**`Alliance for a Healthy South Sound (AHSS) Council Meeting**

**May 2, 2017, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**

**LOTT Clean Water Alliance**

**500 Adams Street NE, Olympia, WA**

**Participants**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Marian Berejikian, West Sound Watershed Council  Jessie Barham, City of Olympia  Abbie Barnes, WDNR  Jeff Barney, Pierce County  Evan Bauder, Mason Conservation District  Tom Crawford, Thurston Climate Action  Ray Hanowell, Tacoma-Pierce County Health  Daniel Hull, Nisqually Reach Nature Center  Mary Catherine McAleer, Association of Washington Business | Dave Peeler, DERT  Al Schmauder, Chambers-Clover Watershed Council  Wendy Stephenson, LOTT  Scott Steltzner, Squaxin Island Tribe  Stephanie Suter, PSP  Steena Troyer, Harbor WildWatch  Jennifer Whipple, Taylor Shellfish  Carrie Ziegler, Earth Art  Meeting Facilitation/Coordination:  Elizabeth McManus, Ross Strategic  Andy Chinn, Ross Strategic |

**Meeting Summary**

**I. Council Administrative Items**

March Meeting Summary

* Council members approved the March 2017 meeting summary; the summary will be posted to the AHSS website.

PSP

* Puget Sound Day on the Hill is coming up; staff from PSP will be in Washington DC. The PSP Legislative Director has been talking with WA state legislators about the state budget. Congress also approved a continuing resolution that would fund Puget Sound NEP work through June 2018.

ECO Network

* Oakland Bay Day is coming up on Sunday, June 4th.

Shellfish NTA

* Pierce County submitted an amended two year SOW to WA Department of Health. The County anticipates that the first 12 months will be the bulk of the partners’ work, with 2-3 months of follow up (reporting to EPA and DOH, etc.).

**II. South Sound Strategy**

During the March meeting, Council members affirmed interest in applying the South Sound Strategy as a key work activity in 2017. Elizabeth provided several models for what that application could look like, including:

* Overlaying priority protection and applying it to land use planning
* Establishing geographic priorities
* Focus on voluntary stewardship programs
* Coordinating/prioritizing stormwater efforts
* Integrating existing modeling

Council members provided the following comments:

* There is a significant amount of salmon recovery work happening, so probably best to work in other areas. Voluntary stewardship reaches and educates a large number of people.
* Since there are not enough resources to do everything, prioritization is needed – perhaps a focus on specific streams or upland areas. Voluntary stewardship is important but without an overarching framework it tends to break down.
* Lead Entities for salmon recovery could benefit from updates to local watershed strategies.
* For land use planning overlay, AHSS could ask the counties to participate in a meeting and discuss their stormwater plan updates and problem areas.
* Some project take multiple years to build the right relationships before the project is launched.

The AHSS Executive Committee is interested in Council recommendations on the Strategy. Executive Committee members are also interested in securing more funding for shellfish bed re-opening, and sustainability of AHSS as an organization.

Next Steps:

* The Council will continue the discussion around applying the South Sound Strategy, including outreach to local groups, additional layers to add to the GIS work, and other constituencies that may be interested.

**III. Action Agenda Update**

For the 2018 Action Agenda Update, the Leadership Council adopted a package of 10 Vital Signs. The next step is identification of region-wide priorities with input from LIOs and tribes. The draft NTA solicitation is scheduled for July 5, during which time the LIOs will have an opportunity to provide local context. PSP anticipates a five week review period (most of July). Final NTA solicitation will be released September 28 and NTAs will be due January 10.

Council members provided the following comments and questions:

* What is the plan for the current crop of NTAs?
  + The NTA solicitation is still being written and the fate of the current NTAs is not yet known.

**IV. Wrap Up**

* Mary Catherine McAleer from Association of Washington Businesses (AWB) noted that AWB is planning to attend ECB meetings as much as possible.
* During the March meeting, the Council discussed including forestry interests (e.g., Green Diamond) in the Council.
  + Dave Peeler noted a potential small forest landowner that might be interested in participating.
  + Jennifer Whipple commented that Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association might be interested in participating.

[Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm]

**Next meeting: July 11, 2017, LOTT Cleanwater Alliance**