

WDFW WAHCAP Land Use Planning Ideas and Tools

➤ Comprehensive Plans

- Land Use Element
 - WAHCAP Maps for Open Space Corridors, show corridors on official land use maps
- Climate Element – Resilience sub-element
 - [Climate Policy Explorer Tool](#) – List of policies including habitat connectivity
- Transportation Element
 - WAHCAP transportation maps identifying important areas of connectivity

➤ Zoning

- Adopt zoning designations that support compatible land use for wildlife in cores and corridors
 - Avoid upzoning in cores and corridors
- Zoning codes should be consistent with planning policies and the comprehensive plans
- Zoning codes updated or created to include wildlife friendly principles
 - Fencing and Landscaping
 - Environmental performance standards for light and noise near corridors
 - Overlays ([Crossing locations](#) and/or corridors)

➤ Subdivision Code

- Avoid siting subdivisions that would fragment a core or corridor
- [Conservation Subdivisions](#)
 - Incentivize the use of conservation design principles in appropriate areas

➤ Critical Areas Ordinances (CAOs)

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas FWHCAs
 - Biodiversity Areas and Corridors (BACs)
 - Examples of existing CAOs that incorporate BACs or other mapped connectivity/corridors
 - Riparian Management Zones
 - Full riparian function – [WDFW Riparian Ecosystems Volume 2](#)

➤ Other County Planning

- County-wide planning policies
 - Support integration of goals and policies between the county and cities within a county.
- Coordination between counties
 - Groups of counties with common goals or objectives (e.g. [Puget Sound Regional Council Open Space Conservation Plan](#))

➤ Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plans

- Include habitat connectivity considerations during a [plan update](#)
- Identify opportunities for connectivity within a jurisdiction