

Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
MEETING SUMMARY
January 19, 2005
7:00-9:00 p.m.
Mt. Si Senior Center, North Bend

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

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

MEETING PROCEEDINGS:

Introductions and Announcements

Mark Sollitto, chair, opened the meeting with an update on the King Conservation District (KCD) Assessment. Sollitto learned from a recent KCD-Forum leadership meeting that the Washington Conservation Commission voted 27/24 against authorizing conservation district to potentially raise assessments to \$10. However, in the State legislature, Senator Jacobsen has introduced SB 5094 to allow the cap to be raised. WRIA leaders from WRIA 7, 8, and 9 recently met with King Conservation District Supervisors. They agreed on the value and importance of continuing the \$5 assessment. Discussions will continue about support for the \$10.

2004 Accomplishments

Sandy Kilroy, Snoqualmie Watershed Coordinator, gave a brief overview of 2004 Forum Accomplishments including completion of Draft Snohomish Basin Salmon Conservation Plan; allocation of \$389,000 for projects; completion of the Snoqualmie Model Code for Critical Areas; outreach and education to over 200 school students; installation of interpretive signs and artwork; and coordination with watershed partners. Mrs. Kilroy announced that the third trail sign and art installation will take place on February 17th at 4pm in Meadowbrook Park, Snoqualmie.

Overview of Geology of the Snoqualmie Watershed

John Bethel, King County Geologist, presented the findings the September 2004 report *Overview of the Geology and Geomorphology of the Snoqualmie River Watershed*. The presentation included a discussion of glacial events that formed the Snoqualmie Valley and shaped the current habitat. The report highlights the formation of “natural levees” along the Snoqualmie River, Tolt and Raging Rivers’ sediment transport effects on the Snoqualmie River, tributary erosion patterns and abundance of historic wetlands in the floodplain. The report will be available soon on www.metrokc.gov.

Future Interlocal Agreement and Retreat Preparation

The Forum approved the agenda for the February 5th retreat to discuss the mission and roles of a Forum beyond 2005. In an initial discussion to prepare for the retreat, members expressed interests in:

- Moving from conservation planning to implementation of projects
- Continuing public education and outreach efforts
- Providing incentives for landowners to be stewards of land
- Continuing partnerships with non-profits
- Securing funding for plan implementation
- Reviewing Forum membership

The Forum specifically discussed the idea of inviting the Snoqualmie Tribe to the table. There was general interest in this and a direction to continue the discussion at the retreat.

Commitment to Plan Implementation

The Forum reviewed and discussed a draft model resolution to support the Salmon Conservation Plan. This model resolution would be a template for local jurisdictions to adopt through council. It would show the Shared Strategy and Federal partners that local jurisdictions support the goals of the Plan and will work to implement it. The Forum removed language referring directly to the co-managers planning targets but continued to support the “long-term vision” of the Plan. Forum members also felt that the resolution should hold as a condition that “the majority” of implementation cost will be covered by State and Federal sources. Forum members expressed reservations of offering up too much at this juncture as there is currently nothing being offered up by the Federal government.

The Forum unanimously approved language for a model resolution to be sent to local jurisdictions next month for their consideration. The resolution documents the purpose and history of our involvement in salmon recovery and outlines statements of support as well as necessary conditions.

The Draft Salmon Plan will be finalized in June of 2005 and commitments are expected by April 2005. Shared Strategy for Puget Sound will host the Shared Strategy Summit on January 26th & 27th, 2005 in Tacoma, WA. Members are encouraged to attend one or both days.

King Conservation District Snoqualmie Watershed Grants – Process and Schedule

Perry Falcone, Project Manager, presented 2005 Snoqualmie Watershed KCD grant process and schedule. The Forum approved the schedule for the 2005 round of the KCD grants program. Requests for Proposals will go out at the end of January. Draft applications are due February 28.

Heather Page asked whether the retreat and the Forum's future planning will change the priorities for the ranking of grants. The Forum was interested in incorporating any new priorities into the 2006 KCD process.

Public Comment

Bill Paulsen asked if the Forum would be willing to write a letter of support for the Carnation Treatment Plant. The Forum replied that they would consider the writing a letter and would like a draft from the City of Carnation to consider.

The next meeting will be on March 16th at the Carnation City Hall.

Meeting Handouts:

- Agenda
- Snoqualmie Watershed Forum 2004 Accomplishments
- Input for Future Planning Discussion (Survey Results)
- Draft Model Resolution for Local Commitments to Snohomish Basin Salmon Plan
- Draft 2005 Snoqualmie Watershed King Conservation District (KCD Grant Process Timeline and Review Process