

Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO Implementation Committee (IC) Meeting Summary

*Thursday, October 19, 2017
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Drewel Building, Public Meeting Room*

LIO-IC Members

Chrys Bertolotto, WSU Extension
Steve Rice, Snohomish Health District
Alex Pittman (for Monte Marti), Snohomish Conservation District
Ann Bylin (for Gregg Farris), Snohomish County SWM
Bob Landles, Stillaguamish Clean Water District Advisory Board
Elisa Dawson (for Paul Clampitt), Snohomish County SWM
Karen Stewart, City of Everett
Janne Kaje (for Joan Lee), King County
Perry Falcone, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
Terri Strandberg, Snohomish County PDS
Rodney Pond, Sound Salmon Solutions

Participants

Erin Ryan-Penuela (for Dan Calvert), Puget Sound Partnership

LIO Support Staff

Jessica Hamill, Snohomish County Surface Water Management, LIO Coordinator
Kit Crump, Snohomish County Surface Water Management
Alexa Ramos, Snohomish County Surface Water Management

1. Welcome, Introductions, Public Comments

Kit opened the meeting and introductions followed. There were no public comments made.

2. On-going Business and Announcements

Approval or changes to the Implementation Committee (IC) meeting notes

Kit asked if anyone would like to request changes to the 8/24 meeting notes. No changes were requested and the notes were approved by consensus.

Capital Budget and Regional Updates

Erin reported that there will soon be an ERC position opening up at PSP.

The 2018 Action Agenda (AA) Update (now on a 4-year cycle): the solicitation should come out on Nov. 13th. This affects 2016 NTAs. They will remain a 2016 AA NTA, but to get in the 2018 AA they will need to be resubmitted. NEP will look to 2016 NTAs until the 2018 AA is adopted (targeted for December 2018). Once the 2018 AA is adopted, the Strategic Initiative Leads will only consider funding 2018 NTAs. In an effort to streamline the NTA submittal process for 2016 NTA owners, PSP is working to pre-populate the forms for resubmission as a 2018 NTA. This should allow 2016 NTA owners to simply review what has been pre-populated and make corrections as needed.

The SI Leads will be hosting a WebEx on Regional Priorities on Nov. 20th 10am – 12pm. PSP will be hosting a WebEx on how to submit an NTA on Nov. 28th

Leadership Council Update: their recent meeting included discussion around Orca and Chinook recovery as well as the AA Regional Priorities and the upcoming NTA solicitation. The Governor has authorized an emergency task force to respond to orca and Chinook population declines. There will be a webinar on November 1st from 1 – 3 pm.

3. LIO Structure and Effectiveness

Review progress so far

See handout for details. The Stillaguamish Watershed Council (SWC) recently voted to test out functioning as the implementing body for the Stillaguamish basin. The intent for this next year is to reduce meetings for both Committees, utilize basin-specific work groups, and adaptively manage as we being implementing this new structure in 2018.

Members asked about how the \$100K direct allocation will be handled with two Implementation Committees. The group had much discussion about the possible options. The group decided alternating years between the basins would be a reasonable solution. So there would also be two basin-specific NTA ranked lists. Jessica will pass this idea along to the LIO Executive Committee.

Jessica recapped the interview responses she had received from various Implementation Committee (IC) members.

Members asked about how this trial period will be evaluated for success. Jessica stated that effectiveness would be evaluated based on the draft criteria¹ and that if folks feel overly taxed by the amount of meetings we can adaptively manage as we being implementing the new LIO structure.

The IC approved² recommending this progression of the LIO restructure to the Executive Committee.

4. 2016 NTA Updates

A few of 2016 NTA owners provided updates on funded NTAs. Alex Pittman with the Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) gave an update presentation on the implementation of the Living with Beavers NTA, fully funded by the LIO direct award. Elisa Dawson gave an update on the Snohomish Estuary Cleanup NTA, partially funded by the LIO direct award. Rodney Pond with Sound Salmon Solutions (SSS) gave an update on the implementation of a slightly revised Watershed Education for Decision Makers NTA, funded by King County's Cooperative Watershed Management grant program. Specifics of those presentations are provided below and the PowerPoints have been saved to the LIO website, here: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/2232/LIO---Implementation-Committee>

Living with Beavers

WHY this project? There is a nexus of environmental protection and landowner property management. Beaver populations are on the rise. The Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) has been implementing projects on an owner by owner basis. With the LIO direct award funds, SCD has been able to work with partners to host workshops and expand the reach of their assistance and outreach activities.

Snohomish Estuary Clean-up

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has a program for derelict boat removal. There are 127 derelict boats on DNR's list. The boats need to be posted for 60 days, then a contractor can be hired to remove the boar if it

¹ 1. Efficiency, 2. Broad Expertise, 3. Leadership, 4. Collaborative Implementation, and 5. Continuity

² Motion by Tamara and second by Perry.

hasn't been claimed. The Snohomish Estuary has identified nine priority derelict boats. Some derelict vessels (not these) are declared "part of the environment/habitat;" therefore, DNR will not remove them.

Watershed Education for Decision Makers

PSP provided some funds in 2014 for a pilot program. This produced the Watershed Resources for Salmon Recovery Guide (available on their website). They've conducted 2 tours this year, 1 in each basin (WRIA 7 and WRIA 8). There were varying degrees of participation among elected officials. One lesson learned is that the elected officials might be more interested in a tour of their district than a whole watershed. Another idea to encourage elected official engagement would be to invite members of the press for photo opportunities and additional public engagement for elected officials.

5. 2018 NTA Development and Review: Local Process Discussion

A big change for this round of NTAs is that LIOs will be a reviewer of local and regional NTAs in their respective geographies. Local scores will compose 20% of the region's score. See handouts for more details. The criteria categories will be weighted as follows:

- Alignment = 50%
- Probability of success (human) = 25%
- Probability of success (technical) = 25%

Some funding considerations for our local process: Equity surrounding geographic allocation of funds. Prioritizing non-capital projects would mean we first need to decide on a definition of "capital". Jessica will circulate EPA's definition for review. Alternating years between prioritizing non-capital/capital was suggested.

It was mentioned that non-capital/non-technical folks should be involved in reviewing the Habitat NTAs if we're prioritizing non-capital.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next IC meeting is scheduled for November 16th but will be entirely devoted to an NTA Information Session.

7. Action Items

1. Jessica will circulate EPA's definition of "capital"

Key Recommendations/Decisions

1. Approved recommending testing the SWC as the implementing body of the LIO for the Stillaguamish basin.