MEETING NOTES

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| **Meeting Location:** | **Shoalwater Bay Tribal Community Center/Virtual & Site Visits at 2 locations** | |
| **Meeting Topic:** | Willapa Erosion Mitigation Master Plan | |
| **Date and Time:** | 08/17/2022 10:00 am – 12:00 pm PDT | |
| **Subject:** | Stakeholders Meeting #3 | |
| **M&N Job No.:** | 210949 | |
| **Attendees:** | Younes Nouri, Moffat & Nichol | Shane Phillips, Moffat & Nichol |
|  | Dawn Spilsbury, The Watershed Co. | Charlene Henderson (Shoalwater Bay Tribe) |
|  | Sarah Round, Strategies 360 | Kelly Rupp, Planning Commission |
|  | Connie Allen, Planning Commission, WECAN | David Cottrell, Drainage District |
|  | Henry Bell, WA Dept of Ecology | George Kaminsky, WA Dept of Ecology |
|  | Mike Nordin, Pacific Conservation District |  |
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| **Virtual** | Chad Hancock, WSDOT | Shawn Humphreys, Pacific County |
|  | Chelsey Martin, WSDOT | Jake Thickman, Moffat & Nichol |
|  | Garrett Jackson, WSDOT |  |
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|  | **Action Summary** |
|  | **Stakeholder’s Actions** |
| 1. | Please provide feedback on this summary of processes and gaps after presentation is shared via email. |
| 2. | Write support letters for Ecology’s funding package. |
| 3. | Need support letters for WDOT’s NFWF grant application. |
|  | **Planning Team’s Actions** |
| 4. | A separate meeting, with WECAN, County staff and Ecology (CHRN), should be held to discuss hosting of the library specific need and solution. |
| 5. | Need to find a hosting solution for this library, as well as defining the parties responsible for updating and the frequency of updates. |
| 6. | Follow up with Tribe on timing and need for any follow up WECAN meeting. Should WECAN convene as part of a public meeting for this project? Does WECAN need to meet to help take any action or make decisions to help inform the Consultant Team Master Planning efforts? |
| 7. | Need to develop a list of those prior actions that have been developed for funding pursuit. Roll into the master plan to demonstrate prior successes. |
| 8. | Develop a list of terms that relate to key topics and provide definition. Could be the dynamic revetment system could have multiple meanings or terms that need to get summarized. |
| 9. | Coordinate with CD on Master Plan information to be included for this opportunity. |
| 10. | Connect with Scott McDougal (Pacific County DEM) about inclusion of this information in the County’s Hazard Mitigation Plan. |
| 11. | Ensure the Master Plan highlights the differences between Capital vs. Maintenance/Monitoring Funding and the linkage to need for alternative local and state funding needs to fill this need. |
| 12. | Ensure the Master Plan represents the trunk highways as community lifelines. Follow up with Tribe and County to confirm we are on target with our community lifelines we have designated. |
| 13. | Need to get project information from WSDOT on costs and limits for graveyard spit project. |
| 14. | Need to get project cost information and limits from USACE for project in construction. |
| 15. | Get proposed project limits for dynamic revetment within demonstration project area from Conservation District. |

# Welcome

## Welcome from Chairwoman Charlene Nelson

## Introductions

## Agenda review and meeting etiquette

# Master Plan Update

\**Note:* As tasks and deliverables are completed for this grant, they will be finalized so efforts can be focused on the next tasks and deliverables. If there is input on the library or other earlier tasks, please provide those updates and thoughts now. Opportunities to revise these components will be diminished as we move forward. Currently, this includes definition of the Study Area, the library of previous projects and the library of grant opportunities (detailed below).

## Master plan proposed study area

The study area covered in the Master Plan is as follows:



## Reviewed partners that have been named as stakeholders and who is communicated with about the Master Plan, to date.

### We need to keep the Corps involved even though they weren’t available today. They are a key partner.

### Today is the third stakeholder meeting. We will be hosting a public meeting in the fall and will explore what an ‘public meeting’ should look like later today.

## Data Compilation to date was summarized.

### Good progress was made gathering information via the request for information (RFI), which has been distributed twice amongst the stakeholders.

### The spreadsheet is a library of past projects and builds upon library developed for the recent demonstration project. It can be filtered or sorted to make information easy to find.

### The library also includes detailed information from WSDOT on how a project plan is developed, including necessary components (budget, funding sources, etc.).

### Next step for the library is to find a host and identify who will be responsible for updating it annually.

#### The WECAN network on the CHRN website is a good possibility. CHRN updates and maintenance have been provided by Ecology interns, year to year, for past few years. This may be a possible solution for hosting and updating the library.

#### Finding future in-perpetuity funding support for library updates is still necessary.

#### The County has the taxing authority for this area. They may be able to develop a new part-time position to provide this capacity.

### **Action: A separate meeting, with WECAN, County staff and Ecology (CHRN), should be held to discuss hosting of the library specific need and solution**.

## Grant funding considerations and opportunities were reviewed.

### Challenges and considerations to applying for funding include:

#### Staff capacity and grant writing experience requirements, navigating the complicated processes

#### Local match requirements, timing and coordination

#### Other grant programs timing and coordination with the project’s schedule

#### Funding type and limitations, alignment of purpose and need

#### Ensuring a continuity of funding, potentially involving repeat applications and reporting

### Areas of potential solutions and opportunities identified include:

#### Inter-governmental collaboration

#### Academia collaboration

#### Public Support

#### Leveraging local/State funds to attract and secure Federal funds

### Library of funding opportunities was developed, with the help of partners and looking at previous grant source, as well as research of existing opportunities that may not have been utilized.

#### This library should be updated to be kept current.

#### **Action: Need to find a hosting solution for this library, as well as defining the parties responsible for updating and the frequency of updates.**

### Legislative/Governmental considerations and opportunities were discussed.

#### Effective outreach to Legislative and governmental parties is important. How is this done? By whom? Maintaining momentum, in the face of competing interests, is difficult but essential.

#### Don’t limit to just State Legislative answers (partners, budget inclusions, grant programs). We need to consider Federal avenues (budget inclusions, programs), as well.

#### We have been opportunistic to this point. Moving forward, we need to be strategic and forward looking to be able to maintain momentum and plan out sustained funding and project implementation.

#### Intergovernmental Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) or Interlocal Agreements are useful for formalizing support.

#### An MOU between the local organizations and the State has been tried here before. It ended up in RCO’s office.

#### The parties, process and level of success will depend on objectives and organizations involved.

#### The CD is here as supportive player and will not need to be a signor onto an MOU.

#### WECAN is the overarching group that ‘holds’ the MOU. WECAN is the overreaching network that helps with organization and collaboration of partners that then leads to the partnerships for pursuit of funding through interlocal agreements. Tribe is the lead on WECAN. While it is not a formal 501c3 and does not have staff supporting it, there is a lot of community support and support letters are easy to obtain, especially when activating the WECAN network.

#### Documenting the previous MOUs would be useful and include in the Master Plan.

#### Marine Resource Committees (MRCs) have a process called “VOCAL”. It’s a formalized process that can quickly respond to opportunities as they arise, as a multi-party one voice.

**Action. Follow up with Tribe on timing and need for any follow up WECAN meeting. Should WECAN convene as part of a public meeting for this project? Does WECAN need to meet to help take any action or make decisions to help inform the Consultant Team Master Planning efforts?**

**Action: Need to develop a list of those prior actions that have been developed for funding pursuit. Roll into the master plan to demonstrate prior successes.**

## Grant Funding Terminology, and its importance, was discussed.

### Language and preferred terms used for activities and concepts matters and changes grant to grant. Using key terms and terminology specific to the grant’s objectives can help grant applications be more successful or raise red flags.

### FEMA has produced a document/guidance on “Nature Based Solutions”. It would be beneficial to relate applications to this guidance.

### The “Living Shorelines” description is similar to what is trying to be accomplished here.

### Terminology changes region to region. The Corps uses “Design with Nature”.

### Previous efforts here with dynamic revetment have been successful in capturing sand and now can be planted. Need to think of it as a transitional process. It needs maintenance upfront but becomes self-sustaining over time.

### WDFW does not like the term “dynamic revetment”. Can’t use it in grant apps. “Dynamic Hybrid Habitat Shoreline Stabilization” is a term that is better accepted by WDFW.

### Ecology has been using terminology used by research organizations relative to dynamic revetment, collaborating with West Coast Sediment Group.

### Ensure we differentiate in our definition from beach nourishment. Emphasize need for adaptive management and maintenance with nature-based solutions.

### “Conservation Plan” is a preferred term to “Mitigation Plan”. Be mindful of terminology and may need to define in the Master Plan as those terms mean different things to different groups/organizations.

### Changing the term is difficult, even if necessary, as it refers back to processes already in literature (published and outreach materials) and previous discussions. In engineering terminology, ‘hybrid’ is a combo of hard and soft which this isn’t what this is, exactly.

### Recommendations for successful grant fund acquisition include:

#### Identify a host for the compiled library of applicable funding opportunities and provide annual updates

#### Maintain a ‘Funding Application Primer’ tailored to North Willapa (below)

#### Maintenance funding through WSDOT programs to address climate change, SLR, coastal erosion, flooding across SW Region; could be a nexus to establish a funding stream for long term maintenance needs

#### Consider establishing a MOU between project partners

#### Conduct legislative outreach (below)

#### Alignment of project mitigation actions (erosion/flood protection) w/ Grant Funding programs

#### Alignment of terminology used with funding agency requirements

**Action: Develop a list of terms that relate to key topics and provide definition. Could be the dynamic revetment system could have multiple meanings or terms that need to get summarized.**

## Legislative Outreach Strategies were suggested.

### Ensure meetings are effective and efficient.

#### Have a 2-pager, easy to read and understand at a glance, with a specific ask.

#### Hold pre-meetings with proponents/partners that will be involved to discuss roles and talking points.

#### Follow up the conversation with legislators and staff via email.

### Will build a template, that can be adapted for future use. Outreach materials need to address the whole program, and not a specific project.

#### CDs are already doing this. The WA Association of CD’s (WACD) is meeting with Tribes, State legislators and US Senator representatives Sept 20 for an annual meeting. Each CD gets to host this meeting every 15 years. This year is the Pacific CD’s turn. They will visit the Tokeland sites. The ‘ask’ for this CD meeting is support for the CD’s efforts here and could also be a good set up for a funding ask for this Master Plan effort. Could incorporate information from this Master Plan effort into the CD presentation and materials.

**Action: Coordinate with CD on Master Plan information to be included for this opportunity.**

## Coastal processes and hazards were presented to vet the team’s summary that is to be included in the Master Plan and discussed potential future proposed actions.

### Coastal Processes and Hazards include waves, coastal flooding, estuarine tidal hydrodynamic and geomorphologic processes.

### Literature on dynamics and hazards, as well as protective measures, was reviewed for this area. The Master Plan will include recommendations to address information gaps.

#### Need more data on wave energy and impacts on shoreline, including, and specific to, the involvement of ebb shoals.

#### Update erosion studies to cover full study area.

### The Master Plan will include a map of the extent of flooding, erosion progress and hotspots, including some updates to mapping of predictions of shoreline changes. Need to understand the long- and short-time changes. For example, drainage patterns are changing on the west end of the project site as a result of accretion of sand and development of dune features.

#### This information could be included in the update to the County’s Hazard Mitigation Plan which will be updated soon. Scott McDougal is leading this effort. Our recommendations of updates are timely.

#### Inundation maps that include current and future drivers would be useful. This is related to the County’s Sea Level Rise Risk Assessment project that has just begun.

**Stakeholder Action: Please provide feedback on this summary of processes and gaps after presentation is shared via email.**

**Action: Connect with Scott McDougal (Pacific County DEM) about inclusion of this information in the County’s Hazard Mitigation Plan.**

## What kinds of information would be helpful for future State grant opportunities or local planning efforts?

### Ecology’s current funding package includes support to local partners for grant application development and long-term monitoring. Letters of support are needed for Ecology’s proposal. See the recent email from Bobak Talebi.

#### CD’s may also be able to support capacity gaps for project development and monitoring. They have used specific funding for George’s work in the past and it should be available to a limited extent in the future, as well.

### Property owners want to know where the channel is going and how is the sand accreting. It impacts their septic systems and ground/drinking water.

### There is a need of support for ongoing monitoring. Many funding sources and permits require monitoring and maintenance. This creates a performance requirement with a funding gap as capital construction funding often won’t allow for longer term monitoring (such as beyond a year).

### DNR’s Tsunami modeling graphics (using LiDAR) are particularly good at communicating the extent of flooding hazards. It detailed how important the tidegate system is to mitigating/preventing inland impacts.

### Highways used to be called “trunk highways” which recognizes their importance for transportation during emergencies. Erosion is threatening these highways. They are important to the entire State. They would be involved in any front-line defense of threats from the Pacific.

### The Master Plan needs to be paired with storytelling, emphasizing the multi-hazard mitigation needs, and that shoreline protection will have inland benefits. Capturing all these pieces in the Master Plan that will tell this story and help with grant applications.

### We need to get the positive stories and successes in the paper and tell the good stories and not just what’s going wrong.

**Stakeholder Action: Write support letters for Ecology’s funding package.**

**Action: Ensure the Master Plan highlights the differences between Capital vs. Maintenance/Monitoring Funding and the linkage to need for alternative local and state funding needs to fill this need.**

**Action. Ensure the Master Plan represents the trunk highways as community lifelines. Follow up with Tribe and County to confirm we are on target with our community lifelines we have designated.**

## Additional Master Plan contents will include:

### Problem Statement that communicates this is about more than just protecting the shoreline, it’s multi-dimensional protection.

### Erosion Mitigation Measures – Current/Planned

### Natural Hazard Descriptions, including exposure to coastal flooding, exposure to shoreline erosion, sensitivity, lack of adaptive capacity

### A vulnerability assessment (vulnerability = exposure + sensitivity + adaptive capacity)

### Delineation of “reaches” (management units) and recommendations for each

### Documentation of existing mitigation plans by reach

### Description of planned mitigation measures, color-coded with status of need and funding.

#### A listing of projects is needed to help better refine the recommendations by reach and associated costs. This information will be tied into the 2-pager summary.

**Action: Need to get project information from WSDOT on costs and limits for graveyard spit project.**

**Action: Need to get project cost information and limits from USACE for project in construction.**

**Action: Get proposed project limits for dynamic revetment within demonstration project area from Conservation District.**

## Develop a Vision for the Master Plan – Consensus building for a system-wide solution, including linkages to funding.

### This vision will be developed through continued dialogue with stakeholders.

## The Hazard Mitigation Planning process involves assessment of the overlap between the natural hazards and community assets.

### Natural Hazards + Community Assets = Risk

### Lists of North Willapa-specific hazards and assets have been drafted. Is anything missing?

#### Natural Hazards: wind waves, storm surge, coastal flooding, erosion, sea level rise (location, extent, prior occurrences and future probabilities)

#### Community Assets: SR-105, tribal lands, nearshore/aquatic habitat, cranberry bogs, tide gates, cultural assets, local economy/tourism

### Community Lifelines will be defined and considered.

### Develop a Mitigation Strategy that includes Goals, Actions and an Action Plan.

#### Strategies goal: to develop a sustainable, long-term erosion protection for North Cove Shoreline, reduce risk of impact and loss to critical infrastructure and reduce risk of increased flooding to nearby low-lying coastal lands.

#### Make connections back to FEMA resources. This will be helpful for FEMA funding opportunities.

#### Potential Action Plan categories: local planning& Regulations, structure and infrastructure projects, natural systems protection, and education and awareness.

# Timeline and Next Steps

## Currently (August/September): Summarizing project information, compiling mitigation measures and establishing vision. Continued stakeholder consultation will occur to seek input on summaries, mitigation measures and vision development.

## Next (October/November): Develop recommendations, and then compile all components into a draft master plan to be shared at a public meeting in late September or early October.

# Feedback from Stakeholders

## Garrett: Good start, nothing substantial to add.

## Chad: Maintenance considerations are important to consider so appreciate that that is included. Legislative budget add-ons are necessary to fund maintenance activities. WDOT has more and more emergency projects that need to be addressed and are using capacity and resources that could be used elsewhere for preventative measures and projects. Until that is handled, it will be difficult to secure maintenance funds. No known opportunities included in WDOT’s nexus with the Infrastructure Bill for capacity support.

## Chelsey: Include landslides as a hazard. Graveyard spit NFWF grant required one year of monitoring. But there is definitely a need for funding for monitoring in associated with other grants and permitted activities. Good news for NFWF grant: Aug 31 will be site visit with East Coast grant reviewers. **Need partner support**. **Chelsey will provide date updates.**

## Shawn: Nothing specific. This is important. He can help pull the Board of County Commissioners together to address requests to the County.

## George: Monitoring/Maintenance Funding strategies will be important going forward. Maintenance (especially for WDOT projects) is also a consideration. Dynamic and nature-based solutions that we are relying on here ARE dynamic and transitionary and it does require monitoring and maintenance. It’s good governance of govt resources – and cost savings - to review investment successes and to avoid costly emergencies.

## Henry: Thanks for putting this together. Does have more info on Ecology decision package and support for monitoring. **Needs support letters for agency’s funding package.**

## Mike: **Needs funding requests that we know of, even draft figures, and immediate goals they can help communicate during their site visit. Upcoming Conservation District outreach to delegation and site visit. Need input from others on projects to showcase, discuss, and project requests**. Mike is on the radio monthly (3rd Mondays at 8am) on 94.7 and available for (leading) questions and conversations.

## David: Telling the overarching story of how this all works together is important. This is why WECAN was developed in the first place. Want to learn more about what that story is and how to communicate it. Looking forward to seeing the master plan outcome.

## Connie: Likes that the plan is focused on the changes to the shore system and not just a “project”.

## 10: Kelly: **Will forward specific language to Scott re Hazard plan**. Are there specific dates for legislative activities?

Answer: Mid Nov for Agency inclusion in Gov Budget. Submissions through State Agency

11: Charlene: Communication is the key to success.

12: Sarah: working on immediate next steps and will match up to legislative submission timing.