March 22, 2011

To: Puget Sound Ecosystem Coordination Board

Fm: State Agency Lead Organizations for EPA Ecosystem Recovery Grants

Re: Agenda for Engaging the ECB in Grant Program Discussion at April 1, 2011 Meeting

Objective: Provide ECB additional detail on the grants and generate ECB input on the role proposed for the ECB in grant development, management, and evaluation

The five state agencies engaged in implementing the Puget Sound Ecosystem Recovery grants appreciate the opportunity to engage in a wide-ranging discussion with the ECB on implementation processes and priorities. Agenda for the 90 minute discussion:

1. Introduction, Objectives, Agenda Review – Naki Stevens, Dept. of Natural Resources – 5 mins.
2. Context and Short Briefing on Grants – 15 mins.

   EPA – Tom Eaton, EPA Region 10

   LO's – Margen Carlson, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
3. ECB Discussion: Approach to Round 1 Investments – Jerrod Davis, Dept. of Health – 20 mins

   Ecology/Commerce (Toxics & Nutrients and Watershed Protection) – Josh Baldi

   Dept. of Health (Pathogens) – Jerrod Davis

   Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (Marine/Nearshore) – Margen Carlson
4. ECB Discussion: Engagement – Josh Baldi, Dept. of Ecology – 40 mins.

   ECB role (as discussed at February ECB meeting (see text below))

   Strategic Advisory Committee (see attachment in your packet of materials)
5. Targets and Action Agenda – LO Role – Naki Stevens, DNR – 5 mins

Engagement of the ECB – excerpts from January 25, 2011 "discussion Draft" memo to ECB from LO's

Washington State agencies have received grants from EPA under the Clean Water Act National Estuary Program to coordinate six-year efforts to develop and implement strategies for:

- Marine and nearshore protection and restoration (Department of Fish & Wildlife and DNR)
- Watershed protection and restoration (Departments of Ecology and Commerce)
- Toxics and nutrients prevention, reduction and control (Department of Ecology)
- Pathogen prevention, reduction, and control (Departments of Health and Ecology)

Work plans included in the four January 4 Lead Organizations' (LO) applications outline broad programs of work and decisions about initial investments. One common element of the LOs' applications is a coordinated effort with the PSP and EPA to gather strategic advice from various parts of the Puget Sound National Estuary Program (NEP) management conference.

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[Potential Role of ECB:] Opportunities for LO's, EPA, and PSP to engage the management conference through the ECB and the implementing partners and stakeholders represented on the ECB include requests to:

- Obtain advice on the development and implementation of six-year strategies.
- Vet proposed investments, including the process and decision-making criteria for subawards, designed to implement strategies prior to their presentation to the Leadership Council.
- Play a central role in integrating the public awareness and engagement efforts.
- Evaluate progress in achieving outcomes as they align with Action Agenda benchmarks/indicators and across the four topics.

March 21, 2011

DRAFT Discussion Piece:
Engaging Strategic Advisors in 6-Year Strategies

1) Purpose

The Lead Organizations propose to convene two small groups of advisors to complement both the initial work by core staff within the Lead Organizations and the broader discussion possible at regularly-scheduled ECB and Science Panel meetings. The intent is for these groups to provide advice and feedback that is both more detailed and more timely than is possible at ECB meetings. Specific duties include the following:

a) Provide timely input to Lead Organizations on refinement of strategies and implementation of actions.
b) Communicate back to represented entity on evolving strategies and actions.
c) Help create consistency and synergy between 6-year strategies and Action Agenda.
d) Provide strategic guidance concerning priorities and processes for making sub awards.
e) Participate in adaptive management analysis and recommendations.
f) Generally, serve as vetting forum for progress on 6-year strategies.

2) Strategic Focus

a) Watershed and Marine/Nearshore Protection and Restoration
b) Toxics, Nutrients and Pathogen Prevention and Reduction

3) Frequency

a) As needed to provide timely input outside of the regularly scheduled ECB and Science Panel meetings. (Approximately 4 meetings in the rest of 2011.)
b) Appoint for 1-year term.

4) Composition (for each of the two strategic focuses in "2" above)

a) Recommended 13; plus additional members as needed
b) Draw from X-Partnership representation:
    1) PSP
    2) EPA
    3) NWIFC
    4) Science Panel
    5) Leadership Council
    6) 2 Action Areas
    7) Business

8) Cities
9) Counties
10) Fed
11) Tribal
12) Environmental
13) In addition; LO supplements with expertise as needed

5) Other Opportunities to inform 6-Year Strategies include:

a) Specific topical efforts, such as:
   - Stormwater sub-committee;
   - 3-directors talks for agriculture;
   - Improving flood plain management;
   - Target setting;
   - Action Agenda strategy updates (including Action Area updates);
   - Public review of Action Agenda;
   - Topical workshops as needed;
   - Other?
b) Regular NEP meetings (i.e., ECB, Science Panel, Leadership Council)
c) Caucuses and interests as requested

6) Schedule and Process

a) Engage ECB in discussion piece at April 1 meeting.
b) Form Strategic Advisors' groups during month of April.
c) Conduct two meetings prior to August ECB with focus on strategy refinement, Action Agenda crosswalk and clarification of potential Round 1 investments.
d) Overall Strategic Advisors' process to be managed by LO with strong support from PSP and EPA.

Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
6730 Martin Way E., Olympia, Washington 98516-5540
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To: Terry Wright, Fisheries Program – Assistant Director
From: Tiffany Waters, Puget Sound Recovery Projects Coordinator
Date: 3.21.11
Re: NWIFC Tribal Proposal Summaries for PSP/EPA FY 10 Funding

Tribal Proposal Titles

Tribe/Tribal Consortium	*Proposal Title*
Lummi Nation	Development of a Strategy to Address Sediment Impacts in the South Fork Nooksack River
Nooksack Indian Tribe	Nooksack Tribe Implementation of High Priority Salmon Recovery Projects
Samish Indian Nation	Secret Harbor Estuary and Salt Marsh Restoration Monitoring of Fresh and Marine Ecosystems
Skagit River System Cooperative	Assessment of the Geomorphological and Ecological Consequences of Dike Breaching vs. Dike Removal for Estuarine Habitat Restoration.
Swinomish Indian Tribe	Non-Point Pollution Public Information and Education Initiative
Upper Skagit	Evaluating spatial and seasonal distribution of stream dwelling juvenile salmonids Chinook and Steelhead and determining habitat preferences of those juveniles
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe	Sauk-Suiattle Knotweed Eradication and Sediment Research
Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians	Studies on the Sources and Potential Treatment of Land-Based Pollutant Runoff
Tulalip Tribes	Pilchuck Watershed Protection Strategy
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe	Snoqualmie Tribe McElhoe-Pearson Levee Setback Partnership Project
Suquamish Tribe	Assessing and Preparing for Impacts of Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia on Dungeness Crab in the Pacific Northwest
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	Investigation of fine sediment loading and effect on salmon spawning habitat quality in the Green River
Puyallup Tribe of Indians	Stormwater Monitoring and Sediment Oxygen Demand Investigation on Clarks Creek To Support the Use of Stormwater Flow as a Surrogate for Determining TMDL Waste Load Allocations
Nisqually	Managing Eatonville's stormwater to protect salmon & Nisqually Sustainable
Squaxin	Biological Recovery of Coho in the Deschutes Watershed
Skokomish	Monitoring and Adaptive Management of the Skokomish Estuary after Restoration
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe	Nearshore Early Marine Juvenile Salmonid, Forage Fish, and Marine Biodiversity Study
Point No Point Treaty Council	Indian Island Baitfish Monitoring Study
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	Jimmcomelately Creek and Estuary Restoration: A Five Year Report & Determining the magnitude, extent, contributing sources, and possible impacts of elevated nutrients in Sequim and Dungeness Bays.
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	Monitoring the movements of adult salmonids and wild steelhead in the Elwha River during dam removal.
Makah Tribe	Consistent and Vocal Policy Presence on Freshwater/Terrestrial Issues and Integration of Regional Research/Recovery Priorities

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Tribal Project Descriptions

Lummi Nation

Lummi Nation, in developing a strategy to address sediment impacts in the South Fork Nooksack River, will: (1) assess the physical conditions of active, abandoned, and orphaned forest roads by collaborating with private and public forest owners; and (2) update a recent master's thesis on measuring the amount of sediment input by source, focusing on updating landslide and streambank erosion data.

Nooksack Indian Tribe

Nooksack Indian Tribe proposes to construct historic-scale log jams in four reaches in the Nooksack River Forks, including Downstream of Hutchinson and Black Slough Reaches and Farmhouse and Wildcat Reaches. Log jams will be designed to address factors most limiting Nooksack early Chinook and other salmonid populations in each reach and will ultimately lead to restored habitat conditions and habitat-forming processes in project reaches, with associated improvements in abundance and productivity of Nooksack early Chinook.

Samish Indian Nation

Samish Indian Nation will work with Washington Department of Natural Resources to collect baseline environmental data of prior to, during, and post restoration activities related to the removal of a tidal dike to restore salt marsh, mudflat and tidally-influenced stream habitat at Cypress Island. This data will be a critical component to overall restoration goals at the Cypress Island site, a culturally and historically significant area to the Samish Indian Nation.

Skagit River System Cooperative

The Skagit River system Cooperative will quantify and contrast the geomorphological, hydrological, and ecological consequences of various approaches to tidal marsh restoration for 12 historical and 8 current sites in the Skagit and Snohomish deltas, using reference marshes in both deltas as controls. This proposal, analyzing both dike breaching and dike removal sites, is necessary in order to facilitate better restoration planning that accounts for the degree to which differing restoration approaches recover ecological function.

Swinomish Indian Tribe

The Swinomish Indian Tribe will engage in two projects: (1) a public education effort that will be directed at decision makers and stakeholders to improve the standards and implementation of best management practices, and to increase the level of regulatory certainty that instream resources will be protected, consistent with the Skagit Chinook Recovery Plan; and (2) the Tribal Water Quality Project, an ongoing project to gather water quality data across the Salish Sea during the Tribal Canoe Journey, in order to map out spatial patterns at multiple scales to detect large-scale oceanographic/climate and site-scale land-use influences.

Upper Skagit Indian Tribe

The Upper Skagit Indian Tribe will determine the seasonal and spatial distribution of yearling (stream-type) life history salmonids in the Skagit River, WA, with an emphasis on Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The results of this investigation are intended to fill data gaps necessary for effective recovery planning of Chinook salmon and steelhead in the Skagit River basin and inform similar efforts in the Puget Sound basin.

Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe

The Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe will engage in two projects: (1) reinforcement of a multiagency partnership to eradicate knotweed from the Skagit River watershed and its major tributaries, focusing its efforts on the Sauk and Suiattle rivers, both of which feature key spawning and rearing habitat for Puget Sound salmonids; and (2) engaging in a partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to determine how the timing, quantity and sources of sediment in the Sauk and Suiattle rivers are impacting sensitive fish runs.

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians

The Stillaguamish Tribe will engage in two projects to reduce the impacts of stormwater to aquatic ecosystems: (1) monitoring of stormwater outfalls in the Lower Stillaguamish River for the presence of a wide range of pollutants, leading toward the implementation of improved best management practices; and (2) employment of mycoremediation techniques to test if polluted land-based runoff can be treated prior to its entering conveyance systems.

Tulalip Tribes

The Tulalip Tribes will identify protection priorities based on benefits to Chinook salmon recovery by utilizing Watershed Characterization results and current subbasin data, including

known impairments, zoning information and resource management plans and ecosystem service information. This project will serve as a pilot for the larger EPA Watershed Grant (Snohomish Watershed Characterization and Protection) and will provide a model for the larger project as well opportunities for early implementation actions.

Snoqualmie Indian Tribe

The Snoqualmie Tribe will partner with King County in the design and setback of the McElhoe-Pearson Levee and revetment in order to restore floodplain habitat by reconnecting the Snoqualmie River with its floodplain. Project tasks include: (1) developing the McElhoe-Pearson Levee project design; (2) conducting a baseline monitoring data set of water quality and habitat health; and (3) engaging in partnering and outreach with the local landowners and community.

Suquamish Tribe

The Suquamish Tribe will focus on how to continue long term sustainable management by analyzing how waters with low dissolved oxygen (DO) and low pH threaten many aquatic species including Dungeness crab. Project tasks include: (1) in vitro assessment of low pH and dissolved oxygen effects on crab larvae; (2) coordination of regional water quality collection efforts; (3) supporting the volunteer Megalops Collection Network; and (4) building Suquamish youth and elder group capacity to develop outreach and education materials.

Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe will examine fine sediment loading and intra-gravel quality in Middle Green River salmon spawning habitat areas to assess potential effects on salmon life stage survival and production. Project tasks include: (1) the collection and analysis of gravel samples; (2) a geology/geomorphology characterization of the landslide activity and future potential fine sediment supply to the river; (3) developing a plan to estimate fine sediment loading rates from the landslide, reservoir, and upriver sources; and (4) comparing intra-gravel quality within the sampled spawning habitat areas.

Puyallup Tribe of Indians

The Puyallup Tribe of Indians will conduct a sediment oxygen demand and stormwater monitoring investigation on Clarks Creek, an ESA designated critical habitat for salmon spawning and rearing, in order to complete and implement a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

for dissolved oxygen. This TMDL project is the first in Puget Sound to use storm flow volumes as surrogate waste load allocations and is considered a pilot project that can be applied to other impaired, urban streams in the Puget Sound to improve stormwater management.

Nisqually Indian Tribe

Nisqually Indian Tribe will conduct two projects: (1) partnering with the Town of Eatonville to update its plan for managing stormwater in Eatonville, focusing on identifying ways to incorporate retrofits and low impact development to infiltrate and treat a greater portion of stormwater; and (2) extending Nisqually Sustainable, a project that provides an economic incentive for watershed businesses to conserve water, reduce wastewater, reduce pollution, and manage stormwater sustainably.

Squaxin Island Tribe

The Squaxin Island Tribe seeks to contribute to the recovery of lost Coho productivity in the Deschutes Watershed by (1) identifying high priority habitat restoration actions, based on existing information and identification of heavily used reaches by Coho fry; and (2) developing the technical basis for DOE to set summer minimum flows in WAC 173-513 and enable the use high level indicators to evaluate summer streamflow achievement.

Skokomish Tribal Nation

The Skokomish Tribal Nation will conduct research and monitoring efforts focused on assessing the effectiveness of the Skokomish Estuary Restoration Project (SERP). Project tasks include: (1) monitoring of relative abundance, distribution, growth rates, residence time, feeding behavior, and species diversity of salmonids and other fish species; (2) monitoring of vegetation colonization and succession; (3) monitoring of hydrodynamics effecting sediment transport and estuarine mixing; and (4) monitoring of insect community response.

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe will document and analyze size, condition, growth factor, predation, and other constraining environmental mechanisms that affect the early marine life history of juvenile salmon and forage fish in outer Hood Canal. This project will help describe nearshore constraints by impacted shorelines, habitat use and preferences, diurnal patterns and the linkages between juvenile growth and adult marine survival potential.

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Point No Point Treaty Council

The Point No Point Treaty Council seeks to develop an efficient procedure for surveying and analyzing intertidal substrate samples for the presence of forage fish spawn, primarily surf smelt spawn and secondarily Pacific sand lance spawn. This project will also develop a quantifiable measure of the annual spawn deposition around Indian Island that can be compared among several years to indirectly assess trends in the target forage fish spawning population abundance.

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe will conduct two projects: (1) collating, analyzing, and distributing Jimmycomelately Creek and Estuary Restoration project results, in order to better understand the project elements that succeeded and that failed; and (2) determining the magnitude, extent, contributing sources, and possible impacts of elevated nutrients in Sequim and Dungeness Bays.

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will use radio telemetry to track the movements of adult steelhead and adult salmonids in the Elwha River Basin during and immediately following the removal of the lower Elwha Dam and the upper Glines Canyon Dam. This study will inform basic fish behavior in response to the largest scale dam removals on the west coast, providing information to any future restoration efforts involving dam removal and recolonization of previously (or long since) unseeded areas.

Makah Tribe

The Makah Tribe will conduct four projects: (1) providing a consistent and vocal presence on freshwater/terrestrial issues for the Western Strait of Juan de Fuca; (2) re-establishing long-term streamflow monitoring stations on the Clallam and Sekiu Rivers; (3) establishing a real-time meteorological station in the Hoko river drainage for increased accuracy of Western Strait of Juan de Fuca climatic patterns; and (4) restoring the degraded Pysht river floodplain habitat through the removal of noxious weeds and derelict structures.