Hi Dawn,

Great news!  The Executive Committee supports this request.  We still need to get final approval on 1/28 from the full SRC but I don’t anticipate any problems.

Thanks for sending this information; it was very helpful this morning.

Have a great weekend,

Laura

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Email communication with state employees creates a public record and is subject to disclosure upon request.

**From:** Dawn Pucci [mailto:d.pucci@co.island.wa.us]
**Sent:** Monday, December 28, 2015 10:57 AM
**To:** Blackmore, Laura (PSP) <laura.blackmore@psp.wa.gov>; Dorner, Jeanette (PSP) <jeanette.dorner@psp.wa.gov>
**Cc:** Stoike, Suzanna (PSP) <suzanna.stoike@psp.wa.gov>; Dublanica, Keith (RCO) <keith.dublanica@gsro.wa.gov>
**Subject:** Paragraph for Jan SRC meeting to request revision of 10% limit for WRIA 6 Pocket Estuary Census

Hi Laura and Jeanette, here is the paragraph(ish)  that Laura requested that supports the request to the SRC for a minor revision to their previous decision to limit each watershed to 10% of their SRFB funds for monitoring. Please let me know if this is enough or if you need me to edit anything. Thanks, Dawn

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WRIA 6 Island Lead Entity would like to fund a monitoring project that will exceed the 10% limit of the WRIA 6 allocation. This is to address the recommendation made by the Monitoring Review Panel, led by Keith Dublanica. The original project was a pocket estuary census (15-1485) that was limited to the Whidbey Basin and requested a budget of $22,734 of WRIA 6’s SRFB allocation. WRIA  6’s SRFB allocation is $240,000. The Monitoring Review Panel’s recommendation was to expand the scope of the project to the entire WRIA 6 area to better align with the watershed chapter’s area of interest and be more relevant regionally, with the recognition that this would require an expanded budget and more than 10% of WRIA 6’s allocation. The revised project’s budget would now require $39,995 of WRIA 6’s SRFB allocation. WRIA 6 is able to fund this and not compromise any other of its proposed projects. The Pocket Estuary Census was approved by the SRFB on December 9, 2015.

The following are emails that demonstrate the desire of the Review Panel to see this project expanded to a larger geographic region:

Thanks to all for your efforts to increase the value of this study.  I did give a head's up to PSP yesterday that we hope these regional projects will be larger in geographic extent.  I hope they are supportive of your request.
Regards,
Marnie

Thank you Dawn for the quick and positive response to the SRFB monitoring  panel and the possible expansion of this project. We look forward to the amended budget and PSP concurrence.

Keith Dublanica

The Project description and part of the Review Panel response is quoted below from the Monitoring Panel Comment Form

A census of pocket estuary habitat is one of the three highest priority data gaps for salmon habitat status and trends monitoring for WRIA 6 (Island County Lead Entity RFP, July 13, 2015). If funded, this project would fill the requested data gap. Indicators measured in the census will include a count of sites accessible to juvenile salmon, the extent of habitat by type, and site connectivity. This data collection complements work being conducted in the Skagit Pilot Project, a monitoring project funded by the Puget Sound Partnership. The Skagit Pilot Project will use the same census technique to establish conditions in 2005, the data collected in this request would be from 2013/14, and will be used to establish a trend for this habitat type over the period of time since the adoption of the Salmon Recovery Plan (2005-2013/14).

In conjunction with the Skagit Pilot Project, this project would establish status and trends for the most important rearing habitats for ESA listed salmonids in Island County.

The above monitoring proposal by Island County was brought forth for review by the monitoring panel and at that time you provided certification in the original context.  Following panel review there were concerns on the limited scope and scale of the project and the panel expressed a CLEAR status would be given only IF the project could be expanded.  An revised budget was provided by Eric Beamer and the citizens committee approved the expanded scope.

**Dawn Pucci**

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