

**Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 9  
May 1, 2008 – August 31, 2008**

**Overview:**

**Cost-shared services during the second trimester of 2008 focused on:**

- Obtaining \$556,023 in grants for the Cascade Land Conservancy, Green-Duwamish Alliance and Earth Economics to implement three WRIA 9 habitat projects and programs.
- Completing a draft pilot “Report Card” of salmon implementation progress for the Puget Sound Partnership.
- Completing negotiations to purchase the Duwamish Gardens property in Tukwila with purchase and sale agreement signed August 20.
- Approving the 2009 ILA Budget.
- Reaching agreement on the 2009 Scope of Work and Staffing Plan for the ILA-funded services.
- Coordinating habitat, harvest, hatchery, and dam operations with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, State, and others.
- Continuing the planning of a Marine Nearshore Workshop with Seattle, Burien, Normandy Park, Des Moines, and Federal Way
- Completely revising the format and much of the structure of the WRIA 9 website and transferred it from [www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov) to [www.govlink.org/watersheds](http://www.govlink.org/watersheds)

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

**Forum and Steering Committee Coordination**

*Schedule and staff a reduced number of WRIA 9 Forum and WRIA 9 Steering Committee 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 2008:*

- Organized two meetings of the Forum (June 26, August 20).
- Organized one meeting of the Steering Committee (July 10).
- Organized four meetings of the Management Committee (May 21, June 11, June 17, July 2).
- 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.

*Participate in and coordinate 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 four Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council meetings.
- Attended three meetings and a two-day retreat of the Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership Steering Committee.
- Attended four PSP Watershed Leads meetings to stay abreast of PSP developments and expectations for watersheds (May 7, June 17, July 9, August 14).

*Schedule and staff WRIA 9 Management Committee meetings to oversee the 2008 scope of work:*

- Organized four meetings of the Management Committee (May 21, June 11 and 17, July 2).
- Conducted e-mail correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with Management Committee members.

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

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

### **WRIA Plan Implementation**

*Work with the WRIA 9 Steering Committee, including any subcommittees, to facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan:*

- Provided briefing to the Steering Committee on Habitat Plan implementation issues, and provided assistance to several cost-sharing city partners.

*Develop and implement adaptive management, and participate in regional or sub-regional planning, implementation, monitoring, and financing efforts:*

- Held four meetings of the Implementation Technical Committee (ITC) (May 15, June 19, August 21).
- Continued planning marine nearshore workshop targeted to WRIA 9 nearshore cities and King County.
- Continued Habitat, Harvest, Hatchery, and Dam-integration meetings with representatives from Muckleshoot Indian tribe, Tacoma Public Utilities, WDFW, ACOE, King County, City of Seattle, and WRIA 9.
- Continued WRIA 9 project prioritization and sequencing with King County Water and Land Resources Science staff (this effort will peak in October 2008 and is expected to be concluded by the end 2008 in time for submittal of the 2009 3-Year Work Schedule in April 2009).
- Submitted final report to WADOE/EPA in support of 2008 Watershed grant that funded the tour of low impact development sites, improved integration of water quality, quantity, and habitat restoration, and coordination with regional water supply and groundwater groups. Watershed actions were identified the contributed to the National Estuary Program.

*Other work to promote implementation of the Habitat Plan recommendation:*

- Provided comments on Puget Sound Partnership South Central Action Area profile.
- Worked with City of Tukwila and WADOE to address relocation of ordinary high water mark under Shoreline Management Act as a result of habitat restoration.
- Provided comment to Lead Entity Advisory Group in support of increased Lead Entity funding.
- Provided comment and attended planning on meeting on restoration opportunities at Saltwater and Dash Point State Parks, and agreed to participate on a Steering Committee with other interested parties including the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Provided June 11 comment letter to Army Corps on unnecessary vegetation removal and riprap on Green River levee repairs.

### **Capital Facility Coordination**

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

- Provided WRIA 9 perspectives at July 16 public workshop on Port of Seattle Lower Duwamish River Habitat Restoration Plan.

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

- Worked with Tukwila staff and property owners on on-going negotiations to purchase Duwamish Gardens, resulting in signed purchase and sale agreement August 20. Made presentations to Washington Wildlife Recreation Program selection committee in partnership with City of Tukwila staff. Managed archeological investigations of site.
- Distributed information to local governments about grant opportunities and assisted project sponsors with grant applications. These grant opportunities included: Community Salmon Fund, Pioneers in Conservation, Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

- Filled out PRISM project applications for ESRP construction funding for Duwamish Gardens and Riverton Creek Flapgate Removal for the City of Tukwila.
- Assisted King County staff with project tracking and coordination for North Wind's Weir.
- Consulted with City of Auburn staff regarding restoration of Olson Creek.
- Attended project initiation meeting for Saltwater State Park. WRIA 9 staff provided input on design for salmon restoration and funding options to Washington State Parks staff.
- Attended presentations by project sponsors in Olympia for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. As a result of these applications, King County is expected to receive \$875,000 for the Green River Acquisition project and \$600,000 for the Point Heyer Drift Cell Preservation project.
- Assisted project sponsors with grants for submission to the King Conservation District Board. The following grants were approved:
  - The Beaconsfield on the Sound project was awarded \$496,023 towards acquisition of parcels within the City of Normandy Park. The application was submitted and awarded to Cascade Land Conservancy.
  - The Green-Duwamish Alliance received \$10,000 towards the Summer Watershed Conservation Science Program, a program designed to teach watershed science in the field and classroom, and have the students work on habitat enhancement projects on the Duwamish River.
  - A grant was awarded to Earth Economics for "Identifying a Funding Mechanism for Implementation of the WRIA 9 Habitat Plan", which will build the capacity of WRIA 9 and KCD by developing an independent funding mechanism to support salmon restoration. This grant was funded for \$50,000.
  - Entered all WRIA 9 habitat projects into the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Habitat Work Schedule Database. This database is now being used to enter all potential projects and track active projects statewide. A celebration of the completion of project input by all Lead Entities was held on August 20 and attended by WRIA 9 staff. Keynote speakers included U.S. Rep. Norm Dicks, D-Belfair; Bill Ruckelshaus, chairman of the Leadership Council of the Puget Sound Partnership; Jeff Koenings, director of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; and Bob Lohn, regional administrator for the National Marine Fisheries Service.

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

- Solicited and reviewed draft SRFB applications for the 2008 grant cycle.
- Organized the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) field tour of 2008 Salmon Recovery Funding Board projects. This field review provided the opportunity for the TAG members to provide feedback to project sponsors on their project design.
- Organized the Salmon Recovery Funding Board Review Panel field tour for this year's projects. The projects included Pautzke Levee Setback, Downey Farmstead Feasibility Study, and Point Heyer Drift Cell Preservation.
- Submitted the 2008 proposed project list and answers to Lead Entity questions to the Puget Sound Partnership.

*Coordinate regional aspects of the Green/Duwamish River Ecosystem Restoration Project and Puget Sound Nearshore Restoration Project:*

- Supported local sponsors working on Ecosystem Restoration Project (ERP) projects, including development of funding strategies.
- Attended Ecosystem Restoration Project Management Committee meetings on May 14 and July 9.
- Assisted in finalization of the ERP Program Management Plan.
- Held the ERP Executive Committee Meeting on June 26. The ERP Program Management Plan was adopted at this meeting.

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

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

- In cooperation with King County and the Army Corps, organized the July 28 groundbreaking for the North Wind's Weir project in the Duwamish that involved 60 elected officials, staff, and interested citizens. Arranged for speakers and drafted talking points for Rep. Zack Hudgins, Mayor Jim Haggerton, Councilmember Dow Constantine, Joanna Richey, and KCD Executive Director Jeffrey Possinger. Positive article published in July 30 Daily Journal of Commerce.
- Planned and conducted the annual "yellow bus tour" of Upper and Middle Green Rivers for 43 persons on July 14. Participants included staff from Congressional delegation in addition to regular WRIA 9 participants. Tour resulted in positive article "Feds, local governments working to bring back salmon, steelhead runs to Green River" in Kent Reporter July 21; another article on Howard Hanson Dam was published in The News Tribune July 16.
- Responded to 3 information requests 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 Steering Committee, Forum, and Management Committee meetings.
- Coordinated across Steering Committee and Forum on several issues, including the Puget Sound Partnership, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, Puget Sound Partnership, and Salmon Recovery Funding Board.
- Completed the 2009 budget and work program.
- Supervised work of ILA-supported staff.