



SNOHOMISH BASIN SALMON RECOVERY FORUM

August 2, 2018

Floodplains by Design Reviewers
Washington State Dept. of Ecology
Floods and Floodplain Management
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

The Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum (Forum) would like to offer our support for the City of Snoqualmie's Floodplains by Design proposal: *Snoqualmie Riverfront Acquisition and Bank Stabilization*.

The Forum is a citizens committee that includes tribal, city and county governments, state and federal agencies as well as representatives from business, agriculture, recreation and environmental interests. As the Lead Entity for Snohomish Basin salmon recovery, the Forum works collaboratively to protect and restore salmon habitat in the Basin by following and promoting scientifically supported recommendations provided in the Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan (Plan) (2005) and the Snohomish Basin Protection Plan (SBPP) (2015).

This proposal addressed several priority ecological actions identified in the Snohomish Plan such as restoring hydrologic and sediment processes, restoring wetland functions, enhancing riparian areas, protection water quality and restoring shoreline conditions (Plan 11-84 – 11-86). These restoration actions in the headwaters (where listed bull trout are presumed) are critical to a watershed approach to restore habitat forming hydrologic processes for salmon downstream. In headwater sub-basins, the Plan and the SBPP prioritize actions that restore and preserve these natural hydrologic and sediment processes. WE feel that the City's proposal include these desired actions.

The Forum's primary focus is to promote restoration and protection actions that will have immediate and long-term benefit to our depressed salmon populations. We realize that often, especially in highly developed areas of the floodplain, the only way to make progress is to enable many small actions over time. We support the City's efforts to restore and protect floodplains in more locations along the waterfront.

If the proposal is accepted for funding, the Forum and its committees look forward to engaging with the City. We are committed to providing our technical and policy expertise to ensure capital projects are advanced, whenever possible, with emphasis on restoring and protection natural processes that create and sustain fish habitat and lead to a more resilient floodplain for people and fish.

Thank you for considering this important application for funding.

Sincerely,

Terry Williams
Forum Chair

Jim Miller
Forum Vice-chair

Cc: Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum members and alternates