RESULTS
WASHINGTON

4.4 and 4.4.b: Supplemental - Increase oak woodland and riparian habitat

RESULTS
WASHINGTON

HABITAT PROTECTION

WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
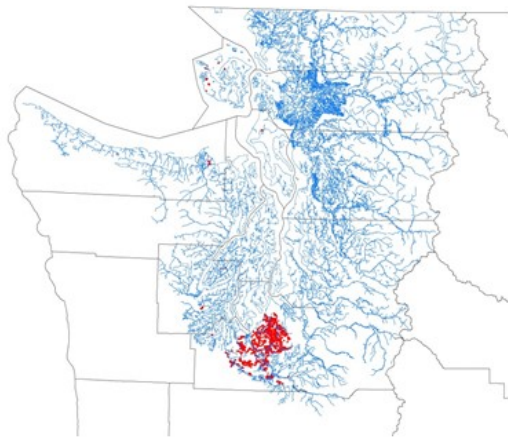
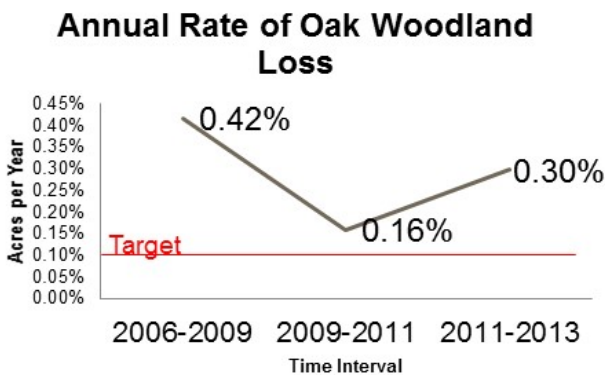Kenneth B. Pierce PhD

Timothy Quinn PhD

Oct 10, 2016

Background:

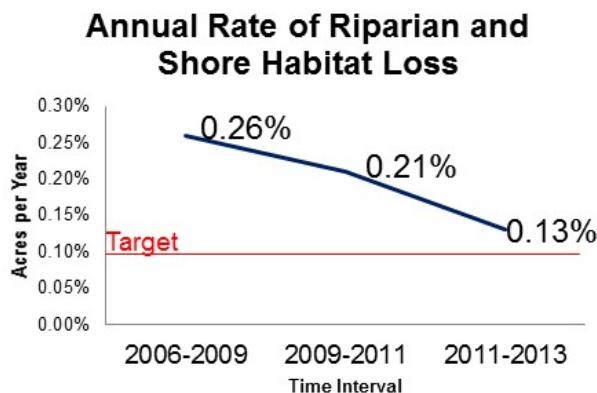Shore and Riparian habitat

White oak woodland

- WDFW's PHS program identifies important habitats and species to protect

- PHS information is used by local jurisdictions to develop Critical Area Ordinances (CAOs)

- CAOs, as part of the Growth Management Act, are the primary methods for conserving valuable habitat in areas other than forests

Current State:

Annual Rate of Oak Woodland Loss

- *WDFW measures land cover change throughout Puget Sound*

- *This indicator measures loss of White Oak woodland habitat*

- *The rate of change increased away from the target in the 2011-2013 time interval.*

Current State:

Annual Rate of Riparian and Shore Habitat Loss

- *WDFW measures land cover change throughout Puget Sound*

- *This indicator measures canopy loss on lands within 100' of a fish bearing stream or marine shoreline*

- *This indicator has continued to fall and is approaching the target.*

Problem/Opportunity:

- *Moving away from target.* Oak woodlands are a relatively rare system, mostly in private ownership. Single change events can have a large effect on year to year rates.

- *Moving towards target.* Riparian and Marine Shorelines are broadly distributed and have a primary place among CAOs and an increasingly large public awareness of their importance.

- This update is the last fully-funded assessment for these metrics. The 2013-2015 update has 50% funding provided by the Puget Sound Partnership.

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