

# National Estuary Program Watershed Protection and Restoration Lead Organization Grant:

## Federal Fiscal Year 2014 & 2015 Work Plan

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Prepared by Washington Department of Ecology with support from member agencies of the Watershed Grant Core Team: Environmental Protection Agency, Washington Department of Commerce, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Puget Sound Partnership

June 30, 2014

### Contents

A. Work Plan Summary .....	2
1. Background of Watershed Grant and Work Plan.....	2
2. Main Objectives and Approach of Watershed Grant.....	2
3. Objectives and Major Types of Work of the Four Activity Areas.....	4
3.1 Implement Watershed Characterization .....	4
3.2 Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands .....	5
3.3 Implement Stormwater Management Strategies.....	7
3.4 Implement Watershed Protection and Restoration Strategies .....	8
B. Work Plan for Federal Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015.....	11
C. Budget Summary for FFY 2014 and 2015 Funds.....	25
Table C-1. General Budget Breakdown for FFY 2014 and 2015 Award of Watershed Grant .....	25
Match Funding for FFY 2014 and 2015 Awards .....	25
Personnel Supported by Watershed Grant.....	25
Appendix A. Response to Comments on 2014 and 2015 Work Plan .....	27
Appendix B. Six-year Implementation Strategy.....	39

## A. Work Plan Summary

### 1. Background of Watershed Grant and Work Plan

A previous National Estuary Program (NEP) Lead Organization Cooperative Agreement was awarded to the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) in January 2011 to Protect and Restore Watersheds of Puget Sound (Watershed Grant). This was one of seven NEP Lead Organization assistance agreements that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded at that time to Management Conference Partners to support Puget Sound recovery. Four annual rounds of funds were awarded to Ecology under that agreement for Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2010-2013. This will be referred to in this document as the “previous grant”. Ecology has developed this current work plan as part of our application for a new agreement with EPA that will include funding for FFY 2014 and 2015. This will be referred to in this document as the “new grant”.

Ecology partnered with the Washington Department of Commerce (Commerce) to co-manage the Watershed Grant and oversee investments made with grant funds. We developed a Watershed Grant Core Team to help guide planning efforts and funding decisions, including staff from our two agencies, as well as from EPA, the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP), and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). The Core Team developed this work plan and refined it based on input from a variety of federal, state, local, and tribal agency staff as well as non-governmental organizations.

Under the previous grant, Ecology received approximately \$18.7 million in award from EPA over four rounds of funding for FFY 2010 through 2013. This new grant would provide approximately \$5,250,000 of FFY 2014 funds and an estimated \$5,500,000 of FFY 2015 funds from EPA. Even though the grant for FFY 2014 and 2015 will be under a new agreement with EPA, it is instructive to include in this work plan some information on the previous agreement in order to understand the history and how we plan to build on previous work. The cumulative body of work supported from FFY 2010-2013 funding, as well as planned work that will be supported by FFY 2014 and 2015 is summarized in Appendix B. In addition, Section 3 describes sequences of work for each of our major activity areas that include work done under the previous grant.

### 2. Main Objectives and Approach of Watershed Grant

Ecology and Commerce have been implementing, under the previous grant, a coordinated approach that integrates a watershed framework with basin planning information to identify the best areas for protection, restoration and development in Puget Sound. We intend to continue this focus under the new grant. We will support projects that develop science or plans, or that implement strategies to protect and restore key areas critical to maintaining the integrity of the Puget Sound Ecosystem. The proposed work program will support at least six of the 2020 recovery targets identified for Puget Sound in the Action Agenda including stream flow, fresh water quality, overall stream health, salmon recovery, floodplain protection and restoration, and conserving land cover through improved land use management. The outputs and/or outcomes of each sub-award will be assessed for their relative contribution to these recovery targets and the findings will be documented through semi-annual reporting.

The main objectives we are trying to achieve with the Watershed Grant are to:

- Use watershed data, information and assessments across all spatial and temporal scales to address and understand underlying problems and root causes of ecosystem degradation in watersheds.

- Create a coordinated state and local approach to protecting and restoring Puget Sound by integrating, analyzing and applying existing watershed data and information.
- Implement solutions to underlying problems of ecosystem degradation through a coordinated set of pilot or demonstration projects, Soundwide policy efforts and locally based implementation activities.
- Support strategies and actions identified in the Puget Sound Action Agenda as critical to protection and restoration of Puget Sound watersheds.

Our strategy is based on using sound science and on working in partnership with local governments, tribal governments and other entities to implement practical solutions that advance watershed protection priorities. To accomplish this, Ecology and Commerce are making grant investments across four activity areas or categories of work:

- Implement Watershed Characterization
- Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands
- Implement Stormwater Management Strategies
- Implement Watershed Protection and Restoration Strategies.

By investing in these four activity areas, we will integrate a watershed framework into the implementation actions that local governments and others will undertake. This organization for a coordinated watershed approach is presented in Figure 1.

The uppermost box in Figure 1 shows the main components that comprise the watershed framework. We will use this framework to guide work funded by the Watershed Grant. The framework helps organize and integrate the results of assessments and other environmental information and guide the interpretation and application at the correct scale. This helps achieve an understanding of ecological conditions and processes across spatial scales as the basis for local land-use planning. The components are integrated to identify important areas to restore degraded watershed processes and areas to focus development. This integrating framework establishes a flexible and adaptive methodology for interpreting and visualizing watershed information and data.

We intend this framework to be applied by implementing organizations to the projects we fund under the four activity areas shown in the central left box. The Core Team and the Watershed Characterization Technical Assistance Team (WCTAT) coordinate on reviewing grant applications and selecting projects for funding. The WCTAT provides direct assistance to the project sponsors, termed “implementing organizations” in the figure, in interpreting and integrating the data and information of the watershed framework. The intent is that these organizations, such as local governments, will produce plans, policies, restoration projects, and other products that develop and implement solutions to the problems resulting from degraded watershed processes. Lessons learned from the funded projects and from working with the implementing organizations will then be used by the WCTAT to modify and improve the watershed framework and to fill data gaps in the Puget Sound Watershed Characterization.

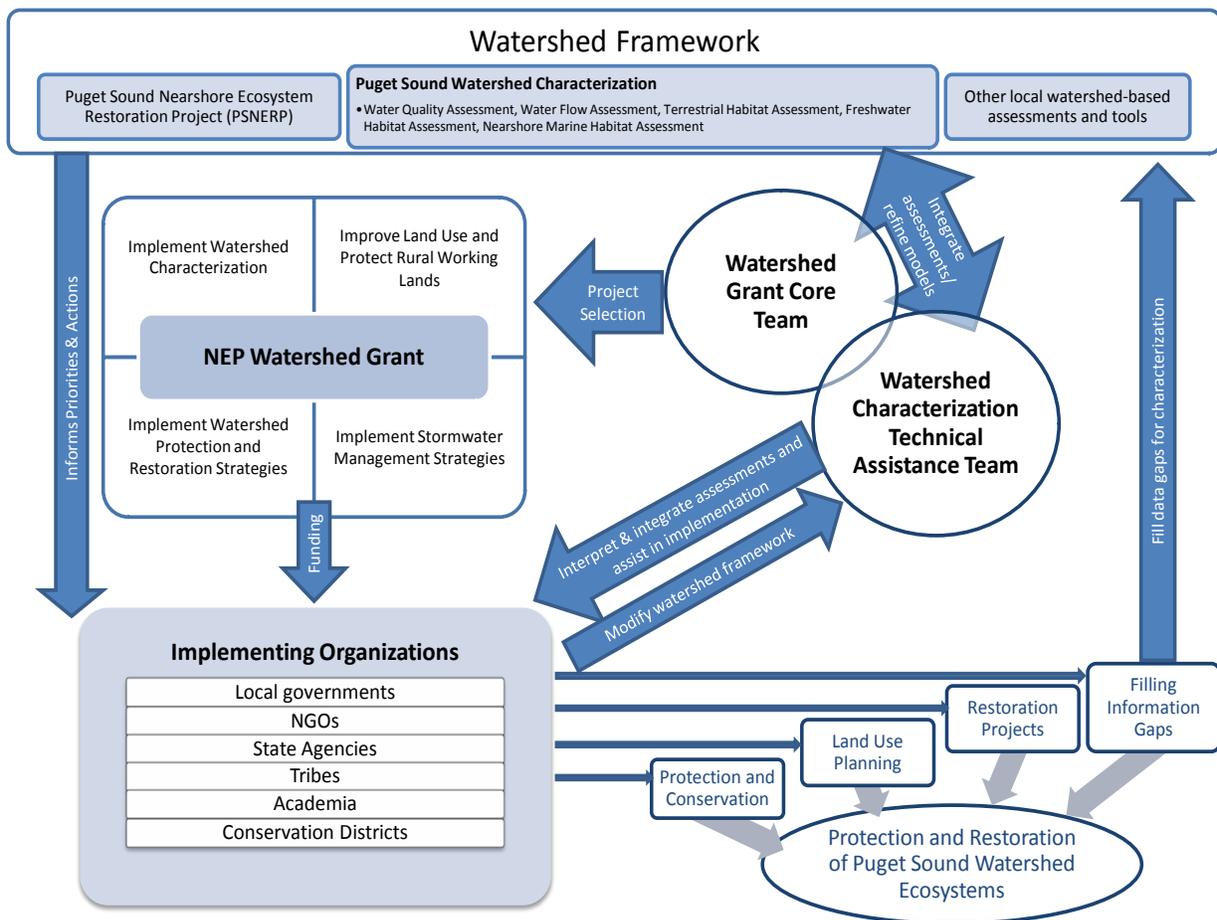


Figure 1 – Strategic framework for integrating watershed framework into implementation projects that are funded by the Watershed Grant and using the information to adaptively manage and improve the watershed framework.

### 3. Objectives and Major Types of Work of the Four Activity Areas

The following provides more detail for each of the four major activity areas into which we categorize the work we are funding under the Watershed Grant. To find more information on projects we funded under the previous grant (FFY 2010-2013 funds), refer to Table C-1 and to our website at: [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/puget\\_sound/grants\\_fed\\_watershed.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/puget_sound/grants_fed_watershed.html). Table C-1 also includes brief summaries of the work we are planning under the new grant. For more detailed information on work planned for FFY 2014 and 2015, refer to the tables in Section B.

#### 3.1 Implement Watershed Characterization

Under this activity area, we will use funds from the Watershed Grant to support an interagency Watershed Characterization Technical Assistance Team (WCTAT). The WCTAT is comprised of technical experts with the necessary skills to communicate the results of the Puget Sound Watershed Characterization to local and tribal government staff and other entities and assist them with interpreting the information and integrating it into their planning processes. The team can also provide assistance on using local data that is at finer scales than the Watershed Characterization to assess watershed problems and develop targeted solutions.

The team includes watershed scientists with expertise in hydrology, geomorphology, water quality, ecology, fisheries, wildlife, and land use planning. It is our intention to support users of the Watershed Characterization so it informs their decision-making processes and plans, especially in developing watershed-based plans and updating shoreline management plans, comprehensive plans, and critical areas ordinances.

The objectives for this activity area include:

- Provide support to local governments, tribes and other entities in interpreting and implementing the watershed framework.
- Assist Watershed Grant recipients with incorporating a watershed framework into planning and restoration projects.
- Refine the watershed framework based on inputs from projects the WCTAT assists with.

### ***The Puget Sound Watershed***

**Characterization** is a set of water and habitat assessments that compare areas within a watershed for restoration and protection value. It is a coarse-scale decision-support tool that provides information for regional, county, and watershed-based planning. The information it provides will allow entities such as local and tribal governments to base their decisions regarding land use on a systematic analytic framework. The framework prioritizes specific geographic areas on the landscape as focus areas for protection, restoration, and conservation of our region's natural resources, and also identifies areas that are likely more suitable for development.

This team was formed in early 2012 and was funded as an ongoing effort under the previous grant. See Section B for more information on the work planned for the team under FFY 2014 and 2015 funds.

This work directly supports sub-strategies A1.1 and A1.2 of the Puget Sound Action Agenda. Formation of the WCTAT and development of a watershed framework were called for in A1.1 NTA 1. The work of this technical assistance team will support a number of the other projects we will be funding under the Watershed Grant. Therefore, this team will indirectly help us support a broad array of sub-strategies and 2020 recovery targets.

### **3.2 Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands**

The focus of this activity area is to reduce conversion of land and loss of forest cover through protection of rural and working lands. To accomplish this in the context of an expanding population in the Puget Sound region, local governments must direct new growth to existing urban areas and encourage development practices that restore and protect the watersheds of the Sound.

Many local governments are currently conducting their 10-year review of urban growth areas, reviewing their comprehensive plans and development regulations, and completing updates to their shoreline master programs and critical areas ordinances. Using these tools to direct growth to urban centers can relieve significant pressures on working and rural lands, as well as Puget Sound, by redeveloping populated areas with more modern techniques that can both increase densities and reduce site-specific impacts. The Watershed grant will support projects with this focus.

These activities work in tandem with additional investments designed to reduce the conversion of working lands to urban uses. Working lands are an important economic resource and also can provide critical environmental benefits under strong stewardship. Market mechanisms, such as the transfer of development rights and ecosystem services markets, will be funded by the Watershed Grant to permanently protect these lands from further conversion to other uses. Such protection is vital if these areas are to meet the sub-basin targets for minimizing impervious area and retaining native vegetation

identified in stormwater basin modeling analyses. Each of these steps is an opportunity to better protect Puget Sound by addressing watershed scale processes of urbanization and land conversion.

The main objectives for this activity area are to:

- Conserve ecologically significant undeveloped rural and resource lands by:
  - changing regulations, using incentives, empowering more progressive stewardship, purchasing or transferring development rights
  - supporting improvements needed to protect ecosystem habitats and watershed functions
- Concentrate development and re-development within existing urban growth areas (UGAs) by:
  - removing barriers to accommodating additional population, in plans and regulations
  - promoting transit oriented development, neighborhood centers, and mixed uses
  - minimizing conditional uses in favor of outright permitted uses
  - adding urban amenities
- Promote collaboration to achieve watershed results by:
  - Partnering with other jurisdictions and others on regional priorities
  - Using science-based approaches to address environmental issues.

Under the previous grant, Ecology and Commerce already funded a number of projects that support these objectives. These projects focused on developing methods to assess land cover change, integrating Watershed Characterization into land use planning, and developing market-based approaches to conserving ecologically important lands.

For this new grant, we will fund the next stages of an ongoing land development change assessment project by Commerce. Commerce will also receive funds to work with local governments to build regional alliances to address land use planning issues. This work will focus on overcoming barriers to achieving dense development in urban centers (urban infill) while meeting stormwater treatment requirements. We will implement a grant process in spring of 2015 that will focus on projects to improve land use management. Examples of the types of projects we will solicit include:

- Integrating a watershed framework into regulatory tools such as local comprehensive plan and floodplain or stormwater management plans,
- Refining or implementing incentive programs to facilitate increased density in UGAs,
- Assessing local climate change implications and developing adaptive approaches to making land use decisions that reduce risks by improving the resiliency of ecosystems,
- Planning stormwater retrofits, and
- Developing stormwater-based approaches to encouraging dense development in urban centers.

Projects will be selected based on the ability of the sponsor to integrate a watershed framework in their approach and directly link the project outputs to improving local land use decisions.

Within this activity area, we have planned several sequences of investments that extend from the previous grant through the period of the new grant, where early planning projects result in approaches, methodologies and tools that are then tested on pilot projects and then possibly, if shown to be effective, later implemented at a broader scale. The following table shows this sequencing for specific investments.

### Sequencing of Selected Investments to Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands

Development of Approach or Methodologies (Previous Grant: FFY2010 - 2012)	Testing of Approach on Pilot Projects (Previous Grant: FFY 2010 - 2013)	Broader Implementation of Approach (New Grant: FFY 2014 - 2015)
WDNR Watershed Services Market Framework	Nisqually Watershed and Snohomish County pilots	Competitive grants to implement market-based approaches based on WDNR framework
Build regional alliances to address planning issues (Ongoing Commerce project)	Pilots not specifically planned for this activity	Competitive grants for projects that support planning work from regional alliances such as developing stormwater approaches to encourage urban infill/re-development
Transfer of development rights (TDR) approaches were developed prior to Watershed Grant	Pilot transfer of development rights (TDR) projects (e.g., Skagit County, King County, Snohomish County, Whatcom County) Projects that provide infrastructure support for TDRs using tax incentives (e.g., Tacoma, Mountlake Terrace, Shoreline, Tukwila)	Competitive grants to implement TDR approaches and lessons learned from early projects
Watershed-based land use planning approaches were developed prior to Watershed Grant	Funded projects that will demonstrate a variety of approaches (e.g., Kitsap County, Snohomish County, Duvall, Pierce County)	Competitive grants to continue to implement watershed-based planning approaches that result in improved land use, including GMA updates, stormwater planning & retrofit, floodplain management

The work we are funding under this activity area supports a number of sub-strategies under Strategy A of the Action Agenda: 1.1, 1.2, 3.1, 4.1, 4.2, 5.2, and 5.3. The work will help to identify and prioritize areas for protection and restoration (A1.1) and will support local governments in developing plans and policies consistent with that prioritization (A1.2, A5.2). The work supports development of market-based incentives and other approaches to protect rural lands (A3.1, A5.3) and encourages compact growth in urban centers (A4.1 and 4.2). This work also is intended to prevent stormwater-related problems from new development (C2.2) and fix stormwater problems caused by existing development (C2.3). In supporting these sub-strategies, this work directly contributes to achieving the 2020 targets for Land Development, Land Cover, Floodplains and Fresh Water Quality and Insects in Small Streams.

### [3.3 Implement Stormwater Management Strategies](#)

The focus of this activity area is to implement a comprehensive, integrated watershed approach to managing stormwater to reduce stormwater-related impacts. Watershed degradation is directly tied to human activities that change the land cover by removing native vegetation and creating impervious surfaces. An integrated watershed-scale solution to land use development in urban and urbanizing areas requires a comprehensive stormwater management strategy that both expands innovative Low Impact Development (LID) and other techniques in new development, and addresses the altered flows and degraded water quality from stormwater discharges from existing developed areas. The region can advance stormwater objectives by building science-based criteria for prioritizing retrofit projects, and by setting sub-basin targets to guide land use practices and decisions to support more integrated watershed management. In rural areas, a watershed strategy can reduce polluting runoff from rural and

agricultural lands through integrated incentive programs and improved implementation of best management practices.

The main objectives for this activity area are:

- Expand stormwater facility retrofits and effective stormwater source control programs in areas of existing development.
- Accelerate the shift in stormwater management from traditional approaches to innovative LID throughout the Puget Sound region. Expand and improve incentive and water cleanup programs to address runoff in rural and agricultural lands.

Under the previous grant, we conducted a grant solicitation process to expand our funding of stormwater retrofit planning and pre-design to additional areas of Puget Sound. We will also fund this type of work under the new grant, but we will combine it with a grant solicitation focused more generally on improving land use management – see discussion in previous section titled “Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands”. We will also work by Commerce and Ecology, as part of the Building Regional Alliances project, to support local governments in developing stormwater approaches to encourage urban infill/re-development (described in Section 3.2).

Within this activity area, we have planned several sequences of investments that extend from the previous grant through the period of the new grant, where early planning projects result in approaches, methodologies and tools that are then tested on pilot projects and then possibly, if shown to be effective, later implemented at a broader scale. The following table shows this sequencing for specific investments.

**Sequencing of Selected Investments to Implement Stormwater Management Strategies**

<b>Development of Approach or Methodologies (Previous Grant: FFY 2010 - 2012)</b>	<b>Testing of Approach on Pilot Projects (Previous Grant: FFY 2010 - 2013)</b>	<b>Broader Implementation of Approach (New Grant: FFY 2014 - 2015)</b>
Research on LID effectiveness; integrating LID module into Western Washington Hydrology Model	LID Operations & Maintenance Guidance & Training	Stormwater projects that plan for or design LID practices
Stormwater retrofit planning approach (e.g., target watershed index scores) developed by stormwater technical team coordinated by Ecology	Pilot applications of retrofit approach and use of target watersheds funded under Round 3 (13 projects awarded through 2013 and 2014 competitive grant processes)	Broader implementation of approach to result in retrofit project lists in additional target watersheds

The work of this activity area supports the following sub-strategies under Strategy C of the Action Agenda: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.5. In general, all the work in this activity area is focused on managing urban runoff using a watershed approach (C2.1). The work is intended to prevent problems from new development (C2.2) and fix problems caused by existing development (C2.3). In supporting these sub-strategies, this work directly contributes to achieving the 2020 targets for Land Cover, Fresh Water Quality, and Insects in Small Streams.

### **3.4 Implement Watershed Protection and Restoration Strategies**

The focus of this activity area is to help implement a comprehensive, integrated watershed protection and restoration strategy that advances ecosystem recovery and increases ecosystem resiliency to

changing climate conditions. Projects we are funding under this activity area generally improve floodplain management, protect resources through watershed planning, protect and restore aquatic and terrestrial habitats, and provide updated guidance and data to improve habitat management.

This work is aimed at selecting strategies that restore key ecosystem processes. To accomplish this, it is crucial to select sites and design protection and restoration actions based on a clear understanding of the processes at work in the watershed. Thus we will ask grant applicants to demonstrate their use of a watershed-based approach in siting and designing specific projects.

In addition to improved watershed information, it is also important to better understand how restoration projects fit into the broader regulatory context to ensure their durability. For example, strong and/or improved compliance of shoreline master plans and floodplain ordinances will benefit riparian protection and restoration efforts. Priority will be placed on activities that advance an understanding of how the various strategies reinforce and leverage one another. A more integrated approach to watershed protection and restoration strategies will better leverage and integrate the broad array of tools, including incentives, regulatory programs, individual project development, compliance efforts, and technical support.

The objectives for this activity area are to:

- Promote, enable, and achieve protection and restoration of watershed-scale ecosystem processes and functions by developing and implementing a watershed protection framework.
- Develop an integrated approach to implementing watershed-scale strategies using a variety of tools, including incentives, regulations, restoration projects, permit compliance, technical support, and/or ecosystem markets.

Under the previous grant, early projects in this activity area focused on providing tools and approaches to improve floodplain management, using Watershed Characterization to prioritize areas for protection and restoration, restoring riparian habitat, and updating stream typing and invasive species data. Later projects (funded under FFY 2013) focus on designing and implementing floodplain and riparian restoration projects, as well as continuing to develop management tools.

For the new grant, the primary focus will be on establishing permanent riparian conservation easements and restoring riparian habitat in those areas. In addition, the freshwater riparian habitat management guidance will be completed and Phase 2 of the Floodplains by Design project will be funded. This project will focus on developing a long-term plan for achieving floodplain restoration, including improving permitting processes and providing technical assistance to local entities developing floodplain projects.

Within this activity area, we have planned several sequences of investments that extend from the previous grant through the period of the new grant, where early planning projects result in approaches, methodologies and tools that are then tested on pilot projects and then possibly, if shown to be effective, later implemented at a broader scale. The following table shows this sequencing for specific investments under Watershed Protection and Restoration Strategies.

### Sequencing of Selected Investments to Implement Watershed Protection and Restoration Strategies

Development of Approach or Methodologies (Previous Grant: FFY 2010 - 2012)	Testing of Approaches on Pilot Projects (Previous Grant: FFY 2012 - 2013)	Broader Implementation of Approach (New Grant: FFY 2014 - 2015)
Floodplain management approaches (e.g. The Nature Conservancy: Floodplains by Design; Farms, Fish and Floods Initiative)	Floodplains by Design project incorporates a pilot approach in Snohomish Basin; other pilot project not yet identified Competitive grants for design/ feasibility assessment or implementation of floodplain restoration projects	Floodplains by Design, Phase 2 will include 10-year coordinated investment plan for floodplain restoration and using Phase 1 products to improve and focus floodplain management, including improved permitting and technical assistance
Watershed Characterization approach developed prior to Watershed Grant	Using Watershed Characterization to identify key areas for protection and restoration for planning (e.g., Hood Canal Coordinating Council, Kitsap County Forestlands at Risk)	Competitive grants that protect and restore floodplain and riparian habitats by addressing priority watershed issues, including establishing riparian conservation easements and restoring riparian habitats
Stream habitat modeling and updated stream typing projects (e.g., Tulalip Tribes Modeling Streams in WRIA 6, Kitsap County Improving Stream Data). These pilot projects are developing and testing approaches that can then be applied at a broader scale.		Competitive grants to update stream typing data

This work supports a number of sub-strategies under Strategy A of the Action Agenda: A1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, and 5.4. The work will help to identify and prioritize areas for protection and restoration (A1.1), improve data and information to support floodplain management (A5.1), and support local governments to develop plans and policies consistent with the prioritization and management approaches developed (A1.2, A1.3, A1.4, A5.2, A5.3). The work supports protection of ecologically important lands at risk (A2.1) and restoration in freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems (A2.2) as well as in floodplains (A5.4). In supporting these sub-strategies, this work directly contributes to achieving the 2020 targets for Land Development, Land Cover, Floodplains, Shoreline Armoring, Fresh Water Quality, and Insects in Small Streams.

## B. Work Plan for Federal Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015

The Watershed Grant Core Team developed the following three major themes under which to plan and organize work for FFY 2014 and 2015:

- Theme 1 – Improving land use management.
- Theme 2 – Planning for stormwater retrofit projects.
- Theme 3 – Protect and restore floodplains and riparian habitat.

The themes were developed by selecting priorities of the 2012 and draft 2014 Puget Sound Action Agenda that are consistent with the original goals of the NEP Watershed Grant. In our 2011 cooperative agreement with EPA, Ecology was charged to use NEP funds to:

“... develop and implement a multifaceted approach to integrate land use decisions and watershed protection and management that builds on existing characterization work, the Framework for Watershed Planning and the work of local governments. Activities will include:

- Support to growth management strategies for at-risk watersheds and Critical Area Ordinance updates and implementation,
- A comprehensive, integrated watershed approach to managing stormwater,
- Direct restoration strategies in priority locations such as floodplains,
- Support for integrated, agricultural environmental planning on a watershed scale.”

We selected themes that incorporated the high priority elements for the Action Agenda that were most consistent with the goals of the Watershed Grant. We focused on the strategic initiatives, the ranked sub-strategies and related regional near term actions, as well as the Local Integrating Organizations’ (LIOs) new near term actions.

The resulting themes support the sub-strategies and near term actions primarily under Sections A and C. The themes directly support the Habitat and Stormwater Strategic Initiatives, as well as some of the Tribal Habitat Priorities. The themes also indirectly support the Shellfish Strategic Initiative through affecting long-term land use practices.

Ecology and Commerce will fund the following work using Federal Fiscal Year 2014 and 2015 funds under the Watershed Grant. There are eight work elements included; each is either a specific project or a grant solicitation that will identify and fund specific projects. The work plan elements are listed in Table B-1 with the corresponding major themes and activity areas shown. The table also summarizes the connections between this work plan and the 2012 and draft 2014 Puget Sound Action Agenda. Additional information related to support of the Action Agenda is provided in the brief summaries that follow the table.

**Table B-1. Work Plan Elements for FFY 2014 and 2015 (Rounds 5 & 6)**

Theme	Activity Area	Work Plan Element: Project Title or Subject of Planned Grant Solicitation	Budgeted for FFY 2014	Budgeted for FFY 2015	Totals	Support of Puget Sound Action Agenda Sub-strategies & Near Term Actions
1	Implement Watershed Characterization	1. Fund WCTAT to support use of watershed approach at local level (budgeted to fund team to June 2018)	\$400,000	\$260,000	<b>\$660,000</b>	A1.1 – ID & prioritize areas, apply Watershed Characterization A1.2.1 – Identify land use planning barriers
1 & 2	Improve Land Use & Protect Rural Working Lands/ Implement Stormwater Management Strategies	2. Grants to improve land use management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrate watershed framework in GMA plan and development code updates</li> <li>Incentive programs for concentrating development in UGAs</li> <li>Assess climate change implications (e.g., vulnerabilities, important areas to protect)</li> <li>Stormwater management planning/retrofit planning &amp; pre-design</li> <li>Stormwater-based approaches to encouraging dense development in urban centers</li> </ul>	\$202,142	\$1,336,000	<b>\$1,538,142</b>	A1.2.1 – Identify land use planning barriers A1.3 – Improve implementation & enforcement of laws, regulations & plans A3.1.2 Landowner incentives for transfer of development rights and ecosystem markets A4.1.2 – Regional sustainable communities program A4.2 – Provide incentives to new and re-development in UGAs (supports Commerce’ work on A4.2.SC13) A5.1.1 Floodplain protection and policy team A5.2 – Align policies, regulations, planning for floodplain management A5.3.2 – CAO updates on frequently flooded areas
		3. Integrate land use permitting and plan data into watershed characterization	\$95,000	\$95,000	<b>\$190,000</b>	C2.1 – Manage urban runoff at basin and watershed scale C2.2 – Prevent problems from new development at site/subdivision scale
		4. Build regional alliances to address planning issues	\$112,000	\$112,000	<b>\$224,000</b>	C2.3.1 – Stormwater retrofit projects (fix problems caused by existing development
		5. Land cover change mapping using high resolution photography, Ph. 3	\$200,000	\$0	<b>\$200,000</b>	Local NTAs that receive grants
3	Implement Watershed Protection & Restoration Strategies	6. Update Puget Sound Freshwater Riparian Habitat Guidance, additional funding for Phase 1	\$79,000	\$0	<b>\$79,000</b>	A1.2 – Support local governments to adopt plans & regulations consistent with targets
		7. Floodplains by Design, Phase 2 – support coordinated floodplain management	\$500,000	\$0	<b>\$500,000</b>	A2.2 – Implement FW and terrestrial restoration A5.1.1 – Floodplain protection & policy team A5.1.2 – Regional floodplain vision and program A5.2.1 – Improved floodplain permit process
		8. Grants for permanent riparian conservation easements and riparian habitat restoration	\$2,861,520	\$3,000,000	<b>\$5,861,520</b>	A5.4.4 & A5.4.5 – Implement priority floodplain restoration projects – coordinated investment plan & tech. assist. A6.1 – Implement projects in salmon recovery work plans A6.1.2 – Restoration permit barriers Local NTAs that receive grants
All		Program Management (Ecology & Commerce – budgeted to fund admin. tasks to June 2019)	\$800,000	\$697,000	<b>\$1,497,000</b>	
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>\$5,249,662</b>	<b>\$5,500,000</b>	<b>\$10,749,662</b>	

<b>Project/Activity</b>	<b>1. Watershed Characterization Technical Assistance Team (WCTAT) support for implementation of watershed framework at local level</b>
<b>Activity Area</b>	Implement Watershed Characterization
<b>Primary Recipient</b>	Ecology, WDFW, Commerce
<b>Main Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WCTAT will provide support to local governments, tribes and other entities in interpreting and implementing the Puget Sound Watershed Characterization (Characterization) or other watershed framework.</li> <li>• WCTAT will assist Watershed Grant recipients with incorporating a watershed framework into planning and restoration projects.</li> <li>• Refine watershed framework based on inputs from projects WCTAT assists with.</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	The WCTAT is an inter-agency group that brings together expertise from the state departments of Ecology, Fish and Wildlife, and Commerce to provide support to local governments and organizations in the interpretation and application of Characterization assessments and/or other watershed-based information. The goal is to promote development patterns and actions that protect and restore landscape processes.
<b>Action Agenda Sub-Strategies &amp; NTAs</b>	<p>This work addresses the following sub-strategies:</p> <p>A1.1 – Identify and prioritize areas for protection, restoration, and best suitable for development</p> <p>A1.2 – Support local governments to adopt and implement plans, regulations and policies consistent with protection and recovery targets.</p> <p>The work will support local governments in improving land use planning and regulation and will directly contribute toward achieving the Land Development and Land Cover targets.</p>
<b>Potential Partners</b>	WA Dept. of Commerce, WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife are represented on the WCTAT; WCTAT will work primarily with local governments, tribes and special purpose districts.
<b>Proposed Outputs/Deliverables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6-8 workshops to inform local governments and others about the Characterization assessments and integrating watershed framework into local planning for land use, watershed protection and restoration, stormwater management, and other uses</li> <li>• 6-8 assessments performed and maps created using Characterization models for use by NEP grantees.</li> <li>• Review and comment on products from projects funded by previous and new grants.</li> <li>• Field/site visits to Watershed Grant project areas to refine methods and assist with integrating the Characterization into project activities. Participation on technical and review committees for NEP grant projects.</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Milestones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieve planning staff representation from all counties in the Puget Sound basin for at least one informational workshop by 6/2018</li> <li>• Report of the outcomes that the WCTAT helped achieve in its work with local governments and NEP grantees, and recommended future strategy for providing technical assistance to local governments in watershed planning produced by 6/2018</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	FFY 2014: \$400,000 FFY 2015: \$260,000 (budgeted to fund team through June 2018)
<b>Short-term Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops for local governments</li> <li>• Project scale and mid-scale assessments and maps using Characterization data</li> <li>• Field/site visits and other technical assistance to NEP grant projects</li> </ul>
<b>Intermediate Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased understanding of the applications of the Characterization framework by local governments and organizations</li> <li>• Sub-area plans; regulations and development standards in the Puget Sound incorporate a watershed framework and information into land use planning.</li> <li>• Restoration actions of local organizations incorporate watershed framework into project designs to address causes of problems, not just symptoms.</li> </ul>
<b>Long-term Outcomes</b>	Increased protection and restoration of priority areas for watershed processes, structure and function as well as habitat in the Puget Sound; population increase in Puget Sound is targeted to areas identified as less important for watershed processes.
<b>CWA Core Program</b>	Addressing diffuse nonpoint sources of pollution, protecting wetlands, protecting coastal waters and associated beneficial uses and Large Aquatic Ecosystems.

<b>Project/Activity</b>	<b>2. Grants to improve land use management</b>
<b>Activity Areas</b>	Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands; Implement Stormwater Management Strategies
<b>Primary Recipient</b>	Local governments, tribes, special purpose districts
<b>Main Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate a watershed framework into updates of local comprehensive plans, shoreline management plans (SMPs), critical areas ordinances (CAOs), floodplain management plans, stormwater management plans, and others.</li> <li>• Refine and/or implement incentive/infrastructure programs such as transfer of development rights programs that facilitate increased density in urban growth areas and protection for rural areas</li> <li>• Assess local climate change implications (e.g. vulnerabilities, important areas to protect from development) and develop adaptive approaches to making land use decisions that reduce risks by improving the resiliency of ecosystems.</li> <li>• Use watershed-scale methodologies for identifying stormwater problems and solutions in priority areas for stormwater retrofits.</li> <li>• Develop and implement local approaches for building dense development in urban centers that meet Clean Water Act stormwater requirements.</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	This will be a competitive grant process that will give awards to local governments, tribes, and special purpose districts to improve land use management and develop planning and regulatory tools that focus growth in urban centers and protect rural areas. Applicants will need to show how they plan to use a watershed approach and how the resulting plans, code language, prioritized project lists or other tools will be implemented.
<b>Action Agenda Sub-Strategies &amp; NTAs</b>	This work potentially addresses the following sub-strategies/NTAs, depending on the awards that are made: A1.1, A1.2, A1.3, A4.1.2, A4.2, A5.1, A5.2, A5.3, A5.4, C2.1, C2.2, and C2.3.1. This work will also support local NTAs in areas that receive grants. These sub-strategies primarily involve supporting local governments to direct growth into urban centers and protect sensitive lands. These efforts include the need to address stormwater runoff and prevent problems from new or re-development in urban centers. In supporting these sub-strategies, this work will contribute to achieving the Land Development, Land Cover, Floodplains, Fresh Water Quality, Salmon and Insects in Small Streams targets.
<b>Potential Partners</b>	To be determined upon making awards
<b>Proposed Outputs/Deliverables</b>	Land use management plans and tools such as watershed-based subarea plans, floodplain management plans, stormwater management plans, that are used to inform updates to comprehensive plans, SMPs, CAOs, stormwater codes and other development regulations or other management tools. Incentive programs established such as transfer of development rights that concentrate development in urban centers. Assessments of climate change vulnerabilities completed. Stormwater retrofit prioritization plans and project lists.
<b>Estimated Milestones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue RFP – spring 2015</li> <li>• Notify recipients – summer 2015</li> <li>• Complete grant agreements – fall 2015</li> <li>• Complete projects – fall 2017</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FFY2014: \$202,142</li> <li>• FFY2015: \$1,336,000</li> </ul> <p>We will likely conduct one competitive grant solicitation, pooling funds for total of \$1,538,142.</p>
<b>Short-term Outcomes</b>	Improved land use management tools that are based in a watershed approach are developed and integrated into local comprehensive plans, shoreline management plans, stormwater codes and other regulatory codes. Incentive programs are established to facilitate density in urban centers. Communities begin long-range planning for climate change. Stormwater retrofit projects are identified and prioritized using landscape-scale approaches.
<b>Intermediate Outcomes</b>	Local government decisions on new and redevelopment and related land use focus growth in areas within UGAs that will provide the least impacts to ecological processes and rural areas and working resource lands are protected and restored.
<b>Long-term Outcomes</b>	Urban development is denser and occurs in locations and ways that minimize impacts to ecosystem processes and functions, improved floodplain connectivity, decreased stormwater runoff, improved water quality, and improved habitat in terrestrial and aquatic areas.
<b>CWA Core Program</b>	Addressing diffuse nonpoint sources of pollution, protecting wetlands, and protecting coastal waters and associated beneficial uses and large aquatic ecosystems.

<b>Project/Activity</b>	<b>3. Integrate Land Use Permitting &amp; Plan Data with Watershed Characterization</b>
<b>Activity Area</b>	Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands
<b>Primary Recipient</b>	WA Dept. of Commerce
<b>Main Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a sustainable cycle of updates that will enable up-to-date maps, concurrent analysis and supporting tools such as the User’s Guide to be available through a web based interface.</li> <li>• Use map data to monitor progress towards Puget Sound Partnership 2020 Recovery Targets.</li> <li>• Use these map and web tools to support planning, monitoring, regulatory and implementation efforts and refine local policies, regulations and planning processes in order to support watershed recovery efforts.</li> <li>• Reduce land use/development impacts, protect rural working lands, guide infrastructure investments and restoration projects and protect rural working lands.</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This work will build on the zoning and permitting data compiled into a GIS geodatabase during Phase 2 in order to provide continuing updates and secure its long term availability.</li> <li>• These efforts are intended to create a robust tool for planning, monitoring, regulatory and implementation efforts. This will be accomplished by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Updating the map layers with a new layer of data from 2015/2016 to create a time series showing changing patterns of development; implement a protocol for future updates; and monitor the effectiveness of changes to regulations and plans.</li> <li>○ Integrating complimentary maps that will provide a more comprehensive picture of development including changes in assessed valuation, changes in impervious surface, land development capacity and planned infrastructure projects.</li> <li>○ Developing a User’s Guide that identifies ways in which local governments, non-profits, and other stakeholders can use the maps to guide planning and watershed recovery efforts.</li> <li>○ Providing a web based interface that will allow users to continually access the various maps through an interactive display, and conduct queries of zoning and recent development activity.</li> <li>○ Finalizing a new layer of information based upon integration of the land use and permit data with the Watershed Characterization, highlighting areas where future intensive development may occur in ecologically vulnerable locations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Department of Commerce Research Services will continue to work with local governments, tribes, non-profits, and other interested parties to create awareness of the various tools and to solicit input for refinements.</li> <li>• Commerce will solicit a long term steward for the project and facilitate transition of the project to the steward.</li> </ul>
<b>Action Agenda Sub-Strategies &amp; NTAs</b>	<p>This work addresses the following sub-strategies:</p> <p>A1.1 – Identify and prioritize areas for protection, restoration, and best suitable for development, and A1.2 – Support local governments to adopt and implement plans, regulations and policies consistent with protection and recovery targets.</p> <p>The work will help local governments support changes in plans, development regulations, and other actions to support Puget Sound watershed recovery.. In supporting these sub-strategies, this work will directly contribute toward achieving the Land Development and Land Cover targets.</p>
<b>Potential Partners</b>	WCTAT will coordinate with Commerce on this work. Products will be shared with the Puget Sound Partnership, state agencies, local governments, tribes, and other interested parties.
<b>Proposed Outputs/Deliverables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Web based tool for interactive display and query of zoning and recent development activity.</li> <li>• Outreach to stakeholders on the expanded geodatabase and supporting tools.</li> <li>• Programming script to automate and facilitate the update of the geodatabase with new information.</li> <li>• User’s Guide of implementation methods and best practices.</li> <li>• User Survey to evaluate geodatabase, web based tool and User’s Guide.</li> <li>• Maps and summary tracking changes in data from 2012 through 2016</li> <li>• Upgrades to geodatabase and web based tool.</li> <li>• Long term steward selection.</li> <li>• Ongoing refinements to Watershed grant logic model and inputs to watershed framework based on land use</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By June 2016: Web based tool completed, stakeholder outreach conducted, User’s Guide published,</li> </ul>

<b>Milestones</b>	<p>programming script to automate and facilitate geodatabase updates developed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By June 2017: Supplemental data sources integrated, time series analysis conducted and refinements incorporated.</li> <li>• By December 2017: Long term steward selected, User Survey conducted and refinements incorporated, project handed off to long term steward.</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	<p>FFY 2014: \$95,000 FFY 2015: \$95,000</p>
<b>Short-term Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress towards 2020 Puget Sound Partnership Recovery Targets for Land Cover and Land Development will be monitored.</li> <li>• Cities, counties, and other government agencies will use this information on regional patterns of land use and development activity to adjust planning and policy efforts, such as changes to growth boundaries and growth targets,.</li> <li>• Comparative analysis with Watershed Characterization layers will be used to evaluate and target implementation and funding efforts.</li> <li>• Researchers and scientists will use this information to gauge baseline conditions and identify correlations between development patterns and activity and specific watershed impacts.</li> <li>• The Puget Sound Partnership and other entities will use the information to track progress on targets for land development, floodplains and growth management.</li> <li>• Inter-jurisdictional cooperation and partnership efforts will be strengthened through the establishment of a standardized framework for analysis and monitoring.</li> </ul>
<b>Intermediate Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectiveness of implementation measures and adjustments to zoning and other regulations will be evaluated.</li> <li>• Local land use decisions, implementation projects, monitoring, modeling, analysis, and similar efforts are improved based on integration and analysis of development regulations and permit activity with Watershed Characterization information and other watershed data.</li> <li>• These adjustments, and resulting changes, will modify future land development, project implementation and local permitting actions to support Puget Sound watershed recovery.</li> <li>• Long-term data collection, stewardship and funding options will be pursued to sustain these changes over time.</li> </ul>
<b>Long-term Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban development is clustered more densely into locations (and in ways) that minimize impacts to ecosystem processes and functions, improve floodplain connectivity, decrease storm water runoff, improve water quality, and improve habitat in terrestrial and aquatic areas.</li> <li>• Watershed protection efforts are targeted to measures and locations that maximize benefit for recovery goals.</li> </ul>
<b>CWA Core Program</b>	<p>Protecting coastal waters and associated beneficial uses and large aquatic ecosystems.</p>

<b>Project/Activity</b>	<b>4. Build Regional Alliances to Address Land Use Planning Barriers and Issues</b>
<b>Category of Work</b>	Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands
<b>Primary Recipient</b>	WA Dept. of Commerce will convene state, local, and tribal government representatives
<b>Main Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build regional alliances to help local governments and tribes undertake integrated regional planning.</li> <li>• Alliances work to identify the primary barriers to improving local land use planning and integrated regional planning and identify ways to overcome barriers.</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	Commerce will build on its prior work under the previous grant in supporting regional alliances and facilitating regional approaches to planning. The initial focus of this work will be providing technical assistance and tools to local governments seeking to overcome barriers to compliance with GMA requirements for more dense development in urban centers by meeting the stormwater requirements of the Clean Water Act. This work will include convening meetings, workshops and/or other processes to bring together local planning and management entities and state agencies, to facilitate development of regional planning forums, tools and products. This effort will help guide state and local investments in ecosystem protection, land use, transportation and housing, especially in support of achieving higher urban population densities and conserving designated resource lands and sensitive rural watersheds.
<b>Action Agenda Sub-Strategies &amp; NTAs</b>	A1.2.1 – Land use planning barriers, best management practices and example policies A4.1.2 – Regional sustainable communities program C2.3 – Fix problems caused by existing development (supports Commerce’ work related to C2.3.SC6) The work will help local governments cooperatively plan across jurisdictional boundaries. In supporting these sub-strategies, this work will directly contribute toward achieving the Land Development, Land Cover, Floodplains, Estuaries, Fresh Water Quality, and Insects in Small Streams targets.
<b>Potential Partners</b>	State, local and tribal governments will work with Commerce and Ecology
<b>Proposed Outputs/Deliverables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff technical assistance in 2015 and 2016, with resources consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Examples for meeting the stormwater requirements using in-lieu fee, low impact development, and other approaches; and</li> <li>○ Assistance associated with local pilot programs by Round 5 and 6 Watershed Protection and Restoration Grants to develop a variety of approaches for building dense development in urban centers that meet Clean Water Act stormwater requirements.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Meetings/workshops convened in 2015 and 2016, &amp; possibly beyond</li> <li>• Reports on status of regional alliances on 04/2015, 04/2016, and 04/2017</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Milestones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings/workshops - 08/2014 – 06/2017</li> <li>• Reports on 04/2015, 04/2016 and 04/2017</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FFY2014: \$112,000</li> <li>• FFY2015: \$112,000</li> </ul>
<b>Short-term Outcomes</b>	Regional alliances form and develop working relationships and regular paths of communication. Integrated regional approaches and tools are scoped and discussed so that planning entities are invested in supporting the approaches and tools.
<b>Intermediate Outcomes</b>	Integrated regional approaches and tools are developed, vetted and used to guide investments in ecosystem protection, land use, transportation and housing. Local land use decisions are improved based on regional approaches and tools, with much better alignment of land use planning with conditions for, and implementation of, municipal NPDES permits to reduce stormwater impacts.
<b>Long-term Outcomes</b>	Regional, joint planning approaches and tools are used and accepted. Urban development is denser and occurs in locations and ways that minimize impacts to ecosystem processes and functions, improve floodplain connectivity, decrease stormwater runoff, improve water quality, improve habitat in terrestrial and aquatic areas.
<b>CWA Core Program</b>	Addressing diffuse nonpoint sources of pollution, protecting wetlands, and protecting coastal waters and associated beneficial uses and large aquatic ecosystems.

<b>Name of Project/Activity</b>	<b>5. Puget Sound High Resolution Change Detection, Phase 3</b>
<b>Category of Work</b>	Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands
<b>Primary Recipient Conducting Work</b>	WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Main Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide updated information to partners (federal, state, tribal and county government) to support the status and trend monitoring program using high-resolution aerial imagery suitable for <u>all</u> Puget Sound counties to measure implementation success and effectiveness of GMA critical areas.</li> <li>• Conduct an analysis of vegetation changes in riparian management zones for all Puget Sound marine shorelines and shorelines of major rivers and streams using high-resolution imagery.</li> <li>• Track changes for 2011-2013 period to determine progress toward Land Development and Land Cover targets.</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This new work will analyze land cover changes during the 2011-2013 period for all 19 Puget Sound Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs) using newly acquire image data. This will include mapping urbanization and other major vegetative disturbances such as forestry activities.</li> <li>• Combine the results from Phases 1 (2006-2009) and 2 (2009-2011), both supported by previous NEP Watershed grants, with those from Phase 3 (2011-2013) to generate a summary for the 2006-2013 time period as well as a time series of changes over those three time periods..</li> </ul>
<b>Action Agenda Sub-Strategies &amp; NTAs</b>	<p>This work addresses the following sub-strategies:</p> <p>A1.1 – Identify and prioritize areas for protection, restoration, and best suitable for development, and A1.2 – Support local governments to adopt and implement plans, regulations and policies consistent with protection and recovery targets.</p> <p>The work will help local governments assess changes in land use and the effectiveness of land use policies. In supporting these sub-strategies. This work will directly contribute toward achieving the Land Development and Land Cover targets.</p>
<b>Potential Partners</b>	WA Dept. of Ecology and Environmental Protection Agency will provide technical support to WDFW as needed.
<b>Proposed Outputs/Deliverables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive geodatabase of change events throughout the 2006-2013 time period;</li> <li>• Summary report and updated website outlining results and accuracy assessment for all 19 Puget Sound WRIAs for the 2011-2013 period – will also include data and summary for Phase 1 and 2 time periods.</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Milestones</b>	Deliverable dates to be determined; project will be completed by 12/2016
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	FFY2014: \$200,000
<b>Short-term Outcomes</b>	Detailed land cover change data available for all Puget Sound WRIAs.
<b>Intermediate Outcomes</b>	Results are used by local governments Soundwide to measure effectiveness of decision support tools and improve GMA planning documents; improved land use planning
<b>Long-term Outcomes</b>	Urban development is denser and occurs in locations and ways that minimize impacts to ecosystem processes, structure, and functions; improved floodplain connectivity; decreased stormwater runoff; improved water quality; improved habitat in terrestrial and aquatic areas.
<b>CWA Core Program</b>	Protecting coastal waters and associated beneficial uses and large aquatic ecosystems

<b>Project/Activity</b>	<b>6. Priority Habitat and Species Freshwater Riparian Habitat Guidelines</b>
<b>Activity Area</b>	Implement Watershed Protection & Restoration Strategies
<b>Primary Recipient</b>	WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
<b>Main Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop up-to-date guidelines on all aspects of managing riparian areas.</li> <li>• Provide guidance for long-range planners that will result in science-based land use plans, designations, regulations, and incentive programs.</li> <li>• Provide guidance to inform planning individual projects in riparian areas, including buffer management, mitigation strategies, and riparian restoration</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	This award will supplement funding provided under a previous NEP Watershed grant to WDFW to develop up-to-date guidelines on managing riparian areas. These additional funds will pay for an expanded review and synthesis of the literature. The resulting guidance for managing freshwater riparian habitat will incorporate current best available science and include buffer recommendations, new stream typing classifications and data sources, recommendations for freshwater lakes and ponds, long-range and site-specific management recommendations related to protecting riparian processes and functions, guidelines on using incentives to protect riparian habitat, and recommendations to maximize riparian function.
<b>Action Agenda Sub-Strategies &amp; NTAs</b>	<p>This work addresses the following sub-strategies:</p> <p>A1.2 – Support local government to adopt and implement plans, regulations and policies consistent with protection and recovery targets,</p> <p>A4.1 – Improve data and information to accelerate floodplain protection, restoration and flood hazard management, and</p> <p>A5.2 – Align policies, regulations, planning and agency coordination to support multi-benefit floodplain management.</p> <p>The guidance will provide a basis on which local governments can develop plans, policies, regulations, and incentive programs that are consistent with these sub-strategies. In supporting these sub-strategies, this work will directly contribute toward achieving the Land Development, Land Cover, and Floodplains targets. It indirectly supports the Shoreline Armoring, Estuaries, Fresh Water Quality, and Insects in Small Streams targets.</p>
<b>Potential Partners</b>	WA Dept. of Ecology will provide technical support to WDFW in developing and reviewing the guidance.
<b>Proposed Outputs/Deliverables</b>	This funding will provide for an expanded literature review and synthesis that will form the foundation for the guidance document.
<b>Estimated Milestones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete literature review and synthesis – 6/2015 (Previous funding is supporting development of the first draft of the document by 12/2015 and publishing the final guidance by 9/2016)</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	FFY 2014: \$79,000
<b>Short-term Outcomes</b>	The expanded literature review and synthesis will result in a more comprehensive and rigorous analysis of best available science for riparian areas. The resulting guidance will be more widely accepted and more frequently used as a central source of information for riparian management.
<b>Intermediate Outcomes</b>	Adoption of new recommendations in local plans and regulations such as shoreline management plans and critical areas ordinances; increased landowner awareness of benefits of protecting riparian areas
<b>Long-term Outcomes</b>	Improved protection of freshwater ecosystems due to protection and restoration of riparian vegetation. Long term benefits include, improved water quality in freshwater riparian areas and protection of priority habitat for fish and wildlife.
<b>CWA Core Program</b>	Addressing diffuse nonpoint sources of pollution, protecting wetlands, protecting coastal waters and associated beneficial uses and large aquatic ecosystems

<b>Project/Activity</b>	<b>7. Floodplains by Design – Phase 2</b>
<b>Category of Work</b>	Implement Watershed Protection & Restoration Strategies
<b>Primary Recipient</b>	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
<b>Main Objectives</b>	<p>TNC has been identified as the lead for coordinating the development of an implementation strategy for the Puget Sound floodplain restoration vital sign.</p> <p>Implementation strategies are to include explicit approaches (strategic guidance) for achieving 2020 recovery targets for selected Vital Sign Indicators in the Action Agenda. This should include mechanisms for refining and managing near-term actions in biennial work plans, identifying necessary enhancements to on-going programs and identifying of new projects and programs to achieve the vital sign target.</p> <p>The resulting implementation strategy will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accelerate the rate of floodplain restoration in support of the Puget Sound floodplain recovery target and to improve salmon productivity.</li> <li>• Reduce flood risks to floodplain farms and communities through the restoration of natural processes and upgrading of critical infrastructure.</li> <li>• Secure support from a broad, coordinated public-private-tribal alliance to develop and implement a 10-year work program towards the Action Agenda’s floodplain restoration target.</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	<p>Phase 1 of the Floodplains by Design (FbD) partnership, funded by a previous NEP Watershed grant, is resulting in an improved understanding of Puget Sound floodplains, a technical approach for integrated floodplain planning, a plan to better harness the collective resources of multiple agencies, and the identification of recommendations to address program priorities and policy barriers. This work was used to leverage \$47M in new state and federal floodplain project funding that is supporting 16 individual on-the-ground recovery projects in Puget Sound.</p> <p>Phase 2 of FbD will build on Phase 1 and will help to develop and institutionalize a reach-scale approach for implementing multi-benefit floodplain restoration actions. The resulting implementation strategy will include the following three main elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Develop a draft logic track for a 10 year body of work to advance the floodplain recovery target that describes and sequences key milestones associated with Action Agenda Near-Term Actions A5.1.2, A5.2.1, A5.4.1, A5.4.4 and A5.4.5.</li> <li>2) Develop a draft regional floodplain vision and 10 year implementation plan including the following components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Develop a draft 10-year plan that clearly articulates outputs, outcomes, and milestones to advance the floodplain recovery target of the Action Agenda</li> <li>➤ Identify the necessary partners, capacities and resources needed to develop and implement the 10-year plan to achieve identified outcomes;</li> <li>➤ Include elements of geographic specificity, adaptive management, and an assessment of relevant on-going programs</li> <li>➤ Include as part of the plan, strategies for integrating local flood risk and ecosystem recovery priorities into a regional capital work program;</li> </ul> </li> <li>3) Create, support and/or maintain the collaborative processes and mechanisms for identifying, prioritizing, recruiting, designing and funding the implementation of contributing reach-scale projects; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Identify the places where FbD investments could yield the greatest benefits toward achievement of the floodplain restoration target</li> <li>➤ Complete the release of a publicly accessible, web-based Floodplain Resilience Mapping Tool utilizing the Puget Sound floodplain assessment and Decision Support Framework developed in Phase 1.</li> <li>➤ Conduct outreach to identify the local floodplain areas and partners where the Floodplain Resilience tool can support reach-scale floodplain planning efforts.</li> <li>➤ Support development of a project pipeline by creating communication materials that share regional learning about developing a successful integrated floodplain project. This work includes assisting Ecology in providing feedback to applicants to the FbD grant program and providing direct support to sponsors of projects.</li> <li>➤ Complete the scoping, develop a budget and determine the mechanisms needed to create a</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ multi-agency permit team to support the implementation of FbD projects across the region.</li> <li>➤ Convene a series of meetings/workshops with local governments, tribes and other stakeholders that are leading reach-scale integrated floodplain management efforts in order to help them integrate multiple objectives in local floodplain plans and projects. The network will share challenges and lessons learned, encourage the development of new reach-scale efforts, and provide direct support to floodplain efforts that would benefit from assistance.</li> <li>➤ Produce outreach materials (e.g., FbD website, fact sheets) to share Phase 1 products (PS floodplain assessment, FbD Decision Support Tool, Barriers and Solutions report) and other information that increases the understanding of FbD goals, priorities and progress.</li> <li>➤ Conduct targeted outreach, meetings and workshops to nurture and expand a growing network of public, private, and tribal supporters.</li> <li>➤ Provide updates and presentations at regional meetings and relevant regional workshops and conferences.</li> </ul>
<b>Action Agenda Sub-Strategies &amp; NTAs</b>	<p>This work directly advances the following sub-strategies &amp; NTAs from the 2014 Action Agenda:</p> <p>A5.1.2 – Regional floodplain vision and program  A5.2.1 – Improved floodplain permit process  A5.3 – Protect and maintain intact and functional floodplains  A5.4.4 &amp; A5.4.5 – Implement priority floodplain restoration projects – coordinated investment plan &amp; technical assistance  A6.1 – Implement high priority projects identified in salmon recovery work plans  A6.1.2 – Restoration permit barriers</p> <p>The work provides a regional mechanism to catalyze, support, and guide the implementation of integrated floodplain management activities across the Puget Sound region. In supporting these sub-strategies, this work will directly contribute toward achieving the Quality of Life, Salmon, Estuaries and Floodplains targets. It indirectly supports the Water Quality and Land Development targets.</p>
<b>Potential Partners</b>	<p>The Floodplains by Design partnership is led by TNC, PSP and Ecology in collaboration with EPA, US Geological Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, US Army Corps of Engineers and others. It is guided by the FbD Advisory Committee consisting of local, state, federal and tribal interests and through direct engagement of local floodplain leaders and project sponsors.</p>
<b>Proposed Outputs/Deliverables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft implementation strategy for integration in the 2016 Action Agenda</li> <li>• Draft near-term actions for implementing strategies to achieve specific Vital Sign 2020 recovery targets</li> <li>• Web-based Floodplain Resilience Mapping Tool</li> <li>• FbD team working actively with at least 6 local reach-scale integrated floodplain management efforts to help them develop large-scale, multiple benefit floodplain plans and projects.</li> <li>• Projects demonstrating an integrated, reach-scale approach underway in at least 5 watersheds.</li> <li>• Website, fact sheets, and other communications products</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Milestones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Floodplain Assessment database integrated into FbD grant funding review process – 9/2014</li> <li>• Priority floodplains areas are identified based in part on prior Floodplain Assessment work – 12/2014</li> <li>• Document describing regional floodplain vision and work plan is drafted – 12/2014</li> <li>• Regional permit team scoped and budgeted – 12/2014</li> <li>• Updated website and fact sheet completed – 12/2014</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> FbD workshops held – 1/2015</li> <li>• At least 30 local government, tribes and others indicate formal support for FbD work – 6/2015</li> <li>• Seven reach-scale integrated floodplain projects are participating members of a FbD regional learning network – 6/2015</li> <li>• Updated website and fact sheets –9/2015</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional FbD workshop held – 9/2015</li> <li>• Projects demonstrative of the integrated, reach-scale approach underway in at least 5 watersheds – 12/2015</li> <li>• Draft regional vision, measurable goals, and 10 year floodplain recovery implementation plan is complete – 12/2015</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	<b>FFY 2014: \$500,000</b>

<b>Short-term Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation strategies provide greater context for biennial work plan development.</li> <li>• At least 10 integrated floodplain recovery projects, including 5 reach-scale projects underway.</li> <li>• Increased capacity and funding to execute priority floodplain recovery actions.</li> <li>• Permits required for floodplain projects are coordinated and streamlined.</li> </ul>
<b>Intermediate Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pace and scale of floodplain project implementation increases, delivering improved results for salmon recovery and flood risk reduction.</li> <li>• A sustainable plan is implemented to line up resources and political support behind integrated floodplain projects.</li> <li>• Multiple benefit and reach-scale floodplain management are the preferred approach of a growing number of local, state and federal decision makers; constituencies understand the benefits of natural infrastructure projects.</li> </ul>
<b>Long-term Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Puget Sound floodplain recovery goals are met.</li> <li>• Integration of multiple floodplain benefits is institutionalized and a regular part of goal setting, project development, implementation, and monitoring both within individual floodplains and across the Puget Sound.</li> </ul>
<b>CWA Core Program</b>	Protecting wetlands and protecting coastal waters and associated benefits of large aquatic ecosystems.

<b>Project/Activity</b>	<b>8. Grants for permanent riparian conservation easements and riparian habitat restoration</b>
<b>Activity Area</b>	Implement Watershed Protection & Restoration Strategies
<b>Primary Recipients</b>	Land trusts, conservation districts, special purpose districts, non-profit non-governmental organizations, tribes, local governments
<b>Main Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To establish a coordinated riparian conservation easement program that funds easements that will protect streams and riparian habitat by permanently limiting incompatible uses including commercial agriculture, clearing, future development or subdivision of land.</li> <li>To protect and restore riparian habitat and stream water quality by ensuring that activities and uses in riparian buffers are compatible with establishing and/or sustaining native vegetation.</li> <li>To foster the growth of healthy riparian forest, protect and restore riparian and in-stream habitat for salmon and other native species, and maintain and improve the quality of water resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	<p>This will be a competitive grant process that will give awards for projects that result in permanent conservation easements in priority riparian areas and/or riparian habitat restoration. Ecology will contract with partners who will target reaches in priority watersheds, identify interested landowners, negotiate and prepare conservation easements, hold and manage the easements, and implement riparian restoration work.</p> <p>The easements will be a legal agreement between a landowner and a conservation organization (e.g., local land trust) where private ownership is retained but the rights for land clearing, commercial agriculture, future development or subdivision are sold. Land uses in the easements will be limited to activities that are protective of water quality and allow establishment, growth and succession of native plant species.</p>
<b>Action Agenda Sub-Strategies &amp; NTAs</b>	<p>This work addresses the following sub-strategies:</p> <p>A1.1 – Identify and prioritize areas for protection, restoration and best suitable for low impact development.</p> <p>A2.1 – Protect and conserve ecologically important lands at risk of conversion.</p> <p>A2.2 – Implement/maintain priority freshwater and terrestrial restoration projects.</p> <p>A3.1 – Use integrated market-based programs, incentives, and ecosystem markets to steward and conserve private forest and agricultural lands.</p> <p>A5.3 – Protect and maintain intact and functional floodplains.</p> <p>A6.1 – Implement high priority projects identified in salmon recovery plans.</p> <p>Local NTAs in areas that receive grants.</p> <p>These projects are expected to directly support these sub-strategies and local near term actions. In so doing, this work will directly contribute toward achieving the Land Cover, Floodplains, Fresh Water Quality, Chinook, and Insects in Small Streams targets.</p>
<b>Potential Partners</b>	Project leads such as land trusts and conservation districts may partner with local governments, tribes, agricultural organizations, and others.
<b>Proposed Outputs/Deliverables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request for qualifications is scoped, noticed and successful candidates are selected and sub-award mechanisms are put in place.</li> <li>Permanent riparian conservation easements are targeted, negotiated, signed and legally recorded.</li> <li>Active management/oversight of conservation easements.</li> <li>Riparian habitat restored and documented.</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Milestones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract with a knowledgeable entity to provide initial recommendations on how to best approach, scope and position this effort for establishing a coordinated and targeted riparian conservation easement program – 7/2014</li> <li>Issue Request for Qualifications for local conservation easement “brokers” – 11/2014</li> <li>Notify successful applicants – 2/30/2015</li> <li>Complete project with completed conservation easements and/or riparian restoration – 12/2016</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated Budget</b>	FFY2014: \$2,861,520 FFY2015: \$3,000,000
<b>Short-term Outcomes</b>	Protection for stream and riparian areas through conservation easements; riparian areas restored.
<b>Intermediate Outcomes</b>	Riparian vegetation will be restored to provide shade to reduce stream temperatures, reduce other pollutants such as pathogens and nutrients, provide habitat structure, cover, and food sources for fish and wildlife.

<b>Long-term Outcomes</b>	Improved protection of freshwater ecosystems due to protection and restoration of riparian vegetation and improved floodplain function. Long term benefits include improved water quality, improved habitat for fish and wildlife, and improved salmon productivity.
<b>CWA Core Program</b>	Addressing diffuse nonpoint sources of pollution, protecting wetlands, protecting coastal waters and associated beneficial uses and large aquatic ecosystems

## C. Budget Summary for FFY 2014 and 2015 Funds

The following table shows the general budget breakdown of proposed work plan expenditures for FFY 2014 and 2015.

**Table C-1. General Budget Breakdown for FFY 2014 and 2015 Award of Watershed Grant**

Summary by Object				
Object	FFY 2014 Budget	FFY 2015 Budget	Total Budget	Description
Personnel	\$513,838	\$367,275	\$881,113	Ecology staff salaries
Fringe Benefits	\$170,080	\$121,568	\$291,648	Agency standard of 33.1% of salary
Travel	\$13,870	\$8,322	\$22,192	Agency standard of \$1,394 per FTE
Equipment	\$11,253	\$6,754	\$18,007	Agency standard of \$1,131 per FTE
Supplies	\$4,975	\$2,985	\$7,960	Estimate of \$500 per FTE
Contracts	\$758,000	\$507,000	\$1,265,000	Interagency agreements, other contracts
Other	\$3,553,663	\$4,326,000	\$7,879,663	Grant subawards
<b>Subtotal Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$5,025,679</b>	<b>\$5,339,904</b>	<b>\$10,365,583</b>	
Indirect Costs	\$223,983	\$160,096	\$384,079	Agency standard of 32.75% of salary plus benefits
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$5,249,662</b>	<b>\$5,500,000</b>	<b>\$10,749,662</b>	

### Match Funding for FFY 2014 and 2015 Awards

Ecology will be providing \$10,749,662 in match through State Revolving Fund (SRF)-State Grants to cover awards from FFY 2014 and 2015.

### Personnel Supported by Watershed Grant

The following tables list the staff positions that are supported by the Watershed Grant and their primary roles and responsibilities. Table C-2 shows the staff classification and roles for personnel that are funded under project management. The costs for the personnel that serve on the Watershed Characterization Technical Assistance Team are listed in Table C-3. In the General Budget Breakdown in Table C1, only Ecology staff are

accounted for in the salaries, benefits, travel, equipment and supplies categories. Costs for non-Ecology personnel are accounted for under contracts.

**Table C-2. Personnel Funded for Project Management of NEP Watershed Grant**

Staff Classification	Level Funded by Watershed Grant for FFY 2014 & 2015	Agency	Role	Responsibilities
Environmental Planner 4	100%	Ecology	Watershed Grant Lead	Oversees administration of the Watershed Grant: running competitive subaward processes, managing subaward projects, coordinating the core team that makes investment decisions, developing implementation strategy, coordinating on Action Agenda development, etc.
Environmental Specialist 3	60%	Ecology	Project Manager	Assists the Watershed Grant Lead in managing projects and the grant program
Environmental Specialist 3	100%	Ecology	Watershed Financial Manager	Provides contracting services for projects funded under Watershed Grant: processing payment requests and contracts
Chemist 3	22.5%	Ecology	Quality Assurance Manager	Provides quality assurance support for projects funded under Watershed Grant
Environmental Planner 4	10%	Ecology	Grant Match Coordinator	Coordinates on state grant projects we are using as match
Environmental Engineer 5	20%	Ecology	Stormwater Project Manager	Complete technical review and project management of stormwater-related projects funded under grant
Commerce Specialist	50%	Commerce	Project Manager	Provides oversight for land use management projects serves on core team, develops and evaluates competitive grant processes, coordinates on Action Agenda review, etc.

**Table C-3. Personnel Funded for Participation in Watershed Characterization Technical Assistance Team**

Staff Name	Level Funded by Watershed Grant for FFY2014 & 2015	Agency	Role
Environmental Specialist 4	100%	Ecology	Team Coordinator
Hydrogeologist 4	5%	Ecology	Hydrologist
Environmental Engineer 5	30%	Ecology	Stormwater Specialist
Environmental Specialist 2	50%	Ecology	GIS Specialist
Commerce Specialist	50%	Commerce	Watershed Planner
Fish & Wildlife Biologist	30%	WDFW	Wildlife Biologist

## Appendix A. Response to Comments on 2014 and 2015 Work Plan

In February and March 2014, the LOs shared their proposed major themes and work types for FFY 2014 and 2015 with the Puget Sound Partnership Management Conference (Ecosystem Coordination Board, Leadership Council, Science Panel), the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, tribes and other entities represented on the cross-partnership advisory groups such as local governments and other representatives of local integrating organizations. We received comments from these entities and have adapted the themes and work types to address these comments in a balanced way. The written comments we received and our responses are listed in the table below. All comments were considered by the Watershed Core Team and the FFY 2014/2015 work plan was then finalized and submitted to EPA in early June 2014.

**Comments on Major Themes and Work Types Proposed in Draft Work Plan for FFY 2014 & 2015**

Committer's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
<p>Kitsap County 4/18/2014</p>	<p>While the interest level has been low, now is the time to double-down on efforts to get local governments to take advantage of these funds as they update their Comprehensive Plans under GMA; please do not do away with this important investment.</p> <p>This LO is one of the most important and most difficult of the LOs. We suggest segregating grant funds that support land use and natural resource planning/regulatory advancements further away from stormwater management and floodplain management; the LO can draw attention to the critical need to address on-going disparities among and between land use planning and watershed protection and restoration</p> <p>Continue to support updates to local Critical Areas Ordinances.</p> <p>We support the investment line to align and integrate land use zoning and permit data with watershed assessments.</p> <p>We believe the balance of funding for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grant rounds should be closely coordinated with the NTAs of the Action Areas Local Integrating Organizations' NTAs; local/LIO NTA actions with direct proportionality to the LO Action Agenda sub strategies should be prioritized for funding</p> <p>More alignment, active partnering and cross-accountability with the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council is advised.</p> <p>Avoid to the maximum extent practicable Soundwide projects that produce "model ordinances;" these have not often proved to be of any benefit.</p>	<p>We plan to retain this important component of the Watersheds LO investment strategy. There is broad support in the Watershed Core Team for retaining the Theme 1 emphasis on Improving Land Use Planning as a primary component.</p> <p>We will continue to support work on updating Critical Area Ordinances, but we also realize that the time available to complete this update work is increasingly limited. The deadlines for completing this work are June 30, 2015 for the first round of governments, and June 30, 2016 for the remainder of Puget Sound jurisdictions.</p> <p>We appreciate your support for work to align watershed assessments and land use zoning and permitting data.</p> <p>We are attempting to provide broad funding support for Local Integrating Organizations NTAs, primarily through competitive grant processes.</p> <p>We are intending to promote better distribution and use of existing guidance to align watershed protection and restoration work with the efforts and plans of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council.</p> <p>We have not and do not intend to fund developing any "model ordinances", but have supported local ordinances that can be adopted.</p>
	<p><u>Comments on the Mechanisms of the Lead Organizations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As much funding as possible should be focused on local NTAs</li> </ul>	<p>We are attempting to provide broad funding support for Local</p>

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All LOs should consider an aggregated application that is easy to use and understand</li> <li>More lead time and low-to-no match requirements should be effected in all LO grant rounds</li> <li>Consider using the same process as the Salmon Recovery Lead Entity where there is high level policy accountabilities that local level priorities develop measurable results against (again, Puget Sound results at the local level!)</li> </ul>	<p>Integrating Organizations NTAs, primarily through competitive grant solicitations.</p> <p>Using a single integrated application among all the LOs would be a big challenge, given the wide range of program activities and agency-specific requirements.</p> <p>We have not required any matching funds in recent competitive solicitations and will likely continue that practice in the future. We also typically provide about 3 months of application lead time.</p> <p>If possible to implement, we will pursue a process similar to that used by the Salmon Recovery Lead Entities to advance well-screened projects to funding.</p>
The Nature Conservancy 4/18/2014	<p>Our over-arching comment is that NEP funding should be directed, whenever possible, to large, multiple benefit actions that promote coordination among different entities and different funding sources, resulting in more lasting and comprehensive transformation in any given project area. We have been gratified by the EPA's leadership in developing this method of "Coordinated Investment", and we believe that NEP could be used as a strong catalyst to promote this approach in future project design and funding.</p> <p>As we understand them, the presentations lay out investment areas that are so numerous and so diffuse, it seems likely to perpetuate the existing "peanut butter" approach to Puget Sound funding. For that reason, we would urge a narrowing of focus, the prioritization of large project planning funding, and implementation of regionally significant multi-benefit actions.</p>	<p>We agree that the suite of work we presented at the listening sessions was too broadly focused. We have tried to narrow the focus so that we have one competitive grant round on improving land use management, which may include stormwater and floodplain planning, and another competitive opportunity for riparian conservation easements &amp; riparian habitat restoration.</p> <p>The relatively limited amount of funds available does not support large project implementation, but we remain committed to leveraging these funds to the maximum extent possible to achieve multi-purpose beneficial actions.</p>
	<p><i>Theme 1 -- Improve Land Use Management</i></p> <p>Given the scope of the challenges related to land use and critical areas, we urge you to consider a more targeted regional approach to advancing local planning. The scale of available NEP funds is not commiserate to the land use planning funding need, and without geographic prioritization in key watershed areas, dollars spent could have very limited impact.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. We are open to proposals that target specific geographies of maximum watershed importance, but do not want to pre-judge where these locations are, based on the relative nature of the watershed assessments, and the need for local support for geographically targeted efforts.</p>
	<p><i>Theme 2 -- Stormwater</i></p> <p>This area could also benefit from more strategic targeting. There are significant state dollars being invested in stormwater (\$100 million appropriated in the 2013-15 biennium alone). In light of that, NEP funds should focus on areas not fundable through the state stormwater program, including planning for local governments to design multiple benefit projects</p>	<p>To the extent we have funds available, the funding for stormwater retrofit planning is available to support work by both permitted and non-permitted jurisdictions.</p> <p>We support using an integrated green infrastructure approach to address stormwater management and retrofits, but do not feel we can limit our program to just this one approach.</p>

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<p>that include a strong stormwater component.</p> <p>In addition, a regional strategy to accelerate the use of green infrastructure to address stormwater runoff is needed. We would urge consideration of pooling all the stormwater funding into one competitive grant that would accomplish this objective.</p> <p><i>Theme 3 -- Floodplain and Riparian Habitat</i></p> <p>The past \$500,000 NEP investment in Floodplains by Design has resulted in \$50 million in floodplain work, in addition to strong on-going partnerships, an expanded body of technical information and tools, and growing political support for a more restorative approach to flood control and floodplain management. The momentum behind this effort is such that the payoff for continued investment is likely to be even greater. For this reason, we would urge that Floodplains by Design be the number one priority for watershed investment plan funding and particularly for this theme. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support coalition efforts to turn “Coordinated Investment for Floodplains” into a permanent funding program;</li> <li>• Support coalition efforts to guide Ecology so that the new state funding program is consistent with the Action Agenda and the three strategic initiatives;</li> <li>• Support local watershed groups in developing larger and more impactful projects and programs;</li> <li>• Drive the coordination and alignment of resources from state and federal agencies with local floodplain priorities; and</li> <li>• Develop a more efficient permitting process for large, multi-component restoration projects.</li> </ul> <p>To have the largest long term impact, we believe that NEP funds should be invested in a limited number of regional initiatives that leverage other funding sources, not on specific site scale actions. Given the relative paucity of NEP funds relative to other grant programs (CI for Floodplains, SRFB, NRCS funding, WWRP), NEP dollars are best allocated where they can serve in a catalytic way to promote better designed and more comprehensive outcomes.</p>	<p>We are supporting Commerce’ work with local partners in WRIA 9 to develop stormwater-based approaches for incentivizing infill in urban centers. This will incorporate green infrastructure and will also focus on multiple benefit projects that result in denser urban development and protection of rural lands.</p> <p>We appreciate the significant linkage between the NEP funded work on Floodplains by Design and the broader state-funded capital improvement program for floodplain management projects. We have committed to continue to support The Nature Conservancy in their work on the Floodplains by Design program to continue to advance floodplain management and restoration. However, due to our relatively limited funds, we have decided to not dedicate funds from FFY 2014 or 2015 to floodplain restoration design or implementation projects. This is a reflection of the size of the funding needed and the availability of other, larger funding sources.</p> <p>We think floodplain management and restoration is very important and thus we are supporting improved planning, permitting and technical assistance for floodplain projects through the Floodplains by Design work. Under Theme 3, we will also be supporting riparian conservation easements and riparian habitat restoration.</p> <p>Rather than limiting the funding to one or a few watersheds or other geographic locations, we have avoided deciding where the priority geographic areas are located, and instead have asked local governments to make the case as to why their proposed priority areas are most important to address comprehensively.</p>
Puget Sound Partnership - Leadership Council &	The <u>Leadership Council</u> supports the direct funding for riparian land protection and the toxics in fish monitoring. Riparian buffers are a key component in the habitat strategic initiative and the Leadership Council agrees that more dedicated funding is needed.	We have included specific information on how our proposed investments align with both regional and local NTAs and the three strategic initiatives. In prioritizing work for FFY2014 and 2015 funds, we did place emphasis on the strategic initiatives and highly ranked

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
Science Panel 4/18/2014	<p>In regards to the specific Lead Organization (LO) funding proposals, we are pleased to see the level to which the LOs used the current version of the Action Agenda and the three strategic initiatives to shape their funding themes. We see a continued need to structure the work planning in this way to ensure the highest priority work is completed first.</p> <p>We also note that there remains a need to develop a more systematic approach to how monitoring and research is considered for funding by the Lead Organizations. It appears as though each LO has a different approach to considering science, monitoring, and research. We suggest that EPA and the LOs engage the Puget Sound Science Panel and the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program to create a predictable system for considering science investments under the LOs.</p> <p>We understand that a consistent theme throughout the listening sessions was the need for increased funding of local priorities. The Local Integrating Organizations (LIOs) have done a great deal of work over the last couple of years to organize as local planning hubs, define priorities, and identify near term actions. The Leadership Council agrees with the LIOs that we need to improve the manner in which funds are aligned and dispersed amongst regional and local priorities. We appreciate EPA's commitment to working closely with the Partnership and the LIOs over the rest of this year to evaluate the funding processes and identify improvements. We recommend that provisions be included in each of the LO cooperative agreements to provide meaningful preference for funding proposals that implement the specific LIO near term actions.</p>	<p>sub-strategies. The themes of our work plan support many sub-strategies under Sections A and C. The themes directly support the Habitat and Stormwater Strategic Initiatives, as well as some of the Tribal Habitat Priorities. The themes also indirectly support the Shellfish Strategic Initiative through affecting long-term land use practices.</p> <p>We agree that NEP funds need to emphasize actions consistent with local NTAs developed by LIOs. Our proposed work plan contains this emphasis, but will only have very limited funds when compared with the expressed needs. We reviewed the new LIO NTAs and discussed how our themes and work types could be tailored to best encompass the local NTAs. Funding for local NTAs will primarily come through our two competitive grant processes: one for improving land use management (including stormwater planning &amp; retrofit) and one for riparian conservation easements and riparian habitat restoration. These will support some of the main priorities we saw in the NTAs such as GMA updates/improving land use regulations, stormwater retrofits, salmon habitat restoration</p> <p>We intend to fund both planning and on-the-ground implementation projects. Our focus has been, and will continue to be on providing funds to the local integrating organization (LIO) entities to implement local priorities – these entities are mostly local governments, tribes, and special purpose districts.</p>
	<p>The materials provided for the Watersheds LO did not make as close of a link to how investments specifically address the strategic initiatives and specific near term actions. The Leadership Council requests that more specific linkages be provided in the materials for the May meeting.</p> <p>Under Theme 1, it is proposed to fund integration of zoning, permitting, and planning data with watershed assessment. The Leadership Council questions why the LO would not propose to specifically address near term action A1.2.1 (Land Use Planning Barriers, BMPs, and Example Policies)? This near term action is part of the habitat strategic initiative. Ecology has reported that the action is “not started” due to staff and resource constraints. We suggest that the Watersheds LO consider funding this near term action before allocating resources to data alignment, as proposed.</p>	<p>Details on connections to strategic initiatives and NTAs was included in the presentations at the listening sessions, but we have provided much more detail in this work plan document and can also provide that at the May meeting with the Leadership Council.</p> <p>The work proposed under Theme 1 is an integral part of the initial Grant Agreement with EPA, forming a component of the adaptive management of the overall work program. This work is to determine how well aligned local development plans and actions are with results of the relative watershed assessments. This work is intended to provide real time data useful for ongoing plan updates and land capacity analyses. Watershed work on the identified NTA A1.2.1 has been addressed in part through our Regional Alliances work, with a</p>

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<p><u>Science Panel</u> members' observations of current practices by the LO's and the LO's proposals for Round 5 and 6 investments as communicated at "listening sessions" from March 17 to April 1, 2014 suggest that the current approach to investing Puget Sound NEP funds via LO's does not align with these ideals. Consequences of the current LO practices and the LOs' proposals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What appears to be a lack of integration and coordination among LO's. We did not hear of any cross-LO vision or strategy that articulates how LOs' efforts and proposals are mutually reinforcing and suggests areas for cross-cutting investments. This 'stove-pipe' approach propagates the structural weakness of a discipline-centric approach to ecosystem recovery.</li> <li>● A sense of missed opportunities to learn from prior investments and to adapt strategic approaches and investment proposal in response to this type of learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ LO's proposals for Rounds 5 and 6, the last two years of a six-year award, are not explicitly responding to information derived from prior investments, resulting in missed opportunities to improve program effectiveness by learning from prior investments, by increasing investments in promising and productive programs, and by ending less fruitful endeavors.</li> <li>○ While there was some mention of plans to pivot funding to focus on learning from prior investments in Round 5 and 6 (i.e., the Marine-Nearshore LO emphasis on making project results broadly available and Toxics-Nutrients LO suggestion of a nutrient science synthesis), the majority of proposed work appears not to benefit from such analysis.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Ambiguity about the strategic opportunities for and incremental benefits of applying short-term Puget Sound NEP investments to the ongoing programs of the LO and other partner agencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ LO proposals for Rounds 5 and 6 do not generally describe how ongoing programs will be positioned and/or can be sustained following their investments.</li> <li>○ LO proposals for Rounds 5 and 6 do not assess the incremental benefits of</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>special focus on aligning urban infill with stormwater mitigation requirements so as to help implement the PSRC Vision 2040 focus on Transportation Centers. We are also proposing to shift ownership of this NTA from Ecology to Commerce to better align this work with the current efforts supporting Puget Sound area governments on their 2015 and 2016 update work.</p> <p>While it is true that we have not undertaken specific "cross-cutting" projects or initiatives with other LOs, we view the Watershed LO as being cross-cutting in nature. We have tried to integrate a common theme of using a watershed-based approach to improve land use planning, stormwater management, stormwater retrofit planning, floodplain management/restoration, salmon habitat restoration, and more. We have supported projects that have attempted to clarify the links between urban development and watershed processes and functions, thus integrating urban growth planning, use of LID practices, stormwater retrofit prioritization, protection and restoration of habitat and other elements. We feel this work integrates a wide variety of issues within Puget Sound watersheds and that we have not taken a discipline-centric approach.</p> <p>There are several lines of work where we are building on previously funded projects. These include floodplain management (Floodplains by Design project), stormwater retrofit planning, and land use planning. We are supporting two projects by state agencies that look at effectiveness of land use planning in general: WDFW is monitoring land cover changes since 2006 using high resolution photos – these data will be used to track progress toward the Land Cover and Land Development targets. Commerce is conducting a six-year study to track land development permits and monitor development patterns. The funding for these projects for FFY2014 and 2015 build on prior work we have funded and increase the effectiveness and usefulness of the tools that will result.</p> <p>We expect over the next two years to focus on communicating how the work we have funded contributes to Puget Sound recovery and what elements should be sustained for future investments.</p>

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<p>using NEP funds to enhance existing programs (e.g., additional inspectors, contribution to woodstove program, PIC programs).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Pathogens LO description of "NEP legacy" is an approach that could be more broadly implemented across the Puget Sound NEP effort.</li> </ul>	
	<p>Suggestions for EPA allocation of FFY14 and FFY15 NEP funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Invest a substantial fraction of FFY14 funds in analysis of outputs and outcomes of Puget Sound NEP investments to date, including the first 4 years of LO awards -- to set the stage for the next phase of federal investment in Puget Sound ecosystem recovery. Coordinate this analysis with PSP's proposed efforts to answer effectiveness questions by rolling up results from local studies to inform decision-making.</li> <li>● Use this analysis to develop a strategic approach to future federal investments in Puget Sound recovery. For example, invest FFY15 funds in the refinement of implementation strategies, which appear to offer a credible and pragmatic approach to integrated science-based planning of ecosystem recovery.</li> </ul>	<p>As part of the effort we discuss in our work plan to communicate the results of the work we have funded and how it contributes to Puget Sound recovery, and to make sure products are available in public repositories, we will be analyzing the outputs and outcomes of our investments and looking forward to, and making recommendations on, the areas and approaches we think are critical to fund in the future.</p>
	<p>Suggestions for science investments by LO's in Rounds 5 and 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Encourage LO's to refer to Part III of the 2014-16 Biennial Science Work Plan (BSWP) to identify priority topics for scientific investigation. This part of the BSWP is still being finalized this spring. For decisions that must be made this spring, please refer to the items listed in Part III of the April 2014 draft BSWP, the appendices to that draft, and the 48 items in the 2011-13 BSWP.</li> <li>● Direct or encourage each LO to make at least a portion of its Round 5 and 6 LO investments in scientific investigations through competitive awards. For example, direct some or all of the LO's to allocate a portion of their funding to scientific investigations that solicited, selected, and overseen as cross-cutting efforts coordinated by multiple LO's. Science Panel members are ready to provide guidance about the process, uniformity of approaches across LO's, and review of proposals.</li> <li>● Encourage LO investments that will develop syntheses of scientific findings and project and program experiences. (e.g., the Marine-Nearshore LO's interest in efforts to "get the word out" and the Toxics-Nutrients LO proposal to develop a synthesis of nutrient science). At a minimum these investments should develop syntheses of results by individual LO's. To the extent possible, these investments should also develop syntheses across LO's and integrate the results of LO and others' programs.</li> </ul>	<p>While we have funded science investigations in the past (e.g., effectiveness of LID practices; use of benthic invertebrates to evaluate stormwater impacts on streams), the Watershed LO has largely focused on applied science that supports land use management decisions. For example, we have focused on using science-based tools such as the Puget Sound Watershed Characterization to understand the links between watershed processes and urban development. We are funding a synthesis of science related to riparian habitat to develop a guidance for managing these areas. We funded a GIS synthesis of floodplain features to serve as a basis for prioritizing areas for floodplain restoration. These types of efforts to apply science to management decisions are ways we feel we can be most effective.</p> <p>We will fund and participate in efforts to catalog and describe the grant funded projects to date, to spread knowledge and share results broadly, and to assess the effectiveness of the work and provide recommendations for building on the work in the future. The Watershed LO will be assessing its "legacy", similar to the other LOs and will work to share and institutionalize the results.</p>

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<p>Suggestions for implementation investments by LO's in Rounds 5 and 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Direct or encourage LO's to analyze and describe the benefit of the incremental NEP investments as they augment ongoing programs.</li> <li>● Use these final years of LO investments to position programs to be sustained after the LO investments. I commend the Pathogen LO's discussion of the "NEP legacy" and support the suggestions by the Marine-Nearshore LO to "get the word out" and "institutionalize results."</li> </ul>	
	<p>Suggestions for longer term investments of NEP funds</p> <p>Given that recovery progress has been slower than desired, the 2014-16 BSWP being developed this spring will recommend a more measured and calculated approach to recovery than has been applied to date, guided by the principles of adaptive management, and tuned to expectations that, for the foreseeable future, ecosystem responses will be more subtle, faint, and difficult to detect than originally anticipated. As first steps towards this more measured approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support the Science Panel's recommendations for improved approaches to science-based ecosystem recovery, as described in Part IV of the 2014-16 Biennial Science Work Plan.</li> <li>● Provide funding and other support for efforts by separate 'recovery groups' for each of PSP's ecosystem recovery targets to refine and document "implementation strategies."</li> </ul>	<p>We will review and evaluate the nexus between the Watershed Grant program and the 2014-16 Biennial Science Work Plan once it has been approved and finalized by the Leadership Council. In our work plan, we have tried to balance building on critical region-wide work with local priorities as expressed in the new local NTAs. With limited funding available, it is unlikely that we will be able to fund new efforts to refine implementation strategies with FFY 2014 and 2015 funds.</p>
<p>Puget Sound Regional Council 4/16/2014</p>	<p>The Puget Sound Regional Council supports the use of National Estuary Program Round 5/6 grants for aligning urban infill and stormwater mitigation strategies. This is a topic that our agency has worked on for the past year, in collaboration with a variety of stakeholders in the region, given its importance to successfully implementing the region's growth plan – VISION 2040.</p> <p>VISION 2040 contains the region's multicounty planning and regional growth strategy under the state's Growth Management Act. VISION 2040 envisions a significant share of the region's growth being accommodated in already urbanized areas, with the growth occurring in an environmentally sensitive manner. VISION 2040 also encourages the efficient use of urban land, maintaining natural hydrological functions and, where feasible, restoring them to a more natural state.</p> <p>The Puget Sound Regional Council's Growth Management Policy Board – comprised of elected officials and representatives of agencies with a role in implementing land use plans in the region – has heard concerns from cities</p>	<p>We appreciate the support for this critical work aligning stormwater mitigation with increased urban infill efforts. We will provide funds to Commerce from the FFY 2014 and 2015 awards to continue assisting with this work. In addition, we expect to offer a grant solicitation in 2015 for projects that improve land use management, including projects that result from, or relate to this work on developing stormwater-based approaches to increasing development density in urban centers.</p>

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<p>that the high cost of site-by-site stormwater requirements, in combination with other redevelopment costs, may stifle redevelopment of urban infill areas.</p> <p>As a result of these discussions, the Puget Sound Partnership South Central Local Integrating Organization requested technical assistance from the Washington State Department of Commerce to further understand and develop recommendations to address the issue. The Department of Commerce is leading the program <i>Regional Alliances: Building Cities in the Rain</i> to provide technical assistance for interested stakeholders.</p> <p>Through this program, the Puget Sound Regional Council and the Department of Commerce are working with the Department of Ecology, Puget Sound Partnership, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and other stakeholders to explore innovative approaches that align growth management and environmental goals. Targeting the use of National Estuary Program funds for projects and planning that align urban infill and stormwater mitigation strategies would help jurisdictions that are ready to move forward in implementing innovative, sustainable approaches to stormwater mitigation.</p>	
Strait Ecosystem Recovery Network LIO 4/18/2014	Suggest directly allocating (e.g., block grants) a significant portion of the LO NEP funding to LIOs to help implement local specific actions cited within the Action Agenda. Suggest moving more toward a "directed" LO approach for NEP funding of local specific actions via collaboratively developed scopes of work thereby reducing the overall workload involved in developing and evaluating proposals through competitive processes.	We feel that competitive grant processes focused on the local priorities of the LIOs are the fairest way for us to distribute the funds to support local projects. We do encourage partnering among different entities and collaboratively developing scopes of work.
	Yes, these major themes seem to be appropriate as they appear to support implementation of some specific actions cited under four out of six of the Packaged LNTAs for the Strait Action Area.	Thank you for your comment.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 5 and 6 NEP Work Plan Recognition / Alignment with Local NTAs – Assure that the Year 5 and 6 Work Plans recognize the local NTAs recently submitted by LIOs for the 2014-2016 Puget Sound Action Agenda update. Most of our local NTAs submitted by the Strait ERN LIO for this update of the Action Agenda appear to be in alignment with the priorities outlined by the LOs at the Listening Session. Our LIO Coordinator is available to discuss our local NTAs with each LO.</li> <li>• No Match - Don't require a match for RFPs</li> <li>• Extended Lead Time - Provide three-month lead times on deadlines to submit grant applications for RFPs. A three month lead allows sufficient time</li> </ul>	We have included in this work plan more specific information on how our proposed investments align with local NTAs and the three strategic initiatives. The themes of our work plan support many sub-strategies and NTAs under Sections A and C. The themes directly support the Habitat and Stormwater Strategic Initiatives, as well as some of the Tribal Habitat Priorities. The themes also indirectly support the Shellfish Strategic Initiative through affecting long-term land use practices. Table B-1 summarizes the NTAs that are supported by the proposed work

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<p>to collaborate and partner on proposals,</p> <p>Pre-Proposal Application Phase – Develop a common set of criteria, with sufficient detail, for use in a region-wide pre-proposal application for local NTAs. Once completed, such a pre-proposal could then be used collaboratively by the LO and LIO, in full consultation and partnership with the local applicants (and their partners), to determine if the proposed project should go forward to the full application phase of the process. In the face of ever shrinking local capacity, it becomes difficult to develop (full) applications for these regionally competitive LO processes when total available funding is limited and few of the proposals will be funded. The pre-proposal processes used by a number of salmon recovery Lead Entities around the Puget Sound would offer examples to consider emulating here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeted Awareness and Education - Allow public awareness and education that is targeted toward the proposed implementation of the local NTA, to be an allowable component for funding within each RFP. Local ECO Net organizations around Puget Sound, and their respective members, are well positioned to provide this targeted awareness and education component as partners on proposals.</li> <li>• Crosscutting Projects for Local NTAs - Consider providing funding for the following crosscutting projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Local Oil Spill Preparedness Projects – Given the unprecedented changes in oil spill risk associated with expanding exports of fossil fuels to various markets, include funds in Year 5 and 6 for Local Oil Spill Preparedness Projects utilizing a portion of the funds from both the Marine and Nearshore Protection and Restoration and the Toxics and Nutrients Prevention, Management, and Control LO programs. In partnership with these two Programs, oil spill staff from state agencies and the USCG, could work with the appropriate local applicant to develop scopes of work for "directed funds" to accomplish local oil spill preparedness NTAs (and ongoing funding needs) This funding approach is particularly important to the Strait Action Area and the San Juan Islands due to the high risk of exposure from this growing threat to the ecosystem and economies of these two areas. The local oil spill preparedness NTAs are those cited within the 2012-2013 Puget Sound Action Agenda for the Strait Action Area and San Juan Islands. New or updated versions of these local NTAs will also be included within the 2014-2016 Puget Sound Action Agenda update.</li> <li>o Local Ambient Monitoring and Data Analysis Projects – In Year 5 and 6,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>We will likely not require matching funds in future competitive solicitations, but can't state with certainty at this time that we won't. We typically provide 3 months of application lead time.</p> <p>We agree that NEP funds need to emphasize actions consistent with local NTAs developed by LIOs. Our proposed work plan contains this emphasis, but will only have very limited funds when compared with the expressed needs.</p> <p>It is doubtful that the LOs will develop a region-wide application form due to the varied nature of the work types and the differing specific agency requirements. We will consider using a pre-proposal stage for future grant solicitations.</p> <p>We do allow for and encourage public awareness and education as an integral part of the projects we fund.</p> <p>We will discuss these cross-cutting investment proposals with the other LOs and EPA to determine if there is broad support and funding available to support them. We have supported projects that included extensive monitoring programs, primarily in monitoring riparian vegetation, and may do so again.</p>

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<p>include funds from among these four Lead Organizations to both support and integrate local volunteer ambient monitoring (<i>i.e.</i>, of freshwater and marine ecosystems) and data analysis programs into the regional Coordinated Ecosystem Monitoring Program. One example of such a volunteer effort is the long-running and successful Streamkeepers program operated by Clallam County within the Strait Action Area, one of our local NTAs. Another example is the shellfish sampling conducted by the Clallam Marine Resources Committee. Results from volunteer ambient monitoring and data analysis programs could help local leaders understand long-term trends to allow more informed support for implementation of various actions. Also, local ambient monitoring programs could help assist the regional programs where there are shortcomings.</p>	
	<p>Many of our local NTAs submitted by the Strait ERN LIO for this update of the Action Agenda appear to be in alignment with the priorities outlined by the <i>Watershed Protection and Restoration Grant Program</i> at the Listening Session. Our LIO Coordinator is available to discuss the specifics of our local NTAs with you. In the interim, we suggest the following:  Add (or allow for) the following proposed activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Development and adoption of storm and surface water management plans by non-Phase 1 and 2 NPDES local jurisdictions, including integrating LID into local codes and ordinances;</li> <li>o Shoreline education, training, and technical assistance offered at the local level;</li> <li>o Stormwater education, training, and technical assistance offered at the local level;</li> <li>o Other land use assessments, such as Ecosystem Services Valuations;</li> <li>o Other mapping assessments, such as mapping and monitoring vulnerable shorelines; and</li> <li>o Local Ambient Monitoring and Data Analysis (see our "Crosscutting Projects for Local NTAs" comment above) to help inform many of the proposed activities listed above.</li> </ul> <p>Limit or delete the following proposed activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Limit "support for CAO updates" to those local jurisdictions who are receiving very limited to no funds from other sources for this work, and</li> <li>o Delete "cleanup of legacy pollutants" due to very limited NEP funding and more appropriate funding available from other sources.</li> </ul>	<p>We will have funds available for competitive grant processes that include improving stormwater management and stormwater retrofit. We also intend to require applicants to more clearly demonstrate the links between their proposed work and water quality, shellfish, and salmon recovery. We will not be issuing block grants to LIOs for them to pass through, but will likely give points during our application scoring process for projects that are prioritized by an LIO.</p> <p>We will continue to support work on updating Critical Area Ordinances, but we also realize that the time available to complete this update work is increasingly limited. The deadlines for completing this work are June 30, 2015 for the first round of governments, and June 30, 2016 for the remainder of Puget Sound jurisdictions.</p> <p>Ecology is funding stormwater training under other sources of funds – we will not focus the NEP funds specifically on education and training, but those could be components of stormwater management or retrofit projects that are proposed by local entities.</p> <p>We have decided to not include funding for clean-up of legacy pollutants due to the relatively small amount of funds with respect to the very large need.</p>
	<p><i>Do you think that permanent conservation easements are a good tool for</i></p>	

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<p><i>stream protection? Do you have recommendations on how best to set these up (e.g., through land trusts, conservation districts)? Do you favor putting an emphasis on this work?</i></p> <p>Yes, depending on the risk to and value of the ecosystem function associated with parcels being considered for permanent conservation easement. Local land trusts, in partnership with tribes, local governments, and conservation districts, are likely in the best position to identify and implement permanent conservation easements.</p> <p>We favor allowing the maximum flexibility in the types of activities used by local project sponsors to protect and restore riparian and floodplain habitats to meet the local needs for each watershed.</p>	<p>Thank you for your detailed responses to these questions on riparian conservation easements. We plan to fund this work.</p>
	<p>We suggest limiting "support for CAO updates" to those local jurisdictions that are receiving very limited to no funds from other sources for this work.</p>	<p>The limited funds available to support local government updates will likely be inadequate for any comprehensive review and updating of existing critical areas ordinances. As such, we will consider grant requests that support this work if the planned approach proposes to integrate watershed assessment information.</p>
	<p><i>Is there interest among local governments to receive funds for stormwater retrofit planning/pre-design? Stormwater legacy pollutant cleanup? Other types of stormwater work?</i></p> <p>Yes, re: stormwater retrofit planning / pre-design, particularly Low Impact Development projects. Again, we suggest deleting "Cleanup of Legacy Pollutants" due to very limited NEP funding and more appropriate funding available from other sources. Again, we suggest adding (or allowing for) the following proposed activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Development and adoption of storm and surface water management plans by non-Phase 1 and 2 NPDES local jurisdictions, including integrating LID into local codes and ordinances, and</li> <li>o Stormwater education, training, and technical assistance offered at the local level.</li> </ul>	<p>Thank you for your detailed responses to these questions regarding stormwater management and retrofit planning. We plan to fund these types of projects as part of a broader grant solicitation to improve land use management. These projects could include update of local codes and ordinances, and education and training. We agree that our funding is of too small a scale to address cleanup of legacy pollutants and have removed this element from our work plan.</p>
<p>Tri-State Steelheaders Salmon Enhancement Group 4/14/2014</p>	<p>This letter responds to the increase in riparian buffer widths recently implemented for federal and state funding for riparian restoration. These recent increased width requirements – 75 ft. for anadromous bearing streams, 50 ft. for perennial streams not historically accessible by ESA-listed species of fish – are a substantial increase to our current program. The State of Washington Department of Ecology has decided to require all project funding (federal and state) meet these requirements. Our riparian program is centered on projects that are not eligible for Conservation Reserve</p>	<p>The decision to be consistent with the EPA guidance on and apply riparian buffer standards more broadly than just within the Puget Sound area is an agency decision by the Ecology Water Quality Program, which was made independently of the NEP Watershed Program. We appreciate learning of your concerns about the statewide roll-out of this new buffer approach and will share your concerns with the Ecology WQ Program.</p>

Commenter's Organization & Date of Letter	Comment	Response
	<p>Enhancement Program (CREP) funding under the Farm Bill. Unfortunately, these requirements have had immediate detrimental effects to our thriving urban riparian program in Walla Walla and College Place which has been working with 35 ft. buffer widths.</p> <p>Based on our experience working in our local communities in our region, we make the following requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop an exclusion for urban and other developed areas in and around towns to allow for smaller minimum riparian buffer widths.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Allow flexibility for property owners to work with specific site characteristics.</li> </ul> <p>In summary, TSS feels that this "one size fits all" approach to riparian restoration will have detrimental impacts to our ability to perform riparian restoration and associated outreach and education. We focus on changing land use practices incrementally, and have found when working voluntarily with landowners in this manner, they return to expand or enhance their riparian habitats. Therefore, we encourage the development of certain exclusions or variances that accommodate the unique circumstances commonly encountered when implementing restoration projects with private landowners.</p>	<p>The focus of this NEP Watersheds buffer approach is intended to be limited to lands with agricultural uses within the Puget Sound area. The program guidance does provide some flexibility in addressing infrastructure or developed areas, and in addressing unique site attributes.</p> <p>The decision to apply riparian buffer standards more broadly than just within the Puget Sound area is an agency decision by the Ecology Water Quality Program, which was made independently of the NEP Watershed Program. We appreciate learning of your concerns about the statewide roll-out of this new buffer approach and will share your concerns with the Ecology WQ Program.</p>
Yancey Reser 4/18/2014	Proposed rule conditioning funding for riparian projects on 75 foot wide buffer zone on each side of stream (150 feet total width) will kill restoration programs along small streams.	The decision to apply these riparian buffer standards within the Puget Sound area was driven by our desire to adequately protect streams and aquatic life and to be consistent with guidance from EPA, which is also our funding source. Ecology and EPA are concerned that the new guidance will discourage some entities from applying for specific sites on which larger buffers cannot be accommodated. However, we are most concerned with providing protective buffers to streams. We expect to continue to receive applications for riparian buffer restoration grants. Exceptions to the recommended buffer widths are allowed and we have tried to integrate flexibility into our grant program as much as possible. We appreciate learning of your concerns about this new buffer approach and will discuss your comments with our EPA colleagues to explore options for greater flexibility as we move forward.

## **Appendix B. Six-year Implementation Strategy**

Appendix B provides detailed information on the six-year implementation strategy for the Watershed Grant. The table is organized first by major activity area and then by sub-categories of work within each activity area.

Appendix B. Summary Table of Six-Year Implementation Strategy from FFY2010 through FFY2015

Projects & Planned Grant Solicitations Organized by Major Activity Area	Funding Round				Action Agenda Strategies/ NTAs Supported	2020 Targets Supported <sup>1</sup>										Lead Entities Completing Work	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Estimated Timeframe	Budget Information			
	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Level.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
<b>A. Implement Watershed Characterization</b>																		\$ 717,926	\$ 421,306	\$300,000	\$660,000		
Fund Watershed Characterization Technical Assistance Team (WCTAT) to help local governments in applying WC and other watershed-based approaches to land use planning	X	X	X	X	A1.1, A1.2	D	D	D	I	I	D	I	I	I	I	Ecology	Technical assistance, website, guidance material, support for land use planning – funded through June 2018	Watershed Characterization applied to land use decisions; protection & restoration of high priority areas	Ongoing	\$ 717,926	\$421,306	\$300,000	\$660,000
<b>B. Improve Land Use and Protect Rural Working Lands</b>																		\$ 2,301,243	\$1,054,878	\$1,215,771	\$2,152,142		
<b>Assessing Land Use/Land Cover Change</b>																							
Integrate land use permitting and plan data with watershed characterization	X	X	X	X	A1.1, A1.2	D	D									Commerce	Key land use data will be identified and a method for monitoring developed; data will be integrated with other characterization results	Standardization of land use data analysis will facilitate tracking land development and land cover change and developing useful watershed framework for land use planning	1/2012-6/2017	\$ 240,000	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$190,000
Puget Sound High Resolution Land Cover Change Detection, Phases 1 - 3	X	X		X	A1.1, A1.2	D	D									WDFW	Provide high resolution land cover change data to local govts. w/tool and method for analysis; provide change analysis for land development and land cover targets sound-wide	Standardized land use monitoring method used sound-wide to measure effectiveness of decision support tools; tracking of two targets used to measure progress toward Puget Sound recovery	6/2012 - 12/2016	\$ 89,947	\$283,308		\$200,000
<b>Integrating Watershed Framework into Land Use Planning</b>																							
Grant process to improve land use management (e.g., watershed-based subarea plans, updates to comprehensive plans, floodplain or stormwater management plans, stormwater retrofit planning, incentive programs, assess local climate change implications, update stream typing information, others)	X	X	X	X	A1.1, A1.2, A1.3, A4.1.2, A4.2, A5.1, A5.2, A5.3, A5.4, C2.1, C2.2, C2.3.1	D	D	D	I	I	I	I				Ecology, Commerce, Local govts., Tribes, special purpose districts	Land use management plans and other tools that are used to inform updates to comp. plans, SMPs, and CAOs; incentive programs to concentrate development in UGAs, improved resiliency in land use decisions relative to climate change implications	Improved land use decisions by local govts. through integration of watershed approach into planning	6/2015-12/2017	Awards issued Jan. 2012 for total of ~\$6.35M – see specific awards in table	Awards issued March 2013 for total of ~\$1.67M – see specific awards in table	Awards issued April 2014 for total of ~\$1.234M – see specific awards in table	\$1,538,142
Planning by Watershed: Preparing for Kitsap's 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update	X				A1.2 NTA 1	D	D									Kitsap Co.	Maps and report showing best locations for various land use practices; recommendations for updates to comprehensive plan	Improved land use planning based on watershed approach; reduced risk of degrading watershed processes	5/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 134,814			
Watershed-based Land Use Planning in Duvall		X			A1.2 NTA 1	D	D			I	I					Duvall	New urban growth area land-use plan; land use updates to Comprehensive Plan & Municipal Code; new stormwater strategies plan incorporating LID strategies	Improved land use management in Duvall watersheds; basis for annexation decisions in UGA; LID integrated into stormwater management projects; restoration and protection priorities identified	6/2013-6/2015		\$207,570		

<sup>1</sup> For 2020 Targets, D = Directly Supported, I = Indirectly Supported

Appendix B. Summary Table of Six-Year Implementation Strategy from FFY2010 through FFY2015

Projects & Planned Grant Solicitations Organized by Major Activity Area	Funding Round				Action Agenda Strategies/ NTAs Supported	2020 Targets Supported <sup>1</sup>										Lead Entities Completing Work	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Estimated Timeframe	Budget Information			
	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
Build regional alliances to address planning for urban growth areas, population allocation, floodplain protection, stormwater management, other.		X	X	X	A1.2.1, A4.1.2, A4.2.SC13, C2.3	D	D	D	I	I	I	I			Commerce, Local govts., Tribes	Incentives and assistance to local govts. to create/support regional alliances that undertake coordinated, watershed-based regional planning	Land use planning is coordinated across jurisdictional boundaries; pooling of resources and coordination leads to better protection of watershed processes	9/2012 - 6/2017		\$112,000	\$112,000	\$224,000	
Watershed-based Analysis: Update Fish & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas (FHWCA) Policies & Regulations		X			A1.2, A1.3	D	D			I	I			Island County	Updated FWHCA language in County CAO; report on best available science for FWHCAs and baseline condition of habitats in County; web interface (e.g., story map) for public use and to show lessons learned on watershed-based land use planning	Improved baseline for habitat conditions in Island County; improved protection of existing habitats; improved implementation of FWHCA critical area regulations; improved public understanding of habitat protection needs	6/2013-6/2015		\$250,000				
Review of Island County Wetlands & Critical Areas Protection			X		A1.2, A1.3	D	D			I	I			Island County	Updates to Island County development code and comprehensive plan	Improved quality of marine and freshwater, improved level of protection for wetlands, simplified permit review process, reduced occurrence of development in floodplains other areas hazardous to human life and safety	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$250,000			
Planning for Climate Change on the North Olympic Peninsula			X		A1.2.STRT 1	D	D	D		I				North Olympic Peninsula Resource Conserv. & Develop. Council	Report on projected changes in climate and impacts of climate, stakeholder process, climate adaptation plan, public meetings	Climate impact and vulnerability info. used to inform planning, enhanced collaboration in watershed planning, alignment with 2020 Ecosystem Recovery Targets	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$152,078			
Tacoma Mall Regional Growth Center Sub-area Plan and EIS			X		A1.2	D	D							Tacoma	Public involvement implementation plan, existing conditions report, traffic analysis model, stormwater build-out model, retrofit facility recommendations, recommendations for in-lieu fee program, sub-area plan, SEPA review and environmental impact assessment	Meet or exceed 2040 Growth Allocations, increasing proportion of growth occurring in existing urbanized area; greenhouse gas reduction and reduction in pollution-generating commute trips; improvement of ecological integrity of watershed, decreased stormwater runoff, improved water quality	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$250,000			
Deschutes Watershed Land Use Analysis			X		A1.2	D	D							Thurston County	Current conditions report, updated wetlands map, alternative scenarios report, management recommendations report, code amendment language	Decreased sources of nutrient pollution, increased dissolved oxygen, improved habitat and conditions for salmonid by protecting and restoring riparian vegetation and channel conditions, increased public understanding.	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$247,573			

Appendix B. Summary Table of Six-Year Implementation Strategy from FFY2010 through FFY2015

Projects & Planned Grant Solicitations Organized by Major Activity Area	Funding Round				Action Agenda Strategies/ NTAs Supported	2020 Targets Supported <sup>1</sup>										Lead Entities Completing Work	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Estimated Timeframe	Budget Information			
	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
<b>Market-based Approaches to Conserve Ecologically Important Lands</b>																							
Skagit TDR Program	X				A3.1.2	D	D	I	I	I	I				Skagit County	Mapping of ecologically significant rural and resources lands; market feasibility analysis; recommendations for implementation of TDR program	Protection of ecologically significant areas, increased development densities in UGAs, reduced rate of expansion of UGAs to accommodate future growth	4/2012 - 12/2013	\$ 200,068				
King County Integrating Market-based Tools	X				A3.1.2	D	D	I	I	I	I				King County	Mapping of priority areas for floodplain protection and restoration; TDR interlocal agreement; mechanisms to meet mitigation obligations in floodplain/farmland areas	Provide market-based incentives for landowners to protect and restore priority agricultural and floodplain lands; enhanced stewardship; improved mitigation options	4/2012 - 12/2013	\$ 200,000				
Managing land use through TDRs, infill opportunity evaluation, urban center focus, and code revisions	X				A3.1.2	D	D	I	I	I	I				Snohomish County	Plan to improve land use decisions and concentrate growth in urban center through TDRs, update to codes, and other means	Improved land use decisions, increased incentives to concentrate urban growth, protection of rural/resource lands, reduced impacts to water quality and habitat	4/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 367,000				
Addressing Agricultural Land Conversion and Conquering Barriers to Direct Markets Through TDRs	X				A3.1.2	D	D	I	I	I	I				Thurston Conserv. District	Protection of farmland through land designation, conservation easements, and TDRs. Provides outreach and training to new and existing farmers.	Keep land in current use agriculture, protect sensitive habitats adjacent to agricultural lands	4/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 187,540				
Enhancing Water Quality and Agriculture in WRIA 1 Through TDRs in Priority Watersheds	X				A3.1.2	D	D	I	I	I	I				Whatcom County	Mitigation program that identifies candidate mitigation sites in priority watersheds. Provides market-based incentives for enrolling mitigation sites.	Improved mitigation policy framework established for agriculture. Improved habitat and water quality in Fishtrap Watershed	4/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 358,472				
Watershed Services Market Framework & Demonstration Projects	X				A3.1.3	D	D	I	I	I	D	I			WA Dept. of Natural Resources	Services market method developed and tested; watershed service transactions between byers and sellers in the pilot watersheds	Incentive program to land owners to implement management practices that result in benefits to habitat and water quality	4/2012 - 4/2013	\$ 146,700				
Upper Nisqually Ecosystem Service Incentives	X				A3.1.3	D	D	I	I	I	D	I			Nisqually Tribe	Services market method developed and tested; watershed service transactions in the Upper Nisqually Watershed	Land owners implement forest management practices that result in downstream benefits to habitat and water quality	4/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 170,000				
When Cows Meet Clams: Incentive-based Stewardship & Farm Product Marketing Training	X				A3.1.2	D	D			I					King Conserv. District	Outreach and training program for farmers to benefit from nature-tourism, stay in business, and improve land management	Protect resource lands and reduce impacts to streams, riparian areas, floodplains, and forests	4/2012 - 12/2013	\$ 153,402				
Urban Redevelopment and Watershed Protection through Land Conservation Program		X			A3.1.2	D	D	I	I	I	I				Tacoma	Report summarizing benefits the City would realize from Landscape Conservation and	Provides the City adequate information to decide on whether to pursue LCLIP. If	6/2013-6/2015		\$44,500			

Appendix B. Summary Table of Six-Year Implementation Strategy from FFY2010 through FFY2015

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	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
																Local Infrastructure Program (LCLIP); document with range of potential scenarios for LCLIP program; public review process that will inform City leaders on public attitudes	implemented, could protect 12,000 to 60,000 acres of resource lands in Pierce County. Would provide money for infrastructure improvements and redevelopment in the City which relieves pressure in rural areas.						
Implementation of Regional Program Promoting Urban Redevelopment and Watershed Protection		X			A3.1.2	D	D	I	I	I	I				Mountlake Terrace	Report summarizing benefits the City would realize from Landscape Conservation and Local Infrastructure Program (LCLIP); document with range of potential scenarios for LCLIP program; public review process that will inform City leaders on public attitudes	Provides the City adequate information to decide on whether to pursue LCLIP. If implemented, could protect 12,000 to 60,000 acres of resource lands in Pierce County. Would provide money for infrastructure improvements and redevelopment in the City which relieves pressure in rural areas.	6/2013-6/2015		\$37,500			
Implement Regional Program Promoting Urban Redevelopment and Watershed Protection			X		A3.1.2	D	D	I	I	I	I				Shoreline	Report summarizing benefits the City would realize from Landscape Conservation and Local Infrastructure Program (LCLIP); document with range of potential scenarios for LCLIP program; public review process that will inform City leaders on public attitudes	Provides the City adequate information to decide on whether to pursue LCLIP. If implemented, could protect 13,000 acres of resource lands. Would provide money for infrastructure improvements and redevelopment in the City which relieves pressure in rural areas.	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$42,060		
Implement Regional Program Promoting Urban Redevelopment and Watershed Protection			X		A3.1.2	D	D	I	I	I	I				Tukwila	Report summarizing benefits the City would realize from Landscape Conservation and Local Infrastructure Program (LCLIP); document with range of potential scenarios for LCLIP program; public review process that will inform City leaders on public attitudes	Provides the City adequate information to decide on whether to pursue LCLIP. If implemented, could protect 13,000 acres of resource lands. Would provide money for infrastructure improvements and redevelopment in the City which relieves pressure in rural areas.	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$42,060		
<b>C. Implement Watershed Protection &amp; Restoration Strategies</b>																			\$ 3,074,299	\$893,000	\$1,559,000	\$6,440,520	
<b>Resource Protection Through Watershed Planning</b>																							
Using Watershed Characterization to Prioritize Areas in Hood Canal Watersheds for Protection and Restoration	X				A2.2.HC 2	D	D	D	I	I	I				Hood Canal Coord. Council	In-lieu-fee program that will result in prioritized list of mitigation sites selected using watershed approach	Improved mitigation options that are appropriately scaled and focused on watershed process restoration; increased functional lift in wetlands & nearshore areas.	3/2012 - 6/2013	\$ 300,000				
Forestlands at Risk - Protecting Forest Habitats Through Improved Forest Management	X				A2.1.3	D	D		I	I	I				Kitsap County	Management plan for forested areas that integrates watershed approach and includes outreach to landowners to help in	Improved forest management; reduced impacts to streams, wetlands, and forest habitats; increased forest complexity and	5/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 270,000				

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	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
																implementing plan	habitat diversity						
Update Puget Sound Freshwater Riparian Habitat Guidance		X	X	X	A1.2, A4.1, A5.2	D	D	D	I	I	I	I			WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	Updated guidance for managing riparian habitat that incorporates best available science and includes buffer recommendations, new stream typing classifications and data sources, etc.	Best available science applied to riparian habitats; adoption of new recommendations in local plans and regulations; improved management decisions; increased landowner awareness of benefits of protecting riparian habitat	12/2012-12/2016		\$261,000	184,000	\$79,000	
<b>Freshwater, Floodplain and Riparian Protection &amp; Restoration</b>																							
Floodplains by Design - Prioritizing Areas and Developing Decision Support Tool for Floodplains, Phases 1 & 2	X			X	A5.1.1, A5.1.2, A5.2.1, A5.2.SNST7, A5.4.5, A6.1.2	D	D	D	I	I	I			The Nature Conserv.	Prioritized floodplain areas Soundwide; management decision support framework; approach for improving coordination among agencies; plan for meeting floodplain recovery target; 10-year plan for accelerating floodplain management; planning for dedicated permit review team; web-site for Floodplain Resilience Mapping Tool, communication materials	Improved floodplain management; improved coordination on land use decisions; coordinated floodplain investment program; focused reach-based floodplain restoration in priority areas, streamlined permitting processes for floodplain projects	Phase 1: 5/2012 - 12/2013 Phase 2: 7/2014 - 12/2016		\$ 500,000			\$500,000	
Farms, Fish and Floods Initiative - Restoring Floodplains and Protecting Farms in Skagit Delta	X				A5.2, A5.3.2	D	D	D	I	I	I			The Nature Conserv.	Coordinated and vetted plan for implementing restoration projects in Skagit Delta while protecting agricultural land base	Development and implementation of plan will remove barriers to restoring estuarine habitats while permanently protecting farmland	5/2012 - 12/2013		\$ 305,000				
Knickerbocker Reach Floodplain Reconnection on Thornton Creek - Phase 1, Design & Permitting	X				A5.4		D	D		D	D			Seattle	Permits and design for floodplain reconnection project along urban stream	Will ready project for construction. If built, would increase high flow refuge habitat for salmonids, improve water quality, and improve conditions for benthic insects	5/2012 - 4/2014		\$ 120,000				
Implementation of High Priority Salmon Projects on the Nooksack River	X				A2.2			D	D	I	I			Nooksack Tribe	Design and construction of engineered log jams on Nooksack River	Reduce active channel width, increase side-channel length, increase forested riparian habitat, improve salmon spawning habitat	5/2012 - 6/2014		\$ 500,000				
Improving Water Quality and Habitat through Riparian Restoration on the Middle Green River System	X				A2.2	I	D	D	I		D	D		King County	Plant, maintain, and monitor 5 acres of riparian habitat in Middle Green system	Increase riparian shading in high priority locations; improve water quality and riparian habitat	5/2012 - 12/2014		\$ 300,000				

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	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
Channel migration zone assessments, delineation methodology, factors affecting channel migration		X			A5.1.1, A5.2, A5.3.2	D	D	D	I	I						WA Dept. of Ecology	CMZ technical guidance/methods manual; improved planning level CMZ delineation method; ID of conditions affecting channel migration; ID of streams with potential to migrate	Provides critical information and tool for shoreline management planning, flood hazard reduction, and aquatic and terrestrial habitat protection and restoration	8/2012 - 12/2013		\$132,000		
Cedar River Stewardship-in-Action		X			A2.2, A6.1.SC3	I	D	D	I	D	D				Seattle	Restoration of at least 4,000 linear feet of riparian area; minimum of 10 acres of riparian area treated for knotweed invasion; landowner training on knotweed control; educational workshops	Reduction in invasive plant species cover; increase in native plant cover; increase in shading; water quality and riparian habitat improved	6/2013-6/2015		\$250,000			
Newaukum & Soos Creek Riparian Restoration		X			A2.2	I	D	D	I	D	D				King County	Over ½ mile of stream planted with native trees and shrubs; baseline monitoring for shade; landowner outreach	Reduction in invasive plant species cover; increase in native plant cover; increase in shading; water quality and riparian habitat improved	6/2013-6/2015		\$250,000			
Dickerson and Chico Creeks Floodplain Restoration			X		A2.2, A6.1										Kitsap County	Construction plans for fish-passage barrier culvert replacement & floodplain reconnection project; as-built report, public outreach materials, monitoring report.	Restore natural floodplain function and connectivity, improve fish passage, enhance in-stream habitat complexity, enhance riparian buffer, improve or maintain biotic integrity index.	6/2014-12/2016			\$350,000		
Skokomish Riparian and Floodplain Initiative			X		A2.2, A6.1.HC6										Mason Conserv. District	Installation of large woody structures, plant up to 144 acres of riparian buffer, maintain existing and new plantings, install livestock exclusion fencing, manage knotweed, develop and implement monitoring and reporting system.	Identify and better understand successes and challenges for riparian restoration projects, improve restoration site implementation and management, improve riparian habitat and stream water quality.	6/2014-12/2016			\$349,937		
Issaquah Creek Knotweed Control and Reforestation			X		A2.2, A6.1.SC3										Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust	Action plan for addressing knotweed, outreach to landowners, community workshops on knotweed and native planting, treat at least 20 acres of knotweed annually, plan and implement at least 7 riparian plantings, monitor	Reduction in knotweed cover and increase in native plant cover, improved riparian habitat and stream water quality.	6/2014-12/2016			\$172,000		
Ohop Phase III – Floodplain Restoration			X		A2.2, A6.1										Nisqually Land Trust	Construction of a 4.5 mile restoration project that re-meanders the stream channels, reconnects floodplain and restores 70 acres of riparian habitat. Monitoring is included.	Restore natural functioning conditions to channel and adjacent wetlands; reduce erosion, reduced sediment, nutrients and fecal coliform in stream; lower stream	6/2014-12/2016			\$250,542		

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	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
																temperatures, improved habitat for salmon and wildlife							
Healthy Soils for a Healthy French Creek			X		A2.2, A6.1										Snohomish Conserv. District	Implementation of improved BMPs in riparian areas, riparian areas restored by planting, community outreach and education	Reduced soil compaction, increased plan cover, restored riparian habitat, increased filtration of stormwater, lower stream temperatures, improved fish habitat	6/2014-12/2016			\$207,846		
Lower Skykomish River Restoration			X		A2.2, A6.1										Snohomish County	Restoration of shoreline side channel habitat, and riparian areas constructed; removal of shoreline armoring; invasive species survey over 65 miles of river, knotweed control of 20 acres, as-built plan.	Reduce inputs of sediment to spawning habitat, increase quality edge habitat for salmon rearing and flood refuge, improve riparian habitat, support natural recruitment of large woody debris	6/2014-12/2016			\$277,520		
Goldsborough Creek Off-Channel Reconnection Phase I/Pond C			X		A2.2, A6.1										Squaxin Island Tribe	Reconnect mainstem creek with off-channel habitat, control invasive plants, install spawning gravel and large woody debris; provide engineered design and as-built report	Increase fish rearing capacity, improve spawning habitat, reconnect offchannel habitat	6/2014-12/2016			\$266,000		
Grants to establish permanent riparian conservation easements and restore riparian buffer habitat			X		A2.2, A5.1, A5.4, A6.1	I	D	D	D	I	D	D			Local govts., Tribes, special purpose districts, NGOs, others	Grants may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buying riparian conservation easements</li> <li>Installing riparian restoration projects</li> </ul>	Improved water quality, improved habitat for aquatic and riparian communities; improved floodplain connectivity; improved salmonid productivity	6/2015 - 12/2017				\$5,861,520	
<b>Collect/Update Data to Improve Habitat Management</b>																							
Stream Habitat Modeling in WRIA 6	X				A1.2	I	D	D	I	I	I	I			Tulalip Tribes	Coastal salmon rearing stream model; updated stream typing maps for WRIA 6; coordination on incorporating results into CAO & SMP for Island Co.	Provides tool for improved protection and restoration of coastal streams/watersheds and improved understanding of how salmon utilize coastal streams	1/2012 - 8/2013	\$ 184,923				
Improving Stream Data to Protect Freshwater Ecosystem Processes	X				A1.2	I	D	D	I	I	I	I			Kitsap County	GIS model that accurately predicts location and extent of fish and non-fish stream reaches in county; adoption of improved maps for implementing land use decisions	Tool that can lead to improved land use decisions, protection of critical areas and restoration prioritization and planning; model for application in other areas of Puget Sound	5/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 369,176				
Combating Invasive Species in Puget Sound Watersheds, Phase 2 Baseline Survey	X				A2.2, B5.3.1	I	D	D							WA Invasive Species Council	Data collected and analyzed to evaluate invasive species status, impacts, pathways and long-term trends; database update made publicly available	Invasions of high priority species are tracked and controlled; potential new invasions prevented	5/2012 - 8/2014	\$ 225,200				

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	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
Watertyping to Improve Land use Management in the Snoqualmie Watershed			X		A1.2	I	D	D	I	I	I				Snoqualmie Tribe	GIS of groundtruthed stream locations and water type, report on modeling process, web-site, coordination to update affected counties' hydrology GIS	Improved planning and regulatory programs in affected counties, improved protection of streams, water quality, salmon habitat	6/2014-12/2016			\$250,000		
<b>D. Implement Stormwater Management Strategies</b>																			\$ 1,458,541	\$2,616,165	\$1,038,933	\$0	
<b>Low Impact Development (LID) Effectiveness/ Guidance</b>																							
Developing Water Quality Treatment Methods/ LID Research	X				C2.3.1				I	I	D	I			WA State University	Test results showing effectiveness of bioretention media and pervious pavement in treating stormwater; guidelines on implementing methods	Improved stormwater quality in three pilot locations and potential for application of methods sound-wide	4/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 480,584				
LID Operations & Maintenance Guidance/ Training	X				C2.2.1, C2.3.1, C2.5.1				I	I	D	I			WA Dept. of Ecology & Consultant	Guidance and training on maintenance and operation of LID BMPs	Improved management of LID BMPs resulting in reduced runoff quantities and improved water quality	5/2012 - 12/2013	\$ 120,000				
Add LID Module to Western Washington Hydrology Model	X		X		C2.2.1, C2.3.1				I	I	D	I			WA Dept. of Ecology & Consultant	Provide LID module to Western Washington Hydrology Model to enable modeling effects of rain gardens, pervious pavement, etc. Provide technical support for model use.	Accurate modeling of how LID BMPs affect stormwater runoff will lead to reduce runoff and improved water quality; reduced stream impacts	1/2012 - 6/2014	\$ 160,000		\$10,000		
<b>Stormwater Regulation Updates to Integrate LID Principles</b>																							
Arlington Code Updates and Stormwater Geo-spatial Characterization		X			A1.1.1, A1.2, C2.2	I	I			D	D	I			Arlington	Plan for amending stormwater-related sections of regulations; GIS map indicating potential/ preferred stormwater system type by location; stormwater system feasibility assessment; amendments to Land Use Code, Comprehensive Plan and other documents	Tool that provides more effective stormwater planning; stormwater system that reduces peak flow impacts and increases late summer base flow support leading to improved water quality and aquatic habitat; reduced impacts to surface and groundwater from new and redevelopment.	6/2013-6/2015		\$76,000			
LID Updates for County Surface Water Design Manual and Codes		X			A1.2, C2.2	I	I			D	D	I			King County	Revised surface water design manual that incorporates LID; revised development-related codes that make LID the preferred and commonly used approach to site development	Increased use of LID practices in new and re-development and in retrofit projects; improved water quality and flow conditions in rivers and streams; use of revised documents by cities in King County as well as County.	6/2013-6/2015		\$160,000			
Snohomish County Stormwater Regulation Revisions		X			A1.2, C2.1, C2.2	I	I			D	D	I			Snohomish County	Revised stormwater regulations that adopt LID principles and BMPs and require their implementation in future development projects	Reduced stormwater flow rates and total stormwater volumes discharged from developed sites; increased groundwater recharge; reduced pollution discharged;	6/2013-6/2015		\$250,000			

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	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Level.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
																reduced stream channel alteration; increased stream baseflow; improved water quality and aquatic and riparian habitat							
<b>Stormwater Management &amp; Retrofit Planning</b>																							
Regional Transportation Stormwater Retrofit Prioritization Strategy, Phase 1	X				C2.3.1				I	I	D	I	I	I	I	Puget Sound Regional Council	Background report and scoping documents for regional stormwater retrofit prioritization program	Approach for retrofit program focused on transportation projects in central Puget Sound	6/2011 - 6/2012	\$ 123,000			
Hood Canal Regional Stormwater Retrofit Plan	X				C2.3.HC4, C2.3.1				I	D	D	I	I	I	I	Hood Canal Coord. Council	Retrofit program resulting in criteria, prioritized project list, and public involvement to vet list	Will lead to funding of stormwater retrofit projects, resulting in improved water quality and decreased runoff quantities	5/2012 - 1/2014	\$ 250,000			
Mukilteo Regional Stormwater Master Plan	X				C2.3.1				I	D	D	I	I	I	I	Mukilteo	Stormwater management recommendations based on Watershed Characterization; will include LID, capital improvements, land use changes	Appropriate technologies applied to specific problem areas; changes to regulatory framework to support stormwater strategies; reduced runoff and improved water quality	4/2012 - 6/2013	\$ 75,000			
Swan Creek Basin Watershed Characterization and Action Plan		X			A1.1, C2.1, C2.2, C2.3, C2.4, C3.1				I	D	D	I	I	I	I	Pierce County	Watershed characterization and management plan; list of prioritized CIP projects; education, outreach and behavior change strategy; small farm BMP or LID projects; water quality and sediment monitoring strategy	Regional coordination on land use decisions in basin; implement behavior change program with public; small farm landowners improve practices and vegetate riparian areas	6/2013-6/2015		\$150,000		
Perrinville Creek Stormwater Flow Reduction Retrofit Study and Pre-design		X			C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	I	Edmonds	Flow monitoring data; soil investigation evaluation; calibrated model; prioritized list of potential flow modification projects; pre-design reports for high-priority projects	ID of projects will enable funding. Eventual implementation of retrofit projects will result in reduced peak flows and durations, reduced erosion and sedimentation, improved riparian habitat, increased base flows, improved water quality	6/2013-6/2014		\$188,772		
Evans Creek Tributary 108 Basin-wide Retrofit Siting		X			C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	I	King County	Map and spreadsheet of system of stormwater retrofits needed for basin & planning level project costs; minimum of 3 pre-design reports; report summarizing project and results and assessment of its applicability to other similar basins	ID of projects will enable funding. Eventual implementation of retrofit projects will result in improved BIBI scores, reduced erosion and sedimentation in stream channels, improved riparian habitat, improved water quality	6/2013-10/2014		\$250,000		

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	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
Miller-Walker Basin Stormwater Retrofit Planning		X			C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	I	King County	Retrofit feasibility analysis; public meeting to inform community and gather input; list of up to 30 retrofit projects; pre-design reports for up to 5 projects	Enable basin partners to make informed decisions on where and how to target retrofit projects. Eventual implementation of retrofit projects will result in improved stream flow, water quality and aquatic habitat both in King County and partner cities	6/2013-10/2014		\$235,000		
Totem Lake/Juanita Creek Basin Stormwater Retrofit Conceptual Design		X			C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	I	Kirkland	Map of gap analysis for stormwater treatment; ID of potential retrofit opportunities; conceptual designs and cost estimates for capital improvement retrofit projects; project summaries for non-capital retrofit projects; ID of retrofit projects for specific basins and implementation plan	Feasibility of ECY08 flow control standard is tested; implementable stormwater retrofit plan; eventual implementation of retrofit projects will result in improved water quality, stream flow, and aquatic habitat conditions	6/2013-10/2014		\$250,000		
Kitsap County Green Streets Plan		X			C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	I	Kitsap County	Kitsap Green Streets Plan; evaluation of 50 potential projects; selecting of 20 project sites; three projects with 30% design drawings completed	Demonstration of approach to ID retrofit projects; improved stormwater capital planning; improved BIBI scores and stream flows; improved water quality	6/2013-5/2014		\$250,000		
Mukilteo Watershed-based Stormwater Retrofit Plan and Pre-design		X			C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	I	Mukilteo	Collaborative process to ID objectives and goals; GIS database on stormwater facilities; method for IDing potential locations for LID and stormwater CIP implementation; list of priority retrofit project; five pre-design reports; hydrogeology report	Improved regional collaboration to address impaired basins; improved data/mapping to support Stormwater Comprehensive Plan update; improved stormwater capital planning and eligibility for construction funding; eventual construction of facilities and effective use of LID; increased public awareness of stormwater issues.	6/2013-10/2014		\$250,000		
Redmond Watershed Management Plan Implementation: Tosh Creek Pre-design		X			C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	I	Redmond	ID and locate retrofit projects in Tosh Creek Basin; pre-design of retrofit projects; mapping of watershed areas; geomorphology assessment; flow monitoring program and report; BIBI monitoring report	Develop model approach for assessing watershed and selecting retrofit projects; eventual construction of restoration projects will allow for measuring effectiveness of flow control projects and effects on BIBI scores as well as improved flows, water quality and aquatic and riparian habitat	6/2013-5/2014		\$250,000		
Woodard Creek Basin Stormwater Retrofit Study		X			C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	I	Thurston County	Public outreach effort; identification of stormwater retrofit sites; evaluated retrofit	Demonstration of use of watershed characterization in stormwater retrofit planning;	6/2013-9/2014		\$76,924	\$145,423	

Appendix B. Summary Table of Six-Year Implementation Strategy from FFY2010 through FFY2015

Projects & Planned Grant Solicitations Organized by Major Activity Area	Funding Round				Action Agenda Strategies/ NTAs Supported	2020 Targets Supported <sup>1</sup>										Lead Entities Completing Work	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Estimated Timeframe	Budget Information			
	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)
																sites through field investigation and feasibility analysis; five pre-design reports; guidance manual for developing retrofit plans; modeling report	approach shared with other jurisdictions; enhanced community participation and awareness; set of projects teed up for future funding opportunities; incorporation of pre-design projects into capital facilities plan						
Birch Bay Priority Stormwater Retrofit Projects Pre-design		X			C2.1.WH11, C2.3.1, C2.3.WH13	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	I	Whatcom County	Stormwater retrofit preliminary solutions report; four retrofit pre-design project reports; public meetings	Set of projects teed up for future funding opportunities; eventual construction of retrofit projects will improve water quality in runoff entering Birch Bay and the Strait of Georgia	6/2013-10/2014		\$94,000		
Identify and map B-IBI Excellent and Fair streams and develop strategies to protect and restore them			X		C2.1.2, C2.3.2	I	I		D	I	D	D	I		King County	Geospatial analysis of B-IBI streams, development of restoration decision framework and strategies for protecting & restoring, ID of restoration sites; tool for measuring status of Insects in Small Streams Target	Suite of strategies that lead to improved stormwater and floodplain management and other land use decisions; targeted restoration of streams and floodplains including buffer planting, stream channel improvements, other measures.	8/2012 - 12/2013		\$135,469			
Spring Street Stormwater Retrofit Design			X		C2.1, C2.2.SJ15, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	Friday Harbor	Pre-design report, final design and construction bid package	Improved quality of stormwater discharging to Friday Harbor.	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$66,879		
Road Runoff Water Quality Hot Spot Identification and Prioritization System			X		C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	King County	Methods and rationale used for Little Soos Creek subbasin to develop road-water quality associations, hot spot rationale and priority list with specific retrofit options for each hot spot.	Testing of process will be eventually be expanded to remainder of unincorporated King County. Systematic selection and implementation of retrofit priorities; improved water quality and flows.	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$249,965		
Monticello Creek Watershed Wide Retrofit Siting			X		C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	Redmond	Data collection summary, schematic system design, modeled system design showing location of all retrofits needed, public involvement plan, pre-design reports	This project will provide the plan and pre-designs. Once implemented, the City expects a reduction in erosion and sedimentation in stream channel, improved water quality and biological integrity.	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$250,000		
Ebey's Prairie Watershed Stormwater Pre-design			X		C2.1, C2.3.1	D	D		I	D	D	D	I	I	Whidbey Island Conserv. District	Flow data report, literature review, outreach to landowners, maintenance cost estimates, report on process for selecting stormwater treatment options and pre-design plans for treatment facilities on 4 or more sites.	Increased public awareness about water quality issues in the watershed and, following future construction of treatment facilities, reduced pollutant transport and stormwater volumes and rates; improved water quality at watershed outfall.	6/2014 – 12/2016			\$53,385		

Appendix B. Summary Table of Six-Year Implementation Strategy from FFY2010 through FFY2015

Projects & Planned Grant Solicitations Organized by Major Activity Area	Funding Round				Action Agenda Strategies/ NTAs Supported	2020 Targets Supported <sup>1</sup>										Lead Entities Completing Work	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Estimated Timeframe	Budget Information																	
	1 & 2	3	4	5 & 6		Land Devel.	Land Cover	Floodplains	Wild Chinook Salmon	Stream Flows	Fresh Water Quality	Insects in Streams	Swimming Beaches	Toxics in Fish	Marine Sediment					Round 1/2 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 3 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 4 Funding (Previous Grant)	Round 5/6 Funding (New Grant)														
<b>Stormwater Remediation</b>																																					
Penn Cove Watershed Stormwater Remediation	X				C2.3.1				I						I	I	I	Coupeville	Design, installation and testing of stormwater bioremediation facility	Reduced pollutant discharge to Penn Cove, reduced shellfish closures; lessons for application of technology in other areas of Puget Sound	5/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 124,958															
Ebey's Prairie Stormwater Remediation	X				C2.3.1				I						I	I	I	Whidbey Conserv. District	Contaminant source assessment for watershed, outreach to landowners on improving stormwater BMPS, evaluation of need for new bioremediation facility	Improved land management will lead to decreased discharge of pollutants to Admiralty Inlet; lessons for application of approach to other areas of Puget Sound	5/2012 - 12/2014	\$ 124,999															
<b>E. Project Management &amp; Communication</b>																																					
Project Management - Ecology	X	X	X	X														Ecology	Manage program, plan investments, manage subawards, contribute to Action Agenda update, coordinate with related groups – <b>budgeted out to June 2019</b>	Funds are used efficiently and investments contribute to Puget Sound recovery	Ongoing	\$ 542,238	\$373,000	\$281,096	\$1,127,000												
Project Management - Commerce	X	X	X	X														Commerce			Ongoing	\$ 167,521	\$86,569	\$86,569	\$370,000												
<b>TOTALS</b>																						<b>\$ 8,676,027</b>	<b>\$5,488,612</b>	<b>\$4,497,598</b>	<b>\$10,749,662</b>												