

SNOHOMISH BASIN SALMON RECOVERY FORUM
Meeting Summary
Thursday, October 5, 2017 • 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Waltz Building, Snohomish

On October 5, 2017, the Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum (the Forum) met for a regularly scheduled meeting from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. The following were in attendance:

Attendee	Organization
Alexa Ramos	Snohomish County Surface Water Management
Colin Wahl	Tulalip Tribes
Elissa Ostergaard	Snoqualmie Forum
Heather Cole	The Nature Conservancy
Heather Khan	WA Dept. of Ecology
Hiedi Popochock	King County
Janne Kaje	King County
Jamie Bails	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Jessica Hamill	Snohomish County Surface Water Management
Jim Miller	City of Everett
Kirk Lakey	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Lindsey Desmul	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Monte Marti	Snohomish Conservation District
Morgan Ruff	Tulalip Tribes
Paul Crane	City of Everett
Scott Powell	Seattle City Light
Stacy Vynne	Puget Sound Partnership
Will Hall	Snohomish County Surface Water Management

Meeting Summary

Introductions and Announcements

- **Terry Williams called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.**
 - Attendees introduced themselves
 - The agenda was reviewed and approved
 - No public comment was made
- **Salmon Story Map is Live!** Lindsey Desmul presented the salmon story map which is now live on the web. This is, hopefully, the first of several story maps to come representing estuary stakeholder perspectives – ag., recreation, flooding, and tribes. This one focused on *why* salmon are important. Flooding will probably be the next one to come. Heather suggested that the Habitat SI blog would be a good place to feature this. Stacy commented that the State of the Salmon website would be good for this too. Terry suggested presenting this to the Puget Sound Regional Council.

Forum Business

- **State Capital Budget Status, Implications for 2016 and 2017 Project Implementation**

There is no budget yet. This delay in agreement is holding up last year's PSAR funded projects. It could impact our capacity funds too, with implications for Morgan and others. Partners around the state are affected by this. There could be consequences for next year's grant round as well.

- **Reallocation of 2015-2017 PSAR Funds**

We have \$200K in return PSAR funds from the beach nourishment and Qwuloolt projects. We can start contracting with it right away since these dollars have already been allocated. There are a few possible options for us to consider. See handouts for more information.

- **Looking Ahead: upcoming cost increase and project scope amendments**

Kevin gave an overview of the Cherry Creek funding shortfall situation. See handouts for more detail. The original plans for soil disposal via a farm pad onsite are not feasible and has caused a cost increase. \$108,000 increase would be the worst case scenario. \$8,000 is the ideal scenario. In August, the Forum approved allocating an additional \$135K to the project.

Upcoming decisions to be made:

1. Allocation of the \$7,000 remaining 2017 SRFB funds. SRFB dollars can't be reallocated, only PSAR funds can. **The Forum approved allocating the \$7,000 remainder to Cherry Creek.**
2. Approve cost increase and scope change amendment for Cherry Creek.
3. Allocation of 2015 – 2017 PSAR return funds.

Snoqualmie Report

- **Forum Update, 2017 CWM Projects**

Elissa gave a presentation on this year's CWM projects. The funding comes from the flood control district (\$4.39M total with \$872K allocated to the Snoqualmie). This year's total amount requested was \$1.3M. See presentation for details.

Regional Updates and News

- **Puget Sound Partnership's Leadership Council**

Stacy touched on the status of the capital budget. The agencies approved using emergency funds to keep lead entities afloat through December. They have been considering using PSAR return funds for lead entity capacity through 2018 if there is still no budget. At the last Leadership Council meeting they also discussed net pens and the recent net pen failure. The orca loss is also a topic of interest. Results Washington has thought about forming an emergency task force around the issue. There are political issues to consider like with the Snake River dams; the Partnership is cautious about setting a precedent of telling others what to do in their areas

- **Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council**

The SRC met last week. The PSAR funds are being used to compensate for the capital budget delays and they're discussing various options. As for the Action Agenda update process, the TMC's bold actions are being incorporated into the regional Chinook priorities. Scott reminded the group that we will be needing a new WRIA 7 SRC representative in light of his approaching retirement.

- **Local Integrating Organization**

The SWC has decided to move forward with acting as the Implementation Committee for the Stillaguamish basin. Things will continue as normal in the Snohomish, aside from the previously agreed upon increased LIO-LE integration through review of habitat NTAs. There will be an NTA information session in November. See handout for details.

Snohomish County SWM Business Plan

SWM Director, Will Hall, gave a presentation on the SWM Business Plan to provide background on the services SWM provides. SWM has gone 10 years without a rate increase even though the County has seen a 30% inflation. SWM's main lines of service deal with drainage, water quality, aquatic habitat, and floodplains. The division's budget for Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) has decreased, while the budget for NPDES related work has increased. There is about a 50/50 split of the capital budget between habitat and stormwater related projects. And the division spends around \$1 – 2M a year in preparation and design of habitat projects. There has not been funding set aside in the budget for acquisition related to habitat projects for the past 8 or 9 years.

The Forum was provided with discussion questions in advance of the meeting. Will asked for feedback from the group on what they think are the most important services SWM provides. Members noted a compliance and enforcement gap exists. Jim Miller suggested a partnership between the City and County on TMDLs such as Swamp Creek and North Creek since they will soon be making the transition from Phase II to Phase I NPDES. Perhaps, SWM could partner with them on business inspections, for example. Another person mentioned that basin stewards and pursuing funding for acquisition for protection is important and so are the monitoring and habitat programs/staff SWM provides. It was also suggested that SWM look into an ILA method for alleviating the basin capacity costs similar to King County.

Other Basin Updates and Announcements

Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. with a potluck afterwards. The next Forum meeting will be held on December 7, 2017 at the Waltz Building in Snohomish.

Key Decisions

- Approved allocating the remaining \$7,000 funds from this year to Cherry Creek.

Upcoming Meetings

- Technical Committee meeting: November 7, 2017
- PDC meeting: October 19, 2017
- Forum meeting: December 7, 2017