SOUTHERN RESIDENT KILLER WHALE (SRKW) TASK FORCE MEETING

Monday June 3, 2019
Pioneer Park Pavilion
330 S. Meridian, Puyallup, WA

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## SOUTHERN RESIDENT KILLER WHALE (SRKW) TASK FORCE
### AGENDA
**Monday June 3, 2019**
Pioneer Park Pavilion | 330 S. Meridian
Puyallup, WA
9:00 am-5:00 pm

Doors will open and coffee and pastries will be served at 8:45. The meeting will start promptly at 9:00 a.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time*</th>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Objective &amp; Reference Materials</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 9:00   | Welcome & Introductions, Agenda Review                                       | Information                     | • Puyallup Tribal Leader  
• Les Purce, Co-chair  
• Stephanie Solien, Co-chair  
• Susan Gulick, Facilitator |
| 9:40   | Updates                                                                     | Information, Discussion          | • Lynne Barre, NOAA  
• Gretchen Muller, Consulting Team  
• Marc Daudon, Consulting Team  
• JT Austin, Governor’s Office |
| 10:20  | Status of Task Force Year 1 Recommendations                                  | Information, Discussion          | • Jim Cahill, OFM & JT Austin, Governor’s Office  
• Working Group Leads  
• Task Force Members  
• Susan Gulick, Facilitator |
| 12:30  | LUNCH BREAK                                                                 |                                 | Task Force Members  
• Susan Gulick, Facilitator |
| 1:15   | Continue Fishbowl Discussion of Next Steps                                   | Discussion                      | John Wilson & Jeff Pelton, Transport Canada  
• Corey Jackson, Canadian Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans |
| 1:45   | Transboundary Efforts: Canada                                                | Information                     | Mayor Will Hall, Shoreline  
• Mark McCaskill, Dept. of Commerce  
• Paul Inghram, PSRC  
• Jeff Davis, WDFW  
• Susan Gulick, Facilitator |
| 2:15   | Population Growth and its Threats to SRKW                                   | Information                     | Gretchen Muller, Consulting team project manager |
| 3:45   | Wrap-up and Next Steps                                                       | Information                     | Public/observers  
• Susan Gulick, Facilitator |
| 4:00   | Public Comment                                                              | Information                     | Les Purce, Co-chair  
• Stephanie Solien, Co-chair |
| 5:00   | Closing and Adjournment by Co-Chairs                                         | Information                     |                            |

* All times are estimates and subject to change.
Attendees:

- Donna Sandstrom, The Whale Trail
- Haley Kennard, Makah Tribe
- Jim Cahill, WA Office of Financial Management
- Laura Blackmore, Puget Sound Partnership
- Leslie Connelly, WA Office of Financial Management
- Lynne Barre, NOAA
- Maia Bellon, WA Department of Ecology
- Mindy Roberts, WA Environmental Council
- Stephanie Solien, SRKW Task Force Co-chair
- Tom Laurie, WA Department of Ecology
- Will Hall, Mayor of Shoreline

Consultant Team:

- Gretchen Muller, Cascadia Consulting Group
- Angela Pietschmann, Cascadia Consulting Group

Recommendation 35

Conduct research, science and monitoring to inform decision making, adaptive management and implementation of actions to recover Southern Residents. It will be important to use an adaptive management approach to track effectiveness of implemented recommendations, look for unintended consequences, monitor ongoing ecosystem change and adjust future investments based on our findings.

Defining Adaptive Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.) Conceptualize</th>
<th>2.) Plan Actions &amp; Monitoring</th>
<th>3.) Implement Actions &amp; Monitoring</th>
<th>4.) Analyze, Use, Adapt &amp; Learning</th>
<th>5.) Capture &amp; Share Learning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Define initial team</td>
<td>Develop goals, strategies, assumptions, and objectives</td>
<td>Develop work plan and timeline</td>
<td>Prepare data for analysis</td>
<td>Document learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Define scope, vision, targets</td>
<td>Develop monitoring plan</td>
<td>Develop and refine budget</td>
<td>Analyze results</td>
<td>Share learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify critical threats</td>
<td>Develop operational plan</td>
<td>Implement plans</td>
<td>Adapt strategic plan</td>
<td>Create learning environment</td>
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<td>Complete situation analysis</td>
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Key discussion points:

- Keep momentum from YR1 going.
- Executive level attention on statewide issues as a key strategy for progress/keeping momentum from YR1 going.
- YR1 recommendations not currently being funded/implemented will also be part of Life After the Task Force work plan.
- Consider time lag between monitoring results and responding/taking action – monitoring effectiveness and implementing action need to happen simultaneously.
- Predefine next steps if goals are not achieved within predetermined timeline.
- Consider necessary funding to expedite adaptive management process.
- Integrate scientific reporting and policy leadership.
- 5-year duration after 2019, then sunset to make it more palatable for legislators and to keep urgency central.

Discuss Potential Options

**Option 1:** Do nothing after the SRKW Task Force work concludes in 2019.

**Pros:**
- No effort/coordination required.

**Cons:**
- Extinction is possible.
- Political chaos likely to ensue if another orca dies.
Task Force was convened for a specific purpose/time period and met the purpose it was convened for.  

Opportunity to seize YR1/2 momentum lost.

Option 2: Leverage existing governance structure(s) to continue Task Force work beyond 2019.

Puget Sound Partnership’s (PSP) proposed approach for Puget Sound:

The Puget Sound Partnership recovery system is already well positioned to cover the following aspects of the Orca Task Force’s work: (1) vessels recommendations, (2) Puget Sound-specific elements of prey availability recommendations, deferring to the co-managers on harvest and hatchery questions, and (3) contaminants recommendations. If desired, the Puget Sound recovery system could also assist with (4) coordination with Canada (several of the agency’s boards and councils include representatives from Canada, and transboundary work is part of the agency’s Action Agenda) and/or (5) coordination with the Columbia and the Coast (for example, the PSP’s Leadership Council could host annual or biannual meetings to coordinate across basins, set new statewide priorities, etc.). Proposed use of Puget Sound Partnership Recovery System:

(1) Science and monitoring. PSP’s Science Panel and the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP) could:
- Design an effectiveness monitoring program
- Identify new research questions
- Analyze and present findings

(2) Updating recommendations. PSP’s Salmon Recovery Council, Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB), and Leadership Council could serve the following functions, deferring to the co-managers where appropriate:
- Receive science and monitoring findings from the Science Panel and PSEMP
- Develop and conduct an implementation monitoring system
- Use the new information to close out, update, or create new recommendations
- Identify new science and monitoring questions to answer
- Catalyze implementation of recommendations through policy work in the Washington State Legislature or Congress or with local governments, mobilizing funding, and holding implementers accountable

(3) Communications. PSP could continue to host and facilitate the state family communications working group to coordinate messaging about orca recovery.

Discussion:
- If using existing structures, ensure that orcas are the priority lens. Orcas are a Vital Sign within PSP’s Action Agenda.
- Consider leveraging the (PSEMP) Marine Mammal Working Group.
  - Preference for using subject matter experts in this working group in lieu of PSP Science Panel.
  - PSP Science Panel is helpful for structured decision-making and ecosystem modeling.
  - PSEMP/Science Panel could work together to help identify research questions.
- PSP’s budget includes $2.2 million for research and $1 million for accountability and monitoring.
- PSP may not be able to provide sufficient statewide coverage. Lead entities should be representative of the state.
  - Laura will check to be sure there is nothing in PSP’s statute prohibiting it from operating statewide.
  - PSP already doing some broad coordination with Canada and state agencies / tribes.
- Potentially integrate into an existing salmon recovery structure, given integral link between salmon and orca.
  - PSP has existing structure for habitat protection and restoration for salmon recovery in Puget Sound.
  - Consider integrating orca efforts into Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO).
  - Preference for an orca-specific council (instead of combining with salmon).
- The Task Force platform/influence was key to moving recommendations forward.
- Ensure that selected structure provides a platform for orca advocacy (or can advocate for orcas directly).
- Evaluate which structure is most likely to engender future legislative action/appropriations support. Different agencies have garnered different levels of respect from legislature over the years.

Potential approaches for Columbia:
- Ecology Office of Columbia River.
- Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, part of the National Estuary Program (NEP).
- EPA Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group.
Salmon Recovery Councils within Columbia Basin.
JT Austin could potentially recommend Columbia River policy advisors within Governor’s office.

Potential approaches for Coast:
- Coastal Salmon Recovery Councils.
- WA Coastal Marine Advisory Council.

Option 3: Create new structure/governing body to continue Task Force work beyond 2019.

Discussion:
- A new structure/governing body would need to be a tribal-public-private effort.
- Consider a small/nimble orca advisory council/committee or coordinating body that would report to the Governor.
  - Draw from existing work happening in WA to avoid duplicating efforts.
- Consider engaging foundations to develop a funding plan for the next three to five years of work.
- Potentially create a Puget Sound/statewide caucus group to focus on orca/salmon issues.
- Embed orca work wherever it will get full breadth of engagement/support on state side while also benefiting from nonprofit engagement and other private groups.
- Avoid fatigue around people having to engage with multiple boards with similar goals/mission.
- Important to continue to use the orca.wa.gov platform for neutral communications and public education around orcas.
- Ensure Canada, NOAA / federal agencies, local government decision-makers, agency executives, tribes, businesses and NGOs are represented in a new structure/governing body.
- Ensure that tribes are considered as sovereign co-managers throughout these discussions.
- Consider matching frequency of meetings with anticipated frequency of new information availability.
  - Science and monitoring is only one of many reasons for this group to convene.

Option 4: Create a hybrid structure (existing governing bodies and new governing body) to continue Task Force work beyond 2019.

Discussion:
- Leverage PSP recovery system for Puget Sound and analog on coast and Columbia
- Propose that the Governor convenes a Task Force-like structure that meets at some frequency (e.g., once or twice a year or in preparation for legislative session) to continue updating recommendations and catalyzing implementation.
  - Task Force would get briefed on status of recommendations from different boards/councils/work groups.
  - Based on these updates, Task Force could change course/adaptively manage and provide direction.
  - Keeps Task Force momentum going.
  - Solicit Task Force endorsement/ongoing commitment to support recommendations or changes.
- In advance of additional funding secured for on-going Task Force-like structure, PSP would create an internal working group for the Task Force.
- Train legislators up on orca issues. Anticipate difficulty coalescing legislature around a new governing structure, especially if funding is attached.
- Consider private funding mechanisms.

Key Elements of Life After Task Force Scope
- Communication and public education.
- Monitoring implemented/funded YR1 recommendations.
- Engaging Task Force around moving other YR1 recommendations forward (not currently implemented/funded).
- Identifying any new recommendations for YR2.
  - New recommendations may be created as a result of new information.
  - Some recommendations from YR1 may no longer be applicable, could close out.
  - Adapt YR1 recommendations as needed into the future.
- Overcoming challenges discussed on today’s call.
- Funding efforts beyond 2019.

Next Steps
• Cascadia will circulate sub-group meeting summary to confirm we captured key takeaways accurately.
  o Provide input on meeting summary electronically.
• Share key takeaways with Task Force during June 3rd meeting.
  o Offer clear options to the Task Force for input/consideration. Do not provide too many options.
  o Ask Task Force members: who wants to continue to play a role in orca recovery work in Washington?
  o No final voting/decision-making at June meeting.
  o Consider fish bowl discussion or use flipcharts with stickies to allow Task Force to provide input on preferred options.
Legend: Recommendation Progress
⚫ = All pieces of recommendation are moving
⚪ = Some pieces of recommendation are moving
🔴 = Nothing happening yet/not on track
🔵 = Nothing happening yet but still on track

**Recommendation 1:** Significantly increase investment in restoration and acquisition of habitat in areas where Chinook stocks most benefit Southern Resident orcas. Note: Pacific Salmon Treaty funding (found under Recommendation 10) for hatchery production would complement this recommendation.

**Progress:**
- No legislation required.
- Partial funding received.
- Requires in-depth Prey WG follow-up.

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<tr>
<th>Agency / Entity</th>
<th>Current status</th>
<th>Notes on moving recommendation forward</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>Capital funding in the final budget for habitat restoration totals $435 million including:</td>
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<td>• $75M ($25M state, $75 M Fed) for SRFB grants</td>
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<td>• $73M for the Chehalis Basin Strategy</td>
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<td>• $49.5M for Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program (PSAR)</td>
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<td>• $50.4M for Floodplain by Design</td>
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<td>• $12M Estuary Salmon Restoration Program</td>
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<td>• State’s PSNERP match</td>
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<td>• $12.0M Coastal Restoration Grants</td>
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<td>• $40M for Columbia River Water Supply</td>
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<td>• $40M for Yakima River Water Supply</td>
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<td>• $40M for Streamflow restoration</td>
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<td>• $26M for Fish Passage Barrier Removal Board</td>
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<td>The capital budget includes $33.7 million more than the Governor’s proposal in the capital budget.</td>
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<td>Many WG members argued that this should be yellow. While it is great that there was more funding than what the Governor proposed, funding levels are still WAY too low.</td>
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<td>For future requests, need to compare the request and what is funded against a need-based metric (e.g., the level of investment needed to get to recovery).</td>
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<td>Recommendations call for “fully funding” key salmon recovery grant programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECY</td>
<td>A number of Ecology’s grant programs directly address this recommendation and are included in the budget as passed.</td>
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<td>• 2019-21 Floodplains by Design ($50M)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 2019-21 Columbia River Water Supply Development Program ($40M)</td>
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<td>• 2019-21 Chehalis Basin Strategy ($73M)</td>
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<td>• 2019-21 Streamflow Restoration Program ($40M)</td>
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<td>• 2019-21 Yakima River Basin Water Supply ($40M).</td>
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<td>The listed Ecology grant programs are not focused on Chinook restoration but were listed in the recommendations and augment recovery restoration.</td>
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<td>Floodplains by Design – Chinook restoration not the focus</td>
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<td>Columbia River Water Supply Development Program – Large Chinook benefit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chehalis Basin Strategy – salmon benefit but dependent on dam</td>
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<td>Streamflow Restoration Program (Hirst) – Primarily planning, not restoration</td>
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<td>Yakima Basin Integrated Program/Water Supply – Chinook benefit</td>
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<td>PSP</td>
<td>The final capital budget funds the Recreation and Conservation Office to provide grants to fund the top three Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) large capital projects, along with 66 smaller-scale projects.</td>
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<td>PSAR funded 3 of the 11 projects.</td>
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</table>
• The final capital budget also funds the Department of Ecology to fund nine Floodplains by Design projects.
• The EPA is working with state partners to award National Estuary Program funding to habitat and other projects proposed in the 2018-2022 Action Agenda.
• The Partnership led its annual trip to Washington, DC, May 14-16. For the first time, we combined this trip with the annual Salmon Days on the Hill. Over 70 leaders from Washington State, and salmon recovery leaders from 4 other western states, attended this event to encourage our delegations to increase funding for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund and the National Estuary Program.
• The Partnership’s operating budget includes funding to coordinate some updating of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan.

**Next steps:**
• The Partnership will continue to work, in coordination with the Governor’s Office and OFM, to seek alternate sources of funding for these important projects.
• The Partnership will continue to advocate for increased federal funding for orca recovery actions, including restoration and acquisition of habitat.

**WDFW**

WDFW received funding to assist GSRO in the identification of high-priority Chinook barriers for removal.

**Next steps:**
• Once funding is received in July, a Biologist will be hired in the Fish Passage Division to compile existing information on high-priority barriers to Chinook during Phase I and to assist in the development of a strategic approach to prioritization and refinements to the list for Phase II. Refinements may include verification of the extent of Chinook distribution, identification of data gaps in the inventory of barriers to Chinook, and subsequent barrier and habitat data analysis, among others.

**WSCC**

Funding for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) supports incentive-based riparian restoration and enhancement projects supporting Chinook riparian habitat. The 2019-21 capital budget significantly reduced available funding for this program, risking the ability to increase needed riparian habitat.

**Next steps:**
• The Conservation Commission will consider whether to pursue a supplemental budget request to increase support for CREP.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Status of SRKW Task Force YR1 Recommendations</th>
<th>June 3, 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• The final capital budget also funds the Department of Ecology to fund nine Floodplains by Design projects.</td>
<td>● EPA is a federal program, so should not get credit for state activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The EPA is working with state partners to award National Estuary Program funding to habitat and other projects proposed in the 2018-2022 Action Agenda.</td>
<td>● Only provided ½ the funding needed to do the work.</td>
</tr>
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<td>• The Partnership led its annual trip to Washington, DC, May 14-16. For the first time, we combined this trip with the annual Salmon Days on the Hill. Over 70 leaders from Washington State, and salmon recovery leaders from 4 other western states, attended this event to encourage our delegations to increase funding for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund and the National Estuary Program.</td>
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### Recommendation 2: Immediately fund acquisition and restoration of nearshore habitat to increase the abundance of forage fish for salmon sustenance.

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<th>Agency / Entity</th>
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</table>
| All             | Copied from above for grant programs focused on nearshore marine habitats:  
- $49.5M for Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program (PSAR)  
- $10M Estuary Salmon Restoration Program (PSNERP state’s match)  
- $12.0M Coastal Restoration Grants  
- PSNERP federal funding | - Many WG members wanted to change to yellow to reflect that the need is greater than the current funding, need to maintain pressure to continue to increase funding. |
| ECY             | Based on immediate EO actions, Ecology has identified criteria for existing grant programs to prioritize projects that benefit SRKW.  
- A number of Ecology’s ongoing grant programs directly address this recommendation and are included in the budget (See Rec.31) | |

### Recommendation 3: Apply and enforce laws that protect habitat.

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| ECY             | Ecology additional staff to support enforcement of the:  
- Clean Water Act (Approx. 5 FTEs)  
- Shoreline Management Act (2 FTEs)  
- Instream-flow ($4.7M, FTEs and other work) | Federal agencies are rolling back many regulatory programs. This emphasizes the need for state progress and leadership on this front.  
- Ecology devoting more FTE’s to this does not necessarily equate to progress or solving the problem. What progress is being made and how is this progress being measured?  
- Expands WDFW HPA authority and removes single-family, single-use exemption. Though it does not have the cumulative impacts, section included.  
- WDFW still needs to develop rules for Fishway, Flow, and Screening and for Riparian buffer. The working group could help with recommendations for these. |
| WDFW            | HPA: Bill passed so the department will need to develop rules to implement the new statute and increase FWO staffing for implementation.  
- Fishway, Flow and Screening: Funding was appropriated to complete this work. | Next steps:  
- Ecology will devote one FTE to collaborate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife in reviewing compliance with armoring priorities identified by the Puget Sound Partnership. (ES-3)  
- Ecology will also provide one FTE for specialized geotechnical review of shoreline armoring proposals and conducting training for geotechnical consultants and local governments to ensure adequate demonstration of need when shoreline-armoring projects are approved. (EE-4)  

Next steps:
**Status of SRKW Task Force YR1 Recommendations**

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<tr>
<td><strong>Recommendation 4:</strong> Immediately strengthen protection of Chinook and forage fish habitat through legislation that amends existing statutes, agency rule making and/or agency policy.</td>
<td>Progress: ⚫️</td>
<td>Legislation required.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ECY</strong></td>
<td>Under current law, Ecology is completing a 15-year long effort to overhaul all local Shoreline Master Programs across the state to ensure no net loss of ecological functions, which includes stringent protections for Chinook and forage fish habitat. Ecology assumes that no new statutory authorizations will be needed to the Shoreline Management Act to meet the objectives to strengthen protection of Chinook and forage fish.</td>
<td>Not originally in the recommendations. May want to consider removing from table?</td>
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</table>
| **WDFW** | HPA: Governor request bill passed. Next steps:  
  - HPA: The department will need to develop rules to implement the new statute and increase staffing for implementation. The first step is to amend the rules to reflect the statutory changes and then the department can file for expedited or standard rulemaking. | See language above for HPA. While this is great, this recommendation was not just about the HPA bill. During our working group discussion, we also frequently mentioned the GMA as an issue. Because population growth is a big focus of year two, I would like us to revisit this recommendation and look at the GMA and other land use policies that are not strong enough to protect salmon habitat. |
| **Recommendation 5:** Develop incentives to encourage voluntary actions to protect habitat. | Progress: ⚫️ | No legislation required. |
| **WSCC** | The Conservation Commission received an additional $1 million in the 2019-21 operating budget to support conservation district actions to increase landowner participation in programs to address Chinook and Orca recovery needs. Next steps:  
  - Commission staff will work with conservation districts to identify criteria for the use of the new funding. | ⚫️ Hard to quantify the total need for voluntary incentive programs. Recognition that there is a need for a tool to assist with quantifying the need. It would also be helpful to identify all of the current voluntary habitat incentive programs in the state that connect to orcas to salmon. For each program, agencies should provide the current demand for their program, number of projects (or amount of money) they can provide each year, wait times for new applicants, etc. This would begin a process to better understand the demand, and capacity, of incentive programs. |
**Recommendation 6:** Significantly increase hatchery production and programs to benefit Southern Resident orcas consistent with sustainable fisheries and stock management, available habitat, recovery plans and the Endangered Species Act. Hatchery increases need to be done in concert with significantly increased habitat protection and restoration measures. Note: Pacific Salmon Treaty funding (found under Recommendation 10) for hatchery production would complement this recommendation.

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| WDFW            | • Considerable funds were provided to WDFW and Tribal Co-managers for increasing hatchery production in Puget Sound, Washington Coast and the Columbia River.  
• Working with NOAA Fisheries and USFWS on implementing new production in FY20 and FY21.  
• Ongoing work to implement increased production funded in FY19.  
• Releases of increased production scheduled for May/June of 2019.  
• Coordination with Puget Sound Tribes and LLTK on size & age of returns and increasing smolt to adult survival. Legislative funding was provided for this action. | • Global comment: What about wild fish? Not about number of fish-out, but about number of fish-in. Wild fish restoration – hatchery is short-term.  
• Need to make sure we aren’t flooding the system with hatchery fish– need to look at full life cycle – add language  
• Need for independent science on reviewing hatchery production – concern that this isn’t happening  
• Ensure that there is package put together for monitoring and managing the number of potential fish returning (i.e. additional weirs, etc.)  
• Need to understand the where and how you increase production and how relates to wild fish – about local adaptation  
• Failed on the front of where it connects to increased habitat protection and restoration. It is tied to the habitat restoration recs, and because they were underfunded, the outcome of all the recs disproportionately looks to hatchery production for an answer.  
• Did not ultimately, fully reflect the fundamental position of the prey workgroup: that it’s about the number, size and locations where fish return for whales. While there was funding provided for considering strategies to improve the size and survival of hatchery fish, ultimately the focus was mostly on increasing production numbers.  
• While hatchery production increases still must go through review by NOAA (HGMPs), there is still concern that the scientific review may not be substantive enough to protect wild fish where they need protection. There was a request to add the need for independent science to the recommendation. |

**Progress:**  
• Legislation required.  
• Requires in-depth Prey WG follow-up.  
• This recommendation was funded, but intrinsically tied to habitat recommendations. Hatchery increases done in concert with significantly increased habitat protection and restoration measures not happening enough.
**Recommendation 7:** Prepare an implementation strategy to reestablish salmon runs above existing dams, increasing prey availability for Southern Resident orcas.

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<tr>
<td>RCO</td>
<td>Executive Coordinator of the Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office resigned in January. Waiting to fill that position.</td>
<td>• What is the hard deliverable or deadline? What is the reporting back mechanism? Connect to ongoing deliverable. • Monitoring of this once it is put into place. Is this working? • Make sure we are considering how important spring Chinook are… overlay with climate as well. • Natural next step after this recommendation is to implement, including get a better idea of fiscal needs for infrastructure that are coming (phase 2?) Prepare strategy and implement? Is it possible to change language in rec to move it to next step?</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCUT</td>
<td>UCUT – Tribal processes moving forward on their pieces of this process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia Basin Partnership</td>
<td>• NOAA, 4 states, tribes – discussions are moving forward in that venue. All four states have a governor office representative on the power council. • Provide policy support for ongoing effort – this is happening and ongoing on a continual basis (without funding needed)</td>
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<td>Next steps:</td>
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<td>• Need a broader look at other dams that are not Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee. In doing this analysis of where reintroductions could be prioritized, overlap with climate analysis. Is the new person at WDFW tasked to move this forward?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>WDFW</td>
<td>The legislature provided $524,000 to WDFW for enhanced engagement on this issue. WDFW is working on a staffing and spending plan.</td>
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<td>Next steps:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• DFW will refine and implement steps to enhance coordination with upper Columbia Tribes, Northwest Power and Conservation Council and others on further feasibility studies and experimental releases of salmon above Chief Joseph Dam.</td>
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## Recommendation 8: Increase spill to benefit Chinook for Southern Residents by adjusting Total Dissolved Gas allowances at the Snake and Columbia River dams.

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<tr>
<td>ECY</td>
<td>On May 7, 2019, Ecology Announced the initiation of a rulemaking process to update Washington’s Total Dissolved Gas criteria for the lower Columbia and lower Snake Rivers. The new rule would allow spill up to 125% TDG, which would accommodate the second year of the flexible spill agreement to be implemented as negotiated. This announcement includes a comment period on the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement that is open until May 29.</td>
<td>• Ecology went to 120% standard this year with flexible spill and monitoring in place for a couple species. A 125% standard change is open for comment right now. Implementation agreement is for flexible spill timing. • When we are using model data about potential benefits, ensure that we understand that it was for spill 24 hours a day. Flexible spill may not get that level of benefits. Conflicting model results about benefits up to this point, actual data on returns will not be collected until smolts that were supposed to benefit return.</td>
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### Next steps:
- Ecology expects to start the public comment period on a proposed rule change in July 2019. This rule proposal will include a draft Environmental Impact Statement, and a draft regulatory analysis. If adopted, Ecology’s rulemaking schedule is set to allow the Environmental Protection Agency the regulatory timeframe provided in statute to approve revised TDG water quality criteria by the 2020 spring spill season.

### Notes on moving recommendation forward
- Ecology went to 120% standard this year with flexible spill and monitoring in place for a couple species. A 125% standard change is open for comment right now. Implementation agreement is for flexible spill timing.
- When we are using model data about potential benefits, ensure that we understand that it was for spill 24 hours a day. Flexible spill may not get that level of benefits. Conflicting model results about benefits up to this point, actual data on returns will not be collected until smolts that were supposed to benefit return.

## Recommendation 9: Establish a stakeholder process to discuss potential breaching or removal of the Lower Snake River Dams for the benefit of Southern Resident orcas.

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<tr>
<td>Governor’s Office</td>
<td>$750,000 ($375,000 per fiscal year) was appropriated in the 2019-21 biennial operating budget for a neutral third-party contractor. Funding is split.</td>
<td>• Need to get right people in room • Need immediate action, so timeline in recommendation had an aggressive timeline. Timeline was very ambitious in the recommendation, without funding and before legislative session finished. • Task force may be able to help shape the scope of work and put some details on this for it to come to fruition? • Suggest looking at the Klamath River process for guidance.</td>
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### Next steps:
- Governor’s Office and OFM are developing a scope of work and looking for potential consultants. Work would begin July 1, 2019.

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<td>PSC</td>
<td>• Met with Congressional staff and federal agency representatives in Washington, D.C., the week of November 26, 2018. Received a generally positive response accompanied by a request for supplementary information.&lt;br&gt;• A summary document for each component of one-time and annual funding request was developed and shared in conjunction with 26 follow-up visits in Washington D.C. that included west coast congressional members and/or their staff, key staff associated with appropriations, and NOAA DC staff during the week of March 25.&lt;br&gt;• Several letters of support have been sent to key congressional members including one from Phil Anderson that included 25 individuals or organizations signing on in support, one from the Puget Sound Partnership, and one from the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission.</td>
<td>• Some members expressed that in this process, whales not at table – Orca/killer whale language not in there.&lt;br&gt;• Can’t track recommendations or ways to make better b/c whales not at table-language includes mid-point check-in.</td>
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**Next steps:**
- Continue communications with congressional members from Alaska, Oregon, and Washington ensuring that questions are addressed as the legislative process moves through the committee process.
- Continue to pursue additional letters of support to demonstrate the broad base of support for the funding designed to benefit salmon populations in the Northwest.
- Federal level legislation – received widespread support from state – moving forward – up to congress.

### Progress: ●/●
- No legislation required.

## Recommendation 11: Reduce Chinook bycatch in west coast commercial fisheries.

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<td>WDFW</td>
<td>• Ongoing efforts to avoid and minimize chinook bycatch through the Pacific and North Pacific Fishery Management Council processes.</td>
<td>• No specificity to an outcome&lt;br&gt;• Needs teeth&lt;br&gt;• Mechanisms for reducing bycatch through gear modifications and fishing practices&lt;br&gt;• What is target that rec would consider success?</td>
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**Next steps:**
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region has informed the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) that they are reinitiating consultation under the ESA for 2019 ocean salmon fisheries. PFMC will work with NMFS through the re-consultation and Biological Opinion process.

### Progress: ●
- No legislation required.
- Requires in-depth Prey WG follow-up.
### Recommendation 12: Direct the appropriate agencies to work with tribes and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to determine if pinniped (harbor seal and sea lion) predation is a limiting factor for Chinook in Puget Sound and along Washington’s outer coast and evaluate potential management actions.

#### Progress:
- No legislation required.
- No funding received.
- Requires in-depth Prey WG follow-up.

#### Agency / Entity | Current status | Notes on moving recommendation forward
--- | --- | ---
WDFW | - WDFW did not receive funding for this work from the legislature in 2019.  
- WDFW coordinated with Canada and our partners on a science workshop on May 29-30 at the University of British Columbia to work towards a shared understanding of the latest information available among scientists closest to the topic.

**Next steps:**
- WDFW is working to complete processing and analysis of harbor seal and sea lion diet in Puget Sound within existing resources.
- If resources are obtained, a Washington specific science workgroup will meet and compile a comprehensive report on the latest information available on pinniped predation on salmonids in Puget Sound and the Outer Coast, which could be shared with state, federal and tribal managers.

- Some has moved but not on track.
- An element of marine survival project can help to synthesize information on chinook predation that will produce a report that could move forward.
- Other high priority science not funded, so may not be finished. Independent panel not funded and management panel not funded to move it forward.

---

### Recommendation 13: Support authorization and other actions to more effectively manage pinniped predation of salmon in the Columbia River.

#### Progress:
- No legislation required.
- No funding received.
- Requires in-depth Prey WG follow-up.

#### Agency / Entity | Current status | Notes on moving recommendation forward
--- | --- | ---
WDFW | - In December 2018, President Trump signed into law S. 3119 – the Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act – which gives state and tribal resource managers more flexibility to manage sea lion predation in the Columbia River.  
- S. 3119 allows NMFS to approve permits for Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and several area tribes that will streamline the removal process of a designated number of sea lions from a portion of the Columbia River and adjacent tributaries each year.  
- The states and eligible treaty tribes have initiated the process to obtain a joint permit for removal of California and Steller sea lions in the Columbia River’s mainstem between River Mile 112 and the McNary Dam, and Washington tributaries. Staff are currently writing the application and anticipate submitting it in May or June 2019.  
- WDFW did not receive additional funding for this work from the legislature in 2019.

**Next steps:**
- Once submitted and if determined sufficient by NMFS, then NMFS will review via NEPA and convene a pinniped task force to review the co-managers’ application. It is

- The pieces of the recommendation that include support for the MMPA change and the application are in progress, but the implementation is going to go forward fully without funding.
anticipated that a new permit under Section 120(f) will not be issued for at least a year while the NEPA and other reviews are under way.

- WDFW is drafting a supplemental 2020 budget request to fund operations in the second year of the biennium.

### Recommendation 14: Reduce populations of nonnative predatory fish species that prey upon or compete with Chinook.

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| WDFW            | 2SHB 1579 included direction to liberalize bag limits for non-native predatory fish in all anadromous waters of the state (i.e., consider expanding rules that currently apply to the Columbia River to other anadromous systems, as appropriate). | • All are moving and need to get to next steps.  
• Need more detail on spatial scale: Is this above Chief Joseph? Include Roosevelt and Banks Lake? Moses Lake? Includes all anadromous areas?  
• Monitor the efficacy of these actions: Questions on effectiveness for bass in the Columbia because anglers are self-regulating the population (will continue to release)  
• Consider how increasing spill could also minimize predatory fish populations.  
• Would be good to get an update from WDFW about any outreach activities they are doing to encourage folks to help “fish-out” these invasive species. |

**Next steps:**

- WDFW staff will report on the guidance to reduce populations of non-native predatory fish that prey upon or compete with chinook to the Fish and Wildlife Commission, develop proposed rules, and initiate a public rulemaking process to consider them, as appropriate.

### Recommendation 15: Monitor forage fish populations to inform decisions on harvest and management actions that provide for sufficient feed stocks to support increased abundance of Chinook.

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| WDFW            | WDFW to receive funding in the biennial budget ($743K) to support SRKW Task Force Rec. 1-15.  
2SHB 1579 includes a license requirement for smelt fishing in marine waters. | • Pale yellow (big holes but as written – it is a deeper yellow but rec flawed b/c not enough detail/doesn’t capture food web)  
• More detail around what “sufficient feedstocks” means – what target would look like.  
• Be clearer on who would like to see what and in what timeframe  
• Need to bring back some language from Final TF report – department needs to go through and cross reference what in 2SHB 1579 to get clarity on budget and what $$ being spent on – does this package address recommendations from TF |

**Next steps:**

- Develop outreach materials and begin updating rules regarding smelt license requirement.
- Finalize and implement sampling plans for forage fish harvest monitoring with focus on recreational smelt harvest and assessing stock structure of commercial herring harvest replace with forage fish – not just herring
- Question about who doing monitoring.
Status of SRKW Task Force YR1 Recommendations

June 3, 2019

- Foundation from which everything else depends
- GAP - Monitoring needs to include full food web outside PS– does NOAA sample for forage fish? – What other fish species are they eating that we don’t know what their status is – i.e. zooplankton – answer pieces of puzzle
- CROSSWALK - Which main forage fish species are surveyed and at what level- we don’t know answer to this – why are fish smaller than they were – all salmon species – not just forage fish – DFW as potential or NOAA to do this – what their status is for each species as part of food web for chinook – in PS and out at sea
- GAP – Humpback whales are coming back – collecting poop – don’t know why they are coming back – don’t have funding –
- GAP - need for primary research funding
- GAP - Need to have the history and monitor from historic levels – don’t want to manage from what exists now - Is there benchmark data about abundance/successful spawning rates, etc. – need to

**Recommendation 16:** Support the Puget Sound zooplankton-sampling program as a Chinook and forage fish management tool.

**Progress:** ●

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| WDNR            | DNR has received funding in the biennial budget ($500K) to support zooplankton monitoring. | Did other departments do zooplankton in the past – have gathered historic record – grounding piece of benchmark
Next steps:  
- Convene Zooplankton Monitoring Program Steering Committee to determine sampling priorities with available resources.
- Good thing that DNR doing it – missing data on PS
- Is DNR appropriate agency – who responsible?  
- Need to coordinate with existing efforts
- Question all the way up to AK (west coast – Strait) – need coordination across geography
- I think OFM and DNR will work out the funding level. If the program remains under funded, then possibly task force can recommend increase to level required for full implementation. Further, I would think next steps are for task force to make clear one-time funding is not enough. As Kirt Hughes said, next time we meet we should be able to learn more. |
### Recommendation 17: Establish a statewide “go-slow” bubble for small vessels and commercial whale watching vessels within half a nautical mile of Southern Resident orcas.

**Agency / Entity:** WDFW  
**Current status:** SSB 5577, which includes this action, was passed by the legislature and then signed by Governor Inslee on 5/8/2019. Funding of $1.36 M was provided to WDFW to implement the new laws.

**Next steps:**  
- WDFW, along with our partners, especially in Be Whale Wise are working to ramp up outreach and education around the new regulations. Enforcement capacity is also being increased to provide additional patrols on the water:
  - 2017: 55 patrols; 50 federal and 5 state funded.
  - 2018: 140 patrols; 50 federal and 90 state funded.

**Notes on moving recommendation forward:**  
- To meet the maximum patrol numbers described for 2019, WDFW will need to hire and train another officer. Adding this capacity will not take place until 2020 given budget and timing constraints.

### Recommendation 18: Establish a limited-entry whale-watching permit system for commercial whale-watching vessels and commercial kayak groups in the inland waters of Washington state to increase acoustic and physical refuge opportunities for the orcas.

**Agency / Entity:** WDFW  
**Current status:** SSB 5577, which includes this action, was passed by the legislature and then signed by Governor Inslee on 5/8/2019. Funding was provided to WDFW to implement the new laws.

**Next steps:**  
- WDFW must adopt rules for the commercial whale watching license system by January 1, 2021--based on best available science.

**Notes on moving recommendation forward:**  
- Refer to science/monitoring proposal in minority report by PWWA for additional guidance.

### Recommendation 19: Create an annual Orca Protection endorsement for all recreational boaters to ensure all boaters are educated on how to limit boating impacts to orcas.

**Agency / Entity:** WDFW  
**Current status:** Not included in Governors policy or budget priorities for legislative session.

**Notes on moving recommendation forward:**  
- Shift emphasis.
  - Close the education loophole for visiting (charter and rental users) and Canadian boaters who are not required to get a Boating Education card because they are here less than 90 days.
**Recommendation 20**: Increase enforcement capacity and fully enforce regulations on small vessels to provide protection to Southern Residents.

**Progress**: ●
- Legislation required and accomplished.

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<tr>
<td>WDFW</td>
<td>Funding for SSB 5577 was provided to WDFW to implement the new laws and will result in increased officer presence/number of patrols.</td>
<td>To meet the maximum patrol numbers described for 2019, WDFW will need to hire and train another officer. Adding this capacity will not take place until 2020 given budget and timing constraints.</td>
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**Next steps:**
- Enforcement capacity is being increased to provide additional patrols on the water:
  - 2017: 55 patrols; 50 federal and 5 state funded.
  - 2018: 140 patrols; 50 federal and 90 state funded.
  - 2019 projected: 180 - 210 patrols; 50 federal and 130 – 160 state funded patrols.

**Recommendation 21**: Discourage the use of echo sounders and underwater transducers within one kilometer of orcas.

**Progress**: ●
- Legislation not required.

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<tr>
<td>PSP</td>
<td>Interviewed several manufacturers of echo sounders and transducers at Pacific Marine Expo in November 2018.</td>
<td>Continue coordination with Canada</td>
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<td>Feedback suggests that a combination of switching dual frequency units from 50 kHz to 200 kHz, toggling to “standby” mode, and providing guidance to boaters would be effective.</td>
<td>Keep message simple</td>
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<td>Todd Hass is coordinating with/on corresponding Technical Work Group in Canada to develop a consistent voluntary, transboundary approach.</td>
<td>Consider “Notice to Mariners” from USCG</td>
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|                 | **Next steps:**
- PSP, the USCG and several other members of the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee met to revise the draft Standard of Care on May 15. Full review and potential adoption by the Harbor Safety Committee expected on June 4, 2019. | Blend the messaging: balance need for safety while discouraging use |
- Canada announced that a similar voluntary standard would apply in their waters in June. | Future evaluation could explore strategies for discouraging use of other transducer types like “chirp” units that emit pulses over a broader frequency range. |
- Work with Be Whale Wise and SRKW Interagency Communications group to adapt and/or adopt and disseminate the 2018 advisory bulletin from the Task Force. | Working Group strongly encouraged near-immediate development and implementation of a communications campaign/roll out -- to maximize potential effectiveness in 2019 season. |
### Recommendation 22: Implement shipping noise-reduction initiatives and monitoring programs, coordinating with Canadian and U.S. authorities.

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| PSP             | *Port of Seattle, WSF, NOAA, ECHO are actively organizing a stakeholder and tribal meeting for fall 2019.*  
*The Port will seek representation by stakeholders and experts on shipping, acoustics and SRKWs from the Vessels Working Group.*  
*Fundamental interests are to complement efforts of ECHO in Puget Sound (Washington Waters of Salish Sea) and evaluate unique mitigation options in Washington.* | *Group has met three times – appetite for coordination – early in process so too early to tell*  
*Important to look at emerging technologies and provide funding to support this*  
*Quiet Seas award program*  
*Data gaps that need to be filled – acoustic monitoring; speed by ship type; mix of ships and profiling them by sector and by vessel – coordination needed b/c this is ECHOs work*  
*Need to find problem statement – categorizing waterway is a good first step*  
*Assumes that we know what initiatives are – need to fill gaps*  
*Needs tribal engagement – invites are out*  
*Measure noise levels in habitat of orcas – need to measure the source levels of a particular vessel versus the received level at particular locations*  
*Need coordination with Navy*  
*Which vessel types is this going to apply to? Important to think about this. Mix of traffic is important to think about. Application of any initiative can have different impacts based on type of traffic.*  
*Need to include navigational strategies and best practices for when SRKW are present – ECHO includes this.*  
*Are decreased noise levels helpful to SRKW – we need to know this.*  
*Work Group wants report-outs about how it is going.* |

#### Next steps:
*The Port has dedicated staff and contracted with a facilitator, and has assembled a Steering Committee comprising WSF, ECHO/Port of Vancouver, and NOAA and had several meetings.*  
*The Port will attend the May 29 meeting of Vessels Working Group and can answer questions.*
**Recommendation 23:** Reduce noise from the Washington state ferries by accelerating the transition to quieter and more fuel-efficient vessels and implementing other strategies to reduce ferry noise when Southern Residents are present.

**Progress:**
- Legislation required; transportation budget passed (legislative funding and WSDOT funding).

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| WSF             | • Legislature funded one Jumbo Mark II hybridization retrofit and one new Olympic hybrid vessel.  
• Consultant selected for baseline fleet noise study.  
• Whale Report Alert System (WRAS) operational for run through Haro Strait.  
• Washington Maritime Blue and Dept of Commerce have technology supporting these efforts.  
**Next steps:**  
• Move forward hybridization retrofit of one Jumbo Mark II vessel and one new Olympic vessels with new vessel designed to potentially be able to achieve quiet vessel notation  
• Execute agreement with Glosten/Noise Control Engineering (NCE) and being baseline fleet noise study  
• Continue coordination with ECHO, Ocean Wise, Orca Network, Whale Museum, and others to develop real-time whale alert system for Puget Sound  
• Use results of noise study and real-time whale alert system to actively manage vessel noise when Southern Residents are present  
• Use results of noise study to identify potential engineering solutions to retrofit vessels to address noise  
• Continue slowdown efforts in Haro Strait | • Funding received doesn’t include shoreside infrastructure to support this – don’t have $$$ for shoreside charges  
• Technology still needs to be developed around the charging mechanism  
• Emissions reduction effort – great- but may not be a noise reduction effort – don’t have data that cavitation is main source from ferry side – this is coupled with study to determine impact of cavitation – Noise Control Engineering under contract and will start this study starting July – all noise emanating from ferries is focus of study  
• Funding for one vessel retrofit and one new vessel (language says up to two)  
• Potential opportunity to collaborate around study  
• Want more funding to support long-range plan – the funding is drop in bucket – acceleration element important  
• Will learn something from first one and then will apply to others  
• Whale Report Alert System needs to be implemented beyond the ferry system  
• Work Group would like to get updates but do not need to roll up sleeves. |
## Recommendation 24: Reduce the threat of oil spills in Puget Sound to the survival of Southern Residents.

**Progress:**
- Legislation required and accomplished.
- Funding received
- Requires in-depth Vessels WG follow-up.

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<td>ECY</td>
<td>- In March 2018, the Governor signed Exec. Order 18-02 directing state agencies to take several immediate actions to benefit SRKWs. Ecology was directed to create a curriculum to improve and increase the number of trainings for vessels in the whale watching industry to assist in the event of an oil spill. Ecology requires funding to implement the Curriculum Plan for a Killer Whale Deterrence Program Report published in April 2018. Ecology will work with WDFW to develop and deploy a whale deterrence program within the waters of the Salish Sea, Strait of Juan de Fuca, and Puget Sound.&lt;br&gt;- Ecology will assist the Pilotage Commission with adopting rules for tug requirements for oil tankers and safety measures when dealing with oil tankers in Washington waters (similar to the approach in 2SHB 1611 in the 2017 session).&lt;br&gt;- Standards for articulated tug barges will be covered under the Rules for Tug Escorts item also noted under this recommendation.&lt;br&gt;- ESHB 1578, passed by the 2019 Legislature and signed by Governor Inslee, requires smaller oil vessels that can carry up to 7 million gallons of oil to have tug escorts in the busy shipping lanes of Rosario Strait and waters to the east by Sept. 1, 2020. The new law brings the smaller oil vessels in line with the long-standing escort requirements for the large, loaded oil tankers traversing the Salish Sea. (recruiting for risk modeling team) (identifying zones then modeling) (shipping synopsis) (Host Salish Sea Forums) – 5-year effort. Agency is funded for the 2019-21 biennium at $1.37 M for implementation.</td>
<td>- Not all elements from original bill made it into law – (1) ECY rulemaking for emergency response towing vessels – additional legislation would be needed to authorize them to conduct rulemaking – this still important piece&lt;br&gt;- A lot more to do outside of ESHB 1578 around oil spills recognizing that ESHB 1578 is important piece of legislation&lt;br&gt;- Potential additional noise – needs to be direction/funding to help monitor this change/impacts – before and after before rule goes into place.</td>
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**Next steps:**
- ESHB 1578 also calls for the Board of Pilotage Commissioners to work with us to adopt rules for tug escorts in all of Puget Sound for the smaller oil vessels by 2025. It requires us to work with the U.S. Coast Guard, tribes, and stakeholders to develop and maintain an internal computer modeling capability that uses data to predict vessel risk to inform the rulemaking.<br>- Ecology must assess by September 2023 if an emergency response towing vessel stationed in the San Juan Islands — similar to the emergency response towing vessel currently stationed at Neah Bay — would reduce oil spill risks. This will be a topic of discussion at the 2019 Salish Sea Shared Waters Forum to be held Nov. 14, 2019, in Bellingham.
**Recommendation 25**: Coordinate with the Navy in 2019 to discuss reduction of noise and disturbance affecting Southern Resident orcas from military exercises and Navy aircraft.

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<th>Agency / Entity</th>
<th>Current status</th>
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</table>
| PSP             | - The US Navy will join the Vessels Working Group in 2019 and has assigned a cross-section of at least five experts to participate.  
Next steps:  
- Vessels Working Group plans to examine opportunities for the Navy to strategically integrate mitigation measures (e.g., use of Whale Report Alert System, use of sonar, etc.).  
- The public comment period for the Navy's Draft Supplemental EIS/ OEIS is open until June 12, 2019. Working Group and Task Force members who want to provide input on ongoing and future Northwest testing and training activities can follow the submission process at [https://www.nwtteis.com](https://www.nwtteis.com). | - Interest in maintaining and restoring institutional knowledge within the Navy on this topic  
- For detailed information and to comment on proposed future Navy testing and training activities in the northwest, use the portal provided in the Draft Supplemental EIS/ OEIS  
- The spatial scale and effectiveness of current SRKW deterrence strategies in the event of an spill in the Northwest Area Contingency plan are limited; there was broad interest in exploring the unconventional idea of whether/how deployment of Navy mid frequency sonar during an oil spill response could be applied, among other alternatives.  
- Vessels Work Group involvement likely needed as part of follow up to the updated SRKW hazing plan outlined in the Governor’s Executive Order in 2018. |

**Progress**:  
- Legislation not required.  
- Requires in-depth Vessels WG follow-up.

**Recommendation 26**: Revise chapter 77.15.740 RCW to increase the buffer to 400 yards behind the orcas.

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<th>Agency / Entity</th>
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</table>
| WDFW            | - SSB 5577, which includes this action, was passed by the legislature and then signed by Governor Inslee on 5/8/2019. Funding was provided to WDFW to implement the new laws.  
Next steps:  
- WDFW, along with our partners, especially in Be Whale Wise are working to ramp up outreach and education around the new regulations. Enforcement capacity is also being increased to provide additional patrols on the water:  
  o 2017: 55 patrols; 50 federal and 5 state funded.  
  o 2018: 140 patrols; 50 federal and 90 state funded.  
  o 2019 projected: 180 - 210 patrols; 50 federal and 130 – 160 state funded patrols. | - To meet the maximum patrol numbers described for 2019, WDFW will need to hire and train another officer. Adding this capacity will not take place until 2020 given budget and timing constraints. |

**Progress**:  
- Legislation required and accomplished.  
- Funding received.
**Recommendation 27**: Determine how permit applications in Washington state that could increase traffic and vessel impacts could be required to explicitly address potential impacts to orcas.

**Progress**: ●
- Legislation not required.
- Requires in-depth Vessels Work Group follow-up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency / Entity</th>
<th>Notes on moving recommendation forward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WDNR</td>
<td>• DNR has not yet implemented any new processes to implement this recommendation but will identify a process to partner with other permitting entities to move this forward.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECY</td>
<td>• Ecology is awaiting direction from the Governor's office and looks forward to working with ORIA to better understand this recommendation's objectives to ensure that we are engaging the best regulatory tools to achieve those objectives.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendation 28**: Suspend viewing of Southern Resident orcas.

**Progress**: ●
- Legislation required; removed from the Governor's legislation request.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency / Entity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WDFW</td>
<td>• This component was removed from the Governor's request legislation.</td>
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</table>

- Viewpoints strongly split on this recommendation
- If a suspension were to be required, there would need to be much greater funding and capacity provided for enforcement to be effective
- In contrast to Washington, commercial whale watchers in Canada agreed to not watch SRKWs for the upcoming year
- A new ballot initiative in San Juan County seeks to restrict vessels from watching SRKWs within 650 yards in San Juan County waters; an oppositional lawsuit from commercial operators has been filed against the proponent and the County.
- San Juan County is advancing a marine spatial planning process which will more definitively identify SRKW foraging hotspots and patterns in commercial and recreational fishing use.
### Recommendation 29: Accelerate the implementation of the ban on polychlorinated biphenyls in state purchased products and make information available online for other purchasers.

#### Agency / Entity | Current status | Notes on moving recommendation forward
--- | --- | ---
**Governor’s Office** | • Direct DES to implement recommendation. |  
**Next steps:**  
• Check with Gov’s office |

**Department of Enterprise Services** | • Create incentives or producers to share info on PCB levels. DES does not currently have authority to require disclosure, but should create strong disclosure incentives, and/or work to make low or no PCB purchasing decisions the norm.  
• Make information widely available/publish information on internet. Making PCB content information public could also influence.  
**Next steps:**  
• ECY is working with DES to identify solutions.  
• Scope and assess resource needs to develop legislative request. |

### Recommendation 30: Identify, prioritize and take action on chemicals that impact orcas and their prey.

#### Agency / Entity | Current status | Notes on moving recommendation forward
--- | --- | ---
**PSI with support from PSMP Toxics WG, and Stormwater SIL** | • PSEM Toxics WG is working with partners to do a risk-based CEC prioritization.  
**Next steps:**  
• Finish prioritization, Ecology will assess chemicals for ‘management’ options (CAPs, NPDES, etc.)  
• Ensure there’s NOAA expert involved in the PSEM process. |

**ECY** | • Ecology will ramp up caps on SSB 5135 chemicals.  
• Toxic Pollution (SSB 5135). |

**Governor’s Office** | Direct ECY to undertake CAP on priority chemicals. |

**Legislature** | The Legislature could ban or give Ecology necessary authority to ban or phase-out chemicals. New authority to enforce CAP recommendation by rule writing.  
**Next steps:**  
• Chemical Action Planning informs proposed bans |
### Status of SRKW Task Force YR1 Recommendations

**June 3, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislature or ECY</th>
<th>Implementation highlights</th>
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</table>
| • Implement pollution prevention actions around problem chemicals.  
• Enhanced Product Testing ($1M).  
• Implement treatment, management, or cleanup actions around problem chemicals.  
Reallocate, or allocate new funding, to reduce toxics loading, and exposure. | ● All pieces of recommendation are moving forward.  
● Nothing happening yet but still on track. |

**Next steps:**
- Understand which chemicals will be targeted. Are there opportunities to more closely focus on SRKW priorities? Follow up with HWTR staff.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation 31: Reduce stormwater threats and accelerate clean-up of toxics that are harmful to orcas.</th>
<th>Progress:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| | ● Legislation required.  
● Partial Funding.  
● Requires in-depth Contaminants Work Group follow-up. |

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<tr>
<th>Agency / Entity</th>
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</table>
| ECY             | • Reallocate, reprioritize, or allocate new funding, to accelerate cleanup and threat reduction.  
• Provide pass through funding to local entities to identify sources of toxics in known hotspots:  
  o Local Source Control ($0): Phase II Local Source Control requirement coming on-line may be useful. Ecology will coordinate internally to find ways to use local source control programs to identify hotspots. Develop plan to leverage existing funds and programs to perform source tracing.  
  o Orca - Toxics and Juvenile Chinook ($491K): This is aimed at one –if not the most—important question for this recommendation. But, much more source ID is necessary.  
• Fund and implement stormwater retrofits to reduce threats from stormwater hotspots; work with ECY program staff to explore opportunities to target highest priority SRKW projects; recommendations were for targeted work, and we should ensure that we are leveraging opportunities to better focus work on SRKW priorities.  
  o 2019-21 Centennial Clean Water ($20m)  
  o 2019-21 Stormwater Financial Assistance ($30m)  
  o 2019-21 Water Pollution Control Revolving Program ($12m)  
• Fund partners to remove toxic materials.  
  o Pilot project ($3.7m).  
  o WG will check with HWTR program to understand opportunities to focus efforts on SRKW priorities  
  o Implement Pilot, work to find a way to integrate it with local source control, and existing information about ‘hot-spots’. | ● = Some pieces of recommendation are moving  
● = Nothing happening yet/not on track  
● = Some pieces of recommendation are moving  
● = Some pieces of recommendation are moving  
● = All pieces of recommendation are moving |
Status of SRKW Task Force YR1 Recommendations

June 3, 2019

- Recommendations were for targeted work, and we should ensure that we are leveraging opportunities to better focus work on SRKW priorities.
  - Create incentives to redevelop stormwater problem areas to increase treatment and remove toxic materials.
    - This is an important strategy to realize environmental benefits—and harm reduction—from population growth
  - Accelerate cleanups in areas where toxic contamination is threatening juvenile salmon and forage. Recommendations were for targeted work, and we should ensure that we are leveraging opportunities to better focus work on SRKW priorities.
    - Environmental Resilience - Creosote Piling Removal ($1.89m). DNR usually has a list of projects queued and there may be an opportunity to put DNR staff in touch with WDFW staff in order to identify SRKW to priorities and prioritize removal to address those (overlap with Chinook juveniles, or forage fish habitat)
    - Work with ECY program staff to explore opportunities to target highest priority SRKW projects:
      - Expanded Cleanup Site Capacity ($1.5M).
      - Support Voluntary Cleanups ($843k).
      - Derelict Vessel Removal ($2.5M).

**Recommendation 32: Improve effectiveness, implementation and enforcement of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits to address direct threats to Southern Resident orcas and their prey.**

**Progress:**
- Legislation required.
- Funding required.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECY</td>
<td>Ecology received funding for additional point source inspection staff, and limited staff support in the budget to undertake processes to evaluate the results of the recommendation 30 prioritization to evaluate appropriate NPDES interventions on emerging chemicals, or chemicals of importance for whales or their prey. Inspection Staff ($4.9m pt. source, $7.07m non-pt.).</td>
<td>Nothing happening yet but still on track.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Next steps:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Develop a plan to assess CECs and Pharmaceuticals for NPDES management options. This work will build off the PSEMPCEC prioritization.</td>
<td>Aquatic life criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Assess results of CEC prioritization.</td>
<td>NPDES requirements</td>
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<td>- Consider enhanced permits to benefit SRKW.</td>
<td>Pre-treatment requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Hire staff and begin work.</td>
<td>Toxics co-benefits from WWTP upgrades</td>
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= Nothing happening yet/not on track

= Some pieces of recommendation are moving
### Recommendation 33: Increase monitoring of toxic substances in marine waters; create and deploy adaptive management strategies to reduce threats to orcas and their prey.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECY</td>
<td>• Some monitoring work was funded by the legislature, including some Puget Sound monitoring, and work to identify the source of Toxics in targeted watersheds.</td>
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</table>

**Next steps:**
- Coordinate with PSEMP, and other science and monitoring organizations and agencies to develop a coordinated framework for conducting monitoring.
- Monitor air quality, volatization of chemicals on water surface, CECs in PS—via freshwater inputs, CECs in prey and forage fish.
- Establish thresholds for CECs that are protective for whales and prey
- Require Ecology/EPA to add PBDE monitoring to NPDES wastewater permits

### Recommendation 34: Provide sustainable funding for implementation of all recommendations.

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<tr>
<td>Multiple</td>
<td>Significant investments made in the 2019-21 state budget to implement the taskforce recommendations.</td>
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**Next steps:**
- Identifying gaps in existing funding. Evaluate options and funding sources for future legislative sessions to fill gaps and secure sustainable funding. Incorporate into a long-term funding strategy.

### Recommendation 35: Conduct research, science and monitoring to inform decision making, adaptive management and implementation of actions to recover Southern Residents.

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<tr>
<td>PSP</td>
<td>The Partnership’s operating budget includes funding for the Puget Sound Scientific research Account to pay for research focused on implementation and effectiveness of Chinook recovery efforts and implementation of priority studies of the Salish Sea marine survival project. The Partnership is working with Long Live the Kings, NOAA, and the co-managers to model the Task Force’s hatchery recommendations.</td>
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**Next steps:**
- The Partnership will develop a process to award these funds and make the modeling findings available to the Task Force and the Prey Working Group.
STATUS OF YEAR 1 RECOMMENDATIONS

FISHBOWL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Based on the update you’ve heard, what recommendations are you most concerned about (those that are not being implemented, funded, etc.)? How should the Task Force approach these in Year 2?

2. Are there new topics or issues you think should be sent to Working Groups or a group of other experts to develop into potential new recommendations for Year 2?
Overview of Canadian Southern Resident Killer Whale Protection and Recovery Measures for 2019

Background

The Government of Canada has committed to protecting Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW), an iconic species which is vital to the local marine ecosystem and holds cultural significance for Indigenous Peoples and coastal communities in British Columbia.

In late 2016, the launch of the $1.5 billion Oceans Protection Plan (OPP) included, among other things, funding for research and engagement to inform the development of a strategy on how to address underwater noise from vessels affecting SRKW. The OPP also initiated science-based whale reviews by the Government of Canada on the effectiveness of recovery measures to that date for three whales including SRKW, and subsequent public engagement. This resulted in the development of the “What We Heard Reports”, and the Southern Resident Killer Whale Symposium held in Vancouver, B.C. in October 2017.

In June 2018, the Government of Canada launched the $167 million Whales Initiative to protect and support the recovery of Canada's endangered, iconic whale populations, including SRKW. Funding under this initiative is shared between Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), and Transport Canada (TC). Regarding SRKW, one of the main objectives of this Initiative is the implementation of actions to help mitigate the three main threats these whales face: lack of prey, physical and acoustic disturbance, and contaminants. It responds to the determination made in May 2018 by the competent ministers for the species under the Species at Risk Act that the SRKW is facing an imminent threat to its survival and recovery. Measures under this Initiative are being developed and implemented in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, marine stakeholders, environmental organizations, coastal communities, US officials, and international partners.

In late October 2018, the Government announced an additional $61.5 million to implement additional measures to protect this iconic species.

Immediate SRKW Protection and Recovery Measures for 2019

Following the October announcement, five SRKW Technical Working Groups (TWGs) were established to focus on the key threats to the species and provide advice on immediate and longer-term protection and recovery measures to help inform actions by the Government of Canada. The groups are composed of technical and subject matter experts from Indigenous groups, environmental organizations, academia, commercial and recreational harvesters, shipping, other levels of government, Washington State and others.

Informed by work of the TWGs, and following extensive consultation and engagement, a suite of immediate protection and recovery measures were announced by the Government of Canada on May 10, 2019.¹ The mix of mandatory and voluntary measures are designed to support prey availability and reduce physical and acoustic disturbance within SRKW critical habitat. Key actions include:

- Increasing distance between vessels and SRKW;
- Salmon fisheries closures;
- Advancing concept of SRKW sanctuaries through implementation of interim sanctuary zones;
- Vessel speed reductions; and

Targeted enhancement of Chinook populations important to SRKW.

The broader list of measures and a detailed map are provided in Appendix A. Work is also underway by the VFPA-led ECHO program to trial voluntary inshore lateral displacement for tug and barge operators within the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Implementation of the 2019 SRKW protection and recovery measures will occur in the coming days/weeks with the majority of measures effective June 1 to October 31, 2019. The measures will be accompanied by a combination of efforts towards compliance and enforcement, monitoring, as well as education and outreach.

Complimentary to the measures announced in May, DFO is taking a range of actions to address declines in Chinook salmon populations. While not directly linked to SRKW, these measures will have incremental benefits for the population. Actions include:

- Conservation measures for Fraser River Chinook, including prohibition or restrictions on Chinook harvest throughout much of Southern British Columbia;\(^2\) and
- Investments in freshwater chinook habitat restoration projects, including for stocks relevant to SRKW.

**Longer-Term SRKW Protection and Recovery Measures**

SRKW recovery will require a broad suite of short, medium and long-term measures across the key threats facing the species.

Supported by resources and capacity provided under the Whales Initiative and additional measures announced in October 2018, the Government of Canada’s recovery efforts will continue to be informed by:

- Advice from the SRKW TWGs, including on reducing impacts of contaminants on SRKW, as well as advice from the Indigenous and Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group (IMAG); and
- Ongoing science, research and monitoring; and consultation and engagement with Indigenous groups, stakeholders and other levels of government.

**Trans-boundary Collaboration**

Canada is committed to working with trans-boundary partners, including Washington State, NOAA, USCG, and other stakeholders as appropriate, to collaborate and, where possible, align our protection and recovery efforts for SRKW. Opportunities for continued partnership and cooperation include:

- Washington State Orca Task Force;
- SRKW Technical Working Groups (TWGs) in Canada;
- Participation in the VFPA-led ECHO program;
- Canada and US Joint Coordinating Group;
- International work at IMO on quiet vessel design and technical solutions; and
- Collaboration on science, research and monitoring, and education (i.e. Be Whale Wise).

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Appendix A – Overview of 2019 Management Measures to Protect & Recover Southern Resident Killer Whales

**All Green and Blue Areas**
- 400m Approach (mandatory), exemption for some whale watching operators to view non-SRKW killer whales at 200m
- Turn off echo sounders when not in use (voluntary)
- Leave engine off/neutral idle within killer whale approach distance (voluntary)

**All Blue Areas**
- Voluntary fishery avoidance zone within 1000m of killer whales (voluntary)
- “Go slow zone” (7 knots or less) within 1000m of killer whales (voluntary)

**Mouth of Fraser River**
Voluntary fishery avoidance zone - May until October 31.

**Strait of Juan de Fuca**
- Area-based fishery closures for recreational and commercial salmon in effect after Chinook non-retention expires on July 31 and continue through October 31.

**Gulf Islands**
- Area-based fishery closures for recreational and commercial salmon in effect after Chinook non-retention expires on July 31 and continue through October 31.

**Swiftsure Bank**
- Interim Sanctuary Zone, which prohibits general vessel traffic (with exemptions) June 1 – October 31. Note: the larger area (purple outline) is an existing closure for recreational and commercial hook and line fisheries.

**Pender and Saturna Islands**
- Interim Sanctuary Zones, which prohibits general vessel traffic (with exemptions) June 1 through October 31.
POPULATION GROWTH

FISHBOWL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Given what we’ve heard, do our existing recommendations adequately address future population growth?

2. If there are gaps, what should the Task Force do:
   - Develop new recommendation(s)?
   - Highlight or advocate for existing recommendations?
   - Other?

3. What issues or topics should be sent to Working Groups (or a group of other experts) to discuss? Options for potential recommendations could be brought to the Task Force for consideration at the September Task Force Meeting.