

# DRAFT

## Summary of Marine Spatial Planning Goals and Objectives in Substitute Senate Bill 6350

**Overview:** The legislature recently enacted a new state law, Substitute Senate Bill 6350, on marine spatial planning. It requires a team of state agencies to assess and provide recommendations in a report to the legislature. This includes developing recommended goals and objectives for marine spatial planning. To approach this task, this document summarizes the existing goals and objectives from the law as a way to solicit feedback on people's ideas for the recommended goals and objectives for marine spatial planning.

**Definition of marine waters:** Marine waters are the aquatic lands and waters under tidal influence, including saltwaters and estuaries to the ordinary high water mark lying within the boundaries of the state. This definition includes Pacific Ocean waters, the portion of the Columbia River bordering Pacific and Wahkiakum counties, Willapa Bay, Grays Harbor, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and the entire Puget Sound.

### **Goal:**

To protect, sustain, and appropriately utilize the state's marine waters and resources through coordinated decision making in a proactive, comprehensive and ecosystem-based manner.

### **Objectives:**

- Recognize and respect tribal treaty rights.
- Recognize and value existing uses, which includes, but is not limited to, recreational, commercial, and cultural uses.
- Promote protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystem processes to a level that will enable long-term sustainable production of ecosystem goods and services.
- Address potential impacts of climate change and sea level rise upon current and projected marine water uses and shoreline and coastal impacts.

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**Objectives (continued):**

- Foster and encourage sustainable uses that provide economic opportunity without significant adverse environmental impacts.
- Preserve and enhance public access, recreational uses, and other values.
- Protect and encourage working waterfronts and support the infrastructure necessary to sustain water-dependent uses such as marine industry, commercial shipping, commercial, tribal and recreational fisheries, and shellfish aquaculture.
- Foster public participation in decision-making and significant involvement of communities adjacent to the state's marine waters.
- Integrate existing management plans and authorities and makes recommendations for aligning plans to the extent practicable.
- Rely on best available science and create a process to adjust plans to incorporate additional science as it is available.