



**San Juan County Action Agenda Oversight Group/San Juan Local Integrating Organization (SJ-LIO)
Implementation Committee (IC)**

Meeting Summary

Thursday April 4, 2019, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm

San Juan Island Grange, Friday Harbor, WA

Final 06-06-2019

Action Items	Person(s) Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Incorporate member input to the EPRP update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Marta

Welcome and Introductions

Marta Green convened the meeting at 11:15 am. The Implementation Committee (IC) members and guests provided brief introductions. Sam Whitridge, the newest member of the LIO-IC, introduced himself over the phone. Sam is the new Salmon Recovery Lead Entity/Environmental Resources Coordinator for San Juan County. Sam was the coordinator for the Renovation Partnership in southern Oregon for the past decade. He will be working remotely until he and his family move to Orcas Island in June.

Meeting Agenda and Summary

The meeting agenda was approved with no changes. The meeting summary from the February 7, 2019 SJ LIO Implementation Committee meeting was approved by members present with one change. Laura Ferguson from the Puget Sound Partnership stated that actions regarding the SRKW *cannot* be incorporated as addendums for the Action Agenda.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Upcoming Events

Marta reviewed upcoming events.

- Oil Spill Consequences Assessment/ERTV Presentation: There will be a community meeting on May 8th at the SJI Grange. A Phase II near term action has been submitted that would expand the geographic extent of the assessment to include Island and Jefferson Counties. Marta noted that there will be an annual transboundary meeting, Salish Sea Shared Waters Forum, this fall, noting that the US Coast Guard and Transport Canada did not attend the 2018 forum. It was suggested that the LIO should state this in letters to those absent groups to get meaningful conversations about these topics started.
- There are upcoming IOSA meetings on Orcas, Lopez and San Juan Islands. The meetings will help clarify future volunteer opportunities.



Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Updates

Laura gave updates on the PSP. The new executive director has not been announced, but Laura Blackmore is a strong candidate. Laura is currently the deputy director for the external operations division of the PSP. Carrie Byron is now the PSAR Program Coordinator. Alexandra Doty is the project coordinator for WRIA 8 and 9 in south sound. Jennifer Lee, Director of Planning for PSP, is moving to NOAA. And the PSP is tracking the new budgets that just came out. Puget Sound Day on the Hill is May 14th – 16th, Laura is happy to have folks sign a letter of support. Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP) is looking for new members. PSEMP meets every two months for a full one day meeting. If LIO members are interested, let Laura know. And orca.wa.gov is live now. PSP is hosting the website for the Governor's orca recovery task force.

Near Term Action (NTA) Funding

Marta reviewed the 2016-2018 National Estuary Program funded NTAs. The NTAs focus on restoration, but San Juan County's NTAs were not selected by Strategic Initiative (SI) Leads for funding. Marta noted that there is a lot of funding going to SI Leads administration of NTAs, and less of the funds are going to the actual work. Some LIOs have drafted letters to EPA voicing concerns the funding model. Marta reviewed the San Juan letter with LIO members, and the group discussed the points of the letter.

Ecosystem Protection and Recovery Plan (EPRP) 2019 Update Preparation

Marta presented potential updates and identified gaps in the EPRP based on local 2018 NTAs and other local initiatives.

- Under freshwater restoration, instream flow studies need to be conducted in order to proceed to project planning. Forest management, wildfire protection plans, and a complete biomass conversion feasibility study need to be conducted as well. Kim mentioned that there are two instream flow studies for San Juan County. Cascade Creek has one, but the creek is under the water rights ownership of Rosario Resort, who has used the water for their private power plant. Fish Trap Creek in Deer Harbor has one, but it has been dammed. There is a spillway on the dam now. Marta also noted that Byron Rot would like to come and give a presentation on this to LIO members. She also noted that the San Juan Island Conservation District (SJICD) is taking the lead on updating the forest management plan.
- Under shoreline hardening, herring and eelgrass restoration need to be added. Marta reported that the SJICD is piloting a herring and eelgrass restoration project this year. Stephanie added that Friends of the San Juans is working with property owners to remove bulkheads and replace them with clam beds to soften shorelines.
- Under stormwater management, regularly scheduled street sweeping and annual cleaning of catch basins need to be added. Marta reported these measures are already in place.
- Under large oil spill/ vessel traffic impacts, enhancement of strategies specific to SRKW and impacts from small- to medium-sized boats including south SJI hydrophone, boater education, and whale flags needs to be added. New NTAs for vessel/boat traffic capacity, and objectives to fill in gaps in Action Agenda need to be added. Marta suggested that the LIO needs to look at the regulatory piece of this. Boats over 120 ft. will be exempt from distance regulations for SRKW under current proposed regulation updates. It was suggested that it may be more effective to come up with a new standard of care. Pacific sand lance studies and the oil spill Geographic Response Plan updates to strategies on protection of sensitive marine habitat needs



to be added. And updates to the strategy regarding IOSA’s role and capacity should be reviewed as the action team proceeds to revitalize IOSA.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:25 pm

Meeting Participants

Members

Name	Affiliation	In Attendance
Frances Robertson	SJC Marine Resources Committee	
Kyle Dodd	San Juan County Health & Community Services	
Kendra Smith	San Juan County Environmental Resources Division	X (via phone)
Patti Gobin	Tulalip Tribes	
Stephanie Buffum	San Juan Stewardship Network/EcoNet Representative	X
Byron Rot	San Juan County Environmental Project Manager	
Billie Swalla	University of Washington Friday Harbor Laboratories	X
Kimbal Sundberg	Water Resources Management Committee	X
Stan Walsh	Swinomish Tribe, Skagit River System Cooperative	
Phil Green	San Juan Marine Resources Committee	X
Mike Ramsey	San Juan Island Conservation District	
Sam Whitridge	San Juan County Salmon Recovery Coordinator LE	X (via phone)

Staff and Guests

Name	Affiliation
Marta Green	San Juan Action Agenda Oversight Group
Chandler Colahan	Recording Secretary
Laura Ferguson	Puget Sound Partnership