

Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership Early Implementation Work Group Meeting

Date: Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Location: Virtual (Zoom)

Conveners: Adam Denlinger (Seal Rock Water District) (not in attendance)

Facilitators: Suzanne de Szoeka, Leah Cogan, and Mikaela Clarke (GSI Water Solutions, Inc.)

Participants:

- Andrea Sumerau – Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (CTSI)
- Billie Jo Smith – Lincoln County Water Systems Alliance (LCWSA)
- Bill Montgomery - MidCoast Watersheds Council Board Member
- Christine Clapp – Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)
- David Waltz – Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Evan Hayduk – MidCoast Watersheds Council (MCWC)
- Leah Cogan – GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (GSI)
- Matt Thomas – Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)
- Mikaela Clarke – GSI
- Olivia Jasper – Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
- Rosemary Pazdral – GSI
- Steve Parrett – DEQ
- Suzanne de Szoeka – GSI
- Tyler Clouse – Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

<p><u>Questions/Comments To Address</u></p> <p>None</p>	<p><u>Decisions</u></p> <p>None</p>
<p><u>GSI Action Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out bundle information • Send out updated Smartsheet access • Reach out to people about interest in bundle groups • Start sending content for the implementation support toolkit 	<p><u>Partnership Action Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send comments on Charter updates

Next Work Group meeting: August 13 at 9 am

Smartsheet updates discussion

- Rosemary explained the updates she has made to the projects Smartsheet, including:
 - Project list is more streamlined

- New project dashboard that has links to project partners and statistics about funding, number of projects per imperative, and Gantt chart with project timelines
 - Dashboard figures are just examples currently, and will be filled in with real numbers once more information is gathered
- Separate sheet showing descriptions of imperatives and actions
- Links to other sheets within the projects list sheet
- The newer sheets will be made accessible to members upon request
- Christine asked if the Sheet can be used to obtain funding that the Partnership can distribute
 - The Partnership isn't in a position to apply for grants for individual projects
 - The Smartsheet is intended to be used for describing to funders how projects fit in to regional picture, can show various partnerships in the region, assist funding applications and/or reporting on activities for grants
 - Also to show the success of the place-based planning group
- David asked if there's an approval process for projects
 - Projects will be approved by the Coordinating Committee who will make sure it aligns with Action Plan, and will add project to the Project Support Committee. Then project could be added to the Smartsheet.
 - The project input form is not currently public, people will have to be invited to add projects

Early implementation discussion

- Suzanne went over ARPA funding products (outlined in the Prioritization-Implementation_products_07-08-2024 document)
- Mikaela went over a Work Plan Outline document for bundled actions so that the bundle groups have a skeleton to discuss and fill out when developing work plans
- Suzanne explained that bundle groups could have someone lead the bundle, meet with others in the bundle committee once or twice in the next couple of months, then bring back work plan to the work group for discussion and refinement. Then the bundle work plans will be included as part of the implementation support toolkit.
- David asked if the person leading the bundle groups will be a project manager with administrative tasks or what their role would be
 - Suzanne answered that the lead of the bundle group would be a point person to lead a meeting or two with others to discuss a work plan approach for that bundle, gather information and report back to the partnership
 - David mentioned that some of the bundles are more in depth and would need to be scoped out more intensely
 - Suzanne pointed out that if anyone has feedback about this effort to reach out
- Bundle committees volunteers:
 - Bundle 1 – water conservation:
 - Steve can participate, not lead. Maybe OWRD or someone else involved in conservation could lead.
 - Mike Broili (Seal Rock Water District) would maybe be interested
 - Bundle 2 – water quality:
 - Olivia said she can reach out to pesticide team at ODA and get materials and links.

- David mentioned that we need to be conscious about the scope of this bundle because it could get deep. He wanted to understand what this is asking for.
 - Leah explained that we are looking for the steps to implement these actions, not exactly implementing them
 - David said he will be available to help if anyone needs anything from DEQ for this bundle
 - Bill volunteered to be in this group
 - **Tyler volunteered for Lincoln SWCD to lead this group**
 - Matt Thomas said ODF can help but not lead
 - Bundle 3 – source water protection:
 - GSI will reach out to Laura Johnson (DEQ Drinking Water Protection Program) to see if she can lead this
 - Steve mentioned DEQ has a recent low impact development program, Steve can connect that person to the group and see if they can help
 - Tyler volunteered for the SWCD to be involved
 - Christine said she can't commit to leading bundle teams, but is more than willing to be a resource for any group to find F&W related info. Would be good to reach out to City staff for Bundle 3.
 - Billie Jo suggested reaching out to Fran Recht (Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission) about this bundle
 - Bill mentioned that source water protection and water quality overlap so maybe it should be one group
 - Suzanne responded that zoomed out they do overlap, but they've been grouped because they're pretty separate
 - Bundle 4 – monitoring
 - Lincoln SWCD will join (somebody on Tyler's team)
 - Bundle 5 – Protect critical lands
 - **MCWC can work with McKenzie River Trust to lead this bundle**
 - Bill (Toledo) will join
 - GSI will reach out to Fran Recht
 - Bundle 6 – ecological restoration:
 - **Evan (MCWC) can lead**
 - Andrea (CTSI) (participant)
 - Tyler (LC SWCD) (participant)
- Bundle 7 – instream flow restoration
 - Evan (MCWC) can help but not lead. ODFW has hired a new instream flow person, they could help.
 - GSI will reach out to Christine and maybe other ODFW contacts
 - Potentially Wild Salmon Center – GSI will reach out to Caylin.
- Bundle 8 – metering
 - GSI will reach out to water providers
- Bundle 9 – water reuse
 - Steve (DEQ) will participate
 - Mike Broili (Seal Rock Water District) would maybe be interested in this one and Bundle 1

- Bundle 10 – water supply planning and development
 - **Billie Jo Smith (Water Systems Alliance) will lead**
 - OSU (GSI or Billie Jo will reach out)
 - Municipal water provider (GSI will reach out)
- Steve asked if the Smartsheet contains a column for each project that identifies the statewide water strategy (IWRs) recommended action the project helps address, if any
 - It doesn't but it could be added, using the current IWRs numbers. The next version will be approved in spring 2025.

ARPA Grant products discussion

- Suzanne went over the timeline for the ARPA funding (will end in December most likely). Coordinating Committee talked about forming a Funding Committee to find capacity funding for the Partnership (ARPA funding would not cover developing grant applications)
 - Funding Committee volunteers: Tyler, Evan, David. Someone from Coordinating Committee will lead the Funding Committee.
- Project Support Committee
 - Tyler (SWCD) volunteered
 - Suzanne confirmed the ARPA funding can cover volunteer time put on this committee
- A Monitoring Committee was discussed, which could potentially come out of the Water Quality Bundle group
 - Steve suggested the workgroup working on the water quality bundle can decide if a monitoring committee would be helpful
- Partnership will need a fiscal agent
 - Evan said the MCWC has talked about it, and it has low capacity to take it on, but could do it come December if there's nobody else, but it wouldn't be ideal
 - One of the grants can support a fiscal agent, but one has to be identified to apply
 - Evan can work on that grant
 - Billie Jo said that fiscal agents often charge for administering the grant and make a percentage. If a nonprofit takes it on, they should get a percentage to cover that service.
 - Tyler said SWCD is willing to step in to help if necessary, but they're low capacity so it's similar to MCWC. In the future, the District could seek a tax-base to help fund something like this but it would be a longer term effort.
 - MCWC's standard is 10% indirect rate. Evan asked what SRWD was pulling in and Leah said it was also the 10%

Next steps

- Fall full Partnership meeting planning: GSI will connect to folks to see if a field component is possible
 - Consensus decision about the Charter updates will be made at full Partnership meeting
 - OWRD maybe to talk about place-based planning updates
 - Steve commented that Lili Prah at OWRD will be looking for members of the rule advisory committee starting work in August and will want representation from each of the 4 place-based planning groups. Three meetings in August, September, and November are planned. At that time, they will have a good idea of what the rules

will look like and it'll be a good time for the partnership to make public comment on the rules. Anyone from this group who wants to be a representative would be great.

- OSU in partnership with LCWSA has funding to hold workshops
- Steve commented that the water reuse updates are not a priority for the Partnership for the fall meeting and could be discussed at a workgroup meeting
- Suzanne reminded the group to send any comments on the Charter updates to GSI

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