

# Marine Spatial Planning Overview

Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council

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# Outline

- Context
- State law requirements
- Other relevant laws and policies
- Next steps for MSP on Washington's Coast

# Why do we need planning?



Increasing pressures,  
demands of existing  
uses

## New uses

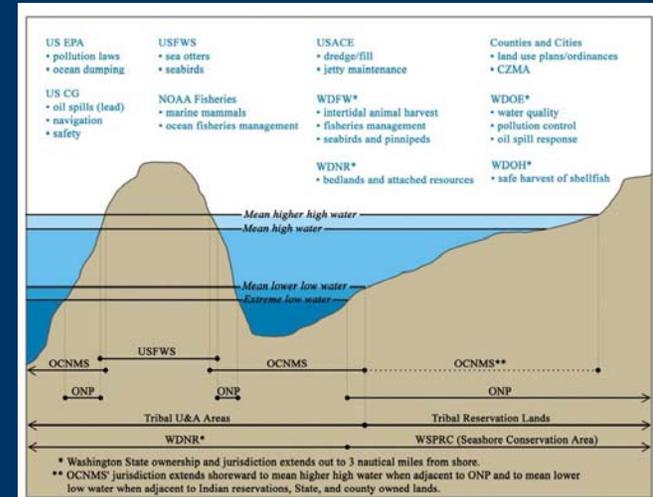


## Conflicts among uses



Hopper Dredge Essayons  
Source: US Army Corps of  
Engineers

Lots of governments  
and authorities!



Source: NOAA Olympic Coast National  
Marine Sanctuary

# State Law Definition

**Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)** is a public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine environments to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives.

- Information and analysis to support coordinating decisions – **NON-regulatory**
- Uses spatial data – often displayed as maps
- Proactive
- Multi-use

# State Law: Required plan elements\*

- Ecosystem assessment and indicators
- Management measures
- Series of maps:
  - Ecology – characteristics, sensitive or unique species or communities
  - Human uses – high value for fishing, shellfish aquaculture, recreation and maritime commerce
  - Renewable energy – high potential with minimal conflict
- State recommendations for federal waters
- Implementation plan
- Framework for renewable energy

\*RCW 43.372.040(6)

## State law: Required principles\*

- Recognizes and respects existing uses and tribal treaty rights.
- Promotes protection and restoration of ecosystem processes to a level that will enable long-term sustainable production of ecosystem goods and services.
- Addresses potential impacts of climate change and sea level rise upon current and projected marine waters uses and shoreline and coastal impacts.
- Fosters and encourages sustainable uses that provide economic opportunity without significant adverse environmental impacts.

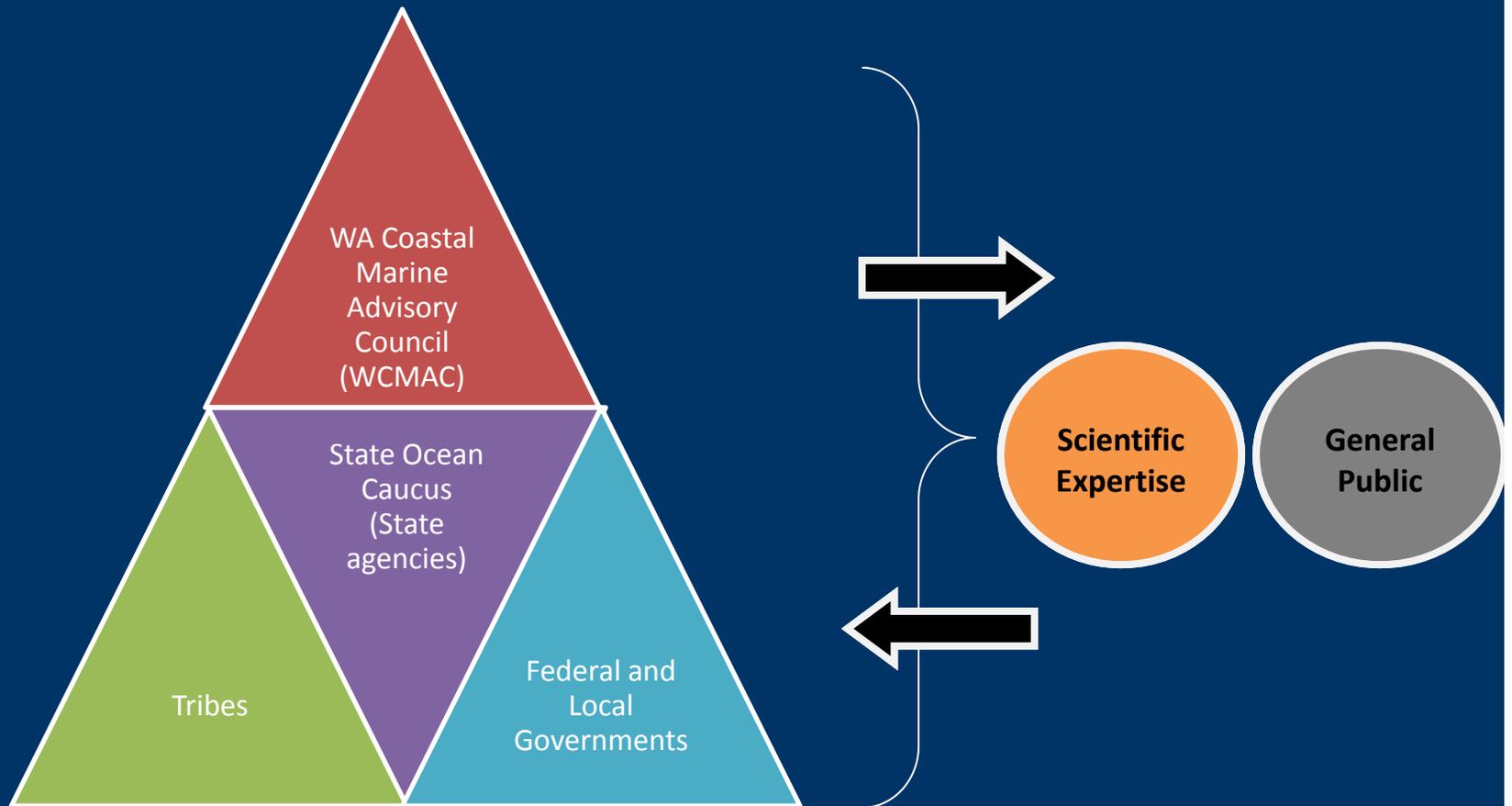
\*RCW 43.372.040(4)

## State law: Required principles\*

- Preserves and enhances public access.
- Protects and encourages working waterfronts and supports the infrastructure necessary to sustain marine industry, commercial shipping, shellfish aquaculture, and other water-dependent uses.
- Fosters public participation in decision making and significant involvement of communities adjacent to the state's marine waters.
- Integrates existing management plans and authorities and makes recommendations for aligning plans to the extent practicable.

\*RCW 43.372.040(4)

# Planning is a Public Process



# Some other relevant laws & policies

- Ocean Resources Management Act
- Shoreline Management Act & rules
- Seashore Conservation Act
- Fish & Wildlife statutes & rules
- Aquatic Land statutes & rules

# Ocean Resources Management Act

## RCW 43.143

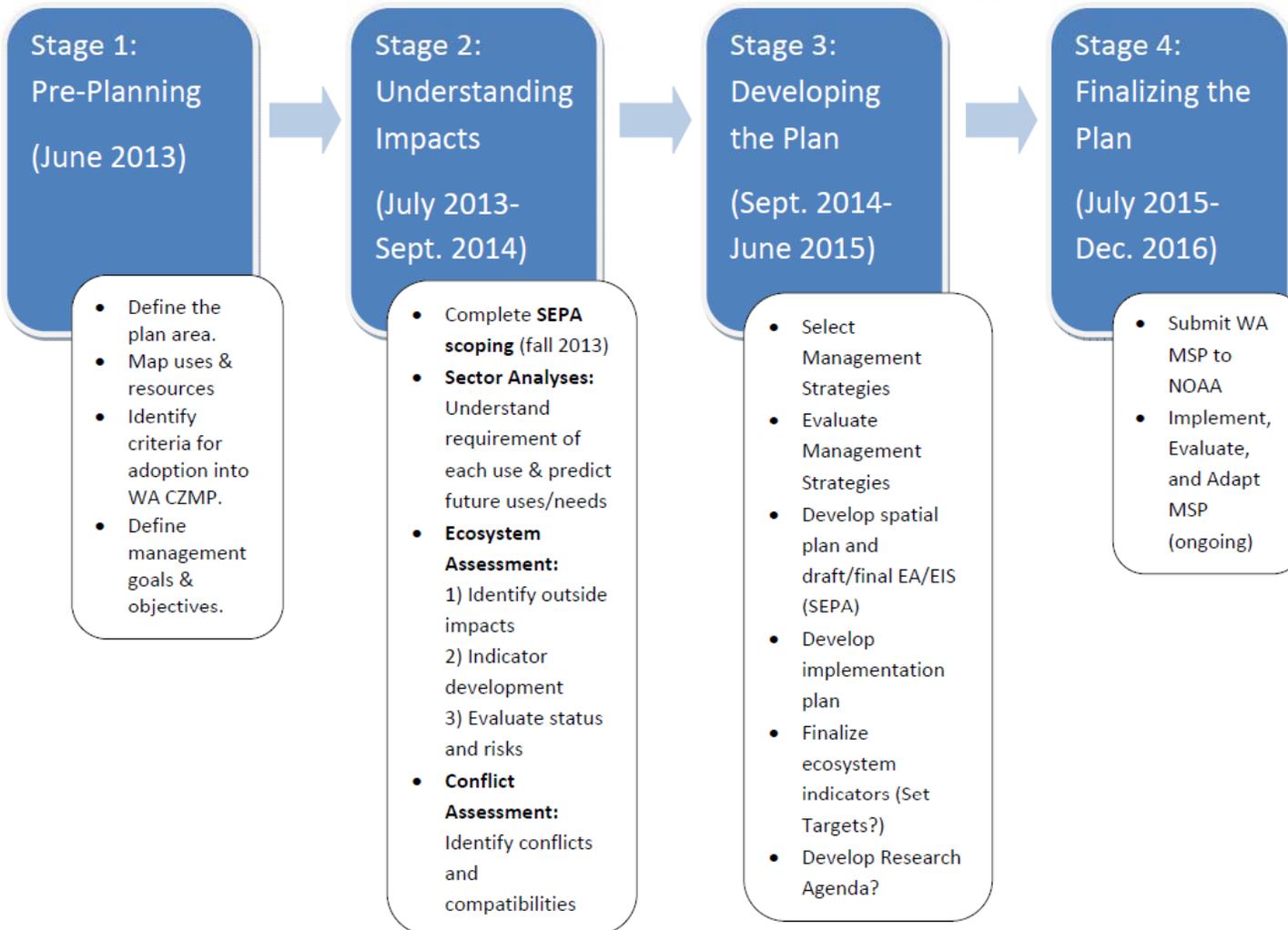
- Policies that apply only to Washington's coastal waters along the Pacific Coast.
- Certain policies apply to local and state plans for the management, conservation, use, or development of natural resources (RCW 43.143.010).
- Sets out criteria for federal, state, or local permits for uses or activities that will adversely impact renewable resources (RCW 43.143.030).

# Shoreline Master Programs (SMP) vs. MSP

Similarities	Differences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Similar planning process</li><li>• Establish goals, objectives</li><li>• Common goals</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SMP process is more prescribed</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Generally outline suitable/unsuitable uses for particular areas</li><li>• Conduct use analysis</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SMPs are regulatory</li><li>• MSP is non-regulatory</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use spatial data and some level of spatial detail</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Different levels of specificity about approved/prohibited developments and uses</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geographic scope – Both have jurisdiction over marine waters</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SMPs more shoreline focused</li><li>• MSP more aquatic focused</li></ul>

# Next Steps: Process Timeline

Stakeholder involvement, tribal consultation, government coordination and public input throughout process



# WCMAC next steps

- October
  - Identify funding priorities and data gaps
  - Establish subcommittee on MSP funding outcomes
- January
  - Additional input on funding
  - Identify key questions/concerns
- April
  - Input on conflict/compatibility assessment
  - Identify scenarios
- July
  - Additional input on scenario development

Marine Spatial Planning website:

<http://www.msp.wa.gov>



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