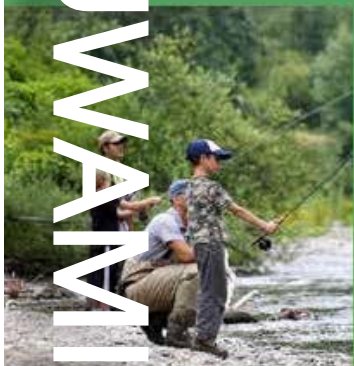




# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR GREEN/ DUWAMISH



This document represents a staggering amount of work accomplished by a Coalition of Organizations committed to restoring the health of the Green/ Duwamish Watershed. Working alone we will not achieve our vision, but if we continue to work together, anything is possible.

Thank you all!



# Annual Report

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# Annual Report

## Executive Summary

Our Green/Duwamish (OGD) is a coalition of Partners focused on improving stormwater management in the Watershed. This annual report represents a collaborative regional effort to identify and document actions to improve stormwater quality and control stormwater quantity during the 2021 calendar year.

**This is the Coalition's first annual report and worth celebrating!**

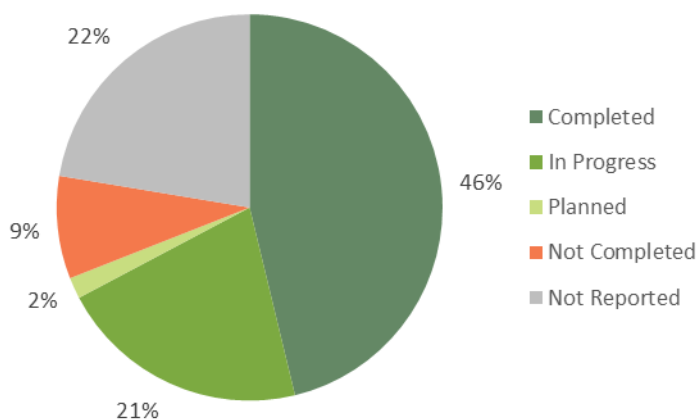
The report is divided into two parts:

1. **Goal Sheets** – The Goals are a foundational part of the Watershed Stormwater Strategy and highlight actions designed to achieve specific outcomes. Actions were self-assigned by Partners for their own work, and each Goal's section of the report summarizes the Coalition's success. In general, individual Partners completed a truly amazing amount of work.
2. **Governance Dimensions** – The Coalition is committed to embracing self-reflection in the pursuit of continuous improvement. Part of this effort includes a survey designed by Partners – for Partners. The results are divided into five specific categories (called dimensions), each one detailing survey responses on strengths, room for growth, and opportunities for improvement.

### GOAL SHEETS

The Implementation plan laid out 675 actions taking place in the watershed by 21 different Partner organizations. This represents a staggering level of effort not captured before in one place. Of note was the impressive commitment to participation in the annual reporting process. For example, of those 675 actions, Partners provided a status update on 78% of them.

Status of Actions from the Implementation Plan



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Of the 675 actions identified in the Implementation Plan, OGD Partners provided a status update on 78% of them.

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Figure 1: Status of actions from the Implementation Plan

Of the actions reported, partners achieved a success rate (Completed, In Progress, Planned) of 89%.

Each action from the Implementation Plan is also tagged with a primary 'action type'. These action type definitions can be found in [Table 3 of the OGD Implementation Plan](#). The 'action type' provides some context at a quick glance.

Figure 2 shows the percent success of all reported actions by action type. Our collective effort achieved 100% of the Maintenance and Regulatory Compliance actions, and greater than 90% for Research, Technical Assistance, Infrastructure, Working Together, and Funding. Data and Technology actions were

88% successful, while Restoration (75%) and Outreach (71%) rounded out the least successful of the Coalition’s ‘action types,’ still with very high rates of success.

The less successful actions, related to Outreach, can be accounted for by the COVID-19 pandemic. Several Partners reported the need to readjust targets based on their inability to host or organize in-person events due to the pandemic. We would have seen a lower success rate if organizations had been less nimble, but many got creative in how they connected with their communities, utilizing available technology.

It is encouraging to see a **100% success rate for reported Maintenance and Regulatory Compliance** actions. These rates naturally mirror each other since many maintenance actions are tied to regulatory compliance.

Finally, the data points to a very strong and engaged group of stormwater professionals striving to understand how to improve the management of stormwater in the Green/Duwamish Watershed. The success of actions associated with Research and Reports is supportive of a community that knows more is always possible and is committed to finding solutions.

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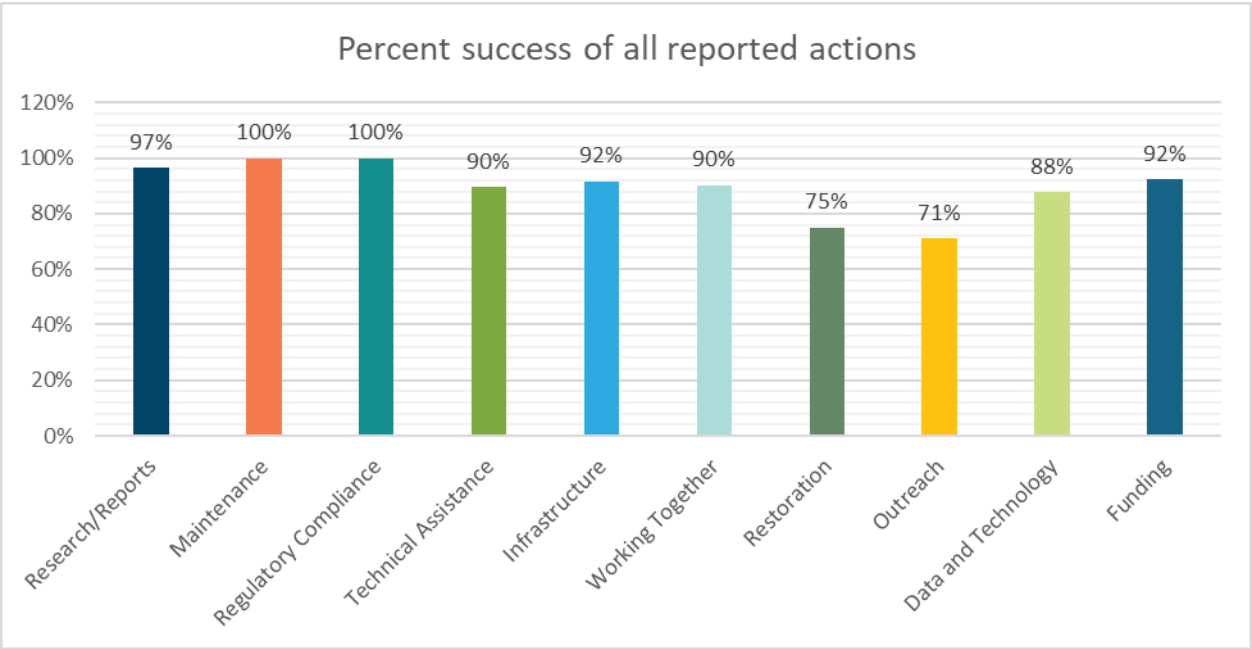


Figure 2: Percent success of all reported actions

GOVERNANCE DIMENSIONS

In 2021, Coalition Partners agreed to examine how well the Coalition was functioning, and developed a short survey. Survey questions were informed by a performance rubric proposed by Emerson and Nabatchi in their paper called, “Evaluating the productivity of collaborative governance regimes: a performance matrix”. Five of the nine dimensions detailed in the rubric – Efficiency, Efficacy, Equity, Effectiveness, and External Legitimacy – were selected by Partners for the survey.

20 partners responded to the survey, providing feedback across all 5 dimensions. More detail can be

found in that section of this report, but overall, Partners feel that the Coalition is operating well. Largely, Partners continue to get value out of participating in OGD, most frequently citing 'Information sharing' and 'networking' as examples of capacity building that has led to improvements within their organizations. In addition, half of the survey respondents answered that they have observed measurable positive changes within their organizations because of their participation in OGD.

There is still significant room for improvement. Partners provided excellent suggestions for several dimensions. Questions related to Equity highlighted the need to broaden engagement with other organizations working in the watershed and develop a mechanism to provide a stipend for participation.

Questions related to the dimension of External Legitimacy indicated a need for more coordination with regional efforts that have had success building their brand and communicating their value. When others understand what we're doing it becomes easier to connect, collaborate, and convince decision-makers to continue funding our work.

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The annual reporting process helps focus near-term work on what is realistic, relevant, and effective according to the best available information. It allows the Coalition to capture a snap-shot of how we're meeting our commitments to each other and the watershed. A more extensive five-year review will revisit OGD's organizational structure, mission, vision, goals, uncertainties, and data gaps to reassess and make changes based on what we learned.

This annual report is not perfect. Participation was below 100%, and the process has been overly burdensome for the perceived value. Discussions within the Partner group are already underway to re-evaluate how to tell the story of OGD's success more effectively, so please share what you think, and connect with us at: [www.ourgreenduwamish.com](http://www.ourgreenduwamish.com).



Share  
Connect  
Thrive

# OUR GREEN/DUWAMISH



# Goal

## Reduce priority toxics and other pollutants discharging to receiving waters

OUR  
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Share  
Connect  
Thrive

**Progress summary:** 26 partners submitted 239 actions to the annual work plan (see Figure 3).

Partners reported success related to **regulatory compliance** with the Municipal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, inspecting and maintaining municipal storm sewer system assets, developing stormwater management action plans, and **providing financial support** to regional monitoring efforts. Many partners also reported success in providing pollution prevention **technical assistance** to businesses and to homeowners looking to understand the performance of their rain gardens.

Barriers related to COVID made it challenging for Coalition partners to achieve success engaging with local communities on reducing toxics and pollutants being discharged to the river.

### Highlights:

*Puget Soundkeeper and partners on the Plastic Free Washington Coalition successfully advocated for the passage of SB5022, ensuring funding to protect waters throughout the state and in the Duwamish River.*



■ Completed	- 98 (41%)
■ In Progress	- 63 (26%)
■ Planned	- 9 (4%)
■ Not Completed	- 21 (9%)
■ Not Reported	- 48 (20%)

Figure 3. Status of reported Goal 1 actions

### Next steps:

Continue working towards recommendations from our implementation plan development:

- Continue to advocate for policies that reduce the discharge of toxics into receiving waters.
- Use science-based decision making to maximize the benefits to water quality.
- Support community based public-private partnerships to promote pollutant reducing green infrastructure.
- Promote the development of 'safer' products and work to remove toxins from stormwater through retrofits in locations with the greatest opportunity.
- Improve on existing mechanisms to track water quality, sediment quality, and restoration of beneficial uses.



Photo Credit: Todd Hunsdorfer, King County

# Goal

## Foster partnerships, broad participation and collaboration amongst watershed stakeholders and communities

**Progress summary:** 27 partners submitted 154 actions to the annual work plan (see Figure 4).

Partners reported more success related to Objective 2: **developing tools to increase collaboration** amongst stakeholders. There were also many Partners who reported having success with **coordinating** across jurisdictional and organizational boundaries. Recurring meetings were still held, and relationships fostered during a challenging time for the region.

Of note, Partners were also quick to identify that staff and resource shortages were making it difficult to participate in regional meetings where collaboration occurs. Most importantly this may have affected the number of actions reported on for this goal and all others in this report.



Photo Credit: Duwamish Alive

### Highlights:

*WRIA 9 released the 2021 update to the Central Puget Sound Watershed Salmon Habitat Plan, “Making Our Watershed Fit for a King.” This update represents the next chapter of salmon recovery efforts in the watershed, a major collaborative effort, and the result of OGD Partner participation.*



Figure 4. Status of reported Goal 2 actions

### Next steps:

Continue working towards recommendations from our implementation plan development:

- Focus on building and strengthening relationships within the Coalition.
- Develop a mechanism for prioritizing actions within the watershed that encourages partnerships and emphasizes learning from each other.
- Continue to connect with existing regional organizations to maximize goal alignment and increased community engagement.
- Seek a balance between collaborating on existing efforts and trying new approaches.



# Goal

## Increase access to existing data, research and resources

**Progress summary:** 14 partners submitted 38 actions to the annual work plan (see Figure 5).

Partners reported success related to **mapping** outfalls and private stormwater systems. Additional research and resources to support Goal 1 efforts, provide **guidance on decision making**, and track restoration and green infrastructure across the watershed were reported in this annual report. Of particular note, Partners reported success with integrating **Equity and Social Justice** data into the development of regional tools to ensure the creation of more holistic stormwater solutions.

Funding and staffing challenges were identified by Partners as obstacles to achieving the actions identified in this annual report.

### Highlights:

- 1. The Nature Conservancy updated existing reporting with new data on the pollutant found responsible for coho prespawn mortality (6ppd-q).*
- 2. Several OGD Partners participated in a Technical Committee to develop a science synthesis review to inform Ecology's approach to Structural Stormwater Controls.*
- 3. Stewardship Partners launched version 2.0 of their Sound Impacts Tool to show the collective impact of green infrastructure throughout the watershed and beyond.*



Figure 5. Status of reported Goal 3 actions



### Next steps:

The OGD Coalition recognizes that additional work must be completed to reach the Desired Future State for goal 3, and recommends:

- Focusing on continuing to improve transparency, accessibility, and connectivity of existing systems and data.
- Working to provide credible information related to the science of managing stormwater.
- Integrating social demographics of our region into decision making methodologies for the watershed.



Photo Credit: Gavin Tiemeyer, King County

# Goal

## Restore natural hydrologic functions through reduction in uncontrolled stormwater runoff flows.

**Progress summary:** 20 partners submitted 66 actions to the annual work plan (see Figure 6).

Successes included **research** that took a systematic approach to prioritizing projects in the areas of fish passage, stormwater facility retrofits, and capital projects. Many partners reported success with annual **inspections of existing flow control facilities**—both public and private, and efforts to **protect and revegetate habitat** throughout the watershed. Continued work on the **OGD mapping tool** will support ongoing Stormwater Management Action Plans.

The Puget Sound Regional Council completed guidance for jurisdictions looking to develop incentive programs, **encouraging green stormwater infrastructure (GSI)**. Several Partners are responding with new programs to facilitate the **installation, inspection, and maintenance of GSI**.

Challenges to achieving action items in this task were varied. Partners reported difficulty overcoming competing needs within their own organizations and with private property owners. There may be opportunities to overcome these barriers with improved communication.



Figure 6. Status of reported Goal 4 actions

Completed - 23 (35%)
In Progress - 21 (32%)
Planned - 1 (2%)
Not Completed - 3 (5%)
Not Reported - 18 (27%)



Photo Credit: King County

### Highlights:

*Several municipalities (Auburn, Normandy Park, Des Moines) updated Drainage Master Plans with analyses of areas most in need of improved flow control facilities. These documents will be supported by the regional success of the continued development of Stormwater Management Action Plans.*

### Next steps:

The OGD Coalition wants to emphasize key areas of coordination for improving and accessing new opportunities to advance the restoration of hydrologic function in the watershed. They are:

- Create a list of fully vetted priority projects aimed at improving flow control in the watershed.
- Continue collaborating with WRIA 9 habitat restoration, land acquisition, and legislative advocacy efforts.
- Work with large land owners to promote mechanisms for stormwater flow control such as tree planting and stormwater retrofits.

# Goal

## Increase innovation in stormwater runoff management

**Progress summary:** 19 partners submitted 68 actions to the annual work plan (see Figure 7).

Successes included ongoing **funding incentives** like Ecology's Capacity Grants and Seattle-King County's RainWise program. **Research projects** explored using compost-amended biofiltration swales to reduce stormwater toxicity for coho, improving discharges from mobile businesses, and the feasibility of nutrient credits and flow control credit trading. **Technical assistance** helped distribute best practices to businesses and property owners. TAPE and Tech Stars cultivated emerging technologies, like smart sensors for stormwater ponds (joint venture by The Nature Conservancy), and several partners participated in the ad-hoc committee process to inform evolving NPDES permit requirements.

Barriers related to changing project goals and timelines prevented a few actions from being completed as planned.



Figure 7. Status of reported Goal 5 actions

■ Completed - 41 (60%)  
■ In Progress - 11 (16%)  
■ Not Completed - 3 (4%)  
■ Not Reported - 13 (19%)

### Highlights:

*Stewardship Partners' Equitable Green Infrastructure Incentives is reworking GI incentives to prioritize environmental justice in funding structures. We have shared our equitable incentives model and continue to do so. Success in garnering funding allows us to continue the effort into 2022.*



### Next steps:

Continue working towards recommendations from our implementation plan. These are:

- Promote a culture of innovation in hiring decisions.
- Work to treat the watershed holistically (crossing jurisdictional boundaries).
- Prioritize flexibility, adaptability, and projects/ programs with multiple benefits.
- Explore additional partnerships, especially with research institutions and schools.



Photo Credit: Hannah Weinberger, Crosscut



# Goal

## Increase awareness and an understanding of stormwater management



**Progress summary:** 20 partners submitted 105 actions to the annual work plan (see Figure 8).

Several Partners reported working with ECOSS on promoting a **spill kit incentive program**. NPDES Permittees completed erosion control **staff trainings** crucial to protecting water quality, and several were successful at hosting the annual StormFest event. Despite COVID, the City of Seattle was able to continue developing their contractor academy, and **promote green stormwater infrastructure** trainings to multicultural private property owners. While Puget Soundkeeper worked with citizen scientists to complete a salmon pre-spawn mortality survey on Longfellow creek. COVID made outreach challenging and several agencies took the opportunity to focus on their virtual presence, engaging with communities through social media platforms.

The inability to host in-person meetings made it challenging to achieve tasks in this goal. In addition, many of the actions reported as 'not completed' are a function of needing to refine the reporting process. Several partners identified actions that were mistakenly labeled as their responsibility.



Figure 8. Status of reported Goal 6 actions

### Highlights:

*The City of Maple Valley delivered on a commitment to partner with Nature Vision to provide in person training and online resources that educate K-12 students on watersheds, ecosystems, and invasive plants. This program reached more than 400 students in 2021.*

### Next steps:

Partners recognize there is an absence of existing resources to build out regional engagement programs. More needs to be done to:

- Provide resources and support to local community based organizations.
- Work with other regional initiatives to leverage other outreach efforts.
- Develop a watershed campaign to engage with schools, elected officials, and the Puget Sound Partnership.



Photo Credit: Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition

# Goal

## Build a coalition or collaborative entity to carry out the vision for the Green/Duwamish Watershed-Wide Stormwater Strategy

**Progress summary:** King County submitted two actions and three others were identified as the responsibility of the entire Coalition (see status in Figure 9).

The few actions under this goal belies the relative importance to the functionality of the Coalition. The actions defined under this goal track to the workplan of the Coalition and the King County staff tasked with facilitating the effort. For example there was success **maintaining the schedule** of meetings, **supporting subgroup action**, and ratifying **Partner Expectations**.

Of note, in 2021 there were three active subgroups focused on **advancing the mapping tool**, **coordinating with other regional partnerships**, and **exploring ways to provide resource support** to Partners.

The primary challenge preventing the Coalition from achieving success with all actions in this goal is related to having enough time. Staff were simply stretched beyond capacity. This has led to ongoing discussions about the future of the annual reporting process.

### Highlights:

*The OGD Coalition co-designed a Partner-led survey to collect feedback on how well the Coalition is functioning, what types of efforts would allow for the continued improvement of the Coalition, and methods to more effectively support the work of Partner organizations. More about the results of this survey can be found in the section on Governance Dimensions.*

### Next steps:

The Coalition recognizes this effort is evolving. Future action should be focused on:

- Learning about other watershed efforts.
- Seeking out additional opportunities to gather community input.
- Recruiting new organizations and expanding our partnerships
- Leading with equity and focus on trust and relationship building.

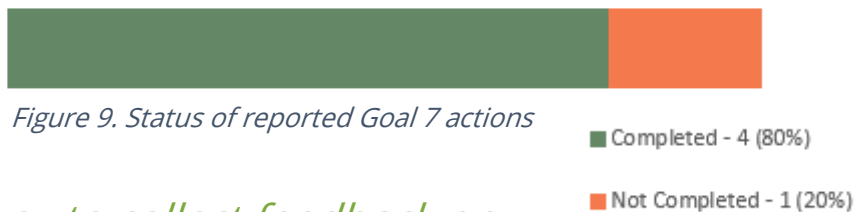


Figure 9. Status of reported Goal 7 actions



Photo Credit: Green River Coalition

# Governance Dimensions

How the OGD Coalition governs is critical to achieving collective success. As a collaborative organization committed to co-design, we adapted a method for understanding how well we're functioning from a paper by Kirk Emerson and Tina Nabatchi entitled, "[Evaluating the productivity of collaborative governance regimes: a performance matrix](#)". The assessment measures performance across nine governance dimensions. The rows of the table below (Table 1) represent three levels of performance (our actions, outcomes resulting from our actions, and adaptation as a response to our work). The columns represent three beneficiaries of success: for individual partners, for the Coalition, and for the Watershed. For the purpose of our first annual report, we chose only five of the nine dimensions, defined them to be specific to our efforts, and asked for feedback on the Coalition's performance.

	Partners	OGD Coalition	Watershed
Actions/outputs	<b>Efficiency</b>	<b>Efficacy</b>	<b>Equity</b>
Outcomes	<b>Effectiveness</b>	<b>External legitimacy</b>	<b>Effectiveness</b>
Adaptation	<b>Equilibrium</b>	<b>Viability</b>	<b>Sustainability</b>

Table 1: Governance Dimensions Assessed by OGD (in

Table 1 shows the five dimensions we considered for review highlighted in green. We will revisit the other 4 longer-term dimensions (shown in gray) when there has been more opportunity to reflect on the impact of the Coalition's efforts.

## How the OGD Coalition governs is critical to achieving collective success.

We defined the selected governance dimensions in the following way:

**Efficiency:** Partners accomplish their work faster and more cheaply as part of the Coalition, rather than by themselves.

**Efficacy:** The Coalition met the targets outlined for actions in the Implementation Plan assigned to the Coalition, Core Team, and any subgroups.

**Equity:** Fair and appropriate distribution of benefits, costs, and risks of stormwater management are felt by each partner agency throughout the watershed.

**Effectiveness:** Partners have observed measurable positive changes (e.g., increased capacity, resources, skills, programming, ease of permit management, etc.) within their respective organization or agency that can be attributed to Coalition participation.

**External Legitimacy:** External agencies and community organizations recognize the Coalition's efforts to improve stormwater management in the watershed. Recognition could be in the form of grants, awards, conferences, speaking invitations, or in other ways.

The Coalition agreed to these definitions and used them to develop a survey to be completed by OGD Partners. 20 Partners responded and provided the following feedback for each governance dimension.





# Governance Dimensions

## Efficiency

When asked to indicate their level of agreement with the statement, *“Because my organization participates in the OGD Coalition, I can accomplish my work more easily than I would be able to on my own”*, participants were given a choice of five options (Completely Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, and Completely Disagree).

All survey participants responded favorably or neutral (Figure 10). 13 of the 20 responses indicated that participation in the OGD Coalition has had a positive impact on the representative’s ability to accomplish their work.

As a follow up, participants were asked, *“Which of these examples of OGD Coalition capacity building have helped your organization be more efficient? Select all that apply.”* Answers ranged from specific tools and resources to opportunities for building social capital (Figure 11).

*The [OGD Mapping] tool developed in part by OGD significantly reduced the amount of effort required by the City to develop the permit required receiving water inventory and provide assessment information on each receiving water and basin to select a priority basin.*

*- Halley Kimball, City of Maple Valley*

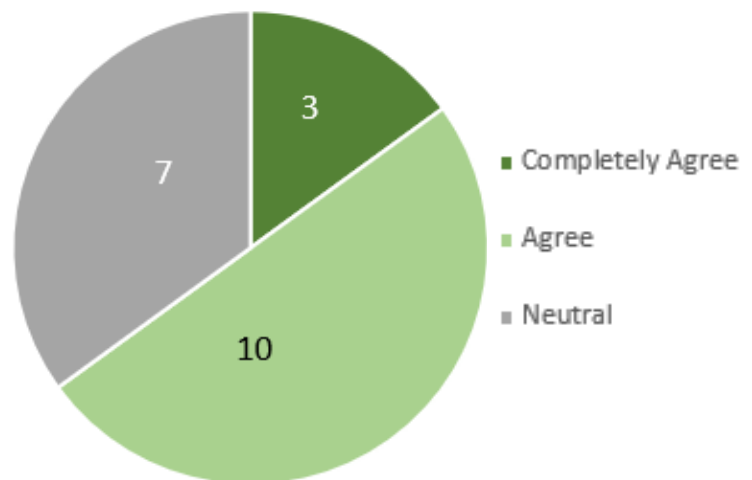


Figure 10. Results from Efficiency survey question #1

### NEXT STEPS:

There are several examples of ways the Coalition can help improve efficiencies at Partner organizations. Future efforts related to this governance dimension are already underway. For example:

- The Funding Subgroup has drafted a applied a process for the OGD Coalition to provide support for grant applications
- The OGD mapping tool is set to receive additional grant funding from the Washington Department of Ecology.

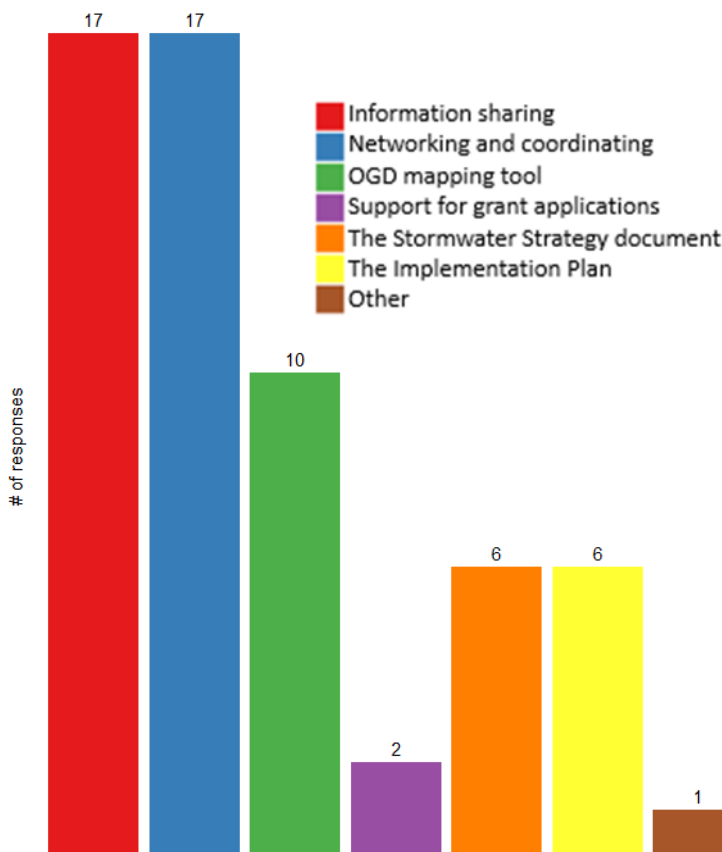


Figure 11 Results from Efficiency survey question #2

# Governance Dimensions

## Efficacy

The status of the Efficacy governance dimension was measured against the actions and targets assigned to the Coalition, Core Team, and all OGD subgroups in the Implementation Plan (rather than as a survey question). Those actions included:

### *Completed:*

- \* Annually assess regional partnerships (Coordination Subgroup)
- \* Semi-annual meetings with regional programs (Coordination Subgroup)

### *Completed with adjustments:*

- ◇ Support grant applications (Funding Subgroup)
- ◇ Mapping tool completed by end of 2021 (Mapping Subgroup)

### *Incomplete:*

- 4 online appendices from Implementation Plan (Core Team)

The efficacy of the OGD Coalition was mixed, although positive overall. 4 out of 5 group actions were completed, with or without adjustments. For example, the Coordination subgroup had success with completing actions they had committed to, but there were challenges with establishing a support process for grant applications and finding funding for the OGD Mapping tool. In addition, the Implementation Plan identified a target of developing 4 online appendices to support the development of various programmatic stormwater best management practices. This was not accomplished, and not added to the Implementation Plan. Instead, this action was delayed further with the assumption that the OGD Blog Document Library may provide a better location for those materials.

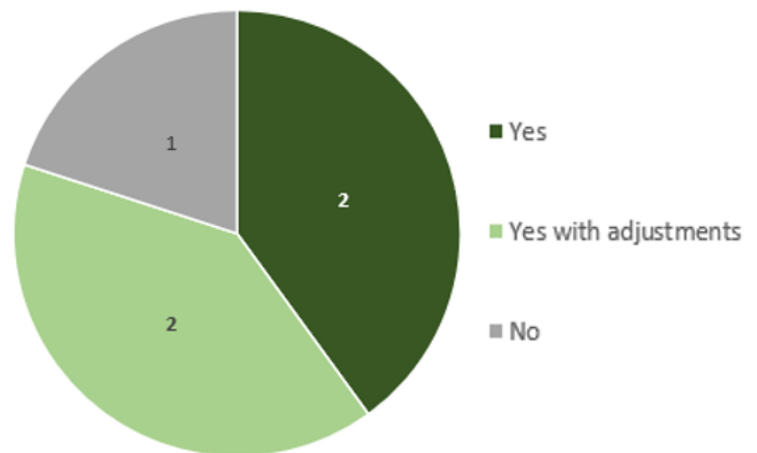


Figure 12. Results of Efficacy Governance Dimension

### NEXT STEPS:

The Coalition has a few items planned to improve the Efficacy of the Coalition. For example:

- There is tentative funding to complete the second phase of the OGD mapping tool. This work is scheduled to be underway in the summer of 2022. The mapping subgroup will reconvene to help move that project forward and help achieve the target described in the Implementation Plan.
- The Funding Subgroup will also be advancing a process to provide support for grant applications. This process should be approved by the OGD Coalition by the end of spring 2022 and functional this summer.
- There are no plans in place to develop 4 appendices that support regional program development, but that is a topic of discussion for the Coalition to consider this fall.
- In addition, the annual reporting process is being re-evaluated to ensure it meets the needs of the OGD coalition.



# Governance Dimensions

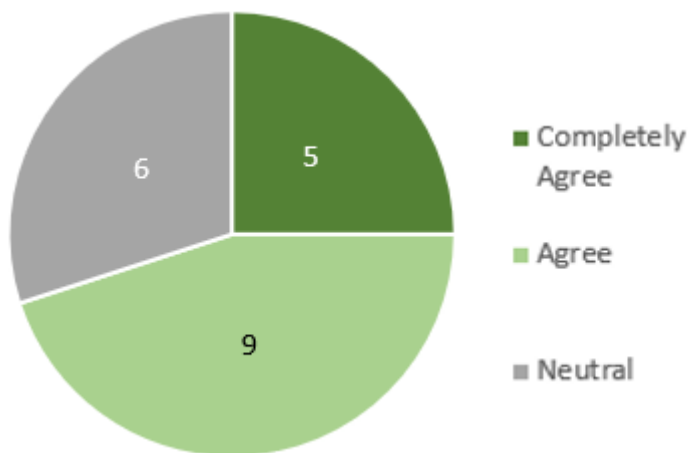
## Equity

When asked to indicate their level of agreement with the statement, *“The OGD Coalition has been fair and reasonable in the distribution of benefits, costs, and risks to partner organizations”*, survey participants were given a choice of 5 options (Completely Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, Completely Disagree).

All participants responded favorably or neutral (Figure 13). 14 of the 20 responses indicated that the OGD Coalition has been fair and reasonable in the distribution of benefits, costs, and risks to partner organizations.

In addition, there were a number of suggestions articulated by survey participants. Some of those themes include a desire for:

- More direct connections between OGD and people in the watershed
- Bringing more partners into the OGD Coalition – especially BIPOC organizations
- More direct engagement between partners
- A common pool of resources for capital funding
- Obtaining a baseline understanding of the benefits, costs and risks to partner organizations



*...Providing a stipend, especially for nonprofit groups to participate in OGD would be one way [to improve the equitable distribution of benefits, costs, and risks among OGD Coalition Partners throughout the watershed].*

*- Cleo Neculae, Washington Department of Ecology*

Figure 13. Results from Equity Governance Dimension question

### NEXT STEPS:

The COVID-19 pandemic made it challenging to engage in person with organizations unfamiliar with the Our Green/Duwamish initiative.

However, the **'Ad-hoc' process** to begin discussions on the reissuance of Municipal NPDES stormwater permits allowed for an opportunity to advocate for changes to regulations that are supportive of outreach, community engagement, and the development of a **common pool of resources for capital funding**.

In addition, the OGD Funding Subgroup has begun discussing a method to **provide a small stipend to cover staff participation** in Coalition meetings and anticipates being able to roll out a pilot program towards the end of 2022.





# Governance Dimensions

## Effectiveness

When asked to indicate their level of agreement with the statement, *“As an OGD Partner, I observed positive measurable changes within my organization that can be attributed to Coalition participation”*, survey participants were given a choice of 5 options (Completely Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, Completely Disagree).

All participants responded favorably or neutral (Figure 14). 10 of the 20 responses agreed that they observed measurable positive changes (e.g., increased capacity, resources, skills, programming, ease of permit management, etc.) within their respective organization or agency that can be attributed to Coalition participation.

Effectiveness is found in the second row of this Governance dimension framework, and the first column, meaning it is intended to be supportive of individual Partners and representative of the outcomes their actions. Naturally, this type of capacity building can be less direct, and harder to measure. While there was no disagreement with the survey statement, half of respondents still indicated seeing no positive measurable changes within their organization. **This is a possible area of improvement for the OGD Coalition to consider.**

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*The establishment of our jurisdiction's Stormwater Management Action Plan would not have happened without this group.*

*- Ben Stryker, City of Des Moines*

*It has helped make the case for spending my time on stormwater issues, which isn't the main part of my job. It has also helped make the case applying for an NEP grant.*

*- Erika Harris, Puget Sound Regional Council*

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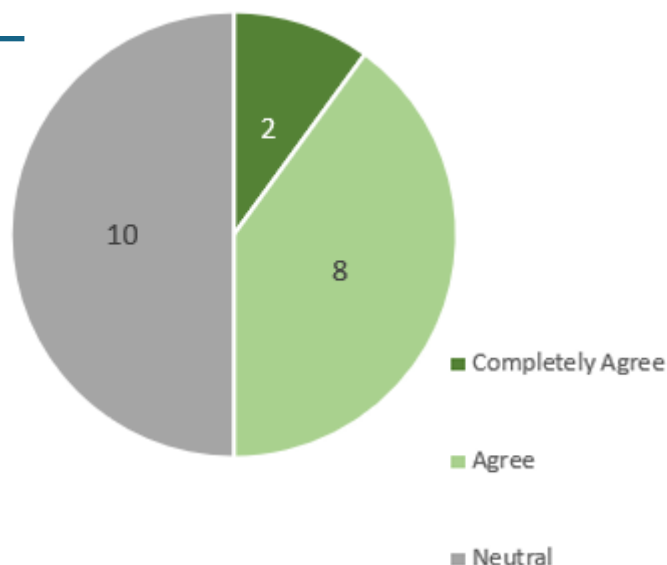


Figure 14. Results from Effectiveness question

### Next Steps:

Subsequent follow up with the Coalition in a March 2022 Partner meeting indicated that partners felt the Coalition was generally on the right track to continue developing mechanisms that support individual members and their ability to realize positive changes in their workplace.

We anticipate that work being done by the funding subgroup, ongoing opportunities for networking, and information sharing will allow for a positive trend to continue with this Governance Dimension.



# Governance Dimensions

## External Legitimacy

When asked to indicate their level of agreement with the statement, *"When you say you are an OGD Partner to external agencies and community organizations, they know what you are talking about."*, survey participants were given a choice of 5 options (Always, Often, Sometimes, Rarely, Never).

None of the participants answered "Always" (Figure 15), while 12 of the 20 indicated that "Sometimes" external agencies and community organizations are aware of the OGD Coalition when they are talking about it. 6 others stated that this is rare, and only 1 partner said it happens often.

These results indicate a possible deficiency and a need for being more active in our external communication efforts. However, the results from the follow-up question were promising.

When asked, *"Which of the following types of recognition have you or your organization received this past year as a result of your participation in OGD?"*, survey participants selected all that apply (Figure 16). 11 of the 20 respondents indicated one or more ways they have been recognized for participating in OGD.

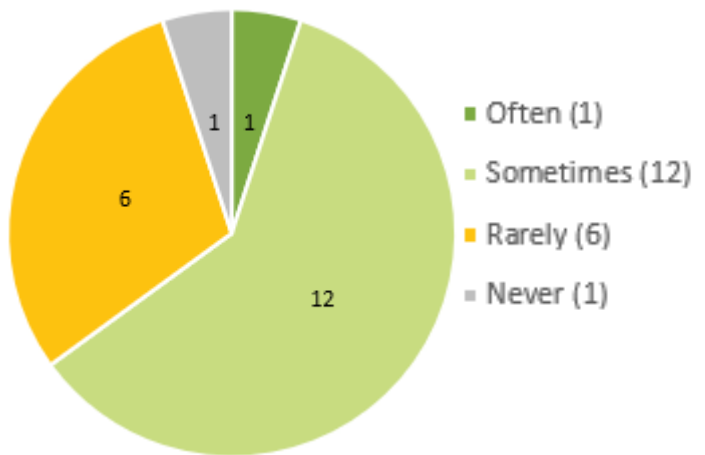


Figure 15. Results from External Legitimacy question #1

### Next Steps:

We believe that results related to this Governance Dimension are supportive of the situation experienced by many emerging regional efforts. Often it can take time for a collaborative initiative to be recognized outside of those participating organizations, but one way to improve external legitimacy is with more widespread recognition and create a positive feedback loop where recognition leads to legitimacy and then more recognition. There are currently no plans to focus on improving this Governance Dimension.

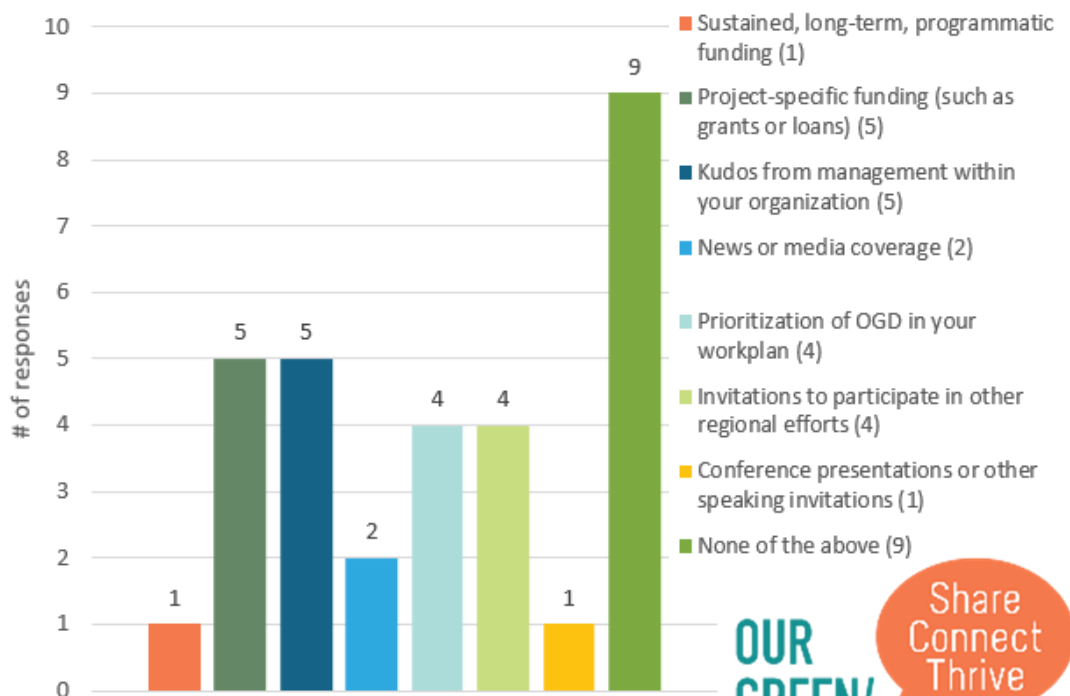


Figure 16. Results from External Legitimacy question #2

OUR  
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Share  
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