

APPENDIX F: Public Outreach & Newspaper Articles

- Public Outreach Meeting: November 12, 2008 (4 pgs)
- Public Outreach Meeting: March 11, 2009 (2 pgs)
- Public Outreach Meeting: April 30, 2009 (4 pgs)
- Newspaper Articles (4 pgs)

Public Outreach Meeting: November 12, 2008

**~81 members of the public attended this open house.
There were no presentations, open format with agency
staff available to answer questions.**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WORD COUNT = 418 wds

CHARACTER COUNT = 2,540 char. w/spaces

DATE OF SUBMISSION: October 31, 2008

INTENDED PUBLICATION DATE: November 5, 2008

PRESS CONTACT: Sam Gibboney, ISE Consultants
sam@iseconsultants.net, 360-379-4831

Winter is coming, the rain has started, and if you live on or near the Dungeness River you should be prepared for potential flood hazards. An Open House with information about flooding along the Dungeness River and how you can prepare for flooding emergencies will be held Wednesday, November 12th from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Sequim Library. The meeting will feature maps, photos of flooding along the river and emergency preparedness materials. There will also be a drawing to win a weather radio that can be used during flood watches and warnings.

The meeting, sponsored by Clallam County and the Dungeness River Flood Hazard Planning Team, will feature maps of the Dungeness River flood plain and the channel migration hazard area. The 100-year flood plain represents the area near the river that would be flooded during a 100 year storm. Contrary to popular belief, a 100-year storm is not a storm that occurs once every 100 years. Rather, it is the storm (as measured by the amount of precipitation) that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year.

In contrast, the channel migration zone describes the area that has the potential to experience channel movement. Rivers like the Dungeness can change course, often abruptly, and the channel can erode banks or suddenly occupy relic channels. So, the channel migration hazard area demarks the area where the river may be located in the future.

People who live or own property along the Dungeness are encouraged to attend. The meeting will have information and handouts for emergency planning before, during and after a flood. Most importantly, emergency preparedness officials want people to understand that floods on the Dungeness can happen quickly. In addition, it is important to understand that the flood elevation in the river can lag behind the actual precipitation. So, just because the rain has stopped doesn't mean the danger has passed. Flood information can be monitored on NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) All Hazard Weather Radios. Officials will have information at the meeting about where to purchase weather radios and you can also enter your name in a drawing to win one.

The meeting will be an open house, drop-in format from 4 to 7 pm. People attending can browse displays and materials and talk with members of the Dungeness Flood Hazard Planning Team. The Sequim Library is located at 630 N. Sequim Ave. For more information or if you have questions, please call Hannah Merrill at Clallam County at 360-417-2563.

Flooding on the Dungeness



When: Wednesday
November 12, 2008

Where: Sequim Public Library
630 N. Sequim Ave.

Drop in anytime between 4pm and 7pm!

Public Open House

Enter to WIN a
NOAA Emergency Radio

Learn:

- ◆ How to prepare for flood season
- ◆ What a flood plain is
- ◆ How the river can change course quickly and dramatically
- ◆ What local planners and citizens are doing to understand and prepare for floods



For more information
contact Hannah Merrill
at 360-417-2563



DUNGENESS RIVER FLOOD PLAN OPEN HOUSE EVALUATION

1. Did you feel the material presented was informative?

NOT AT ALL 1 2 3 4 5 VERY

2. Were your questions answered satisfactorily?

NOT WELL 1 2 3 4 5 VERY WELL

3. Did you learn anything new?

NOTHING 1 2 3 4 5 A LOT

4. What specifically did you learn? Perhaps something that surprised you?

5. What could we do to improve?

Leave this card at the exit station and your name will be entered in a drawing for a free **WEATHER RADIO**. Your name will not be shared or put on a mailing list.

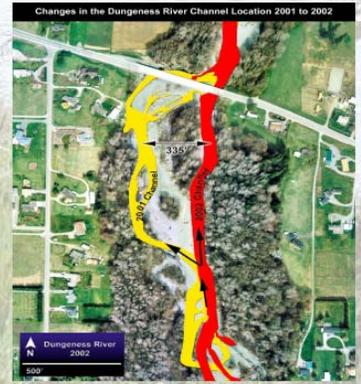
NAME: _____

CONTACT (e-mail or phone) _____

Thank you for coming tonight.
Your feedback will be used to improve future forums.

AVULSION: (ə-vəl-shən\ n.)

THE RAPID OCCUPATION OF THE RIVER OF A RELIC CHANNEL OR SWALE. RIVERS LIKE THE DUNGENESS ARE PRONE TO AVULSION AND THE RIVER WILL COMMONLY MOVE INTO THESE LOW AREAS. OFTEN, THE NEW CHANNEL INITIATES AT THE DOWNSTREAM END AND MIGRATES (OR HEADCUTS) UPSTREAM UNTIL IT INTERSECTS WITH THE RIVER.



BANK EROSION: ('bank\i-rō-zhən\ n.)

THE GRADUAL WEARING AWAY OF THE RIVER BANK SURFACE BY THE ACTION OF WATER. USUALLY EROSION INVOLVES THE TRANSPORT OF ERODED MATERIAL FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, AS FROM THE UPSTREAM PORTION OF A RIVER TO THE DOWNSTREAM PORTION. BANK EROSION CAN OCCUR AS THE FLOOD ELEVATION RISES AND RIVER WATER COMES INTO CONTACT WITH BANK SOILS THAT ARE NOT NORMALLY WETTED BY LOW FLOWS IN THE RIVER. BANK EROSION CAN ALSO OCCUR WHEN THE CHANNEL MEANDERS AND CUTS INTO A BANK. BOTH KINDS CAN OCCUR QUITE RAPIDLY AND DRAMATICALLY.



INUNDATION: (i-nən-dā-shən\ noun)

THE RISING OF A BODY OF WATER AND ITS OVERFLOWING ONTO NORMALLY DRY LAND. THIS IS THE TYPE OF FLOODING THAT PEOPLE ARE MOST FAMILIAR WITH. THE RIVER OVERTOPS ITS BANKS AND FLOODS YARDS, FIELDS, CRAWL SPACES, HOUSES AND OTHER PROPERTY. FLOOD WATERS CAN SOMETIMES TAKE DAYS TO RECEDE.



Floods

Floods are the most common and widespread of all natural disasters. If you live in an area where floods occur, you should know the following:

What to do before a flood

- Plan for evacuation including where you are going to go and the route you will follow.
- Prepare your home for a flood. Call your local building department or office of emergency management for information.
- Purchase flood insurance.
- Keep all insurance policies and a list of valuable items in a safe place.
- Take photos or a videotape of the valuables you keep in your home.
- Listen to your radio or television for reports of flood danger.
- Keep your car filled with gas.

What to do during a flood

- Do not try to walk or drive through flooded areas. Water can be deeper than it appears and water levels rise quickly. Follow official emergency evacuation routes. If your car stalls in floodwater, get out quickly and move to higher ground.
- Stay away from moving water: moving water six inches deep can sweep you off your feet. Cars are easily swept away in just two feet of water.
- Stay away from disaster areas unless authorities ask for volunteers.
- Stay away from downed power lines.
- If your home is flooded, turn the utilities off until emergency officials tell you it is safe to turn them on. Do not pump the basement out until floodwater recedes. Avoid weakened floors, walls and rooftops.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and clean water if you come in contact with floodwaters.

What to do after a flood

- Wear gloves and boots when cleaning up.
- Open all doors and windows. Use fans if possible to air out the building.
- Wash all clothes and linens in hot water.
- Discard mattresses and stuffed furniture; they can't be adequately cleaned.
- Wash dirt and mud from walls, counters and hard surfaced floors with soap and water. Disinfect by wiping surfaces with a solution of one cup bleach per gallon of water.
- Discard all food that has come into contact with floodwater. Canned food is alright, but thoroughly wash the can before opening.
- If your well is flooded, your tap water is probably unsafe. If you have public water, the health department will let you know—through radio and television—if your water is not safe to drink. Until your water is safe, use clean bottled water.
- Learn how to purify water. If you have a well, learn how to decontaminate it.
- Do not use your septic system when water is standing on the ground around it. The ground below will not absorb water from sinks or toilets. When the soil has dried, it is probably safe to again use your septic system. To be sure, contact your local health department.
- When floodwaters have receded, watch out for weakened road surfaces.



PO Box 47590
Olympia, WA 98504-
7890

Web Site:
www.doh.wa.gov

360-236-4027
(800) 525-0127

DOH Pub 821-038

Public Outreach Meeting: March 12, 2008
~29 attended this public meeting.
Ann Seiter gave PowerPoint Presentation.

DUNGENESS RIVER MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING
March 11, 2009
Dungeness River Audubon Center

Dungeness River Flow (USGS Station #12048000) cfs (as of 03/11/09, 10:15 AM)
Daily Mean Flow cfs (based on 77 yrs of record)
Median Flow (50% Exceedance Flow)..... cfs (based on 77 yrs of record)

Chairman: Steve Tharinger, Clallam County Commissioner
Vice Chair: Pete Schroeder, Riverside Property Owner

DRAFT AGENDA

- I. 2:00 Introductions / Review Agenda / Approval of February 11, 2009 DRMT Meeting Notes**

2:10 *PUBLIC COMMENT (10 minutes)*
- II. 2:20 Dungeness Stewardship Restoration Project Update**
Scott Hagerty, Olympic National Forest
- III. 2:35 Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan Update**
Ann Seiter, Consultant

3:20 *BREAK (10 minutes)*
- IV. 3:30 WA Department of Ecology Updates**
Cynthia Nelson, Washington Department of Ecology
 - Follow-up on February public meeting regarding Dungeness rule
 - WRIA 17 Quilcene-Snow status
 - Grant application reviews
- V. 4:00 Other Business?**
 - ?
4:20 *PUBLIC COMMENT (10 minutes)*
- VI. 4:30 ADJOURN**

Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan 2009

Dungeness River Management Team Meeting

March 11, 2009

Dungeness River Audubon Center
Notes prepared by Melissa Coughlin

Team Members/Attendees in Attendance:

Michael Blanton, WDFW
Cathy Lear, Clallam County (att)
Shawn Hines, Jamestown Shilliam Tribe (att)
Cynthia Nelson, WA Department of Ecology
Virginia Clark, Dungeness/Quilcene Planning
Les Jones, Dungeness/Quilcene Planning
Lorene Soltman, USDFW - Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge
Scott Hagerty, U.S. Forest Service (att)
Al Moore, Riverside Property Owners (att 03-20)

Pete Schroeder, Riverside Property Owners (att 03-20-20)
Don Miller, Conservation Dist. (Sports Fisheries (att)
John Cambalik, Puget Sound Partnership
Alison Lutz, North Olympic Land Trust
Frank Neesham, City of Sequim
Laura Dubois, City of Sequim
Joe Holzapfel, Clallam Conservation District
Robert Brown, Dungeness Beach Association

Others in Attendance:

Milton Griffing, Lawowner
Ted Miller, City of Sequim Planning Commission
Ann Seiter, Consultant
Hannah Merritt, Clallam County
Byron Rot, Jamestown Shilliam Tribe
Amanda Cronin, WA Water Trust

2.10 pm

1. Introductions / Review Agenda / Approval of February 11, 2009 DRMT Meeting Notes

- Michael Blanton, representative from Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, acted as chairperson in Steve Thamer's absence. Introductions all around.
- Agenda was reviewed and accepted. Notes from January 14th DRMT meeting were reviewed and comments from Cynthia Nelson were recorded. Melissa Coughlin will make the changes and send to Susan Stark for posting on the DRMT website. Motion was made by Virginia Clark to approve the minutes, seconded by Judy Larson, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

- Byron Rot commented on the growing number of ATV (All Terrain Vehicles) trails; such trails cross Spring Creek twice, but County enforcement can not take action unless riders are "caught in the act". A County-sponsored meeting with land owners to discuss solutions will be organized by spring.
- Judy Larson referred to an article in today's Peninsula Daily News on page 84 that dealt with the possible environmental impact of the Navy Range. Although today is the last day for comments, it is interesting background reading on the subject. Increased activities may negatively impact bird and whale populations.
- Judy also brought attention to a statement that the City of Sequim council intends to send to the DRMT (on page 85 of the Peninsula Daily News), where she says it appears that the City is claiming "property over" the Dungeness River. Judy is concerned about the best use/protection of resources.
- Another concern of Judy's regarded a legal notice in the Sequim Gazette where it stated the start of a 30 day comment period to the Department of Ecology regarding City's NPDS wastewater permit.
- Milton Griffing commented that according to the record of adjudicated water rights, Sequim has the right to divert water directly to the objectives of WRMA 18 to protect water rights. Don Miller asked the status of the statement/letter. Laura replied it has not yet been written. Judy went on to explain the class "A" treatment facility was built with all taxpayer's money, not just by City of Sequim's taxpayers. This is a shared watershed. The reclaimed water should be used by all, rather than be proprietary. In the 1999 Review of Certificate one matter discussed was that water from the river should not be used during the critical periods for fish. Judy questioned if this is what the City of Sequim is doing.

II. Dungeness Stewardship Restoration Project Update – Scott Hagerty, Olympic National Forest

- Scott Hagerty began updating Team on various projects in the National Forest. Title 2 funding and other funding sources make the work possible. Scott presented a slide show picturing the various projects.
- 70 year-old stand in the Slab Camp area up Lost Mountain Road was thinned which generated additional revenue that funded restoration work.

- Decommissioned section of FS2875-00 Road. Additional work is happening and they will close the road to be used for forest habitat.
- Scott explained that there was a lot of unauthorized use of RV/ATV use in Dungeness area, particularly in the upper watershed. A picture from the Slab Camp pit area was shown. It has become a "party" spot for locals; people shoot targets, burn out cars and litter. Although people are ticketed, law enforcement is not particularly successful.
- The Forest Service has placed large rocks to thwart trespass on wetlands, however people remove the barriers.
- Scott showed a picture of the stand that was thinned. Using the wildlife prescription wood was left on the forest floor and some bigger trees were left untouched.
- There was damage at the campground and at the Slab Camp trailhead. Local contractor, Jim Bower, ripped up and re-constructed the road going into the campsite, he brought in topsoil and lay down straw. Washington Conservation Corps planted shrubs.
- Scott showed a picture of the trailhead to Deer Ridge with wetland in the corner of the shot. Restoration work hasn't blocked access for livestock, but 36" is all ATVs need to access area. Problem here with off-road vehicles, and quad trailers back up through wetland. The Forest Service has placed all new straw and totally decommissioned FS2875-00 Road.
- In the pit area work included lining the parameter with large boulders, but they have been pushed out of the way (by ATV enthusiasts). With additional funding more roads will be decommissioned and areas maintained.
- There is more planning and wildlife habitat restoration work to do.
- Scott has followed up with request from Robert Brown for a DRMT summer field trip to review restoration work. Will work with Shawn to coordinate date for an upcoming field trip during a regular DRMT meeting.
- Ted Miller asked Scott what the penalties are for trashing and abusing areas, and would more severe penalties help deter the destructive behavior? Scott said the penalty fines are significant if one is "caught in the act". There are signs that need to be placed in the area to keep the public informed about it. There has been talk of an area-wide assessment with rangers and considered closing the area or making a longer walk to access, but concluded that would just move the problem somewhere else.
- Robert Brown asked for an updated map of decommissioned roads. Robert also asked about removing the pit area at Slab Camp and setting up a specific area for people to shoot and for the other activities. Scott said there already are established target shooting areas. It has to be safe; currently people build fires and shoot right from the road into the pit. People litter and never clean up after themselves. Elizabeth van Sickle thought education is needed to emphasize responsibility. Scott said they have tried some education and there are plans to put up more signs, plans for more monitoring, and also plans to place articles in local newspapers to address illegal firewood cutting which is currently becoming a problem.

III. Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan Update – Ann Seiter, Consultant

- Ann Seiter is the former Director of Natural Resources at the Jamestown Shilliam Tribe. Today she works as a consultant, hired by Clallam County about a year ago to update the Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan. It has taken longer than expected, but the draft is complete.
- Ann distributed a double-sided handout: the first page included purpose, history, contents; project advisory committee, staff, and consultants; and description of the updated plan. The second page contained a table with a summary of general recommendations.
- Purpose of the plan: Informational document for property owners, renters, and area residents; Guidance for land use; Recommended actions are eligible for grant funding under the Washington State Flood Control Assistance Account Program (FCAAP).
- There are four goals of the plan: **Goal 1**) Prevent loss of life and property from flooding. **Goal 2**) Integrate flood hazard reduction with habitat restoration. Habitat restoration projects, including engineered log jams and re-vegetation of shorelines can have benefits for flood hazard reduction. The recent biological opinion from NMFS indicates that development in the flood plain is likely having harmful effects on threatened species of salmon. This plan stresses the importance of keeping development back from the river's edge, and promoting healthy habitat along the riparian corridor to benefit fish and wildlife as well as protecting residents along the river. **Goal 3**) Maintain the river's varied uses. Flooding impacts recreation, irrigation, and other uses as well as private property along the river. What one landowner does to protect their property may have detrimental effects to landowners across or downstream from them. **Goal 4**) Improve river management. Ann used DRMT as an example of an on-going group of informed people representing a variety of interests. Learn as you go (adaptive management).

General recommendations

- 5.1.1. Use best available science to update maps and data. Update maps of the channel migration zone (CMZ) and 100-year flood plain. Byron Rot and Pam Edens did an extensive analysis of the channel migration zone during the last 15 years of information collected by the BOR. LIDAR Rights and other data. The committee recommends that the County adopt the revised CMZ map for analysis and permit review as soon as possible. Secondly, the FEMA maps of the area with the 100-year flood plain greatly need to be updated. FEMA appears to be beginning to do that.
- 5.1.2. Update and amend land use and related regulations. New development along the river is now regulated by the CAC and SMP, which will hopefully help to prevent:
 - Direct development away from the Channel Migration Zone. Unlike the Mississippi, flood risk in the Dungeness is largely a function of channel migration rather than inundation. The channel migration zone consists of historical channels, erosion hazard areas and avulsion hazard areas. It is generally wider than the 100 year flood plain, but does not include areas behind major, publicly funded and maintained levees.
 - Measure setbacks from the Channel Migration Zone, not the Ordinary High Water Mark. Clallam County codes are complex and site specific conditions apply to several different provisions simultaneously. Houses are required to be set back from the CMZ (CMHA in the code) and 150' from the OHWM to leave a habitat buffer. The OHWM moves with the river channel, and over time, a house that is built in compliance with all codes can become a non-conforming use. This places new restrictions on what can be built and impairs habitat function.
 - Structural fixes are generally not recommended for the long-term. Houses built in the CMZ are frequently threatened by bank erosion over time and it is common for landowners to install bank hardening. This generally must be rebuilt over and over at considerable expense to the landowner and it may increase the risk to downstream property owners because the river velocity is increased. Dungeness Meadows levee is a large scale example of this problem, as it is thought to be leading to bank erosion on Taylor Cutoff Road.
 - Conduct an inventory of levees and review applicable standards. A few levees have been built by the Corps and are publicly maintained, but there are numerous small berms and ad hoc levees up and down the river. The berm at River's End Road was pictured, which can only withstand a 2-year flood level. The committee recommends a detailed inventory of these structures, and that properties behind them be considered part of the CMZ, subject to further analysis.
- 5.1.3. Improve education and outreach to existing and prospective landowners. Committee recommends more outreach to existing and prospective property owners about land development constraints along the river, and more outreach to renters. Possibly incorporate some sort of Green Certification.
- 5.1.4. Provide education and outreach about flood hazards and emergency preparedness. Clallam County has information on the website about what to do before, during, and after. Map Your Neighborhood program along the river is recommended. Committee recommends annual mailings prior to flood season with NOAA and USGS sites, radio frequencies and phone numbers. Emergency preparedness also applies to tsunamis and coastal flooding areas.
- 5.1.5. Continue programs to purchase high risk flood hazard and high value habitat areas. Buyout programs are recommended for high-risk flood hazard areas (such as kinkadee Island) and high-value habitat areas. The County, Tribe, NCLT and WDFW have purchased quite a few parcels along the river in the last decade.
- 5.1.6. Continue and expand monitoring and code compliance programs along the Dungeness corridor. Monitoring programs include annual arthropods, fish and wildlife monitoring, and windshield surveys. The committee recommends proactive monitoring of land development in high risk flood areas to prevent more structures from being built or vegetation removed.
- Things the Committee wanted to include, but couldn't: Prevent new houses on river (to prevent health and safety issues for the property owner and break the cycle of bank caving, as well as preventing loss of habitat and downstream erosion). Ann showed a photo of a new house being built along the river at the site of Don Stoneman's old place. Don used to attend DRMT meetings. The house was allowed under existing codes because Stoneman had built a small levee. Concern is that the property owner will have considerable expense in the future fighting erosion, and that bank hardening will continue the cycle of bank hardening, its downstream effects, and habitat loss for decades. Many homes and existing parcels along the river are grandfathered into existing codes, and the Hearings Examiner determines what is eligible from a reasonable use exemption in order to build. Another thing the committee wants to do, but couldn't: Put a notice to title on all riparian properties about flood risk. Flood hazards are not easy to see until floods occur. No notice to title is provided until a permit application is submitted. There are real estate disclosure checklists and maps on-line; however it may be difficult for prospective property owners to see where risks occur until actual flooding. The committee recommends development of a website specific to the Dungeness, handouts, and outreach to the real estate community. On-line maps are available to check if you're on a flood plain.

- Remaining Steps: Public review (review by end of June – draft to DOE); Department of Ecology review; Adoption of plan by the Board of Commissioners. Sam Gibbon to take over for remaining public review. She had a public meeting on emergency management in November with a good turnout. Final plan due in June. Plan must go through public review, Ecology review, and Commissioners review and adoption under the terms of the grant.
- The advisory board consisted of representatives from a variety of sources (Tribe, riverside property owners, Clallam County, Conservation District, Forest Service, etc.) and contributed data, photos, time, grammar and punctuation expertise for various reviews.
- Pete Schroeder asked why the Committee listed the top three areas of concerns and omitted the Corp dike 100 yards downstream of where people access (concern from flooding and tsunamis). Flood water is close, in 2002 County came in and dumped rocks. Has the concern decreased? At River's End a lot of private property has been purchased – how did Committee address that particular issue? Cathy Lear answered that what is happening now is the dike subsidence from DRMT. Milton is looking at various options to set the dike back. Activity is referenced in the plan. Operating on the assumption that will happen. Al Moore said the 2002 flood of record didn't create the worse condition for that spot – there was a huge log jam (in 1927), not caused necessarily by high flow. Scott Hagerty asked where the information that the high flow can reach 11,000 comes from. Byron answered it came from the Flood Frequency Analysis by the Bureau of Reclamation engineers. Scott then asked if there had been any consideration of climate change effect on flow mentioned in the plan. Ann said the plan had not addressed that. Scott said that in research with regard to forests, it doesn't look good for the area – climate change might be something to consider under storm conditions.
- Ann said that the whole plan will be posted soon on the County website. Details will be e-mailed to Shawn Hines for dissemination. Judy Larson asked for plan to be divided into pieces for people with low-capacity (dial up) internet service.
- Milton Griffing asked why the Bureau of Reclamation was brought in to do study, when they had nothing to do with building the dike. It's an Army Corps of Engineers dike. Byron responded that the BOR initially did a full river study in 2001-2002, in response to the Tribe's request for technical assistance in understanding the geomorphology of the Dungeness (to describe river processes, how they've been affected by human activity, and help develop restoration options). The BOR was invited (technical expertise was lacking in the area) to compile a flood study on the dike. The Corps will not get involved with issues related to the dike until the property is purchased – it is not an option for the Corps. Milton went on to explain in the 70s and 80s you would never call in BOR to review and study when they had nothing to do with the building of the dike. Byron said the BOR help was appreciated.
- John Cambalik talked about the Green Realtor Program. A handful of progressive Realtors have achieved this. The Eco-Broker program is part of the Built Green movement. Suggested incorporating this information into the program. The Built Green Checklist includes not building along marine shoreline. John suggested adding flood risk statements into the checklist, (not building along river in CMZ) and make that part of the program.
- Ann Seiter was asked about a CMZ buffer zone – she answered that there is a 50' setback from the CMZ for erosion patterns. There is a 150' setback for aquatic fish & wildlife habitat for major development. Hard to enforce because of exemptions (like rebuilding and building on pre-existing lots).
- Pete asked if there has been any effort to put on a low-impact development overlay on the grandfathered plots. Ann answered that would be part of the Shoreline Master Program update. This may be a better fit as it is site-specific on Duoneness.
- Robert Brown mentioned a couple of points: 1) When the Schoolhouse Bridge was put in, a couple of culverts were added on the west side to divert high water into an old channel out to Strait. Gradient there is low but that should alleviate some flooding concerns, don't know how effective they are. 2) With regard to the Ward Road house, on the permitting process, it may be an interpretation question, but wondered what the motivation was for the engineering firm and permitting agent to allow a building there? It depends on who takes a look and what is the motivation for allowing building there. Ann said there are conformance issues, staff needs to get up to speed.
- Laura Dubois asked if there are any of the Eco-brokers specific to this area. It wasn't known. Ann Seiter said there are effective strategies for working with Realtors. John Cambalik said a Realtor gets training credits for the Built Green Program.

IV. Washington Department of Ecology Updates – Cynthia Nelson, WA Department of Ecology

- Quilcene-Snow Rulemaking: Quilcene-Snow is ahead of Dungeness in the rulemaking process. Jefferson County is part of the Quilcene-Snow Area. Currently collecting informal comments by phone, e-mail and otherwise written and incorporating the comments into the last version of the Rule. Next step is the economic assessment and small business impact analysis (6-week process). After that the Code Reviser (part of the DOE) sends statutes into legislation (starting the 180-day process). One month after that is the public hearing

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Public Outreach Meeting: March 12, 2008

~25 members of the public attended this open house.
Hannah Merrill gave a PowerPoint presentation.



WELCOME
to the
DUNGENESS RIVER
FLOOD HAZARD
MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC MEETING

Dungeness Flood Plan



For Information Contact:
Hannah Merrill 360-417-2563



PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, April 30th
Doors Open 6:30pm
Presentation begins 7:00pm

Pioneer Park Clubhouse
387 E. Washington Ave, Sequim

A presentation of the plan developed to minimize or reduce flood hazards within the lower Dungeness watershed.

View Flood Plan at:

<http://www.clallam.net/environment/html/DRFP.htm>



Dungeness River 2009
Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan Update

Purpose: Advisory document to reduce flood hazard and guide land management activities along the Dungeness River. Enables Clallam County to apply for Flood Control Assistance Account Program funds from the WA Department of Ecology.

History: Previous plan was prepared for Clallam County by Kramer, Chin, and Mayo and approved in 1990. An update was started in 2003, but not completed due to the focus on other projects, including salmon recovery planning, and studies in-progress of the Dungeness River by the Bureau of Reclamation and others.

Contents:

1. Executive Summary
2. Watershed Characterization and Planning History
3. Goals and Principles for Flood Hazard Management
4. Flood History and Identification of Flood Hazards
5. Strategies and Recommendations for Flood Hazard Reduction (General and Reach-by-Reach)
6. Relationship to Regulatory and Species Recovery Programs
7. Emergency Management

Project Advisory Committee, Staff, and Consultants:

1. Dungeness Flood Hazard Advisory Committee: Robert Brown, Welden Clark, Al Moore, Gary Dougherty, Joe Holtrop, Byron Rot, Ranay Johnson, Michael Blanton, Cathy Lear, Bob Martin, Ross Tyler, John Miller, Steve Tharinger, Steve Gray
2. Project manager: Hannah Merrill, Natural Resources Planner, Clallam County DCD
3. Document text: Ann Seiter Technical Writing and Editing
4. Public outreach: Sam Gibbonney, ISE Consultants

Description:
The Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (Flood Plan) has the multiple goals of protecting people and property while preventing habitat degradation and maintaining the many varied uses of the Dungeness River. Unlike many other river systems, flood hazard in the Dungeness results largely from "channel migration," rather than high water. The advisory committee indicated that floods cannot be fully controlled as floods are created by natural forces, but flood hazards can be reduced by keeping people and structures out of harm's way. The Flood Plan contains general and site specific recommendations for reducing flood hazards. The plan recommends non-structural solutions to flood hazard reduction such as improved maps and data, clarification or amendment to County codes, education and outreach on preventing flood hazards through land management and emergency preparedness, and purchase of high risk parcels of land along the river.

To view the entire Flood Plan go to: <http://www.clallam.net/environment/html/DRFP.htm>.

1

Table 5-1: Summary of general recommendations

Recommendation	Actions
S.1.1 Utilize best available science to update maps of flood hazard areas and the channel migration zone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update maps of the Channel Migration Zone* • Request update to FEMA** maps of the 100-Yr Flood Plain. • Continue modeling and mapping studies and incorporate into land management activities.
S.1.2 Protect people and property from erosion and flood hazards and protect habitat functions by updating and amending land use and related regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate flood hazard management into amendments of Critical Areas Code and Shoreline Master Program. • Direct development away from the CMZ. • Establish aquatic habitat conservation area buffers from the edge of the CMZ. • Establish mitigation policies for upgrading degraded habitat in the CMZ and buffer areas. • Meet or exceed FEMA requirements. • Review and update regulatory standards applicable to levees, and conduct a comprehensive levee inventory.
S.1.3 Improve ongoing education and outreach to existing and potential landowners along the Dungeness related to land development and stewardship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement an ongoing outreach program for property owners along the river about development and land clearing constraints in and adjacent to the CMZ. • Continue and improve procedures to notify prospective buyers about potential flood hazards and land development requirements. • Continue and expand technical assistance programs to improve stewardship.
S.1.4 Provide education and outreach about flood hazards and emergency preparedness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct public education programs about flood risk and emergencies regularly through a variety of media, including the County's website and annual mailings. • Emphasize implementation of the Map Your Neighborhood program along the river.
S.1.5 Continue programs to purchase high risk flood hazard and high value habitat areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek and support funding programs to purchase properties at flood hazard risk. • Continue to implement the 2003 Dungeness Land Protection Strategy. • Enhance public access, parks, and recreational opportunities along the river.
S.1.6 Continue and expand monitoring and code compliance programs along the Dungeness River corridor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct monitoring of land use and land cover along the Dungeness, particularly in high risk flood areas. • Emphasize outreach and education activities in the implementation of monitoring programs. • Continue annual airphoto and other monitoring actions of the Dungeness River corridor, and share among cooperating agencies for adaptive management.

*CMZ = Channel Migration Zone (which is the same as CVHA = Channel Meander Hazard Area)
**FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency

2

Handouts available at the April 30, 2009 meeting

Update & Adoption of the Clallam County Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan

Update of the Flood Plan includes:

- Identification of the floodways
- Identification of key problems and opportunities for flood risk reduction
- Recommendations for structural and non-structural solutions
- Coordinate plan with other regulatory programs such as the Critical Areas Ordinance and Shoreline Management Plan
- Prioritize and recommend corrective actions including: protection of human life and property, and preservation and enhancement of environmental resources

Flood Plan Update Schedule
Draft Plan - February 2009
Public Meeting for Draft Plan - March 2009
Final Plan - June 2009
Adoption of Plan by County - September 2009

Additional Flood Related Resources & Information available at the following websites:

- Emergency Preparedness & Flood Information:**
<http://www.emd.wa.gov/>
NOAA National Weather Service Forecasts Office:
<http://www.wr.noaa.gov/forecast/>
USGS Real-Time Stream Flow Data:
<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/wa/nwis/current/?type=flow>
NOAA Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service:
<http://ahps2.wr.noaa.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=sew>



Dungeness River Flood Plan Group

(a Dungeness River Management Team sub-committee)

- Al Moore, Clallam
- Byron Rot, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Bob Martin, Clallam County Emergency Management
- Cathy Lear, Clallam County Dept. of Community Development
- Cynthia Nelson, WA Department of Ecology
- Gary Dougherty, Clallam Conservation District
- Hannah Merrill, Clallam County Dept. of Community Dev.
- John Miller, Clallam County Dept. of Community Development
- Michael Blanton, WA Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Randy Johnson, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Robert Brown, Dungeness Beach Association
- Ross Tyler, Clallam County Public Works
- Steve Tharinger, Clallam County Commissioner
- Welden Clark, Dungeness River Audubon Center

Consultants:
 Ann Selzer, Technical Writing & Editing (plan updates)
 Sam Gibbons, R&E Consultants (public outreach)

For more information contact:
 Hannah Merrill, Project Manager
 ☎ 360-417-2363
 ✉ hmerrill@co.clallam.wa.us



Flood Hazards and Safety Precautions

Flooding can cause serious health hazards if appropriate steps are not taken to protect people and the environment. Floodwater, crops and garden land can be contaminated with sewage, pesticides, oil or chemical waste after a flooding event.

The following are prevention and precaution tips to assist you after a flooding event.

- First and foremost do not drive through floodwaters. The water can be deeper than it appears. Remember, two feet of water can cause a car to be swept away.
- Before the flood, move all chemicals, such as pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides, etc. and store them in waterproof containers above flood levels.
- If your property is in danger of flooding move all garbage and refuse to higher ground.
- The longer water is allowed to stand after a flood the higher the risk of health problems from bacteria.
- Submerged gas control valves, circuit breakers, and fuses pose explosion and fire hazards, and should be replaced as the water subsides.
- Leaking propane tanks can cause a fire or explosion. If you are asked to evacuate your home or property, secure and shut off all propane tanks. When you return have a qualified professional turn the propane back on.
- Wear gloves and boots at all times to avoid skin contact with anything that has been contaminated by floodwaters.
- Children should never be allowed to play in floodwaters.
- If your well has been flooded, assume the water in your home has been contaminated.
- Any of the following food items, exposed to flood waters, must be disposed of:
 - Food items in your refrigerator and freezer.
 - All boxed foods such as cereals, etc.
 - All bottled drinks and products in jars, including home preserves, since the area under the seal of the jars and bottles cannot be properly disinfected.
 - All medicines, cosmetics, and other toiletries.
- All undamaged canned goods must be thoroughly washed and disinfected.
- Cans with large dents and leaks must be disposed of.
- Wash and disinfect all dishes and utensils.
- If your home has been flooded do not attempt to turn the power back on, have all wiring inspected by an electrician.

Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division, 2002



Terms Used by the National Weather Service

Outlook

- Issued as initial notice of a potential hazardous weather or flooding event. The outlook raises public awareness of the possibility of a severe weather or flooding event. Plans may be made to prepare for the event, should the outlook be upgraded to a watch. An outlook is issued 72 to 36 hours before the occurrence of the event.

Watch

- A watch is issued when the probability of a hazardous weather or flooding event has increased significantly, but its occurrence, location, or timing is still uncertain. The public can set their plans in motion to prepare for the event. A watch is issued from 36 to 12 hours before the occurrence of the event.

Warning

- A warning is issued when hazardous weather conditions or flood events are occurring, are imminent, or have a very high probability of occurrence. A warning is typically issued within 12 hours of a life or property-threatening event.

Advisory

- Less serious conditions that can cause significant inconvenience, and if caution is not exercised, could lead to situations that may threaten life or property.

High Wind

- Sustained winds of 40 mph or higher, or gusts greater than 57 mph (not due to thunderstorms), that are expected to last for an extended period of time.

Severe Thunderstorm

- A thunderstorm that produces either of the following: damaging winds of 58 miles an hour or greater, hail 1/4 of an inch in diameter or larger, or a tornado. Severe thunderstorms can result in the loss of life and property.

Slight Chance

- A 1 - 25% probability that one point in a forecast area will have precipitation.

Sustained Winds

- Wind speed determined by averaging observed values over a 1-minute period.

Tornado

- A violently rotating column of air that is in contact with the ground. Tornadoes usually develop from severe thunderstorms and can produce winds of 100 to 300 mph.

Wind Chill

- An apparent temperature that describes the combined effect of wind and low air temperatures on exposed skin.

Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division, 2002



DRIVING IN BAD WEATHER

If inclement weather is present in your area and if you must drive, make sure your vehicle is operating safely. Stay tuned to your radio for updates on weather conditions.

Rain:

- To improve visibility turn on your lights and defroster.
- Try to drive in the tracks of the car ahead, reduce your speed and allow for additional stopping distance.
- Be very careful during light rain and mist. Dirt and oil on the roadway surface can create very slippery road conditions.
- Puddles of rain can conceal potentially damaging potholes.
- Hydroplaning can occur. When this happens the tires of your car lose contact with the road and ride up on a wedge of water. Make sure your tires have good tread and are properly inflated. If your car does hydroplane, keep the steering wheel straight; take your foot off the gas. Do not hit your brakes or try to steer. As your speed slows the weight of the car will cause the car to settle down onto the road again.

Flood:

- DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DRIVE THROUGH FLOOD WATERS. The water may be deeper than it appears. Two feet of water can carry away most vehicles.
- If you happen to drive into an area where water is running swiftly, the force of the current may pull your car to one side. If this happens ease off the gas, but don't touch the brakes. Then steer away from the swift water.
- If your car is caught in a flash flood, get out of your car immediately and move to higher ground.

Fog:

- If you see a patch of fog ahead, slow down before you reach it.
- Turn on your low beam headlights or fog lights.
- Turn on your defroster and windshield wipers.
- Be alert for slow moving vehicles and traffic stopped ahead.
- In heavy fog, roll your windows down. You may actually hear other cars before you see them.

Washington Military Department,
 Emergency Management Division, 2002



Before The Flood, "What Shall I Do?"

When a flood watch is issued take the following steps to ensure that you are going to be ready to evacuate should the condition escalate.

- Learn flood-warning signs and your community alert signals.
- If you live in a frequently flooded area, stockpile emergency building materials. These include: plywood, plastic sheeting, lumber nails, hammer and saw, pry bar, shovels, and sandbags.
- Have check valves installed in building sewer traps to prevent flood waters from backing up in sewer drains. As a last resort, use large corks or stoppers to plug showers, tubs, or basins.
- Fill the gas tank in your vehicle and map out a route to higher ground. Try to avoid routes that cross-streams.
- Stock your vehicle with supplies, include: non-perishable food, water, first aid kit, flashlights, blankets, dry clothing, large trash bags, battery operated radio and extra batteries. Don't forget special needs items such as medications, and special dietary foods.
- Fill your bathtub(s) and sink(s) with water to be used for drinking. Water and other utilities may fail even if your area isn't in immediate danger.
- Develop your out-of-area phone contact. After a disaster it is often easier to call long distance. Make sure all family members know the phone number of the out-of-area contact person.
- Teach family members how to turn off gas, electricity, and water.
- Ask your insurance agent about the National Flood Program. Remember, homeowner's policies do not cover flood damage.
- Turn on you NOAA Weather Radio and listen for weather updates and information.

Washington Military Department,
Emergency Management Division, 2002



DURING THE FLOOD, "WHAT SHALL I DO?"

Once the flood "watch" has escalated into a flood "warning," pay close attention to the weather updates and information. The following are steps that can be taken while you are waiting for the order to evacuate.

Move furniture, clothing, and appliances, where possible, to high shelves or to second stories if time permits.

Bring outdoor belongings, such as patio furniture, indoors.

Get your pre-assembled emergency supplies ready to take with you if you have to evacuate.

If you are instructed to do so by local authorities, turn off all utilities at the main switch and close the main gas valve.

If you have underground fuel tanks, keep them full during flood season. If a flood is imminent, and the tanks are not full, fill them with water to prevent them from floating to the top and causing foundation damage.

If ordered to evacuate unplug major appliances and/or computers as well as any other equipment that may be affected by a major power surge.

If you are outdoors during a flood climb to high ground and stay there. Avoid walking through floodwaters. If the water is moving swiftly, even water 6 inches deep can sweep you off your feet.

If you are in a car and come to a flooded area, turn around and go another way. If your car stalls in floodwaters abandon it immediately and climb to high ground. Many deaths have resulted from attempts to move stalled vehicles.

If you are instructed to evacuate listen to a battery operated radio for evacuation instructions. Follow recommended evacuation routes. Shortcuts may be blocked. If instructed to evacuate do so immediately. Leave early enough to avoid being marooned by flooded roads.

Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division, 2002



After The Flood, "What Shall I Do?"

Flood dangers do not end when the water begins to recede. Listen to your radio, TV, or NOAA Weather Radio and don't return home until authorities indicate it is safe to do so. Remember to help your neighbors who may require special assistance -- infants, elderly people, and people with disabilities. The following safety tips should be taken prior to you entering your home.

- Inspect the foundation of your home for cracks or other damage. Examine walls, floors, doors, and windows to make sure that the building is not in danger of collapsing.
- Watch for loose plaster and ceilings that could fall.
- Stay out of buildings if floodwaters remain around the building.
- Take pictures of the damage -- both of the house and its contents for insurance claims.
- Throw away food--including canned goods--that have come in contact with floodwaters.
- Pump out flooded basements gradually (about one-third of the water per day) to avoid structural damage.
- Service damaged septic tanks, cesspools, pits, and leaching systems as soon as possible. Damaged sewage systems are health hazards.
- Check for sewage and water line damage. If you suspect sewage lines are damaged avoid using the toilets and call a plumber. If water pipes are damaged, contact the water company and avoid using water from the tap.
- Check for gas leaks. If you smell gas or hear a blowing or hissing noise, open the window and quickly leave the building. Turn off the gas at the outside main valve and call the gas company from a neighbor's home. If you turn off the gas, for any reason, it must be turned back on by a professional.
- Look for electrical system damage. If you see sparks, broken or frayed wires, or if you smell hot insulation, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker.

Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division, 2002



FLOOD "CLEANING UP"

Once the waters recede and it's safe to return home the "clean up" begins.

Once you are inside, move about your home slowly. Have sufficient lighting to watch for loose floorboards, sagging ceiling plaster or floors and walls that are out of alignment. At first the clean-up-job may appear hopeless but don't let the sight of your damaged property cause you to immediately throw things away. Often times, many things can be salvaged if restoration steps are undertaken right away.

The "Drying Process"

If you have a basement, it should be drained and cleaned as soon as possible. However, don't pump the water out before the surrounding floodwaters have receded.

Flood engineers recommend that if you haven't yet evacuated and water begins to seep into your basement, don't drain it. Draining the water before the floodwaters have receded may cause foundation damage.

Open all doors, windows and closets, as well as all roof, attic, eaves and other vents. The more air you can get to circulate, the better. Any dirt, mud and debris should be promptly washed out.

Maintain building temperature at 15 degrees higher than the outside temperature. Be sure to have your heating system thoroughly checked prior to its use.

To dry areas between walls, remove the baseboards and drill or punch holes in the wall about two inches from the floor.

If you have carpeting, remove as much water as possible with a water vacuum. Loosen the diagonal corners of the carpet and install fans to facilitate drying. Although not the fastest method, it will prevent shrinkage. Note: If your carpeting was exposed to saltwater it must be thoroughly flushed with fresh water prior to drying.

Washington Military Department,
Emergency Management Division, 2002

Newspaper Articles:

SEQUIM GAZETTE

Jan 23, 2008 Wed.

Flood plan to help humans, fish

Update will include restoration, hazard reduction

by EVAN McLEAN Staff writer

Sure it's in the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains, but the Dungeness River still gets plenty of water enough to be dangerous or damaging.

Clallam County is beginning to pump out a new flood control program to help mitigate against possible high-water problems associated with land use near the river.

"We are encouraged to look at better, newer information gleaned from along these flood sensitive areas because they are getting more extreme with high levels of rain and snow," Clallam County watershed planner Hannah Merrill said.

and its update is to describe what river restoration is needed to eliminate flood hazards, identify land use that may encourage flood activity and most importantly protect humans and fish habitat, according to Merrill.

"We have cases on people living along the river like Kaiser Place, where the water has been taking chunks of their property away after large storms," she said. "Plus, after the dikes were put in along part of the river, still began to build up so those dikes are no longer as effective as they used to be because they caused the river to gain elevation over time, collecting the erosion from up stream."

She said the county already has a plan under way to set the dikes back. Clallam County received a \$1.7 million grant for property acquisition and to create a dike setback plan. After the dikes are set further back, the river will be able to meander in a wider plane, reducing the risk of flooding while promoting a natural habitat rather than a straight channel of water.

"The dike setback is an example of a project we may need to look into after creating an update to the flood plan, like an area of worry where if something isn't done there will be a problem," she said. "It won't force anyone to move out or sell their property, but we need information

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— Hannah Merrill, watershed planner

for that landowner to consider selling or to consider doing flood mitigation on their own, because those issues affect their parcels the most."

Another change that may result from the plan's formation is the way the county improves its roads near the river.

"If we have a road near the river that our studies indicate is in a hazardous spot, we may encourage it be moved," Merrill said. "The plan wouldn't require every road to be moved right away, but if we do improvements on a road, we may go ahead and alter its course rather than improve a hazardous right of way."

County Commissioner Steve Tharinger discussed the pending plan during a Dungeness River Management Team meeting.

"The zoning wouldn't change to the flood plan, like an area of worry where if something isn't done there will be a problem," she said. "It won't force anyone to move out or sell their property, but we need information for that landowner to consider selling or to consider doing flood mitigation on their own, because those issues affect their parcels the most."

Another change that may result from the plan's formation is the way the county improves its roads near the river.

"If there is a worry a bridge isn't long enough to handle bank erosion in a tremendous storm, that would be a major find and something we would include," Merrill said, indicating that for now the bridges are more than adequate and that the plan looks further into the future. "We're in preliminary stages right now. The proposed timeline is to have a draft of the plan ready for public review this fall with a finalized plan to come next summer."

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Flood plan to help humans, fish

Published on Wed, Jan 23, 2008

by Evan McLean

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Olympic Mountains, but the Dungeness River still gets plenty of water, enough to be dangerous or damaging.

Clallam County is beginning to pump out a new flood control program to help mitigate against possible high-water problems associated with land use near the river.

"We are encouraged to look at better, newer information gleaned from along these flood sensitive areas because they are getting more extreme with high levels of rain and snow," Clallam County watershed planner Hannah Merrill said. "The plan won't change what property you have but it may update what uses are exempt from that land to the extent that they may cause flood hazards."

The county is presently working under a 1990 flood management plan. The aim of the plan and its update is to describe what river restoration is needed to eliminate flood hazards, identify land use that may encourage flood activity and most importantly, protect human and fish habitat, according to Merrill.

"We have cases on people living along the river, like on Kaiser Place, where the water has been taking chunks of their property away after large storms," she said. "Plus, after the dikes were put in along part of the river, still began to build up so those dikes are no longer as effective as they used to be because they caused the river to gain elevation over time, collecting the erosion from up stream."

She said the county already has a plan under way to set the dikes back. Clallam County received a \$1.7 million grant for property acquisition and to create a dike setback plan. After the dikes are set further back, the river will be able to meander in a wider plane, reducing the risk of flooding while promoting a natural habitat rather than a straight channel of water.

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County Commissioner Steve Tharinger discussed the pending plan during a Dungeness River Management Team meeting.

"The zoning wouldn't change and people's right to be there wouldn't change; the zoning already has very limited use attached to it along the river," Tharinger said. "But we're looking at areas like Kaiser Place, where banks are eroded and well heads are getting exposed, and we're thinking about how we can make sure our citizens are protected from possible harm while at the same time incorporating new state regulations and laws, like the critical areas ordinance."

The county went through the steps to update the plan in 2003 but that draft was never adopted. The information is still useful, according to Merrill. The study looked at historical reaches of the river, taking into account bridge widths and road proximity.

"If there is a worry a bridge isn't long enough to handle bank erosion in a tremendous storm, that would be a major find and something we would include," Merrill said, indicating that for now the bridges are more than adequate and that the plan looks further into the future. "We're in preliminary stages right now. The proposed timeline is to have a draft of the plan ready for public review this fall with a finalized plan to come next summer."

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SEQUIM GAZETTE

Wednesday, November 5, 2008 5:51

Open house set to discuss Dungeness River flooding

Residents near waterway encouraged to attend, learn emergency management

by EVAN McLEAN Staff writer

As a consequence to the recent precipitation, that Jan. 4-5 storm, the county is now in a hazardous spot, we may encourage it be moved," Merrill said. "The plan wouldn't require every road to be moved right away, but if we do improvements on a road, we may go ahead and alter its course rather than improve a hazardous right of way."

County Commissioner Steve Tharinger discussed the pending plan during a Dungeness River Management Team meeting.

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— Hannah Merrill, watershed planner

Clallam County and the Dungeness River Flood Hazard Planning Team are holding an open house, open to the public, on Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Sequim Library, 600 N. Douglas Ave.

The open house will be an opportunity for the public to learn about the flood hazard management plan and to provide input on the plan. The plan is currently in the public comment phase and the public's input will be used to help shape the final plan.

The open house will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Sequim Library, 600 N. Douglas Ave. The open house is free and open to the public.

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— Hannah Merrill, watershed planner

Boys & Girls Club nets car for annual auction

A Bullitt Mustang up for bid

by EVAN McLEAN Staff writer

The Boys & Girls Club of Sequim is holding an annual car auction on Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Sequim Library, 600 N. Douglas Ave. The auction will feature a variety of vehicles, including a 2000 Ford Mustang Bullitt.

The auction will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Sequim Library, 600 N. Douglas Ave. The auction is free and open to the public.

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Advertisement for Buy Locally Grown, Solar City, and Public Open House. Includes contact information for Sequim Public Library and Sequim Chamber of Commerce.



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Open house set to discuss Dungeness River flooding

Published on Wed, Nov 5, 2008

by Evan Mclean

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Winter is coming, the rain has started and those living near the Dungeness River should be prepared for potential flood hazards, according to Clallam County officials.

Clallam County environmental planners and the Dungeness River Flood Hazard Planning Team are hosting an informational open house Nov. 12 to provide background on flooding along the Dungeness River and how residents can prepare for flood-related emergencies.

The meeting will feature maps, photos of flooding along the river and emergency preparedness materials. Attendees also will have the chance to win a NOAA all-hazard weather radio that can be used during flood watches and warnings.

Flooding along the river might not be what most imagine a flood to look like, said event organizer Sam Gibboney, with ISE Consultants, who indicated there would be discussions on the river's flood plains as well as possible river channel migration hazard areas.

The 100-year flood plain represents the area near the river that would be flooded during a 100-year storm. Contrary to popular belief, a 100-year storm is not a storm that occurs once every 100 years. Rather, it is the storm, as measured by the amount of precipitation, that has a 1 percent chance of occurring in any given year.

In contrast, the channel migration zone includes areas that have the potential to experience channel movement. Rivers such as the Dungeness can change course, often abruptly, and the channel can erode banks or suddenly occupy relic channels.

Emergency preparedness officials want people to know floods on the Dungeness can happen quickly. In addition, it is important to understand that the flood elevation in the river can lag behind the actual precipitation. So, just because the rain has stopped doesn't mean the danger has passed.

People who live or own property along the Dungeness are encouraged to attend the meeting. Organizers will have information and handouts for emergency planning that can be used before, during and after a flood.

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Flood plan

The general purpose of the meeting is to prepare nearby residents for floods. But it is also a step in the direction the county is taking to create an updated flood control plan.

The aim of the plan and its update is to prevent loss of life and property from flooding, integrate flood hazard reduction with efforts to preserve and restore river habitat, maintain the varied uses of the river and to provide a plan for future management, according to county environmental planner Hannah Merrill.

Merrill gave one example of river restoration, moving dikes farther from the river.

"When dikes were put in along part of the river, silt began to build up so those dikes are no longer as effective as they used to be because they caused the river to gain elevation over time, collecting the erosion from upstream," she said.

The county has a dike setback plan but moving them back will require additional funding and land acquisition. Once the dikes are set farther away from the river, its channels will be able to meander in a wider plane, reducing the risk of flooding.

Another change may be to reformulate how the county improves roads along the river's edge. If a road near the river is in a hazardous spot and the Public Works Department has it scheduled for improvement, the plan might require those improvements to include a slight redirection to get the road out of the hazardous area.

"The plan will not require roads to be moved right away and it would not force anyone out of their homes but it will provide information to us at the county and homeowners in general of threats the river may bring and what we can do to reduce those hazards," Merrill said, indicating the plan would provide recommendations and not requirements.

The county is operating under a 1990 flood management plan. The plan is being updated because new information has been made available in recent studies of the river's historic migration and new state regulations must be adopted.

The plan is in its early stages of formation. The meeting will not cover the plan but rather some of the new information its update will be based on. A separate public meeting will be set to review the flood plan once the county has a draft ready for review, which may be in the spring of 2009.

For more information about the meeting or if you have questions, call Hannah Merrill at Clallam County at 417-2563.

Clallam County and the Dungeness River Flood Hazard Planning Team are hosting an open house, drop-in style meeting from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Sequim Library, 630 N. Sequim Ave., to identify potential flood hazards in and around the Dungeness River and aid those in its path to prepare for any potential emergencies.

http://search.sequimgazette.com/news/article.exm/2008-11-05_open_house_set_to_discuss_dungeness... 6/18/2009

Briefly . . .

Public records forum set in Port Angeles

PORT ANGELES — A forum on Washington state's laws about public records and open meetings will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

The free event will be held in the commissioners' hearing room of the Clallam County Courthouse, 223 E. Fourth St.

After-hours access to the room is through a door just west of the main courthouse entrance on Fourth Street.

A panel will fuel the discussion on securing and preserving the public's legal right to access the records and proceedings of the government agencies.

The panelists will include former state Rep. Toby Nixon, Assistant State Attorney General Tim Ford, state Auditor Brian Stovring and state Rep. Lynn Kosler, D-Hoquiam, one of three state legislators representing the North Olympic Peninsula.

Frank Garred, retired Port Townsend Leader publisher and journalism educator at Peninsula College, will moderate the discussion.

Questions and comments from the audience will be welcomed.

The forum was arranged by the Washington Coalition for Open Government and the League of Women Voters of Clallam County.

Flood information

SEQUIM — An open house will be held to provide information on flood hazards to people who live on or near the Dungeness River.

The meeting, sponsored by Clallam County and the Dungeness River Flood Hazard Planning Team, will be held at the Sequim Public Library, 830 N. Sequim Ave., from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

Emergency preparedness materials will be available. There will also be a drawing to win a National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration All Hazard Weather Radio, which can monitor flood information.

For more information, phone Hannah Merrill at 417-2563.

Flood plan meetings

BRINNON — The Jefferson County Department of Community Development will convene the second advisory committee meeting for the Duckabush and Dosewallips Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday.

The meeting will be at the Brinnon Fire Hall, 272 Schoolhouse Road, in Brinnon.

Following the advisory committee meeting, there will be a public meeting from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the same location.

The meeting room is in the back of the fire hall.

"The purpose of the public meeting is to introduce and discuss a draft report of existing conditions for the Duckabush and Dosewallips Rivers, which is a component, or chapter, of the broader Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan," said Al Sealf, county community development director.

"We encourage community residents to attend."

Sealf said flood planning is important for future funding for projects which may also reduce flood insurance for citizens.

With a plan in place, Jefferson County could be eligible for state Department of Ecology grants as well as potential federal grants.

Those organizations fund projects that help to save lives and reduce damage to property.

For further information, contact Ryan Hunter in Community Development's Long Range Planning Department, at 360-379-4454 or e-mail rhunter@jefferson.wa.us.

Peninsula Daily News



Elks don't

Dr. Jane Poessens

At the girls picnic Lee champion came in



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Dungeness River flood plan to be unveiled

Published on Wed, Apr 29, 2009

by Gazette Staff

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It's been said that the Dungeness River can make a fool out of anyone. The river finds its way around bridges and levees, leaves irrigation outtakes high and dry, and eats away the banks under houses that were thought to be safe.

In order to address flood hazards, the Dungeness Flood Planning Committee - county, tribal and state agency

staff and property owners along the Dungeness River - has updated the Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan.

The public is invited to a presentation of the updated plan on Thursday, April 30, at the Pioneer Memorial Park clubhouse, 387 E. Washington St., Sequim.

The river looks harmless enough in the summer, but in the winter it can be powerful and destructive.

Yet flooding in the Dungeness is more than just high water. Much of the lower riparian forest was logged, and the banks are destabilized. Its primary channels can change by hundreds of feet in one flood.

The working group for this plan wants to make it clear that this is not a flood control plan - floods cannot be controlled. Instead, it is a plan to minimize or reduce flood hazard within the Dungeness River lower watershed.

The meeting will include the opportunity to view maps and talk with members of the planning group followed by a presentation of the plan. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the presentation begins at 7 p.m. To view the Dungeness River Flood Hazard Management Plan go to www.clallam.net/environment/html/DRFP.htm.

For more information, call Hannah Merrill at Clallam County Department of Natural Resources, 417-2563.

http://search.sequimgazette.com/news/article.exm/2009-04-29_dungeness_river_flood_plan_to_be_unv... 6/18/2009

Dungeness River rises to new flood plan

By MATTHEW NASH Sequim Gazette

The Dungeness River has chameleon-like capabilities. In the summer, it camouflages itself in drought-like conditions but in the winter and spring, its water rises quicker than a car trip to Seattle. These days, much quicker, and handling its impact requires a change in tactics. "It's not about controlling a flood because you can't control a flood, but we can minimize its impact," said Hannah Merrill, natural resources planner for Clallam County.



Cathy Lear, planning biologist for Clallam County, discusses the new Dungeness River Flood Plan on April 30 with Jim Reed, who lives by the river. Reed is frustrated that his retirement plans might be disrupted if he is unable to build a home as tall because of new measurements for building codes along the river.

A new flood plan, the Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan 2009, updates a 1990 flood control plan. A 2003 update was in process until grant funds ran out. The Washington State Department of Ecology Flood Control Assistance Account Program continued funding for the plan in 2008. "Over the past two decades, the focus has changed. The Dungeness River and floods in general are not controllable," Merrill said. "The Dungeness redirects itself and it will continue to flood." The plan does not set regulations for people living along the river but it recommends the following actions: Update maps of the flood hazard areas and channel migration zone. Protect people, and property and habitat from erosion. Improve and provide ongoing education to landowners along the river. Continue and expand monitoring of the river's corridor. Comments on the plan were expressed at an April 30 informational meeting at the Pioneer Memorial Park clubhouse in Sequim. About 25 property and/or business owners along the Dungeness attended. Some participants expressed anger about the possibility of being unable to build on their property near the river. But Merrill and Cathy Lear, a planning biologist for Clallam County, said that the plan does not recommend implementing any building codes and uses the county's current regulations as references.

The plan does recommend that setbacks for structures like garages and homes be measured from the edge of the channel migration zone rather than the ordinary high water mark - the point along a riverbed where the presence of water is common that the soil and vegetation is distinct from the abutting upland. The ordinary high water mark is a fixed point that does not change as the river shifts. The channel migration zone is the outermost boundary that the river has used historically or potentially will use through bank erosion or forming new channels. "We can see where the river has gone in the past so now we can map it out better," Merrill said. No new buffers or distances would be implemented at this time, Merrill said. When county commissioners approve the plan in June, grant money could be made available to the county. Merrill said new grants could purchase property in the flood plan - but is difficult because each site is so different. People living along the river would not be forced to relinquish or sell their land if the plan is approved, Merrill said. Homes currently along the river would not need to be moved to comply with the proposed changes in development distances. However, all future developments, even on existing properties, would need to comply. The plan is under review until May 22, by State Environmental Policy Act members. A public hearing will take place at a county commissioners' meeting in June. Check www.clallam.net/Board/html/board_links.htm or call Merrill at 417-2563 for a set time. Reach Matthew Nash at mnash@sequimgazette.com.

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Dungeness River rises to new flood plan

Published on Wed, May 20, 2009

by Matthew Nash

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The Dungeness River has chameleon-like capabilities. In the summer, it camouflages itself in drought-like conditions but in the winter and spring, its water rises quicker than a car trip to Seattle.

These days, much quicker, and handling its impact requires a change in tactics.

"It's not about controlling a flood because you can't control a flood, but we can minimize its impact," said Hannah Merrill, natural resources planner for Clallam County.

A new flood plan, the Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan 2009, updates a 1990 flood control plan. A 2003 update was in process until grant funds ran out. The Washington State Department of Ecology Flood Control Assistance Account Program continued funding for the plan in 2008.

"Over the past two decades, the focus has changed. The Dungeness River and floods in general are not controllable," Merrill said.

"The Dungeness redirects itself and it will continue to flood."

The plan does not set regulations for people living along the river but it recommends the following actions:

- _ Update maps of the flood hazard areas and channel migration zone.
_Protect people, and property and habitat from erosion.
_Improve and provide ongoing education to landowners along the river.
_Purchase high-risk flood hazard and high-value habitat areas.
_Continue and expand monitoring of the river's corridor.

Comments on the plan were expressed at an April 30 informational meeting at the Pioneer Memorial Park clubhouse in Sequim. About 25 property and/or business owners along the Dungeness attended.

http://search.sequimgazette.com/news/article.exm/2009-05-20_dungeness_river_rises_to_new_flood_p... 6/18/2009

Some participants expressed anger about the possibility of being unable to build on their property near the river. But Merrill and Cathy Lear, a planning biologist for Clallam County, said that the plan does not recommend implementing any building codes and uses the county's current regulations as references.

The plan does recommend that setbacks for structures like garages and homes be measured from the edge of the channel migration zone rather than the ordinary high water mark - the point along a riverbed where the presence of water is so common that the soil and vegetation is distinct from the abutting upland.

The ordinary high water mark is a fixed point that does not change as the river shifts.

The channel migration zone is the outermost boundary that the river has used historically or potentially will use through bank erosion or forming new channels. "We can see where the river has gone in the past so now we can map it out better," Merrill said.

No new buffers or distances would be implemented at this time, Merrill said.

When/if county commissioners approve the plan in June, grant money could become available to the county.

Merrill said new grants could purchase property in the flood plan - but is difficult because each site is so different.

People living along the river would not be forced to relinquish or sell their land if the plan is approved, Merrill said.

Homes currently along the river would not need to be moved to comply with the proposed changes in development distances.

However, all future developments, even on existing properties, would need to comply.

The plan is under review until May 22, by State Environmental Policy Act members.

A public hearing will take place at a county commissioners' meeting in June. Check www.clallam.net/Board/html/board_links.htm or call Merrill at 417-2563 for a set time.

Reach Matthew Nash at mnash@sequimgazette.com.

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Comments sought on flood plan this week

Proposal suggests uses for Dungeness River property

By BOB OLSZEWSKI Peninsula Daily News Staff Writer
The Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan 2009, which was adopted by the Clallam County Board of Commissioners last week, calls for a public hearing on the plan this week. The plan, which was developed by the Clallam County Department of Planning and Community Development, outlines a strategy for managing the river's flood hazard areas and channel migration zone. The plan also includes recommendations for protecting people, property, and habitat from erosion, and for improving and providing ongoing education to landowners along the river. The plan is being reviewed by the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) committee until May 22. A public hearing will be held on June 10 at 7 p.m. at the Pioneer Memorial Park clubhouse in Sequim. The hearing is open to the public, and anyone interested in the plan is encouraged to attend. Comments on the plan can be submitted to the county planning department at any time. The plan is a significant update to the 1990 flood control plan and is expected to provide a more comprehensive approach to managing the river's flood hazard areas and channel migration zone. The plan also includes recommendations for protecting people, property, and habitat from erosion, and for improving and providing ongoing education to landowners along the river. The plan is being reviewed by the SEPA committee until May 22. A public hearing will be held on June 10 at 7 p.m. at the Pioneer Memorial Park clubhouse in Sequim. The hearing is open to the public, and anyone interested in the plan is encouraged to attend. Comments on the plan can be submitted to the county planning department at any time.

the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, Clallam County, results will be published in the next issue of the plan. "The plan is a significant update to the 1990 flood control plan and is expected to provide a more comprehensive approach to managing the river's flood hazard areas and channel migration zone. The plan also includes recommendations for protecting people, property, and habitat from erosion, and for improving and providing ongoing education to landowners along the river. The plan is being reviewed by the SEPA committee until May 22. A public hearing will be held on June 10 at 7 p.m. at the Pioneer Memorial Park clubhouse in Sequim. The hearing is open to the public, and anyone interested in the plan is encouraged to attend. Comments on the plan can be submitted to the county planning department at any time."

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Article published Jun 10, 2009

Comments sought on Dungeness River flood plan this week

By Rob Ollikainen
Peninsula Daily News

PORT ANGELES -- It looks innocuous now, but the Dungeness River can rise quickly and swallow huge swaths of property in a flood.

Property owners and real estate agents should prepare accordingly, Ann Seiter told the three Clallam County commissioners -- Mike Doherty, Mike Chapman and Steve Tharinger -- on Tuesday.

Seiter, a consultant and former chairwoman of the Clallam County Planning Commission, outlined the Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan in a public hearing. The report makes land-use recommendations for the flood-prone lower Dungeness.

The commissioners will decide whether to adopt the plan later this month.

No public comment was taken at Tuesday's hearing.

Written comment can be submitted until 4:30 p.m. Friday.

Comment also can be e-mailed to commissioners@co.clallam.wa.us or dropped off at the commissioners office (Suite 4) at the Clallam County Courthouse, 223 E. Fourth St., Port Angeles.

The 109-page document can be viewed at the county's Web site, www.clallam.net.

Seiter prepared the report along with Pam Edens of the Jamestown S'Klallam tribe and the 14-member Dungeness Flood Hazard Advisory Committee.

The Dungeness Flood Hazard Advisory Committee consists of tribal officials, conservation groups, the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, Clallam County county staff and affected property owners.

"They pointed out numerous times that you can manage the hazards that are in the way of a flood, but you cannot manage the floods themselves," Seiter said.

The updated plan is designed to inform property owners, real estate agents and area residents of flood risks. It may also help the county receive state and federal grants.

Goals of the management plan include preventing loss of life and property from flooding, integrating flood hazard reduction with habitat restoration, maintaining the river's varied uses and improving river management.

Updated plan

The county in 2003 received a grant from the state Department of Ecology to update its 1990 Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Management Plan. That effort hit a wall when the funds ran out.

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009306109986&template=printart> 6/18/2009

The updated plan incorporates the latest science and mapping with historical data.

"It's an advisory document; it's not a regulatory document," explained Hannah Merrill, natural resource planner for the county.

Seiter covered broad recommendations from the report.

The general recommendations include:

- Use the best available science to update maps and data.

Since 1990, the Bureau of Reclamation and Byron Rot of the Jamestown S'Klallam tribe have collected considerable data on the river's channel migration zone, or the area where the river meanders from side to side over time.

- Update and amend land-use regulations in the floodplain.

Houses built close to the river and within the channel migration zone are subject to hazards as the river shifts.

"Unlike the Mississippi, the Dungeness is more subject to this type of flood hazard than it is to flooding by inundation where the water comes up," Seiter said.

- Conduct an inventory of levees.

"Some of the levees on the Dungeness were publicly funded and maintained," Seiter said.

"There are others that were kind of pushed up with bulldozers by various property owners and don't function very well."

- Improve education and outreach to existing and prospective landowners.

"What one landowner along the river does to their property to protect it from a flood can affect people across the river and down the stream," Seiter said.

Tharinger, whose district includes the Dungeness River watershed, asked Seiter if the science used to determine the river's meander zone is strong enough to justify the boundary.

Seiter said the science was thoroughly peer-reviewed, and the updated information has "greatly improved what we have."

Bob Martin, Clallam County Department of Emergency Management program manager, endorsed the report.

"It looked to me like Byron [Rot] used a technically valid approach," Martin said.

Martin added that most of the dikes along the river don't provide 100-year flood protection.

"If we're basing decisions on the presence of those dikes, we should know more about them," Martin said.

Contract, agreement

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In other action, the board signed a contract with Port Angeles-based Aldergrove Construction Inc. for the second phase of the old courthouse boiler replacement project. The \$152,000 contract includes pipe insulation and a base unit for a digital control system for the courthouse.

The commissioners also signed an agreement with Built Green Clallam County to implement a coordinated grant with Ecology to reduce construction waste and recycle.

Lakeside Industries Inc. of Port Angeles submitted the only bid for the county's hot mix asphalt overlay project. The \$653,214 bid was referred to the Public Works Department for review.

County Engineer Ross Tyler said the budgeted estimate for the asphalt work was about \$600,000.

Meanwhile, the board signed a June 30 bid notice for the completion of the Mount Pleasant Road project. The \$500,000 road-widening project will be funded through federal stimulus money for which the Public Works Department applied.

Two commissioners called for a July 7 hearing on the proposed sale of surplus buildings purchased for the dike removal along the Dungeness River.

Tharinger abstained from the vote because he once owned a home near the dike.

Finally, the board called for a June 23 hearing on a proposed ordinance amending parts of the county's commercial zones and maps for compliance with the Growth Management Act.

Reporter Rob Ollikainen can be reached at 360-417-3537 or at rob.ollikainen@peninsuladailynews.com.

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PeninsulaNorthwest

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2009

PENINSULA DAILY NEWS

Clallam adopts Dungeness flood plan

Move follows lengthy public comment process

By ROB OLLIKAINEN
PENINSULA DAILY NEWS

PORT ANGELES — Years of work culminated on Tuesday with the formal adoption of a revised Dungeness River Flood Hazard Management Plan.

A lengthy public comment process preceded the adoption of the flood plan by two Clallam County commissioners. Mike Doherty and Mike Chapman, Commissioner Steve Tharinger is out of the office this week and did not attend the meeting.

"This plan will really help provide the education and outreach about the flood hazards and emergency preparedness for those folks that have property along the river," Chapman said.

"Sometimes these plans get a bad rap as somehow government overreach. I think this is one time where the government is reaching out with a helping hand so landowners can prepare for future changes of the river. The plan informs property owners, real estate agents and residents of flood risks along the river, which has a history of wiping out homes. The plan may also help the county receive state and federal grants.

The entire plan can be viewed at the county's Web site, www.clallam.net.

Revisited efforts

A 2003 grant from the state Department of Ecology revitalized efforts to update the 1990 Dungeness River Comprehensive Flood Management Plan.

County staff, local volunteers and the Jamestown S'Klallam tribe contributed to the effort.

"I want to thank [state Natural Resource Planner] Hannah Merrill for all her work on this," said John Miller, Department of Community Development director.

The board also passed right-of-way agreements to purchase easements from Brenda Meyer, Scott Anderson and Jeremy and Stephanie Weller for culvert replacements in the Salt Creek Basin.

The county is working with the Lower Elwha tribe to replace rusty steel barriers to restore wildlife habitat.

Total cost of the easements is \$8,852,750. Commissioners Tuesday approved an ordinance amending four commercial zones for continued Growth Management Act compliance.

A state hearings board ruled Jan. 30 that four Limited Areas of More Intensive Rural Development, or LAMRIDs, are still invalid and non-compliant with the 1990 Act.

Altered zoning

In response, the county altered zoning designations and boundaries for the Dryke/Sherbourne, Deer Park, Laird's Corner East and Lake Farm LAMRIDs.

A public hearing preceded votes to amend the ordinance on commercial zones and a resolution adopting findings of fact.

No public comment was taken in the weekly board meeting. No members of the public attended the hearing.

In a separate Growth Management Act compliance matter, the board seeks public comment on a proposed ordinance adjusting rural moderate zones in a public hearing Tuesday.

The hearing begins at 11 a.m. in the commissioner's chambers (Room 160) at the Clallam County Courthouse, 223 E. Fourth St., Port Angeles.

A Growth Management Act compliance response is due by July 30.

In other action, the two commissioners approved an interagency agreement with the state Department of Ecology to revise the Community Litter Cleanup Program.

"It's a great program," said Craig Jacobs, public works director.

"It really started the process for the whole Chain Gang program."

The county will use \$71,545 to compensate two Chain Gang crew supervisors and pay for administrative costs, tools and other supplies through June 2011.

An additional \$5,000 is going to camera equipment at a high-incident illegal dump site.

The Chain Gang is the county's inmate work crew.

"There are other Chain Gangs, not just the litter crews, that are partially funded by this," Jacobs said.

Chain Gangs build trails, repair culverts and pull noxious weeds around the county.

The board also passed a resolution designating the Serenity House as the authorized entity for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act homelessness and housing grants.

Serenity House is providing a required \$92,500 match.

The board also signed a two-year, \$40,774 agreement with Acela Inc. for software maintenance services.

Meanwhile, Bob Dunlap was appointed as the faith community representative to the Homelessness Task Force for a term that expires Dec. 3, 2011. Tom Cartwell was appointed as the business community representative to the same board.

Reporter Rob Ollikainen can be reached at 360-417-3537 or at rob.ollikainen@peninsuladailynews.com.