

LIO Human Wellbeing Project Overview

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- **Introduction**

- EPA funded project: Integrating Human Wellbeing and Ecosystem Services into Near Term Action Planning in the Puget Sound
- **Collaborative project** between OSU and Partnership
 - Dr. Kelly Biedenweg, Dr. David Trimbach, Whitney Fleming (PhD student)
- Part of a **much larger effort**, which aims to **better integrate social science and human wellbeing into ecosystem recovery efforts** at the regional and local levels within the Puget Sound Region (Figure 1)

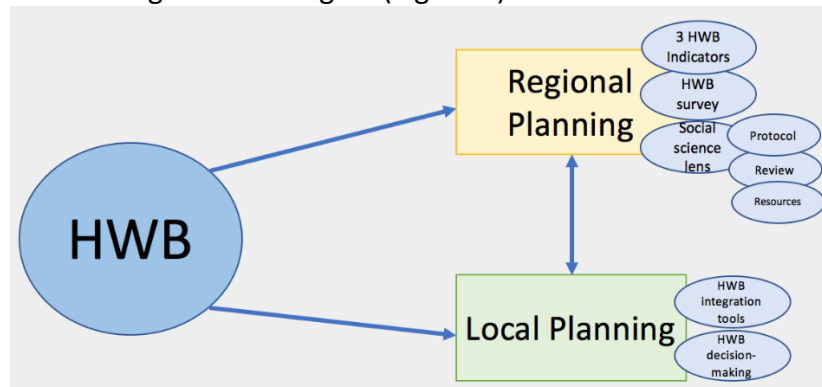


Figure 1. HWB Integration Projects Moving Forward with Examples

- **Primary project goals**

- Overarching focus: to **help integrate human wellbeing indicators with ecological indicators in LIO decision-making**, including NTA development and scoring process.
- This project has **2 overlapping goals and components** (Figure 2):
 - Work closely with 4 communities **to identify a tool and/or tools that allows us to see the social, ecological and financial costs, benefits, and factors** of different strategies or decision-making criteria.
 - Evaluate **how working with such tools can influence the interest and ability to consider wellbeing indicators in decision-making.**



Figure 2. Overlapping Project Components

- **Why this topic matters or what do these goals entail?**
 - Builds upon the **Partnership's ongoing efforts**.
 - Builds upon existing prioritization of HWB indicators (economic vitality, outdoor activity, good governance etc.) in **LIO Ecosystem Recovery Plan** by attempting to establish a baseline and track progress over time towards specific HWB targets.
 - Provides opportunities and resources to **better integrate human wellbeing (e.g.: the Vital Signs) and ecosystem services** into your decision-making and efforts via specific tools or strategies.
- **What can this project offer to LIOs and beyond?**
 - **This project offers: practical tools, capacity, and resources – all tailored to LIOs' needs and interests.**
 - Examples: **funding** (Miradi assistance funding and LIO participation funds that are tailored to LIOs' needs and interests) and **tool development and/or integration assistance** (conceptual models, Vital Sign (HWB) integration, pertinent data and information integration best practices, tradeoffs/consequences of different strategies, specialized decision-making tools, etc.) **that can assist with decision-making.**
 - Example: If your LIO is interested in one particular strategy or tool, you can work with us to **organize a training session or workshop**.
 - Example: Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO has recognized shellfish beds as a high priority Vital Sign, this project can **help provide tools or strategies to help your LIO better understand, address, and prioritize** shellfish beds.
 - Lessons learned from research component will be documented and analyzed in order to tease out best practices, limitations, challenges, etc. that could then be used to **inform future ecosystem recovery efforts and decision-making** (local, regional, and elsewhere).
 - Research consists of **interviews** (with LIO Coordinators and members), **cognitive mapping** (interactive exercise), and **participant observation**.
 - Meant to be **low impact** (time/capacity) among LIOs and can be conducted to at LIO convenience.
 - Research is a requirement of EPA funding and contributes to a broader evaluation.
- **Next steps & Participation Needs**
 - **Minimal and voluntary engagement from LIO participants during interviews/post project surveys (refer to work plan) as most of the integration tool development would be guided by the LIO Coordinator with input from the LIO Committees. The Executive Committee has asked for periodic updates on progress to better guide LIO involvement.**
 - **Work Plan and Timeline overview**
 - **Participant observation and interviews** (pre- and post-programmatic component)
 - Expect a **forthcoming email**

- **Questions?**

- Project Manager - Dr. David J. Trimbach – david.trimbach@oregonstate.edu
- LIO Coordinator or Ecosystem Recovery Coordinator (Erin Murray)