

Watershed Advisory Group Meeting Notes

9-20-23

Attendance (members in bold):

In person: Jenn Johnson, Emily Derenne (?) Rebecca Rising, **Jeff McGowan, Jeremy Gilman, Maggie Taylor, Owen Peth, Mikala Staples Hughes, Brian Lipscomb, Emmett Wild**, Aida Miller, CJ Jones, **Terry Sapp**, Sarah Stoner

Online: Bill Eller, Grace Kane, Leslie Michel, Heather Spore, **Shannon Rupert**,

Member not in attendance: **Bill Dewey**

General questions / concerns / follow-up (occurred at end of meeting)

Share project details with group.

Would like more info on livestock fencing. Some contractors are overpriced

Opinion – want to abstain from voting for lack of knowledge

Encourage people to make decision in order to take advantage of funding.

Cannot vote unless at open public meeting.

Skagit Riv Maple

Is in Farmland legacy

Biennium capital funding Need to seek additional funding for maintenance

In our work plan, we don't have removal of fish barriers. For us it is riparian plantings.

Concern with elk

Landowner signs contract which effectively binds them to no harm within

Stewart'

Dry slough on fir island

Concern – drainage maintenance

Skagit Land Trust is taking this property, not in FLP

FLP explanation: Every easement can be different. Intent is to protect / preserve for ag use. Gray area is

Dorsey

Waterway? Parker creek, ross island, SE of Lyman

High \$ ask for work

English Ivy inhibiting flow. Project would help with creek flow.

Schrift

Wahlberg rd

Benson

Brian - Concerns that area will continue eroding despite efforts with fencing and planting. CREP project not necessarily succeeding in protecting from erosion.

Heather also concerned about longevity – LWD? What kinds of plantings in that area?

Area floods every year

May need to revisit plans, address concerns

Studies exist addressing erosion in this area. Skiyou island.

Heather will provide info about easement language to Rebecca

Maxwell

NE of Big lake

Width of existing buffer?

Lewis

Move forward but ask for both sides buffer

E of Big Lake

Llama / alpaca

Build buffer on both sides of creek instead of just 1 side

Incl part of powerline right of way

Shea

Prairie rd. , Samish river

First property in FLP, 102 in easement

How close is the fence to waterway? New fence will be about 35' avg from river.

Cover crop

About 650 acres planted in fall each year. Avg cost \$45 per acre for seed. Seed costs paid, installation by landowner. Perhaps also \$45 per acre cost to farmer to install. Has sidebars and needs to follow NRCS. Must terminate in spring.

Benefit – erosion is perhaps most significant. Helps keep sediment out of waterways so they don't Also waterfowl.

Haven't had enough funding to meet demand. This year can't necessarily use more. Need to have funding available sooner for planning

Cover crops helping absorb N from waterfowl which also helps WQ

Where does it fit within work plan? We are looking at specific areas within water area for WQ?

Have followed up – before and after photos,

We have considered it enhancement for ag viability.