

Protecting and Enhancing The Natural Environment

Shorelines and Critical Areas

Natural and Shoreline Environments

Lead and support efforts to protect and improve the natural environment, including protection of scenic vistas, and protection from pollution, waste, and impacts caused by construction.

Water, Wetlands and Habitat

Protect, and where practical, restore wetlands, shorelines, surface and ground water for wildlife, appropriate human use, and maintain hydrological and ecological processes. Sustain existing indigenous fish and wildlife populations.

Geological Hazards

Protect steep slopes, landslide hazard areas, from disturbance and development.

Property Rights

Balance private property rights with environmental protection.

Clean Air

Ensure clean air for present and future generations.

Stormwater

Manage stormwater to provide for public safety, prevent property damage, protect water quality, preserve and enhance habitat, and maintain a hydrologic balance.

Shoreline Uses

Allow for a diversity of uses, including residential development, consistent with the different natural and developed conditions of the City's shoreline areas.

Shoreline Environment

Preserve and enhance the natural and aesthetic quality of the shoreline environment.

Public Access to the Shoreline

Provide and expand reasonable opportunities for the public to view, access, and recreate in the shoreline area, while protecting private property and natural areas.

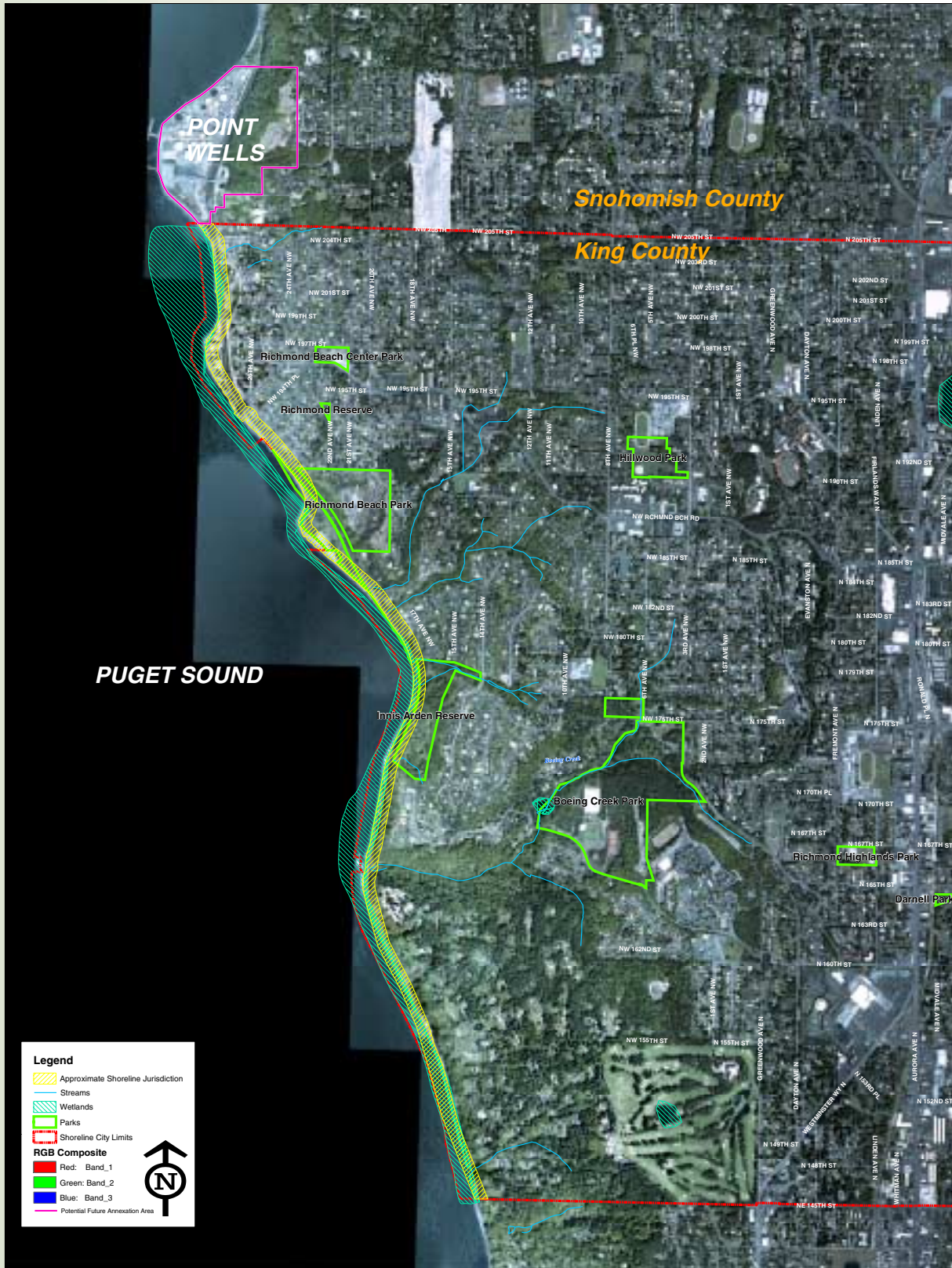
Economic Development of the Shoreline Area

Encourage uses that provide community amenities, economic development and public access to the shoreline in the Point Wells area (if annexed and redeveloped).

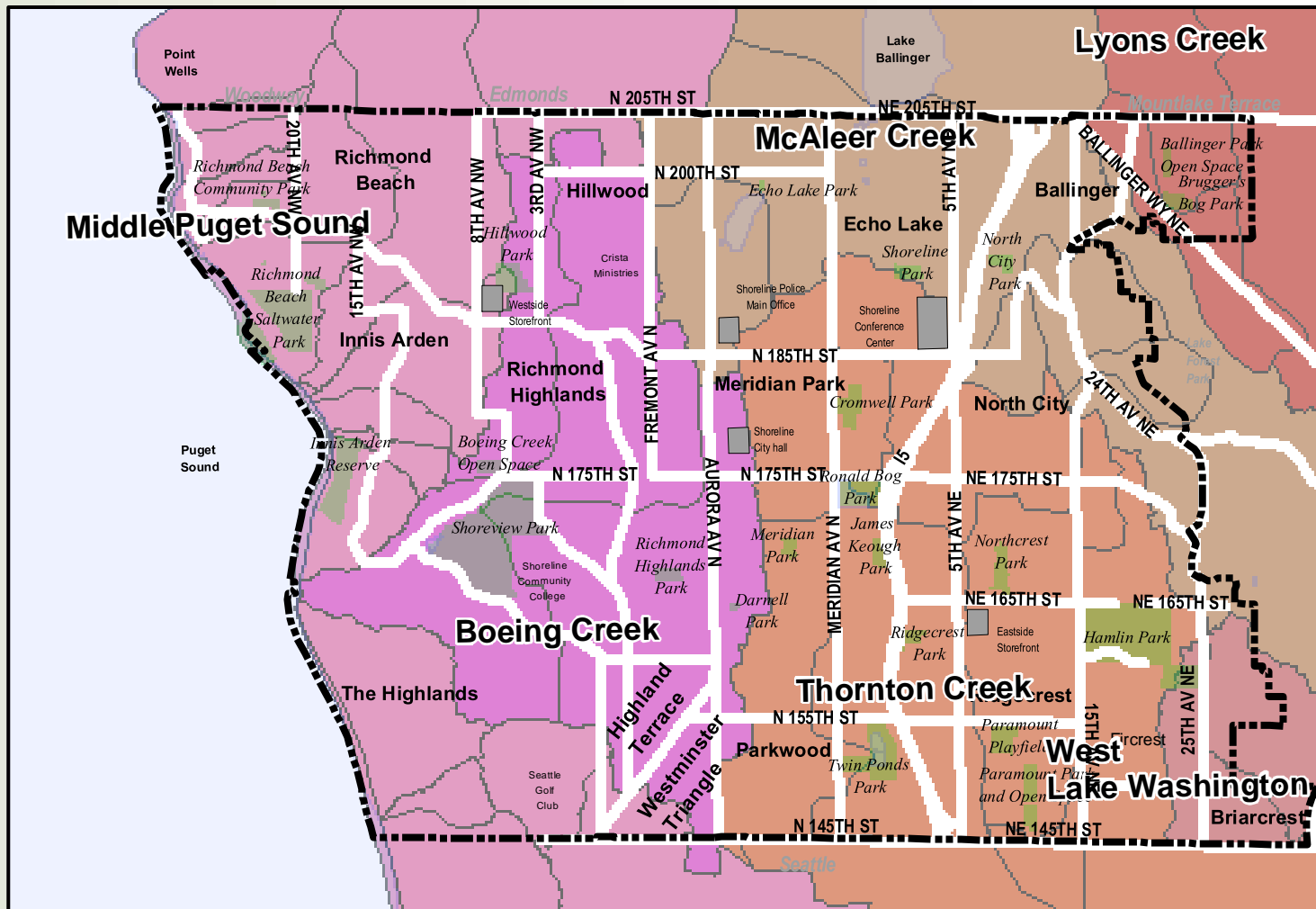
(Shoreline's Comprehensive Plan goals shown here have been consolidated and summarized for display purposes. Please see the Environment Element and the Shoreline Master Program Element of the comprehensive plan for the complete goals and policies related to shorelines and critical areas.)



The City's Coastal Environment



City's Drainage Basins



Source: Draft Stream and Wetland Inventory Report, February 2003



Potential Ways to Protect and Enhance the Natural Environment

Shorelines and Critical Areas

Regulate development adjacent to environmentally sensitive areas and shorelines to prevent environmental impacts, including maintaining minimum buffers around natural shoreline areas, wetlands, lakes, streams, and habitat.

Purchase property or easements to protect environmentally sensitive and shoreline areas, and to provide access to shoreline areas.

Provide incentives, such as density bonuses, for development that protects and restores the natural environment.

Encourage low impact development and clustering to avoid environmental impacts.



Remove barriers to fish passage and daylight streams to expand areas of potential fish habitat.



Protect the water quality of streams and marine waters from erosion, pollution, and runoff.

Participate in regional efforts to protect and restore habitat and water quality.

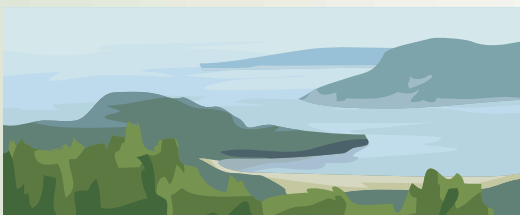
Restore shorelines and natural areas through City and volunteer programs, and by requiring restoration of natural areas as a condition of redevelopment.

Use public education and involvement programs to **raise public awareness** of environmental issues.

Conduct **City operations** in a manner that minimizes environmental impacts to the community.

Use bioengineering and stabilization

techniques to protect the shoreline from erosion impacts and to enhance habitat areas.



Minimize the removal of healthy trees, especially when located in environmentally sensitive areas.

Develop drainage basin management plans to protect streams.