

October 31, 2018

The Honorable John Chelminiak, Mayor
City of Bellevue
P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009

Re: Notice of Termination of Snohomish County participation in
Interlocal Agreement for the Watershed Basins within Water Resource Inventory Area 8

Dear Mayor Chelminiak:

Snohomish County is a leader in water quality improvement and salmon restoration. In August of this year, the County's 16-year Smith Island Restoration Project culminated in breaching dikes in the Snohomish River Estuary and creating 377.5 acres of new Chinook salmon habitat. We understand that our economy and quality of life are dependent on our ability to manage our surface water resources and ensure those resources will be available for generations to come. However, we can only accomplish as much as our budgets allow.

Due to budgetary constraints, Snohomish County will not be making its \$62,460 cost share payment for 2019 under the Interlocal Agreement for the Watershed Basins within Water Resource Inventory Area 8 ("Interlocal Agreement," effective January 1, 2016). In accordance with Section 9 of the Interlocal Agreement, we are providing notice to all parties of termination of Snohomish County's participation in the Interlocal Agreement, and as a voting party in the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council (SRC), effective December 31, 2018. We wish to give notice now so that the WRIA 8 Management Committee has sufficient time to plan adjustments as needed to the 2019 WRIA 8 budget.

Snohomish County is still fully committed to salmon recovery and the work of the WRIA 8 SRC, and we will continue ongoing salmon recovery activities in the Snohomish County portion of WRIA 8 (please see attached list of ongoing projects). This includes, but is not limited to, watershed scale stormwater planning, salmon recovery projects, marine stewardship, and education and outreach.

We plan to continue supporting and participating in the WRIA 8 SRC and committees, to the extent consistent within budget. If there are innovative ways to resolve this issue, we are very open to discussing them with you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 425-388-6454.

Sincerely,



Gregg Farris, PE
Surface Water Utility Director
Snohomish County Public Works

cc: WRIA 8 SRC (by email only): John Stokes, Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz
Snohomish County: Dave Somers, Brian Sullivan

Attachments

WRIA 8 ILA Party Distribution

Jurisdiction	Name	Title
Beaux Arts	John Gillem	Mayor
Bellevue	John Chelminiak	Mayor
Bothell	Andy Rheaume	Mayor
Clyde Hill	George Martin	Mayor
Edmonds	Dave Earling	Mayor
Hunts Point	Joe Sabey	Mayor
Issaquah	Mary Lou Pauly	Mayor
Kenmore	David Baker	Mayor
Kent	Dana Ralph	Mayor
King County (Uninc.)	Dow Constantine	Executive
	Joe McDermott	Council Chair
Kirkland	Amy Walen	Mayor
Lake Forest Park	Jeff Johnson	Mayor
Maple Valley	Sean Kelly	Mayor
Medina	Cynthia Adkins	Mayor
Mercer Island	Debbie Bertlin	Mayor
Mill Creek	Pam Pruitt	Mayor
Mountlake Terrace	Jerry Smith	Mayor
Mukilteo	Jennifer Gregerson	Mayor
Newcastle	Allen Dauterman	Mayor
Redmond	John Marchione	Mayor
Renton	Denis Law	Mayor
Sammamish	Christie Malchow	Mayor
Seattle	Bruce Harrell	Council President
Shoreline	Will Hall	Mayor
Woodinville	James Evans	Mayor
Woodway	Carla Nichols	Mayor
Yarrow Point	Richard Cahill	Mayor

Snohomish County WRIA 8 Services/Activities Benefiting Salmon Recovery

Participation in the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery groups

Surface Water Management staff will continue to participate in the WRIA 8 Technical Committee and Implementation Committee. *Anticipated investment - \$10,000*

Fish Passage Improvements

SWM will continue to support the implementation of the Fish Passage Culvert Program which works to restore aquatic habitat by replacing county-owned culverts that prevent fish migration.

Current planned (or recently completed projects) include:

- Two culvert replacements on Golde Creek, a tributary to Scriber/Swamp Creek (2018)
Anticipated investment - \$498,000
- Two culvert replacements on Tunnel Creek, a tributary to Swamp Creek (2018) *Included as part of \$7 million road improvement project*
- Three culvert replacements on tributaries to Swamp Creek (1 in 2018, 1 in 2019, and 1 in 2020)
Anticipated investment – greater than \$450,000
- One culvert replacement on a tributary to North Creek (2019) *Anticipated investment - \$400,000*

Protection and restoration of marine environment:

The Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee, staffed by Surface Water Management, promotes effective stewardship of Snohomish County's marine environment. MRC staff will continue to support project identification, development and implementation. Projects supported by MRC staff include:

- Participation on the Coastal Streams and Embayments Advisory Group - The Advisory Group informs the development of a prioritization framework to evaluate coastal embayments and streams along the railroad-impacted shoreline of Puget Sound (includes WRIA 8 shoreline).
- Support the development and implementation of Snohomish County Parks' Meadowdale Beach Park & Estuary Restoration project (PRISM # 18-1259)

NPDES watershed planning in Little Bear Creek

SWM will continue NPDES-related efforts in Little Bear Creek, subject to funding availability. Activities in 2018 include prioritizing and developing concept plans for drainage and instream restoration projects to benefit water quality and habitat. *Anticipated investment in 2018 -- \$280,000; implementation unknown*

Water quality and habitat monitoring

WRIA 8 streams will continue to be included in County-wide water quality and habitat monitoring under Surface Water Management's new Integrated Monitoring Program

Education and outreach

Surface Water Management staff will continue to offer workshops for residents and businesses in WRIA 8 covering topics including Septic Care, Streamside Landowner, Natural Lawn Care, RainScaping (low impact development) and pet waste.

Stewardship

Surface Water Management staff and Washington Conservation Corps crew will continue to steward Surface Water Management custodial properties and implement the native plant program.

Project development and implementation

When appropriate and if resources allow, Surface Water Management staff will pursue grant funding to develop, design and implement projects to improve water quality and protect and restore salmon habitat and instream flows in WRIA 8.