

**Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 9
September 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008**

Overview:

Cost-shared services during the second trimester of 2008 focused on:

- In partnership with WRIA 7 and 8 staff, organizing and facilitating multi-WRIA workshop on joint legislative priorities.
- Providing a technical panel discussion on habitat, harvest, and hatchery integration at a Steering Committee meeting.
- Conducting three one-day training workshops for enhancing the effectiveness of habitat protection and restoration efforts in WRIsAs 8 and 9.
- Planning and conducting the annual “yellow bus tour” of the watershed and key habitat projects.
- Organizing and conducting a two-day “Understanding the Nearshore Environment” workshop with Seattle, Burien, Normandy Park, Des Moines, and Federal Way.
- Presenting and obtaining approvals for allocating about \$1.2 million 2009 WRIA 9/King Conservation District funds to high priority projects
- Receiving \$363,725 in funding from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) for three projects:
- Drafting and distributing the third “News Fit for a King” newsletter.
- Convening the Ecosystem Restoration Project Executive Committee which approved \$4.4 million in federal funding for North Winds Weir in Tukwila and Lake Meridian Outlet in Kent.

The following summary of services is organized according to work items outlined in the approved WRIA 9 MOU.

Forum and Steering Committee Coordination

Schedule and staff a reduced number of WRIA 9 Forum and WRIA 9 Steering Committee meetings at key decision points in implementing and monitoring of the Salmon Habitat Plan, and prepare the scope of work and budget for work to be cost-shared after 2008:

- Organized one meetings of the Forum (November 19).
- Conducted e-mail correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with Forum and Forum staff members.
- Coordinated local government and Forum communications with the State legislature.

Participate in and coordinate with State and Puget Sound regional efforts, such as the Lead Entity Advisory Group, the Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership, and regional or sub-regional efforts:

- Advised the Salmon Recovery Board, Puget Sound Partnership (PSP), Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership, and Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office on salmon recovery funding and technical issues.

Schedule and staff WRIA 9 Management Committee meetings to oversee the 2008 scope of work:

- Organized one meeting of the Management Committee (November 5).
- Conducted e-mail correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with Management Committee members.

Coordinate with city and county staff and elected officials:

- Conducted e-mail correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with Forum staff.

WRIA Plan Implementation

Work with the WRIA 9 Steering Committee, including any subcommittees, to facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan:

- Provided an Implementation Technical Committee (ITC) panel discussion on habitat, harvest, and hatchery integration (H-integration) to the Steering Committee (September 11).

Develop and implement adaptive management, and participate in regional or sub-regional planning, implementation, monitoring, and financing efforts:

- Held two meetings of the Implementation Technical Committee (ITC) (November 17 and December 17).
- Held a special two-day meeting of the ITC to complete the WRIA 9 project prioritization and sequencing with King County Water and Land Resources science staff.
- Organized the two-day “Understanding the Nearshore Environment” workshop with Seattle, Burien, Normandy Park, Des Moines, and Federal Way (September 23 and 24). Seventy city planners and participants from WRIA 9 marine nearshore jurisdictions, WRIA 8 cities, City of Bainbridge Island, WADOE, WADFW, KCD, NOAA and the Army Corps of Engineers attended. The workshop was funded by a KCD grant, with additional support provided by the Puget Sound Partnership.
- Continued habitat, harvest and hatchery integration meetings with representatives from Muckleshoot Indian tribe, Tacoma Public Utilities, WDFW, ACOE, King County, City of Seattle, and WRIA 9.

Other work to promote implementation of the Habitat Plan recommendation:

- Provided written summary of key Salmon Habitat plan recommendations to the City of SeaTac..
- Provided written comments on October 29 Draft Port of Seattle Lower Duwamish River Habitat Restoration Plan.
- Provided written comments to WSDOT Aviation on Draft Aviation Stormwater Design Manual: Managing Wildlife Hazards Near Airports.
- Reviewed and evaluated eight grant applications; participated in Community Salmon Fund technical review team meeting on November 17 to help allocate \$200,000+ worth of grants to WRIA 8 and WRIA 9 projects.

Capital Facility Coordination

Coordinate cross-jurisdictional implementation of projects identified as WRIA priorities (e.g., projects funded by the watershed allocation of King Conservation District funds, State Salmon Recovery Funding Board, and other funds):

- Presented the 2009 King Conservation District project budget (for 2008 collections of \$1,171,300) at the November 19 Forum meeting for approval.
- Conducted three one-day workshops for project sponsors intended to enhance the effectiveness of habitat protection and restoration efforts in WRIs 8 and 9. This workshop series was part of a broader goal to accelerate and improve the success of future capital projects by providing additional support to project sponsors and technical personnel involved in the project design/review and implementation (September 17, September 24 and October 1).

Help establish partnerships and seek funding for high priority capital projects:

- Participated in due diligence review and final “go-no go” decision for City of Tukwila to purchase Duwamish Gardens property. Managed the archeological investigation portion of the due diligence phase. Completed \$375,000 ESRP grant application for funding for restoration phase.
- Distributed information to local governments about grant opportunities and assisted project sponsors with grant applications. These grant opportunities included: Community Salmon Fund, Pioneers in Conservation, Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.
- Assisted King County staff with project tracking and coordination for North Wind’s Weir.
- Sent letter to all jurisdictions within WRIA 9 to encourage them to use the Flood Control Zone District Opportunity Fund for priority salmon habitat projects.
- Continued to refine the Habitat Work Schedule to track WRIA 9 Habitat Plan accomplishments.
- Submitted two grants to the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program on behalf of project sponsors for Point Heyer and Southwest Drift Cell acquisitions projects.

Support the Steering Committee in developing, prioritizing, and presenting project recommendations to the State Salmon Recovery Funding Board for funding:

- Assisted project sponsors with final grant application preparation for SRFB projects.
- Submitted final project list for the 2008 Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The total allocation to WRIA 9 projects was \$363,724. Projects included Downey Farmstead Feasibility and Pautzke Levee Setback.

Coordinate regional aspects of the Green/Duwamish River Ecosystem Restoration Project and Puget Sound Nearshore Restoration Project:

- Supported local sponsors working on Ecosystem Restoration Project (ERP) projects, including development of funding strategies.
- Attended ERP Management Committee meeting (October 8)
- Convened one ERP Executive Committee meeting, where the 2009 ERP Project Funding Priorities budget for \$4,400,000 was approved (November 19).

Public Outreach (half time)

Coordinate a public outreach and involvement strategy for the WRIA 9 planning and implementation process:

- Drafted and distributed the third “News Fit for a King” newsletter in December.
- Conducted the annual “yellow bus tour” of Middle Green, Lower Green, and Duwamish for 20 persons on September 8.
- Gave presentation to Fauntleroy Watershed Council September 11 and Trout Unlimited (with Sandy Kilroy) November 18, reaching 20 persons total.
- Staffed WRIA 9 display at Salmon Return festival at Olympic Sculpture Park in Seattle, talking to 35 persons (September 13).
- Lead design and facilitation of second joint WRIA assembly involving 60 persons in Tukwila to develop common federal and state legislative agendas (September 18).
- Met with City of Kent staff to brainstorm ideas for explaining water and stormwater rate increases (September 18).
- Regularly maintained the new website at www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/
- Responded to five information requests from the public.

[During the second trimester, Dennis Clark, Public Outreach/Stewardship Coordinator, spent half his time on Miller/Walker Creek basin stewardship. While it contributes to WRIA 9 watershed health, that work was funded by the Miller/Walker basin partners and thus is not summarized in this trimester report.]

Program Management and Administration

Conduct general administration work in support of ILA implementation:

- Held verbal and email progress discussions at and between WRIA 9 Steering Committee, Forum, and Management Committee meetings.
- Coordinated across Steering Committee and Forum on several issues, including the Puget Sound Partnership, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, Puget Sound Partnership, and Salmon Recovery Funding Board.
- Supervised work of ILA-supported staff.