

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO)**

#### **Snohomish Implementation Committee Meeting**

Thursday, May 20, 2021, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Meeting

#### **Local Integrating Organization Implementation Committee (LIO-IC) Members**

Ann Bylin, Snohomish County  
Tim Ellis, Marine Resources Committee (MRC)  
Elise Gronewald, Port of Everett  
Linda Lyshall, Snohomish Conservation District (SCD)  
Cory Zyla, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum  
Emily Davis, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum  
Heather Khan, WA Dept. of Ecology  
Kelsey Taylor, Snoqualmie Tribe  
Terri Strandberg, Snohomish County  
Morgan Ruff, Tulalip Tribes

#### **Participants & Guests**

Don Gourlie, Puget Sound Partnership (PSP)  
Ragina Gray, Snohomish Health District (SHD)  
Michael Wagner, Snohomish Health District (SHD)  
Steve Rice, Snohomish Health District (SHD)  
Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish Lead Entity Coordinator, Snohomish County  
Elisa Dawson, Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee Staff (MRC)  
Dani Driscoll, Shellfish Program Manager, Snohomish County

#### **LIO Support Staff**

Kathleen Pozarycki, LIO Coordinator, Snohomish County  
Alexa Cummings, Snohomish County  
Kit Crump, Snohomish County

#### **Introductions**

Kathleen Pozarycki opened the meeting and started introductions. She reviewed the meeting purpose and agenda, and no add-ons were included. No members of the public were present and there were no public comments.

#### **Approval of 2/25/21 Meeting Summary**

Linda Lyshall asked if anyone had any comments on the February 25, 2021 Implementation Committee meeting notes. No changes were requested, and the notes were approved by consensus.

#### **LIO Business**

Kathleen let folks know that the Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB) approved a motion at the May 12, 2021 meeting to add an ex-officio seat for the Sno/Stilly LIO. A briefing memo is located here:

[01\\_ECB\\_LIOExOfficioRecommendation+Attachment.pdf | Powered by Box](#)

**NEXT STEPS:** The Partnership will solicit nominations from the Island, Snohomish-Stillaguamish and Puyallup White River LIO's. The goal would be for these nominations to be submitted prior to and for the new members to start at the August 12th, 2021 ECB meeting.

Kathleen asked the committee for input and ideas for filling this role. Linda mentioned Megan Dunn with Snohomish County Council might be a nice fit or Ryan Miller with Tulalip Tribes. Linda noted that this should be opened for self-nomination and proposed to the Exec. Comm. at the June LIO meeting for approval. Ann asked what a nomination would require exactly. Kathleen will look into the process and follow-up. She also noted we will continue to have coordinating meetings with our current rep. Ron Wesen in advance of ECB meetings until someone fills this role.

Erin Murray took a new position is no longer our Ecosystem Recovery Coordinator (ERC). The Partnership will be hiring a new liaison. The interviews are set up for two weeks from now. Hopefully, we will get a replacement soon. Erin Ryan-Penuela will be our interim ERC.

### **Snohomish Health District Septic Program Update**

Ragina Gray introduced herself and her colleagues, Steve Rice and Michael Wagner.

#### SHD Overview

Ragina gave an overview of the health district and the work that they do. She noted the limited involvement the SHD has had in watershed groups related to a lack of capacity and since they are a regulatory agency, permitting issues take priority. However, the district has new leadership and is headed in new directions. Ragina explained the district's leadership structure and that there is a relatively high board member turnover since all members are also elected officials. Programs under Environmental Health include Land Use, Food Safety, Safe Environments, Customer Service and Vital Records.

#### OSS Basics

Steve gave an overview of onsite septic systems, the common types, and how they function. He explained why systems typically fail including hydraulic overloading, household practices, physical damage, and age. Routine maintenance is required by the WAC 246-272A-0270

[Operation, monitoring, and maintenance—Owner responsibilities](#). There are various ways that the SHD can be notified of septic issues and approaches for handling them, in some cases pursuing legal action.

#### OSS Monitoring and Maintenance Program

Michael explained how the program is funded via contractor report fees that began in November 2019. The program focuses on voluntary compliance and outreach over the next 3-5 years. There will be a mandatory Point of Sale inspection per a change in the WAC to help with compliance. He also explained how the SHD works with PIC III on complementary efforts and their interest in better integrating with local watershed groups.

Michael shared more information about ideas for their methods to implement the 2007 SHD OSS Management Plan including outreach to septic inspectors and homeowners for maintenance and inspections. Overall, they would like to work towards a more proactive approach.

### **Action Agenda Draft Strategies**

Don Gourlie, PSP, gave a presentation on the 2023 Action Agenda update and the draft strategies that have been developed. The presentation is located here:

<https://pspwa.box.com/s/90dlptulvyxuo58gkljkg5fyu0qf2ty>

Don explained where in the process we are now, what has been accomplished so far, and next steps. Don defined Strategies as describing effective approaches for advancing progress toward desired outcomes, Vital Signs, and overall recovery. He provided examples of what Strategies are intended to do and not do and why there are important for recovery planning.

He explained what specific input the Partnership is looking for from LIOs in developing the 2022-2026 AA Strategies: 1) low, medium, high ranking 2) identifying regionally significant opportunities for implementation and 3) early ideas on regional barriers and action ideas for implementation. He also shared benefits to engaging in the planning process including weighing in on new content like Human Wellbeing and climate change.

Kathleen shared the Qualitative Strategy Ranking Criteria developed by the LIO coordinators. The idea is to use these criteria to rank each of the 150 Strategies for each LIO. Staff would create a draft ranking for the committee's review. Kathleen noted that 71 of the strategies are from the former Action Agenda and have been previously endorsed by the LIO. She asked how the committee would like to engage in the ranking process and reviewing the staff draft. Linda suggested having the committee do the ranking rather than LIO staff. Kathleen responded that this is a time intensive effort and the other LIOs are not going with that approach, but she was open to that if members were onboard to participate. Linda suggested using a survey method instead or having individuals do a draft ranking themselves and come together to discuss discrepancies.

Gretchen commented that there will likely not be appetite to review 150 strategies, but the LE committees would like to review the salmon related ones at least.

Morgan asked for clarification on the significance of ranking the strategies and Kathleen explained the importance is to have a voice in narrowing down the 150 strategies at the regional level. Morgan asked about the implication of a strategy not being prioritized in this process and where is the funding nexus. Kathleen responded that these new strategies do not come with added funding or capacity. Don added that the vision is to look beyond the only current dedicated funding source for the Action Agenda – NEP. He noted there are more broad funding sources that can fund these actions and the Partnership wants to broaden their perspective on what resources are available to support Puget Sound recovery.

The deadline is July 2<sup>nd</sup> for this feedback request. There was discussion about next steps to review the strategies. Kathleen will develop a process for interested members to rank the strategies and then hold a subcommittee meeting to resolve discrepancies.

### **Roundtable Updates**

- Heather: Ecology's Draft WQ Assessment to inform TMDLs is open for public review until June 4<sup>th</sup>: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-quality/Water-improvement/Assessment-of-state-waters-303d>
- Gretchen: Snohomish salmon recovery partners are in the process of updating the Snohomish Basin Salmon recovery plan and revisiting strategies and developing new targets.
- Kathleen: Alex and Peggy are working on a Savvy Septic video.
- The Sno/Stilly LIO Executive Committee meeting is June 16<sup>th</sup> and the agenda includes updates from several project sponsors on their NTA progress. The next Implementation Committee meeting isn't until November, but we may need another meeting with all the Action Agenda update planning process so stay tuned.

### **Wrap Up**

The meeting adjourned at 4:24pm.

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