

Results from Planning Principles Activity

8/20/09 Open House
and Subsequent Public Meetings



Environmental Stewardship

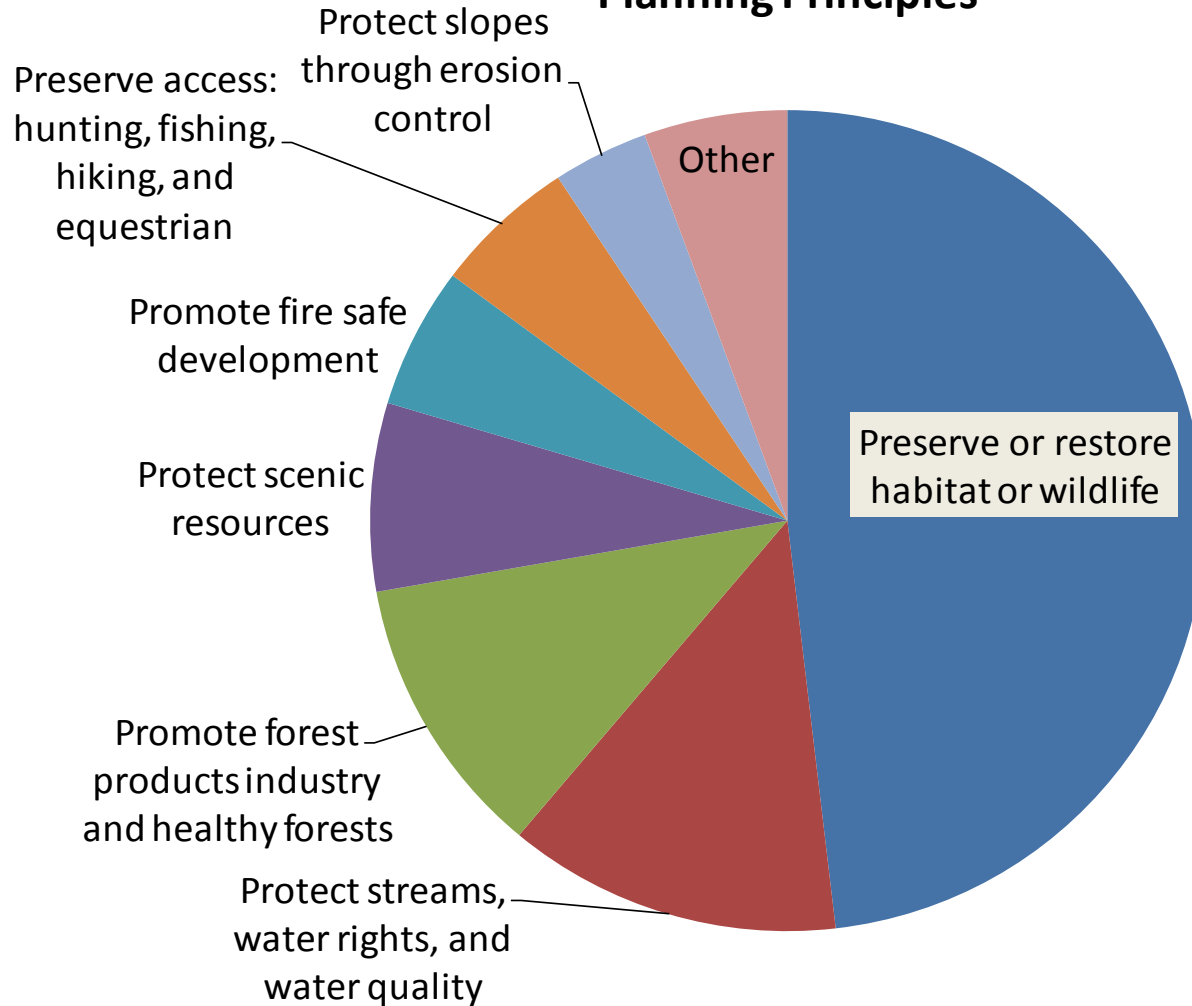
Comments from August 20, 2009 Open House:

- a. Preserve open space and forest for the long-term (WDNR or Nature Conservancy to purchase land from current owner?) (8)
- b. Preserve wildlife habitat and corridors (8)
- c. Environmental restoration (especially steelhead, trout, and salmon) and preservation including wide riparian buffers/setbacks (8)
- d. Maintain stream flows and protect water rights, also for downstream irrigators and ranches (5)
- e. Fire safety – remote buildings not accessible for Fire Dept and forest should be maintained to be “fire safe” (3)
- f. Preserve access for hunting, fishing, hiking, and horseback riding (3)
- g. Protect sandstone formations (2)
- h. Elk calving – add to critical areas map around Whiel Rd. (2)
- i. De-certify spotted owl circles; let AFLC manage their forest (2)
- j. Protect water quality (2)
- k. Log out spruce bud worm damage before complete timber loss or fire comes through (2)
- l. Protect steep (and non-steep!) slopes through erosion control (2)
- m. Preserve views (2)
- n. Maintain healthy forests (2)
- o. Minimize infrastructure impact
- p. Recreation near major cities
- q. Landscape-scale natural resource management across land ownership boundaries; more effective with partnerships of large landowners



Environmental Stewardship

Planning Principles



Environmental Stewardship

Other comments from subsequent public meetings:

- a. Three-acre lots with wells and individual septic are not sustainable
- b. “Once it’s gone, it’s gone”--we need to preserve forest and agricultural lands
- c. There is a need to study water resources for new and existing development
- d. Perhaps a reservoir could be installed to manage water flows and use for fire protection
- e. Perhaps create denser “conservation villages” to preserve open space from development
- f. AFLC property is a resource that could solve larger problems
- g. The Teanaway River is the “heart and soul” of the subarea and the river is not healthy
- h. Future development must respect the environment
- i. The Teanaway has an industrial heritage—timber and Casland logging community
- j. AFLC is opposed to carving up and selling property as house lots; they’re looking for a new model of sustainable rural development



Environmental Stewardship

These draft goals and policies are provided for public review and comment and are examples of subarea plan content. The goals and policies reflect comments received during open houses and public meetings, as well as initial data collection.

Draft plan text for “Environmental Stewardship” element:

The Upper Teanaway Valley is an area with uniquely valuable ecological, scenic, and natural resources. The Valley contains farms, homes, and forest lands and provides a gateway to recreational opportunities in public and private lands within and beyond the boundaries of the subarea. The Teanaway River flows out of the subarea and meets the Yakima River to the south. The Upper Teanaway Subarea Plan shall support Environmental Stewardship in the Valley by setting goals and policies that prioritize land uses and County investments that protect ecological functions, scenic areas, and natural resources.

GOAL-ES-1: Establish long-term preservation of open space in the Teanaway Valley for wildlife protection, recreation, and natural resource use.

Policy-ES-1.1: Work with land owners and conservation groups to establish conservation easements over high valued lands in the Upper Teanaway Valley Subarea in order to protect wildlife corridors, priority habitats, and sensitive ecological areas.

GOAL-ES-2: The Teanaway River in the “heart and soul” of the Teanaway Valley. Protect the long-term viability of the Teanaway River and its floodplain as a habitat and water source by ensuring future development does not degrade water quality or water flow levels of the Teanaway River.

Policy ES-2.1: Maintain stream flows and protect water rights for downstream irrigators and ranches.

Policy ES-2.2: Ensure that all future development will be served by an approved water source with adjudicated water rights.



Community Benefits

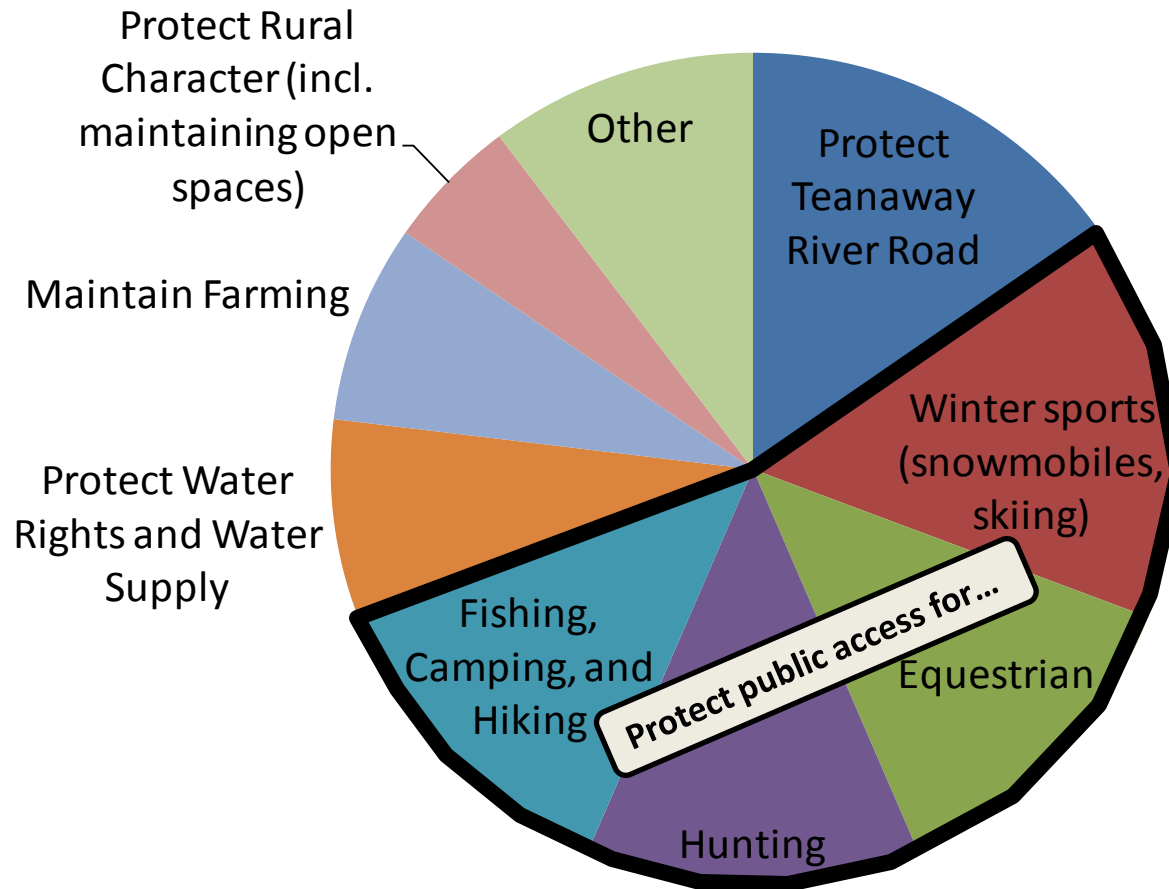
Comments from August 20, 2009 Open House:

- a. Impacts to roads? Teanaway Road shouldn't be widened or straightened (5)
- b. Public access
 - Equestrian trails, horse camping, and trailhead parking (5)
 - Hunting (5)
 - Fishing, camping, and hiking (4)
 - Snowmobiles (4)
 - Winter sports (2)
 - Maintain access to USFS lands up gradient
- c. Water (prevent development without water source); limit well drilling – what will be the effect on water table? Current water rights could be affected (3)
- d. Maintain farming (3)
- e. Maintain/enhance open spaces
- f. Maintain/enhance recreation amenities
- g. Affordable housing/housing diversity – (Response: no! no more housing needed here!)
- h. Teanaway Road, North, Middle & West Forks, should all be dead-end roads as they are now
- i. Need to provide better snowplowing
- j. If Nature Conservancy gets to pay taxes, there will be more revenues for public services and schools
- k. Protect rural character and culture of the Teanaway Valley



Community Benefits

Planning Principles



Community Benefits

Other comments from subsequent public meetings:

- a. There should be walkable communities and dense development in existing urban areas
- b. Keep forest land from being parceled into smaller lots.
- c. Recreational resources need to be managed. There are more users now than before.
- d. There is a growing population in Kittitas County that is creating a “pull” to the area
- e. AFLC has a commitment to public access
- f. AFLC wants recreational uses to continue
- g. AFLC’s overall community vision is an inclusive, diverse, wide range of land uses such as recreation, residential, agriculture, forestry, and non-residential resort, and a place to advance green energy
- h. A “living machine” could process wastewater
- i. Development will have public service costs (schools, public safety, snow removal, etc.)
- j. The current telephone system in the area is poor.
- k. Teanaway Road needs improvement. Concerns include traffic, noise, road kill, and conflicts with agricultural uses.
- l. A second access into the Teanaway Valley is probably needed now



Community Benefits

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Draft plan text for “Community Benefits” element:

Those who make up the subarea community include property owners, residents, employees, and recreational users of the Upper Teanaway Valley. The subarea plan recognizes the differing interests and priorities of community members and seeks to create policies that balance differing interests and priorities to achieve community-wide benefits.

GOAL CB-1: The Upper Teanaway Valley is a popular destination for residents and out-of-area visitors. Recreational use and access for a variety of recreational activities, such as horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking, hunting, fishing, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, and off-road vehicle riding should be maintained and enhanced.

Policy CB-1.1: Improve trailhead parking facilities at equestrian trailheads.

Policy CB-1.2: Maintain opportunities for non-motorized access to forest lands for hikers, campers, hunters, and mountain bikers.

Policy CB-1.3: Create public access easements within privately owned land, where necessary, to formally establish trails for horseback riding, snowmobiling, hiking, or biking and connect those trails to public lands and trails beyond the subarea.

GOAL CB-2: The Upper Teanaway Valley is characterized by rural development, including rural residential, agricultural, and forestry uses, as well as natural resource uses and public lands. Consistent with current and future rural development, public services and facilities, including utilities, roads, schools and emergency services should be maintained to serve existing and future populations.

Policy CB-2.1: Conduct a public facilities and services analysis of the subarea to identify areas in need of improved service levels, such as telephone, snowplowing, or road maintenance, and include projects to fix deficiencies in future capital facilities plans.

Policy CB-2.2: Establish a second road access into the Upper Teanaway Valley.

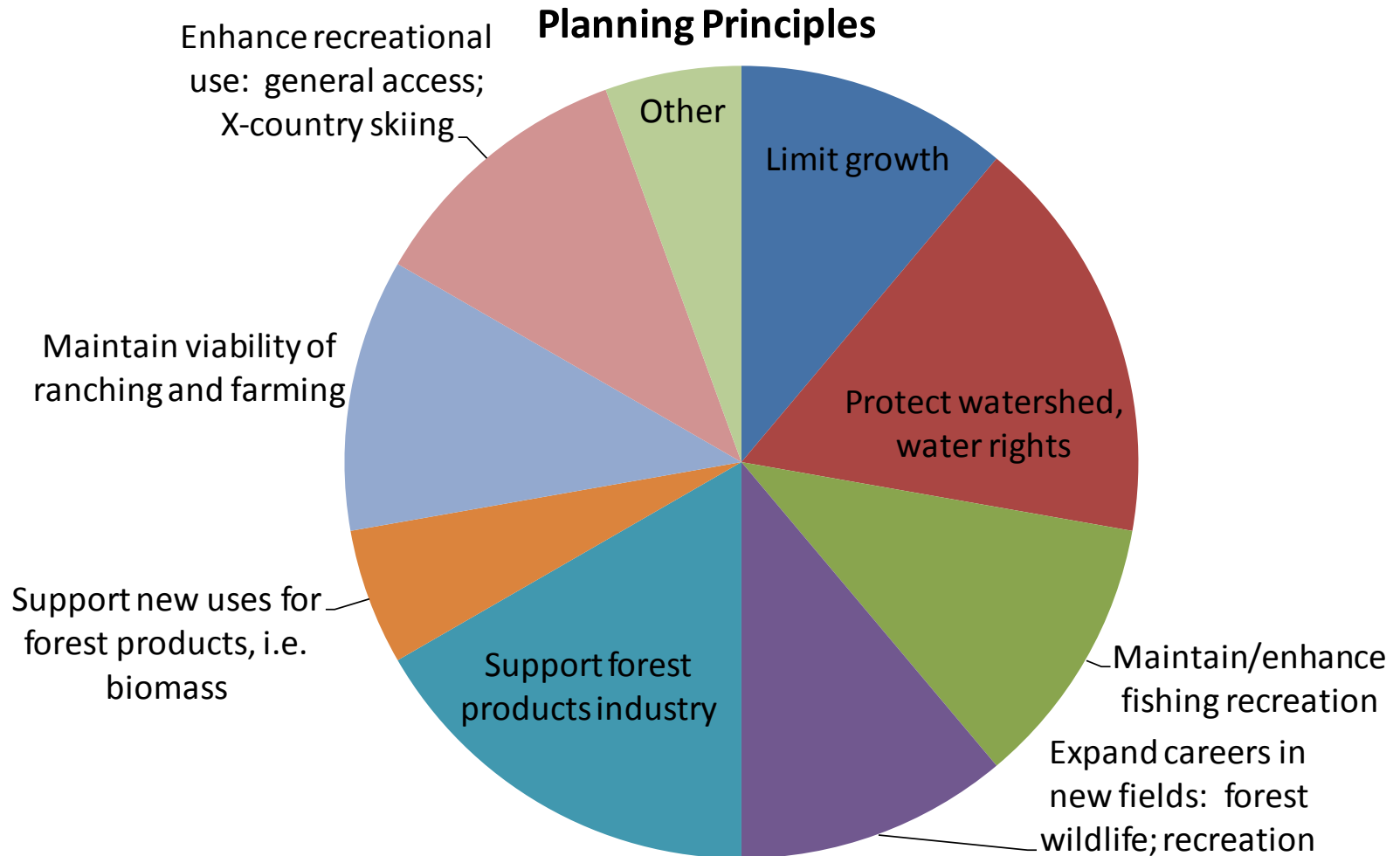


Economic Vitality

- a. Limit population growth; worried about too much growth; concerned about poorly planned growth (2)
- b. Protect watershed that supplies water to irrigation, and stock water needs downstream (2)
- c. Maintain/enhance fisheries and fishing recreation (2)
- d. Maintain respect for private property rights
- e. Create career-oriented jobs
- f. Create forest wildlife-oriented careers
- g. Maintain/enhance farming economy
- h. Maintain/enhance recreation economy
- i. Water
- j. Abandon Northern Spotted Owl Circles; let AFLC manage their forest land
- k. Continue harvesting timber
- l. Recognize values generated through new forest products, i.e., biomass which will produce jobs and energy; forget old school forest harvesting
- m. Maintain viability of ranching and farming
- n. Maintain recreation access and use
- o. Cross country ski trails



Economic Vitality



Economic Vitality

Other comments from subsequent public meetings:

- a. Recreation is key to tourism dollars, especially in winter
- b. Need to consider GMA and “long term commercial significance”
- c. Set a precedent for plans that don’t rely solely on residential development. What are other ways to create value?
- d. Attract new businesses and jobs to the Cle Elum area, don’t just add more 3-acre parcels.
- e. Three- and five-acre parcels hurt agricultural uses (e.g., hay production)
- f. Suncadia was supposed to create economic activity in Roslyn, but it hasn’t
- g. Will new population live in Teanaway or just use it for 2nd homes?
- h. How does green energy create economic vitality?
- i. Forest products should be used for biomass energy production
- j. A transfer of development rights (TDR) program should be considered in the Teanaway Valley



Economic Vitality

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Draft plan text for “Economic Vitality” element:

The Upper Teanaway Valley has an economic history tied to commercial forestry and agriculture. The majority of the land area is owned by one entity and has historically been used for commercial forestry. Recreational attractions bring many visitors to the subarea, but there are few tourism-dependent businesses in the subarea. The ecological and natural resources of the subarea should drive future economic vitality.

GOAL EV-1: The existing forested area is a valuable economic resource, both in terms of its scenic and ecological value, and its value for commercial forest products. Forest lands in the Upper Teanaway Valley should contribute to the economic vitality of the subarea.

Policy EV-1.1: Manage commercial forest lands to be profitable through continued timber harvesting or use of biomass for clean energy.

Policy EV-1.2: Establish formal recreational uses in forest land, such as non-residential resorts for horseback riding, biking, hiking, cross country skiing, or other activities, to strengthen the recreation economy while preserving forest land for public access.

GOAL EV-2: The Upper Teanaway Valley is valued for its recreational opportunities. Recreational tourism should be managed in the subarea to support a healthy tourist economy, while also protecting residents and the environment from negative impacts from recreational use.

Policy EV-2.1: Create a subarea-wide recreational tourism management plan that identifies areas of high recreational value and plans for better management of those resources through maintenance, monitoring, or changes in use policy.

Policy EV-2.2: Maintain non-forested lands along the Teanaway River for agricultural and rural residential use.

