

DUNGENESS RIVER MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

May 14, 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

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: Tony Corrado, Protect the Peninsula’s Future

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) Mat Hines- County Resident (Guest); Tony Corrado- Protect the Peninsula’s Future (Member); Lance Vail- Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (Alt); Meggan Uecker- City of Sequim (Member); Hilton Turnbull- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe (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)

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- NOPL

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?

NOPE'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 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