



## HCCC Updates | January/February 2024



Welcome to the [Hood Canal Coordinating Council](#)'s new newsletter, where we share information and resources to support the Hood Canal ecosystem recovery community. Sign up and manage your subscription using the links at the bottom. Know others who should receive this newsletter? Please share it around.

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## Around Hood Canal

Updates - News - Announcements

**HCCC welcomes David Dicks as its new Executive Director** - David Dicks brings to HCCC a deep love for Hood Canal and broad experience across Puget Sound recovery; [read more](#). After Scott Brewer's 21 years of service at HCCC, including 15 years as Director, he will transition to a new role focused on salmon recovery before retiring later this year.

**HCCC welcomes two new Board members and new board officers** - Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribal Council Chairwoman Amber Caldera and Kitsap County Commissioner Christine Rolfes join HCCC's Board of Directors. Commissioner Kate Dean (Jefferson County) is HCCC's 2024 Board Chair and Chairwoman Amber Caldera (Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe) is our Vice Chair. [Read more.](#)

**Call for nominations for Hood Canal's representative on the Puget Sound Partnership's Ecosystem Coordination Board** - Nominations are due Feb 20. [More info.](#)

**HCCC's 2024 Hood Canal Lead Entity grant round underway** - 16 letters of intent were submitted with a total ask of \$44,136,981, leveraging well over \$15.5M of match funding for a total of \$59,662,981 in project proposals. This grant round will include Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) funding, Puget Sound Acquisition & Restoration (PSAR) regular & large capital list development, SRFB Riparian funding, and SRFB Targeted Investment list development. The HCCC Lead Entity Technical Advisory Group, Citizens Advisory Group, and the Citizens Committee will review and vet the projects for the funding sources and list development.

**Puget Sound Partnership is seeking public comment on the development of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan Addendum** - The public comment period is open from Jan. 8 until Feb. 21. The Puget Sound community has an opportunity to [provide feedback on the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan Addendum through an online platform](#) and by submitting letters. To learn more, please visit [the Partnership's Salmon Recovery Overview page](#).

**Duckabush Estuary Restoration Project reaches 65% design**- From WDFW: The Duckabush Estuary Restoration Project design team is excited to announce the project has reached the 65% design milestone. As a result of Congress' direction to include highway relocation as part of the project, USACE will now advertise and Construction Manage (CM) the entirety of the Duckabush Estuary restoration as one single contract. The design team continues to advance designs with 100% design anticipated in mid-2025. Funding elements are coming into alignment with state funding largely secured and a significant federal ask on behalf of the Army Corps expected in FFY 2025 as part of their Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Construction funding line. Visit the [project webpage](#) for more information.

**Puget Sound Strategic Initiative Leads (SILs) seek additional local engagement:**

- **Stormwater SIL is looking for representatives from community-based organizations, social scientists, and tribes to join their Stormwater Pod.** In 2024, the Stormwater Pod will continue their efforts to work cross-scales and functions to integrate land use and stormwater to operationalize their Implementation Strategies and inform their 2024 Investment Plan.
- **Habitat SIL is looking for additional local representation on its Pod and/or Advisory Team.** [Learn more about the SIATs.](#)
- If interested, reach out to your LIO Coordinator (nharguth@hccc.wa.gov) or directly to the SW SIL team (Derek.Day@ecy.wa.gov, Heidi.Siegelbaum@wsu.edu) or Habitat SIL team

(Jennifer.Griffiths@dfw.wa.gov)

**Upcoming workshops provide opportunities to review and comment on Kitsap County's draft Comprehensive Plan** - Kitsap County has two public workshops scheduled this month to review and take public comment on recently released draft updates to the Comprehensive Plan. [More information.](#)

**WSDOT Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) reaffirms its Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) and suggests mitigation measures for its proposed new SR-3 Freight Corridor through Belfair.** The revised DNS is open for public comment until Feb 28, 2024. NEPA SEA [linked here](#). SEPA DNS [linked here](#). More info on how to comment [linked here](#).

**New StoryMap from the Puget Sound Partnership: [Resilient Floodplains for People & Salmon](#) describes impacts of FEMA no-rise policy.** PSP will use this tool when speaking with federal legislators and other leaders in the coming months to demonstrate the problem and make the case for change. Others are also encouraged to use and shared it.

**Kitsap Public Health District [2023 Water Quality Report](#) available**

**Article: [Scientists worldwide are immersed in studies of a deadly tire chemical](#);** Puget Sound Institute-Salish Sea Currents, by Christopher Dunagan

**Article: [Lawsuits fly, as regulators come to grips with a toxic tire chemical](#);** Puget Sound Institute-Salish Sea Currents, by Christopher Dunagan

**Article: [How to Love an Oyster - The Pacific coast's only native oyster is making a comeback, but it still needs a little help from its friends](#).** Hakai Magazine

**Nature-Positive Aquaculture Survey from TNC** - A [collaborative initiative](#), led by The Nature Conservancy and Akorn Environmental, will develop practical pathways to expand restorative aquaculture nationwide as a form of nature-positive food production. [Survey link](#).

**Article: [Survey looks at public knowledge of estuaries](#)** - WDFW/Puget Sound Institute

**Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP) [Puget Sound Marine Waters 2022](#) report released**

**Dept. of Ecology: Community-Based Public-Private Partnerships Learning Network** - The CBP3 Learning Network helps Washington stormwater managers accelerate stormwater program delivery and build a state funding program that works for them. [More info](#).

**The Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5)**—Washington State's Climate Risks and Actions recorded webinar from November 30, 2023, is now [available online](#) (Use passcode: j!8N\*?27).

**Dept. of Commerce publishes intermediate climate guidance.** Dept of Commerce has

released intermediate climate planning guidance to assist local governments in developing a [climate element](#), as required by new state law (HB 1181 (2023)). [Download climate guidance document \(PDF\)](#) or [View climate guidance on our interactive dashboard \(Smartsheet\)](#).

**Shore Friendly:** [New video on "Trees and Views" in the Shore Friendly Living series](#). This video provides landowners with information on shoreline tree care and management strategies when considering maintaining views and protecting their property.

**Hood Canal property owners penalized \$250,000 for illegal bulkhead replacement resulting in Chinook salmon deaths.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced property owners in Union, Washington have been ordered by the U.S. District Court to pay a \$250,000 penalty and provide \$33,492 to HCCC as mitigation for illegal bulkhead replacement work that resulted in the death of Chinook salmon. [Read more](#).

**Draft Report Published For [North Sound to Olympic \(NSTO\) Trail Planning Study](#).** The deadline for comments is 8:00 am on Monday, March 11, 2024.

**Article:** [Crab DNA study examines possible distinct populations](#). The Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe is working with a diverse group of partners to learn more about the population structure of Puget Sound’s Dungeness crab by studying the DNA of both larvae and adults. Peninsula Daily News.

**New Report:** [Assessing the cumulative effects of nearshore habitat recovery actions for juvenile salmonids in the Whidbey basin](#): Annual report for 2022 – 2023.

**NOAA has announced the availability of new, high-resolution land cover data (C-CAP).** The data are available from the NOAA [Digital Coast website](#).

**Article:** [The Future of Shellfish Aquaculture Permitting in Washington State](#). The National Sea Grant Law Center.

**Article:** [El Niño shows us the true face of climate change](#); UW College of the Environment.

## Events

HCCC events - Partner events around Hood Canal & Puget Sound - Education & training opportunities

**HCCC Board Meeting** - February 21, 1-4 pm; Virtual and in-person at HCCC's office in Poulsbo. Visit [HCCC's calendar](#) to view all board meeting dates. Details and materials will be available one week before the meeting date.

**Puget Sound Partnership Management Conference Boards** - Upcoming and past meeting [information and materials](#).



- **Leadership Council** - March 14; Location/Format TBD
- **Ecosystem Coordination Board** - February 8; Virtual
- **Salmon Recovery Council** - January 25; Virtual
- **Science Panel** - February 22; Virtual

**Puget Sound Partnership Legislative Update Call** - Every Friday during the legislative session, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. From January 5 - March 15, 2024; [Sign up and other resources](#) to track the 2024 session.

**Jefferson County Marine Resources Committee** - February 6, 6-8 pm; Point Hudson Pavilion Building in Pt. Townsend, and via Zoom. [More info.](#)

**Puget Sound Institute Salish Sea Science Roundtable: Cumulative Effects on Southern Resident Killer Whales and Contaminants of Emerging Concern** - Feb 6, 12:30 pm; Registration required. [More info.](#)

**Coastal Quest - Achieving Multi-Benefit Coastal Nature-based Solutions** - This 2-part webinar and exchange will bring together a diverse community of practitioners to explore and share case studies showcasing locally led nature-based solutions and tools for building resilient coasts and communities for people, nature, and the climate. [Part 1: January 25, 2024](#) , [Part 2: March 14, 2024](#) ; 11AM-12:30PM PT

**Effective Estuary Restoration Symposium, March 12, 2024 (virtual)** - Registration is now open. This one-day virtual symposium will bring together experts in the field of estuary restoration along the U.S. Coast to explore effective estuary restoration topics. For more information and to register: [Effective Estuary Restoration Symposium | Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership \(pacificfishhabitat.org\)](#)

## Funding Opportunities

Check out [PS RAFT](#) for a full list of current funding opportunities

**Puget Sound Stormwater Strategic Initiative RFP:** Closes Feb 12, 2024; [More information.](#)

- Increase Climate Resiliency in Stormwater Management
- Accelerate the Distribution and Effectiveness of Stormwater Parks

**Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP) grant competition.** Important dates listed below:

1. [2024 ESRP grant competition](#) for restoration and projects. Pre-Applications are due February 8th, 2024.
2. [Regional Pre-Design \(Learning Program\)](#) grant competition. Pre-Applications are due February 8th, 2024.
3. Now accepting full applications for our [Small Grants Program](#) competition that targets

small armor removal projects on Puget Sound Beaches. Full applications are due February 21st, 2024.

4. [Shore Friendly Program](#) Request for Proposals will be released on January 17th, 2024.

**Family Forest Fish Passage Program;** Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Proposals due by: June 30, 2024. [More info.](#)

**National Estuaries Program (NEP) Watersheds Grants Program;** Restore America's Estuaries. Proposals due by: January 26, 2024. [More info.](#)

**FY2024 National Aquaculture Initiative: Enhancing Production of Coastal, Marine, and Great Lakes Aquaculture Species;** NOAA. Proposals due by: May 3, 2024. [More info.](#)

**Family Forest Fish Passage Program;** Washington State Department of Natural Resources; Proposals due by: June 30, 2024. [More info.](#)

**Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board grant program;** Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office; Proposals due by: January 18, 2024. [More info.](#)

**Streamflow Restoration Grants;** WA Dept. of Ecology. \$40 million available. Applications due Feb 29. [More info.](#)

**Coastal Resilience Program Competition;** National Sea Grant Law Center; Funding opportunity to research the effectiveness of coastal adaptation laws and policies related to a wide range of coastal resilience issues including sea level rise, flooding, amplified storm surge, increased frequency and intensity of storms, land use, or other environmental factors, and whether those policies are achieving desired policy changes. Letters of intent due March 8. [More info.](#)

## Job Announcements

**Puget Sound Partnership:** [Grant Writer and Strategist](#); Closes: 2/12/24

**Puget Sound Partnership:** [Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program \(PSEMP\) Coordinator](#); Closes: 2/14/24

**Washington Sea Grant:** [Fellowships and Workforce Development Specialist](#); Preferred by date: 1/22/24 (position is open until filled)

**Kitsap County:** [Public Works' Summer Employment Program](#); First review of applications: February 19, then screened weekly

**WSU Extension:** [WSU Regional Small Farms - New and Beginning Farmer Education Coordinator](#); Closes Jan 31

## HCSEG: Paid Summer Internships

- [Stream Team Internship](#); Applications Due March 29th
- [Riparian Restoration Technician](#); Applications reviewed on rolling basis. Decisions will be made by May 17th

North Olympic Salmon Coalition (NOSC): [Development Manager](#); Open until filled

WA Dept. of Ecology: [Applied Coastal Research and Engineering Manager](#); Closes Feb 4



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Please send questions to Haley Harguth, [hharguth@hccc.wa.gov](mailto:hharguth@hccc.wa.gov).

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