

Puget Sound Recreational Salmon and Marine Fish Enhancement Program

Goals and Objectives (adopted February 22, 2013) (Revised 2024)

RCW 77.105.160

The Puget Sound Recreational Salmon and Marine Fish Enhancement Program (PSRE) Oversight Committee has the following duties:

- A. Develop recommendations, with assistance from the coordinator, for outcome-based goals and objectives to assess the effectiveness of the program;
- B. Meet with the director each year to review these goals and objectives;
- C. Report annually with the director to the commission on the goals of the program and the effectiveness of the program in meeting those goals;

The purpose of the PSRE is to conserve, enhance, and promote recreational fisheries within Puget Sound and Lake Washington. These goals and objectives were developed jointly by the Oversight Committee and WDFW, and may be modified over time as new information becomes available.

Program Goal: Improve the recreational fishing opportunities in Puget Sound and Lake Washington and increase the economic benefits from the fishery.

- Outcome Performance Measure: Increase angler trips in Puget Sound and Lake Washington by 5% per biennium.

I. Strategy: Improve marketing and remove obstacles to build interest and participation in the fishery.

1. Objective: Increase the percentage of Puget Sound anglers that are aware of Puget Sound fishing opportunities supported by PSRE.
 - a. Performance Measure: Increase in awareness per biennium.
2. Objective: Identify and promote fisheries on healthy stocks currently underutilized.
 - a. Performance Measure: Increase angler trips on identified and abundant underutilized stocks within the constraints of available stock surplus by 2030.
3. Objective: Capitalize on WDFW activities to develop marketing tools in a unified approach to encourage participation and educate new and experienced anglers when, where, and how to fish in Puget Sound.
 - a. Performance Measure: Enhance 5 tools to increase awareness of Puget Sound fishing opportunities.
4. Objective: Identify obstacles from anglers to build interest and participation in fisheries and to facilitate a better understanding of Puget Sound salmon management.
 - a. Performance Measure: Promote citizen-based science and participation in North of Falcon to build interest and participation in fisheries.

II. Strategy: Increase effectiveness of hatcheries providing salmon to Puget Sound fisheries.

1. Objective: Review salmon production programs and facilities in Puget Sound to better understand their capabilities, limitations, and ways to increase the contribution rate.

- a. Performance Measure: Report completed by 2026 that calculates and summarizes survival rates, contribution rates, and cost/fish.
 - b. Performance Measure: Report completed by 2027 that evaluates new rearing and release strategies (i.e. Garrison Springs, Minter creek, Gorst Creek)
- 2. Objective: Evaluate potential to improve fishing opportunities with artificial production of other salmon species, e.g. coho, consistent with Hatchery and Fishery Reform Policy.
 - a. Performance Measure: Report completed by 2026 that evaluates other species for cost/benefit ratio, timing of fishing opportunities, and ability to attract and retain new or lapsed anglers.
- 3. Objective: Identify outmigration concerns for PSRFE funded hatchery salmon by 2030.
 - a. Performance Measure: Report that identifies outmigration concerns for hatchery salmon and steps to increase survival rates by 2030.

III. Strategy: Develop a long term strategy for improving recreational bottomfish fisheries in Puget Sound.

- 1. Objective: Research and identify new opportunities for bottomfish fishing in Puget Sound.
 - a. Performance Measure: Partner with groundfish unit to promote new flatfish opportunities in marine areas.
- 2. Objective: Support habitat restoration projects for bottomfish.
 - a. Performance Measure: Develop tools to support habitat restoration by 2025.
 - b. Performance Measure: Identify restoration projects for bottomfish by 2030.
- 3. Objective: Increase awareness of bottomfish opportunity in Puget Sound.
 - a. Performance Measure: Promote bottomfish fishing opportunity at outreach events.

IV. Strategy: Stabilize and enhance resources invested in improving Puget Sound recreational fisheries.

- 1. Objective: Increase the number of licensed anglers that fish in Puget Sound and Lake Washington.
 - a. Performance Measure: Ten-year rolling average of the number of saltwater and combination licenses purchased by anglers that fish in Puget Sound and Lake Washington trends upwards.
- 2. Objective: Support education and outreach for the next generation of anglers.
 - a. Performance Measure: Develop new ways to target the next generation of anglers by 2025.
- 3. Objective: Invest in Puget Sound recreational fisheries through innovative science.
 - a. Performance Measure: Identify the use of hydroacoustic monitoring efforts for PSRFE hatchery salmon.