

Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership Coordinating Committee Meeting Notes

Date: Monday, June 5, 2023, 9 AM-10 AM

Location: Zoom

Coordinating Committee Meeting Attendees

Adam Denlinger – Seal Rock Water District

Billie Jo Smith – Lincoln County Water Systems Alliance

David Rupp – Oregon State University

Steve Parrett – Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Alyssa Mucken – Oregon Water Resources Department

Alan Fujishin – Gibson Farms

Mike Broili – MidCoast Watersheds Council

Suzanne de Szoeki – GSI Water Solutions, Inc.

Leah Cogan – GSI Water Solutions, Inc.

Meeting Agenda

- Partnership meeting and tour (June 14)
- Prioritization approach test runs
- Co-convenor search
- Charter updates

Summary of Major Points of Discussion

- Suzanne discussed the agenda for the upcoming Partnership meeting and tour
 - The committee discussed potential ways to increase participation, such as personal phone calls, including a clear description of the benefits of attendance in the invitation email, hosting meetings in the evening, and including discussions of funding sources as an agenda item for future meetings
- Suzanne shared the draft map that will be used to collect project information during the breakout sessions at the Partnership meeting
 - Alan suggested adding information from the EPA Salmon Mapper or the DSL essential salmonid habitat
- Leah described the results of the preliminary test runs for the prioritization approaches
 - Method 1 focuses on benefits to communities and watersheds, Method 2 focuses on implementation readiness, and Method 1a is a hybrid approach that looks at both types of criteria
 - Method 1 may help select very beneficial actions to implement, but may miss out on funding shovel-ready actions

- Method 2 may maximize implementation of ready-to-go actions using ARPA funding, but may be more opportunistic than strategic
- Method 1a balances benefits and readiness, but may leave many mid-range scoring actions in Priority Group B
- Billie Jo asked about prioritization of actions versus projects
 - Leah clarified that this process will be used to prioritize actions from the Water Action Plan to create work plans, and there will be a separate process for obtaining Partnership support for projects
- Mike pointed out that there were no criteria related to benefits for salmon and aquatic habitats
 - Leah suggested that those benefits may be captured under the criteria for benefits to water quantity, water quality, and helping implement other state and federal plans (including the federal coho recovery plan cross-referenced in Appendix D of the Water Action Plan)
- Suzanne shared the draft position description for a Partnership Convener
 - The committee discussed ways to encourage applicants for the position
 - Alyssa suggested reviewing the description of the convener's role from the Place-Based Planning guidelines
 - Alan suggested including more information about the opportunities as well as the responsibilities, such as resources for implementation
 - Mike suggesting identifying a structured approach for transitions between conveners, since this will be a long-term process for the Partnership
- Suzanne told the committee that she will be sending out the suggested charter language for feedback