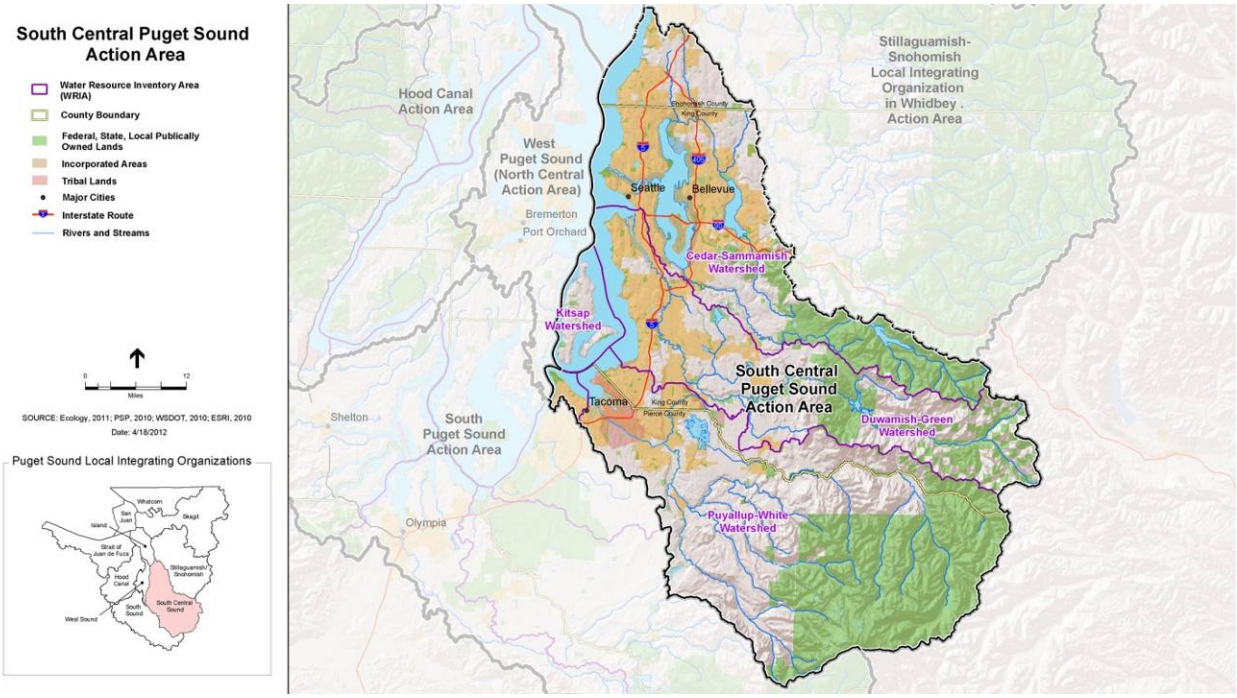
South Central Puget Sound Action Area

Description of the Action Area

The South Central Puget Sound Action Area is home to 2.5 million residents living in three of Washington's largest cities—Seattle, Bellevue, and Tacoma—and in suburban and rural communities across unincorporated King and Pierce Counties. The action area is the most urbanized portion of Puget Sound and includes a variety of industrial, commercial, and residential infrastructure; large areas of pavement; a heavily modified shoreline; and a large network of streets, roads, and highways. Although portions of this area have been intensively developed, approximately 77% of the area is not considered urban, with vast tracts of agricultural lands in rural King and Pierce Counties and wilderness in Mount Rainier National Park and the Mount Baker–Snoqualmie National Forest. Three major river systems originate in the Cascades near Snoqualmie Pass, Cascade Pass, and Mount Rainier, travel through forests and farms, and empty into Lake Washington and Puget Sound. Glacial melt from Mount Rainier feeds the Puyallup/White River system, while the Green/Duwamish and Cedar/Sammamish river systems are supplied by snow melt and rainfall. These river and watershed systems are home to five populations of Chinook salmon, listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, with federally approved watershed-scale recovery plans guiding recovery actions. Lowland areas average 40 inches of rainfall per year. In highly urbanized portions of the region, many streams or stream segments have been placed in drainage pipes and storm sewers that carry runoff from storms and flood events, creating significant stormwater management challenges. In some parts of these watersheds the risk of flooding is high, potentially causing the loss of life and severe impacts on infrastructure. Local jurisdictions are actively managing floodplains to provide multiple benefits and functions, including reducing flood risk, and restoring habitat.

[This figure is being updated.]



The two largest bays in this action area are Seattle's Elliott Bay and Tacoma's Commencement Bay. Vashon-Maury is the largest island south of the Admiralty Inlet. The major currents within the saltwater basin of central Puget Sound generally flow northward along the west side of Vashon Island, and southward through the East Passage. The marine waters of Puget Sound form warm layers at the surface during the summer months due to river input and solar heating. These layers are mixed during winter months by seasonal winds and cool weather. An underwater sill by the Tacoma Narrows also alters the pattern of marine water circulation.

South Central Puget Sound is the economic driver of the region, and largely of the State of Washington. The region generates over $200 billion in annual economic activity, comprising approximately 62% of the gross state product. Major commercial and industrial enterprises are concentrated here, including technology, aerospace, finance, insurance, health care, business and professional services, commercial fishing, recreation, and tourism. These industries are served by international port facilities in Seattle and Tacoma, along with SeaTac International Airport, Boeing Field, and passenger and freight railroad services. The region has 14,900 acres of designated manufacturing industrial centers in six locations: Ballard Interbay, Duwamish, North Tukwila, Auburn/Kent, Overlake, and the Port of Tacoma. Water supply for most of the population of the area is provided by the Cities of Seattle and Tacoma through their operations on the Cedar and Green Rivers, respectively.

Following the adoption of the Growth Management Act in the 1990s, land use strategies have been somewhat effective in containing sprawl, as more than 95% of the growth in King County since 1996 has been concentrated within the designated urban growth boundary. Significant tracts of commercial forest and agriculture remain in the eastern and southeastern portions of the area. There are many challenges in trying to retain habitat features and natural amenities while trying to accommodate several hundred thousand new residents to this area in the next 20 to 25 years.

In general, the residents of the action area are remarkably informed and engaged citizens. There is a high level of volunteerism and civic engagement with many agencies and local nongovernmental organizations benefiting from the resources and knowledge base of the public for assistance with on-the-ground projects and public process for furthering recovery.

The varied ports and waterways of this action area have made it an international shipping center for regional and national industries, natural resource extraction (logging, fisheries, mining), and agricultural products. The combined ports of Seattle and Tacoma are the second largest on the west coast. Urban estuaries support many small marine, ship building/repair, and industrial enterprises. Public transportation to Kitsap County and Vashon Island is provided by the Washington State Ferries system, and other vessel traffic consists of passenger ferries, fishing boats, research vessels, small recreational craft, and cruise ships. Recreation spots include Lakes Washington, Sammamish, and Tapps; Puget Sound beaches such as Alki Beach in West Seattle, Seahurst in Burien, and Pt. Defiance in Tacoma; and along the Mountain to Sound Greenway along Interstate 90, the middle Green River, and the White River above Enumclaw. The headwaters of the major rivers in this area are protected through their status as parklands managed by the National Park Service, wilderness areas managed by the U.S. Forest Service, and the headwater source areas of the water supplies of Seattle and Tacoma.

Unique Ecosystem Characteristics and Assets

The federal listing of Puget Sound Chinook represents the first time a salmon species had been listed in such an urban environment. Despite the extensive urbanization of the action area, Chinook salmon and other salmon species spawn in the major rivers and lakes. Unique salmon populations include the spring run of White River Chinook, Issaquah Creek and Cedar River summer and fall Chinook, Lake Sammamish Kokanee, and Lake Washington Sockeye. The Green River is one of the top 10 steelhead rivers in Washington and supports substantial natural and hatchery populations of salmon. Bull, rainbow, and coastal cutthroat trout, and coho, chum, and pink salmon are also present in some of the river systems. Strong community efforts and watershed partnerships, some through formal inter-local agreements, are focused on strategic, science-based salmon recovery efforts throughout the area, and habitat restoration programs depend on a combination of local, regional, state, and federal funding. While other fish, wildlife, and bird communities are abundant in undeveloped portions of the action area, those species that coexist well with humans are generally present in the urban sectors.

The action area has a long track record of collaboration at the watershed level to recover salmon, and a shared commitment to protect and recover Puget Sound. Many parties are making investments across Puget Sound, with much of the on-the-ground work being undertaken at the local level. Local governments, community organizations, businesses, and citizens are working to align limited resources with the Strategic Initiatives and 2020 recovery targets. The cost of actions in the Action Agenda far exceeds the available funding. Assessing the full cost of implementing top priorities, and identifying and developing appropriate funding mechanisms, is paramount to achieving restoration of the health of the Puget Sound. As a local integrating organization, the South Central Caucus Group has made this effort a priority.

Local Implementation Structure and Planning Process

The South Central Action Area Caucus Group (South Central Caucus Group) is the local integrating organization (LIO) for the South Central Puget Sound Action Area. It was officially recognized by the Puget Sound Partnership's Leadership Council in June 2010.

The South Central Caucus Group includes representatives from the following entities.

- King and Peirce Counties
- Cities of Seattle, Tacoma, and Bellevue
- Suburban Cities Association
- Pierce County Cities and Towns Association
- Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
- Puyallup Tribe of Indians
- Puget Sound Regional Council of Government
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Seattle–King County Public Health
- Tacoma–Pierce County Public Health Department
- Ports of Seattle and Tacoma
- Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8)
- Green/Duwamish Watershed (WRIA 9)
- Puyallup/White and Chambers/Clover Watershed (WRIA 10/12)
- Washington State University, King County Extension
- ECO Net
- Forterra
- Citizens for a Healthy Bay
- Tacoma Chamber of Commerce
- Boeing

The South Central Caucus Group consists of one committee, the working group committee, which working group committee was tasked with identifying the highest priority actions and setting clear priorities. The committee consists of participants and local government staff from across the action area including the following entities.

- City of Seattle
- King County
- Pierce County

- King Conservation District
- Pierce Conservation District
- Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8)
- Green/Duwamish Watershed (WRIA 9)
- Puyallup/White Watershed (WRIA 10)
- ECO Net

For the 2014/2015 Action Agenda update, the South Central Caucus Group focused on refining actions and priorities it had identified in 2010 through an extensive prioritization process that involved an assessment of vulnerability (pressures) in the action area. In preparation for the update, the existing actions were mapped to regional sub-strategies and grouped by the Strategic Initiatives. The Working Group held a series of work sessions to refine the criteria that would be used to identify and evaluate actions.

Throughout the near-term action development process, the working group committee remained committed to the South Central Caucus Group's mission to collaborate, to identify multi-beneficial efforts, and to look across the action area for actions. The considerations helped to inform development of the actions and performance measures.

The working group committee identified 13 near-term actions that were presented to the full membership of the South Central Caucus Group for discussion and approval. The South Central Caucus Group affirmed support for the process and the list of near-term actions. The actions were submitted to the Puget Sound Partnership for review and comment and inclusion into the Action Agenda.

Pressures

The South Central Caucus Group identified the following four pressures to have the highest significance on the local ecosystem.

- Land development
- Shoreline alteration
- Stormwater
- Loss of floodplain function

The South Central Caucus Group also identified the following additional pressures of specific importance to the South Central Puget Sound Action Area.

- Habitat conversion
- Climate change
- Dams, levees, and tidegates
- Legacy toxic contaminants
- Current use and release of excess toxics and nutrients

Local Near-Term Actions

The table below presents the local near-term actions for the South Central Puget Sound Action Area. Each local near-term action is listed with an identification code—which includes the area abbreviation and a number—followed by a description of the action. The performance measures represent important, measureable, dated components of implementing each action. The owner is the entity responsible for implementation of the near-term action and/or for tracking and reporting progress toward completing the action (or as specified in the table below). The final columns provide regional context for the local actions, identifying the pressure(s) that each action is intended to reduce and the primary sub-strategy to which it is most closely linked as well as other sub-strategies that the LIO associates with the action. Local near-term actions are also listed in Section 3 in the context of their primary sub-strategies.

Local Near-Term Actions in the South Central Puget Sound Action Area

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
SC1	**Support state and local partnerships to advance the Action Agenda**. Use South Central Caucus Group (LIO) as a forum to advance local actions by sharing information and supporting local governments in the following. • Sharing approaches to developing and implementing policies, regulations, and incentives. • Developing model ordinances. • Identifying and developing incentive programs. • Promoting funding and technical assistance for updating, adopting and implementing policies and regulations. • Promoting education and outreach through ECO Net.	• By March 2014, hold two meetings to review and share incentives and model regulations. After full South Central Caucus Group (LIO) review, bring findings to the ECB. • In 2015, recommend ways to incorporate findings into state and local policies and regulations.	LIO	• Residential and commercial development • Runoff from built environment	D2.1

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
SC2	**Identify and protect high-value salmon recovery habitat and lands at immediate risk of conversion**. Secure funding to acquire high-priority, high-threat land as identified in salmon recovery plans and seek funding to secure property.	• By December 2015, secure funding for acquiring land and protecting the following high-priority, high-threat areas in each WRIA. WRIA 8: $7,950,000: ○ Middle Cedar River: 70 acres of floodplain. ○ Issaquah Creek: 125 acres of floodplain and riparian area. ○ Bear Creek: 150 acres of riparian areas, wetlands, and forested uplands. WRIA 9: $18,600,000: ○ Lower Green River: 273 acres of floodplain and riparian area. ○ Middle Green River tributary streams: 230+ acres of floodplain and riparian area. ○ Marine Nearshore (Vashon-Maury Island): 5 acres of nearshore habitat and riparian area. ○ Duwamish River: 15 acres of floodplain, wetland and riparian area. WRIA 10: $6,600,000: ○ Puyallup River main stem: 130 acres of upland, floodplain, and riparian area. ○ Carbon River canyon area: 500 acres of forested upland and riparian area. ○ Carbon River main stem: 25+ acres of floodplain and riparian area. ○ South Prairie Creek: 60 acres of riparian area and floodplain. • Beginning in March 2014, and semi-annually thereafter, WRIAs will report to LIO on the list of high-priority, high-threat land acquisitions as identified in salmon recovery plans.	LIO (reporter)	• Residential and commercial development	A2.1 (A2.2)

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
SC3	**Implement high-priority projects listed in local salmon recovery plans**. Secure funding for high-priority projects listed in the salmon recovery 3-year work plans for WRIAs 8, 9, and 10.	• By December 2015, secure funding for implementation of high-priority restoration actions in each watershed. WRIA 8: $16,690,000 for habitat restoration and $50,000,000 for infrastructure improvements, including fish passage facilities at Hiram H. Chittenden (a.k.a. Ballard) Locks. ○ Lower Cedar River: 77 acres of riparian and floodplain restoration. ○ South Lake Washington: 750 linear feet of lakeshore restoration and 1,500 linear feet of tributary stream restoration. ○ Hiram H. Chittenden Locks: Corp's list of prioritized infrastructure improvements, including critical fish passage facilities as secured funding from headquarters. ○ Issaquah Creek: 1,800 linear feet of stream channel restoration and 155 acres riparian area restoration. ○ Bear Creek: 370 linear feet of stream channel restoration and 2.3 acres riparian restoration. ○ Sammamish River: 5,500 feet of stream channel restoration and 85 acres of floodplain and riparian restoration. ○ Marine Nearshore: 1,750 linear feet of coastal tributary stream channel restoration and 28 acres of salt marsh restoration. WRIA 9: $16,035,000. ○ Lower Green River: 31+ acres floodplain restoration. ○ Duwamish River: 1 acre of shallow water habitat and 2 acres of riparian restoration. ○ Marine Nearshore: remove 4,400 linear feet of	LIO (reporter)	• Residential and commercial development • Freshwater levees and floodgates	A6.1 (A2.2)

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
		shoreline armoring, revegetate 3.2 acres of shoreline with native plants, and restore 550 feet of linear stream channel. ○ Middle Green River: 14+ acres floodplain and riparian area. WRIA 10: $80,000,000. ○ Upper White River forest road decommissioning and flood plain restoration: about 100 miles of forest road. ○ South Prairie Creek floodplain reconnection and habitat restoration: 300 acres. ○ Replace dam and build new fish collection facilities at Buckley Fish Trap. ○ Alward Road Levee Setback: Acquisition Phase: 142 acres. ○ Puyallup Estuary Acquisition at Union Pacific: 30 acres. • By June 2014, WRIAs will report to LIO on status of implementation of high-priority habitat protection and restoration in salmon recovery plans.			
SC4	**Improve shorelines in the South Central Puget Sound Action Area by limiting new residential shoreline armoring and overwater coverage, and promoting "green" shoreline replacements**. • Encourage programs and projects that implement and promote incentives and best practices identified in local Shoreline Master Program studies. • Assist local governments by providing information on best practices and models. (e.g., hold informational sessions at standing planner forums including Puget Sound Regional Council, King County, and Seattle).	• Report quarterly to South Central Caucus Group (LIO) on education and other actions funded by Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration, Estuary Salmon Restoration Project, and other sources. • By third quarter 2015, owners will report to South Central Caucus Group on progress made on working with private property owners and reaching priority audiences to promote green shorelines practices. • By second quarter 2015, King Conservation District assists 20 landowners in implementing shoreline protection, restoration, and	LIO	• Marine shoreline infrastructure and freshwater Shoreline infrastructure • Residential and commercial development	B1.2 (B1.3)

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
	• Work to promote existing and new incentive programs. • Use South Central Caucus Group (LIO) as a forum for sharing best practices and model shoreline master program. • Compile incentive information and provide to local governments. • Coordinate outreach and incentive programs with existing industry best practices such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Development, Green Shores for Homes project, and Built Green Certification program. • Seek funding to engage streamside/riparian, lakeshore, and nearshore area property owners and to increase assistance to shoreline landowners who are willing to implement aquatic area protection and enhancement practices. • Support WRIA 8 Green Shorelines Steering Committee's outreach and education to key marine and freshwater shoreline audiences (e.g., property owners, real estate agents, construction and landscaping communities, and local government planning departments) to share green shorelines materials and messages and to encourage improved shoreline restoration stewardship. • Support ECO Net endorsed education and outreach efforts for this action.	enhancement practices. • In 2015, explore options for using existing funding mechanisms to assist landowners who are willing to implement aquatic area enhancement protection and enhancement practices.			
SC5	**Improve floodplains management by creating partnerships of interested parties (especially local governments and business community)**. • Work with federal and state agencies to address and resolve conflicts between regulations that are a barrier to completing multi-benefit projects.	• By December 2015, the Green River System-Wide Improvement Framework will make substantial progress in developing priorities for levee improvements. • In 2014, the King County Flood District will submit a report to the LIO that identifies what constitutes	LIO (reporter) *PSP, Ecology, WDFW,*	• Marine levees and tidegates • Freshwater levees and tidegates • Residential	A5.2 (A5.3, A5.4)

Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
• Over the next 2 years, support King County's effort to lead the advisory council or stakeholder group of the Green River System-Wide Improvement Framework in developing integrated priorities for levee improvements that meet safety, economic development, and habitat objectives and that bridge conflicts in federal regulations. • Over the next 2 years, support the Russell Foundation's work with WRIA 10 to complete a Watershed Open Space Strategy. The process will focus on development of a regional strategy by aligning with current ecological management efforts in the watershed to promote inter-organizational collaboration and action. • Share information among local governments on successful approaches to meeting requirements of the FEMA Biological Opinion. • Participate in forums to address conflicts between agriculture, flood hazard reduction projects, and habitat restoration projects in the floodplain. • Advocate for state to improve alignment and coordination between minimum requirements for local flood hazard reduction plans, comprehensive plans under the Growth Management Act, and minimum requirements for regulation of Frequently Flooded Areas. • Implement major floodplain protection and restoration projects in King and Pierce Counties funded under state 2013 Capital Improvement Plan appropriation for Coordinated Investment Strategy, including Carlin Project and Lower Cedar River Integrated Floodplain Restoration Project in King County and the Green and White rivers in Pierce County.	substantial progress toward completion of major floodplain restoration projects. • By December 2015, brief the PSP Leadership Council and ECB and the state legislature on quantifiable benefits of floodplain management. • By June 2015, compile the percentage of local jurisdictions with significant floodplain area that comply with the FEMA Biological Opinion. • By September 2014, King County will develop concept, strategy, and candidate projects for 2014 legislative session and report to LIO. • By December 2015, King and Pierce County will report on progress in implementing major floodplain protection and restoration projects in King and Pierce Counties.	*MIT, Corps, NOAA, and FEMA.*	and commercial development • Freshwater levees and floodgates	

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
	• Continue to identify, implement, and publicize floodplain restoration projects, including the Needham Road Setback Levee Project and Calistoga Reach Setback Levee and Side Channel Construction Project that provide multiple benefits, including public safety, salmon habitat enhancement, open space, and recreation. • Demonstrate quantifiable benefits of major floodplain restoration projects to salmon recovery, flood resilience, water quality, and agriculture and help make the case for ongoing investments of state funding in multi-objective flood hazard reduction projects. Work with King County, Corps, and other partners to identify alternatives to the existing policies on levee vegetation.				
SC6	**Identify, guide, and fund stormwater retrofits**. • Complete WRIA 9 retrofit study and promote it as a model. • Advocate locally and sound-wide through the LIO for increased funding for priority stormwater retrofit projects. • Participate in the Commerce's technical assistance and study of examples of urban-specific implementation or stormwater retrofit projects. Support ECO Net endorsed education and outreach efforts for this near-term action.	• By September 2014, comment on Ecology's retrofit prioritization and allocation criteria. • By January 2015, identify and analyze funding mechanisms that incorporate existing and new funding. • By June 2015, complete WRIA 9 retrofit study. • By December 2015, identify next steps to support carrying out stormwater retrofit planning and projects throughout the South Central Puget Sound Action Area. • By June 2014, report on monitoring and modeling tools for future stormwater retrofit evaluations. • By December 2015, implement 15 stormwater retrofit projects. • By December 2015, complete Swan Creek Watershed Characterization and Action Plan, and implement at least one retrofit project.	LIO	• Runoff from built environment • Residential and commercial development	C2.3 (C2.1)

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
SC7	**Promote operation and maintenance and improvements to existing stormwater systems**. Promote, support and guide technical assistance for local government adoption of improved operation and maintenance techniques for existing stormwater infrastructure, such as: • System flushing • Vactoring • High-efficiency street cleaning	• By December 2015, create a list of the number of local jurisdictions implementing, and types of local operation and maintenance techniques.	LIO	• Runoff from built environment • Residential and commercial development	C2.3
SC8	**Increase education of and stewardship by homeowners and businesses to reduce stormwater pollution**. • Increase education of and stewardship by homeowners, businesses, and institutions to reduce pollutant loadings to stormwater (e.g., fertilizers, pesticides, oils, cleaners). • Support ECO Net endorsed education and outreach efforts for this action.	• By December 2015, identify number of persons and businesses reached.	ECO Net *Ecology*	• Runoff from built environment	C2.5
SC9	**Share information on low impact development /green stormwater infrastructure and facilitate the transition from conventional stormwater management**. • Use LIO as a forum for sharing approaches to implementing Low Impact Development policies. • Encourage local government participation in Washington State University Low Impact Development technical workshops. • Support ECO Net endorsed education and outreach efforts for this near-term action. • Support development of regulations that implement Action Agenda priorities.	• By December 2015, hold two forums that highlight successful integration of low impact development/green stormwater infrastructure into local regulations.	LIO	• Runoff from built environment	C2.2

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
SC10	**Support restoration of the voter approved local Model Toxics Control Account**. • Advocate for fund protection. Support the use of the Model Toxics Control Account for grants and programs that expedite multiparty cleanup efforts. • Support and promote programs that leverage other grants to expedite cleanups. • Educate and promote the protection of the Local Toxics Control Account and identify. Opportunities for acquisition and redevelopment of vacant, orphaned, or abandoned property.	• By December 2015, increase awareness of state and local government about the value of protecting the Local Toxics Control Account in 2016. • By December 2015, hold a forum on opportunities for acquisition and redevelopment of vacant, orphaned, or abandoned property.	LIO *Ecology*	• Toxics and legacy contaminants	E1.3
SC11	**Keep toxics and excess nutrients out of the waste stream**. • Identify and implement strategies to keep toxics and excess nutrients out of the waste stream through product stewardship and source control. • Support state and local programs for safe reduction, recycling, or disposal of hazardous wastes from households, small businesses, and agriculture. • Support programs and projects that implement, teach, or otherwise encourage BMPs that remove toxic pollutants from the environment (source control; alternative products; hazardous waste technical assistance). • Inventory toxics reduction efforts and programs and additional chemicals of concern that need to be reduced. • Through the NW Product Stewardship Council, coordinate efforts for product-focused strategies to reduce the use of toxic chemicals. • Coordinate with and support new product stewardship initiatives. • Support and promote the implementation of the	• By September 2014, ECO Net will report on education and outreach efforts for this near-term action. • By September 2014, Ecology and/or NW Product Stewardship Council will report to South Central Caucus Group (LIO) on status of their efforts. • By December 2015, obtain new funding for key toxic reduction activities. • By March 2015, develop inventory of toxics reduction efforts and programs and additional chemicals of concern that need to be reduced. • By December 2015, increase funding for the Washington Toxics Reduction Strategy Workgroup Recommendations of January 16, 2013.	LIO *Ecology*	• Toxics and legacy contaminants	C1.2 (C1.1)

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
	Washington Toxics Reduction Strategy Workgroup Recommendations of January 16, 2013. • Support efforts to increase funding. • Implement and strengthen authorities and programs to prevent toxic chemicals from entering the Puget Sound environment.				
SC12	**Secure additional funding necessary to implement priority fish and wildlife habitat and high-value aquatic habitat area enhancement projects**. Provide input to the PSP's work to develop a gap analysis and funding strategy for implementation of the Action Agenda, including the following. • Articulate need for better funding coordination of habitat, water quality, and flood investments at a watershed level. • Describe specific financial needs and challenges of urbanized watersheds in protecting and restoring habitat and in prioritizing and carrying out stormwater retrofits. • Involve research and analysis conducted by WRIAs 8 and 9 on watershed funding options and models. • Provide examples of successful watershed-based decision-making models and successful multi-benefit projects that help "tell the story." • Provide the WRIA 9 issue paper on watershed investment concepts for consideration. • Provide input on state legislative proposals for potential new watershed-based governance structures and funding authorities. • Develop specific project proposals in support of federal and state appropriation requests to support salmon habitat restoration, habitat acquisition, major floodplain restoration, and stormwater	• By December 2014, identify large-scale habitat restoration projects for the next round of Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration. • By third quarter 2014 and 2015, promote the current round of "coordinated investment" floodplain restoration projects and development of the next set of candidate projects for 2014/2015 legislative session. • By third quarter 2014 and 2015, provide information to the Washington State Legislature on the high priority stormwater retrofit projects for 2014/ 2015 legislative session.	LIO	• Runoff from built environment • Residential and commercial development	E1.4 (E1.3)

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
	retrofits for. • Develop a list of high-priority stormwater retrofit projects to support local investments and state funding request, using upcoming guidance from Ecology and findings from the WRIA 9 study on stormwater retrofit priorities. • Support WRIAs 8, 9, and 10 in maintaining and refining the 3-year list of habitat protection and restoration implementation priorities. • Support the King Conservation District in securing additional funding to address regional and local aquatic area enhancement and water quality protection priorities, with special emphasis on private property, subject to the outcome of joint task force recommendations. • Support the work of WRIA 9 in preparing issue papers on key watershed-based investment concepts, including governance, geography, multiple benefit projects, and funding, and in preparing legislation for the session.				
SC13	**Complete Regional Alliances Project and share results to increase infill development in urban centers while meeting stormwater requirements and Growth Management Act mandates**. Through the Regional Alliance Project, • Develop recommendations for incentives and cost-effective tools to meet stormwater management and Growth Management Act requirements for development in urban areas in order to encourage infill development in urban centers instead of greenfield locations and to improve water quality. • Develop recommendations related to comprehensive plan policy and development	• By February 2015, develop a formal report on agreed next steps to Puget Sound Regional Council Growth Management Policy Board. • By March 2015, present a final report to the PSP ECB.	LIO (reporter)	• Residential and commercial development • Runoff from built environment • Agriculture	A4.2 (A2.3, A4.1)

	Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]
	regulations to inform 2015 updates. • Other actions may be identified. Key partner in these efforts: Commerce				
SC14	**Retain forest canopy cover and soils to attenuate stormwater runoff**. • Promote programs that support retention and increase in forest canopy cover on private and public lands, especially those in priority and sensitive areas. • Identify and implement watershed revegetation in the Swan Creek Watershed through the Pierce County Raise the Grade initiative.	• By December 2015, WSU will hold workshops on coached forest management planning. • By January 2015, King Conservation District will implement at least two Forest Health Management Plans with technical and cost-share assistance. • By December 2015, King Conservation District will seek to secure funding for urban canopy assessment and management plan development for at least one local jurisdiction. • By December 2015, WRIA 8 will: ○ Implement Trees for Streams Program to protect and restore riparian area canopy cover and streamside vegetation in high-priority sub-basins (Cedar River, Bear Creek, and Issaquah Creek). ○ Conduct three workshops for property owners to promote riparian area stewardship. ○ Provide technical assistance to at least 30 property owners to develop planting plans and support plantings. ○ By December 2015, Pierce County Conservation District will implement at least two community planting events in the Swan Creek Watershed. ○ By third quarter 2014 and 2015, owners will conduct two workshops for property owners with livestock to protect and enhance riparian functions.	LIO (reporter)	• Residential and commercial development • Runoff from built environment • Timber harvesting	A2.1, (C4.1, C1.1, C2.1, C2.2, E 1.6)

Near-Term Action	Performance Measures	Owner(s)[1]	Pressure(s)	Regional Sub-Strategy[2]

[1] Where secondary owners were identified, they are shown in italics after the primary owner.

[2] Where secondary regional sub-strategies were identified, they are shown in parentheses after the primary sub-strategy.

Corps = U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; ECB = Ecosystem Coordination Board; ECO Net = Education, Communication and Outreach Network; Ecology = Washington State Department of Ecology; FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency; LIO = local integrating organization; NOAA = National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; PSP = Puget Sound Partnership; WDFW = Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; WRIA = Water Resources Inventory Area.