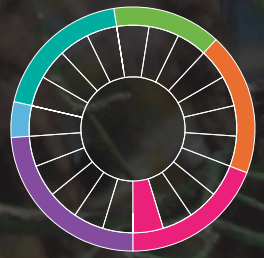
Birds

A large community of aquatic and terrestrial bird species depend on Puget Sound's watershed for survival. Walk along the shores of Boundary Bay in any season, and you'll see an ever-changing cast of birds. Thousands of seabirds, seaducks, and waterfowl migrate from all directions to converge in the relatively calm and food-rich waters of Puget Sound each winter. In summer, colonies of seabirds are busy attending their young. In spring and fall, the shorelines are full of shorebirds that stop to feed and rest during migration.

Birds serve as useful indicators of ecosystem change and ecosystem health. The Partnership is currently working with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Geological Survey, and the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program's Birds and Mammals workgroup to develop a meaningful marine and terrestrial bird indicator and potential targets to help achieve its recovery goal of healthy and sustaining populations of native species. Upon completion later this year, the Science Panel and Leadership Council will review the recommendations and make final decisions on the indicators and targets.



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