

Hood Canal Coordinating Council

JEFFERSON, KITSAP & MASON COUNTIES
PORT GAMBLE S'KLALLAM & SKOKOMISH TRIBES
STATE & FEDERAL AGENCIES

Hood Canal Regional Pollution Identification and Correction Program

NEP Phase 2 Grant

Guidance Group Meeting Minutes

September 22nd, 2016, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Hood Canal Coordinating Council meeting room (and via WebEx)
17791 Fjord DR NE, Suite 124, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Meeting Minutes

HIGHLIGHTS:

The next guidance group meeting is January 12' 2017, please come prepared with final reports on all HCRPIC field work conducted between February 2015 and December 2016. This data must comply with our approved quality assurance project plan.

Attendees

Leslie Banigan, Kitsap Public Health
Erica Bates, Washington State University Extension - Mason
Seth Book, Skokomish Tribe
Hans Daubenger, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Mike Dawson, Jefferson Public Health (Via WebEx)
Glenn Gately, Jefferson Conservation District
Haley Harguth, Hood Canal Coordinating Council
Devon Hayes, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Ian Rork, Kitsap Public Health
Bob Simmons, Washington State University Extension, Olympic Region (Via WebEx)
Jean Snyder, Washington State Department of Health
Cindy Waite, Mason County Public Health

Introductions and Project Timeline

Leslie facilitated the group introduction and project overview.

The previous meeting minutes were recently distributed. Leslie requested that any edits or comments be submitted by October 1, 2016.

Quarterly Reports

Mason County Health

Cindy explained that Mason is now vastly understaffed after Stephanie moved on to a position with another agency. They will be working to fill the void and fulfill the grant deliverables. Mason Health is also undergoing a change of Directors.

Mason reported completed:

- 45 sanitary surveys
- 25 miles of shoreline surveys
- Septic workshop in Hoodsport (1 attendee)
 - Canceled the upcoming Big Bend meeting due to lack of response in Hoodsport
- Septic blitz continuing throughout Mason county
- Sent 55 rebate vouchers to properties in Hoodsport with 4 homeowners applying for the rebate
- 100+ more rebate vouchers will be sent out this month to Hood Canal priority areas.
- 11 Hill street in Hoodsport has a brand new septic system and improved drainage
- Recently found another OSS failure in south Hoodsport
 - Planning to get easement across the highway for new OSS

Reported the following sanitary surveys by area:

- 10 in Hoodsport
- 2 in Big Bend
- 5 in Tahuya
- 5 in First Beach
- 13 in South Shore
- 3 in Potlach

Leslie asked about the OSS complaint from Bob Hagar regarding emergency bulkhead repair at 17071 Wa-106. The bulkhead failed at the property and an emergency repair was conducted without Mason Health evaluation of the OSS. The sewage system is located in the same general area as the bulkhead failure and the complainant observed what appeared to be sewage draining to the beach before the area was covered with large rocks during the emergency bulkhead repair. Mason Health brought this issue to Mason County and they have changed the policy to include Mason Health review before emergency bulkhead permits are approved and work is conducted.

Seth reported on a property near Anna's Bay that is believed to be failing and potentially being repaired. The house is for sale, also. Seth will send Cindy an email with specific information.

Jefferson Public Health

Mike reported that:

- There has been great improvement in water quality in Irondale Creek since our last meeting
- Parts of the Chimacum Creek basin are getting very high bacteria hits
 - 22 of 41 sample stations are failing E. coli standards
- Little Goose Creek is getting worse with a Geomean value of 1,159 MPN/100mL

- The problem area appears to be at the bottom of the valley near the residential areas
- Big Quilcene River
 - Highest bacteria count in 4 years could be a result of increased recreational fishing pressure. The Skokomish River was closed to all public fishing this year and the Big Quilcene River has seen substantially increased use.
- Duckabush River bracket sampling resulted in high bacteria counts
 - One suspect septic system near Overbrook Lane could be the culprit

Sanitary Surveys

- Many in Irondale watershed
 - 75 sanitary surveys completed this summer
 - One failure (I-pit with greywater discharge)
 - One shoreline property with a positive dye test is being repaired
 - Test resulted in non-visual dye but was found to be over the threshold by Ozark Laboratories

3,000 Operations and Maintenance letters sent out to priority properties with great response

- 815 inspections completed and filed
- Contractors are fully booked
- Incentives offered through homeowner class
- The first round of letters were sent to properties with alternative systems
- The next round of letters will go to standard gravity systems in marine recovery areas

Staffing changes

- 2 water quality staff are relocating to difference jurisdictions
- 1 position open until October 7th
- Environmental Health Director is leaving next week

Complaints

- Complaint issued regarding the barge removal that is taking place at the mouth of Dosewallips
 - Potential erosion control problem

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Hans reported:

- DNA sampling took place in the Dosewallips, Irondale, and Lofall watersheds in July 2016. Little Goose Creek will be added to that group as well.
 - No analysis has been completed yet on these DNA samples
 - Will continue to stockpile samples for one large "batch" analysis
- Devon Hayes will be collecting nighttime FC samples in conjunction with auto sampler data
 - Hope to identify any trends in water quality over a 24-hour period
 - Attempting to find when people are home and utilizing their septic systems the most in order to determine the best time to sample for representative conditions

Skokomish Tribe

Seth reported:

Potlatch Creek has been moved/rerouted by Washington State Parks Department to remove fish barriers. This will result in additional water quality benefits:

- Two drainages merged into one on state parks property (Potlatch State Park). Potlatch Creek was directed away from the septic tank serving the Minerva Beach 55+ community. Minerva's large onsite sewage system was previously found failing and the community was connected to the old large onsite sewage system serving Potlatch State Park

Hood Canal conditions

- Improved dissolved oxygen levels at depth due to a recent influx of ocean water
- The warm water that arrived in the Hood Canal brought fish like the Butterfish that are traditionally from warm California waters
- Few minor fish kills have occurred this year

Project concerns

- Expressed concerns regarding seepage pits and the lack of "upgrades" to these antiquated systems. Worried that further funding may be difficult to obtain if fixes are not accomplished.

Leslie noted that most of the seepage pits had no downgradient flows to sample. Any sewage systems that are found to be failing based on the failure definition in the Hood Canal Regional Pollution Identification and Correction Guidance Document will be reported. The guidance group will develop strategies to address OSS failures identified during this project that have not been repaired by the time the grant ends on March 31, 2017.

Kitsap Public Health

Ian reported:

- Dry season shoreline survey completed on Hood Canal 2
 - 14 miles of shoreline
 - 135 sample locations
 - 4 initial sites with elevated EC counts
 - 2 confirmed hotspots from those 4 sites
 - One failing septic system found immediately at confirmed hotspot near Seabeck marina which is currently in repair pending follow up dye test

WA Department of Health

Jean reported:

- Three shoreline survey currently in progress:
 - HC-4 shoreline
 - HC-7 shoreline
 - HC-8 shoreline
 - Gamble Bay shoreline will be conducted in early 2017

- Hood Canal 3 data
 - Station 137 “threatened” status and is currently failing above threshold
 - Station 125 has high estimated 90th percentile
 - Station 124 has high estimated 90th percentile
 - If a downgrade occurs in this area, Jean will keep Mike up to date
- Hood Canal 6 data
 - Hoodsport growing area currently has approximately 12 of the 30 samples necessary for classification.
 - Before the area can be reclassified, Mason must:
 - complete hotspot investigations
 - document source corrections
 - conduct follow-up sampling after resolution
- EPA “No discharge zone petition”
 - Hoping to upgrade 500-1000 acres of marina closures due to advances in marina sanitation

Education and Outreach, WSU-Ext

Erica Bates is moving to the Washington State Department of Ecology next week.

Wendy Matthews has conducted door knocking/site visits in the Hoodsport and Tahuya communities.

- Roughly 400-450 properties were door knocked
- 22-25 were surveyed on the spot
- 4 properties rescheduled for a later survey
- Property follow ups and further work could be potentially done by a new hire after training
- Final report due by year end

Overview Notes

Leslie reported:

Upcoming FEATS report is due October 15' 2016. It is extremely important that both Mason and Jefferson get their most up to date progress numbers to Leslie no later than October 1, 2016. It is essential that the data comply with our approved quality assurance project plan, and that our PIC work was conducted pursuant to the Hood Canal Regional Pollution Identification and Correction Guidance Document.

http://hccc.wa.gov/sites/default/files/resources/downloads/HCR_PIC_Program_Guidance_3-10-14_Final.pdf

Specifically:

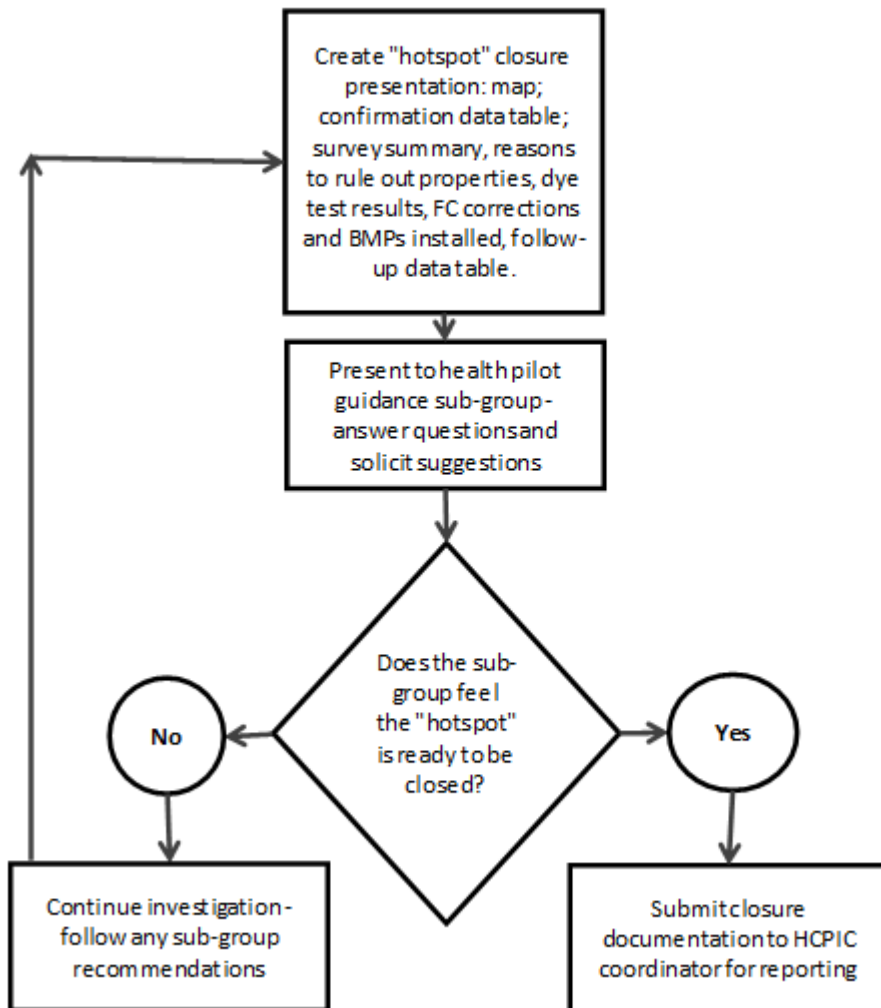
- All sampling and survey data must be reviewed by the jurisdiction for quality assurance and quality control before reports are submitted
- Suspect and concern surveys must include the criteria for meeting the classification pursuant to Table 1 of the Hood Canal Regional Pollution Identification and Correction Guidance Document (see link above)
- Reporting must include repair status of all identified OSS failures

- Field work should include investigation of all non-participating properties within hotspot drainages in top priority areas.

The next guidance group meeting is January 12, 2017, please come prepared with final reports on all HCRPIC field work conducted between February 2015 and December 2016. This data must comply with our approved quality assurance project plan as noted above.

Please come prepared to present any hotspots closures to the guidance group. The approved Quality Assurance Project Plan includes the following figure illustrating the fecal pollution hotspot closure procedure.

Figure 4: Fecal Pollution Hotspot Closure



There may be a PIC workshop held this fall in north Puget Sound. These workshops are a great opportunity to find out about PIC tools and success stories. They were initiated by Washington State Department of Health. PIC jurisdictions have taken over the workshops and they have been conducted in Kitsap County, Mason County, and Pierce County. These workshops are very valuable to share new ideas and successes with each other.

Haley reported:

- Contract amendments
 - Reminder that all field work reporting must be sent to Leslie by October 1, 2017
 - Jefferson is experiencing a large backlog of work due to high contractor workload and staff turnover.
- Supplemental funding

HCCC has about \$57,000 of funding for small HCRPIC projects that can be conducted by the end of 2016.

- Jefferson has turned down supplemental funding because they already have a heavy work load and recent staff shortages.
- Some potential project ideas
 - Additional GIS work
 - Purchase of animal trough systems (pump and etc.) for future use on problem farms
 - Septic maintenance vouchers in Kitsap County
 - Hood Canal Report Card.