

South Central LIO January Quarterly Meeting

March 19, 2024 | 2:00 – 4:00 PM

[Online Only](#)

AGENDA

Time	Topic	Lead
2:00 – 2:05 (5 mins)	Welcome & Introductions Review Agenda	Josh Baldi, <i>King County</i> Mary Ann Rozance, <i>Cascadia</i>
2:05 – 2:20 (15 mins)	Our Green Duwamish: Stormwater Retrofit Program	Todd Hunsdorfer, <i>Our Green Duwamish</i>
2:20 – 2:25 (5 min)	Q&A	Todd Hunsdorfer, <i>Our Green Duwamish</i> Mary Ann Rozance, <i>Cascadia</i>
2:25 – 2:35 (10 mins)	Puget Sound Partnership Strategic Funding Team updates and PS RAFT tool spotlight	Sadie Normoyle, <i>Puget Sound Partnership</i>
2:35 – 2:40 (5 min)	Q&A	Sadie Normoyle, <i>Puget Sound Partnership</i> Mary Ann Rozance, <i>Cascadia</i>
2:40 – 3:10 (30 mins)	Good of the Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General Updates<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ PSP Updates (Mary Ann)• Member Updates	Chair, Facilitator, and Members
3:10 – 3:20 (10 mins)	ECB Water Quality Subcommittee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water Quality by Design	Mary Ann Rozance, <i>Cascadia</i>
3:20 – 3:40 (20 min)	WDFW Pond Biodiversity/Equity Study	Max Lambert, <i>Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife</i>
3:40 – 3:45 (5 min)	Q&A	Max Lambert, <i>Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife</i> Mary Ann Rozance, <i>Cascadia</i>
3:45 – 4:00 (15 mins)	Focused discussion on Spring Deep Dive Topic: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are topic interests?• Who are potential speakers? Wrap up, additional member updates, and adjourn	Mary Ann Rozance, <i>Cascadia</i>

Meeting Notes

Refer to the associated slide deck to supplement notes.

Attendees

1. **Mary Anne Rozance**, *Cascadia Consulting Group*
2. **Megan Lee**, *Cascadia Consulting Group*
3. **Josh Baldi**, *King County*
4. **Janne Kaje**, *King County*
5. **Denise Di Santo**, *King County*
6. **Maggie Glowacki**, *Seattle DCI*
7. **Todd Hunsdorfer**, *King County*
8. **Derek Day**, *Department of Ecology*
9. **Don Gourlie**, *Puget Sound Partnership*
10. **Dustin Bilhimer**, *Department of Ecology*
11. **Erike Harris**, *PSRC*
12. **Heather Trim**, *Zero Waste Washington*
13. **Heidi Siegelbaum**, *WSC*
14. **Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz**, *WIRA 8*
15. **John Brosnan**, *King County*
16. **Kathleen Pozarycki**, *Sno-Stilly LIO*
17. **Matt Goehring**, *WIRA 9*
18. **Sadie Normoyle**, *Puget Sound Partnership*

Our Green Duwamish: Stormwater Retrofit Program (Todd Hunsdorfer)

- Our Green Duwamish (OGD) is developing a 2-year workplan. Through this process, it became evident that different solutions for various goals didn't make sense when a retrofit program could support all objectives.
- OGD partners recognize the potential for sharing external funding and pooling internal resources and knowledge for stormwater retrofit improvements in the watershed where they're most needed. This consolidation represents a coalescence of thoughts rather than introducing entirely new concepts.
- Despite limited funding for stormwater management, the retrofit program can ensure more collaboration within the watershed. This collaborative effort aims to direct funds to locations that can significantly improve water quality and salmon habitat.
- The Regional Retrofit Program's structure is under consideration, with the possibility of multiple levels. These options are intended to spark discussions around program development:
 - L1: Current focus area for OGD.
 - L2: Characterized by individual partners seeking funding, with a shared list of known projects.
 - L3: Coalition actively seeking funding for portfolio projects.
 - L4: Distinguished by a coalition having a sustainable funding source for stormwater retrofit projects.
- Aging, underperforming infrastructure remains a persistent issue in the watershed. While the origins of OGD were focused on preventing recontamination of superfund sites, the program has evolved to address broader watershed needs.
- Although retrofit projects often don't span jurisdictional boundaries, their benefits extend to ecosystems and recreational areas.
- RCW 3934 aims to remove barriers preventing local governments from working together on coordinated plans and allows for the allocation of water revenues. OGD operates entirely on a voluntary basis, enabling flexibility and growth without formal obligations.
- To share costs of the Regional Retrofit Program and access the potential of service water fees, OGD may need to establish a new service district or collaborate with another organization capable of collecting and distributing stormwater funding, such as WIRA 9.
- Next steps involve ongoing conversations with WIRA 9 to update ILA and explore potential partnerships, reflecting the extensive dialogue within the watershed.
- WIRA 9 is in the process of updating its plan, with a strong focus on stormwater priorities. Collaborative efforts between OGD and WIRA 9 are progressing, with a goal of formalizing the partnership.

Questions and comments:

- What is the project scope and/or timeline?
 - The project scope and timeline are not yet finalized and largely depend on available funding. Starting small and expanding is favored, with hopes of applying for collective funding early next year.
- In which level is OGD operating currently?
 - OGD is currently operating at Level 1 but aspires to transition to Level 2 to play a more active role in proposals and funding.
- WIRA 8 is interested in this concept as well, with an approach focused on integrating stormwater GSI and salmon habitat restoration within existing basins. Collaboration between OGD and WIRA 8 is seen as beneficial, although it may take time to overcome scope creep considerations.
- Areas for potential funding: Biden bucks, CCA, DOT's \$16 billion to invest in retrofit, KC stormwater parks in next Parks levy, Water Quality by Design program for next biennial budget.
 - Funding might not be available now, but will be and when it is we will be organized and ready to apply
- Issaquah's watershed-based Surface and Stormwater Management Plan serves as a great example for strategic planning that we can potentially integrate with salmon recovery's 4-year work plan list of projects.
https://www.issaquahwa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/9319/Issaquah_SSWMP_2022

Puget Sound Partnership Strategic Funding Team updates and [PS RAFT](#) tool spotlight (Sadie Normoyle)

- The Strategic Funding Team (SFT) at Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) is a newly formed team focused on supporting the efforts of the recovery community across Puget Sound. Its goal is to align various types of work and mobilize funding that matches the community's needs.
- The SFT is currently hiring a grant writer and strategist to provide technical assistance for grant applications and identify funding opportunities. It is expected to have someone onboard in the next month.
- The [PS RAFT tool](#) is a public site where users can view current and past funding opportunities. Although the tool's database is still growing, users can filter through funding opportunities and express interest in collaborative funding.
- Sadie conducts monthly funding update calls on the first Monday of each month from 9-10 am. These calls provide updates on funding opportunities, space for questions, discussions on current projects, and collaboration opportunities.
- Interested parties can sign up for funding updates, which are typically provided once a week.

Questions and comments:

- Has there been any connection with KC WLRD's new grant strategist (Dionne)?
 - There may have been some connection, but further follow-up will be made to ensure coordination.
- Contact information:
 - Sadie.normoyle@psp.wa.gov
 - Restoration & Transportation funding strategist: bebhinn.gilbert@psp.wa.gov
 - Funding barrier specialist: jessica.reynolds@psp.wa.gov
 - If you don't know who the best person to direct your question/email to, feel free to send it to our general inbox and our whole team will see it: strategicfunding@psp.wa.gov

Good of the Order (Chair, Facilitator, and Members)

- General Updates:
 - John Brosnan: Expresses gratitude to strategic initiative leads on the call. The organization has received full funding and is progressing with a feasibility analysis to build a workplan around the first stormwater goal. Lack of internal funding necessitated reliance on grants. Meeting with ECY later in the week for orientation. Aiming to initiate work by mid-summer, focusing on a broad aggregation of salmon, equity,

and land goals. Pilot testing of results in the OGD watershed is planned, leveraging existing social infrastructure to identify five project sites for stormwater parks.

- Matt Goehring: Shares that the President's budget has earmarked \$500 million to complete downstream Howard Hanson fish passage, setting a good precedent for such requests being funded. Bidding for preconstruction services is scheduled to commence next month. Additionally, the federal budget includes extra funds for Howard Hanson in the energy and water appropriations bill.
- Derek Day: announces the release of an RFP tomorrow focused on innovative BMP.
- Partnership updates in slide deck

ECB Water Quality Subcommittee (Mary Ann Rozance)

- Derek is working on putting together a program description this week. The ECB subcommittee is anticipated to be set up by April or May. The aim is to garner ECB buy-in and input before refining ideas further.
- No legislative champion has been identified yet, which may require some prompting.
- Regarding Doe LIO members, there's no requirement for them to also be ECB members, allowing flexibility in inviting relevant stakeholders to the table.

WDFW Pond Biodiversity/Equity Study (Max Lambert)

- With a year and a half left in the project, an update is provided after a year of work.
- Despite initial expectations of resistance, there is enthusiasm for enhancing biodiversity in stormwater ponds, which play a crucial role in improving water quality and mitigating flooding issues.
- Building on work initiated in the 1980s in King County.
- Final dataset expected in two years.

Questions and comments:

- Does your study assess maintenance needs of the ponds? It's not quite the old Corp/levy maintenance dynamic, but there are similarities?
 - Something we are dealing with. Hoping to find win-wins.
- In a sentence what is Puget Sound Starts Here
 - Connection of everywhere from upland habitats to marine habitats - how we can best protect habitats.
- What were the DEI criteria?
 - Not really a DEI criterion. Used social data from the census and state.

Focused Discussion on Spring Deep Dive Topic (Mary Ann Rozance)

- What are topic interests?
 - Put the FUN in FUNDED projects
 - Hear from each SIL about what projects they have funded (recently and historically). Hear from about 1 funded project per SIL
 - Discussion questions:
 - Where are there synergies?
 - Who from SC LIO would be interested in this?
 - Advice for recently funded projects?
 - Opportunities to connect project proposals for future calls?
 - The importance of connecting with individuals working on similar issues and leveraging collective knowledge.
 - Consideration of timing for diving into topics.
 - Proposal to bring together all previously funded individuals for presentations and collaboration.
 - Access to perspectives from those directly involved in project implementation.
 - Potential for in-person gatherings to facilitate deeper discussions.
 - Website resource: [Puget Sound Estuary Program Funded Projects](#) for additional insights and perspectives.