

Puget Sound Partnership Science Panel  
Meeting Summary

October 7, 2008  
UW APL Hardisty Room, Seattle

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Science Panel Members Present:

- Joel Baker
- Guy Gelfenbaum
- Robert "Bob" Johnston
- Jan Newton
- Timothy "Tim" Quinn
- Frank Shipley
- John Stark
- Usha Varanasi
- Katharine "Trina" Wellman

Staff:

- Cullen Stephenson, Deputy Director
- Tammy Owings, Special Assistant to the Science Panel
- Scott Redman, Action Agenda Manager
- Martha Neuman, Action Agenda Director
- Mary Ruckelshaus, PSP Chief Scientist
- Ken Currens, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

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*It is intended that this summary be used along with notebook materials provided for the meeting.*

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Action Items:

- Approve transmittal of Topic Review Paper reviews
- Approve transmittal of suggested revisions to the Guiding Principals

Meeting Summary:

- Panel basics
- Biennial Science Work Plan development
- Action Agenda development
- Puget Sound Georgia Basin Conference discussion

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*The workshop, although open to the public, is informal and not recorded.*

**WORKSHOP**

Chair Joel Baker called the workshop session to order at 9:05 a.m. This workshop is focused on development of the Biennial Science Work Plan (BSWP). Two draft versions of the Plan were provided to the Panel (September 29 and October 6).

The October 6 version was created through the comments received during the October 3 Conference Call. The Panel's goal is to agree on a final draft version that is ready to hand off to the technical writer and Partnership staff by the end of this meeting.

The Panel discussed the changes made to the October 6 version.

Joel reviewed the outline of the October 6 document.

Panel members agreed this outline was better than the previous version but still need to clarify the information to make it easier for the layperson to read and understand. This document needs to be written so the Legislature is able to understand what the Plan is.

The Panel discussed additional changes in the outline and writing of this document. They then worked through the document identifying assignments and additional needs. The Panel decided the BSWP was not ready for finalization yet and will continue discussion of revisions and the education and outreach section during the October 17 Conference Call.

### **REGULAR MEETING SESSION**

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*It is intended that this summary be used along with notebook materials provided for the meeting.  
A full recording of the regular meeting portion of the agenda is retained by Puget Sound Partnership as the formal record.*

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### **CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER – Joel Baker, Chair**

Joel Baker opened the regular meeting of the Science Panel at 1:00 p.m.

Jan Newton welcomed everyone to the University of Washington's Applied Physics Lab.

Joel reviewed the agenda and reported that the morning work session was very productive and the BSWP will be addressed again later in the regular meeting portion of the agenda.

#### *Water Quality Topic Review Paper*

John Stark provided an overview on the summary review of the Water Quality Topic paper and noted the changes that he made. The reviews are the same but the summary written by John has been revised.

#### *Transmittal of Review Papers*

Staff would like to have the Science Panel formally transmit the five reviews (water resources, habitat, human health, biodiversity, and now water quality) to the Partnership. The reviews will not be posted on the Web page but will be available to the public if requested.

John Stark **MOVED** approval to transmit the five reviews to the Partnership. Usha Varanasi **SECONDED**. Panel **APPROVED** transmittal of the reviews.

#### *Science Panel Comments on Guiding Principles*

Scott reviewed the process to date on the guiding principles and requested the Panel approve the transmittal of suggested revisions to the guiding principles. The guiding principles will be included in the Action Agenda.

There will be additional time for the Science Panel to comment on the guiding principles once the Action Agenda is in draft.

Jan Newton **MOVED** Science Panel approval of transmittal of the suggested revisions to the guiding principles to be used in the Action Agenda. Trina Wellman **SECONDED**. Panel **APPROVED**.

**ACTION AGENDA – Martha Neuman**

Martha Neuman reviewed the new schedule for Science Panel products needed for the Action Agenda. She isn't bringing anything to the Panel at this meeting but will be providing information by October 20 for Panel review. This will be the same information that the Leadership Council will be reviewing at its October 22 and 23 meeting.

Guy Gelfenbaum asked about the plan on how to integrate science and monitoring into the Action Agenda. Martha noted they are still working on how this will be called out exactly; it has not been specifically called out yet. There are two levels of monitoring needs: Soundwide and local. The same is true with adaptive management, which must integrate needs ecosystem wide, local, and at the salmon recovery level.

The Panel discussed the monitoring and adaptive management program and need for this infrastructure. Martha suggested that she could provide guidance under Priority A by calling out adaptive management needs for each of the initiatives.

The Science Panel's goal is to work toward a system-wide baseline-monitoring program with smaller focused monitoring programs at the next level down. The role of the Partnership would be to provide technical assistance to the local efforts using standard monitoring procedures Soundwide.

Martha explained the process being used to review the Action Agenda: The products will come in pieces between now and the November 6 complete review draft version. There will not be a formal peer review process but the Partnership is asking the Panel for a last look to see if there are any major items missing.

The Panel may not want to answer this question if they don't feel that they have enough information. They will need to focus their review on making sure information in the Action Agenda will support the Strategic Science Plan.

**Proposed schedule:**

- Martha will get sections needing review to the Panel by October 20, 2008
- Leadership Council will be briefed during its meeting on October 22-23
- Science Panel provide comments to Martha by October 28

Joel Baker recommended adding a Conference Call on October 24, 2008, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., to discuss and finalize the review before sending to Martha. Panel **APPROVED**.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

*Fred Felleman, Wave Consulting*, discussed the importance of feeder fish and the disappearance of whales. He is dismayed that herring is missing from the initiative list. He suggested monitoring forage fish and a study on this issue. He also recommended looking to include seals on the indicators list.

John Stark pointed out that herring is listed in the BSWP and harbor seal is one of the indicators on the indicator list but listed in a different category than Fred was looking at.

### **BIENNIAL SCIENCE WORK PLAN – Joel Baker**

The Panel continued to review and revise the BSWP, setting assignments and due dates.

The Panel had a long discussion on the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) and steps needed to expand on the current NOAA IEA work and integrate other efforts such as the Biodiversity and Puget Sound Nearshore Estuary Restoration Program (PSNERP) work.

The Panel would like to get the BSWP review draft ready to go out for broader review soon.

Assignments were made for Panel members to get revisions to Scott by Friday, October 10, on the following sections:

- 2.1 – Frank Shipley
- 2.2 – Tim Quinn and Mary Ruckelshaus
- 2.3 – Tim and Mary will review in context of 2.2
- 2.4 – Frank will revise and then send Section 2.1 on to Jan Newton and John Stark for their revisions
- 2.5 – Scott Redman, Ken Currens, and Joel Baker
- 2.6 – Bob Johnston and Scott
- The whole Panel needs to look over Section 3 and send revisions to Scott. Comments on the other sections should be sent to the section lead.

### **Schedule:**

- 10/10 changes to Scott
- 10/13 Scott will send revised version to Panel
- 10/17 Panel will discuss revisions on Conference Call with the goal to send the document to the science writer for revisions the week of October 20.

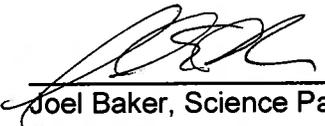
### **SCIENCE PANEL INVOLVEMENT IN PUGET SOUND GEORGIA BASIN ECOSYSTEM CONFERENCE – Scott Redman**

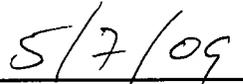
Scott Redman provided an update on the Puget Sound Georgia Basin Conference.

The Panel discussed the options and who could do the follow-up so as to get an abstract in by October 10. After discussion, it was decided that the Science Panel will not request a session during the conference. Joel is slated to speak during the plenary session and the Panel may do a poster session.

5:07 p.m.     **ADJOURN**

Science Panel Approval

  
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Joel Baker, Science Panel Chair

  
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Date

Next Meeting:           November 18 and 19, 2008  
Friday Harbor