

# Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood 2.0 Implementation Oversight Committee

## DRAFT MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020  
9:00 am to 11:00 am (scheduled)  
Video Conference Call via King County Zoom Account

Committee Members Present (Y/N)					
<i>* = denotes caucus co-chair</i>					
Fish Caucus		Farm Caucus		Flood Caucus	
Cindy Spiry, Snoqualmie Tribe* <i>(proxy: Matt Baerwalde - Y)</i>	Y	Josh Monaghan, King Conservation District*	Y	Angela Donaldson, Fall City Community Association*	Y
Denise Krownbell, Snohomish Forum	N	Cynthia Krass, Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance	Y	Stuart Lisk, City of Carnation	N
Mike Remington, Snoqualmie Forum	Y	Bobbi Lindemulder, farmer	Y	Lara Thomas, City of Duvall	Y
Micah Wait, Wild Fish Conservancy	Y	Meredith Molli, Agriculture Commission	Y		
Daryl Williams, Tulalip Tribes <i>(proxy: Kurt Nelson - N)</i>	Y	Dave Glenn, Sno Valley Tilth	Y		
Ex Officio Members Present (Y/N)					
Gary Bahr, WSDA	N	Brendan Brokes, WDFW <i>(proxy: Stewart Reinbold - N)</i>	N		
Josh Baldi, KC DNRP	Y	Tom Buroker, WDOE <i>(proxy: Joe Burcar - N)</i>	N		

### 1) Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review *(Tamie Kellogg, Josh Monaghan)*

- **Call to Order:** Ms. Kellogg called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.
- **Welcome:**
  - Beth leDoux welcomed Dave Glenn, the new director and representative for Sno Valley Tilth.
  - Mr. Monaghan said this meeting is his last as a co-chair. He attributed the “special” nature of FFF to its collaborative and diverse membership, and a clear focus on seeking mutual goals. He acknowledged the County’s leadership role in FFF, noting early trust challenges between the County and the Agriculture Commission. He also noted that progress on drainage should remain key in the evolution and sustainment of FFF. He continued that while the original agreement is the foundation of FFF’s work, as time moves forward it becomes crucial for the IOC to consider flexibility of certain elements in the agreement. He encouraged the IOC to focus on goals and be flexible in tactics to achieve them.
- **Native Lands Acknowledgement:** Mr. Monaghan led IOC members in acknowledging the native lands they reside on, noting the act’s significance as a way to show respect to native peoples.
- **Rotating Check-In – Fish Caucus:**
  - Mike Remington thanked Mr. Monaghan for his words. He reported there are several fish projects now in motion, and that elected officials are starting to recognize key issues for salmon recovery. Alluvial fans and their impacts on fish are being considered. He said while much work remains, the three FFF caucuses are stronger when they work together.
  - Cindy Spiry agreed with Mr. Remington that collaboration and partnerships are essential to FFF success. She noted the recent refocusing of the Flood Control District (FCD) on multi-benefit efforts as an FFF success, and that future engagement in FFF from the FCD would be positive. She praised the buffer task force’s work as a huge win.
  - Micah Wait noted the County’s Fall City Floodplain Restoration Project ranks first in the Floodplains by Design funding list, and there have been other funding “wins” as well.
  - Daryl Williams agreed with prior comments and praised the collaborative nature of the IOC.

## 2) Drainage – Progress to Date (*Beth leDoux, Josh Baldi*)

- **King County Commitment to Integrate Drainage Program/Comprehensive Drainage**

Ms. leDoux introduced the County’s Integrated Drainage program, formerly “Comprehensive Drainage” or “Comp D.” She said the issue has become larger than comprehensive drainage, as it needs to address regulatory and capital issues in unlocking drainage concerns and could have impacts outside farming.

Mr. Baldi said drainage is often named to him as the main barrier to productive land in King County. To address it will take changes on both operational and code levels: not just working across the Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD), but with Department of Local Services’ (DLS) permitting team. While the Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program (ADAP) should be continued, its impact should expand. Code changes will be a multi-year effort, but in the meantime, there are other projects to implement. He stressed the importance of FFF’s collaborative lessons as it will take a countywide effort to achieve code changes, as well as the need to assure clear conversations on what is being achieved on the ground.

- **Farm 2: Reflections on FFF Drainage Progress**

Bobbi Lindemulder observed the objective to “improve drainage, reduce costs and complexity of drainage projects, and increase certainty,” and complexity of connecting Point A to Point B in this regard. She said while there is no easy way to complete this process, it remains imperative to the agriculture community.

Cynthia Krass agreed there is continued frustration from the agriculture caucus on a lack of progress, but she is encouraged by work being done on the ground. This work is in significant part due to additional funding for the Watershed Improvement District (WID) from sources including the FCD. She continued that drainage work should circle back to the work of the buffers task force. She and Erin Ericson at the WID have discussed off-site mitigation as a nexus to coordinate restoration goals and activities, and buffers and the agriculture strategic plan. Libby Reed agreed this concept should be emphasized, that more coordination on this level will increase on-the-ground productivity.

- **Discussion/Q & A:** There were no further discussions or questions on this agenda item.

## 3) Regulatory Task Force Transmittal to Executive (*Eric Beach*)

Mr. Beach reviewed a draft letter to transmit to the King County Executive reporting findings, accomplishments, and intended actions to pursue from the regulatory task force’s work. This includes: incidental take coverage, developing an off-site mitigation program, and moving the integrated drainage program forward. Several issue papers have been written and provided to the IOC and DLS Permitting for review, one of which is still awaiting final review at DLS. This is expected to be complete by the end of this month.

- **Discuss and Approve RTF Transmittal**

Several present suggested ways to emphasize or clarify existing points in the letter. Josh Baldi said in terms of informing the Executive, the letter should provide general understanding of how ideas are being implemented, including how to improve drainage and farmability, and ergo food productivity and salmon recovery. The Executive will receive further briefings on these issues. Josh Monaghan advised adding language about the “intersectionality” of these issues, as well as having a consistent framing language or template for each transmittal to the Executive.

Tamie Kellogg noted the IOC had already approved a vote to send this letter, and that today’s vote was on how to revise it. Mr. Monaghan motioned to have County staff work with caucus co-chairs on revisions and bring the letter back to the IOC later. Cindy Spiry seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

- **RTF Concurrence Memo Between WLRD and DLS:** This item was not discussed in today’s meeting.

## 4) IOC Member Recognition, Commitment and Co-Chair Discussion (*Tamie Kellogg, Josh Baldi*)

- **Service Recognition for Cynthia Krass and Josh Monaghan**

Mr. Baldi read, in full, two proclamations from the Executive recognizing Ms. Krass and Mr. Monaghan for their years of service to King County. The reading was followed by many thanks and comments to Ms. Krass and Mr. Monaghan from Mr. Baldi, IOC members, and staff.

- **IOC Members Share Commitment to Participate & Recommended Co-Chairs for 2021-22**

The IOC members discussed importance of co-chairs to this phase of FFF and possible nominees for 2021:

- **Fish:** Cindy Spiry voiced willingness to continue as caucus co-chair, but also to turn the role over to anyone wanting to take it on. She suggested following up on this discussion later this month as no final decision has yet been made.
- **Flood:** Angela Donaldson said she would be honored to continue as co-chair, and that fellow caucus member Lara Thomas supports this.
- **Farm:** Josh Monaghan said Erin Ericson of the Snoqualmie WID has been nominated for and is seriously considering the co-chair role. Bobbi Lindemulder and Meredith Molli have offered to be considered as a backup to that role. However, no final decision has been made.

**5) Celebrate FFF Progress (*Tamie Kellogg, All*)**

Ms. Kellogg prefaced that this time marks the end of the first three years of FFF, and a point at which the IOC needs to look back as well as look forward in its accomplishments. IOC members were sent and asked to review several documents summarizing these accomplishments. Beth leDoux added that these break-out discussions are meant to capture a “static shot” of how things are today, with hope of reminding everyone much remains to do while reflecting on what has been done.

● **Break-out Groups: Reflect on Progress and share FFF Success Stories**

IOC members were assigned randomly to several break-out rooms, and asked to spend several minutes answering and discussing the following questions:

- Looking back on the work for 2017-2020, how do you feel about the progress made so far?
- What’s your favorite part of serving on the IOC?

Full detailed notes from each break-out group were captured in a separate document.

● **Share-Out Results with Full IOC**

Representatives from each group reported the results of their break-out discussions:

- **Group 1:** N/A – Group 1 was the entire IOC.
- **Group 2:** All felt the understanding and collaboration of other involved parties have been the biggest outcomes they valued, and they are encouraged to continue this work.
- **Group 3:** Several issues were touched on, but a main point of consensus was the collaboration and understanding of different groups.
- **Group 4:** Understanding each other’s positions and working together to solve each other’s problems was a point that resonated for all, along with the value of caucuses and co-chairs.
- **Group 5:** This group agreed with others on the points of collaboration and other supportive measures.
- **Group 6:** All agreed this is a valuable process, which much learned and much to do. Some noted a need to focus on hard issues and not just easy ones; keep “eyes on the prize”; and for future inclusion of forestry interests in discussions, along with focus from the flood caucus on stormwater concerns.

Several follow-up observations were offered by staff and IOC members: the importance of keeping government grounded; the constant work of maintaining trust, transparency, and communication; the importance of continuing to tell stories of past and ongoing work to help trust-building. Josh Baldi finished by adding that this all helps the understanding of if certain processes are working; that co-creating multi-benefit solutions remains important, as well as working for the people and the land.

**6) Wrap-Up/Adjourn (*Beth leDoux, Tamie Kellogg*)**

Ms. leDoux asked IOC members to send her stories for the next quarterly FFF e-newsletter: stories they think would benefit the extended community who may want to hear how this work is going and how they can connect to it. The newsletter is expected in the first quarter of 2021.

Tamie Kellogg adjourned the meeting at 11:00 am.

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**Next IOC Meeting:** February 23, 2021, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm (Zoom video conference call)