

Summary of Services Provided in WRIA 9

January 1 to April 30, 2016

Overview:

Cost-shared services during the first trimester of 2015 focused on:

- Developing the 2017/18 WRIA 9 budget, scope of work, and cost shares for Management Committee (MC) review and Watershed Ecosystem Forum approval.
- Working with the MC Subcommittee to review and recommend budget tracking procedures among the Service Provider, MC, and WRIA 9 staff.
- Launching the 2016 “Green the Green” grants program for stewardship and native plantings.
- Regularly convening a Riparian Revegetation Working Group to develop a strategy for “re-greening” WRIA 9 rivers and streams.
- Continuing to develop the strategy for updating the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan
- Developing the timeline for 2016 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) projects and coordinating field dates and application materials for four projects.
- Developing the timeline for application materials and coordinated preparation of CWM applications.
- Updating the list of projects in the Four-Year Work Plan for 2017-2018 salmon recovery funding.
- Sending out eight twice-monthly editions of The WRIA 9 WIRE.
- Preparing the second draft of the 2015 Program Implementation Survey.
- Updating the WRIA 9 2016 Federal/State Legislative Priorities.
- Securing approval of the 2016-2025 WRIA 9 Interlocal Agreement (ILA) by the City of Algona.
- Supporting project sponsors in developing funding strategies and requests for habitat projects.
- Representing WRIA 9’s interests in and information to/coordination with Puget Sound Watershed Leads group, Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, South Central Caucus Group, and Washington Salmon Coalition.

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

Watershed Ecosystem Forum & Regional/State Coordination

- Organized one meeting of the Watershed Ecosystem Forum (WEF) (February 11). Meeting topics included: Status of the Lower Green River System-Wide Improvement Framework; revised strategy for updating the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan (Plan); new authorization requirements for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) funding; decision on a interlocal agreement (ILA) approval exception for the City of Algona; Management Committee (MC) request to adjust 2016 WRIA 9 work plan in order to balance the 2016 budget; and presentation on freshwater life history diversity and productivity of Green River Chinook Salmon.
- Organized two meetings of the MC (February 3 and April 27).
- Organized two meetings of the MC Subcommittee (February 17 and March 10).
- Updated the WRIA 9 2016 Federal/State Legislative Priorities. Prepared WEF members for Legislative Outreach Day (January 26).
- Attended two meetings of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council (PSSRC) (January 28 and March 24).

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- Attended two meetings of the Puget Sound Partnership Finance Committee (January 29, April 21)
- Attended the WRIA 8 Salmon Summit (February 4).
- Attended the River Restoration Northwest conference (February 2-4).
- Submitted Near-Term Action proposals to the Lead Integrating Organization.
- Met with Green/Duwamish Urban Waters Federal Partnership (January 15).
- Met with King County Conservation Futures Tax Citizens' Committee on the Open Space Initiative (March 16).
- Met with the King County Flood Control District Executive Director on the Lower Green River Corridor Plan (March 22).
- Attended the GoGreen Conference and Tour (March 29 and 30).
- Attended River Restoration Northwest Film Event, Stories of our Watersheds, which featured WRIA 9's video, "Green the Green: Raise a Glass to our Water!" (April 13).
- Presented at and attended the Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference (April 13-15).
- Participated in five meetings of the Puget Sound South Central Action Area Caucus Group (February 3, March 2, April 6, 21, and 26).
- Participated in three meetings of the Puget Sound Watershed Leads (January 14, March 10, and April 5).
- Attended workshop of the Green/Duwamish Watershed Advisory Group (January 21).
- Consulted with American Rivers on America's Most Endangered Rivers' listing of the Green/Duwamish Rivers as the fifth Most Endangered and participated in press event.
- Coordinated with King County on Shellfish Protection of Poverty Bay.
- Attended WA Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Pollution Loading Assessment Technical Advisory meeting (April 6).
- Conducted e-mail correspondence and multiple phone and personal conversations with WEF/MC and WEF staff members.
- Provided information to all jurisdictions equally.

WRIA Plan Implementation

- Revised the strategy for updating the WRIA 9 Plan and presented it to the WEF.
- Prepared the second draft of the 2015 Program Implementation Survey.
- Scheduled and facilitated three meetings of the Implementation Technical Committee (ITC). Meeting topics included: Discussion of implications of the Middle Green River Chinook productivity analysis; review of the revised schedule for updating the WRIA 9 Plan; update on the Riparian Revegetation strategy; review of the updated water quality conservation hypotheses; discussion of the updated Four-Year Work Plan; and monitoring proposals for Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) funding (January 27, February 24, and March 30).
- Scheduled and facilitated the WRIA 9 Riparian Revegetation Working Group, and held four meetings to discuss agriculture, implementation techniques, costs, land acquisition, funding, tracking, climate change, priorities and goals (January 20, February 17, March 25, and April 20).
- Submitted a request for 40 hours of assistance from PSP for further developing habitat goals and targets towards updating the Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan.
- Met with Ecology staff to discuss source control for contaminants (March 24).
- Participated in the Washington Salmon Coalition (WSC) retreat (February 9-11) to discuss climate change impacts to salmon recovery, legislative outreach, and community outreach.
- Participated in two sub-committees of the WSC:

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- Participated in four WebEx meetings of the Outreach and Communications Committee (January 12, February 22, March 28, and April 25); and
- Participated in three WebEx meetings of the Habitat Work Schedule (HWS) Committee (January 21, February 18, and April 21) and updated 23 projects in HWS.
- Attended Salmon in the City event to learn about Built Green programs and the latest research on stormwater effects on salmon (January 28).
- Attended the Green/Duwamish Watershed Symposium and presented on WRIA 9 salmon recovery the development of the revegetation strategy (February 29).
- Provided assistance to several cost-sharing city partners.

Capital Projects Implementation

- Updated the list of projects in the Four-Year Work Plan for 2017-2018 salmon recovery funding.
- Developed timeline for 2016 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) projects and coordinated field dates and application materials for four projects.
- Developed timeline for application materials and coordinated preparation of CWM applications.
- Continued work on the Duwamish Riparian Revegetation CWM grant to restore native plants and trees along the Duwamish in Tukwila, in coordination with King County Noxious Weeds Control Program for knotweed control.
- Distributed information to local governments about grant opportunities and assisted project sponsors with grant applications, including letters of support. These grant opportunities included Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program and Waterworks.

Communications & Outreach

- Fine-tuned the Communications Plan to align with the WRIA 9 Plan update
 - Sent out eight twice-monthly editions of The WRIA 9 Green/Duwamish newsletter a.k.a The WIRE
 - Continued work on branding for all marketing and outreach materials.
 - Created three additional WRIA 9 project fact sheets.
- Participated in Kent's annual Watershed Festival, and educated over 261 fourth and fifth graders from Kent, Auburn, Covington and Federal Way about stormwater runoff using the watershed model (March 22-23).
- Participated in Earth Day at Boeing's Auburn Plant (April 22). Met with over 200 Boeing workers to share information on watershed and salmon recovery efforts.
- Regularly maintained the WRIA 9 website at www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/, adding new web pages for the [ITC](#) and updating the [ILA 2016-2025](#) web page.
- Presented to Trout Unlimited Green/Duwamish chapter about WRIA 9 salmon recovery efforts (February 16).
- Attended a Green Stormwater Infrastructure summit hosted by Stewardship Partners (February 24).
- Responded to two information requests from the public, including rain gardens at Eagle Creek Landing in Burien and Trout Unlimited.

Program Management and Administration

- Developed the 2017/18 WRIA 9 budget, scope of work, and cost shares for MC review and WEF approval.
- Prepared quarterly work program and budget tracking reports for the MC.

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- Met monthly with King County Water and Land Resources Finance staff to monitor WRIA 9's budget.
- Held verbal and email progress discussions at and between WEF and MC meetings.
- Coordinated across WEF on several issues, including the PSP, PSSRC, and SRFB.
- Supervised work of ILA-supported staff.