

Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
MEETING SUMMARY
November 16, 2005
Meeting 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Snoqualmie Police Station

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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| Dianne Brudnicki | City of Duvall Councilmember |
| Bill Knutsen | Citizen Representative |
| Kathy Lambert | King County Councilmember |
| Ross Laudenback | City of North Bend Councilmember |
| Heather Page | City of Duvall Councilmember |
| Bill Paulsen | City of Carnation Councilmember |
| Charles Peterson | City of Snoqualmie Councilmember |
| Gary Roberts | Citizen Representative |
| Matt Stone | City of Snoqualmie Alternate |

MEMBERS ABSENT:

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| Stuart Lisk | City of Carnation Councilmember |
| William Harper | Citizen Representative |

MEETING PROCEEDINGS:

Introductions and Announcements

Matt Stone, Acting Forum Chair, opened the meeting with introductions. Perry Falcone, Forum staff, announced that all four cities in the Snoqualmie Watershed and the Snoqualmie Tribe have signed the Forum's new Inter-local agreement (ILA). King County Council would likely sign the agreement before the end of 2005. The King Conservation District Assessment was currently before the King County Council. Several councilmembers from Snoqualmie Watershed jurisdictions attended the November 14 public hearing on the KCD assessment in support of the assessment and an equal split of the Forum allocation across WRIA 7, 8 and 9. King County Council decision was expected later in November.

Matt Stone welcomed Dianne Brudnicki, Duvall Councilmember to her first meeting as the new Duvall representative. Dianne Brudnicki would be replacing Heather Page who served as a Forum member since 2004.

2006 King Conservation District Grant Process

The Forum reviewed and approved the Snoqualmie Watershed KCD Funding Areas of Focus for 2006. The Forum discussed options for earmarking annual KCD funds to specific project types. The Forum agreed to continue earmark approximately \$75,000

(exact amount will vary each year) to cover the cities ILA cost share of the Forum staffing.

The Forum expressed interest in earmarking annual KCD funding to long-term maintenance of restoration projects. The Forum was interested in the following criteria:

- Focus funding on coordinating multiple projects across the watershed
- Forum staff should monitor projects and create a maintenance report card
- Maintenance priorities should be focused on past KCD projects first
- Projects should encourage the use of local employment and subcontractors

The Forum also had questions for further staff research:

- Will KCD allow grants up to 5 years in length in order to encourage new projects to incorporate up to 5 years of maintenance?
- Can KCD give out grant maintenance funds in a check each year to ensure that project managers budget enough money for maintenance in years 3, 4 and 5?
- What is the cheapest way to get maintenance work done? A grant to non-profit or RFP to private business?

In January, the Forum will revisit this issue and decide how to proceed.

Levee Maintenance 101

Tom Bean, King County Flood Hazard Management Staff, presented an introduction to levee issues in the Snoqualmie Watershed. There are currently two programs related to levee standards. Levee certification is administrated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to create standards for 100-year flood protection. There are no levees in the Snoqualmie Watershed that meet this certification. The US Army Corps of Engineers PL84-99 eligibility creates standards for levee construction and maintenance. Some levees in the Snoqualmie Watershed are eligible under PL 84-99. The highly developed flood prone areas in the Snoqualmie Watershed include: City of Carnation, Fall City and City of North Bend and Snoqualmie. Currently levee problems in the Snoqualmie include saturation, erosion, breaching, and overtopping.

King County is currently looking at the feasibility of gravel removal to alleviate flooding in certain areas. Any gravel removal would need to be studied and would be removed above the water level. Hurricane Katrina will likely have a major impact on future flood policy. There will likely be a reduction of resources for levee repairs, an increased focus on buyouts, and higher levee certification standards. The Forum was interested in the gravel removal studies. The Forum was concerned about increased development behind levees. The Forum plans to comment on the County's Flood Hazard Management Plan at the January meeting.

Forum Accomplishments (1998-2005)

The Forum recognized the accomplishments since 1998. The Forum implemented numerous conservation projects utilizing KCD grant funds. The Forum also was involved

in drafting and implementing the Snohomish Basin Salmon Conservation Plan, developing a model critical areas ordinance, installing the Snoqualmie Valley Trail Art and signage project, organizing volunteer plantings, holding the 2005 photography poster contest, and supporting the Snoqualmie Watershed Festival.

Public Comment

There was no public comment

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on January 18, 2006.