



SCD 528 91<sup>st</sup> Ave NE, Ste A, Lake Stevens, WA 98258-2538  
Phone 425-335-5634, ext 4 FAX 425-335-5024 Website: [www.snohomishcd.org](http://www.snohomishcd.org)

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September 21, 2010

Dear Mr. Connolly and Ms. Betchley:

Thank you for the June 24, 2010 letter from the Stillaguamish River Clean Water District (CWD) Advisory Board. The Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) greatly appreciates the input/recommendations from the Board and the opportunity to work collaboratively to address the natural resource concerns within the CWD.

- The SCD will continue the follow-up survey work within the CWD. This is a valuable tool, and it does help to identify potential projects. The SCD is in the process of hiring a new planner to support the activities in the CWD. This person is scheduled to start working at the SCD in October. The SCD is pleased to have the opportunity to use the fund balance via a multi-year effort to help provide a more consistent and steady level of service to the CWD cooperators.
- The SCD supports the CWD Board's intentions to pursue Discretionary Fund projects. The SCD will use the Nexus publication, our website, seminars, workshops, and other means to publicize the program. The SCD will emphasize that the Discretionary Fund is a critical element and will help to drive results.
- The SCD understands the importance of the farm and livestock surveys and the follow-up activities. These actions lead to direct contact with and support of cooperators to address their natural resource concerns. In 2011, the SCD will commit to surveys of the Portage Creek and Fish Creek watersheds, and would like to conduct and complete the surveys by the end of April 2011.
- The SCD is committed to working with the CWD Board and Snohomish County Surface Water Management to address the priority action items within the Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program. The SCD is interested in exploring new, proactive, and creative ways to approach educational outreach and cooperator engagement that can broaden the impact of our efforts. The SCD is willing to pursue available grants to address these and other actions/activities.

- The SCD will continue to work with the CWD Board and Snohomish County in the development of the 2011 SCD Work Plan for the Stillaguamish Clean Water District. The SCD is committed to working cooperatively with all our partners in the CWD to address the natural resource concerns within the CWD

If you have any additional questions, comments, or concerns ... please let me know. You can reach me at 425-335-5634 ext 107. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Monte H. Marti  
District Manager