

WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council – Consent Agenda Decision Items May 17, 2018

- 1) Approval of meeting notes from March 15, 2018**

- 2) Approval to provide WRIA 8 letters of support for projects seeking regional Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Large Capital Grant Program funds in the 2019-2021 biennium**

The Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) large capital program is intended to support implementation of projects of a scope and scale that they cannot be easily funded using a watershed's biennial PSAR allocation. In addition to local technical review, projects are evaluated by a regional technical review team. The regional review process concludes with a prioritized ranked list that is submitted to the legislature as part of the biennial PSAR funding request.

For each project submitted for PSAR large capital consideration, the watershed must provide a letter in support of the project and affirm the ability of the project sponsor to successfully manage and implement a similar-sized capital project. In WRIA 8, we have two large capital project candidates this year—the *Riverbend Floodplain Restoration Project* on the Cedar River (King County Water and Land Resources) and the *Meadowdale Beach Park and Estuary Restoration* on the Puget Sound shoreline (Snohomish County Parks). Both projects were vetted by the WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee, both will address priority WRIA 8 recovery strategies, and both will make progress toward WRIA 8 habitat goals. Additionally, WRIA 8 staff conclude that both sponsors have the capacity and expertise to successfully implement the projects they propose. Included in the packet are draft letters of support, which if approved will be transmitted to the Puget Sound Partnership by the final application deadline (June 22).

- 3) Approval for the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council to sign on to a letter to Congressional committee leadership of Puget Sound recovery priorities as part of the Puget Sound Day on the Hill event**

As part of the communications for the *Puget Sound Day on the Hill* event, Puget Sound Partnership is seeking partners representing businesses, academia, tribal, state, and local government, and the nonprofit community to sign on to a letter of Puget Sound recovery priorities that is intended to demonstrate the diversity of groups and individuals that are committed to protecting and restoring Puget Sound. The WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council is being asked to consider signing onto the letter, which includes two of WRIA 8's primary federal priorities – funding through the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund and the National Estuary Program and Puget Sound Geographic Program. The letter is attached for reference.