

**Puyallup White River Local Integrating Organization  
(PWR-LIO) Meeting Summary**

March 12, 2020

3:00-5:00pm

(via Zoom)



**DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY**

**Welcome & Introductions** – Allan Warren, LIO & TAC Chair

- We had ~25 people on the Zoom/call

**EPA's LIO funding proposal for increased capacity** – Dan Calvert, Puget Sound Partnership (PSP)

- PSP received an increase of \$5M, including the PWR LIO – increasing up to \$125K, but this new funding level is not guaranteed beyond this fiscal year. In the process of creating specific contracts. Contract is due to be renewed in the fall. Supporting coordination piece and find better ways for the LIOs to reach decision makers. Can advocate for the PWR LIO this fall – will be better positioned at that time. Conversation with strategic leads on decisions on funding. All Near Term Actions submitted in 2018 are good thru 2022.
- Conversation: If we can get the \$100K, it is the state agency leads control the contracts (ecology, DFW, etc.) We need to be thinking about building those relationships and having state agencies participate in our meetings (some do already). The Ecosystem Recovery Plan will be pointing to the next agenda. The capacity funds will allow the Council to stand on their own and allow them to hire someone to take over the work Krystal has been doing. All LIOs are working on getting 100K amount increased, which is not enough to do a project, but just enough to be an administrative burden.

**Ecosystem Recovery Plan Updates** – Krystal Kyer, LIO Coordinator

General Updates:

- PSP received an increase of \$5M, including the PWR LIO – increasing up to \$125K is not guaranteed beyond this fiscal year. PSP is starting the process of creating specific contracts earlier than usual – in April. Contract is due to be renewed in the fall. Supporting coordination piece and find better ways for the LIOs to reach decision makers.
- We can advocate for the PWR LIO this fall – will be better positioned at that time. This is a conversation with Strategic Initiative Leads on decisions on funding. If we can get the \$100K, it is the state agency leads control the contracts (ecology, DFW, etc.). There are over two dozen NTAs in our watershed that should be considered for funding.

ERP Timeline & Focus Areas Development:

- Timelines graphic shared. Estuaries, salmon, floodplain, climate change – since November 7 meeting, those Focus Areas were presented to the watershed council and the board approved them, giving the go ahead for our consultant to move forward.
- Survey Results: As previously shared, the survey done in December showed that there was significant overlap by individuals in certain Focus Areas, which suggests that we can lump them together to reduce the number of meetings and time required to participate. This includes salmon, estuaries, and floodplains as one grouping, and climate change, equity, and human well-being as another. 48 respondents. All Focus Areas had between 16-25 people interested in participating in each one.
- Looking ahead - Focus Areas meetings schedule: See ERP timeline graphic posted on website. Stakeholder meetings and 4 LIO meetings in 2020, draft ERP to PSP by Sept 30, submit final

ERP in 2021, LIO Quarterly meetings in 2021 and 2022. Puyallup-White River LIO – Ecosystem Recovery Plan (ERP) 2020-21 timeline. Like most of these things we are building off work that is already in place. They are also through Ross Strategic consulting and literature review of what current plans/docs exist to address concerns and agricultural land concerns in our watershed. Possibly start conservation plan how fast we're losing farms land in PC and what we need to do to conserve it.

- **Farms and Ag lands:** Want to piggyback off Jordan's work – our plan will be aimed at driving future funding through natural estuary prog. Also work with PC AG Advisory committee. New task force formed AG drainage task force in Jan = farming and floodplains that ESA and Jordan are working on gave a presentation two weeks ago and working on gap analysis. Hoping to have good docs and results in a couple months to help with this.
- **Forests:** Location for meeting TBA. Conservation NW is doing some planning that might be overlapping with the forest things.
- **Climate change** – should be combined – people interested in all three topics (climate change, equity and human well-being). Not as much interest in local plans in these topics. Floodplains for the Future (FftF) also doing some work around these areas. Talking about climate change is not as easy in rural areas as it is in more urban environments. We are shooting for summer to bring people in, a handful of experts to talk on the impacts, which starts a dialog among "citizen jurors" to create a climate resiliency. Chapter around climate will be more around projected impacts – then get out the strategies and actions components. More to come, processes taking shape we want to build and not replicate. 2-day conversation facilitated by the Jefferson Center from MN. Engages climate deniers and moves them to action. Targeted group of jurors from unincorporated PC and smaller jurisdictions – 15 jurors and 5-6 expert testimony witnesses. It is a people-driven component that will be included in the plan.
- **Equity and human well-being** cut across all these areas – we will include in each of the other focus area meeting some questions and discussion of the overarching focus areas.
- **Stormwater:** Krystal met with phase 2 municipal stormwater permittees on March 5<sup>th</sup> and will be going back to them later this summer, date TBD.
- **Floodplains:** we will also need to meet with the Floodplains for the Future group, date not scheduled yet, probably May or June.
- **Salmon, Estuaries, Floodplains:** going to coordinate closely with the Pierce County Lead Entity, the meeting is scheduled for April 29.

Q: Can Biodiversity be added to each area, too? Will be discussing this.

### **Planning Documents by Focus Area** – Elizabeth McManus, Ross Strategic

Review & Prioritize:

- Is there some triage we need to do for any of the plans? Asking for advice on prioritization. Plans that are agreed to by multi-stakeholder group and plans that are recent should be a priority toward the top of the list. If there are things missing, we'd like to know that too.
- There are planning docs and reports missing that would be helpful that Ashley will contribute. Docs available in Smartsheet – Krystal can invite you.
- Q: What is the ideal number of documents? – consultants are wanting to review the breadth, but we don't want them to go down a rabbit hole. Overarching schedule is a limiting factor – 3-6 plans for focus areas, possibly.
- We will be reviewing and summarizing, compiling from plans that *are up to date, agreed to and accurate*. Plans summarize what we are thinking in the different focus areas. Not diving into the past or creating something new – we are synthesizing across these focus areas. Just trying to get what the things are we need to do on the top of our list is currently that people working in these different focus areas are thinking of right now. This is for the Action Agenda

to develop Near Term Actions to inform Action Agenda for local ecosystem recovery to guide us for the next few years.

Feedback:

- Q: Are there things in the County level or State level plans that should be used? If State plans are reflected in what you want to use in the watershed, we can rely on them. The plan will also show where the gaps are. Estuary funds are flexible. If there are things missing/studied, we can use those funds to accomplish the work. There are old docs that should be used in the thought process, like treaty documents.
- King County forest plan in the process – look at public comments and regional attitudes. Pierce County PROS (Parks Recreation and Open Space Plan) plan – has been a lot of interfaces with Carbon River Forum progress being made around upland forested areas. A good jumping off point.
- Note; #25 on planning document list is from 2015, not 2008 – update.
- Systems views and diverse views – what are examples we can add to the literature? Monty will correspond with Krystal on social change and social technology are also things we want to look at. We aim to take a bottom up instead of a top down approach.
- Ultimate deadline is the next Action Agenda as a roadmap for people who are participating to be able to look at the plan and say in the areas that are most important to me these are the actions we will take, will write a grant and also use it as an engagement tool to be as inclusive as possible. Vital Signs framework is trying to use the social science connection an interconnectivity to help us understand how different people and communities perceive . . .

**Roundtable/Announcements – All**

- Charlie Kirry – Councilwoman Roach’s office – The online meeting was impressive.
- Pierce Conservation District’s annual conservation celebration has been postponed to June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Adjourn