

Minter Creek Watershed Strategies
Updated Meeting Summary
September 25, 2013

Attendees: Rollo K. Van Slyke; Roger Gay; Helen Jones, Kitsap Conservation District; Dave Greetham, Kitsap County Community Development; Dean Moergeli, Port Orchard Sand and Gravel; Erin Ewald, Pierce Conservation District; Ty Booth, Pierce County Planning and Land Services; Domoni Glass, Key Peninsula Land Use Advisory Committee; Katrina Knutson, Kitsap County Community Development; Kent Kingman, Minterbrook Oyster Company; Dave Currie; Bob and Sue Nelson; Patti Cummins; Ryan Sandstrom; Rick Sorrels, Key Peninsula News; Judy Austin; Steve Pasco, Greater Peninsula Land Trust; Tom Nevins, West Sound Conservation Council; Anne Schnitzer, Port Orchard Airport; Barbara Ann Smolko, Pierce County Public Works Surface Water Management.

Note about revision: After the meeting, additional comments were received from Nancy Hanson. These comments have been included in the revised notes.

Facilitator: Heather Ballash, Washington State Department of Commerce

The meeting began with a brief explanation of the project and the Counties' purpose in working together on these strategies in the Minter Creek basin.

The participants adopted the following set of ground rules:

- One person speaks at a time.
- Keep comments short so that all may be heard (big ideas/concerns in 30 seconds)
- Respect each other
- No personal attacks
- Stay focused on task and agenda process
- Everyone participates
- No side conversations
- All comments about the topic are valid
- Maintain a parking lot for other topics of concern

Each person then introduced themselves and stated what they like about the Minter Creek as follows:

- Fish and shellfish – salmon and oysters
- People in the area care about the creek
- Iconic – people know the area
- Trails
- Solitude
- Peace and quiet
- Quality of Life
- Salmon in the creek
- Growing trees
- Employment opportunities, including retail space
- Rural lifestyle
- Nature
- Roots and history
- Personal Experiences

- Beautiful
- Good gravel
- Chance to talk
- Conservation opportunities
- Agriculture and forestry
- Recreation

The group then discussed what land uses they would like to see in the next 20 years. They have been grouped in themes as follows:

Open space/conservation

- Open space preserved
- Farms
- Trails
- Streams restored, with beds good for spawning
- Parks at Wicks Lake
- Wildlife habitat
- Shellfish still around
- Natural areas
- Clean and clear water for streams, lakes and ground water
- Habitat corridors
- Wildlife passageways/corridors, especially for large animals

Economic development

- Commercial development is compact
- Home-based business
- Commercial center for Key Peninsula
- More employment so people can live close to work
- Shellfish business
- Anchor business in the community that is environmentally thoughtful
- Timber company needs to be able to harvest
- Mineral resource lands

Managing growth/planning for the community

- Zoning revisited regularly
- Be prepared for growth
- No sprawl
- Grandfathered lots
- Retain the airport, but contain the effects such as noise
- Growth less than one percent
- Keep rural lands
- Short versus long term
- Cluster development
- Subarea plan
- Accurate maps
- Prepare for older residents

- Resolve contractions

Environmental protection

- Septic systems upgrade
- Limit clear cutting of trees that disrupt wildlife

Infrastructure/Transportation

- Mass transit
- Transportation
- Maintain airport for emergency response

County coordination

- Share data

Community involvement

- Community is invested in the area and what happens
- Communication with the community happens early and continues

Next meeting – October 30, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., location to be determined

Information for next meeting:

- Bigger maps with more detail on roads and terrain (participants will be asked to be specific about what detail they want)
- Water quality data