



## Steering Committee Meeting

### FINAL MEETING SUMMARY

Monday, May 18th, 2020 1 pm – 3:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86018582913> (both audio and visual)

Meeting ID: 860 1858 2913

Phone-in option: 253-215-8782,,86018582913#

#### Welcome/Introductions

Attendees:

Tami Pokorny, Paul Kennard, Frank Hansen, Eric Carlsen, Jill Silver, Mara Zimmerman, Wendy Largent, JulieAnn Koehlinger, Theresa Powell, Bridget Kaminski-Richardson, Roger Oaks, Betsy Krier, Pat Crain, Mike Rohde,

#### Agenda Changes/Additions

None

#### Approval of January 22, March 16, and April 20 Draft Meeting Summaries

Wendy voted to approve meeting minutes, Jill seconded, and all approved by consensus.

#### Announcements

Wendy L. shared that the Hoh Tribe will be shut down through June 30 (at least).

Wendy L. asked that we hold off on BOR updates until next meeting (agenda update)

#### Old Business

N/A

#### New Business

Mount Rainier Landscape Response to Climate Change - It's All Downhill From Here (Part 1)

*Paul Kennard, Regional Geomorphologist for Mount Rainier and Olympic National Parks*

Paul provided a very informative presentation on Mount Rainier National Park (MRNP) glacier retreat and impacts to sediment supply/transport and flooding. Why do we care - increased flooding. Mount Rainier is the most dangerous mountain in U.S. due to threat volcanic threat and close proximity of dense population centers. During flooding in MRNP, streams often use the road as new channel/path of least resistance. \$36M in flood damage in 2006. Increasing trend of peak annual discharge. Hoh River is leading this of increased peak annual discharge trend compared to all other WA monitoring stations (e.g. Nisqually River). Mount Rainier example: 4' of aggraded streambed material in one storm. Debris flows – most destructive kind of landslide. ~2/3 of glacier water on the Olympic Peninsula is in Hoh River Watershed. Olympic



## Hoh River Resiliency Plan PHASE I

Peninsula glaciers have lost about 55% of glacial ice since early 1900s. Modern rate of loss of glacier ice is about 600% greater than in early 1900s. When a glacier retreats, mass amounts of unstable sediment get exposed and are easily moved by fall storms. This has led to stream channels filling with sediment, avulsions and flooding. Van Trump (road) Curve – Nisqually river aggraded 38' in just one year. Glacial Outburst Floods can be very dangerous and occur with no precipitation events. "Tahoma Creek shows the most dramatic catastrophic effects of climate change in entire US". Quinault Watershed is sediment rich and aggrading (measured channel migration rates are about 40' per year).

Bathymetry Opportunity, *Wendy Largent Hoh Tribe Natural Resources Director*

To be moved to next meeting agenda.

Documenting Floodplain Stories

*Tami Pokorny, Jefferson County Natural Resources Program Coordinator*

Pat C. recommended soliciting John Preston (good person to ask for Hoh stories) and Marlin Lewis

Eric C. recommended contacting Jean Fletcher, John Richmond

To be continued on next meeting agenda.

Rivers Gone Wild – Park Management Response (*Part 2*), Q & A: *Paul Kennard*

Increased flooding has really challenged our access to MRNP and forced closures of campgrounds and roads. Challenges to moving the road include regulatory constraints: National Historic Preservation Act, Wilderness Act (Roads not allowed, comprises 97% of MRNP, Act of Congress to change), and the Endangered Species Act.

Structure from motion ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structure\\_from\\_Motion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structure_from_Motion)) is a drone-based tool for sediment transport and change detection.

### **Updates**

#### **Next Agenda**

Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1pm - 4pm Location TBD

### **Adjourn**