

# San Juan County: Status and Trends



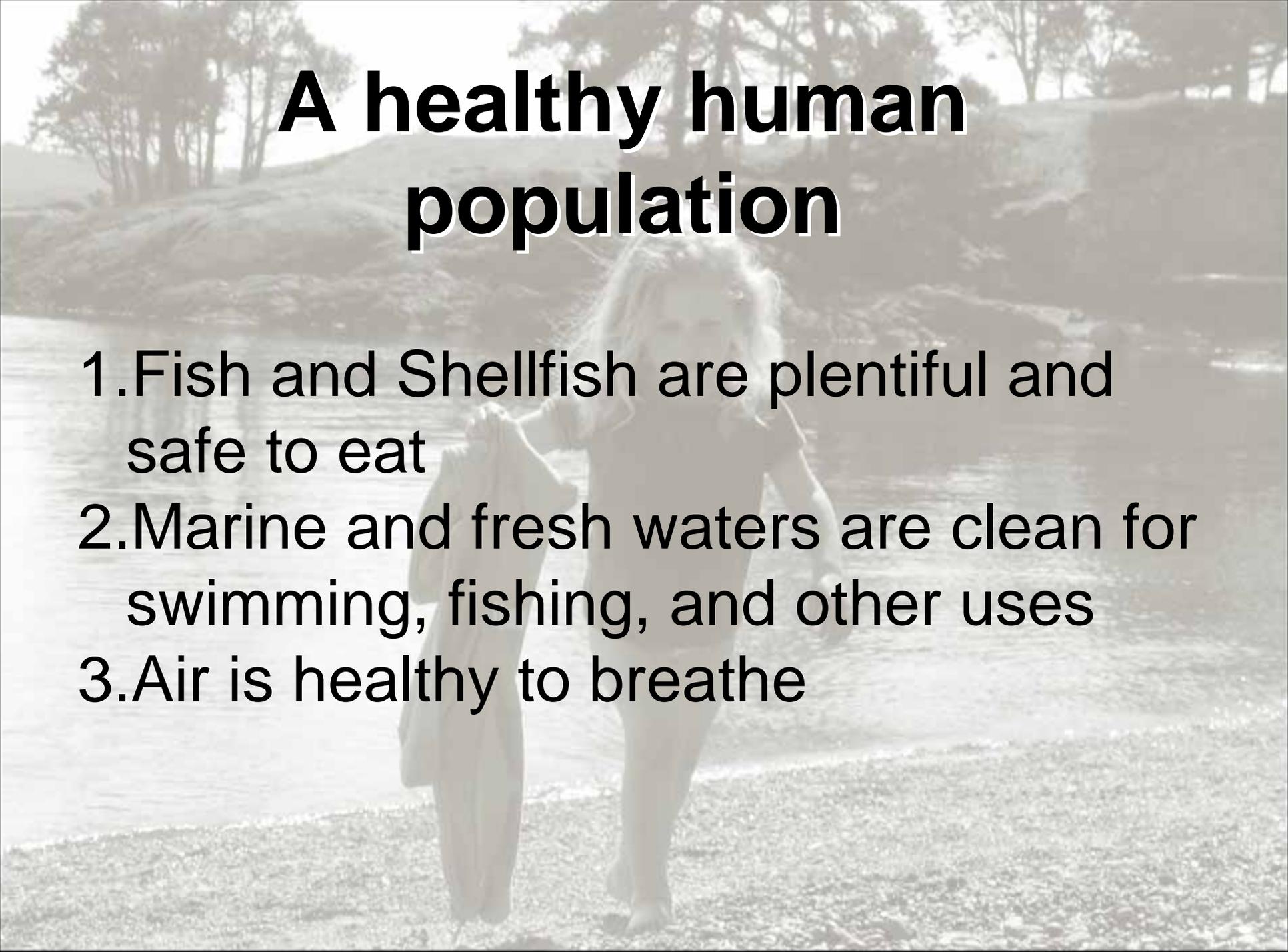
# PugetSoundPartnership

our sound, our community, our chance

## Vision for a Healthy Puget Sound

- A healthy human population is supported by a healthy Puget Sound
- The Quality of human life is sustained by a healthy Puget Sound
  - Puget Sound species and the web of life thrive
  - Puget Sound habitat is protected and restored
- Puget Sound rivers and streams flow at levels that support people, fish and wildlife, and the environment
  - Puget Sound marine and fresh water are clean



A woman with long blonde hair is walking on a pebbly beach, holding a leash for a small dog. She is wearing a dark, long-sleeved top and pants. The background shows a calm body of water, a line of trees, and a clear sky. The overall scene is peaceful and suggests a healthy, active lifestyle.

# **A healthy human population**

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2. Marine and fresh waters are clean for swimming, fishing, and other uses
3. Air is healthy to breathe

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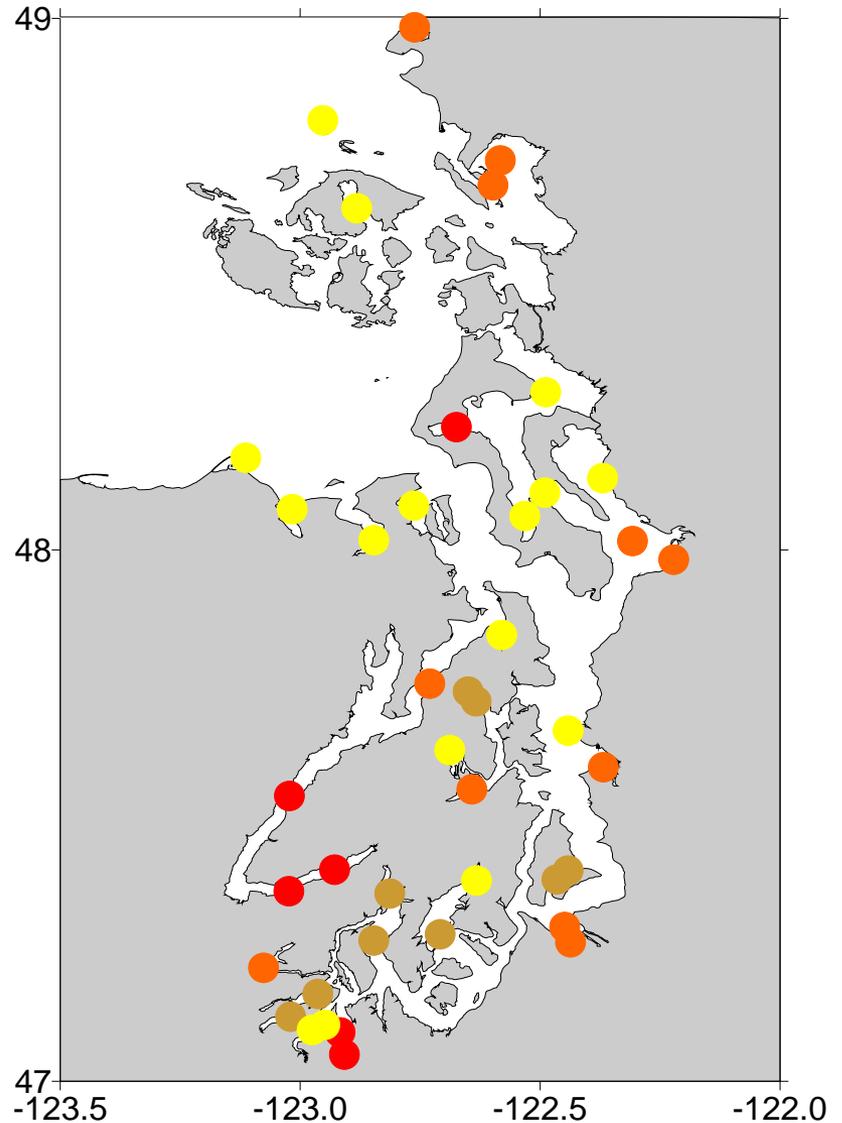
# Marine Water Quality in Puget Sound, WA

	DO	FCB	DIN	NH4	Stratif	Concern
Budd Inlet	Very Low	High	Low	High	P	Highest concern
S. Hood Canal	Very Low		Low		P	
Penn Cove	Very Low		Low		P	
Commencement Bay	Low	Very High			P	Moderate concern
Elliott Bay	Low	Very High			P	
Oakland Bay		Very High	Moderate	Moderate	E	
Grays Harbor		Very High		Moderate	P-E	
upper Willapa Bay		Very High	Low	Moderate	E-W	
Possession Sound	Low	High	Moderate	High	P	
Sinclair Inlet	Low	High	Low	Moderate	P	
Bellingham Bay	Low	Moderate	Low	Moderate	P	
Drayton Harbor		Moderate	Low		S	
N. Hood Canal	Low		Low		P	
Port Orchard		High		Moderate	S	Lower concern
Case Inlet	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	S	
Carr Inlet	Low		Moderate	Moderate	S	
Quartermaster Hbr	Low			Moderate	S	
Totten Inlet			Moderate	Moderate	E	
Saratoga Passage	Low		Moderate		P	
Holmes Harbor	Low				P	
Skagit	Low				P	
Port Susan	Low				P	
West Point		Moderate			E	
Dungeness	Low				S	
Port Gamble	Low				S	
Sequim Bay	Low				S	
Discovery Bay			Low		S	
Willapa Bay			Low		E-W	
Dyes Inlet			Moderate		S	
Eld Inlet			Moderate		S	
East Sound				High	S	
Burley-Minter				Moderate	E	
Port Townsend	Low				W	
Strait of Georgia	Low				S	

Highest concern



Lower concern





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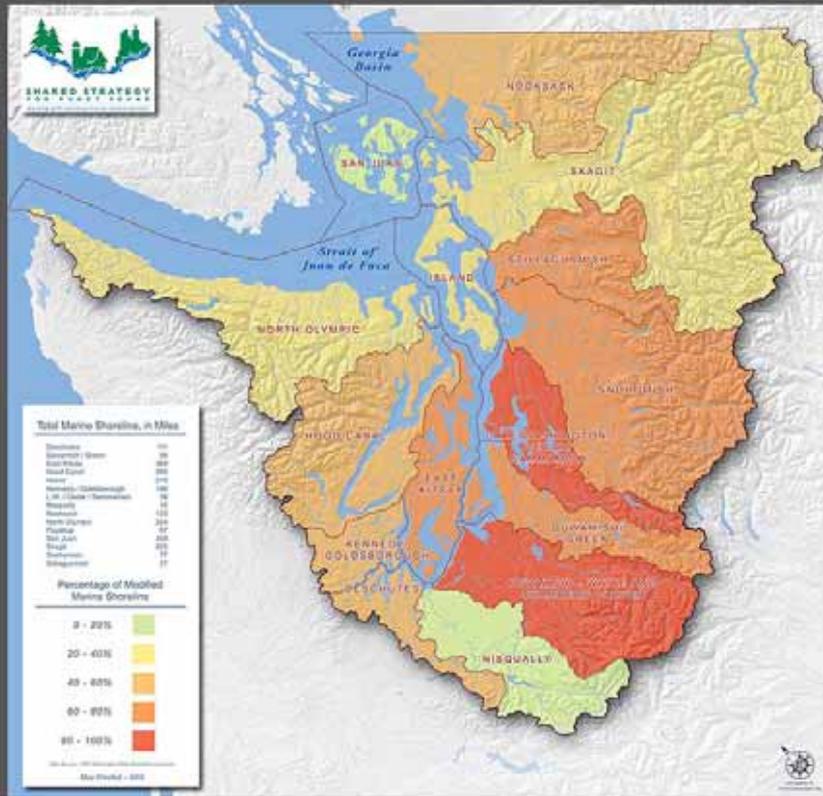
# Quality of human life is sustained

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2. Upland and marine resources are adequate to sustain treaty rights
3. The ecosystem supports a thriving marine industry
4. Economic prosperity is supported and compatible with ecosystem restoration

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*Relative Modification of Shoreline  
in Salmon Recovery Planning Areas*



**Some of the least anthropogenically modified shoreline in Puget Sound**

**70% of the county is forested and only 1% is paved**



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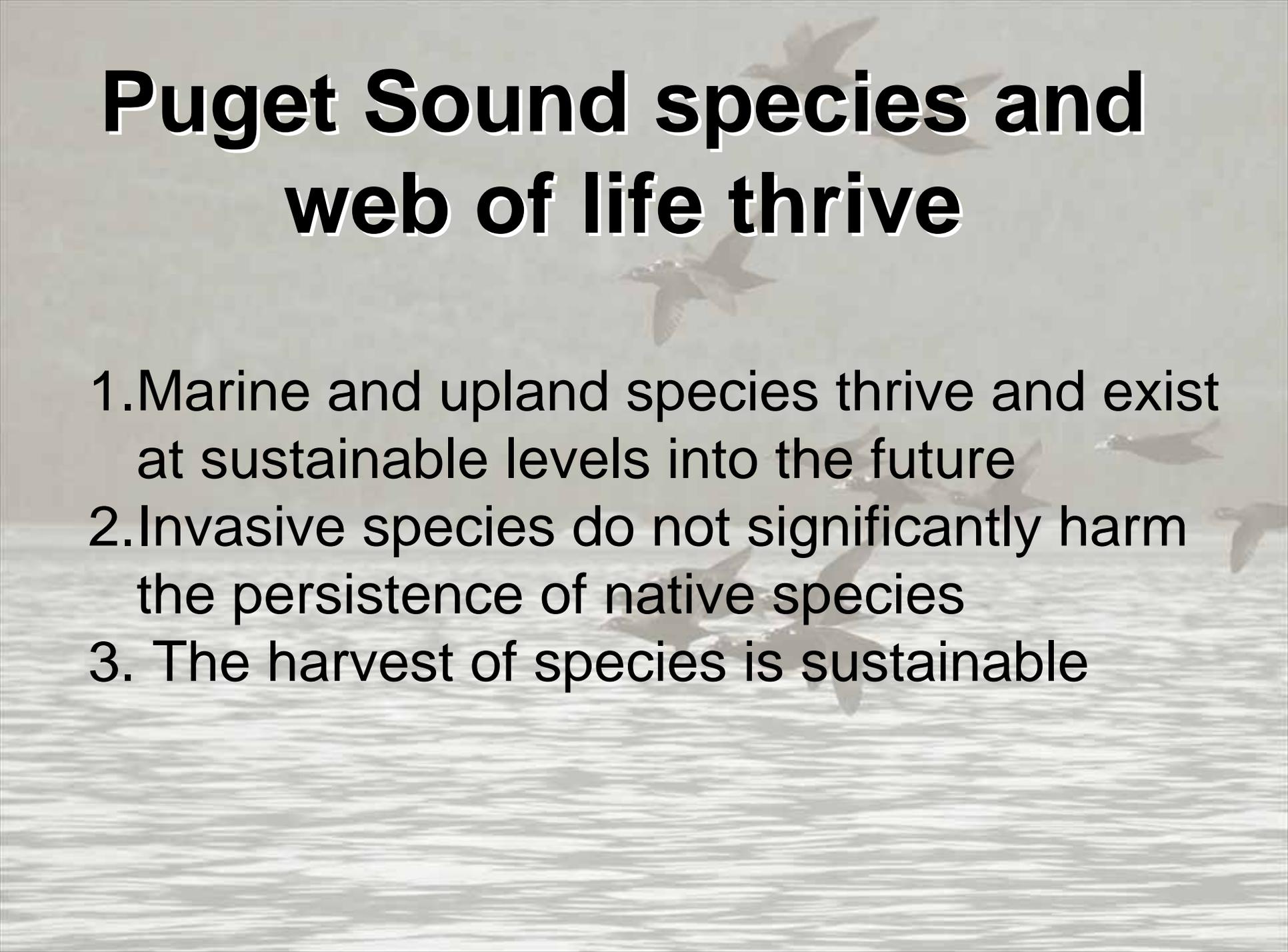
**San Juan County  
has 15,804 year  
'round residents and  
a seasonal  
population of 33,460**



**Tourists spent  
\$118.7 million in  
San Juan County  
in 2005**



# **Puget Sound species and web of life thrive**

The background of the slide features a large, soft-focus image of a flock of birds, likely terns, flying over a body of water. The birds are scattered across the upper and middle portions of the frame, with their wings and silhouettes clearly visible against the light sky. The water below shows gentle ripples, and the overall scene conveys a sense of natural abundance and movement.

1. Marine and upland species thrive and exist at sustainable levels into the future
2. Invasive species do not significantly harm the persistence of native species
3. The harvest of species is sustainable

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**Over 60 species or sub-species are listed as threatened, endangered or are candidates for listing**



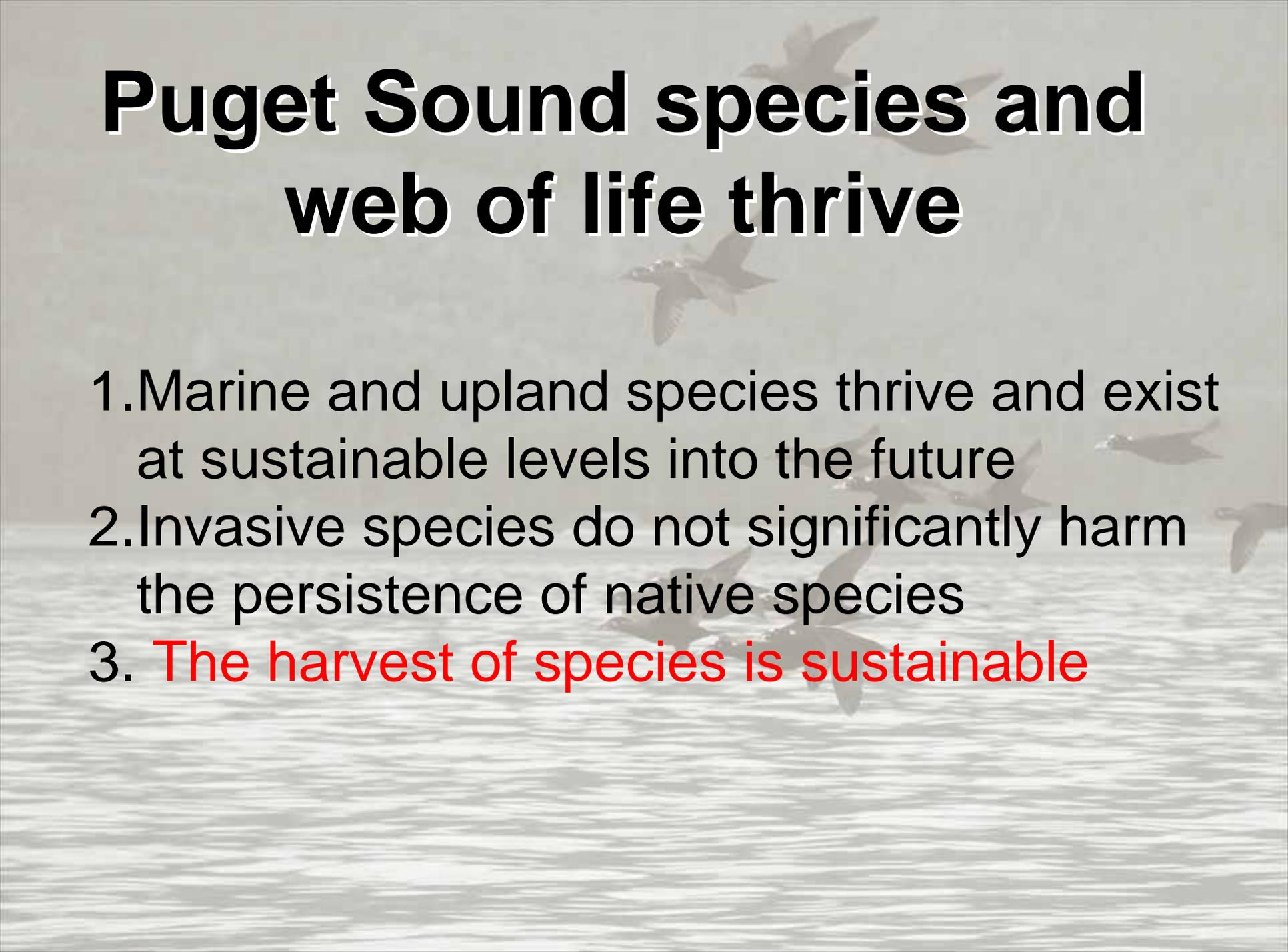
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# **Puget Sound habitat is protected and restored**

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2. Habitats are formed and maintained by natural processes and human stewardship
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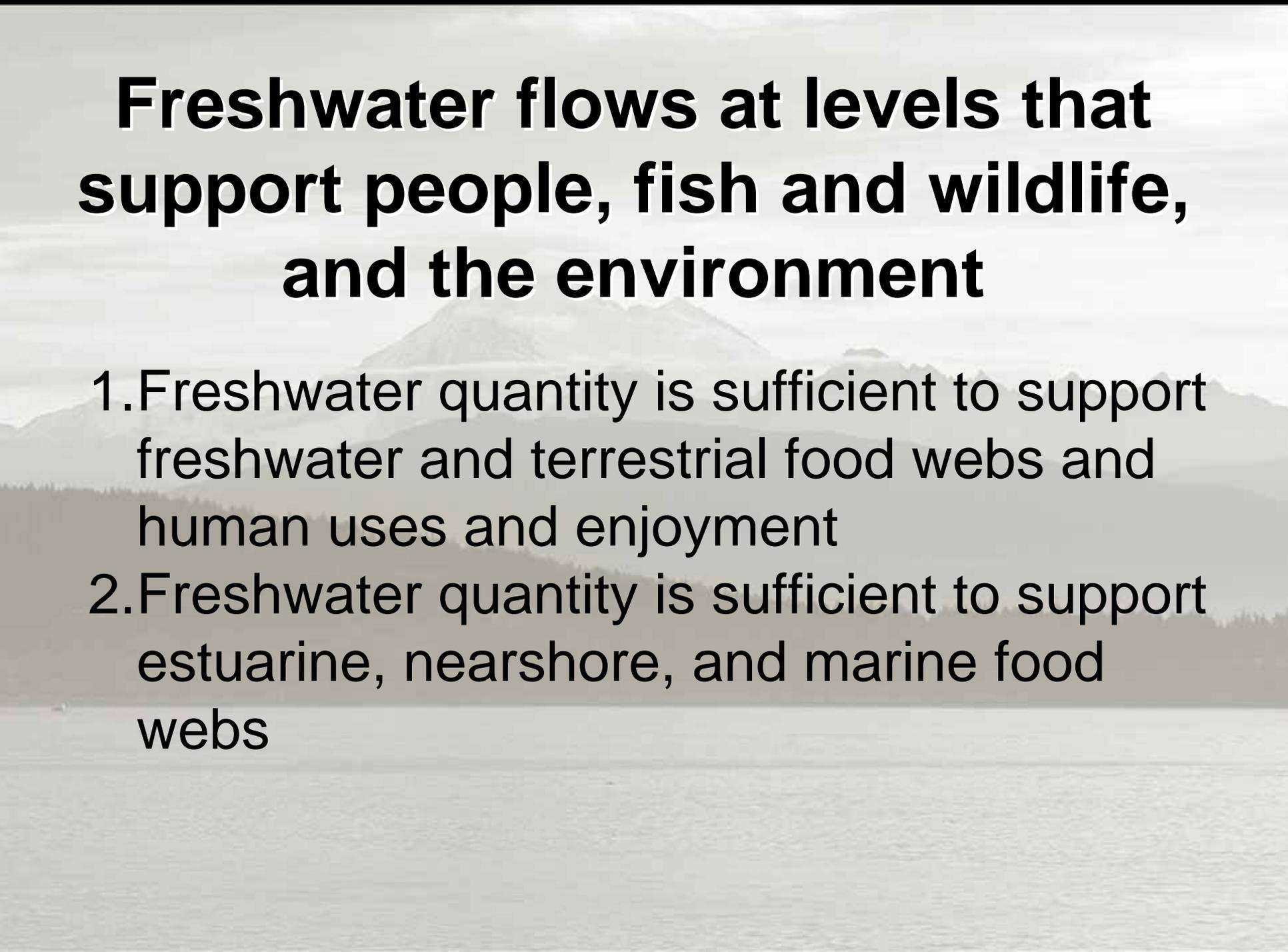


**The population of San Juan County grew 40% between 1990 and 2000. By 2010 we are expected to have 16,782 full time residents**



**Only approximately 50% of shoreline parcels are currently built out**





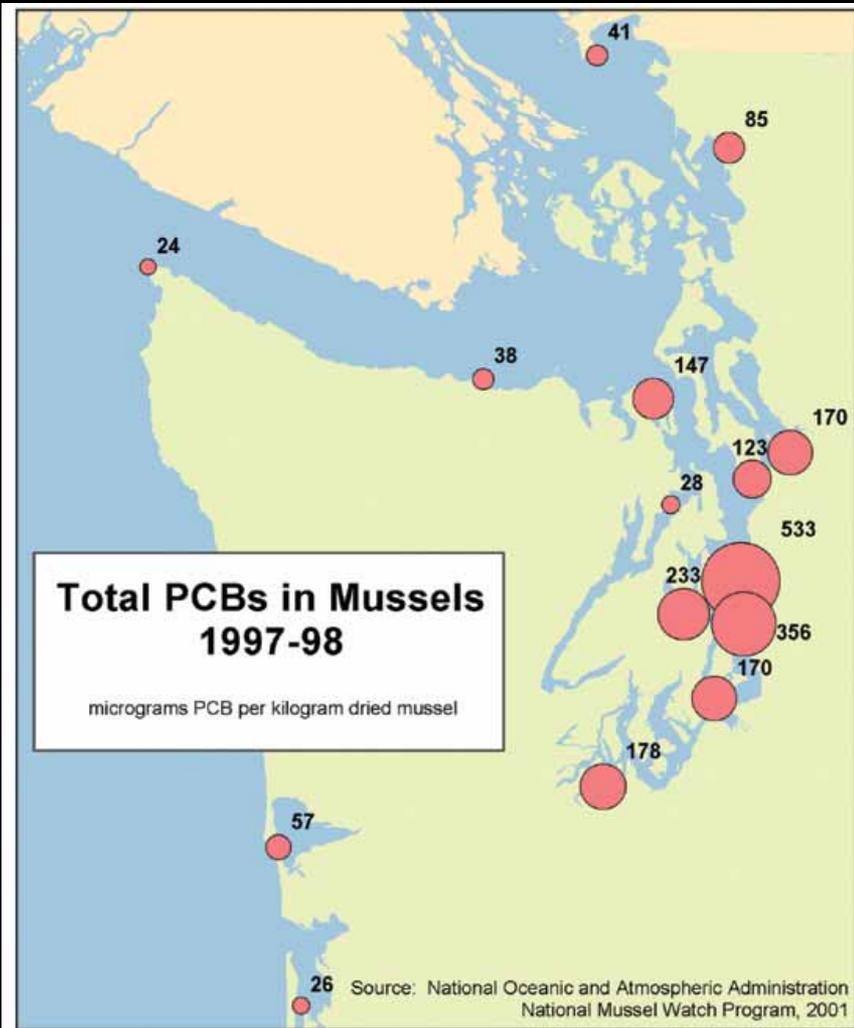
# **Freshwater flows at levels that support people, fish and wildlife, and the environment**

1. Freshwater quantity is sufficient to support freshwater and terrestrial food webs and human uses and enjoyment
2. Freshwater quantity is sufficient to support estuarine, nearshore, and marine food webs



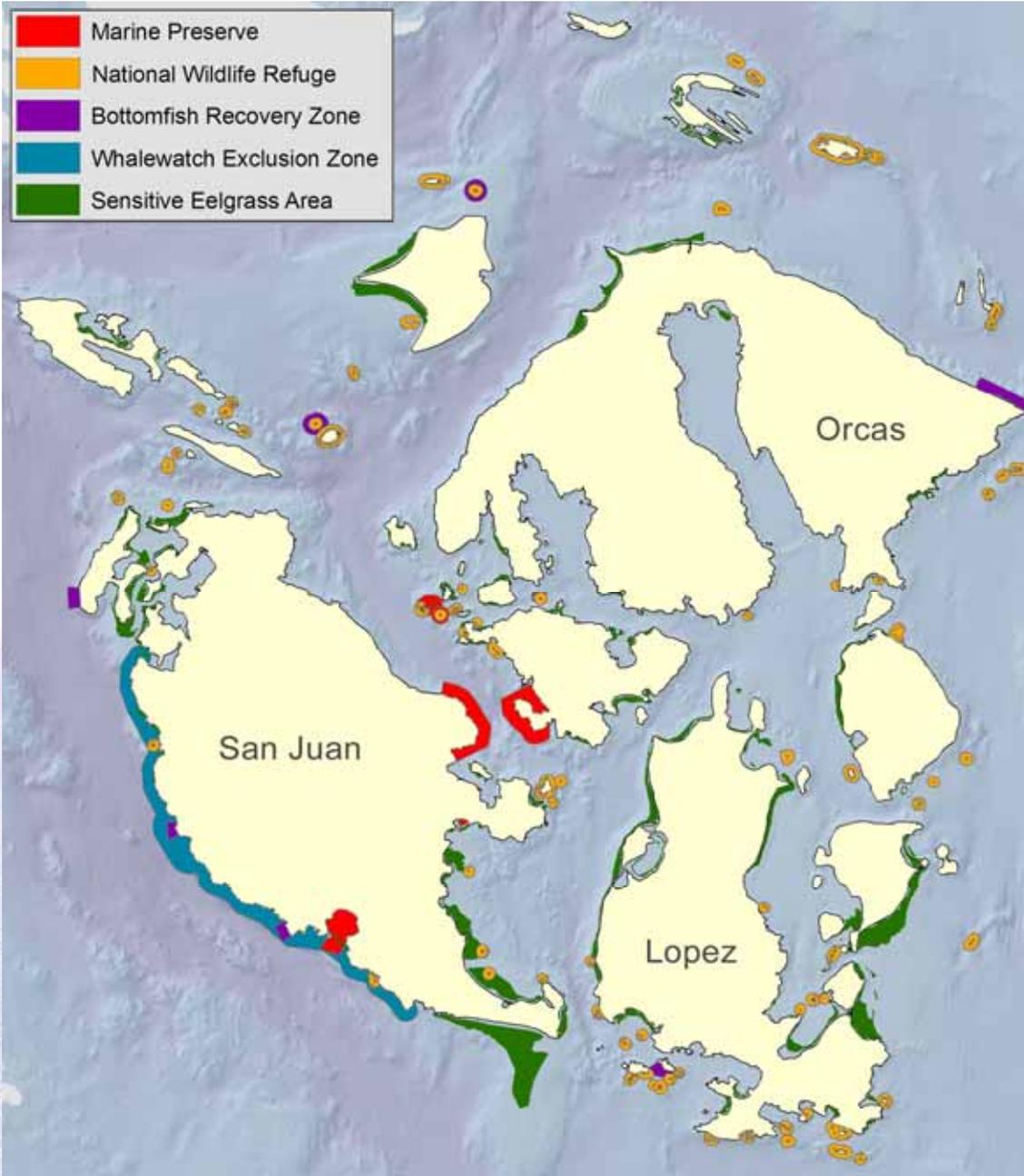
# **Puget Sound marine and freshwater are clean**

1. Toxins and pathogen levels in fish and wildlife do not harm the species
2. Toxin loadings do not impede healthy ecosystem functions
3. Puget Sound waters are safe for drinking, swimming, and other human enjoyment





# SJC Marine Stewardship Area (MSA)

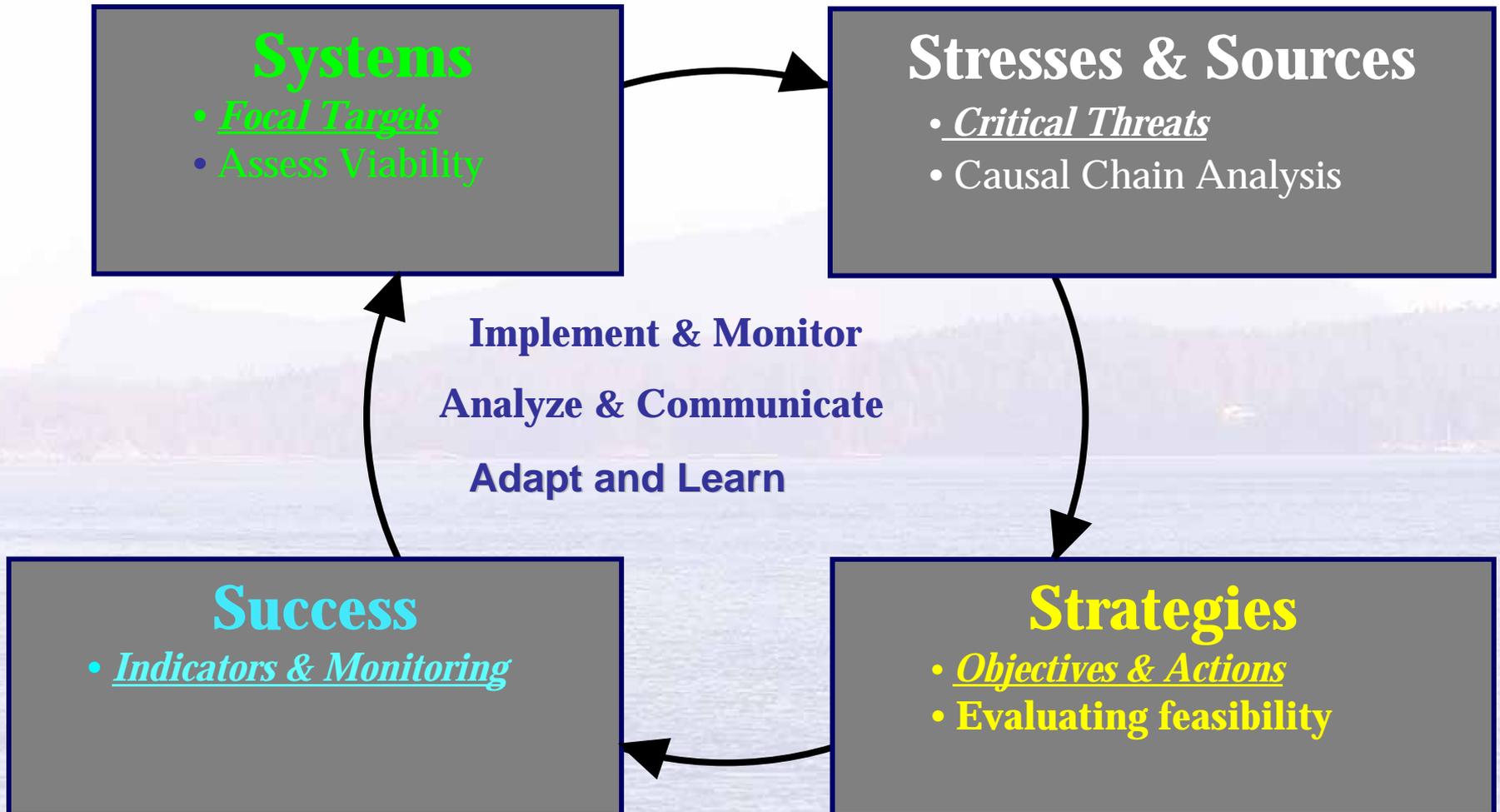


Jan. 2004 **San Juan County Passed MSA Resolution**

March 2005 **Partnership launched between the MRC & Others**

July 2007 **County Council Adopts MSA Plan. Implementation begins.**

# The (5-S) Framework



# Biodiversity Targets

1. Rocky intertidal communities
2. Rocky subtidal communities
3. Nearshore sand, mud, and gravel communities
4. Rockfish, lingcod, and greenling
5. Seabirds
6. Marine mammals
7. Pacific salmon



# Socioeconomic targets

1. Enjoyment of the marine environment
2. Thriving marine-based livelihoods
3. Cultural traditions



# Highest-ranked threats

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<b>Rank</b>	<b>Threat</b>	<b>Overall Threat Rank</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Large oil spills</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Climate change</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Shoreline modification</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Non-local sources of salmon decline</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Invasive species</b>	<b>Medium</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Persistent organic pollutants</b>	<b>Medium</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Polluted stormwater runoff</b>	<b>Medium</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Septic systems and wastewater discharge</b>	<b>Medium</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Predation by marine mammals</b>	<b>Medium</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Historical harvest of rockfish, lingcod &amp; greenling until 1999.</b>	<b>Medium</b>

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# Top Six Strategies

1. Foster a marine stewardship ethic – outreach
2. Manage upland and nearshore activities to reduce harm
3. Reduce harvest of rockfish and greenling
4. Reduce bioaccumulative toxins
5. Reduce the risk of large oil spills
6. Public access to natural shorelines & views, coupled with a stewardship message

# Implementation



- Outreach strategy
- County CAO, SMP updates
- San Juan Initiative
- Rockfish adaptive management
- DNR aquatic reserve proposal
- Monitoring plan