

SNOHOMISH SUSTAINABLE LANDS STRATEGY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 3.8.6

Tuesday, June 12, 2018 10:00 – 12:30

Snohomish County Admin East 6th floor Conference Room 6A04
3000 Rockefeller Ave. Everett, WA 98201

PARTICIPANTS:

Bob Bernhard - Snohomish County SWM

Brian Bookey - National Foods, EC Ag rep

CK Eidem - Ducks Unlimited, EC Fish rep

Dan Bartelheimer - Snohomish Valley Farms

Dan Calvert - Puget Sound Partnership

Dan Evans - Dan Evans Consulting, facilitator

Erik Stockdale - Snohomish County SWM

Erin Murray - Puget Sound Partnership

Gretchen Glaub - Snohomish County SWM

Jay Krienitz - Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Jessica Hamill - Snohomish County SWM

Kelly Marquardt

Kirk Lakey - Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Kristin Kelly - Pilchuck Audubon Society, EC Fish rep

Linda Neunzig - Snohomish County

Lindsey Desmul - Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Loren Brokaw - Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Monte Marti - Snohomish Conservation District, EC Ag rep

Morgan Ruff - Tulalip Tribes

Paul Cereghino - NOAA

Robin Fay - PCC Farmland Trust

Terry Williams - Tulalip Tribe, Co-chair (Fish)

Tristan Klesick - Stillaguamish farmer, Co-chair (Ag)

Troy Holbrook - Snohomish County PDS

Marc Davison - Caspian Group

Emily Wright - Cascadia Consulting

PURPOSE: The June SLS Executive Committee meeting has a Countywide/Ag focus and includes updates on key Countywide initiatives, a focus on funding of SLS priorities, a featured Communications Task Group report on a video project and the Farm & Fish to Table dinner with policy-level leaders, and SLS partner updates. Participants are invited to bring a brown bag lunch or snacks.

1) WELCOME, INTRODUCTION (10:00-10:10)

- a) Review purpose, agenda
- b) Introductions

2) Countywide Indicators & “Headline News” in Brief (10:10 - 10:35)

- a) Culvert case decision, impact
 - i) Paul: one page decision, no initial reaction from state agencies
 - ii) \$2.3 billion state prediction to replace culverts
 - iii) Average cost to replace a county culvert is \$233,000/culvert
 - iv) Brian: is there a standard design/requirement?

(1) Kirk: WDFW has guidelines and list of culverts that need to be replaced

(a) Width of culvert should be 1.2 x bankfull width + 2 ft

- (b) https://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/habitat/fish_passage/
- v) Terry: harmonization process (=federal, state and local regulations all on the same page), cost of permits would be cut in half if following Tulalip's process
- b) North of Falcon report (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/northfalcon/faq.html>)
 - i) Annual harvestable fish report
 - ii) Terry: 25 yr ago Tulalip Tribes worked well with sports fishermen (leader from Trout Unlimited) on habitat issues
 - (1) Currently, commercial fisheries (indian and non-indian) not working well with sports fishermen
 - (2) Sports fishermen now realize that troubles are not related to commercial fisheries but the lack of habitat
 - iii) Tristan: Pinnipeds are a source of predation and their impacts need to be further examined
 - iv) Terry: need to examine impacts from nutrient loading—wastewater treatment plants, soils in agriculture, and dairy farms
 - (1) Tristan: A lot of the studies are funded by fish-centric science, there's a need for more agriculturally funded studies
 - v) CK: Researching management techniques of farm fields and wetland processes
- c) Multi-Family Rezone & TDR decision by Council
 - i) Area for rezone was reduced a little, developers are already lined up, good first step
 - (1) Generate TDR credits
 - (2) Fees have not been developed yet, bank needs to be established first
 - ii) Council needs to direct the Executive's office (Ken Klein) to create a bank
 - (1) Discussion between Ken and Barb Mock
 - (a) How will PDS be reimbursed for work?
 - (b) Fee is \$1,400 (Conservation Futures (grant money) used in other counties to reduce the fee to ~\$500)
 - (2) Tulalips will contribute \$2,500 to the bank, Forterra might sell some TDR credits to help seed the bank
 - (a) Funds from bank to be used for farmers' fee
 - (b) Bank is necessary to make TDR transactions
- d) Meeting with County Executive. & lands statement
 - i) Erik: Dave Somers committed to have joint meeting with tribal leaders, Snohomish County and possibly King County to express greater support for increasing the budget for the FbD funding program (would like to expand and put it into statute)
- e) Lands updates – PSRC, SVPI, map exercise, landowner outreach

- i) Brian: Met with Stillaguamish Tribe (Pat and Shawn)
 - (1) Twin City Foods (TCF) land
 - (a) TCF would like to discuss habitat and agricultural use, cooperative effort
 - (b) TCF plant has a wastewater discharge permit, could it carry over to new owner/operator
 - (c) Would not like to see redevelopment
 - (d) Possible presentation on TDR to TCF group?
 - (e) Multi-benefit project that needs assistance from SLS, Forterra/PCC, the County
 - (f) Packing plant is still operational (could be used to help sell the property)
 - (g) Around 800-1,000 acres, \$25 million price
 - ii) Robin Fay/PCC Farmland Trust: farmer outreach
 - (1) Robin and Adam (from Forterra) reached out to about half of the farmers on the SVPI list to gauge willingness to implement easement projects
 - (2) Johnson farm – to put on future agenda (15-20 minutes), flexible easement language for multi-benefit property
 - iii) CK: North Puget Sound NAWCA will be funded (awaiting signature)
 - (1) Ducks Unlimited will be conducting a sight tour
 - (2) Smith Island (Snohomish County) will have a lot of farm projects – drainage improvements w/minimal riparian work
 - (3) 750 farm acres (a lot on WDFW land) in Snohomish and King County

3) Funding Strategies to Support SLS Priorities (10:35 - 11:45)

- a) Floodplains by Design grant applications
 - i) Draft out for external partner review coming soon
 - ii) Extension to August 3rd
 - iii) Precursor for integration team (IT)
 - (1) Modeling and assessments —tools IT can use for conversation with landowners
 - (2) Communication/outreach, and capacity for IT to get it going
 - (3) Focused reach actions
 - (a) 30% design for 1 restoration project and 3 agriculture resiliency projects
 - (b) Road elevations on Mann and Ben Howard Rd
 - (c) Acquisitions and easements in South Slough repetitive loss area
 - (d) Work focused around RM 9-15
 - iv) Snohomish Basin 15 year Implementation Goals
 - (1) Phase 1 – Lower Skykomish Reach project implementation
 - (a) 2018-2023: funding requested this cycle

- (2) Phase 2 – Lower Snohomish Reach project implementation
 - (a) 022-2028: planning, capacity, modelling and assessment, as well as landowner engagement requested this cycle to develop project packages
- (3) Phase III – Snohomish Estuary project implementation
 - (a) 2027-2033: planning, capacity, modelling and assessment, as well as landowner engagement requested this cycle to develop project packages
- v) Questions and Comments
 - (1) Brian: Asked about rating process
 - (a) Jessica: Crafting application to meet FbD priorities (flood>fish>farm)
 - (b) Past FbD had farm lumped in with water quality, farm has been given more priority in this round but still not as good as flood and fish
 - (2) Tristan: Perhaps mention SRFB projects and how they tie in to the FbD package
 - (3) Morgan: Would like more overlap for project planning between the reaches (Skykomish, Snohomish and Estuary), if not Estuary plans are not for a while
- b) Conservation Commission
 - i) Ron: Budgets in to the Office of Financial Management by 9/12/18
 - (1) Capital budget to include:
 - (i) Farmland preservations (geographic areas around the state)...engage landowners interested in conservation easement to help establish a critical mass of agricultural operations
 - (ii) Operating budget to establish grants for conservation easement funding
 - (iii) Shellfish projects and ocean acidification
 - (iv) Natural Resource Investment (could include culvert projects)
 - (v) Long-term sustainable funding
 - (vi) Voluntary stewardship program
 - (vii) CREP enhancement
 - (2) Decision packages developed by August for submittal, governor's budget released 9/20/18
 - (3) Tristan: Expand pot of money to agriculture for actual value of the land (water quality, treatment) not just how many homes can be built there
 - (4) Monte: Conservation Commission are in sync with PSP Action Agenda
 - (5) Dan E: Don't develop new silos but expand work and budget within each silo
 - (6) Dan C: PSP doesn't have its own capital budget but supports sister agencies, can provide support to Conservation Commission
 - ii) Who's on the Commission?
 - (1) DNR, EPA, WSU, tribes and trusts are at the table, though WDFW is not

- (2) 2 of 10 seats are appointed by the Governor
- c) ESRP, Fed Resilience NFWF grants, other funding priorities
 - i) Jay: Targeted purpose funding can help multi-benefit and is best implemented by:
 - (1) Having accomplished leads showing up at the table
 - (2) Tapping into federal funding as well
 - (a) Coastal resiliency
 - (3) Outreach (e.g., video Lindsey is working on for SLS)
 - (a) NOAA grant used by Cascadia Consulting and TBD (from North Carolina) to:
 - (i) determine ecosystem benefits (flood, fish and recreation) of the Leque Island area, and
 - (ii) then disseminate that information to the community and measure the use over time
 - (iii) Tristan: Can you include local food production as an ecosystem benefit also? Can you also measure the impact on the community of losing local food production and food security?
 - ii) ESRP/RCO funding
 - (1) Tristan requested an organization chart of agencies that receive RCO funding
 - (2) What can SLS do to help? Go to or write the governor's office to fund more multi-benefit approaches/projects.
 - (a) Compile a list of materials

4) Featured Task Group Report – Communications (11:45 – 12:00)

- a) Video Project (WDFW)...see attachments
 - i) Lindsey: 20 minute film
 - (1) Are the messages for each group correct? ([review sections in yellow](#))
 - (a) Farm: food security for PNW residents (Linda)
 - (b) Flood: helps provide nutrients essential for farming (Tristan)
 - (c) identify common ground for each of the groups?
 - (2) Production crew will start reaching out soon
 - (3) [Interview list](#)
 - (a) More tribal members are desired
 - (b) 2 or 3 interviews per group (selected by best stories)
 - (c) Kristin: Interview policy makers? No, trying to portray personal connections with the landscape (tug at the heart strings).
- b) Farm & Fish to Table Dinner
 - i) Check list created during Friday's meeting (6/8/18)

- ii) Funding is looking good (Farm Bureau will cover half the budget)
 - (1) SLS to write letter to Tulalip Tribes, ESRP and the County asking for support
- iii) 1-1.5 hour of farm tour before dinner
- iv) 70-80 people, 30-35 farmers (Monte and Lindsey to work on invite list)
- v) Where? Farm with a working kitchen
- vi) Goal: diverse group, not just politicians...relationship building
- vii) Work/benefits to come after the dinner
- viii) "Farm and Fish Come Together"

5) WRAP UP AND ADJOURN (12:30)

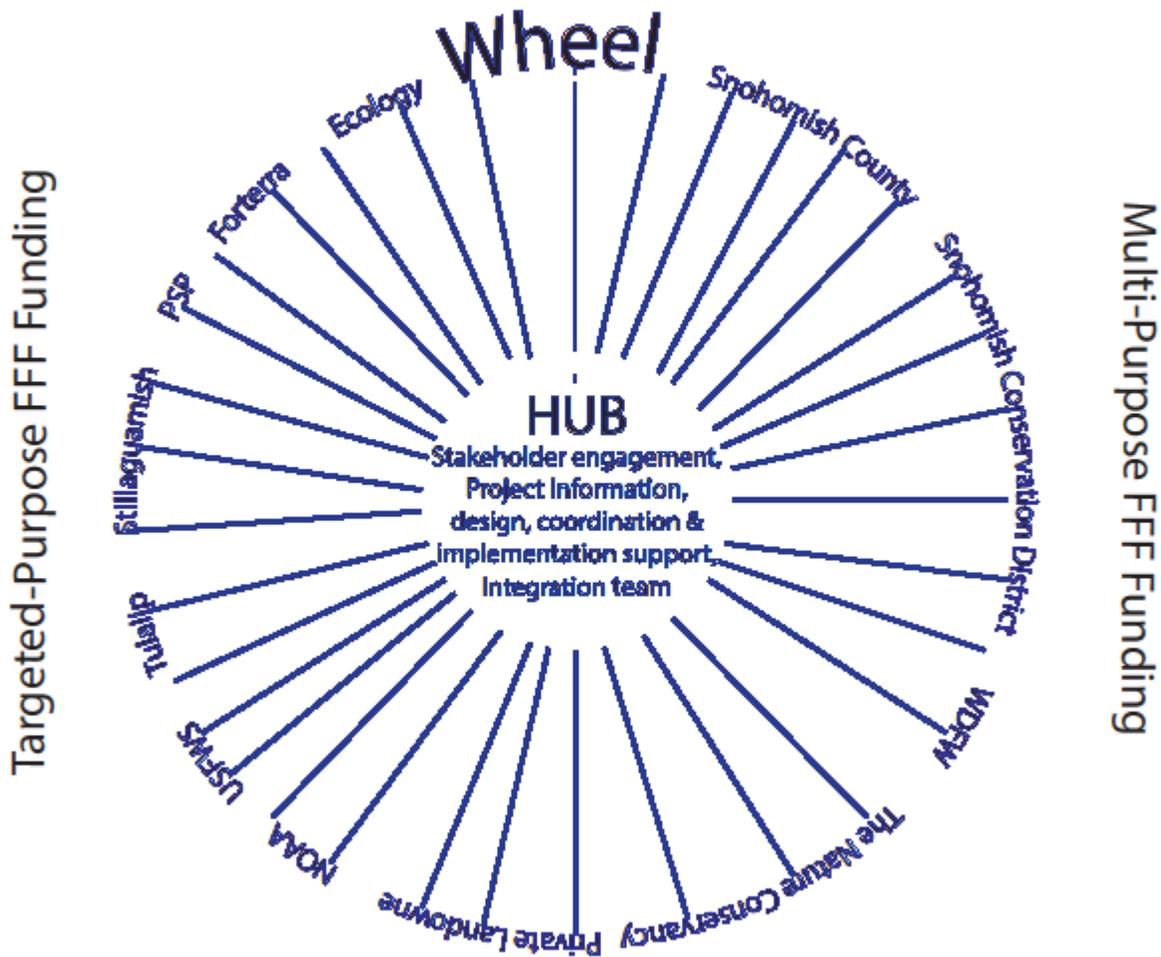
6) [Task Group Updates – Available on SLS [website](#)]

- a) Resource Lands Protection: SVPI, TDR / PDR
- b) Regulatory Efficiency: culverts, drainage, Responsible Stewardship
- c) Reach Plans: Sky, Stilly, Sno-Estuary
- d) Ag Resilience Plan: plan development, ag engagement, climate impacts
- e) Confluence Projects: 180 ac restoration, Meadow Wood, sub-reach plan
- f) Communications: essential items, strategy based on Basics & capacity

Support Framework

Federal Agencies - State Agencies - State Executives - NGOs - Advisors

Policy Support - Organizational Adaptation - Funding - Project Support



Local Innovation - Community Support - Funding - Project Support

Foundation

Policy-level engagement: SLS Executive Committee (Farm, Fish, Flood/Water Management Stakeholders); Technical-level support: Integration Team

ESRP: Snohomish Estuaries Video Project

Last Updated: 06/06/2018

This document is intended to act as a simplified and refined set of information that provides a checks-and-balances system for the development of this project, in order to keep concepts, plans, and execution on target.

OBJECTIVES

Recovering salmon is a highly complex effort, involving many stakeholders and tribes with differing priorities. For it to work we need different groups to be inspired to take a collaborative approach and come to the table in the spirit of good faith. We also need support from decision makers who can see that a collaborative, holistic approach is the way to make positive, meaningful change in the region.

Our primary objectives with this video project are:

- (1) To inspire our audience to feel connected to the importance of this work — its complexities, its value, the people it touches — and the urgent need for solutions that can provide wide-ranging benefits for the region.
- (2) To inspire our audience to identify with the characters in the story and relate to their struggles and hopes.
- (3) To create a sense of empathy among the various groups involved — walking in the shoes of another and seeing the root of their frustration. Empathy is the bedrock to the collaborative approach necessary to enact holistic solutions to such a complex issue.

Our secondary objectives are:

- (1) To bring more people into the fold. To inspire them to come to the table and help devise solutions in good faith with the other groups.
- (2) To show decision makers that this collaborative approach is the way forward for making meaningful change in the Snohomish region and beyond.

AUDIENCE

Our primary target audience:

Local citizens - includes voters, recreators, newcomers to the area, etc, of any political ideology, from age groups ranging from young adults to seniors.

Our secondary target audiences:

Policy makers and governments - includes federal, tribal, state, county

Invested stakeholders - includes salmon restoration community, agricultural community

Planners / Builders / Developers - includes master builders, regional planners, etc.

PRIMARY MESSAGES (OVERALL)

Specific messages for each vignette — farms, fish, floods, tribes — will be devised separately.

1. We need to restore our large river delta estuaries for salmon, for ecosystem recovery, and for the resilience of our communities, now more than ever in the face of threats posed by climate change. It's very complex, very messy, and very worth it.

2. We also need to preserve farms and tribal culture and must consider this as we move forward with protecting and investing in this place of tremendous value to our citizens, state, and nation.

3. Working together in an inclusive and respectful way that *builds trust* — although it may be difficult at times — is how we move forward in this time of great change. We're all passionate about what we're trying to save, and we all have a stake in this landscape. While individual priorities may be different, overall we want the same things and together we are powerful. But we are fighting the clock.

FISH MESSAGE

Our salmon aren't doing well – we've straightened rivers, filled estuaries, polluted Puget Sound. But salmon are important to us, they are a piece of our identity in the Puget Sound. Now we're fighting against the clock to save them and their habitat. Without help from other stakeholders and tribes, we may not make the headway we need to save them in time.

FLOOD MESSAGE

Rivers are alive – they move and change. They provide fertile land and beautiful views. Climate change is predicted to bring heavier rainfall and less precipitation falling as snow, which means our river flood events will become larger. Those who own land or live in the floodplain or outskirts may experience difficulties more frequently. Lives and property will become increasingly endangered if we don't give the river more room to move.

TRIBE

Tribal members have a cultural connection to this landscape, to salmon, to orcas and other species. The disappearance of salmon would mean an end of their people, their culture, their identity.

FARM

As environmental stewards of the land, farmers provide open space, habitat, and food for many wildlife species and communities. But they are fighting the strong pressure of urban expansion, leading to a collapse of farming infrastructure and lack of community support. Climate change brings additional environmental pressures in the form of drought, flooding, and sea level rise. Agriculture needs partners to fight against the clock in the same way, and with the same urgency, that salmon does.

STONE

The video's core messages will be expressed using these tone words that encapsulate look-and-feel.

- **Concerned**, troubling
- **Hopeful**, stirring, emotive
- **Empowered**, motivated, dedicated

SUCCESS

Guideposts to determine the success of the final product.

- Helps to generate empathy for other stakeholders and tribes
- Creates a sense of pride / empowerment in stakeholder and tribal groups as they see themselves reflected
- Builds commitment from decision makers for support
- Local teams feel energized working on these issues
- Praise from diverse audiences

Interviewees

Goal: We would love to hear from people who we don't usually hear from. People who live these topics every day, not necessarily those who manage them/ regularly come to the SLS table.

Tribes

Tulalip

- Terry Williams
- Patti Gobin
- Diego Holmgren
- Tribal fishermen (?)

Stillaguamish

- Shawn Yanity
- Tribal fishermen (?)

Farmers

- Alex Alexander
- Tyler Breum
- Joe Christianson
- Rick Williams
- Dan Bartelheimer
- Tristan Klesick
- Brian Bookey

Flooding

- Bob Aldrich
- FEMA?
- Heather Cole's Floodplain by Design floodplain project participants?
- First Responders
 - Dennis Fenstermaker
 - Jason Biermann
 - Jamal Beckham
- Ryan Larsen
- Chuck Hazelton

Salmon/Restoration

- Puget Sound Anglers - Ron Garner
- Any salmon biologists with Snohomish County, Tulalip Tribes, NOAA, WDFW
 - Mike Rustay
 - Todd Zacky
 - Josh Chamberlin
 - Jenni Whitney
- Other species enthusiasts – birders? Orca task force?