Meeting Summary
Stillaguamish Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
March 14th, 2017
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Stillaguamish Tribe Natural Resources Building

Attendance:

Members present: Chris Stewart, Derek Marks, Jessica Cote, Kristin Marshall, Jason Griffith, , , Jason Griffith, Paul Marczin, Kirk Lakey, Mary Lou White and Greg Johnson

Guests: Tim Hyatt, Amee Bahr

Snohomish County staff: Kit Crump, Bob Bernhard

1. **Welcome, Introductions, Review Agenda, Approve Meeting Summary**
   Kit Crump called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.
   The agenda was approved.
   The previous meeting summary was approved.

2. **North Sound Riparian Modeling and Monitoring Update**
   (Tim Hyatt, Skagit River Systems Cooperative, thyatt@skagitcoop.org)
   Tim gave an overview on their Riparian Modeling and Monitoring efforts that are part of their proposed NTA.
   - Building LiDAR riparian model inputs
   - DNR LiDAR—Skagit, parts of the Stilly and Nooksack—will be available soon on the DNR LiDAR portal
   - LiDAR point cloud = individual points taken that need to be classified (e.g., tree, water, bldg., etc.)
     - Additional data available within a point cloud that currently isn't being utilized
     - Color by elevation shows good initial distinction (e.g., trees, water)
   - Use buffers to separate out vegetation along the riparian zone to determine height:distance (H:D) ratio for LWD contributions
     - Riparian zones contribute the least amount of LWD in ag land use (compared H:D ratios by land use)
     - 70% H:D failure throughout the watershed
   - Use hillshade to determine where shadows hit the water
     - Greatest shade on N-S segments and narrow stretches
     - Modeled shade with heights of 100yr old firs = improved shading
     - Can be used to help plan where to restore vegetation for improved shading
   - Model uses

    - Where are riparian zones currently inadequate (what regulations are necessary to improve)?
    - Where are riparian functions actually decreasing (natural or anthropogenic)?
    - Which riparian zone improvements will result in the greatest increase in shade or LWD if restored?
    - Input to temperature model
- Status and trends monitoring
    - Change in LWD recruitment
    - Change detection in shade
    - Actual vs potential for shade and LWD recruitment
    - Byproducts: enhanced channel and riparian delineations, calculating channel edge, habitat typing, etc.
- Use LiDAR to identify LWD
    - Bare earth for stream and hillshade (remove canopy elevations, anything above 12 ft.) to produce LWD within the stream

3. <u>eDNA Update</u> (MaryLou)

Mary Lou gave an update, 2017 eDNA pilot project (Phase II)

- 2 spring and 2 fall sampling events per site
    - 3 wells/samples taken per event at each site
- Sampled in 2017 and 2018
    - <u>2017 results</u>
    - Not all sites were sampled 4 times
    - Chinook Detected (D)/Not Detected (ND)
        - ND – Deer and Bjorndahl creek (by Pilchuck creek)
        - D – all other creeks sampled
    - Bull trout
        - D – Bjorndahl creek, Ashton and Squire creeks
        - ND – all other creeks
    - Rainbow trout/Steelhead
        - D – everywhere it was sampled
        - Ashton creek not examined
- WDFW will accept eDNA data for fish use, regulatory process does not acknowledge the eDNA use
    - Mary Lou will send emails about % determination, a second email from WDFW about accepting eDNA data, and a third email about the site used along Deer creek
- Jeff Duda (USGS)/Elhwa work – He has the most comprehensive study of salmon recolonization following dam removal. Kit will forward his paper to TAG if it is available and ask him if he would be willing to present to the TAG at some future date.

4. <u>Legislative Update</u> (Kit)

Kit gave an update on bills related to the supplemental capital and operating budgets with others mentioning the Net Pen Bill that passed.

- **Atlantic salmon Net Pens:** The Legislature spent many hours in committee and on the floor debating the regulatory framework around net pen aquaculture in Washington State. In the end, lawmakers passed HB 2957 to phase out all commercial net pen aquaculture facilities that raise non-native species, such as Atlantic salmon. The bill provides funding ($65,000) for the Department to work with Ecology to update the state guidance on net pen aquaculture and assist with increased assessments of structural integrity at existing facilities until they are phased out in 2022.
    - There were questions related to how this might impact opportunities for native fish to be raised in net pens.
- **Southern Resident Killer Whale Recovery:** Lawmakers did not approve proposed legislation on killer whale recovery, which would have further regulated the speed of marine vessels and prevented vessels from disturbing these endangered marine mammals. However, the operating budget provided significant funding for increased enforcement patrols to reduce marine vessel noise around whales ($548,000), increased Chinook production to supplement their prey base ($1.6 million), increased juvenile salmon survival through new fish screens ($30,000), and funding for the facilitation of a taskforce to identify early actions necessary to recover these iconic species ($115,000).
- **Puget Sound Steelhead Early Marine Survival:** The Legislature provided $790,000 for the last phase of the Puget Sound Steelhead Early Marine Survival Study. This funding will allow the Department to wrap up research into the key limiting factors for steelhead survival in the Puget Sound and begin looking into appropriate management actions to address them.

5. **<u>SRFB and NTA Review Update</u>** (Kit)

Kit described the SRFB and NTA process. Salmon draft applications in PRISM are due March 19th. The site visits will be on April 9-10. NTAs are due on March 30th. NTA review locally will occur between mid-April and early May.

- SRFB reviewers are Chris, Paul, Frank and Mary Lou
    - Looking for more reviewers
    - Same reviewers for NTAs
- June TAG have official scores to present to the June SWC
- Early submittal gives author time to tweak their proposal
- PSAR large cap reviews (Paul and Jason)
- Chinook regional priority NTAs
    - Fish passage NTAs and others (~45 NTA reviews)
        - Tiered by Kit and Pat and presented to the TAG in the future

6. **<u>Updates</u>** (Kit, All)
    - Floodplains by Design applicants or their proxies presented their projects to the SWC on February 28th.
        - April TAG will learn how the Floodplains by Design (FbD) package went through
        - Feedback from ECY by 3/16 if we're asked to submit a full proposal
        - List of projects
            - Sound salmon solutions: Grant creek
            - Sno Co: LWD at Jim Creek
            - Sno Co: North Meander
            - Stilly Tribe: Far Pastures/Trafton floodplain acquisition
            - Stilly Tribe: Gold Basin
            - Stilly Tribe: Smolt trap monitoring
            - Tulalip Tribe: Marth Creek/Warm Beach pocket estuary (Greenwood creek and Lake Martha outfall)
            - SCD: Riparian Confluence
            - TNC: Modeling and adaptive management to support TNC Port Susan Bay Dike Setback Project
            - WFS: Trail to Ice Caves (raise boardwalk structure). Not a good SRFB fit.

7. **<u>Announcements, New Business</u>** (All)
    a. Jason Griffith: Billy Frank Salmon Summit 3/19
    b. Kirk Lacey: Concerning Floodplains by Design (Diking and Drainage District 7 (DD7) proposal, meeting with DD7 to discuss plans (footprint and property lines, especially on the bay side of the dike)
    c. Amee Bahr: SRFB, presenting the zis a ba project

The meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: April 11th, 2018 at the Stillaguamish Tribe Natural Resources Office (Large Conference Room).