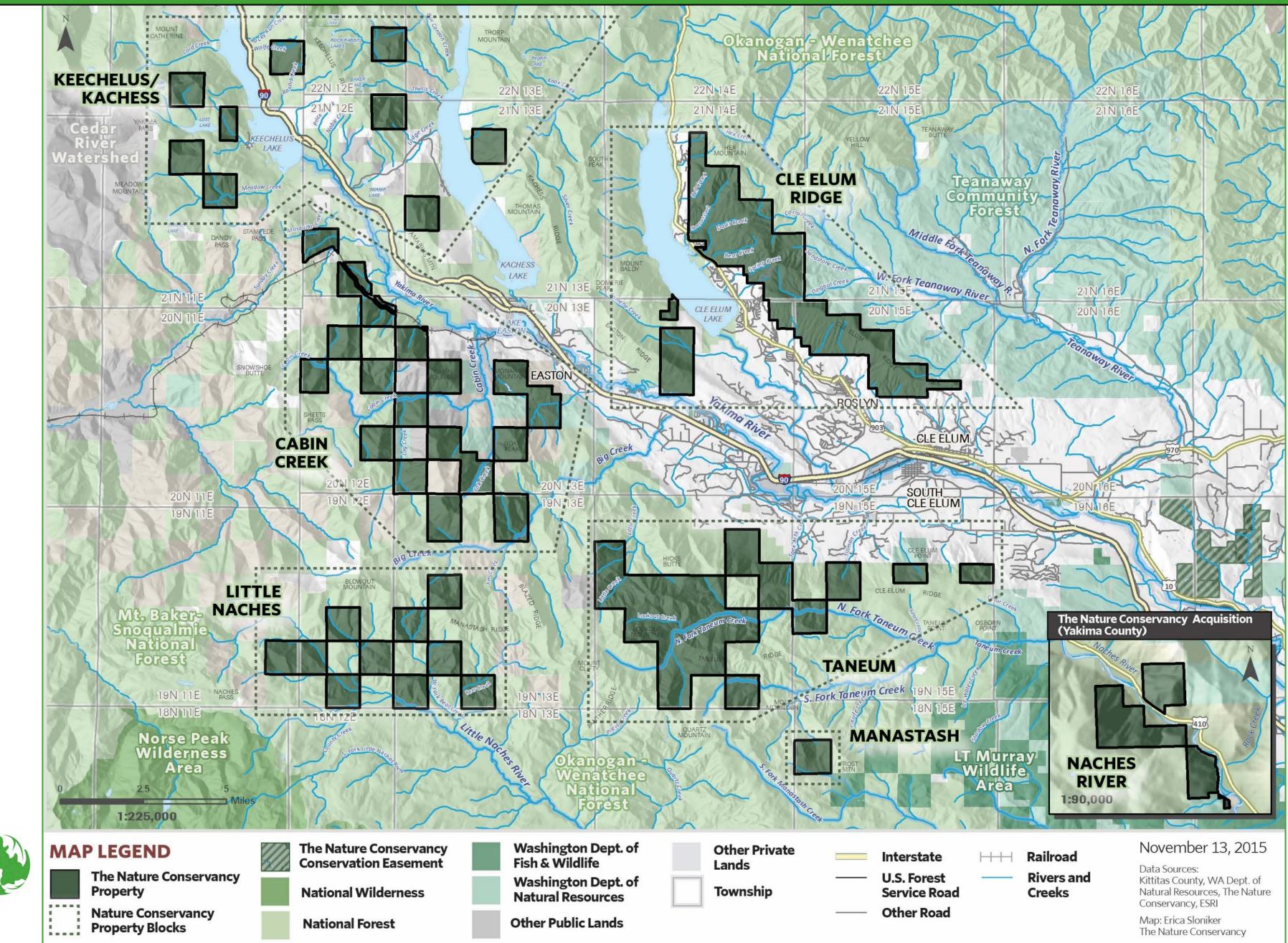




# Central Cascades Acquisition

47,921 acres of Kittitas County forestland Largest acquisition for The Nature Conservancy in Washington.

## Land Ownership in the Central Cascades





## Significance of Acquisition:

- Protects wildlife habitat, forests, recreation and clean water.
- Protects the headwaters of the Yakima Basin and its productive farmlands.
- Supports critical habitat for a range of threatened and endangered species.







# Guiding Principles

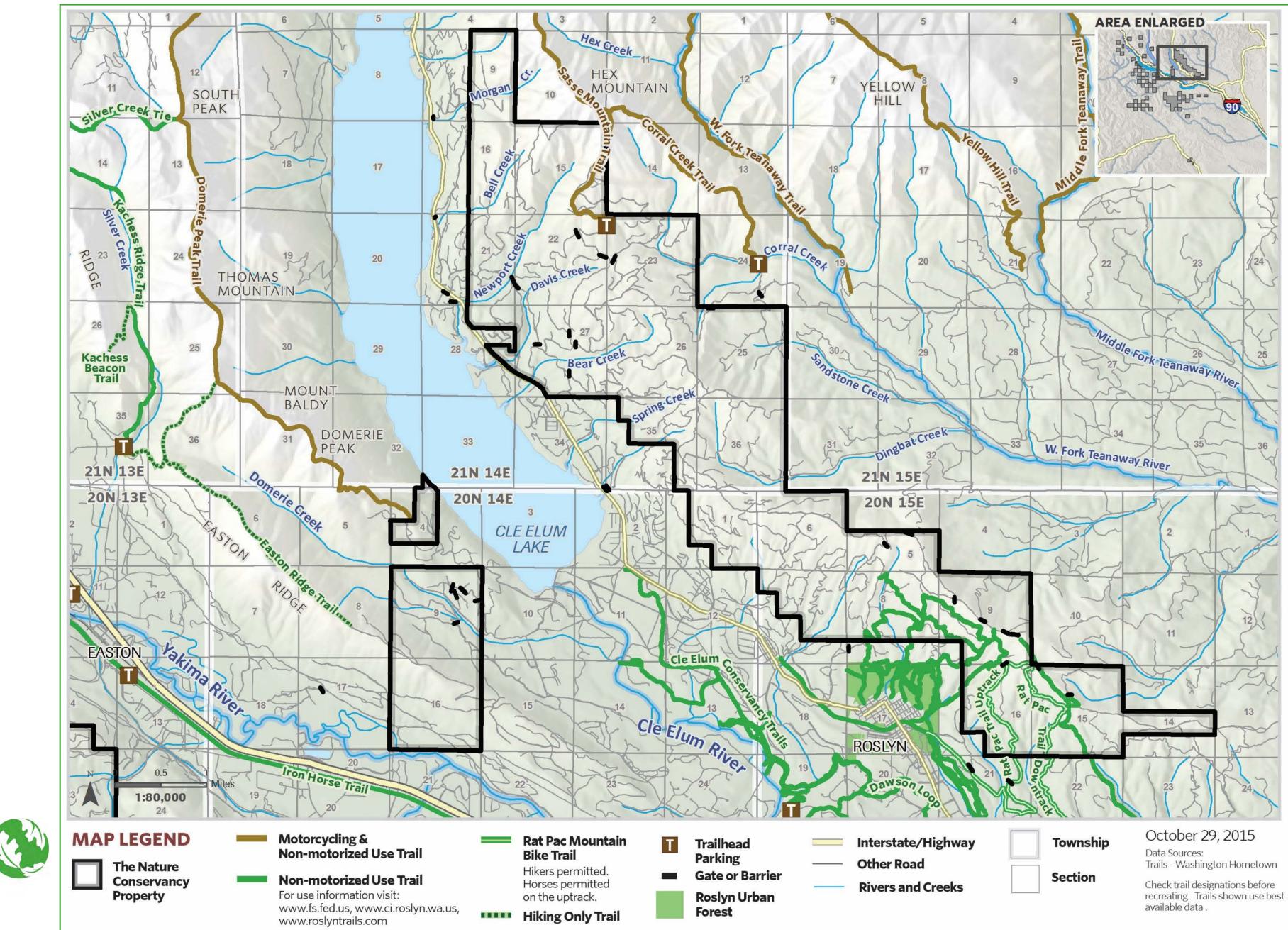


- 1. Conservation is our primary goal.
- 2. To improve forest health, we will focus on addressing the primary threats.
- 3. We will use best scientific thinking and we will manage adaptively.
- 4. Active management is necessary for improving forest and landscape health.
- Landscape health cannot be accomplished on 5. a single ownership.
- 6. Appropriately managed recreation can be consistent with conservation.
- 7. We will prioritize our management actions considering timing and resources.
- We will use local resources as much as 8. possible to support the local economy.
- 9. Sustainable solutions will come through dialogue with partners and local community members.



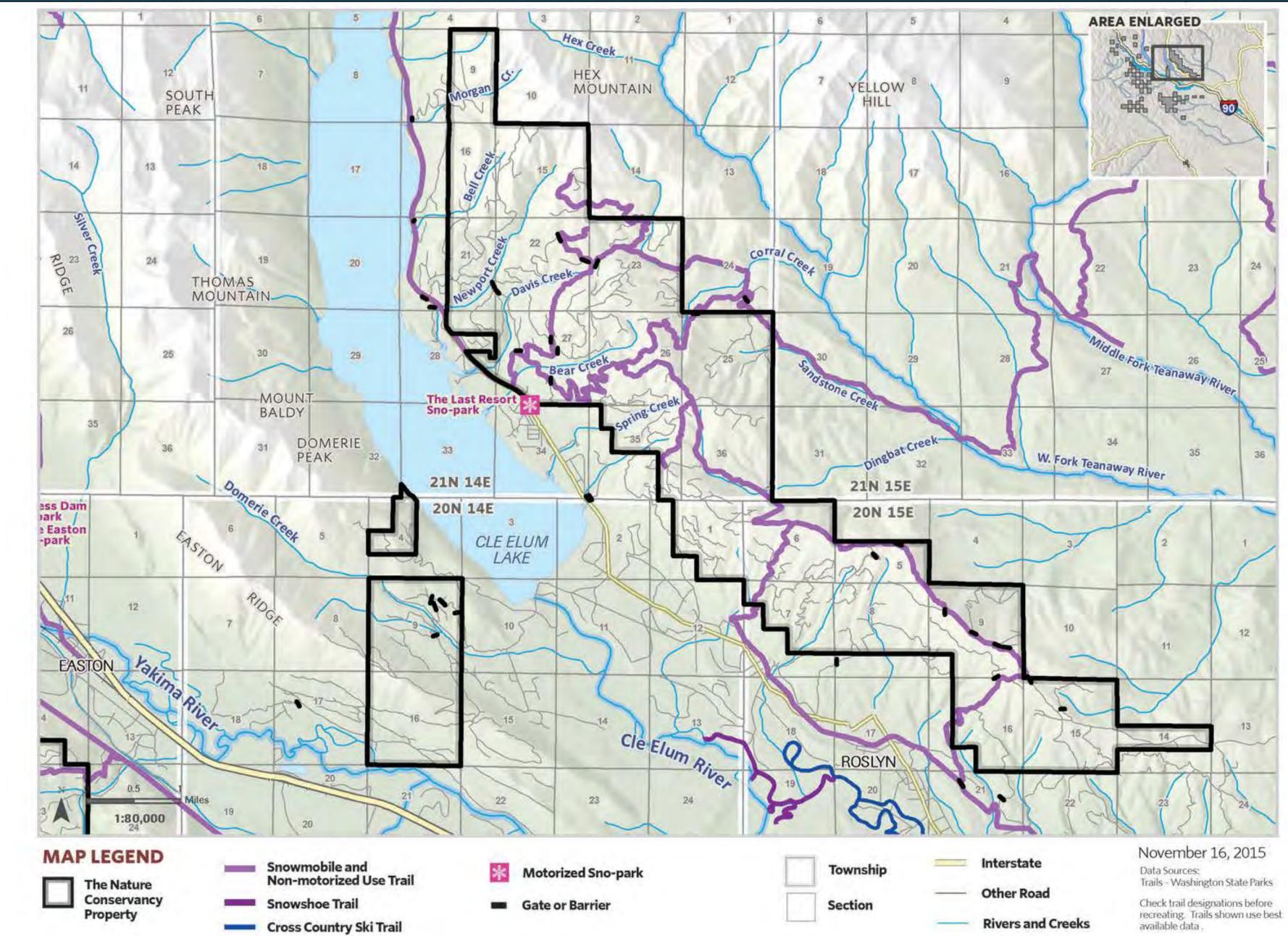


## Summer Trails: Cle Elum Ridge





## Winter Trails: Cle Elum Ridge





## Land Use and Access Policies

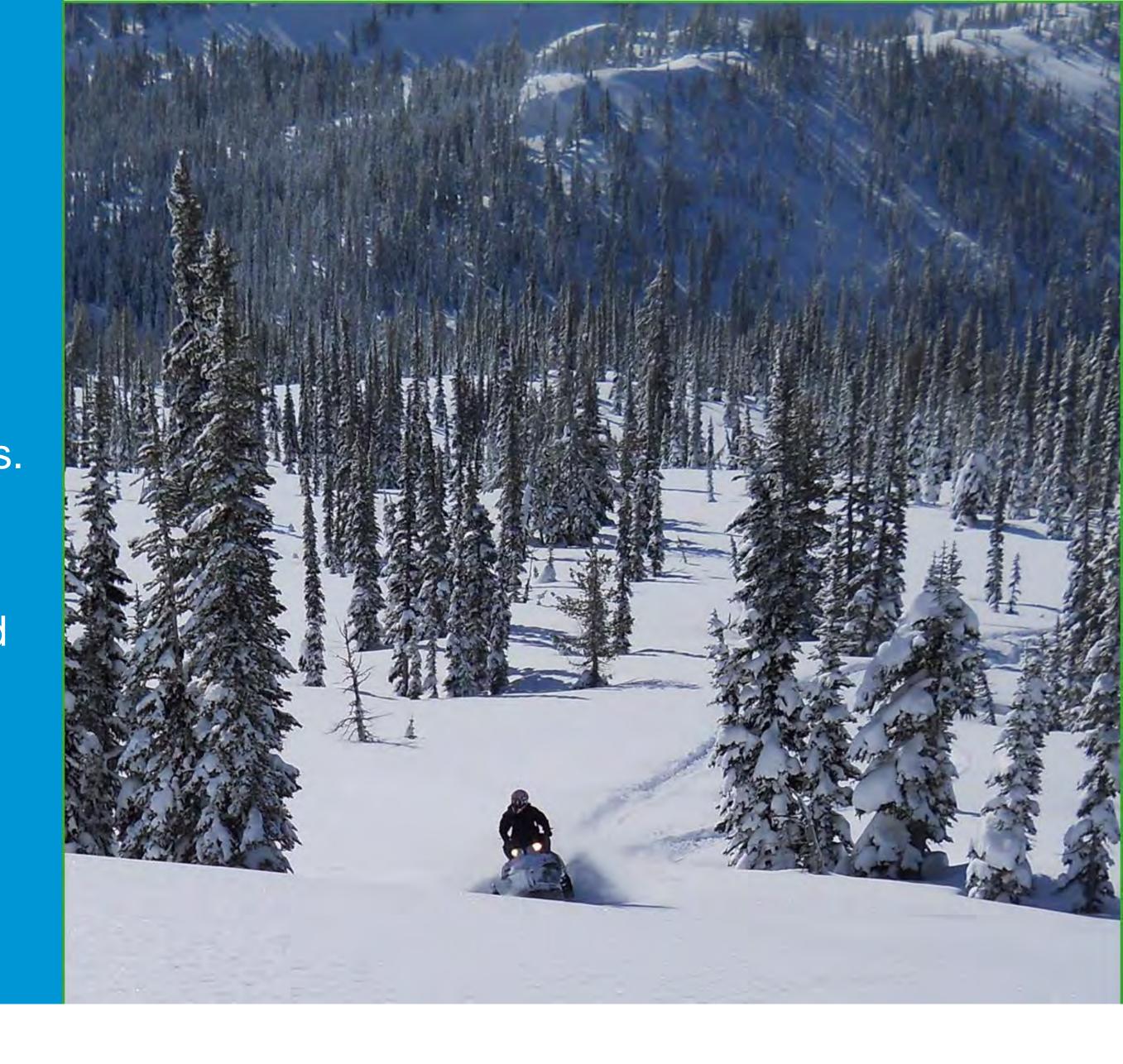
#### **Non-motorized use**

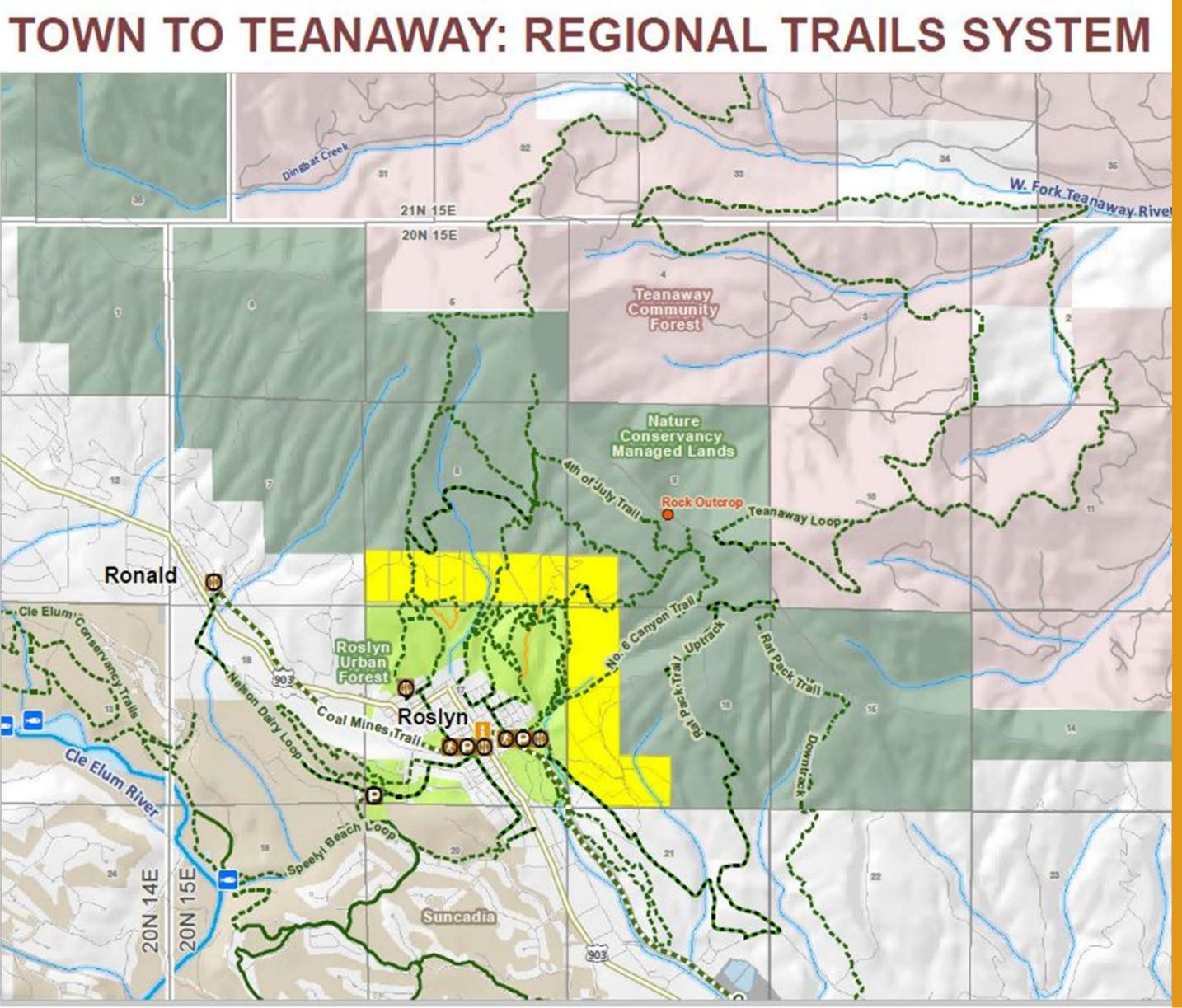
- Permitted on all lands, throughout the year, unless otherwise posted.
- Stay on roads and trails unless the activity involves cross country travel.
- Mountain bikes must stay on designated trails.

### **Motorized use**

- Roads on the Cle Elum Ridge are closed to Motorized use, other than FS roads 4305 and 4305-118.
- Access is prohibited beyond a closed road or trail, even if a gate or sign has been vandalized.
- Snowmobiles/bikes are permitted to travel cross country with adequate snow cover.









## **Connecting People & Places**

Partnering with KCPRD No. 1

- Trail from Roslyn to the top of Cle Elum Ridge
- Popular recreation are with unauthorized, unsustainable routes causing resource damage and conflicts
- Formalize connection with the Teanaway **Community Forest**
- Acquisition subcommittee











## Illegal Use on the Cle Elum Ridge....

- Repeated trespass from ORV users
- Firewood theft
- Possible hunter trespass
- Direct property damage (poaching, erosion, etc.)

TNC Response:

- Media outreach
- Working with the sheriff to cite trespassers
- Developing agreement with the sheriff's office
- Exploring enforcement contract with WDFW
- Notifying law enforcement about trouble areas









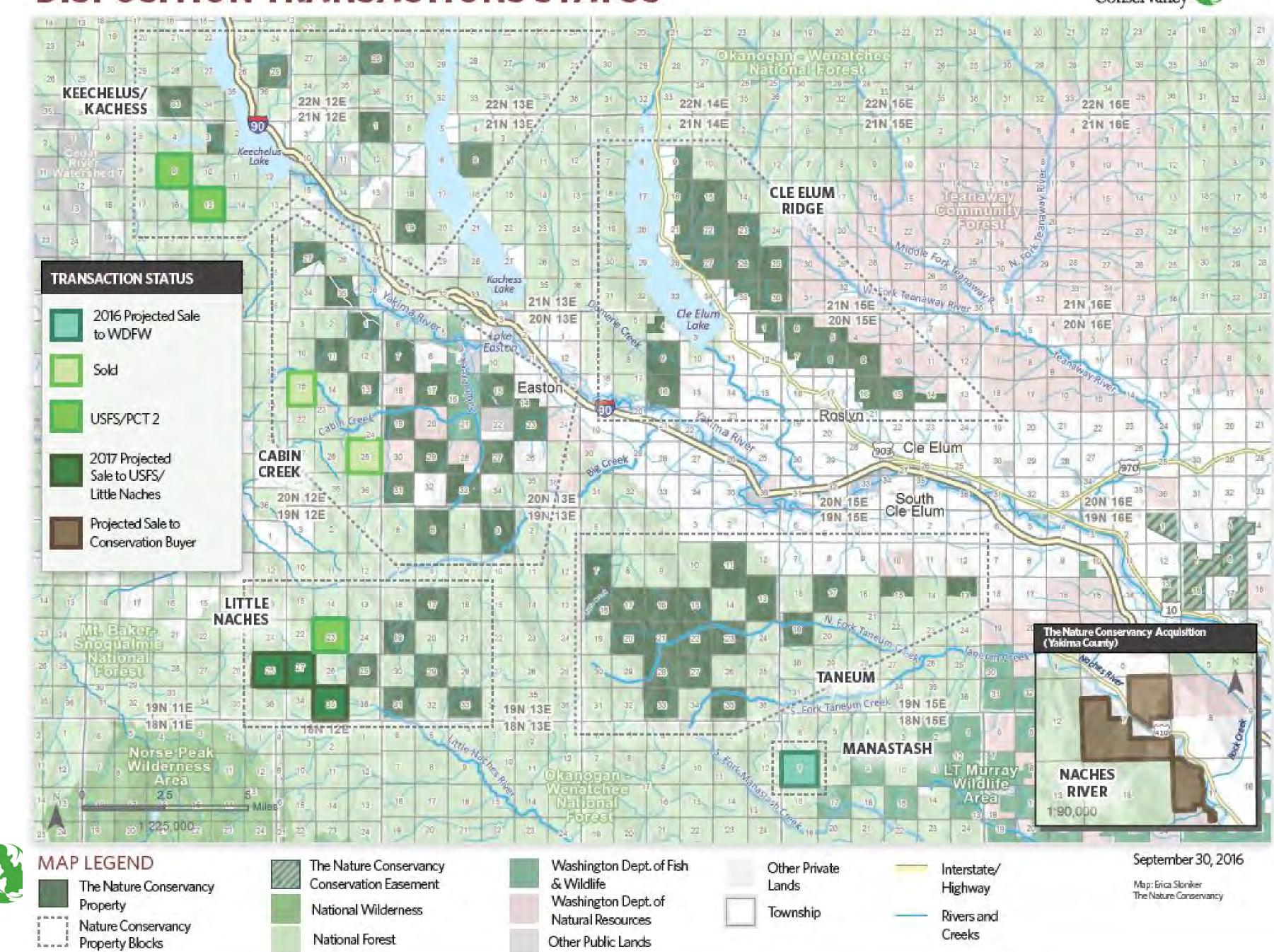
## Single Track on Cle Elum Ridge

- Motorized Use is prohibited on Cle Elum Ridge **Interim Policy**
- Permanent policy must consider outcomes of the Teanaway Rec Planning Process
- If single track is permitted in Teanaway adjacent to TNC land, proposals for a single motorized route would be considered.
  - Proposals must include:
    - Consistency with Guiding Principals
    - Plan for Monitoring and Maintenance
    - Strategy for Addressing Problems
- TNC is in the conservation business, not the recreation management business





### **DISPOSITION TRANSACTIONS STATUS**







## Get Involved

Contact us:

- Darcy Batura, Central Cascades Community Coordinator
  - Darcy.Batura@tnc.org / 509-852-2508
- Brian Mize, Central Cascades Field Forester
  - Brian.mize@tnc.org / 509-248-2238

Learn more about our work in the Central Cascades: <a href="https://www.washingtonnature.org/centralcascades">www.washingtonnature.org/centralcascades</a>

For information about volunteer opportunities: www.washingtonnature.org/volunteer



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