

# Major technical assistance activities related to shoreline master program updates

## PHS Program

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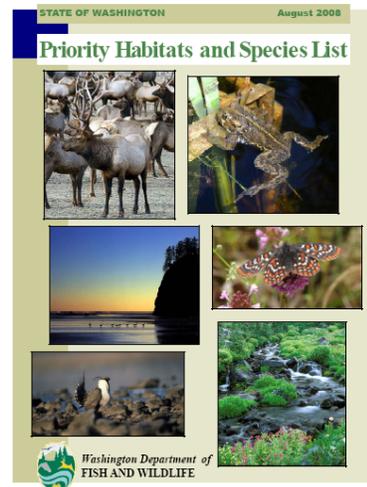
The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) Program is a major source of technical assistance for Shoreline Master Program (SMP) updates. Our PHS Program includes the PHS List, GIS data and management recommendations.

**PHS List:** The PHS list is a catalog of priority species and habitats identified by WDFW. The list includes state and federal status of species listed, distribution maps that identify which counties a priority species has been documented (or is likely to occur given the existence of habitat with which that species is primarily associated), and links to management recommendations.

The PHS List can be used to determine what priority species and priority habitats may occur within a specific planning area (e.g., county) to inform the inventory and analysis, shoreline environmental designations and proposed policies and regulations.

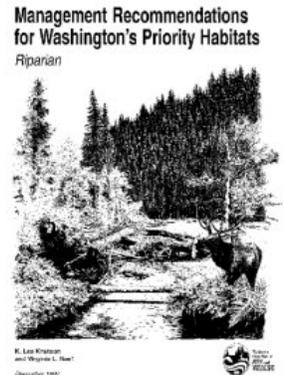
*The list was recently updated (so if you have a copy of the green book, please discard!). The new version is easier to read and is available on our website (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/phslist.htm>).*

**PHS data:** The PHS Program includes GIS data of documented priority species and habitats. This data is compiled from biologist field notes and we strongly recommend local governments use our data as a source for SMP updates, specifically shoreline environmental designations. Example shoreline data



layers include documented and potential forage fish habitat, documented marine resources (i.e. sea urchins, dungeness crab, and bivalves), bald eagle nest sites and communal roost areas, great blue heron rookeries, waterfowl concentration areas, brant migration, cliffs/bluffs, eelgrass meadows, esturine zone, lagoons, seal and sea-lion haul-outs, sloughs, wetlands, etc. WDFW Salmonscape is also a data source that should be referenced for shoreline environment designations (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/mapping/salmonscape/index.html>).

**PHS Management Recommendations:** The updated PHS list includes electronic links to PHS management recommendations and single-page PHS, recovery plans, living with wildlife program, and NatureServe Species Reports for all priority species. Our PHS management recommendations are considered a source of best available science and have been used to inform critical areas updates and SMP updates (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/phsrecs.htm>).



Other WDFW Technical Assistance related to SMP updates:

- **Aquatic Habitat Guidelines Program:** WDFW has several technical assistance guidance documents for those who want to protect and restore salmonid habitat (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/ahg/>). Published documents include the recently published *Protecting Nearshore Habitat and Functions in Puget Sound: An Interim Guide*, designed to assist SMP updates to inform where and under what conditions, certain shoreline uses and activities should be permitted or prohibited ([http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/nearshore\\_guidelines/](http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/nearshore_guidelines/)).
- **Salmon Recovery Plans:** WDFW Watershed Stewards bring their salmon recovery expertise to SMP updates to ensure consistency between regional salmon recovery plans and SMP restoration plans. For more information on WDFW salmon recovery see <http://wdfw.wa.gov/recovery.htm>.