

Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan Goals and Objectives

CRS STEP 6: 2 POINTS!



Goals

- ▶ Enduring aspirational statements about what the county wants to achieve with respect to reducing impacts of flooding.
 - ▶ The success of the plan should be measurable by the degree to which the goals are met

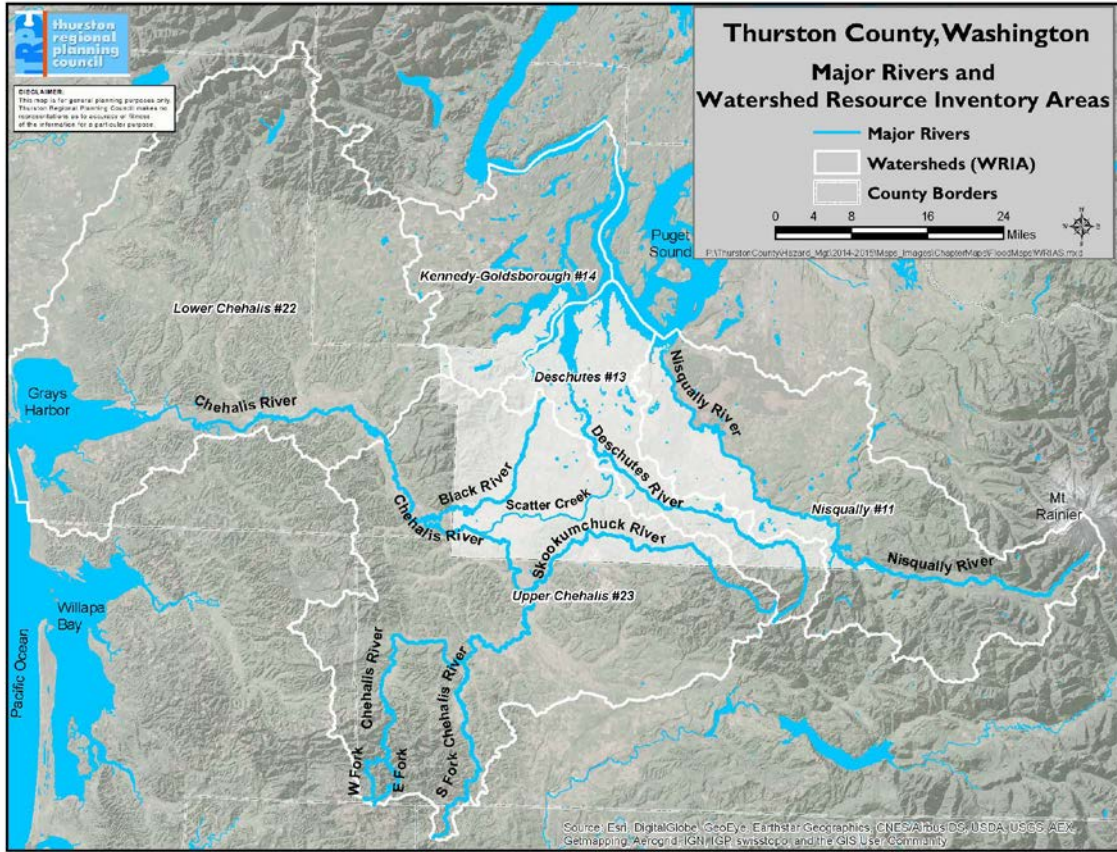
Objectives

- ▶ Objectives are specific and measurable shorter-term actions that are necessary to meet a goal.
 - ▶ They can meet a specific goal or meet multiple goals

The mitigation strategy is the flood plan's call to action – the blueprint for reducing losses and impacts from floods.

The goals are the overarching principles that the county will base its mitigation decision making upon.





The Plan's Goals should:

1. Address all flood related problems within the planning area
2. Be consistent with other county planning goals and CRS goals
3. Reflect the values of the greater community

Flood Hazards and Impacts

▶ Threatens:

- ▶ **Safety** – potential injuries or deaths
- ▶ **Public health** – contamination of water systems, mold, untreated sewage
- ▶ **Environment** - Water quality and habitat, polluted runoff, erosion, landslides, debris generation
- ▶ **Personal property** - homes, contents, pets, livestock
- ▶ **Economy** - Businesses, agriculture, industry
- ▶ **Public and private facilities, infrastructure, and utilities** – damage to roads, bridges, culverts, energy supply (electric, gas, and liquid fuel), hospitals and clinics, septic and wastewater treatment, wells, etc.

▶ Disrupts:

- ▶ **Normal Livelihoods** – lost wages, absences from school, complicates daily activities
- ▶ **Transportation networks** – road closures, detours, signal controller malfunctions, congestion
- ▶ **Public sector services** – delays and increases demand on police, fire and EMS, public works, schools
- ▶ **Business** – interruption of supply chains, absent employees

▶ What else?

Community Rating System Goals

- ▶ **Reduce and avoid flood damage to insurable property;**
Reduce flood exposure of assets in and out of mapped areas. Identify and map flood risks and maintain data to support regulatory programs.
- ▶ **Strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP; and**
Create data and maps that enables accurate actuarial rating of flood insurance. Help property owners understand their risks to purchase and maintain insurance. Help reduce repetitive losses.
- ▶ **Foster comprehensive floodplain management**
Efforts to protect public safety, health, and welfare. Minimize damage and disruption to infrastructure and essential facilities, preserve and restore natural functions and resources of floodplains and coastal areas; ensure new development doesn't cause adverse impacts elsewhere in the watershed.

Thurston County Comprehensive Plan - Introduction

Vision “...The wholesome quality of life offered by the county includes a clean environment, job opportunities, easy access to work, recreation and shopping, regional health facilities, education and cultural activities, a variety of human services and a peaceful, uncrowded atmosphere.”

Value Statements (abbreviated)

- ▶ Support and Preserve the Human Environment
- ▶ Continue Commitment to Public Participation
- ▶ Preserve the Natural Environment, Water Quality and Open Spaces; Conserve the Natural Resource Base
- ▶ Promote Economic Health and Diversified Economic Activities
- ▶ Promote Variety and Accessibility of Living Environments
- ▶ Manage Growth Effectively
- ▶ Maintain and Improve a Safe, Effective Transportation System

Thurston County Comprehensive Plan – Chapter 9 Natural Environment

▶ Section D. Frequently Flooded Areas

Goal: protect life and structures from flood hazards and retain the flood storage, transmission capacity, and habitat value of flood plains

Objective: To provide the highest degree of flood protection at the least cost.

Thurston County Comprehensive Plan

– Chapter 9 Natural Environment

▶ Section D. Frequently Flooded Areas,

▶ Policies:

1. [Provide highest degree of flood protection at least cost through Identification and accommodation of natural flooding and migration processes that pose hazards to life or property. Protection and management should be based on best available science and cumulative impact assessments of existing and future land uses in areas that flood and watersheds]
2. [Limit development to protect agricultural lands, and public and private investments, and habitat.]
3. [Provide forestry, open space, public recreation, agriculture, and water-dependent uses in areas subject to river flooding to minimize risks to life and structures and enhance habitat]

1. Apply knowledge of natural process to land use management

2. Protect natural resources and community assets

3. Leverage compatible land uses to minimize impacts of flooding on human and natural environments

Thurston County Comprehensive Plan

– Chapter 9 Natural Environment

▶ Section D. Frequently Flooded Areas,

▶ **Policies (cont.):**

4. [Minimize disruption of long-term stream channel migration processes...]

4. Preserve the ecological functions of channel migration zones

5. [Actively participate in flood hazard reduction efforts within the Chehalis River Basin.]

5. Coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions

6. [Regulate land use in high groundwater hazard area to avoid losses and protect groundwater quality]

6. Avoid development in hazard prone areas

7. [Maintain enrollment in the Community Rating System]

7. Claim credit for work performed to keep residents flood insurance costs low

2013 Flood Plan Goals

- ▶ Foster all sectors of the community working together to create a flood-hazard-resilient community.

Build community support

- ▶ Ensure that local and state government entities have the capabilities to develop, implement and maintain effective floodplain management programs in the Thurston region.

Commit resources to flood mitigation

- ▶ Ensure that the communities in the Thurston region collectively maintain the capacity to initiate and sustain emergency operations during and after a flood disaster.

Sustain emergency operations

- ▶ Ensure that local government operations are not significantly disrupted by flood hazard events.

Maintain continuity of local government services

2013 Flood Plan Goals

- ▶ Reduce the vulnerability to flood hazards in order to protect the life, health, safety and welfare of the community's residents and visitors.

Maintain public safety

- ▶ Reduce the adverse impact on critical facilities and infrastructure from flood hazard events within the Thurston region.

Protect essential facilities

- ▶ Increase public awareness of vulnerability to flood hazards and preparation for floods.

Promote community awareness to increase residents' flood preparedness

- ▶ Maintain, enhance, and restore the natural environment's capacity to deal with the impacts of flood hazard events.

Maintain and restore the ecological functions of floodplains to reduce flood impacts to the built and natural environments

2017 All Hazards Mitigation Plan Goals

Vision: All sectors of the community work together to create a disaster resilient region

1. Protect life
2. Protect infrastructure
3. Protect property
4. Protect the environment
5. Sustain the economy
6. Build community support
7. Expand understanding of hazards
8. Implement effective mitigation strategies
9. Increase public awareness

Pierce and King Counties' Goals

1. Reduce risks to life and property from river flooding and channel migration;
2. Identify and implement flood hazard management activities in a cost-effective and environmentally-sensitive manner;
3. Support compatible human uses, economic activities, and improve habitat conditions in flood-prone and channel migration areas; and
4. Develop a long-term and flexible funding strategy for river flood hazard management.

1. To reduce the risks from flood and channel migration hazards.
2. To avoid or minimize the environmental impacts of flood hazard management.
3. To reduce the long-term costs of flood hazard management.

Thurston County Flood Plan Goals - What's awry?

- ▶ The 11 objectives are independent of the 8 goals; No clear relationship between them
 - ▶ The mitigation initiatives reference objectives, but not goals
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- ▶ Goals and objectives are silent on ongoing participation in CRS or NFIP
 - ▶ No goals or objectives on strengthening or supporting flood insurance aspects of NFIP
 - ▶ No goals or objectives on incorporating flood mitigation activities into other county plans, policies, and programs
 - ▶ What else?