

**Alliance Council Agenda July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013  
1-3pm  
LOTT Clean Water Alliance**

**Attending:**

**Gabby Byrne**

**Justin Hall**

**Bob Simmons**

**Jack Havens**

**Karla Fowler**

**Neil McClanahan**

**John Bolender**

**Lance Winecka**

**Robert Johnson**

**Amy Hatch-Winecka**

**Chris Ellings**

**Stephanie Suter**

**Jennifer Burke (PSP guest speaker)**

**Al Schmauder**

**Andy Haub**

**Sue Patnude**

**Alex Smith**

**Dan Wrye**

**1:00**

**Welcome, Introductions and Approval of May Meeting Summary**

**May meeting summary is approved.**

**1:05**

**Alliance Executive Committee 2014 Legislative Strategy Update**

**Presented by the Council Ecosystem Coordination Board Representative, Dan Wrye**

Update on the status of the Alliance 2014 strategy and time for questions.

The Alliance is moving towards a potential legislative strategy, looking for policy and funding support. The four page outreach document (\*link available on website [www.healthysouthsound.com](http://www.healthysouthsound.com)) basically says that Alliance is proposing that the PSP statute be amended such that:

- Direct recovery at the Action Area level, led by Local Integrating Organizations
- Establish and implement Action-Area specific recovery targets and recovery strategies
- Ensure effectiveness of Local Integrating Organizations
- Authorize Local Integrating Organizations to accept and distribute funds
- Accept Action Area priorities
- Provide Action Area regional allocations

There should be an expressed appropriation for implementation – following the SRFBRD process. This is a critical component to the initiative. This four page document is the blueprint for a bill that will be presented to the legislature in late summer/early fall.

Commissioner Romero encouraged our technical workgroup to come up with a list of projects that would put a face on our request. The intent for this from Commissioner Romero is to have some projects to point toward in anticipation of the Recovery Strategy, so that in our talks with policy makers they have a sense of the magnitude of the projects and the level of the investments. (\*link to projects doc. available on website [www.healthysouthsound.com](http://www.healthysouthsound.com))

Q: What's the timeline?

A: We're looking at this as a biennial appropriation, five million, plus or minus. We don't expect to be able to do these in a 2 year span, but an appropriation for five million in 2014 would get us started. These are just example projects.

Q: The Salmon Recovery Council has some innovative funding strategies. Do you think that the statutory change to authorize LIOs to distribute funding would apply to other forms of funding.

A: This is a good parallel pathway to the SRFBRD funding. There need to be local and state and federal investments.

Q: If there was an local investment district, what would that look like? The executive committee would be the fiduciary body by interlocal agreement or a consortium of counties and tribes or choosing one to be the financial agent?

A: There are a broad scope of options on how to manage that.

In terms of support from other LIOs, there are technically 9-11 LIOs and their perspectives are all over the map. One of the central issues is the lack of experience and organization of LIOs. Because of the ad hoc nature there isn't a common development.

Stephanie (PSP) – The first four items on page two, PSP is supportive of. The allocation through statute – is the point to still be discussed.

Q: Has this been floated to legislative members

A: To some extent and conversations are ongoing. We are on schedule. When the proposal was adopted by the Executive committee we were looking at late August/early Sept bill drafting.

**1:30**

### **Alliance Ecosystem Recovery Strategy update**

Tom Kantz reported that the Recovery Strategy is in development. Some Council members were able to send in information about their projects, but as a whole, the Council will have an opportunity to give input to the draft strategy.

*Forming NTAs based on the ecosystem recovery strategy actions – Stephanie Suter (PSP)*

The Action Agenda outlines 3 strategic initiatives that are broken down into strategies and sub-strategies and then into near term actions (NTAs). The Partnership is planning a 2014 refresh of the Action Agenda to include NTAs. These actions should have performance measures and be trackable and roll up into the broader strategic initiatives. NTAs are the change agenda for PS. The priorities will have targets and linked to the vital signs.

There should also be an owners timetable over a 2 year window with tracking on a quarterly basis, determination of what barriers, performance measures and outputs, outcomes.

For the 2014 update round – it's strictly just an update.

Q: Is there a time line for major revisions?

A: Two year updates, flowing from the local level. Current funding structure is through the Lead Organizations (LOs)

Stephanie Suter gave examples of the NTAs other LIOs have in place.

Q: What about actions that fit into two strategic initiatives? How should those be categorized?

A: As primary and secondary. Some will have multiple performance measures.

Q: How are NTAs used by PSP?

A: To communicate to the region how recovery is happening through the performance management report card – and project mapping. It's a way to have accountability.

Q: As a recovery community, we need to cross reference all the different processes and reporting process and line it all up. We already do a 3 year salmon recovery plan every year. There are so many NTAs. Why not just indicate to implement highest priorities for the 3 year plan? That would go a long way towards consistency in reporting and the dates and reports.

A: They should all be tied in for more accuracy.

*Puget Sound Partnership Prism and Project Atlas mapping – Jennifer Burke (PSP)*

Jennifer Burke – data manager at PSP (team of 3) walks us through the report card/project atlas. She been tracking what's happening in Puget Sound since November of last year through the PSP report card and the project atlas.

What these programs offer to us and to the partnership is accountability and transparency. In addition, the report card can be an effective tool for communicating funding needs. The PSP vital signs – provides the most recent data. With NTAs it tracks the assigned agencies, two year goals, milestones (achieved), performance measures, funding amount and sources and how it relates to indicators.

Q: Can you filter the report card by watershed.

A: No. Many are multiple watersheds. But the summary page would adjust to your filter.

Atlas gives the status of the project. PSAR funding and RCO funding and PAC surf salmon projects are on the atlas. You can filter by WRIA. The summarizing data is on the right. The primary users of the atlas, currently, are the legislature – because they can filter by district.

The Habitat work schedule has not been incorporated – there is some overlap. But it needs to be incorporated.

Q: In terms of defining NTAs, how much time does it take to update and report.

A: Depends how many NTAs you have – they can upload from a spreadsheet. Every quarter is a status update. We're working to constantly improve.

Q: What are the inducements to do it or to do it well?

A: Right now, all the NTAs have state owners – so the incentive now is a requirement.

Q: Are you tracking negatives? For example, 10 acres of restoration or 100 acres of impervious created.

A: No. That's more in the vital signs (land cover for example). Ecosystem effectiveness may be possible to track in the future.

Q: Is the database available to others to use for other purposes.

A: We are starting to see that this might be useful to people. HWS and Miradi could be used.

**2:15**

### **Ecosystem Point Feasibility**

#### **Presented by Council Vice-Chair, Alex Smith**

We're talking about exploring the feasibility of projects in South Sound. What's already going on in the area that we could feed into. Alternately, if there is a special area that the Alliance wants to work on. We could flesh this out at the the next subcommittee meetings. For example, RCO is doing a pilot program with NOAA. RCO would be an ecosystem service credits distributed. They still have a lot they need to figure out. They can't use SRFB money for mitigation, for example – so they have to figure that out.

There is also a debt services acres per year model in Puyallup – which is getting funding for set back levies. It's a very effective model. That is the central difference between here and Willamette Partnership which has its own unique statute. They've built a number of advanced mitigation sites (not wetland banks) on an acreage by acreage basis.

Ultimately to move to that we'd have to have legislative support – getting these different entities to cede their jurisdiction to come to some agreement on what it would look like.

We also recently completed an EE (Puyallup and Nisqually) to help manifest that policy support

**2:40**

## **Executive Committee – Alliance Council Retreat**

### **Discussion**

Potential focus for an Executive Committee – Council retreat was discussed. One suggestion is a policy budget retreat before the legislative session.

Q: How are those projects that are associated with recovery goal – why should there be a different path for them to go through, rather than having all projects go through the same ranking and endorsement process?

A: Alliance sanctioned endorsement does not need to be a separate conversation. They ought to occur through the same process.

*Council Chair will be meeting with Executive Committee Chair to determine if they want to move forward with the retreat this year, given the current legislative strategy push and will also discuss the process for capitol budget requests/ranking/endorsement.*

**2:50**

### **Announcements/Sub-Committee updates/New Members**

- **Approved by-law (council only) changes and membership rules**
- **New members/alternates (COL Hodges, Robert Johnson, Neil McClanahan/Tim Smith**
- **Members seeking seats – CLIPA, Pierce County (letters of request submitted for approval at the July EC meeting)**

**3:00**

**Adjourn**

**Next Alliance Council Meeting September 24<sup>th</sup>**