

## Mount Vernon Watershed Workshop Summary Notes

April 16, 2019

### Stillaguamish Watershed

Highest priorities:

#### DW Providers:

Turbidity

Metals

Fecal/bacterial

Temp sediments (road management to limit sediments)

Decommissioning of old/undersized FS roads helps with sediment issues

As well as fire and landside

#### DOH

- Fecal

#### Forest Service

- Hydrologic-> restoration (cores many of items mentioned above including sediment and temp)

#### Information Needs

-Emergency Notifications

-Land use

Need identified by all:

\*Fire\*

Forest Service includes Drinking Water in forest plans and fire plans.

Need to tie in DNR and fire fighters, w. DOH, EOC DW providers

#### Info sharing in case of fire

**FS – Inciweb.nwcg.gov** - Boise Interagency fire center

#### Projects & Coordination

FS – terrestrial & aquatic action in Mt Baker/Snoqualmie

About to cross ESA/NEPA finish line & opportunity to collaborate

Integrated Collaborative Project (Richard)

Good Neighbor Collaborative

East side perhaps by west side Might be helpful

Darrington Collaborative many small projects

State Collaborative Grant from DNR?

**Al McGuire – BEST person to discuss land management in**

## **Stilly watershed (DNR Ownership)**

Mt Baker/Snoqualmie

website –planning – details of actions & projects  
South Fork Stilly EA & associate docs

Most Valuable Contacts/Resources

activities occurring in the watershed – contacts make this happen  
(who to call/email @ DNR, FS, etc.)

[www.infracunding.wa.gov](http://www.infracunding.wa.gov)

## **Nooksack Watershed**

Drinking water

WTO – High turbidity / metals

Climate change

Landslides

Wildlife effects

Impound Res

Development / water rights

Innovative Tech

Fish impacts/ drought

AG activities

Salmon recovery / ORCA

Climate Drinking Water

High turbidity and flows

Flood events

Worse/better than previous year due to weather events

Salmon -> low flows / higher

No storage/glacial melt

Pulses/slugs of sediment

Some good science but time/storm even with weather events

Beavers part of H2O storage solution – what role now

Concern over water rights

After Hirst decision, tribal treaty rights at risk

Innovative technologies - dairy digester

Ag activities – irrigation

Flows are of concern especially S Fork affected by drought

Salmon recovery ORCA recovery

Intro needs to climate change

Whatcom Pipeline Phosphorous issue Fire risk

How to mitigate?

Algae bloom Risk/Challenge

Known/Unknown

Policy/Deregulation/Funding  
Habitat/ Fire projects  
Emergency Response delayed management

Wild & Scenic designations as an impediment to water supply  
Water rights  
Community & Stakeholders on board!  
Public benefit

## **Skagit Watershed**

What happens upstream effects all

Information gaps need to be addressed  
Skagit river as a source  
More defined plan  
Identify stake holders  
Address water quality - increased use – use of meters  
Decreased turbidity = less treatment and sludge  
Measuring impacts of stream bank restoration  
Storm events – climate change – river level fluctuations

How to prioritize Restoration activity locations  
Limits to funding effects ability to create collaborations  
Relationship with landowner helped create a positive  
Managing forest lands – developing incentives  
Climate change  
Collaboration is happening-need more especially with regulations  
Utilities looking for opportunities to help  
Disconnect between funding opportunities for utility needs – fish needs  
Buying private land ownership rights  
What is next effected by political will and funding  
Missing timber company representation at this event and missing Dam operators  
– need to build relationships with these two groups  
Tribes are engaged but did not attend this event – there are different levels of  
engagement by the tribes  
Education and engagement of elected officials  
Measuring project effectiveness with downstream data  
Create a simple framework for water quality effects  
Watershed management plan exists – when is update due?  
Need to work on the plan more collaboratively

### **Rich Dodd – DNR Fire 360-708-5832**

Salmon – Turbidity - Climate Impacts  
Glacial Melt - Beavers - Water Rights  
Tribal Rights - Coast/ Volcano  
Need more data - Tech Solutions

Infrastructure Removal  
Recreation Education  
Stakeholders

Turbidity

-Communication Up / Downstream  
Fire & Restoration  
Move from Issue to Action  
How to?  
Comprehensive Watershed Strategic Plan  
Move beyond silos "One Water"