



Beaux Arts Village  
 Bellevue  
 Bothell  
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 Yarrow Point

Cedar River Council  
 Friends of the Cedar River Watershed  
 Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery  
 Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce  
 Long Live the Kings  
 Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group  
 Mountains to Sound Greenway  
 Northwest Marine Trade Association  
 Sno-King Watershed Council  
 Trout Unlimited  
 Water Tenders

Alderwood Water and Wastewater District  
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
 US Army Corps of Engineers  
 Washington Departments:  
 Ecology  
 Fish and Wildlife  
 Natural Resources  
 Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts  
 King Conservation District

May 17, 2018

PSAR Program Manager  
 Puget Sound Partnership  
 326 East D Street  
 Tacoma, WA 98421



Dear PSAR Program Manager:

On behalf of the Salmon Recovery Council (Council) for the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8), please accept this letter of support for Snohomish County's Meadowdale Beach and Estuary Restoration Project, which is being submitted for Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) large capital project funding consideration.

The Council oversees implementation of the *Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan (WRIA 8 Plan)*, which outlines the actions necessary to recover Chinook in our watershed. In 2017, WRIA 8 completed a 10-year update to the WRIA 8 Plan. The update outlines the most important recovery strategies for Chinook recovery, as well as identifies habitat goals to drive restoration implementation. Meadowdale directly aligns with high priority WRIA 8 recovery strategies, and the project will achieve half of the pocket estuary habitat goal outlined in the updated WRIA 8 Plan.

The Meadowdale project will provide a regional benefit for juvenile salmonid rearing and refuge habitat along a section of Puget Sound that is constrained by the railroad. In addition to enhancing habitat for the early marine life stage of Chinook, implementation will provide a model for other projects where the railroad is a constraint. The project will also enhance recreational access and improve public safety. These objectives will be achieved through a process-based restoration approach, and Snohomish County has direct experience successfully implementing projects of a similar scope and scale—the Smith Island Estuary Restoration Project being a key example. Due to the unique nature of this project, the County has been working with, and will continue to work with, specialty contractors to ensure success working with BNSF.

Thank you for considering the Meadowdale project for PSAR large capital funding. For more information or for questions, please contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager, at [jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov](mailto:jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov) or 206-477-4780.

Sincerely,

John Stokes  
 Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council  
 Councilmember, City of Bellevue

Cc: WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council members