



Working Group Meeting

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM | December 14, 2021 | Remote Meeting

Meeting Summary DRAFT v. 12.29.21

Action Item	Responsible Party
Reach out to Kay Caromile as needed to copy salmon recovery grant round applications from previous years for this year’s application.	WSPER members
Send a link to new survey data from Pierce County related to fish barriers.	Marty Ereth
Contact WDFW engineers regarding any work on design controls for fish barrier removal projects.	Kay Caromile
Reach out to the WSPER Coordination Team if interested in participating in small group work on stormwater management or fish barrier prioritization.	WSPER members
Let WSPER Coordination team know if you would like to change your level of participation in the group in the coming year.	WSPER members
Add the submitted legacy salmon project list to the WSPER website.	WSPER Coordination Team
Let the Coordination Team know of updates to salmon recovery projects in the Salmon Recovery Portal.	WSPER members
Coordinate West Sound LIO review of the list of Actions in early January 2022.	WSPER Coordination Team

Introduction and WSPER Business

Zack Holt, City of Port Orchard/Working Group Chair, welcomed participants to the web meeting and led introductions (see page 5 for participant list).

The group reviewed the October 12 Working Group meeting notes. No edits were suggested.

Renee Johnson, Kitsap County/WSPER Coordinator, introduced herself as the new WSPER Coordinator and provided an update on staffing at Kitsap County. She shared that the County offered the position of Natural Resources Planning Supervisor to former WSPER Coordinator Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech starting January 3, 2022.

WSPER Updates

Grant Opportunities for 2022: Renee Johnson gave an overview of recent changes to the WSPER website. She showed where website visitors can find information about grant opportunities available to

WSPER members, including the 2022 Salmon Recovery Grant Round schedule and call for projects. Renee noted that certain pages on the website would be updated as more information becomes available. The WSPER Coordination Team aims to upload meeting packets to the website the Friday before each meeting.

- **Salmon Recovery Grant Round:** WSPER is currently soliciting for project grant applications which will be reviewed for alignment with local recovery plans. Site visits with the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) review panel are scheduled for March 17 and 18, 2022. There may be more money available in 2022 than in previous years due to federal and state allocations for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) and fish passage initiatives. It was noted that large capital projects that need regional support should be included in this year's applications so that they may be presented to the legislature in the budget year (2023).
- **Legacy Projects:** The WSPER Coordination Team convened a small subgroup of WSPER members and submitted a list of legacy salmon projects to the Puget Sound Partnership. Additional projects may be able to be added in the future.
- **Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board (FBRB):** The FBRB is accepting applications for projects. WSPER members are encouraged to apply by early January.

Action Item: The WSPER Coordination Team will add the submitted legacy salmon project list to the WSPER website.

Action Item: WSPER members should reach out to Kay Caromile if they would like help copying their Salmon Recovery Grant Round applications from previous years for this year's application.

Subcommittee Work Regarding Fish Barriers and Stormwater: The WSPER Coordination Team invites interested WSPER members to participate in small group work to prioritize fish barrier removal projects. Ideally the group will represent a variety of jurisdictions and will likely meet in late January 2022.

- Marty Ereth noted that Pierce County is working on a list of county culverts to prioritize. Marty offered to send a link to a Pierce County website with recent survey data related to fish barriers.
- It was noted that jurisdictions and state agencies may use different parameters and identification systems for culvert prioritization and stream typing, which may lead to challenges in creating an overall list for the watershed and in applications for state funding. WSPER members may want to consider using the criteria listed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).
- It was suggested that individuals may want to participate in this dialogue who are not traditionally involved in fish passage projects.
- To support watershed planning, WSPER members should align projects with areas that benefit from Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) projects and work across jurisdictions to ensure that downstream projects are funded.
- In response to a question, Kay Caromile offered to contact WDFW engineers regarding culvert design guidelines.

In response to a request at an earlier Working Group meeting in 2021, the Coordination Team will also convene a small group of interested WSPER members to discuss stormwater management across jurisdictions. This meeting is intended to occur in January 2022.

Action Item: WSPER members should Reach out to the WSPER Coordination Team if interested in participating in small group work on stormwater management or fish barrier prioritization.

Action Item: Kay Caromile will contact WDFW engineers regarding any work on design controls for fish barrier removal projects.

WSPER Membership for 2022: Renee invited WSPER members to let the Coordination Team know if they would like to change their level of participation in WSPER in 2022. Additionally, the WSPER Coordination Team is seeking a new Chair for the Technical Advisory Committee (TAG).

Action Item: WSPER members should let the WSPER Coordination team know if they would like to change their level of participation in the group in the coming year.

Follow Up from Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB) Local Forum

Zack Holt and Annalise Ritter, WSPER Coordination Team, reviewed the outcomes and recommendations from the ECB West Sound Local Forum on October 28, 2021. They invited discussion on how to move the recommendations forward. Highlights of the discussion are listed below.

- Kathleen Pozarycki, Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (Sno-Stilly LIO), noted the success of WSPER's local forum workshop and that Sno-Stilly LIO is interested in building on these recommendations as other LIOs face many of the same issues. Sno-Stilly will host the next local forum, which will occur at a meeting of the Partnership's Leadership Council. Sno-Stilly LIO is also monitoring the legislative request list and is prepared to comment on prioritization.
- It was noted that follow through on these recommendations is critical to preventing shellfish beds from being downgraded again after decades of work to restore them. This is an issue in other LIOs as well.
- The WSPER Coordination Team is working to integrate follow up from the ECB local forum into the WSPER 2022 Work Plan.

WSPER Work Plan Update

Renee Johnson gave an overview of the WSPER 2022 Work Plan, noting that some of the work plan items have specific timelines and others do not.

One item is for WSPER to update projects in the Salmon Recovery Portal. Renee shared a map view of the several hundred projects on the 4-year Work Plan in the Salmon Recovery Portal. The Coordination Team will need help from WSPER members in providing these updates by June 2022.

The 2022 Work Plan also includes items under the Outreach Task for the Lead Entity (LE) and LIO. This will include engaging local decision makers especially in follow up to ECB local forum.

Action Item: WSPER members should let the Coordination Team know of updates to salmon recovery projects listed in the Portal.

Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda Update: Becky Hollender, Puget Sound Partnership, reviewed the status of the Action Agenda update process. The Partnership is currently in Phase 4, identifying Actions. The Partnership held four workshops in this phase each with an attendance of about 100 people. The Partnership hopes to get the list of Actions approved at the Leadership Council on March 3, 2022, with public comment and Board review to follow. The Partnership will seek LIO input on the list of Actions between January 6-19, 2022.

The group discussed how to coordinate WSPER's review of the list of Actions. Several Working Group members expressed interest in attending a small group meeting to provide input in January.

Action Item: The WSPER Coordination Team will coordinate West Sound LIO review of the list of Actions in early January 2022.

Salmon Recovery Council Updates

Tom Ostrom gave an update from the Salmon Recovery Council meeting on November 18, 2021. Topics included WRIA 8's effort to incorporate diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) into organizational work (more information available on WRIA 8's website), an ongoing effort by Partnership Staff to update the Puget Sound Recovery Plan Low Flow and Instream Flow Chapter, and legislative updates from Legislative Director Don Gourlie.

Roundtable Updates

WSPER members and guests provided the following updates.

- The City of Port Orchard is still working on its Stormwater Comprehensive Plan. Comments are welcome.
- Pierce County completed work on its project at Huge Creek at 160th in early October. Coho and chum salmon have swum through and spawned.
- Pierce County's monitoring at Purdy Creek has shown low fish passage, so staff are manually moving some fish across. Hoping to begin work on the creek in 2023.
 - The Purdy Creek on 160th feasibility study was funded by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) for Alternative 2. Pierce County seeks to recruit a sponsor in Kitsap County.
- Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group (MSFEG) has two open staff positions: West Sound and Shore Friendly project managers.
- In the Salmon Recovery Grant Round process, MSFEG's Point No Point project's Project of Concern status was removed. MSFEG will continue work on outreach and engagement around the site.
- The City of Bremerton continues to work on its Comprehensive Plan.

Other Updates

- Governor Inslee is scheduled to announce the updated 2021 Washington State Salmon Strategy on December 14 at 1:00 p.m. This document represents the state's priorities and approach to salmon recovery work based on current science and regional needs.
- The Puget Sound Partnership is launching a Nearshore Credits program to streamline the permitting process for building residential or commercial in- and over-water structures and protects habitat for endangered species within the nearshore ecosystem. More information can be found on the Partnership's website at: <https://www.psp.wa.gov/pspnc.php>.

Meeting Wrap-Up

The facilitator reviewed the identified action items and Zack Holt thanked all for participating in the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Attendees (alphabetical by first name)

Ahren Stroming, Puget Sound Partnership

Allison Satter, Naval Base Kitsap

Barbara Ann Smolko, Pierce County

Brenda Padgham, Bainbridge Island Land Trust

Christian Berg, City of Bainbridge Island

Chris Hunt, Naval Base Kitsap

Chris Waldbillig, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Deb Rudnick, Bainbridge Island Watershed Council

Erik Steffans, Great Peninsula Conservancy

Jess Smith, Kitsap County

Kathleen Pozarycki, Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO

Kay Caromile, Washington Recreation and Conservation Office

Mary Krauszer, Pierce Conservation District

Marty Ereth, Pierce County

Matthew Medina, Kitsap County

Melissa Fleming, Stillwater Environmental Center

Rachel Bowen, City of Poulsbo

Renee Johnson, Kitsap County/WSPER Coordinator

Renee Scherdnik, Kitsap County

Sarah Heerhartz, Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

Sarah Wilson, City of Bremerton

Steve Todd, Suquamish Tribe

Tom Ostrom, Suquamish Tribe

Zack Holt, City of Port Orchard and Working Group Chair

Annalise Ritter, Facilitator/Notetaker, Triangle Associates