Little Bit Reach Restoration Project
Lower Bear Creek

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Project Location

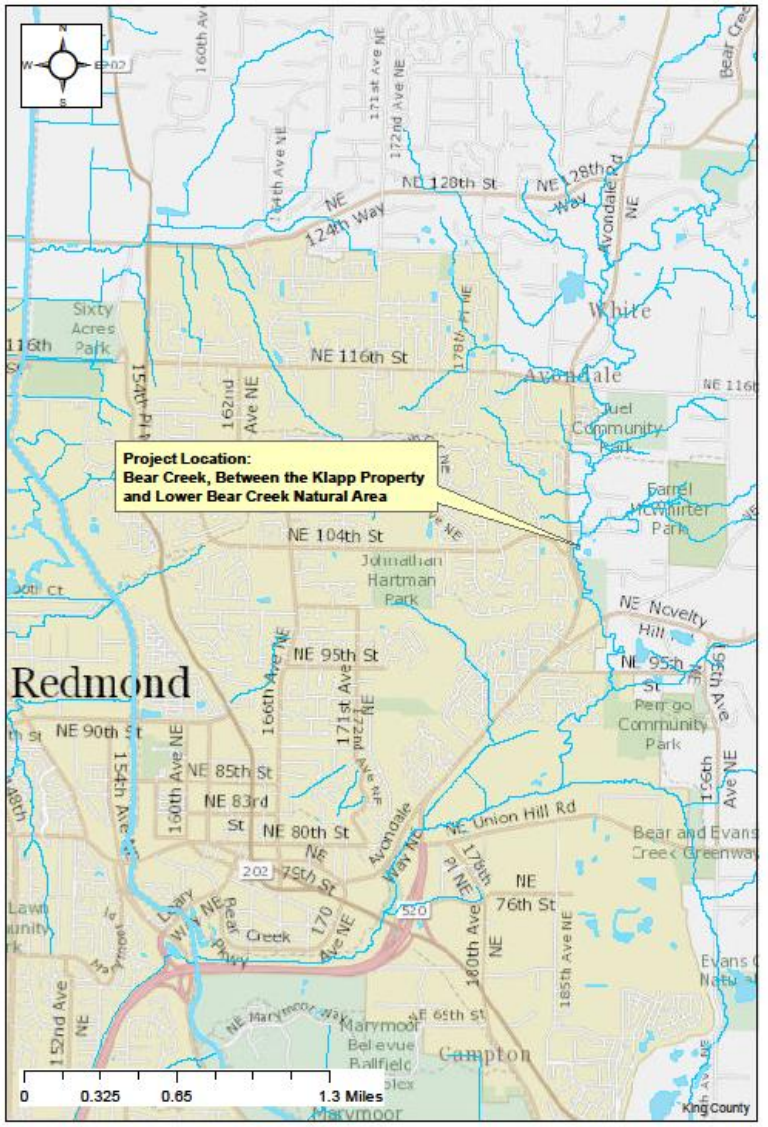


Figure 1: Location Map
Little Bit Reach Habitat Enhacement Project

King County

Project Site

Project Reach

Site Characteristics

- Low-functioning riparian area
- Eroded streambanks
- Sparse native riparian vegetation

- Reed canary grass dominates riparian floodplain habitat
- Japanese knotweed & loosestrife also present
- Lack of quality shade-producing cover

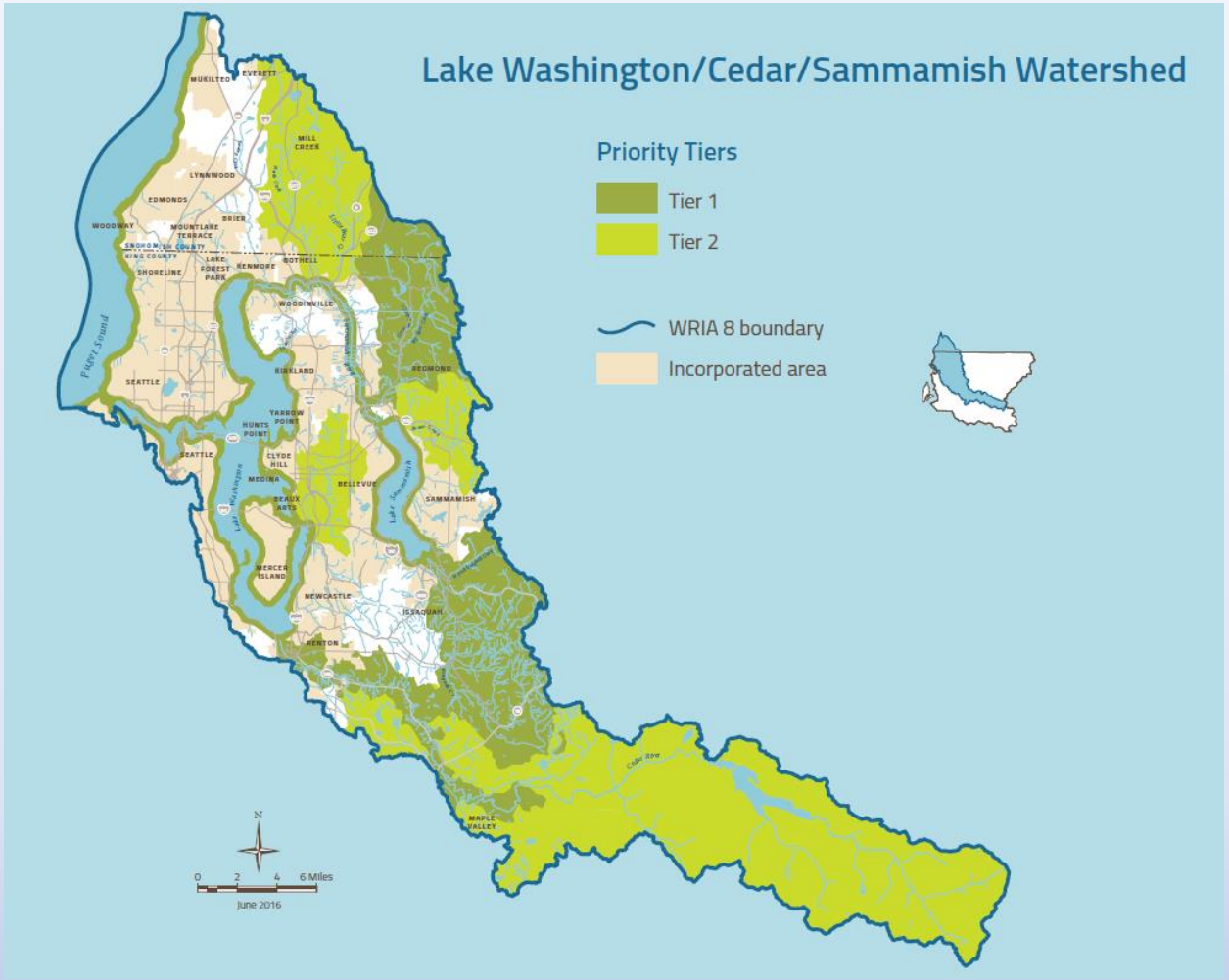
Floodplain Areas

- Limited wood
- Clear opportunity to improve connectivity to floodplain habitat

Nearby beaver activity

Flooding 02/2020

Connecting Salmon Recovery Strategies



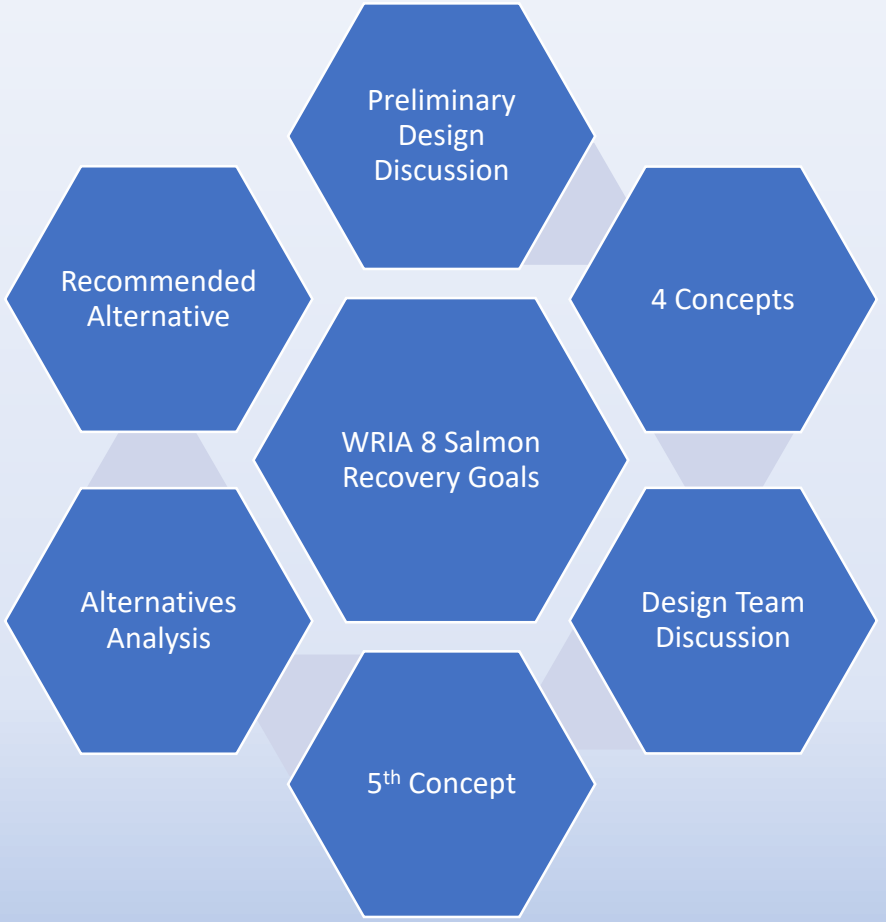
Appendix E: Recovery Strategies

- Protect and restore floodplain connectivity
- Protect and restore functional riparian vegetation
- Protect and restore channel complexity

Goals and Objectives

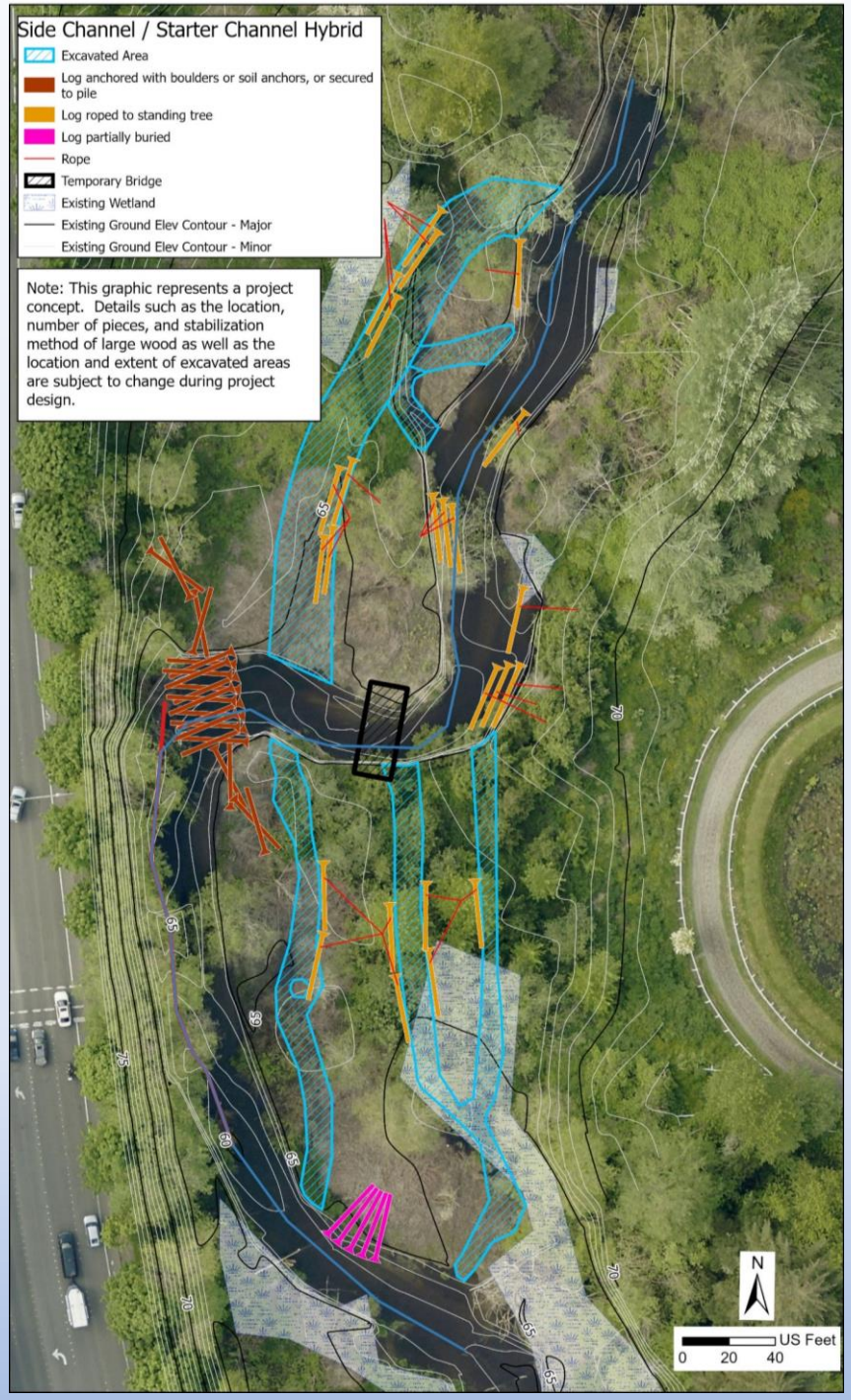
- Restore missing structure
- Provide complex instream stream habitat
- Reconnect floodplain
- Create off-channel rearing habitat
- Restore floodplain and riparian habitat
  - biodiversity and shade
  - improve summer stream temperatures

Alternatives Evaluation Process



Recommended Alternative

- Provide a variety of freshwater rearing habitats
- Side channel excavated in upstream segment
- Smaller “starter” channels excavated in downstream segment
- Wood placed throughout
- Jam placed to drive flow into starter channels



Next Steps

- Approval of recommended alternative
- Preliminary design and permit applications Fall 2020
- Final design to start late 2020/early 2021
- Construction – Summer 2021 or 2022

Discussion

- Questions
- Which design elements provide higher fish benefit?
- Channel inlet elevation - median rearing flows?
- Observations from other Bear Creek habitat projects