

Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood Advisory Committee

Oct 7, 2020

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Zoom - Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=register/tZcudOCrrDwpGtNu0YVJ90IrySYYqxtXoqF6>

Facilitator: Tamie Kellogg

Meeting Purpose: IOC discussion and approval of RTF transmittal of their final recommendations. Provide and update and input to the Agriculture Strategic Plan timeline and table of contents.

3:00 – 3:15	1. Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Welcome from Co-Chair Angela Donaldsonb. Native Lands Acknowledgement<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Use native-lands.ca to find the native lands that you are standing on. Put response in chat box.c. Farming community sharing -How things are going for you this year?	Angela Donaldson All Farmer
3:15 – 3:25	2. FFF Q4 Workplan <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Share highlights <p>Materials: FFF Q4 Workplan</p>	Beth LeDoux
3:25- 3:45	3. Agricultural Strategic Plan Task Force <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. IOC review and provide input on the plan development timeline and table of contents. <p>Materials: Timeline and Ag Strat Plan Table of Contents</p>	Patrice Barrentine
3:45- 4:25	4. Regulatory Task Force Final Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Examined, Resolved, no Further Action (5 min including Q&A)b. Additional Work Needed (10 min including Q & A)c. New Recommendations - no additional action by the RTF (10 min including Q&A)d. Issues that cannot be meaningfully influenced by the RTF. (5 min including Q&A) <p>Materials: Regulatory Task Force Recommendations</p>	Eric Beach
4:25 – 4:40	4. Regulatory Task Force (RTF) Breakout group discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Discuss in mixed participant break out groups: Are you in agreement with the recommendations? Do you have any kudos you'd like to share with the RTF?	All
4:40 – 5:00	5. Full group discussion on RTF approval <p><i>IOC Decision Point: Regulatory Task Force recommendations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Do you concur with the RTF recommendations?b. Discuss steps for drafting IOC transmittal letter to the Executive, review? Co-chair signature.	All
5:00	6. Adjourned	

Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood 2.0 Implementation Oversight Committee

DRAFT MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

3:00 pm to 5:00 pm (scheduled)

Video Conference Call via King County Zoom Account

Committee Members Present (Y/N)					
* = denotes caucus co-chair					
Fish Caucus		Farm Caucus		Flood Caucus	
Cindy Spiry, Snoqualmie Tribe* (proxy: Matt Baerwalde - Y)	Y	Josh Monaghan, King Conservation District*	Y	Angela Donaldson, Fall City Community Association*	Y
Denise Krownbell, Snohomish Forum	Y	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 (proxy: Kurt Nelson - N)	Y	Libby Reed, Sno Valley Tilth	N		
Ex Officio Members Present (Y/N)					
Gary Bahr, WSDA	N	Brendan Brokes, WDFW (proxy: Stewart Reinbold - N)	Y		
Josh Baldi, KC DNRP	Y	Tom Buroker, WDOE (proxy: Joe Burcar - N)	Y		

1) Introductions/Welcome by Co-Chair/Agenda Review (Tamie Kellogg, Angela Donaldson)

- Call to Order: Ms. Kellogg called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.
- Welcome: Ms. Donaldson welcomed all. She noted while current budget times are difficult, there is optimism for the recent co-chairs' letters received by the Executive. She invited all to plug their location into the website www.native-land.ca to find the native lands they live on, and share/acknowledge the results with those present.
- Farmers' Check-in: Members of the farming community were invited to share how things are going for them this year. (This will be part of a rotating check-in for coming IOC meetings with farm, fish, and flood.) Bobbi Lindemulder said the season had been "crazy," between bad smoke days and a very wet spring. Grass came on late, leading to a difficult hay window. Gardens are not doing well. Farmers' markets and CSAs have faced a hard season. Dairies are struggling to sell milk. She noted while this year has been hard for agriculture, many communities have stepped up and found outlets for farms, such as schools. She praised the outpouring of support and said she hoped to see successful seasonal farm activities such as pumpkin patches.
- Fall City Floodplain Restoration Project: Janne Kaje of DNRP's Regional Partnerships Unit reported the project is now ranked #1 in the two biggest state funding rounds, PSAR and FBD. \$1.4 million for drainage was folded into one of the grants. He said this is a hard budget year at the state legislature, and salmon recovery staff are reaching out to partners and member cities to lobby for funding sources. He announced postcards and emails are soon coming for a two-week virtual "open house" for the project from October 26 to November 9, with a one-hour public meeting and Q&A period on October 28.
- Recognition for Josh Monaghan: Josh Baldi announced a special recognition for Josh Monaghan is being signed by DNRP leadership. Mr. Monaghan is leaving KCD after 24 years of service. Mr. Baldi praised Mr. Monaghan's contributions and thoughtfulness on many issues over the years. Joan Lee, section manager for DNRP-WLRD's Rural and Regional Services, reinforced this praise, that Mr. Monaghan has been essential in this work. Mr. Monaghan spoke briefly. He said FFF has been some of his favorite work, in finding common ground with those of different viewpoints and focusing on how to win together. He further said he was grateful for the teaching and learning he's done, and is thinking on how collective groups such as the IOC plan for transitions like this one. He gave thanks for the kind words, and Ms. Kellogg affirmed that time will be found on a future meeting agenda for more significant recognition of Mr. Monaghan's service.

2) FFF Q4 Workplan (*Beth leDoux*)

Ms. leDoux reported the Executive's proposed County budget has been submitted to King County Council (KCC) for approval and includes funding for FFF. Should she need to leave her current position, she wants to assure durable changes remain for FFF. She reviewed a proposed 4th quarter 2020 FFF workplan, hitting several points:

- **Comprehensive Drainage:** This was the top item picked to move forward in 2020. It is also necessary to implement the "Farm 2-2" recommendation item, regarding the agriculture strategic plan.
- **Regulatory Task Force:** This work will be reviewed by Eric Beach in today's meeting.
- **Buffers Task Force:** Per reply from the Executive, he supports the task force and wants it to move forward.
- **2D Modeling:** This is to address the flood component of FFF. Blue-green LiDAR was acquired two weeks ago; Ms. leDoux thanked King County's stormwater and internal teams for setting this in motion.
- **Communications:** Ms. leDoux wants to improve this and ensure she gets information out in a timely manner. Work is being done in collaboration with internal and external partners, and she wants partners to come to the County with their questions and get the service they deserve.

She further said it is important she hears from the IOC on what is important for FFF moving into the next biennium. She asked anyone with questions about the workplan to contact her.

3) Agriculture Strategic Plan Task Force (*Patrice Barrentine*)

Ms. Barrentine reviewed a draft Table of Contents outline for the Agriculture Strategic Plan task force's work. The plan will be broken into eight chapters, possibly nine, with several two-to-three-page issue papers under each chapter. Land base requirements and protections for a viable farm sector will be covered in the final chapter.

She reviewed the planned timeline for the task force's work, which has faced delays due to COVID-19. The original plan was to complete work by summer 2020, but this is now hoped to be approved and adopted by end of 2021. The goal to publish the plan is June of 2021.

It was asked if this plan could be a living document with changes made after its approval, and about a need voiced in FFF 1.0 for infrastructure to get local farm products to markets, which did not appear addressed in this current document. Ms. Barrentine replied the task force determined that infrastructure for on-farm production is more needed, but infrastructure to get local products to markets is also integral and may be revisited and developed later.

4) Regulatory Task Force Breakout Discussion (*Eric Beach*)

Mr. Beach reviewed the scope of work for the task force, which included a list of priority topics from the FFF 1.0 agreement. Mr. Beach reported on the outcomes of these topics, broken down under several broader types:

- **Resolved, No Further Action**
 - Bypass requirements for small waterways; de-fishing requirements and methods; multiyear permitting HPA; and requirements to maintain agriculture buffers after drainage and mitigation is done.
 - Task Force Recommendation: To compile and present their conclusions on the FFF website.
 - The IOC concurred with the task force's recommendation.
- **Additional Work Needed on Approved Recommendations**
 - DLS collaboration on beaver management tiered permitting; a memorandum of acceptance (MOA) on the task force's interpretation of regulations; and Endangered Species Act (ESA) coverage, including a Safe Harbor Agreement.
 - Task Force Recommendation: For WLRD to form and resource a "disappearing task force" of subject matter experts (SMEs) to develop an agreement.
 - Comprehensive Agriculture Drainage Assistance Program (ADAP): to develop and implement pilot projects, and complete development of program architecture.
 - Task Force Recommendation: That WLRD provide resources to move the program forward.
 - The IOC concurred with the task force's recommendations.
- **New Recommendations Presented This Meeting**
 - Off-site mitigation: To assemble and resource a "disappearing task force" of SMEs with time and expertise to identify options and complete a cost/benefit analysis.
 - Zero-rise: To convene a group to evaluate the HECRAS 2D model, and do a literature review to determine if this type of analysis can be done.
 - The IOC had no questions about these new recommendations.
- **New Findings**
 - Cultural Resources Review Requirements: That the County requirement for these reviews does not have a significant budget impact on ADAP projects.

- Turbidity: That best management practices are in place for ADAP to achieve water quality standards.
- Alluvial Fans: WLRD management will discuss this report with the IOC and bring SMEs to cover details.
- The IOC would like a presentation on the alluvial fan report for their next meeting.
- **Topics That Cannot Be Meaningfully Influenced**
 - Additional flexibility in calculating zero-rise. While important and complex, and has direct impact on the national flood insurance program, it falls under purview of FEMA and state Department of Ecology.
 - Ongoing Program to Assist with Non-fill Options: Progress could not be made on this due to a lack of access to SMEs from the Flood Control District (FCD) not participating in FFF.
 - An IOC member asked if there is another avenue to pursue on non-fill options. Josh Baldi answered that WLRD’s budget is being restructured to allow more access to Rivers section staff (who staff the FCD) and free up some of their expertise. He noted this situation is still a key conversation to be had with the FCD.
- **Next Steps and Schedule**
 - Collaboration with DLS: Complete a concurrence memo by end of 2020, and a beaver management permitting strategy by second quarter of 2021.
 - Safe Harbor Agreement: WLRD’s effort begins in first quarter of 2021, with submittal by end of 2021. This is expected to take about two years to review and finalize.
 - Off-site Mitigation: Implement a “disappearing task force.”
 - Comprehensive Drainage: A program proposal is expected to be accepted in first quarter of 2021. The pilot project implementation is ongoing.
 - IOC Letter to the Executive: Findings, recommendations, and request for resources are being transmitted.
 - The IOC concurred with this list. Angela Donaldson motioned to draft/transmit a letter to the Executive, and for the IOC to approve caucus co-chairs to sign it to expedite moving forward. The motion carried.

Mr. Beach offered several conclusions to his presentation. He said task force findings cleared up many regulatory misconceptions and provided guidance for future actions, including an unexpected benefit of improving several King County work processes. He said that over the next several months, the task force’s body of work will be synthesized and made available on the FFF website.

5) **Regulatory Task Force Breakout Discussion**

The IOC was split into four “breakout room” groups to discuss and weigh on the information and priorities presented for the Regulatory Task Force.

6) **Full Group Discussion on Regulatory Task Force Approval**

After the breakout discussion, representatives from each breakout room group reported on discussed priorities.

- Group 1: Top priority for this group was zero-rise; all in the group believed the issue should not be let go. Other priorities included resolving comprehensive drainage issues: off-site mitigation, beaver management, and pilot projects to continue learning.
- Group 2: Priorities here were wide and varied, with three votes for comprehensive drainage. An issue of concern was accountability of the proposed “disappearing task forces,” and if they are to be linked to the IOC. Scope, schedule, and outcomes of the task force should all come to the IOC, and the IOC should be transparent in the way FFF progress is shared. Implications of the updated FEMA flood maps were also a concern.
- Group 3: Zero-rise was a top priority, including digging into if 2D modeling will provide movement on this. Other priorities were comprehensive drainage, off-site mitigation, and ESA “incidental take” coverage. They noted beaver management should be a “slam dunk” as far as permitting.
- Group 4: A key concern is if the original FFF priorities list is complete or needs updating, especially on agriculture issues. Other concerns were: how the task force work is the only solution for FFF agricultural drainage needs; asking why County inter-agency collaboration has to be a checklist item; comprehensive drainage; and maybe finding synergy with off-site mitigation and beaver management in APDs.

7) **Wrap-Up/Adjourn**

Beth leDoux said drainage will be the focus at December’s IOC meeting, with updates from the WID on this and their conservation plans. She added that appropriate steps are being taken to refill the vacancy on the agriculture caucus from the loss of Josh Monaghan, and the spot should be filled soon.

Tamie Kellogg adjourned the meeting at 4:43 pm.

Next IOC Meeting: December 8, 2020, 9:00 am to 11:00 am (Zoom video conference call)

FFF IOC Updates

October 5, 2020

King County Budget: The Executive's budget was submitted to Council on 9/22. Council staff is currently reviewing the budget and we're fielding their questions. We received one for FFF decision package that Joan answered last week. Council will review/deliberate the budget proposals through October with anticipated adoption prior to Thanksgiving holiday. Budget includes dollars for a Project Manager and facilitation.

House Elevations: There have been XX done since 2017. In the near future, two potential home elevations will occur. Accelerating home elevations is tricky as are permitting restrictions related to building in the floodway exist that may disqualify many proposed home elevations. There is also a lack staff resources to take on many projects so how many will be undertaken in the future is unknown. For more information on house elevations contact Ken Zweig at ken.zweig@kingcounty.gov

Flood Resiliency Grants: Several grant opportunities for flood safety have been made available. There is a lot of work being done at King County to prioritize and organize flood safety work. Two key elements of FF work, 2 D model for road vulnerability and an analysis of flood tolerant cross valley road as well as flood resiliency strategies and planning for the agriculture community are part of the discussion.

FFF Workplan

August – December 2020

Vision for workplan:

- Each F is represented
- FFF Goals/Vision
 - More farmland in active production
 - more watercourses with better habitat for fish
 - more streamlined, robust response to flood events
 - more engaged community in the work of the County
 - more engaged County leadership/staff in multi-objective work

Items:

- 1) Comp D Program
- 2) Ag. Strat Plan
- 3) Regulatory Task Force
- 4) Buffer Implementation Task Force
- 5) 2D Model
- 6) Communications
- 7) IOC meetings
- 8) Create more internal accountability

AGRICULTURE LAND RESOURCE STRATEGIC PLAN: SNOQUALMIE VALLEY APD

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

- Product of FFF 1.0 agreement
 - Task Force scope of work
 - 14 Infrastructure Elements
 - Task force make up and members
-

CHAPTER 1: COMMERCIAL FARM SECTOR

INTRODUCTION

Issue 1: About the farm sector in the Snoqualmie APD

- Farms owned and farms leased
- Soils
- Crops
- Markets

Issue 2: Farm needs today and in future to remain competitive

- Pressures on SVAPD Farms
- 14 Infrastructure Elements Prioritized by Task Force

Issue 3: Farmworker Housing

CHAPTER 2: DRAINAGE

INTRODUCTION

Issue 1: Artificial and modified waterways

Issue 2: Agricultural Drainage Tiles

Issue 3: Flap/Flood Control Gates and Pumps

Issue 4: Culverts

Issue 5: Natural Waterways

Issue 6: Beavers

CHAPTER 3: FLOOD SAFETY

INTRODUCTION

Issue 1: Farm Pads and High Ground Refuge

Issue 2: Homes and home elevations

Issue 3: Revetments

Issue 4: Known patterns of flooding and climate change predictions*

CHAPTER 4: TRANSPORTATION

INTRODUCTION

Issue 1: Farm Access Roads

Issue 2: Transportation Corridors and Bridges

- Traffic + tourism

Commented [BP1]: Suggestion from Ag Caucus:
Consider "flood impacts" instead of safety

CHAPTER 5: IRRIGATION

INTRODUCTION

Issue 1: Water Rights

Issue 2: Irrigation systems

CHAPTER 6: WILDLIFE AND INVASIVE PLANTS, DISEASE AND PESTS

INTRODUCTION (INCLUDES BEAVERS BUT POINTS TO ISSUE PAPER 6 IN DRAINAGE CHAPTER)

Issue 1: Wildlife Corridors – Elk

Issue 2: Waterfowl*

Issue 3: Invasive Plants, Disease and Pests*

Commented [BP2]: Suggestion from Fish Caucus:
Separate plants from wildlife

CHAPTER 7: POPULATION GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE*

INTRODUCTION

Issue 1: Population Growth

Issue 2: Development in and around the APD

Issue 3: Climate Change (includes links to flooding patterns in Chapter 3* and items in Chapter 6*)

CHAPTER 8: LAND BASE REQUIREMENTS AND PROTECTIONS FOR A VIABLE SECTOR

Issue 1: Areas of high quality agricultural soils that are not currently farmed

Issue 2: Riparian buffers, restoration and mitigation projects

Issue 3: Areas that have low agriculture potential and thus could be kept out of ag production permanently with little impact to current or future farm operations

Issue 4: Proposed acreage needs for sector

Issue 5: Zoning and protecting the Agricultural Production District

Issue 6: Farmland Preservation Program

			problem solving																
IOC				10.7 Meets, Reviews, Comments; Timeline and Table of Contents		Meets, Reviews, Comments			Meets, Reviews, Comments		Meets, Reviews, Comments		Adoption/Approvals TBD				Adoption/Approvals TBD		
DNRP/Executive					Brief DNRP Package 1 Get clarity on how the Executive views the plan. Type of recommendations that are in the plan, partners and/or King County.			Brief DNRP Package 2				Brief DNRP final package					Adoption/Approvals TBD		Adoption/Approvals TBD



King County

Water and Land Resources Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center

201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600

Seattle, WA 98104-3855

206-477-4800 Fax 206-296-0192

TTY Relay: 711

Date: September 30, 2020

TO: Fish, Farm, Flood Implementation Oversight Committee (IOC)

FM: Eric Beach

RE: FFF Regulatory Task Force Completion of Scope of Work

The Farm Fish Flood (FFF) Regulatory Task Force (RTF) was assembled in February 2018. Over the past two and a half years, the task force completed the assessment of *Priority Topics* identified in the Scope of Work from FFF 1.0. The task force findings can be parsed into four broad categories. Each of the *Priority Topics* was examined and either:

1. resolved; no further action is required
2. recommendations were developed and approved by the IOC and additional work is needed,
3. recommendations are developed and will be presented at the October IOC meeting
4. the task force determined it could not meaningfully influence a *Priority Topic*.

The RTF invites the IOC to review the task force progress, concur with the findings and recommendations and, where appropriate, request that King County provide the resources necessary to complete the additional work on a *Priority Topic*.

1. **Priority Topics that were examined and resolved and no further is action required**

- **Bypass requirements for small waterways:** Following a presentation by the Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program (ADAP) engineer, the RTF decided the ADAP BMP¹s for dewatering ag waterways being dredged are adequate to protect aquatic resources while allowing viable commercial agriculture on the site.
- **Defishing requirements and methods:** An examination of the fish movement data since 2012 demonstrated that the current methods were generally effective at avoiding impacts to fish life during in-stream work. The ADAP has since adopted additional process improvements² related to water quality monitoring and thresholds for fish handling.
- **Multi-year permitting HPA:** The RTF confirmed with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) this permit currently exists.
- **Ability to maintain agricultural buffers after initial drainage work and mitigation is completed:** The Snoqualmie area WDFW Habitat Biologist clarified that existing buffers needed to be restored after subsequent maintenance projects, but that no additional mitigation would be required.

¹ <https://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/water-and-land/agriculture/drainage-assistance-program/adap-bmp-manual-201204.pdf>

² A copy will be available on the FFF website following a synthesis of the RTF work products

<https://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/watersheds/snoqualmie-skykomish/fish-farms-flooding.aspx>

2. **Priority Topics were examined, the recommendations approved by the IOC and additional work is needed to resolve the issues**

In some instances, this simply involves obtaining a memo from the King County Department of Local Services (DLS) - Permitting Division that concurs with the RTF findings. This is the case for the *Priority Topics*:

- **When does maintenance of artificial channels require a permit?**
- **Advance mitigation** e.g. using previously established buffer plantings as mitigation.

Completing the recommendations for resolving other *Priority Topics* requires a commitment of King County staff time:

- **Beaver Management** is the focus of the King County Beaver Working Group. This group is collaborating with Permitting on developing permitting options. This work will require an allocation of staff time from Water and Land Resource Division (WLRD) and DLS-Permitting.
- **Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Coverage** for ADAP will require that King County allocate staff time to develop permits and negotiate license agreements.
- **Comprehensive Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program** is currently in development and addresses several issues identified in the RTF Scope of Work. When the program is fully implemented it will satisfy the RTF scope of work requirement for:
 - **Maintenance of larger waterways,**
 - **Replacing failing flap/flood gates, and**
 - **Installing new drain tiles.**

The funding level for the program has not yet been established. To date we are using the allocated FFF pilot project monies to undertake several drainage projects identified in FFF 1.0 that are outside the existing ADAP scope.

3. **Priority Topics with recommendations presented at the October IOC meeting.**

These were discussed by the RTF in February 2020. As Covid disrupted the planned schedule of the task force these recommendations (enclosed) were finalized by the task force in September. The issues are:

- **Cultural Resource Review Requirements**
- **Offsite Mitigation**
- **Turbidity; when/ where measured**
- **Evaluation of the effect of tree planting on zero rise.**

Additionally, the RTF determined that WLRD pilot project work on **Alluvial Fans** was aligned with the same issue identified in the FFF scope of work. The task force was provided with the pilot project completion report and WLRD management team has offered to review the salient findings. The FFF project manager and RTF coordinator will schedule a presentation.

4. *Priority Topics* identified in the scope of work that the RTF cannot reasonably be expected to influence.

Specifically, changes to flood regulations and policy i.e. **Additional flexibility in, or way of calculating, zero rise**, is the responsibility of multiple agencies, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the WA Department of Ecology, and has a direct impact on the conditions of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The King County Flood Control District opted not to engage in the FFF RTF. As a result, no progress could be made on the issue of an **Ongoing program to assist with non-fill options**.

The RTF requests that, following IOC approval of the remaining recommendations and concurrence with the notion that the RTF has completed its scope of work, the IOC send a letter the Executive's Office identifying the resources necessary for completing any outstanding work on *Priority Topics*. Specifically, the staff resources to form and staff *ad hoc* work groups (Disappearing Task Forces or DTF) to examine offsite mitigation and an analysis of the effect of tree planting on flood elevations, and to continue work on the IOC approved recommendations that will require King County staff time. Following the final RTF meeting in December 2020, the task force body of work, including issue papers, findings and recommendations will be synthesized and available on the FFF website.

Sincerely,

Eric Beach
Regulatory Task Force Coordinator

Enclosure:

Regulatory Task Force Recommendations

Date:	10/7/2020	From:	Regulatory Task Force (RTF)	To: FFF Implementation Oversight Committee
Description:	<p>The RTF Scope of Work identifies ~ 20 Priority Topics. The RTF prioritized these topics, examined each one in detail and developed recommendations. Most have been transmitted to the IOC. The following recommendations were developed at the February and September 2020 RTF meetings:</p> <p>Turbidity; when/ where measured: BMPs currently in place for agricultural drainage assures compliance with the WA state water quality standards.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Recommendation: <i>The IOC recognizes that no additional work on turbidity standards is needed</i></p> <p>Cultural Resource Review Requirements: There was a perception that for agricultural projects that involve King County, such as ADAP, substantial project funds go to the CR review rather than construction. This limits the extent, and presumably the effectiveness, of a project. Horticultural practices on private lands are generally not subject to these reviews. A review of data suggests that the maximum costs are less than \$10,000 per project with a median cost of ~\$1000/project.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Recommendation: <i>This was felt to be too minor an issue for the RTF to develop a recommendation as the costs and scheduling of the review can be addressed through effective Project Management.</i></p> <p>Offsite Mitigation: Mitigating for project impacts on lands disjunct from the project area requires multi-agency and landowner agreements. Substantial time and expertise are involved in developing mitigation instruments, ratios and conservation easements.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Recommendation: <i>Form an ad hoc work group of Subject Matter Experts (SME) to conduct a needs assessment and cost-benefit analysis of developing a program for offsite mitigation for agricultural projects (both project-specific and mitigation bank options).</i></p> <p>Evaluation of the effect of tree planting on zero rise: in 2019 the RTF drafted a letter on behalf of the Flood Caucus to the IOC supporting development of a 2D Hydraulic Model. It is not clear if the 2D model would be suitable for a tree planting-flood elevation analysis, so a literature review has recently been commissioned</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Recommendation: <i>Form an ad hoc group to evaluate the literature review and investigate suitable methods for completing such an investigation.</i></p> <p>Work will be presented to the FFF IOC as a future meeting.</p> <p>The RTF has determined that changes to the zero-rise standard (a priority issue in the scope of work) are outside the scope of influence of the task force. If further effort on the issue is desired, the IOC would be the appropriate body. Similarly, work on non-fill alternative for flood hazard protection cannot be initiated as the King County Flood Control District has elected to not participate in FFF and the SMEs in River and Floodplain Management are thus unavailable to work on this effort</p>			
Action Requested	<p>The RTF requests that the IOC review these recommendations, acknowledge items that do not require further work and request in a letter to the Executives Office that King County allocate the resources necessary to support the formation of the <i>ad hoc</i> issue specific working groups-aka Disappearing Task Forces (DAT).</p>			