DUNGENESS RIVER MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

May 14, 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)	359 cfs (as of 7:30 AM)
RM 11.0, USGS #12048000 (Provisional)	407 cfs (as of 8:15 AM)
Daily Mean (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000)	547 cfs (based on 94 yrs)
Median/50% Exceedance (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000)	502 cfs (based on 94 yrs)
Dungeness SNOTEL: (Station Elev. 4,100') SWE = 0 in, 30-year Median = 0 in, 30-year Ave. = 2.5 in	

Chair: Hansi Hals, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

April Vice Chair: Tony Corrado, Protect the Peninsula's Future

In Person

Shawn Hines- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (Alt); Frank Lowenstein- Dungeness River Nature Center (Alt); Cathy Lear- Clallam County (Member); Cheryl Baumann- Clallam County (Guest) Matt Heins- County Resident (Guest); Jamie Porter- Protect the Peninsula's Future (Alt); Tony Corrado- Protect the Peninsula's Future (Member); Jamie Tippett- Sports Fisheries (Member); Lance Vail- Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (Alt); Meggan Uecker-City of Sequim (Member); Hilton Turnbull- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (Guest); Phil Martin-resident (Guest); Scott Chitwood- resident (Guest); Carroll Hull- Clallam League of Women Voters (Guest); David Brehm-resident (Guest); Genie Mixson- Dungeness Meadows (Guest)

Online

Lexi Wagor- North Olympic Land Trust (Alt); Enrique Valenzuela- Clallam County (Guest); Rebecca Mahan- Clallam County (Alt); Bowen Kendrick- Clallam County PUD #1(Member); Danielle Zitomer- WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife (Member); Alex Scagliotti- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (Guest); Kim Williams- Clallam Conservation District (Advisory); Ben Smith-Water Users Association (Member)

Introductions / Review Agenda / Approve Draft April 9, 2025 DRMT Meeting Notes

2:06: Discussion regarding USGS Dungeness stream flow gauge historical data

2:10: Motion to accept the meeting minutes as presented, motion approved

2:10: Public comment: none

2025 SRFB Project Proposal Presentations (East NOPLE)

- 2:12: Introduction
- 2:15: What percentage of these projects are state funded?
- 2:17: Is funding purely for on-the-ground programs or is funding available for education as well?

Dungeness River Riparian Acquisition- Hilton Turnbull, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

- 2:19: Introduction to project
- 2:20: Comprehensive and systematic approach
- 2:23: JSKT Riparian Acquisitions
- 2:24: Societal benefits of riparian acquisition
- 2:25: Caldero Acquisition and Restoration
- 2:26: Subject property photo
- 2:28: Elevation relative to thalweg on subject property
- 2:29: Watershed priority
- 2:30: How the project addresses stock statuses, ESA listed species, restores habitat, and promotes ecosystem function
- 2:32: Likelihood of benefits based on proposer's capacity and approach

Questions:

- 2:33: Would the tribe be thinking of installing large woody debris in this acquired property?
- 2:34: What is the acquisition price?
- 2:35: How much of this project is federally funded?
- 2:36: Is this property meets and bounds or is the property legally described using the center of the river as it's boundary?

Dungeness River Planning and Design- Hilton Turnbull, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

- 2:39: Dungeness River low flow habitat assessment & restoration design
- 2:40: River's edge planting plots
- 2:41: Barrier riffle, pooling fish below riffles

- 2:42: Partners involved in project
- 2:43: Regional context- NOPLE
- 2:44: Budget/ task highlights
- 2:45: Reasonableness of Cost and budget Dungeness River floodplain restoration

Questions:

- 2:48: Is this considered a capital project or funded by the federal government?
- 2:50: Is your project area the river's edge area? Does JSKT have the expertise to do the design and implementation of the project in house?
- 2:52: Are the WCC members that were previously helping you funded in the same way?
- 2:54: Would your geomorphic consultant be looking at hyporheic flows as well?
- 2:55: Would you be working on only the tribes owned conservation properties or north of the schoolhouse bridge as well?
- 2:56: Are the restoration efforts for quantity and quality of the water in the river related? Is the quality of water worse downriver?
 - **NOPLE's Scoring Summary-** Cheryl Baumann, Coordinator, North Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon
- 3:00: Technical team's recommendation to policy makers

Questions:

- 3:04: What are the yellow highlights?
- 3:05: When are the scores due? Friday May 23rd
 - **2025 North of Falcon and Dungeness Salmon Update-** *Aaron Brooks, Fisheries Management Biologist Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe*
- 3:20: Dungeness Spawning Ground Surveys
- 3:21: 2024 Chinook Redd Distribution
- 3:23: Dungeness Chinook salmon escapement: discussion on brood stock program
- 3:25: Dungeness wild coho salmon escapement
- 3:26: Dungeness Hatchery Coho salmon escapement
- 3:26: Dungeness Fall Chum salmon escapement

- 3:27: Dungeness Pink salmon escapement
- 3:28: Dungeness steelhead escapement
- 3:29: DNA sampling
- 3:32: Why do we conduct spawning ground surveys and monitor smolt outmigration?
- 3:33: Salmon management process
- 3:37: Listed Chinook
- 3:38: Other salmon species included in North of Falcon
- 3:39: 2025 North of Falcon chinook package
- 3:41: 2025 Dungeness salmon forecasts
- 3:43: 2025 Puget sound natural chinook forecasts
- 3:44: 2025 Natural coho forecasts, 2025 fishing seasons
- 3:48: Helpful North of Falcon links from WDFW, Dungeness salmon news

Questions:

- 3:51: Is there a minimum river flow for your crew to conduct surveys in?
- 3:52: On the Dungeness hatchery coho salmon escapement slide, what was the escapement drop from 2001 to 2002? Do you have data or graphs that show big regulatory changes against salmon escapements?
- 3:55: Is there any information on how the catch limits are actively monitored during the season?
- 3:56: Discussion regarding natural salmon returns in Puget Sound

Other Orders of Business, Announcements and Standing Agenda Items

- 4:04: Water resources planning topics: League of Women Voters: Thank you to Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe for funding help for digital drought condition monitoring website, the number of wooden sign version of drought condition monitoring will be doubled to four.
- 4:07: Tomorrow the Dungeness River Nature Center is going to send a Request For Proposal for a live cam monitoring website which will be monitoring nesting sites and others along with the river level

- 4:11: OCR update: The county commissioners approved a bid award for the debris removal project to remove debris from the old dump site on the south side of the property. The bid price was \$153,207.45. The next step is execution of the contract.
- 4:12: The program for funding local drought preparedness plan is not available this year from Ecology
- 4:13: The PUD issued a stage 2 drought alert for the island view water system, and a stage 1 for the Clallam Bay/ Sekiu water system. Clallam County is not included on any emergency drought declaration from the state.
- 4:19: The executive committee may want to consider evaluating critical databases that we may not have access to going forward.
- 4:26: Public Comment: there is graffiti on the logs and trees near the railroad bridge, it is being removed.
- 4:29: Meeting adjourned