

Meeting Summary

Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Technical Committee
WDFW Office, Mill Creek
9:00 am – 12:00 pm, December 3, 2019

In attendance:

1. Alexa Ramos, Snohomish County
2. Jason Hall, Cramer Fish Sciences
3. Julie Lewis, Snoqualmie Tribe
4. Morgan Ruff, Tulalip Tribes
5. Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County
6. Lindsey Desmul, WDFW
7. Kirk Lakey, WDFW
8. Elissa Ostergaard, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
9. Emily Davis, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
10. Denise Krownbell, City of Seattle
11. Erin Murray, PSP
12. Kyle Koch, AASF
13. Keith Binkley, SnoPUD
14. Cory Zyla, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
15. Colin Wahl, Tulalip Tribes
16. Mike Rustay, Snohomish County
17. Brett Shattuck, Tulalip Tribes
18. Jim Shannon, Hart Crowser
19. Kevin Lee, WDFW
20. Caron Moscoso, SCD

Meeting Summary:

Introductions

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

Updates – Basin, Regional, State

Reallocation Decision – Gretchen explained the projects that will be returning funds and the alternates for consideration to receive these additional funds. The alternates proposed are those that could use the funding by the June 2021 deadline. See handout for more details. The Tech Comm. approved recommending the proposed reallocation to the Forum. Gretchen will send it via email to the Forum for final approval.

Notices of Intent 2020 SRFB/PSAR Round – Our basin can submit up to three PSAR large cap projects this year. It looks like we have two right now and potentially a third (\$1M culvert project). Projects that go for large cap funding cannot remain on our local ranked list. There is potential for these large cap projects to apply for Floodplains by Design funding too. Projects applying for Fbd will need to present to the Tech Comm to receive a letter of support. February or March timing would be ideal.

So far, the project review committee feedback has been to recommend Tier 3 and Tier 4 project sponsors not proceed since this round will be very competitive and those proposals will likely not rank highly.

4-Year Work Plan Update – All of the new projects applying for SRFB, that needed to be added, were submitted on Smartsheet. But there are still many projects that need to be updated. Basin staff will have time to work with sponsors to get projects updated. The update is due to PSP and RCO in July/August.

Snoqualmie Watershed Forum – The new Technical Coordinator, hired to backfill Beth's position, has started. Emily Davis comes from NWIFC most recently. She brings lots of good technical experience and is excited to dig in.

NOAA Lifecycle Model – Tim Beechie presented on the project giving an overview of the Chehalis watershed analysis using this tool. Our basin has been interested in running EDT again to check out assumptions about recovery strategies and fish needs in light of recent fish, farm, flood efforts. But EDT is expensive. Instead, we turned to this lifecycle model. Morgan's Near-Term Action proposal received NEP funding for this work. Phase 1 is focused on building the model. Phase 2 will look at comparing scenarios. This project's is well-timed to align with the Plan Update. Tim gave an overview of the lifecycle model's steps to create outputs. The Chehalis basin was presented as an example of how the tool can work. A complete report will be finished Dec. 30th for the Chehalis. The Steelhead model is going through QA/QC. In 2020, the habitat data and restoration scenarios will be updated, the chum model will be completed, and stochastic effects of peak flows will be incorporated. See presentation for more information.

The lifecycle model for the Snohomish will be a simplified version of the Chehalis, but with the same basic structure. The Snohomish model will utilize existing data only (e.g. current conditions), rather than generating new data, to run initial scenarios. For Phase 2, we can go back and run scenarios on the data we need to generate (e.g historic).

Funding for Phase 1 is secured. March 2021 is the NEP deadline to complete the first phase of work. Phase 2 is partially funded and still seeking funds.

Plan Update – Susan gave an overview of the approach for the plan update moving forward. The process will be divided into three stages. Stage 1 will include compiling existing information, developing a conceptual diagram, completing relevant white papers, designating monitoring priorities, and laying out the table of contents. Stage 2 will focus on developing specific steps based on Stage 1 (e.g. capacity, expectations, etc.).

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