

VISION PRINCIPLES

1. Enhance existing towns and cities and maintain individual community identity by encouraging inward growth and more compact development and buffering community boundaries with agrarian and natural lands.
2. Protect, preserve and improve air quality, water quality, wildlife habitat, agricultural land and the scenic beauty of Cache Valley.
3. Maintain and improve access to recreation by connecting local recreational amenities to a regional network.
4. Expand local recreational systems, providing small parks located near where people live and linked by trails for walking and biking.

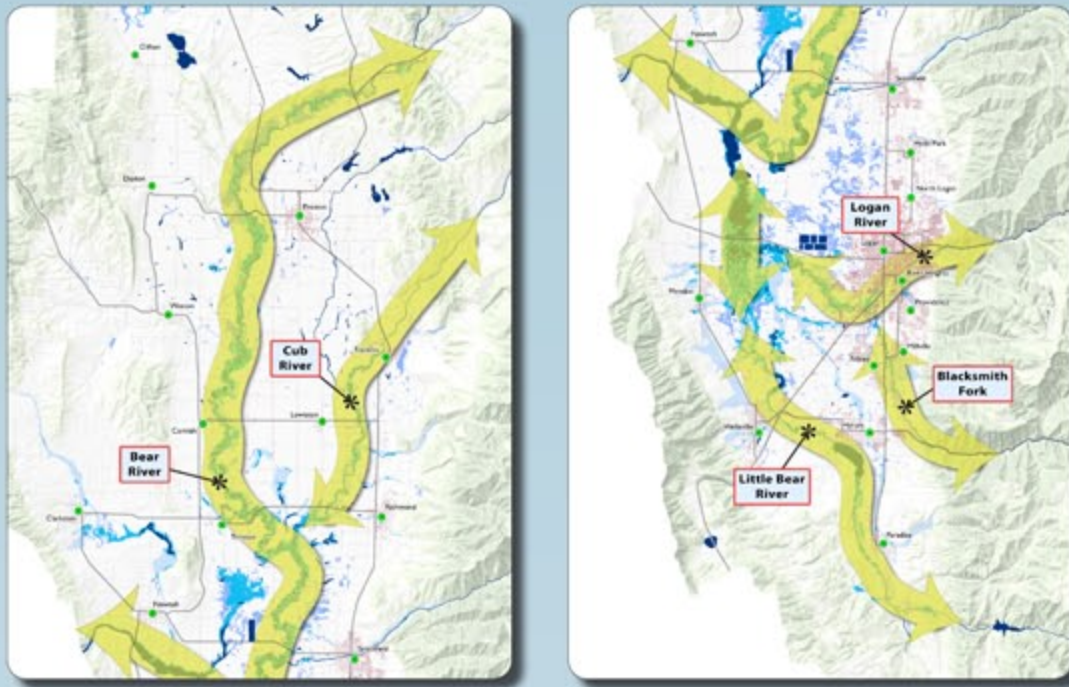
BIG IDEAS & CONCEPTS

1. WATER QUALITY - Water quality resources identified on the map include water bodies, wetlands and floodplains. Safeguarding our water resources is important to maintaining and improving the quality and safety of our water supply, and keeping growth away from them reduces risk to public safety due to flooding. Our water resources also sustain birds, fish, deer, elk and other wildlife.



1a. Safeguarding our Water Resources

Major riparian corridors could become the focus of our water quality protection strategy. What if the Bear River and its tributaries continued to provide quality water for our region, along with recreational opportunity, unique wildlife habitat, and protection from flood hazards?

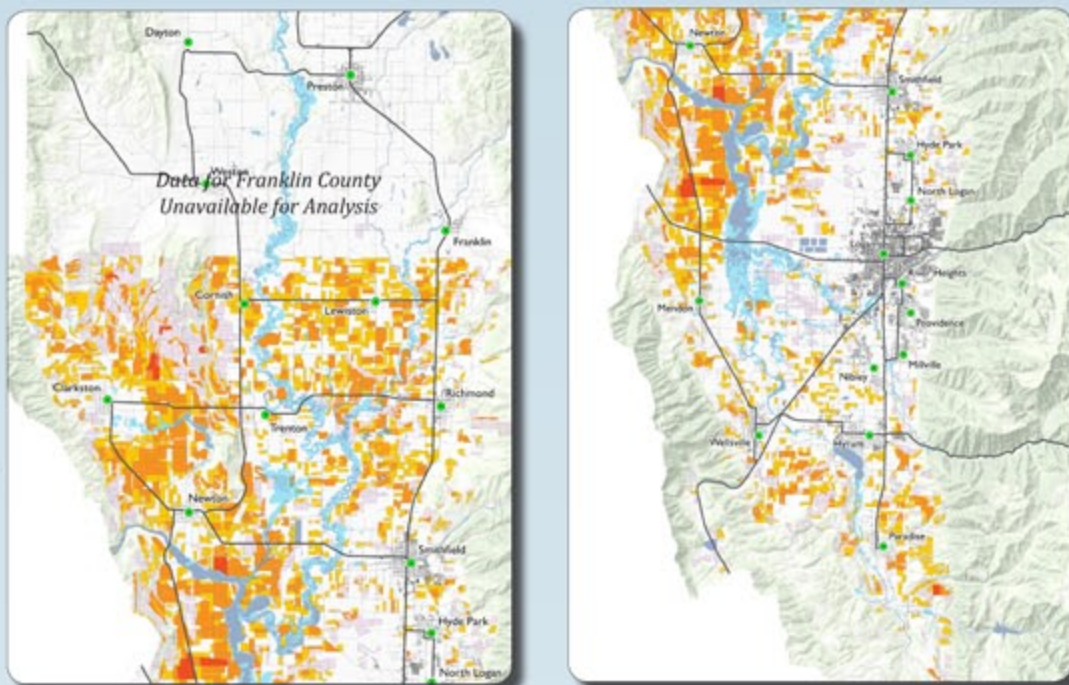


2. WORKING FARMS & RANCHES - Working farms and ranches identified on the map includes lands with soils considered to be of national, statewide, or local importance, recognizing potential constraints, like a high water table or steep slopes. Working farms and ranches foster security and self sufficiency in our food system and significantly contribute to our local economy and the lifestyle and character of Cache Valley.

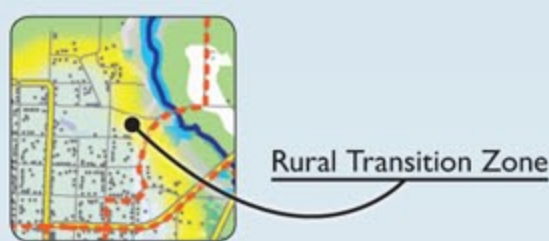


2a. A Network of Viable Farmland

The small inset maps at right depict parcels of 160 acres or more (red), parcels between 40 and 160 acres (medium orange), and parcels between 20 and 40 acres (light orange). When combined with high value farmland identified on the large map, possible benchmarks become apparent. What conservation goals makes sense for our region? All high value lands 40 acres or more? All moderate value lands over 20 acres?

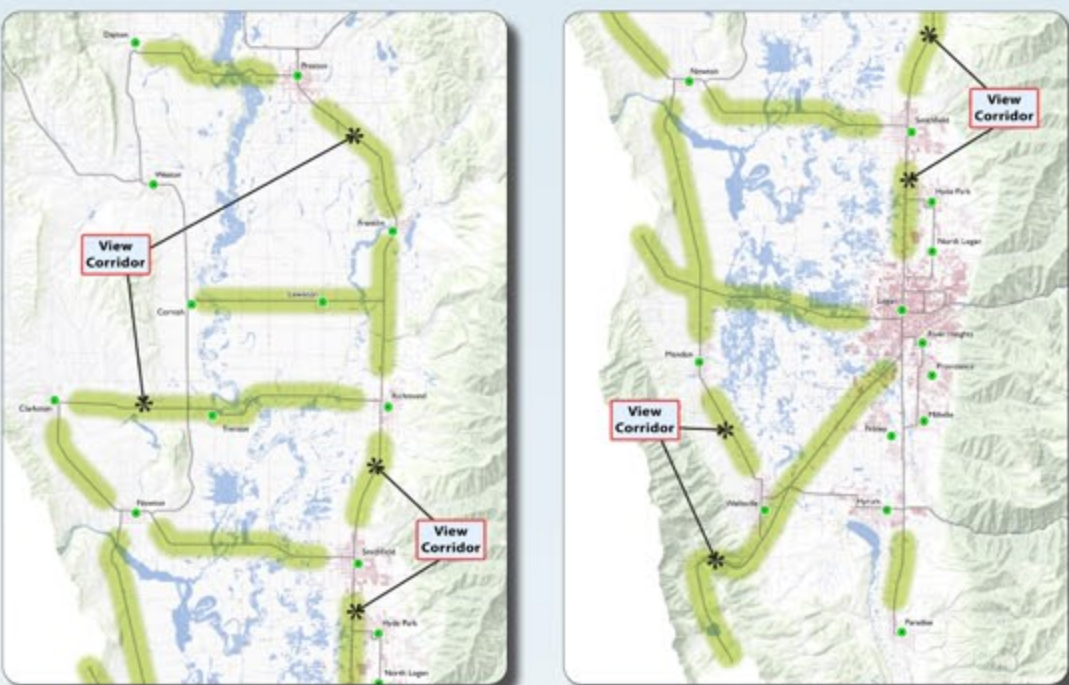


3. RURAL TRANSITION ZONES - Careful conservation efforts at the edges of communities provide a transition space from urban to rural land while also keeping communities from growing into a single conglomerate.



4. A VIEW FROM THE ROAD

Scenic view corridors are lands immediately adjacent to the valley's major roads, and they provide visual access to many of the lands associated with Cache Valley's identity, from cropland and pastures to riparian areas and riverbeds. Scenic view corridors also provide a sense of separation between communities. If the quality of these corridors diminishes, the communities in the valley will begin to feel like a single conglomerate. Maintaining the quality of these corridors will likely require a range of creative solutions. Which make the most sense in your part of the valley?



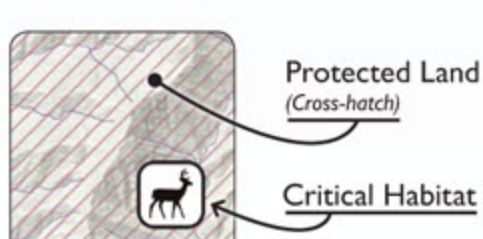
5. RECREATION

Bonneville Shoreline Trail and the Regional Recreation Network - With most people living within just a few miles of the ancient shoreline of Lake Bonneville, The Bonneville Shoreline Trail will become the backbone of the valley's regional recreational network. The trail will link local systems together and provide access to other regional recreational amenities, like canyon trails or regional recreation facilities. The valley's rivers also provide opportunity for a regional trail system, both on and alongside the water course.

Local Recreational Systems - Local recreational systems are smaller in scale, enabling most residents to walk to a park or other recreational space from home. Parks and facilities are linked to one another by trails, bike routes and pedestrian-friendly sidewalks, and local systems are connected to the regional one.



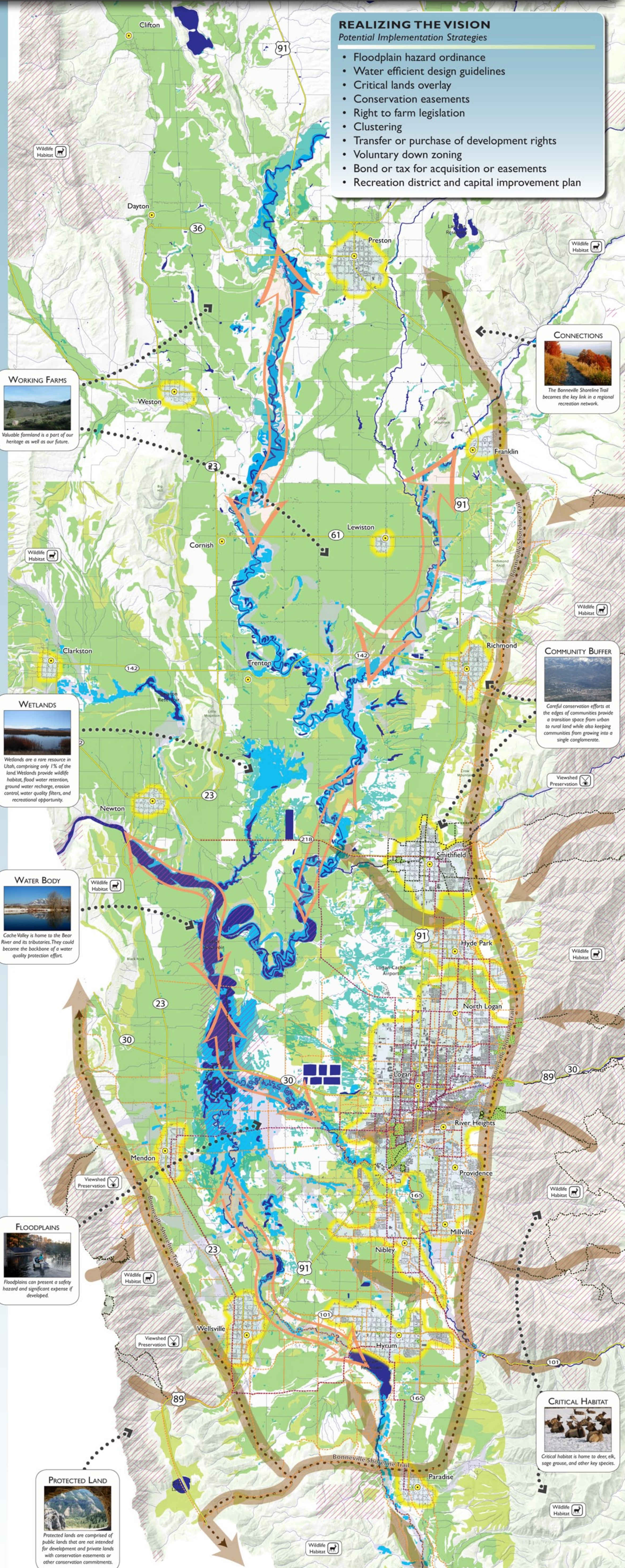
6. PROTECTED LANDS / CRITICAL HABITAT - Resources in the foothills, mountains and canyons overlap to a high degree. Combined, they represent critical wildlife habitat (key avian and large mammal species), scenic views, ground water recharge areas and lands used for recreation, hunting and fishing.



REALIZING THE VISION

Potential Implementation Strategies

- Floodplain hazard ordinance
- Water efficient design guidelines
- Critical lands overlay
- Conservation easements
- Right to farm legislation
- Clustering
- Transfer or purchase of development rights
- Voluntary down zoning
- Bond or tax for acquisition or easements
- Recreation district and capital improvement plan



WORKING FARMS
Valuable farmland is a part of our heritage as well as our future.

WETLANDS
Wetlands are a rare resource in Utah, comprising only 1% of the land. Wetlands provide wildlife habitat, flood water retention, ground water recharge, erosion control, water quality filters, and recreational opportunity.

WATER BODY
Cache Valley is home to the Bear River and its tributaries. They could become the backbone of a water quality protection effort.

FLOODPLAINS
Floodplains can present a safety hazard and significant expense if developed.

PROTECTED LAND
Protected lands are comprised of public lands that are not intended for development and private lands with conservation easements or other conservation commitments.

CONNECTIONS
The Bonneville Shoreline Trail becomes the key link in a regional recreation network.

COMMUNITY BUFFER
Careful conservation efforts at the edges of communities provide a transition space from urban to rural land while also keeping communities from growing into a single conglomerate.

CRITICAL HABITAT
Critical habitat is home to deer, elk, sage grouse, and other key species.

General Map Legend & Scale:

- Existing Development (Residential)
- Existing Development (Commercial)
- Local Road
- Major Road

