



# Dungeness River Management Team

*Cooperative Management of Our Watershed's Resources*

Coordinated by Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and Clallam County

1033 Old Blyn Highway ◊ Sequim, WA 98382 ◊ (360) 683-1109

March 8, 2023

Board of Clallam County Commissioners  
223 E 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 4  
Port Angeles, WA 98362

***RE: Concerns raised regarding safety of the Dungeness Off-Channel Reservoir (OCR)***

Dear Board of Clallam County Commissioners:

The Dungeness River Management Team (DRMT) writes at this time to Clallam County, as the Dungeness OCR Project Sponsor, to acknowledge the ongoing community dialog about this important project. Public comments regarding safety concerns for residents living downgradient from the project were expressed in a presentation provided by members of that community to the DRMT at our November 9, 2022 monthly meeting. The residents also provided DRMT with a copy of correspondence from the Dungeness Meadows Homeowner's Association written directly to the County's attention. These communications indicated support for the reservoir for its multiple benefits but focused on public safety and the consequences due to reservoir berm failure.

As you know, the DRMT as an organization has also supported and prioritized this project and its anticipated benefits for many years. We have not formulated comments on the current design documents or safety measures. Therefore, during related discussion at our January 11, 2023 monthly meeting, the DRMT elected to recognize and communicate in written form to the County that the DRMT has heard the downgradient community's safety concerns. The downgradient neighbors feel 'that the County's highest priority should be placed on community safety when considering the project's design'. The DRMT shares a deeply held value for public safety and its importance within project designs and project review processes, as conveyed in our stated DRMT Purpose and Goals: *Support actions designed to reduce the risk of loss of life and property from flooding while encouraging measures that improve ecosystem functions* (DRMT Operating Procedures).

The DRMT values its role in *providing a forum for the public to learn about and comment on watershed projects and topics of interest or concern* (DRMT Operating Procedures). We look forward to any related updates about the OCR project and designs.

Sincerely,

  
Digitally signed by Hansi Hals  
DN: cn=Hansi Hals, o=Jamestown  
S'Klallam Tribe, ou=Natural Resources,  
email=hals@jamestowntribe.org, c=US  
Date: 2023.03.10 09:12:11 -0800

Hansi Hals, DRMT Chair  
*On behalf of the DRMT*

Dungeness River Management Team Members (2023):

<i>City of Sequim</i>	<i>Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society</i>
<i>Clallam County</i>	<i>Protect the Peninsula's Future</i>
<i>Clallam Conservation District</i>	<i>Riverside Property Owners</i>
<i>Clallam PUD #1</i>	<i>Sports Fisheries</i>
<i>Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge</i>	<i>US Forest Service</i>
<i>Dungeness River Audubon Center</i>	<i>WA Department of Ecology</i>
<i>Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe</i>	<i>WA Department of Fish and Wildlife</i>
<i>North Olympic Land Trust</i>	<i>Water Users Association</i>

Cc: Carol Creasey, Clallam County;  
Bruce Cornett, Paul Moore, Kevin Lindemuth, Dungeness Meadow's Homeowner's Association