

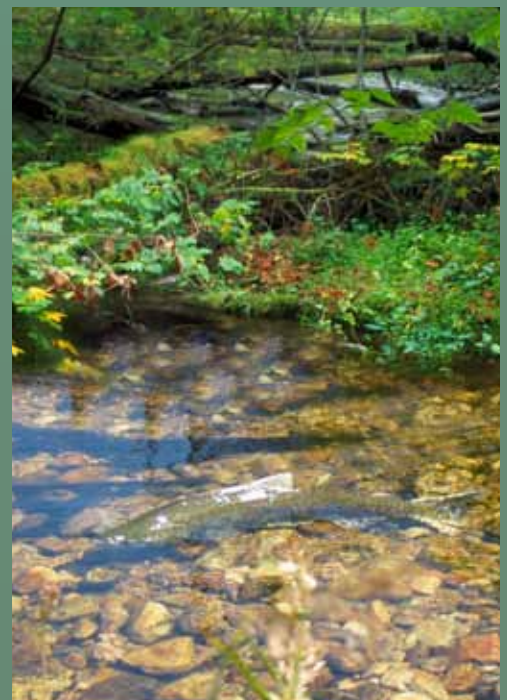
LAKE WASHINGTON/CEDAR/ SAMMAMISH WATERSHED (WRIA 8)

Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan Summary

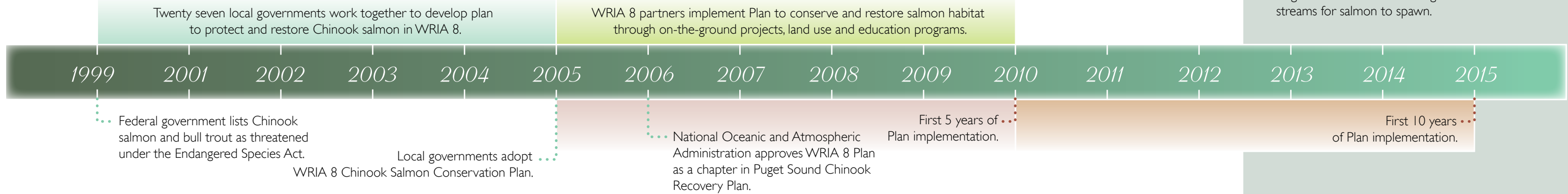
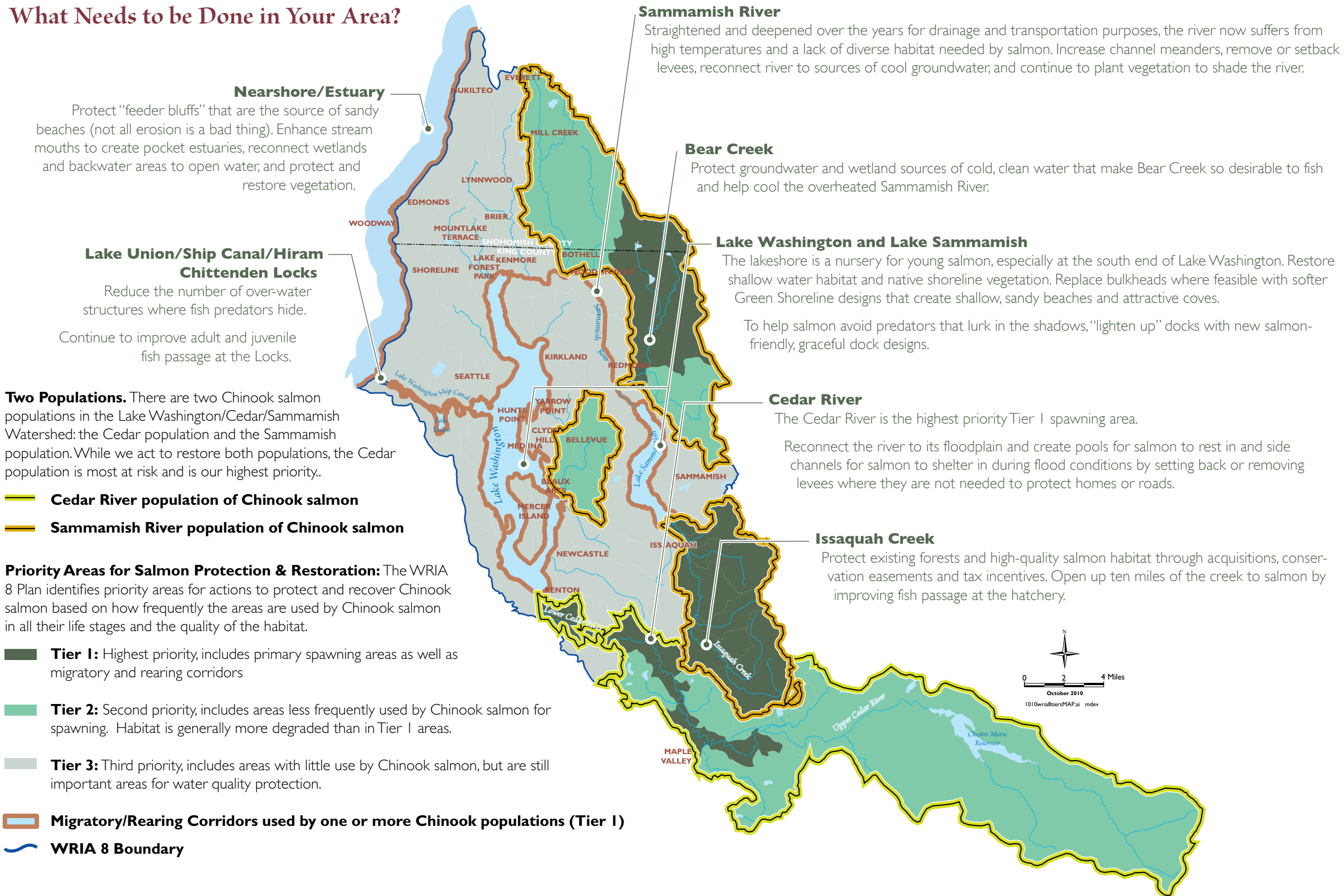
*Salmon and
People Living
Together*



Since 2000, 27 local governments, businesses, community groups, and state and federal agencies have been working together to protect and restore our native salmon runs.



What Needs to be Done in Your Area?



We can create a better future for both people and salmon

King and Snohomish counties continue to grow, leading to more roads and roofs and fewer farms and forests. Human development has increased, while our streams and lakes have suffered. The result: a dramatic decline in salmon and other wildlife. This led to the listing of Puget Sound Chinook salmon under the Endangered Species Act.

The WRIA 8 Chinook Conservation Plan aims to improve the health of local rivers and streams and recover our local Chinook salmon populations. WRIA 8 stands for Water Resource Inventory Area 8, a state designation for the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed. The goal: to create a healthy environment for fish, wildlife and people. WRIA 8 actions are important in restoring Chinook salmon in Puget Sound.

What Needs to be Done Throughout the Watershed:

- **Protect forests and mature vegetation.** Forests act like sponges, soaking up water, storing it and slowing its release to the watershed. Vegetation filters pollution.
- **Save and restore streamside vegetation** to cool water, maintain oxygen levels, provide shade and food sources and reduce erosion.
- **Reduce or replace impervious surfaces** such as pavement and roof tops that cause water to run off too quickly. Builders, homeowners, cities and the environment can all profit from low impact development.
- **Manage stormwater flows** from roads and development to replicate natural flows and protect water quality. Water discharged too quickly to creeks and streams erodes stream beds and carries pollutants. The resulting sediment suffocates salmon eggs developing in gravel.
- **Keep wood in streams** to create pools and refuge areas for salmon to rest and hide from predators.
- **Protect and improve water quality** by reducing erosion and toxics. Fix leaky cars; wash them at commercial car washes or on the lawn. Dump nothing down storm drains.
- **Conserve water.** Manage home, industrial and irrigation use to ensure enough water in creeks and streams for salmon to spawn.

What's in the Plan?

The Plan includes three types of recommendations:

1 On-the ground projects. These projects protect high-quality habitat or improve streams and lakes to help salmon survive. Examples are removing barriers to fish passage, restoring native forests, softening shorelines and setting back levees where practical. Other actions protect critical habitat through conservation easements or land purchase.



People benefit too. These projects maintain green spaces for hiking and riding, help protect property from devastating floods and create more attractive shorelines.

2 Land use and planning. Local governments play a key role in managing how the region grows and develops. For example, stormwater is managed at the local level to reduce flooding and keep streams clean. Protecting critical areas and shorelines ensures that we don't lose priceless natural areas. Promoting projects that use low-impact development methods helps ensure our region grows sustainably. Tax breaks and conservation easements encourage landowners to protect streams, wetlands and forests.



These actions help keep the region livable. People enjoy green spaces, shorelines and attractive neighborhoods.

3 Public education and outreach. Many people will take action to benefit their local neighborhood and help salmon if they understand why and how. Examples from the Plan include providing information to shoreline landowners on fish-friendly shorelines, promoting greener ways to wash cars and take care of yards, and holding volunteer events to plant trees and native plants.



Plan Participants

The following local governments and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife provide financial support to coordinate implementation of the WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan:

Town of Beaux Arts Village
City of Bellevue
City of Bothell
City of Clyde Hill
City of Edmonds
Town of Hunts Point
City of Issaquah
City of Kenmore
City of Kent
King County
City of Kirkland
City of Lake Forest Park
City of Maple Valley
City of Medina
City of Mercer Island
City of Mill Creek
City of Mountlake Terrace
City of Mukilteo
City of Newcastle
City of Redmond
City of Renton
City of Sammamish
City of Seattle
City of Shoreline
Snohomish County
City of Woodinville
Town of Yarrow Point



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