



## ISLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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### AGENDA

#### REGULAR SESSION

March 19, 2024, 1:00 p.m.

Commissioners Hearing Room B102

Coupeville Annex Building

Meetings are available remotely. Those interested in attending the meetings by computer, tablet, or smartphone may use the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/ICBoardOfHealth> or by telephone: 1-323-433-2396 Meeting ID 971 2319 5885 Passcode: 626749

*Call to Order:* March 19th, 2024, Regular Session of the Island County Board of Health

*Additions or Changes to the Agenda:*

*Approval of the Minutes:*

- February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, *Minutes*

**Public Input/Comments:** The Board values the public's input. This time is set aside to hear from the public on subjects of a health-related nature, not on the scheduled agenda. All information given is taken under advisement. Unless emergent in nature no action is taken. To ensure proper recording of comments, state your name and address clearly into the microphone. Limit your comment to two minutes. The Board may entertain public comment on specific agenda items when discussed.

*Accept and Schedule Appeal:*

- Appeals Process Overview and Recommend March Appeal for Permit #PT2023-070 and Waiver #WA2023-062 for the May Regular Board of Health meeting, presented by Public Health Director, Shawn Morris- *20 minutes*

Island County Public Health received an appeal of its denial of Permit Application #PT2023-070, and Waiver request #WA2023-062 for a single-family on-site sewage system. The appeal must be decided by the Board of Health, according to the procedures in ICC 8.01.120.B. Staff recommend that the Board of Health set a public hearing on the appeal at the May 2024 regularly scheduled BOH meeting. Alternatively, the BOH could set a special hearing. A staff report outlining its decision denying the permit and waiver will be provided at least five days before the hearing, as required by ICC 8.01.120.B.4. *Attachment*

*Action Item: Decision to accept appeal hearing and schedule for May 2024 Regular session of the Board of Health*

***Presentation:***

- Island County Division of Natural Resources Overview, presented by Jen Schmitz, Natural Resources Manager— *20 minutes*  
Summary of the Division of Natural Resources teams and planned pollution identification and control (PIC) program, including program goals, intended outcomes, and partnerships – *Attachment*

***Presentation:***

- Comprehensive Plan Review, presented by Public Health Director Shawn Morris – *20 minutes*  
Review Natural Resources and Climate Elements Goal & Priorities, including recommendations from Public Health and Human Services – *Attachment*

***Updates:***

- PH Update: Strategic Vision, Legislative Update and Finance Update, presented by Public Health Director Shawn Morris – *10 minutes*
- 5 day quarantine update guidance, presented by Dr. Leibrand, Health Officer – *5 minutes*
- Community Health Assessment Board Update, presented by Taylor Lawson, Assessment Supervisor – *10 minutes*

***Board Announcements:***

***Adjourn:*** The next *Regular Session* of the Island County Board of Health will be held on **April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Commissioners Hearing Room (B102) in the Coupeville Annex Building.



**ISLAND COUNTY BOARD OF**  
**HEALTH**  
**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Island County Board of Health met in Regular Session on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in the Board of County Commissioners Hearing Room (Room #102B), Annex Building, 1 N.E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Coupeville, Washington.

**Members present:**

Commissioner Melanie Bacon, Chair  
Commissioner Jill Johnson  
Commissioner Janet St. Clair  
Mayor Ronnie Wright  
Commissioner Ron Wallin  
Capt. Althoff

**Member present by video:**

**Members Excused:**

**Others present:**

Dr. Shawn Morris  
Taylor Lawson  
Lynda Austin  
Emily Wildman  
Michele Aguilar Kahrs  
Eric Brooks (online)

Dr. Howard Leibrand  
Melissa Overbury-Howland  
Emily Neff (online)  
Jen Krenz (online)  
Keven Graves (online)  
Paul Shimada (online)

**Call to order:**

Commissioner Bacon called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda:**

By unanimous vote, the agenda was approved.

**Approval of Minutes:**

By unanimous vote, the January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Regular Session Minutes were approved with a minor correction.

**Public Input or Comment:**

**Presentation:**

Emily Wildeman, Housing Program Manager, presented an overview of the Housing Continuum.

**Presentation:**

Emily Neff, Long Range Planner, and Dr. Shawn Morris, Public Health Director, presented a Comprehensive Plan Update, reviewing housing and land use elements goals and priorities, including recommendations from Public Health and Human Services.



**ISLAND COUNTY BOARD OF**  
**HEALTH**  
**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Presentation:**

Taylor Lawson, MPH, Community Health Assessment Supervisor, and Michele Aguilar Kahrs, Community Health Assessment Board Co-Chair, presented a general update on the Community Health Assessment process.

**Presentation:**

Public Health Director, Dr. Shawn Morris, presented the Wastewater Proviso contract which focuses on innovative septic system technologies for unincorporated Island County.

**Public Health Updates:**

- Public Health Director, Dr. Shawn Morris, gave a legislative and finance update.

**Board Member Comments and Announcements:**

The Regular Session adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

The next *Regular Session* of the Island County Board of Health will be held on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room (B102) in the Coupeville Annex Building.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

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Shawn Morris ND, Public Health Director

Approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

BOARD OF HEALTH  
ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Melanie Bacon, Chair



## Island County Public Health

*Shawn Morris, ND – Public Health Director*

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1 NE 7th St, Coupeville, WA 98239

Ph: Whidbey 360-679-7350 | Camano 360-678-8261 | N Whidbey 360-240-5554

Email: [PublicHealth@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:PublicHealth@islandcountywa.gov) | [www.islandcountywa.gov](http://www.islandcountywa.gov)

## Contents

Background .....	1
Regulatory References .....	1
Procedure.....	1

## Background

This document outlines the Island County Board of Health Appeals Process, in compliance with ICC 8.08.120 – Right to Appeal. Any person aggrieved by a decision of the health officer may make appeal to the Board of Health for a hearing and a review of the findings.

## Regulatory Reference

- Local Board of Health Appeals: [8.01.120](#)

## Procedure

1. Appeal Submitted: The Public Health Director will review the written appeal to confirm the following:
  - a. Appeal clearly describes the decision or denial being appealed.
  - b. Appeal is received within ten (10) days of the decision of the health officer.
  - c. The Public Health Director will ensure all applicable permit and appeal fees are paid in full prior to setting the hearing.
2. Staff Report: Public Health Director will instruct staff to develop a staff report for distribution to BOH members.
3. Appeal Set: The Public Health Director will recommend setting a hearing at a regular board meeting and the board may approve or deny the appeal request. If approved, the Board of Health Chair will schedule the appeal at a regular meeting of the Island County Board of Health, or at other Board of Health meeting as the board deems necessary.
4. Hearing: At the BOH meeting, the hearing will proceed as follows, from ICC 8.01.120.B
  - a. A staff report and staff recommendation will be prepared by Island County Health Department staff or others designated by the health officer. The report will be prepared in advance of the appeal hearing and provided to Board of Health members and the appellant. Appeal hearings will be scheduled so that the staff report is available at least five (5) days before the hearing.
  - b. The staff report and staff recommendation will be presented as the first order of business at the appeal hearing.
  - c. The appellant or his representative will follow the presentation of the staff report with the appeal presentation.

- d. Board members may ask questions of clarification to staff or appellant. Generally, cross-examination by appellant or by staff is not appropriate.
- e. The board may decide to approve or deny the appeal or continue the appeal hearing. If the appeal hearing is not continued, the board decision will be rendered at or before the next regularly scheduled Board of Health meeting. The board may develop findings and facts to support its decision.



# Island County Division of Natural Resources

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Jen Schmitz, MS

Natural Resources Division Manager

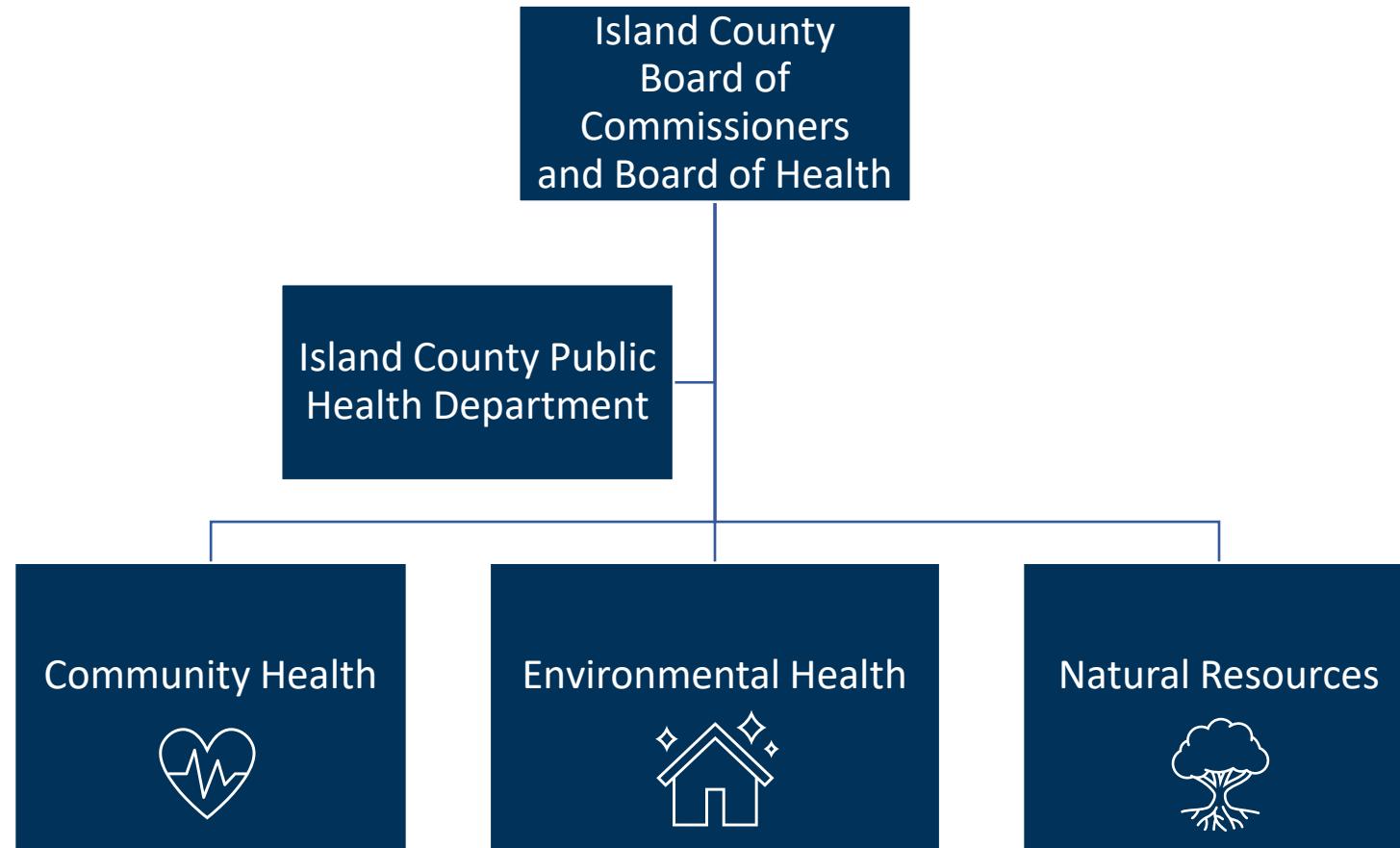
Island County

Department of Public Health



# Island County Natural Resources

Island County Division of Natural Resources (DNR) is within the Public Health Department





# Island County Public Health

## Community Health

- WIC program
- Falls prevention
- Healthy living resources
- Disease prevention
- Epidemiology
- New baby programs
- Health assessments

## Environmental Health

- Wastewater
- Drinking water
- Food safety
- Shellfish/beaches
- Zoonotic disease
- Living environments
- Regulatory!

## Natural Resources

- Puget Sound ecosystem recovery
- Salmon recovery
- Noxious weeds
- Shore Friendly
- Conservation Futures
- Marine resources
- Surface water quality





# Island County Division of Natural Resources



## Island Local Integrating Organization

Jen Schmitz, DNR Manager



## Noxious Weeds Program

Seth Luginbill, NWCB Coordinator  
Madison Evans, Seasonal Technician



## Salmon Recovery

Clea Barenburg, WRIA 6 Lead Entity



## Surface Water Quality

Carlie Miller, SWQ Specialist  
Sage Ince, SWQ Specialist  
Jessica Reed, Watershed Planner



## Shore Friendly Program

Valerie dos Santos, Shore Friendly Coordinator



## Conservation Futures Fund

Kelly Webb, CFF Coordinator



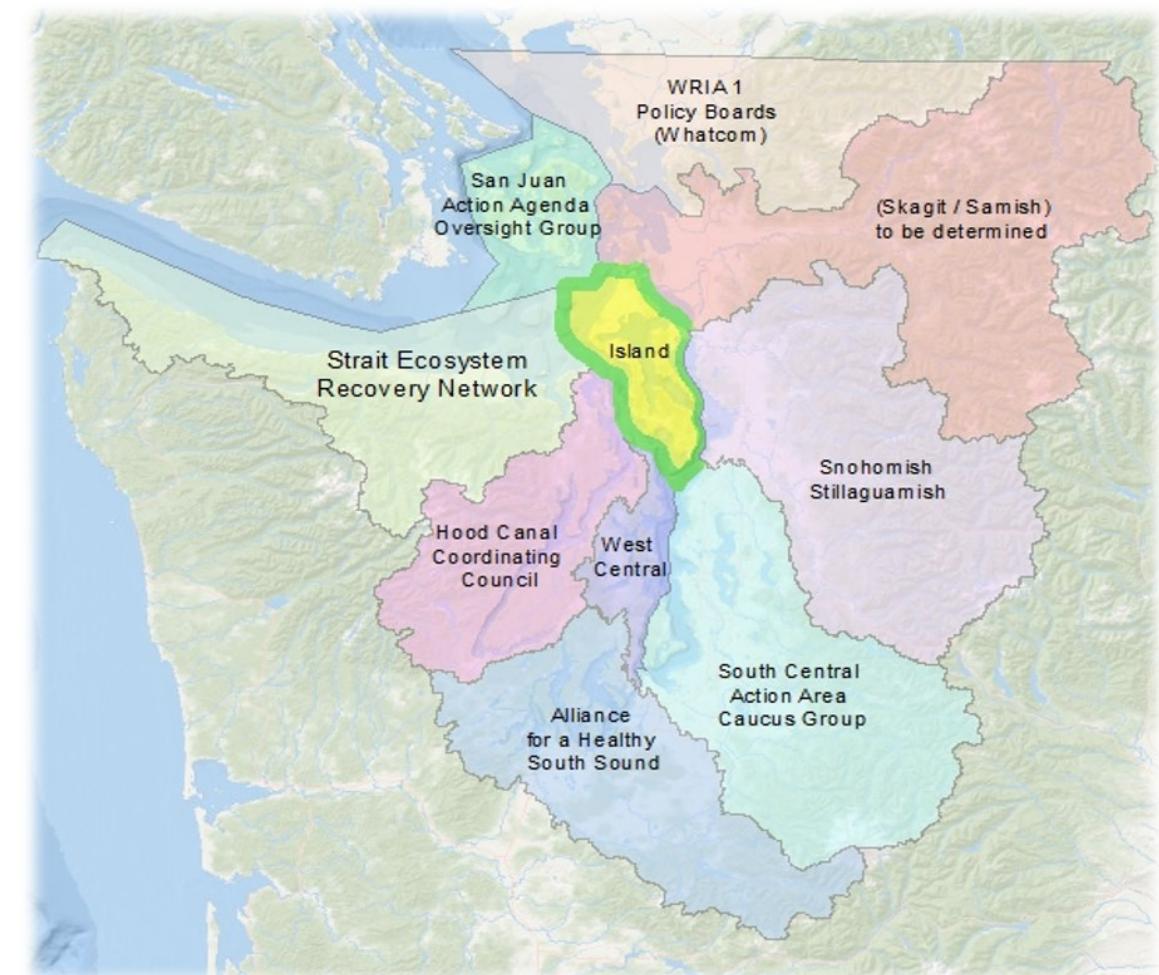
ISLAND COUNTY  
MARINE RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE

Kelly Zupich, MRC Coordinator



# Island Local Integrating Organization (ILIO)

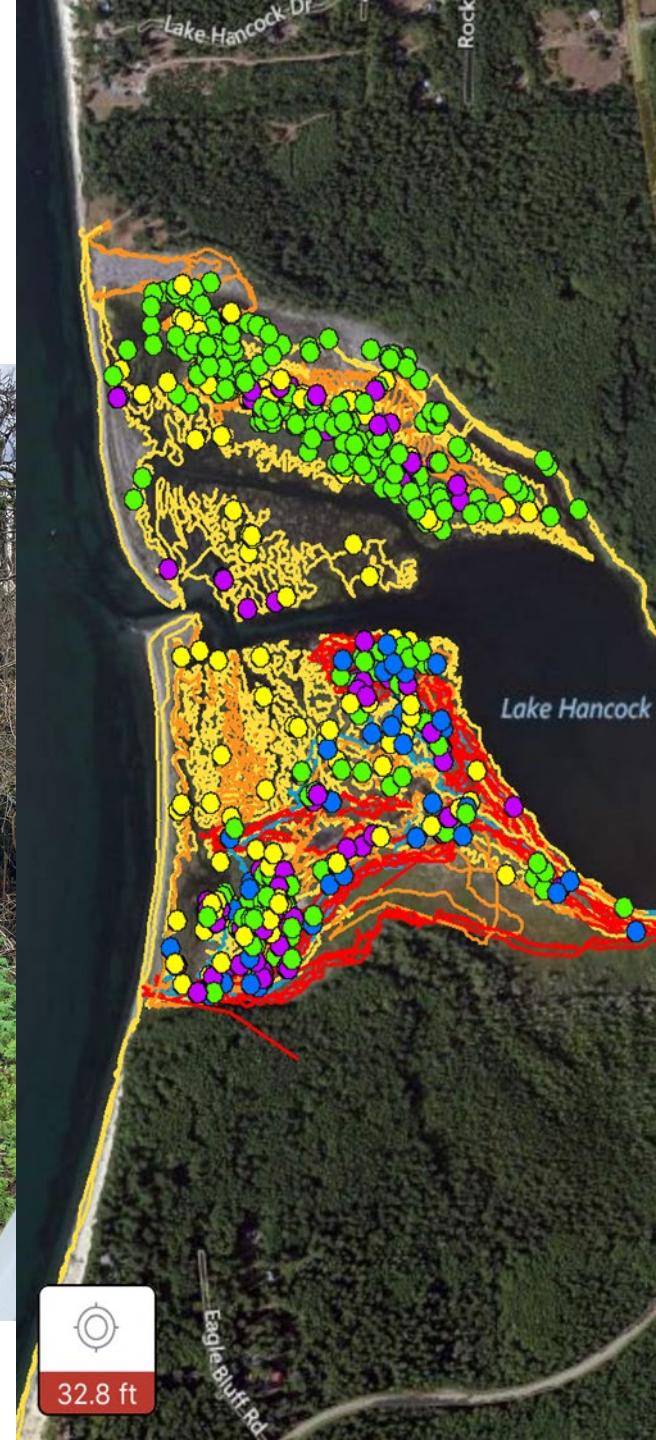
- 10 Local integrating organizations (LIOs)
- Ecosystem recovery is a shared goal
  - Nearshore protection and restoration
  - Beaches and marine vegetation
  - On-site sewage system management
  - Shellfish harvesting
  - Freshwater quality
  - Marine water quality
  - Pocket estuaries
  - Salmon recovery
  - Forage fish habitat





# Noxious Weeds Control Program

- Consult with and guide land owners in developing feasible management plans to help achieve compliance of noxious weed law (RCW 17.10)
- Provide education and teaching about noxious weeds
- Conduct physical control work along IC ROW's and other county owned properties (County parks, etc.)
- Regulatory compliance for RCW 17.10





# Noxious Weeds Control Program

## 2023 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



108 tons of noxious weed materials disposed



356 miles of ROW surveyed, 115 miles treated.



804 phone calls/emails with noxious weed inquiries



18 compliance cases addressed



13 talks and educational events across Whidbey and Camano



**WEED'EM  
AND REAP™**  
CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS  
PROTECT OUR RESOURCES

## How was this achieved?

### Physical Control

- Treatment of IC ROW
- Work in IC Parks
- Grant supported work for Class A weeds on Private property

### Education

- Training for IC staff in weed ID
- Workshops, library talks, school programs, community events.
- Social media and educational literature
- Providing on-site technical advice to landowners

### Compliance

- Send out notifications to non-compliant landowners
- Pursue enforcement action against repeat offenders



# Salmon Recovery Technical and Citizens Committee - SRTCC



**Lead Entities perform an essential role in salmon recovery in Washington State that is established in and supported by law (Revised Code of Washington 77.85).**

SRTCC uses the WRIA 6 Multi-Species Salmon Recovery Plan to identify actions needed to recover salmon populations which use the nearshore areas of WRIA 6, especially listed species, and develop a framework for implementation of actions that have been agreed to by community groups and local, state, tribal, and federal governments.

Lead entities are funded by the Washington State Legislature and the federal government through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office reviews and approves projects and is responsible for the contracts distributing funding.



# Salmon Recovery Projects



~**Keystone Preserve**- The Whidbey Camano Land Trust (WCLT) sponsored the Keystone Preserve Acquisition and Restoration project on Whidbey Island that will protect and restore 3,500 feet of Puget Sound shoreline including active and vegetated feeder bluffs, kelp and eelgrass beds, that provide migratory habitat for Puget Sound salmon including endangered Chinook. The project addresses the WRIA 6 work plan's top priorities - protection and restoration of natural marine shorelines and processes.

~**Race Lagoon Culvert replacements**- Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and Island County Public Works are working to replace two fish barrier culverts, culvert 1893 and 1894, under Race Road near Coupeville. Removal of these fish passage barriers will open up critical rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids including ESA-listed Threatened Chinook as well as pink, Coho, and chum salmon. These two coastal streams drain to Race Lagoon which has been identified as an important pocket estuary habitat for out migrating salmon from the Skagit, Stillaguamish, and Snohomish Rivers. Pocket estuaries and small coastal streams such as these provide important feeding, resting, and refuge habitat as juvenile salmon transition from freshwater to saltwater.

~**Middle Crescent Harbor Creek Preliminary design**- The Skagit River System Cooperative, in partnership with the WCLT will use funds to conduct a restoration feasibility assessment and create a preliminary design for restoring the middle reach of Crescent Creek to a more natural sinuous alignment. Completed restoration at this site will connect fish access to more than 5,000 feet of stream channel and will restore floodplain and wetland connectivity to enhance already completed stream and salt marsh habitat restoration downstream on federal lands.

~**Camano Country Club Preliminary design**- This project requested an extension and cost increase in 2022. The Snohomish Conservation District and Camano Country Club completed a feasibility study to evaluate the potential for relocating and or removing the current tide gate to enhance tidal exchange and improve fish access and passage to Cavalero Creek and lagoon area.



# Surface Water

Surface water is any water in rivers, streams, creeks, lakes, wetlands, reservoirs, or other bodies of water.

It directly connects to and impacts shorelines, nearshore environments, shellfishing/recreation, and drinking water.

**Surface water is vitally important to human, animal, and environmental health.**





# Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program (SWQMP)



**Priority Watersheds, Core and  
Rotational Site Sampling**

**Source Identification (SID) Sampling**

**Reconnaissance Sampling**

**Effectiveness Sampling**



# Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program Highlights

**37/200**

Watersheds monitored  
across Island County,  
up 150% from 2022



MORE THAN

**4000**

Staff hours logged



OVER

**450**

Water samples  
analyzed



OVER

**50**

Source ID  
samples analyzed



MORE THAN

**10**

Source ID investigations referred  
to Adaptive Management





# ***E.coli* Monitoring and Reporting**

All water quality data are analyzed and reported to the Washington State Department of Ecology as well as produced in a report for the Commissioners and public to read.

*E.coli* results are compared to state water quality standards and 'graded' for pollution.

Sites needing additional monitoring and correction are investigated further.

Table 3. Annual and Seasonal *E. coli* Geomeans for Island County Sampling Sites

Site Name	Site#	WY15 GEOMEAN	WY16 GEOMEAN	Oct - Dec Geomean	Jan - Mar Geomean	Apr - Jun Geomean	July - Sep Geomean
South Camano	108a	NA	6	6	5	10	5*
Freeland	134a	NA	19	5*	10*	55	5*
North Crescent	13a	384	57	80	113	154	119*
Glendale	149a	35	88	99	13	63	96
Scatchet Head	157a	41	99	20	21	70	235
Nichols	159a	NA	180	132*	378*	319	10*
Rocky at Brokaw	44a	NA	33	57	20	39	21
Carp Creek	55a	17	28	26	11	51	27
Ebeys	58a	43	77	39	11	123	253
Chapman	69a	25	49	42	12	39	79
Cavalero	74a	26	40	20	11	35	86
Crosscreek	83a	NA	18	5	5	29	68
Hhab	Hhab	177	121	*	55	183	377
Kristoferson Creek	KC1	14	37	5	10	68	304
Maxwelton	MWA2	36	86	23	14	47	307

\*Low samples



# Adaptive Management/Watershed Planning

## Adaptive Management Action Team (AMAT) Coordinator

Key team for upcoming PIC program

Collaborative team focused on environmental impacts as they relate to water quality health

Collaboration between DNR, environmental health, public works, planning, & CD

## Advise SWQ team

Help to identify watersheds of concern for SWQMP updates (where we will be sampling for the upcoming years)

Overhaul SOPs and QAPP

Convey water issues to AMAT

Cover for SWQ specialist position if someone is out or position is vacant

Attend and participate in committee meetings for salmon recovery, ILIO, and MRC including site visits

Outreach and education at community events such as the fair and Whidbey/Camano 101, as well as unique DNR events like Sno-Isle library outreach programs

Attend pre-application meetings where proposed plans may have impacts on IC water quality



# Shore Friendly Program

Educate shoreline residential property owners on the rules, regulations, and negative impacts of hard armoring, and to offer soft armoring alternatives that provide both the use and enjoyment of shoreline property while promoting and maintaining the ecological properties of coastal ecosystems for the support of fish and wildlife.

Provide assistance to shoreline homeowners take the next step in implementing solutions at their properties to protect and enhance nearshore habitat.



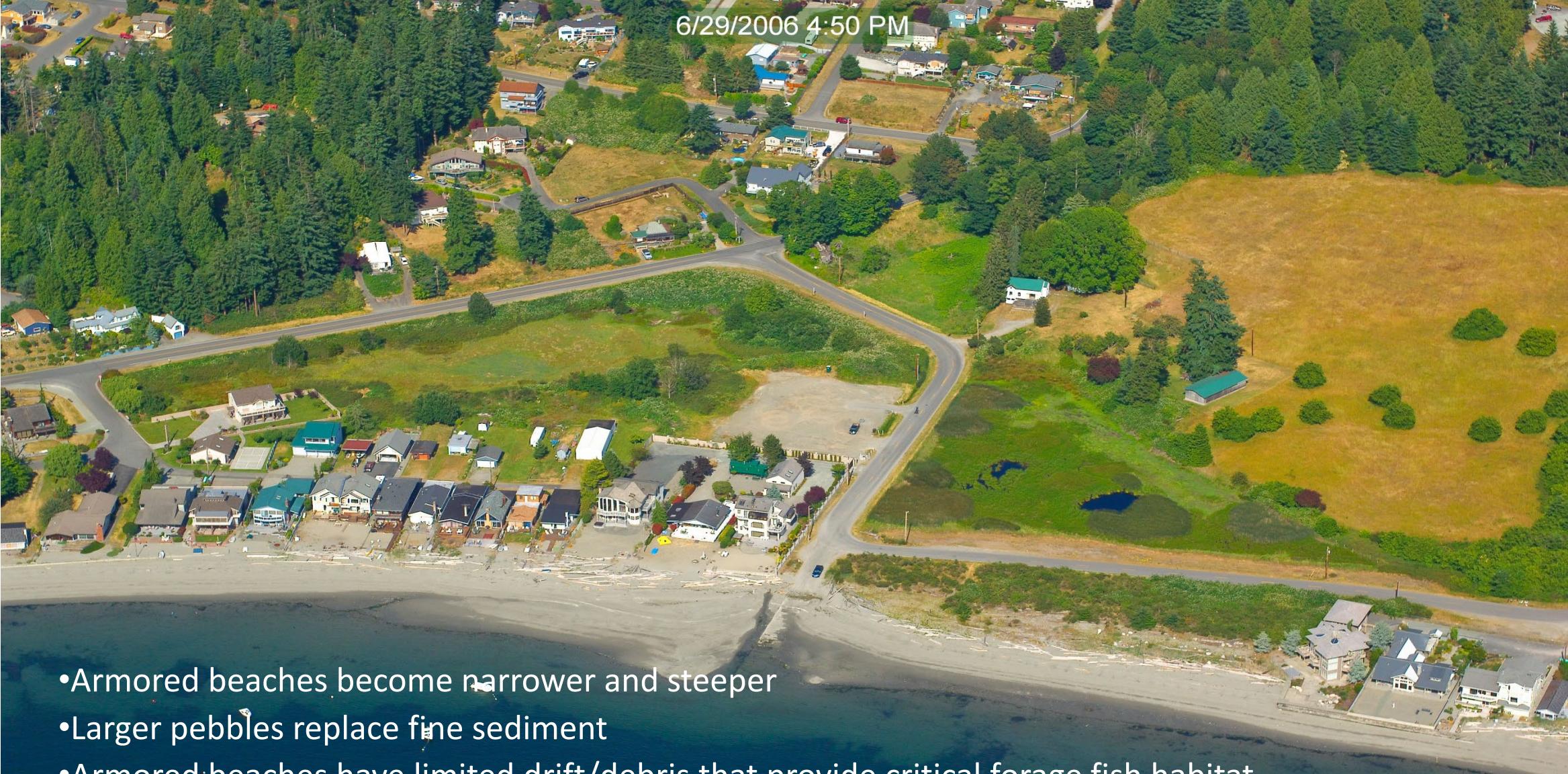
Enjoy the beach. Protect your home. Improve shoreline habitat.



Washington Department of  
FISH and WILDLIFE



6/29/2006 4:50 PM



- Armored beaches become narrower and steeper
- Larger pebbles replace fine sediment
- Armored beaches have limited drift/debris that provide critical forage fish habitat
- Armoring affects neighboring properties
- Loss of shoreline and beach access
- Degraded shellfishing and recreation areas



# Shore Friendly Program



- Homeowner workshops
- Working with realtors, contractors
- Coordination with Planning Department
- Permitting incentive
- Site visits, design assistance



# Conservation Futures Fund (CFF)

Conservation Futures is a land preservation program that protects, preserves, maintains, improves, restores, and limits the future use of threatened areas of open space, timberlands, wetlands, habitat areas, culturally significant sites, and agricultural farmlands within Island County.

The Conservation Futures Program is a competitive annual grant utilizing CFF dollars with proposed projects reviewed and ranked by a Citizens Advisory Board and County Staff, then selected by the Island County Board of County Commissioners.



In 2024 Conservation Futures is managing the current application and funding cycle, but will spend significant time reviewing, revising, and updating the CFF application, evaluation criteria, processes, and procedures, as well as Citizen Advisory Board activities and documents!



# Marine Resources Committee (MRC)



The Committee's purpose is to investigate, research and identify local marine resource and habitat issues; recommend remedial actions to Island County agencies & authorities; carry out such recommendations where so approved; and build local awareness of the issues and broad-based community support for the remedies.



## Current Projects & Activities

- Bull Kelp Monitoring
- Restoration Site Stewardship
- Forage Fish Survey
- Discover our Island Shores Curriculum
- Shoreline Hardening Survey Permit Analysis
- Marine Water Quality Testing
- Derelict Vessel Removal
- Educational Classes for SWSD ALE Program
- Comprehensive Plan Feedback
- Shore Friendly Workshops
- Crabber 101 Education



# Thank You!

Questions?

Jen Schmitz, MS  
Natural Resources Division Manager  
Island County Department of Public Health  
[J.Schmitz@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:J.Schmitz@islandcountywa.gov)  
360-679-7352



## Goal & Policy Recommendations

### Group 2 Natural Resources

Goal	Policy Recommendations
Goal 1. Safeguard the natural environment as an integrated system where the land, water, and air resources interact creating a balanced environment for all life on the islands.	<p>Overall: Wording is unclear, rewrite for clarity. Consider, “Safeguard our unique Island ecosystems through policy, planning, and practice. Consider the interconnections between human, animal, and ecosystem well-being and the distribution of environmental benefits and burdens.”</p> <p>NR 1.1. Include the best available science in developing policies and development regulations to protect the functions and values of critical areas and give special consideration to conservation or protection measures necessary to preserve or enhance anadromous fisheries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Also include a One Health and environmental justice lens in developing policies and regulations. Learn more about <a href="#">One Health here</a> – an interdisciplinary scientific approach that considers the interrelatedness between human, animal, and ecosystem health. Environmental justice takes a stepwise approach to considering the distribution of environmental benefits and burdens. Practical strategies <a href="#">found here</a>.</li> <li>- Consider alignment with Island County salmon recovery plan.</li> <li>- Discuss environmental amenities that critical areas provide, including the importance of supporting public recreation and passive public enjoyment.</li> </ul> <p>NR 1.2. Preserve Island County’s environmental quality through the careful use of land, water, and air resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consider changing wording to bring in concepts of resiliency and adaptation, environmental justice, and sustainable practices.</li> <li>- Improve adaptive management approaches to tracking and mitigating nonpoint source pollution and supporting sustainable development and septic infrastructure in flood prone areas.</li> </ul> <p>NR 1.2.3. Island County encourages low-impact development practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expand to discuss the why of encouraging low-impact practices. LID supports improved stormwater management, provides pollution control, and safeguards ecosystems for the benefit of water quality, biodiversity, and ecosystem health.</li> </ul>
Goal 2. Preserve a high level of air quality	Overall: Expand on Goal 2 to discuss hazards impacting air quality, climate impacts (ex. wildfire smoke) and environmental justice considerations. Develop subgoals that specifically discuss the air quality impacts of climate change caused by wildfire smoke exposure. Discuss strategies to improve monitoring, resources, and adaptation strategies for improved air quality – benefiting humans, animals, and ecosystems. Consult with Public Health, NWCAA, the Conservation Districts, and UW Earth Lab and Climate Impacts Group to consider promising planning approaches.
Goal 3. Protect wetlands from a net loss in functions.	Overall: Expand on Goal 3 to consider the environmental amenities wetlands & FWHCAs provide, including biodiversity, decontamination, flood mitigation, and recreation. Consider subgoals that specifically address the key values of wetlands and riparian areas as natural infrastructure for climate adaptation, with attention to benefits to communities for flood mitigation. Develop subgoal for discussing adaptive management approaches to monitor development impacts and determine if changes in practice are needed. Consider strategies to strengthen and prioritize access to environmental amenities in Island County for low-income community members.
Goal 4. Protect Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas.	NR 3.2 Consider economic, environmental, and cultural costs when evaluating proposals for wetland alterations, and recognize instances where development or alteration within or adjacent to wetlands is acceptable.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consider the above environmental benefits, public health, and environmental justice factors in subgoal NR 3.2 as well as NR 3.5</li> </ul> <p>NR 3.1.4. Implement non-regulatory wetlands protection measures such as acquisition and incentive programs and the public benefit ratings system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Add educational and outreach approaches, as well as incentive-based approaches to encourage wetlands preservation.</li> </ul> <p>NR 4.3.2. Encourage enhancement of degraded habitat areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More fully develop this subgoal to discuss the strategies and values of restoration, including potential benefits to human, animal, and ecosystem health.</li> </ul> <p>NR 4.3.7. Consult with State and Federal agencies when making wildlife management and protection decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discuss coordination with local partners and stakeholders, including conservation districts.</li> </ul> <p>NR 4.4. Protect all streams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthen language of this subgoal to include ecosystem values and amenities based on different type of stream and fish access. Develop subgoal for incentives to protect riparian areas through development practices.</li> <li>- Include the importance of public engagement and education regarding shellfish safety and protection steps.</li> <li>- Consider integrated stormwater approaches to prevent contaminant dispersion that negatively impacts nearshore ecosystems, economic value, and water quality.</li> </ul> <p>NR 4.5.1. The design of new and replacement on site sewage systems shall meet the minimum requirements outlined in ICC 8.07C and where applicable, meet the siting requirements in ICC 17.05A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discuss the importance of adaptive management approaches to proactively address nonpoint source pollution and protect nearshore ecosystems, wildlife, and water quality.</li> <li>- Discuss use of innovative solutions and technologies to improve community resiliency through best available science and practices, including community-septic solutions for sustainable development.</li> </ul> <p>NR 4.5.3. Require preparation of farm plans for new agriculture uses in the Commercial Agriculture land use district.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consider zoonotic disease and water quality in the development of agricultural management plans.</li> </ul>
Goal 5. Protect public health, safety, and welfare, to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in frequently flooded areas.	<p>Overall: Consider above recommendations on the value of natural infrastructure, including wetlands, shoreline buffers, and riparian areas, as natural flood mitigation. Consider the distribution of these environmental resources through an environmental justice lens. Add subgoals that address the value of locating sewage infrastructure away from flood-prone areas through sustainable development practices. Consider incentives for community septic systems located landward of shoreline areas that replace aging single-family onsite infrastructure in flood prone areas. Discuss importance of ongoing collaboration with environmental health scientists and septic professionals for flood resiliency. Include the public benefit of avoiding septic installation in flood prone environments, which includes preserving water quality, shellfish beds, and shoreline environments for public use, recreation, and enjoyment. Include subgoal focused on resource linkages for homeowners needing financial assistance to protect septic and groundwater infrastructure in areas prone to flooding.</p> <p>NR 5.5. The County's Surface Water Program will continue to work to review drainage, flooding, and stormwater run-off in the area and nearby jurisdictions to provide guidance for corrective actions to mitigate or cleanse those discharges that pollute waters of the state.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Encourage active participation with planning department in adaptive management approaches based on Surface Water Program.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discuss implementation of best available science for pollution identification and control related to onsite septic systems to protect public safety, ecosystems, and water quality.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Goal 6. Protect the public health, safety, and welfare from threats resulting from incompatible development being sited on or near steep and/or unstable slopes.</b></p>	<p>Overall: Include the importance of properly planning septic, sewage, and groundwater infrastructure near steep and unstable slopes.</p>
<p><b>Goal 7. Manage and protect ground water and provide for resource protection through a common goal of non-degradation for existing and future residents of Island County.</b></p> <p><b>Goal 8. Protect aquifer recharge areas from contamination and insure long term recharge potential.</b></p> <p><b>Goal 9. Ensure that Island County plans and develops in a manner that utilizes the best available information regarding water resources so that the resource will be preserved for current and future use.</b></p>	<p><b>Goal 7. NR 7.1 Protect the quantity and quality of groundwater resources for existing and future residents of Island County.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Add subgoals addressing agriculture and water quality. Contamination of surface water by livestock manure or crowding leads to the spread of zoonotic disease like giardiasis. Strengthen and enforce critical habitat buffer requirements and implementation of science-based animal management plans, considering the impact of climate change on critical areas (ex. increasing wetland size with increased rainfall).</li> <li>- See above recommendations related to septic systems and flood prone areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal 7. NR 7.2. The County will promote the retention and reuse of stormwater when it is the best and environmentally correct option.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Change to a focus on integrated stormwater management best practices to protect groundwater and surface water quality. Address impacts from climate change, including increased stormwater and dispersion of environmental contaminants.</li> <li>- Incentivize natural stormwater absorbing technologies like green stormwater infrastructure.</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal 8. NR 8.2. Continue efforts to identify areas with ground water problems such as seawater intrusion, groundwater depletion, and contamination from surface activities.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a comprehensive assessment of groundwater infrastructure in Island County including resiliency needs to support preparedness. Support resource linkages for water purveyors needing financial assistance to make necessary improvements.</li> <li>- Consider sea level rise projection data to determine saltwater intrusion and plan sustainable development that considers groundwater infrastructure and hazards. Align development planning with groundwater monitoring program.</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal 9. NR 9.2. Watershed management planning will be cognizant of the need to preserve water supply while providing drainage facilities to protect the welfare and safety of the community.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop watershed planning approach through collaboration between DNR and Public Works, utilizing the Clean Water Utility to support comprehensive watershed plans that can be continually updated to advance priorities.</li> <li>- Consider the impacts of climate change on stormwater, streams, wetlands, and flood prone areas in watershed planning, as well as distribution of environmental benefits and burdens.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Goal 10. Natural Lands Conserve a variety of natural lands, in both public and private ownership, for the</b></p>	<p>Overall: Add language around climate resiliency and adaptation and environmental justice criteria for evaluating acquisition of lands for conservation, using the resources provided above for Goal 1. When discussing ecological function also add language discussing environmental amenities and the community benefit of protecting environmental infrastructure. Include the benefit to physical and mental health from access to recreational environments as a protective factor.</p>

<p>enjoyment and economic benefit of current and future residents of Island County.</p> <p>Goal 11. Prioritize the protection of natural lands that coincide with other valuable resources, including ecological, historical, agricultural, recreational, and cultural lands.</p> <p>Goal 14. Continue an open dialogue between Island County, incorporated jurisdictions, special purpose districts, non-profits, and other interested individuals and organizations working toward the conservation or protection of natural lands.</p>	<p>Goal 10. NR 10.1.1. Correct any imbalance in public policies between open space protection and land development incentives through sound incentives for land conservation and careful analysis of the equity and real costs, both financial and environmental, of subsidizing development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Apply environmental justice principles to consider access to open spaces and recreational environments and how conservation patterns interface with community housing needs. Continue to highlight the importance of equity criteria for land conservation.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 11 NR 11.3. Enhance recreational opportunities for County residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- See above recommendations related to an environmental justice analysis of recreational environment access.</li> </ul>
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**Goal & Policy  
Recommendations**

[Climate Resiliency  
Element](#)

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Policy Recommendations</b>
Zoonotic Disease and Development	<p>Contamination of surface water by livestock manure or crowding leads to the spread of zoonotic disease like giardiasis. Strengthen critical habitat buffer requirements and implementation of science-based animal management plans. Review and update zoning practices that reduce habitat fragmentation, a known risk factor for increased zoonotic disease spread. Habitat fragmentation can increase human exposures to animal vectors for rabies, including bat vectors. Fragmentation may also increase vehicle collisions with wildlife, including deer, a rising safety concern in our communities, which also increases animal carcasses that may spread diseases. Consider expanding variance language that incentivize developments that prevent habitat fragmentation by providing leniency with other zoning requirements. A voluntary compliance, incentive-based approach is an effective land use strategy for improving outcomes, while reducing the need for additional enforcement. Consider vector prevention in designing stormwater infrastructure.</p>
Nonpoint Source Pollution and Groundwater	<p>See Natural Resources Section</p> <p>Summary: Improve adaptive management approaches to tracking and mitigating nonpoint source pollution through PIC program. Plan for resiliency by incentivizing community septic systems landward of shorelines and critical areas to replace aging septic infrastructure. Develop a comprehensive understanding of groundwater infrastructure and resiliency needs to plan sustainable development. Use sea level rise and rainfall projection modeling data rather than historical data to inform long- and short-term decisions and policymaking and to guide planning and development near shorelines and critical areas.</p>
Climate Health Impacts	<p>Develop community of practice with epidemiologists and planners to map environmental justice concerns to identify areas where climate health impacts, land use approaches, and environmental impacts intersect. Consider disaggregated data to map, understand, and remedy income and racial disparities in the distribution of environmental benefits and burdens (ex. wildfire smoke exposure, water quality, air quality, recreation access). Incentivize low impact design and the use of green infrastructure practices and air pollution mitigation best practices. Encourage zoning code that expands shading requirements for pavement/parking lots, reflective paint, and other development practices to reduce heat in urban, suburban, and rural areas. Discuss implementation of best available science for pollution identification and control related to onsite septic systems to protect public safety, ecosystems, and water quality (see Natural Resources Section).</p>

## Comprehensive Plan Climate Element Resources

One Health for All: Integrating an Environmental Justice Lens	1
The Future of Pandemics: Preventing Zoonotic Disease through Land Use Policy	1
Land Use Planning & Emergency Preparedness	1
Lancet 2020 Countdown	2
World Health Organization: One Health	2
Salmon Recovery	2
Data Resources	2

### One Health for All: Integrating an Environmental Justice Lens

<https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev-ecolsys-102220-031745>

**Maureen H. Murray, Jacqueline Buckley, Kaylee A. Byers, Kimberly Fake, Elizabeth W. Lehrer, Seth B. Magle, Christopher Stone, Holly Tuten, Christopher J. Schell. Annual Review of Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics 2022 53:1, 403-426**

### The Future of Pandemics: Preventing Zoonotic Disease through Land Use Policy

Bailey Andree, The Future of Pandemics: Land Use Controls as Means of Preventing Zoonotic Disease, 35 Pace Int'l L. Rev. 1 (2022) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.58948/2331-3536.1422>

This article reviews various zoonotic diseases and their patterns of spread, highlighting land use change as the key driver of disease to demonstrate the need for legal intervention.

### Land Use Planning & Emergency Preparedness

<https://mrsc.org/stay-informed/mrsc-insight/february-2023/new-tools-help-land-use-planning-emergency-mgmt>

Part of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Washington Geological Survey (WGS), publishes geologic information for decision-making, including geologic hazards, and mineral resources. Below are some highlights of recent publications and products of interest to land use planning staff, emergency management personnel, geologists, engineers, and others in the community.

### Implementing Health in All Policies in the Climate Space

<https://www.astho.org/globalassets/report/implementing-hiap-in-the-climate-space.pdf>

This document provides concrete examples of activities to address climate change through a HiAP lens. The activities are grouped by intensity of engagement, so can be selected according to individual need.

## Lancet 2020 Countdown

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)32290-X/abstract](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)32290-X/abstract)

International research collaboration that independently monitors the evolving impacts of climate change on health, and the emerging health opportunities of climate action. 8<sup>th</sup> Edition.

## World Health Organization: One Health

'One Health' is an integrated, unifying approach to balance and optimize the health of people, animals and the environment. It is particularly important to prevent, predict, detect, and respond to global health threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Salmon Recovery

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/651/Salmon-Recovery>

## Data Resources

<a href="#">Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation</a>	This portal can help you understand what climate-related hazards you face, now and in the future.
<a href="#">Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation</a>	IHME identifies, investigates, and interprets the causes and effects of disease, injury, and death for every year since 1990, and provides evidence and tools enabling stakeholders to interpret and make results relevant for their communities.
<a href="#">WA HCA ARM Dashboard</a>	Data to address questions around health service use by WA Medicaid enrollees, including ER visits, MCH, community services, and SU treatment.
<a href="#">NACo County Health Rankings</a>	
<a href="#">SHARE NW</a>	See where rural health disparities exist in your community by exploring the data dashboards, and better understand how you can make data-driven decisions to reduce those disparities with training support.
<a href="#">Rural Health Institute</a>	Data, toolkits, and funding resources to advance rural health.
<a href="#">WA Tracking Network</a>	Source for environmental public health data and environmental justice data
<a href="#">WA ENV Health Disparities Map</a>	Mapping health disparities related to environmental factors

<a href="#"><u>Local Climate Data Webtool</u></a>	Identifies changes in streamflow and precipitation
<a href="#"><u>Climate Tools</u></a>	NACCHO collection of resources for LHJs
<a href="#"><u>CDC PLACES</u></a>	Allows local health departments and jurisdictions, regardless of population size and rurality, to better understand the burden and geographic distribution of health measures in their areas and assist them in planning public health interventions.



# STRATEGIC VISION

Our vision for  
thriving  
communities

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2024

ISLAND COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH

1 NE 7TH ST  
COUPEVILLE, WA 98239

## Setting the Stage

### Introduction and Overview

A well-designed strategic vision helps us prioritize efforts, allocate resources effectively, and develop specific goals. In this document, we outline the mission and vision of the Public Health Department, as well as the priorities, commitments, and strategies that guide our work. As we look ahead, our cornerstone values include a renewed emphasis on collaboration, a commitment to health equity, an emphasis on service, and a deepening appreciation of our interconnected environments. By including voices from diverse sectors, we are tailoring our approach to meet the unique needs of our population. This plan is designed to be a living document that will be adapted and revised to ensure that we remain responsive to the evolving needs of the communities we serve.

*“With rare exceptions, all of your most important achievements on this planet will come from working with others—or, in a word, partnership.”*

- Dr. Paul Farmer, Partners in Health

## Mission Statement

Island County Public Health is committed to protecting and improving the well-being of our unique island communities and environments through innovative programs and partnerships. Working in close partnership with the communities we serve, our dedicated teams deliver essential services, advance vital conditions for well-being, and strategically plan health improvement.



## Our Organization

Island County Public Health is composed of four divisions that work together to achieve our mission:

- **Natural Resources:** Supports ecosystem health, biodiversity, and environmental justice through climate adaptation, conservation, restoration, outreach, and policy planning.
- **Community Health:** Advances a continuum of prevention services, improving health outcomes related to maternal child health, communicable disease, nutrition, chronic disease, and injury prevention.
- **Assessment:** Develops a comprehensive understanding of health in our communities to guide community decision-making, integrating community voice and values through participatory methods.
- **Environmental Health:** Ensures healthy natural & built environments through outreach and regulation, focusing on water resources, septic infrastructure, building safety, and pollution prevention.

Collectively, our divisions advance public health priorities, ensuring delivery of the 10 Essential Public Health functions, outlined here:

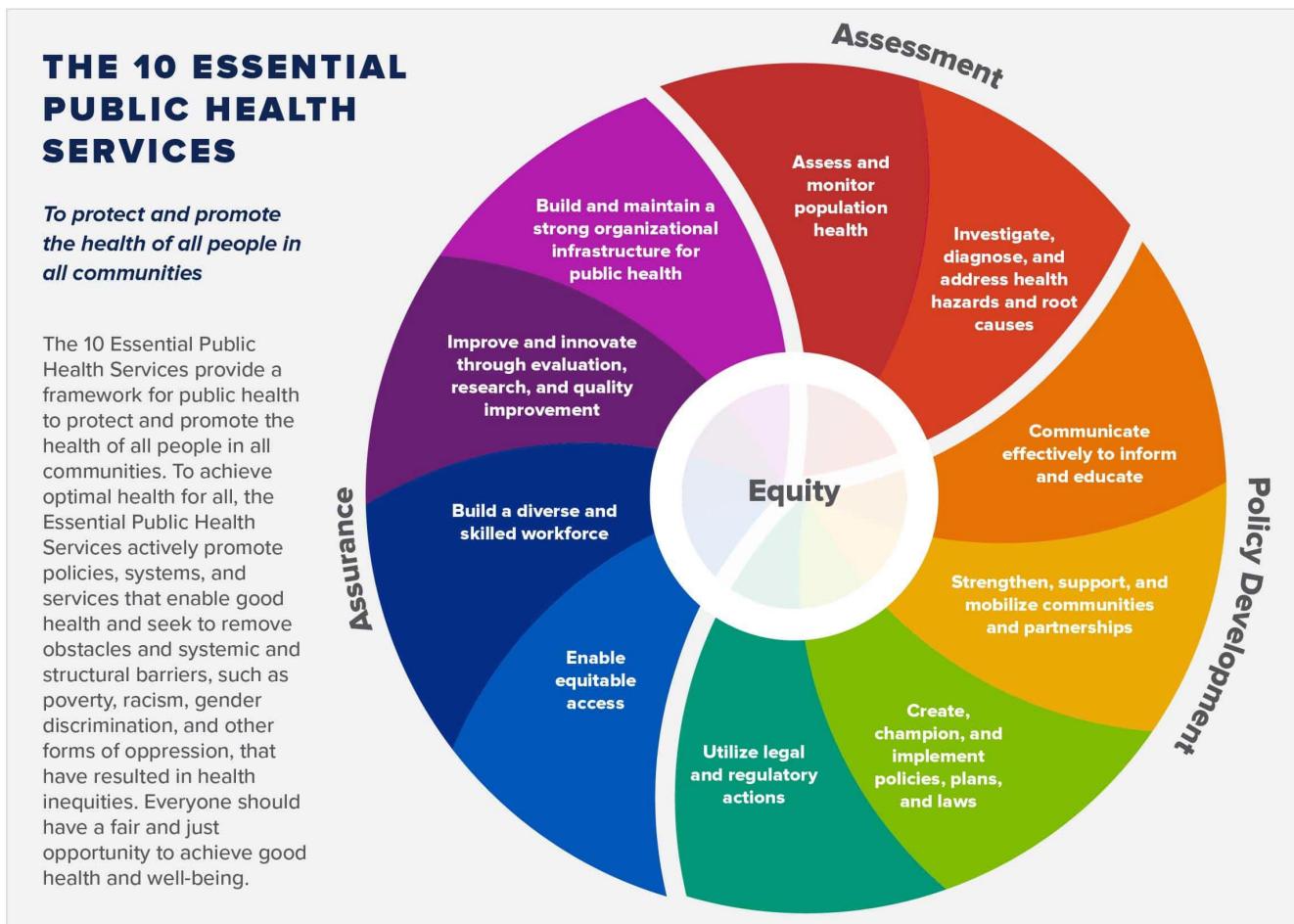


Figure 1: From CDC, 2023

## Our Priorities for Thriving Communities

To deliver on our mission, prioritization through strategic planning is essential. We worked with partners to identify key priorities that span divisions and programs and reflect our core values and vision.

### Foundations for Our Work



#### **Collaborative Engagement**

A cooperative process where community members and groups actively work together to achieve a shared objective, leveraging collective skills and resources.



#### **Population Health**

A focus on the overall health of a population, considering social drivers of health, health equity, and policies, strategies, and initiatives that promote health at the community scale.



#### **Ecosystem Perspective**

A holistic and interconnected view of the interactions and relationships between various systems, emphasizing interdependence and interrelatedness.



#### **Equity Driven**

Working in partnership with diverse communities to develop community-rooted initiatives, ensuring that resources, opportunities, and outcomes are distributed and allocated to address systemic inequities.

### Guiding Priorities



#### **Optimal Health Systems and Workforce Support**



#### **Vibrant Ecosystems and Healthy Built Environments**



#### **Thriving Communities Across the Lifespan**



#### **Engaged Assessment and Preparedness Planning**

## Underlying Frameworks

Learn about the frameworks guiding our approach to community health assessment and improvement.

### Social Ecological Model

The **social ecological model** considers the interplay between individual, relationship, community, and societal factors. The overlapping rings in the model illustrate how factors at one level influence factors at another level.



Figure 2: From CDC, 2023

### Environmental Justice

**Environmental justice** is a theoretical lens focused on advancing equity in the distribution of environmental benefits and burdens, and in the processes that determine those distributions.

### One Health

**One health** is a collaborative and multisector approach with the goal of achieving optimal health outcomes recognizing the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environments.

### Community-Based Participatory Approaches

**Participatory approaches** build on collective strengths and shared resources, engage trusted community members, facilitate partnerships, involve long-term commitment, and share information, data, and findings with all participants through inclusive practices.

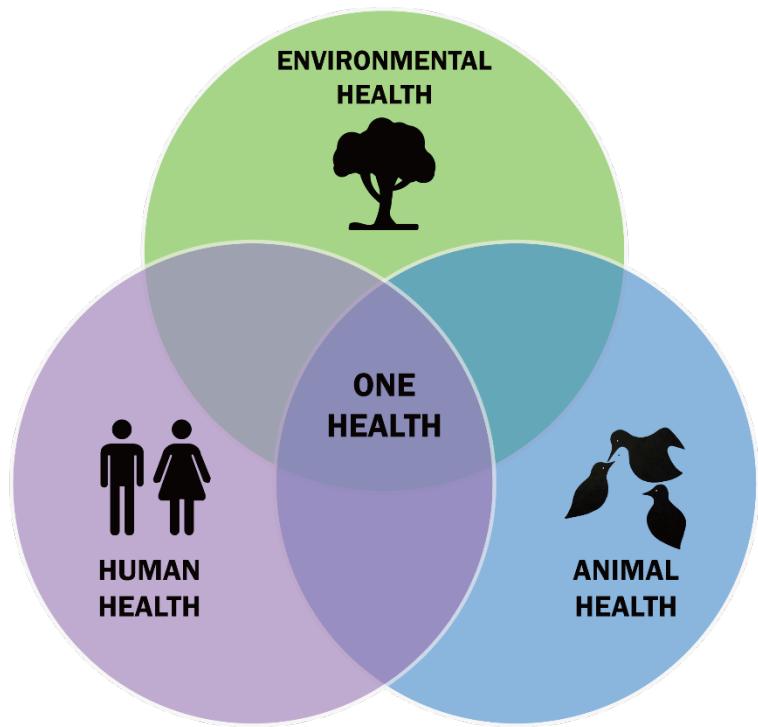


Figure 3: From CDC, 2023

### Health Literacy

**Health literacy** is the degree to which individuals can find, understand, and use information and services to inform health-related decisions and actions for themselves and others (Healthy People 2030).

### Health in All Policies

**Health in All Policies (HiAP)** is an approach to public policy that systematically considers the health implications of decisions, seeks synergies, and avoids harmful health impacts to improve population health and health equity.

## Priority 1. Optimal Health Systems and Workforce Support

### Vision

A responsive public health system that integrates community voice into policy and practice, while promoting transparency, engagement, and trust. Our teams are made up of a diverse and skilled workforce equipped with the tools, support, and knowledge to effectively address public health challenges and drive equity.

### Commitment

We will practice continual improvement, working to align skills, resources, and partnerships to strengthen our capacity to deliver responsive and innovative programs and services. We will be guided by the voices and values of our diverse communities and center health equity in all policy recommendations, planning, and service delivery. We renew our commitment to effective external and internal communication, while serving as responsible stewards of public resources. We value and prioritize developing and maintaining a diverse, engaged, and skilled workforce, recognizing that our dedicated employees are at the heart of our work.

### Key Strategies

- Apply a Health in All Policies framework to policy recommendations, planning, and strategic initiatives, actively integrating community voice through participatory approaches.
- Integrate direction from the Board of Commissioners and Board of Health, informed by the Community Health Advisory Board, into all programs, services, and approaches.
- Ensure fiscal responsibility and sustainable resource management across programs through competent contract management, while prioritizing and allocating resources intentionally to communities impacted by inequities.
- Integrate trauma-informed organizational principles into our approach, ensuring collaboration, trust, choice, and equity-based management. Foster a healthy, resilient, and safe workplace by cultivating a culture of wellness and supporting the unique needs of our staff. Integrate diversity, equity, and inclusion principles across teams and procedures.
- Support the recruitment, development, and retention of a qualified, inclusive, and diverse public health workforce, investing in our teams and integrating best practices for organizational design.
- Provide effective public health information to stakeholders and the public. Strengthen our communications approach, applying principles of community-led design, cultural humility, and health equity to provide timely, locally relevant communications across our program areas in multimedia formats.



## Priority 2. Vibrant Ecosystems and Healthy Built Environments

### Vision

We support vibrant ecosystems and healthy built environments by planning initiatives, guiding policy, and delivering programs and services that achieve optimal outcomes for human, animal, and ecosystem well-being, recognizing our increasingly interconnected environments.

### Commitment

We support our unique island communities by supporting climate resilience, natural resources conservation, and social drivers of health. We apply an environmental justice lens, expanding social drivers of health with attention to inequities in the distribution of environmental benefits and burdens. In all our work, we consider the interrelatedness between human, animal, and ecosystem well-being. We take a consistent, well-coordinated, and equitable regulatory approach, emphasizing education and voluntary compliance.

### Key Strategies

- Support climate adaptation through conservation, outreach, regulatory programs, and multisector partnerships, centering equity and One Health.
- Revitalize community advisory boards by expanding inclusive engagement and adopting project criteria related to environmental justice and social drivers of health, considering the distribution of environmental benefits and burdens based on income, race, gender, and other factors.
- Strengthen adaptive management approaches to water quality and habitat health, adopting best-available science and proactive practices for preventing contamination, with a focus on incentives for achieving voluntary compliance and sustainable infrastructure development.
- Take a service-oriented approach to permitting and regulation, providing community members with resources and guidance. Consider the downstream impacts of permitting decisions while helping applicants achieve their goals, supporting sustainable development.
- Center equity and engage in effective outreach for programs that support safe communities, including food safety, solid waste compliance, mobile home inspections, and outdoor burn permitting.
- Ensure efficiency and consistency with the permitting process. For regulatory changes, involve stakeholders early and often. Improve communications and outreach related to planned changes, using participatory approaches.
- Strengthen financial assistance programs for clean water needs. Provide technical assistance to partners to expand access to supportive housing, economic opportunity, and healthy environments for recreation.



### Priority 3. Thriving Communities Across the Lifespan

#### Vision

We practice innovative disease prevention and deliver essential health services to address critical gaps. We work across sectors to ensure community members have access to the vital conditions needed to thrive, including healthcare access, nutritious foods, health guidance, supportive housing, recreational opportunities, and other social drivers of health.

#### Commitment

We lead upstream initiatives that improve health outcomes by promoting behavior change, expanding access to social drivers of health, and enhancing health literacy. We commit to a holistic understanding of health outcomes, working with cultural humility while serving diverse communities. We work hand in hand with community members to design, implement, and evaluate strategies that address nutritional health, access to care, and overall physical health across the lifespan. We work with coalitions and partners, recognizing that upstream prevention and optimal outcomes requires multi-sector, community-rooted approaches that center health equity.

#### Key Strategies

- Advance a continuum of community-based prevention initiatives to improve health and wellness behaviors related to nutritional health, family health, chronic disease, physical activity, and injury prevention, looking upstream at key factors and applying principles of cultural humility.
- Expand our focus on health literacy and education by tailoring evidence-based curricula and resources for community delivery, using best available practices outlined by implementation science.
- Engage multi-sector partners and people who have lived experience to expand population scale strategies that improve the conditions in which people live, work, play, and age. Support sustainable, community-rooted approaches to advancing the social drivers of health.
- Proactively address emerging diseases and serve as a resource for community partners, including long-term care, schools, childcare, and healthcare providers.
- Specifically develop partnerships and collaborative models with primary care providers, using approaches outlined in “The Practical Playbook” (CDC) to develop communities of practice, cross-team coordination, and shared health improvement strategies and campaigns.
- Strengthen community partnerships and deliver essential early intervention services for children and families with cultural humility, recognizing that the well-being of our children is of the utmost importance.



## Priority 4. Engaged Assessment and Emergency Response

### Vision

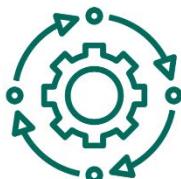
Our communities have the information needed to advance health equity and outcomes. Community voice guides our assessment strategies and policy process. We proactively cultivate meaningful, trusted relationships with diverse populations. We envision a trained and coordinated team well-positioned to prepare for, respond to, and recover from public health emergencies.

### Commitment

We commit to a community-driven approach to data collection, evaluation, and dissemination. We intentionally strengthen trusted relationships with marginalized communities to develop meaningful assessment strategies and inclusive practices. We provide locally relevant, accessible, and transparent information to guide community decision-making. To foster resilience, we apply the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic to better plan for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and hazards.

### Key Strategies

- Align public health assessment activities with planning driven by our partners, streamlining engagement and cross-department efforts, while integrating participatory approaches.
- Advance data-driven evaluation approaches across programs to map intended outcomes, consider potential harmful impacts, define measurable goals, track progress, and revise approaches.
- Ensure fairness and equity in data practices by integrating FAIR data principles, optimizing the accessibility and democratic use of data to meet community needs.
- Proactively advance equity by applying a Health in All Policies and social justice lens to policy and planning, integrating equity principles in data practices, systems, and engagement strategies.
- Develop visually engaging content that is accessible to a diverse range of community members when sharing data reports, including health assessments, improvement plans, and impact reports.
- Continually improve staff readiness to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies through planning and workforce development.
- Integrate the needs of people with disabilities, older adults, people with chronic disease, children with special healthcare needs, and pregnant mothers into all public health emergency planning.





## Looking to the Horizon

### Tracking Our Progress

Local public health plays an essential role in developing collaborative, creative, and community-centered solutions to complex challenges. Laying out our long-term strategic vision allows us to create specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) goals. Our teams will draw from this document to coordinate efforts, advance health equity, and work collaboratively to expand social drivers of health.

In all our efforts, we are committed to working in partnership with our diverse island communities. Our teams live and work in our communities, and we are guided by a shared desire to make a difference for current and future generations. Over the past few years, we have been through so much uncertainty, strain, and challenge. Already, our teams are pivoting to address emerging public health challenges, including impacts from a warming world and rising inequities related to social drivers of health. As we work to build trust, support our teams, enhance services, and improve health outcomes, we commit to acting with care, transparency, and inclusivity.

#### Next Steps

- Develop goals to deliver on our guiding priorities, vision, and identified strategies.
- Continually share and refine our strategic vision through ongoing engagement.
- Align our day-to-day work with commitments, guiding priorities, and values.

*We are always working for safer and healthier communities.*

Island County Board of Health (BOH)  
2024 Legislative Tracking

Upcoming Events.....	.....Error! Bookmark not defined.
High Priority Bills.....	2
Medium Priority Bills .....	3
Low Priority Bills.....	.....Error! Bookmark not defined.
Monitoring Bills.....	.....Error! Bookmark not defined.
Other Bills.....	.....Error! Bookmark not defined.

### Background

This document outlines legislative bills and includes resources, upcoming hearings, summary information, and links to bills. Bills are arranged into “High Priority” “Medium Priority” and “Low Priority” sections based on local impact and consultation with the Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WSALPHO). This year, the legislative session lasts for 60 days, and we will be closely tracking bill progress during the condensed timeline.

### Overview of the Washington State Legislature

The Washington State Legislature is a bicameral body with 49 members in the Senate and 98 members in the House of Representatives. Each district is served by one Senator and two House members. The citizen Legislature meets annually on the second Monday in January in the ornate Capitol building in Olympia. In odd-numbered years -- the budget year -- the Legislature meets for 105 days, and in even-numbered years for 60 days. If necessary, the Governor can call legislators in for a special session for a 30-day period. Legislators can call themselves into special session with a two-thirds vote of the two bodies. This table is updated monthly. For additional information, please contact the following staff:

- **Shawn Morris, Public Health Director** - for legislation related to environmental health, natural resources, parent child health, care access, chronic disease, communicable disease, emergency preparedness, and injury prevention: [S.MorrisND@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:S.MorrisND@islandcountywa.gov)
- **Lynda Austin, Human Services Director** - for legislation related to behavioral health, veterans, harm reduction services, family services, and housing: [L.Austin@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:L.Austin@islandcountywa.gov)

### Legislative Session Resources

- [Washington State Public Health Association Policy Advocacy Resources](#) – Short videos and resources created for the public health community to learn about the Washington State Legislative Process.
- Follow the legislative session live by watching [TVW](#), recorded sessions also available.
- Public health oriented legislative resources from [Foundation for Health Generations](#).

## High Priority Bills

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
<a href="#"><u>SHB 1706</u></a> (SB 5708)	Microenterprise home kitchen	Concerning the operation, authorization, and permitting of microenterprise home kitchens. A striker bill was passed out of local government committee. "	H Approps – <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Entenman	Oppose
<a href="#"><u>HB 1519</u></a>	Local project review	Concerning local project review.	H Rules - <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Barkis	Concerns
<a href="#"><u>SB 5982</u></a> (HB 2157)	Vaccine definition	Updating the definition of "vaccine" in RCW 70.290.010 to include all federal food and drug administration-approved immunizations recommended by the centers for disease control and prevention.	S 2nd Reading – Passed out of committee, passed chamber, in the House, to governor	Cleveland	Support
<a href="#"><u>SB 5926</u></a>	Medicaid/continuous coverage	Providing continuous coverage enrollment eligibility in Medicaid for children under age six.	S Health & Long T - <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Muzzall	Support
<a href="#"><u>SB 5844</u></a>	Dilapidated RV disposal	The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is directed to create a voluntary grant program to provide funding for counties to administer a dilapidated RV disposal program.	S Environment, En - <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Muzzall	Support
<a href="#"><u>SSB 5245</u></a>	Biosolids	Concerning biosolids. Directs the Department of Ecology to establish pollutant limits for PFAS in biosolids.	S Rules X - <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Wilson	Support
<a href="#"><u>HB 1979</u></a>	Inhalers & epinephrine cost	Reducing the cost of inhalers and epinephrine autoinjectors. Requires health plans, including health plans offered to public and school employees, to cap the total out-of-pocket cost for a 30-day supply of at least one inhaled corticosteroid and one inhaled corticosteroid combination product and at least one epinephrine autoinjector product containing at least two autoinjectors at \$35.	H HC/Wellness - <b>Passed Chamber, in the Senate, to Governor</b>	Paul	Support

<a href="#"><b>SHB 1956</b></a> (SSB 5923)	Substance use prevention ed.	Addressing fentanyl and other substance use prevention education. Requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop, periodically update, and actively distribute school and classroom substance use prevention and awareness materials.	H EDDPS – <b>Passed Chamber in the Senate, to Governor</b>	Leavitt	Support
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### Medium Priority Bills

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
<a href="#"><b>HB 1006</b></a>	Drug testing equipment	Expanding access to drug testing equipment.	H Rules X – <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Orwall	Support
<a href="#"><b>SB 6110</b></a>	Child fatalities	Modernizing the child fatality statute. Directs a child fatality review team to report suspected child and neglect to law enforcement and other appropriate agencies without making the team mandated reporters. Clarifies what data local health departments may request and receive in conducting a child fatality review.	S Human Services – <b>On Floor Calendar for House</b>	Keiser	Support
<a href="#"><b>ESHB 1608</b></a>	Anaphylaxis meds./schools	Expanding access to anaphylaxis medications in schools. Requires the Secretary of Health or the Secretary's designee to issue a statewide standing order prescribing epinephrine and epinephrine autoinjectors to any school district or school for use by a school nurse or other designated trained school personnel.	H Passed 3 <sup>rd</sup> – <b>Passed House Chamber in the Senate, to Governor</b>	Bronoske	Support
<a href="#"><b>SSB 5983</b></a>	Syphilis treatment	Allowing medical assistants with telehealth supervision to provide intramuscular injections for syphilis treatment.	S Rules 2- <b>Passed House Chamber in the Senate, to Governor</b>	Liias	Support
<a href="#"><b>HB 1922</b></a>	Vape detectors/schools	Establishing a grant program for the purchase and installation of vape detectors in public schools.	H Education - <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Couture	Oppose
<a href="#"><b>SSB 5776</b></a>	Insulin emergency supply	Accessing an emergency supply of insulin.	S Ways & Means - <b>Did</b>	Keiser	Support

### Bill Status & Upcoming Events Report

January 30, 2024

Page 3 of 4

			<b>not pass out of committee</b>		
<a href="#"><u>HB 2029</u></a> (SSB 5804)	Opioid overdose/high schools	Concerning opioid overdose reversal medication in high schools.	H Education - <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Rule	Support
<a href="#"><u>ESB 5022</u></a>	Drug testing equipment	Exempting fentanyl testing equipment from the definition of drug paraphernalia.	S Rules X - <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Muzzall	Support
<a href="#"><u>SSB 5804</u></a> (HB 2029)	Opioid overdose med./schools	Concerning opioid overdose reversal medication in high schools. A school district with 2000 or more students must obtain and maintain at least one set of opioid overdose reversal medication doses in each of its high schools.	S 2nd – <b>Passed Senate Chamber in the House</b>	Kuderer	Support
<a href="#"><u>SB 5906</u></a>	Drug overdose prevention	Implementing a statewide drug overdose prevention and education campaign. Requires the Department of Health to develop and maintain an ongoing drug overdose prevention campaign and conduct feasibility into overdose prevention hotline.	S Ways & Means – <b>On Floor in Senate</b>	Wilson	Support
<a href="#"><u>SB 6134</u></a>	Opioid use	Preventing overdose and illicit use of opioids in Washington state.	S Health & Long - <b>Did not pass out of committee</b>	Gildon	Neutra

## Public Health End of Session Highlights

## Policy Summary

**SB 5983** allows for medical assistants to provide syphilis treatment under telemedicine supervision and expands access to expedited partner therapy – both important strategies to reduce the burden of STIs in our state. **This was a WSALPHO-sponsored bill.**

WSALPHO Position: Support      Outcome: Passed

**SB 6110** would have provided important updates to local child fatality review statutes. These reviews are used to identify community strategies that can prevent further death and injury for our youth. Updates would have included increasing the youth age to 19 years, aligning privacy and confidentiality to national standards, and emphasizing coordination between local and state agencies. **This was a WSALPHO-sponsored bill.**

WSALPHO Position: Support      Outcome: Failed

**SB 5982** updates the definition of vaccine for the Washington State Vaccine Association to cover any immunization approved by the Federal Drug Administration and recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. **This was a WSALPHO priority bill.**

**SB 5940** creates a medical assistant-emergency medical technician certification. This change would allow EMTs to continue to provide certain types of medical care once they reach a hospital with a patient. For rural hospitals struggling to fill staff positions, this is a creative solution to help fill gaps.

**HB 1608** provides a statewide standing order for school districts to be able to purchase and maintain a supply of epinephrine injectors (epi-pens) for schools and school nurses. This reduces the cost and increases critical medicine's presence in a severe allergic reaction or similar life-threatening event.

WSALPHO Position: Support      Outcome: Passed

**SB 6095** authorizes the Secretary of Health to issue a prescription standing order to control, treat, or mitigate a public health disease or threat. Under this new policy, a local health officer's standing orders would not be pre-empted, and the Secretary must consult local health officers before issuing any standing order.

WSALPHQ Position: Support      Outcome: Passed

## Budget Highlights

**\$250,000** directed to WSALPHO to complete a septage capacity assessment and study, with a report due in June 2025. **This was a WSALPHO priority.**

**\$750,000** to the State Board of Health to convene an advisory group of school and public health partners to assess current school environmental health rules and identify critical rule updates. **This was a WSALPHO priority.**

### *Emergency Preparedness and Response*

**\$1.5 million** for the Emergency Rapid Response Program, which provides immediate community relief grants in response to natural and manmade disasters, **\$1.5 million** to implement an extreme weather event community grant program, and an additional **\$724,000** for the State Military Department to continue support for current response and recovery efforts.

### *Environmental Health*

**\$1 million** to create the Clean Water Rapid Response Program that supports drinking water testing and emergency water supplies, focusing on overburdened and vulnerable communities facing threats to safe drinking water.

**\$5. 05 million** for PFAS treatment and mitigation in wells and water supply systems.

**\$304,000** is provided to implement environmental justice projects in communities in existing health equity zones.

### *Prevention and Access to Care*

**\$500,000** to expand the school-based health center program to an additional 5 schools, and **\$2.1 million** capital investments to improve facilities for 8 existing school health centers.

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## **Opioid Response**

### Policy Summary

**HB 1956 and SB 5906** direct the Department of Health to develop and implement a statewide drug overdose campaign; HB 1956 further directs OSPI to include substance use prevention materials for school and classroom use and include opioid education as part of middle and high school health curriculum. SB 5906 also requires DOH to conduct a feasibility study for an opioid overdose prevention hotline.

WSALPHO Position: Support

Outcome: Passed

**SB 5804** requires that all school districts, regardless of student population, obtain and maintain opioid reversal medication in each of its schools. Similarly, **HB 2112** requires all higher education institutions to provide opioid and fentanyl prevention to its students, make naloxone and fentanyl

test strips available to students, and require training on administering naloxone to residence hall staff.

WSALPHO Position: Support                      Outcome: Passed

**HB 2396** requires DOH to compile resources related to decontaminating vehicles from fentanyl and other synthetic opioids and requires jails to provide information about the availability of substance use disorder treatment to persons being released from jail.

WSALPHO Position: Support                      Outcome: Passed

### Budget Highlights

Over **\$21 million** for enhanced and expanded opioid treatment, including rapid methadone treatment in healthcare, long-acting MOU, MOUD in jails, mobile treatment pilots, the Opioid Recovery and Care Center, and Capital Budget treatment expansion grants.

**\$6 million** for increased naloxone access, including dedicated stockpiles for first responders like EMT and fire departments and larger state distribution programs.

**\$3.7 million** is provided to fund **five local pilot programs** to provide medical, behavioral health, and SUD assessments for people living in homeless encampments.

**\$3 million** to add five more health engagement hubs by the end of 2027. Hubs are an all-in-one model of care where adults who use drugs can access medical, harm reduction, social services, and other referrals.

**\$900,000** for the HealthCare Authority to pilot **20** public health vending machines in jails, behavioral health organizations, local health departments, and harm reduction programs. Machines will contain naloxone, fentanyl test strips, and other public health supplies.

**\$3.4 million** to school districts, community organizations, local health jurisdictions, and other behavioral health agencies to implement opioid prevention and harm reduction education.

**\$5.3 million** for drug awareness, prevention, and education campaigns emphasizing opioids and fentanyl. **\$2.75 million** of this is dedicated to local health jurisdictions, including developing and implementing a model prevention toolkit.

Contract	Description	Policy Context
January		
Consolidated Contract Amendment No. 17 with Washington State Department of Health	Consolidated Contract CLH31012 Amendment No. 17 with Washington State Department of Health adds funding for the Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG) (\$200,000) and the WIC Nutritional Program (\$220,751) and revises statements of work for Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) and the COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach Program. Funding supports public health workforce development and the sustainability of WIC nutritional services. Amendment No. 17 increases allocations by \$420,751.	For the PHIG Grant: Public Health will work closely with stakeholders to develop an implementation plan to bring back to the BOCC for review and approval. The first phase of the funding involves developing an implementation approach, which is due June 30, 2024. An additional \$220,751 is provided for WIC client services, supporting the service delivery and meeting the needs of food insecure families in our communities. Staff deliver WIC services virtually and in-person at Island County facilities for all geographic regions. This is expected funding for the WIC program and supports our caseload.
Joint Plan of Responsibility Agreement between Washington State Department of Health For regulation of Water Recreation Facilities. Contract No.: CLH28875-0; No monetary amount.	Joint Plan of Responsibility Agreement No. CLH28875-0 with WA Department of Health to provide role clarity concerning the regulation of water recreation facilities in Island County. Water recreation facilities are an important source of entertainment for the citizens of this state. To promote public health, safety, and welfare, it is necessary to continue to regulate these facilities. ICPH already provides this service, and the joint plan of responsibility formalizes this agreement in alignment with existing laws and regulations.	This agreement is pursuant to Chapters 70.90 RCW and Chapters 246-260 and 246-262 WAC, relating to water recreation facilities inspection. Currently water recreation facilities may be regulated by local health departments overseen by local boards of health. The local board of health may establish and collect fees sufficient to cover costs incurred in carrying out services, provided a customer is not required to submit fees at both the state and local levels.
Local Integrating Organization Contract	Contract 2023-22 with the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) was originally established in 2022 to fund the Island Local Integrating Organization (ILIO) for the first of three guaranteed funding years; this Year 2 Amendment to the contract provides another year of contract work (October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024), and \$125,000 to cover the costs of the program over that time period. It also provides workplan considerations for use of unspent rollover funds from Year 1.	The ILIO includes all of Island County, also known as Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 6. The ILIO builds upon existing committees and watershed groups that are collectively responsible for actions related to the implementation of watershed focused programs and projects in Island County. Island County territory, as part of a functioning element of Puget Sound, has a long tradition of utilizing the strength of our citizens and volunteer groups to support recovery efforts.
February		
March		

Consolidated Contract Amendment No. 18 with Washington State Department of Health	Consolidated Contract CLH31012 Amendment No. 18 with Washington State Department of Health adds funding for the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) nutritional program and the Beach Environmental Assessment, Communication, and Health (BEACH) Program (\$104,075) and the WIC Nutritional Program (\$12,000).	The BEACH program supports monitoring and sampling of marine swimming beaches for bacteria to provide public notification when levels are unsafe. This program ensures safe coastal environments for recreation and shellfish harvesting, as well as illness pollution investigations. The WIC allocation supports service delivery for our caseload, including breastfeeding peer counseling services and the farmers market nutrition program. WIC provides essential food security resources to our community, and includes engagement and outreach strategies as well as nutritional dietitian support to help families access, store, and prepare nutritious foods.
April		



## Island County Public Health

*Shawn Morris, ND – Public Health Director*

1 NE 7<sup>th</sup> St, Coupeville, WA 98239

Ph: Whidbey 360-679-7350 | Camano 360-678-8261 | N Whidbey 360-240-5554

Email: [Publichealth@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:Publichealth@islandcountywa.gov) | [www.islandcountywa.gov](http://www.islandcountywa.gov)

### MEMORANDUM

March 19<sup>th</sup> 2024

TO: Board of Health

FROM: Taylor Lawson, Assessment Supervisor

RE: 2023 Data for the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS)

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#### Background:

The Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) is a “collaborative effort of the Health Care Authority - Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR), the Department of Health (DOH), the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB), and the contractor, Looking Glass Analytics. This biennial survey is administered to 6th-12th grade students across the state” (askhys.net). The purpose of HYS is to measure health behaviors, attitudes, and beliefs related to substance use, injury/violence, food quality and access, physical activity, mental health, trauma, school and community climate, and risk and protective factors for youth in Washington State. This data is used to 1) inform local and state professionals about the prevalence of youth health risk behaviors and protective factors across communities, 2) track trends over time to help inform and evaluate health promotion programs and initiatives, 3) support policy development and improve needs assessments across a wide range of community partners and groups, and 4) provide an analytical database to be used for grant writing, reporting, and measuring impact of existing systems of support for youth in our community (askhys.net).

#### Update:

- The data is set to be released and publicly available on March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- The Assessment Team will receive press release information/language from the Department of Health (DOH) on March 11<sup>th</sup>.
- We will be working with our Social Media partners, Blueprint, to coordinate a local announcement of the data release on, or shortly after, March 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - The DOH press release will contain highlights from the survey on a WA state level.
  - It will be up to LHJs to analyze and summarize county-level data and share out with our community.
  - School districts have access to district-level data, but we do not. We must request permission from superintendents to access data, and on almost all occasions, we are not permitted to publicly share district-level data.