

West Sound Watersheds Council  
 August 7, 2018  
 9:30am – 12:30pm  
 Kitsap County Administration Building, Port Blakely Room 370  
 614 Division St. Port Orchard, WA 98366



**WESTSOUND**  
 WATERSHEDS COUNCIL

## Meeting summary

### Welcome and Introductions

Name	Affiliation
Carin Anderson	Kitsap Conservation District
Kathy Peters	Kitsap County / West Sound Watersheds Council
Brenda Padgham	Bainbridge Island Land Trust
Linda Owens	WA Senate – Senator Rolfes
Amee Bahr	Recreation and Conservation Office
Renee Scherdnik	Kitsap County Public Works
Jonathan Decker	Great Peninsula Conservancy
David Nash	Kitsap County Community Development
Jim Aho	Illahee
Tom Ostrom	Suquamish Tribe
Gina King	Bainbridge Island Land Trust
Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech	Kitsap County / West Sound Watersheds Council

### Review Agenda

- Include update from Linda Owens
- Include discussion about Curley Creek acquisition project #16-1591

### Review draft meeting notes February 13, 2018

- No edits provided; notes will be posted on the WSWC website

### Updates

- **Linda Owens, Executive Assistant to Senator Christine Rolfes**
  - Introduced the International Year of Salmon (IYS), a four-year initiative that aspires to protect salmon by bringing people together to share and develop knowledge, raise public awareness and take action. This is a hemispheric partnership led by The North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commissioner (NPAFC) and the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO).
  - Timing of the International Year of Salmon: 2016-2018 – Setting the stage, Fall 2018 – Opening Events (October 11 in Vancouver, B.C.), 2019 – Focal Year, 2020-2022 – Research
  - See attachments: [International year of Salmon handout](#) and [Transcript SaundersIYS](#) for basis and history of the IYS.
- **Curley Creek acquisition project #16-1591; Jonathan Decker**
  - The target property for acquisition in lower Curley Creek was donated to Great Peninsula Conservancy in 2017.

- In March 2018, the WSWC approved the acquisition of the next priority parcels as determined by acquisition feasibility assessment #14-1632, Aloha Lumber parcels.
- As a result of the feasibility assessment and landowner outreach, GPC determined no additional landowners of parcels in lower Curley Creek interesting in selling property for salmon habitat protection.
- Based on GPC's current work in lower Curley Creek, two undeveloped parcels on Banner Creek, a fish-bearing tributary to Curley Creek, are appropriate for permanent protection for benefits to salmon.
- WSWC collectively agreed with GOC and approved the acquisition of the Banner Creek parcels
  - **Action Item: LE Coordinator draft a Letter of Support from the Lead Entity to RCO in support of protecting high quality.**
- Update on East Fork Rocky Creek acquisition project #16-1589 – Great Peninsula Conservancy has access to Pierce Conservation Futures funds and is ready to close the acquisition. East Fork Rocky Creek project will receive approximately \$167,000 of West Sound lead entity 2018 salmon recovery funds to complete the acquisition.
- **Lean study survey; Kathy Peters**
  - The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is facilitating a lean study survey to determine how to improve project development and prioritization and make it more effective and efficient. A survey link was sent out to WSWC members to complete, voluntarily. Recommendations from the study will be presented to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board in December.
- **Salmon recovery updates, Tom Ostrom**
  - Technical Advisory Group will continue updating recovery strategies. West Sound salmon recovery strategies are based on Chinook Recovery Plan and prioritize the nearshore with no specific and quantified objectives. Effort taken to update the strategies will develop quantifiable objectives, develop targets as a way to measure progress, and identify actions with method to prioritize projects. This effort includes identification of priority salmon populations and priority watersheds to focus restoration and protection actions.
- **Steelhead Recovery Plan**
  - Puget Sound Steelhead Recovery plan is underway; draft will be released at the end of 2018 with final due in 2019.
  - Suquamish Tribe is leading the development of the West sound Steelhead Recovery plan. The local steelhead plan is intended to fold into the regional Puget Sound steelhead recovery plan.
  - Contractors include Environmental Services Associates and Long Live the Kings. The local plan is scheduled to be completed in May 2019.
- **Salmon Recovery Council**
  - Kirvie attended the SRC meeting. Updates provided include new staff at Puget Sound Partnership, PSAR large capital project review, Hood Canal and Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca Summer Chum salmon recovery plan, Orca's Task Force habitat actions and hatchery actions.
  - See [decision and next steps here](#).
- **2018-2022 Puget Sound Action Agenda update**

- A total of 34 local NTAs and 10 regional NTAs were submitted to West Central LIO. Eleven of these NTAs were proposed under Chinook 7.1, meaning they are priority projects for West Sound salmon recovery and are included in the 4-year-workplan.
- August 1: Public release of procedural record and NTA tiers
- August 1-15: appeal period for NTA scores and review
- September 1: draft Puget Sound Action Agenda released for public comments

#### Review and approve draft habitat project list

- The West Sound Watersheds Council approved the draft habitat project list for 2018.
- See attachment: [West Sound Lead Entity 2018 Habitat Project List](#)

#### Springbrook Creek Watershed Assessment

- Brenda Padgham and Gina King from Bainbridge Island Land Trust gave a presentation about the Springbrook Creek Watershed Assessment. This project completed a watershed scale assessment of Springbrook Creek to identify and develop conceptual designs for future salmon habitat improvements and/or protection projects. Springbrook Creek is situated on the west side of Bainbridge Island and drains into Fletcher bay.
- Springbrook Creek is a historical steelhead stream and a productive salmon stream supporting populations of cutthroat trout, Coho, and chum.
- Priority restoration and protection projects identified in this watershed assessment should be included in Habitat Work Schedule.
- See attachment: [Springbrook overview presentation](#).

#### West Central Local Integrating Organization (LIO) and West Sound Watersheds Council (WSWC) lead entity collaboration

- The organizational structure, purpose and goals, and geographic boundaries of both the LIO and WSWC were shown to members. Feedback regarding challenges and benefits of collaboration between the LIO and lead entity were discussed. The same agenda topic was brought to the WSWC Technical Advisory Group and West Central Working Group for their feedback.
- Some challenges identified include different geographic boundaries and different organizational structure of committees serving different purposes.
  - Members discussed an idea to have the LIO Executive Committee serve the purpose of the Citizens Advisory Group for the lead entity by expanding membership to include representation from special groups and interests. The expanded Executive Committee can then be the overarching body under which salmon recovery processes and ecosystem recovery processes are carried out. In this scenario, the working group and technical advisory groups for both organizations will remain to serve their purposes.
- Some advantages to better collaboration include reducing redundancy of meetings and strengthening stormwater engagement, shellfish engagement, and participation from local jurisdictions in salmon recovery.
  - The WSWC identify the lack of direct communication with elected officials as a shortfall of the lead entity's organization. Informing elected officials about priority salmon and habitat recovery actions will help project proponents gain support and advocacy from policy makers.

- Example provided: having salmon, habitat, stormwater and shellfish experts in the same room when watershed assessments like the Springbrook Creek project presented will add valuable feedback regarding actions recommended for stormwater and water quality management.

#### Roundtable announcements

- None

#### Review action items and adjourn

- **LE Coordinator draft a Letter of Support from the Lead Entity to RCO in support of protecting high quality salmon habitat.**

DRAFT