**WRIA 15 Project Workgroup Meeting – Meeting Notes**

**Thursday, April 1, 2021**

**10am to 11am**

**Participants**: Stacy Vynne McKinstry, Joel Purdy, Paul Pickett, Sam Phillips, Erik Steffens and Alison O’Sullivan

**Agenda**:

10:00 Welcome and Introductions

10:05 Community Forest Project Updates

Port Gamble Forest Site

Tahuya Forest\*

10:30 Approach to MAR Scoping

Project by Project or Bundled?\*

10:45 Updates on Other Projects

Gig Harbor Golf Couse

Kingston WTP

Silverdale Reclaimed Water

**Meeting Notes**:

Brief update on the grant program: Ecology is waiting on final state budget before determining the timing and amount available for the next round of the streamflow restoration grant program. The Governor included $40M for the biennium in his budget. As a reminder, projects in planning areas receive ‘bonus’ points as do project in approved plans.

**Community Forest Project Updates**

Port Gamble Forest Site: Sam is not sure if this project is a good candidate. More modeling and scoping are needed.

Tahuya Watershed Floodplain Restoration and Acquisition: GPC is pursuing a 200 ac opportunity in partnership with HCSEG. Project workgroup recommends that GPC provide a project write up to Skokomish Tribe for input on inclusion in the plan. In addition, change “Tahuya Headwaters” to “Tahuya Watershed” in the Community Forest project opportunities in order to help broaden the scope of opportunities for projects and include the one GPC is pursuing.

**MARs**

Washington Water Trust may be interested in pursuing a feasibility or scoping for MAR projects in WRIA 15. The Workgroup recommends a bundling of projects from across the WRIA for a Phase 1 feasibility study.

Sam recommended reaching out to UW graduate program to see if there is a group of students that can initiate a feasibility study on MARs.

**Other Updates**

Gig Harbor Golf Club Habitat Restoration Project: Joel met with them several weeks ago. They are very interested in pursuing funding for a project. They are reaching out to Pierce Co biologists to get a rough estimate for a feasibility study. There may be an opportunity to partner with Squaxin Island Tribe.

Kingston Water Treatment Plant Reclaimed Water Project: There is no change in status and many details need to be worked out prior to the Suquamish Tribe supporting the project. The project will remain on the Six Year Capital plan.

Silverdale Water District Reclaimed Water Expansion: SWD is working with multiple partners to get the infrastructure in place and they need additional funding for further expansion of the pipes. They have the monitoring system in place to control infiltration. They’ve included $1.2M in the budget for construction this year and are interested in seeking additional funding sources. Workgroup members mentioned the culvert replacement project between Silverdale and that one of the infiltration ponds. Rerouting or alternative options for the pipe expansion may impact costs. Water for the project is coming from Brownsville.