



JAMESTOWN S'KLALLAM TRIBE

1033 Old Blyn Highway, Sequim, WA 98382

360/683-1109

FAX 360/681-4643

February 25, 2019

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Attention: Doug Wiedemeier
PO Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504

Subject: DNS 19-012 - Hurd Creek Hatchery Relocation, Near the Dungeness River at 955 Fasola Road; Sequim, Clallam County, Washington: Township 30N, Range 4W, Section 1

Dear Mr. Wiedemeier

The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (Tribe) concurs with the above-referenced Determination of Non-Significance issued February 14, 2019 for the relocation of the Hurd Creek Hatchery.

Hurd Creek Hatchery is an essential contributor to the ESA listed Dungeness Chinook salmon supplementation and broodstock programs. Water temperatures at Hurd Creek are significantly warmer than the temperatures experienced at the Dungeness Hatchery. Therefore, Hurd Creek is the superior site for spawning, hatching, and rearing imperiled Dungeness Chinook. Hurd Creek Hatchery is crucial to the rebuilding of the Dungeness Chinook salmon population.

Significant portions of the hatchery are currently located within the Dungeness River floodway and channel migration zone (CMZ). As the river migrates towards the hatchery, flooding impacts to hatchery infrastructure and to salmon rearing within the hatchery have become serious problems. The most effective and environmentally appropriate means of addressing these problems is to relocate the hatchery outside of the floodway and CMZ, as proposed by WDFW.

The Tribe commends WDFW for undertaking this important project to move the hatchery to higher ground. Thank you for the opportunity to review the DNS and provide comments.

Sincerely,

Randy Johnson
Habitat Program Manager