

Island Local Integrating Organization Technical Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Information

Meeting Date:	June 13, 2023		
Meeting Time:	1:00pm-3:00pm		
Meeting Location:	Zoom		
Meeting Attendees:	Clea Barenburg (IC DNR LE)	Barbara Bennett (MRC)	Matthew Colston (PSP)
	Kelly Zupich (IC DNR)	Joe Grogan (Town of Coupeville)	Jen Schmitz (IC DNR)
	Kelly McCaffrey (WDFW)	Harriet Booth (PSP)	Jason Lim (PSP)
	Lea Shields (DOH)	Brian Tyhuis (NAVFAC NW)	
Meeting Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval of Minutes & Agenda 2. Presentation by Kelly McCaffrey of WDFW Shoreline Loan Fund Coordinator, on a new program that operationalizes the Incentives and Education approach in the Shoreline Armoring Implementation Strategy and the Action Agenda Strategy 3 Healthy Shorelines Action ID 15: Expand and improve incentives and education for residential property owners to motivate voluntary actions for healthy shorelines. Our intention is that this would complement other successful financial and technical assistance programs like Shore Friendly. 3. Discuss ILIO topics from Ecosystem Coordination Board, Salmon Recovery Council and Leadership Council meetings. 4. Plans for Upcoming Meetings 		

Total Time: **110 minutes**

Minutes

1:00-1:10	Introductions and updates – see attendee list. No partner updates. Jen Schmitz will send new recurring meeting invitation through the end of the year. She will also send out Technical Committee roster to ensure it is complete and accurate and fill any gaps in participation.
1:10-1:15	Harriet Booth, PSP LIO Program Coordinator, gives update on her new roles. Intends this position to provide long-term strategic planning, programmatic approach with LIOs across Puget Sound. Working both individually and collective. May be some new program elements to try.
1:15-1:45	Kelly McCaffrey, Restoration Revolving Loan Fund Coordinator, presentation on Shoreline Revolving Loan Fund. Problem: 400 miles of residential shoreline lined with hard armor or is threatened by it. Solution: Financing armor removal and avoidance with Shore Loans Feasibility study found that using grants to fund all 400 miles of shoreline was not sustainable; a revolving loan could work instead. HSIL funding paired with initial incentive toolbox created initial seed funding for revolving loan program. It is meant to be a strategic and sustainable long-term source for funding

	<p><i>eligibility-based</i> loans. Looking for a one-time legislative request to leverage private and public dollars already invested.</p> <p>Want to avoid or remove hard armor and establish or reestablish more natural nearshore habitats using nature-based solutions.</p> <p>Still working through eligibility guidelines, but these tenets will likely be in place: a) elevate structures, b) address failing armor with nature-based solutions c) “stabilize” erosion with eco-processes (e.g., vegetation), d) move structures back/relocate.</p> <p>Would need to set interest rates below private loans to incentivize program.</p> <p>Shore Loan would be base funding, potentially leveraged with Hazard Mitigation funding (site-specific resiliency, etc.) and Clean Water funding (septic relocate, etc.)</p> <p>Current obstacles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Agency capacity – this is a big lift 2) Would like to scale partnerships 3) Economic hardship requirements? <p>Discussion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How do you envision the Loan program working with Shore Friendly staff? A: See Shore Friendly being the conduit for project pipeline 2) Will income or other economic/equity considerations be included in the eligibility requirements? Could there be a cost share element? A: With loans it is difficult to iron out eligibility the way you can with grants. One of the most direct way is to slide the interest rate up or down based on need; can also work with partners to leverage additional grant or cost share dollars from other programs. 3) Would priority be given to communities who have completed a SLR/MHHW projection assessment to better pinpoint high priority sites? A: Short answer, yes. It may not be a specific eligibility requirement, but projects based on those assessments would obviously score higher. 4) Jen – often one cannot use grant funding to pay for permit fees; is that the case here as well? A: Yes, the funding can be used to procure engineering or filing assistance for permits but not for the permit fee itself. 5) Barbara – sounds like a great program! Will you be submitting this for legislative approval in 2025? A: Yes, that is the intention. Still working out lots of details! 6) Barbara – are public-private partnerships included in this, to include more favorable loan terms? A: Yes, there are some possibilities that we are looking into, such as low- or no-cost loans through private banks. Still working out all these details. <p>Jen to send out presentation slides to the group. Kelly is interested in speaking further to many groups to help guide and inform the details of this program. Please reach out to her if interested!</p>
--	--

1:45-1:50	<p>Minutes review and Approval</p> <p>Approval of May Minutes – Barbara moves, Joe Grogan seconds</p>
1:50-2:15	<p>Updates from other meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jen gave an update on the ECB meeting held in May in Friday Harbor. Very well attended, many updates from the local communities regarding oil spills, orcas, and emergency assistance from vessels in the shipping lanes should an oil spill occur. The ECB/Puget Sound Partnership Leadership unanimously approved sending a letter to the Canadian government to encourage discussions and support around procuring one of these Emergency Response Vessels (ERV). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matt provided an update that additional follow up conversations from this ECB and the one Island County hosted back in September will occur after Tristan returns from parental leave. Jen pointed out that though the local forums are meant to be hyper focused on the communities and groups that are hosting, it did seem like a missed opportunity to speak more widely about the impacts beyond San Juan County, particularly since many LIOs were in attendance. Matt indicated there are some external forums that may facilitate this, but it's often up to the LIOs to keep the conversations going as needed Clea gave an update on a community meeting with State DNR/DFW that was had at the Mutiny Bay 65-parcel bulkhead project. They are in the HPA/pre-app process where DFW is looking at them in groups of three parcels at a time. If they are told that hard armoring is not an option, that ICDNR has the Shore Friendly program as well as others that can help with alternatives analyses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barbara said that this is very concerning for her and on behalf of MRC and would like to keep receiving updates on this project and other cross-program concerns. Jen will add updates from all ICDNR staff/programs to the agendas moving forward, and will invite ICDNR planning staff to this committee Clea also gave an update on the recent Salmon Recovery Council meeting. Commissioner St. Clair has stepped down; Jen has taken the position and Clea will serve as the alternate, attending whenever possible. There were some good conversations about intensely monitored areas and the relationship between habitat restoration and fish stocking. Clea and Jason were at the Watersheds Lead meeting in Sequim, which showcased the conservation and restoration work there to protect salmon habitat. Clea also has a SRTCC meeting next week, wherein they will discuss the three projects currently in the round of funding as well as a few from last year that are requesting overage funding.
2:15-2:30	<p>Other projects, grant pursuits, Partner updates, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kelly Zupich – MRC has just released a RFP to solicit proposals for a shoreline armoring survey of all of Island County to determine the extent of armoring as well as determine how much of this armoring is permitted vs unpermitted. Other counties and jurisdictions have done similar studies and shown that the vast majority of armoring is unpermitted. Kelly also working to get sea level rise crosswalks into other County plans such as Shoreline Master Plan, Comprehensive Plan, others.
2:30-2:35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed that Lea will be new SSIL for Island LIO Meeting adjourned at 2:35

Next Meeting July 11th