

Working Group Agenda (Hybrid Meeting)

Tuesday, April 11, 2023, 9:30 – 12:00

Different location – Port Orchard City Council Conference Room 301 or [ZOOM LINK HERE](#)*

Objectives:

- Hear guest presentation on the Action Agenda Explorer Tool.
- Receive a project update on the Kitsap Lake algae and aquatic vegetation.
- Hear regional and local updates.
- Discuss ongoing WSPER work, 2023 field trips, events, and meeting topics.

Time	Topic	Lead / Presenter
9:30	<p>Welcome & Housekeeping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcements • Introductions (everyone to share a highlight for quick roundtable) • Opportunity for public comment before decisions • <i>Decision needed: Approve the Consent Agenda items Feb 14 summary, April 11 agenda</i> 	Zack Holt or Sarah Wilson
9:50	<p>Guest Presentation: Using the NEW Action Agenda Explorer</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u> Learn to use this searchable tool to find connections between priorities, actions, key opportunities, Vital Signs, and more. Useful in planning and grant applications.</p> <p><u>Relationship to WSPER Workplan:</u> LIO Task 2 & 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in the AA Team, Educate members and partners about the AA. • Facilitate updates and presentations to support AA implementation. • Adaptively manage ecosystem recovery. <p><u>Outcome/Action:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the tool in your planning work and grant applications. • Share the tool with others in your organization who are involved in planning or implementation. 	Kaitlin Harris, Puget Sound Partnership
10:20	<i>Break (10 minutes)</i>	
10:30	<p>Project Highlight: Kitsap Lake Algae Control and Aquatic Vegetation Management</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9qh5QlkCzn8</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u> Learn about the City of Bremerton’s approach to managing algae and aquatic vegetation.</p>	Sarah Wilson

10:50	Ongoing WSPER Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any letters of support needed? Mobile pump-out pilot update (LIO Task 5): remove barriers to implementation, support behavior change, public awareness, incentive, and/or compliance projects and programs) Diversity, equity, and inclusion (LIO Task 5) ERP update and timeline for completion (LIO Task 4: Ecosystem Recovery Plan update and Adaptive Management) Subcommittee work (Salmon Recovery Strategies, DEI, etc.) 	Zack Holt or Sarah Wilson Renee Johnson Annalise Ritter Brittany Gordon
11:20	2023 WSPER Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government to Government training Field trips August 8 and October 10 Interest in a day trip/field trip 	Renee Johnson
11:40	Regional Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New SIL liaison – Introduce Rebecca Brown PSP Strategic Funding Team update (formerly BIL funding team) 	Rebecca Brown Brittany Gordon
11:55	Wrap-up and adjourn <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional opportunity for public comment 	Annalise Ritter Zack Holt or Sarah Wilson

2023 Meetings

- June 13 – approve 2023 Salmon Habitat Ranked List
- August 8 – meeting/field trip /ERP
- October 10 – meeting/field trip/NTA update on forage fish project
- November 2—approve ERP and Workplan (Joint Working Group and Technical Advisory Group)

Field trip ideas:

- Day trip (WSU Puyallup, 6PPD?)
- Stormwater field trip
- Anderson Creek Dam Removal
- Long Lake
- Other



Working Group Meeting

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM | February 14, 2023 | Hybrid Meeting

Meeting Summary DRAFT 4.5.2023

Action Item	Responsible Party
WSPER Working Group members to contact Ahren Stroming (Ahren.stroming@psp.wa.gov or 360-918-1337) with questions about Puget Sound Partnership’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding tracker and upcoming funding opportunities.	WSPER Working Group
WSPER Working Group members to share input on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion activities and notify Renee Johnson if interested in participating in a \$220 training session on Tribal Engagement or in a DEI sub-committee.	WSPER Working Group
WSPER Working Group members to review the Strategic Initiative Leads (SILs) for Habitat and Shellfish Mural Board and share it with colleagues who may be interested in learning more about LIO engagement opportunities and topical work groups.	WSPER Working Group

Decisions
The WSPER Working Group approved the December 13, 2022, meeting summary with small changes to the section about predation in Long Lake.
The WSPER Working Group motioned to approve the Letter of Support for the Long Lake Predation Assessment.
The WSPER Working Group agreed to use 2023 capacity money to fund mobile pump-out services in West Sound. The Executive Committee will review the request at their February 23, 2023 meeting.

Welcome & Housekeeping

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 December 13 Working Group meeting notes following clarification on Marty Ereth’s comment about WDFW monitoring Bass and a clarification on predation on Coho, not by Coho.

Decision: WSPER Working Group approved the December 13, 2022, meeting notes.

Regional Updates

Puget Sound Partnership's (PSP) Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Funding Tracker

Ahren Stroming, Puget Sound Partnership, gave an overview of PSP's new federal support website [[linked here](#)] outlining ways to engage, how the BIL will impact WSPER, and upcoming funding opportunities for Puget Sound Recovery [[linked here](#)]. The Partnership recently hired a Strategic Funding Team Manager, Jennifer Grimm, to help expand the funding opportunities sheet [[linked here](#)] and serve as a resource for questions. Renee added Jennifer Grimm was previously the Grants Coordinator for the EPA.

Lastly, Ahren explained funding opportunities recently shared by the White House related to the Partnership [[linked here](#)].

Action item: WSPER Working Group members to contact Ahren Stroming (Ahren.stroming@psp.wa.gov or 360-918-1337) with questions about PSP's BIL funding tracker and upcoming funding opportunities.

Recreation and Conservation Office's (RCO) Bill Buddy

Renee Johnson, WSPER Coordination Team, reviewed the RCO Bill Buddy [[linked here](#)] for tracking statewide priorities related to salmon and orca recovery.

PSP's Legislative Update by Don Gourlie

Renee shared that Don Gourlie, PSP, is offering legislative updates every Friday from 12-1PM from January 6 to April 28, 2023, that can be joined via Microsoft Teams or phone.

Ongoing Work

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

Renee Johnson explained WSPER's commitment to DEI and collected interest in participating at Government to Government training at a cost of \$220 per participant. Several Working Group members expressed interest. Brittany Gordon, Kitsap County, added that WSPER is committed to incorporating DEI work across all of the tasks and invited the Working Group to share lessons learned or feedback.

Marty Ereth shared Pierce County has been offering trainings that highlight the disparities between lower and higher income areas and suggested incorporating that into WSPER's Geographic Information System (GIS) work. It was noted that available layers for environmental disparities will be incorporated into the Ecosystem Recovery Plan (ERP) web map tool.

Renee then asked Working Group members to share if they would be interested in participating in a DEI sub-committee. DEI activities could include short videos followed by small break out groups.

Action item: WSPER Working Group members to share input on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion activities and notify Renee Johnson if interested in participating in a DEI sub-committee.

Ecosystem Recovery Plan (ERP) Timeline

Renee Johnson gave an overview of the ERP 2023 work plan and sub-group participants helping to develop a web map tool, written report, and web page by June 2023. Opportunities for input will follow in July, August, and September of 2023.

Barbara Ann-Smolko expressed excitement for the web mapping tool. Renee shared they have been referencing work by other Local Integrating Organizations (LIOs).

Any Letters of Support Needed

Jamie Glasgow, Wild Fish Conservancy (WFC), gave an overview of a continued effort between WFC and Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement (MSFEG) to fund and monitor issues caused by Bass in Long Lake ([Page 65 of Curley Creek Assessment](#)). WFC and MSFEG are working with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to inform the study design and are seeking a letter of support to accompany the proposal due March 15, 2023. The Curley Creek Assessment is located under WSPER Recovery Plans and Strategies [[linked here](#)]. Renee offered to support the distribution of the letter of support to the WSPER Working Group.

Barbara Ann Smolko asked for clarification on what is considered “warm water” to WDFW. Jamie Glasgow explained it includes invasive or non-native fish which are often Bass and sometimes Perch.

Zack Holt called for a motion to approve the Letter of Support to Wild Fish Conservancy and Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group for the Long Lake Predation Assessment. Steve Todd motioned to approve the letter, and Barbara Ann-Smolko seconded the motion. The Working Group voted to approve the letter of support, and the motion carried.

Decision: WSPER Working Group approved the Letter of Support to Wild Fish Conservancy and Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group for the Long Lake Predation Assessment.

Guest Presentation & Activity

Strategic Initiative Leads (SILs) for Habitat and Shellfish

Derek Day and Libby Gier, Strategic Initiative Leads (SILs) for with the Washington Department of Ecology, led an activity on a Mural Board [[linked here](#)] to collect input and interest on engagement designs and opportunities. Derek explained the engagement opportunities by investment type, including operationalizing, pilot programs, and scaling investments. Derek noted the SILs work with a Strategic Initiative Advisory Team (SIAT) to provide input on specific issues are organized by topical pods (agricultural lands, stormwater management, land use, chemicals and toxics, and wastewater). Derek concluded by reviewing the investment priorities the SILs are committed to leading throughout 2023, including a social marketing strategy, implementation of a chemical action plan, research on chemicals of emerging concern, and workshops on collaborative compliance, visioning the future of wastewater treatment, and integrated watershed land use planning. The WSPER Working Group members then added their names to pods they would like to be engaged with.

Christian Berg, City of Bainbridge Island, asked how the SILs address situations when there is a conflict of interest on Request for Proposals (RFPs). Derek shared the SILs have a strict conflict of interest policy to avoid conflicts of interest.

Barbara Ann-Smolko asked how the stormwater, habitat, and shellfish topical pods relate. Derek explained they are closely related and the SILs work to stay coordinated and organized to not replicate conversations in multiple places. Derek added the shellfish and wastewater pods coordinate frequently. It was noted the strategic vision is intended to help inform how and where work relates and where there are gaps across jurisdictions.

Kara Cardinal, Strait Ecosystem Recovery Network, and Libby Gier discussed the timeline of the pods and with shorter-term opportunities starting now and longer-term opportunities kicking off in late spring.

Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech asked what the SILs plan for working in conjunction with the Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB) subcommittee through 2023. Derek explained they are working with the land use pod to act as the technical level staff and help the ECB achieve their objectives.

It was noted the [Mural Board](#) can be shared to those outside of the WSPER who may be interested, and the WSPER Working Group can contact Derek Day (derek.day@ecy.wa.gov) or Libby Gier (libby.gier@ecy.wa.gov) at any time with questions or to learn more about engagement opportunities.

Action item: WSPER Working Group members to review the Strategic Initiative Leads (SILs) for Habitat and Shellfish [Mural Board](#) and share it with colleagues who may be interested in learning more about LIO engagement opportunities and topical work groups.

South Sound Mobile Marine Pump-out

Jeff Barney, Pierce County Surface Water Management, gave an overview of the South Sound Mobile Marine Pump-Out program in collaboration with Pierce County and NW Mobile Pump Out & Marine Environmental Services, LLC. The program serves public moorages and docking facilities, giving recreational boaters a convenient way to discharge sewage from their sanitary waste tank. Jeff reviewed the locations covered in 2021 and the 2022 State Park additions (Tolmie State Park, McMicken Island, Herron Island, Jarrell Cove, Hope Island, and Pickering Passage), 2021 and 2022 season goals, gallons and locations pumped over 2021 and 2022, feedback received, and partnerships.

There was a brief discussion about how the pump used in the program is confined to pumping blackwater and cannot pump bilge as it does not have the ability to separate the chemicals, which is best addressed with a shop-vac and disposed at a safe facility.

Christina Kereki, Kitsap County, and Jeff discussed a phone app developed for the program in partnership with Washington Sea Grant to help people find pump boats and see which ones are active. Jeff noted they had a booth at the Seattle Boat Show with the Washington State Department of Ecology and Washington Sea Grant to showcase the app.

Marty Ereth asked about the direction of the program and whether they plan to obtain more staff and boats. Jeff explained they will launch a second boat in the Longbranch area and are waiting for the outcome of a proposed bill that would identify gaps to match and help replicate this program across Puget Sound.

Jeff announced he is partnering with Washington State Parks to try to provide a floating restroom to meet the needs of paddle boaters, canoers, jetboaters, etc.

Zack Holt called for a motion to approve 2023 capacity money (\$10,000) to fund the mobile pump-out services in West Sound as a pilot project for the 2023 season. Christian Berg motioned to approve, and Barbara Ann-Smolko, seconded the motion. The Working Group voted to approve the 2023 capacity money (\$10,000) to fund the mobile pump-out services in West Sound as a pilot project for the 2023 season, and the motion carried. It was noted this decision will be brought to the Executive Committee for approval.

Decision: WSPER Working Group recommend using capacity money to fund mobile pump-out services in West Sound in the summer of 2023, the Executive Committee will review the request at their February 23, 2023, meeting (meeting rescheduled to 3.28.2023).

Wrap-up and Adjourn

Olivia Smith shared the meeting decisions and action items will be shared via email following the meeting. Zack Holt thanked the WSPER Working Group for their discussion, noting the next meeting will be April 11, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Attendees (alphabetical by first name)

Allison Satter, Naval Base Kitsap
Amy Smalley, WSU Kitsap Extension
Barbara Ann Smolko, Pierce County
Brenda Padgham, BI Land Trust
Brittany Gordon, Kitsap County
Christian Berg, City of Bainbridge Island
Christina Kereki, Kitsap County
Dustin Haydock, Waterman Mitigation Partners
Erik Steffans, Great Peninsula Conservancy
Jamie Glasgow, Wild Fish Conservancy
Julie Steigerwaldt, Great Peninsula Conservancy
Kara Cardinal, Strait Ecosystem Recovery Network
Kathleen Peters, Bainbridge Island
Kay Caromile, Recreation Conservation Office
Lisa, Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
Marty Ereth, Pierce County
Mary Krauzer, Pierce Conservation District
Michael Abboud, City of Gig Harbor
Olivia Smith, Triangle Associates
Rachel Bown, 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
Zack Holt, City of Port Orchard, and Working Group Chair