

# Toward a Resilient Puget Sound – A New Plan and New Funding

November 15, 2022  
County Leaders Conference

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# 2022-2026 Action Agenda for Puget Sound

November 15, 2022 COUNTY LEADERS CONFERENCE





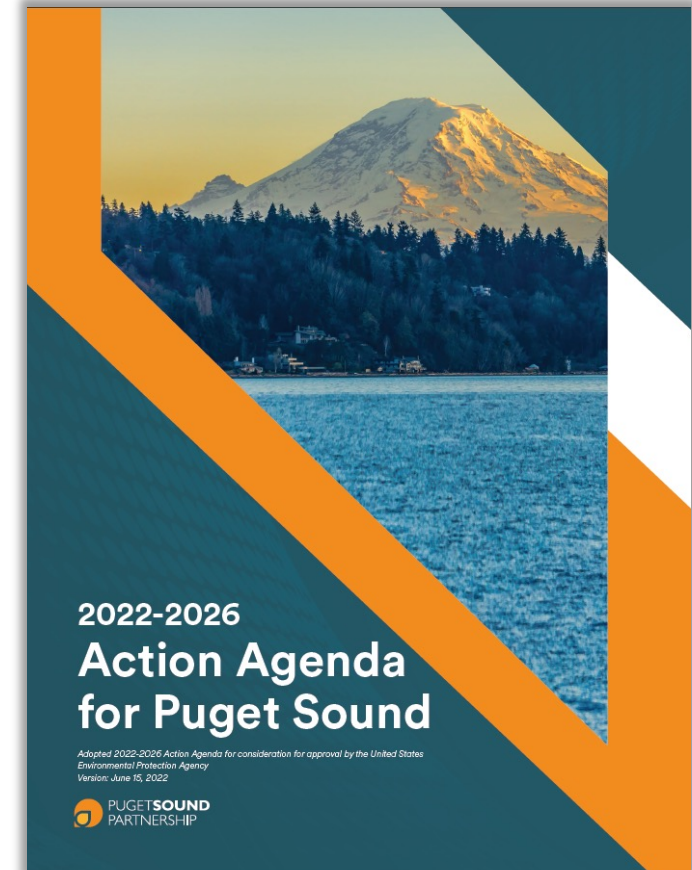
# Today's objectives

- Provide an overview of the 2022-2026 Action Agenda
- Action Agenda strategies spotlight: Wastewater Systems and Smart Growth

# The 2022-2026 Action Agenda

- **What's new**

- Multi-benefit approaches to advance progress toward multiple goals
- Sets 11 short-term program targets and 6 long-term Vital Sign Indicator targets
- 31 strategies with actions to advance progress toward recovery
- Identifies ways to avoid the worst effects of climate change
- Begins to incorporate human wellbeing, tribal nations' treaty and sovereign rights, environmental justice, and climate justice





# Action Agenda Structure

- **Comprehensive Plan and appendices**

- Longer-term vision for recovery
- Outlines our planning framework and identifies opportunities for multi-benefits results

- **Implementation Plan**

- How to advance progress toward desired outcomes, Vital Signs, goals over the next 4 years
- Organized around 31 strategies
- Defines success with multi-benefit outcomes and targets
- 137 actions and key opportunities
- 11 program targets

# Desired outcomes



Protect and  
restore habitat and  
habitat-forming  
processes



Protect and  
improve water  
quality



Protect the  
food web and  
imperiled  
species



Prevent the  
worse effects of  
climate change



Ensure human  
wellbeing



# Implementation Plan strategies

- Advance progress toward desired outcomes, Vital Signs, overall recovery
- Describe policies, actions, or approaches that could be applied by many groups in many different areas
- Guidance to leaders, recovery partners, and funders about the types of projects, programs, and other work to undertake





# Strategies and Actions

31

## STRATEGIES

*Collaboratively developed,  
science-informed*



137

## ACTIONS

*With key opportunities to  
advance each strategy*



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# Action Agenda Explorer

Online companion tool to the Action Agenda

<https://actionagenda.pugetsoundinfo.wa.gov/2022-2026ActionAgenda>



## ABOUT THE ACTION AGENDA

The 2022-2026 Action Agenda Explorer is the evolving roadmap that charts the course for recovery in Puget Sound. It is the companion tool to the 2022-2026 Action Agenda report. This site provides the space for each of the 31 strategies included in the Action Agenda to be adaptively managed through 2026 to respond to changes in ecosystem conditions that impact recovery. It serves as a digital landing page for the Action Agenda and the hub for its foundational components: the Vital Signs, desired outcomes, strategies, actions, indicators, and ongoing programs.

Please note that site adjustments will be made over the course of summer and fall 2022.

## Strategies for Puget Sound

Action Agenda **strategies** describe effective approaches for advancing progress toward desired outcomes, Vital Signs, and overall recovery. Each strategy is expected to advance one or more desired outcome by addressing the underlying conditions that give rise to sources of stress on the ecosystem or enhance capacity to address a stressor. Strategies address a 5- to 30-year time horizon and describe the kinds of policies, actions, or approaches that could be applied by many groups in many different areas.

Each strategy also includes **actions** which describe the activities that are a shared focus for implementing each strategy from 2022-2026. This could include restoration and acquisition; program development, improvement, or implementation; education; outreach; research; legislative or policy improvements; or other types of activities. Actions are intended to guide partner implementation and innovation and inform the focus of public and private funding and implementation support by the boards and regional partners, and other work that important to undertake in the next four years.

Search by Keyword



Filter Strategy by Vital Sign



Filter Strategy by Outcome

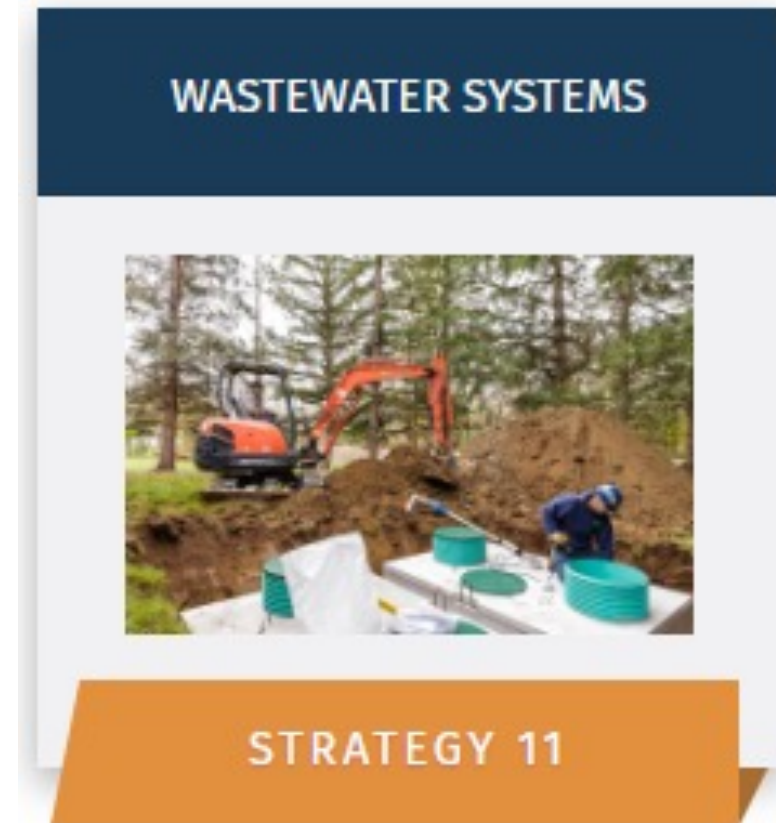


# Strategy 11: Wastewater Systems

“Reduce and prevent pollutants from wastewater systems (e.g., treatment plants, large- and small-scale onsite septic) by improving regulatory controls and incentives and investing in new technology.”

Full strategy profile:

<https://actionagenda.pugetsoundinfo.wa.gov/Strategy/Detail/11>



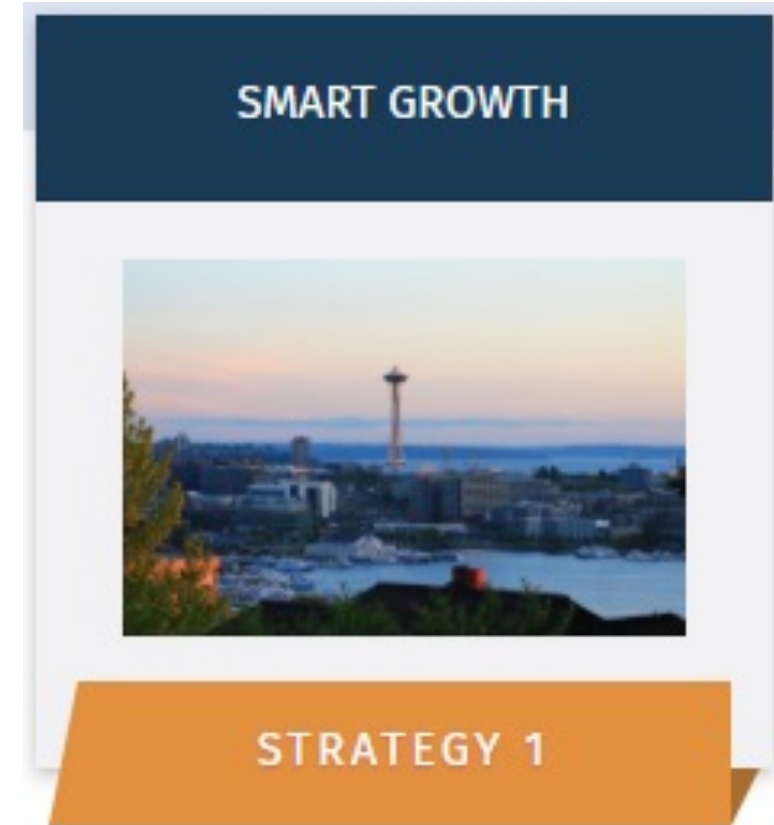


# Strategy 1: Smart Growth

“Ensure smart development and protect intact habitats and processes by channeling population growth into attractive, transit-oriented urban growth areas (UGAs) with easy access to natural spaces.”

Full strategy profile:

<https://actionagenda.pugetsoundinfo.wa.gov/Strategy/Detail/1>



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A wide-angle landscape photograph of the Puget Sound region. The image is dominated by various shades of blue, from deep navy blues in the foreground to light, hazy blues in the sky and distant mountains. In the foreground, dark, silhouetted hills and islands are visible. The middle ground shows several large, forested islands and peninsulas jutting into the water. The background consists of numerous layers of mountains, creating a sense of depth and vastness. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

**It's up to us.**

**Together we can create a resilient Puget Sound.**



# Thank You!

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Visit the Action Agenda online:  
[www.psp.wa.gov/2022AAupdate.php](http://www.psp.wa.gov/2022AAupdate.php)

# LIOs – Local Forums for County Leaders to Contribute to Puget Sound Recovery

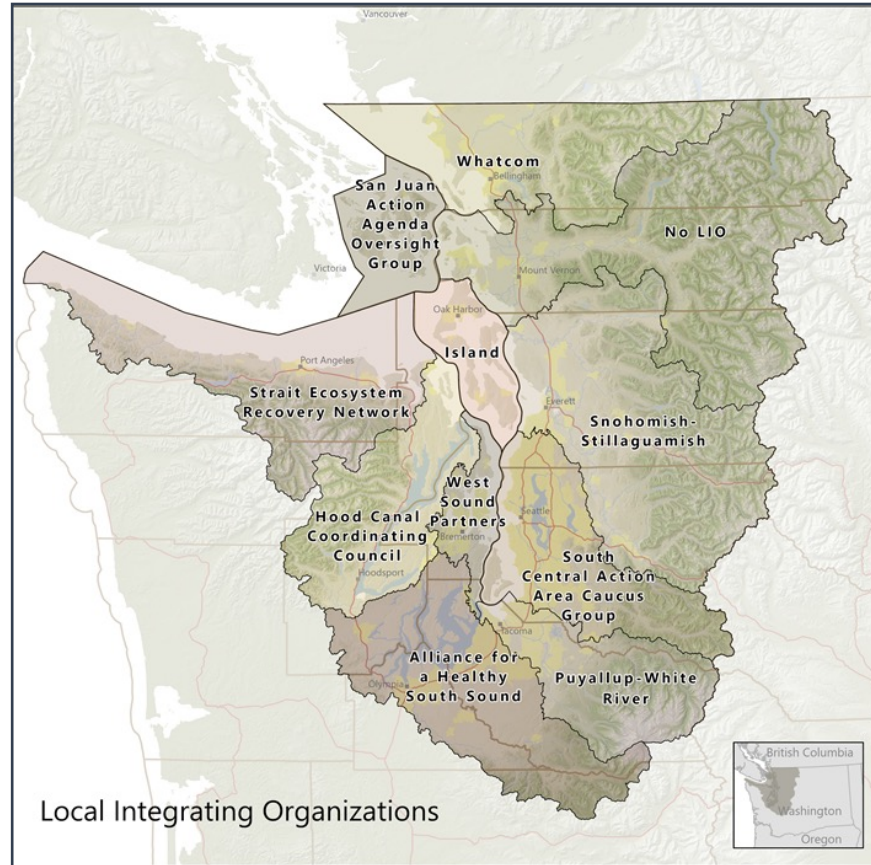
Thriving ecosystems through the power of local communities and  
regional collaboration

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ISLAND | JEFFERSON | KING | KITSAP | KITTITAS | KLUCKITAT | LEWIS | LINCOLN | MASON | OKANOGAN | PACIFIC | PEND OREILLE | PIERCE | SAN JUAN  
SKAGIT | SKAMANIA | SNOHOMISH | SPOKANE | STEVENS | THURSTON | WAHKIACUM | WALLA WALLA | WHATCOM | WHITMAN | YAKIMA





# What is an LIO?



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# Statute

## **RCW 90.71.210: Puget Sound Partnership—Created**

An agency of state government, to be known as the Puget Sound partnership, is created to oversee the restoration of the environmental health of Puget Sound by 2020. The agency shall consist of a leadership council, an executive director, an ecosystem coordination board, and a Puget Sound science panel

## **RCW 90.71.260: Development of the action agenda—Integration of watershed programs and ecosystem-level plans.**

The partnership shall organize this work by working with these groups in the following geographic action areas of Puget Sound, which collectively encompass all of the Puget Sound basin and include the areas draining to the marine waters in these action areas:

- (a) Strait of Juan de Fuca;
- (b) The San Juan Islands;
- (c) Whidbey Island;
- (d) North central Puget Sound;
- (e) South central Puget Sound;
- (f) South Puget Sound; and
- (g) Hood Canal.

**Not all LIOs are ‘Action Areas’. However, all LIOs serve the purposes of action areas as described in statute:**

- **Delineated by common issues**
- **Convene gov’t and groups**
- **Plans, projects, programs**
- **Local plans to inform Action Agenda**



# Primary Roles of an LIO:

1. Guide Implementation of Action Agenda Priorities
  2. Prioritize Local Actions for Investment
- 

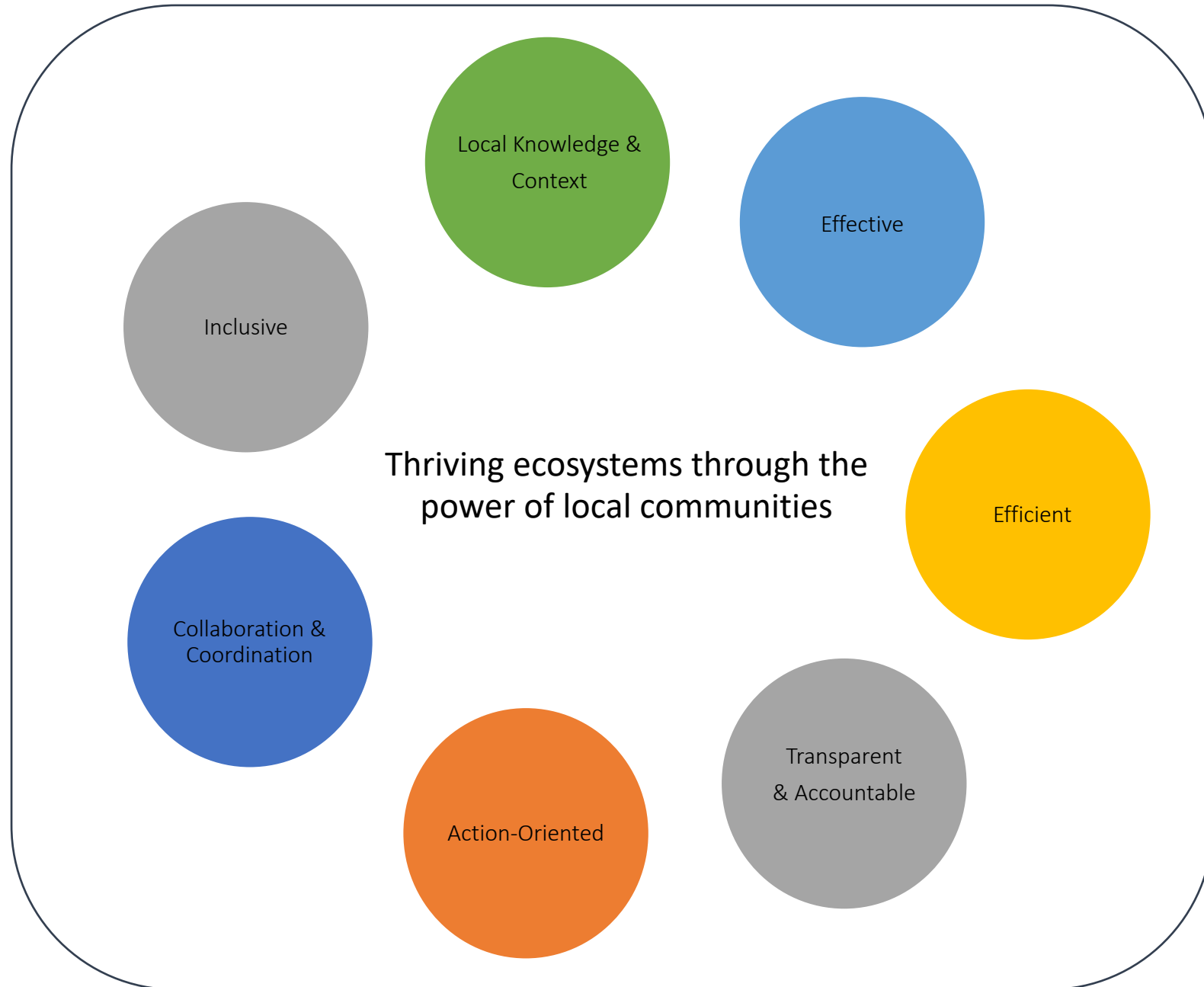
## Principles:

- Bottom-Up approach to ecosystem recovery
- Value coordination and collaboration at local and sub-regional levels with diverse set of stakeholders
- Reflect the needs of local geography in both content and structure



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# Vision and Values



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# Local Areas and Local Integrating Organizations



2010

Strait Ecosystem Recovery Network

2010



2010



2010



2011



2011



2012



1999



2010



2018



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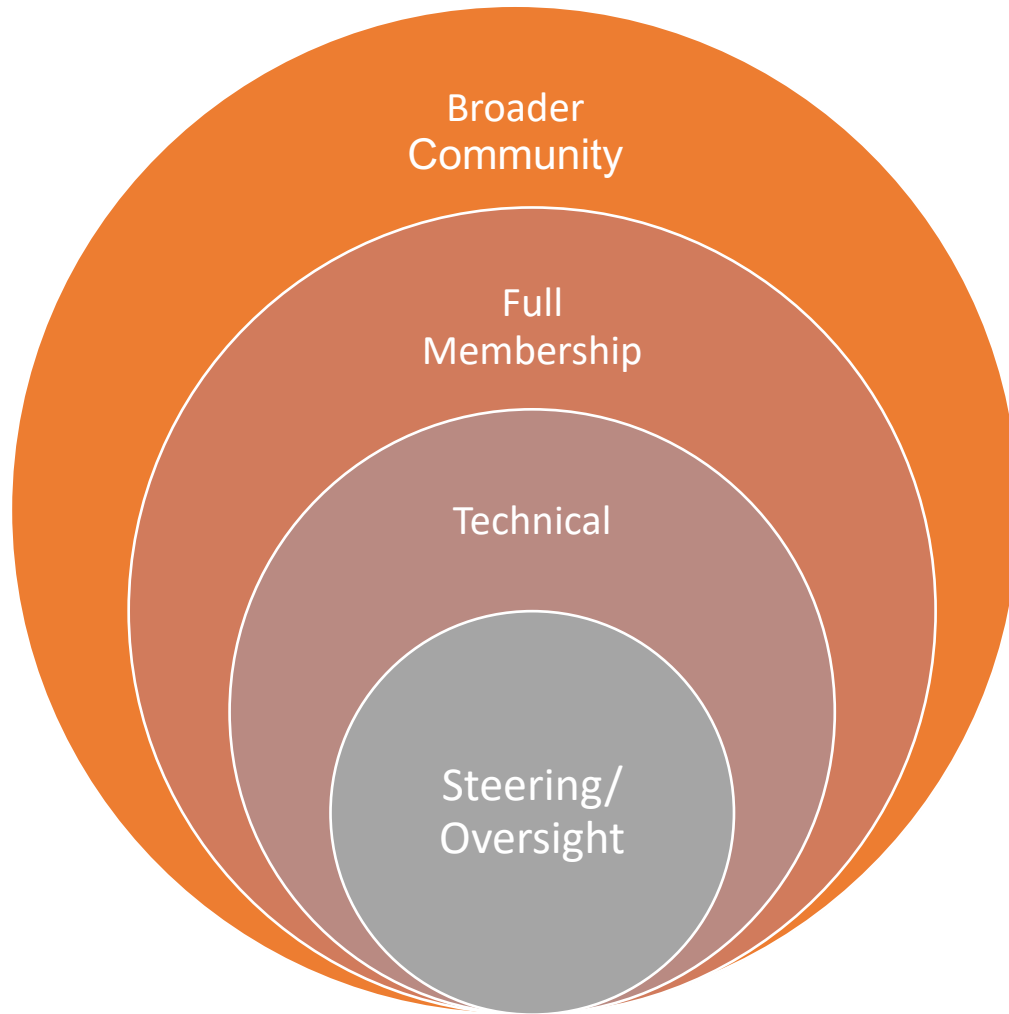


# Network of LIO Coordinators

- Elizabeth McManus –PWR and AHSS
- Haley Harguth – HCCC
- Tyler Davis – San Juan
- Becky Peterson – Whatcom
- Ruth Bell – South Central
- Kathleen Pozarycki – Snohomish-Stillaguamish
- Kara Cardinal – Strait ERN
- Jenn Johnson – Island
- Renee Johnson - WSPER



# Structure and Members



- **State Legislators**
- **City Staff**
- **City Council Members**
- **Mayors**
- **County Staff**
- **County Commissioners**
- **Tribal Staff**
- **Tribal Council Members**
- **Special Districts**
- **State Agency Staff**
- **Federal Agency Staff**
- **Lead Entity staff and/or members**
- **Utility Districts**
- **Academic Institutions**
- **Non-Profits & local interest groups**
- **Business**
- **Citizens**

# LIO Projects

- LIO Collective Projects
- Coordination Work
- Strategic Funding Team collaboration



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# State Agency Leadership on Puget Sound Recovery + Available Funding

SUB HEADLINE

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# PUGET SOUND National Estuary Program



# Puget Sound Strategic Initiative Leads

## Innovating & Investing in Habitat, Shellfish, and Stormwater

Jennifer Griffiths, WDFW  
WSAC County Leaders Conference  
November 15, 2022

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# Strategic Initiatives

Nimble and innovative teams accelerating Puget Sound recovery  
and implementing the Puget Sound Action Agenda





# Strategic Initiatives

Increasing resilience in our ecosystems and human communities so that future generations have access to:

Clean water; habitats that support our species and communities; economic and recreational opportunities; and a vibrant quality of life



# Success Stories



**Habitat**



**Shellfish**



**Stormwater**

# Approximate Investments in FFY2021-2022



Habitat

**\$9M**



Shellfish

**\$6.5M**



Stormwater

**\$7.5M**



**SILs TOTAL = ~\$23M**



# Habitat FFY2021-2022

## Investment Priorities

HOLISTIC, SYSTEMS APPROACH FOR HABITAT  
INVESTMENTS IN PUGET SOUND

- A. Changing planning paradigms
- B. Project development & readiness
- C. Behavior change
- D. Regulatory support
- E. Information and evaluation



# Shellfish FFY2021-2022 Investment Priorities

- Fund, develop, implement, and establish effective local and tribal nations pollution identification and correction (PIC) programs.
- Effectively manage and control fecal pollution and disease-causing bacteria and viruses from onsite sewage systems (OSS).
- Advance technical assistance, education, and research to motivate agricultural land users to voluntarily reduce livestock/animal manure runoff, and support regulatory programs to effectively require compliance.
- Integrate shellfish bed classification priorities in municipal and industrial wastewater facility function, planning and/or upgrades in urban and urbanizing areas.





# Stormwater FFY2021-2022 Investment Priorities

- Design and Execute a Social Marketing Campaign to Accelerate Retrofits
- Watershed Collaborative Compliance and Incentives
- Integrated Watershed Land Use Planning
- Public Road Retrofit Planning by Local Jurisdictions
- Research for Chemicals of Emerging Concern
- Chemical Action Plan Implementation
- Explore a Toxics and Stormwater Infrastructure Fund
- Reduce Pollution through Farm Management Planning
- Visioning the Future of Wastewater Treatment



# Partnering and innovating for the future

Opportunities on the horizon





# Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) for Puget Sound Recovery

Unprecedented Opportunity for Transformational Change

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# Goal

- Leverage this opportunity to implement Puget Sound recovery
- Achieve multi-benefit results across ecosystem recovery and human well-being
- Develop and implement solutions that advance equity, climate resilience, and resilient (nature-based) infrastructure
- Strategically leverage other funding for local, regional, and tribal priorities



# Coordination Across Jurisdictions

- Puget Sound Federal Task Force aligning federal programs with Action Agenda and salmon recovery priorities
- Coordination through the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office and Office of Financial Management
- Collaboration across local governments to find shared priorities that generate landscape-level ecosystem recovery
- Puget Sound Partnership Strategic Funding Team to support partners leverage funding and remove barriers

# Align investments behind local recovery priorities

## Objectives

- Build long-term relationships.
- Employ a Puget Sound recovery lens on BIL and other investment programs.
- Promote priorities for Action Agenda, Implementation Strategy, salmon, and tribal implementation.

## Anticipated Outcome

- Increase in the number and scope of programs that are investing in tribal, local, and regional priorities supporting Puget Sound recovery.



# Resources & capacity for strategic funding

## Objectives

- Match local priorities and lines of work with funding opportunities.
- Coordinate a central hub of funding opportunities.
- Distill funding guidance in a clear and concise manner.
- Communication of funding opportunities.
- Manage a “database” with projects and resources needed.
- Support grant application processes.
- Show connections between proposals so they can be more successful.
- Tracking application submission and results.
- Help track how BIL funds are being utilized and distributed across the Puget Sound.

# Resources & capacity for strategic funding

## Anticipated Outcomes

- Coordinated communication of funding opportunities.
- Match recovery priorities with grant opportunities
- Increased knowledge to support the submission of grant applications.
- Increased coordination and collaboration on submitted grant proposals.
- Incorporation of new investment programs into current processes and frameworks to track how funds are contributing to Puget Sound recovery.
- Successful proposals submitted that result in increased funding for the implementation of Puget Sound recovery priorities



# Address gaps, barriers, & opportunities

## Objectives

- Address legal, policy, regulatory, or institutional gaps, barriers, and opportunities that will support successful implementation of local and tribal priorities for Puget Sound recovery.

## Anticipated Outcome

- By reducing or eliminating key gaps and barriers, partners are leveraging more funding and implementing local priorities from the Action Agenda, Implementation Strategies, and tribes.



Thank You!