



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Cathy Wolfe  
District One  
Diane Oberquell  
District Two  
Robert N. Macleod  
District Three

## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Nisqually Reach and Henderson Inlet Shellfish Protection Districts  
Combined Oversight Committee  
(Draft) Meeting Notes June 9, 2004

Nisqually Shellfish Protection District present:

Members: Linda Malatesta, Bryan Wilson, and Tris Carlson.

Alternates: None

Henderson Inlet Protection District present:

Members: Lisa Dennis-Perez, Mark Blosser, Peter Heide, Mark Sloan, and Steve Langer.

Alternate: None

Guests: Mark Fischer (Puget Sound Restoration Fund)

Kathy Whalen (Thurston Conservation District)

Chris Hempleman (Ecology)

Stuart Glasoe (PSAT)

County Staff: Mark J. Swartout and Rachael Donnette

1. Administration:
  - A. Approved the revised Agenda
  - B. Approved the May 12, 2004 Meeting Notes
  - C. Steve announced that he has moved to a new residence in Olympia outside the District boundaries but still owns his property. He asked whether the group still wants him to continue as the Chair. The stakeholders present all agreed to his continued chairmanship.
2. Updates:
  - A. TMDL – Nothing more to report
  - B. Community Shellfish Farm (CSF) – Mark Fischer provided an update of the activities of the CSF.
    - 1) There have been two work parties in May.
    - 2) In June there is planned a Geoduck project where 5,000 tubes and 20,000 seeds will be planted. Eventually Geoduck planting kits will be available to property owners and some will be sold to growers. The proceeds from the sale of the Geoduck will go back to the CSF project. It will be around 4 to 5 years before harvesting can begin.
  - D. County update:
    - 1) The county has created a Low Impact Development (LID) steering committee to help define a process where the county will develop a LID Ordinance.

- 2) As part of the GMA/Critical Areas Ordinance required update the county needs to protect Marine Habitat including shellfish growing areas. A committee will be formed to help in this process and will ask for shellfish district representation.
- C. Thurston Conservation District (TCD) – Kathy Whalen (TCD) and Rachael Donnette (Thurston County Environmental Health) provided an update of the implementation of the Watershed Stewardship Pledge Project.
- 1) Distributed a colorful and informative handout “Watershed Stewardship Pledge for Thurston County Shellfish Protection District Residents”.
  - 2) The target area for this pilot project is the Henderson Inlet Shellfish Protection District.
  - 3) The goal is to have 25 citizens from neighborhood groups and 25 cooperators (property owners that currently have farm conservation plans).
  - 4) This is a voluntary program.
  - 5) There will be pre and post evaluations of the pilot project to determine whether there was an effective change in behavior of participants.
  - 6) There were several attempts at soliciting participants but with mixed results.
  - 7) The focus is on bacteria contamination reduction.
3. Discussed the Thurston County Shellfish Activity Report. There was only enough time to discuss the Henderson Recommendations up through Action #3 of the Stormwater Section.
- A. The purpose of the report is to provide a status of the many recommendations that will lead toward an implementation work plan in the fall.
  - B. There are several recommendations where greater detail will need to be developed and there may also be new recommendations added.
  - C. The highest impact recommendations are being done first e.g. developing a risk-based O&M program, a county Low Impact Development Ordinance, and the many program by the TCD to reduce bacteria loading by agriculture.
  - D. When the highest priority programs have been developed the Committee can then start looking at the remaining recommendations to prioritize and better define.
  - E. New recommendation: “Establish criteria for shifting from septic to sewer or neighborhood wide treatment options in communities with high septic system failure rates.”
  - F. The implementation work plan will add a “What’s Next” column to the Activities Report.
  - G. The Committee asked to be briefed on the revised Stormwater Manual at their July meeting.
  - H. The Committee asked to be briefed on the zoning recommendations in both the Henderson and Nisqually districts in September. A map showing Soil Groups C&D, plats, and zoning would be useful. Below is a response to recommendations by the Shellfish Protection group on possible zoning/development regulation changes in the shellfish protection districts by advanced planning staff:
    1. Zoning changes: The Board has directed planning staff to review existing areas of more intensive rural development (rural areas zoned to a density greater than 1 unit per 5 acres; this includes areas within the shellfish protection districts) as part of a 2005 work program. The scope of the 2004 Comprehensive Plan update does not include downzoning rural residential areas.
    2. Cluster development ordinances: The Board has directed planning staff to prepare an interim ordinance limiting the size of cluster developments to a maximum of 6 lots and a minimum eligible property size of 20 acres. This action is planned in

response to some recent Growth Hearings Board decisions regarding the size/scale of cluster development.

I. The group asked for a clarification on the county's regulating dogs defecating.

6. Adjourn

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