



**Nisqually River Council  
Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes  
May 6, 2010  
Nisqually Natural Resources Office**

**CAC Members Present:** David Hymel, Judy Krill, Fred Michelson, Bob & Marjorie Smith, Paul Crosetto (on telephone)

**Staff Present:** Sara Scott (NRC)

**1. Introductions, Minutes, Agenda Approval**

The April meeting minutes were approved as presented. The agenda was approved as presented, with the addition of contact list updates. Fred added Executive Committee Meeting summary to the agenda. Justin will join us next month and provide project updates.

**2. Good of the Order**

Rain Garden work party in Eatonville – Saturday May 22, 9:30 – 3; also Knotweed Bending Party in Ashford on May 22. Also there are still a few spots available for the Stream Stewards training which starts in June – send interested folks to Don Perry. Cisco is being taken on a tour prior to the rain garden event to better understand the issues with stormwater runoff and the value of rain gardens.

Paul noted that Kirk is hosting a Managing Young Stands workshop at Wilcox Farms on May 15.

South Pierce County Historical Society – history of logging at National; May 15.

**3. Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan Update**

Sara reported that Council staff is working on the first draft of the reorganization of the Stewardship Plan. Additional components which will be folded into the Plan include Education, Transportation, and Energy. Fred and David H. requested an opportunity to comment on the plan prior to its delivery to the Council.

**4. Water Banking Feasibility Study**

Sara and Fred provided some background information about the current water banking feasibility study which is being conducted by Washington Water Trust – the project is expected to be complete in June. Fred indicated that the water planning funds have been reinstated through June 2011.

The Water Planning group will hold a dinner for the elected officials at the end of June to let them know some of the history, current status, and challenges facing water rights and water issues.

#### **5. Yelm Water Quantity Issues & Building Moratorium**

David reported that Stewardship Partners is working with the Bella Housa Development (between Burnette Street & Mountain view, owner Merla Holm) to determine the feasibility of making this a Salmon Safe Community. David referenced the articles written in the NVN about the building moratorium implemented in Yelm. Merla would like to establish a workshop at the Bella Housa community center with elected officials, water system staffers, and others to help develop a framework for a 'sustainable development' in Yelm. (Target is 5 star built green.)

Ideas:

Partnership for Water Conservation

Shelly Badger from Yelm

City of Yelm Planner – Grant Beck

Possibly someone from DOH or Ecology

Olympia and/or Pierce County Master Builders

Stewardship Partners

NW Ecobuilders Guild

George & other partners to give guidance and help develop a plan.

Fred provided additional background on water issues in Yelm: JZ Knight sued the City of Yelm for selling properties without access to the water system. Also, a large landowner south of Yelm offered to sell water rights to the city, but the two parties could not agree on a sale price. Evidently negotiations are still underway.

#### **6. NRC Executive Committee Meeting**

Fred talked about the meeting held last week in preparation for the visit with DNR Director Peter Goldmark. The group is interested in sharing with Goldmark the Upper Nisqually Community's concerns with harvest practices and viewshed issues along the corridor. Paul wondered if it's possible to get Peter Goldmark involved? (He's on the Forest Practices Board.)

The other issue from the meeting was a meeting with Jennifer Cutler about GIS data and what information the Tribe could provide. The Tribe receives all the applications for forest harvests; this is a vast amount of information and there is a need to triage the data in order to focus on specific areas of concern.

What should we be asking or looking at? Fred believes the forestry group needs to start a list of partners and collaborators. Kirk proposes one or more tours of many people out to the forest to look at various forests to help initiate discussion and understanding of the

issues facing the community. A limiting factors analysis could be developed focused on the forest.

Paul referenced an email he sent with a 'science finding' article on the impact of harvest & temps on the juvenile salmon. He also noted that Jean Schaffer (jeanforest@bco.net) is interested in joining the NRC Environmental Subcommittee group – she can provide a wealth of information about eco-forestry, she's a former Director of the Black Hills Experimental Forest. (April issue of [Science Findings](#) of the NW Forestry Research Station article about salmon eggs and fingerlings; also [February findings](#) indicating the importance of connections between adjacent watersheds.)

**7. Etcetera**

Judy provided an update to the Sequalitchew Creek issues. Glacier has pulled their permit for the moment. The Sequalitchew Creek group has secured funds for at least 2 'beaver deceivers' to be installed under the beaver dams.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36.

***The next CAC meeting is scheduled for 7pm Thursday, June 3rd  
at the Nisqually Natural Resource Office.***