

Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
MEETING SUMMARY
July 20, 2016
7:00-9:00 pm
Tolt-MacDonald Park Barn, Carnation, WA

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jason Walker	City of Duvall Councilmember, Chair
Lee Grumman	City of Carnation Councilmember, Vice-Chair
Cindy Spiry	Snoqualmie Tribe (Alternate)
Henry Sladek	Town of Skykomish Councilmember
Eileen Carrel	Citizen Representative
Becky Chaney	Citizen Representative
Matt Gray	Citizen Representative
Kathy Lambert	King County Councilmember
Trevor Kostanich	City of North Bend Councilmember
Jim Haack	King Conservation District Supervisor

MEETING PROCEEDINGS

I. Introductions

Jason Walker, Forum Chair, welcomed everyone to the July Forum meeting. The Forum then approved the minutes from the May 18th meeting.

II. Updates and Announcements

- ***Snoqualmie at Fall City Temperature Study 2016***
Janne Kaje, Salmon Recovery Manager, shared that a temperature study is occurring in the Snoqualmie at Fall City reach of the Snoqualmie River mainstem that is a follow up to the Snoqualmie River 2015 Temperature Study. This new study has placed 15 thermistors in the river to look more closely at what appeared to be a cooling effect in the reach last summer. The thermistors are on public and private properties throughout the reach and will remain in the system until the end of September. A technical memo will be delivered to the Forum in 2017 summarizing the findings.
- ***City of Duvall Watershed Plan***
Janne recognized the City of Duvall for receiving the Governor's Smart Communities award for their completed and adopted Watershed Plan. Congratulations Duvall!
- ***Snoqualmie Watershed 10 year Status Update***
The 10 year Status Update is available. The update covers the efforts of the first 10 years of salmon recovery in the Snoqualmie Watershed following completion of the Snohomish Basin Salmon Conservation Plan in 2005. It summarizes our work in comparison to the goals set forward in the salmon plan for both habitat restoration and protection. It also covers the population trends of Endangered Species Act listed salmonids as well as monitoring efforts in the basin that help quantify our impacts and fill in identified data gaps. There will be a presentation of the status report at the September Forum meeting.

- ***Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grants Approved***

The King County Flood Control District approved the Forum ranked and approved CWM grants on July 11th. Project sponsors are now working with the King County grant manager to set up contracts to begin work. The list of approved projects and grant amounts is attached.

III. Climate Impacts on the Puget Sound Region

Lara Whitely-Binder from the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group briefed the Forum on climate change impacts covering what is expected to occur in the Puget Sound as well as localized effects in the Snohomish Basin.

Impacts at a Puget Sound scale include:

- Substantial air temperature and stream temperature warming
- Increase in heavy rainfall events
- Changes in timing of hydrology (lower summer flows, more extreme winter flows and flooding)
- Sea level rise impacting coastal shorelines
- Ocean acidification and surface warming

At a local level, the Snohomish Basin can expect to see:

- More flooding due to more rain and less snow
- Warmer stream temperatures
- Lower summer flows

Climate change impacts on salmon include:

- Floods will increase scour of redds (egg nests) and decrease the potential for fish to hatch.
- Hydrologic shifts will lead to earlier peak flows, which is not well matched with the timing of juvenile fish migration to the ocean
- More pronounced summer low flows and higher summer stream temperatures will affect rearing juveniles as well as adults returning to the river system to spawn
- Ocean conditions are harder to predict and it's unknown how ocean acidification and warmer ocean temperatures will affect salmon

Climate change impacts to agriculture include:

- Wetter winters causing wetter fields
- Increased summer heat stress to crops and livestock
- Decreased summer water supply availability
- Changes in plant disease, weeds and pests.

Planning could help offset some of these effects. For instance, the projected climate change impacts will be difficult for certain types of farming, but they may be beneficial for other crops such as wine grapes. There also may be a longer growing season and at least short term benefits from CO₂ fertilization.

Aside from impacts to salmon and agriculture, there are other impacts that affect our basin such as the increased risk of forest and rangeland fires west of the cascades, and the increase of different pests (such as pine beetles) that can cause a variety of problems.

What can be done? There are two types of actions – mitigation and adaptation. An example of mitigation is the reduction of greenhouse gasses to minimize climate change impacts. Adaptation actions include being prepared for and managing climate change. These actions include emergency preparedness in the face of

higher, more frequent floods; adjusting building and design standards for infrastructure; and making sure zoning rules and related regulations incorporate climate change impacts.

Following Lara, Jessica Engel, a Climate Preparedness Specialist from King County, briefly addressed what King County is doing in order to address climate preparedness. She spoke about the County's Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP) that is addressing countywide carbon pollution and preparing the region for climate impacts. The County is preparing for climate change in a variety of ways that include assessing climate change impacts on population growth rates, updating landslide hazard maps for the County, developing a county-wide sea level rise strategy, and evaluating emergency preparedness mitigation strategies.

King County is also organizing a program called King County Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) that is a voluntary effort that supports partnerships to share climate change related outreach, education, coordination and solutions, as well as funding. The group is focused on green building, renewable energy, climate messaging and sustainable transportation.

In conjunction with these two big initiatives, other projects the County is undertaking include Firewise, Take Winter by Storm and a rainfall/flooding study in partnership with the UW CIG.

IV. Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood (FFF)

Janne presented an update on the Fish, Farm, Flood effort in the Snoqualmie Basin. The purpose of this presentation was to update the Forum on the FFF committees work, the "agreement in principle", next steps and what this means for the Forum.

Janne started with a background of the FFF effort and the complicating factors inherent in finding solutions that work for farms, fish and flood reduction. Janne then described the tremendous amount of effort the volunteer committee members committed to this effort over two and a half years, including over 100 hours of committee meetings.

An "agreement in principle" was reached in May 2016. This agreement includes three task force scopes of work to address specific issues that the committee did not have capacity to tackle at a detailed level: Regulatory Task Force, Riparian Buffer Task Force, and an Agricultural Strategic Plan Task Force. The regulatory task force will look for flexibility, cost reduction, and regulatory changes, without decreasing protection for fish and water quality. Regulations related to the drainage of farm fields is a top priority. The buffer task force will develop a science-based buffer strategy which is relevant and responsive to the context and challenges of Snoqualmie agriculture. The development of a strategic plan for Snoqualmie agriculture will identify assets, challenges and opportunities for Snoqualmie Valley agriculture that will provide the agricultural community a common frame of reference for future decision-making, akin to the salmon plan and flood plans that guide those efforts.

There is also a large suite of more than 30 near-term actions (1-3 years) that include measures to reduce flood risk to agriculture, accelerate large capital projects for fish while addressing potential adverse impacts to project neighbors, protect the agriculture land base, and develop a more comprehensive farm drainage program.

Next steps include having all parties review and sign the agreement by November 2016, identifying near term budget needs, launching task force work and establishing an Implementation Review Committee (i.e., "FFF 2.0") with more organizations represented.

Janne went on to explain how the Snoqualmie Forum could support this work by endorsing the committee recommendations, directing staff to participate in Task Force work, advocating for multi-objective funding,

supporting implementation through the Forum's Cooperative Watershed Management Grant process, and keeping pressure on the County and other partners to maintain progress and engage in continuing dialogue with the agricultural community.

V. Forum Business

In May 2016, Janne Kaje provided a detailed budget presentation to the Forum. Since that time, budget figures have been finalized, including the respective cost-shares of member jurisdictions. Janne presented the final 2017 budget to the Forum for approval. The total budget for 2017 is \$526,594, a 3.15% increase over the 2016 budget. The cost shares for member jurisdictions will increase by approximately 3.1%. In addition to the cost-shares, the balance of the Forum's revenues relies on a \$115,000 CWM grant and just over \$8,000 in carry-over funds from 2016.

ACTION: The Forum unanimously approved the 2017 budget, including member jurisdiction cost-shares.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be September 21 at the Duvall Visitor Center from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Please note the earlier start time.

Attachment A:**Snoqualmie Forum 2016 CWM Awards**

Project Name	Project Sponsor	Match Funding	CWM Award
2017 Snoqualmie Restoration and Project Assistance Program	King County WLRD	\$127,478	\$ 115,000
Habitat Conditions Report	King County WLRD	\$ -	\$ 68,056
Cherry Creek Phase I Riparian Restoration	Sound Salmon Solutions	\$ -	\$ 27,330
Aronica Farm Riparian Restoration Phase II	Stewardship Partners	\$ 22,000	\$ 74,476
Snoqualmie River Juvenile Salmon Outmigration Monitoring	Tulalip Tribes	\$ 45,326	\$ 72,000
Beckler River Confluence Large Wood Design	Wild Fish Conservancy	\$ 59,947	\$ 59,947
Patterson Creek Floodplain Restoration	King County WLRD	\$ 10,000	\$ 125,000
South Fork Skykomish Riparian Health	King County Noxious Weeds	\$ 18,718	\$ 40,000
South Fork Snoqualmie River Levee Setback Project	City of North Bend	\$ 13,800,000	\$ 125,000
Camp Terry Environmental Education	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust	\$ 7,900	\$ 20,000
Kimball Creek Restoration	City of Snoqualmie	\$ 19,944	\$ 78,023
Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Education and Stewardship Project	NatureVision	\$ 8,518	\$ 16,704
Citizen Action Training School	Sound Salmon Solutions	\$ 11,540	\$ 15,695
Middle Fork Snoqualmie Stewardship	King County Parks	\$ 12,850	\$ 17,910
Totals		\$ 14,144,221	\$ 855,141