Addendum to the Shoreline Restoration Plan for Skagit County and the Towns of Hamilton and Lyman

Ongoing and Potential Projects

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The following is a summary of the ongoing and potential projects that have experienced changes in implementation status since the Skagit Restoration Plan draft was finalized in December 2014. The Habitat Work Schedule (HWS), Salmon Recovery Portal (SRP), Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service PRISM databases were reviewed as sources for project updates.

The following summary of updates to the projects identified in the 2014 document is organized by Shoreline Management Area, as described in the Shoreline Restoration Plan. Additionally, relevant projects that have been proposed and/or completed since December 2014 are also represented below.

Samish Bay Management Area 1 Restoration Opportunities

- New project: The Therkelson Homestead Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal project included installation of a 26-foot modular steel bridge over Homestead creek. The project was initiated in 2017 and was completed in 2018. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Skagit Basin Ongoing Project Maintenance represents a partnership between Skagit River System Cooperative (SRSC) and landowners to address vegetation management needs on properties throughout the Skagit River Basin. The project was started in 2015 and reported as complete in 2019. (Source: SRP 2022).

Samish Island, Padilla Bay and East Side of Swinomish Channel Management Area 2 Restoration Opportunities

- Project update: The timeframe for the Telegraph-Phase 2 project in Telegraph Slough has changed from "Feasibility Pending-Long-Term" to a "Conceptual Long-Term" project. (Source: HWS 2016).
- New project: The Freestad Lake Restoration Project, sponsored by Skagit County Public Works, focused on restoring nearshore processes within a (historic) barrier lagoon located on the southeast shore of Samish Island. The project was initiated in 2015 and was reported as Dormant in 2018. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Telegraph Slough Phase I Design to restore distributary channels between Swinomish Channel and Padilla Bay is scheduled to begin in 2026 and end in 2028. (Source: SRP 2022).

Swinomish Tribal Reservation and Fidalgo and Other Island Management Areas Restoration Opportunities

- Project update: The timeframe for the SneeOosh Lagoon project in Swinomish Tribal Reservation area has moved from feasibility to conceptual design phase but is still considered a "Long-Term" project. (Source: HWS 2016).
- Project update: The Similk Beach Restoration Construction project is scheduled to begin in 2024 and will restore 22 acres of intertidal pocket estuary by replacing road fill with bridge. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Bowman Bay Armoring Removal project began in 2015 and was completed by the end of 2017, during which the Northwest Straits Foundation removed riprap along approximately ¼ mile of shoreline at Bowman Bay in Deception Pass State Park. Over 500 linear feet of shoreline armor was removed in 2015, followed by several seasons of riparian planting. (Source: SRP 2022).

Skagit Bay Delta Management Area Restoration Opportunities

- Project update: The Sullivan's Hacienda project in North Fork Skagit River has moved from feasibility to conceptual design phase, but is still considered a "Long-Term" project. (Source: HWS 2016).
- Project update: The Milltown Island project in the South Fork Skagit River was reported as completed in 2012.
- New project: The Skagit Forks Off-Channel Restoration and Feasibility project consisted of three discrete but related restoration concepts: Lower Cottonwood Slough Mouth, Cottonwood Slough Inlet, and Skagit Forks Wetland. Final designs were prepared by WDFW engineers in conjunction with the Skagit Conservation District and the project was successfully constructed in 2015. (Source: SRP 2022).New project: The South Fork Delta Channel Final Design project was proposed in 2017 to complete a final design based that will extend the current off-channel network and connect it both upstream and downstream, including lowering the upstream inlet to engage more frequent flows. The project status is listed as completed in 2019. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The South Skagit River Delta Invasive Cattail Control project involved the removal of invasive cattail across 167 acres of estuarine delta habitat on the South Fork of the Skagit River, including Deepwater Slough, Wiley Slough, and Goat Island. The work occurred in 2016 and 2017 and monitoring efforts were scheduled to begin in 2019. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The IMW-Monitoring Tidal Marsh Vegetation project began in 2021 and will involve detailed vegetation status and monitoring to support ongoing eco-geomorphic habitat status and trend monitoring, as well as IMW fish monitoring, throughout until 2023. (Source: SRP 2022).

- New project: The Skagit Forks/Britt Slough Wetlands Reconnection project seeks to reconnect 7.8 acres of floodplain forested wetland for Chinook rearing habitat. The project began in 2019 and is anticipated to be completed in 2024. (Source: SFEG 2022).
- New project: The IMW-South Fork Skagit Channel Construction project was initiated in 2020 to increase total wetland habitat acres and connection frequency of 44% for the lower side channels and 34% for the upper pond. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2025. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Wiley Slough Dike Raise project was initiated in 2021 to increase farmland protection by adding dike height and included additional analysis for seepage and other options. The project is scheduled for completion in 2025. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The IMW Island Unit Final Design and permitting phase is scheduled to begin in 2023 and will involve working with consultants, tribes, stakeholders, and other community partners to finish and permit designs. The project is anticipated to provide 270 acres of emergent marsh, scrub-shrub and floodplain riparian habitat. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Milltown Island Phase 2 Construction is underway and is scheduled to be completed in 2026. The project covers nearly 216 acres within the middle and northern portions of the island and will restore natural hydrogeomorphology to push the site closer to fully functioning conditions and improved habitat. (Sources: HWS 2016 and SRP 2022).

Lower Skagit Diking Districts Management Area Restoration Opportunities

- New project: The Nookachamps Forks Restoration project was initiated in 2017 and involved planting native vegetation along 25 acres of property, installation of fencing to exclude cattle, and controlling invasive species. The project was completed in 2021. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Nookachamps Forks Phase 2 Restoration involves restoring 30 acres along the Nookachamps riparian corridor within the Barney Lake Conservation Area by planting native vegetation, controlling invasive species, installing fences to exclude beavers where necessary, and maintaining plantings for at least three years following planting. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2023. (Source: SRP 2022).

Samish River Management Area Restoration Opportunities

- New project: The Steelhead Fish Passage Prioritization project seeks to identify and prioritize fish passage restoration projects on private and county property in the Skagit basin. The project began in 2017 and by the end of 2020 had completed new barrier assessments at a total of 109 culvert crossings. (Source: SRP 2022).

- New acquisition: The Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition II (a) seeks to acquire floodplain and riparian properties from willing landowners for protection of high-quality habitat using 2017 SWC Protection Strategy Update. (Source: SRP 2022).

Middle Skagit Management Area Restoration Opportunities

- Project update: The sponsor for the Careys Slough interim off-channel reconnection restoration project in the Skagit River was previously unknown. The project is now being sponsored by the SFEG. The final Fish Passage Design was completed in 2019. (Source: Project No. 15-1164, PRISM 2016).
- Project update: The Cascade Trail Relocation project status is listed as completed as of 2016. (Source: SRP 2022).
- Project update: The Utopia Rd at Minkler floodplain restoration project began in 2013 to restore 45 acres of key habitat near Black Slough. Restoration activities continued through 2017 and the project is listed as complete. (Source: SRP 2022).
- Project update: The Lower Day Creek Slough Habitat Enhancement project improved fish passage by replacing three undersized culverts along a farm road crossing in 2014 and planting 20 acres with native plantings. The project status was listed as complete in 2015. (Source: SRP 2022).
- Project update: The Robinson Rd floodplain restoration project included removal of old bank hardening associated with the Robinson right of way, removal of invasive species, and the planting of native vegetation. The project status is listed as complete as of 2015. (Source: SRP 2022).
- Project update: The planning phase for the Cockreham Island restoration project concluded in 2020. (Source: SRP 2022).
- Project update: The Savage Slough Acquisition and Restoration project concluded in 2014 and included acquisition and near-term restoration of approximately 212 acres along the Skagit River in Savage Slough area. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Skiyou Island Rock Removal, sponsored by the Skagit County Public Works department, would remove rip-rap that has altered the natural migration of the channel of the Skagit River; no functional riparian area is remaining and cows are grazing at the river bank edge. The project would also install approximately 2,400 linear feet of livestock exclusion fencing and native vegetation along much of the property north of the rock. The project timeframe is considered short-term. (Source: Project No. 15-1173, PRISM 2016)
- New project: The Little Baker Channel project would increase freshwater rearing habitat by constructing a side channel on the right bank of the Baker River, which would connect the Skagit River through the relic Little Baker channel. The project is sponsored by the SFEG. The project timeframe is considered Concept-Long-term. (Source: HWS 2016)

- New project: The Skiyou and Ross Island Reach Assessment was initiated in 2021 and seeks to assess landscape scale restoration and ecological benefits balanced against social and economic costs, rank key parcels within the Middle Skagit Reach, and conceptualize restoration. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Skiyou Slough Ross Island Design project proposes to design landscape-scale restoration in the Ross Island Reach, with a focus on removing hydraulic restrictions near the upstream inlet to the slough channel. The project is scheduled to commence in the fall of 2023. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The goal of the Skiyou Island Floodplain Restoration project is to improve the habitat and water quality for Chinook salmon and other species by restoring native vegetation on 23 acres along the Skagit River and Skiyou Slough. A planting plan has been completed for the property that evaluates the effectiveness of past planting efforts and provides the foundation for the proposal. The project has been underway since 2020 and is scheduled to end in 2023. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Gilligan Floodplain Restoration Design project seeks to restore side channel and floodplain habitat in the Skagit River downstream of Gilligan Creek by removing 560 feet of flood control dike and associated riprap bank protection, which will restore function to approximately 170 acres of floodplain. The Skagit River Cooperative has conducted a feasibility study and work is currently underway with the Forest Service, Skagit County, and adjacent private property owners to further develop a conceptual alternative and secure support to proceed to final design and construction by 2023.
- New project: The Anderson Creek Restoration project restored native riparian forest and wetland areas on a former dairy property that comprises 131-acres by planting riparian zones with native vegetation and removing fish passage barriers. Work was initiated in 2005 and was completed in 2017. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The 2021 Collaborative Skagit Riparian Stewardship seeks to restore habitat and water quality via native riparian and floodplain forest and estuarine revegetation and stewardship. The project is set to be completed in 2025. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Lower Day Slough Fish Passage Improvement project, sponsored by Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFHG), is working with two private landowners to improve fish passage on Lower Day Slough under agricultural crossings. The project was initiated in 2021 and is set to be completed in 2025. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Lower Day Slough Final Design and Construction project is targeted toward completing the final design and construction of a fish barrier on an agricultural crossing at GN31 that will open 0.56 miles of Lower Day Creek slough. The project was initiated in 2021 and is set to be completed in 2023. (Source: SRP 2022).

- New project: The Skagit Side Channel Barrier Final Designs for replacing the Upper Day Creek slough culvert with a 50-foot pedestrian bridge were completed in 2016. Funding pursuits to finalize parking options and ensure ADA access to the crossing began in 2018 and are ongoing. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Upper Day Slough Fish Passage Barrier Replacement project was sponsored by Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) and was initiated in 2016 and completed in 2017. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Cumberland Creek Mitigation project was initiated in 2014 to mitigate impacts from repair work on the Cockreham Island Levee. The project was intended to restore Cumberland Creek to a historic channel that would add approximately 4,000 feet of low gradient tributary in the floodplain of the Skagit River. The project status is listed as completed in 2015. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Davis Slough Fish Passage and Flow Restoration project was a combined effort between Skagit County and SFEG to restore unimpeded fish access to Davis Slough. This included replacing an undersized culvert with a 60-foot-long bridge in 2014, excluding cattle, and restoring riparian vegetation through the removal of invasive weeds and the planting of native trees. The project was completed in 2016. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Skagit Basin Riparian Replant 2020 project was initiated in 2021 to address the restoration trajectory of three properties in the Skagit River basin. The project will ensure the success of previously funded Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) projects by replanting unsuccessful areas, expanding the restored areas, and controlling invasive species. The project is set to be completed in 2025. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New projects: The 2018, 2022, 2023, and 2024 Collaborative Skagit Riparian Planting projects partner with landowners to restore habitat and water quality via native riparian and floodplain forest and estuarine revegetation and stewardship, including 3-5 years of site maintenance to ensure plant survival. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Cedar Grove Fish Passage Improvement project was initiated in 2019 to restore fish passage to the Cedar Grove Avenue culvert in Concrete, WA. The project status is listed as active, and construction was set to begin in 2021. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New acquisition: The Day Slough Acquisition and Restoration is a combined acquisition and restoration project that seeks to put important off-channel habitat into conservation ownership and initiate restoration on 16 acres of riparian habitat along Kosbob and Lower Day Slough. The project was initiated in 2020 and is set to be completed in 2023. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New acquisition: The Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition IV was funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) in 2020 as a comprehensive acquisition,

landowner outreach, and restoration feasibility study grant for both the "middle" and "upper" Skagit River reaches. (Source: SRP 2022).

- New acquisition: The 2023 Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition VII seeks to acquire floodplain properties for protection of high-quality habitat using the 2017 SWC Protection Strategy Update. (Source: SRP 2022).

Upper Skagit Management Area (WRIA 4) Restoration Opportunities

- Project update: The Downey Creek Crossing project in the Suiattle River was completed in 2015. (Source: HWS 2016)
- Project update: The Suiattle River Riprap Removal project in the Suiattle River was completed in 2015. (Source: HWS 2016)
- Project update: The Barnaby Reach Restoration Phase I began in 2020 and is the first phase of what will likely be a large multi-phase restoration project. It includes final design and construction to remove infrastructure on Barnaby Slough to improve flow and restore fish passage, and design and construction for culvert projects that will restore fish passage and reduce flooding problems for residents along Martin Road. Phase I is set to end in 2023, while Phase II is set to commence in 2025. (Source: SRP 2022).
- Project update: The Illabot Creek Protection and Riparian Restoration project was a combination restoration and acquisition project to protect 102.4 acres of floodplain riparian area. Phase I of the Illabot Creek Alluvial Fan Restoration project was completed in 2013 and included the removal of 1,150 linear feet of dike, installation of log jams, and constructing pilot channels downstream of the Rockport-Cascade Road. The second phase of the project underwent proposals for funding in 2020. (Source: SRP 2022).
- Project update: Preliminary designs for the Car Body Riprap Removal are scheduled to begin in 2024. The objective remains to remove approximately 550 linear meters of riprap bank armoring (and associated car bodies) at Car Body Hole. (Source: SRP 2022).
- Project update: The Marblemount Bridge restoration project was renewed in 2020 and scheduled an end date of 2055. No specific project has been identified for the area yet; but a habitat gap analysis indicates that reconnecting channels or floodplain in the area to the river should be a high priority. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Martin Slough Riparian Restoration project began in 2015 and was completed in 2019. The project restored 21.5 acres of riparian buffer adjacent to an established Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) site along the Skagit River and Martin and Bow Sloughs. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The 2017 Skagit Riparian Stewardship began in 2018 and ended in 2021. The project was sponsored by SFEG, implementing stewardship work on 40 acres of riparian forest land, as well as new planting on 3.5 acres on two Seattle City Light

properties and an additional 2 acres of US Forest Service property. The status was listed as completed in 2021. (Source: SRP 2022).

- New project: The O'Brian Reach Floodplain Reconnection Feasibility project is being sponsored by the Department of Transportation and will investigate fluvial processes and identify opportunities to reconnect side channels and abandoned meanders within a 3.7-mile reach. The project is in the planning state and is set to end in 2023. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Hobbits Corner Floodplain Restoration project is located on the Sauk River downstream of the Suiattle River and focused on improving floodplain function by restoring native floodplain vegetation and controlling invasive plant species that spread via floodplain disturbance and high flows. Th project involved four primary activities: Beaver Device Assist Structures (BDAS) placement, riparian restoration, invasive plant control, and community outreach. The project began in 2011 and was completed in 2016. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The 2013 Skagit Riparian Restoration and Stewardship Project restored habitat and water quality for Chinook salmon and other species by actively restoring native riparian and floodplain vegetation on a number of sites throughout the Skagit River watershed. The project had treated 302 acres by its' end date in 2017. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Pressentin Park Habitat Restoration Project restored limited rearing habitat in the Skagit River floodplain by reconnecting over ½ mile of historic side channel habitat. SFEG oversaw designs and submitted permits in the fall of 2017. Side channel construction began in the spring of 2021 and all habitat restoration elements were completed by late summer (2021). The project status is completed. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Lower Cascade Floodplain Restoration Feasibility Project was initiated in 2017 and completed in 2018. The project was identified as a way to improve rearing and spawning habitat quantity and quality for native salmonids within the Cascade floodplain. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Sauk Tributary Culvert Replacement Final Design grant was used in 2019 by Skagit County Public Works to complete design for the replacement and improvement of two fish passage barrier culverts located on Concrete Sauk Valley Road. The culverts are identified as RC4, RC5, and RC6 in WDFW's Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory database. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Tenas Creek Floodplain Restoration project involves floodplain reconnection by expanding road crossing and removing riprap. The project is sponsored by the Skagit River System Cooperative and is planned to begin in 2024 and scheduled for completion in 2028. (Source: SRP 2022).

- New project: The Suiattle Confluence Channel Enhancements Feasibility and Design project is sponsored by the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe and involves floodplain reconnection by expanding road crossing and removing riprap. Construction is proposed to begin in 2024 and be completed in 2029. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New acquisition: the Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition III was initiated in 2019 and seeks to acquire floodplain and riparian properties from willing landowners for protection of high-quality habitat using 2017 SWC Protection Strategy Update. Restoration needs will be evaluated on a per property basis and were scheduled to end in 2021. (Source: SRP 2022).

Nooksack Management Area (WRIA 1) Restoration Opportunities

- New project: The Upper Cavanaugh-Fobes Phase 2 Design grant is sponsored by the Lummi Nation Natural Resources Department and will be used to provide a preliminary design for up to 24 engineered logjams to restore habitat in the South Fork Nooksack River. The project is planned for 2022. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: SF Fobes Reach Phase 2 Restoration project grant was issued in 2019 and used by Lummi Nation to restore instream and side channel habitat in the South Fork (SF) Nooksack River, RM 18.3-18.8. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The Larson Rach Phase 2 In-Stream Restoration project is located between river miles 19.6 and 21.2 on the main stem of the South Fork Nooksack, including off channels. The goal of the project was to restore salmonid spawning, rearing and holding habitat in order to recover self-sustaining salmonid runs to harvestable levels, by addressing limiting factors in the reach. The project was initiated in 2014 and was completed as of 2017. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: Camp 18 Restoration: The Phase I in-stream restoration project completed a final design, obtained permits, and constructed five engineered log jams in the mainstem South Fork Nooksack River between 2018 and 2019. Phase II in-stream restoration is scheduled to begin in 2022 and will construct preferred alternatives from proposed design projects. The project is planned to be completed in 2024. (Source: SRP 2022).
- New project: The SF Nooksack River Elk Flats Restoration grant will be used by the Lummi Natural Resources Department to provide permit and construction ready design for the construction of 18 engineered logjams in the South Fork Nooksack River. The project was scheduled to begin in 2016; the status is listed as Dormant as of 2020.

Stillaguamish Management Area (WRIA 5) Restoration Opportunities

- No updates identified.