



Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee Meeting

Island County - WRIA 6

7/18/18 1:30-3:30 pm

Location: Padilla Bay

Introductions/announcements

Member Participants: Barbara Brock (Citizen), Todd Zackey (Tulalip) (WebEx), Tom Vos (SWS), Matt Zupich (WICD), Matt Kukuk (MRC), John Lovie (Citizen) (WebEx), Paul Marczin (WDFW), Greg Goforth (IC Planning), Kristin Marshall (SnoCD (WebEx)), Rick Baker (Whidbey Watershed Stewards)

Others: Dawn Pucci (LE Coordinator), Suzanna Stoike (PSP)

1) Introductions/announcements

Nathan Howard has left the County so his seat is open.

2) Updates

Meeting Notes from June approved

PSP – Amber Moore new Salmon program manager, replacing Stacy Vynne. Hiring still ongoing for our new ERC.

Large Cap – Sept SRC meeting will have run down in process. Will know rankings July 25.

LE SOW and Contract – about to go through County Process but still not active

ILIO – Starting the process to discuss how projects are selected for local funding. Will be decided by fall. Then start workplan and adaptive management discussions.

Funding –

Salmon Day on the Hill: A multi-state and stakeholder group were in DC to discuss Pacific Salmon Recovery. The meetings went very well by all accounts. The current federal budget now includes \$65 million for PCSRF rather than the usual \$60 million

SRFB: in 2019, feasibility and assessment projects will likely not be permissible due to project eligibility restrictions placed on the Salmon-Federal funding. The PSP is working with RCO to explore a different funding mechanism, using existing funding, to allow these. PSAR in 2 years will likely permit these studies if tied directly to the development of a specific project.

Membership – 4 vacant seats – business, citizen, city/ports, county (Nathan)

LEAN - The contractors hired by RCO to review the project selection process (concept to funding) have met with all stakeholders. The final recommendations report are expected by the end of 2018

Orca Task Force – One of the three workgroups, prey abundance (other 2 are vessel traffic and toxins), was split into 5 sub-workgroups (Hatchery, Harvest, Habitat, Hydro and Predation). They are trying to draft big and bold ideas to address issues or questions identified by each sub-workgroup. The goal is to inform the budget request being drafted this fall. Dawn will continue to forward email updates to the committee.

2. Letters of support

A letter of support for the WCLT's request to RCO for WWRP funds to support their Strawberry Point Preserve was approved. The letter was drafted and circulated with the agenda. The project helps protect head waters to several coastal streams, including one where Chinook was found during the 2012 Small Streams Study (Zackey and Beamer).

A letter of support for the Greenbank Beach and Boat Club's request to NFWF Resiliency Grant funds to support the final design for the Greenbank project was approved in theory. The GBBC committee has not decided the scope or amount of the request yet. But the application deadline is prior to the next SRTCC meeting. Once the GBBC committee has provided details of the request, Dawn will draft and circulate the letter and arrange for one of the chairs to sign it.

**update: no letter is necessary as GBBC has decided not to pursue these funds this year.*

3. GBBC Cost Increase request.

After the pre-application meeting with the County (Planning and Public Health), the sponsors were asked to provide analyses related to saltwater intrusion risk to the private wells to the south of the estuary, as well as provide a biological assessment of wetland alterations. The sponsors provided a 2-page justification memo that detailed the reason for the cost increase request and how the \$36,050 requested is broken out by task. The cost of the hydrology and coastal geomorphology studies (\$16,050) reflects the responses received to an RFP that was distributed. The BA cost is estimated based on the project engineer's previous experience (\$20,000).

The committee discussed the potential effect on FEMA floodmaps by the project proposal and if the coastal engineer would be able to assess this. Dawn will pass this question on to the sponsors.

DECISION: Request from PSAR Returned Funds approved.

LESSONS LEARNED: In the future, ask proponents to show where private wells are located in vicinity of construction projects.

** update - Originally, it was thought that the whole request of \$36,050 would be requested from PSAR Regional Returned Funds. But 2 days after the SRTCC meeting, the PSP clarified that we would need to*

use our \$19,636 PSAR (2017 - 2019) that remains unallocated and was going to be rolled into the grant round. So the request from Return Funds is \$16,414 (\$36,050 - \$19,636).

4. Acquisition Framework Task Force

Confluence, who is developing the Nearshore Acquisition Framework tool, has reviewed several other prioritization frameworks and has suggested that a simplified framework, developed by the WCLT and used for the 2010 South Camano assessment, may work well for our requirements, especially if updated to reflect current priorities and technical information (habitat needs). Confluence would like to convene a task force of about 8 people that will meet 3 times between now and early 2019 to review suggestions of framework modifications, the draft results, and the final product. Paul and Matt K and John volunteered. Others not on SRTCC will be invited to assure comprehensive representation of expertise.

Any materials produced will be emailed to SRTCC for review and feedback, as well.

Q: Is the effect of acquisitions being looked at through the lens of the County’s buildable lands analysis?

A: Buildable lands analyses apply to UGAs and our acquisitions are outside of UGAs so is there a nexus?

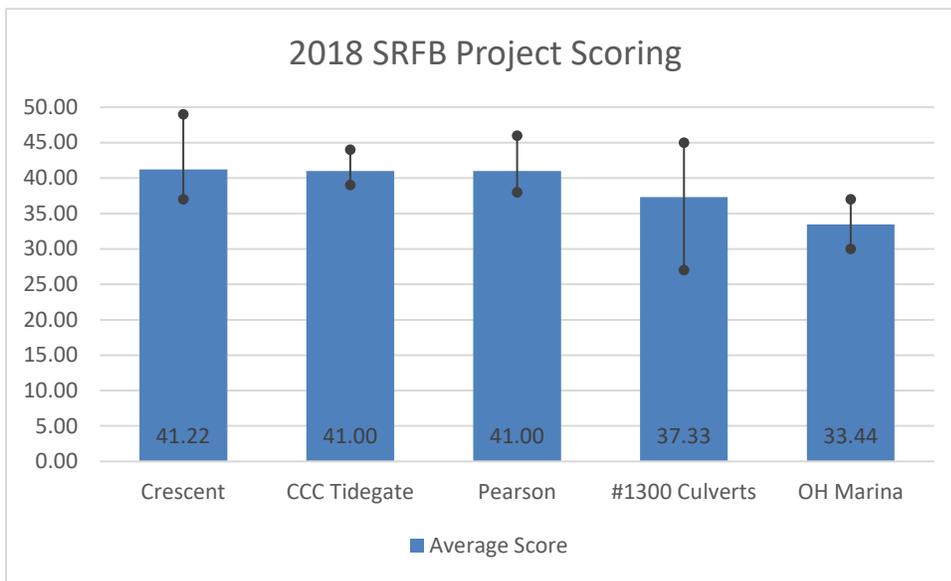
The Conservation Districts should be involved and Matt/Kristin will discuss with their directors what that will look like.

Specific questions or at initial meeting – Jason G (Stilly) and IC LR Planning.

5. Ranking and Scoring

The committee discussed the final scoring of the projects. Scores were checked to ensure that they were based on final applications and not pre-applications.

Summary	Average Score	Max	Min		RANK DECISION
Crescent	41.22	49	37		1
CCC Tidegate	41.00	44	39		2
Pearson	41.00	46	38		keep in Large Cap
#1300 Culverts	37.33	45	27		3
OH Marina	33.44	37	30		4



The expected funding allocation is approximately \$200,000 Salmon State/Fed and \$800,000 2019-2021 PSAR. We will also be receiving \$100,000 2019-2021 PSAR from NOPLÉ as pay back of our loan to them in late 2017.

	Grant ask
Crescent Harbor Creek Restoration	\$ 378,583
CCC Tidegate	\$ 80,150
<i>Pearson [Large Cap]</i>	\$ 800,000
E Camano Dr Culvert #1300	\$ 56,309
OH Marina Feasibility	\$ 45,418
Total (less Pearson)	\$ 560,460
Remaining	\$ 539,540

The committee discussed several scenarios regarding what to do with the \$539,540 that is currently unallocated. The scenarios discussed:

1. Offering the \$539,540 to the WCLT for Pearson if they can use partial funding.
2. Allocate the \$539,540 to the construction phase of the #1300 NE Camano Dr Culverts. Use the early action process to get the project reviewed and approved.
3. Loan it to another LE. Have it repaid by either 2019 funding (from a large LE who has a large allocation) or from 2021-2023 PSAR.
4. Borrow funding to complete Pearson's \$800,000 request.

The committee called the WCLT to ask questions regarding the Pearson project details. The appraisal will likely be done by late September. The landowner is still not fully committed. The appraisal will stipulate how much can be spent on the acquisition. It is unclear if the landowner will accept the appraised value. The WCLT was successful in getting an extension for their federal grant to Dec 2019 so the threat of expiring funds has been reduced.

The committee still believes we should support the WCLT acquiring Pearson sooner rather than later due to cost of property rising and the uncertainty of the property's future if it passes out of the current owner's hands.

The deadline for pulling Large Cap projects down to our local list is Aug 15. We will know how it ranked among the large cap list July 25. The Governor's budget will be released in the fall and is a good indication of the level of funding support for PSAR. If \$80 million is allocated to PSAR, then Pearson will be funded, regardless of where it falls in the list. There is a lot of optimism around funding support for salmon recovery projects due to the Supreme Court decision in favor of culvert replacement and because of the Orca Task Force efforts.

Another factor in the discussion was the Fish Barrier Removal Board (FBRB) application for construction of the #1300 NE Camano Dr. culverts. This would mean we would not need to hold the \$540K for that construction. There is also optimism around the funding levels for the FBRB workplan. If we were to try to reserve the funding for the culverts, we may need to develop a spending plan and justification, working with RCO.

The committee decided to wait for the unknown pieces (large cap ranking, PSAR funding, FBRB funding for culverts) to be settled, then make a decision on Pearson and the unallocated \$540K.

The committee also discussed the fact that we will not have enough Salmon State/Fed funding available Jan 2019 to cover the full request for the Crescent Construction project. So should we fund the CCC Tidegate assessment and design project fully first? Kristin (sponsor) said the project could wait for the July 1 2019 PSAR funding. So it was decided to offer the funding to SRSC (Crescent sponsor) with the acknowledgement that it would be partially available January 2019 and the rest in July 2019.

Adjourn

Next Meeting: Aug 15 – Coupeville Room 131 4 yr work plan
Sept 19 – Coupeville Room 131 adaptive management plan