

**Alliance for a Healthy South Sound (AHSS) Council Meeting**  
**September 16, 2014, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**  
**LOTT Clean Water Alliance**  
**500 Adams St NE**  
**Olympia, WA**

**Participants**

Erica Bates, WSU Mason County Extension	Tom Kantz, Pierce County SWM
John Bolender, Mason County Conservation District	Dave Peeler, DERT
Cindy Callahan, TPCHD	Debbie Riley, MCPH
Denis Curry, CLIPA	Joe Roush, City of Olympia
Chris Ellings, Nisqually Tribe	Scott Steltzner, Squaxin Island Tribe
Karla Fowler, LOTT	Al Schmauder, Chambers Creek Watershed Council
Justin Hall, Nisqually River Foundation	Stephanie Suter, PSP
Jack Havens, CLIPA	Lydia Wagner, ECY
Robert Johnson, Mason County Citizens Rep	Jennifer Whipple, Taylor Shellfish
	Meeting Coordination:
	Elizabeth McManus, Ross Strategic
	Andy Chinn, Ross Strategic

**I. Upcoming Meeting with PSP and EPA to Discuss Puget Sound Funding Model**

On September 26, EPA will host a meeting at Edmonds City Hall to discuss potential models for distributing funding for Puget Sound recovery. Available members of the AHSS Executive Committee will attend the meeting and provide feedback on proposed funding models. Key points from the meeting will be reported to the Council when available.

**II. AHSS Grant Endorsement Process**

The Council reviewed the current procedures by which organizations apply for AHSS endorsement of grant applications and considered whether any improvements or streamlining are needed (for example, if a grant proposal supports a South Sound NTA it could be automatically endorsed by AHSS). One potential issue is the timing of grant application deadlines and the bi-monthly AHSS Council meeting schedule.

- Scott Steltzner noted that the AHSS Technical Subcommittee's current responsibilities include review of requests for AHSS endorsement of grant applications. In the past the Subcommittee has allocated two weeks to review such requests, but theoretically could reduce the amount of review time to one week.

- Chris Ellings and Tom Kantz commented that given the low number of endorsement requests to date, the Technical Subcommittee has sufficient capacity to review and provide recommendations on requests.
- Dave Peeler noted that the project information sheet does not include anticipate outcomes, which might be useful to know.
- Justin Hall volunteered to serve on a Council committee tasked with reviewing the Technical Subcommittee's grant endorsement recommendations.
- John Bolender noted that it would be of interest to know why cities or other local jurisdictions are not requesting AHSS grant endorsement.

### **III. Update to AHSS Website**

The LIO Coordinators pointed out the overall menu and various features of the new AHSS website and invited the Council to provide feedback. Council members provided several suggestions for the website, including expanding the calendar to include Saturday and Sunday and adding South Sound community events.

### **IV. Puget Sound Pressure Assessment**

Elizabeth McManus from Ross Strategic provided an overview of the Puget Sound Pressure Assessment and its implications for South Puget Sound recovery activities. Elizabeth reviewed the data for the pressure assessment in the South Sound. She encouraged Council members not to overly focus on individual results, as their usefulness depends on the work of local groups in interpreting the data in a way that has meaning for them. The pressure assessment results are not intended to replace Open Standards for Conservation. Pressure assessment results are available on the PSPA website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/pressureassessment/home>

### **V. Council Administrative Items**

#### **July Meeting Summary**

- The Council approved the draft July meeting summary.

#### **Upcoming Regional Meetings**

- A joint meeting of LIO Coordinators and watershed leads is scheduled for Friday, September 19 in Edmonds. The quarterly LIO Coordinators meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 30 in Edmonds. The AHSS coordinators typically attend these meetings as representatives of AHSS and will report back to the AHSS Executive Committee and Council on any significant items. Council members are encouraged to bring any issues to the coordinators' attention that they wish to convey during these meetings.

#### **NTA Financial Reporting to PSP**

- During the past month the AHSS LIO Coordinators have collected financial information on the 18 NTAs submitted to PSP as part of the 2014 Action Agenda update. The financial information was

forwarded to PSP; this information will be compiled with financial information for NTAs across Puget Sound to create an estimate of current funding sources and funding levels for Puget Sound recovery actions, estimated costs to complete the NTAs, and potential funding sources.

#### Quarterly NTA Progress Reporting

- The next reporting on NTA progress is due to PSP on October 15. The AHSS LIO Coordinators will contact the appropriate NTA owners to discuss how to provide information for NTA progress reporting.

#### Future Council Meeting Topics

- David Troutt and Amy Hatch-Winecka are holding time on their calendars to attend the November 18 Council meeting to discuss the lead entity consolidation proposal.
- The 18 NTAs submitted by AHSS to PSP were not prioritized. The Council could take up the question of prioritization during an upcoming meeting.
- The Council is interested in hearing about ongoing projects or issues in South Sound, such as shellfish health and threats.

#### **VI. Action Items**

- Jennifer Whipple will contact Bill Dewey to schedule time during an upcoming Council meeting to discuss shellfish health and threats.

[Adjourned]