



# Northwest Straits Commission

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2025 ▶ 2030

The **Northwest Straits Commission** was founded to provide coordination, technical, and financial support to Marine Resources Committees (MRCs) in Clallam, Island, Jefferson, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties while also connecting MRCs' local priorities to regional initiatives. The strategic goals, actions and other elements of the plan are focused on advancing the Commission's work in these areas. Throughout implementation, the Commission will remain committed to growing and maintaining Tribal collaboration and upholding our Tribal acknowledgement as a reminder of our shared interests in ecological restoration and ecosystem health.

## We Value

- **Community:** Our work is anchored in community-driven needs and solutions.
- **Ingenuity:** We bring curiosity, innovation, and scientific rigor to problem solving.
- **Collaboration:** We value collaboration and consensus-based decision making.
- **Conviction:** We bring passion, optimism, and a steadfast commitment to meet the challenges of a changing marine ecosystem.
- **Integrity:** We strive to be accountable, trusted, transparent, and respectful.
- **Environment:** We value the land and ocean, the resources they provide and the communities, past and present, who continue to steward them.



# Our Mission

We protect and restore the marine waters, habitats, and species of the NW Straits region by supporting Marine Resources Committees and advancing their community-driven priorities.



## Staff & Volunteers

**Goal:** Foster a collaborative, supportive environment where Commission staff, MRC staff, members, and volunteers work together to advance our mission and achieve our goals.

**Objectives:**

- 1. We recruit and retain the right talent to meet our goals and objectives.
- 2. We facilitate collaborative work through effective use of available systems and technology.
- 3. We encourage representation from NW Straits communities and adapt to differences in participation and engagement.



## Amplify Stewardship & Innovation

**Goal:** Amplify the visibility and positive impact of MRCs and Commission to conserve and restore marine ecosystems.

**Objectives:**

- 1. We strategically leverage the innovations, projects, and talents of MRCs to adapt our regional priorities, and increase conservation impact.
- 2. We facilitate the cross-pollination of ideas across MRCs to enable the transfer of knowledge.
- 3. We elevate the work and outcomes of MRCs and Commission to demonstrate collective impact.



## Marine Resources Committees

**Goal:** The Commission supports MRC leadership in innovative approaches to advance their stewardship and advisory solutions.

**Objectives:**

- 1. We ensure MRCs have necessary and sufficient scientific information, technical skills, and capacity in project planning and implementation.
- 2. We facilitate one-on-one consultations between MRCs and Science Advisory Committee in project planning.



## Funding

**Goal:** Secure long-term, sustainable funding to support and enable the work of the Commission and MRCs.

**Objective:**

- 1. We secure \$5 million in annual funding.

# Our Vision

We are a resilient and thriving ecosystem where communities are valued as stewards of local marine resources for current and future generations.

