

# Snohomish 2021-2023 Floodplains by Design Grant Application

## Consistency with SLS Project Attributes

The mission of the SLS is to help generate net gains in the productivity and sustained health of fish and farm communities (broadly defined to include agricultural productivity and enhancement, flood control, tribal culture and traditional knowledge, environmental quality) by providing participants with”

1. Best available science and technical support
2. A neutral, mutually respectful forum for farm-fish collaboration
3. Packaging suites of broadly supported fish farm measures that together generate net gain
4. Monitoring and evaluation to measure progress

### Consistent with SLS mission

- Unclear what “net gain” means and how to measure if projects individually or collectively achieve this aspect of SLS mission
- Provides benefits for fish, farm, and flood
- Consistent with intent of SLS - provides timely investment in significantly advancing:
  - recently completed Ag Resilience Plan
  - Salmon Recovery Plan
  - Lower Skykomish Reach-Scale Plan
  - Mutually supported flood risk reduction measures.

### Transparency: SLS sees all the parts

- Snohomish Launch Team presented at the January and March SLS Partners meetings, and is presenting at the May meeting
- Available or offered to answer questions and provide information either on SLS calls or outside of a meeting structure.

### Identifies money, scope and schedule

- Project budgets have been identified
- An overall budget allocation strategy for the FbD grant has been identified
- Scope and schedule will be developed over the next few months with the IT members.

## Fundable

- Comprised of partners with extensive grant writing/management expertise.
- Selected actions that identify local work most important to advance.
- Fundable: actions largely consistent with FY19 FbD award, which was a successful application. Feedback from FbD review team was that the presentation went very well and package seems balanced toward the 3 interests. Reviewers like the approach of assessing multiple areas to best determine which project areas are politically feasible for integrated actions.

## Permittable

- Project package developed by partners with project implementation/permitting expertise.
- Actions are permittable.
- Permitting is part of the feasibility assessments in multiple areas.

## Locally developed

- Near-term actions flow from the 2019-2021 Floodplains by Design project package, Ag Resilience Plan, Salmon Recovery Plan, Habitat Work Schedule, and the Reach Scale plans.
- These processes are highly local and have extensive input.
- The Snohomish IT, an integrated group of fish-farm-flood interests, developed the project package based on long-standing possible projects
- Actions will be vetted with a number of individual landowners/community members.

## Explainable to a local community with buy-in

- Snohomish IT members believe this package can be explained to the local community based on outreach for the previous FbD package of work in the Lower Skykomish.

## Context and alignment in the bigger strategy

- Near-term actions flow from the 2019-2021 Floodplains by Design project package, Ag Resilience Plan, Salmon Recovery Plan, Habitat Work Schedule, and the Reach Scale plans.

## Opportunity costs understood

- A number of actions on the list have been in various phases of exploration or movement forward for a decade or more.
- The IT considered developing the project pipeline in 8 different areas and selected the Skykomish because of the many opportunities for fish, flood, farm, and integrated projects and because it builds on the work in the current FbD grant.

## Identifies political (or policy) issues, if any

- Political issues will be identified over the course of developing the projects and will be discussed with SLS Partners.
- The project package is designed to allow a number of projects to be considered, and only projects that are politically feasible will move forward to feasibility and design.

## Builds or deepens partnerships

- The IT has met many times over the past 8 months to develop the project package and is developing long-term structures for partnership and collaboration
- By collectively moving real work with real money, these actions provide an incentive and mechanism to advance collaborative work within the Snohomish Watershed and across Snohomish County through the SLS partnership.

## Climate change/Resilience

- Overall strategy is designed to create floodplains that will be more resilient as conditions change.
- Ag viability projects on the near-term action list were identified in the Ag Resilience Plan based on climate modeling.

- The geomorphic assessment of the Lower Skykomish will provide information about river change.
- Models currently under development (flood model, NOAA Lifecycle Model), will be finished by 2021 and will inform project feasibility, design, and implementation.