

**Working Group Agenda (Hybrid Meeting)**

Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 9:30 – 12:00

Port Blakely Room in Kitsap County Admin Building or [ZOOM LINK HERE](#)\*

**Objectives:**

- Discuss ongoing WSPER work
- Hear regional and local updates
- Engage with Habitat & Shellfish Strategic Initiative Leads on removing WSPER’s barriers to implementation
- Learn about South Sound’s Mobile Marine Pump-out Program; decide whether WSPER wants to use capacity funding for mobile pump-out services in West Sound summer of 2023

Time	Topic	Lead / Presenter
9:30	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Housekeeping</b>            Introductions (everyone to share a highlight for quick roundtable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for public comment before decisions are made</li> <li>• <i>Decision needed – does WSPER approve the Consent Agenda items?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dec 13, 2022, meeting summary</li> <li>○ Feb 14 agenda</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Welcome &amp; Housekeeping</b>            Introductions (everyone to share a highlight for quick roundtable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for public comment before decisions are made</li> <li>• <i>Decision needed – does WSPER approve the Consent Agenda items?</i></li> </ul> <p>All matters listed under Consent Item(s) have been distributed to each member for reading and study, are considered to be routine, and will be enacted by one motion with no separate discussion. If a separate discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the Consent Items and placed as an additional topic by request.</p> <p><i>Dec 13, 2022, meeting summary</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Feb 14 agenda</li> <li>○ Dec 13 meeting summary</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcome: Motion to approve consent item someone moves, someone seconds, any objections, hearing none, the consent agenda and agenda are approved.</b></p>	Zack Holt or Sarah Wilson
9:50	<p><b>Regional Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Partnership has put together a BIL funding tracker for these opportunities: <a href="#">Microsoft Power BI (powerbigov.us)</a>. Ahren Stroming updates this tracker almost daily.</li> <li>• RCO’s <a href="#">Bill Buddy</a> for those tracking the salmon/orca recovery in legislative session.</li> <li>• PSP’s legislative update by Don Gourlie every Friday, 12-1, January 6 - April 28, 2023           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Teams: <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> Phone: <a href="#">+1 253-372-2181,65255071#</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• PSP Strategic Funding Team update (formerly BIL funding team) – Jennifer Grimm is the new program manager (formerly Agency Workplan &amp; EPA Grants Coordinator)</li> </ul>	Ahren Stroming  Renee Johnson

10:10	<p><b>Ongoing WSPER Work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversity, equity, and inclusion</li> <li>• ERP Timeline</li> <li>• Any letters of support needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Long Lake Predation Assessment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Renee Johnson</p> <p>Jamie Glasgow, Sarah Heerhartz</p>
10:30	<b>Break (10 minutes)</b>	
10:40	<p><b>Guest Presentation &amp; Activity: Strategic Initiative Leads (SILs) for Habitat and Shellfish</b></p> <p><u>Purpose:</u> learn about/sign up for workgroups and workshops where you can recommend ways to remove barriers for each Implementation Strategy. <b>NEW Engagement Overview</b> <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><u>Relationship to WSPER Workplan:</u> LIO Task 5 – Remove Barriers to Implementation</p> <p><u>Outcome/Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn about LIO engagement opportunities with stormwater SILs</li> <li>• Recommend to the SILs ways to remove barriers to implementation</li> <li>• Sign up for topical work groups and workshops in these areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ land use</li> <li>○ integrated watershed planning</li> <li>○ stormwater management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Libby Gier Derek Day</p>
11:20	<p><b>Guest Presentation: South Sound Mobile Marine Pump-out</b></p> <p><u>Purpose:</u> learn about South Sound’s program; see a short video here <a href="#">The 'P' Word - YouTube</a></p> <p><u>Relationship to WSPER’s Workplan:</u> LIO Task 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with committees to address &amp; remove barriers to implementation</li> <li>• Support behavior change, public awareness, incentive, and/or compliance projects and programs</li> </ul> <p><u>Outcome/Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider funding pump-out services to select locations in WSPER LIO summer 2023 with some of WSPER’s LIO capacity funding</li> <li>• Give input and make recommendation on dates, locations, events (e.g., 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Whaling Days, Blake Island, Eagle Harbor, Liberty Bay, Canoe Journey)</li> <li>• See map of West Sound/North Central Puget Sound Action Area <a href="#">Ambiguity of Puget Sound Watersheds (arcgis.com)</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Decision needed: will WSPER use capacity money to fund mobile pump-out services in West Sound in 2023?</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Jeff Barney Renee Jonson</p>
11:55	<p><b>Wrap-up and adjourn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional opportunity for public comment</li> </ul>	<p>Zack Holt Olivia Smith</p>

### 2023 Meetings

- February 14
- April 11
- June 13
- August 8

- October 10
- November 28 (Joint Working Group and Technical Advisory Group)

\*Additional Zoom info

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84278180185?pwd=R3VZUkcyQ0dpR2FXdkE5UGFGV1R6dz09>

Meeting ID: 842 7818 0185

Passcode: 100156

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,84278180185#,,,,\*100156# US (Tacoma)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)



**Working Group Meeting**

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM | December 13, 2022

Meeting Summary DRAFT 2.21.2023 with suggested edits to Long Lake predation study comments section.

Action Item	Responsible Party
WSPER Working Group members to share suggested meeting topics and field trips for 2023.	WSPER Working Group
WSPER Coordination Team to include fish barrier prioritization criteria on future agendas.	WSPER Coordination Team
WSPER Coordination Team to work with Sarah Heerhartz to post the Curley Creek information online.	WSPER Coordination Team

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Decisions
WSPER Working Group approved the October 11 meeting notes.
WSPER Working Group moved to approve the 2023 Committee Chair.
WSPER Working Group confirmed the TAG’s proposed approach to the 2023 Grant Round.

**Welcome & Housekeeping**

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Zack Holt, Working Group Chair - City of Port Orchard, opened the meeting by leading a round of introductions with updates from WSPER Working Group members. Zack then gave an overview of the meeting agenda and objectives.

There were no public comments.

The Working Group approved the October 11 Working Group meeting notes. No were no edits suggested.

*Decision:* WSPER Working Group approved the October 11 meeting notes.

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

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Zack Holt announced Steve Todd, Suquamish Tribe, and Sarah Heerhartz, Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group (MSFEG), as the 2023 TAG co-chairs.

Zack shared Deb Rudnick will be stepping down from WSPER TAG and taking a break from WSPER to focus on other pursuits. Christian Berg, City of Bainbridge Island, will be joining the WSPER TAG. Michael Abboud has joined the WSPER Working Group as a new representative from the City of Gig Harbor.

Christian Berg gave an overview of his role and work at the City of Bainbridge Island over the last few years to protect shorelines, streams, and wetland habitats with increasing development on the island.

Renee Johnson, WSPER Coordination Team, opened the floor for chair nominations and shared that Zack Holt, the current Working Group chair, and Sarah Wilson, City of Bremerton, have volunteered to serve as co-chairs in 2023. Barbara Ann Smolko made a motion to nominate the pair and Steve Todd seconded the motion. The Working Group voted to approve the pair, and the motion carried.

**Decision:** WSPER Working Group moved to approve the 2023 Committee chair.

### **2023 Grant Round**

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Steve Todd, Suquamish Tribe, explained the TAG's recommendation for 2023 to fund existing projects on the WSPER 2022 Ranked Salmon Habitat Project List rather than having a competitive grant round.

Zack Holt called for a motion to approve the TAG's approach for the 2023 grant round.

Sarah Wilson made a motion to approve the TAG's approach, Barbara Ann Smolko seconded the motion.

Barbara Ann Smolko suggested working with 2022 project sponsors to see which still needed funding. Renee Johnson confirmed WSPER will work with current project sponsors from the 2022 list and that a list of projects will be presented to the Working group for approval in 2023.

### **2023 Meetings & Suggested Topics**

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Renee Johnson gave an overview of the 2023 meeting schedule and proposed meeting topics.

Christian Berg expressed interest in having a state funding leader attend a WSPER Working Group meeting as a guest speaker.

Working Group members expressed interested in having a state funding leader present and suggested adding beavers, stream flow, fish passage, public works actions, and coastal wetland restoration to the list of topics. Marty Ereth suggested grant recipients provide post-project presentations to the group.

Jamie Glasgow shared Wild Fish Conservancy will be presenting on water typing and eDNA surveys in January 2023.

**Action item:** WSPER Working Group members to share suggested meeting topics and field trips for 2023.

### **Ongoing Work**

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#### ***Ecosystem Recovery Program***

Olivia Smith, Triangle Associates, shared an update on the Ecosystem Recovery Program (ERP) sub-group that has been meeting since June 2022. Renee Johnson stated one part of the ERP update is an interactive web-based GIS map.

### ***Fish Barrier Prioritization***

Renee Johnson came back to the topic of fish barrier prioritization. With staff changes at WDFW, the subcommittee has not recently met. With the ERP mapping tool, a fish barrier prioritization layer could be added in the future. Steve Todd added the Suquamish Tribe will begin developing a fish barrier prioritization in 2023 to integrate all types of barriers. In response to a question about criteria for the fish passage barrier prioritization, Steve Todd explained Suquamish Tribe will reference other prioritization methods that may include several jurisdictions (tribes, counties, local governments, etc.). Sarah Heerhartz shared MSFEG would be interested in collaborating on the prioritization process if appropriate. Barbara Ann Smolko suggested the fish passage barrier prioritization criteria be included on a future agenda for further discussion once it is identified. There was a brief discussion on changing the messaging from fish passage barriers to stream process barriers.

Brittany Gordon, Kitsap County, shared Justin Zweifel, Federal Transit Administration, gave a presentation at the Salmon Recovery Conference years ago when he worked at WDFW on various culvert prioritization methods. It was noted this information may be available from other WDFW staff.

### ***Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion***

Renee Johnson shared that diversity, equity, and inclusion within the LIO context is now a task within the LIO contract. There has been interest in government-to-government training (Governor's Office of Indian Affairs) to strengthen working with tribal governments. Renee will find out more about hosting one of these trainings.

### ***Mobile Pump-Out***

Renee Johnson shared South Sound is doing a mobile pump out. She and Kirvie recently met with Barbara Ann Smolko and Pierce County's program coordinator, Jeff Barney, to learn more about the program and to see where WSPER might participate.

### ***Legacy Projects***

Renee Johnson explained how Chance Berthiaume has been working with the Puget Sound Partnership on the legacy projects list at the regional level. Both the City of Bremerton and Pierce County submitted bundles of projects for inclusion on this list. Old submissions were not automatically included in the new list, as project sponsors were asked to resubmit them again this year.

Steve Todd asked what to anticipate for these projects in 2023. Renee explained the Puget Sound Partnership has no immediate plans for funding legacy projects. Updates will be shared with the WSPER working group as they become available.

### ***National Estuary Program***

Renee Johnson gave an overview on the National Estuary Program and invited the group to share any questions.

### ***Other***

Will Neff, Bainbridge Island Land Trust, shared he would like to be added to the WSPER Working Group and TAG mailings lists.

**Action items:**

WSPER Coordination Team to include fish barrier prioritization criteria on future agendas for further dialogue once identified.

Renee to follow up on government-to-government training details and costs.

Renee to add Will Neff to the WSPER TAG and WG lists.

**Local and Regional Updates**

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***2023 Salmon Recovery Council Representatives***

Brittany Gordon and Tom Ostrom were selected for the 2023 Salmon Recovery Council representatives.

***Puget Sound Partnership***

***Strategic Funding Team (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)***

Renee Johnson gave an overview of the recent controversial decision by Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) to keep the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding in-house to create the Strategic Funding Team. The aim of this team (likely 4-6 staff and a manager) will be to increase capacity of local project sponsors and to remove barriers to implementation. Renee summarized Larry Epstein's (PSP) updates, which were shared at a recent LIO coordinators' meeting. Renee sent Larry's slides out to the WSPER group along in last set of email updates.

WSPER's Executive Committee wrote a letter to the PSP regarding the decision to retain funds intended for local capacity at the PSP as a follow-up to the PSP's Executive Director Laura Blackmore's August visit to WSPER's Executive Committee meeting. The WSPER Executive Committee's letter captured the sentiments from this meeting, and WSPER receive a nice response from Laura Blackmore and the Partnership. Renee offered to send this letter to any interested WSPER partners.

***Assessing Salmon Habitat in Puget Sound Funding Opportunity***

Sarah Heerhartz gave an update on funding sought for the Long Lake Predation Assessment by Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group and Wild Fish Conservancy. They applied for the Partnership's monitoring funding on October 19 but were unsuccessful.

In response to a question from Marty Ereth about WDFW support, Sarah responded MSFEG have not received a letter from WDFW but have spoken with Gabe Madel and Chris Waldbillig at WDFW about the need to coordinate earlier next time. Marty noted the importance of working with WDFW to monitor Bass. Steve Todd commented it would be nice if WDFW could fund part of this work.

Barbara Ann Smolko and Brittany Gordon discussed how beaver returns to agricultural ponds in the Salmonberry Creek ecosystem impacted the non-native species.

Brittany Gordon asked if the project requesting funding considers docks and over water structures influence on predation. Sarah explained the project would monitor the predation of Coho by non-native species (e.g., bass) in the watershed including where, how, and when they are being preyed upon. This would include areas with over water structures.

Barbara Ann-Smolko suggested doing a larger area-wide project to implement the Steelhead Recovery Plan. Steve Todd agreed noting the importance of including of Long Lake.

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### ***Stormwater Collaborative Report Out***

Zack Holt shared the Washington State Department of Ecology recently published 6PPD in Road Runoff Assessment and Mitigation Strategies. Learn more at the [link here](#).

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### ***Project Highlight: Curley Creek***

Elizabeth Spaulding, Habitat Strategic Initiative, presented on the Curley Creek prioritized restoration work underway to improve salmon runs important to Tribal, commercial, and recreational fisheries in Puget Sound.

Sarah Heerhartz gave an overview of the Curley Creek Near Term Action (NTA) covering 7.6 miles of critical Steelhead, Coho, and Chum habitat. Learn more at the [link here](#).

Zack Holt noted impacts to a beaver population due to traffic strikes at the Baker Road culvert.

Steve Todd suggested adding layers of areas already protected to the web map to highlight addressed areas.

Jamie Glasgow added WFC is working to update the data on their water typing map and offered to give a presentation to the Working Group in 2023.

Barbara Ann Smolko shared there could be funding opportunities in the notifications to the endangered species contact list.

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### ***Project Highlight: Point No Point***

Lisa Reynolds, MSFEG, shared they have been working with WDFW, the Suquamish and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribes, Wild Fish Conservancy, and others to gather information and document existing conditions (technical and sense of place) at Point No Point. Lisa gave an overview of groundwater monitoring wells at the site and of traditional gathering sites and historical cultural significance of the place.

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### ***Wrap-up and Adjourn***

Olivia Smith reviewed the meeting decisions and action items. Zack Holt thanked the WSPER Working Group for their discussion and shared the next meeting will be February 14, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**Attendees** (alphabetical by first name)

Arno Bergstrom, Kitsap County Parks  
Amy Smalley, WSU Kitsap Extension  
Barbara Ann Smolko, Pierce County  
Brittany Gordon, Kitsap County  
Carin Anderson, Kitsap County Conservation District  
Christian Berg, City of Bainbridge Island  
Christina Kereki, Kitsap County  
Dustin Haydock, Waterman Mitigation Partners  
Gina King, Bainbridge Island Land Trust  
Jamie Glasgow, Wild Fish Conservancy  
Julie Steigerwaldt, Great Peninsula Conservancy  
Lisa Reynolds, Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group  
Marty Ereth, Pierce County  
Marian Berejikian, Friends of Pierce County  
Mary Krauzer, Pierce Conservation District  
Michael Abboud, City of Gig Harbor  
Nami Gebo, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Olivia Smith, Triangle Associates  
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  
Teresa Miskovic, Washington Department of Natural Resources  
William Neff, BILT Watershed Restoration  
Zack Holt, City of Port Orchard, and Working Group Chair

