

# **Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO Implementation Committee Meeting Summary**

*Thursday, August 25, 2016  
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Drewel Building, Public Meeting Room*

## **LIO-IC Members**

Bill Blake, City of Arlington, Stillaguamish Watershed Council  
Bob Landles, Stillaguamish Clean Water Advisory Board  
Karen Stewart, City of Everett  
Kirk Lakey, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Paul Clampitt, Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee  
Perry Falcone, Snoqualmie Forum  
Steve Rice, Snohomish Health District  
Tamara Neuffer, Stillaguamish Tribe

## **Participants**

Dan Calvert, Puget Sound Partnership (PSP), Ecosystem Recovery Coordinator  
Elisa Dawson, Snohomish County Surface Water Management  
Ryan Williams, Snohomish Conservation District  
Sean Edwards, Snohomish County Surface Water Management

## **LIO Support Staff and Anchor QEA**

Ann Bylin, Snohomish County Surface Water Management, Planning Supervisor  
Kit Crump, Snohomish County Surface Water Management/ Stillaguamish Basin Co-Lead Entity  
Mary Hurner, Snohomish County Surface Water Management, Senior Planner/Interim Coordinator  
Lynn Turner, Anchor QEA  
Tracy Drury, Anchor QEA  
Vivian Shin Erickson, Anchor QEA

## **Welcome, Introductions, Public Comment, Announcements**

Bill Blake opened the meeting, and introductions followed. There were no members of the public present.

Sean Edwards thanked everyone who contributed to the recent annual free shellfish dinner, sponsored by the Stillaguamish Clean Water District and Sound Salmon Solutions. Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers and Surface Water Management Director (and LIO Executive Committee Co-Chair) Will Hall both spoke at the event.

## **Update from Puget Sound Partnership**

Feedback on the 7/15 deliverable: Dan Calvert stated that overall, the PSP ERC team is pleased with the deliverables the LIO has submitted to date and noted that the LIO has made good progress and received great input from the LIO Committee members.

LIO Administrative Funding: The LIO has submitted a draft scope of work and budget for a \$75,000 EPA grant to cover the administration of the LIO for the period October 1, 2016 through November 30, 2017. This grant differs from that of previous years in that it covers a 14 month period, rather than 12, to allow a more workable amount of time between closing out the existing contract and negotiating a new contract. Dan stated that PSP leadership will evaluate and respond to the LIO's submittal in the near future.

Update on Strategic Initiative Advisory Teams: The LIO IC members on Strategic Initiative Advisory Teams (SIAT) are Monte Marti and Valerie Streeter. Both are on the Stormwater Advisory Team, and due to a meeting conflict, were unable to attend the 8/25 LIO IC meeting. Dan reported on their behalf that the SIATs are getting organized and determining how to create a funding list. They are preparing to observe the November 10<sup>th</sup> date for providing a ranked list of NTAs. This list might include phased projects over two-year periods. The SIATs may be asking for input from the Management Conference. The date for the management conference has not been set.

After Action Review: Dan stated that PSP is hiring a contractor to design a survey to get feedback on the Action Agenda update process. There are six target audiences for the survey including 1) Tango-6 members; 2) Tribal Management Conference; 3) Strategic Initiative Transition Team (SITT) members; 4) Near Term Action (NTA) owners; 5) Local Integrating Organization (LIO) coordinators; and 6) Partnership Board members. There may be a follow up focus group associated with the survey.

A new regional group, called the Action Agenda Coordination Group, similar to the previous Tango 6 group, is being formed to incorporate input from the LIOs on the Action Agenda update process. Dan encouraged our LIO to consider sending a participant. However, if an LIO wishes to participate in this group their representative will need to commit to regularly attending meetings (probably once a month).

### **Process for Finalizing Draft Plan**

Lynn Turner stated that she has been editing the Draft LIO Ecosystem Recovery Plan to reflect the comments received so far. Most of the comments have been pretty straightforward, but some require additional research. Lynn agreed to incorporate the comments received today from IC members before sending out a revised version of the draft for Executive Committee consideration at their September 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The Executive Committee will then have an opportunity to discuss the plan, provide edits, and approve with edits. If they need additional time for comments before reaching a consensus, an email process will be undertaken, with closure by September 15<sup>th</sup>. A final version of the LIO Ecosystem Recovery Plan will be sent out to all LIO Committee members, and submitted to PSP. Snohomish County's contract with Anchor QEA will end on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Sean Edwards stated that he had some comments relating to the impacts of commercial agriculture that he would like to see included in the plan. Mary Hurner and Lynn Turner agreed that if he sent his comments in by the end of the week, they may be incorporated in the revised draft.

Lynn reminded the committee that we are focusing on producing the best Draft Plan we can, given time and resources, but that it will still be a draft. A final plan is not due to PSP until a date to be determined between April and June 2017.

### **Draft LIO Ecosystem Recovery Plan Content**

Discussion of comments received: Lynn briefly went over some of the comments received on the plan, which can be summarized as clarifying certain statements, filling more detail in certain areas, adding to the gaps list, identifying how regional NTAs will be incorporated in the plan and on what basis they should be incorporated. There were some discussions related to certain elements (e.g., development, agriculture, etc.) that will require further conversations after this Final Draft is completed and prior to completion of the Final Plan.

Draft gaps/barriers/needs: Lynn stated that the list of gaps and barriers to recovery-focused project delivery was developed throughout the Plan development process, but was refined for this draft to indicate resources needed to address these gaps. Through a recent email to staff, Monte included a reminder that the LIO will somehow need to weave in public engagement, although this is not an easy task. Bill commented that every organization involved in the LIO already spends part of their budget on recovery.

Adaptive management procedure: Lynn noted that adaptive management is part “process” (who, how often, how) and part “content” (next steps, objectives, new information). The LIO needs to determine the focus for reporting on pressure abatement effectiveness and status and trends, where new information needs to be incorporated for course correction, and triggers for making decisions. The committee noted it will be useful to crosswalk what is already being done in monitoring and adaptive management, Department of Commerce tracking of GMA compliance, and other existing efforts. The discussion also raised questions about how PSP and EPA intend to use the Plan, what will constitute an update in EPA’s view, and how updates and adaptive management will be tied to funding.

### **On-going Business**

Approval or changes to the IC meeting notes: Bill asked if IC members would like to request any changes to the 6/16 meeting notes. No changes were requested and the notes were approved.

2016 LIO priority funding process: Mary Hurner stated that the handout, “Strategic Initiative Leads Funding Process to Implement 2016 Puget Sound Action Agenda” provides in a table format a straightforward list of the dates and actions we have derived from PSP’s recently issued document, FY2016 LIO Priority Funding Process,” received from SI Lead Emily Sanford via email on 7/28/2016. The Committee requested that Mary forward this document after the meeting. Dan stated that the development of this process is a work in progress, and the handout captures what we believe to be true at this time.

Proposed discussion topics for EC meeting with PSP and EPA: Mary Hurner stated that Sheida Sahandy (PSP), Laura Blackmore (PSP) and Peter Murchie (EPA) will be attending the Executive Committee meeting on September 1<sup>st</sup>. A set of questions has been prepared for this discussion. Implementation Committee members supported getting more information on the plan; such as how often will it be updated, what constitutes an update, will the update be tied to funding, and what funding will it support?

New LIO Coordinator hired: Snohomish County Surface Water Management has hired Jessica Hamill, of the Department of Ecology, to serve in the LIO Coordinator, Senior Planner II position. Jessica will start on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Next Steps**

- Lynn Turner will incorporate IC comments into the Draft LIO Ecosystem Recovery Plan, and the updated version will be sent to the Executive Committee as the IC’s recommendation for consideration at the September 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee Meeting.
- A final version, incorporating Executive Committee comments and approval will be sent to Puget Sound Partnership before the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. The County’s contract with Anchor QEA will close on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- A portion of the next LIO Implementation Committee meeting will include a celebration of plan submittal and a big welcome to the new LIO Coordinator.