

**Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 9
September 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012**

Overview:

Cost-shared services during the third trimester of 2012 focused on:

- Receiving \$327,353 in funding from the Salmon Funding Recovery Board for the Fenster Levee Setback construction project.
- Convening the Ecosystem Restoration Project Executive Committee which approved \$4.76 million in federal funding for six ERP projects.
- Submitting an application to propose the Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed as an Urban Waters Federal Partnership site.
- Advancing the discussion of draft legislation addressing Watershed Investment District funding and governance.
- 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 2011:

- Organized one meeting of the Watershed Ecosystem Forum (Forum) (November 8).
- Met four times with the Sound Cities Association, Public Issues Committee (SCA PIC) regarding the Watershed Investment District (WID) legislation (September 12, October 17, November 7, December 12) and the SCA PIC Subcommittee (December 3)
- 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.
- Attended two meeting of the PSP South Central Action Area Caucus Group to coordinate setting watershed action priorities for habitat, urban stormwater, and shellfish (October 15 and December 10).
- Attended two Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council (PSSRC) meetings (September 27 and November 9), and a conference/training sponsored by the PSSRC (October 10-12).
- Met with the Recovery Implementation Technical Team (RITT) to discuss its annual review of the WRIA 9 3-year Habitat Work Schedule (November 14).
- Participated in two meetings of the Puget Sound WRIA Leads (September 13, November 8).
- Participated in two meetings of the Puget Sound Lead Entity Advisory Group (LEAG) (October 9, November 29).

Schedule and staff four WRIA 9 Management Committee meetings to oversee the 2012 ILA-funded work program:

- Organized one meeting of the Management Committee (October 24).
- 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:

- Participated in the Urban Waters Federal Partnership meeting (September 25-26).
- Provided briefings to the 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:

- Began work on the Duwamish Riparian Revegetation Cooperative Watershed Management grant, restoring native vegetation along the Duwamish in Tukwila.
- The Implementation Technical Committee (ITC) met four times to work on the Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan, review project design and monitoring plans, and tour projects on the Upper Green subwatershed (September 4, October 2, November 6, and December 4).
- Implementation Technical Committee (ITC) members updated the Forum on PSP funding for the open standards process, and the search for long-term funding for the Green River smolt trap (November 8).
- Participated in two planning meetings with the Stormwater Retrofit Project (September 13 and December 13)
- Interviewed ten Duwamish landowners and other entities implementing and influencing salmon habitat projects to update the Duwamish Blueprint (December 18-21).

Capital Projects Implementation

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

- Coordinated final applications and Lead Entity materials for 2012 Salmon Funding Recovery Board grant round.
- Participated in cultural impacts planning for the Duwamish Gardens project with City of Tukwila (October 29).

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

- Distributed information to local governments about grant opportunities and assisted project sponsors with grant applications, including letters of support. These grant opportunities included the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program and National Estuary (NEP) Watershed Protection and Restoration Grant program.
- Attended Strategic Marketing training to improve skills in marketing and communication of salmon recovery projects and programs.

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

- Submitted three projects to the PSAR Large Capital Projects sequencing list:
 - Seahurst Park Shoreline Restoration, Burien;
 - Mill Creek Confluence/Green River Restoration, Kent; and
 - Duwamish Gardens, Tukwila.
- The Seahurst Park Shoreline Restoration project ranked third overall on the sequenced list of 30 projects.

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

- Attended December 6 Salmon Recovery Funding Board meeting in order to answer questions about grant application.

Coordinate regional aspects of the Green River Ecosystem Restoration Project:

- Convened the Ecosystem Restoration Project (ERP) Executive Committee (November 8), which approved \$4.76 million in 2013 federal funding for six ERP projects:
 - Lake Meridian Outlet Monitoring, Kent (\$20,000);
 - Riverview Park Monitoring, Kent (\$20,000);
 - Upper Springbrook Creek Monitoring, Renton (\$20,000)
 - Mill Creel Wetland 5K Construction, Auburn (\$2.5 million);
 - Big Spring Creek Construction, King County/Enumclaw (\$2 million); and
 - Porter Levee Setback Design, King County (\$200,000)
- Assisted with planning and participated in one ERP Project Management Committee meeting (October 17).
- Supported local sponsors working on 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 Restore the Duwamish Challenge volunteer event with City of Tukwila, BECU, and Forterra (September 14)
- Responded to five information requests from the public.
- Regularly maintained the WRIA 9 website at www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/.
- Participated in one Lower Duwamish Waterway Stakeholders meeting (November 6).

[During the third trimester, Elissa Ostergaard, Project Implementation, Planning and Stewardship Coordinator, spent approximately three quarters of her 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 Forum and Management Committee meetings.
- Coordinated across Forum on several issues, including the PSP, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, and Salmon Recovery Funding Board.
- Supervised work of ILA-supported staff.