

FORUM DISCUSSION

Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum Meeting: May 4, 2017

Topic: **LIO re-evaluation of structure and effectiveness** - Continuation from last meeting

Background: During the February 2017 Forum meeting, LIO Coordinator, Jessica Hamill, provided the Forum with a brief history of the LIO activities to date and relayed that frustration surrounding the effectiveness of the LIO and other drivers for change have resulted in an analysis of the organizational structure of the LIO in an effort to achieve a more effective structure that adds value to existing recovery efforts.

For Discussion:

LIO-identified recovery strategies and high priority Vital Signs align well with regional priorities

- 10 crosscutting strategies developed to address pressures that impact multiple ecological and human wellbeing components (Vital Signs) for maximum impact
- The high priority vital signs addressed by the LIO have also just been adopted as the Area of Focus by the Leadership Council. They are:
 - o floodplains
 - o shoreline armoring
 - o shellfish
 - o freshwater quality
 - o marine water quality
 - o estuaries
 - o Chinook
 - o land development and cover
 - o summer stream flows
 - o toxics in fish

LIO 2017 workplan includes:

- Strategic Implementation: development and implementation of a funding strategy, LIO priority alignment with regional efforts (i.e. Implementation Strategies), and project development (NTAs).
- Integration: setting local goals for vital signs like floodplains; establishing monitoring indicators for recovery
- Adaptive management: ongoing planning needs like status and trends, approval of the Final Plan, and sequencing priority actions/efforts
- Communication: development and implementation of a communications strategy
- Other: includes regional coordination, NTA reporting, and the LIO structure evaluation

LIO has developed new DRAFT Vision, Objectives, and Criteria (not adopted or fully vetted)

Vision

“Implement priority actions, identify additional actions to address gaps, and continue to integrate additional goals and priorities (local and regional) that have been identified in the LIO Ecosystem Recovery Plan.”

Objectives

- Be more strategic about targeting existing funding opportunities
- Communicate our goals and priorities to stakeholders and decision-makers with the goal of bringing more resources to the LIO
- Accelerate implementation of our recovery strategies
- Examine alternative structure models that integrate the LIO with other watershed forums and local representation at the State level

Criteria

- **DIVERSITY**
 - Ability to address any aspect of ecosystem recovery
- **LEADERSHIP**
 - Broadly involves and engages leadership (management and elected officials) at local level
- **COLLABORATION**
 - Regional and local feedback and support loops (State, Federal, and local)
- **CONTINUITY**
 - Adaptable and independent of geographic boundaries