

Island Local Integrating Organization Technical Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Information

Meeting Date:	February 9, 2021		
Meeting Time:	1:00pm-3:00pm		
Meeting Location:	Zoom		
Meeting Attendees	Lori Clark (ILIO Coordinator)	Paul Ben McElwain (SWS)	Hannah Liss (ICDNR)
	Ann Prusha (ICDNR)	Krista Loercher (Business/Ports Rep)	Dawn Spilsbury-Pucci (ICDNR)
	Laura Rivas (PSP)	Barbara Bennett (MRC)	Grant Johnson (IC Planning)
	John Lovie (WRAC, SRTCC)	Anna Toledo (ICDNR)	Kelly Zupich (MRC/SWS)
	Gwendolyn Hannam (WICD/MRC)	Matt Colson (ICDNR)	Meridith Penny (IC Planning)
Meeting Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine which of PSP's 2021 Legislative Priorities to recommend for endorsement to the ILIO EC. 		
		Total Time:	120 minutes

Minutes

Topic:	Updates	Action Item Owner:	Lori
Decisions Made and Action Item(s):	•		
Follow-up Items:	•		
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Krista Loercher is joining the ILIO TC group as the Business/Port Representative. Krista is the owner of Whidbey Island Kayaking. They do tours from Penn Cove to Possession Point. Krista also sits in on the South Whidbey and Coupeville Port Commission meetings and she is a South Whidbey Parks and Recreation Commissioner. We are excited to have Krista join us and bring her knowledge and expertise to our group. The Toxics workshop hosted by the Stormwater Strategic Initiative will be Feb 5th and 26th. The Feb 5th workshop will focus on science only and will address PCBs, PAHs, PBDEs and CEC's with an emphasis on emerging science and the discussion will address sources, pathways and impacts. The workshop is available on YouTube. The Feb 26th workshop will focus on approaches, barriers and key success and a path forward for solutions and interventions. Please consider attending or share with relevant partners within your LIO geography. Please be sure to RSVP to Heidi Siegelbaum if you are interested in attending. Gwendolyn has joined the Stormwater SIAT as Lori's alternate. That group will be providing feedback on the Regional Transportation Plan from the Puget Sound Regional Council in the upcoming months. Matthew is attending meetings, if we're looking for information on prioritizing water quality issues and adjusting sampling priorities as needed. Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Puget Sound Day on the Hill 2021: Save the Date! PSDOTH will be held as a virtual event on Fridays from 1:00-2:30 pm (Pacific Time) April 23 - May 21. Additional notes will be provided prior to each session. We plan to discuss Puget Sound restoration and protection, salmon recovery efforts, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and infrastructure, among other topics. We will announce registration information soon. Click here for the most up-to-date information. 		

- Here are ways to follow the legislative session:
 - **Legislative Updates:** Sent via email and posted to PSP's [website](#) periodically during session, the Update summarizes the priority topics they are following. Subscribe [here](#).
 - **Legislative Calendar:** Sent via email and posted to PSP's [website](#) every Thursday, the Calendar lists upcoming committee meetings involving legislation and information about issues that affect Puget Sound protection and recovery. Calendars will include public hearings where testimony may be offered.
 - **Legislative Information Call-In:** Jeff Parsons, Legislative Policy Director, will conduct call-in meetings on Fridays, from 11:30 a.m. to no later than 12:30 p.m., to review the most important legislative issues PSP is following, answer questions, and discuss partner perspectives. Attendees will receive an agenda each week in advance of the call, usually on Friday mornings. To participate and receive agendas for the weekly calls, please send an email to Don Gourlie at don.gourlie@psp.wa.gov.
- Federal legislative news – the National Estuary Program (NEP) has been reauthorized. Spending is authorized for each NEP for up to \$1mil once appropriated.
- The Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP) Nearshore Work Group and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Estuary and Salmon and Restoration Program (ESRP), is hosting the [2021 Nearshore Restoration Virtual Summit](#). It takes place over three weeks, and covers three topics. The Beaches topic will be Wednesday and Thursday, March 10-11, the Deltas topic will be Wednesday and Thursday, March 17-18, and the Embayments topics will be Wednesday and Thursday, March 24-25.
- The Action Agenda Coordination Group (AACG) met and is working on a list of priority outcomes. There is effort to ensure that the AACG is considering Human Wellbeing (HWB). They spoke about current indicators for pressure reduction outcomes. They will be looking into strategies March-May, and will hopefully have guidance by March.
- The [Craft 3 Regional Loan Program](#), which Island County Public Health participates in, is an NTA from 3 years ago. They received \$10 million dollars as a gift. These dollars are what funds locals in our community to repair and replace on-site septic systems when homeowners qualify for a low cost loan.

Topic:	ILIO 2021 Legislative Priorities	Action Item Owner:	Lori
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Decisions Made and Action Item(s):	The ILIO TC recommends to the Executive Committee endorsement of PSP's 2021 Legislative Priorities: The group decided to send the below list to the Executive Committee.
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- [**Safer Products for Washington**](#)
- [**Puget Sound Scientific Research Final 2021-23**](#)
- [**Antifouling Paint Technical Review**](#)
- [**North of Falcon Habitat Commitments**](#)
- [**DP-PL-8B-Dairy Nutrient Management Program \(DNMP\) Staffing**](#)
- [**Aquatic Invasive Species Threats**](#)
- [**Reduce Conservation**](#)
- [**15% Reduction Shift General Fund - State \(GF-S\) to Model Toxics Control Act \(MTCA\)**](#)

<u>Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) Landowner Assistance</u>
<u>Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)</u>
<u>Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)</u>
<u>Foundational Public Hlth Svcs - Sewage Response</u>
<u>Equity and Justice - Puget Sound Final 2021-23</u>
<u>Reduce Orca & Wildlife Enforcement</u>
<u>Reduce Fishing & Enforcement</u>
<u>Promote Accountability Measures Final 2021-23</u>
<u>Shift to Voluntary Cleanup Account</u>
<u>Halt Partnering with Volunteers</u>
<u>2021-23 Floodplains by Design</u>
<u>Puget Sound Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP)</u>
<u>Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR)</u>
<u>2021-23 Centennial Clean Water Program</u>
<u>Salmon Recovery Funding Board Programs</u>
<u>Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Program (PSNERP) Match</u>
<u>2021-23 Coastal Wetlands Federal Funds</u>
<u>Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board (BAFBRB)</u>
<u>2021-23 Clean Up Toxic Sites – Puget Sound</u>
<u>2021-23 Product Replacement Program</u>
<u>2021-23 Reducing Toxic Wood Stove Emissions</u>
<u>Fish Passage Barrier</u>
<u>Stormwater Retrofit</u>

Follow-up Items:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none 		
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EC will revisit the conversation about endorsing the 2021 PSP legislative priorities at the Feb 24th meeting. • The ILIO TC distilled the PSP 2021 Legislative Priorities to only include the projects/programs that have a direct impact our watershed. Only high priority projects/programs are recommended. • There was a comment that WICD has a bigger scope than indicated in the Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) program. • The group decided to submit the above list to the EC for endorsement. 		
Topic:	ILIO Partner Updates	Action Item Owner:	Lori
Decisions Made and Action Item(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dawn, Laura, and Lori met about the possibility of integrating the LIO and Lead Entity (LE). This has been done successfully in other areas, and there is some interest here. Ann is holding space to work on this and bring it to the group. Ann is also training to advise on Climate Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) issues. • John is working on a project coming out of the University of Washington Sea Grant about sea level rise in infrastructure and habitat along the shoreline. The plan is to come up with a data set and GIS layer that looks at potential issues related to infrastructure, including public spaces. We need to be careful to avoid future gentrification and inequality. They are in the process of finding relevant data sets, and John did include human wellbeing components. • Laura is working with Dr. David Trimbach to present the survey results in a readable format. • Gwendolyn is a Natural Resource Planner/Water Resource Specialist with Whidbey Island Conservation District (WICD). She is prioritizing the Stormwater Near Term Action (NTA) this year and focusing on how WICD can assist and bridge committee priorities as it pertains to stormwater, into boots-on-ground outreach and education for overall ecosystem recovery in Puget Sound. • Anna is the Coordinator for the Island County Marine Resources Committee (MRC). They have funding to implement various projects, and have completed a kelp survey by kayak. It may be interesting to partner with a kayaking group for engagement and education opportunities. She also leads the Island County Shore Friendly Program, which supports finding alternatives to hard armoring and implementing shoreline protection strategies. It is an incentive/mini-grant program. For the ILIO, Anna participates in subcommittees, and is helping LIO coordinators identify policy barriers that can be addressed through funding available to support all regional LIOs. She is also on the Climate Advisory team and is looking at how to assist LIOs and PSP as a whole. Anna shared this article about SLR in Island County (IC). • Barbara is an MRC member. One of MRC's roles is to advise IC on marine issues and raise public awareness. She has been leading MRC's Needs Assessment, and sharing the Discover Our Island Shores video for IC schools. One of the most recent engagement events was an orientation to the MyCoast app. The Needs Assessment interviews include questions from ILIO's recent survey. • Matt Colston is on IC Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Surface Water Quality (WQ) Team. He conducts regular monitoring in IC, and year and a half ago started work on a source identification program to find sources and causes of bacterial water impairment, which was mostly <i>E. coli</i>. He utilized a process called microbial source tracking, and the pollutants are primarily cattle, deer, and human waste. He worked with WICD for their outreach program and site survey of the Lone Lake watershed in Langley. He is working on identifying the source of nutrients going into the Lone Lake. DNR also took on the lakes algae monitoring program, and is hosting a symposium soon. Matt shared a link to IC DNR WQ reports, and a link to the Freshwater algae bloom monitoring program map. • Paul Ben is with Sound Water Stewards (SWS), which is an organization that trains volunteers to become natural resource stewards. In the Puget Sound (PS) recovery scheme, they produce outcomes in Sense of Place and Sound Stewardship. They have outreach programs, such as Sound Waters University. They support volunteers and citizen science projects, run through other organizations. They are starting a study on bluff erosion. They want to encourage regional collaboration. Paul Ben shared this link to Salish Sea Wiki. • Meridith then gave a Shoreline Master Plan (SMP) Update presentation, and provided a brief overview. They will have a 60 day public comment period, and will be bringing topics and materials to the LIO. They will review situations where variances were approved, add a section for soft shore stabilization, and are working on 		

providing clarity and removing unnecessary burdens on processes. They plan to make determinations on a neighborhood scale, instead of on a case-by-case basis. They are planning for sea level rise (SLR) by providing guidance to individual property owners and monitoring SLR on a county-wide scale. They are focusing on outreach now. They plan to take advantage of current monitoring programs. There was a comment about loopholes with bulkhead repairs versus replacements, and Meridith will look into this more. There was a comment about outreach, and the plan is to create a BMP document to go with shoreline permits. They want to go out to each shoreline community and give a guidance presentation. There was a question about incentivizing soft shore practices and existing restoration work. The way the code is phrased, it only touches on restoration, versus utilizing it in a way that can help with stabilization and flooding. They are looking at standard requirements, and if there is flexibility. There was a comment that the Ecosystem Coordination Board Subcommittee on Land Use will be conducting interview with local planners, and encouraged Meridith to respond to them if they reach out.

- Dawn is the IC LE Coordinator. The LE is the watershed boundary around Chinook populations, and is funded by federal and state grants, and has a lot of crossover with LIO. They have their own plan that aligns with the PS Recovery Plan. Dawn is also part of the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP), which is a 13-group monitoring program; Dawn coordinates the salmon group. The Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee (SRTCC) is starting its grant round. There have been 3 proposed projects: 1) the acquisition of a nearshore parcel on Camano, 2) Hoypus Point restoration 3) Polnell Point restoration. There will be virtual site visits on March 4th, and a recording will be available online after.
- Ann is on the Shellfish Beds Implementation Strategy (IS) Core Team. She leads the IC Recreational Shellfish Harvesting Program, and supports the ILIO, MRC, LE, IC Noxious Weeds program, and the IC WQ team in various ways. She also does communications work, including the monthly newsletter.
- Hannah was a Critical Areas Planner for IC Planning, and now works in IC DNR as a Watershed Planner. She is trying to identify gaps, and is working on collaboration among IC Departments. She is working with IC Planning to update wetland data. She is working on creating a mitigation project layer, which will allow IC staff to see which projects are open on GIS. She is working on a mitigation banking/in lieu fee program. For septic systems, she is looking into outreach and programs she can bolster to enable the public to know what is available to them. She is hosting a DNR symposium that focuses on WQ and the DNR team. Please reach out to Hannah with ideas for process improvement, since she is in a unique position to identify gaps.
- Laura is the PSP representative. PSP is a state agency charged with coordinating PS recovery. It serves as a backbone organization, providing support to ecosystem recovery throughout the region. She supports Island LIO and the LE.
- Krista was asked to join ILIO because her work is at the nexus of wildlife, natural resources, and human participation. She is interesting in learning more. She wants to bring the public engagement perspective, and see how local government overlaps with science. She has lived on Whidbey Island for 13 years, and can bring business perspective and expertise to the table. There was a comment that her perspective is incredibly important. Welcome, Krista!

Follow-up Items:

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Notes: