

Puget Sound Leadership Council  
Meeting Summary  
Nisqually National Wildlife Center  
100 Brown Road  
Olympia, Washington  
January 28, 2010

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**Members Present:**

- Bill Ruckelshaus
  - Martha Kongsgaard
  - Billy Frank, Jr.
  - Dan O'Neal
  - Steve Sakuma
  - Bill Wilkerson
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*It is intended that this summary be used along with notebook materials provided for the meeting.  
A recording of this meeting is retained by Puget Sound Partnership as the formal record.*

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**Action Items:**

- Approve February 2009 and November 2009 Leadership Council Meeting Summaries
- Council Roles
- Delegation Authority
- Pilot Watersheds
- Revised 2010 Meeting Schedule

**Meeting Summary:**

- Agency Update
- Leadership Council Roles
- Agency/Leadership Council Work Plan Components for Review/Approval
- Agency/Leadership Council Work Products – In-Lieu Fee – Pilot Watersheds
- Budget Update
- Legislative Update
- Performance Management System
- ECB Meeting Updates and Feedback
- Science Panel Updates and Feedback
- 2010 Calendar Planning

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Leadership Council Chair Bill Ruckelshaus called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and reviewed the agenda for the day.

Bill noted the atmosphere in the Legislature is not rosy with budget concerns. He said we can either wring our hands and lament about this or put systems in place so that we are ready to move forward when the economy turns around. He stressed this need.

The Council was welcomed to the Nisqually National Estuary Reserve by Reserve Manager Jean Tanekawa. She talked about changes on the reserve and changes that have happened since the removal of the dikes last fall. Jean showed a two-minute promotional video and then reported a 6-minute version is being developed.

Jean talked about the limits to how far they can get this incredible story out. They have a Web page [WWW.NisquallyDelta.org](http://WWW.NisquallyDelta.org) and videos.

David offered the Partnership's assistance in getting the story out and talked about how special the day of the delta dedication was.

The Council thanked Jean for her presentation and for allowing the Council meet at the Reserve.

### **AGENCY UPDATE**

David Dicks provided an update on what has happened with Puget Sound Partnership since the last meeting. (See meeting materials for details.)

Some of the highlights included:

- Dan O'Neal, Steve Sakuma, and Diana Gale were all reconfirmed to their Council positions by the Senate
- David and Governor Gregoire met with Dr. Jacqueline Kinkaid director of the European Environmental Agency working on the Eye on Earth project. Eye on Earth is a two-way communication platform, which brings together scientific information with the feedback and observations of ordinary people. It is the result of a partnership between Microsoft and the European Environment Agency (EEA). During this meeting they talked about the possibility of including the Puget Sound as a pilot area. For more information see <http://eyeonearth.cloudapp.net/>.
- The State of the Sound is now posted at <http://www.psp.wa.gov/sos2009.php>
- In 2007 the governor agreed to have the Puget Sound Partnership housed in the Urban Waters Center in Tacoma. The building is being built and construction is ahead of budget and schedule. The move is planned to happen at the beginning of the new fiscal year (July 1, 2010). To see the building in progress go to <http://www.cityoftacoma.org/urbanwaters>.

Lynda Ransley provided an update on the Partnership staffing and announced the new Monitoring Program Manager, Nathalie Hamel, will begin the first of February. The new Performance Manager, John Becker, begins February 16. The Science Program Manager interviews are in progress. This position is a two-year interagency agreement.

Bill Wilkerson thanked and complimented staff on the project list that was provided. He noted that \$292 million in projects is a story that we need to tell. We are doing something here and we need to tell the story.

## **LEADERSHIP COUNCIL ROLES** (See meeting materials for details.)

### *Council Roles*

Martha discussed the process used to develop the proposed duties and roles decision matrix for the Council. This list will be used to finalize the delegation of authority to the Executive Director.

David Dicks thanked Martha for her help and then reviewed the decision matrix. He discussed ways for the Leadership Council to help the Partnership. Leadership Council members Kongsgaard and Wilkerson have been a tremendous help with tribal coordination and all Council members have been involved with the Action Area work.

The Council discussed the various roles and suggested changes:

- Plan, outreach, and accountability are the three legs the Council should focus on
- The Council is not looking at a day-to-day role but understanding and approving agency processes and strategic planning
- Need to organize the communications work and possibly add a subcommittee for public awareness such as the tribal coordination work
- Asked staff to write up process for individual Action Areas liaison work
- On the matrix where it notes "Council approve," it is approving the process not the product
- It is the obligation of the Council to "stand above" the agency's work, provide overview of the agency, and say if we doing enough. This is part of the feedback mechanism and a way to look at things from a different angle

Bill reminded the Council that this is the first step. At this meeting the Council will also approve the Executive Director's work plan. At the March meeting the Council will review and evaluate the agency work plan. About half way through the year Council will review David's work plan. At the end of the year they will evaluate the current plan and approve the next year's work plan. The Council wants to be clear about everyone's responsibilities and the processes to achieve them.

Bill highlighted the need for a legislative process to make sure the Leadership Council knows how to move legislation forward.

The Council requested staff rewrite this document as discussed and bring it for final approval at the March Leadership Council meeting.

Dan O'Neal noted that this document will not be set in stone but will change as we learn more and identify additional needs and roles.

**AGENCY/LEADERSHIP COUNCIL WORK PLAN COMPONENTS FOR REVIEW/APPROVAL**  
(See meeting materials for details.)

*Executive Director Work Plan*

Chair Ruckelshaus introduced this agenda item.

David Dicks then reviewed the process used to get to this point with his work plan. Although his plan will focus on Hood Canal and Skagit, the Partnership will still be working in the other Action Areas.

David reviewed each of the five major categories and deadlines:

1. Successfully manage Puget Sound Partnership toward achievement of our mission
2. Build the funding capacity of the agency to achieve Puget Sound recovery goals and implement the Action Agenda
3. Lead the development of a state and federal policy agenda that supports achievement of Puget Sound recovery goals through implementation of the Action Agenda
4. Ensure that the agency remains focused on the most important substantive issues from the Action Agenda and provide executive oversight of key priorities including storm water, mitigation reform, partner designation, and Hood Canal
5. Build Support for the Partnership

This plan starts with a strong deputy format; having Lynda Ransley will manage the day-to-day operations.

The Council noted that this work plan would be no small achievement. Completing this work would accomplish a lot.

Council recommended:

- Look at broader base for funding options, not just a special interest district - *David will rework bullet 2a in the work plan*
- Be sure to acknowledge the oil spill advisory support in someone's work plan
- Put the partner process in place - may need to change how to recognize partners and may need to change the statute. We want to provide incentives but it is complex and may not be doable the way it was written in the statute
- Look at the due dates in the work plan – 80% due by July – may want to make some adjustments

David reported that next year part of the legislative agenda will be to thoroughly vet the statute and recommend changes to better build support for the Partnership's mission.

Bill Wilkerson supported the decision to build a strong deputy system and noted this works well in state government.

Bill Wilkerson **MOVED** to approve the Executive Director Work Plan as discussed. Dan O'Neal **SECONDED**. Council **APPROVED** the Executive Director Work Plan.

*Agency/Council Communications Strategy (See meeting materials for details.)*

Lynda Ransley explained the conceptual framework for communications and explained how Frank Mendizabal will talk about the communication in the first box of the diagram. She noted

that there is a cross partnership work group for education and outreach where the next box (extended family) communication would take place.

The highest and best use of Leadership Council's cheerleading role is in the strategic influence box. The public engagement role is underway through the EcoNet work. Staff will discuss the outreach roles (strategic influence and public engagement) at a future meeting: At this meeting Frank is provide information for Leadership Council communication.

Frank provided each member with a binder. He explained this is a living document that will be added to and updated as time goes on. Staff wants to help the Council do its job and be sure necessary information is provided. Frank then reviewed the materials in the notebook.

The Council asked about the STORM campaign and education and outreach in the Action Areas. Lynda explained that at a future leadership meeting we will talk about box 4 (public engagement) which is where the STORM campaign is focused. ECONet is one process staff is using to coordinate outreach in the Action Areas; the integrating organizations, once in place, will be another.

**AGENCY/LEADERSHIP COUNCIL WORK PRODUCTS – In-Lieu-Fee (See meeting materials for details.)**

Chris Townsend introduced Patricia Johnson who is on staff temporarily to work on this project.

Chris provided background on this work that started about a year ago. He is requesting Leadership Council approval of the proposed pilot areas that move from theory to actual work. Staff is proposing to use a pilot project approach since there is some concern that the in-lieu fee program may not work.

Patricia then provided the criteria used in selection of the proposed pilot areas:

- Economic need – where there is development pressure
- Ecological need – where areas are available for needed restoration
- Local support – willing collaborators

She then provided an overview of the counties and reported that Pierce and Thurston Counties seem to be the best choices for the pilot project work because they meet the most criteria.

Chris reported that the pilots would stay in place until a successful model is in place and can be applied to additional watersheds.

Staff recommends approval of Pierce and Thurston counties for the pilot project areas.

Bill Wilkerson **MOVED** approval of the staff recommendation. Dan O'Neal **SECONDED** the motion.

Bill Ruckelshaus commended staff on the work done on this effort and remarked that, although it sounds simple there are concerns. Hopefully we have preapproved projects that can move this effort forward.

Council **APPROVED** the Pierce and Thurston Counties as the in-lieu fee pilot areas.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

*Heather Trim, People for Puget Sound*, has concerns with the in-lieu-fee program. She wants the Partnership to make sure the pilot projects really work before going forward in additional areas. She also discussed the calendar and timing for going forward with targets and benchmarks, which she thought were going to be decided by June. The current calendar shows this work will not be done until November. These are needed for planning agency budgets and goals. She would like to see these deadlines returned to the earlier dates.

Bill thanked Heather and noted that everyone shares her concern with the timing.

*Dave Peeler, People for Puget Sound*, new director of programs, was pleased to see the differences that have been made over the last ten years. He reminded everyone that mitigation takes years to show results. He also noted that a recent public survey by the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) had interesting results around transportation and noted that protecting Puget Sound was one of the highest concerns for the people. There is support for these programs.

He reported that the Environmental Priorities Coalition had an environmental lobby day where, after the group talked about statewide priorities, individuals talked to legislators. This year the three priorities were

- Stormwater
- Safe baby bottle bill
- Sustaining environmental funding in the state budget

For the Coalition the day was a big success and they received good support from the legislators. It is very powerful when the Legislature hears from the citizens.

Dave invited the Leadership Council members to an open house at the People for Puget Sound office in Olympia on February 4.

*Fred Fellerman, Friends of the Earth and Makah Tribe*, noted what he viewed as a set back with the tribal efforts on the oil spills. He pointed out that on the Web site there is no mention of the work the tribes are doing to concerning oil spills, and he asked to have the site updated. He suggested we provide information about what is being done regarding oil spill prevention. He also asked the Partnership to support the Cantwell legislation for coast guard reauthorization, which includes programs that support tribal efforts as well as various other programs that are important to Washington State.

He talked about how the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has decided to quit monitoring forage fish. He finds this ironic since WDFW just released its state of the Forage Fish report, which requires current monitoring information. He believes this is an opportunity for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and WDFW to work together to get funding for monitoring work. He asked for the Partnership's assist with this effort.

As to the Partner Designation program, he noted how being designated a "partner" may also help groups obtain funding from other sources. He wants to make sure funding sources are public disclosurable.

*Dan Wrye, Pierce County*, commended the Council for going forward with the fee in lieu program.

**BUDGET UPDATE** (See notebook handout for details.)

Jim Cahill reviewed the memorandum in the meeting packet.

Bill Wilkerson asked about the removal of funding for watershed work and whether the Partnership has a stand on this. The Council began a discussion but realized they didn't have enough information to take a stand on this issue. David will provide additional information and explained that Ecology had to make cuts to its budget.

Jim reviewed the Partnership's budget cuts and discussed how the consortium with the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is intended to produce a \$200,000 cut in the Partnership budget. Staff is working with RCO now to see where we can consolidate efforts.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** (See notebook handout for details.)

David Dicks provided a quick overview of the two pieces of agency legislation: 1) Copper brake pads is a joint piece of legislation with Ecology, and 2) marine spatial planning in Washington State. This proposal would map marine waters and describe where the best habitat is. This would provide information needed to better manage the marine environment.

For the record, David restated the comments from yesterday's new article. House Bill 1614 was presented last legislative session and a new version is getting movement this year. This is to provide Model Toxic Control Act (MTCA) funding. There is a lot of work happening on this legislation but state agencies have not heard if the governor supports this new version of the bill. The original MTCA funding was for cleanup of hazardous areas. This legislation would take most of the funds generated and divert to the general fund but over time would bring the funding back to historic level for clean up efforts.

Martha Kongsgaard stressed the need to have a strong, solid voice to get this funding back to the original reason.

**PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT** (See notebook handout for details.)

Martha Neuman and Jim Cahill provided an overview of the process and timeline for getting the performance management system in place.

Timeline:

- March Leadership Council Meeting - Recommendations about components and the final threat groups will be discussed
- April - Work will begin in earnest

- Summer - issue draft targets and benchmarks
- September - adopt threat reduction targets and ecosystem targets (if ready)
- End of 2010 - adopt ecosystem targets (if not accomplished in September)

Benchmarks will be developed after September. With targets we will know what we want but not how much (less shoreline armoring more eelgrass etc.). We need to use processes to identify the benchmarks and have defensible answers.

#### **ECB MEETING UPDATES AND FEEDBACK (See notebook handout for details.)**

##### *Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB) meeting, Role, and Work Plan*

Lynda Ransley provided an overview of the January 21, 2010 ECB meeting. She highlighted the ECB Charter and Operating Guidelines. This document will be used to guide the ECB.

She reported that the need for a Shoreline Protection subcommittee was identified, and staff will be convening this group soon. Another subcommittee was proposed to work on strategic planning; the ECB Executive Committee decided to take this issue on.

The Leadership Council is charged with making several of the ECB representational appointments. It was recommended by staff that a subcommittee be created to develop the recommended process for Leadership Council review and approval at its March meeting. Martha Kongsgaard and Diana Gale will be the Leadership Council representatives on this subcommittee and Dave Somers and Tom Eaton will represent the ECB.

#### **SCIENCE PANEL UPDATES AND FEEDBACK (See notebook handout for details)**

Science Panel Chair Timothy Quinn provided a brief update on the Puget Sound Science Update. He reported author teams are currently working on chapters. Once the chapters are complete, the Science Panel will use chapters 3-4 to create a synthesis to be used as a science policy interface.

He also noted that at the Science Panel retreat in early January, they developed a proposal for their role. Tim reviewed their proposal, noting that now that the Partnership is nearly fully staffed, the Science Panel sees its role evolving into review, integration, and advisory roles.

The Panel provided suggestions for changing due dates for some of the science products to better coordinate with other Partnership work.

Bill Ruckelshaus gave appreciation for the work done by the Science Panel. He commented that now we need to find ways to move forward together with clarity between science and policy.

Tim invited the Council to future Science Panel meetings. He also envisions the cross partnership workgroups as the policy/science cross-over group for better coordination.

Bill asked how staff plans to report on the cross partnership work groups and if there are minutes from these meetings. Lynda is hoping that the work group members will report back to the boards. Bill would like some way to share the information and have a system in place for this

reporting. The Council agreed this is a staff-driven process so staff needs to note the purpose and objectives of the meetings and whether these were achieved.

Bill noted another issue: The Panel hasn't had the opportunity to provide peer review of products to satisfy the science yet.

Joel Baker explained the Panel is looking at a peer review process for both formal and verbal review.

Tim explained the Panel is looking at a model for a formal peer review process that uses the School of the Environment to do the review.

Martha Kongsgaard asked about the differences between the peer review process and the advisory role.

Tim explained he sees the advisory role as a short-term response provided as an expert. This would provide feedback but it would not have the weight that a real review would have.

Martha commented upon the need to set up a process with limits on when and how to get quick turn-around responses. With a 10-person Panel we should have a good breadth of knowledge to call upon.

David would appreciate the opportunity to be able to call on the Science Panel for advice.

#### **APPROVE PAST MEETING SUMMARIES**

Bill Wilkerson **MOVED** approval of the February 2009 and November 2008 Leadership Council meeting summaries. Steve Sakuma **SECONDED**. Council **APPROVED** the February 2009 and November 2008 Leadership Council meeting summaries as presented.

#### **LEGISLATIVE FOLLOW UP**

Martha Kongsgaard believes the Council should think about taking a stand on the MTCA funding legislation. She suggested that the Council could draft a letter after collecting all the facts. This letter cannot come from David since he needs to follow the governor's direction.

David agreed that this is something that the Council could do as independently appointed members.

Bill Ruckelshaus suggested Martha draft a letter and get agreement by the rest of the Council members. The Council agreed.

Martha will get additional information on the bill, draft a letter and circulate to individual Council members for comment. The Council will then decide if a special meeting is needed to reach agreement on any points.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Naki Stevens, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)*, reported that scientists in nearshore program are setting targets for eelgrass restoration and the agency's goal is to have these in place by April of this year. This is an example of the support that can be provided by agencies that have the expertise. DNR has also just released a draft strategic plan that is out for public review ([www.dnr.gov](http://www.dnr.gov)) and are requesting comments. DNR is very supportive of the MTCA bill and would be happy to help the Council with any facts or figures on that issue.

David expressed appreciation for the work of Commissioner Goldmark and for Naki's assistance.

**2010 CALENDAR PLANNING** (See notebook handout for details)

David Dicks reviewed the proposed revised Leadership Council meeting schedule.

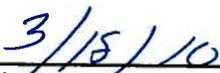
The Council APPROVED the revised schedule:

- March 18, 2010
- May 20, 2010
- July 29 & 30, 2010
- September 16 & 17, 2010
- November 18 & 19, 2010

**3:08 p.m. ADJOURN**

Leadership Council Approval

  
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Bill Ruckelshaus, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Next Meeting:                    Next Leadership Council meeting March 18, 2010