

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

October 10, 2022

Department of Ecology Water Quality Program, Financial Management Section PO Box 47600 Olympia, WA 98504-7600

RE: FY2022 Water Quality Combined Fund Application from Clallam Conservation District: Onsite Septic System (OSS) Cost Share Project for Improving Water Quality (WQC-2024-ClalCD-00158)

Dear Project Evaluators:

The Dungeness River Management Team extends its strong support for Clallam Conservation District's proposal to expand their successful Onsite Septic System Cost Share Program to high priority projects impacting water quality throughout Clallam County.

The goal of this project is to help low-income homeowners repair or replace failing Onsite Septic Systems impacting impaired waterways throughout Clallam County. Clallam Conservation District has already assisted landowners with repair and replacement of 18 onsite septic systems since 2014 within the Sequim-Dungeness Clean Water District. These accomplishments demonstrate the District's ability to implement high priority water quality projects. Expanding the program to include a larger geographic focus area will allow their successes to reach farther.

Clallam Conservation District has been an important and active partner in identifying and correcting water quality problems throughout the county, and it has a reputation of fulfilling conservation goals through voluntary efforts. Implementing this project will enable the District to continue providing essential assistance to low-income homeowners to fix known water quality impacts from failing onsite septic systems. We have high confidence in Clallam Conservation District's capacity to lead this effort, and we are eager for this expanded phase of water quality improvement projects to initiate.

We look forward to continuing to work with Clallam Conservation District to implement pollution identification and correction projects throughout Clallam County, and wholeheartedly support this proposal to resolve pollution from failing onsite septic systems. We strongly urge you to fully fund this request.

Sincerely,

Hansi Hals, Chair, DRMT On behalf of the DRMT

Yann Hals

2022 DRMT Membership

City of Sequim

Clallam County

Clallam Conservation District

Clallam PUD #1

Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge Sports Fisheries

Dungeness River Nature Center Estuary/Tidelands Property Owners Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

North Olympic Land Trust

Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society Protect the Peninsula's Future

Riverside Property Owners

US Forest Service

WA Department of Ecology Water Users Association