

Environmental Education Community of Interest 2017 Work Plan

	Start date	End date	Deliverables	Lead Organizations
Strategy 1: Increasing community-wide appreciation, connection, and understanding of the watershed through K-20 and life-long education.				
Objective 1.1: Leverage the implementation of NGSS in WA state schools to promote place-based environmental education for improving formal education				
Activity 1.1.1: Develop a school district model for implementing environmental education throughout the watershed.	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Initial meetings with school district officials to garner interest and commitment to initiative. (2) Agreement by 5 school districts and informal education partners to commit to piloting a unit for one middle school grade level. (3) 3-day curriculum development workshop with teachers, informal educators and university research leads to draft curriculum unit around research projects. (4) 1-day follow up workshop to finalize unit/research planning. (5) Pilot curriculum, evaluate and share results with school districts during student research symposium at UWT	University of Washington-Tacoma, Pacific Education Institute, Trygg Consulting
Objective 1.2: Improve the quality of environmental education in the Puyallup Watershed by ensuring access to best practices on how to use place-based education.				
Activity 1.2.1: Establish a Community of Practice that provides space for all educators in the watershed to reflect on their teaching/role in education, share methodologies, and grow professionally as individuals and as part of a larger network of educators.	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Planning Committee members, of up to 12 members, attend planning meeting with facilitator. (2) Planning team will create the structure, content, and serve as hosts for 11 meetings that will be 1.5-2hrs long. (3) A monthly opportunity for all educators or those interested in education to participate in conversations and reflection techniques that promote professional growth and collaboration. (4) A summary for each session that will be shared electronically with the entire EECOI. (5) A mid-year evaluation will be conducted and recommendations made for the year 4 Community of Practice. (6) There will be an annual celebration to celebrate accomplishments and summarize the learning that occurred over the entire year.	Pierce Conservation District
Activity 1.2.2: Develop a forum that provides space for providers of life-long education to dialogue and create activities to be implemented in year 4.	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Recruit committee members and others to participate in the process. (2) Two facilitated meetings to discuss goals for life-long learning work. (3) Additional gatherings to discuss Year 4 activities and plan for Year 5 and beyond.	Tacoma Nature Center
Strategy 2: Empowering stewardship and advocacy that improves quality of life and health of the watershed for current and future members of the community.				
Objective 2.1: To Be Determined				
Activity 2.1.1: Civic Engagement Toolkit	1/4/17	12/15/17	(1) Develop the toolkit, which will include the following at a minimum: overview of effective engagement strategies, a how-to guide for submitting public comments, comment letter examples and templates, and a guide for delivering public comment workshops on environmental issues. (2) Activity lead will present to the entire EECOI at the June meeting and/or the annual celebration at the end of the year.	Citizens for a Healthy Bay
Objective 2.2: To Be Determined				
Activity 2.2.1: Stewardship & Advocacy Case Study Research	1/4/17	12/15/17	(1) Synthesized report reviewing significant findings from the case studies, research, and recommendations for the EECOI on effective ways to collaborate on stewardship and advocacy work within a region. (2) This report will be put on the EECOI website and provided to EECOI members via the newsletter. (3) Activity lead will present to the entire EECOI at the June meeting and/or the annual celebration at the end of the year.	Citizens for a Healthy Bay
Activity 2.2.2: Stewardship & Advocacy Work Group	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Hire a professional consultant to facilitate the work group determining its goals and activities for Years 4, 5, and beyond. (2) Distributes an online survey about the scope and focus of stewardship and advocacy work to organizations and individuals working throughout the watershed. (3) Use survey results to create an asset/network map for stewardship and advocacy work within the Watershed. (4) Utilize the created network map to reach out to at least five new organizations to invite them to join a Strategy 2 work group meeting and/or a full EECOI meeting. (5) Work group will present accomplishments and findings to the entire EECOI at the June meeting and/or the annual celebration at the end of the year.	To Be Determined

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Strategy 3: Engaging diverse communities and increasing understanding of a community wide connection to place.				
Objective 3.1: Increase the number of environmental educators in the Puyallup Watershed who incorporate race and social justice analysis into their work as educators and community members, continue strategy development to better engage culturally diverse and historically underrepresented communities and expand the dialogue around equitable environmental education within the Watershed.				
Activity 3.1.1: Strengthen the diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) Community of Practice (COP) to support EECOI members competence in integrating DEI into their work.	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Six member Community of Practice will undergo DEI facilitation training. (2) Members will organize and facilitate bi-monthly meetings around equity, diversity and inclusion (DEI). (3) 3 person sub- group will meet monthly to work on messaging with professional messaging expert to describe how the goals of individual organizations, the EECOI and PWI are tied to social equity and environmental justice. (4) The group will also apply to 1-2 potential funding sources.	To Be Determined
Activity 3.1.2: Provide training and support to EECOI members so they can understand, articulate, and incorporate DEI into their own work and that of the EECOI.	1/1/17	9/30/17	(1) Conduct two Multicultural Environmental Education workshops. (2) Small group consulting. (3) Multicultural Environmental Education refresher workshop.	Three Circles Center
Objective 3.2: Continuing the Conversation: Listening and learning from environmental education organizations reaching historically underrepresented communities.				
Activity 3.2.1: Establish and conduct a community forum with other COIs to build new relationships and identify new collective impact opportunities.	1/1/17	6/30/17	(1) Identify topics and potential partners in creating the forum. The topic and forum will be designed around listening and building partnership with communities currently underrepresented in the EECOI. (2) Plan and implement the first annual community forum. (3) Survey forum participants to reflect on impact. (4) Share results with all EECOI members.	To Be Determined
Objective 3.3: Define specific measurable objectives/benchmarks, which will allow for evaluation of EECOI work completed, and provide a starting point for annual strategy adjustments.				
Activity 3.3.1: Measure and document over time the progress and impact of the EECOI's DEI work, thereby establishing a leadership role within the PWI.	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Design and implement the first of up to 3 surveys. (2) Flush out the evaluation model outlined in year 2's work plan. (3) Prepare the members of the community of practice to participate as co-researchers. (4) Process and publish the results to EECOI members. (5) Researching additional funding sources and submit proposals.	Three Circles Center
Strategy 4: Building and sustaining the capacity of the EECOI.				
Objective 4.1: Maintain EECOI Support Structure				
Activity 4.1.1: EECOI Manager	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Supports all strategies. (2) Provide EECOI coordination and management. (3) Develop relationships that broaden EECOI efforts and cross-COI collaboration. (4) Establish relationships with new and current working partners that increases participation and involvement in the EECOI. (5) Use the EECOI proposal as a basis to apply for collaborative grants. (6) Create a communications plan. (7) Assist with the maintenance the EECOI webpage, PROP website, and EECOI/PWI social media sites.	Jennifer Grimm
Activity 4.1.2: Administrative Support Staff	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Assist the EECOI manager with meeting and event logistics. (2) Attend regular EECOI meetings to take notes and share. (3) Assist the EECOI manager with internal and external communication. (4) Regular updates to the EECOI webpage, PROP website, PWI website, and EECOI/PWI social media sites.	To Be Determined
Activity 4.1.3: Steering Committee members and support	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Fill any vacant Steering Committee seats. (2) Meet at least every month. (3) Support the EECOI Manager, as needed or requested. (4) Provide guidance for the EECOI that will expand and strengthen efforts, as well as develop greater cross-COI collaboration. (5) Establish relationships with new and current working partners that increases participation and involvement in the EECOI.	11 members (Brice Boland, Donna Chang, Brianna Charbonnel, Kari Ann Elling, Jim Gawel, Karen Gogins, Emily Pinckney, Monty Smith, Chris Towe, Breanna Trygg, Lia Wetzstein)

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Objective 4.2: Develop partnerships with new working partners, strengthen partnerships with current working partners and explore working relationships across COIs that lead to improved access to resources, funding, and reflection.				
Activity 4.2.1: Development Committee members	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Continue exploration for potential revenue sources and populating the EECOI grants database. (2) Review grants that will be submitted on behalf of the EECOI. (3) Assist EECOI members with grant applications and serve as a resource.	To Be Determined
Activity 4.2.2: EECOI Meetings	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Hold at least one EECOI convening per quarter (2 formal meetings, 2 informal meetings) to review progress, discuss new ideas and partnerships, and explore additional funding sources. (2) Hold one convening to discuss Year 4 renewal process and work plan. (3) Hold an annual event for working partners to informally network, celebrates, and share updates.	Citizens for a Healthy Bay
Activity 4.2.3: EECOI Collaborative Thinking & Planning Meetings	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) Hold one convening to review the Year 3 work plan, have a facilitated conversation about Year 3 activities, and planning sessions for collaboration between activities. (2) Hold two or three convenings for all EECOI members to participate in facilitated discussions and planning using collaborative thinking to plan for Years 4, 5, and beyond.	Back Loop Consulting
Activity 4.2.3: Reflective Practices	1/1/17	12/31/17	(1) FACULTY - Maintain the three member Reflective Practices faculty for collaboration and research who can support the other deliverables and be an educational resource for the EECOI and all participants in the PWI. (2) GATHERINGS - Design and facilitate a site-based reflective practice gathering to foster connection to the Puyallup Watershed. (3) COACHING - Provide coaching and other resources to assist in integrating reflective practices into meetings within the EECOI and other COIs.	Trygg Consulting, Monty Smith, Pakabru Consulting
Objective 4.3: Improve communication among EECOI working partners				
Activity 4.3.1: Constant Contact subscription	2/23/17	2/22/18	(1) Annual subscription that provides efficient email communication, newsletters, survey/poll, and other tools that improve EECOI communication.	
Objective 4.4: Strengthen EECOI presence in the Puyallup Watershed and use the PWI website and digital resources to effectively share content and resources with working partners and larger environmental education community.				
Activity 4.4.1: Web Support Staff	1/1/17	4/31/17	(1) Finalize the new EECOI webpage. (2) Finish aligning the Puyallup River Outreach Project (PROP) website with the EECOI webpage. (3) Assist the EECOI manager in developing a communications plan.	To Be Determined