

# Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Technical Committee Meeting Summary

May 3rd, 2022, 9:00—12:00; Zoom

## Attendees

Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County

Matt Pouley, Tulalip Tribes

Mike Rustay, Snohomish County

Aaron Kopp, Snohomish County

Andrea Mojzak, King County

Anne Savery, Tulalip Tribes

Ashley Kees, WDFW

Brett Shattuck, Tulalip Tribes

Carson Moscoso, Snohomish CD

Daniel Howe, Snohomish County

Darcey Hughes, Snohomish County

Denise Di Santo, King County

Denise Krownbell, Seattle City Light

Doug Hennick, Wild Fish Conservancy

Elissa Ostergaard, Snoqualmie Forum

Heather Khan, WA Dept of Ecology

Jake Kvistad, Cramer Fish Sciences

Jason Hall, Cramer Fish Sciences

Jim Shannon, Port/City of Everett, H&A

Josh Chamberlin, NOAA NWFSC

Kathleen Pozarycki, Snohomish County

Keith Binkley, Snohomish County PUD

Kevin Lee, WDFW

Kirk Lakey, ARHPM WDFW

Kyle Legare, Snohomish County PUD

Lindsey Desmul, WDFW

Marty Jacobson, WA Dept of Ecology

Max Showalter, DNR

Matt Baerwalde, Snoqualmie Tribe

Mike Crewson, Tulalip Tribes

Natasha Coumou, Tulalip Tribes

Paul Crane, City of Everett

Pete Verhey, WDFW

Ryan Lewis, Snoqualmie Tribe

Stuart Baker, Snohomish County

Steve Hinton, Tulalip Tribes

Susan O'Neil, Environmental Science Associates

Tim Beechie, NOAA NWFSC

Walt Rung, Adopt a Stream

## Intros and Agenda Review

- Mike Rustay opened the meeting and introductions were completed

## Regional and Basin updates

- Riparian Forest Health Strategy
  - Susan O'Neil from ESA presented on the Invasives Species Management for Riparian Forest Health plan (knotweed on the lower Skykomish)
    - Lower Skykomish Knotweed Management Plan is out for review through May 10
    - A Literature Review is under technical review
    - The Basin-Wide Strategy, a high-level policy document including funding sources will be issued soon and be available for a review period between May 9 and 20 and will be brought back to the Tech Comm on June 7.
- 2022 Grant Round/Funding Updates
  - 12 projects over \$5M have been submitted and reviewed. Local scores have been drafted and the State Technical Review cleared 2, conditioned 1, listed 1 as a Project of Concern, and needed more information on 8.
    - Working with sponsors and re-scoring, will be coming back in June with a ranked project list.
  - The Lead Entity (LE) recently submitted a large Floodplains by Design proposal.

- Stay tuned for updates about requests for Proposals from Kathleen with the Local Integrating Organization (LIO).
- LE has a two-year budget list to communicate with the Legislature about project funding, and manages a four-year list for PSAR grant funding. Other lists are used for Puget Sound organizations and Federal funding mechanisms.
  - The LE is trying to consolidate the information needed for the list and will send out a request for project information to avoid redundant requests.
- A culvert on Elliott Road identified by the Tulalip Tribes was added to the 4-year approved project list to assist with scoring. Natasha Coumou outlined the assessments done by the Tulalip Tribes and Matt Pouley explained the project was overlooked for the list due to the opportunistic timelines.
  - Opportunity was provided for feedback and the project was added without opposition.
- Kathleen Pozarycki outlined recommended actions to reduce administrative burden and increase capacity, including consolidation of databases and streamlining reporting requirements to be brought to the Leadership Council, since some of the actions will require legislative changes.
  - A forum will be held June 8-9 at Port of Everett, with time to work on this issue.
- Follow-up on Pilchuck Culvert Prioritization
  - Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) was looking for a ranked list; the priority structures list will be used as a guide for low-hanging fruit in the future but ultimately didn't meet the expectations from RCO.
  - There have been communication issues with Fish Passage Barrier Removal Board and not necessarily RCO; something Lead Entities across the state have been raising.

### **Woods Creek Trestle**

- Walt Rung, from Adopt-a-Stream, presented a project for consideration by the Technical Committee about the removal of a creosote-treated wooden trestle built in 1939 on Woods Creek and a side channel of the Skykomish River.
  - The trestle has been a presumptive fish-passage barrier and has been damming debris. After extensive community engagement and stakeholder participation, plans for a \$764,762 removal & restoration project have been developed with assistance from Chinook Restoration, and are in final rounds of permitting. The project is aimed for construction next summer.
  - Debris jams are planned to prevent avulsion of the mainstem.
  - Removal of as much of the creosote pilings as possible is preferred by the plans. There are about 80 pilings for the trestle.
  - Questions and Discussion:
    - Construction would be next summer if funding is secured.
    - Vertical drops from the debris jams can be upwards of 10 feet. 2D flow models were used to evaluate risks to adjacent infrastructure.

## NOAA Life Cycle Model

- Tim Beechie presented preliminary results from [modeling habitat assessment and restoration in the Snohomish Basin on a subbasin level](#). The model relies on estimates from current and historical conditions to inform which actions have the greatest impact on recovery efforts; in the Snohomish Basin, restoring historic beaver ponds and floodplain habitat have the greatest impact on Coho abundance. Removal of riprap banks and restoration of historical channel length is shown by the model to have the greatest impact on Chinook abundance. Steelhead abundance is shown to be most greatly impacted by increased wood loading and restoration of historic floodplain habitat (side channels).
  - Next Steps: Variables of capacity aren't yet included. Capacity information is known at this point, but work is being done to find out what the best estimate of life cycle function for the delta. Products are due at the end of September, 2022. On track to be done a bit early.
  - Questions and Discussion:
    - How does the model show effects of large woody debris (LWD) on life stage?
      - LWD can deflect flow and affect scour. The model doesn't estimate the reduction in scour due to a lack of empirical variables.
      - Temperature is a function of channel length, the model doesn't take into consideration local effects of cooling due to LWD because it focuses on a reach scale.
    - Are the findings similar in the Stillaguamish basin?
      - Broadly similar, but more work to be done on delta and the higher yearling population in the Stillaguamish.
    - How does the model work with related responses?
      - Barriers are classified by their location type and the model doesn't account for multiple complexity of barriers downstream.
      - Differentiation is estimated from historical percentages. Strategies and targets are modelled, not necessarily specific actions.
    - Does the model account for groundwater influence beyond hyporheic flow?
      - No; there's no way to estimate incised channel flow, based on currently available data. More data gathering may be needed to add such parameters to the model, but could be helpful to detail
    - Will there be opportunities for input about life cycle SARs?
      - Available datasets for life cycle survival rates are being used, but fry and migrant information is needed. More information is always helpful.
    - Does the model differentiate between subbasin?
      - Yes, habitat data are reach-specific.

## Updates



# Summer Plans! Share your news, updates, or requests

## As we move in to summer time!

(please note who the update is from)



King County's Fall City Floodplain Restoration Project construction starts next week. Construction will take two years and will focus on left bank (Barfuse) earthwork this summer. [Check out the website for the latest](#). We'll try to organize some field tours if people are interested.

Morgan and Gretchen and Carston will be circling back with all sponsors on your intended projects for the next 4ish years.

Snohomish CD - construction starting soon for fish passable culvert just south of Granite Falls on Coon Creek, trib to Pilchuck River. Designs continue for fish passage projects near Lake Stevens and Monroe for construction down the road.

FYI - Cory Zyla has accepted a new position at TNC and will be leaving the Snoqualmie Forum staff

Thanks to everyone who reviewed and made comments on the basin-wide knotweed strategy. We're considering the strategy paper vetted by the Tech Com and will be bringing it to the Forum Thursday.

King County kicked off a feasibility study into a restoration project at the Fish Hatchery Road Bridge SE(Upper Plum revetment just downstream of Tokul Creek) Could have something to share this winter.

Evening Film event - Tale of Two Rivers - taking place Thursday;  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tales-of-two-rivers-snohomish-river-film-festival-tickets-333764587867>

Ecology: Summer 2022 and possibly Spring 2023 investigation of brown water in French Creek.

Ecology: Water Quality Combined Financial Assistance - Recipient Training Webinar Series: Wastewater Facility - June 27; Stormwater Facility and Activity - June 28; Nonpoint Source Activity - June 29; Environmental Review for Loan - June 30; Cultural Resources Review for all projects - June 30.

DNR is providing substantial Conservation Corps time this summer, working in coordination with SnoCo WCC crew

King County has restarted preliminary design for the Lower Frew Project (lower Tolt River). King County's Flood Control District has taken over funding the project.



TALES OF TWO RIVERS PRESENTS  
THE SNOHOMISH RIVER FILM FESTIVAL  
JUNE 9, 5-8 PM @ LUCKEE FISHERS  
2222 BIRCHWOOD BLVD SE  
EVERETT, WA 98203

Heather Khan accepted a new position with EPA, Region 10. Her last day with Ecology will be June 17.

Also Everett SWM is working with WFC on Fish Passage Barrier Assessments.

Ecology: Danielle DeVoe is the new watershed unit supervisor, replacing Ralph Svrjcek. Her first day was June 1.

For those interested in restoration monitoring our reports are posted here for our Smith Island sites:  
[Environmental Stewardship | Everett, WA - Official Website \(everettwa.gov\)](#)

<https://www.portofeverett.com/environmental/cleanups.php>  
Port of Everett restoring 1,300 of shoreline habitat at Preston Point (Baywood).

Next Meeting: June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 9am – 12pm