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**Puyallup White River (PWR - LIO) Regular Meeting**  
**January 12, 3:00 – 5:00 pm**

**Participants**

Krystal Kyer, Pierce County  
Robert Wright, City of Sumner/ PRWC  
John Beard  
Linda Burgess, PRWC  
Tom Kantz, Pierce County  
Hans Zeiger, Pierce County Councilmember  
Alison Schweitzer, King County  
Chris Burke, City of Tacoma  
Rikki McGee, CCWC  
Shauna Hansen, City of Tacoma  
Juliana Tadano, PSP  
Melissa Buckingham, PCD  
Merita Trohimivich, City of Tacoma  
Kim Quesnel Seipp, Blue Forest  
Nicholas Cusick, PCD  
Dana Coggon, PCD  
Marlies Wierenga, Wild Earth Guardians  
Lisa Spurrier, Pierce County  
Liz Clark, King Conservation District  
Cindy Callahan, TPCHD  
Maureen Meehan, Pierce County  
Allan Warren, Bonneville Environmental Foundation

*Meeting Facilitation*

Elizabeth McManus, Ross Strategic  
Andres Sheikh, Ross Strategic

**Meeting Summary**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

- Led by Allan Warren, LIO & TAC Chair

**II. Updates from Around the LIO**

- Seeking interest for the next LIO Chair. This position is opening up due to Allan Warren stepping down as he has reached the maximum years as chair. This position has a duration of one year with a maximum of three years. The role's responsibilities consist of working with the PWR – LIO Executive Committee (Ross Team + Tom Kantz & Krystal Kyer) as part of monthly meetings to manage the LIO and its projects.
- ERP next phase – mapping and web tool, update. At the end of last year an initial phase was completed resulting in the initial ERP – [more details](#). Currently on second phase which includes mapping of attributes and prioritization of work as part of an online tool. LIO will be updated

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with progress and to gauge feedback. If there is interest from LIO members to be more involved please contact Andres, Elizabeth, or Krystal.

- Civic Engagement toolkit – LIO funded the toolkit last year, worked on by Peirce Conservation District. Currently in the final stages of development as part of PCD and Puyallup watershed initiative (considering stormwater and forest community of interest). General purpose is to have the LIO or watershed council use the toolkit to host workshop or other meeting with interested citizens of Pierce County. First phase of civic engagement, to inform and educate how residents and community groups can get information and be involved. Final version will be shared when available. There are additional funds for future citizen engagement that could potentially be used for a subsequent funding effort.
- Chambers Dam removal (Chambers Bay and Bridge Restoration Project) – is a project to replace the unused bridge that runs across the bay. This project was identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan in past years with relevant stakeholders onboard with advancing the project. Feasibility and design have been improved, and sediment samples from behind the dam has come back positive for the project to move forward. Currently exploring funding resources to create a design for removal. Surrounding tribes have been updated and have given conceptual support for the project to move forward. AHSS is the LIO pursuing EPA money and potential federal funding with a 20–50 million-dollar price range.
- Electron Dam – WA Attorney General has charged dam owners and filed charges with potential fines and jailtime. Current goal is dam removal as Flett Creek has been historic spawning ground for salmon. Several surrounding land owners are interested in participating in restoration work. The Chambers-Clover Creek Watershed Council is also working on scoping the project.
- Snoquera update – Project is a collaborative effort with Mt Baker-Snoqualmie Forest in upper White/Green River. As part of this work, there has been engagement with local implementation partners, weaving together public and private funding to look at wildfire reduction. It is a planned and permitted project (mentioned in the Ecosystem Recovery Plan), and is moving into the next phase of work. Trout Unlimited has been identified as a project partner and are currently scoping out the stream flow restoration grant.
  - **Request:** Letter of Support from the LIO for the grant opportunity as well as the PRWC. To be signed by PRWC President and PWR LIO Chair.
- Swan Creek, riparian decision tool, and other Lead Entity updates – Pierce County is advancing the streambank restoration project (culvert under 64th street), to slow down flow and decrease unraveling of banks and sediment. Currently, the County is looking for funding for the project and is actively pursuing a feasibility study in the uplands of Swan creek, to restore some of the creek to the historic wetlands to slow down the flow (to improve water quality). Riparian decision support tool has been updated and online ([Video Link](#)). Several PSAR notices of intent to apply have been submitted.
- New Salmon Recovery planner for Pierce County – Sean Goldsmith
- Round 6 Floodplains by Design grants – This work is a collaboration of 22 organizations working in the watershed. They are currently applying for the next round of grants for the 2023-2025 years. Project is up and down the watershed (setting back levies, opening up habitat, increase floodplains, acquisition of flood prone property, salmon habitat restoration project, culvert replacements, bioswale and agricultural projects, invasive species and conservation easements. *A more in-depth discussion was expressed for a future meeting.*

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- **Request:** Letter of Support from the LIO for the grant process – with a deadline for April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **III. Work Session on LIO Review of Draft Action Agenda Content**

- The 2022-2026 Action Agenda is significantly different and revolves around objectives, strategies, and the types of work needed (high level actions) rather than specific projects
- Meeting participants were split into several groups to discuss and review draft Action Agenda Implementation Strategy Actions. Many suggestions were made and collected into a single document to share with PSP Planning Team to incorporate feedback.
- General observations from several meeting participants were that there were too many actions to review and that individual actions were very broad in scope and content. Thus, specific suggestions were difficult to identify.

### **IV. Round Table/Announcements**

- Additional Salmon Updates from the WRIA 10 Lead Entity:
  - <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/criminal-charges-filed-against-electron-hydro-exec-in-puyallup-river-spill/>
  - <https://medium.com/wagovernor/inslee-announces-new-strategy-and-investments-to-protect-and-restore-salmon-42f67a4b1616>

### **VI. Adjourn**

- The council will meet again April 13th from 3:00-5:00 pm. If you have suggestions for agenda topics; please email Andres, asheikh@rossstrategic.com.