

Snohomish Basin Policy Development Committee
April 20, 2017 Meeting Summary
Gary Weikel Room, Willis Tucker Park, 9:30-12:00

1. Agenda Overview and Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m.
- Introductions were made; in attendance were:
 - Gretchen Glaub (Snohomish County)
 - Alexa Ramos (Snohomish County)
 - Ikuno Masterson for Terri Strandberg (Snohomish County)
 - Trudy Sonano (Snohomish County)
 - Morgan Ruff (Tulalip Tribes)
 - Dawn Presler (Snohomish County PUD)
 - Denise Johns (City of Snohomish)
 - Jim Miller (City of Everett)
 - Cindy Dittbrenner (Snohomish Conservation District)
 - Scott Powell (Seattle City Light)
 - Perry Falcone (Snoqualmie Forum)
 - Elissa Ostegaard (Snoqualmie Forum)

2. Basin Updates

- Snoqualmie Forum: Elissa Ostegaard introduced herself as the new Salmon Recovery Manager for the Snoqualmie Forum, filling Janne Kaje's former role. She comes, most recently, from WRIA 9. Elissa told the group that the Snoqualmie Forum is adopting the CWM grant project package at their next meeting. There was \$1.3 M in requests with only \$800K to allocate this year; about 17 projects total. The Snoqualmie Forum budget will be reviewed for approval at the next meeting as well. No big changes from last year are anticipated.
- SRFB 2017: Gretchen gave a handout with details. Gretchen informed the group that the two knotweed projects chose not to go forward with submitting a full proposal. Applications will be due April 25th for staff to review before the final May 2nd deadline. Wild Fish Conservancy's project – Beckler Confluence LWD Design (approved last year's grant round), will be returning \$80-90,000 in SRFB/PSAR funds. The feasibility study yielded results that are not favorable for continuing; they will not be proceeding at this time.
- The LE may have PSAR funds to re-appropriate, which begs the question – How does the Lead entity make decisions about re-appropriating funds? For instance,

the Woods Creek Culvert project from last year was underfunded by ~\$46K, so would we allocate the return funds to that project? Cindy will double check on the Woods Creek proposal for 2017 since they may have accounted for that shortfall in this year's request.

- Also, some other LEs, especially in small grant \$ years, have foregone grant rounds and have either decided to:
 - Fund down their previous year's list
 - "loan" their allocation in anticipation of receiving the loan for the next (bigger) grant round (i.e. this is what WRIA 8 did last year).
- Follow-up – Gretchen will work with RCO to get possible \$ amounts that could be re-allocated. **PDC will review in future funding decisions.**
- Other: FFF staff report will be presented to County Council along with a concise letter for all parties to sign.
- Sky to Sound Water Trail: Trudy gave an overview of the project. This would run from Skykomish to Everett (84 miles), connecting existing access points along the river. Forterra is writing the concept plan. The project team wants users to learn about salmon and recovery. The Tulalip Tribes have expressed concerns about increasing recreational use of the river and the potential impacts to cultural resources as well as impeding salmon restoration projects.

3. Regional Updates

- Funding: Gretchen provided a budget briefing handout.
 - State - The Forum sent letters of support in Feb. for state salmon recovery funding programs. State budget negotiations are now taking place to negotiate final numbers for SRFB, PSAR, ESRP, FbD programs. PSAR is at least at \$30 million in house and senate budgets. Funding beyond \$30 million will go to large cap projects looking alright.
 - Federal - PCSRF has \$0 in the President's proposed budget. Five West coast governors signed a letter of support for PCSRF. **PDC members requested that a letter of support be sent by the Forum to our federal delegation requesting support for the PCSRF fund.**
- SRC: Scott updated the committee on the topics from the March SRC meeting. There was tribal encouragement to learn more about Harvest and Hatchery Management and more interface with recreational fishers. We will be getting less of the salmon fund allocation than in previous years. We expect to get 38% of the statewide funds rather than the 42% we've received before. Common indicators are in progress. These will be the metrics that they want all watersheds to monitor. The 2018 Action Agenda is gearing up. Vital Signs and Indicators are feeding into the Implementation Strategies as Areas of Focus. The Chinook Implementation Strategy was launched a year ago. The tribes noted a

lack of actions in the Action Index. They would like to see bold actions incorporated and are working on creating a list for inclusion.

4. LE Scope of Work

- Gretchen reminded the group of some of the larger tasks on the work plan. Watersheds receive 6% of the PSAR funding to support capital project development. We use our portion to fund Morgan's work. Because of a lag in signing contracts, there are PSAR funds available to re-allocate. LE must decide how to use these funds; a number of possibilities have been identified including acquisition strategy, nearshore strategy, knotweed strategy. Jim suggested putting it towards the Status and Trends Report or the Plan update. Ikuno mentioned that prioritizing the water recovery plans by watershed would be useful or developing an Acquisition Strategy. Morgan suggested that this topic be on the agenda for the next PDC meeting where we can present some cost estimates to see what we can really get done.

5. LIO Restructure

- The LIO is looking to move away from planning and towards implementation. The Stillaguamish TAG is in favor of separating and being its own LIO. The SWC is still deciding; conversations are ongoing. Someone suggested maybe the Forum could invite the LIO to a meeting to have a conversation about it.

6. Upcoming Forum Meeting Agenda

- Gretchen reviewed tentative topics for the Forum meeting with the committee. The issue of member engagement came up and the committee suggested making the agenda more enticing.

7. Review Next Steps and Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.