



Beaux Arts Village
 Bellevue
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 Mountlake Terrace
 Mukilteo
 Newcastle
 Redmond
 Renton
 Sammamish
 Seattle
 Shoreline
 Snohomish County
 Woodinville
 Woodway
 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

September XX, 2018



Barry Thom
 Regional Administrator for the West Coast Region
 NOAA – National Marine Fisheries Service
 7600 Sand Point Way NE
 Seattle, WA 98115-0070

Dear Mr. Thom,

On behalf of the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council (Council), we are pleased to share with you the enclosed 10-year update to the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan (WRIA 8 Plan). The WRIA 8 Plan was first approved and ratified by all WRIA 8 partner local governments in 2005 and by NOAA in 2007 as a component of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan. With this letter and the enclosed Plan update*, the Council wishes to inform NOAA, as the federal agency responsible for recovering Chinook salmon under the Endangered Species Act, of the WRIA 8 Plan update. The Council requests NOAA consider and reference the Plan update as the latest and best available information regarding Chinook salmon habitat protection and restoration efforts in the watershed.

While the WRIA 8 Plan update is intended to serve as a stand-alone document, it functions as an addendum to the 2005 Plan and does not replace it. The Plan update builds on the 2005 Plan's scientific framework and lessons learned from over a decade of implementation. It includes new habitat restoration goals, twenty new or refined recovery strategies, an updated project list, updated lists of recommended land use and education and outreach actions, and a monitoring and assessment plan that ensures we are tracking the pace and success of our efforts and making timely and appropriate course corrections as necessary.

The Council approved the Plan update in late 2017 and all of WRIA 8's 28 local government partners have ratified the update through their city/county councils. By ratifying the Plan update, local governments acknowledge the work and progress to date, ensure this work continues to be based on the best available science, demonstrate the strength of the regional collaborative partnership, and state that we mutually agree on what needs to be done in our communities to protect and restore habitat and improve watershed health.

The Council looks forward to continuing to work collaboratively with NOAA as an essential federal partner to recover sustainable, harvestable populations of Chinook in WRIA 8 and throughout Puget Sound. If you have questions about the Plan update, please contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager, at jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov or 206-477-4780.

Sincerely,

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

Mark Phillips
Councilmember, City of Lake Forest Park
Vice-Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council

Enclosure

*NOTE: The Plan update is also available online at the WRIA 8 website:
<http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/reports/chinook-plan-update.aspx>

cc: Kim Kratz, Assistant Regional Administrator, NOAA – National Marine Fisheries Service
Elizabeth Babcock, North Puget Sound Branch Chief, NOAA – National Marine Fisheries Service
Mike Grady, Senior Natural Resource Manager, NOAA – National Marine Fisheries Service
Virginia Cross, Chair, Muckleshoot Tribal Council
David Troutt, Chair, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council
JT Austin, Natural Resources Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor
Sheida Sahandy, Director, Puget Sound Partnership
Kaleen Cottingham, Director, Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Steve Martin, Executive Coordinator, Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office
Kelly Susewind, Director, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
Maia Bellon, Director, Washington State Department of Ecology
Hillary Franz, Commissioner of Public Lands, Department of Natural Resources
Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager
WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council members