



**THURSTON COUNTY**  
**WASHINGTON**  
SINCE 1852

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Cathy Wolfe  
District One  
Diane Oberquell  
District Two  
Robert N. Macleod  
District Three

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**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Michael Welter  
Director

Nisqually Reach and Henderson Inlet Shellfish Protection Districts  
Combined Oversight Committee  
Meeting Notes July 12, 2006

**Members:** Tris Carlson, Steve Langer, Linda Malatesta, Christine Buckley, Bryan Wilson, Pete Heidi, and Roy Iwai

**Alternates:** None

**Guests:** Mark Fischer (Puget Sound Restoration Fund)  
Kathy Whalen(Thurston Conservation District)  
Stuart Glasoe, PSAT  
Brian Phipps, Taylor United Shellfish Col.

**County Staff:** Mark J. Swartout, and Sue Davis

1. Administration:
  - A. Introductions
  - B. Approved the Agenda
  - C. Approved revised the May 10, 2006 Meeting Notes.
2. Updates:
  - A. Sanitary Survey of the Nisqually Shoreline:
    - 1) Survey is from Mill Bight south for about a mile.
    - 2) WDOH found several discharges with high level of fecal coliform and downgraded to “prohibited” the nearby shellfish beds.
    - 3) County EHD sent letters to 33 property owners asking for permission to test their septic systems - 18 agreed.
    - 4) 14 septic systems had dye testing with 5 (36%) failing and 2 suspect.
    - 5) Notices of violation were sent to those found to be failing and a property owner with livestock who is working with TCD.
    - 6) The shellfish growers are helping trouble shoot the problems.
    - 7) The EHD will be requesting funds to continue this survey once the wet season begins.
    - 8) The next step is to pursue “probable cause” for properties that have high fecal coliform counts from bulkhead drains.
  - B. Small grants program:
    - 1) EHD has developed educational brochures and applications.

- 2) They have awarded their first grant.
  - 3) EHD is working with TCD.
  - 4) Plan on sending the brochures to property owners enrolled in the Senior/Disabled Property Tax reduction program.
  - 5) The county asks for a 25% contribution from the property owners. The maximum amount rewarded is \$500.
- C. Henderson Septic Operation and Maintenance Program implementation:
- 1) Notices were sent to 6,502 properties identified as being within the program boundaries.
  - 2) There are currently 6,337 systems in the program (329 high risk, 5,940 low risk, and 68 Community systems)
  - 3) Currently working on the material for the self-certification train program.
  - 4) Currently working on the training material for the 3<sup>rd</sup> party high risk system inspection.
  - 5) Developing strategy to phase in all the systems over the next 3 years.
  - 6) Developing compliance policies and procedures.
- D. Woodland Creek Pollutant Load Project:
- 1) Recently signed the contract with the consultant team of Pacific Groundwater and Brown and Caldwell for the next 18 months.
  - 2) The consultant team will assess and evaluate the stream segments in Woodland Creek that is the focus of the problem.
  - 3) The team will provide options and preliminary costs that are needed to reduce the pollutant loads from stormwater and septic systems.
- E. All future geoduck projects in the inter-tidal zones will require Substantial Development Permits (Shoreline Master Program), while current projects can proceed to completion.
- F. Community Shellfish Farm (CSF)
- 1) July 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a work party at the farm.
  - 2) Children tours of the farm continue through the summer sponsored by the Park Department.
  - 3) There is harvest planned for this fall.
- C. Thurston Conservation District:
- 1) Applying for a WDOE grant to:
    - a. Additional farm planning.
    - b. Additional outreach and education activities.
    - c. Cost Share program.
    - d. Best Management Practices implementation.
- D. County land use issues update: Mark provided an update of the various land use activities.
3. Began discussion about projects to be funded in 2007 from the Shellfish Protection Fund. Suggested projects include:
- A. Encourage the City of Olympia to reinstall the Gunderboom stormwater treatment project.
  - B. Develop Critical Areas Ordinance education material for realtors to distribute to new

property owners.

C. EHD will need additional funding for the small works grant program.

4. Adjourn

MS:ms/shellfish\_06/meeting notes 7.12.06