

Meeting Notes from WRIA 10/12 CAC/TAG Meeting

January 8, 2009, 4:00 to 6:00pm

Tacoma Mall Office Bldg., 4th Floor Conference Room

1. Introductions – those present included: Hans Berge, Bob Burkle, Karen Chang, Russ Ladley, Ron Larson, Bart Madison, Tom Nelson, Lorin Reinelt, Mike Rhubright, Barbara Ann Smolko, Keith Underwood, Carl Ward

2. Updates and Information Sharing

- a. Puget Sound Partnership – The final Action Agenda was released on December 1, 2008. It is available online at http://www.psp.wa.gov/aa_action_agenda.php. The draft recommendations from the local integration task force were also released in December. Finally, the governor's proposed budget has \$33M for Puget Sound acquisition and restoration (PSAR) and \$8-10M for ESRP (estuary and salmon restoration). There is also some potential for economic stimulus funding from state and federal sources to help support projects going to construction in 2009 (e.g., Greenwater ELJ, Boise Creek restoration). Russ noted that there is also potential for WSDOT mitigation funds (up to \$200,000) related to conveyance improvements on Clay Creek at SR-410.
- b. TAG Review/Tiering of Projects – The TAG met in October and November to visit project sites (for unranked projects) on the 3-year list. In October, the TAG evaluated marine nearshore projects in WRIA 12 (Sequalitchew, Solo Point, Chambers Bay, Titlow) and in November, the TAG evaluated possible levee setbacks on the Puyallup River at South Fork and Union Pacific, as well as a rearing pond proposal for Puget Creek. TAG ranked projects as tier 1 (Solo Point, South Fork, Union Pacific) or tier 2 (Sequalitchew, Chambers Bay, Puget Creek).
- c. Community Salmon Fund Applications – Seven CSF grant applications were submitted for review. A committee is scheduled to review the projects in late-January and make recommendations for funding.
- d. Large Woody Debris Letter for King County – The TAG drafted a LWD letter for King County and provided comments and feedback to the CAC for assistance in finalizing the letter. Keith agreed to develop a draft LWD letter for CAC approval.
- e. Watershed Leads Retreat and Salmon Recovery Council Priorities – Lorin distributed two handouts: (1) results from the watershed leads November retreat that lists near-term actions (for 2009) and priority conversations to initiate in the coming year; and (2) priorities of the Salmon Recovery Council.
- f. Upcoming Events – Keith noted that there are a lot of upcoming events: (1) South Sound Symposium, (2) AFS Chapter meeting, (3) SRFB projects conference, and (4) Puget Sound Georgia Basin conference. There may be potential to have a WRIA 10/12 booth at one of these events. The legislative day in Olympia for lead entities is also scheduled for March 10.
- g. TAG workshop/download – Tom noted that the TAG meeting on Jan. 13 will focus on the levee setback feasibility study and the NOAA biological opinion on the NFIP program. CAC members are welcome to attend if interested.

3. PSAR Capacity Grant Activities – Future Project Development and Marketing

Lorin reported on the activities of the future project development and marketing ad-hoc committees. In November, there was an RFP distributed requesting applications for

“future project development” funds (due Dec. 19) for reach-level or project specific funding. Eleven applications were received and a committee of two TAG and two CAC members evaluated and ranked the applications. Six projects were recommended for funding: (1) South Prairie Creek restoration and salmon trail design, (2) reach analysis and Calistoga setback levee, (3) Sumner setback levee on Puyallup River, (4) 24th Street setback levee (Sumner), (5) Chambers Bay habitat restoration project, and (6) Clearwater River reach assessment. The total funding for these projects is \$69,000. In response to questions, Lorin gave a little more background on the Sumner projects and the cost differential (e.g., why one request for levee setback feasibility was \$10,000 and the other was \$4,000). Orting asked for “reach level” funding for the Calistoga setback levee to examine both sides of the creek and look downstream to Horse Haven Creek; this was partly in response to TAG issues raised during the 2008 funding round. Bob made a motion to approve the top six projects for funding as recommended by the ad-hoc review committee. **The CAC approved the top six projects (totaling \$69,000) through consensus and recommended re-allocation of the additional \$9,000 from other tasks.**

Habitat Engineering technical assistance (HETA) support is available from WDFW. The Pierce County lead entity has been allocated 147 hours of WDFW engineering time. Requests are to be made through Bob Burkle, the watershed steward. Time is available through June 30, 2009, but this may be extended through December. The WRIA 10/12 lead entity needs to decide how to allocate this time to projects. After considerable discussion about whether or how to limit potential applicants or projects, **the CAC agreed to open the hours to any project that came forward**, including those on the 3-year project list, applications for the next round of funding, and possible future projects to be proposed for inclusion on the 3-year list. **Hours will be limited between 8 and 40 hours for a given project.** Lorin will send out a request to the email list, requesting proposals (# of hours requested and description of what support is needed). The intent is to approve projects for WDFW HETA support at the Feb. meeting.

The marketing committee planned the new project sponsor workshop held on November 20, 2008. We had a good turnout of potential new sponsors; there was a lot of good feedback about the information presented at the meeting. Other items being planned by the marketing committee include: (1) completion of a brochure for the WRIA 10/12 salmon recovery effort and a possible twice-yearly newsletter, and (2) promotion and planning for ribbon-cuttings for completed projects (new projects in 2009 include Greenwater River restoration, Boise Creek mouth restoration, and the Morey pond fish bypass project).

3. Update of the 3-year Project List and Narrative

Lorin distributed a draft process and schedule for update of the 3-year project list and narrative by April 2009. The process will be similar to that followed last year, but there will be more time. This is expected to start in Feb.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:05pm

Next meeting will be February 5, 4-6pm, at the Pierce County TMOB.