

## South Central Action Area Caucus Group Meeting

March 3, 2022 | 1:00 – 3:00 PM

[Online Only](#)

### AGENDA

Time	Topic	Lead/Action	Resources
1:00 – 1:10 (10 mins)	Welcome & Introductions	Chair	Agenda
1:10 – 1:50 (40 mins)	Good of the Order Member Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates since last meeting</li><li>• PSP Updates</li><li>• ECB Updates</li><li>• Legislative Session Updates</li><li>• Member Updates</li></ul>	Chair, facilitator, and Caucus Members <i>Information and decision</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">AA Briefing Memo</a></li><li>• <a href="#">DRAFT 2022-2026 AA Review</a></li><li>• <a href="#">ECB Legislative Briefing</a></li></ul>
1:50 – 2:50 (60 mins)	Work Plan & Funding Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of funding opportunities</li><li>• Priority topics to address through funding<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Topics heard to date include stormwater, chemicals of emerging concern (CECs), shoreline armoring.</i></li></ul></li><li>• LIO Workplan 2022: Discussion<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What's the value add for new members? Where should we focus our efforts for 2022?</li><li>○ Who should be at the table? How to recruit new members?</li></ul></li></ul>	Chair, facilitator, and Caucus Members <i>Information and discussion</i>	PSP LIO Capacity Subawards (attached) SC LIO Work Plan Oct2020 (attached)
2:50 – 3:00 (10 mins)	Wrap Up & Adjourn	Chair	

**Proposed Approach to new Cooperative Agreement to PSP that Provides Additional Capacity Funding to LIOs and Support for an LIO/SIL/PSP/EPA Coordination Forum**  
Discussion Draft (v.02/15/2022)

**Context:**

The previous \$100k NTA SIL/LIO subaward mechanism will be replaced with funding to provide additional capacity for LIO influence on decisions relevant to Puget Sound recovery strategies and outcomes in the 2022-2026 Action Agenda, and SIL and LIO collaboration through EPA-funded LIO capacity subawards. These subawards will be managed through a new supplemental PSP NEP Base Program Cooperative Agreement. A collaborative ongoing working forum approach was proposed by PSP to EPA to help determine how these funds would be utilized most effectively. LIOs will be receiving \$500,000 (in FY21 to FY25) through these capacity subawards. LIOs will still have the opportunity to fund one more 2018 NTA with \$100,000, if they choose to, in which case they will have \$400,000 available in the new subaward.

**Vision:**

Local Integrating Organizations lead integration and coordination on Implementation Strategies in their geographies through dedicated engagement with local governments and partners.

**Goal:**

Puget Sound ecosystem recovery (planning and implementation) is integrated in a meaningful and deliberate manner and influences local government decision-making around environmental protection, restoration, transportation, and infrastructure throughout the system. Establish climate adaptation, green infrastructure, and nature-based infrastructure as priorities across geographies.

**How:**

The LIOs, SILs, PSP, and EPA will work together to develop multi-year subaward plans for the LIOs that consist of tasks to 1) support the Action Agenda in the respective LIO watersheds/geographies, and 2) operationalize IS strategies by incorporating LIO information that makes each IS actionable both across different geographic scales and in specific geographies.

**Outputs:**

- Documented decisions that utilize Implementation Strategies by local jurisdictions.
- An established ongoing mechanism for collaboration across EPA funded work plans.
- A strategic plan (high level outline) of our collective work that highlights objectives from each Forum partner.
- Multi-year work plans for LIOs that 1) outline work within local geographies as described above in the Vision, Goal, and How sections, and 2) cross-LIO/SIL work to better integrate local and regional implementation priorities.

**Background and Rationale:**

The 2022-2026 Action Agenda and EPA Puget Sound funding model are moving away from Near-Term Actions (NTAs) and one-time projects and towards implementing higher level strategic approaches, priority activities and continuing lines of work that will achieve shared desired outcomes in Puget Sound as described in the 2022-2026 Action Agenda. As such, under the 2022-2026 Action Agenda update and revised EPA funding model, the EPA and the SILs can no longer directly fund implementation/project awards to the LIOs through the previous \$100k direct funding model. This revised approach could provide for catalytic change, with the benefit of creating more continuity and building of momentum to

get portfolios of projects working together and making connections to address common pressures/barriers and root causes that helps maintain the integrity and resilience across Puget Sound watersheds and the eco-region.

EPA is committed to continuing to fund and support the LIOs as key partners in the Management Conference. EPA is honoring its commitment of \$100k per year for each LIO from the FY21 through FY25 federal Puget Sound appropriations and shifting the funding mechanism to PSP for a more strategic and long-view purpose.

The new and revised LIO \$100k awards will be funded through a new supplemental NEP Base Program Cooperative Agreement with PSP for increased capacity for LIO/SIL collaboration and operationalizing Implementation Strategies in local geographies. In support of this new funding focus, EPA is recommending a new Coordination Forum where LIOs, SILs, PSP, and EPA work together to develop multi-year subaward plans for the LIOs that consist of tasks to support local integration of Implementation Strategies across spatial scales, and engagement with local governments such that the Action Agenda influences decision-making in the respective LIO watersheds/geographies. This approach is replacing the previous annual \$100k NTA SIL/LIO subaward mechanism.

These new subawards to the LIOs offer an opportunity for transformational change and accelerated progress across the Puget Sound protection and recovery system by creating and enabling coordination processes for advancing implementation at all spatial scales.

#### **The Coordination Forum:**

Bringing core program entities together will help align prioritization processes and timelines, create more continuity and a space for making connections to address common pressures/barriers that helps the entire Puget Sound basin, as well as within specific geographies.

LIOs will have the opportunity to use this additional \$100k per year EPA funding to plan and operationalize implementation through more systematic/programmatic approaches. Emphasizing LIO/SIL coordination toward shared Puget Sound recovery outcomes would be a core requirement of this funding. SILs and LIOs have a mutual interest to work together and coordinating as partners to operationalize the Implementation Strategies- and this is reflected in both SIL and LIO workplans.

#### **Multi-year Subaward Work Plans:**

The priority activities for these work plans are centered on increasing the influence of LIOs in connecting the Action Agenda strategies and outcomes to local decision-making processes, and collaboration across regional and local watershed scales. This would be accomplished through the integration of local plans and expertise across the Implementation Strategies to refine, operationalize and implement them.

These primary objectives could include supporting:

- Collaboration with SILs on operationalizing and refining Implementation Strategies within LIO geographies (what needs to happen, where, and in what sequence). This will likely require work by LIOs prior to contributing certain information (e.g., data analysis, development and use of geospatial prioritization tools, structured decision-making, and collaborative prioritization).
- Opportunities for the integration of ecosystem and salmon recovery strategies/Implementation Strategies with partners and in local government decision-making including comprehensive management plans, transportation planning and project development, and related roles of local governments that support recovery.

- Collaboration with SILs in the identification and refinement of Sound-wide recovery activities that address institutional and regulatory barriers and root causes.
- Collaboration with SILs to adaptively manage Implementation Strategies.
- Collaboration with SILs on the expansion of existing Implementation Strategies to better align recovery needs at different geographic scales.
- Identification of opportunities to address climate change and build resilience within communities.
- Use of technical tools (e.g., CoSMoS) to guide climate change adaptation and Puget Sound recovery decisions.
- Planning for the use and integration of *Green Infrastructure* while more broadly recognizing the value of, and the according need to protect and restore *Nature-Based Infrastructure* at watershed or appropriate scales.
- Working with and across local jurisdictions to understand and optimize implementation of Action Agenda strategies and actions and position local governments to be competitive for larger funding sources.
- Working with a coalition of LIOs and other partners across the region to address barriers (institutional, regulatory, funding etc.) that inhibit the progress of Puget Sound Recovery.
- Seeking and participating in identifying multi-benefit approaches and opportunities.
- Working to identify and address equity issues related to communities with Environmental Justice concerns.
- Laying the groundwork for catalytic work with a multiplier effect and significantly increase opportunities to create efficiencies of scale by removing silos and increasing effective implementation.
- Seeding projects to move them closer to the implementation phase, including (and in particular) projects that might benefit from the Federal Multi-Agency Review Team (MART) and State streamlined permitting initiatives.
- Engage local schools in Puget Sound recovery and/or environmental education.
- Develop or maintain a portfolio of local success stories, preferably with photos or video clips.

Ineligible activities include:

- Science, Research and Monitoring projects.
- Capital Projects including asset acquisitions or maintenance projects which adds to, builds upon, or improves a capital asset, or construction, major maintenance, or improvement projects, including infrastructure upgrades and replacement.

# South Central LIO Work Plan: 2020 - 2022

*Updated October 2020*

## Work Plan Purpose

The purpose of the South Central Local Integrating Organization (LIO) Work Plan is to identify the activities that will align member priorities and create a collective impact to support watershed based recovery of Puget Sound. The South Central LIO Recovery Plan outlines recovery goals within the watershed. This work plan outlines the tasks that will lead the LIO to achieving those recovery goals.

The South Central LIO is one of ten LIOs within the Puget Sound, and is supported by the Puget Sound Partnership (Partnership) through annual contacts for LIO support.

Several sources inform the South Central Action Area LIO's list of potential actions for the 2020-2022 work plan: the June 3 South Central LIO Caucus Meeting, the suite of Near Term Actions (NTAs) developed for the 2018-2022 Action Agenda, and the requirements of the LIO Coordination contract with the Partnership that funds LIO coordination and activities.

This document presents draft proposals for a work plan that 1) advanced the LIO membership's goals to achieve watershed recovery, and 2) fulfills the contract requirements.

## Goals

The draft goals for the 2020 work plan are as follows:

- Continue to use the South Central Action Area LIO meetings as a forum to share information, i.e. deep dives to gain insight into innovative local approaches to advance Puget Sound recovery.
- Continue to work at the regional level to ensure the LIO's voice is heard on important topics, i.e. providing input on the EPA funding model and the Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB) Funding Strategy recommendations.
  - The LIO envisions advancing regional recovery through several potential channels including coordinating summits and reengaging with Education, Communication, and Outreach Network (ECO Net).
  - More details on these activities are included under Task 5.
- Continue to make progress on the South Central LIO Ecosystem Recovery Plan and create measurable strategies to advance recovery plan goals.
- Fulfill our contractual requirements, especially those related to updating the local Action Agenda pressures, NTAs, and performance measures.

More details on the above goals are provided in the Task descriptions below.

## Tasks

- LIO tasks are to be organized by topic such as shoreline armoring, stormwater, or land use and cover.

- The LIO may choose to focus on one topic per year and decide as a Committee which tasks are best suited to move the needle on the chosen topic.
- For example, the LIO may continue coordination and partnerships on shoreline armoring. The LIO will determine goals, strategies, and tactics to continue to advance restoration of South Central shorelines. Supported by LIO Contract Task 1.1 and 5.1.

More information on the proposed tasks are below:

### Deep Dives

- Continue to use the South Central Action Area LIO meetings as a forum to consider challenges and identify potential solutions that would make progress toward Puget Sound recovery.
  - Work with LIO committee members to determine which local organizations to engage and present on their work about the chosen topic.
  - Coordinate presentations and distribution of follow-up resources and outcomes from deep dive speakers.
- See *Appendix A: South Central LIO Shoreline Armoring Implementation Matrix* for an example of follow-up resources generated by deep dives.

### Summits and Trainings:

- Inform and Educate local decision makers on work of the LIO<sup>1</sup>
  - Work with LIO committee members to determine opportunities to inform and educate local decision makers on the work of the LIO, including the LIO Plan and associated gaps and barriers.
  - Topics to be determined by LIO members. Examples may include: 1) enforcement and compliance; 2) regulatory inconsistencies and lag between old and new regulation adoption; 3) policy effectiveness ; 4) ecosystem services valuation; 5) policy maker and elected official engagement; 6) sufficiency of current laws (to match local needs, equitably;; 7) policy incentives

### EcoNet:

Allocate up to \$10,000 to support Local Outreach Network (ex. ECO Net) within the LIO area to advance and catalyze implementation of LIO Plan priority public engagement and awareness raising. Funds could be used to organize an ECO Net symposium, with the purpose of gathering all partners in the LIO area (including local outreach network partners, LEs, LIO partners) who are implementing behavior change projects or programs to share successes, discuss challenges or barriers, and to provide networking and collaboration opportunities.

## Timeline: Oct 1, 2020 to Sept 30, 2021

### Q4 2020

Quarterly 1-hour LIO business meeting  
Land use and stormwater 2-hour deep dive session

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<sup>1</sup> Any work under this subtask must strictly adhere to policy outlined in [Lobbying CFR 200.450](#).

## Q1 2021

Quarterly 1-hour LIO business meeting  
Land use and stormwater 2-hour deep dive session

## Q2 2021

Support King County Stormwater Summit, April  
Host EcoNet Summit in coordination with Stormwater Summit?  
Quarterly 1-hour LIO business meeting

## Q3 2021

Quarterly 1-hour LIO business meeting  
2-hour deep dive session: TBD

## Appendix A: South Central LIO Shoreline Armoring Implementation Matrix

The table below outlines key programs being implemented by partners in the watershed, and actions that can be taken by the LIO or individual members to leverage the work and create a collective impact.

Program	Next Steps	LIO action?	Individual member action?	Coordinator Follow Up Items	Follow Up Date
<b>City of Seattle SMP Updates</b>	Maggie to share City of Seattle SMP update language	See follow up	Share Seattle’s updated SMP language with permitting departments	Check in on implementation of updated SMPs	End of 2020
<b>WA Department of Ecology</b>	Ongoing implementation and compliance; Equipping local governments with the tools	Ongoing engagement with Ecology	Connect Sydney and ECY staff with permitting departments or intended audience	Engage Sydney at LIO meetings	Ongoing
<b>WA Sea Grant Needs Assessment-Coastal Processes Design</b>	Nicole to share results from needs assessment as available	Ongoing engagement with WA Sea Grant	Forward Shoreline and Coastal Planners Group webinars to planning departments	Check in on needs assessment	Fall 2020
<b>Vashon Island Basin Steward</b>	Identify public lands for shoreline restoration programs	Engage Habitat SI around private vs public shoreline armoring removed/permitted	Coordinate with Parks departments and other agencies to identify feasible lands for SA removal/softening		
<b>King County Shoreline Monitoring</b>	Ongoing engagement with planning groups		WRIA 8 & 9- consider facilitating quarterly meetings with local planners (example from WRIA 7)  Habitat SI- regular engagement with Kollin to discuss updates to shoreline armoring removed/permitted		

Program	Next Steps	LIO action?	Individual member action?	Coordinator Follow Up Items	Follow Up Date
<b>Shore Friendly</b>	Coordination with GMA groups to elevate Shore Friendly with planning directors and ensure permitting staff	Consider how to build capacity for Shore Friendly program	Coordination amongst permitting staff and Shore Friendly to facilitate early referrals during permitting process (example from Kitsap County)	Check in on status and implementation (after contract initiated) to determine additional opportunities for the LIO to leverage shore friendly efforts	Summer/Fall 2020
<b>Shoreline Armoring IS</b>	Advancing implementation of the IS; Connecting with organizations to meet shared watershed and regional priorities	Ongoing engagement with IS	Continue advancing actions aligned with IS	Follow up with South Central LIO on items above, identify opportunities for sharing successes with other LIO areas?	