

**WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**Bellevue City Hall**  
**July 19, 2012**

**Members Present**

Dr. Don Davidson, Chair (Councilmember, Bellevue); Joan McBride, Vice Chair (Councilmember, Kirkland); Eileen Barber (Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery); Dick Bonewits (Cedar River Council); Susan Boundy-Sanders (Councilmember, Woodinville); Diane Buckshnis (Councilmember, Edmonds); Denise DiSanto (WA Department of Ecology); Bruce Dodds (Councilmember, Clyde Hill); Nancy Eklund (The Boeing Company); Ted Frantz (Councilmember, Hunts Point); Lisa Jensen (Councilmember, Newcastle); Bill Knutsen (King Conservation District [KCD]); Kirk Lakey (WA Department of Fish & Wildlife); Terry Lavender (Citizen); Hank Myers (Councilmember, Redmond); Kathy Minsch (Staff Alternate for Councilmember Mike O'Brian, Seattle); Larry Phillips (Councilmember, King County); Andy Rheume (Councilmember, Bothell); Tom Vance (Councilmember, Sammamish).

**Alternates Present**

Jessica Saavedra (KCD).

**Others Present**

Tom Beavers (King County); Elizabeth Butler (WA State Recreation & Conservation Office); Diana Forman (Portage Bay Coalition); Roy George (Alderwood Water District); Cindy Holtz (Seattle); Erika Kinno (King County); Yvette Lizee-Smith (King County); Zach Munsey (Hopelink); Susan O'Neil (Puget Sound Partnership); Jerallyn Roetemayer (Redmond); Stacey Rush (Kirkland); Ron Straka (Renton); Linda Grob (WRIA 8 Team); Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz (WRIA 8 Team); Scott Stolnack (WRIA 8 Team); Jean White (WRIA 8 Team).

**Introductions**

Dr. Don Davidson opened the meeting and invited all attendees to introduce themselves.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment

**Approval of Meeting Notes for May 17, 2012**

A request was made to correct the name of a project on page two of the meeting notes, changing "Little Bear Creek Restoration Project" to "Bear Creek Restoration Project".

***The Salmon Recovery Council unanimously approved the meeting notes for the May 17, 2012 meeting with the noted correction.***

**Updates & Announcements**

Jean White, Watershed Coordinator, made a few brief announcements, directing members to the update handout for more information:

- The Puget Sound Action Agenda (AA) "Book 1" update of three strategic initiatives is still in process. Scott Stolnack, Technical Coordinator, participated in the technical ranking of sub-strategies, and Jean participated on the policy subcommittee related to near-term actions for the habitat strategic initiatives. The tribes commented on the habitat strategic initiatives after the AA update went out for public comment, and there will be a meeting tomorrow to discuss the tribal recommendations. The Puget Sound Leadership Council will adopt the final AA update by August 8.
- The King Conservation District (KCD) public hearing and Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Monday, July 23. Jean said she will be there representing WRIA 8.

- The sixth annual Salmon SEEson campaign to promote salmon-viewing opportunities is starting up, and an email with details will go out shortly.
- The Brazilian Elodea removal project on the Sammamish River will start August 7, with professional divers from the WA Department of Natural Resources scheduled to hand pull weeds for ten days. King County River Management staff will do outreach to neighboring residents about the weed removal. Hank Myers asked if there were opportunities for volunteers to participate. Jean White replied that she would hook him up with the King County contact. Andy Rheume said Bothell would also like to know about volunteer opportunities. Jean said King County is also working with a Sammamish stakeholder group to develop a plan to address regulated noxious weeds in the river, with the final plan due to WA Department of Ecology on June 30, 2013.
- The King County Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) 2013 recommendations are out, and on the list are the following WRIA 8 projects: North Creek Forest (Bothell), Issaquah Creek Waterways (Issaquah), Bear Creek Waterways (King County), and Lower Cedar – Riverbend (King County).
- Williams Northwest Pipeline is holding a public meeting in Renton on July 30 related to their environmental assessment for their Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) application. The preferred pipeline alignment is now adjacent to their existing pipeline crossing.
- Grant amendments:
  - KCD Board of Supervisors approved shifting funds from the 2007 Cottage Lake Creek Acquisition grant to a priority acquisition on Lower Bear Creek, and re-scoping the 2009 Beach Nourishment grant.
  - Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) approved shifting remaining \$100,000 from 2008 Lower Cedar Acquisitions project and unused \$450,000 from 2010 Elliott Bridge Reach Acquisition grant to the Riverbend Acquisition project on the Cedar River.

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Green Shorelines Steering Committee:** Jean White explained that the Green Shorelines blog now has 12 posts, 150 followers, and over 2,500 views. The newest post is a video with Joanna Buehler discussing changes she made to her Lake Sammamish shoreline property. The two Green Shorelines mailers have been updated, and are being sent out to 625 new property owners around Lake Sammamish and Lake Washington in July and August.
- **Technical Committee:**
  - Scott Stolnack, Technical Coordinator, announced that the Technical Committee held a joint meeting with the Project Subcommittee on June 6 to discuss grant proposal presentations and summer projects, including the Recovery Implementation Technical Team's (RITT) Monitoring and Adaptive Management framework document. The Technical Committee will be working with Kirk Lakey, the RITT, and NOAA Fisheries to align our monitoring with the framework.
  - Scott reported that with about 75% of the sockeye run through the Ballard Locks, the numbers have leveled off and are too low for a fishery in Lake Washington this year. Chinook are at only 4% through the Locks. He said the preliminary fish out data looks surprisingly robust this year, at about 2½ times greater than normal. The reason for the large numbers of juveniles this year is not clear, but might be a consequence of flooding in the winter of 2011. Floods can refresh spawning habitat that can then lead to improved spawning egg-to-fry survival. Scott emphasized that there is always a tradeoff with flooding, and what is bad for one generation might be good for another.
  - Hank Myers noted that the Alaska salmon run has been really bad this year, and he asked if there is something on the ocean side making all the runs bad at the same time. Scott responded that usually when Alaska is bad, Puget Sound Chinook numbers are good. The numbers right now are a little bit lower, but we are only at 4% of the run return. Ocean conditions do have a lot to do with it, but it's not something we have control over, and that's why we look at fish in and fish out. Councilmember Myers asked about the length of the sockeye lifecycle. Scott replied generally four years for our Lake Washington stock. Kirk Lakey clarified that the sockeye numbers are good, double what we estimated, but not strong enough for a fishery.

**Other Announcements:**

- Don Davidson, reporting on the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, said the tribes went to the feds about the danger of losing their treaty rights to fish if there are no fish left to catch. He said we can expect that the feds are going to affect our programs more.
- Terry Lavender announced that the two King County Parks levies are expiring, which will reduce the funds available for King County watersheds unless voters approve new levies. Larry Phillips explained that he asked the Parks Division to pull together a presentation on the funding for the County Council, and he said this group might be interested in having a short presentation.

**WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee Recommendations: SRFB & PSAR Grants**

Jean White said we need to consider the impacts if we lose Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) funding after this year, which is almost half our funding for projects this year. We need to advocate for continuing the PSAR grants.

Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, Actions and Funding Coordinator, went over the Project Subcommittee (PSC) membership for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)/PSAR grant round. Members are Hans Berge (King County), Councilmember Don Fiene, Peter Holte (Redmond), Michele Koehler (Seattle), Kirk Lakey, Frank Leonetti (Snohomish County), and Scott Stolnack and Jason. This year’s available funds are around \$400,000 SRFB and \$345,000 PSAR for a total of \$745,000. The PSAR amount is the remaining funding available to WRIA 8 from the 2011-2013 biennium. Six proposals for \$996,000 were received, representing a \$250,000 shortfall.

The PSC’s funding recommendations for SRFB and PSAR grant funds are:

Rank	Project (Applicant, total cost/match in parentheses)	Request	Recommendation	
			SRFB	PSAR
1	Confluence Park/Issaquah Creek Restoration (Issaquah, \$1.05M/\$44.6K)	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0
2	Redondo Beach Acquisition – Cedar River (Seattle Public Utilities [SPU], \$673K/\$26.5K)	\$150,000	\$104,000	\$46,000
3	Riverbend Acquisition – Cedar River (King County, \$6.8M/\$75K)	\$500,000	\$0	\$299,000
4	Little Bear Creek Knotweed Survey and Control (Snohomish County, \$48.6K/\$18.6K)	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0
5	Bear Creek Riparian Restoration at Friendly Village (Adopt A Stream Foundation, \$82K/\$16K)	\$66,000	\$66,000	\$0
6	Enhance Lower Reach of Tributary #0056 – North Lake Washington (Adopt A Stream Foundation, \$150K/\$100K)	\$50,000	\$0	\$0
	Alternate: Riverbend Acquisition – Cedar River (King County)	Alternate would receive funds if projects recommended for funding are not approved or cannot be implemented		
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$996,000</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$345,000</b>
<b>WRIA 8 Allocations SRFB and PSAR</b>		<b>\$745,000</b>		
<b>Shortfall</b>		<b>(\$251,000)</b>		

**Discussion;**

- Terry Lavender stated that the Riverbend project has a lot more match than is shown in the matrix. Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz agreed that it does. SRFB only requires 15% match, and he said it is in a project sponsor’s best interest not to show the whole match to reduce reporting requirements.
- Ted Frantz asked if \$299,000 of \$500,000 is enough to move Riverbend forward. Jason explained that he checked with the project sponsor, who said it is sufficient for moving forward, combined with other funding sources the project anticipates receiving.

- Nancy Eklund asked if there are issues associated with relocating mobile home park owners at Riverbend. Jason said that relocation of residents is part of a future phase of the project, but as far as the acquisition goes, this may be the last chance to purchase the property.
- Larry Phillips called it an exciting set of projects, especially Riverbend. He said as a member of the Cedar River Council, he didn't think he'd see two of these Cedar acquisitions happen in his lifetime. He asked where the other funding is coming from for Riverbend, and where the purchase will leave us. Jason explained that Riverbend project cost is high, and at first it was unclear where all the money was coming from. To cover the project cost, Tom Beavers, King County, cobbled together other funding, including from the Flood Control District (FCD), CFT, as well as the Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) grant program, the next agenda item.
- Larry Phillips emphasized he was reluctant to say "yes" to the Riverbend proposal unless he had some assurance that relocation is embedded somewhere in the funding. Jason replied that relocation is a key component of a future phase of the project, which will need to be funded once the property is acquired. Jason noted that the landowner is willing to sell now, and will sell the property to someone else if the county doesn't buy it. King County is waiting to see the money approved before working on a relocation plan for the residents.
- Tom Beavers explained that he pieced together \$6.8 million for acquisition of the Riverbend property, which he called a unique acquisition opportunity. He anticipates it will cost an additional \$6 million and two to three years to relocate everybody. He said he's talking to FCD about paying for half the relocation, with habitat-related grants paying for the other half. Riverbend is also a high priority project in the Flood Hazard Management Plan.
- Richard Bonewits mentioned that the mobile park relocation at Rainbow Bend was expensive, and took years, but was a very worthy project.
- Kirk Lakey noted that Riverbend is a key property within the reach, located where levees come together. It would likely cost another \$3 million to set the levy back, so acquiring and restoring the property is likely to cost a total of \$12 million to \$15 million. Larry Phillips stated that the County would be the landowner, and will not move residents without a relocation assistance plan.
- Hank Myers mentioned that the first part of the project is the purchase, then the relocation, then the restoration. Riverbend costs \$7 million now, and then the county gets another couple of years to fund the relocation. He said we did a lot in Redmond on relocations, and the rule of thumb was the faster you do it, the more expensive it is.
- Tom Beavers explained that the FCD funded half of Rainbow Bend, and Seattle the other half. The city said they are interested in being involved in the restoration phase of the Riverbend project. The King County Rivers Section will study whether five acres of the property and half the pads, can be surplussed back since they may not provide much habitat value. He said King County needs to make sure the FCD is comfortable with the surplus of the property, and probably in September or October we will have an answer to that.
- Joan McBride called the Riverbend acquisition an incredible opportunity and a beautiful project. She said we would feel bad if we let this go, and she knows, given time, we can work this out. She said this acquisition is why she is sitting here, and she called all the recommended projects elegant.
- Hank Myers mentioned that Riverbend is a lot of eggs in one basket, but it is also a once in a decade opportunity, and all the challenges seem to be solvable. He said even though the City of Redmond's project was not recommended for funding, he supported this acquisition.
- Ted Frantz added that we are using \$299,000 to leverage \$6 million.

***The Salmon Recovery Council unanimously approved the Project Subcommittee recommendations for the SRFB/PSAR grants.***

**WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee Recommendations: Cooperative Watershed Management Grants**

Jean White reported that the Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) grants serve to replace traditional WRIA 8 KCD grants, and the PSC worked under a tight timeline to review projects and develop funding recommendations.

Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz reported that PSC members for the CWM grants were Hans Berge, Councilmember Don Fiene, Peter Holte, Kirk Lakey, Kathy Minsch (Seattle), Kerry Ritland (Issaquah), Jessica Saavedra (KCD), and Scott Stolnack and Jason. He said the PSC spent July 2 and 3 visiting sites, listening to project proposals, and scoring and ranking the projects. We received 14 requests totaling \$2.2 million for the available \$1.2 million in funding, representing a \$1 million shortfall. Following the direction of the SRC at the May 17 meeting, approximately 68% of the funding allocation went to site-specific projects, 25% to monitoring, and slightly less than 8% to outreach and education.

The PSC recommended funding two site-specific projects, one monitoring, and three outreach and education programs:

Rank	Project (Applicant, total cost/match in parentheses)	Request	Recom.
<b>Site Specific Projects (\$804,000 allocated, 67% of total)</b>			
1	Riverbend Acquisition (King County, \$6.8M/\$6.08M)	\$750,000	\$750,000
2	Cedar River Stewardship-in-Action: Focus on Invasives (SPU, \$134K/\$67K)	\$67,200	\$61,312
<b>Subtotals for Projects Recommended for Funding</b>		<b>\$817,200</b>	<b>\$811,312</b>
3	Alternate 1: Confluence Park/Issaquah Creek Restoration (Issaquah, \$1.4M/\$1.04M)	\$400,000	Alternate projects to be funded if a recom. project can't be implemented
4	Alternate 2: Lower Lewis Creek Restoration (Issaquah, \$325K/\$125K)	\$150,000	
5	Alternate 3: Cedar River Stewardship-in-Action: Focus on Invasives (SPU)	(\$5,889) Balance	
6	Alternate 4: Beaux Arts Shoreline Restoration (Western Academy of Beaux Arts, \$115K/\$2K)	\$113,352	
7	Alternate 5: Upper Bear Creek Re-vegetation (King County, \$77K/\$27.8K)	\$49,392	
8	Tosh Creek Realignment and Culvert Replacement (Redmond, \$1.22M/\$1.1M)	\$120,000	\$0
9	Issaquah Creek Riparian Enhancement (KCD, /\$433K/\$367K)	\$66,395	\$0
<b>Subtotals for Alternate Projects</b>		<b>\$949,340</b>	
<b>Totals for Site-Specific Projects</b>		<b>\$1,766,540</b>	<b>\$811,312</b>
<b>(Shortfall) &amp; Amount Recommended Over Target</b>		<b>(\$962,540)</b>	<b>\$7,312</b>
<b>Public Outreach &amp; Education (\$96,000, 8%)</b>			
1	2013 Cedar River Journey (Friends of the Cedar River Watershed, \$104K/\$71K)	\$33,017	\$33,017
2	Salmon Watcher Program 2013-2014 (King County, /\$87K/\$43K)	\$43,930	\$43,930
3	Beach Naturalist Program 2013 (Seattle Aquarium Society, \$70K/\$57.8K)	\$12,600	\$12,600
4	Salmon in the Schools (Salmon Education Alliance, \$21K/\$3.8K)	\$17,400	\$0
<b>Totals for Public Outreach &amp; Education</b>		<b>\$106,947</b>	<b>\$89,547</b>
<b>(Shortfall) &amp; Amount Over Target Allocation</b>		<b>(\$10,947)</b>	<b>\$6,453</b>
<b>Monitoring (\$300,000, 25%)</b>			
1	2012 Chinook Spawning Ground Surveys and Outmigrant Trapping (King County, \$481.8K/\$182.6K)	\$299,141	\$299,141
2	Reproductive Success of Cedar River Chinook Salmon During Colonization (SPU, 40K/\$7K)	\$32,829	\$0
<b>Totals for Monitoring</b>		<b>\$331,970</b>	<b>\$299,141</b>
<b>(Shortfall) &amp; Amount Over Target Allocation</b>		<b>(\$31,970)</b>	<b>\$859</b>

Discussion;

- Hank Myers asked if materials for the Salmon in the Schools education program are available online. Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz replied that it wasn't clear if their materials were available online, but he would check with them.

- Kirk Lakey called the Reproductive Success of Cedar Chinook a good scientific study. Even though it's not within the purview of SPU to make recommendations to the co-managers, it is good information to have. It is not recommended for funding due to there not being enough grant funds available.
- Ted Frantz questioned if the reproductive success monitoring study could be postponed to a later date. Kirk Lakey replied that it couldn't, because it's the completion of a post-doctorate and that the methodology used to do the genetic analysis has changed. He said hopefully there would be some way for the study to be funded.
- Kirk Lakey said the projects identified as alternate funding projects from Beaux Arts, Issaquah, and Redmond project sponsors have done everything we've asked of them, and we have to find some way to fund these projects.
- Ted Frantz asked if the money comes back if King County doesn't approve the Riverbend Acquisition. Jason said the money does come back to WRIA 8, and the alternate projects would be funded with any returned funds.
- Larry Phillips inquired what is typically done with the rock material that is removed during levee or bulkhead set back and removal projects. Jason explained that project sponsors try to reuse material on site to save costs, depending on material and project design, or pay for removal and disposal of the material.

***The Salmon Recovery Council unanimously approved Project Subcommittee recommendations for the Cooperative Watershed Management Grant funding.***

**Funding Update & Proposal to send PSAR Support Letters to Gubernatorial Candidates**

Jean White said the now-cancelled KCD grant round has provided \$1.2 million annually for WRIA 8 projects. The KCD assessment is up for reauthorization in 2013, and will change from a flat per parcel fee to rates and charges, which will generate less money. July 23 is the last opportunity for comment before the KCD Board decides on the assessment, which then goes to the County Council on August 1. The FCD Board of Supervisors approved funding the 2012 WRIA grants, and indicated they may have an interest in funding the WRIAs in the future. She said it looks like future KCD funding may not include WRIA grants.

Jean reported that at the state level we will have a new governor next year, and we don't know what's going to happen with PSP and PSAR funding. We've been participating in the Watershed Investment District (WID) discussion, and the Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB) Funding Subcommittee, which is looking at funding for the Action Agenda (AA) updates. WRIA 8 created a funding subcommittee, and held one meeting to discuss WRIA 8's funding situation on June 21. Attendees included Joan McBride, Larry Phillips, Don Fiene, and Mike O'Brian. They are supportive of continuing WID discussions and they recommended we draft letters to the candidates supporting continued funding for PSAR.

Don Davidson said he personally thinks it's a great recommendation to get the candidates involved now by writing a letter, and an added plus is they will be hearing about the present governor's recommendation.

**Discussion;**

- Diane Buckshnis commented that she thought it was a great idea, and she asked that the template be sent out to SRC members. She said Edmonds will massage it, and will send a letter from the city.
- Lisa Jensen asked if it would be helpful to include perspective in the letter of money received in the past. Jean White said we've received ~\$2.2 million in PSAR funds in total. Don Davidson remarked that \$2 million and \$3 million might seem high to an individual not familiar with how much salmon recovery costs.
- Kathy Minsch suggested showing the decline in overall funding and put it on the back of the letter to give the candidates some perspective. Don Davidson mentioned it could include information from our

Progress Report comparing how much local governments contribute to state and federal contributions. Jean explained we have an existing pie chart that shows that information.

- Dick Bonewits proposed adding a verbal reference to one project with high visibility in the letter that they could pique their interest, and act as a strong carrot. Jean White noted that the third paragraph refers to the Rainbow Bend project. Dick supported including a photo of the project.
- Susan Boundy-Sanders pointed out an omission in the last line of the letter, noting that Jean White is the Coordinator, not the whole watershed.
- Hank Myers asked if the conservation district lawsuit in King County is settled. Bill Knutsen replied that the King County suit is settled, with \$1.7 million to be returned to rate payers, and the rest of the \$6 million to be used by KCD. He explained that going forward there will be rates and charges, with a \$10 limit. Under the new system KCD will collect almost \$6 million, and will submit a budget and workplan to the county on August 1. Bill said how KCD will look in the end is still being determined, and Monday is the final opportunity for comments from the public. King County Surface Water Management funding is kind of iffy for support for Puget Sound Fresh and other programs, so King County is asking us to take it over. He added that he thinks there will be some money for watershed grants, and said he's been to court so many times in the last three months that he has become friends with the plaintiff's attorney,
- Andy Rheume asked if WRIA 8 has written a letter to FCD thanking them for supporting the WRIA grants, and if we are talking to them about the future. Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz explained that there will be a thank-you letter going to FCD with the CWMG grant recommendations. Jean White mentioned that as to future FCD funding of the WRIA grants we might not have consensus around the table. Don Davidson said some cities would like WRIA grant funding to continue under KCD, not FCD.
- Joan McBride said she thought Andy Rheume's thank-you letter suggestion to FCD is a good idea, but we may not want to do it right now. Don Davidson explained that we want to hear the discussion at FCD to see how it all plays out. In the past FCD didn't want to fund WRIA grants and he said right now we are kind of orphans.

***The Salmon Recovery Council unanimously approved the gubernatorial letters with edits, and sending out templates to members.***

### **Success Story: Puget Sound Award for Green Shorelines Steering Committee**

Susan O'Neil, Ecosystem Recovery Coordinator, PSP, reported that early this year the PSP Leadership Council said they wanted to address the great work being done in Puget Sound action areas by presenting Puget Sound Champion awards. She said we also thought we would be issuing the AA when the awards were announced. That didn't happen, but we thought we'd go forward with the awards. It was decided that each action area would receive awards in several categories, and PSP then sought nominees. Susan said lots of nominations came from this action area. The Green Shorelines Steering Committee was one nominee, but it didn't fit into any of the categories, so PSP created a new category that would work. The impressive wood award, presented at the South Central Action Area Caucus meeting on June 11, was made in a PSP staffer's garage at no cost to the state.

### **Adjournment**

Jean White announced that the next SRC meeting is September 20, 2012, in Issaquah. A tour of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery is included, and will probably be at 2:00 p.m. and take 45 minutes. The SRC meeting that will follow from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. will be within walking distance in Issaquah.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.