



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

Lynn Peterson
Secretary of Transportation

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September 18, 2015

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
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Dear Salmon Recovery Funding Board Review Panel,

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) supports the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe (Tribe) in their efforts to restore prioritized salmonid habitat on the Goodell Creek alluvial fan. WSDOT has made it a priority to work with local partners to restore degraded Puget Sound ecosystems, and we look forward to learning more about the needs at this location and impacts to State Route 20 (SR 20).

The Tribe, on March 9th, 2015 shared with us their preliminary findings from their Conceptual Analysis for the Restoration of the Goodell Creek Alluvial fan report. This analysis showed a risk to SR 20 from future sediment aggradation and flood flows. We are interested in getting additional information, so we can better assess the risks resulting from flooding and avulsion on the right bank of the stream. We support the Tribe's SRFB proposal as an appropriate approach so we can better understand the conditions and work together to quantify the risks and identify appropriate actions.

SR 20 is a scenic byway of regional importance, and this location directly serves as the main access to the Seattle City Light dam complexes, two National Forests, the North Cascades National Park, and northeastern Washington. It is important for all these users that this facility supports their use.

WSDOT is committed to working with the Tribe and its partners, North Cascades National Park Complex and Seattle City Light; to quantify the risks to SR 20 so appropriate action can be prioritized. This feasibility study will help us better understand the conditions at this location.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 360-757-5990 or Jay Drye at 360-757-5993.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd Harrison".

Todd Harrison, P.E.
WSDOT Assistant Regional Administrator
Northwest Region/Mount Baker Area