



CLEANUP PROGRAM PROPOSES IMPLEMENTING THIS FRAMEWORK NOW VIA SMS RULE REVISIONS

- Framework Includes Multiple Components:
- Freshwater Sediment Standards
 - Definition of Regional Background
 - Updated Default Fish Consumption Rates and Guidance for Determining Protective Risk-Based Concentrations
 - Liability Release Principles
 - Shared Understandings with Water Quality Program & Agency-Wide Source Control Strategy

FRAMEWORK OBJECTIVES

- Achieve significant environmental improvement immediately, with cleanup of highly contaminated nearshore sites and associated source control that is achievable given current conditions
- Implement multi-program initiatives to achieve baywide scale high quality improvements over time, based on broad participation and systemic change

Regional Background Definition: Within a department defined geographic area, concentrations of any hazardous substances or toxic, radioactive, biological or deleterious substances in sediment, not attributable to significant identifiable sources or releases. Regional background is intended to include low level, ubiquitous concentrations and are generally expected to be greater than or equal to natural background and less than area background as defined in WAC 173-340-200. Calculation of regional background must exclude areas under the direct influence of known or suspected contaminant sources including, but not limited to, areas within a cleanup site. Examples of a geographic area to determine regional background could include, but are not limited to that portion of an embayment or watershed outside the direct influence of a significant source. If a waterbody is not beyond the direct influence of a significant source, alternative geographic approaches to determine regional background may be used upon approval by the department.



Figure 1 Ecology Cleanup Program Proposal