

# Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Technical Committee Meeting Summary

March 1st, 2022, 9:00—12:00; Zoom

## Attendees

Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County	Jonah Keith, Tulalip Tribes
Matt Pouley, Tulalip Tribes	Josh Chamberlin, NOAA NWFSC
Mike Rustay, Snohomish County	Joycelyn Blue, Snohomish County
Aaron Kopp, Snohomish County	Katherine Kelly, WDFW
Anne Savery, Tulalip Tribes	Keith Binkley, Snohomish County PUD
Ashley Kees, WDFW	Kevin Lee, WDFW
Brett Gaddis, Snohomish County	Kirk Lakey, ARHPM WDFW
Brett Shattuck, Tulalip Tribes	Kristen Marshall, Snohomish CD
Catherine Morello, WDFW	Kurt Nelson, Tulalip Tribes
Cory Zyla, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum	Lindsey Desmul, WDFW
Daniel Howe, Snohomish County	Lisa Tario, Snohomish County
Denise Krownbell, Seattle City Light	Marty Jacobson, WA Dept of Ecology
Doug Hennick, WFC	Mary Lou White, Wild Fish Conservancy
Elissa Ostergaard, Snoqualmie Forum	Morgan Ruff, Tulalip Tribes
Emily Davis, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum	Ryan Bartelheimer, Snohomish CD
Gwendolyn Hannam, WDFW	Ryan Lewis, Snoqualmie Tribe
Heather Khan, WA Dept of Ecology	Stuart Baker, Snohomish County
Jessica Hamill, Snohomish County	Summer Daugherty, Snohomish CD
Jim Shannon, Hart Crowser	

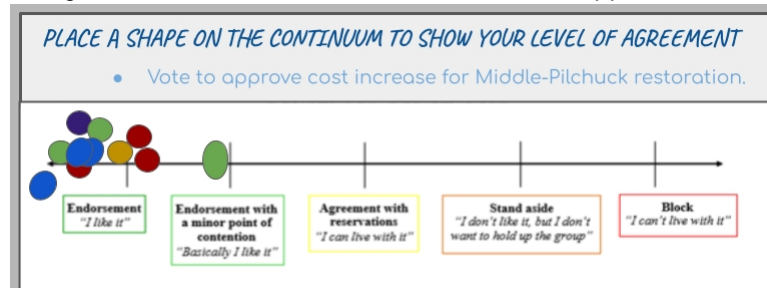
## Intros and Agenda Review

- Mike Rustay opened the meeting
- Introductions were done in the chat

## Regional and Basin updates

- 2022 Grant competitions – Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County Surface Water Management (SWM)
  - Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)'s Estuary Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP) extended their deadline
  - Still looking for a few reviewers; specifically seeking engineers, WDFW staff, non-conflict experts
    - Contact Gretchen if you would like to become a reviewer
- Department of Natural Resources (DNR) released Watershed Resilience Action Plan – Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County SWM
  - [King 5 Press Release](#) ; Feb 15, 2022
  - [Watershed Resilience Action Plan](#)

- DNR successfully competed for funding from US Forest Service for riparian improvement in collaboration with Tulalip Tribes and Mountains to Sound Greenway
- DNR request in during supplemental legislative session for additional funding, including one NFTE focused in our watershed
- 4-yr Work Plan – Morgan Ruff, Tulalip Tribes
  - Process and Timeline
    - Considering not including a tiered list – scoring system was based on old benchmarks
  - Current 4 year workplan available on the web page: [Snohomish Watershed Salmon Recovery Planning | Snohomish County, WA - Official Website \(snohomishcountywa.gov\)](https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/Portals/0/Snohomish%20Watershed%20Salmon%20Recovery%20Planning%20-%20Snohomish%20County%20WA%20-%20Official%20Website%20-%202018-2022.pdf)
  - Project sponsors will be asked for updates to existing projects and any new projects
- Middle Pilchuck scope and cost change
  - Cost increase needs to be approved, RCO staff guidance stated a scope change not needed
    - Using our consensus continuum, we decided to approve the cost increase:



## Basin Strategy Update

- Riparian Forest Health/Knotweed Management – Susan O’Neil, ESA
  - “The Project formerly known as the Riparian Forest Health Strategy”
    - Workshopping a new name
  - Request for Advisory Committee was not fulfilled due to lack of availability; will have a draft available online for review
  - Project was funded through Floodplains by Design money to answer the lingering question of “What is our Knotweed strategy?”
    - No projects focused on Knotweed in the last few grant rounds
    - 2018-2019 basin was unready to support Knotweed proposal until a strategy was developed
    - Please provide your voluntary input by Monday, March 21st
      - Literature Review sent via email
      - Send feedback to Susan at [soneil@esasoc.com](mailto:soneil@esasoc.com)
  - ESA plans to bring the Basin-Wide Document to the Forum in June
  - Feedback from Tech Committee
    - Are we able to get down to zero knotweed? Should this be the goal?
    - Include literature on the effects of herbicide use on micro-organisms relative to salmon
    - Include literature on how long to wait to plant after herbicide use?

- Most practitioners 2-3 years before replanting
- Comment on natural regeneration being necessary in the gravel bar areas – requiring a project to have a planting element not feasible
- Interactive slides exercise to brainstorm and gather feedback

### Priority for knotweed treatment - non-SRFB/PSAR \$\$

	Agree	Some concerns	Disagree	Notes/caveats
Site of near-term floodplain reconnection project: knotweed removal as a first phase/site prep				
Sites or reaches that are high priority for riparian improvements and/or align with water temperature strategies				
Demonstration sites in high priority reaches				
Previously restored sites				
Top-down approach - basin-wide				Priority relative to other project types? Cost for implementation/maintenance?
Top-down treatment for individual sub-basins				

### Priority for knotweed treatment - SRFB/PSAR \$\$

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Sites or reaches that are high priority for riparian improvements and/or align with water temperature strategies				
Demonstration sites in high priority reaches				
Previously restored sites				
Top-down approach - basin-wide				Some LEs have dedicated knotweed funding (ie portion of allocation goes to knotweed, ie Skagit OR regularly funded projects that support knotweed management, ie Sility)
Top-down treatment for individual sub-basins				

What other barriers/concerns do you want to see addressed in this document?

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Funding for monitoring. The more information we can obtain, the better we'll be able to tackle the problem.

Invasive control/management seems absent in riparian buffer conversation

How much of a factor in spread of knotweed by seed is prevailing wind (heading generally from west to east) vs spread by seed and vegetative means via water from upstream to downstream?

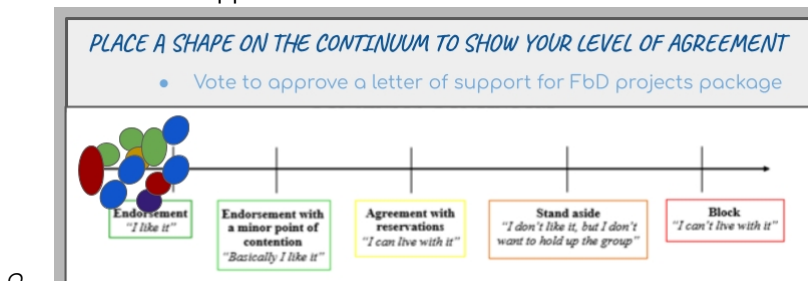
Keep re-vegetation open to both riparian forest planting and natural re-veg (gravel bars, non-plantable areas, etc.)

Fund survey efforts



## Floodplains by Design

- Community Floodplain Solutions Proposal - Jessica Hamill, Snohomish County SWM
  - Overview of the program and the funding request
  - Overview of Specific Projects
    - Shinglebolt Slough – Brett Gaddis, Snohomish County SWM
    - Swans Trail Slough Multi-Benefit – Kristen Marshall, Snohomish CD
      - Ryan Bartelheimer, Snohomish CD for technical clarifications
    - Thomas' Eddy Restoration Project – Mike Rustay, Snohomish County SWM
  - Questions/Comments
    - Shinglebolt Slough lots of wood loading in lieu of a setback levee
      - Similar to Haskel Slough area
      - Potentially using wood that was removed to improve access to the site in addition to log jams
    - Swans Trail Slough connection to DD6 still being explored
      - One plan option for rearing habitat is to relocate the pump station at the Ebey Slough connection and improve habitat and water quality conditions
    - Thomas' Eddy location of spoils on the site is being determined
    - Thomas' Eddy design of log jams will be two facing to withstand flooding from downstream
      - Log structures' purpose being described to different stakeholders differently (ex. Bank protection, habitat, etc.)
- Committee vote on the letter of support via voting continuum in the google slides
  - Motion was approved via the consensus continuum



- Discussion
  - Coordination between DD6 and Swans Trail Slough is being included in the ask
  - Thomas' Eddy project: Tow rock being left in place due to stakeholder concerns about altering the site too greatly
    - Also creates a deep scour pool that is popular for fishing
    - Removal of levee will increase fisherman access from land
  - Are there criteria for how a benefit is defined? How is it labeled for a specific focus area?
    - Sometimes there is a hard criterion (ex. Salmon Recovery Plan), other times it depends on point of view (ex. Individual farms)
      - Flood benefits shown through modeling
    - Long term benefit can also be making progress on a site that in the future will change public opinion and allow more work recovery to be done
    - For the CFS program all projects are evaluated by the best professional judgment of the Integration/Implementation Team
      - Farm, fish, and flood benefits evaluated for full benefit or partial benefit for each project
  - Letter draft will be created by Gretchen Glaub post Jessica Hammill's presentation to the Forum
    - Draft will then be sent out for review
  - Appreciation of projects being presented earlier in the grant round process
  - Geographic extent of CFS project package very impressive

### **Wrap Up and Comments**

- Committee asks Middle Pilchuck cost increase approval and approval of a letter of support for CFS FbD application
  - No major opposition
  - Consider the cost increase approved and settled
  - Going to move forward with the letter of support
- Seattle City Light about to close on a 0.5-acre acquisition on the lower Tolt River
- Ralph Svrjcek is retiring, last day is April 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Heather Khan putting together a retirement party for those who may want to attend

### **Follow Up Items**

- Send out the literature review for ESA Knotweed management
- Send out the 2022 4 year workplan process and timeline document

Next Meeting: April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 9am – 12pm