



Demonstration Pilot – Comprehensive Strategy

The Comprehensive Strategy represents a systematic plan of action to achieve the goals of the Pilot and encompasses near-term and long-term actions. The Pilot Team examined actions from the standpoint of four main project elements:

Sediment Cleanup and Source Control

- Remove or isolate contaminated materials to achieve human and ecological health goals.
- Encourage efforts to control sources that are currently being developed by watershed efforts, DNR outfall policy, local controls, Ecology's TMDLs. Develop contingency plans if, by cleanup action date, the issue of recontamination has not been satisfactorily addressed.
- Encourage the local government and the Tribes to develop stormwater treatment plans where absent.
- Address current and future sources of contamination, with particular attention to upland land use as potential source.

Disposal Siting

- Consider a range of safe, cost-effective technologies for dredging, transport and disposal of contaminated sediments consistent with the Comprehensive Strategy.
- Monitor and evaluate effectiveness of near-term actions to address impacts and unintended consequences.

Habitat

- Protect existing habitat and the natural processes that sustain them.
- Restore estuary habitat functions and area through implementing projects recommended by subcommittee and/or similar efforts.
- Provide guidance for achieving no net loss and net gain through the mitigation framework.
- Promote long-term gains in habitat area and function.
- Link the Pilot effort to watershed efforts to ensure healthy, sustainable ecosystems.
- Promote City's SMP designation of critical habitat areas in the Bay.
- Evaluate harbor area configuration to consider excluding areas that are sensitive, such as West and South Bay.

Land Use

- Focus human impacts, commerce and navigation in the federal waterways and away from the Nooksack Delta, and other highly productive areas as noted in the Subarea Strategies.
- Provide opportunities for water-dependent uses where consistent with Subarea Strategies.
- Promote innovative design of public access and other public waterfront facilities to avoid, protect and enhance nearshore habitat.
- Through planning and permitting, control point and nonpoint sources that derive from upland uses.
- Enable current and future navigational uses where consistent with current infrastructure and future conditions recommended by the Pilot Team.
- Integrate new information and adaptive management techniques into land use decisions.

The Comprehensive Strategy is being implemented in a coordinated fashion following the path developed during the Pilot. One project contemplated in that Strategy is already complete, and others are currently under construction.



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Letter of Agreement, May 1998

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