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Mitigation Highlights

- Creation more successful than anticipated
- Enhancement is problematic
 - Different actions provide different levels of ecological lift
 - Vegetative manipulation not sufficient
 - Enhancement activities generally overvalued
 - Greater credit for process restoration

Mitigation Policy Issues

- No net loss of area &/or function?
- Cross-resource tradeoffs
- Urban vs. Rural

Implementing a Watershed Approach

Challenges

- -Regulatory/Legal
- -Technical

Implementing a Watershed Approach

Challenges: Regulatory

- 1. Guidance on Mitigation Requirements Environmentally preferable
- 2. Role of Preservation
- 3. Split mitigation requirements
- 4. Nexus with impacted functions

Regulatory challenges

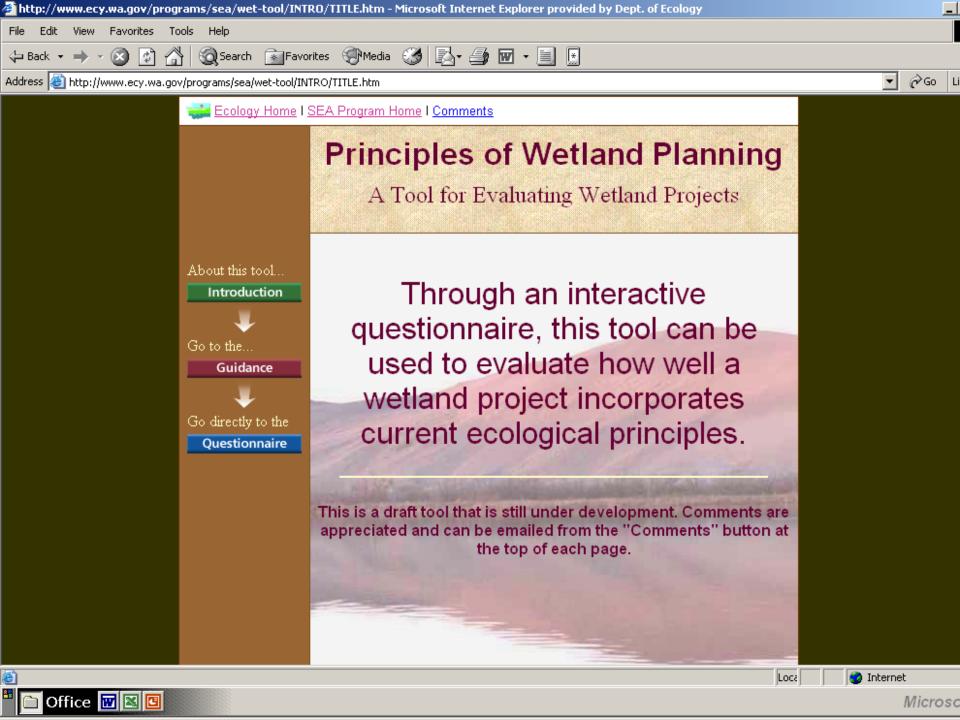
Out of kind mitigation:

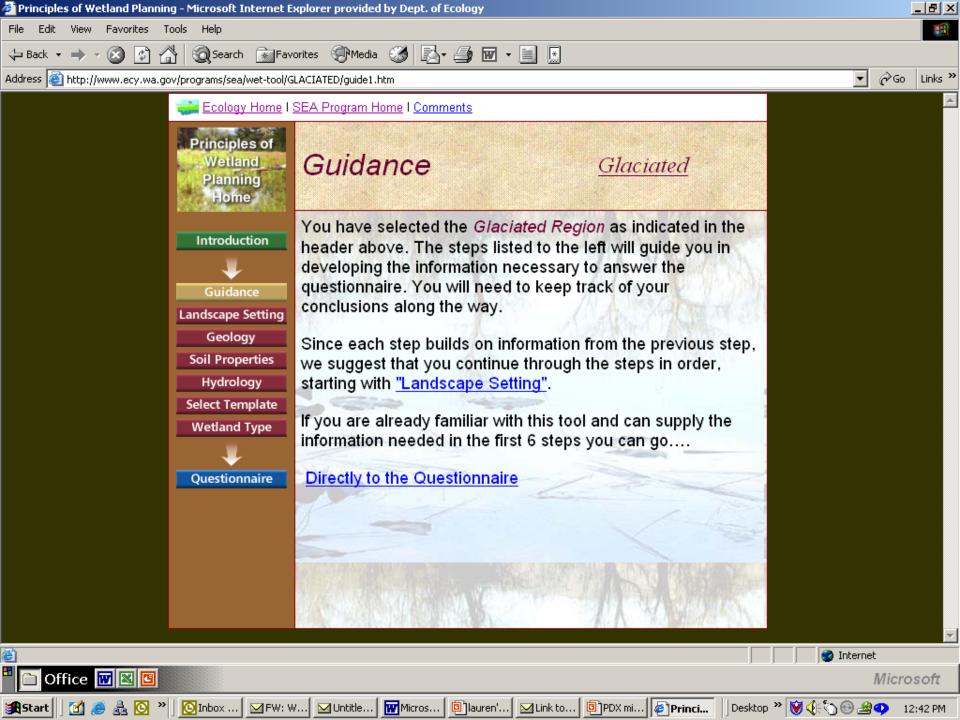
Using non-wetland restoration as mitigation needs to have clearly articulated nexus between functions lost and functions provided by the buffer, riparian or upland habitat mitigation. Environmentally preferable alone is not sufficient.

Implementing a Watershed Approach

Challenges: Technical

- Guidance on selecting mitigation alternatives
- 2. Tools for evaluating landscape context
 - a. Landscape tool
 - b. WSDOT Watershed Characterization
- 3. Exceeding the capacity of the site





Websites

- Landscape Tool
 http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wet-tool/INTRO/TITLE.htm
- WSDOT watershed characterization method <u>http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/environment/streamlineact/watershed.htm</u>
- Ecology wetland mitigation studies
 http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/mit-study/index.html
- Wetland Guidance updates
 http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wet-updatedocs.htm