

Hood Canal Coordinating Council

JEFFERSON, KITSAP & MASON COUNTIES
PORT GAMBLE S'KLALLAM & SKOKOMISH TRIBES
STATE & FEDERAL AGENCIES

Work Session of the

HCCC Integrated Watershed Plan (IWP) Steering Committee

November 25, 2015, 11:00 – 3:00 pm

Via WebEx teleconference,

and at HCCC office, 17791 Fjord Drive, NE, Suite 124, Poulsbo, WA

WebEx Call-In Information:

[Join WebEx meeting \(click here\)](#)

Meeting number: 802 170 888

Meeting password: 1234

Join by Phone

1-408-792-6300

Access code: 802 170 888

SUMMARY

HCCC Integrated Watershed Plan Steering Committee Members/Attendance:

- Dave Herrera (HCCC Board Member): Present
- Phil Johnson (HCCC Board Member): Present
- Paul McCollum (HCCC Board Member): Not present
- Terri Jeffreys (HCCC Board Member): Present
- Teri King: Present
- Stacy Vynne: Present

Others Present:

- Thom Johnson (Point No Point Treaty Council)
- Evan Bauder (Mason Conservation District)
- Sarah Heerhartz (Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group)
- Jamie Glasgow (Wild Fish Conservancy)
- Scott Brewer (HCCC Exec. Dir.)
- Haley Harguth (HCCC Watershed Planning & Policy Coordinator)

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda and Past Meeting Summaries

Mason County Commissioner Terri Jeffreys, Hood Canal Coordinating Council Board Member, called the meeting to order. The agenda was approved.

This is a work session of the HCCC IWP Steering Committee to review the Hood Canal Local Integrating Organization (LIO) Near Term Actions (NTA) proposals.

Meeting Notes:

The IWP SC reviewed the progress made reviewing NTAs at the last meeting and continued with additional ratings and discussion:

1. Strategic Hood Canal Water Type Assessment

Concern raised about the assumed need for this assessment, if the cost and effort would produce results that would provide a significant improvement to the current salmon recovery plans.

Interest was raised by Counties for the new information this assessment would bring to land use planning outside of the salmon recovery context.

2. Strategic Hood Canal Environmental DNA (eDNA) Assessment

Discussion for this NTA proposal was incorporated into the previous Water Type Assessment discussion, since the Wild Fish Conservancy submitted them both.

Jamie Glasgow was present and answered questions regarding the scientific need for this assessment and how it is being used elsewhere. Water typing and eDNA has been conducted in nearby watersheds, in both the South Sound and Kitsap Peninsula areas.

Resistance from some members regarding the need for both assessments. An alternative proposal was offered to scale back the assessments to first establish the need by working with HCCC members, Hood Canal Lead Entity Technical Advisory Group and regional experts to gain stakeholder support for whether or not to pursue the assessment methodology and establish and prioritize precisely where it is needed. This alternative proposal was supported by IWP Steering Committee members. HCCC staff recommended we incorporate those assessments into the existing salmon recovery planning NTA proposals (Chinook Recovery Plan Update; Steelhead Recovery Plan Development) since those forums would be convened then. WFC is supportive of this approach. The salmon recovery planning NTAs will be revised to reflect this addition.

3. Restore Naturally Functioning Freshwater & Saltwater Shorelines in HC

This NTA proposal will be combined with the Shore Stewards education and outreach NTA proposal submitted by WSU Extension. Both entities have discussed and support this collaboration as it provides a great opportunity to leverage each other's efforts and capacity and team up on landowner interventions. The IWP Steering Committee supports this approach and will move it forward accordingly.

4. Hood Canal Floodplains

Concern raised by Steering Committee members and PSP staff that this proposal incorporates too many elements across a large and disconnected geographical area. PSP staff conveys recommendation that this NTA proposal be separated by distinct geographies. Steering Committee members raise questions about the details of what is being proposed for the geographical areas outside of the Skokomish Watershed, as not much information is provided in the proposal. An alternative is suggested to scale back

the proposal to only focus on the Skokomish Watershed, in which the majority of the specific tasks are described. Evan Bauder of Mason Conservation District, who submitted the proposal, is present and answers questions regarding what the proposal would entail with the suggested scaled back approach. Mason Conservation District supports this alternative and agrees to revise the proposal accordingly. Steering Committee members support this approach and recommend to move the NTA forward as revised.

Review NTA Ratings:

HCCC staff sorted the NTA ratings spreadsheet to list the NTAs in order by their cumulative ratings in order to review the entire list. A discussion ensued around how many NTAs to recommend moving forward from the list, and what the minimum rating should be to earn their recommendation to move forward. A suggestion was made to move forward all NTAs rated 30 or above. Some members were comfortable with this proposal, although some raised concern if that warrants leaving out the NTAs that were very close to 30.

Recommendation to the HCCC Board of Directors:

The Steering Committee could not reach a decision regarding exactly which NTAs to recommend for the adoption, and instead deferred to the HCCC Board of Directors to make the decision once they are presented with the ratings at the subsequent Board Meeting.

Documents distributed:

- All NTA review materials are available in the [box folder](#), including:
 - All NTA proposals
 - NTA Evaluation Ratings Table
 - NTA ratings and IWP Steering Committee comments