

**NTA Evaluation Rubric and Process to Tier proposed Near Term Actions for the 2018 Puget Sound Action Agenda**

**Guiding Principle:**

An evaluation process that results in the deployment of the set of actions most likely to efficiently and effectively advance local recovery priorities and support the implementation of the Action Agenda. This process includes:

- Strong collaboration and a balanced evaluation that benefits from feedback from both local and regional expertise;
- Opportunities for all partners to participate;
- Balance between workload demand and precision; and
- A review approach that is transparent, consistent and credible.

**Local Process and Timeline<sup>1</sup>:**

Who	Task	Start	End
NTA Owners	NTA Pre-registration	11/13/17	12/22/17
NTA Owners/LIO Coordinator (facilitate)	Coordinate/Collaborate <sup>2</sup>	12/22/17	3/30/18
NTA Owners/LIO	Submit Draft Fact Sheets to LIO Coordinator	12/22/17	2/6/18
NTA Owners	NTA Development	12/22/18	3/30/18
NTA Owners/LIO Reps/Coordinator/Strategic Initiative Leads/PSP	NTA Development Workshop	Week of 1/22/2018	Date between 01/22 and 01/26
NTA Review Subcommittee <sup>3</sup>	Review Draft NTA Fact Sheets and Tier NTAs	2/12/18 <sup>4</sup>	2/26/18
NTA Owners/LIO Reps/LIO Coordinator and Support Staff	NTA Improvement/Refinement Workshop <sup>5</sup>	Week of 3/12/18	Date between 3/12/18 and 3/16/18
NTA Owners	Final NTA Submittal to PSP Portal		3/30/18

<sup>1</sup> Critical dates for NTA owners highlighted in yellow.

<sup>2</sup> Initiate with LIO Coordinator, Coordinator to identify key LIO SMEs (i.e. subset or representatives from established NTA Review Subcommittee) to support NTA alignment/improvement, as needed.

<sup>3</sup> Initial thoughts on the NTA Review Subcommittee: Stormwater: County representatives (SWM and PDS and King County equivalent), representatives from both Tribes, representatives from the Cities (Arlington, Everett, Stanwood, and Duvall), representatives from the Port of Everett, representatives from the SCD, and representatives from WSU extension and/or other outreach SMEs. Shellfish: Representative from Department of Health, reps from both Tribes, both County land and water divisions (i.e. SWM and PDS), and reps from the SCD. Habitat: SMEs from the Stillaguamish Technical Advisory Group and Snohomish Technical Committee.

<sup>4</sup> From 2/6/18-2/9/18 the LIO Coordinator and Support Staff will compile and organize the NTAs for the NTA Review Subcommittee.

<sup>5</sup> The purpose of this workshop is to assist NTA owners with refinement based on initial feedback. This is also a second workshop opportunity for anyone who could not make the January LIO workshop. This could be combined/part of an existing LIO meeting.

Criteria	Tiers				
	BEST (4)	(3)	(2)	LOWEST (1)	
<b>Alignment</b> (with alignment with local LIO plans/local context and accelerates implementation of local priorities that would deliver the greatest contribution to recovery)	Outstanding (perfectly aligned and/or addresses identified gap <sup>6</sup> and/or provides co-benefits <sup>7</sup> )	Acceptable (aligns in all but one way and/or partially addresses an identified gap)	Minor, feasible adjustments needed to increase alignment (does not address an identified gap)	Poorly aligned (with local context and recovery strategies) <sup>8</sup>	Provide justification if orange or red.
<b>Probability of success: human</b> (proponent justification that they have the appropriate expertise and the most appropriate partners are engaged for successful implementation)	Highly likely (appropriate expertise, appropriate partners engaged)	Likely (ambitious, stretch of expertise or partners, but probable success)	Difficulties expected (unrelated expertise or partners)	Unlikely to succeed (wrong expertise and wrong partners)	Provide justification if orange or red.
<b>Probability of success: technical</b> (proponent justification that the plan, timeframe, cost, and resources can be leveraged to achieve the desired outcome of the approach)	Highly likely (achievable goals per timeframe, appropriate capacity, appropriate resources)	Likely (ambitious, but possible)	Difficulties expected (likely lack of time, resources, or capacity)	Unlikely to succeed (stated goals are unlikely to be achieved in timeline with available resources and capacity)	Provide justification if orange or red.

Determination of final tier<sup>9</sup>:

We will use the following mechanism to identify the final tier for each NTA:

- Top tier: 2-3 green, 0 red, 0 orange
- Middle tier: 1-2 green, 0 red
- Third tier: 1 green, 1 orange or yellow, 1 red (only probability of success criteria, not alignment)
- Out: 2-3 red

<sup>6</sup> Key actions within LIO recovery strategies where no NTAs have been proposed.

<sup>7</sup> Accelerates implementation of multiple local recovery strategies.

<sup>8</sup> Projects of concern can be “red flagged” by tribes and LIOs and PSP/EPA leadership will work together to ensure engagement by the appropriate parties through an elevation process (details of this process have yet to be developed). NTA owners will also be able to, just like in the last round, raise process concerns during an appeals period which will be resolved by the Board Chairs. As always, the TMC and the PTCC provide additional venues by which special concerns can be raised by tribal partners.

<sup>9</sup> In the event of differing designations within groups, scores of 4 (high) to 1 (low) will be assigned, and the average will be determinative.

### Salmon Projects as NTAs

The criteria for the submittal of salmon recovery projects as NTAs is as follows:

- Capital salmon recovery projects must participate in a local Lead Entity review process before the Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO will recommend it for inclusion and funding as an NTA in the Action Agenda.
- Other salmon recovery-related projects must be on Snohomish or Stillaguamish Basins' 4-year workplan and be supported by the Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Plan and/or Stillaguamish Chinook Recovery Plan or other supporting documents (ie *Snohomish Basin Protect Plan*).
  - Example categories that could be considered as NTAs include (but are not limited too)
    - Stewardship
    - Monitoring
    - Ecosystem assessments
    - Outreach/education
- NTA proposals will be reviewed by Snohomish and Stillaguamish Lead Entity staff and partners to identify alignment and/or conflicts with salmon recovery strategies.