

**NORTHWEST
COMMUNITY
FORESTS**

Legislative Updates and Panel

October 2022

Dan Mahr, Ben Donatelle, Justin Allegro, Dylan Kruse, and Candice Polisky

Senator Jeff Merkley's Office

- **Dan Mahr:** Hood River Field Rep
- **Lucas Smith:** Natural Resources and Appropriations Policy Advisor





Community Forests at RCO



WASHINGTON STATE
Recreation and
Conservation Office



Nason Ridge Community
Forest

Program Details



Funding

- Up to \$3 million
- 15% match

Forestland property

- 5 or more acres
- 75% forested (or can be reforested)

Eligible Applicants

- Cities and Counties
- Special Purpose Districts and Public Development Authorities
- Nonprofits
- Tribes
- State agencies (with one of the above)

Use of Grant Funds

- Property acquisition
- Restoration or recreation development
- Community Forest Management Plans



2022 Projects



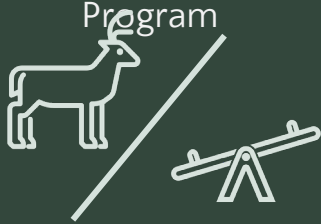
Preliminary Ranking Community Forests Program 2023-2025

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant	
						Match	Total
1	50.12	22-1568 A	Forterra	Montesano Community Forest	\$1,612,450	284550	\$1,897,000
2	49.00	22-1535 A	Nisqually Indian Tribe	Nisqually Community Forest Phase 3	\$2,873,200	\$1,560,000	\$4,433,200
3	47.12	22-1301 A	Whatcom Land Trust	Stewart Mountain Community Forest	\$3,000,000	1470123	\$4,470,123
3	47.12	22-1565 A	Forterra	Hoquiam Community Forest	\$2,541,075	448425	\$2,989,500
5	43.00	22-1663 A	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	Lagoon Point Community Forest	\$3,000,000	\$1,999,193	\$4,999,193
Total					\$13,026,725	\$5,762,291	\$18,789,016

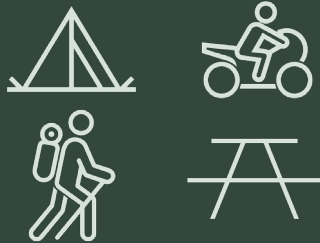


Potential Funding to Support Community Forests

Washington Wildlife
and Recreation
Program



Nonhighway Off Road
Vehicle Activities



Recreational Trails
Program



No Child Left Inside



Family Forest Fish
Passage Program



Salmon Recovery
Funding Board





Thank you!

Justin Allegro - The Nature Conservancy Washington



Mount Rainier National Park



Oregon Community Forest Trends and Needs

Northwest Community Forest Coalition

Dylan Kruse, Vice President

October 18, 2022



Oregon Trends

Recent successes

Remaining needs

Projects to date have been customized and systemic replication is limited

Lack of sufficient match funding sources and coordination across agencies and programs is a barrier

Expanded and more flexible tools and tweaks to existing programs are needed



Policy Needs

Stay constructive and avoid conflict

100% voluntary landowner engagement and community capacity building

Greater coordination with a focus on source water protection and enhancement, wildfire resilience, and other public benefits

Emphasis on green infrastructure protection and enhancement and public health

One stop shop to provide TA to communities to protect and enhance targeted geographies

Track and leverage federal resources



Policy Needs

Grant funding to protect, enhance, and/or restore source drinking water areas and critical forest infrastructure.

Public benefits including drinking water, wildfire resilience, habitat, recreation, timber, etc.

Municipal scale (smaller acreages), with a focus on communities under 50,000.

Rolling deadline for time sensitive funding opportunities, easements, and acquisitions

How does PFA interface with current needs?

What else?





Panel Discussion

Facilitator: Candice Polisky, US Forest Service

Panelists:

Dan Mahr - Field Rep, Senator Jeff Merkley's Office
Lucas Smith - Natural Resources and Appropriations
Policy Advisor, Senator Jeff Merkley

Ben Donatelle - Washington State Recreation and
Conservation Office

Justin Allegro - The Nature Conservancy, Washington

Dylan Kruse - Sustainable Northwest