

Final Notes, Skagit Watershed Council Technical Work Group (TWiG) February 17th, 2022 1:00pm-2:30pm

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

Attendees: Alison Studley (SFEG, Chair), Bob Warinner (WDFW), Aundrea McBride (SWC), Regina Wandler (Skagit Land Trust), Doug Bruland (PSE), Colin Wahl (SRSC), Rick Hartson (Upper Skagit Indian Tribe), Emily Derenne (Skagit County), Jeff Fisher (Seattle City Light), Tom Slocum (Skagit Conservation District)

Absent: Jeremy Gilman (USFS)

Guests: Richard Brocksmith (SWC), Hannah Liss (PSP ERC), Adam Airoidi

Beginning Business

Introductions and check-in

Agenda review-no additions

Approved January notes as presented, motion by Bob, second by Regina, approved unanimously.

Riparian Restoration Presentation

Adam Airoidi presented updates on two successful riparian restoration projects

- Lower Day Slough, owner by Seattle City Light, was planted in 2016 and has been undergoing maintenance. They used companion planting to good outcome. Removed a lot of trash from the site.
- Marblemount Boat Launch was originally planted in 2008 (7 acres) and expanded to 12 acres.

Committee Reports

Board

- Regular Board meeting discussed Strategic Approach and Program Guide with no decision. Set a special meeting to finalize.
- Special meeting approved the Strategic Approach but not the Program Guide. The RFP was approved to go out with the 2021 Program Guide updated with new dates and timeline. USIT want changes to the SWC bylaws to be considered, changing the structure of the Board and method for approving tribal representatives on the Board, along the lines of the county's proposal from December meeting. **The TWG recommends onboarding process for new Board members includes presentations by TWG and subcommittee chairs.**

Protection Subcommittee

- Greenlighted one property
- Looking at the Sauk Protection Strategy parcel map

- Approved the Approval Process for Restorable Lands with one change after focus group edits regarding how restoration planning is paid for. See agenda item below.

M&AM Subcommittee

- Received presentation about warm water fish predation on salmonids. Decided our monitoring requirements were not a match for funding this work.
- Approved Whidbey Basin map for Tier 2 pocket estuaries.

Watershed Leads (Regional group)

- PSP is available to present results in the State of the Sound report to our committees or membership if desired.
- The Climate Action Team is available to help us develop climate change components to include in next year's Strategic Approach or Program Guide.

Approval Process for Restorable Lands

- We did some wordsmithing of the document. See track changes version. **This version will be sent around for more edits.**
- We discussed how the restoration planning will be paid for. This needs to involve RCO. **Richard and Aundrea will follow up with RCO staff.**

Grant Round updates

- The RFP went out. Letters of Intent are due March 11th.
- **We need to discuss which one project SWC will put forward for the Targeted Investment funding.**

Implementing 2022 Strategic Approach

- **Discussion tabled**

Announcements and Updates

- Riparian Incentives project is moving ahead with an approved work plan. **Richard will include on next agenda**

Adjourn 2:34

Upcoming TWG Meetings:

May 3-5 site visits

May 4 Skagit Salmon Science Series

May 19 regular TWG meeting

June 8 Council Membership meeting, Science Series, and sponsor presentations

June 16 regular TWG meeting

July 14 TRC followed by TWG