National Estuary Program

Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Protection and Restoration

Federal Fiscal Years 2014/2015 Work Plan and Six-Year Implementation Strategy

June 2, 2014

Revised June 17, 2014

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Puget Sound Lead Organization Structure

The National Estuary Program (NEP) Lead Organization Cooperative Agreement to *Protect and Restore Marine and Nearshore Ecosystem*s of Puget Sound was awarded to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) in February 2011. This was one of seven NEP Lead Organization Assistance Agreements that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded at that time to Management Conference partners to support Puget Sound recovery. The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) co-leads the implementation of this work through an interagency agreement with WDFW. An 'Overview of the Puget Sound National Estuary Program Management Conference and Funding Agreements under CWA Section 320 is provided in Section F, Appendix I and introduces the general role and relationship of these Lead Organizations. This amended work plan has been developed and formatted to be consistent with the National Estuary Program FFY 2014/2015 Funding Guidance.

See Appendix I - Overview of the Puget Sound National Estuary Program Management Conference and Funding Agreements under CWA Section 320.

This work program will support at least eight of the twenty recovery targets identified for Puget Sound including eelgrass, estuaries, wild Chinook salmon recovery, shoreline armoring, Pacific Herring, marine sediment quality, orcas, and toxics in fish. The outputs and/or outcomes of each sub-award will be assessed for their relative contribution to these recovery objectives and the findings will be documented through Financial and Ecosystem Accounting and Tracking System (FEATS) reporting.

Both competitive and directed sub-awards may be made under this work plan based on the guidance that has been established by the Lead Organizations for this purpose.

Section A: Marine and Nearshore Program Summary

The Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program funds actions that implement the Puget Sound Action Agenda and advance recovery by protecting and restoring marine and nearshore habitats and ecosystem functions.

The Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program (Grant Program), co-led by Washington Departments of Fish & Wildlife and Natural Resources, strives to make precisely targeted investments in high priority actions that will achieve measurable results and meaningful contributions to Puget Sound recovery. The following principles are the foundation for our investments:

- Protecting functioning elements of the ecosystem
- Preventing irreversible harm
- Preventing new pathways for existing threats to cause harm
- Improving ecosystem resilience by restoring key processes to achieve both no net loss, and net gain, of ecological function

Each investment we make helps implement the Puget Sound Action Agenda and advances ecosystem recovery targets. Each of our projects plays at least a supporting or foundational role to, and often directly implements, specific sub-strategies and/or near-term actions. In addition, some Grant Program projects also support sub-strategies and near-term actions that are being led by others, including other National Estuary Program Lead Organizations. By protecting and enhancing nearshore habitat, our investments directly promote Puget Sound salmon recovery.

I. PROJECT CATEGORIES

Our work is organized into five investment areas. The work in each category has an objective that implements the mission and principles of the Grant Program. Our approach is oriented around addressing what are understood to be the greatest threats to Puget Sound marine and nearshore habitats, and our investment categories reflect this approach. The work we fund is ambitious, achievable, innovative, and critically important to Puget Sound recovery.

Investment Area	Objectives
Effective Regulation and Stewardship	Reduce development pressure in Puget Sound marine and nearshore environments through regulatory and voluntary protection mechanisms.
Strategic Capital Investment	Further reduce development pressures in the nearshore by implementing strategic restoration and acquisition projects.
High Priority Threats: Invasive Species and Oil Spills	Prevent invasive species and oil spills from degrading Puget Sound and compromising on-going and future recovery efforts.
Adaptive Management	Adaptively manage our program through exploration, action, monitoring, evaluation, and adjustment to produce optimal results at the project, programmatic, and Puget Sound recovery levels.
Cross-Cutting Investments	Address threats to Puget Sound that cut across Lead Organizations to achieve synergistic results beyond the scope of the Grant Program.

Six Year Logic Model

Focus Areas

Address Development Pressure on Habitat

Effective Regulation and Stewardship

Restoration and Acquisition

Address High Priority Threats

Oil Spills

Invasive Species

Cross-Cutting

Adaptive Management

Investments

- Fill key knowledge gaps
- Improve regulatory compliance and enforcement
- Provide incentives to encourage stewardship and reduce armoring
- Restore estuaries and beaches
- Permanently protect shoreline habitat
- Restore marine habitat through derelict net removal and eelgrass planting

- Fill key knowledge gaps
- Assess vessel traffic risks
- Support local oil spill preparedness and response
- Establish invasive species early detection and monitoring
- Monitor toxics in mussels and eelgrass
- Use behavior change strategies to encourage landowner stewardship

- Fill key knowledge gaps
- Monitor and report on armor removal
- Analyze and disseminate results
- Proliferate successful approaches and models

Outcomes

Overcome barriers to improve management

Improve effectiveness of existing regulations

Enhance stewardship of shorelines

Protect nearshore habitat

Restore ecosystem function

Minimize risks from high priority threats

Leverage past work to inform and support Puget Sound recovery

Establish long-term benefits to Puget Sound from investments

Improve marine and nearshore habitat, benefiting species such as chinook and ultimately the Puget Sound ecosystem

1. Effective Regulation and Stewardship

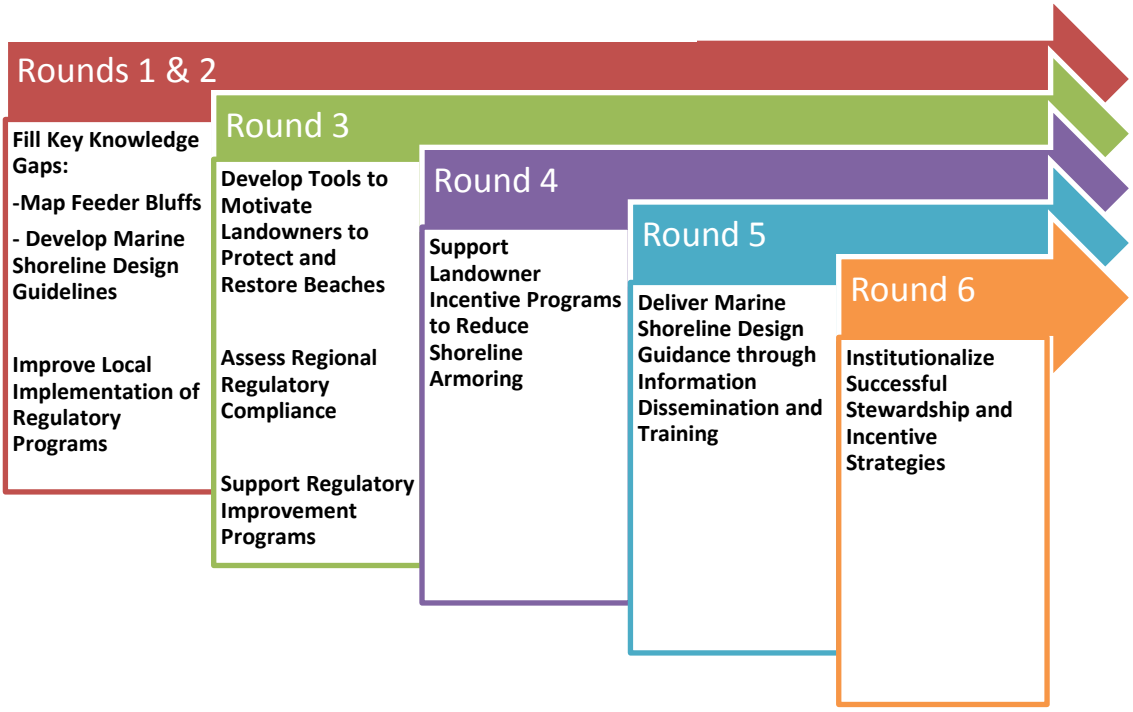
Effective regulatory programs, as well as public and private stewardship, are crucial components of Puget Sound recovery. Without these protection mechanisms, Puget Sound will continue to lose foundational habitat and ecosystem processes, and restoration efforts will be undermined. Investments made in this category aim to reduce development pressure on Puget Sound marine and nearshore environments.

Our projects are sequenced to:

I. Identify and take action on high priority work, including filling knowledge gaps or gathering crucial information
II. Pilot novel approaches targeting long-standing barriers to success
III. Implement the most successful approaches to effective regulation and stewardship, incorporating insight gained through research and pilot projects funded in earlier rounds

This approach allows us to address high priority actions that have been identified, provide critical information for protection and restoration, pilot novel approaches, and implement the most successful strategies. This process provides a path to understanding the nature of problems and effective solutions.

Effective Regulation and Stewardship



Effective Regulation and Stewardship projects address these Puget Sound Action Agenda sub-strategies:

Use complete, accurate, and recent information in shoreline planning and decision making at the site-specific and regional levels (B1.1)	Support local governments to adopt and implement plans, regulations, and policies that protect the marine nearshore and estuaries, and incorporate climate change forecasts (B1.2)
Improve, strengthen, and streamline implementation and enforcement of laws, regulations, and permits that protect the marine and nearshore ecosystems and estuaries (B1.3)	Remove armoring, and use soft armoring replacement or landward setbacks when armoring fails, needs repair, is non-protective, and during redevelopment (B2.3)
Implement a coordinated strategy to achieve the 2020 eelgrass recovery target (B2.4)	Increase access to and knowledge of publically owned Puget Sound shorelines and the marine ecosystem (B4.2)

Two projects, the Feeder Bluff Mapping and Marine Shoreline Design Guidance, have provided recent, complete, and accurate information (B1.1), as well as support for local governments to adopt and implement more appropriate protective regulations (B1.2). Several of our projects specifically work to improve and strengthen enforcement and compliance strategies (B1.3), as well as to remove shoreline armoring and/or use softer alternatives through the use of incentives (B2.3). Investment in beach restoration will also provide opportunities to increase public access to and knowledge of the shoreline and the marine ecosystem (B4.2).

2. Strategic Capital Investment

Restoring degraded habitat and protecting functioning habitat from degradation are critical action items for Puget Sound recovery. The Grant Program's strategy is to support acquisition of high priority habitat such as feeder bluffs, and to support restoration of important habitat, such as estuaries and beaches, as well as the physical and ecological processes that sustain Puget Sound.

Our project approach is:

- Make investments in permanent protections of key habitat to yield high value recovery benefits
- Provide up-front support for restoration designs to generate future armoring removal and the use of softer alternatives
- Fund high priority nearshore and marine restoration projects that provide measurable habitat benefits
- Build public and landowner awareness of the importance of shoreline processes for a healthy Puget Sound, to reduce demand for shoreline modifications and motivate future restoration and stewardship on public and private lands
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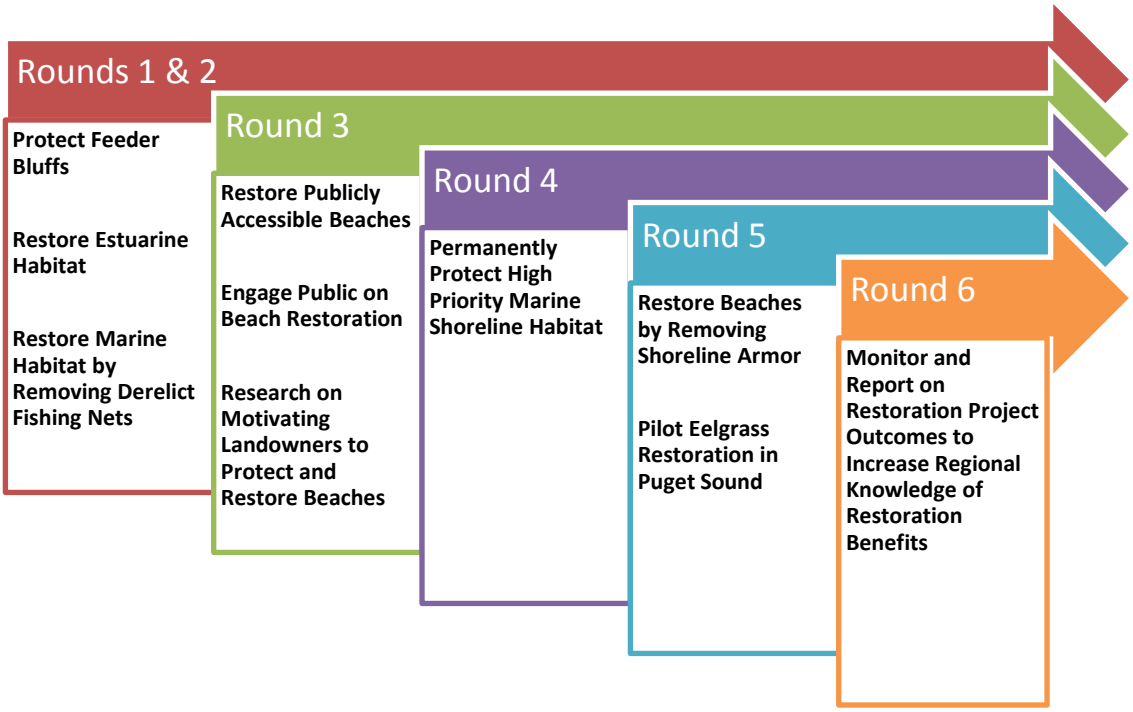
In past investments, we focused on protecting priority nearshore habitat and restoring estuary function. Projects to restore shoreline sediment processes and ecological functions of beaches and bluffs are important, but they are not as well understood or developed as those in estuaries or coastal embayments. By focusing on the strategic removal of shoreline modifications on beaches that are publicly accessible, past restoration projects, as well as new projects with FFY14 funds, will serve as demonstrations to promote public understanding and support for healthy beaches. These projects will help individuals understand what healthy beaches look like, the functions they provide, and how they can get involved and personally invested in protecting and restoring Puget Sound.

Strategic Capital Investment



Strategic Capital Investment projects address these Puget Sound Action Agenda sub-strategies:

Permanently protect priority nearshore physical and ecological processes and habitat, including shorelines, migratory corridors, and vegetation particularly in sensitive areas such as eelgrass beds and bluff backed beaches (B2.1)	Implement prioritized nearshore and estuary restoration projects and accelerate projects on public lands (B2.2)
Remove armoring, and use soft armoring replacement or landward setbacks when armoring fails, needs repair, is non-protective, and during redevelopment (B2.3)	Protect intact marine ecosystems particularly in sensitive areas and for sensitive species (B3.1)
Implement and maintain priority marine restoration projects (B3.2)	Increase access to and knowledge of publically owned Puget Sound shorelines and the marine ecosystem (B4.2)

By funding acquisitions and habitat restoration projects, we permanently protect nearshore ecological and physical processes (B2.1) and implement prioritized nearshore and estuary restoration projects (B2.2). Several Grant Program restoration projects remove shoreline modifications, such as armoring, and will provide opportunities to increase access to and knowledge of shoreline and marine ecosystems (B2.3 and B4.2). Grant Program investments also focus on protecting marine ecosystems and supporting priority marine restoration projects, such as derelict fishing net removal and eelgrass restoration (B3.1 and B3.2).

3. High Priority Threats: Invasive Species and Oil Spills

Investments in this category prevent invasive species from establishing in and degrading Puget Sound and compromising on-going and future recovery efforts. Investments in this category of work also

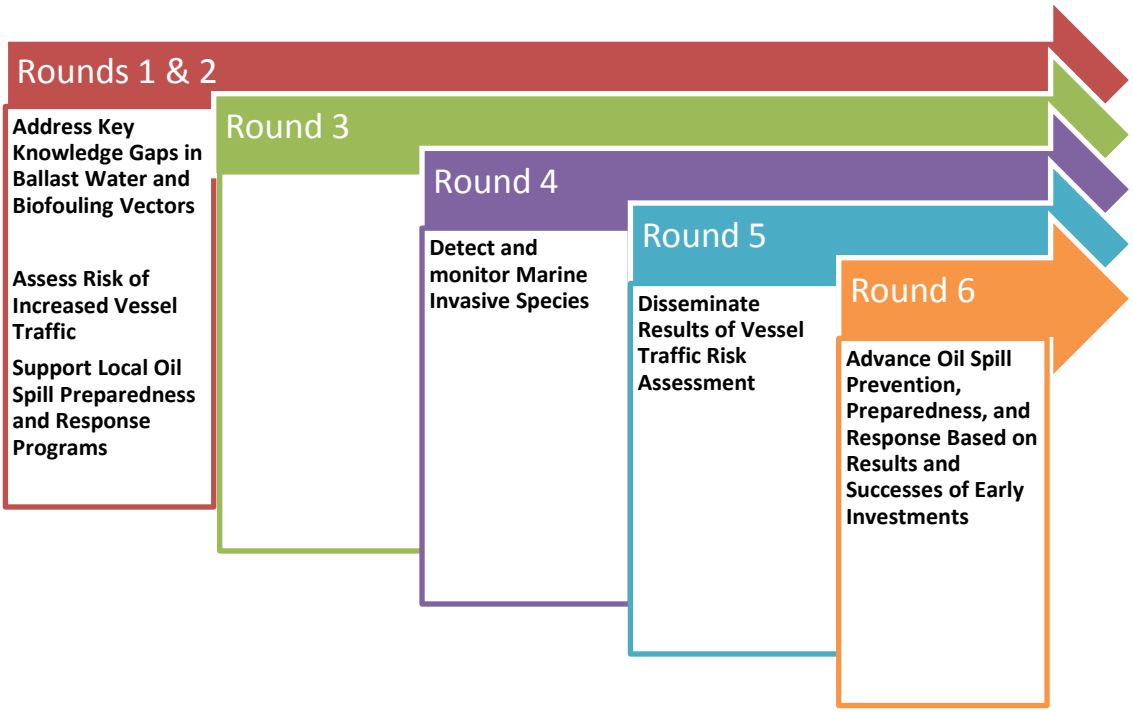
support prevention, preparedness, and response to catastrophic oil spills, which could overwhelm recovery gains in Puget Sound.

Our projects are sequenced to:

IV. Assess and quantify risks posed by invasive species and oil spills
V. Create management recommendations for best management practices and protocols
VI. Prepare local entities to contribute to oil spill response
VII. Initiate early detection and monitoring of a high priority invasive species
VIII. Base future investments on risk assessments and identified priorities and management recommendations

Previously funded projects allowed for precisely focused investments targeting the highest impact problems in the most effective ways. We have invested in assessments of oil spills and invasive species threats which were identified as crucial knowledge gaps by managers and regulators. We are also investing in on-the-ground efforts to address emerging invasive species threats, such as the green crab or another high priority species, as well as to support local oil spill preparedness and response. With FFY15 funds, we will further advance oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response based on results and successes of earlier investments.

High Priority Threats: Invasive Species and Oil Spills



Past investments combat invasive species threats by addressing ballast water and biofouling pathways (B5.3 and B5.4). We are also establishing early detection and monitoring of the invasive green crab or another high priority species, which directly advances B5.3 NTA. Finally, our investments address both oil spill risk assessments to inform prevention strategies (C8.1), and local spill preparedness and response (C8.2 and C8.3).

4. Adaptive Management

Adaptive management is a process of structured learning applied to management actions—exploration, action, evaluation, and adjustment—that links science and policy. It is a key feedback mechanism for helping to ensure that new information and facts are used to inform the refinement of strategies and actions necessary for recovery of Puget Sound. It is important to invest in a strategic adaptive management system that fosters a common understanding of the role of adaptive management, evaluates progress towards ecosystem recovery, and informs necessary changes to our Grant Program strategies.

The Grant Program addresses adaptive management at three levels:

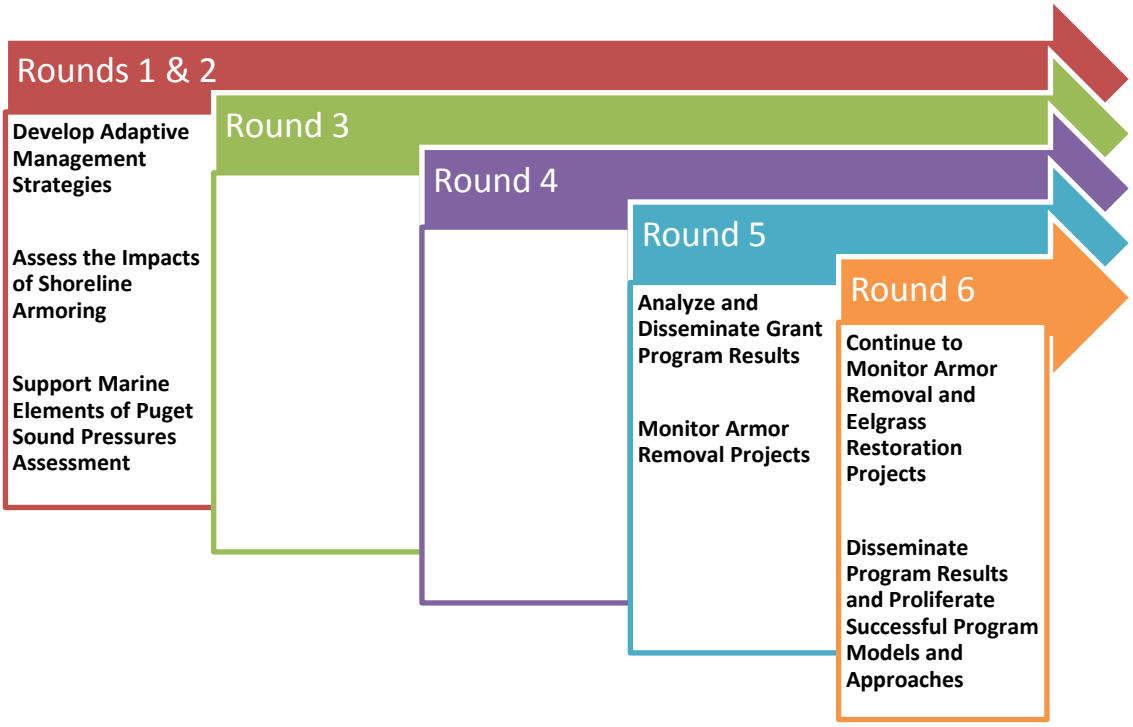
IX. The project level, where progress towards achieving objectives informs any necessary course corrections,

X. The program level, where new information will inform adjustments to the balance of projects we fund over time, and

XI. The Puget Sound recovery level, where new information about the pressures on Puget Sound and priorities for marine and nearshore protection and restoration will inform the direction of the Grant Program and other Sound-wide recovery efforts.

In past investments, the Grant Program supported development of strategies related to these three levels, as well as filling key knowledge gaps that were preventing action towards marine and nearshore protection and restoration. In rounds 5 and 6, we will invest in monitoring investments, disseminating results, and proliferating successful program models and approaches to leverage past investments and maximize outcomes for Puget Sound.

Adaptive Management

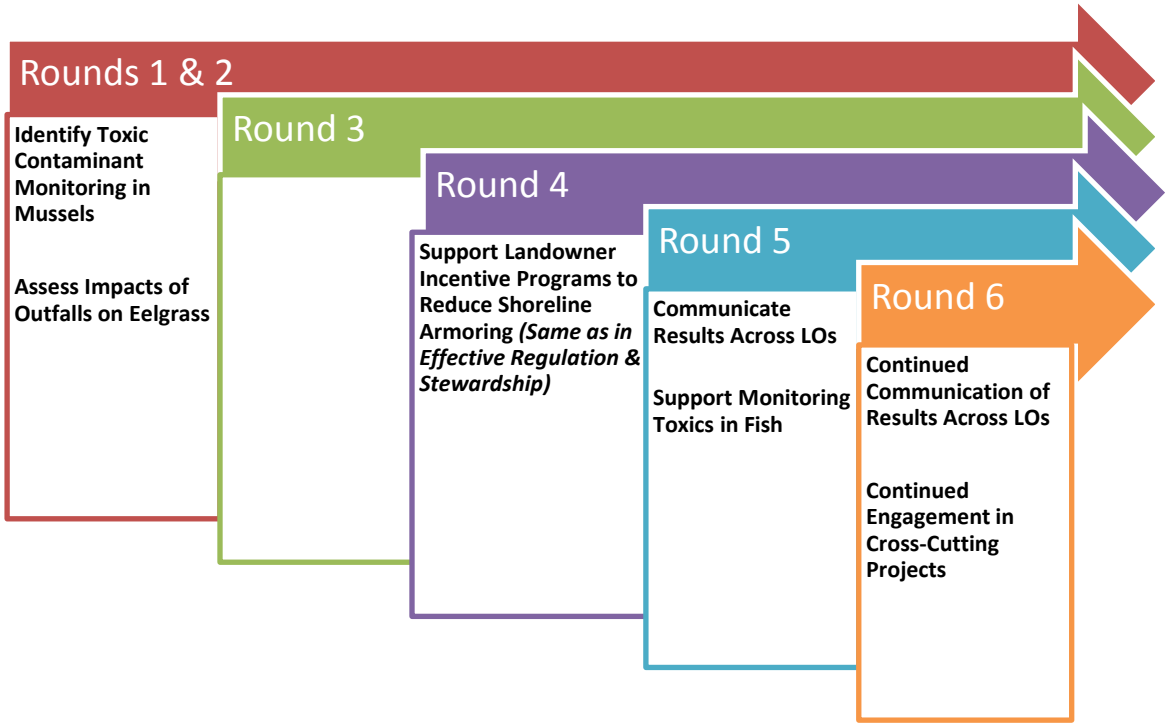


5. Cross-cutting Investments

There are threats and barriers to Puget Sound recovery that cross jurisdictional boundaries, disciplines, and parts of the ecosystem. As a result, the Grant Program invests in innovative strategies and actions that achieve synergistic results across areas such as habitat protection, water quality, and public awareness and behavior. We do so by either supporting cross-cutting efforts within our existing investments or by partnering with other Lead Organizations to invest in projects that achieve synergistic results. Regular coordination activities among Lead Organizations help identify cross-cutting needs and opportunities.

The Grant Program has invested in two projects that assess the impacts of water pollution on Puget Sound biota, in particular mussels and eelgrass, in order to inform policy and management actions in the future. We also invested in work that cuts across marine and nearshore protection and restoration work into stewardship. More specifically, we have advanced behavior change strategies by developing tools that will be used to incentivize voluntary improvements to management of privately owned shorelines. The Grant Program is working closely with the Puget Sound Partnership, as the Stewardship Lead Organization, to design and implement these projects.

Cross-Cutting Investments



II. FUTURE INVESTMENTS

Early investments in marine and nearshore protection and restoration (Funding Rounds 1-4) have made great strides in protecting and restoring priority habitat. Investments have also helped fill key knowledge gaps which will lead to better understanding of and management of issues, understand shoreline landowner behavior to better influence their management decisions, and to provide a suite of actions around the ecosystem target of reducing shoreline armoring.

One of the key components in our Round 5 and Round 6 project proposals is to analyze and assess all of the previous work to determine how to best make sure that the results of these projects keeping working for Puget Sound long after the LOs. We will determine through a communications strategy the best ways to disseminate results to the audiences who can use them, how to institutionalize project results, and what programs/models to proliferate. Additionally, the projects to monitor armor removal projects on beaches and restoration of eelgrass beds will yield useful information for future efforts. The information gathered from the Puget Sound Pressure Assessment, the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment, the studies of invasive species pathways and ballast water management, toxics in biota projects, among other things, will provide some clear direction for future action. We will have a better sense of what those actions should be once we delve into the communications strategy in our FFY14 projects.

III. INTERNAL SUB-RECIPIENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Monitoring to ensure that sub-recipients are providing the results we expect is the foundation of the sub-recipient award structure of the Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program. Starting with our application to EPA to establish the Marine and Nearshore Lead Organization, we have developed a structure and procedures that build on-going monitoring into all sub-recipient agreements. *See Appendix 2 for "Internal Sub-recipients Policies and Procedures": a) Guidance to Sub-recipients (p.42) and b) Sub-recipient Periodic Monitoring (p. 46).*

1. **Application to EPA**.
   Our application to EPA to be a Lead Organization states that "*We will structure subaward contracts as "deliverables based" contracts that link financial reimbursement to a demonstration of meeting major project milestones and deliverables. This contracting method engages lead organizations and sub-recipients in up-front thinking to define the milestones and deliverables that the contract will result in, creates clear points of consultation between Lead Organizations and sub-recipients, and assures that dollars spent achieve project milestones and outputs*".

2. **Sub-Awardee Agreement Structure**
   The deliverables-based structure of our agreements builds in review of project accomplishments at milestones identified in the contract. It sets up clear expectations of the quality of products and that payment is only made upon approval of deliverables.
   a. The detailed Statement of Work articulates the expectations of the product (*description of the deliverable, target due date, and estimated cost*).
   b. Every agreement contains requirements for the bi-annual FEATS reporting
   c. Agreements contain the Quality Assurance requirements
   d. A pre-determined reimbursable amount is associated with each deliverable.
   e. All pass-through Federal Terms and Conditions (*Administrative and Programmatic*), as well as general state conditions, are included with each contract agreement.

3. **Payment for Deliverables**
   a. We developed a reimbursement procedure which describes the process we use for review and acceptance of deliverables before sub-recipients can get reimbursed. This is described in the *"Deliverables and Invoicing Procedure*" document.
   b. Each invoice is recorded in a tracking sheet for each contract along with which deliverables were reimbursed. This allows us to see the status of the contract every time an invoice is submitted,

and to ensure that payment is on track according to the Statement of Work. This also allows us to prevent over-payment on tasks without approval or payment for deliverables that were not submitted or approved.

4. **Guidance to Sub-recipients**
   a. Guidance documents are developed and are sent to sub-recipients. Topics in the guidance are about administrative procedures, as well as about specific EPA Programmatic Terms and Conditions.
      i. Administrative details included a form to track sub-recipient match where applicable, and the circumstance under which and how budgets can be adjusted once Grant Agreements are in place; and
      ii. Guidance on EPA Programmatic Terms and Conditions, FEATS reporting, Peer Review requirements, Quality Assurance, STORET, and recognition of EPA funding language inclusion.

5. **Tracking**
   a. We use a spreadsheet to track compliance with Quality Assurance and STORET requirements, as well as match contributions.

6. **Reporting**
   a. We make full use of the FEATS bi-annual reporting requirement.
   b. Grantees are provided with pre-filled FEATS forms with a 30-day response timeline. The Grant Program reviews each sub-recipient's FEATS form and work with sub-recipients to ensure the data provided is accurate and up-to-date. All of the individual FEATS reports are provided to our EPA Project Officer, along with our program's FEATS report. We also use our FEATS report to mention notable accomplishments that have been achieved by the sub-recipients.
   c. We use a data sharing website called SharePoint, which allows our EPA Project Officer access at any time to FEATS reports, as well as sub-recipient files including contract documents, Statements of Work, invoices, deliverables, and other information.

7. **Sub-recipients Monitoring**
   a. A check-in schedule will be developed with each sub-awardee. The frequency will depend on the nature and timeline of the project, and will be no less than quarterly. These check-ins will be used to assess project progress and to promptly identify any severe timeline delays or other issues that need to be resolved.
   b. We attend sub-recipients' grant activities such as accompanying them on field work and attending public events, such as workshops, training, and tours, as time permits.

8. **Terms and Conditions**
   a. All of the Federal and State Terms and Conditions, including EPA Programmatic terms, are attachments to the legal contract with each sub-recipient.
   b. The legal contract documents include a form "Federal Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters, Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying", to indicate compliance with those terms. The "Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act" form is also included.

Section B: Federal Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Work Plan

I. Introduction to FFY 2014 Projects

Our investments with FFY14 funds leverage past work of the Grant Program to achieve measurable results for Puget Sound, advancing local and regional priorities of the Puget Sound Action Agenda and contributing to progress on ecosystem recovery targets. Our workplan also includes analyses of our past investments to identify opportunities to communicate and disseminate the results and successful approaches, in order to support Puget Sound recovery efforts beyond the life of the Grant Program.

Project 1: Restore Beaches by Removing Armoring

Leveraging past investments in the design phase of restoration projects, this project will fund removal of shoreline armoring at three publicly accessible beaches: Deception Pass State Park (Bowman Bay), Titlow Park, and Fort Townsend State Park. The projects will be monitored in order to gather information about the ecosystem benefits of the restoration (Project 2), and will be incorporated into the public engagement and education on beach restoration project (Round 3).

These projects support or advance priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda.

- Aligned with Habitat Strategic Initiative: Focus on addressing hardened and altered shorelines
- Contributes to progress on the shoreline armoring ecosystem recovery target
- 2014 Proposed updates to local NTAs: The following LNTAs include a focus on reducing armoring in the vicinity of the restoration projects.
    - ✓ B1.2 SC4 (Focused on improving shorelines through reducing armoring and promoting softer alternatives)
    - ✓ B1.2 STRT15 (Focused on implementing Port Townsend's SMP, including removal of shoreline armoring)
    - ✓ B2.3 ISL5 (Focused on removing hard shoreline armor)
- 2014 Proposed update to B2.2, NTA 2 (included progress on 2 to 4 projects in five years)

Project 2: Monitor Armor Removal Projects

This project will collect and analyze pre- and post-armor removal data at selected beach restoration sites. This data will greatly contribute to the state of science on the effects of shoreline armoring, as well as support evidence-based approaches for removing armor and using soft shore techniques.

This project supports or advances priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda, as well as the Biennial Science Work Plan (BSWP).

- Habitat Strategic Initiative: Focus on addressing hardened and altered shorelines
- BSWP research priorities on ecosystem-based management of forage fish in Puget Sound

Project 3: Pilot Eelgrass Restoration in Puget Sound

This project will fund planting of eelgrass meadows in areas that have a strong likelihood of success, leveraging the results of the 20% More Eelgrass by 2020 project, which was previously funded by the Grant Program. Monitoring of restoration sites will provide information to the support science and management efforts.

This project supports or advances priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda, as well as the Biennial Science Work Plan (BSWP).

- Habitat Strategic Initiative: Focus on addressing habitat loss that threatens salmon and other species
- Contributes to progress on the eelgrass ecosystem recovery target
- BSWP research priorities on ecosystem-based management of forage fish in Puget Sound

Project 4: Deliver the Marine Shoreline Design Guidelines to the Region

This project will develop an approach to disseminating the results of the Marine Shoreline Design Guidelines project to various audiences in the region, and will implement targeted trainings and outreach to ensure the results of the project support Puget Sound recovery efforts across the region.

This project supports or advances priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda.

- Habitat Strategic Initiative: Focus on addressing hardened and altered shorelines
- 2014 Proposed updates to local NTAs:
    - ✓ B1.3, SJI9
    - ✓ B2.3, SJI11
    - ✓ B2.3, ISL4

Project 5: Analyze and Disseminate Grant Program Results

This project will analyze previously funded projects to synthesize the results and identify audiences that can benefit from the information and opportunities to leverage the results to support Puget Sound recovery efforts. It will support or advance many priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda by ensuring insights and information gathered from past investments support Puget Sound recovery efforts, from reducing shoreline armoring to addressing threats from oil spills.

Project 6: Communicate Results Across Lead Organizations

This project is a collaborative effort across Lead Organizations to communicate, catalogue, summarize, and distribute products and deliverables from NEP grants.

Project 7: Support Monitoring Toxics in Fish

This project will fund analysis of previously collected samples of toxics in Pacific herring and English sole to support long-term monitoring efforts that track contaminants in the ecosystem.

This project supports or advances priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda, as well as the Biennial Science Work Plan (BSWP).

- Contributes to progress on the toxics in fish ecosystem recovery target
- BSWP research priorities on ecosystem-based management of forage fish in Puget Sound

The Marine and Nearshore LO will continue to provide PSP with requested project information on subaward projects for inclusion in the PSP Project Atlas database, on an annual basis.

FY14 Project 1	**Restore Beaches by Removing Armor** *Strategic Capital Investment*
Main Objectives	• Leverage previous investments in beach restoration design by funding the construction of up to three armor removal designs • Contribute to the ecosystem recovery target of reducing shoreline armor in Puget Sound • Restore natural ecosystem processes through the removal of hard armor • Fund restoration on publicly accessible beaches to provide opportunities for the public to engage in successful restoration projects • Create opportunities for monitoring efforts, both through the work done by partnering organizations, and through a coordinated, systematic effort outlined in Project 2
Description	Previous investments have funded the design phase of three beach restoration projects, but not the restoration itself. This project will select appropriate candidates from the existing design projects, and fund the construction phase. These projects will restore natural ecosystem processes, contribute to recovery targets, and provide opportunities for science and monitoring regarding armoring removal. In addition, because these projects are on publicly accessible beaches, they will provide opportunities for the public to engage in and become educated about hard armoring alternatives.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy B2.2 –** *Implement prioritized nearshore and estuary restoration projects and accelerate projects on public lands* • **B2.3, NTA2** – *Washington State Parks nearshore restoration* • **Sub-Strategy B2.3 –** *Remove armoring, and use soft armoring replacement or landward setbacks when armoring fails, needs repair, is non protective, and during redevelopment*
Potential Partners and Roles	The Washington Recreation and Conservation Office, the Northwest Straits Foundation, and the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group are among the potential partners responsible for construction. Additional partners will be the Monitoring Team established through a parallel project.
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Multiple beach restoration projects in Puget Sound on publicly accessible lands • Restoration of natural ecosystem processes and functions at these locations • Collection of baseline data pre-restoration, as well as post-construction data, to inform science and monitoring efforts by partnering organizations as well as systematic monitoring through Project 2
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place by December 2014 • Construction work begins July 2015 • Construction completed September 2016
Estimated Budget	Approximately $1,313,900
OUTCOMES **Short-term**	• Construction of multiple beach restoration projects in Puget Sound • Successful removal of hard armoring at publicly accessible beaches • Pre and post-construction monitoring on armor removal projects
Intermediate	• Restoration of ecosystem processes and function at project sites • Increased public knowledge and engagement regarding hard armoring alternatives
Long-term	• Important contributions to monitoring the benefits of restoration • Measurable progress towards hard armoring removal in Puget Sound • Enhanced overall health of Puget Sound through restored ecosystem functions
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

FY14 Project 2	**Monitor Armor Removal Projects** *Adaptive Management*
Main Objectives	• Leverage parallel investment in construction of armor removal projects • Capitalize on current opportunities to study the effects of removing armor in Puget Sound • Fill key knowledge gaps regarding the effects of removing armor by studying selected sites pre-and post-armoring removal • Build support for evidence-based approaches to armoring removal • Increase understanding of how armoring affects Puget Sound recovery targets • Contribute to the ecosystem recovery target of reducing shoreline armor
Description	This project will collect and analyze pre- and post-armor removal data at selected sites. This data will greatly contribute to the state of science on the effects of shoreline armoring, as well as support evidence-based approaches for removing armor and using soft shore techniques. This project will contribute to the ecosystem recovery target on armor reduction, and has the potential to contribute to other Puget Sound recovery targets by demonstrating relationships such as impacts of armor on salmon habitat.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy B1.1 –** *Use complete, accurate, and recent information in shoreline planning and decision making at the site-specific and regional levels* • **Sub-Strategy B2.2 –** *Implement prioritized nearshore and estuary restoration projects and accelerate projects on public lands* • **Sub-Strategy D4.2 –** *Implement a coordinated, integrated ecosystem monitoring program*
Potential Partners and Roles	The WA Department of Fish and Wildlife will lead the effort to create partnerships with entities interested in monitoring, such as the University of Washington, tribal governments, non-governmental organizations, state and local governments, project sponsors, and others.
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Baseline ecological data for sites with armoring • Monitoring data for sites post-armoring removal
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place by December 2014 • Baseline data established by July 2015 • Post-removal data between July 2016 and September 2016 • Second post-removal monitoring Spring 2017
Estimated Budget	**Approximately $126,000**
OUTCOMES **Short-term**	• Establish baseline ecological data for sites with armoring • Post-armoring removal data • Summary report with conclusions on effects of armoring removal at study sites
Intermediate	• Contributions to the state of science on the effects of armoring and armoring removal • Increased understanding of how armoring affects Puget Sound recovery targets
Long-term	• Long term contributions to Puget Sound recovery targets • Increased support for evidence-based approaches to armoring removal • Fills key knowledge gaps and lays the foundation for further science
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

FY14 Project 3	**Pilot Eelgrass Restoration in Puget Sound** *Strategic Capital Investments*
Main Objectives	• Using the model developed from the "20% More Eelgrass by 2020" project, initiate eelgrass plantings at select locations throughout Puget Sound • Advance eelgrass recovery targets while also contributing to other recovery targets related to eelgrass, such as marine water quality and salmon • Establish and strengthen partnerships with local entities that can be involved in eelgrass science, restoration, and monitoring
Description	Eelgrass is an ecologically critical component of the Puget Sound food chain. In addition, research suggests that eelgrass may play a role in buffering local effects of ocean acidification[1], which is an emerging threat to Puget Sound. Through the eelgrass restoration model developed in the "20% More Eelgrass by 2020" project, this project seeks to achieve measurable results through targeting eelgrass plantings in areas that have a strong likelihood for success. In addition, this project seeks to establish and strengthen partnerships with local entities that can be involved in eelgrass science, restoration, and monitoring. [1] Russell, Bayden D., et al. "Future seagrass beds: Can increased productivity lead to increased carbon storage?." *Marine pollution bulletin* 73.2 (2013): 463-469
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy B1.1** – *Use complete, accurate, and recent information in shoreline planning and decision making at the site-specific and regional levels* • **Sub-Strategy B2.1** - *Permanently protect priority shoreline habitat, such as eelgrass beds* • **Sub-Strategy B2.2** – *Implement prioritized nearshore and estuary restoration projects and accelerate projects on public lands* • **Sub-Strategy B2.4 –** *Implement a coordinated strategy to achieve 2020 eelgrass recovery target* • **B2.4, NTAs 1 & 2** – *Eelgrass recovery target strategy, identification of eelgrass restoration sites* • **Sub-Strategy B3.1/3.2** – *Protect intact marine ecosystems particularly in sensitive areas and for sensitive species; Implement and maintain priority marine restoration projects*
Potential Partners Roles	WA Department of Natural Resource's eelgrass restoration team, as well as local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations, state agencies and/or others
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Multiple restoration projects initiated across Puget Sound that use data-driven tools and strategies to achieve measurable results in eelgrass restoration • Institutionalize partnerships with local entities to ensure continued longevity of eelgrass restoration beyond the life of the grant program • Conduct and report on post-planting monitoring to evaluate success of efforts
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place by December 2014 • Eelgrass plantings spring 2015 and spring 2016 • Projects completed by September 2016
Estimated Budget	**Approximately $500,000**
OUTCOMES **Short-term**	• Eelgrass restoration projects piloted in multiple locations throughout Puget Sound • Establishing partnerships with local entities • Short-term monitoring of results
Intermediate	• Increased knowledge of successful eelgrass restoration • Strengthened partnerships with local entities • Important contributions to eelgrass science
Long-term	• Measurable progress towards eelgrass recovery • Buffering effects from climate change and ocean acidification
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

FY14 Project 4	**Deliver the Marine Shoreline Design Guidelines to the Region** *Effective Regulation & Stewardship*
Main Objectives	• Leverage the publication of the Marine Shoreline Design Guidelines (MSDG) • Meet the regional demand for additional trainings on the MSDG • Build a common regional understanding about shoreline armor alternatives • Increase exposure of various audiences to the concepts of the MSDG • Build capacity for future alternative shoreline design projects • Increase WDFW's capacity in shoreline design techniques
Description	The recently published MSDG has long been awaited by the region and demand for training on how to apply the guidelines is high. Early trainings exceeded capacity, and feedback from attendees indicated a demand for additional sessions. This project will allow WDFW staff to build capacity for understanding and communicating the guidelines to the region, assessing the various audiences and their training/information needs, preparing and delivering (or contracting) actual trainings, and preparing audience-specific information materials.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy B1.1 –** *Use complete, accurate, and recent information in shoreline planning and decision making at the site-specific and regional levels.* • **Sub-Strategy B1.2 –** *Support local governments to adopt and implement plans, regulations, polices that protect the marine nearshore and estuaries, and incorporate climate change forecasts.* • **B1.2 SJI7** – *SJI technical assistance* • **Sub-Strategy B1.3 –** *Remove armoring, and use soft armoring replacement or landward setbacks when armoring fails, needs repair, is non-protective, and during development.*
Potential Partners and Roles	WA Department of Fish and Wildlife will lead the effort. Other partners may include state agencies, local and tribal governments, educators, and homeowners associations.
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Analysis of the needs for information and training on the MSDG of the various audiences (contractors, shoreline property owners, planning/permit staff) • Increased capacity within WDFW to provide the right training for the right audience • Delivery of audience-appropriate training • Analysis of on-going regional needs for training, especially planning/permitting staff
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place by December 2014 • September 2014 through April 2015 - Conduct needs assessment and develop training formats • January 2015 through August 2016 – Provide training/outreach as needed
Estimated Budget	**Approximately $100,000**
OUTCOMES Short-term	• Audience needs determined • Targeted training developed • Targeted training delivered
Intermediate	• Increased understanding around the region of alternatives to hard armoring and implications for Puget Sound recovery • Increased public awareness and acknowledgement of issues related to shoreline armoring
Long-term	• Contribution to improved health of nearshore habitat, and to the Puget Sound recovery target of reduction in armoring • More capacity and understanding in the region of alternative approaches to shoreline protection • Increased public understanding of the need to reduce hard armoring
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

FY14 Project 5	**Analyze and Disseminate Grant Program Results** *Adaptive Management*
Main Objectives	• Analyze Grant Program projects' role in Puget Sound recovery, identify connections among them and to other work in region, and identify how the information can support recovery efforts • Recommend successful project models that could be proliferated to additional areas to make important contributions to Puget Sound recovery. • Develop a communications approach for project. • Create messages around the results that will be effective in communicating with key audiences. • Identify opportunities to effectively disseminate project results and support recovery efforts, and identify if any new forums would be beneficial. • As appropriate, disseminate project information.
Description	This project seeks to connect previously funded projects and their results with audiences such as implementers, state and federal policymakers, PSP staff, regional scientists, citizens, and others. It will analyze the results of the Grant Program projects to identify how they can support recovery efforts, and disseminate the results throughout the Puget Sound region. This is critically important for future funding of Puget Sound recovery, for ensuring continued contribution of this work beyond the life of the Lead Organization to the marine and nearshore recovery efforts, and for demonstrating the success of the Grant Program's investments.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy D3.2 –** *Work collaboratively to report on recovery progress* • **Sub-Strategy D5.2 –** *Collaboratively develop and promote science-based targeted communications and behavior change strategies across the region* • **Sub-Strategy D5.4 –** *Improve effectiveness of local and regional awareness-building and behavior change programs through vetted messages, proven strategies and outcome-based evaluation.*
Potential Partners and Roles	Puget Sound Institute will lead the project, and likely partner and/or work with state agencies, tribal and local governments, non-governmental organizations and others
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Analyze the entirety of the Lead Organization's current and past projects, including recommendations on next steps for communicating and/or institutionalizing results • Creation and communication of clear messages and stories surrounding individual and groups of study results, and incorporate results into the Encyclopedia of Puget Sound • Connection with existing workgroups and forums to communicate results and successes, and identify opportunities for new venues for communication, outreach, and training, as needed • As needed, dissemination of project information and convening forums for appropriate exchange and application of information
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreement in place December 2014 • December 2014 through April 2015 - Conduct pre-analysis and synthesis of results • Mid-2015 through August 2016 - Communicate messages and conduct outreach, trainings, and other activities
Estimated Budget	**Approximately $250,000** – depends on results of the analysis
OUTCOMES **Short-term**	• Analysis and synthesis of project results • Targeted communication, outreach, messaging, training, expert panels, forums, and more • Incorporation of project results into the Encyclopedia of Puget Sound
Intermediate	• Greater communication and collaboration between entities responsible for Puget Sound recovery • Increased public awareness of issues facing Puget Sound • Project results benefit marine and nearshore habitat and species
Long-term	• More effective, collaborative and efficient efforts towards Puget Sound recovery • Increased public support and potential funding for Puget Sound recovery • Continued contribution of results of the Lead Organization's investments to Puget Sound recovery
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

FY14 Project 6	**Support Monitoring Toxics in Fish** *Cross-Cutting Investments*
Main Objectives	• Provide funding for a one-time analysis of toxics contaminants in two species of fish, Pacific herring and English sole, sampled in 2014 and 2013, in support of a long-term monitoring program designed to track contaminants in the ecosystem • Contribute to the ecosystem recovery target of toxics in fish
Description	Pacific herring and English sole are two key indicator species for monitoring toxics in the Puget Sound food web, as part of the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program. This project will assist the monitoring program by bridging a funding gap to fund the analysis collected samples while long-term support for future monitoring is secured.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy B1.1 –** *Use complete, accurate, and recent information in shoreline planning and decision making at the site-specific and regional levels* • **Sub-Strategy D3.1 –** *Work collaboratively to track and report on implementation performance* • **Sub-Strategy D3.2 –** *Work collaboratively to report on recovery progress* • **Sub-Strategy D4.2 –** *Implement a coordinated, integrated ecosystem monitoring program*
Potential Partners and Roles	Potential partners include: (1) WDFW (lead for monitoring toxics – analyze data and submit to Puget Sound Partnership); (2) Puget Sound Partnership (update Toxics in Fish Vital sign and Puget Sound Update with new data).
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Toxic contaminant data for Pacific herring and English sole samples collected in 2014 and 2013
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place December 2014 • Work completed by September 2016
Estimated Budget	**Approximately $91,400**
OUTCOMES **Short-term** **Intermediate** **Long-term**	• Chemical analyses of these indicator species are key components of the Puget Sound Partnership's Toxics in Fish Vital Sign and State of the Sound report. This work will ensure reporting to these outreach vehicles is kept current. • Identify whether the State is meeting intermediate goals defined for Puget Sound recovery in the Puget Sound Partnership's Action Agenda • Ensure the continuity of this long-term indicator of Puget Sound ecosystem health, and its use in evaluating the success of recovery efforts. Maintain the ability to track time trends in contaminant loads in benthic (seafloor) and pelagic (open water) indicator species.
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

II. Introduction to FFY 2015 Projects

Our investments with FFY15 funds, if available, will continue to leverage past work of the Grant Program. Projects will focus on communicating results, and proliferating and institutionalizing successful strategies, approaches, and program models. The focus will be on projects that will contribute to Puget Sound recovery efforts long beyond the end of the Grant Program.

The following projects are proposed for FFY15. Final project scopes and budgets will depend on availability of funds.

Project 1: Monitor Restoration Projects

This project advances the Puget Sound Action Agenda, as well as the Biennial Science Work Plan (BSWP).

- Habitat Strategic Initiative: Focus on addressing hardened and altered shorelines
- BSWP research priorities on ecosystem-based management of forage fish in Puget Sound

Project 2: Advance Oil Spill Prevention, Preparedness, and Response

This project advances priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda.

- Aligned with Habitat Strategic Initiative: Focus on addressing oil spill threats, including C8.1NTA2
- 2014 Proposed updates to local NTAs: *Depending on the scope of work*, this investment could potentially contribute to:
    - ✓ C8.1 NTA 2
    - ✓ C8.2 SJI 1 and/or SJI 2
    - ✓ C8.2 STRT 12, STRT 13, and/or STRT 14

Project 3: Institutionalize Successful Stewardship and Incentive Strategies

These projects will support or advance priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda.

- Aligned with Habitat Strategic Initiative: Focus on addressing hardened and altered shorelines, including B2.3 NTA 1 *depending on the scope of work*
- Contributes to progress on the shoreline armoring ecosystem recovery target
- 2014 Proposed updates to local NTAs: The following LNTAs include a focus on reducing armoring, and may be supported by this project *depending on the scope of work*
    - ✓ B1.2 WC 2, SC 4, STRT 15, and/or STRT 25
    - ✓ B1.3 SJI 9
    - ✓ B2.3 SJI 11, ISL 4, and/or ISL 5

Project 4: Disseminate Grant Program Project Results

This project will support or advance many priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda by ensuring insights and information gathered from past investments support Puget Sound recovery efforts, from reducing shoreline armoring to addressing threats from oil spills.

Project 5: Proliferate Successful Program Models and Approaches

This project will support or advance multiple priorities and strategies of the Puget Sound Action Agenda by proliferating successful approaches from past investments that support Puget Sound recovery efforts.

The Marine and Nearshore LO will continue to provide PSP with requested project information on subaward projects for inclusion in the PSP Project Atlas database, on an annual basis.

FY15 Project 1	**Monitor Restoration Projects** *Adaptive Management*
Main Objectives	• Conduct continued monitoring of armoring removal and eelgrass restoration sites to evaluate the success and ecological benefits of the restoration.
Description	Monitor previous investments in beach and eelgrass restoration to evaluate the longer-term success and ecological benefits of the restoration, and to contribute to regional understanding of the role restoration plays in Puget Sound recovery.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy B1.1 –** *Use complete, accurate and recent information in shoreline planning and decision making at the site-specific and regional levels* • **Sub-Strategy D3.1 –** *Work collaboratively to track and report on implementation performance* • **Sub-Strategy D3.2 –** *Work collaboratively to report on recovery progress* • **Sub-Strategy D4.2 –** *Implement a coordinated, integrated ecosystem monitoring program*
Potential Partners and Roles	Local or tribal governments, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and/or others
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Multiple ongoing monitoring efforts conducted
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place December 2015 • Final work completed by September 2017
Estimated Budget	$150,000
OUTCOMES **Short-term**	• Report on ongoing monitoring of restoration sites provides a longer-term picture of restoration's benefits to marine and nearshore habitat
Intermediate	• Increased regional knowledge about the benefits of restoration • Identification of additional research questions
Long-term	• Continued strategic restoration of important habitat in order to advance Puget Sound recovery • Enhanced overall health of Puget Sound
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

FY15 Project 2	**Advance Oil Spill Prevention, Preparedness, and Response** *High-Priority Threats – Oil Spills*
Main Objectives	• Contribute to local and regional oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response efforts. • Leverage results of past investments such as the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment and local oil spill preparedness and response projects.
Description	Make targeted contributions to local and regional efforts in oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response, based on the results and successes of past efforts. Focus on proliferating and institutionalizing results so investments continue to support Puget Sound recovery efforts beyond the life of the Lead Organization.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy C1.5 –** *Control wastewater and other sources of pollution such as oil and toxics from boats and vessels* • **Sub-Strategy C8.1 –** *Prevent and reduce the risk of oil spills* • **Sub-Strategy C8.2 –** *Strengthen and integrate spill response readiness of the state, tribes, and local government* • ***Potentially (depending on scope)*** *- C8.1 NTA 2, C8.2 STRT 2, C8.3 SJI 2 and/or NTA4*
Potential Partners and Roles	Local or tribal governments, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and/or others
Outputs/ Deliverables	• One or more projects that leverage earlier results and provide lasting contributions to oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response.
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place December 2015 • Final work completed by September 2017
Estimated Budget	$200,000
OUTCOMES **Short-term** **Intermediate** **Long-term**	 • Local and regional oil spill efforts enhanced. • Reduced threat that large or catastrophic oil spills could overwhelm Puget Sound recovery • Enhanced overall health of Puget Sound through protected habitat
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

FY15 Project 3	**Institutionalize Successful Stewardship and Incentive Strategies** *Effective Regulation and Stewardship*
Main Objectives	• Based on early results and successes of earlier investments, as well as local and regional priorities, institutionalize stewardship and incentive strategies that motivate landowners to voluntarily reduce armoring, and use softer alternatives where appropriate. • Establish capacity and programs throughout the region that will continue to benefit Puget Sound beyond the life of the Marine and Nearshore Lead Organization.
Description	Previous investments have funded projects that test incentive approaches based on the results of the Social Marketing Strategy to Reduce Puget Sound Shoreline Armoring, as well as projects that strive to improve targeted stewardship and incentive strategies. Based on early results and successful strategies, establish foundations for ongoing work that will benefit Puget Sound shoreline habitat by reducing development pressure.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy B2.3** - *Remove armoring, and use soft armoring replacement or landward setback when armoring fails, needs repair, is non-protective, and during redevelopment* • **Sub-Strategy B2.1** - *Permanently protect priority shoreline habitat, including shorelines* • ***Potentially (depending on scope)*** *– B1.3 SJI 7 and/or B2.3 NTA 1* • **Sub-Strategies D5.2 -** *Develop and promote science-based targeted communications and behavior change strategies;* ***D5.3 -*** *Enable and encourage residents to take informed stewardship action*; and ***D5.4 -*** *Improve effectiveness of local and regional awareness-building and behavior change programs through vetted messages, proven strategies and outcome-based evaluation.*
Potential Partners and Roles	Local or tribal governments, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and/or others
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Multiple programs throughout the Sound that enhance incentive-based approaches to shoreline armoring in order to reduce development pressure on Puget Sound nearshore habitat.
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place December 2015 • Final work completed by September 2017
Estimated Budget	$1,000,000
OUTCOMES **Short-term** **Intermediate** **Long-term**	 • Successful techniques and strategies institutionalized at the local and regional levels • Increased public knowledge and engagement regarding hard armoring alternatives • Measurable progress towards hard armoring reduction in Puget Sound • Enhanced overall health of Puget Sound through restored and protected ecosystem functions
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

FY15 Project 4	**Disseminate Grant Program Project Results** *Adaptive Management*
Main Objectives	• Continue to use a strategic approach disseminate investment results to targeted audiences in the Puget Sound region to inform and contribute to Puget Sound recovery • Ensure long-term benefits to the region from earlier investments of the Lead Organization
Description	Continue strategic efforts to disseminate results of earlier investments to targeted audiences in the region in order to contribute to Puget Sound recovery efforts beyond the life of the Lead Organization.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy D3.2 –** *Work collaboratively to report on recovery progress* • **Sub-Strategy D5.2 –** *Collaboratively develop and promote science-based targeted communications and behavior change strategies across the region* • **Sub-Strategy D5.4 –** *Improve effectiveness of local and regional awareness-building and behavior change programs through vetted messages, proven strategies and outcome-based evaluation.*
Potential Partners and Roles	Local or tribal governments, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and/or others
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Results are disseminated to multiple audiences
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place December 2015 • Final work completed by September 2017
Estimated Budget	$200,000
OUTCOMES **Short-term** **Intermediate** **Long-term**	• Results are disseminated to the region • Increased regional knowledge and implementation of results • Management decisions and approaches informed by project results and successes • Improved outcomes for the overall health of Puget Sound
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

FY15 Project 5	**Proliferate Successful Program Models and Approaches** *Effective Regulation and Stewardship, Cross-Cutting, or others depending on projects*
Main Objectives	• Based on results and successes of earlier investments, analysis of Lead Organization investment outcomes (FFY14), and local and regional priorities, proliferate successful program models and approaches to other areas in the region. • Leverage benefits of past investments and increase contribution of Lead Organization investments to Puget Sound recovery.
Description	Previous investments in projects across investment categories, from effective regulation and stewardship to high priority threats, have contributed to the region's efforts to address the greatest threats to marine and nearshore habitat. With FFY14 funds, the Lead Organization will invest in an analysis of the outcomes of earlier investments and their connections to Puget Sound recovery. Based on past results, select multiple successful program models and approaches to proliferate.
2012 Action Agenda Sub-Strategies and NTAs	• **Sub-Strategy B1.1 –** *Use complete, accurate, and recent information in shoreline planning and decision making at the site-specific and regional levels* • **Sub-Strategy D3.1 –** *Work collaboratively to track and report on implementation performance* • **Sub-Strategy D3.2 –** *Work collaboratively to report on recovery progress*
Potential Partners and Roles	Local or tribal governments, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and/or others
Outputs/ Deliverables	• Multiple projects throughout the region that leverage earlier results to establish successful approaches to addressing threats to marine and nearshore habitat.
Estimated Milestones	• Grant agreements in place December 2015 • Final work completed by September 2017
Estimated Budget	$700,000
OUTCOMES **Short-term** **Intermediate** **Long-term**	 • Successful techniques and strategies institutionalized at the local and regional levels • Increased public knowledge and engagement regarding hard armoring alternatives • Enhanced overall health of Puget Sound through restored and protected ecosystem functions
CWA Core	Protecting coastal waters and large ecosystems through the National Estuary Program

Section C: Proposed FFY2014/2015 Budget Summary

I. FFY14/FFY15 Budget

Six-year summary by Investment Area

Marine and Nearshore Protection and Restoration								June 2014
Six-Year Summary by Investment Area								
						FFY 2014	**FFY 2015**	
Total Federal Funds Available	3,089,224	5,480,000		3,600,000	3,320,582	2,581,400	*2,500,000*	
Date awarded to Marine & Nearshore Program	*2/1/2011*	*8/30/2011*		*6/28/2013*		*9/1/2014*		
Federal Fiscal Year (in thousands of dollars)	**2010**	**2011**	**FY10/11 Total**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**Potential Total Funding**
1 **Adaptive Management[1]**	$ 278,030	$ 739,800	$ 1,017,830	$ -	$ -	$ 376,000	$ 1,050,000	2,443,830
2 **Effective Regulation and Stewardship**	$ 1,251,136	$ 1,972,800	$ 3,223,936	$ 850,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 100,000	$ 975,800	6,649,736
3 **Strategic Capital Investment**	$ 695,075	$ 1,233,000	$ 1,928,075	$ 2,133,262	$ 1,287,304	$ 1,813,900		7,162,541
4 **Threat Reduction: Invasives**	$ 139,015	$ 246,600	$ 385,615	$ -	$ 100,000			485,615
5 **Threat Reduction: Oil Spill**	$ 139,015	$ 246,600	$ 385,615	$ -	$ -		$ 200,000	585,615
6 **Set-Aside for Crosscutting Issues**	$ 278,030	$ 493,200	$ 771,230	$ -	$ -	$ 91,400		862,630
7 **Program Management and Indirect Charges**	$ 308,922	$ 548,000	$ 856,922	$ 616,738	$ 433,278	$ 200,100	$ 274,200	2,381,238
Sum Total	$ 3,089,224	$ 5,480,000	$ 8,569,224	$ 3,600,000	$ 3,320,582	$ 2,581,400	$ 2,500,000	20,571,206
Percentage of Federal Dollars by Year	**2010**	**2011**	**% of FFY10/11**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**% of Total**
1 **Adaptive Management[1]**	9%	14%	12%	0%	0%	15%	42%	12%
2 **Effective Regulation and Stewardship**	41%	36%	38%	24%	45%	4%	39%	32%
3 **Strategic Capital Investment**	23%	23%	23%	59%	39%	70%	0%	35%
4 **Threat Reduction: Invasives**	5%	5%	5%	0%	3%	0%	0%	2%
5 **Threat Reduction: Oil Spill**	5%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	8%	3%
6 **Set-Aside for Crosscutting Issues**	9%	9%	9%	0%	0%	4%	0%	4%
7 **Program Management and Indirect Charges**	10%	10%	10%	17%	13%	8%	11%	12%
Total Percent	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

FY14 and FY15 Summary

Marine and Nearshore Protection and Restoration FFY 2014- 2015

FFY14 Summary

Object Class	Adaptive Management[1]	Effective Regulation and Stewardship	Strategic Capital Investment	Threat Reduction: Invasives	Threat Reduction: Oil Spill	Set-Aside for Crosscutting Issues	Program Managment & Indirect	Total
A. Personnel							$ 112,905	$ 112,905
B. Fringe Benefits							$ 40,060	$ 40,060
C. Travel							$ 150	$ 150
D. Equipment							$ -	$ -
E. Supplies							$ 3,134	$ 3,134
F. Contractual							$ -	$ -
H. Other (grants)	$ 376,000	$ 100,000	$1,813,900			$ 91,400	$ -	$2,381,300
I.Total Direct	$ 376,000	$ 100,000	$1,813,900			$ 91,400	$ 156,249	$2,537,549
J. Indirect Charges (28.06%)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -		$ -	$ 43,851	$ 43,851
K. Total	$ 376,000	$ 100,000	$1,813,900	$ -	$ -	$ 91,400	$ 200,100	$2,581,400

FFY15 Summary

Object Class	Adaptive Management[1]	Regulation and Stewardship	Strategic Capital Investment	Threat Reduction: Invasives	Threat Reduction: Oil Spill	Set-Aside for Crosscutting Issues	Program Managment & Indirect	Total
A. Personnel							$ 100,967	$ 100,967
B. Fringe Benefits							$ 37,204	$ 37,204
C. Travel							$ 300	$ 300
D. Equipment							$ -	$ -
E. Supplies							$ 3,248	$ 3,248
F. Contractual							$ -	$ -
H. Other (grants)	$ 1,050,000	$ 975,800			$ 200,000		$ 72,400	$2,298,200
I.Total Direct	$ 1,050,000	$ 975,800	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000	$ -	$ 214,119	$2,439,919
J. Indirect Charges (28.06%)							$ 60,081	
K. Total	$ 1,050,000	$ 975,800			$ 200,000		$ 274,200	$2,500,000

II. Matching Resources

All required match is provided by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WADNR). Between the two agencies, all federal funds are matched one-to-one by State funds. For this agreement totaling $5,081,400, WDFW will provide $2,545,700 in matching resources and WADNR will provide $2,545,700.

III. Management of Unliquidated Obligations

The Lead Organization will work to maintain a sufficient rate of project spending to ensure significant progress on drawing down unliquidated obligations over the time period of the Assistance Agreement. Sub-award contracts will end by or before September 2016 for FFY14 funded projects, and by or before September 2017 for FFY15 funded projects. The Lead Organization will include language in sub-award agreements that indicate the agreements may be terminated for failure to make sufficient progress so as to reasonably ensure completion of the project before the end of the contract. The Lead

Organization will also monitor progress on projects on a project-appropriate timeline to promptly identify any severe delays based on the project timelines established in the scopes of work.

IV. Staff

Patricia Jatczak, *Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program Manager*
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Co-lead of the Marine and Nearshore LO. Responsible for implementing the Cooperative Agreement with EPA.

Margaret McKeown, *Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program Manager*
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Co-lead of the Marine and Nearshore LO. Responsible for implementing the Cooperative Agreement with EPA.

Maria Hunter, *Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program Specialist*
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Assistant to the Co-leads. Provides overall support to the Grant Program.

D. Appendix 1: Summary of Comments & Responses

Listening Session Feedback

Early in development of this work plan, the Grant Program sought feedback on proposed investment themes for FFY14/FFY15 funds. Since interested people may not have been able to attend any of the sessions, the workplan documents and presentation materials were sent to our interested parties list.

We received written feedback from 12 individuals or entities. The following is a summary of the written comments received on areas for investment, and the Grant Program's responses.

COMMENT	RESPONSE
GENERAL WORKPLAN COMMENTS	
- You will be the most effective for the nearshore if you keep autonomy in developing and implementing criteria for priorities for nearshore protection (first), restoration (at a drift cell, and ecosystem scale-second), and/or stewardship (tied for first). Much of the local and regional 'recovery' funding process has become closed-with lots of duplication in/on technical and committee representation at the local and state levels of our ever growing state salmon restoration processes (e.g. SRFB,PSAR, LIO's etc.)-and with ever heightened political influences. These entities should be considered as you proceed, but absolutely should not drive EPA's decision processes, which address a broader, national, and independent mandate. - Climate change and ocean acidification are fascinating but not appropriate for state and local level protection efforts. - This funding should remain focused on marine habitat and community work to protect it. - We found that Ecosystem Services Valuations (ESV) are by far the best and most tractable way to engage local citizens and motivate protection measures. ESV workshops should therefore be a top priority. - The current WDF/DNR funding track works well and should be kept. - Prioritize protection and restoration (drift cell or ecosystem scale ONLY) recommendations. Substantive ecosystem protection should be a top priority for this funding, and drift cell, ecosystem scale restoration a lower second priority. Site specific 'restoration' projects should be dropped from prioritization and left to other funding arenas that are already set up for this often salmon centric work. *Anne Shaffer, CWI*	The LO takes into consideration many factors when developing our workplans, in particular local and regional priorities of the Puget Sound Action Agenda. We plan to analyze funded projects and determine which successful project models to replicate and ways to communicate the results. LO funds are dedicated to marine and nearshore restoration and protection, and subject matter experts are consulted to help us determine the most effective course of action for our LO. We are funding the constructions of a three beach restoration projects that we funded the design for last year. Although these restorations are not at the drift cell scale, they advance multiple priories of the Action Agenda and contribute towards progress on the shoreline armoring ecosystem recovery target.
- Don't require a match for RFPs. - Provide three-month lead times on deadlines to submit grant applications for RFPs. A three month lead allows sufficient time to collaborate and partner on proposals. *John Cambalik, Strait ERN*	The LO does not typically require a match, except for large protection and restoration projects. We try to provide as much lead time for applications as we can. Given our increasingly tight timeline for spend-down, this will not always be possible.

- Avoid to the maximum extent practicable Soundwide projects that produce "model ordinances;" these have failed in the past. - How will success and effectiveness of "toolkits" be measured? What happens if they fail? - We support the Puget Sound Integrated Risk Assessment and Pressures Assessment work. - Social marketing on shoreline armoring has been attempted several times in the past; we remain somewhat skeptical about the continued investment in this project line. - LO NEP funds should no longer support strategic capital investments, these projects are large capital projects that divert substantial sums and thwart buy in by local jurisdictions outside of the immediate project areas. - Intensive work should be invested in ensuring recently adopted SMPs monitor and adaptively manage shoreline infrastructure repair/replacements; LO remaining grant rounds can and should support this. *Patty Charnas, Kitsap County*	We plan to analyze earlier projects and determine successful project models to replicate and ways to communicate the results. We do plan to invest some FFY14 funds in strategic capital investment, but it will be targeted and build on specific work funded through our previous work plan. Although our workplan does not directly target monitoring implementation of SMPs regarding shoreline armoring, projects proposed for FFY15 include proliferating and institutionalizing successful strategies and program models. It is possible these projects could include a related focus on effective regulation.
- LO proposals for Rounds 5 and 6 do not assess the incremental benefits of using NEP funds to enhance existing programs (e.g., additional inspectors, contribution to woodstove program, PIC programs). - Direct or encourage each LO to make at least a portion of its Round 5 and 6 LO investments in scientific investigations through competitive awards. - Provide funding and other support for efforts by separate 'recovery groups' for each of PSP's ecosystem recovery targets to refine and document "implementation strategies." *John Stein, PSP Science Panel*	We plan to analyze previously funded projects and determine successful project models to replicate and ways to communicate the results, and potentially projects to enhance. The LO has funded several scientific investigations previously, and will focus on making sure those results are available to those who can use them in a format they can use. In addition with FFY14 funds and FFY15 funds, if available, we are funding monitoring of ecological benefits of marine and nearshore habitat restoration, which will provide a valuable scientific contribution to Puget Sound recovery efforts.
INTEGRATION OF SCIENCE FINDINGS	
- Dedicate resources to science based forums that focus on working with local place based individual landowners and small non-Tribal communities instead of routing yet more money thru ever constricting (and often duplicative) forums (e.g. RCO, etc.). - You should make a priority to build on integrating science findings-including those borne out of the last funding round- into regulatory frameworks, policy and management frameworks, and community dialogues. - Addressing-thru continued funding- science data gaps identified in your last funding round. *Anne Shaffer, CWI*	With FFY14, as well as FFY15 funds if available, we will support dissemination of results to various audiences, which will likely include policy and management, regulatory programs, and communities. With FFY14, as well as FFY15 funds if available, we will support monitoring of restoration and reporting on results. The LO has funded scientific investigations previously. In the remaining years, it is not feasible to fund new investigations. The current focus is to make sure those results are available to those who can use them in a format they can use.

INSTITUTIONALIZATION/DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS	
I like the emphasis on getting the word out and institutionalizing results. I would like to make sure that these aren't considered two separate funding or project lines; however, as I think the effectiveness of both requires integrating the ideas. *Kelly Biedenweg, PSI*	With FFY14 funds, project results will be analyzed for both opportunities to disseminate results and to institutionalize successful program models and approaches. Implementation will likely also be integrated.
- Long term and consistent dialogue for productive community/landowner based stewardship. Technical assistance has to be consistent, and the information substantive, and germane to home owner needs. - Being able to use some of our project funds for 'debriefings' would be very useful. - On the ground, face to face forms of communication are the most effective. You can use online media for literature libraries, fun highlights, etc. - In our experience NGO's are the best avenue for integrating new information. *Anne Shaffer, CWI*	With FFY14 funds, project results will be analyzed for both opportunities to disseminate results and to institutionalize successful program models and approaches. Implementation will likely also be integrated. A communications strategy will be developed which will inform best ways to disseminate results.
Allow public awareness and education that is targeted toward the proposed implementation of the local NTA, to be an allowable component for funding within each RFP. *John Cambalik, Strait ERN*	Targeted public awareness and education is allowed in sub-grantee agreements where applicable.
MONITORING	
In years 5 and 6, include funds from among these four Lead Organizations to both support and integrate local volunteer ambient monitoring (i.e., of freshwater and marine ecosystems) and data analysis programs into the regional Coordinated Ecosystem Monitoring Program. *John Cambalik, Strait ERN*	Although local volunteer ambient monitoring is not included in our FFY14/15 workplan, we will invest in monitoring of restoration projects, and reporting on results to benefit regional science and management efforts.
There remains a need to develop a more systematic approach to how monitoring and research is considered for funding by the Lead Organizations. We suggest that EPA and the LOs engage the Puget Sound Science Panel and the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program to create a predictable system for considering science investments under the LOs. *Leadership Council, PSP*	With FFY14 funds, and FFY15 funds if available, we will invest in monitoring of eelgrass and beach restoration projects, and reporting on results to benefit regional science and management efforts. Development of the monitoring approach will be a collaborative process. Our FFY14 workplan also provide funds for ongoing toxics monitoring in fish.
NTAs/LIOs	
- Assure that the Year 5 and 6 Work Plans recognize the local NTAs recently submitted by LIOs for the 2014-2016 Puget Sound Action Agenda update. - Develop a common set of criteria, with sufficient detail, for use in a region-wide pre-proposal application for local NTAs. Once completed, such a pre-proposal could then be	Our investments for FFY14 and FFY15, if available, are closely aligned with local and regional priorities of the Action Agenda, including NTAs proposed for the 2014 update. We will consider the use of a pre-proposal

used collaboratively by the LO and LIO, in full consultation and partnership with the local applicants (and their partners), to determine if the proposed project should go forward to the full application phase of the process. *John Cambalik, Strait ERN*	phase for future competitive processes, which would include a clear and detailed set of criteria. The criteria currently used by the Lead Organization typically include common themes, such as ecological benefits to Puget Sound and cost effectiveness.
- We see a continued need to structure the work planning to reflect the Action Agenda and strategic initiatives to ensure the highest priority work is completed first. - We recommend that provisions be included in each of the LO cooperative agreements to provide meaningful preference for funding proposals that implement the specific LIO near term actions. *Leadership Council/PSP*	Our investments for FFY14 and FFY15, if available, are closely aligned with sub-strategies and NTAs of the 2012 Puget Sound Action Agenda, the Habitat Strategic Initiative, and local and regional NTAs proposed for the 2014 update to the Action Agenda, just as they were in all previous funding years.
- We believe the balance of funding for the 5th and 6th grant rounds should be closely coordinated with the NTAs of the Action Areas Local Integrating Organizations' NTAs; local/LIO NTA actions with direct proportionality to the LO Action Agenda sub strategies should be prioritized for funding. - LO funds that support State Agency projects and activities preclude investment and buy-in at the local levels. - More alignment, active partnering and cross-accountability with the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council is advised. *Patty Charnas, Kitsap County*	Our investments for FFY14 and FFY15, if available, are closely aligned with sub-strategies and NTAs of the 2012 Puget Sound Action Agenda, the Habitat Strategic Initiative, and local and regional NTAs proposed for the 2014 update to the Action Agenda. Our investments have also contributed to several salmon recovery plan priorities. Funds are only awarded to state agencies when they are determined to be the entity best poised to produce the result the LO is seeking for Puget Sound.
COORDINATION OF INVESTMENTS	
- Our over-arching comment is that NEP funding should be directed, whenever possible, to large, multiple benefit actions that promote coordination among different entities and different funding sources. As we understand them, the presentations lay out investment areas that are so numerous and so diffuse, it seems likely to perpetuate the existing "peanut butter" approach to Puget Sound funding. For that reason, we would urge a narrowing of focus, the prioritization of large project planning funding, and implementation of regionally significant multi-benefit actions. - We would urge you to emphasize restoration and focus on a strategy to bridge other sources with grants that emulate the "coordinated investment" approach. *Mo McBroom, The Nature Conservancy*	The LOs cooperative agreement with EPA lays out five areas of investment for marine and nearshore, and it our obligation to make progress in those areas according to the priorities of the Action Agenda. The short funding cycle of the grant program is not suitable for long-term, complex projects. The concept of bridging other sources will be considered in restoration projects.
We did not hear of any cross-LO vision or strategy that articulates how LOs' efforts and proposals are mutually reinforcing and suggests areas for cross-cutting investments. This 'stove-pipe' approach propagates the structural weakness of a discipline-centric approach to ecosystem recovery.	A significant portion of our LO's six-year strategy and our investments have been centered on cross-cutting behavior change strategies, and we have and will continue to work closely with the Stewardship LO. We

John Stein, PSP Science Panel	have also partnered with the Science Panel on the Puget Sound Pressures Assessment, and made cross-cutting investments in funding two projects to study toxics in biota.
INCORPORATION/ANALYSIS OF PRIOR INVESTMENTS	
- LO's proposals for Rounds 5 and 6, the last two years of a six-year award, are not explicitly responding to information derived from prior investments, resulting in missed opportunities to improve program effectiveness by learning from prior investments, by increasing investments in promising and productive programs, and by ending less fruitful endeavors. - While there was some mention of plans to pivot funding to focus on learning from prior investments in Round 5 and 6 (i.e., the Marine-Nearshore LO emphasis on making project results broadly available and Toxics-Nutrients LO suggestion of a nutrient science synthesis), the majority of proposed work appears not to benefit from such analysis. - Invest a substantial fraction of FFY14 funds in analysis of outputs and outcomes of Puget Sound NEP investments to date, including the first 4 years of LO awards -- to set the stage for the next phase of federal investment in Puget Sound ecosystem recovery. Coordinate this analysis with PSP's proposed efforts to answer effectiveness questions by rolling up results from local studies to inform decision-making. - Encourage LO investments that will develop syntheses of scientific findings and project and program experiences. To the extent possible, these investments should also develop syntheses across LO's and integrate the results of LO and others' programs. - Direct or encourage LO's to analyze and describe the benefit of the incremental NEP investments as they augment ongoing programs. *John Stein, PSP Science Panel*	We disagree that our approach is not explicitly responding to information derived from prior investments. With FFY14 funds, we will invest in an analysis of results of past projects, their connections to local and regional recovery efforts, and opportunities for disseminating results and institutionalizing successful program models and approaches. With FFY15 funds, if available, we will continue to invest in disseminating results, and will support projects that directly proliferate successful strategies of past investments.
BIENNIAL SCIENCE WORK PLAN	
- Encourage LO's to refer to Part III of the 2014-16 Biennial Science Work Plan (BSWP) to identify priority topics for scientific investigation. - Support the Science Panel's recommendations for improved approaches to science-based ecosystem recovery, as described in Part IV of the 2014-16 Biennial Science Work Plan. *John Stein, PSP Science Panel*	Past investments of the Marine and Nearshore Lead Organization contribute to a number of priorities identified in Part III of the 2014-16 BSWP, such as: - Puget Sound Pressure Assessment - Toxic Contaminant Monitoring in Mussels - Outfall Assessment and the Effects on Critical Nearshore Habitats - Ecosystem Services Valuation for Clallam County (part of Protecting the Strait of Juan de Fuca Nearshore project) - Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment - Social Marketing Strategy to Reduce Puget Sound Shoreline Armoring

	- Tidal Elevation of Spawn Study, and Cumulative Effects of Armor Assessment (part of Protecting Ecosystem Functions with Sea Level Rise and Cumulative Effects Management Tools project) A complete project list is found at: http://wdfw.wa.gov/grants/ps_marine_nearshore/funded_projects.html With FFY14 and FFY15 funds, if available, we will invest in monitoring restoration projects, which will contribute to the region's understanding of benefits of improved habitat for forage fish and other species. We will also invest in disseminating results of past investments so they can contribute to regional science and management efforts.
LEGACY	
- LO proposals for Rounds 5 and 6 do not generally describe how ongoing programs will be positioned and/or can be sustained following their investments. - The Pathogens LO description of "NEP legacy" is an approach that could be more broadly implemented across the Puget Sound NEP effort. - Use these final years of LO investments to position programs to be sustained after the LO investments. I commend the Pathogen LO's discussion of the "NEP legacy" and support the suggestions by the Marine-Nearshore LO to "get the word out" and "institutionalize results." *John Stein, PSP Science Panel*	We intend to invest both FFY14 and FFY15 funds, if available, in projects and programs that are positioned to achieve ongoing benefits to Puget Sound beyond the funding window of the Lead Organization.
OIL SPILLS	
Include funds in Year 5 and 6 for Local Oil Spill Preparedness Projects utilizing a portion of the funds from both the Marine and Nearshore Protection and Restoration and the Toxics and Nutrients Prevention, Management, and Control LO programs. *John Cambalik, Strait ERN*	We plan to continue investing in oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response with FFY15 funding, if available. Project details will be based on the results and recommendations of past investments in local oil spill preparedness and response projects, as well as the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment.
We are pleased to see the issue of oil spills as a prominent funding strategy. We urge you to continue to invest in vessel traffic risk assessment and vessel safety. One important avenue for this work is participation in and funding for a trans-boundary dialogue through the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee's work group. Specifically, NEP funds should be used to advance the idea of a trans-boundary vessel traffic summit to be convened by the Makah Tribe. *Mo McBroom, The Nature Conservancy*	We plan to continue investing in oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response with FFY15 funding, if available. Project details will be based on the results and recommendations of past investments in local oil spill preparedness and response projects, as well as the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the Puget Sound Partnership Lead Organization's proposed major Puget Sound investment areas. I live in the San Juan Archipelago. Our islands are known as the "Rotary" because vessel traffic from all compass directions converge on the marine waters surrounding the San Juan Islands. These waters are filled with narrow passages, reefs, and rocks –all hazards to marine navigation. Multiple proposals will increase the number of large vessels transiting the Rotary. This is why Strategy C8, "Effectively prevent, plan for, and respond to oil spills" is of major importance for Puget Sound and the entire Salish Sea. A major spill of fossil fuel threatens our marine water quality, habitats, species and food web, our human quality of life, and our economy. Because the recovery of spilled fossil fuel is, at best, around 20%, prevention is key. I applaud the EPA funding for the implementation of the Action Agenda and the EPA's funding for the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment (VTRA) carried out by George Washington University. The recently released VTRA uses the study area's 2010 vessel traffic data as a starting point to model the rise in fossil fuel spill risks resulting from the permitting of two major terminal expansions and the proposed deep-water Gateway Pacific coal export terminal at Cherry Point in Whatcom County, WA. The VTRA identifies potential accidents, collisions, groundings, and the resulting oil outflow. The pressure to increase vessel traffic in Puget Sound and the Salish Sea is led by fossil fuel export expansion. While a few proposals may be modified or even abandoned, vessel traffic will increase. For this reason, expanded risk mitigation measures are necessary. The Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment studies the risk reduction for a series of mitigation measures as applied to the study area's 2010 vessel traffic data as well as additional vessel traffic that would be generated from proposed new and expanded terminal projects (including the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal project and Kinder Morgan's TransMountain Pipeline Expansion project). Finding 7 of the VTRA (page 16, see link below) states, "Even if none of the three individual maritime terminal developments were to come into effect, it is recommended that the risk mitigation measures applied to the 2010 Base Case Scenario be considered for system-wide implementation in the VTRA study area." Any permitting of the additional vessel traffic included in the study warrants the implementation of the additional risk mitigation measures identified in the VTRA, and perhaps others as well. The costs of all mitigation measures should be borne by the corporations and shipping entities that profit from the terminal expansions and vessel transport. But these commercial enterprises will not adopt mitigation measures without a regulatory framework and oversight. I urge the EPA to identify funding for the implementation of the VTRA's risk mitigation measures. Funding for only the VTRA study without providing funding for the implementation of the risk mitigation measures identified in the study does not fulfill the EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment.	We plan to continue investing in oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response with FFY15 funding, if available. Project details will be based on the results and recommendations of past investments in local oil spill preparedness and response projects, as well as the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment.

Janet Alderton	
Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the Puget Sound Partnership Lead Organization's proposed major Puget Sound investment areas. I am an advocate for the Action Agenda's inclusion of the risk of major oil spills as a major threat to Puget Sound's water quality, habitat, species and food web, quality of life, and overall economy and environment. I appreciate EPA's funding for the implementation of the Action Agenda and specifically the EPA's funding for the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment (VTRA). I served on the VTRA Steering Committee through 2012 (representing WSAC (Washington State Association of Counties)) and continued to attend all but one of the meetings in 2013 and 2014. The VTRA identifies potential accidents, collisions, allisions, groundings, and the resulting oil outflow; and analyzes a series of risk mitigation measures; as applied to the study area's 2010 vessel traffic data as well as additional vessel traffic that would be generated from proposed new and expanded terminal projects (including the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal project and Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion project). Finding 7 of the VTRA (page 16, see link below) states, "Even if none of the three individual maritime terminal developments were to come into effect, it is recommended that the risk mitigation measures applied to the 2010 Base Case Scenario be considered for system-wide implementation in the VTRA study area." Any permitting of the additional vessel traffic included in the study warrants the implementation of the additional risk mitigation measures identified in the VTRA, and perhaps others as well. The EPA's funding for the VTRA study without providing funding for the implementation of the risk mitigation measures identified in the study would not fulfill the EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment. I urge the EPA to identify funding for the implementation of the VTRA's risk mitigation measures. Thank you for your attention to these comments. *Lovel Pratt*	We plan to continue investing in oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response with FFY15 funding, if available. Project details will be based on the results and recommendations of past investments in local oil spill preparedness and response projects, as well as the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment.
Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the Puget Sound Partnership Lead Organization's Proposed Major Investment Areas for 2014 - 2015. I am writing as a member of the FRIENDS of the San Juans, a non-profit organization founded 35 years ago to support local efforts to manage growth and protect the natural beauty of the San Juan Islands. I am also a member of the Steering Committee of the San Juans Alliance, which is a consortium of citizens of San Juan County who are concerned about the likely adverse impacts to our economy and environment from the transport of fossil fuels through the Salish Sea and Strait of Juan de Fuca. As a former serving naval officer, and volunteer oil spill responder, I appreciate that the EPA funded the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment (VTRA) and the implementation of the Action	We plan to continue investing in oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response with FFY15 funding, if available. Project details will be based on the results and recommendations of past investments in local oil spill preparedness and response projects, as well as the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment.

Agenda. This study is the vital tool to understanding the growing threats to the marine waters, people, wildlife, and economy of the Puget Sound and Salish Sea from proposed new and expanding terminal projects in our region (including the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal and Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion project). As clearly identified in the 2010 VTRA study, these threats come from vessel impacts and oil loss resulting from the additional general shipping traffic and, in particular, the added amount of hazardous cargo associated with these terminal projects. Though a critical element our understanding of the risks from increased vessel traffic, the VTRA study is only the first step. With the threats now identified and quantified, the EPA needs to complete the process by funding the implementation of the risk mitigation measures for spill prevention and preparedness as identified by the study. Present strategies and measures to protect the marine waters and economy of the region will be inadequate to prevent a major maritime accident without implementing the mitigation measures recommended in the VTRA study. I urge the EPA to identify and allocate funding for the implementation of those measures, particularly oil spill prevention and preparedness, as identified in Finding 7 of the VTRA. Identifying a risk but not taking adequate measures to address that risk doesn't make sense environmentally or economically. *San Olson, FRIENDS of the San Juans*	
Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the Puget Sound Partnership Lead Organization's Proposed Major Investment Areas. I am writing to you as a member of the San Juan Islanders for Safe Shipping, a group of citizens of San Juan County who are concerned about the likely adverse impacts to our economy and our environment from the transport of fossil fuels through the Salish Sea. Thank you to the EPA for funding for the implementation of the Action Agenda and specifically the EPA's funding for the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment (VTRA). The VTRA is a vital tool in the understanding of the increasing threats to the waters, people, wildlife, and economy of Puget Sound and the Salish Sea from the proposed new and expanding terminal projects in our region (including the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal project and Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion project). These threats come in the form of vessel impacts and oil loss resulting from the additional shipping traffic and additional level of hazardous cargo inherent in these terminal projects. Now that many of these threats have been identified and quantified (for example, a 375% increase in the risk of an oil spill in the Haro Strait as a result of the proposed terminal developments), I ask that the EPA follow through with the VTRA – using the regulatory framework and oversight powers with which you are endowed – by funding for the implementation of the risk mitigation measures for ongoing oil	We plan to continue investing in oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response with FFY15 funding, if available. Project details will be based on the results and recommendations of past investments in local oil spill preparedness and response projects, as well as the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment.

spill prevention and preparedness as identified in the study. The funding proposed by the Puget Sound Partnership's Lead Organizations for any programs that would address the current and growing risk of a major oil spill in Puget Sound and the Salish Sea is inadequate in the face of such an intensifying danger. "Even if none of the three individual maritime terminal developments were to come into effect, it is recommended that the risk mitigation measures applied to the 2010 Base Case Scenario be considered for system-wide implementation in the VTRA study area." (Finding 7 of the VTRA) *Ms. Shaun Hubbard, San Juan Islanders for Safe Shipping*	
Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the Puget Sound Partnership Lead Organization's Proposed Major Investment Areas. On behalf of over 2000 members of FRIENDS of the San Juans, a non-profit organization founded in 1979 to support local efforts to manage growth and protect the natural beauty and rich wildlife in Washington's San Juan Islands, I encourage you to preserve your investment in our marine waters. Locally, I serve on the San Juan Islands Local Integrating Organization Implementation Committee, and other local and regional and trans-boundary campaigns to protect and improve the health of Puget Sound and the Salish Sea for people and wildlife. Our LIO has identified a major oil spill as the top threat to our Action Area impacting our water quality, fish and wildlife, and our economy. Funding from the Environmental Protection for the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment (VTRA) was a critical step in preserving our waters and one of the best early action items that you could invest in Puget Sound. We applaud your contribution toward this study. Thank you for that investment in the Puget Sound. However, now it the time to ramp up your investment. With proposed new and expanded terminal projects including the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal project and Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion project, coupled with expansion in Anacortes refineries, understanding the increased threats to our waters from increased vessel traffic was a critical first step in protecting water, wildlife and property values in Puget Sound. The investment by your organization in the VTRA will be fruitless without implementing the recommendations for additional risk mitigation, and adequate spill preparedness in the Islands. I urge the EPA to identify and allocate funding for the implementation of the VTRA's risk mitigation measures; and, for ongoing oil spill prevention and preparedness from the increased threat of vessel impacts resulting from this additional traffic, and additional level of hazardous cargo. I appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on where to invest our limited federal dollars in Puget Sound. *Stephanie Buffum, FRIENDS of the San Juans*	We plan to continue investing in oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response with FFY15 funding, if available. Project details will be based on the results and recommendations of past investments in local oil spill preparedness and response projects, as well as the Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment.

Appendix 2: Internal Sub-recipient Policies and Procedures

a) Guidance to Sub-recipients

Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program

Protecting Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Habitat

To: Grantees
From: The Puget Sound Marine & Nearshore Grant Program Team
Date:
Subject: Guidance on Grant Agreement Requirements

The Grant Program Team has compiled this guidance to help you in managing the administrative details of your grant with us.

I. Producing Deliverables and Invoicing Steps

Please follow these steps when submitting deliverables and invoices to the Grant Program.

1) The grantee sends the deliverables as agreed to in the SOW to their project officer (PO). We review the deliverables to determine if they are complete and reimbursable. If there are questions or more information is needed, the PO and grantee resolve the issue.
2) PO accepts the deliverables and we notify the grantee that they can invoice WDFW for those approved deliverables.
3) Grantee submits invoice to the Grant Program. Email your invoice to Patricia Jatczak (patricia.jatczak@dfw.wa.gov).
4) The Grant Program submits grantee invoices for payment.

Things to remember when sending an invoice

You do not need to provide documentation with your invoice for the costs of the deliverables (receipts, etc.)unless the description of the deliverable in the contract indicates you should do so.

- Please use the attached "Marine and Nearshore Grant Invoice", included with this guidance.
- Please bill as soon as the Grant Program has approved your deliverables.

II. FEATS Reporting and Final Performance Report

Procedure for completing the FEATS report:

1) The Grant Program will provide you a prefilled FEATS form that includes your project SOW and budget.
    - If you have previously completed a FEATS form, your prior data is still in the form. Please update the information on the status of tasks, costs, and other items where necessary.
2) Grantees will provide information on project progress and spending (all fields in yellow).
3) Grantees can work with the Grant Program to complete the FEATS.
4) Grantee sends the completed FEATS form to the Grant Program email, no later than April 15th and October 15th, every year of the the Grant Period.

5) Grant Program will review and follow-up if there are any questions.
6) The Grant Program compiles information from ALL of the grantees into our own FEATS report.
7) The Grant Program FEATS report is due to EPA no later than April 30 and October 31 every year (*So you see why you have to get yours in on time!).*

The report asks for 'Amount Spent to-date' as well as 'Amount Reimbursed to-date'. This information is important to EPA to determine how much progress is being made that is not captured in Amount Reimbursed to-date.

- **Amount Spent to-date:** It is important that you detail as closely as possible the actual amount spent on a project—not just amounts that have been billed to the Grant Program. This also includes amount spent (or costs incurred) by your sub-contractors. Please get a spent-to-date report through the end of the reporting period, *even if contractors have not billed you* (Form field 9).
- **Amount Reimbursed to-date:** Amount reimbursed is what you have actually billed the Grant Program, through the end of the reporting period (Form field 10).

III. Adjustments to Budget Once Grant Agreement is in Place

The following details describe the circumstance under which budgets can be adjusted once Grant Agreements are in place:

- Any changes to the project budget in your Statement of Work require written approval of the Grant Program. This can typically be done through email.
- If it becomes apparent that a project task or deliverable will require *up to 10% over* the dollar amount specified in the final SOW, that amount can be moved from another task or deliverable with Grant Program approval, as long as it does not jeopardize the deliverable that is losing funds. The total grant amount will not increase.
- This shift can occur once during the grant period.
- An increase beyond 10% for a task or deliverable will most likely require an amendment to the Grant Agreement.
- If it becomes apparent that a project task or deliverable will require *less than the dollar amount specified* in the final SOW (*assuming the deliverable is still being accomplished as described in the SOW*), the surplus can be moved to another deliverable with approval from the Grant Program. The Grant Program might require a corresponding increase to the deliverable, on a case-by-case basis.

For example, Task 1, Deliverable 1 is a draft report that ends up costing less than expected to complete. The Grant Program approves moving the surplus to deliverable 2, which is the final report. This move increases the budget for deliverable 2 by 30%. Deliverable 2 adds an additional section (*such as a new analysis or piece of research*) to the final report that was not originally planned in the SOW.

IV. Federal Term & Condition: Peer Review

The Peer Review programmatic condition in the Grant Program's federal provisions states:

"The results of this project may affect management decisions relating to Puget Sound. Prior to finalizing any significant technical products the Principal Investigator (PI) of this project must solicit advice, review and feedback from a technical review or advisory group consisting of relevant subject matter specialists.

A record of comments and a brief description of how respective comments are addressed by the PI will be provided to the WDFW Project Manager prior to releasing any final reports or products resulting from the funded study."

The following details are intended to help Project Teams comply with this condition.

- The Grant Program considers "significant technical products" those that gather, analyze, and/or model environmental data, or otherwise produce new and/or highly technical information, in order to guide decision making for entities beyond the Project Team or beyond the geographic scope of the project. For example, this might include mapping environmental features in order to provide regulatory programs a tool to implement their shoreline regulations.
- For each significant technical product, at least two subject-matter specialists should review and comment on the product. If the product covers more than one technical discipline, at least two specialists for each discipline should review and comment. For example, if the product includes a significant biological study as well as a significant geomorphological study, at least four specialists should be included in the review, two specialists in each discipline.
- The Grant Program reserves the right to include subject-matter specialists in the review in addition to those identified by the Project Team.
- In addition to a record of comments and how they were addressed, include in documentation to the Grant Program the names of reviewers, relevant affiliations, and a brief description of their expertise.
- Statements of work should identify which tasks include peer review and include as a deliverable the record of comments, responses, and information about reviewers. The Grant Program will provide a standard format to Project Teams for this reporting.
- Subject-matter specialists should not be selected for peer review if they have a real or perceived bias or conflict of interest, such as receiving funds from the grant-funded project or having a professional stake in results described in the product.
- Peer Review Reports must be delivered to the Grant Program before the technical product being reviewed is finalized.
- Include the following information in the Peer Review Report:
    - Task
    - Name of Technical Product
    - Reviewer Name; Affiliation; Description of expertise relative to the product
    - List each comment for each reviewer
    - Document how each comment was addressed

V. Federal Term & Condition: QAPP, or Quality Assurance Project Plan

The Grant Program has worked with all Project Teams to determine whether or not a QAPP is required (EPA Programmatic T&C #6). Some additional clarifying guidance for projects that do not require a QAPP, and for parts of projects that do not require a QAPP, has been provided by the Grant Program's Quality Assurance Coordinator.

ALL Project Teams must submit a waiver determination form, EVEN IF they only check a "Yes" box identifying the need to develop a quality assurance project plan (QAPP).

- If all aspects of the project are cause for checking "Yes", then the process may be as simple as checking the box(es) and sending the form to the QA coordinator.
- For many projects, the "non-QAPP" tasks (*those that wouldn't result in a "Yes", such as conducting a public awareness workshop*) all need to be documented on the form, and should describe project objectives and how they will be assessed (*quantitatively and*

qualitatively). Most of this information can be cut-and-pasted from proposals or scopes of work.

- After Project Team fills out the waiver form, it should be emailed directly to Tom Gries, QA Coordinator, at tgri461@ecy.wa.gov with a "cc" to the Grant Program.

The Project Team's first action should be to download the waiver form, fill it out and email it back the QA Coordinator. He will review it ASAP and recommend approval, revision or development of a QAPP.

VI. RECOGNITION OF EPA FUNDING

This term comes directly form EPA and is a requirement of each of our Grantees. Reports, documents, signage, videos, or other media, developed as part of projects funded by this Agreement shall contain the following statement,

"This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement PC 00J29801 to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use."

Appendix 2: Internal Sub-recipient Policies and Procedures

b) Sub-recipient Periodic Monitoring

Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program

Protecting Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Habitat

Sub-Awardee Monitoring Meeting

Date: _____

Topic	*Process*	*Notes/Comments*
Overall Project Status	• Status of tasks, including QAPP (*if applicable*) • Any delays or challenges? • Budget status, match (if applicable) • Upcoming deliverables, and peer review (*if applicable*) • Project highlights • Anything needed from the Grant Program?	
Invoicing	• Invoicing procedures (questions/concerns) • Timely invoicing on completed deliverables	
FEATS reporting	• Due April 15th or October 15th • Questions/concerns with FEATS • Performance measurement	
Closeout	• Closeout procedures, final reporting • Equipment disposition • Grant evaluation • Next steps	

Attachment

Because of the size and format, the Project Timeline and Milestone chart (Six-Year Strategy) is provided as a separate Excel File.