

Carnation

Duvall

King County

North Bend

Skykomish

Snoqualmie

Snoqualmie Tribe

Tulalip Tribes

SNOQUALMIE WATERSHED FORUM

June 1, 2020

Councilmember Dave Upthegrove, Chair King County Flood Control District 516 3rd Avenue, Room 1200 Seattle, WA 98104



RE: Snoqualmie Watershed Forum Funding Recommendations for 2020 Cooperative Watershed Management Grants

Dear Chair Upthegrove,

On behalf of the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum (Forum), I would like to express my gratitude to the King County Flood Control District (FCD) for supporting our important regional salmon recovery work. The Forum is a partnership of elected officials, citizens and representatives from conservation organizations supporting salmon recovery and ecological health in the Snoqualmie and South Fork Skykomish Watersheds (spanning the King County portion of Water Resource Inventory Area 7). Member governments include King County, the Snoqualmie Tribe, Tulalip Tribes, the cities of Duvall, Carnation, North Bend and Snoqualmie, and the Town of Skykomish.

I would like to present the attached Forum funding recommendations for the 2020 Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grant Program funded through the FCD. The projects and programs on the list have been vetted according to King County's CWM Grant Program rules and procedures. The recommended projects and programs have also been thoroughly reviewed and prioritized by our local Project Review Committee and approved by the Forum on May 20, 2020.

Through the 2020 CWM Grant Program, the Forum received \$1,983,776 to allocate to high-priority salmon recovery projects and programs. In this grant round, we received 22 proposals for a total request of over \$2.5 million, resulting in an approximately \$524,775 funding shortfall.

Of the 22 proposals received, we recommend funding for 21 of the proposals. These grant funds help implement critical salmon recovery priorities called for in the Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan, including habitat restoration projects, watershed education and sustaining critical capital project coordination activities. Many of our high priority salmon restoration projects also provide multiple benefits, including flood hazard risk reduction, water quality improvements and landowner stewardship.

As you know, our efforts in WRIA 7 are part of the overall regional effort to recover threatened Puget Sound Chinook salmon as well as other salmonids, and we have been engaged with our partners in that effort for over 20 years. These CWM funds are a crucial component of our habitat acquisition and restoration funding that allows us to move important salmon recovery projects forward. If you have any questions, please contact Cory Zyla, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum Project Coordinator, at (206) 263-8353.

Sincerely,

Cindy Spiry - Forum Chair Snoqualmie Tribe ENR Henry Sladek – Forum Vice-Chair Town of Skykomish Councilmember

Cc: Michelle Clark, Executive Director, King County Flood Control District

Josh Baldi, Director, King County Water and Land Resources Division

Kim Harper, King County, Grant Program Administrator

Elissa Ostergaard, Snoqualmie Watershed Salmon Recovery Manager