

**Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council**  
**July 26, 2007**

**Washington State Association of Counties' Coastal Counties Caucus**

Commissioner Steve Tharinger, Clallam County

Commissioner Josh Brown, Kitsap County

Maura Brueger, Office of the Executive, King County

Eric Johnson, Assistant Executive Director, Wash State Assoc of Counties

**Presentation Outline**

Coastal Counties Caucus General Information

Coastal Counties Caucus Activities on PSP Legislative Development

Coastal Counties Caucus Activities on PSP Implementation

Other WSAC Examples of WSAC/State Agency Resource Agency Partnerships

Discussion and Questions

**Presentation Outline**  
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**Coastal Counties Caucus General Information**

Morphed about a year ago from an earlier group "COPS"  
12 Puget Sound Counties and 2 Pacific Coast Counties  
Marine Water Oriented

- Oil Spills
- Marine Resource Committees
- Shellfish Bed Protection Areas
- Aquaculture
- Septic Systems

County Commissioners/County Councils/County Executives/Key Staff  
Not a formal group staffed by Washington State Association of Counties

**Coastal Counties Caucus Activities on PSP Legislative Development**

Initial Partnership – did not adequately engage all counties and elected officials  
Engaged Brad Ack and Jim Kramer to 2006 WSAC conference in Spokane  
Established Meetings with Bill Ruckelshaus; Governor's Office Staff  
Engaged in the development of legislation – Kicked in late 2006  
Developed "Guiding Principles" to measure legislative proposals by

**Coastal Counties Caucus Activities on PSP Implementation**

June Conference – Sen Rockefeller, Rep Upthegrove, Acting ED Shultz  
Conference Calls/Meetings on Issues (i.e. ECB, Action Areas, Resource Needs)  
Letter to Leadership Council providing guiding thoughts from Coastal Counties'  
Recruiting for Ecosystem Coordination Board Nominations  
Discussing responsibilities to be leaders in Action Areas  
May need to create more formalized bylaws within WSAC – or perhaps a Charter with the PSP for the Coastal Counties

**Other WSAC Examples of WSAC/State Agency Resource Agency Partnerships**

Letter to Chair Ruckelshaus and Acting ED seeking resources to support our capacity to engage

Columbia River Storage Project

County Commissioners - DoE Partnership

- Watershed Planners
- Policy and Technical
- Communication
- Engagement
- Capacity

Timber Program – DNR Partnership

WSDOT/ORR/OFM

CTED/Farm Worker Housing



### **Delineating Action Areas:**

- Minimize number of action areas a jurisdiction shall be i.e. Kitsap East and West...
- Limit number of places for input -- focus our efforts
- Practical: We travel by roads... some ferry's... not by the Mosquito Fleet
- Where do successful and functional organizational relationships and structures exist
- Where are partnerships thriving and working now
- Action areas should support existing governance structures and not require new structures.
- Watershed boundaries and county boundaries should be a basis establishing Action Areas.
- Action Areas should reduce the current demands on participants' capacity to attend meetings, perform duties and reorganize existing information.
- Action Areas based on scientific information – ecosystem context
- Action Areas should foster more connection and integration between freshwater and marine ecosystems.

### **The Work of Action Areas**

- Provide capacity support to counties to participate– financial assistance to engage, communicate, to act
- Do not want the sub regions to be funding areas
- Caution should be exercised to assure representation is proportionately distributed
- Opportunity to shore up limited local government representation on the Ecosystem Coordination Board

### **Individual County Input as well as that WSAC's Coastal Counties Caucus**