

- Human wellbeing includes both subjective experience and objective personal attributes.<sup>1</sup>
- Improvement of ecosystems and links to metrics of human wellbeing have not been studied holistically.
- Ecosystem improvement is generally not motivated by human wellbeing.
- Ecosystem services have been identified as important environmental components that benefit people, and are used as a justification for ecosystem improvement.

- 1) Are there correlations between human wellbeing indicators and ecosystem health indicators in different areas of the Puget Sound?
- 2) Do these results hold in similar climatic regions in a developing areas?

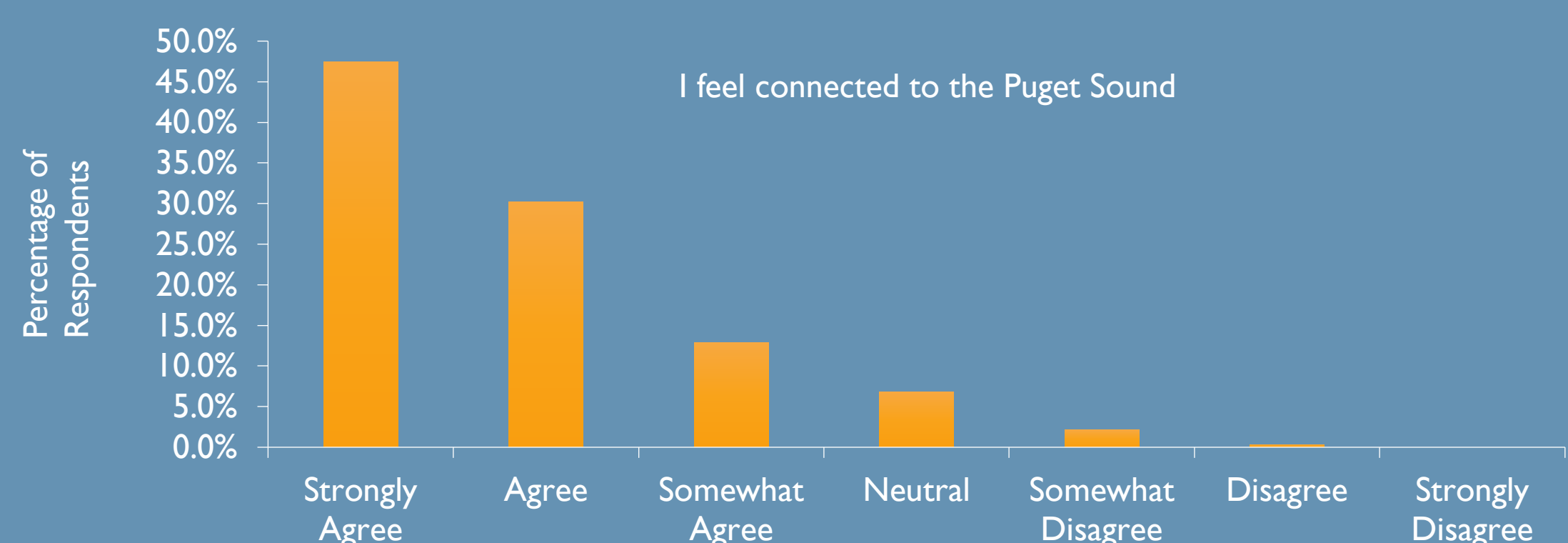
Adapted from the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Framework<sup>3</sup>

Ecosystem Services are often represented as improving wellbeing, but are ecosystems doing better where people have greater wellbeing?

- Additionally, the Puget Sound is leading the way in terms of introducing targets of human wellbeing related to the environment in its restoration agenda.<sup>6</sup>

The Puget Sound uses 25 ‘vital signs’ to monitor ecosystem health over time. Each metric on the wheel is reported biannually. Eleven of the metrics are directly related to human wellbeing.

<http://www.psp.wa.gov/vitalsigns/>



<sup>4</sup>Stinchfield, H, Lynne Koontz, Natalie R Sexton, and Geological Survey. 2009. "Social and Economic Considerations for Coastal and Watershed Restoration in the Puget Sound, Washington : A Literature Review." U.S. Geological Survey open-file report.