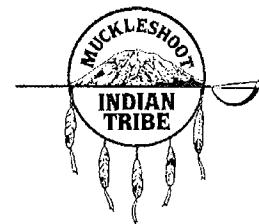


# MUCKLESHOOT INDIAN TRIBE

## Fisheries Division

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November 25, 2013

Christie True, Director  
King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks  
201 S. Jackson St, Room 700  
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

Dear Christie,

As you may recall, during your visit to Muckleshoot in the Fall of 2011, we toured the Tribe's hatchery facilities including the Keta Creek Hatchery near Green Valley Road. The Tribe has operated this hatchery on Crisp Creek since 1978, and in 1997 acquired the Department of Fish and Wildlife rearing ponds immediately upstream. The "Keta-Crisp" complex relies on springs and Crisp Creek surface water for domestic water and to raise 3M chum and 1M coho salmon for treaty and non-treaty fisheries. On our tour, we talked about the need to protect the hatchery water supply from degradation. Salmon culture requires superior water quality, and any decline in water quality or availability will impair the Tribe's beneficial water use and water rights at the site. As a result, it has been a priority to seek early notification and to provide input to the County on proposed land and water resource uses in the Crisp Creek watershed.

We just learned that in December, the King County Council plans to consider a draft Development Agreement (DA) for The Reserve at Woodlands subdivision and associated regional storm water facility. This DA affects about 500 acres of forest just northeast of the hatchery comprising 22% of the Crisp Creek watershed. The DA would govern and vest the overall development, use, and mitigation for The Reserve at Woodlands. Our staff recently met with County staff and a BD Village Partners LP representative for a briefing on the DA. At that meeting, we raised concerns about the omission of specific mitigation (most notably for water quality) to protect the ground and surface supply for the Tribe's hatchery and we discussed potential measures to address our concerns.

We reviewed the draft Agreement and remain concerned about the lack of recognition of the Tribe's hatchery, the lack of water quality monitoring, and the potential for water resource degradation from the proposed development, roads, and storm water infiltration pond. Despite the significant open space protections these omissions must be addressed to insure protection of Crisp Creek and the hatchery water supply. We request that the DA include and address the following elements:

1. Recognition of the importance of the Tribe's hatchery water supply and the health of Crisp Creek and its associated streams and wetlands;
2. Require development and implementation of a *comprehensive* water quality and hydrology monitoring plan agreed to by the Tribe;


3. Establishment of water quality thresholds/triggers based on no degradation of existing water quality conditions;
4. A linkage between water quality monitoring and phasing of regional storm water infiltration pond expansion and development activities;
5. A plat covenant prohibiting private irrigation or other wells on any of the lots;
6. Requirement for enhanced onsite septic treatment;
7. Requirements for best management practices for home construction and homeowner practices needed to reduce onsite pollution and maximize forest retention on each lot;
8. Provision for water quality treatment at the Hatchery in the event that water supply is degraded in the future despite the efforts above; and
9. Coordination with the Tribe on regional trail design, location, and control of social trails.

Further, in their review of preliminary plan maps, the Tribe's Preservation program staff indicated to me the need for a cultural resources survey of the property to be conducted as soon as possible, including consultation with the Tribe about prior use of the area. The cultural resources survey fieldwork schedule should be communicated so that the Tribe can provide a cultural monitor to assist with the fieldwork.

We understand that the SEPA process for the DA and the initial storm water facility grading permit has been initiated, and the County Council may consider the DA for approval in the next several weeks after SEPA is completed. We would definitely prefer to work together with you to address our concerns in the body of the Agreement rather than rely on SEPA.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you need any additional information related to our concerns.

Best Regards,



Isabel Timoco  
Director