

# Final Notes, Skagit Watershed Council Monitoring and Adaptive Management (M&AM) Subcommittee

January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 9:00am –10:30am, Zoom Meeting

(Underline indicates decision point; **bold** are action items)

**Attending:** Richard Brocksmith (SWC, co-chair), Greg Hood (SRSC co-chair), Jeff Fisher (SCL), Bob Warinner (WDFW), Rick Hartson (Upper Skagit Indian Tribe), Aundrea McBride (SWC, notes)

**Absent:** Jen O’Neal (Natural Systems Design)

**Guests:** Mike LeMoine (SRSC), Cole Webster (WDFW), Jessica Pease (WDFW), Justin Spinelli (WDFW), Hannah Liss (PSP)

## Beginning Business

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- Draft Agenda approved with the addition of reviewing this subcommittee’s structure/chairs
- Approved November 2021 notes (moved by Jeff, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob, all approved)

## WDFW Presentation on warm water fish predation of salmon study

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WDFW proposes to study warm water (non-native) fish predation of smolts in Big Lake and WRIA 10 lakes to evaluate the effectiveness of current fishing regulations on minimizing predation of salmon.

- Liberalized harvest regulations have probably resulted in smaller warm water fish which tend to eat more smolts than larger fish, driving up predation of smolts. They plan to study this.
- Goal is to ‘fine tune’ regulations to improve smolt production.
- Eradication of warm water fish is on the table as outcome.
- Seeking \$50,000 from Skagit lead entity and support at regional level to compete for monitoring funds.
- Jessica is point person.

## 2022 Monitoring Project/s

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- The warm water fish study is not eligible for Skagit monitoring funds because it does not meet the criteria in the Program Guide. **Aundrea will write a letter to Jessica.**
- **The committee will review the 4 YWP and other potential projects and bring proposals to the table at next meeting.**
- The committee reaffirms that a nondiscretionary set aside is recommended for the RFP because monitoring is a fundamental component of any capital program. **This will be relayed to the Board.**

## Pocket Estuary Map to accompany changes to Strategic Approach

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Mike reviewed the salmon data and advises the map include Bowman Bay (same as drafted by the TWG). All agree.

## Subcommittee Structure

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- Mike will be joining the subcommittee as co-chair. Greg will be technical advisor.
- Several options to consider: Rick as co-chair, Bob as co-chair.
- **Decision at next meeting, to propose to the Board**

## Science Series (4S)

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- Dates are set, first session Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Eric Beamer and Mike meeting with Bob McClure and Casey Ruff to work on outline
- **We need a run through meeting early next week**

Adjourn 10:23