

Kitsap County Natural Resources Asset Management Program (KNRAMP)

Advisory Group Workshop Summary

Date: 05/02/2025

Attendees: Steve Todd (Suquamish Tribe), Chloe Donaldson (Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe), Michael Higgins (Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe), Brittany Gordon (Kitsap County), Irene Weber (Kitsap County), Jonathan Raine (Kitsap County), Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobeck (Kitsap County), Jessica Smith (Kitsap County), Shawn Alire (Kitsap County), Victoria Lehto (Kitsap County), David Forte (Kitsap County) Mindy Roberts (WA Conservation Action Education Fund), Robinson Low (WA Conservation Action Education Fund), Dana Stefan (Ross Strategic), Casey Hart (Ross Strategic), Elizabeth McManus (Ross Strategic).

Key resources used in the workshop: [KNRAMP Asset Narratives](#)

Next Steps

- **Ross Strategic** will:
 - Send out a Cross-Jurisdictional Workshop invite and inquire for the Suquamish Tribe and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe to speak at the workshop.
 - Share the list of the identified areas to the Advisory Group via email and inquire if any refinements are needed.
- **Advisory Group members** should (as desired)
 - Inform Brittany Gordon of any suggestions for site visits to accompany an in-person Advisory Group meeting.
 - Reach out to Dana Stefan to be directly involved with identifying focus areas based on the conversation.
- **David Forte** will share a WRIA 17 list of projects with Brittany Gordon.
- **Brittany Gordon** will share a culvert replacement project list with Michael Higgins.
- **Jonathan Raine** will add the identified points of interest to the KNRAMP story map/narrative shared before the workshop.
- **The KNRAMP team** will consider how the identified priority geographical areas intersect across assets and how scale applies. Based on this, the KNRAMP team will develop a list of actions for the County-wide geographies identified.

Introduction, Workshop Objectives, and Approach

Dana Stefan and Casey Hart (Ross Strategic) welcomed the Core Team, reviewed the agenda items, reminded the group of the steps for using KNRAMP information in County decision making (as identified in the KNRAMP Implementation Plan), and framed the desired outcomes of the meeting. The meeting's focus was to:

- Provide a brief overview of KNRAMP recent achievements and 2025 milestones.
- Identify County-wide geographies for KNRAMP to focus on this year.

KNRAMP in 2025: County-Wide Implementation Milestones

Brittany Gordon reviewed 2025 KNRAMP milestones including:

- Finalizing the KNRAMP Implementation Plan & Pilot Report
- Determining county-wide geographies and actions
- Updating Levels of Service (LOS) status maps
- Developing a factsheet of the state of streams, forests, and marine shorelines
- Spreading awareness about KNRAMP through two Cross-Jurisdictional Workshops
- Conducting partner engagement on KNRAMP actions
- Engaging in another Advisory Group meeting

Large scale conversation

Participants provided insights and observations on existing priorities, areas of interest, or current work from their organizations relevant to KNRAMP.

- **Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe**

- Interests include shellfish, fishing, and hunting areas.
- High concerns and priorities include fish passage barriers, maintaining water and habitat quality, enabling wildlife movement, and climate resilience for species (particularly trees).
- Current work on a wildlife corridor mapping project will produce a map of all critical and culturally significant areas, wetland ratings, and fish passage/upstream habitat quality. KNRAMP and WRIA 17 priorities will be used.

- **Suquamish Tribe**

- The Tribe is focused on the east side of the Kitsap Peninsula including Curley Creek.
- Restoration projects are in early feasibility and design phases.
- The Tribe hopes to complete a Steelhead Monitoring Plan this year based on the Steelhead Recovery Plan to understand abundance and spatial distribution of steelhead populations.
- The Tribe and Kitsap County are working on a floodplain/riparian assessment to understand floodplain delineations, connectivity alterations, land use impacts, and salmon habitat and restoration impacts.
- The Tribe secured funding for a fish barrier prioritization tool to understand a method of prioritizing fish passage barriers from a salmon and steelhead perspective, asking questions including: what is the method to prioritize barriers? How does this relate to the Roads Department’s perspective of prioritizing barriers? How can common ground be identified?

- **Department of Community Development (DCD) Department**

- DCD is updating an East Kitsap Watershed chapter for a Puget Sound salmon recovery shared strategy. Advisory Group members can inform Brittany Gordon if they have interest in reviewing the chapter.
- Brittany is participating in the annual County divisions’ project prioritization meetings and will share potential focus areas that align with KNRAMP’s goals. As part of that, she and DCD are reviewing the County-wide levels of service developed for KNRAMP and working to:

- develop tiered stream priorities and maps for West Sound. They plan to discuss Hood Canal stream priorities with Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe. Priorities are ranked in three tiers based on what streams produce the highest percentage of fish for fisheries management. Priorities for Tiers 1 and 2 include:
 - Tier 1: Chico, Grovers, Clear, Gorst, Blackjack, Curley, Olalla, Minter, Lackley, Rocky, and Coulter creek.
 - Tier 2: Anderson, Barker, Big Scandia, Burley, Crescent, Dogfish, Ross, Steele, and Strawberry creek.
- identify priority culverts in Kitsap County.

- **Parks Department**

- Parks ties their priorities to full landscape context of the land they own.
- Parks has proposed or underway projects that intersect with shorelines at Point-no-Point and Norwegian Point.
- Parks has restoration efforts on forested lands across Kitsap County including at Port Gamble Eaglon and Illahe (watersheds are on Parks land), as well as Banner and Coulter Creek watersheds (with a focus on forest health and stream connectivity).
- Parks is undergoing shoreline/stream restoration work to move bulkheads and conduct stream assessments at Kilimak Cove. Boist Creek goes through the cove.

- **Stormwater Department**

- Stormwater focuses their efforts on where they have to assess and rebuild stormwater infrastructure. They have some but not complete ability to dictate their own priorities.
- Stormwater prioritizes stormwater basins with high pollution and water quality concerns. Clear Creek Basin and East Dyes Basin are high priorities to install water quality treatment options. Beach Drive Basin, West Dyes Inlet, and Long Lake are stormwater sampling priorities.

- **Roads Department**

- The Transportation Improvement Plan lists out Roads' priority projects that include specific geographies. Roads recognizes their limited funds and staffing for projects and works to balance prioritization from exercises like KNRAMP with transportation system priorities.
- Roads is focused on maintenance projects this year and will undergo large projects including "Harper" in 2026.
- Roads is working on a bulkheads and shorelines mapping project in Cartegraph.
- Roads prioritizes projects that incorporate stormwater, fish passage, and restoration improvements. They focus on where rights-of-way cross streams and water bodies, and where beavers interact with urban/suburban infrastructure.
- David Forte can share a WRIA 17 list of projects with Brittany Gordon.

- DCD responded to some considerations from the Roads update:

- DCD has Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) data related to prioritization of seventy culvert replacement projects determined with specific criteria. Brittany Gordon sent the list to Roads and can share data with Michael Higgins.

- Roads aims to collaborate more with DCD, the Fisheries Department and the Tribal Councils to determine what metrics to use for fish passage prioritization.
- DCD considered two scenarios based on current maps:
 - Replacing barriers would provide access to good habitat where level of service LOS for streams is already high.
 - Replacing barriers would improve LOS to a higher level where LOS medium/high but fish passage is low.
- Several areas of culvert prioritization include:
 - Big Beef Creek (the Hood Canal Coordinating Council may already be prioritizing this),
 - Sam Snider Creek (a high priority for Public Works)
 - SR305 WSDOT work
 - Rae Creek (low fish passage but high overall LOS)
 - Little Boston, Martha John, and Lil. Creek (low fish passage but high overall LOS for streams)
 - Southworth Drive (has two good upstream habitats)
- Large streams are not on the prioritization list. Streams with 1-2 barriers were considered for now but the next round of assessment will consider Tier 1 and 2 watersheds with more barriers.

KNRAMP-focused conversations

The Advisory group discussed County-Wide focus geographies for KNRAMP in 2025. A narrative story map was shared with the group as preparation material – covering streams, forests, and shorelines: [KNRAMP Asset Narratives](#). These are narratives for each asset which include interactive maps that allow the user to zoom in/out to see the levels of service that these assets are providing, and associated attribute scores, across different areas in the county. The story map highlights some example geographies mentioned during workshop preparation calls. Robinson Low (WCAEF) provided a brief overview of the highlighted geographies for each asset. The goal of the discussion was to confirm the geographical areas the Advisory Group wants KNRAMP to focus on this year for stream, forest, and shoreline restoration and/or protection, and understand why they should be addressed. The geographies of interest identified by the group and specific input are listed below.

Streams:

The County-wide LOS map and areas highlighted in the story map for streams included:

- Tier 1 Priorities: Blackjack, Chico, Clear, Coulter, Curley, Gorst, Grovers, Minter, Ollala, and Rocky
- Tier 2 Priorities: Barker, Big Scandia, Burley, Crescent, Dogfish, Ross, Steele, and Strawberry.
- Martha John, Dyes Inlet, and Kinman Creek are other considerations.

The Advisory group added and emphasized the following areas:

1. Curley Creek (a priority for the Suquamish Tribe; includes the entire watershed across the lake; experiences warm water temperatures – in need of healthier riparian areas)
 - a. Includes Long Lake (a priority for the Suquamish Tribe, Stormwater, and Noxious Weeds Control Program; experiences phosphorous, e-coli, and high-water temperature issues, particularly on the Northwest side), including Salmonberry Creek)
2. Clear Creek
3. Biorgen Creek (in Liberty Bay; priority for Port Gamble S’Klallam)
4. Martha John Creek
5. Big Anderson and Stavis Creeks (protection priorities for Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe in Hood Canal)

Other areas mentioned:

- Artondale Creek in Pierce County (a priority for Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe; experiences fish passage barriers)
- *Noted: remove Little Boston from the priority list (the barrier is a hatchery)*

Shorelines:

The County-wide LOS map and areas highlighted in the story map for shorelines included:

- Dyes Inlet
- Liberty Bay
- Miller Bay
- Port Gamble Bay

The Advisory group added and emphasized the following areas:

1. Jake creek (a conservation priority for Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe; in Hansville)
2. Point No Point (a priority for Parks; a stream unit is above Point No Point Park; the estuary is hugely impacted);

Other areas mentioned:

- Areas that are in the climate risk assessment – to be further coordinated with the County (Norwegian point, Twin Spits, the head of Port Gable Bay, Bay Street Basin)
 - Advisory Group members are welcomed to work with Brittany Gordon to identify focus areas and consider the Kitsap County Sea Level Rise and Extreme Flood Projections

Forests:

The County-wide LOS map and areas highlighted in the story map for shorelines included:

- Tier 1 Priorities: Blackjack, Chico, Clear, Coulter, Curley, Gorst, Grovers, Minter, Ollala, Rocky
- Tier 2 Priorities: Barker, Big Scandia, Burley, Crescent, Dogfish, Ross, Steele, Strawberry
- Dyes Inlet

The Advisory group added and emphasized the following areas:

1. Coulter watershed area (a priority for the Squaxin Tribe)

Other areas mentioned:

- Illahee preserve f_176 (a priority for Parks)
- Banner f_50 (south of port orchard) (a priority for Parks)

Other Considerations:

Other considerations that came up in conversation included:

- Roads has not reviewed projects based on sea level rise.
- A new NPDES permit may be a requirement for mapping trees in 2028. This may have future synergies with KNRAMP mapping.

Next Steps

The KNRAMP team will share the list of the identified areas with the Advisory Group via email. Points of interest will be added to the story map. Advisory Group members should reach out to Dana Stefan if they would like to be directly involved in developing the list of potential actions to bring to the next Core Team workshop based on identified areas of focus. The KNRAMP Team will then consider how the identified priority geographical areas

intersect across assets and how scale applies. Based on this, the KNRAMP team will develop a list of actions for the County-wide geographies identified.

Additional Updates from Partners

Steve Todd (Suquamish Tribe) provided an update that the Suquamish Tribe acquired a property at the mouth of Chico Creek that is an example of small-scale forest restoration in a marine shoreline area. Over the past winter, buildings were demolished, and this area was replanted.

Scheduling an In-Person Advisory Group Workshop and Site Visits

Brittany Gordon suggested for the next Advisory Group workshop to be held in-person along with a site visit. Advisory Group members expressed interest in this. Point-no-Point is a potential site to visit, particularly to see forest work in North Kitsap. The Buck Lake Community Center is a potential meeting venue.