

DUNGENESS RIVER MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

April 9, 2025 – **APPROVED** Notes

Hybrid/ Zoom, hosted by Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe/ Dungeness River Nature Center

Meeting Recording and Notes: https://clallamcowa.portal.civicclerk.com/?category_id=55

Dungeness River Flows

RM 0.75, Ecology Gauge (Provisional).....508 cfs (as of 7:30 AM)

RM 11.0, USGS #12048000 (Provisional).....418 cfs (as of 8:15 AM)

Daily Mean (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000).....299 cfs (based on 94 yrs)

Median/50% Exceedance (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000).....262 cfs (based on 94 yrs)

Dungeness SNOTEL: (Station Elev. 4,100’) SWE = 8 in, 30-year Median = 6.4 in, 30-year Ave. = 8 in

Chair: Hansi Hals, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe

April Vice Chair: Cathy Lear, Clallam County Habitat Biologist

In Person

Hansi Hals- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe (Chair); Shawn Hines- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe (Alt); Frank Lowenstein- Dungeness River Nature Center (Alt); Cathy Lear- Clallam County (Member); Tony Corrado- Protect the Peninsula’s Future (Member); Lance Vail- Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (Alt); Bob Phreaner- Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (Member); Jamie Tippet- Sports Fisheries (Member); Jackson Wilhite- U.S. Forest Service (Advisory Member), Robert Beebe- Riverside Property Owners (RM 0-3.25) (Member); David Boehm (guest); Barbara Vanderlay (Guest); John Stednick (Guest); Carrol Hull (Guest); Mary Foster (Guest); Dan Teirney (Guest); Deb Maley (Guest); Judy Larson (Guest); Phil Martin (Guest); Sue Gilman (Guest); Bonnie Bless-Boenish (Guest); John Norgord (Guest); Manda Rosenberg (Guest); Genie Mixson (Guest), Rhianna Barkie- Clallam County Public Works (Guest), Steve Gray- Clallam County Public Works (Guest); Ann Soule (Guest), Bill Baccus- Olympic National Park (Guest); Paul Moore (Guest), Bowen Kendrick- Clallam County PUD #1(Advisory Member), Amanda Rosenberg

Online

Jamie Porter- Protect the Peninsula’s Future (Alt), Marguerite Glover- Sequim Association of Realtors (Guest), Enrique Valenzuela- Clallam County (Guest); Nate White- WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife (Alt), Mike Auger- North Olympic Land Trust (Member), Rebecca Mahan- Clallam County (Alt), John Strivens- Clallam County (Guest); Danielle Zitomer- WA Dept. Fish and Wildlife (Member); Joel Green- Clallam County (Alt), Kim Williams- Clallam Conservation District (Advisory Member), Jenna Ziogas (Guest), Jen Garcelon (Guest)

Introductions / Review Agenda / Approve Draft March 2025 DRMT Meeting Notes

2:08: Ben Smith moves to approve March meeting notes as presented, Frank Lowenstein seconds, no objections, the **motion is passed**.

Public Comment

2:09: Judy Larson: Question regarding available funding sources for aquifer monitoring

2:10: Bonnie Bless-Boenish; Request on behalf of League of Women Voters of Clallam County

2:13: Goodbye and thank you to Cathy Lear

Dungeness Off Channel Reservoir Discussion- *DRMT*

2:18: Introduction to DRMT's role in the Off Channel Reservoir (OCR)

2:19: Timing on OCR FEMA application and previous DRMT letter of support

2:24: Dungeness Off-Channel Reservoir Project Update introduction- Steve Gray

2:26: Vicinity map and reasoning behind location

2:29: OCR 2022 preliminary design and other OCR configurations

2:31: Recommended location and recommended design option E1

2:36: Option E1- Design and permitting cost estimates

2:39: Upgradient improvements

2:40: Funding grants for upgradient improvements

2:42: Downgradient improvements

Question Pause:

2:43: If this project is completed as proposed, what percentage of the irrigators will be served?

Resume:

2:45: Highland main canal stormwater capture and infiltration project and connection to OCR

2:48: WEAP principal questions

2:50: WEAP key assumptions

2:52: Irrigation supply WEAP results

2:53: Streamflow restoration WEAP results

2:55: Other WEAP result highlights

2:56: WEAP Model limitations

2:57: Recommendations related to WEAP results

2:58: More information on WEAP model (links)

2:59: Dungeness Reservoir Work Group (DRWG)

3:00: Is the “low-hanging” fruit enough

Questions:

3:02: Discussion regarding water model data input

3:05: Is there a pipe connecting the reservoirs in the E1 design? Are the funding grants from the federal government secured?

3:07: Is the stormwater aquifer recharge/ infiltration that you mentioned a FEMA requirement?

3:10: Is the potential infiltration area being fed by the OCR or the highland main canal?

3:12: Is modeling filling the reservoir with all the maximum allocation water leaving room for other uses of the maximum allocation water?

Discussion:

3:18: Can the aquifer recharge/ infiltration facility be completed using only water from the Highland Irrigation District canal?

3:22: Is the reservoir intended to serve as flood mitigation/ management?

3:25: Aquifer recharge discussion

3:30: FEMA grant discussion

3:35: Continued discussion regarding water model inputs

3:40: Discussion regarding Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s position on project’s impact to ESA species and existing resolution on project

3:47: County’s response

3:53: Question regarding project benefit for ESA species

3:55: Has the county looked into the water temperature of the water in the reservoir?

3:57: Discussion regarding the aquifer recharge portion of the project

Snowpack, Glaciers, Water Supply and Streamflow – “From Peak to Deep”- Bill Baccus, Olympic National Park

4:07: Olympic Mountain Climate, annual precipitation, mountain temperatures

4:10: Snow data collection, snow telemetry stations
4:13: Precipitation changes in the Northwest
4:15: Park snow course data
4:15: What is normal?
4:18: Reduction in glacier total area, glacier thinning 1980-2015
4:19: Cumulative mass balance by year
4:21: Glacier contribution to summer streamflow
4:22: Mountain lake ice trends 2006-2024
4:24: Water year 2015
4:25: Comparisons between water year 2015 and water year 2013
4:28: Mountain lake ice duration from 2015

**Deep Dive into Groundwater in the Dungeness Watershed - Ann Soule, Retired
Hydrologist/ Water Specialist**

4:32: Hydrologic and seasonal cycles
4:34: Marine outflow
4:35: Surface-ground connections, groundwater flow
4:36: Connection between aquifers
4:38: Human induced groundwater recharge, well water withdrawal volumes
4:39: Groundwater discharge from wells
4:40: Groundwater budget
4:43: Changing aquifer levels
4:45: Declining groundwater quality
4:46: Wrap up: tools & resources
4:47: Groundwater monitoring in the Dungeness Watershed by WA Dept. of Ecology
4:48: Where to find groundwater data & reports links

Question:

4:49: How were earlier water quality and groundwater monitoring efforts funded?

4:51: What is the difference between the amount of water being drawn by the exempt wells vs the municipal systems?

4:54: Were the well withdrawal volumes on the well withdrawal volumes slide corrected for consumptive water use?

Standing items

4:55: The charter review commission has picked water as one of their topics to study, if anyone wants to comment on their agenda you can do it online or in person

4:56: May Agenda

Public Comment

4:46: Public Comment: none

4:57: Meeting adjourned