

# STORMWATER WORK GROUP

Tuesday, April 28, 2009 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
The Orcas Room on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Rhodes Center  
949 Market Street, Tacoma

## Draft Summary

OF THE MEETING'S KEY DISCUSSIONS, DECISIONS AND AGREEMENTS

### ATTENDEES:

#### *Work Group members and the organizations or groups they represent:*

**Allison Butcher** (Master Builders Association of King and Pierce Counties), Business Groups; **Shayne Cothorn** (Washington State Department of Natural Resources), State Agencies; **Dana de Leon** (City of Tacoma), Local Governments; **Tim Determan** (Washington State Department of Health), State Agencies; **Jonathan Frodge** (City of Seattle), Local Governments; **Kris Holm** (Association of Washington Business), Business Groups; **Heather Kibbey** (City of Everett), Local Governments; **DeeAnn Kirkpatrick** (NOAA Fisheries), Federal Agencies; **Bill Moore** (Washington State Department of Ecology), State Agencies; **Kit Paulsen** (City of Bellevue), Local Governments; **Jim Simmonds** (King County), Local Governments, and the Work Group's chair; **Carol Smith** (Washington State Conservation Commission), Agriculture; **Heather Trim** (People for Puget Sound) Environmental Groups; and **Bruce Wulkan** (Puget Sound Partnership), State Agencies..

#### *Meeting Observers:*

**Neil Aaland**, Washington State Association of Counties; **Abby Barnes**, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants; and **Joyce Nichols**, City of Bellevue.

#### *Work Group Staff:*

**Karen Dinicola** (Ecology), Project Manager; and **Jim Reid**, facilitator.

### **TASK 4 PROGRESS: WORK GROUP AUTHORIZES TASK 4 PLANNING SUBGROUP TO BEGIN DESIGNING JUNE CHARRETTES**

The Stormwater Work Group reviewed the "Proposed Additions to Task 4 in the Work Plan." A principal change to task four was the proposal to create two task groups, one on efficacy, the other on impacts and characterization, that would operate separately until early December, at which time their recommendations would merge to become part of a draft monitoring and assessment strategy. Work Group members were also updated on a meeting 27 April with more than a dozen interested consultants to discuss possible approaches to use their combined skills to make the greatest possible progress toward developing a comprehensive regional monitoring and assessment strategy for stormwater. As a result of the Work Group's discussion about the proposed changes to task four, the members agreed to defer the establishment of any new task groups until after 30 June.

They agreed that between now and then the Stormwater Work Group should focus on overseeing the consultants who will assist the Work Group in developing hypotheses and proposing a framework to address the priority assessment questions after the Work Group approves the final list at its 3 June meeting.

More specifically, the Stormwater Work Group agreed to:

1. Expand the Task 4 Planning Subgroup by adding Kit Paulsen, Kris Holm and Carol Smith to the current Subgroup members: Jim Simmonds, Dana de Leon, Bruce Wulkan, Jay Davis, Gary Turney, Heather Trim, Tim Determan, and Dick Gersib, to oversee development of the design of two charrettes in June at which consultants will assist the Work Group in developing hypotheses and outlining a strategic monitoring and assessment framework based on the formally adopted list of priority assessment questions .
2. Allow the Work Group members who are designing the charrettes to employ Leska Fore of Statistical Design to assist them, in addition to staff assistance from Damon Diessner and Karen Dinicola. These charrettes should have a clear scope, concept, and structure, including ground rules and an expectation that participants will create a meaningful work product. A value-added writing task should follow the charrettes.
3. Request that consultants who wish to attend the charrettes also attend the workshop that the Stormwater Work Group is hosting on 19 May.
4. Place on the 3 June Stormwater Work Group meeting's agenda at least these two items: a) an overview of the findings from the workshop and final approval of the priority assessment questions; and b) review of the proposed design of the charrettes.
5. Convene the two charrettes between the Stormwater Work Group's meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of June.

In reaching agreement on the above points, Work Group members also agreed to not convene the consultants between now and the 19 May workshop to provide guidance on the questions or hypotheses before the workshop participants have the opportunity to influence them.

In reaching these decisions, the Work Group members' common interests were:

- Provide those who attend the 19 May workshop a legitimate opportunity to offer input into and help influence the development of the assessment questions.
- Create an open, transparent process for developing the assessment questions and hypotheses so that everyone who is involved in it feels their participation has been legitimate and useful, and so that the results are credible and supported by the stakeholders who have participated in the process.
- Provide strategic guidance to and oversight of the consultants.

To set the context for the discussions that resulted in these agreements, project manager Karen Dinicola informed the group that Ecology has signed an interagency agreement with King County for \$42,000 to assist the Work Group with contracting arrangements through the end of this biennium (30 June). Approximately \$15,000 will be used in hosting the workshop in mid-May, and \$27,000 will be used for technical experts to help with the development of hypotheses and an outline of the strategic monitoring and assessment framework based on the formally adopted assessment questions (including their involvement in the two June charrettes). Additional capacity remaining in Ecology's contract with Jim Reid to provide facilitation services for the Puget Sound Monitoring Consortium is also available to support the 19 May workshop planning and report out.

#### **TASK 7 PROGRESS: WORK GROUP GIVES "GREEN LIGHT" FOR CONTINUED 19 MAY WORKSHOP PLANNING**

Work Group members briefly reviewed and discussed the proposed agenda for the 19 May workshop. They supported the planning that has been conducted by the Task 7 Workshop Subgroup.

To date there are over 100 registrants for the workshop. The Work Group authorized the workshop design team, headed by consultant Margaret Norton-Arnold, project manager Karen Dinicola, and Work Group Chair Jim Simmonds, with assistance from Jim Reid, to moving forward on refining the agenda and implementing the logistics that will ensure that the Work Group's goals for the workshop are achieved.

*Work Group members are reminded that they must register for the workshop.*

#### **WORK GROUP MEMBERS TO RECEIVE BUDGET PROVISIO THAT ADDRESSES THE PUGET SOUND MONITORING CONSORTIUM**

At the beginning of the meeting, Karen Dinicola provided an update on the legislature's adoption of the 2009-'11 biennial budget, and what it means for the Puget Sound Monitoring Consortium, including the Stormwater Work Group. She reported that the adopted budget does not mention the Stormwater Work Group.

The proviso directs the Puget Sound Partnership, which has been given responsibility for the coordinated regional monitoring program for Puget Sound, to implement that program over the course of the coming biennium using its existing staff and resources. But since there is no money to implement the program, the Partnership would likely have to adjust its priorities and programs to achieve the legislature's expectations.

Karen agreed to a request to provide Stormwater Work Group members with the budget proviso as soon as it is possible. An important consideration for Stormwater Work Group members will be the contributions of other jurisdictions, such as local governments, to this effort. As some representatives of the cities and counties noted, local government budgets for 2010 are being developed now, so the sooner that Work Group members know what the proviso says, the sooner they can decide what actions are needed to fund the effort.