

**Working Group Agenda (Virtual Meeting Only)**

Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 9:30 – 12:00

[Zoom Link HERE](#) Zoom ID: 858 7966 6716 Passcode: 058668 One tap mobile +12532158782,,85879666716#,,,,\*058668# US

**Objectives:**

- Discuss LE and LIO business
- Discuss ongoing work and projects
- Hear regional and local updates & share information
- Hear a project update for Point No Point

Time	Topic	Lead	Materials
9:30	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Housekeeping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Introductions</li> <li>– Review agenda</li> <li>– Public comment</li> <li>– Review October meeting summary</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision needed: approve October meeting summary</i></p>	Zack Holt	Draft Agenda Oct summary
10:00	<p><b>LE and LIO Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– WSPER membership (any changes?)</li> <li>– Nominate confirm committee chair</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision needed: confirm committee chair</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 2023 Grant Round</li> </ul> <p><i>Decision needed: confirm TAG’s proposed approach</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Next year’s meeting topics and field trips (see below)</li> </ul>	Zack Holt Renee Johnson  Sarah Heerhartz or Steve Todd	
10:10	<p><b>Ongoing Work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ecosystem Recovery Plan subcommittee progress</li> <li>– Fish barrier prioritization</li> <li>– Diversity, equity, and inclusion</li> <li>– Mobile pump-out</li> <li>– Legacy Projects</li> <li>– National Estuary Program</li> </ul>	Olivia Smith Renee Johnson  All those with applications/ projects	
10:50	<b>Break (10 minutes)</b>		
11:00	<p><b>Local and Regional Updates &amp; Information Sharing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Salmon Recovery Council 2023 Reps</li> <li>– Puget Sound Partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strategic Funding Team (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)</li> <li>- <i>Assessing Salmon Habitat in Puget Sound</i> funding opportunity</li> </ul> </li> <li>– Stormwater collaborative report-out</li> <li>– Roundtable (share a brief highlight or update)</li> </ul>	Brittany Gordon  Renee Johnson Sarah Heerhartz Zack Holt All	
11:30	<b>Project Highlight: Point No Point</b>	Lisa Reynolds	
11:55	<b>Wrap-up and adjourn</b>	Olivia Smith Zack Holt	

**2023 Meetings**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Suggested Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
February 14		
June 13	Field Trip?	
August 8	New! WSPER Ecosystem Recovery Plan Web-map	
October 10		
November 28		

Suggested topics from the WSPER needs survey:

To reserve time on each agenda for new and emerging science

To reserve 10 minutes on each agenda to hear about funded projects

6PPD Quinone

Shellfish, stormwater, habitat

Field trip to see recent fish passage improvement projects by WSDOT (Minter, Chico) and SWM's Huge Creek at 160th project, a tributary to Minter

Stormwater parks

Invite state funding leader as a guest speaker



**Working Group Meeting**  
 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM | October 4, 2022 | Hybrid Meeting  
 Draft Meeting Summary

Action Item	Responsible Party
WSPER Members to contact Brittany Gordon if you have ideas for a cross-jurisdictional coordination on Water typing and Derelict Vessels (for a National Estuary Program grant applications).	WSPER Working Group
WSPER Members to contact Brittany if you want to participate in <a href="#">Kitsap Salmon Tours</a> or if you have educational materials you want shared at the WSPER booth November 5.	WSPER Working Group
WSPER members to contact Renee if interested in Puget Sound Partnerships <i>Assessing Salmon Habitat in Puget Sound</i> funding opportunity.	WSPER Working Group
Renee Johnson to check on preapproved planning options for line 16 of the 2022-2023 draft work plan. Follow-up with Barbara Ann Smolko and Paul Williams.	Renee Johnson
Renee Johnson and Brittany Gordon to check the Strategic Funding Team’s capacity to connect LIOs with grant funding (the Puget Sound Partnership’s BIL team). Report back during WSPER meetings on this standing agenda item.	Renee Johnson/Brittany Gordon
Renee Johnson and Brittany Gordon to seek and share guidance to with the group to maximize chances of WSPER partners receiving National Estuary Program funding. (See webinar info below on how to develop and submit a competitive application.)	Renee Johnson/Brittany Gordon
Brittany Gordon to send information regarding the Kitsap County Best Available Science review for the Critical Areas Ordinance update to Paul Williams	Brittany Gordon

Decisions
The WSPER Working Group approved the August 2 meeting notes.
WSPER Working Group moved to approve the Proposed 2022-2023 Workplan.

**Welcome & Housekeeping**

Renee Johnson, WSPER Coordinator- Kitsap County, gave an overview of the meeting agenda and aims.

The Working Group approved the August 2 Working Group meeting notes. No were no edits suggested. The meeting notes were approved.

*Decision:* The WSPER Working Group motioned to approve the August 2 meeting notes.

### **WSPER Lead Entity (LE) and Local Integrating Organization (LIO) Business**

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Renee Johnson gave an overview of the 2022-2023 Workplan, noting the tasks for Lead Entities, Local Integrating Organizations, and the seven potential subtasks under LIO Task 5 to support LIO coordination. Renee sought input for LIO Task 5 to reflect the priorities of Working Group members.

Barbara Ann Smolko, Pierce County, commented on the need for collaboration to address and remove implementation barriers.

Christian Berg, City of Bainbridge Island, asked about the environmental programs consortium as noted in the Workplan. Renee described it is a new forum for program managers and decision-makers which began a few months ago. It is envisioned to be an inclusive forum that increases coordination among staff and program leads and it is getting its start among departments at Kitsap County.

The following suggestions were made to the 2022-2023 Workplan:

- Focus Task 5 funding requests on smaller watershed grants to avoid being outcompeted by larger watersheds like the Skagit Watershed.
- Have the WSPER Executive Committee review and approve LIO priorities included in the existing 2022-2023 Work Plan. Increase coordination with the South Sound Regional Group (SSRG).
- Add workforce development to address and remove barriers and understand the needs of those conducting the work.
- Clarify who pre-approves planning approaches and not limit approaches to only those that are pre-approved.

The Working Group moved to approve the Proposed 2022-2023 Workplan with notes made by Barbara Ann Smolko, Pierce County, and Paul Williams, Suquamish Tribe.

**Action item:** Renee Johnson to check on preapproved planning options for line 16 of the 2022-2023 draft work plan. Follow-up with Barbara Ann Smolko and Paul Williams.

**Decision:** WSPER Working Group moved to approve the Proposed 2022-2023 Workplan.

### **Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Team**

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Renee explained the PSP BIL team will now be known as the Strategic Funding Team. They will use EPA capacity funds to build a team to help local partners access broader BIL funding opportunities. Renee noted this will be a standing agenda item where LIOs can give input into what they need (e.g., grant writers, GIS analysts).

Brittany Gordon shared the suggestions she made to the Partnership member input:

- Create a PSP BIL Team position dedicated to serving as a liaison between the LIOs and federal permitting agencies-specifically, USACE, NMFS, and USFWS, to continue working through

permitting challenges that have been consistently identified. And a position to serve as a liaison between the LIOs and transportation agencies, including PSRC and WSDOT.

- There is a need for local transportation agencies (often receiving transportation funding through PSRC) and WSDOT to incorporate salmon recovery priorities into corridor studies, transportation plans, and fish passage pre-design.
- Identify opportunities for partnerships between transportation agencies (local and WSDOT) and LIOs/project sponsors on projects that are closely related or in close proximity. This coordination would result in better projects and could create net ecological gain relative to projects completed without coordination.

**Action item:** Renee Johnson and Brittany Gordon to check the Strategic Funding Team’s capacity to connect LIOs with grant funding and report back during WSPER meetings on this standing agenda item.

### **PSP Assessment Funding Opportunity**

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Renee Johnson explained a notice of funding availability for Assessing Salmon Habitat in Puget Sound.

Barbara Ann Smolko suggested ensuring the entire LIO has had their stream typing/eDNA work completed and recommended referencing the South Sound project selection tool for implementation in West Sound. The ArcGIS Web Application created by the Squaxin was discussed ([linked here](#)).

Christina Kereki, Kitsap County, suggested comparing the existing West Sound Nearshore Tool with the South Sound map to identify discrepancies ([linked here](#)).

Marty Ereth noted that Pierce County is working to update their Comprehensive Plan and is proposing to formally adopt the Wild Fish Conservancy’s (WFC) water type maps for the Key Peninsula-Islands Bains to aid in the reviewal of development proposals. It was noted Kitsap County planners also reference the WFC’s maps when reviewing permits and are working to create a live layer in the parcel map to increase visibility for the public.

Interested WSPER members with eligible projects were encouraged to contact Renee Johnson.

**Action item:** WSPER members to contact Renee if interested in Puget Sound Partnerships *Assessing Salmon Habitat in Puget Sound* funding opportunity.

### **Guest Presentation – Eric Baker (Kitsap County)**

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Eric Baker, Kitsap County, presented the updated Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan with a general emphasis on climate change, salmon recovery, preserving open spaces, protecting critical areas, frequently flooded areas, and shoreline management as population and housing costs increase across Puget Sound.

Marty Ereth commented on the need for the Kitsap and Pierce County Comprehensive Plans to complement each other, particularly with salmon recovery in the shared watersheds (Rocky, Minter, Huge, Burley and Purdy).

Barbara Ann Smolko asked if lot size and climate change were being considered in the Comprehensive Plan update, it was noted Kitsap County Public Utility District is involved with monitoring aquifers and community growth, particularly with irrigation and landscaping.

There was a brief discussion about having someone from the City of Port Orchard or the consultant (Herrera) present to WSPER about their Stormwater Management Action Plan and mitigation opportunities to reduce surface water flows in local streams.

It was noted Kitsap County is focusing on rural lands in response to a question about expanding the Transfer of Development Rights Program to focus on salmon habitat, affordable housing, and density.

In response to a question about expanding wetland protection to mitigate water offsets, it was noted the science is still under development.

### **Guest Presentation – Investment Strategic Initiative Leads**

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Audrey Coyne, Shellfish Strategic Initiative Lead (Washington Department of Health), gave a presentation of the Strategic Initiative Lead (SIL)'s Joint Investment Plan and Shellfish Investment Priorities for FFY2021-2022, Jennifer Griffiths, Habitat Strategic Initiative Policy Lead (WDFW), presented the Habitat Strategic Initiative Lead FY2021-2022 Investment Priorities, and Derek Day, Stormwater Policy Lead (Washington Department of Ecology), presented the Stormwater Strategic Initiative Lead FY2021-2022 Investment Priorities ([slides here](#)).

The following dates for upcoming Request for Proposals (RFP)'s were then shared:

- **Habitat**
  - RFP Open: October 4 – December 6, 2022
  - Applicates Webinar: October 17, 2022, from 1 – 3 p.m.
  - [Learn more](#)
- **Shellfish**
  - RFP Open: September 28 – November 22, 2022
  - Applicates Webinar: October 13, 2022, from 10 – 11:30 a.m.
  - [Learn more](#)
- **Stormwater**
  - RFP Open: September 28 – November 9, 2022
  - Applicates Webinar: October 18, 2022, from 10 – 11:30 a.m.
  - [Learn more](#)

In response to a question about the role of LIO's in reviewing proposals, Derek Day explained they are working to keep the RFP teams focused and small as to not exclude participation from conflicts of interest. A suggestion was made for LIOs to coordinate internally on strategy and to vet the Near-Term Action (NTA) process before submitting. A future agenda topic was recommended to discuss how the WSPER Working Group may want to coordinate prior to submitting proposals to avoid redundancy.

There was a brief discussion about leveraging National Estuary Program (NEP) funding to develop plans for large transportation projects that are ready in order for local government's proposals to be more competitive. It was noted the workshopping process will be spring/summer 2023 for the next round of investment planning and how federal funding relates to the NEP program.

### **Strategize on NEP RFP's**

Brittany Gordon, Kitsap County, gave an overview of two proposals – one for water typing with Wild Fish Conservancy and one for derelict vessels. Wild Fish Conservancy is concluding a Near-Term Action to add 5 watersheds to the web map portfolio ([linked here](#)) and is working with Kitsap County to fill gaps in the WRIA. Brittany shared the cities of Bainbridge and Snohomish have strong derelict vessel programs and asked the for feedback regarding who should sponsor the derelict vessel proposal.

In response to a question about which of the SILs funding Kitsap County is applying for, Brittany said water-typing will be a *Habitat* proposal, and the derelict vessel proposal was not yet determined. Brittany welcomed feedback. There was a brief discussion about the need for cross-jurisdictional coordination for eDNA and water typing. Kitsap County is hoping to expand this work to be more inclusive and collaborative across jurisdictions.

Several members agreed on the need to expand barrier removal to include septic repairs. Kitsap County shared they are coordinating with the Health District on this effort, particularly for low-income households that may not be able to get repair loans.

There was a suggestion for SILs to clarify which RFP projects are better suited to a project (shellfish vs. stormwater).

**Action item:** WSPER Members to contact Brittany Gordon with ideas for cross-jurisdictional coordination on water-typing and derelict vessels (for a National Estuary Program grant applications).

**Action item:** Brittany Gordon to send information regarding the Kitsap County Best Available Science review for the Critical Areas Ordinance update to Paul Williams.

**Action item:** Renee Johnson and Brittany Gordon will seek and share guidance to with the group to maximize chances of WSPER partners receiving National Estuary Program funding. (See webinar info below on how to develop and submit a competitive application.)

## **Meeting Wrap-Up and Next steps**

Renee Johnson thanked the WSPER Working Group for their discussion today and invited Working Group members to use the last 10 minutes for Round Table items.

## ***Roundtable Updates***

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WSPER Working Group members then shared the following updates:

- Illahee Forest Preserve shared they are working to purchase 25 acres for the Illahee Preserve with a dam on the property and asked the WSPER Working Group if there are potential issues that could arise. Brittany Gordon offered to connect with Jim Aho offline.
- Suquamish Tribe shared they have started culvert assessments and are following up on water type surveys that started in the Blackjack Watershed and are moving to other areas. A suggestion was made regarding a letter of support that includes examples of how this work ties into other planning efforts.
- Kitsap County Conservation District shared they installed logs at the mouth of Seabeck Creek and received grants to hire a crew to help with riparian projects and planting near Olalla and Grover's Creek. Kitsap County Conservation District is now accepting grant applications through November 2022 for private landowners wanting to restore streams and improve habitat for up to \$250,000 from large woody debris placement to barrier removal. Contact Carin Anderson if interested in learning more.
- Wild Fish Conservancy received funding for a Finn Creek restoration project and is currently amending the scope and budget with the Recreation Conservation Office. The result will be to completed preliminary by the end of 2022 and to develop final designs over the next two years.
- Kitsap County shared they are planning to have a booth at the upcoming Salmon Tours on November 5 and invited members to share any materials for display.
- Kitsap Public Utility District asked about the role of the WSPER Working group in groundwater surfaces and storage to prepare for population growth and climate change. It was noted Renee Scherdnik, Kitsap County Stormwater, is a great resource for questions like this and the Washington State Department of Ecology's Streamflow Restoration Group ([linked here](#)) is working to receive the Salmon Recovery Funding Board's (SRFB) approval on an approach.

**Action item:** WSPER Members to contact Brittany if you want to participate in [Kitsap Salmon Tours](#) or if you have educational materials you want shared at the WSPER booth November 5.



**Attendees** (alphabetical by first name)

Alexia Henderson, WDFW  
Audrey Coyne, Washington Department of Health  
Barbara Ann Smolko, Pierce County  
Brian Combs, South Puget Sound Enhancement Group  
Brittany Gordon, Kitsap County  
Carin Anderson, Kitsap County Conservation District  
Christian Berg, City of Bainbridge Island  
Christina Kereki, Kitsap County  
David Vasquez, Kitsap Public Utility District  
Derek Day, Washington Department of Ecology  
Dustin Haydock, Waterman Mitigation Partners  
Eric Baker, Kitsap County  
Erik Steffens, Great Peninsula Conservancy  
Jamie Glasgow, Wild Fish Conservancy  
Jennifer Griffiths, WDFW  
Jim Aho, Illahee Forest Preserve  
Julie Steigerwaldt, Great Peninsula Conservancy  
Lisa Reynolds, Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group  
Kara Cardinal, Strait Ecosystem Recovery Network LIO  
Kay Caromile, Washington Recreation and Conservation Office  
Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech, Kitsap County  
Matt Keough, Pen Met Parks  
Marty Ereth, Pierce County  
Mary Krauszer, Pierce Conservation District  
Maverick Ryan, waterman mitigation  
Olivia Smith, Triangle Associates  
Paul Williams, Suquamish Tribe  
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  
Scott Bohling, Washington State Department of Ecology  
Steve Todd, Suquamish Tribe  
Zack Holt, City of Port Orchard, and Working Group Chair