

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN STATUS UPDATE 2025



**SUSTAINABILITY
ENGAGEMENT
INSTITUTE**



MAKE WAVES.

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Executive Summary

This update provides a brief summary of Western Washington University's (Western's) progress on its 2017 Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) during fiscal year (FY) 2025 (July 2024-June 2025). The Sustainability Engagement Institute (SEI) compiled this update using input from contributors across campus. The purpose of this annual update is to provide insight into progress Western has made on its sustainability commitments, highlighting successes, and illuminating opportunities for growth.

In FY2025, many local, state, national, and global challenges affected students, staff, and faculty's ability to make progress on Western's sustainability commitments. Some initiatives were able to continue, while others were altered or discontinued. However, the Western community's desire to work towards a more environmentally, socially, and economically just world is still very present. This was particularly visible through student-led initiatives, applied learning programs, and community partnerships. These initiatives provided students with practical experience and continue to be a defining feature of Western's sustainability efforts.

This update is intended to support transparency and informed decision-making at Western. It is important to note that this update is not intended to present a comprehensive view into all sustainability-related activity on campus. There are many initiatives that exist outside of this reporting structure. Instead, it highlights reported progress within the structure of the SAP and aims to highlight areas where future focus will have the highest impact. While much work has been done, there is more work needed to achieve Western's sustainability commitments. In FY2026, Western's President's Sustainability Council adopted the [2025-2030 Sustainability Action Plan Priorities](#). This document highlights the priority items that Western has committed to for the next five years. The FY 2026 SAP Progress Report will highlight progress made on these priorities.

This update takes a new approach to SAP reporting. It provides a short overview of progress made on SAP goals, and will be followed by a more substantial report for FY2026.

Highlights

This update includes progress made in many aspects of Western's SAP. A few of these points of progress are highlighted below:

- **In FY2025, Western received \$41 million in state legislative appropriations for its heating conversion project. This project aims to electrify building heating and in doing so, move away from burning natural gas in the on-campus steam plant.**
- **Kaiser Borsari Hall was completed in FY 2025. The new facility is designed to exceed Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) performance standards. It accomplished this using rooftop solar panels and local, sustainably harvested wood.**
- The Sustainability, Equity, and Justice Fund (SEJF) distributed \$116,120 of funding in FY2025. This was used to fund a wide array of student-led projects. An increased number of students, staff, and faculty participated in the program, which led to a wider diversity of projects.

- Despite funding challenges, many groups at Western continued support for student, staff, and faculty community learning and outreach opportunities.
- The Office Sustainability Certification increased in FY2025, with 10 offices now certified. The Sustainable Lab Certification program also continues to grow, with 20 labs now certified.
- There were significant improvements in data tracking during FY2025. Chartwells began using the food waste tracking software, Waste Not 2.0. This helped lead to a significant reduction in dining related emissions this year. The SEI began tracking food purchasing and waste water in their greenhouse gas emissions inventory. Energy audits were conducted on 14 large academic buildings on campus. Additionally, Procurement implemented the use of the software Jagger, which will centralize Western's purchases and allow for sustainability screening.
- The Viking Supported Agricultural (VSA) program started accepting SNAP/EBT. This made local produce accessible to people who may otherwise not be able to afford it, furthering food justice in the community.
- Single Stream recycling was employed as it is safer, easier to manage, and preferred by haulers.

Common themes

- **Lack of staffing, funding, and challenges in morale:** Western faces challenges many higher education institutions are facing, including decreased state funding, uncertainty in federal funding, and efforts to delegitimize and limit higher education research and student services, much of which touch on sustainability-related topics. In this environment, Western's students, staff, and faculty face significant limitations to accessing resources needed to make progress on Western's sustainability commitments, and have noted the impacts these challenges are having on university morale.
- **Decarbonization is advancing unevenly:** The main places decarbonization progress was seen in FY2025 was in centralized, state-funded areas. For example, Kaiser Borsari Hall opening and further plans to convert from the steam plant to electrified heating were efforts spurred by state mandates or dedicated state funding. Other areas, particularly those that lack data, are reliant on personal action, or do not have a clear accountability structure, saw less reduction in progress towards reducing Western's greenhouse gas emissions. For example, there has been limited progress in reducing drive-alone commute rates year-over-year, and reducing Scope 3 emissions has been hampered by a lack of consistent data, making progress difficult to track and implement.
- **Bottom-Up Progress:** Where progress was made in FY2025, Western's student body was a strong driver of these sustainability efforts. This was demonstrated through SEJF projects, such as the Miyawaki Mini-Forest Trail Continuation Project and the Preservation Station. Other examples include student work done in the Sustainability Planning Studio, and practicum work done by Sustainability Pathways and Climate Leadership Certificate students with over 30 community organizations across the state. These efforts highlight the high priority Western students place on sustainability.

About this Update

This update outlines known progress made in FY2025 on Western's [SAP](#), adopted in 2017. Western's SEI collects input on SAP progress from members of campus annually, as it has done in this update (previous annual reports can be found [here](#)). SEI has taken a new approach to SAP reporting in which we develop a shorter update that provides an overview of SAP goals in odd years, and a more substantial report with summaries for each object on even years.

Objectives are color coded based on the progress made in FY2025. The following markers indicate the status of each objective:



Some of the objectives in this update are marked with the statement “no known progress”. This statement does not necessarily mean that no progress on these objectives has been made in FY2025. It simply means that, in the outreach that the SEI did, nothing was reported in these areas. If readers are aware of progress not included in this update, please reach out to sustain@wwu.edu.

Contributors

This year's progress update includes contributions from 11 groups at Western. These contributors are just a few among the many individuals and groups working to make Western's commitments to the four pillars of sustainability a reality. Contributors' titles are included in parentheses following narrative about progress that they have reported.

- The Border Policy Research Institute (BPRI)
- Business and Financial Affairs
- Chartwells
- College of the Environment (CENV)
- Facilities, Development & Operations (FDO)
- Procurement and Contracts Advancement (PCA)
- Travel Services
- Human Resources (HR)
- Sustainability Engagement Institute (SEI)
- Transportation Services
- University Advancement

Other Key Acronyms:

- GHG: Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- SEJF: Sustainability, Equity, and Justice Fund; a student-funded grant program administered by the Sustainability Engagement Institute
- SIMAP: Sustainability Indicator Management Analysis Platform
- WOHEC: Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference
- LEED: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

Greenhouse Gas Reporting

Western Washington has tracked its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions using the Sustainability Indicator Management and Analysis Platform (SIMAP) since 2013. SIMAP is an internationally used tool designed specifically for universities. While both SIMAP methodologies and Western’s GHG accounting methodologies have evolved since Western began using the platform to track emissions, this data still provides a useful, high-level view of Western’s emissions trends over time. The FY2025 data presented in the current version of this report is preliminary and may be updated in future Sustainability Action Plan updates.

Western’s GHG emissions are categorized into Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 emissions. Scope 1 emissions include direct GHG emissions that are released from sources that are owned or controlled by Western, such as emissions associated with on campus boilers or Western owned vehicles. Scope 2 emissions consist of emissions associated with the purchase of electricity, heat, or cooling, made up mainly by the electricity purchased from Puget Sound Electric (PSE). Scope 3 emissions arise from activities not directly owned or controlled by Western, but influenced by its operations, including procurement and travel. Currently, Western tracks only a portion of Scope 3 emissions; as a result, it is likely total Scope 3 emissions are substantially higher. Methods to improve and expand the tracking of Scope 3 emissions are currently in progress. In 2025, Western began tracking its scope 3 emissions related to food purchasing and wastewater management.

Western's Carbon Emissions, FY2013-FY2025

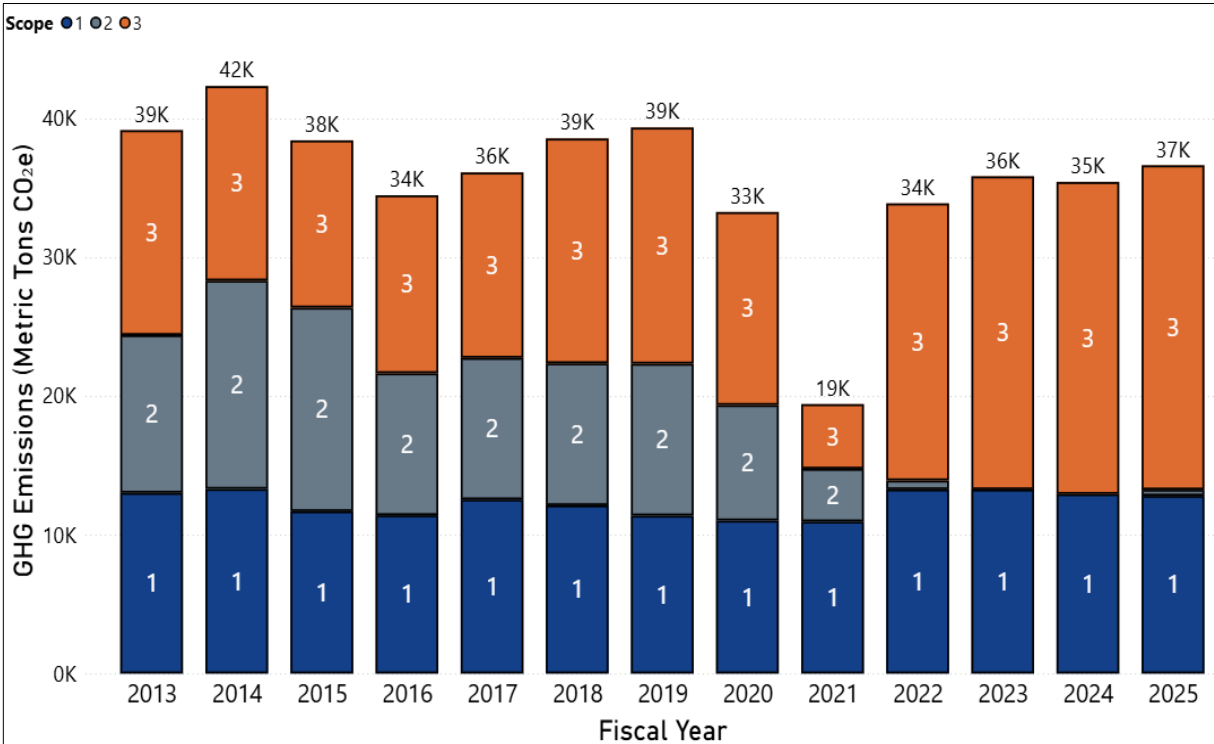


Figure 1: The bar chart above shows Western's GHG emissions from FY2013-FY2025. Each year's emissions are broken down into scopes 1,2, and 3. Source: SEI

The chart above shows Western’s total tracked emissions from 2013-2025, broken down by scope. The chart highlights Western’s progress in reducing its GHG emissions by 12% since its peak in 2014, from 42,000 tons in FY2014 to 37,000 tons in FY2025. However, the graph also shows that progress in emissions reductions has stagnated in recent years, driven by an increase in Scope 3 emissions.

As shown in the graph above the majority of the decline in GHG emissions have come from a decrease in scope 2 emissions. Western offsets its electricity emissions through PSE’s [Green Direct](#) Program. Through this program, Western helps fund local renewable energy projects. In 2025, all of Western’s renewable energy credits are from Lund Hill Solar Farm and Skookumchuck Wind Facility.

Western remains committed to its continued decarbonization efforts and plans on greater emissions reductions in coming years.

Western’s Carbon Emissions by Source, FY2025

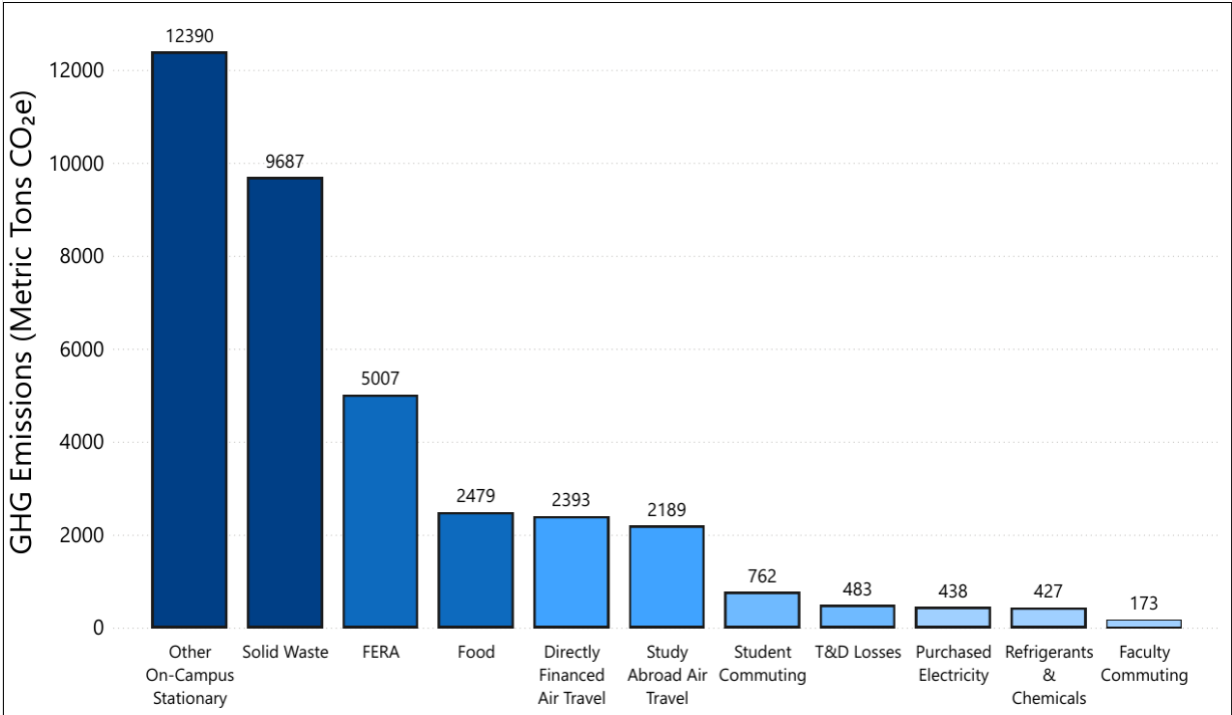


Figure 2: The bar chart above shows Western’s 2025 GHG emissions, broken down category. Source: SEI

The chart above shows that the largest contribution to Western’s tracked GHG emissions comes from the burning of natural gas at Western’s steam plant (Other On-Campus Stationary). This makes up most of Western’s Scope 1 emissions. The second largest source is solid waste generated in operations. However, Western’s waste emissions are difficult to track precisely due to challenges in data collection. (The term FERA stands for Fuel and Energy Related Actions. This refers to the emissions GHG emitting activities that occur

upstream as a result of fuel combustion either directly -Scope 1 - or indirectly -Scopes 2 and 3. T&D Losses stands for Transmission and Distribution losses. This refers to the emissions from the generation of electricity which is lost during the process of transporting the electricity to the consumer.)

Sustainability Reporting - STARS

Western recently completed its STARS sustainability report, which compares Western’s sustainability initiatives to higher education institution best practices determined by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

Western received a silver ranking, which aligns with the ranking Western has received since beginning its participation in this program in 2013. Western has recently committed to attaining STARS Gold by 2030, and on behalf of the university, SEI plans to use the 2025 STARS report as a way to focus campus’s sustainability efforts towards achieving this goal.

In comparison to other Washington higher education institutions, Western received an average overall score (Silver). Western received considerably higher scores in Food & Dining, Investments, and Transportation categories compared to the average, and received considerably lower scores in Procurement & Waste, Research, and Buildings & Grounds.

Western’s 2025 STARS Score in Comparison to Other Washington (WA) Universities

Category	Subcategory	Western STARS 3.0 score, 2025	WA University Average ¹	WWU to WA average difference
Academics	Curriculum	62%	58%	4%
	Research	62%	74%	-12%
Engagement	Campus Engagement	48%	53%	-5%
	Public Engagement	70%	68%	1%
Operations	Buildings & Grounds	39%	51%	-11%
	Energy & Climate	57%	48%	10%
	Food & Dining	58%	43%	15%
	Procurement & Waste	26%	43%	-17%
	Transportation	59%	46%	13%
Planning & Administration	Coordination & Planning	77%	77%	0%
	Investment	68%	54%	14%
	Representation & Access	54%	58%	-3%
	Wellbeing & Work	41%	47%	-6%
Innovation & Leadership		100%	93%	7%
total		59.89%	59%	1%

This was the first time Western completed the updated version of STARS (version 3.0), which included a different reporting structure compared to previous versions. Some of Western’s lower scores are due to lack of ability to quantify progress made in specific categories, which SEI and relevant departments are working to address for the next reporting period (2027).

¹ WA university average is based on all WA universities that have completed STARS 3.0 reporting in the last year (Central Washington University, Cascadia College, University of Washington, Bothel, University of Washington, Seattle, University of Puget Sound, and Western Washington University).

Curriculum and Research

Goal 1: Western's curricula provide all students opportunities to nurture and create the conditions for a thriving society, economy, and environment (SEE).

Summary:

- The College of the Environment's (CENV) Sustainability Pathways cohort program, consisting of summer coursework and paid internships with sustainability-focused partner organizations in the Methow Valley, continues to attract students, with 18 enrolled in Summer 2024. Sustainability Pathways is also increasingly connected with the Colville Confederated Tribes, Methow Valley School District, and Wenatchee Valley Community College. (CENV)
- Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy underwent a total curricular revision of its urban planning and sustainable development majors to further student experience and best allocate instructional resources. (CENV).

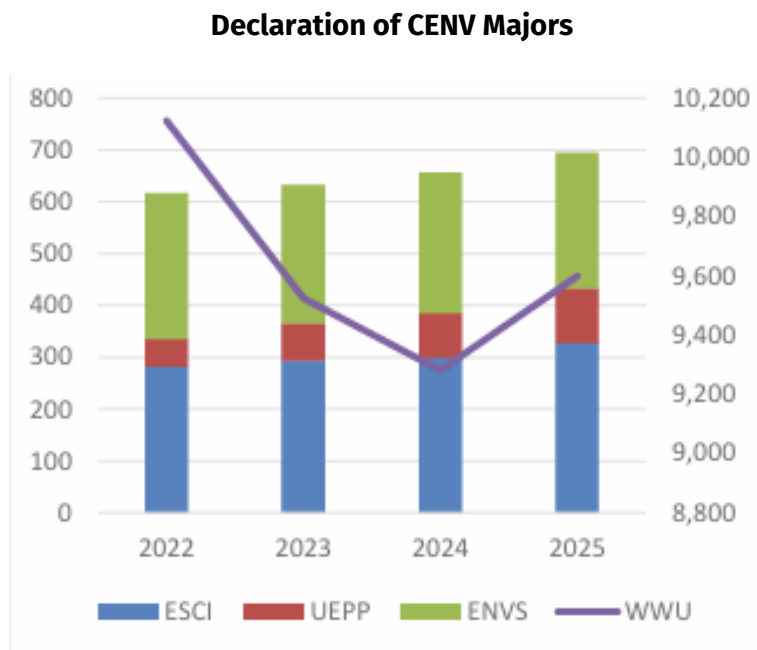


Figure 3: Pictured: A graph showing the declaration of all CENV majors - ESCI, UEPP, and ENVS. The graph shows an uptick in declarations in FY2025. Source: CENV

1.1: Increase enrollment to 50 students in the Sustainability Studies minor.



Intended completion date: fall 2021

- Progress status: On hold, awaiting updating. (CENV and SEI)

1.2: Every major has curricular options that include sustainability content.



Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (CENV)

➤ 1.3: Identify and promote opportunities for engaged learning in the area of sustainability.
Intended start date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (CENV)

➤ 1.4: Expand sustainability-related student research opportunities, Independent Study Projects (ISP), to all interested students.
Intended start date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (CENV)



Pictured: Two Climate Leadership Certificate students present on their final projects, one on re-initiating the Salish Sea student group, and the other on Western's Food Systems. Source: SEI

Goal 2: Western supports scholarship and teaching that contribute to the understanding and promotion of sustainability.

Summary:

- Through its Curriculum for the Bioregion program, SEI edited and published climate justice activities developed by faculty in Washington, Oregon, and California in the Science Education Resource Center (SERC), and hosted a cross-state workshop with selected faculty. The workshop reached faculty in California, Oregon, and Washington.
- SEI hosted three faculty learning community workshops with faculty from California, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia.
- The Campus Sustainability Planning Studio (SUST/UEPP 471) was taught in all three quarters by SEI staff, which allowed for the completion of nine campus-based sustainability projects.
- SEI also presented at a two professional conferences:
 - Building Community Trust Through Transparency: Western Washington University's Efforts to Increase Sustainability Transparency, Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC). (SEI)
 - Sustainability Leadership Competencies: Practitioner View, National Sustainability Society Conference. (SEI)



Pictured: Five Western attendees at WOHESC pose in front of a Higher Education Sustainability Conference background. Source: SEI



2.1: Commit resources to promote the Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC).²

Intended start date: 2020

- Progress status: In progress (SEI)



2.2: Provide funding for three faculty and staff across disciplines to attend conferences that promote sustainability.

Intended start date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



2.3: Establish internal funding for sustainability research

Intended start date: summer of 2019

- Progress status: No known Progress (SEI, CENV)

Goal 3: Western recruits and retains faculty and staff who focus on sustainability.

Summary:

- The Institute for Watershed Studies (IWS) held 1.7M in contracts and grants, exceeded \$400,000 in grant expenditures with a 9% increase over FY24, supported 16 students/trainees in paid positions, and provided research support to eight Western faculty, four graduate students, and eight undergraduate students external to the institute. (CENV)
- SEI led the Sustainability Fellows program, which focuses on teaching faculty to learn to incorporate sustainability content into their courses. This year's six-person cohort represented the Departments of Math, Polymer Science, Ethnic Studies, Nursing,

² This objective has been changed to include the updated conference name. Initially, the goal read as "Commit resources to promote the Washington Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WAHESC)."

Communications, and Accounting. Through two quarters, the group met regularly to workshop and engage with each other and share ideas on how the varied disciplines can integrate sustainability content. (SEI)

- 3.1: Maintain annual funding of a total of \$10K for up to ten Sustainability Fellows.
 - Progress status: In Progress (SEI)

- 3.2: Create a tenure-track faculty line devoted to sustainability.
Intended completion date: 2019-2021 biennium
 - Progress status: No Known Progress (SEI)

- 3.3: Increase faculty capacity to offer sustainability-related curriculum
Intended start date: 2019
 - Progress status: In Progress (SEI)

Goal 4: Western is home to an institute for sustainability (the Sustainability Engagement Institute – SEI).

Summary:

- SEI endeavored to secure additional funding for the continuation of its Climate Leadership Certificate Program and other programs. These efforts resulted in bringing in over \$14,000 to support summer practicum positions for cohort 5. This, in combination with Washington Climate Corps Network funding through Sustainability Pathways, allowed SEI to support an 11-student fifth cohort

- 4.1: Develop a 5-year strategic plan for the SEI.
Intended completion date: 2019
 - Progress status: No Known Progress

- 4.2: Begin fundraising campaign for the SEI.
Intended state date: 2019
 - Progress status: In Progress




Pictured: Students taking a tour of the City Sprouts Farm. Source: SEI

Campus and Community Engagement


Goal 1: Western is internally organized to support university and community engagement to advance sustainability.

Summary: No Known Progress

 1.1: Complete a university-wide public engagement alignment process to enhance Western's structure and function for public engagement.


Intended completion date: Fall 2019

- Progress status: No Known Progress

 1.2: Commit to a university-wide system for qualitative and quantitative assessment of public engagement efforts.

Intended completion date: fall 2019

- Progress status: No Known Progress

 1.3: Follow recommendations of alignment process to incentivize community engagement for faculty, staff, and students throughout the university.

Intended start date: fall 2021

- Progress status: No Known Progress

Goal 2: Western's culture and community engagement efforts reflect a strong commitment to sustainability.

Summary:

- Facilities Development and Operations (FDO) worked with the Arboretum Board, City of Bellingham, and the Lummi Nation on a sustainable, native planting project with an emphasis on the ethnobotanical significance to the Salish Peoples for the House of Healing. The plants were carefully selected and planted to not only add to the already beautiful aesthetic of the site but also to integrate cultural significance and intention. (FDO)
- Western held its long-standing tradition of Earth Week, which included a week of 13 events with partnership from groups across campus and the Bellingham community. These events included a kick-off fair in Red Square with 35 groups tabling, a Climate Stories Night event with local storytellers from the Bellingham Storytellers Guild, a cook-in, a rally, and many more. (SEI)
- SEI developed methods for tracking the percentage of campus stakeholders reached through sustainability outreach and communications, percentage of students participating in sustainability co-curricular activities, and the percentage of staff participating in sustainability trainings. (SEI)
- SEI represented Western on the Whatcom County Climate Coordination Committee, Washington Higher Education Sustainability Coalition, the State Board on Community & Technical Colleges (SBCTC) Climate Solution Steering Committee, and the Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference Planning Committee. (SEI)



Pictured: An SEI ambassador stands behind a table during a tabling event in Red Square. Beside him, students look through the community closet. Source: SEI

- Human Resources (HR) implemented the following changes to further their sustainability efforts:
 - 2. HR now includes a guest speaker from the Sustainability Engagement Institute in their monthly Staff New Employee Orientation presentation.
 - For New Student Employees, Human Resources include a link to the Sustainability website on their slide presentation. (HR)
- The Border Policy Research Institute (BPRI) selected 2 cross-border research fellows in their 2024-25 cycle as a part of our partnership with the University of Victoria. They especially welcomed research projects that addressed transboundary governance/management of climate-induced environmental challenges at the regional scale as part of our ongoing commitment to sustainability-focused research. Dr. Kimberly Collins is analyzing the ability of the local/regional governments located in border regions to address 21st-century policy challenges, specifically related to climate change; and Dr. Jamie Ferrill is examining bilateral governance and border security in the Cascadia region in the face of acute and long-term environmental challenges. (BPRI)



2.1: Redevelop student, staff, faculty, and visitor orientation programs to emphasize Western's commitment to education for sustainability.

Intended start date: spring 2017

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



2.2: Expand courses and co-curricular programs for first-year students that teach local and regional sustainability issues through community engagement.

Intended start date: fall 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)

➤ 2.3: Improve interpretation of Western-owned grounds to enhance understanding and appreciation of the unique cultural and environmental history of the area.

Intended start date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)

➤ 2.4: Establish sustainability-related interactive experiences, cooperatively designed, and supported by Western and community partners, to help build relationships among members of Western, and with the broader community.

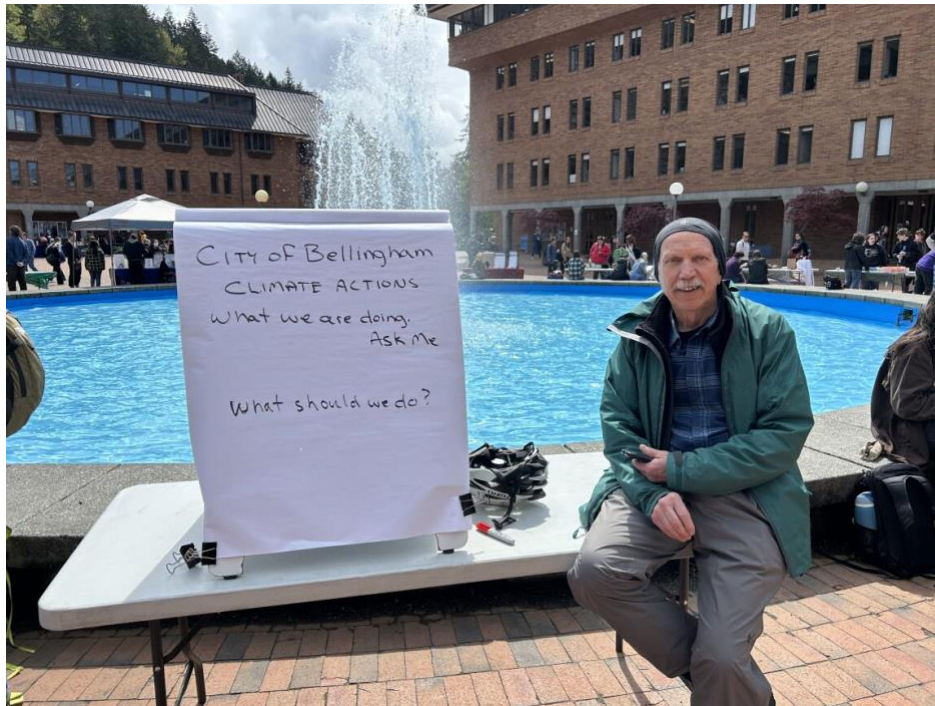
Intended start date: 2019

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)

➤ 2.5: Create a system for continually learning about (listening and dialoguing) evolving local to global sustainability opportunities and challenges.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



Pictured: A representative from the City of Bellingham tables in Red Square. There is a poster that reads: "City of Bellingham climate actions what we are doing. Ask me. What should we do?". Source: SEI

➤ 2.6: Support the efforts of regional campuses to enhance their sustainability activities.

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)

Goal 3: Western's sustainability resources are easily accessed by the public.

Summary:

- SEI and FDO maintain sustainability dashboards, which provide publicly accessible information about how Western is meeting its sustainability goals. In 2025, FDO

upgraded its campus energy dashboard software, and SEI also offered six sustainability-focused webinars that were open to the public. (SEI and FDO)

- Western Sustainability e-newsletters were developed and distributed monthly with an average newsletter opened by 298 people per month. They highlighted upcoming events and engagement opportunities, SAP progress, and program highlights from within SEI, and university and community partners. (SEI)
- The Western Library maintained its publicly accessible list of sustainability-related books and resources online and through its sustainability shelf in Wilson Library. (SEI)
- Center for Community Learning (CCL) hosted Community Engagement Fellows with the Western and Bellingham community throughout the county. CCL, SEI, and the Bellingham Public Library completed the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Community Forums series, which offered opportunities for the campus community and the wider community to engage on the SDGs. (CCL, SEI)



3.1: Enhance web materials that enable the public to access sustainability resources.

Intended start date: fall 2017

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



3.2: Increase use of vibrant, visible, and accessible venues across the Salish Sea Region for community sustainability events

Intended start date: fall 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



Goal 4: Western engages respectfully with Coast Salish Peoples in recognition that the university occupies traditional Coast Salish lands.

Summary:

- Western began construction on its new coast Salish-style longhouse, which will be finished in late fall 2025.

4.1: Create a university-wide tribal advisory committee to advise the President and University community on issues such as curriculum, campus life and gathering spaces, interactive facilities and operations, and engagement opportunities.

Intended start date: 2018

- Progress status: No Known Progress



4.2: Establish a permanent tribal liaison position to build relationships between Western and the Coast Salish communities.

Intended completion date: 2018

- Progress status: Complete

4.3: Expand and enhance institutional partnerships and collaborations with tribal institutions.

Intended start date: fall 2017

- Progress status: No Known Progress

Built Environment



Pictured: The ribbon being cut at the grand opening of Kaiser Borsari Hall. Source: WWU Flickr

Goal 1: Carbon Neutrality: Reduce the carbon intensity of university energy supply sources and achieve 100% net university carbon reduction.

Summary:


- Kaiser Borsari Hall, which is designed to exceed LEED standards for energy use, carbon emissions, and other sustainability factors, was completed. (FDO)
- Western completed a Decarbonization Plan discussing the electrification of district energy sources. One of the central goals of the plan is to complete the Heating Conversion project and achieve an 86% reduction in Scope 1 emissions by 2036. (FDO)
- Western was appropriated \$41 million from the state legislature for the Heating Conversion Project and will launch in the first phase of the project in FY26. (FDO)
- Western continues to participate in PSE’s Green Direct program, which provides renewable electricity credits to cover electric usage for all of Main Campus and Shannon Point from wind and solar projects in Washington. (FDO)
- Decarbonization of the district heating system is the biggest measure to reduce emissions. However, Western is also prioritizing other building measures that reduce steam usage or natural gas consumption. Western completed energy audits on 14 large academic buildings in FY25, identifying many energy efficiency measures that will reduce steam consumption. (FDO)



1.1: In the short term, identify and implement financially viable carbon reduction projects to reduce carbon emissions by 15%, per state requirements.


Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: Complete

 1.2: In the mid-term, where reduction is not yet technologically feasible, seek and commit to credible carbon offsets for all continuing direct hydrocarbon.

Intended completion date: 2030

- Progress status: On hold (FDO – note that we have changed how we report on this objective to better reflect the intention of this objective. We have recorded PSC’s Green Direct Renewable Energy Credits in objective 2.5.)

 1.3: In the long term, achieve carbon neutrality, first through reduction and secondly through offset.


Intended completion date: 2035

- Progress status: In progress (FDO)


Goal 2: Maximize cost-effective energy efficiency investments in university buildings, while steadily improving building performance and occupant comfort and health.

Summary:

- Western replaced all the induction lighting in the Rec Center with networked LED lighting. Each fixture has integrated occupancy and ambient light level sensors that allow the lights to dim when not occupied or when ample daylighting is provided. (FDO)
- Western has energy performance targets for the campus set by the state’s Clean Building Performance Standard program. Western’s Decarbonization plan shows that the campus is meeting the state’s energy use intensity target for colleges/universities. Some buildings, such as older facilities and lab buildings, have usage that is higher than the standard and will be the focus of future energy efficiency projects. Western will be working on green building standards for new construction in FY26. (FDO)
- Western continued to explore exterior lighting retrofits to replace existing exterior globe fixtures with dark sky compliant fixtures. Funding was insufficient to cover the project in FY2025, but this project will continue to be prioritized in future funding cycles. (FDO)
- Western commissioned two commercial scale solar systems in FY2025. Kaiser Borsari Hall has an 82-kW solar array on the roof that was incorporated with construction of the building. SMATE received grant funding to install a 112-kW system on the roof. (FDO)


 2.1: Continue to reduce the need for new construction by prioritizing the use of current facilities.

- Progress status: No Known Progress

 2.2: Develop energy performance targets and sustainable design standards.


Intended completion date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

 2.3: Minimize light pollution while maximizing energy efficiency in exterior lighting.


Intended completion date: 2025

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

 2.4: Adopt policies or guidelines designed to minimize energy use and emissions from non-fixed assets such as refrigerators, freezers, custodial, and other mobile equipment.


Intended completion date: 2025

- Progress status: No Known Progress (FDO)

 2.5: Employ clean, renewable energy sources on- or off-campus to offset existing and new demands.


Intended completion date: 2030

- Progress Status: In Progress (FDO)

 2.6: Design a university plan to support deep, holistic renovations and energy efficiency investments.

Intended completion date: 2035

- Progress Status: In Progress (FDO)

 2.7: Design, construct, renovate, and operate buildings using a closed-loop process involving minimal to no waste in all processes.


Intended completion date: 2035

- Progress Status: No Known Progress (FDO)

Goal 3: Green Building Certification: Acquire third party certification of the environmental performance of new and existing university buildings through the USGBC's LEED certification or equivalent process.

Summary:

- Kaiser Borsari has been pursuing International Living Future Institute (ILFI) Zero Carbon Certification. 1 year of operational data is required after occupancy. It is expected to submit for certification in February, 2026. (FDO)

 3.1: Complete the USGBC's LEED Gold certification or equivalent for all new and fully renovated university buildings.


Intended start date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

Goal 4: Utilize accepted Low Impact Development (LID) practices as standard to reduce rainwater/storm-water volume, improve outgoing water quality, and make on-campus use of collected rainwater.

Summary:

- Improvements to the South Campus stormwater system occurred in conjunction with construction of the House of Healing. (FDO)

 4.1: Apply LID to all new construction, major renovation and other projects that increase paved surface area or otherwise significantly change university grounds.

Intended completion date: 2035

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

Goal 5: Build and maintain publicly accessible databases of energy use, water consumption, and carbon emissions for all university buildings.

Summary:

- EnergyCAP is now the official database of record for energy use and water consumption. (FDO)
- SIMAP is utilized for carbon emissions. EnergyCAP has built in dashboard features which have been setup but not yet made publicly accessible. SIMAP annual reporting is provided on the SEI website. (FDO)



5.1: Build and maintain a publicly accessible database of available information for ongoing energy consumption and emissions for all university buildings.

Intended completion date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)



5.2: Build and maintain a publicly accessible database of available information for ongoing water consumption for all university buildings.

Intended completion date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)



5.3: Build and maintain a publicly accessible database of available information for ongoing carbon emissions for all university buildings.

Intended completion date: 2018

- Progress status: Complete (FDO)

Goal 6: Develop an active learning, living laboratory within Western's built environment.

Summary:

- The Campus as Energy Efficiency Lab program (CEEL program), a partnership between FDO and Institute for Energy Studies hired two graduates from the Institute for Energy Studies to support Energy Management on Western's campus. (FDO)



6.1: Expand support for courses and co-curricular programs for students that teach about local and regional stewardship solutions through skill development and campus and community engagement.

Intended start date: fall 2017

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

Student Life

Goal 1: Students have a solid foundation for understanding cultural and global interdependence.

Summary:

- The Climate Leadership Certificate Program supported 11 students working approximately 2,400 hours with 11 different community organizations in Bellingham and the Methow Valley. (SEI)
- Sustainability How it Works tours were hosted in collaboration with the Center for Community Learning and many community partners. City Sprouts, Steam Plant, and Wastewater Treatment Plant (included in waste section). (SEI)
- In collaboration with Western’s Center for Community Learning and Bellingham Public Library, seven social learning forums were held throughout the year, completing the series on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SEI)



Pictured: CLC students cleaning out the Freedge, a community refrigerator created by Sustainable Connections, located on 2316 Kulshan St in Bellingham. Source: SEI



1.1: Increase participation in programs that connect students to sustainability in the local, regional, and global community beginning fall 2017.

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



1.2: All first-year Western students, including transfers, will engage in co-curricular programs around social, economic, and environmental (SEE) justice as part of their first year of experience at Western.

Intended start date: fall 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



1.3: Begin and/or enhance collaborations with other local education institutions in developing and supporting SEE justice co-curriculum: local schools, Whatcom Community College (WCC), Northwest Indian College (NWIC), and Bellingham Technical College (BTC).

Intended start date: 2020

- Progress status: No Known Progress

Goal 2: Through structured community and campus-based co-curricular learning experiences, students gain knowledge and insight of sustainability in practice.

Summary:

- More students, staff, and faculty are engaging with the Sustainability Equity and Justice Fund (SEJF) program, which led to more diversity in project ideas. SEJF saw a significant number of individuals and groups interacting with the SEJF program for the first time, as well as a couple of individuals and groups coming back with new ideas and funding. (SEI)
- SEJF's grant awards in FY25 totaled \$116,120, which included the following projects:
 - Reproductive Justice - Equal Access to Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive Care at the Student Health Center (\$28,000): the Student Health Center will facilitate access to long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC) for students in need, either due to lack of insurance, lack of adequate insurance, or for those with confidentiality issues preventing them from using insurance. The grant supported purchasing the LARC options as well as the cost of the procedure through the Student Health Center.
 - Disabled Peer Mentorship Program (\$15,000): the Disability Outreach Center will provide first year, transfer, and recently self-identified or newly disabled, chronically ill, neurodivergent, Blind and low vision, d/Deaf and Hard of Hearing students at Western with individual mentorship from an upper-level disabled, chronically ill, neurodivergent, Blind and low vision, and d/Deaf and Hard of Hearing peer.
 - Accessing the Outback Phase I: Accessible Tools (\$605): phase one is part of a larger initiative to improve accessibility at the Outback Farm. This phase allowed the Outback Farm to obtain and supply the farm with more accessible tool options, allowing more students to participate in outdoor activities.
 - Multicultural Business Scholars Association (MBSA) Leaders of Color Initiative (\$13,000): as a club in the College of Business and Economics (CBE), MBSA aims to address the disproportionate lack of Black, Brown, and Indigenous People of Color conscious representation and aid accessibility within the CBE by creating opportunities for students of color to learn, connect, and develop as professionals and as a community. Funding covers costs associated with bringing speakers to campus, renting spaces for workshops and community events, and culturally relevant and informative food nights.
 - Co-Creating a Food Literate Future (\$3,000): a series of cooking classes aimed at fostering food literacy on Western's campus. By teaching students how to cook quick, cost effective, healthy, culturally appropriate, and climate friendly meals for themselves, the team hopes to encourage a sense of self-efficacy in the kitchen and beyond.
 - Composting 101 (\$700): a series of composting workshops aimed at teaching students about food waste, soil ecology, and the local waste management system. Participants learned how to harness food waste to make compost for use in personal and community gardens.
 - Soleil Magazine Debut Issue (\$5,200): Soleil Magazine is a club under the Ethnic Student Center at Western, focused on art and pop culture in the form of a magazine. This grant supported the startup costs for the club, all in preparation to distribute their first issue in Fall 2025.

- College of the Environment (CENV) Gear Lending Library (\$28,035): an outdoor gear lending library, in partnership with the Outdoor Center, will be created for students enrolled in CENV field courses. The goal is to increase the accessibility of these courses for students for whom the necessary outdoor gear is financially out of reach.
- Miyawaki Mini-Forest Trail Continuation Project (\$7,640): this project is a continuation of the Miyawaki mini-forest project, which was funded by SEJF a couple of years ago. Implemented by LEAD, this grant will increase accessibility and exposure to the mini-forest on the north end of campus by extending the trail. This project will improve ecosystem services, soil health, carbon sequestration, and wildlife habitat, all while contributing to community building, environmental education, and restoration work on campus.
- Preservation Station (\$9,941): to extend the life and increase accessibility of the food that is grown and harvested on the Outback Farm during peak summer months. This project, partnering with NASU, will preserve fresh produce from the farm during the summer, and distribute it through food pantries to students when they come back in the fall. The goal, in addition to feeding students, is to educate everyone about the value of local food, as well as show how to increase food security through preservation methods.
- The Gaysian Theatre Festival (\$5,000): to organize a theatre festival highlighting underrepresented queer and Asian American talent in our community. With a focus on queer and BIPOC representation in creative industries, they will host a two-weekend-long festival dedicated to showcasing original and published works of queer and BIPOC playwrights.



2.1: Enhance and increase co-curricular opportunities for student participation in campus-based sustainable practices.

Intended start date: fall 2017

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



2.2: Increase student participation in service learning and civic engagement that connects to SEE sustainability.

Intended start date: fall 2017

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



2.3: Improve sustainability literacy throughout co-curricular learning.

Intended start date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



2.4: Increase the number and quality of opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to engage in co-curricular SEE sustainability focused projects, research, and grants.

Intended start date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



2.5: Increase and further develop co-curricular education and outreach programs targeting sustainable living practices.

Intended start date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)

Goal 3: Social, Economic, and Ecological (SEE) sustainability principles are integrated in student career and lifelong practices.

Summary:

- Students attended a number of SEE-related conferences and professional development experiences.
- Western hosted its annual Environmental, Energy and Sustainability Career Fair, bringing over 40 employers to campus with over 300 students attending.
- The Sustainability Pathways, CLC, and Students in Community programs offered internships to students during the summer and throughout the school year.



3.1: Cultivate student capacity and efficacy in creating positive change in SEE sustainability.

Intended start date: 2025

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



3.2: Increase the number of pathways into SEE sustainability-based careers available to Western students.

Intended start date: fall 2017

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



3.3: Graduating students have a demonstrated commitment to lifelong SEE sustainability.

Intended start date: 2035

- Progress status: No Known Progress (SEI)

Other progress: Basic Needs Provision

- Supporting students in attaining basic needs necessary to succeed in higher education is a sustainability topic that was not included in the 2017 SAP but is a significant challenge the Western community has been working on, particularly since the rise of rent and other basic needs after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Multiple groups on campus, including the Basic Needs Hub, the Health Center, and numerous staff, faculty, and students, provide resources to students related to food, housing, emergency funding, health and wellness, transportation, employment, childcare, learning support, and building community.

Dining Services

Goal 1: Research and explore new and emerging technologies, practices, and policies to increase sustainable performance in existing and new dining facilities.

Summary:

- Chartwells worked to create a food recovery program for its retail units. Any food near or past a best buy date is collected and distributed to various food pantries on

campus. Chartwells continues to explore the possibilities of food recovery within other aspects of dining. (Chartwells)

- Any new kitchen equipment installed by dining services has increased efficiency from previous equipment. (Chartwells)

CO2 Emissions from Chartwells' Food Purchased in FY2024 and FY2025

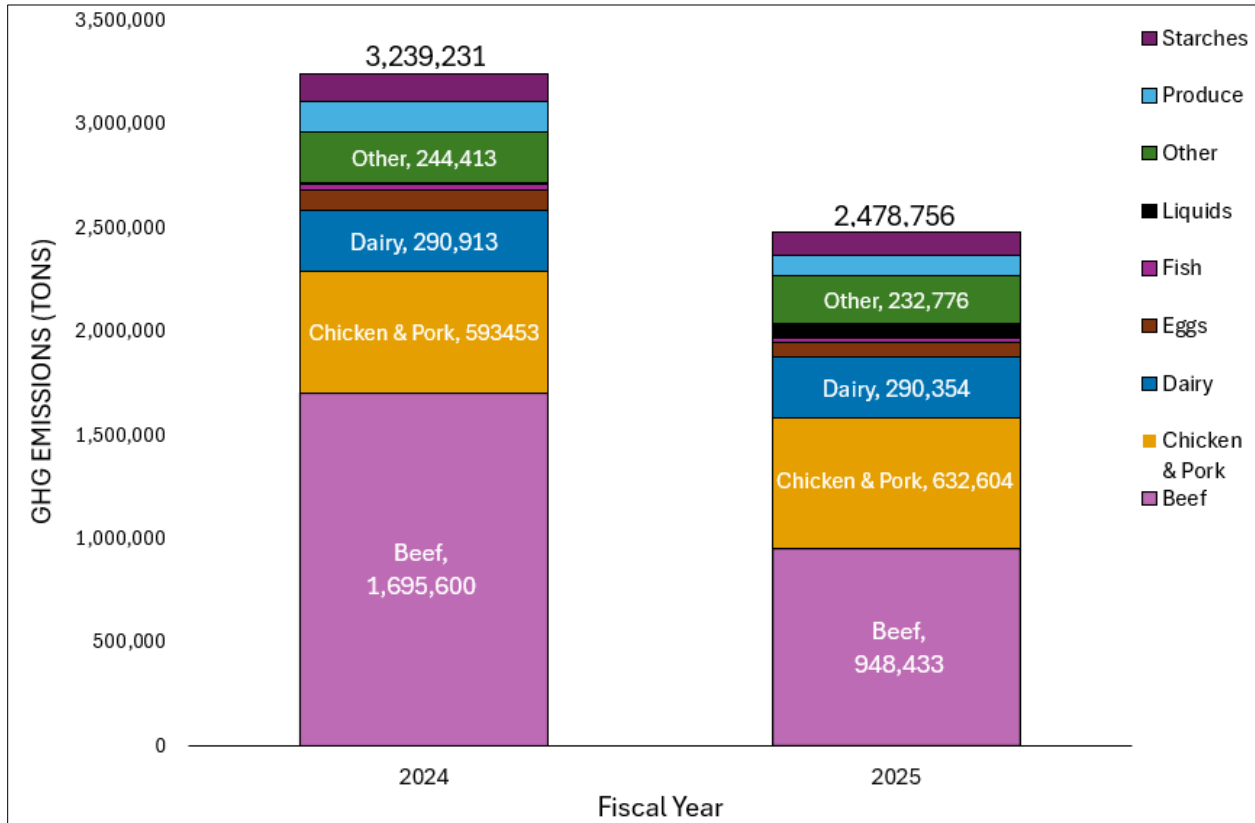


Figure 4: There are two side by side bar graphs displaying Western's dining service-related food emissions for 2024 and 2025. This comparison shows a substantial reduction in food related emissions largely caused by a reduction in beef consumption. Source: SEI



1.1: Create a more efficient model to deliver food service to campus.

Intended completion date: 2019

- Progress status: In progress (Chartwells)



1.2: Achieve sustainable maintenance and renovation practices, and equipment purchasing.

Intended completion date: 2035

- Progress status: In Progress (Chartwells)



1.3: Reduce resource consumption (such as water, energy) by 10% of current baseline.

Intended completion date: 2035

- Progress status: In Progress (Chartwells)

Goal 2: Increase environmental best practices for dining service providers and vendors.

Summary:

- Chartwells performed an audit of all its single use service ware to ensure it is all compostable. (Chartwells)
- Chartwells maintained its Green Restaurant Certification through the end of the 24-25 school year and is in the process of rectification. (Chartwells)



2.1: Ensure 100% packaging of goods that University Dining Services produces is compostable/recyclable.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (Chartwells)



2.2: Increase local/regional food purchasing; WA, OR, ID, BC to 25%.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: Complete (Chartwells)



2.3: increase REAL food purchases to 25%.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (Chartwells)



2.4: Implement a vendor environmental practices survey.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: No Known Progress (Chartwells)

Goal 3: Provide resources and opportunities for the campus and community to increase understanding and engage in sustainable food practices.

Summary:

- Many Western students, staff, and faculty working on food systems and food security-related projects, many of which engaged the student community in understanding and engaging with sustainable food practices. The Basic Needs Hub, the Outback Farm, Center for Community Learning, and the Sustainability Engagement Institute held multiple on- and off-campus events related to improving campus and local food systems.



Pictured: Two people sit at the Basic Needs Hub table with signs asking for food donations during the Martin Luther King Day Celebration. Source: WWU



3.1: Continue educating campus and surrounding community about healthy and sustainable consumption practices.

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)



3.2: Develop a mutually enhancing relationship between Outback and University Dining Services.

Intended start date: 2017

- Progress status: No Known Progress (Chartwells)



3.3: Explore funding options for offsetting increased costs to students as University Dining Services works to meet Real Food Challenge³ and other local, regional food commitments.

Intended start date: 2017

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI, Chartwells)



3.4: Continue to engage with the local and regional community to develop a sustainable food system model that links local producers with larger consumer entities.

- Progress status: In Progress (SEI)

Goal 4: Become zero-waste in all campus dining locations.

Summary:

- All of Chartwells' dining, retail, and office spaces work towards zero waste by posting and encouraging employees and patrons to adhere to waste disposal instructions as well as having appropriate waste receptacles in or adjacent to all our spaces. (Chartwells)
- Chartwells utilizes Waste Not 2.0 – a waste tracking software, to track and reduce waste as much as possible. (Chartwells)
- Chartwells' catering team is working to build a program to reduce waste by working with custodial services and partnering with clients. (Chartwells)



4.1: Develop a recycling and compost program for all retail (dining) locations and their offices that results in zero waste.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (Chartwells)



4.2: Develop a recycling and compost program for all residential dining halls and their offices that results in zero waste

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (Chartwells)



³ Note that the REAL Food Challenge is no longer in operation. Western now reports on its participation in other sustainability food challenges and certifications.

4.3: Develop a recycling and compost program for all catering sites and their offices that results in zero waste.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (Chartwells)



4.4: Establish a monitoring system to identify baseline waste metrics.

Intended completion date: 2025

- Progress status: Complete (Chartwells)

Other progress: food insecurity

- Food insecurity is a sustainability topic that was not included in the 2017 SAP but is a significant challenge students face, and the Western community has been working on, particularly since the rise of food prices and challenges in students attaining basic needs after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Multiple groups on campus, including the Basic Needs Hub, the Outback Farm, City Sprouts Farm, the Sustainability Engagement Institute, Chartwells, and numerous staff, faculty, and students, are working on projects related to providing students with affordable and healthy food.



Pictured: Western students sit down to enjoy a meal during Western's last day out celebration. Source: WWU

Grounds

Goal 1: Reduce the consumption of natural resources in grounds maintenance.

Summary:

- Facilities Development and Operations (FDO) replaced much of the plant material that died from the significantly cold winter on '23/'24 with draught-tolerant native plants, thus reducing the need for irrigation. (FDO)
- The FDO team is continually adding compost to their beds, especially in areas where plants are in decline. (FDO)



Pictured: Rows of flower beds with bright green trees in the background, in front of Carver Gym on a sunny day.

Source: SEI

1.1: Develop and implement the use of a preferred plant species list to reduce water consumption for each landscape type—formal, semi-formal, and native.

Intended start date: fall 2017

- Progress status: Complete (FDO)

1.2: Develop a dashboard of irrigation water consumption per irrigated area.

Intended completion date: fall 2017

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

1.3: Evaluate the viability of rain and soil moisture sensors to reduce excess water consumption.

Intended start date: fall 2017

- Progress status: Complete (FDO)

1.4: Increase and enhance the use of compost and yard debris used on campus for moisture retention and weed suppression.

Intended start date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

Goal 2: Reduce air and noise pollution using sustainable landscape equipment.

Summary:

- The Facilities Operations and Management (FDO) team has increased their use of electric equipment. All of Western's weed eaters are now fully electric. 90% of hedging equipment is now battery powered. 50% of edging equipment is now battery powered. (FDO)

2.1: Evaluate all equipment requests to determine whether a viable electric alternative exists.

Intended start date: 2017

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)



2.2: Reduce carbon impact of vehicles and equipment to the Outdoor Maintenance shop as budget allows.

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

Goal 3: Reduce pesticide use through Integrated Pest Management.

Summary:

- The grounds team has greatly reduced the use of pesticides through sheet mulching and mechanical means. One goal they're working towards so to test a new method for removing invasive plants. There is a bed that is currently overgrown with horse tail, field bindweed, Canadian thistle, and creeping buttercup. FDO plan to lay sod over the sight to increase lawn space in an attempt reclaim the area. After several years they will remove the sod and replant in the area. If successful, this technique will advance Western's invasive species removal strategies. (FDO)
- Since last winter and continuing into this winter, FDO is doing a master pruning series through Plant Amnesty which is part of UW's botanical society. This course focusses on corrective/remedial pruning which is a targeted technique to restore a plant to a healthier state, improving airflow/light penetration, as well as removing potential hazards. (FDO)



3.1: Continuing education classes in Integrated Pest Management for all gardeners, annually.

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)



3.2: Establish baseline of pesticide reduction.

Intended completion date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

Goal 4: Enhance stormwater treatment and reduce pollutant runoff from impervious surfaces across campus.

Summary:

- Western has hired a full-time storm water specialist through the Utility Shop who is in the process of continuing education to better understand proper storm water management. FDO is in the process of developing a bio-swale maintenance program for these systems to work efficiently in filtering storm water run-off in parking lots. (FDO)



Pictured: Western students at a pier looking through nets to research the effects of storm water runoff. Source: WWU flickr



4.1: Continue to protect water quality by complying with all DOE-required stormwater maintenance activities.

- Progress status: In Progress



4.2: Establish regular street-sweeping contract to reduce potential pollution runoff to surface waters.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: Complete

Goal 5: Provide education on sustainable practices and utilize campus grounds to foster environmental stewardship.

Summary:

- FDO continue to work closely with Western's LEAD program, which takes volunteers through a leadership/apprentice structure that helps deal with invasive weeds, ivy removal, and site restorations on the peripheries of campus. Through this program they have secured funding with an SEJF grant to plant a mini urban forest that is continually being maintained by LEAD and the support of our gardener team. FDO also works with another student-led restoration group who collaborates with the City of Bellingham, focusing on restoration sites throughout the city and arboretum. (FDO)
- FDO works closely with Western students to teach them about plant identification, landscape maintenance, and horticultural practices. (FDO)



*Pictured: Two Western gardeners standing side by side, holding a small shrub while leading a virtual garden tour.
Source: SEI*

- 5.1: Continue goal of employing at least six (6) seasonal student employees in the Outdoor Maintenance shop.
 - Progress status: In Progress (FDO)
- 5.2: Continue to improve the educational component of the student employee program.
 - Progress status: In Progress (FDO)
- 5.3: Make available educational opportunities on and around Western-owned grounds to enhance understanding and appreciation of the unique environmental setting of Western and its relationship to other global ecosystems.
 - Progress status: In Progress (FDO)


Procurement

Goal 1: Encourage the use of sustainable businesses.


Summary:

- Western uses the Environmentally Preferred Purchasing guidelines from the State of Washington's centralized procurement authority, the Department of Enterprise Services. These guidelines are publicly available. There is a future opportunity to expand awareness and usage of these guidelines will accompany training related to procurement processes and policies, and new procurement software solutions. (PCA)
- Western has continued to build our Local Vendor website as a means of highlighting local and regional businesses, and their importance to Western and our local economy. There are presently 31 local vendors that are showcased. In addition, as a means of supporting efficient purchasing from these local vendors, they are included in the Western Marketplace, which is Western's current eProcurement solution, and

are available to engage directly up to our full direct buy limit of \$10,000. This work further promotes work with Western's local business partners. (PCA)

 1.1: Develop "Sustainable Purchasing Guidelines" within Procurement processes, inclusive of lifecycle accountability, vendor information, embodied energy and emissions, and social equity practices.

- Progress status: In Progress (PCA)

 1.2: Acknowledge the importance of purchases from local and regional business.

- Progress status: In Progress (PCA)

Goal 2: Increase the percentage of use of sustainable products and natural resources throughout our supply chain.

Summary:


- Western has finalized the implementation of a Supplier Management System which includes the ability to capture supplier certifications, and other helpful information related to supplier diversity classifications and company sustainability certifications. This allows end users to search for suppliers who hold sustainability certifications and direct purchases to those suppliers. (PCA)
- In addition, Western has begun implementation of a new eProcurement software, Jaggaer, that will replace the back-end solution that supports Western Marketplace. Jaggaer is the provider of both the Supplier Management System and eProcurement, further enabling end users to more efficiently search for suppliers and products, including a more advanced buying experience with supplier catalogs, many with product-level sustainability certifications. (PCA)
- Together, these Jaggaer solutions offer an enhanced buying experience for end users to select suppliers and/or products with associated sustainability certifications. This provides a means of increasing the percentage of use of sustainable products and natural resources throughout our supply chain, including the use of recycled and reclaimed products. (PCA)

 2.1: Increase the use of recycled and reclaimed products.

- Progress status: In Progress (PCA)


Goal 3: Increase the number of sustainable materials and supplies available in the bookstore for students and greater campus.

Summary: no known progress

 3.1: Increase percentage of purchases from local and regional businesses by 10%.


Intended completion date: fiscal year 2018

- Progress status: No Known Progress

 3.2: Increase sustainable textbook options by 10%.

Intended completion date: fiscal year 2018

- Progress status: No Known Progress

 3.3: Develop key criteria to evaluate suppliers when we consider the introduction of new products and the replenishing of existing ones.

Intended completion date: fiscal year 2018


- Progress status: No Known Progress


 3.4: Continue to improve the visibility of the bookstore's sustainable offerings.


- Progress status: No Known Progress

Goal 4: Prioritize methods of accessing library materials that have a smaller carbon footprint.

Library Services is currently restructuring their sustainability goals to better align with borrowing and acquisition practices that have the lowest carbon footprint and are the most ethical, therefore, the objectives below are on hold for FY2025.

 4.1: Encourage faculty to request and use materials purchased in e-form rather than paper.


 4.2: Encourage faculty to use resource sharing opportunities like document delivery and Inter-Library Loan (ILL), rather than ordering materials.

 4.3: Encourage publishers to use more sustainable materials in their publications.

Goal 5: Designate the Facilities Management Fleet Services as the institutional office responsible for coordinating and supporting all university vehicle (specialized, departmental, and fleet) purchase and life-cycle decisions.

 5.1: Consolidate the coordination of university vehicle purchases and life cycle management.

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

 5.2: Develop a vehicle procurement guide as part of the greater university e-procurement process.

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

Transportation


Goal 1: Western recognizes its role as a member of the larger transportation community and engages in local, regional, and state transportation issues and solutions.

Summary:


- Transportation Services has met quarterly with the City of Bellingham Public Works department focusing on local transportation issues and solutions, attended bi-weekly Whatcom Transportation Authority board meetings, participated in We Bike Downtown, and Whatcom County's Community Transportation Advisory Committee. (Transportation Services)




Pictured: A WTA bus climbs the hill towards the Viking Union on a fall day. Source: WWU

-  1.1: Develop an integrated University Transportation Plan, including all components of campus transportation.
Intended completion date: fall 2018.


 - Progress status: In Progress (Transportation Services)

-  1.2: Pursue Western representation on the City of Bellingham Transportation Commission for sharing data, providing input on planning processes, and cooperation on shared goals.
Intended start date: 2017


 - Progress status: No longer applicable (Transportation Services)

-  1.3: Pursue an integrated relationship between Western and Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) executive and planning staff, and the WTA Board, establishing a framework for collaboration on current and future goals.
Intended completion date: 2017

 - Progress status: In Progress (Transportation Services)

-  1.4: Include Western employee and student transportation options in community resilience and disaster preparedness planning, and in communication to the broader campus community.
Intended completion date: 2020.

 - Progress status: On Hold (Transportation Services)

-  1.5: Identify and measure the current efficacy of transportation options for equitable access to local institutions of higher education, including Western’s extension campuses.
Intended completion date: 2025

 - Progress status: No known progress this past year (Transportation Services)



1.6: Begin advocacy at the state level for regional connectivity that supports reduced student reliance on automobile travel.

Intended completion date: fall, 2017

- Progress status: No longer applicable (Transportation Services)

Goal 2: Improve safety for users of all transportation modes through education and infrastructure improvements, prioritizing by vulnerability.

Summary:

- Associated Students' Transportation Advisory Committee approved the purchase of more bike lockers to be placed near dorms to reduce bike theft. (Transportation Services)
- Western's Starlight Shuttle, the late-night safe ride home program, was brought in-house and purchased a third shuttle vehicle to offer more rides on busy nights. (Transportation Services)



2.1: Adopt Vision Zero for campus.

Intended completion date: fall, 2018

- Progress status: No longer applicable (Transportation Services)



2.2: Identify and develop a list of pedestrian and bicycle access and safety improvements to campus infrastructure, including service roads.

Intended completion date: June 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (Transportation Services)

Goal 3: Reduce climate impacts of employee and student Western-related ground travel.

Summary:

- Transportation Services subsidized a group of students carpooling from Oak Harbor, WA daily in an Island Transit vanpool. (Transportation Services)
- The parking enforcement fleet was transitioned to 100% electric. (Transportation Services)
- Parking lot 17G re-opened this year with six new EV charging stations. (Transportation Services)

WWU Transportation CO2 Emissions for FY2024 and FY2025

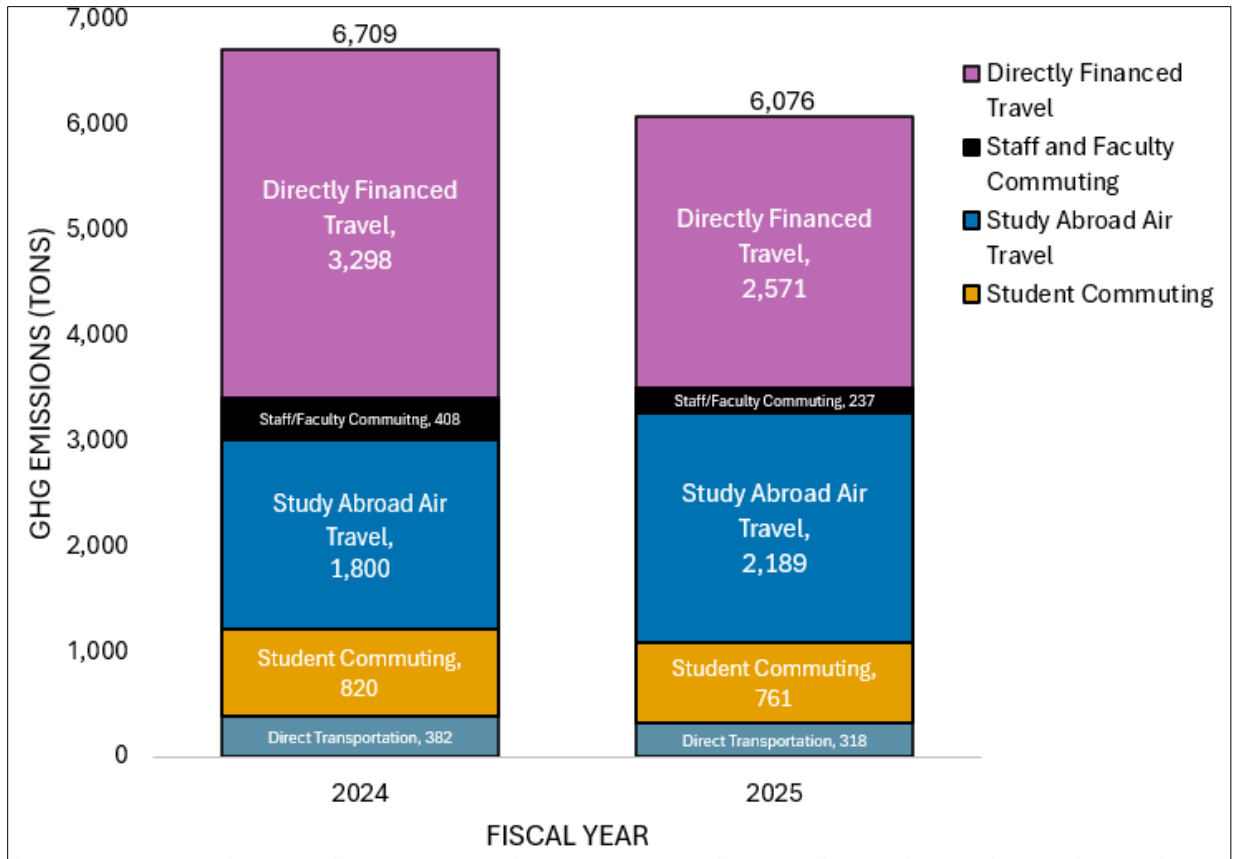


Figure 5: The bar graph above shows a side-by-side comparison of Western’s emissions from transportation in FY2024 and FY2025. Source: SEI



3.1: Reduce employee drive alone commute rates by 10% annually over the next five years improving bus, bicycle, walking, and carpooling options.

- Progress status: In Progress (Transportation Services)



3.2: Reduce commuter student-driving rates by 10% annually for the next five years improving bus, bicycle, walking, rideshare and car-share, and carpooling options.

- Progress status: In Progress (Transportation Services)



3.3: Reduce impacts of regional university-related ground travel 10% annually over the next five years.


- Progress status: In Progress (Travel Services)

Goal 4: Reduce climate impacts of Western-related air travel.

Summary:


- Western maintained stricter requirements for campus-related travel that significantly limits university-related air travel for budgetary reasons. (Travel Services) Although

climate is not the main purpose of these restrictions, they have had positive impacts on reducing Western's GHG emissions related to air travel.

 4.1: Collect and make publicly available data on all air travel.


Intended completion date: fall, 2018

- Progress status: Complete (SEI)

 4.2: Provide options to travelers for off-setting carbon.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: No Known Progress

 4.3: Pursue a carbon off-setting system that benefits the local community.

Intended start date: 2020

- Progress status: No Known Progress

Goal 5: Annually decrease impacts of university fleet vehicles.


Summary:

- The parking enforcement fleet was transitioned to 100% electric. (Transportation Services)

 5.1: Reduce the GHG emissions of the university fleet [by 10%].

Intended completion date: fall, 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (Transportation Services)


 5.2: All Western-owned vehicles continually meet WA State requirements for greenhouse gas emissions.

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

 5.3: Collect information for all university fleet vehicle usage and energy consumption.

Intended completion date: 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

 5.4: Carbon neutrality for every university-owned vehicle.

Intended completion date: 2035

- Progress status: In Progress (Transportation Services)

Waste

Goal 1: Create uniform waste collection receptacle standards across Western, providing compost, recycling, and landfill bins.

Summary:

- New signage was put up at waste sorting stations across academic buildings and UR outdoor waste depots. With the change to single stream recycling with separated cardboard, separate cardboard receptacles were provided throughout academic buildings (FDO)



Pictured: Four waste receptacles standing side by side in Red Square. Source: SEI



1.1: Provide portable recycling and composting receptacles with appropriate signage for all events hosted on Western property and by Western-affiliated groups.

Intended start date: fall, 2018

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)



1.2: Eliminate paper towel waste.

Intended completion date: 2020

- Progress status: On Hold (FDO)



1.3: Expand and improve collection of non-traditional recyclable materials.

Intended start date: fall, 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)



1.4: Divert waste from the landfill by providing opportunities for campus to recycle and compost effectively and efficiently.

Intended completion date: 2025

- Progress status: Complete (FDO)



1.5: Identify funding sources to expand Big Belly recycling program.

Intended completion date: 2017-2019 biennium

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)

Goal 2: Institutionalize management practices and policies for waste collection.

Summary:

- Waste management had a big shift in 2025 with recycling collection being provided by Bellingham-based Sanitary Services Company (SSC). Single Stream recycling was

employed as it is safer, easier to manage, and preferred by haulers. Student employees at the Recycle Center continue to support waste operations. (FDO)

- A consultant team provided support in changing waste management practices by employing sonar dumpster sensors to monitor loads and by working with student employees to conduct waste audits. (FDO)



2.1: Create mechanisms to connect the different departments that manage waste.

Intended completion date: fall, 2020

- Progress status: Complete (FDO)



2.2: Institute quarterly waste management meetings across stakeholders to address issues and propose improvements to waste reduction systems.

Intended start date: fall 2017.

- Progress status: Complete (FDO)



2.3: Formalize, with Facility Design and Capital Budget staff, Big Belly recycling stations as a university standard for outdoor bins.

Intended start date: 2018

- Progress status: Complete (FDO)



2.4: Formalize Western's Ban on Single-Use water bottle sales.

Intended start date: fall, 2017

- Progress status: No Known Progress (FDO)



2.5: Create an engaged citizenry, consistent expectations, and student buy-in to waste reduction.

Intended start date: fall, 2020

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)



2.6: Manage waste wisely at all events hosted on Western property and by Western-affiliated groups by fall 2020.

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)



2.7: Initiate systematic waste data-collection.

Intended start date: winter, 2019

- Progress status: In Progress (FDO)



2.8: Implement a Zero Waste Certification program.

Intended start date: winter, 2020

- Progress status: No Known Progress (FDO)

Goal 3: Provide opportunities for waste reduction education to Western faculty, staff, students, and visitors on accepted waste reduction practices.

Summary:

- The Zero Waste Western team provided waste education and outreach to other students at various events. (FDO)
- University Residence provided guidance to residents on waste sorting. (FDO)
- FDO provided guidance to department chairs on the new recycling system. (FDO)



Pictured: CLC student with two Sustainable Connections staff tabling for zero waste during their summer practicum. Source: SEI



3.1: Continue to create and improve opportunities for students to be directly involved with Zero Waste Western.

- Progress status: Complete (FDO)



3.2: Provide waste reduction training to all staff and faculty.

Intended start date: 2020

- Progress status: No Known Progress (FDO)

Goal 4: Reduce electronic and hazardous waste.



4.1: Develop a framework for a university-wide centralized chemical purchasing system.

Intended completion date: 2022

- Progress status: No Known Progress



4.2: Reduce quantity of hazardous academic lab waste per student.

Intended completion date: 2030

- Progress status: No Known Progress



4.3: Improve university-wide usage and replacement of computers, especially in general use computer labs.

Intended completion date: 2022

- Progress status: No Known Progress

Investments

Goal 1: Increase awareness and adoption of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria in the selection of WWU investments.

Summary:

- During FY25, the Foundation for WWU & Alumni worked with Aon Consulting to develop an updated Investment Policy Statement, which outlines the Foundation's approach to responsible investing. The updated policy will be added to the Foundation website in Fall 2025. (University Advancement)



1.1: Give due consideration to ESG criteria exercised by the companies and/or funds in which University investments are made.

- Progress status: In Progress (University Advancement)



1.2: Make investment holdings information publicly available, including but not limited to fund performance against ESG metrics (as available).

- Progress status: No Known Progress (University Advancement)

Goal 2: Through its decision-making and communication processes, the university will ask the Foundation Board to consider including additional investment criteria, including ESG, in its selection of investments or investment managers, and communicate those decisions to the university community.

Summary:

- With the updated Investment Policy Statement, the Foundation has made a defined commitment to responsible investing and focuses on three key activities:
 1. Maximizing investment returns while managing investment risk
 2. Considering the University's values while also minimizing any associated investment risks
 3. Reporting the Endowment's financial performance and its alignment with responsible investing guidelines, as appropriate. (University Advancement)



2.1: Support the Foundation in publicizing its Climate Aware Investment option to prospective donors.

Intended start date: end of 2018


- Progress status: No Known Progress (University Advancement)



2.2: Ask the Foundation Board to consider setting a goal to have a meaningful amount of endowment holdings invested in the Climate Aware Fund.


Intended start date: June 30, 2021

- Progress status: No Known Progress (University Advancement)

 2.3: Ask the Foundation Board to consider requiring investment advisors to include ESG criteria as part of their due diligence process when hiring investment managers that may manage Foundation funds, either directly or indirectly.


Intended completion date: end of 2018

- Progress status: Complete (University Advancement)

 2.4: Ask the Foundation Board to consider mandating that any investment advisor responding to a Request for Proposals (RFP) be a signatory to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI).


Intended completion date: end of 2018

- Progress status: Complete (University Advancement)

 2.5: Ask the Foundation Board to consider inclusion in any agreement with an investment advisor that if the advisor ceases to be a signatory to UNPRI or follow those principles, the Foundation may terminate the agreement.

Intended completion date: end of 2018

- Progress status: No Known Progress (University Advancement)


 2.6: Ask the Foundation Board to consider, at such time as the Foundation makes investments itself, becoming a signatory to UNPRI.

- Progress status: No Longer Applicable (University Advancement)


Goal 3: Students understand both Western's and the Foundation's investment processes.

Summary:

- During FY25, the Foundation for WWU & Alumni worked with Aon Consulting to develop an updated Investment Policy Statement, which outlines the Foundation's approach to responsible investing. The updated policy will be added to the Foundation website in fall 2025. (University Advancement)

 3.1: Advance educational opportunities for greater student learning in the management and oversight of endowments and sustainable investing.

- Progress status: No Known Progress (University Advancement)

 3.2: Provide learning opportunities for students to evaluate the critical difference(s) between various types of sustainable investing and traditional investments.

- Progress status: No Known Progress (University Advancement)

Appendix: SAP Progress 2022-2025

Legend

complete	C
in progress	IP
on hold	OH
no known progress	NKP
no longer applicable	NLA

Curriculum and Research

Goal	Objective	2022	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Western's curricula provide all students opportunities to nurture and create the conditions for a thriving society, economy, and environment (SEE).	Objective 1.1: Increase enrollment to 50 students by 2022 in the Sustainability Studies minor.	IP	IP	OH	OH
	Objective 1.2: Every major has curricular options that include sustainability content by 2020.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 1.3: Identify and promote opportunities for engaged learning in the area of sustainability by 2020.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 1.4: Expand sustainability related student research opportunities [Independent Study Projects (ISP)] to all interested students by 2020.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 2: Western supports scholarship and teaching that contribute to the understanding and promotion of sustainability.	Objective 2.1: Commit resources to promote Washington Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WAHESC) by 2020.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.2: Provide funding for three faculty and staff across disciplines to attend conferences that promote sustainability beginning 2018.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.3: Establish internal funding for sustainability research starting summer of 2019.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
Goal 3: Western recruits and retains faculty and staff who focus on sustainability.	Objective 3.1: Maintain annual funding of a total of \$10K for up to ten Sustainability Fellows.	IP	OH	OH	IP
	Objective 3.2: Create a tenure-track faculty line devoted to sustainability by next biennium (2019-2021).	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 3.3: Increase faculty capacity to offer sustainability-related curriculum by 2019.	NKP	IP	OH	IP
Goal 4: Western is home to an	Objective 4.1: Develop a 5-year strategic plan for the Institute of Sustainability by 2019.	IP	IP	IP	NKP

Institute for Sustainability (IS).	Objective 4.2: Begin fundraising campaign for Institute of Sustainability in 2019.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
totals	complete	0	0	0	0
	in progress	8	9	7	8
	on hold	0	1	3	1
	no known progress	4	2	2	3
	no longer applicable				
	total	12	12	12	12

Campus and Community Engagement

Goal	Objective	2022	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Western is internally organized to support university and community engagement to advance sustainability.	Objective 1.1: Complete a university-wide public engagement alignment process to enhance Western's structure and function for public engagement by fall 2019.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 1.2: Commit to a university-wide system for qualitative and quantitative assessment of public engagement efforts by fall 2019.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 1.3: Follow recommendations of alignment process to incentivize community engagement for faculty, staff, and students throughout the university beginning fall 2021.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
Goal 2: Western's culture and community engagement efforts reflect a strong commitment to sustainability.	Objective 2.1: Redevelop student, staff, faculty, and visitor orientation programs to emphasize Western's commitment to education for sustainability beginning spring 2017.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.2: Expand courses and co-curricular programs for first-year students that teach about local and regional sustainability issues through community engagement beginning fall 2018.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.3: Improve interpretation of Western-owned grounds to enhance understanding and appreciation of the unique cultural and environmental history of the area by 2020.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.4: Establish sustainability-related interactive experiences, cooperatively designed and supported by WWU and community partners, to help build relationships among members of Western, and with the broader community by 2019.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.5: Create a system for continually learning about (listening and dialoguing) evolving local to global sustainability opportunities and challenges by 2020.	IP	IP	IP	IP

	Objective 2.6: Support the efforts of regional campuses to enhance their sustainability activities.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 3: Western's sustainability resources are easily accessed by the public.	Objective 3.1: Enhance web materials that enable the public to access sustainability resources beginning fall 2017.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 3.2: Increase use of vibrant, visible, and accessible venues across the Salish Sea Region for community sustainability events beginning fall 2018.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 4: Western engages respectfully with Coast Salish Peoples in recognition that the university occupies traditional Coast Salish lands.	Objective 4.1: Create a university-wide tribal advisory committee to advise the President and University community on issues such as curriculum, campus life and gathering spaces, interactive facilities and operations, and engagement opportunities by 2018.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 4.2: Establish a permanent tribal liaison position to build relationships between Western and the Coast Salish communities by 2018.	IP	C	C	C
	Objective 4.3: Expand and enhance institutional partnerships and collaborations with tribal institutions beginning fall 2017.	IP	IP	IP	NKP

totals

complete	0	1	1	1
in progress	9	9	9	8
on hold				
no known progress	5	4	4	5
no longer applicable				
total	14	14	14	14

Built Environment

Goal	Objective	2022	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Carbon Neutrality: Reduce the carbon intensity of university energy supply sources and achieve 100% net university carbon reduction.	Objective 1.1: In the short term, identify and implement financially viable carbon reduction projects to reduce carbon emissions by 15%, per state requirements, by 2020.	IP	C	C	C
	Objective 1.2: In the mid-term, where reduction is not yet technologically feasible, seek and commit to credible carbon offsets for all continuing direct hydrocarbon use by 2030.	IP	IP	IP	OH
	Objective 1.3: In the long term, achieve carbon neutrality by 2035, first through reduction and secondly through offset.	IP	IP	IP	IP

Goal 2: Maximize cost-effective energy efficiency investments in university buildings, while steadily improving building performance and occupant comfort and health.	Objective 2.1: Continue to reduce the need for new construction by prioritizing the use of current facilities.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 2.2: Develop energy performance targets and sustainable design standards by 2018.	IP	NKP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.3: Minimize light pollution while maximizing energy efficiency in exterior lighting by 2025.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.4: Adopt policies or guidelines designed to minimize energy use and emissions from non-fixed assets such as refrigerators, freezers, custodial, and other mobile equipment by 2025.	NKP	IP	IP	NKP
	Objective 2.5: Employ clean, renewable energy sources on- or off-campus to offset existing and new demands by 2030.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.6: Design a university plan to support deep, holistic renovations and energy efficiency investments by 2035.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.7: Design, construct, renovate, and operate buildings using a closed-loop process involving minimal to no waste in all processes by 2035.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
Goal 3: Green Building Certification: Acquire third party certification of the environmental performance of new and existing university buildings through the USGBC's LEED certification or equivalent process.	Objective 3.1: Complete the USGBC's LEED Gold certification or equivalent for all new and fully renovated university buildings starting in 2018.	IP	NKP	IP	IP
Goal 4: Utilize accepted Low Impact Development (LID) practices as standard to reduce rainwater/storm-water volume, improve outgoing water quality, and make on-campus use of collected rainwater.	Objective 4.1: Apply LID to all new construction, major renovation and other projects that increase paved surface area or otherwise significantly change university grounds by 2035.	IP	NKP	NKP	IP
Goal 5: Build and maintain publicly accessible databases of energy use, water	Objective 5.1: Build and maintain a publicly accessible database of available information for ongoing energy consumption and emissions for all university buildings by 2018.	IP	C	C	IP

consumption, and carbon emissions for all university buildings.	Objective 5.2: Build and maintain a publicly accessible database of available information for ongoing water consumption for all university buildings by 2018.	IP	C	C	IP
	Objective 5.3: Build and maintain a publicly accessible database of available information for ongoing carbon emissions for all university buildings by 2018.	IP	C	C	C
Goal 6: Develop an active learning, living laboratory within Western's built environment.	Objective 6.1: Expand support for courses and co-curricular programs for students that teach about local and regional stewardship solutions through skill development and campus and community engagement beginning fall 2017.	IP	IP	IP	IP
totals	complete	0	4	4	2
	in progress	12	7	9	10
	on hold				1
	no known progress	4	5	3	3
	no longer applicable				
	total	16	16	16	16

Student Life

Goal	Objective	2022	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Students have a solid foundation for understanding cultural and global interdependence.	Objective 1.1: Increase participation in programs that connect students to sustainability in the local, regional, and global community beginning fall 2017.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 1.2: All first-year Western students, including transfers, will engage in co-curricular programs around social, economic, and environmental (SEE) justice as part of their first year of experience at Western, beginning fall 2020.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 1.3: Begin and/or enhance collaborations with other local education institutions in developing and supporting SEE justice co-curriculum: local schools, Whatcom Community College (WCC), Northwest Indian College (NWIC), and Bellingham Technical College (BTC) by 2020.	NKP	IP	NKP	NKP
Goal 2: Through structured community and campus-based co-	Objective 2.1: Enhance and increase co-curricular opportunities for student participation in campus-based sustainable practices beginning fall 2017.	IP	IP	IP	IP

curricular learning experiences, students gain knowledge and insight of sustainability in practice.	Objective 2.2: Increase student participation in service learning and civic engagement that connects to SEE sustainability beginning fall 2017.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.3: Improve sustainability literacy throughout co-curricular learning beginning in 2018.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.4: Increase the number and quality of opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to engage in co-curricular SEE sustainability focused projects, research, and grants beginning 2020.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.5: Increase and further develop co-curricular education and outreach programs targeting sustainable living practices by 2018.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 3: Social, Economic, and Ecological (SEE) sustainability principles are integrated in student career and lifelong practices.	Objective 3.1: Cultivate student capacity and efficacy in creating positive change in SEE sustainability by 2025.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 3.2: Increase the number of pathways into SEE sustainability-based careers available to WWU students beginning fall 2017.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 3.3: Graduating students have a demonstrated commitment to lifelong SEE sustainability by 2035.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP

totals

complete				
in progress	8	10	9	9
on hold				
no known progress	3	1	2	2
no longer applicable				
total	11	11	11	11

Dining Services

Goal	Objective	2022	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Research and explore new and emerging technologies, practices, and policies to increase sustainable performance in existing and new dining facilities.	Objective 1.1: Create a more efficient model to deliver food service to campus by 2019.	NKP	NKP	NKP	IP
	Objective 1.2: Achieve sustainable maintenance and renovation practices, and equipment purchasing by 2035.	NKP	NKP	NKP	IP
	Objective 1.3: Reduce resource consumption (such as water, energy) by 10% of current baseline by 2035.	NKP	NKP	NKP	IP

Goal 2: Increase environmental best practices for dining service providers and vendors.	Objective 2.1: Ensure 100% packaging of goods that University Dining Services produces is compostable/recyclable by 2020.	IP	NKP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.2: Increase local/regional food purchasing; WA, OR, ID, BC to 25% by 2020.	IP	NKP	IP	C
	Objective 2.3: increase REAL food purchases to 25% by 2020. o Rationale: The University formally signed the Real Food Challenge in April 2016. We will continue working with student groups to meet our objective.	IP	NKP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.4: Implement a vendor environmental practices survey by 2020.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
Goal 3: Provide resources and opportunities for the campus and community to increase understanding and engage in sustainable food practices.	Objective 3.1: Continue educating campus and surrounding community about healthy and sustainable consumption practices.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 3.2: Develop a mutually-enhancing relationship between Outback and University Dining Services beginning in 2017.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 3.3: Explore funding options for offsetting increased costs to students as UDS works to meet Real Food Challenge and other local, regional food commitments beginning in 2017.	NKP	IP	NKP	IP
	Objective 3.4: Continue to engage with the local and regional community to develop a sustainable food system model that links local producers with larger consumer entities.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 4: Become zero-waste in all campus dining locations.	Objective 4.1: Develop a recycling and compost program for all retail (dining) locations and their offices that results in zero waste by 2020.	IP	NKP	IP	IP
	Objective 4.2: Develop a recycling and compost program for all residential dining halls and their offices that results in zero waste by 2020.	IP	NKP	IP	IP
	Objective 4.3: Develop a recycling and compost program for all catering sites and their offices that results in zero waste by 2020.	NKP	NKP	NKP	IP
	Objective 4.4: Establish a monitoring system to identify base-line waste metrics by 2025.	NKP	NKP	IP	C

totals

complete				2
in progress	7	3	8	11
on hold				
no known progress	8	12	7	2
no longer applicable				
total	15	15	15	15

Grounds

Goal	Objective	2022	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Reduce the consumption of natural resources in grounds maintenance.	Objective 1.1: Develop and implement the use of a preferred plant species list to reduce water consumption for each landscape type—formal, semi-formal, and native—by fall 2017.	C	C	C	C
	Objective 1.2: Develop a dashboard of irrigation water consumption per irrigated area by fall 2017.	IP	C	IP	IP
	Objective 1.3: Evaluate the viability of rain and soil moisture sensors to reduce excess water consumption starting fall 2017.	IP	C	C	C
	Objective 1.4: Increase and enhance the use of compost and yard debris used on campus for moisture retention and weed suppression beginning 2018.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 2: Reduce air and noise pollution using sustainable landscape equipment.	Objective 2.1: Evaluate all equipment requests to determine whether a viable electric alternative exists beginning 2017.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.2: Reduce carbon impact of vehicles and equipment to the Outdoor Maintenance shop as budget allows.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 3: Reduce pesticide use through Integrated Pest Management.	Objective 3.1: Continuing education classes in Integrated Pest Management for all gardeners, annually.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 3.2: Establish baseline of pesticide reduction by 2018.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 4: Enhance stormwater treatment and reduce pollutant runoff from impervious surfaces across campus.	Objective 4.1: Continue to protect water quality by complying with all DOE-required stormwater maintenance activities.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 4.2: Establish regular street-sweeping contract to reduce potential pollution runoff to surface waters by 2020.	NKP	IP	C	C

Goal 5: Provide education on sustainable practices and utilize campus grounds to foster environmental stewardship.	Objective 5.1: Continue goal of employing at least six (6) seasonal student employees in the Outdoor Maintenance shop.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 5.2: Continue to improve the educational component of the student employee program.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 5.3: Make available educational opportunities on and around Western-owned grounds to enhance understanding and appreciation of the unique environmental setting of Western and its relationship to other global ecosystems.	IP	IP	IP	IP

totals

complete	1	3	3	3
in progress	7	10	10	10
on hold				
no known progress	5			
no longer applicable				
total	13	13	13	13

Procurement

Goal	Objective	2022	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Encourage the use of sustainable businesses.	Objective 1.1: Develop “Sustainable Purchasing Guidelines” within Procurement processes, inclusive of lifecycle accountability, vendor information, embodied energy and emissions, and social equity practices.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 1.2: Acknowledge the importance of purchases from local and regional business.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 2: Increase the percentage of use of sustainable products and natural resources throughout our supply chain.	Objective 2.1: Increase the use of recycled and reclaimed products.	IP	IP	NKP	IP
Goal 3: Increase the number of	Objective 3.1: Increase percentage of purchases from local and regional businesses by 10% by fiscal year 2018.	IP	IP	IP	NKP

sustainable materials and supplies available in the bookstore for students and greater campus.	Objective 3.2: Increase sustainable textbook options by 10% by fiscal year 2018.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 3.3: Develop key criteria to evaluate suppliers when we consider the introduction of new products and the replenishing of existing ones by fiscal year 2018.	NKP	IP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 3.4: Continue to improve the visibility of the bookstore’s sustainable offerings.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
Goal 4: Prioritize methods of accessing library materials that have a smaller carbon footprint.	Objective 4.1: Encourage faculty to request and use materials purchased in e-form rather than paper.	NKP	NLA	NLA	NLA
	Objective 4.2: Encourage faculty to use resource sharing opportunities like document delivery and Inter-Library Loan (ILL), rather than ordering materials.	NKP	NLA	NLA	NLA
	Objective 4.3: Encourage publishers to use more sustainable materials in their publications.	NKP	NLA	NLA	NLA
Goal 5: Designate the Facilities Management Fleet Services as the institutional office responsible for coordinating and supporting all university vehicle (specialized, departmental, and fleet) purchase and life-cycle decisions.	Objective 5.1: Consolidate the coordination of university vehicle purchases and life cycle management	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 5.2: Develop a vehicle procurement guide as part of the greater university e-procurement process	NKP	NKP	IP	IP

totals

complete		0	0	0
in progress	5	6	5	5
on hold				
no known progress	7	3	4	4
no longer applicable		3	3	3
total	12	12	12	12

Transportation

Goal	Objective	the	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Western recognizes its role as a member of the larger transportation community and engages in local, regional, and state transportation issues and solutions.	Objective 1.1: Develop an integrated University Transportation Plan, including all components of campus transportation by fall 2018.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 1.2: Pursue Western representation on the City of Bellingham Transportation Commission for sharing data, providing input on planning processes, and cooperation on shared goals beginning in 2017.	NKP	NLA	NLA	NLA
	Objective 1.3: Pursue an integrated relationship between Western and Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) executive and planning staff, and the WTA Board, establishing a framework for collaboration on current and future goals beginning in 2017.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 1.4: Include Western employee and student transportation options in community resilience and disaster preparedness planning, and in communication to the broader campus community by 2020.	NKP	IP	IP	OH
	Objective 1.5: Identify and measure the current efficacy of transportation options for equitable access to local institutions of higher education, including Western’s extension campuses by 2025.	IP	IP	IP	NKP
	Objective 1.6: Begin advocacy at the state level for regional connectivity that supports reduced student reliance on automobile travel starting in fall 2017.	NKP	NLA	NLA	NLA
Goal 2: Improve safety for users of all transportation modes through education and infrastructure improvements, prioritizing by vulnerability.	Objective 2.1: Adopt Vision Zero for campus by fall 2018.	NKP	NLA	NLA	NLA
	Objective 2.2: Identify and develop a list of pedestrian and bicycle access and safety improvements to campus infrastructure, including service roads by June 2018.	NKP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 3: Reduce climate impacts of employee and student Western-related ground travel.	Objective 3.1: Reduce employee drive alone commute rates by 10% annually over the next five years improving bus, bicycle, walking, and carpooling options.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 3.2: Reduce commuter student-driving rates by 10% annually for the next five years improving bus, bicycle, walking, rideshare and car-share, and carpooling options.	IP	IP	IP	IP

	Objective 3.3: Reduce impacts of regional university-related ground travel 10% annually over the next five years.	IP	IP	IP	IP
Goal 4: Reduce climate impacts of Western-related air travel.	Objective 4.1: Collect and make publicly available, data on all air travel by fall 2018.	NKP	IP	C	C
	Objective 4.2: Provide options to travelers for off-setting carbon by 2020.	IP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 4.3: Pursue a carbon off-setting system that benefits the local community beginning in 2020.	IP	NKP	NKP	NKP
Goal 5: Annually decrease impacts of university fleet vehicles.	Objective 5.1: Reduce the GHG emissions of the university fleet [by 10%] by fall, 2018.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 5.2: All Western-owned vehicles continually meet WA State requirements for greenhouse gas emissions.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 5.3: Collect information for all university fleet vehicle usage and energy consumption by 2018.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 5.4: Carbon neutrality for every university-owned vehicle by 2035.	NKP	IP	NKP	IP

totals

complete			1	1
in progress	11	13	11	10
on hold				1
no known progress	7	2	3	3
no longer applicable		3	3	3
total	18	18	18	18

Waste

Goal	Objective	2022	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Create uniform waste collection receptacle standards across Western, providing compost, recycling, and landfill bins.	Objective 1.1: Provide portable recycling and composting receptacles with appropriate signage for all events hosted on Western property and by Western-affiliated groups, beginning fall 2018.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 1.2: Eliminate paper towel waste by 2020.	NKP	NKP	IP	NKP
	Objective 1.3: Expand and improve collection of non-traditional recyclable materials beginning fall 2020.	NKP	IP	IP	NKP

	Objective 1.4: Divert waste from the landfill by providing opportunities for campus to recycle and compost effectively and efficiently by 2025.	IP	IP	IP	NKP
	Objective 1.5: Identify funding sources to expand Big Belly recycling program during the 2017-2019 biennium.	C	C	C	C
Goal 2: Institutionalize management practices and policies for waste collection.	Objective 2.1: Create mechanisms to connect the different departments that manage waste by fall 2020.	C	C	C	C
	Objective 2.2: Institute quarterly waste management meetings across stakeholders to address issues and propose improvements to waste reduction systems, by fall 2017.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 2.3: Formalize, with Facility Design and Capital Budget staff, Big Belly recycling stations as a university standard for outdoor bins by 2018.	NLA	NLA	NLA	NLA
	Objective 2.4: Formalize Western's Ban on Single-Use water bottle sales by fall 2017.	IP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 2.5: Create an engaged citizenry, consistent expectations, and student buy-in to waste reduction by fall 2020.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 2.6: Manage waste wisely at all events hosted on Western property and by Western-affiliated groups by fall 2020.	IP	NKP	NKP	IP
	Objective 2.7: Initiate systematic waste data-collection beginning winter 2019.	IP	NKP	IP	IP
	Objective 2.8: Implement a Zero Waste Certification program beginning winter 2020.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
Goal 3: Provide opportunities for waste reduction education to Western faculty, staff, students, and visitors on accepted waste reduction practices.	Objective 3.1: Continue to create and improve opportunities for students to be directly involved with Zero Waste Western.	IP	IP	NKP	C
	Objective 3.2: Provide waste reduction training to all staff and faculty beginning in 2020.	NKP	IP	IP	NKP
Goal 4: Reduce electronic and hazardous waste.	Objective 4.1: Develop a framework for a university-wide centralized chemical purchasing system by 2022.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 4.2: Reduce quantity of hazardous academic lab waste per student by 2030.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP

	Objective 4.3: Improve university-wide usage and replacement of computers, especially in general use computer labs by 2022.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP
totals	complete	2	2	2	3
	in progress	6	5	6	3
	on hold				0
	no known progress	9	10	9	11
	no longer applicable	1	1	1	1
	total	18	18	18	18

Investments

Goal	Objective	2022	2023	2024	2025
Goal 1: Increase awareness and adoption of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria in the selection of WWU investments.	Objective 1.1: Give due consideration to ESG criteria exercised by the companies and/or funds in which University investments are made.	IP	IP	IP	IP
	Objective 1.2: Make investment holdings information publicly available, including but not limited to fund performance against ESG metrics (as available).	NKP	NKP	IP	NKP
Goal 2: Through its decision-making and communication processes, the university will ask the Foundation Board to consider including additional investment criteria, including ESG, in its selection of investments or investment managers, and communicate those decisions to the university community.	Objective 2.1: Support the Foundation in publicizing its Climate Aware Investment option to prospective donors, by the end of 2018.	NKP	IP	IP	NKP
	Objective 2.2: Ask the Foundation Board to consider setting a goal to have a meaningful amount of endowment holdings invested in the Climate Aware Fund by June 30, 2021.	IP	IP	IP	NKP
	Objective 2.3: Ask the Foundation Board to consider requiring investment advisors to include ESG criteria as part of their due diligence process when hiring investment managers that may manage Foundation funds, either directly or indirectly, by the end of	C	C	C	C
	Objective 2.4: Ask the Foundation Board to consider mandating that any investment advisor responding to an RFP be a signatory to (UNPRI) by the end of 2018.	C	C	C	C
	Objective 2.5: By the end of 2018, ask the Foundation Board to consider inclusion in any agreement with an investment advisor that if the advisor ceases to be a signatory to UNPRI or follow those principles, the Foundation may terminate the agreement.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP

	Objective 2.6: Ask the Foundation Board to consider, at such time as the Foundation makes investments itself, becoming a signatory to UNPRI.	NLA	NLA	NLA	NLA
Goal 3: Students understand both Western's and the Foundation's investment processes.	Objective 3.1: Advance educational opportunities for greater student learning in the management and oversight of endowments and sustainable investing.	IP	NKP	NKP	NKP
	Objective 3.2: Provide learning opportunities for students to evaluate the critical difference(s) between various types of sustainable investing and traditional investments.	NKP	NKP	NKP	NKP

totals

complete	2	2	2	2
in progress	3	3	4	1
on hold				
no known progress	4	4	3	6
no longer applicable	1	1	1	1
total	10	10	10	10