

APPENDIX G

Proposing Projects and Programmatic Actions for Implementation – WRIA 8 Four-Year Work Plan

As required by the Puget Sound Partnership, as the regional salmon recovery organization, WRIA 8 maintains a “Four-Year Work Plan” that identifies the highest priority, most ready-to-go projects, and the most important monitoring and outreach and education actions for implementation in the watershed (note: the Four-Year Work Plan is an iterative planning tool and not included in the 2017 Plan; the most current Four-Year Work Plan is available on the WRIA 8 website at <http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/planning/default.aspx>). The Four-Year Work Plan is essentially a subset of the larger WRIA 8 project list and recommended land use and education and outreach actions, and is intended to provide the near-term roadmap for recovery. Representation on the Four-Year Work Plan is also a prerequisite for WRIA 8 grant funding consideration.

Each year, WRIA 8 issues an open call for sponsors interested in elevating projects to the Four-Year Work Plan. A sponsor can directly pull an existing acquisition or restoration project from the WRIA 8 project list to advance for implementation, and in such cases, they can propose that the project be considered by the WRIA 8 TC for inclusion on the Four-Year Work Plan. In addition to projects, the WRIA 8 TC also considers and recommends which monitoring priorities to include on the Four-Year Work Plan, and the IC considers and recommends which land use-related actions and education and outreach actions to include. Committee recommendations are reviewed and approved by the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council.

The annual open call also offers an opportunity for sponsors to propose new projects that are not directly referenced in the WRIA 8 Plan (i.e., proposing a project that is not specifically identified in the Plan but meets the Plan’s objectives for salmon recovery). Following the 2017 Plan, the intent is that sponsors proposing new projects will connect their proposal to the relevant recovery strategy outlined in this update. In so doing, the sponsor will demonstrate the connection of the proposed activity to priority WRIA 8 recovery objectives and illustrate the fundamental merit of the project as one with salmon recovery as a primary objective. Specific technical details would be assessed at a later time, but at a minimum, new project proposals put forward to WRIA 8 must establish a connection to one or more of the updated recovery strategies to be included in the 2017 Plan and Four-Year Work Plan.

To summarize, project sponsors have an annual opportunity to submit projects and programs to the WRIA 8 Four-Year Work Plan, which may involve:

- Proposing a project or activity from the current WRIA 8 habitat protection and restoration project list or from the current land use or education and outreach activity lists.
- Proposing a new project or activity that is not identified in the WRIA 8 Plan but is consistent with one or more of the WRIA 8 Chinook recovery strategies. The sponsor must be able to demonstrate a clear link to the strategies in order for the project to be elevated to the Four-Year Work Plan.