



## DRAYTON HARBOR SHELLFISH PROTECTION DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Date: Wednesday, September 15, 2010  
Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.  
Place: Port's Boating Center Conference Room – 235 Marine Drive, Blaine

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### Agenda

1.	4:00	Introductions
2.	4:10	Review Agenda and Previous Meeting Summary
3.	4:15	Priority Drainage Strategy
4.	5:40	Storm Event Monitoring
5.	5:50	New Business
6.	6:00	Adjourn

### 2010 Meeting Schedule

- November 17

Committee members present: Geoff Menzies, Jan Hansen, Mark Harting, Darrel Clark, Jackie Goodsir, Carl Weimer

Others present: Erika Stroebel (WCPW), Steve Hulbert (WSDA), Cara McKinnon (WSDA), Mak Kaufman (DOE), Don Hrutfiord, Melissa Roberts (WCPW), George Boggs (Whatcom CD)

1.	4:00	Introductions
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The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm and introductions were made around the table.

2.	4:10	Review Agenda and Previous Meeting Summary
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The agenda and July meeting summary were approved as submitted.

3.	4:15	Priority Drainage Strategy
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A subcommittee of the group met last week to discuss a pilot project working with landowners to improve neighborhood water quality. The goal is to develop a volunteer program that puts responsibility in the hands of landowners and neighbors as opposed to regulatory agencies.

The idea is that through internal evaluation, landowners will be engaged and will feel less defensive. George will bring this proposal forward to the Ag Advisory Subcommittee in the hope that they will become involved in the strategy so that the overall product/project is jointly agreed upon between the two groups. Overall, the goal of the project is improved water quality throughout the drainage as measured by sampling at the routine monitoring sites.

After a review of water quality, the CA14 (Brown/Malloy) drainage was chosen as a focus area for this pilot project. CA14 shows consistently high results, using both “all data” and “wet vs. dry data”, even though it’s dry a portion of the year. The geometric mean for CA14 is 3 times the standard. Between April 2006 and August 2010, 66% of the samples exceed 200 FC/100mL. Follow-up sampling has occurred in 2007, 2008, and 2010 at specific sites within the CA14 drainage.

It is assumed that major water quality improvements will not be seen until the second year after land use practice improvements have been made. Metrics such as number of participants will be used to determine success.

The focus of the program will be on the health of neighborhood streams, as opposed to shellfish protection. The CD has committed to funding the facilitation and support of the initial program. RE Sources for Sustainable Communities has made a commitment to help in some way, potentially with funds for private sampling. Whatcom County funds would not be available for sampling if landowners wouldn’t want the data to be made publicly available. However, WCPW staff would be available for technical assistance like training landowners in proper sample technique.

The committee approved the motion to move ahead with working closely with the Ag Advisory Subcommittee to develop a more detailed plan for moving the program forward.

4.	5:40	Storm Event Monitoring
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There is approximately \$10,000 in unspent funds for 2010. Based upon the discussion at the last meeting, two options were presented for increased storm event monitoring to better capture high rainfall events especially in the upper watershed.

- 1) Increase routine sampling at a subset of routine monitoring sites between the months of November and February. Six sites will be targeted on the mainstems, and 4 sites within the CA14 drainage. This will occur 2 times in addition to the routine sampling for a total of 3 times a month. These sampling dates will not target rain events but will increase sample frequency during the wet season. These samples would be collected by WCPW staff.
- 2) Targeted rain event monitoring at 6 mainstem and 4 CA14 sites. Two samples will be collected at each site for 4 rain events. These samples would be collected by a contractor.

A committee member recommended monitoring soil saturation at the time of increased monitoring. The committee approved moving forward with a Drayton Harbor wet season monitoring plan as outlined above. A committee member recommended discussing at a future date the possibility of contacting CA14 watershed residents prior to sampling in that region.

5.	5:50	New Business
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Steve Hood (Ecology) is interested in meeting with the committee to discuss implementation, roles of various groups, and how the committee can be involved in the development of the

TMDL implementation strategy. The committee would like to see how the shellfish recovery plan will be used to help implement the TMDL.

Erika recently met with Pam Taft (Port of Bellingham) for an update.

- The Port has been doing monthly water quality sampling in the marina since August 2009. They are unsure if sampling will continue. A report will be available soon.
- The Port's live aboard policy will likely be under review at the end of 2010 or early 2011. They have looked at other marina policies and will be fully reviewing opportunities for dealing with this potential source of bacteria.
- The MRC is currently working on a proposal to install pollutant (including bacteria) filters in the stormwater drains for the Webhouse #1 at the Port's Blaine Marina. The MRC will be voting on this potential pilot project in October.

6.	6:00	Adjourn
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The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 pm.