

Meeting Minutes

Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization

Snohomish Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday October 26, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

In-person & Zoom Conference Call

LIO EC Members

Gregg Farris, Co-chair, Snohomish County
Joan Lee, Co-chair, King County
Linda Lyshall, Snohomish Conservation District
David Simpson, Port of Everett
Jason Griffith, Stillaguamish Tribe
Heather Griffin, City of Everett

Participants & Guests

Allen Straringer, Pilchuck Tree Farm
Ann Bylin, Snohomish County
Bill Derry, Pilchuck Audubon
Cali Leren, Snohomish Health District
Derek Day, Washington Department of Ecology
Elissa Ostergaard, King County
Erik Gerking, Port of Everett
Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County
Gwendolyn Hannam, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Hannah Liss, Puget Sound Partnership
Kirk Lakey, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Maddie Lind, Snohomish Health District
Morgan Krueger, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Ron Wesen, Skagit County
Steve Rive, Snohomish Health District
Terri Strandberg, Snohomish County
Tim Ellis, Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee
Valerie Streeter, The Tulalip Tribes
Zach Christopher, Snohomish Health District

LIO Support Staff

Kathleen Pozarycki, Snohomish County
Carston Curd, Snohomish County

Introductions/LIO Business

- Introductions: Joan Lee, co-chair, opened the meeting and started the introductions.
- The 1/13/22 meeting summary was approved.
- LIO Business:
 - Vacancies for the executive committee membership were discussed:

- A vacancy for a city in the action area with a population greater or equal to 75,000 is intended to be filled by Heather Griffin, from the City of Everett.
- A vacancy for member from a City in the Stillaguamish Basin is intended to be filled by Kevin J. Hushagen, from the City of Stanwood.
- A vacancy for a member from a city in the Snoqualmie Basin was discussed.
- Executive Committee members were interested in soliciting representation from the City of Marysville.
- Co-Chair Joan Lee shared a memorial and held a moment of silence to recognize the work of Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO partner Terry Williams.

Leadership Council Sno-Stilly LIO Forum Follow Up

Kathleen Pozarycki presented a briefing on the reception and outcomes of the Puget Sound Partnership's (PSP) Leadership Council meeting June 8-9, 2022 which was held at the Port of Everett. The Sno-Stilly LIO [held a local forum](#) at the event discussing ways to streamline administrative barriers to ecosystem recovery in Puget Sound. The Leadership Council [issued a letter](#) thanking the LIO in reply. In September, the issue was again brought to the Leadership Council at the Island LIO local forum.

- [Link to PSP Leadership Council Files for June \(Everett\)](#)
- [Link to PSP Leadership Council Files for September \(Oak Harbor\)](#)

Funding Opportunities Overview – SILs Investment Leads Panel & Q&A

Puget Sound National Estuary Program's three Strategic Initiative Leads (SILs) were represented for a briefing on current funding opportunities. In attendance were Audrey Coyne, Department of Health (Shellfish), Derek Day, Department of Ecology (Stormwater), and Jennifer Griffiths, Department of Fish and Wildlife (Habitat). An overview of current requests for proposals was presented, and information about recorded webinars for each of the SILs was given. LIO partners were encouraged to visit the SILs [website](#) for up-to-date information.

In the Q&A portion of the presentation, LIO partners asked about funding resources for 'on-the-ground' work, as the RFPs were specific to planning projects. SILs representatives acknowledged the limitation of the current set of RFPs and welcomed feedback.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation (BIL) Funding Update

Kathleen Pozarycki presented an overview of BIL funding opportunities and online resources posted on the LIO webpage for partners to investigate further. Instead of dispersing funding directly to LIOs as previously discussed, the Puget Sound Partnership will be hiring 4-5 new staff members for a new team to assemble and apply for large-scale projects. Both concern and cautious optimism was shared by Executive Committee members at the news.

Ways to Engage with the Ecosystem Coordination Board

The Ecosystem Coordination Board will be meeting on November 3. The Executive Committee was asked about ways to engage on topics, specifically the development of legislative priorities. Gregg Farris filled out a survey on Legislative Priorities on behalf of the Sno-Stilly LIO to help rank the proposed legislative priorities.

LIO Collective Projects Update

Kathleen Pozarycki shared updates about the status of two projects being discussed by the LIO coordinators. The LIO Collective Project was established in 2020 to bridge the boundary between local

and regional recovery work and identify a priority barrier to ecosystem recovery and protection that all LIOs can work on addressing together.

Shoreline permitting was previously addressed by the LIO Collective project; specifically, the need to strengthen enforcement impact, increase monitoring and regulatory analysis, and focus education and outreach for permitting, contractors, and consultants. LIO partners shared a robust discussion on prior work in the region and also identified enforcement barriers.

The next LIO Collective project will be centered on “Fostering innovative and creative solutions addressing onsite septic system barriers in Puget Sound.” Kathleen Pozarycki will be continuing to support that effort moving forward in partnership with other LIOs.

LIO 2022-2023 Draft Workplan

The draft LIO workplan for 2022-2023 was reviewed by Kathleen Pozarycki. It was approved by the Executive Committee as presented, attached.

Wrap Up & Next Steps

- Elissa Ostergaard provided an update on the third year of Coho pre-spawn mortality surveys – six streams are being surveyed with two in Snohomish County and four in King County. Department of Ecology provided another \$50,000 grant to complete one additional year of surveys.
- Hannah Liss provided staffing updates and explained a workload adjustment at the Partnership.
- Linda Lyshall mentioned successful partnerships in outreach at the Middle Fork Quilceda Creek planting event at the Strawberry Fields Complex in Marysville.
- Jason Griffith mentioned that this year of salmon monitoring is seeing initial results indicating a 15 – 20 year high in coho and Chinook runs on the Stillaguamish River.
- Steve Rice reminded the committee that the Snohomish Health District would merge with the County on January 1, 2023
- Erik Gerking outlined Port of Everett projects including the ‘Baywood’ waterfront restoration near the mouth of the Snohomish River, Blue Heron Slough, and the former Kimberly-Clark mill which will be transformed and opened by end of the year.
- Bill Derry mentioned project update on the Meadowdale Beach Park Restoration Project and gave a shout-out to the Snohomish MRC for providing support. A quarterly recurrence was discussed for Executive Committee meetings. Appreciation for the Hybrid meeting structure was shared, although better audio connections were requested from in-person attendees.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.



2022-2023 Snohomish – Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO) Workplan

LIO Grant Subtask 1.11: Develop an annual work plan for the LIO.

Work with committees to tee up specific topics of high priority for the LIO to address (and how) for the subsequent year (2022-2023) or later in the 2021-2022 FFY year. This should be a small subset of LIO Plan elements and/or priorities and include several key barriers the LIO would like to prioritize.

General LIO Plan for FFY2023 – ongoing activities for staff and members

1. Implement Sno/Stilly LIO Capacity Grant
2. Prioritize staff participation in LIO Collective Projects including:
 - The LIO Collective Onsite Septic Project,
 - The LIO Collective Shoreline Armoring Project, and
 - Continuing to work toward addressing and removing barriers to ecosystem recovery
3. Continue to produce the joint Stillaguamish/Snohomish Watershed Partners Monthly Newsletter, and update the LIO Website
4. Advise other members and partners on funding opportunities including, NEP-funded RFP and other funding source grant application opportunities as they become available including updating the LIO website.
5. Consult LIO partners and develop approach for LIO re-engagement and to increase diversity and inclusion, potentially in coordination with PSP and other LIOs.
6. Participate in the new Forum and/or with all LIOs to develop lines of work with PSP for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Funding from EPA (~\$5 million dollar grant to PSP to support LIOs)
7. Work with PSP and all LIOs to prioritize the 26 Strategies in the Action Agenda to guide implementation
8. Participate in the Action Agenda Coordination Group (AACG)
9. Work on a strategy for how to maximize BIL funding for water quality and transportation projects. Look to increase collaboration within the LIO (including Snohomish and King Counties) to provide ways for staff and partners to work with transportation planning staff to provide ideas for ways to increase water filtration to protect salmon and habitat for road and bridge projects.
10. Support the Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB) Sno/Stilly LIO Representative, Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers, and Alternate, Snohomish County Surface Water Management Director Gregg Farris
 - Organize and facilitate a Sno/Stilly LIO Forum for the Fall 2023 ECB Meeting
11. Provide input to contract amendment if needed for FFY2024 (Quarter 4 July-September 2023)
12. LIO Executive Committee: Prioritize PSP Legislative Funding List