

# Hood Canal Integrated Watershed Plan (Hood Canal Ecosystem Recovery Plan)

The Integrated Watershed Plan (IWP) provides a strategic framework that unites the Hood Canal Coordinating Council's member jurisdictions and partners around a vision to protect and improve our Hood Canal.

## LIO Overview

The Hood Canal Coordinating Council (HCCC) administers the Hood Canal LIO, its members include:

- Jefferson County
- Kitsap County
- Mason County
- Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
- Skokomish Tribe



HCCC is a council of governments established in 1985 to initially address Hood Canal water quality.

In 2014, HCCC launched the **Hood Canal Integrated Watershed Plan (IWP)**, a comprehensive strategic framework to advance a shared regional vision, empowering its members to work together to protect Hood Canal's natural resources and community wellbeing, in a way that individual jurisdictions cannot. The LIO Recovery Plan is an extension of the IWP.

## What is HCCC?

Besides being an LIO, HCCC operates under a variety of authorities that enable the unique opportunity to align many programs and partners around one integrated approach, and turn planning into prioritized action on the ground:

- » We are the Regional Recovery Organization for Hood Canal Summer Chum
- » We are the Lead Entity for salmon recovery in Hood Canal and Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca
- » We are an In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program
- » We are a Regional Pollution Identification and Correction Program

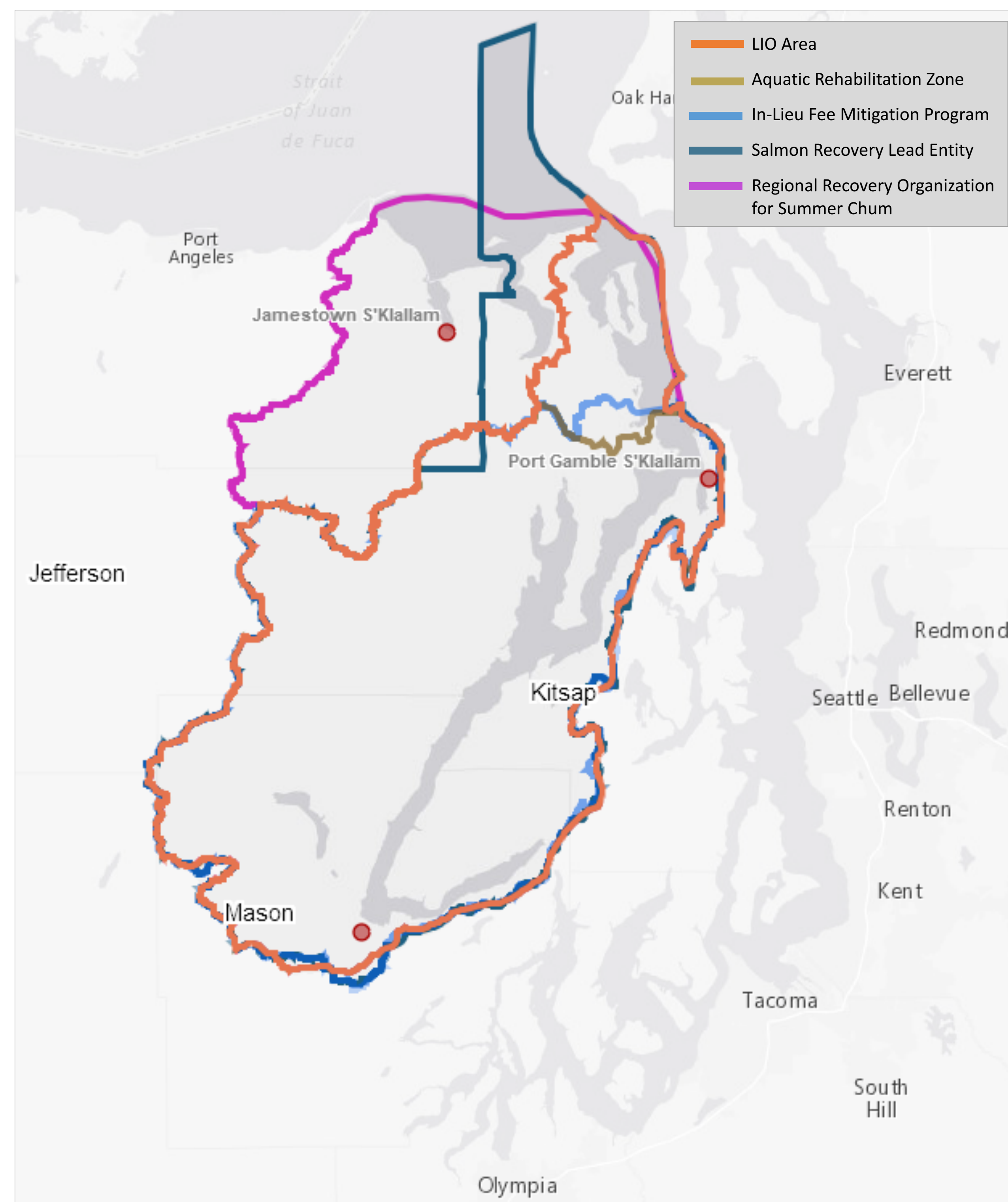
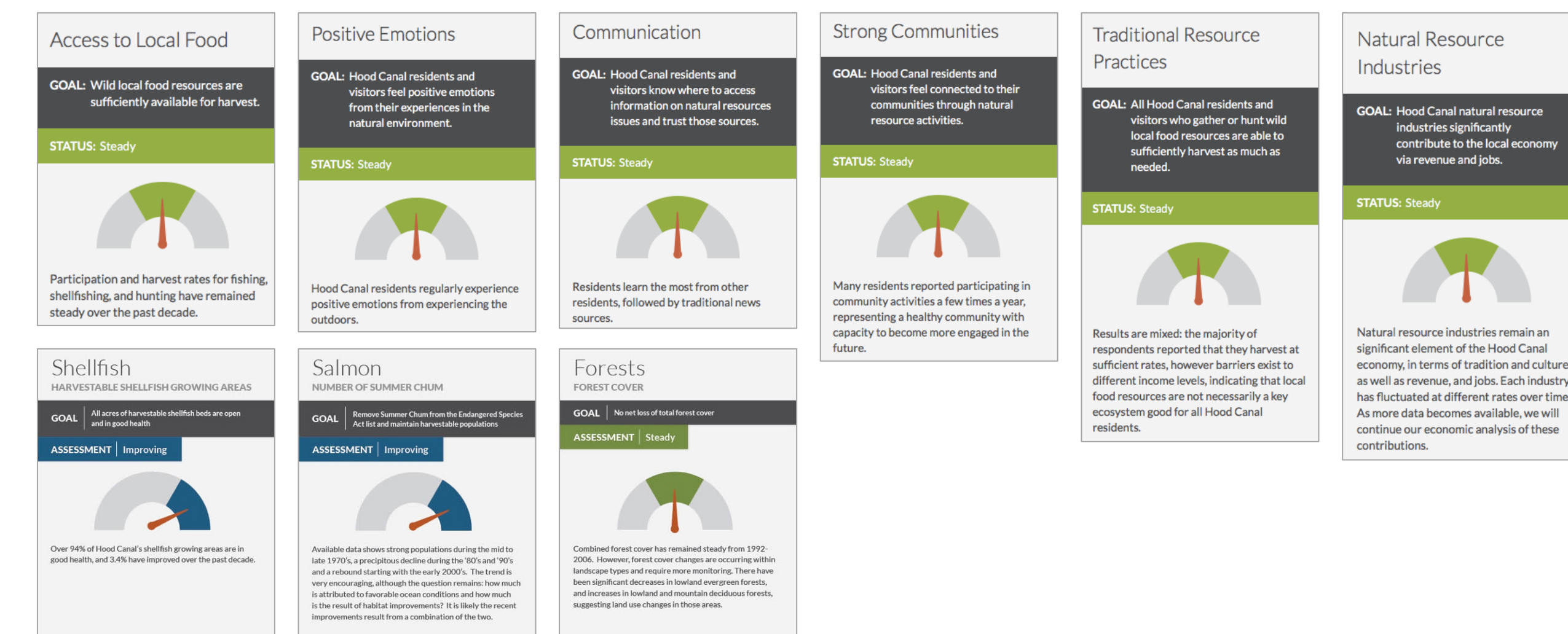
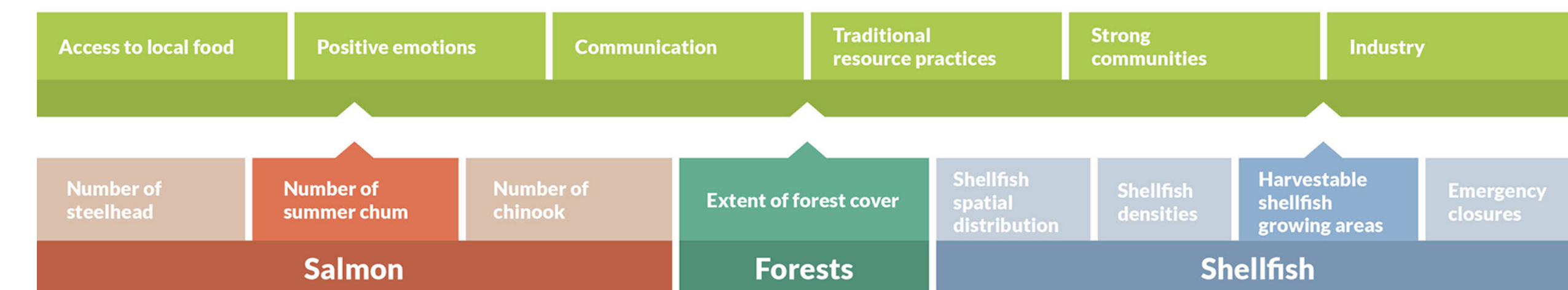
## Key Ecosystem Pressures in Hood Canal

| HCCC Priority Pressures                            | Summary Rating |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Climate change                                     | Very High      |
| Transportation & service corridors                 | Very High      |
| Ground water withdrawal                            | High           |
| Domestic & commercial wastewater to on-site septic | High           |
| Marine shoreline infrastructure                    | Medium         |
| Freshwater shoreline infrastructure                | Medium         |
| Residential & commercial development               | Medium         |
| Runoff from residential & commercial lands         | Medium         |
| Surface water withdrawal                           | Medium         |
| Livestock farming & ranching                       | Medium         |

## Monitoring the Health of Our Hood Canal

### Ecosystem Indicators

Human Wellbeing



## Core Integrated Watershed Plan Strategies

- 1.0 Restore and protect Hood Canal shoreline
- 2.0 Protect and improve Hood Canal water quality
- 3.0 Protect and restore Hood Canal forests and freshwater salmonid habitat
- 4.0 Hood Canal Shellfish Initiative
- 5.0 Proactively prepare for climate change impacts across Hood Canal
- 6.0 Outreach on IWP implementation effectiveness and ecosystem improvements

**2016  
Near Term Actions Spotlight  
Hood Canal Regional PIC Program**

- Coordinated pollution source identification and correction across jurisdictions
- Hood Canal Bridge Impacts Assessment**  
Comprehensive assessment of impacts on migrating salmonids and water circulation
- Hood Canal County-wide Planning Policies Assessment**  
Analysis of land use policies across jurisdictions to assess the degree of protection and identify opportunities for improvement and consistency

## Goals

| Ecosystem Components                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Goals                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Beaches and Nearshore</b><br>(Related Vital Signs: Birds, Chinook Salmon, Eelgrass, Marine Sediment Quality, Marine Water Quality, On-site Sewage Systems, Pacific Herring, Shellfish Beds, Shoreline Armoring)                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the increase in abundance, escapement, productivity, and diversity of salmonids to delist endangered populations and enable harvest</li> <li>• Protect and restore priority nearshore and beaches and their formative processes in priority areas, to ensure sufficient supply and quality of intertidal and tidally influenced habitat, to maintain drift cell connectivity</li> <li>• Maintain harvestable bivalve populations throughout Hood Canal public and private tidelands</li> <li>• Establish Hood Canal salmon habitat goals and prioritize nearshore and shoreline areas for restoration</li> <li>• Remove more shoreline armoring or install more soft armoring, than the amount of new hard armoring added to Hood Canal shorelines</li> <li>• Increase native oyster populations</li> <li>• Decrease rate of annual beach closures due to poor water quality</li> <li>• Maintain 100% of shellfish beds open for harvesting throughout Hood Canal</li> </ul> |
| <b>Deltas and Estuaries</b><br>(Related Vital Signs: Birds, Chinook Salmon, Eelgrass, Estuaries, Freshwater Quality, Marine Sediment Quality, Marine Water Quality, On-site Sewage Systems, Shellfish Beds, Shoreline Armoring, Toxics in Fish) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase tidal and freshwater connectivity, wetland extent, channel complexity in priority areas</li> <li>• Support the increase in abundance, escapement, productivity, and diversity of salmonids to delist endangered populations and enable harvest                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Hood Canal salmon habitat goals for deltas &amp; estuaries</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Increase eelgrass populations</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Forests</b><br>(Related Vital Signs: Land Development and Cover)                                                                                                                                                                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restore and maintain healthy functioning forests and the ecosystem services they provide in order to protect aquatic and terrestrial resources.</li> <li>1. Increase forest diversity</li> <li>2. Maintain the area and productivity of managed timber lands</li> <li>3. Maintain forest cover in residential areas</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Marine Deepwater</b><br>(Related Vital Signs: Chinook Salmon, Marine Sediment Quality, Marine Water Quality, Toxics in Fish)                                                                                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the increase in abundance, escapement, productivity, and diversity of salmonids to delist endangered populations and enable harvest</li> <li>• Decrease human influence on low dissolved oxygen conditions in Hood Canal:</li> <li>• Increase the abundance, productivity, and diverse age structure for bottomfish and shellfish, including English sole, rockfish, ling cod, spot shrimp, dungeness crab, geoduck clams</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Rivers and Floodplains</b><br>(Related Vital Signs: Chinook Salmon, Floodplains, Freshwater Quality, Summer Stream Flows)                                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain water quantity and quality to improve all aspects of freshwater salmonid habitat</li> <li>• Support the increase in abundance, escapement, productivity, and diversity of salmonids to delist endangered populations and enable harvest</li> <li>• Establish Hood Canal habitat goals and restore priority rivers and floodplains habitats</li> <li>• Prevent pollutants from entering Hood Canal waterways</li> <li>• Support implementation of forest management plans</li> <li>• Increase connectivity between streams and floodplains</li> <li>• Increase the integrity of riparian areas that support mature, continuous, and connective vegetation communities and biodiversity</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |



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