

## Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership Early Implementation Work Group Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 9:00 am – 10 AM

**Location:** Virtual (Zoom)

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

**Facilitators:** Suzanne de Szoeki (GSI Water Solutions, Inc.)

**Participants:**

Evan Hayduk — MidCoast Watersheds Council

Tyler Clouse – Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Mark Rivers — Weyerhaeuser

Betsy Earls — Weyerhaeuser

Steve Parrett — Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Caylin Barter – Wild Salmon Center

Paul Engelmeyer — MidCoast Watersheds Council

Suzanne de Szoeki – GSI

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<p><b><u>Questions/Comments To Address</u></b></p> <p>None</p>	<p><b><u>Decisions</u></b></p> <p>None</p>
<p><b><u>GSI Action Items</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share a list of potential criteria for identifying projects for the 2025 Water Package solicitation</li> <li>• Contact Harmony Burrignt (Joint Water Caucus) with 2025 Water Package questions, such as the level of detail needed about projects</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Partnership Action Items</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share draft bundle work plans with the Early Implementation Work Group by November 22 for feedback <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Goal: To provide GSI with final bundle work plans by end of November/the first week of December for inclusion in the Early Implementation Work Plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Update the status of Bundle Workgroups in this Google doc as needed: <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/14jPOyxxS3A_Ecdd_tdK-eJsr9aC4x3JWd_a535ROT-Y/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/14jPOyxxS3A_Ecdd_tdK-eJsr9aC4x3JWd_a535ROT-Y/edit?usp=sharing</a></li> <li>• Add projects that you would like considered for inclusion in the 2025 Water Package Project Solicitation in this Google doc: <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1trf8mVSI0i_AcbTqtBJ16NwNvjBfh4TaqbsBxsAASIo/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1trf8mVSI0i_AcbTqtBJ16NwNvjBfh4TaqbsBxsAASIo/edit?usp=sharing</a></li> <li>• Review the list of potential projects from the Smartsheet Project List that could fall under the different investment areas in the 2025 Water Package (Intended to provide ideas)</li> <li>• Add projects to the Smartsheet Project List as needed</li> <li>• Review potential criteria for selecting 2025 Water Package projects and provide any feedback to GSI</li> </ul>

**Next Work Group meeting: December 10 at 9 am**

- The Work Group had no comments on the September 10 meeting notes
- The Work Group discussed progress developing bundle work plans
  - Evan said that he is working on work plans for Bundles 5 (Protect Critical Lands) and 6 (Ecological Restoration) and is aiming to share them with the Early Implementation Work Group next week; The gaps to address in both work plans are clearly funding and capacity

- Paul encouraged incorporating statements about natural climate solutions in Bundle 6, such as discussing beaver and natural storage; Evan agreed that discussing natural climate solutions would be a good fit for the bundle
- Tyler said that he is working on the Bundle 2 (Water Quality) work plan and it should be ready to share next week; he has not started the Bundle 4 (Monitoring) work plan but thinks he can have it ready to share soon
- Tyler said that Laura has been doing a lot of work on the Bundle 3 (Source Water Protection) work plan and it should be ready soon
- Steve said that he is working on the Bundle 9 (Water reuse) work plan and that it will be ready to share next week; this work plan will largely follow recommendations in the Legislative Report on Water Reuse required by HB 210
- Caylin suggested that the Mid-Coast Water Conservation Consortium (Mid-Coast Water) develop work plans for Bundles 1 (Water Conservation) and 8 (Meters); Suzanne said that she could discuss this with Mid-Coast Water members at their meeting on Thursday
- Suzanne mentioned that Action 59--spatial analysis to prioritize restoration projects remains to be addressed in the future; Caylin suggested that it could fall under Bundle 6 and stated that resources were needed for the analysis
- The Work Group discussed the schedule for the bundle work plans: share bundle work plans next week (by November 22), integrate feedback as needed and provide GSI with bundle work plans ready for inclusion in the Early Implementation Work Plan by the end of November [Note: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday at the end of November, providing bundle work plans to GSI the first week of December will be fine if needed.]
- Suzanne reviewed the letter from Representatives Helm and Owens soliciting the Partnership to identify one project in six different investment areas to champion in the 2025 Water Package for the next legislative session; Suzanne shared the Google documents for entering projects to consider for inclusion in the 2025 Water Package Project solicitation, and also shared a spreadsheet identifying projects from the Smartsheet Project List that fall under the different investment areas
- Caylin explained that the revenue forecast is poor for the upcoming legislative session and that natural resources is not among the top three priorities, so she is tempering expectations
- Paul stated that natural climate solutions should be included in the list and discussed
- Evan stated that his impression was that the project should be a high impact and short-term and that funding for capacity is key; funding is needed to keep the Partnership moving forward
- Tyler agreed that capacity is critical; he suggested lumping monitoring efforts into one project to propose in the category for data, monitoring, or analysis
- Steve suggested finding projects that align with themes in the Water Package Outline and the Integrated Water Resources Strategy to potentially improve their chances of getting funded; he thought that they may like something at a regional scale, like a Mid-Coast Water water conservation project; Suzanne said that she could make a table showing the themes of both to help with seeing if projects align with themes
- Steve also suggested putting additional projects in an appendix in case the legislature finds some of the alternative projects of more interest to fund and recommended reaching out to Harmony Burrig of the Joint Water Caucus to inquire about the length of the project descriptions per investment area