



Meeting Notes
Nisqually River Council Annual Retreat
July 28, 2017
Yelm Community Center
Information: 360.438.8715

Ideas and feedback for moving forward with 2011 Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan:

Create “State of the Watershed Report”

- Create a regular update on State of the Watershed Report
 - Establish working sub-committee
 - Goal: 1st report by March 2018
 - Include monthly updates on indicators at each NRC meeting
 - NWSP priorities and NRC/NRF priorities... 2 foci
- Successes and deficits
- To give an overview of goals and status... could draw from existing reports [Pierce County Report Card, etc.]
- Would create increased interest in community on what is currently happening
- Identify indicators (trails, farmers market, etc.), and work with others to collect data on indicators
- Report on successes/challenges for associated programs and capture lessons learned (i.e. Nisqually Sustainable)
- Stronger in environmental indicators (vs. economic, social)
- Economic indicators
 - Gravel mining, asphalt recycling
 - Getting tribal input on county process
 - Groundwater concerns
- Current strength and focus = rivers/streams
- Missing climate change resiliency
- Missing indicator: Pesticide and fertilizer use, awareness, impacts on food, children, bees

Economic Development

- Helpful to find funding or create guiding framework
- Economic and environment indicators shaped together and identified (NRC, Yelm and others) – Outreach to other communities – Start with Yelm to develop model
- How can NRC support efforts of jurisdictions?
- Could help define/identify NRC next steps

- Diversify NRC? Focus on Enviro? Hiring Expertise? Attracting business and industry that are in line with NWSP
- Form committees for each NWSP Focus (Environment, Social, Economic)
 - 1st subcommittee: using Yelm as Model
- 2009-11 West Rainier Economic Development Initiative

- Karelina has 3-county, 75-person contact list to share

Pay to Play

- NRF Staff: Reach out to Duwamish, WRIA 8, and Lake Washington Councils for examples What's been done? How to modify? Share with NRC
- Will help to diversify funding
- DT will provide contacts

Nisqually Community Forest

- High priority! Hits all 3 aspects of NWSP
- Project will continue

Endangered Species/Plants

- How to report? Need pictures and GPS coordinates to send to UW
- More evidence to protect lands
- Can we do NatureMapping of endangered plants?
- Inventory endangered plants in watershed?
- Bioblitz with NWTrek?
- Ohop has been done previously – 10 year NatureMapping
 - Citizen science “wing” of CAC and NSS to collect and report on several key indicators for State of Watershed report? Would inform planning.
 - Ohop NM data before and after restoration is impressive
- Citizen science Nisqually program – create a subcommittee? (Reformat Stream Stewards?)
 - Track restoration
 - Goal based

Where are we heading?

- Will NRC/NRF implement NWSP? Or will NRF recruit and report back from other partners?
- Past: Delta, Ohop restorations, Land acquisition
- Future: New Salmon Recovery plan by 10/2/17
 - Late fall early winter: Chris Ellings will do an NRC presentation
 - Nisqually Indian Tribe's 2017 ranked list for NRC Approval
 - 7 projects, see picture
 - 3-5 do not need capital budget \$
 - What is 'success'?
 - DC folks see de-listing as success. No fish species has been delisted. Hood Canal Summer Chum has best chance for being delisted.

NRC Youth Council

- Was a high priority 2 years ago, but haven't taken much action.
- CAC priority – maybe CAC can direct progress
- 2015 implementation plan exists
- Tied to Student Green Congress

- Additional Americorps?
- Expanded staffing?

Education project

- Value of engaging students at the Nisqually Land Trust

Diversity of membership

- Recreation; rural communities
- Missing: Hunters, fisherpeople
- Innovative approaches to elk, fishing (Examples: Mineral Lake, Elbe, Ashford)
- Non-profit outreach: How to support? – Also invite to NRC and NWF/ESF
 - Evergreen Mountain Biking Alliance
 - WTA
 - Backcountry Horseman
 - Trout Unlimited
 - American Whitewater
 - South Sound Fly Fishers
 - Tacoma Wheelman (Bob Myrick)
 - MTTA
 - Sustainable hunting and fishing?
- Business Outreach
 - Farmers
 - Conservation Districts
- Look into CRM – Tracking tool to reengage missing NRC people, other non-profits, and businesses

Speakers' bureau to support local government dealing with contentious environmental issues

- Make rounds to local town councils etc to promote NRC/our work/NWSP – invite them to NRC meetings
- Staff/CAC/NRC
- Pierce County Sustainability Coalition – Meets monthly with Pierce County Executive