

SLS Work Plan Framework

Updated 1-7-20

Plan Timeframe: May 2020-June 2022

Goal: Take Action on Policy, Projects and Measure Progress

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

- A. ITs to develop broadly supported set of strategies at the reach or appropriate scale that results in an integrated suite of actions that support the advancement of fish, farm, and flood needs. (“Broadly supported” means the community, SLS Partners and the EC support the suites of actions as proposed - consistent with SLS Values, goals and principles.)
- B. Secure and diversify the funding to support SLS priority farm, fish, and flood initiatives from federal, state, and local sources.
 - 1. Prepare for the upcoming legislative session to recognize opportunities to leverage ag & fish political capital to steer capacity and funding towards SLS priorities
- C. 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
- D. Implement projects
- E. Work at the Stilly and Snohomish scales to drive action, define goals; track progress in a manner that strengthens local collaboration; and shows the result of investment and changes on the ground.
 - 2. Identify key attributes needed to convey progress for SLS Partners and the public
 - 3. Review existing plans to determine fish, farm, and flood goals and outcomes
 - 4. Identify top indicators to measure progress for fish, farms, and floods
- F. Work with broader SLS partners to track progress across watersheds

Objective 2: Advance key policy, funding, and political needs to increase the pace and magnitude of integrated floodplain management actions in Snohomish County

- A. Facilitate discussions with partners, elected officials, state and federal agencies, and others to move concepts forward in a coordinated manner.

1. Riparian enhancement or protection (working buffers, flexible buffer widths etc.) Be aware of what is happening with riparian protection in the Centennial Accord and Tulalip Tribe's research work.
2. Farmland protection policy and funding
3. Land-use decisions in the Snohomish County Comp Plan update
4. Advance policy issues from the Stilly IT (in review currently):
 - a. Build support for flood protection measures
 - b. Help partner with Ecology to build a irrigation efficiency and water availability program that addresses the needs of salmon and agriculture
 - c. Determine if an approach to creating a “riparian short plat” is feasible and supported
 - d. Assist with building political and financial support for projects like the South Slough Reconnection and Flood Risk reduction Project in the Stillaguamish
5. Advance policy issues from the Snohomish IT:
 - a. Advocate for more funding for agricultural conservation easements
 - b. Support flexibility from funders or permittees on multi-benefit solutions on farmland (I.e. boundary-line adjustments, flood easements
 - c. Advocate for Ecology support for buy-protect-sell for agricultural lands
 - d. Support viable agricultural economy and ag businesses with things like funding for infrastructure improvements and permitting pathways for infrastructure improvements
 - e. Support cooperation between fish/habitat goals and farmer drainage/land needs.
 - f. Support on reducing regulatory barriers to implementing BMPs on farmland, especially surrounding water rights and storage (source switch and retiming)
 - g. Clarify the relationship between the EC and the IT
 - h. Identify quantified SLS goals and objectives that will allow us to communicate success. What does Net Gain mean? Develop a Shared Monitoring Plan. (all of these updates are from Spencer)
 - i. Coordinate input to Snohomish County regarding update to their Comprehensive Plan and other land use policy initiatives (NB) to support SLS objectives.
6. Pursue regulatory “Harmonization” to address silos and conflicts.
7. Incorporate up to date climate data in consideration of alternatives.

Goal: Communicate with Public and Partners to best achieve other SLS work plan goals

Objective 1: Develop tools and activities to communicate actions and outcomes consistent with SLS values, supported by SLS partners and/or developed through the SLS collaboration

- A. Complete the development of a communications workplan.
 - I) Integrate communications needs of ITs.
- B. See 2021-2022 communications workplan in Appendix A.

Objective 2: Identify opportunities for coordinated information sharing and communication reflecting the support for SLS. Develop a shared understanding of the science in relation to fish restoration, flood management and agriculture viability.

- A. Sponsor monthly education seminars on topics of interest to SLS alternating fish, farm and flood.
- B. Develop a shared understanding of the science and business in relation to fish restoration and agriculture viability

Goal: Create a Collaborative Organizational Structure to Facilitate Action

Objective 1: Establish the structure, roles and responsibilities that support the SLS collaboration with a focus on taking action.

- A. Fill roles and/or expand membership based on identified needs and gaps critical to moving work forward.
 - I) Increase participation by flood interests and acknowledge importance of flood management.
 - II) Engage water supply interests.
- B. Work with Partners to ID a structure and associated roles and responsibilities to optimize SLS effectiveness and efficiency.
- C. Clarify processes to ensure that decisions and disagreements are resolved through collaborative forums based on the SLS values.
- D. Secure dedicated and paid staff to support the collaboration
- E. Identify paid staff to support the SLS SC and Partners in achieving their goals and workplan implementation

Objective 2: Review and clarify the mission and overarching goals of SLS.

Objective 3: Identify opportunities for coordinated funding

- A. Prepare for the upcoming legislative session to recognize opportunities to leverage flood, ag & fish political capital to steer capacity and funding towards SLS priorities

Objective 4: Develop, implement, and revise a two-year workplan based on SLS Values and principles.

- A. Monthly SLS partner meetings are aligned with the priorities as identified in the workplan
- B. The SLS planning team addresses emerging needs and ensures alignment on priority actions.

Objective 5: Ensure SLS workplan ties into processes from other groups and watersheds – address issues in a cumulative effect process