
- In 2021 can also use irrigator water right water for restoration, allows for streamlining with max allocation program. Resulted in most restoration water that's been infiltrated in previous years.

2021 MITIGATION RECHARGE		
District	Site	AFY
Sequim Prairie-Tri Irrigation Assn	Silberhorn Rd	8
Sequim Prairie-Tri Irrigation Assn	River Rd	96.72
Agnew Irrigation District	Pinnell Rd	8
Dungeness Irrigation District	McComb Rd	9.28
Dungeness Irrigation District	Towne Rd	
2021 Total:		130
2020 Total:		130
2019 Total:		130
2018 Total:		114.21
2017 Total:		54.68

2021 RESTORATION RECHARGE		
District	Site	AFY
Clallam Ditch Association	Jake Way	273.72
Sequim Prairie-Tri Irrigation Assn	Silberhorn Rd	31.30
Sequim Prairie-Tri Irrigation Assn	River Rd	70.22
Agnew Irrigation District	Pinnell Rd	-
Dungeness Irrigation District	McComb Rd	47.54
Dungeness Irrigation District	Towne Rd	31.93
2021 Total:		454.71
2020 Total:		265.22
2019 Total:		334.99
2018 Total:		131.90
2017 Total:		147.76

- Mitigation balance: all streams have a credit/extra benefit, except for Bagley (westernmost stream), which has a debit.
- With restoration recharge, 482.8 AFY instream benefit (26.80 is just using the mitigation water).
- Mitigation Aquifer Recharge season = May 15-July 15. Set by when model anticipates water reaching streams during critical period. Joe submitted clarification after meeting that the May 15-July 15 period was mainly determined by when water is available (above instream flows).
- In answer to question about monitoring, Emily noted dye testing has been discussed, but that is not being done. Difficult to determine how much water going where; so model is used.
- Financial update: Pricing update – goal for the Exchange to be self-sustaining. 2021 Phase 1 pricing update. 2023 Phase 2 Pricing update. Outlined assumptions and principles that went into new mitigation pricing and packages. Phased approach. July 2021 \$4,000 package. January 2023 \$5,250. Will be reviews again for 2025.
- 2022 Workplan Elements: pursue water right acquisition on west side, re-sign AR agreements with ditch companies/districts, recharge full 130 afy of mitigation water.
- General rule: each new use requires mitigation certificate.
- Yellow to Green study still draft. Mike to contact WDFW about status.
- Judy asked about verification of accuracy of Ground Water Model, as well as how to account for 4th aquifer. Mike referenced the WRTG (Water Resources Technical Group), and suggested that Ecology would review recommendations that group comes up with. Agreed that the model does not account for 4th aquifer.

III. Dungeness Clean Water Work Group/PIC Update [slides attached]

Robert Knapp/JST and Joel Green/Streamkeepers

- Robert reviewed some of the work of previous DRMT committees, reviewed how Clean Water Work Group was formed. Formed after several marine water monitoring stations failed to meet water quality standards, starting in 1997. CWWG has been a standing committee of DRMT since 2003. Closure status improvements made up until 2016, currently stalled. Two approved areas, one seasonal closure, and one year-round closure.



- 2002 Clean Water Strategy. Same goals/work today.
- Efforts: support with WDOH monitoring; septic system repairs, maintenance, upgrades; irrigation ditch piping; landowner outreach, assistance; pet waste outreach
- Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC): **Step 1 = Trends monitoring** near stream mouths (monthly at 11 creeks and quarterly at 9 creeks)



- **PIC Step 2 = Segmented monitoring** by CC Environmental Health and JST. Pilot: Golden Sands Slough, Meadowbrook Ck; Phase 1: Lower Matriotti, and Lotzgesell; Phase 2: Upper Matriotti and Bell Ck. Currently repeating Phase 2, still work to do.
- **Step 3 = Outreach** with landowners, led by Clallam Conservation District
- **Annual Growing Area Classification**
- Comments from Matt Heins that it would be interesting to match up aerial photos with the time periods for closures, as the mouths of River and Meadowbrook location has changed. Also noted that previous phases should be looked at again (e.g. Golden Sands) to make sure things are still going well.
- Comments that enforcement needs improvement. Note that Clallam County passed fee for Onsite Septics Operations and Management, more stable funding source. Hopefully that can free up staff for enforcement.
- Conservation District has funding for cost-share for septic repairs and livestock fencing. However, need referrals from the County in order to use the funding.
- Welcome new Clallam County PIC Coordinator at Clallam County, Katie Kowell.

IV. Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit [slides attached]

Adrien Carroll-Perkins, P.E. Permit Writer, WA Department of Ecology and Dainis Kleinbergs, Permit Writer

- Please see attached slides of presentation.
- Sequim's treatment plant considered a small discharger and doing well with nitrogen reductions due to: 40% of their load goes to their water reclamation projects, in addition to their biological nutrient removal.

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

- Standing Item: Water Resources Technical Group update
Tony Corrado updated that the group has met twice. Group has identified topic areas of concern with questions related to each, all still under discussion in Draft form. Have identified up to nine DRAFT topics of concern so far. Example topics include current groundwater status, continuous monitoring of surface water, ground water modeling – and whether the model needs updating, how to account for fourth aquifer, outreach, etc. Idea is that each topic will have at least one related recommendation for DRMT.
 - Ben wondered if devices could be placed in 20 wells to deliver real-time data similar to stream gages, rather than updating model. Tony thought this would be discussed in WRTG. Group is currently meeting every other week.
- Standing Item: Project Update for Phase I Levee Setback:
 - Cathy thanked Danielle for swift HPA modification, related to beaver activity. Beavers re-build every night. Key to make sure water quality in Meadowbrook Creek is not impacted.
 - Ben gave thanks to JST regarding their support for piping project in ditch near one of Tribe's projects.
- Standing Item: Team additions to next agenda, or suggestions for future agendas. Shawn read list of confirmed items for April meeting.

VI. Public Comment

- Ben noted that Conservation District has 3 elected seats and 2 appointed seats. Matt Heins' appointed seat is up this year, and he indicated he will not be recommitting. Contact Ben Smith or Kim Williams if you know anyone who might be interested. Application due March 31.

Meeting Adjourned