



ʔəsʔistəʔ dibət ɡʷəl čuʔ

*All Our Relations  
We are One*

ARTWORK PROVIDED BY JASON GOBIN, hik<sup>ə</sup> stubš

*Coast Salish Gathering*  
*May 26 - 28, 2015*

Hosted by Swinomish Indian Tribal Community and  
Coast Salish Gathering Steering Committee



# *Coast Salish Gathering*

## **COAST SALISH GATHERING PROLOGUE**

We, the indigenous peoples of the Salish Sea, honor and respect our sacred trust to restore, preserve and protect our culture, treaties, aboriginal rights and the land, air, and waters of the Salish Sea. Our sacred trust has been given to us from our ancestors and defines our role as protectors of our Mother Earth. We are entrusted with the protection and sustainability of environmental and natural resources of our ancestral lands, watersheds, and the estuarine waters of the Salish Sea. Our ancestors have passed down the traditional teachings of songs, dances, and spiritual ceremonies that reflect our relationship to the natural world and depict the identity and strengths of our peoples. Through the decades, our lands and waters have been severely impacted by pollution that affects our culture, food, health, and economy. Most importantly, this has hurt our elders who have relied on these resources since the beginning of time and has threatened the life ways of our children's future.

We have always defended and protected our ancestral lands and waters. We seek to acknowledge our sacred alliance so we may work together as one proud nation. Our elders, leaders and community members have given us a strong message that our homelands and waters need to be protected, preserved, and restored for future generations. With our commitment to our sacred trust, we will work together with the six governing bodies of the Salish Sea to overcome the environmental challenges to our shared homelands.

## **COAST SALISH GATHERING MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the indigenous peoples of the Salish Sea, our autonomous status as sovereign Coast Salish Tribes and First Nations, and our inherent responsibility as protectors of our Mother Earth, will continue to work together and speak with one voice for the preservation, restoration, and protection of the Salish Sea ecosystem for the sustainability of our sacred inherent family rights and values that have been passed on to us by our ancestors.

WELCOME TO THE

# *Coast Salish Gathering 2015*

**HOSTED BY SWINOMISH INDIAN TRIBAL COMMUNITY  
AND COAST SALISH GATHERING STEERING COMMITTEE**

## **PEOPLE OF THE SALISH SEA**

Once again, we come together as Coast Salish to speak with one voice for the protection of the land and waters of our aboriginal homeland and the preservation of our cultures. As brothers and sisters, we will share our culture and concerns for the endangered ecoregion, and we will continue our dialogue on the need for strengthened environmental policies and practices in our ancestral homelands.

As the first people of the Salish Sea, it is within our role and sacred responsibility that we lead partnerships and actions. The response is to continue to support a foundation built on science, and legal and policy work, that will include shared research, policy dialogues, projects, and decision making on issues that impact the Salish Sea.

The challenging reality is that our region accounts for more than \$250 billion in annual economic output and, if ranked as a nation-state, would be the 10th largest economy in the world. We believe this is an opportune time for the Coast Salish people to build upon common ground for shared decision making—which is critical to our survival, especially in the face of population and industry growth in the Northwest. The Northwest is a 400-mile corridor with eight million residents, stretching from Eugene, Oregon, through Seattle, Washington to Vancouver, B.C.—our neighborhood is growing.

The opportunity provides Coast Salish and all stakeholders in the region the ability to combine science, policy, and law with common essential indigenous values in environmental, natural resources and economic issues, and all other decision making in their ancestral places.

We face the largest challenges upon our aboriginal and treaty rights as we face a new and powerful industry that has the potential to further destroy the environment and resources. For generations, our Tribes have felt the impacts upon our lands, waters, resources, and human health. Greed for the mighty dollar has persistently destroyed our salmon, shellfish, venison, native plants, and members' health.

Today, the Salish Sea is a victim of the pollution-based economy. Together, we signal a change. The Gathering is a place to unite and address our concerns, and to find common ground where we can work together to protect what is important to us, including addressing the transportation of coal, Bakken Shale oil, and tar sand oil from white cap to white cap of the Salish Sea by bulk carriers and tankers and rail. The growth of transportation threatens our way of life and we are very concerned that the call for exports is drowning out thousands of years of our history. We urge your consideration of the facts and the impacts, and call upon all to support our recommendations for corrective action.

Northwest tribes have faced the enormity of the challenge to maintain our natural and cultural heritage for many years. The Tribes of Western Washington and Lower British Columbia formed the Coast Salish Gathering (CSG) 15 years ago, reinforcing family and cultural ties, as well as the political relationship that has traditionally existed between the British Columbia First Nations and the Western Washington Tribes, (i.e., the Coast Salish Nation). We do not recognize the artificial border created 200 years ago, in an area where our people have thrived for thousands of years. The Coast Salish people possess the sacred, inherent right endowed by our Creator to restore, preserve, and protect our shared environmental and natural resources in our ancestral homeland—the Salish Sea.

Our Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission in Washington state—representing 20 treaty tribes as co-managers of the salmon resource—developed the report, *Treaty Rights At Risk*, detailing existing conditions of habitat degradation threatening survival of our salmon. In 1974, federal Judge George H. Boldt issued one of the most sweeping rulings in the history of the Pacific Northwest, affirming the treaty rights of Northwest tribal fishermen and allocating to them 50 percent of the harvestable catch of salmon and steelhead.<sup>1</sup> This report calls on the federal government to fulfill its trust responsibility to protect our treaty rights by prioritizing salmon recovery and protecting habitat. British Columbia First Nations have fought through legal cases. The most recent, *Nuu-Chah-Nulth Fishing Rights Court case* of January 30, 2014, is summarized best as this decision from the Supreme Court of Canada means that the country's highest court will not permit Canada to appeal *Ahousaht et al. vs. Canada* (the *Nuu-chah-nulth fishing rights decision*) at the national level. Canada cannot appeal the decision again.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.washington.edu/uwpress/search/books/WILMES.html>

This means that the aboriginal rights of the five Nations (**Ahousaht, ʔiih̓atis/čiinax̓int, Hesquiaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, and Tla-oqui- aht**) to fish and sell fish in the commercial marketplace are affirmed in Canadian law and protected by the constitution as aboriginal rights.<sup>2</sup> There are other landmark cases that uphold our treaty and aboriginal rights in the Salish Sea and establish us as co-decision makers and co-managers of the resources and environment in a place that has been our home since time immemorial.

Washington Tribes make strides in co-decision roles as they strive to move federal agencies to uphold their responsibility to protect treaty rights. Less than a year ago, President Obama made history when he ordered the removal of one of the largest dams in the Northwest on the homelands of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. “We want our dam salmon back,” said Lower Elwha Vice Chairman Russ Hefner, “but what good is it when the Salish Sea is dirty and filthy; where will my king salmon go? Will they survive and return home?” Millions of dollars are invested in the clean up and restoration of the Puget Sound. How can we continue to clean up the pollution of tankers, and who will pay for the clean up and restoration of the Puget Sound if there were to be a spill or accident. Who will maintain the monitoring and pay for the clean up of coal dust along the shores of the Salish Sea? Millions of dollars will be wasted if we cannot guarantee 100% no coal dust, 100% no spills, 100% guaranteed for a way of life for today and generations from now.”

In 2014, Tsleil-Waututh Nation strived to bring tribes together in a treaty, traveling miles through the Salish Sea, with a passionate vision to protect the Salish Sea from the Kinder Morgan Pipeline and future transportation of Bakken Shale and tar sand oil. Tsleil-Waututh is the first nation whose territories are directly in the path of one of the proposed pipeline projects to sign the treaty. The treaty prohibits the increased transport of tar sands products through the Salish Sea and specifically makes the Kinder Morgan TransMountain Expansion Project illegal in Coast Salish law.<sup>3</sup> The treaty contains a provision in which the signatories agree to take collective action, if necessary, to enforce the protection of the Salish Sea under Coast Salish, Canadian, or international law. Currently, this will be the second treaty that has Coast Salish collectively coming together for the Salish Sea. The vision and mission of the Treaty of Indigenous Peoples International (TIPI Treaty), is to work together to protect the inherent rights of signatory indigenous peoples related to self-determination, cultural and economic well being, and environmental protection.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.namgis.bc.ca/SiteAssets/Lists/1Namgis%20News%20Releases/NewForm/FAQ%202014%20update%20-%20Nuu-chah-nulth%20Fishing%20Rights%20Court%20Case%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.namgis.bc.ca/SiteAssets/Lists/1Namgis%20News%20Releases/NewForm/FAQ%202014%20update%20-%20Nuu-chah-nulth%20Fishing%20Rights%20Court%20Case%20(2).pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://twnsacredtrust.ca/coast-salish-nations-sign-international-treaty-to-protect-the-salish-sea/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://ces.iisc.ernet.in/hpg/envis/doc97html/biodind613.html>

# *Coast Salish Gathering*

## *Meeting Objectives*

In the past 15 years, there have been two other cultural living symbols—the Coast Salish Drum signed by the Coast Salish British Columbia First Nations and the Coast Salish Gathering Deer Hide signed by Coast Salish British Columbia First Nations and Washington Tribes, as well as Canadian and U.S. federal agencies, Washington state agencies, and British Columbia provincial agencies. Both documents capture living mechanisms done on traditional materials and ratified by the Coast Salish Nations.

In 2014, Coast Salish made history by partnering to share our voices in the Kinder Morgan National Energy Board Hearing in Chilliwack, B.C. Together, we shared strong opposition to Kinder Morgan's transmountain proposed pipeline project, as Coast Salish peoples on both sides of the U.S.-Canadian border vowed to oppose the project before Canada's National Energy Board (NEB). Coast Salish interveners include the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Tulalip Tribes, Lummi Nation, and Suquamish Tribe in Washington state, and the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations in British Columbia.

We commend our governing neighbors in the success of bringing our water bodies together under one name, the Salish Sea. In 2010, we had an official naming ceremony in the Songees Long House to ratify the naming of the sea. We believe the new name is a symbol of the international message to the World. It demonstrates the importance for all governing bodies of recognizing the connectivity of the ecosystems and the awareness that pollution doesn't recognize political boundaries. The naming of the Salish Sea is a positive move toward future collaboration of policy and science to address issues in an ecosystem that is so vital to the sustainability of all of our life ways.

In 2010, the six governing bodies shared the concepts of shared responsibility as co-managers of the Salish Sea and, in 2012, we expanded those discussions to address challenges such as the current environmental and natural resources impacts of the Salish Sea, transboundary water quality and water quantity policy; Native health and social tribal indicators; and climate change adaptation models and tools. We are seeking to provide a platform for government officials to identify potential transboundary partnerships.

We welcome you to the Gathering and share a friendly reminder that it is important to recognize that the Coast Salish Gathering and Action Plan are neither a form of, nor a substitute for, the government-to-government consultation process but, rather, a culturally appropriate process for an open dialogue to advise policy makers.

**Objective One:** People of the Salish Sea theme supports the ongoing collaborative efforts of the Coast Salish with federal, state, and provincial governments to provide a healthy and safe place for all who call this unique place home in the Northwest.

- ◆ Coast Salish shares the common environmental challenges within their shared homelands and waters
- ◆ Coast Salish shares the concept of shared decision making by the cultural, political, legal, and scientific elements

**Objective Two:** Coast Salish Nation continues to strive, through legal and political means, to engage decision makers upon the lands and waters of the Salish Sea, our ancestral home.

- ◆ Aboriginal and Treaty Rights at Risk
- ◆ Legal cases Aboriginal Rights and Treaty Rights
- ◆ United Nations Declaration of Indigenous Rights

**Objective Three:** Challenges of the Salish Sea.

- ◆ Transportation of coal, Bakken Shale Oil, and tar sand oil in the Salish Sea

**Objective Four:** Science baseline study and need of the inventory on the Salish Sea environment and resources.

**Objective Five:** Next Steps.

- ◆ Identifying next steps toward committing to the Deer Hide, "Together for the Salish Sea"
- ◆ Responsibility to one another to protect the Salish Sea
- ◆ Decision making

# Agenda

## DAY 1, TUESDAY, MAY 26 | SWINOMISH LONG HOUSE

The Coast Salish Long Houses are a spiritual place for our communities, and we are honored to have each of you come to our place of honor to share in a unique event that will bring us together for the Salish Sea.

9:00 – 11:30 A.M.

### Opening Comments: Coast Salish Gathering Co-Speakers:

- ◆ First Nations Summit Co-Chair Ray Harris
- ◆ Swinomish Chairman Brian Cladoosby

### Floor Leaders:

- ◆ Swinomish Vice Chairman Brian Porter
- ◆ First Nations Summit Co-Chair Ray Harris

### Honoring the Leaders and Ratifying the Deer Hide of the Salish Sea:

- ◆ Introduction of Delegates and Opening Comments
- ◆ Introduction of Honorary Speakers and Witnesses

11:30 A.M. –  
1:00 P.M.

### Break for Lunch on Site

1:00 – 6:30 P.M.

Our policies come from our teachings, songs, and protocol, and this afternoon time will be an opportunity for our governing bodies to share their voices and our traditional knowledge and values.

- ◆ Coast Salish Leaders
- ◆ U.S. and Canadian federal, state, and provincial agencies

6:30 – 9:00 P.M.

### Dinner: Walton Conference Center, Swinomish Lodge

## DAY 2, WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 | SWINOMISH LODGE, WALTON CONFERENCE ROOM

### Context: “Exercising Our Inherent Right to Protect the Salish Sea.”

#### Morning Session:

- ◆ Sharing Challenges Facing the Salish Sea

#### Afternoon Sessions:

- ◆ The Legal Landscape of Inherent Rights Today
- ◆ Envisioning a Transboundary Governing Protocol, Roles and Responsibilities
- ◆ Working together to Protect the Salish Sea and Our Shared Way of Life

7:00 A.M.

### Traditional Morning Prayer

Day 2 Continued

7:00 – 8:00 A.M.

### Breakfast

8:00 – 8:30 A.M.

### Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review/Approval

- ◆ Co-Speaker, Brian Cladoosby, Swinomish Tribe
- ◆ Co-Speaker, Ray Harris, Chemainus First Nation

8:30 – 9:15 A.M.

### Coast Salish Way of Life

- ◆ Vice Chairman Glen Gobin, Tulalip Tribes
- ◆ Chief Ian Campbell, Squamish Nation
- ◆ Challenges Upon the Salish Sea, Dykes Ehrlichman P.S., Special Counsel, Swinomish Tribe

9:15 – 10:30 A.M.

### Opening Comments: Chairman Tim Ballew, Lummi Nation (TBC)

#### Facilitator: Patti Gobin, Tulalip Tribes

**Panel Title:** Partnerships to Protect the Salish Sea's Economics, Rights, Culture, and Sacred Places

Description: The Salish Sea faces a range of challenges, from threats to the environment to destruction of local fishing and tourism economies. The Coast Salish Nation must address the impacts collectively among ourselves and with our neighboring governments.

- ◆ Washington Tribes Protecting Treaty Resources, Chairman Leonard Forsman, Suquamish Tribe
- ◆ Washington Cities and Counties Collaboration For Safe Transportation, Dow Constantine, King County Executive (TBC)
- ◆ British Columbia Protecting Aboriginal Rights, Carleen Thomas, Tsleil-Waututh First Nation (TBC)
- ◆ Protection of Sacred, Spiritual, and Cultural Place Protection, Councilman Jay Julius, Lummi Nation

10:30 – 12:30 P.M.

### Opening Comments: Dalton Silver, Chief, Sumas Nation

#### Facilitator: Patti Gobin, Tulalip Tribes

**Panel Title:** Health Status of the Salish Sea: Where we are and where we need to go

Description: Our homeland host diverse human and nonhuman populations whose many activities impact the health of the Salish Sea, its natural resources, and ourselves. The presenters are engaged in transboundary sciences that assess these impacts, providing us insight into the health status of the Salish Sea.

- ◆ Transboundary Aboriginal and Treaty Resources Impacted by Industry Disasters. Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance, Northern Shuswap Tribal Council and Ernest Kroeker
- ◆ Overview of Salish Sea assessments to date: What has been done, what is missing. Dr. Joel Baker, Director, Puget Sound Institute
- ◆ Need for assessing additional impacts: Vessel traffic impacts in the Salish Sea. Dr. Joe Gaydos, Director, SeaDoc Society
- ◆ The importance of multiple knowledges in moving forward: Dr. Jamie Donatuto, Environmental Health Analyst, Swinomish Tribe

Day 2 Continued

12:30 – 1:30 P.M.	Lunch
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1:30 – 3:15 P.M.

### Opening Comments: Russ Helfer, Vice Chairman, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe

**Facilitator:** James Jannetta, Swinomish Tribe

**Panel Title:** Legal Authorities to Protect Salish Sea Treaties and Aboriginal Rights

Description: Coast Salish Nation continues to strive through legal and political means to engage decision makers upon the lands and waters of the Salish Sea, our ancestral home. Presentations on the impacts of aboriginal and treaties at risk; legal and policy cases impacting aboriginal and treaty rights; and the role and articles of the United Nations Declaration of Indigenous People.

- ◆ Western Washington Treaty Rights at Risk, John Hollowed, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
- ◆ Aboriginal Rights Protected, Dave Joe, First Nations
- ◆ United Nations Declaration of Indigenous Rights, Grand Chief Ed John, First Nations Summit and United Nations North America Representative
- ◆ Coast Salish Traditional Laws

3:15 – 4:45 P.M.	<b>PARTNERSHIPS ON SALISH SEA</b> <b>Opening Comments:</b> Dennis McLerran, EPA Region 10 Administrator (TBC) <b>Facilitator:</b> Jim Woods, Senior Tribal Policy Advisor, EPA Region 10 (TBC) <b>Panel Title:</b> New Initiatives of Federal and State/Provincial Governments <p>Description: Protect the Salish Sea, Aboriginal Rights, and Treaty Rights. Opportunity for environmental and natural resources federal and state agencies to share their goals and objectives on transboundary regulations and policy with Coast Salish Nations and Tribes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Department of the Interior, BIA Regional Office, Stan Speaks</li><li>◆ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of International and Tribal Affairs, Jane Nishida (TBC)</li><li>◆ Environment Canada, Director, Pacific, and Yukon Region, Kendall Woo</li><li>◆ B.C. Ministry of Environment (TBC)</li><li>◆ Army Corps of Engineers, Assistant Secretary of Army (Civil Works), Jo Ellen Darcy (TBC)</li><li>◆ Washington Department of Ecology, Director Maia Ballen</li></ul>
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4:45 – 5:30 P.M.

### Roundtable Discussion (All)

**Discussion Leaders:** Co-Speakers Ray Harris and Brian Cladoosby

- ◆ Bringing Us Together Across the Sea.
- ◆ How to better work collectively to effectively address transboundary threats to the environment, economies, and fishing rights?
- ◆ A Salish Sea Transboundary Commission, With Agency Observers? Science, legal, policy.
- ◆ Forging a collective tribal effort to engage U.S. and Canadian businesses and local governments in a new way.

Day 2 Continued

5:30 – 5:45 P.M.	Closing Remarks
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6:30 – 9:00 P.M.

Dinner: Walton Conference Center, Swinomish Lodge

**DAY 3, THURSDAY, MAY 28 | WALTON CONFERENCE ROOM**

7:00 A.M.

Traditional Morning Prayer

7:00 – 8:00 A.M.

Breakfast

8:00 – 8:10 A.M.

Welcome

- ◆ Swinomish Chairman Brian Cladoosby
- ◆ First Nations Summit Co-Chair Ray Harris

8:15 – 10:30 AM

**Opening Comments:** Chairman Mel Sheldon, Tulalip Tribes

**Guest Presentation on Governance Models**

- ◆ Looking Ahead: Existing Models of Transboundary Governance and Suggestions for Future Study

**Open Floor Discussion: Next Steps**

10:30 A.M. –  
12:00 P.M.

**Closing Comments from Witnesses (TBC)**



# Coast Salish Gathering

The Coast Salish Gathering provides a tribal environmental policy dialogue and transboundary science and communication tools in the Salish Sea ecosystem. Gathering participants are the indigenous people of the Salish Sea ecosystem and representation comes from the chiefs of 44 British Columbia First Nations and chairmen of 22 Western Washington Tribes.

The Gathering provides a policy platform for the Salish Sea governmental structures, ranging including policy makers, elders, teachers, delegates, technical staff, and children. We address environmental issues that are constrained through jurisdictional and cultural differences. We believe the process helps our Coast Salish Nation, one of the largest transboundary nations in North America, provide a collective voice and tools to address the issues that stretch across the Coast Salish Nation's homelands, which are made up of 550,000 square miles, 600 million acres, and more than 60 rivers and streams.

Our homelands and waters are within one shared ecosystem, the Salish Sea ecosystem, where we share watersheds, a flyway for migratory birds and habitat for fish, and urban growth pressures. The Salish Sea area has experienced rapid growth during the last several decades. Between the years 1991–2000, the population of the area grew at a rate of 18.65 percent, faster than the 11.6 percent and 9.7 percent reported for the whole of the United States and Canada, respectively. By the year 2020, the population is expected to increase another two million, bringing the total close to nine million people.

Growing population is a major underlying force contributing to the increasing stress being placed on our unbalanced and unhealthy ecosystem. Our homeland is rich, with an array of marine and upland resources unique to this area that sustains our cultures and traditions. Salmon are the icon of this essential and yet endangered connection of our people to our land and waters. Our homelands and our resources are under significant pressure from population growth, industrial expansion, and economic demands. Due to the serious environmental problems confronting the Salish Sea, tribal and First Nation leaders, along with government officials, need to engage in a policy dialogue to identify environmental issues and discuss, share, and recommend policies and action in the shared region.

We come together in our Coast Salish traditional ways to speak with one voice for the protection of the land and waters of our aboriginal homeland and the preservation of our culture. As brothers and sisters, we share our culture and concerns for the endangered ecosystem, and continue our dialogue on the need for strengthened environmental policies and management practices in our homelands. Our shared efforts support restoring and protecting our Salish Sea ecosystem through support of transboundary ecosystem approaches. We provide communication between tribes and governments, networking and information sharing, and transboundary science projects. These tools provide the Coast Salish Nation with an opportunity to build a foundation based on environmental issues and actions within the Salish Sea.

## History of accomplishments:

- ◆ Sixth Annual Coast Salish Gatherings with an increase attendance rate each year from 90–350
- ◆ Annual support and acknowledgement from six governing bodies: Coast Salish Western Washington Tribes, British Columbia First Nations, Environment Canada, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

## Environmental Inventory of Concerns

- ◆ Coast Salish Gathering Environmental Action Plan
- ◆ Tribal Journey Water Quality Project
- ◆ Partnerships
- ◆ Federal: EPA, Environment Canada, USGS, INAC
- ◆ State and Provincial: Ministry of Environment, Department of Ecology

## Awards

- ◆ Department of Interior: National Conservation Award in Partnership
- ◆ Harvard's Honoring Contributions in the Governance of American Indian Nations (Honoring Nations)

# Environmental Action Plan

**Outcome:** To conserve and restore the Salish Sea ecosystem to a level that ensures the sustainability of the Coast Salish people and our cultural life ways.

**Coast Salish Priorities:** Adequate clean air, water, and land to sustain and protect the health of our Coast Salish people.

## Traditional Foods ~ Toxics and Depletion

- ◆ Adequate terrestrial resources to sustain the diet, ceremonial, medicinal, and cultural crafts of our Coast Salish people.

## Water ~ Quality and Quantity

- ◆ Adequate marine resources to sustain spiritual, subsistence, and economic endeavors.
- ◆ Clean water quality to sustain the Coast Salish communities of the Salish Sea.
- ◆ Clean water quantity for the present and future Coast Salish communities of the Salish Sea.

## Adequate Planning for Coast Salish Communities

- ◆ Adequate planning Salish communities and support to address the impacts of climate change.

## Coast Salish Actions:

- ◆ Governance/Policy Actions.
- ◆ Equality in the shared roles for the federal, state, provincial, and Coast Salish Tribes in the planning, implementation, and management of Salish Sea ecosystem restoration and protection efforts.
- ◆ The incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge in the restoration, implementation, and management of the Salish Sea ecosystem.
- ◆ The incorporation of climate change variables as critical factors in the planning of conservation and restoration efforts in the Salish Sea ecosystem.

## Ecosystem Priorities

- ◆ An adequate supply of riparian waters Salish Sea of a quality sufficient to maintain a healthy functioning estuarine ecosystem habitat.
- ◆ Reduction of toxic depositions in Salish Sea to a level that supports a healthy functioning ecosystem.
- ◆ Restoration and conservation of adequate marine and near-shore habitat to support Coast Salish goals for the Salish Sea.



## Technical Priorities (examples)

- ◆ Reduction to elimination on non-essential hard-armoring of the Salish Sea shoreline.
- ◆ Adequate buffers and storm-water management practices to improve water quality in riparian systems.
- ◆ Adequate in-stream flows to provide sufficient fresh water to maintain the estuarine character of the Salish Sea.
- ◆ Eradication of invasive species that damage the Salish Sea ecosystem.
- ◆ Adequate funding to address and plan for climate change impacts in the Salish Sea ecosystem.
- ◆ Ample funding to support environmental program and project capacity (policy and science) building for the long-term sustainability of Coast Salish Tribes and First Nations.





**For questions and considerations, please contact:**

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