

WRIA 9

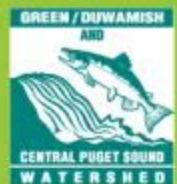
Watershed-Based Restoration and Salmon Recovery in SeaTac



- Local governments working together to restore our watersheds for salmon and people

City of SeaTac City Council
May 12, 2015

Doug Osterman
Watershed Coordinator
Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound
Watershed (WRIA 9)



Purpose and Outline

Purpose:

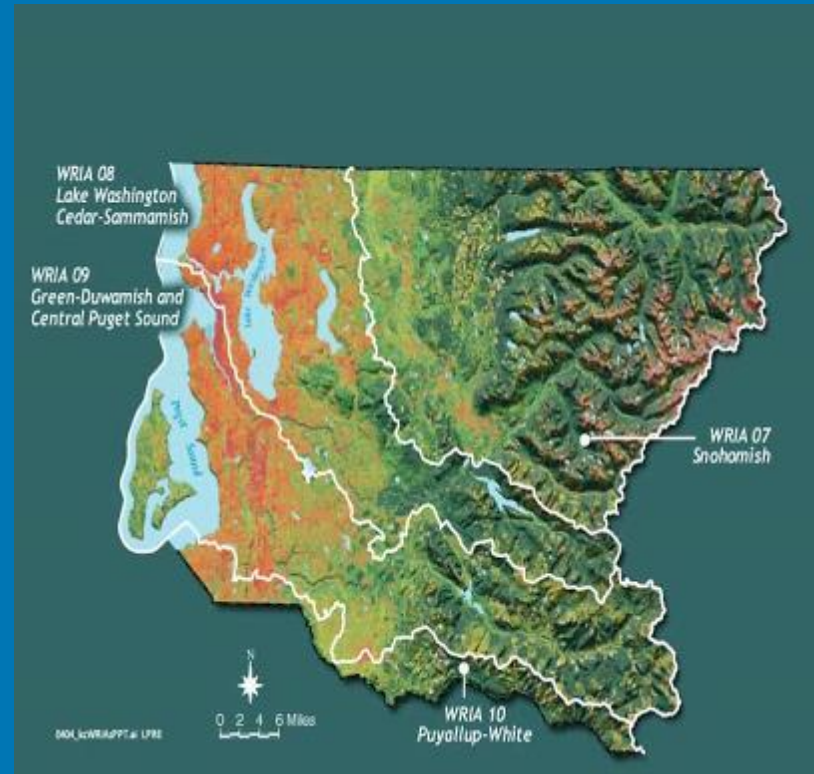
- Update Council on salmon recovery progress at 10-year mark of recovery plan implementation
- Provide context for SeaTac's consideration of renewed 2016-2025 interlocal agreements

- I. Watershed geography
- II. Salmon recovery timeline
- III. Watershed-based recovery plans
- IV. Governance/leadership
- V. Funding
- VI. Accomplishments
- VII. SeaTac priorities
- VIII. Interlocal agreement renewal next steps

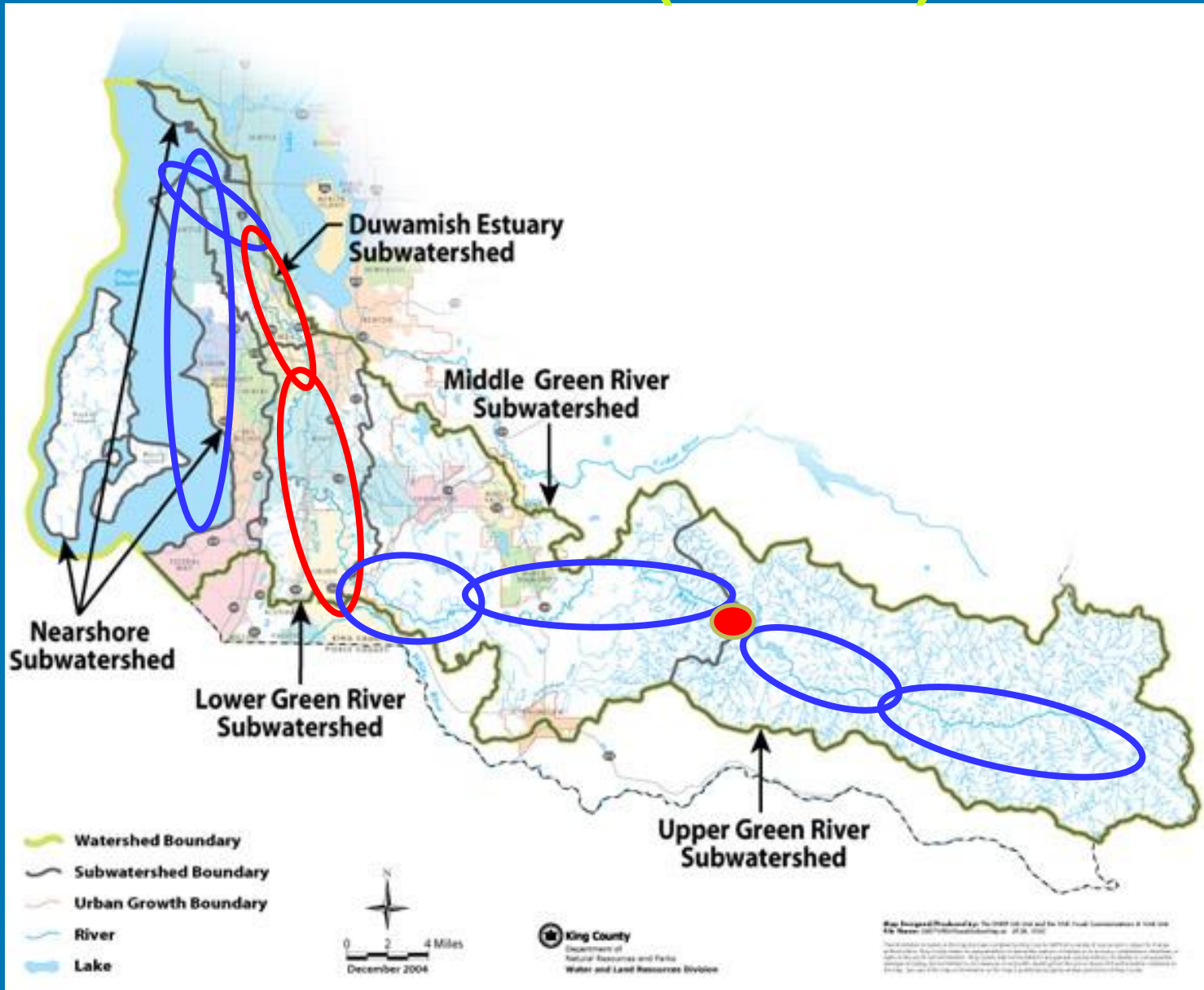


What's a WRIA?

- Water Resource Inventory Area
- WRIA 9 is:
Green/Duwamish
Central Puget Sound
Watershed
- **One of the most urban and populated watersheds in the state**



Green/Duwamish & Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9)



The Road to Recovery

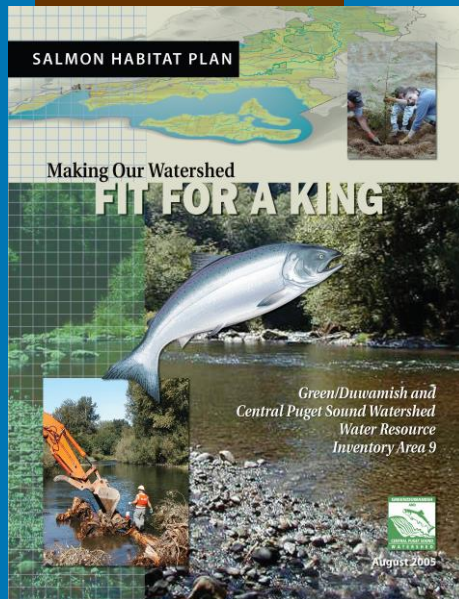


- 1999 Chinook salmon listed as threatened
- 2001 Jurisdictions sign interlocal agreement (ILA) to recover salmon
- 2005 Watershed recovery plan completed – chapter of Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan
- 2006 Begin first 10 years of implementation
- 2007 Federal adoption of Puget Sound Recovery Plan
ILA renewed
- 2015 First 10 years of implementation
Initial ILA sunsets



Salmon Recovery Plans: Watersheds as Part of Puget Sound

WRIA 9 Plan



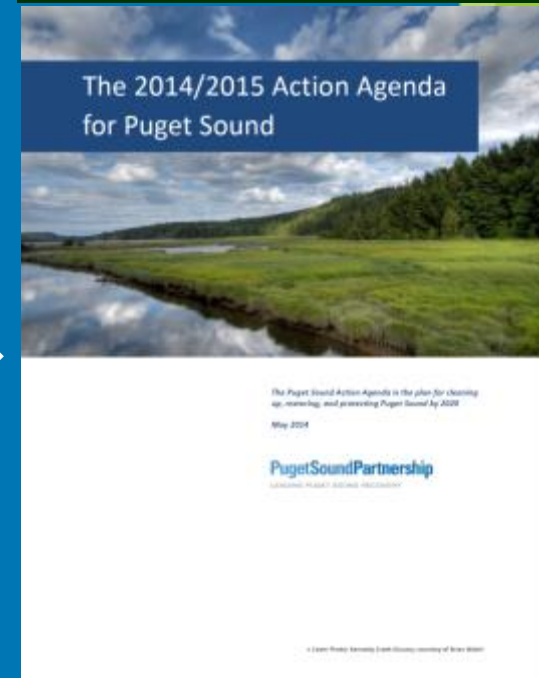
Approved 2005

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan



Approved
2007

Action Agenda for Puget Sound Recovery



Approved
2008
(updated 2014)

Governance / Leadership:

WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum

- Stakeholders representing:
 - **17 Local governments**
 - *Community and environmental organizations*
 - *Business*
 - *Port of Seattle*
 - *King Conservation District*
 - *Water and sewer districts*
 - *State and federal agencies*
 - *Citizens*
- Fostering strong regional collaboration and governance
- Leveraging individual jurisdiction dollars for watershed benefits



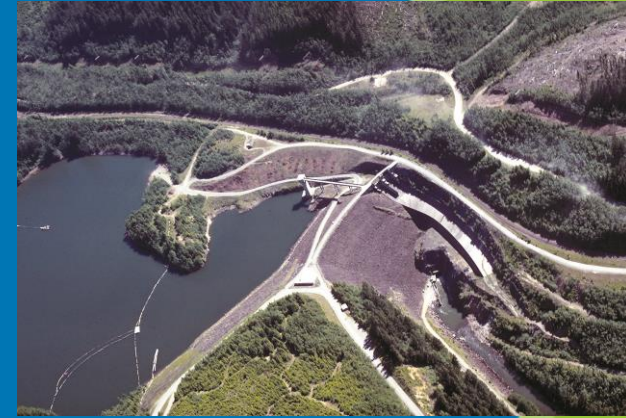
Role of the WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum

- Directing implementation and funding
- Educating and engaging
- Providing policy direction
- Building capacity



Integrating Other Efforts

- Fish passage at Howard Hanson Dam and Tacoma Diversion Dam
- Hatchery & harvest management
- Lower Green River System-Wide Improvement Framework
- Providing education and stewardship services in partnership with Environmental Science Center, King Conservation District, Flood Control District, and community organizations.
- Regional stormwater management
- Riparian area stewardship and noxious weed treatment
- Puget Sound recovery



Funding for Salmon Recovery

WRIA 9 grant rounds allocate \$2.5 million annually

- **State and federal grants:**

- Salmon Recovery Funding Board
- Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration
- EPA National Estuary Program – Puget Sound recovery

- **Local funding sources:**

- King Conservation District
- Cooperative Watershed Management Grants
(through King County Flood Control District)



Interlocal Agreement Funding

Local government partners share costs of coordination and implementation

Cost share formula: jurisdiction area / population / assessed value

SeaTac cost shares:

- Total WRIA 9 2015 ILA costs = \$411,961
 - SeaTac 2015 cost share = \$11,162



What have we accomplished?

WRIA 9

- **918 acres** protected through acquisition or easement
- **80 acres** of riparian area planted
- **1.2 miles** of levees removed or set back
- **57 acres** of floodplain reconnected
- **3,370 feet** of marine shoreline restored
- **\$137 million** in grant funds leveraged by 2015



SeaTac Projects



- Participation in the Miller-Walker Basin Steward Program to rehabilitate the creeks for salmon and people
- Floodplain management support through WRIA 9 and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



What's Next?

Renewing Interlocal Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding

- **September 2014 – April/May:** Presentations to partner jurisdictions; ILA partners review and provide feedback on drafts
- **April/May:** Integrate feedback on draft ILA and MOU for approval by Watershed Ecosystem Forum (WEF)
- **May:** WEF-approved ILA distributed to jurisdictions
- July 14 – Mark your calendar for the 2015 Yellow Bus Tour
- **July 31:** Goal for jurisdictions to approve WRIA 9 ILA
- **December 31:** Absolute final ILA approval deadline



Ongoing Recovery

The future of salmon and watershed health is in the hands of every community.

Salmon recovery faces numerous challenges:

- *Public support and political will*
- *Adequate funding*
- *Climate change and ocean conditions*
- *Land use pressures*

Local governments working together do make a difference!

