

Revisiting the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area Conservation Action Plan

The Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area (MSA) Conservation Action Plan (CAP) was first developed in 2012 by a collaborative group of partners representing federal, state, tribal, and local governments and non-profit organizations with the goal of achieving a healthy marine and estuarine ecosystem in Port Susan with thriving biodiversity and strong recreational and resource-based industries.

Now, ten years after the CAP was initially developed, the Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee (MRC) partnered with the Island County MRC to reconvene partners, assess the current status of the CAP, and identify opportunities to support conservation activities in Port Susan for the next decade and beyond. The information gathering presented here is Phase 1; Phase 2 will build from this information and focus on partner engagement in 2023.

PORT SUSAN MSA CAP CONSERVATION TARGETS



River Delta



Beaches/Forage Fish



Embedded Invertebrates



Chinook Salmon



Dungeness Crab



Shorebirds

2022 Partner Engagement

Winter
2022

- One-on-one interviews
- Online survey

Spring
2022

- Introductory meeting with the Snohomish Watershed Council and other partners

Summer
2022

- Strategic Actions Workshop to gather input on progress to-date and new context
- Implementation Workshop to seek ideas on how to support partners in driving progress

2023

- Phase 2: Engage partners & celebrate 10 years of MSA

What We Heard

- Many of the same issues and challenges identified in 2012 still exist in Port Susan today.
- We've learned a lot over the past ten years, and it is important to incorporate new context for climate change, sea level rise, water chemistry, and human well-being.
- New planning efforts throughout the Puget Sound region include activities that align with the objectives for conservation in Port Susan.
- A renewed focus on supporting partners in implementing the CAP strategic Actions would help maintain momentum.



Ten Years of Progress

Since 2012, partners have been making strides in accomplishing many of the Strategic Actions outlined in the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area Conservation Action Plan.

Select projects and initiatives include:

Port Susan Bay Estuary Restoration Project The Nature Conservancy



[Learn more](#)

Leque Island Restoration Project WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited



[Learn more](#)

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Port Susan Shellfish Dinners Snohomish County



Shore Friendly Workshops WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, other partners



[Learn more](#)

Derelict Crab Pot Removal Stillaguamish Tribe



Crabber Education Programs Sound Water Stewards, Northwest Straits Commission, Island County MRC



Visit our website for more information about the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area Conservation Action Plan and opportunities to engage with conservation activities in Port Susan.

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