

2014/2015 Puget Sound Action Agenda Update					
#	Date	Commenter	NTA/Subject	Comment	Response
	4/30	David St. John for Lake Sammamish Work Group (KWG)	Recognize local efforts to recover Lake Sammamish kokanee	<p>The Lake Sammamish Kokanee Work Group (KWG) would like the Partnership and the South Central LIO to consider recognizing the recovery of the native Lake Sammamish kokanee population, and the KWG's efforts to achieve recovery, in the regional and/or local portions of the Action Agenda.</p> <p>The KWG is a grass roots collaborative group formed in 2007 to address the dramatic decline of this native salmon population. Once numbering the tens of thousands, kokanee spawners numbered only 109 in 2007 and 58 in 2008.</p> <p>The KWG has adopted the goal of preventing the extinction of the population and improving its health such that it is self-sustaining in the wild and supports annual fishery opportunities on Lake Sammamish. The membership of the KWG includes King County, each of the four watershed cities (Bellevue, Issaquah, Redmond, Sammamish), USFWS, WDFW, Washington State Parks, the Snoqualmie Tribe, Trout Unlimited, Save Lake Sammamish (NGO), Friends of Pine Lake, Friends of Issaquah Salmon Hatchery, watershed residents, and additional entities.</p> <p>Since 2007 the KWG and its members have made progress implementing key actions including a multi-year emergency hatchery program to preserve the existing population; multiple publicly- and privately-funded habitat projects to address passage barriers and improve habitat quality for kokanee and Chinook; an educational program in local schools to increase awareness of kokanee and actions residents can take to contribute to recovery and watershed health; providing information regarding kokanee habitat needs to local jurisdictions as they update their shorelines and critical areas programs;</p>	<p>The South Central LIO appreciates the comments from the Lake Sammamish Kokanee Work Group regarding integrating local actions with regional actions, as this is an important component to successful recover of the Puget Sound. Grass root collaborative efforts are an important part of our shared recovery actions. The South Central LIO has gone through a deliberative process to identify local priority actions for our Action Area that will be integrated into the 2014/2015 Action Agenda.</p> <p>The work of KWG is important several actions that are part of this effort are embedded in existing NTAs. For example, there are projects that have been identified to have kokanee and Chinook benefits, which are listed in the WRIA 8 Three-Year Work Plan and that have received WRIA-based grant funds to be implemented (SC3).</p> <p>LIO recommends that the suggested actions be considered in the future,</p>

			<p>and the recent designation by the Dept. of the Interior of the Lake Sammamish watershed and the KWG as the home of one of 8 new Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnerships in the country, intended to help get urban residents in this diverse watershed into nature and cultivate a stewardship ethic that will help recover kokanee and improve watershed health.</p> <p>The KWG would like to engage the Partnership and the LIO to discuss the potential connections between the Action Agenda and its regional and local priorities and the ongoing efforts to recover this salmon population. We are not presupposing what the connections are and if/how they would influence the content of the Action Agenda. We also recognize that this discussion may need more time than the current Action Agenda revision process allows. We are open to recognition of kokanee in existing strategies or NTAs or performance measures, crafting new NTAs and/or performance measures that relate directly to kokanee recovery, and/or other appropriate steps.</p>	
		A1.1	<p>Our initial cursory review of the Action Agenda and proposed revisions highlighted several existing strategies that appear to align well with the kokanee recovery efforts, including the following among others:</p> <p>Strategy A - Substrategy 1.1 - Identify and environmental impacts for prioritization of areas for protection, restoration and low impact development: KWG is working on this for Lake Sammamish and is writing a "Blueprint" to describe the actions. We would need to focus effort on the low impact development piece.</p>	The LIO recommends that this action be addressed during the 2016/2017 Action Agenda update at which time a more extensive regional process will occur
		A1.2	<p>Strategy A - Substrategy 1.2 - Support local governments' adoption of plans, regulations, and policies that are consistent with recovery plans and incorporate climate change forecasts: KWG is</p>	The LIO recommends that this action be considered and or sub-action or new NTA be established

				working closely with Cities on SMP and other sensitive area policies for consistency with kokanee recovery. KWG recently completed a study of potential climate impacts on kokanee habitat in Lake Sammamish.	
			A2.2	Strategy A - Substrategy 2.2 - Implement and maintain priority freshwater and terrestrial restoration projects. Near term action Local habitat protection and restoration: KWG is working on the Blueprint, and have already identified and started implementation of habitat restoration actions that benefit Chinook and kokanee.	The LIO recommends that this action be considered and or sub-action or new NTA be reviewed and developed.
			A6.1	Strategy A - Substrategy 6.1, SNST13 and SC3 - Implement high priority projects identified in each salmon recovery 3-year work plan or Salmon multi-species recovery plans: KWG is implementing projects on the WRIA 8 3 year list as well as those that are kokanee specific.	The LIO recognizes the work KWG and several actions that are part of this effort are embedded in existing NTAs.
			A6.4	Strategy A - Substrategy 6.4 - Protect and recovery steelhead and other imperiled salmonid species: KWG we are working on recovery of kokanee in Lake Sammamish. The South Central Action Area Profile notes that Lake Sammamish kokanee is a unique salmon population.	The LIO recommends that this action be considered and or sub-action or new NTA be reviewed and developed.
			D5.1	Strategy D - Substrategy 5.1 - Prioritize targeted stewardship issues, actions and audiences: KWG works with a large group to advance stewardship and outreach messages for youth and adults related to the needs of kokanee.	The LIO recommends that this action be considered and or sub-action or new NTA be reviewed and developed.
			D5.2 & D6.5	Strategy D - Substrategy 5.2 and 6.5 - Collaboratively develop and promote science-based targeted communication: The KWG (which includes elected officials) works with Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery and Trout Unlimited to advance conservation messages, use citizen science to gather useful data, work with private landowners to implement restoration actions, and work together to host annual fry release events that include schools across the region, elected officials, and	The LIO recommends that this action be addressed during the 2016/2017 Action Agenda update at which time a more extensive regional process will occur

				senior managers for local, state, Tribal, and Federal Governments as well as NGOs and the public.	