

Meeting Summary

Snohomish Basin Salmonid Recovery Technical Committee

WDFW Office, Mill Creek

9:00 am - 12:00pm, March 7, 2017

In attendance:

Beth leDoux, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum/King County (Co-Chair)

Colin Wahl, Tulalip Tribes (Co-Chair)

Brett Shattuck, Tulalip Tribes

Morgan Ruff, Tulalip Tribes

Josh Meidav, Tulalip Tribes

Ryan Miller, Tulalip Tribes

Denise Krownbell, Seattle City Light

Scott Powell, Seattle City Light

Doug Hennick, Wild Fish Conservancy

Matthew Baerwalde, Snoqualmie Tribe

Paul Crane, City of Everett

Jim Starkes, Port of Everett

Lindsey Desmul, WDFW

Dan Calvert, PSP

Kevin Lee, Sounds Salmon Solutions

Kirk Lakey, WDFW

Alex Pittman, Snohomish Conservation District

Luke Hanna, Snohomish County

Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County

Mike Rustay, Snohomish County

Alexa Ramos, Snohomish County

Meeting Summary:

Introductions

Basin Updates

- **10-Year Update:** Gretchen and Morgan provided an update on the progress of the 10 yr Status & Trends Report. The team is currently in the middle of data collection. Gretchen reviewed the timeline for completion with the committee. Morgan walked the group through the Nearshore, Estuary, and Mainstem metrics to ask for input on the process of calculating restoration metric totals. Luke and Mike reviewed the log jam data they've compiled. Mike reviewed the bank conditions data. He noted the data is a bit variable and needs some checking on those spots. Colin reviewed the riparian land cover data. His data is based on the NOAA analysis and so far the data is matching up. The next data set will come out in May and he will incorporate that then. Colin let the committee know that he just received the salmon population trends data on Friday. Morgan noted that an Estuary White Paper is in the works and can be included as an appendix.

Denise requested data on flood fencing from Snohomish County.

- **M & AM tiers:** Beth explained the tiered approach –
 - Tier 1: What we want *everyone* to track (desktop analysis/quick site visit)

- Tier 2: Requires fieldwork; more reach scale level
- Tier 3: Like our habitat conditions effort; done every 5-10 years ideally; similar to Josh Kubo's fish use monitoring

This is not intended to be a burden on those doing work in the watershed. We just want this data to roll up in the status updates. Mike also noted that these aren't new metrics. We have been collecting this data for years. This is just an opportunity for everyone to get on the same page and confirm that these are the metrics we want to use.

- **Tolt River Corridor Letter:** The letter was sent.
- **Steelhead Mapping:** There was a meeting on January 30th. Historic steelhead counts are being used to determine the historic potential.
- **Snoqualmie Updates:** Beth announced that Round 1 interviews to fill Janne Kaje's former position have concluded. King Co. hopes to have the job filled by mid-April. Beth gave an update on the CWM grant round. There were 21 asks totaling over \$1 million for the \$870K available. They will be taking \$60K off the top every year for 3 years to put towards the Tulalip screw trap. This will be reevaluated in 2020. The Snoqualmie Forum will be sending a letter to Snohomish County requesting they contribute similar support.
- **Juvenile Toxics:** Sandy O'Neil couldn't make it to the meeting, but communicated that there is not much to report yet. Lab analysis is currently underway. She would like to present the findings in the Fall.
- **Net Pen Management Recommendations:** WA Dept. of Ecology is working to update their plan/policy. We may be seeing more aquaculture in the future.

SRFB 2017

Gretchen reviewed the timeline. \$474K total was requested. May 23rd and 24th are the tentative dates for the tours, but we'll likely only need one day to visit the small number of projects proposed this year.

The funding allocation is being reduced to 38% from 42%. We're not sure about the watershed breakdown. Further discussion to come Thursday at the Watershed Leads meeting. The Forum did send letters of support for salmon program funding (PSAR, SRFB, ESRP, FbD) legislators. The President's budget calls for an elimination of Puget Sound National Estuary Program funding.

BREAK

Estuary Communications/Story Map/SLS Video: Lindsey presented the SLS video and salmon story map. Tribe, farmer, flooding/diking, and recreation story maps to come if/when funding is available.

Climate Change Basin Coordination

- **White paper update:** Beth let the committee know that the paper is being finalized; a final draft should be coming next week. We hope to incorporate it into the Status & Trends Report and Plan Update.
- **Next steps**
 - WQ for Plan Update? TMDLs, PBDEs
 - Geographic specificity
 - Incorporate harvest and hatchery
 - Include climate change scoring to SRFB criteria
 - SC2 for Snohomish (ad hoc)
- **Tulalip climate adaptation:** started the process, but now Josh is leaving progress may slow on that for the time being.

- No self-governance money
- No competitive grant round for climate resilience funding

Round Table Announcements

- Denise mentioned they have 154 acres as a test spot replanting for different, more climate resilient species
- Brett noted that Chinook are coming out of the screw trap. Land transfers are being looked at. Possibly considering an acquisition strategy similar to the Stillaguamish. It would need vetting as a larger group.
- Scott gave an update on the Snoqualmie FFF effort. The ag caucus had worked internally during the Fall and Winter and proposed changes to the Phase 1 final report, focused on accountability for mutual progress on ag and fish initiatives. The full Advisory Committee identified that the changes were significant enough so that the support letters completed in the Fall could not be used. There was still consensus on the basic set of actions, and King County was considering options for completion of Phase 1.
- Kirk gave an update on the recreation community bills. It's looking like they'll pass.

Wrap Up: The meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held on April 4, 2017.

Key Decisions

None

Next Steps

- Final vetting of Climate Change paper
- SRFB pre-proposal review
- Continued data analysis for 10 yr Status and Trend Report

Resources and Upcoming Events

- Salmon Recovery Conference, April 25 – 27
Link: http://www.rco.wa.gov/salmon_recovery/2017-SalmonConference/ConfHome.shtml

Upcoming Meetings

- Policy Development Committee meeting: April 20, 2017
- Forum meeting: May 4, 2017