ROSS A Regional Open Space Strategy for Central Puget Sound

Executive Committee Introductory Session Gould Hall, University of Washington January 10, 2012



We've already got it pretty good



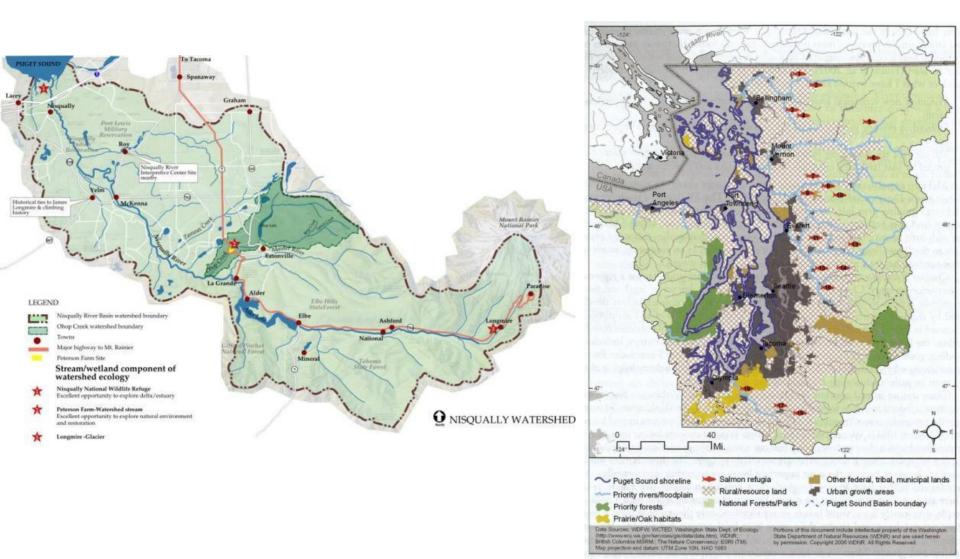




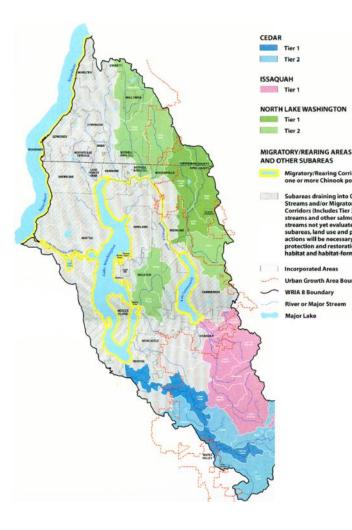


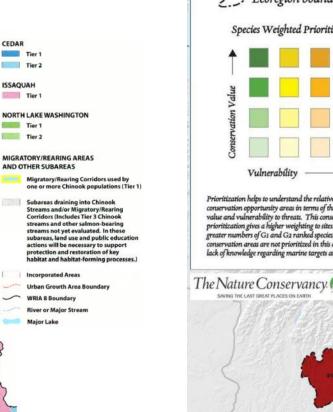


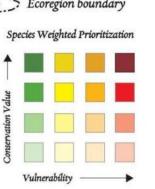
But it could be better especially the ecology and there are some missing pieces



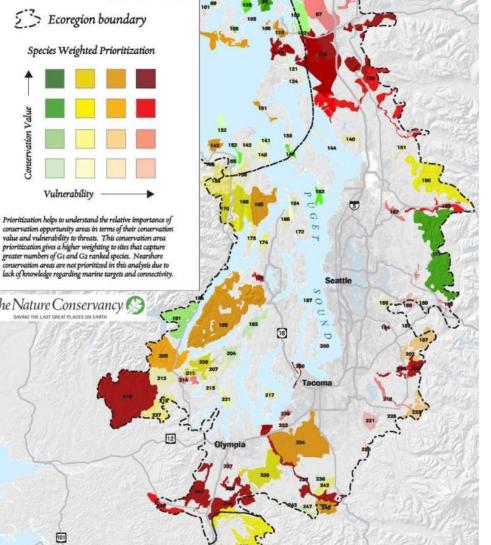
Need to coordinate ecological priorities

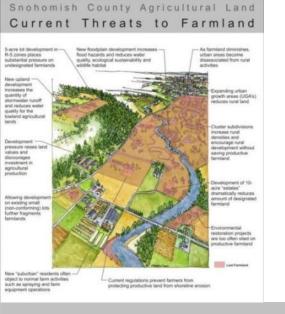






conservation opportunity areas in terms of their conservation value and vulnerability to threats. This conservation area prioritization gives a higher weighting to sites that capture greater numbers of G1 and G2 ranked species. Nearshore conservation areas are not prioritized in this analysis due to lack of knowledge regarding marine targets and connectivity.





Integrated resource lands conservation strategies

Expand opportunities for property owners to apply for farmland designation and tax incentives

Explore opportunities for new types of crops, especially in small lot upland areas

Repeal density —/ bonus for cluster subdivisions unless TDR credits are purchased Strengthen transfer of development rights (TDR) program in which farmers can sell TDR credits to developers wishing to develop above base densities. Non-agricultural development would not be allowed on land after TDR credits are sold. Require TDR credits for all development above base rural densities for cluster development, LAMIRDS, and expanded UGA's

> Initiate cooperative program with incentives for cities to designate TDR receiving areas in urban areas

> > Develop outlets for local produce, including Farmer's Markets and access to supermarket purchasing

Develop food storage, processing and transportation facilities

-Locate shoreline restoration and mitigation banks on least productive land

Non-Designated Agricultural Lands Inventory

Clusters of farm land outside of designated area could be explored for protection

Designatedagricultural lands have already been mapped



There are over 1100 parcels in agricultural use in this map, with approximately 7400 acres in use

Forage, particularly horse pastures and hay, is a common agricultural use Allow farmers to _____ protect land from erosion if combined with habitat restoration

Apply public funds to protect the public benefits of agricultural lands such as food security, flood reduction, water quality, habitat, aesthetics and recreation. Funds could pay for purchase of development rights, incentives for cities to participate in TDR program, or economic development activities.





Trails and linear systems: Regionally critical missing links



Need to structure the "urban fringe"

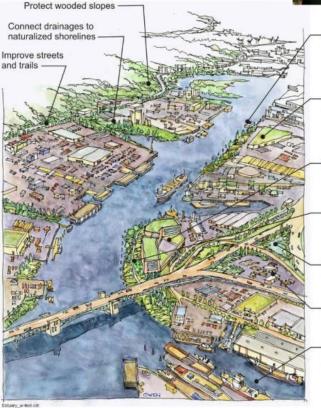




Assistance to local groups

Transforming Industrialized Estuaries

- 1. Determine need for industrial space, then
- 2. Upgrade existing industrial facilities, and
- 3. Add compatible redevelopment, and
- 4. Improve infrastructure all with environmental restoration and sustainable development techniques.





- Restore shorelines where there are not water-dependent uses
- Incorporate lowimpact development techniques such as green roofs
- Replace inefficient non-water-dependent uses
- Incorporate public access and regional trails
- Establish regional water quality facilities
- Utilize land more efficiently
- Retain moorage and industrial access where useful

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Public ship

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City

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Legend



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Manufacture" + Marine village" = Viakable, danse moture of residential, light indu center" + Concentration of public fac

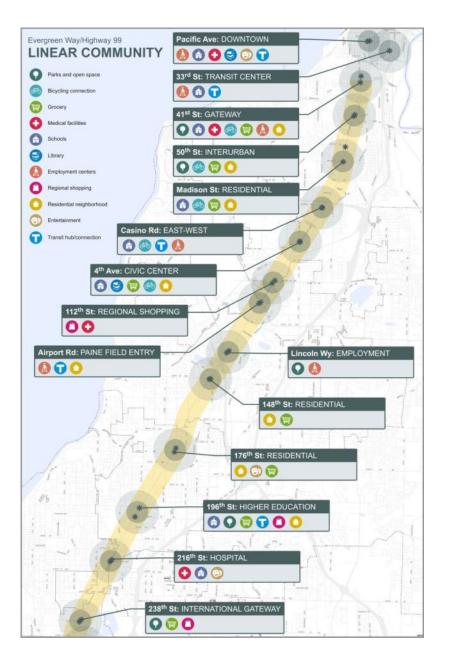
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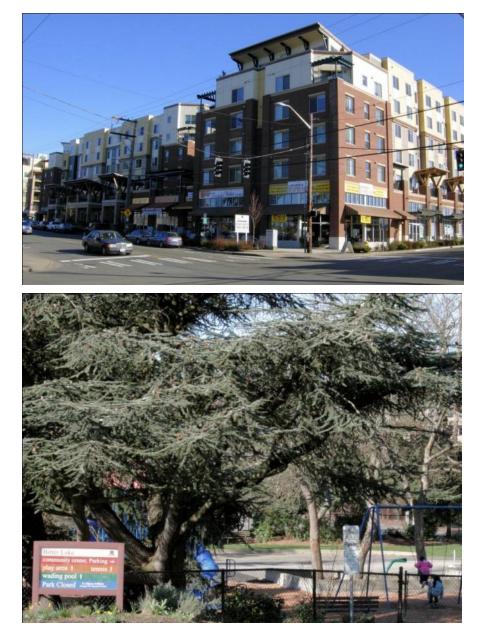
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Funds for parks where we need them





So we need to:

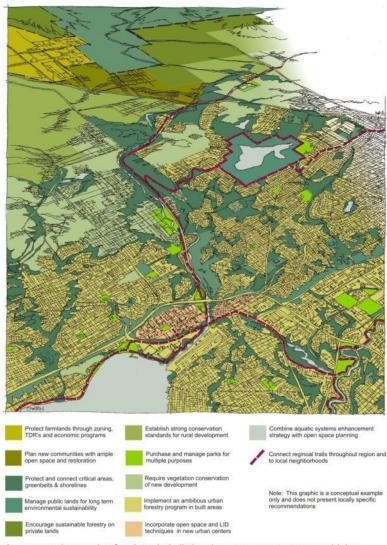
- Support and coordinate existing activities
- Establish significant regional activities and priorities
- Incorporate health and ecosystem services objectives
- Focus on implementation
- Build a constituency around a common vision

In short, we need a strategy to most effectively conserve and enhance our open space systems

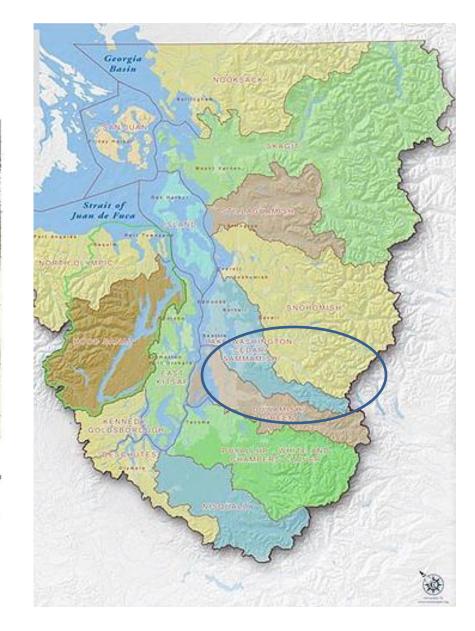
And PSRC VISION 2040 mandates that effort

- PSRC policy En-8: Identify, preserve, and enhance significant regional open spaces and linkages across jurisdictional boundaries
- En-Action-2: The Puget Sound Regional Council, its member jurisdictions, open space agencies, and interest groups shall develop a regional open space strategy

Scoping: Pilot project in the Cedar River Watershed



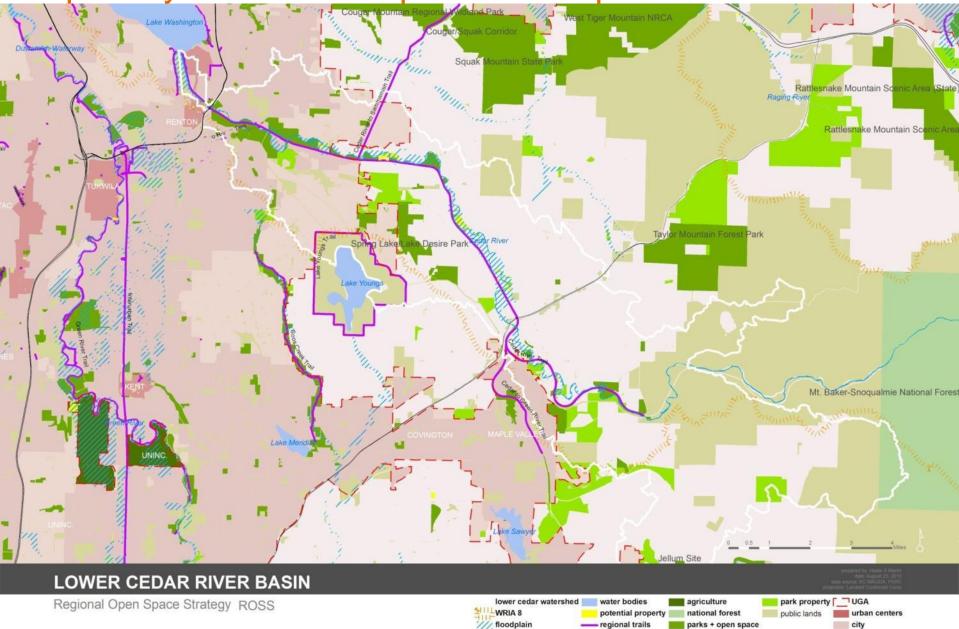
A conceptual example of an inter-jurisdictional open space strategy combining multiple actions to achieve multiple objectives



A sketch for an Open Space Strategy for Cedar River Watershed



Step 1: Synthesis: Compile current plans and activities



A sketch for an Open Space Strategy for Cedar River Watershed

Step 2: Synthesis: Identify gaps and intersections

Desire

 Couger Mountain Regional Profiled Park
City is interested in park couger/Squak Condor improvements and shoreline restoration but funds are not^{Squak} Mountain available

 Link missing that could connect three regional trails Land use and storm water management measures realized necessary in this area to protect water quality and ruralRattlesnake Mountain Scanic Area context

Shoreline management, flood hazard managment,land acquisition and critical area protection ongoing -Some community resistance

ountain Forest Park

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

Opportunity for complex of open spaces and focused services

agriculture

LOWER CEDAR RIVER BASIN

Regional Open Space Strategy ROSS

lower cedar watershed WRIA 8

floodplain

Like Sawy

potential property ____ national forest = regional trails _____ parks + open space

water hodies

Jellum Site

park property [__] UGA public lands urban centers city

Puget Sound Characterization Project WRIA 7 & 8 Results

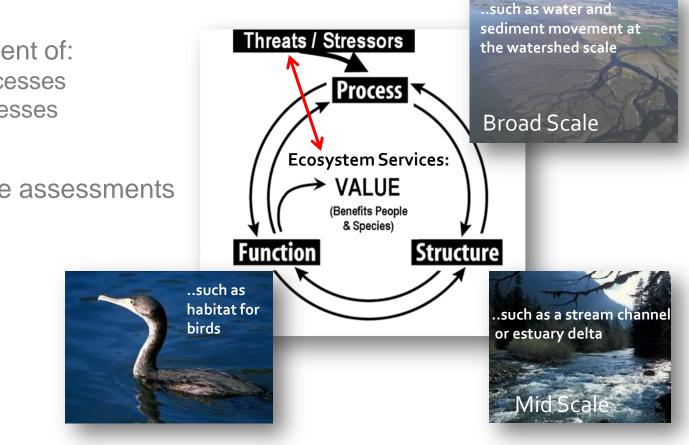
Presentation by Stephen Stanley to King County

Purpose of Project

Sound-wide assessment of:

- Freshwater processes
- Nearshore processes
- Wildlife habitat

These are broad scale assessments



A sketch for an Open Space Strategy for Cedar River Watershed

Step 3: Strategy: Identify priority efforts

Enhance urban reach of the Cedar River as part of the City's park and open space planning.

Implement connections between the Cedar River, Lake Washington and Green River/Interurban Regional

Support and coordinate efforts to restore the Cedar River floodplain

Incorporate City's Legacy Site and Lake Wilderness into community development and create sub-reginal recreation node.

LOWER CEDAR RIVER BASIN

Regional Open Space Strategy ROSS

implement measures in the watershed to improve aquatic system functions per ecological process and WRIA analysis

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Fore

wer cedar watershed ____ water bodies /RIA 8 _____ potential pro

loodplain

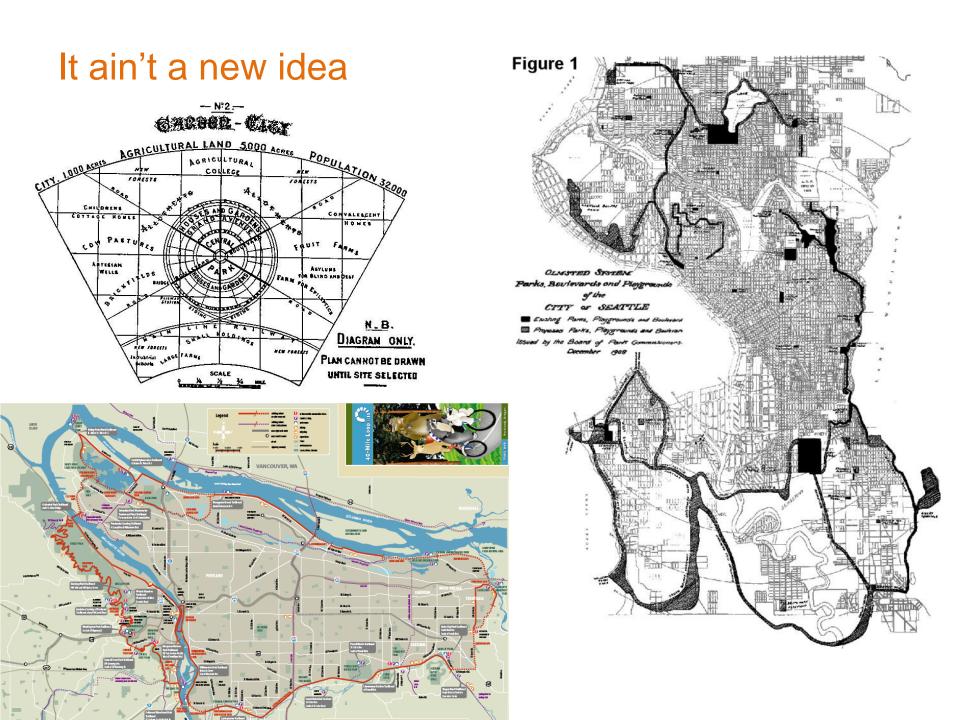
potential property

agriculture national forest parks + open space

park property ____UGA public lands urban centers

Priorities and implementation strategies

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		~	Local	Govt.		Ager	ncies			NGOs	-		Local	Public		EXAMIT
	ACTION	Regional Advocacy	City	County	Dept. of Ecology	WRIA	PSRC	Puget Sound Partnership	Cascade Land Conservancy	The Nature Conservancy	Washington Bicycle Alliance	Environmental	Trail Advocates	Recreational	Local Landowners	EXAMPLE EXAMPLE EXAMPLE
	Continue acquisition and restoration efforts in Cedar River Floodplain			•	•	•			•	•		AME	PLE	EXA	MPLE	Support King County with coordinated activities.
	Connect Green River, Lake Washington and Cedar River Trails	•	•	•			•	OLE	EXI	AMPL	EE		•	•	NPLE	Raise priority for transportation funds.
	Open and enhance Cedar River west of I 405	•	•		AMP	LE F	EXAN	•				•	•	•	•	City lead with combined funding based on watershed benefit.
	Restore mouth of Cedar River	EX	ANOPI	EE'	•	•		•		•		•	•	•		Water quality and ecological benefit.
	Provide for parks in UGA and the annexation areas		•	•					•			•	•	•	•	First study the problem. Identify solutions.
AM	Establish regional monitoring parter management handbook Publish Species needs posters				•	•	•	•		•		•				Environmental scientific community lead. Share results.
5×r.	Publish Species needs posters				•					•		•				Educational effort. Good neighborhood project.
	Advocate for greater share of transportation funds	•	•	•			•		•				•			Build a coalition.
	Form advocacy group for better use of development capacity increases	•	•	•			•		•			•	•	•		Build a coalition for regional unity.



Who else has done it?

• Portland, OR Parks 2020 Vision

Emphasizes developing a sense of community Successfully integrated many smaller holdings into a coherent park system Includes a strong evaluation program for grading performance

• Auckland, NZ Regional Open Space Strategy

Broad vertical and horizontal aspect: National to local analysis + participation Clearly communicated series of action plans and planning tools

• St Louis, MI Great Rivers Greenway District

Strong coordination between multiple county and city governments High level of community input and support + popular central project: River Ring Flexible, strong image (formerly Metropolitan Park and Recreation District)

• Nashua, NH Regional Open Space Strategy

Broad definition of open space; including forests, agricultural, recreational Includes many smaller jurisdictions in a regional planning effort Calls for the development of a set of open space planning tools



It's not just about open space

We need to build a sense of regional community









NWCLC

