



HOW DO WE RECOVER PUGET SOUND
TO HEALTH?

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

Backbone for Recovery and Protection of Puget Sound

Ecosystem recovery and long-term protection is a responsibility shared by government agencies, tribes, business and private sector interest groups, non-governmental organizations and citizens. Successful collective action by the tremendous number of involved organizations and individuals in our region requires dedicated and ongoing coordination. Elements of necessary coordination include: creating and maintaining a common agenda, shared measurement and reporting of progress, continuous and coordinated communication regarding the challenge and solutions and, of course, political support and funding.

The Puget Sound Partnership, working with its many partners, leads tasks that are critical for steering technical work, fostering changes in practice, and generating public support for recovery of Puget Sound. These include (1) setting ecosystem targets, (2) identifying priority actions to achieve these targets, (3) providing credible technical solutions, (4) building the resource and fiscal capacity of government agencies and private sector interests, and (5) measuring outcomes to ensure accountability and success.

This chapter describes seven over-arching strategies that are essential to the recovery effort.

1. Leadership frameworks and funding priorities.
2. Strategic, collaborative partnerships.
3. Performance management.
4. Science and monitoring.
5. Changing practices and behaviors.
6. Issue awareness and understanding.
7. Social and institutional infrastructure.

Leadership

D1. Provide the leadership frameworks to guide the Puget Sound recovery effort and set action and funding priorities.

D1.1 Provide backbone support for the recovery effort [Management Conference]

Recovery of Puget Sound is a collective, long-term endeavor that requires focused and dedicated leadership. Building and maintaining strategic partnerships is critical to the success of Puget Sound recovery.

Successful collective efforts require a dedicated backbone organization. PSP fulfills this key role for the region. It provides leadership to advance the vision and promise put forth by the Governor and legislature, builds and nurtures strategic coalitions, convenes regional partners to set priorities, avoids duplicative and inconsistent actions and spending, and provides transparent reporting to decision-makers and the public on recovery progress. As part of the National Estuary Program, PSP is designated to lead the overall Management Conference. For more information on the Management Conference, see Appendix C - *Puget Sound National Estuary Program Management Conference Overview*.

Ongoing Programs

Key Ongoing Program Activities

- PSP administers the statutorily-required Partnership boards: the Leadership Council is the decision-making body for the recovery effort; the Ecosystem Coordination Board provides strategic advice to the Leadership Council and Science Panel; the Science Panel leads the region in providing scientific direction and policy to guide regional decision-making; the Salmon Recovery Council provides policy direction on the regional effort to recover salmon.
- Partners participate on PSP boards and related sub-committees.
- PSP maintains communications and operating resources to facilitate the work of boards, partners and implementers; highlight progress and challenges related to the recovery effort; provide timely access to relevant information; and an effective working nexus with staff, partners and programs.

Near-Term Actions

None; work in the near-term will focus on implementation of ongoing programs.

D1.2 Maintain and update the Action Agenda as the shared recovery plan

The Action Agenda a recovery plan that is shared by all of our partners in the region. By statute, the strategies and actions are updated on a two-year cycle, and the overall Action Agenda is modified as needed. PSP provides oversight and technical support to the development and adaption of the Action Agenda, including facilitating substantial input from partners and the public.

Ongoing Programs

Key Ongoing Program Activities

- PSP leads the regional effort to update the Action Agenda, track implementation progress for Near-Term Actions, and provide feedback regarding changes to strategies and actions based upon the adaptive management process. Many of the ongoing activities under Performance Management and Science and Monitoring (Sections D3 and D4, respectively) relate to the implementation of the adaptive management process.

Near-Term Actions

None; work in the near-term will focus on implementation of ongoing programs.