



# Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee Meeting

Island County - WRIA 6

5/16/18 1-3:00 pm

Location: Coupeville Campus, room 131

## Introductions/announcements

Member Participants: Barbara Brock (Citizen)(WebEx), Todd Zackey (Tulalip), Mona Campbell (Business(WebEx)), Tom Vos (SWS), Nathan Howard (IC Planning), Greg Goforth (IC Planning), Rick Baker (WWS), Matt Zupich (WICD), Matt Kukuk (MRC), Ryan Elting (WCLT) (WebEx), John Lovie (Citizen) (WebEx), Paul Marczin (WDFW) (WebEx)

Others: Dawn Pucci (LE Coordinator)

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## 1) Introductions/announcements

Meeting Notes from April approved

**PSP – Rapid Response Fund Proposal.** It is a proposal to fund acquisition projects of opportunity with an expedited application and review process. It is still in draft form and has not yet been approved. The Land Trusts and other partners are reviewing the proposal for workability and offering examples of when this project would have saved properties in the past. Nathan suggested: “What if future rounds are funded by the PSP and then it was taken out of our next allocation?” Concern would be that the ‘next allocation’ is not a certainty until it is allocated so there would be significant risk. But it would provide a solid and secured amount for funding the Rapid Response Program. Prefer it come out of PSAR Large Cap.

**ECB Lean Task Force Proposal.** Paul Cereghino (NOAA) is developing a process that would take complaints of barriers to recovery and restoration process and turn the complaints into claims with suggested preferred outcomes via a LEAN process that would be lead and owned by a taskforce at the ECB. The goal is to permanently capture complaints an work toward implementation of a resolution as opposed to reinventing the wheel each time a barrier is identified. They may begin with culvert permitting.

**Orca Taskforce –** SRTCC would like to be kept informed

**Membership –** 3 open seats

*Business –* Chris Sublet (Harbor Master)? Larry Carton (Fly Fishing Club)? Cayley Cain (Jesse Allen’s daughter)?

*COG –* ILIO coordinator may be able to sit in that seat? Would formalize coordination between the LIO (and the COG/Tribe Executive Committee)

*Citizen - ?*

**Letters of Appreciation -** Co-chairs sign the letters of appreciation for retiring committee members

## May 19 2-4pm Kristoferson Farm Anniversary Celebration - 10 years of Riparian Plantings! Yay!

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### 2) Site Visit Review and Comments

Below are the comments and recommendations to sponsors based on project application material review, presentations (4/18/2018) and site visits (5/1/2018):

Applicable to ALL: need to state why climate change is not addressed or how it was addressed. Ask "What accommodations have you made or considered to ensure your project is resilient to the effects of climate change? What modeling or projection are you using? What resources are you consulting?"

Further guidance on how sponsors consider climate change should be incorporated into the new Sponsors Guidance Document. Will RCO or PSP have guidance on what/when to project to? Our guidance needs to be consistent with that.

A way to capture this information from sponsors needs to be developed. Currently they answer it only in PRISM but not in the application form (State Salmon Proposal) that gets forwarded to SRTCC. Options include:

1. Require that sponsors answer the question in PRISM and then Dawn will pull answers.
2. Ask sponsors to address it in their presentations.
3. Ask sponsors to fill out an additional questionnaire similar to the one they used to do for outreach details.

**For this year, ask sponsors to respond to Q#4 in PRISM application. Then Dawn will pull that info for June. Offer PSP guidance, WDFW CC doc, SLR maps.**

#### Crescent Harbor Creek Restoration – Skagit River System Cooperative

- How climate change is addressed is lacking. When asked, Eric said that capacity to handle SLR and extra rain was looked at and thought to be ok. But the wetlands already get really wet so may face extra challenges.
- What is going to happen to floating logs in response to wind and tides? Barbara said at Triangle Cove, the log rack floats and doesn't impede fish access.

To sponsors: Add at least 3 plugs in the existing channel above the area of tidal influence if the old channel isn't going to be filled in to avoid groundwater conflicts. (This is normally an HPA requirement. But no HPA is required for this project because it is on Federal land.

#### Oak Harbor Marina Feasibility Study – Northwest Straits Foundation/City of Oak Harbor

- Stormwater falls under NPDES . But cant use EPA funding on NPDES projects.
- RCO says they will have to check if this is fundable at all

To sponsors: Revise application to remove the overwater structure component and boat ramp component. Reduce funding amount as well. By removing the components, this may make it more palatable to the SRFB and this funding source, as well, and less likely to be flagged as a POC. The sponsors can keep those components in their ESRP proposal. Also can seek a boating and rec grant.

#### N East Camano Dr #1300 Culvert Replacement – Island County Public Works

- Design alternatives (realignment of culverts, moving crossing north, or channel revisions) need to be considered before moving forward. The concerns are around the channel alignment as it currently exits the marsh and then turns 90 degrees, unnaturally. It will be more resilient if that 90 degree bend is removed. A fisheries engineer should be involved to a greater degree. SRTCC will consider holding some PSAR to next year for the construction phase of this project to enable better design work to be completed.
- This is not likely Chinook habitat as it is too far above tidal influence for rearing Chinook juveniles.

To sponsors: Consider revising to a design or planning project and come back for restoration funding. The design could benefit from input from a fisheries engineer. Some of the components to reconsider:

- Realignment of culverts to reduce the bends in the channel between the marsh and the road
- Potentially redirect the stream so that it exits the marsh at a more southeast angle rather than east.
- Include a solution for potential beaver blockage of the stream channel between the marsh and the crossing. The Snohomish CD can offer assistance with this.

#### S Barnum Dr #899 Culvert Replacement – Island County Public Works

- More design clarity is needed. Is this a zero slope design? That would require excavation of the upstream channel to reduce the stream grade. Landowner permission is likely needed. Or is this a stream simulation culvert?
- Does the cost provide enough habitat benefit? It will likely be up to SRTCC to decide. The Review Panel may clear the project, as the primary concern beyond the design details which will have to be sorted out to get a permit, is the cost benefit of the project and that is a local decision, in large part.
- Any replacement of the culvert here will be required to be fish passable, anyway.
- Perhaps more local funding can be used for match and reduce the request of grant funds? SRTCC says won't help.
- Chinook funding is this source. Passage covers other species.
- Dried marine veg on upstream edge. Indicates flooding potentially.
- Consider a feasibility study that will involve more length upstream for restoration. Contact SFEG or SnoCD or Adopt-a-Stream to help?

- Need to describe more of the habitat benefit. How much area and benefit to juvenile salmonids?

To sponsors: SRTCC doesn't want to use Chinook funding for this culvert with the upstream habitat remaining in its current condition. Perhaps outsourcing will reduce costs. Upstream habitat has to be improved if it's eligible for funding in the future. Recommend seeking partners for wetland restoration. SRTCC would consider funding the stream and culvert restoration if brought as package.

#### Camano Country Club Tidegate Replacement Feasibility Study – Snohomish Conservation District

- Nathan Halloway, a member of the community, has been measuring water quality in the lagoon behind the houses for several years. Alternative aeration solutions have also been tried or considered to increase flushing and reduce algal blooms. The community is supportive of removing the tide gate from its current location. But they also want to control the water levels south of the road. They are also willing to consider work involving the bulkhead and fill (and potentially reducing their insurance and maintenance bill that is required). But that conversation is not as far along as the tidegate conversation. The future of the bulkhead, fill, parking lot and trail to neighboring community will be part of the feasibility study.
- The community is in agreement with doing something to the north lagoon to alleviate their large dredging bill. They are also supportive of increasing circulation in the south lagoon. They are supportive of improving Cavalero Creek flow. The neighboring community to the north would like to keep the trail in some form that currently comes down the hill, across the tidegates to the parking lot.

To sponsors:

- Please consider removal of bulkhead and fill in the feasibility.
- Please consider whether a tidegate is needed at all. We understand that they want to maintain some level of water to prevent mudflats (sight and smell).
- Please consider septic function and effects. Consider a LOSS?
- Please keep frame of reference broad to facilitate comprehensive learning of these types of tidal and nearshore systems when in close proximity to houses.
- Please consider effects on homes with alteration of hydrology and sediment transport in that area.
- Predict as best as possible the longevity of the estuary if the bulkhead is removed. Will there be fish habitat benefit after.
- Increase funding for more modeling maybe.
- More details on budget please.
- Please be very explicit about community support.

**NEXT STEPS:** Out to SRTCC Thursday morning. Comments back to Dawn. Dawn will send to sponsors Friday afternoon (5/18).

Cavalero Creek culvert that was replaced by IC PW road shop without permits in March. They will be replacing it with a fish passable culvert this summer (or next summer if Corps permit delays).

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**Adjourn**

**Next Meeting:** June 19 TUESDAY – Coupeville Library; Prescoring (Required)