



Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee Meeting

Nov 18, 2020, 2:30-3:00

Virtual Meeting

Introductions/announcements

Member Participants: Barbara Brock (Citizen, Co-chair), Paul Marczin (WDFW), John Lovie (Citizen), Tom Vos (SWS), Todd Zackey (Tulalip, Co-chair), Tim Hillman (Citizen), Rick Baker (WWS), Lisa Kaufman (NWSF), Laura Rivas (PSP), Johnathan Decker (WCLT)

Others: Dawn Spilsbury Pucci (LE Coordinator), Carson Moscoso (SnoCD), Lori Clark (IC DNR), Ann Prusha (IC DNR)

1) Introductions

2) Updates

There is a new proposal for Sunlight Shores; the Henny Spit breach is moving north. This will provide better protection for the Sunlight Shores armor removal project constructed last year.

3) Seahorse Siesta Cost Increase Request

There are new complications for the Seahorse Siesta construction project. They began construction, and as they started excavating, it became clear that the amount of material in the barge was underestimated. Calculations went from 400 tons to 2,500 tons of material that need to be removed, which results in a large cost increase because of the additional barge trips required. The fill behind the barge is likely more contaminated with creosote material than originally thought and cannot be deposited on the beach. This project would likely not have been approved originally if the amount of material had been correctly quantified and the cost estimated to reflect the amount of material that has to be removed off site. However, the site is not safe to kept as is. Part of the cement wall has been removed already. The liability leaving the site as is too great.

Lisa, NW Straits Foundation (NWSF), has been contacting all other potential funding sources. The project has ESRP and PSAR funding. Lisa is looking at potential for return funding from other projects for those funding sources. ESRP grant managers are looking into it, but their process does not usually allow for additional funding. The funding increase is \$350,000. Lisa is also proposing returning \$28k from Sunlight Shores. The other option is to stabilize the site, remove the creosote, fill it in with sediment, and plant over it. This would still need funding and would not result in a restored site. It is not a good option.

It is not certain what went wrong with the original engineering who estimated the amount of fill in the design phase, but the sponsor is in communication with coastal engineers to explore what occurred.

Taking funding from Polnell to cover the funding gap is not feasible because it would also mean returning \$75k of fish funds that the project would not get back. The Hoypus project is already under contract so those funds are committed. Hidden Beach funding may be an option as that

project is on hold due to matching funds from DNR not being available. It is unclear when those funds would be released allowing Hidden Beach to move ahead. If the funds that the NWSF has allocated to Hidden Beach are used for the Seahorse Siesta gap, the Hidden Beach project would remain an approved, shovel-ready project. There was a suggestion to use DNR's derelict vessel program. Funding needs to come in ASAP – the fish window closes in February, and the contractor is renting the barge; it is costing them daily. There is a good chance that we will get \$200K of PSAR funding back from the Florence Island project, but we won't know until summer. We might be able to borrow from another Lead Entity and promise to pay it back with 2021 SRFB funds. They need to figure out logistics now. This project is primarily funded through grants (very little through the community). There was discussion that it would be better to get this project completed and delay another project.

Lisa noted that this should not discourage us from considering projects on private property; this complication did not have anything to do with being on private property.

We need to consider if we want to move forward with finding funding. If we don't, we will be putting NW Straits in a liability position.

Decision: There was consensus on finding funding, including through Hidden Beach. Permission was given for Dawn, Laura and Lisa to work with RCO. As a last resort, there was consensus around giving 2021 SRFB funding to finish the project.

4) Adjourn

- **Dec** – Lessons Learned, 2021 Grant Calendar, bylaws