



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

Meeting Summary

Thursday, May 5, 2016, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm

San Juan Grange Hall, 152 First Street North, Friday Harbor, WA

v 05-27-2016

Action Items	Person(s) Responsible
Develop approach and criteria for prioritizing local NTAs for NEP funds	All
Identify existing key documents, in addition to the Marine Stewardship Area Plan, to inform the Ecosystem Protection and Recovery Plan. Notify Jennifer Thomas.	All
Review draft goals statements and priority pressures and provide feedback to Marta.	All

Welcome and Introductions

Linda Lyshall, chair of the Implementation Committee (IC), convened the meeting at 11:07am. The Implementation Committee (IC) members and guests provided brief introductions.

Meeting Agenda and Summary

The meeting agenda was approved with no changes. The April 6, 2016 Joint AOC and IC Draft Meeting Summary was approved by the IC with no changes, pending comments from the AOC.

Public Comment

None.

Updates

Linda updated the group about an opportunity for the SJ LIO to participate in an upcoming Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) audit of the PSP. They would like to meet with three LIOs for at least two hours. Any LIO members can participate. The meeting will be on June 8, 2016. Kyle Dodd, Stephanie Buffum, and Linda agreed to participate. Marta Green has asked Jamie Stephens to participate if he is available as well.

Marta reported that Megan is leaving Triangle Associates and will no longer be supporting the LIO. Jennifer Thomas will be transitioning into the role, along with Mikhaila Gonzales with Triangle Associates, who will work remotely.

Stephanie reported that she is replacing Noreen Ignelzi the LIO representative for the Stewardship Network. ECO Net funding is ending at the end of June, and everyone is looking for funds to keep the Stewardship Network Coordinator position funded.



Regional Updates on the 2016 Action Agenda Review Process

Marta reported that the public comment period for the 2016 Action Agenda just ended. There were 18 comments submitted on behalf of SJ AAOG. Comments expressed concerns about the Comprehensive Plan lacking a comprehensive strategy and the evaluation process for prioritization of NTAs. She offered testimony to the Leadership Council on these concerns on April 29th. The Leadership Council is to adopt the 2016 Action Agenda June 29th. Marta also reported on direct funding for local NTAs. Each LIO will be receiving \$100k per year for the next five years to help support local NTAs. She also noted that reallocation of a small amount of existing funding may occur if the funds are not needed to complete the Ecosystem Protection and Recovery Plan (EPRP) (see Prioritization discussion below). Marta reported that PSP has issued new Ecosystem Recovery Plan Guidance 2.0.

April Gatherings

Marta reported on events from April. The Salish Sea Ecosystems Conference was a success. She attended many sessions, including sessions on transboundary work, policy, and carbon taxing. She shared that there will be a mariner's guide coming from the BC Ferries and WSDOT. And the DNR will continue creosote piling removal in San Juan and Skagit counties this year. Linda added that it was difficult to choose what to attend with so many sessions scheduled.

Marta attended a forum at Tulalip – “Making Sense of Sea Level Rise.” The forum focused on sea level rise and speakers recommended incorporating plans with Cascadia planning efforts. It's important that we communicate sea level rise and are able to measure if we are adapting to it. Climate change and sea level rise need to be included in LIO planning and salmon recovery efforts.

Marta also attended the PSP Leadership Council meeting. The Northwest Straits did a presentation highlighting the successes of citizen science. NOAA offered a presentation about the Southern Resident Killer Whales and how objectives of the Endangered Species Act are not being met. There is a proposed rule to revise critical habitat, and there will be a public comment period about this in the fall of 2017.

Ecosystem Protection and Recovery Planning Status

Megan gave an update. The core team has met several times in the last month. They would like LIO members' feedback for the next steps. There have been workshops with PSP to develop the plan for completion in September. There will be another workshop in June. To date, the SJ LIO has developed a draft vision statement, developed the initial list of ecosystem and human wellbeing components, and began developing goal statements for ecosystem components. In April, the core team worked to organize ecosystem components, worked to identify the purpose of the EPRP, cross-walked components and vital signs, participated in PSP workshop #2 on conceptual modeling, and began initial pressure prioritization. Discussion among group members followed: the comment was made that it feels like the language has changed since the beginning of this process. What happened to our vital sign for oil spills? Megan clarified that this list is just the components to protect and restore (vital signs) and the goals for those. After these are in place, the group will determine the pressures that impact the vital signs. A group member asked if there will be an update on the Marine Stewardship Area Plan (MSAP) soon. Laura Arnold explained that the top six strategies are still the same. The MSAP was used as an initial



reference to EPRP goals. Stephanie recommended using other documents in this process as well. Megan asked everyone to let Jennifer know of any other documents or new plans they'd like included in the process.

The group reviewed the SJ LIO vision and EPRP purpose. Marta noted that there was an addition to the purpose: It was suggested that the terms "transboundary" and "TEK" (traditional ecological knowledge) be reflected in the purpose of the plan.

The group reviewed the ecosystem and human wellbeing components. A group member asked why "armoring" is a vital sign and not a pressure for PSP. Megan said PSP considers it both and that there has been a lot of discussion about this. The term "nearshore environment" was discussed as being too broad. The term "shoreforms" could be used instead. It was also suggested that the term "soft shore stabilization" is preferred instead of "soft armoring," which could be misleading. The component "healthy forests" should be changed to "forest". It was suggested that "marine shoreline riparian vegetation" be added as a component as well. The SMA defines that area as 200 feet within shorelines. A group member asked about San Juan components that do not link up with PSP vital signs. It was explained that if there are components that don't link up, it will let PSP know that there are needs that haven't been addressed. The group also discussed the term "deep water" and concluded that this includes anything from nearshore out.

The group reviewed the goal statements for priority ecosystem components. Marta commented that the group needs to find a way to consolidate goals in order to more work forward. Alan agreed, saying the LIO needs to prioritize, strategize, and sequence goals in order to get things done. Marta is going to distribute the goals for members review and feedback before the next meeting.

There was a review of current SJ LIO pressures. The pressures need to be prioritized in order to develop strategies for those pressures. Megan commented that she and Jennifer would like to work with the group to determine how to prioritize pressures. Marta will send out information and request feedback from group members. The core team will bring feedback to the June meeting with PSP.

Approach to Prioritize Local NTAs for FY2016-17 NEP Funds

Considerations for an approach to prioritizing local NTAs for the \$100k/yr "direct funding" was discussed, including options to focus on one versus multiple NTAs, and with or without regional partners. Evaluation criteria including those drafted in Mar/Apr by EPA were presented, e.g., bang for the buck, synergistic benefit. Linda suggested using weighted methods to help with this. From this process, the LIO should be able to identify information gaps that need to be addressed. Alan suggested looking at the original 2014 PSP Pressures Assessment Report for approaches to prioritization.

Linda suggested creating a proposal form for groups to submit for funding. Stan suggested that funds could be used to match other funds, or could be used to fund two \$50,000 two-year projects. A member asked if this process will change rankings. Marta clarified that it will allow SJ LIO to fund a NTA that otherwise would not be funded based on ranking. This could become difficult for administration if the funds are divided into too many pots. A group member asked if there will be certainty about NTA funding from EPA. Marta reminded everyone that only two local NTAs were in the top quartile for funding from NEP. A group member asked who in makes the final decision. Linda emphasized that the



AOC makes the final decision about funding upon the recommendations of the IC. Alan reminded everyone that the EPA isn't interested in funding salmon recovery projects. It was suggested that the LIO select one initiative to focus on. Linda asked everyone to come back to the June meeting with a plan. This should be decided before being taken to the AOC.

There was discussion about the potential for limited funds (possibly on the order of \$10,000) from the supplemental funding to produce the EPRP to support a local NTA. Members made other suggestions for the funds, including funds to cover group members' travel expenses or to help support the coordinator position of the Stewardship Network. Marta will check on whether there is flexibility on the use of these funds. Linda said the LIO will need a firm amount of funds available and information on the county's process for reallocating funding. Budget analysis and decisions need to be completed and communicated to PSP by June 29th and the funds must be utilized by September 30th.

Next Steps

There is a Partners Summit in Olympia on May 19th. It will focus on possible legislative solutions to the barriers to recovery.

Next SJ LIO IC meeting will be by June 1st. The group may cancel the July meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:32 pm



Attachment - Meeting Participants

Members

Name	Affiliation	In Attendance
Barbara Bentley	SJC Marine Resources Committee	
Arnie Klaus	SJC Marine Resources Committee	
Alan Chapman	Lummi Natural Resources Department	X (via phone)
Kyle Dodd	San Juan County Health & Community Services	X
Sam Gibboney	San Juan County Environmental Resources Division	
Patti Gobin	Tulalip Tribes	
Stephanie Buffum	San Juan Stewardship Network/EcoNet Representative	X
Linda Lyshall (Chair)	San Juan Islands Conservation District	X
Byron Rot	San Juan County/WRIA 2 Lead Entity	
Billie Swalla	University of Washington Friday Harbor Laboratories	
Kimbal Sundberg	Water Resources Management Committee	
Stan Walsh	Swinomish Tribe, Skagit River System Cooperative	X
Duncan Wilson	Town of Friday Harbor	

Staff and Guests

Name	Affiliation
Laura Arnold	Marine Resources Committee, Stewardship Network
Marta Green	San Juan Action Agenda Oversight Group
Susan Key	San Juan Shoreline Stewardship Program
Megan Johnston	Triangle Associates
Jennifer Thomas	Water and Land Natural Resource Consulting
Chandler Colahan	Recording Secretary