



Alliance for a Healthy South Sound (AHSS) Executive Committee Meeting
February 17, 2021, 10:00AM -11:30PM
Conference Call

Executive Committee Members:

Jeff Dickison, Squaxin Tribe
Kevin Shutty, Mason County
Tye Menser, Thurston County
Derek Young, Pierce County
CM Jani Hitchen, Pierce County

Additional Attendees:

Tom Kantz, Pierce County
Evan Bauder, Mason County
Dan Calvert
Cole Baldino
Kaitlynn Nelson, Thurston County
Jeff Barney

Meeting Summary

I. Updates

- **LIO** – updates on providing comments on key pressures on Puget sound and stressors and strategies for recovery. Coordination with tech team and council. Use strategy to provide comments.
 - AA process is just getting rolling in meaningful way for groups.
 - Quite a bit of emphasis on LIOs – briefed 1x a month from Don Gourlie
 - Trying to eliminate call for specific action from local gov. Had to rush at end to do large process to solicit PS recovery from SS and rank and review and get action agenda. Once funding is released, go through duplicative process to have reviewed for funding.
- **GIS** – Brian is updating maps and change analysis of targets. Should have change analysis in next 3-4 months.
- **PSP** – transitioning from developing outcomes (pressors and stressors) to next phase is strategies to achieve what we want to accomplish. Can provide input and desired outcomes they want to tackle. Will be some locally relevant strategy on how to achieve outcomes. Soliciting input. Process is TBD. Doing best to make inclusive.
- **PSP** – working on contracting for NTA seed money
- **NEP Funding:** The Habitat SIL has indicated that they accepted the Alliance for a Healthy Sound's recommendation to award \$100,000 in NEP funding to the Mud bay Habitat Protection NTA. This was the highest scoring NTA in the Technical Team scoring process this year, and the funding will allow Capitol Land Trust to complete the Mud Bay acquisition work and make a real start on restoration.
- **Action Agenda Planning:** Action Agenda planning for 2022-2026 has started. It appears that the new Action Agenda will be focused on priority pressure reduction. Instead of developing different strategies and actions, there will be effort to work throughout Puget Sound to identify priority pressures, drivers, and strategies. There will be actions/commitments, but there will not be same kind of solicitation as we have seen in the past.
 - Key pressure reduction. Reducing certain contamination. Focus commitments on strategies and actions. Development process will not have a double RFP process.
 - Trying to restructure AA so it is more refocused and remove double application process.

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- South Sound GIS Updates: Brian is almost done with the GIS updates, which includes updates on canned/prepopulated queries. We will see some exciting things come out of this in the next couple of months.

II. NTA Seed Money Funding – Deschutes River Mile 33-34.5 Large Wood Installation

- Look at slides

Discussion:

- In term of distance, how long in terms of river? About a 1.5 mile. Have 7 structures. Structure every 7 yards.
- On map: is the blue outline on map the entirety of the channel? Blue is ordinary high water mark – where channel falls in high water in a given year.

III. Round Robin

- ECB meetings – trying to get around the region more. Would typically just meet in Seattle
 - 6 spots meet spots in x but that doesn't match 12 LIOs
 - Trying to broaden understanding of impacts in different ecosystems
 - Make the LIOs more of a lead on projects and emphasizing that
- Shutter: on hood canal coordinating council. Had shellfish summit. In Mason starting to have sustainable local funding for water quality work. Not 100% grant funded, but 99.9 in water quality program. Combining shellfish districts. Back and forth on where to set fee and if that is the right direction.
- Ross is doing an evaluation that touches on effectiveness of shellfish districts. If want to refer to staff who could offer insight would love to speak with them. See how shellfish districts help, how they work with overall context of shellfish recovery

IV. Ongoing Legislative Session and Bills of Interest

- Feb 15, 2021 – last day to pass bills out of committee other than fiscal and transportation committees
- Feb 22, 2021 – 1st day to pass bills out of fiscal and transportation committees in house of origin
- Jeff: Tribes working on initiative with Governor on climate bill. Gov made commitment to tribes over last couple of years to develop consistency on how state and various departments address riparian zones
 - Relevance of riparian is that it is an issue of climate resistance. Lots of streams in PS basin that are over quality standard for temp. CIG sees additional miles affected over next decades due to climate change. Can manage / protect / restore riparian areas.
 - Insert on list of things that can be funded the restoration and protection of riparian zones. Doing a substitute bill this week.
 - Dan: do you know when items will come out? Timeline? Jeff: riparian task force that has been formed is working on addressing short and long term issues. Will be around for years, looking over time at more extensive adjustments to state law.
- Elizabeth: if there is anything you'd like to offer for Alliance in session, Mary and Elizabeth can try to coordinate on this.

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- Legislative calendar: https://www.psp.wa.gov/legislative_updates.php
 - Menser: carbon tax – is this the leading bill around generating revenue? Or are others still out there and viable?
 - Yes there are competing views on how to increase revenue
 - Gov approach on cap and trade is a different way.
 - Jeff: there is a bill to change out wa statuary in congress building. Each state is allowed 2 statues. In WA there is a proposal to change one of existing statues to Whitman to Bill Frank Jr. That is in Legislation.

V. Wrap up and Next Steps

Please be in touch with Elizabeth McManus (emcmanus@rossstrategic.com) with any questions or suggestions for future agenda topics. A follow-up Executive Committee meeting will be scheduled in May.

- Will distribute materials via email (Cole and Don)
 - Legislative calendar: https://www.psp.wa.gov/legislative_updates.php