

DUNGENESS RIVER MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

October 9, 2024

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

Dungeness River Flows

RM 0.75, Ecology Gauge (Provisional) 63 cfs (*as of 4:30 AM*)

RM 11.0, USGS #12048000 (Provisional) 90.8 cfs (*as of 7:15 AM*)

Daily Mean (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000)..... 175 cfs (*based on 95 yrs*)

Median/50% Exceedance (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000) 134 cfs (*based on 95 yrs*)

Dungeness SNOTEL: (Station Elev. 4,100’) SWE = 0 in, 30-year Median = 0 in, 30-year Ave. = 0 in Chair:

Hansi Hals, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe

October Vice Chair: Jamie Tippet, Sports Fisheries

2:00 Introductions / Review Agenda/ Approve August 2024 DRMT Meeting Notes

In Person

Hansi Hals- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe Natural Resources Director, DRMT Chair; Shawn Hines- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe Watershed Planner; Tony Corrado- Protect Peninsula’s Future Member; Montana Napier- Dungeness River Nature Center; Jamie Tippet- Sport Fisheries Representative; Bob Phreaner- Olympic Audubon Society; Lance Vail- Olympic Audubon Society; Ben Smith- Water Users Association; Robert Bebe- Guest; Meggan Uecker- City of Sequim Resource Analyst; Barbara Vanderworth- League of Women Voters; Ann Soule- League of Women Voters; Mary Foster- League of Women Voters; Paul Moore- Guest, Sami Greiger- WSU Extension; David Brown- League of Women Voters; Jackson Wilhite- Olympic National Forest; Phil Martin- Guest, Powell Jones- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe; Dunna Maine- AmeriCorps; David Brown- Guest; Dave Shufflet; Arron Brooks- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe Fisheries Management Biologist, Chris Burns- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe Natural Resources Technician; Cathy Lear- Clallam County Habitat Biologist, Frank Lowenstein- Dungeness River Nature Center Executive Director; Montana Napier- Dungeness River Nature Center Education Manager; Virginia Schuberin; Judy Larson- Guest; Lauren Halverson; Caroline Miller; Paul Moore

Online

Rebecca Mahan- Clallam County Habitat Biologist; Joel Green- Clallam County; Kim Williams; Streamkeepers; Clea Rome- WSU Extension; Jenna Ziogas- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe; Stephanie Robinson- Graysmarsh Biologist; Bowen Kendrick- PUD Water & Wastewater Systems Manager; Enrique Valenzuela- Clallam County Planning; Scott Gerwood- Guest; Hannah McDonough- Washington Water Trust Resources Section Manager; Danielle Zitomer- DFW; Sammi Grieger- WSU Extension; Maren Halvorsen- League of Women Voters; Solvei Metcalf- Washington Water Trust; Ben Smith- Water Users Association, Deirdra Hahn- WA Ecology

2:09 PUBLIC COMMENT (10 minutes)

2:09: Judy Larson: public comment

Dungeness Salmon/ Flow Impacts, Barrier riffle work, Chinook Tracking Pilot

Chris Burns, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

2:14: Chinook Tracking Pilot; flow impacts

2:17: Riffle modification

Questions/ Discussion

2:18: How did the Chinook move?

2:19: How many fish moved?

2:20: Is there literature on the stress fish experience from being tagged?

2:22: Will you come back in November with the analyzed data from the Chinook Tracking Pilot?

2:23: Reasoning behind larger return.

2:26: Thanks to Chris and Hansi!

Ag Impacts, Dungeness Dry Year Lease and Pulse Flow Programs and Status

Ben Smith, WUA; Jason Hatch, Solve Metcalf, Washington Water Trust

2:31: Dry Year Leasing Program summary

2:31: Pulse Flow Program summary

2:33: Dry Year Leasing Program

2:35: Pulse Flow Program- Diversions and Gauges

Questions

2:40: What is the picture showing?

2:41: What are the aquadams?

2:41: How are payments determined from the Pulse Flow and Dry Year Lease Programs, how much money is being spent, and where does the money come from?

2:46: Are all the Dry Year Lease programs for agriculture?

2024 Drought Outreach Program Update

Clea Rome and Sammi Greiger, WSU Extension

2:48: Drought information and awareness via: water conservation webpage, radio spots on KONP & KSQM, Bi-monthly column in the Sequim Gazette, Social media campaign

2:50: Water conservation messaging at events: Master Gardener presentations, garden tours, etc., forever stream fest

2:51: Looking forward

Questions:

2:52: Thank you Sammi!

Low Water Alert Pilot Projects

Ann Soule, on behalf of Clallam League of Women Voters

2:53: Clallam League of Women Voters low flow alert sign update

2:59: Sign location

3:01: League of Women Voters website

Questions:

3:06: I would like one of these signs at Adagio Bean & Leaf, can we work out the logistics of installing one?

Break: 3:09-3:25

2024 State/ Regional Drought Status and Impacts

Caroline Mellor, Drought Coordinator, WA Department of Ecology

3:28: Drought Declaration Process: Requirements; Hydrologic Threshold, Hardship Threshold

3:29: Water Supply Factors

3:29 What does a Declaration Do?

3:30: Drought Response Funding

3:30: Additional Implications

3:30: Initial and Expected Impacts

3:32: Drought Response Funding

3:33: Example Drought Response Grant Projects

3:34: Ongoing Drought Management; Water Year

3:36: Water Year 2025- A week in

3:38: Three month outlooks

3:38: Drought response continues

3:40: Share your impacts: Links

3:42: Takeaways

Questions:

3:43: Will the state drought declaration analyzing “normal” water supply change as a new 30 year window is set?

3:46: Does the Department of Ecology take into account human made climate change?

3:47: Are there thoughts on lowering the grant match amount from 50%?

3:49: Discussion regarding “normal”

Permanent Emergency Drought Relief Rulemaking

Danielle Gallatin, Rule Development Lead, Water Resources Program, WA Dept. of Ecology

3:53: Summary; Why are we here today?

3:54: Emergency Drought Relief Rule

3:55: Timeline for Rulemaking

3:56: Drought Declaration; what does declaring a drought emergency do?

3:57: Goals for rulemaking

3:58: Washington State Drought Law

Questions

4:01: Will rural and disadvantaged communities have equity considerations in the rulemaking and grant application process?

4:03: Permanent emergency drought relief rulemaking survey discussion questions

4:05: **August Note Approval:** Megan Uecker motions to approve August notes, Robert Bebe seconds, no opposition, the motion is passed.

Standing Items

4:09: Megan Uecker: Upcoming Climate energy and Resilience Summit Oct. 29th

4:13: Off Channel Reservoir Update

4:16: Update to Sequim Prairie Tri Irrigation Piping Project Update: Environmental Impact Study

4:18: Towne Road Levii Project Update

Public Comment

4:19: None

4:20: Meeting Adjourned