

Cross-TAC Summary

Shared Priorities & Key Focus Areas

TAC Strategic Directions

Potential Conceptual Frames

SHARED PRIORITIES

ROBUST

Conserve, enhance, & manage key regional open space assets and systems that are resilient to disturbances & can evolve over time.

CONNECTED

Connect & integrate open space assets in terms of physical access to landscape & habitat types, ecological relationships, rural to urban geographies, and human to natural realms.

DIVERSE & CONTEXTUAL

Provide a variety of precious open spaces, marine & terrestrial landscape & ecosystem types, & functional systems tailored to different scales & community needs.

MULTI-FUNCTIONAL

Layering objectives to address ecological integrity, ecosystem services, human health & well being, resource conservation, & community vitality. Incorporate the benefits of regional open space systems into other efforts such as transportation, economic development, & infrastructure planning.

CHERISHED

Foster a culture of stewardship with an appreciation of the value of regional open space.

EQUITABLE & ACCESSIBLE

Improve access for all citizens without degrading resources.

COORDINATED

Improve cross-jurisdiction institutional coordination of open space efforts to address landscape scale objectives and upgrade the effectiveness of the system.

INTER-DEPENDENT

Recognize the mutual interdependence of wilderness, rural and urban lands & the interface between people and the region's land resources & waterways.

SHARED CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING THE ROSS

LIMITED FUNDING & PRIORITIZATION

TAX STRUCTURE

LIMITED PUBLIC LAND OWNERSHIP

VESTED DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

POLITICAL FRAGMENTATION

INCONSISTENT & INCOMPLETE REGULATIONS/INCENTIVES

GAPS IN ANALYSIS

Strategic Directions: Ecosystems TAC

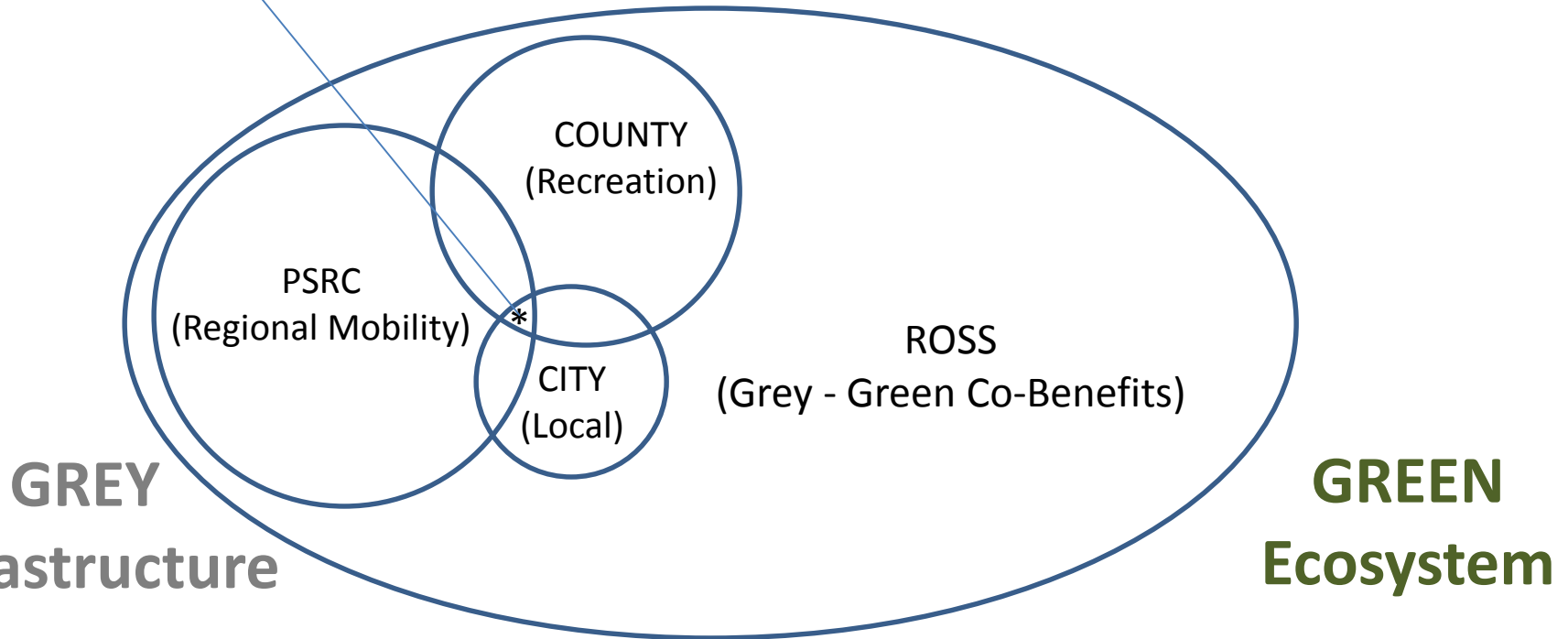
- Incorporate & link current efforts such as Puget Sound Partnership Watershed Characterization & WRIAs; TNC & state/county habitat assessments; and Biodiversity Strategies.
- Evaluate varying contributions of open space landscape types and assess values derived from ROSS.
- Recognize that ecosystems extend beyond 4 counties, occur at a variety of scales, and incorporate all lands, not just open space.
- Consult existing science identifying habitat priorities and identify appropriate management and gradients of public access.

Strategic Directions: Rec. & Trails TAC

- Integrate PSRC's transportation-oriented trail plan with county level recreation-oriented trail planning.
- Utilize streets as open space – expand on the “complete streets” approach to embrace ecological habitat values.
- Outline how best to link recreational assets by utilizing utility corridors and other linear systems.
- Improve regional wayfinding between parks and recreational facilities.

Aligning Recreation & Other Objectives

Identify Gap/Project → Confounding Factors → Recommendation
Why isn't it happening?



* The ROSS identifies opportunities to pursue projects that align recreation & mobility, link local & regional aspirations for recreation & trails, and outline how to utilize projects to contribute to other regional objectives (linking land-water, urban-rural, etc...). This helps justify investments in the recreation system.

Strategic Directions: Rural & Res. Lands TAC

- Identify key lands that need protection by mapping rural land use, resource lands and current trends to highlight key conditions & threats.
- Outline gaps in research, monitoring, and protection strategies that incorporate current efforts such as ESA, Corps, tribes, & CSOs.

Strategic Directions: Rural & Res. Lands TAC

- Support Rural Communities
 - Inform future policy development through improved region-wide analysis of the diversity of communities and their needs within the unincorporated area and the rural landscape.
 - Seek better link to “rural” residents by identifying how they organize themselves.
- Support Rural Economies
 - Improve resources and knowledge among small forest and farm property owners.
 - Develop incentives to cultivate the next generation of farmers & foresters.
 - Activate land management to ensure future resource production and avoid major environmental detriment from erosion, fallow, and flooded out land.
 - Develop common agricultural areas and community forests

Strategic Directions: Rural & Res. Lands TAC

- Position major land acquisitions as community investments
 - Highlight the potential economic return of land acquisitions that have a community benefit through ecosystem services.
 - Express urgency to public that we have a 10 year window before our resource lands are converted to other uses by land development companies outside of the region or disconnected from the land.
 - Conduct a review of how much such acquisition has cost us in the past 10-20 years and outline a 10 year strategy to acquire these lands

Directions: Urban & Comm. Development TAC

- Confront “open space deserts” & utilize major infrastructure corridors to organize regional investments in parks/plazas
 - Expand on existing analysis to identify underutilized property and opportunity sites associated with the development of linear systems of infrastructure (such as the proposed light rail system)
- Utilize existing analysis to identify how open space can best address key inequities/health disparities in the region.
- Establish regional agreements to ensure open space is provided in tandem with the provision of affordable housing & support large scale redevelopment efforts with open space.
- Support water trails & connections to water by utilizing the Puget Sound shoreline, lakes, & rivers/creeks to organize open space investments.

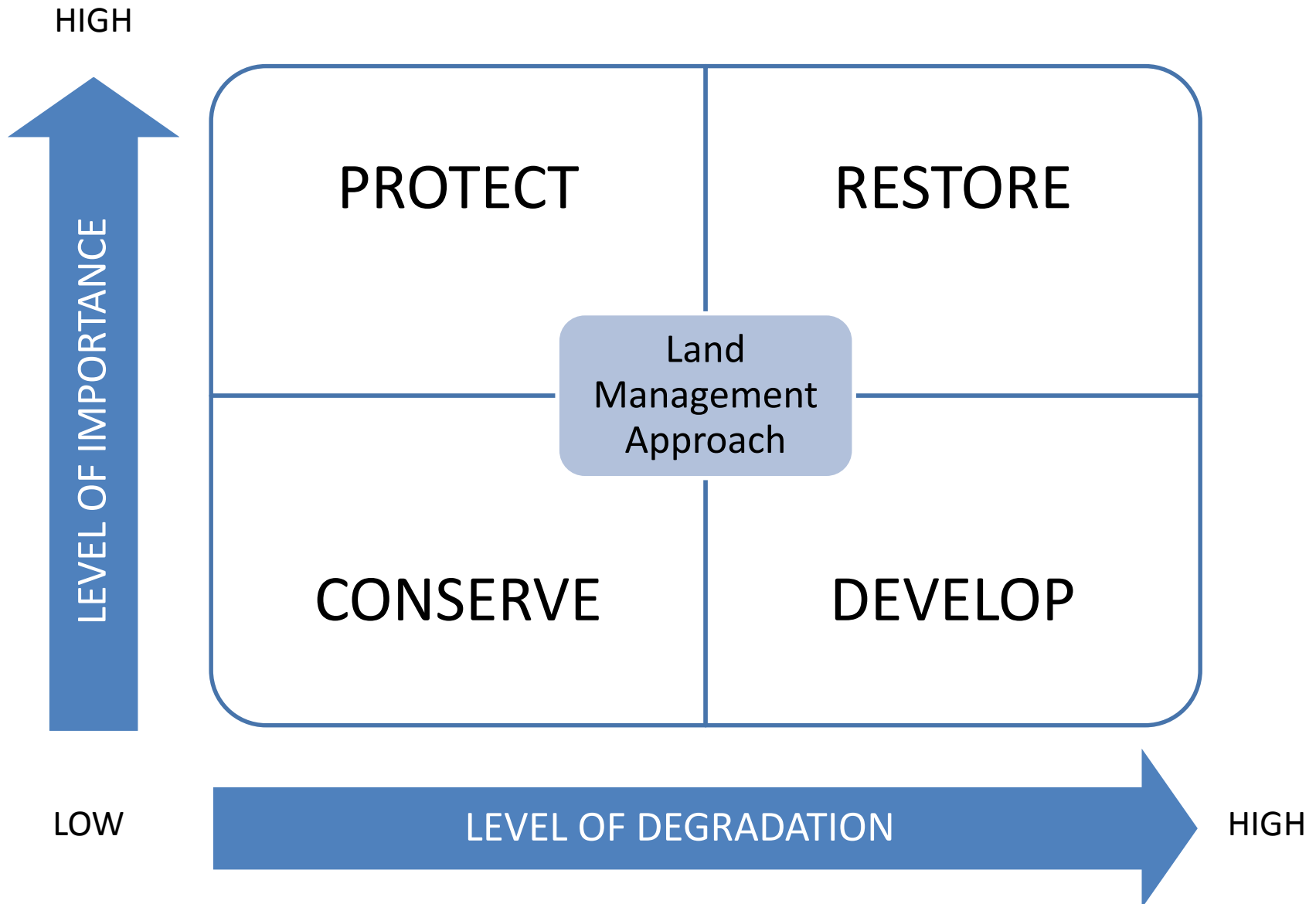
Work Plan

- **Phase 1 (summer 2012)**
 - Complete Preliminary Comprehensive Strategy
 - Continue to foster alliances (ongoing)
 - Secure funding for Phase 2
- **Phase 2 (startup – fall/winter 2012-13)**
 - Organize with key participants already engaged in regional planning activities (PSP, TNC, Forterra, PSRC, counties, etc.) and obtain base data that they have developed. *(i.e.: start with the big analytical pieces that are already underway.)*
 - Begin mapping *(This may be a challenge as the mapping protocols and data sets are likely not all congruent.)*
 - Explore current knowledge re: ecosystem services and refine methodology for ecosystems approach. *(This is the most challenging analytical element)*
 - Begin analysis and outreach for 2 watersheds

FRAME #1:

**WIDER APPLICATION
OF
WATERSHED CHARACTERIZATION**

Land Assessment



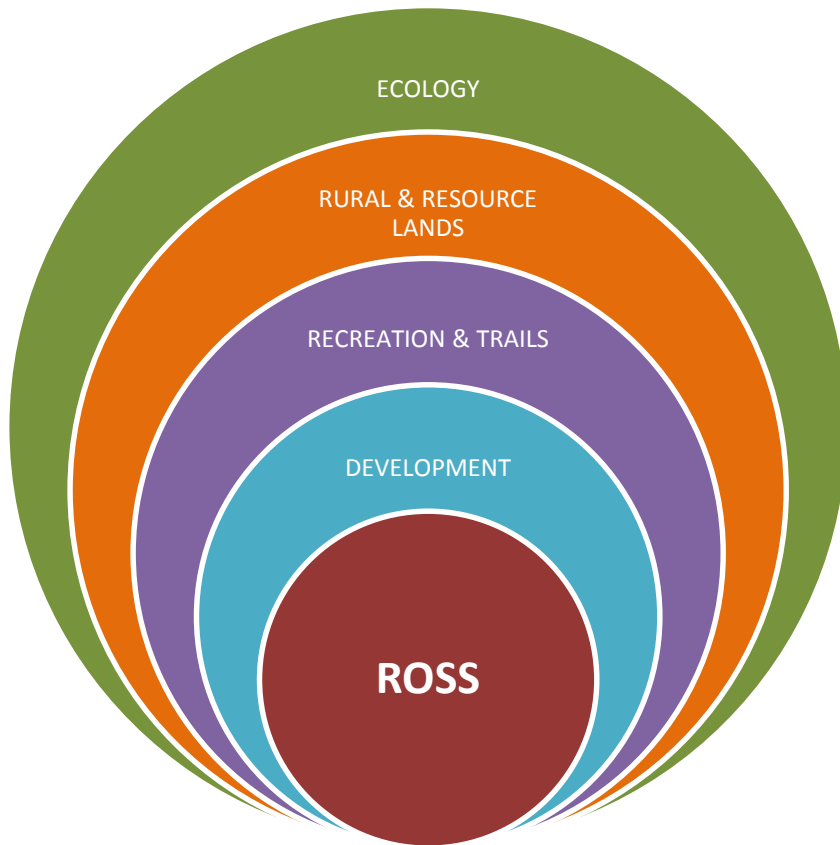
Application of Assessment To Non-Ecological Land Values

- Rural & resource lands example:
 - Work with partners (conservation districts & farm/forestry interests) to determine land values that support healthy agriculture/forestry industry & determine metrics for impairment (fallow or eroded property)
 - Assign rural land values with input from rural community & planners, assess impairment (fragmentation & other challenges)

FRAME #2:

LAYERING PRIORITIES

Combining Landscape Ecology & Ecosystem Service Analysis



- Landscape Ecology
 - Establish landscape typologies
 - Layer analysis to outline geographic intersects of all interests in acquiring or managing open space.
 - Form a proposal based on layering
- Ecosystem Service Analysis
 - Assess relative values of different open space landscape types
 - Assess value of proposed regional system

FRAME #3:

Grey to Green
&
Green to Grey

FRAME #4:

Arteries & Capillaries

