

**Snoqualmie Watershed Forum**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**May 21, 2014**  
**6:30-9:00 pm**  
**Carnation City Hall, Carnation WA**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jason Walker	City of Duvall Councilmember, Forum Chair
Bryan Holloway	City of Snoqualmie Councilmember, Vice Chair
Kathy Lambert	King County, Councilmember
Lee Grumman	City of Carnation, Councilmember
Cindy Spiry	Snoqualmie Tribe, Alternate
Micah Wait	Wild Fish Conservancy, Non-profit Representative
Matt Gray	Citizen Representative
Becky Chaney	Citizen Representative
Jennifer McKeown	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Non-profit Representative, Alternate

**MEETING PROCEEDINGS**

**I. Introductions**

- Jason Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed members as well as invited guests.
- The Forum approved the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting summary without changes.

**II. Forum Updates and Announcements**

***Mountains to Sound Greenway's Proposed National Heritage Area*** – Jennifer McKeown provide a brief description of the proposed National Heritage Area designation for the Greenway. There are currently 49 Heritage Areas in the United States. She explained that the designation would put a spotlight on the Greenway, allow for local control and coordination, accommodate multi-use recreational activities and potentially increase funding. Jason Walker thanked Jennifer for the background information. Jason offered that the Chair and Vice-Chair would discuss the proposal and get back to the Forum regarding next steps.

***Snohomish Forum Buffer Letter*** - The Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum submitted a comment letter on May 1<sup>st</sup> to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) regarding federal riparian buffer requirements. The letter stressed the challenges with inflexible guidelines and asked that the decision to set buffer widths be left for local technical experts. The letter tackled some of the same issues as the Snoqualmie Forum's letter on the same topic. The SRFB is currently considering the same buffer requirements adopted by the Department of Ecology.

***Floodplains by Design 2015-2017 Funding*** - In 2013 the Department of Ecology was successful in securing legislative funding through the Floodplains by Design effort. Ecology was given \$33 million to advance large scale multi-objective floodplain projects in Puget Sound and an additional \$11 million for a competitive statewide floodplain management and control grant program. The program promotes a broad approach to floodplain management, focused on multi-objective projects that reduce flood hazards, restore floodplain habitat, and invest in other floodplain activities, including agriculture.

In 2014, Ecology is soliciting preliminary proposals of projects in order to develop a budget proposal for the 2015-17 state biennium. Pre-proposals are due May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 and will be screened by August 1<sup>st</sup>. It is anticipated there will be at least \$50M available statewide in 2015. For more information: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/floods/floodplainsByDesign.html>

***King County Flood District Flood Reduction Fund*** - The Flood District has created a new \$2.6M funding source targeting medium and small local flood hazard reduction projects. Applications are due on June 15<sup>th</sup>. For more information: <http://www.kingcountyfloodcontrol.org/default.aspx?ID=55>

***Tokul Hatchery Break-in*** - It is estimated that 25,000 Chambers-Creek Steelhead were released into Tokul Creek during a break-in at the WDFW Steelhead Trout hatchery on May 13<sup>th</sup>. According to news reports, WDFW believes the intent of the break-in was specifically to release fish as no property other than the locks to the pen, were damaged or stolen. This event coincided with the news of a moratorium on chambers-creek steelhead releases into Puget Sound rivers.

***Fish, Farm, Flood Advisory Committee Update*** - The Fish, Farm, Flood (FFF) Advisory Committee has completed eleven (11) meetings since November 2013. There is another meeting May 28<sup>th</sup> to develop preliminary recommendation and to prioritize staff work for the summer months. The committee will take a break over the summer, but there will be targeted outreach to key landowners, government agencies and various partner organizations to vet the preliminary recommendations. The FFF Committee will reconvene in October for three more monthly meetings to finalize the recommendations.

### **III. 2014 Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grant Program**

In 2014, the Forum was allocated \$798,863 from the King County Flood District to dedicate to watershed projects. This was a nearly \$200,000 increase over 2013. Forum staff opened the CWM grant round in January 2014. The initial grant requests tallied over \$1.2 million while the total amount available was only \$798,863. There were 22 applications from 13 sponsors. The Project Review Committee reviewed and scored all of the grant applications.

Beth leDoux presented the Committee's recommended list of 2014 CWM grants in the Snoqualmie Watershed. The Committee recommendation was to fund all high, medium-high and four medium projects (see Attachment A). 14 of the 22 applications are recommended for approval (including the 2015 Forum staff support grant). Though 8 projects were not recommended for funding, Beth explained that Forum staff would assist these applicants with developing improved projects for future funding.

Forum members provided input and asked project questions. Jason Walker asked if King County could manage knotweed on Snoqualmie Valley Rivers once Forum funded projects get knotweed under control. Frances Lucero, King County Noxious Weed Unit, responded that the Noxious Weed Unit does not currently have significant funding to manage knotweed in the county.

Councilmember Lambert suggested considering the Brightwater Mitigation Fund as a potential alternative funding source for watershed education efforts. Micah Wait asked why the Griffin Creek Acquisition project was not funded and Beth leDoux responded that it was seen as a low urgency project. Becky Chaney asked why the Bunce project was more expensive than other projects. Walter Rung, Adopt a Stream Foundation, responded that permits, earthwork and large wood cost were higher than other projects.

**DECISION:** The Forum approved the 2014 CWM grant recommendation (see Attachment A)

## **IV. Forum Business**

### Budget

Janne Kaje, Watershed Coordinator, presented the budget for 2015. The budget assumes consistent operating costs and staffing levels (2.6 FTEs), with cost of living adjustments. The total estimated 2015 Forum budget based on preliminary projections is \$487,558. This is 4.5% increase over the 2014 budget.

Cities are asked to contribute 10% of their respective cost shares for the 2015 budget. The cost-share revenue is \$375,134 leaving a \$112,424 gap in funding. \$100,000 will come from a Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grant, pending approval by the Forum and the Flood Control District Board of Supervisors. Forum staff is confident that \$12,424 can be found in savings. City representatives should ensure that cost shares are included in their respective budgets. The work program will focus on salmon recovery coordination, project guidance and support, outreach and facilitating actions on broader water resource issues like water quality. Further information about the work program will be discussed at the September Forum meeting.

Lee Grumman asked when the Forum will discuss how the Forum deals with inflation in the budget. Janne responded that the Forum will discuss how to handle inflation next year.

### 2015 CWM Forum Staffing Grant

Perry Falcone provided an overview of the 2015 CWM Forum staffing grant that funds a portion of the cities cost-share to the Forum. The 2015 grant application is similar in scope and budget to the 2014 grant approved by the Forum. Due to cost savings in 2014, the 2015 amount did not increase. The 2016 grant application will likely have to reflect inflationary cost increases. Grant activities include project assistance for priority projects, project outreach activities, and representing the Forum at regional meetings. One small change included Forum staff assisting the City of Duvall with an important watershed planning effort. The Forum members did not have questions on the grant application provided to them.

DECISION: The Forum approved the 2015 CWM Forum Staffing Grant and will finalize the 2015 ILA Budget at the next Forum meeting.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be July 16 (project tour 5-7 pm and meeting 7-9 pm) at the Fall City Fire Station.

**Attachment A:**

**Snoqualmie Forum 2014 CWM Recommendations**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Sponsor</b>	<b>Match Fund</b>	<b>CWM Request</b>
2015 Snoqualmie Restoration and Project Assistance Program	King County WLRD	\$17,456.00	<b>\$100,000</b>
Raging River Knotweed Control, Final Phase	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust	\$ 10,000.00	<b>\$ 40,000.00</b>
Camp Korey Riparian Restoration and Water Quality Improvement: Phase I	Stewardship Partners	\$ 14,001.00	<b>\$ 43,404.56</b>
Tolt-MacDonald Park Riparian Habitat Restoration Phase II	Snoqualmie Tribe	\$ 54,627.40	<b>\$ 35,775.00</b>
Cherry Creek - design and construct	Sound Salmon Solutions	\$ 289,571.00	<b>\$ 100,000.00</b>
Snoqualmie River Juvenile Salmon Outmigration Monitoring	Tulalip Tribes	\$ 96,099.66	<b>\$ 80,000.00</b>
Effects of Large Wood on a thermally stressed stream ecosystem	King County WLRD Science Section		<b>\$ 78,261.21</b>
Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Education and Stewardship Project	Nature Vision	\$ 4,843.08	<b>\$ 30,496.00</b>
Bunce Bank Restoration - Griffin Creek	Adopt-A-Stream Foundation		<b>\$ 79,488.00</b>
Duvall Village Open Space	City of Duvall	\$ 14,500.00	<b>\$ 14,500.00</b>
Upper Snoqualmie Knotweed Control 2015	King County WLRD Noxious Weeds Unit	\$ 25,206.35	<b>\$ 63,332.00</b>
Tollgate Farm E. Bookend Weed Control Project, Final Phase	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust	\$ 20,000.00	<b>\$ 80,000.00</b>
Restoration Ecology Youth Stewards	Sound Salmon Solutions		<b>\$ 16,096.00</b>
Thayer Creek Culvert Replacements – Feasibility Study and Design	City of Duvall		<b>\$ 37,510.00</b>

\$546,304

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$798,863</b>
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