

San Juan Action Agenda Oversight Group
Accountability Oversight Committee
February 3, 2015; 11: 30a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Hibulb Tribal Center, Tulalip, WA
Meeting Summary Notes

Welcome and Introductions:

Present (members): *Terry Williams, Stan Walsh, Bob Jarman (for Jamie Stevens),*

(staff/ad hoc): *Scott Williamson(PSP staff), Marta Branch(SJ LIO staff), Annalies Schuh(notes),*

Absent: *Sam Gibboney(SJ LIO IC chair), Randy Kinley, Stephanie Solien, Alan Chapman, Jamie Stevens*

11:30 Convene Meeting

Adopt Meeting Summary from 10/31/2014

Adopted by consensus

Appointment of AOC Chair

Terry suggesting alternating the chair seat between county and tribes and the committee agreed. Jamie was appointed as chair by consensus of members present.

LIO/EPA funding models—Update, all

Marta explained the background of LIO/EPA funding models.

Stan thinks that it is important for EPA for the competition aspect to be part of the model. Salmon recovery model is a competition and it needs to be similar to that process.

Terry - Puget Sound water authority graphed 3 different places in 1987 plan; invited people on boat and created the estuary plan and signed documents at Elliot Bay. Then other organizations added.

However, that plan from 1985 has not changed except for the population growth. Nothing has been addressed towards climate change and also the coastal zone management act requirement. People are not following the main points, especially the federal government. Not only do we want to look at this processes, we need to include more federal agencies and harmonize regulations between them. The state has had 30+ years and nothing has changed. We need to have an equal plan. State should be a part of what is a priority. Federal government has made a commitment to the tribes saying they don't want to make this a problem for the tribe. Trying to get structure straight and make it work for Puget Sound recovery. Need to convince EPA to commit to making changes.

Timeline for creation and adoption of 2016 action agenda—Scott

Scott explained timeline for creation of the 2016 Action Agenda. Things up in the air and decisions need to be made by PSP vis a vis the Implementation Strategies.

Currently in contract. LIO is identifying process to identify priorities by the end of June based on Partnership guidance. End of July asking for LIOs to send updated prioritized list of pressures on ecosystem. Oil spills, shoreline development and stormwater runoff are currently the top three San Juan LIO ecosystem pressures. The Puget Sound Partnership ecosystem pressure assessment is a resource. This document provides regional pressure assessment information and will help with the evaluation of the concept of implementation strategies. EPA and science panels will help to inform this tool. Bridging near term actions and bridging that with target ecosystems. Early on EPA linked that to funding. Funding will now not be tied only to implementation strategies. Example: Eel grass, Storm water, flood plans, shellfish, salmon.

Survey: What is most important to include as Implementation Strategies?

Vital signs and targets in public and had quite a bit of response for completion. Much further along than when started.

Terry says currently we are losing the glaciers at the headwaters of rivers; then that creates early run off in the rivers, and higher flooding at the mouths of the rivers. Not sure how indicators will find a solution to this. How will we maintain aquifers, respond to saltwater intrusion, and maintain habitat both for farming and nearshore?

Scott provided a PPT presentation that addressed the Eelgrass restoration target of 20% by 2020, and noted that we need to restore estuaries because they help produce eelgrass. Terry asked about soft shore armoring: Puget Sound Partnership and how would it help to change percentage? With sea level rise what are the ramifications?

Stan said we are not going to get away from residents that need armoring. There need to be mitigation measures offered for these scenarios, eelgrass add in other places.

Scott talked about removing shore line armoring where there wasn't erosion or building threat. He suggested working with contractors. Educate them about shoreline armoring. They will want to make the money from proper services.

Implementation Strategies—Scott

- Update on process

July is the month for deliverable under current LIO contract for the 2016 Action Agenda—need to have the ecosystem pressures prioritized list by end of July, 2015. End of October is when 2016 draft of Action Agenda is due to the Partnership; this will be deliverable under new contract.

In the budget proposal, Snohomish County and the LIO agree on land ordinance with tribes to take land from the slide and plant with plants that the tribes are interested in and repopulate with species that are important to tribes because of traditional uses. Tribes get habitat and county gets reduced fees (through insurance and FEMA) on land slides. Protection=gains Sustainable Land Strategy with agriculture: need to find an agreement with the county and the tribes. The tribes/farmers need more land for farming because of the delta outfall and sea level rise.

Bob- the real restoration needs to happen up river. San Juans are the tail end.

Terry- there has been a lot of blow back on shore conservation because of properties. If the San Juan County Council is interested, were to invite him, Terry can bring the FEMA rep over to discuss these issues and implications. Bob will investigate this, discuss with Jamie, and likely provide invite.

- Implications for WRIA #2 NTAs

Scott- Doesn't know yet what the finished list of implementation strategies will be—Partnership will finish these in June.

Review AA and NTAs—Reports from Quarter—Scott (Alex/Marta) --1:10pm started discussing

- Oil Spill NTAs—update, next steps
 - Derelict Vessel

Provide an update LIO NTA. So far all has been reported as unknown

Program going well in county, funding ends in June. Was a model stewardship program.

Need to continue funding, there is a bill for DNR to use funds.

Upcoming SJ MRC Marine Manager's Workshop—current draft agenda; Marta

Marta distributed draft agenda for MMW and the outline for the March 7th Oil Spill Workshop with Topic of concern: Dispersants ; Open to public, oil companies are potentially going to be at meeting.

Transition Plan

LIO coordinator position

Going to be open—should be advertised soon.

There are 2 seats open for MRC members only. AOC felt that it is important that the MRC coordinator in future attend the LIO implementation committee (IC) meeting for coordination of actions.

Stan-thinks that it's useful for the MRC to be at LIO meetings but understands there is always funding concern.

Salmon recovery position—Barbara R. has resigned--retired

Just opened, job descriptions will be posted at some point, theoretically.

Dates for meetings for year.

- Spring
May 13, 2015
- Summer
July 15, 2015
- Fall
Sept 23, 2015
- Winter next
Jan 20, 2016

Adjourned at 2:40 pm.