

Island Local Integrating Organization Technical Committee Meeting Notes			
Meeting Information			
Meeting Date:	April 9, 2024		
Meeting Time:	1:00pm-2:00pm		
Meeting Location:	Zoom		
Meeting Attendees:	Carlie Miller (IC DNR)	Krista Loercher (Whidbey Kayaking)	Jason Lim (PSP)
	PaulBen McElwain (Sound Water Stewards)	Brian Tyhuis (NAVFAC NW)	Jen Schmitz (IC DNR)
	Heather McCoy (WICD)	Chris Kelly (IC Hydrogeology)	Joe Grogan (Coupeville)
	Linda Lyshall (IC DNR)	John Lanier (IC Planning)	Nolan Grunska (Oak Harbor)
	Lea Shields (DOH)		
Meeting Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide overview and updates on all ICDNR programs and recent meetings</li> <li>Discussion on ILIO hosting Local Forum in 2024</li> <li>Roundtable discussion including updates from partners, grant pursuits, and other projects occurring around Puget Sound</li> </ol>		
		Total Time:	60 minutes
Minutes			
1:00-1:05	<b>Introductions and updates – see attendee list. No partner updates.</b> The group reviewed the proposed agenda. No additions to the agenda as stated.		
1:05-1:35	<b>Update from all ICDNR programs/Roundtable.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jen (on behalf of Clea Barenburg – Salmon Recovery LE Coordinator). Salmon funding ongoing. This is a BIG funding year – SRFB, PSAR, riparian, PSAR large cap (over \$800k – Keystone Preserve is an example), etc. funding. Currently out in the field performing site visits (Race Road culvert passage \$2M; Cultus Bay private fish passage - \$280k design and permitting; Double Bluff Acquisition - \$3M; North Livingston Bay Sherman acquisition - \$400k). More information on websites. All projects are moving forward – none have been flagged as ‘projects of concern’, which is great news!</li> <li>Jen Schmitz – Shore Friendly program update. Hired new Shore Friendly Coordinator Valerie who started yesterday. Continuing to work through the RCO application for 6 additional years of Shore Friendly program funding; pre-application was submitted, and applicant presentations will occur April 23<sup>rd</sup>. CFF Program update: Recent article in the newspaper stated that Commissioners decided to fund Freund Marsh after all; that decision hasn’t actually been made yet, but discussion are ongoing (\$580k). Funding stipulations included performing a feasibility study for the tidegate, public access, etc. New funding round for 2024 just closed end of February; only one application (WCLT) was received.</li> <li>Carlie Miller/Jessica Reed – Surface Water Quality Program Annual Report was presented to the Board of Commissioners at the Work Session March 13<sup>th</sup>. The newspapers printed a headline article misquoting some of the results (eg “half of County streams are polluted”), but in actuality half of the streams we sampled were in poor health (which is</li> </ul>		

already directed toward impaired waterways and is only a small portion of all streams) so Jen wrote a letter to the editor correcting the article, and Jessica/Carlie revised the report and the visual report/infographics to more clearly define the results. AMAT meetings continue, and working with compliance staff to escalate enforcement activities.

- Jen – we will be posting a position for another Surface Water Quality Specialist as Sage left last week!
- John Lanier (Long-Range Planner) – working on Natural Resources Element of the Comp Plan with the Board. The SMP is still in limbo, being updated. Considering whether to require pre-application conferences, shoreline variances, shoreline conditional use permits, etc. may take that out of the SMP/Code. Still thinking about what to do. Also looking at mapping the shoreline environmental designations – but this is a big and expensive undertaking so may consider using a consultant or just looking at some localized spots for comments and feedback. Not changing any regulations pertaining to bulkheads, still deferring to State. Jen asks – as the comments have been received from the state and other partners over the years, are they iteratively incorporated and a new draft is sent out to ECY again? John – sent draft to Commerce a while back; DFW comments were received after that.
- Chris Kelly (Hydrogeologist) – finalizing a posting to hire a Water Resources Specialist. This person will be working with Chris and also Aneta, and also on grantwriting for additional work. Also doing seawater intrusion monitoring around the county. Collecting samples and submitting them to the lab. Some discussion about the Whidbey Water Cohort who has asked Chris about the availability of water as the expected population growth occurs. Jen asks John Lanier if extension of sewer and water utilities is incorporated into the Comp Plan or if it is up to the municipalities to handle. John: munis are partners and involved in this planning, so yes there will need to be some water/sewer extensions, but we will also need to look at other places where density can go where a LOSS or community water system can also go.
- PaulBen – Kelly is coordinating the end of the Herrera shoreline armoring survey and comparing against the permitted armoring parcels. MRC active with SMP comments. Sound Water Stewards already planning next year's conference! Looking forward to meeting new Shore Friendly Coordinator.
- Nolan – Last week Oak Harbor signed contract with consultant to do their own Comp Plan update including Climate Resilience element. Working on using some capital improvement funds for shoreline restoration.
- Linda/SnoHoCD – Camano Country Club update – trying to help the community with permitting, etc. but some community members who were against it spread some misinformation and built very vocal opposition to the project. SnoHoCD was asked to 'leave and not come back', even though Country Club HOA Board saw the value and wanted the project.
- Heather/WICD – new forester/FireWise position is filled!
- Joe Grogan – no updates from Coupeville, but Jen conveys that during the last Executive Committee meeting there was a lot of support from Mayor Molly and others that the Technical Committee meeting, and having their staff attend those, was very valuable, including an example where Joe heard of a funding opportunity through these meetings, pursued it, and was successful so she was very pleased with that.
- Jason/PSP – Strategic Funding team has hired a Strategic Funding Coordinator to round

	<p>out the team. Jen was going to do a funding opportunity section for these meetings, but now that PSP has released their RAFT tool she will just share that! Provided link in chat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lea/DOH – no updates!</li> <li>• Brian/Navy – still getting data results back from last round of PFAS sampling in February. Will compile and go into next phase based on results and will convey those out.</li> <li>• Jen Schmitz – LIO Update/Puget Sound Partnership. Continuing to move the Target Setting OSS Pilot Study forward; action plans, metrics, etc. are being developed. LHJs and the LIOs will meet May 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> for workshops. LIO Quarterly Meeting April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Local Forum planning continues to move along.</li> </ul>
1:35-1:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion about Local Forum</li> <li>• Jen has continued to work with PSP, internal entities, and State partners, working to coalesce around an ‘ask’.</li> <li>• Jen outlines known agenda topics 1) Overview presentation on the impacts of sea level rise in Island County (myriad of topics and issues). 2) MRC White Paper/SLR 3) Others?</li> <li>• “Asks” development has been ongoing; the first may be “have LC support with a letter, etc. to DOH to encourage them to sort out the Shoreline Revolving Loan Fund.”. Jen has discussed whether getting seed funding for Island County specifically would work, but the group thought it wasn’t the right scale. An SLRF would help with many issues across the County, which are not managed through Conservation Futures or other programs. The other ask may be a support letter for refining CFF to allow for Shoreline buyouts, but that likely isn’t a good approach due to funding constraints. These are still very preliminary, and will continue to work with PSP, Herrera, and DOH, etc. to refine the agenda and asks.</li> <li>• Carlie points out that many homes in the County are located right at the stream mouth, which may also count as high-quality habitat for forage fish, etc. though not directly on the shoreline. John Lanier also points out that CFF is a good potential option to expand no matter if we get a SLRF or not.</li> <li>• Barbara – are you looking for something that could be piloted in Island and used as a case study? Jen: Yes, absolutely! Barbara – also, consider including mitigation banking, though that may make the ‘ask’ too complicated. Jen: we talk about mitigation a lot at DNR, though it is often misused/loopholed to create a ‘less than’ situation.</li> <li>• Jen – after the Local Forum (1:30-3:30), we’ll be taking Leadership Council folks on site visits to see Cornet Bay and Crescent Creek site restoration sites. Looking to showcase our partnerships with MRC/Navy, etc., use of salmon funding, and show off for EPA. The full meeting is June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Oak Harbor Library, and all are invited to attend for all or some of the whole proceedings.</li> <li>• Linda – there will be a ‘tribal weekend’ event in May 17-19, coinciding with the Water Festival. Jen – DNR staff will be at the Water Festival as well as the Coupeville Farmer’s Market for Earth Day and the Ren Faire. Lots more outreach kicking off this year.</li> <li>• Jen gives short overview and discussion about the RAFT tool. Points out two HSIL opportunities, one for kelp and eelgrass studies, the other is simply “capacity” which is extremely broad and a great opportunity for many organizations.</li> </ul>
1:50-1:55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General updates</li> <li>• Jen gives updates on the upcoming meetings around the Sound</li> </ul>
2:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting adjourned at 2:05</li> </ul>
Next Meeting May 14 <sup>th</sup>	