



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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September 17, 2020

Fish, Farm, Flood Implementation Oversight Committee
c/o Beth leDoux
201 South Jackson St., Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Spiry, Ms. Donaldson and Mr. Monaghan:

Thank you for your July 28, 2020, letter detailing your support for one of the largest restoration projects undertaken in King County, the Fall City Floodplain Restoration project. As you know, large scale habitat restoration projects are imperative to achieve our goals for restoring salmonids in King County and the endangered Orca that depend on them. Given the importance of the Fall City Floodplain Restoration project, I have directed the Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD) management to include your letter of support in their Floodplains by Design grant package.

I established the Snoqualmie Valley Fish, Farm, Flood (FFF) Advisory Committee (FFF 1.0) to explore the issues that were creating obstacles and conflict around salmon recovery, flood protection, and productive agriculture in the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District (SVAPD). The objective of FFF 1.0 and subsequent Implementation Oversight Committee is to work together, across fish, farm and flood caucuses. By doing so, the caucuses are able to identify projects and solutions that bring benefits to all. Your work toward that end has been an inspiration.

I appreciate the Tribe for its commitment to replanting the restoration site. Restoration projects of this scale cannot be completed successfully by King County alone and the participation of Tribes is critical to project success.

I want to acknowledge that FFF 1.0 recommendations for restoration project development are now a standard part of King County's design process in the Snoqualmie Valley, including kitchen table style meetings (pre-COVID-19), Zoom meetings with neighbors and the community, and third-party review of hydraulic computer modeling. I am convinced that having included these recommendations from FFF 1.0 in our design work will make the outcomes of the work even better.

In addition, the emphasis on a multi-benefit integrated approach of including agriculture drainage projects in the Floodplain by Design grant request represents the impact of FFF on increased consideration of mutual interests. To that end, even as I strongly support the Fall City Floodplain Restoration project, the WLRD is working diligently on the specific Farm caucus request to develop a Comprehensive Agricultural Drainage program.

Thank you again for your continued efforts and tireless support of finding multi-benefit solutions that support healthy fish, sustainable agriculture, and flood safety. I look forward to seeing and supporting more of your hard work in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dow Constantine". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

cc: Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Josh Baldi, Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD), DNRP
Joan Lee, Manager, Rural and Regional Services Section, WLRD, DNRP
Beth leDoux, Fish, Farm, Flood Project Manager, RRSS, WLRD, DNRP