

# What are Biological Goals and Objectives?

## Biological goals and objectives (BGOs):



Direct and focus HCP development and implementation



Provide mechanism(s) to determine the success of the HCP

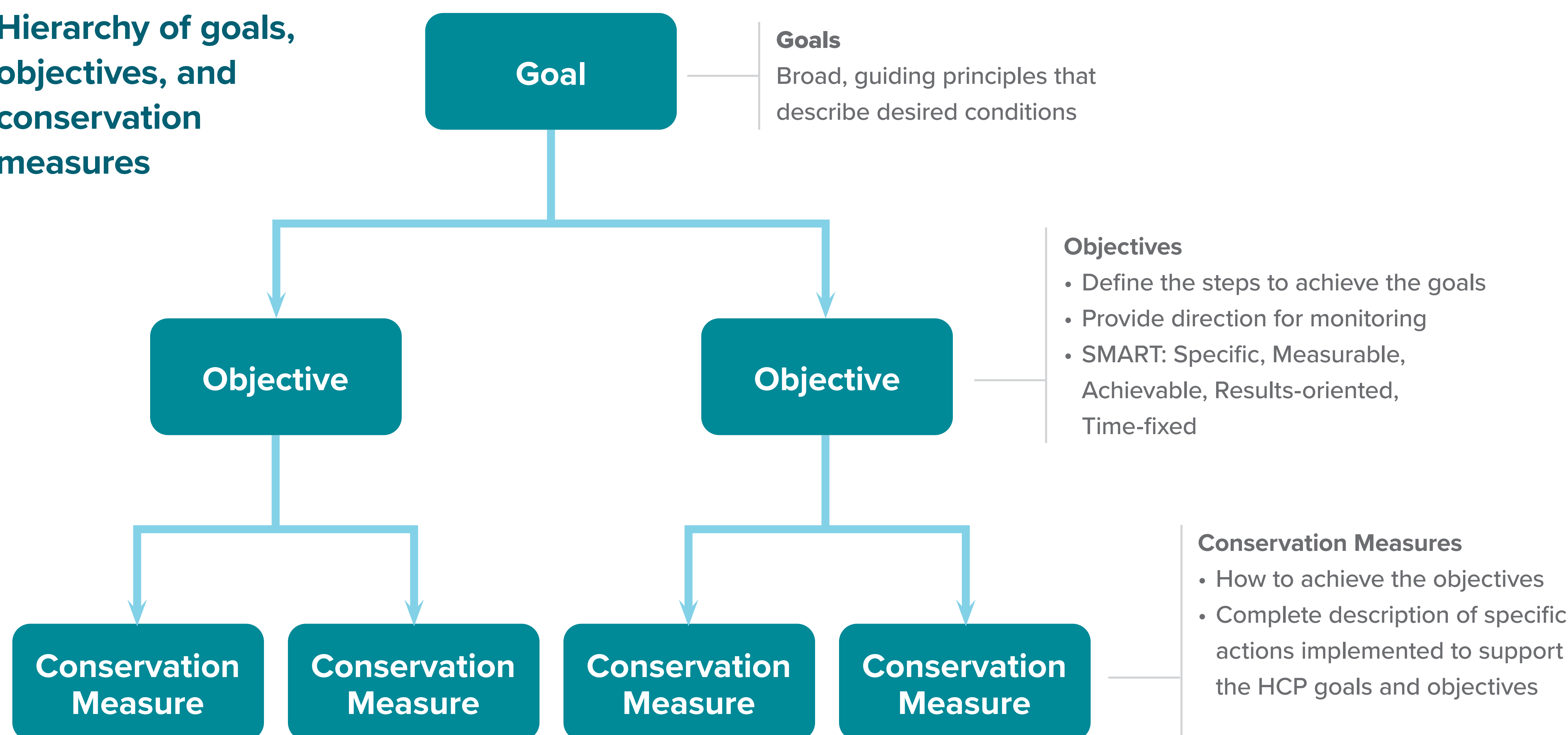


Base the HCP on the biology of Covered Species



Focus the HCP on the recovery of Covered Species

## Hierarchy of goals, objectives, and conservation measures



## Biological goals and objectives are:

- ✓ Broad, guiding principles for development and operation of the conservation plan
- ✓ Rationale for individual species mitigation and the overall conservation strategy
- ✓ Proportionate to the expected impacts of the proposed action
- ✓ Rationale for avoidance, minimization, and mitigation actions
- ✓ Descriptive of the desired future condition for Covered Species and their habitats
- ✓ Descriptive, clear, and understandable

## Biological goals and objectives are not:

- ✗ Restatements of the incidental take permit issuance criteria in the Endangered Species Act
- ✗ Restatements of other regulations, policies, or guidance
- ✗ Permit terms and conditions
- ✗ A recovery plan for Covered Species (but BGOs should be consistent with existing recovery plans)
- ✗ Unrealistic, unclear, and vague