



DUNGENESS OFF-CHANNEL RESERVOIR

The solution to freshwater supply challenges facing people, farms, and fish.

WATER SUPPLY

The Dungeness River is an important water supply for local farms, communities, and four ESA-listed fish species. However, Dungeness salmon and steelhead numbers have decreased significantly over the past 150 years largely due to low streamflows in the late summer.

STREAMFLOW CHALLENGES

- Agricultural users withdraw up to 50% of river flows in late summer.
- Climate change is projected to decrease spring and summer season streamflow by 24-31%, raising stream temperatures 2.2-2.5°C by the 2080's.
- Low streamflows mean dangerously high water temperatures and passage challenges for fish.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



web_reservoir@clallamcountywa.gov

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

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



Representation of Option E1 out of 4 potential options

The **Dungeness Off-Channel Reservoir** is designed to restore flows to the Dungeness River in the late summer by storing water from the Dungeness River during winter and spring when flows are plentiful. This stored water will be used for irrigation later in the year in place of water withdrawn directly from the river when flows are at their lowest. The result will be:

- Restored streamflow to the River.
- Increased groundwater levels in the heavily tapped shallow aquifer.
- A stable, drought-resistant and climate-resilient water supply for local agriculture and communities.

BY THE NUMBERS

Reservoir surface area	Reservoir capacity	Size of new county park
Up to 47 acres*	Up to 1,600 acre feet*	396 acres
Flow restoration benefit	One-month irrigation supply annually for	ESA-listed fish species benefitting
15-25 cfs**	Up to 3,200 acres	4 species***

*Size and capacity of reservoir and resulting flow benefit will vary based on the design configuration selected.

**Represents up to a 47% increase in flow which dropped to 56 cfs in 2015. Restored flow will be protected by Trust Water/MOA agreement from other diverters.

***Puget Sound Chinook, Hood Canal Summer Chum, Puget Sound Steelhead & Bull Trout

COMMUNITY BENEFITS



Climate-Resilient Water Supply - Decreasing water supplies for both people and the environment is the biggest climate concern for eastern Clallam County. Drought conditions have been present in the area in four of the past eight years. This project will use water storage to provide a reliable climate-resilient water supply for farmers while leaving water in-stream for fish.



Agriculture/Irrigation - The reservoir would help sustain agriculture by providing greater water supply reliability, releasing stored water for irrigation use in the late summer during the fish critical low-flow period (August to September).



Aquifer Recharge - Stored water from the reservoir can be used for aquifer recharge to increase groundwater levels in the heavily tapped shallow aquifer as well as augment flows in local streams.



Streamflow Restoration - The project will restore between 15 - 25 cfs of flow in the Dungeness River during late summer, greatly improving low streamflows and fish passage, restoring habitat, and reducing water temperature for ESA-listed salmon, steelhead and bull trout.



Floodwater Management - The project site has potential to reduce flooding on roads and properties in Clallam County and the City of Sequim by intercepting upland overland flow before it reaches and inundates city infrastructure.



Recreation - The project site was recently purchased by Clallam County from the Washington Department of Natural Resources and will be owned and managed by Clallam County as a new public park with hiking, biking, wildlife viewing, and river access opportunities. The park will provide aesthetic benefits for improved recreation access.

TENTATIVE PROJECT TIMELINE*

PHASE	DATE
PHASE 01 LAND TRANSFER & ASSESSMENTS	JAN 2020 - OCT 2024
PHASE 02 DESIGN, RELATED OUTREACH & PERMITTING	JUNE 2021 - MAR 2026
PHASE 03 CONSTRUCTION & RELATED OUTREACH	MAY 2026 - JULY 2028

TOTAL CONSTRUCTION BUDGET OF ~\$36 MILLION

*Depending upon secured funding and permitting approval.

PROJECT SPONSOR: CLALLAM COUNTY

PARTNERS:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CITY OF SEQUIM • CLALLAM CONSERVATION DISTRICT • DUNGENESS WATER USERS ASSOCIATION | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JAMESTOWN S'KLALLAM TRIBE • WA DEPT. OF ECOLOGY • WA DEPT. OF FISH & WILDLIFE • WASHINGTON WATER TRUST |
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