

Regenerate Whatcom Update and Brainstorm Meeting

October 28, 2025

David MacLeod

Dave Ketter

Brian Kerkvliet

Cory Sevin



Regenerate Whatcom Initiating Team (“Stewards”)



David MacLeod
Transition Whatcom



Brian Kerkvliet
Inspiration Farm



Dave Ketter
Regenerate
Whatcom



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Regenerate
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Agenda

- Introductions/Check in
- RW background and context
- RW as a *Regenerate Cascadia*
Landscape Group
- Vision and Mission
- Discussion/Q&A
- Ways to engage



Regenerate Cascadia Activation Tour Events

October 28th & 29th, 2023

Joe Brewer Presentation:

A

Design Pathway for Regenerating Earth

Regeneration Projects Tour:

- Inspiration Farm
- Edaphos Wildlife Sanctuary
- River Farm



The Design Pathway for Regenerating Earth

by Joe Brewer

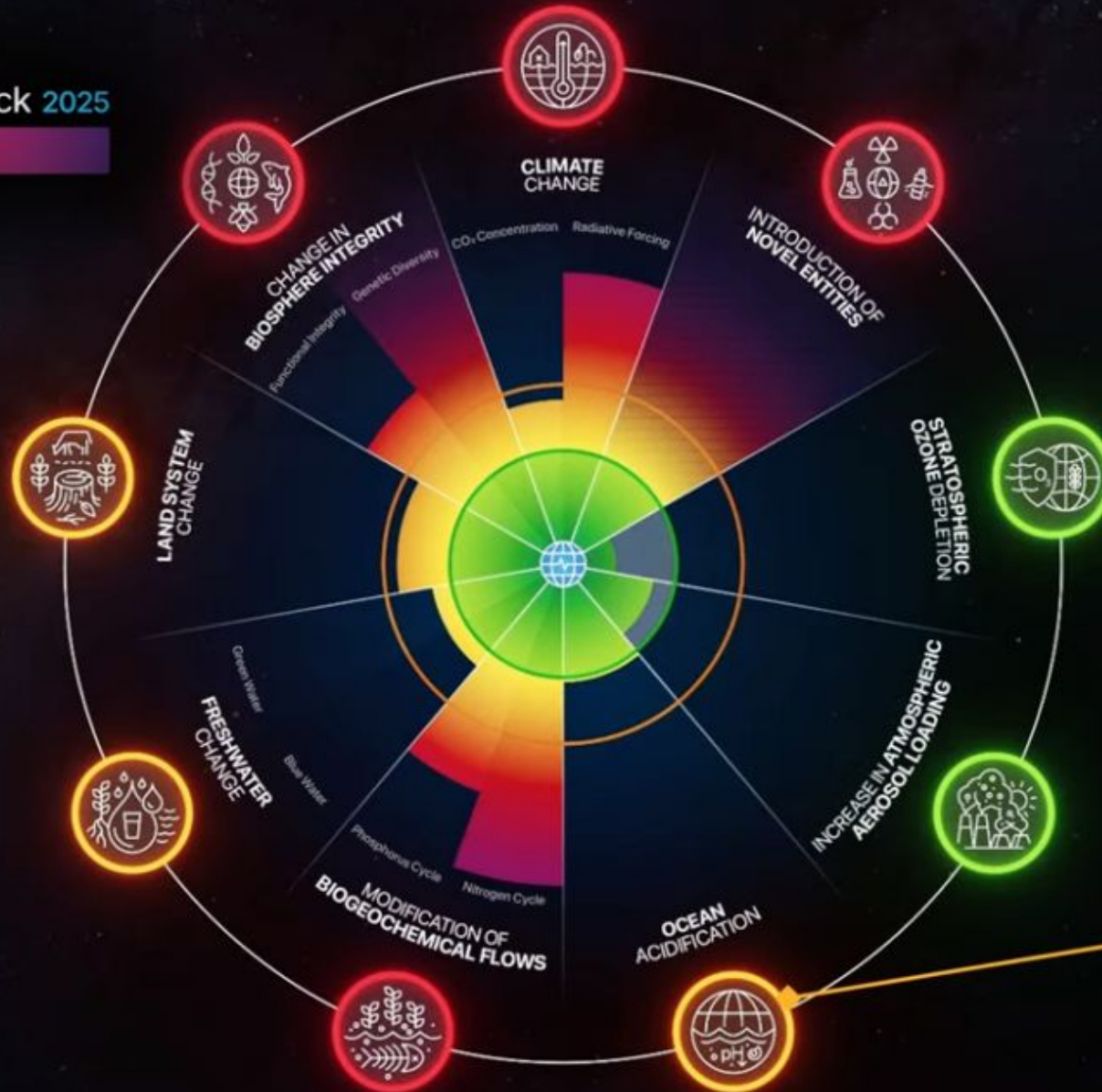
- * "The North Star" - To get all 9 Planetary Boundaries back within the safe operating zone.
- * To follow the principles for regenerative economies.
- * To promote Integrated Landscape Management.
- * To embrace the Prosocial Process in our governance and interactions.
- * To hold the Vision of connecting to a network of bioregions, utilizing the 9 Design Pieces, and "telling a good story".



Planetary Boundaries

Climate change · Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and...

Planetary Health Check 2025



**2025:
7th boundary
breached**

Regenerate Cascadia



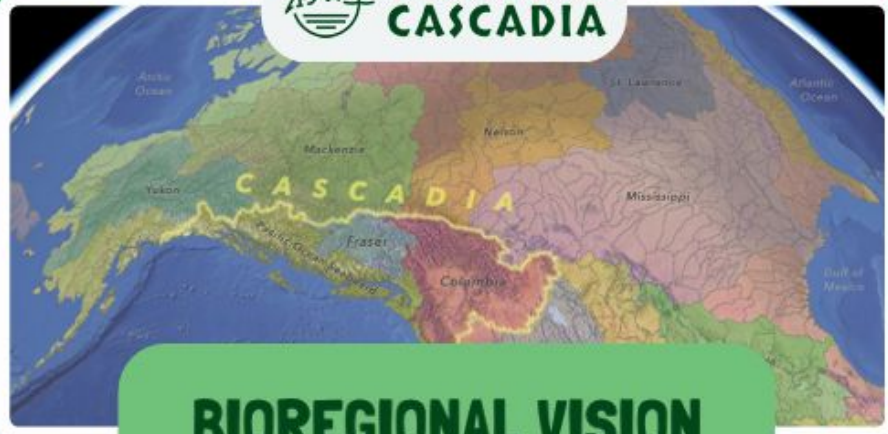
Taya Seidler
Regenerate
Cascadia



Brandon Letsinger
Regenerate
Cascadia



Clare Attwell
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Cascadia



BIOREGIONAL VISION FOR REGENERATION



Bioregional Learning

Join a community of **peers and mentors sharing place-based wisdom** as we explore ecological restoration and funding ecosystems across the Cascadia bioregion



Grassroots Support

Create a local group to identify regenerative projects in your area, **weave together relationships**, and share resources with a strong backbone of admin support



Regenerative Culture

Work alongside a team of people dedicated to **creating a trust-based culture with decentralized, local group leadership** to let the land and watersheds organize us while we remember to marvel

ABOUT US

We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit program of the Department of Bioregion creating the conditions for a regenerative culture and movement to thrive.

LEARN MORE AND CO-CREATE WITH US

RegenerateCascadia.org

What is Bioregionalism?



Bioregionalism honors the **reciprocal stewardship Indigenous peoples have practiced with the land** for millennia and seeks to align that deep wisdom with ethical tools to reconnect with place.

The term "bioregionalism," popularized in the 1970s by Peter Berg and the Planet Drum Foundation, **aligns human activities with watersheds, landforms, and ecosystems**, highlighting the importance of living in harmony with one's local environment.



Bioregions such as Cascadia can **address intangible global issues**—for instance, climate change or biodiversity loss—with actionable frameworks and local landscape autonomy.

Bioregionalism creates systems where the wisdom of place, tools of science, and community creativity unite to **solve problems in context-appropriate, regenerative, and innovative ways**.



Cascadia extends from Mt. St. Alias to Cape Mendocino and as far east as the Yellowstone Caldera. It is **defined by the Fraser, Snake, and Columbia River basins**, as well as coastal rainforests, rather than arbitrary map lines.

RegenerateCascadia.org

What is Bioregionalism?

ACKNOWLEDGING HISTORY



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COHESIVE STRATEGY



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PLACE-BASED IDENTITY



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COLLABORATIVE INGENUITY



DEFINING OUR BIOREGION



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RegenerateCascadia.org

black-and-white etchings generously provided by Lisa Bade

Landscape Introduction – *Regenerate Whatcom*

Rooted in the watersheds of Whatcom County, Regenerate Whatcom is a growing community of residents, organizations, and stewards working together to regenerate our landscapes, economies, and cultures—place by place, project by project.

As a bioregional node, Regenerate Whatcom:

- serves as a hub for regenerative action,
- is grounded in the living systems of our place, and
- spans from the headwaters of the Nooksack River to the Salish Sea.

Things We've Done



Core teams need to be supported for large scale regenerative infrastructure building and systems transformation – for at least 20 years.

We need to bring in systems of support so that people feel resourced and secure in a long term way – to do the work our planet needs.

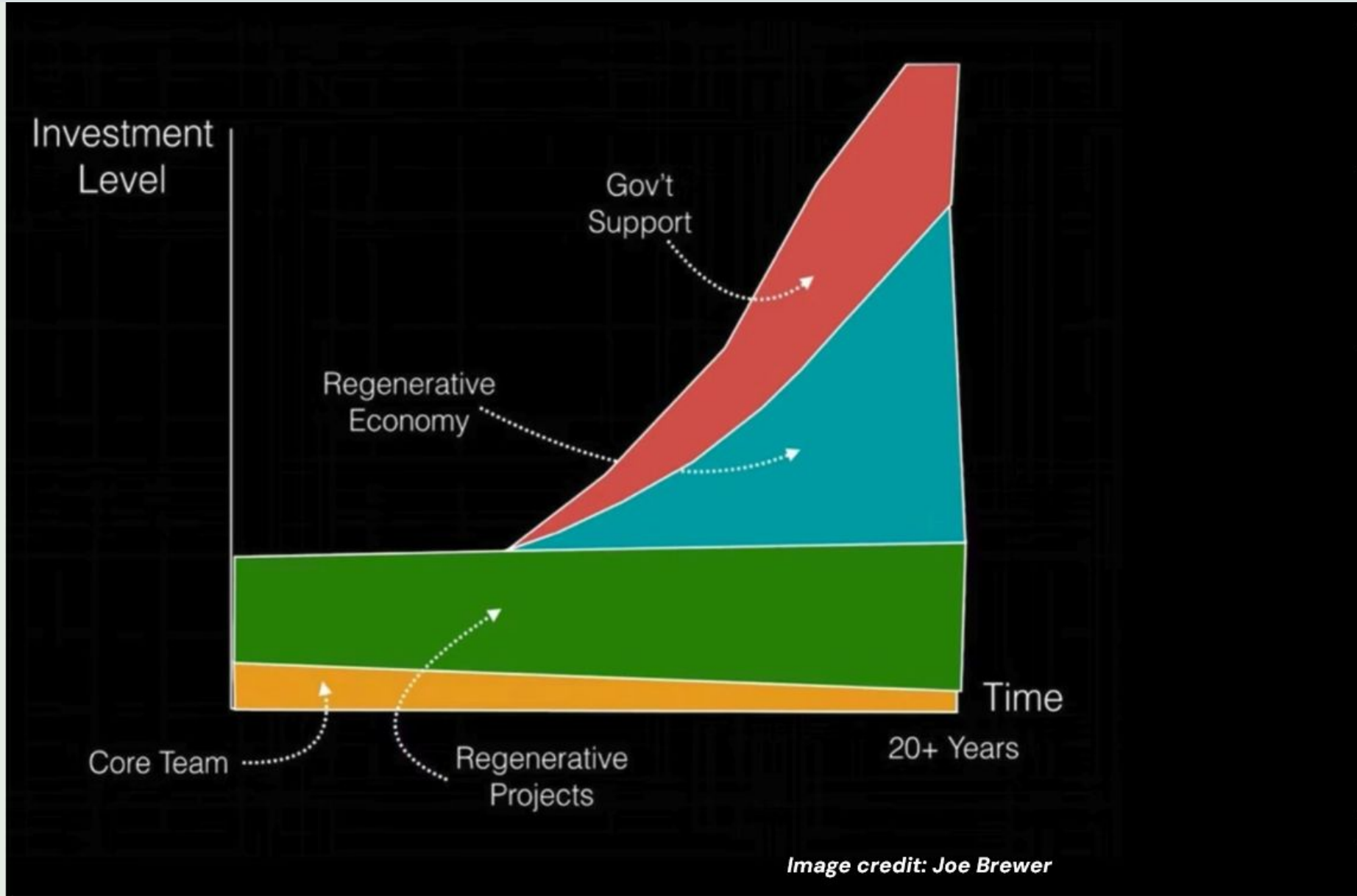


Image credit: Joe Brewer



LANDSCAPE HUB CULTIVATOR



The LHC will support up to 10 Regenerate Cascadia Landscape groups across Cascadia through an online community of practice to co-create and define what a Landscape Hub is and develop its core foundations.

The LHC pilot will playfully engage with the following opportunities:

- interrupting existing systemic pattern to create a cultural shift.
- value and nurture networks of relations as critical for building and holding trust;
- develop and practice new/old forms of participatory governance; and
- develop the bioregional infrastructure require to attract and flow funding to where it is needed.

Pilot Phases

PHASE 1 PREPARING THE FOUNDATIONS

Oct 2025 to Jan 2026

Activities:

- Onboarding and community-building
- Deep inquiry, listening and relationship-mapping
- Story-based reporting
- Landscapes Showcase event
- NoVo grant inclusion

Funding: \$1,500 per Landscape Group

Output: Landscape Story decks

PHASE 2 BIOREGIONAL MAPPING AND FLOW FUNDING PILOTS

Feb to June 2026

Activities:

- Bioregional mapping workshops
- Identifying 'weavers and capacity builders'
- Regeneration strategies
- Flow funding pilots
- Funder intros and relationships

Funding: \$6,500 per Landscape Group

Outputs: Workshop outputs, initial regeneration strategies, project lists, budgets

PHASE 3 TEAM DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL FUNDING ECOSYSTEMS

Post-June 2026

Activities:

- Landscape Regeneration Team capacity building
- Co-develop initial local funding ecosystems
- Contribute to the emerging Cascadia Bioregional Finance Facility

Funding: Possible funding available if NoVo grant successful

Outputs: Highly emergent!

Regenerate Whatcom Draft

Vision

(Your help needed to complete!)

Regenerate Whatcom supports the vision of bringing all nine planetary boundaries back within their sustainable operating zones in our region; following principles for regenerative economies; promoting integrated landscape management across the Nooksack watershed and the entire Cascadia bioregion; and connects to a larger network of bioregions.

Regenerate Whatcom Draft Mission (Your help needed to complete!)

Regenerate Whatcom maps local earth regeneration projects; convenes and creates shared agendas; and identifies priorities and criteria based on stakeholder input. Regenerate Whatcom organizes projects as a portfolio, and will coordinate systematically, while generating a watershed regeneration fund.



Ways to get involved:

Now: Help promote the “Water is Life” event.

Near Future

- help with communication
- establishing social media presence
- increase reach in community
- event/project planning, management, promotion and coordination
- propose a workshop/site visit
- fundraising/book-keeping
- big picture organizational development/visioning/governance
- Your ideas!!!

Upcoming Events

Regenerate Whatcom

Nov. 14, 2025

[Water is Love: Ripples of Regeneration](#)

Join us for the documentary film “Water Is Love” followed by a panel discussion.
Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship, 7:00 pm.

Design School for Regenerating Earth

Nov. 11, 2025

[Earth Regeneration in Practice](#)

[Join the online learning community with Joe Brewer](#)

Deepening Connections

Whatcom@regeneratecascadia.org

[Regenerate Whatcom](#)

(on Regenerate Cascadia website)

[Regenerate Cascadia Mighty Networks site](#)
(coming soon!)

[Regenerate Whatcom Connections Sheet](#)

[Transition Whatcom ning](#)

[Design School for Regenerating Earth](#)



Thank you!

We look forward to staying
connected!

David, Dave, Brian, and Cory