

DUNGENESS-QUILCENE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Dungeness-Quilcene Water Resources Management Plan is a management plan for the northeastern Olympic Peninsula, including east Clallam and east Jefferson Counties. The plan was developed under the Chelan Agreement, which sought to achieve the Tribes' objective of an overall net gain of the productive capacity of fish and wildlife habitats and the State's objective to accommodate growth in a manner that will protect the unique environment of the State. Recommended actions in the plan that focused on the Sequim-Dungeness basin include:

- Agreements for shared management and use of the Dungeness River between the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and agricultural water users.
- Ecology establishing instream flows for the Dungeness River.
- Postponing the issuance of new surface water rights until more is known about the water resource.
- Formation of a Watershed Council and an ad hoc Habitat Work Group.
- Restoration and enhancement projects to protect the River's resources.
- Protection and enhancement of riparian corridors, wetlands, and other aquatic ecosystems.
- Actions to protect and rebuild wild fish stocks.
- Study of the regional distribution of groundwater quantity and quality leading to a long term strategy for groundwater protection.
- A 5-year interim strategy under which the City and County limit densities in areas of high risk to groundwater.
- Establish new wells, where possible, in deeper, confined aquifers to minimize impacts to instream flows.
- Meter all new community water systems and record annual water use.
- Establish a 5-year well-metering pilot study within 1/2 mile of the Dungeness River.
- Protect ground water quality through well inspection and sampling.
- Encourage the City of Sequim to explore a long-term source of water and institute a rigorous conversation program.
- Develop a program to inform well owners on how to protect water quality.

- Establish a regional water management system.
- Further define the concept of a watershed protection district.
- Develop and implement a rigorous educational program about water resource protection.

DUNGENESS RIVER AREA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Dungeness River Area Watershed Management Plan was developed by a group of citizens, land managers, and agency representatives over a two-year period to address a wide range of water quality issues in the Dungeness watershed. The programs and recommendations in the plan are designed to prevent and correct sources of nonpoint source pollution through education, protective action, information collection and analysis, and agency coordination. The five major goals of the plan include:

1. Develop a community stewardship ethic.
2. Maintain and improve water quality in the Dungeness River Area Watershed to support all beneficial uses.
3. Improve knowledge and understanding of watershed processes.
4. Encourage interagency cooperation, coordination, and management among different levels of government - tribal, federal, state, and local - to protect water quality.
5. Fully implement the actions and intent of the Watershed Management Plan to achieve goals and objectives.

The Plan also recommended strategies for the control of water pollution with a focus on agriculture, forestry, on-site sewage disposal, stormwater, and groundwater protection. They include:

- *Agriculture:* Establishing criteria for identifying and prioritizing sources of bacteria and nutrients and recommending methods for preventing and correcting identified problems.
- *Forestry:* This strategy focuses on riparian management, conversion of forest land, and the cumulative effects of forest practices.
- *On-Site Sewage Disposal:* This strategy calls for establishing criteria to identify existing and potential sources, and prevent and correct problems.
- *Stormwater:* This strategy focuses on implementation of existing statewide stormwater regulations including filling gaps in existing management practices and addressing regional solutions to cumulative stormwater impacts.

- *Groundwater Protection:* Develop and implement appropriate groundwater protection programs.

SEQUIM BAY WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

The overall goal of the Sequim Bay Watershed Management Plan is to develop and implement a community-based, coordinated program to eliminate non-point pollution and protect and enhance water quality resources of the Sequim Bay Watershed. The Plan was developed in 1989, by a Watershed Committee of twenty-five local citizens. It established four priorities for the protection of water quality in the watershed:

- *Priority 1:* Increase widespread public education and involvement to foster a sense of stewardship among all residents of the watershed.
- *Priority 2:* Keep things out of the water. Eliminate contaminants from polluting the water including 1) bacteria; 2) sediment; 3) toxins, chemicals and plastics; and 4) nutrients.
- *Priority 3:* Protect and enhance the habitat and biological diversity in the watershed including fisheries, wildlife, and vegetation.
- *Priority 4:* Implement this plan through long term: 1) coordination, 2) funding, 3) ongoing monitoring, and 4) evaluation and adaptation as necessary to ensure protection of water quality resources in the watershed. Coordinate on-going citizen oversight and public participation in the implementation of the plan, and resolution of potential disputes and interpretation of these recommendations through consensus.

The Plan recommended specific source control programs in four areas. They included agricultural practices, on-site sewage disposal, development and urban runoff, and forest practices.