Beyond Source Control: King County strategies for mitigating 6PPDQ

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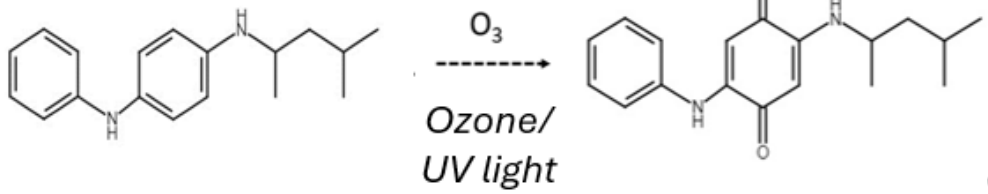
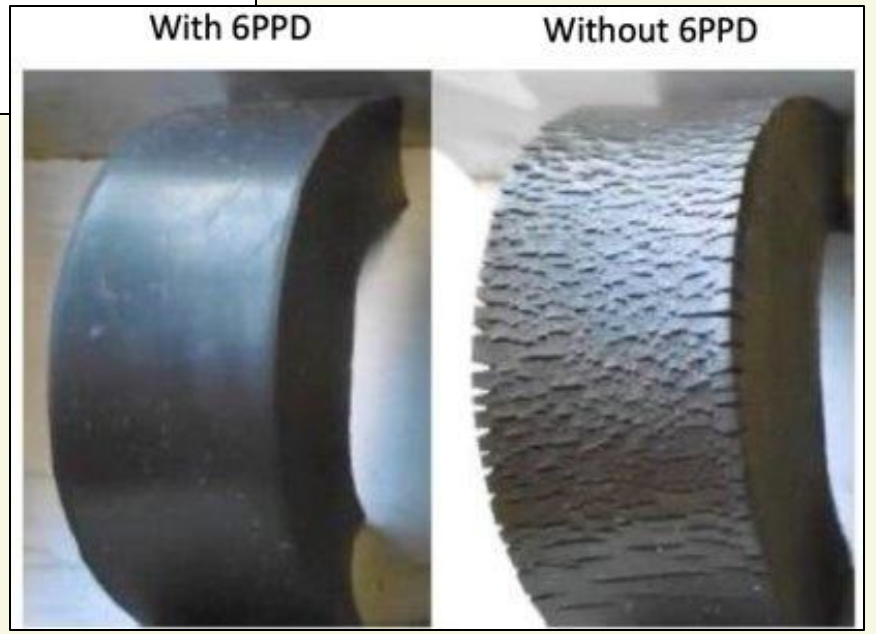
March 3, 2026

King County

Clean Water Healthy Habitat

6PPDQ comes from tire particles





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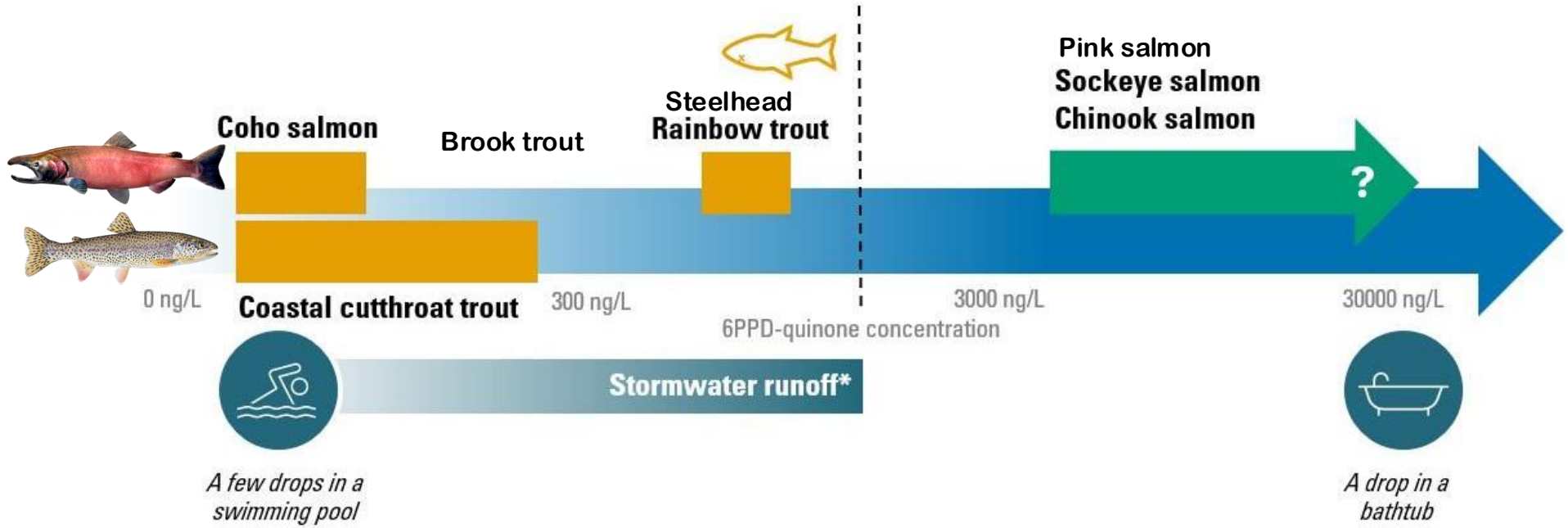
6PPDQ is toxic to several species in the region



Very sensitive **Not sensitive**

Adapted from image by USGS

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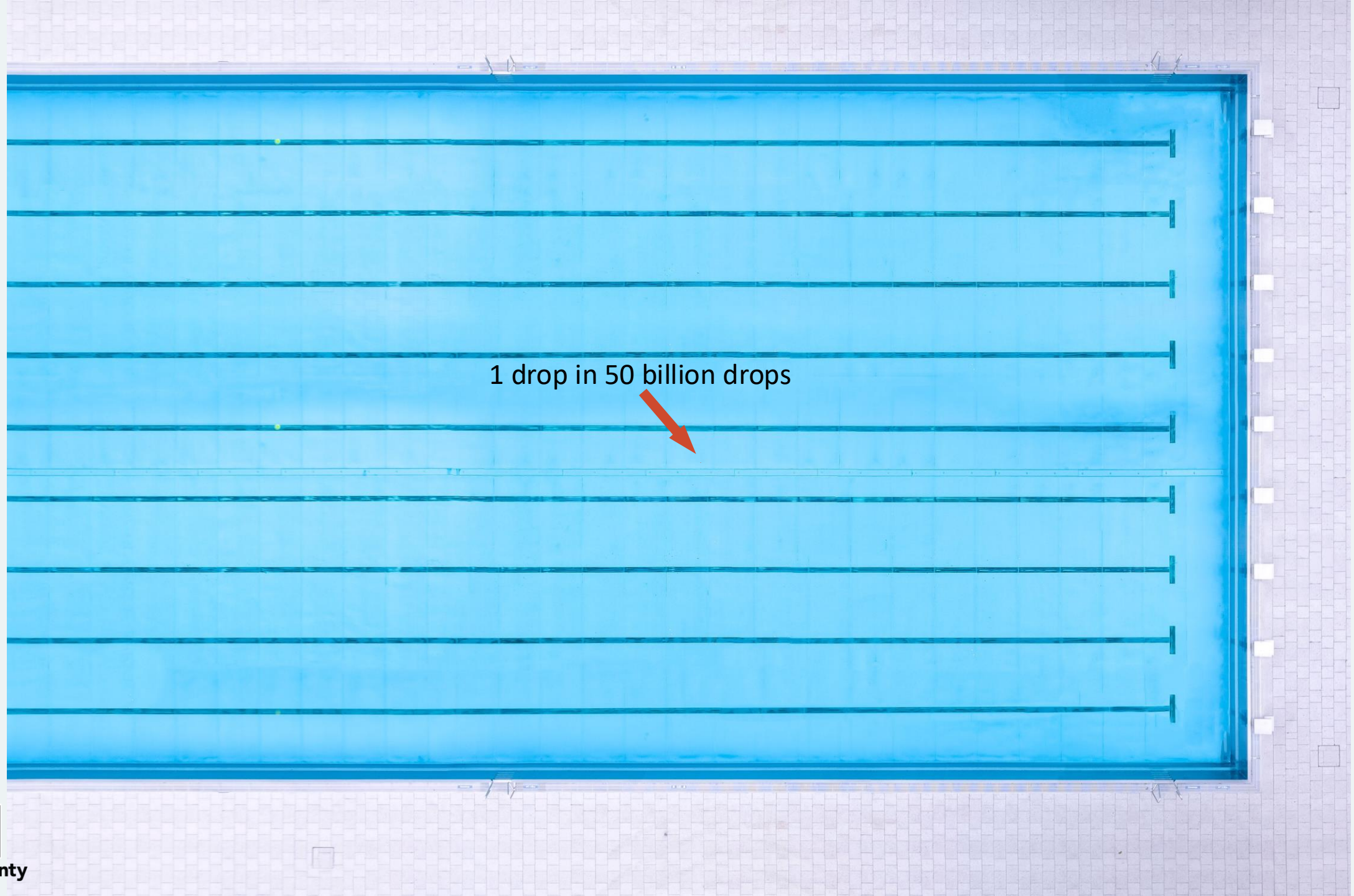

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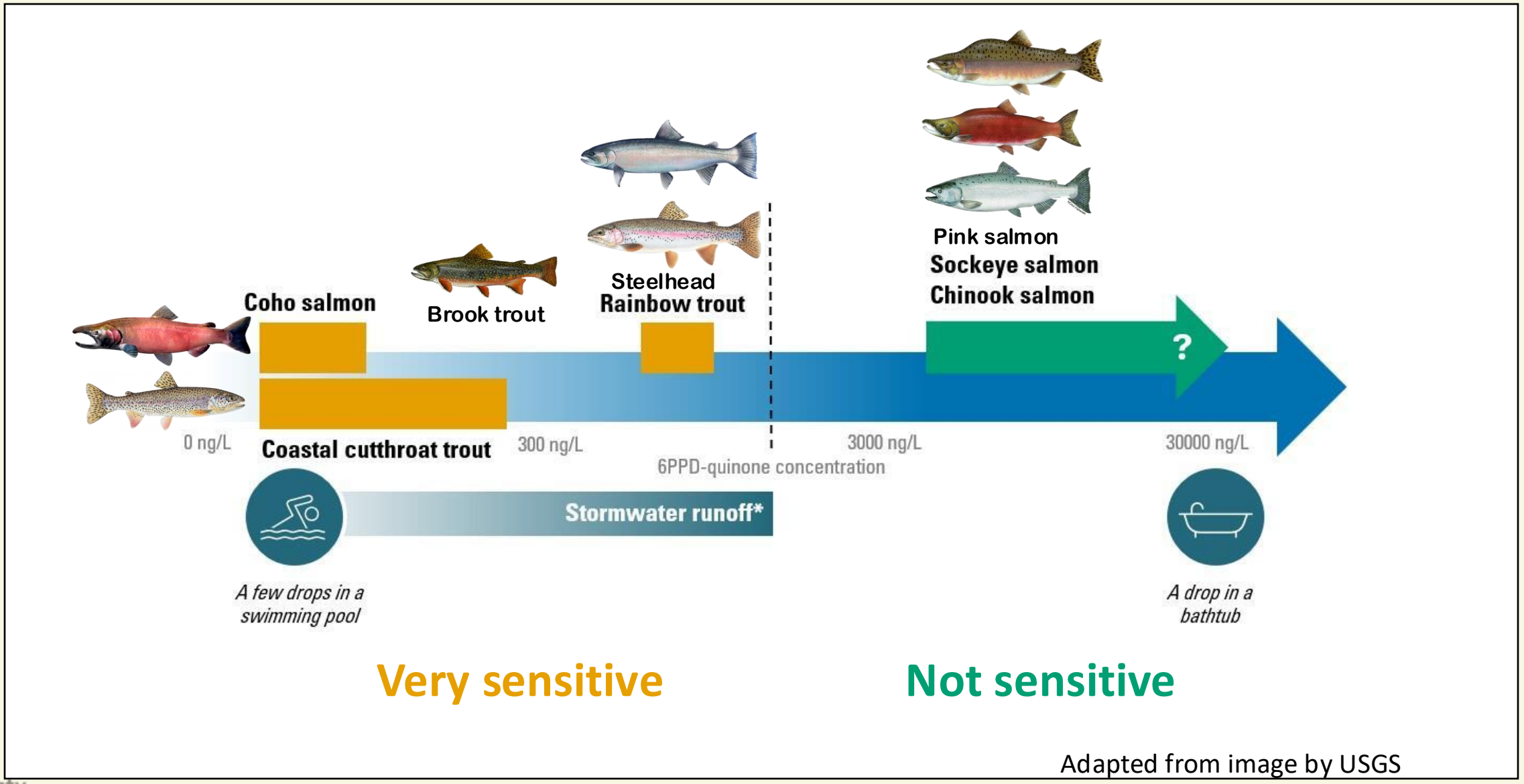
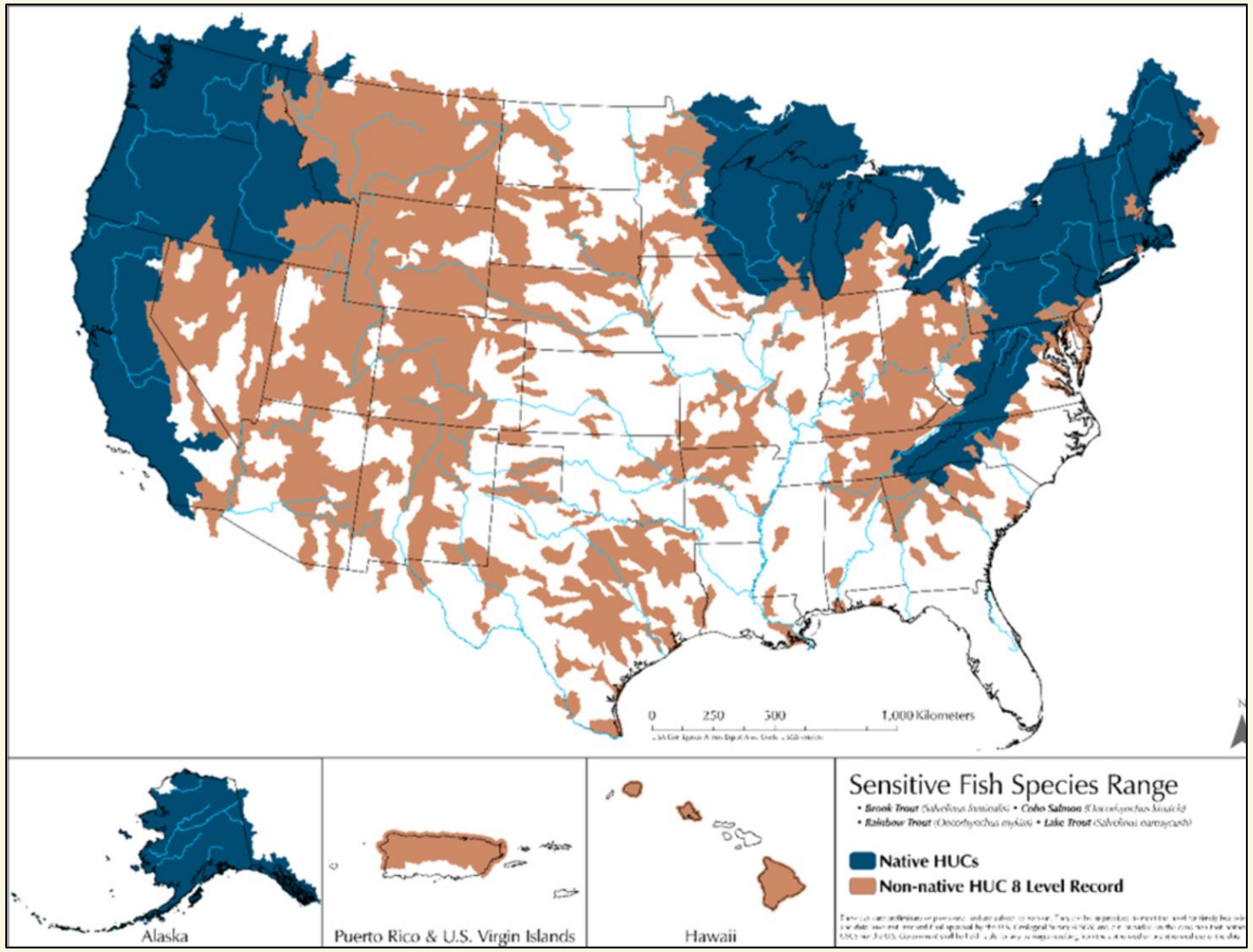
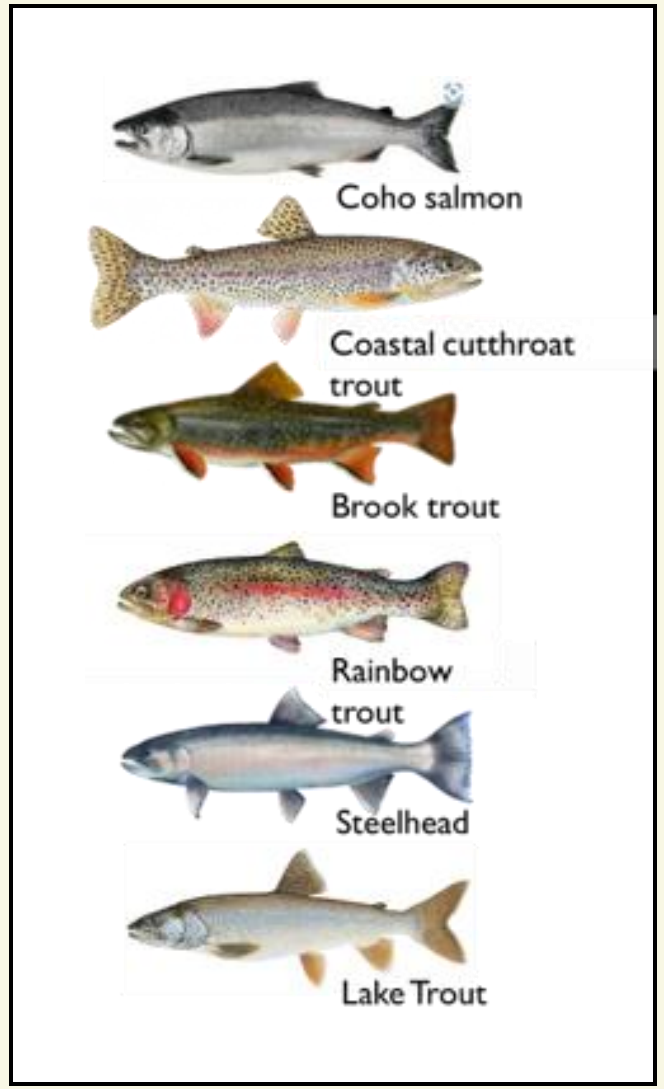
6PPDQ is very toxic to local fish



Adapted from image by USGS

6PPDQ is a Nationwide Problem





Interstate Technology Regulatory Council (https://6ppd.itrcweb.org/)

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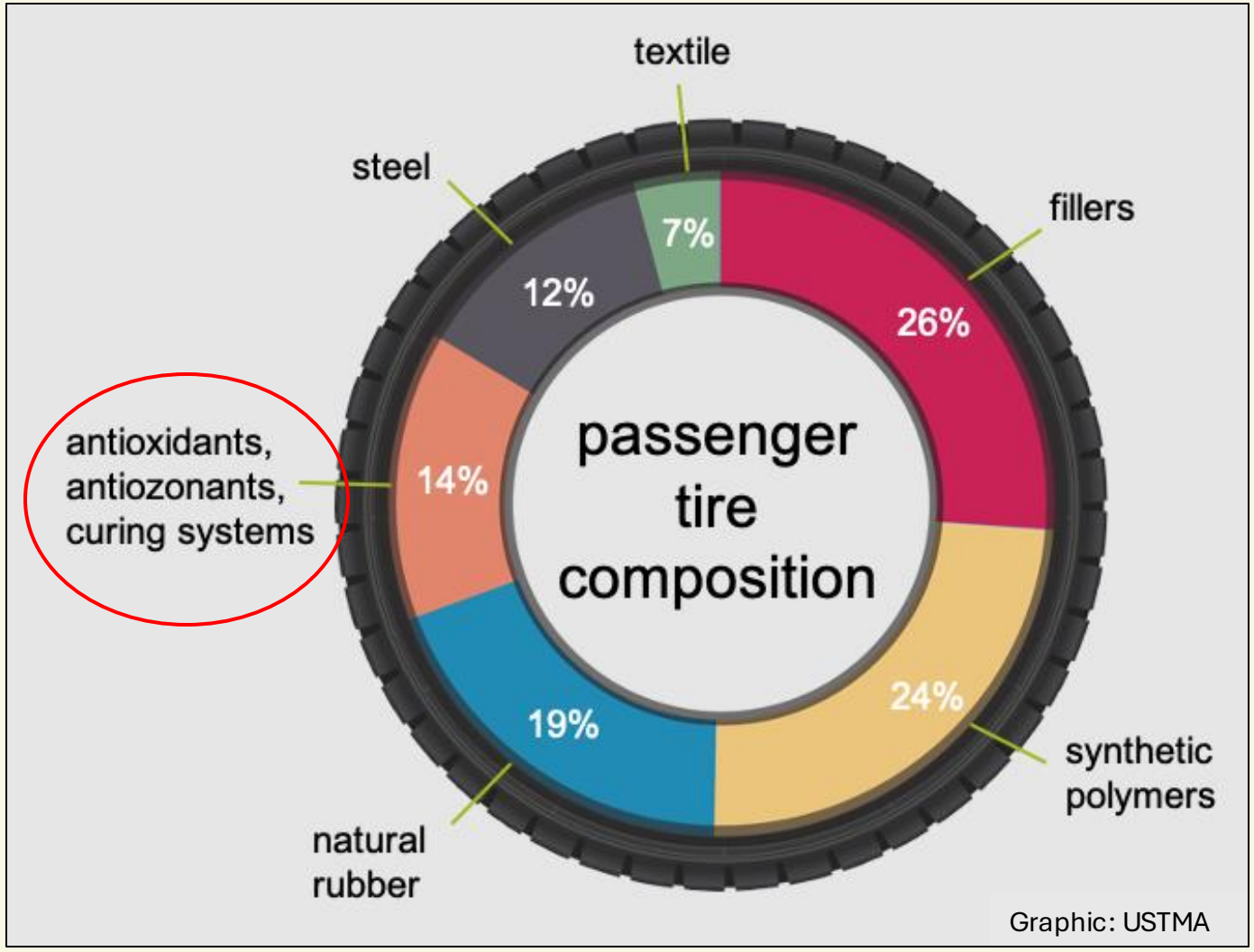
King County Mission:
Control 6PPDQ and eliminate sources



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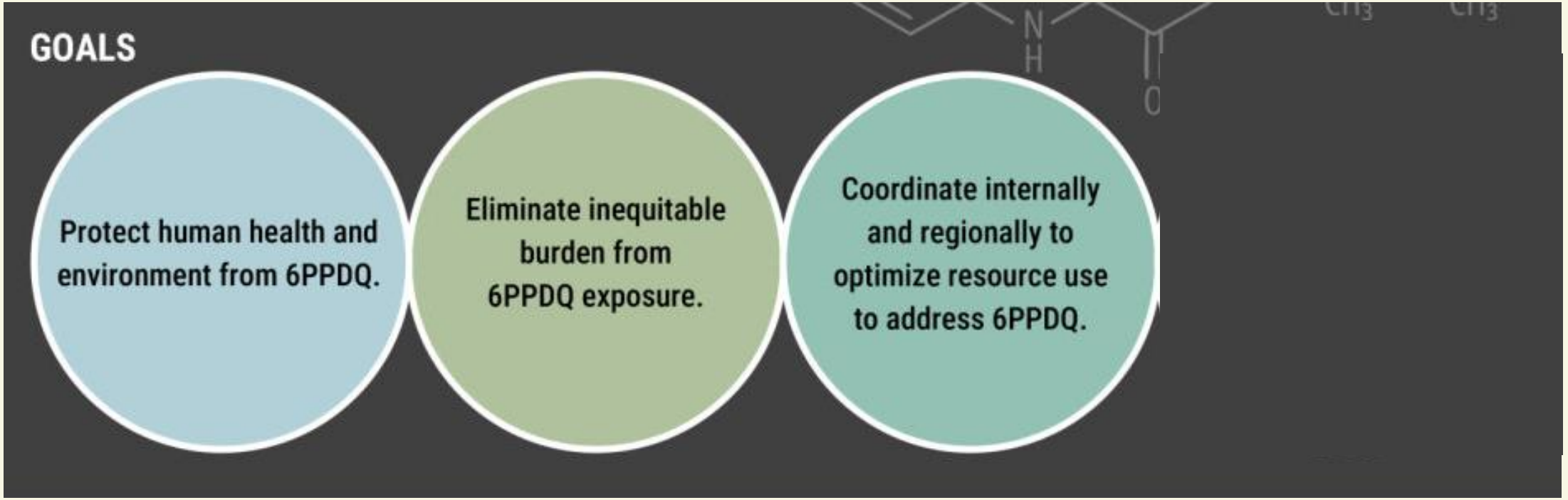

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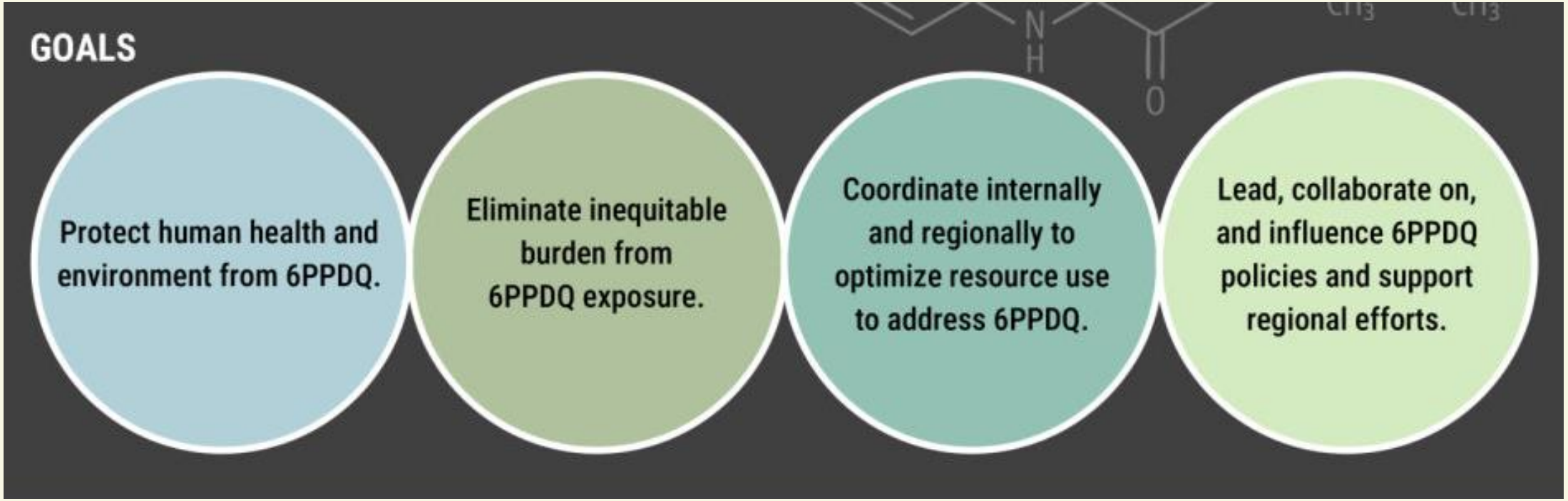

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King County Strategies

A – Understand Current Conditions

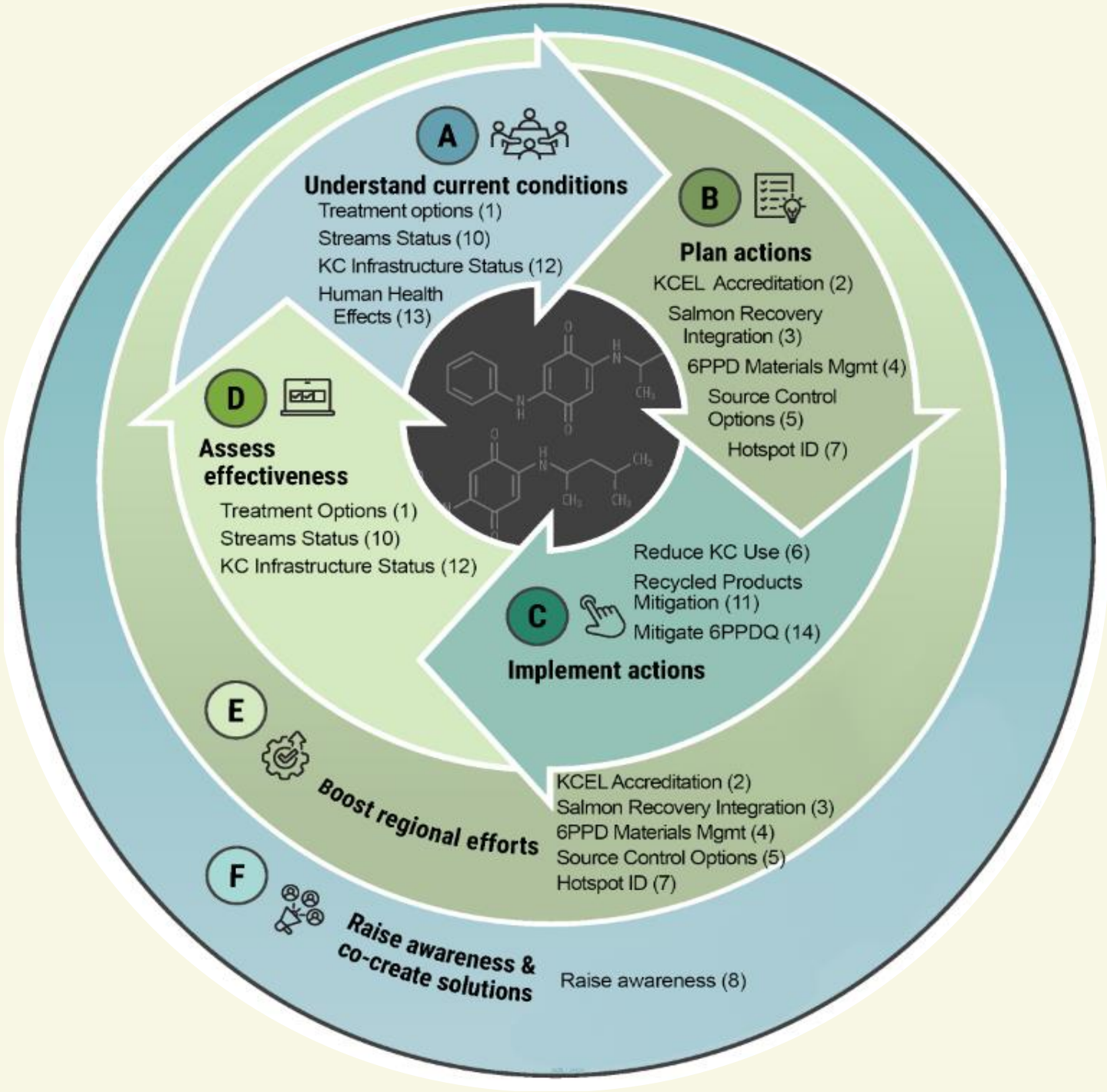
B – Plan Actions

C – Implement Actions

D – Assess Effectiveness

E – Boost Regional Efforts

F – Raise Awareness



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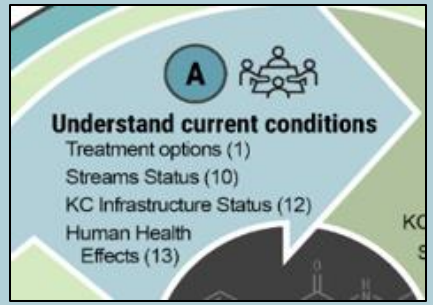
Understand Current Conditions

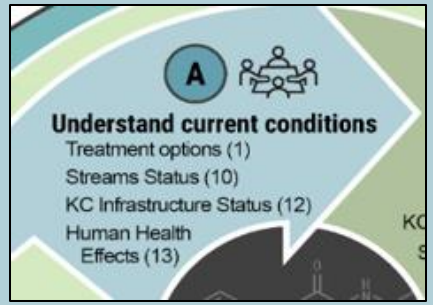


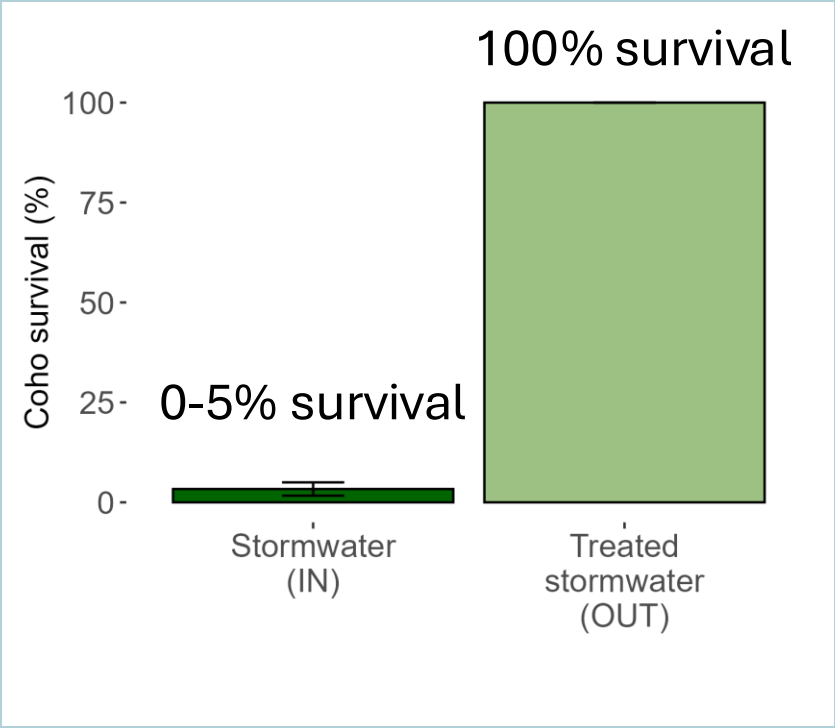
- Monitoring streams
- Testing BMP Effectiveness
  - New BMPs
  - Existing BMPs

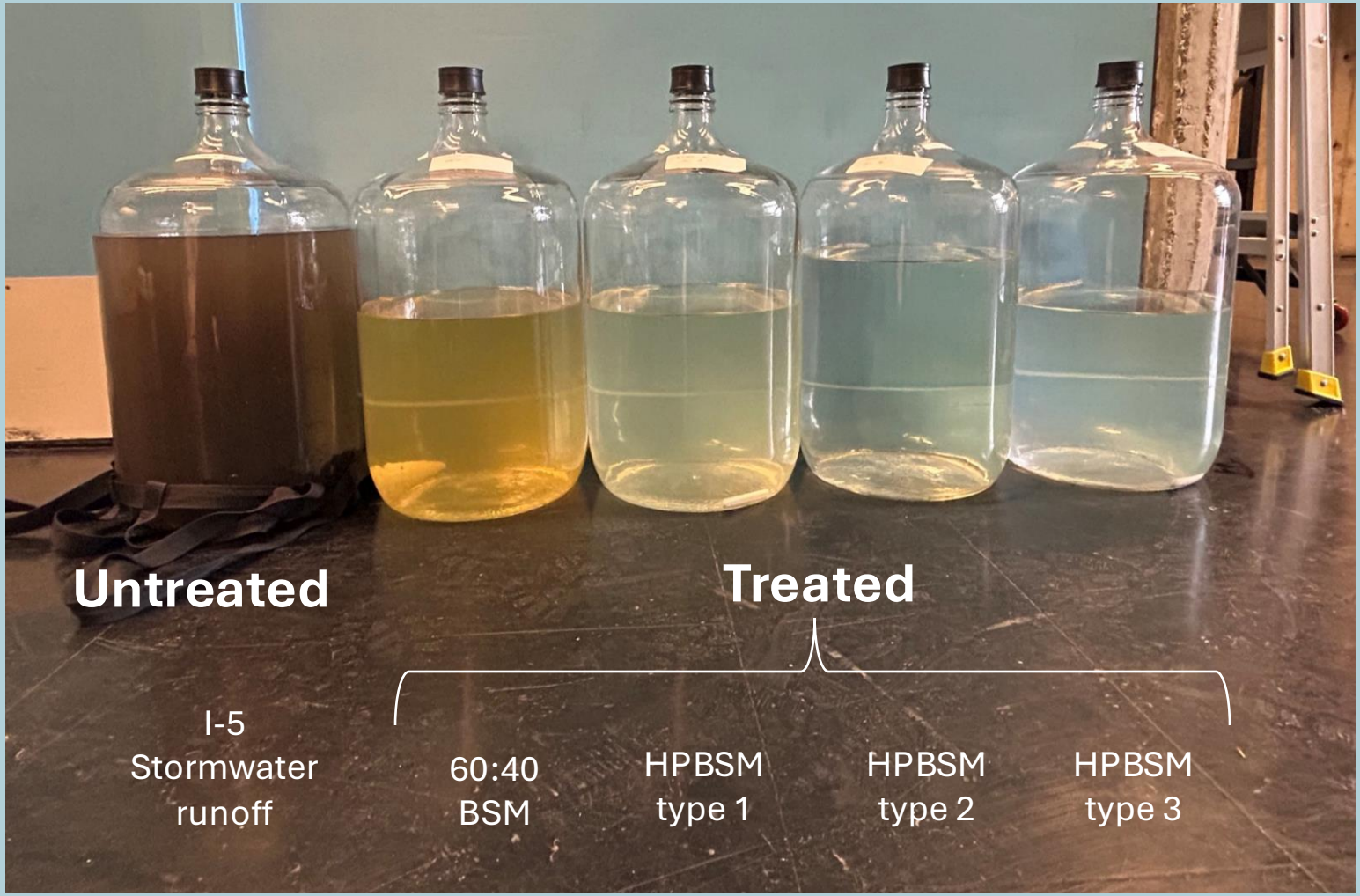
Whatcom County Bioretention Facility

King County

New BMPs: High Performance Mix removes 6PPDQ







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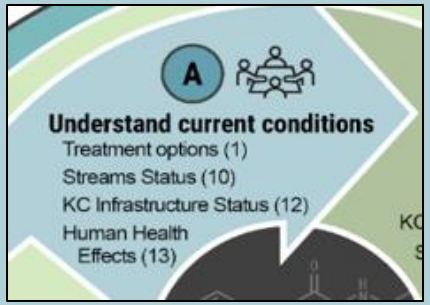
Existing BMPs: In progress



Bioretention

Filter strips

Stormwater ditches

Wet/detention ponds

Porous pavements

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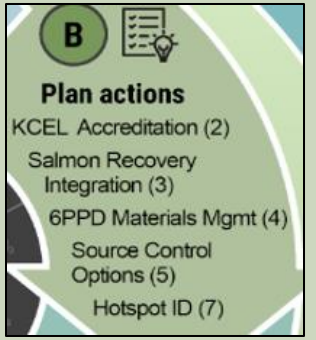
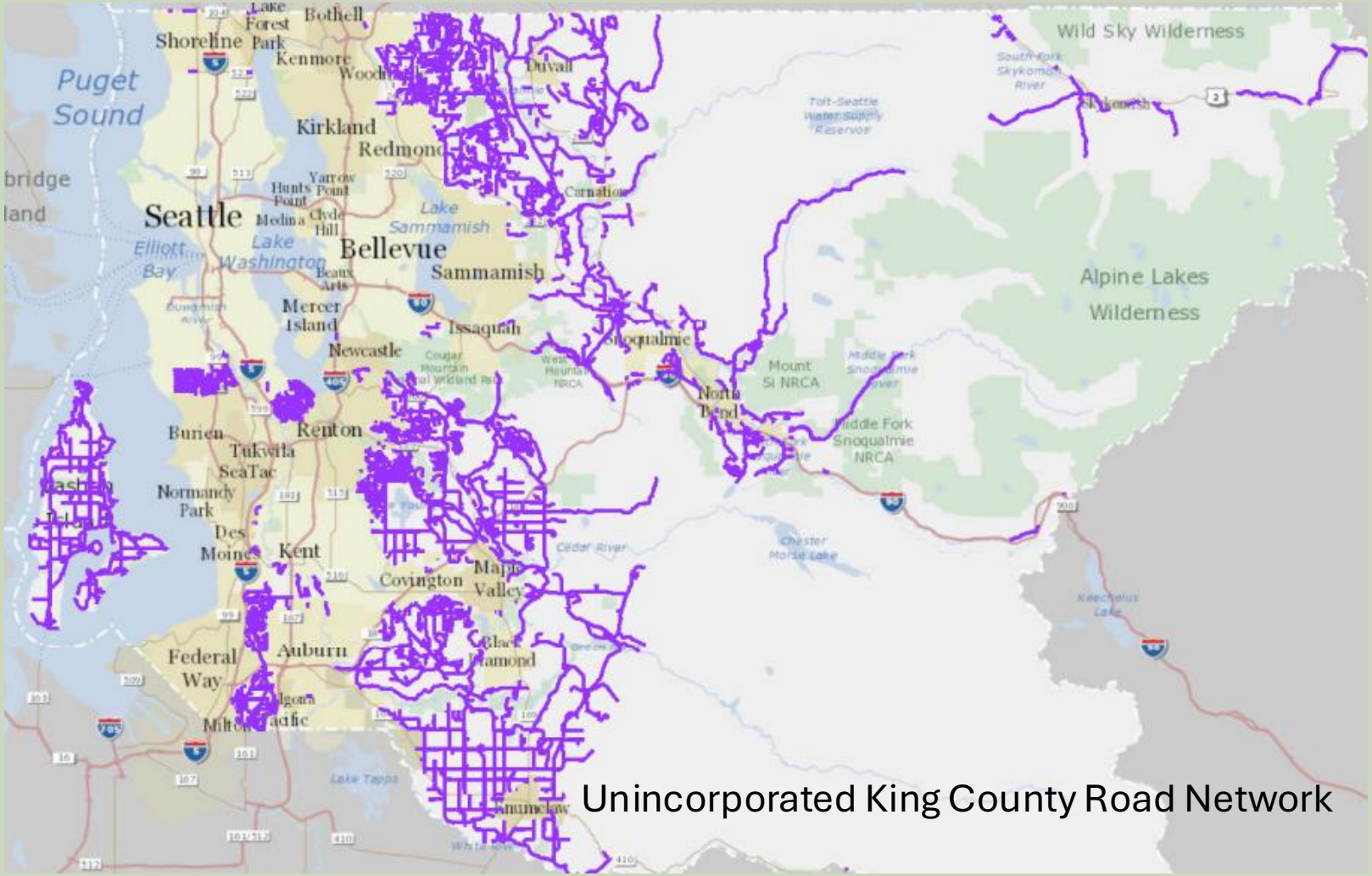
Plan Actions



- **6PPDQ Heatmap**
- **Retrofit Prioritization Tool**
- Tire dust collector pilot



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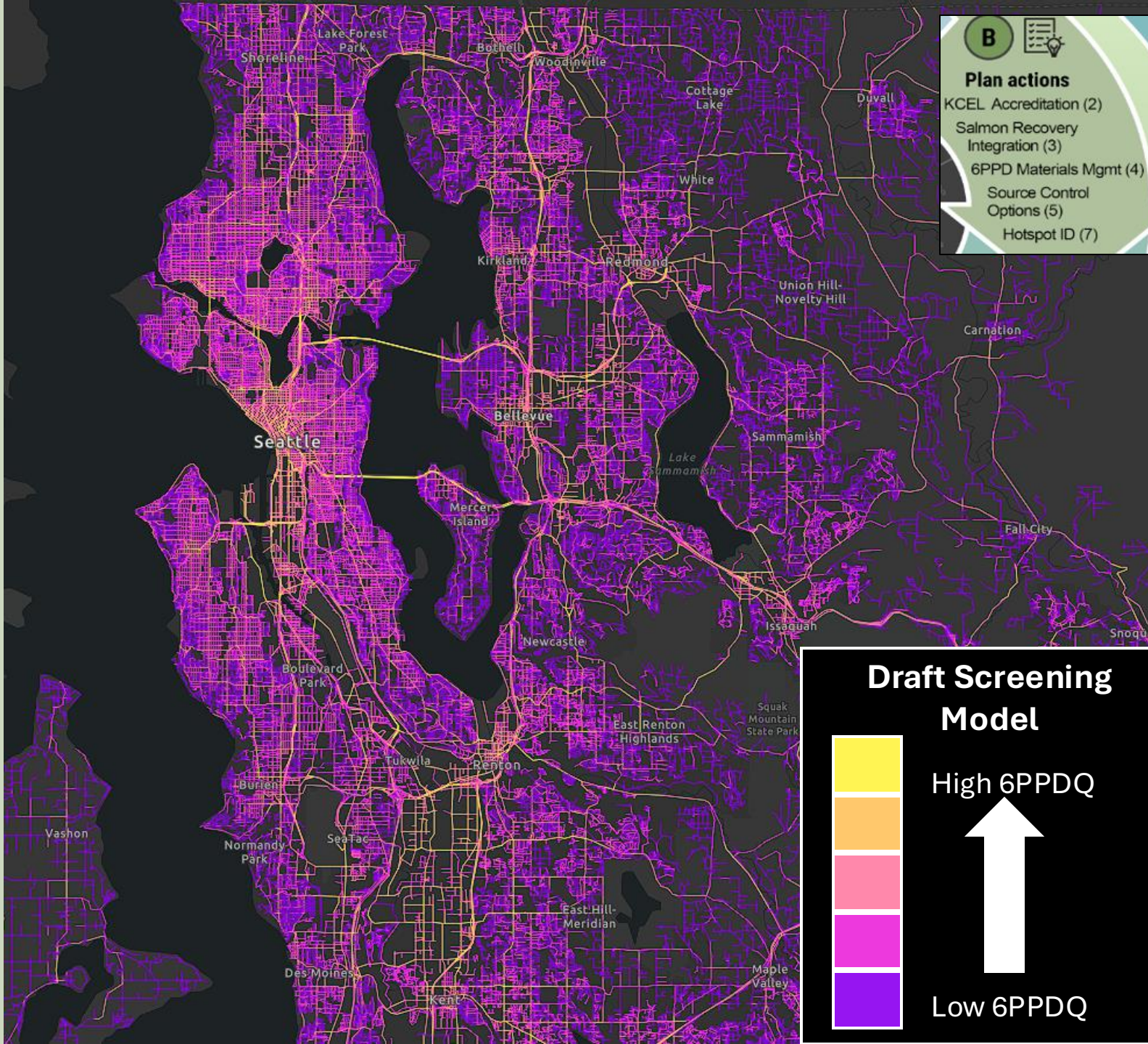
6PPDQ Heatmap



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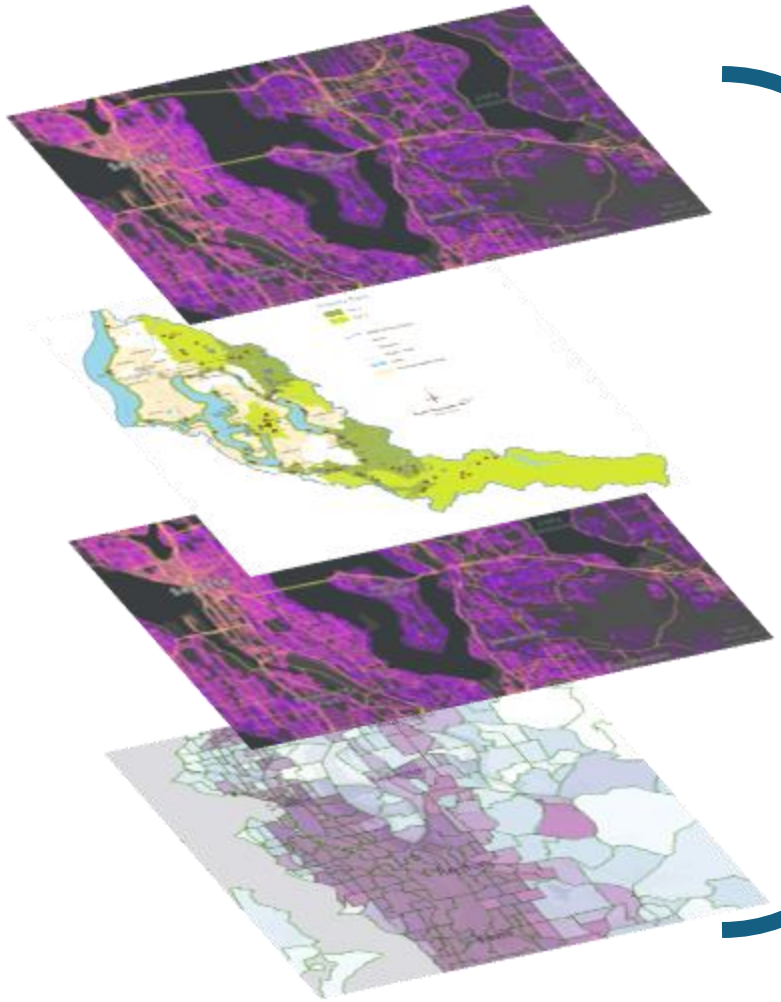
Retrofit Prioritization Tool

6PPDQ Load Reduction

Known Roadway Issues

Salmon Protection

Equity & Social Justice



Retrofit priority

available online at King County (link) or https://kc-retrofit-frontend.azurewebsites.net/

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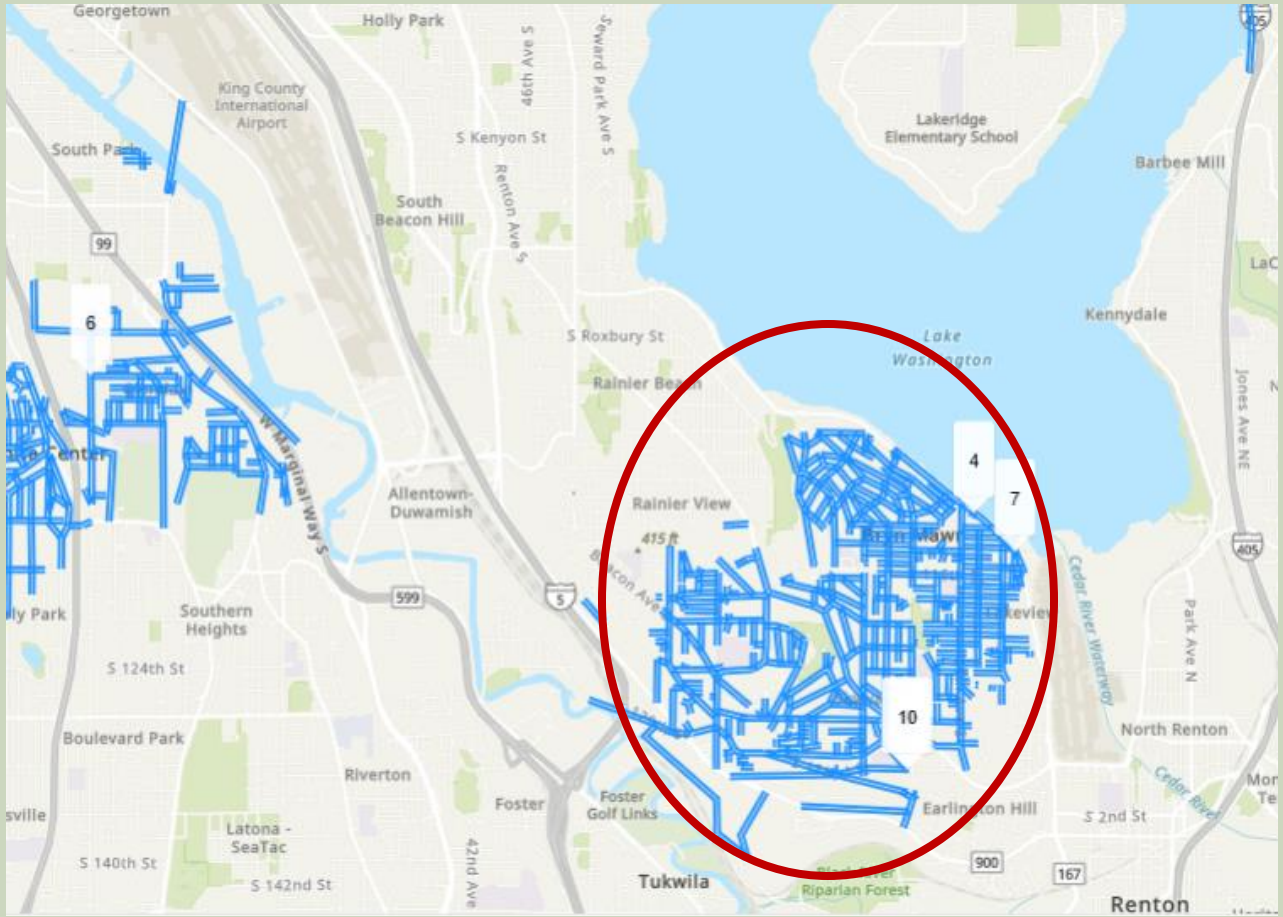
Retrofit Prioritization Tool

Multi-criterion webtool for ranking road segments

Metrics	Weight (0-5)
6PPDQ Load Reduction (3 metrics)	3
Address Known Roadway Issues (4 metrics)	1
Salmon Protection (3 metrics)	4
Equity and Social Justice (3 metrics)	4



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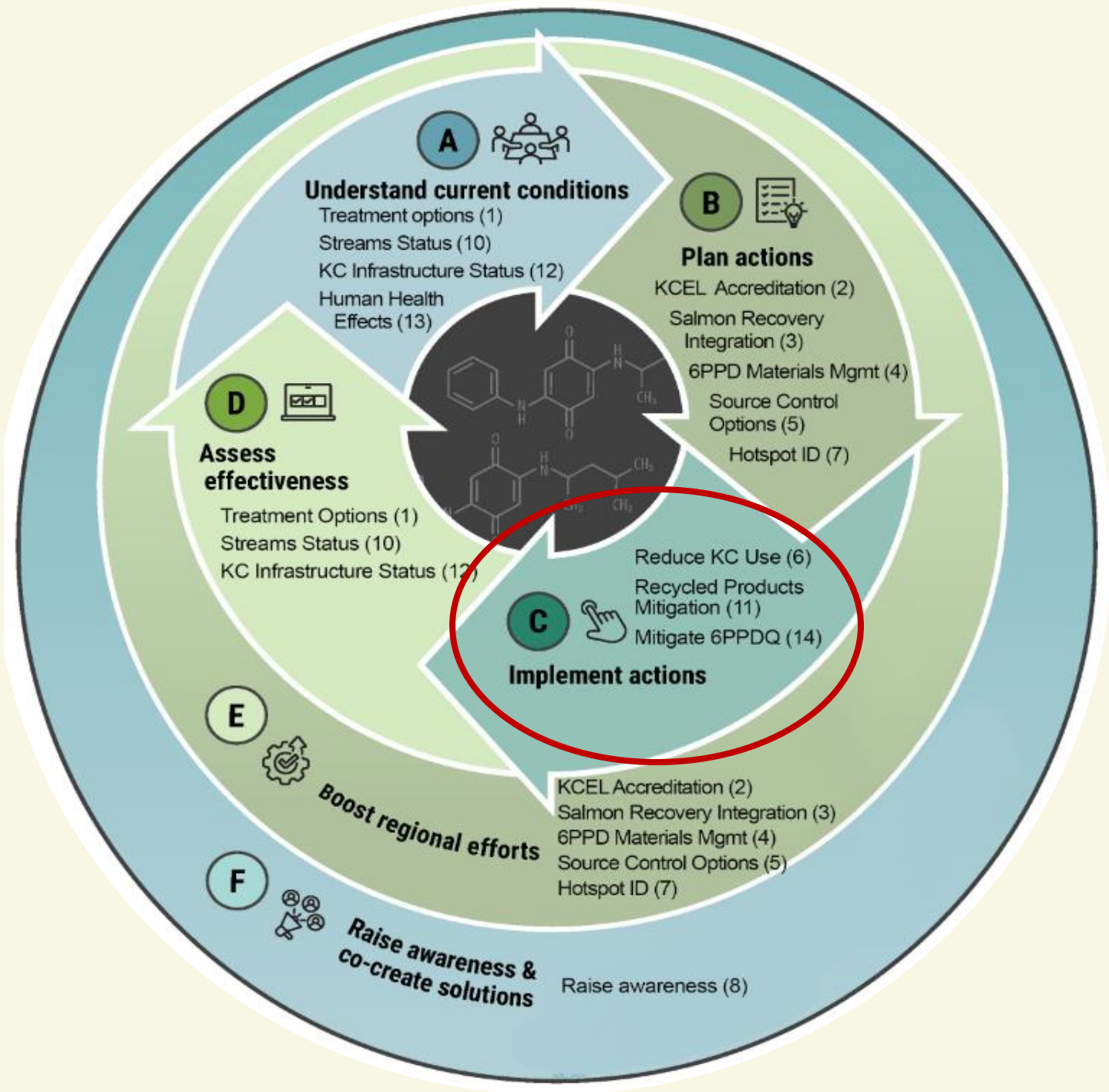
What's next?

Implement Actions

- Road Segments
- Unincorporated KC
- SMAP areas in Skyway
- Regional SW Parks



King County

Contributors and Partners

- WA Dept. of Ecology
- WSDOT
- Curtis Hinman & Associates
- Herrera Environmental, Inc.
- RKI
- King County
  - Environmental Lab
  - Roads Services team
  - Stormwater Services - John Brosnan and Leah Mikulsky
  - Science Section – Chelsea Mitchell, Carly Greyell, Jennifer Lanksbury, Analise Lindborg

More today at:

Poster session: SAM projects by KC

Track D session: 6PPD panel

Contact me! jenee.colton@kingcounty.gov

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