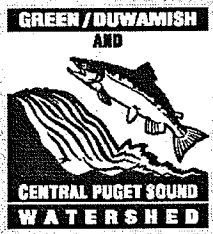


WATER RESOURCE INVENTORY AREA 9 (WRIA 9) WATERSHED ECOSYSTEM FORUM

RECEIVED
APR 03 2009



- Algona
- Auburn
- Black Diamond
- Burien
- Covington
- Des Moines
- Enumclaw
- Federal Way
- Kent
- King County
- Maple Valley
- Normandy Park
- Renton
- SeaTac
- Seattle
- Tukwila

- Port of Seattle
- Vashon/Maury Island Community Council
- Covington Water District
- King Conservation District
- Tacoma Public Utilities
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Washington Department of Ecology
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington Department of Natural Resources

- Washington Environmental Council
- Green/Duwamish Watershed Alliance
- Trout Unlimited/Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

- The Boeing Company
- Plum Creek Timber Company
- Master Builders Association
- South County Chambers of Commerce Coalition
- King County Agricultural Commission

April 1, 2009

KING COUNTY
WATER & LAND RESOURCES DIV
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Mark Isaacson, Division Director
Water and Land Resources Division
King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104



RE: WRIA 9 Support for North Wind's Weir
Estuarine Restoration Project

Dear Mr. Isaacson:

I would like to thank King County for staying the course with its regional partners and its commitment to salmon recovery in pursuing the implementation of the North Wind's Weir Estuarine Restoration Project. Most notably, King County's leadership and implementation in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers of North Wind's Weir is a testament to the County's commitment to regional partnerships and salmon recovery. We are very thankful and excited to see construction moving forward this year. Thank you for King County's dedicated and long-held commitment to seeing this project through to completion.

I realize that it has been challenging to King County to plan and support construction and the removal of hazardous materials at the site for a habitat project outside the County's surface water management service area (the project is located in Tukwila, not in unincorporated King County). I recognize, moreover, that the King County surface water management capital improvement program is significantly under funded to meet needs in the County's service area. This leaves the County with little ability to help fund any future potential cost increases under contractual cost-sharing arrangements with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Both I and the WRIA 9 partners appreciate and support the diligence of King County in pursuing grant funds to assist in funding the non-federal obligations of this critical habitat project. I am aware of the limitations the County has with the Corps of Engineers via its contractual fund sharing arrangements under the federal Green/Duwamish Ecosystem Restoration Program.

It is WRIA 9's intent to protect all of our collective interests in supporting the County in the tough economic times that every jurisdiction is facing. In the possible situation where additional, unanticipated funding is needed to meet local (non-federal) obligations to complete North Wind's Weir within existing federal funding, WRIA 9 would, as we always have, be proactive in demonstrating our strong regional partnerships by helping King County seek additional funding to meet its obligations for constructing the project.

Financial support provided by signers of Watershed Planning Interlocal Agreement for WRIA 9 including: Algona, Auburn, Black Diamond, Burien, Covington, Des Moines, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Kent, King County, Maple Valley, Normandy Park, Renton, SeaTac, Seattle, Tacoma, Tukwila

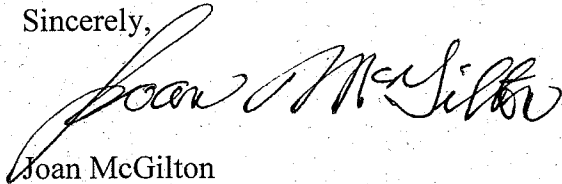
Mark Isaacson

April 1, 2009

Page 2 of 2

Thank you again for your persistence to at long last construct the North Wind's Weir Estuarine Restoration Project. If you have any questions, please contact Doug Osterman, WRIA 9 Watershed Coordinator, at 206-296-8069 or doug.osterman@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,



Joan McGilton

Chair, WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum

Chair, WRIA 9 Management Committee

Cc: WRIA 9 Management Committee members
WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum Co-Chairs
Councilmember Dow Constantine, King County
Councilmember Bill Peloza, City of Auburn