



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Nisqually River Council Annual Retreat**  
**July 15, 2016**  
**Ohop Valley/Starry Hill Observatory**  
Information: 360.438.8715

Attendees:

**Council Members**

**Amy Cruver** – *Pierce County*  
**Darric Lowery** – *WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife*  
**Amber Moore** – *Puget Sound Partnership*

**Sandra Romero** – *Thurston County*  
**David Troutt** – *Nisqually Indian Tribe*  
\* **CAC Representatives (2)**

**Citizens Advisory Committee Members**

**Ed Kenney**  
**Fred Michelson**  
**Steve Pruitt\***

**Karelina Resnick**  
**Lois Ward\***

**Guests**

**Cathy Sampselle** – *Nisqually Indian Tribe*  
**Chris Schutz** – *Pierce County*  
**Ashley Von Essen** – *Nisqually Indian Tribe*

**Lance Wineka** – *South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group*

**Staff & Associated Nonprofits**

**Morgan Greene** – *Nisqually River Council*  
**Justin Hall** – *Nisqually River Foundation*  
**Joe Kane** – *Nisqually Land Trust*

**Aleks Storvick** – *Nisqually River Ed. Project*  
**Sheila Wilson** – *Nisqually River Ed. Project*

**\*\*NOTE:** The retreat started with a tour of various locations of the Ohop Valley Restoration Project and the facilities of Starry Hill Observatory. No meeting notes available.

**1. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes and Agenda, Introductions**

**Call to Order** – David called the meeting to order at 12:00.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes and Agenda** – There were no minutes available for approval.

**2. NRC Elections – *Nomination Subcommittee (Ashley Von Essen, Lois Ward, Fred Michelson)***

Ashley announced that the only nomination received for vice chair was JW Foster. Although he was not present at the meeting, JW is willing to serve in that role. There was a motion to accept the nomination; the motion carried unanimously. David Trout was nominated as chair of the NRC. David noted that he is willing to accept the nomination, but wanted to be sure the Council was aware that he would be ready to pass along the torch whenever necessary. There was a motion to accept his nomination; the motion carried unanimously. David and JW will serve in these roles through July 2017.

**3. Farewell, Chris Schutz!**

Chris Schutz has been a part of the NRC for the last 17 or 18 years. She recently retired after 25 years in Pierce County, and a 48 year career. David noted that her kindness and passion is inspiring to everyone who has gotten to know her. David also noted that people are always welcome to enter the Nisqually Watershed, but that they can never truly leave. Chris will remain a part of the Nisqually Family! Chris was presented with a blanket. She noted that she has loved her career in Pierce County, learning something new every day. Chris walks away with fond memories of the Nisqually Watershed and the people involved with it.

**4. Nisqually 2016 Ranked Projects List – *Ashley Von Essen***

The 2016 Ranked Project List applies to both the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRF Board) and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) dollars, which will be awarded at different times this year. The total Nisqually allocation is approximately \$1.7 million, with between \$300-\$320,000 allocated by SRF Board and \$1.4 million from PSAR. The final SRF Board allocations will be announced in August. PSAR dollars are readying

projects for the 2017-2019 state budgets. The projects are first ranked by technical merit, and then adjusted based on additional factors/project needs. The complete project list was broken into 2 separate lists, one for each funding source.

The technical ranked, determined by the Habitat Work Group, was: (1) Wilcox North Shoreline Protection; (2) Wilcox Reach Small Lots Acquisition; (3) Mashel Eatonville Restoration Phase III; (4) Middle Ohop Protection Phase III; (5) Lower Ohop “Acquisition for Restoration” Planning; (6) Nisqually Tributaries Habitat Assessment Project; (7) Middle Ohop Protection Phase II; (8) Ohop Early Action Riparian Weed Control; and (9) McKenna Small Lots Acquisitions. The Alternate was Busy Wild Protection Phase II.

The 2016 SRF Board Project List is:

1. Middle Ohop Protection Phase III, sponsored by Nisqually Land Trust (NLT). The amount requested is \$130,000. The property has been purchased, so there is a need for it to be funded sooner.
2. Mashel Eatonville Restoration Phase III, sponsored by South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group (SPSSEG). The amount requested is \$185,000 and would improve salmon habitat complexity.

The 2017-2019 PSAR Project List is:

1. Nisqually River – Wilcox Reach North Shoreline Protection, sponsored by NLT. The amount requested is \$1,040,900, and would be the acquisition of 160 acres along Pierce County shoreline on Wilcox Reach.
2. Middle Ohop Protection Phase III, sponsored by NLT. The amount requested is \$253,317 and would be the acquisition/restoration of 32 acres on Ohop Creek.
3. Wilcox Reach – Small Lots Acquisition, sponsored by NLT. The amount requested is \$273,194 and would be the acquisition of up to 34 acres where landowners face rapidly changing shorelines.
4. Lower Ohop “Acquisition for Restoration” Planning, sponsored by NLT. The amount requested is \$22,973 and would include outreach to landowners for the next phase(s) of Ohop Creek channel restoration.
5. Nisqually Tributaries Habitat Assessment Project, sponsored by SPSSEG. The amount requested is \$113,000 and would assess stream habitat—both quality and quantity—in Muck Creek.
6. Middle Ohop Protection Phase II, sponsored by NLT. The amount requested is \$195,500 and would be the conservation easement of 35 acres and 2,200’ of shoreline. It was an Alternate from the 2015 round.
7. Ohop Early Action Riparian Weed Control, sponsored by Pierce Conservation District. The amount requested is \$106,438 and emphasizes early detection/rapid response to invasive plant species, especially yellow flag iris.
8. McKenna Small Lots Acquisition, sponsored by NLT. The amount requested is \$600,000 and is a scalable project that could acquire up to 35 acres on 15 separate lots along the Nisqually mainstem. This was an Alternate from the 2015 round.
9. Busy Wild Protection Phase II, sponsored by NLT. The amount requested is \$1,300,000 and is the acquisition of up to 1,385 acres of commercial forestland along Busy Wild Creek. This project will no longer be moving forward as a 2017-19 PSAR Large Capital application, but as an alternate for the regular PSAR round. This is separate from the Nisqually Community Forest.

Ashley brought the two lists forward for approval as a recommendation for funding from the SRF Board and PSAR. There was a motion to accept this list; the motion carried unanimously. Ashley’s presentation is available here: <http://www.slideshare.net/Nisqually/nisqually-2016-ranked-project-lists>.

### 3. For the Good of the Order

Next Tuesday, July 19<sup>th</sup> from 11-12:15, there will be a renaming celebration of the newly dubbed Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge.

**Adjourn** – Meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.

*Next Meeting: Friday, July 19, 2016  
Mount Rainier National Park, 9:30-10:30  
NWSP Topic: Sustainable Tourism*