

## Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 8

May 1 to August 31, 2017

### Overview and Highlights

Cost-shared services during the second trimester of 2017 focused on:

- Producing the draft WRIA 8 Salmon Habitat Plan update for review.
- Obtaining Salmon Recovery Council (SRC) and King County Flood Control District approval of seven habitat restoration and acquisition, three riparian habitat/stewardship, two monitoring, and five outreach and education applications for \$2,379,345 in Cooperative Watershed Management funds.
- Obtaining SRC approval of two habitat restoration and acquisition project applications for \$982,645 in Salmon Recovery Funding Board, and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funds.
- Obtaining SRC approval of the 2018 WRIA 8 budget and work plan.
- Launching 2017 Salmon SEEson campaign (eleventh annual) to increase public awareness and support for salmon conservation in WRIA 8.
- Creating and sending two WRIA 8 E-Newsletters.
- Representing WRIA 8's interests in Puget Sound Watershed Leads group, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, South Central Caucus Group, and Washington Salmon Coalition, including participating on subcommittees and work groups to advance regional and statewide salmon recovery efforts.

*The following summary of services is organized according to work items outlined in the approved WRIA 8 Memorandum of Understanding.*

### **Salmon Recovery Council Coordination/Puget Sound Partnership**

- Scheduled and staffed two meetings of the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council (SRC) (May 18 and July 20).
  - May meeting focus: Decision on the 2018 WRIA 8 budget and work plan; decision on 2017 Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) grant funding recommendations; decision on 2016 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) and 2017 – 2019 Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) grant funding recommendations; update on the King County Conservation Futures Citizen's Committee 2017 grant recommendations; status of the project and programmatic actions lists for the WRIA 8 Salmon Habitat Plan (Plan); and success story presentation on King County's (KC) Elliott Bridge Reach Mitigation Project on the Cedar River.
  - July meeting focus: Review of the draft Plan update; decision on 2017 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) grant funding recommendations; decision on WRIA 8 representation to the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council (PS SRC); and success story presentation on the Redmond elementary school students learning about the Bear Creek smolt trap.
- Scheduled and staffed one meeting of the WRIA 8 Management Committee (MC) to review and recommend the 2018 WRIA 8 budget and work plan, and review and approve draft letter to King County Flood Control District (FCD) regarding Cedar River Corridor Plan Capital Investment Strategy (May 2).
- Attended two meetings of the PS SRC (May 25 and July 27):
  - May meeting focus: Update on the status of the federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund; debrief on NOAA's 5-Year Status Review of salmon recovery; presentation on updated Critical Areas Ordinance guidance to include a more direct link to salmon habitat needs; and review of and decision on the Chinook Implementation Strategy.

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- July meeting focus: Approval of San Juan Watershed monitoring proposal and convening of Nominating Committee, and discussion of “bold” actions for Chinook Implementation Strategy recommended by Subcommittee.
- Participated in two meetings of Puget Sound Watershed Leads (May 11 and July 13).
  - May meeting focus: Discussed the state and federal budget, initiated conversations about the lead entity contract updates, learned about the Coastal Resilience Project (a climate change driven effort, and discussed regional priorities for the Chinook vital sign for the 2018 Action Agenda.
  - July conference call focus: Heard a presentation from PSP staff on PSAR effectiveness monitoring, discussed the upcoming Four-Year Work Plan update, learned about using Habitat Work Schedule for exporting Four-Year Work Plans, and heard from around the region about legislative tours being planned and support from PSP that is available to support tours.
- Participated in one meeting of the Puget Sound South Central Action Area Caucus Group (June 7). Meeting topics included: Update on the 2018 Action Agenda priorities and the role of local integrating organizations in allocating funding and regional priority setting; update on federal and state budgets; a “deep dive” presentation from Washington State Department of Commerce and Puget Sound Regional Council on the “Building Cities in the Rain” effort which provides guidance on watershed prioritization for stormwater retrofits; and general member updates.
- Participated in a Port of Seattle-hosted press event to publicly release the Ballard Locks economic impact study (June 27).
- Conducted email correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with SRC members and WRIA 8 partner staff.
- Provided information to all jurisdictions equally.

### **Plan Implementation**

- Completed the draft Plan update and released it for review.
- Scheduled and facilitated two WRIA 8 Implementation Committee (IC) meetings (May 2 and July 11). Meeting topics included: Discussion of main elements of Plan update, including schedule review, revised updated land use action recommendations, review of indicators for recovery strategies in the draft monitoring and assessment plan, and approach for addressing the role of mitigation in salmon habitat restoration; review of the draft 2018 WRIA 8 budget and work plan; discussion of an effort by the PS SRC to identify regional priorities for Chinook salmon recovery; and review of the draft May 18 and July 20 SRC meeting topics.
- Obtained SRC and King County FCD approval of seven habitat restoration and acquisition, three riparian habitat/stewardship, two monitoring, and five outreach and education applications for \$2,379,345 in CWM funds.
- Obtained SRC approval of two habitat restoration and acquisition project applications for \$982,645 in Salmon Recovery Funding Board and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funds.
- Participated in the Washington Salmon Coalition (WSC) annual meeting on June 6 – 8, which included: coordination with The Nature Conservancy on the Floodplains by Design program; information sharing with the Council of Regions, Regional Fisheries Coalition, Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office/Recreation and Conservation Office, and Puget Sound Partnership; learned about RCO policy updates and discussed ways to better align grant programs; discussed the allocation subcommittee process and next steps and roles for WSC in continued funding conversations, the proposed LEAN study, and the Salmon Recovery Network; and received a presentation on FishViews (like Google maps but for rivers). One full day of the meeting was devoted to climate change topics, including case studies from watersheds around the state and discussion of how to integrate climate change considerations into local processes.

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- Participated in two WebEx meetings of the WSC Executive Committee (July 11, August 8), which focused on: information sharing with our state partners, updating the WSC Action Plan, identifying paths forward for obtaining WSC facilitation support, and issuing comments via letters to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the state legislature regarding the continued lack of a state capital budget and the implications for lead entities and project sponsors.
- Responded to citizen and agency inquiries on the WRIA 8 process, priorities, and Plan implementation.
- Participated in project planning activities with project sponsors, reviewing project concepts, plans, and visions to ensure future implementation aligns with the WRIA 8 Plan and its priorities.

### Technical Coordination

- Scheduled and facilitated four WRIA 8 Technical Committee (TC) meetings (May 10, June 14, July 12 and August 9). Meeting topics included: Review of the technical content of the Plan update; review and finalization the draft WRIA 8 Monitoring and Assessment Plan; discussion of a possible acoustic monitoring project at the Ballard Locks; and discussion of the TC work plan after completion of the Plan update and Monitoring Plan
- Continued work on PSP-funded support for WRIA 8's monitoring and adaptive management process and the ten-year update to the Plan.
- Provided regular TC status reports and salmon updates to the SRC.
- Provided technical support to IC through participation in monthly meetings.

### Communication

- Launched the 2017 Salmon SEEson campaign (eleventh annual) to increase public awareness and support for salmon conservation in WRIAs 8 and 9 through flyers, posters and website. One new viewing location was added this year.
- Created and sent two WRIA 8 E-Newsletters (June and August).
- Published two inline ads with Chinook Book to raise awareness about water quality and salmon recovery: May's ad encouraged people to practice natural lawn care: [www.naturallyardcare.org/](http://www.naturallyardcare.org/) and in July it was Pick up after your pet: <http://www.scooppoop.org/>
- Distributed email updates and announcements to WRIA 8 partners and interested parties, including funding opportunities, event notices, and information of interest.
- Regularly maintained the WRIA 8 website at [www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/](http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/).
- Mailed Green Shorelines information to new lakeshore homeowners.

### Program Management and Administration

- Submitted a progress report and billing to RCO for the second year of funding through the 2016-2017 Lead Entity contract.
- Conducted general administrative work supporting implementation of the ILA, including work program development and monitoring, budget development and tracking, regular reporting, billing, personnel, and supervision.
- Held verbal and email progress discussions at and between WRIA 8 SRC meetings.
- Coordinated with the SRC on several issues, including regional Puget Sound salmon recovery and habitat restoration.

**For additional information on any item in this report, please contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager, at [jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov](mailto:jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov) or 206-477-4780.**