

## NAVY TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR NAVAL BASE KITSAP BANGOR WHARF

The U.S. Navy announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Navy's proposed action to construct and operate a second explosives handling wharf at Naval Base Kitsap Bangor, located on Hood Canal. The EIS will be prepared to comprehensively evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with the construction and operation of a second explosives handling wharf adjacent to, but separate from, the existing wharf at Naval Base Kitsap Bangor.

The proposed action would support current and future Trident Fleet Ballistic Missile program requirements. A second explosives handling wharf is needed to ensure the Navy has facilities required to offload/load missiles and perform required operations and upgrades necessary to maintain the Trident program. This EIS is being developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The public is encouraged to attend open-house style scoping meetings for the EIS. The scoping meetings have two main objectives: to inform the public about the Navy's proposed action and to obtain written and oral comments on environmental aspects to be addressed in the EIS.

**For dates and locations of the Navy's EIS scoping meetings go to: [hoodcanalenvironmentalcouncil.org](http://hoodcanalenvironmentalcouncil.org) and click on HOME and scroll down.**

## Dabob Bay Natural Area Preserve Is Approved

On June 2nd, the Board of Natural Resources reviewed and approved the Dabob Bay Natural Area Preserve. This is primarily an administrative exchange and non-regulatory. The exchange will permanently protect over 1400 acres of forest around the bay through the Trust Land Transfer program, with \$15 million dollars already allocated for this purpose by the legislature. Any acquisition of additional surrounding private properties will be negotiated with willing sellers only – no one will be forced to sell.

The Hood Canal Environmental Council took the opportunity in October of 2008 to provide comments to the Department of Natural Resources on the proposed expansion of the Dabob preserve as follows:

*"We respectfully request that the following be included as part of the review process for proposed expansion.*

*Tarboo and Dabob bays are some of the highest quality, near-shore ecosystems in Hood Canal and the area is one of the largest and least impacted estuaries remaining in Puget Sound. HCEC supports the proposed boundary expansion as recommended by the National Heritage Advisory Council approved in June of this year. We see the preservation of these areas as a high priority and feel that the non-regulatory approach and the fact that land will be purchased from willing sellers only at market value as a fair and equitable way to build such a preserve."*

**The plans for a new marina for Seabeck have been put on hold. The developers of the planned Olympic View Marina are in need of financing and hopes for that have been effected by the current national economy.** Kitsap Sun

# WATERSHED PLANNING FOR WRIA 16 AND 14b

Donna Simmons

The HCEC remains actively involved in the activities of the Watershed Planning Unit for the Skokomish-Dosewallips Watershed Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 16 and the portion of WRIA 14 draining into Hood Canal referred to as the South Shore Sub-Basin WRIA 14b. Members of the Planning Unit include the Skokomish Tribe, Mason and Jefferson Counties and P.U.D.s, the State Department of Ecology, representatives of numerous organizations, and local citizens. Now in its eighth year, the Planning Unit is working hard to ensure implementation of the 84 recommendations contained in its Watershed Management Plan which was finalized in 2006. The plan focuses on water quantity, water quality, habitat, and other related topics and serves as the blueprint for future water resource management in the WRIA 16 and WRIA 14b watersheds.

The Planning Unit considers activities related to long-term monitoring of surface and groundwater quality and quantity to be a high priority. Current activities of Planning Unit members include:

- assessing progress on the recommendations under the guidance of the Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP) adopted last spring which spells out how the recommendations will be implemented;
- inviting representatives of the agencies and organizations responsible for implementing recommendations to inform and update members on pertinent issues;
- tracking water resource-related legislation of interest or concern;
- discussing budgetary issues and projects for the upcoming biennium;
- carrying out its public information and outreach program, including production of a video, distribution of a regular newsletter, and sponsoring public informational meetings and presentations.

The Planning Unit recently hired a consulting firm to prepare a preliminary analysis of impaired rivers and streams in WRIA 16 and 14b that will assist in identifying and prioritizing areas of concern for future groundwater withdrawals.

Members of the Planning Unit presently face a number of questions and uncertainties, including how the state's budgetary problems and expected decrease in grant funding availability may impact the Planning Unit's future operations and projects. It also must decide how best to partner with the Hood Canal Coordinating Council, the Puget Sound Partnership and other groups to support each other's efforts while avoiding any duplication of efforts and filling any gaps in resource management and protection.

The WRIA 16 Planning Unit holds regular meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. at the Hoodsport Timberland Library. It also maintains a website at [www.ecy.wa.gov/apps/watersheds/planning/16.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/apps/watersheds/planning/16.html). For more information, call HCEC Board Member, Donna Simmons at (360) 877-5747 or e-mail to Donna at [donna@hoodcanalenvironmentalcouncil.org](mailto:donna@hoodcanalenvironmentalcouncil.org).

**The WRIA 16 Planning Unit is sponsoring a public open house from 5 p.m to 7 p.m on Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at the Hoodsport Fire Hall at 331 North Finch Creek Road in Hoodsport. The first hour will be an open house. The second half, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., will consist of presentations about the work of the Planning Unit and a detailed River and Stream Impairment Analysis report to be presented by the project manager of Aspect Consulting, Eric Miller. Time will be allowed for questions and answers. Anyone wishing to receive more information about the public meeting or the report should contact HCEC Board Member, Donna Simmons.**

## HOOD CANAL ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL YEARLY MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Individual - \$10 \_\_\_\_

Family - \$30 \_\_\_\_

Group - \$50 \_\_\_\_

Patron - \$100 \_\_\_\_

Contributions in any amount are welcome. \_\_\_\_

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Please send this coupon and your check to: HCEC, P.O. Box 87, Seabeck, WA, 98380.

# Greater Peninsula Future Festivals



**2009**  
**August**  
**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Saturday**  
**10am - 7pm**  
**Sunday**  
**10am - 5pm**  
  
**In Historic**  
**Port**  
**Gamble**

***The Hood Canal Environmental Council (HCEC) was pleased to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Great Peninsula Future Festival on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in August 2008. Board member Bob Wiltermood, Vern Rutter, Donna Simmons, and Teresa Trotland organized the HCEC effort.***

Our “booth” included Bob’s solar powered camp trailer, hybrid pickup, native plants and a “beaver-deceiver” -- along with many informative displays. Interested visitors were able to view where they live in the Hood Canal watershed as the trailer was set up with internet access for viewing satellite images.

Hundreds of green theme vendors provided a great fun and educational experience for the whole family – everything from new water quality tools and low impact construction to the latest in electric vehicles. There were dozens of seminars and discussions as well as live music -- literally something for everyone.

Chataqua was also a highlight. Chataqua is a group of performers, musicians, lecturers, jugglers (The Flying Karamozov Brothers!), etc. that entertained and educated the attendees throughout the weekend. Chataqua put on a special Saturday evening ensemble performance for the vendors that was not to be missed.

Then there was the food. Board member Vern Rutter said that the burger from Elsie’s Kitchen he and Bob’s dog Acer shared was one of the best he’s ever eaten. But there were also lots of food choices for more discerning palates – great seafood and vegetarian fare.

***This year Bob and crew will be selling native plants at the HCEC booth for immediate pick up. Part of the proceeds from the plant sale will benefit the HCEC.***

## **This summer the Greater Peninsula Festival occurs (coincidentally) again on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of August in Port Gamble.**

***HCEC highly recommends the GPF.*** So please join us for the 2009 Great Peninsula Future Festival in Port Gamble August 1st and 2nd. You will delight in world class entertainment, educational exhibits on sustainability and the green economy, music, children’s activities, great food, arts and crafts and surprises everyday. We bring together citizens, environmentalists, public officials, educators, green business leaders, entertainers, and musicians, in a festival atmosphere to talk about how our culture, economy and environment can become more sustainable. Families come for the fun and leave with a heightened awareness of how their day to day decisions and habits affect the future health of our community, our economy and our environment. Who knew learning could be this much fun.

***We hope to see all of our members there. Please stop and say hello!***

\* \* \* \* \*

## **FYI review the Draft Jefferson County Shoreline Management Act:**

For a quick summary of key points, go to the Shoreline Planning website and look at Peter Downey’s summary PPT:

[http://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment/PDFS/SMPupdate/FormalReviewProcess/6-3-09%20PC%20Revised%20Draft%20Overview\\_Downey.pdf](http://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment/PDFS/SMPupdate/FormalReviewProcess/6-3-09%20PC%20Revised%20Draft%20Overview_Downey.pdf)

or at the key differences pasted below or more available here:

[http://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment/Shoreline\\_PCRevisedDraft.htm](http://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment/Shoreline_PCRevisedDraft.htm)

## SETTLEMENT REACHED OVER CUSHMAN DAM

By Dedrick Allan 01/13/2009

Tacoma Power, the Skokomish Tribal Nation and state and federal agencies have signed settlement agreements for Tacoma Power's Cushman Hydroelectric Project. The agreements resolve a \$5.8 billion damages claim and long-standing disputes over the terms of a long-term license for Cushman Hydroelectric Project on the Skokomish River. The licensing agreement addresses issues including river restoration, in-stream flows, fish habitat and fish passage improvements, wildlife habitat, restoration of fish populations and recreation. As part of the settlement, the Skokomish Tribe will receive money and lands from Tacoma Power, including a \$12.6 million one-time cash payment; 7.25 percent of the value of electric production from the Cushman No. 2 powerhouse; Transfer of land valued at \$23 million including Camp Cushman on Lake Cushman, the 500-acre Nalley Ranch and Saltwater Park on Hood Canal. The licensing agreement, once accepted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), will allow Tacoma Power to operate this electrical generating resource for another 40 years. Tacoma Power also will have the opportunity to construct an additional generator to capture some of the energy from the restoration flows being released into the North Fork Skokomish River.

## Pleasant Harbor Resort 3 for 3

Written by: Sandy Mackie

Ruling from the Bench on Friday, Judge Richard D. Hicks, Thurston County Superior Court, denied an APA appeal of the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board approval of a Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan amendment for a major resort on Hood Canal known as Pleasant Harbor Marina and Golf Resort (see <http://www.pleasantharbordev.com>). This is the third in a series of unsuccessful efforts by objecting local residents to reverse the approvals of the proposed project.

Opponents have pledged to appeal this decision to the Court of Appeals, where they have an appeal of another defeat pending. Opponents also pledge to challenge zoning and development agreements now pending environmental review before the County. The case was argued by Sandy Mackie.

- Editor's note: For information regarding the opposition to the resort proposal go to the website [www.brinnongroup.org](http://www.brinnongroup.org) <http://www.brinnongroup.org/>. This site can also be sourced by going to the link on the HCEC site, <http://www.hoodcanalenvironmentalcouncil.org>.

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**The Board of Directors meets the fourth Wednesday of each month. If you would like to attend, call Bill Matchett at (360) 830-4154.**



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**This newsletter and back issues can be read online at:**

<http://www.hoodcanalenvironmentalcouncil.org>.

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