

**Proposal To The Leadership Council
San Juan Action Area Local Integrating Organization**

LIO Proposal to the Leadership Council PSP Staff Analysis - San Juan Action Area

- 1) Describe geographic range
The San Juan Action Area includes 428 islands that make up San Juan County, located at the nexus of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the Georgia Straits, and Puget Sound.

- 2) Does the proposed organization have broad support from the local community?
The San Juan LIO proposal was developed by a Steering Committee with members from a diverse group of local organizations and tribes, integrating comments from the local community. The LIO will involve participation from members of the San Juan County Council and participating treaty tribes on the Oversight Committee. It will also involve participation from the broad San Juan community on the Implementation Committee, including existing local implementation organizations, local governments, and tribes. In addition, advocacy groups and other community members will be able to participate in the organization through ad-hoc committees and public involvement opportunities. This is a broadly inclusive structure that addresses the need for a robust public process.

- 3) Do they have the ability/capacity/authority to execute roles and responsibilities inherent to a Local Integrating Organization, such as:
 - a. Advising the Partnership on Action Agenda Priorities?
During its first year, the San Juan LIO will review the existing San Juan Action Agenda profile, identify a process for prioritizing strategies, and modify the profile as needed. Through this process the LIO will be able to inform the Partnership on local Action Agenda priorities.

 - b. Providing assistance to enhance implementation work by local groups?
Work being implemented by local groups will be integrated into the prioritization process and the LIO will support and advance the priority strategies identified.

 - c. Working cooperatively to implement strategic actions in the AA?
The San Juan community understands the need to work together to identify priority strategic actions and to direct resources to implement those actions.

 - d. Basing their work in the best scientific information available?
The San Juan community has acknowledged the importance of basing LIO strategies on the best scientific information available. The San Juan LIO includes the participation of local scientists and technical experts as members of the Implementation Committee and ad-hoc committees. In addition, the LIO will explore opportunities for funding to incorporate

scientific research, assess ecosystem functions, and develop an adaptive management process.

- e. Evaluating progress in implementing the AA at the local scale?
The San Juan LIO will identify and implement a strategy for evaluating its progress and adapting its strategic actions as needed.

- 4) Is their structure conducive to actualizing the above roles and responsibilities?
The structure of the proposed organization allows for the existing leadership of County Council members and tribes to direct strategic actions, while experts from local entities are responsible for implementation. This approach will utilize existing local authority, promote coordination between existing implementation groups, and incorporate local technical expertise.
- 5) How might this proposed organization receive grants and other funds to support staff and assist in the implementation of the local Action Agenda priorities? For example, are they a 501(c)(3) or might they delegate this role to a specific member?
Through County Resolution No. 23-2010, the San Juan County Council formally recognized the San Juan LIO. The proposed organization will likely receive funds through the San Juan County Council and/or treaty tribes.
- 6) What are the first steps the organization will take, or has taken, toward implementing the Action Agenda?
During the first meetings of the Oversight and Implementation Committees, members will review the existing profile strategies to determine the current status and identify key priorities. The Committees will make modifications to the list of actions in the profile as needed.
- 7) What are the major challenges this group faces? What is being done to address those challenges?
- *Scientific Information: The LIO will incorporate the best available scientific information into its prioritization of actions. The organization would greatly benefit from grant funds or technical support that would enable science-based decision-making.*
 - *Operational Funding: The LIO would benefit from operational funding and support.*
 - *Public Involvement: The LIO will discuss options and develop a plan for ongoing public involvement in the organization's activities.*
- 8) Will this group evolve/change over time?
Over time the LIO will change as it achieves strategic milestones and identifies new strategic priorities.

Proposal To The Leadership Council San Juan Action Area Local Integrating Organization

Purpose of San Juan LIO: Local Action

Recovering Puget Sound requires new ideas, local/regional coordination and changes in how we do business. Local Integrating Organizations (LIOs) are a key component to changing how we collectively will recover and protect Puget Sound.

The preliminary roles of the San Juan Local Integrating Organization include:

- Providing leadership for local integration and implementation by
 - Reviewing the San Juan Action Agenda profile and developing a workplan;
 - Advising the Partnership on local priorities in the Action Agenda profile;
 - Ensuring the implementation of priorities and actions that have been identified;
 - Ensuring that San Juan County Action Agenda priorities are well represented in the Puget Sound regional discussion;
 - Ensuring that San Juan County receives adequate funding for local priorities.
- Providing accountability for implementation of local Action Agenda priorities and reporting on the organization's progress.
- Setting specific priorities for funding.
- Providing assistance and resources to improve capacity for local Action Agenda implementation.
- Working cooperatively and inclusively to implement strategic actions.
- Ensuring that best available and applicable science is being used locally.

Process to Develop LIO Proposal

The development of the LIO in San Juan County began with a community meeting on September 16, 2009 in Friday Harbor to discuss possible options. The general consensus at the meeting was for the County Council to appoint a steering committee to develop a recommendation for the San Juan County LIO. The San Juan County Council approved the steering committee and process at their October 13, 2009 meeting.

The Steering Committee held a series of five meetings to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the LIO, gain a thorough understanding of the San Juan priorities in the Action Agenda and the existing groups already engaged in implementation, develop a recommended structure for the LIO, and hear comments from the local community.

The group identified the following key points to address:

- Ensure that the new structure improves coordination and does not duplicate existing work.
- Ensure that citizens are engaged, all citizen interests are involved, and the LIO has public support.

- Support the idea of local/regional partnership without ceding local control.

The San Juan County Council reviewed the Steering Committee's LIO proposal and made modifications to the proposal language based on public comments received. The San Juan County Council formally adopted the LIO proposal on May 25th through Resolution No. 23-2010 (Appendix A. Resolution No. 23-2010, proposing a Local Integrating Organization for approval by the Leadership Council for the San Juan Action Area).

Structure of San Juan LIO

The potential model being recommended for the San Juan LIO consists of an Accountability Oversight Committee, an Implementation Committee, Ad-hoc Technical and Policy Committees, and staff.

Accountability Oversight Committee

The primary role of the accountability oversight committee would be to provide strategic direction and accountability.

Membership would consist of the following:

- County Council members (2-3 appointed by County Council)
- Tribal members (2-3 agreed upon by treaty tribes)
- PSP Leadership Council member (appointed by Leadership Council chair)

Voting: The County Council would collectively have one vote and the tribes would collectively have one vote. Both votes would be needed for action. The PSP Leadership Council member would hold an ex-officio position and would not have voting privileges.

Implementation Committee

The Implementation Committee would provide community input into prioritization of funding and improving coordination between groups working on Action Agenda implementation. Members will be appointed by their respective entities. The Steering Committee decided not to include advocacy groups on the Implementation Committee but to gather their perspectives through subcommittees and other public processes.

Membership would include:

- Two representatives of the Marine Resources Committee
- Salmon Recovery Lead Entity
- Director of Planning
- Director of Public Works
- Director of Environmental Health
- Water Resources Committee (Community Representative)
- Tribal Representative
- Economic Development Council
- Conservation District
- Friday Harbor Laboratories

- San Juan ECONet
- Town of Friday Harbor

Ad-hoc Technical and Policy Committees:

Ad hoc technical and policy committees will be formed by the Implementation Committee as needed and will include one or more Implementation Committee members. The ad hoc committees may include state, tribal, or federal agency representatives, members of advocacy groups, and other community members.

Staff Coordination Function

A locally based part-time staff person will eventually coordinate all functions of the oversight, implementation, and ad-hoc committees, and carry out necessary work tasks assigned by these groups. The Puget Sound Partnership is seeking funding to support this position. In the interim, the Puget Sound Partnership Ecosystem Recovery Coordinator will staff all committees.

RESOLUTION NO. 23 -2010

A RESOLUTION PROPOSING A LOCAL INTEGRATING ORGANIZATION FOR APPROVAL BY THE PUGET SOUND PARTNERSHIP LEADERSHIP COUNCIL FOR THE SAN JUAN ACTION AREA

BACKGROUND

- A. In 2007 the Washington State Legislature recognized the declining condition of Puget Sound and established the Puget Sound Partnership for the purpose of developing a strategy to restore and protect Puget Sound and the Salish Sea.
- B. Throughout 2008 Puget Sound Partnership developed and adopted an Action Agenda dated December 1, 2008 with separate chapters for each action area and developed a profile for the San Juan Action Area, which is coterminous with the boundaries of San Juan County.
- C. Pursuant to RCW 90.71.360, the Washington State Legislature by the establishment of the Puget Sound Partnership or the Action Agenda did not create a legal enforceable duty upon local governments.
- D. San Juan County, as a home rule county, desires to reserve to itself all powers granted under state law and the County Charter and does not intend by this resolution to waive or cede any responsibility that is granted to it to any other group or organization.
- E. San Juan County recognizes the value to its citizens and the good stewardship of the marine resources that comes from organized and coordinated actions in a priority that reflects the needs of the local people and the demand on local resources, together with the objective of implementing a strategy to restore and protect Puget Sound and the Salish Sea.
- F. The Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council desires that the San Juan County Council and Native American Tribes with Treaty Rights in San Juan County to propose a structure for a group called a "Local Integrating Organization" and the County Council desires to offer such a structure to the Leadership Council for its consideration.
- G. According to the Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council, the purpose of the Local Integrating Organization is to:
- Advise the Partnership on local priorities in the Action Agenda.
 - Provide assistance to enhance the implementation of work by local groups.
 - Work cooperatively to implement strategic actions by the Action Agenda.
 - Base work on the best scientific information available, including information from tribal, local, state, federal and Puget Sound Partnership's scientific staff and the science panel.
 - Evaluate progress implementing the Action Agenda at the local scale.

- H. The County Council recognizes the desire of the PSP Leadership Council to have local integrating organizations that have strong support from the local community and are broadly inclusive. They further recognize that persons selected to the membership of the group should have a strong capacity to execute roles, responsibilities, and the scope of work using a robust public process.
- I. The County Council recognizes that the Action Agenda sets out priorities for the next decade and that the funding and efficiencies of the priorities are subject to future evaluation and adjustment as part of an adaptively managed process.
- J. In October 2009 the San Juan County Council selected a Steering Committee to develop a report and recommendation for a local integrating organization for consideration by the San Juan County Council and the Tribes.
- K. The Steering Committee issued a Final Report on April 14, 2010.
- L. The Steering Committee established three objectives to address:
- Ensure that the new structure improves coordination and does not duplicate existing work.
 - Ensure that citizens are engaged, all citizens are involved, and the local integrating organization has public support.
 - Support the idea of a local/regional partnership without ceding local control.
- M. The County Council has reviewed and considered the name, structure and membership and duties of the proposed local integrating organization, as suggested by the Steering Committee, and desires to accept and recommend to the Tribes and Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council the group structure as modified and shown on Exhibit 1, with the understanding that persons selected for membership may not be available due to other time commitments, and in such case the member may appoint an alternate to serve in his or her place.
- N. The County Council desires that the first work of the local integrating organization is to review the Action Agenda dated December 1, 2008 and assure that the Oversight Committee agrees with or modifies the stated priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of San Juan County, state of Washington, as follows:

The County Council requests that the Puget Sound Leadership Council recognize the proposed Action Agenda Oversight Group as the local integrating organization within San Juan County, Washington.

It is further RESOLVED that the County Council reserves the right to withdraw or revoke its involvement in the Action Agenda Oversight Group if a majority of the County Council concludes that continued involvement is not in the best interest of San Juan County.

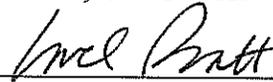
ADOPTED this 25TH day of MAY 2010.

**COUNTY COUNCIL
SAN JUAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

ATTEST: Clerk of the Council



Richard Fralick, Chair
District 4, Orcas West/Waldron



Lovel Pratt, Vice-Chair
District 1, San Juan South

By: 
Ingrid Gabriel, Clerk
Date: 5.25.2010

OPPOSED

Richard Peterson
District 2, San Juan North



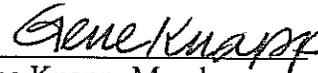
Howard Rosenfeld, Member
District 3, Friday Harbor

REVIEWED BY COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR

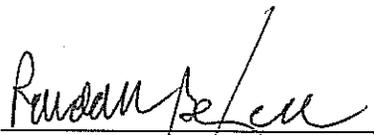


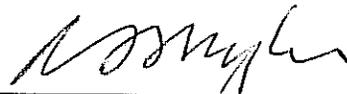
Pete Rose Date: 5-25-10

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY
RANDALL K. GAYLORD



Gene Knapp, Member
District 5, Orcas East

By: 
Date: 5/25/2010



Bob Myhr, Member
District 6, Lopez/Shaw

EXHIBIT 1

Name: Action Agenda Oversight Group

Overview:

The Group being recommended for the San Juan Local Integrating Organization consists of an Accountability Oversight Committee, an Implementation Committee, an Ad-hoc Technical Committee and a Policy Committees. It is expected that staff support will be paid by the Puget Sound Partnership. The existing authority of local governments will not be limited or altered by the Partnership or the actions of the LIO in its implementation of the Action Agenda strategies. In conducting their work, the committees and subcommittees should provide opportunities for public comment at every meeting.

The Oversight Committee

Role: The primary role of the Oversight Committee is to provide strategic direction, be responsible for establishing overall priorities and serve to provide local accountability. The Oversight Committee will inform the Partnership on local priorities in the Action Agenda; provide assistance to enhance the implementation of work by local groups; work cooperatively to implement strategic actions by the Action Agenda; base work on the best scientific information recognized in by the San Juan County Council and evaluate progress implementing the Action Agenda within San Juan County.

Membership: Membership would consist of the following:

- County Council members (2 appointed by County Council)
- Tribal members (2-3 agreed upon by tribes)
- PSP Leadership Council member (appointed by Leadership Council chair)

Voting: The county council members collectively have one vote and the tribal members collectively have one vote. Both votes would be needed for action. The PSP Leadership Council member would hold an ex-officio position and would not have voting privileges.

The Implementation Committee

The Implementation Committee would provide prioritization of funding and improve coordination between groups working on Action Agenda implementation. Members will be recommended by their respective entities and subject to approval by the Oversight Committee. It is the desire to not include members of advocacy groups on the Implementation Committee but to gather their perspectives through subcommittees and other processes.

Membership: Except where indicated, one member from each of the following groups:

- Two representatives of the Marine Resources Committee

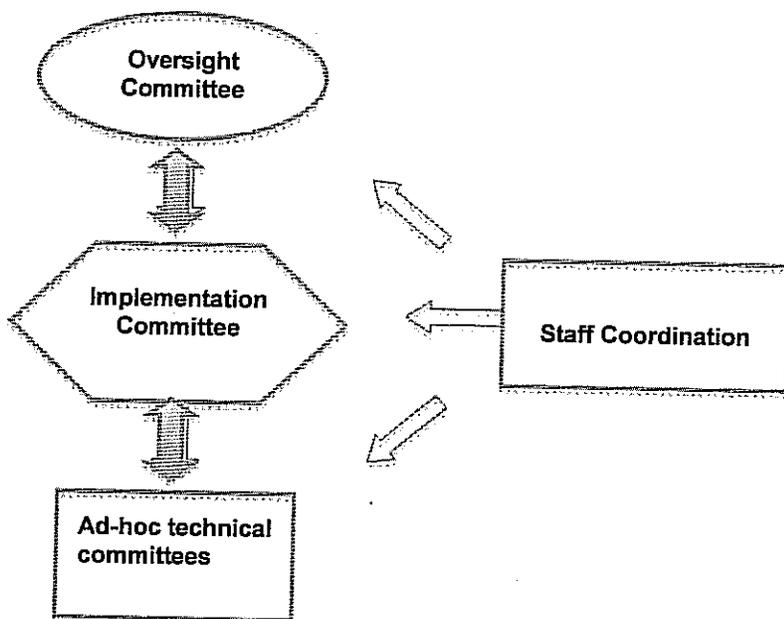
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Potential Model: San Juan Local Integrating Organization

