

DRAFT Outline – Regional Open Space Conservation Plan

Executive Summary

Chapter 1

How do the region's open spaces benefit the region and what is their contribution to the regional economy, infrastructure, resiliency, and quality of life?

- 1.1 Open space definition
- 1.2 Open space services
- 1.3 Value of open space services (findings from Earth Economics Report)
- 1.4 Threats to open space (include historical land cover change)
- 1.5 Summary of peer region open space plans

Chapter 2

Where are the region's open spaces?

- 2.1 Types of open space
 - 2.1.1 Natural lands
 - 2.1.2 Farmland
 - 2.1.3 Working forests
 - 2.1.4 Aquatic systems
 - 2.1.5 Regional trails
 - 2.1.6 Urban open space
- 2.2 Regional open space network
 - 2.2.1 Methodology for identifying regionally important open space
- 2.3 Regional open space by watershed
 - 2.3.1 Stillaguamish (WRIA 5)
 - 2.3.2 Snohomish (WRIA 7)
 - 2.3.3 Cedar/Sammamish (WRIA 8)
 - 2.3.4 Green Duwamish (WRIA 9)
 - 2.3.5 Puyallup/White/Chambers/Clover (WRIA 10/12)
 - 2.3.6 Nisqually (WRIA 11)
 - 2.3.7 Kitsap (WRIA 15)

Chapter 3

What open spaces are already protected and how?

- 3.1 Protected open space in the region
- 3.2 Open space protection and enhancement methods

- 3.2.1 Publicly or tribally owned and designated as open space
- 3.2.2 Owned by non-profit
- 3.2.3 Easements
- 3.2.4 Critical areas regulations
- 3.2.5 Landowner incentive programs
- 3.2.6 Current use taxation
- 3.3 Funding for open space protection and enhancement
 - 3.3.1 Purchase or transfer of development rights
 - 3.3.2 Local funds (parks levies, conservation futures, etc.-how much explanation needed?)
 - 3.3.3 Federal and state grants (is this well-enough understood that we don't need to include?)
 - 3.3.4 Philanthropy

Chapter 4

What regional open spaces need protection and what are the benefits and costs of protecting them?

- 4.1 Conservation needs by watershed
- 4.2 Costs of protection
- 4.3 Benefits of protection (and cost of not protecting open space)

Chapter 5

What new opportunities and conservation strategies should be considered?

- 5.1 Barriers to conservation and enhancement
 - 5.1.1 Lack of funding
 - 5.1.2 Land availability
 - 5.1.3 Regulatory barriers (e.g. zoning, Farmland Preservation Program, etc.)
 - 5.1.4 Staff/resource availability
- 5.2 Innovative strategies and tools to overcome barriers
 - 5.2.1 Community forests
 - 5.2.2 Ecosystem service markets
 - 5.2.3 Impact investing
 - 5.2.4 Coordinated agency funding
 - 5.2.5 Expanding natural water supply infrastructure
 - 5.2.6 Land use designations and incentives to promote private landowner stewardship
 - 5.2.7 Green infrastructure approaches
 - 5.2.8 Multi-sector collaboration

Chapter 6

What urban open space issues should be addressed at the regional level?

- 6.1 Continuous open space corridors: rivers, trails, and forested corridors
- 6.2 Tree canopy cover
- 6.3 Access to parks, trails, and other open space?

Chapter 7

What are next steps to implement this plan?

- 7.1 Develop communications and distribution plan
- 7.2 Update open space information, multicounty planning policies, and actions for VISION 2050
- 7.3 Coordinate with counties, Emerald Alliance, and other partners
- 7.4 Performance measures
 - 7.4.1 Short-term conservation goal
 - 7.4.2 Long-term conservation goal
 - 7.4.3 Canopy cover goal
 - 7.4.4 Urban parks, trails, and open space access goal?
 - 7.4.5 Puget Sound Partnership indicators and targets
- 7.5 Issues to address in plan updates
 - 7.5.1 Restoration needs
 - 7.5.2 Climate change
 - 7.5.3 Urban open space

Appendices

- A. Peer region open space planning
- B. Maps
- C. OSAT output
- D. Detailed methodology