

PUGET SOUND

National Estuary Program

Puget Sound–Wide Zooplankton Monitoring Program

This program is an ongoing collaborative effort to sample zooplankton throughout Puget Sound to characterize spatial and temporal patterns in zooplankton species composition, abundance, and biomass and provide open access data to stakeholders for use in science and management.

What we're doing

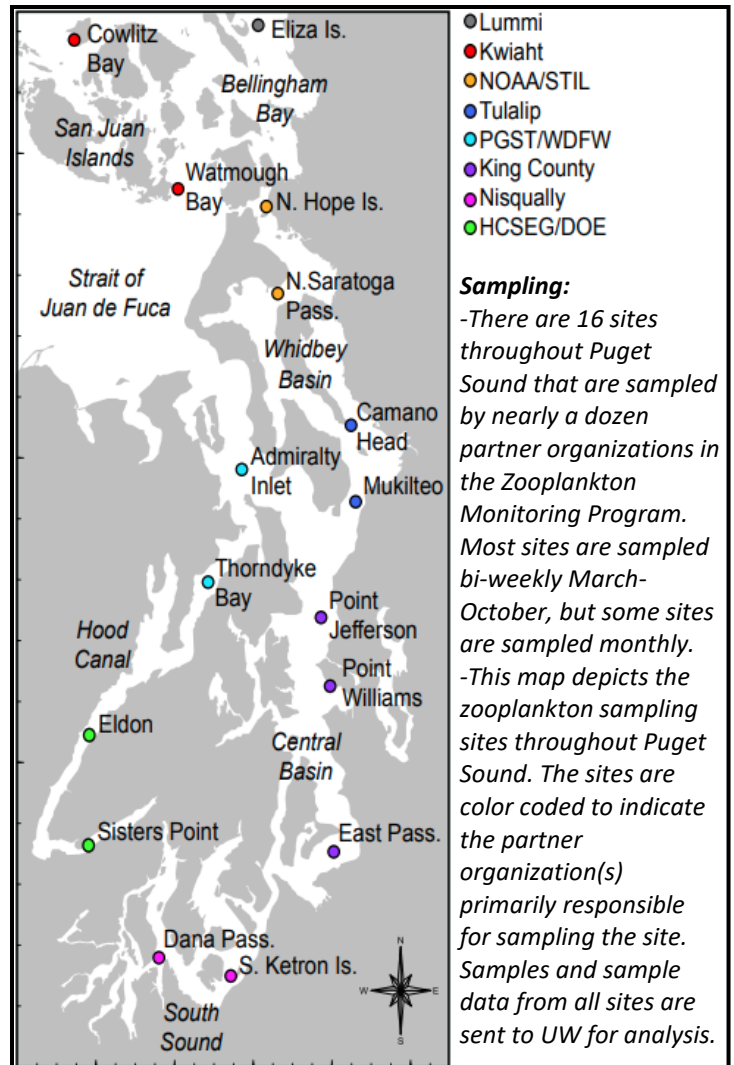
We're developing the long-term, spatially distributed zooplankton dataset that has been unavailable within Puget Sound by continuing the zooplankton monitoring program that was established as part of the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project in 2014.

Why Is This Issue Important?

Zooplankton are the cornerstone of pelagic food webs. They serve as indicators of ecosystem function and provide an effective means of monitoring the relationship between physical and biological ecosystem changes to better understand how physical stressors, both man-made and natural, affect the marine waters of Puget Sound. Monitoring changes in zooplankton communities can provide the needed insight to diagnose ecosystem health and changes in production and fisheries.

What You Can Do

Monitoring programs, like this one, require ongoing, reliable support to answer pressing questions about how to effectively protect and restore the Puget Sound ecosystem. To help provide context for the dramatic changes impacting the Puget Sound region and assess the effectiveness of restoration activities, please continue to support new and ongoing efforts to monitor trends in the Puget Sound food web.



About Us

We are twelve organizations that have come together in a collaborative effort to support standardized, cost-effective monitoring of zooplankton in every sub-basin of Puget Sound.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

[Salish Sea Marine Survival Zooplankton Dataset](#)

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