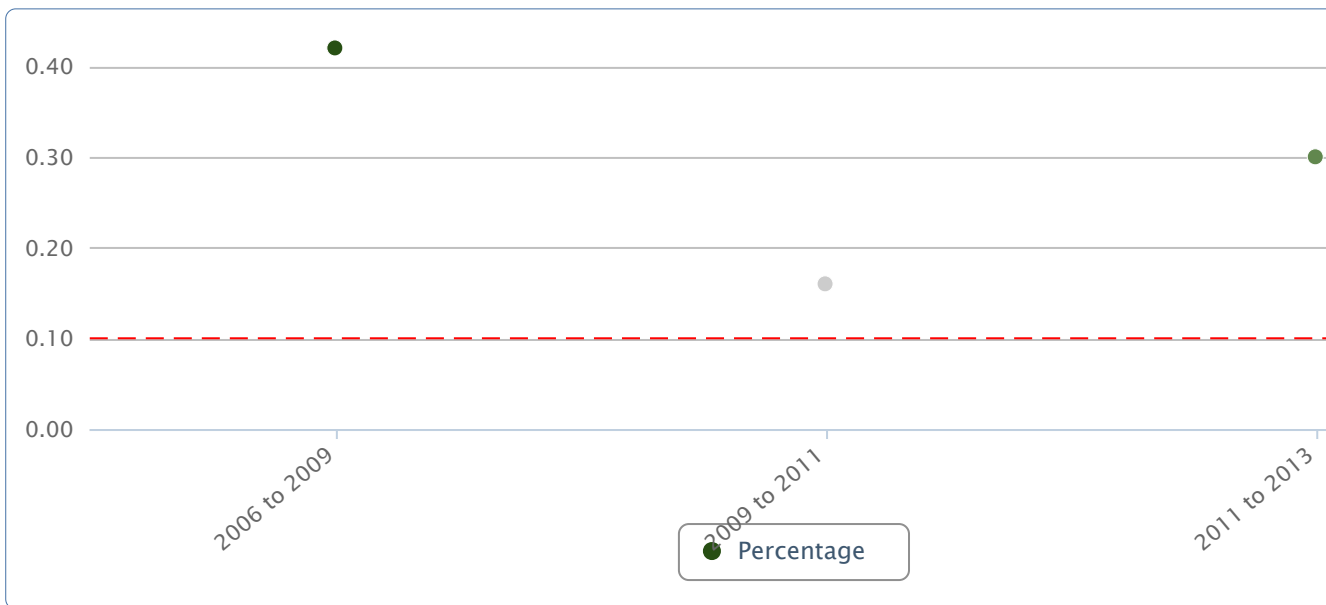




4.4: Reduce the rate of loss of priority habitat (oak woodland) from 0.4% (123 acres) to 0.1% (34 acres) by 2016



Where to get more information?

[October 10th Goal Council report-out](#)

Why is this a priority?

Habitat loss, fragmentation, and degradation are one of the major challenges facing Washington's fish and wildlife. Much of the loss of priority habitat is associated with residential development for the state's increasing population. Reducing the rate at which we lose priority habitats is critical to protect Washington's biodiversity.

How are we doing?

This measurement is currently based on the rate of loss of oak woodlands, which were mapped at a fine scale in 2005. As more fine-scale maps of other priority areas become available, they will be incorporated into this measure.

What are we working on?

- WDFW Regional Habitat Biologists advise local governments of ways they can maintain existing priority habitats as they update their Critical Areas Ordinances, Shoreline Management Plans, and Comprehensive Plans.
- WDFW Regional Habitat Biologists advise land owners of ways they can maintain existing priority habitats through their land management.
- WDFW is seeking funds to comprehensively monitor and report the rate of loss of priority habitats.

How can you help?

You can ask your county or city if their Critical Areas Ordinance specifically protects Priority Habitats and Species and what steps are being taken locally to minimize its loss. You can encourage your county or city to establish protections in line with WDFW's "[PHS Management Recommendations](#)" when updating their Critical Areas Ordinance and Shoreline Management Plan or expanding an Urban Growth Area.

Where to get more information:

For additional information and charts, click the following web links to view Supplemental Report:

[October 12, 2015 Goal Council meeting report-out](#)

[December 14, 2015 Goal Council meeting report-out](#)

Action Plan

Problem / Opportunity	Strategies	Task	Due Date
<p>Priority Habitats are being degraded by changing land uses. Perpetuating Priority Species requires conserving these areas' habitat functions.</p> <p>Measure # 4.4.</p> <p>Partner PSP, GSRO, RCO, EPA</p>	<p>Understand the magnitude, location, and main causes of the degradation of Priority Habitats</p>	<p>Secure funding to measure the rate of land use change on a biennial basis throughout WA</p> <p>Expected Results Measurements provide accurate and actionable trend information to WA jurisdictions, agencies, and stakeholders about land cover changes.</p>	<p>06/30/2016 12:00:00 AM</p> <p>Status Incomplete</p>
<p>Priority Habitats are being degraded by changing land</p>	<p>Understand the magnitude, location, and main causes of</p>	<p>Measure the rate of land use change throughout Puget</p>	<p>06/30/2016 12:00:00 AM</p> <p>Status</p>

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