

# COMMISSIONER'S ORDER

NUMBER 202411

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Hilary S. Franz  
Commissioner of Public Lands  
Olympia, Washington 98504

## COMMISSIONER'S ORDER ON A PARTNERSHIP PLEDGE WITH THE STATE SPECIALIZED FOREST ENTERPRISE "FORESTS OF UKRAINE"

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources has established and maintained bilateral relationships with Canada, Finland, and Iceland, where government agencies share expertise; and

WHEREAS, the State Specialized Forest Enterprise "Forests of Ukraine" has expressed a desire to develop and strengthen bilateral cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources in the field of forestry; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that sustainable forest management is a successful framework concept, the implementation of which not only increases the benefits of forests for society globally but also contributes significantly to sustainable solutions to global and regional challenges, particularly climate change and socio-economic development,

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources upholds high standards in forest management that make the agency a global leader in sustainable harvest, conservation, and preservation; and

WHEREAS, as the threat of climate change has intensified the risk and severity of wildfire, the Department of Natural Resources' innovation and commitment to wildfire suppression, forest health, and community resilience has resulted in 95% of wildfire ignitions staying below 10 acres,

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby direct Department leadership and staff:

Establish and maintain a partnership pledge with the State Specialized Forest Enterprise "Forests of Ukraine" where we inform each other and discuss matters of common interest. In particular, regarding sustainable forestry, forest regulation, efficient forest management and conservation of forest biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation in the forestry sector, wildfire prevention and suppression, application of environmentally friendly technologies, balanced use of forest resources, and the exchange of experience in the field of hunting and recreation;

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.



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