



Western Washington University  
**Western CEDAR**

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Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

2014 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference  
(Seattle, Wash.)

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May 1st, 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

## The Salish Sea Ecosystem in FishBase and SeaLifeBase

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Palomares, Maria Lourdes D.; Bailly, Nicolas; Yap, Patricia; and Pauly, Daniel, "The Salish Sea Ecosystem in FishBase and SeaLifeBase" (2014). *Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference*. 62.  
<https://cedar.wwu.edu/ssec/2014ssec/Day2/62>

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2014  
Salish Sea  
Ecosystem  
Conference

April 30 - May 2, 2014  
Washington State Convention & Trade Center  
Seattle, Washington

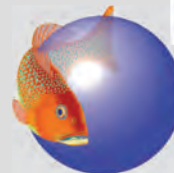
## Marine Birds and Mammals of the Salish Sea: Identifying Patterns and Causes of Change

# The Salish Sea in FishBase and SeaLifeBase

MLD Palomares and N Bailly



1 May 2014



**FishBase**

[www.sealifebase.ca](http://www.sealifebase.ca)

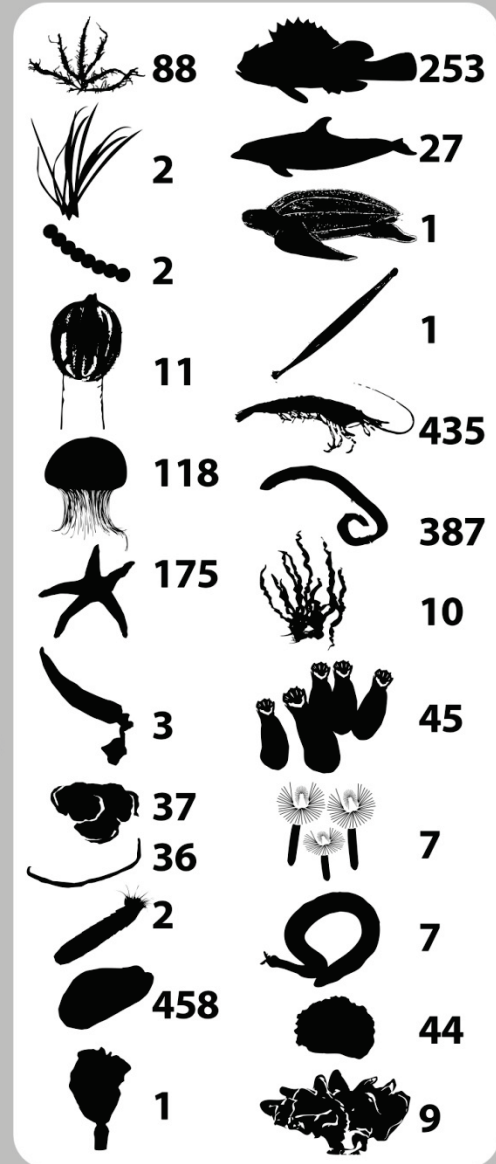
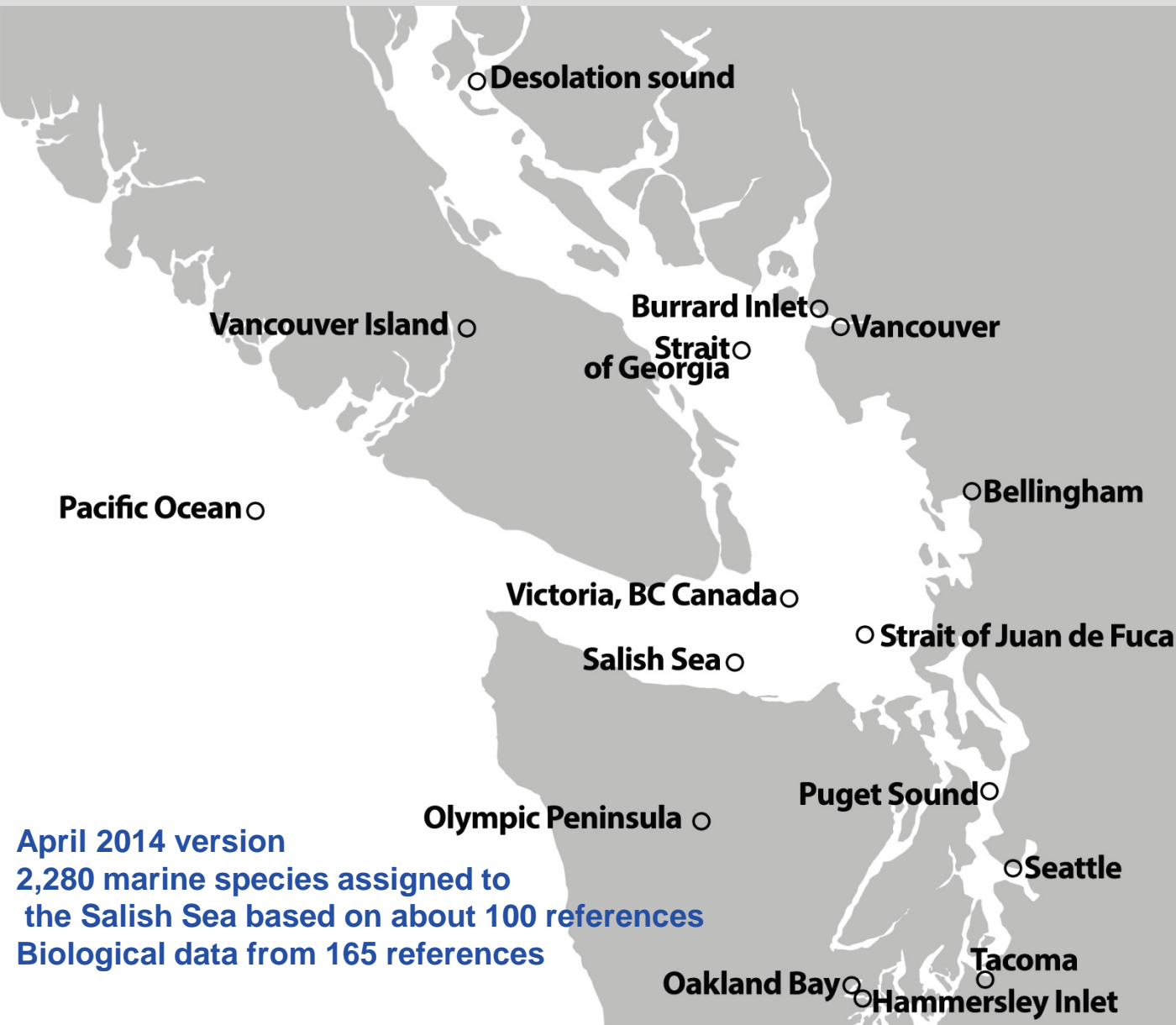
[www.fishbase.ca](http://www.fishbase.ca)



# Objectives of the study

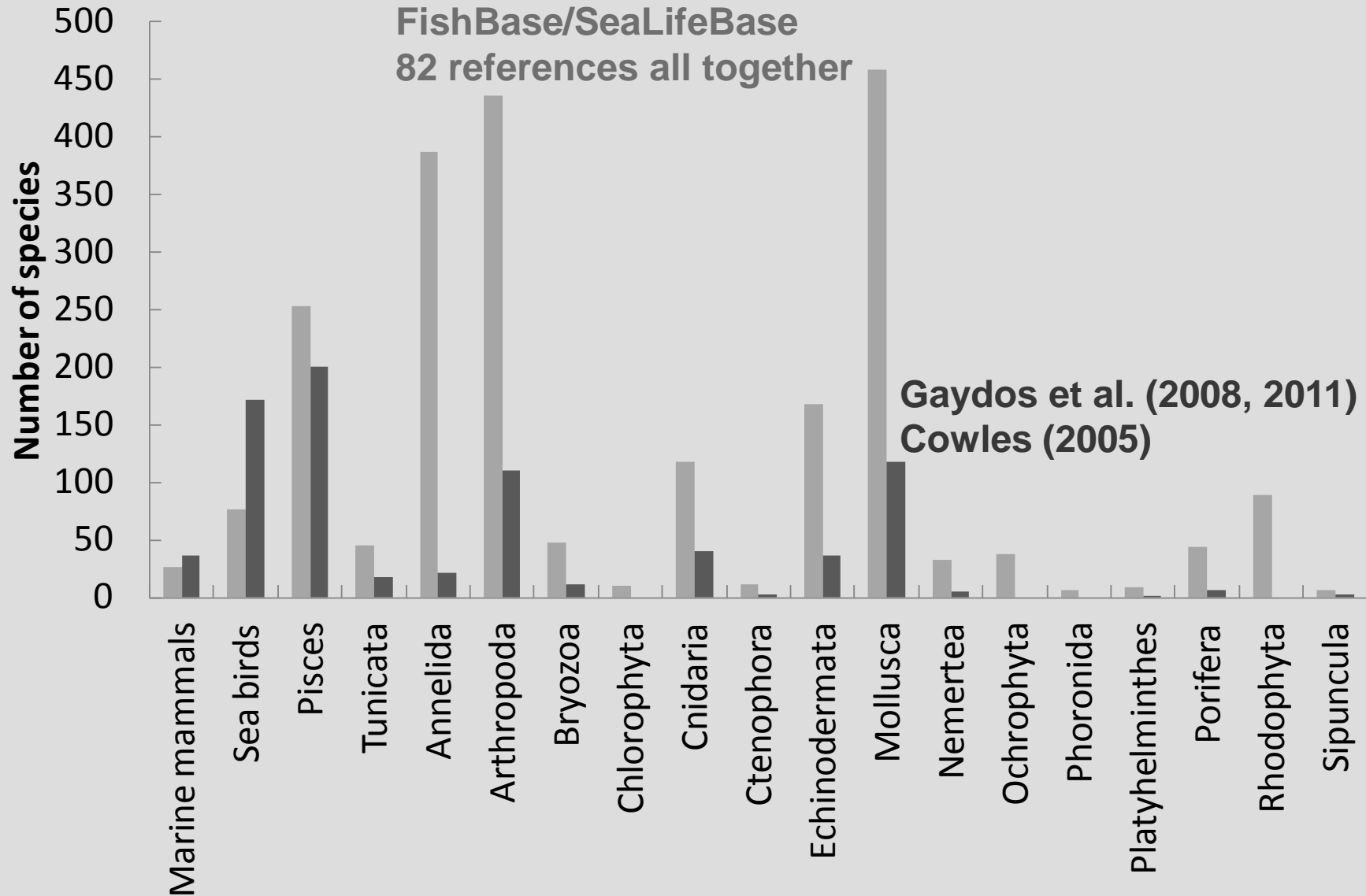
- Document the marine biodiversity of the Salish Sea and its sub-ecosystems in FishBase and SeaLifeBase;
- Complete this documentation at least for vertebrates.

# The Salish Sea in FishBase and SeaLifeBase



April 2014 version  
 2,280 marine species assigned to  
 the Salish Sea based on about 100 references  
 Biological data from 165 references

# Compared with previous studies





# Salish Sea fishes in FishBase (n=238)

## Species in *Salish Sea*

**Comments on faunal list:** The list was assembled mainly from Hart (1973: Pacific fishes of Canada; Ref. 6885). Some additions were taken from McAllister (1990: A list of the fishes of Canada; Ref. 11980) and Favaro *et al.* (2010: Ref. 91783), and other primary literature. The coastal fishes were checked against Lamb & Edgell (2010: Coastal fishes of the Pacific Northwest; Ref. 94401).

n= 238 (Complete)  
See pictures

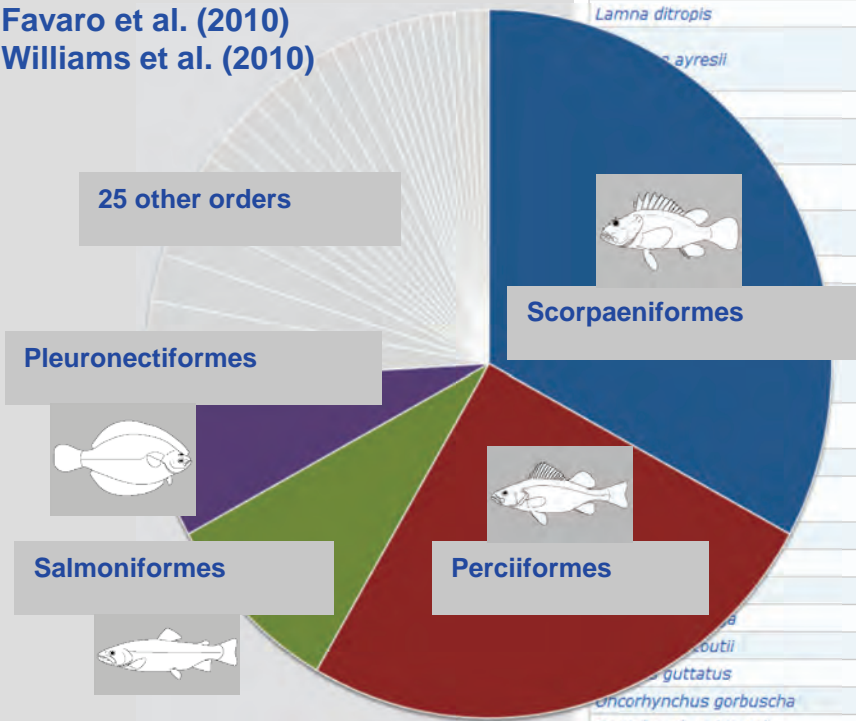


Species	Name	Family	Habitat	Length (cm)	Trophic Level	Status
<i>Notorynchus cepedianus</i>	Broadnose sevengill shark	Hexanchidae	demersal	300.0 TL	4.6	native
<i>Opostomias mitsuii</i>	Pitgum lanternfish	Stomiidae	bathypelagic	43.9 TL	4.6	native
<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>	Thresher	Alopiidae	pelagic-oceanic	760.0 TL	4.5	native
<i>Erelepis zonifer</i>	Skilfish	Anoplopomatidae	bathydemersal	183.0 TL	4.5	native
<i>Lamna ditropis</i>	Salmon shark	Lamnidae	pelagic-oceanic	305.0 TL	4.5	native
<i>Urophycis ayresii</i>	Western American river lamprey	Petromyzontidae	demersal	31.1 TL	4.5	native
	Striped bass	Moronidae	demersal	200.0 TL	4.5	introduced
	Pacific barracuda	Sphyrnaeidae	pelagic-neritic	160.9 TL	4.5	native
	California lizardfish	Synodontidae	reef-associated	64.0 TL	4.5	native
	Pacific electric ray	Torpedinidae	demersal	140.0 TL	4.5	native
	Pacific pomfret	Bramidae	pelagic-oceanic	61.0 TL	4.4	native
	Rainbow trout	Salmonidae	benthopelagic	120.0 TL	4.4	native
	Chinook salmon	Salmonidae	benthopelagic	150.0 TL	4.4	native
	Pelagic stingray	Dasyatidae	pelagic-oceanic	160.0 TL	4.4	native
	Atlantic salmon	Salmonidae	benthopelagic	150.0 TL	4.4	not established
	Black rockfish	Sebastidae	reef-associated	63.0 TL	4.4	native
	Yelloweye rockfish	Sebastidae	reef-associated	104.0 TL	4.4	native
	Skipjack tuna	Scombridae	pelagic-oceanic	122.1 TL	4.3	native
	Lingcod	Hexagrammidae	demersal	152.0 TL	4.3	native
	Rough pomfret	Bramidae	pelagic-oceanic	61.0 TL	4.3	native
	Albacore	Scombridae	pelagic-oceanic	155.4 TL	4.3	native
	Pink salmon	Salmonidae	demersal	70.0 TL	4.2	native
	Coho salmon	Salmonidae	demersal	107.9 TL	4.2	native

[http://www.fishbase.ca/trophiceco/FishEcolist.php?ve\\_code=1067](http://www.fishbase.ca/trophiceco/FishEcolist.php?ve_code=1067)

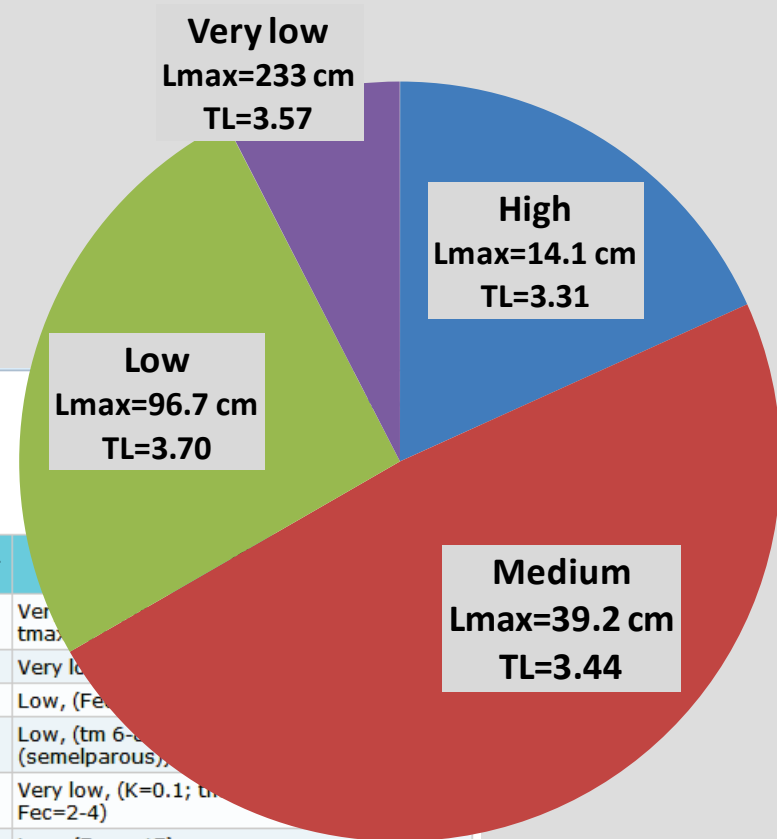
Ray Troll  
Checked by Andy Lamb and Eric Taylor  
Checked against Peden (2002)  
Will be checked against Pietch and Orr

85% based on:  
Hart (1973),  
MacAllister (1990)  
Clemens et al. (1961)  
Favaro et al. (2010)  
Williams et al. (2010)





# Simple profiles



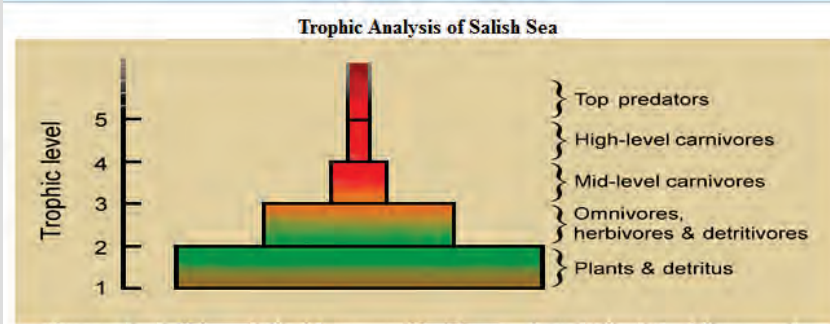
## Resilience of Native Fishes in Salish Sea

Show all fishes of this ecosystem type [n=237] Complete = No

Family	Species	Author	Length (cm)	Trophic level	
Hexanchidae	<i>Notorynchus cepedianus</i>	(Péron, 1807)	300.00 TL	4.60	Very low, (tm=12-15; tmax=118)
Lamnidae	<i>Lamna ditropis</i>	Hubbs & Follett, 1947	305.00 TL	4.50	Very low, (tm=12-15; tmax=118)
Petromyzontidae	<i>Lampetra ayresii</i>	(Günther, 1870)	31.10 TL	4.50	Low, (Fec=2-4)
Petromyzontidae	<i>Entosphenus tridentatus</i>	(Richardson, 1836)	76.00 TL	4.50	Low, (tm 6-8; tmax=12; (semelparous), Fec=2-4)
Alopiidae	<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>	(Bonnaterre, 1788)	760.00 TL	4.50	Very low, (K=0.1; tm=12-15; tmax=118; Fec=2-4)
Torpedinidae	<i>Torpedo californica</i>	Ayres, 1855	140.00 TL	4.50	Low, (Fec = 17)
Sphyracidae	<i>Sphyracna argentea</i>	Girard, 1854	145.00 FL	4.50	Medium, (K=0.14; tm=2-3; tmax=12; Fec=42,000)
ICosteidae	<i>ICosteus aenigmaticus</i>	Lockington, 1880	213.00 TL	4.50	Low, (K=0.13; Fec=293,000)
Sebastidae	<i>Sebastes ruberrimus</i>	(Cramer, 1895)	104.00 TL	4.43	Very low, (tm=12-15; tmax=118)
Salmonidae	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	(Walbaum, 1792)	120.00 TL	4.42	Medium, (K=0.38-0.46; tm=2-5; tmax=11; Fec=200)
Salmonidae	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	(Walbaum, 1792)	150.00 TL	4.40	Medium, (tm=4; tmax=9; Fec=4,000)
Sebastidae	<i>Sebastes melanops</i>	Girard, 1856	63.00 TL	4.38	Low, (tm=7.5; K=0.14; tmax=50)
Dasyatidae	<i>Pteroplatytrygon violacea</i>	(Bonaparte, 1832)	160.00 TL	4.36	Very low, (K=0.18 (captivity); Fec=1-9 (could probably have 2 litters per year))
Merlucciidae	<i>Merluccius productus</i>	(Ayres, 1855)	91.00 TL	4.35	Low, (tmax=17; tm=4; also Musick et al. 2000 (Ref. 36717))
Hexagrammidae	<i>Ophiodon elongatus</i>	Girard, 1854	152.00 TL	4.32	Low, (tm=4; tmax=25;)
Hexanchidae	<i>Hexanchus griseus</i>	(Bonnaterre, 1788)	482.00 TL	4.28	Low, (Fec= 22-108)
Somniosidae	<i>Somniosus pacificus</i>	Bigelow & Schroeder, 1944	440.00 TL	4.25	Low, (Fec=300; assuming tm<=10)
Trichiuridae	<i>Benthodesmus pacificus</i>	Parin & Becker, 1970	112.00 SL	4.25	Medium, (Preliminary K or Fecundity.)
Salmonidae	<i>Salvelinus malma</i>	(Walbaum, 1792)	127.00 TL	4.23	Low, (tm=3-5)
Salmonidae	<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>	(Walbaum, 1792)	107.95 TL	4.22	Medium, (K=0.98(?); tm=2-4; Fec=1,400)

# Trophic pyramid

- Trophic level estimates from diet composition and food items.
- Top predators: large species



After page has loaded completely, click on pyramid for information by trophic level. View full screen mode.

<b>Trophic Level &gt;= 5</b>	
Number of fish species:	0
<b>Trophic Level 4.50 - 4.99</b>	
Number of fish species:	9
Length range:	31 - 760 cm TL
Geom. mean length (95% CI):	175.5 (91.1-338.1)
Mean Trophic Level (95% CI):	4.51 (4.49-4.53)
<b>Trophic Level 4.00 - 4.49</b>	
Number of fish species:	41
Length range:	14 - 482 cm TL
Geom. mean length (95% CI):	100.3 (78.5-128.1)
Mean Trophic Level (95% CI):	4.19 (4.15-4.24)
<b>Trophic Level 3.50 - 3.99</b>	

[More info](#) | [Plus d'info](#) | [Mais info](#) | [<<Back](#)

FishBase

## Fish Species in Trophic Level 4.50 - 4.99

Mean Trophic Level (95% CI): 4.51  
n=9

Species	Family	Habitat	Length (cm)	Trophic level
<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>	Alopiidae	pelagic-oceanic	760.0 TL	4.5
<i>Lamna ditropis</i>	Lamnidae	pelagic-oceanic	305.0 TL	4.5
<i>Sphyræna argentea</i>	Sphyrænidae	pelagic-neritic	160.9 TL	4.5
<i>Notorynchus cepedianus</i>	Hexanchidae	demersal	300.0 TL	4.6
<i>Morone saxatilis</i>	Moronidae	demersal	200.0 TL	4.5
<i>Torpedo californica</i>	Torpedinidae	demersal	140.0 TL	4.5
<i>Entosphenus tridentatus</i>	Petromyzontidae	demersal	76.0 TL	4.5
<i>Lampetra ayresii</i>	Petromyzontidae	demersal	31.1 TL	4.5
<i>Icosteus aenigmaticus</i>	Icosteidae	bathypelagic	213.0 TL	4.5







# Salish Sea marine species in SeaLifeBase



>90% based on :

Macdonald et al. (2010); Lamb et al. (2011); Pacific Northwest Shell Club (2014); Schoch and Diether (2001); Marliave et al. (2011); Lambert and Austrin (2007); Gaydos and Pearson (2011); Backe et al. (2011); Elahi (2012); and Lambert (2000).

Mike A. Yap, SeaLifeBase

SeaLifeBase

More info

Language:

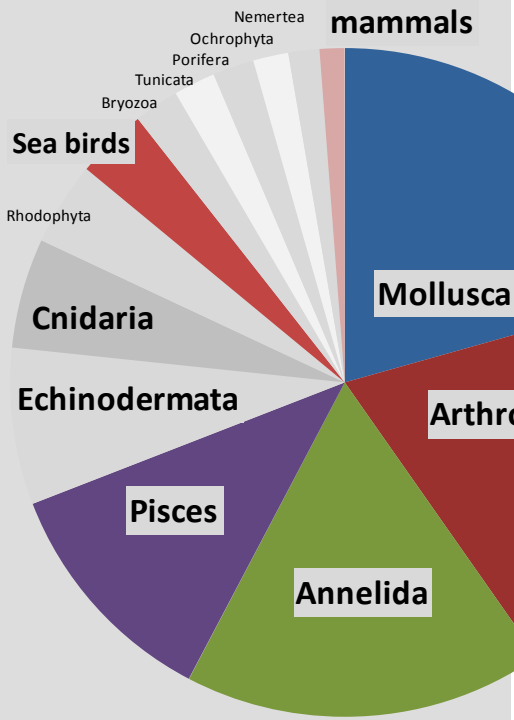
## Species in *Salish Sea*

Note: The list below is incomplete. You can assess the extent of its coverage by examining the references we used to assign species to this ecosystem. Note, however, that there are too many species of invertebrates for SeaLifeBase to provide you with complete species lists. You may be able to help us more on this list by sending us Internet sources or published references that we have not yet used for this ecosystem. We will encode this material, and credit you for providing it

[n= 2027]  
See pictures

Species	Name	Family	Habitat	Length (cm)	Trophic Level	Status
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald eagle	Accipitridae	others	100 TL	4.8	native
<i>Calidris mauri</i>	Western sandpiper	Scolopacidae	others	18 TL	4.6	native
<i>Orcinus orca</i>	Killer whale	Delphinidae	pelagic	980 TL	4.6	native
<i>Stercorarius maccormicki</i>	South polar skua	Stercorariidae	others	53 TL	4.6	native
<i>Meiobampus bairdii</i>	Baird's beaked whale	Ziphiidae	pelagic	1,280 TL	4.5	native
<i>Ursus ursinus</i>	Northern fur seal	Otariidae	bathydemersal	210 TL	4.5	native
<i>Tursiops delphis</i>	Common dolphin	Delphinidae	pelagic	260 TL	4.5	native
<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	Short-finned pilot whale	Delphinidae	pelagic	610 TL	4.5	native
<i>Larus glaucescens</i>	Glaucaus-winged gull	Laridae	others	70 TL	4.5	native
<i>Larus schistisagus</i>	Slaty-backed gull	Laridae	others	68 TL	4.5	native
<i>Larus thayeri</i>	Thayer's gull	Laridae	others	52 TL	4.5	native
<i>Mergus serrator</i>	Red-breasted merganser	Anatidae	others	51 TL	4.5	native
<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	American white pelican	Pelecanidae	others	178 TL	4.5	native
<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	Brandt's cormorant	Phalacrocoracidae	others	89 TL	4.5	native
<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Harbour seal	Phocidae	bathydemersal	190 TL	4.5	native
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	Harbour porpoise	Phocoenidae	pelagic	200 TL	4.5	native

### Marine mammals

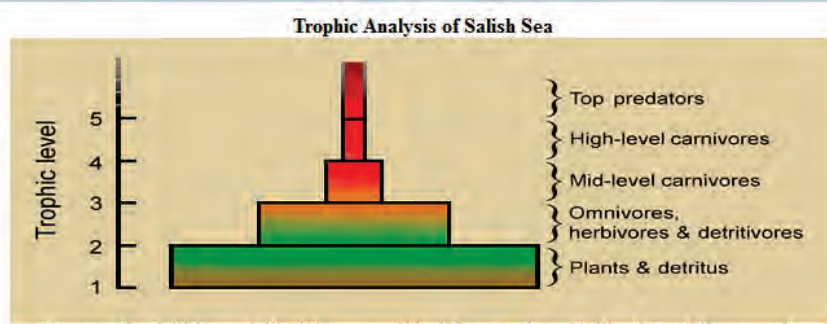


# Trophic pyramid



Trophic level estimates from diet composition and food items.

Top predators: seabirds and cetaceans



After page has loaded completely, click on pyramid for information by trophic level. View full screen mode.

Trophic Level >= 5	
Number of marine species:	0
Trophic Level 4.50 - 4.99	
Number of marine species:	17
Length range:	18 - 1,280 cm TL
Geom. mean length (95% CI):	196.1 (111.1-345.9)
Mean Trophic Level (95% CI):	4.53 (4.50-4.56)
Trophic Level 4.00 - 4.49	
Number of marine species:	51
Length range:	1 - 1,890 cm TL
Geom. mean length (95% CI):	41.4 (28.4-60.4)
Mean Trophic Level (95% CI):	4.20 (4.16-4.25)
Trophic Level 3.50 - 3.99	
Number of marine species:	33
Length range:	0 - 2,700 cm TL
Geom. mean length (95% CI):	25.8 (14.2-47.0)
Mean Trophic Level (95% CI):	3.72 (3.66-3.77)

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SeaLifeBase

## Marine Species in Trophic Level 4.50 - 4.99

Mean Trophic Level (95% CI): 4.53  
n=17

Species	Class	Order	Family	Habitat	Length (cm)	Trophic level
<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	Mammalia	Carnivora	Otariidae	bathydemersal	240.0 TL	4.5
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Mammalia	Carnivora	Otariidae	bathydemersal	210.0 TL	4.5
<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Mammalia	Carnivora	Phocidae	bathydemersal	190.0 TL	4.5
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Aves	Ciconiiformes	Accipitridae	others	100.0 TL	4.8
<i>Stercorarius maccormicki</i>	Aves	Charadriiformes	Stercorariidae	others	53.0 TL	4.6
<i>Calidris mauri</i>	Aves	Ciconiiformes	Scolopacidae	others	18.0 TL	4.6
<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	Aves	Ciconiiformes	Pelecanidae	others	178.0 TL	4.5
<i>Mergus serrator</i>	Aves	Anseriformes	Anatidae	others	51.2 TL	4.5
<i>Larus thayeri</i>	Aves	Ciconiiformes	Laridae	others	51.6 TL	4.5
<i>Orcinus orca</i>	Mammalia	Cetacea	Delphinidae	pelagic	980.0 TL	4.6
<i>Berardius bairdii</i>	Mammalia	Cetacea	Ziphiidae	pelagic	1,280.0 TL	4.5
<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	Mammalia	Cetacea	Delphinidae	pelagic	610.0 TL	4.5
<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	Mammalia	Cetacea	Delphinidae	pelagic	600.0 TL	4.5
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Mammalia	Cetacea	Delphinidae	pelagic	380.0 TL	4.5
<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	Mammalia	Cetacea	Delphinidae	pelagic	260.0 TL	4.5
<i>Phocoenoides dalli</i>	Mammalia	Cetacea	Phocoenidae	pelagic	240.0 TL	4.5
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	Mammalia	Cetacea	Phocoenidae	pelagic	200.0 TL	4.5

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- EWE 6.4.1 released
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## Balancing the Strait of Georgia model

sherman on Mon, 04/12/2010 - 18:48

Title	Balancing the Strait of Georgia model
Publication Type	Report
Year of Publication	1996
Authors	Venier, J
Series Editor	Pauly, D, Christensen V, Haggan N
Type	Report



The Puget Sound ecosystem ranges from snow-fed watersheds draining the Cascade and Olympic mountain ranges to the depths of Puget Sound marine waters through the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the Pacific Ocean. Home to the majority of the state of Washington's population, its health and beauty are integral to human health and well-being. The NWFSC, working with a variety of collaborators, provides key scientific information about the Puget Sound ecosystem and its health to support the Puget Sound Partnership and other management efforts.

**Synthesizing 'what we know' about the Puget Sound ecosystem**

NWFSC scientists collaborated with scientists from federal, state, tribal, local government, academic and non-profit entities to develop a comprehensive description of the Puget Sound climatic and physical processes, marine habitats, marine food webs and impacts of future ecosystem change. This collaboration identified indicators of degradation in Puget Sound such listed species, a disrupted food web, diminishing habitats, and persistent and toxic contaminants, and identified preventative strategies as one of the most ecologically sound and cost effective solutions for the future. While change is an inherent feature of any ecosystem, the projected changes in climate, population growth, and the complexity of the Puget Sound ecosystem all point to the need for an ecosystemwide view, integrating the human and natural systems of Puget Sound to improve our ability to choose cost-effective actions and predict long term results. Finally, connections between scientists and decision makers are considered to be crucial in achieving a broader perspective and sustainable strategy for the future of Puget Sound.

**Conducting an Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA)**

An IEA is a quantitative analytical framework that provides support for ecosystem-scale management. It includes the following steps: identify indicators of ecosystem function, assess risk to those indicators individually and collectively, evaluate management strategies to address risks, assess performance through a monitoring and evaluation plan, and identify adaptation strategies as needed. A team of scientists is working towards the goal of completing the first iteration of an IEA for Puget Sound in 3 years. In the first year (2008), we developed several pieces of the IEA analytical framework:

- A marine food web trophic model (EcoPath with EcoSim) for Central Puget Sound that will be part of the core biophysical ecosystem model for the marine system,
- Preliminary analyses of which indicators best capture attributes of marine system condition (attributes such as resilience, trophic structure, food web stability, etc.),
- Two modules quantifying the effects of strategies on system indicators: (1) hydrology/land use scenario modeling exploring the effects of land use practices on fresh water yields and PCB loadings to the marine environment, and (2) models quantifying the effects of protection or restoration of nearshore eelgrass habitats on a suite of ecosystem services (see back page).

NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-NWFSC-106



## A Mass-balance Model for Evaluating Food Web Structure and Community-scale Indicators in the Central Basin of Puget Sound

May 2010

Interactions between marine mammals and chinook salmon in a Strait of Georgia ecosystem model

Dave Preikshot, and I. Perry  
 Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
 Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo BC

Mean trophic level of predators changes in the Strait of Georgia simulation

stable until early 1990s  
 steady decline from 1990 to 2009



# How about the Salish Sea?



# Missing data in FishBase and SeaLifeBase

- 68% of fish species have biological data in FishBase;
- Only about 14% of non-fish metazoans, including some species with CR status in IUCN, have data in SeaLifeBase;
- groups not well covered are: Cnidaria, Annelida, Kamptozoa, Kinorhyncha, Nemertea, Platyhelminthes, Porifera and Sipuncula;
- Data gaps include diet composition studies in marine vertebrates (including fish), and maximum sizes and reproduction in invertebrates.



# THANK YOU!

**Pearsall Ecological Consulting** for funding this work

**Sea Around Us** for funding my participation in this conference

**Ted Pietsch** for letting us use Ray Troll's mural

**Mike Pan** for the map and vertebrate artwork

**SeaLifeBase** and **FishBase** team members for encoding the data

**FishBase Information and Research Group, Inc. IT Team** for updating the \*.ca web mirrors

## Salamat!

## Merci!

