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Planning Commission Briefing

Rural Lands Analysis – Salmon Recovery in Local Planning Project

- Heather Cleveland, AICP, Long Range Planner
- Jason Robert Walsh, Long Range Planner
- Susan O'Neil, Sr Conservation Planner - ESA

November 17, 2026

KitsapCounty
Community Development

Agenda

- Project Purpose and Background
- Comprehensive Planning
- Charter, Project Timeline, and Focus Areas
- Community Engagement
- Project Team
- Progress: Salmon Recovery in Local Planning
- Next Steps

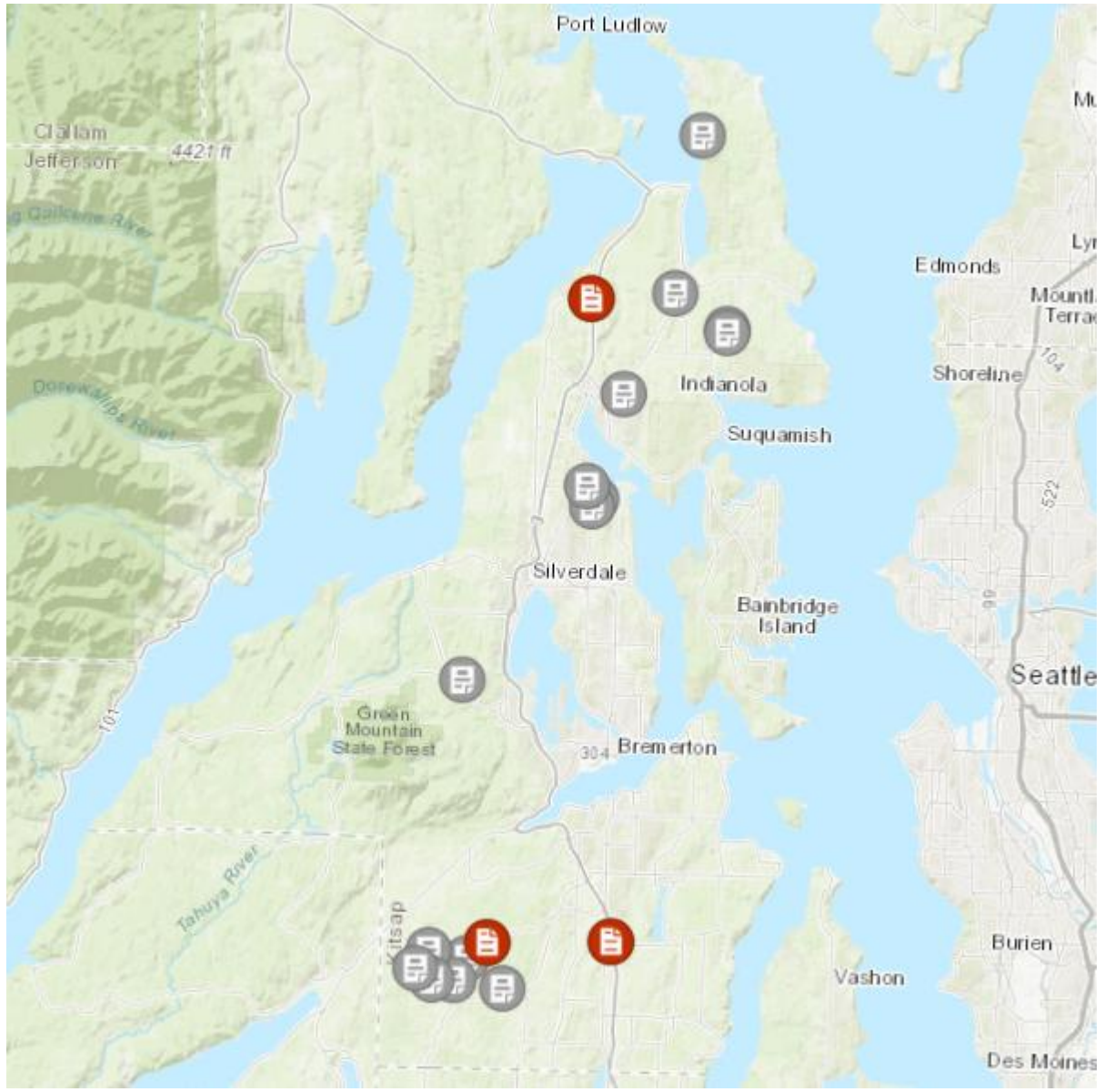
Project Purpose and Background

Purpose

- Evaluate
- Inform
- Align

Background

- GMA
- Comprehensive Plan
- Rural Lands Analysis
- Salmon Recovery



2025 Rural Reclassification Requests

2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update & 2025 Year of the Rural

Land Use

- Population Growth Targets for Rural

Rural and Resource Lands

- Working Lands
- GPC Land Conservation

Table 3. Comparison of Population Growth Targets to Land Capacity Analysis (Board Directed Preferred Alternatives)

UGA	Adjusted Growth 2022-2044	Land Capacity Preferred Alternative	Growth to Land Capacity Preferred Alternative 2022-2044
Bremerton	2,544	2,697	**153**
Silverdale	9,442	16,609	**7,167**
Kingston	3,121	3,364	**243**
Poulsbo	1,054	1,069	**15**
Port Orchard	3,486	3,814	**328**
Central Kitsap	4,787	6,132	**1,345**
Rural	4,391	4,391	**0**
Total	**28,825**	**38,076**	**9,251**

Sources: Estimates updated from Countywide Planning Policies and Kitsap County's land capacity analysis.

Rural Vision & Character

Rural Vision

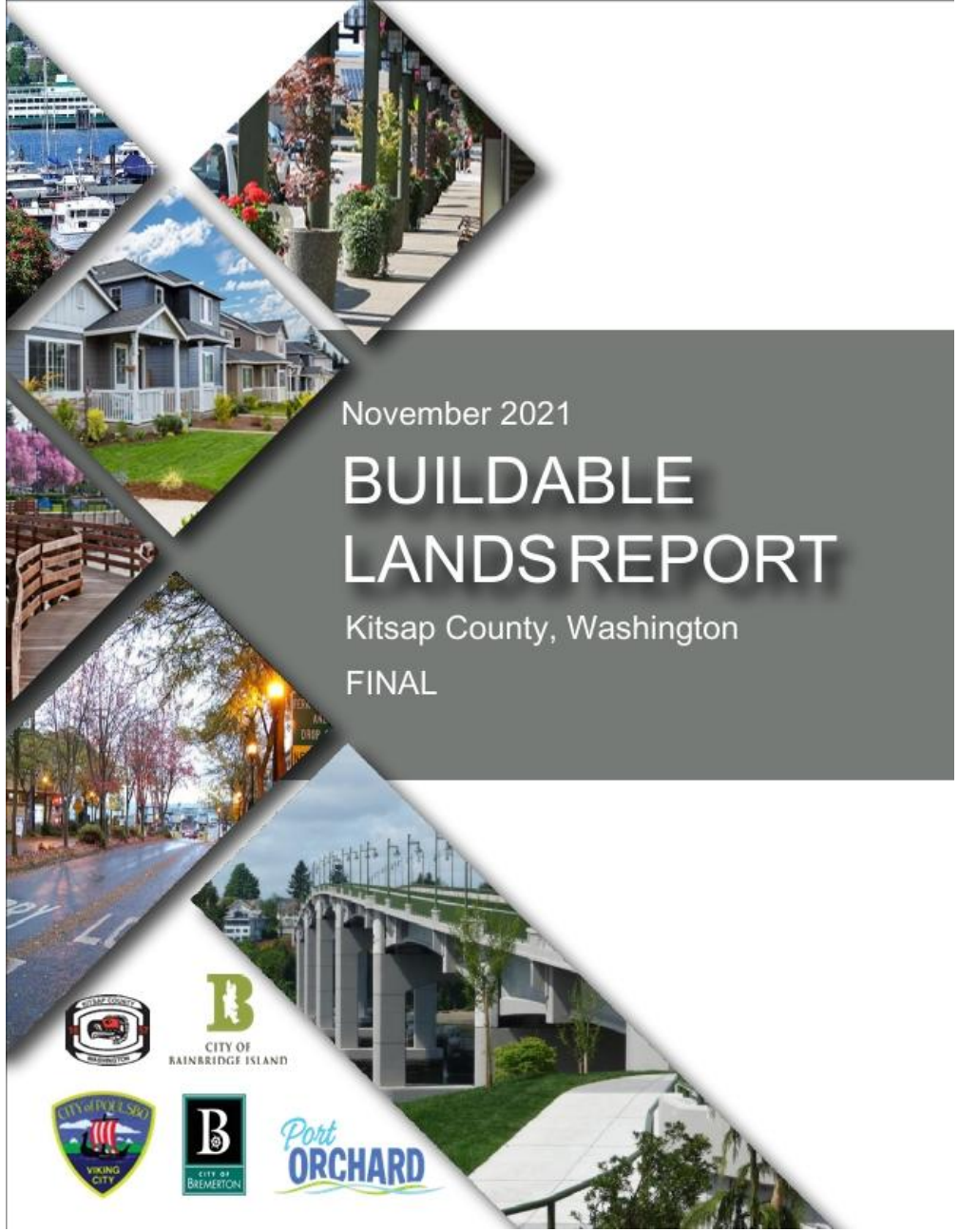
- Kitsap County's vision is the protection of rural areas and natural resource lands, including preservation of places of natural beauty, working agriculture and timber lands, community identity, and rural character.

Rural Character









Buildable Lands Report

Land Capacity Analysis

Charter

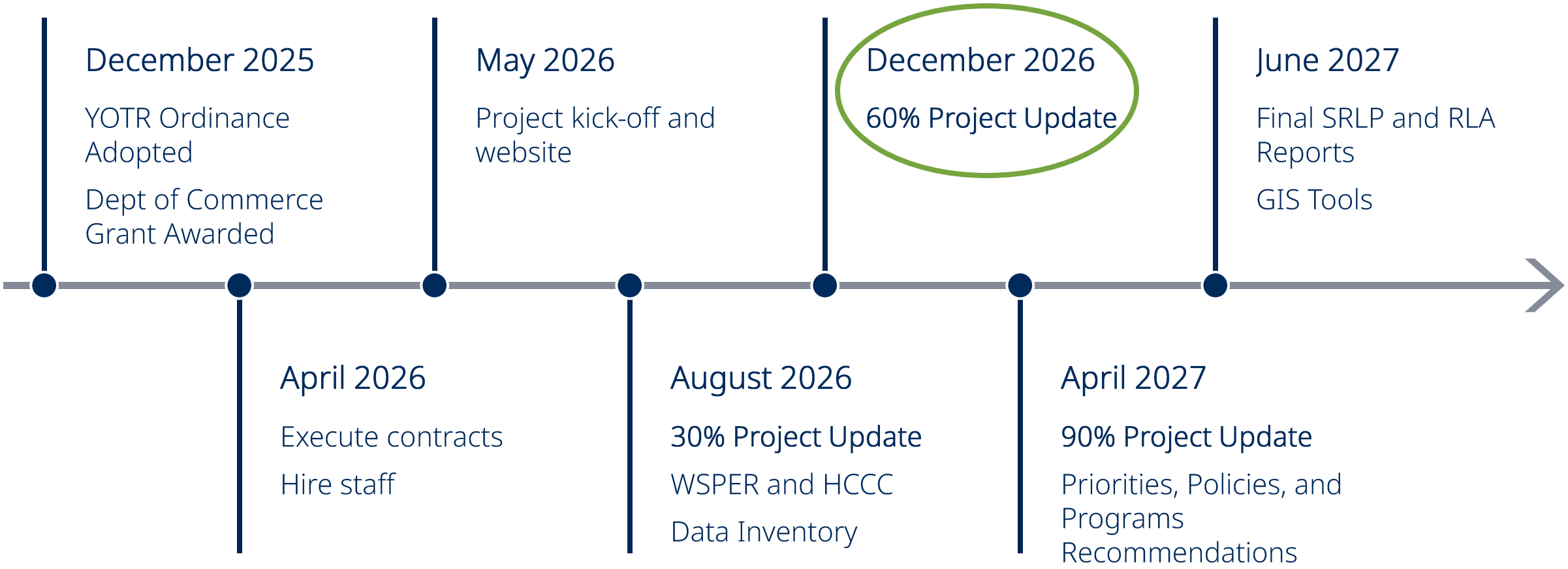
Approach

- Inventory and evaluate
- Framework for analysis
- Identify trends, constraints, etc.
- On-going engagement
- Iterative review

Deliverables

- Existing Data Inventory and Technical Memorandum
- RLA Report and Framework
- Joint RLA & SR Report
- Engagement and Education




December 2025
YOTR Ordinance Adopted
Dept of Commerce Grant Awarded
April 2026
Execute contracts
Hire staff
May 2026
Project kick-off and website
August 2026
30% Project Update
WSPER and HCCC
Data Inventory
December 2026
60% Project Update
April 2027
90% Project Update
Priorities, Policies, and Programs Recommendations
June 2027
Final SRLP and RLA Reports
GIS Tools

Focus Areas

- Salmon
- Forestry
- Agriculture
- Development



Community Engagement Plan

Introduction

- Phase 2: Feedback and Discussion

Team, Committee, and Working Group

- TPAC
- AAC
- SRT
- FWG
- WCWG

Approach

- Project website
- Teams, Committee, Working Group
- Survey and Open House Events, Workshops
- Presentations, Interviews, Notifications



Community Engagement

- Open House
  - July 8th
  - Commissioner's Chambers
  - ~30 attendees
- Port Orchard Farmers Market
  - September 19th
- Workshop
  - October 29th
  - Village Green Community Center, Kingston
  - 28 participants
- Next Public Engagement in February – format TBD







Technical Policy Advisory Council (TPAC)

- Quarterly Meetings
- Next meeting in December
- Representation:
  - Kitsap Alliance of Property Owners (KAPO)
  - Squaxin Island Tribe
  - Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
  - Hood Canal Coordinating Council
  - West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery
  - Kitsap Economic Development Alliance
  - Puget Sound Regional Council
  - Kitsap Conservation District
  - Great Peninsula Conservancy
  - Kitap County Parks
  - Department of Commerce
  - Kitap Building Association
  - Additional representation – utilities and infrastructure



Agricultural Advisory Council (AAC)

Members	District	Representing
Angela Cordiano	1 - North Kitsap	Agriculture Specialist
Karissa Holcombe	1 - North Kitsap	Farmer - Livestock
Mira Rosenkotz	1 - North Kitsap	Farmer - Producer
Scott Hall	2 - South Kitsap	Agriculture Specialist
Dawn Oien	2 - South Kitsap	Farmer - Livestock
Gary Winn	2 - South Kitsap	Farmer - Producer
Mickey Centeno	3 - Central Kitsap	Farmer - Livestock
Tonya Hirtzel	3 - Central Kitsap	Agriculture Specialist
Hannah Orando Baldus	3 - Central Kitsap	Farmer - Producer
Miles Paden	-	Youth
Kylie Denton	-	Youth



- Next meeting November 19, 2026
- RLA Subcommittee
  - Working Lands Overlay – VSP
- BMP–Complaints Subcommittee – in progress

Forestry Working Group (FWG)

Facilitators

- DCD Long Range Planning and Parks Department Forestry

12 members

- Ueland Tree Farm
- Clark Tree Farm Trust
- Alpine Evergreen
- Great Peninsula Conservancy
- WA Dept of Natural Resources
- Suquamish Tribe
- Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
- Skokomish Tribe
- Kitsap Environmental Coalition
- Raynier
- City of Bremerton

Meetings from July 2026 – April 2027

- Third meeting January 2027
- Guest speakers and fieldtrips in progress

Comments from the recent FWG meeting:

- Land values – selling to build vs log
- Values – land has additional values beyond logging and housing

Website
Northwest Natural Resource Group
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Small Forest Landowner Office
Mason County Conservation District
Mass Timber - (formerly of Timberlab)
Jefferson County Timber Cooperative
Nisqually Community Forest
Sustainable Northwest
Adaptive Management and Testing Forest Rule Protections

Salmon Focus Project Team

Department of Community Development

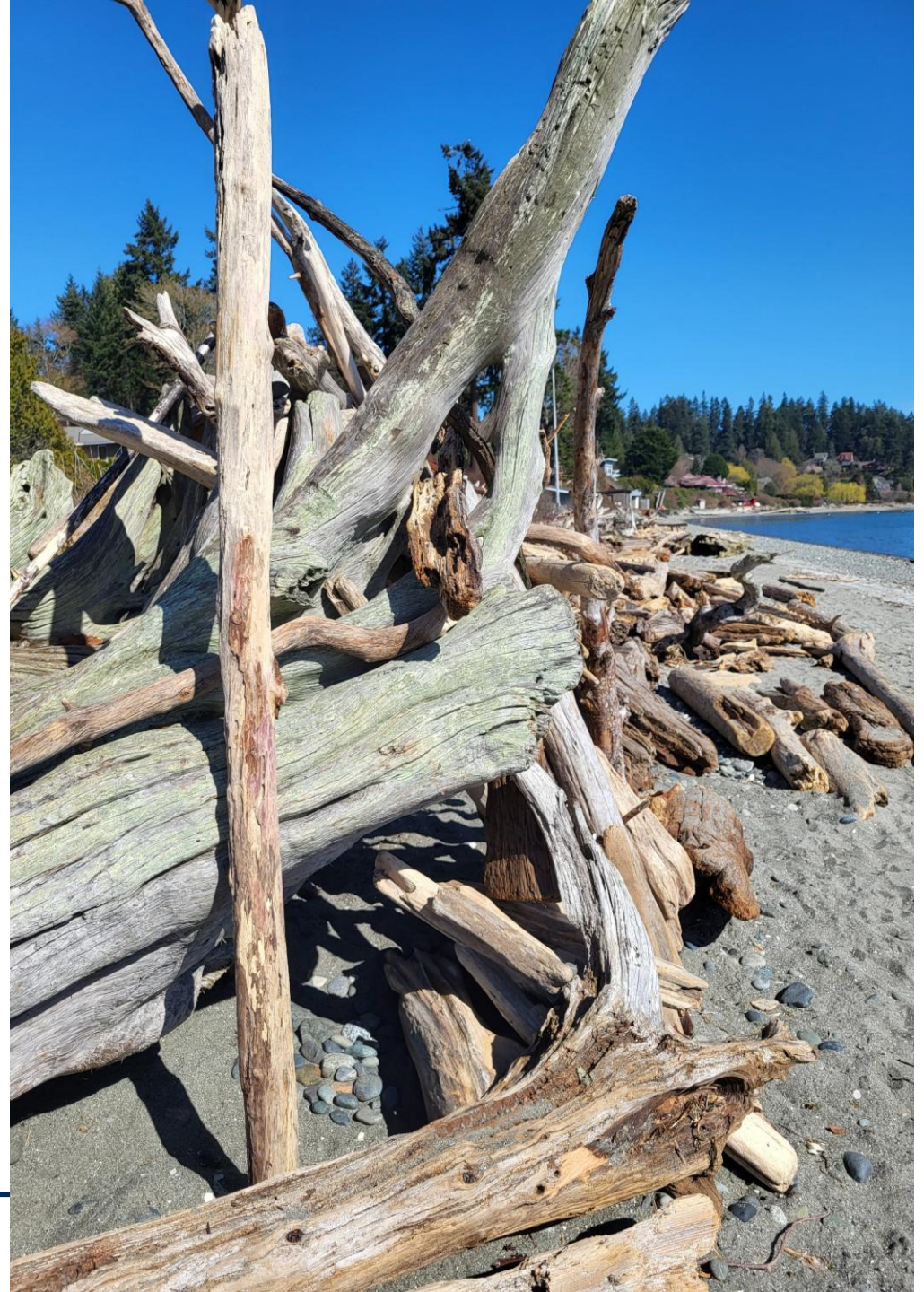
- Heather Cleveland, Long Range Planner, RLA Project Lead
- Jason Robert Walsh, Long Range Planner, Project Manager
- Daria Etchings, Program Tech
- Brittany Gordon, Natural Resources Coordinator
- Amanda O'Conner, Environmental Planner

Consulting Team

- Environmental Science Associates (ESA)
  - Kara Nelson Consulting

Contracts

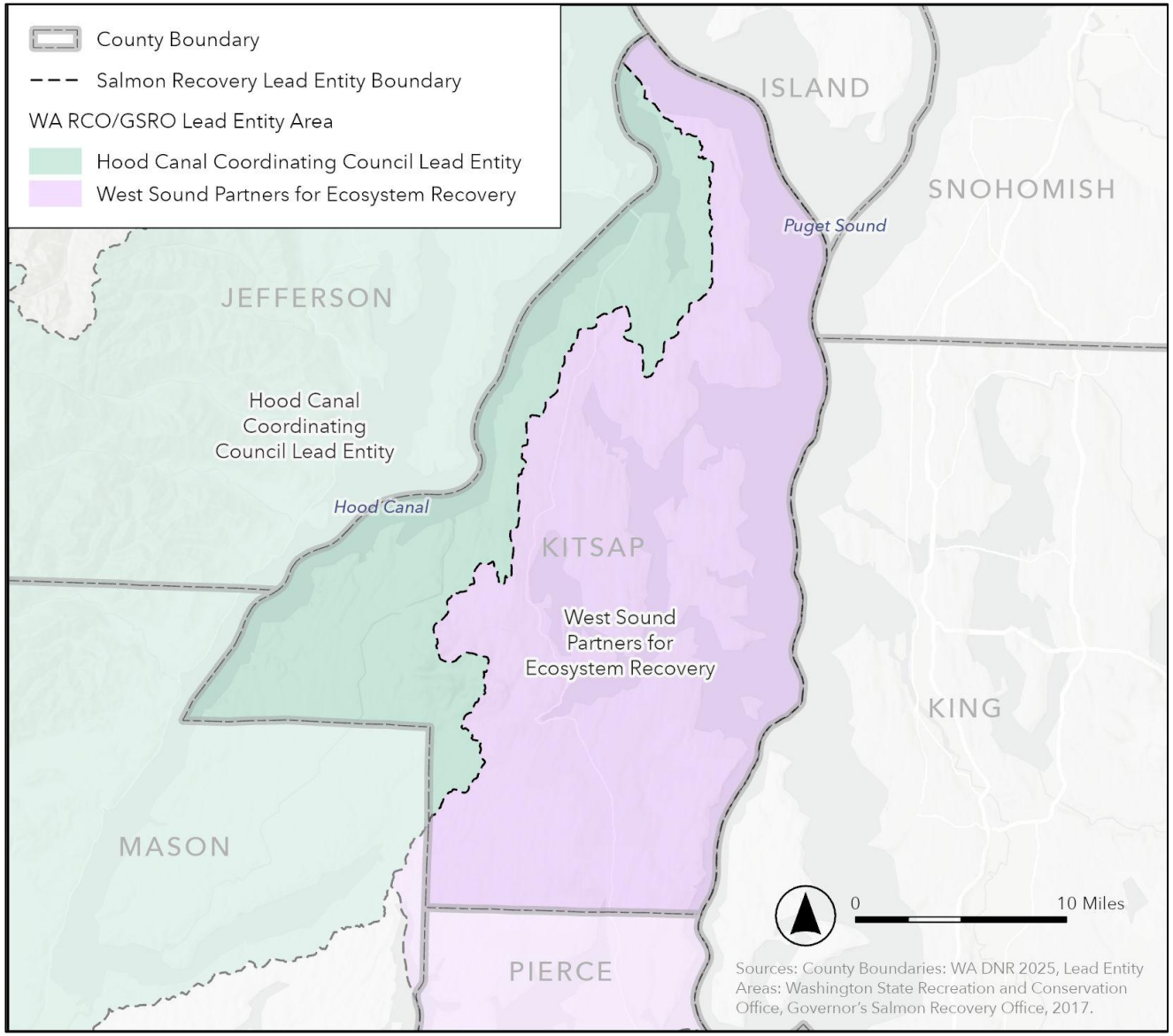
- Department of Commerce - Grant
- ESA - Consulting



Salmon Recovery Team (SRT)

West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery

HOOD CANAL COORDINATING COUNCIL Est. 1985



Progress on Salmon

Summarized existing plans

Compiled data & identified gaps



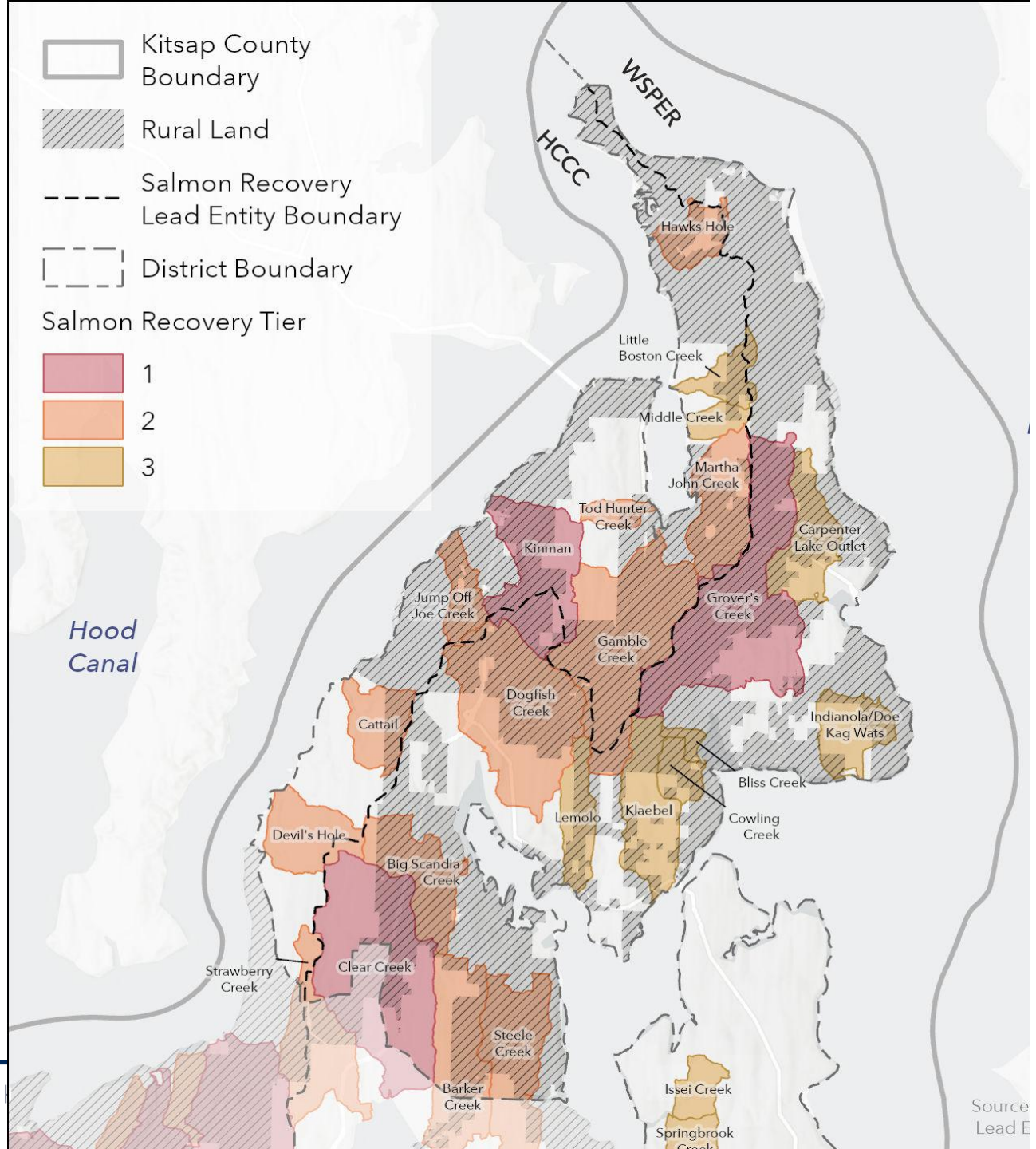
Mapping priority watersheds for salmon

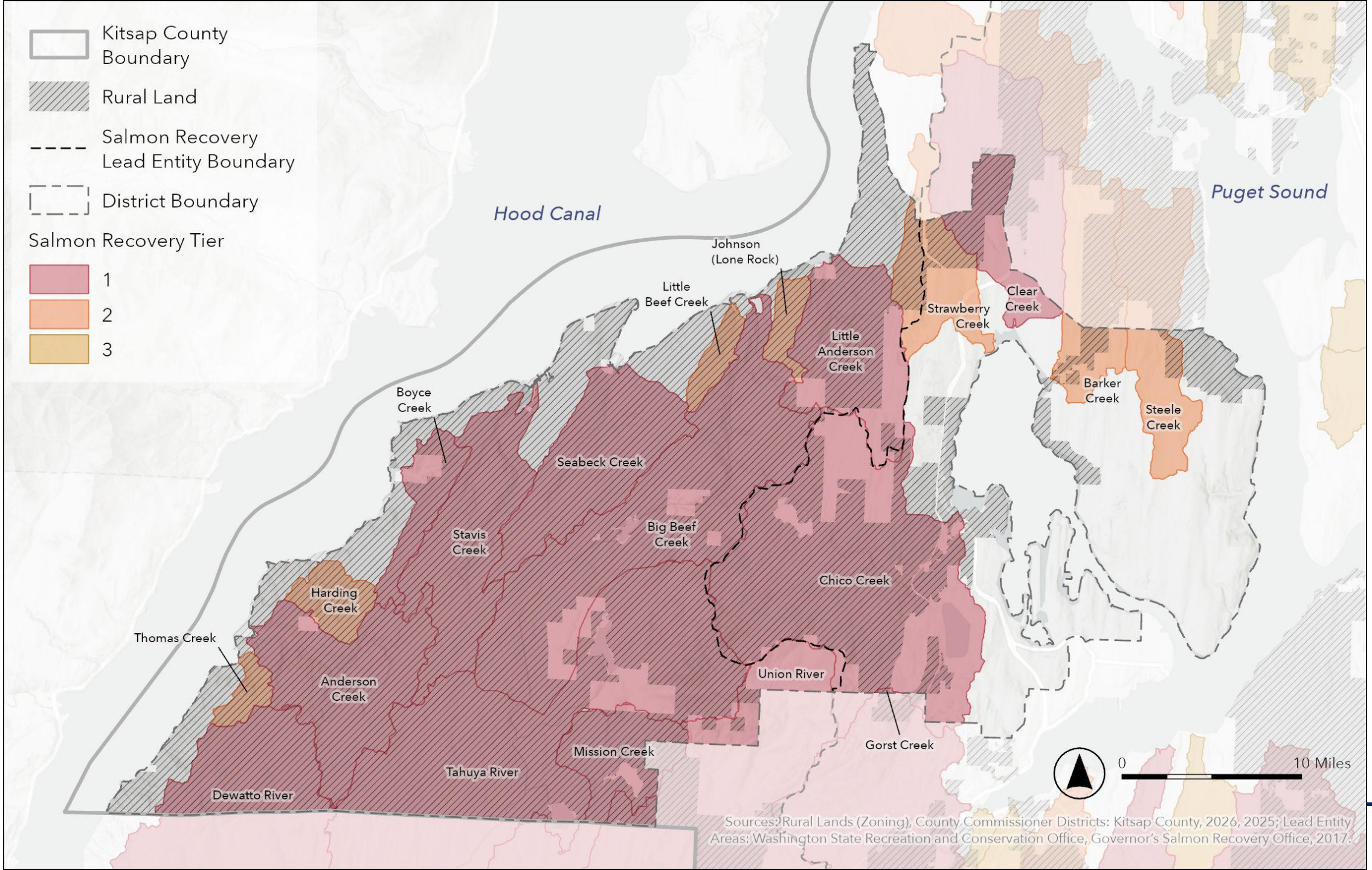
Tier 1: Support a preponderance of spawning adults for a [ESA-listed] population; support spawning by a summer run population or other sub-population uniquely important to maintaining genetic diversity.

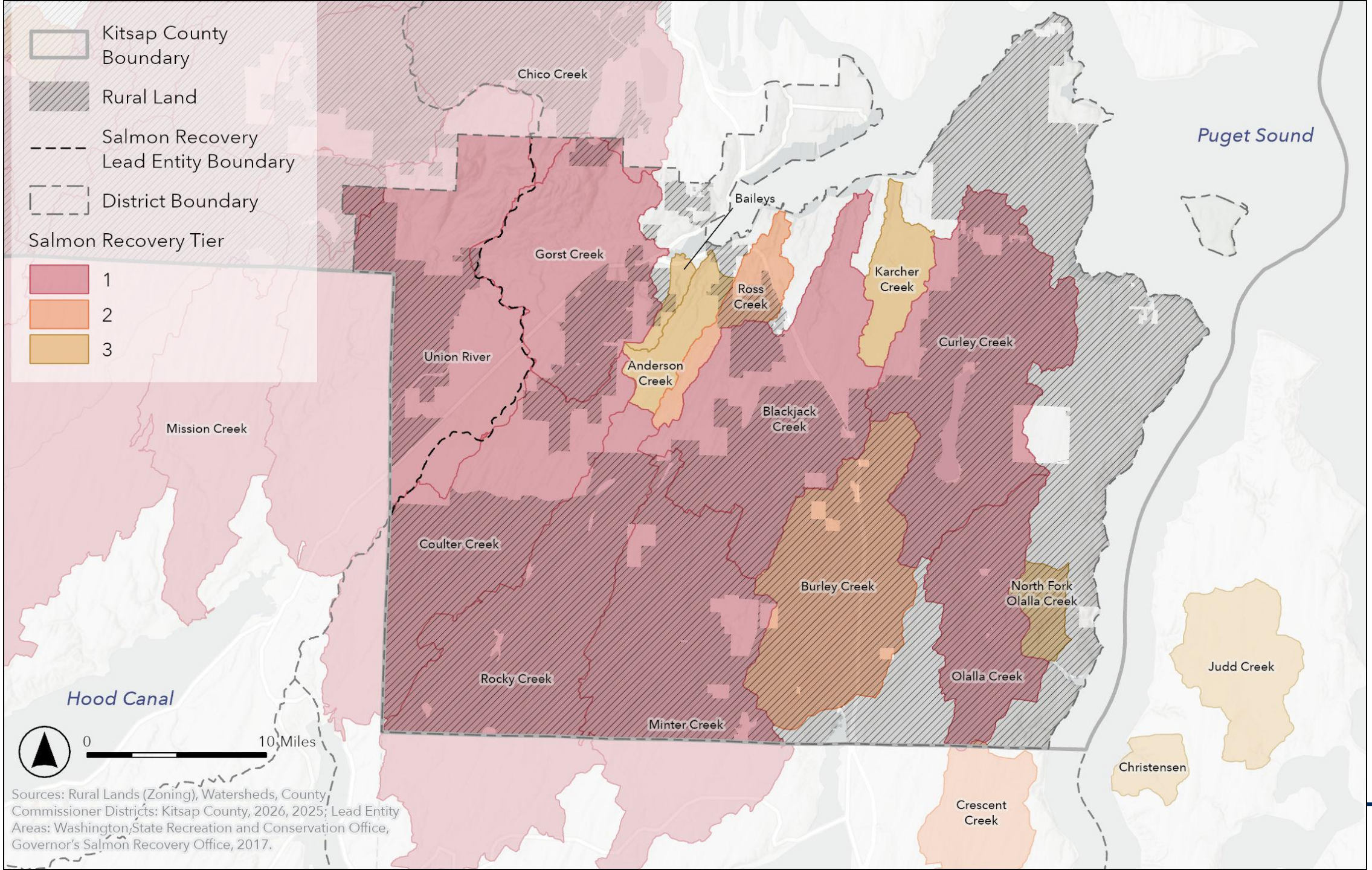
Tier 2: Support spawning adults and contribute to spatial structure of a population.

Tier 3: All streams that have spawning and/or rearing salmon.

(tiers defined in WSPER 2025)

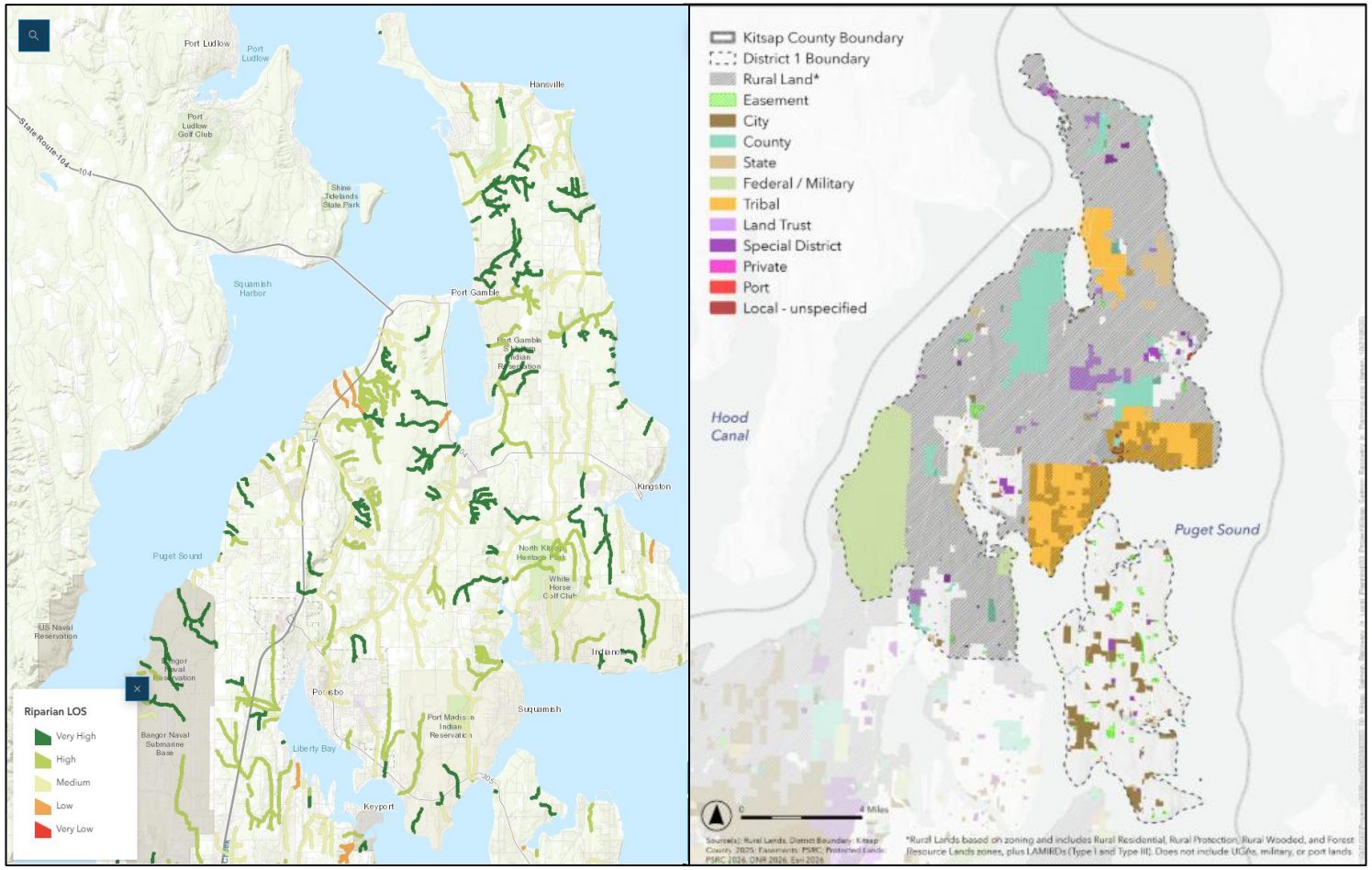



Kitsap County Boundary
Rural Land
Salmon Recovery Lead Entity Boundary
District Boundary
Salmon Recovery Tier
1
2
3
Hood Canal
Puget Sound
Johnson (Lone Rock)
Little Beef Creek
Little Anderson Creek
Strawberry Creek
Clear Creek
Barker Creek
Steele Creek
Boyce Creek
Seabeck Creek
Stavis Creek
Big Beef Creek
Chico Creek
Harding Creek
Thomas Creek
Anderson Creek
Union River
Gorst Creek
Mission Creek
Tahuya River
Dewatto River
0
10 Miles
Sources: Rural Lands (Zoning), County Commissioner Districts: Kitsap County, 2026, 2025; Lead Entity Areas: Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office, 2017.


Kitsap County Boundary
Rural Land
Salmon Recovery Lead Entity Boundary
District Boundary
Salmon Recovery Tier
1
2
3
Chico Creek
Puget Sound
Baileys
Gorst Creek
Ross Creek
Karcher Creek
Curley Creek
Union River
Anderson Creek
Blackjack Creek
Mission Creek
Coulter Creek
Burley Creek
North Fork Olalla Creek
Judd Creek
Rocky Creek
Olalla Creek
Minter Creek
Hood Canal
Christensen
Crescent Creek
0
10 Miles
Sources: Rural Lands (Zoning), Watersheds, County Commissioner Districts: Kitsap County, 2026, 2025; Lead Entity Areas: Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office, 2017.

Upcoming Work

- Analyze data
- Document existing conditions
- Identify opportunities and recommendations



Learning from our Neighbors

Thurston County's Working Lands Conservation Strategy (2026)

Pierce County's Land Conservation Plan (2025)

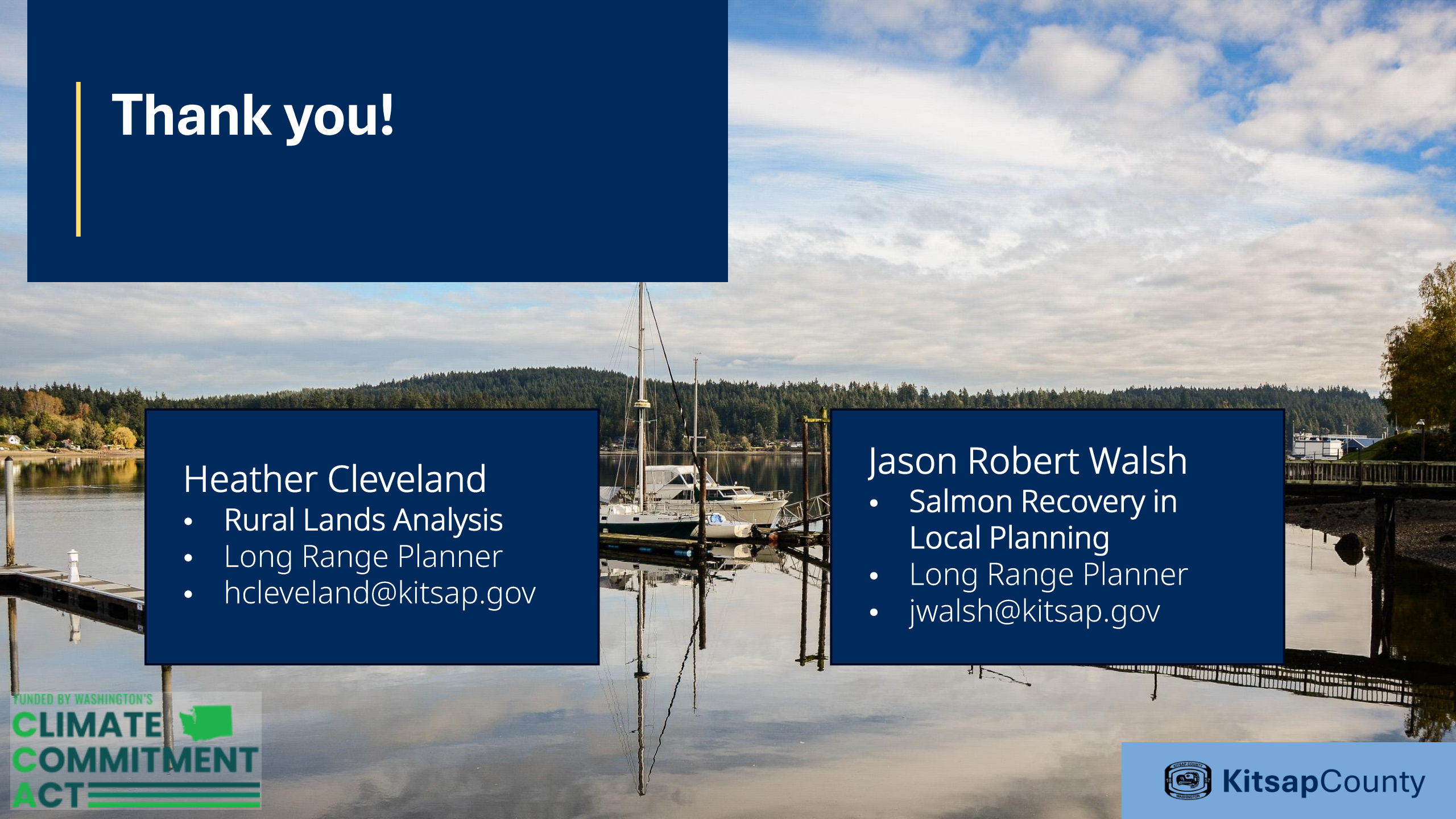
Puget Sound Regional Council's Open Space Conservation Plan Update (expected 2027)



Next Steps

- Integrate the Salmon Recovery work into Rural Lands Analysis
- Community engagement event in February
- Planning Commission briefings
- Developing Rural Lands Analysis Methodology
- Data and plans analysis
- Build a GIS Hub
- Working and Advisory Groups continue to meet and review project deliverables
- Final report and presentations

Thank you!



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