

WRIA 10/12 CAC/TAG

Meeting Summary

August 19, 2009, 4:00 to 6:00pm
Tacoma Mall Office Building

Attendees: Bob Burkle, Karen Chang, Ron Larson, Ken Wolfe, Lorin Reinelt, Sarah McCarthy, Barbara Ann Smolko, Devin Wolf, Scott Hansen, Bart Madison, Tom Kantz, Mike Rhubright, Kristin Williamson, Keith Underwood, Dan Wrye

1) Updates and Information Sharing

- a) Dan Wrye of Pierce Surface Water Management (SWM) talked about staffing reassignments within Pierce County. Tom Kantz will now be working in the Water Quality and Watersheds section at SWM and will take over the Lead Entity coordinator role for WRIA 10/12. Lorin will be coordinating the update of Pierce County's Flood Hazard Management Plan.
- b) Tom Kantz reported on the July 14th LEAG meeting. With the transition from WDFW to RCO, there will be changes in the grant reporting requirements and they are debating the continuation of the LEAG. Also, an operational manual is being developed. Another LEAG conference call is scheduled for August 27th.
- c) Tom also reported on an Aug. 12th conference call with the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Watershed Leads. They are hiring new action area coordinators. Dan has been asked to help organize a field trip for the new staff for South Sound. WDFW is adapting their Watershed Stewards program to implement the Puget Sound Action Agenda and assist local jurisdictions with Shoreline Master Program updates.
- d) Monies available through the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation's Community Salmon Fund have been reduced by half. These funds have been distributed by LE in the past but they are looking at regional distribution (with likely three regions in Puget Sound: south, central and north).
- e) SRFB has been asked to develop a policy responding to concerns from recreational boaters that LWD placement creates a safety hazard.

2) PSAR Capacity Funds

- a) Lorin distributed a draft WRIA 10/12 lead entity brochure and would like feedback from the committee within 2 weeks (by Sept. 3).
- b) New Capacity Funds – the WRIA 10/12 lead entity will have \$139,662 from the 2009-11 biennium to spend on: Future project development, Habitat Work Schedule, Regional coordination, Marketing projects and the recovery plan, Adaptive management planning, and/or Strategy updates. Tom distributed a handout listing eligible activities. We need to decide how we'd like to spend the money. Tom K. will have a draft with specific tasks and deliverables for review at the next meeting (Sept. 3). He asked committee members to provide input on what to include in the draft by August 26th.

3) 2009 Funding Round

- a) **8 projects were ranked by the TAG and CAC; the TAG completed its scoring and ranking on August 11.**

- i) 2 projects from the original list were dropped – Chambers Beach Debris Removal & Mid-Puyallup Acquisition
- ii) 4 Projects had significant modifications
 - (1) WRIA 12 Beach Nourishment is now “Design Only”
 - (2) 24th Street/White River Levee Setback – major expansion in potential project area
 - (3) Clearwater LWD – Original list of 5 reaches for LWD and log jam placement has been reduced to 3. Remaining 2 may be mitigation projects for Hancock Timber as part of road washout repairs.
 - (4) South Prairie Acquisition – 2 specific parcels have been designated for potential acquisition
- b) Devil’s Head Acquisition has been proposed as a regional project. It was ranked as the number one project in WRIA 15 and was allocated \$250,000. Nisqually has offered them \$100,000. WRIA 14 won’t contribute and WRIA 13 is undecided. They have asked for \$125,000 from WRIA 10/12 and would like \$500,000 total from SRFB process. They’ve received a WWRP grant to fund the majority of the cost and are also seeking conservation futures funds.
- c) Discussion about ranking of “Design Only” projects. Should criteria favor projects that will actually result in an on-the-ground change?
- d) Proposal: Fund the top four ranked projects, all of which scored over 20 points out of 26 in the TAG ranking and are considered tier 1 projects (24th Street, Calistoga Acquisition, Calistoga Design, and Clearwater LWD). Consensus reached.
- e) A decision on Devil’s Head acquisition was set aside until decisions were reached on remaining three WRIA 10/12 projects, which scored below 20 on the TAG criteria and are the lowest three scores overall.
- f) Funding of bottom ranked projects discussed. Proposal to not fund lowest three projects did not achieve consensus.
- g) New motion to partially fund South Prairie Knotweed Removal at \$161,500. If proponent doesn’t accept, save funds for 2010 round. Ask Pierce Conservation District to provide more land owner agreements for future funding. Consensus reached.
- h) New motion to deny funding Beach Nourishment and South Prairie Acquisition. Consensus not achieved. Vote taken – 9 for, 1 against. Beach nourishment project needs to be more concrete. South Prairie didn’t propose parcels with high existing habitat values or potential for restoration. Concern was expressed that no WRIA 12 projects were funded.
- i) Devil’s Head Acquisition
 - i) Determined that there are no clear priorities or criteria for ranking regional projects in the WRIA 10/12 strategy, which may need to be resolved in the future. Devil’s Head received a score of 17.9 by the TAG and was ranked 4th by the CAC. There were concerns expressed about using WRIA 10/12 criteria to rank Devil’s Head. It was noted that it was also one of three projects in South Sound ranked as regionally significant by the South Sound technical group.

- ii) Proposal: After considerable discussion about funding levels (\$125,000, \$62,500, or \$100,000), there was a proposal to fund Devil's Head at an amount equal to the Nisqually contribution of \$100,000. Consensus reached. The CAC decided that a condition of contributing funding of \$100,000 to WRIA 15 (West Sound watershed) was that WRIA 10/12 would receive an equivalent contribution back to this watershed in a future funding round. A letter or email should be sent to WRIA 15 (West Sound) outlining this condition.**

4) Meeting Adjourned at 6:15pm

Next meeting will be Thursday, September 3, 2009 4-6pm at the Tacoma Mall Office Building.