



A GREAT NORTHERN TOWN

Town of Skykomish Shoreline Restoration Plan

**Companion document for the
Town of Skykomish Shoreline Master Program**

REVIEW DRAFT, March 2019

RESTORATION PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION

This restoration plan is a stand-alone companion document intended to accompany the Town of Skykomish Shoreline Master Program. It has been prepared in accordance with the Washington State Department of Ecology shoreline management guidelines. The guidelines direct local government review and updates of shoreline master programs. A significant feature of the guidelines is the requirement that local governments include within their shoreline master program, a “real and meaningful” strategy to address restoration of shorelines. WAC 173-26-186(8). The state guidelines emphasize that any *development must achieve no net loss of ecological functions*. The guidelines go on to require a *goal of using restoration to improve the overall condition of habitat and resources* and makes “planning for and fostering restoration” an obligation of local government. From WAC 173-26-201(2)(c):

Master programs shall also include policies that promote restoration of ecological functions, as provided in WAC 173-26-201 (2)(f), where such functions are found to have been impaired based on analysis described in WAC 173-26-201 (3)(d)(i). It is intended that local government, through the master program, along with other regulatory and non-regulatory programs, contribute to restoration by planning for and fostering restoration and that such restoration occur through a combination of public and private programs and actions. Local government should identify restoration opportunities through the shoreline inventory process and authorize, coordinate and facilitate appropriate publicly and privately initiated restoration projects within their master programs. **The goal of this effort is master programs which include planning elements that, when implemented, serve to improve the overall condition of habitat and resources within the shoreline area of each city and county.**

WAC 173-26-201(2)(f) states further that “...master programs provisions should be designed to achieve overall improvements in shoreline ecological functions over time when compared to the status upon adoption of the master program.” Restoration planning should be focused on tools such as economic incentives, broad funding sources such as Salmon Restoration Funding, volunteer programs, and other strategies. WAC 173-26-186(8)(c) and WAC 173-26-201(2)(f) (explaining the “basic concept” of restoration planning). Furthermore, because restoration planning must reflect the individual conditions of a shoreline, restoration planning provisions contained in the guidelines expressly note that a restoration plan will vary based on:

- Size of jurisdiction
- Extent and condition of shorelines
- Availability of grants, volunteer programs, other tools
- The nature of the ecological functions to be addressed

The restoration chapter is designed to meet the requirements for restoration planning outlined in the Ecology guidelines, in which restoration planning is an integrated component of shoreline master programs that include inventorying shoreline conditions

Commented [BHC1]: Clarify that Restoration Plan is a separate document from the SMP.

and regulation of shoreline development. The restoration plan builds off of the Town of Skykomish Shoreline Characterization which provides a comprehensive inventory and analysis of shoreline conditions in Skykomish, including rating specific functions and process of each shoreline segment.

This restoration plan provides a vision for ecological restoration, includes goals, objectives and opportunities. It also establishes Town strategies for implementation, including recognition of existing and ongoing programs, and it provides a framework for long-term monitoring of shoreline restoration and shoreline conditions. While this restoration plan includes broad objectives, specific implementation measures, budgets, schedules, and individual monitoring programs will be needed for individual restoration projects as they occur. Periodically, it is important for the town to evaluate the effectiveness of this plan and to adapt to changing conditions. At a minimum, this restoration plan, as well as the entire Shoreline Master Program will be reevaluated according to the schedule adopted by the state Legislature.

2. VISION STATEMENT

The vision statement establishes the overarching idea of the future restored ecosystem and provides a basis for the framework, including the restoration goals. The Characterization Report identifies impaired ecological processes and functions. Processes and functions on Skykomish shorelines are impaired based on the analysis, and they are not operating as they should. Goals that “promote restoration” of these ecological functions must be included in the master program. This vision statement seeks to make clear the intent of addressing ecological restoration.

Restoration Vision: *The degraded processes of the Skykomish Shoreline will be restored to the extent that when protected under the policies of this plan, a net improvement to the shoreline ecosystem is obtained to benefit water quality, vegetation, and the residents of Skykomish. Restoration occurs through a combination of public and private opportunities that enhance the shoreline through improvements to the key processes.*

3. RESTORATION GOALS

The following goals, stated in the Skykomish Shoreline Master Plan, provide guidance for this restoration plan.

Commented [BHC2]: These goals will be added to section 7.6 of the SMP document.

Protect and improve water quality

Restore, protect, and enhance the shoreline function of water quality improvement, such as trapping sediment and filtering turbidity, nutrients and metals.

Reduce impacts of flooding events

Reduce impacts of flooding events by improving the storage of floodwaters and thereby reducing peak flows and erosion.

Preserve natural areas and vegetation

Restore, protect, and enhance natural vegetation. Encourage removal of invasive

species and plant native species to enhance diversity of vegetative structure.

Preserve and restore habitat functions

Restore, protect and enhance habitat functions. Enhance the diversity of habitat and improve the connectivity of the restored shoreline areas with existing high-quality habitat.

Preserve and improve physical and visual public access to the shoreline

Increase and improve public access to shoreline areas provided that private rights, public safety, and the natural shoreline character are not adversely affected.

4. ALTERATION OF KEY PROCESSES

Eight ecological functions have been altered in the Skykomish shoreline jurisdiction. The summary of those functions comes from ~~sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 in~~ the 2010 Skykomish Shoreline Characterization Report. The eight functions for the Skykomish shoreline are:

Commented [BHC3]: Deleted for clarity. The reference to the Characterization Report is sufficient.

Hydrologic Cycle

The Hydrologic cycle is the continuous movement of water between the earth and the atmosphere. Water reaches land as precipitation such as rain and snow. Then the water evaporates, condenses in the atmosphere to form clouds, and falls to the earth again as precipitation, continuing the cycle.

Large Woody Debris

Large woody debris (LWD) refers to the fallen trees, logs and stumps, root wads, and piles of branches along the edges of streams, rivers, lakes and Puget Sound. Wood helps stabilize shorelines and provides vital habitat for salmon and other creatures. Shoreline armoring can keep LWD from reaching shorelines or may prevent it from lodging in one place. Removal of shoreline vegetation, especially on unstable slopes, can prevent the delivery of wood to shorelines.

Light Energy

Light energy is the natural pathway for light to reach the shoreline and addition of artificial light to the aquatic shorelines, especially at night. Light energy affects water temperature, biological processes and plant photosynthesis and growth. Natural light can be altered when we remove vegetation or build structures such as docks and piers that create shade and prevent natural light from reaching the water. Artificial light is the light we create at night, such as from roads, parking lots, industrial complexes, houses, docks, piers and sports fields. This light can interfere with aquatic animals' routines and change predator-prey relationships.

Nitrogen

Nitrogen is the biological limiting nutrient in watershed, generally by being the least available for plants and algae. When there is too much or too little it can change how an ecosystem functions. Nitrogen moves through the watershed through depressional wetlands, headwater streams, and soil erosion.

Pathogens

Pathogens are bacteria and viruses that are destructive to humans and other animals. Though they are a natural part of the environment, in high concentration, pathogens can change how an ecosystem functions. Wetlands play a key role in filtering out pathogens and sediment in aquatic ecosystems. An increase of impervious surfaces, and the accompanying decrease in the ability for pathogens (and water) to infiltrate the ground, causes them to move more quickly into aquatic systems and spend less time in environments that can eliminate them.

Phosphorus

Phosphorus is a naturally occurring nutrient and under natural conditions enters the water through the weathering of rocks and precipitation of dust. When there is too much or too little phosphorus, it can change how an ecosystem functions. Increases in phosphorus can lead to problematic changes in freshwater such as increased algae and a subsequent loss of deep-water oxygen. Wetlands slow down water flow and the plants nearby can absorb some of the phosphorus moving through. When wetlands are lost, this ability to remove the phosphorus from the system is eliminated.

Sediment

Sediment refers to sand and other soils which settle, or are deposited, on the sides and bottom of water bodies. It is important in the formation of beaches, spits, sand bars and estuaries and provides substrates for aquatic plants and animals. Sediment also provides nutrients and minerals vital to the health of downstream ecosystems. Sediment reaches aquatic areas by watershed erosion, mass wasting, and shoreline erosion. Sediment moves through the ecosystem and is sometimes stored in wetlands, floodplains, streams, lakes, and the banks of the shorelines. The amount of sediment reaching these areas is primarily altered by draining or filling wetlands, the removal or loss of large woody debris, channelization of streams, shoreline armoring, dams, boat ramps, groins, dredging and bulkheads.

Toxins

Toxins are substances that can be harmful or cause death to plants, animals and humans, usually in an increased amount. Toxins are produced by herbicides and pesticides and vehicle emissions like gasoline and oil. Other products like antibiotics and artificial hormones, are proving to have toxic effects in aquatic water bodies, as well. Agriculture, urban development sewage outfalls and motor vehicles can increase concentrations of toxins. Impervious surface and population concentrations contributes to the rate at which toxins move into an aquatic ecosystem. Sewer outfalls also contribute toxins by transporting toxins not treated by sewage plants or collected through stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces such as roads and driveways. Wetlands slow down water allowing plants to absorb many of the toxins found in aquatic ecosystems. When wetlands are lost, that ability to remove toxins from the system is taken away.

5. REACHES AND RESTORATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Town of Skykomish shoreline is divided into 4 reaches, A through D. Each reach

includes opportunity areas that are based on the potential for protection, restoration or public access. These reaches were determined primarily by water body and current land uses. There are five shoreline environment designations found in the Skykomish SMP—*Aquatic, Natural, Urban Conservancy, Shoreline Residential, and High Intensity*.

Following is a description of each reach. Restoration opportunities are identified below by reach. A complete table of opportunities by reach is shown following the narratives. [Map 12 identifies the extent of the reaches. Map 18 identifies existing public access sites and potential public access sites.](#)

Reach A – Skykomish River, North Bank

Reach A extends along the North Bank of the Skykomish River from the Town boundary on the east to the Town boundary on the west. Also included in this reach is two acres located directly across Highway 2 along the western edge of town. The reach is primarily a forested riparian corridor and offers relatively good quality instream habitat. Land use in Reach A consists of 25 residential properties, three commercial businesses and two large vacant parcels totaling approximately 13.5 acres. U.S. Highway 2 borders the north edge of this reach.

Two areas in Reach A are largely untouched and high functioning areas. Both areas consist of a single large parcel and both are candidates for designation as Natural or Urban Conservancy (see Map 13).

Opportunity Area A-1 (Protection).

Encourage preserving in the current state. Situated between US 2 to the north and the river on the south, this area is part of a five-acre parcel that includes approximately one acre of commercial development. Most of the rest of the parcel is comprised of riparian vegetation including half an acre on the west end that is considered wetland. All of this area is in the floodway. This area provides habitat and flood storage and should be protected from future development.

Opportunity Area A-2 (Protection).

Encourage preserving in the current state. This area, east of 5th Street, is part of an 8½ acre parcel between the highway and the river. About two thirds of this area is in the floodway and it is all part of the floodplain. The area in the floodway is called the “island” because a channel around this part is flooded during higher flows. Natural riparian vegetation, flood storage and habitat make the area within the floodway a strong candidate for protection.

Reach B – Skykomish River, South Bank

Reach B extends along the South Bank of the Skykomish River from the Town boundary on the east to the Town boundary on the west. The reach includes many of the commercial properties in town along with the Town’s largest employer. Land use in Reach B consists of 9.5 acres of residential, 1 acre of commercial, 4 acres of historic commercial and approximately 5.2 acres of railway industrial.

Reach B includes the most developed areas of the Skykomish Shoreline. These areas include Shoreline armoring over approximately 2/3 of the reach, residential,

commercial and historic commercial development, and roads and other infrastructure to support the development. Opportunity areas in this reach can be seen in Maps 14 and 15.

Opportunity Area B-1 (Protection).

Encourage preserving in the current state. This is a small, privately owned, undeveloped area at the west end of the reach and borders the mouth of Maloney Creek. Riparian vegetation found in the area is mostly weakly rooted alder and maple saplings. Non-native Japanese knotweed and Himalayan blackberry are also present. Non-native vegetation is a candidate for removal and riparian habitat will be impacted by the Maloney Creek Restoration project.

Opportunity Area B-2 (Acquisition).

Consider acquiring this vacant parcel at the west end of the West Levee as a town park with public access to the river. This would complement and continue the public access already in place on the levee.

Opportunity Area B-3 (Public Access).

Develop the area below the 5th Street bridge for public access and launching of small watercraft.

Opportunity Areas B-4 and B-5 (Public Access).

Develop street ends as public viewing areas with benches and information kiosks.

Opportunity Area B-6 (Protection).

Encourage preserving in the current state. This narrow town owned, strip between the BNSF right-of-way and the river is undeveloped, riparian habitat. Recommend making this permanent open space.

Reach C – Maloney Creek

Reach C extends from the town boundary south of the old Forest Service property to the mouth of the creek on the Skykomish River (Map 16). Much of the reach is residential (5.2 acres) with 3.6 acres of undeveloped parcels, 2.3 acres of railroad industrial and an acre of public facilities.

Reach C has the most potential for shoreline restoration within the Town. Maloney Creek has been severely impacted by sediment deposits, resulting in excess town flooding and a loss of fish habitat. Two restoration projects are already underway. One is part of the remediation efforts of BNSF which includes the cleanup and restoration of the Former Maloney Creek wetland. The other is a town project funded by remediation compensation that will remove sediment from the creek bed. Opportunity areas in Reach C can be seen in Map 16.

Opportunity Area C-1 (Public Access).

The (former) Forest Service property and the end of Thelma Street are great candidates for developing a public access site. An optional part of the Maloney Creek restoration

project includes a trail originating in this area.

Opportunity Area C-2 and Opportunity Area C-3 (Protection and Restoration).

This area offers opportunities for habitat protection and restoration. This area includes the Former Maloney Creek wetland cleanup and restoration and the Maloney Creek Restoration Project. The Maloney Creek restoration project will install a sediment trap south of town and include creek bed excavation from there to the mouth of the creek at the Skykomish River.

Reach D – Skykomish Town Park

Reach D includes the entire 6.5 acres of the Town Park. The park lies on the north bank of the Skykomish River, approximately 500 feet east of town, not contiguous with the Town boundaries.

Opportunity Area D-1 (Protection).

This area is an approximately 100-foot swath of native riparian vegetation between the river and the developed part of the park that should be preserved in its current state.

[See Map 16A.](#)

Table of Opportunity Areas

Reach	Opportunity Area	Opportunity Type	Opportunity Category	Specific Opportunities
A (Map 13)	A-1	Protection	Habitat, wetland, floodway	Protection from development Retention of native trees and shrubs
	A-2	Protection	Habitat, wetland, floodway Vegetation	Protection from development Retention of vegetation and protect the floodplain
B (Map 14 & 15)	B-1	Protection	Vegetation, Habitat	Protection from development Retention of vegetation and protect the floodplain
	B-2	Acquisition	Public Access	Extension of Levee Trail access
	B-3	Public Access	Public Access	Direct, physical access
	B-4	Public Access	Public Access	View access
	B-5	Public Access	Public Access	View access
	B-6	Protection	Vegetation, Habitat	Protection from development Retention of vegetation and protect the floodplain
C (Map 16)	C-1	Public Access	Public Access	Direct, physical access
	C-2	Protection & restoration	Riparian habitat and wetlands	Restore wetland Remove excess sediment and restore riparian habitat
	C-3	Protection & restoration	Riparian habitat	Remove excess sediment and restore riparian habitat
D (Map 16A)	D-1	Protection	Riparian Habitat	Protection from development

6. EXISTING AND ONGOING RESTORATION PROJECTS

All of the current restoration efforts in the Town of Skykomish are related to BNSF cleanup effort. These projects include the primary cleanup project, the restoration of Former Maloney Creek West Wetland and the restoration of Maloney Creek. Although the Skykomish Wastewater Facility Project is not directly related to the cleanup project, it is being undertaken concurrently with the cleanup to take advantage of the installation of new infrastructure that is being constructed. A short description of each existing or ongoing restoration project follows. [See Map 19.](#)

BNSF Railway Former Maintenance and Fueling Facility

The primary cleanup project that includes excavation and removal of contaminated soils under much of the town that has stopped spilled petroleum products from leaking into the water table and the Skykomish River. This project has had and will continue to have positive effects on water quality, floodplain management and riparian habitat. This project began in 2005 and will continue through 2012. Detailed information on this project can be found at <http://www.skykomishcleanup.com/> and at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bnsf_sky/bnsf_sky.html.

Former Maloney Creek West Wetland Restoration

The Restoration of Former Maloney Creek West Wetland is a part of the cleanup. The site will be excavated, soils will be replaced, and habitat will be restored. This project will improve water quality, floodplain management and riparian habitat.

Restoration of Maloney Creek

The Restoration of Maloney Creek is funded by a change to the Cleanup Action Plan in how Former Maloney Creek East Wetland is cleaned up and restored. In order to address issues such as salmon habitat restoration, flooding in Skykomish, and land uses envisioned by the citizens of Skykomish in 2005 when they developed the Vision for Skykomish document, the new cleanup plan takes a more global approach to the cleanup of the Former Maloney Creek East Wetland. BNSF will excavate the wetland and restore it as an upland and fund the habitat restoration and sediment control project on Maloney Creek. BNSF will also pay mitigation fees into the Skykomish Habitat LLC Mitigation Bank to mitigate the loss of the Former Maloney Creek East Wetland and provide the Town with clean soil disposal services for the habitat restoration project at no cost to the Town.

Skykomish Wastewater Facilities Project

Homes, businesses and the Skykomish School District in the Town are served by aging and inadequate on-site septic systems that are allowing bacterial and nutrient contamination of the South Fork Skykomish River. In 2007, Public Health of Seattle & King County concluded that public health is being endangered by the discharge of raw or largely untreated sewerage into the Skykomish river and into the groundwater below the town. The Health Department encouraged and supported the development of the community wastewater system and viewed this project as the most viable solution for the protection of Skykomish's public health.

Skykomish Wastewater Facilities Project replaces the existing substandard septic systems in use throughout Skykomish with a new wastewater collection system and centralized Wastewater Treatment Facility, which provides secondary treatment and discharges treated effluent to a new drain field disposal site south of the Skykomish State Airport approximately 0.5-mile east of Skykomish.

The Skykomish wastewater facilities have been completed south of the Skykomish River and will be extended north of the river in 2010. The project is expected to be completed with the Sky Lane development to be added to the system in 2011 or 2012.

7. **STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Commented [BHC4]: Contact information and resource websites updated or deleted

This section discusses programmatic measures for the Town of Skykomish designed to foster enhanced public access, shoreline restoration and achieve a net improvement in shoreline ecological processes, functions, and habitats. With budget and staff limitations, the Town of Skykomish does not anticipate leading most restoration projects or programs. However, the Town's SMP represents an important vehicle for facilitating and encouraging restoration projects and programs that could be led by local private and non-profit entities. The discussion of restoration mechanisms and strategies below highlights programmatic measures that the Town could implement, as well as parallel activities that would be led by other governmental and non-governmental organizations.

New Zone

The town currently has several private vacant areas located within its shorelines, however current zoning does not show these as open space. Although these areas are zoned residential, development is not likely. If the town were to create a less intensive zone for these vacant areas, this would offer significant habitat protection and conservation.

Volunteer Coordination

Another way the town could accomplish public access and restoration projects is by using community volunteers. Volunteers could be recruited for project implementation and monitoring and the town would provide equipment and expertise. The town may also need to consider funding a volunteer coordinator to organize projects, solicit various environmental groups and individual volunteers to complete the projects and partner or coordinate with other government entities on projects.

High School Students

Skykomish High School students have already been involved in the Vision process and the Maloney Creek Walk. After the creek walk, the middle school science class students thought they may want to get involved with the Maloney Creek Restoration project in some capacity.

Contact: ~~Jeff Long, School Superintendent~~
(360) 677-2623, jloug@skykomish.wednet.edu

Capital Facilities Program

The Town could develop shoreline public access and restoration as a new section of the town's Capital Facilities Program, even if not immediately funded, to ensure that they are considered during the Town's budget process. Shoreline restoration could also be linked to capital facilities projects that take place in the town's shorelines, such as when there is highway construction on State Route 2 and town park improvements.

King County Basin Steward Program

Basin Stewards are a team of King County Water and Land Resources Division professionals knowledgeable about community and natural resources in specific King County watersheds. They use a number of approaches to work with landowners and other public agency officials to protect local habitats.

Stewards work with citizens and technical staff to develop and implement priority habitat protection and restoration projects in critical habitat areas along our rivers and streams. They can help streamside landowners identify resources including funding for habitat protection. They can also answer questions about best management practices, regulations, wildlife concerns, land conservation, habitat restoration, and water quality concerns.

Info:

<https://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/watersheds/general-information/basin-stewards.aspx>

Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

A not-for-profit corporation whose mission is to ensure the future of salmon in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish River basins and Island County watersheds. The Task Force has directed its resources and efforts to the challenge of developing community partnerships and strategies to improve and restore the recreational and commercial fisheries of the Pacific Northwest.

Info: <http://www.stillysnofish.org/>

Landowner Incentive Program (LIP)

This is a competitive grant process to provide financial assistance to private individual landowners for the protection, enhancement, or restoration of habitat to benefit species-at-risk on privately owned lands. Check the LIP website for information about applications.

Info: <http://kingcd.org/programs/better-backyards/landowner-incentive-program/>

Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) Grant Programs

SRFB administers grant programs for protection and/or restoration of salmon habitat. Eligible applicants can include municipal subdivisions (cities, towns, counties, ports, conservation districts, utility, park and recreation, and school districts), Tribal governments, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners. More information about SRFB is available at:

Info: <https://www.rco.wa.gov/boards/srfb.shtml>

Salmon recovery grant details are available at:

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/salmon.shtml>.

Backyard Sanctuary Program

Encourage participation in Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife backyard sanctuary program. Since the Town recognizes that there are important opportunities to improve shoreline ecological conditions and functions through non-regulatory, volunteer actions by shoreline residents and property owners it might examine the potential for property tax breaks for shoreline property owners who actively manage their property for habitat protection or enhancement. To encourage volunteer actions that better shoreline ecological functions and values, shoreline property owners actively participating in the WDFW backyard sanctuary program or some similar program could receive a credit on their Town property taxes.

Info: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/living/backyard/>

Adopt A Stream Foundation

The AASF mission is to teach people how to become stewards of their watersheds. That mission is carried out by conducting Streamkeeper Academy classes for all ages, by producing environmental education materials and providing local communities with stream and wetland restoration technical assistance. To expand their capabilities, they developed the Northwest Stream Center: a regional teaching facility with Stream and Wetland Ecology & Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration themes. For more information:

Info: <https://www.streamkeeper.org/>

Habitat Bank & Mitigation Banking Services

This is a regional mitigation banking project that includes the Snohomish Basin Mitigation Bank and the Skykomish Habitat Mitigation Bank. A variety of wetland and upland habitats are established throughout the site including aquatic, emergent shrub and forested wetland habitats and floodplain upland areas. The banks offer wetland, stream, and buffer credits for Local, State and Federal permits for development impacts.

Info: <http://www.habitatbank.com>
<http://www.mitigationbankingservices.com/>

8. EVALUATION AND MONITORING

When a project is proposed for implementation by the town, other agency or by a private party, the restoration project should be evaluated to ensure that the project's objectives are consistent with those of the Restoration Plan and, if applicable, that the project warrants implementation above other candidate projects. It is recognized that, due to funding sources or other constraints, the range of any individual project may be narrow.

It is also expected that the list of potential projects may change over time, that new projects may be identified, and existing opportunities may become less relevant as restoration occurs and as other environmental conditions, or our knowledge of them, change.

Project Evaluation

When evaluating potential projects, priority should be given to projects most meeting the following criteria:

- Restoration meets the goals for shoreline restoration.
- Restoration of processes is generally of greater importance than restoration of functions.
- Restoration avoids residual impacts to other functions or processes.
- Projects address a known degraded condition.
- Conditions that are progressively worsening are of greater priority.
- Restoration has a high benefit to cost ratio.
- Restoration is feasible, such as being located on and accessed by public property or private property that is cooperatively available for restoration.
- Restoration should avoid conflicts with adjacent property owners.
- There is public support for the project.

~~The town should consider developing a project “score card” as a tool to evaluate projects consistent with these criteria. The Habitat restoration Criteria scorecard from the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership could be useful as a starting point.~~

~~Info: <http://www.lcrep.org/habitat-restoration-prioritization-framework>~~

Project Monitoring

In addition to project monitoring required for individual restoration and mitigation projects; the town should conduct system-wide monitoring, to the degree practical, recognizing that individual project monitoring does not provide an assessment of overall shoreline ecological health. The following approach is suggested:

1. Track information using the town’s GIS system as activities occur (both restoration and mitigation) for the individual shoreline reaches, such as:
 - Removal of fill
 - Vegetation
 - Bulkheads/armoring

The town may require project proponents to monitor as part of project mitigation, which may be incorporated into this process.

2. Re-review status of environmental processes and functions at the time of periodic SMP updates.
 - Review progress by segment to evaluate the key processes
 - Review segment progress towards the restoration goals
3. Periodically review the regional ongoing monitoring programs, such as:
Snohomish County Monitoring
<https://snohomishcountywa.gov/2143/Salmon-and-Marine-Habitat>

As monitoring occurs, the town should periodically reassess environmental conditions and restoration goals. Those ecological process and functions that are found to be worsening may need to become elevated in priority to prevent loss of critical resources. Alternatively, successful restoration may reduce the importance of some restoration objectives in the future.

9. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The Town of Skykomish currently has several major restoration or enhancement projects underway (see section 11.06). These projects will largely address most of the restoration issues currently identified by the Town.

These can be added to by implementing the identified projects listed in the table above. As stated in the restoration opportunities section above, Reach C is most in need of restoration and is most likely to have successful restoration, and should be considered higher priority in the restoration process. These factors could be taken into consideration when implementing restoration projects. Below is the restoration project timeline; projects are ranked by short term, medium term, and long term. These projects should be considered to be ranked by priority. The funding groups listed above have application deadlines which also need to be taken into consideration when timing projects.

Short term restoration projects include those that could be implemented by local landowners and volunteers and that would benefit the areas in need of protection. These projects could be implemented primarily in Reach A where there are no restoration projects currently underway. Areas in Reach A might be good candidates for some of the implementation strategies shown in section 11.07 above. The Town Park, Reach D, might benefit from some of those strategies also, in particular a new "open space" zoning designation could be considered. Although most of Maloney Creek through Town will be subject to a large-scale restoration project, many of the property owners along the creek could benefit from one of the stewardship programs.

Medium term restoration projects could include those that enhance Skykomish shorelines that have been designated or acquired previously. These could also be implemented in reach D where there are public access lands that are not likely to be developed in the near future. This would include:

- Flood Control Funding under the Department of Ecology for habitat protection and enhancement.
- Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account funding under the Department of Natural Resources.

Longer term restoration projects could be those that require coordination with other jurisdictions or that cover larger land areas. These projects may be more difficult to implement and could require more planning. These would include:

- Consider acquiring the area in Reach A, south of US 2 and at the west end of Town. This area could be used for public access projects such as trails or nature walks.
- Consider acquiring the area in Reach A, south of US 2 between the Deli and the Sky lane development. This area along with the shoreline below Sky Lane could be used

for a trail system from 5th Street to the Town Park, just east of Skykomish.

10. FUNDING GROUPS

Below are potential funding groups for Skykomish Shoreline Restoration. The funding groups are sorted by the Restoration Goal they support.

Commented [BHC5]: Resource websites updated or deleted

Goal: Protect and Improve Water Quality

Water Quality – Washington Department of Ecology

<https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Water-Quality-grants-and-loans>

Eligibility: Local governments, recognized tribes

Purpose: Water quality, wastewater treatment source, wetland habitat preservation funding, public education

National Resource Conservation Service – US Department of Agriculture

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Eligibility: Landowners, tribes

Purpose: Wetlands easements and restoration

Watershed Protection Grants – Environmental Protection Agency

<https://www.epa.gov/nps/funding-resources-watershed-protection-and-restoration>

Eligibility: Local governments, WA State

Purpose: Erosion and sediment control management

5 Star Restoration Program – Environmental Protection Agency

<https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/5-star-wetland-and-urban-waters-restoration-grants>

Eligibility: State & Local Governments Purpose:

Wetland and stream restoration

Goal: Reduce Impacts of Flooding Events

Flood Control – Washington Department of Ecology

<https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Flood-control-assistance>

Eligibility: Cities

Purpose: Fish habitat protection, enhancement.

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account – Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/grants/alea/>

Eligibility: Individuals, non-profit, schools, public utility districts and tribes using volunteers

Purpose: Fish and wildlife resources

Goal: Preserve Natural Areas and Vegetation

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund – US Fish & Wildlife Service

http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/grants/S6_grants.html

Eligibility: Not for habitat restoration or enhancement

Purpose: Conserve threatened or endangered species, protect lands for habitat conservation.

Bring Back the Natives – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

<http://www.nfwf.org/bbn/>

Eligibility: nonprofits, universities, tribes, and local, state, and federal agencies

Purpose: Fish and wildlife resources

Pacific Northwest National Fire Plan

<http://www.nwfireplan.gov/>

Eligibility: nonprofits, universities, tribes, and local, state, and federal agencies

Purpose: Fish and wildlife resources

Goal: Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

<http://www.nfwf.org/>

Eligibility: nonprofits, universities, tribes, and local, state, and federal agencies

Purpose: Fish and wildlife resources

King County Community Salmon Fund – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

<http://www.nfwf.org/csf/kingcounty/>

Eligibility: Local governments, WA State, South Snohomish Co.

Purpose: Fund habitation protection and restoration to benefit watershed health

FWS Endangered Species Program – US Fish & Wildlife Service

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/index.html>

Eligibility: States

Purpose: Land acquisition, habitat conservation, to conserve threatened and

endangered species

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups – Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/volunteer/rfeg/index.html>

Eligibility: local, state and federal agencies; tribes; local businesses; community members; and landowners.

Purpose: Salmon recovery

Salmon Recovery Funding Board – Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office

<http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/salmon.shtml>

Eligibility: Local agencies, special purpose districts, state agencies, tribes, private landowners, nonprofits, regional fisheries enhancement groups

Purpose: Protect and restore salmon habitat

Goal: Preserve and Improve Physical and Visual Public Access to the Shoreline

Landowner incentive program - Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Lands Division

<http://kingcd.org/programs/better-backyards/landowner-incentive-program/>

Eligibility: Private landowners

Purpose: Habitat

Conservation Futures Tax Fund – King County

<https://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/stewardship/conservation-futures.aspx>

Eligibility: Local governments

Purpose: protection of open space lands

11. Maps

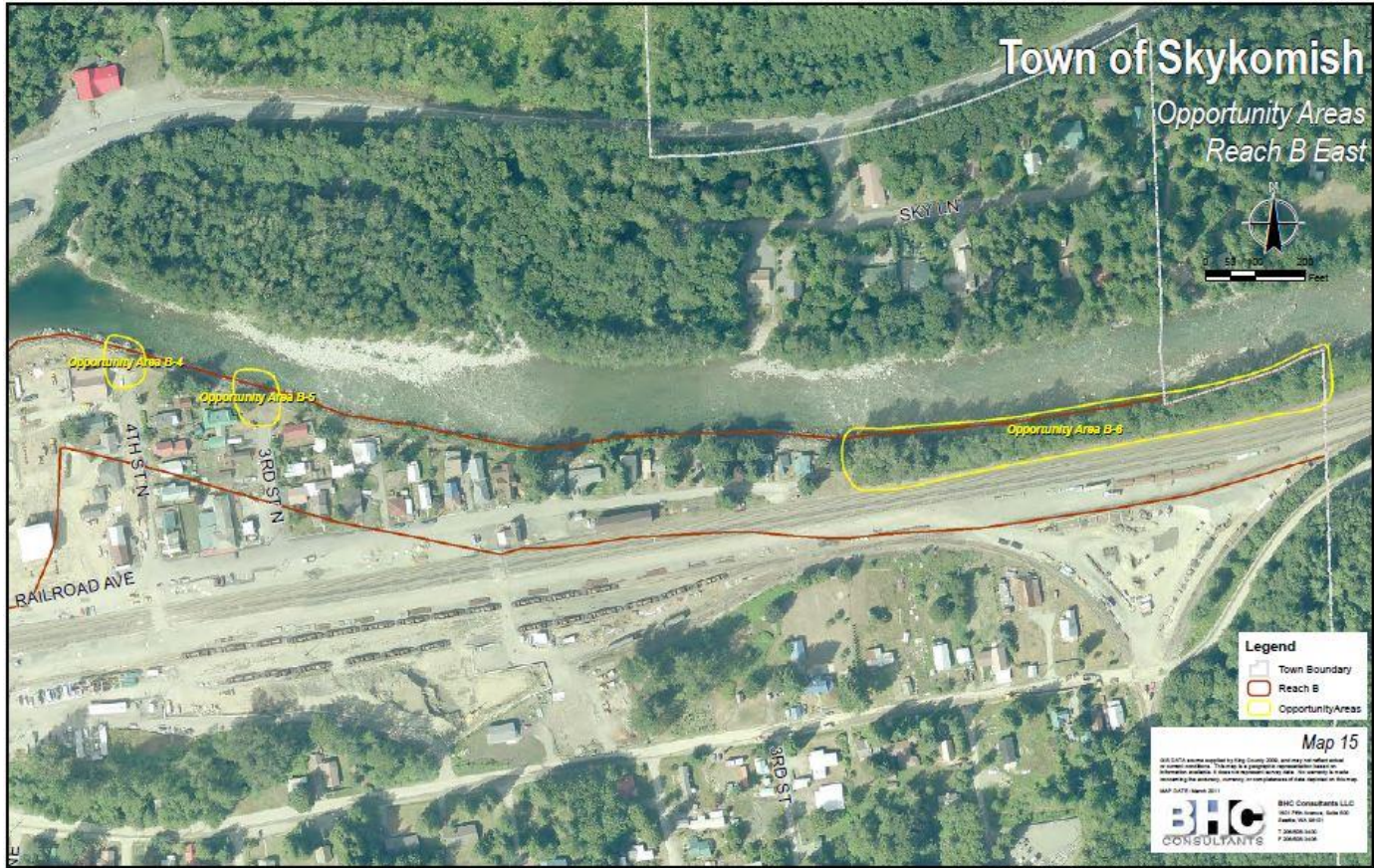
The maps accompanying this restoration plan were originally created as part of the Skykomish Shoreline Master Plan. They have been removed from the SMP and included in this stand-alone Restoration Plan document to illustrate the extent of the reaches described above, the opportunity areas, existing and potential public access sites, and existing restoration projects

Commented [BHC6]: The following maps (12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 16A, 18, and 19) will be deleted from the SMP











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