



Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee Meeting

Island County - WRIA 6

9/19/18 1:00-3:00 pm

Location: Coupeville Campus, room 131

Introductions/announcements

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

Others: Dawn Pucci (LE Coordinator), Lori Clark (ILIO Coord), Suzanna Stoike (PSP), Tim Hillman (guest)

1) Introductions/announcements

Meeting Notes from July and August approved.
Welcome, Tim.

2) Updates

Projects – Dawn, Lori and Anna from IC DNR met with Chris Robertson (WA DNR), 3 Hidden Beach community homeowners and 2 frequent park visitors at Hidden Beach as a follow-up to the public information meeting held a few weeks ago. The two park visitors are neighborhood residents that have very detailed observations of the park and the wildlife that use it. They are determined that the restoration will destroy what they care about and were not open to discuss the project or the rationale behind it. The homeowners were willing to discuss facts and ideas and had very valid concerns about erosion increases and unintended consequences. They also had good suggestions. There are no final designs at this time. A preliminary Geotech report was produced by CGS as part of the Shore Friendly Program. This armor and pilings removal project is being sponsored by Northwest Straits Foundation (NWSF) and WA DNR, who owns the land.

The Kristoferson Culverts are under constructions currently. Dawn shared photos and video. Barbara is very happy. There have been articles in the Stanwood paper and more to come.

Maylor Point will be going under construction next week.

Seahorse Siesta has received the missing match amount from a private foundation and will go into construction in 2019.

The preliminary assessment from CGS regarding the potential to remove the bulkhead and fill at the Camano Country Club north lagoon has just been released. The summary is that it is possible to remove the bulkhead and fill as long as removal of the tidegates is also part of the project.

Project Lists - Dawn, Lori and Anna met with Lisa and Dana from NWSF to discuss a project that NWSF is undertaking to ranking project lists for the Island Marine Resources Committee (MRC)

and Jefferson County's MRC. They have an Orca related grant to identify high priority MRC projects that will also assist with Orca recovery. Dawn will be ensuring that their list of projects is also reflected in Island County's larger workplan. This larger workplan also contains NTA's, salmon 4-yr workplan projects, county and parks projects (that relate to marine waters or fish).

PSP – There will be a joint LIO /LE mtg in January to discuss coordination of programs. Laura Ferguson will be our new ERC starting mid Sept. Rapid Response Fund will be launched this week. It is a tool to help fund acquisition projects that would otherwise be lost. Up to \$1million available. It will be a loan that is paid back out of the LE's next allocation.

PSP submitted a request for \$79.6 million PSAR to OFM for the Governor's budget. \$30million will be allocated for local projects and process and the balance will fund the 11 PSAR Large Cap projects (including Pearson, which is the #5 project). The Governor's budget will come out Dec 15. ESRP requested \$20 million. Not sure how much Fish Barrier Removal Board or Floodplains by Design requested.

ILIO – The ILIO applied the scoring process approved by the EC in a meeting just prior to this SRTCC meeting. The TC selection is to fund Coupeville Outfall Study. Lori will be working with the Town of Coupeville to ask about funding needs and details. Will look at where the balance of the local funding could go – potentially the Sound Horsekeeping Project with some assurance that there will be a dedicated Camano component. The locally funded NTA(s) will be forwarded to the SI Leads by Sep 28. John was selected for the Habitat Strategic Initiative Team. YEAH! Go JOHN!

Funding – The Pearson Acquisition project is now ranked 5th/13th on the PSAR Large Cap project list. The list has yet to be approved by the Salmon Recovery Council and Leadership Council.

Orca Task Force - The public comment period for the draft recommendations list is Sept 25 – Oct 7. The next Task Force meeting is Oct 16 & 17 in Tacoma.

October joint LE/ILIO meeting – We will be meeting with Ron Wesen and Bill Blake who are the Whidbey Basin representative and alternate, respectively, to the Ecosystem Coordinating Board (ECB). They are coming to learn about our priorities, opportunities and barriers to restoration work here in Island County. The following are the suggested topics from SRTCC:

- Indicators
- Projects – past (review of funding successes) and future
- What are our barriers
- What are our brilliant ideas on how to move things forward
- Differences here on an Island
- Nearshore use by salmonids, small streams, fun facts re diet, west Whidbey vs east, bed and breakfast
- Forage fish and prey network

3) Project List Prioritization

A base prioritization for projects on the large workplan was discussed. This would allow those who look at the workplan, beyond the currently proposed projects, to understand what the priority projects are. SRTCC expressed interest in moving towards a process where projects are scored or tiered, allowing us to solicit help on the highest priority projects rather than just letting projects come up sporadically. Projects of opportunity will be scored when presented and fit into the list where the scoring indicates.

Initial scoring criteria should be scientifically based. The social lens for each project will be applied at the time of application and reflected in the scoring for funding at that time. Social components change with time and it wasn't thought to be useful to include when looking for what needs to happen to get to recovery.

The chart below is from the scoring criteria already in place. Will this work? What should change?

1 (NE Whidbey & E Camano)	10	10	10	7	5	3	2
2 (Saratoga Passage & Possession to Double Bluff)	9	8	7	5	4	2	1
3 (West Whidbey)	5	6	6	2	2	1	1
	PE/Streams	Bluff	Beaches	Streams	Uplands	Offshore	Rocky

How do we measure or use the concept of “project benefit”? Sell it as an unbiased approach to fish recovery. Keep it simple - like a 1, 2, 3 count. Base it on scale or type of project. It will be a subjective score. The ILIO has a scoring component called “Contribution to Recovery” and has prompting questions as guidance.

Should we include criteria that identifies the parcel as private or public – No, let's keep this score fish centric and needs oriented.

Resulting rank does not indicate final rank during a grant round. The projects will have to have socio-economic factors applied that aren't known until the year the project is being proposed.

DECISION: Dawn will draft up a “project benefit” scoring criteria. SRTCC will review, and potentially apply it, during the November meeting when the project list will be discussed in depth.

4) Adaptive Management Structure

Starting with the text from the 2005 Plan, Dawn updated some of the introduction language, Defined 3 types of decisions that could lead to adaptation (Target metrics, Lesson Learned and Best Available Science), added a chart that detailed the suggested approval process for each type of decision/alteration and added the matrix of targets for each indicator.

It was decided to add a 4th type of decision – Data Gaps. Should we recognize that we don’t have enough information to inform a strategy or decision, alterations to the process may be necessary to address the data gap.

How can we use this adaptive management process to encourage monitoring? We may be able to do effectiveness monitoring as long as there isn’t an expectation of deciphering a population response to what it is we are monitoring.

It was also decided that a chart that detailed who has final decision making on what type of decision is unnecessary. Detailing this information in the text will be enough.

When discussing the triggers and actions for the indicators, it was decided that the indicators should be readdressed. More nuances should be added to the indicators. For example, potentially splitting the armor removal indicator into the geographic regions. This reflects that 100 ft of armor on West Whidbey may not be as impactful as 100ft of armor in Port Susan. The armor statistics (miles per bluff type) were questioned. We need to be reminded where these numbers come from again. Also we potentially need to address how the 50 yr goal was set. Making the metric units consistent from the 50 yr to the 10 yr target should be attempted. Currently, the 50 year non-feeder bluff target is expressed as 80 % of bluff length armored and the 10 year target is expressed as 2.2 miles. It is preferred to keep everything in miles or acres.

DECISION: Dawn will track down the “80% of intact habitat for recovery” reference. Dawn will get target metrics for each indicator broken down by geographic area. We will discuss the numbers next time.

ADJOURN to listen to the Orca Task Force webinar on spill over the Snake River dams, via WebEx

Next Meeting:

Oct 17, Coupeville Library – Join ILIO/SRTCC meeting with Skagit Commissioner Ron Wesen and Skagit CD Exec Dir Bill Blake who are our new regional representatives on the Ecosystem Coordinative Board for the Partnership.

Nov 21, Camano – Project List Deep Dive