

Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
MEETING SUMMARY
May 18, 2005
6:00-10:00 p.m.
Snoqualmie Fire Station, City of Snoqualmie

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathy Lambert	King County Councilmember
Heather Page	City of Duvall Councilmember
Bill Paulsen	City of Carnation Councilmember
Charles Peterson	City of Snoqualmie Councilmember
Mark Sollitto	City of North Bend Councilmember
Matt Stone	City of Snoqualmie Alternate
Bill Knutsen	Citizen Representative
Gary Roberts	Citizen Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT:

William Harper	Citizen Representative
David Irons	King County Councilmember Alternate
Stuart Lisk	City of Carnation Councilmember

MEETING PROCEEDINGS:

Introductions and Announcements

Mark Sollitto, Forum chair, announced the progress on jurisdictional implementation commitments for the Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan. King County Council passed the Salmon Plan resolution 12-0 on May 2 with Councilmember Lambert's leadership. Carnation City Council also had a unanimous passage of their resolution on May 3. Snoqualmie passed theirs in March. Duvall has it scheduled for May 26. The Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum is set to approve the final plan on June 2nd. Bill Knutsen shared a map of recent riparian restoration and fencing projects in the along the Snoqualmie River.

King Conservation District Grant Program

Perry Falcone, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum Project Coordinator, presented the 2005 King Conservation District (KCD) grant proposals and the Project Review Committee recommendation for funding. In 2005, the Forum received a record 13 applications and \$614,740 in funding requests. However, the Forum only has \$360,000 in available KCD grant funding to allocate in 2005. The Forum's Project Ranking Committee reviewed the 2005 KCD grant proposals on April 7th and created a grant recommendation to the Forum. The Forum discussed the concerns and merits of the projects and considered the committee's recommendation. The Forum's discussion included the following points:

- There were flooding and road protection concerns at the McElhoe Person Levee Removal Alternatives Analysis and Design project. There was also concern around the project's feasibility. The Forum ultimately decided not to fund this project.
- There was interest in fully funding the Cherry Creek Pump Station Effectiveness Monitoring in order to inform future pump station retrofits and support a 2004 KCD project.
- On all of the riparian planting projects, there was interest in understanding the cost per acre of planting and invasive removal as well as the success rate of controlling noxious weeds in the long term.
- Some Forum members had concern around spending money on the Juvenile Fish Surveys when the Forum is trying to focus effort on implementation of the Plan and on-the-ground projects. The Forum ultimately voted to fund this project.
- There was interest in funding the Riparian Plantings on Snoqualmie Agriculture Lands project to continue this valuable work.

Project Proposal	Applicant	Forum's Recommendations
City Cost Share for Snoqualmie Watershed Forum	Cities ILA cost share	\$85,000 (Estimated placeholder)
Snoqualmie Juvenile Fish Surveys	King County	\$50,000
Raging River Preston Reach Floodplain Reconnection	King County	\$72,645 (\$27,355 would be available in 2006)
Lower Snoqualmie Restoration Duvall Reach Riparian Awareness	City of Duvall	\$25,000 in partial funding (originally \$49,000)
McElhoe Person Levee Removal Alternatives Analysis and Design	King County	No funding recommended (originally \$50,000)
Wetlands Enhancement and Creation at Chinook Bend Natural Area or Stillwater Wildlife Area (Carnation WTP outfall)	King County	\$14,000
Snoqualmie Valley Salmon Safe	King Conservation District	\$12,000
Ribary Creek Restoration	City of North Bend	\$25,000
Kimball Creek Restoration Phase II	City of Snoqualmie	\$21,805
Fish Passage Effectiveness Monitoring at Cherry Creek Hidrostral Pump	Snoqualmie Tribe	\$34,550
Upper Snoqualmie Restoration and Community Involvement	City of North Bend	No funding recommended (originally \$25,000)
Riparian Plantings on Snoqualmie Agriculture Lands – Landowner Incentives	King County	\$20,000
Snoqualmie Tribal Community Conservation Corps	Snoqualmie Tribe	No funding recommended (originally \$112,385)

New Inter-local Agreement Discussion

Sandy Kilroy, Snoqualmie Watershed Coordinator presented a proposed work program and budget prepared by Forum and jurisdiction staff.

The Forum approved the proposed work program. The proposed work program focuses future efforts on salmon plan project implementation and broadens the Forum to focus on integrated water resource issues starting with water quality and quantity consistent with the new mission and roles approved by Forum in March. The Forum indicated satisfaction with the work program. Some comments included spending more efforts on pursuing additional funding through grants and other sources and doing less with schools in the outreach area but focusing on other outreach methods. There was also clarification on the role of the Communications Specialist budgeted through the Forum. This position is proposed to work on outreach, education and capacity building for project implementation.

The proposed 2006 budget was also presented. The majority of the discussion surrounded King County's request to receive full cost recovery for being the service provider. Currently the County collects less than it actually spends to provide the agreed to services. The Forum approved the proposed budget of \$378,025 which includes status quo staffing, a reduction in operating dollars, and full cost recovery for King County. The Forum's approval of full cost recovery was conditioned on 1) the expectation that the County pays its share at 79%, 2) the cities can pay their share through a KCD grant similar to the past five years, and 3) there will be no more additional costs passed onto the Forum from King County as a result of being the service provider.

King Conservation District Special Assessment

Sandy Kilroy also presented information on the renewal of the King Conservation District Assessment. This assessment expires at the end of 2005. The Forum discussed the possible effects of various distribution options of the associated assessment. The Forum approved sending a letter to the KCD regarding the special assessment with support for: 1) the \$10 increase, 2) \$6 being dedicated to the watershed forums, 3) a greater or equal share of the \$6 portion going to the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum, and 4) continuation of the cities cost share through KCD.

Other Business

Chair Mark Sollitto announced his resignation from the Forum effective immediately. Mark has served as the Forum chair for 3.5 years and been a member since 2000. He has led the Forum through the complex development of the Salmon Plan as well as establishing the Forum as a true asset in the valley. He plans to continue advocating for project implementation.

The next meeting will be on July 20, 2005 Meadowbrook Interpretive Center.