



WRIA 6 Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee Meeting

July 31st, 2024

Member Participants: Jessica Côté, Paul Williams (SWS), Fred Kiga, Kathleen Landel, Barbara Brock (Citizen, Co-Chair), Jeff Cordell, Lee Chavez, Kelly Zupich (MRC), Mathew Lander (ICPW), Kurt Shlimme (WCLT), Todd Zackey(co-chair), Fred Kiga, Eric Mickelson, Hannah Booth, Renee Zavas-Silva **Others:** Clea Barenburg (LE Coordinator), Carlie Miller

Introductions & Updates

Minutes approved from June.

Matt Colston, our new Ecology rep for Water Quality Improvement and TMDL Lead has shared information on funding availability.

MRC- Recently conducted a survey on hard armoring and change over time with percentage of permitted and unpermitted work in Island County. Report is under review.

Outreach/Events- Baby Salmon live here with Sound Water Stewards on Camano-

<https://soundwaterstewards.org/our-work/education-projects/baby-salmon-live-here/> Barbara and Clea attending and helping host events.

Reviewed poll with information on Open Public Meetings act and possible field trip site visit. Preferred locations in North or Central Whidbey with request to Land Trust and Skagit Coop for hosting a site visit. Dates did not work for Eric. Land Trust can host at Keystone. The majority of SRTCC members have chosen to complete Open Public Meetings Information training on their own. Questions on if it is necessary for our committee to complete this training, but it can be helpful for us to be aware of the requirements. LE will keep certificates on file if sent in.

LE amendment contract recently signed with opportunity for future mini grant funding. Past mini grants should be close to completion. Open grant with planting funding for Hopus and Cornet with volunteer event coming soon. Other mini grant funding was for outreach at Race Lagoon area.

Past Projects- Construction has begun on Can ku culvert replacements Island County Public works received salmon recovery funding for this drainage project that provides for the improvement of Island County Culverts #1300 and #1301, for upgrading the existing plastic culverts with a 14-foot-wide concrete box culvert, and restoration of the site to provide fish habitat. Construction is scheduled to begin on Monday, July 15, 2024, with a projected completion date of Friday, August 16, 2024. Question came up if all barriers have been removed on Kristoferson. Press release-
<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=105> SRFB and Brian Abbot Fish Passage Barrier Removal Board at Can Ku Road and Shumway Road. Kristoferson and snapshot for project-
<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=19-1578>

Discussed Tulalip Fish Passage Coordination tool and how we may use this in future ranking. Strategy to look at projects above blocked mouths of streams. Todd looking into request to have a presentation on this tool from Tulalip group working on the project in the next few months. The fish barriers are in the South Whidbey Basin (Tulalip U&A) and are in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish County; as well as parts of island county.

The strategy is open for comment – please see it at the following link: [Tulalip Prioritization Tool and Coordination/Implementation Strategy](#)

The web map tool that is currently also undergoing review but you can find it here: [Tulalip Prioritization Tool Web Map](#)

Discussion

- SRTCC members reviewed the ranking from the last meetings and reviewed funding allocations.
- The Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council will meet on Thursday, July 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We'll be providing an all-virtual livestream of this meeting, through TVW. TVW web link: <https://tvw.org/video/puget-sound-partnership-salmon-recovery-council-2024071061/?eventID=2024071061> The full Salmon Recovery Council [agenda and meeting materials](#) are available through our board meetings page: https://psp.wa.gov/board_meetings.php
- Reviewed [4 year work](#) plan and [Planned project forecast](#) list
- Funding/SRFB -Reviewed the timeline of Grant Round and the latest updates on projections of funding numbers. SRFB review panel comments expected July 26th with two of our projects conditioned, but sponsors agree to conditions. Other two projects cleared.
- The Double Bluff WRIA 6 project is going for the PSAR Large CAP funding, as WRIA 6 LE allocation is not enough to cover requests. Double Bluff ranked in the top 5 for Puget Sound in Large Cap out of 9 projects now and ranked top 2 of Target Investment list- <https://www.psp.wa.gov/PSAR-CCA.php> 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 with presentation in July- <https://rco.wa.gov/grant/estuary-and-salmon-restoration-program/>

SRTCC 2024 projects for Salmon funding under review- all projects have had changes/ cost adjustments since start of grant round.

-Race Road fish passage culvert replacement- (condition)met condition to go down to one culvert cost went down. Ranked 3rd plan to fund with PSAR half from Island and half from Skagit

<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1117>

-Double Bluff protection (Needs More Information) now cleared – scored well on large cap list but ranked 3rd for us. Looks to be likely funded by Large CAP PSAR not Island allocation

<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1119>

-North Livingston Bay Sherman (cleared) – cost increase with survey showing more land ranked number 1 to be covered with Riparian funding and regular grant round SRFB funding

<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1118>

-Cultus Bay Private Fish Passage Project(conditioned) met condition- conditioned with presenting broad scope ranked second and to be funded with remaining SRFB and PSAR Island allocation

<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

-Ranking results with Livingston project highest, with Cultus next, then Double Bluff and Race tied for 3rd slot. Sherman looks to fit well with the Riparian funding and looks to need SRFB funding as well with cost increase. Cultus will probably fit best with PSAR funding and the other two projects waiting to see how they rank with other funders and possibly needing some PSAR funding. Race will be funded half with Skagit LE funding and half of Island funding. <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/545/Surface-Water>

Skagit grant round projects under review by their committees

- Race Road fish passage culvert replacement- looks to be funded half
<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1117>
- Mayor Marsh Enhancement – looks to be fully funded
<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=24-1734>

Discussed Planed Project Forecast List and the 4-year workplan. Review of TIP and CWU with request from Mathew for SRTCC to let him know what projects would be best for salmon funding. There are no projects planned to use salmon funding at this time. Swantown tide gate replacement is actively being permitted. Swantown has not had success with grants or support for salmon funding with type of project proposed. Other projects have been proposed for grants in the past that are on this list and have not been successful. Future projects may be considered to include Crescent creek, Carp creek (concept has not been selected yet and it may be eligible for grants), Cavalero creek and Tide Gate replacements. Talk of Chapman Creek and house over mouth of the stream, just one of many of Island Counties streams like this. Talk of the challenges of waterfront property that blocks stream mouths, lack of funding to afford buying properties. Challenge of lack of bridge projects and cost to benefit ratio. Need to have state DNR update fish streams maps and example of T diffuser being permitted at the end of a stream in Penn Cove. List of creeks that are big enough exists and all have private property challenges. Hope to move up timeline on Utsalady Road fish passage culvert replacement. Talked of culvert replacements that were reviewed by SRFB in the past and were not supported by the review board. It is also hard to get funding for natural barrier situations. Questions on Tide Gates and culverts like Crocket Lake. Surface water quality team finding high E. Coli on many streams and the need to work with Environmental Health, Conservation Districts and Ecology. Review maps and where to prioritize projects ICGeoMap- <https://icgeomap.islandcountywa.gov/Html5Viewer/Index.html?viewer=ICGeoMap#>

Other maps to review where work is needed on fish passage: WASDOT-

<https://wsdot.wa.gov/construction-planning/protecting-environment/fish-passage> WDFW-

<https://geodataservices.wdfw.wa.gov/hp/fishpassage/index.html>

Island County Public works website- Clean Water Utility (CWU-no fee increase since CWU created) and TIP (Transportation Improvement Plan)- <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/agendacenter/board-of-county-commissioners-work-sessions-5/?#06122024-770>

NEXT - August 21st possible site visit and LE shares final rank report.

- September 18th Keystone Site visit meeting

Meeting adjourned a little before 4pm