

# Puget Sound Partnership Update

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# Outline of Presentation

- Purpose, organization of PSP
- Action agenda (current status)
- Key observations

# Purpose

- New State Agency with the goal of restoring Puget Sound, creating a “roadmap” for how get it done
- ~30 staff, David Dicks Executive Director
- Difference between prior Puget Sound Action Team – “accountability”

# Organization

- Leadership Council
  - Decision-making body, advises Governor
- Ecosystem Coordination Board
  - 27 members, represent diverse interests
  - Advise on education, implementation
- Science Panel
  - Science policy, monitoring, environmental indicators
- Action Agenda

# Action Agenda

- Effort to build on prior work to prioritize projects, coordinate resources, ensure entities work cooperatively
- Base decisions on science; focus actions where they have the biggest impact; hold entities accountable
- Work focuses on these questions:
  - “What is a healthy Puget Sound?”
  - What is the current status of the Sound, and biggest threats
  - What actions must be taken to a healthy Puget Sound?
  - Where should we start?”
- Deadline -- December 1

# Current Activities – Action Agenda

## Topic Forums

- Correspond to “ecosystem goals”
  - **Water Quality**, Human Health, Species/food web; Habitat; Water Quantity
  - Process to synthesize understanding, identify strategies for a healthy Puget Sound
  - Discussion papers prepared by invited experts, consultants

# Topic Forums

- Attempt to answer these questions:
  - What is documented knowledge?
  - What do we know about effectiveness of management approaches?
  - What policy approaches are currently used?
  - From the above:
    - What principles should guide actions?
    - What work needs to be done to address threats?
    - How do we know progress is being made?
- Now out for review – can comment by May 6
  - At topic workshops, or can comment online at [www.psp.wa.gov](http://www.psp.wa.gov)

# Next Steps for Action Agenda

- Synthesis of topic forum papers
- Will (soon) be advisory groups on:
  - Funding strategy (including new sources)
  - Accountability
  - Education
  - Ecological Monitoring
  - Science Plan

*Will be separate groups, review processes for these*

# Action Agenda Timeframe

- Full Schedule Not Yet Established
  - Topic forums now; synthesis mtng May 28
  - Public workshops/revisions
  - Integration of work of advisory groups
- Deadline to Governor by December 1
  - Recommendations likely needed before then, to finalize draft and for it to impact legislative session

# Key Observations

- Process is very rushed
- Need to prioritize actions, ensure cost-effective allocation of resources, adequately consider implementation feasibility
- Implications for wastewater (water quality topic forum)

# To Stay Tuned

- Website [www.psp.wa.gov](http://www.psp.wa.gov)
- John Taylor, South Central Puget Sound Action Area Liason
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- Topic Forum paper comments due May 6, synthesis session May 28
  - Water Quality topic workshop April 25
- Public workshops to follow