

## Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 9

September 1 to December 31, 2013

### Overview:

#### Cost-shared services during the third trimester of 2013 focused on:

- Receiving \$930,000 in unallocated King Conservation District funding for three projects.
- Receiving \$1.29 million in funding from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board for two projects.
- Convening the Ecosystem Restoration Project (ERP) Executive Committee which approved \$6.29 million in federal funding for five ERP projects.
- Tracking all Salmon Recovery Funding Board/Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration projects through the fall/winter SRFB approval process.
- Recruiting and hiring the WRIA 9 Communications Coordinator.
- Developing the WRIA 9 Communications Plan.
- Convening a working group to update the Duwamish Blueprint.
- Coordinating with the State Legislature on watershed investment and governance legislation.
- Helping to organize the successful Urban Waters Federal Partnership launch event at Tukwila.
- Continuing to develop overall framework for monitoring and adaptive management in WRIA 9.
- Providing technical information to support the Lower Green River System-Wide Improvement Framework (SWIF) and participating on both the SWIF Technical Advisory Committee and Advisory Council.
- Representing WRIA 9's interests in Puget Sound Watershed Leads group, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, South Central Caucus Group, and Lead Entity Advisory Group.

*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 preparing the scope of work and budget for work to be cost-shared after 2013:*

- Organized one meeting of the Watershed Ecosystem Forum (Forum) (November 7).
- Organized two stakeholder meetings of the Watershed Investment Working Group to identify common interests in and opportunities for establishing watershed-based governance structures and funding mechanisms (September 25 and December 4).
- Briefed Senator McCoy on the input obtained from the stakeholder meetings (December 18).
- Coordinated local government and Forum communications with the State legislature.
- Conducted e-mail correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with Forum and Forum staff members.
- Prepared for and attended three meetings of and interviews for the Horseshoe Bend System-Wide Improvement Framework (September 10 and 24 and December 10).
- Prepared for and attended one meeting of the Lower Green System-Wide Improvement Framework Technical Advisory Committee (November 20) and one meeting of the Advisory Council (December 12)
- Attended one planning meeting to prepare for a Green River subcommittee meeting of the Agriculture Commission (December 5) and one meeting of the Subcommittee (December 11).

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

- Attended two Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council (PSSRC) meetings (September 26 and December 6).
- Participated in two meetings of the Puget Sound South Central Action Area Caucus Group (September 16 and November 18).
- Attended one meeting of the Puget Sound Partnership Ecosystem Coordination Board (November 21).
- Participated in two meetings of the Puget Sound Watershed Leads (September 12 and November 14) and one regular conference call (October 10).
- Participated in one meeting of the Puget Sound Lead Entity Advisory Group (LEAG) (October 1) and two conference calls (October 10 and November 5).
- Participated in four conference calls of the Outreach and Communications Committee for LEAG (September 24, October 22, November 19 and December 2).
- Attended one King County Flood Control District Board meeting to answer questions regarding the Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) grants (September 9)
- Attended two King Conservation District Board meetings to answer questions regarding grant applications (September 9 and October 14).
- Advised the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) and Governor's Salmon Recovery Office on salmon recovery funding and technical issues.

*Schedule and staff four WRIA 9 Management Committee meetings to oversee the 2013 ILA-funded work program:*

- Organized one meeting of the Management Committee (October 23).
- 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:*

- Helped organize and participated in the Urban Waters Federal Partnership launch event at Tukwila (September 5).
- Provided briefings to the Forum on Habitat Plan implementation issues, and provided assistance to several cost-sharing city partners.
- Attended two meetings to plan the Seahurst Shoreline Restoration groundbreaking event ((September 5 and 12) and attended the Groundbreaking Event (September 16)
- Attended a media event during construction of the Seahurst Shoreline Restoration Project (December 5).

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

- Continued work on the Duwamish Riparian Revegetation CWM grant, restoring native vegetation along the Duwamish in Tukwila.
- Began to translate the WRIA 9 plan into the regional monitoring & adaptive management framework. The core team met several times, attended one workshop held by Puget Sound Partnership (October 24), and worked with the Implementation Technical Committee (ITC) to complete some of the work items.
- The ITC met four times to work on the regional Monitoring and Adaptive Management framework, review project design and monitoring plans, and tour projects on the Upper Green subwatershed (September 3, October 1, November 5, and December 3).
- 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 one planning meeting with the Stormwater Retrofit Project (December 4)
- Convened the first meeting of the Duwamish Blueprint working group (November 21). Drafted a scope, schedule, and working group protocols for updating the Duwamish restoration strategy document.

### **Capital Projects Implementation**

*Coordinate cross-jurisdictional implementation of projects identified as WRIA priorities (e.g., projects funded by the watershed allocation of Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR), Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM), and other funds):*

- Coordinated final applications and Lead Entity materials for 2013 SRFB grant round.
- Received \$930,000 in King Conservation District funding for three projects:
  - Beaconsfield on the Sound Acquisition, City of Normandy Park (\$300,000)
  - Big Spring Creek Construction, King County (\$330,000)
  - Duwamish Gardens Construction, City of Tukwila (\$300,000)
- Provided support to Tukwila for using King County's acquisitions group to research and implement a property swap to enlarge the Duwamish Gardens project area and add 450 feet of shoreline to the west.

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

- Worked with King County's Mitigation Reserve Program on alternative funding sources for large Duwamish 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 Floodplains by Design and PSP's Project Implementation Development Awards.

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

- Received positive feedback from the Recovery Implementation Technical Team regarding the 2013 restoration projects and consistency with the watershed's recovery plan.

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

- Attended SRFB meeting in order to answer questions about grant applications (December 4).
- Received \$1,299,434 in SRFB and PSAR funding for two projects:

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- Restoring Duwamish Gardens, Tukwila (\$949,434); and
- Beginning Restoration of Mill Creek Confluence with the Green River, Kent (\$350,000).

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

- Convened the Ecosystem Restoration Project (ERP) Executive Committee (November 8), which approved \$6,289,000 in 2014 federal funding for five ERP projects:
  - Mill Creek Wetland 5K Construction, Auburn (\$3,729,000);
  - Boeing Levee Construction, Kent (\$1,860,000);
  - Porter Levee Setback Design, King County (\$600,000);
  - Riverview Park Monitoring, Kent (\$80,000); and
  - Lake Meridian Outlet Monitoring, Kent (\$20,000).
- Assisted with planning and participated in one ERP Project Management Committee meeting (October 30).
- Supported local sponsors working on ERP projects, including development of funding strategies.

### **Communications & Outreach**

- Developed the Communications Plan to better tell the story of WRIA 9:
  - Created The WRIA 9 WIRE – a monthly communications tool to keep friends of WRIA 9 informed of news in the watershed.
  - Developed elevator speech to for WRIA 9.
  - Began work on branding for all marketing and outreach materials—including template for WRIA 9 project fact sheets.
- Regularly maintained the WRIA 9 website at [www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/](http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/).
- Participated in one Duwamish Community Involvers meeting (November 13).
- Responded to two information requests from the public.

### **Program Management and Administration**

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

- Recruited and hired the WRIA 9 Communications Coordinator.
- 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, PSSRC, and SRFB.
- Supervised work of ILA-supported staff.