



WESTSOUND
WATERSHEDS COUNCIL
Agenda

West Sound Watersheds Council (WSWC)
April 11, 2012 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Poulsbo City Hall Council Chambers 200 East Moe Street

- 9:00 Introductions, announcements, review agenda
- 9:15 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Programs
Rich Carlson, Restoration Ecologist
- 9:45 Puget Sound Partnership updates
Tristan Peter-Contesse, Ecosystem Recovery Coordinator
- 10:45 Break
- 11:00 Round the table announcements and information sharing
- 12:00 Adjourn

Future meeting dates (typically 9-noon) to hold:
May 16 DATE CHANGE from previous schedule (Port Orchard)
June 13 (Poulsbo)
July 17 (Port Orchard)

West Sound Watershed Council

Meeting Sign in Sheet

April 11, 2012

Poulsbo City Hall

<u>NAME</u>	<u>EMAIL (if not on file)</u>
1 Kathy Peters	
2 JOCEEN PALMER	on file
3 Mauro Heine	" "
4 Carin Anderson	" "
5 Bill McKinney	" "
6 Doris Small	doris.small@dfw.wa.gov
7 Patty Charnas	on file
8 Tom Ostrom	on file.
9 Linda Berry; Maxwell	"
10 Sally Lawrence	ECOLOGY
11 MARK Libby	CCTF (m.k.libby@earthlink.net)
12 Peg Tillery	on file
13 Tristan Peter-Contesse	"
14 Rich Carlson	rich_carlson@fws.gov
15 LARRY PHILLIPS	phillip@dfw.wa.gov
16 Brenda Padgham	brenda@bi-landtrust.org
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

WSWC Meeting Notes

Kathy introduced Rich Carlson, Biologist, with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. He works on the fish management side of USFWS. Rich territory is south sound, including Kitsap plus San Juan.

Ginger Phalen's territory is the Dungeness area, Port Susan, Snohomish, Skagit.

Rich passed around a handout describing the range of restoration/recovery programs and assistance offered by the USFWS, WFW Office.

http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/fact_sheets/WFWFO%20Grants%20program%20fact%20sheet0707final.pdf

- Puget Sound Coastal Program works with nearshores and estuaries
- Partners Programs- upstream and wetlands. 30K per project can be used for development, engineering, out reach, etc. Funding is available to any private owner (no public lands) and tribal owners are fine- 25k per project.
- National Coastal Wetland Grant offers up to 1 million for acquisition or restoration. There is a 1 to 1 match in upland to wetlands.
- Rich described time line for grant application process, federally listed or candidate species and recover plans. The goal of projects is to restore natural processes.

Questions and Discussion: Patty, Kathy, Peter, Brenda, Tom, Linda, Doris, Rich

- Have you seen the funding cycle remain consistent in dollar amount? Are these dollars from various sources? There have been no real increases and the funding fluctuates a bit and yes, there are various funding sources.
- You described engineering as a service. Does the Washington USFWS provide engineers? Usually engineering is contracted out, but funding is available for hiring local engineering firms.
- Applicants are funded within the local office. There are various grants by small funders who review these applications, which generally have single page summaries.
- National Fish Passage Programs does not specify a match
<http://www.fws.gov/pacific/fisheries/fishpassage/> These are reviewed by the regional office.
- How often do you have a federal applicant? The forest service has approached USFWS for grants.
- These grants are generally coastal and partnership programs which require matches. Partners may use a variety of eligible matches, such as Federal, State and in-kind matches.
- Kathy noted that more attention tends to be given to applicants who have a personal relationship with Fish and Wildlife. Rich agrees that this is a method of prescreening and he does try to develop those relationships with partners.
- Where in the calendar are we now? Now we are looking at the end of this month to put out the contracts. Note that in most years it's a month earlier. If you begin an application now, you would be applying for next year.
- Both Rich and Ginger work in the coastal program, but Rich will pass other assistance inquiries along to the appropriate contacts.
- And this is all on website http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/programs_new.html
- Tom shared that the tribe has a partnership grant for Ocean Acidification Study. Rich noted that in an attempt toward fairness and inclusion the process weights applications in favor of first-time tribal applicants. If a tribe has never applied, their application will receive additional points.
- Rich pointed out that West Sound is identified as a strategic area along with South Sound and Hood Canal.

- Kathy noted that West Sound has a unique geography with lots of nearshore and wild populations. There is so much possibility for recovery, but we don't get the funding. Linda added that we are in a catch-22. Our land prices are closer to the urban areas. We have higher costs for acquisition and restoration. Rich mentioned that the cost of land is one reason why we don't work much in urban areas, such as Tacoma.
- Doris brought up the fact that there is a lot of scoring for various grants which are not fish related, such as birds. Parts of Kitsap would score high in those areas. Kathy-We are trying to work out how to marry those various needs to maximize resources and results.

Tristan- Puget Sound Partnership Topics

LIO Coordinator

In this 1st year of LIO development, each LIO should have a coordinator to ID and implement important projects. SSWM is reviewing 5 applicants for the position of West Sound's LIO Coordinator. The LIO core groups have it down to 3 consultants. The interviews are scheduled for Friday and the decision may be made and the coordinator hired as early as next week. An unspecified amount of funding is coming for EPA to contribute to the 75k salary of the West Sound LIO Coordinator

Discussion:

- Doris- Can you comment about how happy you are with the applicants? Tristan-This would have to be addressed by the interviewers. Mindy Fohn will work through process
- Kathy is looking forward to getting that LIO coordinator in place.

Local Champion Program

The PSP Leadership Council came up with this program to recognize the work and individuals who are really moving the process forward.

They are working with LIO's and EcoNets to nominate candidates in the following categories:

- Habitat Protection
- Habitat Restoration
- Pollution Prevention
- Public Engagement

Nominations are due by the 18th. The award will be made in June at the Leadership Council Meeting. The process can be as complex or simple as required. Tristan will be happy to assist in filling out the forms if needed. He will collect the nominations and then the council will review them, unless we care to pre-review them. But the important part is to get the nominations into Tristan's hands ASAP.

Questions and Discussion:

- The purpose is to recognize the efforts and work done, not to divide the community into winners and losers.
- Kathy offered a thought about the pollution prevention category. Some programs have so many partners, for example the TMDL work, the cities of Poulsbo and Bremerton. Should we recommend a program like PIC, which has received so much recognition, already? Or should we give attention to the volunteer groups, such as Stillwaters, or Clear Creek Task Force.
- Jolene added that a lot of recognition happens locally....maybe we should be looking at unsung heroes...the ones that have little opportunity for recognition. Restoration is such a long term effort...that the string of champions is long and numerous.

- Peg- HCWEN decided to bring Pat Pearson forward because she is involved in so many programs, they won't even fit on a page.
- Peg, Doris- The vast number of heroes makes it difficult, daunting, overwhelming and maybe even inappropriate to choose. This is a spot-on thought. Doesn't this promote the idea of winners and losers?
- Brenda, Bill and Peg- Should we offer extra recognition to those who get paid? Volunteers do this on their own time and we should recognize people, many of which will never have access to recognition. One nominee might be a group like Beachwatchers, which is a huge group of volunteers and offer many levels of technical assistance. Citizen science is real science and if we want to mesh all these priorities, science, restoration and education, maybe this is a good group to promote. These volunteers log over 10,000 hours a year (and that only the hours logged on paper, many hours go unlogged)
- Kathy, Linda- Kitsap Golf and Country Club have been very willing partners and get little recognition. The Home Builder's Association has been so influential in LID, offering outreach and training. They have worked through the regulatory restrictions to bring LID forward. In Poulsbo there has been a total reversal in attitude because of the HBA. Worthy nominees might be businesses as well
- Linda applauded the idea even in the midst of reservations. Kathy added that if we all think about these unrecognized groups, we can come up with worthy and creative choices for nominees.
- Kathy- How will the awards be made with groups who don't have an LIO. Tristan is not sure.

April ECB meeting report and the PSP Action Agenda

Patty Charnas attended the ECB meeting as Linda was on vacation.

Puget Sound Protection and Recovery- As a little background the 1st Action Agenda was published in 2008 published 1st and this is the treatise through which the progress develops.

Our action area is small, covering Eastern Kitsap county, plus a few cities.

http://www.psp.wa.gov/downloads/AA2008/Vital_Stats_NorthCentralPugetSound.pdf

The action agenda has been updating Pressure Reduction Targets.

In February ECB met, Martha Neuman made the point that the actions are pretty overwhelming at more than 500 actions + sub strategies. To cope with this, a system of ranking via weights has been developing. Note that Kathy Barnhart did a ton of work on this.

Draft Principles to Align Resources to Support Action Agenda Implementation

http://www.mypugetsound.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=888&Itemid=238

Chris Tounsand summed up the focus on 3 Principles or goals guiding the Recovery design.

Recovery will mean that Puget Sound is:

- Swimmable- stormwater and run-off, both urban and agricultural, pollutants and toxics
- Fishable- salmon recovery
- Diggable- shellfish

Fishable- The salmon recovery lens, there needs to be increased protection and the restoration element has been missing

Swimmable- This was a bit loose. Tom Bancroft, people for Puget Sound noted that it's not enough to simply manage storm water and runoff. The will must be in place to make sure it is clean of pollutants such as copper and zinc.

Some Programs of note are PIC, The Governor's programs, Clean Samish bay initiative...would like that to echo across the sound. Maintaining existing actions is very important, so that local efforts are not abandoned or wasted

There's been a lot attention given to urban runoff, but the agricultural constituent is just as important.

Discussion

- Patty- Linda has a point about the challenges the cities face in accepting most of the projected growth. We have so many mature forests in our action area and there is so much timber-harvest activity. It seems like a huge amount of wood is rolling down the highway on trucks. How do we accommodate the forestry practices? How do we protect function and habitats and still grow? If we can't do anything about this due to push back, why do we bother to pursue this as a target? The woodlands and forests within cities will likely not be preserved.
- Bill noted that in Bremerton 60% of the wooded areas, within Bremerton are privately held forest land and Bremerton has no experience in regulating timber harvest. Timber harvest is regulated through DNR. When a private owner logs 10 acres in a UGA, the rules say DNR gives the permit authority to the local entity. How are we going to handle these things, especially in this economy where development isn't as likely? The real estate values have dropped, but timber prices are high, so this activity has become a source of revenue for private land owners. The issues are the level of harvest and what you do afterwards to mitigate.
- Patty- especially with our UGA's If the PSP keeps that pressure reduction target, how do we apply it?
- Linda, Patty- In Poulsbo, if you are planning to development, the regulation and codes discourage clear cutting. Planned residential development codes encourage retaining native vegetation and tree clustering by allowing denser development per acre when these are retained. The intention is to encourage the density to stay small and compact. There isn't a lot of UGA left. Bainbridge Island has similar conversion codes.
- Tristan- The Action agenda is moving along. Tristan thanked Patty for attending the ECB meeting and making critical points. To add one thing...the profile for the local entity's priorities and actions consist of 13 near-term actions and strategies, which will appear nested within sound wide strategies but not ranked in any way. It was stressed that while federal and state are important, the work is really done at a local level.
- Brenda-where does monitoring fit in to this? Is that discussion even out there? She didn't see it on the action agenda. Tristan- The conversation is ongoing. It's another huge thing to bite off, trying to bring those local activities into a sound wide program.
The Puget Sound Coordinated Ecosystem Monitoring program.
http://www.psp.wa.gov/MP_monitoring_program.php
- ECB meeting documents are available online at http://www.psp.wa.gov/EB_meetings.php
http://www.mypugetsound.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=465&Itemid=238
- Kathy- Do we have a representative to the Salmon Recovery Council; from the tribes? As we get back to salmon recovery it's so important to get the tribes and fisheries involved in locating and identifying gaps. Also tribal representatives are recognized more regularly at these meetings and have clout. Tom suggested Rob Purser, Suquamish Fisheries Director as representative for West Sound at Salmon Recovery Council. Kathy offered to brief Rob before those meetings at the SRC.

- Reference was made to the Millie M. Judge report <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Salmon-Recovery-Planning/Recovery-Domains/Puget-Sound/upload/implement-rpt.pdf> and the Treaty Rights at Risk report <http://nwifc.org/w/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2011/08/whitepaper628finalpdf.pdf>
- Kathy- Is there any word as to whether Tristan will remain as our PSP representative? We'd like to keep a person who is familiar with the area and people involved in what we do. Tristan- They have another candidate who will come on board by next month. It's my understanding is that she will probably work with Hood Canal. I don't really know how this will play out. Linda- Who has the decision? Tristan- Jeanette will most likely make that decision. Kathy mentioned that she will see her on May 10th, during GPC's Spring Dinner, <http://www.greatpeninsula.org/events/documents/SpringDinner-GPC-SpringNL-LR.pdf>

Sharing

Kathy

The TAG group met March 29. Topics discussed

- TAG Team make-up
- The 3year work plan update and the sequence of projects to be worked. The work plan is due on May 11. If you have a project please contact Kathy Peters.
- Hatchery Action Implementation Plan
- There will be no meeting in April.

Next SRFB site visits are on May 8. There are 5 proposed projects:

- Anderson Island
 - Key peninsula, Carr Inlet
 - Rocky Bay Estuary acquisition, GPC
 - Doe-keg-wats Marsh cut-wood removal
 - Acquisition of shoreline in the city of Poulsbo
- Mark raised a question about projects in PRISM. Kathy clarified that projects must entered into prism each year and they still need to be in HWS. Mark's project is in the 3 year work plan.
 - Kathy- All projects must be entered by April 23. She explained the procedure to applying for inclusion. If anyone knows of any projects, it would be nice to include SRFB non-funded projects. The PSP is trying to figure out how to help us match up feasibilities design and funding priorities. These projects are things we are ACTUALLY doing, including such things as Beach Watcher activities, PIC monitoring, rain gardens, etc.
 - Future projects development: in-stream flow protection. We have nothing in that category

Brenda

- Bainbridge Island Land Trust finished the Strategic Conservation Plan (preliminary draft). It's posted on line http://bi-landtrust.org/pdfs/Draft_BILT_Conservation_Plan.pdf Phase one- Habitat networks and shorelines. Phase 2 will be more detailed, incorporating GIS for habitat networks.
- Powell shoreline rest project is moving forward with deconstruction planned July- August <http://bi-landtrust.org/default.asp?ID=66> Pre-construction and post deconstruction monitoring plans are underway, enlisting the aid of Beach Watchers, WDFW, The city and other partners.

The County is about to do bulkhead removal at Powell. For those not familiar with Powell, Bainbridge Island Land Trust did a great report and created a good template for the future.

- BILT is working on feasibilities for shoreline acquisition on the west side of Bainbridge Island. In this real estate market acquisition opportunities are presenting themselves.
- If interested in these topics, contact Brenda

Rich Carlson

- As a fish biologist, he has been working state/ federal/ tribal salmon planning. Strengths this year are Columbia Chinook and Sockeye recovery.
- He spoke about Exploitation rates and caps based on returns
- On the Nisqually River this will be the 1st year the tribe will have their first hatchery program. The stock returns are very low. This is a mass marked selective fisheries program in which tagged fish are used as surrogate to estimate return of wild stocks. Their objective is to catch more hatchery fish than wild stock.
- Comprehensive Coho management. The practice of coho dumping is being abandoned to encourage genetic diversity. He discussed current techniques for coho management and stock assessment.
- There is much discussion about steelhead. There is very little information about steelhead in South Sound. Among the many locations where smolt traps are placed, the number of ohmykiss is very low. Doris suggested asking Larry to giving a presentation. He has an informative presentation about stock assessments. It's so important to see how the abundance of hatchery fish compares with wild stocks.

Peg

- Jeff, Colleen and Peg are part of a rain garden team and will be going to Jefferson County to do Rain Garden training for their Master Gardeners. The 12,000 Rain Gardens program is underway, having been funded by a grant and partnered by WaSeaGrant and WWSU Extension.
- On April 20 there will be a lecture and presentation on Shellfish Farming and Aquaculture – with Pete Granger, Washington Sea Grant and Michael Adams, Shellfish grower and Jefferson BW Educator.
- Commissioner Charlotte Garrido will hold another "Sustainable Cinema" film called "Ocean Frontiers" at 6:30 p.m. April 26 at Dragonfly Cinema, 822 Bay St. in Port Orchard. Jim Brennan, a marine biologist with 30 years experience in marine research, regulation and education, will lead a discussion following the film.
- On May 24, the film will be on Beach Etiquette. Jeff and Peg will be on hand with volunteers for a beach walk or belly biology session, after the film.
- This year the science symposium Water Courses will be partnering with Jefferson County. The name has been changed to Sound Living. The event will be held on one day, October 20, at the Norm Dicks building in Bremerton. We'll have more room for posters and a catered seafood lunch. Please send topic ideas to Peg.
- May 14, Monday, 9am-1pm there will be workshop about Fish Farming on land based recirculation aquaculture systems. Sponsored by the Jefferson County Beach Watchers and held at the Port Townsend Maritime, Center, 431 Water Street.
- <http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1103566313697-43/Fish+Farming+Publication.pdf> There has been concern about the effect of net pens in hood canal. This workshop discusses an alternative to net pens, why not use the land. Note, these 2 researchers are east-coasters. Also note, this will be a very technical presentation.

Kathy added that there are currently no plans for net pens. There is an ongoing debate between Jefferson County and the Dept of Ecology. Rich added that there is a realization that wild stocks will not keep up with consumer demand. Mark also added that operating pens for pan-sized Coho caused the by-product of a scorched bottom. Everything has environmental impact.

Mark

- Plans for restoration of the flood plan continue. 30 % design plan. Chris May has been working this project the county and tribes have been invaluable. The plan involves moving the stream to restore to pre-development function. This includes the upper reaches, on land owned by a church near the Pederson farm, walked with Commissioner Brown and the Markwick property at ridge top where the water flows down.
- Progress continues on Bucklin Hill bridge/culvert removals to restore function to the estuary.

Sally

- Ecology has two TMDL studies going. There have been some winks based on urban expansion. The work of cleaning up of Dyes and Sinclair inlets continues.
- Happy to see the grant funding come through for work on Phinney and Ostrich Bay Creeks
- Kitsap Health District has developed a good plan incorporating outreach to fix the failing septic systems problem and moving forward with sewer feasibility.
- Liberty bay TMDL has been continuing with a PIC grant (Ken Drexel) and a lot of good work has been done. Many streams still have pollution moving through, but the bay is improving. The work will continue with local partners. The question remains about the impact of growth.

Linda

- Poulsbo is working with Ecology grants to address issues of storm water. Looking forward to retrofitting Anderson parkway, but parking lot retrofits were not as successful as hoped. There has been a lot of push-back from businesses. The time it takes and the timing of the work is a hard sell in this economic downturn. The City threw more money into the pot to fund this, with the hope of relieving some the pressures on the downtown businesses. The plan is to begin work in October, but the businesses are concerned that the work will run into November and Christmas sales season. There is no good time for disrupting business.
- There are a couple other stormwater projects involving roads and the push-back for these is the concern about disruption of traffic. Every project will have impact, so it would be good to have support from the environmental groups to balance the business community. About the road retrofits- New construction is not the problem it's the retrofits. In addition to funding, a cultural change is needed. A culture of cooperation needs to grow across governments and agencies to combine work for greater impact with less money.
- The City of Poulsbo is also moving forward on their SMP. There are concerns about how the very large buffers will impact downtown businesses. For very practical reasons the city is fighting the restrictions. The current mix of downtown/waterfront businesses does not meet the required percentage water-oriented business. Restaurants and mixed retail do not really qualify. Only 3 businesses qualify as water-oriented (boat rental, yacht sales and boating/fishing supplies)
- ECB committee participation: Working on funding for implementation of action agenda in the area of storm water. The goal is to find the means to get tax increases to deal with urban storm water. Tax increases will not be popular in the current economic climate. Compromises between finding the funding necessary and political viability are sought.

- Kitsap Forest and Bay Project: 7000 acres and associated shoreline. Martha Kongsgaard considers this a make or break opportunity and the clock is ticking. 6 of the 18 months is gone the agreement expires in March of next year. To clarify, there is 18 months to show progress. If these first pieces are funded then the deadline may be extended. There are parts that are not wetlands or shoreline, these are going wanting. There are no grants and the available funding comes with matches that are difficult to achieve.
- Tom- It's funny that the wetlands are the ones funded since the uplands are most likely to be lost to development
- Linda- Voters want the trails, but these, which are most suitable for recreation, are the ones least likely to be funded. The push for outreach is to get the word out during the 2-3 months of dry, recreational season.

Tom

- Tom attended the SRC meeting as an observer. Under discussion was the distribution of the 250k, available to SRC to expand the beginning of the steelhead recovery plan. Long live the kings received a significant portion for the Steelhead survival study. The rest will be distributed on a RFP basis, to local entities.
- Watersheds workshops were proposed. With all watersheds in attendance, they can share and explain what they do. This proposal is nebulous and no real enthusiasm was expressed. Tom reported that the leadership mentioned relying on Millie Judge and Treaty Rights at Risk Reports. They state that they think the gap or failure is at the lead entity level. The funding is too low and integration is inadequate, according to the leadership. But how can it be implemented at the LE level? How do we address this when there is no architecture in place? So what can be gained from that exercise? The two reports cover this, so a watershed meeting seems unproductive.
- Tristan mentioned the SRC feels that the local entities are not being properly represented and therefore there is little chance discover and address common barriers. The SRC wants to dig in to discover barriers and give the local entities the ability to participate in a meaningful way. Tom expressed concern that after spending this time and energy we will end of in the same place.
- Tom briefed us, last meeting, on the Chico log removal project. A lot of marshes are covered by floating and deposited wood. It's controversial topic. The trustees feel the project makes sense as an experiment and with monitoring, it may add to the knowledge and science needed in the future. These marches are substantially damaged by human-caused environmental changes such as dredging, but here it just requires the removal of logs and cut wood to restore function. As a restoration, it's a hard sell to remove wood when we've heard over and over that we need more wood. This is not a natural collection.

Joy

- Our *Zostera japonica* monitoring program has moved from paper to field. This season's priority is methods. Data is being entered into excel and GoogleEarth. All field sheets and files are archived in GoogleDocs and Picassa, but the real data management design will begin once the field season is over and the methods are finalized. We have support from Beachwatchers and SeaGrant.

Doris

- Doris announced the HPA bill just passed...just now. Hydraulic Project Approval permit fee will be raised to about \$15.00. There will be integration of HPA and FPA permits and there

will be new restrictions. <http://blog.senatedemocrats.wa.gov/hargrove/legislature-passes-bill-improving-efficiency-for-forest-and-hydraulic-permitting/>

Bill

- He reported that he will follow up on is the Gorst project and will draft an update to bring to council.
- He commented that it's very important to get the timber regulations right in Bremerton and may look to Poulsbo for guidance. Bremerton's DCD has never dealt with forest practices.

Carin

KCD current programs

- Agricultural Program, the purpose of which is to ID the properties most likely to pollute, using GIS information
- Kitsap fairground presentation
- Theresa Brookes is working on the 12,000 Rain Gardens Project.
- Cistern program
- Backyard habitats grants

Mauro

- Gearing up for macro invertebrate field monitoring. Also working on getting the old bug data into the greater Puget Sound database.

Jolene

- Stillwaters is moving forward on the design for the monitoring plan for Carpenter, Data logger, tidal levels and monthly water quality.
- April 21 is a clean up day at Stillwaters. The cleanup is planned throughout the watershed. Peg offered volunteers and Jolene accepted.
- EcoFest will be June 9th 2012
- Econet is planning social marketing trainings sound wide, Integration in strategic planning for outreach educators. If anyone has any models for successfully engaging citizens in watershed education please forward them to Jolene. Peg mentioned the water-circles program.

Ajourn