



- Beaux Arts Village
- Bellevue
- Bothell
- Clyde Hill
- Edmonds
- Hunts Point
- Issaquah
- Kenmore
- Kent
- King County
- Kirkland
- Lake Forest Park
- Maple Valley
- Medina
- Mercer Island
- Mill Creek
- Mountlake Terrace
- Mukilteo
- Newcastle
- Redmond
- Renton
- Sammamish
- Seattle
- Shoreline
- Snohomish County
- Woodinville
- Woodway
- Yarrow Point

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

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

August 25, 2017

Colonel Mark Gerald
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 PO Box 3755
 Seattle, WA 98124-3755



Dear Colonel Gerald,

On behalf of the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Salmon Recovery Council (Council), I wish to welcome you to your new post as Commander of the Seattle District of the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). The Council is comprised of 28 local governments and stakeholder representatives from businesses, community groups, concerned citizens, and state and federal agencies who have been working since 2000 to recover Chinook salmon in our watershed.

The Corps is a member of the Council. While the Corps' seat on the Council is currently vacant due to staffing changes, we understand a new representative and alternate will be named soon. Previously, the Corps was represented by Beth Coffey, Chief, Operations Division and Peggy Marcus, Natural Resource Manager at the Lake Washington Ship Canal. The members of the WRIA 8 Council value the Corps' participation on the Council and partnership in salmon recovery. In recent years, as staffs have changed, WRIA 8 and the Corps have worked to re-establish and maintain good coordination and communication regarding topics of mutual interest.

If you have not already, I am sure you will soon receive a briefing on the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks (Locks) facility's much needed infrastructure improvements, including fish passage. Effective fish passage at the Locks is absolutely essential to salmon recovery in our watershed, and WRIA 8 has been a strong proponent of securing funding for the Corps to make necessary improvements to Locks infrastructure. We have coordinated closely with Corps staff at the Locks, specifically Nate McGowan, Ship Canal Operations Manager, Scott Pozarycki, Fisheries Biologist, and Bill Dowell, Public Affairs Office, to understand the infrastructure improvement needs, cost estimates, and schedule. We will continue to support the Corps in getting these important facility upgrades done expeditiously to improve conditions for salmon and ensure safe operations of the Locks facility into the future.

We look forward to continuing the strong partnership between WRIA 8 and the Corps under your leadership. **The Council would like to invite you to one of our future meetings, and we will be in touch to coordinate schedules.**

Colonel Gerald
August 25, 2017
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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager, either by phone at 206-477-4780 or email at jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



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



John Stokes
Vice-Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Mayor, City of Bothell

cc: Amy Reese, Chief, Operations Branch, Seattle District, Army Corps of Engineers
Nate McGowan, Ship Canal Operations Manager, Hiram M. Chittenden Locks,
Seattle District, Army Corps of Engineers
William Dowell, Public Affairs Office, Seattle District, Army Corps of Engineers
Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager
WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council