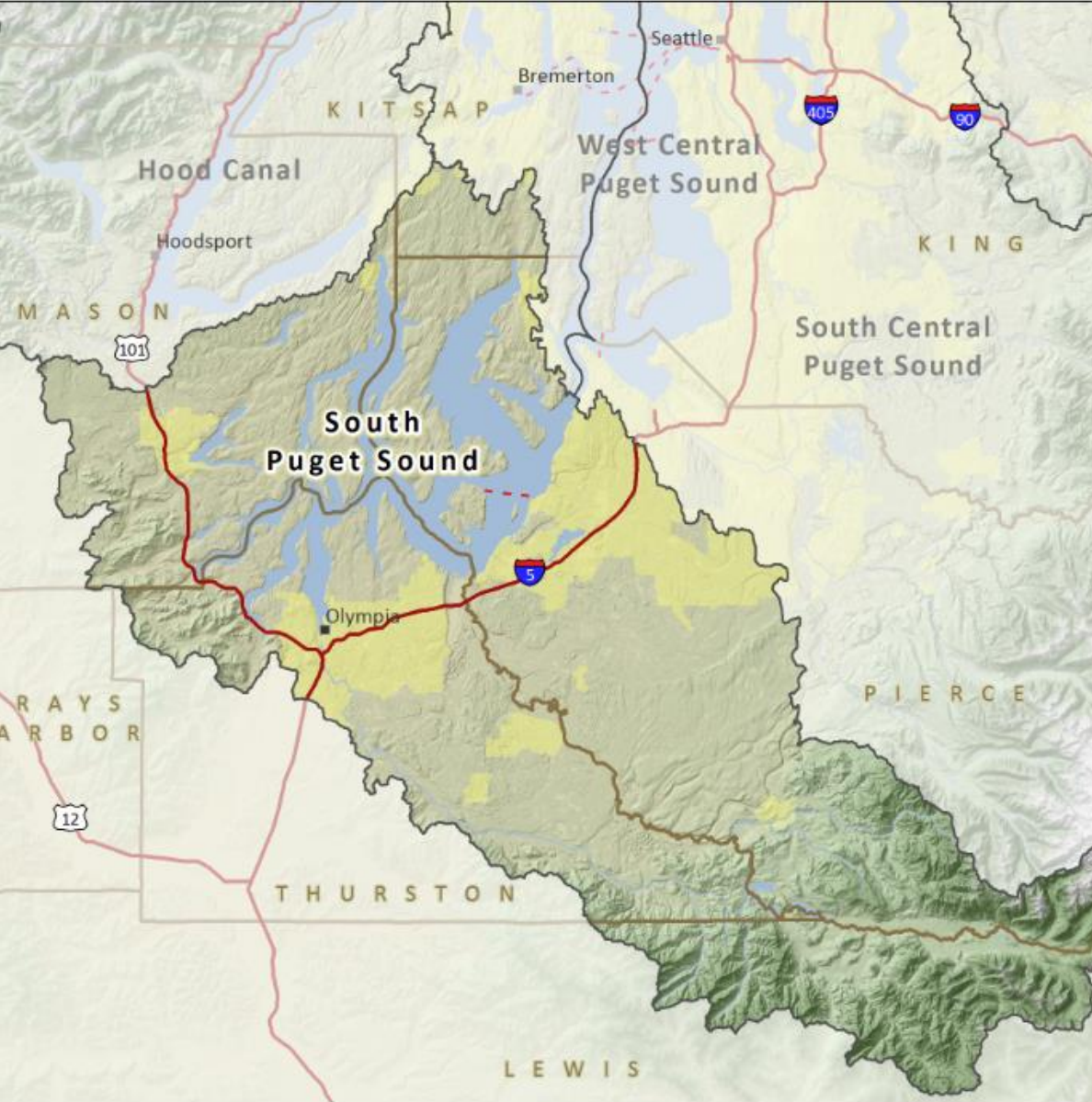




SOUTH SOUND RIPARIAN WORKSHOP

June 7, 2024





PURPOSE

- The goal is to organize a convening space for south Puget Sound **project sponsors, local organizations, and funding agencies** to connect in person and create **strategic partnerships**
- Discuss **project ideas, funding needs, and potential coordination** in advance of potential riparian-focused RFPs expected later in 2024.



AGENDA:

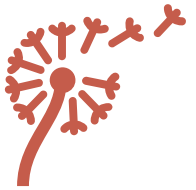
Time	Session
9:30	Welcome, Purpose and Agenda Review Networking/Introductions
10:00	IGNITE Panel
10:45	Funders Roundtable
11:45	Lunch - Enjoy the Outdoors
12:30	Breakout Sessions (Two Rounds and Topics will be Posted During Lunch)
1:45	Funders Reflections
2:20	Wrap Up and Next Steps
2:30	Adjourn and Enjoy the Weekend!



WHY CONVENE RIPARIAN PROJECT SPONSORS AND FUNDERS?

- To create a space for the development or amplification of strategic partnerships around riparian work in South Sound.
- To provide early input to funders as they consider development of riparian focused RFPs.

INTRODUCTIONS AND NETWORKING



Please find someone who you do not know and answer the following prompt:

- Your name and organization
- Most recent riparian project you worked on
- Favorite aquatic or terrestrial species that lives in WA riparian areas



Listen for the bell and switch to a new person. We will try to do this for 4 rounds.



IGNITE PANEL

- Heather Green – Pierce Conservation District: **Funding and Capacity for Post Project Stewardship**
 - Glenn Johnson – Pierce Conservation District: **Challenges of knotweed treatment and control**
 - Keith Folkerts – WDFW: **Riparian Data Engine**
 - Evan Bauder – Mason Conservation District: **Challenges and Successes of Existing Funding**
 - Mark Heckert – South Sound Beavers: **Using Beavers in Restoration Projects**
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QUICK BRAINSTORMING EXERCISE

1. Grab a few sticky notes (at least three)
2. Take 5 mins to write down up to three important challenges you've seen or experienced in riparian projects that were not covered by the presenters (one per sticky note please).
3. Turn to your neighbor (or group of neighbors) and share what you've written down. If anything is the same – please combine them into one sticky note.
4. After 10 mins we will ring the bell and ask you to bring consolidated ideas up to the wall.

FUNDERS ROUNDTABLE

- How big is your grant program and what is the average size of a single grant?
- What are the key eligibility criteria for your program?
- What is a typical project that gets funded by your program?
- Have you funded anything in the South Sound in the last 3-5 years?





BREAKOUT “BUCKETS”

- **Finding your Projects:** choosing the right place; landowner outreach and willingness; design and feasibility Issues
- **Getting Projects Done:** workforce development; volunteers; plant acquisition
- **Post-Project Maintenance and Stewardship:** invasive weed control; volunteers
- **Working with Community:** local engagement; encampment impacts and support

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. What aspects of this work are both critical to project success and particularly difficult right now?
2. Is there a different way to approach this challenge? Is there a courageous conversation we should be having?
3. If there is a funding need, what could funders change or emphasize in their programs to improve riparian project success? How do we ensure funding is effective?
4. How could different partnerships support work in this topic area? Are these connections already happening or do they need nurturing?
5. Are there policy or programmatic needs that should be addressed? What change is suggested?
6. What can we do at the regional scale (South Sound) that would better support projects in this topic area? How about basin-wide (Puget Sound)?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- What is one new connection you found in today's conversations (e.g., where did something you want to talk about, intersect with someone else's work)?
- What is one organization you want to reach out to on Monday?
- Has your dream funding scenario been described today? If not, what's still missing?





FUNDER WRAP-UP

- *I used to think ____ and now I'm wondering more about ____?*
- What is your dream project to fund right now? Has it changed over the course of these conversations?
- What connections between funding programs do you think are important after today's conversations?
- Who is the first person you want to connect with on Monday to talk about this workshop?

NEXT STEPS:

- **Materials from today will be posted on the AHSS website.**
- We will circulate the link and a follow-up questionnaire to everyone early next week.
- If you have any additional thoughts or ideas please send them to Elizabeth, Kristen, or Haley and we will make sure to include them in the notes.
- **Did this spark ideas for other convenings that would be helpful?** Let us know – we would love to support building connections throughout South Sound.

