



Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance

Regular Meeting Agenda

Date of Meeting: November 25 2021 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: Zoom Web Conferencing

Acronyms:

CEWG - SSIWPA Conservation and Efficiency Working Group

CRD - Capital Regional District

FLNR - Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

GW – Groundwater

NSSWD - North Salt Spring Waterworks District

SSIWPA - Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance

TWG - SSIWPA Technical Working Group

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. MINUTES

3.1 Draft minutes of the September 28, 2021 Meeting of the SSIWPA Steering Committee – Attached for approval pp. 3 - 8

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Chair's Report

4.2 Informal Member Updates (< 1 minute)

4.3 SSIWPA Actions and Decisions; Coordinator's Reports

4.3.1 Action Log p. 9 - 10

4.3.2 Actions Completed Log p. 11 - 12

4.3.3 SSIWPA Coordinator Reports - September, October 2021 – pp. 13 - 16

- 4.4 Technical Working Group Report and Recommendations – TWG Chair Millson
 - 4.4.1 FOR DECISION: Memo from Trust Planning Staff re: Rainwater for secondary suites request for Technical Working Group recommendation – pp. 17-18
- 4.5 Workplan 2021-22:
 - 4.5.1 Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan (Planner Youmans) – verbal update
 - 4.5.2 Rainwater Education Communications (Coordinator) – pp. 19 - 23
- 4.6 Salt Spring Island Water Systems Group Meetings (Member McCormick) – verbal update
- 4.7 FOR DECISION: SSIWPA Draft Workplan 2022 - 2023 – p. 24
- 4.8 FOR DECISION: SSIWPA Draft Budget 2022 - 2023 – p. 25
 - 4.8.1 FOR DISCUSSION: Communications and Events Draft 2022 - 2023 – p. 26
- 4.9 Correspondence
 - 4.9.1 FOR INFORMATION: AlgaeWatch reply from Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy staff 2021-11-04 – pp. 27 - 28

AlgaeWatch Submission Instructions available at:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/water-quality/algae-watch/submit-your-algae-bloom-observation>

 - 4.9.2 FOR REPLY: Algal Bloom Notification Project Correspondence from a Member of the public Received 2021-09-29 – p. 29
 - 4.9.3 FOR INFORMATION: Climate Change Adaptation for Watershed Resilience and Fire Resistance project coordinated by Transition Salt Spring – p. 30

5. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Friday January 28, 2022 10:00 – 12:00

Friday April 29, 2022 10:00 – 12:00

Friday June 24, 2022 10:00 – 12:00

Friday September 23, 2022 10:00 – 12:00

Friday November 25, 2022 10:00 – 12:00

6. Adjournment (extra page removed)



Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance

Regular Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, September 28, 2021

Location: Electronic Meeting

Members Present: Laura Patrick, Chair, Islands Trust Trustee
 Gary Holman, Vice Chair, Capital Regional District (CRD) SSI Electoral Area Director
 Sylvia Barroso, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR)
 Alan Martin, Fulford Water Service Area Commission
 Mike McCormick, Beddis Water Service Area Commission
 Tim Slaney, Scott Point Waterworks District
 Margaret Thomson, Salt Spring Island Agricultural Alliance
 Sandra Ungerson, North Salt Spring Waterworks District Trustee

Member Regrets: Dale Green, Capital Regional District, Senior Environmental Science Officer, Environmental Protection
 Jason Griffin, Cedar Lane Water Service Area Commission

Members At-large Present: Gayle Baker, Transition Salt Spring Society
 Doreen Hewitt, Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee
 Ian Peace, Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society

Members At-large Regrets: Rhonan Heitzmann, Salt Spring Water Company
 Pierre Mineau, Salt Spring Island Conservancy

Technical Working Group Liaison Present: John Millson, Technical Working Group Chair

Staff Present: Jason Youmans, Island Planner
 Sarah Shugar, Recorder

Staff Regrets: Shannon Cowan, Coordinator
 William Shulba, Senior Freshwater Specialist

Others Present: One member of the public

These minutes follow the order of the agenda although the sequence may have varied.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Patrick called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. and acknowledged the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance is meeting in Coast Salish First Nations treaty and traditional territory. Chair Patrick acknowledged the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, 2021. Introductions were carried out.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent, the agenda was approved.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Draft minutes of the June 22, 2021 Regular Meeting of the SSIWPA Steering Committee

By general consent, the minutes of the June 22, 2021 Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance Regular meeting were adopted.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Chair's Report

Chair Patrick reported Trust Council has approved phase three of a public engagement plan for the Trust Policy Statement update.

4.2 Coordinator's Reports

4.2.1 SSIWPA Coordination June, July and August 2021

The SSIWPA Coordination reports dated June, July and August 2021 were presented.

4.3 Action and Decision Logs

The SSIWPA Action and Decision Log dated September 13, 2021 was presented.

4.4 Technical Working Group Report and Recommendations

Technical Working Group (TWG) Chair Millson presented the following report:

- The TWG is working with Freshwater Specialist Shulba on the integration of SSI Watershed Ecosystem Resilience Mapping and Salt Spring Island Groundwater Recharge Maps.
- The TWG has been working on the Key Messages for Rainwater System Public Education and the messaging pages are available on the SSIWPA website.
- The TWG has been working on Groundwater Public Education product materials and has produced a brochure entitled "Know Your Freshwater Source".
- The TWG is reviewing a draft bylaw regarding Proof of Water at Time of Subdivision at the request of the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee. The TWG is expected to complete the review at their November 2021 meeting.
- The following comment was recorded from the chat section of the meeting: "Grateful to the TWG for their bylaw review!"

4.5 Workplan 2021-22

4.5.1 Water System Data Survey 2020 - For Approval – Report - weblink: <https://www.ssiwpa.org/ssiwpa-water-system-survey-report/>

Received.

4.5.2 For Info: Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan - Request for Proposals and Cover Memo (IT)

Planner Youmans presented a memorandum dated September 14, 2021 regarding a Request for Proposals (RFP) recently issued by the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee for a consultant to lead the development of a Salt Spring Island Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan.

In discussion the following comments and questions were noted:

- There was a question regarding how does the Salt Spring Island Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan fit within the Islands Trust Freshwater Strategic Planning project that is in process.
- There was a question regarding whether there is a stakeholder group that is specific to septic and wastewater systems.
- There was a comment that the Cowichan Valley Regional District Liquid Waste Management Plan includes septic systems and could be a good resource for the project.
- There was a comment that the CRD Liquid Waste Management Commission has not been involved in SSIWPA.
- The following comments were recorded from the chat section of the meeting: “Jason, it appears that several agencies seem to have different potable water supply requirements on SSI. Is that your view, and if so would there be value in trying to harmonize these requirements?” and “Gayle there is some SSIWPA history on septic field investigations “Proof of Concept of Soil P Movement from Septic Field Effluent through a Soil Sampling Approach” this is not currently in the SSIWPA Technical Library so might be worth a follow-up with Shannon. On other SSIWPA Technical reporting re septic there is some background reading here: <https://www.ssiwpa.org/ssiwpa-library/>”.

Member Peace presented a memo from the Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society (WPS) dated September 28, 2021 regarding Southern Gulf Islands Groundwater Sustainability Strategy. It was noted the WPS is making field data from the SSI Fresh Water Catalogue (FWC) for incorporation into ground water solutions, consultant hydrogeologists and ground water studies on Salt Spring Island.

4.5.3 Workplan Coordination Update – Memo

A memorandum dated September 9, 2021 regarding a Workplan update for October 2021 to March 2022 was presented.

4.5.3.1 For Decision: Distribution of Water System Data Survey 2020 Point-in-time Report

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance Steering Committee agree to amend the Water System Data Survey 2020 report as follows:

- Add a footnote to tables 1, 5 and 6 such as “aggregate number of costs per household reflects economies of scale”;
- Fix the formatting of the table headings so they appear on the same page as the tables.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance Steering Committee agree to distribute the point-in-time Water System Survey 2020 report to all water purveyors on Salt Spring Island and to the SSIWPA website.

4.5.3.2 For Decision: Coordination of “Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan” phase 1 and 2 as workplan priority

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance Steering Committee direct its coordinator to prioritize the “Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan” among other workplan coordination tasks during phase 1 (2021-10 through 2022-01) and phase 2 (2022-03 through 2022-09), if applicable.

4.5.3.3 For Decision: Special meetings proposal for SSIWPA Steering Committee membership during Phase 1 “Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan” (item 5.2)

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance Steering Committee agree to participate in at least two special meetings during the period, as requested by “Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan” project consultant, called by SSIWPA Chair and coordinated by the coordinator.

4.5.4 Algal Bloom Notification Project Report – Memo

A Coordinated Project Brief dated September 9, 2021 regarding public notification of potential for cyanobacteria toxins in two drinking water lakes on Salt Spring Island - “Bloom Notification Alert System” was presented. The project aims to explore the potential for development of a public cyanotoxin hazard notification process for residents using water from St. Mary Lake and Cusheon Lake as a drinking water source aside from the water systems. It was noted the TWG has not discussed next steps at this time and the Algal Bloom Notification project is in progress.

A member advised there is a notice posted on the CRD website regarding a blue-green algae bloom at Prior Lake in Thetis Lake Regional Park. There was a question regarding why the CRD posts algal bloom advisory notices for lakes such as Prior Lake and does not post notices for lakes on Salt Spring Island such as Cusheon Lake and St. Mary Lake. Vice Chair Holman advised he would support an algal bloom notification protocol.

4.6 Notes of a Meeting of Salt Spring Island Water Systems Representatives held Monday August 23, 2021 – attached for information

The meeting notes were presented. In discussion the following comments and questions were noted:

- There was a question regarding the Terms of Reference for the group and it was noted Salt Spring Island water systems were asked to provide input on a draft Terms of Reference for a Water Systems Working Group.
- There was a suggestion for the Water Systems Working Group to be independent of SSIWPA and not solely be advisory to SSIWPA.
- There was comment that North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) applied to FLNRO to draw St. Mary Lake water levels below the licence limit. Member Barroso advised the NSSWD request is in process.
- Member Ungerson reported there was a meeting with water licence holders on St. Mary Lake and there will be another meeting in Spring 2022.
- There was a question regarding why NSSWD is the only water licence holder on St. Mary Lake that has a strict cap on water withdrawals.

Action: Members Barroso and Ungerson will look into why North Salt Spring Waterworks District is the only water licence holder on St. Mary Lake that has a water elevation requirement and would report back at a future meeting.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance Steering Committee agreed to invite a water licence authorizations specialist to a future meeting.

4.7 Workplan 2022-23 – Draft for Discussion

A draft SSIWPA Workplan 2022-23 was presented.

There was a question regarding why the Proof of Water at Time of Subdivision item is not included in the draft SSIWPA Workplan 2022-23. Planner Youmans reported it is anticipated that the Proof of Water at Time of Subdivision project referral would be complete by December 31, 2021.

In discussion the following comments and questions were noted:

- There was a question regarding whether agencies have different proof of water requirements. Planner Youmans reported agencies have different water volume requirements for their own regulatory purposes and those volume requirements reflect different agency mandates for the provision of water for housing.

- There was a suggestion that proof of water harmonization is important to ensure that applicants such as the Vortex application in Fulford Harbour are working with the same criteria as other projects.
- Support was expressed for proof of water harmonization to be considered as part of a Strategic Review of Salt Spring Island.
- The following comment was recorded from the chat section of the meeting: “Housing TF is not discussing proof of water harmonization.”

4.8 SSIWPA Budget 2022-23 – Draft for Discussion

A draft SSIWPA Budget 2022-23 dated September 13, 2021 was presented.

4.9 Correspondence

4.9.1 For Decision: 2021-07-05 Climate-Action-Monthly-Calls

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance Steering Committee agreed to continue to be supportive of the work of the Transition Salt Spring Society.

The correspondence item was received.

4.9.2 For Info: 2021-07-02 Ecosystem Resilience Mapping

The correspondence item was received.

4.9.3 For Info: 2021-08-21 Blackburn Lake Pollution From Member Hewitt

The correspondence item was received.

5. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, November 25, 2021, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 27, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 28, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Laura Patrick, Chair

Sarah Shugar, Recorder



Action and Decision Log

Dated: November 15, 2021

Item	Action or Decision	Who	Status
2021-14	Direct coordinator to prioritize the "Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan" among other workplan coordination tasks during phase 1 (2021-10 through 2022-01) and phase 2 (2022-03 through 2022-09), if applicable.	SSIWPA	In progress
2021-15 Action	Look into why North Salt Spring Waterworks District is the only water licence holder on St. Mary Lake that has a water elevation requirement and would report back at a future meeting.	Member Barroso Member Ungerson	In progress
2021-16	Participate in at least two special meetings during the period, as requested by "Watershed Stewardship and Protection Plan" project consultant, called by SSIWPA Chair and coordinated by the coordinator.	SSIWPA	In progress
2021-17	Invite a water authorizations specialist to a future meeting	SSIWPA	Not started
2021-18	Continue to support the work of the Transition Salt Spring Society	SSIWPA	<i>Ongoing Decision</i>
2021-08	Technical Working Group to provide advice and technical assistance in review of the script for one or more Salt Spring Island watershed stewardship videos in accordance with the attached Scope of Work Memorandum dated June 9, 2021.	TWG	In Progress
2020-16	Technical Working Group to complete a peer review of the upcoming technical report prepared for the SS-LTC regarding the Groundwater Preservation Project	SSIWPA TWG	<i>Postponed - report expected end 2021</i>
2020-12	Provide administrative and coordination support to ongoing Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC)-led well and lake monitoring initiatives	Coordinator	Ongoing Decision
2020-08	Direct TWG to review Fault Zone Hydrogeological Project in Fulford Harbour	n/a	Ongoing Decision
2020-06	Direct the Technical Working Group to review	n/a	Ongoing

	Freshwater Catalogue at its quarterly meetings		Decision
2020-01	Further investigation needed re: best approach for island-wide water availability and sustainability	n/a	Ongoing Decision
RESOLUTION 2019-06	Work with Islands Trust staff to develop a strategy to engage and invite First Nations to participate in SSIWPA	Coordinator	<i>Postponed</i>
2019-07-05 5.1	Write a public education letter - impacts of illegal bulk water draws from lakes; impacts of tampering with beaver dams; refer Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) toll free tip line.	Chair Patrick	<i>Postponed</i>
2018-07-20 4.8	Committee Members will review the minutes of the Strategic Planning Meeting (June 12, 2018) at a future meeting.	ALL-unassigned	<i>Postponed</i>
2018-02-23 4.5	Revisit the TWG CRS proposal following receipt of the Golder Groundwater Budget Report.	Steering Committee	<i>Postponed</i>



Resolutions & Actions Completed

Updated: November 15, 2021

Item	Action or Decision	Who	Status
2021-12	Amend the Water System Data Survey 2020 report as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a footnote to tables 1, 5 and 6 such as “aggregate number of costs per household reflects economies of scale”; • Fix the formatting of the table headings so they appear on the same page as the tables. 	Coordinator	Completed
2021-13	Distribute the point-in-time Water System Survey 2020 report to all water purveyors on Salt Spring Island and to the SSIWPA website.	Coordinator	Completed
Agreed 2021-06	Technical Working Group to assist in the development of appropriate education materials for the key messages in the Scope of Work Memorandum dated June 9, 2021.	TWG	Completed
Agreed 2021-11	Remove the Professional Design Guide for Rainwater Systems for Potable Use (CRD) from the Workplan 2021-22.	SSIWPA	COMPLETED
Agreed 2021-10	SSIWPA to receive the Water System Data Survey Report for information and recommend that the report be reviewed at the first meeting of the Water Systems Working Group.	Coordinator, SSIWPA	COMPLETED
Agreed 2021-09	To coordinate an inaugural meeting of water purveyors regarding the Terms of Reference for a Water Systems Working Group. Mandate to be clarified by the group.	Coordinator	COMPLETED
Agreed 2021-07	SSIWPA agreed to write a letter to the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee to support the integration of Salt Spring Island Watershed Ecosystem Resilience Mapping based on calculation of the “precipitation interception potential” into updated Salt Spring Island Groundwater Recharge Maps, and with the work of Dr. Tara Martin on Salt Spring Island forests and climate resiliency.	Chair and Coordinator	COMPLETED
Agreed 2021-05	Coordinator will contact Member At-Large applicant to state that positions are currently filled; she will	Coordinator	COMPLETED

	add the appropriate email address to meeting notification list (observer).		
Agreed 2021-04	Add Water District Communications to the next meeting agenda (June).	Chair	COMPLETED
Action 2021-03	G. Holman - is there a need to coordinate a Professional Guide for Rainwater Catchment Systems for Potable Use (Domestic) (re: CRD) and report back.	Director Holman, CRD and Coordinator	Removed by agreement #2021-11
Action 2021-01	Coordinator Cowan will update the Water System Data Survey; circulate a revised draft at SSIWPA; look into whether the report could be shared with agencies for their own use.	Coordinator	COMPLETED June 4

Action 2021-02	Coordinator Cowan will forward the SSIWPA Rainwater Sub Committee recommendations to Transition Salt Spring.	Coordinator	<i>Completed</i>
AGREED 2020-26	Approved Draft Annual Report 2019-20 In Principle.	SSIWPA	<i>Completed Decision</i>
AGREED 2020-24	Refer the Watershed Ecosystems Resilience Mapping to the Technical Working Group and the Ecological Research Network.	SSIWPA	<i>Completed Decision</i>
AGREED 2020-25	Amend the Terms of Reference for the SSIWPA Steering Committee to change the statement "Meeting quorum of the steering committee current membership is considered 50% of the whole membership plus Chair or Vice-Chair" to "Meeting quorum of the steering committee current membership is considered 50% of the voting membership plus Chair or Vice-Chair".	Coordinator	<i>Completed Decision</i>
AGREED 2020-23	Approved SSIWPA Workplan 2021-22 presented 2021-01-21 as draft.	SSIWPA	<i>Completed Decision</i>
AGREED 2020-22 Meeting 2021-01-21	Amend the Blackburn Legacy Landfill Pollution Assessment Scope of Work to include "coordinate who is responsible to assess if there is contamination related to the Blackburn Legacy Landfill."	SSIWPA Coord	<i>Completed</i>
AGREED 2020-21	Technical Working Group to collaborate with Islands Trust staff in the development of land use bylaw amendments to ensure sustainability of groundwater resources when lands are subdivided.	SSIWPA TWG	<i>Completed at TWG Decision</i>
AGREED 2020-13	Liaise with all water systems (public and private) regarding any changes to their data collection parameters since the 2017 Golder Associates Groundwater Budget report, and regarding water system rate structures.	Coordinator	<i>Completed Draft to Steering April 2021 Decision</i>

SSIWPA Coordinator's Report - Page 1 of 2 For the period Sept 1 - 30, 2021	
Administrative Task Area	
1. Organize Steering Committee Meetings:	Liaise with IT staff regarding meeting method with Chair running Zoom; organized zoom link and distribution of meeting materials to members and the public
2. Manage SSIWPA membership lists and coordinate process to fill vacancies:	none this period
3. Records Management:	Created, distributed adopted minutes TWG Aug 26th
4. SSIWPA Website:	Administered live releases of four news/rain education posts this month. Administered events page, reports pages and updated uploads of adopted minutes and agendas.
5. Mail-outs and public outreach:	Coordinated printing of new brochures, materials pick up and drop off for Fall Fair booths
6. Public inquiries and correspondence:	Managed new subscribers to web newsletters
8. Reporting:	Report distribution - LTC report and SSIWPA work product reports and workplan memo.
9. Action List and Decision Log	Updated action list for steering and log of resolutions at SSIWPA during period; reported to Steering
10a. Administration of Working Groups	Coordinated TWG correspondence between meetings regarding minutes, actions, education materials content and review content for Proof of Water at time of Subdivision project

SSIWPA Coordinator's Report - Page 2 of 2 For the period Sept 1 - 30, 2021	
Coordination Task Area	
C) Financial Reporting and Budgeting:	
Prepared workplan and budget drafts for next fiscal as memos to Steering committee Tracking communications expenses this fiscal to inform planning for next fiscal	
D) Coordination and Facilitation:	
1. Facilitate SSIWPA Regular Meetings	Call for items email composed and sent - Sept agenda Drafted SSIWPA September Agenda cover - sent to Chair Compiled all agenda content and coordinated Quorum RSVP, meeting instructions Distribution of agenda package and Water System Survey report to all committees and public Promoted quarterly meeting on SSIWPA website events page, coordinated with members of public and committees planning to attend
2. Inter-agency Correspondence	Proof of water bylaw coordination of input by TWG (Sept 8) Strategic Plan project input - IT Staff Agenda item correspondence - memos and content versions Phone meetings with Planners, Chair, Vice Chair and with TSS and WPS regarding projects
3 a Coordinated SSIWPA workplan projects: Groundwater Education	Coordinated correspondence about content for second deliverable among TWG members Coordinated drop off of pamphlets Sent notes for second education deliverable to TWG member
3b Coordinated SSIWPA work programs: Workplan and Budget	Developed detailed reporting(memos in agendas for two meetings) for Local Trust Committee and for SSIWPA Steering Committee for each current workplan project area
3c Coordinated SSIWPA workplan projects: Algal Bloom Notification and Blackburn Landfill Projects	Reported out on actions within project from previous quarter, added to agenda package
3d Coordinated SSIWPA workplan projects: Groundwater and Lake Monitoring	None this period
3e Coordinated SSIWPA workplan projects: Rainwater Public Education	Created graphic design images for social media (5 images; released through autumn with corresponding news posts on website) Re-created infographic for permits and regulations for rainwater systems Updated content of blog posts about rainwater Sept 8th based on new info from CRD Building Insp. Posted blog posts and prepared SSIWPA newsletter for release October 2. Coordinated and hosted and participated in meeting with Transition Salt Spring (Climate Coach team) regarding amplification of rebate program for rainwater harvesting with SSIWPA-approved news articles about rainwater.
3f Coordinated SSIWPA work programs: Water System Data Survey Report	Revised Rate table using information from correspondence late August, early Sept with each of 13 systems Revised average volume consumed annually and re-calculated comparative \$/cubic meter rates for each system Compiled revised final report document and posted to website, agenda package for SSIWPA approval and discussion; distributed to each Water System manager contact Revised results section of report to reflect new data for rates and for additional system (GW6)
4 Project management of work plan tasks, as directed by SSIWPA:	See actions in Rainwater Public Education and Water System Data Survey Report - these were project management as well as carrying out coordination tasks and writing/creation of content.
5 Annual Report	none this period
7 Organize and facilitate community engagement:	Attended Fall Fair and performed public education interaction with SSIWPA materials at two member agency booths - Transition Salt Spring and Water Preservation Society
Coordination hours for the period - TOTAL	

SSIWPA Coordinator's Report - Page 1 of 2 For the period October 1 - 31, 2021	
Administrative Task Area	
1. Organize Steering Committee Meetings:	Liaise with IT staff regarding meeting method with Chair running Zoom; organized zoom link and distribution of meeting materials to members and the public
2. Manage SSIWPA membership lists and coordinate process to fill vacancies:	none this period
3. Records Management:	Minute taking for Water Systems group (recording review and notes after meeting time) Posted adopted minutes 2021-06-22 online and to staff for Trust records Distributed Water System Survey final report to Water Systems contacts Revised minutes 2021-09-28 for member corrections, distribute to Chair and staff
4. SSIWPA Website:	Documented reach and response to Social media Ad (rainwater news posts link) Administered live releases of four news/rain education posts this month. Administered events page, reports pages and updated uploads of adopted minutes and agendas.
5. Mail-outs and public outreach:	see 4.
6. Public inquiries and correspondence:	Managed new subscribers to web newsletters
8. Reporting:	
9. Action List and Decision Log	Updated action list for steering and log of resolutions after Sept meeting
10a. Administration of Working Groups	Coordinated for Water Systems Contact List (forming group): meeting date (Oct 20); meeting agenda content; survey report and other announcements Forwarded Partnership for Watershed Sustainability and other relevant material to working groups, steering committee Facilitated Water Systems group meeting Coordinated TWG correspondence between meetings regarding minutes, actions, education materials content and review content for Proof of Water at time of Subdivision project
Administration hours for the period - TOTAL	

For the period October 1 - 31, 2021	
Coordination Task Area	
C) Financial Reporting and Budgeting:	
Responded to Islands Trust budget queries - communications funds spent to date Liaised with Trust Planning staff re communications budget planning and tracking	
D) Coordination and Facilitation:	
1. Facilitate SSIWPA Regular Meetings	none this period
2. Inter-agency Correspondence (includes project management for certain Workplan projects)	Correspondence for coordinated tasks from minutes of Sept quarterly; WSPP project RFP Septic/water quality correspondence - New member orientation - TSS Clarified Water System Group coordination purview re Rainwater public messaging (agreed by TWG) correspondence (TSS); DW news piece; social media campaign in October Phone calls, emails re: forming water systems working group Workplan project correspondence - algal blooms, wswg, rainwater with TSS Climate Coach for webinar, edits for news article for Rainwater
3 a Coordinated SSIWPA workplan projects: Groundwater Education	Correspondence with project lead about monitoring agreements and data collection
3b Coordinated SSIWPA work programs: Workplan and Budget	Water systems working group Terms of Reference compilation and meeting coordination
3c Coordinated SSIWPA workplan projects: Algal Bloom Notification and Blackburn Landfill Projects	Conducted online research to compile materials and information about algal bloom messaging for project lead to review
3d Coordinated SSIWPA workplan projects: Groundwater and Lake Monitoring	None this period
3e Coordinated SSIWPA workplan projects: Rainwater Public Education	Sent contact info for rain systems to Climate Coaches at TSS Coordinated rainwater public education results memo for SSIWPA - SC Created graphic content for 3-panel carousel Facebook Ad to promote rainwater resources on website Did interview with TSS writer for article in Driftwood about Rainwater Systems Amplified messaging for Driftwood article about rain harvesting Oct 20 Prepared webinar speaking points and powerpoint slides (Nov 9 TSS webinar - 15 minutes)
3f Coordinated SSIWPA work programs: Water System Data Survey Report	Revised WSS Report with titles on same page as tables, and with new TOC and with footnotes on tables 1, 5, 6 Cost per cubic meter reflects economies of scale (ie. systems with fewer connections have higher per connection costs)
4 Project management of work plan tasks, as directed by SSIWPA:	see2.
5 Annual Report	none this period
7 Organize and facilitate community engagement:	organized public messaging on website with content input by stakeholders in SSIWPA and TWG organized, disseminated social media campaign for rainwater and tracked public reaction (engagements, clicks, new subscribers) results of social media rainwater campaign to present to Steering Committee

Date: November 17, 2021

Date of Meeting: November 25, 2021

To: Salt Spring Watershed Protection Alliance Steering Committee

From: Coordinator (for Islands Trust Planning Staff)

Re: Sufficient Potable Water Supply for Secondary Suites

PURPOSE:

Given that Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (SSILTC) has resolved to amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw 355 to allow secondary suites to be permitted in all residential zones as directed by the SSILTC, the planning staff are seeking evidence-based professional technical advice regarding the volume of potable water that would be sufficient (Litres per day per suite) for occupancy of a secondary suite on Salt Spring Island, and how many days worth of storage should be required for occupancy of a secondary suite serviced by a potable rainwater storage system.

RESOLUTION/RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance Steering Committee direct its Technical Working Group to recommend:

- i) the volume of potable water (Litres per day) that would be “sufficient” for daily requirements of occupancy of a secondary suite on Salt Spring Island, with supporting evidence
- ii) how many days worth of rainwater storage should be required for occupancy of a secondary suite serviced by a potable rainwater system, with supporting evidence

BACKGROUND or RATIONALE:

As part of the effort to draft an amendment to the land use bylaw to allow secondary suites to be permitted in all residential zones as directed by the Local Trust Committee, Planning Staff are seeking professional technical advice regarding the daily supply of potable water to a secondary suite and the sufficient rainwater volume of storage required to provide the required supply.

MORE INFORMATION:

Out of Scope: Source of freshwater. The request is not meant to address the source of the potable water (groundwater, surface water or rainwater sources).

The current table (Bylaw 355. Section 5.5. Table 1) demonstrating Potable Water Supply for dwelling units in the Land Use Bylaw 355 is as follows:

- 5.5.5 Where water is to be supplied by groundwater, the applicant for *subdivision* must provide written certification under seal of an *engineer* with experience in groundwater hydrology that there is sufficient available groundwater to provide the required amount of *potable* water on a continuous basis, and that the extraction from the groundwater table of that amount of water is not reasonably expected to adversely affect the quantity or quality of water obtainable from any existing well or surface water that is used as a source of *potable* water.

TABLE 1 POTABLE WATER SUPPLY STANDARDS FOR SUBDIVISION	
USE	VOLUME (litres per day per lot)
<i>Dwelling unit</i>	1600
<i>Secondary Suite</i>	1200
<i>Seasonal cottage</i>	680
<i>Bed and breakfast home-based business</i>	225/bedroom
<i>Commercial or General Employment use</i>	900
<i>Community hall or church</i>	1590
School	50/classroom
<i>Commercial guest accommodation units</i>	450/unit
<i>Campground</i>	225/campsite

Recommendation from SSIWPA Technical Working Group would address volume of sufficient potable water:

TABLE 1 POTABLE WATER SUPPLY STANDARDS FOR SECONDARY SUITES	
USE	VOLUME (litres per unit per day) and Storage volume required for suites serviced by rainwater (# days)
<i>Secondary Suite</i>	Xxx?



Date: October 24, 2021

Date of Meeting: November 25, 2021

To: Salt Spring Watershed Protection Alliance Steering Committee

From: SSIWPA Coordinator

Re: Social Media Ad – Rainwater Resource News Posts

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memo is for SSIWPA Coordinator to report out on response to advertising on Social Media. There is no recommended direct action – the intention is to educate the Steering Committee regarding the low cost and benefit of such advertising.

BACKGROUND or RATIONALE:

At its regular meeting held June 22, 2021 SSIWPA directed its Technical Working Group to “assist in the development of appropriate education materials for the key messages in the Scope of Work Memorandum entitled “Key Messages for Rainwater System Public Education” dated June 9, 2021. (Regular Minutes of SSIWPA Steering Committee, June 22, 2021 – item 4.4.1)

The Technical Working Group met in August and reviewed five key messages - directed SSIWPA Coordinator to publish (Draft minutes of Technical Working Group Aug. 26, 2021).

The Coordinator liaised with Transition Salt Spring in the first half of September regarding the outreach and engagement plan for rainwater rebates and agreed to publish the key messages related to potable water systems in September, and to publish the key messages related to non-potable systems (that would serve to amplify the rebate public messaging) at the end of September and through October.

Rainwater Outreach Action taken by Coordinator:

- Designed 5 (five) graphics in Canva software
- Designed a “Decision-tree” to guide the reader regarding authorization steps for four different system types
- Published the approved content and the graphics to the website as news posts
- Sent newsletter to SSIWPA and all subscribers Oct 3

- Did three posts on Facebook – the second (October 13th) was a paid Advertisement \$30.
- Assisted with content for TSS Driftwood article (Oct 20th) and plugged SSIWPA.org rainwater resources
- Note: TSS Climate Coach Rain Harvesting Rebates oversold by Oct 8
- Prepared and delivered webinar for “How to build a rainwater system” offered by Transition Salt Spring

RESULTS:

Social Media Results:

Facebook Ad: 10/13/2021 – 10/23/2021

Audience targets set: aged 18-65+ Salt Spring Island + 45 km. Cost: \$30

Results: 4,469 views; 84 link clicks; 137 engaged with post.

6 new “followers” and ssiwpa.org has 5 new website subscribers (see attachment 3).

Driftwood Article: Transition Salt Spring interviewed two local rainwater rebatees and ran a story in the One Cool Island Driftwood Gulf Islands Newspaper on October 20, 2021 that played into the results of this social media advertising campaign and served to amplify both the TSS Climate Coach and the SSIWPA education about rainwater harvesting.

Webinar Nov 9: over 120 attendees (including regional)

ATTACHMENTS:

Social media statistics (3 graphics) and Newsletter subscriptions on ssiwpa.org.

TELUS 5:15 PM 67%

Professional Dashboard

Page Overview

Followers: 143
Last 28 Days

- Post Reach: 4,469
- Post Engagement: 137
- New Followers: 6

See More Insights

Grow your audience

Promote
Create ads and manage campaigns for your Page.

Invite Friends to Follow

Home Profile Friends Activity Marketplace

Performance Overview

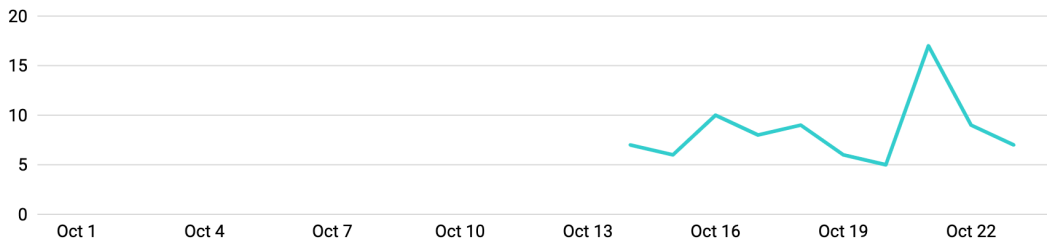
Customize Metrics

Link Clicks ⓘ
84
--

Per Link Click ⓘ
\$0.36
--

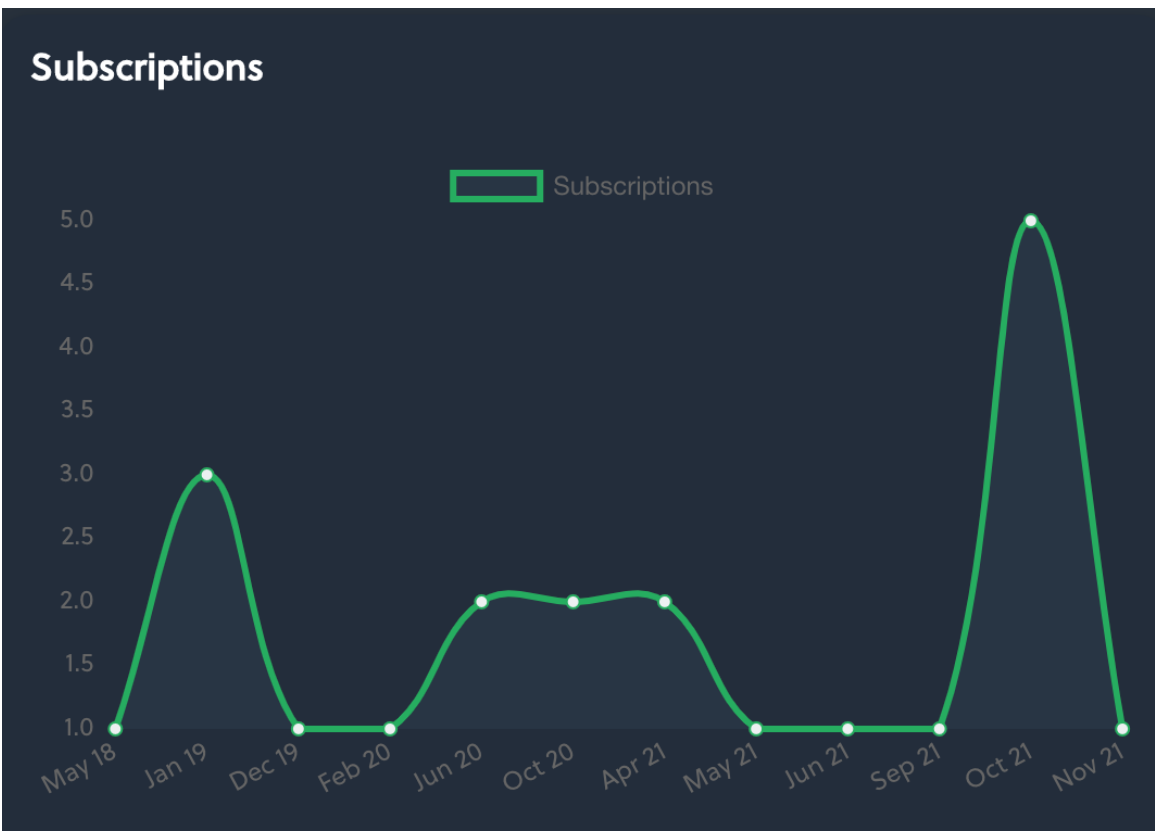
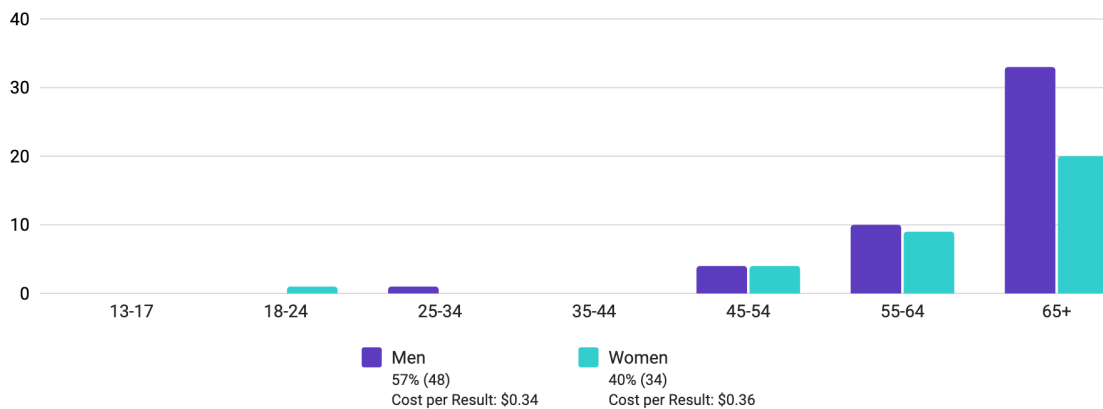
CTR (All) ⓘ
1.94%
--

Link Clicks



Age and Gender Distribution

All Results



From: Shannon Cowan shannoncowan@gmail.com
 Subject: Dw ssiwpa
 Date: October 29, 2021 at 3:04 PM
 To: Shannon Cowan shannoncowanyoga@gmail.com

8 | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2021

OPINION

Transition helps islanders tap into winter rains

Residents take advantage of rebate programs

BY ANDREA PALFRAMAN
 TRANSITION SALT SPRING

It's an October morning in Ganges Harbour. Crowded around the Rotary dinghy dock are assorted skiffs and rowboats, each filled with gallons upon gallons of rain-

water. Looking at the collection, you can't help but notice how prolifically these vessels collect rain when the season is right.

While mariners may need to crack out their bailing buckets, this year it's with relief that we tug on our rubber boots. We're emerging from a drought season that was longer, hotter and more noticeably harmful to our salmon, cedar and ecosystems than any in recent memory. Squelching



through soaked gardens, it's easy to wonder, "if only we could time the rains to come when gardens need it most!"

Thanks to the availability of rainwater catchment systems, it's not only possible, it's simple and affordable.

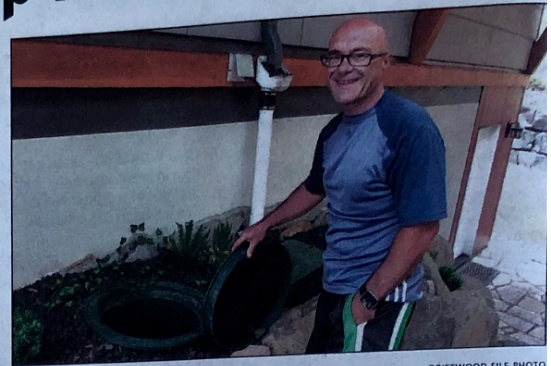
Islanders are catching on — big time. Recently, Transition Salt Spring piloted a Rainwater Harvesting Rebate program for homeowners looking to install rainwater catchment systems. Transition was overwhelmed with applications, and the program, which provides \$250 to \$500 towards the installation of cisterns, is now fully subscribed.

Shannon Cowan of the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance (SSIWPA) was one of those applicants. Ever since moving to her property five years ago, she's wanted to connect her wide barn roof to a garden irrigation system.

Having put together the Non-Potable Rainwater Harvesting Best Practices Guide through her work with SSIWPA (available at <https://tinyurl.com/ssiwpa-guide>), Cowan started to envision her own system within the larger body of knowledge. The system she's designed involves installing new gutters with leaf guards and downspouts, and two new tanks and pumps. This rain storage from the metal roof of her barn will be pumped uphill to her hybrid drip-fed/spray garden irrigation system. The whole system will be set up to be drawn upon during the dry times with water from her artesian well on tap for late spring when groundwater is still plentiful.

"I have been involved with water and watershed protection for eight years," said Cowan. "It's my humble opinion that if we consider rainwater catchment as the only source of fresh water on the island with which to treat our outdoor spaces — our lawns and gardens — we'd have enough water to spare to meet housing needs and ecological needs that we are currently falling short on."

The math is compelling. If Salt Spring Islanders were to install 1,000 new 3,000-gallon rainwater catchment systems, the island would keep 3,000,000 gallons from being drawn from St. Mary Lake. That's about the equivalent of 43 Rainbow Road pools and could possibly allow housing and commercial constraints to ease. Currently, a moratorium on new water hook-ups is affect-



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Fernando dos Santos is an islander who has installed an effective rainwater catchment system. Many others have followed suit or are planning to do so.

ence," said Cowan.

Enter Chris Dixon. A former commercial tomato grower and passionate water conservation advocate, Dixon said, "I had the privilege of running Jane Squier's commercial hydroponic greenhouse for a year back in the early 2000s. Because she runs a commercial hydroponic system, she is a master at water harvesting. I just looked at what she did and thought, this makes total sense. I went home and set myself up."

Dixon has no aspiration to store drinking water; what he catches he uses to water garden vegetables and irrigate shrubs and fruit on his half-acre plot. In his heyday, he grew 380 tomato plants commercially, along with 300 feet of blueberry bushes. At that time, he was gathering 20,000 gallons in two swimming pools in the Cedar Lane water district — where drawing groundwater for commercial irrigation is strictly prohibited.

"With 2,000 wells on the island, watering our gardens out of that groundwater supply alone is unsustainable."

SHANNON COWAN
 Coordinator, SSI Watershed Protection Alliance

"Now, we're on the North Salt Spring Waterworks system, so, depending on the circumstances — and this year was particularly harsh — there are watering restrictions in the district. Anything a person on the shared system can do to store water and use it locally helps the entire community."

He bought a used above-ground swimming pool and modified it to hold roughly 8,000 gallons of water, which he collects off his roof through a downspout leading directly into a nar-

pool fills in two weeks once I'm into the season. I'm pretty close to having spent \$500 on the entire system."

That spend includes purchasing a second pump, available locally at a cost of between \$100 and \$150.

"With a changing climate, it's getting drier and drier every summer, and heavier downpours are running off the land faster in the winter," explained Cowan. "With 2,000 wells on the island, watering our gardens out of that groundwater supply alone is unsustainable."

The worst-case scenario? Wells could start drying up, forcing people to rely yet more heavily on water companies to truck in water.

Cowan suggests that people "collect the rain, and use it where it is, instead of moving drinking water for non-potable purposes over long distances."

Blessed with a bounty of rain — over 900 mm of it, give or take, each year — it's heartening to see the community getting organized around this precious resource in response to a changing climate.

To learn more, come to the One Cool Island Climate Action Coach webinar called How to Install Your Rainwater Harvesting System on Tuesday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. Registration is easy and free or by donation by going to Transition Salt Spring's website referenced below or to <https://formcan.keela.co/rainwater-webinar>.

While the Transition Salt Spring's Rainwater Harvesting Rebate has been fully subscribed, there is a waitlist for those who would like to install an eligible system should the Capital Regional District provide additional funding for this program. It is unclear whether funding will be renewed at all, but to get on the waitlist go to <https://formcan.keela.co/future-rainwater>.

One Cool Island is a regular series produced by Transition Salt Spring.



Islands Trust

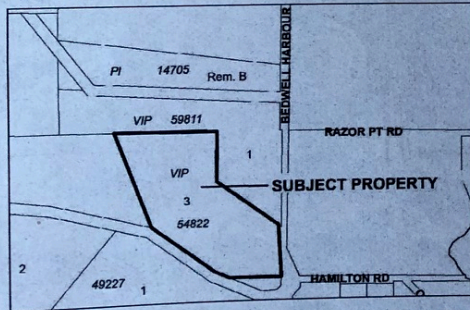
NOTICE NP-TUP-2021.8 NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 494 of the *Local Government Act* that the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) will be considering a resolution allowing for the issuance of a Temporary Use Permit. The proposed permit will apply to Lot 3, Section 10, Pender Island, Cowichan District, Plan VIP54822 (PID 018-191-94). This property is located at 4605 Bedwell Harbour Road.

The purpose of this Temporary Use Permit is to permit:

- The storage and processing of landscape materials (soil and mulch).
- The storage of gravel (aggregates).
- Storage of equipment and materials that are directly required for the maintenance and construction of the Driftwood Centre only, and specifically limited to the following: construction, electrical and plumbing material; motorized equipment and vehicles; and landscaping materials including soils, mulch, and plants.
- For certainty, and for the purposes of this permit, processing is defined as screening and sorting, but does not include crushing or washing.

The establishment of these uses would be subject to the conditions specified in the attached proposed permit. The permit would be issued for three (3) years and the owner may apply to the LTC to have it renewed once for an additional three (3) years. The general location of the subject property is shown on the following sketch:



A copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, commencing **October 8, 2021** and continuing up to and including **October 19, 2021**.

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 499(2) (c) of the *Local Government Act*, additional copies of the Proposed Permit may be inspected at various Notice Boards on North Pender Island.

Enquiries or comments should be directed to Kim Stockdill, Island Planner at (250) 405-5157, for Toll Free Access, request a transfer via Planner at (250) 405-5157 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-863-7867; Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 880-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-863-7867; or by fax (250) 405-5155; or by email to: southinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca before 4:30 p.m., **October 19, 2021**.

The North Pender Island Local Trust Committee may consider a

ISLANDS TRUST
SSIWPA Coordination Budget 2022-23
DRAFT FOR DECISION v. 2021-09-13

REVENUES	Draft Budget 2022-2023	In-Kind
SSI LTC Tax Requisition	75,500	
In-Kind Staff Time	-	1,000
Total Revenues	75,500	1,000
EXPENSES		
<u>Coordination</u>		
Coordinator Contract	60,000	
	<u>60,000</u>	
<u>Events and Communications</u>		
Communications Materials	5,200	
Events	2,700	
Website Hosting	2,000	
	<u>9,900</u>	
<u>Meetings</u>		
Steering Committee	280	
Technical Working Group	280	
Rainwater Subcommittee	280	
Minute-taker	800	
Meeting Software Licensing Fees (Zoom)	120	
In-Kind Staff Time	-	1,000
	<u>1,760</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Total Expenses	71,660	1,000
Annual Surplus (Deficit)	3,840	-

SSIWPA Public Education & Communications Plan 2022 – 2023

DRAFT for Discussion

1. Algal Blooms and Lakes
 - Brochure, print and digital plus DW or Exchange Ad for webinar (March 1)
 - Webinar – World Water Day (March 21, 2022) (joint? TSS, WPS, SSIWPA)
 - “Love your lake” talks - Informal
2. Rainwater Guide, Information and Rainwater Tours
 - Virtual Rain Tour reboot (Facebook Boosted posts February – April - May)
 - Rain Rebate 2022 - TSS (reboot all rainwater news, social media ads, Guide) (April - May)
 - Rain Tour 2022 (New Rainwater Systems, In person where feasible)(October)
3. Groundwater Education
 - Know Your Well Brochure – social media (January, June, September)
 - Targeted outreach to non-domestic groundwater users for licensing deadline (Feb)
 - Well Registration News posts and newsletter focus (January, June, September)
 - TWG GW Materials #2 (mapping, recharge messaging) (May, September)
 - o print and digital releases with Facebook Boosted Posts
4. Fall Fair - September
5. WPS Video – distribution amplification
6. Freshwater Catalogue/TSS Video – distribution amplification
7. Annual Report 2022 – (design costs in the 22-23 fiscal; release in 23-24 fiscal)

BUDGET - Events and Communications

Communications Materials - \$5,200:

Printed materials for Fall Fair - \$200

Educational materials (design and print – brochures, annual report) - \$2,500

Ad Design, Publishing- \$2,500 (social media, Exchange and/or Driftwood)

Events - \$2,700:

Fall Fair 2022 Booth rental - \$200

Event Signage - \$300

Rain Tour Presenter Honoraria (or Videography costs, if virtual) - \$2,200

Subject: RE: Algae Watch feedback submitted from Shannon Cowan
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 4:07:47 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Algae Watch ENV:EX
To: SSIWPA

Hi Shannon,

I just wanted to let you know we have recently released a mapping feature that allows the public to view reported algae blooms. The key is to take good photos of your bloom to capture extent and general characteristics ([How to take good photos of an algae bloom - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/land/algae-watch/algae-watch-observation-map)). We review each submission and if it looks legit we post it on our map: [Algae Watch Observation Map - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/land/algae-watch/algae-watch-observation-map). Because we review submissions first before we post them there is going to be a bit of a lag time but we strive to post observations that appear to be genuine algae blooms within a week of receiving them.

Feel free to use this tool for your local reporting purposes.

Lucie

From: Algae Watch <noreply@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: May 18, 2021 6:57 PM
To: Algae Watch ENV:EX <algawatch@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Algae Watch feedback submitted from Shannon Cowan

Name

Shannon Cowan

Email

ssiwpa@islandstrust.bc.ca

Please enter your comments below

Hello Algae Watch BC Specialist,
 I'm the coordinator of the Watershed Protection Alliance on Salt Spring Island, BC. (www.ssiwpa.org) We are seeking to coordinate a local algal bloom/cyanobacterial bloom notification system in our community especially for two of our drinking water lakes where the water purveyor does not sample raw water quality and keep residents informed, and many lakeshore property owners draw lake water for domestic use. We already have Island Health doing coliform monitoring for recreational use at these lakes (albeit infrequently at biweekly only half the year). We are seeking to determine when the Province will be posting results of citizen science in the Algae Watch program via the web map and whether any thought has been given to "early warning notification" from the results of this citizen data collection, even if visual and qualitative. If we were to rally volunteers to monitor and to use Algae Watch to record their observations, how might we then access these observations without requiring the volunteers to take a second step to email me or some other local coordinator who would then notify the public (which comes with its own set of challenges, so we likely have to use an opt-in system of digital e-news). I would appreciate any information about the release date and update frequency for the web map. And, any further assistance you may provide towards our goal. Thank you, Shannon Cowan ssiwpa@islandstrust.bc.ca.

Consent

I agree to the privacy policy.

Your contact information is collected by the Ministry of Environment under s.26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to assess and respond to your enquiry. If you have any questions about the collection or use of this contact information, please contact us using this form, by phone at +1 (236) 478-2086 or by mail at PO Box 9347, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, B.C. V8W 9M1, attn.: Ambient Surface Water Quality Programs, Knowledge Management Branch, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

Subject: notification of cyanobacteria

Date: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 5:12:38 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Maxine Leichter

To: SSIWPA

This email is being sent in response to the report in the Sept 28, 2021 SSIWPA Agenda package regarding algal bloom notification. Please include this email in the next SSIWPA agenda package.

This issue was brought to your attending because while it may be possible that lake water users are being notified (or could be notified) when a bloom containing cyanobacteria toxins has been confirmed by testing, there is likely a period BEFORE the test results come back and can be communicated to the public, when the toxins are present and represent a health hazard to humans and pets.

What urgently needs to be address, is informing those who use lake water directly when toxins MIGHT be present during this period before testing results can be communicated to them. This can be determined by the appearance of the water or by the season when blooms often occur, such as in the late summer and fall for Cusheon Lake. Toxins can also be a hazard to recreational users.

If those in potential danger cannot be notified as soon as toxins may be present and the only agency or volunteer action will be to "educate" lake water users, then the educational materials should emphasize that there is likely a period when toxins are present during which they will receive NO notification. Unfortunately, many people assume that the government is looking after them and would let them know if they were in danger. They need to know that this is NOT the case.

Thanks, Maxine Leichter

Memo

Project title: **Climate Change Adaptation for Watershed Resilience and Fire Resistance in the Coastal Douglas-fir Zone of Southwestern BC (the "Project")**

Project timeline: August 4, 2021 - July 29, 2024

Lead: Transition Salt Spring

Funding: Confirmed – EcoAction Community Funding Program, Canada.ca

Partners:

Project Primary Outcome: Resilience and Fire-Risk Reduction Plan for Maxwell Lake Watershed

The Project addresses forest protection, water quality and quantity protection and fire-risk protection actions that mitigate increasing and intensifying droughts, winter rains, and the results of such (turbidity in water supply, slope instability, decline of stable forest communities - Western Red Cedar and Coastal Douglas-fir, more).

Goals:

- Analyse extant mapping data to classify watershed health, quality and security of the potable water supply from an ecosystem perspective that builds on the recent Maxwell lake and related stream water availability and climate change studies by Kerr-Wood-Leidal
- Assess watershed health and fire risk through indicators of: existing erosion, loss of groundcover, tree condition, fuel loads, etc.
- Inventory the treatment options
- Implement priority treatment strategies and monitoring activities ; monitor results
- Disseminate watershed resiliency education materials

SSIWPA has been working towards integrated watershed management planning on SSI; the coordinated projects to have focussed on water quantity and availability as precursors to island-wide management planning (Weston Lake (CRD & Islands Trust), Groundwater Protection Program (Islands Trust) and other singular watersheds (Freshwater Catalogue, WPS). There two management plans are insufficient in their implementation to address climate change realities: St. Mary Lake watershed (2015), and Cusheon (2007).

The Project at TSS marks the first time that partners are working towards inclusion of fire-risk management in watershed management plans. A summary of the project goals includes:

Notes and correspondence:

On Thu, Oct 14, 2021 at 8:40pm Ruth Waldick replied:

Shannon, thank you so much! Bryan, just so you know, what Shannon has outlined with her time as coordinator and the Technical working group will really give us access to water expertise we need. Notably William S, Shannon, and John M! So this will be an excellent addition. And, even if we were to add it in late November, we have an indicator we are tracking on the participation of organizations and synergies with other agencies, so this will definitely boost our statistics for reporting!!

Thank you again!

On Thu, Oct 14, 2021 at 7:49 PM SSIWPA <ssiwpa@islandstrust.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Ruth and Bryan,

Thanks for this reminder of the purpose and timeline of the meeting this week.

I've skimmed the EcoAction application final draft since returning from my trip on Oct 1. Wowee. Exciting stuff. There was one thing to keep in mind – the strategic plan that Islands Trust is beginning that will take a year to complete is not a “SSIWPA” thing, it will include a review of SSIWPA, and it will be “owned” by Islands Trust but hopefully benefit all of the SSIWPA entities and the entire island with a long term action plan for watershed protection as a result. Knowing that the first year of the EcoAction project will be underway while this planning takes place is nice alignment for the potential to include more fire-risk and CDF ecosystem protection pieces more squarely into that plan.

I don't think waiting for Bryan's template will be necessary for me to respond to your request:

I have some ideas based on the final draft and based on your indication that your priority is sending a formal listing of resources/time/in-kind in as a contract by end October:

I hear: what you need most by end of October is resource / in kind commitment from agencies and organizations themselves, and potentially also from SSIWPA.

Here's the scoop:

SSIWPA Steering Committee would require to meet to consider the proposal and resolve to direct some of its TWG and or Coordination time toward the EcoAction project.

Yes, as you suggest, TWG time and also Coordinator time could be feasible within the “resources” that SSIWPA may allocate. In fact, those are all the SSIWPA resources that exist!! 😊

SSIWPA has a small communications budget and meetings budget, but other than that, it has Coordinator time and TWG time!

Both of these are not available without SSIWPA meeting first to agree (resolve) to allocate its resources.

There are currently no SSIWPA 21-22 budget/workplan areas that squarely land any TWG nor Coordinator time to this project! In order to have this in the workplan for 22-23, SSIWPA would need to consider this and resolve to allocate such.

Since SSIWPA is not a legal entity – it is basically a working from that Islands Trust convenes for a purpose, but which relies on each and every participant negotiating time and resources from their source agency or group.

If you can work with an informal item in your end October deadline to EcoAction headquarters, we can continue this chat.

If you require a letter of support and formal agreement to in-kind resources, we simply cannot do it from “SSIWPA” proper in that timeline.

We don’t have resolution-without-meeting functions, and while we may have a special meeting sooner for the strategic plan, the next business meeting where SSIWPA may consider this is Nov 25.

So, I wonder if you might somehow informally work in some estimates and SSIWPA could ratify those by way of its November 25th meeting?

The person from TSS to bring this to SSIWPA is now Deborah Miller (the brand new TSS rep on SSIWPA) to bring this forward once you and I hatch it.

SSIWPA agenda deadline = November 15. Meeting date November 25.

I can certainly allocate some of my time to help Deborah (and you) to bring this to SSIWPA in that agenda package if that is feasible on your end.

If you think it may work to wait for the authorized letter from SSIWPA to go to EcoAction headquarters on Nov 26th, here is what I think about each of the resource areas SSIWPA may agree to allocate to the project:

TWG:

Based on the fact that TWG meets quarterly, I'd estimate right off the top of my head that it would be feasible to request SSIWPA Steering Cttee to direct TWG to allocate 1 hour quarterly as a committee and approximately 36 person-hours per quarter (6 TWG members, 6 hours each quarter for review, discussion outside of TWG meeting time).

I can certainly have a discussion with you, Ruth, to better understand the scope of the planned work in order to carefully estimate this in kind time and to write a one pager for Deborah to present to SSIWPA if we get that far!

Coordinator:

- Estimated 20 hours of SSIWPA Coord time quarterly
 - Sourcing existing reports, data or watershed mapping materials to /with the EcoAction project team and representatives of SSIWPA and other island-based agencies and groups involved in the EcoAction project
 - 2 meetings (2 hr ea) per quarter with EcoAction project representatives insofar as their project process intersects with SSIWPA workplan and strategic planning
 - Out of scope:
 - EcoAction planning team meetings or any direct involvement of SSIWPA coordinator in the EcoAction project (alas, but cannot do it all)
 - Review of data, compilation of data, or tracking of project data

Keep in mind: For sourcing of agency-published info, or consulting reports and maps, in most cases: Trust staff, CRD staff, Conservancy staff, Provincial agency staff may be the more direct route.

That said, SSIWPA has compiled a large database and Coordinator could help to refine time "looking" or "missing" info. To some extent.

Hope this makes sense and sorry to burst the balloon on timelines for collaborative approval! I'm hopeful that SSIWPA will love to allocate the resources it does have, if it gets the chance!

Warmly,

Shannon