

DRAFT Chambers-Clover Watershed Council Meeting Notes
Wednesday, April 21st, 2010
Lakewood City Hall, Lakewood, WA

Attending: Mark Vinciguerra, Don Russell, Greg Vigoren, Cindy James, Melissa Paulson, Ione Clagett, Kurt Fremont, Cathy Hamilton-Wissmer, Tom Kantz, David Swindale and Lindsay Tuttle (taking notes).

Presentations & Education

Salmon Recovery in the Chambers-Clover Watershed: Pierce County Lead Entity Process

Tom Kantz, Ph.D., Pierce County SWM

There are several types of fish species that are looked at by Pierce County. Coho (silver) are fall spawners in the tributaries of larger rivers and small coastal streams. Chum (dog salmon, keta) spawn in fall to early winter in lower reaches of large rivers and small coastal streams. Chinook (king, blackmouth) are also fall spawners. They spawn and rear in the mainstem of large rivers. WDFW does not consider the CCW Chinook a self-sustaining population. Pierce County's EDT (Ecosystem Diagnosis and Treatment) Modeling system has provided information that contradicts Chinook in CCW not being self-sustaining although the system is not solid. Consider the Chinook population in the CCW a satellite population. Chinook are not allowed to pass the Chambers Dam due to WDFW views. Steelhead (steelhead/rainbow trout) are repeat spawners in small-to-large mainstem rivers, and medium-to-large tributaries. The CCW historically had a large population of steelhead but not anymore.

Components of good habitat include: cold, clean water; unobstructed migration up and down stream; clean spawning gravel; forested watershed; in-stream "large woody debris"; connected floodplains and estuaries and healthy near shore and marine shoreline habitat. The EDT Modeling system determines restoration priorities. It looks at egg to adult species of Coho and Chinook. The lower reaches of the CCW are a higher priority for Chinook and the priorities for Coho are distributed throughout the upper and middle areas of the CCW. The protection rankings focus more on the areas within a watershed that are in decent shape but have the potential to degrade. These areas are given higher priority than areas already degraded and not being used by the species of fish desired.

There are five high strategic priorities in the CCW. They include removing passage barriers, restoring natural flow regime, restoring marine near shore habitats, restoring habitat connectivity and complexity (widespread LWD placement and riparian enhancement) and nutrient enhancement (salmon carcasses).

The 2010 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) process in Pierce County is through lead entities. These entities are watershed based and there are about 27 throughout the state. There is a Technical Advisory Group and a Citizen Advisory Committee. These folks develop a restoration strategy and submit ranked lists of projects to the SRFB. There are three lead entities in Pierce County including the Puyallup/White and Chambers/Clover, Nisqually and the West Sounds Watershed (KGI area). For 2010

there is \$562,000 SRFB and \$1.2 Million Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) funds available. By December 9th-10th SRFB will make a funding decision. You can Google habitat work schedule for more information or <http://hws.ekosystem.us>.

Brief Reports

TPCHD (Lindsay Tuttle) - Developing lakes report card. Starting with several Lakewood lakes and working with the Conservation District. Funding is from Pierce County Public Works. Long-Term Monitoring Report for 2009 is much more comprehensive and will be finished soon. There is an EH Indicators meeting tomorrow. Department is having budget issues and is consolidating programs. Surface Water is now part of the On-site Sewage Program.

DOE (Cindy James) – Centennial money funded Pierce County Shellfish.

City of Tacoma (Kurt Fremont) – A Special Project for storm water treatment device inspections are to be completed. Private facilities need maintenance. Flett Pond series work. Action plan for invasive species. Make-a-Splash Grants for up to \$4,000. Projects need to be within the City of Tacoma. Post marked by May 14th to be considered.

City of Lakewood (Greg Vigoren) – The 59th Ave. from Bridgeport to Gravelly work for drainage issues is out to bid. So far 100 drywells have been replaced during the drywell project.

Pierce County (Melissa Paulson) – County Council Meeting Tuesday April 27th @ 5pm in Fredrickson. The deadline for the Conservation Futures acquisition of open spaces is May 28th. There has been a notice of intent to sue Pierce County because they are out of compliance with their NPDES Phase 1 permit. Pierce County will hire 10 new people in SWM and 4.5 in PALS. Will be in compliance by the end of the permit, 1st of the New Year 2011.

Clover Creek (Ione Clagett) – Earth Day tomorrow! Saturday is Parks Appreciation Day. There will be 25 students at the Clover Creek site on Spanaway Loop Rd. and Tule Lake Rd.

City of University Place (David Swindale) – Using a Conservation Futures Grant to purchase the property on Leach Creek where 56th St. crosses.

Puget Creek (Melissa Paulson) – Work to be done in Puget Creek by the City of Tacoma will be more environmentally sensitive.

Leach Creek (Melissa Paulson) – Looking for someone to take on Leach Creek Stewards. Non-profit with a small amount of funds available. Talk more about it next month.

Watershed Council Business: Annual Report calls are going out to request information! Spring field trip and action project combo next month. A JBLM tour in the morning and then an action project in the afternoon. Action project ideas welcome!