



Thurston County  
HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

Planning Commission Work Session

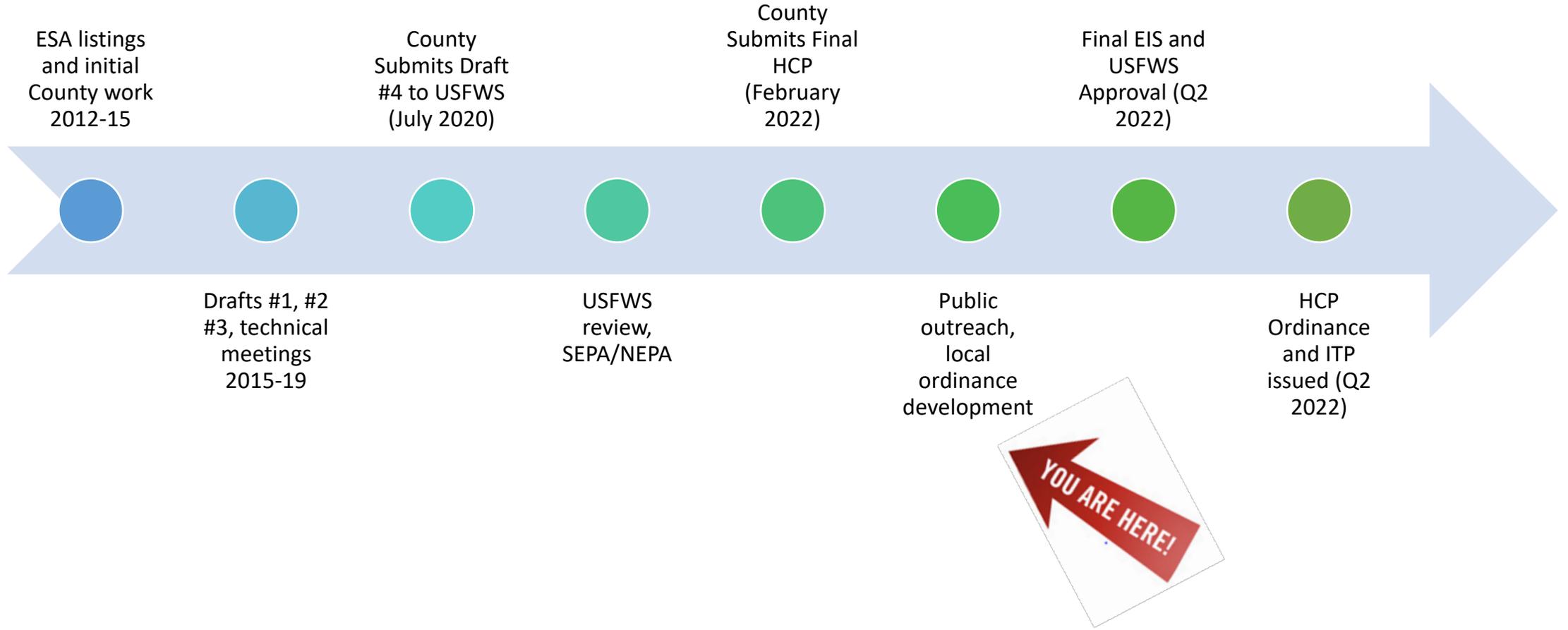
March 2, 2022

# Background

---

- US Fish and Wildlife Service listed several species as threatened and endangered under the Endangered Species Act.
- Due to the extent of overlap development with species habitat Thurston County initiated the development of a Habitat Conservation Plan.
- Plan was developed by a team of scientists and planners with input from independent science reviewers, stakeholders, and the public
- Applies to unincorporated Thurston County (rural county and UGA's)

# Timeline



# Proposed Change

---

- Add new Chapter 17.40 – Habitat Conservation Plan
- Amendments to Title 24 – Critical Areas Ordinance
- Amendment to Chapter 17.20 – Mineral Extraction and Asphalt Production

# Proposed Amendment

## Add Chapter 17.40 - Habitat Conservation Plan

---

- Adopts the HCP
- Establishes a set application process
- Requires that projects be conditioned consistent with the HCP, and
- Defines applicability.
- The new chapter also describes the review process, development standards, and required mitigation methods as provided for in the HCP.

# Proposed Amendment Title 24

## Critical Areas Ordinance

---

- **Chapter 24.01 General Provisions** - to introduce the HCP, identify the HCP and Incidental Take Permit as the controlling documents for species covered in the HCP for the term of the HCP.
- **Chapter 24.03 Definitions** - to clarify “Department” and add several definitions related to the HCP.
- **Chapter 24.25 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas** – to reference species covered by the HCP shall be protected by the regulations set forth in the HCP
- **Table 24.25-1** - fix a clerical error and add a reference to the HCP.

# Proposed Amendment Chapter 17.20

---

- Add new section 17.20.145 – prohibit mineral extraction where Conservation Easement is established for the protection of land engaged as mitigation for the Thurston County HCP.

# Consistency with Other Plans and Regulations

---

- Proposed amendments maintain consistency with the County-Wide Planning Policies and Comprehensive Plan.

# Next Steps

- Planning Commission can request additional information regarding the proposed amendments. Staff would bring this item back at a following meeting.
- If no further questions, the Planning Commission may schedule a public hearing:
  - Move to set a public hearing on the Habitat Conservation Plan development code amendments for April 6, 2022 at 7 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

# Questions

**Project Contact:**

Christina Chaput, interim Community  
Planning Manager

[Christina.chaput@co.Thurston.wa.us](mailto:Christina.chaput@co.Thurston.wa.us)