



# **Kitsap County North Kitsap Heritage Park Stewardship Plan**

**July, 2019**

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## 1-Introduction

North Kitsap Heritage Park (NKHP) is a regional treasure consisting of 799 acres featuring forested and wetland environments. The Park is maintained by a group of volunteer Stewards formed in 2009 working in partnership with Kitsap County Parks Department. The public is invited to experience the Park's natural wonders by way of a network of trails. This Stewardship Plan has been prepared by the Park Stewards, in collaboration with Kitsap County Parks Department, to guide present and future management of the Park (Kitsap County Park Department, 2018). The primary goal is to conserve and enhance the Ecosystem within the Park and support appropriate public access and recreational use. In accordance with the PROS Plan, this Stewardship Plan supports public access for all abilities, where feasible.

## 2-Guiding Principles

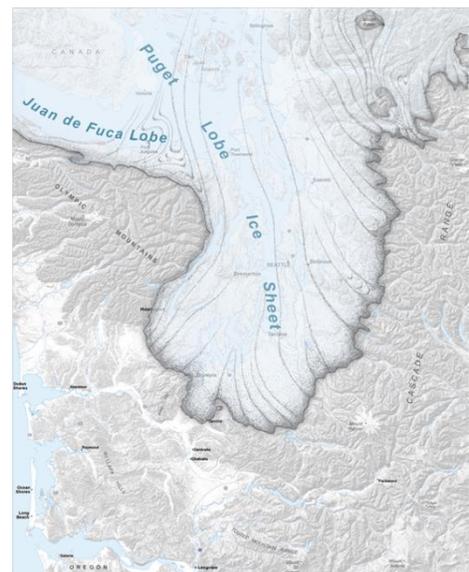
The vision for North Kitsap Heritage Park (NKHP) is to set aside and steward a portion of Puget Sound lowland forest and stream Habitat for all visitors to enjoy. Our goal is to conserve, protect and enhance the Park to allow native flora and fauna to return to a natural condition while accommodating Park visitors of all abilities, where feasible. Protection and conservation of the Park's biological heritage will provide a unique experience for Park visitors to enjoy forests and wetlands in their natural undisturbed condition. A goal is to engage and educate visitors of all ages so that they may learn about and experience the natural environment and recharge their wellbeing.

The Public Open Space of the Park benefits the wider surrounding environment. Protecting the Park's forested streams and wetlands and associated uplands and aquifer recharge areas will help maintain and improve the water quality and environmental health of Grovers Creek, Carpenter Creek estuary, Crabapple Creek, and their receiving waters of Puget Sound: Miller Bay and Apple Tree Cove. Conservation of the Park will secure the Park's role in the broader landscape as an integral part of wildlife corridors that may be threatened by fragmentation resulting from development.

This area has a rich history of Native American People living with nature. Stewards and Park visitors will respect these cultural aspects and values of the Park.

## 3-History

The present landscape of NKHP largely results from repeated cycles of glacial scouring and deposition over the last 2 million years. The last glacier to override the area, the Vashon-age glacier of the Fraser glaciation, reached the Seattle area about 14,500 years ago and had retreated from the area by about 13,650 years ago. As the glacier retreated, large soil deposits were left behind which form Kitsap Peninsula today. Soil

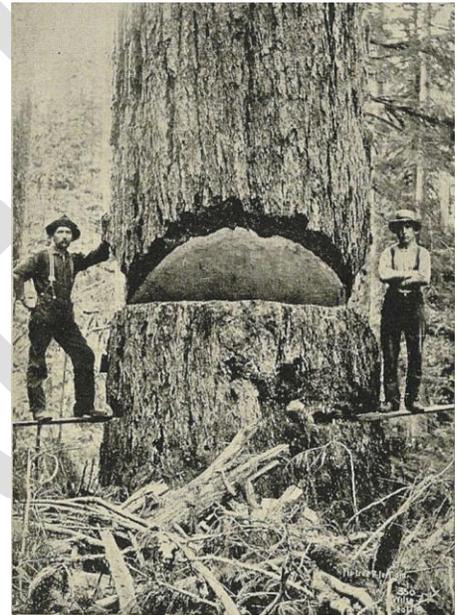


composition includes glacial till (mix of gravel, sand, and silt), sand, and clay deposits.

The first humans to enjoy the beauty and Natural Resources of the NKHP forests were Native American People who arrived between 10,000 and 15,000 years ago. In accordance with the Suquamish Nation's website Tribes used the Park for fishing, hunting and gathering of plant materials for subsistence and/or ceremonial purposes. This Stewardship Plan anticipates Tribal use of Park lands in the future to accommodate the traditional use of plant and forest materials.

In the 1850's pioneers took advantage of the homesteading act to create farms in Kitsap County. The remains of a barn, farm ponds and some old fruit trees are evidence of farming activity near the entrance off Miller Bay Road.

In the 1870's the Park land was acquired by Pope & Talbot, a saw mill and timber company located in Port Gamble, which logged the land in and around the Park for 150 years. In the late 1930's and 1940's rail hauling of timber gave way to a network of logging roads which are still used today as Park trails. The last logging operation in the Park was completed in the 1980's. Pope Resources was created in 1985 when Pope & Talbot spun off its timberland and development properties in Washington. Pope & Talbot and Pope Resources historically allowed non-motorized use of its property by local residents for various recreational purposes including hunting, trapping, horseback riding, mountain biking, and walking. Logging roads were the basis for the current trail system created since the Park officially opened in 2010. The Park currently has approximately 10 miles of service roads and trails (Appendix 3- Existing Trail Map and Appendix 4-Trail and Service Road Distances).

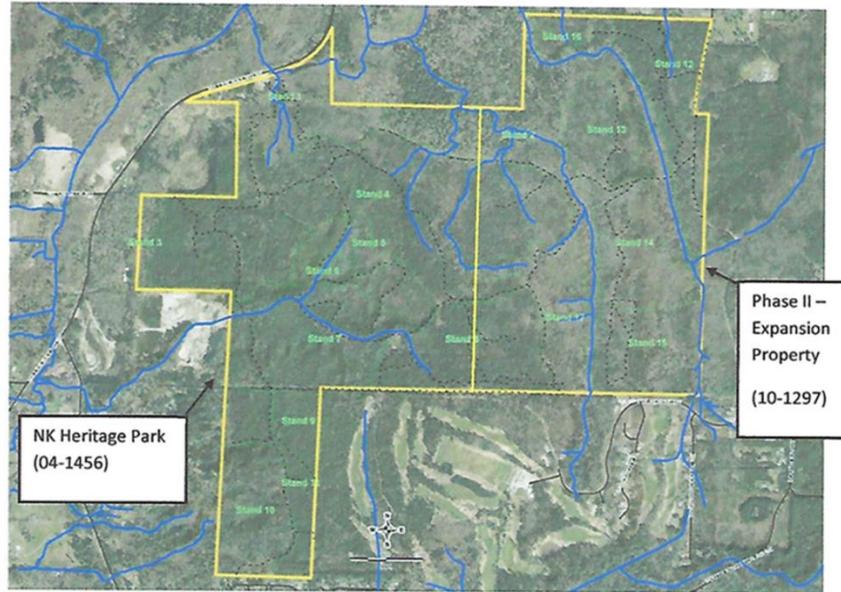


In 1991 the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners enacted a Conservation Futures Levy which led to an aggressive land acquisition program. By the year 2000 nearly 3,500 acres of new parkland was added to the County Parks inventory. Most of the newly-acquired acreage was concentrated into large Heritage Parks which quickly became the foundation of Kitsap County's park system. The concept of a Heritage Park is to assemble several smaller parcels into one large parcel which would remain primarily undeveloped natural areas with trails and environmentally sensitive areas preserved or enhanced. It was also envisioned by the County that Heritage Parks could have enough and suitable lands to appropriately accommodate some active use areas to meet current and future needs. It was determined that NKHP's current characteristics and natural resources are not suitable for or support active recreation except for narrow corridors designed for trails. However, future expansion of the Park may provide suitable land to accommodate active recreation.

In 2004 the first 433 acres of the NKHP (Block I), the western half of the Park, was acquired from Pope Resources for outdoor recreation purposes. In 2006 the County purchased an additional 19 acres, from

a private seller, along Miller Bay Road where the main Park entrance and parking lot is located today. The Park officially opened for public recreation in January 2010. In 2014 the County purchased an additional 366 acres from Pope Resources (Block II), the eastern half of the Park, which doubled the size of the Park.

Block I and Block II were purchased in part using Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) funding. As a condition for the funding, the RCO specified, in the Deed of Right, how the Park land is to be used. Block I deed states, Kitsap County “... conveys and grants to the State of Washington individually and as the representative of all the people of the State, the right to use the real property described below forever for the outdoor recreation purposes.” (RCO & Kitsap County, 2009).



Block II deed states “The Grantor [Kitsap County] shall take such reasonable and feasible measures as are necessary to protect the Real Property as described in Exhibit A: Legal Description, in perpetuity. Such measures shall be consistent with the purposes in the Project Agreement, including protecting, preserving, restoring and/or enhancing the habitat functions on the Real Property, which includes wetlands, streams and mature forest habitat. The deed also states that “... access shall be subject to restrictions allowed under the Project Agreement, by written agreement with the Grantee [RCO], or under state law. This provision is not intended to prevent reasonable access or use restrictions that are necessary for safe and effective management of the property consistent with the Conservation and Salmon Recovery purposes and Project Agreement.” (RCO & Kitsap County, 2014). The North Kitsap Heritage Park Phase II [Block II]/Expansion Property Public Access and Stewardship Plan states that “Any public access will subordinate to the protections of wetlands and stream habitat.” (Kitsap County, 2014).

Block II funding also included a Community Forest and Open Space Acquisition Grant for U.S. Forest Service, “This specific acquisition focuses on the protection of the existing mature low-land forest, with the headwaters of two priority salmon-bearing streams...” (County, Resolution Number 140-2012, 2012)

To create the NKHP Stewardship Plan Stewards looked for guidance in existing Washington State and Kitsap County documents. In 1990 the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) was codified and mandated that fast growing counties develop a comprehensive plan to help control growth. The GMA was adopted because the Washington State Legislature found that uncoordinated and unplanned growth posed a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development and the quality of life in

Washington. The GMA included thirteen goals which promote wise use of limited land and resources which are included in all county comprehensive plans. In 2016 Kitsap County created the Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan 2016-2036 (KCCP). Chapter 6, Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces, includes four GMA goals which resulted in 31 Kitsap County Parks policies, 26 of which the NKHP Master Plan supports (See Appendix 11, Comprehensive Plan Compliance Matrix). Many of these policies relate to environmental protection highlighted in the KCCP Executive Summary which states, *“The Plan through Guiding Directives, Goals, Policies and Strategies demonstrates the County’s deep commitment to maintaining and restoring ecosystems via habitat conservation, restoration of waterways, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.”* From the Comprehensive Plan, Kitsap County Parks created the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan) which is an element of the Kitsap County’s Comprehensive Plan *“The PROS Plan provides a six-year plan and 20-year vision for the County’s park system....”*. Management mandates in the PROS Plan include: *“Heritage Parks provide unique opportunities for -- management direction to conserve, protect or enhance the park’s inherent attributes may limit public access and use, direct dictate acceptable levels of activities and impacts, and determine appropriate support facilities.”*

#### 4-Steward’s Role

The NKHP Stewards, as a volunteer citizen group, were sanctioned by Kitsap County in 2009 to work with the Parks Department to help maintain the Park, to advise the Parks Department relative to protecting and managing NKHP’s Natural Resources, in accordance with this Stewardship Plan and the Stewardship Committee Handbook (Kitsap County Parks, 2017), with the goal of conserving and enhancing Ecosystems within the Park and providing for safe, reasonable and appropriate public access to the Park consistent with the Guiding Principles.



## 5-Fish, Wildlife & Habitat

**5.1 Issue** Environmental health of Natural Resources and animal Habitat in the Park are of paramount importance, as established by this Stewardship Plan, and in accordance with the



Deed Of Right specified by RCO funding used to purchase NKHP Block II property (RCO & Kitsap County, 2014). In accordance with the NKHP Forest Stewardship Plan (Kitsap County, 2014), following the initial thinning of Douglas Fir trees in high density areas, designed to increase native vegetative diversity, the need for further forest thinning intervention at NKHP should be weighed carefully (Welsh, 2011). Human interventions in

the Park should only be undertaken after first establishing that the benefits to be gained outweigh any possible Ecological or Habitat harm. Whenever possible, Park Stewards should support natural biological processes to run their course, even those which may initially appear counter-intuitive. Park Stewards should prioritize the promotion of a healthy, biologically diverse forest that contains a balance of native northwest plants and animals.

### Management Objectives:

1. Allow forest development, post-restorative thinning, to continue naturally, understanding that the ultimately stable result will likely not mimic the primeval forest but which will provide additional and varied Habitats.
2. Stream restoration, where feasible, should be encouraged (for example, the relocation of portions of the Spine Line Trail out of the natural drainage channel).
3. Adopt a 'less is more' forest management philosophy where minimal intervention in natural processes is a preferred methodology.
4. Educate Park Visitors that off-leash dogs are potentially harmful and inhibitory to many species and destructive to water quality and Habitat.
5. Support County policies that limit off-leash activity.
6. Provide a variety of Habitats in the Park including field and edge habitats.

**5.2 Issue:** North Kitsap Heritage Park is a “heritage” park (Kitsap County, 2016) and as such Stewards believe that preservation of our biological legacy is among the primary goals of our Stewardship.

### Management Objectives:

1. Provide for a safe access to representative Habitats on maintained trails, consistent with the NKHP Landscape Classification Plan, while protecting and conserving critical Habitat.

2. Provide enhanced observational opportunities (such as viewpoints and dedicated nature workshops and walks) and encourage formal educational access.
3. Conduct periodic surveys of plant and animal inhabitants (including invasive plants) as well as educational access.
4. Conduct periodic surveys from Park visitors about how they use the Park in order to evaluate impacts on biological systems.
5. Expand the Park's boundaries, through land acquisition or protections, where opportunities exist that are consistent with the Guiding Principles of this plan.

## 6-Streams, Wetlands, Culverts, and Waterbodies



Photo by John F. Williams

**6.1 Issue:** Full water flow through the Park's streams and wetlands is essential for maintenance of local races of salmon and viable populations of other aquatic residents, and to recharge the local aquifer. Because of their wide geographic distribution and local social relevancy, streams (whether potentially or actually fish-bearing) require special protective and restorative attention. The construction of

the original logging roads that now permit access to the Park for Park visitors, and any future trails, have the potential to obstruct water flow and thereby limit access and dispersal of anadromous fishes and other aquatic organisms. Effects of human activity on stream and wetland health at NKHP should be evaluated on a periodic basis.

Park Stewards and other volunteers have completed a map of the Park's wetlands and streams (Appendix 1 – Delineated Stream and Wetland Map).

### Management Objectives:

1. Maintain full culvert flow (collapsed/perched but functional culverts must be repaired, replaced or upgraded).



2. Non-functional culverts or those on abandoned roads/trails should be considered for removal and streambed re-contouring.
3. Re-establish streamflow, where feasible, where it has been eliminated in the past (e.g. western Spine Line Trail relocation).
4. Bridge stream crossings where chronic beaver activity precludes full culvert function.
5. Avoid water channelization, aesthetic alterations, etc. in the recognition that human goals regarding water flow may conflict with the needs of some organisms.

**6.2 Issue:** Habitat reduction and/or fragmentation are debilitating to aquatic organisms, whose life histories hinge on dependable water supply.

**Management Objectives:**

Protect both large and small (those <0.25 acre) wetlands with the recognition that all are biologically significant. (There is great biological value in temporary ponds and intermittent streams which serve the reproductive needs of invertebrates and amphibians. Whether natural or man-made, all habitable water bodies within the Park deserve protection for their Habitat, and groundwater recharge and streamflow maintenance functions.)

**6.3 Issue:**

Protection of water quality is vital not only to the interests of Park inhabitants but also to Park neighbors and the groundwater we share. Do nothing that knowingly compromises surface or subsurface water quality.

**Management Objectives:**

1. Encourage the removal of invasive plants by physical means.
2. Curtail the use of Roundup® and other chemical herbicides and pesticides.
3. Observe the wetland and stream buffers contained in Appendix 2, NKHP Wetland and Stream Buffer Guidelines, Tables 1 and 2, when planning and developing Park facilities and user amenities.
4. Observe the wetland and stream buffers described in Appendix 1, Tables 3 and 4, when planning and completing restorative thinning or other forestry activities.

## 7-Forest Restoration and Management

**Issue:** NKHP currently has a range of forest types, from a simple monoculture tree farm to complex natural forest, that supports a diverse community of animals, high productivity for plants, and recharging aquifers. The NKHP Forest Stewardship Plan (NKHP Forest Stewardship Plan 2014), developed, resulting from Kitsap County’s Forest Policy (Resolution 169 Integrated Forest Stewardship Policy), emphasizes Ecosystem management, a process

that considers the environment as a complex system functioning as a whole. The Forest Stewardship Plan recognizes that the land is a Park that is regularly used by many people and that any plan must consider the health and social value of the Park with respect to the human population. This approach to Ecosystem management will rely heavily on partnership with Park Stewards, as well as private, tribal, local, state, and federal government stakeholders.

**Management Objectives:**

This Ecosystem management approach will:

1. Work with native plant species that have evolved and adapted to our temperate climate and are competitive and resistant to disease and insects.
2. Promote structurally diverse forests to provide the best Habitat for a sustainable balance of local wildlife species. Forests comprised of mixed native tree species improve Habitat, and the value of both timber and non-timber assets and better support diverse wildlife populations.
3. Recognize the Parks value as a continuous part of larger regional forest Ecosystems: The stewardship of the Park's forests must be a dynamic and adaptive process that will benefit the county for years to come.
4. Protect water as a vital resource: Healthy, vibrant forest Ecosystems are the best and least costly option for maintaining high water quality and for the management of surface and storm water runoff.
5. Consider the Park visitor's experience as part of the system and critical to the decision making about the future of their Park.

## 8-Invasive Vegetation

**Issue:** A number of non-native plants compete with native vegetation in North Kitsap Heritage Park. The most widespread invasive species is scotch broom. Other invasive plants include holly, iris, ajuga, tansy, thistle and yellow archangel; these plants, found in isolated colonies in the Park, were primarily introduced by human and bird activity. A complete listing of invasive species can be found in Appendix 10-Trees, Shrubs, Herbs, and Invasive Plants.

**Management Objectives:**

Although invasive plants can never be completely eradicated, they can be managed to give native vegetation the space and time to grow.

1. Create a clear and specific Invasive Plant Management Plan (IPMP) for NKHP.
  - Map areas where these plants are currently growing.

- Continue current efforts to remove invasive vegetation. This process may require the judicious and localized use of degradable herbicide so that tenacious plants do not re-grow.
  - Dispose of invasive plants in manner that will minimize re-establishment of the plant(s).
  - Target removal of plants from areas where the area of invasion is new and/or small. Educate and encourage Park visitors to pull sprouts of scotch broom, holly, ivy or other isolated invasive plants when they see them.
2. Integrate the IPMP with Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) and all future planning within NKHP, to include best management practices which include the following.
- Include contractual language recommending that:
    - a. All logging equipment should be washed clean before logging at NKHP to avoid further introduction of non-native seed.
    - b. Require the use of certified weed-free mulch for erosion control.
  - Remove invasive plants from thinned areas to allow reestablishment of native shrubs such as salal, huckleberry, ferns and salmonberry.
  - Request funding from profits from sale of Park trees to hire seasonal help to remove invasive plants in thinned areas.
  - Under-plant thinned areas with Western Red Cedar, Western Hemlock and Spruce as appropriate to help prevent colonization by invasive plants.

## 9-Park Expansion

Land acquisition is a guidance directive and a specific goal (#3) of the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan). The purpose of acquisitions is to meet and improve the County Parks' recreational, wildlife, and Environmental needs (e.g. Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan Policies 1, 9, 10, 24, and 27. See Appendix 11-Comprehensive Plan Compliance Matrix).

As a Heritage Park, preservation of NKHP's aquatic and forested lands, wildlife habitat, water quality, and appropriate recreation is a primary objective. The Park Stewards support pursuing opportunities for acquisition or protection (via easements or collaborative agreements) of adjacent acreage that will increase or buffer wildlife Habitat, improve recreational and access opportunities, and/or fill in irregular sections of the NKHP boundary.

There are multiple land parcels adjacent to NKHP which may have land characteristics suitable for the development of active recreation facilities e.g. playgrounds, open fields and picnic areas. This Stewardship Plan does accommodate adding active recreation areas to the Park through suitable new land acquisition.

NKHP is important for aquifer recharge and wildlife Habitat. The Park and adjacent Tribal property is a groundwater recharge area that infiltrates to a local groundwater mound that feeds Grovers Creek, Kitsap and Indianola Creeks, and Crabapple Creek. These creeks drain to Miller Bay, Port Madison, Carpenter Creek Estuary and Apple Tree Cove in Puget Sound.

**Issues:**

The only protected and undeveloped areas adjacent to NKHP are 279 acres near the northwest corner of the Park acquired by Great Peninsula Conservancy (GPC) for protection of the Grovers Creek drainage.

There are, however, a number of unprotected properties, fully or partially undeveloped, on all sides of the Park. Of particular note to the east is the proposed Olympic Property Group's Arborwood project and a Public Works wastewater treatment facility. The Arborwood project has agreed to transfer at least 104 acres, consisting primarily of the drainage of Crabapple Creek, to the County upon recording of the final plat (County, Development Agreement Between Kitsap County and OPG Properties, LLC, 2008). Along the Park's south border, the Suquamish Tribe has undeveloped land around the White Horse golf course. On the west are a number of undeveloped areas, including an active sand mining pit that is currently being re-landscaped per DNR restoration requirements. On this west side of the Park are many parcels where partial easements may be an effective strategy. Opportunities to the north are limited to one 40-acre area of forested wetland that is bordered on three sides by NKHP and GPC.

Acquisition of adjacent undeveloped areas would provide protective buffers to NKHP as well as increase the overall area of protected Habitat. In addition, certain areas may provide additional access points, active recreation areas, and/or connecting trails to other natural features or Parks.

**Management Objectives:**

1. NKHP Stewards will continue to communicate and collaborate with Kitsap County, stakeholders, and neighboring property owners to support and enhance the goals of NKHP. Stakeholders include, but are not limited to, the Suquamish and S'Klallam Tribes, Village Green Community Center (Kingston), Miller Bay Yacht & Beach Club, Indianola Beach Improvement Club, Friends of Miller Bay, Great Peninsula Conservancy, Kingston Citizens Advisory Council, Kingston Parks, Trails And Open Space Committee, Miller Bay Estates Board (MBE), Stillwaters Environmental Center, North Kitsap Trails Association, Audubon Society, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, Kitsap Environmental Coalition and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.
2. NKHP stewards will seek to identify future acquisition, easement, or collaborative agreement possibilities that will increase and improve the Park.
3. NKHP Stewards will, through the Parks Director, engage the Kitsap County Parks Department and Kitsap County Parks Advisory Board (PRAB) when opportunities for acquisition arise.

## 10-Harvesting of Forest Products

**10.1 Issue:** Commercial harvesting of salal and evergreen huckleberry brush within the Park boundaries is an ongoing practice authorized by the County. Trees are also harvested for the primary purpose of improving forest health and Habitat.

### **Management Objectives:**

1. Brush will be harvested, in a responsible way, so as not to degrade habitat or the Park's natural environment.
2. Not more than 1/3 of any bush shall be harvested in any given year.
3. Revenue from brush harvest in NKHP and other parks will be used to support County park projects throughout the park system.
4. The Kitsap County Parks Department staff will discuss the statement of work, and terms and conditions for the commercial harvesting of plant material within Park with the Stewards prior to the solicitation going to the contractor. Stewards may project recommendations to the County based on their review of the draft contract.
5. Kitsap County Contract Award procedures provide the opportunity for public review and comments to the commercial harvest contract documents prior to award by the County.
6. NKHP Stewards and the general public will have an opportunity to review and comment on the terms and conditions of the contract before the County enters into the agreement with the contractor.
7. Follow the NKHP Forest Stewardship Plan (Kitsap County, 2014) when harvesting trees in the Park. Also see Section 7- Forest Restoration and Management.

**10.2 Issue:** Mushroom harvest in the Park can lead to over-harvest and damage habitat and sensitive areas of the Park through the use of improper harvesting techniques.

### **Management objective:**

1. Mushroom harvesting in the Park is allowed for personal use only in accordance with Kitsap County Parks Mushroom Harvest Policy (Kitsap County Commissioners, Oct. 2014).  
Mushrooms can be harvested in the Conservation Areas but not the Natural Areas of the Park. Commercial mushroom harvest is prohibited in the Park.

## 11-Wildfire Protection

**11.1 Issue:** While wildfires have been a natural restorative occurrence in Pacific Northwest forests in the past, we must acknowledge that fire can be destructive and endanger Park visitors and neighboring properties.

### **Management Objective:**

The objective of fire risk mitigation in the Park is to reduce the potential for intense crown fires.

1. Reduction of fire fuels is a practical method for limiting major damaging fires.
  - Selective removal of heavily crowded trees to create more natural spacing is a strategy for limiting fire fuels. If successful, this strategy wouldn't prevent fires that are natural events in a wooded environment, but would reduce intensity of fires, in the Park.
  - The Kitsap County Forester, with advice and assistance of Park Stewards, has begun a program of variable density thinning (VDT) of stands of overcrowded trees within NKHP. Once completed, this thinning should greatly reduce the danger of intense wildfires in the Park. This approach is also compatible with other long term goals for the Park.
2. NKHP stewards continue to reduce ladder fuels in the Park.

**11.2 Issue:** Open fires and fireworks present increased danger of fire in NKHP.

**Management Objective:**

1. To prevent human caused fires in the Park, open fires and fireworks are not allowed within the Park. This policy is consistent with Kitsap County Park Code and is posted on kiosks at Park entrances (Kitsap County , 2018).

**11.3 Issue:** Powered tools and equipment can spark fires when used during high fire danger.

**Management Objective:**

1. Park Stewards will respect County restrictions on using power tools in the Park as governed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Industrial Fire Prevention Levels (IFPL).

**11.4 Issue:** If visitors or Stewards need to report a fire or other emergency within the Park, emergency responders need a way to locate where the problem is within the Park.

**Management Objective:**

1. A system of Emergency Rescue Locators (ERL) has been installed in the Park consistent with Kitsap County Parks Department standards. In an emergency Park visitors can call 911 and provide ERL number/location enabling emergency responders to locate the visitor's location quickly. Park maps showing the location of the ERL numbered markers and a list of their GPS coordinates have been provided to Kitsap Fire and Rescue via the Parks Department. There is also a system of numbered culverts throughout the Park and these may also be helpful to locate emergencies. (See Appendix 8. Culvert Inventory Map).

## 12-Historical/Cultural Resources

**Issue:** The NKHP Stewardship Plan allows for Native American People (NAP) harvest and use of plant materials from the Park. Native Americans must obtain County prior approval before harvesting plant materials.

### **Management Objectives:**

1. Determine areas of historical interest.
2. Highlight areas of past historical activities by working with the local Tribes and Port Gamble Museum (logging history) to present information to the public.
3. Develop signage, including appropriate links to more detailed information, and interpretive trails where appropriate.
4. Provide links on signage to provide more in-depth interpretation.
5. Provide opportunities for and respectful historical interpretation of Tribal traditional uses of the resource, including such activities as gathering plant materials (e.g. bark) for subsistence and/or ceremonial purposes supported by the Treaty of Point Elliott (BIA, 1855).
6. Continue to engage local Tribes in Park stewardship.
7. Should local Tribes request use of the Park to plant native cultural plants Stewards will identify suitable areas of the Park that would be appropriate for planting.

## 13-Public Access

**Issue:** Authorized public access began in 2009 when a group of local citizens requested the County to officially open the Park to visitors. This was the first time signage began to be posted within the Park to prohibit motorized access. Park visitors consist of hikers, mountain bicyclists, trail runners, and equestrians. A group of Park volunteers began work on improving the Miller Bay vehicle access location along the NW boundary of the Park. Access points from the south (Whitehorse Golf Course) and Norman Road end have also had modifications in recent years. Multiple unofficial Park access points exist along the Park boundary e.g. Miller Bay Estates. The increase in recreational visitors over the last 8 years has been striking. Organized Events have taken place in the Park but to date no County Event application permits have been requested or issued.

### **Management Objectives:**

1. Increase awareness that Event permits are required by the County for the use of the Park.
2. The County will notify NKHP Stewards when event permit application is received by the County.
3. Develop event monitoring standards to ensure Park is maintained.
4. Periodically review primary Park access points for safety and design adequacy (collaborate with Kitsap County Public Works re: vehicular ingress/egress).

5. Continue to monitor and report motorized vehicle use.
6. Explore Park access for visitors of all abilities, where feasible.
7. Assess impacts on Natural Resources caused by visitors and permitted Events. Recommend ways to remediate or mitigate visitor impacts while still supporting community/group use.
8. Use Event/Activity Evaluation Screening Criteria (See Appendix 14 ) to help in determining if an activity or event will diminish Park values and/or damage Habitats, Natural Resources and trails.

## 14-Parking and Facilities

**Issue:** Parking at entrances and trailheads needs to be sized appropriately so as not to exceed the Park's carrying capacity (Manning, 2007). Consideration is needed for neighbors and access routes, where applicable. Facilities may be considered for entrances such as: benches and picnic tables, trash receptacles, and toilets.

### **Management Objectives:**

1. Maintain cleanliness and condition of Parking areas and their associated recreational areas. Collect and remove trash, and weed, mow and trim foliage as needed.
2. Parking is presently adequate at the Miller Bay Road Park entrance. Maintenance is required to keep the crushed rock even and replenished.
3. Parking at the White Horse Golf Course trailhead is provided courtesy of the Suquamish Tribe. Maintain cooperation and communication with the golf course to address late hour parking, unwanted parking in the golf course parking lot, vandalism, and continuation of the informal agreement between Stewards and golf course management. Consider future need for expansion of parking facilities.
4. Parking at the Norman Road entrance is inadequate at the present time. Keep communication open with Kitsap County Parks and with Public Works to provide for safe and secure parking when the Norman Road area is developed.
5. Maintain communication with neighbors at Norman Road regarding their concerns for equine access, parking, dumping, and dogs.
6. Vandalism is an occasional problem. The barn, at the Miller Bay Road parking lot, has been broken into several times. Vehicle break-ins have occurred at the Miller Bay Road and White Horse parking lot. Consider steps for signage, surveillance and other methods for deterrence.
7. Coordinate with County for any plans to add trash receptacles, toilets, fences, kiosks, and picnic tables at any location.
8. Over time the number of Park visitors is expected to increase which may have adverse impact on the Park (Manning, 2007). Stewards will monitor the Park's use and impacts to

the quality of the Natural Environment, animal Habitats and providing a good visitor experience.

## **15-Park Facilities, Environment, Visitor Conduct and Safety**

**Issue:** At times, the easy public access that is beneficial in other ways has led to random vandalism; graffiti, garbage dumping, damage to signs, structures and vegetation. Even with posted rules, frequent recreational use and public surveillance, there is still opportunity for illegal and unwanted activities, such as pet owners not picking up pet waste, that degrade the Park setting and experience. With ongoing Park oversight, these activities can be deterred or lessened.

### **Management Objectives:**

Promote a positive public appreciation for NKHP and motivate appropriate public behavior, which includes strategies to deter vandalism. For example: the wall-sized painted mural at the Miller Bay Road trailhead parking lot, as of this writing, has had no “tagging” or defacing. In general, there is evidence of widespread respect for hand-made durable artwork in Parks, even in areas of frequent vandalism. Directing and managing the Park visitor’s behavior will be critical to the protection of Park’s Natural Resources and will enhance the Park visitor’s experience.

1. Keep the Park and Park facilities well maintained. Regular maintenance and litter patrol of formal signed entrances, trails and trailhead Parking will promote responsible use of Park by Park visitors. Garbage dumping in the Park will attract more garbage if not disposed of quickly. Volunteers and County Park staff are encouraged to remove vandalism and dumped debris as soon as possible.
  - Encourage dog-walkers to pick up after their animal’s waste and pack it out of the Park. Keep the disposal bag containers supplied, and post signage to remind the dog-walkers of their responsibility to bag dog waste and remove it from the Park.
  - Design new trail head parking with highly visible roadside surveillance access.
  - Recommend anti-graffiti paint on wood structures.
  - Post “Car Prowling” awareness signs at Park parking lots.
  - Assess problem areas on a regular basis and recommend remedial actions to the County.

- Post Park address and call numbers for emergency [911](tel:911) and non-emergency reporting email [parks@co.kitsap.wa.us](mailto:parks@co.kitsap.wa.us) or phone [360.337.5350](tel:360.337.5350).. This will also encourage citizen reporting acts of vandalism, damage, dumping or fires.
  - Illegal incidences and suspicious behavior, such as poaching, dumping, and vehicle break-ins, should be reported to the Sheriff and awareness notices posted at trailheads. The County and law enforcement will be notified of any incidents.
  - Quickly repairing damage, addressing graffiti and removing garbage will help to deter further problems. A neglected or hidden Park access area will attract illicit activities.
  - Developed GPS signage for key areas in the Park and trails and those locations reported to emergency responders.
  - Pursue “Park Watch” and safety monitoring options and opportunities.
2. Develop unique Park rules (See Appendix 13 – Visitor’s Code of Conduct) and interpretive messages with clear, graphic, and simple language. Over-wording tends to lose communication effectiveness.
    - Posted signs and Park information should be inviting, friendly and positive in tone. People respond to a message that asks for preferred behaviors i.e. ‘please do xyz’ rather than “NO” signs. However, posted rules (see Appendix 13, Park Visitor’s Code of Conduct) that prohibit activities or alert to hazards should be clearly visible, bold and simple.
    - Give the Park visitor what they need to enter and enjoy the Park. Posted orientation and interpretive signage encourages appreciative use and understanding of the Park. Avoid clutter at kiosks and bulletin boards, which inhibits communication. Event type postings should be approved and removed when done.
    - Keep information posted on the kiosks updated.
    - Use standard County Park signs to communicate information to the Park visitor.
  3. Create informative messages “voiced” by the Park Stewards. Informative messages will be posted on the Park kiosks, and on the back of the trail map.
  4. Regular volunteer patrol of the trails will maintain safe conditions and will deter rogue trail building, campsites and other unwanted activities.
    - Report trail conditions, hazard trees, and vandalism to Park staff. Park staff will work with qualified volunteers, in accordance with the Stewardship Committee Handbook

(Kitsap County Parks, 2017), to maintain safe trail conditions, including removal of hazard trees.

5. Develop an effective trail mapping and way-finding signing system. Orientation and way-finding signage supports an enjoyable Park experience. Trail maps, signs, and design standards will guide appropriate recreational use. Develop natural history interpretative signs. Park trail standards will be noted in the trail plan and communicated to the Park visitor through maps or trail signage.

## 16-Economic Interests

**Issue:** Recreational Events and other revenue producing uses of NKHP may benefit the Park as well as the surrounding community, but play a minor role at NKHP at this time. Economic activities to date are tree harvest through the Forest Stewardship Plan and commercial brush picking.

### Management Objectives:

1. The County and Stewards will prioritize NKHP Guiding Principles in their evaluation of events and activities conducted at NKHP where financial gain is a secondary consideration to the health and well-being of the Park. During the event permitting process the County will address any unique impacts the Event may have on private property bordering the Park.

## 17-Education and Outreach

**Issue:** The Guiding Principles (Section 2-Guiding Principles) prioritizes protection of the Park's Natural Resources and promotes the use of the Park by visitors of all ages and abilities where feasible. With a steady increase in visitor use of the Park it will be necessary to make visitors aware of how they can minimize their impact on the Park's Natural Resources. There is an ongoing need to recruit new Park Stewards to help manage and maintain the Park as a result of increased use and to replace those lost through natural attrition.



### Management Objectives:

1. Promote opportunities for education events via the Stewardship Group email list and postings at Park entrance kiosks; such as Stream Stewardship, Forest Stewardship, trail management and other programs offered by Kitsap County, The Audubon Society, Washington State University Extension, Pacific Crest Trail Assoc., Washington Trails Assn., U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Forest Service, and National Park Service.
2. Post informational and educational posters on kiosks and on signs located throughout the Park trail system to educate visitors about the history of the Park, types of Habitat, types of wildlife and vegetation, and to encourage visitor behavior that will protect and conserve the Park's Natural Resources.
3. Consider designation of nature/contemplative trails in selected areas of the Park.
4. Recruit new Park Stewards through the use of emails, social media, posters, and educational events.
5. Education is an important goal for NKHP. Stewards will assist the Kitsap Parks Volunteer Coordinator in facilitating educational programs/events in the Park initiated by local schools.

## 18-Trails

The objective of the North Kitsap Heritage Park's trail system is to provide access for a variety of Park visitors of all ages to use and enjoy the Park without affecting its undisturbed natural areas. Visitors are welcomed to use the Park's trails to help satisfy a fundamental human need for adventure, exploration and recreation. The Park's network of varied trails encourage users to see, hear, smell and feel the natural wonders of the Park and come to value and respect nature in our wider world.

As of 2019 there are approximately 10 miles of trails (See Appendix 3-Existing Trail Map and Appendix 4-Trail and Service Road Distances) extending throughout much of the Park. Several old logging roads, now maintained as trails, provide broader routes for higher multi-use traffic. A secondary network of narrower natural surface trails provides connectivity within the Park's trail system. The variety of trails provides a mix of opportunities for visitors to choose their type and level of recreation. Potential activities are: strolling, hiking, wildlife observation, opportunity to introduce children to the wonders of nature, equestrian activity, strenuous trail running or mountain biking, or simply observation and contemplation of nature.

Trail development has been ad hoc over the last several decades. After a period of new trail construction beginning in 2009 the Park Stewards have, since 2012, been focusing efforts on maintaining existing trails, sign posts, and kiosks, and providing courtesy maps at Park entrances. This section of the Stewardship Plan only summarizes the underlying values and qualities of trails; the process for planning, developing, and approving future trails in the Park will be addressed in a supplementary Trails Plan to be prepared by the Stewardship Group and submitted, through the Parks Director, for review by the Kitsap County Parks Advisory Board and approval by Kitsap County. Trail

maintenance, planning and development are guided by Kitsap County Parks Department policies and title encumbrances associated with the park lands.

Questions, concerns, and ideas regarding Trails can be posted on the Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfNorthKitsapHeritagePark/>. Your comments and participation are appreciated.

**Trail Signage:** At Park access points (Miller Bay Road, Norman Road and Whitehorse) Park Stewards provide information at the kiosks including take away maps for direction use. Trail intersections are marked with sign posts (4x4 or 6x6 wood posts) which provide way-finding information.

A system of numbered Emergency Rescue Locators (e.g. NK 17) has been installed in the Park consistent with Kitsap County Parks Department standards for other county parks. The locators enable Park visitors to call 911 and providing a location number which enables emergency responders to locate the emergency quickly. Park maps showing the location of the numbered markers and a list of their GPS coordinates have been provided to Kitsap Fire and Rescue via the Parks Department. There is also a system of numbered culverts throughout the Park marked by 2x2 posts that may also be helpful to find the location of the emergency and Park visitor quickly(See Appendix 7 - Culvert Inventory Map and Appendix 8-Culvert Inventory List).



Links to web version maps and map applications are posted at Park access point kiosks. Information regarding Park etiquette, Park hours and trail right of way courtesies are also provided at kiosks.

**Trail Usage:** Trails within the Park are intended for non-motorized use: walkers, runners, bicyclists and limited equestrian use, with some exceptions (e.g. contemplative trail). The existing diversity of trails (e.g. topography, trail tread width, grade, and distance from parking accesses) creates a variety of opportunities for Park visitors. Users are expected to stay on developed trails. As multi-use trails, Park visitors shall yield to other Park visitors in accordance with Park "Yield To" signs. A complete list of Park rules are listed in Appendix 12, Park Visitor's Code of Conduct.

**Trail Categories:** A future Trail Plan to be developed will include details regarding Park trail categories, their definitions, and use descriptions. When developing the Trails Plan, Park Stewards and Parks staff will explore ADA-compliant or handicap access for suitable locations in the Park.

**Trail Development and 25 Year Vision:** Trail development within the Park will be guided by the Park Trail Plan to be prepared by the Stewardship Group and submitted through the Parks Director for review by the Kitsap County Parks Advisory Board and approval by Kitsap County. Future trail location and construction will be subject to a standard of resource protection consistent with the Park's Landscape Classification for that area of the Park (See Section 19 Landscape Classifications). For example, trails should not be located within wetland or riparian Habitat areas for most of their length; trails should be located well away from streams, wetlands, and their associated buffers. Future trail development (new

trails or route modifications) should generally be “Natural Surface Trails” consisting of minimum widths and pervious surfaces to minimize impacts to the Natural Resources. Proposals for new trails or modification to existing trails within the Park shall be developed by the Stewardship Group and then submitted with recommended action to the Parks Director for review and approval.

NKHP’s Landscape Classifications (See Section 19 - Landscape Classifications and Appendix 6 – NKHP Landscape Classification Map) designate land use tailored with Management Prescriptions to address conditions that are unique to the Park. This process is intended to direct how the Park is managed in the future. During the Landscape Classification process consideration was given for the potential of future trails within the more restrictive Landscape Classifications e.g. Natural Areas. This “visioning” effort created Trail Corridors of Active and Passive Landscape Classifications to provide flexibility for future designated potential trails. Appendix 5, Future Trails Map, depicts a longer term (25 year) map of future trails which may be proposed and considered for future development.

**Regional Trail Connectivity:** There are numerous regional trail plans that attempt to increase mobility via non-motorized corridors; North Kitsap String of Pearls Trails Plan (County adopted 2011), The Mosquito Fleet Trail Master Plan (prepared 2001), Kitsap County Bicycle Facilities Plan (prepared 2001), Kitsap County Greenways Plan (1996). The Park is a logical acreage that may provide an opportunity as a link in a much larger network of non-motorized trails. The linkage with these, or other regional plans, remains an important consideration.

## 19-NKHP Landscape Classifications

Kitsap County’s Landscape Classifications (Kitsap County Parks, 2017) is a County wide system specifying how County park lands will be used. The Landscape Classifications can be tailored for each park through the use of Management Prescriptions. NKHP uses four Landscape Classifications; Natural Area (map color - Green), Conservation Area (map color – Yellow) and Passive Recreation Area (map Color – Brown) and Active Recreation (map Color - Orange) See Appendix-6 Landscape Classification Map.

### Natural Area (NA) Green

**Purpose:** To protect, restore, and enhance inherent natural, cultural and historic attributes. Ecosystem reserves represent the biodiversity of an area, provide Habitat for species, and provide sites for scientific research, long-term monitoring, and education. Natural, cultural and historic sites are protected with best management practices.

**Acceptable Land Management:** Let natural processes prevail. Observe and monitor environmental health.

**Allowable Activities:** Generally “off-limits” to public unless authorized by County permit. Only management activities allowed are to promote health and longevity; e.g. invasive species control. No developed recreational access or use.

**Management Prescription:** Forest management activities, such as commercial harvest, Ecosystem restoration, variable density thinning, or prescriptive Habitat restoration are not allowed in Natural Areas. Hazard tree removal along trails and restoration planting is allowed with careful monitoring by Park Stewards, which is consistent with Kitsap County rules and County staff guidance. Physical control of invasive species is the preferred methodology.

### **Conservation Area (C) Yellow**

**Purpose:** To conserve key resource elements including historic and cultural features. Minimal, limited, and resource-compatible public access. Conditional Access intended for education, restoration and resource management purposes. Restricted access due to potential environmental or heritage impacts. Research, monitoring, and study activities allowable.

**Acceptable Land use:** Active and prescriptive Habitat restoration. Monitoring of Ecosystem health. Invasive species management and control.

**Allowable Activities:** Discourage organized large group activities. No off-trail pets, livestock, or bicycles. Educational and interpretive activities are allowed which have minimal resource intrusion and impact. Limited recreational harvest activities and those which sustain and complement resource health and diversity; e.g. shellfish, berries, brush picking.

**Management Prescription:** Habitat restoration, in accordance with the NKHP Forest Plan, (Kitsap County, 2014) is preferred methodology. Physical removal of invasive species is preferred methodology. Hazard Tree removal along trails and restoration planting is allowed with careful monitoring by Park Stewards, which is consistent with Kitsap County rules and County staff guidance. Limited commercial harvest of forest products is acceptable (e.g. brush pickers).

### **Passive Recreation Area (PR) Brown**

**Purpose:** Moderate resource disturbance acceptable with dispersed and moderate use [e.g. Trails, viewpoints]

**Acceptable Land use:** Manage landscape for recreational safety and limited impact use. Determine a carrying-capacity for trail access and use.

**Allowable Activities:** Some recreational harvest of traditional vegetation, low impact trails, manage Hazard Trees” in concentrated areas, some conditional commercial harvest for stand maintenance. Viewpoints. Public amenities; e.g. restrooms, interpretive and educational

activities. Conditional use: Leashed dog walking may be permitted, depending on resource protection requirements.

**Management Prescription:**

If appropriate, public amenities may include trails, view points, and directional and interpretive signage. Interpretive and educational activities may be permitted, depending on resource protection requirements. No pets, livestock (e.g. horses), or bicycles are allowed.

Trails will be designed consistent with NKHP Trails Plan and the County’s Recreational Trails Classifications and Standards (Kitsap County Parks Department, n.d.). Trails shall be constructed of natural materials that are permeable, perpetually non-toxic consisting of compacted or stabilized native material soil, gravel aggregate, or forest duff.

**Active Recreation Area (AR) Orange**

**Purpose:** To encourage and provide for moderate to high intensity public use and recreation activities, where the resource base is of already modified, or of lower overall value to the greater Park area. Provide for developed “comfort” facilities. e.g. restrooms, trailhead parking, wide, high-impact trails.

**Acceptable Land use:** An area of high level of recreational activities and facilities. Modification of landscape is allowable with the protection of sensitive and critical resource areas. Design and operation of active recreation facilities are responsible for protection of sensitive natural areas and waterways.

**Allowable Activities:** Nature-based recreation activities and facilities. Events are allowable with permit and scheduling. Large event impacts need to be mitigated. Provide for visitor comfort amenities. High capacity designed trails, parking. Dog walking, on-leash allowed. Conditional use: Dog walking off-leash with horse use acceptable with voice control.

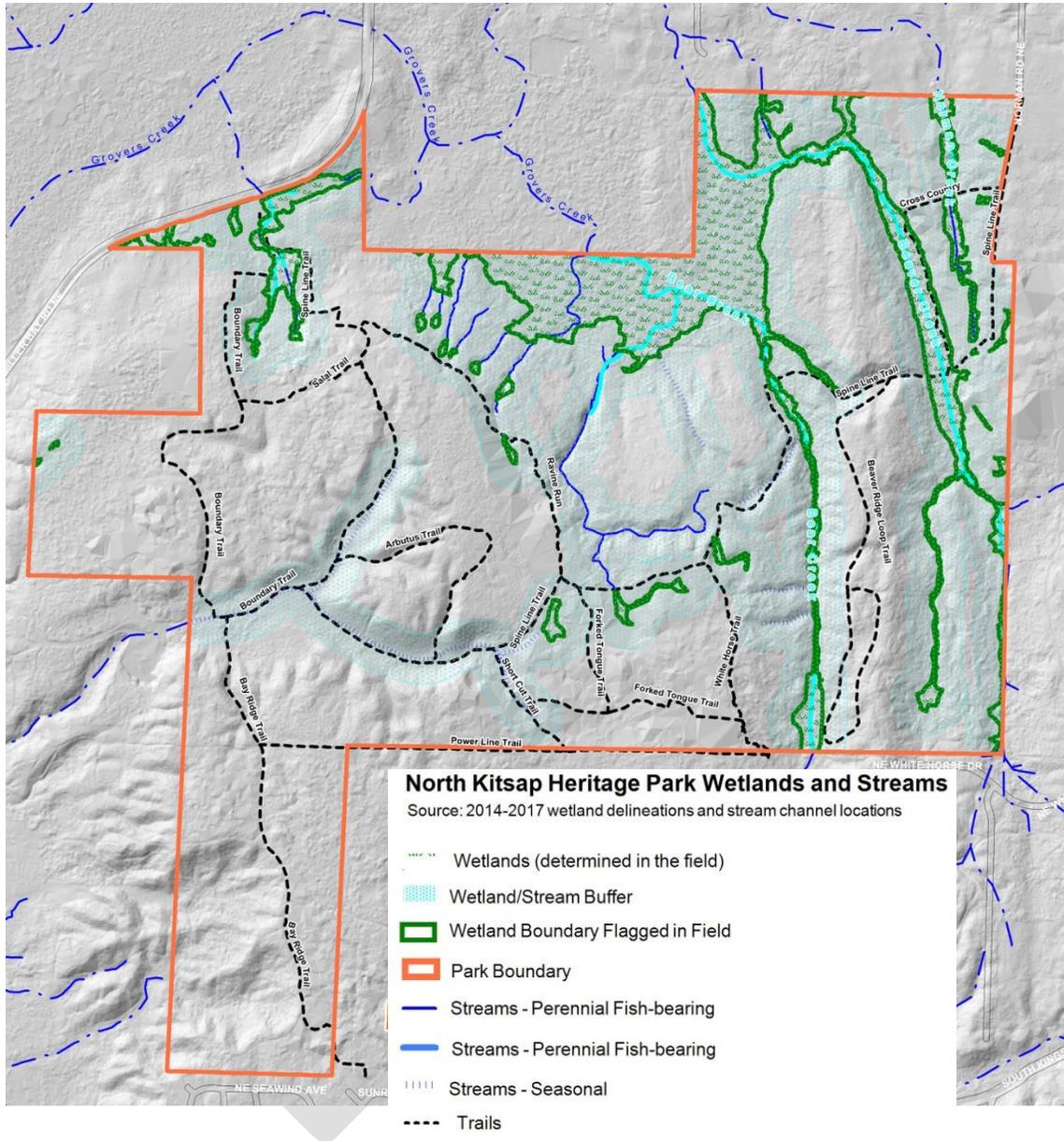
**Management Prescription:** The areas in the Park that are designated Active Recreation (“AR”) are the Park trails (excluding the “contemplative trails” which are designated Passive Recreation) and the parking lots. AR Trails shall be low intensity public use (individuals or small groups of people) with moderate Resource disturbance acceptable with dispersed and moderate use (e.g. Trails, viewpoints). Interpretive and educational amenities are allowed. All other Public amenities/structures such as restrooms and development are limited to the parking area within the Park. Conditional use: Leashed dog walking is contingent on Resource protection requirements prescribed by the Landscape Classification of adjacent Park land. Trails will be designed consistent with NKHP Trails Plan and the County’s Recreational Trails Classifications and Standards (Kitsap County Parks Department, n.d.). Trails shall be

constructed of natural materials that are permeable, perpetually non-toxic consisting of compacted or stabilized native material soil, gravel aggregate, or forest duff.

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# Appendices

## Appendix 1-NKHP Delineated Stream and Wetland Map



## Appendix 2-NKHP Wetland and Stream Buffer Guidelines

From February 2105 through December 2017, Park Stewards and other volunteers contributed over 600 volunteer hours of field work to delineate the Park's wetlands and streams (See Appendix 1. Wetland Delineation Map). Park Stewards used the wetland identification method required by County, State, and Federal jurisdictions to confirm and refine previous wetland delineations completed in 2006 and 2007 and to document several previously unidentified areas. The Suquamish tribe provided field maps and using Geographic Information System (GIS) data recorded by a technician hired by the Kitsap County Parks Department prepared the final Wetland and Stream map (See Appendix 1- Wetland Delineation Map). Park Stewards delineated 81 acres of wetland, primarily forested wetlands, associated with stream channels, shrub-dominated enclosed depressions, and hillside seeps. We also documented 3.3 miles of fish-bearing perennial streams, 1.2 miles of seasonal streams, active beaver ponds, and farm ponds that have become naturalized following their abandonment.

### Wetland and Stream Buffers for Recreational Land Use Planning

One of the Park's primary goals is to protect the health of its wetlands, streams, and riparian Ecosystems for future generations. Nearly all of the Park's wetland areas are high-quality Ecosystems interconnected by streams, and they provide wildlife Habitat, water quality improvement, and flood control benefits, and help maintain stream flows beyond the Park boundaries. The Park's wetlands and streams are also vulnerable to impacts from Park visitors and from infrastructure development proposals, which are expected to increase as the population and land use intensity in the region increases.

The buffer widths adopted for use in the Park for recreational land use planning (Tables 1 and 2 below and shown on Appendix 1- Delineated Streams and Wetland Map), were developed with guidance from the Kitsap County Code wetland buffer requirements, the Washington Department of Ecology's wetland guidance for critical area ordinance updates, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's riparian Habitat management recommendations.

**Table 1. NKHP Wetland Buffer Width**

Wetland Type	NKHP Wetland Buffer Width
All	200 feet

Table 1. Recommended NKHP wetland buffer width for recreational land use planning and development.

**Table 2. NKHP Riparian Buffer Width**

Stream Type	NKHP Riparian Buffer Width
Fish-bearing (F)	200 feet
Non-fish, perennial (Np)	80 feet
Non-fish, seasonal (Ns)	

Table 2. Recommended NKHP stream buffer width for recreational land use planning and development.

**Wetland and Stream Buffers for Restoration Forestry Projects**

The Washington Department of Natural Resources has developed wetland and stream regulations for use during forestry operations on lands managed for timber production. However, because the DNR rules allow entry into wetlands, streams, and their buffers for timber extraction, Park Stewards in cooperation with the Kitsap County Community Forester modified DNR’s rules and established variable-width, no-entry buffers for use in the Park during restoration forestry operations intended to improve the long-term development of the upland forest community (Tables 3 and 4, below). The variable buffer widths allow for consideration of the terrain and the type and intensity of forestry activity while still maintaining a significant no-entry buffer to protect the Park’s sensitive areas.

**Streams**

**Table 3. NKHP No-Entry Riparian Buffer Width**

Water Feature	Type	NKHP No-Entry Riparian Buffer Width
Streams	F	100 - 200 feet
	Np	80 - 160 feet
	Ns	80 - 160 feet
Springs or Seeps	(not applicable)	80 - 160 feet

Table 3. NKHP stream buffer widths for restoration forestry.

**Wetlands**

**Table 4. NKHP No-Entry Wetland Buffer Widths**

Wetland Type	Wetland Size	NKHP No-Entry Wetland Buffer Width
Type A Type B Forested	Greater than 0.5 acre	100 – 200 feet
	0 to 0.5 acre	80 – 160 feet

Table 4. NKHP wetland buffer widths for restoration forestry.

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# Appendix 3-NKHP Trail Map

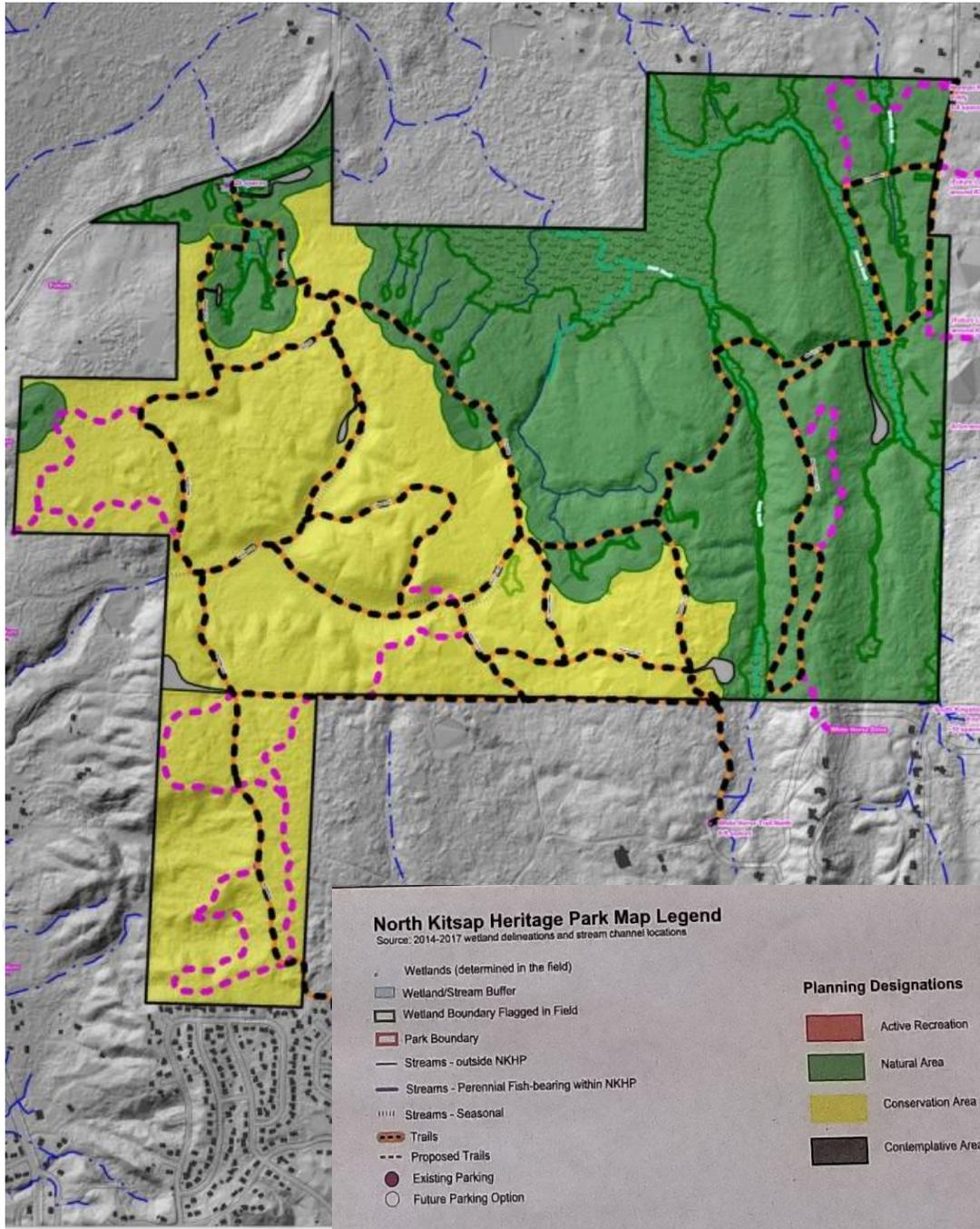


## Appendix 4-Trail and Service Road Distances

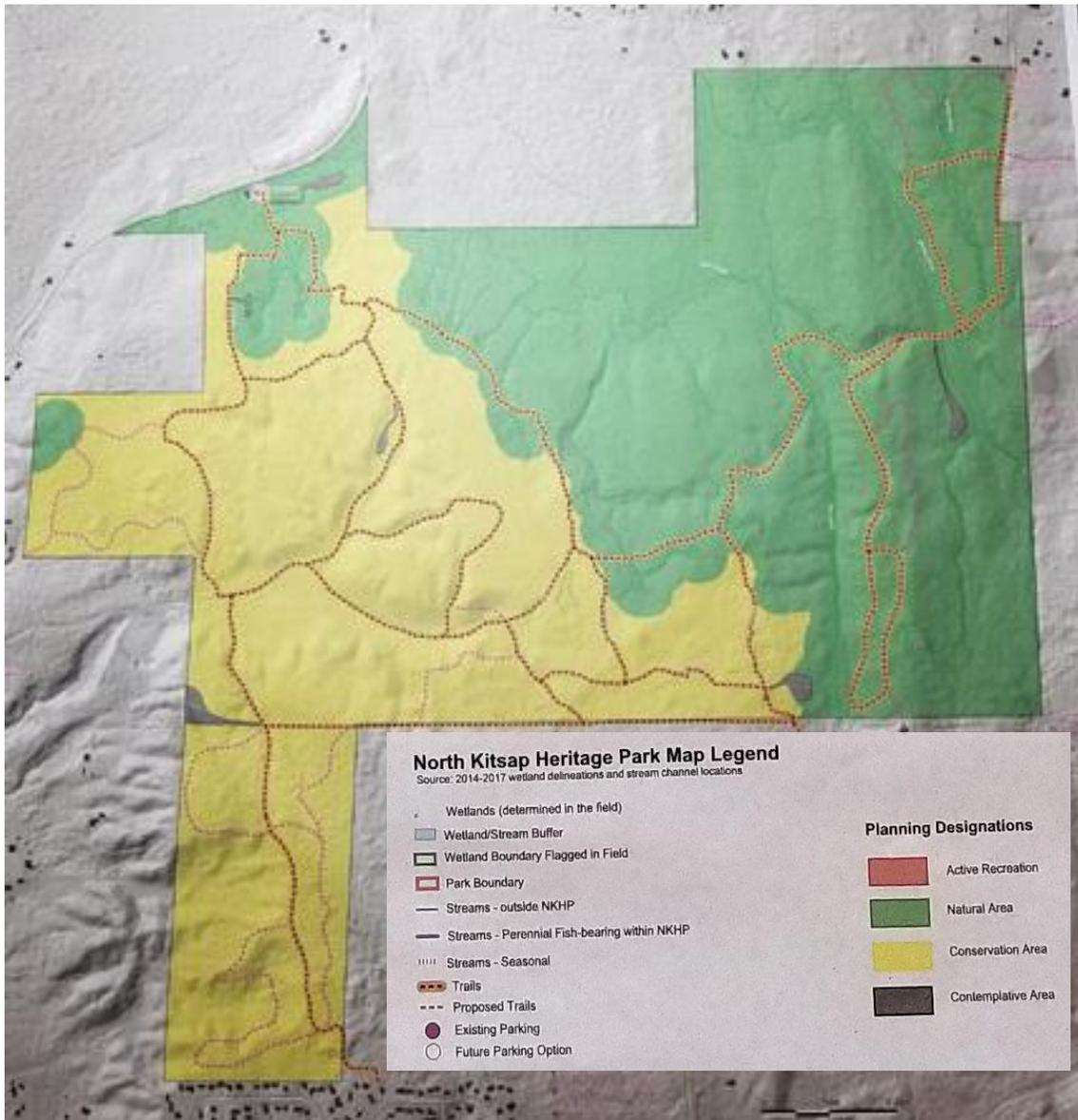
<u>Rev. 4-25-2019</u>				
Name	Sign Post	Feet	Miles	Comment
Arbutus		2,550	0.48	Single Track
Bay Ridge	14 to MBE	4,581	0.87	Service Road/Trail
Beaver Ridge Loop		7,400	1.40	Single Track
Boundary	14 to 15	2,523	0.48	Service Road/Trail
Boundary	5 to 14	664	0.13	Service Road/Trail
Boundary	2 to 15	1,970	0.37	Service Road/Single Track
Cross Country		1,979	0.37	Single Track
Forked Tongue		3,450	0.65	Single Track
Pond trail		497	0.09	Single Track
Powerline	11 to 12	1,658	0.31	Service Road/Trail
Powerline	12 to 13	2,481	0.47	Service Road/Trail
Ravine Run	3 to 7	3,175	0.60	Service Road/Single Track
Salal	4 to 15	1,131	0.21	Service Road/Single Track
Salal/Ravine shortcut		221	0.04	Service Road/Trail
Short Cut	6 to 12	1,064	0.20	Service Road/Trail
Spine Line	1 to 2	254	0.05	Service Road/Trail
Spine Line	2 to 3	1,772	0.34	Single Track
Spine Line	3 to 4	339	0.06	Service Road/Trail
Spine Line	4 to 5	2,207	0.42	Service Road/Trail
Spine Line	5 to 6	1,767	0.33	Service Road/Trail
Spine Line	6 to 7	911	0.17	Service Road/Trail
Spine Line	7 to 8	1,016	0.19	Service Road/Trail
Spine Line	8 to 9	4,021	0.76	Service Road/Trail
Spine Line	9 to 10	1,733	0.33	Service Road/Trail
White Horse	8 to 11	1,737	0.33	Service Road/Trail
<b>Total Inside Park</b>		<b>51,101</b>	<b>9.68</b>	
Whitehorse Parking lot to 11		1,023	0.19	
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>52,124</b>	<b>9.87</b>	

## Appendix 5-Future Trails Map

Existing NKHP trails are colored blue and orange dashed line. Potential future trails are pink dashed colored lines.



## Appendix 6-NKHP Landscape Classification Map



Appendix 7-Culvert Inventory Map



## Appendix 8-Culvert Inventory List

Feature	Number	Deg Min.dec N	Deg Min.dec W	Location
Culvert	001	47 46.509	122 32.226	SL Shortcut intersection/post 6
Culvert	002	47 46.591	122 31.976	SL east of ForkedT intersection
Culvert	003	47 46.563	122 31.760	WH south of SL intersection
Culvert	004	47 46.469	122 31.745	WH north of ForkedT intersection
Culvert	005	47 46.379	122 31.679	WH at PowerL intersection/post 11
Culvert	006	47 47.177	122 31.229	SL/Norman Rd extn N. of Xcountry trail
Culvert	007	47 47.057	122 31.253	SL/Norman Rd extn S. of Xcountry trail
Culvert	008	47 46.999	122 31.256	SL/Gravel Rd
Culvert	009	47 46.872	122 31.698	Four streams abandoned road near SL Bear Cr
Culvert	010	47 46.810	122 31.554	Beaver Ridge loop on uphill
Culvert	011	47 46.739	122 31.680	SL hill midway betw Bear Crk/WH intersection
Culvert	012	47 46.864	122 31.515	SL west of Beaver Ridge loop intersection
Culvert	013	47 46.871	122 31.465	SL/Beaver Ridge loop intersection
Culvert	014	47.77977	122.54682	Boundary - .8 mile past Salal Trail going S/E
Culvert	015	47.46.1490	122 32.6208	Bay Ridge south of powerline intersection
Culvert	016	47 46.784	122 32.856	Boundary north of arrow post
Culvert	017	47 46.788	122 32.800	Boundary north of arrow post
Culvert	018	47 46.560	122 32.778	Boundary west of Bay R intersection
Culvert	019	47.78721	122.52018	Norman Road Parking Area
Culvert	020	47 46.4094	122 32.7138	Bay Ridge north of power line intersection - post and tag not found 8-16-18
Culvert	021	47 46.876	122 31.685	SL at Bear Creek
Culvert	022	47 46.0956	122 32.5974	Bay Ridge north of MBE NMV sign
Culvert	023	47 47.0974	122 32.683	Pond Tr between ponds
Culvert	024	47 47.057	122 32.698	SL at entrance upper pond inlet
Culvert	025	47 47.034	122 31.253	SL at Gravel Rd retention pond
Culvert	026			Not used
Culvert	027			Not used
Culvert	028	47 46.882	122 31.354	SL at Beaver pond
Culvert	029			Not used
Culvert	030			Not used
Revised 4/26/2019				

## Appendix 9-Birds, Mammals, Amphibians, Reptiles, and Fishes

Birds observed at North Kitsap Heritage Park (by TL Doty and RK Bishop). Birds, of course, can fly and so other species may be expected as visitors to NKHP. Contact Kitsap Audubon Society for a complete list of birds of Kitsap County.

### Wildlife in North Kitsap Heritage Park

#### BIRDS

American Crow	Hairy Woodpecker	Red-winged Blackbird
American Goldfinch	Hammond's Flycatcher	Ruffed Grouse
American Robin	Hooded Merganser	Rufous Hummingbird
Anna's Hummingbird	House Finch	Sharp-shinned Hawk
Bald Eagle	Mallard	Song Sparrow
Barred Owl	MacGillivray's Warbler	Spotted Towhee
Black-capped Chickadee	Mew Gull	Steller's Jay
Black-headed Grosbeak	Mourning Dove	Swainson's Thrush
Brown Creeper	Northern Flicker	Townsend's Warbler
Cedar Waxwing	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Turkey Vulture
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	Osprey	Western Tanager
Common Nighthawk	Pacific-slope flycatcher	Willow Flycatcher
Common Raven	Pacific Wren	Wilson's Warbler
Cooper's Hawk	Pileated Woodpecker	Varied Thrush
Dark-eyed Junco	Pine Siskin	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Downy Woodpecker	Purple Finch	Wood Duck
Evening Grosbeak	Red-breasted Nuthatch	
Great Blue Heron	Red-breasted Sapsucker	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Red-tailed Hawk	

#### MAMMALS

Beaver	Deer Mouse	Northern Flying Squirrel
Black Bear	Douglas Squirrel	Opossum
Black-tailed Deer	Eastern Cottontail	Raccoon
Bobcat	Little Brown Bat	Red Fox
Cougar	Meadow Vole	Skunk
Coyote	Mountain Beaver	Snowshoe Hare

#### AMPHIBIANS

Bull Frog	Northwest Salamander Long-toed Salamander	Western Red-backed Salamander
Northern Red-legged Frog		
Pacific Tree Frog	Rough-skinned Newt	Western Toad

REPTILES

Garter Snake

Northern Alligator Lizard

FISHES

Chum Salmon

Coho Salmon

Cutthroat Trout

Steelhead

Western Brook Lamprey

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## Appendix 10-Trees, Shrubs, Herbs, and Invasive Plants

### Native and naturalized plant species observed in NKHP:

#### TREES

Big leaf maple <i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	Paper birch <i>Betula papyrifera</i>
Bitter cherry <i>Prunus emarginata</i>	Red alder <i>Alnus rubra</i>
Black cottonwood <i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	Scouler willow <i>Salix scouleriana</i>
Cascara <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	Sitka spruce <i>Picea sitchensis</i>
Douglas fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Sitka willow <i>Salix sitchensis</i>
Grand fir <i>Abies grandis</i>	Vine maple <i>Acer circinatum</i>
Madrone <i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	Western hemlock <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>
Pacific dogwood <i>Cornus nuttallii</i>	Western red cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>
Pacific willow <i>Salix lasiandra</i>	Western white pine <i>Pinus monticola</i>

#### SHRUBS

Baldhip rose <i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	Red huckleberry <i>Vaccinium parviflorum</i>
Blackcap <i>Rubus leucodermis</i>	Red currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i>
Buckbrush <i>Ceanothus velutinus</i>	red elderberry <i>Sambucus racemosa</i>
Devil's Club <i>Oplopanax horridus</i>	Salal <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>
Evergreen huckleberry <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	Salmonberry <i>Rubus spectabilis</i>
Hardhack <i>Spiraea douglasii</i>	Swamp gooseberry <i>Ribes lacustre</i>
Ocean Spray <i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	Tall Oregon grape <i>Berberis aquifolium</i>
Oregon boxwood <i>Pachistima myrsinites</i>	Thimbleberry <i>Rubus parviflorus</i>
Oregon grape <i>Berberis nervosa</i>	Trailing blackberry <i>Rubus ursinus</i>
Osoberry <i>Oemleria cerasiformis</i>	Twinberry <i>Lonicera involucrata</i>

#### HERBS

Bleeding hearts <i>Dicentra formosa</i>	False miterwort <i>Tiarella trifoliata</i>
Bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	False solomon's seal <i>Smilacina racemosa</i>
Candyflower <i>Montia sibirica</i>	Fireweed <i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>
Deer fern <i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Fringe cups <i>Tellima grandiflora</i>
Dewey's sedge <i>Carex deweyana</i>	Giant horsetail <i>Equisetum telmateia</i>
Douglas mugwort <i>Artemisia douglasiana</i>	Goldenrod <i>Solidago canadensis</i>
Chickweed <i>Stellaria media</i>	Enchanter's nightshade <i>Circaea alpina</i>
Common bedstraw <i>Galium aparine</i>	Hedge nettle <i>Stachys cooleyae</i>
Common horsetail <i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Lady fern <i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>
Common vetch <i>Vicia sativa</i> var. <i>angustifolia</i>	Large avens <i>Geum macrophyllum</i>
Edible thistle <i>Cirsium edule</i>	Leafy mitrewort <i>Mitella caulescens</i>

Licorice fern <i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Sweet cicely <i>Osmorhiza chilensis</i>
Merten's sedge <i>Carex mertensiana</i>	Sword fern <i>Polystichum munitum</i>
Orange honeysuckle <i>Lonicera ciliosa</i>	Tall buttercup <i>Ranunculus acris</i>
Orchard grass <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Trillium <i>Trillium ovatum</i>
Pearly everlasting <i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Twinflower <i>Linnaea borealis</i>
Self-heal <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Wall lettuce <i>Lactuca muralis</i>
Skunk cabbage <i>Lysichitum americanum</i>	Wood fern <i>Dryopteris austriaca</i>
Slough sedge <i>Carex obnupta</i>	Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Small-flowered nemophila <i>Nemophila parviflora</i>	Yellow pond lily <i>Nuphar polysepalum</i>
Small-fruited bulrush <i>Scirpus microcarpus</i>	Yellow violet <i>Viola glabella</i>
Small bedstraw <i>Galium trifidum var. pacificum</i>	Youth-on-age <i>Tolmiea menziesii</i>
Soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i>	Wild ginger <i>Asarum caudatum</i>
Spotted coral root <i>Corallorhiza maculata</i>	Wild lily of the valley <i>Maianthemum dilatatum</i>
Starflower <i>Trientalis latifolia</i>	Wood fern <i>Dryopteris austriaca</i>
Stinging nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i>	Wood rush <i>Luzula campestris</i>

#### INVASIVE SPECIES & their approximate locations

Ajuga *Ajuga reptans* (Miller Bay Rd. parking lot pond)  
 Bull thistle *Cirsium vulgare* (Spine Line)  
 Creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens* (Spine Line & Boundary)  
 Canada thistle *Cirsium arvense* (near barn @ entry)  
 Daisy *Bellis perennis* (Spine Line)  
 Dandelion *Taraxacum officinalis* (Spine Line & Boundary)  
 English holly *Ilex europea* (all over)  
 English ivy *Hedera helix* (Boundary)  
 English laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* (off trail)  
 Foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*  
 Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* (Spine Line & Boundary)  
 Evergreen blackberry *Rubus laciniatus*  
 Himalayan blackberry *Rubus armeniacus* (Spine Line & Boundary)  
 Nightshade *Solanum dulcamara* (Boundary trail near post 13)  
 Reed canary grass *Phalaris arundinacea* (Spine Line)  
 Scotch broom *Cytisus scoparius* (Boundary, Power Line, Spine Line & Bay Ridge)  
 Stinky Bob *Geranium robertianum*, (Spine Line)  
 Tansy ragwort *Senecio jacobaea* (Boundary)  
 Yellow iris *Iris pseudoacorus* (Miller Bay Rd parking lot pond)

## Appendix 11-Comprehensive Plan Compliance Matrix

The following Goals and Policies are from the Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 6 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space.

No.	Kitsap County Goals and Policies	NKHP Master Plan Compliance	Master Plan Section
<b>Goal 1</b>	<b>Provide regional parks, and open space to meet active and passive regional recreational needs, as well as the needs of wildlife.</b>		
Policy 1	Continue acquisition of lands having characteristics providing opportunities for varied uses.	Stewards have developed a prioritized land acquisition plan emphasizing habitat value, wildlife and habitat connectivity, opportunities for riparian restoration.	8 - Park Expansion Opportunities
Policy 2	Develop County park facilities to accommodate specialized activities, large special events, and athletic tournaments.	NKHP has approx. 10 miles of Active Recreation trail corridors that support nature oriented activities. Because protection of the natural environment of the Park is primary large events are not permitted.	19- Landscape Classifications 18- Trails
Policy 3	Continue to support and maintain parks advisory board to include community involvement and conduct public outreach.	Stewards have briefed the Parks Advisory Board (PAB) re: the wetland delineation and Master Plan. Stewards will conduct a public “outreach” event to educate and get comments on the Master Plan.	20-Public Outreach 17-Education and Outreach
Policy 4	Create new and foster current partnerships with local, state and federal government agencies and local and national organizations.	Stewards have a close working relationships with the Suquamish Tribe, GPC, Fish Conservancy and numerous Park neighbors.	19-Riparian & Wetland Delineation 12-Historical/Cultural Resources 9- Park Expansion
Policy 5	Develop and redevelop County parks to accommodate multiple uses.	Our visitors include wildlife lovers, birders, fungus hunters, hikers, bicyclists, dogs, equestrians, forest trolls, geocaches, photographers, biologists and more...	18-Trails 13-Public Access
Policy 6	Develop and redevelop County parks to provide equity of service and activities offered for all age groups.	Stewards encourage all age groups to visit NKHP. The Master Plan supports public access for users of all abilities.	2-Guiding Principles 18-Trails
Policy 7	Develop and redevelop County parks in a manner that allows all-weather activity.	The Park is intended to be an outdoor recreation experience. Stewards provide graveled parking areas and work to maintain drainage away from and under trails. Stewards maintain about 35 culverts.	18-Trails
Policy 8	Develop and redevelop certain County parks to become “destination parks”.	The emphasis at NKHP is habitat and wildlife accessibility – a biological reserve with visitor privileges... Often the journey is the destination.	2-Guiding Principles
Policy 9	Identify new and preserve existing open space in rural areas.	The NKHP Master Plan is all about preserving open space land and habitat for future generations.	2-Guiding Principles 8 - Park Expansion Opportunities
Policy 10	Identify open space corridors and potential open space areas within and between urban growth areas.	NKHP is situated between Kingston and Indianola and soon to be built Arborwood. The Park will preserve open space and animal habitat and corridors.	2- Guiding Principles 8 - Park Expansion Opportunities 19-Landscape Classifications
Policy 11	Support development of a regional trail system throughout the County and recognize that trails, when built, must be sensitive to impact on natural environment.	The NKHP Master Plan specifies natural, permeable, perpetually non-toxic trail surfaces. There must be no interruption in the wildlife corridor function – no fences, guardrails or other obstructions to movement larger than trees.	18-Trails 5- Fish, Wildlife and Habitat
Policy 12	Kitsap County shall incorporate the Local Habitat Assessment completed by Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife to assist in identifying crucial corridor areas that may not necessarily be identified in the Shoreline Master Program or the Critical Areas Ordinance.	Stewards have reviewed the Habitat Assessment and have conducted an extensive stream and wetland delineation of the Park. We believe the delineation identified critical habitat. Protection of animal corridors have been address through the Landscape Classifications used in the Park.	5-Fish, Wildlife and Habitat 19-Landscape Classifications

No.	Kitsap County Goals and Policies	NKHP Master Plan Compliance	Master Plan Section
Policy 13	When implementing the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan ensure that coordination with Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and local Tribes occurs to ensure protection of treaty reserved natural and cultural resources.	Suquamish Tribal Biologist Alison O'Sullivan has been of help on numerous occasions and we value our collaboration with the Suquamish Tribe highly.	11- Historical/Cultural Resources
Policy 14	Kitsap County's Parks Department will strive to decrease conflict between wildlife and humans and decrease impact on habitat by improving identification of protected areas.	The Landscape Classifications selected for the Park, Natural and Conservation areas, are the most protective for wildlife. Locating trails away from wetlands will help to decrease conflict between animals and humans.	2-Guiding Principles 17-Education and Outreach 18-Trails 20-Landscape Classifications 5-Fish, Wildlife and Habitat
Policy 15	Kitsap County Parks Department will continue to improve educational efforts regarding the importance of limiting contact with wildlife and the value of habitat preservation.	Stewards have conducted nature walks in the Park. Stewards will conduct a meeting in 2019 to present the Master Plan to the public.	5-Fish, Wildlife & Habitat 17-Education & Outreach
Policy 16	Locate trail corridors to also serve wildlife when possible.	The Park is made up of Natural and Conservation areas which protects Habitat. Natural surface trail throughout the Park also serve as wildlife corridors.	18-Trails
Policy 17	Ensure that the County's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan is consistent with habitat inventories and habitat protection and restoration programs.	Stewards are engaged in Restoration Thinning in the Conservation areas. Stewards have delineated the entire Park, locating and mapping over 81 acres of wetlands. Stewards are under-planting thinned and alder-dominant areas with native trees. Stewards plan to develop at least one small meadow for 'edge' habitat. Stewards are in the initial stages of a formal environmental inventory of animals at the Park.	2-Guiding Principles 5-Fish, Wildlife and Habitat 20-Landscape Classifications
Policy 18	Consider and identify opportunities to increase public access and foster environmental and economic benefits associated with Kitsap Peninsula National Water Trails and designation as part of the National Water Trails System.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
Policy 19	Work with qualified tourism and business entities to consider and identify current and future opportunities for public access to natural recreation assets and potential economic benefits that respect county goals and policies.	Stewards will strive to work with community stake holders to promote Park opportunities for public access to natural recreation.	13-Public Access 16- Economic Interests 17- Education and Outreach
<b>Goal 2.</b>	<b>Provide appropriate and necessary funding and resources to support the management and maintenance of parks, facilities, and open space lands of the highest quality possible.</b>		
Policy 20	Provide visitor accommodations including trailheads, parking and restrooms.	NKHP has three trailheads, three parking areas. The County does not have the budget for restroom facilities .	12-Public Access 13-Parking and Facilities
Policy 21	Establish stable funding sources to support the County's parks system.	The County allows commercial brush picking and tree harvest/thinning in NKHP.	10-Harvesting of Forest Products 16-Economic Interests

No.	Kitsap County Goals and Policies	NKHP Master Plan Compliance	Master Plan Section
Policy 22	Provide funding to institute a formal, ongoing capital maintenance program.	Stewards provide free labor to help with Park maintenance. Stewards applied for grant funding, from the RCO, to build a bridge over Beaver Creek. Although the request was turned down Stewards will continue to look for funding sources.	9-Harvesting of Forest Products
Policy 23	Facilitate partnerships to promote and maintain neighborhood and pocket parks. Encourage homeowner associations and property owners to work with parks agencies and land trusts to effectively maintain buffers and open space within and around developments, and form partnerships with community groups to effectively maintain natural areas and trails.	Stewards have reached out to Norman Road resident to address their concerns over activities at the parking area there. Stewards have consulted with MBE homeowners association to attempt to solve parking and access issues there. Stewards are discussing plans to provide Arborwood access to the east side of the Park.	18-Trails 8-Park Expansion Opportunities
Policy 24	Implement the adopted Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan to plan, acquire, and develop open space, greenways, and wildlife habitat to the greatest extent possible with funds provided.	Stewards have identified properties around NKHP for potential Acquisition	8 - Park Expansion Opportunities
Policy 25	Recognize parks as an important component of Kitsap County's economy.	Seattle is growing fast which will drive higher growth rates in Kitsap County. In the years to come having large natural area like NKHP will make Kitsap County a desirable place to live.	2-Guiding Principles Entire Master Plan
<b>Goal 3</b>	<b>Establish a land acquisition strategy including the necessary funding that will facilitate a more efficient service delivery model.</b>		
Policy 26	Purchase lands along the lower mainstream of Chico Creek Watershed as recommended in the Chico Creek Main stem Restoration Plan.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
Policy 27	Work towards acquiring trail corridors to connect parks, schools, residential and urban areas.	NKHP has established trails that link Indianola (via Whitehorse trail), Miller Bay Estates, Miller Bay Road, Norman Road to South Kingston Road (schools) and, ultimately, the Arborwood development.	18-Trails 8 - Park Expansion Opportunities
Policy 28	Develop a land acquisition method that requires a review process for the acquisition of land that is not adjacent to present land holdings or planning areas.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
Policy 29	Coordinate with Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program, as needed, for the development of non-motorized trails in rural areas through acquisitions or easements.	Stewards are talking with adjacent and non-adjacent property owners re: potential for trail easements.	8 - Park Expansion Opportunities
<b>Goal 4</b>	<b>Provide physical and visual public access opportunities and space for diverse forms of water-oriented recreation in such a way that private property rights, public safety, and shoreline ecological functions and processes are protected in accordance with existing laws and statutes.</b>	<b>Not applicable.</b>	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Policy 30	Prioritize acquisition of properties that provide access to public tidelands, to maximize public access.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
Policy 31	Support and promote the Kitsap Peninsula Water Trail.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.

## Appendix 12-Park Visitor's Code of Conduct

- **RESPECT:** If you offer consideration and respect to others, you are more likely to receive it. Interaction with respect diminishes negative encounters on the trail for all users. Respect wildlife as well as other trail users.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Communicate with fellow trail users: a friendly greeting is a good method. This is especially important when approaching from behind.
- **YIELD APPROPRIATELY:** Bicyclists should yield to other non-motorized trail users, both pedestrian and equestrian. Bicyclists travelling downhill should yield to those travelling uphill. Hikers should yield to horses, stepping off the trail, on the downhill side, and avoiding abrupt movements. In general, strive to be safe and courteous.
- **REVERE THE RESOURCE:** Recognize the beauty of North Kitsap Heritage Park by practicing “Leave No Trace” and “Pack It In, Pack It Out”. Appreciate the work of the NKHP Stewardship group by joining these volunteers on Second Saturday trail work gatherings and pitching in an everyday way by picking up and removing garbage when you see it on the trail.
- **PARK RULES:** Know the rules and code of conduct, Kitsap County Park Code 10.12 <http://www.codepublishing.com/WA/KitsapCounty/html/Kitsap10/Kitsap1012.html> (Kitsap County , 2018). Stay on designated trails.
- **ORIENTATION:** Know where you are by using trail maps available at kiosks or on line.
- **BE AWARE OF CURRENT TRAIL CONDITIONS:** Some trails may be temporarily closed when too muddy or under construction or maintenance. Closed trails will be posted with sign.
- **DOGS:** Pets must be on a leash at all times in the interest of the safety of other users, observance of public right of way, protection of natural areas and wildlife, and compliance with applicable County Park Rules. Dog waste bags are available at all NKHP entrances and Park visitors are responsible for the collection and proper disposal of pet waste at home.
- **HORSES:** Horses must be under the direct control of their owners in the interest of the safety of other users, observance of public right of way, protection of natural areas and wildlife and compliance with applicable law. Increasing use of a trail by horses may result in the future requirement for horse owners to be responsible for the collection and disposal of horse waste.



## Appendix 13-Park Aquatic Inventory

### 05 February 2018. 0900-1200.

Ron VanBianchi, Jay Zischke, John Williams, Steve Weagant, Tom Doty

Environmental inventory, first field trip, seining for fish (all those we caught or observed were healthy appearing, robust and brilliantly colored - several of these fish were photographed by JW).

**BEAR CREEK** – Water 8 Deg. C. Eight tows (6 kick) upstream from culvert at Four Streams jct.; observed 3 **Cutthroat Trout** juveniles, caught (1) ~4" TL.

Several tows downstream from same culvert; **Cutthroat Trout** juvenile (1) ~5" TL.

**BEAVER CREEK** – Water 8 Deg. C. At Beaver Deceiver, one probe-tow into culvert, several tows downstream below culvert; **Cutthroat Trout** juveniles (2): 2.5"/3.4gm, 3"/4.7gm.

At perched culvert in Map Unit 2 (south off unnamed trail north of Cross-Country Trail). Water 8 Deg. C.; At beaver dam near the snag, downstream from culvert; **Cutthroat Trout** (1) ~7" (by acclamation!).

### 09 March 2018. 0900-1200.

Ron VanBianchi, Tom Doty, Paul Larson, John Williams, Jay Zischke.

Environmental Inventory, second field trip, seining for fish.

**NORMAN CREEK** – Water 7 Deg. C. Eight tows north from Cross Country trail culvert (since removed) to private property. No fish observed or caught.

**BEAVER CREEK** – Water 7 Deg. C. Eight tows above culvert on Spine Line ("beaver deceiver"). Saw no fish, caught no fish!? One Odonate only (depauperate macro-invertebrate fauna?). Ambystoma egg mass (1), Rana eggs. Five more tows, beginning 1500' upstream from beaver deceiver. Rocky bottom, about 3' across. Saw no fish, caught no fish. One unidentified macroinvertebrate. Two tows at culvert under 'sewer' road, just north of road junction to the east. Elaborate drain with rock and milled, pressure-treated wood!? No fish (not surprising).

Done at noon. No sign of fish upstream from beaver deceiver culvert (except two Fresh Water Lamprey individuals found and photographed] last year.

### 21 March 2018. 0900-1100.

Tom Doty, Ron VanBianchi.

Environmental inventory, third field trip, seining for fish.

**MILLER BAY ROAD ENTRANCE PONDS** – Three ponds in this drainage, labeled from upstream to downstream, A (upper), B (mid), and C (long pond along Miller Bay Road). **Pond A** – seined south and east sides. No fish, no invertebrates. **Pond B** – too woody for nets. **Pond C** – seined at outflow (to north)

and in stream leading to Grovers Creek. Caught (3) Three-Spine Sticklebacks (photographed). Also found Red-legged Frog eggs and N.W. Salamander eggs in Pond C.

### **Appendix 14-Event/Activity Evaluation Screening Criteria**

The following criteria testing may assist with understanding whether an activity or Event should be allowed to occur in the Park.

**Criteria 1.** Will the Park's values, as stated in the NKHP Stewardship Plan, be diminished? • If YES then activity or Event is not allowed • If NO continue to Criteria 2

**Criteria 2.** Will the Event or activity harm or degrade Habitats or the Natural Resources of the Park? • If YES then activity is not allowed • If NO continue to Criteria 3

**Criteria 3** Will Event or activity effectively close or significantly limit use of the Park in whole or part to the public? • If YES then activity is not allowed • If NO continue to Criteria 4

**Criteria 4.** Will Event or activity leave anything behind and/or trace (even chalk marks, flags, litter, graffiti, waste, etc.)? • If YES then what is the trace? • If trace CANNOT be removed then event or activity is not allowed

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## Appendix 15-NKHP Photo Gallery



Park Entrance –Miller Bay Rd.



Typical Forest Trail



Wetland Pond

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## Glossary of Terms

“**ADA**” means Americans with Disabilities Act.

“**AR**” means **Active Recreation**. Active Recreation examples are walking, running, mountain biking, and horseback riding.

“**County**” means Kitsap County Parks Department or Kitsap County Parks.

“**DNR**” means Washington Department of Natural Resources.

“**Ecosystem**” means a community of living organisms in conjunction with the nonliving components of their environment (things like air, water and mineral soil), interacting as a system.

“**Ecological**” means relating to or concerned with the relation of living organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings.

“**ERL**” means emergency rescue locators.

“**Event**” means an activity that is organized, or scheduled, or requires some degree of planning and consists of 12 or more people. Large Events are not allowed to occur in the Park.

“**Forest Road**” means roads that were constructed to be used by heavy vehicles, such as log trucks. Most of the Forest Roads in the Park were constructed by logging companies.

“**F**” means, in the context of wetland and stream buffers, fish-bearing streams.

“**FSP or NKHP FSP**” means the North Kitsap Heritage Park Forest Stewardship Plan

“**GIS**” means Geographic Information System.

“**GPC**” means Great Peninsula Conservancy. GPC is a 501c corporation. *“Our [GPC] mission is to conserve vibrant forests, streams, shorelines and community greenspaces to help wildlife and people thrive. We commit to caring for the lands we protect to ensure wildlife and people enjoy the many benefits of nature well into the future.”*

“**Growth Management Act**” or “**GMA**” or “**Washington Growth Management Act**” means The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) is a Washington State law that requires state and local governments to manage Washington's growth by identifying and protecting critical areas and natural resource lands, designating urban growth areas, preparing comprehensive plan and implementing them through capital investments and development regulations. The GMA was adopted because the Washington State Legislature found that uncoordinated and unplanned growth posed a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development and the quality of life in Washington.

“**Habitat**” means the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other natural organism.

**“Heritage Park”** means, in accordance with Kitsap County’s Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan (PROS) (Kitsap County Park Department, 2018) *“These substantial sites [Heritage Parks] have become the foundation of Kitsap Count’s park system. With the exception of trails running through parts of the heritage Parks, these lands remain primarily as undeveloped natural areas, with environmentally sensitive areas preserved or enhanced. The physical characteristics of these lands lend themselves to varied passive and conservation uses.”*

**“Harvesting of Forest Products”** means taking vegetation, but not animals, from the Park for personal use or to be sold for economic gain.

**“Hazard Tree”** means any tree or plant along designated trail corridors or parking areas that are determined to be dangerous to the safety of Park visitors or property.

**“IPMP”** means the NKHP Invasive Plant Management Plan. The IPMP is a separate document created by the Stewards that supports the values of the MP.

**“KCCP”** means Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan 2016 – 20136.

**“Landscape Classifications” or “Landscape Classification Plan”** refers to the County’s Landscape Classification System. Landscape Classification system strives to recognize, map, and thereby direct management of inherent resource values (natural, cultural, historic), on Kitsap County Parks managed properties, while providing an appropriate level of use and compatible public access, recreational use and facilities.

**“Management Prescription” or “MP”** means a modification to the Landscape Classification Plan that specifically applies to NKHP. A MP is established for each of the Landscape Classifications within the Park to specify (1) the desired condition of the Natural and cultural Resources, (2) the desired visitor experience, (3) appropriate kinds and levels of management activities, (4) appropriate kinds and levels of visitor activities, and (5) appropriate kinds and levels of development.

**“MBE”** means Miller Bay Estates a community that borders the South West corner of NKHP.

**“Multi-Use Trails”** means non-motorized trails restricted to pedestrian, bicycling (100% self-propelled), dog walking on a leash and equestrian use.

**“NAP”** means Native American People that historically inhabited the land in and around the Park.

**“Natural Resources” or “Resources”** means the ecological features of the Park, such as geologic forms and processes, communities of native plants and animals and the processes that sustain them (natural succession, natural fire, natural flood/drought cycles, etc.), air quality and air quality related values such as visibility, water bodies and hydrologic processes, and paleontological remains.

**“Natural Surfaces”** means trail surfaces consisting of forest duff, moss, mineral soil, or crushed rock.

**“Np”** means, pertaining to stream and wetland buffers, a Non-fish perennial stream.

**“Ns”** means, pertaining to stream and wetland buffers, a Non-fish seasonal stream.

**“Open Space” or “Public Open Space”** means “Land or water area with its surface open to the sky or predominantly undeveloped, which is set aside to serve the purposes of providing park and recreation opportunities, conserving valuable Resources and Habitat.

**“Park” or “NKHP”** means North Kitsap Heritage Park which was officially opened for use in January 2010.

**“Park Watch”** means organized patrols by Park Stewards and visitors to monitor and report to Kitsap County Parks Department unwanted behavior in NKHP.

**“PROS Plan”** means the Kitsap County Parks and Recreation and Open Space Plan

**“RCO”** means the Recreation and Conservation Office. The RCO is a small Washington state agency that manages grant programs to create outdoor recreation opportunities, protect the best of the state's wildlife Habitat and farmland, and help return salmon from near extinction.

**“Stewards” or “NKHP Stewardship Group” or “NKHPSG”** means a volunteer citizen group sanctioned 2009 by Kitsap County to work with Kitsap County Parks Department and providing citizen oversight to maintain, protect and manage NKHP's Natural Resources with a goal of conserving and enhancing the Park's Ecosystem and animal Habitat and providing for safe, reasonable and appropriate public access to the Park.

**“Trail Corridor”** means the area surrounding the Trail Tread which is a reasonable distance on each side of the Trail Tread (approximately 16 feet on either side of the Trail Tread) that could be an alternate location to move the Trail Tread to avoid damage to the Park's Natural Resources of the Park or for visitor safety. If a Trail Tread is moved the old trail will be decommissioned.

**“Trails Plan” or “NKHP Trails Plan”** is a separate plan created by the Park Stewards and Park staff that embodies the values of this Stewardship Plan.

**“Trail Tread”** means the actual trail surface that visitors walk on as defined in the County Trail Standards (Kitsap County Parks Department, n.d.).

**“Tribe” or “Tribal”** means Native American Peoples that inhabited the land surrounding the Park.