



**San Juan County Action Agenda Oversight Group/San Juan Local Integrating Organization (SJ-LIO)
Action and Oversight Committee (AOC) Meeting**

Meeting Summary

Friday June 17, 2016, 9:00 am – 11:00 pm

Padilla Bay Reserve, 10440 Bayview-Edison Rd. Mount Vernon, WA

v 09-30-2016

Action Items	Person(s) Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LIO to send letter to the Partnership withdrawing the Salish Sea PSSA designation NTA proposal. Look at evaluation criteria to prioritize local NTAs for FY2016-17 funds. 	<p>Jamie Stephens</p> <p>All</p>

Record of Decisions	Person(s) Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group unanimously approved meeting summary from May 5, 2016. Group unanimously agreed to withdraw the PSSA NTA proposal. Group agreed to address evaluation criteria to prioritize local NTAs for FY2016-17 funds during the August LIO IC meeting. 	<p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>All</p>

Welcome and Introductions

Jamie Stephens, chair of the Action and Oversight Committee (AOC), convened the meeting at 9:08am. The Action and Oversight Committee (IC) members and guests provided brief introductions.

Meeting Agenda and Summary

The meeting agenda was approved with no changes. The meeting summary from the April 6, 2016 SJ LIO Joint AOC-IC meeting was approved unanimously with no changes.

Public Comment

Lovel Pratt from Friends of the Earth discussed a report from her organization that looks at the potential impacts of transporting tar sands via barge through the Salish Sea. The report focuses on large vessel traffic transporting tar sands from Burnaby, B.C. to Tacoma, WA. The report also looks at outbound tankers traveling to other U.S. ports. There will be a letter sent to the federal delegation to urge our federal representatives to engage in this issue and make sure our concerns are being expressed. The Department of Ecology is assessing the risks associated with the increase of vessel traffic due to transportation of tar sands and based on the operational parameters evaluated, currently deem the risk of a spill as acceptable. With the proposed increase in vessel traffic, the risk of a major spill increases by 264%. The probability of a small spill is 100%.

Updates

Jamie Stephens reported that he has been appointed as an alternate to the shoreline hearings board. The board will be looking at a case about barges on the Columbia River in July. There have been issues



with the Dept. of Ecology and WDFW with windows for construction to improve stormwater. Dept. of Ecology needs to decide if they want to enforce local projects that need to get done. Alan noted that regulatory and enforcement effectiveness is being looked into by JLARC. Also, Jamie and Lovel are part of the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment (VTRA) update steering committee.

Patti Gobin reported that there was a transboundary call with the tribes, EPA, and Environment Canada on June 16th to talk about working together on vessel traffic and spills. There needs to be meaningful consultation through leadership. The Coast Guard needs to be involved in the conversation.

Proposed Withdrawal of the PSSA Designation NTA Proposal

Stan Walsh reported that Friends of the San Juans withdrew the NTA for the PSSA proposal on June 16th. Stan motioned for the AOC to withdraw the NTA; Alan seconded the motion. **Motion to remove the NTA approved unanimously.** Stan has drafted a letter withdrawing the NTA proposal from the Action Agenda. Discussion followed. Alan noted that the EPA and Environment Canada are having conversations about how to approach issues bilaterally. The NEP has no brief to address how to deal with potential catastrophic spills. It needs to be in the Action Agenda so it can be addressed. The more is addressed, the more the issue will rise to the top of the list of important issues. Stephanie Solien expressed that addressing the vessel traffic threats is moving too slow. Linda Lyshall noted that there are two live San Juan NTAs about vessel traffic on the 2016 Action Agenda but that the ranking does not support these issues moving up the chain. Linda suggested that the LIO letter reference the letter that Friends of the San Juans sent. Marta Green will incorporate to the draft letter Stan's additional revisions and forward to Jamie for distribution this afternoon.

PSP Regional Updates

Suzanna gave an update on the PSP. The EPA has delayed their decision on the management conference grant. The decision will be announced on June 24th. Suzanna will let everyone know the outcome as soon as possible. This delay also delays conversations the PSP will be having with the LIOs on next year's grants. The PSP is doing triage to make sure these delays are not felt by the partners.

Local concerns are being magnified at the board level. The PSP is hearing that the Action Agenda review process is moving too slowly. The PSP has to do a better job with action. Urgent and important issues need to be addressed now. The PSP needs to get policies made and have public resources available to address issues. The PSP understands the urgency, and they hear that people are concerned time may be running out. Discussion followed. Alan noted that a recent meeting was very diplomatic, and the general impression he was left with is that people are frustrated with the process. Jamie added that the PSP needs to re-evaluate the comprehensive plan. The situation limiting salmon fishing this spring got peoples' attention. Patti also added that the fish consumption rate needs to be addressed so that changes to permitting and coding can be made to realistic levels.

Ecosystem Protection and Recovery Plan (EPRP)

Marta reported on the EPRP schedule and timeline. We are currently about half way through the planning process. It was difficult to get started, but now the vision, vital signs, components, goal statements, etc. are in place. There is a deliverable due in July. The draft deliverable will be due September 30th. The last meeting Marta attended was to review how the plan development has been organized. The purpose of the plan has evolved, and there have been additions to acknowledge local



expertise and transboundary issues. Marta would like any additional feedback from LIO members as soon as possible.

Marta reviewed components and goals of the plan. Components of the plan focus on a five year plan. The plan looks to measure improvement with focal components by reducing pressures toward achieving the goals. Discussion of components followed. Jamie noted that housing needs to be addressed in the plan. We don't want to stop housing in relation to armoring and development. Land use conversations need to be included. How people develop their property is key to this issue. Alan suggested linking all priority components and actions to accomplish end points. Linda added that low impact development should be encouraged. Marta will talk with Byron Rot to make sure all salmon issues, including fresh water, are included in an appropriate way. As Marta discussed components, she noted that there are two ways to respond to pressures: 1) governance and political will, and 2) adaptation. Next steps in the EPRP will be working sessions with SMEs to identify strategies and logic models for each priority pressure. There will also be a member review and comment period July 5th-12th.

Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) June 8 Meeting Overview

Linda reported that the LIO met with JLARC on June 8th, and the meeting went well. There were two JLARC staff, one intern, and seven LIO members present. JLARC asked good questions and there was good discussion. It was a great opportunity to reflect on work that's been done. LIO members were able to convey concerns and challenges they perceive, including the need for streamlined funding, better coordination between the EPA and PSP, too many meetings, a lack of capacity for monitoring, lacking legislative support on transboundary issues, and a disconnect of PSP and enforcement. JLARC was appreciative of the site visits. The JLARC report is due in January 2017.

Evaluation Criteria to Prioritize Local NTAs for FY2016-17 NEP Funds

Linda reported that the LIO is waiting for more guidance from PSP before the LIO can move forward with the evaluation process. This will be discussed at the August LIO IC meeting, and criteria for RFPs will also be reviewed at that meeting. Suzanna encouraged the LIO to keep the process extremely simple and discourages doing an RFP. She also strongly suggested holding off on making any decisions about the process until the PSP has a workplan and funding is directly appropriated from the SI lead, not from the LIO to the NTA owner. Alan said the LIO needs to effectively rank projects for evaluation. Jamie noted that once this happens, the LIO will be in a compressed time frame. Once the SI is ready, the LIO needs to be ready. Stan added that the LIO needs to narrow down the 17 NTA proposals so the LIO does not ask everyone to re-propose. He suggested possible narrowing to the top five proposed priority NTAs. Marta felt that this process needs to be open to all NTAs that are important to the LIO. Linda noted that some NTA owners will self-exclude. Stan feels it is important that the LIO be realistic about funding with NTA owners as well. This topic will be revisited during the August LIO IC meeting.

Next Steps

Next SJ LIO IC meeting will be in August.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:11 am

**Attachment - Meeting Participants
Members**



Name	Affiliation	In Attendance
Alan Chapman	Lummi Natural Resources Department	X
Patti Gobin	Tulalip Tribes	X
Stephanie Solien	Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council (via phone)	X
Linda Lyshall	San Juan Islands Conservation District	X
Stan Walsh	Swinomish Tribe, Skagit River System Cooperative	X
Jamie Stephens (Chair)	San Juan County Council	X
Terry Williams	Tulalip Tribes	

Staff and Guests

Name	Affiliation
Marta Green	San Juan Action Agenda Oversight Group
Suzanna Stoike	Puget Sound Partnership
Chandler Colahan	Recording Secretary
Lovel Pratt	Friends of the Earth
Barbara Ehrlichman	Swinomish Tribal Representative
Tom Ehrlichman	Special Council to Swinomish Tribe