

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN

BYLAW NO. 1336

A bylaw to adopt the Regional District of Central Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy

WHEREAS the *Local Government Act* provides that a regional board may develop, adopt, implement, monitor and review a regional growth strategy under Part 25 of the *Act*;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board of the Regional District of Central Okanagan by resolution dated October 25, 2010, initiated the review of "The Growth Management Strategy, Bylaw No. 851, 2000", pursuant to section 854 of the *Local Government Act*;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board adopted a Consultation Plan on December 13, 2010 to provide opportunities for early and ongoing consultation in accordance with the *Act*, and during the development of the Regional Growth Strategy the Board of Directors provided the opportunity for consultation required by the *Act*;

NOW THEREFORE the Regional Board of the Regional District of Central Okanagan, in an open meeting enacts as follows:

1. "RDCO Growth Management Strategy, Bylaw No. 851, 2000", is hereby repealed;
2. Pursuant to section 863(1) of the *Local Government Act*, Schedule "A" attached to and forming part of this bylaw is hereby designated as the "Regional District of Central Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy"; and,
3. This Bylaw may be cited as "Regional District of Central Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1336, 2013.

READ A FIRST TIME this 28th day of October, 2013

READ A SECOND TIME this 28th day of October, 2013

ACCEPTED, BY RESOLUTION, BY THE

District of Lake Country Council this 17th day of December 2013

Regional District of Thompson-Nicola Board this 12th day of December 2013

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Board this 28th day of November 2013

Regional District of North Okanagan Board this 11th day of December 2013

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Board this 19th day of December 2013

REFUSED, BY RESOLUTION, BY THE

City of Kelowna Council this

16th day of December 2013

District of West Kelowna Council this

10th day of December 2013

District of Peachland Council this

10th day of December 2013

RESCIND SECOND READING this

16th day of January 2014

RE-READ SECOND READING this

28th day of April 2014

ACCEPTED, BY RESOLUTION, BY THE

City of Kelowna Council this

12th day of May 2014

District of West Kelowna Council this

13th day of May 2014

District of Peachland Council this

13th day of May 2014

District of Lake Country Council this

17th day of June 2014

Regional District of Thompson-Nicola Board this

22nd day of May 2014

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Board this

28th day of May 2014

Regional District of North Okanagan Board this

21st day of May 2014

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Board this

5th day of June 2014

READ A THIRD TIME this

23rd day of June 2014

ADOPTED this

23rd day of June 2014



CHAIR

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of RDCO Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1336, 2013, as adopted by the Regional Board on the 23rd day of June 2014

Dated at Kelowna, B.C. this
30th day of June 2014



DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

Regional District of Central Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy

"Our Home, Our Future"



Schedule 'A'

Bylaw No.1336, 2013



Source: Pictures BC

Acknowledgements

The Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) recognizes and acknowledges the complex planning environment that exists within the Central Okanagan and respected these planning processes as the Region updated the Central Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy. The Regional District of Central Okanagan thanks the planning staff, committee and working group members, member municipal councils and Board of Directors, consultants, all residents, and those individuals who dedicated their time and expertise to make the project possible.

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The preparation of this sustainable community plan was carried out with assistance from the Green Municipal Fund, a Fund financed by the Government of Canada and administered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Notwithstanding this support, the views expressed are the personal views of the authors, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Government of Canada accept no responsibility.



Graphic Artist: Stina Brown

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Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

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Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Regional Growth Strategy

The Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) is a long-range planning tool to help regional districts and local governments plan a coordinated future for their communities while dealing with regional issues and decisions that cross local political boundaries. The strategy is a collective vision from the regional partners for how they see the future in order to create a region that promotes growth that is economically, environmentally and socially healthy over a twenty (20) year time horizon.

There are three criteria for the determination of regional issues to be addressed through the RGS Review and Update process:

- **Mandatory content:** Provincial legislation requires that the following issues be addressed:
 - housing;
 - transportation;
 - regional district services;
 - parks and natural areas;
 - economic development; and,
 - reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- **Regional Board, Intergovernmental Agency Committee (IAC) and RGS Steering Committee direction:** In addition to the mandatory content, the Regional Board and RGS Steering Committee helped to identify important regional issues as they relate to the local governments.

- **Cross boundary issues:** Focus on issues that cannot be addressed by one local government because the issue affects more than one local government (and in some cases, cross regional district boundaries). For example, air quality, environmental protection, watershed management and economic development are issues that transcend municipal boundaries.

1.2 Structure of the RGS

Joint Planning Approach and Agreement Among all Parties:

The RGS represents a joint-planning approach to addressing the growth issues that go beyond local government boundaries. This RGS update was a collaboration from the member municipalities, First Nations and Provincial agencies that utilized the consultations and research, as well the updated Official Community Plans to provide a directional document that allows each member municipality the ability to choose how they will implement the future direction into their land use decisions. Many agencies and organizations contributed their expertise to this RGS update including, but not limiting to, the School District No. 23, Interior Health and the Agricultural Land Commission.

The strategy is an agreement among governments and agencies to work together on common issues to find common solutions. The strategy reflects a shared regional vision for the future, as well as goals and policies necessary to achieve effective growth management.



Policy Statements

+



Series of Maps

= RGS

The RGS content:

Section 1 Introduction

Section 2 Regional Context: A profile of the RDCO is provided as a baseline. This provides both the qualitative and quantitative groundwork for the review of the RGS.

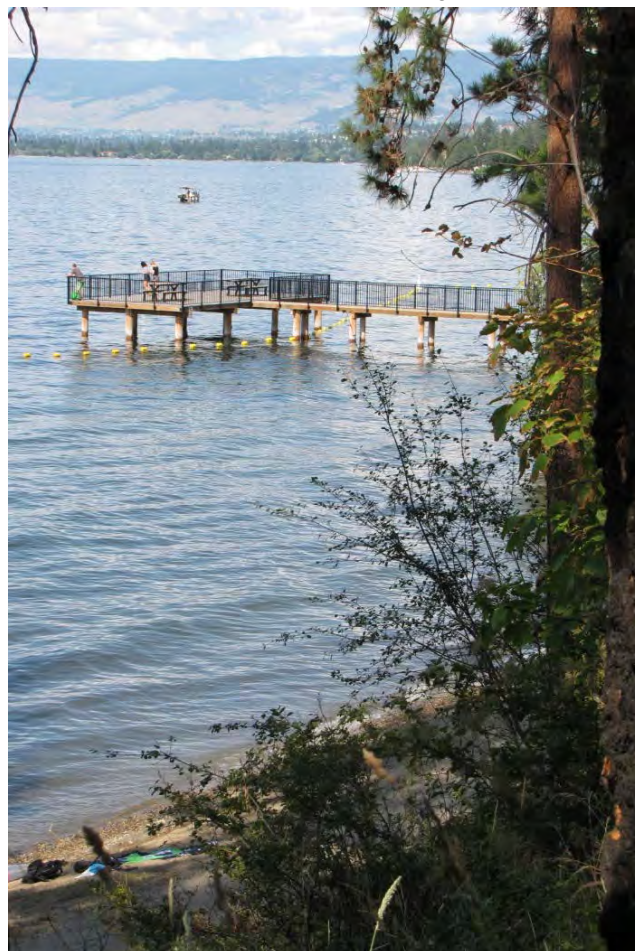
Section 3 Regional Growth Strategy: Ten issue areas form the policy structure and each issue area includes:

- **Goal** - Overall long-term goal of the issue area that reflects the input and responds to the Region's future opportunities and challenges around growth management;
- **Synopsis** - Summarizes the issue area within the regional context based on the background research; and,
- **Policies** - The statements that help achieve the issue area goal.

Section 4 Monitoring and Evaluation: The essential responsibility associated with the implementation priorities, and timing, monitoring and accountability are documented.

Appendices Technical Appendices: provides reference material to inform and supplement the RGS Review and Update. Information that is more detailed can be obtained from the RDCO Community Services Department.

Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan



2.0 CONTEXT

2.1 Central Okanagan Directive

A regional district's primary role is determined by its member jurisdictions. Regional districts act only in response to the expressed needs, interests and instructions of their members and address issues that cross political boundaries. Regional districts serve three primary roles with the relative importance of each role varying from region to region:

- To serve as the local government for their unincorporated (electoral) areas;
- To provide services to, and on behalf of, different combinations of member municipalities and electoral areas; and,
- To provide services to, and on behalf of, their entire regions (i.e., all member jurisdictions).

The RDCO provides services to residents in the Electoral Areas, including water, planning and solid waste collection. The District also provides region

wide services such as dog control, solid waste collection and recycling, 9-1-1, Regional Parks and the Emergency Response Plan for the Central Okanagan. The illustration in Figure 2.1 shows the RDCO's departments and responsibilities.

In 2010, the Regional Board adopted the Regional District's Strategic Plan that sets priorities for the Region. The Strategic Plan's intentions are for the Regional District to focus energies and resources on:

- Establishing and promoting a vision and priorities for the broader, regional community;
- Developing regional plans and strategies to address joint issues; and,
- Coordinating municipal efforts that are taken to achieve joint services goals.

Figure 2.1: RDCO Services



The Mission Statement created for the Strategic Plan provides overall guidance to the Regional District and is as follows:

“The Regional District of Central Okanagan will provide effective and efficient services that meet the needs of our citizens, in a manner that nurtures growth, opportunities and prosperity, while maintaining and enhancing the unique Central Okanagan lifestyle and environment.”

The Board identified priority areas to pursue in the 2010 Strategic Plan. The term “priority area” was used to define a theme, topic or area of service that the Board viewed as important for the Region and that would best be addressed on a regional level. In 2012, the Board reviewed priority areas of the Strategic Plan and endorsed the following areas:

1. Growth Management;
2. Transportation;
3. Intergovernmental Affairs; and,
4. Hazard Management.

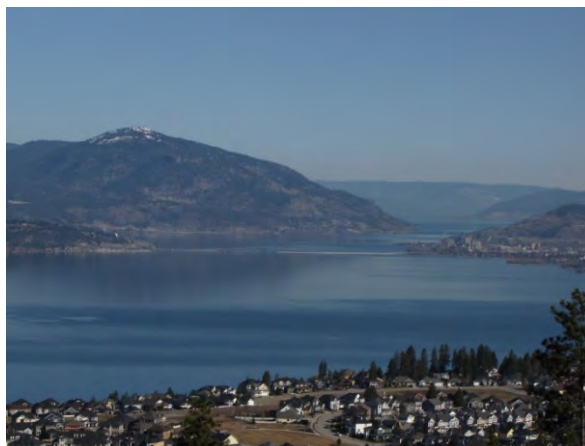
These priority areas provide the general directions for the Region, while more defined roles and tasks are defined through budgets, work plans and agreements.

2.2 Regional Overview

The RDCO is situated on both sides of the mid-section of Okanagan Lake. The Okanagan is characterized by cool humid air and cloudy skies in the winter and by dry air and bright skies in summer. The warm summers with fairly low humidity, as well as the relatively mild winters provide an attractive environment for agriculture and recreation.

Since the adoption of the initial RGS in the year 2000, there have been a number of changes in the Central Okanagan, some highlights include:

- Steady growth in population, housing, and employment (population grew by 20%);
- Opening of UBC Okanagan in 2005;
- Incorporation of the District of West Kelowna on December 6, 2007;
- Expansion of Kelowna International Airport and improvements along the Highway 97 Corridor;
- Replacement of the three-lane Okanagan Lake Bridge with the five-lane W.R. Bennett Bridge in 2008;
- Increased efficiency and expansion of public transit;
- Protection of key recreation and conservation lands (e.g. Mission Creek Greenway);
- Expansion of Kelowna General Hospital;



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

- Increased density of settlement areas, bringing about efficiencies in servicing and infrastructure costs; and
- Endorsement of a regional growth vision and implementation through Regional Context Statements in the municipalities’ community plans.

2.2.1 DEMOGRAPHICS

The total population for the Central Okanagan from the 2011 Census was 179,839. Population growth in the Central Okanagan has historically outpaced growth in the province overall. This trend continued in the period between Census counts, where it outpaced the provincial average by 4% over the 5-year period from 2006 to 2011 (Table 2.1, on page 6). Additionally, over the census period the Region showed the fourth highest population growth in the country.

Population growth in the Region has been primarily due to in-migration (Table 2.2, on page 6). High inflows of migrants have resulted in the population of the Region doubling in the past 25 years from 89,730 in 1986 to 179,839 in 2011. The Region was one of the highest growth areas in the province through the 1990s. The past several years have seen slower, but steady growth. The average rate of population growth from 2000 to 2011 has been 2.1% per annum compared to 4.0% per annum in the 1990s.

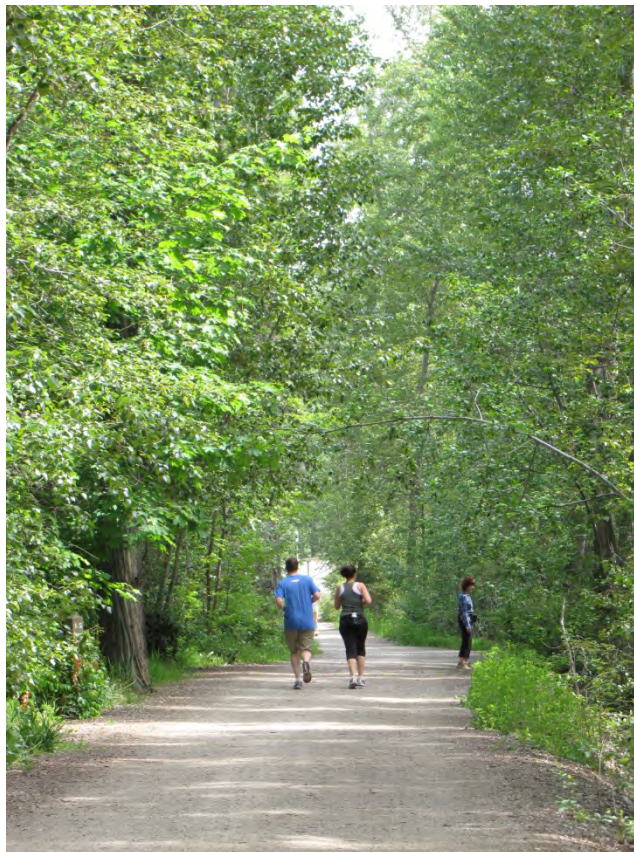
Intra-provincial migration has historically been the largest segment of migration to the Central Okanagan. However, interprovincial migration has been an increasingly significant migration component over the past eight years. The Region has experienced a smaller but steady flow of international migration over the past seven years as well.

The RDCO has experienced a decline in the net natural increase between 2001 and 2006, however in recent years the trend is starting to increase as shown in Table 2.3, on page 6. The Region is seeing a healthier, active senior which is translating to an increasing life expectancy. There has also been an unprecedented increase in births. Projections predict that the net natural increase will be a positive number over the next 10 years. The net natural increase could accelerate over the next 20 years as the majority of the 65 and over age category will reach the age of 85.

The Central Okanagan has been older than the provincial population throughout the last twenty years. Table 2.4 (on page 7) highlights the fact that the proportion of the population aged 45 years and over increased significantly from 1996 to 2006 by 43.3%¹. This increase can be partly attributed to the area's large retirement base. The Region is a popular retirement centre, and the increase in the proportion of retirees in the population will support more service sector employment. Over the long term, the Region is expected to continue to receive strong net inflows of population. The age group 15 to 24 showed an increase that could be influenced by the creation of the UBC Okanagan campus in 2005, which had a starting population of 2,800 students. UBC-O Enrolment in 2010 was 7,075².

Population projection numbers for the Region are expected to exceed 270,000 by 2036, an increase of 45% from 2011 (Table 2.5, on page 7). The net population growth projection from 2011 to 2036

indicates that growth in the Region will result from positive net migration.



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan



Source: District of West Kelowna

1 Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006

2 Source: UBCO Webpage, Facts and Figures, accessed March 7, 2011

Table 2.1 Population Estimates, Census Years Source: BC Stats, Census

	1996	2001	2006	2011	% Change 2006-11	% Change 2001-11
British Columbia	3,724,500	3,907,738	4,113,487	4,400,057	7.0%	12.6%
Central Okanagan	136,537	147,748	161,959	179,839	11.0%	21.7%
Kelowna	89,445	96,290	106,707	117,312	9.9%	21.8%
West Kelowna**			27,095	30,892	14.0%	**
Lake Country	9,005	9,270	9,610	11,708	21.8%	26.3%
Peachland	4,525	4,660	4,885	5,200	6.4%	11.6%
Electoral Areas**	26,347	29,673	5,527	5,742	3.9%	-80.6%
First Nations (including IR7, IR9 and IR 10)	7,215	7,855	8,135	8,985	10.4%	14.4%

Source: BC Stats, Census

Table 2.2: Central Okanagan Migration Components of Population Growth 1996 to 2011

Year	International (Net)	Interprovincial (Net)	Intra-Provincial (Net)	Total Net Migration
1996-97	335	719	1,818	2,872
1997-98	258	-179	2,240	2,319
1998-99	72	-271	2,177	1,978
1999-00	128	-291	1,668	1,505
2000-01	134	-182	1,593	1,545
2001-02	119	-28	2,063	2,154
2002-03	-136	829	2,245	2,938
2003-04	322	1,280	1,487	3,089
2004-05	400	1,210	1,249	2,859
2005-06	422	1,547	1,810	3,779
2006-07	408	2,201	1,184	3,793
2007-08	654	2,202	1,093	3,949
2008-09	717	1,214	1,040	2,971
2009-10	548	1,234	1,049	2,831
2010-11	312	804	1,049	2,165

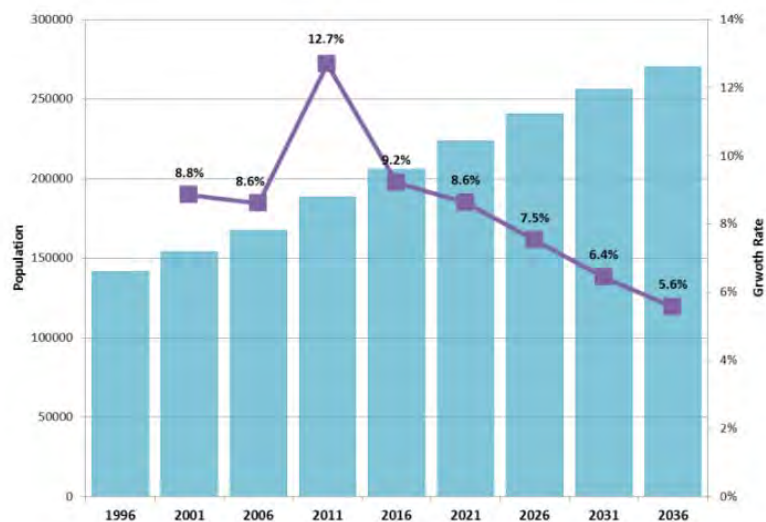
Source: BC Stats - <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/Demography/Mobility.aspx>

Table 2.3: Central Okanagan Natural Increase Components of Population Growth 1996 to 2011,

Year	Births	Deaths	Net Natural Increase
1996-97	1,433	1,065	368
1997-98	1,380	1,166	214
1998-99	1,348	1,147	201
1999-00	1,414	1,158	256
2000-01	1,344	1,171	173
2001-02	1,294	1,328	-34
2002-03	1,322	1,335	-13
2003-04	1,355	1,456	-101
2004-05	1,346	1,417	-71
2005-06	1,427	1,448	-21
2006-07	1,533	1,464	69
2007-08	1,577	1,526	51
2008-09	1,654	1,511	143
2009-10	1,732	1,513	219
2010-11	1,637	1,534	103

Source: BC Stats

Figure 2.2: RDCO Population Projection, BC Stats



Source: BC Stats

Table 2.4: Population Estimates for Age Groups, Census Years, BC Stats and Census

Age Groups	Census Years				Percent Change		
	1996	2001	2006	2011	2001-2006	2006-2011	2001-2011
0 - 4	8,015	7,145	7,190	8,305	0.6%	15.5%	16.2%
5 - 9	9,040	8,805	8,330	8,520	-5.4%	2.3%	-3.2%
10 - 14	9,400	9,940	10,000	9,525	0.6%	-4.7%	-4.2%
15 - 19	8,390	9,950	10,760	11,015	8.1%	2.4%	10.7%
20 - 24	7,985	8,070	10,050	11,670	24.5%	16.1%	44.6%
25 - 34	18,330	16,210	16,805	21,055	3.7%	25.3%	29.9%
35 - 44	21,790	23,160	22,340	21,765	-3.5%	-2.6%	-6.0%
45 - 54	16,880	21,390	25,355	28,140	18.5%	11.0%	31.6%
55 - 64	13,370	15,760	20,595	25,400	30.7%	23.3%	61.2%
65+	23,355	27,295	30,840	34,450	13.0%	11.7%	26.2%
Central Okanagan	136,540	147,740	162,280	179,840	9.8%	10.8%	21.7%

Source: BC Stats

Table 2.5: Population Projections for Age Groups, BC Stats

Year	Age Groups							Total
	Under 5	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65 plus	
2011	8,492	17,900	24,847	23,558	37,949	41,142	33,346	187,234
2016	9,825	19,541	22,212	29,263	39,116	44,912	41,158	206,027
2021	10,591	22,093	21,591	29,388	45,557	46,233	48,352	223,805
2026	10,773	24,077	23,125	27,396	53,214	45,816	56,237	240,638
2031	10,725	24,980	25,646	26,985	57,158	47,056	63,576	256,126
2036	10,954	25,140	27,653	28,580	56,466	53,572	68,028	270,393
% change 2011 to 2036	29.0%	40.4%	11.3%	21.3%	48.8%	30.2%	104.0%	44.4%

2.2.2 EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

The Central Okanagan's economic diversity has been its strength in the past and its future will depend on continuing to enhance that diversity (Figure 2.2). The traditional employment generators will still be important in the future, but they will be complemented by the growth of other industries such as health care, education, research and development, tourism, aerospace and high tech sectors. Most job creation is coming from smaller business employers. The trend towards smaller businesses may lead to more interest in the clean, high tech/business parks, office complexes and even home occupations; the latter of which has seen significant growth in the Central Okanagan in recent years.

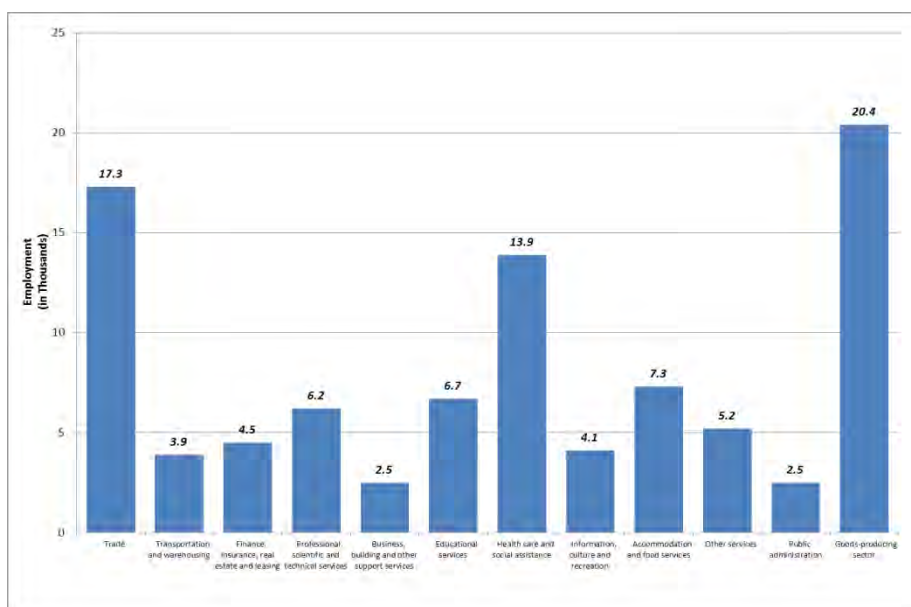
Although unemployment has risen slightly in recent years, the private sector identifies a concern that succession planning, or the need for filling the void in certain occupations, will be felt more dramatically as the current workforce ages. There is a projection of a reduced labour supply within the 25 – 49 age group. The trend is one that is being faced across the country. However, this region may experience a greater impact due to the attraction of retirees to this area. It will be important to attract and retain youth or young skilled labour and professionals graduating from local educational institutions by employers in both public and private sectors. This will require the development of strategies amongst member municipalities and various partners to create communities and employment opportunities that are attractive for the long term. One example of a program in action



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

targeting the younger labour force is the work of the Okanagan Young Professionals program. The EDC helps support the program to help attract, assist and retain talented professionals in their 20's and 30's to the Okanagan Valley as this works toward filling the employment opportunities in the Region.

Figure 2.3: Employment in the Central Okanagan by Industry, Census 2011



3.0 REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY

3.1 Our Regional Vision

In order to protect quality of life, the Region is committed to working together in creating and supporting economic opportunities, addressing issues of environmental quality and planning for future services such as transportation and water systems. The RGS Vision Statement describes the ideal outcome for the Region. This vision sets out direction for the management of future growth with subsequent policies and actions for implementation.

"The Central Okanagan is a region of urban and rural communities that are interconnected, distinct, healthy, vibrant and welcoming. The citizens, businesses, First Nations Councils and local governments understand and accept that they are individually and jointly responsible to effectively and efficiently manage the Region's future growth that ensures the health and well-being of its residents. Together and from this time forward, the citizens and governments of the Central Okanagan will work in partnership to promote a complete healthy region with a sustainable and diversified economy that provides a range of economic opportunities while protecting the natural environment and water resources for today's and tomorrow's residents."

3.2 Regional Issue Areas

Many of the regional issues of the RGS require cross jurisdictional collaboration in order to plan for the long term growth in the Central Okanagan. The following issue areas and goals were identified through stakeholder and public input to respond to the future challenges and opportunities in the Central Okanagan:

Issue Area	Goal
Our Land	To manage the land base effectively to protect natural resources and limit urban sprawl
Our Economy	To develop and enhance a positive business environment in the region to achieve a dynamic, resilient and sustainable economy
Our Water Resources	To manage and protect water resources
Our Health	To contribute to the improvement of community health, safety and social well-being
Our Food	To support a regional food system that is healthy, resilient and sustainable
Our Housing	To improve the range of housing types and tenures to meet the social and economic needs of the region
Our Climate	To minimize regional greenhouse gas emissions and respond to the impacts of climate change
Our Ecosystems	Be responsible stewards of natural ecosystems to protect, enhance and restore biodiversity in the region
Our Transportation	To enhance the regional transportation system to ensure that it is accessible, affordable, and efficient
Our Governance	To respond to the needs of the region with an effective and efficient governance service model

3.2.1 OUR LAND

Goal

To manage the land base effectively to protect natural resources and limit urban sprawl

Synopsis

The Central Okanagan's land base is largely defined by its mix of mountains, lakes, wetlands, watercourses, forests, grasslands, vineyards and orchards. These features form the significant surroundings that add to the character of the Region and help define the Central Okanagan lifestyle. Maintaining and managing the land base, both the rural and urban lands, is essential to ensure the preservation of the lifestyle that residents and tourists value. There are several areas and lands adjacent and outside the urban areas that provide for drinking water sources, agriculture, recreation, wildlife, and flora and fauna habitat as well as opportunities for the forestry and mining industries. Continued growth in this region will push development to these areas; however, focusing growth to areas of existing services can minimize impact and effectively manage opportunities for source water protection, protection of environment and habitats as well as manage opportunities for resource development.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Support logical and sequential growth patterns that minimize urban encroachment into rural areas;
- .2 Proposals for new growth areas should consider the impacts on existing services and facilities in the community;
- .3 Support the protection of the rural areas that offer a rural lifestyle choice;
- .4 Encourage access to and opportunity for development of Crown resources and rural land that provide economic opportunities that contribute revenues to support community social, health, education and transportation services for the citizens of the Central Okanagan while having minimal impacts to the land, wildlife, and sensitive environmental areas;
- .5 Support the protection of water supply on crown land and/or rural areas for all water users;
- .6 Support the continued exchange of information with provincial agencies on future land use decisions that impact the interface of the boundaries of crown land adjacent to municipalities and regional districts and best management practices for resource extraction to minimize negative impacts in the Region (e.g., truck traffic, environmental considerations, land use conflicts, nuisances);
- .7 Support urban and rural land uses that provide affordable, effective and efficient services and infrastructure that conserve land, water and energy resources;
- .8 Support the protection of ALR lands and land uses which are supportive and/or complimentary to agricultural use;



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

- .9 Promote the identified urban/village centres in current community plans to provide a range of amenities and services;
- .10 Encourage the examination of future land use designations that consider the Region's aggregate resource based on the site suitability checklist prepared in the Aggregate Supply and Demand Update (2013);
- .11 Encourage cooperation and information sharing with regional partners on hazard identification and mapping programs to provide better and more information on hazard management;
- .12 Encourage cooperation and information sharing with regional partners to identify data and information necessary to improve hazard and resiliency planning; and,
- .13 Ensure there is an appropriate supply of land used for economic opportunities, public facilities and infrastructure and protection of natural environment for the regions projected population growth.



Source: District of West Kelowna

3.2.2 OUR ECONOMY

Goal

To develop and enhance a positive business environment in the region to achieve a dynamic, resilient and sustainable economy

Synopsis

The diversity of the Central Okanagan's economy has historically been its strength. A healthy, strong and diverse economy is one of the cornerstones of a sustainable community. The Region's future will depend on supporting the diversity along with investment opportunities for new and upcoming economic sectors that complement the existing sectors. Local governments have the ability to influence investment climate and economic viability in the Region and as such, working together will enhance the Region's opportunities to compete regionally, nationally and globally. Attracting, maintaining and promoting economic activity in this region is important as it helps retain existing jobs and creates a solid tax base. As the Central Okanagan endeavours to become a more sustainable region and protect its quality of life, coordination and collaborating efforts will help in creating, supporting and enhancing economic opportunities throughout the Region. The growth strategy provides an opportunity to encourage and support development that enhances economic diversity for a healthier local economy.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Support a comprehensive regional approach to create an attractive investment climate for the Region by working in partnership with the province, local municipalities, First Nations and economic development agencies;
- .2 Encourage and support related economic development initiatives that address the needs and challenges in the Region;
- .3 Support efforts in building a strong regional economy to:
 - promote and stimulate innovation;
 - create jobs
 - improve residents' quality of life
 - foster a diverse and balanced economic base;
 - help reduce the Region's GHG emissions; and,
 - increase economic development and regional prosperity.
- .4 Support each community's interest to develop vital and dynamic communities with vibrant town and village centres;
- .5 Support economic plans that focus on retention, attraction and facilitation of business within the Region;
- .6 Encourage cooperation with educational institutions and the private sector to build a profile of the Region as a knowledge base/education centre;
- .7 Encourage cooperation among research facilities, educational institutions, local governments and businesses technology to explore opportunities in new economic sectors and new investment in the form of human and business capital;
- .8 Support for the provisions in the housing section are considered within the context of economic development, as the diversity of housing opportunities and affordable housing options are important to support economic development;
- .9 Support effectively managing and protecting the integrity of the Region's critical assets such as the lakes, natural environment and agricultural lands that promote attraction of employment and investment;
- .10 Promote reliable and efficient development application processes and a commitment to long term financial planning for servicing and infrastructure (roads, sewer and water) that attracts and retains business and private investment and employment; and,
- .11 Promote land development patterns that support a diverse regional economy.

3.2.3 OUR WATER RESOURCES

Goal

To manage and protect water resources

Synopsis

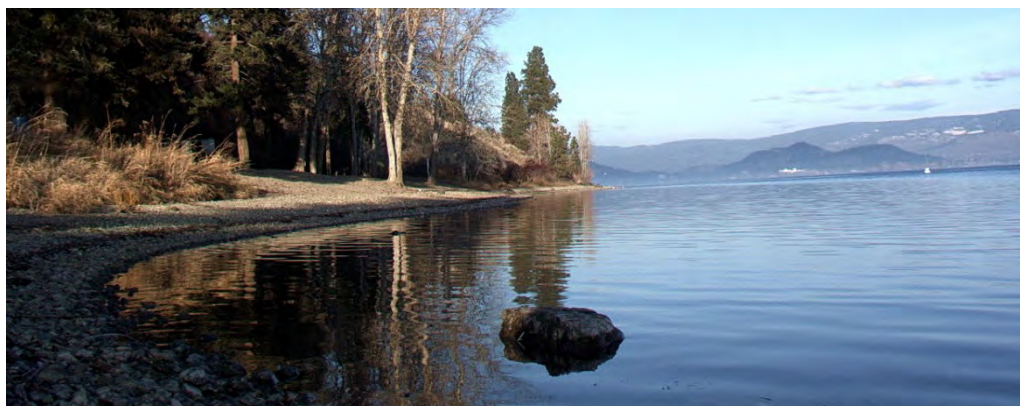
Water is an essential resource for people, the economy, and for the natural environment. Okanagan Lake is the main central feature in the Central Okanagan that provides a unique and beautiful landscape as well as the basic sustenance needed for a vibrant community and economy. Water is a collective resource that is shared by people and the environment and supports the economy. Studies show that climate change will impact water levels in the Region, which means competition for water will increase. Considering the importance water has in sustaining life and the lifestyle residents value, it is important that we continue to manage water resources effectively to ensure the Region and the Okanagan Valley can accommodate the needs for all users, including plants and animals in the environment, now and in the future.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Consider water resources in land use planning decisions;
- .2 Encourage the development of water source protection plans to improve drinking water quality, quantity and timing of flow of water sources;

- .3 Work with local governments, provincial agencies to assess and mitigate the risks in floodplains;
- .4 Utilize best management practices to protect and manage water resources, groundwater and surface water, through integrated watershed planning to improve water quality, and adequate supply for the Region;
- .5 Continue in partnership with the Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) and regional partners to encourage valley wide cooperation and coordination regarding the conservation of water and protection of all water sources;
- .6 Encourage the preparation of a water management plan by the Okanagan Basin Water Board on the Region's water supply in response to the impacts of climate change and future population growth; and,
- .7 Encourage opportunities to utilize "on-site" recycled water for landscaping and other uses within new and redevelopment projects.



Source: District of West Kelowna

3.2.4 OUR HEALTH

Goal

To contribute to the improvement of community health, safety and social well-being

Synopsis

The Region is made up of various communities in which people live, work and play and how local governments design the communities is very important to the health and well-being of its citizens. The land use decisions that have created the current land use patterns have directed and influenced investment in infrastructure and transportation systems, which in turn have contributed to impacts on personal health. Historical land use decisions have tended to support lower-density, automobile-oriented and urban fringe development. These decisions and land use patterns have created our travel behaviours, level of activity and have had an impact on health through a person's level of physical fitness, pollution exposure and community interaction. Growth management and careful community design to encourage more physical activity will help reduce the risk for developing chronic conditions and see multiple benefits in the form of increased physical activity, less sedentary time in cars, and less air pollution. Promoting a healthy community and a corresponding healthy lifestyle will make our regional community an attractive place where people want to live, work and play.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Actively promote and support physical activity, sense of place, social interaction and neighbourliness as these encourage the growth of the Region as a place that is safe, diverse and inclusive;
- .2 Support regional partners, including schools and businesses in strengthening healthy living opportunities that focus on physical activity;
- .3 Support active transportation initiatives of the regional partners;

- .4 Continue efforts to improve air quality by supporting the Regional Air Quality Management Plan;
- .5 Promote community health and safety through investments in education, recreation, health, community development, social support, civic design, environmental design, maintenance and economic development;
- .6 Encourage cooperation with Interior Health to explore opportunities to develop healthy community strategies;
- .7 Support Interior Health in efforts to increase public education and awareness around the links between population health and land use planning;
- .8 Incorporate health and principles of a Healthy Built Environment into the development of comprehensive plans;
- .9 Encourage joint use agreements with School District No. 23 in projects, programs and facilities to improve and maximize the use of existing parks, facilities and community services; and,
- .10 Encourage cooperation with School District No. 23 to locate and design schools to be the focal point of community life in the neighbourhoods in which they are located.



Source: District of West Kelowna

3.2.5 OUR FOOD

Goal

To support a regional food system that is healthy, resilient and sustainable

Synopsis

The Central Okanagan has strong agricultural roots and this sector has been important in defining the region and its growth pattern. With changes in population, pressures of development, increased climate impacts, water pressures, and more focus on local food production for sustainability, these changes have raised more awareness on food systems from cultivating and planting to consumption to the compost heap, and back again. Today, food policies appear on the agenda of dozens of municipal governments across North America and beyond. Future planning can help ensure food systems are adequately addressed in growth management decisions.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Encourage cooperation with regional partners, provincial ministries and stakeholders that consider a regional agricultural strategy to identify issues and the present and future needs of the agricultural sector that will contribute to the well being of all residents to guide food security, economic opportunity and the protection of agricultural land;
- .2 Preserve and support sustainable agricultural activities and land base that enhances local agriculture through the strengthening of best practices, support of local and regional food systems and the expansion of local food markets and agri-tourism;
- .3 Encourage cooperation with the Agricultural Land Commission and the Ministry of Agriculture to promote consistency among bylaws, policies, regulations, and decisions that will be made regarding agriculture;

- .4 Support appropriate water supply for the agriculture industry through the continued efforts to have efficient irrigation infrastructure and proper functioning and healthy watersheds;
- .5 Encourage cooperation that considers the potential to use public lands for community gardens and/or creation of edible landscapes to encourage grassroots civic agriculture within urban areas;
- .6 Promote the use of agriculture and ALR lands for food production and ancillary agriculture processing and retailing consistent with uses outlined in the Agricultural Land Commission Act and Regulation and,
- .7 Protect the supply of agricultural land and promote agricultural viability.



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

3.2.6 OUR HOUSING

Goal

To improve the range of housing opportunities to meet the social and economic needs of the region

Synopsis

The Central Okanagan regional partners have been actively addressing local housing needs (market and non-market). Housing location, type, affordability, and choice are important factors that affect long term economic health and community sustainability. Focusing new housing units to areas with existing services can reduce infrastructure costs and support public transit services, as well as more active, healthier transportation choices such as walking and biking. Ensuring a diversity of housing options irrespective of demographics, lifestyle interests or financial situation allows people and families to live and stay in the Okanagan Valley. The identified need for more affordable housing for those who live and work in the Region continues to be a concern. It is important to consider land use decisions that focus new residential developments in areas with existing services, as this assists in housing affordability, reducing reliance on vehicles in the Region, and creates opportunities for residents to be closer to work and recreation opportunities, which in turn contributes to a healthier region.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Preserve and enhance existing neighbourhoods through encouragement of a variety of housing types, densities, choices and affordability;
- .2 Encourage new residential units and retrofits of older residential units to incorporate building materials and products that reduce energy and water consumption;
- .3 Encourage new growth areas to include sustainable community and neighbourhood design practices that demonstrate housing affordability/housing choices for the full housing spectrum;
- .4 Build capacity within the Region to advance affordable housing initiatives and increase the amount of transition and supportive housing in the Region.



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

3.2.7 OUR CLIMATE

Goal

To minimize regional greenhouse gas emissions and respond to the impacts of climate change

Synopsis

The changing climate will create a challenge as the Region continues to see further climate change impacts. To help address climate change, action is required by local governments to ensure planning decisions respond to reducing GHG emissions and negative environmental impacts. Planning decisions determine land use development, transportation patterns, building design, public infrastructure and energy supply systems well into the future, and as such will have significant influence on energy consumption and levels of GHG emissions. The current land use patterns, forecasted population growth and identified residential projects in the Region will make it ambitious to achieve the provincial target of 33% reduction in GHG emissions by 2020. However, with refocusing around how the Region manages growth, there is an opportunity to achieve the target to reduce GHG emissions by 80% by 2050 in the Region. Supporting the following policies will help to reduce the impacts of climate change in the Region identified above.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Work toward meeting the provincial target of reducing GHG emissions by 80% from 2007 levels by 2050;
- .2 Support the use of innovative approaches and technologies to help conserve energy and thus reduce GHG emissions;
- .3 Consider GHG reduction and climate adaptation/mitigation in decision-making as well as in planning policies and regulatory measures;
- .4 Reduce reliance upon fossil fuels by promoting and supporting renewable energy infrastructure, such as solar power and geothermal, and by purchasing energy supplied by renewable sources. Renewable energy systems should be pursued in collaboration with Provincial, Federal and private sector programs;
- .5 Encourage design and “retrofitting” of neighbourhoods to reduce a person’s travel distance and frequency of trips, and increase access to alternative modes of transportation;
- .6 Encourage cooperation with regional partners, provincial ministries and stakeholders on initiatives that improve efforts to reduce GHG emissions, improve energy conservation and mitigate climate change impacts;
- .7 Encourage mixed use compact communities and facilitate the transformation of existing neighbourhoods so that residents can conveniently and safely travel by bus or by foot, bicycle and other forms of active transportation to get to major community destinations while ensuring the efficient movement of goods and services; and,
- .8 Encourage land use and transportation infrastructure that improves the ability to withstand climate change impacts and natural hazard risks.

3.2.8 OUR ECOSYSTEMS

Goal

Be responsible stewards of natural ecosystems to protect, enhance and restore biodiversity in the region

Synopsis

As population grows in the Region, the protection of healthy ecosystems will become increasingly complex and challenging. The Okanagan provides unique habitat to various species of wildlife that are found nowhere else in the country. There are more than 1,597 identified species at risk in BC, including 48 species within the RDCO. The landscape is an intricate balance of natural systems that provides clean water, fresh air and an area that residents highly value. Numerous reports, strategies, and plans have been created, discussed, and adopted throughout the Regional District and across the province on the environmental concerns related to the ecosystem and it is necessary to understand and protect the ecosystems for the health of the Region. Although regional partners have a number of initiatives underway to protect the environment, there is a strong need for a regional and coordinated approach to protection, enhancement and restoration of the Region's ecosystems. The Region's natural ecosystems will continue to face development pressures and it will be important for the Region to manage growth to balance the human need for resources, recreation, enjoyment and aesthetics with the need to protect, conserve and restore natural areas and biodiversity.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Encourage cooperation for the management of regional biodiversity practices as outlined in the Okanagan Biodiversity Strategy;
- .2 Encourage collaboration to adopt consistent terminology, policies and actions that support the protection and conservation of environmental features and watersheds within the Region;
- .3 Manage growth to minimize disturbance to habitat, watershed and natural drainage areas and systems;
- .4 Encourage collaboration with regional partners on enhancing wildlife corridor linkages to improve habitat connectivity that avoids fragmentation and isolation of important habitats;
- .5 Encourage a mix of parkland and open space that protect regionally significant ecosystems, and natural and cultural attributes;
- .6 Encourage and support coordinated efforts to protect and enhance the Region's forests, environmentally sensitive and significant areas;
- .7 Protect natural environments, parks and water systems, as these systems are essential to the quality of life in the Okanagan that support active and healthy lifestyles;
- .8 Explore funding mechanisms to support regionally significant natural areas, open space and parkland acquisitions;
- .9 Support the provisions of the Water Resources section to be considered in context of all discussions regarding the Region's ecosystems;
- .10 Encourage cooperation with land trusts and local conservation organizations to educate landowners on species at risk;
- .11 Support continued research on local species at risk within the Region and share the information;
- .12 Encourage collaboration with regional partners, provincial ministries and stakeholders to consider regional conservation, watershed and other ecosystem-based plans and strategies that will update existing inventories;
- .13 Support cooperation with regional partners on environmental matters, particularly where there are developments/issues located adjacent to political boundaries; and,
- .14 Support cooperation on the maintenance and update of environmental mapping for terrestrial, foreshore and aquatic areas throughout the Region on a regular basis.

3.2.9 OUR TRANSPORTATION

Goal

To enhance the regional transportation system to ensure that it is accessible, affordable, and efficient

Synopsis

Land use influences travel patterns and transportation systems in turn influence land use and development. Achieving the goals of the RGS requires the alignment of land use and transportation strategies. It is important to consider shifting the Region's travel patterns away from auto dependency toward moving people rather than vehicles. Within a region consisting of multiple jurisdictions, transportation that is accessible, affordable, and efficient is not a goal each jurisdiction can achieve in isolation. Everyday many people travel throughout the Region and the entire Okanagan Basin. Partners must work together to effectively plan, coordinate, manage, and monitor the Region's transportation system in order to achieve sustainable transportation goals that are defined in the individual plans and policies of the local governments of the Central Okanagan.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Support the Sustainable Transportation Partnership of the Central Okanagan as a means of administering, governing and coordinating the delivery of regional transportation planning and services;
- .2 Encourage collaboration with regional partners, neighbouring regional districts, provincial ministries, BC Transit, and federal government to improve inter-regional transportation opportunities;
- .3 Maximize the efficiency of the regional transportation system and reduce GHG emissions through:
 - a. Providing active transportation options and connect residents to facilities, recreation and services throughout the Central Okanagan and its neighbouring communities and region;
 - b. The promotion of programs and incentives that increase sustainable transportation choices and Transportation Demand Management Strategies; and,
 - c. The support for the use of alternate-fueled vehicles (e.g. electric vehicles);
- .4 Support a regional integrated trail system for active transportation that is appropriate for commuting and/or exercise and recreational uses that connects to rural areas, parks, public facilities, and town/village centres;
- .5 Support transit oriented development as well as active transportation amenities in urban land use designations;
- .6 Place increased emphasis on sustainable modes of transportation (walking, cycling, transit) while maintaining efficient automobile, commercial goods and emergency vehicle mobility;
- .7 Encourage new educational facilities to be located central to their catchment area and where they can be accessed by sustainable modes of transportation;
- .8 Prioritize funding for transit and nonmotorized improvements, including projects such as sidewalks, traffic calming, bike lanes, and better transit service or access;
- .9 Prioritize improvements for public buildings in well-connected, compact urban areas (such as schools, government buildings) for access for pedestrians and cyclists, and the provision of bicycle parking and end-of-trip facilities;
- .10 Encourage major employers to create and support programs for active transportation options; and,
- .11 Collaborate with School District No. 23 to provide safe routes to school, including walking, cycling and transit options.

3.2.10 OUR GOVERNANCE

Goal

To respond to the needs of the region with an effective and efficient governance service model

Synopsis

The roles and services for a regional district are determined by its member jurisdictions and regional district's act only in response to the expressed needs, interests and instructions of their members and address issues that cross political boundaries. The mission of a regional district is to help protect the quality of life for all citizens in the region by planning for the future. As the Region grows, there needs to be a balance of local autonomy with effective regional coordination in order to address environmental, economic, transportation and quality of life issues that cross local government boundaries. Long range planning for the Region is necessary to identify opportunities and build partnerships to protect the health and safety of current citizens as well as future generations that will live in the Region.

- .2 Encourage effective governance and service delivery by being transparent, accountable and accessible;
- .3 Continue to build and enhance communications and relationships with local First Nations communities;
- .4 Support opportunities for regional partners to collaborate, communicate and coordinate on matters of regional significance;
- .5 Encourage collaboration among the regional partners on long range land use, infrastructure and financial planning based upon projected growth, emerging priorities and the anticipated needs of communities;
- .6 Ensure the Region maintains effective services, which meets the present and future user demands; and,
- .7 Support the assessment of the social and economic benefits of arts, culture, tourism, and recreation amenities in decision on land use.

Policies

The Central Okanagan regional partners agree to:

- .1 Encourage cooperation, collaboration and partnerships among regional partners in the delivery of effective and efficient public services and/or enhance opportunities of mutual benefit for cost sharing on procurement, delivery of services, and/or capacity building on issues to ensure financial and human resources are invested effectively;



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

4.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

4.1 Implementation and Monitoring

The RGS presents ten (10) goals and associated policies that will assist in realizing the regional vision. Implementing the goals and policies will depend on cooperation and coordination among regional partners, neighbouring regions, and other agencies. The RGS provides a strategic guide to managing the future growth in the Region. Once adopted, it will be the responsibility of the regional partners to implement the RGS by taking action consistent with the RGS as set out in Section 3. The RGS Steering Committee will need to coordinate the strategic priorities around the Region and align the priorities with the goals and policies of the RGS in order to set out a plan of action for regional growth management. The plan will be included in the RDCO annual budgeting and work plan to outline tasks and budget for RGS implementation to be endorsed by the Regional Board.

Being accountable for progress towards achieving the goals of this RGS requires a commitment to implementation, target-setting, establishing indicators, and monitoring. Undertaking projects to implement this RGS will be subject to available budgets, departmental work plans and in some cases financial contributions from regional partners and/or external agencies. Over the 20 year time horizon of the RGS some projects may be funded solely through the RDCO's Regional Planning function, with no additional costs to the regional partners, while other projects may require financial contributions from the regional partners.

Notwithstanding, the wording in this RGS refers to an "agreement" by the RDCO and regional partners to follow a course of action, neither the RDCO nor individual regional partners will be bound to undertake or participate in any projects identified in this RGS. This is consistent with the direction of the *Local Government Act (LGA) (Section 865 (3))* that states "a RGS does not commit or authorize a regional district to proceed with projects specified in the strategy."

With the regional partners working cooperatively, the strategy outlines the following set of tasks on the implementation of the RGS:

1. Update OCP Regional Context Statements
2. Develop a five year action plan
3. Explore Implementation Agreements



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

4. Prepare a Monitoring and Evaluation Program
5. Plan for Five-year reviews

4.1.1 UPDATE OCP REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENTS

After acceptance and adoption of the RGS, local governments will be required to prepare an update to their OCP to include a regional context statement. The context statement sets out the relationship between the RGS and the OCP and identifies how municipal actions will contribute to achieving the RGS goals and vision. Regional partners will continue to work together so that regional context statements achieve consistency between the RGS and local government OCP's and so that actions specified in the RGS are implemented. The updated regional context statements are to be completed within two years of the adoption of the RGS and must be submitted for acceptance to the Regional District after a review of the RGS.

The RDCO and regional partners will work to ensure OCP policies are consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the RGS. The process should lead to consistency over time, recognizing the economic, social and environmental benefits of healthy community development, preservation and connection of natural features, and ongoing land use planning cooperation, collaboration and harmonization with First Nations.

4.1.2 FIVE YEAR ACTION PLAN

The RGS is designed to be realized over a twenty year period and implemented through implementation agreements, regional context statements and through budget discussions regarding regional planning initiatives. The review of the RGS (2011) emphasized that we are, individually and jointly, responsible for the effective management of the future growth for the region. To ensure the region responds to this call to action, through a collaborative process, staff and elected officials will develop a 5 year action plan to outline the priority initiatives to implement the RGS. The development of a detailed 5-Year Action Plan is considered a key element of a RGS implementation in order to address the challenges facing the region over the next 20 years. The 5-year action plan will be the framework for RGS implementation and based on the regional initiatives identified within the RGS and by the Regional Board.

4.1.3 IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENTS

An implementation agreement (IA) is a partnership agreement between a regional district and other levels of government, their agencies or other bodies which spells out the details of how certain aspects of a RGS will be carried out. Implementation agreements are an important tool designed to promote coordination between local governments and provincial agencies. Consideration of agreements in the Central Okanagan should focus on measures to maintain water quantity and quality, regional transportation, regional environmental coordination, stronger regional economic development and providing accessible and affordable housing. IA's can deal with a wide range of matters making them an important tool for coordinating local-provincial partnerships and actions. The Agreements may be used to establish commitments for infrastructure investments, joint planning projects, responsibility and revenue-sharing agreements, and policy development

4.1.4 RGS MONITORING AND EVALUATION

After adopting an RGS, the Regional District, as directed in the *LGA section 869*, must establish a program to monitor the implementation and progress of the RGS. The effectiveness of the RGS is assessed through a monitoring program. The monitoring program will be established within the first year after RGS adoption. The Regional District and regional partners will need to discuss and agree on a monitoring program with identified performance metrics. The monitoring program is intended to provide the foundation for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the strategy. It can be added to or modified over time to better meet the needs of the Board of Directors and regional partners. Monitoring is important to ensure the Board and local government partners have feedback on whether or not the goals and policies of the RGS are being achieved.

The program should include performance measures to review the condition, trend or emerging questions under the regional issue areas. A list of performance measures is provided in the appendix for each regional issue area. The measures will help track changes over time relative to the baselines. Reviewing and tracking the changes will allow the regional partners to work toward the regional vision.

The monitoring program will include an annual report and a review of the RGS every five years to reassess the strategy and consider whether amendments are necessary. The annual monitoring report will contain a mixture of the measures outlined in Section 3. A key aspect of the implementation of the RGS is the commitment to designing and implementing a practical plan for performance measurement, monitoring and accountability.



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

4.1.5 PLAN FOR FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

The *LGA* provides for a five-year review opportunity for Regional Growth Strategies. The review process provides an opportunity to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the growth strategy, assess performance and re-evaluate solutions to persistent region-wide issues and responses undertaken. The growth strategy five year review will be an inclusive process involving the public, regional partners, organizations and other authorities as listed in *section 855* of the *LGA*. The review will respond to new provincial policies and legislation, as well as to initiatives, research, studies and plans developed responding to the regional issues that will assist with the Region as a whole working toward the RGS vision. The review will also assess the Region's demographic data, census data, and assessment of the identified initiatives undertaken in RGS.

Analysis of land use, environmental, engineering, transportation and financial issues should be combined into the review process to allow the public and decision-makers to have a more complete understanding of growth impacts in the Region. This comprehensive approach will consider all of the various issues and trade-off's involved in planning and environmental assessment considerations.

Five-Year Reviews form the basis for regional and local assessment of progress towards the Region's future growth vision. The Five-Year Reviews should set out short-term implementation strategies to provide for adequate land, infrastructure and public facilities over a minimum of five years, and to encourage maximum utilization of existing infrastructure and development opportunities prior to extending development into the undeveloped greenfield areas of the Region.



Source: Regional District of Central Okanagan

4.2 Amendments to the RGS

4.2.1 STANDARD AMENDMENTS

An amendment to the RGS, other than those considered a minor amendment, is considered a standard amendment and will follow the same process that is required to adopt a RGS as set out in *Part 25* of the *LGA*.

4.2.2 MINOR AMENDMENTS

Recognizing that the RGS will require some flexibility to respond to changing conditions in the Region, the minor amendment process is intended to provide a more streamlined amendment process for minor changes, while ensuring that amendments that substantially change the vision and direction of the strategy remain subject to acceptance by all affected local governments.

The *LGA* enables minor amendments where a process has been established pursuant to *section 857.1* that includes the following:

- criteria for determining whether a proposed amendment is minor for the purposes of allowing the process to apply;
- a means for the views of affected local governments respecting a proposed minor amendment to be obtained and considered;
- a means for providing notice to affected local governments respecting a proposed minor amendment;
- a means for providing public consultation and input into the proposed minor amendment; and,
- procedures for adopting the minor RGS amendment bylaw.

Criteria for Minor Amendments

Criteria under which a proposed amendment to the RGS may be considered a minor amendment include the following:

- a) RGS policy revisions or additions that do not alter the intent, direction or implementation of the Strategy;
- b) Housekeeping amendments to population, dwelling unit and employment projections, housing demand estimates, tables, figures, grammar, numbering or mapping refinements

that do not alter the intent of the Regional Growth Strategy

Any proposal that does not meet the criteria set out above would be considered a standard amendment and will be required to follow the regular process as outlined in the *LGA, Part 25*.

Minor Amendment Process

The process to initiate amendments to the RGS is by resolution of the Board of Directors. Municipalities and the Electoral Areas, by resolution, may request amendments to the RGS. The Board of Directors will not give first reading to a minor or standard amendment bylaw until the regional partners have been given the opportunity to formally comment on the proposed amendment.

On receipt of a request from a member municipality or an Electoral Area to amend the RGS, the request will be provided to the Regional District, for review with due consideration of sub-regional or regional impacts on infrastructure, transportation, land use, precedence and cumulative effects of broad replication. The Regional District staff will provide recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Once a request for a minor amendment has been received, the process for review and adoption is as follows:

- Upon receiving a minor amendment request, the RDCO staff will review the request.
- RDCO staff will prepare a report for review by the RDCO Board of Directors.
- The RDCO Board of Directors will assess any proposed amendment in terms of the minor amendment criteria. The Board of Directors may resolve, by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the board members present, to proceed with an amendment request as a minor amendment.
- Where the Board of Directors resolves to proceed with an amendment request as a minor amendment, the Board will:
 - Determine the appropriate form of public consultation required in conjunction with the proposed minor amendment.

- Give 45 days' written notice to each affected local government, including notice that the proposed amendment has been determined to be a minor amendment. The notice shall include a summary of the proposed amendment and any staff reports, other relevant supporting documentation and the date, time and place of the board meeting at which the amending bylaw is to be considered for first reading.
- Consider the written comments provided by the affected local governments prior to giving first reading to the proposed amendment bylaw.
- At the time of consideration of first reading, the Board of Directors will determine whether an opportunity for the public to speak on the RGS minor amendment bylaw is required.
- If the first reading of any minor amendment bylaw receives an affirmative vote from all Board of Directors attending the meeting, then the bylaw shall be adopted in accordance with the procedures that apply to the adoption of a RGS under *section 791* of *LGA* and Region District of Central Okanagan Regional Board Procedure Bylaw No. 1278, 2010 or as amended.
- If any minor amendment bylaw does not receive affirmative vote of all Board of Directors attending the meeting, the bylaw shall be adopted in accordance with the procedures that apply to the adoption of a RGS under *section 857* of the *LGA* and Regional District of Central Okanagan Regional Board Procedure Bylaw No. 1278, 2010 or as amended.

APPENDICES

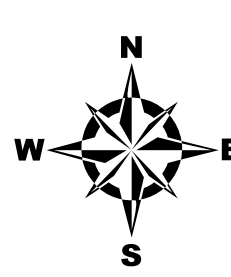
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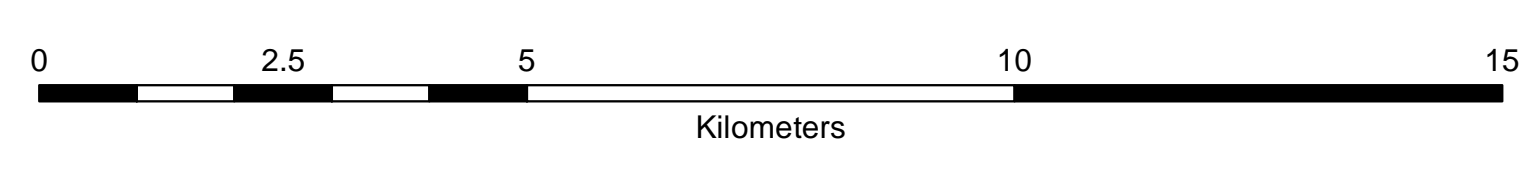
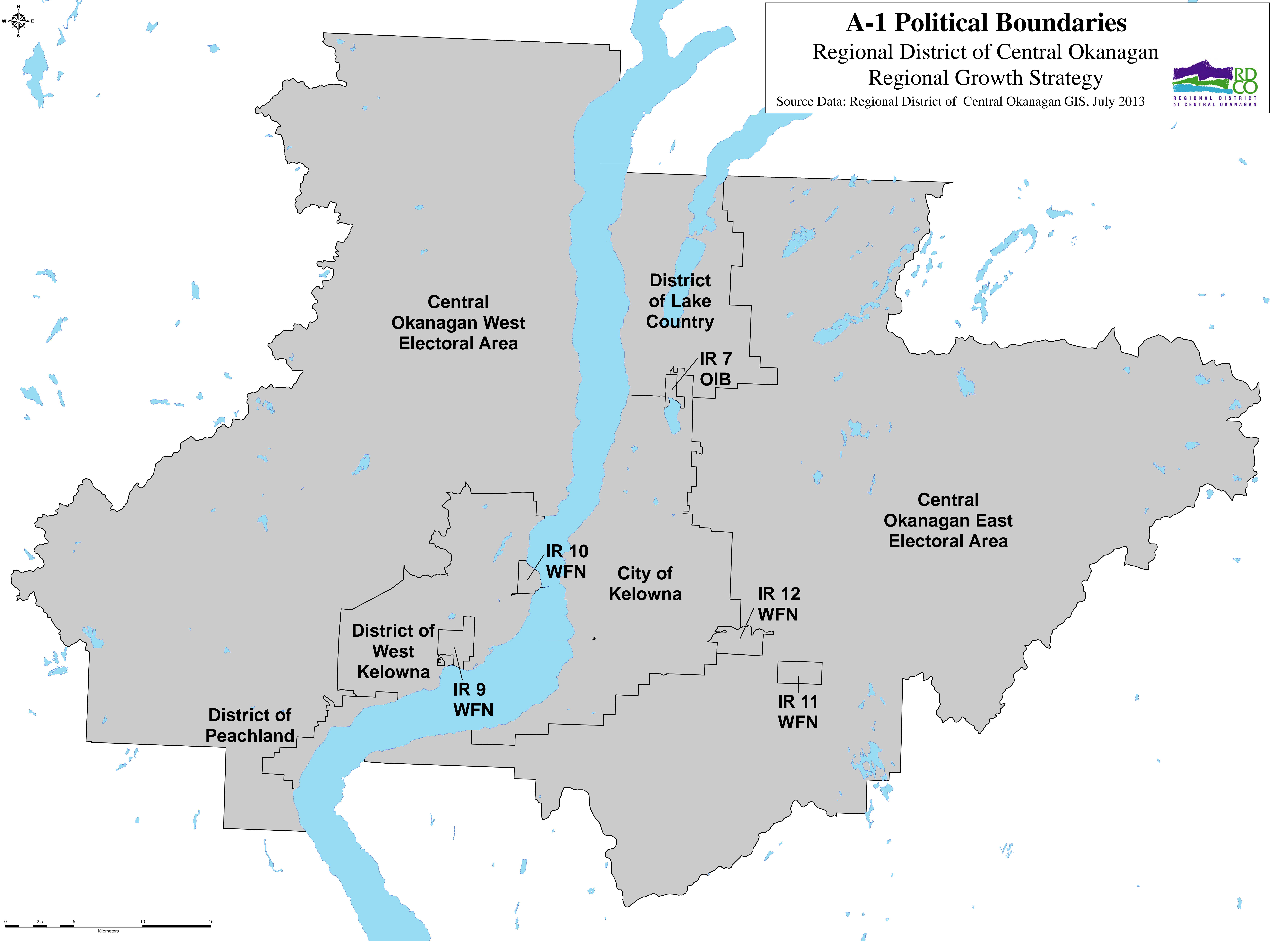


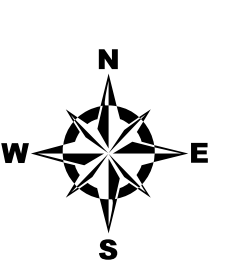
A-1 Political Boundaries

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional Growth Strategy

Source Data: Regional District of Central Okanagan GIS, July 2013



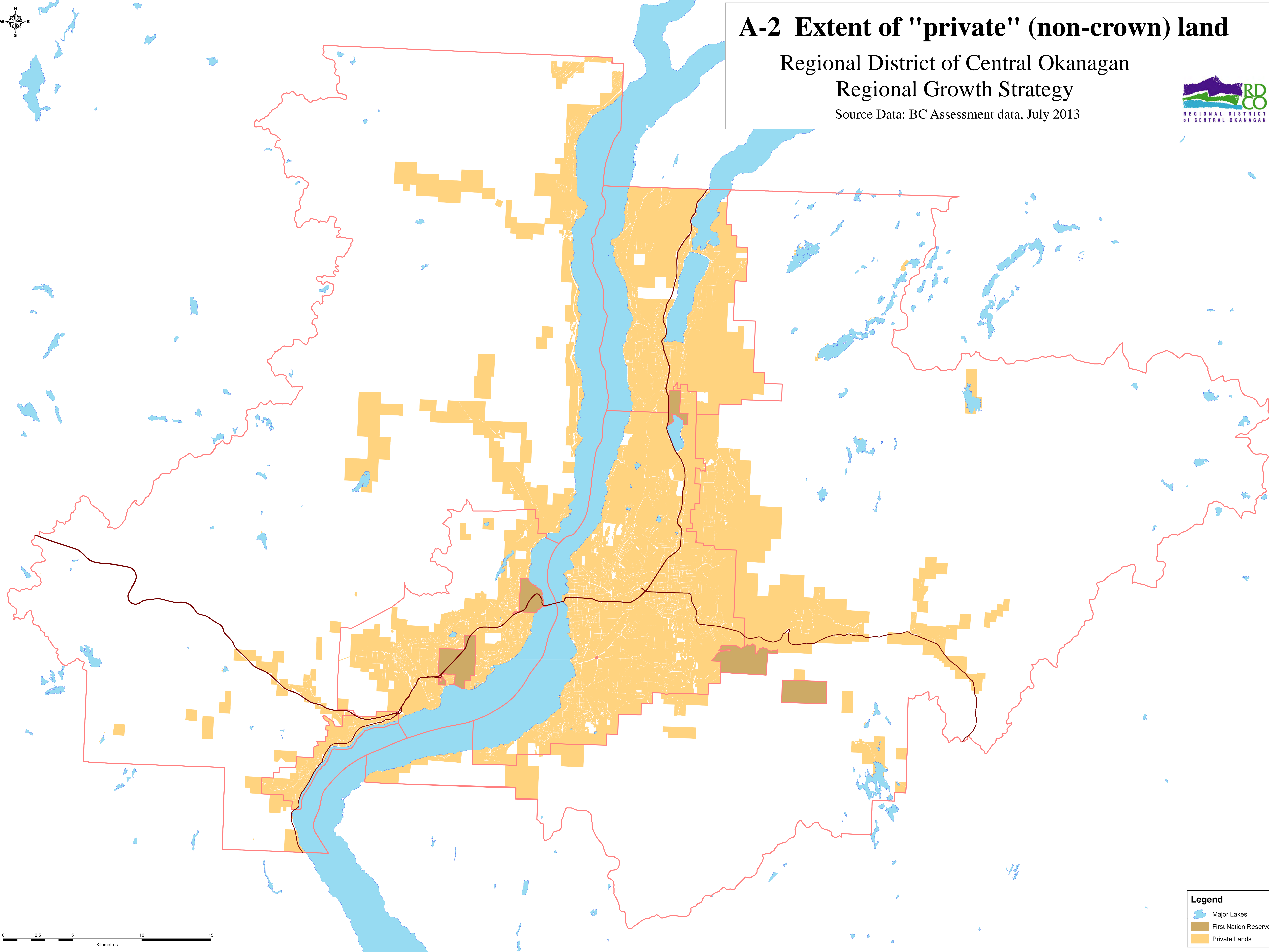


A-2 Extent of "private" (non-crown) land

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional Growth Strategy

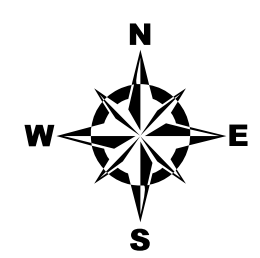
Source Data: BC Assessment data, July 2013



Legend

- Major Lakes
- First Nation Reserve
- Private Lands



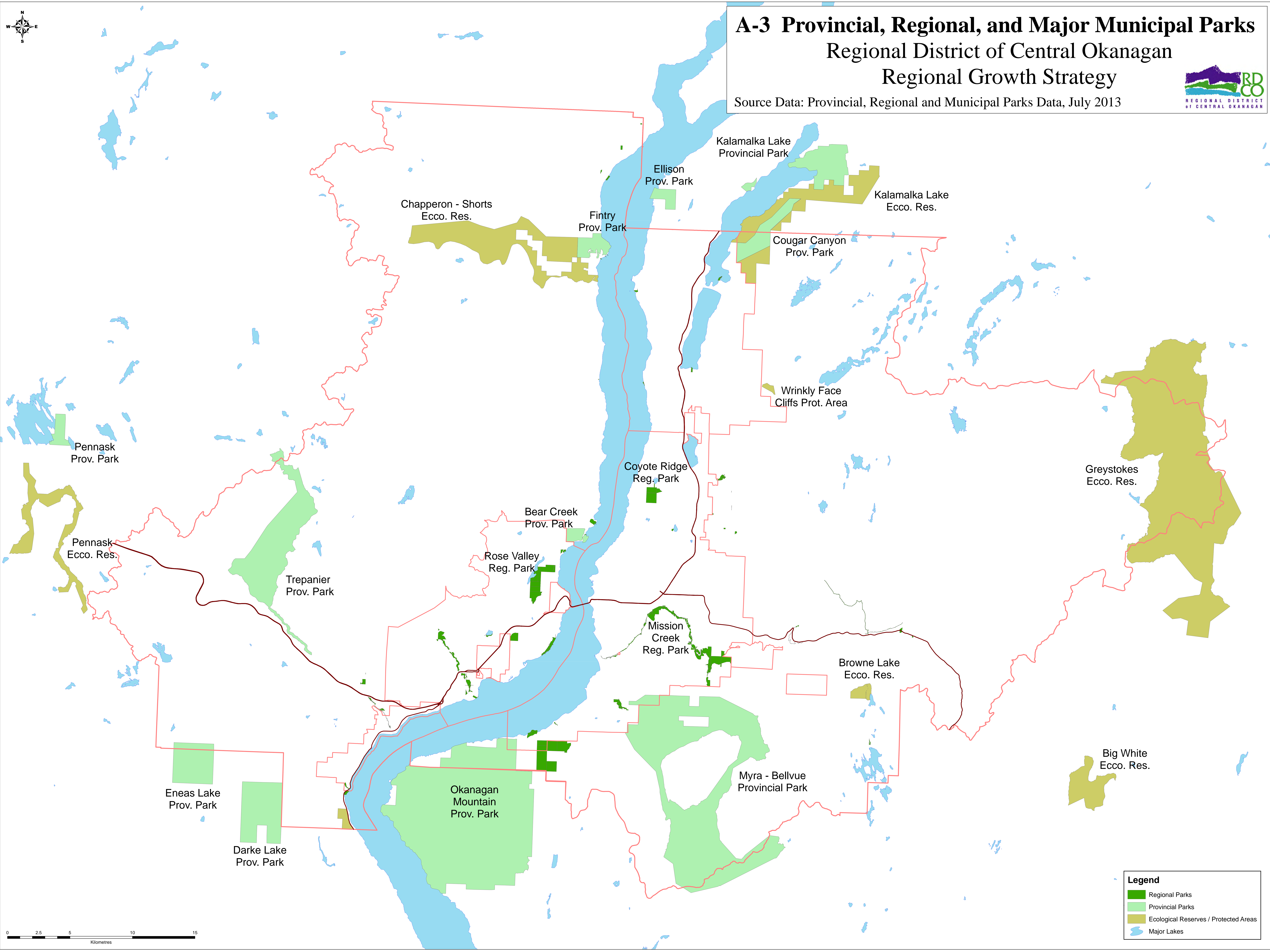


A-3 Provincial, Regional, and Major Municipal Parks

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional Growth Strategy

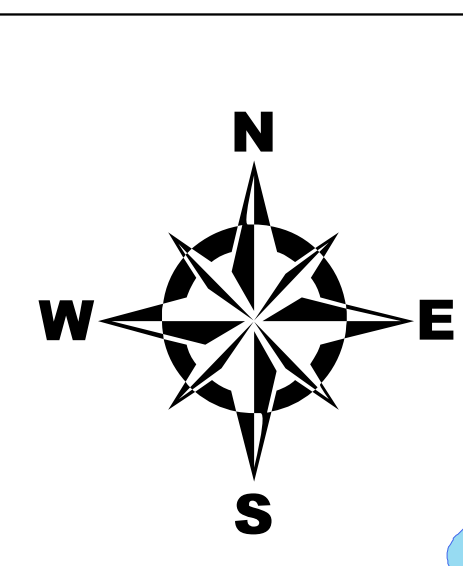
Source Data: Provincial, Regional and Municipal Parks Data, July 2013



Legend

- Regional Parks
- Provincial Parks
- Ecological Reserves / Protected Areas
- Major Lakes





Legend

- Regional and Municipal Boundaries
- Official Community Plan Boundaries
- Road Network
- Major Lakes and Wetlands
- Provincial Agricultural Land Reserve Areas
- Hazardous Condition Development Permit Areas
- Natural Environment Development Permit Areas

NOTE:

Hazardous Condition D.P.Areas are comprised of:
Stability and Erosion Development Permit Areas
Hillside Development Permit Areas

Natural Environment D.P.Areas are comprised of:
Sensitive Aquatic Development Permit Areas
Sensitive Terrestrial Development Permit Areas

Areas not within an Official Community Plan Boundary are included in the R.D.C.O. Environmental Assessment Policy, resolution 187/06, April 24th, 2006.

A-4 Preliminary Constraint Areas

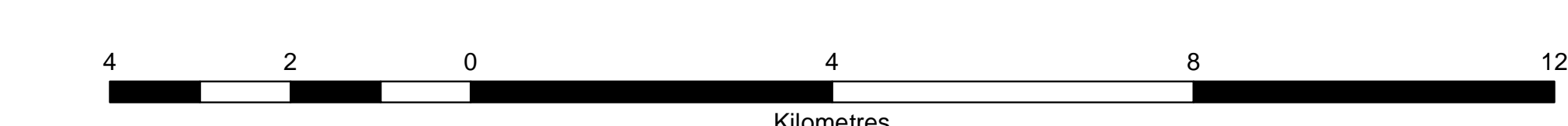
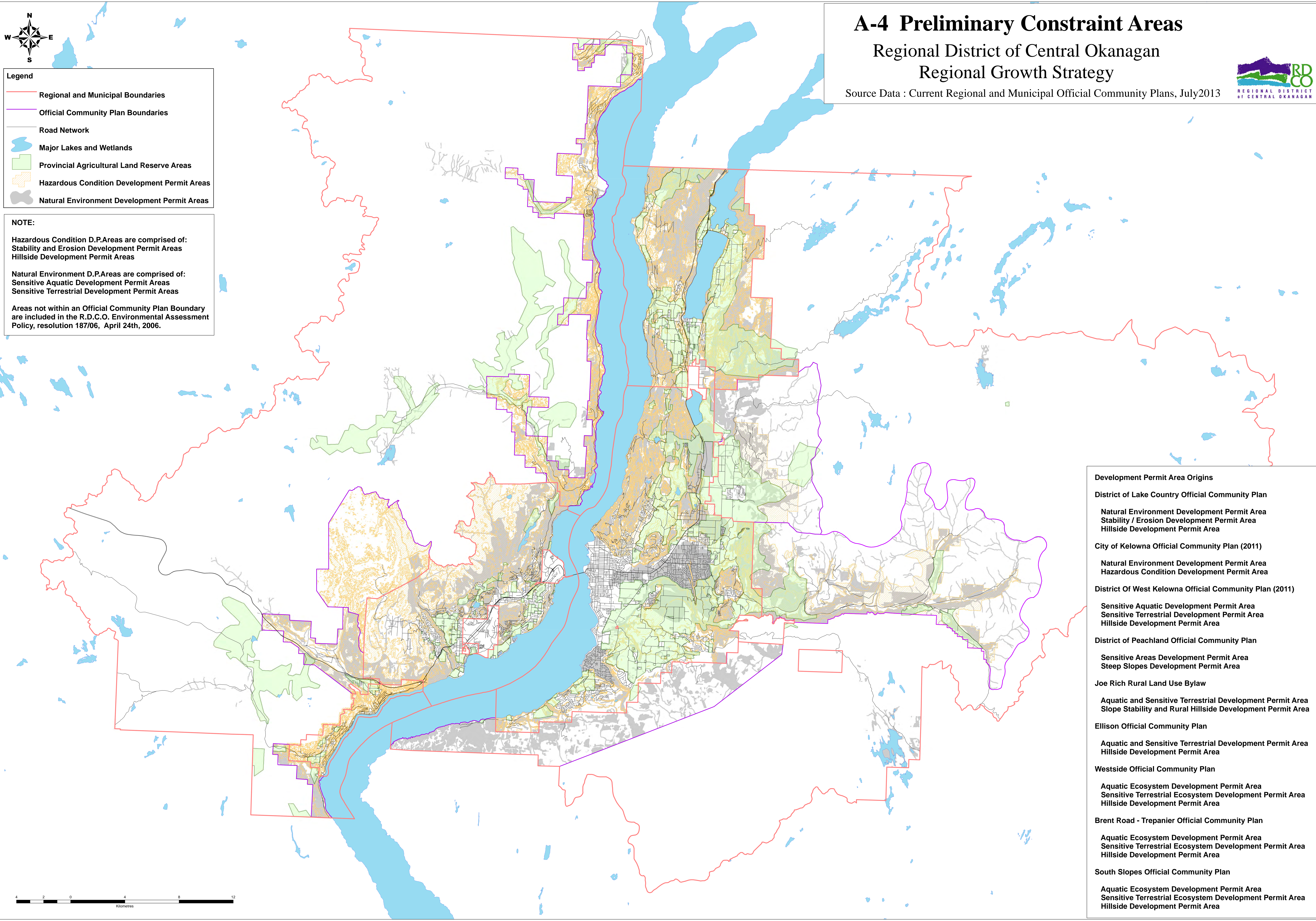
Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional Growth Strategy

Source Data : Current Regional and Municipal Official Community Plans, July2013



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN



- Development Permit Area Origins**
- District of Lake Country Official Community Plan**
 - Natural Environment Development Permit Area
 - Stability / Erosion Development Permit Area
 - Hillside Development Permit Area
 - City of Kelowna Official Community Plan (2011)**
 - Natural Environment Development Permit Area
 - Hazardous Condition Development Permit Area
 - District Of West Kelowna Official Community Plan (2011)**
 - Sensitive Aquatic Development Permit Area
 - Sensitive Terrestrial Development Permit Area
 - Hillside Development Permit Area
 - District of Peachland Official Community Plan**
 - Sensitive Areas Development Permit Area
 - Steep Slopes Development Permit Area
 - Joe Rich Rural Land Use Bylaw**
 - Aquatic and Sensitive Terrestrial Development Permit Area
 - Slope Stability and Rural Hillside Development Permit Area
 - Ellison Official Community Plan**
 - Aquatic and Sensitive Terrestrial Development Permit Area
 - Hillside Development Permit Area
 - Westside Official Community Plan**
 - Aquatic Ecosystem Development Permit Area
 - Sensitive Terrestrial Ecosystem Development Permit Area
 - Hillside Development Permit Area
 - Brent Road - Trepanier Official Community Plan**
 - Aquatic Ecosystem Development Permit Area
 - Sensitive Terrestrial Ecosystem Development Permit Area
 - Hillside Development Permit Area
 - South Slopes Official Community Plan**
 - Aquatic Ecosystem Development Permit Area
 - Sensitive Terrestrial Ecosystem Development Permit Area
 - Hillside Development Permit Area

Legend

- Regional and Municipal boundaries
- Official Community Plan Boundaries
- Area Structure Plans/Comprehensive Development Areas
- Major Lakes and Wetlands

Regional Land Use

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- FIRST NATION RESERVE (future planning)
- FUTURE URBAN RESERVE
- INDUSTRIAL
- INSTITUTIONAL
- PARK RECREATION OPEN SPACE
- RESIDENTIAL MEDIUM AND HIGH DENSITY
- RESIDENTIAL LOW DENSITY
- RESORT
- RURAL
- RURAL RESERVE

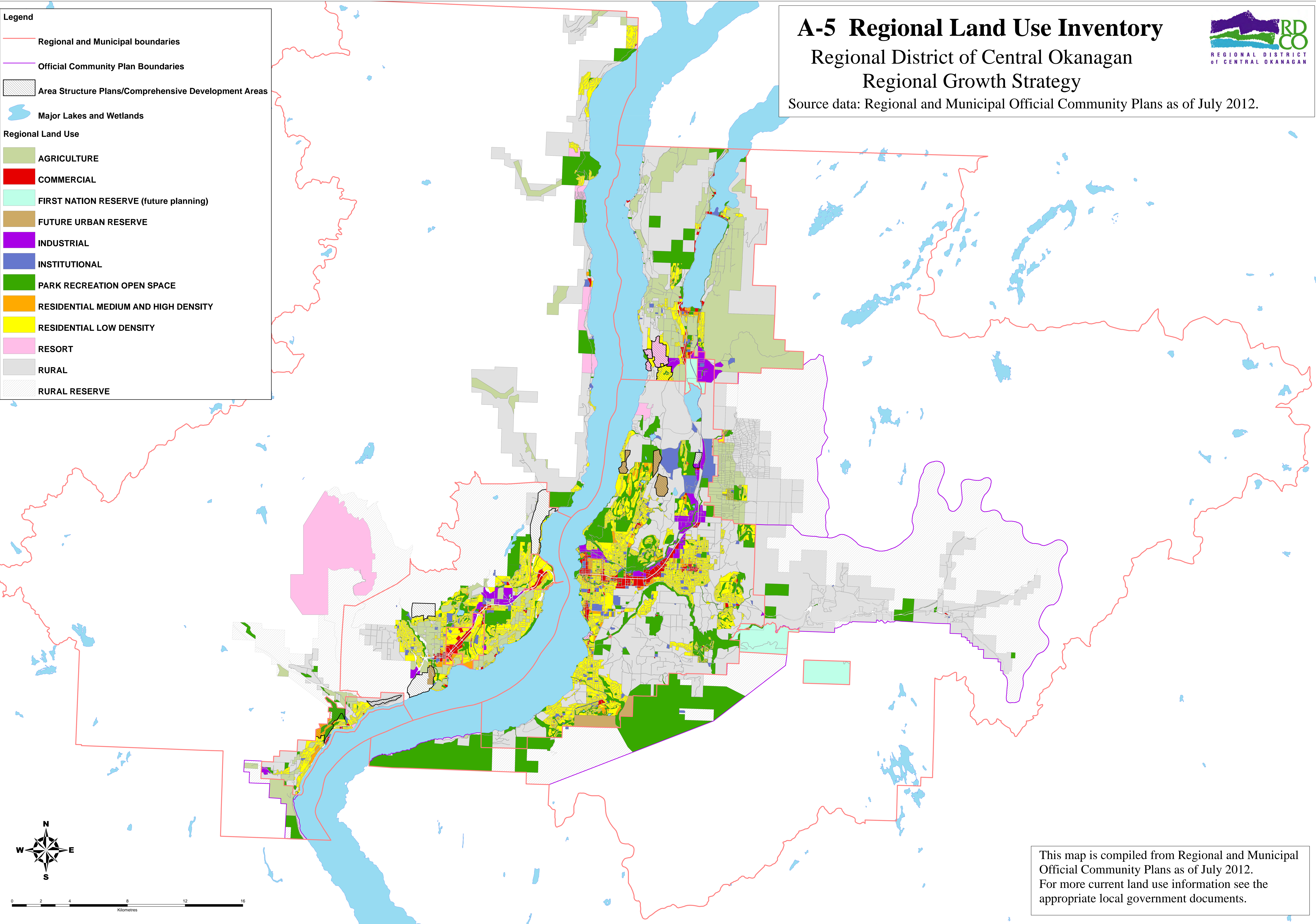
A-5 Regional Land Use Inventory

Regional District of Central Okanagan

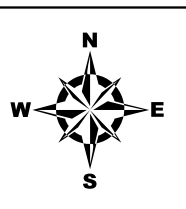
Regional Growth Strategy

Source data: Regional and Municipal Official Community Plans as of July 2012.





This map is compiled from Regional and Municipal Official Community Plans as of July 2012. For more current land use information see the appropriate local government documents.

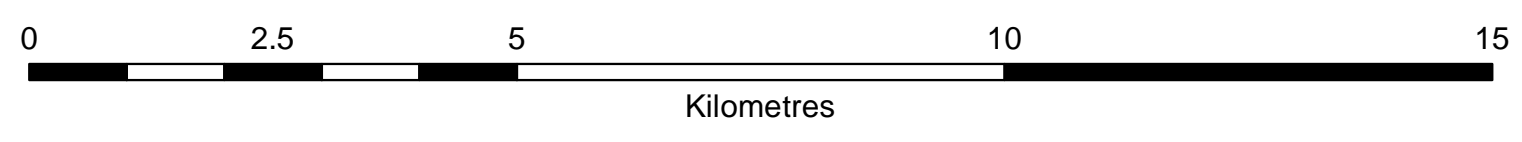
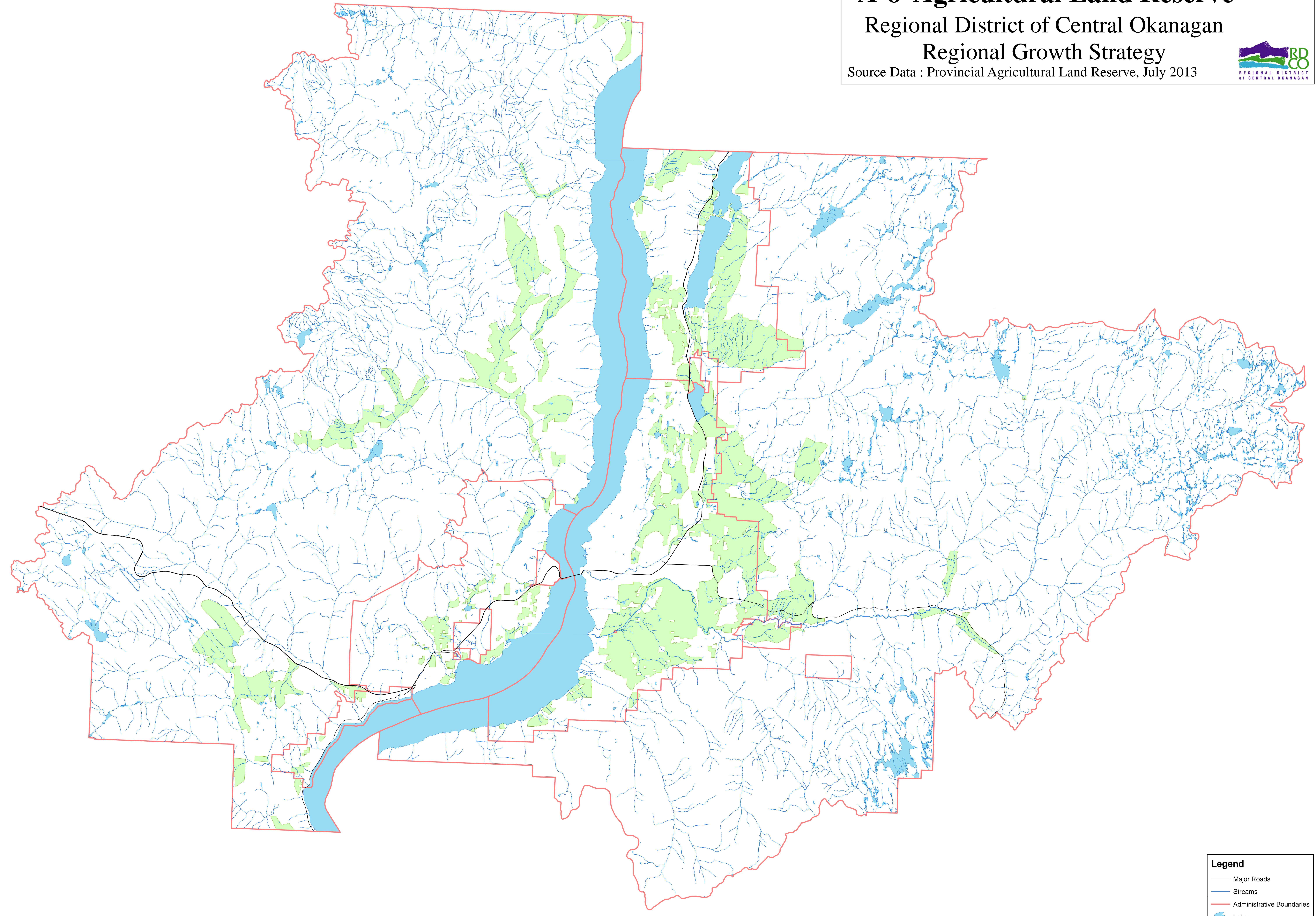


A-6 Agricultural Land Reserve

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional Growth Strategy

Source Data : Provincial Agricultural Land Reserve, July 2013



Legend

- Major Roads
- Streams
- Administrative Boundaries
- Lakes
- Agricultural Land Reserve



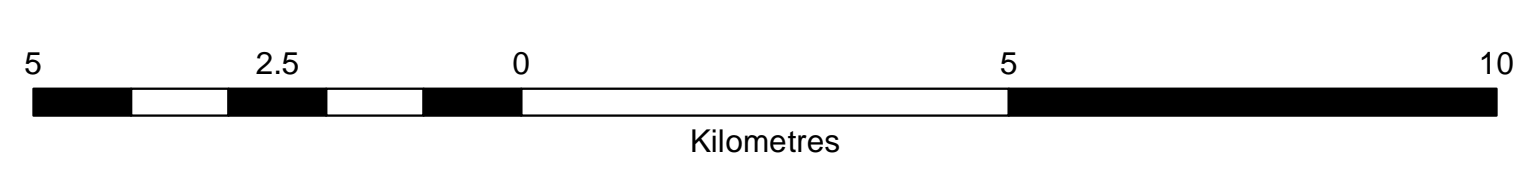
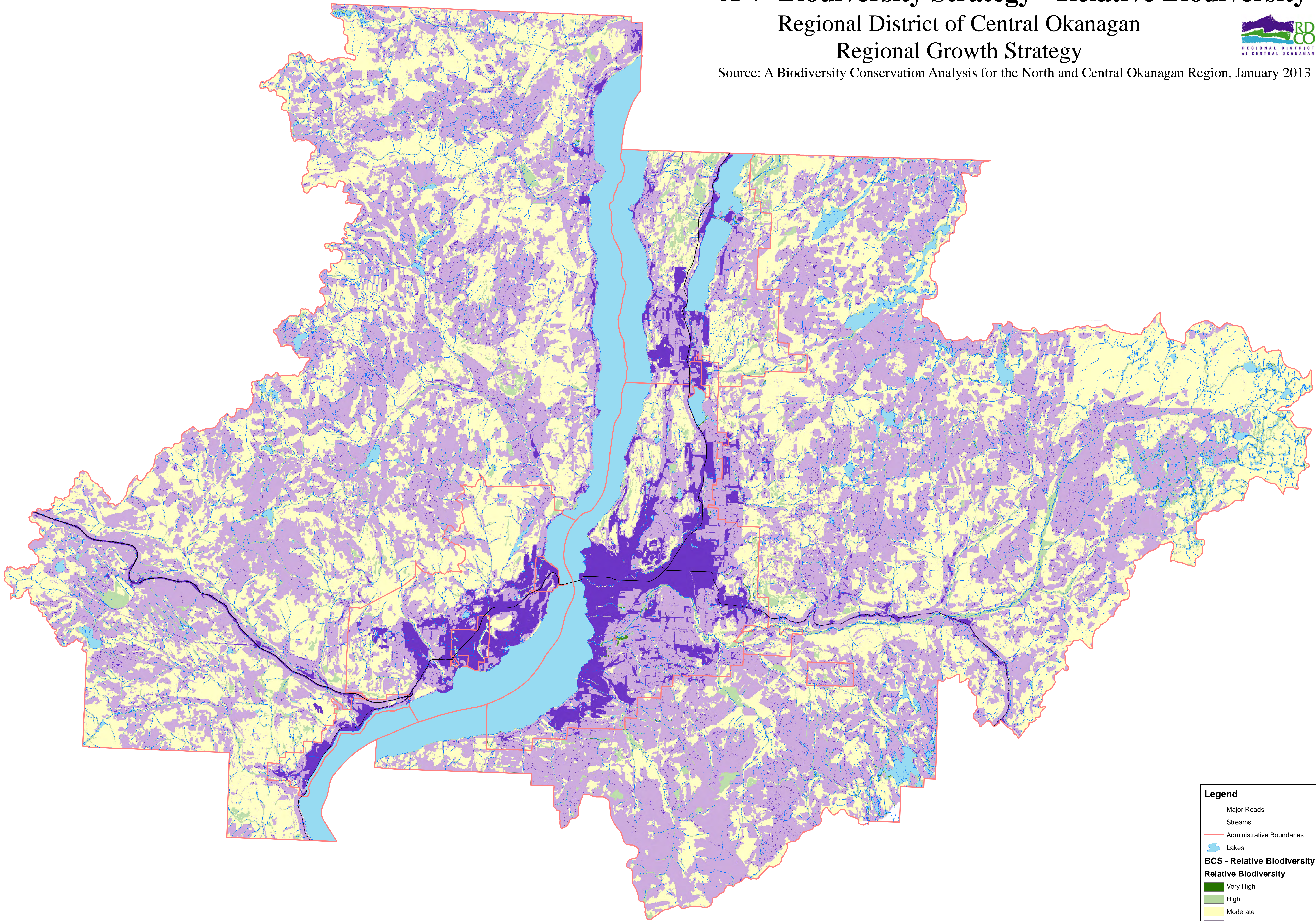
A-7 Biodiversity Strategy - Relative Biodiversity

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional Growth Strategy

Source: A Biodiversity Conservation Analysis for the North and Central Okanagan Region, January 2013



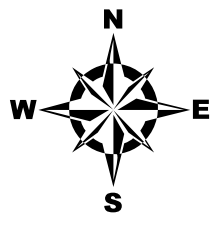


Legend

- Major Roads
- Streams
- Administrative Boundaries
- Lakes

BCS - Relative Biodiversity

Very High
High
Moderate
Low
Very Low



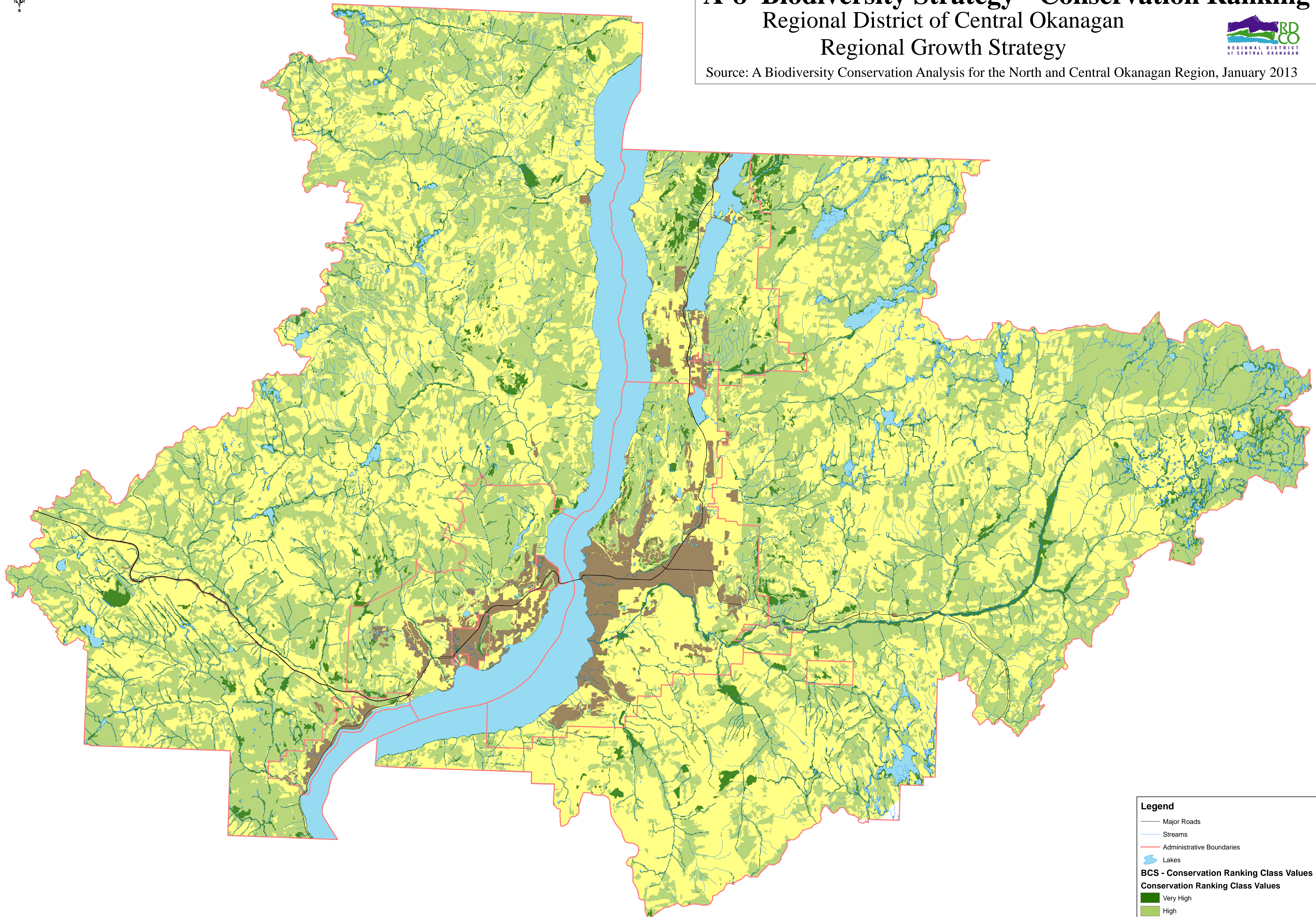
A-8 Biodiversity Strategy - Conservation Ranking

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional Growth Strategy



Source: A Biodiversity Conservation Analysis for the North and Central Okanagan Region, January 2013



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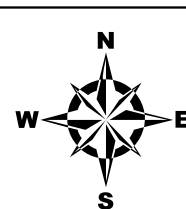
Legend

- Major Roads
- Streams
- Administrative Boundaries
- Lakes

BCS - Conservation Ranking Class Values

Conservation Ranking Class Values

- Very High
- High
- Moderate
- Low

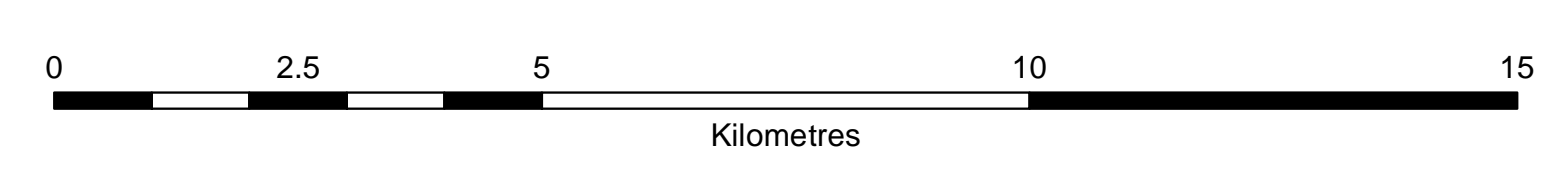
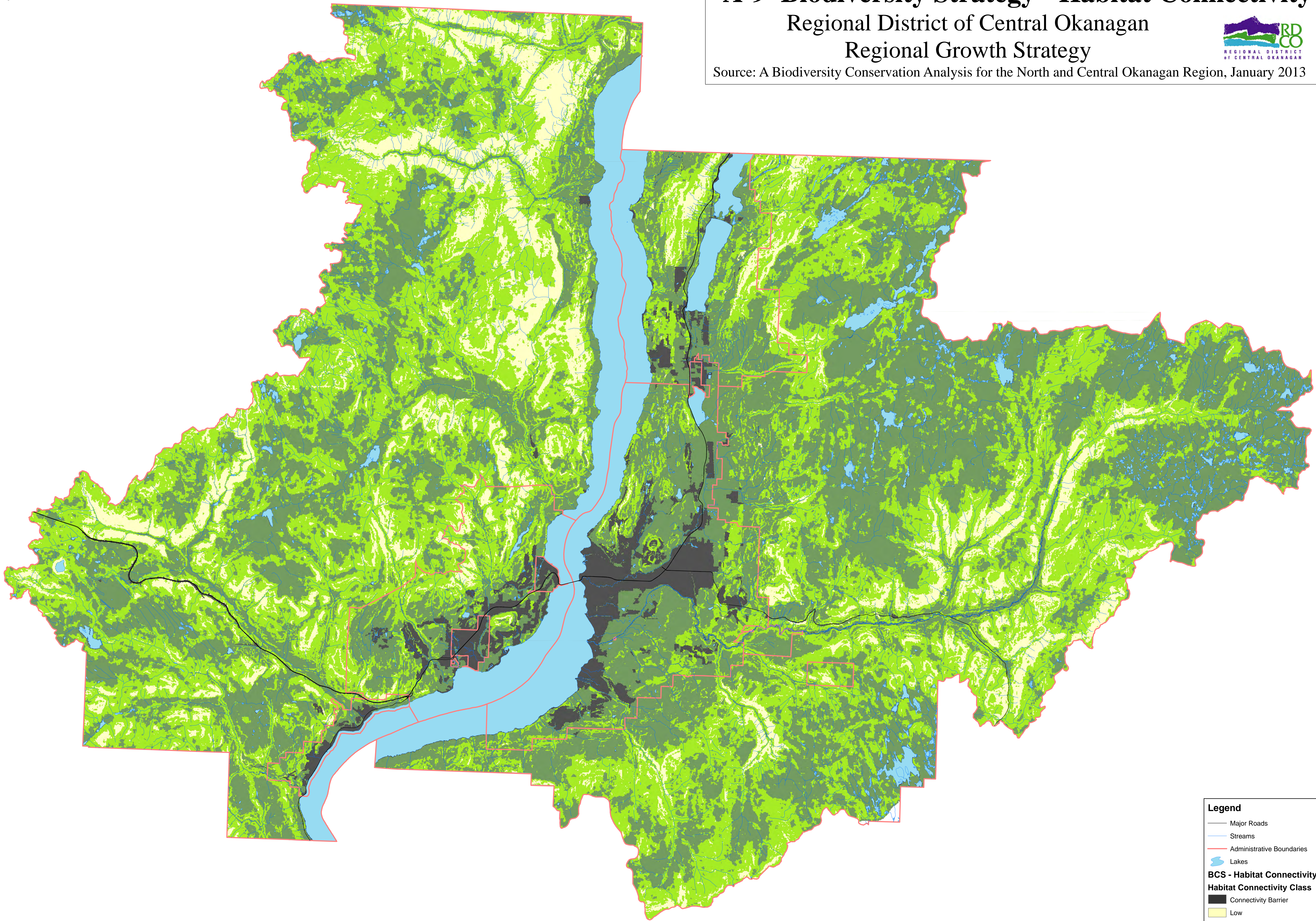


A-9 Biodiversity Strategy - Habitat Connectivity

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional Growth Strategy

Source: A Biodiversity Conservation Analysis for the North and Central Okanagan Region, January 2013



Legend

- Major Roads
- Streams
- Administrative Boundaries
- Lakes

BCS - Habitat Connectivity

Habitat Connectivity Class

- Connectivity Barrier
- Low
- Moderate
- High

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Appendix B – List of Research Papers

Beginning in 2011, the first phase of the RGS Review and Update assessed numerous documents, plans and studies in its background data collection process. These documents include legislation, by-laws and policies, planning references and a number of specific studies and plans throughout the Okanagan Valley and British Columbia.

The RGS Review and Update was an opportunity to coordinate and align community plans, policies, priorities and programs among the local municipalities, provincial ministries and First Nations. In the last five years, local municipalities within the Region have reviewed and updated their Official Community Plans to identify their visions for the long term well being of the communities and plan for their own needs while ensuring the needs of the future generations are met. The RGS Review and Update process analyzed information from local municipalities and First Nations to ensure that all policy directions and consultations will be incorporated to lead the Region into a sustainable future.

The update of the RGS sets the direction for current and future regional decision making with the goal of a sustainable future for the Region. The RGS document is built on the analysis of historical trends and the collection of current and forecasted data. Community planners and consultants attempted to identify all the data required so that the Region and communities can make informed choices and decisions about future growth and change in the Region. The need to review the RGS is to ensure that the most current data is considered and to understand the trends related to issue identification. In some cases, issue identification is achieved through the public consultation process, literature review, and analysis of economic and statistical information. Best practices and lessons learned from other jurisdictions respecting planning and environmental issues and growth management have been included where relevant.

Over the course of the RGS Review and Update process, the RDCO and regional partners completed and gathered information from various studies, assessments, inventories and updated their Official Community Plans. This work has been reviewed to understand broad planning scenarios in the Region and helps provide the necessary detail to set directions and make decisions as required to provide. The following reports and studies completed for the RGS Review and Update have helped enhance the research completed through the previous work:

RGS – Preliminary Consultation Process. EcoPlan International, April 2011

Background and Issues Report. RDCO Planning Department, July 2011

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Technical Report. Sustainability Solutions Group, October 2011

Regional GHG Emissions Model. Sustainability Solutions Group, October 2011

RGS Youth Survey. Linda Abbott-Simons, Consultant, December 2011

Regional Discussion Papers:

- *Economic Development* - CTQ Consultants Ltd., Ecoscape Environmental Consultants Ltd., September 2012
- *Environment Protection* - CTQ Consultants Ltd., Ecoscape Environmental Consultants Ltd., September 2012
- *Housing* - Cityspaces Ltd., September 2012
- *Parks & Open Space* - AECOM Consultants, GDH Solutions, September 2012
- *Transportation and Mobility* - Acurere Consulting Inc, Silex Consulting Inc., September 2012
- *Water Resources, Lakes & Streams* - CTQ Consultants Ltd., Ecoscape Environmental Consultants Ltd. Clarke Geoscience Ltd. and Western Water Associates Ltd., September 2012
- *Aggregate Demand and Supply Update* - EBA Consultants, October 2013

RGS Growth Options Consultation. Sustainability Solutions Group, November 2012

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Appendix C – Performance Metrics

Performance metrics are an opportunity to highlight the realizations and challenges faced by the Central Okanagan region in planning and managing for growth. The measures were selected in consultation with local governments, in order to track the Central Okanagan progress. Measures help track changes over time and assess future changes relative to an established baseline. Reviewing and tracking the changes in the measures allows the regional partners to gain knowledge and amend directions as necessary to work toward the regional vision. The information gathered with the measures does not facilitate change as it merely indicates past performance. The Region will be able to learn from the information to allow the Region to “correct its course” by modifying and adjusting its policies and tasks as the Region moves forward.

The following table provides some performance metrics for the Central Okanagan. This list is not an exhaustive list as more work and research will be done for the annual and 5 year reporting on the RGS.

Indicator	Indicator Description	Why it is important	Data Source
Our Land			
Population Density	Measuring population per land area within defined OCP areas. 70% of RDCO is crown land.	Higher densities in urban areas are related to more efficient services and less urban sprawl. Communities of the Central Okanagan encourage development within municipalities and serviced areas of the Region as opposed to dispersed development enclaves on outlying crown land.	RDCO GIS – RGS land inventory Census Data – DA’s
Composition of urban and village centres	Measure the commercial floor area and number of residential units within designated urban and village centres as per OCPs.	Designated urban and village centres are places where residents can work, shop and enjoy cultural/educational/recreational amenities close to home. A balance of amenities provides a range of services and opportunities so that residents are less likely to need to travel long distances for basic goods and services.	BC Assessment RDCO GIS – Land inventory OCP – urban and village centres
Our Economy			
Employment Rate	Number of persons employed (15 yrs and older) working	Employment rates indicate the strength of the local economy. High rates of employment result in stability of the community and social well being.	BC Stats
Business Licences	Any person owning or operating a business within the Central Okanagan	Focus on support and retention of businesses in the Region	Regional Partners
Central Okanagan Number of firms	Industry Sector based on NAICS Canada (North American Industrial Classification System)	Shows the Regions businesses according to type of economic activity.	BC Stats
Household Income	Average and Median household income	Average and Median household income provides an assessment of the net effect of economic and employment strategies. Income levels are an indicator of the strength of the local economy. Compare to provincial levels.	BC Stats
Income by Source	This indicator measures the percentage of total income that comes from three categories of income sources: earnings, government transfers and other money	Shows the portion of income from government sources or investments could leave the economy open to vulnerability.	BC Stats

Indicator	Indicator Description	Why it is important	Data Source
Building Permits	Number of building permits issued for residential, commercial, industrial and institutional	Identify the level of building activity in the Region.	Regional Partners
Total employment by sector	This indicator measures the percentage of employed people that are working in each sector as an indication of the employment diversity in the Region.	This indicator shows the concentration of the labour force in various employment sectors. A predominance of people working in one sector could mean the Region is more economically vulnerable. Alternatively, employment diversification increases resilience to economic downturns. By looking at the changing proportions of employment in each sector, this indicator can reveal how the underlying economic health of the Region is changing.	BC Stats

Our Water Resources

Water consumption	Total water consumption from the water purveyor distribution systems (litres/capita/day).	Water availability is a concern and with population growth and associated development in the Central Okanagan, there is a potential shortfall in supply relative to demand.	Regional Partners OBWB
Water Quality Ratings	Groundwater (Monitoring Wells) and Surface Water # of boil water advisory days (total), by water utility; # of water systems that meet provincial and federal standards	Changes in water quality reflect the value we place on and our ability to care for aquatic ecosystems. Changes in the quality of water give us an idea of the success of community efforts to protect water for drinking, swimming, fish, etc. and to respond to factors that affect water quality (e.g.: industrial discharges, sewage treatment methods, development activities, resource extraction, etc.).	Regional Partners
Source Water Protection	# of source water protection plans implemented	The number of plans in place indicates a willingness from public agencies to be proactive in addressing issues associated with growth, multiple stakeholders and limited natural resources.	Regional Partners

Our Health

Chronic diseases	Number of people with chronic disease admitted to KGH		Interior Health
Air Quality	Air Quality Exceeds the Canada-Wide Standards (for PM 2.5 & Ground level Ozone) Average concentrations (seasonal Jan, Mar, Jun, Sept)	Air pollution has been shown to have detrimental effects on human health- particularly to persons with respiratory ailments.	Kelowna
Joint Use Agreements/ projects/ programs/ facilities	Agreements between two or more government entities that set out terms and conditions for use of public property or facilities	Help communities and school districts work together to develop joint use agreements in order to increase access to recreational facilities on school grounds that provide opportunities for various services that support health and social well-being.	Regional Partners SD 23

Our Food

ALR exclusions and inclusions	Tracks the success of the protection of agricultural land	Preservation of land for agriculture is the first and most important step in ensuring agricultural viability.	ALC
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Indicator	Indicator Description	Why it is important	Data Source
Agriculture Farm Receipts	measures the total value of gross farm receipts (in dollars)	Provides a measure of the economic health of the agricultural sector based on financial returns to farm operators and the area of land farmed.	Census
Our Housing			
Housing Starts	the number of new units by structural type	Illustrates economic health, as well as shows the range of housing types being supported in the marketplace.	BC Stats
Mix of dwelling units	housing mix in the Region	A diversity of housing types suggests greater choice for a variety of lifestyles and budgets and supports improved housing affordability	Census
Housing affordability	Difference between median income level and sales price/rental of homes	Review the ability of individuals and families to afford housing within the Region.	BC Stats
%of owner households spending 30% or more of gross income on housing	measures the percentage of owner households spending 30% or more of their gross income on housing.	Paying more than 30% of gross household income often places strain on both individuals and families. Understand how the Region is fairing with affordability.	Census
%of renter households spending 30% or more of gross income on housing	measures the percentage of renter households spending 30% or more of their gross income on housing.	Paying more than 30% of gross household income often places strain on both individuals and families. Understand how the Region is fairing with affordability.	Census
Our Climate			
Community Energy and Emissions Inventory	energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions from community activities in on-road transportation, buildings and solid waste	Province provides the report that measures the GHG profiles to help local governments meet its Climate Action initiatives.	Province
Our Ecosystem			
Annual and cumulative area of parkland and protected areas	total amount and percentage of total land area of parks and protected natural areas	Parks and protected areas provide habitat and support biological diversity. Where there is limited conservation land, it is more likely to be intensively managed and cultivated potentially at the expense of natural habitat, processes or systems.	Regional Partners
Environmentally Sensitive Lands	the amount of terrestrial environmentally sensitive areas protected by park or protected area	The Okanagan in particular represents a biodiversity “hotspot” as it provides unique habitats to wildlife that are found nowhere else in the country. There are more than 1,597 identified species at risk in BC, including 48 species within the RDCO.	Regional Partners
Municipal solid waste disposal per capita	annual amount of municipal solid waste (MSW) disposed in landfills or incinerated by residential, commercial, institutional, demolition, land clearing or construction source	Demonstrate how well the Region is doing at reducing waste and the impact on the environment.	RDCO

Indicator	Indicator Description	Why it is important	Data Source
Reclaimed wastewater discharge	Annual volume of waste water discharged to Okanagan Lake from water reclamation plants	As population growth increases, potentially increase the amount of waste water being discharged into the lake. Understanding the volume and consider the effluent being discharge will allow monitoring of water quality and identify any potential issues.	MOE
Our Transportation			
Active Transportation Streets	# km of streets with pedestrian and cycling facilities, # km of cycling infrastructure, # km of sidewalks	Providing safe transportation routes encourages an alternative to vehicle travel	Regional Partners
Transit usage	Annual transit trips per community/route	Transit usage illustrates our ability to operate a system that attracts riders, to plan neighbourhoods that are readily serviced by transit, and/or shows a societal shift from dependence on the single occupant vehicle to public transit.	Regional Partners
Passenger Vehicles Per Capita	The number of vehicles per capita is directly related to the number of vehicles on the road.	It provides indirect information regarding energy use, air pollution and levels of investment in public road infrastructure.	ICBC
Our Governance			
Collaborative Governance	Number of regional partnership initiatives	Opportunities for the Regional partners to spread costs and benefits over a larger benefiting area in order to achieve greater economies and efficiencies.	RDCO
Community Initiatives	# of community initiatives supported by Regional District or municipalities	Support initiatives that assist in implementing the RGS.	Regional Partners

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