

PUGET SOUND ACTION AGENDA: IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES, SCIENCE, MONITORING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS AND ACTIVITIES

VISION:

To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the existing Puget Sound recovery adaptive management cycle of planning, implementing, measurement and learning. The Puget Sound Partnership (Partnership) and Puget Sound Institute (PSI) team will collaborate with other partners to characterize the state of knowledge about Vital Signs; identify and address research, monitoring, and modeling needs, including contributions from social sciences; design the science-based adaptation of ISs in the context of the regional Action Agenda process; and synthesize science findings to improve the development of Implementation Strategies and to communicate key messages.

INTENT:

As the core support for leadership and stewardship of Puget Sound science, this work plan supports three concurrent tasks: (1) Science-support for partially completed and anticipated ISs, (2) Science support for balanced and comprehensive ecosystem approaches, and (3) Open, transparent, and productive evaluation, integration, and communication of science, including rigorous science review, questioning and evaluating.

OUTCOME:

Implementation Strategies will be identified, guided, and adaptively managed by aligning and integrating monitoring and scientific research needs with and into the existing recovery system. The result will be accelerated advancement toward achieving the Puget Sound Vital Sign targets and, ultimately, smarter and stronger protection of Puget Sound

THE TEAM:

Project Sponsor: Sheida Sahandy, Executive Director, Puget Sound Partnership

Science Leads: Scott Redman (Partnership) and Joel Baker (PSI)

Project Manager: Karin Berkholtz (Partnership)

THE TASKS:

Task 1: To provide science support to Strategic Initiative Leads (SI Leads) using approaches developed through prior awards to the Partnership and PSI (the Team).

The Team collaborates with SI Leads, Science Panel members, PSEMP, and other members of the science community to provide a credible scientific bases for ISs and to ensure that scientific results and knowledge are included in the ISs. Strategic communications will build awareness and understanding of ISs.

Staffing Heather Saunders Benson (Partnership) and Kari Stiles (Partnership), Leska Fore (Partnership), Scott Redman (Partnership), Leah Kintner (Partnership), Cathy Cochrane (Partnership), Joel Baker (PSI), Tess Francis (PSI), Aimee Kinney (PSI), Andy James (PSI), Nick Georgiadis (PSI), Jeff Rice (PSI), and Kris Symer (PSI).

Task 2: To ensure a balanced and comprehensive program through an ecosystem perspective that integrates across Vital Signs and ISs under development, and prepares the scientific basis for future ISs.

This tasks integrates information resulting from focused work around specific Vital Signs to develop a science-based approach to combine Vital Signs and sequence ISs, and support the tools, data and human resources required to maintain a vigorous science-based program

Staffing: Joel Baker (SI), Scott Redman (Partnership), Tessa Francis (PSI), Nick Georgiadis (PSI), Kari Stiles (Partnership), Leah Kintner (Partnership), and Aimee Kinney (PSI).

Task 3: To support the foundational science basis for Puget Sound recovery and long-term protection programs. This work complements the focus on ISs by (a) identifying, prioritizing, and promoting critical information needs identified by ISs; and (b) ensuring critical evaluation and technical peer review of intermediate and final IS plans

This task facilitates the exchange of scientific information to advance ISs and broader ecosystem-level recovery and protection within a science program that is centered at the Partnership and PIS, but whose resources and activities are distributed among many institutions. The collaborative work of this task develops multiparty plans for science work actions; science-policy alignment through engagement of ecosystem-perspective science advice and review of ISs; and shared learning within the Salish Sea ecosystem and with systems elsewhere around the country and the globe.

Staffing: Joel Baker (PSI), Scott Redman (Partnership), Kari Stiles (Partnership)



For more information contact:

KARIN BERKHOLTZ

EPA COORDINATOR