Meeting Summary

Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Technical Committee
WDFW Office, Mill Creek
9:00 am – 12:00 pm, February 11, 2020

In attendance:

1. Alexa Ramos, Snohomish County
2. Morgan Ruff, Tulalip Tribes
3. Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County
4. Carson Moscoso, Snohomish Conservation District
5. Thomas Bulthuis, Snohomish Conservation District
6. Emily Davis, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
7. Colin Wahl, Tulalip Tribes
8. Lindsey Desmul, WDFW
9. Andrea Mojzak, King County
10. Kevin Lee, WDFW
11. Kyle Koch, Adopt-a-Stream Foundation
12. Keith Binkley, SnoPUD
13. Mike Rustay, Snohomish County
14. Jim Shannon, Hart Crowser
15. Micah Wait, WFC
16. Doug Hennick, WFC
17. Denise DiSanto, King County
18. Andrew McDonnell, SnoPUD
19. Erin Murray, PSP
20. Susan Oneil, ESA
21. Fauna Nopp, King County
22. Todd Hurley, King County
23. Chris Knutson, King County

Meeting Summary:
Introductions
Emily opened the meeting with introductions and reviewed the agenda.

Updates – Basin, Regional, State
Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee – For Quarter 2 of 2020, the WREC is working to develop project criteria as well as identify and prioritize projects for the initial list. They are also finalizing consumptive use estimates (797 ac. ft./yr. or ~1.1cfs). A subbasin map of consumptive use is also being finalized. The highest use subbasins are projected to be Pilchuck, estuary/Snohomish mainstem, and Snoqualmie North. Next highest are Tulalip, Quilceda-Allen, and Little Pilchuck. Members were asked to provide their top 15 and bottom 15 projects out of the 215 currently listed. This will help guide the consultants work to quantify project potential offsets. GeoEngineers will be presenting on methods for estimating water offsets for habitat projects using Darcy’s Law and subsurface storage potential. They calculated that for the Lower Tolt Restoration project there was 0.03 cfs water offset achieved. The group is also exploring non-water rights offset projects like managed aquifer recharge.
SRFB/PSAR — Full applications are due February 28th. Site visits will be held March 17th and 18th. The new system for submitting grant applications in PRISM will be through an online portal. Reach out to Gretchen, Morgan, or Alexa if you need assistance with submitting your proposal.

Floodplains by Design/PSAR Large Cap. Project Sponsor Presentation: Haffner-Barfuse
Janne, Fauna, Todd, and Chris presented the project. In 2013, Farm Fish Flood was launched in King County. The fish caucus wanted to see large projects implemented, but the ag. caucus was concerned about projects in the agricultural production district (APD) resulting in a loss of ag. land. A lot of the ag. caucus’ priorities were centered on drainage and implementing elements in project proposals that also addressed those issues. In the summer, the group selected an alternative to move forward, finished the alternatives report, secured the easement, completed technical analyses, community engagement, and 30% preliminary designs. The sponsors will be requesting $10M from Floodplains by Design and $5M from PSAR with the goal to begin construction in 2022.

The committee asked questions regarding recreational usage and ag. projects. They also advised the project team to highlight the flood and ag. benefits of the project in the application.

Project Sponsor Presentation: Beckler Confluence Alluvial Fan Restoration: Micah gave a presentation on the project. Before restoration, the reach was characterized by a lack of wood and gravel in the channel. Since then hydraulic models have been run to inform designs that will direct flows and reconnect to catch wood off-channel in the forested area. The project seeks to install up to six engineered log jams. The sponsors plan to request $318K from SRFB and $318K from CWM. Construction would occur in summer 2022.

Roundtable Updates
The focus of topic for the roundtable was the recent flooding in the area. Mike shared photos of the “goose neck” at Goose Island where the flooding effectively decapitated the goose. Andrew shared photos and video of how the flooding impacted the Sultan dam. Jessica sent photos of the floodwaters in Cherry Valley.

The regular meeting adjourned at 11:30am and a chapter update work group convened for the remaining time.