Green/Duwamish & Central Puget Sound Watershed 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities

FISH PASSAGE AT HOWARD A. HANSON DAM

Fish passage at Howard A. Hanson Dam (HAHD) will restore access to approximately 40% of the historical salmon habitat within the watershed and represents one of the single largest potential salmon habitat gains in Puget Sound for supporting Puget Sound Chinook salmon and southern resident orca whale recovery.

- Support any necessary federal authorities for construction of a downstream fish passage facility at HAHD to ensure U.S. Army Corps compliance with the 2030 construction deadline.
- Explore and support funding opportunities to fully fund construction and potentially expedite the existing construction timeline.

FEDERAL SALMON & PUGET SOUND RECOVERY FUNDING

Federal programs play a key role in helping Washington fund implementation of recovery plans and complements other state initiatives to improve salmon habitat.

- Support funding increase for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund to accelerate state and tribal recovery efforts for Pacific salmon and steelhead in California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Alaska.
- Support funding increase for the Puget Sound Geographic Program in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, to accelerate Puget Sound recovery efforts.
- Support increased funding for the National Estuary Program (NEP), which supports core funding for 26 estuary restoration programs nationwide, including Puget Sound Partnership and its Local Integrating Organizations.

PROMOTING UNITED GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO SAVE OUR SOUND

Enhancing the federal government's role and investment in Puget Sound, the nation's largest estuary by volume, is vital to Washington state's identity and economy.

• Support passage of the "Promoting United Government Efforts to Save Our Sound" (PUGET SOS) Bill in the Senate, which will establish a Puget Sound Recovery National Program Office in the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate federal Puget Sound recovery efforts with state, local and tribal recovery efforts and enable greater levels of federal funding for Puget Sound recovery.

CLIMATE ACTION

Efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are critical to minimizing the impacts of climate change on human and natural systems.

• Support climate policies to achieve science-based greenhouse gas reduction targets and minimize the severity of climate change impacts on pacific salmon.

