

Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 8

May 1 to August 31, 2018

Overview and Highlights

Cost-shared services during the second trimester of 2018 focused on:

- Obtaining Salmon Recovery Council (SRC) approval of \$1,765,812 in grant funding from the WRIA 8 King County Flood Control District (KCFCD) Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) program, to provide over \$1.4 million to habitat restoration projects, \$300,000 for ongoing monitoring activities, and approximately \$50,000 to outreach and education programs.
- Obtaining WRIA 8 Management Committee and SRC approval for WRIA 8 2019 budget and work plan.
- Obtaining SRC approval to invest \$12,433 in available carry forward funds in the WRIA 8 budget to support an assessment of predation on juvenile salmon in the Lake Washington Ship Canal.
- Launching 2018 Salmon SEEson campaign (twelfth annual) to increase public awareness and support for salmon conservation in WRIA 8.
- Obtaining ratification of the WRIA 8 Plan Update from all 28 local jurisdictions in WRIA 8.
- Coordinating WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee finalization of WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)/Puget Sound Acquisitions and Restoration (PSAR) funding recommendations for SRC approval in September.
- Attending Puget Sound Day on the Hill in Washington, D.C. to meet with members of Congress to share successes, ongoing needs, and critical importance of salmon recovery in WRIA 8 and Puget Sound. Also held meetings with Army Corps of Engineers in support of Ballard Locks repairs.
- Developing WRIA 8's 2019 state and federal legislative priorities.
- Communicating legislative priorities to congressional delegation and state legislators and conveying the importance of salmon recovery funding.
- Participating as a member of the Ballard Locks advocacy group, working on a strategy to support federal request for funding to implement critical Locks infrastructure repairs, including for fish passage.
- Obtaining SRC approval to send a letter to Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, requesting the Corps allocate additional funding from the omnibus spending bill approved by Congress to support critical repairs at the Ballard Locks.
- 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/Regional Engagement

- Scheduled and staffed two meetings of the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council (SRC) (May 17 and July 19).
 - May meeting focus: Selection of Salmon Recovery Council Vice-Chair position; decision on WRIA 8 2019 Budget and Work Plan; decision on 2018 Cooperative Watershed Management grant recommendations; discussion on recommended investments in technical and

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programmatic priorities; and success story on City of Kirkland Yard Smart Rain Rewards Residential Retrofit Program.

- July meeting focus: Decision on recommended investments in technical and programmatic priorities; discussion and decision on draft 2019 WRIA 8 state and federal legislative priorities; presentation on King Conservation District programs and alignment with salmon recovery goals; presentation and discussion on Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 2050 regional planning effort; and success story on Cedar River Salmon Journey program.
- Attended two meetings of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council (PSSRC) (May 31 and July 26).
 - May meeting focus: Discussion and approval of Puget Sound Rapid Response for Salmon Fund; approval of a proposal by the Hood Canal Coordinating Council to shift Lead Entity capacity funds from a Chinook recovery focus to Summer Chum recovery in an effort to remove Summer Chum from being listed under the Endangered Species Act; update and feedback to the Environmental Protection Agency on National Estuary Program funding allocation and guidance; discussion on Puget Sound Partnership's "Beyond 2020 Vision" proposal; and discussion on reevaluating regional salmon recovery approach and priorities.
 - July meeting focus: Presentations on the Hood Canal Summer Chum Salmon Recovery Plan and the Governor's Orca Task Force; discussion of recommendations for 'bold actions' to focus and accelerate salmon recovery in Puget Sound; and updates from Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) on "Puget Sound Day on the Hill" highlights and PSP's 'mobilizing funding' request for proposals to hire a contractor to reinvigorate the Foundation for Puget Sound as a means to solicit private funding for Puget Sound recovery.
- Participated in two meetings of Puget Sound Watershed Leads (May 10 and July 12).
 - May meeting focus: Examples of coordination success; updates on PSAR program; review of Lead Entity Roles and Responsibilities; and review of Lead Entity draft Scope of Work template.
 - July meeting focus: Salmon Day on the Hill; updates on Washington Salmon Coalition; update on Orca Task Force's Prey Availability Work Group; update on PSAR & SRFB large capital projects review; 4-Year Work Plans; feasibility and assessment projects in 2019; and Rapid Response Revolving Fund.
- Participated in two meetings of the Puget Sound South Central Action Area Caucus Group (May 2 and July 11).
 - May meeting focus: Near-term action (NTA) development and review process; deep dive on watershed-based stormwater planning; and deep dive discussion on funding innovations.
 - July meeting focus: Update on regional NTA review and Action Agenda; update on Puget Sound Day on the Hill; update on Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force; discussion on Local Integrating Organization (LIO) restructuring; and discussion of opportunities for 2018 work plan implementation.
- Briefed new SRC member representatives from City of Sammamish (May 16) and City of Mill Creek (May 18).
- Scheduled and staffed one meeting of the WRIA 8 Management Committee (MC) to review and recommend the 2019 WRIA 8 budget and work plan (May 1).
- Attended Puget Sound Day on the Hill to meet with members of Congress and federal agencies to provide updates on successes, ongoing needs, and ensure that the critical importance of the Puget Sound ecosystem, including salmon recovery, for national culture, health, and economy are understood and valued (May 21).
- Participated in a stakeholder process to develop Puget Sound Partnership's "Beyond 2020" vision statement for Puget Sound recovery, which was integrated into the 2018 update to the Action Agenda for Puget Sound recovery.
- Organized and led a tour with Congresswoman DelBene and local government elected officials and staff to two habitat restoration sites to highlight the importance and contribution of federal

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funding to salmon recovery, state and local match to federal funding, the multiple benefits of salmon habitat restoration projects, and the value of the regionally coordinated partnerships among local governments in the watershed to recover Chinook salmon (June 16).

- Surveyed Salmon Recovery Council members to identify preferred 2019 SRC meeting times and material printing preferences.
- Coordinated ratification of the WRIA 8 Plan Update with partner local jurisdictions; obtaining ratification from 28 out of 28 jurisdictions.
- Participated in hiring processes to hire Salmon Recovery Manager and PSRA Program Manager at Puget Sound Partnership.
- 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

- Scheduled and facilitated three WRIA 8 Implementation Committee (IC) meetings (May 1, July 10, and August 7). Meeting topics included: General WRIA 8 updates; discussion and review of King County Service Provider Survey; discussion of proposal to recommend investments to support a Ship Canal predation study; discussion of WRIA 8 letters of support for projects seeking PSAR large capital grant program funding; alignment of WRIA 8 salmon recovery goals with King Conservation District programs; discussion of 2019 WRIA 8 legislative priorities; discussion of Locks operations that affect salmon survival and/or fish passage; update on status of the Cedar River Habitat Conservation Plan; and updates on Riverbend Floodplain restoration and Willowmoor floodplain restoration projects.
- Obtained approval from the Salmon Recovery Council (SRC) of \$1,765,812 in grant funding from the WRIA 8 King County Flood Control District (KCFCD) Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) program, to provide over \$1.4 million to habitat restoration projects, \$300,000 for ongoing monitoring activities, and approximately \$50,000 to outreach and education programs.
- Coordinated Project Subcommittee's finalization of WRIA 8 SRFB/PSAR funding recommendations for SRC approval in September (July 31).
- Developed and obtained SRC approval of WRIA 8's 2019 state and federal legislative priorities.
- Participated in Cedar River Habitat Conservation Plan Oversight Committee meeting (June 12).
- Participated in one WebEx meeting of the Washington Salmon Coalition (WSC) Executive Committee (June 18).
 - June meeting focus: Future WSC meeting work planning and preparation; updates on Lean Study Work Plan, and updates on Orca Task Force Prey Availability Workgroup.
- Participation in Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Lean Study on salmon recovery project development and prioritization process.
- Met with Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters staff to discuss and emphasize the need for funding for critical Ballard Locks repairs to improve fish passage and ensure safe facility operations (May 24).
- Attended two meetings (June 1 and July 13) and two conference calls (June 29 and August 6) with informal group of stakeholders to coordinate advocacy for critical Ballard Locks repairs. WRIA 8 participated to maintain the importance of fish passage needs as part of the infrastructure repairs at the Locks.
- Sent a letter to Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, requesting the Corps allocate additional funding from the omnibus spending bill approved by Congress to support critical repairs at the Ballard Locks.
- Submitted high-level scoping/clarifying questions for NOAA's Notice of Intent to conduct a draft Environmental Impact Statement analyzing the effects of the draft Chinook Harvest Resource

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Management Plan, with questions focusing on understanding how proposed Chinook salmon harvest management goals align with recovery planning targets, to support meeting tribal treaty rights and salmon recovery goals.

- Responded to citizen and agency inquiries on the WRIA 8 process, priorities, and Plan implementation.

Technical Coordination

- Scheduled and facilitated three WRIA 8 Technical Committee (TC) meetings (May 9, July 11, and August 8). Meeting topics included: 2018 wood surveys; Puget Sound Partnerships' cumulative effectiveness pilot; WDFW ship canal piscivorous fish sampling project; Lake Washington Ship Canal (LWSC) temperature issues; sockeye salmon management; WRIA 8 juvenile salmon monitoring program; potential acoustic tracking of salmonids in the LWSC; the Willowmoor/Sammamish River cold water supplementation study; presentation on Willowmoor restoration project; discussions regarding implementation of WRIA 8 Monitoring and Assessment Plan (MAP) and monitoring priorities in WRIA 8.
- Coordinated development and obtained Salmon Recovery Council approval of a TC recommendation to invest available carry forward funds towards a study to assess predation of juvenile salmon by predatory fish in the Lake Washington Ship Canal conducted by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Provided regular TC status reports and salmon updates to the Salmon Recovery Council.
- Provided technical support to IC through participation in monthly meetings.

Communication

- Launched 2018 Salmon SEEson campaign (twelfth annual) to increase public awareness and support for salmon conservation, expanding to six new sites in 2018 with increased efforts on digital outreach for the program.
- Created and sent two WRIA 8 E-Newsletters (June 26 and August 24).
- 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/.

Program Management and Administration

- Submitted a final report and final billing to RCO for the Lead Entity contract covering the period through June 30, 2018.
- Negotiated a scope of work with GSRO and PSP for the Lead Entity contract covering the period July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.
- Developed the draft WRIA 8 2019 budget and work plan for MC review and SRC approval.
- Conducted other 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 or 206-477-4780.