

# KING COUNTY AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

## MEETING NOTICE

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017

2:30 – 5:30 P.M. AT THE

**SNOQUALMIE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### PROPOSED MEETING AGENDA

(AGENDA ITEM TIMES ARE TENTATIVE)

<b>2:30</b>	<b>Call to Order</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions</li> <li>• Approval of Agenda</li> <li>• Approval of Minutes (March 9<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	Leann Krainick, Chair Pro Tem
<b>2:40</b>	<b>Public Comment</b> – <i>please limit comments to 3 minutes/person</i>	
<b>2:45</b>	<b>Farm, Fish, Flood Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FFF subcommittee meeting update – submittal letter</li> <li>• Q&amp;A</li> <li>• Motion to Approve FFF agreement</li> <li>• Discuss items for letter from commission about FFF support/concerns</li> <li>• Motion for FFF Committee to draft letter for next meeting</li> </ul>	Siri Erickson-Brown, Meredith Molli, Bob Vos, Larry Pickering and John Taylor, WLRD Assistant Director
<b>3:15</b>	<b>Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program (ADAP)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 accomplishments</li> <li>• 2017 goals</li> <li>• Q&amp;A</li> </ul>	Lou Beck, KC Storm water and ADAP Ben Axt, KCD Drainage Program
<b>4:05</b>	<b>King County Agriculture Program Update</b>	Richard Martin
<b>4:20</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>4:30</b>	<b>Local Food Initiative: 2016 Annual Report</b>	Mike Lufkin, KC Food Economy Program Manager
<b>5:00</b>	<b>Old Business Updates</b> (approx. 5 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission Details</li> <li>• Livestock Workshops</li> <li>• Councilmember von Reichbauer's Town Hall meeting</li> <li>• King Conservation District</li> <li>• Farm Bureau</li> <li>• Snoqualmie Watershed Improvement District (WID)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patrice Barrentine</li> <li>• Leann Krainick</li> <li>• KCD Staff</li> <li>• Bruce Elliott</li> <li>• Siri Erickson-Brown</li> </ul>
<b>5:30</b>	<b>Land Acquisitions: none to report</b>	Patrice Barrentine
<b>5:30</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>	Leann Krainick

### Next Meeting:

**May 11<sup>th</sup> 3:00-6:00 pm, Snoqualmie Public Library**

# 2017 Meeting Topics Calendar

Complete	Topic	Who	When	Outcomes	
				Letter advising County Executive	Notes
✓	Pike Place Market Tour and Farm Programming	Leigh Newman-Bell	Jan		
✓	Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance Sales Report	Chris Curtis	Jan		
✓	King Conservation District Regional Food Grant Program update	Mary Embleton	Jan		
✓	Approval of Ag Commission's FFF Recommendations		Feb		
✓	Road Vacations	King County	Feb		
	What's Going on with Ag in Other Counties?	Skagit	Fall		
	What's Going on with Ag in Other Counties?	Pierce	Fall		
	Joint Meeting with Rural Forestry Commission				
	Commission Policies and Procedures: Review and Modify				
	Tours to cover: Purpose of Commission, FPP, ADAP, Buffers, Salmon Recovery, Drip Irrigation, Drought, WID, Reclaimed Water, Keller Ditch, Tall Chief, Ag Regulatory Changes				





**King County**

**Water and Land Resources Division**

Department of Natural Resources and Parks  
King Street Center  
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600  
Seattle, WA 98104-3855  
**206-477-4800** Fax 206-296-0192  
TTY Relay: 711

**King County Agriculture Commission  
DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Enumclaw Public Library, Enumclaw**

<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>A</b>
Leann Krainick, Chair Pro-Tem	X		Siri Erickson-Brown	X		Leigh Newman-Bell		X
Amy Holmes, Vice Chair Pro-Tem	X		Shelby Jors		X	Larry Pickering		X
Roger Calhoon	X		Meredith Molli	X		Bob Vos	X	
Bruce Elliott	X		Eldon Murray	X				

*P=Present; A=Absent*

<b>County Staff Present</b>		
Erin Auzins, KCC	Richard Martin, DNRP	Randy Sandin, DPER
Patrice Barrentine, DNRP	Alan Painter, DNRP	Ted Sullivan, DNRP
Steve Evans, DNRP	April Sanders, KCC	John Taylor, DNRP

<b>Guests Present</b>		
Janet Baker	Liz Clark, KCD; Boise Creek Goats	Lorna Lufener, CEPR
Laurel Berger	Scott Gray, KC Fair/Expo Center	Lacey Mansanarez, KC Fair/Expo
Mark Berryhill	Julie Kintzi	Carrie Olsen, Renton Farmers Market
Sandy Canon, Concerned Enumclaw Plateau Residents (CEPR)	Karl Lufener, CEPR	Dennis West, King-Pierce Farm Bureau

**Meeting Action Summary**

- **Approval of February 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes**
- **Agriculture Code Changes**
- **Updates: Farmland Preservation Program; Farm Fish Flood Discussion/Letter**

***Meeting Called to Order at 3:00 pm (no quorum), 3:20 (with quorum)***

**Public Comment**

Liz Clark of King Conservation District (KCD) said KCD is working with the County and other organizations on outreach on the Newaukum plateau; she is willing to provide information about possible compensation and cost-shares available for implementing buffer projects to land owners on Newaukum Creek.

Lorna Lufener, of the group Concerned Enumclaw Plateau Residents, spoke on local residents' worries about possible County code changes to designate marijuana production an agricultural activity.

Scott Gray of the KC Fair/Expo Center spoke about a desire to refocus the center back on more agricultural education. He also noted a program selling pins to raise funds and public awareness for the King County Fair, which is July 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> this year. He added there will be a town hall meeting at the center on May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7-9 pm, with KCC member Reagan Dunn and representatives from several County agencies.

## **Approval of Meeting Agenda**

Leann Krainick postponed the agenda and minutes' approval until quorum was reached. Amy Holmes made a motion to approve tonight's agenda, which Meredith Molli seconded and was passed unanimously.

## **Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Roger Calhoon made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Bruce Elliott seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **Code Changes: Agriculture/Ag Use Definitions - Erin Auzins, KCC & Randy Sandin, DPER**

Erin Auzins, KCC policy analyst, and Randy Sandin of KC Department of Permitting and Environmental Review (DPER) spoke to the Commission on updates to agriculture-related definitions in the county Code. Mr. Sandin described a 1993 overhaul of the zoning code, where all identified land uses were distributed among other categories, such as retail, residential, and manufacturing. Agricultural land uses were put in a "resource" land use category. However, many agricultural supporting land uses, such as sale of agricultural products, were classified as "retail" or other categories. In 2012-13, when the County updated its shoreline master code to ensure compliance with state shoreline regulations, this led to the insight that this structure is a flaw in the current code format.

Originally, DPER sought to redefine agriculture to include every activity on a farm. They also wanted to support agriculture support activities on non-agricultural lands, such as farm labor housing on land adjacent to an APD. In 2015 DPER worked with KCD, the County agricultural program, and the Commission Regulatory Committee on a draft of code changes to better support farming. This draft was sent in March 2016 to KCC as part of the annual comp plan update.

Ms. Auzins overviewed a timeline of the code updates within KCC. Between March - July 2016, KCC staff with the KCC Transportation, Economy, and Environment (TREE) committee chair's office and Executive's office staff outlined the proposed changes. In July 2016, TREE chair Rod Dembowski opted to remove these changes from the revised comp plan, due to KCC not having sufficient resources to review the language and address additional work needed. However, KCC adopted a work plan item for an inter-branch team to finish work on the proposed agriculture changes and conduct outreach to invested parties, with a goal to send the new ordinance to KCC by September 2017. The team includes staff from DNR; DPER; Performance, Strategy, and Budget (PSB); and KCC. She noted that language addressing wineries will be sent separately prior to the agriculture ordinance; she also added that marijuana zoning changes were not included, as they are pending outcome of three KCC-requested studies, and that language is not scheduled to return before KCC until the end of 2018.

Ms. Auzins reviewed the proposed changes; some are language clarifications, and others address more substantive changes such as re-organizing various agriculture support uses and definitions back into an "agricultural" category. The next phase is outreach, including Commission feedback and briefings with parties such as KCD and Snoqualmie Valley Tilth. Then, the inter-branch team will re-convene to finalize the ordinance report to send to the Executive's office for consideration. She advised that as 2017 is a "non-budget" year, TREE will not address this until October. The team is working with staff of other KCC members' offices to keep them apprised of changes so concerns are addressed sooner in this process.

Several Commissioners asked questions to clarify the intent of the revisions. Bob Vos asked if the updated definitions include marijuana production as an agricultural activity; Mr. Sandin stressed it is defined in a separate category from agriculture. Patrice Barrentine asked the Commission if they had concerns about the recommended changes as presented, or if the Regulatory Committee needs to address them more deeply, or if they are satisfied with the proposed changes. Mr. Vos asked if the changes are proceeding normally or if there are concerns among the KCC. April Sanders of KCC member Kathy Lambert's office replied that her perception is that Ms. Lambert's goal, and other Council members', is to ensure that what came from the Regulatory Committee is what is adopted. Meredith Molli suggested the Regulatory Committee assist the inter-branch team in crafting the proposed changes into a more understandable, presentable format for the public outreach phase. Leann Krainick agreed.

## BREAK

### Marijuana Policy – Patrice Barrentine, DNRP

Due to the topic being addressed earlier in the meeting, Leann Krainick tabled discussion on this agenda item. She noted the relevant legislation, HB 1692, is “dead” in committee, and directed anyone interested in the Commission’s September 2016 letter to KCC on this topic to tonight’s meeting handouts, which include the letter. Ms. Barrentine said HB 1692 intended to designate marijuana as a protected agriculture product, with marijuana processing as an agriculture use, and therefore not subject to “nuisance law.”

### Updates – Commissioners, KC Staff

- **Agriculture Program (Richard Martin, DNRP):** Mr. Martin said at next Commission meeting he hopes to present a 2016 “work in review” report for the KC agricultural team. He reported two County agriculture positions are being recruited. One is a regulatory permitting specialist which will serve as coordinator for both the Farm Fish Flood (FFF) regulatory task force and the DPER/DNRP agriculture permit team. He said he hopes to report back at April’s Commission meeting with the new hire for the position. The second recruitment centers on updating the county’s 2013 Agricultural Land Cover Assessment; this involves reviewing current rural/APD land uses to better determine total county land dedicated to agriculture. He said two to three people will be hired this summer, one of whom will stay on part-time through December; he invited interested parties to contact him for more information.
- **Commission Details (Patrice Barrentine, DNRP):** Ms. Barrentine reported she had received all but one Financial Disclosure form. She advised the April Commission meeting is being held earlier in the day due to venue availability. She said the KCD Regional Food Grant the County received for meat processing infrastructure is moving quickly, and a public workshop will be held at Enumclaw Expo Center from 11 am - 2 pm on April 12<sup>th</sup>. A similar workshop for Snoqualmie Valley is planned to follow one to two weeks after.
- **Selection Committee (Leann Krainick):** Ms. Krainick said Ms. Barrentine will send out invitation letters soon. Ms. Krainick also asked anyone interested in serving on the Commission, or anyone who knows potentially interested parties, to contact Ms. Barrentine as soon as possible.
- **Councilmember von Reichbauer’s Town Hall Meeting (Leann Krainick):** Ms. Krainick reported that KCC member Pete von Reichbauer is sponsoring a South King County agriculture-centric town hall meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup> from 7 - 8:30 pm at the Auburn High School performing arts center. She said the goal of the meeting is to encourage youth activities in agriculture.
- **King Conservation District (Amy Holmes):** Ms. Holmes gave an update on this year’s Regional Food Grant Program (RFGP), that it will offer roughly \$900K in competitive grants and strategic project funding to address regional food goals. She reported a recent RFGP working group program meeting produced several recommendations, to improve the grant process, and for 2017 funding priorities. These will go before KCD’s board in late March. The 2017 grant announcement should also come in late March. She said KCD has secured an additional \$500K in funds for countywide agricultural drainage work to be invested over the next three years; Ben Axt can be contacted for more information. She added that a farmers’ working group also met earlier that week to advise KCD on the focus of what to seek in grant applications this year.
- **Farm Bureau (Bruce Elliott):** Mr. Elliott overviewed a situation with a Puyallup creek that parallels many issues involved in Snoqualmie Valley’s FFF. KCC staffer April Sanders noted she is on a planning commission involved in those discussions, and a code update is scheduled to be ready in a few weeks. Mr. Elliott reiterated a wish for Farm Bureau outreach to north King County areas like the Snoqualmie Valley; Siri Erickson-Brown and Meredith Molli said that process is underway.
- **Snoqualmie Watershed Improvement District [WID] (Siri Erickson-Brown):** Ms. Erickson-Brown reported that the WID is working on a water resource strategy to provide regular water availability to farmers in the Valley, at a cost of \$125/per acre foot for one year.

## **Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) – Ted Sullivan, DNRP**

Mr. Sullivan, FPP manager for DNRP, provided the Commission an overview of the program. He said FPP has been around since the early 1980s. It was adopted via County ordinance with intent to protect soils for planting/farming. FPP's role is to acquire property interests, by buying rights from property owners with the intent that the land is preserved for farming activities. FPP was funded initially from a 1979 bond, and since then from other state and local sources such as the Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) and donations. A newer revenue source is the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program, which sells development rights from rural/agricultural areas to cities for further development opportunities.

He noted that participation in FPP does not mandate farming a piece of land, but does require that 95% of the property remain available for farming. He said most of the 15,000 acres preserved in the program were acquired in the 1980s-1990s, but an ongoing effort since 2014 has added almost 1,000 acres to the program, and more to be added this year. He also noted FPP deeds do not allow buffer area restoration to water bodies on a protected property unless deemed beneficial to agricultural use. To address this restriction, new deeds for the program (since 2009) now include a "Present Conditions Report" (PCR), which outlines areas on a property eligible for potential buffer restoration or other resource purposes.

Mr. Sullivan's presentation was followed by several Commissioner questions, leading to discussion about FPP's part in larger goals such as the Executive's Land Conservation Initiative. Clarification was also sought on the definition of conservation easements vs. FPP; it was explained that easements are the actual mechanism that conserves an individual piece of land, and FPP is the overarching program. There was also discussion detailing some of the variations possible in negotiating individual easements.

Meredith Molli voiced concern that PCRs may open a door to chip away at available farmland for other purposes. John Taylor of DNRP replied he could not foresee a situation where the County would pay hundreds of thousands of dollars or more for development rights on a property where a significant amount of acreage is being proposed removed from agricultural use. Richard Martin added that if a property is identified as prime for restoration work as well as farming, discussion between those interests ahead of time could potentially lessen this issue by an agreement such as the portion of the land for restoration not having an easement purchased on it for FPP. Further discussion continued on ideas to reach the ultimate goal of keeping land farmable, such as finding a way to enforce a possible mandate that FPP land be actively farmed. Leann Krainick advised anyone with suggestions to send them to the Land Advisory Committee, which is set to reconvene in August to finalize their recommendations to the Executive's office. She also requested Mr. Sullivan return to the Commission at a future date to present further on this topic.

## **Farm Fish Flood (FFF) Update – John Taylor, DNRP**

Mr. Taylor updated on the status of FFF report revisions suggested by the Commission at prior meetings. He said the most substantial of these revisions that DNRP staff shared with the other FFF caucuses, at a meeting the preceding Monday, involved composition of the FFF 2.0 committee, and a way to enforce "bundled" implementation of FFF caucus action priorities. He said the general response among caucuses was supportive of the revisions' intent, but had reservations about the specific language. A suggestion of eliminating the flood caucus was poorly received. The ultimate consensus was that more work was needed on the suggested revisions, possibly even a full edit of the entire report. During a separate discussion between DNRP and KCD, it was suggested the report may not even be necessary; and that just the action item recommendations, already agreed-upon by the caucuses, could be transmitted for signature. The result of this discussion is a proposal to no longer label this report an FFF task force report, but a King County staff report, as County staff wrote it. This would come in the form of a jointly written transmittal letter from the FFF task force, attached to the action recommendations, which would include the Commission's two key concerns (FFF 2.0 composition and "bundling") to be built into the next FFF process. Mr. Taylor recommended tasking a small group to quickly draft and finalize this letter over the course of one meeting, to ensure other caucus parties did not tire and walk away from the negotiation process.

Bob Vos asked which version of the staff report would be included in the packet. Mr. Taylor answered that it would be the version that all other parties but the Commission had agreed upon. Several Commissioners

expressed reservations about attaching this version along with the other suggested materials; that it could be perceived as one document which all parties had agreed to. Mr. Vos stated his perception that County management was dismissing all of the last several months of input from the Commission on this matter.

Siri Erickson-Brown said she was frustrated that the mutual understanding and respect formed between the FFF committee members was being jeopardized by the staff report. Mr. Taylor suggested that the County's proposal be brought before the FFF committee for them to determine the final structure of this transmittal packet, and perhaps even omit the report entirely. He noted that the County's official position is still to include the staff report along with the aforementioned letter and action recommendations; that he believes a lot of good material is in the report aside from the Commission's reservations, as well as context for any readers unfamiliar with the FFF process. Ms. Erickson-Brown voiced hope that the suggested letter would sufficiently address the Commission's two key concerns.

Mr. Taylor stressed his belief that there was no intended bias in the staff report and that County staff have worked very hard to support the Commission. He expressed concern that further lengthy debating on the minutiae of this report would cost crucial momentum to achieve the FFF task forces' work. Ms. Barrentine added that she believed sufficient foundation has been laid to address Commission concerns going forward; she also praised the strategic work the Commission completed regarding the composition of FFF 2.0. After further discussion, Leann Krainick directed a subcommittee to proceed with drafting the letter proposed above, which will then return to the Commission for a vote.

***Meeting Adjourned at 6:21 pm***

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### **Next Meeting**

April 13, 2017, 2:30-5:30 pm, at Snoqualmie Public Library, Snoqualmie

## DRAFT FFF TRANSMITTAL LETTER

1 Date

2

3 County Executive and County Council

4

5 Dear Executive Constantine and Council Members:

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7

8 This letter contains the recommendations of the Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood (FFF) Advisory  
9 Committee (Committee), which was convened in November 2013 as a response to  
10 Comprehensive Plan policy R-650 and which constitutes the watershed planning process  
11 contemplated in R-650a adopted by the King County Council in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan  
12 Update (added as Appendix I to this letter). The recommendations contained in this letter and  
13 the attached appendices are intended to assist the Executive and Council to advance and  
14 balance three important county goals at a watershed scale: restoring habitat to aid salmon  
15 recovery, supporting farmers and preserving farmland, and reducing flood risk for farmers and  
16 other Snoqualmie Valley residents.

17

18 This letter and the attached matrix of recommendations represent the culmination of three  
19 years of dedicated and committed work by the Committee, and establish the foundation for  
20 additional work by a future stakeholder group. We look forward to the Executive and Council's  
21 response to these recommendations, and many of the organizations that have participated in  
22 phase one of the FFF process look forward to continuing to work together on these issues.

23

24 The Committee was comprised of fourteen individuals of diverse backgrounds and perspectives,  
25 including local farmers as well as representatives of the Tulalip and Snoqualmie tribes, the King  
26 Conservation District, the King County Flood Control District, the Wild Fish Conservancy, the City  
27 of Duvall, the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum, the Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum,  
28 Futurewise, and the Washington Department of Ecology. Two of the four farmers on the  
29 committee also represented the King County Agriculture Commission and the Snoqualmie Valley  
30 Preservation Alliance, respectively. The Committee held twenty-six meetings over the course of  
31 three years, as well as numerous smaller work sessions and caucus group meetings along the  
32 way, breaking during the months of peak farm activity.

33

34 The Committee's work concluded in May 2016 with the package of recommendations attached  
35 to this letter. The geographic scope of the committee's work was the Snoqualmie River  
36 watershed, focusing primarily on the 30-mile lower valley from the base of Snoqualmie Falls to  
37 the county line located north of the city of Duvall. More specifically, the committee's discussions  
38 focused on the roughly 14,500 acres of the Snoqualmie Agricultural Production District (APD),  
39 which is designated as Agricultural Land of Long-term Commercial Significance under the  
40 Washington State Growth Management Act.

41

42 The Committee's recommendations comprise:

43

44 1. Specific action recommendations with an emphasis on the next three years [Appendix II,  
45 III and IV]; and

46 2. Creation of three task forces and an associated body of recommended near-term work  
47 [Task Force scopes of work can be found in Appendix V].

48

a. Riparian Buffers Task Force

## DRAFT FFF TRANSMITTAL LETTER

- 49                   b. Regulatory Task Force
- 50                   c. Agricultural Strategic Plan Task Force
- 51           3. A memorandum of mutual understanding (Appendix VI)

52

53 The Committee’s thirty-four recommended actions outlined in Appendix II and III are organized  
54 into thematic categories of 1) flood risk reduction for valley landowners, 2) accelerating habitat  
55 restoration progress in key areas, 3) accelerating comprehensive agricultural drainage progress,  
56 4) preserving the agricultural land base, and 5) integrated multi-objective solutions. These  
57 recommendations comprise a diverse list that addresses high-priority actions for salmon  
58 recovery, supporting farming and preserving farmland, and flood risk reduction.

59

60 The Committee recommendations demonstrate the fact that each interest group agrees to  
61 support each other’s highest priorities. Therefore, making progress on the full spectrum of  
62 recommendations in a balanced way is absolutely critical for the success of the agreement.

63 Recognizing this, this letter also addresses two key areas of agreement among participants in  
64 the Committee: one, that the stakeholder group for the second phase of the FFF effort must  
65 have balanced representation from Fish and Farm and Flood interests and two, that the  
66 Committee’s recommendations be implemented in a balanced way, so that investments that  
67 support salmon recovery, and, farmers and farmland preservation occur concurrently.

68

69 **Fish, Farm, Flood Phase II Committee.** We are recommending that the County establish a  
70 reconstituted FFF Committee to oversee implementation of the recommendations included in  
71 this letter, and to provide support and accountability for the implementation phase of these  
72 recommendations.

73

74 The Fish, Farm, and Flood process was created because of a perceived imbalance between  
75 regional investments in salmon recovery and support for farmers and farmland preservation.  
76 Decisions around how flood control projects are undertaken can have impacts on both salmon  
77 recovery efforts and farmers, and so they were included as an important consideration in this  
78 effort. Through working together for the past three years, the Committee has built trust  
79 between individuals and entities, despite differences in interests and perspectives.

80

81 A key element in organizing the work of Committee members was an alignment of members  
82 into one of the three primary interest areas (“caucuses”), which helped organize the thinking of  
83 each of these different perspectives in the process. Consequently, a Farm Caucus, Fish Caucus  
84 and Flood Caucus were formed. Each of the caucuses had the following membership of  
85 Committee members.

86

### 87 **Farm Caucus**

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- 89           • King County Agricultural Commission
- 90           • Farm Landowner Representatives
- 91           • King Conservation District
- 92           • Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance
- 93           • SnoValley Tilth (not an official Committee member, but active in supporting the  
94           process)

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95

## DRAFT FFF TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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### **Fish Caucus**

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- Snoqualmie Watershed Forum

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- Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum

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- Wild Fish Conservancy

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- Tulalip Tribes

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- Snoqualmie Tribe

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- Futurewise

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### **Flood Caucus**

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- City of Duvall

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- Department of Ecology (also participated in fish caucus)

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- King County Flood Control District

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Because of the significant benefits associated with the caucus structure, we recommend that this process be formalized in the Fish, Farm and Flood Phase II Committee; and, to build on the investment made by FFF Phase I participants, we encourage the Executive and Council to appoint a significant number of Phase I participants to the Phase II committee. Additionally, while there would be three caucuses, the composition of the Phase II Committee should have equal representatives supporting salmon recovery and farm interests. We would recommend that the Flood Caucus have members representing organizations focused primarily on public safety, infrastructure development and protection, and without a policy position on salmon recovery or farming.

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120

We recommend that the Executive and County have a Committee with no more than fifteen members, and that they select individual representatives from the following organizations for each of the caucuses. The Committee recommends that the Executive and Council seek appointees who are collaborative and have substantive knowledge of the subject matter before the committee, and who will work in good faith with the committee.

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125

126

### **Farm Caucus**

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- Individual Farmers

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- Farm Bureau

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- King Conservation District

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- SnoValley Tilth

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- Agriculture Commission

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- PCC Farmland Trust

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- Conservation Futures Tax Committee Member

134

- Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance

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- Citizens' Alliance for Property Rights

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### **Fish Caucus**

138

- Snoqualmie Watershed Forum

139

- Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum

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- Wild Fish Conservancy

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- Tulalip Tribes

142

- Snoqualmie Tribe

## DRAFT FFF TRANSMITTAL LETTER

- 143 • Futurewise
- 144 • Sound Salmon Solutions
- 145 • Puget Sound Keepers Alliance
- 146 • Sound Salmon Solutions
- 147 • Stewardship Partners
- 148 • WA Department of Fish and Wildlife
- 149 • Department of Ecology
- 150 • US Army Corps of Engineers

151

### 152 **Flood Caucus**

- 153 • Snoqualmie Valley Cities
- 154 • Snoqualmie Valley Government Association
- 155 • King County Flood Control District
- 156 • King County Sherriff
- 157 • King County Roads
- 158 • Housing Interests
- 159 • WSDOT

160

161 As an alternative to membership on the Advisory Committee, the organizations identified above  
162 could also be selected to serve on the task forces and pilot projects identified in the appendices  
163 to this letter. Steering committees for task forces and pilot projects should also be balanced  
164 with representatives from the fish and farm caucuses, unless agreed to by the FFF Phase II  
165 Committee.

166

167 **Bundling of Recommendations.** At its final meeting in spring 2016, the Committee worked on  
168 drafting an initial timeline for some of the recommendations to illustrate how actions might be  
169 sequenced during the first three years -- the draft timeline is captured in tabular form as part of  
170 Appendix III. Related to this timeline, a guiding principle of the Committee's recommendations  
171 is the need to achieve tangible gains for all three F's (fish, farm, flood) over time.

172

173 Work will be required by all interests to ensure balance and, ideally, concurrent progress will  
174 occur naturally, given the trust and mutual awareness that is in place. The timeline identified in  
175 Appendix III is the best example we have of how to track concurrency and progress toward  
176 agreed upon commitments. And, we recommend that in order to achieve certainty of effective  
177 bundling (ensuring that future concurrent progress in the three areas is in fact occurring), the  
178 FFF Phase II Committee refer to the timeline to evaluate progress on the recommendations.  
179 We further recommend that the Phase II Advisory Committee develop a more complete  
180 calendar of critical milestones.

181

182 The concept of "bundling" was developed, received intense discussion, and has been agreed to  
183 by the FFF committee as necessary to maintain trust and fairness. A critical element of the  
184 Committee's final agreement was the specific "bundling" of two top-priority recommendations:  
185 1) the acceleration of large capital habitat restoration projects in the key reaches of the  
186 Snoqualmie River within the APD (See Appendix II recommendation referred to by the  
187 Committee as Fish 1), and 2) developing a comprehensive drainage maintenance program that  
188 addresses the practical, financial and regulatory hurdles associated with various types of  
189 drainage issues and infrastructure (See Appendix II recommendation also known as Farm 2).

## DRAFT FFF TRANSMITTAL LETTER

190 The agriculture caucus stated clearly that its support for future large- scale restoration projects  
191 in the APD, such as levee setbacks, was contingent on achieving durable changes in the way that  
192 drainage systems are maintained on agricultural lands. In practical terms, given the 3-4 year  
193 timeline before ground is likely to be broken on the next large capital project in the APD,  
194 achievement of specific milestones on drainage improvements must precede the  
195 commencement of project construction.

196  
197 The evaluation of progress on top tier bundled priorities will be the responsibility of the  
198 corresponding fish, farm or flood caucus. Each caucus should first discuss any concerns with the  
199 entire committee, but if that is not satisfactory, the caucus as a last resort may employ the  
200 mechanism of writing a letter to the King County DNRP Director, copying the Executive and  
201 Council, describing the situation and requesting a rebalancing of effort. The Director will be  
202 responsible for working with the committee to achieve rebalanced progress.

203  
204 We are confident that the participants in the next phase of the Fish, Farm and Flood process will  
205 continue to build mutual trust and, hopefully, will never have to resort to the rebalancing  
206 mechanism described above. However, we believe that it is in the interests of all parties  
207 engaged in this process that there is some recourse if the process were to falter.

208  
209 It should also be noted that most of the items in Appendix II are unfunded and that while  
210 bundling is focused on the top tier commitments, the committee's intent was that there be a  
211 mutual commitment to pursue funding and resources to accomplish as many of the priorities in  
212 Appendix II as possible in the next 3 years. We feel strongly that King County and all of the  
213 signatories to this letter should be committed to finding the necessary resources to that end.

214  
215 As participants in the Fish, Farm and Flood Advisory Committee, we, as individuals or through  
216 our respective organizations, pledge to support the recommendations attached to this letter.  
217 Specifically, we will support the recommended actions identified in Appendices II and III, the  
218 task force efforts, and the importance of bundling so that all F's achieve progress together.  
219 Moreover, we will stand up for and advocate for all of the actions identified in the  
220 recommendations and will rely upon the undersigned to advocate for all actions as well. Finally,  
221 through our work with implementing partner organizations we will support the recommended  
222 actions that are reflected in the letter.

223

224

225 Bobbi Lindemulder, farmer

226

227 Cindy Spiry, Snoqualmie Tribe

228

229 David Radabaugh, Department of Ecology, Floodplain management

230

231 Daryl Williams, Tulalip Tribes

232

233 Heather Trim, Futurewise

234

235 Jason Walker, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum & City of Duvall

236

237 Jarvis Keller, farmer

## DRAFT FFF TRANSMITTAL LETTER

238

239 Josh Monaghan, King Conservation District

240

241 Lara Thomas, City of Duvall

242

243 Lawrence Carlson, farmer, Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance

244

245 Micah Wait, Wild Fish Conservancy

246

247 Scott Powell, Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum & Seattle City Light

248

249 Siri Erickson-Brown, Agriculture Commission

250

251

252

### 253 **Appendices**

254

I. New 650A

255

II. Appendix II: Action recommendations – additional detail.

256

III. Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood Advisory Committee Action Recommendations - Language as approved on May 11, 2016

257

258

IV. Draft focused schedule

259

V. Task force scopes

260

1. Riparian Buffer Task Force

261

2. Regulatory Task Force

262

3. Agricultural Land Resource Strategic Plan Task Force

263

VI. Memorandum

264

# ADAP 2016 Summary

	If Channel Maintained	Acres Returned to Production Level Drainage	Acres Drainage Improved - Already in Production
Molli	1978	9.3	9.9
Tokul	5161	34.8	2.3
Dolder	210	0.8	0
Krainick	1474	0	22.5
Fortenberry	956	0	8
Jokela/Vandeen	1407	0	8.9
Stonquarry	670	10.9	0
T&L Nursery	1166	0	22.4
<b>SUM:</b>	<b>13,022</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>74.0</b>

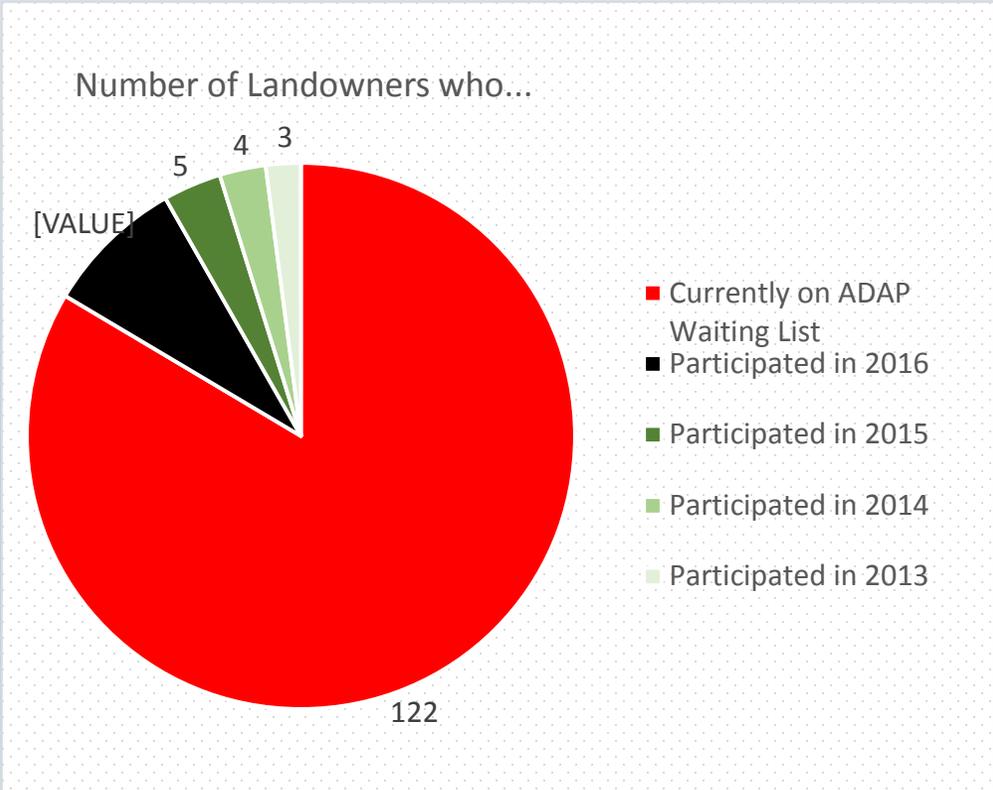
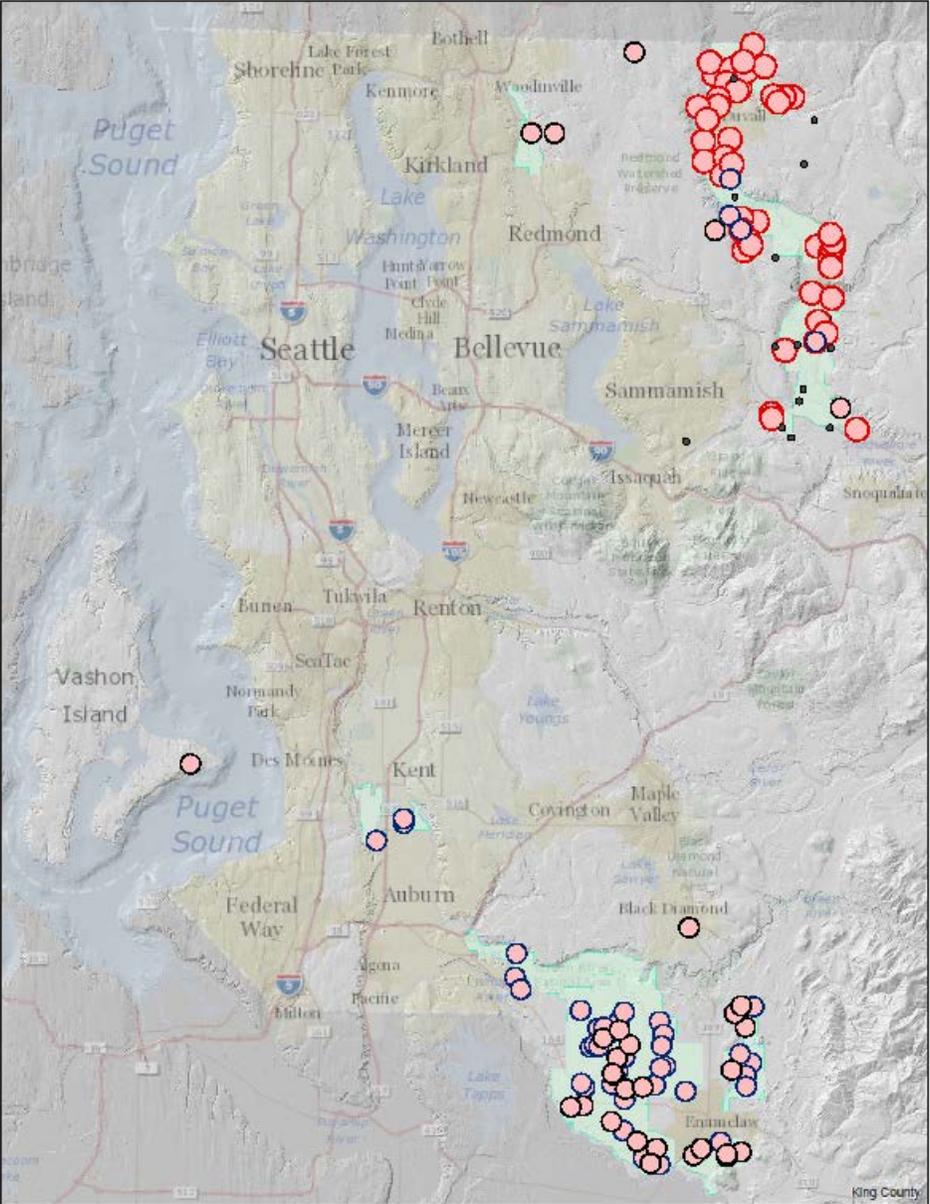
# 2015 vs. 2016 Costs

We incur additional costs to ensure ecologically sound management of farm drainage in King County:

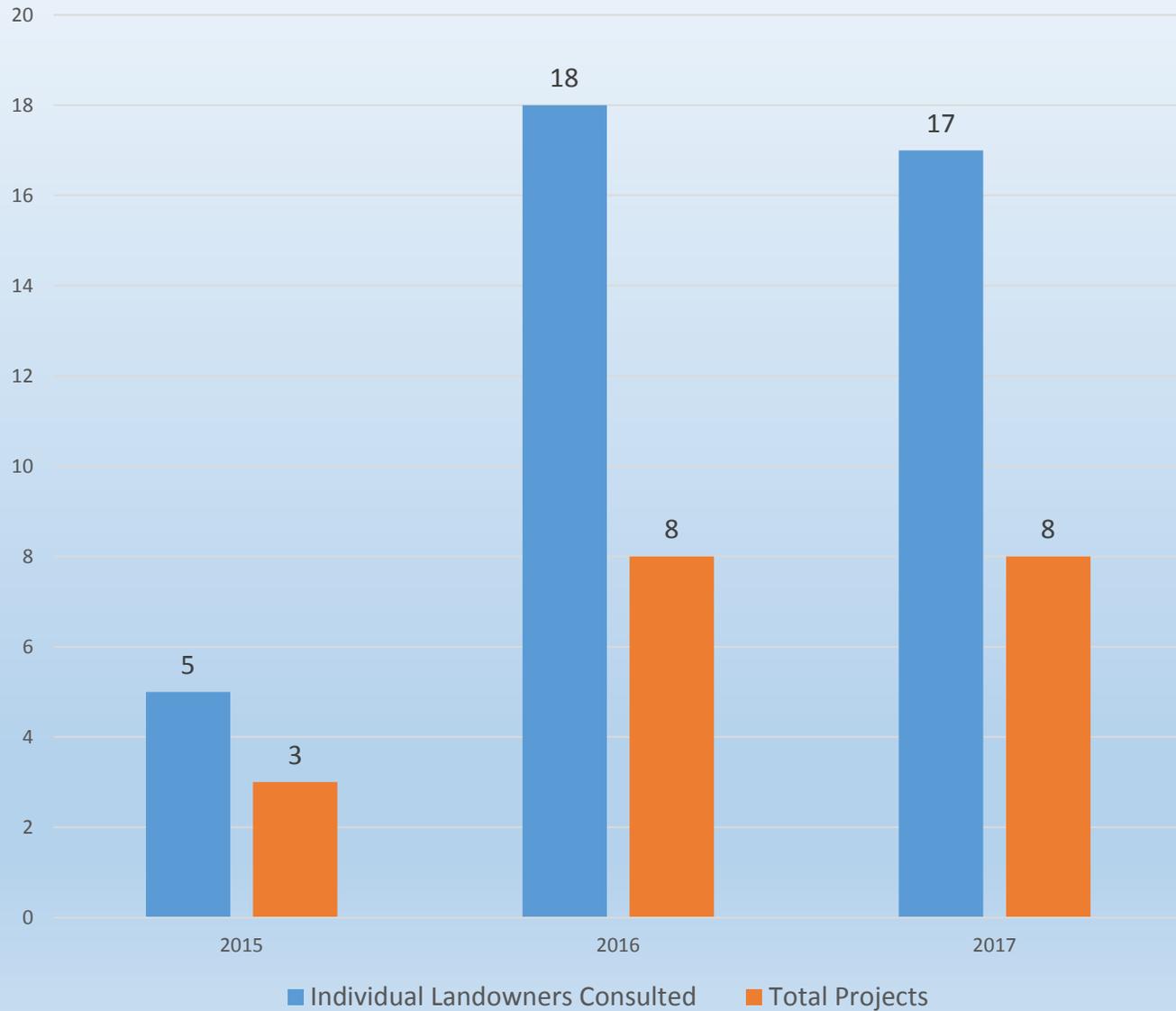
- Fish relocation
- Mitigation plantings on banks
- Multi-landowner projects need construction project management
- Need to allocate additional funds to use best available science to map and plan work in a sub-basin in five year cycles. Plan collaboratively with all other drainage related and restoration work in the sub-basin.

<b>Costs per linear foot</b>		
<b>King County ADAP</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Technical Assistance	\$7.06	\$10.50
De-Fishing	\$2.48	\$0.48
Cultural Resources	\$0.03	\$1.29
Planting	\$10.55	\$10.02*
Maintenance	\$1.87	\$1.32
KC-ADAP total costs	\$22.00	\$23.43
<b>KCD Drainage Assistance</b>		
Farm Plan	\$1.43	\$1.50
Project Management	\$8	\$5.85
Construction Cost	\$8	\$8.21
KCD total costs	\$17.43	\$15.56
total 2015 project cost, per linear foot	\$39.42	\$38.99

# Current Waitlist



Multi-Landowner Projects

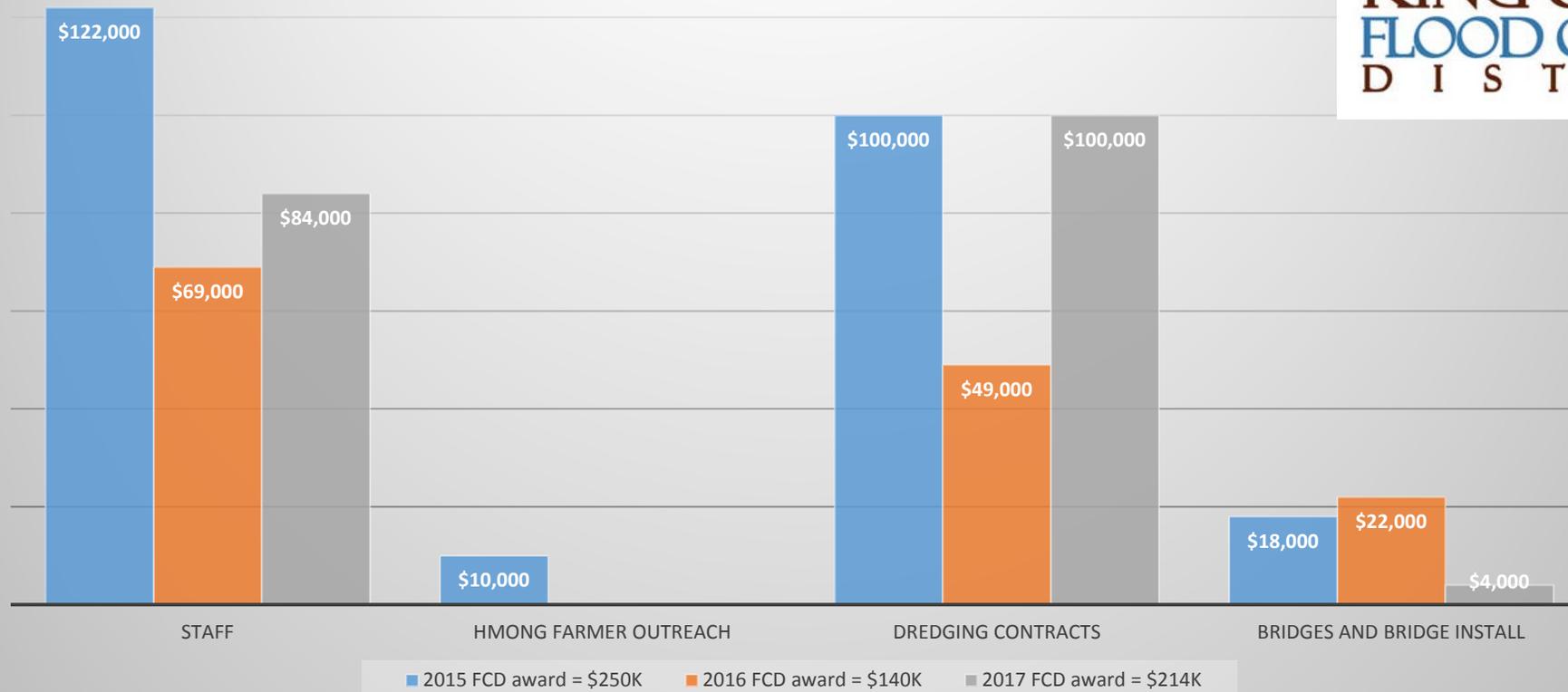


# 2017 Projects

## King Conservation District Farm Drainage Program budget



**KING COUNTY**  
**FLOOD CONTROL**  
D I S T R I C T



# Total Funding Level to Complete Drainage in 7 Year Cycle (\$1000)

