

Marine Spatial Planning: Washington's legislative report



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Objectives



- New state law – definition, requirements
- Report – recommendations
- Hershman Fellowship – major objectives

New State Law

- ▶ Substitute Senate Bill 6350 enacted in March 2010 required the state to develop:
 - Recommendations for marine spatial planning through an interagency team. Report due by **December 15, 2010.**

Washington State's MSP definition

Marine spatial planning is a public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives.

New State Law

If the state receives federal or non-state funds, the law directs state agencies to:

1. Compile and incorporate spatial data into current plans.
 2. Develop guidance on the operation and siting of renewable energy facilities.
 3. Conduct comprehensive marine spatial planning for all of Washington's waters.
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What must be in a state plan?

- Ecosystem assessment and indicators
- Series of maps
- State recommendations for uses in federal waters
- Implementation plan
- Framework for renewable energy



Photo:
Katie
Lassiter

Report process

State Ocean Caucus – Examine key questions and develop recommendations in report

Timeline

April–June

Survey – online

Briefings to groups

Comments on draft goals & objectives

July

Spatial data workshop

Sept–Oct

Public comment period on

draft report & recommendations

Nov–Dec

Revisions

Jan

Publish

What's in the report?

Three Chapters:

1. Interagency team, report purpose, audience and process
 2. Current: management activities, goals and objectives, ecosystem indicators, data and data management
 3. Recommendations to the legislature
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What's in the report?

21 Recommendations for MSP:

- Focus for MSP
 - Goals and objectives
 - Ecosystem indicators
 - Spatial data needs
 - Data management and delivery
 - Framework: Puget Sound Action Agenda; Columbia River estuary; Outer Coast
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Recommendations

Issue focus: at least renewable energy, but other topics.



Recommendations

Goals and objectives:

- Integrate with existing mandates
- Reflect unique Washington concerns
- Compatible with national goals and state law

Recommendations

Ecosystem indicators:

- Existing for plans in Puget Sound and Columbia River
 - Review existing coastal indicators and utilize broad group to determine indicators for Washington's coast.
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Recommendations

Priority spatial data needs:

- Human uses
 - Bathymetry–topography
 - Fisheries
 - Habitats
 - Conservation/regulated areas
 - Water quality
 - Oceanographic processes
 - Marine fish
 - Geomorphic characterization
 - Endangered species
 - Ownership
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Recommendations

Unified approach to data management:

- Pursue single point-of-access for GIS data.
 - Develop and utilize common data standards and peer-review process.
 - Evaluate other existing data tools and data management options to support MSP.
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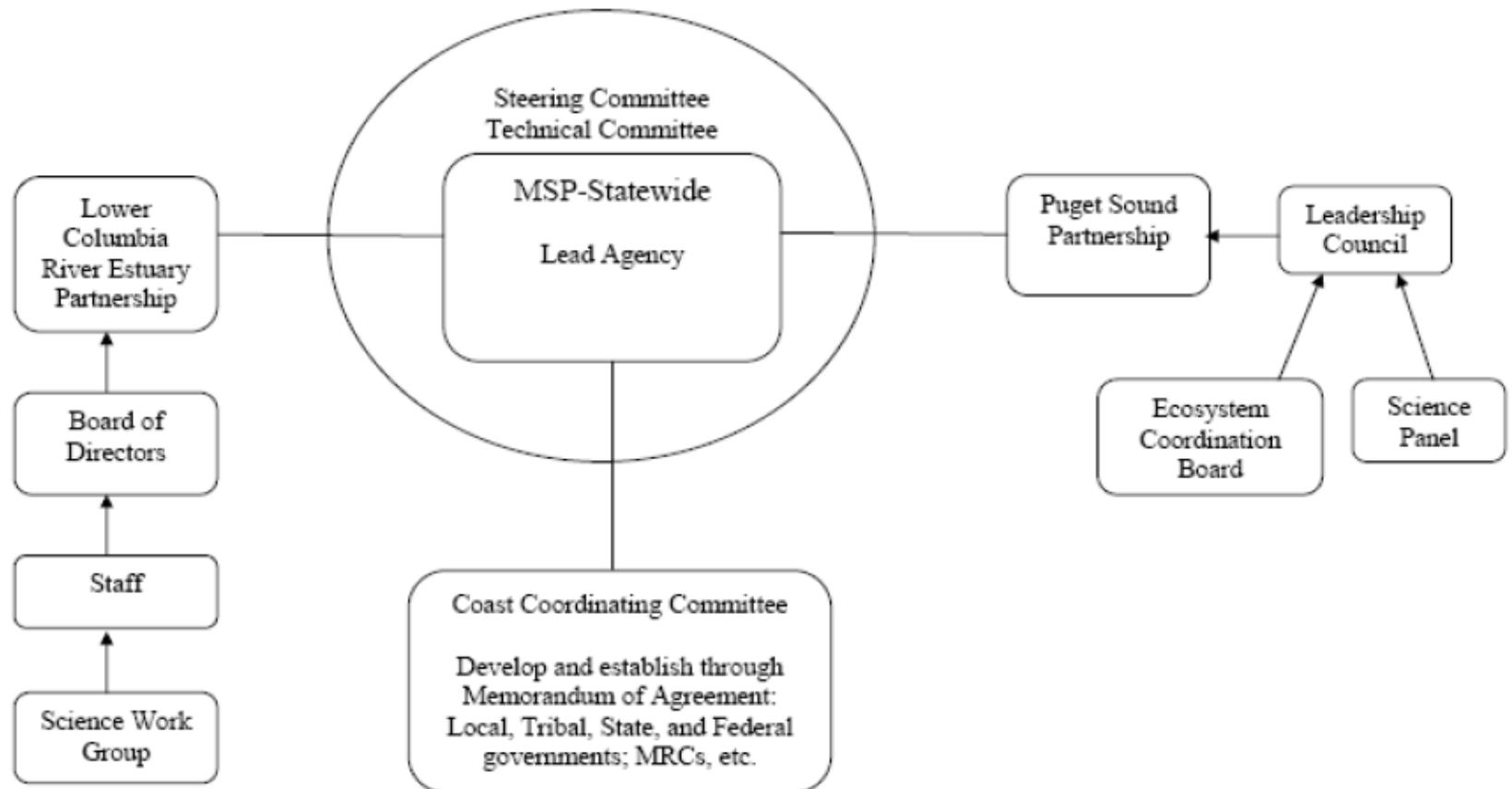
Recommendations

MSP “framework” includes mechanisms for:

- Tribal consultation
 - Public participation
 - Scientific and technical expertise
 - Coordination – regional and federal
 - Agency roles
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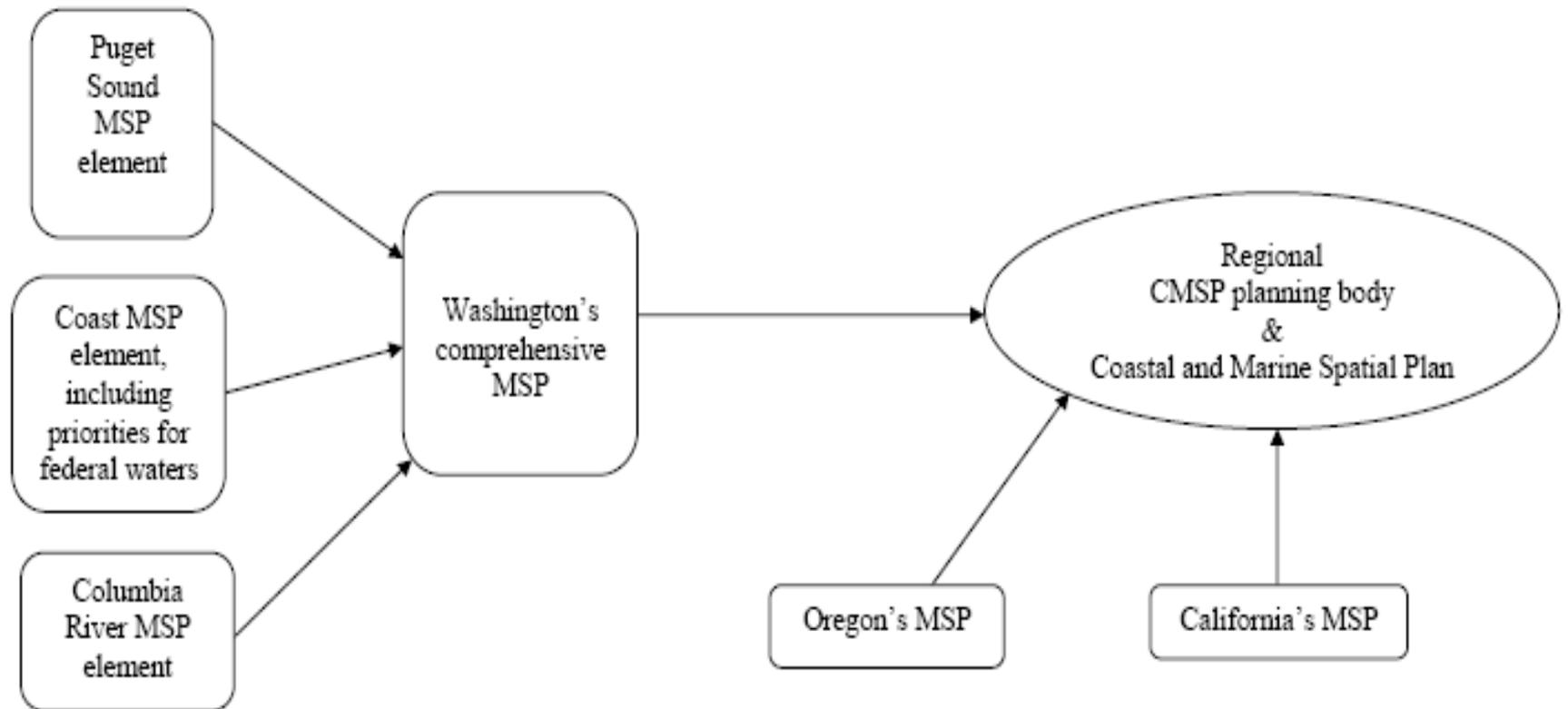
Recommendations

Figure 2 - Governance Example for Marine Spatial Planning in Washington



Recommendations

Figure 3 – Connection between state and regional efforts





DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Marine Spatial Planning in Washington

**Final Report and Recommendations of
the State Ocean Caucus to the
Washington State Legislature**

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Hershman Marine Policy Fellowship

- ▶ Assist with MSP report
 - ▶ Assist in pursuing funding opportunities
 - ▶ Capacity Assessment for WA Agencies
 - ▶ Data Inventory & Gap Analysis
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- ▶ Engage and coordinate with regional partners through WCGA



Questions? Suggestions? Comments?

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