

Skagit Watershed Council
Technical Working Group - January 16, 2014
Meeting Notes - Final

Attendance: Rick Hartson, Devin Smith, Phil Kincare, Doug Bruland, Richard Brocksmith, Micah Wait, Bob Warinner, Jeff McGowan, Ed Connor, Martha Bray, Leah Kintner, with Concrete Mayor Jason Miller and Cody Hart as guests

Agenda and December meeting notes approved.

Project updates:

- Similk Beach has been rescoped since last year's grant round in light of the recent acquisition, and is ready to be resubmitted by Skagit River System Cooperative. TWG agreed by unanimous consensus to expedite review so work can get started on this project ASAP. ***Richard to work with Devin to outline necessary materials and timeline.**
- Fir Island Farm project is under design, but local and state review of 60% and 100% designs needs to occur in 2014 in preparation for obligating funds by September. TWG agreed to review locally in June and July and recommend or not to Board of Director's in August. ***Richard to work with partners to outline timeline and process.**

Committee updates included Protection Subcommittee beginning to update SWC habitat protection strategy and conduct site visits, while Monitoring Subcommittee reported on progress on Adaptive Management and Monitoring program.

Richard provided a brief update on Board discussions and actions.

2015-2017 Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration proposed changes from Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) were discussed. TWG was comfortable with incorporating "large capital" project process into regular 2014 SRFB grant round, while recognizing the level of detail may not be mature at that early stage. TWG was not certain however that the more typical "representative" list of projects could be firmly identified in 2014 as requested, given limited sponsor capacity, project availability, and project details. TWG agreed to support a limited vetting of project concepts in summer 2014 to improve certainty of "representative" list of projects to be submitted to PSP, following additional 3 year work plan improvements. ***Richard to refine and distribute timeline of various grant processes, and begin work on updating 2014 LE Program Guide.**

The TWG continued updating the 3 year work program (3ywp) by first reviewing and discussing the Puget Sound Recovery Implementation Technical Team's (RITT) review of the 2013 3ywp. Please see synopsis provided for highlights of RITT review. Some basic observations that were generally reflected in the conversation included keep doing more of the same; the priority tributaries needing more work than currently planned; Tier 3 habitats needing additional analysis to determine impact on downstream

priorities; regulatory conditions needing review relative to the recovery plan; and continued “all-H” integration.

The TWG began reviewing projects on the 2013 3ywp, covering about 4 projects in detail. ***Richard to follow up with major project sponsors in the next few weeks and bring a more complete updated version of the draft 2014 3ywp back to TWG on February 20.**

Meeting adjourned about 4pm.