

DUNGENESS RIVER MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

December 11, 2024

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).....253 cfs (*as of 7:30 AM*)
RM 11.0, USGS #12048000 (Provisional).....288 cfs (*as of 8:15 AM*)
Daily Mean (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000).....474 cfs (*based on 94 yrs*)
Median/50% Exceedance (RM 11.0, USGS #12048000).....340 cfs (*based on 94 yrs*)
Dungeness SNOTEL: (Station Elev. 4,100’) **SWE** = 5.3 in, **30-year Median** = 1.6 in, **30-year Ave.** = 2 in

Chair: Hansi Hals, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe

December Vice Chair: Stephanie Robinson, Estuary/ Tidelands Property Owners

Shawn Hines- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe (Alt); Robert Beebe- Riverside Property Owners (RM 0-3.25); Ben Smith- Water Users Association; Meggan Uecker- City of Sequim; Tony Corrado- Protect the Peninsula’s Future; Montana Napier- Dungeness River Nature Center; Jackson Wilhite- U.S. Forest Service; Bowen Kendrick- PUD #1 of Clallam County; Rhiana Barkie- Clallam County - Guest; Steve Grey- Clallam County - Guest; Phil Martin- Guest; Scott Chitwood- Guest; Glenn Browning- Guest; Barbara Vanderhal- Guest; Jan Tierney- Guest; Carrol Hull- Guest; Ann Soule- Guest; Genie Mixson- Guest; Virginia Shogren- Guest; Judy Larson- Guest; David Brehan- Guest; Lance Vail- Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (Alt); Nate White- WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife; Frank Lowenstein- Dungeness River Nature Center (Alt)

Marguerite Glover- Guest; Sammi Grieger- WSU Extension Guest; Jamie Porter- Protect the Peninsula (Alt); Kim Williams- Clallam Conservation District, Enrique Valenzuela- Clallam County Guest; Mike Gallagher- WA Dept of Ecology; Jeff Martee- WA Dept of Ecology - Guest; Ryan Murphy- Point No Point Treaty Council - Guest; Cythia Rossi- Point No Point Treaty Council - Guest; Joe Donisi- Clallam County - Guest; Jenna Ziogas- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe - Guest; Hannah McDonough- WA Water Trust; Solvei Metcalf- WA Water Trust - Guest, Patrick Yoon - WA Water Trust - Guest; Doug Chalmers- Stockholm Environment Institute - Guest; Danielle Zitomer- WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife; Jen Garcelon- Clallam County - Guest; Mark Ozias- Clallam County, Guest; Rebecca Mahan- Clallam County (Alt); Joel Green- Clallam County (Alt); Bob Phreaner- Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society

Introductions / Review Agenda / Approve Draft November 2024 DRMT Meeting Notes

2:11: Agenda Review, Accepted

2:12: Approve November meeting notes: Spelling corrections made, Ben Smith motions to approve, Meggan Uecker seconds, no objection.

Public Comment

2:13: Genie Mixson: Please make sure to sign in to the sign in sheet, it helps the Dungeness River Nature Center.

Dungeness Off Channel Reservoir Status Update – Rhiana Barkie, Clallam County

2:15: Off Channel Reservoir Update: Multiple configurations are being evaluated, October 22nd public meeting was well attended, public comment from the meeting is being reviewed.

Dungeness Reservoir Water Balance – Model Results – Hannah McDonough, WA Water Trust and Doug Chalmers, Stockholm Environment Institute

2:18: Water Balance Model Results

2:18: WWT's role in the Dungeness Off Channel Reservoir overview

2:20: Water Evaluation and Planning (WEAP) background and purpose

2:21: WEAP Model Overview

2:28: Stockholm Environment Institute's (SEI) role in the Dungeness Off Channel Reservoir

2:29: Presentation outline

2:32: Model inputs

2:34: Model inputs: climate projections

2:35: Model inputs by operation scenarios

2:40: Reservoir inputs by season dates

Question Pause:

2:49: Which 30 years of the 2030-2080 projections are you using?

2:51: Was there sensitivity analysis for the climate projections?

Resume

2:53: Future inflow vs historical 2007-2022 Dungeness River flow at USGS gauge

2:57: Highland Irrigation District's water right seniority

3:00: Reservoir fill projections from WEAP Model from 2030-2060

3:02: Frequency of full reservoir fill by date in 2030-2060

3:05: Reservoir fill projections from WEAP Model from 2050-2080

3:07: Excess fill with 2030-2060 projections. (What if the reservoir was infinite?)

3:10: Excess fill with 2050-2080 projections

3:11: Irrigation supply versus demand in 2030- 2060 projections versus supply with reservoir

3:17: Irrigation supply 2007-2022

Question Pause

3:21: Lance Vail: Do you believe the assumption of the 2020 water demand is reasonable for projection in light of a longer frost- freeze season that may shift the growing season earlier in the year?

3:23: Jeff Martee: What is the spike in irrigation use from March to April ahead of the actual irrigation season?

Resume

3:25: Turn-down rules (2030-2060)

3:27: Turn-down rules (2050-2080)

3:33: Downstream flow (2030-2060)

3:37: Flow benefit (2030-2060)

Question Pause

3:46: Hansi Hals: In an early slide you had the outflow of the reservoir at 25cfs capacity but even in this historical analysis where we have more abundant water than these future conditions are showing, your in-stream benefit is tagged as 15 or so cfs, could you comment on that?

3:47: Frank Lowenstein: Does that mean since the benefit is about 15 cfs in the high water years does that mean there's another 10 cfs that could be added to the river to add flow above the unimpaired line?

Resume

3:49: Conclusions

Questions:

3:51: Why are some districts not connected to the reservoir?

3:52: Is there a likelihood that the data would change significantly if historical inflow was only the past five years instead of 2007-2022?

3:55: How will the flow benefit timing help salmon spawning in August through September?

3:59: Flow benefits are quantified at the schoolhouse bridge, should we be analyzing the flow benefits in other parts of the river?

Other Orders of Business, Standing Agenda Items, Announcements

4:11: Elections for 2025 DRMT Chair and DRMT Executive Committee

4:13: **Motion to uphold 2025 nominations**, Tony moves, Robert seconds. No objection, Hansi Hals recuses. The motion is **approved**

4:14: League of Women Voters Water Committee update

4:17: Drought planning and response: WSU Extension presentation

4:20: Clallam County natural resources department update; Dungeness Levee project wrapping up, McDonald Creek update

4:22: Future agendas

Public Comment

4:26: Ann Soule: Is the 0-15 cfs incorporated in the whole river or just the modeled section with inputs and outputs?

4:27: **Meeting adjourned**