

DRAFT Meeting Summary

Snohomish Basin Salmonid Recovery Technical Committee

Tulalip Tribes, Tulalip

9:00 am - 12:00pm, September 12, 2017

In attendance:

Beth leDoux, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum/King County

Colin Wahl, Tulalip Tribes (Co-Chair)

Denise Krownbell, Seattle City Light

Elissa Ostergaard, Snoqualmie Forum

Scott Powell, Seattle City Light

Paul Crane, City of Everett

Lindsey Desmul, WDFW

Mike Crewson, Tulalip Tribes

Alex Pittman, Snohomish Conservation District

Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County

Mike Rustay, Snohomish County (Co-Chair)

Morgan Ruff, Tulalip Tribes

Phil North, Tulalip Tribes

Adrian Spidle, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

Todd Seamons, WDFW

Meeting Summary:

Introductions

Updates

- **Funding and 2017 grant round update:** Gretchen gave an update on the current State funding situation. Currently PSAR funding for projects on the 2016 list is on hold due to the State capital budget delays. Gretchen will track this and give updates as information becomes available. There are also approximately \$200k in returned 2015-17 PSAR funds that can be reallocated to current projects. These funds can go to projects with cost overruns, 2016 PSAR projects waiting for state funding, or potentially unfunded alternates from previous rounds. She presented the 2017 SRFB round SRFB projects. See meeting materials for funding and grant round details.
- **Regional:** Gretchen reported that the SRFB wrote a letter to Dept. of Ecology against issuing of permits for salmon net pens. The committee discussed the net pen failure and how it may impact Snohomish populations. The Leadership Council is also drafting a letter.

Gretchen and Scott shared that PSP and the Salmon Recovery Council is considering alternate PSAR evaluation based on a salmon benefit index. Gretchen will continue to track and report back as new information becomes available.

- **Status Update:** Elissa asked about Snohomish Status Update Report progress. The group working on various sections reported that some work was done over the summer, but for various reasons significant progress has been delayed.

- **Working Groups:** Morgan reported that the Estuary Working Group met in August. Conversations included the need for evaluation of current knowledge to guide the establishment of new targets and inform next suite of projects. NOAA has been working on documenting hydro and fish data and publications are forthcoming.
- **EPA Water Quality Standards:** Beth summarized updated EPA water quality standards. These are based on fish consumption standards, protecting heavy fish eaters, EPA has accepted the new standards. WA standards now deemed to be most stringent WQ standards in the nation. Fecal coliform is not included in the standard. Will need to follow up on fecal coliform debate (supposed to be coming out in November).
- **King County/Snoqualmie Updates:** Beth said that the Cooperative Watershed Management grant funded Beaver Relocation efforts and additional riparian work. There is a riparian planting App that will help project sponsors track their progress.

Elissa shared that the Snoqualmie team is working to update 10-yr targets for the Snoqualmie Forum and will try to finalize by the end of the year. They plan to use the EASC to recalculate targets. The Committee discussed the best way to move forward while also considering Targets for the entire Basin and the SBSRF as well. More discussion to come.

Scott briefly discussed next steps in the Farm Fish Flood process. Work is being done to move forward on FFF 2.0. Components of the next phase will likely be tackled over multiple years.

- **Other Updates:** Ray mentioned work done in the Nooksack in Whatcom County to use hydro-dynamic modeling as a tool to prioritize projects. He is a good contact if Committee is interested in hearing more about it. Mike Crewson reported that salmon return outlook for this year is questionable - returns at Sunset Falls are low for this time of year and there was high pre-spawn mortality in Wallace River Chinook. Morgan briefly described some SLS projects that may be moving forward and reminded the Committee that the 4-yr work plan is coming up. She will have more info at future meetings.

BREAK

Snohomish Chinook DNA: Mike Crewson, Adrian Spidel and Todd Seamons gave a presentation of their Chinook Genetic analysis. Genetics were collected from thousands of juvenile fin clips collected at screw traps and from estuary beach seines. They were able to establish parental lineage by matching spawner (carcass) DNA with DNA from juveniles and establish relative reproductive success. The Committee discussed results and hopes to dig deeper into DNA and location, timing and size data collected along with fin clips to get a fuller picture of fish use and survival over time and space in the Basin. Mike suggested holding a “fish sub-group” meeting to discuss additional possibilities.

Round Table Announcements

- **Smith Island Update:** Mike presented a few slides of Snohomish County’s Smith Island construction work. The new cross levee is 90% designed and interior habitat work (starter channels and wood structures) has begun and breach is anticipated in 2018.

Wrap Up: The meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held on 10/3/17.

Next Steps

- Continued analysis for 10-Year Status and Trends Report
- More discussion needed around 10-Year target update
- Consider a fish sub-group meeting to discuss Chinook genetic, timing, size and spatial data analysis.

Upcoming Meetings

- Policy Development Committee meeting: 10/19/17
- Forum meeting: 10/5/17
- Technical Committee meeting: 10/3/17

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