Puget Sound Partnership

Action Agenda
Vital Signs
Progress Indicators

Puget Sound Partnership

- NEP location and Geographic program
- Established as NEP in 1988, as PSP in 2007
- Supportive State Policy and Programs
- ESA drivers: Salmon and Orca
- Tribal Treaty Rights

"The Puget Sound NEP brings together regional leaders, experts and community members to protect, restore and maintain the ecological integrity of Puget Sound."

Puget Sound Action Agenda

- 4 Year Timeframes (2022-2026)
- 5 Goals
- Recovery Framework
- Comprehensive and Implementation Plan
  - 31 Strategies
  - 137 actions

Puget Sound Action Agenda

- Updated Action Agenda 2026-2030
- Recovery Plan
- 20 topical areas
- Grouped into 4 Themes
  - Healthy Communities
  - Sustainable Land Use
  - Resilient Habitats
  - Clean Water and Harvestable Shellfish

Puget Sound Action Agenda

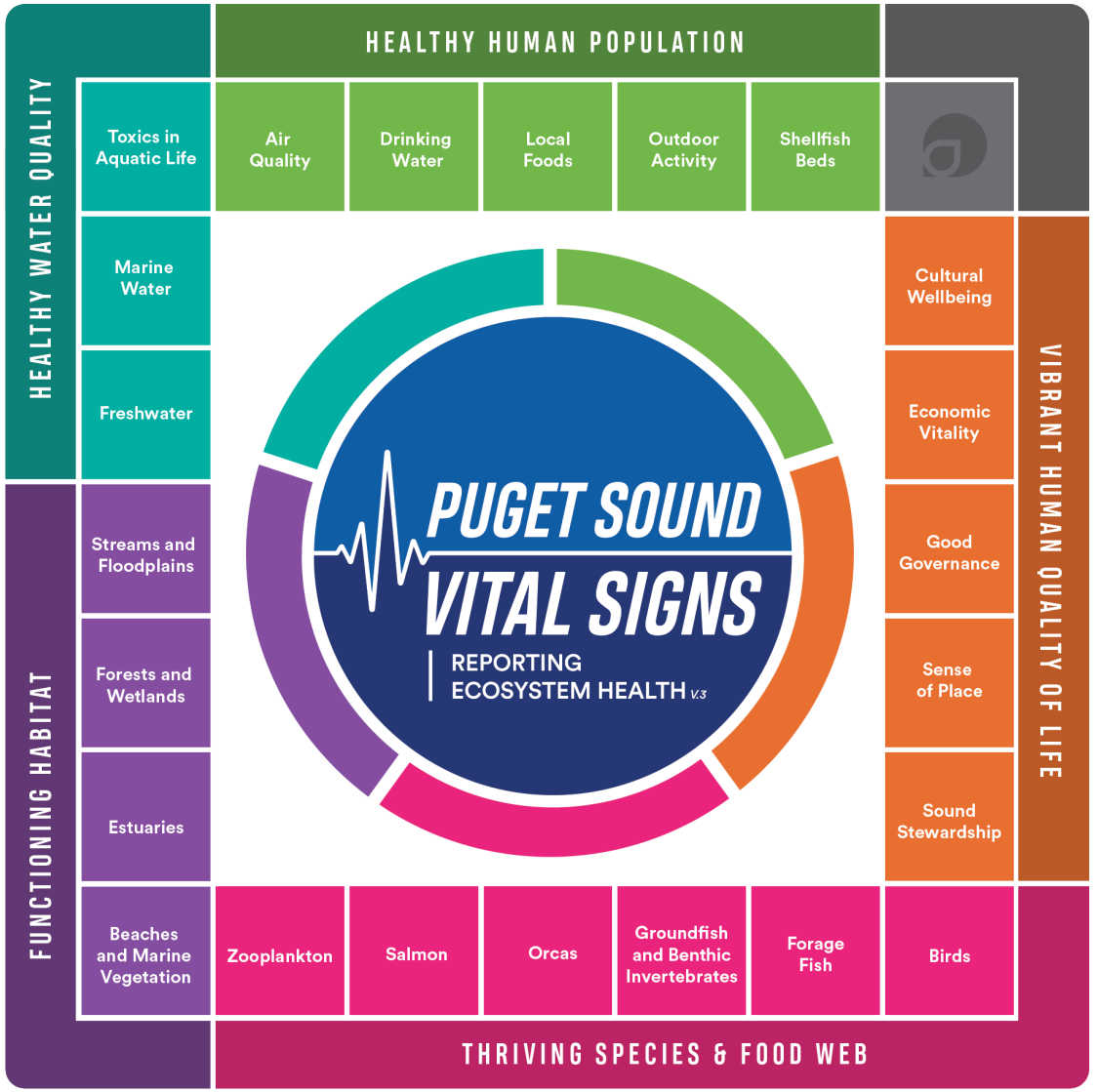
Foundations of Puget Sound Recovery

- Funding
- Research and Monitoring
- Good Governance
- Strategic Leadership and Collaboration
- Workforce Development
- Engagement and Behavior Change

Vital Signs

5 Major Goals

- Healthy Human Population
- Thriving Species and Food Web
- Functional Habitat
- Healthy Water Quality
- Vibrant Human Quality of Life



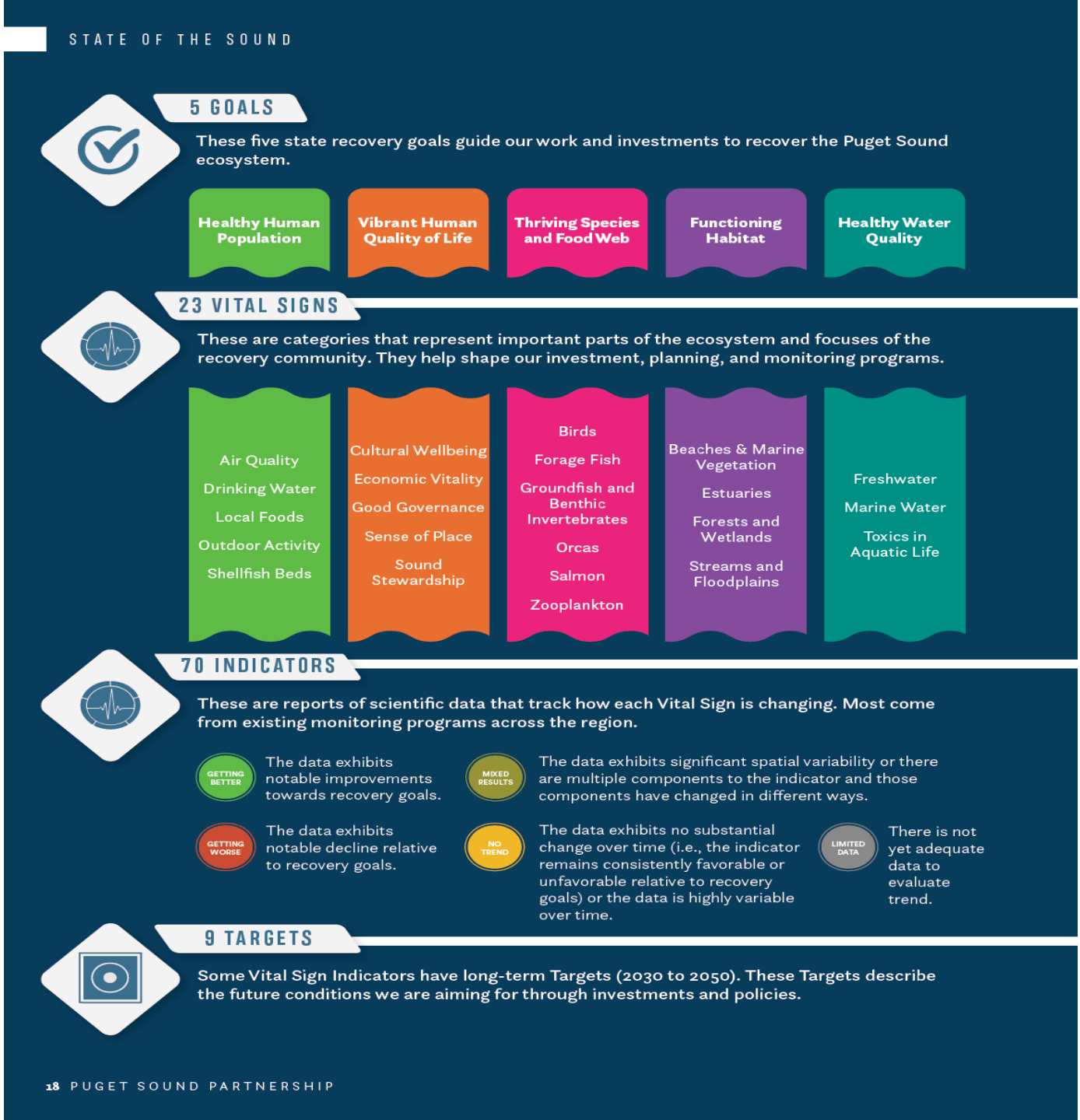
Vital Signs

23 Vital Signs (3-6 per goal)

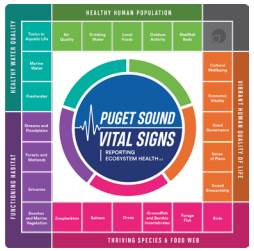
70 Indicators

- Getting Better
- Mixed Results
- Getting Worse
- No Trend
- Limited Data

9 Targets (2030-2050)



Vital Signs



Number of Indicators Making Progress
Getting Better -6
Mixed Results - 12
Getting Worse - 7
No Trend - 20
Limited Data -2

Number of Indicators Meeting targets
Near or At Target -0
Below Target - 9
No Target - 61
Limited Data -0

Vital Signs

- Chinook Salmon
- Mixed Results
- Below Target

PUGET SOUND
VITAL SIGNS

INDICATOR
NUMBER OF NATURAL-ORIGIN CHINOOK SALMON ON SPAWNING GROUNDS

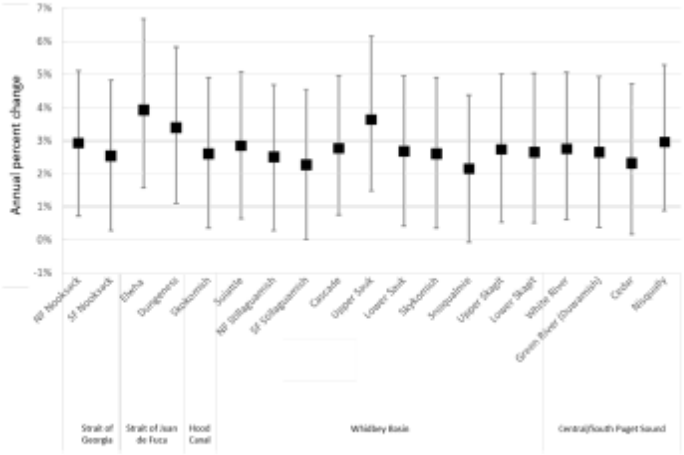
This indicator evaluates the abundance and trends of the 22 Chinook salmon populations by measuring the number of natural-origin adult fish on the spawning grounds of five Puget Sound regions. Abundance estimates here do not include hatchery-origin fish (with few exceptions) or Chinook taken in harvest or by predators like orcas. The indicator is intended to reflect the goal of achieving wild population recovery of Puget Sound Chinook, which are federally listed as threatened.

Indicator Progress

MIXED RESULTS

Target Status

BELOW TARGET



Annual percent change in spawner abundance from 1999 (year of Endangered Species Act listing) to 2023 for each Puget Sound Chinook salmon population, shown by geographic region. 19 of 22 populations are shown; abundance data were not available at the necessary spatial scale for three populations (Mid-Hood Canal, Puyallup River, and Sammamish River). The lines show the 25th to 75th credibility intervals (CIs). CIs represent a range of values the true annual percent change likely falls within. CIs for only one population (Snoqualmie River) contain zero. CIs greater than zero suggest increasing spawner abundance from 1999 to 2023.

Target

By 2050, all Chinook salmon populations increase, and at least 50 percent of the populations reach their recovery goals.

Target fact sheet

Data Source

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Salmon Population Indicators (SPi) abundance data

Northwest Fisheries Science Center. 2015. Status review update for Pacific salmon and steelhead listed under the Endangered Species Act: Pacific Northwest.

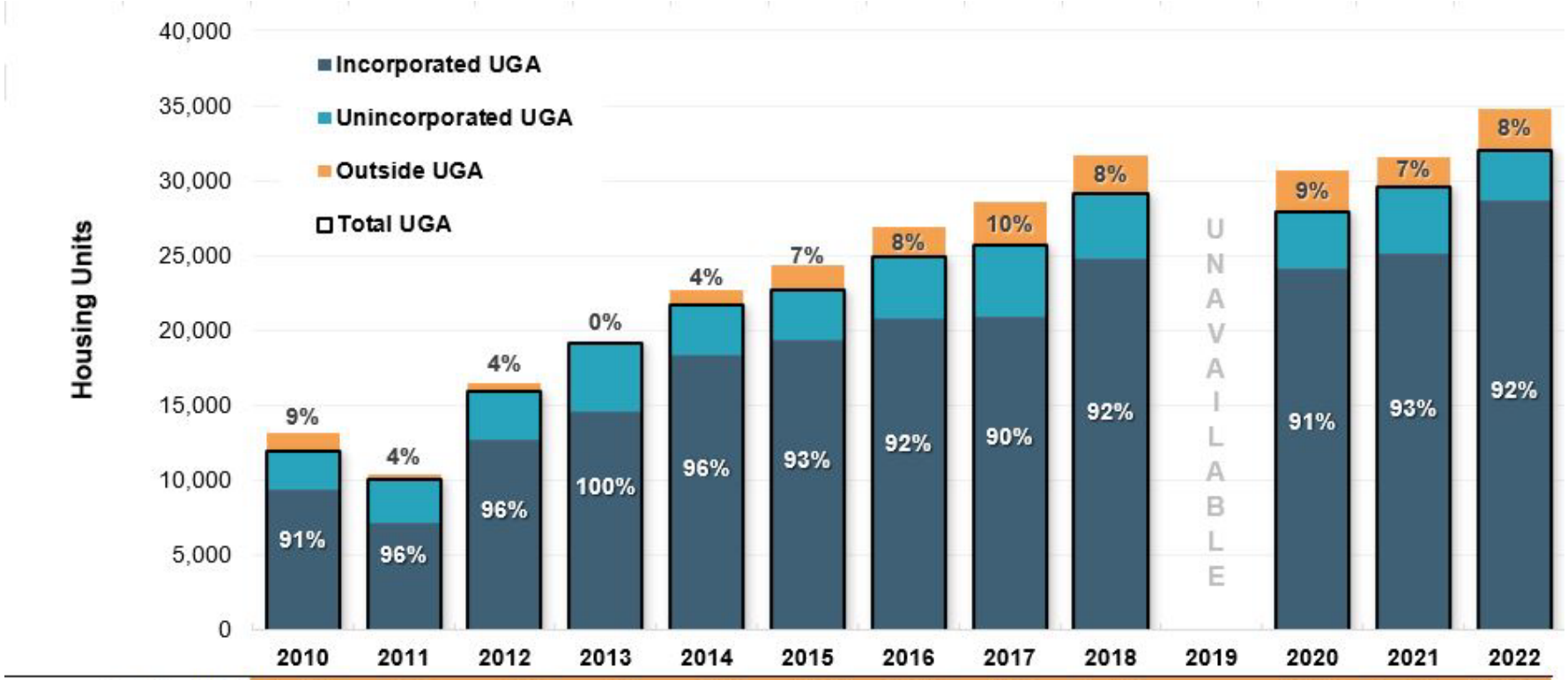
Progress Indicators

- Track Human Activities
- Progress Indicator Action Plans
- 16 indicators

Progress Indicators	
Floodplain Habitat Acquisition	Urban Growth
Floodplain Habitat Restoration	Infill Development
Estuarine/Nearshore Habitat Acquisition	Housing Diversity
Estuarine/Nearshore Habitat Restoration	On-Site Sewage System Compliance
Riparian Habitat Acquisition	On-Site Sewage System Failures
Riparian Habitat Restoration	On-Site Sewage System Inventory
Farmland Protection	Oil Spills
Farmland Conversion	Emergency Response Equipment Funding

Progress Indicators

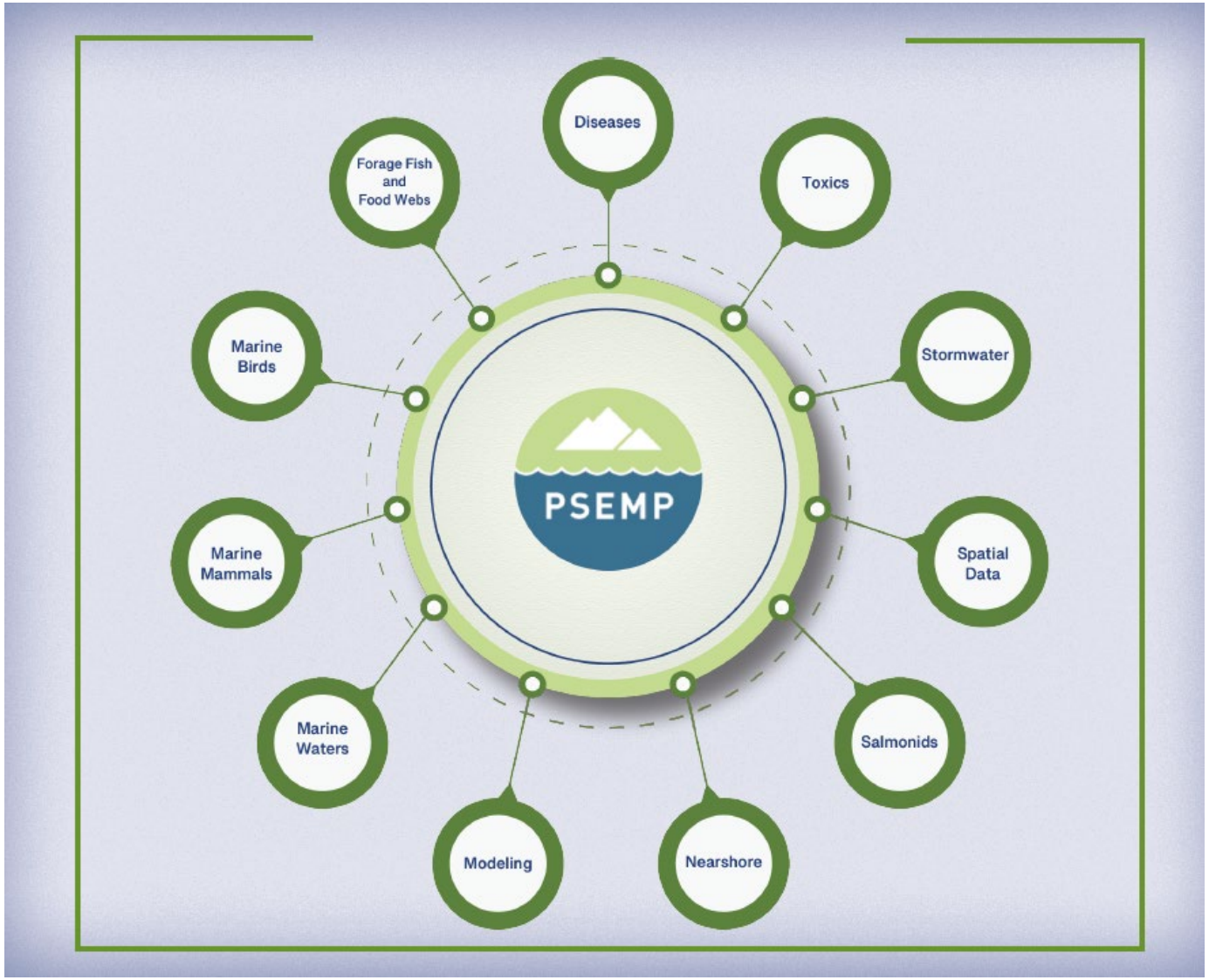
- Urban Growth
- % Housing in UGA
- Getting Worse
- No Target



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Outside UGA	1,132	366	587	92	949	1,736	2,067	2,843	2,493		2,809	2,055	2,699
Unincorporated UGA	2,575	2,840	3,291	4,568	3,293	3,310	4,055	4,750	4,364		3,821	4,387	3,423
Incorporated UGA	9,400	7,201	12,656	14,564	18,406	19,353	20,819	20,954	24,814		24,093	25,157	28,628
Total Growth (units)	**13,107**	**10,407**	**16,534**	**19,224**	**22,648**	**24,399**	**26,941**	**28,547**	**31,671**		**30,723**	**31,600**	**34,750**

Monitoring Network

PUGET SOUND ECOSYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAM



- Increase Collaboration
- Support Adaptive Management
- Improve Communication

- Supports Vital Signs and Progress Indicators

What do We Measure in the State of the Sound?

Ongoing Program Targets, Progress Indicators, and Vital Sign Indicators signal both the impact of human activities on, and the conditions of, the ecosystem of Puget Sound.

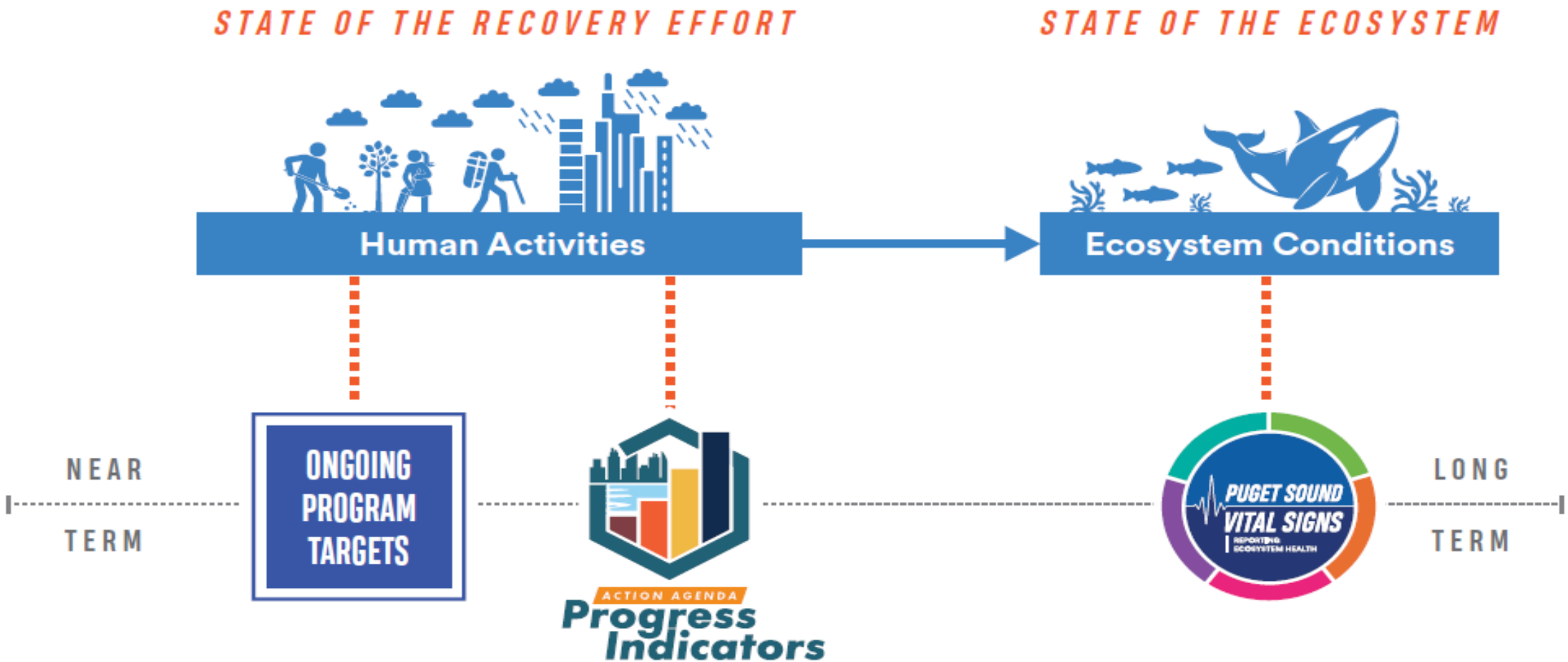


Figure 1. A visual illustration of the system of measurements used to understand human activities and ecosystem conditions in Puget Sound.

Puget Sound State of the Sound 2025

"Science driven investments in Puget Sound protection and recovery are working. They deliver results we can measure and lay the foundation for thriving Puget Sound in the future."

– Larry Epstein, Deputy Director PSP

Discussion

Wouldn’t you like to have orcas in the Chesapeake Bay?