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## **The Puget Sound federal task force: an orientation to the task force, reflections on the first year and preview of what's ahead**

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## **PUGET SOUND FEDERAL TASK FORCE**

### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG FEDERAL AGENCIES**

# Puget Sound Federal Task Force

## 1. Session introduction

## 2. Puget Sound Federal Task Force Overview: MOU, Structure, etc.

## 3. Puget Sound Federal Task Force Interim Action Plan

- Overview of Action Plan Structure
- Overview of how Action Plan is being implemented
- Action Plan Progress Highlights
- Questions

# **Puget Sound Federal Task Force Overview**

- **Strengthen intergovernmental (federal, state and local), tribal, Puget Sound Management Conference, and public coordination;**
- **Strengthen federal contribution of Scientific and technical expertise;**
- **Help to fulfill federal trust responsibilities to the Puget Sound federally recognized tribal governments as they relate to the Action Plan and priority actions; and**
- **Create a standing federal venue through which to share information, meet and engage in government-2-government consultation as it relates to the action plan and priority actions.**



# Puget Sound Federal Task Force Overview

- **MOU** – Established the Federal Task Force in October 2016. Succeeded the Puget Sound Federal Caucus (2007 MOU)
  
- **Federal Task Force Structure**
  - **National Federal Task Force** – The primary leadership group, senior executive-level membership with 2 Co-chairs, one from CEQ and one rotating from the federal agencies (EPA is first).
  
  - **Regional Implementation Team (RIT)** – Co-chaired by EPA R10 Regional Administrator and rotating regional leader (NOAA is first). Comprised of regional principals or their designees from each participating federal agency and pertinent subject matter expert staff. Focus is to develop and implement the Puget Sound Federal Action Plan

# **Puget Sound Federal Task Force Action Plan Structure**

- **The RIT used priorities identified through the Western Washington Treaty Rights At Risk initiative, Tribal Habitat Priorities, NWIFC's 2016 State of our Watersheds report, the 2016 Action Agenda and salmon recovery priorities as the basis for the Five Year Action Plan.**
- **The Action Plan has five main sections including Science and Monitoring and Treaty Rights at Risk. Section 2 has six subsections that roughly correspond with the Puget Sound Action Agenda.**



# Puget Sound Federal Task Force Action Plan Structure

- **8 subteams have been formed around these focus areas:**
  - **Remove fish passage barriers**
  - **Protect and restore floodplains, and in-stream and riparian habitat**
  - **Nearshore habitat and estuaries**
  - **Stormwater**
  - **Vessel Traffic and Pollution Prevention and Response**
  - **Shellfish**
  - **Science and Monitoring**
  - **Riparian**
- **Each subteam is staffed with subject matter experts to implement and track the actions within that focus area.**



# First Year Accomplishments

- Progress on all 77 actions in the Federal Task Force Action Plan
- Coordination and on some actions shared work between federal agencies and with State and Tribal partners
- Work to streamline permitting and funding processes
- Regional Leadership focus and support for Puget Sound recover



# Questions

