

KING COUNTY AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

MEETING NOTICE

THURSDAY MAY 11, 2023

6:00-8:00 P.M.

ZOOM VIDEO CALL

CALL IN:

One tap mobile: +12532158782,,84110633423#

Land line: +1 253 215 8782, Meeting ID: 841 1063 3423

OR

LOG IN FROM A COMPUTER OR SMARTPHONE:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84110633423>

MEETING AGENDA

The Commission's 2023 Focus is Farmland Preservation

6:00	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">For the public record, please sign in via the chat feature or announce yourself by name and whether you are a commissioner, staff or member of the publicApproval of AgendaApproval of Meeting Minutes: <i>March</i>	Kevin Scott, Chair
6:05	Public Comment related to a specific agenda item <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Kevin Scott
6:10	Updates (approx. 3 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Commission Details, Policy, Ag Education & Events<ul style="list-style-type: none">Policy letter re: large events on farmland in APDsLSLU Briefing in MayField Trip in JuneElk June/JulyKing County Ag ProgramKing Conservation DistrictLocal Food InitiativeWashington State University CSANRFood Business Resource Center/BINWKing-Pierce Farm BureauFarm Fish Flood	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Patrice BarrentineRichard MartinMatt MegaMike LufkinJordan JobeHenry WongLeann KrainickRichard Martin
6:45	New Business: SVAPD Agriculture Strategic Plan Public Review Draft <ul style="list-style-type: none">Task Force Members introductionsOverview Presentation<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Origins</i><i>Focus</i><i>Method</i><i>Issue Papers</i>Q&A for Commissioners	Ag Strategic Plan Task Force: Bobbi Lindemulder, Lauren Silver, Erin Ericson, Libby Reed, Janet Keller*, Andrew Stout, Dave Glenn, Carrie King*, Jordan Jobe*, and Patrice Barrentine, Coordinator <i>*also Ag Commission members</i>
7:40	General Public Comment <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Kevin Scott
7:55	Concerns of Commissioners	Kevin Scott
8:00	Adjourn	Kevin Scott

Next Meeting: July 13, 2023



Legislation, Conferences, Events and Key Dates

REGARDING KING COUNTY
AGRICULTURE

MAY 2023

Commission Admin



Financial Disclosure Forms



Policy Letter: Large
Events on farmland in
APDs revisiting for July



LSLU Briefing May 23, KC Ag Programs
and Commission

June Field Trip for Commissioners



Harvold Berry Farm



Tuesday June 27

Noon-3



History, Location, Strawberries, Elk

Commission Nomination Process

1

Ag Commission selects and forwards nomination to

2

Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) Director for review and approval; upon approval nomination is forwarded to

3

King County Executive for review and approval; *All nominees must complete financial disclosure forms within 2 weeks of this step*; upon approval nomination is forwarded to

4

King County Council- when Clerk receives the nomination, nominee can begin participating as a voting member and then

5

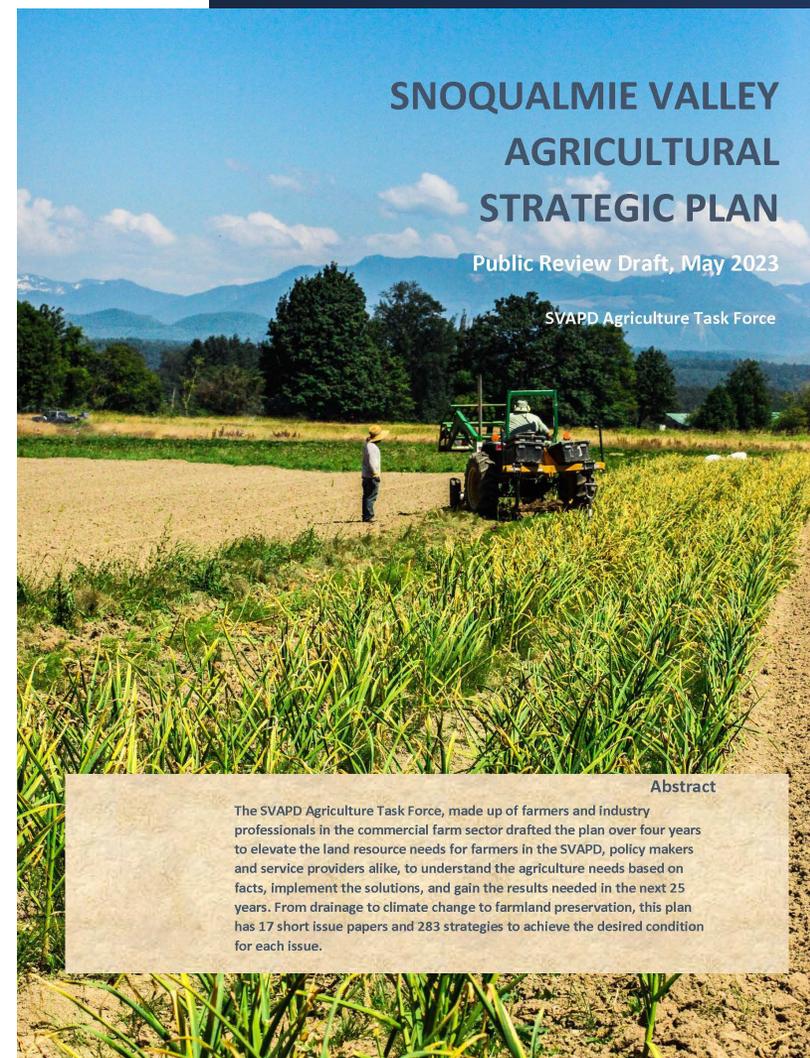
King County Council brings forward the confirming legislation for each nominee in their district first to committee and then full council to complete the process

We are here

King County Events and Public Meetings

<https://www.kingcounty.gov/about/news/events.aspx>

- Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) Open House, throughout May including May 18 Auburn, May 24 White Center
- Snoqualmie Valley/NE King County Subarea Plan Public Review Period, June 1 – July 15
www.publicinput.com/SnoValleyNEKC
- Snoqualmie Valley Agriculture Strategic Plan Public Review Period. May 4 – June 5
<https://kingcounty.gov/AgPlan>
 - May 22, 5-7pm Snoqualmie River Farm hosted by SnoValley Tilth and Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance (SVPA)
- Metropolitan King County Council Meetings every Tuesday
- Holidays (KC offices closed):
 - Memorial Day, May 29 and
 - Juneteenth, June 19



KCD King Conservation District

Agricultural Drainage Tour – Remlinger Farms

May 13

9:30 am -12:30 pm

Join KCD at Remlinger Farms to learn about agricultural drainage and fish passage projects on rural lands. Tour the projects completed at Remlinger's and discuss the benefits of these types of projects for land managers and local wildlife.

Sediment removal projects help reduce flooding and riparian plantings help reduce future sediment accumulation. Controlling weedy species, like reed canary grass, improves habitat quality for fish and other wildlife. If you have questions about these projects and the assistance available, or if you have had a hard time imagining what a riparian buffer would look like on your property, then this is the tour for you.

Topics:

- Riparian buffer benefits for you and wildlife
- Farm access crossings
- Agricultural drainage projects
- Fish passage projects
- Project process and considerations for completion

<https://kingcd.org/eventbrite-event/agricultural-drainage-tour-remlinger-farms/>





HB 1849 was introduced in response to farmers asking for help in reducing crop damage and property damage caused by elk.

[HB 1849](#) directs WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife to work with tribal comanagers to establish a statewide elk management program based on the elk management pilot project established in 2017.

The purposes of the elk management program are to reduce elk-vehicle collisions on highways and elk damage to private crop lands and properties, and to improve and support the health of elk herds.

The department and the comanagers must invite affected federally recognized Indian tribes, the department of natural resources, the department of transportation, the department of agriculture, local governments, agricultural producers, and hunting groups to participate in all aspects of the elk management program.

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Legislature Home

Bill Information > HB 1849

Search for another bill or initiative:

1849 **Bill** Initiative 2023-2024 Search

HB 1849 - 2023-24
 Concerning the establishment of a statewide elk management program.
 Sponsors: Lekanoff, Dent, Eslick, Low

Bill Status-at-a-Glance
 See Bill History for complete details on the bill

As of Monday, May 8, 2023 10:56 AM

Current Version: HB 1849 **Current Status:** HAG&Nr

Where is it in the process?

	Introduced	In Committee	On Floor Calendar	Passed Chamber
In the House:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the Senate:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Passage:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Passed Legislature	On Governor's Desk	Governor Acted	Session Law

Go to documents...
 Go to videos...

Introduced Mar 24, did not make it out of committee due to lateness, but lots of good content
Over 300 signatures in support in just a couple of days



https://kingcounty.gov/~media/council/documents/2023/King_County-2023_State_Leg_Agenda-Final.ashx?la=en



2023 State Legislative Agenda

TOP PRIORITIES

Strengthen Access to Behavioral Health Care

- Eliminate obstacles to the efficient provision of behavioral health support and treatment.
- Provide immediate crisis services and behavioral health treatment by investing in behavioral health workforce, community-based behavioral health capital facilities and...



Local Government Funding and Tax Reform

- Replace the arbitrary one percent property tax cap with a mechanism that accounts for inflation and population growth.
- Provide local governments with needed flexibility and tools to help implement a more progressive tax system and to preserve and maintain local roads.
- Simplify property tax exemption programs for our senior and disabled residents.



ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

Housing and Homelessness

- Fund additional robust capital and operating investments in low-income and supportive housing.
- Adopt policies and incentives to advance development and construction of missing middle housing.
- Adopt policies and funding to support individuals and families in recovery from substance use disorders.



Public Safety and Justice System

- Maintain the intent of previous law enforcement accountability reforms while seeking improvements for operational implementation.
- Invest in public safety staffing.
- Address gun violence through prevention and expand innovative diversion efforts that address root causes.
- Improve conditions for juveniles in detention.



Maintain and Expand Pro-Equity and Anti-Racist Policies

- Increase community-based resources that address hate and bias crimes and incidents.
- Address the expiring Blake decision response legislation and maintain resentencing funds for local governments.
- Pursue legislation that provides equity for people with disabilities.



Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change

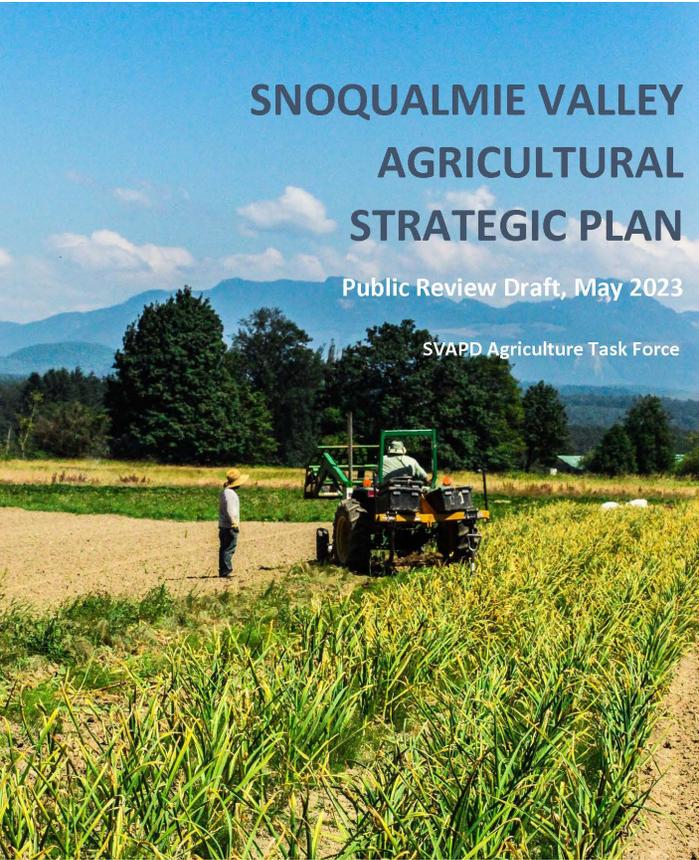
- Emphasize outcome-based water quality benefits necessary to promote long-term resilience for Puget Sound.
- Continue to enhance and grow product stewardship programs to make products safer for people and the planet, from design to disposal.
- Invest in transit, building decarbonization, vehicle electrification, clean energy supplies, and climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Support updates to land use planning and permitting that align policies with state emission reduction goals and establish greenhouse reduction goals at the regional and county level and a framework for implementation via reasonable regional, county, and local efforts.



Ensure Access to Complete Health Care

- Ensure providers can treat patients seeking reproductive health care without repercussion and residents can access those providers despite increased demand and decreased capacity.
- Provide necessary resources for Monkeypox vaccines.
- Support policy and budget efforts that address challenges with discharging patients who no longer need acute hospital-level care to settings that provide the appropriate level of care, particularly for patients with significant medical and behavioral complexity.





**SNOQUALMIE VALLEY
AGRICULTURAL
STRATEGIC PLAN**

Public Review Draft, May 2023

SVAPD Agriculture Task Force

Snoqualmie Valley Agriculture Land Resource Strategic Plan Overview

Abstract

The SVAPD Agriculture Task Force, made up of farmers and industry professionals in the commercial farm sector drafted the plan over four years to elevate the land resource needs for farmers in the SVAPD, policy makers and service providers alike, to understand the agriculture needs based on facts, implement the solutions, and gain the results needed in the next 25 years. From drainage to climate change to farmland preservation, this plan has 17 short issue papers and 283 strategies to achieve the desired condition for each issue.

Agriculture Strategic Plan Task Force

King County Agriculture Commission Meeting

5.11.23

Overview includes



About the Plan



Task Force



Goals and Issue
papers



Review Process
and Timeline



Origin & Task Force



This plan’s scope of work was created by Fish, Farm, Flood (FFF), but it is also a **stand-alone agricultural plan** to guide support for agricultural needs in the Snoqualmie Valley Agriculture Production District (SVAPD) over the next 25 years.



In March 2019, the Agriculture Task Force was formed and convened by King County Agriculture Staff. The task force worked on the problems facing the commercial farming sector in the SVAPD in managing the agriculture land resource for farming productivity.

Ag Strategic Plan Task Force

10
MEMBERS

Farmers and industry professionals in the commercial farm sector.

Beginning in 2019, taking a break in 2020 after Covid, and then resuming full tilt via Zoom.

04
YEARS TO COMPLETE PLAN

1,750
MEETING HOURS

Staff and Volunteer Hours •175 hours/person

Farmers, Local NGOs, Special Districts, Policy Advisors, WSU

07
REPRESENTED ENTITIES

169
PAGES

Including issue papers and appendices

The Task Force Composition

- ★ The task force brings experience from farmers and industry professionals in the commercial farm sector:
- + farmer organizations: SnoValley Tilth and Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance,
- 📷 agency agriculture policy advisors: King County Agriculture Commission,
- ★ special purpose districts: Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District and King Conservation District,
- + educational institutions: Washington State University Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources,
- ★ and the FFF Implementation Oversight Committee (IOC).

Task Force Members

Members	Affiliation
Patrice Barrentine, Coordinator	King County Water & Land Resources Division (KC WLRD)
Janet Keller, Jordan Jobe, Carrie King	King County Agriculture Commission
Andrew Stout, Erin Ericson	Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District (SVWID)
Janet Keller, Lauren Silver	Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance (SVPA)
Libby Reed, Dave Glenn	SnoValley Tilth
Bobbi Lindemulder	Fish, Farm, Flood Oversight Committee
Carrie King	King Conservation District
Jordan Jobe	WSU CSANR, Puyallup Research Center



improve the long-term productivity of farmland



bring more acres into production, especially food production,



increase opportunities for farmers to develop the necessary infrastructure to support or increase their farm businesses



proposed acreage needs for long-term, viable sector

Purpose



assessment of specific farmland resource property needs and assets in the SVAPD



create an implementation plan for project improvements to land (e.g., drainage) and water access

Method

8 Key Values and Themes



Key values and themes incorporated into the plan highlight the lens through which the task force has developed goals and objectives including:

1. responsible stewardship/sustainable farming,
2. flood and climate change preparedness,
3. equity and social justice,
4. multi-benefit projects,
5. innovative thinking,
6. regulatory certainty,
7. resource investments, and
8. alignment with related plans and programs.

Appendix E

Table E: Issue Papers by Organization/Agency Strategic Plans, Missions, Programs

	King County Strategic Plans										Organization/Agency Strategic Plans, Missions, Programs									
	Comprehensive Plan & NEKC	Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan	Farm, Fish, Flood 1.0	Flood Hazard Management Plan	Land Conservation Initiative	Local Food Initiative	Strategic Climate Action Plan	Beavers NW	King Conservation District	King County Agriculture Commission	Snohomish Conservation District's Agriculture Resiliency Plan	Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance (SVPA)	Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District (SVWID) / Wetness Prioritization Plan	Sno/Valley Tilth
A1. Profile of the Commercial Agriculture Sector	x	x				x			x			x	x							
1. Improved Farmland Productivity																				
1.1 Drainage																				
1.1.1 Drainage Maintenance for ADAP Eligible Waterways			x			x		x	x			x								
1.1.2 Drain Tiles			x					x	x			x								
1.1.3 Flap gates, Floodgates, and Pumps			x					x	x			x								
1.1.4 Culverts			x					x	x			x								
1.1.5 Drainage Maintenance for non-ADAP Waterways								x	x			x								
1.1.6 Beavers			x				x	x	x			x								x
1.2 Flood Safety																				
1.2.7 High Ground Refuge and Farm Pads			x	x				x	x			x	x							
1.2.8 Home Preservation in the APD	x	x	x				x	x	x			x								x
1.3 Irrigation																				
1.3.9 Water Rights and Irrigation	x							x	x			x	x	x						
1.4 Transportation																				
1.4.10 Revetments			x						x											
1.4.11 Transportation Corridors and Bridges									x			x	x							
1.5 Climate Change																				
1.5.12 Climate Change Predictions	x						x		x	x	x	x								
1.5.13 Invasive Species									x	x										
2. Increased Farmland Protections																				
2.1 Population Growth and Development Impacts																				
2.1.14 Population Pressure	x								x			x								x
2.2 Wildlife																				
1.1.6 Beavers			x				x		x			x								x
2.2.15 Elk and Deer							x	x	x											
2.3 Farmland Preservation																				
2.3.16 Farmland Preservation	x	x		x	x				x	x	x		x							x
2.4 Proposed acreage for a long-term, viable sector																				
2.4.17 Acreage Challenges, Needs and Recommendation	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x								

The plan has important links to and works to support other plans, programs, organizations, and agencies including:

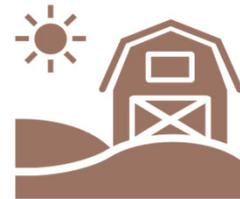
- King County Plans
 - Comprehensive Plan and NEKC
 - Farm Fish Flood 1.0
 - Flood Hazard Management Plan
 - Local Food Initiative
 - Land Conservation Initiative
 - Strategic Climate Action Plan
- King Conservation District
- Snohomish Conservation District Ag Resiliency Plan
- SVWID

9 Sub-Goals



Improve Farmland Productivity

1. Drainage
2. Transportation (revetments, roads and bridges)
3. Irrigation
4. High ground, home elevation
5. Climate change



Increase Farmland Protections

6. Development and Population Growth
7. Wildlife
8. Farmland Preservation
9. Proposed acreage needs for long-term, viable sector

17 Issue Papers



Improve Farmland Productivity

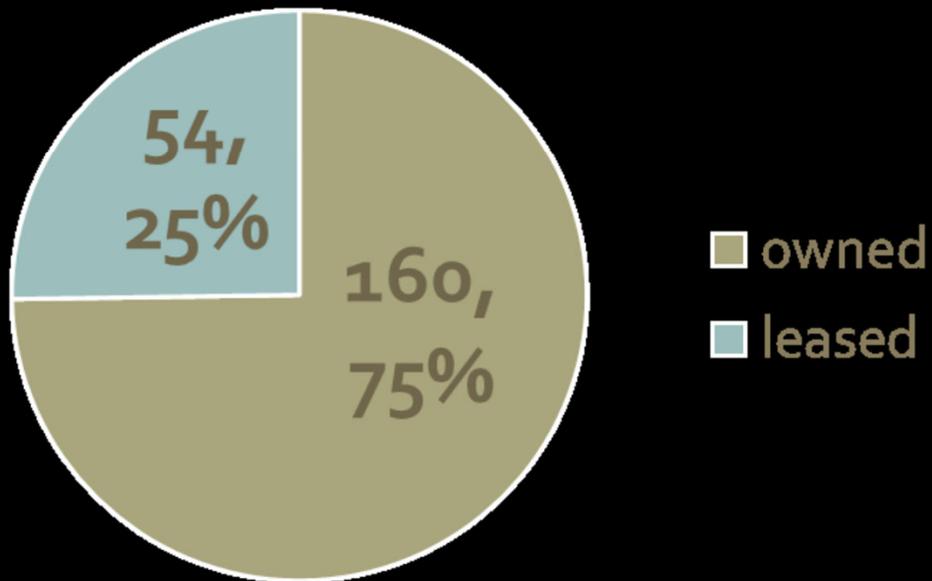
- A. Introduction and Profile of the Commercial Agriculture Sector in the SVAPD
1. Waterway Maintenance – ADAP eligible
 2. Agricultural Drainage Tiles
 3. Flap/Flood Control Gates and Pumps
 4. Culverts
 5. Waterway Maintenance – non-ADAP eligible
 6. Beavers
 7. Farm Pads and High Ground Refuge
 8. Home Preservation
 9. Water Rights and Irrigation
 10. Revetments
 11. Transportation
 12. Invasive Species
 13. Climate change



Increase Farmland Protections

14. Population Pressure
15. Elk and Deer
16. Farmland Preservation
17. Acreage

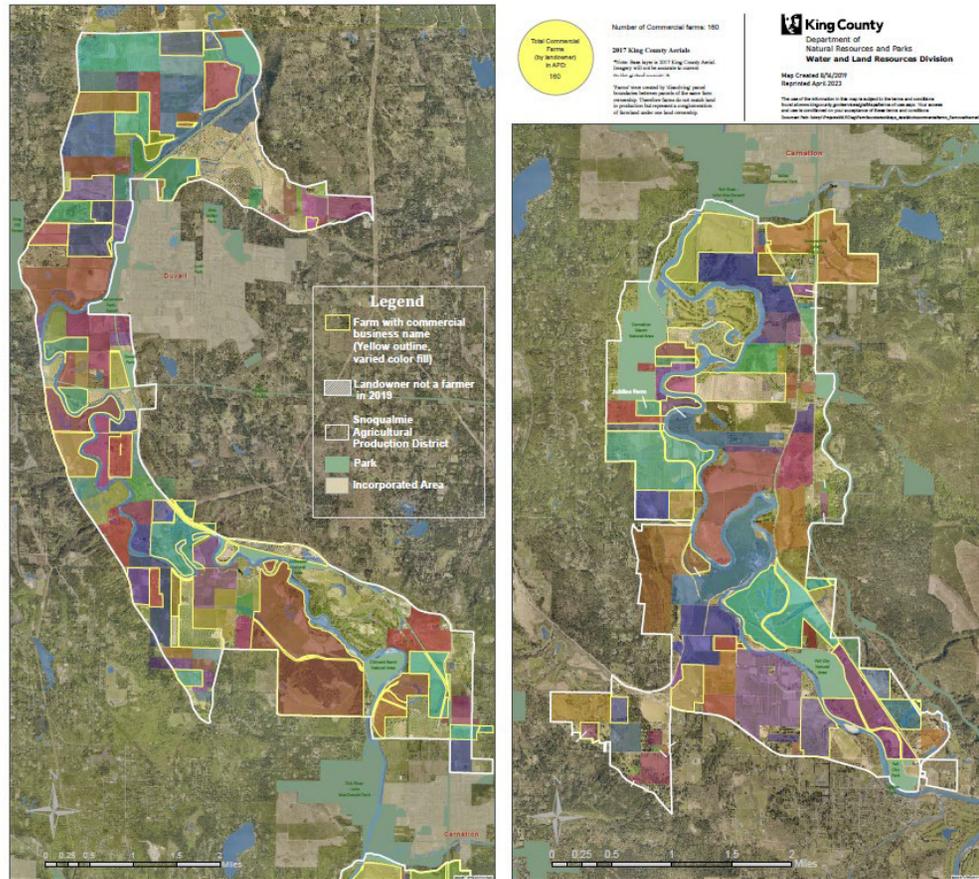
214 Commercial FARMS in SVAPD



Exciting
Information
and
Precedents

Operations Grouped by Landowner

Snoqualmie Valley Commercial Farms 2019



Exciting
Information
and
Precedents

Format for Issue Papers

Sample

1.1.1: Drainage Maintenance for ADAP Eligible Waterways				
Current Condition	Desired Condition by 2048			
<p>Figure 2. ADAP Eligible Waterway Maintenance: Snoqualmie Valley APD</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>ADAP Eligible Waterway Maintenance Snoqualmie Valley APD</p> <p>10 miles maintained by ADAP since 2012 73 remaining miles requiring maintenance</p> </div> <p>There are 83 miles of King County's Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program (ADAP)¹ eligible waterways in the SVAPD. Each year, approximately 10,000 feet (~2 miles) of agricultural waterways are maintained in the Snoqualmie Valley, which equates to about 2% of all eligible waterways and a return interval of about 45 years. At the current rate of 2 miles each year it would take approximately 37 years to complete waterway maintenance on the remaining 73 miles of waterways in the SVAPD that have not been maintained recently.</p> <p>Costs for agricultural waterway dredging can vary based on complexity of the project. As of 2018, projects cost about \$50 per linear foot from the planning through the monitoring stages, meaning that initial dredging of the remaining 73 miles of the 83 miles of eligible waterways would cost roughly \$19,272,000 (in current dollars). On average, 71% of these costs are covered by King County, 18% by King Conservation District or the SVWID, and 10% by landowners.</p>	<p>All eligible waterways are maintained, on recurring schedule, with alternative mitigation options available.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Timeline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024: Funding increased; additional ADAP crews added; timeline of dredging projects developed (starting with landowner requests in priority sub-basins); recurring maintenance interval for individual waterways is determined by evaluation criteria and scheduled for ongoing maintenance 2026: Alternative mitigation scenarios are tested, approved, and added to ADAP agreement 2034: Initial maintenance of remaining 73 miles completed 2035: Recurring maintenance continues per schedule and/or emergency needs </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024: Funding increased; additional ADAP crews added; timeline of dredging projects developed (starting with landowner requests in priority sub-basins); recurring maintenance interval for individual waterways is determined by evaluation criteria and scheduled for ongoing maintenance 2026: Alternative mitigation scenarios are tested, approved, and added to ADAP agreement 2034: Initial maintenance of remaining 73 miles completed 2035: Recurring maintenance continues per schedule and/or emergency needs
Timeline				
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Background	Service Providers	Priority		
<p>Agricultural waterways direct water out of agricultural fields into larger waterways and streams. Over time, these waterways can fill with sediment and become blocked by overgrown weeds, slowing, or stopping the movement of water and leading to poorly drained fields.</p> <p>ADAP works under a memorandum of understanding with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) that incorporates best management practices (BMPs) to protect fish and water quality². Through ADAP, landowners only need a single permit to conduct maintenance which can include dredging, beaver dam management, and culvert replacement. Currently, ADAP is the only permitted program for agricultural waterway maintenance in the Snoqualmie Valley. ADAP is limited to working on drainage improvements in artificial drainage channels and relatively small, modified waterways³.</p>	<p>Lead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> King County Stormwater Services Program: ADAP <p>Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SV Watershed Improvement District King Conservation District 	<p>High</p>		
Strategies				

The issue papers break out:

- the *current condition* of the issue through available data or original research,
- *background* information on the issue,
- the *desired condition* to achieve by 2048,
- as well as *strategies* to achieve that condition and
- a *timeline* to do so, and list the
- *service providers* to accomplish the work, and
- a designated *priority* to accomplish the work.

Ag Strategic Plan ADAP

83

**MILES OF ADAP
ELIGIBLE
WATERWAYS**

to increase the S & pace to maintain 73 miles in next 10 years

over 10 years to complete ADAP in today's dollars

\$19.2

**MILLION
NEEDED: ADAP**

10,000
LINEAR FEET

Average ADAP accomplished/
year in SVAPD

funding needed from King County, SVWID, KCD and grants

\$2

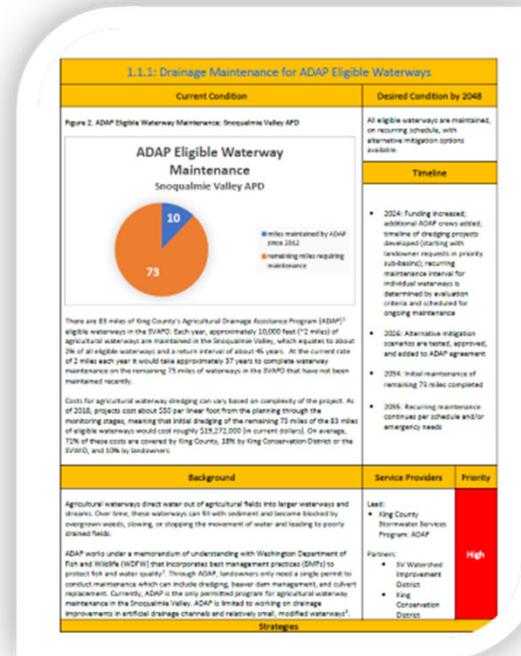
MILLION / YEAR

3-4

FOLD INCREASE

rate to increase ADAP in SVAPDs

ADAP by the #s



Ag Strategic Plan Elk and Deer

\$12,500

MEAN ANNUAL
LOSS FROM ELK
ON FARMS

Elk damage on farms
in the SVAPD is nearly
3x's greater than deer
damage

Crop loss on SVAPD
farms equates to 4+
days of a farmer's sales
at our highest selling
County Farmers Markets

\$4,500

MEAN ANNUAL
LOSS FROM DEER
ON FARMS

\$5-10M

ANNUAL CROP
LOSS KING
COUNTY

by extrapolating
County reporting #'s,
the breadth of
financial loss becomes
clearly significant

Game Management
Area 460, essentially
covers the area between
Interstate 90 and
Highway 2, east of the
Snoqualmie River

750

ESTIMATED # OF
ELK IN REGION

\$\$

OPTIONS TO
REDUCE
PREDATION

Inexpensive options to
control crop losses to
deer and elk are limited.
Both species can be
effectively excluded by
constructing sturdy
fences around the farmed
areas

Elk and Deer by the #s



How can you help us?

Review the Plan



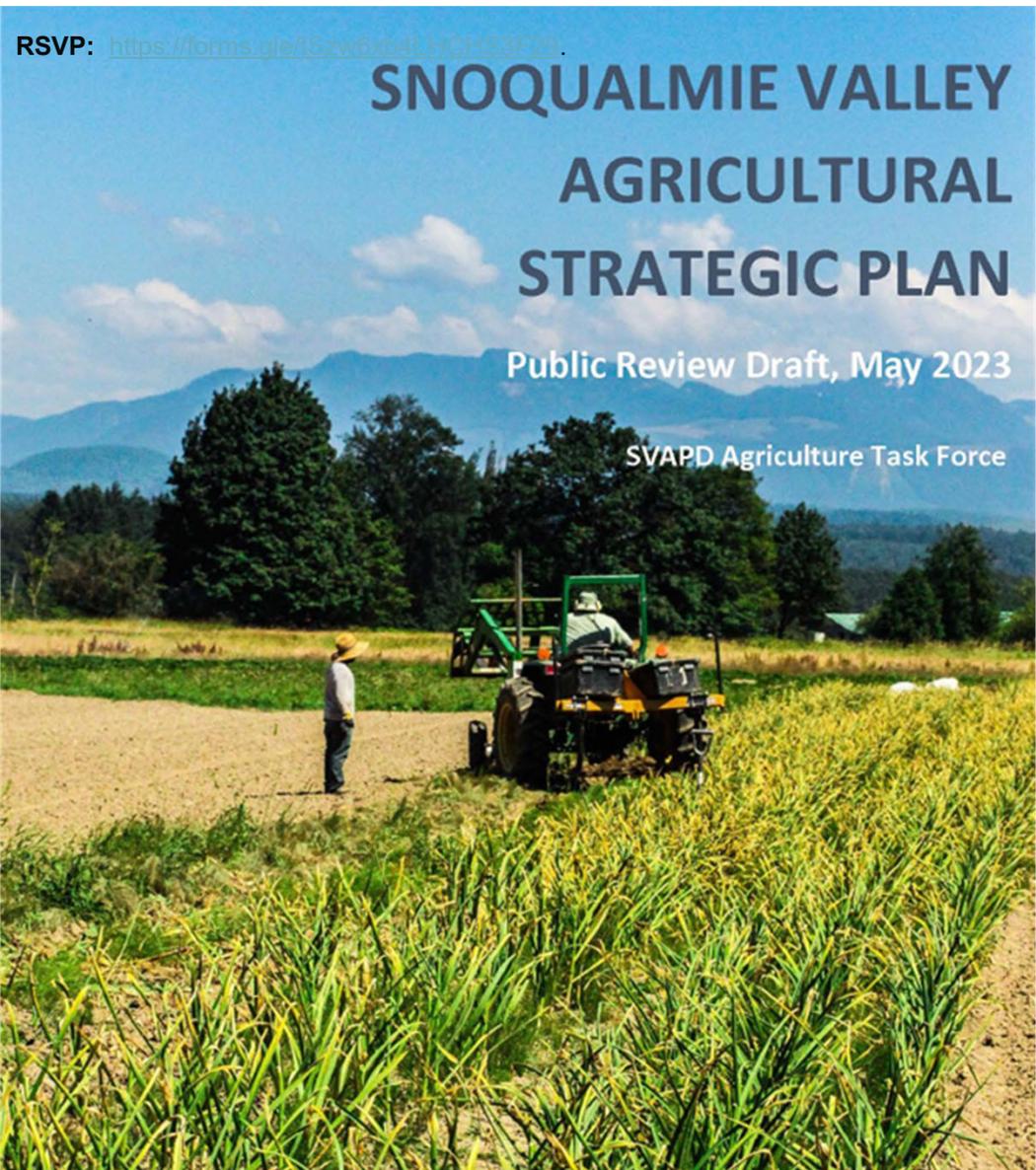
Submit your input now - June 5



Help us Spread the Word about the Plan and Events



Incorporate the Plan into your Work



Questions?

May 22, 5-7pm

Snoqualmie River Farm hosted by SnoValley Tilt and Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance (SVPA)

Join the Agriculture Strategic Plan Task Force for a hands-on open house using stations on the farm to demonstrate the plan's facts and strategies and gather your input.

RSVP: <https://forms.gle/tSzw6xb4LHCHS3F29>

Short url: <https://kingcounty.gov/AgPlan>

Contact: Task Force Coordinator
Patrice.Barrentine@kingcounty.gov