



Facilitating Stewardship



PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO SMALL FOREST LANDOWNERS FOR STEWARDSHIP

Small Forest Landowners need assistance to help them meet both their individual ownership objectives and the goals of the forest practices and stewardship of nonindustrial forests and woodlands acts (Chapters 76.09 and 76.13 RCW, respectively).

Almost half of the private Washington forestland is owned by small forest landowners; they have great capacity to help realize important ecological benefits for all residents of the state.

DNR is requesting just under \$1 million to fund four FTEs in the Small Forest Landowner Office (SFLO). This will regain some capacity to meet the demand for helping family forest

landowners to understand forest practices regulations, address road maintenance challenges and apply for financial incentive programs.

DNR is also requesting \$22.2 million for three incentive programs funded with capital dollars:

\$10 million for the Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFPPP)

\$6 million for the Forestry Riparian Easement Program (FREP)

\$6.2 million for the Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program (RHOSP)

Family landowners own almost half of private Washington forestlands.

3.2 million acres

A \$23.2 million investment to benefit the citizens and environment of Washington state by helping small forest landowners provide sound forestland stewardship

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Revised: 2/22/2017



BEFORE



AFTER

The \$10 million Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFPP) request will provide cost share assistance to family forest landowners to help eliminate fish passage barriers on their forest roads. This request would support fixing approximately 90 barriers to fish passage using existing staff.

A \$6 million request will enable the Forestry Riparian Easement Program (FREP) to purchase approximately 56 conservation easements from family forest landowners. These 50-year conservation easements will compensate landowners for disproportionate fiscal impacts associated with the application of the Forests and Fish rules (see RCW 76.13.100) along riparian areas and waterways, as well as adjacent unstable slope buffer areas.



The \$6.2 million Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program (RHOSP) request will provide financial compensation to forest landowners to permanently conserve critical waterway and habitat areas in forests protected by forest practices rules. This includes permanent conservation easements of essential riparian forests within channel migration zones, such as vegetated islands that provide areas of refuge for fish during high flows, and critical habitat areas for threatened or endangered species protected under the forest practices rules.

