



BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

April 19, 2016



- Recommendations to Mayor and Council
- Overview of Biodiversity Strategy
- Biodiversity in Vancouver
- Goals, objectives & targets
- Past projects
- Priority actions

- A. THAT City Council adopt the Biodiversity Strategy found in Appendix A.
- B. THAT City Council direct City of Vancouver staff work with Park Board staff to implement the priority actions found in the Biodiversity Strategy.
- C. THAT the restoration or enhancement of 25 ha of natural areas between 2010 to 2020 in the city be added to the Greenest City Action Plan – Access to Nature targets.

1. Biodiversity Strategy

- Primary document includes: 1 goal, 5 objectives, 10 principles, 14 strategies and 38 actions

2. New Biodiversity Target

- Numerical target to increase natural areas across the city between 2010 and 2020

3. Technical Appendices

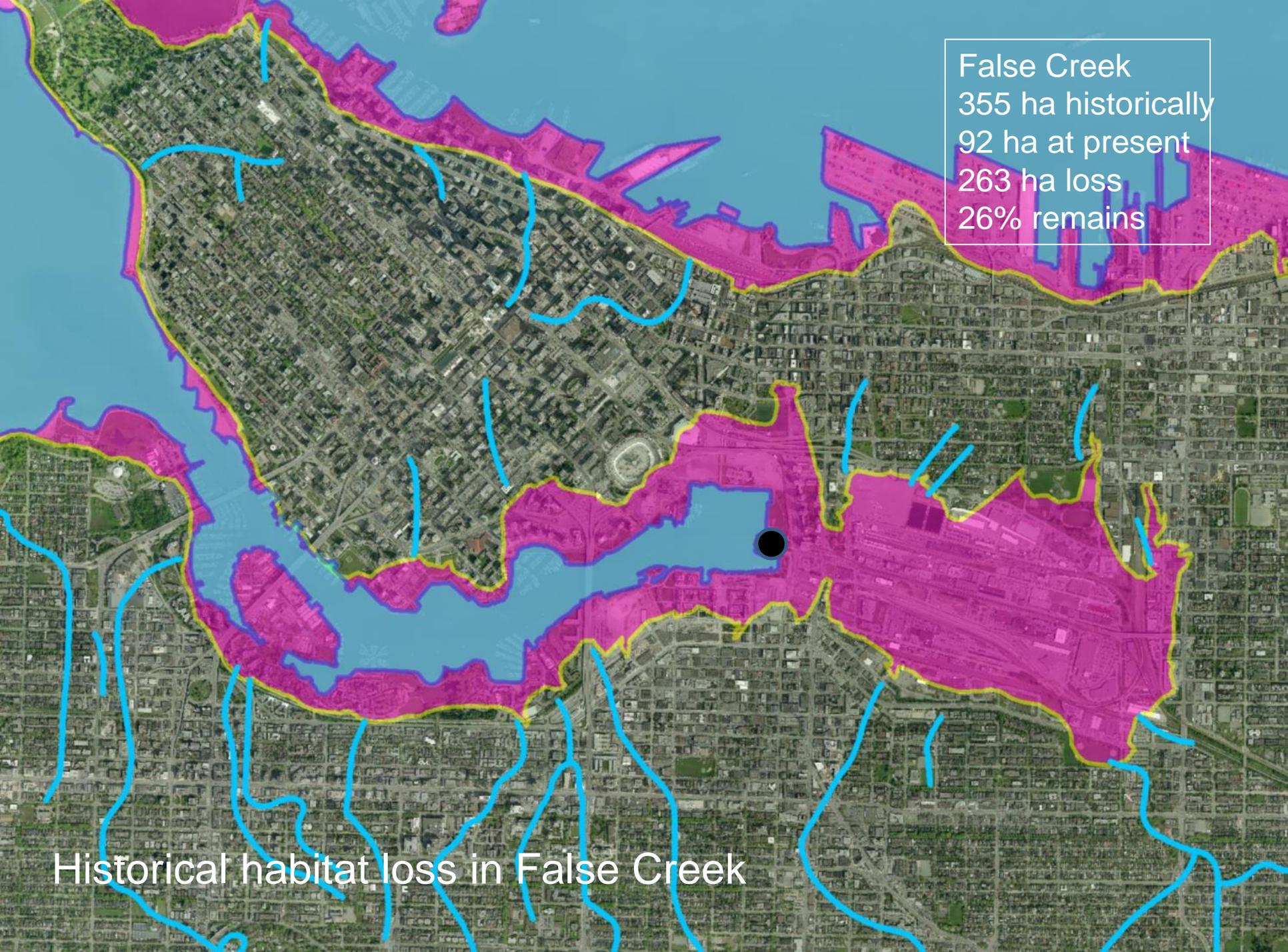
- Ecological network, species at risk, priority species, and habitats, biodiversity regulation, etc.

What's Unique about Biodiversity in Vancouver?



1. Historical development patterns and habitat loss
2. Emphasis on parks as the core of the Ecological Network
3. Strong public interest in wildlife and biodiversity
4. Natural recovery and recolonization (rewilding)
5. Successful habitat restoration projects to build on

False Creek
355 ha historically
92 ha at present
263 ha loss
26% remains



Historical habitat loss in False Creek

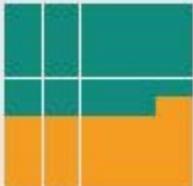


Loss of many wildlife species

The slain Cougar & his Hunters.
shot in Stanley Park Oct 26th 11

Sensitive Ecosystems in Metro Vancouver

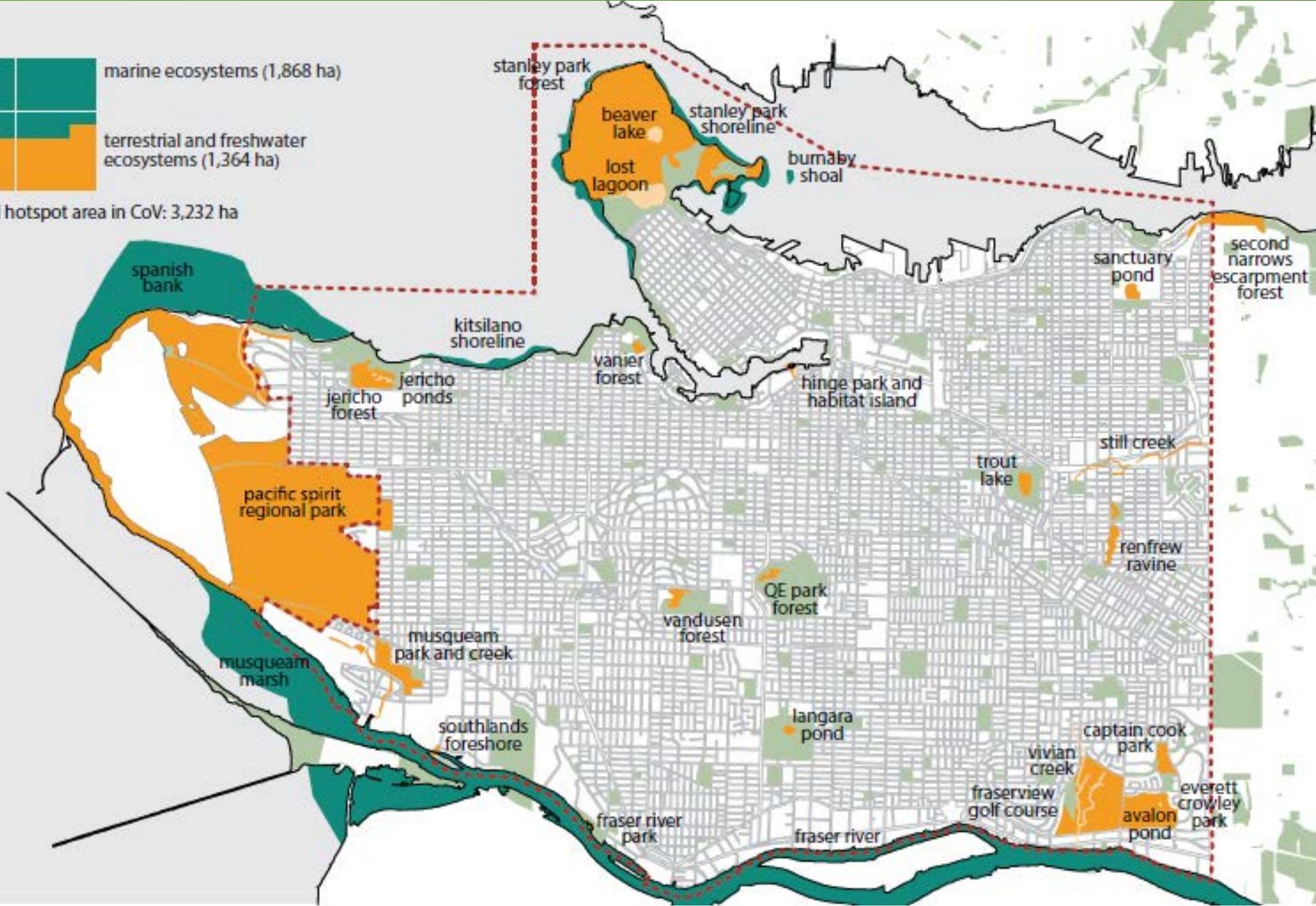




marine ecosystems (1,868 ha)

terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems (1,364 ha)

total hotspot area in CoV: 3,232 ha



Biodiversity Hotspots



@DowntownDeer

Chum salmon spawning in Still Creek





Beavers colonizing Hinge Park wetland

Grey whale in English Bay





Overwintering seaducks in English Bay



Habitat Island in False Creek

Jericho Park Shoreline



Goal

Increase the amount and ecological quality of Vancouver's natural areas to support biodiversity and enhance access to nature.

Objectives

1. Restore habitats and species.
2. Support biodiversity within parks, streets, and other City-owned lands.
3. Protect and enhance biodiversity during development.
4. Celebrate biodiversity through education and stewardship.
5. Monitor biodiversity to track change and measure success.

Proposed New Target

- Restore or enhance 25 ha of natural areas between 2010 and 2020

What are Natural Areas?

- Natural areas are forests, wetlands, streams, and other ecosystems that are composed primarily of native plants and animals.

How Do We Meet the Target?

- Restoring native forests (over half the target)
- Creating wetlands and daylighting streams
- Incorporating small natural habitats such as wildflower meadows

Completed & Future Biodiversity Projects



Completed Projects (2010-2015)

▪ Jericho Shoreline	1.7 ha
▪ Avalon Pond	0.5 ha
▪ Creekway Park	0.7 ha
▪ Still Creek	0.2 ha
▪ Hinge Park and Habitat Island	1.7 ha
▪ Forest Restoration	11.5 ha
Total	16.3 ha

Future Projects (2016-2015)

▪ New Brighton Park	1.7 ha
▪ Tatlow Creek	0.8 ha
▪ Beaver Lake	2.0 ha
▪ River District Shoreline	1.5 ha
▪ Pollinator Meadows	0.8 ha
▪ Forest Restoration	9.0 ha
Total	15.8 ha

New Brighton Park Salt Marsh



Preferred Salt Marsh Concept

English Bay

Bluff Protection

Shallow Stream Ravine

Riparian Corridor

Wetland

Tatlow Creek Daylighting

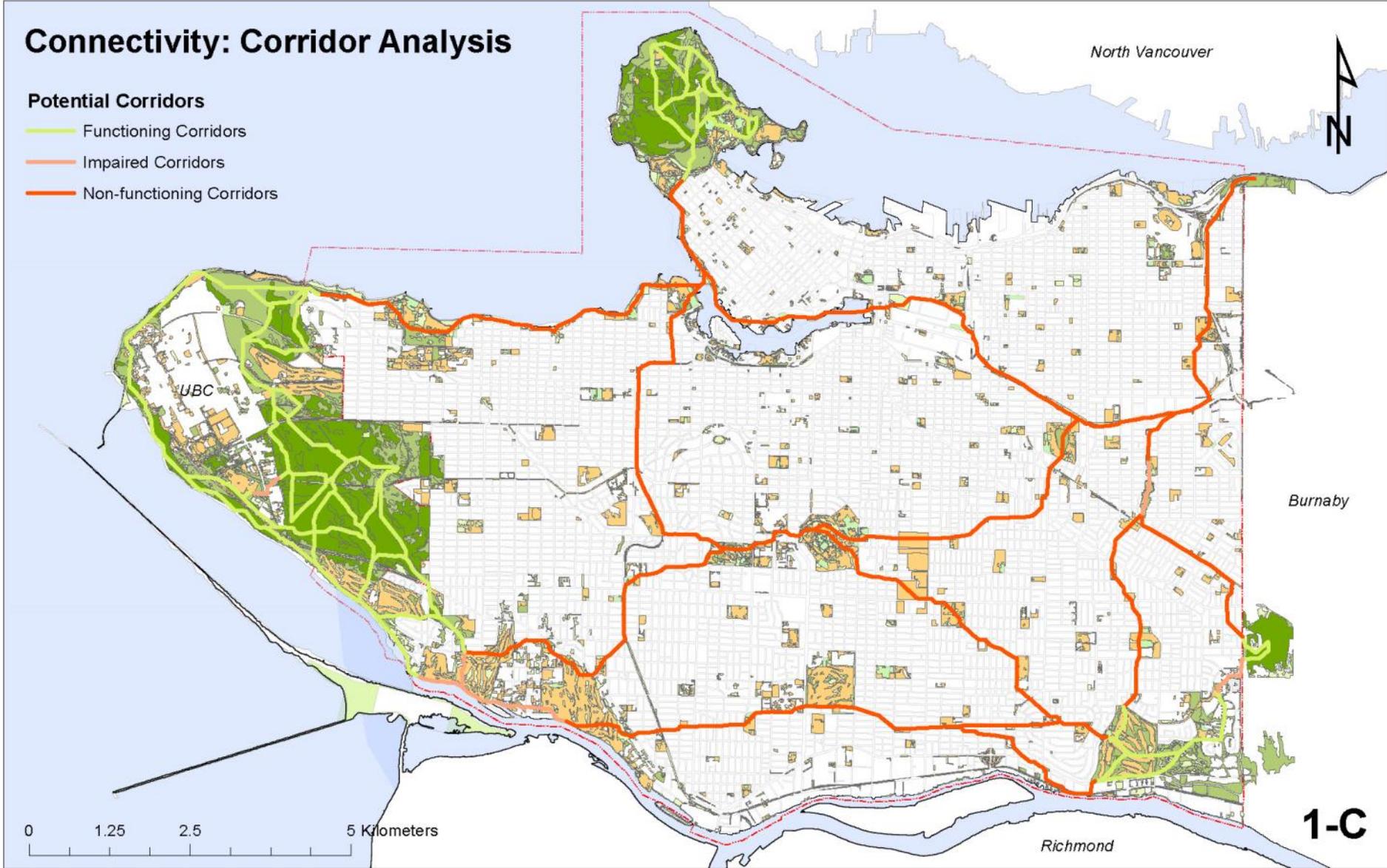


Priority Actions

Connectivity: Corridor Analysis

Potential Corridors

- Functioning Corridors
- Impaired Corridors
- Non-functioning Corridors



How do we build an ecological network?

Example - Building the Ecological Network



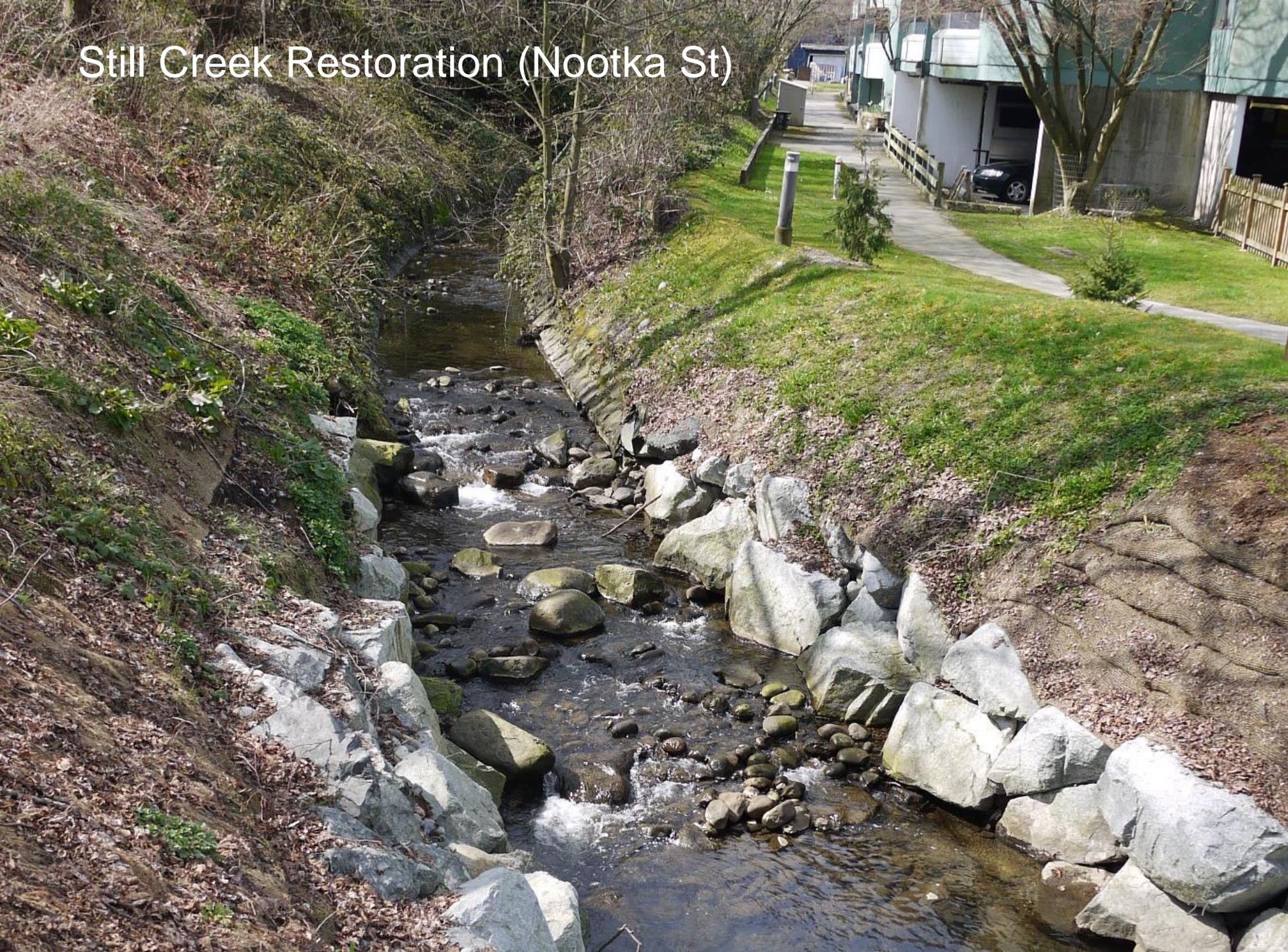
Restoring Native Forests in Everett Crowley Park





Replanting native forests in Everett Crowley Park

Still Creek Restoration (Nootka St)





Before: October 17, 2014



After: October 28, 2014

Managing Invasive Species



Small wetlands (Crab Park)



No mow test area (Jones Park)



Pollinator Garden (Oak Meadows Park)



Rainwater management in Creekway Park

Questions?