

TO: PSP Ecosystem Coordination Board

FM: David Dicks, Executive Director, PSP

RE: Action Agenda Candidate Initiatives

I am looking forward to our meeting tomorrow and discussing key components of the Action Agenda with you. The major focus will be to review and get your initial feedback on a set of candidate initiatives we are proposing as part of the Action Agenda. Attached is a summary table of the initiatives.

An initiative is an activity that the Partnership has determined must start in the 2009-11 Biennium in order to meet our goals for a healthy Puget Sound by 2020. Partnership initiatives focus on priority threats and flow from our adopted strategic priorities. Many initiatives could be completed in one or two years, while others will occur over a longer time period. An initiative can be a capital project such as an estuary restoration; a policy or regulatory adjustment; an incentive program; a scientific study or monitoring program; or education and outreach efforts.

In order to be included on the list, an activity must be ready to implement. That means that a series of steps can be identified and be taken by specific individuals by a specific deadline. Although an action may not be listed on the initiative list, it may still be included as an action in another section of the Action Agenda.

The candidate initiatives were developed over the past year by collecting information about existing or planned Puget Sound restoration and protection activities from scientists and other experts, key stakeholders and from existing regional and local plans. That work resulted in an inventory of well over 4000 items. Partnership staff and consultants analyzed that list and identified about 900 that were actionable in the near term. The current list was narrowed down from the 900 using the adopted ecological principles, the topic forum papers, and input received from stakeholders during the outreach process over the past year. The Science Panel will also review the initiatives next week.

Your input will be of great assistance as we refine these initiatives for Leadership Council consideration. Tomorrow's meeting is the first step in getting your perspectives on these initiatives. Over the coming weeks we will work with you to set up additional opportunities to get your feedback prior to issuing the draft Action Agenda on Nov. 6.

This is an exciting time for everyone. The work over the past year is coming together and I am pleased with the result that is emerging – together we are creating a bold roadmap to restore Puget Sound for generations to come.

Thank you for all your hard work.

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
<b>B. Protect Intact Ecosystem Processes, Structures, and Functions</b>	
<b>B.1. Permanently protect intact marine, marine nearshore, estuary, freshwater riparian, and upland habitat areas with intact processes, structures, and functions</b>	<p>1. <b>Immediately acquire high value habitat vulnerable to conversion/loss.</b> Projects should be prioritized in one or more collaboratively prioritized plans (Salmon Recovery Plans, Watershed Plans, and others). Candidate projects will be evaluated against Action Agenda principles and criteria for inclusion as an initiative. Possibilities include: A) Acquire Devil's Head: Devil's Head is one of the few remaining large stretches of undeveloped shoreline in South Sound Project acquires important feeder bluff at high risk of future development; B) White River Land Acquisition: 2500 acres of habitat along 10 miles of the White River at Lake Tapps that is in danger of conversion).</p> <p>2. <b>Prepare a Marine Managed Areas Plan and establish Marine Managed Areas:</b> Marine managed areas are federal-, state-, or locally-designated marine or estuarine areas created to protect, conserve, or otherwise manage marine life and resources. There are three tasks: A) Prepare a overall Puget Sound Marine Managed Areas Plan to coordinate and strengthen state and local government MMA programs. Enact legislation establishing the MMA management roles for DNR, and WDFW. B) Complete management plans for existing marine managed areas: Cherry Point; C) Develop management plans to establish currently nominated reserves: Nisqually Estuary, Protection Island, and Smith Island.</p> <p>3. <b>Provide Incentives to Local Jurisdictions to use Outstanding Resource Water designations</b> to protect critical habitat. This habitat protection tool is included in the Salmon Recovery Plan and the State Steelhead Management Plan.</p> <p>4. <b>Support pending Wilderness designations:</b> A) Support Alpine Lakes Wilderness addition and B) Pratt River Wild and Scenic Designation.</p>
<b>B.2. Rapidly acquire lands with high ecological value and imminent risk of conversion</b>	<p>1. <b>Establish a revolving fund and criteria for the rapid acquisition</b> of properties with high ecological value and imminent risk of conversion or degradation. Projects should be identified on a watershed characterization study as a priority for protection and be considered a priority according to Action Agenda criteria.</p> <p>2. <b>Expand the Coastal Wetland Conservation Fund:</b> This program would provide State pass-through monies to eligible applicants to conserve natural areas of Puget Sound shorelines.</p>
<b>B.3. Implement existing programs and requirements related to protection</b>	<p>1. <b>Complete instream flow setting in basin without adopted rules:</b> Require the Department of Ecology to adopt new water management/instream flow rules where low flows have been identified as a limiting factor sufficient to support dependent aquatic species and to maintain flow related water quality issues such as temperature and dissolved oxygen in the following basins by the end of FY 13: Samish [part of WRIA 3], Skokomish-Dosewallips [WRIA 16], Quilcene-Snow [WRIA 17], Elwha-Dungeness (Dungeness portion of WRIA 18), and Lyre-Hoko (WRIA 19). The Elwha part of WRIA 16 is not will not address instream flow setting (at this time) because of the pending removal of the Aldwell and Glines Canyon dams.</p>

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
	<p><b>2. Implement Stream Flow Protection and Enhancement Program for salmon:</b> Complete the Instream Flow Protection and Enhancement Program (PEP) framework called for in the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan.</p>
	<p><b>3. Update all Shoreline Management Plans by deadlines:</b> Provide funding and technical support necessary to ensure that all Puget Sound jurisdictions complete their shoreline management program (SMP) updates by the end of 2011.</p>
	<p><b>4. Assist local governments in meeting required SMA no-net loss requirements:</b> Provide local governments with guidance regarding a strategy to achieve and measure already required no-net-loss of ecological function as required by the SMA and the 2003 SMP Guidelines.</p>
<b>B.4. Reform regulations related to protection</b>	<p><b>1. Strengthen shoreline protection:</b> Amend the Shoreline Management Act to require provisions related to residential bulkheads and docks, including the exemptions for construction of "a normal protective bulkhead common to single family residences" and a "dock" from the basic shoreline permit (Substantial Development Permit). Provisions relating to other overwater structures would also be amended. Specifically, the proposal would require a shoreline conditional use permit for all new shoreline hardening, for all seawall/bulkhead/revetment repair proposals, as well as new docks and piers. More specifically: a) Soft armoring techniques should always be used where new armoring or retrofits are unavoidable; b) No net loss of shoreline function should be allowed; c) New shoreline hardening in areas with feeder bluffs should be prohibited; d) New over water structures or shoreline hardening in the vicinity of surf smelt and sand lance spawning areas</p>
	<p><b>2. Stenghten GMA protection:</b> Require Critical Areas Regulations to identify criteria for when impacts to critical areas will be allowed.</p>
	<p><b>3. Modify levee maintenance standards:</b> This proposal seeks to change the Army Corps of Engineers' Levee Maintenance Standards, or their administrative guidelines, such that they are supportive of meeting ecosystem-based goals while continuing to support public health and safety requirements.</p>
	<p><b>4. Update instream flow rules adopted prior to 1986:</b> Update water management / instream flow rules, as needed, sufficient to support dependent aquatic species and to maintain flow related water quality issues such as temperature and DO in the following basins: Nooksack [WRIA 1], Snohomish [WRIA 7], Cedar-Sammamish [WRIA 8], Duwamish-Green (WRIA 9), Puyallup-White (WRIA 10), Nisqually [WRIA 11], Clover-Chamber [WRIA 12], Deschutes [WRIA13], Kennedy-Goldsborough [WRIA 14], and Kitsap [WRIA 15].</p>
	<p><b>5. Evaluate and implement solutions to water use issues related to exempt wells:</b> Develop a regulation, rule and/or legislation to provide statewide consistency and clarity when administering the ground water permit exemption under the Ground Water Code. Start by convening a stakeholder group to review several draft products and to generate ideas for moving management of permit-exempt wells forward. Options could include rulemaking, policy interpretive statement, or proposed legislation.</p>

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
	6. <b>Assist counties and cities in addressing revenue distribution issues</b> that result in urban style growth in rural areas.
	7. <b>Evaluate the effectiveness of protection actions.</b> This includes A) the suite of regulatory, incentive and outreach programs and B) whether the process and/or results from the San Juan Initiative for habitat protection can be modified for use in other areas. s
<b>B.5. Protect and support long-term stewardship of working farms, forests, and aquatic lands</b>	1. <b>Support efforts to improve the viability TDR programs:</b> Work to create markets and incentivize use of TDRs within urban growth areas.
	2. <b>Develop non-regulatory incentives for small forest landowners</b> to maintain their land in working forest.
	3. <b>Purchase development rights to working forests at immediate risk of conversion.</b> Example options: Protect the headwaters of A) Chimacum Creek and 2) Union River from development by purchasing development rights and providing monetary incentives to foresters to maintain forest management/timber work.
	4. <b>Transfer development rights from working forests at risk of conversion:</b> Facilitate the transfer of development rights from about 7000 acres of working forest in north Kitsap to Kingston and Port Gamble. Consider Port Gamble Bay clean-up of wood waste and over water structures as a condition of increased density and redevelopment of the town of Port Gamble.
	5. <b>Support the Ruckelshaus Center's Critical Area Ordinances Project:</b> As directed by the State legislature and Governor, this project is working to help resolve conflicts surrounding agricultural activities and the development and implementation of critical areas protections.
	6. <b>Support and implement the Conservation Commission Working Lands Initiative:</b> Seeks to prevent conversion to urban and residential uses through markets and technical assistance.
<b>B.6. Create and implement programs to prevent and rapidly respond to the introduction of new invasive species</b>	1. <b>Support the implementation of key Puget Sound related recommendations of the Invasive Species Council "Invaders at the Gate" Strategic Plan</b>
<b>B.7. Implement stewardship programs to assist private landowners with protection actions</b>	<b>To be determined</b>
<b>B.8. Maintain acquired parcels to achieve desired outcomes</b>	<b>To be determined</b>

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
<b>C. Restore ecosystem processes, structures, and functions</b>	
<b>C.1. Implement priority restoration projects for marine, marine nearshore, estuary, freshwater riparian, and uplands.</b>	<b>1. Implement projects in the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan and three-year work plans:</b> Support restoration and protection actions for ecosystem processes and functions necessary to implement the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan and the Hood Canal and Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca Summer Chum Salmon Recovery Plan. Evaluate all projects to ensure consistency with the Action Agenda. A project list has been proposed for the upcoming biennium.
	<b>2. Complete high priority large-scale Estuary and Nearshore Restoration Projects that have a High Probability Of Recreating Ecosystem Functions.</b> Candidates include: A) Nisqually Delta, B) Port Susan Stillaguamish estuary restoration, C) Smith Island restoration in the Snohomish River Estuary, D) Skokomish Delta dike removal investigation and restoration project, E) Dungeness dike setback and delta restoration – phases 2 and 3.
	<b>3. Complete high priority large-scale Mainstem Riverine Restoration Projects that have a High Probability Of Recreating Ecosystem Functions.</b> Candidates include: A) Ceder River-Rainbow Bend Restoration; B) Carpenter Creek Restoration, and C) Middle Green Levee Setback; and Puyallup Levee Setback.
	<b>4. Support the Mid-Stem Skagit Multi-Party Agreement Incentive System:</b> Establish an incentive-based program to support on-the-ground priority habitat restoration actions being developed through a collaborative decision-making process in the Skagit Watershed. If the community in the Skagit, who are beginning to work together through a collaborative decision-making process, can agree on projects that are ready to go in the Middle Skagit, the Partnership would help identify funding to implement them.
	<b>5. Complete high priority barrier removal projects.</b> Candidates include: A) Nooksack Middle Fork diversion dam removal; B) Elwha Dam removal acceleration; C) Howard Hansen Dam Fish ladder on (Green River).
	<b>6. Develop a region-wide program to remove fish passage barriers:</b> Inventory, prioritize and implement necessary passage improvements on culverts and other barriers that are preventing safe passage of salmonids to and from spawning or rearing areas. This encompasses culverts and barriers that have not been evaluated or prioritized in other, active programs intended to rectify passage problems from culverts. It could also encompass culverts and barriers that have been identified/evaluated/prioritized outside of a region or watershed-scale prioritization framework, provided owners of those barriers opt for their inclusion. Ensure that these actions are consistent with and supportive of remedies adopted in response to <i>US v. Washington</i> .
	<b>7. Encourage acceleration of the completion of the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Partnership's General Investigation.</b>

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
	8. <b>Remove derelict gear in the Puget Sound, focusing first in San Juan County:</b> Gear removal based on the Northwest Straits Initiative. Based on historical fishing effort and past experience locating derelict fishing nets, there are an estimated 2,066 nets remaining in the San Juan Islands, all in salmon migration corridors. Project would complete surveys of historical fishing grounds are needed to locate all remaining derelict fishing nets and then remove nets.
	9. <b>Support USFS Road Decommissioning:</b> Support increased federal funding to repair and maintain Forest Service roads, and decommission those roads no longer needed or too expensive to maintain and replace culverts that are undersized or not passable by fish.
	10. <b>Conduct habitat restoration at Toxic Clean-up Sites:</b> Build upon existing cleanup efforts to enhance habitat restoration on a bay-wide scale in the following seven priority bays: A) Port Gamble (also includes Kitsap Peninsula & Bremerton); B) Dumas Bay (Poverty Bay to Dash Point); C) Padilla Bay/Fidalgo Bay & Port of Anacortes; D) Port Angeles; E) Oakland Bay, Shelton; F) Port Gardner/ Port of Everett; G) Budd Inlet.
<b>C.2. Maintain restoration projects to continue to meet desired outcomes</b>	<b>To be determined</b>
<b>C.3. Implement stewardship incentives to assist private landowners with restoration actions.</b>	<b>To be determined</b>
<b>D. Reduce the Sources of Water Pollution</b>	
<b>D.1. Prevent pollutants from being introduced into the Puget Sound Ecosystem</b>	1. <b>Incentivize the adoption of green port programs:</b> Create a program for ports to go beyond current regulatory requirements in effort to market themselves "clean and green". Include an outreach strategy to leverage experience of green port leaders.
	2. <b>Implement existing water quality clean up plans such as Total Maximum Daily Load Plans and others.</b>
	3. <b>Complete and implement water quality clean up plans for marine area:</b> Complete the science for key marine TMDLs and initiate corrective actions in the South Sound, such as nutrient removal at wastewater treatment plants and control of non-point sources.
	3. <b>Eliminate the Need for Mixing Zones in Puget Sound:</b> Begin public process to modify rule to eliminate mixing zones.
	4. <b>Provide Ecology with authority to inspect vessels:</b> Obtain delegated authority from the United States Coast Guard for DOE to conduct vessel inspections, investigate incidents, and approve oil spill prevention plans for vessels and facilities.
	5. <b>Establish Puget Sound as a No-Discharge Zone:</b> Establish a vessel sewage no-discharge zone for commercial and recreation boats with a first step to ensure that adequate pump out facilities exist around Puget Sound.

**Puget Sound Partnership**  
**Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives**  
**Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
	6. <b>Increase the availability for boat pump-out facilities.</b> Create a program to construct and maintain pump out facilities. While funding is often available to construct new facilities, marinas often lack a way to fund maintenance.
	7. <b>Conduct a focused outreach campaign to reduce pollutants identified in the Phase II of the toxic loading study that are priority threats to Puget Sound:</b> This effort would likely be focused on pollutants in stormwater runoff.
	8. <b>Permanently Maintain Emergency Response Tug at Neah Bay</b>
<b>D.2. Used an integrated and holistic approach to managing urban stormwater and rural surface water runoff closer to its source and mimicking natural hydrologic conditions when possible</b>	1. <b>Assist local governments to implement the NPDES Phase II Stormwater Permits</b>
	2. <b>Assist cities and counties in adopting the now required LID stormwater codes for development and redevelopment:</b> Provide standards for LID and the determination of criteria to determine feasibility.
	3. <b>Develop and implement LID Incentives:</b> Develop and implement incentives to use LID techniques on development projects via a multi-stakeholder group.
	4. <b>Evaluate the use of funds currently programmed for CSO improvements for storm water control actions.</b>
	5. <b>Prioritize and Fund Stormwater Retrofits in Urban Areas:</b> Provide assistance to local governments to manage and control stormwater runoff pollution. Develop ecological and economic criteria to prioritize areas to retrofit. Priority should be given to projects that would improve areas under the greatest threat and provide the greatest return on the investment. Pilot and monitor retrofits that use innovative LID techniques to determine effectiveness of technology and to advance state of knowledge about design, implementation, cost, and maintenance requirements.
	6. <b>Respond to Hood Canal dissolved oxygen study findings:</b> Working with the Hood Canal Coordinating Council to develop management responses to the dissolved oxygen study. For example, investigate management options related to alder trees as a significant component of the dissolved oxygen problem and septic system replacement and/or upgrades.
<b>D.3 Upgrade Sewage Treatment Plants with priority for areas with demonstrated nutrient and pathogen loading issues</b>	1. <b>Provide State Assistance Grants for Modernizing Wastewater Treatment starting in key areas:</b> Build on current water quality grant programs and the results of the toxic and nutrient loadings analysis to include advanced treatment technologies for nutrient removal at wastewater treatment plants. Provide financial and technical assistance to local governments with wastewater treatment plants scheduled to be upgraded in the next five to ten years and in areas where significant nutrient loading originates. Priority will be given to projects that reduce pollutant loadings (nutrients, toxics, and pathogens) and that develop alternative water supplies by reclaiming and reusing municipal wastewater. Candidates include: A) Belfair/Skokomish/ Potlatch/Hoodsport (Hood Canal area); B) Paradise Bay (Jefferson County); C) Oakland Bay (Shelton), and D) Dosewallips.

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
	<p>2. <b>Provide technical Assistance for Treatment Plant Project Development in key areas:</b> Provide local governments with technical assistance to develop wastewater treatment projects in key areas so that when funding is available, projects are ready to implement.</p>
	<p>3. <b>Align Public Works Trust Fund and Clean Water State Revolving Trust Fund with Action Agenda priorities.</b></p>
<b>D.4. Repair or Replace Poorly Functioning Onsite Sewage Systems in Key Shoreline Areas, particularly where nutrient and pathogen loadings are known issues</b>	<p>1. <b>Support an On-site Septic System Technology Clearinghouse at Department of Health</b> Fund programs to assess type of on-site systems and proximity to ground and surface waters that pose the greatest threat to discharging nutrients and pathogens. Ensure that septic system treatment technologies and gray water reuse options are readily available to adequately protect and conserve the state's water resources. Integrate data into the Partnership data management system.</p>
	<p>2. <b>Establish Septic Utilities and Increase Capacity of Local Health Jurisdictions to Implement On-site septic Management Plans:</b> Establish septic system utilities to serve sensitive drainages throughout the Sound to ensure that existing septic systems are well maintained. Focus first in South Sound, Hood Canal, and other areas prone to increasing levels of hypoxia and in shellfish threatened areas. Encourage community systems in areas of high residential density and promote nitrogen-reducing technology where feasible. Facilitate the development and implementation of robust on-site septic management plans as per 3SHB 1458 (On-site Sewage Disposal System Bill).</p>
	<p>3. <b>Evaluate, Adjust and Expand Septic Loan Programs:</b> Ensure that septic loan programs can be targeted to areas of with demonstrated loadings issues and vulnerable waters. Leverage public and private funds to increase the scope of loan programs.</p>
<b>D.5. Support efforts to reclaim and reuse water</b>	<p>1. <b>Remove legal barriers in order to encourage regional use of reclaimed water to help reduce effluent and improve management of water resources.</b></p>
<b>D.6. Prioritize and implement remediation and clean up projects to incorporate the results from the toxics loading study, likelihood and recontamination and vulnerability of receiving waters</b>	<p>1. <b>To be determined</b></p>
<b>D.7. Continue efforts to understand and respond to biotoxins and harmful algae blooms and other human health related water quality concerns.</b>	<p>1. <b>Expand biotoxin monitoring and research.</b> Expand efforts to monitor and research biotoxin and vibrio occurrences in order to protect human health.</p>
	<p>2. <b>Maintain human health monitoring of swimming beaches.</b> Maintain the Department of Ecology and Department of Health BEACH Program (Beach Environmental Assessment, Communication, and Health).</p>
<b>A. Work together as a system on priority actions</b>	

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
<b>A.1. Use the Action Agenda as the strategic, ecosystem based guide for action in Puget Sound</b>	<i>This is an overarching direction for the region to guide actions to protect and restore Puget Sound.</i>
<b>A.2. Reform environmental regulatory system to focus on desired outcomes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Streamline and coordinate the environmental permit review process</b> by state and federal agencies and local governments to ensure that decisions and mitigation requirements are consistent across agencies with regulatory authority. Implement the Office of Regulatory Assistance iPermit program in Puget Sound watersheds.</li> <li>2. <b>Develop and implement an in-lieu-fee (ILF) mitigation program:</b> The program will be designed to be implemented Sound-wide. It will be piloted initially in up to three Puget Sound watersheds. The program will be pre-capitalized with publicly-funded restoration projects.</li> <li>3. <b>Streamline the Permitting Process for Capital Restoration Projects:</b> Streamline the permit process for habitat restoration projects. Regulations that would be reviewed and possibly require change include but are not limited to the following: local regulations for building permits/clearing and grading, WDFW's Hydraulic Permit, Ecology's Clean Water Act, Section 402 and Section 401, and Army Corps of Engineers' Clean Water Act Section 404.</li> </ol>
<b>A.3. Improve compliance with rules and regulations</b> <i>(specific compliance issues related to protection and water quality are address in Priorities B and D)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Improve Permit Field Compliance Monitoring Programs:</b> Integrate compliance monitoring across federal, state and local jurisdictions for as many regulations and compliance issues as possible.</li> <li>2. <b>Provide funding for cities and counties to conduct compliance monitoring:</b> Puget Sound local governments in two pilot watersheds will receive grants to improve compliance with existing environmental laws by informing parties of existing requirements, providing technical assistance to parties seeking to comply on a voluntary basis, and taking enforcement actions when necessary to secure compliance. On-the-ground compliance assistance will improve the effectiveness of existing programs to protect Puget Sound, integrate compliance programs at a watershed scale, and help provide a level playing field for all parties within a watershed.</li> <li>3. <b>Improve Toxics Compliance Programs:</b> Provide additional compliance inspectors at the state or local level to ensure that businesses that produce hazardous waste are complying with regulations.</li> <li>4. <b>Support the DOE Water Quality Compliance Program:</b> In the short term, support revisions to the water quality permit fee structure to support staff necessary to make the program viable. In the long term work to support a fee structure adequate to provide adequate compliance with water quality permits and regulations.</li> <li>5. <b>Increase Shoreline Compliance Monitoring:</b> Provide additional staff at DOE to conduct field visits to improve compliance with shoreline and aquatic regulations.</li> <li>6. <b>Improve HPA Enforcement:</b> Provide WDFW with civil enforcement authority for the HPA program.</li> </ol>

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
	7. <b>Educate and Certify Designers and Contractors:</b> Develop and implement a certification process for contractors and designers working in nearshore environments to promote best management practices and shoreline development.
	8. <b>Establish Watermasters to Increase Water Code Compliance and Enforcement:</b> Provide funding for local water masters to be local contact to water users, provide a local compliance presence, protect the resource, reduce water use, and protect senior water rights, including instream flows.
<b>A.4. Build long-term capacity to implement the Action Agenda</b>	1. <b>Enhance the ability of the Partnership to foster and engage collaboration throughout Puget Sound.</b> Work with Partnership leadership bodies (Leadership Council, Ecosystem Coordination Board, Science Panel) and implementers, as well as elected officials and community leaders to implement the Action Agenda; improve Partnership technical expertise.
	2. <b>Support salmon recovery groups</b> to continue implementing the salmon recovery plan.
	3. <b>Establish a Federal Puget Sound Office:</b> Work with the Congressional delegation to pass of federal legislation authorizing Puget Sound under the Great Waters Program, including establishing a federal Puget Sound Office to improve coordination of federal agencies and codify ongoing federal authorization for funding.
	4. <b>Grow the Foundation for Puget Sound</b> to enhance education and outreach programs. Ensure that the entity is flexible enough to provide a platform for additional roles.
<b>A.5. Provide sufficient, stable funding and ensure funding is focused on priority actions</b>	1. <b>Align federal, state and local funding</b> with Action Agenda priorities to maximize benefits from available funding (inversion theory).
	2. <b>Conduct targeted procurement towards desired outcomes</b> rather than broad grant solicitations.
	3. <b>Implement other funding strategy recommendations TBD</b>
<b>A.6. Increase and sustain coordinated efforts for communication, outreach, and education to increase public awareness and encourage individual stewardship</b>	1. <b>Conduct a Public Awareness Campaign:</b> Implement a highly visible public awareness campaign that increases public understanding of the threats facing Puget and educates them about ways they reduce their impact on the Sound.
	2. <b>Promote Unified Communications:</b> Coordinate and unify Puget Sound related public information programs behind a common communications strategy to support implementation of the Action Agenda.
	3. <b>Implement a Volunteer Initiative:</b> Prioritize the expansion and sustenance of effective existing volunteer programs that explicitly link to the Action Agenda and build, train, and support a volunteer network of Puget Sound stewards and educators.
	4. <b>Conduct a Citizen Science Initiative:</b> Work with partners to improve the capacity and resources for citizens to develop, and implement monitoring and other scientific programs in their local communities so that they better understand, communicate and contribute to science based decisions in the effort to restore Puget.

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
	<p>5. <b>Implement an Education Initiative:</b> Work with partners to strengthen K-12 programs by building on and tying into existing efforts to ensure a sustainable campaign for fostering stewardship and holding the health of Puget Sound as a top priority into future generations.</p>
<b>A.7. Build and use a performance management system that is informed by science to account for on-the-ground results in the ecosystem and implementation of actions</b>	<p>1. <b>Develop and implement an accountability system for Puget Sound Action Agenda implementers:</b> Track the funds from state, federal, local, tribal and other sources directed to actions intended to benefit the Puget Sound ecosystem. Recipients of funding will be asked to report on how dollars were allocated and what actions were implemented. All expenditures will have an action, a responsible person, a set of milestones with timelines and a performance measure. Implementers will likely be asked to report to the Partnership beginning in 2009.</p> <p>2. <b>Create a sustained, integrated ecosystem monitoring program.</b> Adapt existing monitoring programs to provide information on ambient conditions, threats, and effectiveness of recovery actions. This will include analyzing which monitoring efforts to continue, add, modify, or cease and developing and overseeing institutional arrangements to ensure broad participation in coordinated monitoring efforts. It will also include refinement of indicators identified in A.10.</p> <p>3. <b>Continue to integrate the Salmon Recovery Plan monitoring and adaptive management work into the broader Puget Sound effort.</b> This includes A) continuing to finalize the required salmon recovery adaptive management plan and B) watershed implementation tracking and reporting for implementation progress.</p> <p>4. <b>Develop and implement a shared Puget Sound Information Management System</b></p>
<b>A.8. Develop a coordinated and prioritized ecosystem based strategy for growth, protection and restoration that accounts for a changing climate</b>	<p>1. <b>Implement a soundwide vision for growth that incorporates efforts of the Puget Sound Regional Council Vision 2040 Plan, Cascade Land Conservancy, and others.</b></p> <p>2. <b>Update and/or map areas for growth, protection and restoration in each sub-basin.</b> As needed, initiate or complete rapid assessments for each of the watersheds within the basin building on existing work such as the salmon recovery plan and other assessments and incorporating new information that may be available to provide a common vision for integrating and harmonizing existing efforts to be more effective and confirm or modify areas for growth, protection or restoration.</p> <p>3. <b>Continue work started in the Action Agenda to harmonize existing plans and programs to focus on Action Agenda priorities</b></p> <p>4. <b>Establish a Smart Growth Center:</b> A Smart Growth Center would provide and/or support technical assistance, education, information and research on Smart Growth for local and tribal land governments in the Puget Sound as a way to build their capacity to address the human health, environmental and community impacts of growth and development.</p>
<b>A.9. Use an ecological and economic perspective when making decisions about harvest, human production of resources, and human disturbance of species</b>	<p>1. <b>Implement the priority recommendations of the Hatchery Scientific Review Group</b></p>

**Puget Sound Partnership  
Strategic Priorities and Candidate Partnership Initiatives  
Discussion Draft for the Ecosystem Coordination Board October 1, 2008**

<b>Partnership Strategic Priorities and Draft Proposed Objectives</b>	<b>Draft Candidate Partnership Initiatives</b>
	<p><b>2. Develop and implement the Steelhead Recovery Plan building on the Chinook Recovery Plan and integrating the Action Agenda priorities.</b></p>
<p><b>A.10 Implement a focused, well-balanced science program that improves regional capacity to understand the ecosystem, threats to it, the effectiveness of actions, as well as make decisions using scientific information</b></p>	<p><b>1. Implement the priority recommendations in the Biennial Science Work Plan.</b> For 2009 these are to predict how Puget Sound might change in the future and to assess the effects of different management actions: a) analysis to predict future conditions; b) assess effectiveness of nearshore restoration efforts to inform action adaptation; c) evaluate or predict watershed-scale effects on land use change and stormwater management on pollutant loads and harm to aquatic life; and d) assess how changes or impacts to forage fish affect pelagic and nearshore food webs.</p>
	<p><b>2. Support collaborative scientific investigations that promote ecosystem based management.</b> Specifically A) Phase 2 of the indicators work to inform management targets, B) assess risks and investigate threats and drivers; C) evaluate management scenarios. Such efforts will include but not limited to the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment for Puget Sound, ongoing investigations of sources and pathways of toxic and nutrient loading, Hood Canal Dissolved Oxygen Program, and others.</p>
<p><b>A.11. Support climate change programs and prepare adaptation strategies</b></p>	<p><b>1. Support the implementation the West Coast Governor's Agreement and integrate this effort with the Action Agenda</b></p>
	<p><b>2. Support efforts for climate change preparation and adaptation strategies consistent with the Action Agenda</b></p>