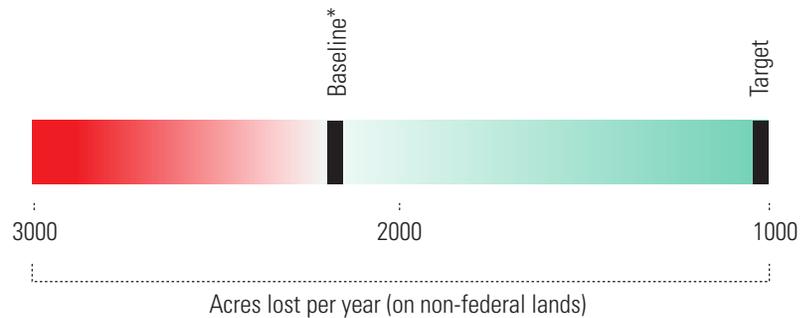


Land Development and Cover

Land cover change: Forest to developed[†]

Progress Toward the 2020 Target

The average annual loss of forested land cover to developed land cover in non-federal lands does not exceed 1,000 acres per year, as measured with Landsat-based change detection.



* Baseline conversion rates: 2001-2006 conversion of forested cover to developed cover was 2,176 acres per year. Information on the rate of conversion from 2006 to 2011 is expected to be available in 2013.

Is There Progress Toward the 2020 Target?

The analysis of progress toward the target is pending due to the lack of data. Data needed to calculate an updated conversion rate for the period 2006-2011 were not yet available, but are expected later in 2013.

Non-federal Puget Sound basin forest was converted to developed cover at a rate of 2,176 acres per year for the period 2001-2006.

Achievement of the 2020 target rate of 1,000 acres converted per year would represent a roughly 50 percent reduction from the 2001-2006 annual conversion

[†] This report is adapted from the *2012 State of the Sound* because no new data were available.



rate, or an 80 percent reduction from the 1991-2001 conversion rate of 5,048 acres per year. The years 1991-2001 was a period of unprecedented regional growth that included significant expansion of the developed landscape. Limiting the conversion rate to 1,000 acres per year is an ambitious target that reflects our need to minimize loss of regional forest cover, while recognizing that some conversion of forest cover for the purposes of development and infrastructure development is necessary.

Indicator Lead:

Kenneth B. Pierce Jr., Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

**For more in-depth information,
please see:**

www.psp.wa.gov/vitalsigns/land_cover_and_development.php

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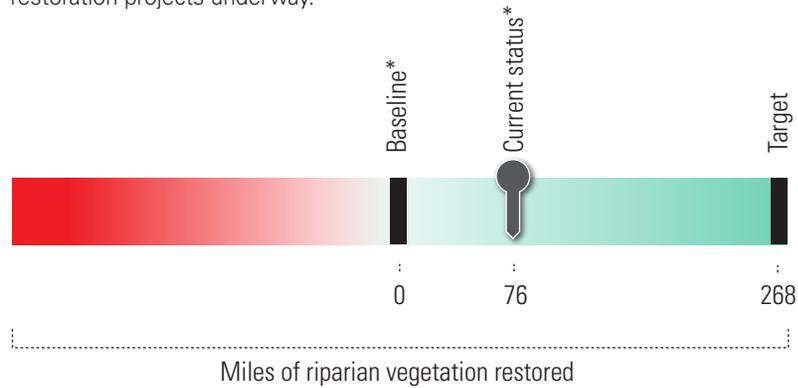
photo opposite page credit: pecooper98362@flickr

Land Development and Cover

Land cover change: Riparian restoration[†]

Progress Toward the 2020 Target

Restore 268 miles of riparian vegetation or have an equivalent extent of restoration projects underway.



* At least 76 riparian miles were restored between October 2009 and September 2012, from 13 projects.



Is There Progress Toward the 2020 Target?

Habitat data collected by the Puget Sound Partnership on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency indicate that 19 riparian restoration projects were conducted in the Puget Sound basin from October 2009 through September 2012. However, miles of restored riparian corridors were reported only for 13 projects. In total, at least 76 miles were restored during that time

period, or 28 percent progress toward the 2020 target of 268 miles. It should be noted that riparian corridor restoration prior to October 2009, the baseline reference year, was not counted toward the target.

[†] This report is adapted from the *2012 State of the Sound* because no new data were available.



Indicator Lead:
Alex Mitchell, Puget Sound
Partnership

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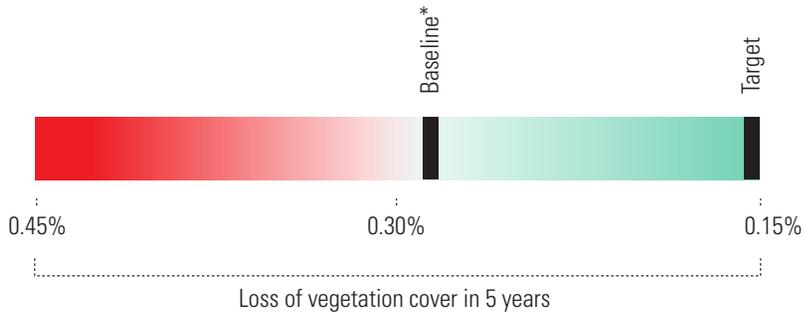
photo left credit: Nancy Charbonneau/Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Land Development and Cover

Land development pressure: Conversion of ecologically important lands[†]

Progress Toward the 2020 Target

Basin-wide loss of vegetation cover on ecologically important lands under high pressure from development does not exceed 0.15 percent of the total 2011 baseline land area over a five-year period.



* Baseline rate of change: 0.28 percent loss of vegetation cover on indicator land base¹ over the period 2001-2006.

¹ Indicator land base = ecologically important lands under high pressure from development.

Is There Progress Toward the 2020 Target?

The analysis of progress towards the target is pending due to the lack of data, which will be available in 2013. However, achieving the 2020 target will require reducing the conversion of ecologically important lands to development to just over one-half the rate of conversion observed in 2001-2006.

The five-year baseline rate of land cover change on the indicator land base across

all 12 counties in Puget Sound for the period 2001-2006 was 0.28 percent. Similar analyses will be completed every five years to track change over the periods 2006-2011, 2011-2016, and 2016-2021.

[†]This report is adapted from the 2012 *State of the Sound* because no new data were available.

Table 3.7. Land Cover Change from Vegetated to Developed in 12 Puget Sound Counties

Land base type	Land base area, in acres (percent of total Puget Sound land area)	Land base area converted, in acres in 2001-2006	Proportion of land base area converted (percent of total Puget Sound land area conversion in 2001-2006)
Indicator Land Base High ecological importance, High development pressure	1,084,785 (13%)	2,996	0.28% (15%)
High ecological importance, Low development pressure	5,737,559 (68%)	1,140	0.02% (6%)
Low ecological importance, High development pressure	1,101,134 (13.0%)	10,136	0.92% (50%)
Low ecological importance, Low development pressure	558,315 (7%)	6,077	1.09% (29%)
Total Puget Sound land area	8,481,793	20,349	0.24%

Source: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Habitat program. Analysis based on many federal, state, and local data sources

Indicator Lead:

Kenneth B. Pierce Jr., Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Kari Stiles, Puget Sound Partnership

**For more in-depth information,
please see:**

www.psp.wa.gov/vitalsigns/land_cover_and_development.php

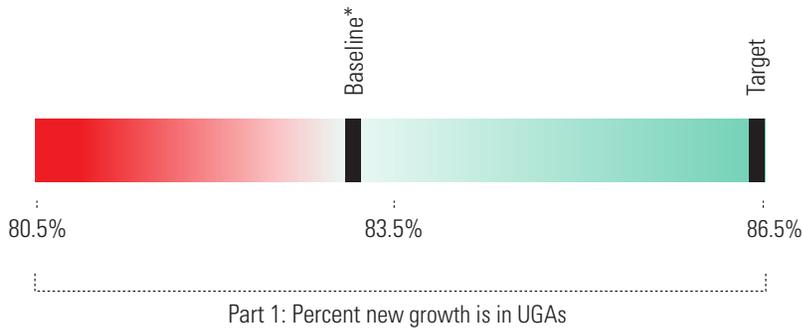
Land Development and Cover

Land development pressure: Growth in UGAs[†]

Progress Toward the 2020 Target

Part 1: The proportion of basin-wide growth occurring within Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) is at least 86.5 percent (equivalent to all counties exceeding their population growth goals by 3 percent).

Part 2: All counties show an increase over their 2000-2010 percentage.



* Based on basin-wide census data from 2000 to 2010, 83 percent of new growth occurred in UGAs.

Is There Progress Toward the 2020 Target?

The analysis of progress towards the 2020 target is pending until new data are made available. Based on U.S. census data from 2000 to 2010, the Puget Sound basin-wide population growth occurring within UGAs was 83 percent (Table 1). For counties, this indicator ranged from 28-101 percent. For future analyses of progress, the value derived from the 2000 to 2010 census data will be used as

a baseline reference for basin-wide (83 percent) and county-scale (ranging from 28-101 percent) population growth distribution.

The 2020 recovery target of 86.5 percent of population growth occurring within UGAs is equivalent to a 3 percent increase in the proportion of new population

[†] This report is adapted from the *2012 State of the Sound* because no new data were available.

Table 3.8. Number of People Within and Outside Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) by County and Basin-wide

County	2010 population	Total new population in 2000-2010	Percent of total population within UGA in 2010	Percent of new growth occurring within UGA in 2000-2010
Clallam	64,262	7,546	50.0%	47%
Island	78,506	7,878	30.9%	40%
Jefferson	28,605	3,532	41.4%	28%
King	1,931,249	195,569	93.6%	101%*
Kitsap	251,133	20,418	62.1%	65%
Mason	60,699	13,931	27.1%	28%
Pierce	795,225	95,538	82.5%	85%
San Juan	15,769	1,986	21.6%	37%
Skagit	116,901	14,608	67.6%	83%
Snohomish	713,335	107,775	83.0%	92%
Thurston	252,264	76,584	67.6%	50%
Whatcom	201,140	35,034	67.4%	78%
Basin-wide	4,509,088	580,399	81.7%	83%

Sources: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Habitat Program and the U.S. Census

* This number reflects new growth occurring within UGAs and migration of some existing population into UGAs.

growth occurring within all Puget Sound UGAs. This target represents an effort to direct more growth to those areas deemed best suited for development, while also respecting that Puget Sound includes very urban as well as very rural counties with very different growth management needs and objectives. Data on the distribution of permits for new development (a proxy for population growth) within five of the 12 Puget Sound counties suggest that the target is achievable.

Indicator Lead:

Kenneth B. Pierce Jr., Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Kari Stiles, Puget Sound Partnership

For more in-depth information, please see:

www.psp.wa.gov/vitalsigns/land_cover_and_development.php