

NEWS BREAK

Wednesday's News Break selects an article from Tuesday, October 25th, 2016 print replica of The Seattle Times for an in-depth reading of the news. Read the selected article and answer the attached study questions. **Please remember to always preview the content of the article before sharing with your students.**

Article: Feds step up efforts to protect ecosystem of Puget Sound (NW Wednesday, B1)

Objective: Students will learn about the Puget Sound ecosystem and efforts being made to preserve it.

Standards: EALR 1 Systems: Look at a complex situation and see how it can be analyzed as a system with boundaries, inputs, outputs, and flows.

Pre-Reading and Vocabulary

- What is the Puget Sound? Why is it important?

(Double check your answers by reading page 2 of the NIE Special Section, "Salmon Stormwater and YOU", in the Sunday, October 30th, 2016 print replica)

Vocabulary: Match the words to the numbered definitions in the chart below.

1. hailed	1. to acclaim; approve enthusiastically
2. agencies	2. the tidal mouth of a large river, where the tide meets the stream
3. caucus	3. the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism
4. dwindling	4. a meeting of the members of a legislative body who are members of a particular political party, to select candidates or decide policy
5. ecosystem	5. (of a problem, need, or situation) requiring quick or immediate action or attention
6. estuaries	6. a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment
7. federal	7. having or relating to a system of government in which several states form a unity but remain independent in internal affairs
8. habitat	8. diminish gradually in size, amount, or strength

9. pressing	9. business or organization established to provide a particular service, typically one that involves organizing transactions between two other parties
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Comprehension

1. In your own words, what is the Puget Sound?
2. The Obama administration Tuesday stepped up efforts to protect Puget Sound that included what?
3. The federal action represents the latest in a string of efforts over the decades to tackle pressing environmental problems in the region, including what?
4. The federal action builds on similar efforts to protect which other ecosystems?
5. Who co-founded the Congressional Puget Sound Recovery Caucus?
6. The task force will include members from which federal agencies?

Group Discussion Questions or Extension Activities*:

- Consider water and how you use it every day. How many different ways of using water can you think of? How do use water at home? How does your city use water? What do you think our lives would be like without fresh water? Hot water? Water from a tap? What would we have to do differently and how would we do it?
- Examine a map of Washington, and pay special attention to the different bodies of water than you see. Can you figure out the difference between the different types of bodies of water? For example, what is the difference between a sound and a bay? Research and create definitions for each body of water. Design a map of your own state or country – try to include at least one type of each body of water in it.
- Draw, paint or photograph five different forms/bodies of water and write five short poems about each. Focus on detail and description in your writing as well as telling the reader your relationship to the form of water.

*Some activities adapted from The Seattle Post-Intelligencer NIE program "The Zone - Water" by Kim Gonzales

News Break is posted to the Web on Wednesday and Friday. Please share this NIE News Break program with other teachers. To sign-up for the electronic edition for your class, please [register on-line](#) or call 206/652-6290 or toll-free 1-888/775-2655.

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Newsbreak Answer Key: November 2, 2016

Vocabulary

- A. 1
- B. 9
- C. 4
- D. 8
- E. 6
- F. 2
- G. 7
- H. 3
- I. 5

Comprehension Questions

1. Answers will vary.
2. Forming a new federal task force to identify priorities for restoring one of the nation's largest estuaries.
3. Dwindling salmon runs, water pollution and the rapid loss of wetlands and other wildlife habitat.
4. The Great Lakes and the Chesapeake Bay
5. U.S. Reps. Denny Heck and Derek Kilmer
6. The Navy, Homeland Security, Army Corps of Engineers, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency.