

# Alliance for a Healthy South Sound LIO Council Meeting

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APRIL 30, 2026

In the chat, please share  
your name, affiliation,  
and what is bringing you  
joy these days.

# Agenda

Time	Session	Speakers
10:00am	Welcome & Get Settled	Haley Morris
10:05am	LOTT Clean Water Alliance Reclaimed Water Projects	Matt Kennelly, LOTT Clean Water Alliance
10:35am	Thurston County One Water Framework Project	Derek Day & Kevin Hansen, Thurston County
11:05am	Floodplains and Estuaries Action Plan Process	Haley Morris
11:35am	AHSS LIO Updates	Haley Morris
11:45am	Round Robin	All
11:55am	Wrap-up & Next Steps	Haley Morris
12:00 - Adjourn and Enjoy the Day!		



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# LOTT Clean Water Alliance Reclaimed Water Projects

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Matt Kennelly, LOTT Clean Water Alliance



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# Thurston County One Water Framework Project

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Derek Day & Kevin Hansen, Thurston County

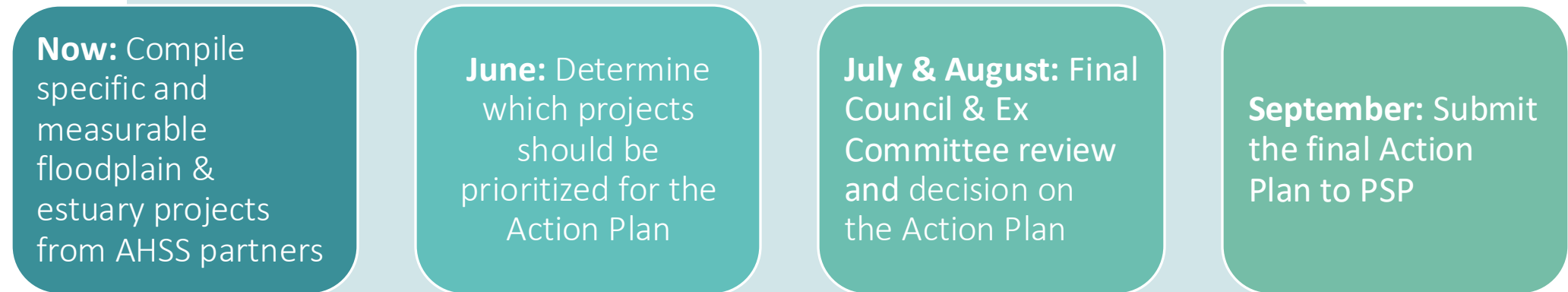
# LIO Collective Action Plan

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Floodplains and Estuaries

# Floodplains & Estuaries Action Plan: Timeline

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# Some of the Plans we are Extracting Projects/Barriers/ Opportunities From


Thurston County Draft SMP – Clean Version  
December 12, 2023

## THURSTON COUNTY SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REVIEW**


**PREPARED FOR:**  
Thurston County Board of County Commissioners

**PREPARED BY:**  
Thurston County Community Planning




THURSTON COUNTY  
WASHINGTON  
SINCE 1852

December 12, 2023



**THURSTON COUNTY  
FLOOD HAZARD  
MANAGEMENT PLAN**



THURSTON COUNTY  
WASHINGTON  
SINCE 1852

September 2025



**WRIA 14  
Salmon Habitat  
Restoration &  
Protection Update**

February 2025



**Watershed Restoration and  
Enhancement Plan  
WRIA 12 – Chambers-Clover  
Watershed**

Plan approved by committee, April 2021  
Plan adopted by Ecology, June 2021

June 2021, Publication 21-11-012



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

# How we plan to address specific projects

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- **Fully fund and implement all floodplain and estuary projects identified in Salmon Recovery Planning work plans for WRIA 10/12, 11, 13, and 14. Examples:**
  - **Pierce County:** Shoreline Planning and design for **Chambers Bay Estuary** restoration project
  - **Oly Ecosystems:** Conducting restoration planning and design (pending funding from NFWF grant) on a 3-mile river stretch of the **Deschutes**.
  - **BNSF & Nisqually Tribe: Sequelitchew Creek** restoration project with a BNSF crossing along with other small estuaries and crossings along the narrows.
  - **Ecology & other stakeholders: Deschutes Estuary Restoration** project will reconnect the Deschutes River to Puget Sound by returning Capitol Lake to a natural estuary
  - **Squaxin Island Tribe, MCD, & SPSSEG:** Ongoing restoration project at **Shelton Harbor** to restore 48 acres of estuary habitat

# Action Agenda Strategies for Floodplains & Estuaries

1

Increase and accelerate implementation of habitat acquisition and restoration projects as prioritized in watershed salmon recovery plans.

2

Incorporate the economic risks and costs of development into land use planning in floodplain and estuary habitats.

3

Support a region-wide plan to restore Puget Sound by building public and political support, developing partnerships, securing funding, simplifying permits, and monitoring progress to improve outcomes for fish populations, reduce flooding, and support agricultural viability (farm, fish, flood).

4

Prioritize, design, and implement reach-scale restoration and protection projects within a river basin, watershed, and/or estuary.

5

Expand floodplain and estuary habitat protection through regulations and incentives.

# Strategy 1

Increase and accelerate implementation of habitat acquisition and restoration projects as prioritized in watershed salmon recovery plans.

## Potential non-capitol work

### Local

Need to conduct habitat assessments to understand appropriate treatments, needs, and opportunities for each reach (e.g., needed riparian buffers, floodplain reconnections, and stream channel improvements). From the WRIA 14 Plan.

***Are there assessments needed in other places?***

### Regional

Invest in solving identified barriers to project implementation such as:

- Efficiencies in grant programs?
- No rise issues?

***Are there project implementation barriers that we should work on locally?***

*What implementation considerations can be applied to identified local and/or regional habitat acquisition and restoration projects?*

## Strategy 2

Incorporate the economic risks and costs of development into land use planning in floodplain and estuary habitats.

### Potential non-capitol work

#### Local

Fully fund medium to high priority local mitigation initiatives outlined in the Thurston County Flood Hazard Management Plan (e.g., develop a community rating system, Develop a Comprehensive Flood Program Finance Strategy; etc.)

Implement and enforce all local zoning, and development codes and policies within them

#### Regional

*Beyond comp plans, SMPs, and HMPs what tools, data, guidance, and plans are needed, or already exist, to effectively communicate with and educate developers, landowners, permitting staff, decision makers, and other key partners about the economic risks and costs of development in floodplain and estuary habitats?*

## Strategy 3

Support a region-wide plan to restore Puget Sound by building public and political support, developing partnerships, securing funding, simplifying permits, and monitoring progress to improve outcomes for fish populations, reduce flooding, and support agricultural viability (farm, fish, flood).

## Potential non-capitol work

### Local

Expand funding for the Thurston County Conservation Futures Program to fund more projects that mitigate flood impacts

***What other local grant programs should receive expanded funding?***

Compile South Puget Sound information into a website, archive, or hub to house current, upcoming, and underfunded floodplain & estuary related projects

Coordinate with the ECB subcommittee on shoreline armoring to ensure funding is allocated to small estuaries to increase armor removal, develop actions to address sea level rise, and identify habitat protection activities for smaller and pocket estuaries

### Regional

*What types of regional actions should be amplified via the Action Plan (e.g., partnership development, monitoring, restoration, etc.)?*

## Strategy 4

Prioritize, design, and implement reach-scale restoration and protection projects within a river basin, watershed, and/or estuary.

# Projects & direct project pipeline work

### Local

Fully fund and implement all floodplain and estuary projects identified in the South Sound Strategy

Fully fund and implement all floodplain and estuary projects identified in Salmon Recovery Planning work plans for WRIA 10/12, 11, 13, and 14.

***Besides the specific floodplain and estuary projects identified in salmon recovery plans, what other work needs to be done locally?***

### Regional

*What resources (e.g., data, mapping, modeling, planning, coordination) are needed to support project designs for local and/or regional projects?*

## Strategy 5

Expand floodplain and estuary habitat protection through regulations and incentives.

# Potential non-capitol work

### Local

Provide education to landowners on the importance of local codes to support sound and long-term floodplain restoration projects

***What would education for landowners look like?***

***What types of incentives could ensure landowners support restoration & protection actions?***

Support implementation and enforcement of County Shoreline Master Programs policies and regulations

### Regional

Limit new developments in flood prone areas; Restore connectivity between stream/river channels and floodplains.

Provide reliable base funding for regulatory program effectiveness and restoration program structures to ensure long term funding beyond grant rounds for project effectiveness and monitoring

Assess whether voluntary estuary restoration projects are meeting objectives on the regulatory side

***Is such an assessment needed?***

Fund FEMA floodplain mapping updates to ensure accurate projections of future flooding scenarios

# Floodplains & Estuaries Next Steps

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1. Haley and Elizabeth will pre-populate a tool with identified projects, barriers, and opportunities shared today
2. A collection tool will be distributed to partners with a request that local and state/regional projects, barriers, and opportunities that are missing be added
  - *What collection method do you prefer to add additional floodplain & estuary projects, barriers, and opportunities to? An excel sheet, Easy Retro, something else?*



# LIO Capacity Funding Needs

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*Do you have a small to mid-sized capacity need for a project or program you're seeking to fund?*



# Round Robin Announcements

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Thank you for  
being here!

THE NEXT AHSS COUNCIL  
MEETING IS ON JUNE 23,  
2026!