



**Alliance for a Healthy South Sound (AHSS) Council Meeting**  
**August 7, 2018, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**  
**LOTT Clean Water Alliance**  
**500 Adams Street NE, Olympia, WA**

**Participants**

Jesse Barham, City of Olympia	Dave Peeler, DERT
Jeff Barney, Pierce County	David Trimbach, Oregon State University
Evan Bauder, Mason Conservation District	Merita Trohimovich, City of Tacoma
Ray Hanowell, Tacoma-Pierce County Public Health	Allen Warren, Pierce Conservation District
Amy Hatch-Winecka, Thurston Conservation District	Jim Wilcox, Wilcox Farms
Tom Kantz, Pierce County	

*Meeting Facilitation/Coordination:*  
Elizabeth McManus, Ross Strategic  
Molly Spiller, Ross Strategic

**I. Introductions, Administrative Items, & Quick Updates**

June Meeting Summary

- a. Council members approved the June meeting summary with no comments or discussion.

PSP Updates

- b. PSP has started negotiations with the LIOs for the contract year beginning October 1, 2018. The AHSS coordinators are working with Partnership staff and Thurston County to finalize the statement of work and budget - it is largely similar to previous years, although focused more on implementation support than NTA development because of timing.
- c. The ranked NTAs have been published and can be found on the Partnership's website: [link](#)

Education & Outreach Updates

- d. LIO coordinators are working to expand coordination with education and outreach groups in South Sound. A new page for the AHSS website is currently being development and will feature local events, resources, and materials for South Sound residents and visitors.

**II. Project Successes**

In addition to the new outreach and education page on the AHSS website, there will also be a project successes page. This site will highlight collaborative, on-the-ground projects and their benefit to South Sound.

Council comments:



- Council members noted that it would be great to highlight collaborative approaches to funding big ticket items like Shelton Harbor, Devil's Head, or Nisqually because they show foresight and collaboration.
- One participant commented that it would be helpful to also include a note about what people can do to help contribute to successful projects like those noted.

### **III. AHSS Project Ranking/Scoring Process Update**

Following the NTA project scoring exercise, the AHSS Technical Team suggested revising the AHSS project scoring and ranking process. They suggested that the AHSS use two different scoring methods: one for scoring NTAs and another for other projects seeking AHSS endorsement. The Technical Team recommended adopting the regional scoring process developed by the Puget Sound Partnership with the addition of a screen for consistency with the South Sound Strategy to score NTAs.

For other projects, a revised scoring process has been drafted and is similar to what the Salmon Lead Entities use to score projects. It retains the same categories (Consistency with the Strategy, Benefit, Likelihood of Success: feasibility & readiness, and Likelihood of Success: Stakeholder/Partnership Support), but is now scored on a scale of 1-10, with a number of guiding questions for reviewers to consider when they assign an overall category score.

Council comments and discussion:

- One participant noted that the flexibility of the revised version is ok, but it would be helpful for the Technical Team to work through an example to see how the criteria and scoring would be applied to a project.
- A participant noted that there is duplication between some of the scoring sub-questions and that some also would benefit from being more specific and/or more distinct. Revision will address this by creating additional scoring categories and clarifying the scoring questions.
- Another participant added that the layout seems clear and suggested the scoring template include a comment box so that scorers can keep notes on why they scored the way they did.

### **IV. LIO Human Wellbeing Project Update**

The Executive Committee agreed with the Council's recommendation that the AHSS participate in the LIO Human Wellbeing project. David Trimbach, the project lead, provided an overview and discussion of next steps with the Council, his slides are available on the AHSS website ([link to slides](#)). This project aims to better understand the functions of LIOs and integrate social science into local work, and to integrate human wellbeing indicators into LIO decision-making. David noted that this is a tailored process to fit LIO needs and interests and is intended to be low-impact.

The AHSS is one of five LIOs that are participating (including South Central, Island, Snohomish-Stillaguamish, and Hood Canal Coordinating Council) in this multi-year project, currently in phase 1. The project team is conducting initial interviews with LIO members and will then synthesize the information to



identify differences and similarities between the groups to better understand how/if social data is being used in local processes. The next steps will be a more detailed meeting to discuss what products may be useful for the AHSS.

**Council Comments:**

- One Councilmember noted that an example of this is around increasing Chinook salmon. The primary reason is for Orca consumption, but a secondary benefit to highlight would be salmon as a healthy food source for humans as well.
- Another Councilmember asked whether or not community-based social marketing is a part of this project?
  - David responded that social marketing largely influences behavior change. The Partnership is creating materials to help with social marketing, but if the AHSS is interested, this project could help facilitate specific work in that area.

**V. South Sound Strategy Update**

Elizabeth asked the Council for their thoughts on the following list of updates to the South Sound Strategy:

- Better describe the salmon section
- Add milestone targets: including what would need to be done to reach the overall target, and what could be done under current funding levels
- Identify implementation strategies for the numeric targets

**Council Comments and discussion:**

- Several participants expressed interest in creating milestone targets to break down the broad targets into high priority areas or actions to focus on in the mid-term.
- The Council discussed the idea of identifying priority hotspots by overlapping indicator data. Being able to present multi-benefit projects with buy-in from a variety of stakeholders could also help elicit funding.

**VI. Presentation: City of Olympia Stormwater Planning**

Jesse Barham, City of Olympia Associate Habitat Planner, provided an overview of the City of Olympia's ten-year Strategic Storm and Surface Water Plan approved by the Olympia City Council in April 2018. The plan is organized around the following three sections (for more detail, see the [Plan website](#))

- What: describing the plan, the geography and infrastructure considered for planning, and the City's responsibilities
- Why: including the purpose of the plan, the policies and regulations guiding the City, and the challenges to implementation identified
- How: laying out the approach to address challenges, improve water quality, and protect habitat.

Jesse added that a focus of the update is to create a plan that will be used and implemented.



**Council Comments & Questions:**

- Question: Are you required to inspect the 200+ private facilities because they discharge into public facilities?
  - Answer: We have to inspect everything built after a certain year. There's a host of older sites that don't have an inspection requirement under the NPDES permit.
- Question: What's the result of an inspection?
  - Inspections result in a list of things the property owners may need to do to bring their sites into compliance
- Question: When the rate study was done to inform the City of Olympia's stormwater rates, did that examine how to fund the City's storm and surface water programs?
  - Answer: The City did a rate analysis that looked at other water resource districts rates for drinking water and other utility rates.

**VII. Other Updates**

- a. Jim Wilcox shared insights from attending the Puget Sound Day on the Hill in Washington D.C. He described the day as a success, meeting with the Assistant EPA Administration and other key decision-makers to highlight the necessity and benefit of investing in Puget Sound. Jim encouraged everyone to attend in the future. He added that Puget Sound is getting a lot of publicity over the Southern Resident Killer Whales, and although it's sad, we need to harness that momentum and attention to garner funding and support for this work.
- b. Jeff Barney provided information about a Shellfish Planting Event at Penrose State Park beginning at 11am on August 11<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Dave Peeler noted that EPA took action on the lawsuit regarding the Deschutes Estuary TMDL. The agency approved some sections of the TMDL and rejected other sections. Washington Department of Ecology is now working on what to do about the sections that were not approved.
- d. Amy Hatch-Winecka updated the Council on the status of the Lead Entity in WRIA 13. Work is currently halted as the WRIA looks for a new fiscal agent, which will be decided in September.
- e. Jesse Barham informed the group that the drinking water utility for Olympia is implementing an out-of-kind project near Deschutes. Wetland restoration construction is happening now.

[Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm]

**Next meeting: October 2, 2:00-4:00pm LOTT Clean Water Alliance**