

HCCC IN-LIEU FEE MITIGATION
INTERAGENCY REVIEW TEAM (IRT) MEETING
August 19, 2015
10am – 3pm
HCCC Office and field site

IRT Participants

Patricia Johnson, Department of Ecology
Gail Terzi, Army Corps of Engineers
Kathlene Barnhart, Kitsap County
Cynthia Rossi, Point No Point Treaty Council
Roma Call, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Linda Storm, EPA

Non-IRT Participants

Patty Michak, Hood Canal Coordinating Council - Sponsor

Field and Office Review of Myrvang and Secrest properties

Preliminary wetland credit/debit review provided to IRT July 28, 2015 by e-mail.

- IRT walked the Myrvang property for review and assessment as a receiving site for wetland mitigation needed to fulfill the EHW2 WRIA 15 wetland credit sale.
- The Secrest property is located to the east of the northern portion of the Myrvang property and the landowner is interested in discussing a CE on the portion of their property that abuts the Myrvang property and is wetland. Exact footprint needs to be determined with the landowner. Approximately 4-5 acres may be available for protection.
- Myrvang property is ~22 acres Category 1 wetland; Gamble Creek flows across the property N to S.
- Property was recently mowed by landowner; has historical land use as agriculture – possibly hay fields and cattle grazing.
- Minor amount of noxious weeds were observed including: Scotch broom, blackberry, reed canarygrass, and small patch of thistle.
- Two very large poplar trees occur near the northeastern property line in a small upland area.
- The site contains scrub/shrub wetland, forested wetland, and open/ponded water areas.
- Mitigation actions could include; noxious weed control and replanting in weed removal areas.
- It was suggested that the site be monitored for a number of years to see what plants come back once the field mowing ceases. If a good diversity of species, including taller shrubs/trees, occurs then additional planting may not be needed.
- A culvert is present on the property that allows for farm vehicle access across Gamble Creek. The size of the culvert and fish passage is unknown as the culvert is overgrown with plants. Further investigation is needed.
- IRT walked Iverson road and reviewed the north end of the property and the wetland to the north (across Iverson Rd). Large property to north is also for sale, but listed at more than the available funding.
- Preliminary estimate of credit generation on the property indicates that the Myrvang property would generate a surplus of credit to the EHW2 credit sale.
- Opinion of IRT was that the site is suitable for the needed wetland mitigation and to proceed with acquiring the property and further investigate the CE on the Secrest property.

ACTION ITEM: Co-chairs will send an e-mail to the IRT requesting approval of the Myrvang property as a receiving site, and the option to include the Conservation Easement of a portion of the Secret property should HCCC be able to negotiate protection of that property.

ACTION ITEM: HCCC will proceed with acquiring the Myrvang property and continue discussions with the Secret's on the CE on a portion of their property.

Review of Meeting Agenda and June 15, 2015 meeting notes

- No comments were received on the June 15, 2015 meeting notes.

ACTION ITEM: IRT comments from those not attending the August 19 meeting should be submitted to HCCC by September 2, 2015. If no comments are received HCCC will post to website.

Revisions to Instrument

- Revisions to the all ILF Program Instrument are being worked on by the co-chairs and Policy IRT
- Need to make ILF programs consistent
- Specific revisions to the HCCC Instrument for elements such as the Interim Tool and Land Fee can be looked at now.
- IRT needs to work through the Interim Tool narrative, looking at conversion factors, sub-tidal trade-off, out-of-kind resource crediting, and hard to replace issues.
- HCCC to take first pass at revisions to language and send to IRT for review.
- Land Fee discussion – how do we utilize Land Fee and calculate value. IRT discussed whether or not the Land Fee should be based on habitat type, inside or outside a UGA, and/or land use type
- Did not come up with a specific approach for Land Fee; HCCC to review and provide IRT with proposed revisions.

Interim Tool

- Need write-up for new category for upland conversion to intertidal – new conversion factors
- Need to determine how to define a project within the conversion range; examples of actions on the ends of the range
- Specifically for Port Gamble need justification/rationale
- Need to address subtidal and deep subtidal areas – capture value and hard to replace nature

ACTION ITEM: HCCC to provide IRT with draft revisions.

Update Port Gamble Mill site mitigation proposal

- HCCC provided progress update for moving the project forward:
 - Working with legal counsels (HCCC and Pope Resources) on the Purchase and Sale Agreement (PSA); set a due date of September 30 for a signed PSA
 - If no response from landowner HCCC will be forced to consider other mitigation options
- IRT conference call notes from August 6th available for review. Link sent to IRT in Agenda for this meeting; e-mail 8/17.
- Need to review decision on conversion factor with Steve Todd.

ACTION: HCCC to call Steve and review conversion factor for upland to intertidal conversion.

Next Steps of Program

- Finalize Irene Pond mitigation plan – revised draft to co-chairs on 8/17
 - to IRT once co-chairs review
 - Need Public Notice
- Spending Agreement under revision
 - co-chairs can provide an updated interim agreement
- Next Meeting – Doodle Poll: possibly week of September 30 or last 2 weeks of October