



# PUGET SOUND PARTNERSHIP AND PUGET SOUND INSTITUTE RFP RESPONSE

## **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:**

- Use Implementation Strategies to their greatest advantage—in an aligned and integrated system of planning, policy, and science and within the adaptive management cycle of planning, implementation, measurement and learning.
- Ensure the effectiveness and use of science-driven solutions by leveraging long-standing relationships with Puget Sound recovery partners, including tribal governments, local organizations, state and federal agencies, and the Strategic Initiative Leads for the habitat, shellfish, and stormwater Strategic Initiatives.
- Enhance support for the creation and refinement of robust Implementation Strategies, which are critical tools for the effective implementation of the Action Agenda.
- Foster flexible and innovative approaches to achieve recovery and protection results that will consider our very dynamic conditions, including regional population growth.
- Engage topical experts from Oregon State University, the University of Washington, and the private sector to incorporate social science tools and learning into Implementation Strategy development.
- Focus our limited resources on addressing critical uncertainties and supporting actions with the greatest potential impact to advance Action Agenda recovery targets.
- Leverage opportunities to share learning with local, regional, and national partners to advance ecosystem recovery nationwide.

### **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 sponsors: Sheida Sahandy (Partnership) and Joel Baker (PSI)

Project manager: Karin Berkholtz (Partnership)

## THE TASKS:

### **Task 1: Base Program Analysis and State of Knowledge Report** | Andy James, Leska Fore, Aimee Kinney

To support development of IS recovery plans by developing three key products for each Implementation Strategy: a starter package, a Base Program Analysis report and a State of the Knowledge report for each Implementation Strategy, up to 12.

### **Task 2: Scientific Research and Monitoring to Inform Adaptive Management** | Nick Georgiadis and Scott Redman

To create and sustain strategic research and monitoring programs that support adaptive management of Puget Sound restoration and protection in collaboration with partnership and scientific communities.

### **Task 3: Science Panel Engagement and Liaison** | Joel Baker and Scott Redman

To ensure that Implementation Strategies have solid technical foundations resulting from rigorous and transparent peer review, thus building confidence in the scientific underpinnings of these strategies.

### **Task 4: Application of Social Sciences** | Leah Kintner, Kelly Biedenweg and Trina Wellman

To ensure that Implementation Strategy planning, as well as Local Implementing Organization planning, integrates the best available social science resources so that regional strategies resonate with stakeholders, thus increasing the likelihood that designated targets will be achieved.

### **Task 5: Sequencing and Grouping of Implementation Strategies** | Nick Georgiadis and Kari Stiles

To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of recovery efforts, maximize the effects of recovery actions, and reduce the risk of unintended consequences by grouping Vital Signs and indicators within Strategic Initiatives, sequencing indicators for development as Implementation Strategies, and identifying and recommending groups of Implementation Strategies or their components.

### **Task 6: Modeling** | Tessa Francis and Scott Redman

To enhance Puget Sound recovery planning and implementation by supporting the identification, development, and application of models and modeling tools within Implementation Strategies and at broader ecosystem scales.

### **Task 7: Adaptive Management, Innovation, and Identifying Obstacles** | Joel Baker and Kari Stiles

To develop innovative solutions designed to reduce the most pressing and difficult threats to Puget Sound health and to overcome barriers to implementing recovery actions.

### **Task 8: Strategic Communications** | Jeff Rice and Leska Fore

To communicate the scientific foundation of Implementation Strategies through a variety of channels, thus improving public understanding of and involvement in Puget Sound recovery.

### **Task 9: Ecosystem-level Synthesis** | Tessa Francis and Kari Stiles

To connect across Implementation Strategies and related activities so that Vital Sign and indicator-specific activities, planning, and findings resonate at a broader scale to affect ecosystem recovery and ensure the maximum effect of Implementation Strategies and regional plans and reports.

## THE OPPORTUNITY:

The Partnership and PSI team and SI Leads coordinate work plans to leverage and maximize efforts and resources.