

**Snoqualmie Watershed Forum**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**May 15, 2019, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Preston Community Center, Preston**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cindy Spiry, Chair	Snoqualmie Tribe
Henry Sladek, Vice Chair	Town of Skykomish Councilmember
Brian Bodenbach	SVGA Citizen Representative
Chris Garcia	City of North Bend Councilmember
Charles Kellogg	Citizen Representative
Kathy Lambert	King County Councilmember
Jessica Lange	Non-profit Representative, Sound Salmon Solutions
Ryan Miller	Tulalip Tribes
Mike Remington	City of Duvall Councilmember
Jim Ribail	City of Carnation Councilmember
Peggy Shepard	City of Snoqualmie Councilmember

**Other Attendees:** Matt Distler, Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center; Ernest Fix, City of Carnation; Julie Lewis and Matt Baerwalde, Snoqualmie Tribe; John Velimesis; Jamie Burrell, City of North Bend; Kevin Lee, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife; Cynthia Krass, SVPA/WID; Janne Kaje and Lou Beck, King County; Perry Falcone, Beth leDoux, and Wadii Boughdir, Forum staff

## MEETING PROCEEDINGS

### I. Introductions, Updates and Announcements

Cindy Spiry, Forum Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led introductions.

*ACTION:* The Forum unanimously approved the meeting minutes from the March 20, 2019 Forum meeting.

Snoqualmie Forum staff highlighted the following updates:

- **Farewell to Jason Walker** – Former Forum Chair Jason Walker has resigned from Duvall City Council and will step down as the city’s Forum alternate. Perry thanked Jason for his strong leadership on the Forum.
- **Final State Budget and Legislation** – While the City of North Bend did not receive Floodplains by Design funding for the South Fork Snoqualmie River Levee Setback Project, the city will receive \$250,000 of state discretionary funds through Senator Mark Mullet for design work to keep the project moving forward.
- **Orca Task Force Highlights** – A member of the Orca Task Force presented findings and a legislative update at the May 2 Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum meeting, including the threats to orcas and the 36 recommendations of the task force. The task force members stressed the impact of sound on the orcas’ ability to hunt and outlined new vessel regulations requiring lower speeds and keeping greater distances from the orcas. Chris Garcia suggested information on orcas be shared with local schools. Perry Falcone, Forum Project Coordinator, agreed to send the information via email to Forum members.

## **II. Public Comment**

Cindy Spiry shared about the Bureau of Indian Affairs grant the Snoqualmie Tribe is using to model riparian buffer widths, climate change and the impacts on water temperature and fish productivity. This work is being done in conjunction with US Forest Service and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

## **III. Snoqualmie River and Floodplain Management Team's 2019 Work Program**

Perry Falcone introduced Lou Beck, Engineer with King County Stormwater Services Section, to give an overview of the agricultural drainage improvement projects taking place in the basin in 2019 through the Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program (ADAP). ADAP provides technical assistance to private landowners wishing to undertake agricultural drainage maintenance. Specifically, ADAP provides landowner education, project validation, cultural resource review, fish re-location, planting and maintenance. The landowner, sometimes with the help of King Conservation District, is responsible for paying for and performing the actual dredging work and culvert or bridge maintenance or replacements. Lou walked through three projects in the North Snoqualmie Agricultural Production District (APD) planned for 2019 construction. ADAP is also the assigned technical lead for King County drainage support in the Fish Farm Flood (FFF) agreement which was very important to farmers in the Snoqualmie Valley.

Henry Sladek asked how the program is funded. Lou replied that it is funded by King County's Surface Water Management (SWM) fee and the King County Flood Control District. Mike Remington asked if many contractors can do this work. Lou said there aren't a lot of contractors who are knowledgeable about this work. Mike also asked how the process takes place. Lou explained that construction guidelines were set up in 2010 and private owners are expected to perform the work themselves. King County or Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) staff check to make sure the project was done correctly and are present for water quality inspections and fish removal. Henry Sladek asked if the Forum funds any projects involved in these programs. Perry Falcone replied that the Forum has funded fish screens on water irrigation pumps, riparian ditch plantings and replacement of culverts on agricultural properties but the Forum has not funded ditch dredging directly.

Cynthia Krass added that the Snoqualmie Watershed Improvement District (WID) also provides drainage assistance to agricultural landowners in the Snoqualmie Valley. Specifically, the WID has submitted a \$65,000 grant proposal to the Fish Barrier Removal Board to fund a culvert replacement on Langlois Creek.

## **IV. 2020 Snoqualmie Project Assistance Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grant**

Perry Falcone, Forum Project Coordinator, walked through the grant application to support Forum staff in project assistance and offset the cities' ILA cost shares. The 2020 grant was similar to previous grants submitted to the Flood Control District.

*ACTION:* The Forum unanimously approved the 2020 Snoqualmie Project Assistance CWM Grant.

## **V. 2019 CWM Grant Recommendations**

Beth leDoux, Forum Technical Coordinator, walked through the list of grant proposals for the CWM and One Million Tree grant programs, as approved by the Project Review Committee. The committee conducted a detailed review of each grant proposal including grant presentations from project sponsors and grant criteria scoring. The committee received 22 grant proposals totaling \$2,419,740 showing the extraordinary project need in the Snoqualmie Watershed. Beth emphasized the large capital project grants this year and the need for the Forum to support these projects due to the fact that we are behind schedule in implementing the Snohomish Salmon Plan's habitat goals related to actions such as levee setback projects and large wood placement. The Snoqualmie Watershed Forum's 2019 CWM allocation was only \$1,065,431, including

returned funding from previous grants. The committee recommended 13 CWM grants for full or partial funding (see Attachment A).

Brian Bodenbach noted that some of the projects are scheduled for a few years out and asked if there is planting happening at Haffner-Barfuse. Beth confirmed there is planting occurring on the site led by the Snoqualmie Tribe. Kathy Lambert commented on the type of allowed trees. Peggy Shepard asked about the planting at the Haffner-Barfuse site. Janne Kaje commented that the planting at Haffner-Barfuse will take place on the edges of the site, where they won't be displaced during construction. Beth commented that the Project Review Committee had some hard decisions to make this year and acknowledged that private landowner participation is important. Beth and the committee encouraged sponsors to apply again next year. Beth also noted that momentum is important for capital projects. Henry Sladek commented that the Haffner-Barfuse and Beckler projects are seeking a large chunk of funding and asked if they would likely ask for more funding again next year. Beth replied that the Forum expects to receive more funding next year and it's possible the Beckler project will apply again for funding. The Project Review Committee thought it was important to get the Haffner-Barfuse project ready to apply for grants like Floodplains by Design and the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Henry also requested Beth share more about the breakdown of different categories of projects. Chris Garcia asked if Nature Vision receives additional funding from other sources such as school districts or PTAs, as this program meets the school requirements. Beth replied that Nature Vision has looked for other sources of funding for many years but Beth will follow up with Ginny Ballard about this. Kathy Lambert expressed support for the Brightwater Education Center and thought this could be a good resource for education in the Valley.

*ACTION:* The Forum unanimously approved 2019 CWM grant funding list.

## **VI. Forum Business – 2020 Budget and 2018 Client Survey**

Perry presented the draft 2020 Forum budget for review purposes and noted that the Forum would be asked to approve the budget at the July 2019 meeting. Perry noted that cost shares are not being updated in 2020 as the ILA calls for cost share updates every three years and they were updated in 2018 for the 2019 budget. Jim Ribail asked when invoices are sent to the cost sharing cities. Perry replied that they are sent out once per year around mid-year.

Perry walked through the results of the 2018 Client Survey and asked the Forum if there were any areas of improvement for the Forum or staff. Chris Garcia commented that “not applicable” and “I don't know” should be split into two categories rather than lumped together. Jim Ribail commented on the importance of communications and expressed support for social media outreach and updates in the future.

## **VII. Closing**

Cindy Spiry thanked everyone for coming.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019, Carnation City Hall, 6:30-8:30 p.m. following the annual Forum tour from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

**Attachment A – 2019 Snoqualmie Watershed CWM Grants**

Project	Applicant	Leveraged Funds	Grant Request	Forum Recommendation
2020 Snoqualmie Project Assistance	Forum/Cities	\$ 27,122	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000
Tulalip Tribes Snoqualmie Juvenile Screw Trap	Tulalip Tribes	\$ 33,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000
Summer Steelhead Monitoring	Wild Fish Conservancy	\$ -	\$ 19,534	\$ 19,534
Barfuse Floodplain Planting	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe	\$ 98,500	\$ 92,451	\$ 59,190
Haffner-Barfuse Floodplain Restoration Design	King County WLRD	\$1,475,020	\$ 500,000	\$ 400,000
Snoqualmie River Riparian Restoration at Snoqualmie RV Park Phase I	Mountains To Sound Greenway Trust	\$ 10,000	\$ 29,999	\$ 29,999
Beckler Construction	Wild Fish Conservancy	\$ 47,000	\$ 830,531	\$ 175,000
Youth Watershed Education, Stewardship and Citizen Science	NatureVision	\$ 6,837	\$ 34,760	\$ 34,760
Bunce Bank 3-year Riparian Maintenance	Adopt a Stream Foundation	\$ -	\$ 13,418	\$ 13,418
Snoqualmie River and Tributaries Fish Screening Project 2019-2011	Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District	\$ 81,830	\$ 54,349	\$ 27,155
Cherry Creek Phase 2 Construction Preparation	Sound Salmon Solutions	\$ 764,565	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000
Duvall Village Open Space	City of Duvall	\$ 14,500	\$ 17,500	\$ 17,500
Riparian, Floodplain and Wetland Enhancement and Tree Planting	North Bend	\$ 10,000	\$ 39,875	\$ 39,875
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,568,374</b>		<b>\$ 1,065,431</b>