



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Cathy Wolfe  
District One  
Sandra Romero  
District Two  
Karen Valenzuela  
District Three

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

*Creating Solutions for Our Future*

Scott Clark  
Director

Nisqually Reach and Henderson Inlet Shellfish Protection Districts  
Combined Stakeholder Committee  
(Draft) Meeting Notes July 16, 2013

**Members:** Tris Carlson, Bryan Wilson, Pete Heidi, Linda Malatesta, and Matt Buldis

**Alternates:** None

**Guests:** Jules Schultz (WDOH)  
Cindy James (Ecology)  
Derek Rocket (Ecology)  
David Hall (Thurston Conservation District)  
Brian Allen (Puget Sound Restoration Fund – Henderson Community Shellfish Farm)

**County Staff:** Lawrence Sullivan (District staff-temporary)  
Sue Davis (Environmental Health)  
Rich Doenges (Water Resources)

1. Administrative
  - a. Introductions
  - b. Approved March 16, 2013 meeting notes
  - c. Approved the agenda
2. Discuss the Stormwater NPDES Permit – Rich Doenges (Thurston County Water Resources).

Rich gave an overview of the Stormwater NPDES permit, which is a 5 year permit managed by Ecology to meet EPA requirements. The permit covers mainly the urban growth areas (UGAs) and not the entire county. Most of the pollution begins on private property, but once it reaches the Thurston County's conveyance system, it becomes the County's responsibility to address the pollution before it impacts water resources. Rich also discussed the major elements of the permit including, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE), Monitoring, LID, and Outreach and Education. More information on the County's stormwater efforts can be found at: <http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/stormwater/>.

- a. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)  
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia, Washington 98502 (360) 786-5490/FAX (360) 754-2939  
TDD (360) 754-2933 Website: [www.co.thurston.wa.us/planning](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/planning)

## Combined Shellfish District

- i. Thurston County is required to look for illegal discharges to the stormwater conveyance system
    - ii. Crews currently (and constantly) looking for discharges
    - iii. IDDE program is county wide and not limited to the permit area
  - b. Monitoring
    - i. Thurston County is required to pay into Ecology's Regional Monitoring Program, which does not provide good sampling coverage for the area.
    - ii. Ecology's monitoring program is very difficult to opt out of (difficult for counties to run their own program).
  - c. Low-impact Development (LID)
    - i. Permit requires the use of LID.
    - ii. Intended to limit runoff and mimic flow pattern of "old-growth forest".
    - iii. Controls sources and promotes infiltration.
    - iv. LID not required where site characteristics make its use impractical.
    - v. Required for sites  $\geq 1$  acre &  $> 5,000$  square feet of impervious surface.
    - vi. Examples include rain gardens and pervious pavement.
    - vii. LID requirements have been tough to implement- some technology is not ready for widespread use.
  - d. Outreach and Education
    - i. Public education is a major component of the permit
    - ii. Stream Team provides outreach for the county:  
<http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/stormwater/streamteam/streamteam-home.html>
- 3. Updates:
  - a. WDOH
    - i. Recent water quality sampling in Henderson Inlet has been poor, including on 6/26/13. Significant rainfall prior to sampling, but not enough to close the growing area.
    - ii. Station 189 is currently failing the shellfish WQ standard and could require a change in management at the beginning of 2014 (lowering rainfall closure threshold to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " from 1"). Not technically a downgrade yet.
    - iii. Stations 190 and 200 are in "Threatened" status.

## Combined Shellfish District

- b. Henderson Inlet Shellfish Farm –
    - i. WSU has prohibited access to the farm – must be off property by end of July.
    - ii. Cannot perform mission as a community shellfish farm without bringing large number of people down to the shoreline- creates an identity crisis.
    - iii. Not certain how to proceed – new property? Needs public access for large groups.
  - c. Ecology – starting effectiveness monitoring for the Henderson Inlet TMDL in 2014.
  - d. Thurston Conservation District (handout)
    - i. RFP for 2014 Shellfish Work Program funds will be sent out in late August and will be due in early September.
    - ii. Funds currently needed to implement farm BMPs in the district.
    - iii. Currently seeking rain garden site.
    - iv. If anyone sees any agricultural problems please call the District. They will work with the property owner to develop best management practices for manure management.
    - v. District Technicians are doing follow up visits on farm plan properties.
  - e. Others?
4. Adjourn

Future Meetings: Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> and Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>