



Alliance for a Healthy South Sound (AHSS) Council Meeting
June 4, 2019, 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Conference Call

Participants

Jesse Barham, City of Olympia	Tom Kantz, Pierce County
Jeff Barney, Pierce County	Krystal Kyer, Pierce County
Dan Calvert, Puget Sound Partnership	Sue Patnude, Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team
Andy Deffobis, Thurston County	Stephanie Suter*, Puget Sound Partnership
Ray Hanowell, TPCD	Merita Trohimovich, City of Tacoma
Amy Hatch-Winecka, Thurston CD	Allan Warren, Pierce Conservation District

Meeting Facilitation

Elizabeth McManus, Ross Strategic
Mary Byrne, Ross Strategic

Meeting Summary

I. PSP Updates

Stephanie Suter provided several PSP updates:

- [Laura Blackmore](#) will serve as the new Executive Director of PSP.
- Puget Sound Day on the Hill, in combination with Salmon Days, was May 14-16, 2019 in Washington DC.
- Congressman Derek Kilmer, in collaboration with the chair and ranking member of the House Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee, was able to increase the funding in the House Appropriations bill from \$28 million to \$33 million for the Puget Sound Geographic Program for FY2020. There's more work to do before the budget is final but this is a great place to start.
- Congressmen Heck and Kilmer have introduced the PUGET SOS bill into the House. You can read all about it [here](#).
- The House Appropriations bill also includes an increase in funding for all National Estuary Programs nationwide, from \$350,000 to \$450,000 each, again thanks to Congressmen Kilmer and Heck.
- Stephanie has accepted the position of Planning Program Director at PSP, and will oversee the planning program and ecosystem recovery team at PSP (action agenda, implementation strategy, ERC teams, etc.)
 - Dan Calvert (dan.calvert@psp.wa.gov) will take over Stephanie's role in the AHSS work.

AHSS Council Comments:

- The Council congratulated Stephanie on her new role at PSP and welcomed Dan to the Alliance.

II. Executive Council Updates

- AHSS Executive Committee Chair and Vice Chair: AHSS Executive Committee moved to approve Commissioner Kevin Shutty (Mason County) as Chair and David Troutt (Nisqually) as Vice Chair; each will serve two-year terms.
 - The Alliance thanks Jeff Dickison (Squaxin) for his service as chair over the past two years and Bud Blake (former Thurston County Commissioner) for his service as Vice Chair.
- South Sound Action Area Representative to the Ecosystem Coordination Board: AHSS Executive Committee moved to approve Derek Young (Pierce County) to serve another term as representative on the Ecosystem Coordination Board for Puget Sound.
 - Councilmember Young serves as the representative of the South Sound Action Area which is the statutory term for the geography serviced by AHSS.
 - The [Ecosystem Coordination Board's](#) main role is to advise the Puget Sound Partnership's Leadership Council on carrying out its responsibilities. The Board is made up of 27 members representing specific interests around the South Sound. The Board helps coordinate local ecosystem planning efforts, and includes representatives from local government, Tribes, states, federal government, businesses, and NGOs.
- The Salmon Recovery Council new South Sound representative will be Commissioner Tye Menser.

III. South Sound Shoreline Protection Efforts

Ross Strategic provided an overview of a crosswalk of South Sound shoreline protection efforts. The evaluation outlines information on South Sound shoreline programs, including information on the South Sound Shoreline Master Programs and the Shore Friendly Program. Information is presented for Kitsap, Pierce, Mason, and Thurston County. It is noted that Thurston County is in the process of updating their county SMP. Information is presented in tables that compare shoreline designation, with in-depth caparison of natural designation, shoreline jurisdiction, and applicability, There is also a high-level overview of Shore Friendly Programs in the South Sound.

Comparison of Shoreline Designations					
	Dept Ecology Recommended SED	Kitsap	Mason	Pierce	Thurston (draft) ¹
Aquatic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Commercial	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Conservancy	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
High intensity	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗

¹In the draft updated Shoreline Master Program (that is not yet adopted and is open for public comment), the proposed shoreline environmental designations are: (1) Shoreline residential, (2) urban conservancy, (3) rural conservancy, (4) natural, and (5) aquatic, while the current The current 1990 Shoreline Master Program for Thurston County uses six designations: (1) Aquatic, (2) Natural, (3) Conservancy, (4) Rural, (5) Urban, and (6) Suburban.

Natural	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Residential	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
Rural	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Rural conservancy	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Urban	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Urban conservancy	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Shoreline residential	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Suburban	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

	Local Shore Friendly Program	Tax breaks for property owners who take certain conservation measures on their shoreline through the state's Public Benefit Rating System.	Conservation District assistance
Kitsap	✓	✓	✓
Mason	✓	✗	✓
Pierce	✗	✓	✓
Thurston	✓	✓	✓

AHSS Council Comments:

- With the NGA funding that the Alliance approved, there is an effort across three districts to collect a number of different data sets (Ecology obliques, DFW social marketing campaign, other DFW information around shorelines) to do a GIS prioritization to determine the highest priority shoreline parcels for targeted shoreline preservation outreach. This information would help districts determine locations for outreach and develop realistic targets shoreline armor removal and shoreline restoration. This process hasn't started yet but contracting is in process.

IV. Updates and Round Robin

- Pierce County is continuing to work on streamflow restoration planning. WRIA 12 has recently identified and is finalizing the sub-basin boundary delineations, which includes conducting growth projection for water use. WRIA 15 has identified sub-basin boundaries for South Puget Sound.
- The South Sound Clean Water Partners will have more thorough water quality reports to share in August.
- The City of Tacoma is collaborating with many groups with the implementation of the Hirst decision and the PWR LIO.
- Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department is working on the NTA grants with the South Sound Clean Water Partners. The Health Department is also working with surface water management and universities on a climate change project with DOH.

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- Ray Hanowell is retiring from Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department at the end of June. Cindy Callahan will be the TPCHD representative for the Alliance.
 - Orca Recovery Day is October 19. Pierce County CD is coordinating with other Puget Sound CD's to organize activities, communication, and fundraising campaigns. Pierce County is looking to align the event with the launching of the Shore Friendly Program.
 - Conservation Districts are examining if NRCS funding can be used as an additional way to fund action agenda items. There is potential to leverage additional funding for implementation and coordination elements.
 - Brad Murphy has been the led on the Thurston County SMP update. Thurston County is working to have a public document by end of this year.
 - Jesse Barham, City of Olympia, has been working on urban habitat and vegetation restoration around wetlands/parks.
 - Dan Calvert, PSP< shared that he is looking forward to working with the Alliance.
 - Sue Patnude shared that the Northwest Environmental Advocates will sue US EPA for failure to establish daily total maximum loads for Budd Inlet.

V. Next Steps

The council will meet again on September 10, from 2-4 pm. If you have suggestions for agenda topics, please email Elizabeth, emcmanus@rossstrategic.com