Snoqualmie Watershed Forum

November 2026

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Forum Membership

Thank you Jacynta Miles, Tribal Youth Seat!
Jacynta Myles has served a one-year term as the Tulalip Tribes tribal youth seat on the Forum. We appreciate Jacynta's time and interest in the Forum and wish her all the best!

Welcome City of Duvall's CM Paul Wiggins and CM Sara Taylor!
September 2026 was the first meeting welcoming CM Wiggins and CM Taylor (alternate) to the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum. As WRIA 7 ILA Party representatives they will serve on the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum for a term of four years, or the remainder of their elected term. Welcome!

Currently recruiting for the Snoqualmie Indian Tribes Tribal Youth Seat.
Currently recruiting for the Tulalip Tribes Tribal Youth Seat.

For a list of all current members, please check out our website: **https://govlink.org/watersheds/7/about-the-forum/default.aspx.**

Projects and Initiatives

Salmon SEEson
Salmon SEEson is in full swing! We've had a busy year so far and are excited to continue working with partners and sharing opportunities to see salmon and speak with naturalists about their life cycles and more. Salmon can still be seen at Tolt MacDonald Park Suspension Bridge, Tolt River Footpath, and Tokul Creek. Our Salmon SEEson website features which sites are currently seeing salmon that we've been updating all season, as we wind down make sure to check there for these last opportunities to see them until next year!

King County Floodplain Management Code Update
King County is continuing to evaluate options for the Floodplain Management Code Update. Staff are assessing potential approaches and considering technical, regulatory, and community impacts before moving forward with a preferred proposal. Broader stakeholder and community outreach is anticipated to begin in December 2026 and continue into January 2027. Additional information and opportunities for input will be shared as the process advances.

Snoqualmie Valley Major Flood Mitigation Study (Cross Valley)
King County has been evaluating flood-resilient transportation options in the Snoqualmie Valley since December 2022 through the Cross Valley Study. The study focuses on identifying one of the four existing Snoqualmie River crossings that could remain open or recover more quickly during flooding, rather than addressing flooding itself. The feasibility study's first phase was completed in October 2024 and identified **NE Tolt Hill Road** and **NE 124th Street** for further evaluation. The County is now conducting additional analysis to

select a preferred corridor and is seeking community feedback to better understand the factors residents value in that decision. A public survey is open through **November 20, 2026**.

This project will be important for the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum to follow, as future corridor selection and design will need to balance transportation resilience with floodplain processes, habitat values, and environmental impacts. In particular, elevating NE Tolt Hill Road could provide habitat restoration opportunities in a key salmon spawning and rearing area. **Please consider providing your input by completing the online survey:** Snoqualmie Valley Major Flood Mitigation Study (Cross Valley) - King County, Washington

The King County project team plans to provide a formal update to the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum in Spring 2027**.**

Lower Miller River Floodplain Restoration Update
King County hosted a community meeting in Skykomish on November 9 to share project progress and gather feedback from residents, with approximately 20 community members in attendance. The online engagement hub remains open for questions and comments, and an additional public meeting is anticipated in late spring to provide updates and share how community input was considered in project design. The project has advanced beyond 60% design and is moving forward while funding decisions are pending.

Engagement Hub: Lower Miller River Floodplain Restoration Project - PublicInput

Beckler River Large Wood
Tulalip Tribes completed acquisition of the 24-acre Reid property in November, securing a key project area and enabling floodplain restoration. Construction was delayed by access and permitting challenges but is now planned for summer 2027, pending grant extensions, final access agreements, and contractor selection.

Lower Cherry Creek Restoration (Phases II & III)
A permanent livestock bridge was installed in September, providing construction access for the remaining habitat and levee improvements. While permitting is complete, high bids and contractor availability delayed work; remaining construction is now planned for summer 2027, supported by a recent $430,000 Public Works Board award for levee improvements.

Stillwater Floodplain Reconnection
Project partners are advancing design and evaluation of floodplain reconnection alternatives, with hydraulic modeling underway to assess potential flood level effects. Upcoming work includes selecting a preferred alternative, completing soil investigations, and securing landowner access agreements, with design funding extended through 2027.

Lower Frew Levee Setback Project
King County, as service provider to the King County Flood Control District (FCD), completed preliminary design of the Lower Frew Levee Setback Project in 2025 and requested FCD approval to proceed to final design in spring 2026. Located on the northern bank of the Tolt River, between State Route 203 and the Snoqualmie Valley Trail, “the Lower Frew Levee Setback Project is a pivotal step in safeguarding our community while restoring the natural ecosystem of the Tolt River” (FCD Lower Frew blog post). In Fall 2026, King County applied for two USDOT grants to fund construction of the project, pending funding announcements, and will continue to explore additional funding opportunities.

SE Fish Hatchery Rd Habitat Restoration Project
The King County team completed its alternatives analysis and has advanced into preliminary design. Topographic survey is finished, and hydraulic modeling and cultural resources work are underway to support design development. The team anticipates 30% design by summer 2027. CWM funded the alternatives analysis and will continue to fund some of the design, with an additional $400,000 in SRFB and $1,000,000 in Floodplains by Design. Construction is projected for 2029 or 2030. Contact: Andrea Mojzak, amojzak@kingcounty.gov.

Forum Business

Letters from the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum

Lower Frew Floodplain Reconnection Project
The Snoqualmie Watershed Forum submitted a letter of support for the Lower Frew Floodplain Reconnection Project's application to the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) competitive grant program. The project is seeking construction funding to complement Flood Control District investments, with grant awards anticipated to be announced in December 2026.

Snoqualmie Valley Major Flood Mitigation Study (Cross Valley)
The Snoqualmie Watershed Forum also submitted a letter of support for the Cross Valley Roads project's application to Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) competitive grant program. Funding would support the 30% design phase of the preferred alternative, with award announcements anticipated in December 2026.

Copies of these documents are available by request – please contact Erin Ryan-Peñuela, eryan@kingcounty.gov.

Soliciting for E-news Submissions
The Forum is seeking submissions for the Winter 2026 Snoqualmie E-newsletter! This is your chance to highlight topics such as community conservation, habitat restoration efforts, and upcoming events. A broad variety of items are welcome. If you have an article to submit, please email it to Norah Kates at nkates@kingcounty.gov with a brief paragraph (fewer than 100 words) and links to relevant reports or websites **by Friday, November 21st**. Photos and videos are encouraged! If you haven't already, subscribe through the Snoqualmie's web site and see some of our past editions: https://www.govlink.org/watersheds/7/news/default.aspx

Funding Opportunities

STATE/REGIONAL GRANTS

Note: The WRIA 7 Lead Entity will not open a SRFB grant round solicitation for 2027. They will continue funding down their 2026 project list with this year's allocation.

Note: ECY Water Quality Combined Funding Program, WDFW's Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board, and PSAR Large Cap funding rounds are on even years and will not occur in 2027. The Floodplains by Design 2027-2029 funding list has been finalized.

WA DNR Family Forest Fish Passage Program | Department of Natural Resources: Open year round. The Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) assists private forestland owners in removing culverts and other stream crossing structures that keep trout, salmon, and other fish from reaching upstream habitat.

LOCAL GRANTS

Cooperative Watershed Management Grants (WRIA 7, 8, 9): Scheduled to open Late Nov-Dec 2026. Cooperative Watershed Management grants fund salmon recovery projects (capital, riparian, research, education & outreach) tailored to the needs and priorities of each watershed.

Conservation Futures open space acquisition funding available — apply by February 5, 2027

King County Conservation Futures grants are for acquisition of land or conservation easements in King County. Conservation Futures grants can fund the purchase of urban greenspaces, natural areas, restoration sites, passive recreation parks, forests, community gardens, farmland, and trails – including stormwater parks or parks near affordable housing.

For other current grant opportunities, visit Puget Sound Partnership's webpage.