

National Estuary Program

Title	Agency	Description	Web Site	Keywords	State
Prediction of Impacts of Continued Development on Water Quality and Wildlife Habitat	Delaware National Estuary Program	This project will predict the impacts of continued development on water quality and wildlife habitat in the Cohansey watershed through the application of tools such as build out analyses and geographic information systems (GIS) maps. The build-out analysis will help community leaders in the watershed develop plans for smart growth, which will help protect the unique natural resources there, assist in meeting water supply needs in the Delaware estuary region, and help preserve traditional land use and the character of the Bridgeton area. Workshops will be conducted to share the results of these analyses with the public, to help the public articulate its goals for the community, and to help decision-makers craft action plans to meet those goals. This information will be made available to the estuary program's Regional Information Management Service (RIMS) to help address the needs of estuary managers and other users and providers of environmental data.	www.delep.org	Land protection, water quality, water supply, planning	DE, NJ, PA
Restoration Plan	Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program	This plan provides an interjurisdictional GIS map with a supporting database that identifies water quality, hydrology, and habitat restoration projects with a number of uses. Lee County, through its smart growth initiative, plans to use the work as a mitigation plan, directing funds to more effective use. The water management districts are using the plan to identify restoration priorities. The estuary program is matching plan projects with funding sources. The project dovetails with a variety of projects including the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Conservation Corridor Plan, Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan implementation, local and regional land acquisition programs, Lee County Mitigation Plan, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), and provides a common language for individual projects.	None	Land protection, GIS, water quality, funding, planning	FL
Development and Revision of Local Master Plans Using Alternative Futures Analysis	Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program	This project involves a variety of resource materials on futures approaches and tools. It also offers a series of training workshops for local officials and technical assistance in the development and revision of local master plans, which address growth pressures in a manner appropriate to each community and the region. The pilot project seeks to 1) empower communities to use and apply futures tools, increasing their ability to address development pressures and growth management in a more effective manner; 2) increase communication and interaction among communities; 3) recognize that cross-jurisdictional approaches are essential to ecosystem preservation and help create a political climate favorable to addressing growth pressures and laying the foundation for environmentally sensitive master plans. The project works with seven communities in the National Estuary Program's South Shore sub-region, with the intent of then applying the piloted techniques more broadly within the National Estuary Program and across the national coastline.	www.state.ma.us/massbays	Land protection, local officials, planning	MA

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Coastal Bays Alternative Futures and Green Building Demonstration	Maryland Coastal Bays National Estuary Program	The Maryland Coastal Bays Program has identified a developer in the coastal bays watershed who is interested in attempting to build a environmentally sensitive residential development. Building plans would be consistent with the design and development principles articulated by the community in the alternative futures process and would incorporate "green" building and development principles to the greatest extent possible. EPA provided a futures project grant to 1) build upon the alternative futures work already in process within the watershed, and 2) to help provide environmental data in the green development process.	www.dnr.state.md.us/coastalbays	Sustainable development, residential development, green building	MD
Collaborative Stormwater Management in Cumberland County, Maine	Casco Bay National Estuary Program	Through a smart growth/alternative futures grant, the project brought together 11 communities to focus on collaborative stormwater management and planning. The communities have formed a coalition and are each providing town funds to support their continuing efforts. The coalition has produced a NPDES Phase II stormwater work plan which will serve as the framework for the development of each community's NPDES Phase II plan. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection has provided the group with technical assistance and considers the coalition an excellent model for collaborative stormwater management in the state.	www.cascobay.usm.maine.edu	Sustainable development, stormwater	ME
Smart Growth Tool Kit	New Hampshire Office of State Planning	The tool kit provides smart growth principles, examples, case studies, and resources to help communities integrate smart growth into planning activities.	www.nh.gov/osp/SmartGrowth/index.htm	Land protection, tool kit, planning	NH
Natural Resources Outreach Coalition	University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension	A group of organizations and agencies united to create the Natural Resources Outreach Coalition (NROC). NROC team members support communities facing growth by helping them understand the current status of their natural resources, the potential impacts of growth on those resources, and techniques for protecting economic health, community character, and environmental quality.	webster.state.nh.us/coastal/CoastalPlanning/coastalplanning.htm	Land protection, planning, sustainable development	NH
Conservation Commission Circuit Rider Program	Rockingham Planning Commission	The planning commission provided professional planning and implementation assistance to three communities to improve the capacity of conservation commissions to protect natural resources and complete land protection projects.	None	Land protection, planning	NH
Site Planning Roundtable	New Hampshire Estuaries Project (NHEP)	The NHEP will convene a pilot project with one community to review and modify the codes, regulations, and ordinances that impact water quality and watershed health. Through the pilot process, entities will be trained on completing this process and the steps will be documented so that the process can be repeated with other communities.	None	Land protection, codes, regulations, planning	NH

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Futures Project	Lower Columbia River National Estuary Program	This project will use various futures tools to examine the land use impacts of regulatory programs on the City of Longview, Oregon. It will enable Longview to see its future under different scenarios, and then under a scenario that combines the impacts of each regulatory program into a comprehensive impact picture that demonstrates where the requirements of different programs overlap. The primary future tool used in the Longview Futures Project will be a series of build-out analyses. Each analysis will clearly show the environmental and economic costs and benefits associated with each program. In addition, each analysis will benefit the particular program by illustrating the costs and effects of a particular approach. Using the baseline, and the individual and combined build-out analyses, local government officials, community members, and agency officials can comparatively examine the cumulative impacts on the City of Longview.	www.lcrep.org/home.htm	Land protection, development alternatives, planning	OR
Stormwater and Impervious Surfaces, District Improvement Financing (DIF) Contract	Puget Sound Action Team	Project materials describe the effects of urban growth to Puget Sound shellfish growing areas and salmon habitat. An advisory committee with representatives from local, state, and federal agencies, as well as the private sector, guided the messages and development of the project. A focus group gave input and opinions on the draft concepts for the campaign. The final project will include a brochure and CD-ROM that can be used by local governments and others to communicate the significant harm that stormwater runoff causes to Puget Sound.	www.psat.wa.gov	Land protection, runoff, shellfish, planning	WA
Assessing the Effects of Urbanization on Shellfish Growing Areas in Puget Sound	Puget Sound Action Team	This project is designed to assess and address the effects of development on the condition and classification of shellfish growing areas in the Puget Sound region of Washington State. The project consists of a literature review, a research study correlating selected landscape measures with shoreline bacterial levels, and updated management recommendations aimed at strengthening the protection of water quality in shellfish growing areas.	None	Land protection, planning, shellfish	WA
Port Townsend Practitioners Forum	Puget Sound Action Team (PSAT)	PSAT and EPA Region 10 cosponsored a two-day Smart Growth Practitioners Forum in Port Townsend, Washington. The goal of the forum was to bring together a network of watershed science and land use practitioners from Puget Sound and British Columbia to develop common thinking on how to advance the design and use of smart growth concepts, particularly as a way to protect watershed and ecosystem health in the Puget Sound and Georgia Basin. Participants identified goals and high-priority tasks and agreed on a set of principles to guide cooperative and individual efforts.	www.psat.wa.gov/Programs/LID/LID_PT_workshop.htm	Land protection, watershed, planning	WA

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Chico Creek Alternative Futures Planning	Puget Sound Action Team	The action team used EPA funding to support a local county in developing a land use plan for a local watershed using alternative futures in an extensive public process. Land use decisions were based on testing build-out zoning scenarios against hydrologic models and other analysis tools to determine the effects on watershed health. During technical assessment, local partners conducted a watershed public education campaign and a developed a Watershed Academy to prepare citizens to serve in a watershed advisory group. The citizen group then developed and evaluated scenarios based on their impacts on watershed function and selected the land use scenario that the county is now adopting as a subarea plan for the watershed.	www.psat.wa.gov/Programs/LID/LID_futures.htm	Land protection, development alternatives, watershed, citizen, planning	WA
Barker Creek Planning by Watershed	Puget Sound Action Team	PSAT has secured a grant for Kitsap County that will help support application of the alternative futures planning model developed during the Chico Creek pilot project to an urbanizing watershed in Kitsap County as an integrated land use planning process. The county has elected to apply the alternative futures model to priority watersheds as a new approach to addressing multiple state and federal mandates for watershed planning, salmon recovery planning, total maximum daily loads (TMDLs), and growth management to prevent sprawl. The new process is called "planning by watershed." A public education process to develop a citizen group will be followed by a Watershed Academy to train citizens for participation in the planning group. Hydrologic and water quality models will assess alternative land use scenarios with the goal of improving watershed health. The selected scenario will be adopted as a subarea plan in the county's comprehensive plan.	www.psat.wa.gov/Programs/LID/LID_futures.htm	Land protection, watershed, alternative development, citizen, planning	WA
Outreach and Information Sharing on Low-Impact Development Stormwater Practices	Puget Sound Action Team	The project is designed to 1) share information on low-impact development practices with Puget Sound-area local government staff and officials, the stormwater engineering community, federal agencies, tribes, the development community, and the general public on low-impact development; and 2) promote the appropriate use of these techniques at the local, state, federal, and tribal level as cost-effective, environmentally protective alternatives to traditional land development and stormwater management practices.	None	Land protection, low-impact development, development alternatives, planning	WA
Educating the Building Community on Soil Protection and Restoration	Puget Sound Action Team	PSAT funded an education project to promote low-impact development stormwater measures in the development community. The Washington Organic Recycling Council held seven workshops around the Puget Sound basin to educate agency staff, engineering consultants, and developers about the value of and techniques for preserving native soils or restoring degraded soils with compost amendments to manage stormwater and protect water quality. Regional monitoring of existing projects is demonstrating significant beneficial results with regard to stormwater quality and quantity.	www.compost.washington.org/soil_water2.asp	Sustainable development, low-impact development, stormwater	WA

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Reining in the Rain	Puget Sound Action Team	While funding an education project for a local jurisdiction to meet the challenges of growth, the City of Bellingham educated its own staff and the local development community about low-impact development. The city hosted a workshop of 140 attendees and created a video to showcase low-impact development and green building practices. The city retrofitted two parking lots with rain gardens designed to treat and infiltrate storm water, installed educational signs, and used them as demonstration sites to promote low-impact development technology. The city also created the content for a booklet on how to construct a parking lot rain garden.	None	Sustainable development, low-impact development	WA
Research to Promote Low-Impact Development Stormwater Practices	Puget Sound Action Team	This project is designed to improve our knowledge of the applicability of low-impact development stormwater techniques in Puget Sound and to promote their appropriate use in this region. The project consists of a literature review, direct monitoring at a demonstration residential subdivision site, engineering analyses of low-impact development practices as applied in Puget Sound's soils and precipitation regime, and development of a guidance manual for use of low-impact development in Puget Sound.	None	Sustainable development, low-impact development	WA
Land Cover Change Analysis	Puget Sound Action Team	Two Landsat TM images were geospatially rectified and intercalibrated to compare land cover changes over a nine-year period in the Puget Sound basin below 1,000 meters. Land cover classifications that concentrated on urban, mixed urban, and forest land cover types were given highest accuracy in the methodology. The conversion from forested to urban and urbanizing landscapes has the highest known direct impact on water quality and benthic macro-invertebrate health in area streams. Data can be clipped to view summary statistics by county, watershed basin or sub-basin, urban growth boundary, and several other geographic scales.	www.urbaneco.washington.edu/doefinalreport.pdf	Land protection and planning, imagery, land cover classification, watershed	WA
Integrated Framework of Urbanization, Health and Marine Interactions	Puget Sound Action Team	PSAT will use EPA funds to support a University of Washington Urban Ecology Research Laboratory study to develop a framework and database of integrated layers of human health, urbanization, and marine ecological systems in a GIS format. The product will include guidelines for translating the framework into regulations and criteria for nonscientists and local agency personnel. The product will be evaluated for its applicability through an Internet survey of selected local partners and will be available in an ARC GRID/ArcView format on CD. The database and integrated spatial framework will quantify and assess the relationships between urban development, environmental stressors, human exposure, and associated effects on marine ecosystems and human health. Case examples of the use of the framework will be evaluated for applicability across diverse shoreline and pollution control plans and programs to inform decision-making processes on the interactions between marine waters and human health.	None	Land protection and planning, GIS, survey	WA