

IVERSON IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

July 2016
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Island County Department of Natural Resources

Goal:

To integrate community ideas into the development and evaluation of solutions to improve the drainage in the Iverson Preserve and neighboring community.



Iverson Task Force

The Iverson Task Force is made up of the following stakeholder interests:

Longbeach Community residents, Park Patrons, Bird Watchers, Friends of Camano Island State Parks, Mosquito Control Board, Island County Parks Department, and Island County Public Works (roads).

This group meets monthly at the Camano Library. The following is a brief summary of the previous meetings:

February: 12 members, 2 guests present. Dr. Eric Grossman (USGS/WWU) discussed sedimentation studies that he has partnered on in the Skagit and Stillaguamish estuaries. He and his team have been studying the movements of the Oso slide material in the Stillaguamish watershed as well as tidal forcing in the Skagit flats.

March: 20 members and 2 guests present. We discussed the effects of the Mar 10 storm and over-wash effects with Dr. Grossman. We also formed a subgroup that would track concerns regarding park and traffic management. Task Force members reviewed the draft Request for Proposals for the sedimentation and hydrology studies and suggested extending the timeframe

for the study from 4 months to 13 months to capture the 2016 winter storm events.

May: 13 members and 2 guests present. Doug Kelly, Island County's Hydrogeologist, explained different types of aquifers and how modeling and well monitoring shows that ground water discharges from the island to the Preserve field (a discharge area). The greatest influence on saltwater intrusion is the level of water in the aquifer. The Task Force discussed the selection of the consultant for the sedimentation and hydrology studies. A member of the Task Force was one of the 3 scorers of the submissions. The contractor selected was Coastal Geologic Services who will partner with WWU for the sedimentation work and with Skillings Connolly for the groundwater work.

June: 8 members present. The Task Force discussed the scope of work and status of the contract for the studies. Task Force members have enquired about including groundwater monitoring in the residential areas as part of the study. The contractors will be trying to address this as well. The use of private sump pump wells and housing might supplement monitoring data if permission to use them is granted by the home owners. We also discussed what other information and speakers we should hear from over the next year. The schedule of meeting topics is included in this newsletter.

Current Status

Studies will include:

- Sediment movement along Long Beach, in Livingston Bay and in front of the tidegate, including historical and current patterns
- Groundwater levels and quality in the field and (neighborhood, where possible)
- Drainage and ditch elevations
- Interviews with homeowners

Studies will begin late July 2016 and continue to June 2017. The Task Force will receive periodic updates from the team.

A meeting for the larger community will be held next summer to present the findings of the studies and the Task Force's progress.

Calendar

2016

July – On Site Systems – How do septic systems work, what do we need to know now

Aug – Sea Level Rise and Storm Surge maps, Emergency notification

Sept – House Raising – costs and opportunities

Oct – Other flood control projects from the region

2017

Jan – update on Studies

Feb or Mar – FEMA – programs and opportunities

Apr or May – Army Corps of Engineers – project possibility vetting

June or July – Drainage Engineer – brainstorming solutions

July-Sept – Task Force recommendations

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