



# Hood Canal Coordinating Council

Jefferson, Kitsap & Mason Counties; Port Gamble S'Klallam & Skokomish Tribes

## Hood Canal Regional PIC Program

### Guidance Group Meeting Summary

Nov 5, 2020; 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Via Zoom**

### Attendees

Haley Harguth, HCCC

Nate White, HCCC

Leslie Banigan, KPHD

Seth Book, Skokomish Tribe

Julian Sammons, Skokomish Tribe

Mike Dawson, Jefferson County Public Health

Amanda Christofferson, Jefferson County Public Health

Alex Paysse, Mason County Public Health

Ian Tracy, Mason County Public Health

John Bolender, Mason Conservation District

Barbara Adkins, Mason Conservation District

Scott Chernoff, Dept. of Health

Glenn Gately, Jefferson Conservation District

Andy Hokit, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

Paul McCollum, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

### Meeting Objectives

- Prepare for data reporting
- Complete Phase 4 Workplan ([Draft Ph. 4 Workplan document linked here](#))

### Partner Updates

Quick re-cap of activities since our last meeting, including:

- Overview of shellfish upgrades/downgrades, or changes in progress
- Ongoing work in Priority Areas
- Emerging issues
- Coordination/training needs

KPHD

- 3 shoreline hotspots
  - o Jumpoff Joe Creek
  - o Hudson
  - o
- Vouchers
  - o Clean water Kitsap vouchers right now
    - PG Bay
    - Lowfall
    - Kinman
    - Vinland
- WQ complaints
  - o Ag complaint – Anderson Crk drainage, seasonal tributary (waiting on rain)
- Emerging issues
  - o COVID response – cases are up. Kitsap has drive through testing site. Working a lot on it this week and next.

## Jefferson Co

- Work in centennial grants through dry season
  - Wrapped up shoreline, lots of high hits
  - Following up on many hotspots
- Oak Bay/Mats Mats Hotpots
  - Little Goose Crk – had OSS repair, WQ did improve, back up over 2000; looking at all properties again, going upstream
  - North Bay Way –
  - Mats Mats Bay -
- N. HC
  - Numerous hotspots
- Duck Cond Area (May-Oct closure)
  - High bacteria in pierce creek
    - Monthly E.coli sampling May 2019-current
    - Summer 2019 high hit, went away
    - Summer 2020 back high, dropped off since
    - OSS systems on creek (10 properties) – discrete areas
      - High vacation use area, very temporal
    - Creek originates in logging area, no livestock
    - Preparing factsheets for outreach, with research on OSS, to be distributed next month
      - Some good property owners, good ambassadors for Duck effort
    - Working with DOH Trevor Swanson, was looking at re-opening soon, will finish sampling Pierce Creek issues before pursuing that
- No rebates yet, updating brochure

## Skokomish

- Annas Bay, preventing downgrade (conditionally closed, river level 15ft)
  - 1 OSS issue, in coordination with Mason Co
  - Main issue is cow manure
  - Sampled in Sep, below 15ft river level, DOH also sampled
    - Compared to OSS effluent rate, going straight out of system
      - Weber Ck, 200 FCU/100 = 370 OSS worth of effluent
      - Skokomish River, 800FC = ~850 OSS
      - There's only 700 OSS in valley
      - Useful comparison to encourage political will;
  - Good WQ compared to past
  - 1 hotspot at river mouth
    - Ag, pet waste, OSS issues
    - Lots of
- Skokomish Valley – coordination with ECY on outreach
  - Mason Co met with ECY in early Oct
    - ECY met with ???
    - ECY developing materials
- ECY interested in eDNA sampling in valley
- In conversation with EPA re: MST; could be applied to Meese property

## Mason Co

- Shoreline sampling –
  - potlatch SP to Potlatch residential (Annas Bay SPD)
    - No high hits, including Minerva Beach (had past issues, made changes since)
  - WQ surveys on other side of Annas Bay (union to mouth of Skokomish)

- 21 sanitary surveys, about 70% of shoreline residential properties in tidal area
  - Most people receptive to allow inspection
  - Some very concerning OSS
    - Right behind bulkhead, within 100ft, paved over with parking on top, on unstable slopes with slide activity
    - Meese property, getting O&M (no updates), installed fencing of streams to keep ducks out
      - Have permission to do investigative sampling
      - 3 streams on property, will bracket sample above FC sources (livestock, pets, OSS, stream culvert) – all streams go near FC source. Goat enclosures need repair. If no action, will refer to ECY.
- Hoodsport sampling (second time, end of Sep, end of Oct)
  - Some high hits, low flows after first flushing rain
    - Finch Creek clean at hatchery
    - Sunset hotel high in Sep, dry in Oct (no sampling)
    - DOH aware, do not think it will impact reopening

#### DOH

- Hoodsport upgrade coming up in a few months timeframe
  - Still reviewing shoreline addendum, then sanitary survey addendum, then internal/external review. No new pollution sources in that timeframe.
  - DOH staff person working on it left position, Jean Frost in coordination with county
- Annas Bay sampling (oct)
  - No high hits
  - Some slightly elevated

#### Mason CD

- Working in lower HC on limited basis, engaged with 8-9 landowners, many in Skokomish valley
  - Without specific funding for watershed, got EPA NEP funds through NTA, to work on ag BMPs in HC area (contract will be in place in Jan 1),
  - Annas Bay, Tahuya
- Have coordination with ECY on Skokomish outreach
  - ECY taking slightly different approach
    - Purpose of outreach to provide cover for them, not appear like they are singling out landowner for enforcement; unfortunate that it's not direct action with specific landowner. MCD prepared to work with landowner if they're willing. ECY's time and effort. Will be meeting with ECY to follow up.
- MCD responsible for 1000 acres of restoration of Skokomish riparian habitat
- Voluntary incentive-based approach very successful IF there's a solid regulatory backstop

#### PGST

- Very supportive of regulatory backstop

#### HCSEG

- Andy getting up to speed, met with Leslie, Julian, Ian
- Working on rounding up volunteers now (3 confirmed, working on a few more, trying to keep group small due to COVID)
- Starting sampling in 10 days
- Sample sites are pretty well set, may need slight adjustments

JCD

- Looking for new manager

## Phase 4 Grant Status

- \$100,000 budget amendment executed; Sub-contracts in process
- QAPP approved by ECY
- HCCC program coordination shifting to Nate White, will transition over coming months

## HCRPIC Data Reporting Procedures

<b>Progress Reports</b> - ( <a href="#">template linked here</a> )	Due monthly (required for reimbursement)
<b>Data Reports</b> ( <a href="#">template linked here</a> )	Due one week prior to Guidance Group meetings Upcoming deadline: Dec 31, 2020
<b>Water quality data</b> for WQX data entry	Due annually; Upcoming deadline: Dec 31, 2020

Add unit to distance columns

May 1, 2020 start date for data collection

Data collection important to showing our success and effectiveness

## Sustainable Funding Strategy – Outreach Campaign

- Sustainable funding strategic planning: How can the HCRPIC Program help local jurisdictions establish and maintain sustainable funding for water quality (PIC) programs?

Mason Co

- Combining all SPDs into one for county, has support
  - o Lowers admin costs
  - o Clearer path for partner and citizen involvement
- SPD fee per parcel
  - o Some support for fee, varying opinions
  - o Want to bring question (above) to commissioners
- Skokomish: Fee should not have legal issues (not a tax).
  - o Any talk re: mason co being part of NPDES? In Kitsap, that allowed them to do work, get funding through that mechanism
  - o 2020 Census might trigger NPDES requirement, due to population
    - Alex has talked with Loretta at MCSW
- MCD: Communication with board re: timing of taking this up?
  - o Alex: hopefully adopt it in 2021, to be implemented in 2022

Jefferson CO

- HCCC can be good way to get message out from HCRIPC to electeds (change in Jeff Co commissioner)

Social Marketing

- LB presentation
- Distribute document to group
- Mason Co: observations of public: think that regular WQ monitoring occurs, think its normal and regular and happening throughout county, usually shocked to find out that there isn't stable funding, and its opportunistic and in response to closures. Important to target that: people would be more supportive if they knew it wasn't already occurring. When new taxes or fees are presented, people think its additional on top of

- what's already being done, but there's nothing being done right now and they need to know that.
- Skokomish: As citizen of Mason Co, understanding that Mason Co is reliant on grants, and those inefficiencies that can lead to inconsistent WQ protection (start/stop nature). "fee" is associated with a service, which has value to people, unlike a tax. Mason Co has relatively low taxes. Before asking people for money, have to tell them what they are going to get from it, and how it will benefit the economy (shellfish industry, tourism, desirable place to live due to natural resources, beaches, swimming in clean water). Show people that their \$5 fee is a worthy investment for those services and values. To save money in long run.
  - KPHD: Social marketing can be used to test different messages, to see what resonates. Want to tailor program to specific audience.
  - Jeff: Supportive of group doing something to help Mason Co. Sending staff to SPARKS Conf, thinking of social marketing projects to implement in Jeff. Will focus mostly on understanding our audiences.
  - Mason: Could be pretty successful, similar effort in SW taskforce in 2012. 29,000 brochures mailed out with questionnaire, 140 cards returned. Had questions about concern for mason county waterways, do you think its important to pay to prevent pollution in first place. 80+% said yes.
    - o That work was to look at becoming a NPDES permittee
  - Is there a different word for "social marketing?" Some people think it's the govt manipulating them. Or its just social media.
    - o Marketing has been honed very well, so maybe it's the best term. We don't want to tell people that we are manipulating them, but that's essentially what marketing is.
  - Mason: WQ work is not necessarily a form of manipulation. Never had a problem selling our work, lots of common sense behind it that people understand. Social marketing can provide the avenue to have those discussions.

## Wrap-up & Next Steps

- Schedule next meeting: Send Doodle
- eDNA: sub-group meeting
  - o Wait on Seth's work?
    - Anne Baxter (ECY) interested, her own research, EPA Manchester lab has done some eDNA work, willing to run analysis for Skokomish
    - Need to work out logistical/technical issues of sampling & analysis
  - o Coordinate meeting with HCRPIC partners, ECY, EPA Manchester Lab
- Announcements
  - o COVID is sticking around, will have virtual meetings for foreseeable future
  - o HCSI Draft Action Plan out for review