

Quarterly Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Hybrid meeting

In person at Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98504, Room 172

Remote via Microsoft Teams

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Meeting ID: 294 924 831 29

Passcode: WBv7St

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Phone Conference ID: 120 245 173#

Meeting Agenda

All times are estimates to assist in scheduling and may be changed subject to the business of the day and at the Staff-Chair's discretion. The meetings will be recorded.

Public Comment: To participate in public comment please RSVP to Lori.Reynaud@dnr.wa.gov no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, December 18th. Public comment shall be limited to 5 minutes per person – time may be shortened if needed to accommodate all interested parties.

TIME	BUSINESS	MATERIALS
9:00 AM	Call to Order & Roll-call – Trevor McConchie, Staff Meeting Chair	
9:15 AM	Approval of Quarterly Meeting Summary <i>Action Item: Consider approval of September 19, 2023 meeting summary</i>	September 19, 2023 Summary
9:20 AM	Forest Resilience Division Update – Jen Watkins, Division Manager	
9:30 AM	State Forester George Geissler Update and Discussion on timely topics with committee, including Q&A and feedback	
10:00 AM	Presentations: Keeping Forests as Forests <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Csenka Favorina-Csorba, DNR: DNR conversion risk assessment- Mark Reed, DNR: Washington Forest Legacy Proposals – Round 1 and 2	Forest Legacy Round 1 proposals
10:30 AM	BREAK – 10 minutes	
10:40 AM	<u>Public Comment</u>	
10:55AM	Roundtable: Committee member updates and information sharing on items related to forest health and resilience in Washington	

11:10 AM	Action Item: Motion to approve committee operations including committee nominations, appointments, and Chair election outside Charter timeline for the first quarter of 2024.	Revised 11.2023 committee charter
11:15 AM	Staff and Subcommittee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Updates: Strategic Science & Planning Team – progress reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan Treatment Tracking Update as of 10/31/2023 - 2023 Forest Action Plan statewide implementation highlights • Forest Health Advisory Committee Monitoring Subgroup • Forest Health Advisory Committee Western Washington Subgroup 	Active tasking memos October 31, 2023 treatment tracking memo for 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan
11:45 AM	2024 Forest Health Advisory Committee Work plan: Review of meeting 2024 meeting schedule (February 20th, June 18 th , September 10 th , and December 10 th), and committee input on priority topics and issues for committee work plan.	Template for our annual work plan (from charter)
12:00 PM	Official meeting conclusion	

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
APPROVED [PENDING]

Attendees

Zach St. Amand (Parks, <i>Alt.</i>)	Chad Davis (USFS)	Janene Ritchie (Pinchot Partners)
Josh Anderson (Vaagen Brothers)	Shana Joy (SCC)	Travis Dutton (WAC)
Kevin Arneson (Boise Cascade)	Cynthia Wilkerson (WDFW, <i>Alt.</i>)	Doug Hooks (WFPA)
Darcy Batura (TNC)	Tiana Luke (TWS)	Dave Werntz (CNW)
Jerry Bonagofsky (WCLA)	Jay McLaughlin (SGPC)	Trevor McConchie (DNR Staff-Chair)
Matt Comisky (AFRC)	Elaine O’Neil (WFFA)	

Guests and Other Attendees Present: Jen Watkins, Terra Rentz, Alex Smith, Tony Craven, Nick Kunz, Sam Steinshouer, Andy Tate, Michael Norris, Kate Williams, Derek Churchill, Nick Kunz, Tim Walls, Brandon Austin, Deidre Hayward, Tony Craven, Ryan Sanchez, Brian Considine, Will Rubin, Jacob Delbridge

FHAC Motions and Action

Motion 1 MOTION by Luke. (Second by Bartura) TO APPROVE the May 16, 2023 Forest Health Advisory Committee Meeting Summary. MOTION PASSED

Motion 2 MOTION by Wilkerson (Second by Luke) TO APPROVE the Forest Health Advisory Committee Charter as AMENDED by the Committee through two amendments on September 19, 2023. MOTION PASSED

- Amendment 1 to add section to meetings and guidelines that specifies that the committee will strive to host periodic meetings that are field based to encourage relationship learning, building, and innovation.
- Amendment 2 to add a bullet under meeting and guidelines under B - operating guidelines - that state committee meetings will include presentations from partner agencies and organizations. Content will be determined by expressed interest by committee members that request or offer relevant presentations. Janene Ritchie seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Meeting Summary

Welcome and Introductions

Committee Meeting Chair, Trevor McConchie, opened the meeting by welcoming attendees, addressing a change in our approach to staffing the meetings in complement to the proposed charter revision, and underscoring the importance of this committee and our agency commitment to it.

Terra Rentz notified the committee that she will be leaving her position with DNR to join the Nature Conservancy as their new Western Dry Forest and Fire Program Director. Trevor also recognized Terra Rentz and all the work she contributed to this committee and forest health in Washington in her time with DNR.

Meeting Minutes Approval

The committee reviewed the May meeting minutes.

Tiana Luke moved to approve the May minutes and Darcy Batura seconded the motion. There were no objections to the motion. Motion passes.

Forest Resilience Division Update

Jen Watkins, Forest Resilience Division Manager, updated the group that the agency's spending plans for the 2023-2025 biennium have been finalized and programs are already operating within it. The Forest Resilience Division has completed a lot of the program expansion as directed by legislation last biennium, and is conducting work statewide across 10 programs. The agency integrated the work of the Joint Advisory Committee HB 1168 workgroup into our spending plans, aiming to follow the committee recommendations for funding to pass-through programs up to the spending allocation and authority from the legislature. Our ability to fully implement the recommendations will depend upon the outcome of the 2024 legislative session and the legislature's willingness to fully fund HB 1168, which we'll discuss later.

Following all of this growth and change, our Division is focusing time this biennium on letting the glue dry and getting good at what we do, communicating the clear deliverables of our programs, and understanding how we leverage each other not only across our programs but with external partners and across the agency.

A few specific program items included:

- On October 2, 2023 a historic \$7 million grant program will open a Request for Applications to support urban and community forestry across Washington. This is made possible with support from both federal and state legislative funding through our Urban and Community Forestry Program.
- Our Strategic Science and Planning Team has been piloting efforts to monitor wildfire interactions with fuels reduction and forest health treatments this season, with specific opportunities that emerged in Northeast Washington with the recent wildfires. Thinking about those treatments, learning from how the fires and fire staff interacted with them, and exploring the lessons learned and stories we can tell is important.
- In 2023 our Prescribed Fire Program completed a barriers assessment that was done with statewide prescribed fire community of practice that we have. We'd like to talk with this committee as we also explore next steps internally on what we do to address this policy, fiscal, and operational issues to help us utilize this tool at scale.
- Trevor McConchie with our Federal Lands Program will be representing Washington State on a subgroup established to support the US Forest Service's new Federal Advisory Committee focused on the NW Forest Plan.

Deputy Supervisor Update

Alex Smith, Deputy Supervisor for Forest Resilience, Forest Regulation and Aquatics Resources reinforced that the first year after 1168 passed we just spent time hunkering down to grow these programs exponentially. Several teams in DNR including Forest Resilience program team expanded with astronomical growth, it was a lot of work to put these programs in place, creating the programs and hiring of staff support for those programs. Now we are in a good place to do the work and leverage each other.

Alex announced that Katie is now here Deputy Supervisor, bringing additional capacity to her executive team and our work. Alex also shared that she recently joined a field tour with our Post-Fire Recovery staff in the Methow Valley with the Tribes, NGO, DFW, and US Forest Service partners to tour projects and landscapes impacted by fire. The tour reinforced that the work we do on the front end for Forest Resilience really does help with resilience from wildfires. We are continuing to evolve on how we show up for small forest landowners. On prescribed fire, Alex noted that she'd like the barrier assessment that

was already mentioned brought to this group and that DNR is going to look for input as we explore any potential opportunities to bring to the legislature to address barriers in the 2025 session.

Public Comment on FHAC Action Items

No public comments.

It was noted that we should clearly indicate the opportunity for public comment not only in the posted agenda, but in the email provided to the FHAC and email list prior to the meeting. DNR committed to explore improvements to the public comment notifications, and having a sign-in sheet available for public comment as we have hybrid meetings with in-options.

Charter Revision Update: Content review and process

Trevor introduced the requested action item in front of the committee today to provide feedback and consider approval of the revised charter for the committee. Jen Watkins reviewed the feedback received from committee members since the May 2023 meeting, in both grammatical edits and content. Alex Smith confirmed that this committee's charter revision is part of a broader agency effort led by our Boards and Commissions and Executive staff to ensure that all of our agency's committees are complying with the HEAL Act.

Committee members requested and the Chair approved a 10 minute break to review the latest charter document prior to taking action. Upon return, the Committee confirmed that following Roberts Rules of once a motion is made to accept the charter as is and the discussion of the charter is open motions can be made to amend the existing document prior to any action to approve.

Cynthia Wilkerson made a motion to approve the Charter, and Tiana Luke seconded.

Darcy Batura made a motion for a first amendment to add section to meetings and guidelines that specifies that the committee will strive to host periodic meetings that are field based to encourage relationship learning, building, and innovation. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Cynthia Wilkerson made a motion for a second amendment to add a bullet under meeting and guidelines under B - operating guidelines - that state committee meetings will include presentations from partner agencies and organizations. Content will be determined by expressed interest by committee members that request or offer relevant presentations. Janene Ritchie seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The committee discussed that during the discussion of the committee work plan later today, we can begin to identify topics and external presenters we'd like to have at our meetings in 2024 and work with the future co-chairs prior to meetings to build agenda. Additional feedback was that the charter should be revised with the committee every two years, and DNR staff said that we could integrate that along with other technical edits to the charter with no motion needed.

The Chair called a vote on the original motion to adopt the charter as amended by the committee, and it was approved.

Alex will be taking the amended and approved Charter to the Commissioner of Public Lands for final review and signature in the month ahead. Once executed we will post online and send out to the Committee, and begin accepting the applications for committee members to be appointed by our first meeting in 2024. It was noted that we may be off schedule for this first year from the ongoing routine of nominations due to the timeline of the revised charter execution and application period. If applications

are in by December meeting, we could potentially accept nominations for Chair before the December meeting.

Staff and Subcommittee Reports

Monitoring Subcommittee: Derek Churchill shared that Jessica Walston is our monitoring coordinator for treatment and project area level, and she has taken over for Andrew Spaeth in facilitating the Monitoring Subcommittee. She runs quarterly meetings as well as potentially a field trip. Monitoring projects that are underway include the Trail Project and Trout Lake Project on the Colville National Forest, Trout Lake Project on the Colville, Squilchuck State Parks, Tillicum on the Okanogan-Wenatchee, and work with Mount Adams Resource Stewards in the South Cascades. The subcommittee is also providing feedback to improve DNR's treatment tracking in eastern WA include a more detailed set of treatment categories to report out and creating a process to show when treatment of acres is complete. Annie Smith with DNR just released new change detection data that we are working to also integrate with treatment tracking reporting.

Western Washington Subcommittee: Matt Comisky reported that the group has had 3 meetings working our problem statement, identifying our audience, mapping out the issues. Lots of work to do before final recommendations in a formal report. Last group meeting had a presentation by Derek Churchill on a pilot assessment to landscape evaluations in western WA which was tested out in Snohomish County and a landscape on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Federal Lands Program Update: John Perry, Federal Lands Planning Program Manager shared about the new program that was established by HB 1168. The team is building capacity to complement and coordinate with environmental planning through NEPA with federal agencies on their lands. We brought on wildlife biologist, archaeologist and sharing a position with Geology for a geologist. Currently the program is looking to support NEPA statewide in coordination with individual national forests. Work ranges in complexity from an on-ground surveys to contract administration all the way up to overseeing an environmental analysis.

2024 Legislative Session – Information Sharing and Coordination Around Forest Health Topics and Priorities

Brian Considine, DNR's Legislative Director, presented to the Committee on the agency's current legislative priorities for the 2024 session for supplemental operating and capital support. Details covered are included within the September 13, 2023 submission to OFM included with the post-meeting packet.

Terra Rentz spoke to the specific request to the legislative addressing fully funding the Wildfire Response, Forest Restoration, and Community Resilience Account established by HB 1168. The request seeks to maintain the Legislature's current biennial investments (202123 BN) to improve forest health, and increase effectiveness in wildfire prevention and protection as formalized under 2SHB 1168 (RCW 76.04.511), in which the legislative intent committed "to provide \$125,000,000 per biennium over the next four biennia, for a total of \$500,000,000", which are deposited via fund transfer into the Wildfire Response, Forest Restoration and Community Resilience Account (hereafter the Account or 25P). The Legislature appropriated \$87,107,000 Wildfire Response, Forest Restoration & Community Resilience (25P) to the Department of Natural Resources in Fiscal Year 2023. At the close of the 2021-2023 biennium, DNR had expended \$80,323,835 (92.2%) of this historic appropriation – even while faced with launching new programming, supply chain challenges, workforce limitations, impacts of the COVID19 pandemic, and natural environmental variability. The Department has effectively used state dollars to implement the 20Year Plan, 10Year Plan, and FAP, demonstrating a clear need for the full \$125M in appropriation authority as intended in SHB 1168. This request would restore the 25P account to full

funding levels and provide appropriation authority to spend the funds. Specifically, this proposal supports the following actions:

- \$1.885 million increase in DNR's spending authority for 25P (from \$118.115 million to \$120 million)
- \$23.4 million increase in the transfer of funds into 25P (from \$89.806 to \$120 million)

Shana Joy from the Washington Conservation Commission shared they aren't pursuing any agency requested legislation this round but do have 3 supplemental budget requests including staffing and operation for the commission itself, including \$600,000 for 6 positions to help deliver on capital funds that are already in hand. Conservation Technical Assistance funding to support the 45 conservation districts on the ground that are our boots on the ground to deliver programs. We were very close to having that appropriation the last legislative session so we're coming back to see if we can't finish that job and get those funds for the conservation districts this time around. Finally, capital funding for the Regional Conservation Partnership program by NRCS, we provide state matching funds to conservation districts that are leading or implementing our CPTs and there are 7 ongoing right now in the state and 11 new applications that went in the last solicitation. This supplemental request for our CPT is for 3 million in capital funds to support those RCPPs.

Zach St. Amand with Washington State Parks confirmed they do not have any supplemental forest health legislative priorities for this coming session, they are busy working on their existing biennial plan.

Cynthia Wilkerson with WDFW shared on 3 capital requests and 9 operating budget requests including that the enacted 2023-2025 budget reduced the agency's forest health and fuel reduction funding from \$6 million to \$4 million and moved the funding from the capital budget to the Forest Resiliency Account. This reduction presents a threat to the sustainability and momentum of the Department's forest health program. Restoring adequate funding is critical to WDFW's implementation of forest health and resilience, as outlined in the "All Hands, All Lands" strategy. Funding reductions jeopardize the 20-year treatment goals that keep communities safe, enhance biodiversity, maintain public working lands' contributions to local economies, and improve public lands' resilience to climate change. This \$2 million request will help implement forest health treatments on more acres, cover increased fuel and infrastructure costs, cover the costs of more complex projects, and help ensure equipment safety. Full request is included in the post-meeting packet materials. She also noted the agency has a legislation request related to being able to allow for opportunities to work with nonprofits and engage volunteers.

Federal Partner Updates

Chad Davis & Dan Shively with US Forest Service Region 6 shared updates with the committee, standing in for Deputy Regional Forester Robert Sanchez who could not join the meeting.

Dan Shively, the Natural Resources Director for Region 6 shared the breath of issue that are in his teams portfolio including Botany, Air Quality, Fisheries, Wildlife, Wildlife Ecology, Threatened, Endangered & Sensitive Species Management, Soil Science, Hydrology & Watershed, Water Rights, Water uses, Water quality, all forest products and veg management including timber program. Timber sale, prep, Contracting and Silviculture. He noted that they've newly added a Post Disturbance Recovery team after the large devastating fires that swept our region. Dan then noted the important leadership changes and staff changes across Region 6 and on national forests including a current acting Regional Forester, three new Deputy Regional Foresters, and significant changes in most of Washington's national forests. He identified that Washington has 2 priority landscapes identified for implementation of the agencies Wildfire Crisis Strategy, in Central WA and NE WA. In the first fiscal year over \$20 million dollars have gone into hazardous fuels reduction in the Central WA Initiative resulting in 24,000 acres of hazardous fuels reduction work. A lot of that investment funding went towards planning and a lot of that was accomplished with the help of DNR and many other partners including Tribal partners. Right now, in

fiscal year 23 as we work toward closing that out in the remaining weeks of our federal fiscal year, we have almost doubled that investment. Hiring has been a challenge agency-wide and working with other state, tribal governments and other NGO partners has been key to our success.

In Northeast WA, this year we put a modest investment into that landscape of 3.5 million dollars, and we're expecting around 22,000 acres of hazardous fuels accomplishment work in that landscape. Highlights are we are continuing to meet with tribes, tribal governments, county commissioners, our key partners and state agencies as well as the key leadership with the Northeast WA force coalition while recent litigation is impacting outcomes.

Funds from the bipartisan infrastructure law and the inflation reduction act have helped to expand the funding for national forest system lands and waters outside the landscapes discussed. Example is around \$360,000 toward priority area invasive species treatments on the Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, weed treatments and rock source inspections of the Olympic National Forest as well as other broad programs sweeping a multitude of forests including things as invasive plant species control in support of TNE plant recovery as well as aquatic invasive species monitoring, prevention, and public outreach. Additionally, under Bill and IRA the region submitted a 5-million-dollar request to the WA office for Aquatic Restoration in the Upper Wind River Basin that's part of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest that would cover fiscal years 24, 25 & 26. We are waiting for announcement whether we were selected as one of those priority investments at a national level. He also shared that the national forest has put a strong and renewed emphasis into our active Forest Management program across all of WA working toward outcomes for healthy resilient landscapes.

Chad Davis, Direct of State, Private, and Tribal Forestry shared that the way much of their funding hits the ground is with grants to the state or other partners. Recent BIL and IRA funding has provided opportunities to directly support work with tribes. Also to date \$80 million dollars of federal funds have gone from the Forest Service into the state of WA, about a quarter of that has went into DNR programs and about three quarters directly to other partners. Programs such as Community Wildfire Defense Grants, Urban and Community Forestry Grants, and Landscape Scale Restoration grants are included in these numbers. The state's Forest Action Plan is really important as a foundation for where funds are directed.

Dan closed by sharing that Region 6 has established a federal advisory committee to provide input on the NW Forest Plan, and they have been asked to conclude their work by the end of next calendar year. Discussion noted importance of this effort to bring back to this committee for updates, and current priorities for Washington under the existing Northwest Forest Plan such as the Late Successional Reserve Assessment update on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest underway.

Initiating Development of the 2024 Forest Health Advisory Committee Annual plan

Trevor McConchie and Jen Watkins introduced the discussion to begin developing the 2024 annual workplan, utilizing the template from our draft charter and with a goal that **by the end of this December, the Committee adopts an annual plan for the 2024 calendar year.**

The following questions were posed for discussion and input from committee members:

- What topics and presenters do you want included in our quarterly meeting agendas for our collective learning, information sharing, and work in the year ahead?
- What specific timely or ongoing work do you feel may warrant a committee work group?
- What geographies or considerations would you like included as we think of field meetings and optional tours?

The official meeting concluded at 12pm, and a work session for committee members to provide input on these questions continued until 1pm.

Forest Legacy IRA Project

Cle Elum Ridge Large Landscape

Kittitas County Washington



FUNDING HISTORY

FY 2024 Forest Legacy Program Funding	\$15,300,000
FY 2024 Non-Federal Cost Share	\$5,700,000
FY 2024 Project Costs	\$21,000,000
FY 2024 Project Acres	9,700
Forest Legacy Funding To Date	\$0
Total Project Costs	\$21,000,000
Total Project Acres	9,700



Tract Name	Size (ac)	Tract Cost	FLP Funding	Non-Fed Cost Share	Status
Cle Elum Ridge	9,700	\$21,000,000	\$15,300,000	\$5,700,000	Draft 2024

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Culminating 20 years of conservation, the 9,700-acre Cle Elum Ridge Large Landscape ("Project") is a FEE SIMPLE acquisition by WA Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) to become part of the Teanaway Community Forest. It connects the last missing piece in a chain of protected lands.

The Project is a forest bridge that enhances connectivity and a forest buffer that protects towns from wildfires. It will secure wildlife movement across the state and to the adjacent Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Its dry conifer forests, including old growth, have been restored for greater wildfire resiliency.



The Ridge (foreground) connects to the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest (Photo by TNC)

With long-lasting snowmelt and a 3,700-ft high ridgeline for flora and fauna to migrate to new microclimates, the Project increases climate resilience within the Yakima River Basin, the state's most climate vulnerable watershed. It is also habitat for endangered Gray Wolf and threatened Steelhead and Bull Trout.

Overlooking growing towns within the scenic Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area, the Project is at risk from housing or resort developments due to demand from Seattle 80 miles away. Development would block federal Wildfire Crisis Strategy restoration, close its 40 miles of year-round trails, and degrade habitat

PROJECT FEATURES

Important

- **ECONOMIC BENEFITS – TIMBER:** Forestry supplied 118 direct jobs to Kittitas County with \$13.2 million in wages in 2021. The Project has \$8.66M in merchantable timber (2023 valuation). Restoration and active forest management contributed 19 contracts for \$537,000 plus 11 full-time jobs in 2022.
- **SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT:** The Project has been third-party certified by the Forest Stewardship Council since 2017. It passed the latest pre-audit in Sept 2023. The property is also managed in accordance with a federal Habitat Conservation Plan (2000) for threatened species conservation.

- Once added to the adjacent Teanaway Community Forest, owned by WA Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR), the Project will be collaboratively managed under its community-backed Forest Management Plan (2015) for enhancing water supply, expanding recreation, maintaining forestry, and conserving habitat.
- **ECONOMIC BENEFITS – RECREATION:** Trails are the backbone of the recreation economy, given the popularity of hiking and mountain biking. Trails contributed \$254.9M to Kittitas County's economy in 2019, including \$359.5M in spending and 3,430 jobs with \$89.1M in labor income (ECONorthwest).
- The Project's 40 miles of multi-use trails connect to 450 miles of regional trails, including the West Fork Trails (56 miles), Suncadia's trails, the Coal Mine Trail that connects local towns (6.5 miles), and the Palouse to Cascade Trail that covers 2/3 of WA and extends to Idaho (285 miles).
- From 2021-2023, the Project hosted 6 community events, raising \$38,050 for local causes and adding \$30,800 to the local recreation economy. In 2022-2023, the volunteer labor for building and maintaining trails is valued at \$8,379 (Recreation and Conservation Office rate of \$21/hour).
- **THREATENED/ENDANGERED SPECIES:** The Project is habitat for federally endangered (FE) Gray Wolf. The Teanaway pack of Gray Wolves use portions of the property. The Project's connection to adjacent protected lands facilitates the pack's large geographic dispersal.
- 3.7 miles of the Project's creeks are habitat for federally threatened (FT) Steelhead and FT Bull Trout and drain to the Teanaway River (WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife; WDFW). The Teanaway River is one of the main salmon-producing tributaries of the Yakima River with FT Chinook salmon too.
- The Project contains an historic northern spotted owl (FT) nest site. With 180 acres of old growth forests (150+ year old trees) suitable for northern spotted owl and current forest management creating more late successional forests, the Project may provide future habitat as populations recover.
- **UNIQUE FOREST COMMUNITIES:** The Project contains a north-to-south movement corridor for wildlife, and an elk and mule deer winter area and migration corridor within the East Slope Cascades Mule Deer Management Zone (WDFW), which contains the largest migratory mule deer herd with 47,000 animals.
- Mule deer and elk are prey species for Gray Wolf (FT) and migrate through the Project. The Project allows continued connectivity across the landscape and habitats from Cle Elum Lake lowlands to the adjacent and upland protected areas (WDFW).
- **WATERSHED PROTECTION:** The Project includes headwaters of the Yakima River Basin, where 464,000 acres of irrigated cropland supports the region's \$4.5 billion agriculture industry and makes it the US' most productive county for apples, mint, and hops.
- The Project helps protect snowpack, water storage, and groundwater recharge. The Yakima Basin relies on snowpack for 75% of its water supply for agriculture and FT Steelhead, Bull Trout, and Chinook. Cle Elum Ridge's shaded north slope provided snow storage to depths of 90-145cm.
- This shaded, north-facing slope extends snow melt by 30 days until mid/late-April instead of the average of 7 days. Snow drains to the Teanaway River then the Yakima River, thus supplying cold, clear water when juvenile Chinook outmigrate, addressing a key limiting factor for recovery.
- **TRIBAL:** The Project is within the ceded lands of the Bands of the Yakama Nation. The Tribe supports the Project's connectivity so people can "look out and enjoy that as a huge, contiguous piece of our state, of our land, and of our natural world." State ownership guarantees permanent access.
- The Yakama Nation is an active member of the Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative, a partnership with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), US Forest Service, WDFW, and DNR, that have and will continue to increase the Project's forest health with thinning and prescribed burns.

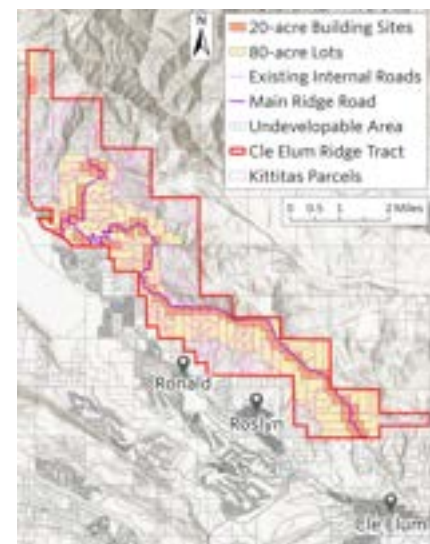


The Ridge's 40 miles of trails support the region's outdoor recreation economy (Photo by TNC)

- **PUBLIC ACCESS:** The Project's 25 miles of summer and 15 miles of winter trails will stay publicly accessible for year-round recreation. Its 40 miles for hiking, biking, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing are crucial for the Towns to Teanaway Master Plan to connect residents to public lands.
- **SCENIC:** The Project is part of the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area (NHA), an ecologically diverse corridor stretching 100 miles from Seattle to Ellensburg, where dramatic waterways, rugged mountains, and diverse forests have formed the region's cultural heritage for millennia.
- Within the NHA, the Project is a verdant backdrop for the I-90 National Scenic Byway, which was traveled by 33,906 vehicles daily in 2022 (WA Dept. of Transportation, WSDOT).
- **CLIMATE RESILIENCE:** The Project builds regional resilience as a climate flow corridor enhancing regional connectivity and enabling species to migrate between different mountain elevations to find more moderate and suitable micro-climates.

Threatened

- **LACK OF PROTECTION:** The Project is zoned Commercial Forest (CF), which permits 80-acre residential lots. A 2021 feasibility study found that the flat, 12-mile long summit could be subdivided into 70-80 high market value lots under current zoning. It is not protected by easements or covenants.
- **ADJACENT LAND USE:** Nearby Roslyn (2020 pop. 950), Ronald (2020 pop. 439), and Cle Elum (2020 pop. 7,465) face pressure for residential or resort developments from the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue Metro Area (2022 pop. 4.1 million), the US' 15th largest metro area, 83 miles or a 75-minute drive away.
- The Seattle housing market has limited inventory and high competition. The median home price is \$810,000 and most receive 4 offers and sell within 10 days. With a median household income of \$101,721 (2021), some can afford second homes while others seek affordability outside the metro area.
- Kittitas County's population grew by 15% since 2010 to 47,200 (2022; US Census). It approved 409 permits for new houses in 2022. The growth rate outside urban growth boundaries is 42% higher than within them. Developments cater to recreation-minded homebuyers with forested lots and trails.
- Visitations hit new highs during COVID with Seattle's remote workers fleeing the city for less crowded and amenity-rich Roslyn. Approximately 42% of houses in the county are secondary homes (County assessor shows owner's permanent address differed from site's address).
- 1,670 parcels, most with primary or secondary homes, are within 0.5 miles of its southwestern border, including Ederra's 94 homes and trails, Pineloch Sun's 339 houses, Roslyn Ridge's multi-family buildings and 38 houses, and R&R Heights' 40 houses.
- 1 mile away, the Suncadia Resort is a popular year-round outdoor recreation destination, especially as a sunny, mid-winter escape for Seattle residents. Its 6,400 acres include 1,200 second or rental homes, 304 lodge rooms or condos, trails, and golf courses. It has approval for 4,600 units total.
- **ABILITY TO DEVELOP:** The Project has a road network and scenic views of Mt. Rainier and the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. With adjacent homes, utilities and roads about the Property. Despite water scarcity in the Yakima Basin, most of the Project is eligible for residential water certificates.
- **LANDOWNERS CIRCUMSTANCE:** To provide short-term protection, landowner Central Cascades Forest LLC (CCF LLC) acquired the Project in 2014. Under agreement with CCF LLC, TNC has only a few years to transfer the land into permanent protection.
- CCF LLC's pre-acquisition and TNC's management are temporary. CCF LLC is an interim holder controlled by equity investors and is unlikely to hold the land following the upcoming expiry of its agreement with TNC, so the Project may be sold on the open market to return investment capital.



Under current zoning, up to 80 homes could be built off existing roads (Photo by Esri, NASA, NGA, USFS, FEMA)

Strategic

- **COMPLEMENT PROTECTED LANDS:** The Project is directly adjacent to the 50,241-acre Teanaway Community Forest (Teanaway), the first state-owned community forest, the Roslyn Urban Forest, and the USFS Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest (OWNF). The Project buffers protected lands, provides habitat and wildlife connectivity, and helps preserve water quality and quantity within the Yakima River basin.
- **OTHER PUBLIC BENEFITS:** The Project is the culmination of TNC's Great Western Checkerboards Initiative to reconnect fragmented private timber inholdings across WA and Montana to improve landscape-scale restoration. In WA, a 10-year effort by the USFS, CCF LLC, and TNC using Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) is adding 30,000 acres to the OWNF, reconnecting 120,000 acres of public lands.
- **CONSERVATION INITIATIVE:** The congressionally authorized Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP) Phase 2 Lands Plan names DNR's acquisition and management of Cle Elum Ridge's high elevation forests (this Project) as a high priority for water supply and fish populations. It meets YBIP principles of improving cross-jurisdictional land management, public access, and wildlife connectivity.
- DNR's acquisition of the adjacent Teanaway to protect water quality and quantity was a significant achievement of Phase 1 of the YBIP. Adding to the Teanaway, the Project will safeguard this state and federal investment by buffering it from encroaching developments that would otherwise compromise its water resources benefits, including snowpack storage and water filtration.
- With adjacent protected lands and wintering and corridor habitat for prey species, the Project supports WDFW's Gray Wolf Recovery Plan (2011) by allowing Gray Wolf (FE) dispersal across long distances, especially for wolves searching for another pack or lone wolf. Long-term viability of WA's population relies on such landscape-scale connectivity for genetic diversity and gene flow.
- The joint US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and WDFW plan for big-game habitat, the WA Action Plan (2020), lists the East Slope Cascades Mule Deer Zone as the highest priority because of its largest herd. With winter range and migration corridor in this zone, the Project fulfils the priority action of acquisition to improve and preserve habitat.
- The Project contains East Cascades Oak-Ponderosa Pine Forest, a State Wildlife Action Plan (2015) priority habitat for conservation when the forest contains old growth, as on the Project. By acquiring the forest for continued fire management, longer forestry harvest rotations, and habitat restoration by DNR, the Project fulfils needs identified to maintain high quality habitat.
- As the Project straddles towns and the Teanaway, it is essential for the Towns to Teanaway Master Plan (2018), the community-identified vision to connect Roslyn, Ronald, and Cle Elum for car-free access to the Teanaway, with existing and planned trails meeting goals of a stacked loop trail, recreation opportunities to build community health, and lively trailheads that serve as economic drivers.
- **BENEFITS DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES:** Roslyn, Ronald, and Cle Elum residents have long dreamed of protecting its scenic backdrop, but lacked the financial resources. All towns are in the 64th percentile for low-income, 1 point below the definition of disadvantaged. The towns' wildfire risk is in the 83rd percentile and flood risk is in the 89th percentile (CEQ Climate and Justice Screening Tool).
- The Project's restored forests will buffer 3 towns from wildfire. Low-income households, like Kittitas County where the median household income of \$64,134 is 25% below the statewide median of \$82,400 (2021), are less likely to invest in tree trimming or brush removal, making surrounding fire resilient lands more important to prevent wildfires from spreading throughout the towns.



Restoration has lowered the risk of wildfire for the Ridge and 3 communities (Photo by TNC)

Special Emphasis Criteria

- **HIGH IMPACT:** The Project protects the last large, private block within an otherwise connected landscape, contributing to regional conservation, including the YBIP's 30-year vision backed by agencies, tribes, and agriculturalists after decades of water shortages and legal conflicts, as well as the Mountains to Sound Greenway NHA, I-90 wildlife crossings, and TNC's Western Checkerboards Initiative.
- **NATIONAL GOAL – CLIMATE RESILIENCE:** The Project builds regional resilience by enabling species to migrate to different micro-climates. TNC's Resilient Lands Mapping Project rates 72.2% (6,964 acres) of the Project as far above or above average for connectivity and climate flows because the contiguous 2,300 feet to 4,500 feet ridge topography enables flora and fauna migration.
- The Project's mountainous terrain and variety of plants play a key role in the shifting forest mosaic where wildlife can disperse and adapt through different elevations and corresponding habitats in response to changes in precipitation, temperature, and vegetation as the climate changes.
- The Project's dry, conifer forests with drought-resistant species is in the Central Washington Initiative (CWI), one of 10 first landscapes of the USFS's National Wildfire Crisis Strategy, an "all hands, all lands" approach to reduce catastrophic wildfire risk. CWI should receive \$102.6M in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) in FY2022-24. Continued restoration will help prevent future fires.
- **NATIONAL GOAL – CARBON SEQUESTRATION:** The Project could sequester up to 26,000 tons of carbon annually with restoration, worth 26,000 net carbon dioxide offset credits (2021 estimate). With forest health treatments that have decreased fire risk, including prescribed burns, thinning, and drought tolerant seed plantings, the forest is less likely to burn and thus will continue to sequester carbon.
- **NATIONAL GOAL – HABITAT CONNECTIVITY:** The Project 's migration corridor, adjacency to protected lands, and elevation connectivity is crucial to landscape-scale efforts to reestablish wildlife connectivity across the state from the wet West Cascades forests to and throughout the dry East Cascades forest.
- To facilitate landscape-scale movement and overcome the barrier of I-90, WSDOT has constructed 27 wildlife crossings over and under I-90, including the first ever wildlife bridge and the largest overcrossing in North America, to reconnect habitat, promote wildlife movement, and maintain genetic variability. WSDOT documents 4,000 crossings a year. Crossings are within 6 miles of the Project.
- **BENEFITS DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES:** The Project's fire resilient forests will help protect low-income Ronald and Roslyn from wildfires. With high fire risk and moderate to high probability, it supports DNR's 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan (2020) to reduce risk to protect lives. If not protected, the average federal cost of wildfire suppression for 1 home over its lifetime would be \$24,800.
- **HIGH LEVERAGE:** The Project provides 27-32% in matching funds, with \$3M in hand from a state Community Forest grant and another \$2-3M anticipated from the same grant program. In addition, over \$500,000 has been pledged in private land match and cash donations.
- **EFFICIENCY OF SCALE:** The Project is more efficient and cost effective as a single phase protected before the CCF LLC agreement expires (in 2027). Dividing the Project into smaller phases increases land values and risk, as local developers would be interested in smaller forest blocks, especially those closest to adjacent developments, for a master-planned resort or residential development.
- **HIGH READINESS AND CAPACITY:** The Project has a Readiness score of 4 out of 5. The seller is highly motivated as is TNC, the forest manager and agent. DNR's robust management plan for the Teanaway Community Forest will apply to the Project, with specific areas addressed in upcoming updates. Mineral rights, preliminary title, and market analyses are complete. An option is not required.
- **STEWARDSHIP CAPACITY:** TNC is establishing a private stewardship fund raised through private philanthropy for long-term management assistance for DNR and WDFW. Federal CWI funding could also support forest health management. DNR manages the adjacent Teanaway Community Forest, so will see cost efficiencies with monitoring and maintaining adjacent land.

Readiness

Easement or Fee Conditions	1
Non-Federal Cost Share Commitment	1
Signed Purchase Agreement	0
Title Search	1
Mineral Determination	1
Readiness Total Tally Score	4

Supporting Parties

U.S. Senator Patty Murray; U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell; U.S. State Representative WA State 8th congressional district, Kim Schrier; Washington State Senator Judy Warnick; The Kittitas County Board of Commissioners; Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative; Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District; Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Supervisor; Yakama Nation; City of Cle Elum; City of Roslyn; City of Ellensburg; Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust; Kittitas Conservation Trust; Cabin Mountain LLC; Kittitas Chapter WA Farm Forestry Association; Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce; WSDOT South Central Region Biology Team; Checkerboard Partnership Planning Committee; Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; Audubon; Backcountry Horsemen; Washington Trails Association; Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance; Basecamp Outfitters; Washington Outdoor School; Roslyn Fire Department; Teanaway Community Forest Advisory Committee; and Yakima Basin Integrated Plan.

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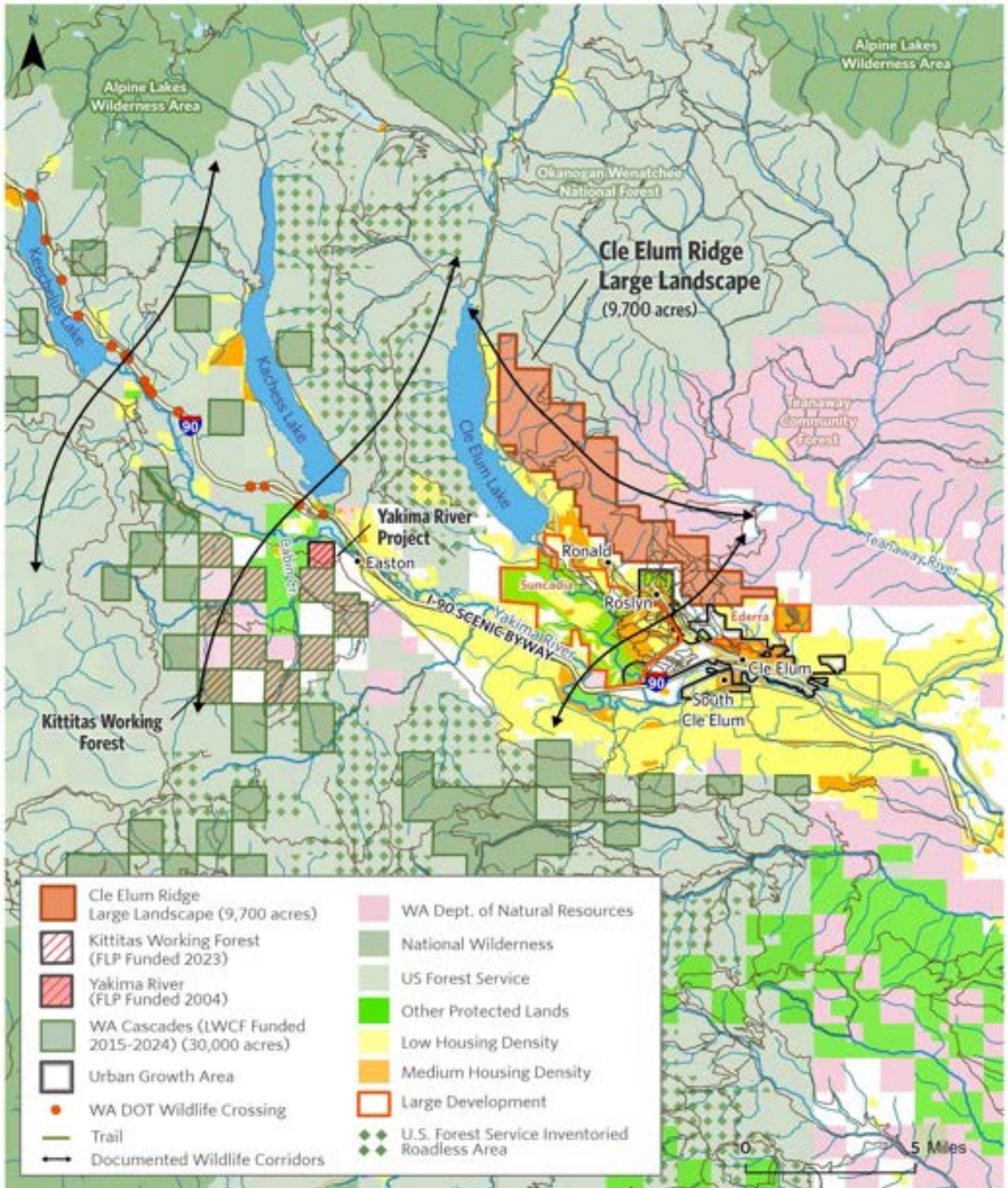
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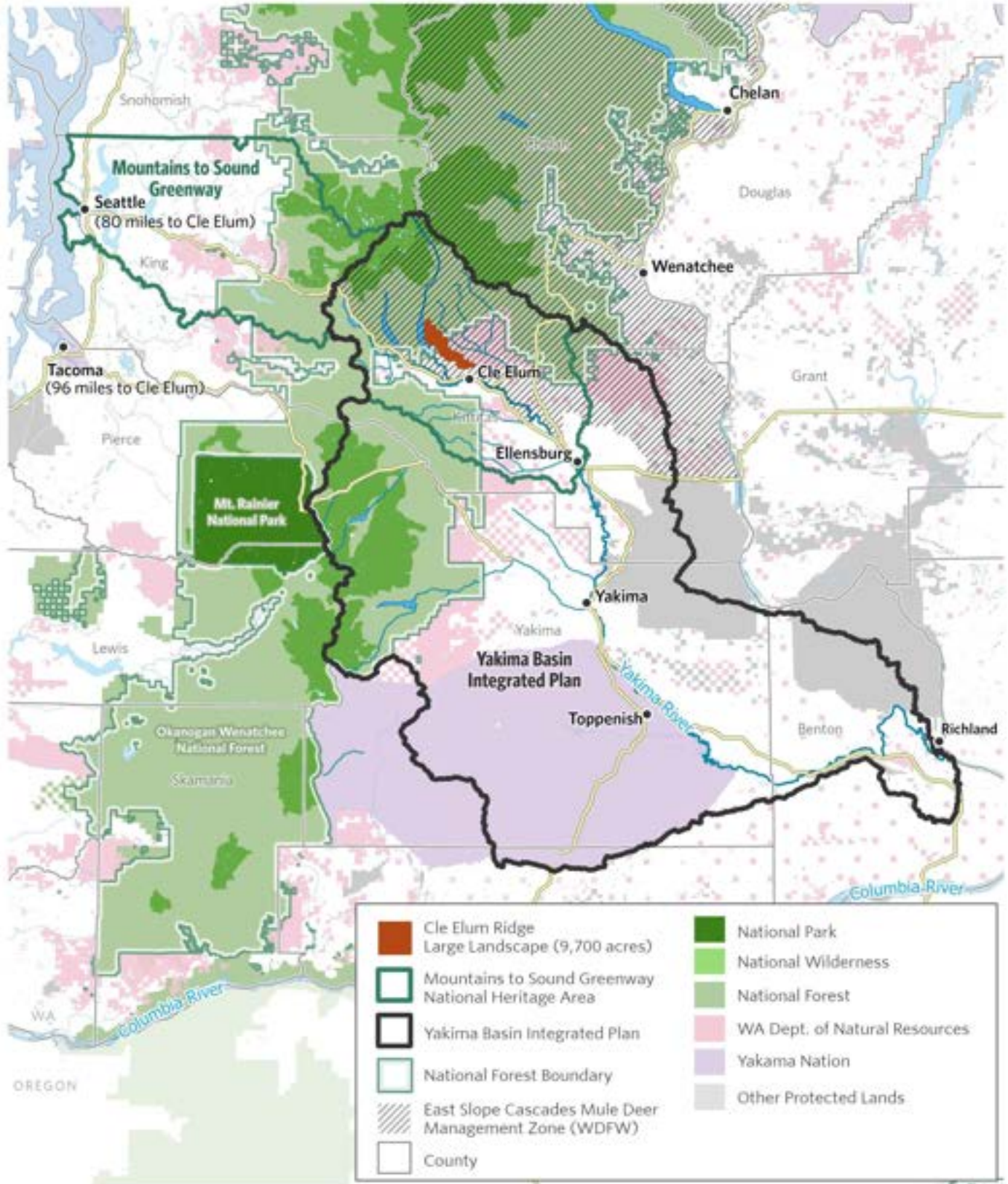


FY24 Forest Legacy Grant Proposal, Cle Elum Ridge Large Landscape





FY24 Forest Legacy Grant Proposal, Regional Central Cascades Map



10/31/2023

Forest Legacy IRA Project

Green Mountain West

Kitsap County Washington



FUNDING HISTORY

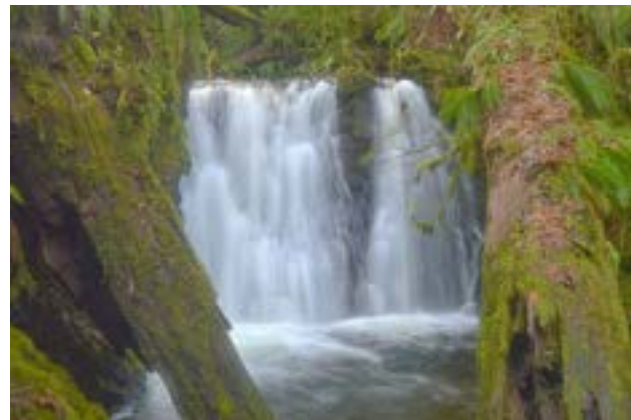
FY 2024 Forest Legacy Program Funding	\$1,500,000
FY 2024 Non-Federal Cost Share	\$1,500,000
FY 2024 Project Costs	\$3,000,000
FY 2024 Project Acres	360
Forest Legacy Funding To Date	\$0
Total Project Costs	\$3,000,000
Total Project Acres	360



Tract Name	Size (ac)	Tract Cost	FLP Funding	Non-Fed Cost Share	Status
Green Mountain West	360	\$3,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	Draft 2024

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Green Mountain West project will permanently conserve 360 acres of productive working forestland and important salmon habitat strategically adjacent to federal, state, and local forestland in Kitsap County, Washington. Positioned next to Bremerton, a prominent Naval community, the tract is one of the last and most highly threatened unprotected blocks within a contiguous 70,000-acre forest landscape. The project builds on 3 nearby Forest Legacy projects, including the Tahuya Headwaters less than 3 miles from the project.



Ueland Tree Farm's Dickerson Creek Waterfall is a popular scenic destination (Photo by Ueland Tree Farm)

Forest Legacy funding will purchase an easement on 360 acres of the property. Through other funding, Great Peninsula Conservancy will purchase fee and manage as a working community forest in perpetuity. Additional adjacent conservation lands will be purchased from the landowner, Ueland Tree Farm. Permanent project benefits to the local economy are substantial, providing sustainable forest sector employment and securing year-round access for the 80,000-100,000 visitors annually who currently use the property. The project has a large federal nexus by conserving ESA-listed Steelhead habitat and maintaining quality of life and natural recreational space for 40,000+ sailors stationed at US Naval Base Kitsap.

PROJECT FEATURES

Important

- **SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT** The property is managed under a Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) plan. Practices include plant salvage operations and increasing wetland and riparian buffers beyond what WA Forest Practice Rules require, improving wildlife habitat and water quality/quantity for salmon.
- **ECONOMIC BENEFITS FORESTRY:** Protecting the land's current uses of forestry helps maintain a diversified economy in the region. One tree farm manager is employed, and local forestry contractors are engaged in the sustainable harvest of commercial brush and firewood and an average of 30 acres/year.

- **FOREST PRODUCTIVITY:** The site has well-maintained roads and easy access to multiple mills. It has diverse species and mostly 20–40-year-old stands. The soils are glacial outwash and till, well-drained and productive. The mild climate also allows for winter harvest.
- **ECONOMIC BENEFITS RECREATION:** Ueland Tree Farm trails draw 80,000-100,000 visitors annually, bolstering the local economy. US Naval Base Kitsap is the area's primary economic base; the tract serves as an amenity for naval families and hosts trainings for sailors, search/rescue and fire departments.
- **ECONOMIC BENEFITS NON-TIMBER:** Benefits include hunting leases; native plant gathering; tribal plant, tree, and bark harvesting; brush harvesting/leases; and firewood sales from already downed trees. Revenue is more than \$50,000 annually. The site buffers and protects Bremerton's water source.
- **THREATENED SPECIES HABITAT:** This tract is a critical component of the Chico Creek Watershed, one of the top regional watersheds for salmon. Steelhead (threatened under the ESA) and coho salmon (a state species of concern) are documented on the property (WA Dept. Fish and Wildlife).
- **FISH BEN.:** Chico Creek Watershed has the highest natural production of chum & coho salmon in East Kitsap County and significant steelhead & cutthroat trout runs. The 2014 Chico Creek Watershed Assmnt and Restoration Plan noted conservation easements on the tract as a key salmon protection strategy.
- **WILDLIFE BENEFIT:** Western toad is a Washington species of concern found in the watershed. Other species common to the watershed include black bear, bobcat, deer, coyote, Douglas squirrel, blue grouse, bobcat, pileated woodpecker, great blue heron, and red-legged frog.
- **UNIQUE FOREST COMMUNITIES:** The site is nestled between 3,400 acres of protected forests in the Bremerton-owned Union River Watershed and the Rhododendron Preserve, a ~400-acre tract with one of the last remaining old growth Western red cedar and Douglas fir stands in Puget Sound.
- **WATER QUALITY:** The site is adjacent to the Union River Watershed, a high-quality municipal surface water reservoir supplying drinking water for almost a third of Kitsap County's residents. The project will prohibit incompatible uses in the adjacent buffer area, bolstering watershed viability.
- **WATER QUALITY-STREAMFLOW:** The tract's wetlands boost aquifer recharge and summer flows in Chico Creek and maintain temperatures critical to salmon runs. The forest filters sediment/pollutants and regulates water flow, which supports salmon runs and protects tribal shellfish beds at the creek mouth.
- **PUBLIC ACCESS:** The project will maintain access for year-round public recreation on the property. Ueland Tree Farm has over 80,000 people visit annually and use its 80-car trailhead lot. 14 miles of well-maintained trails are used by hikers, mountain bikers, horse riders, berry and mushroom pickers.
- **SCENIC:** The site is easily viewed from the City of Bremerton, from ferries approaching the Bremerton Terminal, and with binoculars from downtown Seattle and SeaTac airport. Unique natural features include Dickerson Creek waterfall and panoramic views from Zach's Lookout, the property's highest point
- **HISTORIC/CULTURAL/TRIBAL:** The site has great significance to the Suquamish Tribe for benefits to salmon within the Chico Creek, water quality for their shellfish beds at the mouth, and is regularly used for traditional food and medicinal harvest. See included letter of support.



*Ample signage and well-maintained roads are valuable amenities.
(Photo by Jess Lessard)*

Threatened

- **NO PROTECTION.** The project has two zoning classifications: Rural Wooded (RW)–1 dwelling unit/20 acres; Forest Resource Lands (FRL)–1 dwelling unit/40 acres. If harvested, there is only DNR-imposed 6-year moratorium on land conversion. Adjacent to city limits, the site is prime large lot subdivision.

- **LANDOWNER CIRCUMSTANCES:** The window of time to conserve the land is narrow, with aging landowner considering options to develop and maximize value and long-time forest manager approaching retirement. Without an easement, there is high likelihood the tract will also be sold to a developer.
- **ADJACENT LAND USE-COUNTY:** Development in Kitsap County continues to expand. Much of its growth is tied to the county's top industry: the Navy brings 40,000+ sailors and their families to Kitsap, contributing to long-term growth and demand for housing.
- **ADJACENT LAND USE-BREMERTON:** According to Bremerton's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (2019 draft), the population for Bremerton and its associated Urban Growth Areas is projected to increase by 16,000 residents by 2036, an increase of 24 percent.
- **ADJACENT TO THIS PROPERTY,** the landowner owns 440 acres that are zoned R-10 (allowing 4,400 housing units on the 440 acres) in Bremerton and are subject to development over the intermediate term. A large residential development is in process just a mile from the tract boundary.
- **ABILITY TO DEVELOP-GEOGRAPHY:** The site is within 2 miles of Bremerton's urban center and adjacent to city limits, Scenic views make the tract attractive for large residential lot development.
- **ABILITY TO DEVELOP-FEASIBILITY:** Access is provided by public roads to the north and south, and the extensive logging roads traverse the property. Utilities are readily available. The tract is already subdivided into legal lots and could be sold separately immediately.



Ueland Tree Farm truly is the backyard of Bremerton. (Photo by Wikimedia Commons)

Strategic

- **SUPPORT EXISTING CONSERVATION INITIATIVES, STRATEGIES OR PLANS - SALMON:** The Chico Creek Watershed Assessment (Suquamish Tribe) identified conservation easements on this site as a key strategy. The NMFS/NOAA ESA Recovery Plan for the Puget Sound Steelhead highlights protecting watershed processes. WDFW identifies steelhead and coho use of habitat on property.
- **SUPPORT EXISTING CONSERVATION INITIATIVES, STRATEGIES OR PLANS - REGION:** Advances goals of the Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda including Forests, Streams, Air Quality, Outdoor Activity, Economic Vitality, Salmon, and Sound Stewardship. GPC's Conservation Plan (2021-2025) identifies watershed as top priority for forestland protection and recreation opportunities.
- **COMPLEMENT PROTECTED LANDS - WORKING FORESTS:** It is the most threatened tract of over 70,000 acres of contiguous state and private timberlands, including two Forest Legacy projects: Tahuya Headwaters and Dewatto Headwaters. It will buffer and improve viability of adjacent State Green Mountain Forest, and supports the regional forestry sector.
- **COMPLEMENT PROTECTED LANDS - CONNECTIVITY:** The tract is a crucial link between Green Mountain State Forest, Kitsap County's Newberry Hill Heritage Park, the City of Bremerton Watershed, properties owned and managed by the U.S. Navy, and privately conserved forestland including Great Peninsula Conservancy's Newberry Woods Community Forest.



The forest is part of a contiguous 70,000-acre regional forested landscape. (Photo by Michael Yadick)

- **COMPLEMENT PROTECTED LANDS - HABITAT:** In addition to wetland complexes and other habitat on site, the project complements and buffers over 3,000 acres of Bremerton Watershed protected land and the ~400-acre Rhododendron Preserve, holding one of the last remaining stands of Puget Sound old growth forest.
- **COMPLEMENT PROTECTED LANDS - RECREATION:** The existing trails are a regional link from Bremerton into thousands of acres of state forest and county parks. Bremerton's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (2019 draft) cites a need for future parkland and more trails. The city currently has only 111 acres of natural land area.

Special Emphasis Criteria

- **STRATEGIC VALUE:** Nestled between thousands of acres of state forestlands, Bremerton-protected watershed, and private preserve with one of the last old growth forest stands in Puget Sound, the site is highly strategic. It complements 3 nearby Forest Legacy projects and protects working forestland.
- **CLIMATE RESILIENCE:** The project area is resilient to climate change and part of a highly connected landscape (Nature Conservancy, Resilient and Connected Landscapes). Protection allows for landscape-scale forest management and buffers adjacent working and protected forests from human disturbance.
- **HABITAT CONNECTIVITY:** Connected to 70,000 acres of working and protected forestland landscape, the site serves as a critical link in habitat connectivity for numerous species of wildlife, particularly between the Bremerton Watershed and old growth remnant forest in the adjacent Rhododendron Preserve
- **HABITAT CONNECTIVITY:** The project area is a critical link in the forest corridors of Kitsap County and Chico Creek watershed, which connect large patches of breeding and foraging habitat and contribute to important pathways for wildlife movement through the entire Kitsap Peninsula
- **BENEFITS DISADVANTAGED COMM.:** Adjacent to Bremerton city limits, the site provides recreation and nature access for underserved urban communities and the families of 40,000 US Navy sailors. It is regularly used by Suquamish Tribal members for gathering traditional food, medicine, and materials.
- **PUBLIC ACCESS:** With an existing 80-car parking lot, 14 miles of publicly open trails, and over 80,000 visitors annually, the Ueland Tree Farm is a threatened and highly cherished public access resource. Protection would not only permanently protect access, but also bolster regional trail efforts.
- **READINESS AND CAPACITY:** The landowner is highly motivated to work with Great Peninsula Conservancy, which is an accredited land trust with a history of implementing conservation projects. Match funding of 50% will be provided through state funding sources from multiple partners and agencies.
- **STEWARDSHIP CAPACITY:** Adjacent to DNR Green Mountain State Forest, the site is convenient for monitoring. Great Peninsula Conservancy has three full-time stewardship staff, actively stewards multiple nearby community forests and protected forests, and can support the state's stewardship.

Readiness

Easement or Fee Conditions	1
Non-Federal Cost Share Commitment	1
Signed Purchase Agreement	0
Title Search	1
Mineral Determination	1
Readiness Total Tally Score	4

Supporting Parties

Naval Base Kitsap; Suquamish Tribe; Keta Legacy Foundation; and Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance.

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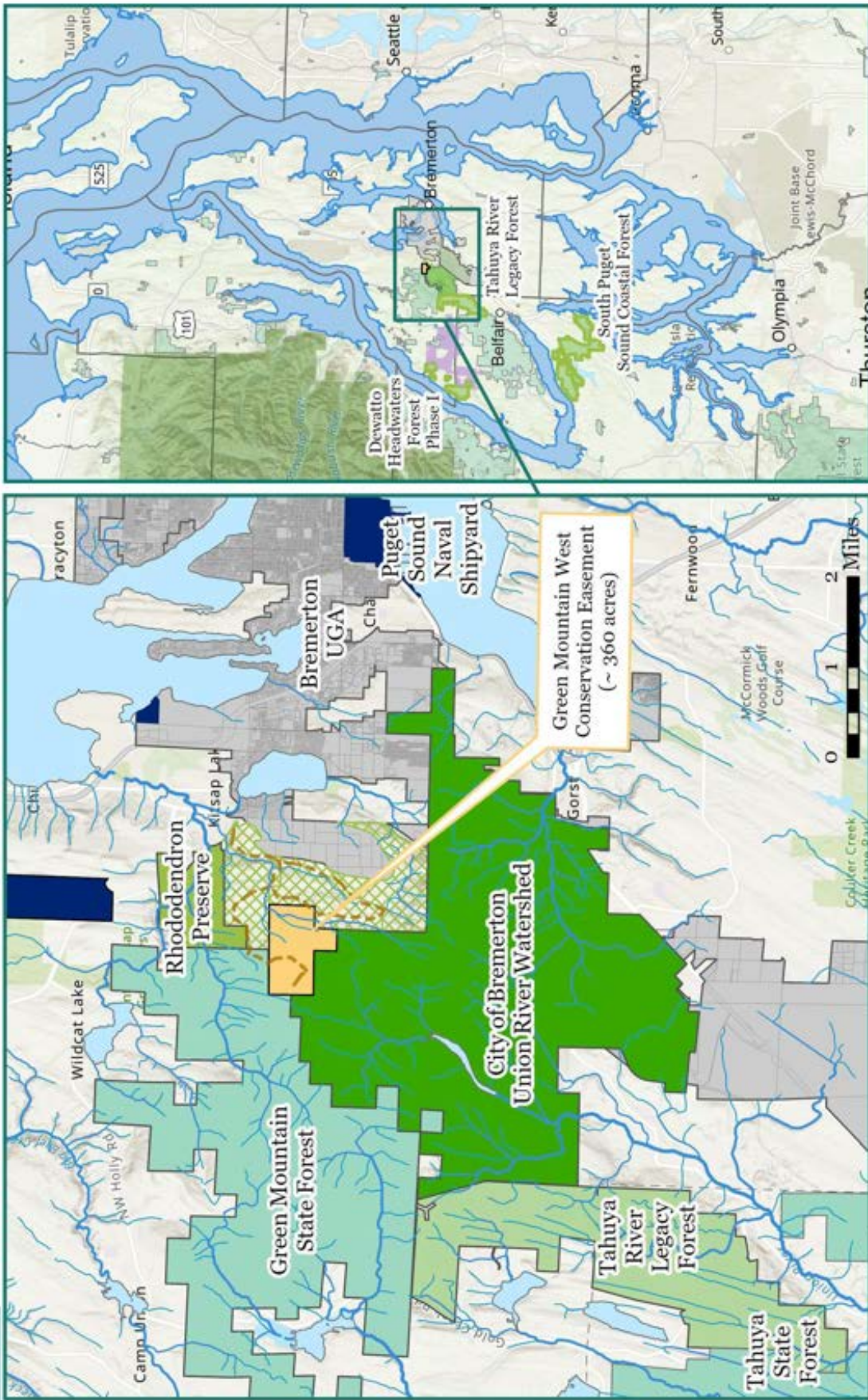
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Green Mountain West



- Green Mountain WestCE
- Ueland Tree Farm Future Conservation
- U.S. Navy Land
- Conservation Non-Profit Owned Land
- State of Washington Owned Land
- City of Bremerton Owned Land
- Tahuya River Legacy Forest
- Bremerton Urban Growth Area
- Planned Forest Legacy Projects
- Existing Trails

FOREST HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CHARTER

Approved November 2023

I. BACKGROUND

Forest health conditions in Washington State have been in decline for decades and the consequences of such conditions have contributed to uncharacteristically severe wildfires and a degradation in ecosystem functions. Wildfire risks have been high statewide, but are particularly acute in eastern Washington. Additional pressures on our forests across the state include insects, disease, drought, invasive species, and human development. Forest conditions are further affected by climate change, past management practices, and a lack of adequate active management. The result has been loss of valuable forest resources and forest ecosystems functions such as clean water, carbon sequestration, fish and wildlife habitat. Without significant intervention this trend will continue.

With this in mind, the 2017 Legislature passed Senate Bill 5546 (codified in part at RCW 76.06.200) establishing a forest health advisory committee to assist the department in the development and implementation of a method ‘to proactively and systematically address the forest health issues facing the state’. The 2020 Legislature passed House Bill 1168, reinforcing the role of Forest Health Advisory Committee (FHAC) and providing further direction to guide agency engagement with the Committee.

II. NAME

This Charter refers to the Forest Health Advisory Committee as “the Committee.”

III. AUTHORITY

RCW 76.06.200(3)(b) creates a Forest Health Advisory Committee, passed into law during the legislative session of 2017.

The Commissioner of Public Lands, Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) chartered the Committee. The Commissioner serves as the state of Washington's lead for all forest health issues under RCW 76.06.150(1).

IV. MISSION

Contribute to the improvement of forest health by providing guidance and advice to the Commissioner of Public Lands on forest health conditions and solutions thereby helping to make Washington forests, regardless of ownership, healthier and more resilient to insects, disease, invasive species, catastrophic wildfire, and other disturbance. Specifically, this committee helps to inform successful implementation of the 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan: Eastern Washington and Washington’s Forest Action Plan.

V. VALUE STATEMENT

The Forest Health Advisory Committee, through collaborative leadership, with input from constituent groups, strives to continually improve and maintain the health and resilience of Washington’s forests for current and future generations.

VI. DEFINITION

RCW 76.06.020(6) establishes a definition of “forest health” to mean the condition of a forest being sound in ecological function, sustainable, resilient, and resistant to insects, disease, fire, and other disturbance, and having the capacity to meet landowner objectives.

The 2020 Washington State Forest Action Plan further defines “forest health” as the condition of a forest ecosystem reflecting its ability to sustain characteristic structure, function and processes; resilience to fire, insects, and other disturbance mechanisms; adaptability to changing climate and increased drought stress; and capacity to provide ecosystem services to meet landowner objectives and human needs.

VII. ORGANIZATION

The Staff-Chair, Member-Chair, and committee members represent key groups or constituent entities who are determined as appropriate and appointed by the Commissioner. The Co-Chairs, and Committee members are supported by DNR staff in Forest Resilience Division as well as Executive Management with primary points of contact being the Forest Resilience Division Manager and designee of the Deputy Supervisor for Forest Resilience, Regulation, and Aquatic Resources. In addition, the DNR will provide administrative support providing a staff member to act as Secretary to the Committee.

The Committee provides recommendations to and advises the Commissioner.

The Committee may create Work Groups and Technical Subcommittees, including the creation of Joint Work Groups in partnership with other DNR advisory groups, as necessary in order to further explore, develop or address a specific issue or task. These forums shall be established and guided through the use of a Tasking Memo (Appendix D), approved by the full committee. These Work Groups and Technical Subcommittees will sunset upon completion of their assignment or the project.

The Committee’s calendar of work and operations shall be maintained through the FHAC Annual Work Plan, revisited and updated as needed throughout a given year.

VIII. COMPOSITION

The Committee is composed of members representing specified groups or constituents defined in RCW 76.06.200(3)(b), or as deemed appropriate by the Commissioner and includes the following:

A. Committee Officers

The Committee officers shall be the Staff-Chair, Member-Chair, and Secretary. The Member-Chair is elected from within the committee membership and shall serve a term of one year. The Department of Natural Resources administrative support representative shall serve as the Secretary of the Committee.

B. Committee Members

The Committee will seek to ensure that a balance of geographic representation is achieved in recruiting and nominating members for appointment by the Commissioner. The committee may include, but is not limited to the following members, and all committee members shall strive to represent the viewpoints of the constituent groups and organizations that they represent.

Committee membership shall include representation from the following constituent groups, while not exceeding twenty five (25) members, including:

- The Director of State and Private Forestry with **US Forest Service Region 6** or their designee.
- The Director of Conservation for the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** or the director's designee.
- The Lead Agency Forester with **Washington State Parks** or their designee.
- The Executive Director of **Washington State Conservation Commission** or their designee, representing the interests of Conservation Districts.
- The Director of Policy with the **Washington Association of Counties**, or their designee, representing the interests of county and local governments.
- At least three (3) members representing **Washington Tribes**.
- Three (3) members representing **Forest Collaboratives**.
- Two (2) members representing **environmental groups** with an interest in forest health, forest management, and landscape resilience.
- One (1) member representing **forest conservation** with an interest in supporting the preservation and maintenance of forestland and working forest, including preventing the conversion of forest land to non-forest land.
- Two (2) members representing **Small Forest Landowners**.
- Two (2) member representing **Large Private Industrial Landowners**.
- Two (2) members representing **Logging, Milling, and Log Transportation**.
- One (1) member representing **Wildland Fire Response Organizations**.
- One (1) member of the general public representing **community level interests** as they relate to **community wildfire preparedness, forest health** and/or **forest conservation, environmental justice, or human health** associated with forest management, smoke, and/or wildfire.
- One (1) member representing **academic institutions** or academic partners.
- Other interested parties deemed appropriate by the Commissioner.

Current membership can be found in Appendix A, and is updated annually and as changes occur.

C. Strategic Partners

The Commissioner may appoint additional members to the Committee when the Commissioner determines it is appropriate to assist in developing and implementing the Committee's mission.

Additional subject matter expertise may be utilized when it will further the Committee's knowledge or understanding of a specific topic.

D. Work Group and Technical Subcommittee Membership

Work Groups and Technical Subcommittees shall be chaired by existing members of the Committee, with direct support from DNR staff.

As appropriate, additional members or subject matter experts may be nominated to serve on Committee Work Groups or Technical Subcommittees, while not serving as appointed members of the Forest Health Advisory Committee as a whole. Work Group and Technical Subcommittee members may be solicited from among Committee member organizations, or additional external strategic partners and will serve for the duration of that work group.

IX. NOMINATIONS & TERMS

A. Term Length

For all committee appointments, excluding the five (5) standing organizational designee committee positions, initial appointment nominations in 2023 shall indicate a preference for either a two (2), three (3), or four (4) year term to ensure continuity of leadership upon term expiration. Thereafter, each member shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. Vacancies on the Committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

B. Term Limits

For all committee appointments, excluding the five (5) standing organizational designee committee positions, members are eligible for re-appointment following each three year term. Other than those representing a designated agency described, members are limited to serving no more than two (2) consecutive terms. An exception to the two-term rule may be granted at the discretion of the Commissioner.

C. Member-Chair Election Process

The Member-Chair shall be elected from the Committee by majority vote at the winter Committee meeting of each year. Candidates for the Member-Chair position will be nominated at the fall Committee meeting of each year and will assume the role and duties immediately following the winter meeting.

D. Staff Chair Representation

The Staff Chair shall be selected, on a rotational basis, from among the Forest Resilience Division's Assistant Division Managers to support diverse leadership representation from the Division's portfolio of programs. Assistant Division Managers shall rotate after serving two consecutive quarterly meetings. During the transition of Staff Chair, the Forest Resilience Division Manager and designee of the Deputy Supervisor for Forest Resilience, Regulations, and Aquatic Resources shall provide consistent and stable facilitation support and assistance.

E. Committee Membership Nomination Process

Nominations shall be solicited annually each spring, utilizing DNR's normal methods for communication including a DNR press release, appropriate list serves, and social media. DNR shall strive to confirm appointments to ensure participation of new members at the fall Committee meeting. Interested applicants shall be directed to DNR's Boards and Commissions website to complete a general board application and a FHAC-specific Membership. The general application portal will be open to members of the public year-round.

F. Committee Membership Nomination Evaluation Process

The FHAC Nominations Subcommittee shall be responsible for supporting DNR's Boards and Commission's Manager in the routine solicitation of new members.

New member applications shall be received by DNR's Boards and Commissions Manager and provided to the FHAC Nominations Subcommittee.

Subcommittee composition shall be selected by the FHAC and shall include at least 4 FHAC members in good standing from at least three constituent categories, DNR's Boards and Commissions Manager, and at least one member of the Forest Resilience Division staff.

The Subcommittee shall be responsible for the following:

- Evaluation of current Committee composition, including existing representation, skillsets, and strengths to illuminate areas of representation and skillset that may be necessary to achieve equity and forward the mission of FHAC;
- Active promotion of vacancies and outreach for new members;
- Provide recommendations for possible areas of emphasis or thinking to the Boards and Commissions Manager, who is ultimately responsible for building the list for consideration by the Commissioner;
- Recommend, if needed, an extension of the nomination and recruitment process to address any seats that may remain vacant after the nomination period due to a lack of interest or applications received;
- Review of all applications for membership;
- Drafting of a process memo that addresses: (1) current committee vacancies, (2) deficiencies, challenges, or opportunities in the new member recruitment process, and (3) final recommendations regarding nominees.

The Subcommittee shall convene at least two weeks prior to solicitation to evaluate Committee needs, and shall reconvene one week after the nomination process closes to review applications.

Final recommendations shall be provided, via the FHAC Member-Chair, to the DNR Boards and Commissions Manager no more than 45 days after the nomination process concludes.

X. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Staff- Chair

- Provides leadership for the Committee. Includes assigning the Committees' work, monitoring assignments, and guidance to annual planning.
- Facilitates Committee meetings as Chair and the establishment and coordination of work groups and technical subcommittees as they are deemed necessary; moves business actions forward.
- As needed, facilitate consultation between the Committee and relevant local, state and federal agencies and tribes and other interested parties.
- Maintains the FHAC Annual Work Plan (Attachment B)
- Develops and drafts meeting agendas (Attachment C) and identifies key meeting objectives.
- Conducts outreach to committee members to coordinate the development of recommendations and committee work plans, in coordination with the Member-Chair.

B. Member-Chair

- Delivers recommendations in the form of written and oral communications on behalf of the Committee to the Commissioner; serves as the primary spokesperson and voice of the Committee when presenting recommendations to the Commissioner.
- Supports the Staff-Chair in providing leadership for the Committee.
- Assists the Staff-Chair in developing meeting agendas and the Committee's calendar of work.
- Executes the duties of Staff-Chair in their absence, with direct support from DNR Staff.

C. Committee Secretary

- Maintains records of attendance and business conducted at all Committee meetings.
- Make arrangements for Committee meetings.
- Supports the Staff-Chair in the drafting of FHAC agendas and in maintaining the annual Calendar of Work.
- Collates, distributes and posts official meeting packets at least two weeks prior to each standing meeting and at least 48 hours prior to each special/emergency meeting.
- Present in writing minutes of previous meetings to members and the public

D. Committee Staff Support

- Coordinating directly with Committee Chairs, develops and plans meeting agendas and identifies key meeting objectives.
- Conducts outreach to committee members to coordinate the development of recommendations and support delivery of committee annual plan.

E. Committee Members

- Support the Committee's communications and interactions to advise the Commissioner on matters relating to forest health conditions in the state.
- Keep apprised of trends and conditions influencing the health of Washington's forests.
- Identify and/or review recommendations for best management practices to improve or sustain forest health; advise on processes and programs to facilitate development of physical, economic and human infrastructure necessary to establish a sustainable, long-term forest health program.
- Provide creative and proactive solutions to ensure long-term success of the Committee's mission; work to thoroughly understand the context and specifics of an issue and consider a range of alternatives when developing recommendations.
- Provide input and recommendations for the assessment and treatment framework developed pursuant to RCW 76.06.200, and the report by the Department described below.
- Monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the treatments outlined in the department's Assessment and Treatment Framework and Forest Health Tracker.
- Assist with review of periodic revisions to the 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan: Eastern Washington and State Forest Action Plan.
- Report Committee activities and dissemination information to constituents and organizations.
- Other duties related to forest health issues in the state as requested by the Commissioner.

F. The Department

- By December 1 of each even-numbered year, the Commissioner (with Committee input) will provide a written report to the appropriate committees of the legislature and OFM on the department's progress in implementing the assessment and treatment framework contained in RCW 76.06.200 and relation to the department's 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan: Eastern Washington. The report will include:
 - Recommended barriers to be addressed and alternative strategies to more effectively implement the framework and achieve the treatment goals;
 - An analysis of necessary funding to develop and implement the framework and treatment recommendations in the following biennium;
 - Costs and outcomes of treatments carried out in the preceding biennium;

- The current condition of Washington’s forests. The report will include any potential threats to forest landscapes and the nature, extent, and location of these threats, and recommend strategies to address them.
- Develop and implement assessment and treatment framework described in RCW 76.06.200, and as incorporated in the department’s 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan: Eastern Washington.
- Provide staff support for relevant Technical Sub-committees and Workgroups.
- Lead a review in collaboration with the Committee of the charter every 2 years at the start of a new state biennium, and revise as necessary.
- Keep members apprised of and identify opportunities to partner and/or work in concert with the following organizations and committees when in alignment:
 - WADNR Wildland Fire Advisory Committee (WFAC)
 - WA Prescribed Fire Council
 - WA Fire Adapted Community Learning Network
 - WADNR Community Forestry Council (WCFC)
 - WADNR Forest Stewardship Committee

XI. MEETINGS AND GUIDELINES

A. Meetings/Conference Calls

- The Committee will meet at the call of the staff-chair, but will typically meet quarterly.
- Efforts will be made to provide phone or video conferencing for the meeting and comply with the Washington Open Public Meetings Act (RCW 42.30).

B. Operating Guidelines

- The Committee serves under RCW 76.06.200(3)(b) and advises the Commissioner.
- The Committee will not be operational, set policy, or function as a political arm of the agency.
- Committee meeting operations will be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.
- The Committee will endeavor to make recommendations through consensus. If consensus cannot be achieved, a simple majority will rule with any dissent documented in meeting notes.
- The Department will provide Committee members a minimum of 15 days advance notice of meeting place, date, time, and agenda. All effort will be made to provide materials at least five days prior to the meeting.
- The Department will provide note-taking capabilities:
 - Summary notes of committee meetings will record attendance, Committee actions and work assignments.
 - Summaries of previous meetings will be reviewed, amended (as necessary) and approved by the Committee.
 - Meeting preparation may require outside reading or research prior to the meeting.
- Each Committee member is selected for specific talents or credentials. Alternates may attend committee meetings, as the subject matter requires, and with prior communication with the Committee Co-Chairs.
- If the attendance of a committee member is not possible, prior notification to the Committee

Chair or Coordinator is appreciated.

- The state committee meetings will include presentations from partner agencies and organizations. Content will be determined by expressed interest by committee members that request or offer relevant presentations.
- The Staff-Chair will solicit recommendations for New Business to be included for consideration on the agenda of the next meeting.
- The committee will strive to host periodic meetings that are field based to encourage relationship learning, building, and innovation.

XII. COMPENSATION

In 2021 the Washington Legislature passed Senate Bill 5793 which works to reduce barriers for low-income individuals and community members with lived experience to participate in the state’s critical task forces and workgroups. Under what is now RCW 43.03.220, any part-time board, commission, Committee, committee or other similar group established by the agency in an advisory, coordinating, or planning capacity function as a Class One Group, which allows stipend compensation to be provided to members that meet specific criteria.

Subject to available funding, the DNR may provide a stipend to individuals who are low income or who have lived experience to support their participation in the group to ensure principles of equity are achieved.

The FHAC shall follow any current or new guidelines issued by the DNR to ensure equity among all advisory boards, committees, and commissions. Requests for compensation evaluation shall be directed to DNR’s Office of Equity and Environmental Justice and shall be evaluated and granted independent of the FHAC.

XIII. APPROVAL


This Charter is effective as of the date of approval by the Boards and Commissions Manager and the Commissioner of Public Lands.



Stefan Petrovic
DNR Boards and Commissions Manager

11/25/2023

Date



Hilary S. Franz
Commissioner of Public Lands

11/17/2023

Date

Appendix A. Forest Health Advisory Committee Membership

Current membership of the Forest Health Advisory Committee, as of October 1, 2023 is as follows:

NAME	CONSTITUENT GROUP	AFFILIATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Josh Anderson	Milling and Log Transportation	Vaagen Brothers	janderson@vaagenbros.com
Kevin Arneson	Milling and Log Transportation	Boise Cascade	kevinarneson@bc.com
Darcy Batura	Conservation	The Nature Conservancy	darcy.batura@tnc.org
Jerry Bonagofski	Industrial Harvest	WA Contract Loggers Association	jerryb@loggers.com
Chris Branch	Forest Health Collaborative	North Central WA Forest Health Collaborative	cbranch@co.okanogan.wa.us
David Cass	State Agency - Parks	WA State Parks	David.Cass@parks.wa.gov
Matt Comisky	Industrial Harvest	American Forest Resource Committee	mcomisky@amforest.org
Chad Davis	Federal Agency	US Forest Service, Region 6	chad.davis2@usda.gov
Cody Desautel	Washington Tribes (eastern)	Confederated Tribes of Colville Nation	cody.desautel@colvilletribes.com
Travis Dutton	County and Local Government	WA Association of Counties	tdutton@wsac.org
Dr. Paul Hessburg	Academic Partner	Forest Researcher, PNW Research Station	phessburg@fs.fed.us
Shana Joy	State Agency – SCC	WA State Conservation Commission	SJoy@scc.wa.gov
Cynthia Wilkerson	State Agency - DFW	WA Department of Fish and Wildlife	Cynthia.Wilkerson@dfw.wa.gov
Tiana Luke	Conservation	The Wilderness Society	tiana_luke@tws.org
Elaine O’Neil	Small Forest Landowners	WA Farm Forestry	eoneil@wafarmforestry.com
Janene Ritchie	Forest Health Collaborative	Pinchot Partners	admin@pinchotpartners.org
Jay McLaughlin	Forest Health Collaborative	Mount Adams Resource Stewards/South Gifford Pinchot Collaborative	jay@mtadamsstewards.org
Jim Walkowski	Wildland Fire Response	WA Fire Chiefs Association	jwalkowski@scfd9.org
Dave Wertz	Conservation	Conservation Northwest	dwerntz@conservationnw.org
<i>Lori Reynaud</i>	<i>FHAC Secretary</i>	<i>WA Department of Natural Resources</i>	Lori.Reynaud@dnr.wa.gov
<i>Katie Allen</i>	<i>Deputy Supervisor of Forest Regulation, Resilience, and Aquatics (Staff Support)</i>	<i>WA Department of Natural Resources</i>	katie.allen2@dnr.wa.gov
<i>Jennifer Watkins</i>	<i>Forest Resilience Division Manager (Staff Support)</i>	<i>WA Department of Natural Resources</i>	Jennifer.Watkins@dnr.wa.gov

Appendix B. Forest Health Advisory Committee LIVING Annual Plan template

2023 Living Work Plan				
	SPRING - FEBRUARY	SUMMER - MAY	FALL - SEPTEMBER	WINTER - DECEMBER
Regular Meeting	<p><i>Standing Business:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review & approve prior meeting summary New Member Welcome Annual Work Plan Review <p><i>Action Items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EJ Work Group Recommendations <p><i>Discussions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FHAC Charter Revisions WWA Landscape Eval Pilot <p><i>Presentations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Wildfire Defense Grants HB 1168 Joint Workgroup update Leg update: Cascading impacts of wildfire <p><i>Placeholder for 2024</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Forester update FR Program updates: Insects & Disease, Community Resilience 	<p><i>Standing Business:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review & approve prior meeting summary <p><i>Action Items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> QWRA Joint Workgroup recommendations Environmental Justice draft recommendations FHAC Charter revisions WWA Forest Resilience Strategic Planning workgroup Tasking <p><i>Discussions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [] <p><i>Presentations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy Supervisor/DNR update Monitoring WG update FR Program updates: Rx Fire, Certified Burner Program, and Post-Fire Recovery 	<p><i>Standing Business:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review & approve prior meeting summary Member-Chair Nominations FHAC Charter revisions update <p><i>Action Items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [] <p><i>Discussions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [] <p><i>Presentations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Forester update Decision Package/Budget update FR Program updates: Service Forestry, UCF, and GNA 	<p><i>Standing Business:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review & approve prior meeting summary Member-Chair Elections <p><i>Action Items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [] <p><i>Discussions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [] <p><i>Presentations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy Supervisor/DNR update FR Program updates: FH Planning, FH& Fire Science, and Federal Lands NEPA
Work Groups	<p>Jan-Feb: HB 1168 Account Joint Workgroup</p> <p>Quarterly: Monitoring Workgroup</p>	<p>Quarterly: Monitoring Workgroup</p>	<p>May-Dec: WWA Forest Resilience Strategic Planning Workgroup</p> <p>Quarterly: Monitoring Workgroup</p>	<p>May-Dec: WWA Forest Resilience Strategic Planning Workgroup</p> <p>Quarterly: Monitoring Workgroup</p>
Special Meeting	<p><i>March 16, 2023:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HB 1168 Workgroup Recommendations QWRA Joint Workgroup Tasking 		<p><i>Pending date:</i></p> <p>FHAC Charter Revision Approval</p>	

Updated 5.16.2023

Appendix C. FHAC Meeting Agenda Template - Annotated

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FOREST HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Quarterly Committee Meeting

Tuesday, [DATE]
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

[LINK]

Meeting ID: [ID] | Passcode: forests
One Tap Mobile: [One-Tap Number] | Dial by Location: [Direct-Dial Number]
Find your local number: [LINK]

Meeting Agenda

All times are estimates to assist in scheduling and may be changed subject to the business of the day and at the Staff-Chair's discretion. The meetings will be recorded.

Public Comment: To participate in public comment please RSVP to Lori.Reynaud@dnr.wa.gov no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, [DATE PRIOR]. Public comment shall be limited to 5 minutes per person – time may be shortened if needed to accommodate all interested parties.

TIME	BUSINESS	MATERIALS
9:00 AM	Call to Order – [NAME], FHAC Chair	
5-10 minutes	Approval of Quarterly Meeting Summary <i>Action Item: Consider approval of [DATE] meeting summary</i> <i>Review prior meeting summary. Accept corrections, move to approve.</i>	[DATE] Summary
10-20 min	Forest Resilience Division Update – Jen Watkins (DNR) <i>Work with Division Manager to identify Division level updates.</i>	
5-15 min	Deputy Supervisor / State Forester Update – [NAME], [TITLE] <i>Alternate based on master schedule.</i>	
5 min or less per comment	Public Comment on FHAC Action Items <i>Work with Secretary to identify if requests for public comment have been made. Covers all Action Items. Written comments may be accepted and included in the meeting summary.</i>	
20-30 min per Action item	Action item title – Presenter name, affiliation <i>Action Item: [describe the general motion or decision being requested]</i> <i>Begin with a brief presentation or recap, review recommendation or action being requested, then open the floor with a motion to accept the recommendation. Once motion is on the floor, discussion regarding the recommendation or action can occur – accept revision motions as needed, then take a final vote. Create a new Table Row for each Action Item.</i>	<i>Include in the packet the accompanying memo and any background information. List each item here.</i>
15 min per item	Presentation or Discussion item title – Presenter name(s), affiliation(s) <i>Often, presentations will occur for collective learning on a forest health topic or the meeting prior to an action taking place to provide adequate time for stakeholders to conduct independent consultation.</i> <i>If this is a Discussion Item, list the preliminary discussion questions to ensure members are prepared to contribute.</i>	<i>Include any printed material or background information in the packet and list here.</i>
5-10 min	Staff and Subcommittee Reports (5-10 min each)	

each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [GROUP NAME] <p>This section is for brief standing updates, such as workgroup updates or other general Forest Resilience program updates.</p>	
10-15 min	<p>BREAK</p> <p>Provide about halfway through the meeting.</p>	
1:00 PM	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Adjourning the meeting is an official business action. Provide any final Chair comments, then request a motion to adjourn.</p>	

Future FHAC Meetings

Regular Meetings: Quarterly - February, May, September and December

Special Meetings:

Rotational Updates: Specific occurrences subject to change

DNR Leadership: State Forester - February & September; Deputy Supervisor – May & December

DNR Programs: Federal Lands, Post-fire Recovery, Prescribed Fire, Service Forestry, Strategic Science & Planning, Urban and Community Forestry

Partners: Organizations and topics to be identified in meeting agenda preparation

Check the FHAC Website for latest information: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ForestHealthAdvisoryCmte>

Contact Committee Secretary: Lori Reynaud (Lori.Reynaud@dnr.wa.gov)

Appendix D. FHAC Tasking Memo Template

To: [NAME], Staff-Chair, Forest Health Advisory Committee (FHAC)
[NAME], Member-Chair, Forest Health Advisory Committee (FHAC)

CC: FHAC Committee Members
List relevant leadership contacts that should be made aware of the tasking. Often includes the Division Manager and Strategic Advisor

From: *Source of tasking memo – often this is the Deputy Supervisor, Division Manager, or Commissioner*

Date: [DATE ISSUED]

Subject: Tasking Memo for [PURPOSE]

Attachments: *List any relevant attachments*

Title: [Name of the Workgroup]

Requested By: [Name, title, and affiliation of person(s) requesting the task]

Task Leaders: [DNR STAFF LEAD – this is the individual who is responsible for convening the work group, managing the schedule, and ensuring the products are completed by the workgroup in a timely manner.]

1. **Overview:** Specific topics of the Forest Health Advisory Committee (FHAC) may benefit from more focused, small group discussion. A Work Group is proposed to complete [Describe Task]. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the objectives, work products, and timeline for the Work Group. Any work products, recommendations, or other input will be communicated to the full FHAC for approval before being finalized for review by the Commissioner of Public Lands and the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) leadership.
2. **Intent:** The intent of this task is to engage the FHAC to provide recommendations to [WHO] concerning [WHAT].
3. **Background:** *See* [Relevant attachment with background information]
4. **Purpose:** [Describe the purpose behind engaging the FHAC on the specific topic of interest. List the specific actions being requested.]
5. **Task Description:** [Very specifically, list the expected work of the Workgroup, any sequencing required, and the specific deliverables or suit of recommendations to be produced.]
6. **Timeline:** [clearly identify the timeline for workgroup operations. Include any major milestones that need to be accomplished]
7. **Assigned to:** For consideration by the full FHAC, with specific elements of the task and first draft deliverables to be completed by the assigned Work Group. The entire FHAC shall be included in making key decisions and approval of final products.
8. **Work Group Composition and Expectations:** The Work Group shall be comprised of [WHO – members of the FHAC? Other experts? Specific Stakeholder groups? Identify the categories of representation.], with initial solicitation occurring at the [MEETING DATE]; requests to participate are due no later than [DEADLINE]. The Work Group shall convene with an introductory meeting on [DATE] with a frequency of [MEETING FREQUENCY].
9. **Products to be generated:** [WHAT specifically is the Work Group being asked to produce? Often it is a report or memo providing analysis and recommendations on the identified topic.]
10. **Final Disposition:** [WHO will receive the final product once approved by FHAC and HOW will the final product be used.].
11. **Due Date:** [DATE of final product deadline – at least 2 ½ weeks prior to the FHAC meeting in which consideration by the full committee will occur]; [DATE of any interim products or deadlines]

20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan: Eastern Washington Treatment Tracking Progress Memo – October 2023

Adopted in 2017, goal 1 of the [20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan](#) commits to conduct 1.25 million acres of scientifically sound, landscape-scale, cross-boundary management and restoration treatments in priority landscapes to increase forest and watershed resilience by 2037. There are 47 current priority landscapes (also often referred to as priority planning areas) with new areas considered biennially for addition. [RCW 76.06.200](#) directs DNR to establish a forest health assessment and treatment framework designed to proactively and systematically address the forest health issues facing the state.

A treatment is defined as *an action taken in a forest ecosystem aimed to improve forest health and resilience*. Treatments may include activities where improving forest health is one of multiple objectives. Treatments are voluntarily reported by land managers responsible for their implementation; interpretation of projects that meet this definition is the responsibility of the individual or organization submitting information. For treatment tracking, DNR compiles and summarizes forest health treatments from multiple data sources into common categories. DNR strives to work with each reporting entity to classify activities correctly and revises our methods as necessary. More detail and definitions on the current categories can be found [here](#).

DNR reports treatment data in two ways:

- **Total treatment acres** track every forest health treatment conducted, including those that occurred in sequence on the same acre over time. For example, a commercial thinning may have been conducted on an acre prior to a prescribed burn and both treatments would be reflected. Total acres track individual actions invested in and implemented at a point in time.
- **Footprint acres** are calculated through spatial analysis to ensure one acre that experienced one or more treatments is only counted once. Footprint acres track the spatial scale of management impact over time.

As of October 31, 2023, landowners have reported 605,862 acres of forest health treatments completed across eastern Washington since 2017 when the 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan was adopted; impacting a total of 350,714 footprint acres.

This memo presents this data in tables with the following updates from previous versions:

- Table 2 details reported treatments (January 2017 – October 31, 2023) as well as remotely-sensed forest structure change from active management and low-mixed severity wildfires (2017 – 2022), alongside the assessed treatment need in each priority landscape. Remotely-detected data, also known as change detection analysis, is intended as a complement to treatment tracking by capturing additional landscape impacts at stand and landscape scales. Change detection analysis is composed of satellite-based change detection and attribution followed by evaluation of forest structure changes using Digital Aerial Photogrammetry data. DNR distinguishes annual disturbances, including wildfires, insect activity from active management (regeneration harvest, thinning, and broadcast and pile burning) in the data analysis. It is expected that these two data sets will overlap but differ in acreage reported. Change detection is always one year delayed and will detect active management acres that are not reported to DNR as in our treatment tracking. Change detection may miss understory treatments which do not change the structure as seen from above significantly. The pairing of self-reported treatment tracking and change detection products allow for a more holistic view of landscape change and how disturbances combine to move landscapes relative to restoration goals.
- In working with our Forest Health Advisory Committee Monitoring Workgroup, a new table provides a detailed breakdown of treatment activities within our treat type categories (see Table 4). A crosswalk and definitions are [available for reference on Box](#) to aid with interpretation.

As provided by participating partners, additional activity details are available via the spatial data DNR maintains available on [DNR's GIS Open Data Portal](#) and [Forest Health Tracker](#). Treatment tracking is one component of [DNR's 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan Monitoring Framework](#). This summary provides data as pulled on October 31, 2023. Data will be updated again in spring 2024.

Table 1. Total forest health treatment acres in eastern Washington as reported to DNR by **Calendar Year** (January 2017 – end of October 2023), organized by lead implementer and forest health treatment type (commercial vegetation, non-commercial vegetation, and prescribed fire).

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
DNR State Trust Lands	16,907	25,464	15,203	25,088	22,309	21,387	17,025	143,382
Commercial Vegetation	6,833	7,004	5,652	6,096	5,434	9,571	5,468	46,057
Non-Commercial Vegetation	9,232	16,091	7,009	16,747	14,173	11,027	10,814	85,091
Prescribed Fire	842	2,370	2,542	2,245	2,703	789	743	12,234
State Parks	71	252	1,461	446	169	595	906	3,900
Commercial Vegetation	62	97				415	625	1,198
Non-Commercial Vegetation	9	155	1,461	369	169	161	68	2,393
Prescribed Fire				77		20	213	309
WDFW	5,170	4,331	4,857	1,424	1,128	1,979	1,029	19,918
Commercial Vegetation	1,931	1,538	521	394	143	1,426		5,954
Non-Commercial Vegetation	466	408	3,617	1,001	430	548	864	7,334
Prescribed Fire	2,773	2,385	718	29	555	5	164	6,631
USFS	38,384	55,814	50,142	46,977	41,902	46,636	38,089	317,945
Commercial Vegetation	6,285	6,100	6,773	7,739	5,216	2,366	3,511	37,990
Non-Commercial Vegetation	15,142	18,390	19,690	28,485	19,625	35,115	30,047	166,494
Prescribed Fire	16,957	31,324	23,679	10,753	17,061	9,156	4,530	113,461
USFWS	549	779	1,041	2,344	1,336	1,206		7,258
Commercial Vegetation			493	572				1,065
Non-Commercial Vegetation		26	105	1,090	730	375		2,327
Prescribed Fire	549	753	444	682	606	831		3,866
NRCS	4,285	5,491	5,671	6,372	2,827	11,522		36,168
Non-Commercial Vegetation	4,285	5,491	5,671	6,372	2,827	11,522		36,168
Kalispel Tribe of Indians	82	97	103	116	166			563
Commercial Vegetation	82	97	103	116	119			517
Non-Commercial Vegetation					47			47
Colville Confederated Tribes	7,191	8,231	7,030	4,113	9,881	4,976		41,422
Commercial Vegetation	178	1,089	790	177	1,622			3,855
Non-Commercial Vegetation	7,013	7,143	6,240	3,935	8,259	4,976		37,567
DNR Service Forestry	2,724	3,175	4,252	5,434	4,577	5,160	5,791	31,112
Non-Commercial Vegetation	2,724	3,175	4,252	5,434	4,577	5,131	5,787	31,079
Prescribed Fire						29	4	33
BLM					223	369		592
Commercial Vegetation					223	369		592
Other NGOs	331	53	123	471	414	615	804	2,811
Commercial Vegetation	252						230	482
Non-Commercial Vegetation	79		123	471	320	508	418	1,920
Prescribed Fire		53			95	107	156	410
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation			41	29	266	207	12	555
Commercial Vegetation			41		237		12	290
Non-Commercial Vegetation				29		191		219
Prescribed Fire					29	17		45
WACC	115	21	72	3	14		12	236
Non-Commercial Vegetation	115	21	72	3	14		12	236
Grand Total	75,808	103,709	89,997	92,815	85,212	94,654	63,667	605,862

*Discrepancies between current and previous annual acreage reporting for DNR State Trust Lands due to data field updates differentiating completed treatments from treatments where the contract is successfully bid but not complete.

*NRCS only provides tabular data, spatial data is not available due to privacy restrictions.

*Variation due to how organizations track the acreage associated with pile burning treatments. Some organizations count the # of piles and acreage of soil impacted from the burn, while others count the contributing acres of the unit where pile material was sourced.

*Acres are rounded to whole numbers in each data field; minor acre discrepancies between tables due to rounding and query process.

*Other NGO's represents data submitted by multiple non-profit organizations, where they were the lead implementation partner and/or landowner.

Table 2. Acres of **assessed forest health treatment need** alongside reported **completed treatments** (January 2017 – October 31, 2023) and remotely-detected forest structure change from active management and low-mixed severity wildfire (2017 - 2022) by 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan **priority landscape**.

				Treatments Reported Completed		Remotely-Detected Landscape Condition Change (2017 -2022) *	
Priority Landscape	Total Acres	Forested Acres	Assessed Treatment Need (Footprint acres)	Completed Total Treatment Acres	Footprint Acres	Footprint Acres -- Detected Forest Structure Change	Acres of low-mixed severity wildfire
Ahtanum	120,477	89,217	19,000-29,000	3,949	3,753	1,291	1
Asotin	149,152	93,329	Analysis in 2024	11,896	7,154	1,166	36,887
Chelan	98,051	31,342	7,500 - 12,500	463	165	14	266
Chewelah	195,408	158,352	59,000 - 80,000	14,281	6,593	5,727	64
Chewuch	94,250	83,846	Analysis in 2024	428	206	21	17,915
Chumstick to LP	115,333	84,216	36,500 - 53,000	6,848	3,411	2,202	270
Cle Elum	109,396	80,300	22,000 - 35,500	6,940	4,733	931	1,659
Deer Park	181,171	90,497	36,000 - 49,000	5,579	3,833	4,980	1,548
Dollar	61,238	50,767	18,600 - 27,700	323	277	340	0
Gifford	71,962	39,016	Analysis in 2024	686	458	2,448	468
Glenwood	104,501	83,758	23,500 - 32,000	4,582	4,065	4,691	47
HWY 97	60,398	37,415	11,000 - 16,500	111	111	6,398	0
Inchelium	146,263	121,779	Analysis in 2024	1,847	1,847	3,426	20,989
Ione	44,248	41,784	16,500 - 21,000	1,408	1,240	488	0
Klickitat	149,649	103,274	43,000 - 55,000	1,212	991	7,891	76
Little Naches	95,433	92,914	25,500 - 43,000	10,386	4,100	1,381	4,945
Little Pend Oreille	92,994	81,148	30,250 - 43,500	9,216	5,697	3,005	58
Little White	95,750	84,705	17,750 - 27,500	893	867	1,352	166
Long Lake	103,291	41,253	14,000 - 20,000	5,371	4,229	1,969	1,865
Loomis	198,991	149,802	Analysis in 2024	20,665	9,285	420	4,342
Mad Roaring Mills	65,008	33,325	13,500 - 20,000	5,755	4,181	83	4,244
Manastash Taneum	104,072	65,833	16,500 - 29,500	10,672	5,886	285	78
Meadow	60,235	59,050	Analysis in 2024	3,053	2,129	797	0
Methow Valley	338,246	182,937	49,500 - 75,000	25,616	17,073	808	31,161
Mica	72,608	39,178	Analysis in 2024	1,813	1,311	1,748	1
Mill Creek	186,306	162,060	57,000 - 80,000	31,397	13,450	13,976	212
Mission	49,121	32,743	10,406	11,235	3,043	1,054	125
Mt Hull	105,431	34,809	12,000 - 18,500	1,262	1,159	1,931	1
Mt Spokane	121,767	95,814	29,000 - 42,000	8,573	4,941	6,068	0
Naches-Wenas	180,858	121,981	Analysis in 2024	11,658	9,298	189	12,355
Nason Creek	31,679	29,243	6,750 - 11,500	844	415	433	0
Republic	180,553	144,350	46,500 - 64,000	17,482	8,916	3,796	27
Slate	35,948	34,905	Analysis in 2024	469	424	130	387
Stemilt	38,961	22,613	9,200 - 13,600	3,193	2,259	172	0
Stranger	89,904	72,061	30,000 - 38,000	6,391	3,169	7,946	1

(cont. on next page)

Priority Landscape	Total Acres	Forested Acres	Assessed Treatment Need (Footprint acres)	Treatments Reported Completed		Remotely-Detected Landscape Condition Change (2017 -2022) *	
				Completed Total Treatment Acres	Footprint Acres	Footprint Acres -- Detected Forest Structure Change	Acres of low-mixed severity wildfire
Teanaway	132,120	111,696	38,500 - 60,000	3,649	3,174	299	18,975
Tieton	148,634	117,781	38,000 - 60,500	1,637	1,377	19	440
Tillicum	14,326	11,241	7,614	20,760	5,414	234	52
Toroda-Tonata	153,611	117,345	51,000 - 66,000	4,876	2,545	2,232	76
Touchet-Mill	203,750	110,794	22,000 - 27,500	2,903	1,447	874	13
Trail	105,242	94,948	35,200 - 44,000	4,626	3,478	2,539	8
Trout Lake	117,153	105,015	18,500 - 33,000	5,775	4,843	1,775	1
Tucannon	98,616	80,099	Analysis in 2024	1,362	931	398	29,481
Twisp River	111,918	82,349	26,000 - 36,500	1,760	1,683	165	19,489
Upper Swauk	39,175	35,450	14,000 - 22,000	1,553	1,188	295	38
Upper Wenatchee	74,777	66,277	15,500 - 27,000	2,789	1,526	331	1,366
White Salmon	126,688	104,022	38,000 - 54,000	3,261	2,418	7,779	304

* Totals for remotely-detected footprint acres and reported treatment acres have overlap, they are not only additive. Also, it is expected that the values for treatment tracking and remote detection will differ for the following reasons: remotely-detected acres are always on a one-year delay, they may include active management not reported in treatment tracking, they can include partially completed treatments where forest structure change is detected, and remote-detection may miss treatments where there was little overstory structure change.

**Remotely-detected active management footprint acres listed above do not include additional landscape disturbances such as wildfire, insect damage, wind damage, etc.

Table 3. Acres of reported forest health treatments completed by **Calendar Year** (January 2017 – October 31, 2023) organized by **Treatment Type**.

	EASTERN WASHINGTON TREATMENT ACRES							
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
Commercial Vegetation	15,621	15,924	14,373	15,095	12,994	14,146	9,846	97,999
Non-Commercial Vegetation	39,065	50,900	48,240	63,934	51,169	69,555	48,011	370,874
Prescribed Fire	21,122	36,885	27,383	13,786	21,049	10,953	5,810	136,989
Grand Total	75,808	103,709	89,997	92,815	85,212	94,654	63,667	605,862

Table 4. Forest health completed treatment acres by **Detailed Treatment Activity Category** within broader **Treatment Type** by **Lead Implementing Organization** by **Calendar Year** (January 2017 – October 31, 2023). *

	Activity Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
BLM	Commercial Thin					223	369		592
	Total					223	369		592
Colville Confederated Tribes	Commercial Thin	1,961	2,151	1,627	824	3,028	715		10,306
	Other - Unknown	163	66						229
	Regeneration Treatment	5,067	6,014	5,403	3,289	6,852	2,926		29,552
	Non-commercial thin						1,335		1,335
	Total	7,191	8,231	7,030	4,113	9,881	4,976		41,422
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Fuels re-arrangement			41	29	42	179	12	303
	Commercial Thin					195			195
	Rx Fire - Pile burning					29			29
	Non-commercial thin						12		12
	Rx Fire - Broadcast Burn						17		17
	Total			41	29	266	207	12	555
DNR Service Forestry	Fuels re-arrangement	2,724	3,175	4,252	5,434	4,577	5,131	5,787	31,079
	Rx Fire - Broadcast Burn						29	4	33
	Total	2,724	3,175	4,252	5,434	4,577	5,160	5,791	31,112
DNR State Trust Lands	Commercial Thin	1,567	2,858	1,652	1,401	1,120	2,339	839	11,777
	Fuels re-arrangement	13	35	213	128	224	903	39	1,554
	Herbaceous Veg Control	2,504	2,003	3,336	4,339	3,201	2,469	4,642	22,493
	Non-commercial thin	1,857	6,891	1,553	5,218	4,676	4,484	3,618	28,296
	Other - Unknown	498		21	121		90	279	1,009
	Regeneration Treatment	5,265	4,146	4,000	4,695	4,314	6,818	4,629	33,868
	Rx Fire - Pile burning	842	2,370	2,542	2,245	2,696	623	506	11,824
	Tree establishment	4,360	7,161	1,887	6,941	6,072	3,494	2,236	32,152
	Rx Fire - Broadcast Burn					7	166	237	410
Total	16,907	25,464	15,203	25,088	22,309	21,387	17,025	143,382	
Kalispel Tribe of Indians	Other - Unknown	82	97	103	116	121			519
	Fuels re-arrangement					36			36
	Non-commercial thin					9			9
	Total	82	97	103	116	166			563

	Activity Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
NRCS	Fuels re-arrangement	1,334	1,687	2,147	2,375	1,252	1,142		9,936
	Herbaceous Veg Control	181	761	336	1,344	435	592		3,650
	Non-commercial thin	704	946	1,052	967	659	768		5,095
	Tree establishment	2,066	2,097	2,136	1,686	481	9,021		17,487
	Total	4,285	5,491	5,671	6,372	2,827	11,522		36,168
Other NGOs	Commercial Thin	252						230	482
	Non-commercial thin	79			232	88	78	90	567
	Rx Fire - Broadcast Burn		53			95	107	156	410
	Fuels re-arrangement			123	239	232	430	328	1,353
	Total	331	53	123	471	414	615	804	2,811
State Parks	Non-commercial thin	9	20	14	310	156	113	68	690
	Other - Unknown	62	61	1,242			415	565	2,345
	Commercial Thin		35					60	95
	Fuels re-arrangement		135	205	60	13	48		461
	Rx Fire - Broadcast Burn				77			213	290
	Rx Fire - Pile burning						20		20
	Total	71	252	1,461	446	169	595	906	3,900
USFS	Commercial Thin	5,325	4,843	5,935	7,343	4,954	2,121	2,795	33,315
	Fuels re-arrangement	5,797	7,466	8,249	19,579	10,719	25,501	20,620	97,932
	Herbaceous Veg Control	58		50					108
	Non-commercial thin	3,587	5,923	5,961	7,229	5,046	7,581	7,930	43,257
	Other - Unknown	109	37	173	159	2	422	673	1,575
	Regeneration Treatment	960	1,246	838	395	551	482	717	5,188
	Rx Fire - Broadcast Burn	5,164	3,872	6,492	167	4,022	1,582		21,299
	Rx Fire - Pile burning	11,793	14,665	17,178	10,586	13,039	7,574	4,530	79,365
	Tree establishment	5,591	4,975	5,257	1,518	3,570	1,374	824	23,109
	Rx Fire - Planned but burned in Wildfire		12,788	9					12,797
Total	38,384	55,814	50,142	46,977	41,902	46,636	38,089	317,945	

	Activity Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
USFWS	Rx Fire - Broadcast Burn	149	373	148		428	831		1,929
	Rx Fire - Pile burning	400			181	522			1,103
	Fuels re-arrangement		407	374	360	779			1,919
	Commercial Thin			493	572				1,065
	Other - Unknown			26	38		360		425
	Non-commercial thin					801			801
	Herbaceous Veg Control						15		15
	Total	549	779	1,041	1,151	2,530	1,206		7,258
WACC	Tree establishment	10	0	6		0		12	28
	Non-commercial thin	100	17	13	3	13			146
	Fuels re-arrangement	5	4	50					59
	Herbaceous Veg Control			3					3
	Total	115	21	72	3	14		12	236
WDFW	Commercial Thin	1,931	1,538	521	394	143	1,426		5,954
	Fuels re-arrangement	85		33		141			258
	Non-commercial thin	381	408	3,584	948	289	239		5,850
	Rx Fire - Broadcast Burn	928	1,236	131		555		164	3,015
	Rx Fire - Pile burning	1,845	1,149	587	29		5		3,616
	Other - Unknown				53			864	917
	Tree establishment						309		309
	Total	5,170	4,331	4,857	1,424	1,128	1,979	1,029	19,918
Grand Total		75,808	103,709	89,997	91,621	86,405	94,654	63,667	605,862

* Terminology crosswalk and glossary is available on [DNR's box folder](#) for this treatment pull.

This summary is a product of DNR Forest Resilience Division. Data for this report was analyzed and summarized by Aleksandar Dozic on 10/31/2023.

Forest health treatment data available to be shared publicly is available on [Forest Resilience Division's Data Viewer](#), [DNR's Open GIS webpage](#), and [Forest Health Tracker](#).

Forest Health Advisory Committee

Monitoring Work Group

2021-2022 Tasking Memo

Specific topics of the Forest Health Advisory Committee may benefit from more focused, small group discussions. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the objectives, work products, and timeline for the FHAC Monitoring Work Group. Any work products, recommendations, or other input will be communicated to the full FHAC for approval before being finalized for review by DNR leadership.

Monitoring Work Group Purpose

The Monitoring Work Group is a standing committee based on language in SB5546 and HB1168 regarding the design, implementation, and monitoring of the 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan: Eastern Washington. The work group will provide DNR with input in the implementation of the 20 YP monitoring framework (see attached) as well as the interpretation and communication of monitoring results over time. Through partner engagement the work group will build a stronger shared understanding of the effectiveness of landscape scale forest restoration in eastern Washington and help DNR and partners communicate the results to key constituencies.

Workgroup Products and Timeline for 2021 - 2022

1. (October 2021 – Jan 2022) Review protocol and results of DNR 2021 fire season post-fire analysis, both planning areas and treatment level. Assist DNR staff in crafting story of how treatments affected fire behavior as well as message around 2021 fire season.
 - Provide feedback to DNR on the approach described in the protocol
 - What did we learn from pilot effort?
 - How do we adapt or update the pilot for next fire season?
 - Who else should be engaged? Key partners?
2. (Dec 2021 – Dec 2022) Review, interpret, and provide feedback to DNR staff on change monitoring and treatment tracking data for Dec 2022 legislative report as required in SB5546. Work with DNR staff to prioritize and implement other regional and planning area scale components of 20 YP monitoring framework.
3. (Jan 2022 – Dec 2022) Recommend how, who, and where DNR's Treatment Level Monitoring Protocol can be utilized.
 - 20,000 acres of monitoring across agencies
 - What are going to do with data? Larger summary & story. Fuels/fire risk, were treatment objectives met.
 - Access to data by stakeholders
4. (TBD) Coordination with USFS & other partners. How do we collectively monitor and avoid duplication of efforts.
 - USFS-DNR workshop in November
 - Bring in other major landowners, research institutions, etc.

- Establish technical working group.

Work Group Co-leads

Derek Churchill, DNR Work Group Lead

Andrew Spaeth, DNR FHAC Coordinator

DNR is interested in engaging partners in helping co-lead this work group. If you are interested please contact Derek Churchill and Andrew Spaeth at derek.churchill@dnr.wa.gov and Andrew.spaeth@dnr.wa.gov.



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
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To: Terra Rentz, Chair, Forest Health Advisory Committee (FHAC)
CC: FHAC Committee Members
From: Jen Watkins, Forest Resilience Division Manager
Date: May 1, 2023
Subject: Tasking Memo for Recommendations and Guidance on Western Washington Forest Resilience
Attachments: *N/A*

Title: Western Washington Forest Resilience Workgroup

Task Leaders: Jen Watkins, Forest Resilience Division Manager

1. **Overview:** Specific topics of the Forest Health Advisory Committee may benefit from more focused, small group discussions. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the objectives, work products, and timeline for the FHAC Western Washington Forest Resilience Work Group. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the objectives, work products, and timeline for the Work Group. Any work products, recommendations, or other input will be communicated to the full FHAC for approval before being finalized for review by the Commissioner of Public Lands and the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) leadership.
2. **Intent:** Published in October 2020, Washington’s 2020 Forest Action Plan provides a comprehensive review of forests across all lands — public, private, rural and urban — and offers solutions to conserve, protect and enhance the trees and forests that people and wildlife depend on. The plan set 23 goals and 159 priority actions to guide DNR and shared stewardship partner’s work through June 30, 2025. With the priority actions to increase landscape scale resilience, the plan commits to *“Work internally across DNR divisions, with the Forest Health Advisory Committee, the Timber, Fish, and Wildlife Policy Committee, and other partners to lay the scientific, social, cultural, and economic framework for an all-lands forest health and resilience vision and approach for western Washington forestlands, building off of existing plans and strategies.”*

The department will reference approach of the all-lands 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan for Eastern Washington to inform this work, but fully recognizes that the approach and results in Western Washington need to be tailored to the unique issues and needs of both the forest ecosystems and forest landowners and managers. The department will also build off of information and lessons learned from the existing DNR Plan for Climate Resilience, Forest Action Plan, and the Watershed Resilience Action Plan for the Snohomish watershed.

We request the FHAC’s engagement and recommendations to outline the scientific, social, cultural, and economic framework for an all-lands forest health and resilience vision and approach for western Washington forestlands. This includes:

- **Problem Statement:** clearly define the issues that need to be addressed in order to create and sustain a healthy and resilient forested landscapes in western Washington. This will inform the scope and focus of a western Washington forest resilience vision and approach.
- **Socioeconomic and Cultural Context:** considerations that will be critical for ensuring the viability and durability of our work, including landowner objectives, social values, cultural values, and economic realities.
- **Ecological Context and Forest Health Assessments:** in partnership with science and technical

staff, establish a better shared understanding of opportunities for passive and active management that integrate diverse resource values and climate change to guide investments and decisions to improve forest health and resilience in western Washington, particularly in DNR priority landscapes.

- **Vision:** with the above in mind, recommend an all-lands vision statement for forest health and resilience in western Washington.
 - **Approach and Outcomes:** as DNR and partners expand our shared stewardship work and investments in western Washington, make recommendations on how to meaningfully engage partners and balance disparate interests, collect ideas about tools and resources that can enable effective planning, implementation, and monitoring of future actions on the ground.
3. **Background:** Reference the 2020 Forest Action Plan. Additional reference materials will be provided to the workgroup, including the results of a pilot effort underway to explore methodologies for forest health assessments in western Washington and the results of initial stakeholder outreach about the risks, opportunities, and values around western Washington forests and their health and resilience.
 4. **Purpose:** To benefit from the expertise and diversity of the FHAC to develop a shared foundational vision and approach to all-lands all-hands work to improve forest health and resilience in western Washington.
 5. **Task Description:** DNR requests a memo documenting the guidance and recommendations of the FHAC on the 5 areas identified above: Problem Statement, Social and Cultural Context, Ecological Context and Forest Health Assessment, Vision, and Approach and Outcomes.
 6. **Timeline:** Final recommendations are requested by the end of December 2023. We request the workgroup to be established and begin meeting in June 2023, and hold 6 monthly meetings. A presentation of final recommendations as well as summary of any proposed next steps to the FHAC at the December meeting with a vote to approve. Submit final recommendations report to DNR. An effort will be made for at-least one monthly meeting to occur in-person with hybrid options.
 7. **Assigned to:** For consideration by the full FHAC, with specific elements of the task and first draft deliverables to be completed by the assigned Work Group. The entire FHAC shall be included in making key decisions and approval of final products.
 8. **Work Group Composition and Expectations:** The Work Group shall be comprised of interested committee members and/or representatives from their organization that can bring diverse perspectives, expertise, and experience to this topic. Initial solicitation will occur at the May 2023 meeting; requests to participate are due no later than June 1, 2023. The Work Group shall convene with an introductory meeting before the end of June with monthly meetings to follow until December 2023. The Work Group will have a DNR staff lead and will have engagement and support from additional DNR staff.
 9. **Products to be generated:** A memo providing analysis and recommendations.
 10. **Final Disposition:** The final product will be provided to the Forest Resilience Division Manager, and will be shared internally with Division staff and DNR leadership. It will be used to guide programmatic work and investments, and potentially inform 2024 legislative requests.

Due Date: Memo to FHAC December 1, 2023 and final memo to DNR December 30, 2023