



Fish and Wildlife Commission Presentation Summary Sheet

Meeting date:

10/28/2022

Agenda item:

Duckabush Estuary Restoration – Project Update

Presenter(s):

Margen Carlson & Theresa Mitchell

Background summary:

A habitat restoration project is proposed on the Duckabush Unit of the North Olympic Wildlife Area. The project is a partnership between WDFW and US Army Corps of Engineers through their Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration mission area. Other partners include the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group and the Washington State Department of Transportation and coordination with local tribes, County government and others.

Today's presentation is an update on project design evolution, funding, and schedule since start of design phase in late 2019.

Staff recommendation:

N/A

Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:

N/A

Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:

The project will have limited impact to operations and maintenance of the Duckabush Unit. The project will have broad impacts to salmon recovery locally and beyond.

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

Public involvement has included both a NEPA and SEPA process with comment and response periods including 2 well attended in-person public meetings and one virtual meeting (during Covid). A project website is maintained by Department staff and a periodic project newsletter is issued. Citizen science opportunities exist to collect pre-project monitoring data and volunteer opportunities to connect the public to the site are ongoing. Community is very interested/engaged in local happenings. Overall, community collectively interested in the

habitat improvements, and other benefits of the project resonate strongly with the community as well (i.e. transportation/safety, flood reduction)

Action requested and/or proposed next steps:

N/A. Situational awareness in advance of coming legislative session.

Draft motion language:

N/A

Post decision communications plan:

N/A
