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2 **Washington Community Forestry Council Meeting**
3 **April 12th, 2022**
4 **Conference Call- Zoom**
5

6 **Members Attending:** Ben Thompson, Semra Riddle, Cindy Deffe, Juli Hartwig, David Miller, Dave Bayard,
7 Kathy Wolf, Ian Gray, Kirsten Lintz,

8 **Members Absent:** Angel Spell, John Bornsworth, Jessi Bloom, Margaret Brost

9 **Guests:** Jeff Thomas, Jess Stone, Tim Kohlhauff, Stephen Baker, Joey Hulbert, Soleil Lewis, Janet St Clair,
10 Lynn Suksdorf, Jeremy Porter, Andy Tate

11 **Meeting Convened:** 10:35 a.m.

12 **Welcome:** Call to order. Roll was taken. Chair welcomed members and guests and participants
13 introduced themselves. Review agenda and last meetings minutes.

14 **Minutes Approved:** Motion to approve agenda and meeting minutes from February 2, 2022. Ian moved
15 and Cindy seconded motion. Unanimous approval.

16 **Q&A for program update: UCF Grant selections:**

17 As of Friday 4/7/2022 the grants to be awarded were approved. This year marks the largest amount of
18 grant funding awarded. Information will be announced in the [next Treelink newsletter](#). Unsuccessful
19 applicants and successful applicants will be notified this week.

20 The program received 37 applications for a total of \$957,000 across two funding pools. Received 19
21 applications for the \$450k pool, and 18 applications for the \$100k pool. 3 applications were in locations
22 that are part of the DNR Watershed Resilience area. 6 applications qualified as Environmental Justice
23 projects that support highly impacted communities. Ben shared the list of grantees and emphasized the
24 significance of this grant cycle with the growth from offering \$80k-\$100k annually, to \$550k annually.

25 **5 Minute Break for council**

26 Jeff Thomas and Semra spoke about Tribal representation on the council. Jeff Thomas is a representative
27 on the SFLO council.

28 **Urban Forestry Work at WSU**

29 Joey Hulbert presented on the activities being conducted and resources available with WSU and the
30 Puyallup Research & Extension Center. He gave an overview of different forest health projects across
31 the state, including research on red cedar dieback, madrone restoration, ash resilience, genetic diversity
32 trials, plant pathology, and other projects. WSU Extension is in the process of developing a sooty bark

1 disease diagnostic guide. He highlighted their community engagement activities and outreach initiatives
2 through the Forest Health Watch program. Encouraged council members and interested organizations
3 to connect for collaboration opportunities and let the council know about upcoming educational events.
4 Joey talked about different urban forestry projects throughout the state – red cedar monitoring and
5 reporting mostly occurring in urban areas and demonstrated the tools that were available to report tree
6 health information and data visualization that is available online at <https://foresthealth.org/analyses>.

7 Research by Angela Gaither found that tree health declined for red cedars in areas with higher surface
8 temperatures. Joey emphasized the need for tree inventory datasets and looking at that in combination
9 with land surface temperatures in urban settings. Looking forward Joey hopes to develop demonstration
10 areas and to detect the onset of pests and diseases that threaten WA trees.

11 Joey talked about different opportunities for local schools to engage with urban forestry. Showcased
12 some workshops with students and educators for tree identification and developing tree ID keys. Vision
13 for the future is to continue to engage communities in the stewardship of urban forests, mentor more
14 students in urban forest research, explore tree health vulnerabilities and environmental disparities,
15 expand opportunities for citizen science, and enhance biosecurity of the state. Joey invited council for
16 collaboration in other communities outside of Tacoma.

17 **Break for council (lunch)**

18 **UCF Program Updates: UCF Grant selections continued and briefing on recruitment of new staff UCF** 19 **Program**

20 Ben walked the council through the projects that were awarded for grant funding and answered council
21 member’s questions about the selection process. Ben noted some common threads in applications that
22 were not awarded – commenting that they lacked a cohesive narrative or details on how the project
23 would be implemented. Ben informed the council that the next round of grant funding will not be in the
24 same amount as 2022; the \$450k for inventory, analysis, and management plans will not be reoccurring
25 funding. The program expect to have at least \$200k for the UCF grant cycle for next year. They will likely
26 have two grant applications in 2023, one through state funding and the other through federal funding.

27 Kathy asked about standards or platform for urban tree inventories so that data and information can be
28 aggregated.

29 Ben provided a brief update on the status of recruitment for the UCF program. Interviews to hire a GIS
30 Analyst will be conducted this week. The hiring of a contracting and grants coordinator is the next
31 priority.

32 **Federal Funding update from USFS Stephen Baker**

33 The 2022 Federal budget was approved which includes \$36 million nationally for urban forestry. There
34 may be some disaster related funding available but most will likely go to wildfire. The White House
35 budget for 2023 was posted and included \$32 million for urban forestry.

36 **Work Session – 2022 Work Plan Review**

- 37 ● **Equity:**

- 1 ○ Equity Guiding Principles
- 2 ○ Equity Subcommittee
- 3 ▪ Strengthen approach to Equity through intentional actions
- 4 ● Land Acknowledgement
- 5 ● Equity Moment
- 6 ● Maintain and improve advisory role/dialogue to Commissioner
- 7 ○ expand equity across DNR with UCF an example
- 8 ○ Invite Commissioner to future meeting (June 1st)
- 9 ○ Encourage more coordinated effort around equity throughout DNR - currently engaging
- 10 consultant
- 11 ▪ Council Letter? Support this first step, promote equity at the forefront - suggest
- 12 guiding principles, etc. UCF can lead. What is the equity “North Star” or goal?
- 13 Why is addressing equity important to DNR?
- 14 ○ Equity Grant feedback and support
- 15 ▪ Reporting to Council
- 16 ● **Articles of Association review: (UCF staff first pass)**
- 17 ▪ Cont. discussion on membership structure
- 18 ▪ Equity Subcommittee review
- 19 ● **Career Pathways:**
- 20 ○ Support DNR Career Pathways position
- 21 ● **Public Engagement and Networking:**
- 22 ○ Advocacy/education/demystify of varied roles, programs, scope of work within DNR and
- 23 Urban Forestry
- 24 ▪ Outreach and education materials on how all the various areas of DNR/UCF
- 25 come together as a whole
- 26 ○ Hot topics:
- 27 ▪ Climate
- 28 ▪ Mental Health
- 29 ▪ Barriers analysis to having large beneficial trees (utilities, transportation, etc.)
- 30 ● DNR Wildfire and Utilities Task Force opportunity (Terra Rentz)
- 31 ● **Legislative Advocacy Task Force?**
- 32 ○ Foundation for next Leg Session
- 33 ○ One sheets for advocacy on specific Bills
- 34 ○ Monitor important State and Federal Bills
- 35 ● **Infrastructure Bill Funding Impacts/Potential**
- 36 ○ Provide recommendations on use for Urban and Community Forestry Program to
- 37 influence funding decisions
- 38 ○ Conflict on space for utilities and trees, etc.
- 39 ● **Strategic Growth Opportunities for future funding**
- 40 ○ Redistribution in Federal and State funding
- 41 ○ Keep Washington Evergreen Bill 2023 opportunities

42 **Adjourn: 2:11 PM**

43 **Next Meeting:** June 8th, 2022 at 10:30-2:00pm (virtual meeting).

1 **Zoom meeting chat:**

2 10:33:30 From Dave Bayard to Everyone:

3 Hi everyone - I'm going to have to step out from 11-11:30. My apologies in advance and I'll jump
4 back in afterwards. Thanks.

5 10:34:21 From Ben Thompson - WA DNR Urban Forestry Program Manager to Everyone:

6 No problem David!

7 10:43:47 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:

8 Welcome, Soleil. Just an interesting portfolio of professional activity and interests.

9 10:45:33 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:

10 Stephen, nice to have you join us from the USFS. We've so benefited from the inputs and work
11 of your predecessors - Kathy and Barbara.

12 10:47:38 From Stephen Baker (USFS R6/R10) to Everyone:

13 Thank you, Kathy! I'm excited to be in the role and continuing in Kathy's footsteps. Big shoes to
14 fill!

15 10:47:43 From Jess Stone, Pierce County Parks to Everyone:

16 Good to see ya Joey!

17 10:47:52 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:

18 Jeffrey, you're back! I think that DNR and USFS and the Council are better positioned to address
19 tribal and native peoples' relationships. Looking forward to discussions.

20 10:49:06 From Soleil Lewis to Everyone:

21 @Kathy Wolf- Excited to be here!

22 11:11:50 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:

23 I'm not sure who just spoke, but interesting to hear about your professional experience, from
24 grad degree to community. Perhaps the DNR-U&CF program could offer an UF Institute, perhaps a lite
25 version of the SMA course (Society of Municipal Arborists) to introduce the elements of urban forestry
26 that go beyond tree planting.

27 11:30:29 From Janet St Clair to Everyone:

28 Shout out to my WSU forester Kevin Zobrist!

29 11:31:02 From Ben Thompson - WA DNR Urban Forestry Program Manager to Everyone:

30 Hear, hear! We all love Kevin Zobrist!

31 11:46:04 From Jeremy Porter to Everyone:

32 <https://foresthealth.org/analyses>

33 12:01:44 From Kirsten Lints to Everyone:

34 Great presentation, Joey!

35 12:01:57 From Tim Kohlhauff to Everyone:

36 Thank you Joey!

37 12:02:16 From Soleil Lewis to Everyone:

38 Thank you so much for your insight @Joey Hulbert!!!

39 12:02:39 From lynn.suksdorf to Everyone:

40 Excellent work, Joey. Thank you for sharing this presentation today.

41 12:08:00 From Jessica Lloyd, WA DNR to Everyone:

42 I believe this was Snoqualmie

43 https://static1.squarespace.com/static/58a9a82db3db2bfa5def5c9c/t/5f7c92f7d9b3f94e53e0c7ce/1601999637479/Snoqualmie_Final_FullSpread_092520_ReducedSize.pdf

44 12:08:36 From Ben Thompson - WA DNR Urban Forestry Program Manager to Everyone:

45 I believe Earth Economics was involved in the Snoqualmie project

46 12:09:22 From Ben Thompson - WA DNR Urban Forestry Program Manager to Everyone:

47 Actually, it was a firm called "Ecosystem Sciences"

48 12:09:24 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:

1 Just a follow up thought on Janet's comment, now that DNR has more resources for U&CF. Some
2 communities feel strongly that the Growth Mgmt Act does not adequately address large trees. Perhaps
3 the staff/Council reach out re: GMA provisions.

4 12:12:22 From Janet St Clair to Everyone:
5 Joey-one question I had as we encourage protection, planting and reforestation is the value of
6 biodiversity in "choosing" species.

7 12:21:23 From Jessica Lloyd, WA DNR to Joey Hulbert, WSU(Direct Message):
8 Joey, thanks for your presentation! I've been taking notes and missed the q&a. Is there any
9 research being done at the research station to select seeds to propagate more climate adapted red
10 cedar trees? As you mentioned they are both important for biodiversity and an important cultural
11 resource. I was curious if there is any research (similar to your ash studies...or others in the timber
12 industry) for red cedar?

13 12:32:28 From Joey Hulbert, WSU to Jessica Lloyd, WA DNR(Direct Message):
14 Hi Jess! Such a good question. I agree we need to do such studies with redcedar and we have
15 chatted about it a bit with partners. However, we haven't found the right funding opportunity to do so.
16 The open redcedar adaptation network (<https://jmhulbert.github.io/adaptation>) is a step toward that,
17 but more of a demonstration than a research project

18 12:34:48 From Semra Riddle to Everyone:
19 Lunch break will end at 12:50. Please be back with camera and mic on at 12:50.

20 12:36:26 From Jessica Lloyd, WA DNR to Joey Hulbert, WSU(Direct Message):
21 Thanks Joey for the resource! I'll take look - I'm loving all these demonstration sites! How do the
22 demonstration sites you mentioned in your presentation operate, do groups self organize and plan a
23 tour with the staff at the research station, or do they host events?

24 12:42:30 From Joey Hulbert, WSU to Jessica Lloyd, WA DNR(Direct Message):
25 The redcedar plantings at parks are open to visit without any organization, but we would be
26 happy to organize a broader tour. A tour of the sentinel planting in Tacoma would need to be organized
27 with Brandon Drucker at the City of Tacoma, but we are happy to help set that up if there is interest

28 12:50:26 From Jessica Lloyd, WA DNR to Joey Hulbert, WSU(Direct Message):
29 That great info! I am going to keep that in mind for our city partners, but seems like it would be
30 a great opportunity for a lot of our service foresters coming on board over the next few months. They
31 are in a program adjacent to ours - the small forest landowner assistance program - that might be a
32 better audience to take that information and share it/provide recommendations to landowners in the
33 field

34 12:53:34 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:
35 Snow! In April!?

36 13:03:47 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:
37 Lots of inventories. Will there be a common/standard data platform or format? Or apples and
38 oranges? With greater U&CF funding, would be great to be able to aggregate data across communities
39 to see bigger picture.

40 13:43:11 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:
41 Jeffrey is very knowledgeable about legislation, policy and administrative agreements re: forest
42 parcels management. I have a hard time tracking the details when shared verbally. I think this web
43 posting offers relevant background. Now to think about how this relates to the situations of urban and
44 community forestry, from street trees to yards, parks, non-harvest natural areas:
45 <https://sflonews.wordpress.com/2014/01/13/forests-and-fish-rule-background/>

46 13:49:06 From jthomas to Everyone:
47 Please recognize that this a state agency rendition of these US vs. Washington-founded
48 statutory, regulatory and administrative developments.

49 13:49:45 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:
50 Could you share another version?

51 13:50:29 From jthomas to Everyone:

1 Here is the TFW Agreement
2 [weblinkhttps://www.dnr.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/fp_tfw_agrmnt_1987.pdf](https://www.dnr.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/fp_tfw_agrmnt_1987.pdf) is the TFW
3 Agreement
4 13:50:49 From jthomas to Everyone:
5 https://www.dnr.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/fp_tfw_agrmnt_1987.pdf
6 13:52:30 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:
7 Thank you! And then perhaps a summary of some of your/tribal concerns?
8 13:54:03 From jthomas to Everyone:
9 Here is the link to the TFW Agreement Introduction Booklet prepared by the TFW Training,
10 Information and Education subcommittee - explaining the origins of the 1897 TFW Agreement (e.g. US
11 vs Washington Decision #2 per Judge Orrick 1980).
12 13:54:08 From jthomas to Everyone:
13 https://www.dnr.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/fp_tfw_agreement_intro.pdf
14 13:54:56 From jthomas to Everyone:
15 <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=76.15&full=true>
16 13:55:21 From Jessica Lloyd, WA DNR to Everyone:
17 Thanks for coming today Jeffrey. I was hoping to include more information about the TFW
18 stakeholders meeting you presented, do you have a link or more information I can include in the notes?
19 13:56:02 From jthomas to Everyone:
20 RCW 76.15 is the other link - it mentions Tribes and salmon throughout! How does it relate to
21 this gropus work?
22 13:58:28 From Janet St Clair to Everyone:
23 I need to jump off for another meeting. Thank you so much for letting me attend. It was
24 informative and interesting. Good work.
25 13:58:42 From Ben Thompson - WA DNR Urban Forestry Program Manager to Everyone:
26 Thank you Janet for joining us!
27 13:59:19 From lynn.suksdorf to Everyone:
28 I have another meeting at 2:00 pm and must leave. This was very informative. Thank you all for
29 letting me attend.
30 14:00:38 From Kathy Wolf to Everyone:
31 I must log off as well. Take care, all!
32 14:03:34 From David Miller, Ellensburg to Everyone:
33 sorry to jump off. to another meeting
34 14:05:00 From Cindy Deffe to Everyone:
35 I have another meeting as well. See everyone I June!
36 14:07:10 From Jeremy Porter to Everyone:
37 I have to leave as well, thank you everyone!