

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Olympia, Washington
November 15, 2011

Memorandum of Understanding between Squaxin Island Tribe, City of Olympia, City of Lacey and
City of Yelm regarding Budd Inlet and Deschutes Watershed Restoration

CITY MANAGER'S
RECOMMENDATION:

Move to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Squaxin Island Tribe, City of Olympia, City of Lacey and City of Yelm regarding Budd Inlet and Deschutes Watershed Restoration

STAFF CONTACT:

Rich Hoey, P.E., Interim Public Works Director, (360) 753-8426
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ORIGINATED BY:

Public Works Department

PRESENTERS AND
OTHERS NOTIFIED:

Notified:
Jeff Dickison, Assistant Director Natural Resources, Squaxin Island Tribe
John Konovsky, Environmental Program Manager, Squaxin Island Tribe
Peter Brooks, Water Resources Manager, City of Lacey
Shelly Badger, City Administrator, City of Yelm

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) between Squaxin Island Tribe, City of Olympia, City of Lacey and City of Yelm regarding Budd Inlet and Deschutes Watershed Restoration](#)

Map: A map of the Budd Inlet/Deschutes Watershed is included as the last page of the MOU attachment.

BUDGET IMPACT/
SOURCE OF FUNDS:

The Cities will equally divide the cost of supporting the Budd/Deschutes Watershed Environmental Stewardship Coalition. Olympia's share of the \$500,000 will be \$166,666 to be paid out of the Drinking Water Utility Capital Fund using funding allocated for water rights mitigation. Adequate funding exists in the program for this effort.

PRIOR COUNCIL/
COMMITTEE REVIEW:

None.

BACKGROUND:

The cities of Lacey, Olympia and Yelm, along with the Squaxin Island Tribe have been working collaboratively during the evaluation of the cities' water rights applications to address predicted impacts to water bodies within the Deschutes Watershed.

This collaboration has led to:

- The cities' purchase and planned restoration of nearly 200 acres of farmland along the upper Deschutes River (Smith Farm).

Restoration efforts will greatly benefit Deschutes River salmon populations.

- A proposed formal Memorandum of Understanding between the tribe and cities to participate in a Budd Inlet/Deschutes Watershed Environmental Coalition. The Coalition will pursue additional short and long-term solutions towards restoration of a healthy watershed.

ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS:

This watershed coalition serves as a framework for continued work on habitat protection and restoration within the Budd Inlet/Deschutes River watershed. Key elements of the agreement include:

1. A habitat restoration fund of \$500,000 (funded equally by the three cities). Funding will be used as match to initiate larger habitat protection and restoration projects.
2. Development of a Strategic Plan for long term restoration priorities within the Budd Inlet/Deschutes River Watershed.
3. Invitation to other parties in the region to join in the mission of this coalition.

The stewardship coalition creates a unique partnership for habitat restoration in the Budd Inlet/Deschutes River Watershed. The Squaxin Island Tribal Council and each of the City Councils will consider the agreement in mid-November, with a signing ceremony between the cities and the tribe tentatively planned for late November.

Option 1:

Authorize the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Squaxin Island Tribe, City of Olympia, City of Lacey and City of Yelm regarding Budd Inlet and Deschutes Watershed Restoration.

Implications

1. The Squaxin Island Tribe and the three Cities will work cooperatively on habitat restoration within the Budd Inlet/Deschutes watershed.
2. Will obligate staff time and funding towards watershed restoration projects within the Deschutes Watershed.

Option 2:

Do not authorize the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Squaxin Island Tribe, City of Olympia, City of Lacey and City of Yelm regarding Budd Inlet and Deschutes Watershed Restoration.

Implications:

1. May hinder the City's efforts to work regionally on watershed restoration and water rights mitigation.
 2. Would not obligate staff time and funding.
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