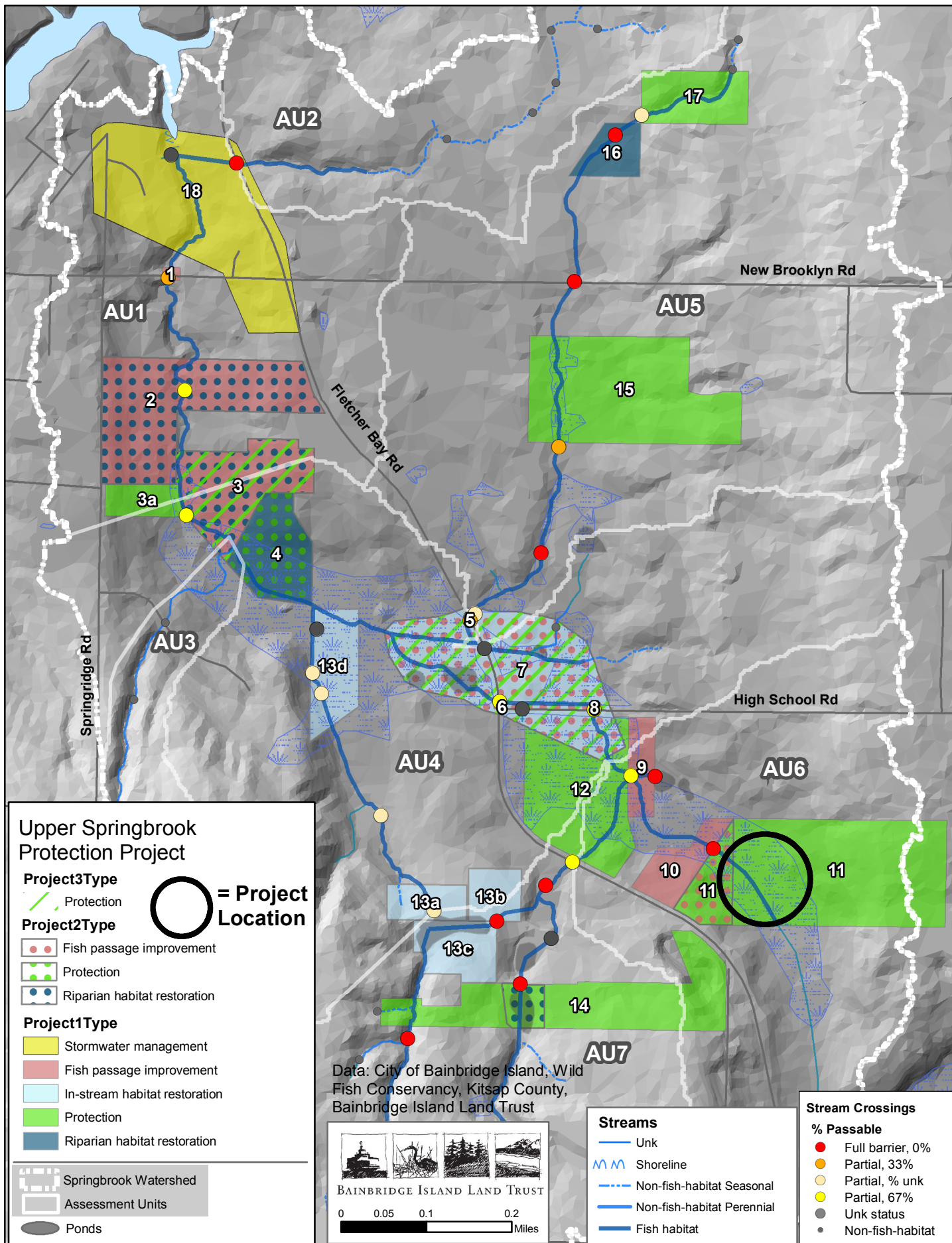


Appendix III Project 11

Upper Springbrook Protection Project

Conceptual Design



Upper Springbrook Creek Protection Conceptual Design

This project proposes to protect by acquisition nearly 23 acres of mostly undisturbed and undeveloped forested wetland, stream and associated riparian habitat in Springbrook Creek Assessment Unit 6 (AU).

During the Springbrook Creek Watershed Assessment the Upper Springbrook Creek tributary (SB01-2) was identified as hosting some of the highest quality stream and wetland conditions within the entire watershed. Water monitoring indicates temperatures in the stream are of high quality all year round – the only area within the watershed to meet temperature water quality standards year round.

Coho and cutthroat have been documented within this reach of the stream and downstream, and there is excellent potential for fish rearing habitat within the AU. There is mature riparian vegetation hydrologically connected to the stream.



The Upper Springbrook Creek tributary is characterized by a large wetland complex, native vegetation which provides shade to the stream and food for a number of birds and other animals. The stream width varies from 6 feet in width with a defined channel to a narrow approximately 2 foot channel within a large wetland complex. The stream runs year round. Due to the large undisturbed wetland complex, the Washington Department of Ecology's Watershed Characterization identified this AU as particularly important for providing water recharge and discharge functions thus keeping this functioning wetland protected is important to overall watershed health.

During the Springbrook Creek Watershed Assessment, this property, and adjoining properties downstream were identified as a high priority for protection.

Specific Goals:

This proposal is to acquire the property from the existing willing landowner (see Landowner Acknowledgment) for protection purposes and leave the property as is, for the most part, except for perhaps some well sited foot path for hikers, invasive plant and debris removal over time. There is a full fish passage barrier culvert on the northwest property boundary. There is an opportunity to remove the culvert after the acquisition takes place, to improve fish utilization of over .25 miles of stream habitat above the fish culvert.

There are two separate parcels:

Kitsap County tax parcel 282502-1-005-2006 (20.03 acres)

Kitspa County tax parcel 282502-2-001-2008 (2.96 acres)

The 2.96 acre parcel had an old home and outbuildings on it which have been removed by the existing landowner. The conceptual plan does reserve the opportunity to utilize approximately 1.16 acres of this parcel for flexible uses such as parking for public use of trails or an interpretive kiosk.

In discussing options for protection, the acquisition tool, versus a conservation easement, was chosen based on discussion with the landowner. The goal would be to have the property acquired by an entity such as Bainbridge Island Land Trust who is experienced in holding preserve property and who would develop a stewardship and management plan for the property which would outline the care needed to retain and preserve the important stream and wetland functions the property provides to the entire Springbrook Creek watershed.

Property Map and Protection Concept

