



THURSTON COUNTY
WASHINGTON
SINCE 1852

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OFFICE OF PROGRAM AND BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

Henderson Inlet Shellfish Protection District

Stakeholders – HI-SPDS

Meeting Notes of January 28, 2003

Present: Jerry Yamashita, Lisa Dennis-Perez, Mark Blosser, Peter Heide, Bruce Rouillard, and Steve Langer.
Alternates: Roy Iwai (Mark Blosser)
County Staff: Mark J. Swartout
Guests: Sue Markey, Mark Fischer, Betsy Peabody, and Eric Erler

1. Meeting called to order by the chair at 6:30.
2. Administration issues:
 - a. Approved Agenda.
 - b. Approved the December 16th Meeting Notes.
3. Updates.
 - a. Distributed email from Debbie on the TMDL process.
 - b. Discussed the work of the Nisqually Reach Shellfish Protection District.
 - c. Announced that there are 3 scheduled meetings of both Districts' Septic Sub-groups.
4. Presentation on the Capitol Land Trust (CLT) – Eric Erler.
 - a. There are currently the following protected parcels in the Henderson Inlet watershed:
 - i. Three parcels in Henderson Inlet on the Eastern Shore.
 - ii. A parcel on Woodland Creek.
 - iii. A parcel on Woodard Creek.
 - b. The CLT is advocating:
 - i. They can work for the benefit of the SPD by setting aside marine and estuary shorelines as conservation easements.
 - ii. They can act as an unbiased group and a tool to get land protected in the watershed.
 - iii. Protection of good areas by conservation easements is much less expensive than restoring degraded habitat.
 - iv. They can coordinate grants with other partners.
 - v. Recommended that the SPD recommendations / plan include a need to conserve marine shoreline when opportunities and resources are available.
 - c. The CLT has a strategic plan that includes:
 - i. Conservation Goals:
 1. Protect marine shorelines and estuaries.
 2. Protect wetlands.
 - ii. Organization Goals.

- iii. Public Outreach Goals.
 - d. Discussed conservation easements:
 - i. Conservation easements have been around for over 100 years.
 - ii. Nationwide there over 6 million acres in conservation easements.
 - iii. There is a good track record in conservation easements legally and have achieved the conservation objective.
 - iv. The transactions are done cooperatively not under duress.
- 5. Presentation on the Public Shellfish Bed Project – Betsy Peabody
 - a. Betsy represents the Puget Sound Restoration Fund as the sponsoring agency for this project.
 - b. The objective is to establish a Community Shellfish Farm in Henderson Inlet.
 - c. Recommend support of the Community Shellfish Farm project in the SPD plan / recommendations.
 - d. Project description:
 - i. Provide community involvement in the whole operation of the Farm from seeding to harvesting to marketing.
 - ii. Currently there are four separate areas in Henderson Inlet totalling 12 – 13 acres.
 - iii. The project has received right of entry forms for the areas.
 - iv. The proceeds from the sale of the oysters would go to covering the costs of the projects and to clean up areas that contribute to fecal coliform loading
 - v. The goal is for the project to become self-sustaining.
 - vi. The Drayton Harbor project was an example of a similar project where there was substantial support from the Bellingham Herald. An effort will be made to have similar coverage by The Olympian.
 - vii. Jerry Yamashita has donated 10 acres to the project.
- 6. Discussed a TMDL Workshop:
 - a. The first half of the workshop would include TMDL and the second half provide the first set of the stakeholder recommendations.
 - b. Agreed that May would be the right time.
 - c. Location would be the Public Health Building larger conference room.
 - d. A volunteer would be solicited by group email with a job description to help organize the workshop.
- 7. Discussed South Sound Green and a note from Ann Mills.
 - a. These are student living in the Henderson Inlet watershed.
 - b. They can provide a large group of volunteers to do work such as planting vegetation in riparian and inter-tidal areas; perform surveys and monitoring.
 - c. Betsy will probably use these student in the Community Shellfish Farm
- 8. Subcommittee met for remainder of the meeting.
- 9. Next meeting is February 24th.
- 10. Adjourn – 8:30

Future meeting topics – Urbanization Study by Professor Alberti (UW).