



## CAPITOL LAKE/LOWER DESCHUTES WATERSHED

Long-Term Management Project Environmental Impact Statement

### Meeting Notes Summary

**Date:** October 11, 2018

**Time:** 9 to 11 am

**Location:** Jefferson Building

**Topic:** CLLDW EIS: Technical Work Group Kick-off

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#### Meeting Participants

##### *Work Group Members*

- Eric Christensen, City of Olympia
- Matthew Curtis, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Brad Murphy, Thurston County
- Joy Polston-Barnes, Department of Natural Resources
- Dan Smith, City of Tumwater
- Scott Steltzner, Squaxin Island Tribe
- Leanne Weiss, Department of Ecology

##### *Department of Enterprise Services*

- Debra Delzell
- Kevin Dragon
- Carrie Martin

##### *EIS Consultants/Facilitators*

- Tessa Gardner-Brown, Floyd|Snider
- Jessi Massingale, Floyd|Snider
- Meaghan McClure, EnviroIssues
- Ray Outlaw, EnviroIssues

##### *Others*

- Bob Wubbena and Jack Havens, Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association (CLIPA)

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## Meeting Notes Summary

### *Welcome and Introductions*

Jessi Massingale welcomed the group and shared the goals of the kick-off meeting:

- Engage the Work Group in the EIS process and define expectations around involvement.
- Discuss the EIS purpose milestones and timelines (including scoping).
- Discuss the scoping process where Work Group members can provide input on the EIS scope.

Carrie Martin also welcomed the group and thanked all for participating. She led a round of introductions and acknowledged that two members of the public, representing CLIPA, were in attendance.

All participants introduced themselves.

### *Project Overview*

Jessi began by highlighting how feedback and discussion would be a recurring agenda item.

- All meetings are open to the public and there will be an opportunity for public comment before closing remarks.
- Three types of work groups present a unique opportunity to hear from many different people helping foster discussions that lead to a successful process that includes identifying a preferred alternative.
- An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is an evaluation of alternatives.

The project team will engage with stakeholders throughout the process to ensure that future decision making can be supported by work of the FGWG to identify a model for shared funding. Jessi introduced the Process Map (*all meeting participants were provided a copy*) and described the scoping period, which began on September 26 and will end on November 13.

- Comments are being accepted through the project website/online open house, at in-person meetings, and via email or regular mail.
- After the scoping period, the project team will compile and review all comments, then prepare a scoping report.
- The Technical Work Group will meet again before the scoping report is finalized to discuss key issues and themes.

Jessi continued to explain the Process Map beyond scoping.

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Enterprise Services is committed to comprehensive public engagement that exceeds SEPA requirements but is intended to facilitate a successful process and community-supported EIS.

- The scoping period (48 days) is more than double that required.
- The team has already participated in several community events and flyeried over 100 business, civic centers and offices in Olympia and Tumwater.
- Multiple interest group briefings are occurring upon request and similar briefings will likely occur around the Draft EIS.

Tessa Gardner-Brown noted that these briefings, to date, are with community groups that have previously engaged in the project.

- These groups have unique interests and the goal is to help support their continued participation and to answer questions around the EIS process.
- Meetings have been productive, well-received, and offered ample opportunity for questions.
- The project team is committed to a transparent process; all meetings have been and will continue to be documented with details shared on the project website.

Jessi and Tessa explained that in early 2019 a Community Sounding Board will be formed, to allow community groups and stakeholders with a diverse range of interests in the project to actively engage in the process around key topics.

- Key input from these meetings will help inform the work of the Technical, Funding and Governance, and Executive Work Groups.

## ***TWG Involvement in the EIS***

Jessi noted the project is fortunate that members of the three previous work groups have agreed to continue participation.

The Executive Work Group held a kick-off meeting on October 2, 2018, with all members in attendance. Topics include community engagement opportunities, project name and overall approach.

- EWG meetings will be video recorded and documented, and both will be posted on the project website.
- All work group meetings are open to the public.

Work group meetings are anticipated approximately quarterly, with the next series in January. Jessi noted four potential dates (January 9, 10, 11, or 14).

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## *Brief Overview EIS Scoping*

Tessa explained that scoping began on September 26.

Will scoping report set in stone how the project moves forward with the EIS?

- Tessa explained it will set a framework, but the scope will continue to evolve as needed, and as influenced by the engagement processes.
- The scoping report will also summarize the primary project alternatives as well as additional alternatives that have been put forward in this process.

One key point early in the process will be working with groups to identify a range of reasonable alternatives through measurable evaluation criteria.

Joy Polston-Barnes asked how agencies should comment during this process given that many are very familiar with the project.

- Jessi explained it would be helpful to hear what technical studies have been done recently that relate to this EIS.
- Phase 2 will move forward using the Phase 1 bibliography.
  - The team is particularly interested in identifying data gaps or what the agencies see as specific and relevant issues.
  - Tessa added that comments focusing on what each respective agency needs to see in the EIS to facilitate permits in Phase 3 would be particularly helpful.

Jessi explained that LOTT has expressed interest in joining the Technical Work Group to support the regulatory process in Phase 3. The project team has also reached out to the US Army Corps of Engineers and Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP).

Brad Murphy asked if the last EWG Meeting was videotaped.

- Ray Outlaw noted it was videotaped and would be available on the website soon.

Jessi continued describing the process map, explaining that Enterprise Services has committed to an economic analysis as part of this process.

Tessa explained the process map anticipates what content will be discussed at each meeting, but it will be flexible to incorporate new topics that may arise.

Jessi noted that the team would like to hear about related information and processes from agencies represented. If efforts can be dovetailed, and milestones coordinated, there may be mutual benefits along the way.

- The team is committed to keeping the website up to date so that there is equal opportunity for anyone who wants to follow the project.

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## *Round table opportunity for TWG feedback and thoughts*

Matthew Curtis explained there is a group within WDFW that is working on tidal culverts and impacts of climate change that could have a connection to this project.

Carrie reported that she received a question about the hatchery.

- Matthew offered to reach out to the hatchery specialists for their input on this process.

Dan Smith said there is a watershed advisory committee forming

- Matthew responded that the kick-off meeting is scheduled for next month.

Leanne Weiss offered to put the project team in touch with the coordinator of the Ecology water program, who works on water quality in rivers.

Tessa emphasized the need to hear from people on these complex issues through the scoping process, which is expanded beyond the 21-day requirement.

- The project website will be active and ongoing throughout the project.
- The email list currently includes over 5,000 addresses, and we have started collecting more at public meetings.
- Flyers were delivered to over a hundred businesses and civic centers; attendees were encouraged to take flyers and posters with them.

Jessi noted the EIS consultant team includes Floyd|Snider and EnviroIssues as well as ESA and other technical specialists that will be working on the EIS (not in the room).

## *Public Comment*

Bob Wubbena noted CLIPPA has in the last year completed multiple studies that will be relevant.

## *Closing Remarks*

Tessa explained that all comments received during scoping will be reflected in the SEPA record and considered as the scope of the EIS is defined. The first batch of comments from the first two weeks of scoping will be posted to the project website next week.

Scott Steltzner asked if the additional funds requested for this work had been granted.

- Carrie replied that Enterprise Services included a request for the additional funds in its 2019-2021 Capital Budget Request.

Jessi will send a Doodle poll to schedule the next meeting in January and meeting documents to all participants.