

MEETING SUMMARY

Advisory Committee Meeting Flood Control Zone District November 15, 2010 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Location

Dike District 3, 20890 Dike Road, Conway, WA, and Fisher Slough

Meeting Purpose

For the Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) Advisory Committee (AC) members to conduct normal business and:

1. To view presentation and site for Fisher Slough Freshwater Tidal Marsh Restoration
2. To determine next steps and Technical Committees assignments (if any)

Introduction

Chairman Bob Boudinot opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

Fisher Slough Freshwater Tidal Marsh Restoration Presentation and Site Visit

The AC heard a presentation from Bob Carey and Jenny Baker, Project Manager, on the Fisher Slough Freshwater Tidal Marsh Restoration. The project restores sixty acres of estuary and addresses many community issues, including flood protection for farmland, creating salmon habitat, and improving water quality. One of the major highlights of the project is that it has involved several diverse interest groups like farmers, major government departments, dike and drainage districts, conservation entities, and tribes.

The project takes place in two phases. The first phase replaces floodgates along Pioneer Highway. The second phase is broken down into mini-phases. Big Ditch and South Levee will be realigned to allow for more flood storage. This will also allow the existing streams to flow more naturally thus improving juvenile Chinook salmon habitat. A new siphon will be constructed to replace a current structure, and tidal channels will be modified.

The approximate cost of the project is \$7.6 million. Funding and support comes from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Northwest Foundation, Environmental Protection Agency, The Nature Conservancy, and Skagit County.

David Olson, Dike District 3, and Brian Olson, Drainage District 17, agreed working with the Nature Conservancy was positive. The new floodgates and siphon will be very beneficial. The whole area will have a larger capacity for storage, since it takes on drainage water from as far away as Eaglemont Golf Course.

After hearing the presentation, the group carpooled to Fisher Slough to view the site. Walking the levee allowed the AC to take in the size of the project, and to better understand each piece of it. Upon review, everyone returned to Dike District 3 for regular meeting business.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Acceptance of October 18, 2010 AC Meeting Summary

Gary Jones made the motion to accept the meeting summary. Larry Kunzler seconded. Motion passed (9/0/0).

Regular Report Outs

Skagit River General Investigation (Skagit River GI): Dan Berentson gave a brief overview of progress on the GI. NHC, the county's consultant, is waiting for Corps comments on the hydrology and hydraulics and the updated levee failure information needed to wrap up the Without Project H& H Report.

Skagit River Historian: Larry Kunzler presented an excerpt from the 1973 copy of *Comprehensive Land Use Planning Alternatives for the Skagit River Floodplain and Related Uplands*. Specifically, he focused on the justification for the use of rip rap for the levees.

He also shared a graph from November 2, 2010 showing the crest levels of the Skagit River at Concrete, Sedro-Woolley, and Mount Vernon. All gauge height data is recorded with respect to sea level even though the gauges are placed above sea level.

Suggested Next Steps and Meeting:

The decision was made to not meet in December and January, but to resume meetings in February with the Advisory Committee.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT AT FCZD ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING:

ADVISORY COMMITTEE						
Name	Representing	Affiliation	Present	Absent	Proxy	Position Vacant
Anderson, Mayor Mike	Cities and Towns	City of Sedro-Woolley		X		
Boudinot, Bob	ETC	Skagit Land Trust	X			
Brunz, Mayor Ed	Cities and Towns	City of Burlington		X		
Carey, Bob	ETC	The Nature Conservancy	X			
Carlson, Todd	LUTC	WA Dept. of Transportation		X		
Easton, Jason	LUTC	Washington Realtors		X		
Flaig, Dean	DDTC	Drainage District 21	X			
Halverson, Leonard	At-Large	Sterling Area	X			
Hamburg, Daryl	DDTC	Dike District 17	X			
Hughes, Robert	LUTC	Ag. Adv. Committee			Gary Jones X	
Kunzler, Larry	At-Large	Skagit River Flood Historian	X			
Nelson, Stanley	DDTC	Dike District 22	X			
Norris, Mayor Bud	Cities and Towns	City of Mount Vernon			Esco Bell X	
Pflug, Dave	ETC	Seattle City Light		X		
Solomon, Shirley	ETC	Skagit Watershed Council		X		

STAFF	
Name	Affiliation
Berentson, Dan	Skagit County Public Works
Ellestad, Lorna	Skagit County Public Works
Hash, Henry	Skagit County Public Works
MacMullen, Meghan	Skagit County Public Works

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES	
Name	Affiliation
Borman, Neil	Environmental Technical Committee
Chesterfield, Blaine	City of Mount Vernon
Devries, Tim	Skagit County Planning & Dev. Services
Killgore, Mark	Puget Sound Energy
Martin, Chal	City of Burlington
Olson, Brian	Drainage and Irrigation District 17
Olson, Dave	Dike District 3
Shultz, John R.	Dike Districts 1 and 12
Watkinson, Mark	Skagit County Emergency Management