

Meeting Summary

Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Technical Committee
WDFW Office, Mill Creek
9:00 am – 12:00 pm, November 5, 2019

In attendance:

1. Alexa Ramos, Snohomish County
2. Colin Wahl, Tulalip Tribes
3. Elissa Ostergaard, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
4. Mike Rustay, Snohomish County
5. Lindsey Desmul, WDFW
6. Kirk Lakey, WDFW
7. Micah Wait, Wild Fish Conservancy
8. Elizabeth Butler, RCO
9. Doug Hennick, Wild Fish Conservancy
10. Kevin Lee, WDFW
11. Keith Binkley, Snohomish PUD
12. Denise Krownbell, Seattle City Light
13. Carson Moscoso, Snohomish Conservation District
14. Matt Baerwalde, Snoqualmie Tribe
15. Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County
16. Morgan Ruff, Tulalip Tribes
17. Erin Murray, Puget Sound Partnership

Meeting Summary:

Introductions

Colin opened the meeting with introductions and then reviewed the agenda.

Updates – Basin, Regional, State

2020 SRFB/PSAR Round – Gretchen reported that the RFP has been released. Letters of intent will be due November 26th. Updates to the 4-Year Work Plan will also be due at that time. Changes to the 4YWP can be made through Smartsheet. Full applications will be due in February. Applications will now be submitted through an online portal (open in January) instead of the Word document format as in previous years. A template document is being prepared so that sponsors can work on their applications before submitting in the portal. All details are available on our website. Contact Morgan, Gretchen or Alexa with questions.

Reallocation of Funds – Gretchen reported that it likes some projects were completed under budget so we can expect some funds returning to the basin. However, it's not quite certain how much and the funds are from different grant round years and programs (PSAR vs. SRFB) so we need to wait for some more information before making a decision recommendation, likely in December.

2020-2021 Meeting Schedule – Gretchen walked the committee through the draft meeting schedule for the next year. Dates have been changed to accommodate the new SRFB grant round schedule. The proposed schedule indicates the Tech Comm will not take the summer off as in previous years due to the chapter update work that will require more collaboration to complete by the June 2021 deadline.

Snoqualmie Basin – The new Snoqualmie Forum Technical Coordinator, Emily Davis, has been hired to backfill Beth leDoux's position for 1 year. Her first day will be November 20th. She comes from the Northwest Indian

Fisheries Commission. Gretchen was part of the hiring process and said she has a good energy. The committee is excited to have her onboard.

Project Updates

Cherry Creek – the flood last week fully inundated the site and it is looking good.

Mid-Spencer – the project is all wrapped up. Mike shared a time lapse of the initial breach. The Oct. 22nd flood did not rack up much wood.

Flood Report

At the Shake Mill left bank in the NF Snoqualmie near three forks an erosion control structure was installed and the recent flood brought soil right over to where they backfilled.

At Bob Heirman Park/Thomas' Eddy/Beck Dike many people don't realize the area floods through the backwater. Mike shared a video from the Oct. 22nd flood event. As shown in the footage, the flood water comes in fast, but takes a long time to drain back out.

Snoqualmie Forum

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 20th. The agenda items include a recap of the Fish, Farm, Flood effort and their annual end of year celebration. All are welcome to attend.

Floodplains by Design IT

The IT is looking at how to accelerate on the ground implementation of multi-benefit projects. There will be a kick-off/launch event soon.

Tulalip Tribes Acquisition Strategy Update

Brett Shattuck with Tulalip Tribes presented an update on this effort. He reviewed the project goals and purpose, scope, background, basis, and draft products including their Floodplain Unit scoring scheme and example maps prioritizing areas for protection and restoration.

Adopt-a-Stream Woods Creek Trestle Removal Update

The initial phase of this project was submitted under PRISM #16-1639. The project seeks to remove the railroad bridge which acts as a barrier and racks up wood blocking juvenile migration. The bridge is owned by Snohomish County and the railroad is owned by Burlington Northern. The county acquired the trestle originally with plans to turn it into part of a larger trail system. The sponsor reviewed the project's progress so far and anticipated next steps. The sponsor intends to submit an application for final design, permits, and construction estimate. There are some concerns about the impacts of removal to the upstream railroad and bridge from potential incision. There are concerns that the side channel could become the main channel. Gretchen suggested moving the project forward in phases 1) trestle removal 2) floodplain reconnection; and being clear about the exact fish benefit of the project.

The regular meeting adjourned at 11:30am and a chapter update work group convened for the remaining time.