

DRAFT Snohomish Basin Policy Development Committee
October 18, 2018 Meeting Summary
Willis Tucker Park, Weikel Room, 9:30-12:00

1. Agenda Overview and Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Introductions were made; in attendance were:
 - Gretchen Glaub (Snohomish County)
 - Alexa Ramos (Snohomish County)
 - Elissa Ostergaard (Snoqualmie Forum)
 - Rodney Pond (Sound Salmon Solutions)
 - Keith Binkley (Snohomish PUD)
 - Kirk Lakey (WDFW)
 - Kate Engel (Seattle City Light)

2. Ongoing Business

Gretchen reviewed the agenda.

3. Orca Task Force: the Task Force met 10/17 and 10/18 to discuss the comments received on the draft recommendations report. Kirk mentioned that the increased hatchery production recommendation is concerning to some and the vessel traffic strategies may not be so simple to implement on the ground. Some tribes have submitted requests to take pinnipeds since pinniped predation is cited as an issue. However, transitory pods prey on pinnipeds so this might be self-regulating. Some methods of addressing noise reduction were discussed as well.

4. Potential Forum Meeting Agenda Topics

- Riparian Roundtable: the SCD had asked for time to present on riparian buffers and their Woods Creek projects. Not quite sure if they're going to request a letter of support on variable buffer widths. For now, they just want to present and discuss the challenges around funding requirements of 100' buffer widths and how that impacts the work they can do with landowners. Beth leDoux with the Snoqualmie Forum will also present an update on the FFF 2.0 Buffer Task Force. Hopefully, if the tribes are willing to be flexible then federal funders will follow suit and remove the requirement since it was driven by tribes in the first place.
- ESSB 6091: Gretchen met with the WRIA 7 WRE committee coordinator, Ingria Jones, earlier this week to discuss basin dynamics and existing committee structures. On 10/23 Ecology will host a public meeting on Net Ecological Benefit. And on 10/25 the WRIA 7 WRE committee will meet for the first time.

- WDFW ESRP Grant Update: the Ebey Island and DD6 project could be presented by Lindsey. The project ranked 5th or 6th on the list.
- 10-year Status & trends report: Gretchen will work with Morgan on this.
- Floodplains by Design: project sponsor should be hearing back this week on the ranking so stay tuned.
- Swan Trails Dinner: the dinner was held on 9/18. It went really well and it provided a space to hear from the passionate farmers and ag. community about the constraints and challenges they face.
- Letter of support: someone suggested sending a letter to the Fish Barrier Removal Board to advocate for the Pilchuck Dam Removal as a top priority project.
- SLS Implementation Committee Update: Cindy and Morgan have been working on this effort and there may be some funding available to get it off the ground. Stay tuned.
- Cherry Creek Project Update: there will need to be a scope change approval. Previous cost overruns from soil disposal remain a challenge. We have \$100K set aside for this, but it looks like we may need \$150K more depending on how the potential solutions pan out.
- Legislative Priorities: staff drafted a document of legislative priorities adapted from the Snoqualmie Forum. The committee reviewed the document and accompanying draft letter to legislators. These will be presented at the Nov. 1st Forum meeting. A letter to the Governor is the top priority since the budget is currently in the works. We can hold off on legislator letters until the orca recovery recommendations and the Governor's budget are finalized. Gretchen will work with Elissa to keep the document dynamic.
 - The group discussed outreach to legislators for one-on-one or small group boat tours of the estuary to kick off the Estuary Work Group again. This could be timely around the Smith Island celebration.
- SnoCo SWM Budget: a fee increase could come about in the future. It doesn't look like it will be proposed for this year though.
- Pilchuck Working Group: a kick-off meeting will be held next week. Perry and Morgan are coordinating this.
- 1631 Carbon Bill: staff and partners will draft a 1-pager informational flyer to share at Forum.
- SRC Update: at the last meeting it mostly centered on orca recovery, staff updates, and the PSAR ranked list finalization.
- February Forum meeting: this will have a focus on water quality.
- Snoqualmie Forum: the next meeting is 11/14. They will be discussing the King County 20% SWM fee increase. This could be good for managers in SnoCo SWM to attend. Gretchen will connect with Erik and Gregg on this.

- Riverside Landowners Enforcement Tour: there was a tour/meeting with staff from DNR, WDFW, and SnoCo. Landowners have concerns about squatters and firing of weapons into the river. The Snohomish River Walk signage and logistics was discussed (impacts of recreation to landowners and salmon). This could be an opportunity to educate on salmon habitat. Overall, we could really benefit from more communication tools doe dealing with riverside landowners. We need to work on communicating what we do better. We could explore having a presence at the river festivals and other events. Gretchen will send out a member survey for starting a communication work group to explore interest and opportunities.
5. Review Next Steps and Adjourn
- Meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

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