

GREEN-DUWAMISH URBAN WATERS FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP PARTNERSHIP WORKPLAN - 2022



Program Goals

- Help connect watershed recovery efforts with local needs and priorities, such as the Puget Sound National Estuary Program (NEP)
- Promote cross-agency partnerships through local coordination forums in the Green-Duwamish
- Reconnect people to their waterways
- Advance social equity, environmental justice, economic development
- Monitor progress toward both NEP and UWFP goals
- Promote the multi-benefit opportunities of green infrastructure

Background

The Urban Waters Federal Partnership was created nationally in 2011 as an effort to “revitalize urban waterways and the communities that surround them, transforming overlooked assets into treasured centerpieces and drivers of urban and community revitalization.” The Green-Duwamish Urban Waters Federal Partnership (GD-UWFP) was designated as a partnership site in 2013.

Accomplishments to Date

In the years since its inception the GD-UWFP has contributed expertise and funding to a range of planning and implementation strategies, including the Re-Green the Green Strategy, the Duwamish Blueprint, the stormwater management implementation plan, and many others. The GD-UWFP has integrated within a dozen networks with the watershed, building extensive partner connections, as well as convening new collaboratives around community science and watershed research. The program has led and contributed to projects supporting community groups, non-profits, tribes, and local municipalities to improve health and wellbeing in the watershed. A more detailed list of program accomplishments can be found [here](#).

Purpose

This document serves as the 2022 workplan for the Green Duwamish Urban Waters Federal Partnership. It for the first time outlines the expected actions and objectives of GD-UWFP core partners. Each of the 2022 objectives below includes in parenthesis which core partner it anticipated to take on that activity. This workplan will guide a specific set of work, to be updated annually, or as funding adjusts priorities.

Contacts:

GD-UWFP Ambassador:

Weston Brinkley,

weston@streetsoundsecology.com

206-412-3244

USDA Forest Service:

- Simon Kihia - *PNW Research Station*: 206-732-7846, simon.kihia@usda.gov;

- Stephen Baker - *Region 6 State and Private Forestry*: 503-964-4291, stephen.baker@usda.gov

EPA Region 10:

- Mary Lou Soscia - 503-381-3840, Soscia.Marylou@epa.gov
- Bevin Horn - 206-553-1566, horn.bevin@epa.gov

Puget Sound Partnership:

- Alexandra Doty, AlexandraDoty@psp.wa.gov
360-280-6664

Program Information:

www.epa.gov/urbanwaterspartners/urban-waters-and-green-duwamish-watershed-washington

Partner Recognition

Participating Networks Include:

- Puget Sound Partnership and their Local Integrating Organization (PSP/LIO)
- WRIA 9 (Watershed Resource Inventory Area) Ecosystem Forum
- Green Duwamish Revegetation (formerly Green the Green Network)
- Duwamish Alive! Coalition
- City of Seattle, Duwamish Valley Action Plan Implementation Team
- Our Green/Duwamish Watershed, program of King County
- NIPSC (Northwest Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities)
- Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition/ Technical Advisory Group
- Emerald Alliance for People, Nature, and the Community
- Longfellow Creek Network
- Forest Health Watch
- Duwamish Valley Research Coordination Network
- Forests in Cities, national network

General Activities

- Expand connections between community interests in the GDW with the Puget Sound Action Agenda.
- Support the implementation of the 2022-2026 Action Agenda by welcoming new communities and organizations to pursue mutually beneficial approaches including:
 - Increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion;
 - Expanding education and learning opportunities; and
 - Promoting the inclusion of climate considerations into local program and project decisions.
- Local outreach and engagement with key groups throughout the watershed including potential funders to support the work and goals of the GD-UWFP and the Puget Sound NEP.
- Ongoing engagement with national UWFP coordinators, other UWFP locations, and key UWFP contacts in DC, including routine communications related to GD-UWFP.
- Convene and participate in meetings of cooperating partners working in the GDW, particularly through the Lead Entity (LE) and the Local Integrating Organization (LIO), to better leverage research, policy, implementation efforts and project effectiveness including data, methods, and opportunities to connect with local stakeholders.
- Outreach and engagement with stakeholders to identify research, policy, and implementation needs, capacity, opportunities, and funding. Target connections with state agencies, non-profit organizations, and academic institutions and grade schools.
 - Support the existing organizational networks within the GDW, serving as a member, attending monthly or quarterly meetings, building agendas, and supporting implementation for, among others: Puget Sound Partnership and their Local Integrating Organization (PSP/LIO)
 - WRIA9 Ecosystem Forum, and various Technical Committees
 - Green Duwamish Revegetation Network Steering Committee

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URBAN WATERS FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP

- Green Duwamish Watershed Symposium and Workshops Planning Committee
 - Our Green/Duwamish network and Coordination Subgroup
 - Northwest Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities (NIPSC)
 - Emerald Alliance for People, Nature, and the Community
 - Longfellow Creek Network
- Advance the connections between the GD-UWFP effort and EPA R10 Puget Sound recovery team.
 - Advance the research connection between USFS PNW Research Station and EPA R10 scientists.
 - Participate and track the Lower Duwamish Stakeholder and Superfund meetings and updates.
 - Engage and build relationships with new federal partners not currently supporting the GD-UWFP.
 - Explore the benefits of green infrastructure and human health and well-being in the GDW.
 - Promote the Green-Duwamish watershed as an experimental landscape, advancing the Green Duwamish Learning Landscape (GDLL), and completing research and project implementation with this partnership.
 - Identify and disseminate announcements and RFPs, and support partner applications with advice letters, and proposals for new funding opportunities for UWFP affiliated work in the GDW.
 - Identify and implement projects to support urban and community forests in the GDW.

2022 Objectives

General Tasks

- a) Connect with the other UWFP sites via **monthly locations calls (12)** and through direct outreach. (EPA and Ambassador)
- b) Engage with the **Urban Waters Learning Network (UWLN)**, construct UWLN briefings (1-2) and adopt best practices for use in the GDW. (Ambassador)
- c) **Participate in UWFP Peer Exchange** calls hosted by EPA HQ. (Ambassador and EPA)
- d) Participate in the **River Rally** in Washington DC. (Ambassador and EPA)
- e) **Submit monthly (12) location updates** from the GDW to the UWFP network. (Ambassador)
- f) **Circulate program or funding opportunities (8-10 email digests per year)** to key GD-UWFP partners and networks. (Ambassador)
- g) **Update the GD-UWFP website** with annual work plan, location contacts list, watershed related materials, and links to relevant watershed happenings. (Ambassador and EPA)
- h) **Host monthly (12) Core Team Meetings** – Convene USDA Forest Service PNW Research and S&PF, and EPA Region 10 Urban Waters leads to manage the GD-UWFP. (Ambassador, USFS, EPA)
- i) Participate in **Dept. of Interior (DOI) Urban Waters Fed Partnership call (4)**. (Ambassador, EPA)
- j) Produce **annual project report and annual work plans**. (Ambassador, USFS, EPA)
- k) Support the establishment of a **Duwamish Basin Steward** housed at King County (Ambassador and USFS)
- l) **Mitigate the carbon footprint of partnerships 2022 activities** through tree planting in the GD Watershed. (Ambassador)

- m) Develop and work to **incorporate an UWFP item in the 2022-2026 PSP Action Agenda** and the 2022-2026 Puget Sound Fed Task Force Action Plan. (Ambassador, PSP, EPA)
- n) Identify, and work to **apply, NEP and PSP metrics to upland watershed** efforts (Ambassador, PSP)
- o) Identify and **track specific UWFP actions that are working to support the PSP Action Agenda** (Ambassador, PSP)
- p) **Participate in NEP and PSP activities to track overlap and integration** with UWFP activities. (Ambassador, PSP)

Facilitation and Convening

- q) Convene a session with the broader **GD-UWFP partners with an emphasis on community and local partners**, as well as federal collaborators. (Ambassador, EPA, USFS, PSP)
- r) Serve on the Duwamish Alive Coalition Planning Committee. Co-develop and co-host **the 2022 Green-Duwamish Watershed Workshop**. Begin **planning for the 2023 Green-Duwamish Watershed Symposium**. (Ambassador and USFS)
- s) Serve on the WRIA9 Ecosystem Forum – **Attend quarterly meetings (4)**, vote on materials, as needed. Attend **Technical Advisory Team meetings (2-3)**, as needed. (Ambassador, PSP, and USFS)
- t) Serve on the Green the Green Management Team. **Co-host quarterly (4) meetings** – develop priority agendas, facilitate speakers, compile feedback and learning.
- u) Continue **implementation of Green the Green Communications Strategy**, working the Green Duwamish Revegetation Network. (Ambassador)
- v) Monitor **ecosystem alternatives being constructed** by USDA FS PNW Research Station and Seattle University large woody debris and connect assessment with actors in the watershed. (Ambassador and USFS)
- w) Convene and facilitate **Green Duwamish Learning Landscape** core team meetings, approximately quarterly. (Ambassador and USFS)
- x) Engage with the **Puget Sound Federal Task force**, joining sessions implement the UFWP item on their action plan. (Ambassador, PSP, and EPA)
- y) Convene partners around quantify, scoping, and pitching the **full restoration of the West Duwamish Greenbelt**. (Ambassador)
- z) Work with **Washington State DOT to install signage identifying the Green-Duwamish River at all crossings**, establish partnerships for County and local crossings as well (Ambassador)
- aa) Co-host the **Partners in Community Forestry 2022 conference in Seattle**, serving on the local host committee and incorporating annual meetings of the Arbor Day Foundation and the Forest in Cities network in Seattle. (Ambassador and USFS)
- bb) Work with Beacon Hill communities to synthesize and prioritize finding from past **pollution and environmental research** in the neighborhood and create an action plan for prioritizing and siting greening (Ambassador and USFS).
- cc) Support **the South Central Action Area Caucus LIO (South Central LIO), Green-Duwamish and Central Puget Sound LE (WRIA 9), and Lake Washington, Cedar River, Sammamish LE (WRIA 8)** where there is alignment with GD-UWFP programming. (Ambassador and PSP)

Technical Expertise

- dd) **Participate in Our Green/Duwamish quarterly (4) meetings**, of the Stormwater group. Participate with the OG/D Coordination and Funding subgroups (12 meetings each). (Ambassador)
- ee) **Explore ecosystem services applications and opportunities** with EPA programing associated with the GDW. (Ambassador and EPA)
- ff) **Support the implementation of the DRCC Air Quality Program.** (Ambassador and USFS)
- gg) **Draft Letters of Support** and provide technical expertise on grant applications and other funding opportunities perused by partners. (Ambassador)
- hh) **Participate in the Annual Green Infrastructure Summit** with the organization Stewardship Partners and others. (Ambassador)
- ii) **Participate in Outside Citywide:** City of Seattle cross-departmental coordination effort to streamline investment in open space across the city, and a focus on the GDW community of South Park. (Ambassador)
- jj) **Provide additional support for the Green Duwamish Learning Landscape** and other research efforts and project implementation effecting the GDW, including the **Steering Committee for the Partnership for Community-led Air Quality Projects in the Duwamish Valley** (Ambassador and USFS)
- kk) Support and advise on the **American Rivers effort on assessing tax revenue shifts associated with riparian restoration**, including considerations for gentrification and displacement. (EPA, PSP, and Ambassador)
- ll) Support and advise on efforts related to **temperature monitoring with the Green River Coalition and Green River Community College.** (Ambassador)
- mm) Support and advise on research by the **University of Washington and the USFS PNW Research Station related to homelessness and natural areas.** (USFS and Ambassador)
- nn) Support **Seattle University students** annual GDW project. (EPA, USFS, and Ambassador)
- oo) Support the **Landscape-Scale Restoration project with Forterra and the Highline School District**, collaboratively greening school campuses in the GDW (Ambassador)
- pp) Support and advise on research by the **Oregon State University of and King County related to river trail usage, access, and vegetation.** (Ambassador and USFS)
- qq) **Identify existing programing with climate benefits** including categories of: GHG emissions reduction, carbon storage, carbon sequestration, extreme weather resilience, and community response and resilience (Ambassador, PSP)
- rr) **Develop metrics for meaningfully tracking climate benefit for UWFP** activities. (Ambassador, PSP)
- ss) **Integrate a wider range of social drivers and outcomes associated with climate resilience** associated with the UWFP (Ambassador, PSP)
- tt) **Integrate NEP and UWFP climate materials, metrics, and messaging** for clarity and amplification of impact. (Ambassador, PSP)
- uu) Participate in the **Stewardship, Engagement and Learning (SEAL)** grant program for the WRIA 9 Ecosystem forum, share process and success with other Puget Sound WRIAs. (Ambassador, PSP)

2022 - 2024 (3-year plan) Ongoing Objectives

- a. **Engage new federal and state partners and build relationships with federal entities** not currently supporting the GD-UWFP and the NEP. Federal focuses include: USGS, NRCS, the Army Corps of Engineers, NOAA, and US Fish and Wildlife. (EPA, PSP, USFS, and Ambassador)
- b. Serve as participant and facilitator in the **establishment of an Upper Green River Watershed Plan**, consider additional upper watershed partners into the UWFP. (Ambassador and USFS)
- c. Work with the USFS to **facilitate the connection of research capacity** with the relevant research needs of those engaged in work across the watershed, including those of EPA R10, EPA ORD, and other relevant federal, state, and local entities. (Ambassador and USFS)
- d. Work with the USFS to identify and implement high priority projects to **maintain and expand urban and community forests** in the GDW. (Ambassador and USFS)
- e. Identify funding and partnerships opportunities to **advance GDLL projects and collaborative structure**. (Ambassador, PSP, and USFS)
- f. Collaborate with Western Washington University and other partners to develop a **National Science Foundation** Coupled Natural and Human Systems Research Project Proposal for the Green-Duwamish Watershed. (Ambassador)
- g. Establish a **non-Federal funding source** beyond USDA Forest Service for the UWFP-GD. (EPA, PSP, USFS, and Ambassador)
- h. Engage with other **emergent networks** as identified working in the GDW and across Puget Sound. (EPA, USFS, PSP, and Ambassador)
- i. Working with USFS Region 6 and the Willamette Partnership **establish the GDW as a Healing Landscape** (Ambassador and USFS)
- j. Conduct gap analysis for potential new partners and **develop value proposition for engaging these new partners**. Identify new GD-UWFP and NEP stakeholder partner organizations and communities, including rightsholders and nearshore communities. (Ambassador and PSP)
- k. Coordination with **EJ NEP Work Group as needed/applicable**, or Northwest Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities (NIPSC) (Ambassador and PSP)

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