

Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 8

May 1 to August 31, 2016

Overview and Highlights

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

- Obtaining Salmon Recovery Council (SRC) and King County Flood Control District approval of three habitat restoration and protection, three riparian habitat/stewardship, four monitoring, and four outreach and education applications for \$1,556,772 in Cooperative Watershed Management funds.
- Obtaining SRC approval of four habitat restoration and protection project applications for \$1,786,500 in Salmon Recovery Funding Board, and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funds.
- Convening the WRIA 8 Recovery Strategies Workshop focused on updating and affirming priority strategies for the ten-year update to the Salmon Habitat Plan.
- Continuing Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) grant-supported work to complete the monitoring and adaptive management process and the Plan update
- Obtaining SRC approval of the 2017 WRIA 8 budget and work plan.
- Launching 2016 Salmon SEEson campaign (tenth annual) to increase public awareness and support for salmon conservation in WRIAs 8 and 9.
- Coordinating a multi-WRIA advertisement in the Chinook Book to raise awareness for salmon recovery.
- Creating and sending two WRIA 8 E-Newsletters.
- 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 regional and statewide salmon 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) (May 19 and July 21).
 - May meeting focus: Decision on the 2017 WRIA budget and work plan; decision on 2016 Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) grant funding recommendations; decision on 2016 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) and 2017 – 2019 Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) grant funding recommendations; update on the King County Conservation Futures Citizen's Committee 2016 grant recommendations; discussion on a WA State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) plan to demolish the old SR 520 bridge pontoons at an industrial site in the City of Kenmore; and success story presentation on King County's (KC) monitoring at Rainbow Bend on the Cedar River.
 - July meeting focus: Update on the WRIA 8 letter sent regarding the SR 520 bridge pontoon demolition and the response letter that was received on the demolition work now underway on barges in Lake Washington; decision on sending letters inviting the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the Tulalip, Snoqualmie and Suquamish Indian Tribes to coordinate and participate in the WRIA 8 Salmon Habitat Plan (Plan) update; decision on authorizing the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager to make WRIA 8 budget and work plan decisions as a result of a reduction in the 2016-2017 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) allocation; decision on the WRIA 8 Plan update strategy; presentation on the Willowmoor Floodplain Restoration Project; presentation on the Cedar River Corridor Plan status and next steps; and success story

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presentation on the Edmonds-Woodway High School student Saving Salmon water quality monitoring project.

- Scheduled and staffed one meeting of the WRIA 8 Management Committee (MC) to review and recommend the 2017 WRIA 8 budget and work plan (May 11). Coordinated (over email) MC review and approval of letter to WSDOT to express concerns about potential water quality impacts from demolition of sections of the old SR 520 Bridge.
- Attended two meetings of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council (PS SRC) (May 26 and July 28) and one joint meeting of the PS SRC and Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB) (June 8).
 - May meeting focus: Status report on the “North of Falcon” harvest management process between tribes and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW); presentation on PSP staffing changes; approval of a slate of candidates to comprise the newly formed Salmon Science Advisory Group (SSAG) to serve as a regional salmon science technical body; update on the planning for the 2017-19 PSAR legislative funding request; review of draft products from the Chinook Implementation Strategy development process; and review of regional science-based questions for the SSAG to help inform salmon recovery policy making.
 - July meeting focus: Update from the Skokomish Watershed and from WRIA 8 on their progress updating their recovery plans; discussion of the PCSRF funding reduction; and responses to key scientific questions from the SSAG.
 - The primary focus of the joint PS SRC and ECB meeting was to review and recommend the 2016 update to the Puget Sound Action Agenda, including feedback on the process that will inform an “after action” report.
- Organized and participated in a Ballard Locks tour with the PSP Leadership Council (June 29).
- Participated in three meetings of Puget Sound Watershed Leads (May 12, June 15 and July 14).
 - May meeting focus: Morning presentations on Lead Entities’ 2016 Four-Year Work Plans followed by an afternoon workshop on the regional Chinook Implementation Strategy.
 - June meeting focus: Remaining Lead Entity presentations on 2016 Four-Year Work Plans followed by a second afternoon workshop on the regional Chinook Implementation Strategy.
 - July meeting focus: Updates on the Chinook Implementation Strategy, WRIA 8 and Skokomish recovery plan progress, State of Salmon reporting, and PSP staffing transitions; discussion of the regional PSAR large-capital project budget request; and discussion of the reduction in PCSRF capacity funding and options moving forward.
- Participated in three meeting of the Puget Sound South Central Action Area Caucus Group (May 4, June 1 and August 3). Meeting topics included: PSP’s request for proposals for near-term actions (NTAs) for the 2016 update to the Action Agenda for Puget Sound recovery; the process for a similar Caucus Group solicitation for local area NTAs; reviewing proposal NTAs submitted by local project sponsors; and initial discussions about how to prioritize among local NTAs for future funding that may be allocated to local integrating organizations like the Caucus Group.
- Participated in one small group working session of the Caucus Group (May 31) to develop conceptual models and pressures for Puget Sound recovery strategic initiatives related to habitat protection and restoration and stormwater management for Caucus Group review and approval as part of the local five-year ecosystem recovery plan.
- Participated in a recycled water video interview with the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (August 16). The interview was filmed at 60 Acres Park on the Sammamish River.
- 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

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- Scheduled and facilitated two WRIA 8 Implementation Committee (IC) meetings (May 3 and July 5). Meeting topics included: Updates on the 2016 Salmon SEEson planning meeting and kickoff, Cedar River large wood management, Ballard Locks tour for PSP Leadership Council, and SRC letter regarding SR520 bridge demolition; review of preliminary Project Subcommittee recommendations for the 2016 CWM and SRFB/PSAR grant round; review of draft 2017 WRIA 8 budget; review and discussion of salmon recovery conceptual model and pressures; and review of the draft March May 19 and July 21 SRC meeting topics.
- In May, obtained SRC approval of three habitat restoration and protection, three riparian habitat/stewardship, four monitoring, and four outreach and education applications for \$1,556,772 in CWM funds. Also obtained SRC approval to carry forward \$395,737 to the 2017 grant round. On July 11, the SRC-approved recommendations were presented to and approved by the King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors.
- Obtained SRC approval of four habitat restoration and protection project applications for \$1,786,500 in SRFB and PSAR funds.
- Obtained SRC approval for submittal of the Wayne Sammamish Community Project for \$2 million in PSAR Large Capital funding
- Participated in the Washington Salmon Coalition (WSC) annual meeting, which included: a presentation and discussion about engaging with WDFW's Science Program; updates from Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO), Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), PSP, WDFW, and the Council of Regions; discussion of SRFB monitoring projects and challenges and opportunities with acquisition projects; engagement with the Regional Fisheries Coalition; providing input to RCO on potential changes to the Washington Administrative Code related to Lead Entities; and approval of the 2016 – 2017 WSC Action Plan and selection of WSC leadership (June 8 and 9).
- Participated in three WebEx meetings of the WSC Executive Committee (May 16, June 20 and July 18), which focused on: Continued coordination with GSRO and RCO; preparations for the June 8 and 9 annual meeting; and extensive communications and coordination on the PCSRF capacity funding reduction and ways lead entities can support the SRFB, GSRO, and RCO on ways to secure additional capacity resources for core lead entity and salmon recovery functions.
- Participated in one WebEx meeting of the WSC Outreach and Communications Committee (June 27).
- Participated in one Habitat Work Schedule conference call focused on funding instruments (May 18).
- Responded to citizen and agency inquiries on the WRIA 8 process, priorities, and Plan implementation.

Technical Coordination

- Scheduled and facilitated four WRIA 8 Technical Committee (TC) meetings (May 11, June 8, July 13 and August 10). Meeting topics included: WRIA 8 Chinook conceptual model development; pressure assessment; and review of the Friendly Village Stream Restoration project design.
- Convened the joint WRIA 8 TC/IC Recovery Strategies Workshop to: Discuss key findings on WRIA 8 Chinook salmon conceptual model and pressures assessment; affirm existing list of salmon recovery strategies; and identify strategies and elevate existing strategies in response to key findings (August 16).
- 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

- Launched the 2016 Salmon SEEson campaign (tenth annual) to increase public awareness and support for salmon conservation in WRIAs 8 and 9 through flyers, posters and website.
- Created and sent two WRIA 8 E-Newsletters (June and August).
- Created and purchased multi-WRIA advertisements in the Chinook Book – two in the print book and six months of content for the inline version -- to raise awareness for salmon recovery.
- 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/.
- Mailed Green Shorelines information to new lakeshore homeowners.

Program Management and Administration

- Submitted a progress report and billing to RCO for the first year of funding through the 2016-2017 Lead Entity contract.
- Conducted general administrative work supporting implementation of the 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.