

Meeting Summary of October 15, 2012 South Central Action Area Caucus Group

Topics: Action Agenda Update priority work topics

SMP Survey and Analysis Project Presentation

Review and Discuss 2012 Caucus Group work plan

Don Fiene (WRIA 8, Lake Forest Park City Council), Jean White (WRIA 8, Doug Osterman (WRIA9), Kathy Minsch (Seattle), Sarah Hemphill (King CD), Don Davidson (Bellevue City Council WRIA 8), Craig Goodwin (SCA), Doreen Booth (SCA staff), Alisa O'Hanlon (City of Tacoma), Kelsey Gianou (Ecology), Joe Burcar (Ecology) Liz Underwood-Bultmann (PSRC), Christie True (King County DNRP), Dan Wrye (Pierce County), Sherrie Duncan (Citizen for Healthy Bay), Heather Trim (King County Eco-Net), Kurt Freemont, Walt Meyer, Megan Smith,

Action Agenda Update priority work topics

Susan presented Action Agenda update activities. Funding alignment and outreach is at the center of establishing specific local strategies and priorities.

All LIOs have their own local actions. South Central did not have actions specific enough to be considered "Near Term Actions" (work needing focus within the next few months).

In the future, local actions and strategies will drive lead organization funding.

The current South Central Actions Area profile can be updated over time via resolution to the Leadership Council for specific set of actions for amendments.

The update amendment could consist of moving our regional strategies to more local actions, or it could include the current ongoing effort among the WRIAs and watersheds group's efforts to advance the watershed investment district.

The Caucus Group has many actions. The goal is for this group to figure out a process to make our actions as specific as possible. This way, the actions can become eligible for inclusion in the Puget Sound Partnership performance management systems.

Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Performance Management System is currently not live; however, it will be soon. Here are some examples of its capabilities: The system can be filtered by action and sub strategy. As LIOs develop local NTAs, funders can use this system to inform decisions.

Next steps: The general goal is for the Caucus Group is to work toward specific actions in order to participate in the PSP Performance Management System.

Follow up: Susan O'Neil mentioned she will send out information on how to access the system when it is live.

Upcoming meetings will focus on the actions to revise our current priorities and local actions.

South Central Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Survey and Analysis Project Presentations

Jill Coyle a nearshore scientist was hired to conduct a Shoreline Master Program update analysis for all jurisdictions in the South Central Action Area.

The purpose of the project was to create an inventory and status update of South Central Area SMPs cross reference the SMP plans and the Action Agenda targets and identify barriers to implementation.

The project required Jill to produce a gap analysis that will not only be informative, but can be a resource for funding recommendations. Additionally, the project required Jill to create and identify tools to help jurisdictions and regulatory agencies in providing technical assistance and funding to achieve implementation and compliance of SMPs and measure successes and challenges.

Jill interviewed a total of 36 jurisdictions and reviewed all SMP program draft updates for each jurisdiction in the South Central Action Area.

She developed a survey to assist information gathering from jurisdictions in order to identify key barriers to implementation. Jurisdictions were very responsive to Jill's requests.

Task 1: Complete an inventory status of SMP Programs in South Central Action Area

The identified barrier to the SMP update process is time, specifically the amount of time involved time involved moving the SMP update to completion and many other barriers identified were connected to the length of time.

Tasks 2(Provide characteristics and population) and Task 3(Shoreline Armoring/Bulkhead Conversions and Over water structures) were unable to be completed because of lack of information available.

Task 4: Shoreline setbacks the task is complete

Task 5: Cross reference of plans and Action Agenda Targets related to SMP updates

A majority of the 36 jurisdiction SMP plans that included elements of Action Agenda Recovery Targets.

Task 6: Barriers to Implementation

Barriers to implementation were determined by interviews and survey results. – Key theme areas were lack of funding for technical experts, no process for monitoring, technical challenges tied to lack of understanding the science.

Recommendations consisted of

- a guidebook for implementers on monitoring and enforcement
- Continued funding for one year following update
(Many staff mentioned this will increase success in implementation)
- One on One meetings with Ecology and jurisdictions on implementation
- Explanation of Recovery Targets in two separate into near shore and marine.
(Many local staff aren't aware of the PSP recovery targets and how to translate them to include in efforts in their plans)

Task 7 List of Incentives and Innovative concepts approved and proposed for mitigation and restoration. This task is almost complete and will be reflected in report.

Task 8: a report will be complete and available to caucus group.

Caucus group comments included:

- Agreeing with the findings on barriers to update a time. A local SMP took 31/2 year to complete.
- During SMP process homeowners expressed concerns and questioned science of SMP plans.
- Members mentioned that there is a lot of good information and felt Jill was able to do a lot of work in a short amount of time.
- There appeared to be an opportunity to provide more education and outreach upfront that could have helped local governments in the process of passing their individual SMP update.
- There might be a role for the work of the caucus group to share the information discovered in this analysis.

Caucus Group questions included:

What was the average timeline for SMP update? *31/2 years*

Did you ask any questions related to restoration plans? *Yes and some jurisdictions mentioned their particular WRIA plans for restoration plans within their SMP*

What would it take to bridge gaps between the targets? *Work to help jurisdictions understand the role of Action Agenda and assist them to synthesize efforts within SMP plans. Significant outreach and coordination is needed between of the Puget Sound Partnership, Ecology and efforts of the South Central Caucus Group.*

2012-2013 LIO work plan

De'Sean presented a high level draft of the 2012-2013 LIO Work Plan and highlighted areas for caucus group discussion. He mentioned that this document was not only the work plan for the coordinator it is also the work plan for the Caucus group.

Caucus group member mentioned the importance of storm water and wanted that issue reflected in the work plan.

Caucus group member suggested that Book 1 and strategic initiatives should be called out in the work plan.

Caucus member suggested that the group consider coordinating with the 14 watersheds and the Puget Sound Recovery Council who also have priorities for restoration and protection.

Caucus group member mentioned an interest in discussing the role and structure of caucus group as a forum to engage other organizations and business groups.

Caucus group member mentioned that having revised local actions and priorities and alignment of local actions to the strategic initiatives allows the group to tell the story of the work of the caucus group.

Susan O'Neil mentioned that the grant funds that support the caucus group are capacity funds and it is very important to the partnership and EPA that bench marks be set to generate local actions and priorities. The key is to have all LIO's be relatively in the same place organizationally. They should all have local priorities and actions and they all should be entered into PSP's performance management system.

It was agreed by the group that this work plan should be focused on revising priorities and local actions. In addition there is a role to help build capacity in local governments by providing opportunities for presentations and other work.

Nest steps:

De'Sean will incorporate suggestions and asked that he receive comments by close of business Friday October 19th. He is working to complete the LIO work plan.