



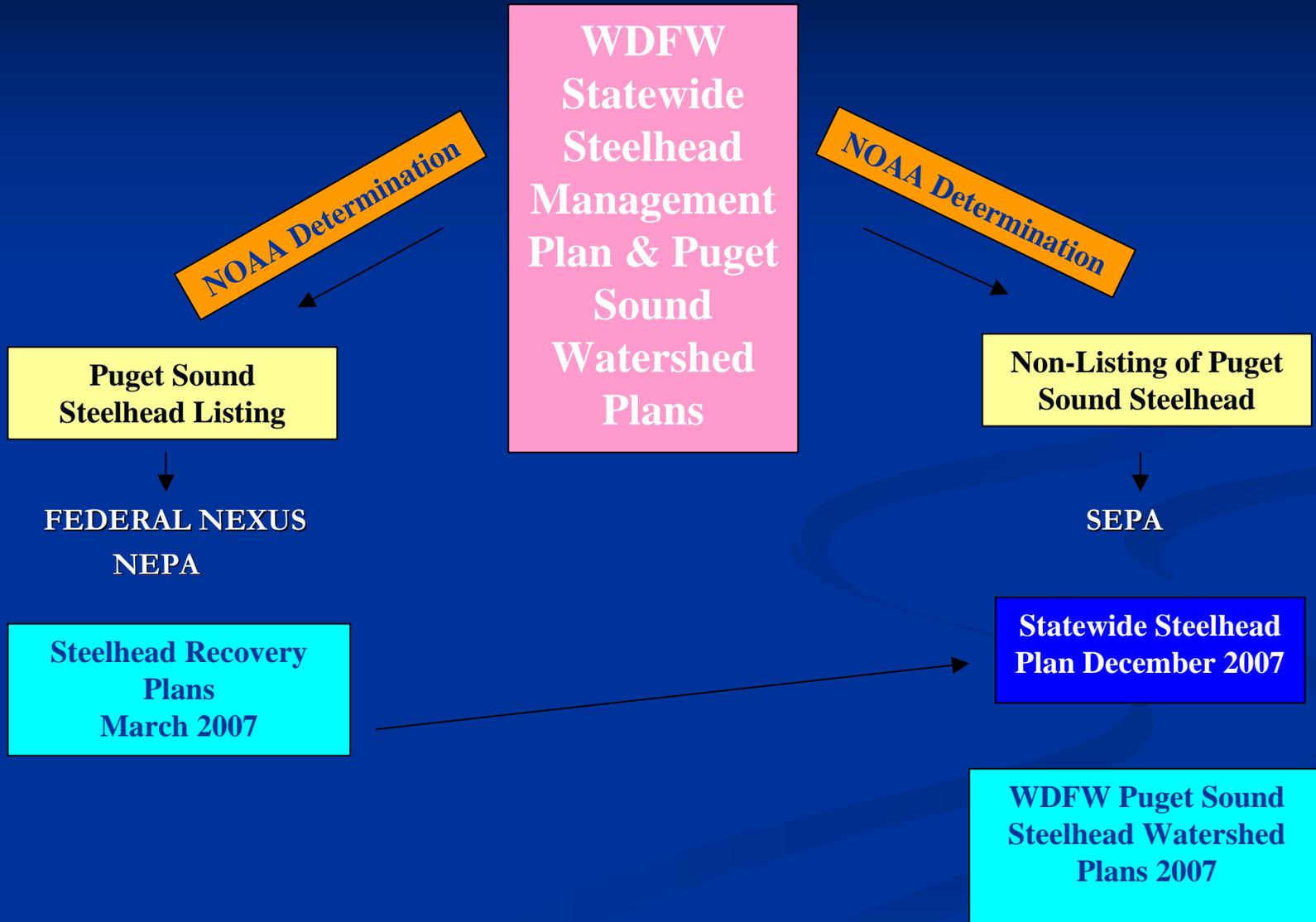
Puget Sound Steelhead Listing: What does it mean?

April 16, 2007

Stakeholder Meeting

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Agency Direction



NOAA Determination

Puget Sound Steelhead

Listing Decision:

Not Warranted

Agency Action:

- Finalize SEPA

4 Phases to SEPA

Phase 1:

Notice of Intent and Preliminary Scoping

The main elements of the proposal are described:

Location

Intent

Purpose or objectives

Notice is circulated and 21 day comment period is posted.

4 Phases to SEPA

Phase 2:

Post-Scoping

Continues the analysis started in Phase 1:

- Environmental issues

- Key players in the process

- Analyzes relationships to other plans

- Records process

Public comment period is not required

4 Phases to SEPA

Phase 3:

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Continues the analysis started in Phase 2:

Impartial discussion of choices & impacts

Opportunity for the public & agency review

Opportunity to improve completeness & accuracy of information

A 30-day public comment period is posted

4 Phases to SEPA

Phase 4:

Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Based on feedback provided in Phase 3, the agency finalizes planning & analysis process.

Final document will present all comments and responses to the comments.

SEPA – Statewide Plan

1. Finalize the DRAFT statewide steelhead plan
2. Release DRAFT alternatives to the statewide plan
3. Write DRAFT EIS with public comment period
4. Finalize EIS on statewide plan
5. Fish & Wildlife Commission adoption

SEPA – PS Watershed Plans

1. Finalize the DRAFT Stillaguamish/Snohomish Plan
2. Finalize the DRAFT Puget Sound watershed plans with remaining tribes
3. Finalize the Puget Sound (Volume 1) to the statewide steelhead plan

PUGET SOUND STEELHEAD DPS PROPOSED FOR LISTING AS THREATENED

DPS STATUS AND DESCRIPTION:

- On Mar. 29, 2006, in response to a petition, NOAA Fisheries Service announced its proposal to list the DPS as "threatened"
- "A final determination, if one is warranted, should occur within a year"
- The DPS includes all naturally spawned anadromous winter-run and summer-run *O. mykiss* (steelhead) populations, in streams in the river basins of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and Hood Canal, Washington, bounded to the west by the Elwha River (inclusive) and to the north by the Nooksack River and Dakota Creek (inclusive) as well as Green River natural and Hamma Hamma winter-run stocks

NOAA Determination

Puget Sound Steelhead

Listing Decision:

Threatened

Agency Action:

- Assist with NEPA

NEPA – PS Steelhead

- When listing a species, NMFS must designate **critical habitat** for the species no later than a year after the final listing, as long as it is prudent to do so and critical habitat is determinable
- Economic impacts must be considered when designating critical habitat.

What is Critical Habitat?

- Specific areas within a geographical area occupied by the species at the time of listing, if they contain physical or biological features essential to conservation and may require special management considerations or protection

AND

What is Critical Habitat?

- Specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species if the agency determines that the area itself is essential for conservation

Critical Habitat Designations

- Must be based on best scientific information available in an open public process, within a specific timeframe

Critical Habitat Designations

DO NOT set up a preserve or refuge for the species

Apply only when Federal funding, permits, or projects are involved

Do not apply to citizens engaged in activities on private land that do not involve a Federal agency

Threatened Listing

- When a species is listed as **threatened**, NOAA must issue protective regulations under section 4(d) of the ESA in order to extend any take prohibitions to the species
- Protective 4(d) Regulations:
Proposed on February 7, 2007

4(d) Regulations

- This applies to “take,” which includes any act that kills or injures fish, and may include habitat modification
- Section 4(d) of the ESA prohibits ANY take of species listed as endangered, but some take of threatened species that does not interfere with steelhead survival and recovery can be allowed

Next Step: Recovery Plans

- The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires NOAA Fisheries Service to develop and implement recovery plans for conservation and survival of listed species

Recovery Plans

- Recovery plans must describe specific management actions; establish objective, measurable criteria for delisting; and estimate the time and cost to carry out measures needed to achieve recovery

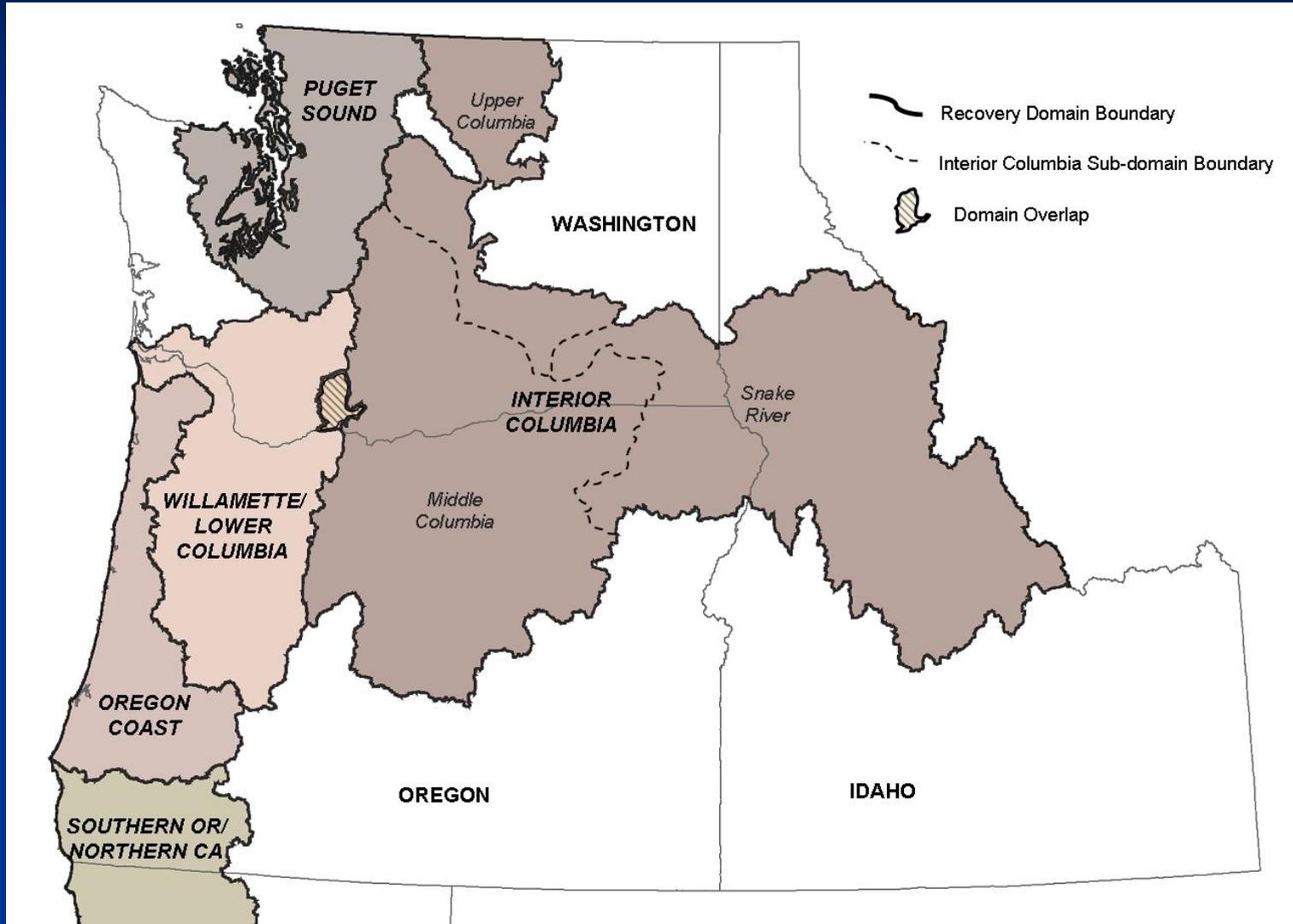
What is Recovery?

- Recovery is the process by which listed species and their ecosystems are restored and their future secured to the point that protection under the ESA is no longer needed
- NOAA Fisheries Service believes that recovery must be grounded in existing conservation efforts under way throughout the region

Recovery strategy

- NOAA has developed a strategy for recovery planning in the four states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and California that combines ESA-listed salmon and steelhead distinct population segments in geographic areas
- The Northwest Region has identified its three recovery planning areas, or recovery domains, and has established technical recovery teams of scientists for each domain

Northwest Salmon Recovery Domains & Restoration Area



4 Recovery Domains

- **Puget Sound Recovery Domain**

This domain covers Puget Sound. It includes rivers and streams flowing into Puget Sound, Hood Canal, and the Strait of Georgia in Washington, including the Strait of Juan de Fuca from the Elwha River eastward. Sockeye salmon in Ozette Lake are included in this domain.

- **Willamette/Lower Columbia Recovery Domain**

This domain encompasses the Columbia River basin downstream of the Hood River in Oregon and the White Salmon River in Washington. The domain includes the following Columbia River tributaries: Sandy, Willamette, Scappoose, Clatskanie, Little White Salmon, Wind, Washougal, Lewis, Kalama, Cowlitz, Elochoman, Grays and Chinook rivers, and Youngs Bay.

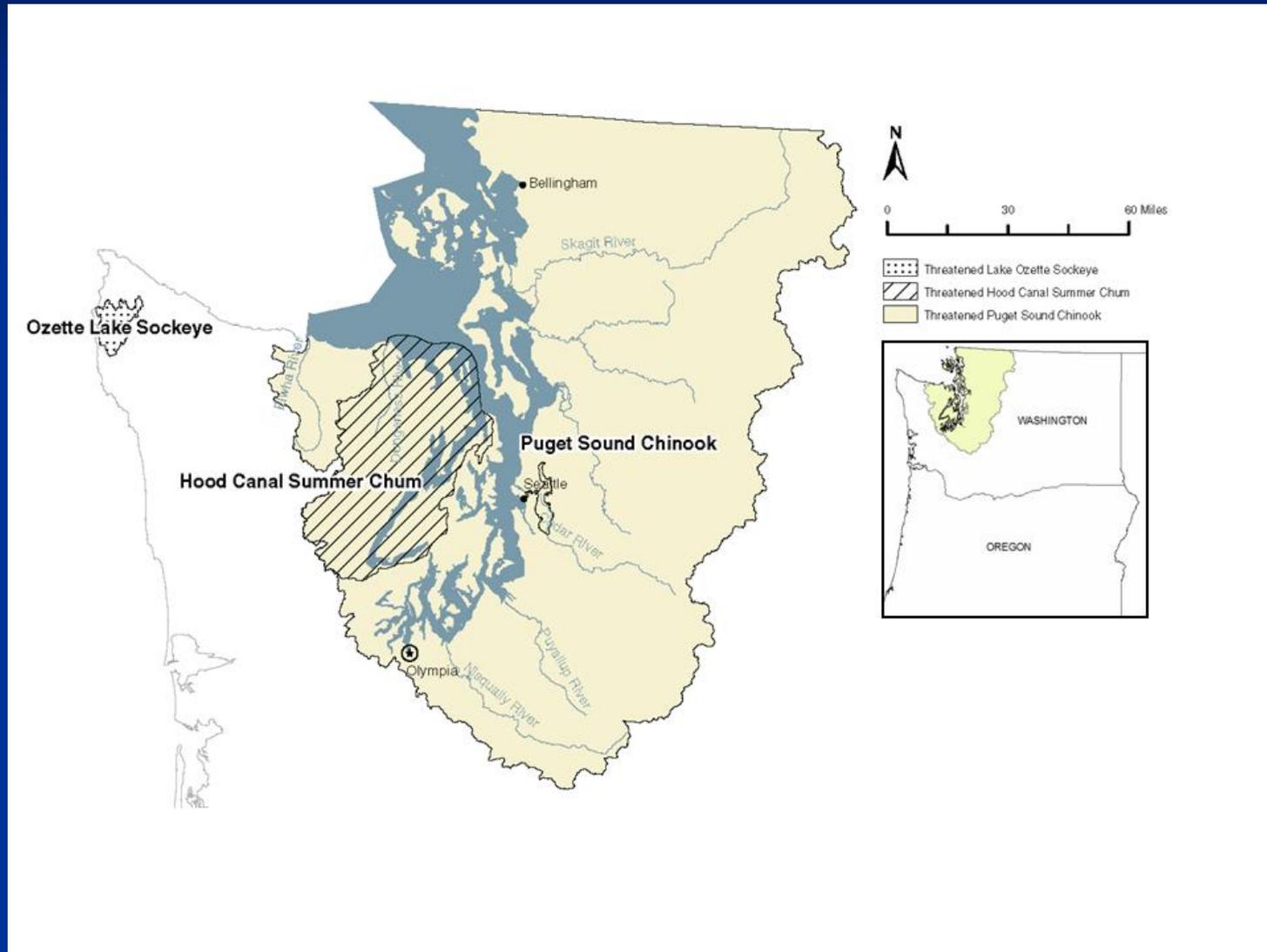
- **Interior Columbia Recovery Domain**

This domain covers all of the Columbia River basin accessible to anadromous salmon and steelhead above Bonneville Dam. It's divided into three sub-basins: Mid-Columbia, Snake and Upper Columbia.

- **Oregon Coast Restoration Area**

This area covers the Oregon coastal streams south of the Columbia River and north

Puget Sound ESA Salmon Recovery Domain



Puget Sound Recovery Domain

- The Puget Sound domain is a complex mix of densely populated and developed urban areas, including Seattle/Everett/Tacoma, rich agricultural areas, and forested headwaters
- NOAA Fisheries Service convened the Puget Sound Technical Recovery Team (TRT) in April 2000

Shared Strategy

- The Northwest Region is conducting recovery planning in conjunction with a coalition of salmon management interests called the Shared Strategy for Puget Sound
- It includes NOAA Fisheries Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Governor's Office, Puget Sound treaty tribes, state natural resources agencies, local governments, and key non-government organizations

Shared Strategy

<http://www.sharedsalmonstrategy.org/index.htm>

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the website for Shared Strategy for Puget Sound. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.sharedsalmonstrategy.org/index.htm>. The website's header features a logo with a stylized map of Puget Sound and the text "SHARED STRATEGY FOR PUGET SOUND" and "working with communities to restore salmon".

The main content area is titled "PUGET SOUND COMMUNITIES WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE A FUTURE FOR BOTH PEOPLE AND SALMON". Below this, a paragraph states: "The Shared Strategy is a groundbreaking collaborative initiative by Puget Sound communities to protect and restore salmon runs."

A prominent news banner reads: "New: Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan Final Adoption. [Click here >>](#)". The banner includes an image of a salmon in a stream and text: "Federal Fisheries Agency Approves Plan to Restore Puget Sound Chinook - 01.19.2007. The plan is aimed at restoring salmon to waters from the crests of the Cascade and Olympic mountains to Puget Sound. Find out more >>".

The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with the following items: "About Shared Strategy", "What's Happening in Your Area?", "Salmon Recovery in Puget Sound", "News/Events", "Stories of Progress", "Meetings", "Resources", and "Home". Below the menu, there is a link for a "NEW: Draft Puget Sound Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan, December 2006 (Word doc, 2MB)".

The main content area is divided into four columns:

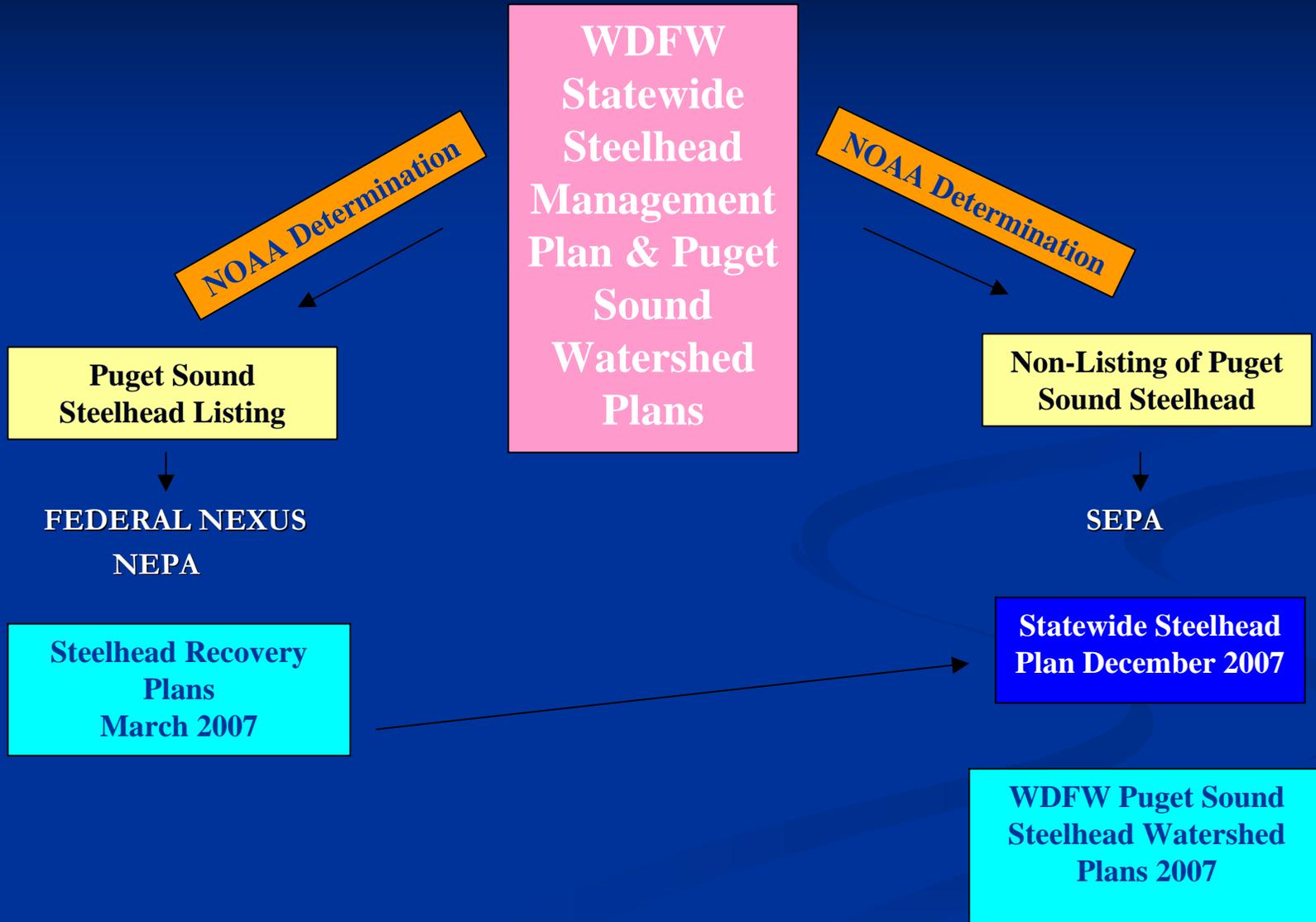
- WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR AREA?**: Includes a map of Puget Sound watersheds.
- STORIES OF PROGRESS**: Features a photo of a person in traditional clothing and a text snippet: "Turning the Tide for Salmon on the Nisqually Delta. Restoration project opens up valuable estuarine habitat for Endangered Chinook".
- E-BULLETIN**: Features a photo of people at a meeting and a text snippet: "Shared Strategy's Online Newsletter: Find out the latest happenings in Puget Sound to create a future for people and salmon."
- RELATED EFFORTS**: Includes a link to "PUGET SOUND PARTNERS" and a text snippet: "Members of the Puget Sound Partnership. Puget Sound Partnership. Read about Governor Gregoire's major initiative to protect and restore Puget Sound." It also features a link to "WASHINGTON" with a text snippet: "Renewing the Countryside: Washington." Shared Strategy partners to

The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications: "start", "Network Connections", "Salmon Recovery Pla...", "NOAA Fisheries - Nati...", "Shared Strategy for ...", and "Document1 - Microsof...". The system tray on the right shows the "Internet" icon and the time "9:37 PM".

Recovery Planning

- NOAA will require WDFW and tribes to provide assistance in developing recovery plans for Puget Sound steelhead through Shared Strategy
 - Timeline?

Agency Direction



Northwest Salmon Recovery Planning

<http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/trt/index.cfm?CFID=48613313&CFTOKEN=53395045&jsessionid=6430d46f0cff543c76c3>

Northwest Salmon Recovery Planning - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: <http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/trt/index.cfm?CFID=48613313&CFTOKEN=53395045&jsessionid=6430d46f0cff543c76c3>

NOAA-NMFS National Marine Fisheries Service | NOAA-NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center | NOAA-NMFS NW Regional Office Salmon Recovery Division

Northwest Salmon RECOVERY PLANNING

- About Recovery Planning
- How to Participate in Planning
- Recovery Science Review Panel (RSRP)
- Technical Recovery Team (TRT) News
- TRT Information by Geographic Domain
 - Puget Sound
 - Willamette / Lower Columbia
 - Interior Columbia
 - Southwest Washington
 - Oregon Coast
 - S. Oregon/N. Calif. Coast*
 - N.-central Calif. Coast*
 - S.-central Calif. Coast*
 - Calif. Central Valley*(* Domains in Southwest Region)

Additional Recovery Links | Glossary | Sitemap | Feedback

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