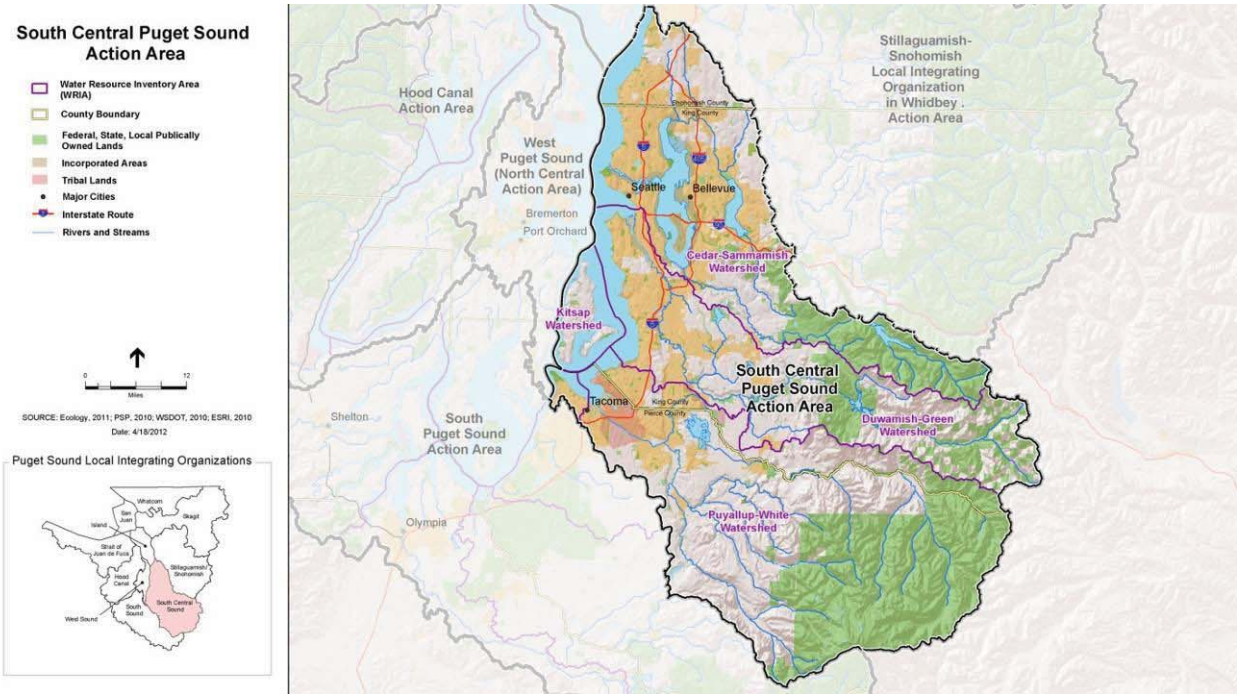
The Action Agenda in South Central Puget Sound

Profile

The South Central Action Area is home to 2.5 million residents living in three of Washington's largest cities—Seattle, Bellevue, and Tacoma, and in suburban and rural residential development that reaches across unincorporated King and Pierce Counties. The northernmost portion of the action area is located in southwest Snohomish County. South Central Puget Sound is the most urbanized portion of Puget Sound and includes infrastructure of commercial and residential buildings, large areas of pavement, a heavily modified shoreline, and a pervasive road network. Although portions of the action area have been intensively developed, approximately 77 percent of the area is not considered urban, with vast tracts of agricultural lands in rural King and Pierce County, and undeveloped wilderness in Mount Rainier National Park and the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. The three major river systems originate in the Cascades near Snoqualmie Pass, Cascade Pass, and Mount Rainier, travel through forests and farms, and empty into Lake Washington and Puget Sound. Glacial melt from Mount Rainier feeds the Puyallup/White River system, while the Green/Duwamish and Cedar/Sammamish are supplied by snow melt and rainfall. Lowland areas receive average rainfall of 40 inches per year. In highly urbanized portions of the region, many streams or stream segments have been placed in drainage pipes and re-assert their presence during storms and flood events.



The two largest bays in the South Central area are Seattle's Elliott Bay and Commencement Bay, which is near Tacoma. Vashon-Maury is the largest island south of the Admiralty Inlet. The major currents within the saltwater basin of central Puget Sound generally flow northward along the west side of Vashon Island, and southward through the East Passage. The marine waters of Puget Sound form warm layers at the surface during the summer months due to river input and solar heating. These layers are mixed during winter months by seasonal winds and cool weather. An underwater sill by the Tacoma Narrows also alters the pattern of marine water circulation.

South Central Puget Sound is the economic driver of the region, and largely of the State of Washington. The region generates over $200 billion in annual economic activity, comprising approximately 62 percent of the gross state product. Major commercial and industrial enterprises are concentrated here, including technology, aerospace, finance, insurance, health care, business and professional services, commercial fishing, recreation, and tourism. These industries are served by international port facilities in Seattle and Tacoma, along with SeaTac international airport, Boeing Field, and passenger and freight railroad services. The region has 14,900 acres of designated manufacturing industrial centers in six locations: Ballard Interbay, Duwamish, North Tukwila, Auburn/Kent, Overlake, and the Port of Tacoma. Water supply for most of the population of the area is provided by the City of Seattle and the City of Tacoma, through their operations on the Cedar and Green Rivers, respectively.

Following the adoption of the Growth Management Act in the 1990s, land use strategies have been somewhat effective in containing sprawl, as more than 93 percent of the growth in King County since 1996 has been concentrated within the designated urban growth boundary. Significant tracts of commercial forest and agriculture remain in the eastern and southeastern portions of the area. There are many challenges in trying to retain habitat features and natural amenities while trying to accommodate several hundred thousand new residents to this area in the next 20 to 25 years.

In general, the residents of the South Central Action Area are remarkably informed and engaged citizens. There is a high level of volunteerism and civic engagement with many agencies and local NGOs benefiting from the resources and knowledge base of the public for assistance with on-the-ground projects and public process for furthering recovery.

The varied ports and waterways of South Central Puget Sound have made it an international shipping center for regional and national industries, natural resource extraction (logging, fisheries, mining), and agricultural products. Urban estuaries support many small marine, ship building/repair, and industrial enterprises. Public transportation to Kitsap County and Vashon Island is provided by the Washington State Ferry System and other vessel traffic consists of passenger ferries, fishing boats, research vessels, small recreational craft, and cruise ships. Recreation spots include Lakes Washington, Sammamish, and Tapps; Puget Sound beaches such as Alki Beach in West Seattle, Seahurst in Burien, and Pt. Defiance in Tacoma; and along the Mountain to Sound Greenway along Interstate 90, the middle Green River, and the White River above Enumclaw. The headwaters of the major rivers in this area are protected through their status as parklands managed by the National Park Service, wilderness areas managed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service, and the headwater source areas of the water supplies of Seattle and Tacoma.

The federal listing of Puget Sound Chinook was the first time a threatened species listing for salmon had occurred in such an urban environment. Despite the extensive urbanization of South Central Puget Sound, Chinook salmon and other salmon species spawn in the major rivers and lakes. Unique salmon populations include the spring run of White River Chinook, Issaquah Creek and Cedar River summer and

fall Chinook, Lake Sammamish Kokanee, and Lake Washington Sockeye. The Green River is one of the top ten Steelhead rivers in Washington and supports substantial natural and hatchery populations of salmon. Bull trout, Rainbow and Coastal Cutthroat trout, and Coho, Chum, and Pink salmon are also present in some of the river systems. Strong community efforts and watershed partnerships, some through formal inter-local agreements, are focused on strategic, science-based salmon recovery efforts throughout the area, and habitat restoration programs depend on a combination of local, regional, state, and federal funding. While other fish, wildlife, and bird communities are abundant in undeveloped portions of the action area, those species that coexist well with humans are generally present in the urban sectors.

Local Action Agenda Process

The South Central Local Integrating Organization (LIO), known as the Action Area Caucus Group, spent nearly a year working through the 144 sound-wide actions in the 2008 Action Agenda, discussing how actions translate to local communities, watersheds, and the larger South Central Puget Sound area. The Caucus Group identified a top tier of actions and then developed more specific action plans to promote coordination and efforts to advance those priority actions.

The Caucus Group involved the participation of member groups, ad hoc working groups, and significant help from both policy and technical staff of member organizations to identify the threats and pressures most significant to the South Central Action Area. Final outcomes were discussed in meetings of the entire Caucus Group, and the information below was officially transmitted to the Puget Sound Partnership at the October 2011 meeting of the Ecosystem Coordination Board.

Key Threats/Pressures

The South Central Action Area Caucus Group has identified four priority issues to address key pressures on the South Central Puget Sound ecosystem. The priority issues include:

- Land development
- Shoreline alteration
- Stormwater
- Loss of floodplain function

The South Central Action Area Caucus Group also identified additional ecosystem pressures to address that are of specific importance to the South Central Puget Sound. The priority pressures include:

- Habitat conversion
- Climate change
- Dams, levees, and tidegates
- Legacy toxic contaminants
- Current use and release of excess toxics and nutrients

Opportunities, Priorities, and Near-Term Actions

In addition to the priority pressures identified for the South Central Puget Sound area and the local contributions to the Action Agenda ecosystem targets, the South Central Action Area Caucus Group also developed key themes and recommendations that are fundamental to the strategies and near-term actions (NTAs) described in greater detail below. The key themes and recommendations from the Caucus Group are:

- Local land use and environmental standards are essential for habitat protection and there is a need for better alignment between state standards and the targets being set for Puget Sound recovery;
- To effectively deal with pressures and threats, desired outcome and actions will have to be tailored to land uses and development patterns while working toward a Soundwide target;
- There needs to be a more concerted effort to effectively advocate for federal and state funding (including preserving current funding) for salmon recovery. In addition, there is a need for an integrated funding strategy for Puget Sound with salmon recovery and stormwater as central elements. The strategy should also be aligned with land use and regulatory changes; and
- To successfully advocate for state and federal funding for stormwater investments in Puget Sound, there needs to be a more refined assessment of total need and priorities across the region for retrofits, operation and maintenance, and source control.

The South Central Action Area Caucus Group identified ten priority strategies, as listed below (in alphabetical order). The ten priority strategies were honed from a more comprehensive list of strategies that were all considered important in addressing the local pressures.

A. Acquire or protect high-value habitat and land at immediate risk of conversion.
B. Change Shoreline Management Act (SMA) statutes and regulations to limit residential shoreline armoring and overwater coverage, and promote “green” shoreline replacements.
C. Develop a strategic funding proposal for habitat restoration and protection priorities.
D. Fund and implement stormwater retrofits, improvements to operations/maintenance of existing stormwater infrastructure, and additional source control measures.
E. Implement salmon recovery habitat protection and restoration recommendations.
F. Incorporate low impact development (LID) requirements into stormwater codes and develop and implement LID incentives.
G. Keep toxics and excess nutrients out of stormwater runoff and wastewater.
H. Restore floodplains to recreate ecosystem function.
I. Restore and protect Local Toxics Control Account funding under the Model Toxics Control Account (MTCA) for local toxics cleanup activities.
J. Work with local governments to develop and implement policies and regulations that advance Action Agenda implementation.

The South Central Action Area Caucus Group also identified eight NTAs to support the strategies. They include:

NEAR-TERM ACTIONS	RELATED LOCAL STRATEGY	POSSIBLE LEAD GOVERNMENT, AGENCY, AND/OR ORGANIZATION	PROPOSED PERFORMANCE MEASURE	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE(S)
Policy Alignment a. Seek better alignment of state standards for stormwater, Shoreline Master Programs, and floodplain development regulations with Soundwide targets and Action Agenda priorities b. Review and align local policies and regulations with targets and Action Agenda priorities. c. Work with federal and state governments at a watershed scale to integrate current and future investments for Clean Water Act compliance (e.g. Superfund Clean-up, CSOs, NPDES), with habitat restoration, to maximize benefits; Work with agencies to increase funding sources.	J	a. PSP coordinates with state agencies b. Caucus Group using EPA funding for consultant to do pilot study, work with LIO Coordinator, Caucus Group and PSP c. PSP, legislature, Governor, Environmental groups, local governments, Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)	c. More unified approach by PSP and the region in seeking funding for habitat, stormwater, and Puget Sound protection.	
Salmon Recovery and Floodplains Implement highest priority salmon recovery habitat protection and restoration recommendations from WRIAs 8, 9 and 10 three-year work plans: For Floodplain Restoration: • Develop concept and preliminary strategy • Conduct economic analysis, including ecosystem goods and services • Ensure integration with floodplain acquisition and restoration plans.	E, C, H	Salmon Recovery lead entities	Regional salmon recovery metrics (possible examples include: acres restored, linear feet of stream or shoreline restored, fish passage barriers removed, etc.) To what extent are WRIA plan recommendations being implemented? Monitoring and adaptive management strategies Floodplain acres restored; linear	SRFB/PSAR, Conservation District, Conservation Futures, mitigation, EPA Puget Sound Restoration and Protection funds plus possible additional funding sources

NEAR-TERM ACTIONS	RELATED LOCAL STRATEGY	POSSIBLE LEAD GOVERNMENT, AGENCY, AND/OR ORGANIZATION	PROPOSED PERFORMANCE MEASURE	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE(S)
			feet of levee setback, fish use	
Habitat at Risk Acquire and/or protect high-value habitat and land at immediate risk of conversion: • Utilize existing information from adopted plans; assess; consult plans (etc); create and implement a strategy • Provide increased funding for acquisition of high-value habitat at immediate risk of conversion	A	Local governments, NGOs (e.g. Forterra)	Acres acquired/protected (add #)	SRFB/PSAR, transfer of development rights (TDR), Conservation Futures, Conservation Districts, NGO land acquisition funds; FEMA for frequently flooded; Ecology's flood hazard
Sustainable Funding for Watersheds Seek to establish sustainable funding sources and authorities for watershed restoration and protection priorities: • Cross-WRIA discussions of funding need and review of potential mechanisms • Coordination with PSP and ECB Subcommittee working to develop an integrated funding strategy for Puget Sound recovery	C	WRIAs, watershed groups	Number of partners supporting funding proposal (including business interests)	Need legislative approval of local authorities that are better matched to an integrated, watershed approach to habitat, stormwater, and water quality.
"Green" Shorelines Implement "green" shoreline replacements: • Promote green shoreline BMPs, incentives • Fund/implement shoreline restoration plans	B	Local governments NGO's	# of property owners willing to restore shoreline; linear feet of armoring removed or "green" /soft shoreline installed)	Ecology, SRFB/PSAR, Conservation Districts
Stormwater Management a. Fund and implement municipal Stormwater Management Programs (SWMPs) including:	D, F	Legislature, Ecology, Local governments, NGOs	Dollars allocated annually to support SWMPs – both retrofit and operations and	Legislature/Ecology, Federal/EPA/National Estuary Program

NEAR-TERM ACTIONS	RELATED LOCAL STRATEGY	POSSIBLE LEAD GOVERNMENT, AGENCY, AND/OR ORGANIZATION	PROPOSED PERFORMANCE MEASURE	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE(S)
• Structural stormwater retrofits • O&M of existing stormwater infrastructure • Source control (e.g., business inspections, education & outreach) • Incorporation of LID requirements into stormwater codes • Development and implementation of LID incentives • Incentives for business to help b. Identify and analyze funding mechanisms c. Advocate for ongoing funding for retrofits and operations.			maintenance funding Number of successful stormwater projects implemented Number of jurisdictions with LID requirements in stormwater codes	
"True" Source Control Develop Puget Sound wide effort for source control (i.e., product management, control; e.g., copper in brake pads legislation)	G	PSP/Ecology Local governments	Regional organization addressing (e.g., similar to 'Green Chemistry' in CA)	Legislature/Ecology, Federal/EPA/National Estuary Program
Funding for Remediation of Toxic Sites Restore and protect Local Toxics Account under Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) to continue cleanup and remediation of toxic sites: • Educate legislators about the importance of assuring adequate state funding is available to move remedial actions forward in a timely manner.	I	Legislature/Ecology/ Governor/PSP – plus other interests such as ports, cities, counties, environmental community, some parts of the business community	Ecology is able to provide an appropriate level of state match to approved Remedial Action Grant projects. LTCA is protected for its intended statutory purposes.	Fee on existing toxics, including petroleum products.

Relationship to Recovery Targets

For the Soundwide pressure reduction targets (land development, wastewater, shoreline alteration, and stormwater), the South Central Action Area Caucus Group identified related local issues and opportunities to help reduce the pressure.

PRESSURE REDUCTION TARGET CATEGORY	LOCAL ISSUES/PROBLEMS	OPPORTUNITIES/SOLUTIONS
Land Development	Residential, commercial, port and shipyard development • Habitat loss/high-value habitat conversion (from historic conditions, including loss of forest cover); Reduced large woody debris and carbon inputs to stream systems; Loss of storage in wetlands; Reduction in habitat resilience; Degradation and loss of topsoil/duff layer • Development in the floodplain impairs ecological function • Watershed alteration that causes flooding, erosion, and polluted runoff • Local governments enact ineffective comprehensive land use plans, zoning, stormwater regulations, shoreline master programs, critical areas regulations, or incentive programs for protection of resource lands, open space, and habitat. • Lack of state standards for many plans and regulations. • Lack of federal standards that affect land development, including floodplain development and wetland mitigation. • "Vesting" of development rights under old standards limits some local governments ability to implement good land development practices.	• Protect highest priority habitat areas as identified in watershed-based salmon recovery plans • Develop best practices/model policies or regulations • Update land use policies and regulations updates (e.g., SMPs, CAOs, etc.) to support habitat restoration and protection priorities in existing plans • Ensure that agriculture and working forest land are maintained as economically viable • Reform vesting law to be at time of permit issuance • Local jurisdictions to sunset permits in areas vulnerable to conversion; Avoid re-extension of vesting rights • Buyout "frequently flooded" land • State agencies more explicitly link standards for land use comprehensive plans, Shoreline Master Program updates, stormwater regulations, local flood plans, and floodplain development regulations to targets for Puget Sound recovery (i.e., what standards or actions need to be present in local SMPs if we are going to meet the targets for shoreline armoring?) • PSP, state agencies and local governments develop and share best practices/model for policies, regulations, Transfer of Development Rights, and tax incentive programs (e.g., PBRS). • Identify areas where vested development regulations most limit capacity to meet recovery targets. Use targeted purchase of development rights, tax incentives to reduce number of parcels likely to develop under old standards. Local governments can tighten standards for re-extension of vesting rights. State should consider reform of vesting law.

PRESSURE REDUCTION TARGET CATEGORY	LOCAL ISSUES/PROBLEMS	OPPORTUNITIES/SOLUTIONS
		• The Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Department of Ecology (Ecology) approve King and Pierce counties' framework for "fee-in-lieu" of wetland stream mitigation, which will provide a potential model for other jurisdictions around the Sound.
Shoreline Alteration	• Residential shoreline armoring and overwater structures (including residential conversion to bulkheads, estuary hardening, and issues related to railroad mainline(bulkhead) maintenance) • Lack of adequately protective regulatory updates and enforcement; No clear path forward for local jurisdictions struggling to address shoreline armoring • Land use practices and regulations in conflict with environmental goals, including lack of enforcement regulations • Local governments influence shoreline armoring and construction of overwater structures through their Shoreline and critical areas regulations, Shoreline Master program restoration plans, zoning, investments in shoreline acquisition and restoration, and technical assistance to land owners • Ecology sets standards/reviews SMP updates • Local governments need support, guidance, funding to better align local SMPs with meeting Puget Sound recovery targets • While models for "green" shoreline development are being developed in freshwater environments, more examples along saltwater shoreline would facilitate more wide-spread adoption	• Promote "green" shoreline techniques for property owners (led by WRIA 8) • Leverage current SMP updates • Clear defintion from Ecology of no-net-loss provision for SMP updates • Change legislation to improve state shoreline regulations (currently armoring is an allowed accessory use to a single family residence) • Update Critical Area Ordinances • Implement the Salmon Recovery Plans-specifically the 3 year plans • Pursue watershed based analysis of habitat needs – from mountains to the Sound • Change state Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) program requirements • Implement Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Program (PSNERP) recommended projects • Implement Shoreline Acquisition and Protection Projects (Snohomish, King, Pierce counties) • PSP and Ecology more explicitly link standards for Shoreline Master Program updates to targets for Puget Sound recovery (i.e., what standards or actions need to be present in local SMPs if we are going to meet the target for shoreline armoring?) • PSP and Ecology support local plan update efforts by highlighting examples of actions and standards that will further PSP recovery targets. • PSP to seek federal and state funding for "restoration" elements of local SMPs
Stormwater	Surface water loading and runoff containing pollutants (conventional, toxics, organics, nutrients) from the built environment (industrial, transportation, commercial, residential, deposition, etc)	• Utilize Low Impact Development (LID) techniques • PSP to help integrate LID into local codes (fully implement requirements of Phase I and II NPDES permits (including LID requirements));

PRESSURE REDUCTION TARGET CATEGORY	LOCAL ISSUES/PROBLEMS	OPPORTUNITIES/SOLUTIONS
	• Need for more stormwater retrofits • Insufficient stormwater infrastructure maintenance • Habitat conversion from historic conditions, including loss of vegetative cover and duff • Disruption of natural hydrologic regimes, due to land conversion to impervious surfaces; asphalted and realigned stream channels; and native vegetation removal	link standards to targets for Puget Sound recovery • Improve working relationship with WSDOT on stormwater mitigation issues • WSU continues to use natural drainage approach to address multiple opportunities around naturally managing stormwater • Implement groundwater management plans (Pierce) • Implement Watershed Action Plans • Complete and implement total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) • Complete/implement comprehensive Drainage Basin Plans (Pierce County) • Pursue watershed based municipal stormwater permits • Fund a preliminary needs assessment for stormwater • Encourage retrofit projects; seek federal and state funding support; EPA-grant funded work in local watersheds (e.g., WRIA 9) is under way and will help to provide future guidance on how to identify and prioritize retrofit needs • Maintain stormwater infrastructure • Update Critical Areas Ordinances • Update SMPs • Fund and implement education and outreach programs • Clean up industrial pollution • Conduct business inspections • Implement Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan (Pierce County) • Share best practices through voluntary association of local governments (e.g., Sustainable Cities Roundtable) • True source control • Local governments influence stormwater runoff through their land use and zoning, stormwater regulations and design standards, clearing standards, public outreach, monitoring, maintenance of stormwater infrastructure, and capital investments in new facilities/facility retrofits • State and federal agencies set minimum standards for stormwater regulations and monitoring. PSP has identified a significant

PRESSURE REDUCTION TARGET CATEGORY	LOCAL ISSUES/PROBLEMS	OPPORTUNITIES/SOLUTIONS
		unmet need for stormwater retrofits and removal of legacy loads. • Future NPDES permits may include requirements for LID
Wastewater	• Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) • Increase in biotoxins, pathogens, and viruses	• Undertake additional Seattle and King County actions required to meet future NPDES requirements and federal/state water quality mandates. • Look for opportunities to integrate actions in response to different mandates at a watershed scale to maximize benefits from public investments in CSOs, Superfund clean-up, source control, habitat restoration, etc. • Use green stormwater infrastructure to slow the flow as part of CSO control strategies • Complete and Implement TMDLs for impaired water bodies (Watershed Action Plans) • Implement Watershed Action Plans
Loss of Floodplain Function	• Habitat Loss; Dams and Levees • Issues with levee vegetation maintenance • Conflict between the National Flood Insurance Program and the Endangered Species Act • Weak Floodplain Regulations (e.g. SMP, FEMA NFIP compliance) • Perceived conflict between agriculture and salmon recovery seen for ecologically significant/ highly productive land • Impacts of recreational safety concerns and policies on floodplain restoration efforts for salmon recovery and flood management • Habitat conversion from historic conditions, including loss of forest cover and natural floodplain functions; reduced large and woody debris and carbon inputs to stream systems; loss of storage in wetlands; reduction in habitat resilience change in hydraulic regime	• Implement watershed-based salmon habitat restoration and protection projects (Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration, Puget Sound Nearshore Restoration Project, Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, etc.) • Convene a regional forum to discuss and recommend a regional variance to the Corps levee vegetation maintenance standard • Obtain EPA Ecosystem Restoration and Protection grants for local projects • Allow for agriculture and working forest uses that are not detrimental to floodplain function or salmon recovery options • FEMA and NOAA provide clarity and assistance to jurisdictions for compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program • Develop approaches that balance river recreational safety with implementation of floodplain restoration project priorities • Prevent development in floodplains • Update Critical Areas Ordinances • Update SMPs • Buy out “frequently flooded” land • Construct setback levees

Of the ecosystem targets identified in the broader Action Agenda update, the South Sound LIO identified those that are of particular local interest to the region as well as local contributions to the targets. These include:

ECOSYSTEM TARGETS OF LOCAL INTEREST	LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOUNDWIDE RECOVERY
Floodplains	• Implementation of riparian and floodplain restoration and protection priorities from watershed salmon recovery plans (measured by acres restored or protected). • Participation in efforts to obtain regional variance to Corps levee vegetation maintenance policy. • Sharing local approaches for updating floodplain development regulations for consistency with FEMA biological opinion. • Opportunity to engage new/emerging farming community of small-scale, direct marketing farms in practices (and marketing efforts) that achieve win-win outcomes (e.g., Salmon Safe farm labeling).
Shoreline Armoring	• Implementing nearshore restoration priorities in watershed salmon recovery plans (measured by linear feet of armoring removed and/or habitat restored). • Local jurisdictions updating shoreline master programs to guide shoreline land use, development regulations and restoration. • Federal, state and local governments jointly seeking funding to implement shoreline restoration elements of local SMPs. • Green Shorelines Steering Committee in WRIA 8 serving as multi-agency group working to increase awareness, acceptance, and implementation of green shorelines alternative to armored shorelines in Lake Washington and Lake Sammamish.
Freshwater Water Quality	• Green stormwater infrastructure projects
Summer Stream Flows	• Green stormwater infrastructure projects
Water Insects in Freshwater	• Green stormwater infrastructure • Creek restoration projects • Protection of existing high-quality riparian areas

Local Implementation Structure

The South Central Action Area contains well-functioning, coordinated efforts to restore habitat, protect habitat, and reduce water pollution. To build on and support the work of existing groups and to improve action area communication, coordination, and integration among these different efforts, a small, broadly inclusive caucus group was identified to help refine and confirm action area priorities using input from constituents. The South Central Action Area Caucus Group also helps identify opportunities to improve local coordination and

IMPLEMENTATION COORDINATION IN SOUTH CENTRAL

The South Central Action Area Caucus Group is composed of elected officials and staff from key implementer groups, including local jurisdictions, watershed groups, tribes, business, and non-governmental organizations.

integration of Puget Sound recovery efforts and update and inform the action area representative to the Ecosystem Coordination Board. In 2010, the Caucus Group was recognized by the PSP's Leadership Council as the Local Integrating Organization for the South Central Action Area.
Meetings of the Caucus Group are generally held on a quarterly basis, in advance of the Ecosystem Coordination Board Meetings. The Caucus Group has a part-time Coordinator funded through an EPA grant, available to all LIOs, to support the functions of the Caucus Group and help facilitate implementation. The PSP Ecosystem Recovery Coordinator manages the grant to the LIO, works closely with the LIO Coordinator, and remains an active participant in the Caucus Group and implementation process. Additional PSP staff, including technical and policy specialists, participates in Caucus Group meetings and activities as appropriate.

Participants in the Caucus Group include the following:

- King and Pierce counties
- Cities of Seattle, Tacoma, and Bellevue
- Suburban Cities Association of King County (City of Black Diamond and City of Maple Valley)
- Pierce County Cities and Towns Association (City of Fife)
- Ports of Seattle and Tacoma
- Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
- Puyallup Tribe of Indians
- Public Health – Seattle and King County
- Tacoma – Pierce County Health Department
- WRIA 8 (Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed) Salmon Recovery Council
- WRIA 9 (Green/Duwamish Watershed) Ecosystem Forum
- WRIA 10/12 (Puyallup/White and Chambers Clover Watershed) Citizen Advisory Committee
- Environmental constituency (Citizens for a Healthy Bay and Forterra)
- Agricultural constituency (WSU Extension and King Conservation District)
- Business constituency (Boeing and Tacoma Chamber of Commerce)
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- Puget Sound Partnership (state agencies rep)

References and Additional Resources

Puget Sound Regional Council: www.psrc.org

King County: www.kingcounty.gov

Pierce County Surface Water Management:
http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/abtus/ourorg/pwu/about/water.htm

City of Seattle: www.seattle.gov

City of Tacoma: www.cityoftacoma.org

City of Bellevue: www.bellevuewa.gov

Suburban Cities Association of King County: www.suburbancities.org

Pierce County Cities and Towns Association:
http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/abtus/profile/citiesandtowns.htm

Port of Seattle: www.portseattle.org

Port of Tacoma: www.portoftacoma.com

WRIA 8: http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/

WRIA 9: http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/

WRIA 10: http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/services/home/environ/water/ps/leadentity.htm

Citizens for a Healthy Bay: www.healthybay.org

Forterra: www.forterra.org

ECONet: http://www.psp.wa.gov/econet_news.php

King Conservation District: www.kingcd.org

Pierce Conservation District: www.piercecountycd.org

Washington State University Extension King County: http://county.wsu.edu/king/Pages/default.aspx

Washington State University Extension Pierce County: http://county.wsu.edu/pierce/Pages/default.aspx

WSU Puyallup LID Stormwater Research Program:
http://www.puyallup.wsu.edu/stormwater/index.html

Puyallup River Watershed Council:
http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/services/home/environ/water/ps/prwc/main.htm

Seattle & King County Public Health: http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health.aspx

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