

APPROVED

MAY 20, 2014

**Kitsap County Park Advisory Board
Minutes April 15, 2015**

Meeting called to order at 6:05 by Vice Chair Ani Gatz. Chair Alvin Andrus caught in traffic.

Introductions of Board and Staff – PRAB members present – Ani Gatz, Joanne Clark, Larry Walker, Frank Stricklin, Susan Cruver, Alvin Andrus and new PRAB member Elizabeth Grady.

Staff Present – Jim Dunwiddie, Dori Leckner, Billie Schmidt, Arno Bergstrom, Steven Starlund and Leigh Snyder.

8 members of the public were also present.

Motion:

Date 4-15-15

Motion by: Frank Stricklin **Second by:** Ani Gatz

Motion to accept the March 18th Minutes as presented

Discussion None

Action: Minutes accepted

Correspondence & Communication - Jim Dunwiddie introduced the newest member of the PRAB Elizabeth Grady appointed from District 3. Jim referred all to their packets for a copy of the certificate recently presented to the “Eagle’s Nest” from the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs for the recent VAAC Town Hall meeting held there. One last reminder - the volunteer recognition event is being held tomorrow at 4:30 at the County Administration Building.

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board – Jim Heytvelt gave an update on the Harper Estuary Restoration project. Full details for this project are available on the Kitsap County Website - kitsapgov.com.

Ted Berenson of the Kitsap Live Steamers thanked the department for SKRP and stated folks from as far away as Connecticut have visited the park and enjoyed a train ride. The park is known by a large group of visitors across the country.

Directors Report – The repair work within Anderson Point Park is expected to be completed in 3-4 weeks. Power is run to the entrance gate with an automatic gate control mechanism to be installed shortly. Improvements to Millihanna Road will be

phased in throughout the year. We now have a capital budget program of 1,153,000 the first time since 2008. Volunteers have really kept our heads above water the past few years and have contributed over 37,000 hours valued at \$26.22 per hour making an added value of nearly 1,000,000 last year. Thank you to all the volunteers and stewards. Steven Starlund placed a nomination with the Washington Recreation Park Association for the heritage park stewardship program. I am happy to announce this program has been honored with the "Spotlight Award for Excellence".

Forester – Plans proceeding for the 2015 forest restoration thinning at NHHP and NKHP. Stewards have completed wetland and riparian delineations and tree marking is underway. Forest Practice Applications will be active May 1st for both parks. Brush harvesting is underway on the leased park properties. Forest Lands at Risk grant ended March 31, 2015. Washington DNR Urban Forest Restoration program will provide a WCC crew for the entire month of May to work at two project sites at Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park and Newberry Hill Heritage Park. Marked timber will be harvested in areas at SKRP for the planned Phase II project there. Danger trees have been located and additional clearing may be necessary to improve long term public safety. (See Final Report for the Forest Lands at Risk Grant, 2014 Restoration Thinning at NHHP.)

Elizabeth Grady asked what happens to trees that are damaged in the thinning process – the final answer is that the trees referred to at NHHP do not pose a danger and type damage or wounding can and does occur many times during the life of a tree and not usually pose a danger or risk.

Operations Superintendent – Turf Management program is underway with a training to be held with staff for proper grooming techniques. Electrical plans have been received and handed off to the electrician for the Board Family Grant project. Extra help staff have been hired for the Fairgrounds (4) and Village Greens Golf Course (1).

Resources Superintendent – Anderson Point Park looks great. Two FTE have been hired for South end parks (first in 10 years) and we have one additional position to fill in August or September. Thanks to the Northwest Training Facility who removed the old concrete and installed new concrete from the duplexes to the lighthouse at Point No Point.

Planning – New resource based maps of Port Gamble Heritage Forest Park were presented as a result of the recently completed wildlife assessment. Walk through completed at the Howe Farm Barn project. Olalla parking lot project is funding and moving forward. Steering Committee of the Port Gamble Heritage Forest discussed management of the shellfish resources along the 1.5 miles of shoreline. Currently this

group is developing land-use and resource management “zoning” of the property that will direct public use and resource conservation management.

Shellfish Harvest discussion – short presentation by Steven Starlund that outlined the consideration – who shall manage, how do we dedicate the harvest and access for recreational and possible commercial use? WDFW serves as the enforceable entity and preferably collaborates with public entities to facilitate management of these resources. Typically public tidelands are co-managed by WDFW and Tribes. Tribes receive 50% of the allowable harvest. Sport harvest amounts are estimated by WDFW in November and quotas set for the following year for clams and oysters. We have several options to manage our tidelands and will need to work together to come to the best option for the resource.

Susan Anderson spoke up from the public to ask what the plan is for replacement of the Silverdale Community Center. Jim Dunwiddie answered that there is a community town hall meeting with the CK Community Council tomorrow. Susan answered that all three Commissioners will be there. What is Parks involvement? Jim indicated that we have been asked and have provided a list of 800+ users of facilities for CKCC to use in their survey to gather information. At this time our participation is limited to that and this group is in the “gathering information phase”.

Hank Anderson asked why the county has acquired more property (Rude Road) without a public access. Arno and Jim responded that the access is off Clear Creek then Old Rude Road.

Stewardship Group Report – NHHP- Thanks to the Parks Department for the DR Field Mower. It works great!

Community Forestry Sub-Committee - we have completed a report on the guidelines for county park wetland and riparian management zone. Our buffers are actually greater than the state requirement. PRAB has been given copies for review and comment over the next two weeks. Ani Gatz commented that the work thus far at NHHP has been awesome and is really “restorative forestry”.

Old Business - North Kitsap Heritage Park Forest Stewardship Plan will be presented at a later date. There is still a bit of work to be done.

New Business –

Alvin asked for clarification on the name of the park at Port Gamble – we are currently calling it the Port Gamble Heritage Forest Park.

Motion:

Date 4/15/15

Motion by: Larry Walker **Second by:** Susan Cruver

Motion: To adjourn meeting

Discussion: None

In Favor: Unanimous

Action: Meeting adjourned 7:38PM

KITSAP COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT

Director's Monthly Report

April 2015

Anderson Point Park

Improvements to Millihanna Road will be phased throughout the year and may require periodic, temporary closures of the road (and Park). Work will be scheduled to minimize closures. Various staff from Parks, Public Works, Prosecutor office, and Commissioner met onsite with neighbors to review survey work, easements, and proposed road profiles.

The repair work within Anderson Point Park is expected to be completed in 3 - 4 weeks. The expansion of the existing parking lot is being evaluated. Power has been run to the entrance gate. The automatic gate control mechanism will be installed shortly.

2015 Capital Program Budget

The following will be funded by the County (\$1,153,000):

Olalla Boat Launch/Parking	180,000
Silverdale Waterfront Park Playground Replacement	165,000
Point No Point Park Restroom Construction	150,000
South Kitsap Regional Park Restroom Construction	140,000
Kola Kola Park PreSchool Building Renovation	120,000
Norwegian Point Park Restaurant Demolition/Shoreline Restoration	73,000
Pavilion HVAC System Partial Replacement	45,000
Howe Farm Well Replacement	35,000
Parks General Structure Repair and Replacement	30,000
Potential Land Acquisitions/RCO Grant	215,000

Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park Stewardship Plan

The group of stakeholders appointed to develop a Master Plan/Stewardship Plan has met a number of times since mid-February. The first public input session was held late March. A second public workshop is scheduled May 5. The draft plan is expected to go to the County Commissioners by the end of June 2015.

Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan

Staff continues to participate in activities related to the development of the 2016 Comprehensive County Plan. The last staff activity included supporting the Suquamish Citizens Council workshop earlier this month. The County's Internal Review Team is meeting week of April 13 to review Draft Goals of nine (9) categories.

Director's Report – April 2015

Page 2

Management Plan for Banner Forest Heritage Park

County acceptance process is being discussed.

South County Storage Facility

Agreement for the leasing of a portion of the large storage building in Gorst, which fronts a portion of the Sinclair Inlet, has been reached and waiting for formal approval.



Kitsap County Community Forestry - Pilot Program Report

April 15, 2015

Forest Stewardship Plans and Plan Implementation for Individual Parks

Plans for the 2015 forest restoration thinning at Newberry Hill and North Kitsap Heritage Park are proceeding. Park stewards have completed wetland and riparian delineations. Tree marking is underway. Forest Practice Applications for 2015 thinning at Newberry Hill and North Kitsap Heritage Parks will be active on May 1st.

The forest stewardship plan for North Kitsap Heritage Park is under review by the Forest Stewardship Committee.

Work has started on the Forest Stewardship Plan for Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park.

Brush Harvesting

Brush harvesting is underway on the leased park property and will continue through spring into early summer. Both salal and evergreen huckleberry are being harvested.

Forest Lands at Risk Grant

The grant ended on March 31, 2015. See the attached final report.

Urban Forest Restoration Projects

The WA DNR Urban Forest Restoration program is providing a WCC crew for the month of May. They will work at the same two project site: Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park and Newberry Hill Heritage Park. Park Volunteer Stewards and other citizen volunteers have assisted with these projects.

South Kitsap Regional Park

Marked timber is be harvested in areas to be cleared for the planned Phase II project at South Kitsap Regional Park. Danger trees have also been located and additional clearing maybe necessary to improve long term public safety.

Attachments:

Final Report for the Forestlands at Risk Grant

Report on 2014 Restoration Thinning at Newberry Hill Heritage Park

April 9, 2015

Parks and Recreation Department Superintendent of Operations Report

*Fairgrounds & Events Center, Village Greens Golf Shop, Permitting Process, Marketing
April, 2015*

A. Facilities

- The new Pavilion rear garage door, damaged during the Home & Garden Expo, has been repaired on 4/6 at a cost of \$4500.
- Turf Management - recommended scheduled fertilizer, soil amendment and seed put down. Purchasing infield mix.
- Fields Roofing repaired Presidents' Hall roof - twice.
- Doo For You – 20 yards remaining, should be distributed by 4/8/15.
- The lower restroom floor in Pavilion is bubbled in several places due to water damage underneath. It is a tripping hazard. In the process of taking estimates for repair costs and seeking funds to replace.
- Fair preparation continues -
 - Seeking estimates and funding for hoods for Crazy Erik's booth in the Van Zee and other temporary hoods in the Van Zee

2. Grants

- The Department of Agriculture Safety Grant – ends June 1, 2015. Projects remaining: Installation of Lights and Sirens in Pavilion Locker Rooms, Replacement of Creosote Retaining Wall at Pet Me Farm, Emergency Vehicle Access Ramp behind Thunderbird Stadium, Safety/Security Gates at Stampede Road entrance & Kitsap Kids Playground, Fire Lane Painting, Barn Roof Repairs (Blackler and L-Barn).
- Boand Family Foundation Grant - Lower Arena Roof
 - Architectural drawings received and approved. KCF requested the building kits be purchased.
 - County legal department working with WSU/4H on MOU regarding use and maintenance of arena.
 - Staff waiting for electrical plans
- PFD Funding
 - Kitsap Bluejackets requested changes to original Press Box design. PFD agreed to hear new presentation. Both staff and Bluejackets working with architects to incorporate changes for phased approach. Once set, we will meet with the PFD for a funding request.
- LID Grant – Grant ends June 30, 2015
 - Infiltration systems – The infiltration systems complete. PME will place the downspout tie-ins on 4/9/15. This will complete this project. MAP Ltd. Sent and engineer to ensure the work are done per the “As Built”.

- Manure Cover contract – Permit issued. The contractor Western Specialty ordering kit and scheduling shipment and construction. Anticipate job completion by end of May.

B. Rental/Events

- Events held included: **March** – Kitsap Conservation District Tree Sale & Distribution, Doo For You, 4H Camp Fundraiser, Awana Games, Peninsula Home & Garden Show, Peninsula Dog Fancier AKC Dog Show, Military Appreciation Day, CCA Banquet. **April** – Veterans Stand Down, RAGS, KCMS Fun Run, Water Festival.
- Upcoming Events include –**April** - Just Between Friends, Rabbit Show. **May** – Fuchsia Sale, Master Gardener’s Plant Sale, 2 Baseball Tournaments, Washington Virtual Academy Testing, Corey’s Day on the Farm, Falcon Gun & Knife Show, 2 Destruction Derbies, Kitsap Puma’s Game, CKSD Bus Rodeo.
- Athletic Facilities – All fields being aerated, fertilized, and seeded. Some soil amendments as well. After recommended treatment, Gordon Field’s grass field will be closed for 6 weeks (April 6 – May 25) to help grass germinate and take root.

C. Staffing/Training

- Representatives attended Northwest Festivals & Events Conference in Olympia.
- April 29 – 2 staff will attend WASTMA Turf Management Training at Safeco Field.
- Interviewing/hiring Maintenance Helper (seasonal positions).
- Interviewing/hiring Golf Shop Extra Help (seasonal position).

D. Marketing

- Parks Dept. Marketing booths at Military Appreciation Day and Visit Kitsap Annual Meeting
- Press releases –Village Greens Re-opening Day Event, Community Effort Regarding Vandalism at Fairgrounds, Doo for You Success.
- Targeted Internet Ads placed through Kitsap Sun, ads forward folks to our website.

E. Permit Process

- Permitting - Process Improvement Plan – electronic storage of permits – will begin in the fall.

F. Village Greens Golf Shop

- Skyhawks Sports – Contract in the works for SNAG (Starting New at Golf) a program with Skyhawks.
- Staff working on contract with second PGA Golf Instructor, who is also the First Tee Program Coordinator.

G. Sponsorships – seeking construction sponsors to assist with replacing flooring and counter/sinks in the Kitsap Sun Pavilion lower restrooms.

H. E-Tix Program

- The next ticketed event will be in May (Destruction Derby). Seeking additional ticket sellers.
- Repaired and updated E-Tix computers. Sent BOCA printer for repair.
- Will purchase 4 scanner laptops to replace existing Windows XP laptops that are no longer supported by E-Tix.

I. Work Parties

- Eagle Scout projects – Daniel White completed fencing project above the lower horse arena. Jose Dominguez completed building 3 sturdy benches for the Fair. 2 scouts working on Pavilion & Presidents' Hall Kiosks & Gordon Field Flag Pole projects - in planning stages.
- Volunteer Mark Boardman and Navy volunteers replaced rotting Dog Barn base boards
- Washington Youth Academy – Mentor Day - set to pull scotch broom and blackberries on 4/11
- Volunteer David Grant continues to keep Kitsap Kids Playground in good working condition, free from vandalism, and inspected weekly
- Volunteer Cliff Hanson continues grounds keeping assistance throughout Fairgrounds.

Kitsap County Parks Department
Parks Resource Division
Monthly Report April 2015

- Anderson Landing: Trails are now cleared and open after multiple trees came down in recent windstorm closing approximately one half of the trail system.
- Buck Lake Park: French drain will be installed in the lower part of the park. Working with WDFW and KC Noxious Weed Coordinator to remove weeds from the lake and restore the swimming area.
- Guillemot Cove: A grant for \$10,000 has been submitted by volunteers for supplies to build a boardwalk that will run through the estuary. Working with WDFW and the tribe to remove a bridge and woody debris in Boyce Creek to aid in restoring the waterway.
- Horseshoe Lake Park – park will open May 16th.
- Howe Farm: Clean-out of the Barn to be completed mid-May.
- Illahee Preserve: The Illahee Stewardship group is updating their Stewardship Plan.
- Island Lake Park: Parks staff is looking into various floor replacement and/or improvements for the Island Lake meeting facility as well as roof replacement.
- Newberry Hill Heritage Park Volunteers continue to clean up brush from last years thinning and are working with Arno to mark trees for the next round. Park boundary signs have been installed and an unauthorized trail coming into the park from Whisper Ridge has been blocked off.
- Norwegian Point Park: Steps in motion on the demolition contract for the restaurant. Power is secured and abatement inspection/testing completed. Fence project is a work in progress with completion slated for mid-April. Hansville Community Center Board working on a lease agreement towards the use of the boat house with KC Parks.
- Point No Point Lighthouse Park: Work to the duplexes is now complete. The Friends of Point No Point have submitted a grant proposal to LEP (License Plate Grant) to replace and refurbish 3 doors in the lighthouse. The Whale of a Trail sign program to work with KC Parks to install signage designating the park as part of the “Whale Trail”. The Northwest Training Facility removed the old concrete and installed new concrete, from the duplexes to the lighthouse. This allowed for the creation of a nice rock feature in front of the park entrance sign.
- Rotary Park: New park sign and field fencing is on order with installation date to be determined.
- Salsbury Point Park:

- Silverdale Community Center: All occupants have been relocated from upstairs and/or into the Evergreen Room.
- Silverdale Dog Park: The volunteers and park organizers have disbanded. PRAB member, Jon Pearson is working to recruit volunteers to maintain the park and keep it open.
- South Kitsap Regional Park: Staff to install a set of bleachers purchased by the SKSPA near the skate park.

UPDATES

All parks officially opened April 1st

New hires, Kevin McAvoy and Russell Milbrot, start April 6th and 10th respectively.

CESL training for Parks staff will take place on April 8th



KITSAP COUNTY PARKS

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board -- April

Parks Planning Report

Steven Starlund | Ric Catron

Port Gamble Heritage Forest – Stewardship Planning

Members of the Stewardship Steering Committee and Parks staff have been researching and discussing resource management issues including; shellfish harvesting, wildlife habitat, forest stewardship, wetlands protection and trail access near sensitive landscapes. Contracted services by Parametrix and DCD has produced detailed resource assessment maps on wildlife, streams and wetlands, forest stands and existing forest roads and user-built trails.

A subcommittee worked on developing a re-route of an existing trail near a beaver pond near Hwy 104. The Committee approved the re-route .15 miles of trail to “de-commission”, and 600 ft. of new trail to build including ~306 ft. of turnpike construction.

North Kitsap Trail Association offered to apply for an REI grants to fund the new construction and de-commission of the existing trail. Backcountry Horseman representatives offered to contribute an engineered design for a bridge crossing the outlet stream and help fund its construction. Great Peninsula Conservancy offered to apply for an REI grant for a passive recreation spur trail and interpretive displays regarding the beavers, stream and pond environments.



Park Staff conducted a public workshop on March 28 to introduce the Stewardship Plan process and receive any issues, concerns or opportunities related to the property.



KITSAP COUNTY PARKS



The Steering Committee discussed management of the shellfish resources along the 1.5 miles of shoreline. They agreed to further discussions with WDFW and the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe who would conduct population surveys and evaluate the shellfish resource potential for recreation and possible commercial leasing. Review and discussion by the PRAB is recommended.

The Committee is currently developing land-use and resource management “zoning” of the property which will direct public use (active and passive recreation), and resource conservation management.

Howe Farm Barn -- West-Wing Demolition and Reconstruction / Well

DCD has approved Plans/Permits for the Barn work. Our Consultant has assembled a Bid Packet for submittal this month. Pre-bid walk-through occurred last week. Staff is getting estimates on the options well de-commissioning, new well digging and possible hook-up to waterlines in the area.

South Kitsap Regional Park

Parks has received permits for Phase 1C, including a new entrance road, interior trails, skate park addition, new soccer field, parking improvement and “waterless” restrooms. Anticipated construction time is five months from bid award and beginning after Labor Day. [see project summary plan sheet]

Watertrails

Our Watertrails Advisory Committee is selecting signage for potential watertrail sites and discussing management and operations considerations necessary to implement a county-wide watertrail park program.

Olalla Parking Lot

Project is permitted and on hold to determine funding options.

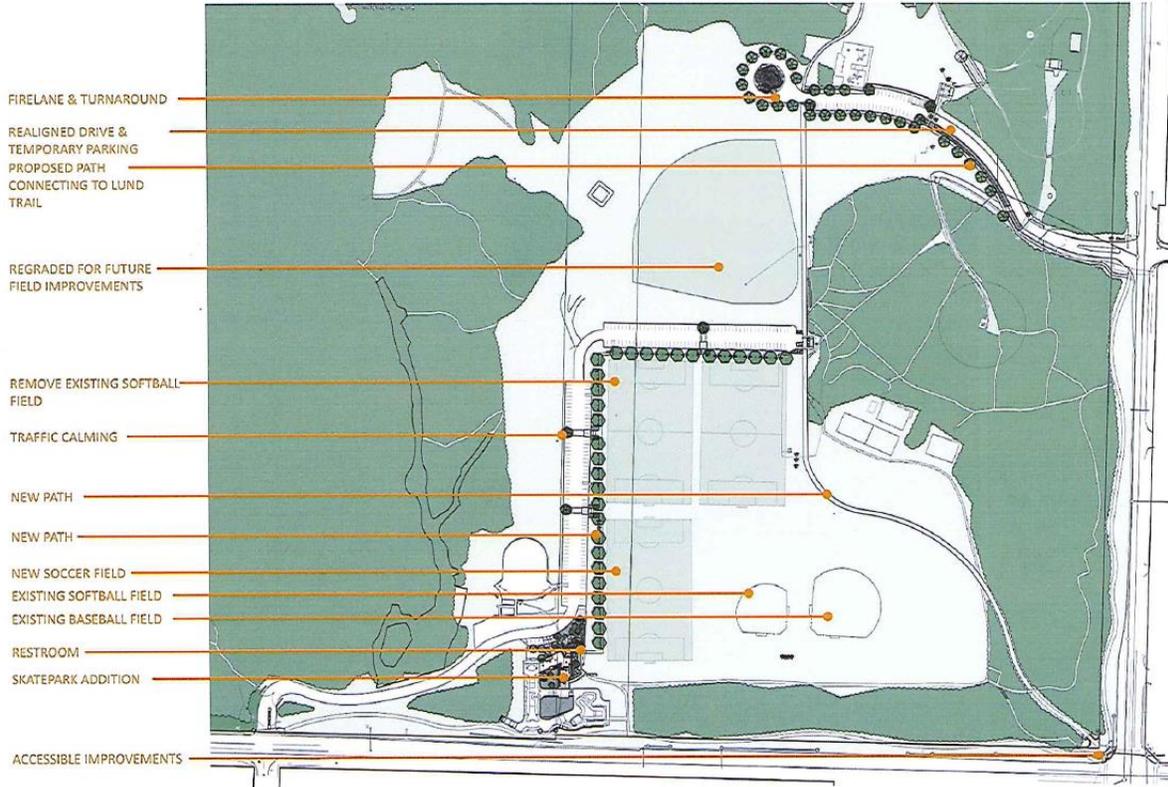
Point No Point Restroom

ROMTEC “waterless” toilet facility has been selected for the parking area. Contract with Parametrix to prepare site plans, building permits and oversee construction/installation.



KITSAP COUNTY PARKS

South Kitsap Regional Park 2015 Improvements



Restoration Thinning – Newberry Hill Heritage Park

August 1st, 2014 – December 31, 2014

Summary Narrative by Arno Bergstrom, Kitsap County Community Forester

Summary

Plans for the first restoration thinning project were developed in late 2013 when a joint decision with the Park Stewards was made to focus efforts in the Northwest corner of the Newberry Hill Heritage Park. Park Map units 1, 7, 8 and 9 were selected. After buffers, boundary setbacks and areas intentionally, skipped/left un-thinned, the total net area to be thinned was approximately 100 acres.

Projected harvest volume, inclusive of all mapping units was estimated to be 625,000 board feet. The actual volume removed was 680,000 board feet with a gross value of \$286,207. Projected net revenue* after logging and haul costs was estimated at between \$70 and \$110K. The actual net revenue was \$87K.

To improve park access, the decision was made to build approximately 6,000 feet of road and this along with planned post harvest road abandonments; \$40K was invested in roads, culverts and two new park gates.

Marketing services, and other fees and expenses garnered a net income for 2014 of \$29,428.

Assessment/Analysis

The average net revenue* per thousand board feet (\$128) reflects the high percentage of pulpwood yield:

Products	Volume (MBF)	Net Revenue*	Percent by volume
Douglas fir Poles	9,960	\$595/MBF= \$5,926	1.5
Douglas fir Saw log	89,640	\$303/MBF= 26,975	13
Doug fir Chip-n-saw	331,910	\$152/MBF= 50,529	49
Pulpwood	249,700	\$15/MBF= 3,667	36.5
TOTALS	680,730	\$128/MBF= 87,097	100

The largest units harvested (Units 1, 7 & 9) represented 80 percent of the restored acres. These units also had the youngest and smallest trees on some of the poorest soils in the park system.

Restoration Thinning – Projections or 2015

Current plans are to conduct restoration thinning at both Newberry Hill and North Kitsap Heritage Parks. For both park thinning projects, the trees are older, taller, and larger in diameter and the soil site quality is higher. The saw log to pulpwood/chip-n-saw ratio will be much higher for saw logs and similar for chip-n-saw. Projected volume and net timber revenue are:

Newberry Hill Heritage Park

Restore 200 acres; yielding 1.2 million board feet at \$160/MBF = \$192,000 net timber revenue*.

North Kitsap Heritage

Restore 15 acres; yielding 95,000 board feet at \$160/MBF = \$15,000 net timber revenue*.

Original Financial Projections

Does the 2015 projection fit the original financial goals for Forest Stewardship Pilot Program? In March 2013 a third party analysis showed that thinning 200 acres per year could produce \$250,000 to \$300,000 per year after paying for logging hauling. These projections assume that both mid (30-60 yrs.) and mature (60+ year old), densely stocked, Douglas fir stands with simple structure would be thinned annually.

One overstocked mature Douglas fir stand was thinned in 2014, but none are scheduled for 2015. Since only middle aged (ranging 40 to 60 years) Douglas fir plantation are scheduled, the projections for 2015 are lower than the planned average by approximately \$50,000.

For 2015, grants are expected to reimburse the program for staff time - \$30,000.

*net (timber) revenue = gross stumpage value minus logging and hauling costs.

Forestlands at Risk Project

Kitsap County Parks – Community Forestry Program

March 12, 2013 through March 31, 2015

TASK 3 - Conduct Site Assessments

An assessment was of the current condition of forest ecosystems with recommendations for all 7,534 acres of the project subject properties (Appendix A). Site assessments revealed that 80 percent of properties are overstocked with, nearly pure stands of Douglas fir with an average age of 30. Sixty-six percent, or 5,000 acres was harvested between 1978 and 1986. The average diameter of the Douglas fir for all properties was 11.5 inches in 2014. Given the average tree age and that most of these former industrial forest units were not pre-commercially thinned, this is a large average diameter that reflects the high site quality. Release of the dense Douglas fir stands using restoration thinning, or thinning from below, would improve forest health, diversity, complexity and enhance wildlife habitat. This assessment was used to inform decisions regarding the acquisition and long term protection of the forestlands covered by the project.

Staff and volunteers conducted a variety of site assessments in the subject properties. Activities included ground truthing the current forest condition by mapping units and the mapping of service roads and culverts, trails, wetlands and streams. GIS map layers have been created that document the precise location, condition and function of all culverts in the Port Gamble Forest and North Kitsap Heritage Parks. This information was used to create road maintenance and abandonment plans. Priority roads for abandonment are those service roads, which were historically used for timber management that can no longer be managed per resource protection requirements under the Washington Forest Practices Rules.

Using site assessment data, a Forest Stewardship Plan for North Kitsap Heritage Parks was drafted and will be finalized in April 2015 (Appendix B).

Site assessments will contribute to the development of a second Forest Stewardship Plan for the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park by the end of first quarter of 2015.

TASK 4 - Implementation of Forestry/Ecosystem Plans

Invasive plant species removal was the highest priority. Over past three years over 200 volunteers participated in Scotch broom and blackberry removal on the subject properties. These same volunteer helped plant 200 acres of the subject property with 16,000 tree seedlings (western red cedar, Sitka spruce and grand fir) and in riparian areas dominated by red alder.

Approximately 20 of these acres were areas occupied by the invasive's (Scotch broom, Himalayan blackberry and English ivy).

A specific Forest Riparian Restoration plan was developed and implemented for the Western Shoreline Block and received support from the Washington DNR Urban Forestry Restoration Program. Washington Conservation Corp crews, augmented with staff and volunteers, removed over 100 cubic yards of garbage; 8 acres of invasive plants and under planted 4,000 shade tolerant tree seedlings. These activities were conducted in the 40+ acre; 1.5 mile forested marine riparian area between State Hwy 104 and Port Gamble Bay.

Monitoring - Maps were created showing the location of invasive plant removal and tree planting. This will support monitoring of the effectiveness of invasive plant removal and tree survival over the next 10 years. Sites will be evaluated bi-annually, in the spring and fall, to determine the need for additional intervention.

Staff and Volunteer Effort

A combined total of over 4,000 hours were contributed to assessments, planning and implementation by the Kitsap County Parks Department staff and volunteers.



“The Planting Crew” Last Day of Tree Planting – March 21, 2015

OPG Divide Block and North Kitsap Heritage Park

Port Gamble Shoreline Park Stewardship



Photo Credit: Brian Kirkpatrick

On a cloudy, but rain-free 1st of November, 100 volunteers helped plant 1,000 red cedar saplings, filled 100 bags with ivy, blackberries, and scotch broom, and hauled out five cubic yards of trash, including appliances, from the Port Gamble Shoreline Park. Arno Bergstrom, Kitsap County Forester, Dana Coggon, KC Noxious Weed Coordinator, and Lori Raymaker, Kitsap County Stewardship Coordinator, provided the expertise and training for our volunteers.

All went home with a REI T-shirt and water bottle. Three lucky folks won the awesome prizes provided by REI's Tessa Bondi. The day ended with a few sun breaks and a tailgate provided by Kitsap Chapter of Evergreen Mountain Bike Association and REI.

Special thanks to our sponsors, REI and Kitsap County, and to Silverdale REI Store employees. Thanks also to Kitsap Forest & Bay Coalition members: Kitsap Audubon Society, Kitsap Chapter of Evergreen Mountain Bike Association, North Kitsap Trails Association, Olympic Property Group, and Silverdale REI employees for their hard work and can-do attitude. You rock!

With grant support from REI, again this year GPC is helping to care for and create access to outdoor recreation spaces like the new Port Gamble Shoreline Park. REI partners with nonprofits that actively engage community volunteers in caring for public lands by lending its staff and helping to recruit volunteers for environmental stewardship projects.

Port Gamble Shoreline Park is the first land purchased through the Kitsap Forest & Bay Project's effort to conserve nearly 7,000 acres of forestland surrounding Port Gamble Bay. The park includes 1.5 miles of shoreline and more than 500 acres of forest for hiking, cycling, running, horseback riding, and birding.



Photo Credit: Mary Zabinski



Photo Credit: Brian Kirkpatrick



WINTER 2014 ♦ GREAT PENINSULA CONSERVANCY

Invasive Plant Removal and Tree Planting Event