



THURSTON COUNTY
WASHINGTON
SINCE 1852

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OFFICE OF PROGRAM AND BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Cathy Wolfe
District One
Diane Oberquell
District Two
Kevin J. O'Sullivan
District Three

Henderson Inlet Shellfish Protection District
Stakeholder Group
Meeting Notes of October 21, 2002

Present: Bruce Rouillard, Peter Heide, Jerry Yamashita, Laura Hamilton, Gene Hummel,
Lisa Dennis-Perez, Jack Beeching, Steve Langer and Mark Blosser
County Staff: Mark J. Swartout and John Sonnen
Guests: Lindi Schmidt and Stuart Glasoe (PSWQAT)

1. Meeting called to order by the chair at 6:30.
2. Administration issues:
 - a. Introductions were made.
 - b. Approved Agenda.
 - c. Approved the September 16th Meeting Notes with a clarification.
 - d. A request was made that an acronym list would be helpful.
3. Discusses County's Natural Resource Chapter update. (John Sonnen).
 - a. The Growth Management Act requires the county to update its Comprehensive Plan and Critical Areas Ordinance by December 2004. The County has decided to update by increments starting with Chapter 3 Natural Resource Land then followed by the Critical Areas Ordinance.
 - b. The County's Comprehensive Plan provides policy direction on regulations and activities of Thurston County government.
 - c. Chapter 3 covers Natural Resource Land and includes Agriculture, Aquaculture, Forest, Mineral Resources, and Goals, Objectives and Policies.
 - d. Handouts were distributed including an October 17, 2002 memo regarding Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan proposals for shellfish, Comprehensive Plan Sections Most Relevant to Shellfish (Chapters 2 and 9), and Section 3 II Aquaculture Activities (Shoreline Master Program).
 - e. Key Planning Commission recommendations include (See Oct. 17th memo):
 - i. Strengthening language about the importance of shellfish growing areas and the need to protect these areas through an integrated regulatory approach. (The shellfish growing areas include all areas not only commercial.)
 - ii. Adding an action statement to educate people living near shellfish growing areas about how to limit polluted runoff from their land.
 - iii. Adding an action statement calling for reevaluation of county regulations in light of new information regarding development impacts on shellfish.

- f. The Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on Nov. 20, 2002 at 7 PM in Room 152, Building #1 to hear comments on proposed changes to the County's Comprehensive Plan Chapter 3 Natural Resource Land.
 - i. The group would like to present written testimony at the public hearing.
 - ii. It was encouraged that individual members of the group also provide written comment.
 - g. It was suggested that recommendations from the group to the county would be in the context of ways to achieve the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan, e.g. Chapter 9, Goals 2, Objective C, Policy #6 *The county should maintain or restore surface waters within the drainage basins of, Geological Sensitive Areas, or areas of significant recreational, commercial shellfish harvesting, and recreational shellfish harvesting on public lands to the **highest water quality possible**.*
 - h. It was suggested low-impact development might be needed to achieve county policies.
 - i. Regulations and zoning residential densities and animal densities were discussed.
4. Discussed Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) Update (John Sonnen).
- a. The timeline is for the updated Ordinance to be on the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) by June 2003.
 - b. Work on the Ordinance that relates to shellfish will be completed November through January.
 - i. Discussed the difficulty where the CAO usually addresses habitat (e.g. salmon) but with shellfish it is not a habitat issue because fecal coliform doesn't affect habitat it affects human harvest and consumption.
 - ii. It was discussed that even though CAO usually protects habitat it also protect lakes and aquifer recharge, which crosses over from habitat to health and environmental quality.
 - iii. It was brought to our attention that siltation is a problem in Henderson Inlet and that it affects the habitat of shellfish.
 - c. The update of the CAO also requires Best Available Science, which means that any changes need to be supported by science the best of which is peer reviewed.
5. Discussed next steps in producing a final report:
- a. The group broke down into subgroups by topic:
 - i. Septic:
 - 1. Jerry Yamashita
 - 2. Jack Beeching
 - 3. Bruce Rouillard
 - ii. Stormwater:
 - 1. Mark Blosser
 - 2. Jerry Yamashita
 - 3. Pete Heide
 - 4. Lisa Dennis-Perez
 - iii. Agriculture:
 - 1. Mark Sloan
 - 2. Gene Hummel

- iv. Land Use:
 - 1. Bruce Rouillard
 - 2. Jack Beeching
 - 3. Steve Langer
 - v. Wildlife – no one signed up
 - vi. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Adaptive Management:
 - 1. Mark Blosser and Roy Iwai
 - 2. Laura Hamilton
 - 3. Pete Heide
 - 4. Ken Filak
 - b. The groups were encouraged to send email to Mark Swartout when they have scheduled meetings. He will forward them to the other group members for information purposes.
 - c. A target date of December 16th (regular meeting) for completion of white papers.
 - d. Several white paper format options will be provided for the group to choose.
6. Discussed the Henderson Inlet tour – the survey results were distributed. A letter to the City of Lacey thanking them for supporting the tour will be sent.
7. Agenda for November 18th meeting.
- a. Public comments.
 - b. Subcommittee Reports – need to focus efforts
 - c. Display and discuss contour maps of the district.
 - d. TMDL update
 - e. December Agenda
8. Future meeting (January) results of the study being undertaken by Prof. Alberti (UW) on the impact of urbanization on harvestable shellfish beds in Puget Sound.
9. Adjourn – 8:30