

Toward a Natural Resources Asset Management Plan for Kitsap County

Workshop Agenda

Date: August 1, 2022, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM PT

Goals: Identify and discuss anticipated threats to natural assets, revisit desired levels of service, and check in on program implementation.

11:00 AM	Welcome and introductions – Dana Stefan and Elizabeth McManus (Ross Strategic, Facilitators)
11:10 AM	Identify and discuss threats to natural assets and areas of greatest risk – All <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review draft list of threats to natural assets – Matthew Medina (Kitsap County) • Time to review and add comments on list of threats. (Tentative – MURAL) • Group discussion and input regarding threats to natural assets. Discussion questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Are there any threats that we missed? Any that are not relevant in Kitsap County? ○ Which threats to natural assets are we most concerned about over the next 20+ years? ○ Where in Kitsap County are natural assets and the services they provide at greatest risk of negative impacts due to specific threats?
11:40 AM	Revisit level of service goals – All <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review draft high-level 20+ year goals for high, medium, and low levels of service – Charlotte Dohrn (WEC) • Independent work time to review or complete a “mapping exercise” for levels of service (Tentative – MURAL) • Discussion of goals for levels of service, geographic focus to be decided. Discussion questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are our high-level goals for the level of service (High, Medium and Low) of natural assets over the next 20+ years, considering the identified threats? ○ How should goals vary across the landscape, or how did you determine if different geographies should have different goals?
12:10 PM	Break
12:20 PM	Discuss next steps for KNRAMP implementation - All <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group discussion: What future actions do you believe are necessary for implementing a comprehensive natural resource asset management project? How do you envision the role of your organization in implementing these actions?
12:40 PM	Updates from partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates from Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe • Updates from Suquamish Tribe • Updates from Kitsap County • Updates from WEC
12:50 PM	Wrap-up and next steps
1:00 PM	Adjourn

KNRAMP Threats & Goals Workshop Summary

Date: 8/1/22

Attendees: Paul McCollum (Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe), Tom Ostrom (Suquamish Tribe), Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech (Kitsap County), Matthew Medina (Kitsap County), Ryan Huffman (Kitsap County), Jonathan Raine (Kitsap County), Colin Poff (Kitsap County), Mindy Roberts (WEC), Charlotte Dohrn (WEC), Elizabeth McManus (Ross Strategic), Dana Stefan (Ross Strategic)

Discussion of Threats to Natural Assets

The group reviewed and discussed a draft list of threats to natural assets. Using MURAL, everyone identified their top five threats of concern, and identified specific geographies in the county where threats may pose the greatest risk to natural assets.

- The top ranked threat was residential, commercial, and industrial development, though participants noted that conversion to these types of land use and the associated tree clearing, and other impacts is a better description of the threat. For example, redevelopment of or to these types of land use could be positive or at least less of a concern. While conversion can be a threat, development can be an opportunity as well if natural assets are considered. Many people also identified climate change, and non-point source pollution. Some people identified land conversion and tree clearing (note that this is associated with development threats), surface water diversion or withdrawal, roads and other barriers, marine shoreline armoring, altered temperatures, riparian alteration, sedimentation, military and invasives.
- The group also discussed climate change, and while that is a top threat, it can feel like there is less that the County can do. However, the County did complete a climate resiliency assessment in 2020 and will be looking at incorporating climate considerations across the comp plan update.
- The group also discussed geographies of concern. Participants noted that some threats are distributed across geographies, like land conversion within, around, and outside of UGAs. For example, there are ongoing issues with legacy lots outside of UGAs that could lead to suburban-style development, which would be a big threat. The group discussed a pinch point in Central Kitsap where maintaining a wildlife corridor or greenbelt will be important, through conservation acquisitions. Seabeck and Big Beef Creek are currently semi-healthy watersheds, and potential impacts there are a concern. Bays and inlets are vulnerable to water quality and other impacts. The North Kitsap area has a lot of relatively intact shoreline, and it is important to think about threats there and Hood Canal, particularly associated with the navy. There is an intersection with sea level rise vulnerability for many of these areas. North Kitsap and Hood Canal shorelines are also vulnerable to increasing development pressure, which could result in water quality impacts and threats to shellfish growing area status.

Screenshot from the mural board discussion is included below:

Starting list of "threats":

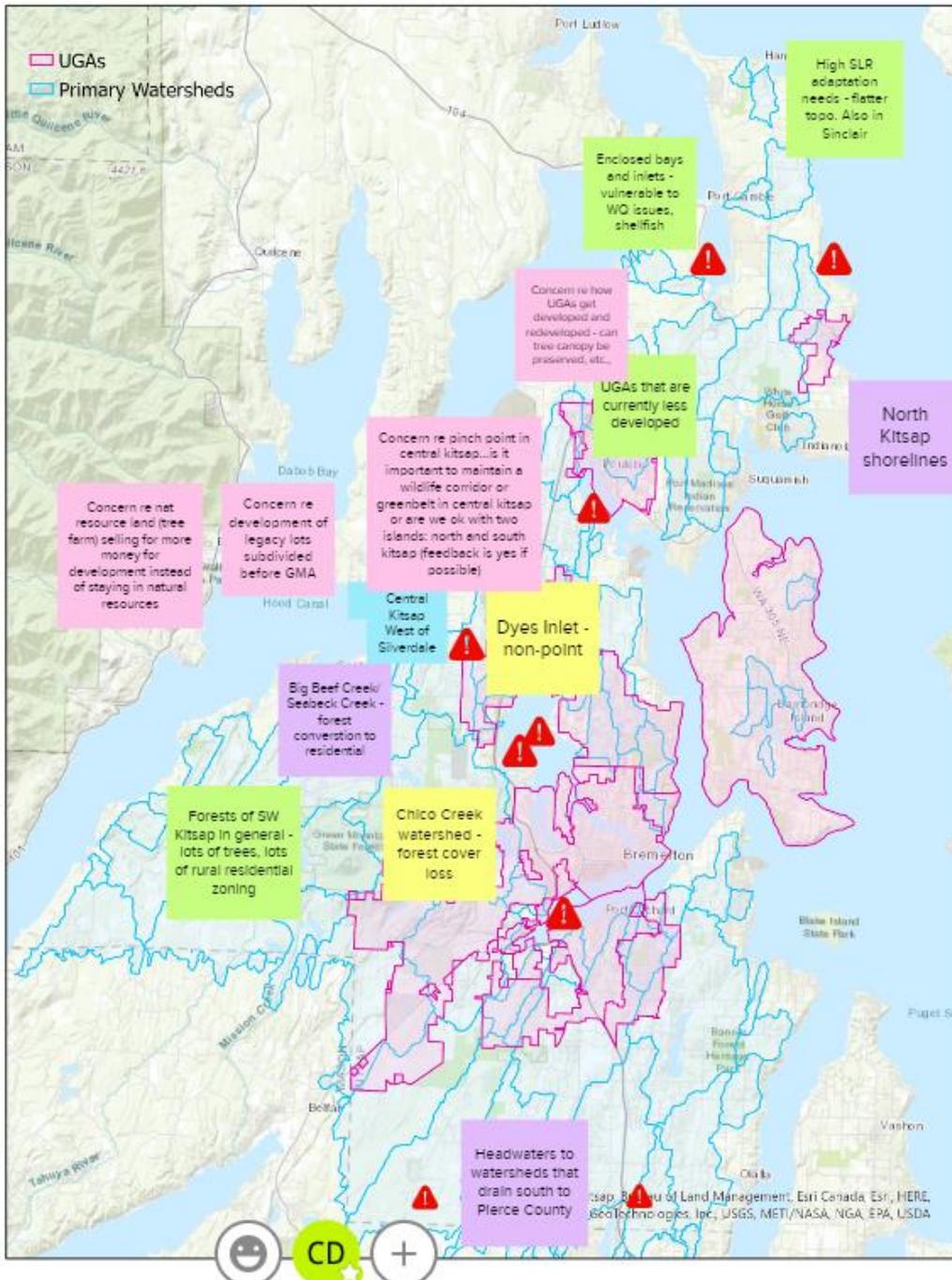
- Air pollution (e.g., GHGs)
- Climate change ★★★★★
- Agriculture
- Timber harvest
- Residential, commercial, and industrial development ★★★★★
- Non-point source pollution ★★★★★
- Land conversion and tree clearing ★★★★★
- Surface water diversion or withdrawal ★★★★★
- Groundwater withdrawals
- Altered flows
- Altered temperatures ★
- Low dissolved oxygen
- Freshwater shoreline infrastructure
- Freshwater shoreline hardening
- Riparian alteration ★
- Sedimentation ★
- Onsite sewage systems
- Roads, railroads, culverts, barriers ★★★★★
- Point source pollution
- Nutrient input
- Marine levees, floodgates, and tide gates
- Paralytic shellfish poisoning
- Overwater structures
- Oil spills
- Shipping
- Noise
- Commercial net pens
- Commercial shellfish beds
- Dams
- Flood control and dredging
- Military ★
- Invasive/non-native plants and animals ★
- Hatcheries
- Mining
- Plastic waste

Conversion of lands to...



Important distinction that redevelopment is very different and less of a threat

Marine shoreline armoring



Revisiting Goals for Levels of Service

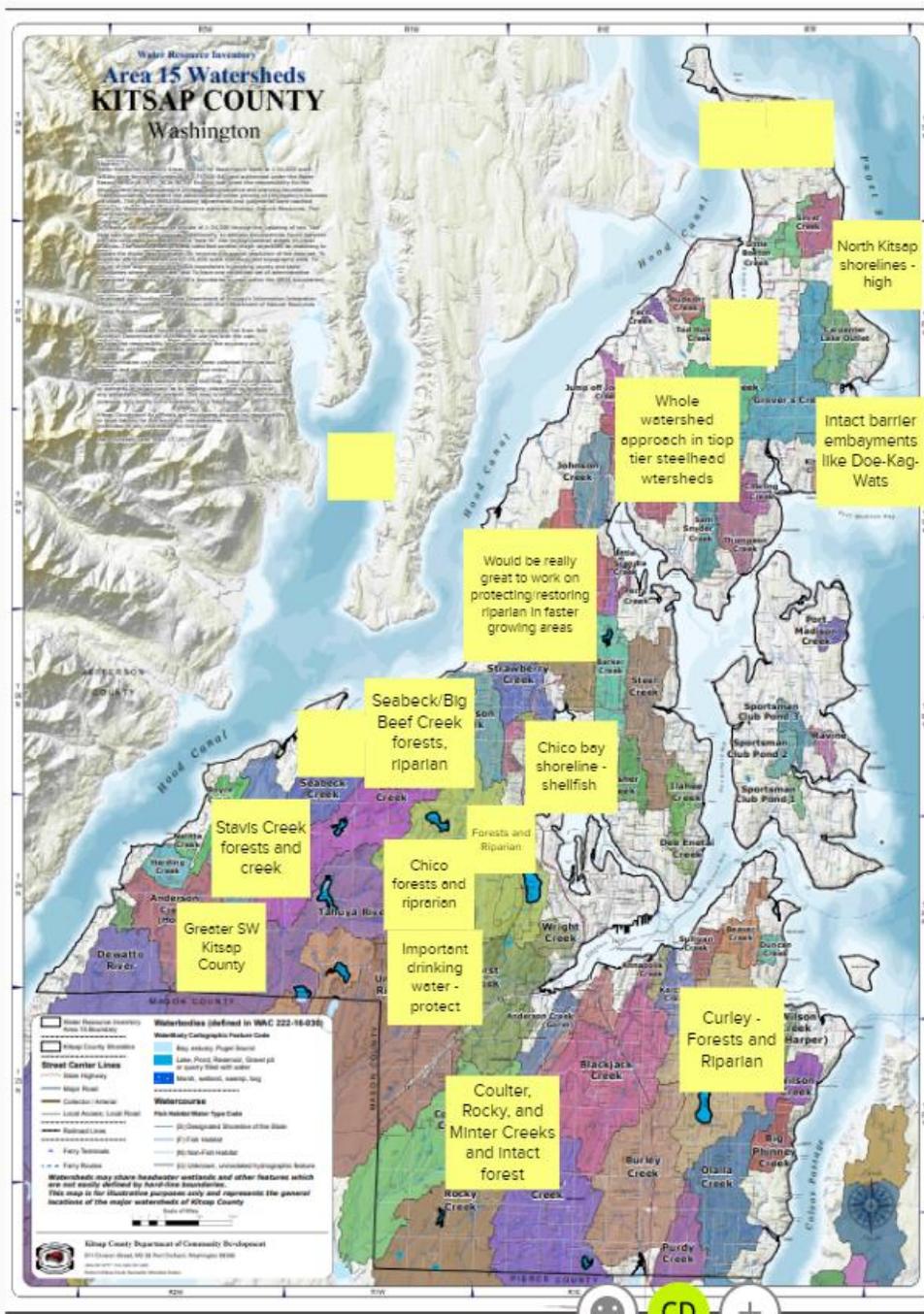
The group then reviewed draft language describing high, medium, and low levels of service, and areas where the group would most like to see high levels of service maintained or achieved over the next 20 years.

In general, the group had few comments on the draft language and indicated that the descriptions are generally aligned with their perspective. Marine shoreline habitat should include habitat for forage fish and other.

The group mentioned some specific and some general types of areas to focus on for high levels of service. For example, many people in Kitsap rely on wells for their drinking water, which are distributed, as well as salmon streams. There were many notes about forest areas and riparian areas and high levels of service across the county. Some areas flagged included: southwest Kitsap, Coulter, Rocky and Minter Creeks where there is low density and lots of forested areas. Barker and Clear Creeks were flagged as areas where it will be important to work to restore canopy for fisheries

benefits. Chico Creek and Bay is an important area for salmon, shellfish, and cultural reasons and should be better protected.

Screenshots from the mural board discussion is included below:



Discussion of KNRAMP Implementation

The group then discussed ongoing efforts to implement natural asset management in Kitsap County:

- Matt provided an overview of possible next steps, highlighting the need for governance arrangements for KNRAMP, such as a policy or strategy of some kind, organizing a cross-functional team, and gathering input related to levels of service.
- Several Core Team members sit on the salmon recovery council, and there is interest in this project and possible funding opportunities.

- Kitsap County has been considering arrangements and structures that could be useful to continue efforts to mainstream natural asset management thinking and identify and take actions – the water as a resource policy provides a great example. The County is gearing up on the comp plan update, and thinking about the types of goals and policies and supporting plans that can help implement environmental initiatives.
- One idea that was mentioned was that natural asset management could eventually be addressed through a Countywide Planning Policy. The overarching goal is for natural assets to be addressed with the same consideration as other assets that the county manages and maintains- applying a capital facilities lens. There are resources to support investment, such as the Conservation Futures program. Other ideas included keeping the connection between natural asset management and monitoring progress on critical areas.
- It will be important to maintain staff involvement with this work, even if between grants. The comp plan update is a great opportunity to think about needs, and the climate work is a good lens for thinking about natural climate solutions and ecosystem resilience.
- Presentations and engagement with other County divisions, the County development and planning commission, and the Ecosystem Coordination Board and Salmon Recovery Council could help keep this work moving forward.

Updates from Partners

- Paul – nothing major, emphasizing keeping the green areas green wherever we can. Could help with coordinating with the Salmon Recovery and Hood Canal Coordinating Councils.
- Kitsap County:
 - Kirvie – onboarding a new natural resources coordinator, having a natural resources coordination meeting and is sharing and update on KNRAMP.
 - Colin – getting the Comp Plan process going. They are currently reviewing text request changes, then will be putting together a general outreach program. First kick-off presentation will be 8/18, others not yet scheduled.
 - Ryan – Asset management plan for stormwater is starting to get ironed out and is a big opportunity. Cartegraph work is going well and two-thirds complete, parks are interested in working more on Cartegraph.
- Tom – no updates
- Mindy – shared opportunities for getting the word out, including at the salmon recovery council.

Next Steps

- The group will reconvene sometime in the fall to talk about lessons learned.
- Charlotte will follow up with the group about ideas for how to move forward with level of service goals and targets.
- Colin and Kirvie will be the liaisons for anything related to the comp plan and can bring to this group.