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Cedar River Council
 Friends of the Cedar River Watershed
 Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery
 Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce
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 Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
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 Northwest Marine Trade Association
 Sno-King Watershed Council
 Trout Unlimited
 Water Tenders

Alderwood Water and Wastewater District
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 US Army Corps of Engineers
 Washington Departments:
 Ecology
 Fish and Wildlife
 Natural Resources
 Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts
 King Conservation District

July 29, 2016



Virginia Cross
 Chair, Muckleshoot Tribal Council
 Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
 39015 - 172nd Avenue Southeast
 Auburn, WA 98092

Dear Chair Cross,

As the Chair of the Salmon Recovery Council (SRC) for the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed Water Resource Inventory Area 8 (WRIA 8), I am writing on behalf of the SRC to thank the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe (Tribe) for its strong support and leadership in salmon recovery in WRIA 8 and regionally. We also want to convey our sincere interest in the Tribe's involvement in the forthcoming update of the WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan (Plan). The SRC is marking its first ten years of Plan implementation, and periodic updates to the Plan help us to refine the path to restore sustainable and harvestable Chinook salmon populations. The SRC would be grateful to learn how the Tribe would like to be involved in the Plan update.

The WRIA 8 SRC recognizes the Tribe's federally-reserved treaty rights in the watershed and the serious impact on the tribal community caused by low salmon abundance and the continued lack of significant salmon harvest opportunity. The SRC, which is comprised of 28 local governments and representatives from businesses, community groups, citizens, and state and federal agencies, is responsible for the implementation and adaptive management of the Plan with a clear goal to "preserve, protect and restore habitat with the intent to recover listed species...." The Tribe's involvement and input in the 2005 WRIA 8 Plan was extremely valuable, and we welcome the opportunity to work with Tribal staff on the Plan update through the existing WRIA 8 committee process or other appropriate venue(s). We also welcome Tribal Council review and input on the Plan update if that is of interest.

As we update the Plan over the next year, we intend to build on monitoring and adaptive management work currently underway in WRIA 8 and on experience gained through more than a decade of implementing salmon habitat protection and restoration actions. We also will address the challenges to salmon recovery presented by climate change and the impacts of increased urbanization. In this regard, the Tribe's knowledge of the watershed, resource

management expertise, and harvest management experience is very important to the Plan update effort.

The Tribe, along with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), as co-managers of the salmon fisheries, is a central force for recovering salmon in the watershed. The SRC believes that we must put in place stronger habitat protection and larger scale restoration efforts to generate the water quality and habitat conditions to recover and to sustain salmon populations. We understand that hatchery programs will play an important role if we are to restore meaningful treaty and sport fishing opportunities.

The WRIA 8 SRC welcomes any opportunity to work with the Tribe in the recovery of sustainable and harvestable Chinook salmon populations. The SRC would like to renew our invitation to the Tribe to join us at the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council, Technical Committee, and/or Implementation Committee, and we look forward to understanding how the Tribe would like to be involved in updating the WRIA 8 Plan and its salmon habitat protection and restoration priorities.

Please feel free to contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager at 206-477-4780 or jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov if you have any questions or for further information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Andy Rheume
Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Mayor, City of Bothell

cc: Isabel Tinoco, Fisheries Director, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Holly Coccoli, Habitat Program Manager, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Glen St. Amant, Habitat Program Manager, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Karen Walter, Watersheds and Land Use Team Lead, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager
Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Salmon
Recovery Council members