



2002 Milestone Restoration and Conservation Activities in the DRMT Geographic Focus Area

Prepared by: *Dungeness River Management Team*



FISHERIES / WATER RESOURCES

Dungeness River In-Stream Flow Side Channel Study

During the months of June through October 2002, field data was collected from ten Dungeness River side channels to assess the relationship between flows in the main stem and flows in the side-channels. Side channel cross-sectional data, including width, depth, temperature, and flow velocity were analyzed with Dungeness main stem measurements to help determine the main stem discharge ranges necessary to provide viable salmonid habitat in the side channels. Conclusions from the study were presented to the DRMT January 2003.

Contributors: US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (JSKT), Clallam County, Washington Department of Ecology (DOE)
Contact: Andy Brastad, Clallam County, 360-417-2415
Status: Final report due March 2003.



Using GPS to record gauge location

Smolt Trapping on Jimmycomelately and Siebert Creeks



In the spring of 2002, natural resources technicians at the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe were trained to survey smolt production on Jimmycomelately and Siebert Creeks. Smolt traps were built and installed, and out

migration data (species ID, size, number) were recorded.



Contributors: Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, JSKT, WDFW, volunteers
Contact: Scott Chitwood, JSKT, 360-681-3616
Status: Traps will be reinstalled on both Siebert and Jimmycomelately Creeks,

and possibly Matriotti Creek, in April 2003. The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe maintains the smolt production data.

Real-Time Stream Flow Monitoring

Through DOE's Environmental Assessment Program (EAP), the DRMT selected and prioritized stream site locations for up to eight real-time telemetry gauges. The gauges transmit flow discharge and temperature data to DOE. Site locations were prioritized according to where data would be most valuable for long-term salmon recovery. Gauges were installed on Morse (lower), Jimmycomelately, Siebert, Ennis, and Little River Creeks. This program also operates the gauge at Schoolhouse.

Contributors: Clallam County, DOE, JSKT, Dungeness River Management Team (DRMT)

Contact: Andy Brastad, Clallam County, 360-417-2415

Status: The temporary gauge near the Railroad Bridge was removed at the end of the USBR's study period. Real-time data for the other telemetry gauges can be accessed at DOE's website: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/apps/watersheds/flows/regions/state.asp> Two additional gauges will be installed in early 2003, one in McDonald Creek and one in Morse Creek (upper).

Water Conservation (Irrigation Ditch Piping) Projects

As part of an on-going effort to conserve Dungeness River water, the irrigation community and others have been involved in the implementation of projects to improve irrigation system efficiency. Efforts have resulted in reduced river water withdrawal, pond elimination, and conserved instream flows. Projects that were completed in 2002 include the following:

- Agnew Irrigation District: installed approximately 1,500 feet of pipe near Taylor Cut-off Road;
- Sequim Prairie Tri Company: completed 4 separate projects near Old Olympic Highway using a total of 12,740 feet of pipe;
- Highland Irrigation District: installed approximately 1,400 feet of pipe near Miller Road.

Contributors: Agnew Irrigation District and property owners (on the Steller Ridge lateral off Taylor Cut-off Road) served by Agnew Irrigation District; Sequim Prairie Tri Irrigation Company; Highland Irrigation District; Clallam Conservation District (CCD); JSKT; Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)
Contact: Mike Jeldness, Dungeness River Agricultural Water Users Association (WUA), 360-683-4331
Status: Projects complete and functional.



WATER QUALITY

Irrigation Water Quality Improvement

Contaminated tailwater to Matriotti Creek was eliminated with the completion of 2 irrigation ditch piping projects, one in the Carlsborg area and one off Hooker Road. Contractors hired by the Clallam Ditch Company installed approximately 16,000 feet of pipeline in the Carlsborg area. The Agnew Irrigation District Hooker Road Lateral project entailed replacing approximately 4,500 feet of open ditch with pipeline. The County Roads Department assisted with road crossings on the Agnew project.

Contributors: CCD, Clallam Ditch Company, Washington Conservation Commission, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, DOE, JSKT, Agnew Irrigation District
Contact: Joe Holtrop, CCD, 360-452-1912 x 5
Status: Completed.



Installing pipe

Dungeness River and Matriotti Creek Fecal Coliform Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study

In water year 2000 (Nov 1999 - Oct 2000), DOE conducted a TMDL study in order to establish new fecal coliform criteria and to facilitate restoration of water quality in the Dungeness River and Matriotti Creek. Study results confirmed violations of water quality standards for fecal coliform in Matriotti Creek and Dungeness Bay, Meadowbrook and Cooper Creeks, Golden Sans Slough, and several irrigation ditches. The final report, Dungeness River and Matriotti Creek Fecal Coliform Bacteria TMDL Study, was completed May 2002 and includes study results and recommendations. It is available from DOE.

Contributors: DOE, JSKT, Clallam County, CCD, Clean Water Workgroup
Contact: Debby Sargeant, DOE, 360-407-6684; Christine Hempleman, DOE, 360-407-6329
Status: In June 2002, a cleanup implementation strategy (Water Cleanup Plan for Bacteria in the Lower Dungeness Watershed: TMDL Submittal Report) was published as a follow up to the TMDL. The Cleanup Plan describes implementation actions to address the problems listed in the TMDL study. Examples include public education, septic inspections and maintenance, and agricultural BMPs. A separate TMDL study is being conducted for Dungeness Bay and will be completed in 2003.

Agricultural Conservation Planning and Implementation

Agricultural conservation and Best Management Practices (BMPs) were applied on several farms in 2002, with guidance from the CCD and Washington Conservation Commission. Activities included:

- nure lagoon and four manure aerators in the Bell Creek area;
- of three animal waste storage structures/compost facilities;
- stream-bank stabilization (all of the stream-bank stabilization occurred on Siebert Creek);
- n barrels for water conservation (this occurred countywide).

The Clallam Conservation District provided guidance to landowners wishing to participate in land use planning. Their efforts resulted in eight farm conservation plans, two dairy nutrient management plans, and seven riparian restoration plans. The CCD conducted resource inventories and evaluations on nine properties within the DRMT focus area.

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) provides technical assistance and financial incentives for buffers along salmon streams that run through agricultural land. Currently six landowners are enrolled in the program.

Contributors: Landowners, CCD, Washington Conservation Commission, DOE, Clallam County, JSKT, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Services Agency
Contact: Joe Holtrop, CCD, 360-452-1912 x 5
Status: On-going.

Groundwater Guardian Program

In February, the Clean Water District submitted an application to the Groundwater Guardian Program, a program which supports, recognizes, and connects communities working to protect groundwater. The application process included submittal of a list of proposed groundwater education and/or protection activities. In the fall, the Groundwater Foundation officially designated the Clean Water District Outreach Team as the "Sequim-Dungeness Groundwater Guardian Community."

Contributors: Clean Water District, Clallam County, Groundwater Foundation
Contact: Ann Soule, Clallam County, 360-417-2424
Status: On-going.



RIPARIAN LAND PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Jimmycomelately (JCL) Creek and Estuary Restoration

Components of this project include removal of a log dump in the estuary (2002), relocation of JCL to its former channel (2002/03), removal of buildings along the shoreline (2002/03), removal of dikes and fill (2003), construction of a new bridge on Highway 101 (2003). The following accomplishments occurred in 2002:



Early stages of construction

- Channel realignment construction initiated;
- Placement of large woody debris and streambed gravel;
- Log dump and building removal;
- Bridge design drafted.

Contributors: JSKT, Clallam County, CCD, DOE, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Washington Department of Transportation (WDOT), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), US Forest Service (USFS)

Contact: Sam Gibboney, JSKT, 360-681-3613

Status: Excavation and construction of the new channel was approximately 85% complete before it was shut down for winter. Construction will resume in summer 2003.



Ground breaking ceremony (July 11, 2002)



Dungeness Estuary Restoration

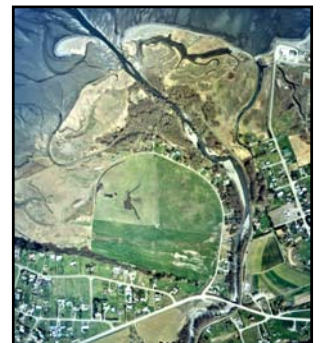
After receiving grant funding from the SRFB in 2001, Clallam County began planning for a large-scale restoration effort of the Dungeness River estuary. In 2002, landowners in the Rivers End area were contacted, and a meeting was held between landowners and project partners. Twelve landowners (representing 18 land parcels) signed letters of intent to sell, and the County initiated appraisal and relocation processes.

Contributors: Clallam County, JSKT, WDFW, USFS, SRFB

Contact: Cathy Lear, Clallam County, 360-417-2361

Status: Funding is currently being sought for re-vegetation.

Dungeness River mouth and estuary (2002)



Riparian Land Conservation

Appraisals were conducted and conservation easements were purchased on two riparian land parcels, one at the headwaters of Matriotti Creek and one at lower Bell Creek. The conservation easements protect the land from development. The North Olympic Land Trust (NOLT) accepts perpetual responsibility for keeping the land protected, as well as for on-going monitoring.

Contributors: Landowners, NOLT, Clallam County

Contact: Cathy Lear, Clallam County, 360-417-2361

Status:

UPPER WATERSHED

Dungeness Watershed Analysis

This is an update of previous watershed analyses to improve the quality of the data and fill in gaps identified in earlier efforts. The science-based analysis focused on sedimentation, stream channel processes, and the identification of restoration opportunities. The project area comprises federal lands in the upper watershed. In 2002, sources of sediment and areas of channel instability were mapped, and priority restoration projects were identified and recommended for treatments.

Contributors: Olympic National Forest

Contact: Robbin Stoddard, USFS, 360-956-2433

Status: The project was initiated in 2001 and completed in Dec 2002. Information on the project is available at the Hood Canal Ranger District office in Quilcene.



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Dungeness USFS Road Sediment Reduction Project

This project involves upgrading several US Forest Service roads, and decommissioning other roads (located in the highest risk landforms and the riparian zone), in order to reduce road-delivered sediment inputs to anadromous spawning and rearing habitat in the Dungeness River. The East Crossing Campground, located in the riparian area and served by the road to be decommissioned, is also under contract to be decommissioned in 2003. Major repair work occurred at seven sites along 12 miles of road in 2002. Implementation and effectiveness monitoring sites were also established.

Contributors: Olympic National Forest, SRFB, CCD, Washington Conservation Corps

Contact: Scott Hagerty, District Soil Scientist, USFS, 360-765-2249

Status: The project was initiated in Jan 2002, and the expected completion date is Sept 2003. Remaining work for 2003 includes decommissioning of 3.4 miles of road, converting 0.5 miles of road to trail, and decommissioning the East Crossing Campground.

Jimmycomelately Road Drainage Improvement

Approximately 10 miles of road (2840 and 2850) in the upper JCL watershed (~ River Mile 12) received road drainage structure improvements. This involved the addition and replacement of ditch relief culverts, ditches and culvert cleaning, and road surface grading.

Contributors: Olympic National Forest (Title II funds)

Contact: Scott Hagerty, District Soil Scientist, USFS, 360-765-2249

Status: This project was initiated in May 2002 and completed in Oct 2002.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

National Water Monitoring Day

In October, the Clean Water District organized local participation in National Water Monitoring Day, an event launched by the US Geological Survey to mark the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act. For our area, experts presented methods and monitoring objectives for surface and ground water to ~200 students from Sequim High School. Students also participated in hands-on field activities.



Contributors: US Geological Survey (USGS), Clean Water District, Clallam County, JSKT

Contact: Ann Soule, Clallam County, 360-417-2424

Status: N/A

Student measuring water level in a well (photo credit: Sue Chickman)



Students locating their watershed (photo credit: Sue Chickman)

Dungeness River Audubon Center at Railroad Bridge Park

The Dungeness River Audubon Center provided wide-ranging educational opportunities to the Dungeness community and its visitors. In all, the Center was venue to 330 educational events attended by ~9,500 individuals. At least 3,150 additional visitors dropped in at the Center to look at exhibits and request information on the area. Some of the 2002 highlights include:

- 7th Grade Watershed Week (April) and follow-up community presentation (June): curriculum and field trip for all 7th graders attending Sequim Middle School
- Field Trips (May): 6th grade field trips to the Dungeness River
- Summer Camp (July): science camp for 3rd-5th graders
- Dungeness River Audubon Festival (Sept): festival dedicated to issues related to the Dungeness River Watershed and watershed education; 3,000+ attendees.

Contributors: National Audubon Society, Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, Rainshadow Natural Science Foundation,

JSKT, local volunteers

Contact: Bob Boekelheide, Director, 360-683-4076

Status: A schedule of upcoming events can be found at the Center's website:

<http://www.dungenessrivercenter.org>



School field trip on the Dungeness River

This document was prepared by the Dungeness River Management Team (DRMT)
For more information about the DRMT, see our website: <http://www.olympus.net/community/dungenesswc/>