

DNR's Carbon Project: SEPA and Tribal, Stakeholder, and Public Outreach

Update to the Board of Natural Resources

November 1, 2022



Agenda

- Carbon project overview
- Carbon project timeline
- SEPA Update
- Phase II: Selection of candidate parcels
- Phase II: Consultation, engagement, and outreach
- Next steps
- Final thoughts
- Questions and discussion



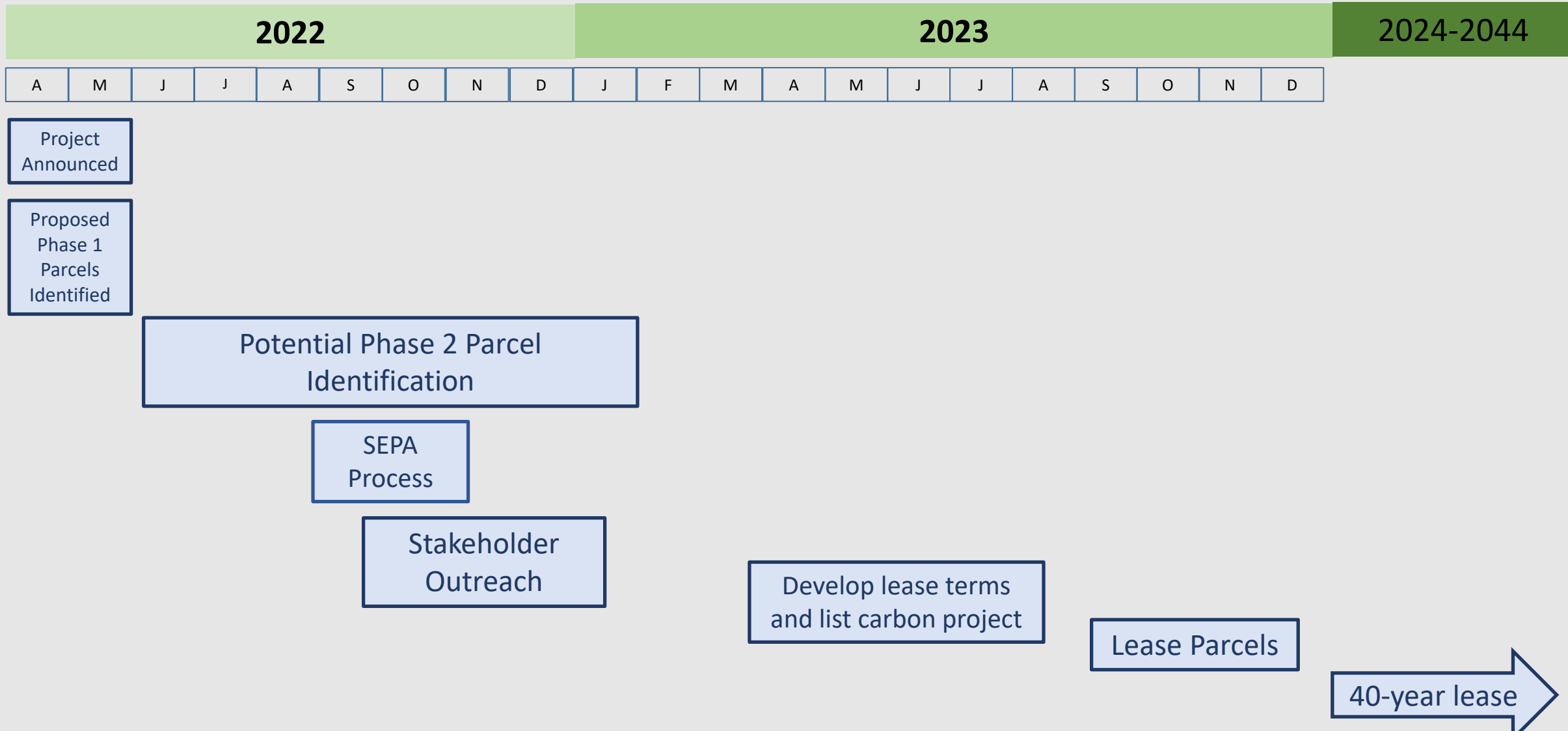
Ten thousand acres conserved

DNR is committing to utilize carbon markets to conserve 10,000 acres of operable forest areas.

These forests:

- Are part of the operable land base, but will be conserved to continue to sequester and store carbon;
- Represent special ecological and cultural values;
- Are exceptionally carbon dense;
- Will continue to generate revenue for our beneficiaries.

Carbon Project Timeline



SEPA Comments

DNR received 184 comments through Survey Monkey and email, including a form letter from 63 individuals.

Comments fell into general themes:

- General support for the carbon project (not evaluated through SEPA)
- General opposition to the carbon project (not evaluated through SEPA)
- Financial and socioeconomic impacts (not evaluated through SEPA)
- SEPA process concerns
- Unintended environmental impacts, including potential increased life cycle carbon emissions
- DNR policy/process concerns (not evaluated through SEPA)

Phase II: Selection of candidate parcels

Agency staff used the High Conservation Value criteria as a framework to identify candidate parcels to make up the remaining 7,500 acres.

- Significant concentrations of biodiversity
- Significant landscape-scale ecosystems and ecosystem mosaics
- Rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems and habitats
- Basic ecosystem services in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control)
- Areas or resources fundamental to meeting basic needs of Indigenous populations and local communities (e.g. subsistence)
- Areas or resources critical to Indigenous populations and local communities' traditional cultural identity

Phase II: Consultation, engagement, and outreach

DNR is soliciting feedback on the candidate parcels from beneficiaries, Tribal partners, impacted and interested stakeholders, and the public.

Consultation and engagement include:

- Tribal webinar
- General public webinar (recording available on website)
- 4 in-person beneficiary engagement events (1 per each DNR Westside region)
- Public Open House
- Public survey
- Individual beneficiary, Tribal, stakeholder meetings

Phase II: Consultation, engagement and outreach

The objectives of the consultation, engagement, and outreach are to:

- Understand the ecological, social, and cultural values most important to beneficiaries, Tribes, stakeholders and the public that can guide the final selection of parcels;
- Hear any feedback on specific candidate parcels, and which parcels may be preferable to include in or exclude from the carbon project;
- Understand concerns or hopes for the carbon project overall.

Next steps

DNR is committed to a robust consultation and engagement process to inform the final selection of parcels for the full 10,000 acres.

- Continued engagement with beneficiaries
- Surveys open until November 18th
- Individual meetings with impacted or interested stakeholders
- DNR will consider the feedback we've received and the HCV criteria to select the final parcels for inclusion in the project
- Financial analysis will be conducted after the 10,000 acres have been identified

Questions?

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