



**HOWE SOUND'S MOMENT  
IS NOW!**



**That the Howe Sound community of communities move forward together, through land and aquatic planning, to ensure a recovery and enhancement of the sound that is sustainable for generations to come.**

# Sound Investment

MEASURING THE RETURN ON HOWE SOUND'S ECOSYSTEM ASSETS



FEBRUARY 2015





# Study Results: Howe Sound's ecosystems provide **\$800 million - \$4.5 billion** in unaccounted services per year!

## Ecosystems Included:

- Beach
- Estuary
- Eelgrass beds
- Wetlands
- Marine
- Lakes & rivers
- Riparian buffer
- Forests

## Services Assessed:

- Food provisioning
- Clean water
- Disturbance regulation
- Nutrient cycling
- Carbon sequestration
- Carbon storage
- Air purification
- Waste treatment
- Habitat
- Tourism & Recreation
- Nature-based education

**Note:** only non-market services were assessed.

# Key findings: Highest valued ecosystems/hectare



## Beaches

valued at a maximum of \$225,105 per hectare per year



## Wetlands

valued at a maximum of \$172,946 per hectare per year



## Eelgrass Beds

valued at a maximum of \$87,203 per hectare per year

# Top Ecological Service: Tourism



# Top Ecological Service (#2): Protection from Extreme Weather





# Study Applications

- **Education**
- **Identify conservation priorities**
- **Asset management for local governments**
- **Improved decision-making for large scale development**
- **Direct research**



**“Industrial resurgence and nature recovery must be considered together — not in the current piecemeal approach that could set them on a collision course. The future of Howe Sound’s environment and economy is intricately connected. Careful choices must be made to ensure a healthy and sustainable future for natural systems and the economy.”**



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ESLHELHEKWHIWS



INTERCONNECTED



SIYAMINTS



STEWARDSHIP



WANAXWS



RESPECT



# HOWE SOUND AQUATIC FORUM

APRIL 12, 2014 || FURRY CREEK, HOWE SOUND



# Howe Sound Aquatic Forum: Science & Knowledge Holders Workshop, March 27, 2015






• A key message - that future management, planning and stewardship of Howe Sound will benefit from collective knowledge building and integration.

• What is needed is action to follow up on the ideas and information gathered at this workshop.

• Specific next steps include:

- Create a 'State of the Sound' report
- Compile a Howe Sound data inventory
  - Designate an information hub
- Beef up monitoring and volunteer programs
  - Identify potential partners





# 2013 State of the Sound

A Biennial Report on the Recovery of Puget Sound

**PugetSoundPartnership**

LEADING PUGET SOUND RECOVERY