

COORDINATED AND INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAM UPDATE

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Presented to the Leadership Council, June 17 2010

Proposed Actions

- 1) **Brief** the Council on the progress of the Monitoring Program and the launch committee.
- 2) **Discuss** the next steps for developing the Monitoring Program.

Progress in the Program Activities

Governance

- Recruited members for the Launch Committee to the Monitoring Program.
- Drafted vision/mission statements for the program and definition of roles and responsibilities of different components.

Program content

- Stormwater Work Group released their draft Stormwater Monitoring & Assessment Strategy for the Puget Sound Region for public comments in April. Public workshop held in May. The workgroup will submit their final recommendations by June 30, 2010 to Ecology and the Partnership.
- Indicators will become inputs to the Monitoring Program as developed by the Indicators Action Team led by John Becker.

Communications and relationship building

- Established an email-based monitoring network and sent announcements.
- Met with partners and stakeholders at local, state and federal levels, from tribes, and the business and environmental community to describe program goals and recruit Launch Committee.
- Developed Partnership Monitoring web page design (under construction).
- Visited other large aquatic ecosystem monitoring programs (Chesapeake Bay Program and San Francisco Estuary Institute)
- Attended Stormwater Work Group meetings and public workshop.

Capacity building

- Submitted grant for EPA "Scientific and Technical Investigations in Support of Implementing the Action Agenda" for FY09 funds.

- Submitted job proposals for additional staff to add natural resources, social science and data management capacity.
- Submitted project ideas for internal budget request.
- Information management: Attended the Exchange Network Conference in Chicago

Working with Monitoring Coordination Entities

- Met with Monitoring Forum staff for alignment of purposes.
- Participant in the Natural Resource Agency Reform work group called “Coordinate Fieldwork & Environmental Monitoring and Sampling”. Agreed on tools to increase coordination and reduce duplication of monitoring.

Launch Committee

Role and Responsibilities

- Review and help shape the operational framework proposed by PSP staff.
- Draft bylaws and charter.
- Commission work groups.
- Develop a work plan.
- Help shape the strategy to include broader stakeholder input and transition to a Steering Committee as our next step.

Composition

- Local government (2)
- State: Departments of Natural Resources, Ecology and Fish & Wildlife (3)
- Federal: Environmental Protection Agency and one other (2)
- Tribes: Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and one other (2)
- Environmental non-governmental organization (1)
- Salmon Recovery Lead Entity (1)
- Academia (1)
- Business (1)
- Leadership Council (1)
- Science Panel (1)
- Monitoring Forum (1)
- Stormwater Work Group (1)

Next Steps for Developing the Monitoring Program:

- Finalize Launch Committee and host first meeting in first half of July.
- Review Action Agenda cost estimates and state budgets (June through September).

- Assess staffing requirements and fill approved position(s).
- Respond to the Stormwater Work Group’s Monitoring Strategy (by July).
- Indicators: Collaboratively begin compiling, managing, analyzing and reporting data (summer and fall).
- Second meeting with the Puget Sound Assessment and Monitoring Program (PSAMP) in July.
- Commission up to three work groups (by September) and shape Monitoring Program framework (by December).