



JEFFERSON COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

621 Sheridan Street
Port Townsend, WA 98368
Al Scalf, Director

February 17, 2007

Critical Areas Ordinance Subcommittee Wetlands Field Trip

Present: Jim Hagen, Henry Werch, Bud Schindler, Dennis Schultz, Al Scalf, Barbara Nightingale, David Sullivan, Al Latham, Amy Hiatt, Jill Silver, Bob Crittenden, Fred Weinman, John Long, Paul Heinsinger, Moe Rogers, Ken Brooks, Nancy Stellow, Norm McLeod, Diane Johnson, Sandy Hershelman, Frank Hoffman, Denver Shoop, Teren McLeod, Richard Brees, Marie Brees, and Roger Short - (26) persons.

Meeting called to order as 12:30 pm at the WSU Learning Center. The group car pooled to the field sites.

The group made three stops:

- 1) Roger Short's property on Beaver Valley Road with wetland markers previously set marking points at 150 feet and 39 feet from each wetland to provide a visual understanding of what that size buffer would look like out in the field. Maps were provided with diagrams indicating these buffer lines. The group discussed how to rate the wetland and how to calculate the buffer size. Buffer size suggestions for this particular wetland, based on its uses and habitat value, ranged from 24 feet to 39 feet. Points for the 150 foot buffer were also set prior to the group arriving. The group compared WDOE buffer requirements for this wetland with Brooks' wetland buffer system with the buffer being based upon the habitat value, the intensity of agriculture, and wetland category. The subsequent buffer requirements based on the Vol II WDOE rating system were not very different from Brooks' rating.
- 2) Nakonos or Shika Road Wetland, an example of an isolated wetland (isolated from the remaining upland habitat by the highway (Anderson Lake Rd). The group discussed the value of buffers for this likely Type I wetland that has been isolated from surrounding habitat by the highway located on one side.
- 3) Tibbals Lake – The group discussed the history of development and use of lands surrounding this wetland and where the buffers would be relative to wetland and the horse track around the wetland perimeter. The group also discussed differences in rainfall and pond size with decadal climatic and other changes in precipitation that were indicated on a variety of aerial photos available from the County website. The bridal trail around the wetland, what should be included in the area of the wetland buffer, given the bridal trail and how that has impacted applications for development upland from the bridal trail.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Building Permits/Inspections

(360) 379-4450

Development Review Division

ascal@co.jefferson.wa.us

Long Range Planning

FAX: (360) 379-4451