



Alliance for a Healthy South Sound Executive Committee Meeting
December 3, 2025, 2:00-3:00PM
Virtual Teams Meeting

Executive Committee Members Attended:

Daniel Kuntz, Squaxin Island Tribe
David Troutt, Nisqually Indian Tribe
Robyn Denson, Pierce County
Tye Menser, Thurston County

Additional Attendees:

Derek Day, Thurston County
Elizabeth McManus, AHSS LIO
Haley Morris, AHSS LIO
Tom Kantz, Pierce County

Meeting Summary

The Alliance for a Healthy South Sound Local Integrating Organization (AHSS LIO) Executive Committee met virtually on December 3, 2025. Five of six members were present. Discussion was as follows.

I. Healthy Shoreline Action Plan

Elizabeth McManus, AHSS LIO Coordinator, shared that the AHSS LIO received \$150,000 from the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) to support one or more shoreline projects from their Action Plans. The South Sound Technical Team, made up of technical experts from the Nisqually and Squaxin Island Tribes, City of Olympia, Pierce, Thurston, and Mason Counties, Lead Entity Coordinators from WRIAs 10/12, 11, 13, 14, and 15, and Thurston, Mason, and Pierce Conservation Districts narrowed down and recommended four projects that they identified as appropriate for this one-time funding opportunity to the AHSS Executive Committee. Recognizing constraints to fund each of the four projects, the Executive Committee decided on allocating funding to the following three projects:

- **A shoreline armor assessment.** This project will be led by multiple LIOs, PSP, the HSIL, and other regional partners to understand the magnitude of un/under-permitted shoreline structures in the South Sound.
- **An ongoing Bluff Recission GIS Analysis for Restoration/Resilience/Relocation (BRGAR) project.** This project aims to identify and quantify Puget Sound waterfront bluff parcels with structures located close to bluff crests that may be threatened in the coming years due to sea level rise and other climate impacts. The project was on hold pending securing \$45,000 in matching funds required for the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program. Other LIOs are also contributing funds which means they can continue the analysis to look at the South Sound shoreline, which the project has not yet monitored.
- **The development of a South Sound Shoreline Futures Shoreline Vision.** This will explore which current zoning and development plans align with the conservation and restoration priorities identified in the Nearshore Project Selection Tool, Coastal Catchment Analysis, and WRIA-scale salmon recovery plans and identify areas of alignment as well as areas for improvement. This work will be led by the South Sound technical team, facilitated through the AHSS LIO.

II. Floodplains and Estuaries Action Plan

The next Action Plan for the AHSS LIO will be Floodplains and Estuaries, which will be the LIOs third Action Plan. So far, the AHSS LIO has developed an On-Site Septic Action Plan and a Healthy Shorelines Action Plan, both of which have resulted in funding to support local projects. These Action Plans serve as a bridge between regional strategies and local efforts, helping to ensure that funding is directed toward community-identified priorities. They also offer LIOs an opportunity to collectively review and update their Ecosystem Recovery Plans and allow regional funders to use the plans to better understand local

needs and align funding opportunities accordingly. Moving forward, the Action Plans will start advancing actions from the 2026-2030 Action Agenda which will be under public review starting on January 5.

III. Updates

- **Integrated Watershed Planning Project Update** – The Nisqually Watershed Scale Integrated Planning project scope of work has been transferred to Ecology’s template and is still under review by Pierce County.
- **Executive Committee Retreat** – The AHSS LIO coordinating team will begin planning an AHSS Executive Committee retreat in early 2026 and will consult the committee for their input.

IV. Next Steps

Scheduling for future Executive Committee meetings in 2026 will happen in January.