



WRIA 6 Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee Meeting

May 17, 2023

Member Participants: Jessica Côté (Blue Coast Engineering), Kristin M (SCD), Katie W(Land Trust), Kurt S(Land Trust) Todd Zackey (Tulalip, Co-Chair), Eric Mickelson (part of meeting), Barbara Brock (Citizen, Co-Chair), Fred Kiga, Scott Chaplin (part of meeting), Lee Chavez, Ashley Kees (WDFW), Renee Zavas Silva (ICCAO), James Watson (WICD) **Others:** Clea Barenburg (LE Coordinator), Jessica Reed (Watershed Planner IC DNR), Sage Ince (ICDNR), Jen Schmitz (ICDNR manager)

Introductions & Presentations

Meeting is called to order and introductions begin with new hybrid set up with some members present and some online using the OWL set up.

PSP- staff turnover and Matt attending briefly for Hannah

LIO – Clea covering LIO and new coordinator just starting and introduced Jen Schmitz. Shellfish SIL liaison assigned to the committee but no exact person yet (expected in June). Jen will be attending ECB for Commissioner St. Claire.

MRC- upcoming projects to conduct a similar survey to that done by the friends of the San Juans on hard armoring and change over time with percentage of permitted and unpermitted work

<https://sanjuans.org/2022/11/17/course-correction-needed-for-rapidly-changing-shorelines/> Update on monitoring at Cornet Bay <https://www.islandcountymrc.org/projects/cornet-bay-restoration/>

Clea- Mini grants: Still determining details of 2 10k contracts and what went wrong with the process. Priority 2 Report – PW seeking feedback on report form SRTCC so they can update/improve report. Clea has asked for group feedback, please see past meeting emails and minutes. Working on setting up a meeting for GIS review.

Scott COG comments: If we could only fund one, Crescent would be it. Would like to give some funds to all for public perception? Explained that we have to work within Grant Round for this year.

Camano Country Club update

- Kristin gives update on Camano CC proposal with request for comments and input. Clea has sent out PRSIM snapshot for review. Some committee members will submit comments. If information is needed from SRTCC Kristin will request to Clea and she will send out information to the group and determine if another subcommittee meeting is needed.
- If you would like to review documents associated with this project or watch the presentation that was done for the subcommittee group, then please use this link to the snapshot- Snapshot of Camano CC Tide gate Feasibility and Preliminary Design
<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/projectsnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=18-1382>
- June 6th community meeting. Kristin needs comments before June 8. Barbara had questions on community support of projects. Questions about increasing bulkhead and demonstration of need.
- Barbara had some questions about the permitting process for the tide gate and bulkhead
- Jessica Cote stated that projects without resounding support from the community were not ranking well
- Todd & Ashley both offered to help, meet with Kristin to give feedback and offer advice

Todd Zackey and Barbara Brock approve minutes, Lee Chavez moves to approve, and no one apposes.

- Clea reports that meetings will be on June 21 and July 26.
- Membership- Paul Williams recommended by SWS for replacing. Approved by committee.

- Vacant local business position; Clea reached out to Watershed Company/DCG. Doug Kelly has left the committee and now we need a community member. Questions asked on committee list and diversity.
- Discussed any conflict of interests not ranking/voting on projects that they would be personally involved with.
- Scott Chaplin – does not have a lot of time, does his position need to be mayor of Langley?
 - Needs to be COG, so someone in a similar status
 - Will stay on until someone else can potentially take over
- Clea – make sure anyone who is planning on leaving/changing to please let her know.
- Potential future projects for culverts from PW were presented briefly (Maxwelton and Midvale)
- Todd does not recommend these be put forward for SRFB funds. Possibly for fish passage, but SRFB would be wasting time

- Ranking discussion:
- Mid Crescent ranked the highest & cleared by RCO
- Todd- votes not to move forward with Deer Creek.
Humphrey too far from mouth, and something needs to be worked out with the homeowners at the mouth before anything can move forward
Penn Cove – need to address opening a little higher on the creek, push the sea level rise component in proposal.
Not enough habitat opening with just one culvert (at Penn Cove)
- Barbara – agrees with Todd
- Jessica C – If RCO feels the project is inadequate, then SRFB may lose all money that was voted to fund bad projects
- Can/Should use funds to fund something else instead? Cost overruns of existing projects can be funded or loan to Whidbey basin.
- Todd – Should not go against RCO recommendations
- Eric – Feels Deer Creek could be a gateway to open habitat further upstream, vs just turning the mouth into habitat, but the Humphrey drop is substantial and difficult to see successful right now
- Barbara – Sea level rise could turn Deer Creek project into a much bigger project down the road
- Todd – Project is important (Deer) but proposal not addressing site constrictions with property owners
- Culvert suggestion – perhaps look at mini grant to survey priority area culverts and assess what ones are fish feasible.

- Moving forward:
 - Send recommendation for Crescent
 - Wait for updates of the 3 POC's
 - See what the RCO panel says before SRTCC “final discussion”
 - If projects come out of POC status then SRTCC will reconsider decision
 - Reach out to currently active projects to see if they need leftover funds, how much, and why
 - June – Talk about extra funding remaining, future projects, increasing funding on projects
- Ranking
 - Penn Cove – last year was highest ranking at prescore time
 - Maxwelton project did not get funded last year
 - How many have ranked last year vs this year of the committee all projects above 20 points
 - Even if all projects were funded, looks like there would be extra funds

Project listings-

- RCO status- cleared

Middle Crescent Harbor Creek:

<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=23-1081>

- RCO status- all 3 POC's

Scenic Heights Penn Cove Culvert No.

3345:<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=23-1086>

Humphrey Rd Deer Creek Culvert No. 281 :

<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=23-1084>

Deer Creek Mouth :

<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=23-1085>

Criteria	Score			
	Deer Mouth	Humphrey Rd 281	Scenic Heights Rd 3345	Middle Crescent Creek
Areas & Ecosystem Components (10)	8.36	5.09	8.82	6.91
Watershed Processes & Actions (10)	5.18	4.55	6.18	8.45
Costs (10)	5.73	4.91	5.09	8.18
Certainty of Success (15)	3.82	5.18	5.18	11.36
Climate Resiliency Considerations (5)	3.45	4.09	3.73	6.91
Totals	26.55	23.82	29.00	41.82
Finals totals average	26.18181818	23.90909091	28.90909091	39.36363636
Last year			41.3	

- Whidbey Basin project review and considerations- Clea to meet with Whidbey Basin LEs
Skagit ranking – site visits coming up. Looks like they would be short.
Snohomish – has a lot of fed money. Looks like they will be short.
Stilly – Also short.
- Clea - have opportunity to clear with committee after projects are updated.
 - Deer Creek Mouth – need input from owners.
 - Reminder of the need to do feasibility study to even find out what is possible, it is still conceptual.

Administrative

- The April meeting minutes and agenda were approved.
- Membership: Paul Williams who is approved by Sound Water Stewards moved forward to BOCC for approval. Doug Kelly has left the committee and needs to be replaced.
- Future Meetings – June 21 and July 26th
 - Meeting adjourned a little after 4pm