

Final Notes, Skagit Watershed Council Technical Work Group (TWiG) February 18, 2021, 1:00pm-3:00pm

(decisions underlined, **action items in bold**)

Attendees: All participated by Zoom meeting. Alison Studley (SFEG, Chair), Bob Warinner (WDFW), Rick Hartson (Upper Skagit Indian Tribe), Doug Bruland (PSE), Aundrea McBride (SWC), Regina Wandler (Skagit Land Trust), Jeff Fisher (Seattle City Light), Emily Derenne (Skagit County)

Absent: Jeremy Gilman (USFS), Tom Slocum (Skagit Conservation District)

Guests: Richard Brocksmith (SWC)

Beginning Business

Agenda review

Introductions and check-in

Approve January notes: Accepted as submitted

Committee Reports

Board of Directors (Richard)

- Approved Peter Browning nomination to the Board and forwarded to general membership for vote
- Approved RFP and Program Guide as recommended by TWiG and M&AM
- Continued discussion of adaptive management policy and revised draft
- Deferred returned funds allocation to TWiG
- Discussed legislative priorities letter that goes out today

Protection subcommittee did not meet

M&AM Subcommittee

- Approved M&AM report (without Eric's revisions) as a usable document
- Recommended \$50,000 set aside for monitoring
- Discussed state/regional monitoring process issues
- Got a heads up that an effectiveness monitoring project is coming in this round

Old Business

Returned PSAR funds for Britt and Ovenell

- Still waiting on bids due back next week. **Aundrea will send around an update when they come in.**
- Decision deferred until that information has come in. Possible special zoom meeting to decide on allocation or wait until next TWiG meeting.
- SWC still committed to trying to get both projects funded in full.

Adaptive Management policy discussion

- Various sponsors are looking at the policy and doing a hypothetical run through of existing or theoretical AM projects to test the policy.
- State does not allow revolving funds or have an AM policy at this time.
- **Aundrea will make a flow chart for this.**
- No AM project coming in this year that we know of so we have time to develop the policy methodically.
- **Bob asked for SWC support of Wiley proposal as it goes before the legislature for funding. This is a discussion point for next meeting.**

Sauk Plan

- SWC is choosing NSD as contractor. TWiG members support that decision.
- TWiG will be involved in the project as reviewer of products and input at decision points.

Sauk Protection Strategy Methods

- See powerpoint presentation.
- TWiG recommends treating Sauk parcels as a separate dataset from mainstem or tributary datasets
- Some kind of hybrid model is needed to account for the high variability in channel location for Sauk.
- **Aundrea will pull together historic photos and possible CMZ to look at a probability/frequency model for channel locations.**

New Business

4YWP

- This is due in August now and includes the Planned Project forecast List required by RCO so TWiG will have to consider earlier in the year (by June due to grant round schedule)
- The list has been updated to account for the results of last year's grant round.
- Call for project updates and new project ideas, to be completed via email.

Estuary Projects Map

- Estuary projects currently in active or conceptual phases are shown on map to be used planning next steps and securing/holding onto funding.
- **Need sponsors to edit/approve text descriptions.**
- Ken D. is using this and other maps to try to move discussions forward with farmers.

Other Announcements/Updates

- Hobbits Corner is getting a temporary bridge.
- South Fork is experiencing delays due to permit issues.

Adjourn 3:00