Zooplankton are a diverse group of tiny animals that float freely in the water column. They include copepods, euphausiids (krill), cnidarians and ctenophores (jellies), amphipods, larval stages of benthic invertebrates such as crabs and oysters, larval fish, and more. Zooplankton play a critical role in the marine food web as important prey for juvenile salmon and small forage fish.

This Vital Sign tells us about the abundance and distribution of zooplankton populations in Puget Sound.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VITAL SIGN &gt; INDICATOR</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zooplankton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average zooplankton biomass</td>
<td>insufficient or no data</td>
<td>no target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zooplankton Index</td>
<td>insufficient or no data</td>
<td>no target</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key Vital Sign Messages

This is a new Vital Sign and we are working with our partners to compile and report key messages.

Related Strategies

- Awareness of Effects of Climate Change
- Climate Adaptation & Resilience
- Education Partnerships
- Funding
- Research & Monitoring
- Salmon Recovery
- Stewardship & Motivating Action
- Strategic Leadership & Collaboration

Vital Sign Reporter

Last Updated
4/19/2022