# **Shellfish Initiative: Hood Canal/South Sound Shellfish Summit**

**Background**

The Hood Canal Coordinating Council has a small amount of funding to organize a shellfish summit. The idea of the summit is to continue the conversation around collaboratively defining a shellfish initiative that recognizes the many interests, partners, and stakeholders across a broad geographic and multi-jurisdictional area including South Puget Sound and Hood Canal. These preliminary ideas are provided to see feedback from the AHSS Council on potential summit topics and outcomes.

**Potential Summit Topics**

* Shellfish Initiative goal setting
* Strengthen county water quality programs that protect shellfish resources:
	+ Sustainable funding for PIC programs
	+ Focused water quality issues (e.g., non-point and OSS)
	+ Case studies: How other Counties/areas fund shellfish production and protection, water quality improvements, etc.
* Shellfish initiative funding
	+ Define need and purpose
	+ Stakeholder contributions
	+ Outside funding sources
* Research needs/Information gaps
* Identify Stakeholder groups’ needs/interests:
	+ Shellfish growers’
	+ Hood Canal/South Sound Tribes
	+ Hood Canal/South Sound community
* Public-Private Partnership
	+ Shellfish industry
	+ Local government
	+ State/Fed government
* Public outreach & education to support local shellfish culture
	+ Education in schools
	+ Regional branding

**Potential Outcomes**

* Develop elements of a Shellfish Initiative Action Plan
* Define the components of a shellfish initiative
	+ Sustainable shellfish production
	+ Water quality to support healthy shellfish populations
	+ Recreational/subsistence harvest opportunities
	+ Public/K12 outreach
	+ Others?
* Identify priority needs for stakeholder group represented
* Identify funding opportunities
* Identify information gaps
* Identify roles for partners and next steps