



# Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership

## COORDINATING COMMITTEE

### Meeting Notes

March 9, 2018, 9 am – 11 am  
Conference Call

### NEXT STEPS / ACTION ITEMS

#### Step 3 Work Groups –

- Scoping documents have been routed to In-stream WG.
- GSI will revise survey form and route back to Wayne Hoffman and Joyce Sherman for their review.
- Same information has been routed to other WGs. GSI will follow up and invite them to provide edits prior to their first meeting.
  
- Grant Distribution document - Coordinating Committee members to send comments on grant distribution document to Caroline Bauman.
  
- CIRC – Harmony Burrright will send CIRC letter offering their assistance on climate change information and support. Ronan Igloria and Harmony Burrright will connect to coordinate CIRC, USACE efforts.
  
- Communication and Outreach – Harmony Burrright, Adam Denlinger, Tim Gross, and Alan Fujishin will meet with Oregon Kitchen Table on March 12 to discuss proposed scope of work.
  
- Water Planning Conference to be held in Bend May 9 and 10. Harmony will solicit participation from the MCWPP, including asking WG spokespersons if they are interested in attending.

**Next Coordinating Committee Meeting – April 6, 9-11 am conference call**

**Next Partnership Meeting – May 30, 4 – 8 pm, Newport area**

**Next Work Group meetings – currently being scheduled**

#### Participants:

- Harmony Burrright, Co-Convener, OWRD
- Alan Fujishin, Co-Convener, Gibson Farms
- Wayne Hoffman, MidCoast Watersheds Council
- Caroline Bauman, Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln Co.
- Jackie Mikalonis, Governor's Office, Regional Solutions Team
- Matt Thomas, OR Dept. of Forestry

#### Unable to Attend:

- Adam Denlinger, Co-Convener Seal Rock Water District
- Tim Gross, Co-Convener, City of Newport
- Terry Thompson, Lincoln County Commissioner
- Stan VandeWetering, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Charlie Plybon, Newport Surfrider Foundation
- Amber Nickerson, OSU Student
- Jitesh Pattni, ODFW
- Jim Tooke, City of Yachats

#### Project Team in Attendance:

- Ronan Igloria, Ingria Jones, and Suzanne de Szoeki, GSI Water Solutions
- Shirlene Warnock and Jeanne Nyquist, Innovative Growth Solutions

## **Announcements**

Caroline Bauman reported that Mark Farley is going to step in to continue Maryann Bozza's work on the Partnership. He was already working closely with her. His contact information is: [mark.farley@oregonstate.edu](mailto:mark.farley@oregonstate.edu).

## **Communication and Outreach**

Caroline Bauman reported that the Grant Distribution application draft was sent out to the Coordinating Committee on 3/8 for review.

- Wayne Hoffman suggested that there are a couple pieces of information the City may need eventually such as tax status, EIN etc.
- Caroline suggested that this information be obtained at the time the funding decision is made.

Jackie Mikalonis observed that we are getting a lot of information from one of the members that is not directly related to the Partnership. It is great to have access to have everyone's information, but we should suggest that people refrain from sending email blasts on issues not related to the Partnership. We will ask people to be mindful of how they are using the email addresses to be sure it pertains to the Partnership.

Harmony Burrigh reported that additional people have responded to the recent email blast and asked to join working groups. Harmony encouraged people to be in contact with her if they need assistance in communication.

## **Working Group (WG) Discussion**

Wayne reported that the In-Stream / Ecology WG had their first meeting on 3/8/18. He said that Ingria Jones (GSI) did a good job facilitating the meeting.

Ronan Igloria led a discussion of the WG documents that were sent out the CC for review earlier this week (Tuesday).

### ***WG Approach document – 3 Phases***

1. Prioritization
2. Objectives for the data
3. Analysis of the information

There will be 3 meetings of the WGs for each of the above phases for a total of 9 meetings of each WG.

Wayne commented on coordination and cross-communication between the 3 WGs. Each WG will produce meeting notes, review, and then distribute to other WGs so that everyone is involved in the discussion of which streams we want to focus on.

Ronan indicated that Phase 1 will identify key issues that each WG wants to address. We will then work to develop agreement on priorities. Then in Phase 2 we will identify objectives for data. This is where we will involve USACE in developing climate change information. During Phase 2, we will have a get a good handle on the available information, as well as identifying the data gaps. Then in Phase 3, we will analyze the information.

Wayne commented that if WGs identify a data gap that is not funded by the current project budget, then we will identify the funding need and work with the co-conveners to develop a fundraising plan.

### ***Phase 1 - Prioritization***

Ingria commented that it is valuable for each of the WGs to review the survey results and issues that the other WGs have identified. That will affect how each WG develops priorities. The In-Stream group has decided to wait to prioritize until they see the information from the other WGs. Wayne added that if high priorities come up that could be addressed now, then they could be designated as pilot projects. He emphasized the need to be flexible in

setting priorities as new information comes in. Ronan stated that we will need to develop methods for prioritization. IGS offered to help with this.

Wayne offered 2 more comments -

- Group process – Impressed with Joyce Sherman’s grasp of group processes, communication tools, and developing messages. We selected a good spokesperson!
- It is important to not only understand current in-stream needs, but also to be able to forecast future needs. We will need to develop good forecasting tools so that we can do this in a reasonable way. Climate change projections will be very important in helping us to forecast. We need to be able to co-opt other Partner’s information and models (such as DEQ, USACE). We will also need to identify data gaps. There is a lot of information that is being developed by other Partners (DEQ-TMDL, Siletz Tribes). We can capture this information, identify the data gaps, and then identify funding needed to fill those data gaps.

Ingria and Ronan commented that the WG members have limited capacity to spend a lot of time in the data gathering and analysis process. This should be a topic at the WG meetings to establish realistic expectations around people’s ability to commit time to this.

Wayne suggested that there be opportunities to support WG work through grant stipends.

Harmony Burrigh commented that hydrologic models not available currently. This is a limitation we may be able to address in the future.

Survey document - Ronan identified that we have a survey document to help WGs provide input to begin to identify priorities. This document will be customized for each WG to identify the key drivers for their area of discussion. The approach is to ask WGs to fill this out, then compile and consolidate for each WG. Then each WG can review the results and begin to prioritize issues. Through this exercise, the WGs will identify the priority issues they want to work on.

Next Partnership meeting - Wayne suggested that the May 30 we set a target for the WGs to develop information for the May 30 Partnership meeting. It would be ideal if the WGs could all share their initial priorities so that the Partnership could agree on priorities at the May 30 meeting. Ronan responded that we will get a better sense of what we can accomplish after we’ve had the first meetings with all 3 WGs.

### ***Phase 2 – Objectives for the data***

Ronan - This phase is focused on addressing priorities that are identified in Phase 1. During Phase 2, we will identify the data objectives and flesh out the data that is needed to meet the objectives.

Suzanne de Szoeko – We need to come up with tools to help the WGs prioritize. This will help us to manage the scope of work.

Alan Fujishin – Given the scope of the planning area, will need to collect information that will help us to make decisions down the road.

### ***Pilot Projects –***

Ronan outlined two types of ‘pilot projects’ -

- Recurring need or issue throughout basin and there is data gap that needs to be addressed
- Specific geographical area that we need more information on.

Wayne – Agreed with Alan that we have information available for some areas and not for others. He suggested that David Waltz, DEQ, has developed quite a bit of information on Yachats, Big Elk, Upper Yaquina, and Siletz that will help in the understanding of hydrogeology in rural water supplies in other basins as well.

Alan – Our analysis will need to cover the entire county.

### **Phase 3: Analysis**

Ronan - Phase 3 will include:

- Analysis of existing data
- Identify data gaps
- Main outcome is to have information that we can take action on in Step 4 of the Planning Process

### **WG Communication**

Ingrid – people have different preferences for using google drive vs. email. The In-stream group decided they would send out meeting notes to WG members for review and then post to the google doc folder.

Harmony reported that WG members can go into google drive and update their WG rosters, or they can send the information to her and she will make the updates. Harmony emphasized that the google communication strategies are optional for the WGs. She encouraged people to contact her if they are having difficulty using the tools.

### **Next Steps for the WGs**

Ronan reported that -

- Scoping documents have been routed to In-stream WG.
- We will revise survey form and route back to Wayne and Joyce for their review.
- Same information has been routed to other WGs. GSI will follow up and invite them to provide edits prior to their first meeting.

### **Other Business**

- Wayne reported that he is exploring opportunity to apply for innovation grant through Natural Resource Conservation Services (agency of USDA, formerly known as Soil & Water Conservation Service) to develop tools to help with conservation practices. He wants to look at possibility of using the grant to take next step on modeling and better understanding relationship of temperature, flow, and water quality which is the critical issue for understanding how much water is available for human use before it impacts the stream. He is requesting the conveners of the Partnership for a letter of support. He clarified that he is not asking the Partnership to be the applicant, but rather to write a letter of support. Harmony expressed her support and offered to help craft the letter. Alan also expressed his support. Wayne indicated that Tim Gross has also expressed his support.
- Harmony reported the she, Adam Denlinger, Tim Gross, and Alan Fujishin are meeting with Oregon Kitchen Table on Monday 3/12 to discuss the scope for their outreach work in support of the Partnership's efforts.
- Harmony shared information on two opportunities –
  - Collaborative water planning conference in Bend, May 9 and 10, for representatives from all 4 of the pilot planning groups. Lodging (and potentially mileage reimbursement) is provided through Sustainable NW and Oregon Community Foundation. We have room for 6-7 people from our Partnership. Wayne, Caroline, and Shirlene have expressed an interest. We need to identify names in next couple of weeks. Wayne suggested including the WG spokespersons – Audrey Sweet, Stephanie Reid, and Joyce Sherman.

- Through collaboration between OWRD and CIRC, there is the potential to receive support from OSUs Climate Impact Research Consortium (CIRC) on climate impacts to water supply and demand and developing adaptation strategies. Harmony will send out a letter from them offering support. Ronan indicated that the USACE is interested in coordinating with them, if the timing can be coordinated. Wayne remarked that he is enthusiastic about re-engaging with CIRC. The In-stream group will need to understand impact of different climate change scenarios, and the collaboration with CIRC and USACE will help. Ronan and Harmony will touch base and discuss coordination between CIRC and USACE efforts.
- Wayne offered a word of thanks to Harmony for helping to secure a seat for him at the summer stream workshop.