



WRIA 6 Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee Meeting

May 15, 2024

Member Participants: Jessica Côté, Paul Williams (SWS), Kathleen Landel, Barbara Brock (Citizen, Co-Chair), Fred Kiga, Jeff Cordell, Lee Chavez, Hannah Booth (WDFW), Renee Zavas Silva (ICCAO), James Watson (WICD), Kelly Zupich (MRC), Eric M (Skagit), James Watson, Mathew Lander (ICPW), Kurt S. (WCLT) **Others:** Clea Barenburg (LE Coordinator), Lauren M (WCLT) Valerie dos Santos (ICDNR), Jessica R (ICDNR)

Introductions & Updates

MRC- Recently conducted a similar survey to that done by the friends of the San Juans on hard armoring and change over time with percentage of permitted and unpermitted work. We plan to have updates next month. <https://sanjuans.org/2022/11/17/course-correction-needed-for-rapidly-changing-shorelines/> Ian Miller speaking on Sea level Rise at MRC meeting on June 4th. New derelict vessel was removed. Confirmed that best to contact Kelly when you see a vessel or use the MyCoast Ap or DNR website- <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/vessel-reporting>

Discussion on results of armoring survey and relation to the San Juan results. Concerns about how to remove armor once it has been put in without a permit.

ILIO (<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/348/Island-Local-Integrating-Organization>) and PSP Leadership Council host Local Forum on June 5th- The [agenda](#) for the June 5/6, 2024 Leadership Council meeting is now available. The meeting will be held in-person in Oak Harbor and will be livestreamed (view only) through TVW. A recording will be available after the meeting via the same TVW link. Reviewed Umbrella projects for Crescent and Cornet the projects that have been ongoing for decades.

Outreach/Events -Penn Cove Water Festival May 18th and June 22, WCLT host event and presentations on local habitats. Conservation partner celebration.

Discussion

Whidbey Basin Coordination- There are 2 projects in the WRIA 6 geographic area on the Skagit SRFB grant review. Race Lagoon Culvert (only one now) and Mayor Marsh feasibility for enhancement. Whidbey Basin LE's applying for funding coordination of HSIL grant to manage Salmon Recovery

ESRP updates with WRIA 6 project submitted and accepted for the 2025-27 grant round- Whidbey Camano Land Trust Double Bluff from ESRP (Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program) [24-1200](#) Maxwelton 2024 request not moving forward, we may see them get funding for the 2022 proposal Maxwelton (22-1228)

SRTCC members reviewed the Pre-scores from last meeting. Poll results for ranking shared, show support for all projects. Prior to ranking, SRTCC encouraged to review updated information in the PRISM portal and Salmon Recovery Portal. Examples of reports were sent out in email.

- Funding/SRFB -Reviewed the timeline of Grant Round and the latest updates on projections of funding numbers.

- Sponsors report that some of the project proposals are changing as sponsors are submitting all of the required application paperwork. Final paperwork for proposals is due June 24th. A reminder that project information and cost can and will change with feedback from SRTCC and Salmon Funding Board feedback. Reminder that after proposal deadline in June project reports will be sent out in email from PRISM.
- Ranking poll was sent out with reminders before the meeting. One WRIA 6 project is going for the Larger PSAR Large CAP funding, as WRIA 6 LE allocation is not enough to cover requests. Double Bluff presented and answered questions to the review panel for Large Cap in May. The Puget Sound Partnership's PSAR Review Team will complete final scoring of Large Cap applications by Monday, June 17 so that the decision on a final ranked list of PSAR Large Cap projects can be on Tuesday, June 18.

SRTCC 2024 projects for Salmon funding under review-

- Race Road fish passage culvert replacement down to one culvert to meet SRFB review panel conditions and therefore price change for cost. Sponsors- Island County Public Works and Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group. Mathew presented update on meeting the condition to go down to one culvert #1893. All materials and new budget should be found in PRISM. There were questions related to how a project goes through two grant rounds with Skagit and Island. Skagit group asked questions related to sea level rise and sediment. The project had two numbers, but is down to one at this time and questions were answered related to this. - <https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1117>
- Double Bluff protection (Acquisition) Recent cost change with feedback from PSAR and ESRP Sponsors- Whidbey Camano Land Trust has reduced the cost of the project as the appraisal came in lower and the other grant funds they are pursuing related to ESRP. Kurt reports they had a recent wetland report identifying connections to Deer Lagoon. Concentrating the application on near shore bluff protection, streams, Oliver lake and wetlands. The importance of the connection to Deer Lagoon and that important habitat. For PSAR large cap this project is the only acquisition on the list. <https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1119>
- North Livingston Bay Sherman addition to previous project (Acquisition) recent price change with new survey. Kurt reports the appraisal came in higher related to more acres than originally thought. The match from previous NTA funds will cover part of the acquisition. : Sponsors Whidbey Camano Land Trust- <https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1118>
- Cultus Bay Private Fish Passage Project recent cost change : This project had conditions and Sponsors updated application and cost has changed. - Tulalip Tribes <https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/projectsnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1274>

-See the SRTCC website for more information on the grant round-

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/698/Salmon-Recovery-Funding-Board-SRFB-GRANT> or found on the [Salmon Recovery and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration](#) website

WRIA 6 funding allocation from the State-RCO Manual 18 for Salmon Recovery Grants has information on Allocations for WRIA's- <https://rco.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/SAL-Manual18.pdf> In summary Puget Sound receives 38% of the SRFB funding and that is broken down in the WRIA's of Puget Sound with Island receiving 3% of this break down.

-Skagit grant round projects. Race Lagoon one culvert project presented. Last year riparian funding for Lower Crescent work- project 23-1186 within the Skagit Lead Entity (Worksite #1). Metrics and funding reported here are also reported by Skagit LE. The project will ensure the success of the previously revegetated riparian and floodplain areas by removing competing vegetation and controlling invasive species. This multi-agency partnership, where the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and the Skagit River System Cooperative steward lands for conservation landowners across the Skagit Basin, has been ongoing and successful for many years.

- Mayor Marsh Enhancement Feasibility proposal update from Eric Mickelson SRFB review panel status as Needs More Information- Eric to present Mayor update in July. Request for future site visit. <https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1734>

- Discussed desire to do site visits for ESRP and other WRIA site visits when projects are in our WRIA area. Request to go out on site visits when projects are in our area as well as being invited out for ESRP projects. New practice of sharing projects and new invitation to attend PSAR Large Cap presentation. Talked about Maxwelton ESRP project site visit and the new 2024 project not planned to be moving forward with. Jessica shares the complication of the tide gate with too high a cost for benefit. Lee shares the difficulty of just operating and maintaining the tide gate.

-Discussed Planed Project Forecast List and the challenges of some of the acquisition projects and sharing information early. One project on Camano that the Stillaguamish are interested in was looked at and information that wdfw is looking at funding this. Many Part 2's to previous projects on list. Camano Country Club has been on the list for many years. Hope for Hidden Beach coming back. Mathew reminded us of TIP and CWU as well as an acquisition of interest. At some point he would like a way to have documentation that SRTCC does not support proposals prior to grant round. Plan to look at these again for future projects. Reviewed older grant round ranking.

-Pre score numbers review with new rank scores discussed. With projects changing, we discussed some SRTCC members will want to adjust scores. Ranking results with Livingston project highest at 43 with Cultus higher than at prescore with 38 then Double Bluff and Race tied for 3rd slot with 35. Sherman looks to fit well with the Riparian funding that should also be available before PSAR funding. Cultus will probably fit best with SRFB funding and the other two projects waiting to see how they rank with other funders and possibly needing our PSAR funding.

-Discussed the upcoming meeting on June 26th where final application proposals will be reviewed and check to see if ranking will be changed.

- June 26th meeting moved because of Juneteenth holiday and final application deadline.
- July 31st meeting moved to accommodate SRFB review panel comments.

Meeting adjourned 4pm