

## LIO Structure Discussion

### Background

- LIO formed in 2012. Purpose:
  - *(1) coordinate with PSP and other LIOs, and*
  - *(2) facilitate the integration of local governments', tribes', and other organizations' strategies that advance the Action Agenda in WRIAs 5 and 7.*
- Spent bulk of existence on recovery planning effort which resulted in an "integrated framework for progress and actions towards a healthy, resilient ecosystem."
- Package of NTAs funded that represent planning, education and outreach, as well as capital efforts intended to reduce pressures on ecosystem components like floodplains and estuaries.
- Following the planning process, it became clear that there are legitimate concerns about the effectiveness of the LIO and if it is actually accelerating progress locally.
- Fred's memo and the concerns of the South Central LIO have sparked a conversation about opportunities for greater integration within existing watershed/LE groups. The Sno-Stilly LIO is evaluating that option, as well as a host of other options for a more effective organizational structure.
- We are currently reaching out to the various groups within the LE's and the LIO, among other LIOs throughout the PS, to gather information about interest in greater integration.
- So far the general concerns are that integrating other elements beyond salmon could dilute the focus of the group as well as change the overall function.
- To give you an idea of the additional responsibilities of an LIO, the LIO has prioritized 10 vital signs out of the 26 (or whatever the final number is): floodplains, estuaries, chinook, summer stream flows, shellfish beds, fresh and marine water quality, toxics in fish, shoreline armoring, land development/cover.
- The idea is to advance/accelerate actions (projects/NTAs) that will reduce pressures on those vital signs, consistent with the 10 recovery strategies developed by the LIO. Obviously, it may be necessary to adaptively manage some of those strategies if the function of the LIO changes.
- LIO Coordinator, Jessica Hamill, outlined for Forum in February motivations for LIO restructure

### LIO draft criteria

- Serve as local convener
- Address any issue related to ecosystem recovery (in LIO Plan and broader watershed planning processes/documents)
- Accelerate recovery, address gaps and barriers to implementation
- Broadly involve and engage leadership (management and elected officials) at local level
- Provide regional and local feedback loops (provide input into regional priority setting and Action Agenda updates)

### Questions

LIO re-evaluating:

- Vision - focus
- Geographic scope
- Structure
- Membership

Date	Task
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Subcommittee meeting: Goals/Objectives and Vision
Late March/Early April	Send final draft Vision, Objectives, and Goal Categories to IC (foundation of org structure)
April-June	Survey/Interview Committees (in-person or written): Feedback on Guiding Questions
May	Subcommittee meeting: Committee "survey" results and setting organizational model criteria
July-September	Test alternative structure models (LIO content based) w IC and LE's
July/August	Subcommittee meeting: Refine structure alternatives based on test results
September-November	Present preferred LIO structure model to IC and LE's
November/December	Subcommittee meeting: Refine based on feedback and finalize recommendation?
January-February	Present preferred LIO structure model (w/ feedback from IC and LE's) to EC
March-May 2018	Finalize preferred structure and involve regional partners (PSP/EPA)