

Draft Agenda
Lake Ozette Steering Committee Meeting
 June 28, 2012, 10:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
 Location: Sekiu Community Center

Meeting Purpose: To discuss Near Term Projects, Steering Committee public involvement activities, predation, project funding sources, and next steps for Steering Committee.

Time	Item	Materials
10:00 a.m.	Optional “Meet & Greet” with snacks (for those who can arrive early)	
10:15 a.m.	Welcome/Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review agenda and materials • Review April 19 meeting summary—any changes? • Announcements 	-Draft agenda -April 19, 2012 draft meeting summary
10:30 a.m.	Public Outreach Subcommittee Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field trip • Conference call • Oral history project • Brainstorm possible fall weekend events to provide info on sockeye • Action items & next steps 	-Subcommittee call summary
11:00 a.m.	Presentation on Noxious Weeds (Cathy Lucero, Clallam County)	Handouts?
12:00 p.m.	Lunch	
12:30 p.m.	Review & Updates on Near-Term Priority List <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DIDSON contract update • Round robin of updates from project leads • Fill in gaps on Near-Term Priority List • Long-term goals 	-Near-Term Priority List -Draft letter to Clallam Co. re: Hoko-Ozette Rd
2:00 p.m.	Predation Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion: small work group to identify the range of predation control options • Next steps 	
2:30 p.m.	Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications submitted? New sources? • Potential sponsor organizations/individuals for smaller projects? • Other updates? 	-Near-Term Priority List
3:00 p.m.	Committee Updates and Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of action items • LOSC member list? • Next meeting date (mid-late September) • Agenda topics 	
3:15 p.m.	Adjourn	

Meeting Summary
Lake Ozette Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 29, 2012
10:15 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Sekiu Community Center

Meeting Decisions List:

- Approved April 19, 2012 meeting summary with one addition.
- Green Crow will present to the Lake Ozette Steering Committee at the fall or winter meeting when concrete results on the spawning gravel studies have been established, and at that point, a project will potentially be added to the Near Term list.
- Establish two ad hoc workgroups, on:
 - Hoko-Ozette Road issues
 - Predation issues

Meeting Purposes:

- Receive updates on the status of Near-Term Projects
- Discuss Steering Committee public outreach activities
- Learn about noxious weeds
- Discuss next steps for predation
- Discuss funding sources for projects
- Discuss updates and next steps for the Steering Committee

Introductions, Agenda Review, and Meeting Summary Review

The meeting Facilitator, Chris Page from Triangle Associates, welcomed the Lake Ozette Steering Committee (LOSC or “The Committee”), and LOSC members introduced themselves (*see Attachment 1 for a list of attendees*). The Facilitator reviewed the meeting agenda, and the Committee reviewed the April 19 meeting summary. There was a request to add one participant’s list of questions regarding the DIDSON to the summary. Pending the noted modification, the Steering Committee approved the summary by consensus.

Announcements

- A Kids Salmon Fishing Derby will take place on Saturday, August 18, 6:00 am–12:00pm in Sekiu.
- Rich Osborne announced that as of June 30, he will no longer work for Clallam County and will have a new email address: rosborne@wcssp.org. The North Pacific Coast Lead Entity is switching its Fiscal Agent status to the University of Washington, Olympic Natural Resources Center, and he will apply for a new position there.
- The Regional Sustainable Salmon Plan has been released and is on the Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership (WCSSP) website. One can provide public comment on the online open house feature by July 15, but this deadline will probably be extended to August.
- On June 27, one of two public hearings took place on the proposed land swap between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Green Crow. Mostly DNR and Green Crow employees attended, but there were about six additional attendees. A handful of residents are concerned about the swap since their property abuts land proposed for the exchange, and Ozette residents questioned the effects to the junior taxing district of the Ozette basin. Many questions and concerns were answered at this meeting. Further comments can be submitted before July 13.
- A Green Crow representative recently collected spawning gravel samples, and he will develop a report of findings after the samples are analyzed. This report will hopefully be completed in time for the September LOSC meeting.

- Background: There has been concern about the appearance of spawning gravel, so Green Crow wants to identify if there is a relationship between gravel size and logging roads. This can be done by sampling spawning gravels and determining material size by weight or volume.
- The LOSC discussed the possibility of developing a proposal for a well-designed, long-term study with a hired scientist to explore water quality and sediment delivery. It was noted that it is important to have shared, multi-party participation upfront and agreement on data.

Field Trip Summary

A Steering Committee member reported that twelve people attended the field trip, and the group visited the sites of six sockeye recovery projects. They also attended a site not on the itinerary to prepare for the presentation on noxious weeds. It was noted that broader public outreach (to invite/include more citizens) should be considered for future field trips. One participant expressed the need to make sure lake residents are informed since most have not been attending the Steering Committee meetings. It would be helpful to have field trips when salmon are present because seeing the fish will foster more excitement.

One Committee member offered apologies for not letting the North Olympic Land Trust (NOLT) know that field trip participants were going onto their property, which was a last-minute decision. He also expressed that it was effective talking about public outreach efforts at the sites under discussion. Another Committee member shared that she noticed the apparent lack of signage about Lake Ozette sockeye. It would help visitors to understand that salmon and timber are icons of the area. This can be assisted by the oral history videos hopefully helping to show what the lake used to be like and generate support for protecting the fish.

A Makah representative described the hatchery visit. The Tribe has been running experiments for six years on a new process for putting a calcium mark on fish so they can be identified without being killed, which is essential for smelt. (Calcium marking is a two-step process—fish are first soaked in saline solution and then put in a 50-50 mix of dye and regular water. The fish soak up the dye, which is deposited into bony tissues.) Marking and tracking the fish will help answer whether the hatchery is contributing or detracting from the wild sockeye population. The technique has been used for several years, but only on a permit basis, so the Tribe trying to research unforeseen side effects and safe parameters for use.

Makah discussed the interplay between hatchery and wild populations and that the hatchery population will hopefully become a fraction of the wild population. There was a request for the Committee to discuss what it can do to support this hatchery in terms of improving the infrastructure.

Noxious Weeds Presentation

Cathy Lucero, Clallam County, talked about current efforts to combat noxious weeds. She expressed that the LOSC needs to consider how weeds in the Ozette basin should be dealt with long-term. Clallam County researched other groups working on noxious weeds, but there are not many. The following are some examples of noxious weeds discussed and brief notes on each:

- Knotweed: A knotweed removal project on NOLT land on Big River has been going on for ~6 years. Small knotweed patches have returned. One of the most efficient ways to eradicate knotweed is by injection; permits are required to do this in (or on the banks of) waterways. Knotweed impacts forestry, homeowners (septic systems), etc.
- Reed Canary Grass: This is one of the plants that move in quickly when other vegetation is removed. For any noxious weed removal project, research is needed to determine what vegetation should be planted, otherwise reed canary (or other species) will take over. A Committee member suggested using more developed tree seedlings for re-vegetation to strengthen the competition with reed canary grass.
- Herb Robert (aka Stinky Bob) is a significant future threat to the Ozette watershed. The plant looks like a bleeding heart, but is hairy and puts out a chemical to inhibit the germination of other plants. It was not in this area 14 years ago. If you see it, destroy it.
- Yellow archangel has a pretty yellow flower and is widely used ornamentally and in hanging plants. It is hard to kill, but luckily only reproduces by seed.

- Scotch Broom: Clallam County has many “weed wrench” scotch broom removal tools that can be borrowed with a deposit. There are isolated populations along the Hoko-Ozette Road and at the Clallam County gravel pit east of the Umbrella Creek road bridge.
- Tansy ragwort: causes irreversible liver damage for animals when eaten.
- Binding Hedgeweed (aka Morning Glory) grows on trees and strangles them.

Comments and questions from the Steering Committee included:

- How should eradication efforts be prioritized?
 - Eradication should occur from the top of a river or stream down, since species can spread downstream.
 - It is important to have a long term plan for the eradication site in terms of the sequence or succession of vegetation to plant where the weeds were removed.
 - It will also be important to develop a long-term plan for dealing with the weeds that are up and coming, such as stinky bob.
 - When working with landowners, try to shift from having outsiders do the work to helping the landowner be motivated to do the work themselves and keep weeds off their property.
 - Another area to think about is priorities for research: is there a comprehensive, strategic data-gathering plan?
- What programs are going on now to help with discovery?
 - Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board is the main resource in the area.
- Suggestion: We need a good assessment of the current situation on the Big River system to develop a long-range plan.
- Bearded Iris is returning as a problem at the lake. It is spreading.
- Aquatic herbicide use: Olympic National Park (ONP) needs an NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit for weed control.

Near-Term Priority List (NTPL)

Updates and discussion items included:

Dual Frequency Identification Sonar (DIDSON)

- The LOSC field trip participants saw the DIDSON site yesterday.
- Makah Tribe just received the State Recreation and Conservation Board (RCO) / Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) contract.
- It is possible it could be in use by late summer 2012, with the two-year research project going through 2013 in that case (otherwise, the research would begin in summer 2013 and go through 2014).
- It would be wise for the Makah Tribe to keep SRF Board updated (June 2013 will be an opportunity for a brief report to SRF Board).
- Makah has not started training, as they have been waiting for the funding to be secured. *Note: training may be delayed, since the wife of the person doing the training is due to have a baby in 2 weeks.*
- If the equipment and training are available in time, it is suggested that it would be neat to take a quick look at a potential second run of sockeye during early fall when the river comes back up again from early seasonal rains.

Hoko-Ozette road relocation:

- The Clallam County representative contacted Ross Tyler (County Engineer) and said that the LOSC wanted some way to address the road/river issues along Hoko River and drainage, and that the list of sockeye recovery actions included realigning sections of that road. Ross’ suggestion was to put it in the “unfunded section of the transportation improvement plan.”
- The LOSC would likely have to pursue funding since the County road department does not have the known funds.

- It will be essential to talk to those that live on the road and other regular road users. These parties, along with the County road department, can identify the “nick points” and other issues:
 - Where is the flooding the worst so land owners are cut off?
 - Where is the conflict between the river and road such that the road affects habitat?
 - Where does the County keep having to spend money to shore up the road?
- One LOSC member wondered where the real benefit is for fish. If this doesn’t impact sockeye significantly, maybe the time and money is better spent elsewhere.
- An assessment of those issues needs to be done. The first step would be to find funding and someone to do the assessment.
- Once problem areas are identified, the county could probably use a little bit of their money.
- For areas impacting the fish, SRF Board funds could be pursued.
- First, craft an outline for assessment. Dave Lasorsa—environmental engineer for the county—could possibly do the assessment.
- Ecotrust “whole watershed restoration initiative” is a potential funding source, though we should be clear of what we need before we go for funding.
- Action: Miles to investigate funding for an assessment (look at US Dept of Highways).
- Action: Triangle convene assessment committee:
 - Ed (as a resource)
 - Cathy Lear (County representative)
 - Mike Haggerty (fish impact areas)
 - Miles (funding assistance).
 - Two key issues for the assessment:
 - Mention the replacement of the Trout Creek bridge: this is a \$500,000 project on the County’s unfunded list and is potentially in conflict with this project.
 - Build into the assessment: outreach to those that use the road on impacts, needs, and their understanding/experience on what should be done about the road alignment.
- What is the best use of salmon recovery moneys? Do we put all our \$ in recovering natural stock in the lake, or stock in tributaries such as Big River? The tributary stock could potentially change and diverge from the lake stock; however, those populations could intermingle. It would be helpful to have data on the genetic differential over time between lake and tributary stock. A Committee member requested the SRFB Technical Review Team identify if/when that divergence might take place, but no results are available to date. If divergence does occur, the Committee member suggested that a cost benefit analysis comparing salmon recovery projects in upland drainages to the lake would be in order.
- Either way, “Best Use” of recovery dollars is an issue that’s important to consider moving forward. For Hoko-Ozette road, let’s keep that question in mind.

Predation

- There’s no new information. Suggestion for a small work group that can assess the impact of the issue; we need data.
- If group is willing, we could petition the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to get Pat Gearin’s involvement, since he can help get to the data: “Committee is requesting of NOAA to have Pat Gearin’s involvement in the Ozette Sockeye predation subcommittee.”
- Committee Members: Pat Crain, Rosemary Furfey, Rich Osborne, Pat Gearin, Brad Thompson or Kevin Ryan (US Fish & Wildlife), Jonathan Scordino (Makah), Katie Krueger (Quileute)

Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research (CMER) study:

- In non-fish-bearing reaches of tributaries (even though no fish spawn in these sections, they contribute to water quality of fish habitat)
- Long term goal: identify adequacy of the 50-foot stream buffers of these areas

National Parks Service (NPS) Projects listed under Habitat Recovery Actions (HRA)-21:

- As witnessed on the June 27 field trip: ONP has begun removing the old ranger cabin.
- The cabin's foundation will stay until the cultural resources archaeological assessment is done. That assessment will also help address if the area between the cabin and Ozette River is man-made fill or original material.
- ONP will take out everything in the floodplain, but there are some exceptions, such as kiosks and other structures on stilts at the Ozette River outlet.
- Type and extent of site re-vegetation will need to be identified and the LOSC should be made aware of recommendations prior to a decision or implementation being made by ONP.

Public Education Action (PEA)-6: For information on public education and outreach projects, see below.

Public Outreach Subcommittee Update

A representative from the Public Outreach Subcommittee summarized the outcomes of the June 13, 2012 conference call. Topics included:

- Bulletin board and safety notice at Hoko River State Park, which will be based on the brochure content.
- "Wikilink" project—working to possibly add a Wikipedia page on lake Ozette sockeye. If we pursue a North Pacific Coast Marine Resources Council (MRC) grant, it would have to be for 2013-2014.
- A successful MRC potluck was held in Forks.
- Pilot program: field trip for community this fall (before November) to learn about the sockeye.
 - Is there an existing event this could be piggybacked with?
 - If the DIDSON gets up and running quickly enough, walk kids through the images and have an activity for them to count the fish. If the DIDSON isn't running this fall, Mike Haggerty's images could possibly be used for this activity.
- Continuing to explore a pilot volunteer seasonal interpretive position for someone that lives in the area and could lead weekly talks.

Oral Histories Project

- In process of purchasing equipment—will have in next week or two
- The NOAA representative leading this project visited 3 of the 4 participating schools before school got out. Still extending invite to Quileute Tribal School.
- Will be relying on Committee members for ideas and to spread the word and find out if they'd be willing to speak with High School students.

Brochure/Kiosk

- Peggy Foreman offered to assist in moving this forward. She suggested creating a 1-2 page mock up.
- We need to speak to the people HERE (this is a requirement of the recovery plan). Try to put something together in the language out here. They don't always understand government agency language. Avoid acronyms, use simple numbers and clear scientific facts in language that's understood here.
- Peggy will work with others who have been doing work on the brochure, and will address this need.
- A Committee member opined that outreach planning does not appear to include the methods or the means to keep the landowners of the basin updated on efforts to recover the sockeye, milestones reached, and projects specific to their properties. It was identified that at a minimum the conditions provided in Appendix C of the recovery plan need to be met.

Funding Updates

WCSSP reported that for the 2011–2013 grant period, SRF Board grant money would cover the facilitation of four Committee meetings, and NOAA grants would cover four meetings. The NOAA funds covered the October 2011 and February 2012 meeting facilitation, and SRF Board funds paid for the April 2012 and June 2012 meetings. Therefore, there is funding for four more meetings before June 2013. One Committee member emphasized the importance of having facilitation for the public outreach efforts.

A potential new funding source is Environmental Solutions for Communities through Wells Fargo and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. It will be offered twice a year.

NOAA has been working with local schools to identify additional funding by notifying schools of upcoming grant opportunities. For example, Clallam Bay will receive 15 iPads through a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) educational grant and Forks is receiving funding from the Gates Foundation.

Steering Committee Updates and Next Steps

The Committee briefly discussed scheduling for its next meeting and agreed to have a meeting in mid to late September since there may be an opportunity to have a community fish event around Coho salmon in mid-October.

Attachment 1: Meeting Participants

	Name	Affiliation	Telephone	Email
1.	Miles Batchelder	WCSSP	360-289-2499	milesb@wcssp.org
2.	Harry Bell	Green Crow	360-417-3643	harry@greencrow.com
3.	Ed Bowen	Ozette Citizen		rockypt@olypen.com
4.	Kim Clark	Makah	360-640-4811	Kim.clark@makah.com
5.	Larry Cooke	Makah	360-645-3175	Larry.cooke@centurytel.net
6.	Keith Dublanica	WA Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office	360-902-2242	Keith.dublanica@rco.wa.gov
7.	Megan Duffy	WA Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office	360-902-2580	Megan.duffy@rco.wa.gov
8.	Peggy Foreman	NOAA Fisheries	206-526-4447	Peggy.foreman@noaa.gov
9.	Joe Hinton	Makah	360-963-2784	mtchoko@olypen.com
10.	Cathy Lear	Clallam County	360-417-2361	clear@co.clallam.wa.us
11.	Cathy Lucero	Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board	360-417-2442	clucero@co.clallam.wa.us
12.	Roy Morris	Sekiu Citizen	360-963-2442	able@olypen.com
13.	Rich Osborne	North Pacific Coast Lead Entity	360-301-2175	rosborne@wcssp.org
14.	Chris Page	Triangle Associates	206-583-0655	cpage@triangleassociates.com
15.	Sarah Saviskas	Triangle Associates	206-583-0655	ssaviskas@triangleassociates.com