

Topic: **Forum Membership and Engagement**

Background:

Forum Membership composed of 42 recognized seats. About half seats unfilled. No or limited representation of interest groups, citizens, cities. Attendance by some filled seats sporadic.

Limited discussion at April 20 PDC meeting included recognition that engaging Forum agenda topics may help. Additional work identified include Forum review of operating guidelines and membership, membership recruitment, and active member engagement. Forum reinvigoration identified on 2017 Forum workplan.

Recognized Forum seats:

Tribes (1)

Tulalip Tribes

Counties (2)

King County
Snohomish County

Cities (14)

City of Carnation
City of Duvall
City of Everett
City of Gold Bar
City of Lake Stevens
City of Marysville
City of Monroe
City of Mukilteo
City of North Bend
City of Snohomish
City of Snoqualmie
City of Sultan
Town of Granite Falls
Town of Index

Citizens (3)

Tulalip Tribal Member
King County Resident
Snohomish County resident

Utilities and Special Purpose Districts (8)

City of Seattle
Port of Everett
Cross Valley Water District
East King County Regional Water Authority
Snohomish County PUD
King Conservation District
Snohomish Conservation District
Coordinated Diking Council

Interest Groups (11)

The Boeing Company
Master Builders Association
Sound Salmon Solutions
Pilchuck Audubon Society
Forterra
Snohomish County Sportsmen's Association
King County Agriculture (2 members)
Snohomish County Agriculture (2 members)
Recreation group or interests

State Agencies (2)

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
Washington Department of Ecology

Federal Agencies (1)

U.S. Forest Service

Excerpt from

Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum Guidelines, last updated November 3, 2011

FORUM MEMBERSHIP

The Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum represents a diversity of local interests in the Snohomish River Basin. See attached list on page 11. The Forum was originally set up to meet the requirements of RCW 77.85 and RCW 90.82.060.

From RCW 77.85.050

“(b) The lead entity shall establish a committee that consists of representative interests of counties, cities, conservation districts, tribes, environmental groups, business interests, landowners, citizens, volunteer groups, regional fish enhancement groups, and other habitat interests. The purpose of the committee is to provide a citizen-based evaluation of the projects proposed to promote salmon habitat.”

From RCW 90.82.060 Initiation of watershed planning

“(2) Watershed planning under this chapter may be initiated for a WRIA only with the concurrence of: (a) All counties within the WRIA; (b) the largest city or town within the WRIA unless the WRIA does not contain a city or town; and (c) the water supply utility obtaining the largest quantity of water from the WRIA or, for a WRIA with lands within the Columbia Basin project, the water supply utility obtaining from the Columbia Basin project the largest quantity of water for the WRIA.”

The Forum has also worked to coordinate, communicate, and identify local common ground on broader, complex watershed issues related to local salmon recovery. Incorporating a diversity of interests is key for building long-term community support for salmon recovery. Forum members must be able to work cooperatively and consider differing points of view.

Definitions

- Member: An agency, tribe, special purpose district, non-governmental organization (NGO), or individuals selected by the Forum to represent “at large” landowners and citizens.
- Representative: The person selected by the agency, tribe, special purpose district, NGO, or the Forum (only for “at large” landowners and citizens).
- Alternate: A substitute for and designated by the representative.

Membership Guidelines

- If the Forum wishes to add or replace a member, the Forum will identify the interest that needs representation and will solicit nominations from several agencies, special purpose districts, interest groups, landowners, or citizens that could meet this need. The solicitation should request information about the agency’s or organization’s interests and experience in salmon recovery, its willingness to support the Forum’s goal, its ability to commit to participation and report back to their constituency, the experience of the organization and representative in working in a coalition, and the perspective that would be contributed to the Forum. Forum staff will process this information and work with the Forum Chair and vice Chair to develop a recommendation to the Forum. The Forum will select a new member or representative by consensus and the Chair will send a confirmation letter.
- Agencies, tribes, special purpose districts, and NGOs will select their own representatives. If these Forum members wish to replace a representative, the agency or organization should notify the Forum chair through Forum staff.
- Forum members who are “landowners and citizens” that are not attached to an agency, business, special district, or non-governmental organization must live or own land in the basin. These representatives will be agreed upon by the Forum.

PDC DISCUSSION

June 15, 2017

- Forum members should live, work, or represent an organization that is active the Snohomish River Basin.
- The number and type of members could change based on Forum needs, attendance records, and Forum consensus.
- If new members are added, there should be balance between King and Snohomish counties.
- Forum members should have demonstrated ability to present the perspective of an organization or constituency concerned with salmon conservation in the Snohomish River basin.
- Forum members should have proven successful experience working cooperatively in a coalition of diverse interests.
- Forum members should have a standing alternate that can fully participate in meetings, including making decisions. Citizen members will not have alternates.
- Forum members should represent their larger communities (i.e., an environmental group should be able to generally speak for other environmental interests). They should inform their group and groups with similar interests about the Forum's activities.
- Forum members are encouraged to attend meetings regularly. The Forum also recognizes constraints on its members and their staff.
- If Forum members or their alternates cannot attend the meeting, they should notify Forum staff before the meeting. Three absences without notification may lead to replacement.
- If a Forum member is concerned that another member is not following the Forum guidelines, he or she should notify the Forum chair.

FORUM AGENDAS

Regular Business

- Grant round
- M&AM
- Change requests
- Funding updates/responses
- Workplan
- Basin Updates

Past Topics

- Project Updates/presentations (regularly)
 - o Qwuloolt, Smith, Lower Sky, Upper Carlson, nearshore beach nourishment
- Fish population analysis - 2015, 2016, 2017
- Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood - 2014, 2016
- Sustainable Lands Strategy - 2014, 2016
- Floodplains by Design – 2015, 2016
- Basin Protection Plan – 2015, 2016
- Climate change – 2015, 2016, 2017
- 10 yr Status – 2015, 2016, 2017
- Snohomish River Designation – 2015
- Funding primer – 2015
- Snohomish County CAR update (critical areas regulations) - 2014
- Estuary Story map and communication strategy planning - 2016

Potential topics

- Toxics, stormwater
- Net pens
- Reach scale planning (SLS)
- County and specific city SMP, CAO and comprehensive plan updates
- Open space planning
- Derelict vessels
- Coordinated Investment, especially identified projects
- Snoqualmie buffer task force
- Marine Survival Project
- Multi-benefit discussion – How to best engage Forum in SLS, FFF
- Steelhead
- Chum
- H integration