

Thurston County



HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

August 25, 202

CHRISTINA CHAPUT



Federal Permit Approval

- USFWS Issued an Incidental Take Permit to Thurston County in July 2022.
- In 2023, developing land with Mazama pocket gopher & the other HCP species habitat no longer means two permitting hoops to jump through.
- This is the final season of gopher inspections.



Preparing to Implement

- Acquiring mitigation land
- Developing habitat management plans and reporting systems for federal reporting
- Retooling permitting processes
- Creating new tools



New Ordinance

Highlights

- Who needs a review?
- Projects with gopher habitat will have year-round reviews
- Project pre-planning & site planning
- There are options for mitigation.
- You no longer have to find it on your own.



The New Process

Check Map

- Determine if have within HCP habitat

Avoid/Minimize

- Use HCP BMPs

Mitigate

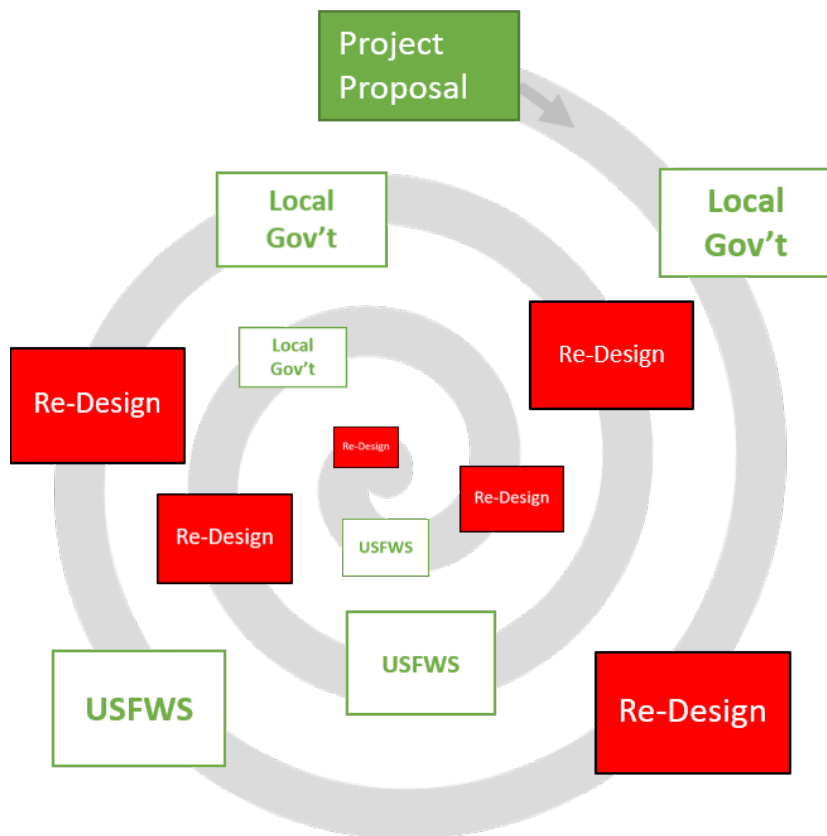
- Calculate credits
- Purchase

Permit

- Certificate of Inclusion

How Much Will it Cost

- The question in context is which option is more affordable under the ESA regulations in our area?

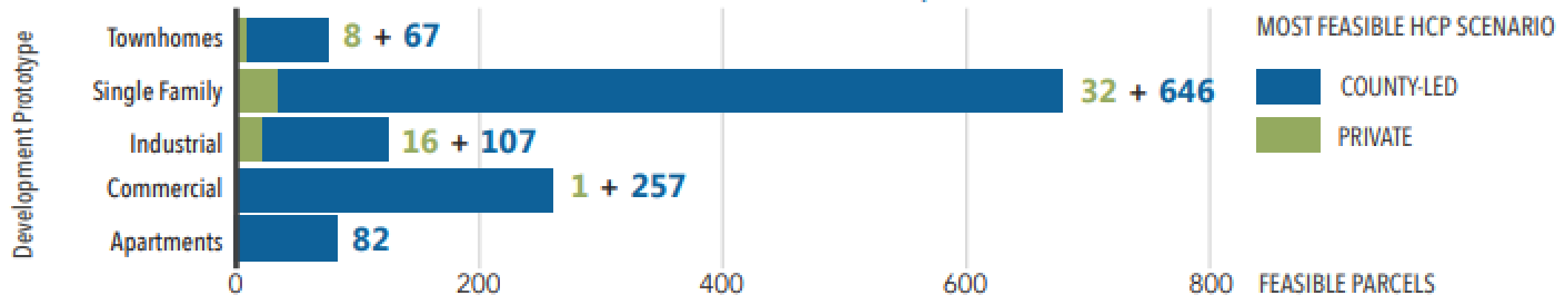


How Much Will it Cost

County-Led HCP Is More Affordable

ES FIGURE 3. Summary of Incremental Effects of Adopting a County-Led HCP

SOURCE: EcoNorthwest Analysis



According to EcoNW study:

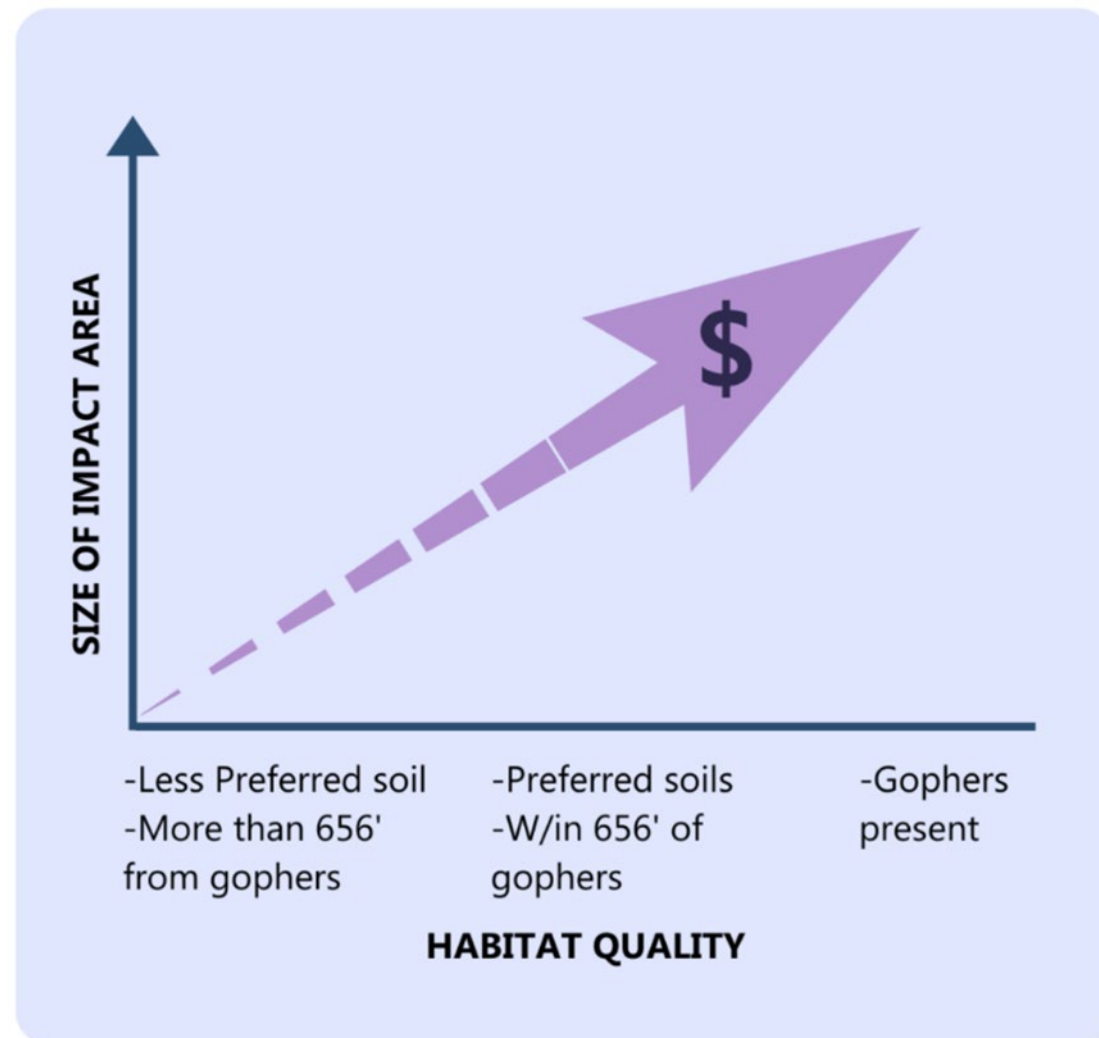
“The **county-led HCP reduces** the overall cost of ESA compliance for most landowners and makes more parcels financially feasible to develop”

How Much Will it Cost

Mitigation Fees

The amount of mitigation is influenced by:

1. The quality of the habitat
2. The size of the impact



Mitigation Fees

How to control the cost?

Impact: 1/4 acre
\$



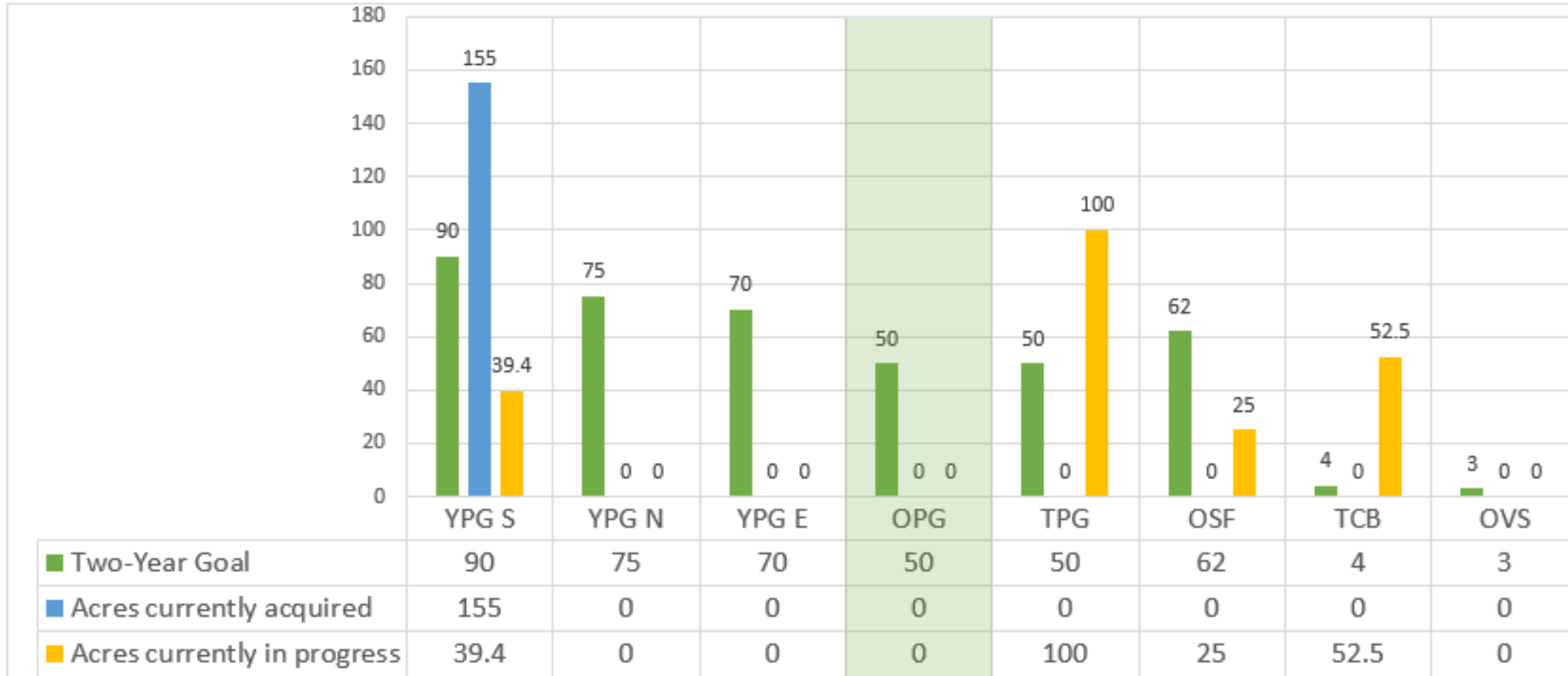
Impact: 1/2 acre
\$\$



Impact: 1 acre
\$\$\$\$



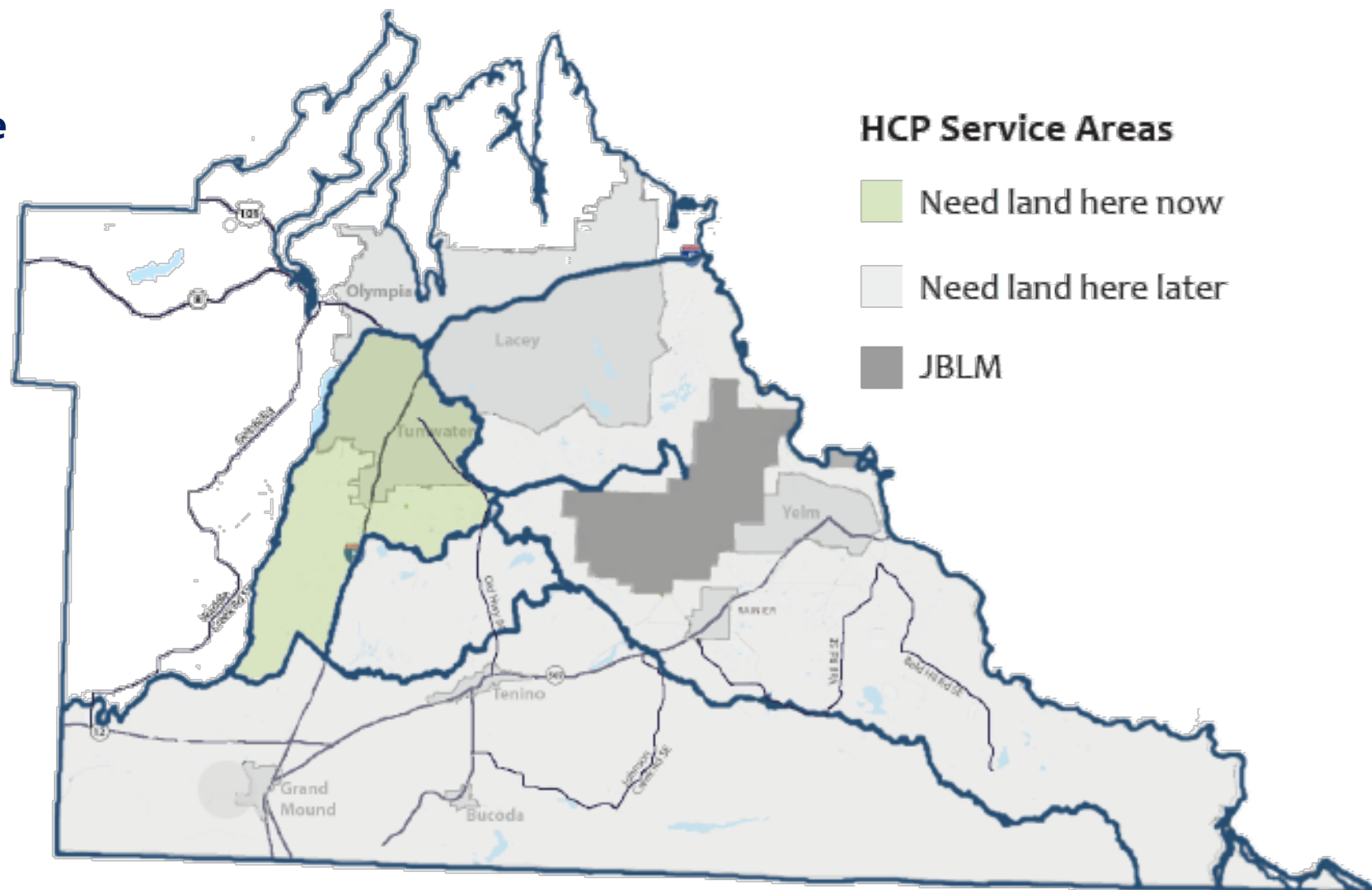
Land Acquisition



Land Acquisition

The County is in Land acquisition mode

Contact the County's buyer liaison,
Evan Parker at 360-556-0107 or
evan.parker@kidder.com



Questions?

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thurstonhcp.org