

SLS Stilly IT

August 13th, 2020

Today

SLS Stilly IT is exploring “what next” in partnership with SLS EC and others after having *almost* successfully completed Phase II

- SLS Stilly IT/SLS EC and Partner: Survey Results
- SLS Stilly IT: What Next?
- Draft SLS Stilly IT Working Strategy Document
- Immediate Next Steps

SLS Survey Results on Stilly IT process

- 11 people responded
 - State/local government, nonprofit, tribal, other governmental
 - Fish, farm, flood interests
- Overall experience: 1 adequate; 7 good; 3 excellent;
- All who answered (8) felt their “issues were fairly considered and addressed”

SLS Stilly IT Asked Themselves: What Next?

What does you/your organization want to accomplish or see accomplished by others over the next year?

What would benefit from IT coordination/collaboration?

SLS Work Plan

Goal: Take Action on Policy, Projects & Measure Progress

Objective 1: Increase the pace and magnitude of on-the-ground project implementation.

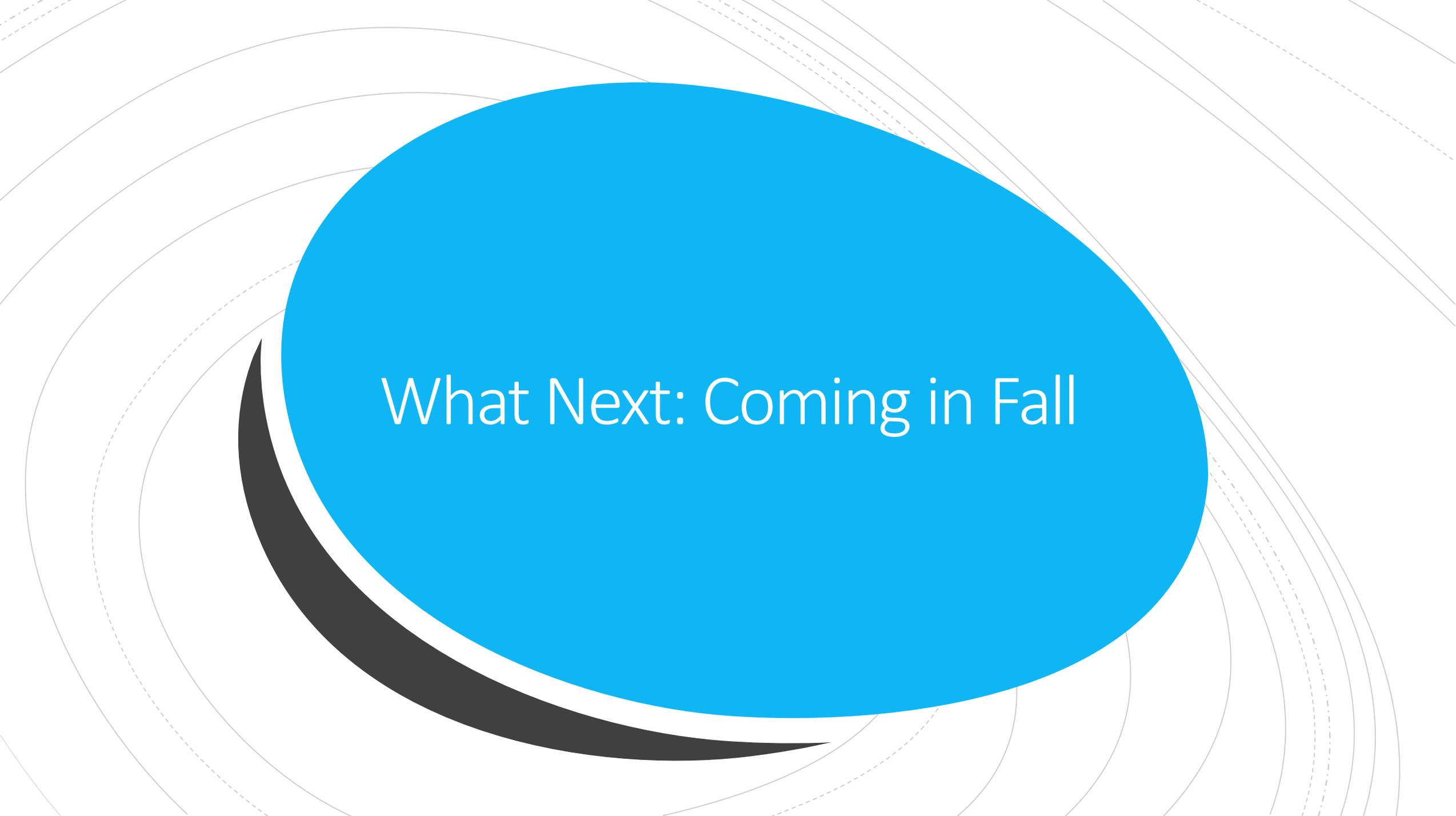
- ITs develop broadly supported set of strategies at reach or appropriate scale that results in an integrated suite of actions.
- Pursue and secure funding that aligns with the SLS project packages.
- Highlight key policy issues needing support from broader SLS partnership to achieve on-the-ground results and make a plan for advocacy or action to change or implement those policies.
- Implement projects

SLS Work Plan

- Work at the Stilly and Snohomish scales to drive action, define goals; track and measure progress in a manner that strengthens local collaboration; and shows the result of investment and changes on the ground.
 - Identify key attributes needed to convey progress for SLS Partners and the public
 - Review existing plans to develop integrated fish, farm, and flood goals and outcomes.
 - Identify top indicators to measure progress for integrated fish, farms and flood and outcomes.
 - Develop a Shared Monitoring Plan.
 - Work with broader SLS partners to track progress across watersheds

Early Feedback from the Stilly IT about the future of the Stilly IT

- **PURPOSE: Get work on the ground done**
- **Right group (add flood?)**
- **Continue to meet**
- **Staffing and periodicity not determined**
- **Need to continue to clarify roles and relationship with SLS EC and partners**



What Next: Coming in Fall

DRAFT
SLS Stilly IT
Working
Strategy
Document



Stilly IT Goal

- to advance the pace, magnitude and effectiveness of on-the-ground actions that collectively produce results aimed at meeting salmon recovery goals, protecting and enhancing agricultural viability and reducing new and current flood risk in the Stillaguamish floodplain (SLS goals and values)
- to facilitate the development of broadly supported, actionable, and integrated suites of actions to achieve this

Stilly IT Success

The Stilly IT's success will be determined by its ability to facilitate the crafting and implementation of suite of actions that increase the pace, magnitude and effectiveness of the effort and is *actionable* and *broadly supported*.

Actionable: willing landowners, permissible, project proponent capable of moving work forward, fundable.

Broadly supported: broad and active support from flood, fish, and farm. Does not mean: there can be no opposition, but opposition should be minimal, and those in support should understand and have considered the nature of the opposition.

Stilly IT Values

- **Take action:** *There is a strong desire to do real work and minimize process that doesn't produce results.*
- **Systems-based solutions:** *There is recognition that ecosystems and agriculture are both systems and thus require solutions that leverage and protect the systems, not just the landscape or individual parcels.*
- **0- to 50-year timeframe:** *The future is highly uncertain for both agriculture and salmon. A focus on the relative "short-term" is the likely sweet spot for collaboration and cooperation in the face of extinction, climate change, development pressures, and a constantly changing agricultural sector.*
- **Mutual respect:** *There is a strong desire and demonstrated capacity to work from a place of mutual respect.*
- **Cooperation and collaboration:** *There is strong interest in increasing the cooperation amongst parties working in the Stillaguamish Valley (i.e., openly sharing information, building trust, and where possible minimizing harm). There is also a willingness to look for opportunities for collaboration (i.e., where new and unexpected solutions arise through conversation).*
- **Transparency:** *share what is happening both inside and outside of the sphere of cooperation and collaboration*
- **Locally driven:** *the Stilly IT values finding solutions that support the Stilly community*

Stilly IT Operating Principles

- **Agree where agreement can be found and openly share information and shake hands where there isn't**
- **Be honest and forthcoming with your opinions and needs**
- **If you want others to be honest and forth-coming, think about your reaction before speaking**
- **Listen to understand**
- **Stay focused on designing, funding and building better/more supported projects for farm, fish and flood**
- **Community input and engagement is essential**

Stilly IT Decision- making

- Operate on consensus:
 - Block – doesn't move forward*
 - Issues to resolve: doesn't move forward if issues not resolved*
 - Step aside: there are unresolved issues that can be resolved later or I don't like it but won't block it*
 - Wildly support: I will advocate and make this happen*

Decision- making

Consensus Worked!

Stilly IT Phase II decisions included:

- Agreement on FbD grant project proponent roles/responsibilities
- Criteria to select a FbD grant project proponent
- Selection of FbD grant project proponent
- Agreement on FbD package of projects for pre/final application.

This required a number of smaller decisions:

- Agreed to changes in budget amounts
- Agreed to changes in projects
- Criteria to trim project package
- Agreed to move forward with projects that are not entirely supported
- Agreement on the roles and responsibilities for grant application writing and submission tasks

Where to Focus

Entire watershed, including uplands, as is necessary to build support for actions in the Lower Stillaguamish (lands below the North and South Fork confluence).

Focus area developed by considering these general criteria:

- Where there is potential multi-interest readiness to cooperate or collaborate;
- Importance and potential lift the area could provide to achieve farm, fish and flood needs; and
- Areas where a lack of action could lead to further degradation to fish, farm and flood interests.

Engaging SLS

- Representation at every SLS meeting
- Participation in the SLS Work Planning Group
- Provided regular and timely updates to SLS EC and partners as well as provided substantive details for discussion as soon as information was available

This approach to engagement is currently planned to continue, but staffing/roles of Stilly IT members for this work is not yet determined.

Engaging SLS: Example Survey Responses

- *“Good communication through out the process. I think where we ran sideways was not having a clear understanding of the SLS EC role in the development of the project packages. At the final presentation I appreciated hearing the concerns that were expressed and then how they were addressed. I liked this level of transparency.”*
- *“Yes, it was the most inclusive process that has been run. It also gave the group good insight on how it was developing over the year.”*
- *“You thought through all the concerns and found a collective solution as the Stilly IT to address them, and produced a supportable proposal package.”*
- *“I think the IT process went great, however, we clearly need to figure out how to interface more effectively with the EC to make them comfortable with the process. This may just take time.”*
- *“Discussing context of the process and project selected would help some of the EC understand how the projects relate to other processes”*

Engaging Stilly Community

The Stilly IT is still working to specifically define its focus over the next year. Clarity about this is forthcoming.

Stilly community engagement is a priority.

SLS STILLY IT Flow of Work

JULY FOCUS

- Complete FbD Application
- What worked/didn't work with Stilly IT Pilot
- What do you want to accomplish over the next year? Does it benefit from IT coordination/collaboration?

AUGUST FOCUS

- What worked/didn't work with Stilly IT Pilot
- What do you want to accomplish over the next year? Does it benefit from IT coordination/collaboration?
- Staffing/Structure
- Working Strategy Document

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER FOCUS

- Implementation topics
- Stilly IT Work Plan
- Staffing/Structure
- Working Strategy Document

June SLS: Supports FbD Package

July SLS:

- Update on What Next
- Survey

August SLS:

- Input on Working Strategy Document

Fall SLS:

- Input on work plan, staffing and structure

Flow is Still Being Discussed: Draft

Snohomish IT Update

- The Snohomish IT is also coming to the end of Phase II, on the same schedule as the Stilly IT
- The Snohomish IT is clarifying the structure and process moving forward by piloting Core Team and subject-specific DTG meetings with participation from a larger group
- Over the next year, we expect to collaborate on:
 - Implementation of the 2019-2021 Floodplains by Design grant
 - FbD Acquisition Strategy
 - Integrated projects for Shinglebolt/South Slough and Riley and Haskel Sloughs
 - Agricultural resilience projects
 - WDFW's Snohomish Estuary projects
 - Near-term project list
- Currently, the Snohomish IT is considering the best structure, within the available resources, for staff support of the IT's efforts, and expects to have an update in the next several months