

2009



ASSESSMENT OF WATERSHED COORDINATION

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REPORT STRUCTURE

The following document has been produced in response to Substitute House Bill 2157, passed in the 2009 legislative session. The bill directed the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to assess coordination and incentive opportunities between watershed planning and salmon recovery organizations operating within shared watershed boundaries.

To assist the reader, this report has been organized into the following sections:

- A description of the activities and efforts that the assessment addresses
- A description of the process used to perform the assessment
- Identification of the key themes that emerged about current coordination activities, obstacles to coordination, and possible opportunities and incentives for additional coordination
- A matrix of coordination characteristics
- Conclusions drawn from the assessment
- Appendices that describe how coordination is occurring in regions around the state. These descriptions are organized by the area of Endangered Species Act listings for salmon upon which the regional salmon recovery organization structure is based.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

1. Coordination is occurring in many of the Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA) engaged in watershed and salmon recovery planning. The level and type of coordination is dependent upon the characteristics of a specific watershed, including geography, historical and community factors, and legal constraints.
2. While there are opportunities for additional coordination, each watershed has developed current coordination structures and mechanisms based on its own unique characteristics, therefore a “one size fits all” approach to coordination likely will not work well for all areas.
3. Incentives could encourage additional coordination. The most effective incentive likely would be stable sources of funding that allow for some flexibility in how the dollars are used. Additionally, the opportunity to use existing sources of funding, such as mitigation dollars from development projects, could be used to encourage a more integrated approach to watershed health.
4. There are existing barriers to coordination, but many of these barriers likely could be lessened or removed. The state also could support additional coordination by improving program and agency coordination at the state level.

ASSESSMENT FOCUS

The 2009 Legislature passed Substitute House Bill 2157 – Section 6(1), which states:

By December 1, 2009, the recreation and conservation office, in consultation with the department of ecology, the department of fish and wildlife, regional fisheries enhancement groups, lead entities, planning units and lead agencies, and regional salmon recovery organizations shall provide an assessment to the governor on additional coordination and incentive opportunities with lead entities, regional salmon recovery organizations, lead agencies and WRIA planning units, and shall include any additional coordination and incentive opportunities for those organizations that exist and operate within a shared watershed boundary or portion of a shared watershed boundary.

RCO focused its assessment on those planning groups operating under the state’s Watershed Planning Act (Revised Code of Washington 90.82) and the state’s Salmon Recovery Act (Revised Code of Washington 77.85). RCO examined the two processes enacted by the Washington State Legislature in the 1998 session because lead entities, lead agencies, and WRIA planning units referenced in the legislation were created by the two acts, and three of the seven regional salmon recovery organizations referenced in Substitute House Bill 2157 were designated in Washington State statutes as well.¹ Other planning efforts impact these processes (e.g., Growth Management Act comprehensive plans), but are outside of the scope of this assessment.

GOVERNING STATUTES

Following is a brief summary of current law:

WASHINGTON STATE WATERSHED PLANNING ACT CHAPTER 90.82 REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON

In 1998, the Legislature passed Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2514, codified as chapter 90.82 Revised Code of Washington (RCW), to set a framework for developing local plans and solutions for water issues within watersheds. The law creates a voluntary process for citizens in a watershed to evaluate the water resources and determine how best to manage them. If initiated, planning efforts must address water quantity by assessing water supply and use within the watershed. This includes recommending long-term strategies to provide water in sufficient quantities to satisfy minimum, in-stream flows and to provide water for future out-of-stream needs. Optional elements that may be addressed in a plan include in-stream flow, water quality, and habitat.

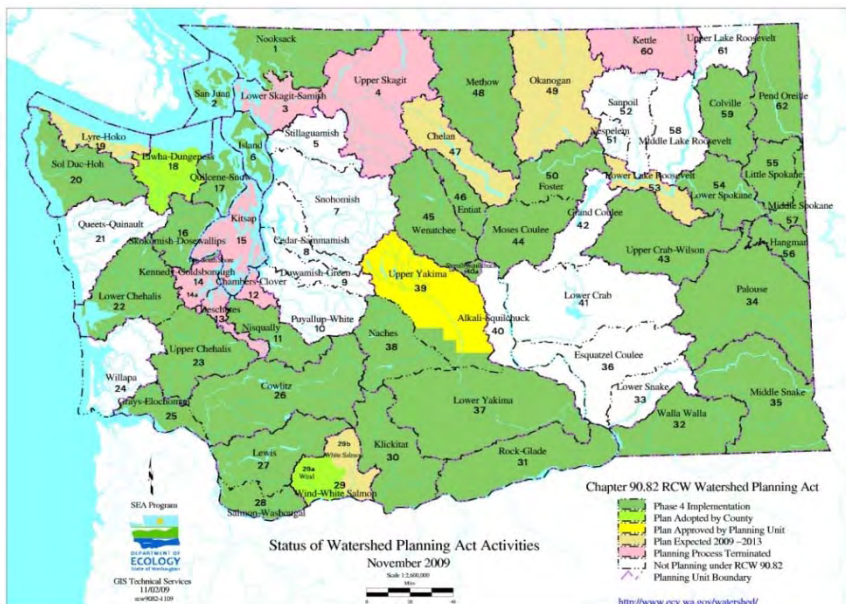
¹ Lower Columbia, 77.85.090 RCW; Puget Sound Partnership, 90.71.210 RCW; Hood Canal Coordinating Council, 90.88.020 (3)

Watershed planning and associated state funding is conducted in four phases:

- Phase One: Organizing – organization by initiating governments
- Phase Two: Watershed Assessments – technical watershed assessment after the organizational phase is completed
- Phase Three: Planning – watershed plan development, planning unit approval, and county board adoption
- Phase Four: Implementation – development of a detailed implementation plan and implementation activity

In Washington, there are 62 WRIsAs. There are 34 watershed planning groups engaged in planning or implementation activities under RCW 90.82 covering 40 WRIsAs. Some planning efforts cover multiple WRIsAs. County commissions have adopted 29 watershed plans covering 37 WRIsAs and 22 detailed implementation plans have been completed. These plans guide the work of the watershed planning partners by identifying specific actions and associated time frames for implementation. Planning units are eligible for Phase Four Implementation funding for up to five years. Figure 1 below depicts the status of the state’s watershed planning efforts.

FIGURE 1



**WASHINGTON STATE SALMON RECOVERY ACT
RCW 77.85**

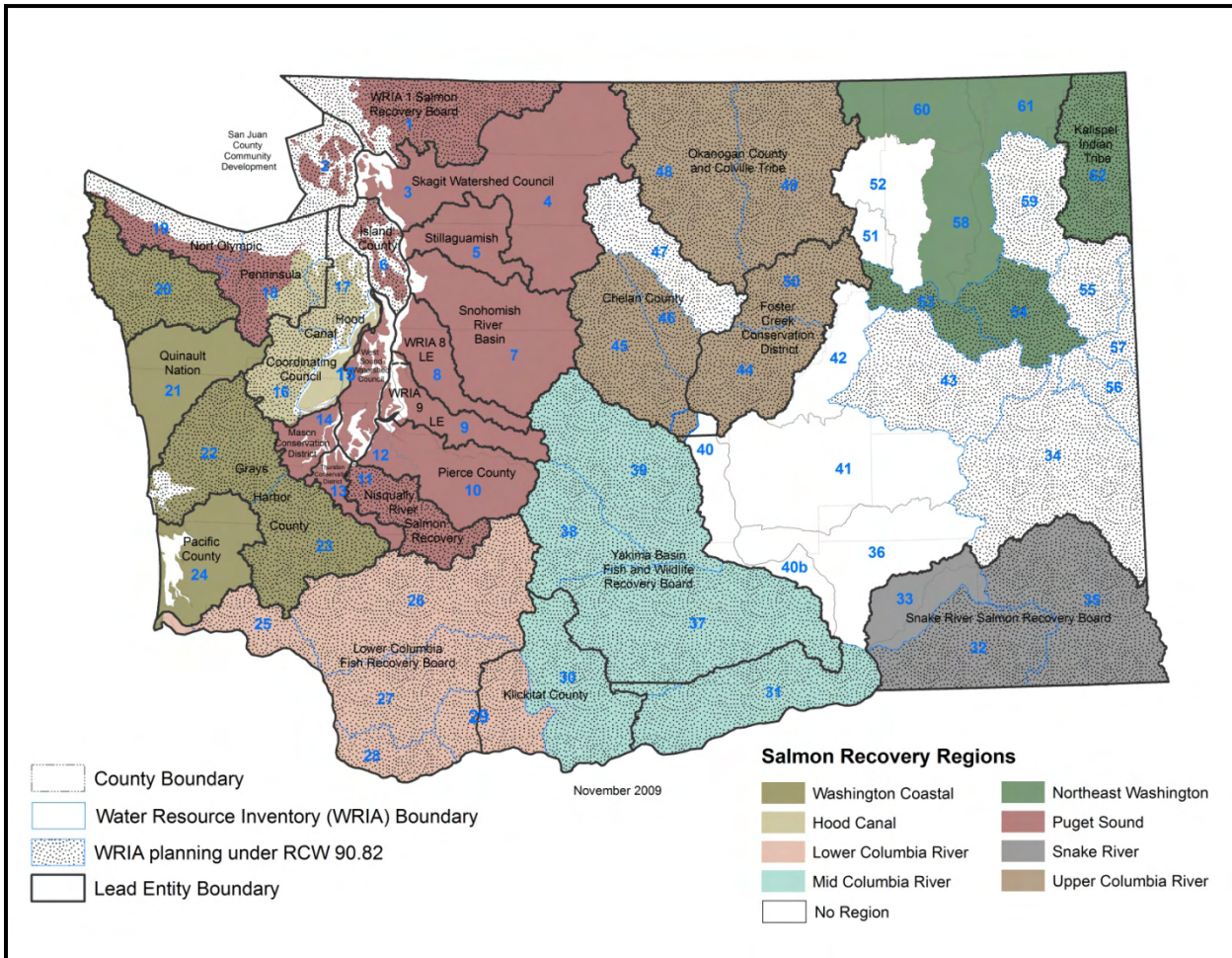
In 1998, the Legislature also passed Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2496, codified as chapter 77.85 RCW, to create a framework that focuses on locally based efforts to protect and restore salmon habitat. The planning framework identified by the statute has several key components including:

- Creating the state-level Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) to provide funding for habitat protection and restoration efforts.
- Requiring local and regional organizations to identify and prioritize recovery project needs for salmon habitat.
- Establishing the lead entity structure, requiring lead entities to coordinate local recovery processes; develop habitat strategies; and solicit, evaluate, rank, and propose projects to the SRFB.
- Creating citizen advisory groups to rank local priorities

There are 27 lead entities in Washington, covering all or part of 45 WRIAs. RCO focused its assessment on the 29 of these WRIAs also engaged in watershed planning under RCW 90.82 (identified in Figure 2).

Chap. 90.82 RCW Planning Units	34
WRIAs covered by Chap 90.82 RCW	40
Adopted watershed plans	29 (cover 37 WRIAs)
Chap 77.85 RCW Lead Entities	27
WRIAs covered by Lead Entities	45
WRIAs engaged in planning processes under both Chapters 90.82 and 77.85 RCW	29

FIGURE 2



PROCESS USED

RCO conducted the assessment in two phases:

1. Review of planning and implementation documents
 - Watershed plans and detailed implementation plans
 - Lead entity strategies and three-year work plans
 - Regional salmon recovery plans and implementation schedules
 - The Puget Sound Action Agenda
2. Discussions with key planning participants in the 29 WRIAs identified as having both watershed planning and salmon recovery processes. RCO met with participants within regional recovery organization boundaries to better understand coordination among planning efforts in each region. The meetings were structured around four key discussion topics:

- How have watershed planning processes and salmon recovery efforts been coordinated?
- What obstacles have prevented greater coordination?
- Are there potential coordination opportunities that haven't been implemented?
- What types of incentives would cause or promote greater coordination?

Based upon the document review and the interviews with key planning participants, RCO developed a draft report, which was circulated for review. Comments were considered and incorporated and the final draft produced.

KEY THEMES AND MESSAGES

EXISTING COORDINATION – MECHANISMS FOR COORDINATION

In the 29 WRIAs reviewed, coordination is occurring at different levels through both formal and informal mechanisms, such as developing common planning documents, sharing data and staff, participating in joint projects, and common membership on each other's boards and committees. It is important to note that while many WRIAs use similar mechanisms, no two planning areas are coordinating in exactly the same way. The differences are caused by the unique nature of each WRIA, the statutory deference to local development of plans, and local factors influencing the plans. Such factors include: organizing structures, participation, and watershed conditions.

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Plan development has presented an opportunity in some WRIAs to coordinate around shared objectives and issues. Some watershed and salmon recovery efforts used the same base of information to develop their individual plans. This has helped to ensure consistency among plans. For example, in the Snake River region, the data and assessments used to develop the Asotin, Grande Ronde, Tucannon, lower Snake River, and Walla Walla sub-basin plans for the Northwest Power and Conservation Council were used to develop the WRIA 32 and WRIA 35 Watershed Plans and the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan. Planning efforts in the Snake River region operate from the same information foundation, resulting in high levels of coordination among the various processes.

Plans also have directly influenced one another by incorporating similar or identical provisions. By doing so, goals, objectives, strategies, priorities, and actions are consistent and a framework is created that ensures coordinated planning and implementation. The lower Columbia River planning effort is an excellent example of this integrated approach. The Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish and Wildlife Subbasin Plan addresses four interrelated efforts, including Endangered Species Act recovery planning, Northwest Power and Conservation Council sub-basin planning, watershed planning under RCW 90.82, and salmon habitat protection and restoration work under RCW 77.85.² The water quality and in-stream flow provisions outlined in the lower

² Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan, Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, December 2004.

Columbia recovery plan are derived directly from the WRIAs 25/26 and WRIAs 27/28 Watershed Plans. Conversely, the habitat implementation approaches identified within the WRIA 25/26 and 27/28 Watershed Plans were derived directly from the recovery plan; and these set forth strategies and actions for protecting and restoring water processes and habitat conditions needed to achieve recovery.

DATA

Not only has common data been used to develop plans, but staff in some planning areas share data produced by assessments and project implementation. By sharing data, planning efforts are receiving co-benefits from investment of available dollars and developing a clearer picture of what is occurring overall in a given geographic area. For example, the staff for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board collects, standardizes, and inputs data from the region's lead entities and watershed planning units. The database provides a single place where the planning efforts input and track data and it is accessible to anyone in the region.

ACTIONS

There is also integration and overlap of actions identified in the salmon recovery three-year work plans and the watershed detailed implementation plans. Some planning areas have used these implementation plans as a direct link between watershed plan projects and salmon recovery efforts, adopting outright the relevant actions of one another's work. In the Snake River region, the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board, in cooperation with the WRIA 32 and WRIA 35 planning units, developed a three-year work plan that identifies priority salmon habitat protection and restoration projects. This work plan intersects watershed planning actions with salmon recovery actions, ensuring coordination as projects are planned and implemented.³ While the detailed implementation plans in the Snake River region cover WRIA 32 and WRIA 35 individually and the recovery plan addresses the regional level, entities in the region determined that a combined plan and framework would better serve the overall objectives of the various planning efforts in the region. The salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts also report on the progress of actions identified in the three-year work plan as a shared function.

In other cases, while specific actions might not be shared, there is an informal recognition of shared benefits produced by specific projects. While many lead entities indicated that there were not specific evaluation criteria recognizing the benefits of recovery projects to specific watershed planning elements, there is informal recognition by technical advisory groups and citizen advisory groups of watershed benefits beyond the specific salmon recovery goal.

SHARED MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS

In most of the WRIAs assessed, there is some intersection between watershed planning and salmon recovery committees and boards, technical and citizen advisory groups, and in some cases, staff. The level of integration varies among planning areas and efforts and is manifested in different structures. Those participating in the assessment discussions stressed the importance of these linkages and noted benefits such as enhanced communication and continuity between

³ In fact, the WRIA 32 detailed implementation plan is entitled *Snake River Region Salmon Recovery and Walla Walla Watershed Detailed Implementation Plan*.

planning efforts, ability to avoid or quickly resolve misunderstandings, support of more holistic thinking regarding watershed health, development of trust among planning partners, broader ownership of local efforts, and in some cases, administrative efficiencies. Examples of overlap in membership and function include:

- Nine organizations⁴ that serve as both the lead entity for salmon recovery purposes and the lead agency for watershed planning.
- In the lower Columbia, the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board has combined several functions in one entity that serves as the regional salmon recovery organization, the lead entity, and the lead agency for two multi-WRIA watershed planning units. This multi-function board developed the regional recovery plan and is responsible for evaluating and ranking habitat projects within the region and for developing and implementing a Habitat Work Schedule. As lead agency, the board receives and manages state grant money on behalf of the watershed planning units and provides staff and facilitation throughout the planning process. There also is overlap in representation between the board and the WRIA 25/26 and WRIA 27/28 planning units.
- The Chehalis Basin Partnership was created to work on the shared interests of multiple governments and organizations in the Chehalis River watershed. It serves as the planning unit under the Watershed Planning Act and the citizens' advisory council for salmon recovery under RCW 77.85. In Whatcom County, there is overlap in the entities represented on the WRIA 1 Joint Board (watershed planning) and the WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board. The boards each maintain their own decision-making authority but recently have started meeting together so that relevant topics are discussed jointly. Each board is supported by management-level staff that represents both salmon recovery and watershed planning interests.
- The Island County Water Resource Advisory Committee is the watershed planning unit. It also serves as the citizen advisory council for the lead entity and its salmon-focused subcommittee, serves as the lead entity's Salmon Technical Advisory Group.
- In some planning areas, watershed planning and salmon recovery efforts rely on the same technical expertise. In the Snake River region, planning efforts rely on the same Regional Technical Committee members to ensure consistent technical information (total maximum daily load, in-stream flow, ecosystem diagnostic and treatment, etc.) in each of the plans and for technical review of projects from the shared watershed and salmon recovery work plan.

SHARED STAFF

Another key mechanism for coordination is shared staff or operations. This fosters communication and coordination among staff and boards. In the case where one organization serves as the lead entity for salmon recovery and the lead agency for watershed planning efforts, staff works for both watershed and salmon recovery mandates. For example, Island County hosts

⁴ Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, Klickitat County, Chelan County, Grays Harbor County, Nisqually Indian Tribe, San Juan County, Island County, Foster Creek Conservation District, Clallam County

the lead entity program for salmon recovery as well as the watershed planning entity. The County recently reorganized internally so the staff for salmon recovery and watershed planning is in the same department. Staff indicated that this internal structural change not only improves communications between the two efforts, but also stimulates conversation about opportunities for additional integration and coordination. In other WRIAs, while one organization might not serve as both the lead entity for salmon recovery and the lead agency for watershed planning, that organization is involved actively in both processes.

Some planning areas have created or used other entities to foster coordination and provide broader oversight and perspective. The Nisqually River Council serves as the lead entity's citizen advisory group and several members of the council also are members of the watershed planning unit. In addition to this overlap, the council serves as the coordination, advocacy, and educational organization for all efforts in the Nisqually River watershed. It tracks efforts associated with the economy, environment, and community in the watershed, including salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts.

EXISTING COORDINATION – DRIVERS

The characteristics of each of the 29 WRIAs engaged in both watershed and salmon recovery vary. No two watersheds are exactly alike, and the differences are reflected in the variety of coordination mechanisms described above as well as the level of coordination occurring.

One significant driver in how coordination occurs is the community within which the efforts are operating. Various factors about the community influence the structures created and mechanisms used. For example, the size of a community can impact the level of coordination. In the North Pacific Coast area (WRIA 20) the population is small, so many of the same people participate in watershed planning and salmon recovery work. Seven out of 11 members serve on both the watershed planning unit and the lead entity committee. There also is significant overlap in technical committee members for watershed planning, lead entity work, and the Marine Resources Committee.

Several watershed planning and recovery efforts are coordinated because there is recognition of shared objectives within a community. In these watersheds, entities purposefully look for and create opportunities for coordination to help ensure consistency in approaches and actions so they can meet similar objectives. For example, in the Snake River region, both watershed and salmon recovery planning activities identified the delisting of salmonids as a key objective. The Nisqually River Management Plan identifies overall objectives for the basin and its partners and there is a general recognition that “the best way to solve one entity's problem is to solve everyone's problem.” Buy-in to shared objectives also is important for engaging a broad spectrum of partners and landowners, all necessary for implementation of plans.

The history and relationships among the various partners engaged in planning efforts also can impact how a community approaches coordination. In some areas, communities find it beneficial to have planning efforts address their own mandates and may engage in limited coordination to achieve those mandates. Coordination mechanisms used create an appropriate balance and recognition of each entities work. In other areas, engaging informally between planning efforts is

more effective than formal structures. Often, local organizations are more effective at creating connections.

Different watersheds also have different constraints and influencing factors. Factors such as in-stream flow rules, total maximum daily load processes, or water right adjudications impact planning processes, including the focus of those efforts and associated priorities. Some local entities indicated that the Department of Ecology's administration of the watershed planning program was beneficial for purposes of working with Ecology on some of the factors mentioned above including in-stream flow setting, total maximum daily load process, and water rights.

Geographic aspects also impact coordination. The geography of the San Juan Islands has influenced salmon recovery and watershed planning. The islands' water comes predominantly from rain and is affected by the Olympic Peninsula rain shadow, steep terrain and bedrock geology, small watershed catchment areas, and extensive shoreline. These conditions result in low rainfall, limited groundwater storage, seawater intrusion into groundwater resources (or supplies), and significant runoff and discharge to the sea.⁵ There is little freshwater habitat but an abundance of near-shore habitat. Salmon recovery planning focused on near-shore habitat while watershed planning focused on retaining enough water to protect water quality and ensuring there is enough water available for growth areas.

There are entities, such as the Hood Canal Coordinating Council, that are considering coordination beyond salmon recovery and watershed planning. The council has directed staff to analyze all of the planning efforts and entities in the region to determine what a more holistic approach might look like, what planning efforts should be included, and which partners are necessary to achieve a more comprehensive approach to the health of Hood Canal. As part of its effort, the council will be looking at a variety of plan types including regional, land use, salmon habitat and recovery, water resource, water quality, forest management, and other resource management plans.

A final driver in some WRIAs is the Puget Sound Action Agenda. This ecosystem-based plan looks at all aspects of specific ecosystems and asks local efforts to identify and implement actions that will further advance ecosystem health. As part of the Action Agenda implementation, the Puget Sound Partnership is discussing with local communities how best to incorporate existing efforts into more integrated watershed-scale and ecosystem-scale plans for their designated action areas. This integration effort is causing local entities to think more broadly about ecosystem health and to consider how their activities can be better coordinated to meet the challenges of protecting and restoring the ecosystem of Puget Sound. In the Strait of Juan de Fuca, a new, informal set of integrated ecosystem recovery organizations has evolved in response to the Action Agenda.⁶ These interrelated and coordinated organizations share common goals, objectives, and many members.

⁵ San Juan County Water Resource Management Plan, WRIA 2, San Juan County Water Resource Management Committee, October 2004, page vi

⁶ The Strait of Juan de Fuca Ecosystem Recovery Network, and Clallam and Jefferson Work Groups

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADDITIONAL COORDINATION

As coordination occurs at various levels, the opportunities for additional coordination also vary. These opportunities are dependent upon existing levels of coordination and local drivers such as those described above. Some of the coordination opportunities identified are being implemented in some WRIAs, but not all. Potential opportunities exist around communication; outreach and education; project identification, development, and selection; plan updates; staff; and improved state coordination.

COMMUNICATION

One opportunity for improved coordination is in the area of communication. There appears to be a lack of formal communication mechanisms and organizational capacity for those involved in the planning groups. Often communication is ad hoc, creating the possibility of missed or misunderstood communications. The informal nature of communications also may mean that as resources are reduced and staff is stressed by additional duties, the frequency and quality of contact is diminished.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Outreach and education efforts create other opportunities for coordination. The actions associated with watershed and salmon recovery plan implementation are similar in that they can require individual behavior changes and an overall raised community awareness about how specific actions impact watershed health. Watershed planning and salmon recovery groups can leverage one another's outreach by highlighting overall watershed benefits. Improved coordination and integration of these messages could be effective in causing communities to think more holistically about their watersheds. The Chehalis River Basin Watershed Pledge is an example of an outreach product that links individual behaviors related to overall watershed health, including impacts on salmon.⁷

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Project identification and development presents another opportunity for potential coordination. Projects that are developed to meet combined watershed health and salmon recovery objectives present a more holistic approach to project implementation. While many current projects have benefits to both watershed plan implementation and salmon recovery goals, they are not necessarily and purposefully developed to demonstrate and take full advantage of potential co-benefits. Project selection criteria could be designed at local or state levels to reward development of projects that will meet goals of both watershed plan implementation and salmon recovery.

The False Bay watershed assessment, a project proposed for a 2009 Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant, will produce valuable information for both the San Juan salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts. The assessment would address water quantity, quality, fish use, and

⁷ To view pledge – http://www.chehalisbasinpartnership.org/edu_outreach/Chehalis%20River%20Basin%20Watershed%20Pledge.pdf

habitat in the watershed. Included in the assessment will be an evaluation of water rights and flows, toxic contaminants, and habitat constraints. While this project is designed to examine these parameters for fish habitat, it also will provide critical information for watershed plan implementation.⁸ This type of project could be a model for how to meet objectives for salmon recovery and watershed planning in other San Juan watersheds.

In addition to project development and selection implementation, tracking projects and project effectiveness could provide an opportunity for coordination. Resources from watershed planning and salmon recovery could be combined to track what types of projects are being implemented and where by both efforts. The Lower Columbia's Six-Year Workplan will include both watershed planning and salmon recovery actions and represent a regional implementation plan. This could help to ensure that both efforts are aware of the number, types, and effects of projects being implemented, and produce a more complete picture of the activities occurring in the affected watershed.

PLANNING

Plan updates, and the development of a regional strategic plan for the Washington Coast, also represent opportunities for improved coordination. Plan updates create an occasion to build upon existing knowledge and maximize coordination based upon that knowledge. The detailed implementation plan for WRIA 35 specifically states that future updates to the watershed plan will reflect the strategies, actions, and priorities in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and will coordinate with local cities and counties to integrate salmon recovery goals in land use updates and development of water use strategies.⁹ The watershed plan was initially developed with the intent to integrate efforts and is committed to maintaining that coordination.

In the Washington Coastal region, there is not an overall regional recovery plan although each of the four lead entities in the region has its own habitat restoration and protection strategy. The Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership is comprised of the lead entities and is in the process of moving toward one common strategic plan for the region. This plan potentially could incorporate goals and objectives that address salmon protection and restoration and overall watershed health.

STAFFING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Watershed planning and salmon recovery also might be better coordinated through combining local staff in single locations. Staff could maintain their areas of expertise, but coordination could occur through a shared contract, work plan, office space, and services, and improved communications. Local entities likely would need time to develop and implement such a structure and appropriate incentives could jump-start these conversations.

⁸ San Juan County Water Resource Management Plan, WRIA 2, October 2004, page vi

⁹ WRIA 35 Watershed Level Detailed Implementation Plan, September 2008, page 7

STATE COORDINATION

Improved coordination at the state level also could encourage additional coordination locally. Potential opportunities include better synchronization among state programs that influence watershed health and water resources, revised funding objectives and processes, and redefined statewide objectives related to watershed health.

State programs that directly influence and support elements of watershed health are often created and administered in different agencies. More communication, consistency in interpretation of state guidance and regulations, recognition of complementary mandates, and more efficient and effective collaboration among these programs could encourage, rather than discourage, local efforts to plan and implement in a more coordinated fashion.

A broader, more integrated objective for funding sources could present an opportunity for additional coordination locally. The specific objectives of funding sources generally do not recognize the broader objective of watershed health nor do they combine watershed planning and salmon recovery mandates. For example, water quality grant programs, such as the Centennial Grant program, do not incorporate fish recovery goals directly although most water quality projects benefit fish. A salmon recovery component could be incorporated into this program, creating an incentive for grant applicants to develop projects that purposefully target both water quality and salmon recovery benefits.

Additional opportunities for synchronization among funding sources could be shared requirements and priorities, or a single review process for multiple funding sources. This could help reduce the burden on applicants and also help ensure the best match between proposals and funding.

Finally, the development of a coordinated, integrated statewide vision with specific objectives for watershed or ecosystem health, presents another possible opportunity for improved coordination.

OBSTACLES TO COORDINATION

RESOURCES

Funding was identified as a significant limiting factor in the WRIAs assessed. Staff largely focuses on implementing the plan and activities for which they were designated as lead and feel they don't always have the funding, time, or additional staff needed to achieve higher levels of coordination. For example, reductions of local governments' budgets have reduced their ability to address many issues they consider to be high priority and to implement existing plans. San Juan County does not have staff with specialized technical expertise (e.g. wetlands, storm water management, fish and wildlife habitat) and does not have the funding to contract for the appropriate technical support. This lack of staff and funding significantly curtails the ability of San Juan County to implement the range of actions necessary to support critical elements of overall watershed health. Broader mandates with less funding likely will frustrate existing efforts and partners in those efforts.

Overall, lack of stable funding over a more extended period of time restricts the activities in which local entities can engage. This includes any additional coordination efforts that might require extra time or staff and additional tasks outside of an entity's existing mandate. In many cases, local entities expressed an intent and desire to expand coordination, to include a variety of efforts impacting a given watershed, but cited lack of funding, staff, and time.

Another funding issue is the end of basic grant support for watershed planning units as they complete the last phase of the Watershed Planning Act. Phase Four Implementation funding is sustained for 5 years with state funding. After 5 years, state support for the planning group and lead agencies ends. To continue past the fifth year, local watershed planning groups must secure other funding for their operational needs.¹⁰ After the fifth year, local planning units still will be eligible to compete for project funding. There are 10 planning units whose Phase Four funding will end in the 2009-2011 biennium, 13 in the 2011-2013 biennium, and 8 in the 2013-2015 biennium. It is unclear where additional funding will come from to sustain these efforts. Local entities are considering different options, including seeking other grants that will support watershed-related projects. At this time, it is unclear how the end of funding will impact the planning units and their ability to coordinate with other efforts in a watershed or to implement their plans.

Reduction in state staffing also is impacting planning efforts. For example, the 2009 Legislature reduced funding to the Department of Ecology's watershed program by six full time equivalent employees. The reduction involved four watershed lead positions in regional offices plus technical and administration staff in headquarters. This reduction has a direct bearing on the level of support the agency can provide to various watershed planning units and their efforts. In addition to Ecology's staff reductions, the lack or loss of technical support from other state agencies is affecting plan implementation. For example, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's watershed steward position in the Yakima basin was not filled when vacated because of budget cuts. Ecology also curtailed an interagency grant supporting one full time equivalent employee at Department of Health for review of watershed planning and implementation initiatives, and reduced by two full time equivalent employees an interagency grant for Fish and Wildlife's watershed plan implementation and water rights permit technical assistance. All of the above outcomes have negatively impacted coordination and linkages between watershed planning, plan implementation, and salmon recovery efforts.

Another funding issue is driven by the significant and recent downturn in state revenue collections, impacting Ecology's watershed program, which is supported exclusively by General Fund-State appropriations. The watershed local grant program funding went from two consecutive biennia of about \$12 million to just more than \$8 million. This is about a 40 percent cut as watershed efforts are in the process of implementation activities. In other words, plan implementation funding demand is rising at the very same time as available funding is decreasing and is expected to remain low for at least another biennial cycle.

¹⁰ 2008 Report to the Legislature, Progress on Watershed Planning and Setting Instream Flows, Washington State Department of Ecology, Publication no. 08-06-027, December 2008

FUNDING SOURCES

Funding silos, and specific objectives for those funding sources, also can create an obstacle to coordination. Many funding sources do not recognize shared watershed objectives or mandates and provide a narrow focus for their funding. Planning and project implementation are developed to meet these specific objectives. This segregation of funding objectives also can create a disincentive to coordination as grantees may be able to take advantage of more funding sources if projects and efforts are kept separate.

REGULATORY STRUCTURES

The regulatory systems created by state and federal governments can pose obstacles to coordination. For example, water quality is governed by its own regulatory structure and implementation of water quality programs often occurs apart from other programs impacting watershed health. In other cases, issues that are interrelated and complementary from a watershed health perspective are within the mandates of different state agencies or state agency programs. Watershed stewards are part of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, whereas water resources (quantity), water quality, and shoreline management programs are part of the Department of Ecology, and the Growth Management Act is managed by the Department of Commerce.

NUMBER OF PROGRAMS AND PLANS

The number of related issues and groups associated with watershed health also can be an obstacle. These are efforts beyond salmon recovery and watershed planning that relate to the work of the planning groups. For example, in the Yakima basin, factors, entities, and efforts impacting watershed health include the Columbia River Basin Water Program, Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board, Bureau of Reclamation, Yakama Nation, Northwest Power Conservation Council sub-basin planning, the total maximum daily load process, the Columbia Basin Fish Accords, and the adjudication of water rights. While these efforts are often interrelated, they may have different priorities and areas of emphasis. At times this makes coordination quite challenging.

In addition to coordination among watershed health-related efforts, it also can be challenging to coordinate across jurisdictional boundaries and programs. In some cases, key governments and parties in a watershed do not participate, or are not significantly invested, in either watershed or salmon recovery planning. The most effective and sustainable approach to overall watershed health includes the participation and support of the watershed's local and tribal governments. A watershed's local and tribal governments' support is critical to a more holistic approach to planning, project implementation, and problem-solving. Lack of support and participation in one process can be a barrier to coordinating with the other.

DIFFERENT CHARACTERISTICS AND MANDATES

The nature of salmon recovery versus watershed planning was identified as a potential obstacle. Salmon recovery has a narrower focus over a broad geographic area, while watershed planning can have a narrower geographic focus (WRIA) with a broad subject content that at times, in some locations, can be contentious. The existing statutory mandate associated with planning also

might inhibit local processes from further coordination. While RCW chapters 90.82 and 77.85 direct the scope of local efforts, some local entities are hesitant to interpret the authority for their efforts more broadly.

Finally, the possibility of additional coordination, depending upon the nature of that coordination, could create disruption and delays in existing processes and progress. As entities and organizations adjust to higher levels of coordination, implementation work might be reduced for a period of time. Before any changes are made, discussions with impacted organizations would be necessary to retain partner and community buy-in.

INCENTIVES FOR COORDINATION

The following incentive ideas were identified by, and based on, observations of those working in the WRIAs. They are not RCO recommendations, but rather represent concepts offered to RCO that could be explored further.

STABLE FUNDING SOURCES

Planning entities noted that funding needs to be stable. Implementation of salmon recovery and watershed plans locally and regionally is significantly challenged because of uncertain funding from year-to-year. Predictability in funding would allow for more strategic project investment and create confidence that programs will continue with funding sustained at a certain level. This confidence and certainty also would allow for planning partners to consider broader or more integrated mandates.

BROADER FUNDING SOURCE OBJECTIVES

Planning entities also suggested that funding sources recognize shared objectives and allow more discretion so that local organizations can identify projects and programs that will have the greatest impact on overall watershed health. By removing or modifying the silos for grant sources, local entities could be encouraged to maximize coordination of various planning efforts.

Another suggestion was to create or restructure funding sources that identify overall watershed health as the main objective. A possible prerequisite for this type of funding is an established and locally approved integrated watershed health plan that incorporates key components from various planning efforts. If threshold planning components are integrated into a more holistic plan, local efforts could determine if other elements that impact watershed health, such as storm water or land use planning, should be included. This would create a structure within which additional plans, beyond salmon recovery and watershed plans can be integrated. Funding evaluation criteria could be based upon or influenced by the level of and mechanisms for integration.

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Another suggested funding incentive is to allow or encourage existing fund sources to be used to implement watershed planning and salmon recovery goals. For example, if mitigation actions and funds are aligned with restoration goals, overall transaction costs could be reduced for plan implementation, mitigation actions could be more effective, and overall watershed health could

be more strategically advanced. Better guidelines and more efficient permitting processes for projects that involve substantial mitigation could significantly further a more targeted approach to watershed health. This could provide a more holistic approach to watershed health that still recognizes and accommodates development, making implementation of watershed and recovery plans beneficial to a variety of entities. This additional funding source could be an incentive to coordinate efforts designed with overall watershed health as a goal.

IMPROVED PERMITTING PROCESSES

It also was suggested that improved state and local permitting processes might further coordination efforts. If permitting processes were streamlined for projects that advance general watershed health and are based on an integrated plan, local entities could be influenced to increase levels of coordination, particularly around project implementation.

CHARACTERISTICS OF COORDINATION

Region and WRIAs Engaged in Watershed and Salmon Recovery Planning	Planning Documents (Watershed Planning, Lead Entity Strategy, Salmon Recovery Plans)				Plan Implementation	Data	Roles and Functions				
	Same or Similar Data Foundation	Similar or Identical Habitat Provisions	Mutual Deference to Other Plan	Additional Overarching Plan Integrating Planning Efforts Beyond 90.82 and 77.85	Project Evaluation Criteria Consider Co-benefits	Shared or Integrated Work Plan	Share Data Across Efforts	Shared Staff or Lead Entity and Lead Agency Same Organization	Linked Functions for Planning Bodies	Shared Board and Committee Membership	Significant Communications Between Efforts
Snake River WRIAs 32, 35	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Lower Columbia WRIAs 25, 26, 27, 28, part of 29	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Upper Columbia WRIAs 44, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50 (multiple lead entities)	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Yakima WRIAs 37,38, 39							X			X	
Washington Coastal WRIAs 20, 22, 23 (multiple lead entities; no regional recovery plan)	X		X				X	X	X	X	X
Puget Sound WRIAs 1, 2, 6, 11, part of 18, 19 (multiple lead entities)	X		X	X			X	X	X	X	X
Hood Canal WRIAs 16, 17, part of 18	X		X	X			X	X	X	X	X
Pend Oreille WRIA 62							X				
Klickitat County WRIAs parts of 29 and 30							X	X		X	X

CONCLUSION

In the 29 WRIsAs engaging in watershed planning and salmon recovery planning, coordination is occurring at various levels. The level of and the mechanisms for coordination are a direct response to local pressures and drivers. These pressures and drivers are different in every local community, and therefore the planning efforts and entities in each planning area vary. There is significant local trust in the planning and implementation structures that have been employed in various WRIsAs because they are responsive to local circumstances. No single coordination mechanism likely would be responsive to these varying local pressures or likely further coordination efforts in all WRIsAs. Local entities, most aware of how planning and implementation can best be completed and coordinated in their WRIsAs, appear most able to determine when and how best to further coordinate watershed planning and salmon recovery efforts. In some locations, such as the Hood Canal, coordination of a broader spectrum of planning and implementation efforts is being considered, while in other locations, local pressures may allow for only an incremental step to increase coordination.

Given that most watersheds are coordinating at a level that appears from a local perspective to be appropriate for the circumstances of the watershed, incentives likely are needed to encourage additional coordination. The greatest incentive would be a stable source of longer term funding. To generate additional coordination, funding could be available based upon a locally approved plan that integrates, at a minimum, watershed planning and salmon recovery efforts. Local partners could determine if additional planning efforts are to be integrated. In addition, existing sources of funding, such as mitigation dollars, could be considered as a means for strategically advancing watershed planning and salmon recovery goals. The state could develop appropriate guidelines and more efficient permitting processes to encourage the use of these funds for a more strategic approach to watershed health.

The state also could examine state programs and mandates to determine if there are opportunities for better coordination to ensure, at a minimum, that the state is not discouraging more local coordination. The segregation of state programs impacting watershed health, operating under different mandates, and administered in different ways, can frustrate local efforts designed to integrate various planning efforts. Overall state watershed health goals, objectives, and strategies also could provide a useful framework for local processes.

APPENDIX

HOOD CANAL SALMON RECOVERY REGION¹¹

BACKGROUND

KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Hood Canal Coordinating Council (regional salmon recovery organization, lead entity, and inter-WRIA coordinator as per RCW 90.88.030 (1)(a) and (b))

Regional Recovery Organization

- Develops, implements, refines, revises, and manages Hood Canal Summer Chum Recovery Plan.
- Coordinates and monitors implementation of the recovery plan.
- Prioritizes habitat restoration and preservation projects and programs.
- Receives and disburses funds for salmon recovery initiatives.
- Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work.
- Develops financing plan for operations and recovery plan implementation.
- Supports collaborative decision-making and coordination among watershed and recovery planning partners.

Lead Entity

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.
- Engages with technical and citizen committees to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for the SRFB's consideration.
- Creates and maintain three-year work plan for priority projects for all four Endangered Species Act-listed salmonids.

¹¹ The Hood Canal Salmon Recovery Region is the regional recovery organization for summer chum for the Hood Canal and eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca. The Puget Sound Partnership serves as the regional recovery organization for other species in this region, including Chinook and steelhead. The Hood Canal summer chum region is comprised of salmon-bearing streams in parts of Jefferson, Mason, Clallam, and Kitsap Counties. The region includes the Evolutionary Significant Units (ESU) for Hood Canal summer chum, which is listed as a threatened species. Within this geographic region are all or parts of WRIAs 15, 16, 17, and 18. Watershed planning, as defined in RCW 90.82, has occurred in WRIAs 16, 17, and 18.

- Creates and maintains Habitat Work Schedule to track implementation progress and communicates actions with the general public.

WRIA 16 Watershed Planning Unit

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education.
- Engages in assessment activities about water supplies, uses, and quality.
- Supports project implementation.

WRIA 17 Watershed Planning Unit

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education.
- Engages in assessment activities about water supplies, uses, and quality.
- Supports project implementation.

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan

- Identifies strategies and actions associated with marine and freshwater habitat protection and restoration, hatchery management, and harvest management.
- Contains a regional chapter and 14 watershed-specific chapters and a near-shore chapter.

Puget Sound Action Agenda

- Identifies the status of Puget Sound health and threats to its health.
- Identifies work needed to protect and restore Puget Sound from an ecosystem perspective.
- Identifies the implementation of the regional salmon recovery plan as an integral part of Puget Sound restoration.
- Identifies ecosystem benefits, local threats and priority strategies for each geographic action area.

Hood Canal Summer Chum Recovery Plan

- Serves as the recovery plan for Hood Canal summer chum.
- Addresses habitat (project and programmatic), hatcheries, hydropower, and harvest issues related to salmon recovery.

Lead Entity Three-Year Watershed Implementation Schedule

- Identifies and prioritizes priority projects and actions needed to implement the Hood Canal Summer Chum Recovery Plan.

WRIA 16 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quantity, quality, and habitat.

WRIA 17 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quantity, quality, habitat, and in-stream flows.

Hood Canal Integrated Watershed Action Plan (in process)

- The Hood Canal Coordinating Council is developing an integrated watershed. The purpose for the integrated watershed plan is to provide a comprehensive, coordinated strategy for protecting and restoring the Hood Canal watershed. The framework of the integrated plan includes:
 - A watershed assessment that describes existing conditions in the Hood Canal watershed and as called for in the Puget Sound Partnership’s Action Agenda.
 - An inventory of existing plans and programs to protect and restore the Hood Canal watershed and to control water pollution.
 - A management plan that integrates existing plans and programs and prioritizes implementation strategies.

COORDINATION MECHANISMS

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- The technical basis for the summer chum recovery plan came from existing information and assessments including information from watershed planning efforts in WRIAs 16, 17, and 18.
- The recovery plan proposes ways watershed planning work can be coordinated with recovery actions.
- Updates to the salmon recovery plan are to be incorporated into the watershed planning efforts and vice versa.
- Hood Canal Integrated Watershed Action Plan to develop an integrated watershed plan beyond salmon recovery and watershed planning. Hood Canal Coordinating Council staff will analyze all of the planning efforts and entities in the region to determine what a more holistic approach might look like, what planning efforts should be included, and which partners are necessary to achieve a more comprehensive approach to the health of Hood Canal. As part of its effort, the council will look at a variety of plan types including regional, land use,

DATA	salmon habitat and recovery, water resource, water quality, forest management, and other resource management plans.
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information and data are exchanged and shared among watershed planning and recovery efforts. ▪ WRIAs 16/14b and 17 Detailed Implementation Plans recognize work of existing recovery efforts and recommend “supporting existing salmon recovery and habitat conservation programs” and “support the Hood Canal Coordinating Council’s salmon habitat efforts.” ▪ Detailed Implementation Plans encourage planning unit member organizations to implement strategies from the summer chum salmon recovery plan and lead entity three-year work plan.
SHARED MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Common members and entities participating on the Hood Canal Coordinating Council and the WRIA 16 and WRIA 17 watershed planning units. (WRIA 17 overlap with the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe and Jefferson County; WRIA 16 overlap with Jefferson County, Mason County, and the Skokomish Tribe). ▪ Some common members participating on WRIA 16 and 17 watersheds planning processes.
STAFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regular communication among staff. ▪ Salmon recovery and watershed planning staff periodically attend one another’s planning group meetings. ▪ At the WRIA level, planning and implementing staff for the watershed planning and recovery efforts are often housed in the same organization (e.g., Jefferson County has staff engaged in both watershed planning and recovery efforts).
COORDINATION DRIVERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shared objectives of protecting and restoring watershed health while allowing for economic development. ▪ Long history of community concern and awareness regarding Hood Canal water and natural resource issues. The Hood Canal Coordinating Council was established in 1985 as a Watershed-Based Council of Governments to address water quality problems and related issues in the watershed. Its stated mission is to “work with partners, community group and citizens, to advocate for and implement regionally and locally appropriate actions to protect and enhance Hood Canal’s environmental and economic health.”

LOWER COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON RECOVERY REGION

BACKGROUND

KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (regional salmon recovery organization, lead entity, and lead agency for RCW 90.82)

Regional Recovery Organization

- Develops, implements, refines, revises, and manages Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan.
- Assesses factors for decline of salmon and steelhead on a “stream-by-stream” basis.
- Coordinates and monitors implementation of the recovery plan.
- Prioritizes habitat restoration and preservation projects and programs.
- Receives and disburses funds for salmon and steelhead recovery initiatives.
- Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work.
- Develops financing plan for operations and recovery plan implementation.
- Supports collaborative decision-making among watershed and recovery planning partners.

Lead Entity

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.
- Engages with technical committee to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for the SRFB’s consideration.
- Creates and maintains a six-year work plan for priority projects.

Lead Agency

- Receives and manages state grants on behalf of the planning units.
- Provides staffing and facilitation throughout the planning process.

Salmon-Washougal and Lewis Rivers Watershed Planning Unit (WRIAs 27 and 28)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education.

- Engages in assessment activities about water supplies, uses, and quality.
- Supports project implementation.

Grays-Elochoman and Cowlitz Rivers Watershed Planning Unit (WRIAs 25 and 26)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education.
- Engages in assessment activities about water supplies, uses, and quality
- Supports project implementation.

Grays River and East Fork Lewis River Community-Based Habitat Work Groups

- Develops community based habitat restoration strategies for future project implementation based on recovery plan and six-year Habitat Work Schedule.

Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan

- Serves as the recovery plan for lower Columbia River salmon and steelhead populations and a Northwest Power and Conservation Council Fish and Wildlife Plan for eight full and three partial sub-basins.
- Addresses estuary and freshwater tributary habitat, hatcheries, hydropower, harvest, and ecological interaction issues.
- Focuses on 4 listed fish species and 27 other fish and wildlife species affected by the development and operation of the federal Columbia River power system.
- Guides the prioritization of Bonneville Power Administration funded projects for mitigation of the Columbia and Snake Rivers hydropower system.

Six-Year Implementation Work Schedule

- Identifies actions and strategies needed to implement the Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan and the watershed planning documents.
- Represents a regional implementation plan for both recovery and watershed planning efforts.
- Identifies and prioritizes priority projects and actions.

WRIAs 25/26 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quantity, quality, habitat, and in-stream flows.

WRIAs 27/28 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

COORDINATION MECHANISMS

- Address water quantity, quality, habitat, and in-stream flows.

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- The habitat element of the recovery plan was developed, in part, using water quality, quantity, and in-stream flow information from the WRIA planning unit efforts.
- The Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan is the overarching framework for recovery, sub-basin, and watershed planning in the region and combines four interrelated planning processes and initiatives:
 - U.S. Endangered Species Act recovery planning for four threatened salmonid species.
 - Northwest Power and Conservation Council fish and wildlife sub-basin planning for eight full and three partial sub-basins.
 - Watershed planning under the Washington Watershed Management Act, RCW 90.82.
 - Habitat protection and restoration pursuant to the Washington Salmon Recovery Act, RCW 77.85.
- The water quality and in-stream flow provisions outlined in the recovery plan are derived directly from the WRIA 25/26 and 27/28 Watershed Plans.
- The habitat implementation approaches identified within the WRIA 25/26 and 27/28 Watershed Plans were derived directly from the recovery plan.
- Updates to the salmon recovery plan are to be incorporated into the watershed planning efforts and vice versa.

DATA

- Information and data are exchanged and shared among watershed planning and recovery efforts. All are available on the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board Web site.
- The Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Program integrates salmon recovery and watershed management monitoring that addresses watershed processes and functions, riparian and in-stream conditions, stream flow, and water quantity.
- A Web-based data system (Salmon Port) will identify and track watershed planning and recovery actions for each of the partners involved in salmon recovery and watershed plan implementation. This is the database for the six-year implementation work schedule.

ACTIONS

- The six-year implementation work schedule includes salmon recovery and watershed planning actions. Once all data is entered it will be the regional implementation plan.

SHARED MEMBERSHIP

- The Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board is the regional recovery organization, lead entity, and lead agency. It is the central body for overseeing coordination of the integrated planning efforts and is the decision-making body

AND FUNCTIONS	<p>for salmon recovery work. The board serves as the citizen’s committee for the lead entity process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Common members and entities participate on the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board and the WRIAs 25/26 and 27/28 planning units.
STAFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board staff serves the board in its role as regional recovery organization, lead entity, and lead agency for watershed planning. Staff communicates daily and has a substantial and comprehensive understanding of the region’s planning and implementation efforts.
COORDINATION DRIVERS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shared objectives of protecting and restoring watershed health while allowing for economic development. ▪ Trust among the watershed planning and salmon recovery partners and the community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Partners have participated in and are significantly invested in the plans and processes.

MIDDLE COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON RECOVERY REGION

BACKGROUND

KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board (regional salmon recovery organization and lead entity, covering WRIAs 37, 38, and 39)

Regional Recovery Organization

- Refines, revises, and manages Yakima portion of Middle Columbia River Steelhead Salmon Recovery Plan.
- Coordinates implementation of priority recovery actions and reports on progress towards recovery goals.
- Coordinates monitoring of recovery efforts and adaptive management to respond to impact of efforts.
- Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work.
- Develops financing plan for operations support and recovery plan implementation.
- Supports collaborative decision-making among recovery planning partners.

Lead Entity

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.
- Convenes citizen and technical committee to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for SRFB consideration.
- Creates and maintains a three-year work plan for priority projects.

Water Resources Advisory Committee (Yakima Basin Water Resources Agency serves as the lead agency for 90.82. This effort does not include Kittitas County or the Yakama Nation.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.

Klickitat County (Lead entity for 77.85 in WRIA 30 and lead agency for 90.82) – Lead Entity Role

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.
- Engages with citizen-technical committee to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for SRFB consideration.
- Creates and maintains a three-year work plan for priority projects.

WRIA 30 Water Resource Planning and Advisory Committee (Klickitat County serves as lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.

WRIA 31 Planning Unit (Klickitat County serves as lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.

Middle Columbia River Steelhead Salmon Recovery Plan

- Addresses habitat, hatcheries, hydropower, and harvest issues affecting mid-Columbia steelhead recovery.
- Identifies actions to restore mid-Columbia steelhead.

Northwest Power and Conservation Council Sub-basin Plans

- Examine aquatic and terrestrial species and their habitat.
- Identify ecosystem restoration strategies to benefit target species.
- Guide the prioritization of Bonneville Power Administration funded projects for mitigation of the Columbia and Snake River hydropower system.

WRIAs 37, 38 and jurisdictional areas of Yakima County in WRIA 39 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan (Does not include Kittitas County and the Yakama Nation.)

- Address water quality, storage, and habitat.

WRIA 30 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quantity, quality, and habitat.

WRIA 31 Watershed Planning Document

- Addresses water quantity, quality, and habitat.

COORDINATION
MECHANISMS

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- Objectives for recovery plan and habitat restoration portion of watershed plans are consistent.
- In Klickitat plans, same areas of emphasis in the lead entity strategy and the habitat portion of the watershed planning document.

DATA

- Data produced by either watershed planning or salmon recovery efforts are available to each entity.
- Focus of habitat section of WRIA 30 watershed plan is developing data. Information obtain through identified assessment actions inform the lead entity process.

ACTIONS

- Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board and the Yakima Basin Water Resources Agency staff produced a document cross-linking recovery actions with Detailed Implementation Plan actions. Actions in each document originally independently identified.

SHARED MEMBERSHIP
AND FUNCTIONS

- Common members and entities participate on the Klickitat County Lead Entity and watershed planning unit.
- Common entities participate on the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board and the Yakima Basin Water Resources Agency.

STAFF

- Communication as necessary among various recovery planning and watershed planning staff.
- Salmon recovery staff periodically attends watershed planning meetings and vice versa.
- Klickitat County staff support both salmon recovery and watershed planning in WRIA 30 and watershed planning in WRIA 31. Currently there is no lead entity covering WRIA 31.

COORDINATION DRIVERS

- Similar habitat objectives.

PUGET SOUND SALMON RECOVERY REGION¹²

ISLAND COUNTY WRIA

BACKGROUND

KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Puget Sound Partnership (regional salmon recovery organization; guided by Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council)

- Revises and manages the Puget Sound Recovery Plan.
- Coordinates implementation of projects and reporting to various entities.
- Coordinates monitoring of recovery efforts and adaptive management to respond to impact of efforts.
- Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work.
- Develops financing plan for operations support and recovery plan implementation.
- Supports collaborative decision-making among recovery planning partners.

Island County (lead entity)

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.
- Engages with citizen-technical committee to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for SRFB consideration.
- Creates and maintain a three-year work plan for priority projects.

Island County Water Resource Committee (Island County serves as the lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.

¹² The Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Region is comprised of all or part of Clallam, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Mason, Pierce, San Juan, Snohomish, Thurston, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties. The size of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Region is dictated by Puget Sound Chinook Evolutionary Significant Unit and covers Puget Sound Chinook and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened species. Within this geographic region are all or parts of the 19 Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19. Watershed planning, as defined in RCW 90.82, has occurred in WRIAs 1-3, 11-12, and 14-19. WRIAs 16 and 17 also are part of the Hood Canal Salmon Recovery Region. The Lyre Hoko WRIA 19 is outside the Puget Sound Chinook Evolutionary Significant Unit but within the salmon recovery region.

KEY WATERSHED AND
SALMON RECOVERY
PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinate project implementation

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan

- Identifies strategies and actions associated with marine and freshwater habitat protection and restoration, hatchery management, and harvest management.
- Contains a regional chapter, 14 watershed-specific chapters, and a near-shore chapter.

Puget Sound Action Agenda

- Identifies the status of, and threats to Puget Sound health.
- Identifies work needed to protect and restore Puget Sound from an ecosystem perspective.
- Identifies the implementation of the regional salmon recovery plan as an integral part of Puget Sound restoration.
- Identifies ecosystem benefits, local threats, and priority strategies for each geographic action area.

Island County Salmon Recovery Three-Year Work Plan

- Provides a guide for recovery actions in Island County.
- Identifies actions necessary to implement salmon recovery plan.

WRIA 6 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quantity. Does not include a habitat element.

COORDINATION
MECHANISMS

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- Currently no overlap.

DATA

- Data produced by either watershed planning or salmon recovery efforts are available to each entity.

ACTIONS

- Currently no overlap.

SHARED MEMBERSHIP
AND FUNCTIONS

- The Water Resource Advisory Committee serves as the Citizen Committee for the lead entity.

STAFF OTHER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Water Resource Advisory Committee salmon-focuses subcommittee serves as the lead entity’s Salmon Technical Advisory Group. Two Water Resource Advisory Committee members serve on the subcommittee and Technical Advisory Group. ▪ Island County staff support both salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate through operation changes at the county level. For example, recovery and watershed staff recently integrated into the same county organization.
COORDINATION DRIVERS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Geographic constraints provide incentive for community to work together to preserve what currently exists. ▪ Puget Sound Action Agenda based on a holistic, ecosystem approach and coordination of existing efforts.

NISQUALLY WRIA

BACKGROUND	
KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS	<p>Puget Sound Partnership (regional salmon recovery organization; guided by Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revises and manages the Puget Sound Recovery Plan. ▪ Coordinates implementation of projects and reporting to various entities. ▪ Coordinates monitoring of recovery efforts and adaptive management to respond to impact of efforts. ▪ Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work. ▪ Develops financing plan for operations support and recovery plan implementation. ▪ Supports collaborative decision-making among recovery planning partners.

Nisqually Indian Tribe (lead entity)

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.
- Engages with citizen and technical committees to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for SRFB consideration.
- Creates and maintains a three-year work plan for priority projects.

Nisqually Watershed Planning Unit (Nisqually Indian Tribe serves as the lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engage in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinate. project implementation.

Nisqually River Council

- Serves as a coordination, advocacy, and educational organization for the Nisqually River watershed.
- Tracks economy, community, and environmental efforts in the watershed, including salmon recovery and watershed planning.
- Council serves as the lead entity citizen advisory group.

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan

- Identifies strategies and actions associated with marine and freshwater habitat protection and restoration, hatchery management, and harvest management.
- Contains a regional chapter, 14 watershed-specific chapters, and a near-shore chapter.

Puget Sound Action Agenda

- Identifies the status of and threats to Puget Sound health.
- Identifies work needed to protect and restore Puget Sound from an ecosystem perspective.
- Identifies the implementation of the regional salmon recovery plan as an integral part of Puget Sound restoration.
- Identifies ecosystem benefits, local threats, and priority strategies for each geographic action area.

<p>COORDINATION MECHANISMS</p>	<p>Nisqually Watershed Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan Three-Year Work Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a guide for recovery actions in San Juan County. Identifies actions necessary to implement salmon recovery plan. <p>WRIA 11 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address water quality, habitat, and in-stream flows.
<p>PLANNING DOCUMENTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed plan defers to the salmon recovery work as the salmon recovery work. The list of prioritized actions in the watershed plan includes “implementing the salmon recovery plan.”
<p>DATA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data produced by either watershed planning or salmon recovery efforts are shared with all entities.
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently no specific coordination or overlap efforts with respect to projects.
<p>SHARED MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nisqually River Council serves as the lead entity’s citizen advisory group and several members of the council also are members of the watershed planning unit. Shared member between the watershed planning unit and the salmon recovery technical committee.
<p>STAFF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nisqually Indian Tribe staff support both salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts. Frequent communication among staff for both efforts.
<p>OTHER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nisqually River Council provides an oversight and coordination role for the watershed. The Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan provides a stewardship structure that takes into account economic, cultural, and environmental resources.
<p>COORDINATION DRIVERS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common objective of solving individual and partner issues within the watershed. Strong sense of community in watershed. Long history of working on watershed health – Nisqually River Management Plan. Long-term tribal focus on natural resources and watershed health. Puget Sound Action Agenda based on a holistic, ecosystem approach and coordination of existing efforts.

NOOKSACK WRIA

BACKGROUND

KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Puget Sound Partnership (regional salmon recovery organization; guided by Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council)

- Revises and manages the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan.
- Coordinates implementation of projects and reporting to various entities.
- Coordinates monitoring of recovery efforts and adaptive management to respond to impact of efforts.
- Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work.
- Develops financing plan for operations support and recovery plan implementation.
- Supports collaborative decision-making among recovery planning partners.

WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board (lead entity)

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.
- Engages with citizen and technical committee to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for SRFB consideration.
- Creates and maintains a three-year work plan for priority projects.

WRIA 1 Joint Policy Board (Whatcom County serves as the lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.

KEY WATERSHED AND SALMON RECOVERY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan

- Identifies strategies and actions associated with marine and freshwater habitat protection and restoration, hatchery management, and harvest management.
- Contains a regional chapter, 14 watershed-specific chapters, and a near-shore chapter.

Puget Sound Action Agenda

COORDINATION
MECHANISMS

- Identifies the status of, and threats to, Puget Sound health.
- Identifies work needed to protect and restore Puget Sound from an ecosystem perspective.
- Identifies the implementation of the regional salmon recovery plan as an integral part of Puget Sound restoration.
- Identifies ecosystem benefits, local threats, and priority strategies for each geographic action area.

WRIA 1 Salmonid Plan

- Provides a guide for recovery actions in the Nooksack watershed.
- Identifies actions necessary to implement salmon recovery plan.

WRIA 1 Three-Year Project Plan

- Provides three-year planning framework for actions that support the WRIA 1 Salmonid Recovery Plan.

WRIA 1 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quality, in-stream flow, and habitat.

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- The Watershed Plan and Detailed Implementation Plan defer habitat issues to the salmon recovery program. Specific actions to encourage coordination between the salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts are identified in the WRIA 1 Watershed Management Plan, Detailed Implementation Plan, and WRIA 1 Salmonid Recovery Plan.
- The Watershed Management Plan and Detailed Implementation Plan recommend a Natural Resource Policy Integration Program to examine and address potential duplication and inconsistencies among existing programs.
- Watershed Plan Implementation and Coordination is identified on the WRIA 1 3-Year Project Plan for salmon recovery.
- The *Governance Structure for Implementing WRIA 1 Programs* is a working document that is guiding integration and coordination of the WRIA 1 Watershed Management Plan and WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Plan implementation.
- Data produced by either watershed planning or salmon recovery efforts are available to each entity.

DATA

ACTIONS

- The WRIA 1 Salmonid Recovery Plan includes implementation actions that are directly or indirectly linked to the actions and strategies identified in the Detailed Implementation Plan.

SHARED MEMBERSHIP
AND FUNCTIONS

- Significant overlap between entities participating on the WRIA 1 Joint Board and the WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board. The Joint Board and Salmon Recovery Board hold their meetings jointly. Decisions are made by the specific boards, but discussions occur jointly.

STAFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A management-level staff group (WRIA 1 Management Team) representing both salmon and watershed planning efforts supports both the WRIA 1 Joint Board and the WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board. ▪ Frequent communication among staff supporting both the salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts.
OTHER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Currently in the process of considering additional structures and approaches to further integration toward overall watershed health. The focus of discussion is maximizing resources and improving efficiencies, increasing stakeholder involvement, and advancing implementation of the watershed and salmon recovery plans through coordination and integration. The <i>Governance Structure for Implementing WRIA 1 Programs</i> is the basis for the discussions.
COORDINATION DRIVERS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WRIA 1 Joint Board has given direction to develop options for program coordination and integration. This directive is incorporated into the Detailed Implementation Plan. ▪ Puget Sound Action Agenda based on a holistic, ecosystem approach and coordination of existing efforts.

SAN JUAN WRIA

BACKGROUND	
KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS	<p>Puget Sound Partnership (regional salmon recovery organization; guided by Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revises and manages the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan. ▪ Coordinates implementation of projects and reporting to various entities. ▪ Coordinates monitoring of recovery efforts and adaptive management to respond to impact of efforts. ▪ Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work. ▪ Develops financing plan for operations support and recovery plan implementation. ▪ Supports collaborative decision-making among recovery planning partners. <p>San Juan County (lead entity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources. ▪ Engages with citizen and technical committees to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding. ▪ Creates a ranked list of projects for SRFB consideration.

- Creates and maintain a three-year work plan for priority projects.
- Coordinates implementation of projects and reporting to various entities.
- Coordinates monitoring of recovery efforts and adaptive management to respond to impact of efforts.
- Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work.

San Juan County Water Resource Management Committee (San Juan County serves as the lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan

- Identifies strategies and actions associated with marine and freshwater habitat protection and restoration, hatchery management, and harvest management.
- Contains a regional chapter, 14 watershed-specific chapters, and a near-shore chapter.

Puget Sound Action Agenda

- Identifies the status of, and threat to, Puget Sound health.
- Identifies work needed to protect and restore Puget Sound from an ecosystem perspective.
- Identifies the implementation of the regional salmon recovery plan as an integral part of Puget Sound restoration.
- Identifies ecosystem benefits, local threats, and priority strategies for each geographic action area.

San Juan County Salmon Recovery Three-Year Work Plan

- Provides a guide for recovery actions in San Juan County.
- Identifies actions necessary to implement salmon recovery plan.

WRIA 2 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quality, habitat, and in-stream flows.

COORDINATION MECHANISMS

PLANNING DOCUMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently no overlap.
DATA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data produced by either watershed planning or salmon recovery efforts are available to each entity.
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment work planned that will produce information beneficial to both watershed efforts and salmon recovery efforts.
SHARED MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The San Juan County Marine Resources Committee is the Citizens Advisory Group for the lead entity process. Some overlap between the Salmon Technical Advisory Group for the lead entity process and the Water Resources Management Committee.
STAFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular communication among various recovery planning and watershed planning staff. Lead entity staff periodically attends Water Resource Committee meetings. San Juan County staff support both salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts.
OTHER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An informal association of interested groups meets regularly as the “Water Table” to discuss programs and to coordinate activities. The primary intent is to avoid duplication and leverage each other’s work. This includes county organizations and nonprofits. The San Juan Ecosystem Based Initiative is in the process of evaluating the effectiveness of protection efforts in San Juan County. This initiative is scheduled to sunset December 31, 2009.

COORDINATION DRIVERS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared objectives of healthy and adequate water for fish and people. Strong environmental ethic in the community. Puget Sound Action Agenda based on a holistic, ecosystem approach and coordination of existing efforts.
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STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA AND NORTH OLYMPIC PENINSULA WATERSHEDS (WRIAS 18, 19, AND PART OF 17)

BACKGROUND	
KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS	Puget Sound Partnership (regional salmon recovery organization; guided by Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Revises and manages the Puget Sound Recovery Plan.Coordinates implementation of projects and reporting to various entities.Coordinates monitoring of recovery efforts and adaptive management to respond to impact of efforts.Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work.Develops financing plan for operations support and recovery plan implementation.Supports collaborative decision-making among recovery planning partners.
	North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity (Clallam County serves as lead entity coordinator.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.Engages with citizen and technical committees to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.Creates a ranked list of projects for SRFB consideration.Creates and maintains a three-year work plan for priority projects.
	WRIA 17 Planning Unit (Jefferson County serves as the lead agency; also part of Hood Canal Coordinating Council Region) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed watershed plan.Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.Engages in outreach and education work.Coordinates assessment activities.Coordinates project implementation.
	WRIA 18 West – Elwha-Morse Management Team <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed watershed plan; will develop Detailed Implementation Plan in 2010, secures grants to implement elements of watershed plan.

- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.
- Consults on development and implementation of Department of Ecology's in-stream flow and water management rule.

WRIA 18 East – Dungeness River Management Team

- Functions as coordinating body to support projects for watershed health.
- Defines and develops water supply options for people and fish.
- Developed watershed plan; will develop Detailed Implementation Plan in 2010.
- Works with the lead entity to priorities SRFB projects.
- Consults on development and implementation of Department of Ecology's in-stream flow and water management rule.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinate assessment activities.
- Coordinate project implementation.

WRIA 19 Lyre Hoko

- Developed watershed plan, including water supply strategies and recommendations for regulatory in-stream flow levels.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan

- Identifies strategies and actions associated with marine and freshwater habitat protection and restoration, hatchery management, and harvest management.
- Contains a regional chapter, 14 watershed-specific chapters, and a near-shore chapter.

Puget Sound Action Agenda

- Identifies the status of, and threats to, Puget Sound health.
- Identifies work needed to protect and restore Puget Sound from an ecosystem perspective.

<p>COORDINATION MECHANISMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identifies the implementation of the regional salmon recovery plan as an integral part of Puget Sound restoration. ▪ Identifies ecosystem benefits, local threats, and priority strategies for each geographic action area. <p>North Olympia Peninsula Lead Entity Three-Year Work Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provides a guide for recovery actions in the Strait and North Olympic Peninsula. ▪ Identifies actions necessary to implement salmon recovery plan. <p>WRIA 18 Elwha-Dungeness Watershed Plan and WRIA 17 West Quilcene Snow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Address water quality, in-stream flow, storage, and habitat. <p>WRIA 19 Lyre Hoko Watershed Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Addresses water quality, regulatory in-stream flow levels, storage, and habitat.
<p>PLANNING DOCUMENTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relevant information and assessments produced for watershed planning were incorporated into the lead entity strategy for the area. ▪ Watershed planning relied on the limiting factors analyses for salmon habitat and subsequent recovery plans as the habitat element.
<p>DATA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data produced by either watershed planning or salmon recovery efforts are available to each entity. ▪ Extensive water quantity monitoring of ground and surface water is occurring related to watershed planning and implementation.
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Significant overlap of actions contained in the watershed plans and lead entity strategy. ▪ In developing the lead entity three-year work plan, the technical committee identified criteria to be employed when actual project proposals are considered. Included in these criteria are “advances recovery of ecosystem function” and “advances ecosystem awareness,” to incorporate benefits beyond site-specific habitat protection and restoration. ▪ The planning units implement water quality and quantity related projects and strategies for water management, and focus on integrating land and water decisions.
<p>SHARED MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Both planning units and the LEG prioritize protection and recovery of salmon habitat in setting work plans and securing funds. ▪ Some organizations, governments, and agencies, primarily local, participate in both the salmon recovery and

	<p>watershed planning processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WRIA 19, 18 East, and 18 West planning units serve as the Citizen Committee members for the lead entity process. Each comments and ranks projects for their respective geographical boundaries. The lead entity’s policy body finalizes the overall list based in part on input from the WRIA planning units.
STAFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participating local organizations in both salmon recovery and watershed efforts overlap and thus have staff from one organization participating in both efforts. Frequent communication among local staff supporting both the salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts.
OTHER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strait of Juan de Fuca Ecosystem Recovery Network and Clallam and Jefferson Work Groups are a new informal set of integrated ecosystem recovery organizations. All three share a common goal, set of objectives, and many members; however their focus will be on implementing different sets of strategies and actions within the Puget Sound Action Agenda. The stated goal is to “Recover and sustain the ecological health of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and North Olympia Peninsula using an Ecosystem-based Management approach, while connecting with and enhancing our socio-economic wellbeing.” These efforts include watershed planning unit and lead entity members.
COORDINATION DRIVERS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The size of the community greatly enhances coordination. Dungeness has been recognized as a high priority watershed for fish and flow restoration by local, state, federal, and tribal governments. Puget Sound Action Agenda based on a holistic, ecosystem approach and coordination of existing efforts.

Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

BACKGROUND

KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Snake River Salmon Recovery Board (regional salmon recovery organization and lead entity)

Regional Recovery Organization

- Refines, revises, and manages Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan.
- Coordinates implementation of projects and reporting to various entities.
- Coordinates monitoring of recovery efforts and adaptive management to respond to impact of efforts.
- Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work.
- Develops financing plan for operations support and recovery plan implementation.
- Supports collaborative decision-making among recovery planning partners.

Lead Entity

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.
- Engages with citizen-technical committee to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for SRFB consideration.
- Creates and maintains a three-year work plan for priority projects.

Middle Snake Watershed Planning Unit (WRIA 35 – Asotin County serves as lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities (e.g., ground-surface water connectivity).
- Coordinates project implementation with Department of Ecology funding.
- Coordinates stream flow management points and seek funding for continuous stream flow gauges.
- Participates in relevant planning and implementation meetings.
- Supports project implementation with salmon recovery funding.

Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership (WRIA 32 Planning Unit)¹³

- Implements RCW 90.92 to pilot local water management and demonstrate “flow from flexibility.”
- Coordinates WRIA 32 entities for watershed restoration and salmon recovery.
- Serves as Washington State center for addressing bi-state watershed issues with Oregon.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Engages in assessment activities (project performance, monitoring, reporting).
- Supports project implementation.

Conservation Districts for Walla Walla, Garfield, Asotin, and Columbia Counties (Lead entity co-leads contract with Snake River Salmon Recovery Board.)

- Assist in maintaining a lead entity committee.
- Work with project sponsors to develop applications.
- Assist in the development of the region’s three-year habitat work plan.
- Participate in relevant planning and implementation meetings.
- Project sponsors and implementers.

Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan

- Addresses habitat, hatcheries, hydropower, and harvest issues related to salmon recovery.
- Identifies actions to restore salmon populations.

Lead Entity Three-Year Habitat Work Plan

- Provides a guide for recovery actions in the Snake River region.
- Identifies and prioritizes priority projects and actions.

¹³ The Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership (the partnership) was created in August 2009 in accordance with Chapter 183, Laws of 2009, a new law established by Second Substitute House Bill 1580, which allows for the establishment of a water management board in the Walla Walla planning area.

Northwest Power and Conservation Council Sub-basin Plans (for the Walla Walla, Tucannon, Asotin, Grande Ronde, and Lower Snake river basins)

- Examine aquatic and terrestrial species and their habitat.
- Guide the prioritization of Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funded projects for mitigation of the Columbia and Snake River hydropower system.

WRIA 35 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quality, habitat, and in-stream flows.

WRIA 32 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quality, habitat, in-stream flows, and storage.

COORDINATION
MECHANISMS

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- Same data and assessments used to develop the Asotin, Grande Ronde, Tucannon, Lower Snake River, and Walla Walla Sub-basin Plans, WRIA 32 and WRIA 35 Watershed Plans, and the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan.
- Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan proposed actions for 2006-2011 compiled using WRIA 32 and 35 Detailed Implementation Plans.
- Snake River Salmon Recovery Board staff participated in the development of WRIA 32 and 35 Detailed Implementation Plans. The Detailed Implementation Plans are combined frameworks for implementing projects, programs, monitoring, and assessment for water quantity, in-stream flow, water quality, and aquatic habitat enhancement and protection across the region and within the watersheds.

DATA

- Updates to the salmon recovery plan are to be incorporated into the watershed planning efforts and vice versa.
- Information and data are exchanged and shared among watershed planning and recovery efforts. Reporting on progress and accomplishments contributing to watershed health and recovery is also a shared function.

ACTIONS

- Shared three-year work plan for salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts. The work plan identifies priority salmon habitat protection and restoration projects.

SHARED MEMBERSHIP
AND FUNCTIONS

- Common members and entities participate on the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board and the Walla Walla Watershed Management Initiative. The Snake River Salmon Recovery Board was a partner in the watershed management initiative, which resulted in the partnership.
- Common members and entities participate on the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board and the WRIA 35 Watershed Planning Unit, including citizen participant overlap.

STAFF

OTHER

COORDINATION
DRIVERS

- WRIAs 32 and 35 have shared regional technical members to ensure consistent technical information in the plans and implementation of projects.
- Regular communication among staff.
- Salmon recovery and watershed planning staff attend one another's planning group meetings.
- Watershed project review and ranking includes consideration of existing approved long range implementations plans, including the WRIA 32&35 Detailed Implementation Plans, WRIA 32&35 Watershed Plans, Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan, and sub-basin plans.

- Shared objective of delisting of threatened salmonid species under the Endangered Species Act.
- Trust among the watershed planning and salmon recovery partners and the community.
 - Partners have participated, and are significantly invested, in the processes.
 - Plans written and approved with significant community participation.
 - Salmon recovery projects evaluated with technical group members and citizen group members at the same table.
- Institutional memory, familiarity with processes and participants, and continuity among participants.

UPPER COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON RECOVERY REGION

BACKGROUND

KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board (regional salmon recovery organization)

Regional Recovery Organization

- Refines, revises, and manages Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan.
- Coordinates implementation of projects and reporting to various entities.
- Coordinates monitoring of recovery efforts and adaptive management to respond to impact of efforts.
- Implements outreach and education efforts related to recovery work.
- Develops financing plan for operations support and recovery plan implementation.
- Supports collaborative decision-making among recovery planning partners.

Chelan County Natural Resources Lead Entity (lead entity for 77.85 and lead agency for 90.82),

Okanogan County (lead entity), and Foster Creek Conservation District (lead entity)

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for salmon recovery funding resources.
- Engages with citizen-technical committee to review and evaluate projects for salmon recovery funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for salmon recovery consideration.
- Creates and maintains a three-year work plan for priority projects.

Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit – WRIA 45 (Chelan County Natural Resources serves as lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.
- Participates in Upper Columbia Recovery Organization Watershed Action Team.

Entiat Watershed Planning Unit - WRIA 46 (Cascadia Conservation District serves as lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.

- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.
- Participates in Upper Columbia Recovery Organization Watershed Action Team.

Okanogan Watershed Planning Unit – WRIA 49 (Okanogan Conservation District serves as lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.

Douglas County Watershed Planning Association – WRIAs 44 and 50 (Foster Creek Conservation District serves as lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.
- Participates in Upper Columbia Recovery Organization Watershed Action Team.

Methow Watershed Council – WRIA 48 (Town of Twisp serves as lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Develop draft Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.

Upper Columbia River Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan

- Addresses habitat, hatcheries, hydropower, and harvest issues related to salmon recovery.
- Identifies actions to restore salmon populations.

Recovery Plan Implementation Schedule

- Provides a guide for recovery actions in the Upper Columbia region.

- Identifies, by basin, limiting factors and actions necessary to address limiting factors.

Northwest Power and Conservation Council Sub-basin Plans

- Examine aquatic and terrestrial species and their habitats.
- Guide the prioritization of Bonneville Power Administration funded projects for mitigation of the Columbia and Snake River hydropower system.

WRIA 44/50, 45, and 46 Watershed Planning Documents and Detailed Implementation Plans

- Address water quality, habitat, and in-stream flows.

WRIA 48 Watershed Plan and Draft Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quality and habitat.

WRIA 49 Watershed Plan

- Addresses water quality, habitat, and in-stream flow.

COORDINATION
MECHANISMS

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- Information from the watershed plans was used to inform several sections of the recovery plan including: Identify Populations and Assessment Units; Historical and Current Status of Populations; Factors for Decline; and Actions for Recovery.
- Objectives for habitat restoration are consistent with watershed plans.
- Actions outlined in WRIA 46 Detailed Implementation Plan are, in part, based on the Entiat sub-basin plan and draft Upper Columbia salmon recovery plan.
- WRIA 45 watershed plan integrates recovery plan into the aquatic habitat element of the watershed plan.
- Updates to the salmon recovery plan are to be incorporated into the watershed planning efforts and vice versa.

DATA

- The regional recovery organization collects, standardizes, and inputs data from the lead entities and watershed planning units. The data base is accessible to anyone in the region.

ACTIONS

- Actions among various plans (watershed plans, sub-basin plans, and regional recovery plan) are complementary, similar, or identical to one another.

SHARED MEMBERSHIP
AND FUNCTIONS

- Watershed Action Teams represent local groups that were working on implementing habitat restoration and protection projects before the recovery plan was adopted.

STAFF

- Role is to assist in updating the recovery plan’s implementation schedule of actions to ensure a coordinated and sequenced implementation of recovery actions.
- Three of five Watershed Action Teams are watershed planning groups.
- Wenatchee Sub-basin: Habitat Subcommittee of the Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit
- Entiat Sub-basin: Habitat Subcommittee of the Entiat Watershed Planning Unit
- Douglas County Watersheds: Foster Creek-Moses Coulee Watershed Planning Unit
- Common members and entities participate on the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the watershed planning units, specifically Chelan, Okanogan, and Douglas Counties.
- Overlap between watershed planning unit members and lead entity participants in specific basins.
- Regular communication among various recovery planning and watershed planning staff.
- Staff in Entiat watershed planning process actively engaged in Wenatchee watershed planning efforts.
- Chelan County staff actively engaged in Entiat watershed planning process.
- Chelan County and Foster Creek Conservation District staff support both salmon recovery and watershed planning efforts in their respective WRIAs.

COORDINATION
DRIVERS

- Shared objectives of healthy and adequate water for fish and people.
- Partners have participated, and are significantly invested, in the processes.

WASHINGTON COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY REGION

BACKGROUND

KEY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership (regional salmon recovery organization)

Regional Recovery Organization

- Supports collaborative decision-making.
- Develops a regional plan for salmon recovery.
- Develops administrative capacity.
- Coordinates regional salmon recovery functions.
- Communicates with public, tribes, and agencies (outreach and participation).

Grays Harbor County Lead Entity (Lead entity for 77.85 and lead agency for WRIA 22/23 90.82)

North Pacific Coast Lead Entity (Lead entity for 77.85 and lead agency for WRIA 20 90.82)

Quinault Indian Nation (Lead entity – No 90.82 planning/implementation in this watershed)

Pacific County (lead entity – No 90.82 planning/implementation in this watershed)

- Works with projects sponsors to develop applications for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) resources.
- Engages with citizen and technical committees to review and evaluate projects for SRFB funding.
- Creates a ranked list of projects for SRFB consideration.
- Creates and maintains a three-year work plan for priority projects.

WRIA 20 Watershed Planning Unit (Clallam County serves as lead agency)

- Developed watershed plan.
- Engages in outreach and education work.
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.

Chehalis Basin Partnership – Lower Chehalis/Upper Chehalis Watershed Planning WRIA 22/23 (Grays Harbor County serves as lead agency.)

- Developed watershed plan.

KEY WATERSHED AND
SALMON RECOVERY
PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- Developed Detailed Implementation Plan.
- Engages in outreach and education works
- Coordinates assessment activities.
- Coordinates project implementation.

Chehalis Basin Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Preservation Work Plan

- Assists in developing habitat project lists and identifies individual actions to increase habitat.

WRIA 20 Watershed Planning Document

- Addresses water quality, habitat, and in-stream flows.

WRIA 22/23 Watershed Planning Document and Detailed Implementation Plan

- Address water quality, habitat, and in-stream flows.

COORDINATION
MECHANISMS

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- WRIA 22/23 Watershed Management Plan incorporates the same limiting factors analysis and the habitat restoration work plan completed under 77.85 efforts.
- Chehalis Basin Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Preservation Work Plan integrated into basin-wide, watershed management plan.
- Relevant assessments and priority actions identified by the North Olympia Peninsula Lead Entity are included in the WRIA 20 Watershed Plan.
- WRIA 20 Watershed Plan specifically calls for any habitat recommendations to be integrated with fish habitat protection and enhancement strategies developed through other processes.
- Information and data are exchanged and shared among watershed planning and recovery efforts.

DATA

ACTIONS

- Actions identified in the Chehalis Basin Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Preservation Work Plan are integrated into the watershed management plan.

SHARED MEMBERSHIP
AND FUNCTIONS

- Common members and entities participate on the WRIA 20 Watershed Committee and the Lead Entity Group. Only two to three citizen members vary.
- The Chehalis Basin Partnership is the citizens committee for the lead entity process and is the watershed planning unit.

STAFF

COORDINATION
DRIVERS

- Lead entity and lead agency are same organization and staff person in WRIAs 20 and 22/23 planning efforts.

- Shared objective of salmon recovery.
- Partners are significantly invested in the processes.
- In WRIA 20, the size of the community greatly enhances coordination