

# **Snohomish Basin Salmonid Recovery Technical Committee Mission, Roles and Guiding Principles**

Adopted November 9, 2004

Revised by the Core Team for review by the SBSRTC 5/4/21

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Snohomish Basin Salmonid Recovery Technical Committee is to provide scientific support for protection and enhancement of the abundance, productivity, diversity, and spatial structure of all salmonid populations in the Snohomish River Basin. The Technical Committee is an independent, self-guiding and self-directing body that works in parallel with, and in support of, the Snohomish Forum, but makes its own decisions about its structure, function, and scope of work.

## Committee Roles

1. Provide technical support to the Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum on implementation and adaptive management of the Snohomish Basin Salmon Conservation Plan (SBSRF, 2005);
2. Scope and coordinate a research, monitoring and adaptive management strategy for the Snohomish Basin Salmon Conservation Plan;
3. Share information about current research related to salmonid habitat, hydropower, harvest and hatchery management;
4. Evaluate project proposals for grant processes such as SRFB, PSAR, CWM, and as requested by the Snohomish Forum; and
5. Review and provide technical comment related to harvest, hatchery, hydropower, and habitat—specifically, land use, water quality and water quantity management.

## Guiding Principles

1. Use the highest quality scientific data available to develop and test hypotheses;
2. Promote preservation and restoration strategies that work with natural ecosystem processes and recognize the dynamic nature of rivers and watersheds; and
3. Emphasize restoration of habitat for salmonids and other native flora and fauna through the restoration of properly functioning ecosystems;
4. Use historical information on site conditions to guide restoration;

5. Use monitoring and assessment to guide adaptive management.
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#### Ground Rules

1. Members accept responsibility to attend all meetings and prepare for discussions.
2. Members agree to contribute to the preparation of committee work products.
3. Members are all equal participants and will be given equal opportunities to voice opinions and ideas.
4. Members agree to back up their position with literature citations and other relevant supporting evidence.
5. Members agree to focus on science and defer policy issues to the Policy Development Committee.
6. Members should be open to other points of view and commit to treating each other with respect and civility.
7. Decisions will be reached using a consensus continuum. In rare cases where consensus is not possible, the dissenter will have an opportunity to document their alternative view in an appendix.
8. If you cannot live with the emerging consensus of the group, you must offer an alternative that you believe everyone else can live with too.
9. Absence from meetings and failure to designate an alternate or communicate views signals concurrence with the consensus outcome.
10. Media contact will be coordinated through both co-chairs.
11. Attendees other than voting members (e.g., interested parties, Basin or Forum staff, etc.) are expected to adhere to ground rules 3-6 above, and strongly encouraged to adhere to ground rules 1-2, although we recognize that members have a greater responsibility than non-members. Although non-voting members are welcome (and encouraged) to provide input and feedback on decisions unless otherwise specified, ground rules 7, 8, and 9 apply more specifically to members than to non-members.