

**Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 9  
September 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010**

**Overview:**

**Cost-shared services during the third trimester of 2010 focused on:**

- Undertaking meetings and briefings to explain and build support for funding mechanisms that would support sustained investments in watershed health and salmon habitat recovery.
- Securing approval of the budget for 2011 King Conservation District collections.
- In a presentation to the Watershed Ecosystem Forum, members of the Implementation Technical Committee discussed the Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan Development Report.
- Revising state and federal legislative priorities for 2011 for WRIA 9 partnership.
- Receiving \$397,299 in funding from the Salmon Funding Recovery Board (SRFB) for two projects: Mill Creek Confluence/Green River Design in Kent and Duwamish Gardens Estuarine Rehabilitation Design in Tukwila.
- Convening the Ecosystem Restoration Project Executive Committee which approved \$12.5 million in federal funding for four ERP projects: Riverview Park Construction in Kent, Site 1 – North Wind’s Weir monitoring in Tukwila, Big Spring Creek Design on the Enumclaw Plateau, King County, and Big Spring Creek Construction.
- Coordinating with the Puget Sound Partnership, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, and Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project on salmon recovery implementation and policy development.

*The following summary of services is organized according to work items outlined in the approved WRIA 9 MOU.*

**Watershed Ecosystem Forum Coordination**

*Schedule and staff four WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum meetings at key decision points in implementing and monitoring of the Salmon Habitat Plan, and prepare the scope of work and budget for work to be cost-shared after 2010:*

- Organized one meeting of the Watershed Ecosystem Forum (Forum) (November 10).
- Undertook meetings and briefings to explain and build support for funding mechanisms:
  - Coordinated two cross-WRIA meetings to further develop funding mechanism options (October 14 and December 9).
  - Formed three funding mechanisms work groups to develop criteria for evaluating possible mechanisms and develop a “watershed investment district” bill (Work Group #1), develop a “game plan” to “tell our story” and to build understanding and support for new mechanism (Work Group #2), and evaluate current legislation using criteria developed by Work Group #1 (Work Group #3).
  - Briefed Martha Kongsgaard, Chair, Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Committee (October 14).
  - Briefed WRIA 10/12 (White River/Chambers Creek Watersheds) (December 2).
  - Briefed King County Ag, Forestry, Incentives Unit (December 15).
- Drafted the funding mechanism “framework”.
- Secured approval of the budget for 2011 King Conservation District (KCD) collections.
- Revised State and federal legislative priorities for 2011 for WRIA 9 partnership.
- Conducted e-mail correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with Forum and Forum staff members.
- Coordinated local government and Forum communications with the State legislature.

*Selective participation and coordination with State and Puget Sound regional efforts, such as the Lead Entity Advisory Group, the Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership, and regional or sub-regional efforts:*

- Advised the Salmon Recovery Board, Puget Sound Partnership (PSP), Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership, and Governor's Salmon Recovery Office on salmon recovery funding and technical issues. Met multiple times with the Puget Sound Partnership's liaison to WRIA 9, Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz.
- Attended one meeting (October 27) of the Puget Sound Partnership South Central Action Area Caucus Group to identify, prioritize, and sequence protection, restoration, and reducing sources of pollution.
- There were no meetings of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council during this billing period.
- Participated in phone calls of the subgroup of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council that is developing the process for identifying projects of regional significance.
- Attended or helped plan three meetings or workshops of the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project (September 15, October 21, December 19).
- Provided technical and policy direction to the 2010 Estuary and Salmon Recovery Program criteria for project selection and spending plan.
- Attended no PSP Watershed Leads meetings due to conflicting priorities.
- Participated in two Lead Entity Advisory Group (LEAG) meetings (September 18 and November 18).

*Schedule and staff four WRIA 9 Management Committee meetings to oversee the 2010 ILA-funded work program:*

- Organized one meetings of the Management Committee (October 27).
- Conducted e-mail correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with Management Committee members.

*Coordinate with city and county staff and elected officials as practicable:*

- Conducted e-mail correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with Forum staff.

### **WRIA Plan Implementation**

*Work with the Watershed Ecosystem Forum to facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan:*

- Provided briefings to the Watershed Ecosystem Forum on Habitat Plan implementation issues, and provided assistance to several cost-sharing city partners.

*Implement adaptive management, and participate in regional or sub-regional planning, implementation, monitoring, and financing efforts as practicable:*

- The Implementation Technical Committee met four times to work on H-Integration, an Adaptive Management Plan, and monitoring (September 15, October 20, November 17 and December 15).
- In a presentation to the Forum, Implementation Technical Committee members discussed the 2010 Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan Development Report (November 10).

### **Capital Projects Implementation**

*Coordinate cross-jurisdictional implementation of projects identified as WRIA priorities (e.g., projects funded by the watershed allocation of King Conservation District funds, Puget Sound Partnership, State Salmon Recovery Funding Board, and other funds):*

- Assisted with application preparation of King Conservation District grants for Piner Point in King County, Fenster Levee Setback in Auburn, Vashon Island – Neill Point Restoration in King County, Duwamish Gardens Project Design in Tukwila, and Big Spring Creek Restoration Design in King County.
- Reviewed and commented on Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program grant applications for project sponsors.
- Coordinated final applications and Lead Entity materials for 2010 Salmon Funding Recovery Board grant round.

*Help establish partnerships and seek funding for high priority capital projects:*

- Reviewed and commented on 16 applications from WRIAs 7, 8, 9, and 10 for Community Salmon Fund – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant round; participated in one grant review meeting (September 24). Evaluated project proposals for the state Estuary and Salmon Recovery Program.
- Participated in implementation planning on WRIA 9 stormwater retrofit grant with King County.
- Provided comments on King County reclaimed water strategy.
- Distributed information to local governments about grant opportunities and assisted project sponsors with grant applications, including letters of support.
- Updated the Habitat Work Schedule for ten high priority projects, including the information necessary for submitting projects for the 2010 Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program grant round.

*Develop and manage the long-term WRIA-wide capital facility plan and 3-year capital improvement program:*

- Submitted Projects of Regional Significance, totally over \$100 million, to the Puget Sound Partnership.
- Submitted Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Project List for 2011-2013 to Puget Sound Partnership.

*Support the Watershed Ecosystem Forum in developing, prioritizing, and presenting project recommendations to the State Salmon Recovery Funding Board for funding:*

- Attended December 10 Salmon Recovery Funding Board Meeting in order to answer questions about Mill Creek Confluence and Duwamish Gardens grant applications.

*Coordinate regional aspects of the Green River Ecosystem Restoration Project:*

- Convened the Ecosystem Restoration Project (ERP) Executive Committee, which approved \$7.5 million in 2011 federal funding for four ERP projects:
  - Riverview Park Construction in Kent (\$5 million);
  - Site 1 – North Wind’s Weir Monitoring in Tukwila (\$20,000);
  - Big Spring Creek Design on the Enumclaw Plateau, King County (\$480,000); and
  - Big Spring Creek Construction (\$2 million).
- Assisted with planning and participated in two ERP Project Management Committee meeting (October 6 and November 1).
- Supported local sponsors working on Ecosystem Restoration Project (ERP) projects, including development of funding strategies.

### **Public Outreach (half time)**

*Coordinate a public outreach and involvement strategy for the WRIA 9 planning and implementation process:*

- Participated in two King County ECO Net meeting (November 2 and December 16).
- Responded to two information request from the public.
- Regularly maintained the WRIA 9 website at [www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/](http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/).

[During the second trimester, Dennis Clark, Public Outreach/Stewardship Coordinator, spent half his time on Miller/Walker Creek basin stewardship. While it contributes to WRIA 9 watershed health, that work was funded by the Miller/Walker basin partners and thus is not summarized in this trimester report.]

### **Program Management and Administration**

*Conduct general administration work in support of ILA implementation:*

- Held verbal and email progress discussions at and between WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum and Management Committee meetings.
- Coordinated across Forum on several issues, including the Puget Sound Partnership, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, Puget Sound Partnership, and Salmon Recovery Funding Board.
- Supervised work of ILA-supported staff. Oversaw in-kind services work provided by Seattle.