Snohomish Basin Floodplain Acquisition Strategy
Purpose

• Guidance for implementation of Salmon Conservation Plan
• Framework to prioritize parcels for conservation/restoration of floodplain/instream processes
• Nexus to obtain proactive SRFB acquisition money
• Enable more nimble and effective acquisition by capitalizing on opportunistic property availability
Goal

• Corridor naturally functioning riverine processes
• Secure Treaty protected resources
• Protect floodplain from development
• Accelerated project implementation
• Flood storage/conveyance
• Human safety
• Decrease flood damage claims
Background

• Process based restoration is most effective
  • Channel migration, floodplain forest development, etc.
  • Requires large river adjacent areas and long time frames

• Longitudinal connectivity is vital
  • Armoring/dike removal, etc.

• Long term opportunistic approach

• All floodplain properties are highly valuable
Existing Strategies

• The Acquisition Strategy of the Stillaguamish Chinook Recovery Plan (Stilly/SWC)
• Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan (Tulalip, State, Counties, Cities)
  • Skykomish Basin Land Protection Assessment and Mapping Project (Forterra)
  • Snohomish Basin Protection Plan (Snohomish County, King County, Tulalip)
  • Snohomish County Agriculture Resilience Plan (Snohomish Conservation District)
  • Sustainable Lands Strategy Lower Skykomish River Reach-scale Plan (SLS)
  • TDR Bank Concept (Forterra)
  • Great Northern Corridor (Forterra)
  • Integrated Riparian Stewardship in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish basins (SCD)
  • Sky to Sound Water Trail (Snohomish County)
  • Snohomish Watershed Open Space Strategy (Regional Open Space Strategy/UW)
The Acquisition Strategy of the Stillaguamish Chinook Recovery Plan

- Draws Heavily from Stillaguamish Peak Flows study
- GIS tool to prioritize floodplain areas
- Divides floodplain into “floodplain units” (FPUs)
- FPUs were ranked for conservation or restoration acquisitions
- Protected “Corridor” approach
Floodplain Units
 Ranking Metrics

- Chanel Constriction
- Sinuosity
- Armoring
- Land Use Type
- Number of Landowners
- Floodplain Elevation
- Adjacency
### Scoring Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NF/SF</th>
<th>Conservation Score</th>
<th>Restoration Score</th>
<th>Adjacency Score</th>
<th>Total Score</th>
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<td>0-10</td>
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Snohomish Basin Considerations

- All floodplain property is high priority
- “Corridors” are necessary to achieve process based protection/restoration
- Limiting factors are most often land and funding availability
- Stakeholder buy in is critical to achieve intended project purpose
- Flexibility is important to capitalize on opportunistic property availability
Questions ?