

# SNOHOMISH SUSTAINABLE LANDS STRATEGY SLS DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday August 13, 2020 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. (Zoom meeting)



## Participants:

**Brian Bookey - National Foods,  
Co-chair**

**C. K. Eidem – Ducks Unlimited**

Carol MacIlroy - Carol MacIlroy Consulting

Dan Calvert – Puget Sound Partnership

Dani Driscoll - Snohomish County SWM

Erick Stockdale - Snohomish County SWM

Heather Cole – The Nature Conservancy

Ikuno Masterson – Snohomish County PDS

Jessica Hamill - Snohomish County SWM

Kari Quaas - Snohomish Conservation District

Kirk Lakey – Washington Department of Fish and  
Wildlife

Kit Crump – Snohomish County SWM

Kristin Marshall - Snohomish Conservation District

**Linda Lyshall – Snohomish Conservation  
District**

Lindsey Desmul – Washington Department  
of Fish and Wildlife

Michele Anton – Snohomish County SWM

Nick Bratton - Forterra

Paul Cereghino - NOAA

Robin Fay – PCC Farmland Trust

Spencer Easton – ESA Consultants

Stephanie Celt – Department of Natural  
Resources

**Terry Williams – Tulalip Tribes, Co-Chair**

**[Bolded names are Executive Committee  
members]**

## Facilitator:

David Roberts – Kulshan Services (Facilitator)

## Actions:

All – review sheets 10-19 of Carol MacIlroy's PowerPoint presentation (link below) and send comments to Carol or IT members.

David – share input on SLS meetings with the Joint Planning Group

David – share input on the role of the Executive Committee with the EC

## Meeting Documents:

See this Google Document for meeting input:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1rauCKXlhNugUvScFJhNM2bUp-UdrMG63UFAKWM9rbwA/edit?usp=sharing>

See this link for Stilly IT presentation:

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a0dbb13ace8641d15580c56/t/5f3ef85e07bd6172b77eab0f/1597962334955/Stilly+IT+SLS.Aug\\_13\\_2020\\_FINAL2.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a0dbb13ace8641d15580c56/t/5f3ef85e07bd6172b77eab0f/1597962334955/Stilly+IT+SLS.Aug_13_2020_FINAL2.pdf)

See this link for DNR presentation:

<https://www.farmfishflood.org/s/Salmon-map-pres-SLS-8132020.pdf>

## Welcome, activity and agenda review

Terry Williams shared that he is retiring but will still be involved with some projects. He will maintain his position with the Pacific Salmon Commission where he has been since it was created in 1985. Projects

that Terry will continue working on are California climate mapping, problem identification in marine waters, and the genetics committee. He will also work on water supply issues with Snohomish County, Ecology, and DNR as it relates to water storage from glaciers for fisheries, agriculture, and habitat. Terry will be at the same phone number and AOL email. We are planning a virtual lunch celebration at our September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to recognize Terry.

Ikuno Masterton shared that she will be leaving County employment in September.

David noted that he would like to structure time in Partner meetings more effectively. He asked three questions:

- 1) How have virtual meetings made your life better? Work, life, and balance. Some of the responses are time savings, less driving, and more time with family.
- 2) Do we have too many SLS meetings? Response is moderate to moderate high.
- 3) What would make SLS meetings better?
  - More action. Focus on action. More action items. More actions or strategic action plan. More linkage to on the ground actions
  - Having topic-based or work plan-based meetings will help busy folks know when to engage if they can't be at all meetings.
  - Identify common threats and take on some larger policy issues that benefit farm fish and flood
  - Like to see some policy movement
  - Focus on long-term relationships.
  - Continually check in so we can do problem solving.
  - Learning about projects on the ground.
  - We are too focused on re-inventing processes, but that is sort of the point.
  - More strategic communication and policy development with regional partners, i.e. tribe to tribe and ag interest to ag interest.
  - Deliverables.
  - Strategic plan.
  - Making the meeting notes more transparent at the meetings.
  - Wonder about breakout rooms for teams.
  - I miss hearing about more than just the IT updates (no offense to the IT groups)
  - Develop a Communications Plan

### **Approval of meeting summary**

July 9 meeting summary was approved with no changes.

### **Community Comment**

No community members were present.

### **Presentation, discussion, action**

#### **Stilly IT – next steps/working strategy document**

The goal of this discussion was to learn about the IT's proposed next steps. Carol MacIlroy shared a presentation on the current activities of the IT as they evaluate the most recent planning process associated with project development. Her goals is to build understanding and trust while also identifying the roles of the IT and Executive Committee.

Discussion:

We need to improve on climate data to shape our direction. We've lost delta sites from saltwater intrusion and erosion. We also need to prioritize next steps and work with IT staff on acquisition process siting projects that reduce problems overall.

What will the IT process look like going forward? Important work to help with integrating efforts. It was helpful to solidify and pilot integration teams. The ITs brought us closer and revealed challenges with putting a package together. Conflicting priorities and interests aren't as far apart as we think they are. It was striking to see recognition in the agriculture community to take into account restoration priorities. Working in IT group has brought partners closer together.

One of the reasons why NOAA funded the IT was building relationships. There might be opportunity to define the future landscape to allow local teams to put pressure on planning and funding system. It's the process that matters.

What is the role of SLS in reviewing funding for the IT projects? Should SLS be looking at funding more carefully? Funding is primarily provided to applicants through Nature Conservancy and NOAA. Organizations receiving funds need to have the fiscal capacity to keep accounting and reporting. SLS brings partners together for collaboration. Existence of SLS gives advocates the leverage to compete for money. For example, TNC asked for funding to support IT, SLS, Tribes, and Pilchuck Dam.

As for process moving forward, Carol asked that everyone look at draft language on sheets 10-19 of the PowerPoint presentation. There is a lot of conversation still to have on the role of the IT and the EC. If there are things that raise red flags or questions, please let IT members know. The IT needs to move the document forward. They could set up a specific meeting for additional discussion. Slide 20 is flow of work in July. The focus is on what worked and what didn't work. The group needs August and September to develop more clarity.

Spencer noted he is working on next steps for Snohomish IT and will be clarifying their structure and process moving forward. He is expected to have an update in the next several months.

Carol's contract is supposed to end in August. She has offered a no cost extension until the evaluation is completed. David will circulate Carol's presentation and will schedule a meeting at a later date for additional discussion at a later date.

### Executive Committee Membership

The goal of this agenda item was to discuss the future needs of the EC to guide selection of new members. David noted the EC currently has very few members. Representation of fish interests is low. The EC solicits new members based on caucus nominations, then votes on nominees as a whole group.

Other current members may transition off the EC in the near future. David asked the Partners to consider roles and talent needed for the EC. The participants shared their thoughts on the top two responsibilities of the Executive Committee in a Google document as shown below:

- Changes associated with pandemic have modified our capacity. Be thoughtful about what we can do and where put our time. Structure and collaboration.
- Advocate (letters of support, policy issues, legislative sessions) for FFF priorities
- Set goals, guidance, and vision for IFM

- Move beyond our rules. Are we getting to the issues that have been identified? Find a way to evaluate our progress.
- Helping move policy forward for integrated management
- Be the face and voice of a remarkable collaborative
- Maintaining programmatic momentum.
- Policy and funding advocates
- Guide the actions of SLS and policies focused on
- Oversight and accountability
- Advocating with non-SLS peers/colleagues to advance SLS priorities.
- Support advancement of SLS policy priorities.
- Provide guidance and overall coordination
- Communicate with their constituencies.
- Revisit the bi-laws? Do they need revision?
- EC look at the workplan and the work - Who are the right people to advance that work?
- Represent their respective interest in shaping SLS priorities.
- Make decisions when SLS is asked to take a position.
- Be the governing body
- Strategic Vision
- Voice for the resource they represent at the table find common ground with others.
- Represent FF&F; Advocate for integrated FFF work
- Representing the Ag perspective on land use including restoration and protection.
- Seeking consensus on strategic decisions around funding, objectives, and policy/ speaking with one voice on advocacy issues
- Bring a balanced set of perspectives to the table
- Address and resolve policy issues that inhibit FFF progress (regulatory, funding)
- Reconsider whether or not an EC is the right structure? Why do we have an EC versus the partner table?
- Promote multi-benefit collaboration
- Define a future of co-existence that supports all parties involved

David will share this information with the EC and ask that they consider the input in moving forward.

#### Discussion:

The EC was encouraged to look at workplan and get the right people moving forward. The bylaws should be revisited and revised if needed. We should have a way to move beyond our roles and identify the progress we are trying to achieve. We need to ask if we are really getting to the issues. If we really understand the problem we can come out with a better product. Overall goal should be not only to assure ourselves, but have others adopt similar processes.

We also need to talk about changes to SLS with Covid 19 and how partner capacity has changed. We should also look at workplan and decide what needs to be done to move forward.

#### DNR – mapping of salmon habitat capital projects (Stephanie Celt – DNR)

The goal of this part of our meeting was to learn about a new tool DNR is developing called the Aquatic Resources Interactive Map (ARIM). Stephanie provided an overview of ARIM which is designed to provide a clear picture of types and locations of salmon habitat projects. The pilot is being done for WRIA 7.

While the tool is still in the development stage, she showed the general functionality and types of outputs. DNR is looking for ways to be involved with on the ground issues. The Commissioner of Public Land wants to understand return of investment on these projects and if they are delivering multiple benefits. Want to work with stakeholders to make sure we have all the data. Stephanie asked the group if they thought the tool was useful.

#### Discussion:

Land is a premium in these basins. Looking for opportunity. Farm community had potential to lease property from DNR. Is there a potential to lease lands for farm space and/or habitat protection? Could this feature be incorporated in map? Agriculture DNR people could answer the question. Stephanie said she would take these questions back to the agency.

It would be good to clarify the intended use of this tool from outreach perspective. How does it relate to tools other funders are using? Stephanie – Would like it to bring more awareness and new money.

At the conclusion of the presentation and discussion, David asked if DNR's mapping tool useful?

- Mapping tool overlaps with the WRIA 7 Streamflow Restoration mapping tool as well as Salmon Recovery Portal and PSP's Action Agenda NTA.
- Help show overlapping benefits for funding.
- Coordinate legislative outreach to identify collective priorities
- If Ag is included, it can be a tool. It does not have value if
- The idea of a DNR overlay for the FbD acquisition strategy is interesting. I think there may be some way to integrate what Brian and Terry are saying into the acquisition strategy and leverage this new tool. Would be good to follow-up.
- Documenting ecosystem services would help bring capital to the watershed.
- Assist with prioritization by providing additional data and information
- To the multi-benefit section: add agriculture benefit
- I have some questions about how DNR is considering integrated floodplain projects in this initiative (farm and flood projects), and I'm interested in how they are working with local stakeholders to resolve some of the challenges with aquatic use authorization for habitat projects and multi-benefit projects (Pilchuck River is an excellent example) (Kristin Marshall, Snohomish CD)
- And I also want to echo that I'm excited that DNR is helping amplify SLS and Snohomish Forum's voices in highlighting funding needs for salmon recovery and floodplain work (Kristin Marshall)
- Can DNR lease land to farmers? Or lease land for habitat protection?
- It will be interesting to see how this tool compliments the Salmon Recovery Portal (formerly Habitat Work Schedule) which maps projects from multiple grant sources
- It would be good to include Knotweed in the Invasive Species layers
- Maybe include Agriculture as an Environmental Justice benefit?
- Add Flood Risk Reduction benefits from floodplain restoration projects.

#### Updates

Kari Quaas shared that the SCD had a meeting with County and DFW to discuss how to engage with community. Stay tuned for a report.

## Future meetings and agendas

Month	Topics	Work Plan Reference
September 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FbD land acquisition strategy</li><li>• Celebrate Terry Williams</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>
October 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stilly IT - strategy document</li><li>• Tentative: WREC and WRIA7 – Ecology or Washington Water Trust</li></ul>	
November 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FbD land acquisition strategy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>
December 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TBD</li></ul>	

**Meeting adjourned at 11:45AM.**