

# Creation of the Central Puget Sound Water Suppliers Forum

- **Coordinating Complexity**  
3 major cities, 3 counties,  
5+ watersheds, 3 major surface water supply system,  
130+ water suppliers, multiple resource agencies
- “Water for Fish and Water for People”
- Founded in 1998-1999 Timeframe
- Co-funders: Paul Reiter, Clair Oliver, Ken Merry

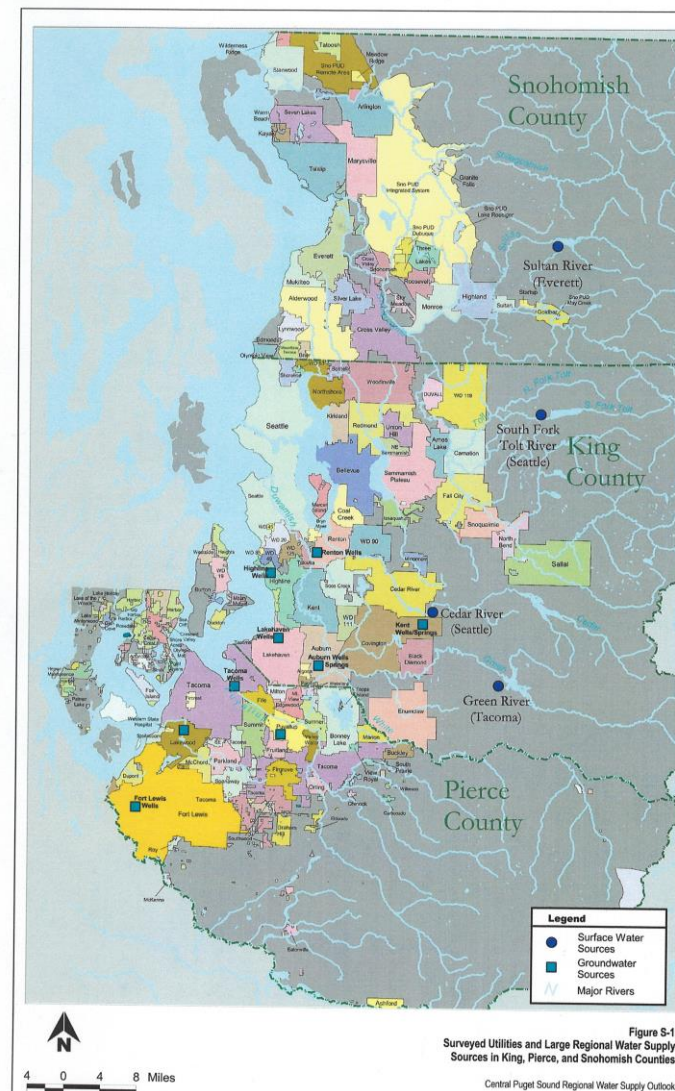
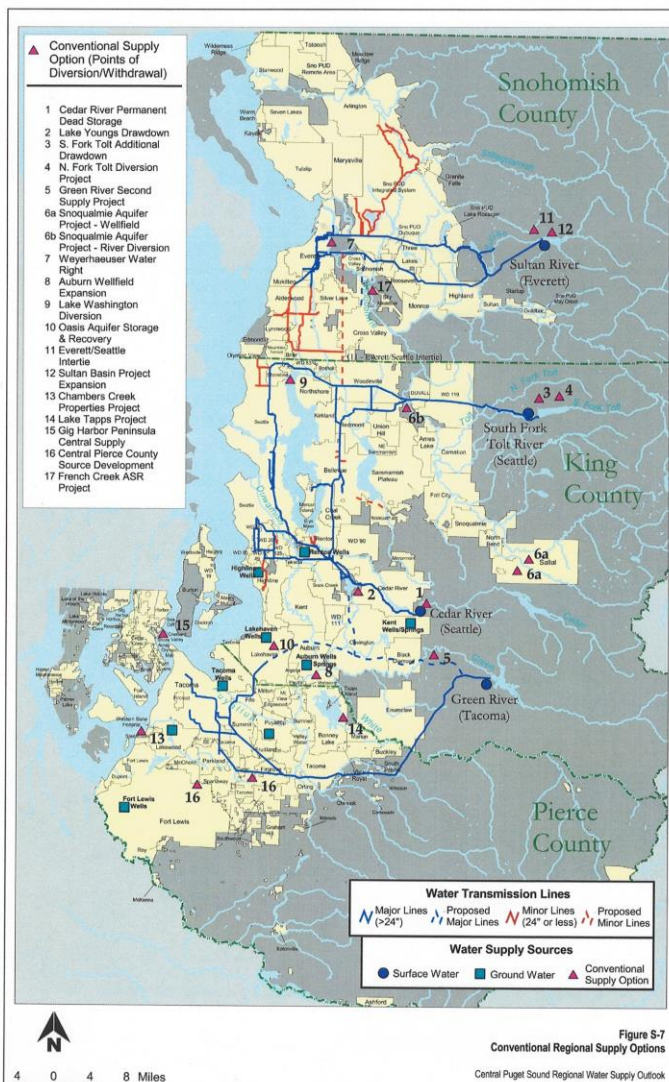


# Central Puget Sound MSA

Three Central Cities – Seattle, Tacoma, Everett  
 Three Major Surface Water Supply Systems

Three Counties – King, Pierce and Snohomish  
 Five Major Watersheds

130+ Water Suppliers





# The Challenge in Central Puget Sound: Integrating the Water Needs of the Environment and the Urban Area

## **Context:**

- ESA Listing of chinook salmon as endangered
- Washington's largest urban area with a majority of State's population
- Significant economic and population growth in Central Puget Sound (2-4% pa)
- Highly fractious set of interests/entities (3 major cities, 3 counties, 5+ watersheds, 3 major surface water supply systems, 130+ water suppliers, multiple resource agencies)

## **Imperatives:**

- Recognition that needs for both fish and people be jointly recognized
- Coordination of competing agendas between interests/entities/salmon species
- Comprehensive picture of water needs and requirements for Central Puget Sound

# The Response to the Challenge

## Creation of the Central Puget Sound Water Suppliers Forum

### **Key Elements:**

- Entirely voluntary
- Initially led by the three largest cities with the major supply system (Seattle, Tacoma, Everett) and following, key major suburban water suppliers including Cascade Water Alliance
- Open to all water suppliers in the King, Pierce and Snohomish counties – 130+
- Also represented were key State, Federal, Tribal and watershed stakeholders

### **Key Intended Deliverables:**

- Collective recognition of the joint needs for “water for fish and water for people”
- Forum for resolving multiples agendas between interests/entities/resource agencies
- Development of a regional outlook
- Pursuit of long-run legislative remedies to jointly meeting water needs for fish and municipal needs

# The Central Puget Sound Water Suppliers Forum Progress Report 20 Years On

## Early Legislative Effort (1989-2000)

- Proposed development of the innovative Washington State RIMA legislation (RIMA stands for Regional Integrated Management Area)

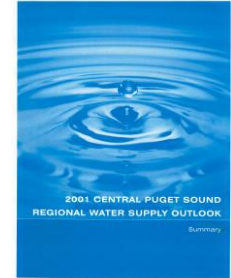
## Development of Comprehensive Reporting (2000 Onwards)

- Initially through breakthrough 2001 regional water supply outlook in 2001
- Follow up outlooks provided in 2009, 2011 and update in 2017

## Supplier Resiliency Prep for Climate Change and Seismic Risks

Phase One – 2015 Resiliency Evaluation and Findings

Phase Two – 2017 Specific Finding and Action Agenda



For general questions or comments please contact us at: [forum@watersupplyforum.org](mailto:forum@watersupplyforum.org)