

Steering Committee Notes

January 10, 2007

Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership Steering Committee

Attendees: Debby Hyde, Doug Osterman, Doug Myers, Curtis Tanner, Dick Ecker, Bernie Hargrave, Jacques White, Robin Clark, Mike Ramsey, and Tim Smith. Debbie Rick, Note Taker

Corrected December's Notes: Lisa Bellefond's name was corrected in the attendance list.

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP) Criteria

The Implementation Team brought the 2008-09 ESRP criteria for the Steering Committee to review. Most of the morning was spent in discussion and editing the final **criteria** list which is attached. The Steering Committee present also revised the **Proposed Timeline**.

Attached to the meeting notes is the **information that was provided at the ESRP Workshops** and the schedule and agenda for the workshops. It is also located on the website:

www.pugetsoundnearshore.org.

January 24 Executive Committee

After review of the Executive Committee agenda, the steering committee moved the Seahurst Site Visit for during the lunch hour.

- Doug Osterman and Debbie Rick to coordinate a bus through Metro Transit or some other.

Federal Project Manager Report

FY'07 Budget Process - The third Continuing Resolution Act extends until February 15. The Corps received funds to keep the UW members of the Nearshore Science Team paid and in-house salaries covered. The 110th Congress may pass an FY07 appropriation bill as a single amount without line items. The line item projects, including Nearshore, would receive allotments from the Corps. This strategy may significantly limit the funds the project would receive for this year.

Valued Ecosystem Component White Papers – The Corps' Public Affairs team is formatting the VEC papers received to-date. They are attempting to have nine of ten papers ready for the Executive Committee Meeting and all ten ready for the Puget Sound/ Georgia Basin Research Conference.

Staff Transitions – Kendra Nettleton has been the lead for publishing the VEC papers. She has been called to Naval Reserve service in Italy with her last day on December 29. The Corps may rehire Steve Martin as an annuitant to backfill Kendra. Steve is a highly skilled environmental resource specialist who may be tasked with drafting the first cut of a feasibility report/outline, in addition to contributing to the VEC publication process.

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Change Analysis – Since learning that CommEn Space, the contractor who performed the pilot Change Analysis, will no longer be in business the Project Management Team has decided to acquire a new contractor who will be able to help the Nearshore Partners with the CA as the first task, then be available for other needs we are likely to have as we prepare the feasibility report.

I met with the Bellevue Office Manager of a small disadvantaged business (as assigned by the Small Business Administration) who has environmental remediation expertise to determine if they could perform the Change Analysis for PSNERP. They do not have the requisite expertise in-house to perform the work. However they have strong ties to large firms who may.

Puget Sound and Adjacent Waters Restoration Program

Derelict Gear: Project has provoked a national Corps debate on whether or not the Corps should be involved with Derelict Gear. The Corps wrote an issue paper outlining their findings about federal interest. Corps division and HQ are currently reviewing. HQ USACE recommends that Bernie's group conduct a consultation workshop with every agency that currently does derelict gear removal. They remain skeptical that a unique role for the Corps can be identified and a non-Federal sponsor can feasibly perform their responsibilities to prevent future gear deposits after the initial cost-shared removal.

Nisqually Dike Removal: Our meeting with Jean Takekawa, Nisqually Wildlife Refuge manager, on 19 December to discuss PSAWR's help to implement her restoration plan was delayed due to the windstorm-induced power-outage at the refuge.

Seahurst Beach Restoration Phase II: Scott Thomas, City of Burien, will be routing a letter of intent to begin Phase II after a site meeting on December 27, 2007.

Local Project Manager's Report

Tom Mumford will lead the Nearshore Science Team's efforts in 2007 for Monitoring and Adaptive Management. They will be working on:

- Project monitoring guidelines proposal
- "Lessons Learned" study proposal

Interim Nearshore Guidance Project

Curtis attended "kick-off" meeting with project consultants and interagency workgroup. The Nearshore VEC white papers will provide foundational science for project

Nearshore Science Team

The NST will be reviewing the cumulative effects of projects. The NST will also be looking for a new graduate student to work with them as Phebe Drinker is leaving.

Implementation Team

The Habitat Protection Management Measure paper was passed out for review.