

**Proposed Guiding Principals for Action Agenda Strategic Direction
Leadership Council Discussion and Possible Approval
April 29-30, 2008**

Purpose

- Present to the Leadership Council for discussion and possible approval guiding principals that will be used by the Puget Sound Partnership to develop strategic directions, identify potential actions, and prioritize actions for implementation
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Strategic Direction Setting

1. **Efficiency** Select protection and recovery actions that provide maximum return on investments of money and effort.
2. **Effectiveness** Ensure actions result in effective, tangible benefits to Puget Sound protection and recovery. Pursue actions that have a high probability of success and that are technically feasible to implement
3. **Ecosystem-based Management** This will mean considering the six Partnership goals, addressing sources of threats and problems rather than systems; protecting and restoring ecosystem processes, structures, and functions; recognizing that a natural system with all of its functioning parts is better able to respond and adapt to threats such as global climate change; and addressing urgent and irreversible needs.
4. **Trade-Offs** Our quality of life, including economic and social well-being, and human health are important parts of the ecosystem. Understand and support the positive contribution of a healthy Puget Sound to our economy and skillfully manage the positive and negative economic effects of protection, restoration, and maintenance actions. Consider the monetary and non-monetary values of all ecosystem services including provisioning (food, fiber, water, fuel, etc.), regulating (floods, climate, etc), and cultural support (recreation, education, and spiritual and aesthetic value).
5. **Equity** In working to ensure that costs and benefits of recovery are focused where they will be most effective and where a disproportionate share of the burden is not born by the poor or disadvantaged, by any one sector of the economy, or by any one geographic region.
6. **Legacy** The Action Agenda should include actions that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
7. **Innovation** Consider new and creative solutions, especially to resolve the most entrenched and challenging problems.
8. **Adaptive and long-term management** Ensure that actions include a mechanism for shifting course based on regular feedback through full implementation of each action.
9. **Maximum Effectiveness of Regulations** Seek effective implementation of existing regulations, coordinated across all jurisdictions in the region, and promote new measures when needed to ensure a healthy Puget Sound.

Decision Making

10. **Fairness** Make sure that processes for decision-making, money allocation, and accountability are unbiased and based on the best interests of the Puget Sound region and are perceived as such.
11. **Accountability** Make clear and definite decisions and ensure those decisions are carried out.
12. **Transparency and Accessibility** Provide a clear decision-making process prior to decisions being made and provide several different formats and opportunities for providing input.
13. **Inclusiveness** Recognize and build upon the contributions that are already being made. Encourage and support the many actions of tribal, public and private entities. Fully incorporate local knowledge and expertise in the decision making process.
14. **Collaboration** Work cooperatively with diverse stakeholders to help build the broad support needed for implementation.
15. **Respect Government-to-Government Relations with Tribes** Recognize and respect the government-to-government relationship between federally-recognized tribes and Washington State that has been implemented through the 1989 Centennial Accord.