

Snohomish - Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO)

Bylaws

January 2015

1.0 Authority

At the March 18, 2010 meeting, Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Leadership Council established the Local Integrating Organization (LIO) as a mechanism to assist PSP in working directly with local communities to prioritize actions and implement the Action Agenda for Puget Sound. The Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO was formally recognized by the Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council at their meeting of March 1, 2012, to serve the following geographic regions:

- WRIA 5 (Stillaguamish watershed), the majority of which is in Snohomish County and includes land in Skagit County (Pilchuck Creek, Deer Creek, and Upper North Fork Drainages)
- WRIA 7 (Snohomish watershed), which is split between Snohomish County and King County (Snoqualmie and South Fork Skykomish watersheds)

Snohomish County is the designated fiscal agent responsible for conducting and reporting on the following activities: (1) collecting and submitting invoices consistent with the provisions of the PSP agreement; (2) receiving and disbursing payments per the PSP agreement, following state purchasing and procurement guidelines; (3) retaining records demonstrating disbursement accountability; (4) collecting and submitting deliverables on behalf of the LIO to PSP; and (5) reporting on work in a manner consistent with PSP and EPA requirements.

2.0 Mission

The mission of the Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO is to (1) coordinate with Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) and the other LIOs, (2) facilitate the integration of local governments, tribes and other organizations in developing and implementing strategies and priorities at a local scale that advance the Action Agenda in WRIs 5 and 7, and (3) communicate needed information back to the community.

3.0 Local Integrating Organization Structure and Membership

3.1 LIO Executive Committee

The LIO Executive Committee will lead the Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO.

The LIO Executive Committee is responsible for (1) establishing a vision for the LIO based on local priorities, (2) maintaining accountability and oversight for the LIO, and (3) providing final, local decision-making authority on behalf of the Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO.

3.1.1 Membership

The LIO Executive Committee is an inter-organizational group, with membership as follows:

LIO Executive Committee Member Organization	# of Representatives
Local Governments	
King County	1
Snohomish County	1
City in the Action Area with a population equal to or exceeding 75,000	1
City from the King County portion of the Snoqualmie Basin	1
City from the Snohomish County portion of the Snohomish Basin	1
City from the Stillaguamish Basin	1
Port of Everett	1
Tribes	
Stillaguamish Tribe	1
Tulalip Tribes	1

3.1.2 Leadership

The LIO Executive Committee shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson, or co-chairs, to (1) preside over committee meetings, (2) develop the agenda with other committee members, (3) hold special meetings, (4) cancel meetings and (5) serve as the committee spokesperson.

3.1.3 Terms

LIO Executive Committee members serve a two year term.

3.1.4 Decision Making

The LIO Executive Committee makes decisions for the LIO. All decisions and recommendations made by the LIO Executive Committee will be reached by consensus. Different degrees of consensus range from:

- Full endorsement: I like it.
- Endorsement with a minor point of contention: Basically, I like it.
- Agreement with reservations: I can live with it.
- Stand aside: I don't like it, but I don't want to hold up the group.
- Block: I can't live with it.

Whenever possible, the LIO Executive Committee will incorporate the recommendations of the LIO Implementation Committee in their decision-making process.

Decisions made during a committee member's absence will not be revisited, unless exceptional reasons are presented and the LIO Executive Committee agrees to revisit the issue. Absence from the meetings and failure to designate an alternate/designee or communicate views will be acknowledged as concurrence with the consensus outcome.

3.2 LIO Implementation Committee

The LIO Implementation Committee serves as an advisory body to the LIO Executive Committee. The LIO Implementation Committee is structured to serve its purpose of providing relevant information and recommendations by incorporating representation from groups with a working knowledge of projects that implement the Action Agenda in the Snohomish and Stillaguamish watersheds.

3.2.1 Membership

The LIO Implementation Committee is a broad and inclusive representation of partners working on implementation of the Action Agenda, with membership as follows:

LIO Implementation Committee Member Organization	# of Representatives
County or municipal health department	1
ECONet Snohomish	1
King County	1-2
King Conservation District	1
Nongovernmental organizations	1-4
Other municipal representatives	1
Port of Everett	1
Representative of a small municipal planning department	1
Snohomish Conservation District	1
Snohomish County	1-2
Snohomish County Agricultural Advisory Board	1
Snohomish Marine Resources Advisory Committee	1
Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum	1
Snoqualmie Watershed Forum	1
Snoqualmie Tribe	1
Stillaguamish Clean Water District	1
Stillaguamish Tribe (Natural Resources Department)	1
Stillaguamish Tribe (Planning Department)	1
Stillaguamish Watershed Council	1
Tulalip Tribes (Natural Resources Department)	1
Tulalip Tribes (Planning Department)	1

3.2.2 Leadership

The Implementation Committee will select a Chair and an alternate to preside over committee meetings, assist in development of meeting agendas and make recommendations to the LIO Executive Committee. The LIO Coordinator, in consultation with the Chair, will schedule LIO Implementation Committee meetings on behalf of the LIO Implementation Committee.

3.2.2.1 Subcommittees

The LIO Implementation Committee can establish ad hoc committees and work groups to advise or advance the Action Agenda priorities not currently coordinated by existing forums or committees.

3.2.3 Terms

LIO Implementation Committee members serve a two year term. The LIO Implementation Chair and Alternate will serve two year terms.

3.2.4 Decision Making

The Implementation Committee makes recommendations to the LIO Executive Committee on matters within its purview. All decisions and recommendations made by the LIO Implementation Committee will be reached by consensus. Where agreement cannot be reached by consensus, the Implementation Committee will submit majority and minority reports to the Executive Committee.

3.3 State and Federal Agency Participation

State and Federal agencies are invited to participate in the LIO Committees, but will not have voting privileges.

3.4 Membership Guidelines

3.4.1 Selection of representatives and alternates or designees

Agencies, tribes, and non-governmental organizations select their own representatives, and one alternate/designee for each representative, on both the LIO Executive Committee and LIO Implementation Committee.

3.4.2 Responsibilities

The duties of each LIO Committee member are as follows:

- Supporting the mission of the LIO
- Representing the interests of their respective agency or organization, rather than their own personal interests
- Attending, or have their alternate/designee attend, LIO Committee meetings regularly
- Reviewing background materials provided in advance of the meetings and being ready to participate in discussions
- Working cooperatively with other members, recognizing that working within a diverse group can mean balancing competing objectives and compromising

3.4.3 Position Changes or Resignations

Both Implementation Committee and Executive Committee member positions can be changed by action(s) of the Executive Committee. Members or organizations within either of the Committees may resign in good standing by sending a letter of resignation to the Executive

Committee via the LIO Coordinator. Resigning members should provide the name of an interim/final replacement to represent their organization.

4.0 LIO Operating Procedures

4.1 Open Public Meetings

All meetings of the LIO Executive Committee and LIO Implementation Committee are open to the general public. All decisions and actions will be taken in an open session. Meeting agendas will be posted in advance on the Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO webpage, which is accessed through Snohomish County's home page at www.snoco.org, search "LIO".

4.2 Public Comment Periods

A period of time will be set aside during each LIO Executive Committee meeting and Implementation Committee meeting for public comment. The Chair, Acting Chair, LIO Coordinator, or meeting facilitator will invite public comment during the meeting.

4.3 Administrative Support and Meeting Materials

Snohomish County is responsible for administrative support and maintaining the public record for the Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO. County staff will work in collaboration with the LIO Executive Committee and LIO Implementation Committee to (1) arrange regular meetings, (2) develop meeting agendas, (3) facilitate meetings as required, (4) perform staff assignments, (5) develop and distribute meeting summaries and other materials, and (6) submit to PSP all LIO Committee contact information, electronic versions of all updated local materials, quarterly progress reports for grant activities, bi-annual reports, invoices and any other contract deliverables for grant-related activities. Additional handouts may be submitted for consideration to the LIO Coordinator, who will then copy, distribute to the membership and add these to the project record.

4.4 LIO Performance Evaluation

The LIO Executive Committee and LIO Implementation Committee will evaluate the performance of the LIO at the first meeting of the year.

5.0 Amendment of the Bylaws

The LIO Executive Committee and LIO Implementation Committee shall review the effectiveness of these bylaws on an annual basis. Proposals for revision should be presented to the Chair or Co-Chair of the LIO Executive Committee prior to the meeting during which the Bylaws are reviewed.