

### WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF

# **Natural Resources**

Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands

## Community Forest Trust 2015-17 Capital Budget Proposal

### Board of Natural Resources October 7, 2014









## **Purpose**

Protect working forestlands with a high risk of conversion to non-forest uses, but that have important value to local communities

- Conversion of these forests represent a loss of important social and environmental services, and an erosion of timber and natural resource-based economies.
- DNR and local communities can partner to provide a tool to help protect working forestlands



#### **Overview**

- Passed by 2011 Legislature as ESHB 1421
- Creates a discrete non-fiduciary forest land trust with lands managed by DNR
- Acquired forest lands can be private or trust lands
- Lands acquired jointly with local partner resources and state capital appropriations



### Overview continued...

- Emphasis on self-sustaining, active forest management
- Requires a community working forest management plan developed by DNR and local partners
- Lands may be divested by Board if they do not perform



## Legislation

### How it works...

- List of candidate community forests presented to legislature; private owner or state trust
- Legislature appropriates capital funds to acquire
- Local community contributes to acquisition
- Purchased lands go into Community Forest Trust ownership and must have revenue-producing activities to minimally offset management costs

# Community Forest Trust Legislation

## **Board responsibilities**

- Provide input on draft list of proposed properties before they are submitted to the legislature
- Approve all acquisitions of real property
- Divest in nonperforming community forest parcels, or for those for which DNR cannot reach agreement on a management plan
- Reimburse (at the Board's discretion) the local entities' and state's financial contribution



FY 15-17 Proposal

# North Kitsap Community Forest budget request

- Proposed inclusion of 484 acres of commercial forest lands in North Kitsap Co., currently owned by Pope Resources
- Total project cost is \$3.4 million, which includes property acquisition, development of management plan and basic program guidelines
- Community match will be \$450-500K
- Review team thoroughly evaluated proposal



# Community Forest Trust FY 15-17 Proposal

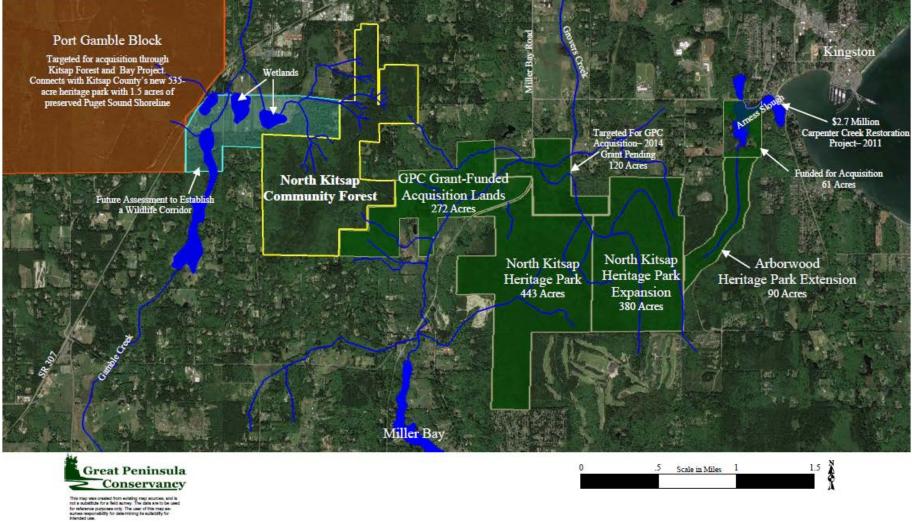






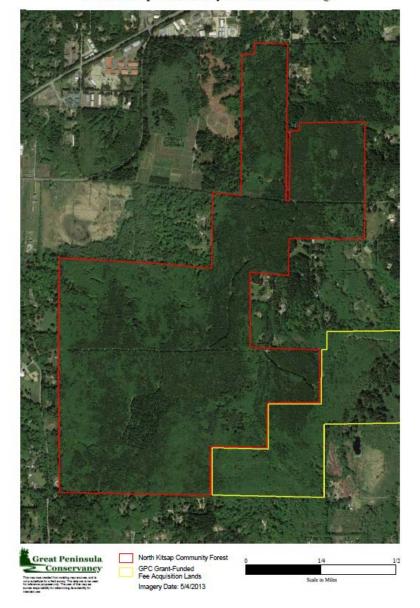
#### North Kitsap Wildlife Corridor







North Kitsap Community Forest Aerial Image



North Kitsap Community Forest Residential Conversion Risk Map





FY 15-17 Proposal

## North Kitsap proposal (cont.)

- DNR staff working in partnership with local proponents to create a strong community forest proposal to take to Legislature
- This pilot project will serve as a model
- Key elements:
  - ✓ Landscape that can support its own management
  - ✓ Strong and diverse local community support
  - ✓ Agreement on forest management principles
  - ✓ Willing seller
  - ✓ Strong linkages to Puget Sound restoration



**Questions?** 





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