

## DUNGENESS RIVER MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

July 9, 2025 – Draft 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](https://clallamcowa.portal.civicclerk.com/?category_id=55)

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### **Dungeness River Flows**

RM 0.75, Ecology Gauge (Provisional).....265 cfs (as of 7:30 AM)

RM 11.0, USGS #12048000 (Provisional).....358 cfs (as of 8:15 AM)

Daily Mean (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000).....542 cfs (based on 94 yrs)

Median/50% Exceedance (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000).....530 cfs (based on 94 yrs)

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

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Chair: Ben Smith, Sequim-Dungeness Water Users Association

April Vice Chair: Shawn Hines- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe

### **In Person**

Robert Beebe- Riverside property owner (Guest); Jackson Wilhite- U.S. Forest Service (Adv. Member); Ben Smith- Water Users Association (Member); Shawn Hines- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe (Alt); Tony Corrado- Protect the Peninsula’s Future (Alternate); Lance Vail- Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (Alternate); Montana Napier- Dungeness River Nature Center (Member); Phil Martin- County Resident (Guest); Phil Roni- Cramer Fish Sciences (Guest); Ericka Hegeman- Cramer Fish Sciences (Guest); Ian McDonald- Cramer Fish Sciences (Guest); Meggan Uecker- City of Sequim (Member); Marlies Wierenga- Puget Sound Partnership (Guest); Peter Wierenga (Guest); Cheryl Baumann- North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon (Guest); Quentin Norcutt- Clallam Conservation District (Guest)

### **Online**

Joel Green- Clallam County (Alternate), Rebecca Mahan- Clallam County (Alternate), Stephanie Robinson- Graysmarsh (Member); Enrique Valenzuela- Clallam County Planning (Guest); Patrick Yoon- Washington Water Trust (Guest); Alissa Ferrell- NOPL Grant Manager for Recreation and Conservation Office (Guest); Rhianna Barkie- Clallam County Public Works (Guest); Danielle Zitomer- WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (Member); Mike Auger- North Olympic Land Trust (Member); John Worthington- (Guest); Kim Williams- Clallam Conservation District (Advisory Member); Jamie Porter- Protect the Peninsula’s Future (Alternate); Austin Bernales- Bonneville Environmental Foundation (Guest); Bob

Phreaner-Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (Member); Megan Wilson- Puget Sound Partnership (Guest)

**Introductions / Review Agenda / Approve Draft June 11, 2025 DRMT Meeting Notes**

2:09: Ben Smith moves to approve June notes as presented, seconded, no objections, the motion is passed

2:10: Public Comment: John Worthington: Future agenda item suggestion

**Remote Sensing Monitoring of Habitat Changes in the Lower Dungeness after Restoration-** Phil Roni, Cramer Fish Sciences

2:17: Evaluating the Effectiveness of Large Floodplain Projects

2:20: Project goals and objectives

2:21: Floodplain and estuary restoration projects evaluated

2:23: Restoration evaluation metrics

2:24: Dungeness study methods

2:26: Lower Dungeness floodplain reconnection

2:28: Lower Dungeness floodplain sediment aggradation and degradation, fish habitat, and habitat suitability index (HSI)

2:33: Lower Dungeness riparian metrics

2:35: Key findings of the Lower Dungeness Floodplain Reconnection

2:36: Three Crabs estuary metrics, tidal connectivity

2:37: Three Crabs Estuary key findings

2:38: River's edge key findings

2:39: Railroad bridge key findings

**Question Pause:**

2:41: In the lower Dungeness riparian metrics, why does side channel length percentage change go up so significantly but the river complexity index percentage change not as significant?

2:45: How does the change in significantly restricted tidal area to partially restricted tidal area reflect in making things better?

2:51: How low is low flow in your model?

**Resume:**

2:55: Floodplain and geomorphology on the entire Lower Dungeness River

2:56: Sediment aggradation and degradation, habitat suitability index, and key findings on the entire Lower Dungeness River

2:58: Presentation summary

**Questions:**

3:02: Is there any other type of models that your data could be fed into?

3:05: What is the cost of re doing this study in the future?

**Other Orders of Business, Announcements and Standing Agenda Items**

3:08: Discussion regarding August DRMT, tentatively cancelled.

3:10: Water Advisory Board: The Clallam Charter Review will make a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners regarding a new water steward position at the next work session

3:11: Lance Vail: Water management data planning/ needs: Tony and Lance are working on a write up

3:12: Rhianna Barkie: OCR update. Preliminary designs of HID main canal pipelines show drainage inlet structures. How this will be tied into the recharge area will be addressed in the future. Details from the project can be viewed at:

<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/188/Dungeness-Off-Channel-Reservoir-Project>

Debris removal has begun. FEMA and EMD are working with a consultant for a cost analysis to analyze incorporating the water infiltration portion into the overall project.

3:21: Drought preparedness: A drought has been declared in our area and Washington Water Trust is beginning to create Water leasing program

3:23: The Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe is currently resuming the Chinook tagging program

**Public Comment:**

3:26: John Worthington: Jimmy Commelately Creek comparisons

3:28: Meeting adjourned