

# Protect the Peninsula's Future 2017 Newsletter - October 2017



## **Save the date—**

### **PPF ANNUAL MEETING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2017**

No-host dinner: 6:00 PM Annual Meeting: 7:00 PM with Guest Speaker

Dynasty Restaurant, 380 Washington Street, Sequim

RSVP to Kjersti Reed—Phone: 360-504-2423 Email: [kj.art@hotmail.com](mailto:kj.art@hotmail.com)

## **Another Year's Efforts** — Steve Koehler, President

This issue summarizes some of Protect the Peninsula's Future's (PPF's) 2017 work. Dr. Eloise Kailin reports on Port Angeles water fluoridation. Darlene Schanfald updates us on Port Angeles Harbor cleanup, sewage sludge and effluent use, and aquaculture. Save The Olympic Peninsula (STOP) provides recent citizen actions to stop the Navy's militarization of the Olympic Peninsula. Judy Larson reports on her role as PPF's representative on the Dungeness River Management Team. Thanks to all of you who support PPF in its efforts to safeguard our home for the children.

## **Strait Happenings** – Darlene Schanfald



Photo of a September Port Angeles rally against net pens by Sharle Osborne

You may recall that a few years ago Taylor Shellfish wanted to plant 35-acres of geoduck beds by the mouth of the Dungeness Rivers. Citizens did not give the company a welcome. The project was cancelled. The reason given was that the site was close to fresh water entering the Strait and river water harms geoducks.

The current attempted aquaculture project for the Strait is floating fish pens. Cooke Aquaculture, a Canadian firm with net pens throughout the world, is proposing to site the first industrial built open water net pens at Green Point, between the Port Angeles Harbor and the USFWS Dungeness Refuge. This would be the first such net pen siting in WA State. Cooke's plan is to build fourteen floating circular cages, each 126 feet in diameter, and a feed barge. The pens will cover 9.7 acres of surface water. The Department of Natural Resources aquatic land lease will cover 52 acres. The pens will accommodate over one million Atlantic salmon. Atlantic salmon are not native and are considered an invasive species.

Cooke needs 11 permits, the first of which is from Clallam County. The County Department of Community Development determined the project was not environmentally significant, but added several mitigations Cooke needed to meet. (MDNS). This MDNS was scheduled for a public hearing last September 7.

Coincidentally, a few weeks before this public hearing, over half of the 305,000 Atlantic salmon escaped from Cooke's pens in the San Juan Cypress Island area. Government agencies immediately told people "go fish! Capture those Atlantic salmon." Hollers went up from scientists, citizens and WA State and British Columbia Tribes. All these parties are asking that Atlantic salmon net pens be banned in WA State. Governor Jay Inslee then placed a moratorium on any Atlantic salmon net pen permits and created a task force to "investigate." (What is being investigated and the intent of any released report from this task force is unknown.)

The Clallam County public hearing is on hold until the Governor's report is released and the County revisits its current MDNS permit. This means the public hearing process is still open and the County is able to accept additional comments from the public. Send your comment to: [gballard@co.clallam.wa.us](mailto:gballard@co.clallam.wa.us) Documents can be accessed at: [http://websrv2.clallam.net/tm\\_bin/tmw\\_cmd.pl?tmw\\_cmd=StatusViewCase&shl\\_caseno=SHR2016-00002&projectcasetag=Y](http://websrv2.clallam.net/tm_bin/tmw_cmd.pl?tmw_cmd=StatusViewCase&shl_caseno=SHR2016-00002&projectcasetag=Y)

## **PORT ANGELES FLUORIDATED WATER—WHERE WE ARE TO DATE**

— Eloise Kailin



PPF has actively opposed community water fluoridation in Port Angeles since it emerged in 2003. We failed on a SEPA court challenge and in another series of court cases focused on fluoridation as a drug, PPF supported two committees which brought two initiatives. Those initiatives never made it to the voters, although they were qualified with adequate signatures. Ten years of fluoridation was followed by an "advisory" vote by 4204 water utility users, which was overwhelmingly (2381 NO v. 1735 YES) ignored by city council (4 to 3). PPF then applied an unusual measure, a petition to change the form of city government. That measure will be voted on as will the fate of fluoridation this November. Change of government to our previous form was not a large change but would give voters more rights, more open city meetings, tighter limits on spending without a citizen vote. Citizens kicked up so much fuss over being overruled, they nearly stopped city functioning, but this citizen activity resulted in a moratorium on adding fluoride to the water for the past fifteen months, its continuation dependent on another "advisory" vote by registered voters of the city. That happens November, 2017

As a tax deductible organization PPF is very limited with respect to ballot related activities which is why the following message is authored by the chair of a political action committee named Our Water Our Choice PAC. And yes, I also serve in that role. In writing it I was assisted by Janet Kailin and Gerald Steel. It has been accepted as the official opposition to fluoridation statement to be in the voter's pamphlet. Its contents are intended to be treated by readers of this news letter as educational or news and not as a prescriptive call to action.

## **Please Vote No - My top five reasons for opposing water fluoridation**

1. *Lack of informed consent:* Putting industrial-grade fluorosilicic acid in our water violates individuals' right to informed consent. Informed consent is our basic right to say what medication goes into our own bodies and those of our children. No other medication is forced on people without their consent.

2. *Not pharmaceutical grade:* I want to drink good tasting, clean water. The fluorosilicic acid added to our water is not pharmaceutical grade. It is unpurified byproduct of the phosphate fertilizer industry, and is frequently contaminated by arsenic, lead, and other undisclosed chemicals.

3. *Studies indicate harm:* An increasing number of credible studies link swallowed fluoride to lowered IQ, brittle bones, digestive problems, thyroid issues, etc. If there is any benefit to fluoride, it is by surface contact with teeth, not by swallowing. Infants and the elderly are most vulnerable.

4. *No dose control and no monitoring of side-effects:* When doctors give medication, there is monitoring and dose control based on total product consumed. Not so with fluoridated water. Fluoride consumption varies widely from water, other beverages, dental products, and foods sprayed with fluoride insecticides. Children are consuming way too much fluoride. Individual sensitivity to all medicines varies greatly.

5. *Contamination of environment:* Over 99.5% of fluoridated water does not land on teeth. Instead it just goes into the environment. Plants, animals, and aquatic life are all exposed to toxic effects. Fluorosilicic acid is "Corrosive Hazardous Waste."

**Argument prepared by:** Eloise Kailin, M.D., Chair of Our Water Our Choice

**Contact:** [eloisekailin@gmail.com](mailto:eloisekailin@gmail.com) [Yes4CleanWater.org](http://Yes4CleanWater.org)

A recent research study by researchers from Mexico, Canada and the U.S. indicates that prenatal children exposed to fluoride lowers cognitive functions in offspring.

Urine samples of mother–child pairs were tested for fluoride. Samples were taken from 299 mothers and 211 children. Higher prenatal fluoride exposure, in the general range of exposures reported for other general population samples of pregnant women and nonpregnant adults, was associated with lower scores on tests of cognitive function in the offspring at age 4 and 6–12 years.

Full report: Prenatal Fluoride Exposure and Cognitive Outcomes in Children at 4 and 6–12 Years of Age in Mexico.

[https:// doi.org/10.1289/EHP655](https://doi.org/10.1289/EHP655); Article: <http://www.cnn.com/2017/09/19/health/fluoride-iq-neurotoxin-study/index.html>

## **SAVE THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA (STOP)** – Beverly Goldie, President

Despite nearly 3300 letters of objection, public meetings, phone calls, and petitions to government and elected officials by many organizations and individuals, the Forest Service has authorized the issuance of a Special Use Permit allowing the U.S. Navy to place electromagnetic radiation emitters at eleven designated roadside locations in the Olympic National Forest sometime in 2018.

The Navy is now free to turn large areas of the airspace over Washington State's Olympic Peninsula into the Pacific Northwest Electronic Warfare Range (EWR).

This Forest Service permit also gives a green light to the US Navy to increase the number of EA 18G Growlers operating out of Whidbey Island Naval Air Station and over the Olympic Peninsula from 82 to 170. These are funded and scheduled to be at Whidbey this year.

The Navy's Draft Environmental Impact Statement calls for an increase in the number of air field operations at Whidbey's Ault Field of up to 38,700 each year. It is not immediately clear how many of these operations will be operating over the Electronic Warfare Range. It is certain, however, that the number of flights will increase by the thousands per year despite the Navy's public relations promises of an increase of only 125 flights per year.

Save The Olympic Peninsula has been working for over three years to convince the Forest Service and the Navy that such training is detrimental to the Peninsula's pristine environment and can be pursued in other locations more amenable to warfare training exercises. The best citizen effort was not enough to convince the Forest Service to protect its invaluable forest preserves by denying access for electronic warfare training.

**STOP IS NOT GIVING UP!** **STOP** is joining the Pacific Northwest Coast Alliance and mounting a legal challenge to the Forest Service action. It's going to take major fundraising efforts to meet the related legal costs. Everyone on this Peninsula could be subject to these horrendously loud flyovers, and we all will lose the peace of the forested lands and the Olympic National Park.

**Please donate** to our legal fundraising. Your tax-deductible donations will be greatly appreciated. They should be sent to STOP, P.O. Box 3133, Port Angeles, WA 98362, or made through the PayPal link on our website: <https://www.fsee.org> where additional information can be found.

## **ECOLOGY'S APPROVAL OF SEWAGE SLUDGE AND EFFLUENT REUSE EXPANDING** — Darlene Schanfald



I've been informing you in past PPF Annual Newsletters about wastewater treatment plant and industrial sewage allowed for the spreading on land. Regardless of the 90,000 plus contaminants and a string of pathogens – which treatment cannot always kill – in the solids, they are sold for commercial compost and fertilizer, spread on farm lands, and dumped in forest lands. Scientific articles

over the years have reported that some of these contents have been taken up by crops. These solids are considered hazardous waste if not claimed that the eight or nine metals in this toxic brew had “beneficial use” for soils. Efforts are ongoing in WA State to get sewage sludge contaminated food and compost labeled.

Ecology has released a Reclaimed Water draft rule for public review and comment that will allow the re-use of the wastewater effluent for crops, recreational grounds, wetlands and to “enhance” aquifers and potentially potable water. The effluent can be as toxic as the solids, containing microbeads, pathogens, superbugs, medications, microfilaments, fire retardants, synthetic hormones, antimicrobials and so forth. Only few sewage effluent constituents are monitored.

Comments are due October 13, 2017. The information can be accessed at:

[www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/ruledev/wac173219/0612/0612timedocs.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/ruledev/wac173219/0612/0612timedocs.html)

**NOTE:** Certified organic farmers cannot use wastewater treatment plant wastes.

### **COMMENT OVERVIEW**

- The rule language is not science based.
- The legislative language is years prior to much of the science on the hazards of reclaiming water and preferred treatment methods.
- Very few wastewater constituents are assessed; most are unknown. And there are current studies of which this rule does not recognize that raise red flags to reuse this water. Pathogens like prions and anti-biotic resistant genes cannot be treated and can multiply. Contaminants of emerging concern, ultrafine particulate matter, flame retardants and plastic fibers are just a few examples that pass through treatment and will remain in reclaimed waters.
- Methods for “further treatment” – chlorination, UV light, ultraviolet light – are problematic. For instance, chlorination leaves an unwanted byproduct in the water.
- Lacking are long term health studies from use this as potable water
- Injecting reclaimed water into aquifers has a high probability of contaminating public drinking water systems.
- Class A water may be cleaner than Class B, but it is far from clean or safe. It better dissolves water soluble medications but not fat soluble medication, and not too much more. And once a tertiary treatment facility is permitted, it requires no oversight.
- There is no reliable, foolproof method that creates safe potable water. Safer does not mean safe.
- RCWs used for this purpose seem to fit the purpose. Do they conflict with other pertinent RCWs/? Do they conflict with any parts of the CWA? Those rules should be included.

- Facilities regulate themselves. Government staffs are being cut; enforcement now lacks.
- It is admitted that allowable limits of a pollutant deemed safe are more generous than what scientists would deem safe. Science should drive the rules.
- Under the SEPA Checklist, while all the questions under Earth do not directly apply here, the fact is that putting this unclean water on land will affect soils, air, water, humans and wildlife.



## **UPDATE: RAYONIER-PORT ANGELES HARBOR HAZARDOUS WASTE CLEANUPS** — Darlene Schanfald

The Rayonier Mill-Port Angeles Harbor cleanups have had two successes.

### **KPly/PenPly**

The former KPly/PenPly Mill area on Port of Port Angeles property is cleaned and ready for new occupants.

### **Sediment Background Study**

The second completion is WA State Department of Ecology's sediment background study from Bellingham to Port Townsend. Ecology was able to distinguish the background contaminants from the polluters' contaminants.

But delay continues for all the other cleanup properties.

### **Rayonier Mill public comments periods**

Spring 2018: Draft Rayonier sediment cleanup report

Spring 2019: Draft Cleanup action plan for soil and sediments

**Western Port Angeles Harbor** - Georgia Pacific, Merrill & Ring, City of Port Angeles, WA State Department of Natural Resources, Port of Port Angeles, and Nippon Paper Industries.

Spring 2018: Public Review of Draft Remedial Action/Feasibility Study

Summer 2018: Public Comment

**Marine Trades Area** -- Port of Port Angeles and Chevron. (The vicinity is the Westport Shipyard and Platypus Marine Inc., and Petit Oil)

2017: Public comment on cleanup action plan

2018: Cleanup

### **UNOCAL BLUK PLANT – WEST MARINE DRIVE UPLAND SITE**

No information

Anyone wanting a pictorial brochure of the sites along with some history of the waterfront, contact me: [darlenes@olympus.net](mailto:darlenes@olympus.net). You will be sent a hard copy, so send me your mailing address.

Link to relevant Rayonier documents:

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites\\_brochure/rayonier/rayonier\\_hp.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/rayonier/rayonier_hp.htm)

Link to other Harbor cleanup sites:

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites\\_brochure/psi/portAngeles/psi\\_portAngeles\\_bay.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/psi/portAngeles/psi_portAngeles_bay.html)

## **SUMMARY REPORT ON DRMT AND OTHER** -- Judy Larson

The **Dungeness River Management Team (DRMT)** has been nationally recognized for its cooperative resolution of watershed problems, and collaborating on projects to restore the health of the Dungeness.

In 2017, my activities as a Board member again have included attending the DRMT meetings as the delegate on behalf of PPF. This year I have been joined in this effort (and edifying pleasure) by our new alternate DRMT delegate, Forest Koehler. The DRMT meetings are typically scheduled for 2-5pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday's of each month and are usually held at the Audubon Center in Sequim. At PPF Board meetings, I report on topics that have been presented which seem most germane to PPF's mission and at the DRMT meetings I continue to ask questions that may reveal more details pertinent to PPF concerns. As I noted in last year's Newsletter, at every DRMT meeting, presenters share information about issues of vital pertinence to our WRIA 18 watershed. The DRMT also conducts special field trips to important restoration project areas. I recommend you read the detailed written meeting agendas and minutes, and peruse the valuable resource materials/ reference links provided on the DRMT website: <http://tinyurl.com/DRMTweb> . (Shawn Hines, a Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Watershed Planner, may be able to answer questions about DRMT website materials. Her contact information is: 1.360.681.4664 or [shines@jamestowntribe.org](mailto:shines@jamestowntribe.org).)

Also on behalf of PPF in 2017, I submitted comments/concerns to Clallam County PUD #1 about its Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) regarding its 6 year Water System(s) Plan and comments/concerns to Clallam County Commissioners, Planning Commission and Department of Community Development about proposed revisions to County Code 33.51, Vacation Rentals and Bed & Breakfast development standards.

## **MORE SUCCESSES thanks to Eloise**

### **CRITICAL AREAS PROTECTION ORDINANCE RESOLVED**

The longest running case in Growth Management Hearings Board (GMHB) history was resolved today, 6-21-17, with the attached Order on Remand Finding Compliance. Clallam County adopted its first Growth Management Act (GMA) Critical Areas Protection Ordinance in 1999. Protect the Peninsula's Future (PPF) and Washington Environmental Council (WEC) challenged to the GMBH (among other challenges) that the exemption in the Ordinance from stream and wetland protection for existing and ongoing agriculture did not meet the GMA requirement "to protect" these sensitive critical areas. In 2000, the Growth Board found the County's 1999 agricultural critical areas exemption invalid and not in compliance with the GMA. Today the GMBH found the County had come into compliance with the GMA requirements with respect to existing ongoing agriculture. The case has taken more than 17 years to resolve this

issue. In its decision the Growth Board acknowledged the tireless efforts of Dr. Eloise Kailin, who was the Committee Chair for this project since the beginning.

**LOSS: PPF v. JAMESTOWN S'KLALLAM TRIBE**

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Tax deductible contributions can be made online at  
[http://www.protectpeninsulafuture.org/?page\\_id=20](http://www.protectpeninsulafuture.org/?page_id=20)  
or mailed to Protect Peninsula's Future, PO Box 1677, Sequim WA 98382

