

UPDATES

PDC Meeting: September 21, 2017

Update: Capital budget remains unpassed by state legislature

Background:

The state legislature has adjourned for the summer without passing a capital budget for the 2017-2019 biennium.

The lack of a capital budget has implications for capital projects moving forward throughout the state, including those that are funded through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration program (PSAR), Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP) and Floodplains by Design (FbD).

Much is still unknown about the situation; we will forward on details and information as it becomes available.

Specific impacts for Snohomish Basin salmon recovery-related projects include:

- **2016 SRFB –approved projects slated to receive 2017-2019 PSAR funding cannot move forward.** Those projects are:
 - Tolt River - Lower Frew Floodplain Reconnection (King Co Water & Land Res)
 - Cherry Creek Phase II & III Construction (Sound Salmon Solutions)
 - South Fork Skykomish Acquisitions (Forterra)
 - Woods Creek RR Bridge Removal & Restoration (Adopt A Stream Foundation)
 - Woods Creek Culvert Cooperative (SnoCo, WFC, SCD)

- **Delays in the state capital budget may also affect**
 - Projects currently competing for 2017 SRFB and ESRP funding
 - Availability of 2017-2019 PSAR capacity funds
 - 2018 SRFB/PSAR grant round
 - State support for regional contracts; has implications for PSP
 - Staff and technical reviewers supported by capital funds, including: RCO staff, some lead entity staff and SRFB Technical Review Panel members

Topic: 2017 SRFB project list

Background –

- Project Scoring Committee met 6/5, 7/11 and 7/27 to determine project list recommendations
- Tech Com briefed on preliminary scoring committee recommendations on 6/6; PDC reviewed scoring committee preliminary recommendations on 7/20
- Scoring committee recommendations reviewed and approved at Aug. 3rd Forum meeting
- Staff working with Sound Salmon Solutions to determine cost increase need for Cherry Creek Phase 1 project; amendment will need to be approved by Forum (by Nov. 7); ~\$142,000 available from 2017 SRFB allocation

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Topic: **Reallocation of 15-17 PSAR returned funds.**

Background –

- Qwuloolt and Snohomish County's Beach Nourishment projects have both closed under budget.
- Unused 15-17 PSAR funds amount to **\$199,935**.
- The Basin can re-allocate these funds to active projects with cost increases or fund projects that are alternates on the 2016 and/or 2017 SRFB/PSAR project lists.
- The 15-17 PSAR funds will need to be expended by June 2019
- PSAR return funds could be contracted quickly, and could kick start 2016 PSAR projects that have been delayed because of the capital budget situation.

Staff are currently assessing project needs and reviewing possible alternatives.

PDC input on decision making process sought.