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**Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
MEETING SUMMARY
May 15, 2013
Meeting 7:00-9:00 pm
Preston Community Center, Preston, WA**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jason Walker	City of Duvall Councilmember, Forum Chair
Erin Chamberlain	City of Carnation Councilmember
Ryan Kolodejchuk	City of North Bend Councilmember
Cindy Spiry	Snoqualmie Tribe (Alternate)
Bill Knutsen	King Conservation District
Isaac Cunningham	Citizen Representative
Matt Gray	Citizen Representative
Kent Renno	Citizen Representative
Micah Wait	Wild Fish Conservancy, Non-profit Representative
Jennifer McKeown	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Non-profit Representative (alternate)

MEETING PROCEEDINGS

Introductions and Minutes

- Jason Walker called the meeting to order and introduced Matt Gray, the Forum’s new citizen representative, appointed by the Snoqualmie Valley Governments’ Association.
- The Forum approved the March 20th meeting summary without changes.

Forum Updates and Announcements

State Capital Budget – PSAR and Coordinated Floodplain Initiative: The Forum submitted letters to State Legislators in district #5 and #45 as well as key committee chairs to thank them for their support for the PSAR funding request and urging support for that request at the full \$80M level. Funding for the Upper Carlson project near Fall City is contingent on PSAR funding at the full \$80M level, though other funding options may emerge. Inclusion of the Coordinated Floodplain Initiative project list in the House budget is an encouraging sign for future multi-objective funding from the State.

Snohomish Forum Update: At its May 2013 meeting, the Snohomish Forum approved revisions to the 3-Year Work Plan for the Snohomish Basin which includes capital and programmatic actions for habitat, harvest and hatchery actions by all basin partners. Snoqualmie Forum staff participate extensively in the review and update process each year. At its August meeting, the Forum will approve recommendations for project funding through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and PSAR sources. Total funding available is unknown, but likely to be roughly \$2.4M. Attendance by Snoqualmie Valley member jurisdictions is highly encouraged.

Snohomish/Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO): The Puget Sound Partnership’s Snohomish/Stillaguamish LIO Implementation Committee will be hosting an all day workshop on June 27th. The purpose of the workshop will be to update the LIO’s Local Profile to describe local strategies and actions to address the Action Agenda. Snohomish County, leading the effort, plans to have a draft of the local profile by September 2013. Ross Loudanback (North Bend) represents the Snoqualmie

DRAFT

Valley Cities on the Executive Committee and Perry Falcone represents the Forum on the Implementation Committee. Following the June 27th workshop, Perry will provide an update to the Snoqualmie Valley Planning Committee and determine if Forum input is necessary.

Technical Coordinator Position: The position should be hired in 4 weeks or so.

Forum Business

Budget

Janne Kaje, Watershed Coordinator, presented the budget for 2014. The budget assumes consistent operating costs and staffing levels (2.6 FTEs), with cost of living adjustments. The total estimated 2014 Forum budget based on preliminary projections is \$466,150. This is 0.5% increase over the 2012 budget.

Cities are asked to contribute 10% of their respective cost shares for the 2014 budget. The cost-share revenue is \$358,714 leaving a \$107,436 gap in funding. \$100,000 will come from a Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grant, pending approval by the Forum and the Flood Control District Board of Supervisors. Forum staff is confident that \$7,436 can be found in savings. City representatives should ensure that cost shares are included in their respective budgets. The work program will focus on salmon recovery coordination, project guidance and support, outreach and facilitating actions on broader water resource issues like water quality. Further information about the work program will be discussed at the September Forum meeting.

Ryan Kolodejchuk asked who was in charge of setting salaries and benefits. Janne answered that King County sets those levels as the service provider to the Inter-local Agreement.

Ryan Kolodejchuk also raised an issue for future discussion regarding King County's Transfer of Development Rights program. He commented that while TDR is great for limiting development and protecting natural resources, by reducing development potential in the valley the program results in lower overall assessed property value which translates to less revenue to support valley priorities. It feels like "the rural areas subsidize the urban areas". Forum staff agreed this topic was worth a follow-up conversation at a future meeting.

DECISION: The Forum gave verbal consensus on the proposed budget and the 2014 CWM staffing grant. The Forum will provide final approvals in July.

Snohomish Basin Protection Plan

This is an addendum to the salmon plan and develops more details on the protection of habitat through tools such as incentives, regulations and acquisitions. The project will be looking for a steering committee member – likely an elected official who could serve on this committee. The time commitment will be about 30 hours in 2013 and 60 hours in 2014. Janne will be making phone calls with council members to follow up.

2013 CWM/KCD Grant Allocation

In 2013, the Forum was allocated \$600,000 from the King County Flood District and \$68,214 in past returned funding from the King Conservation District (KCD) to dedicate to watershed projects. Forum staff opened the combined CWM/KCW grant round in January 2013. The initial grant requests tallied over \$1.1 million while the total amount available was only \$668,214. There were 21 applications from 13 sponsors. The Project Review Committee reviewed and scored all of the grant applications.

DRAFT

Perry Falcone presented the Committee's recommended list of 2013 CWM and KCD grants in the Snoqualmie Watershed. The Committee recommendation was to fund all high, medium-high and medium projects except to partially fund project #7 (see Attachment A). 14 of the 21 applications are recommended for approval (including the 2014 Forum staff support grant). Though 7 projects were not recommended for funding, Perry explained that Forum staff would assist these applicants with developing improved projects for future funding. For example, staff would work with the Town of Skykomish on a 2014 project proposal, the City of Duvall to assess fish passage for the Thayer Creek culverts, and Ducks Unlimited to develop the Duck Haven Farms project design. If approved by the Forum, the CWM and KCD grants will be forwarded to the Flood District Executive Committee in July and the King Conservation District Board in August, respectively

Micah had a question regarding the Aronica project wondering if livestock fences on a 303(d) listed rivers are required? Perry answered that while the King County CAO/SMP ordinances do require livestock fencing the county is much more interested in getting compliance through voluntary decisions and helping where the County can through cost shares and the like. Ralph Svrjcek spoke for Ecology and said that they also try to get livestock compliance through voluntary actions although they are able to require limiting access to 303(d)/TMDL listed water bodies if necessary.

Micah asked a question regarding the amount of knotweed in the watershed. He was curious to know what the total area in the watershed is infested by knotweed and what are the benefits of this knotweed projects. Perry stated that this would be a good presentation for the King County Noxious Weeds Group to provide at a future Forum meeting. Ryan Kolodejchuk commented that he would like to see a more unified approach to knotweed control. Janne explained how the projects are truly systematic with partnerships between King County Noxious Weeds, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and other groups working on knotweed issues.

Councilmember Lambert was pleased to see the Forum reaching out to the Town of Skykomish and providing the Town with project support assistance.

DECISION: Councilmember Kathy Lambert moves to approve the CWM grant priority list as presented. Ryan Kolodejchuk seconds. The list is unanimously approved by the Forum.

Public Comment

No public comment

Next Meeting

The next meeting will include the Annual Habitat Restoration Project Tour July 17th (5:00– 9PM) at the Duvall Visitor's Center.

Appendix A: 2013 Snoqualmie Forum Recommended CWM/KCD Grants

ID #	Project Name	Applicant	Subbasin	Match funds	CWM/KCD Request
1	2014 Snoqualmie Restoration and Project Assistance Program	King County DNRP	Watershed-wide	\$33,048	\$100,000
2	Tolt-MacDonald Park Riparian Habitat Restoration	Snoqualmie Tribe	Tolt River	\$19,734	\$30,832
3	Tolt River and Griffin Creek Natural Area Additions	King County DNRP	Tolt River/ Griffin Cr.	\$850,000	\$110,000
4	Aronica Riparian Restoration and Livestock Management Project 2013	Stewardship Partners	Lower Snoq. River	\$35,375	\$44,220
5	Raging River Knotweed Control, Phase 4	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust	Raging River	\$10,000	\$50,000
6	Tolt River Survey and Riparian Restoration	Sound Salmon Solutions	Tolt River	\$28,710	\$45,297
7	Stillwater Restoration Phase III	Sound Salmon Solutions	Lower Harris Creek	\$50,015	\$52,788
8	WRIA 07 King County Fish Passage Data Gap Evaluation (Phase I-2013)	Wild Fish Conservancy	Lower Snoq. River	\$3,600	\$46,848
9	Langlois Creek Habitat Restoration Project	Wild Fish Conservancy	Lower Snoq. River	\$80,000	\$60,000
10	Waterwheel Creek Riparian Planting	Sound Salmon Solutions	Lower Cherry Cr.	\$29,289	\$18,930
11	Meadowbrook Slough Enhancement Project - Boalch Ave to Mt Si Golf Course	City of Snoqualmie	Upper Snoq. River	\$15,000	\$25,957
12	2013-14 Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Education and Stewardship Project	Nature Vision	Watershed-wide	\$694	\$10,800
13	Tollgate Farm E. Bookend NE Parcel Weed Control Project, Phase 3	City of North Bend	South Fork Snoq.	\$13,000	\$40,000
14	Rasmussen Creek Riparian Buffer Restoration	Snoqualmie Tribe	Cherry Creek	\$177,000	\$32,542

Total Match

\$1,345,464

Total CWM/KCD Requests

\$668,214*Note: Total includes \$600K in CWM and \$68,214 in KCD funds*