



*Citizens Advisory Group Meeting  
September 17, 2014  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Anna Smith Park  
Eagle’s Nest Room  
Bremerton, WA*

**Meeting Summary**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Sean Conrad	<i>Bainbridge Island</i>	Tom Ostrom	<i>Suquamish Tribe</i>
Marty Ereth	<i>Pierce County, SWM</i>	Paul Dorn	<i>Suquamish Tribe</i>
Tristan Peter-Contesse	<i>PSP</i>	Chris Waldbillig	<i>WDFW</i>
Mark Libby	<i>CCTF</i>	Jeremy Felty	<i>KCPR</i>
Barbara Ann Smolko	<i>Pierce County</i>	Renee Scherdnik	<i>KCPW Stormwater</i>
Joleen Palmer	<i>Stillwaters Env. Center</i>	Troy Fields	<i>Mid Sound FEG</i>
Renee Johnson	<i>WSU Extension</i>	Antonia Jindrich	<i>Mid Sound FEG</i>
Jeff Adams	<i>WSG</i>	Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech	<i>WSWC</i>
Marian Berejikian		<i>WSWC – Lead Entity Coordinator</i>	

*PSP – Puget Sound Partnership  
CCTF – Clear Creek Task Force  
KCPR – Kitsap County Parks and Recreation  
KCPW – Kitsap County Public Works  
FEG – Fisheries Enhancement Group*

*WSU - Washington State University  
WSG – Washington Sea Grant  
WSWC – West Sound Watersheds Council  
SWM – Stormwater Management  
WDFW – Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife*

**Meeting at Anna Smith Park, Bremerton**

Introductions were made by all attendees.

Several members of the West Sound Watersheds Council (WSWC) met at Anna Smith Park in Bremerton where Jeff Adams gave a presentation about monitoring techniques used to measure the effectiveness of shoreline restoration efforts. Jeff Adams and Chris Waldbillig briefly discussed the biota found at Anna Smith Park beach and surrounding nearshore area. They also explained how the shoreline restoration project (removal of 650 linear feet of bulkhead) has allowed the natural transport of beach sediment in this nearshore habitat. The beach has been reconnected with the riparian zone since the bulkhead removal and large woody debris are beginning to accumulate providing soft buffering for the bank as well as nutrients and habitat for forage fish. The substrate found in this nearshore habitat is fit for forage fish such as surf smelt and sand lance which are prey for seabirds, marine mammals, and salmon.

## **Meeting at Eagle's Nest Room, Kitsap County Fairgrounds**

Review of meeting agenda – rearrangement of meeting order.

Review and approval of August 2014 meeting summary – no changes made.

### **Puget Sound Partnership Update**

- Steelhead Recovery Plan – on 9/16/2014, a subgroup of NOAA Steelhead Recovery Team met to discuss a list of pressures for Puget Sound Steelhead. This subgroup will eventually rank the list of pressures and ultimately provide guidance for watersheds on how to rank pressures for each of the 32 DIP (Distinct Individual Population) of Steelhead in Puget Sound at a watershed scale.

*Question:* How many people are involved in the group so far?

The Steelhead Recovery Team consist of about 12-15 members. There are subgroups involved in the planning process with about 7-10 people in each group.

- The Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) hosted a tour for several Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) staff members. The EPA reviews PSP every three years to assess how it is doing as a regional entity coordinating recovery efforts in Puget Sound. Kitsap County was featured prominently in the tour which began at the Powel Site on Bainbridge Island to discuss shoreline armoring and the challenges and opportunities involved with engaging private landowners. The tour then proceeded to the YMCA in Silverdale where Low Impact Development (LID) and stormwater challenges were discussed. Kitsap County is featured as a regional leader in stormwater management. Several members of West Central Local Integrating Organization (LIO) were also present to discuss their recovery efforts at a local scale.

### **Upcoming Meeting Dates**

- October meeting: Cancelled
- November meeting: Nov. 19, 2014 at the Mountaineer's Kitsap Cabin, 3153 Seabeck Highway NW, Bremerton. Meeting agenda will be posted online.
- December meeting: Cancelled

### **Update on Kitsap Beach Naturalists Shoreline restoration monitoring by Jeff Adams**

- Jeff gave a presentation about Shoreline Restoration Monitoring consisting of before and after photos of restoration projects. The presentation portrayed several monitoring techniques utilized by volunteers to assess shoreline restoration efforts. Projects covered include Anna Smith Park in Bremerton and the Powel Restoration Site on Bainbridge Island. Please see the attached presentation for more details.

### **Comments/Discussion Topics**

1. Discussion about Cultural Resource surveys on restoration sites
  - In terms of cultural resource surveys, at what point would a tribe, or affected party stop a restoration project? Usually a project could be modified to provide protection for the cultural resource uncovered. All tribes have different preservation requirements for cultural resources.
2. Discussion about nearshore monitoring toolkit.
  - Monitoring profile at the Powel restoration site includes: Vertical profile and Species Profile

- The Shoreline Monitoring Toolbox is available at the [Washington Sea Grant website](#). This resource provides standard approaches to shoreline monitoring in Puget Sound. It is in draft form and will be available as a link on the WSWC website when it is finalized.
  - Refer to [Puget Sound Stream Benthos](#) website for benthic index assessment monitoring information and data.
3. Discussion about the European Green Crab – an invasive species that lives on the outer coast; however, in 2012, it was found in inside the Strait very close to Puget Sound.
    - The WDFW is required to take action, and coordinate volunteer efforts to monitor the presence of the European Green Crab in Puget Sound.
    - Jeff Adams and several UW students used a mapping tool to examine the Puget Sound shoreline to identify significant areas, specifically where the European Green Crab would thrive, and prioritize which areas are important to monitor.
    - Suggestion of using eDNA to monitor the presence of European Green Crab.
    - European Green Crab cannot cohabitate with Red Rock Crab, a native species.
    - By 2016, there should be about 30 areas around Puget Sound where European Green Crab is monitored.
  4. Sea stars in crab pots
    - Sea stars are dying in the basin due to some disease.
    - Inform Jeff Adams if you find any sea stars, in crab pots or out in the water.

#### **Housekeeping questions**

- Members agree to meet on the third Wednesday of every month. Keep the meeting on a monthly basis with the flexibility to cancel or change meeting dates. Suggestion to have information sessions or presentations at the beginning of each meeting to keep members engaged in salmon recovery efforts and monitoring protocols.
- By Laws discussion
  - Currently have “Operating Guidelines.” This document will be the basis of the By Laws and will be expanded further.
  - Encourage participation of elected officials
  - Explain the relationship of the Watershed Lead Entity to the Local Integrating Organization (LIO). Explain the role of each group and how they correlate with one another.
  - Post Operating Guidelines to WSWC website
  - Circulate models of By-Laws (i.e. Friends of Miller Bay, Great Peninsula Conservancy, other Lead Entities)
  - Lead Entity Coordinator will meet with Mark Libby to discuss further
- Letter of Intent
  - Include the Letter of Intent in the project proposal process
  - Lead Entity Coordinator will meet with Kathy Peters, Chris Waldbillig, and Tom Ostrom to discuss project proposal process and how new projects will be introduced
  - Post the Letter of Intent to the WSWC website
  - Recommendation to change the name of the form because it sounds too formal
  - Include instructions in the Letter of Intent to explain the purpose of the form and how it much should be completed
  - Majority of projects proposed for the grant round should come from an existing project list; the Letter of Intent form will help introduce a project to the Technical Advisory Group and help facilitate the evaluation process in order to prepare projects to compete in the grant round.

- It is recommended that the Letter of Intent be a requirement for WSWC projects.
- Homework for Washington Salmon Coalition (WSC), Communication and Outreach Committee
  - A survey will be sent out to all members to answer the questions.
  - Answers will be compiled and submitted to the WSC Communication and Outreach Committee.

### Round the Table Announcements and Information Sharing

- **Joleen Palmer, Stillwaters Environmental Center:** the second phase of the Carpenter Creek project has been approved by the Board of Commissioners. Design work will begin in 2014 but construction will not begin until 2015. The west Kingston culvert will be replaced by a 150 ft. bridge. Stillwaters is currently hosting its Annual Used Books, ending on October 12. Stillwaters will also be hosting its annual Harvest Dinner and Auction on September 28, 2014. Tickets are on sale now; see the attached flyer for more details. Stillwaters Environmental Center had an intern surveying insects in the salt marsh area in the Carpenter Creek watershed. The intern collected a total of 6,026 bugs. The intern created a reference library for the environmental center for future reference.
- **Renee Scherdnik, Kitsap County Public Works Stormwater Management:** have been out in the field all summer working on habitat surveys and benthic sampling in streams. Streams in Kitsap County look healthy this year – streams not expected to have much benthic activity appear to have a variety of insects and complex wetland systems as beavers are beginning to appear.
- **Antonia Jindrich, Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group:** just started working for Mid Sound FEG and excited to be a new member of the WSWC.
- **Renee Johnson, WSU Extension:** hosting Salmon Docent training at Norm Dicks Government Center on October 10, 2014 from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Hosting Kitsap Salmon Tours at Cowling Creek Center on November 08, 2014 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. About 60% done with the Kitsap Salmon Field Guide.
- **Barbara Ann Smolko, Pierce County:** two shellfish beds have been reopened in the Key Peninsular – Gig Harbor area. Upcoming events – Chum Festival, September 20, 2014; second Data Summit for Key Peninsula-Gig Harbor-Islands Watershed Council (KGI) will be held on October 21, 2014.
- **Mark Libby, Clear Creek Task Force:** on Saturday, September 20 at 2:00 pm, CCTF will have its final beach seining of the year at Mill Park at the head of Dyes Inlet. Will start monitoring of the estuary where the Bucklin Hill Rd culvert replacement project will occur. A CCTF member completing her graduate degree in Oregon has taken the monitoring effort as her graduate project.
- **Marty Ereth, Pierce County Stormwater Management:** starting fish passage project at Minter Creek.
- **Paul Dorn, Suquamish Tribe:** concerned about the lack of available funds for monitoring efforts. Have done more than 5,000 beach seining in East Kitsap and never found American chad. During recent beach seining near Chico Cree, American chad were found. Tribal hatcheries are not receiving the expected number of Chinook salmon this year – numbers are down.
- **Tom Ostrom, Suquamish Tribe:** Kitty Hawk culvert removal is moving along, the culvert is gone and contractors are wrapping up in-water works. Getting ready to award a contractor for the Milwaukee Dock Eelgrass Restoration. This project will continue as planned this fall. Just started a project with

Washington Department of Natural Resource to monitor status and trends for eelgrass in East Kitsap; this is a Near Term Action for West Central LIO.

- **Chris Waldbillig**, *WDFW*: the expected number of Chinook and other salmon coming back into the Sound is down. This may be due to a warm water (3 degrees Celsius warmer than normal) blob.
- **Sean Conrad**, *Bainbridge Island*: Bainbridge Island will be starting its salmon monitoring program in the next few weeks which will continue through January. Deb Rudnick is the point of contact for the program.

**Meeting Adjourned.**