

**INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION
SUMMARY MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING**

DATE: February 5, 1998
TIME: 2:00 p.m..

PLACE: Large Auditorium, SeaTac Airport
SeaTac, Washington

- Contents -

1.	MEETING CALLED TO ORDER	2
2.	RIPARIAN HABITAT PROGRAM	2
3.	LEGISLATIVE UPDATE	4
	ANNOUNCEMENTS.....	5

**INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION
SUMMARY MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING**

*DATE: February 5, 1998
TIME: 2:00 p.m.*

*PLACE: Large Auditorium, SeaTac Airport
SeaTac, Washington*

INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Donna M. Mason, Chair	Vancouver
Mary Ann Huntington	Port Orchard
Ralph Mackey	Everett
Robert Parlette	Wenatchee
Christine Wakefield	Snohomish
Stan Biles	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Elyse Kane	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Cleve Pinnix	Director, Parks and Recreation Commission

IT IS INTENDED THAT THIS SUMMARY BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NOTEBOOK PROVIDED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.
A VERBATIM RECORDED TAPE OF THE MEETING'S PROCEEDINGS IS RETAINED BY IAC AS THE FORMAL RECORD OF MEETING.

ITEM 1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Donna Mason, Chair, called the February 5, 1998 meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. She welcomed attendees, called for self-introductions and determined a quorum was present.

Director Laura Johnson outlined the agenda for the meeting which focuses primarily on the Riparian Habitat Program. Additionally, Jim Fox will present a legislative update and Jim Eychaner will discuss the boating inventory program, if time is available.

ITEM 2. RIPARIAN HABITAT PROGRAM

Jim Fox presented a brief program overview and introduction. He reminded members that the Riparian Habitat Program was established by the 1997 legislature and was intended to be a pilot program that earmarked \$4 million of WWRP unallocated funds in the Habitat Conservation Account to protect riparian areas.

Lynn Palensky described the functions and benefits of healthy riparian areas and explained ways in which the habitat can be protected.

Phil Trask discussed less-than-fee-simple acquisitions and conservation easements. He also explained why property owners are interested in conservation easements (preservation of land, economic benefits, etc.) and the use of endowments. In response to Committee questions, staff explained:

- the differences between term and perpetuity easements
- the need for project sponsors to provide assurance of their plan for long-term stewardship capability
- the impacts to navigability on those projects proposing engineered log jams
- the public notification process.

Staff explained the unique evaluation process and criteria, funding highlights and requests and geographic locations of projects.

Lynn Palensky and Phil Trask described the riparian habitat projects in ranked order and answered Committee questions as they arose.

Chair Mason called for public testimony.

Matt Mathes Planner, City of Enumclaw
Expressed support for the Newaukum Creek Project (#16) and presented a letter from the City of Enumclaw.

Robert Crittenden Dungeness Valley Association
Opposed the Dungeness River Watershed Restoration (Clallam Conservation District) and distributed a letter from the Dungeness Valley Association.

(Chair Mason asked Bob Parlette to chair the remainder of the meeting).

Vasiliki Vassil Executive Director, Methow Conservancy
Expressed support for the Methow Conservancy Riparian Habitat project and presented letters of support.

Jim Fox directed members to the staff recommendation and resolution (see notebook).

Mary Ann Huntington **moved** approval of the distribution of unallocated WWRP HCA funds for the Riparian Habitat Grant Program. Ralph Mackey **seconded**. Staff responded to Committee questions regarding the ranked list, establishing fair market value, control and tenure, and a possible conflict of interest regarding the Dungeness River project.

Stan Biles urged IAC staff to establish a clear, scientific methodology for monitoring and evaluating those projects which propose physical improvements. In the case of conservation easements where no physical improvements are planned, streams protected with this funding should be compared to others not funded.

RESOLUTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Resolution #98-01)

Stan Biles commented on DNR's philosophical dilemma with the RHP. As the Department has addressed issues of habitat improvement and preservation on private lands, property rights advocates have repeatedly argued that in order to provide habitat preservation on private property, the property, rights or conservation easements should

be purchased. Historically, DNR has taken the position that it is in the public interest to provide protection. Regulatory programs are founded on that belief. The RHP presents a new challenge because IAC is now poised to purchase those property rights which DNR has historically argued against. There seems to be an unstated legislative assumption that current Department regulations are not adequate to protect riparian habitat on some of the most valuable land. DNR staff feel that outright purchase of property, property rights or easements should be viewed as tools to be used with those regulations and will continue to "wrestle" with the issue.

Bob Parlette commented that this program was developed to address those habitat areas which have been harmed in the past and it provides a positive incentive to improve or protect riparian areas. This is in contrast to the current regulatory approach that has been reasonably effective but not very well received in some sections of the state.

Director Johnson responded that the original focus of this pilot project was to test the less-than-fee-simple mechanism. In this case it has been applied to riparian areas but we could have been directed to use less-than-fee-simple acquisition for ball fields or some other property allowed under the WWRP grant program. Although we have successfully managed the first stage of the pilot program, the overall effectiveness of the mechanism is yet to be determined. Our 1999 program report to the legislature will highlight a number of features of the use of the mechanism for less-than-fee-simple acquisition.

Cleve Pinnix reminded the Committee that the \$4 million dedicated to this program comes from resources that otherwise would have gone through the WWRP process in the Habitat Conservation Account. Those HCA programs will have fewer dollars available and it will be difficult to effectively measure the worth of the RHP projects in relation to the traditional HCA projects.

Staff responded to questions regarding the requirement for an agency/organization to submit a resolution authorizing the funding request and how the worth of volunteer hours is calculated.

ITEM 3. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jim Fox reported the following:

- HB 2736 and 2738, dealing with riparian habitat restoration, would reallocate funds from various agencies into fish restoration projects;
- HB 1351 would establish in statute a percentage of marine fuel tax coming to IAC for the boating program and would reduce the amount of money coming into that program by about \$415,000;
- SB 6134, sponsored by Sen. Oke, would remove the \$.18 cap on fuel tax transferred to IAC's boating facility and NOVA programs and State Parks' snowmobile program. Funding to the three programs would be increased.
- SB 6235, dealing with community athletic facilities, builds on Ref. 48 which

created the Youth Athletic Facilities account. A committee reporting to the IAC would be established to oversee athletic fields with the hope that a new grant program would be created specifically for outdoor athletic fields.

- SB 6367 would change the NOVA funding formula moving a greater percentage of funds into the nonhighway roads category and reducing the amount of funding going into the ORV (motorized) portion of the program. Although the bill will probably not receive approval this session, it is legislation that will reappear in the future.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Johnson announced that the March meeting will be held in Olympia in the Natural Resources Building on Thursday, March 12.

Citizen members were reminded to file Public Disclosure (PDC) forms by April 15.

Members are asked to share ideas for a ½ day workshop at the July meeting in Silverdale. Director Johnson reported several suggestions from the November meeting and agreed to distribute those suggestions to members prior to the March meeting.

Mary Ann Huntington announced that the Port Orchard Marina has scheduled a grand re-opening celebration on April 3. The marina was damaged significantly during a 1997 winter storm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Acting Chair Bob Parlette at 5:02 p.m.

IAC APPROVAL CERTIFIED BY



Donna M. Mason, Chair

3/12/98

Date

Next Meeting: July 16-17, 1998
Silverdale Inn on the Bay
Silverdale, Washington

RESOLUTION #98-1

**DISTRIBUTION OF UNALLOCATED WWRP HCA FUNDS:
RIPARIAN HABITAT GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, \$45,000,000 was appropriated by the 1997 Legislature for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) for the 1997-1999 biennium; and

WHEREAS, Section 329(6), Chapter 235, Laws of 1997, earmarks \$4 million of the unallocated portion of the Habitat Conservation Account (HCA) appropriation for a pilot Riparian Habitat Grant Program (RHP); and

WHEREAS, on July 18, 1997, the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC), in an open public meeting, approved RHP guidelines which included eligibility and evaluation criteria and an evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, 34 projects applying for funding from the RHP are eligible to receive funding; and

WHEREAS, \$3,800,000 is available for distribution to RHP projects; and

WHEREAS, the 34 RHP projects were evaluated in an open public meeting by a team of experts in watershed planning, riparian habitat, fish biology, less-than-fee-simple land acquisition, and riparian restoration; and

WHEREAS, #98-1, Table 2, reflects the project ranking and funding levels recommended by the evaluation team;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the ranked project list and funding levels as depicted in 98-1, Table 2 is approved.

MARY ANN HUNTINGTON

Moved

RALPH MACKEY

Seconded

MOTION CARRIED / FAILED

FEBRUARY 5, 1998



Riparian Habitat Program

Table 2 - Funding Recommendation

Resolution 98-1

Rank	Project Number	Project Name	Project Sponsor	IAC Request	IAC Funding Recommend	Sponsor Share	Total Cost	IAC	
								Cumulative Total	Total
1	97-1283	Martha John Creek Project	Kitsap Co. Conservation Distr	416,000	416,000	104,000	520,000	416,000	416,000
2	97-1284	Chimacum Watershed Conservation Ea	Jefferson Land Trust	499,500	499,500	122,500	622,000	915,500	915,500
3	97-1300	Dungeness River Watershed Restoratio	Clallam Conservation Dist	379,235	379,235	506,973	886,208	1,294,735	1,294,735
4	97-1275	Nisqually River Riparian Project	Nisqually R Basin Land Trust	213,750	213,750	51,250	265,000	1,508,485	1,508,485
5	97-1295	Stilaguamish Slough Protection Project	Snohomish Co Public Works	283,110	283,110	94,370	377,480	1,791,595	1,791,595
6	97-1302	Issaquah Creek/Lake Sammamish Wat	King Co. Water & Land Resources	87,225	87,225	29,075	116,300	1,878,820	1,878,820
7	97-1299	N. Fork Stillaguamish Engineered Log J	Washington Trout	192,750	192,750	64,250	257,000	2,071,570	2,071,570
8	97-1310	Methow Conservancy Riparian Habitats	Methow Conservancy	500,000	500,000	333,700	833,700	2,571,570	2,571,570
9	97-1307	Haskell Slough Project	Trout Unlimited - Monroe	350,000	350,000	150,000	500,000	2,921,570	2,921,570
10	97-1281	Evans Creek Project	King Co Water & Land Resources	187,500	18,750	6,250	25,000	2,940,320	2,940,320
11	97-1272	Samish River Project	Skagit Conservatoin Dist	500,000	500,000	166,500	666,500	3,440,320	3,440,320
12	97-1301	North Creek Greenway	Snohomish County Parks & Rec	359,680	359,680	156,000	515,680	3,800,000	3,800,000
13	97-1301	North Creek Greenway	Snohomish County Parks & Rec	109,320					
14	97-1287	Herzmann Habitat	King Co Water & Land Resources	267,526					
15	97-1292	Paradise Valley Conservation Area	King Co Water & Land Resources	319,000					
16	97-1298	Lewis River Preserve	Clark County Parks Department	230,400					
17	97-1278	Newaukum Creek Project	Enumclaw City of	70,250					
18	97-1271	Goldsborough Creek Restoration Projec	Mason Conservation Dist	415,000					
19	97-1304	Big Beef Creek	Kitsap County Fair and Parks	415,550					
20	97-1270	Wollochet Estuary Project	Peninsula Heritage Land Trust	195,450					
21	97-1285	Acme Watershed Project	Nooksack Salmon Enhance Assn	292,000					
22	97-1274	West Hylebos Riparian Habitat Project	Federal Way City of	463,264					
23	97-1288	Spring Creek Restoration/Protection	Trout Unlimited: S King County	240,000					
24	97-1306	Chewelah Creek	Stevens Co. Conservation Dist.	151,125					
25	97-1266	Gages Slough Restoration Project	Burlington City of	92,677					
26	97-1305	Drainage District 6 Restoration Project	Snohomish Co Public Works	500,000					
27	97-1273	The C.C.H.U.M Plan	Stanwood City of	186,234					
28	97-1286	Skokomish Valley	Mason County Community Dev	240,000					
29	97-1290	Buchanan Ranch Project #1	North Yakima Conservation Dist	496,976					
30	97-1289	Garrison Creek Restoration Project	Walla Walla Co. Cons. Dist.	132,000					
31	97-1268	Barrett Lake Project	Barrett Lake Foundation	262,500					
32	97-1296	Longfellow Creek Stewardship Project	Land Conserv. of Seattle/King	244,000					
33	97-1280	Mill Creek Restoration	Kent City of	270,000					
34	97-1267	Marine View Drive Bridge - Fish Passag	Des Moines City of	282,000					
35	97-1308	Westside Outlet Enhancement	Kennewick City	300,000					