

Island Local Integrating Organization Technical Committee Meeting Notes			
Meeting Information			
Meeting Date:	July 11, 2023		
Meeting Time:	1:00pm-3:00pm		
Meeting Location:	Zoom		
Meeting Attendees:	Clea Barenburg (IC DNR LE)	Barbara Bennett (MRC)	Renee Zavas-Silva (IC Planning)
	Kelly Zupich (IC DNR)	Joe Grogan (Town of Coupeville)	Jen Schmitz (IC DNR)
	Jessica Reed (IC DNR)	Jason Lim (PSP)	John Lanier (IC Planning)
	Chris Kelly (IC EH)	Brian Tyhuis (NAVFAC NW)	Linda Lyshall (Snohomish CD)
	Travis Wilmot (IC Planning)	Teagan Wilmot (IC DNR)	Lea Shields (WADOH)
	PaulBen McElwain (MRC)	Matt Colston (PSP)	
Meeting Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approval of Minutes &amp; Agenda</li> <li>2. Presentation by Kelly McCaffrey of WDFW Shoreline Loan Fund Coordinator, on a new program that operationalizes the Incentives and Education approach in the <a href="#">Shoreline Armoring Implementation Strategy</a> and the <a href="#">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</a>. Our intention is that this would complement other successful financial and technical assistance programs like Shore Friendly.</li> <li>3. Discuss ILIO topics from Ecosystem Coordination Board, Salmon Recovery Council and Leadership Council meetings.</li> <li>4. Plans for Upcoming Meetings</li> </ol>		
		Total Time:	110 minutes
Minutes			
1:00-1:10	<b>Introductions and updates – see attendee list. No partner updates.</b> Linda Lyshall asks if PFAS can be a topic for a future meeting.  Motion to approve minutes (Barbara), seconded by PaulBen.		
1:10-1:20	<b>Update from all ICDNR programs.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jessica Reed – Watershed Planner. Vetting and examining information related to the Voluntary Stewardship Program opportunity. Working on a major overhaul of the SOP list for the surface water quality program.</li> <li>• Clea Barenburg – Salmon Recovery LE Coordinator. There are about 25 LE Coordinators across the state, Clea covers WRIA 6, which is the entirety of Island County. Currently reviewing projects for funding – started with 5 and are now down to 3, including culvert restoration areas for salmon habitat. Some projects have overruns which are also being considered, but also extra \$ this year.</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barbara Bennett – MRC. Watering plants around the various restoration sites. Also working on a Sea Level Rise white paper at request of the BOCC. Also have a RFP published and out for proposal. Looking to hire a consultant to perform a survey of the entire Island County shoreline to identify all the armoring and cross-reference with the armoring permits.</li> <li>• Jen Schmitz – Surface Water Quality program working on SOPs, QAPPs, and other updates to ensure data quality and assurance in anticipation of creating more maps, trends analyses, and other information for inclusion in the upcoming comprehensive plan update.</li> <li>• Jen Schmitz – Conservation Futures Program. Currently reviewing three applications that went through the Community Advisory Board, hopefully will be in front of the BOCC at a regular session for approval of funding soon.</li> </ul>
1:20-1:45	<p><b>Jen Schmitz – Overview of Voluntary Stewardship Program.</b></p> <p>VSP is designed to provide funding from the state down to the County, in partnership with the local conservation district, to help farmers and agricultural landowners protect critical areas on their land. Program started in 2011 when 27 counties opted in; 11 counties did not, including Island. The foundation of the program is done through establishing robust watershed plans. The initial part of the program is 3 years (or more) to create, update, etc. any plans that need to be put in place. Island County does not have any established watershed plans that we can find. Using the HUC 12 level, Island County has 6 watersheds total, five on Whidbey and one on Camano. Still working through the pros and cons, etc. of pursuing this work/program.</p> <p>The Conservation Districts are the implementers on the ground with their ag relationships, and the County would monitor and report progress.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barbara – is this all or nothing in terms of the six watersheds? Jen – based on HUC levels, it would be either HUC 12 (6 watersheds) or HUC 10 (1 watershed), and one watershed isn't finite enough to be an effective plan.</li> <li>• PaulBen – is the grant planning granular by county or by conservation district? For us, the County has both islands, but the WICD only concerns Whidbey. We would need to work out how the CDs cover the Counties. Jen will be talking with Snohomish and San Juan counties about their experiences.</li> <li>• Linda – Was formerly the ED for San Juan CD, and she led the development of the VSP there. The monitoring plan and reporting creates a huge amount of work. The funding would come to the County and they can sub to both CDs to cover both islands. She personally likes the program. The monitoring piece would look at the critical areas that are adjacent to or within agricultural areas. Zoning has no bearing on it. Snohomish CD would like to pursue the program this time around.</li> <li>• Jen – Island County is interested but has the following reservations: need to better understand the overlap among the County and the CDs; need to better understand how external groups weigh in on funding allocations.</li> <li>• Renee – would this apply to all ag lands in the RCW, or just existing/ongoing ag? Linda responds – all ag activity, regardless of zoning or land use. Renee – how does it work if a landowner is not interested in participating or playing along? Linda – that is the risk...need to incentivize for voluntary activity. Mostly utilizes peer pressure and risk of failing out of the program to get bad actors to participate. Renee – definitely has concerns about removing the existing regulation.</li> <li>• Jen – more discussions to come. This type of program would reach many environmental initiatives.</li> </ul>

1:45-2:00	<p><b>Overview of LIO Letter to PSP/Leadership Council</b></p> <p>Jen gave brief overview of a (very) draft letter from the combined LIOs to the PSP and the Leadership Council with specific asks and general requests comment.</p> <p>Barbara – need more clarity on the funding process in general.</p>
1:50-2:10	<p><b>Updates from other meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jen and Clea are now member/alternate to the Salmon Recovery Council (PSP), and Commissioner St. Clair and Jen are now member/alternate to the Ecosystem Coordination Board (PSP).</li> <li>• Matt says the Partnership is reexamining all of these committees</li> <li>• SILs are working with the advisory team on the current investment priorities. These will guide the upcoming funding RFP. There will be a one month heads up announcement for that RFP.</li> <li>• Island County held a Leadership Council meeting in September of 2022; PSP Leadership has been working with the ALIGN group to try to ease the difficulties of permitting. There is now an MOA among several state entities to help facilitate this work (Matt put copy in chat).</li> <li>• Jen – how does followup from these local forums, ECB meetings, etc. work to keep conversations going? Matt – it may take awhile but there is generally a good action follow-up from those things. Sometimes each LIO needs to take up the mantle to discuss in the interim.</li> </ul>
2:10-2:20	<p><b>Other projects, grant pursuits, Partner updates, etc.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linda asked how folks are working on PFAS. Jen indicated that the ICDNR was interested in pursuing a grant to do PFAS sampling and identify hotspots around the County, but there was not a lot of appetite at the leadership level to pursuing that right now.</li> <li>• Bryan – NAS has done a lot of work around this topic and will share some results and reports</li> </ul>
2:20-2:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is group still ok with 2 hours? Yes, we can keep it at 2 hours but we can adjourn early if needed.</li> <li>• Meeting adjourned at 2:25</li> </ul>

Next Meeting August 8<sup>th</sup>