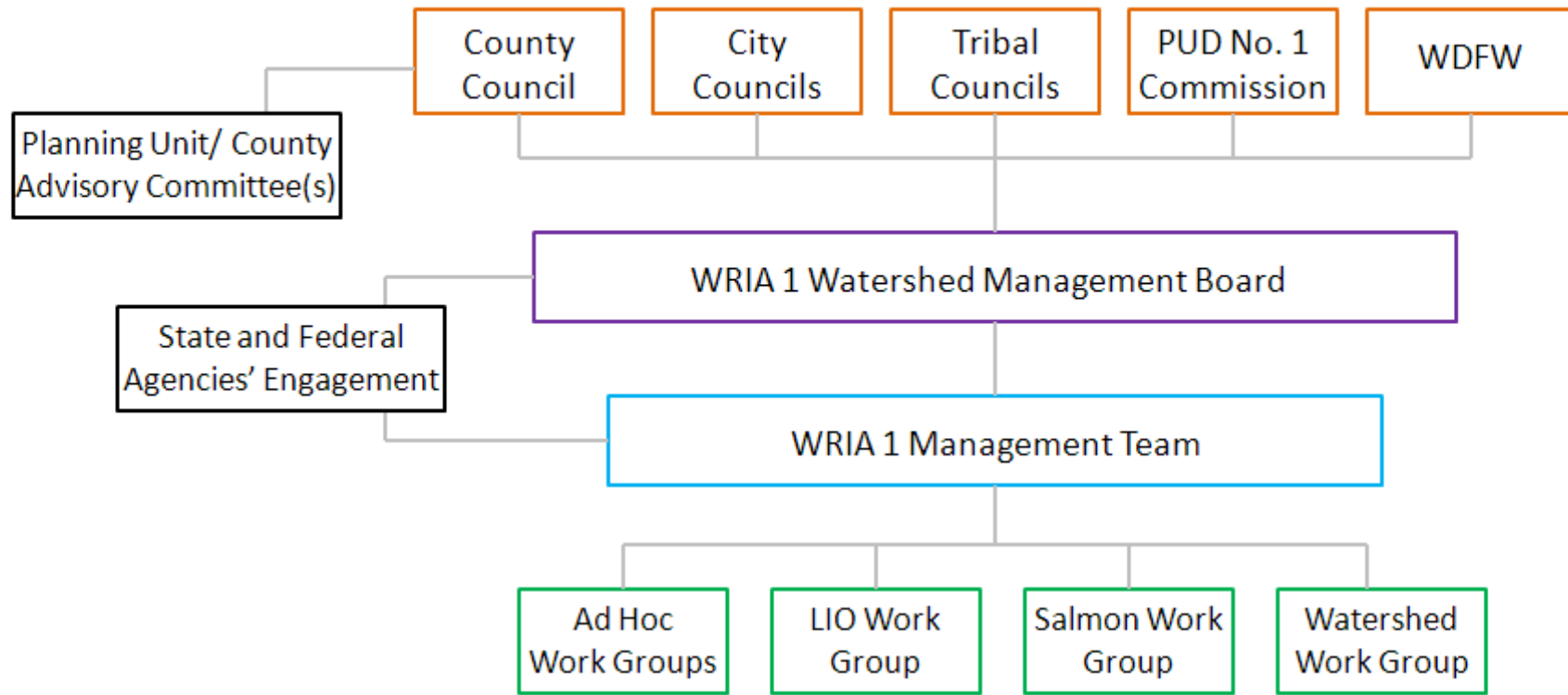


Other LIO Highlights

Whatcom, HCCC, San Juan, Strait, AHSS

- Established by Mandate
 - Fosters consistency/continuity as well as increased participation by elected officials
 - Supports tackling difficult recovery-based issues (i.e. stream flows, land use etc.)
- Designated Management Team/Body with Watershed View
 - Better alignment with ecosystem recovery scale
 - Common vision and passions among leaders
- Diversity Represented and Collaboration Streamlined
 - It is all about the people!
 - Local priorities well represented



- Councils of Bellingham, Blaine, Everson, Ferndale, Lynden, Nooksack Sumas, and Whatcom County.
- Tribal councils of the Lummi Nation and the Nooksack Tribe.
- Commission for PUD No. 1
- WDFW decision structure.

Constituents represented by each of the Councils and Commissions.

- Nooksack Indian Tribe Representative
- Lummi Nation Representative
- WDFW Regional Director
- Whatcom County Executive
- Mayors of all Municipalities
- Public Utility District Manager

Constituents represented by each of the members on the WRIA 1 Watershed Management Board. Board entity communications with other organizations as part of ongoing programs (e.g., USFWS, USFS)
Public Comment is included on WRIA 1 Watershed Management Board meeting agendas.

- Designated Representative of the WRIA 1 Watershed Management Board including: Nooksack Indian Tribe, Lummi Nation, WDFW, Whatcom County, City of Bellingham, Small Cities Representative, PUD No. 1

Board entity communications with other organizations as part of ongoing programs (e.g., USFWS, USFS)
Public Comment is included on meeting agendas.

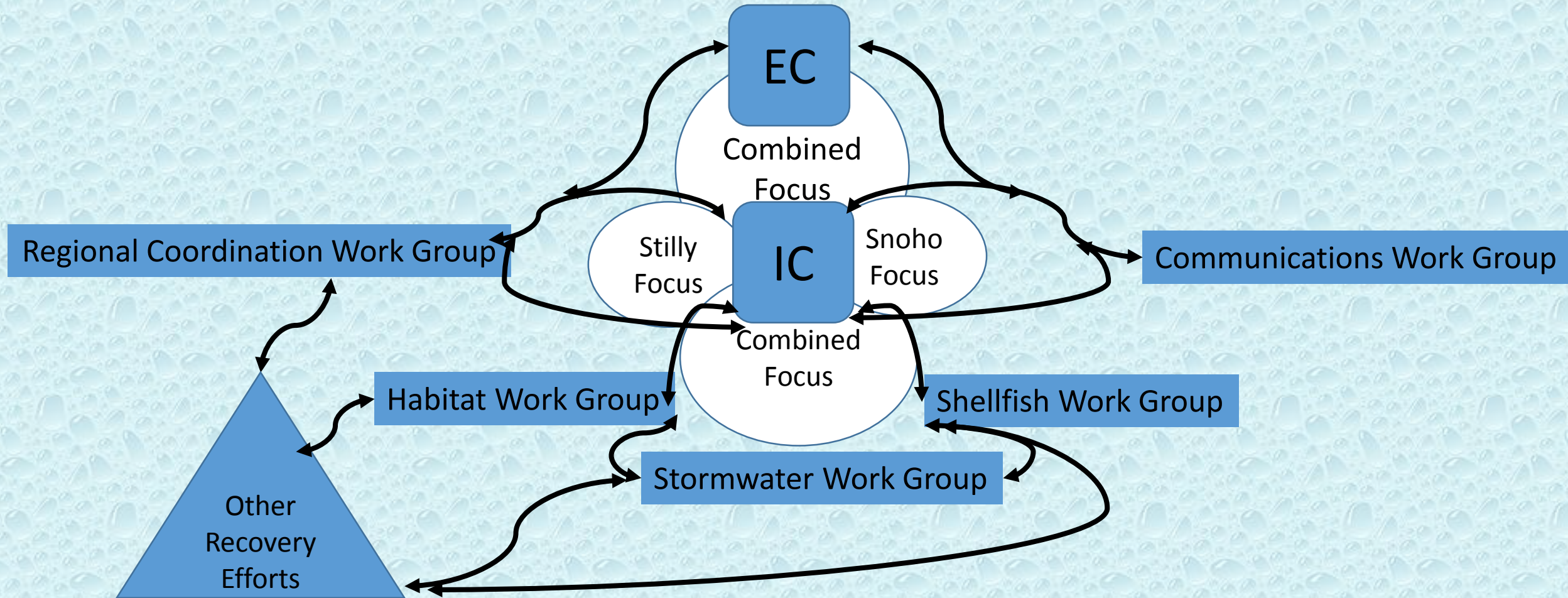
Salmon Work Group Members include staff of Nooksack Indian Tribe, Lummi Nation, WDFW, USFS, Whatcom County, Bellingham, WCD, Whatcom Land Trust, and NSEA. Combined Review Team associated with Salmon Work Group has additional representation that changes annually but typically includes FCZDAC, Small Cities, Nooksack Forks Community Member, WSU/Sea Grant, WWU, and DNR among others.

Watershed Work Group Members include staff of Nooksack Indian Tribe, Lummi Nation, Whatcom County, Bellingham, PUD No. 1, Department of Ecology

LIO Work Group composition is primarily Salmon Work Group and Watershed Work Group plus Small Cities Representative and MRC Coordinator.

Ad Hoc Work Group composition is based on topic and purpose of work.

Interim Approach Proposal



CRITERIA

- **DIVERSITY**

- *Ability to address any aspect of ecosystem recovery*
 - *Within LIO Plan and broader watershed planning processes/documents*

- **LEADERSHIP**

- *Broadly involves and engages leadership (management and elected officials) at local level*

- **COLLABORATION**

- *Regional and local feedback and support loops (State, Federal, and local)*

- **CONTINUITY**

- *Adaptable and independent of geographic boundaries*

Draft Timeline

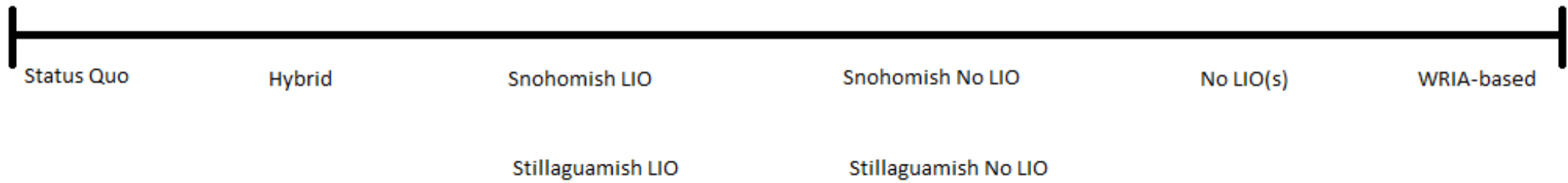
Start Date	End Date	Description	Duration (days)
3/16/17	Mar 16	Subcommittee meeting: Vision, Objectives and Goals	1
3/30/17	Apr 7	Send final draft Vision, Objectives and Goal Categories to IC	7
4/1/17	Jun 1	Survey/interview committees: feedback on guiding questions	60
5/1/17	May 31	Subcommittee meeting: committee survey results and setting org. model criteria	30
7/1/17	Aug 31	Test alternative structure models with IC and LEs	60
7/1/17	Sept 30	Subcommittee meeting: refine structure alternatives based on test results	90
9/1/17	Nov 30	Present preferred LIO structure model to IC and LEs	90
11/1/17	Dec 30	Subcommittee meeting: refine based on feedback and finalize recommendation	60
1/1/18	Feb 28	Present preferred LIO structure model (with feedback from IC and LEs) to EC	60
3/1/18	May 2018	Finalize preferred structure and involve regional partners (PSP/EPA)	90



Alternatives

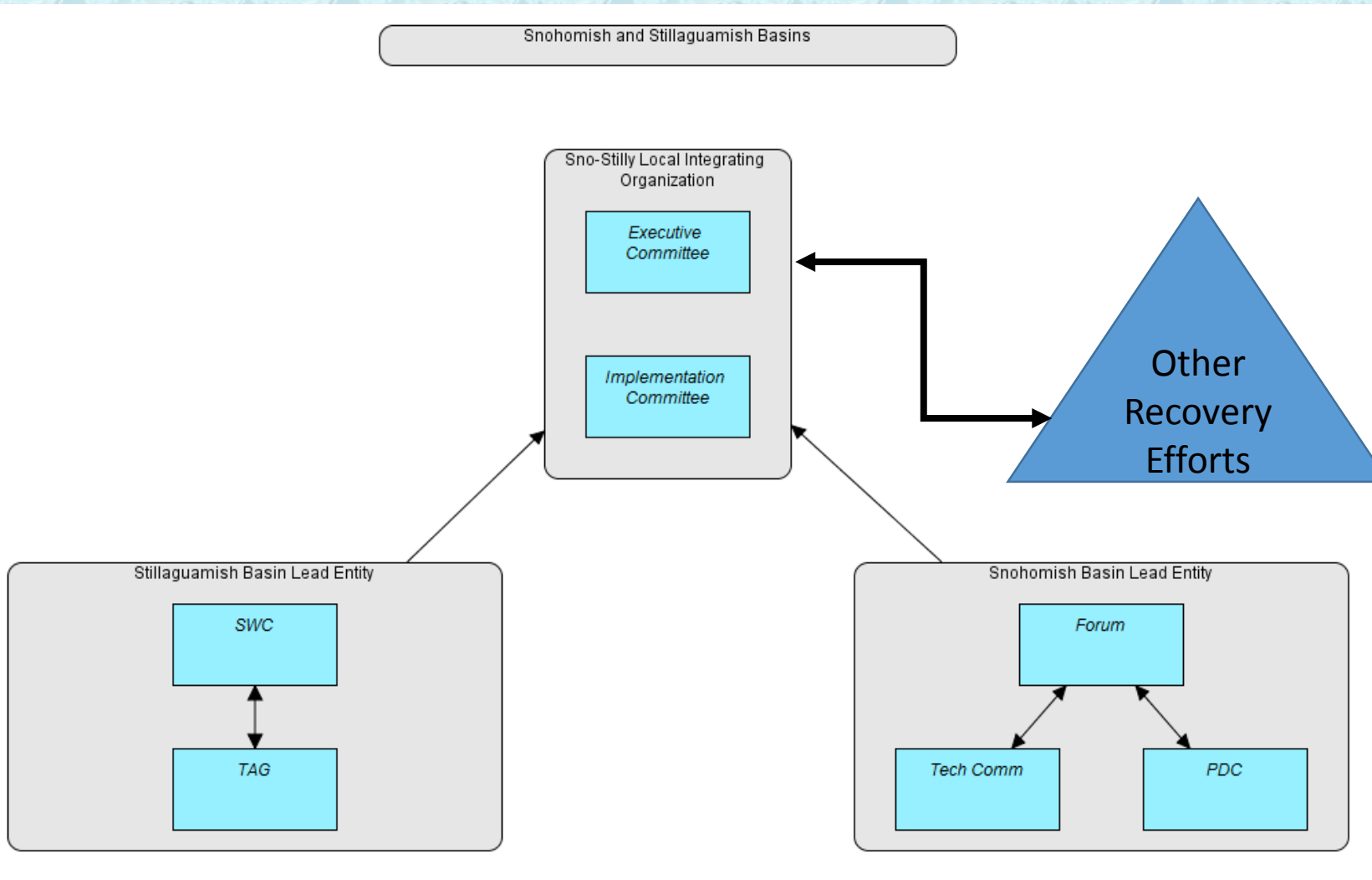
- Nuances
 - ✓ Explain/describe
- Criteria
 - ✓ Apply
- Gains/Loses
 - ✓ Eliminate

Options



Status Quo

This is the existing model. Therefore, the LIO would include both basins and maintain the existing meeting structure, including the Implementation Committee and Executive Committee. Additionally, the existing watershed groups would continue to operate under their existing structure, with the SWC and Forum continuing to focus on salmon recovery without integrating other ecosystem recovery issues.



Pros

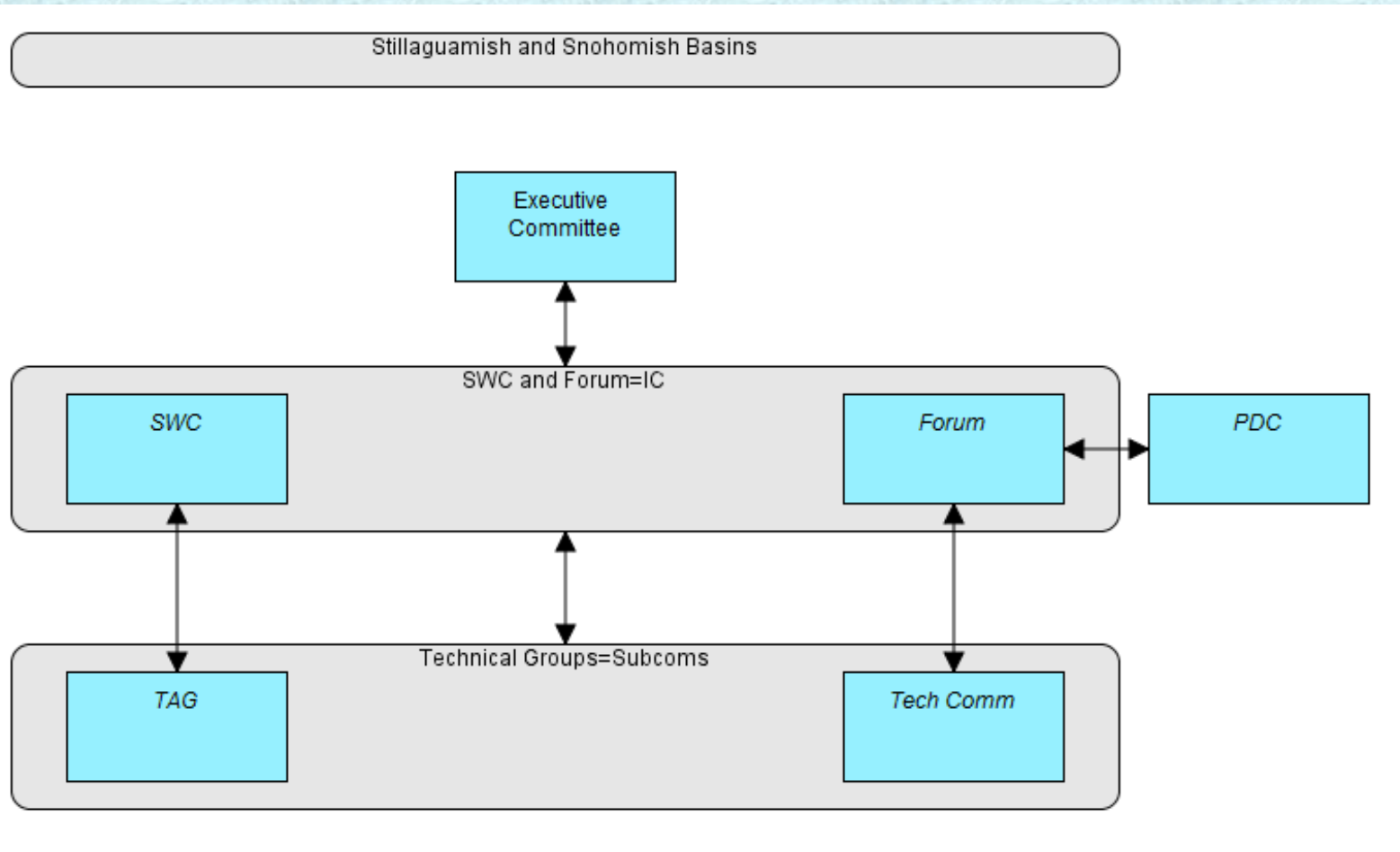
- Smaller individual groups focused on specific restoration areas, metrics, and targets
- LIO supports integration beyond salmon recovery in both watersheds

Cons

- Lack of coordination
- Meeting redundancy
- Difficult to prioritize actions
- Competing for funding and priorities between basins
- Large salmon focus, not integrating other components as strongly
- Risk of replicating rather than advancing salmon strategies/actions

Hybrid Model

This model is similar to the WRIA based model in that it will combine the Lead Entity structure with the LIO structure. However, the hybrid model would keep the combined basin approach that is part of the current LIO model (status quo). Therefore, the SWC and Forum would comprise the LIO Implementation Committee and the existing technical/policy groups would become the LIO subcommittees. Under this model, the Executive Committee would remain as the primary decision making body.



Pros

- No committees are removed; WRIA based subcommittees remain
- Reduce redundancy
- Integration
- Combining resources

Cons

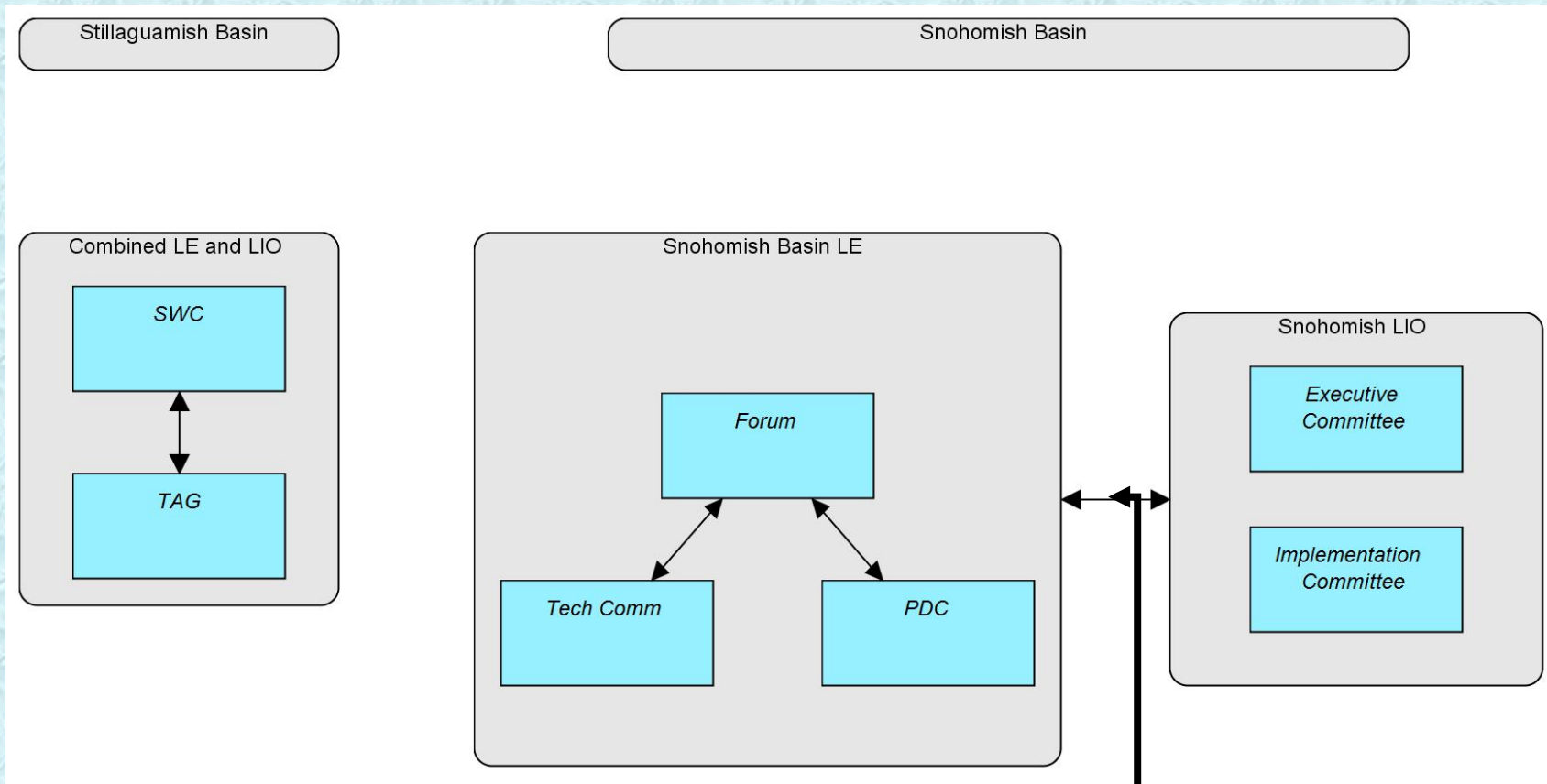
- EC makes decisions
- Structure and strategies not in alignment
- Same as WRIA-based model
- Increases capacity needs
- Requires revisiting the structure for all committees

Unknowns

- Capacity
- Effectiveness
- Lack of SI expertise

Stillaguamish LIO

Under this model, the Stillaguamish basin would absorb the LIO functions into the Lead Entity. The Snohomish basin would keep the existing Lead Entity and LIO structure.



Pros

- Prioritization easier
- Less redundancy-Stilly
- Maintains watershed focus

Cons

- Not integrated
- Competition
- Lack of regional influence
- Meeting redundancy-Snoho
- No NTA funding

Unknowns

- Project funding
- Capacity
- Integration



Snohomish LIO

Under this model, the Snohomish basin would absorb the LIO functions into the Lead Entity. The Stillaguamish basin would keep the existing Lead Entity and LIO structure.

Pros

- Prioritization is easier
- Less redundancy-Snoho

Cons

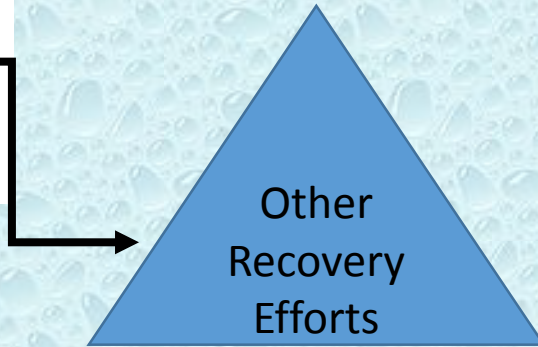
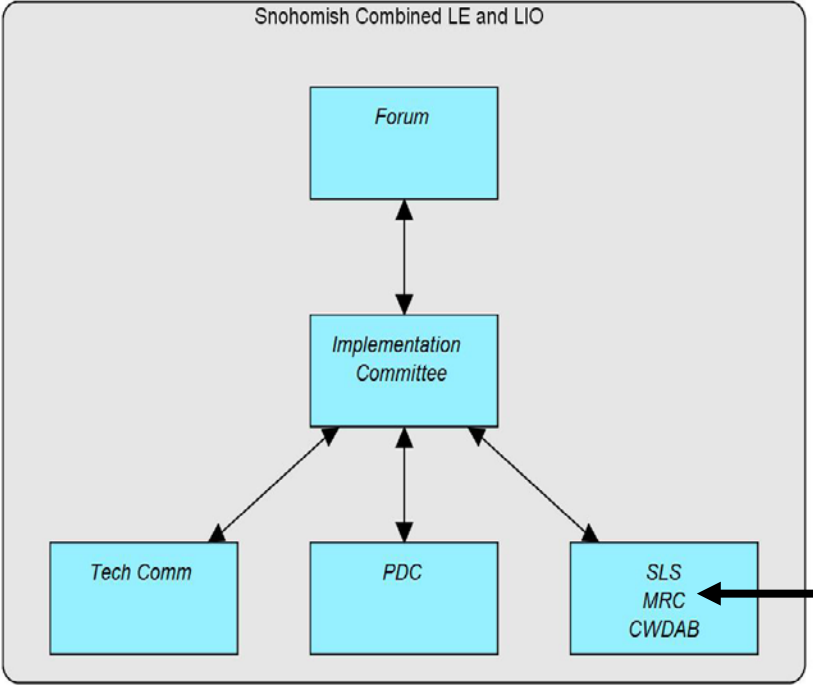
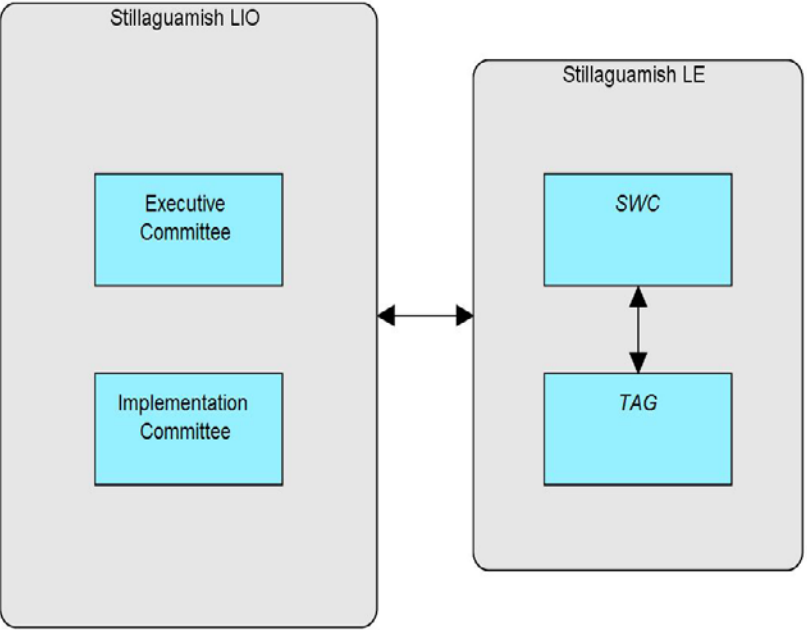
- Not integrated
- Competition
- Lack of regional influence
- Meeting redundancy-Stilly

Unknowns

- Project funding
- Capacity
- Integration

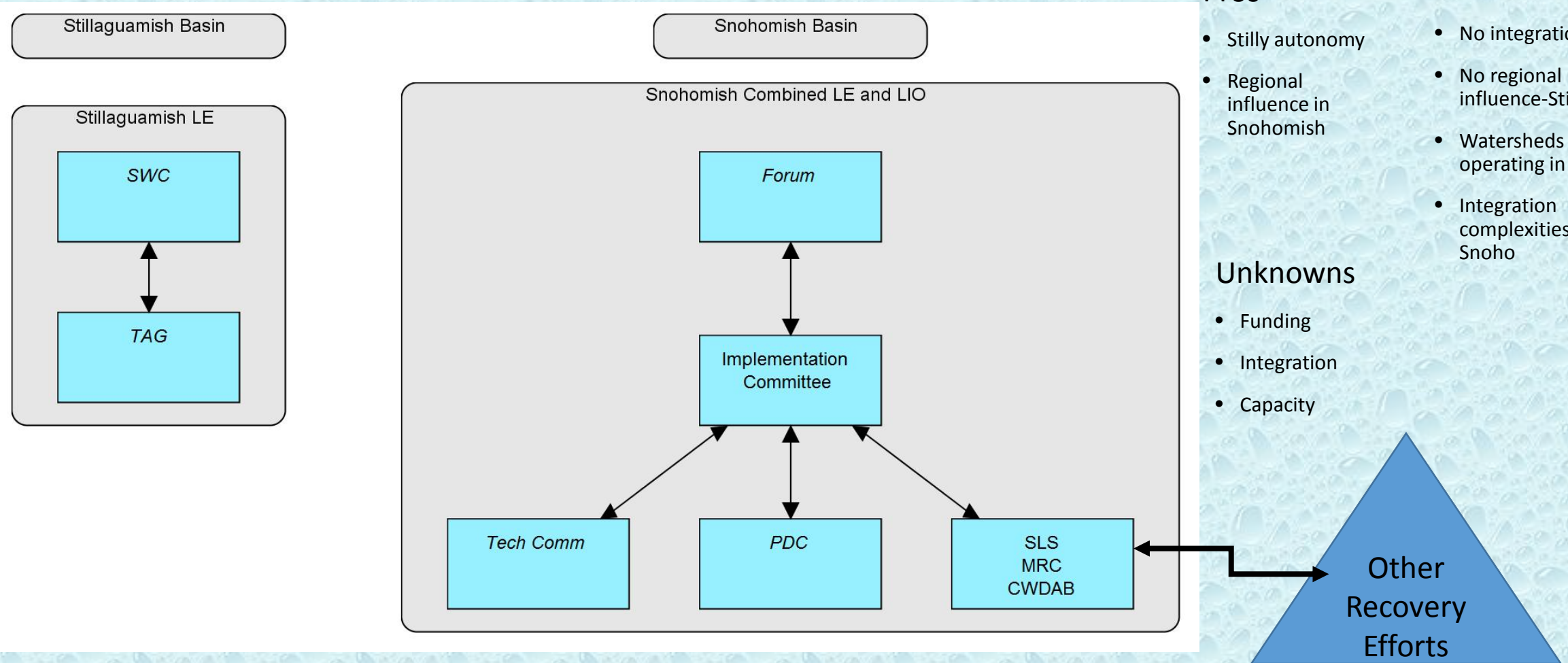
Stillaguamish Basin

Snohomish Basin



Stillaguamish No LIO

This primary difference between this model and the Stillaguamish LIO model is that there would be no LIO in the Stillaguamish basin and the Snohomish basin would combine the Lead Entity and LIO structure. The existing Lead Entity structure would remain in the Stillaguamish. Whereas the LIO would be absorbed into the Lead Entity structure for the Snohomish.



Pros

- Stilly autonomy
- Regional influence in Snohomish

Cons

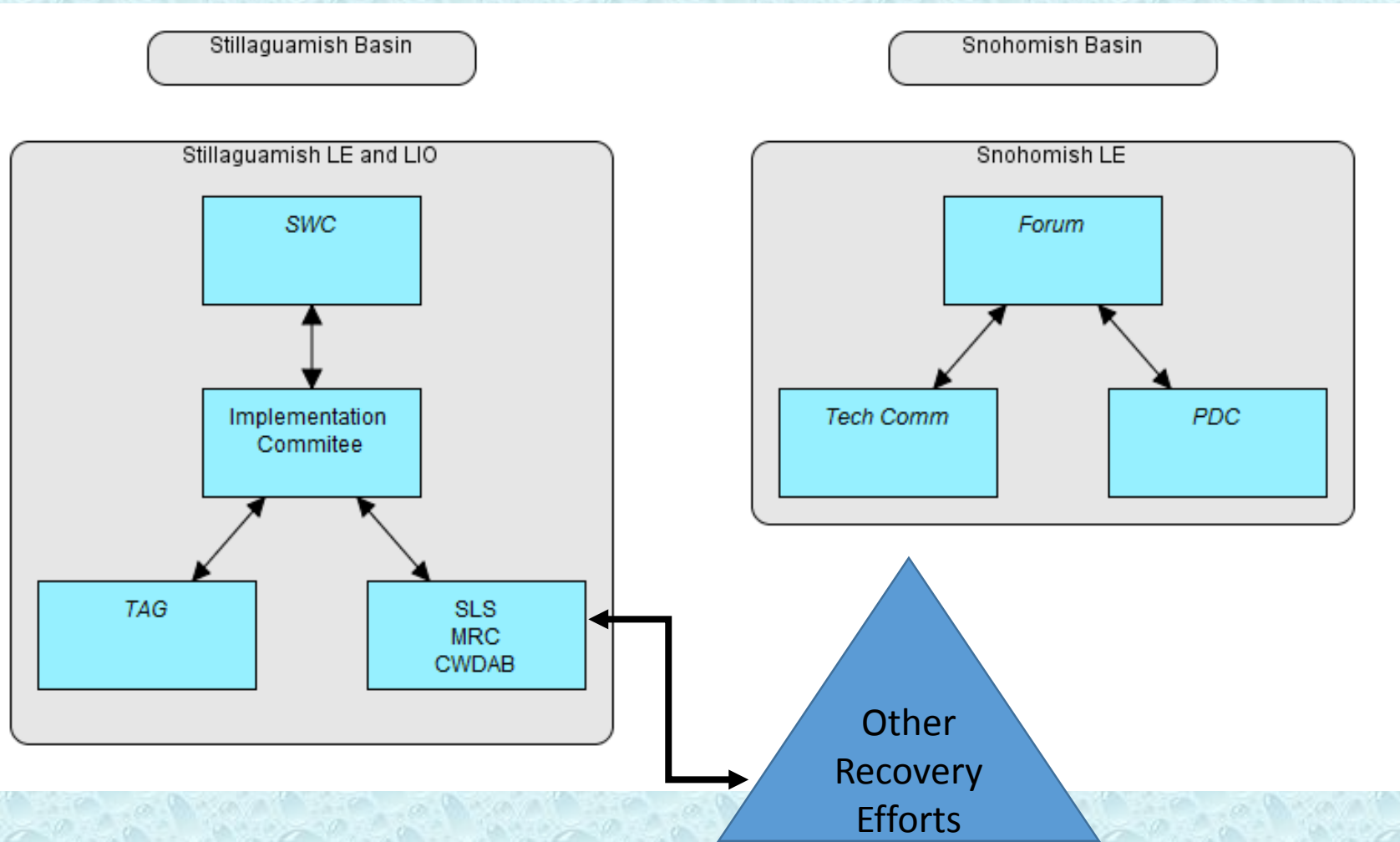
- No integration-Stilly
- No regional influence-Stilly
- Watersheds operating in siloes
- Integration complexities in Snoho

Unknowns

- Funding
- Integration
- Capacity

Snohomish No LIO

This primary difference between this model and the Snohomish LIO model is that there would be no LIO in the Snohomish basin and the Stillaguamish basin would combine the Lead Entity and LIO structure. The existing Lead Entity structure would remain in the Snohomish. Whereas the LIO would be absorbed into the Lead Entity structure for the Stillaguamish.



Pros

- Snohomish autonomy
- Regional influence in Snohomish

Cons

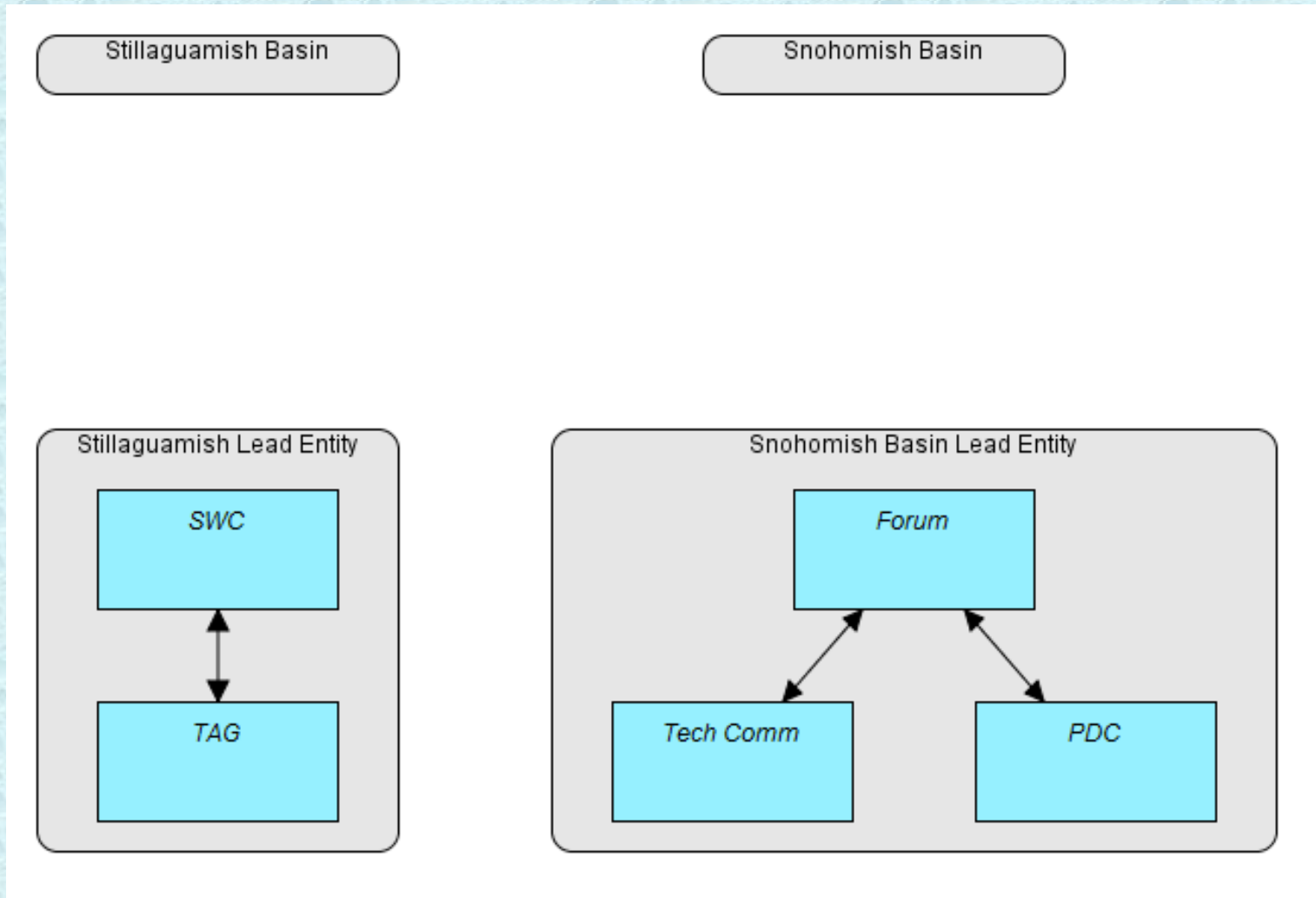
- No integration-Snoho
- No regional influence-Snoho
- Watersheds operating in siloes
- Integration complexities in Stilly

Unknowns

- Funding
- Integration
- Capacity

No LIO(s)

The LIO would dissolve. The existing watershed groups would continue to operate under their existing structure, with the SWC and Forum continuing to focus on salmon recovery without integrating other ecosystem recovery issues.



Pros

- No redundancy
- WRIA autonomy

Cons

- Project funding lost
- Watersheds operating in siloes
- No regional influence
- Stormwater and shellfish focus lost
- No integration

Unknowns

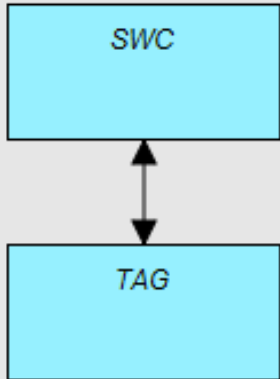
- Project funding
- Amount of local influence on Ecosystem Recovery beyond Salmon

WRIA Based

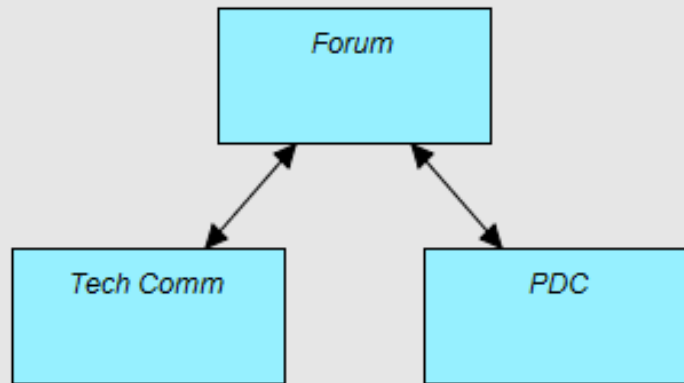
This model would combine the Lead Entity structure with the LIO. Therefore, the LIO would be separated by watershed boundary. There would be no more Implementation or Executive Committees as those would be absorbed into the existing LE structure.

Separate by Watershed-IC and EC Absorbed into Existing LE

Combined Stilly LIO/LE



Combined Snoho LIO/LE



Pros

- Less meeting redundancy
- More coordination
- Watershed integration
- Combine resources
- Expansion of WRIA roles
- WRIA autonomy

Cons

- Larger group with broader restoration focus, metrics, and targets
- Dilutes focus on salmon recovery
- Lack of expert knowledge related to the other strategic initiatives
- Potential capacity issues for LE to absorb LIO responsibilities
- Lack of regional integration
- Expansion of WRIA roles
- Watersheds operate in siloes

Unknowns

- Capacity
- Funding