



## WRIA 6 Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee Meeting

January 17, 2024

**Member Participants:** Ashley Kees (WDFW), Jessica Cote, James Watson (WCD), Paul Williams (SWS), Barbara Brock (Citizen, Co-Chair), Fred Kiga, Mathew Lander (ICPW), Lela Chaves (WWS), Kelly Zupich (MRC), Renee Zavas Silva; Kurt S (WCLT), Todd Zackey (co chair), Alison Studley (SFEG) **Others:** Clea Barenburg (LE Coordinator), Hannah Booth (WDFW), Jessica Reed (DNR), Sage Ince (DNR), Carlie Miller, (DNR), Jeff Cordell, Kathleen Landel, Bridge Kaminski (RCO), Lisa Kaufman (NW Straits)

### Introductions & Presentations

PSP- Coordination with Hannah Liss for site visits and PSAR grant question support.

ILIO- Summer 2024, our local ILIO has volunteered to go early and host the PSP Local Leadership Forum. We need to think about how we can contribute to this event. See website for updates, agenda, and minutes for other ILIO information- <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/348/Island-Local-Integrating-Organization>. Shellfish SIL funding for a PIC program grant awarded and under review. See website for SILs- <https://pugetsoundestuary.wa.gov/rfp/>

MRC- Hard Armoring review survey results shared. Hoypus video being updated with suggestions from SRTCC and MRC. See MRC website for other updates and agendas- <https://www.islandcountymrc.org/>

LE coordinator- LE coordinator has been attending monthly meetings the other Whidbey Basin LEs and sharing grant round details and funding distribution information. 2024 SRFB Grant Round –See website for updates- <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/698/Salmon-Recovery-Funding-Board-SRFB-GRANT> This year regular SRFB, PSAR, PSAR large Cap, and special riparian funding. Review [Manual 18](#) containing the updated appendices containing this new policy in early 2024. Review the PSAR Large Cap RFP [Here](#) or by visiting PSP's [PSAR website](#). View the Targeted Investment Policy [Here](#) Review final RFP [Here](#).

### Administrative

The December meeting minutes were approved. Review membership, new members have filled out required paperwork and now we are waiting for BOCC approval. Mini grant update. One mini-grant will not be completed with permitting complications related to permitting of boat rail removal. Mathew reminded us that a lesson learned would be to note that the applicant was looking to install a new boat ramp and we would have ranked differently if we knew that the home owner would want to install something new to replace what was looking to be removed. More background information in the future should be gathered for mini grants. WDFW noted that the HPA permit complication was related to owners not wanting to do the extra work to have forage fish study. Barbara reminded us that we should look at cost of forage fish surveys for future projects. Race mini grant moving forward. Mini grant for video at Hoypus being updated. Planting for Hoypus and Cornet mini grant almost complete. Thanks to Kelly Z for riparian care for success of projects and watering work.

### Discussion and Decisions

Announcement Shore Friendly position will soon be advertised, as Ann is leaving this position. See website for more information on Shore Friendly- <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/365/Shore-Friendly-Program>

Map resources for evaluating and filling out applications-Environmental Justice and Health disparities.

- [Environmental Health Disparities Mapping Tool](#) [Environmental Protection Agency – EJ Resources](#)

Climate maps-- <https://resilience.climate.gov/> this tool complements the [new webtool from the UW's Climate Impacts Group](#)

More information regarding the HEAL Act's requirements can be found on the Partnership's website Puget Sound Partnership - Healthy Environments for All (HEAL) (wa.gov).

<https://www.psp.wa.gov/HEAL.php>

Island County ICGEO- <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/159/GIS-Mapping>

SRTCC Lessons Learned document and Island County WRIA 6 Salmon Recovery Plan- See if they meet our Watershed Recovery plan- [2005 Island Chapter 2019 Island Chapter](#)

New- Riparian guidance for funding Riparian Funding- This program has been funded in part or wholly by Climate Commitment Act associated funding. The Climate Commitment Act (RCW 70A.65) created a market-based program to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the next few decades. A portion of the revenues are directed into the Natural Climate Solutions Account and were distributed into several standing grant programs, including this riparian specific program. Funding comes with additional reporting, assessment, and tribal consultation requirements. Core Funding Objective- Enhance salmon recovery through the protection and restoration of fully functioning riparian ecosystems. Riparian projects include freshwater, marine near-shore, and estuarine activities that will improve or protect the riparian habitat outside of the ordinary high-water mark or in wetlands. Review the final Riparian Funding Policy [Here](#)

This is also an ESRP grant round year- <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/habitat-recovery/puget-sound/esrp>

Other funding for fish passage- <https://rco.wa.gov/grant/brian-abbott-fish-barrier-removal-board/>

In the past we have been able to recommend projects seeking this funding when projects do not have enough salmon benefit potential for success in SRFB review.

SRFB 2024 grant round: SRFB regular ~\$290K • This total is likely to increase based on the final approved budget. Funding will be available in Fall 2024. This is only for this year.

SRFB New Riparian: ~\$445K • Funding will be available in Fall 2024 Manual 18 will contain the updated appendices containing this new policy in early 2024. Money may not carry to the next year PSAR: ~809K • Used to fund restoration and acquisition through the Lead Entity SRFB process. Funding will be available in Fall 2025.

Reports to use for evaluating projects priority streams for culvert replacement.

Area 1 [Island County Fish Passage Barrier Inventory](#)-

<https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/ProjectSnapshot.aspx?>

[ProjectNumber=14-1015](#) Area 2

[Final Island County Fish Passage Barrier Inventory report.pdf.pdf](#)

[Island County Culvert Prioritization - Area 2 \(19-1343\)](#)

Area 3 [https://wildfishconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Whidbey\\_Final\\_Report-1.pdf](https://wildfishconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Whidbey_Final_Report-1.pdf) West

[Whidbey Nearshore Fish Use Yr 2 2005 \(Wild Fish Conservancy, Completed\)](#)

Reports to use for evaluating projects priority for Acquisition- [WRIA 6 Nearshore Acquisition Prioritization](#)

[Framework Report](#)

• January 16th: Letters of Intent were due to LEC [Here](#). Grant round is open in PRISM. Projects can be entered into the Salmon Recovery Portal (SRP) before this date but cannot be sent from SRP to PRISM until January 16th. We reviewed 5 projects and 4 of which are ready to move to PRISM. Projects will be going through changes and we will have more details in the future. For details review snapshots. The 5<sup>th</sup> project is a private fish passage design and more information will be shared if project moves forward to PRISM. Projects are in Preapplication status and use discretion in discussing details until full application status. All projects look to meet the basic requirements needed to push to PRISM.

- Race Road fish passage culvert improvements phase 2 of project approved in 2022 ([22-1089](#)) - 24-1117
- Hidden Beach Restoration of the Shoreline related to past project and has been delayed on DNR land. Withdrawn as DNR is not ready.
- Double Bluff Acquisition connection to existing protected property (<https://www.wclt.org/projects/wahl-trust-land/>) [24-1119](#)
- North Livingston Bay Acquisition Sherman, this project may be pulled from the grant round as this is part of a larger previous project and could be incorporated and may just require a scope change. ([20-1461](#)). [24-1118](#)
- Cultus Fish Passage project- 24-1274

• February 14th: All draft SRFB /Riparian/PSAR applications due in PRISM. February 21<sup>st</sup>, we meet to review how we evaluate projects. February 28th: Presentations and Site Tours all SRTCC to attend and sponsors. March 20<sup>th</sup> sponsor to present projects virtually. March 28<sup>th</sup> Applicants receive their first comment from the SRFB review panel which will identify their projects as Clear, Conditioned, Needs more information, or POC. We had 5 projects last year and only 2 made it to final ranking. We had one project come back to us from a previous year, as a cost overrun. February 28<sup>th</sup> we will have a representative from PSP on the site visit as well as the 2 RCO/SRFB review team with Bridget the grant manager. A van has been reserved, look for a poll and request for RSVP. We will review how to look at projects. We reviewed the method of decision making for consensus.

<https://www.consensusdecisionmaking.org> PSP- [https://www.psp.wa.gov/SR\\_about.php](https://www.psp.wa.gov/SR_about.php) Look for handbook draft version before site visits. Waiting for chairs to review.

2025-27 PSAR Large CAP- The Puget Sound Partnership is pleased to announce the release of the [2025-2027 Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration \(PSAR\) Large Capital Projects request for proposals \(RFP\)](#) and supplemental questions. The PSAR Large Capital program funds projects that are regionally significant and provide the most benefit to salmon species in Puget Sound.

Meeting ran long and ended around 4:10

Next meeting- review new proposals and project evaluations with request to discuss consensus decision making• February 21st – 2:00-4:00- Zoom

- SRTCC and RCO Site Visits- One Day visit- all members attend! 28

