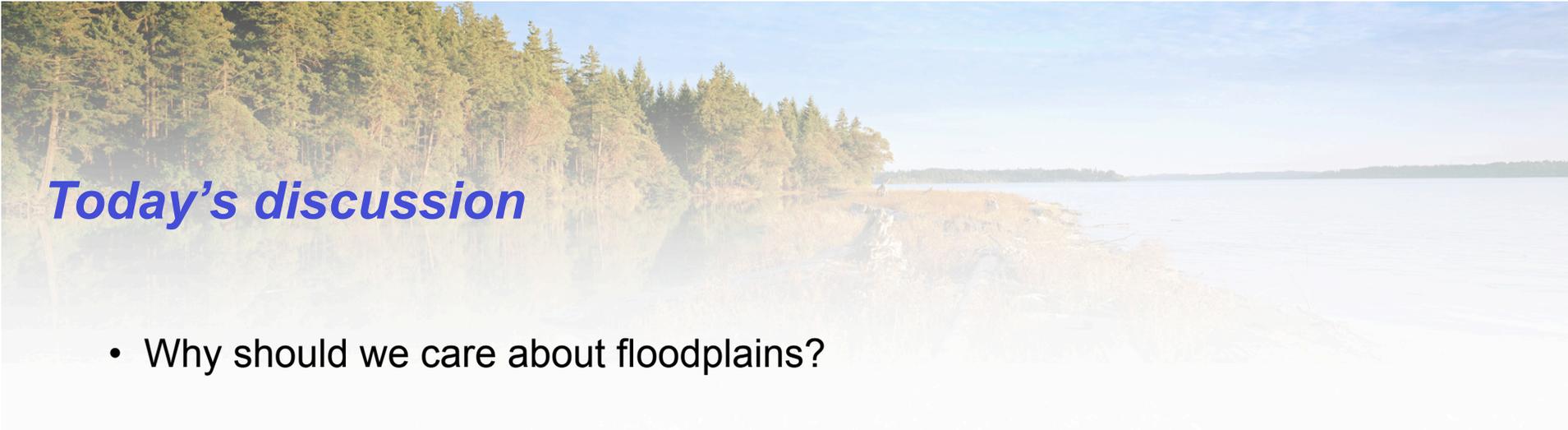




# ***Floodplain Management***

## ***Partnership Next Steps***

**PugetSoundPartnership**  
our sound, our community, our chance

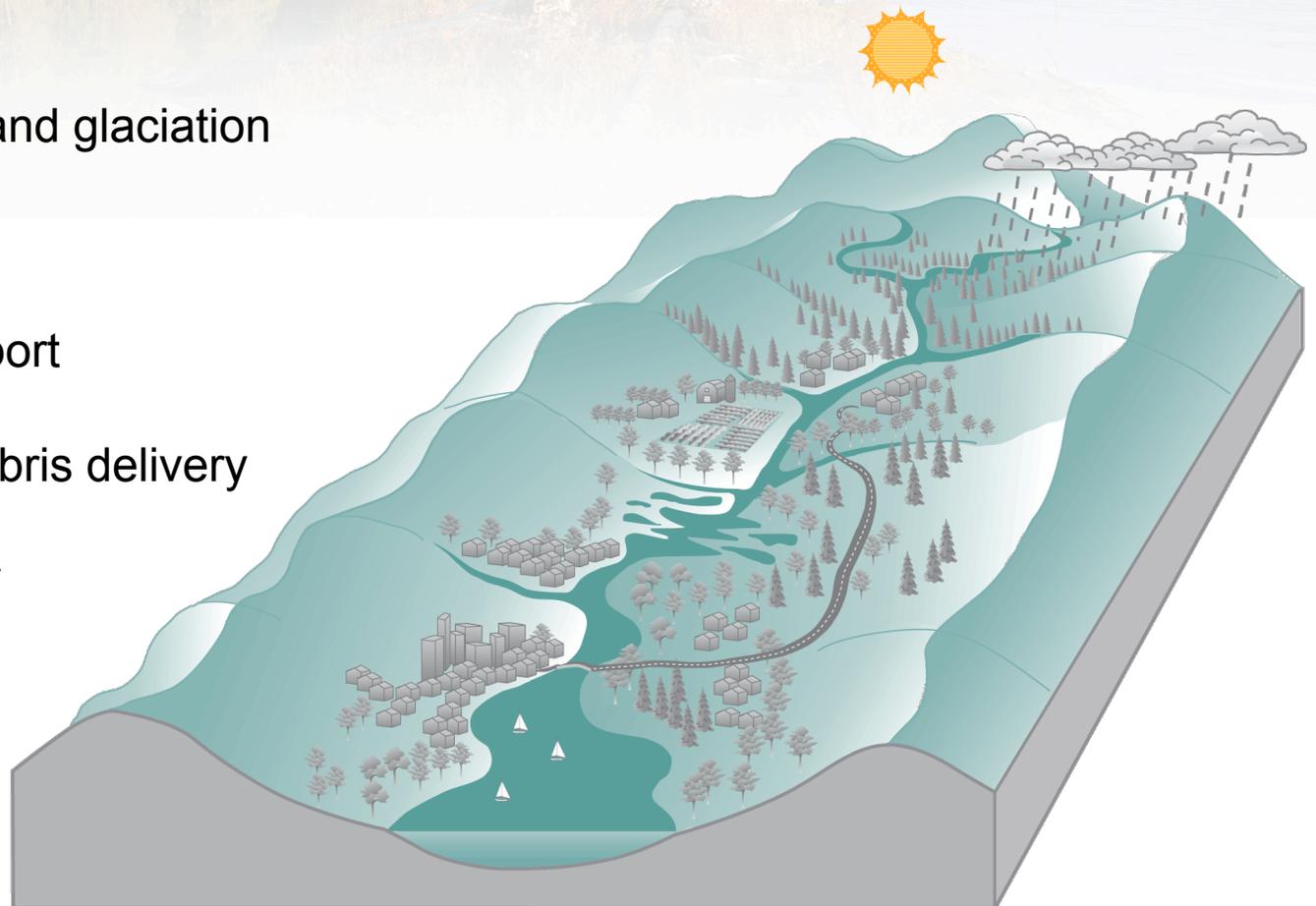


## *Today's discussion*

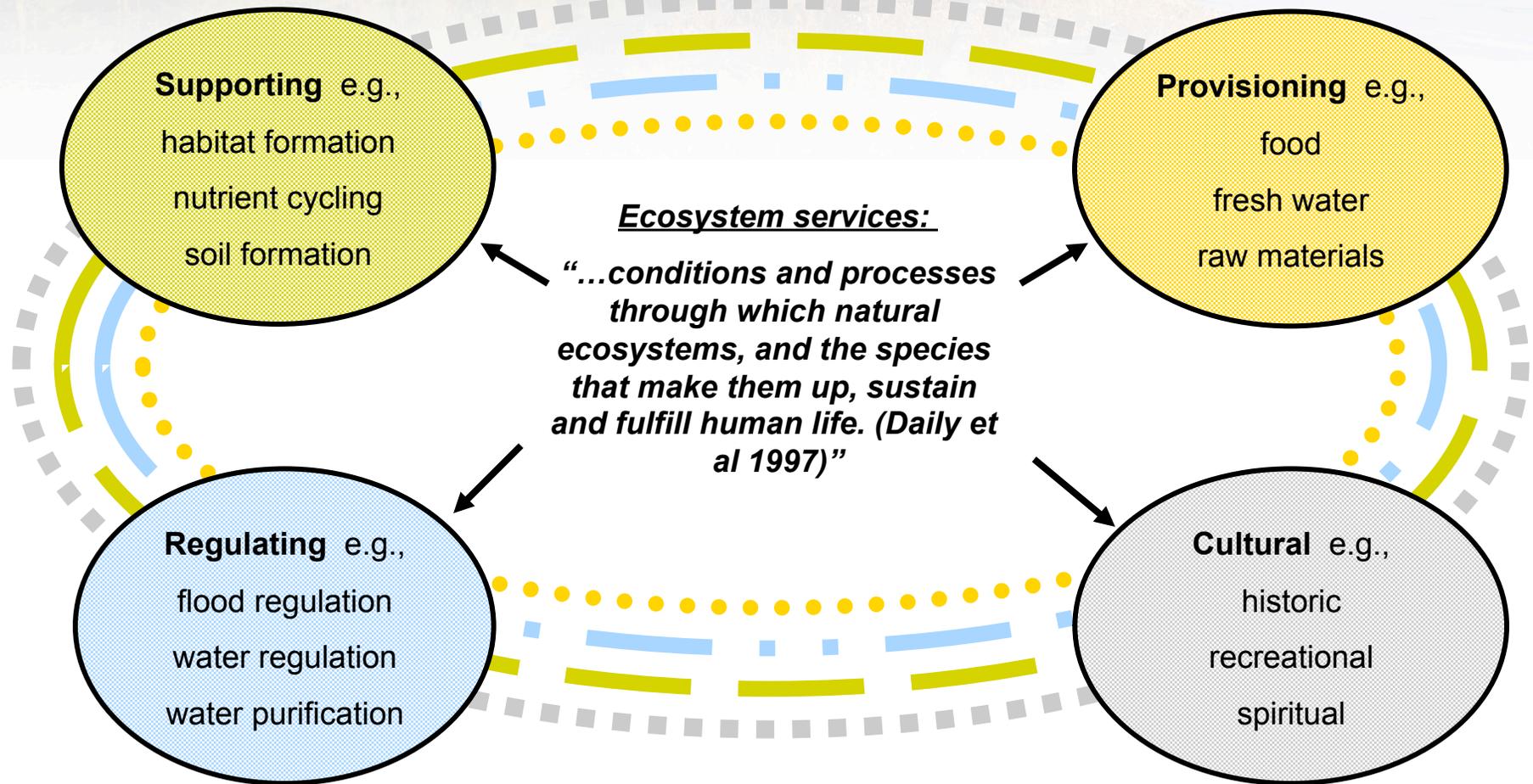
- Why should we care about floodplains?
- What does the Action Agenda say?
- Current issues summary
- Ways PSP can contribute
- Leadership Council input

## *Ecological processes affecting floodplains*

- Plate tectonics and glaciation
- Hydrology
- Sediment transport
- Large woody debris delivery
- Nutrient transfer
- Solar radiation



## Ecosystem service contributions in floodplains





## *Floodplains in the Action Agenda*

- Several near term actions: B.1.3 (restore) and D.4.4 (fix system)
- Several long term actions: A.2.2.5 (protect), D.1.1 and D.1.2 (fix system)
- A number of other recommendations relate to activities that would take place in floodplains or affect conditions there.
- Broadly, activities in the floodplain will influence the region's ability to achieve the six (2020) goals of the Partnership, which range from biodiversity to human health and well-being,



## *Current floodplain issues*

### **1. Standards for managing vegetation on levees**

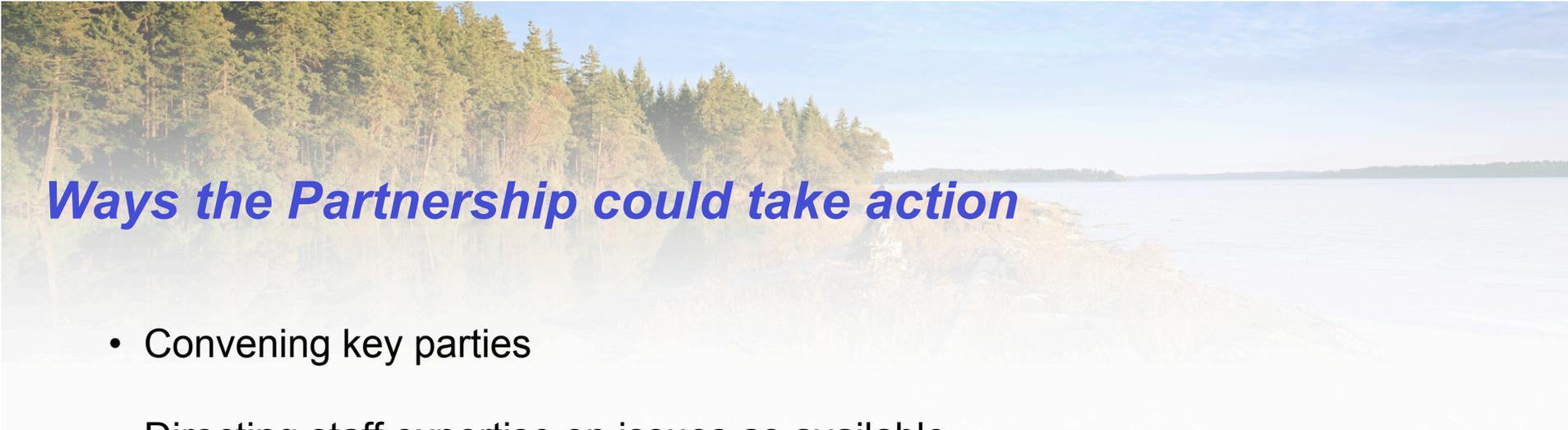
- Significant Corps funding for levee maintenance if trees >2" are cut
- Loss of riparian vegetation is a limiting factor for salmon
- 60 day notice filed for Puget Sound program on February 25, 2009
- Pilot project concept being developed

### **3. Management of development in floodplains**

- NMFS Biological Opinion on FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program in Puget Sound finds ESA "jeopardy" (salmon and orcas)
- NMFS identifies 7 program areas needing changes, and deadlines
- Timeline for FEMA response is now through 2011

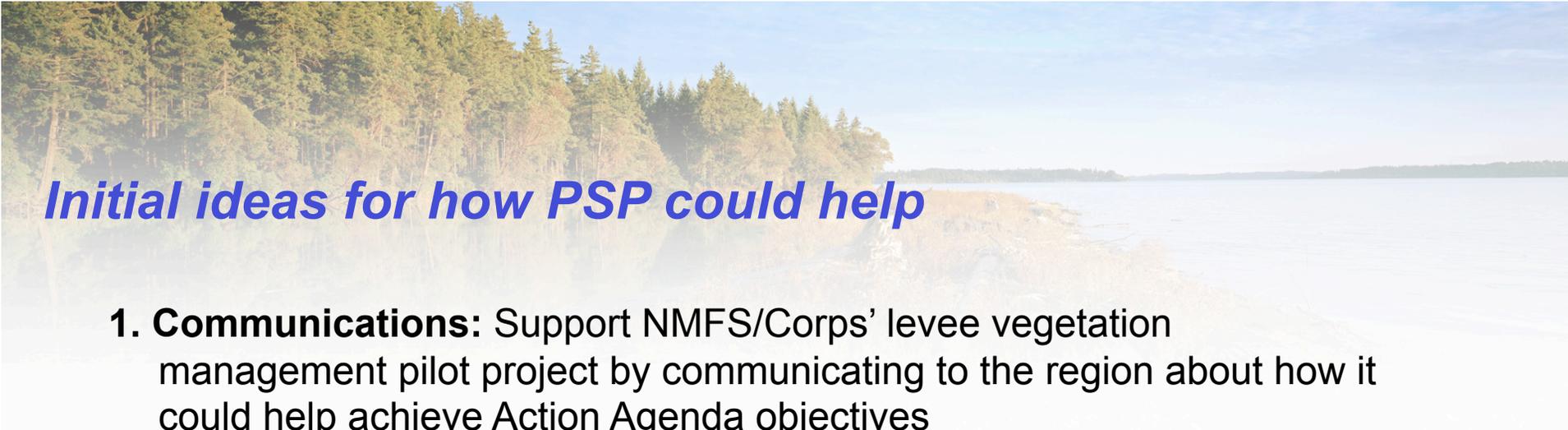
### **5. Incorporating climate adaptation measures into floodplain management**

### **7. Natural hazards damage reduction**



## *Ways the Partnership could take action*

- Convening key parties
- Directing staff expertise on issues as available
- Advocating for solutions that support goals
- Engaging regional issue leaders including the Leadership Council.



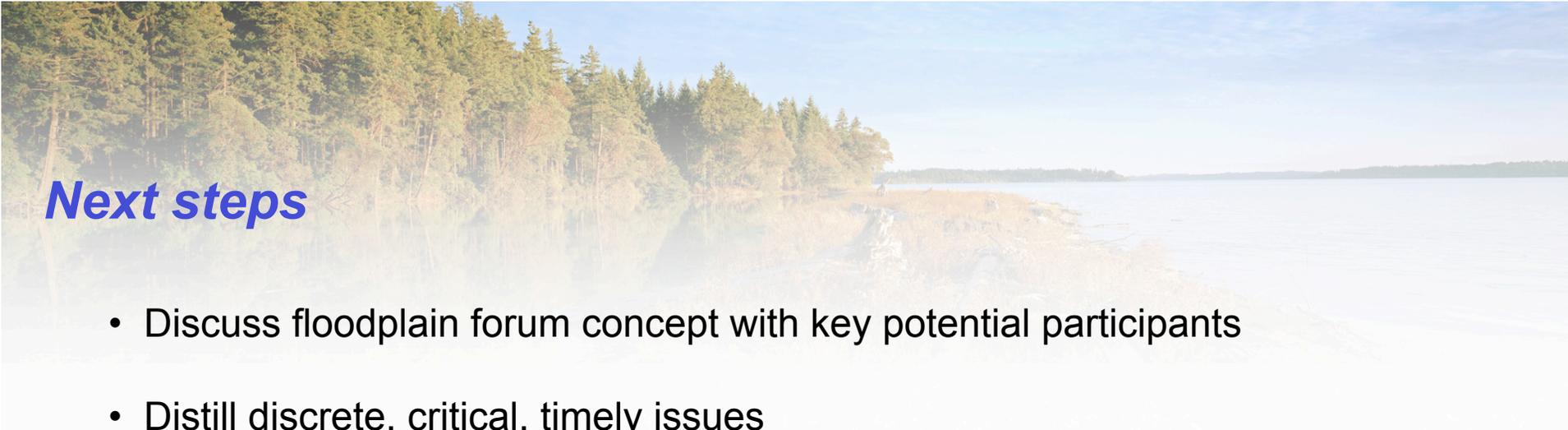
## *Initial ideas for how PSP could help*

- 1. Communications:** Support NMFS/Corps' levee vegetation management pilot project by communicating to the region about how it could help achieve Action Agenda objectives
- 2. Develop guidance:** Focus efforts to provide guidance to local implementers on how to adapt and implement programs in light of the FEMA BiOp
- 3. Model ordinance development:** Support development of a Puget Sound-specific model floodplain ordinance that meets the Bi-Op requirements can be implemented by state and local entities
- 4. Convene parties:** Provide a venue that will provide clarity on the issues needing attention, seamless coordination across the levels of government affected, and an authorizing environment for products



## *Summary*

- Many aspects of floodplain conditions and management influence PSP goals
- Action Agenda contains near and long term actions in floodplains
- Strategic engagement by the PSP would be timely
- Several options for how to engage



## *Next steps*

- Discuss floodplain forum concept with key potential participants
- Distill discrete, critical, timely issues
- Scope the desired near term products and the steps to produce them
- Identify and secure needed supporting resources



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