



Executive Summary

Issue Description: Creation of the Park and Recreation Department within Title 10 of the County Code

Meeting Date: August 12, 2009

Attendees: Park and Recreation Advisory Board Executive Officer(s)
Interim Director of Parks and Recreation Arvilla Ohlde

Action Requested At This Meeting: Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to review and approve the public participation plan for master planning of the future Newberry Hill Heritage Park in Central Kitsap. County parks staff would be encouraged to dedicate staff resources to a largely-internal master planning process in 2009-2010, culminating in a BOCC public hearing process in the Fall of 2010.

Recommendation: Approve the Public Participation Plan for the Newberry Hill Heritage Park

Justification: The existing Newberry Hill Heritage Park (280 acres), along with adjacent public acreage (1000 acres), lack a master plan for development and management despite numerous active and concerned parties. The proposed public participation program will allow the County to be proactive in pursuing a balance of public interests for the future Heritage Park, i.e. planning for both conservation and recreation operations. Effective public participation – involving existing users, an active stewardship group, and State grant requirements - will result in enhanced environmental stewardship, public access, and local recreation management.

Alternatives:

1. **Not commit to a master planning process for Newberry Hill at this time**, suggesting that additional land consolidation efforts in this area , existing County initiatives, and pursuing grant applications should take precedence. This alternative could inhibit future planning processes and proactive management of the land and of public expectations.

Background:

Long range community planning efforts have resulted in strategic land acquisitions so to preserve the Chico Creek Watershed and to create an expanded Newberry Hill Heritage Park for Central Kitsap. Through the “Newberry Hill Land Exchange” with the State Department of Natural Resources,

approved by the County Board of Commissioners on May 13, 2009, the County took ownership of 520 acres of critical open space in this area, previously managed for State trust revenue (lumber). Like the last remaining 250 acre parcel owned by the State – expected to be reconveyed to the County by 2012 - , this acreage has not been not programmed for conservation or recreation management.

Attachments:

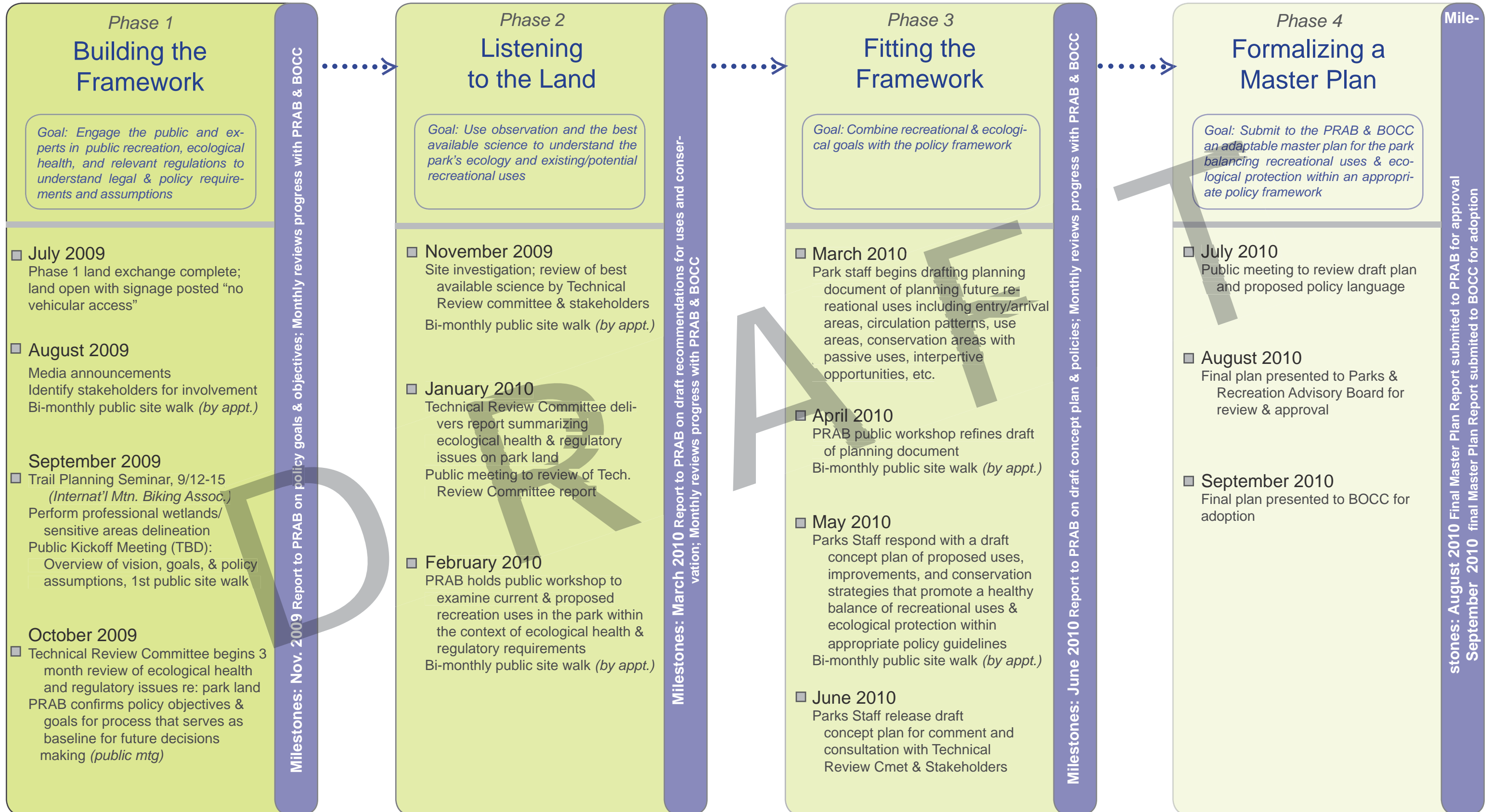
1. Summary of Public Participation for Master Plan, Future Newberry Hill Heritage Park.
2. Map, depicting future Newberry Hill Heritage Park, with existing – but not approved - trails



Future Newberry Hill Heritage Park

Summary of Public Participation for Master Plan

Kitsap County Parks and Recreation
 360.337.5350 ph, 360.337.5385 fax
<http://www.kitsapgov.com/parks/>
 614 Division Street, MS-1
 Port Orchard, WA 98366



* Stakeholders group includes the Newberry Hill Heritage Park Stewardship Group
PRAB: Kitsap County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board **BOCC:** Kitsap County Board of County Commissioners

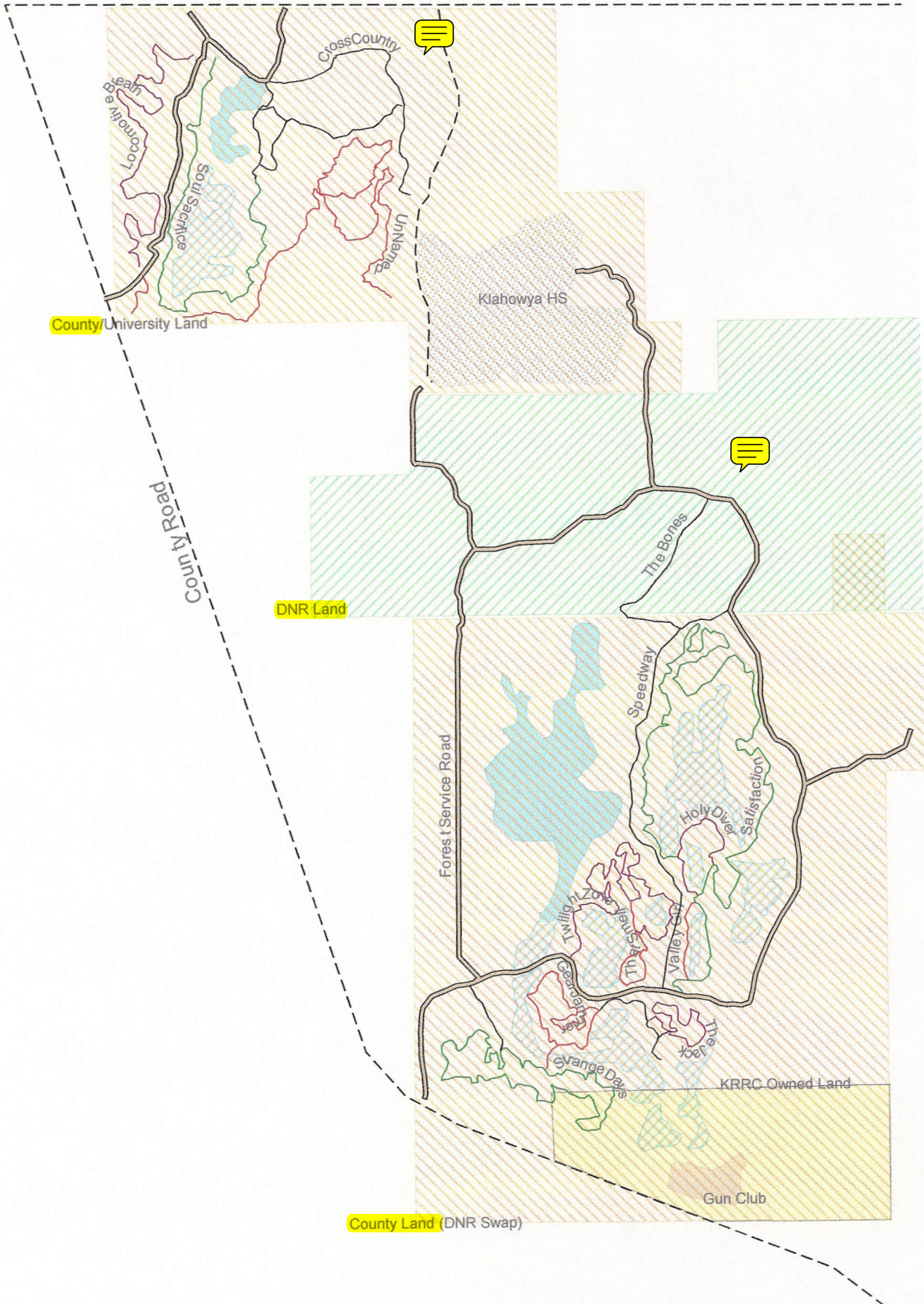


Newberry Hill Master Plan Public Process Outline

Potential Stakeholders

Park users, including walkers, runners, bicyclists, horse riders, school classrooms
Newberry Hill community residents / Neighbors
Klahowya students
Klahowya Administration and Teacher
Central Kitsap School District
Central Kitsap Community Council
Clear Creek Task Force
Backcountry Horsemen, Olympic Chapter
The Mountaineers
Craig Ueland Tree Farm/Mining
Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club
Silverdale Water Company
Central Kitsap Fire District
Great Peninsula Conservancy
Port of Silverdale
Port of Bremerton
Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council
State Department of Natural Resources
State Department of Fish and Wildlife
State Recreation and Conservation Office
Suquamish Tribe
Kitsap County Commissioners Office
Kitsap County Department of Community Development: SEPA Official, Natural Resources
Kitsap County Health District
Kitsap County Conservation District

NEWBERRY HERITAGE PARK



500 ft