

Puget Sound Partnership Update

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Dave White

Wastewater Treatment Division

Outline of Presentation

- Review PSP, Action Agenda process, activity since last April
- Overview of Action Agenda - Contents
 - Recommendations – wastewater impacts
 - Funding Strategy
- Next steps
- Observations/Questions

Review Background

- New state agency with goal of restoring Puget Sound
- Action Agenda: to build on prior work to prioritize actions, answer:
 - What is healthy Puget Sound?
 - What is current status & what are the biggest threats?
 - What actions must be taken?
 - Where should we start?
- Aims to be comprehensive in scope
- **Due to legislature by December 1st – Next Monday**

Organization/Process

- Small State Agency
- Several entities set up:
 - Leadership Council
 - Ecosystem Coordination Board
 - Science Panel
 - Funding Advisory Group
- Many public meetings, interim documents available online (incl. Draft Action Agenda)

Action Agenda – Organization/Contents

- Q1: Draft provisional indicators, targets, benchmarks (limited number)
- Q2: Categories of threats –(but does not yet identify biggest threats)
- Q3: What actions should be taken to get to a healthy PS by 2020 (long list, organized by categories of actions – protect; restore; stop water pollution at its source; work together; build new system)
- Q4: What should we do first (near term actions) (presumably, next two years; combination of PSP and others' actions)

List of Actions

- **Hundreds—**
 - Not yet costed out or prioritized.
- **Some notable ones (for WTD)**
 - Additional (targeted) nutrient controls
 - Emerging contaminants - source controls
 - CSO control “in context of overall water quality”
 - Accelerate reduction of loading of persistent bioaccumulative chemicals
 - Prioritize & continue to implement toxic clean up programs for contaminated sediments
 - Encourage use of reclaimed water, conservation

Where Do We Start (Near term actions)

- Many actions are identified for PSP/at the state level
- ~ increase funding of existing efforts, coordinate actions, etc.
- \$200-\$300M for next biennium short term funding

Funding Element

- Costs not yet included – could help prioritize
- Note: election year; state of economy
- Short term and long term elements
- Short term: MTCFA funding, federal, + ~\$150M
State GO bond funding
- Long term: market based approaches, idea of
new funding sources
 - Not yet specific
 - Puget Sound special purpose district?

Next steps

- Develop implementation strategy: performance management/accountability; stable funding; science plan, communication
 - Include focus on accountability
- Future role of PSP as agency --
 - Planning? Funding? Coordinating?
- Legislative strategy being developed

Observations/Questions

- Substantively impressive
 - Public process, volume of work
- Prioritization process proven challenging
 - Priorities – stormwater, habitat?
 - More attention on targets, performance measures; communication
 - Cost not yet a driver
- Path forward not yet clear
- Questions/discussion