

Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 8

September 1 to December 31, 2016

Overview and Highlights

Cost-shared services during the third trimester of 2016 focused on:

- Tracking all Salmon Recovery Funding Board/Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration projects through the fall/winter SRFB approval process.
- Convening first sub-basin working group meetings (Cedar and Lake Sammamish/Kokanee tributaries) to refine project lists for the ten-year WRIA 8 Chinook Conservation Plan (Plan) update.
- Developing Plan project updates to the Four-Year Work Plan.
- Continuing work on Puget Sound Partnership-funded support for WRIA 8's monitoring and adaptive management process and the ten-year update to the Plan.
- Developing 2017 state and federal WRIA 8 salmon recovery legislative priorities.
- Coordinating the WRIA 8 Education and Outreach (E&O) Actions Workshop for the Plan update to developing a focused list of E&O priority actions aligned with recovery strategies.
- Coordinating 2016 Salmon SEESon campaign to increase public awareness and support for salmon conservation.
- Creating and sending two WRIA 8 E-Newsletters.
- Partnering with 15 organizations to contribute content and funding to an eight-page Seattle Times insert, "Salmon, Stormwater, and You".
- Updating the "Living with Salmon" educational brochures.
- Representing WRIA 8's interests in Puget Sound Watershed Leads group, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, South Central Caucus Group, and Washington Salmon Coalition, including participating on subcommittees and work groups to advance recovery efforts.

The following summary of services is organized according to work items outlined in the approved WRIA 8 Memorandum of Understanding.

Salmon Recovery Council Coordination/Puget Sound Partnership

- Scheduled and staffed two meetings of the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council (SRC) (September 15 and November 17):
 - September meeting focus: Decision on the WRIA 8 2017 Legislative Priorities; ten-year WRIA 8 Chinook Conservation Plan (Plan) update status; and Fish In/Fish Out monitoring update.
 - November meeting focus: Routine consent decisions on funding guidance for 2017 Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) grant funds and updates to the WRIA 8 Four-Year Work Plan; a "virtual tour" presentation of WRIA 8 habitat protection and restoration projects; and success story presentation/information on Lake Sammamish Kokanee recovery.
- Attended two meetings of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council (PS SRC) (September 22 and December 1) and a two-day PS SRC workshop (October 18 and 19):
 - September meeting focus: Discussion with the Salmon Science Advisory Group about viable salmonid population (VSP) parameters and adaptive management of Chinook recovery approach; discussion on funding strategy action items from Executive Committee and Puget Sound Ecosystem Coordination Board; discussion/approval of a funding level for Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) capital grant program to support the 2017-19 PSAR legislative budget request; and de-brief on Puget Sound Partnership's (PSP) draft legislative agenda and priorities.
 - December meeting focus: Review and approval of a ranked list of large capital projects from across Puget Sound to support the PSAR capital budget request; discussion of a regional policy

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to address the Salmon Recovery Funding Board's (SRFB) allowance for region's to propose 10% of their capital funding allocation for monitoring priorities; viewing of a video promoting shoreline restoration produced by the Shore Friendly program; debrief on the near-term action solicitation from the state agency "lead organizations"; and update on the status of the Chinook Implementation Strategy.

- October workshop focus: Discussion of the draft Chinook Implementation Strategy, which will form the nucleus of the updated regional chapter of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan when finalized; and funding for salmon recovery, with specific attention given to generating a sustainable, predictable funding source for the human infrastructure that is vital to salmon recovery in Washington.
- Participated in two in-person meetings of Puget Sound Watershed Leads (September 8 and November 10):
 - September meeting focus: Extended discussions on the funding needs and strategy for the PSAR program for the 2017-19 biennium watershed-level monitoring and adaptive management, and how watersheds intend to advance this work lacking adequate resources.
 - November meeting focus: Largely consisted of a communications workshop, focused on holding site tours and ribbon-cutting events, strategies for conducting media outreach, communicating science effectively in presentations, and engaging effectively with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission; and wrapped up with review of the PSAR large-cap ranked list.
- Participated in two meetings of the Puget Sound South Central Action Area Caucus Group (October 5 and November 2) and one sub-group work session workshop (September 7). Meeting topics included: Review of the Caucus Group's five-year Ecosystem Recovery Plan; presentation on street sweeping as a stormwater toxics reduction strategy; developing a process for selecting a near-term action to award \$100,000; discussion on the possibility of restructuring the local integrating organization (LIO) model along watershed boundaries to more effectively engage local entities in Puget Sound recovery; and a presentation on Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's land cover change map for Puget Sound.
- Participated in one Puget Sound Leadership Council meeting to discuss: Support for the Caucus Group presentation on their five-year Ecosystem Recovery Plan; the recent proposal to consider restructuring the Caucus Group along watershed boundaries; and provide an update on WRIA 8 salmon recovery efforts and priorities (October 6).
- Conducted email correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with SRC members and WRIA 8 partner staff.
- Provided information to all jurisdictions equally.

Plan Implementation

- Scheduled and facilitated two WRIA 8 Implementation Committee (IC) meetings (September 14 and November 8). Meeting topics included: Discussion of the draft WRIA 8 2017 federal and state legislative agenda; review and discussion of updated Chinook recovery strategies, including how to operationalize the Technical Committee's (TC) recommendations; discussion of education and outreach (E&O) priorities and developing an framework on updating E&O recommendations in the update to the WRIA 8 Plan; and meeting topics for the September and November SRC meetings.
- Coordinated the WRIA 8 E&O Actions Workshop for the Plan update to discuss: How to integrate salmon recovery messages and goals into our work; creating a focused list of E&O priorities; and noting critical gaps in E&O actions underway in WRIA 8 (December 6).

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- Convened first two sub-basin working group meetings to refine project lists for the Plan update: Cedar River (December 13) and Lake Sammamish/tributaries (December 19).
- Tracked all SRFB/PSAR projects through the fall/winter SRFB approval process, including attending the SRFB funding meeting in Olympia (December 8).
- Developed 2016 WRIA 8 Plan project updates to the Four-Year Work Plan. Solicited project updates, reviewed potential updates with WRIA 8 TC and IC, and developed recommendations for SRC review and approval (approved at November 17 meeting).
- Participated in one PSP Chinook Implementation Strategy WebEx (September 29).
- Participated in one PS SRC Monitoring and Adaptive Management Subcommittee conference call (12/29).
- Participated in one Habitat Work Schedule (HWS) WebEx meeting (November 14). Worked with project sponsors to obtain updated project information and entered the updated information in HWS on their behalf.
- Participated in one meeting of the Washington Salmon Coalition (WSC) (December 7) to discuss: SRFB regional funding allocation and legislative outreach; updates from the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office, Council of Regions, PSP, and the Recreation and Conservation Office; information about the Fish Barrier Removal Board evaluation process and solicitation for the next biennium.
- Participated in three WebEx meetings of the WSC Executive Committee (September 19, October 17, and November 21), which focused on: Continued coordination with salmon recovery partners through the Salmon Recovery Network, especially as it relates to legislative priorities and funding in the 2017 – 2019 biennium; Recreation and Conservation Offices (RCO) State of the Salmon biennial report on recovery implementation; discussion of issues and challenges experienced during the 2016 grant round; preparations for the December 7 statewide WSC meeting; and planning for the 2017 State Salmon Recovery Conference.
- Participated in one WebEx meetings of the WSC Communications and Outreach Committee (December 5) to discuss: A new funding list serve/sharing resource; updates to the Lead Entity Directory; sharing project successes on the RCO Facebook page; and developing local press releases to highlight recently-funded projects.
- Responded to citizen and agency inquiries on the WRIA 8 process, priorities, and Plan implementation.

Technical Coordination

- Scheduled and facilitated four WRIA 8 TC meetings (September 14, October 12, November 9, and December 14). Meeting topics included: WRIA 8 recovery plan update – WRIA 8 monitoring framework and narrative, quantitative and qualitative habitat goals, identifying habitat goals and indicators, recovery strategies recommendation, considering the status of the Upper Cedar Watershed in the Plan update, and artificial light effects on juvenile Chinook salmon behavior study update; adult Chinook counts at the Ballard Locks; Bear Creek project design review; Riverbend project design discussion; four-year work program project additions; and Lower Issaquah Creek restoration concepts.
- Continued work on PSP-funded support for WRIA 8's monitoring and adaptive management process and the ten-year update to the Plan.
- Provided regular TC status reports and salmon updates to the SRC.
- Provided technical support to IC through participation in monthly meetings.

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Communication

- Partnered with 15 other organizations to contribute content and funding to an eight-page Seattle Times insert, “Salmon, Stormwater, and You”, published on October 30.
- Coordinated and began summary of the 2016 Salmon SEEs campaign (tenth annual) to increase public awareness and support for salmon conservation.
- Created and sent two WRIA 8 E-Newsletters (October 18 and December 15).
- Created “Continuing our commitment” factsheet, featuring photos and descriptions of seven key restoration projects underway in the watershed (distributed at November SRC meeting).
- Updated, reprinted and distributed “Living with Salmon” educational brochures with input from the Snoqualmie Watershed (September).
- Distributed email updates and announcements to WRIA 8 partners and interested parties, including funding opportunities, event notices, and information of interest.
- Regularly maintained the WRIA 8 website at www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/, including updated messaging and links pertinent to the effects of summer drought conditions on salmon.
- Sent postcards on Green Shoreline program to new lakeshore property owners.

Program Management and Administration

- Conducted general administrative work supporting implementation of the WRIA 8 Interlocal Agreement (ILA), including work program development and monitoring, budget development and tracking, regular reporting, billing, personnel, and supervision.
- Held verbal and email progress discussions at and between WRIA 8 SRC meetings.
- Coordinated with the SRC on several issues, including regional Puget Sound salmon recovery and habitat restoration.

For additional information on any item in this report, please contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager, at jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov or 206-477-4780.