

Action Agenda Agenda Item #02

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Proposed Action: Review of process and schedule

Background

In 2011, the Puget Sound Partnership will set recovery targets for Puget Sound and update the Action Agenda and Biennial Science Work Plan. The Partnership objectives for the 2011 update of the Action Agenda and Biennial Science Work Plan include:

- Add recovery targets for the Dashboard of Ecosystem Indicators and targets for reduction of key pressures on Puget Sound
- Provide updated strategies and two-year actions to help guide the 2013-2015 State Biennium budget process
- Inform years 3-6 of the Lead Organization strategies, which are primarily funded by EPA
- Bring sharper focus, refinement, and more prioritization to key strategies and actions and increase implementers' support for strategies and activities
- Reflect updated scientific and technical information
- Integrate findings from the 2011 State of the Sound report, which also will be completed this year.

Focus of Updates

The updated Action Agenda will follow the same basic structure as the 2008 Action Agenda with some important modifications and advancements.

Question 1: What is a healthy Puget Sound?

This section will be revised to:

- Present the Dashboard of Ecosystem Indicators
- Present at least 20 recovery targets related to ecosystem indicators and reduction of key pressures

Question 2: What is the status of Puget Sound?

This section will be revised to present a summary of the status and trends reporting for the Dashboard of Ecosystem Indicators that will be more fully presented in the State of the Sound report. It will also include a summary of the status and trends for the pressure reduction targets discussed in Question 1.

Question 3: What actions should be taken that will move us from where we are today to a healthy Puget Sound by 2020?

The answer to this question will continue to articulate the regional recovery strategies using the basic structure of the Action Agenda's five strategic priorities:

Priority A: Protect intact ecosystems, processes, structures, and functions

Priority B: Restore ecosystem processes, structures, and functions

Priority C: Reduce the sources of water pollution

Priority D: Work effectively and efficiently together on priority actions

Priority E: Build an implementation, monitoring and accountability management system

The primary planned refinements to this section include:

- Articulate the regional recovery strategies
- Focus refinement efforts on the strategies needed to achieve the targets identified in Question 1
- Incorporate climate change adaptation needs within Priorities A-D

Question 4: Where do we start?

This revised section will present a prioritized list of actions across the Action Agenda's five priorities. Prioritized near-term science actions will be presented in the Biennial Science Work Plan.

Local Priority Strategies and Actions

The updated Action Agenda will present updated local strategies and actions related to the priority regional strategies presented in Questions 3. Local organizations will have the ability to propose additions and modifications that best reflect their situation. The update will also have prioritized local near-term actions and the criteria for this prioritization.

Overview of Leadership Council and Ecosystem Coordination Board meetings

The Leadership Council and the Ecosystem Coordination Board will be actively engaged in reviewing materials related to recovery targets and setting targets in 2011:

- Draft targets and strategies and actions will be discussed with the Ecosystem Coordination Board and Leadership Council in **February** and **April**.
- A complete set of recovery targets will be approved by the Leadership Council in **June**. The Leadership Council will also discuss the draft update prior to release for comment.
- Drafts of documents will be made available for public review in **July**.
- In **August, September, and October**, we will work with the Ecosystem Coordination Board and Leadership Council, as well as with stakeholders to refine the draft documents.
- The final drafts will go to the Leadership Council for final approval in **December**.

A detailed decision schedule for the Leadership Council, Ecosystem Coordination Board and Science Panel is presented in a separate document. In addition, a small Cross-Partnership Workgroup made up of Partnership staff, and representatives from the Science Panel, Ecosystem Coordination Board, Leadership Council, Lead Organizations, and Local Integrating Organizations has been formed to guide development and ensure that the products under development complement one another and help advance science-policy discussions at Partnership board meetings.