

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Conservation, Recreation and Transactions Division 1111 Washington Street SE Olympia, WA 98504-7014

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November 1, 2021

Subject: Support for the Dungeness Streamflow Restoration Off-Channel Reservoir

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express the Washington Department of Natural Resources (**DNR**) full support for the proposed Dungeness River Water Project involving approximately 400 acres of Common School Trust land located adjacent to the Dungeness River and just south of the city of Sequim, Washington.

The concept from the project proponent Clallam County is to store water from the Dungeness River when it is abundant in the winter into a reservoir to be constructed on what is currently DNR managed trust land. The stored water will provide a source substitution for irrigators who typically withdraw from the river in late season during low flow and would now be diverting water during the high flow and keeping the water instream during low-flow periods which benefits migrating salmon. In addition, the project will store water for aquifer recharge, as well as capture storm water and prevent downstream flooding in the City of Sequim. This project is supported by a variety of stakeholders, including **DNR**, so that fish, farms and people can continue to have the water they need to thrive in the Dungeness Watershed for generations.

Critical to the success of this project will be finding a way to compensate the Common School trust beneficiaries for the value of the land where the proposed reservoir is planned.

Sincerely,

Bob Winslow

Bob Winslow, Transaction Project Manager for River Road Project Conservation, Recreation and Transactions Division Washington State Department of Natural Resources