

# Techniques, Triage and Lessons Learned for Landscape Scale Knotweed Control

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Judy Blanco, Cedar River Restoration Coordinator, [Cascade Land Conservancy](#)

Presented at the [Puget Sound Knotweed Forum](#) October 31, 2011



# The Halloween part first....

**The Wilderness Child**  
Food, Health, Spirituality & Nature

Home About Me Herbs and Spices Recipes BoardPost

Sunday, May 16, 2010

## Knotweed, A Delicious Pest



There's only one plant I find that is as annoying to dandelions, and that's Japanese knotweed. This bamboo plant has become very common in many parts of the US, to the degree that it's being labeled "invasive." Indeed, it is, I'm not a bad thing, if only you would realize just how useful it is. And it's good for you. You can just imagine my excitement to learn I have a HUGE crop available to me down by the creek. It just sort of shows up and hopefully it's here to stay.

It really is a pretty plant when you take the time to look. Green, speckled with burgundy, large oval leaves, and lovely little, creamy white flowers in late summer.

While the roots are troublesome, damaging foundations, roads, flood defenses and the like, the flowers are sometimes prized by beekeepers as an important nectar source. Knotweed flowers at a time when little else blooms. The honey produced from knotweed is similar to buckwheat honey, though not quite as strong.

### Knotweed Cobbler



**Knotweed Cobbler**

Ingredients:  
4 cups knotweed, sliced into rings  
3/4 cup sweetener (optional but recommended)

1/4 cup shredded coconut  
1/4 cup coarse pecan/nut flour  
3 tsp butter, melted  
1/8 tsp cinnamon  
1/8 tsp nutmeg

Start by cooking down your knotweed in a pot over medium heat. You don't need to add water since knotweed contains enough on its own. Just put it in the pot, add your sweetener, and stir it occasionally until it cooks down into a compote.

Add your compote to a buttered baking dish. In a separate bowl mix together your coconut, nut flour, melted butter, cinnamon and nutmeg. It should stick together in a crumbly mixture. Sprinkle this over your knotweed mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

This dessert is wonderful served warm with a side of vanilla ice cream, but I found it to be just as tasty served cold all by itself.

Japanese knotweed is quickly becoming one of my favorite foods. It's a plant that tastes sweet like fruit, it's abundant, it's good for you, and it grows quickly - as much as 3 to 4 meters in a matter of weeks. Rest assured, there will be more recipes with knotweed in the future. How much more I'll get this season with the deep freeze is unknown, but at least I have yet another crop to look forward to each spring.

Knotweed has found itself a plant of interest to the healthfood industry as well, being a fantastic source of antioxidants.

July (8)  
June (7)  
May (7)  
Forest Folk  
Fiddleheads with Walnuts & Fennel  
Knotweed, A Delicious Pest  
My First Crop Mob  
I Started A Farm  
Dandelion Fritters  
Bettaine, Florida, Goat Cheese & Honey  
April (7)  
March (9)  
February (8)  
January (4)  
2009 (26)

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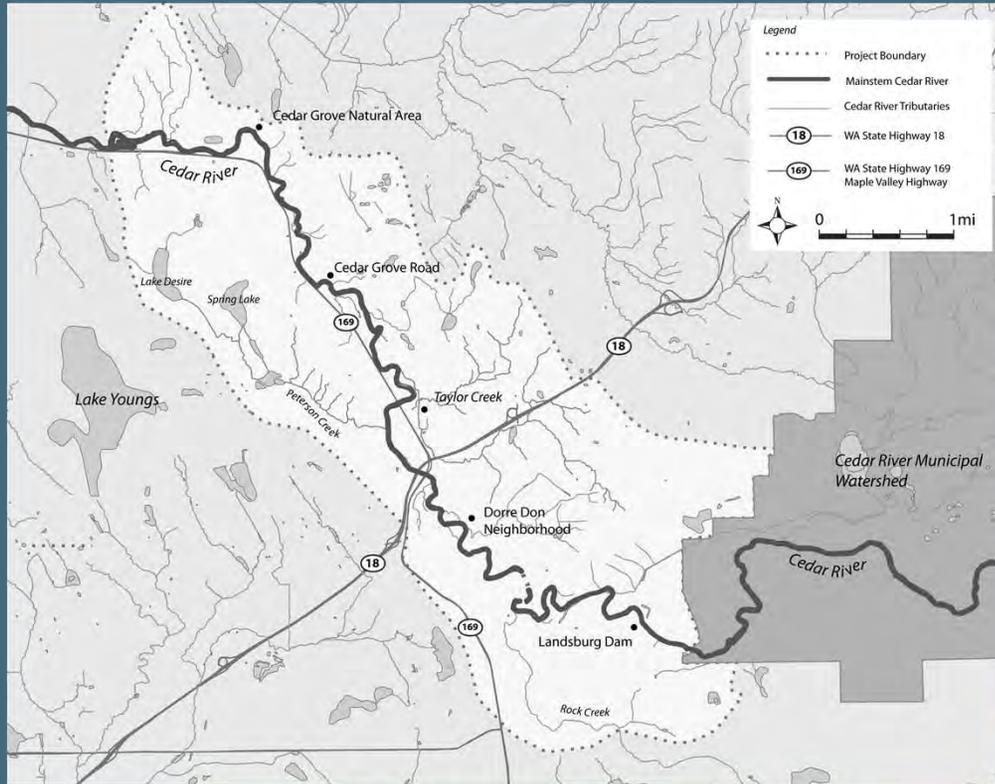
**Blackbird**  
Naturals

Search

http://2.bp.blogspot.com/\_U643MZkC1M/S\_BaZLjuX/AAAAAAAAAQ/nQEVlcKrv/s1600/knotweed+cooking.jpg

Stewardship Department Cedar River 5:04 PM 10/28/2011

# Cedar River Restoration



Landscape scale,  
coordinated approach

Knotweed control, replanting  
on public and private property

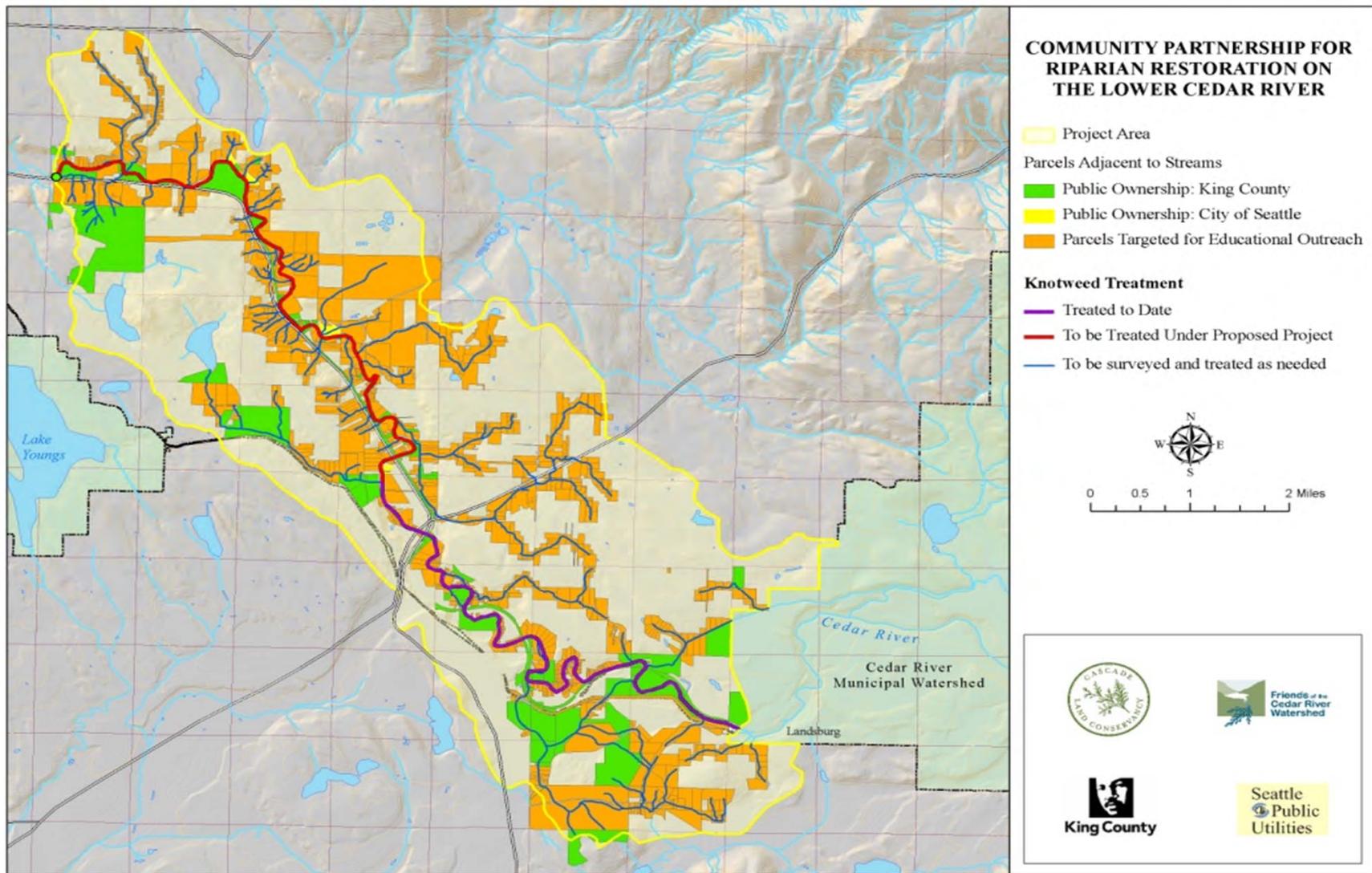
Volunteer & education events



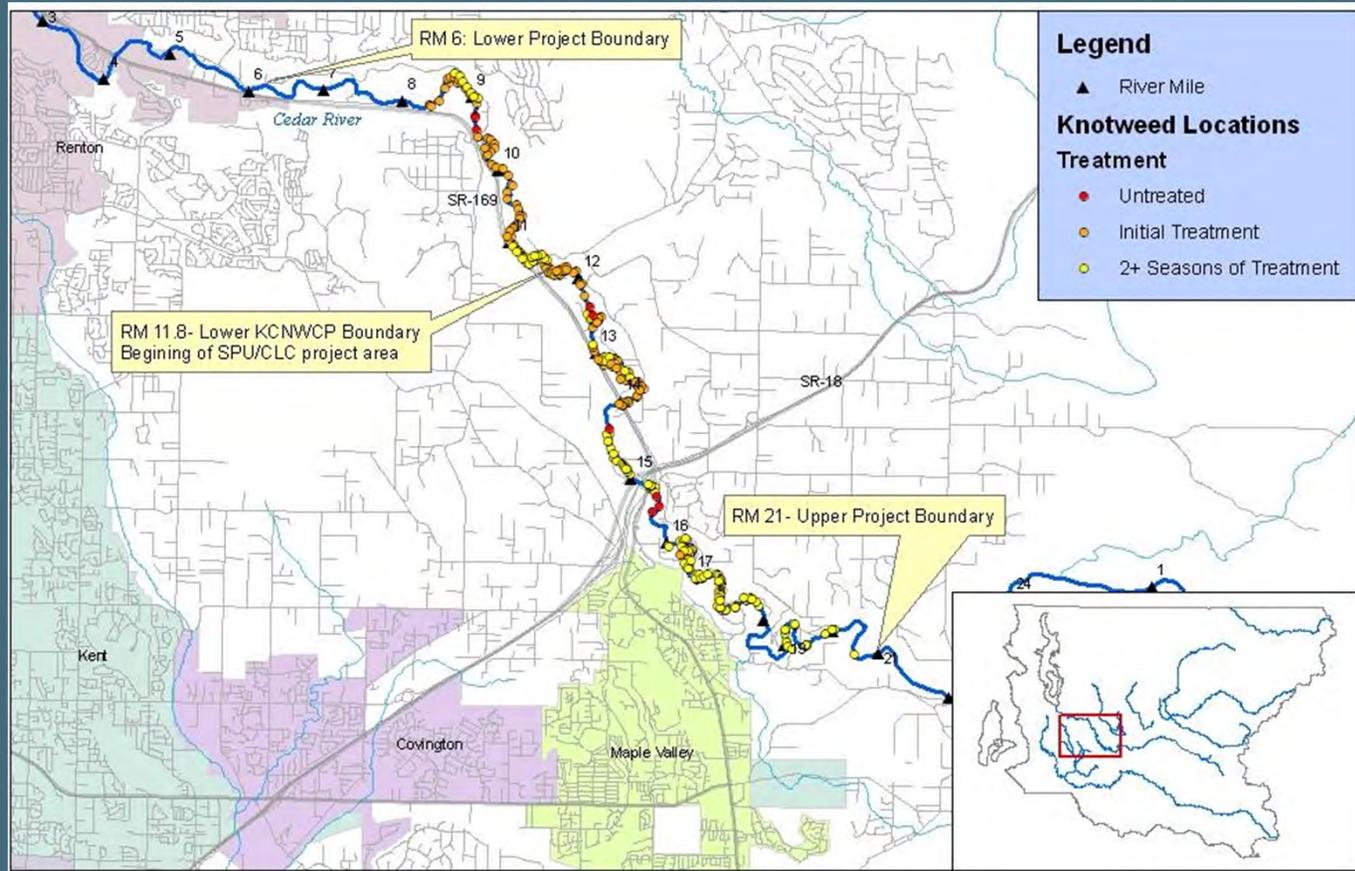
Friends of the  
Cedar River  
Watershed



# Lower Cedar River Stewardship in Action Partnership, est. 2010



# Coordinated Knotweed Control & Riparian Revegetation



- Knotweed treatment along 16 river miles
- Cooperative partnerships with landowners throughout project area
- 25 acres planted, public and private property
- 11,200 plants installed by 2011. 4,250 on private property
- 26 Volunteer events and 4 community workshops per year



# Knotweed Control on the Cedar: Adaptive Management in Action

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- King County Noxious Weed Control Program
- King County Rivers and Floodplain Management
- King County Dept. Natural Resources and Parks
- Cascade Land Conservancy
- Seattle Public Utilities
- Applied Ecology
- Washington Conservation Corps
- EarthCorps
- Hundreds of private landowners

And joining us next year:

- Friends of the Cedar River Watershed
- City of Renton



# Knotweed Control Project Management



**STEWARDSHIP in ACTION**

**YOU CAN REPLACE KNOTWEED WITH HEALTHY PLANTS**

**PLEASE CONTACT :**

REBECCA SAYRE AT  
REBECCA@CEDARRIVER.ORG

O.R. CALL:  
206.297.8141

VISIT  
WWW.CEDARRIVER.ORG /  
STEWARDSHIPINACTION

**2011 WORKSHOPS**

**KNOTWEED REMOVAL 101  
NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR**

JUNE 25TH 1PM - 4PM

**PLANTING AND MULCHING**

OCTOBER 15TH 10AM - 1PM

ALL 2011 WORKSHOPS TAKE PLACE AT  
THE CEDAR GRANDE  
22731 SE 218TH RD. MAPLE VALLEY

**Friends of the Cedar River Watershed**

www.cedarriver.org

**Do you Have Knotweed Woes?  
We Are Here to Help!**

**Knotweed is a Menace That Destroys Property and Habitat**

**Knotweed Removal**  
Knotweed is an aggressive invasive plant that destabilizes shorelines, putting property at risk. Where knotweed is established, no other plant species can grow. Knotweed dies back in the winter exposing bare stream banks to the elements. Not only that, fish and wildlife are deprived of shelter, food, and habitat.



*Knotweed Takes Over Where Ever It Grows*

Stewardship in Action is coordinating FREE technical assistance to help landowners replace this destructive weed with healthy plants.

**Model Landscaping**  
We provide FREE design consultations and planting assistance to create attractive and functional landscaping to replace knotweed infestations with plants that are good for people, property, fish, and wildlife.



*Thriving Native Plants After One Year of Growth*

**Neighbor to Neighbor**  
By coordinating neighbors who are interested in providing treatment and replanting support, we will be able to get knotweed under control!



The projects targets properties from Cavanaugh Pond and Landsburg Dam

Contact us to learn about FREE treatment and design services, upcoming workshops, and MORE!



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# CLC Project Area Characteristics

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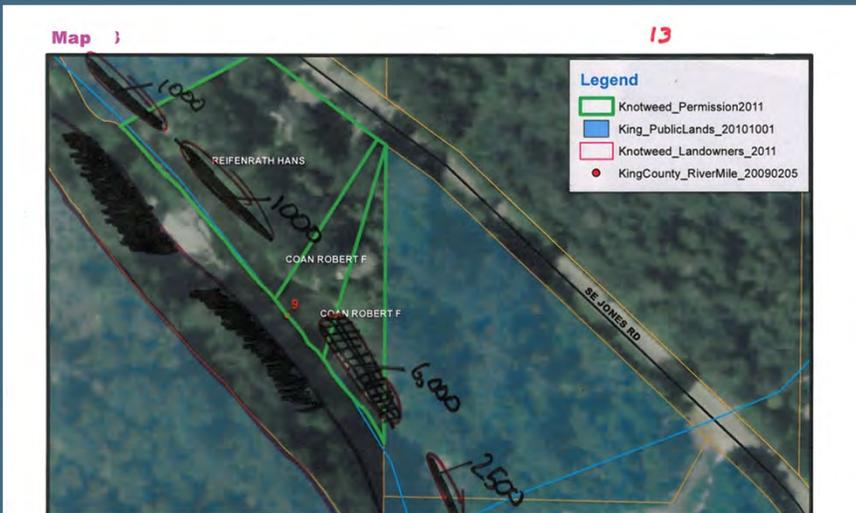
Contiguous infestations (solid knotweed!)

Mix of public and private lands

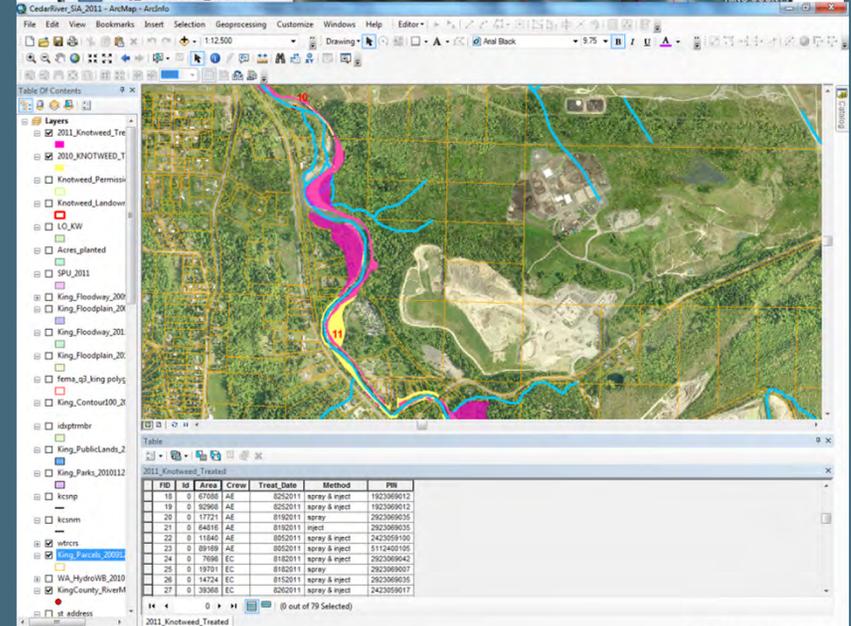
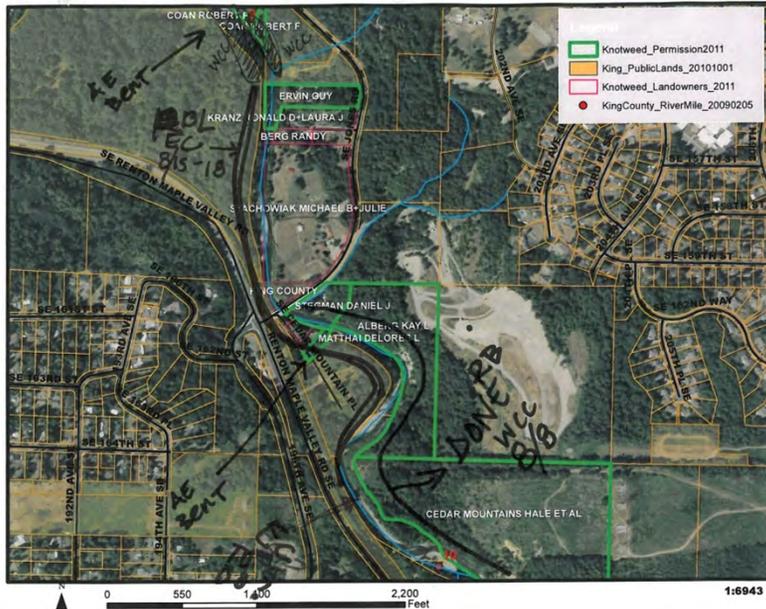
Potential high-quality off-channel refuge areas



# Data Collection

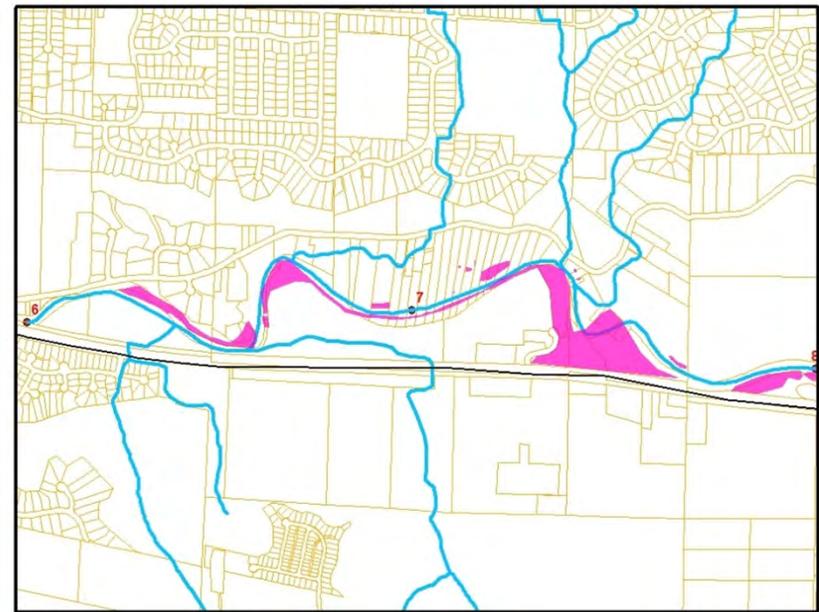
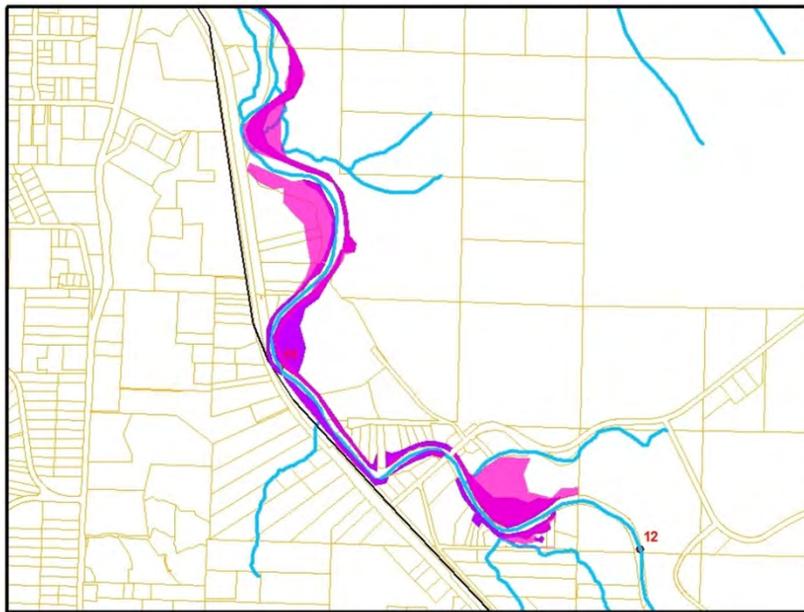


Cedar River Overview RM 10-9

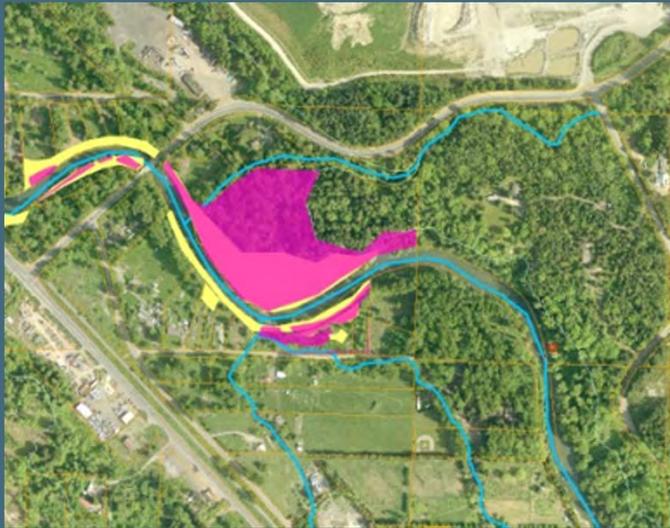




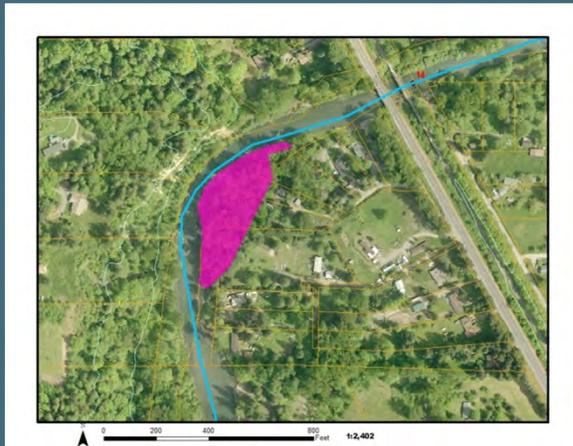
# Treatment Strategy



# Methods



# Methods



# Results

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# Replanting



# Thank you

