

# Request for Metro Determination of Substantial Compliance with *Title 13, Nature in Neighborhoods*

Planning and Sustainability
Commission
July 24, 2012



#### Agenda

- 1. Recommendation
- 2. Context
- 3. Compliance Package Overview
- 4. Portland/Metro Intergovernmental Agreement
- 5. BES and Metro remarks
- 6. PSC Q&A
- 7. Public Testimony
- 8. PSC Discussion/Action

#### Recommendation

#### Staff requests that the PSC:

- 1. Recommend that City Council approve the request for determination of substantial compliance
- 2. Direct staff to work with Metro to draft an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) stating intent to continue efforts post-Title 13 compliance.

- Regional requirements to protect, conserve, and restore mapped Habitat Conservation Areas
- HCAs are regionally significant resources contained in riparian corridors. Resources include:

Rivers, streams, drainageways

Flood areas

Wetlands

Vegetation

Wildlife habitat

Steep slopes

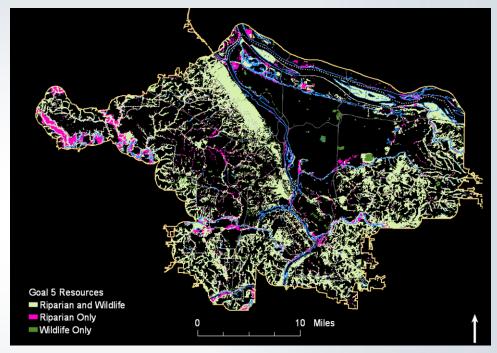


#### **Natural Resources Benefits**

- Health and wellbeing
- Flood storage
- Slope stability/ landslide prevention
- Reduced erosion and sedimentation
- Air and water cleaning and cooling
- Fish and wildlife habitat
- Carbon capture
- Resiliency to climate change
- Increased property value

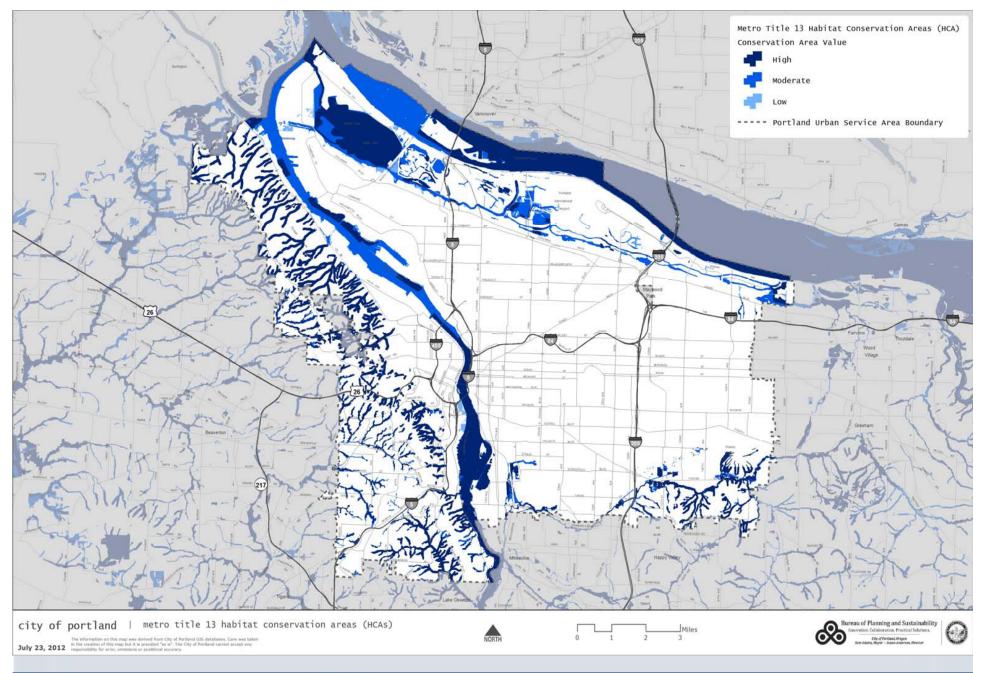


- Began in late 1990s; adopted 2005
- Extensive technical and public review
- The State approved Title 13 in 2007 (as region's program for parts of State Land Use Goals 5 & 6)
- Compliance due 2009



- Establishes "avoid, minimize, mitigate" hierarchy
- Balances environmental and development goals
- Creates tiered requirements for High, Moderate, Low HCAs
- Flexible compliance options (regulatory, non-regulatory, area-specific)

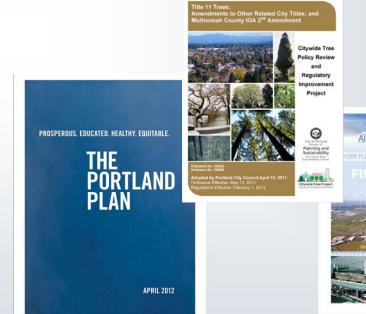






#### Context: Portland's Compliance Status

- Extensive City natural resource programs in place before Title 13
- City asked Metro for 2 extensions to progress on key projects - accomplishments:
  - Natural Resource Inventory
  - Portland Plan
  - River Plan North and Central Reaches
  - Airport Futures
  - Tree Code
  - Invasive Plant Project





## Title 13 "Substantial Compliance" Package - Overview

- Natural Resource Inventory Update
- Zoning Regulations
- Non-zoning Regulations
- Non-regulatory Programs



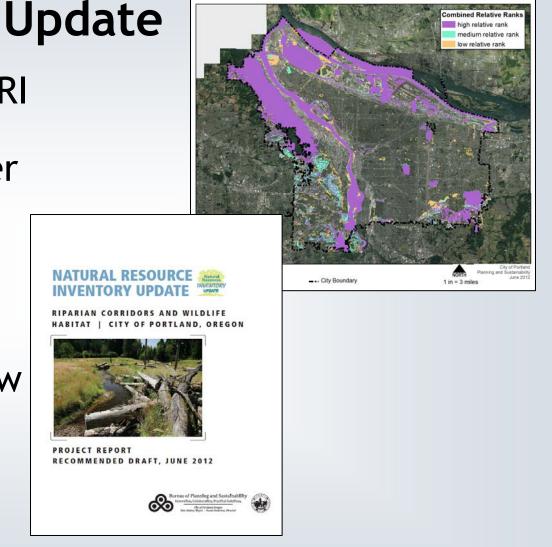
### Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)

Based on Title 13 NRI

More current, higher resolution data

 Reflects additional studies, field work, and technical review

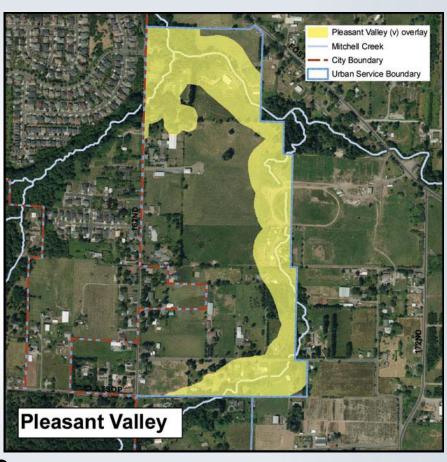
Part of Comp Plan Factual Basis





- Greenway Overlay Zones
- Environmental Overlay Zones
- Scenic Resource Overlay Zone
- Pleasant Valley Natural Resource Overlay Zone

Foundation of the Title 13 compliance package





- Overlay zones meet Title 13:
  - Designed to avoid, minimize or mitigate for adverse impacts
  - Vary in stringency to balance goals
  - Provide flexibility development must meet standards or go through review
- Address native/invasive vegetation
- Overlays being updated through multi-objective projects (e.g., River Plan, Airport Futures)

Overlay zone coverage of Title 13 HCAs:

9,775 acres

87% of streams, wetlands, flood areas,

riparian corridors, upland habitat

6,350 acres

Willamette & Columbia rivers

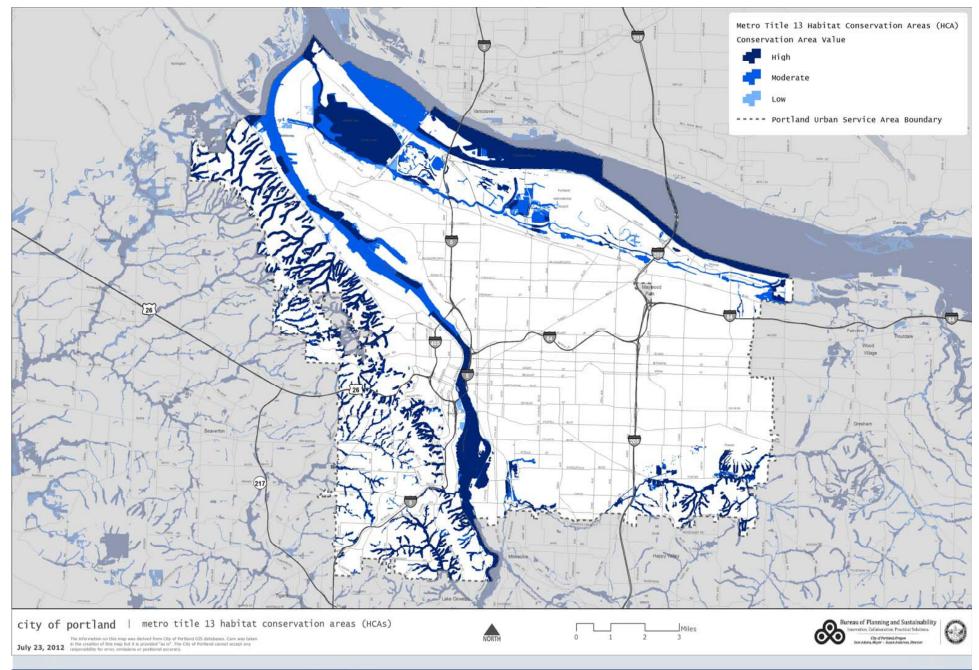
16,125 acres

92% of all HCAs

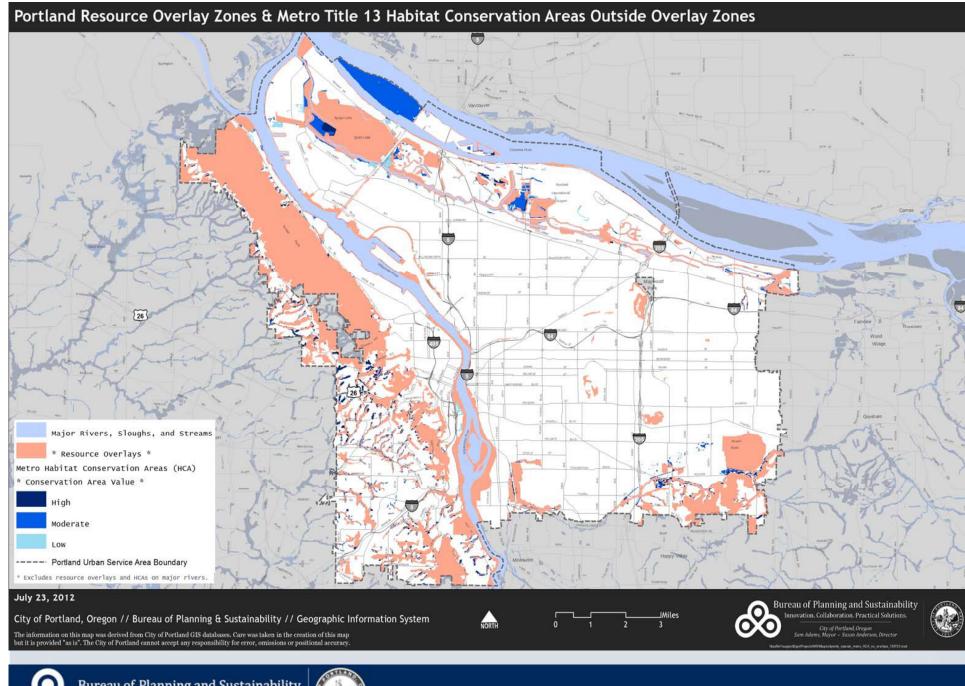
+2,900 acres Riparian resources beyond HCAs

- Nearly all "High" HCAs are w/in overlay zones
- Stringent rules apply to majority of "High" HCAs







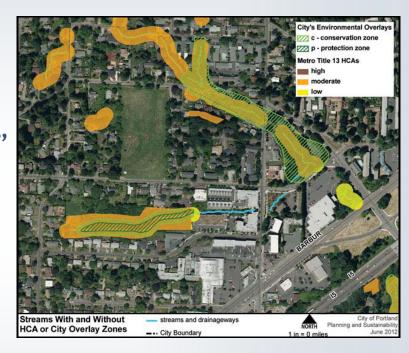




Some protections exist for resources outside overlay zones:

- Tributary streams
   Drainage reserve provides "safety net"
- Wetlands state/federal permits required
- Publicly owned land
   City land in Johnson Creek floodplain,
   St. Johns Landfill

Also, some HCAs dropped through improved City mapping



#### **Zoning Regulations - Plan Districts**

Area-specific rules supplement/supersede overlay zone regs:

- Johnson Creek Basin tree removal and impervious area limits, TDR
- Columbia South Shore use limits, stronger mitigation
- NW Hills seasonal disturbance limits
- Pleasant Valley maximum densities; TDR
- Portland Int'l Raceway seasonal event/lighting restrictions
- Central City/S. Waterfront wider greenway setback, ecoroof bonus
- Portland International Airport/Cascade Station PIC habitat conversion, plant list and landscape standards

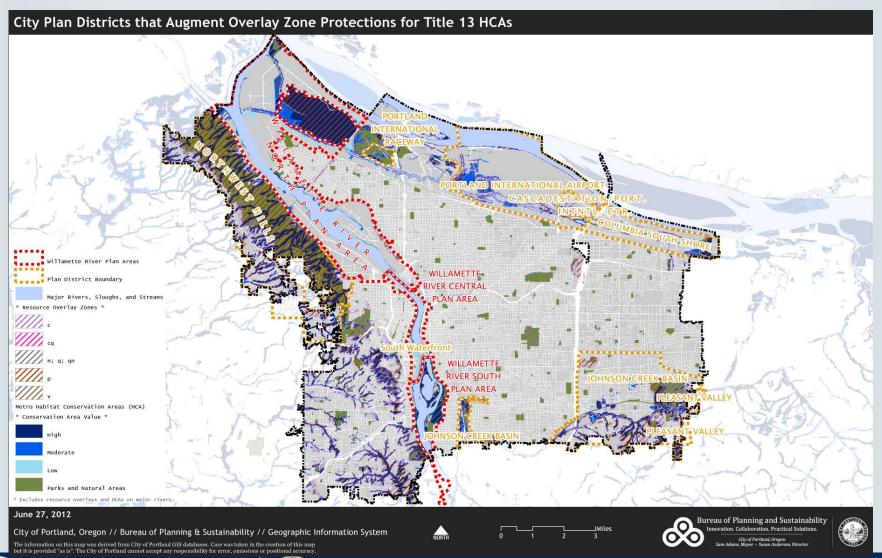






#### **Zoning Regulations - Plan Districts**

Plan Districts help protect ~5,780 acres Title 13 HCAs





#### **Zoning Regulations - Plan Districts**

#### Natural Resource Management Plans

- Forest Park
- Smith & Bybee Lakes
- Pen 1
- East ColumbiaNeighborhood (non-regulatory)



**Land Division Code -** Tree preservation; protection of seeps and springs

#### Non-Zoning Regulations - Development

- Stormwater Management Manual
- Drainage Reserve Rule
- Erosion Control Manual
- Floodplain regulations

- Apply to all new development
- Maintain stream functions, water quality, flood storage, slope stability
- Stormwater Manual encourage green solutions



Non-Zoning Regulations - Trees and Vegetation

- Tree Codes
- Invasive Plant Required Eradication List

- Improve quantity, quality, distribution of urban forest
- Prevent spread of invasive plants





#### Non-Zoning Regulations - Enforcement

- Illicit Discharge Program
- Spill Response Program



#### Benefits:

 Prevent pollutants from entering stormwater system and waterways

### Habitat Friendly Development

- Title 13 says remove code barriers
- Focuses on:
  - reducing impervious area
  - providing habitat
  - safe fish/wildlife passage
- Portland allows, encourages or requires practices in Title 13





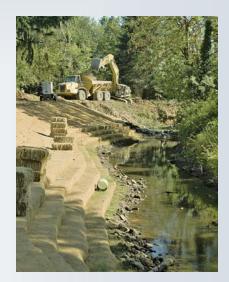


#### Non-Regulatory Programs - Protection

#### Willing-Seller Land Acquisition

- Johnson Creek Floodplain (261 acres)
- Natural Area (289 acres)

- Protects public health and safety
- Improved watershed condition
- Supports City compliance Clean Water Act, ESA





## Non-Regulatory Programs - Resource Management and Restoration

- City Natural Areas Mgt & Protect the Best
- Watershed Revegetation Program

- Asset management
- Leveraging resources



#### Non-Regulatory Programs - Green Infrastructure

- Tree Planting
- Green Streets
- Culvert Replacement
- Portland Ecoroof Program

- Natural functions in built environment
- Provides multiple benefits





#### Non-Regulatory Programs

#### **Watershed Projects**

- Watershed Investment Fund
- Subwatershed/StormwaterSystem Plans
- Tabor to the River

- New approaches to urban watershed restoration
- Holistic, cost-effective solutions
- Collaboration and partnerships







#### Non-Regulatory Programs

#### **Education and Stewardship**

- Pollution Prevention Ed.
- Community WatershedStewardship
- Neighborhood Tree Stewards
- Tree Inventory Project



#### Monitoring and Evaluation

 Portland Area Watershed Monitoring and Assessment Program - "PAWMAP"



#### Benefits:

 Coordinated monitoring across watersheds allows City to track trends and prioritize investments



#### Portland/Metro Intergovernmental Agreement

#### Purpose:

- Clarify that while the City is in compliance with Title 13, our watershed work continues
- Confirm City intent to:
  - Continue multi-objective planning efforts that address watershed health; and
  - Seek funding to continue ongoing watershed programs
- Confirm City and Metro intent to collaborate on issues of regional concern
- 10-year term w/periodic progress reports

#### Portland/Metro Intergovernmental Agreement

#### Multi-objective planning efforts:

- Comprehensive Plan (policies, actions)
- West Hayden Island decision
- Willamette Greenway Plan update (aka River Plan)
- Columbia Corridor Plan

#### Ongoing programs:

- Tree project/code implementation
- Willing-seller land acquisition
- Restoration and invasive species management
- Green infrastructure investments
- Watershed Monitoring

#### Issues of regional concern:

- Meeting goals for healthy economy/jobs and watersheds
- Emergency compliance issues (FEMA/ESA)



#### BES and Metro Remarks, then Q&A



#### Recommendation

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