



**Alliance for a Healthy South Sound (AHSS) Council Meeting**  
**May 24, 2022, 3:00 – 4:30 pm**

**Participants**

Dave Peeler, DERT  
Linsey Fields, City of Lacey  
Brad Murphy, Thurston County  
Jacob Murray, Pierce Conservation District  
Dan Calvert, JBLM Sentinel Landscapes Partnership  
Amy Hatch-Winecka, TRPC  
Tom Kantz, Pierce County  
Jesse Barham, City of Olympia  
Merita Trohimovich, City of Tacoma  
Juliana Tadano, PSP  
Kym Foley, City of Olympia  
Al Schmauder  
Keith Underwood, Mason Conservation District  
Jeff Barney, Pierce County

*Meeting Facilitation*

Elizabeth McManus, Ross Strategic  
Andres Sheikh, Ross Strategic

**Meeting Summary**

**I. Welcome and Round Robin Updates**

- South Sound Science Symposium Planning Underway for 2022
- Action Agenda is going to Leadership Council in June for approval. Public comment period is open till Jun 15<sup>th</sup>
- Pierce County is doing a comprehensive plan update. Including an update an update to the critical areas ordinance. 2028 shoreline update with a nearshore assessment is also being explored.
- WRIA 10/12 Lead Entity is doing a short video using Caravan Lab, on fish passage barriers in Pierce County
- America the Beautiful Challenge Grant RFP is now open. JBLM Sentinel Landscapes Partnership is looking for collaborative and creative partnerships on submitting proposals for projects in the upland/prairie lands.
- Mason County Planning Department holding a workshop on improving relationship and sharing of resources/services

**II. Update on SIL/EPA Capacity Funding**

**Overview**

- The 2022-2026 Action Agenda no longer follows the NTA project model
- New funding model for LIOs collaborating with SILs, PSP, and EPA on operationalization of local recovery work
- \$100k per year over 5 years as part of the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

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## New Details

- Three legs of the BIL “stool” are:
  - GI and nature-based solutions (includes capitol projects)
  - Climate change adaptation
  - Tribal and EJ issues
- Goal: “Look for nexus between the goals of the BIL and the Implementation Strategies for opportunities to accelerate and contribute to Puget Sound recovery” – EPA
- New Scope of Work coming soon from EPA

## Current List of Ideas across Puget Sound LIOs

- Funding Navigator/Grant Writer
- Increasing Permitting capacity/streamlining
- Project Coordinator
- Education/Outreach

## Discussion

- Having a designated role to understand the interconnect relationships between issues and projects, and then connecting funding to those is a hard task. This role would be welcomed to help coordinate and inform LIO members to those funding opportunities.
- A funding navigator convening cross sector partners around projects is very appealing.
- Story telling is an important piece of being competitive on those use of funds.
- This role would alleviate the administrative burden of connecting various use of grant funds to complete projects

## III. LIO Coordination Contract and Other Funding Updates

- New base grant funding for 3-year LIO coordination contract
- The maximum grant award during this 3-year term totals up to \$375,000 per LIO. LIOs will receive \$125,000/year in capacity funds through September 30, 2025
- Timeline
  - 6/25 - Distribute SOW final template for contract negotiations. Begin contract negotiations between LIO contract manager and Partnership contract manager
  - 7/12 - Deadline for SOW and budget to be returned to the Partnership for processing.
  - 9/30 - All funds of FFY 2022-2023 LIO coordination grant expended, final deliverables and progress reports submitted.
- Breakdown of Draft Scope of Work
  - Task 1 – Organize, Support, Administer, Facilitate, and Coordinate a Local Integrating Organization (Recommended range \$20-40K/year)
  - Task 2 – Advance Implementation of the 2022-2026 Action Agenda and support preliminary development of 2026-2030 Action Agenda. (Recommended range \$20-35K/year)
  - Task 3 – Performance Management (Recommended range \$5-15K/year)
  - Task 4 – Support Adaptive Management and Communication of LIO Ecosystem Recovery Plans (Recommended range \$10-30K/year)
  - Task 5 – Tailored LIO Projects (Not to exceed \$70K/year). Subtasks:
    - 5.01 - Regional Planning and Coordinating Group Participation
    - 5.02 - Inform and educate local decision makers on work of the LIO

- 5.03 - Catalyze implementation of high priority public engagement, awareness raising, behavior change, incentive, and/or compliance projects and programs identified in the LIO Plan
- 5.04 - Contribute to Barriers Removal
- 5.05 - Pursue Funding for 2022-2026 Action Agenda Implementation
- 5.06 - Incorporate Partnership supported planning tools to improve and refine local planning
- 5.07 - Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ)
- 5.08 - (Pending) Tribal and First Nation Sovereignty and LIOs

#### *Discussion on Subtasks*

- Need to use funds to address fish barriers and other existing infrastructure creatively 5.04
- Use of a video/communication can be used to highlight what the LIO does and what are opportunities are for engagement towards 5.02 and 5.03. Bring complex issues/problems to the surface by creating communications/education to the public, incentivizing positive public behavior change.
- Other LIOs have used 5.02 subtasks to develop civic engagement curricula.
- Broaden outreach to EJ communities, especially given HEAL Act momentum - tying 5.02 and 5.07
- Reinvigorating the local electives through bringing in new voices to build synergy across the LIO geography.
- Important questions to ask is how the LIO has engaged with Tribal entities, especially around sovereignty, and how the LIO could do better working with Tribes. Tribes could be important partners on moving restoration projects forward.
- Strategic communication package effort on the AHSS LIO would be worth while before diving deep on specific ideas.
- Other Funding Updates
  - Behavior Change LIO Funded Projects (Task 5 of 2021-2022 Contract)
  - AHSS Technical Team Decision (May 4<sup>th</sup>)
    - Fund South Sound Mobile Pumpout Program – Pierce County (\$15k)
    - Fund Homeowner Workshops “Sound Solutions for Clean Water” – Thurston CD (\$7.5k)
- Reminder: 2022 NEP Coastal Watersheds Grant – Letters of Intent are due 5/27
  - Project funding will range between \$75,000 and \$250,000, resulting in roughly three to ten total subawards per funding year

#### **IV. LIO Input of South Sound Projects**

- Objective: Compile a comprehensive list of projects for Alliance geography - what lists already exist?
- Packaging projects into sets by priority areas
  - Species (Chinook, ...)
  - Geographies (specific streams, LIO sub-area, ...)
  - Landscapes (Upland, Nearshore, Urban, ...)
  - Other ideas? (Pocket Estuaries, ...)

#### *Discussion*

- Consider how projects are groups and categorized is important to packaging the right projects together – will help with the overall “story telling” and discussing the longer term efforts.

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- Salmon Recovery Portal is a useful database for project lists
  - A project list will help understand the funding need/gaps in the region

## **V. DEI Scoping Document**

- Overview
  - Communities in the LIO geography are disproportionately affected and exposed to associated with resource extraction, hazardous waste, and other land uses.
  - LIO participation from these communities and community-based organizations is currently non-existent.
  - Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act mandates PSP create an action plan in late 2023, work within the LIO can help set facilitate that plan once developed. A new task under the next LIO coordination contract, is specifically about increasing integration of Equity and Env Justice principles.
- Proposed Next Steps
  - Coordinate with PSP Equity and Environmental Justice Manager to coordinate identifying groups and contacts within the AHSS geography
  - Work with Brian McTeague (Squaxin) to see if it is possible to overlay DOH Env Health Disparities Map to identify areas where restoration and protection work could benefit vulnerable populations and underserved communities.
  - Andres to serve as lead contact for establishing DEI connections across the LIO

## **VI. Next Steps**

- The next AHSS-LIO meeting, scheduled for July 26th 3:00-4:30 pm!
- Adjourn