

Island Local Integrating Organization Technical Committee Meeting Notes				
Meeting Information				
Meeting Date:		November 14, 2023		
Meeting Time:		1:00pm-3:00pm		
Meeting Location:		Zoom		
Meeting Attendees:		Clea Barenburg (IC DNR)	Krista Loercher (Whidbey Kayaking)	Nolan Grunski (City of Oak Harbor)
		PaulBen McElwain (Sound Water Stewards)	Barbara Bennett (MRC)	Heather McCoy (WICD)
		Carlie Miller (IC DNR)	Joe Grogan (Town of Coupeville)	Jen Schmitz (IC DNR)
		Jessica Reed (IC DNR)	Kristin Marshall (Snohomish CD)	Lea Shields (WADOH)
		Chris Kelly (IC EH)	Brian Tyhuis (NAVFAC NW)	Kelly Zupich (IC DNR)
Meeting Objectives:		1. Approval of Minutes & Agenda 2. Updates from all ICDNR projects and programs, and updates from around the partners. 3. Presentation by John Lovie on Prioritizing Sea Level Rise Exposure and Habitat Sensitivity Across Puget Sound. 4. Plans for Upcoming Meetings		
Total Time:				110 minutes
Minutes				
1:00-1:10		Introductions and updates – see attendee list. No partner updates. The group reviewed the proposed agenda. No additions to the agenda as stated.		
1:10-2:20		Update from all ICDNR programs/Roundtable. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Clea Barenburg – Salmon Recovery LE Coordinator. Salmon funding RFP will be released by Island County in mid-December. This is a BIG funding year – SRFB, PSAR, riparian, PSAR large cap (over \$800k – Keystone Preserve is an example), etc. funding. Funding and large project applications used to be in sync; they’ve been off cycle since COVID. Barbara asks if we expect an application from the Maxwellton group; Clea responds that we received one last year, but it was not salmon-friendly enough. She will check in again to see if they received funding from another source (ESRP), and/or if they are interested in applying. She will also check in with past applicants to see if they are expecting overruns, etc. Clea will be attending Salmon Recovery Council on December 16th where up to five voting matters; she will give an update at the next meeting.Kelly Zupich – MRC. Thank you for all the review and feedback for the white paper. Moved away from having a signed letter of support due to needing this to be a product of MRC, not the reviewers or DNR. Presentation will be made to the Board in mid-December. At a recent MRC meeting, Commissioner Bacon had some surprising comments regarding hard armoring that she would like to see changed/updated in the SMP. She said that she wants her constituents to have a ‘fair’ shot at hard armoring since some were able to get it; hoping to get the SMP changed to say that tidal flooding will qualify for permitted		

armor, rather than just erosion. MRC working to research whether or not that is legal language to include in an SMP and will be providing public comment. Jen asks Lea if there are good contacts at ECY, DoH, or WDFW regarding this issue. The BoCC stated there would be a public hearing on December 19th to formally adopt the SMP; if anyone is interested in providing comment, they should attend. *(Update from December 2023- this public hearing has been moved to likely February).*

- Jessica Reed – Watershed Planner. Surface Water Quality team recently completed their surface water quality monitoring plan for the next water year. Sampling year started October 1st; also adding some stormwater sampling reconnaissance as a discovery phase. Brainstorming a StoryMap for the program to show overall waterbody and watershed health for easy public digestion rather than lengthy text or ICGeo. Continuing library outreach with an upcoming What About Beavers? event at the Oak Harbor library; this is the second of four scheduled events. Previously was salmon, coming up is water bugs and tidal creatures.
- Chris Kelly – IC Hydrogeologist. Met with the Whidbey Island Water Cohort, who wanted to meet regarding water availability and aquifer recharge. They presented research and ‘asks’ for the County to consider; there will be a follow-up meeting. The Cohort is a spinoff of a Langley Advisory Committee (perhaps Public Works), that reached out to Commissioner Bacon to set up this meeting. More to come. Jen adds that IC also met with Marnie Jackson, the new Executive Director of Whidbey Environmental Action Network (WEAN) that had the exact same concerns as the Cohort.
- Jen Schmitz – LIO Update/Puget Sound Partnership. Recently completed the Year 2 amendment for the three-year LIO contract. New year started October 1st. Lots of new things were formally written into the workplan which allows for a small amount of funding and support for: stormwater reconnaissance sampling, source identification with R-cards, grant pursuits (PIC, etc.), membership on various committees (Ebey’s Trust Board, etc.) and more. Jen was recently appointed as the Ambassador to the Embrace (Whidbey Camano tourism organization) Healthy Nature pillar. Lots of opportunity to overlap education and outreach with tourism, as folks come to the island they can enjoy our natural resources (citizen science, volunteer events, restoration, monitoring, etc.). Jen will be meeting with the Executive Committee on November 29th; at least two electeds will not be in their same role on January 1st due to election results. Would love feedback from the Technical Committee regarding their advisory context and interaction with the executives. Krista notes she is happy to hear we are attempting to meet with and engage the elected officials in this way which hasn’t happened much in the last couple of years. Discussion about how keeping them up to date would hopefully solve the problem that they feel ‘if it’s not important enough for us to know about, it’s not important.’ Jen next asks the group to review the Island County Public Health Strategic Vision document, which embraces the One Health mentality. Jen provided the feedback that an org chart or other overview of the Department would be helpful; Heather McCoy seconds that feedback and asks about how this would and should tie into workplans, budgets, etc. Lea asked if IC has shared this with DoH – Jen suspects that Shawn Morris likely did, as well as being shared with our Board of Health. Jen also shared that the County submitted a Letter of Intent to the NOAA resiliency grant opportunity; we were not invited to submit a full application, but Snohomish County was. They would like to incorporate some regional projects from us; more to come on that!
- Barbara provided an update on how her role with the MRC will or should overlap with the Island County Comprehensive Planning process to ensure that the various plan elements incorporate marine resource elements, such as sea level rise and shoreline management. Jen shares that a recent news article called “King Tides will Rise Again” included a quote

	<p>from Commissioner Bacon; brief discussion on the importance of proactive public outreach in advance of large tidal events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather McCoy – WICD is hiring a new Stewardship Forester/Wildfire position. Spread the word! • Jen shares that Island County is hiring for an Office Manager for EH and CH programs. • Jen shares that Island County just released an RFP for a temporary social media specialist. • Krista shares updates from the South Whidbey parks and rec work; several projects in progress, working on design and outreach for many items, including grant funding. Need a few more things from Island County planning in order to be successful. Gave an overview of their approach and application of One Health to their projects, and obstacles they are having with inter-jurisdictional management of various lakes, etc. Had a huge algae bloom at Lone Lake recently – unsure who to speak with about this! Heather did a 2-year study on HABs, including Lone Lake. Trying to get HAB research in as a proviso in this legislative session; it didn't make it this time but hopeful for next. The proviso would support CDs with funding, etc. to look into HAB issues. Carlie Miller notes that Island County lakes are managed in the SMP as well! Krista asks if the draft is available – we haven't been able to find it, unfortunately, but Jen will look! • Barbara asks about the status of the SMP if it's meant to be approved/finalized on December 19th. The County is still waiting for feedback from all State entities, so the group is unsure how this draft would be finalized without it. Jen will look into and report back.
2:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting adjourned at 2:20
Next Meeting December 12th	