

Department of Natural Resources



Legislative Wrap-up

June 6th, 2023

Duane Emmons



HB 1460

Trust Land Transfer & Encumbered Lands Legislation

- Codifies the Trust Land Transfer program
- Improves public process*
- Ensures 100% of the value goes to replacement land
- Creates a broader Land Pool for counties
- Removes barriers to land transactions
- Improves Land Bank processes



* Did not receive funding to conduct the new TLT work

Legislative Funding – Recreation & Conservation

Highlights

- \$3.89 million for protecting lands & tribal rights:
 - Increased law enforcement
 - Tribal foods pilot program
 - Development of a statewide recreation plan
 - Jointly create a statewide data management system with WDFW and State Parks to make informed management decisions that meet conservation goals for public lands.
- \$3.34 million for Natural Areas scientists & staff support
- \$5.1 million for Natural Areas maintenance & rehabilitation
- \$2 million for Community Forest management
- \$10 million for recreation maintenance



Legislative Funding – Recreation & Conservation

Concerns:

- Severely reduced funding for Conservation Corps
 - Less than ½ of existing funding and is one-time
- Recreation capital improvements partially funded



Legislative Funding – Reforestation

Highlights

- \$6.7 million for Webster Seed Plant Replacement
- \$663K for Webster Nursery production expansion scoping
- \$2 million for reforestation efforts including seed collection & production



Legislative Funding – Forest Management

Highlights

- \$10 million for commercial thinning on HCP lands:
 - In spotted owl habitat where below threshold
 - In riparian areas to improve habitat
- \$13.1 million for silvicultural treatments in western Wa
- \$350k for continued development of alder marketing & cedar salvage marketing
- \$3.7 million for bridge replacement and fish passage
- \$625k to continue research in OESF with ONRC and partners



Legislative Funding – Working Forests & Conservation

Highlights

- \$17.3 million for Trust Land Transfer projects
 - Plus an additional \$2.2m to complete Dabob Bay transfer
- \$7.5 million for State Forestland Replacement in SWWA
 - \$1.82 m each to Pacific, Wahkiakum, and Skamania county
 - \$240k for land purchases
 - \$1.5 m for acquisition of vacant commercial property in Skamania county
 - \$300k for administrative costs
- AND.....



Legislative Funding – Working Forests & Conservation

Highlights

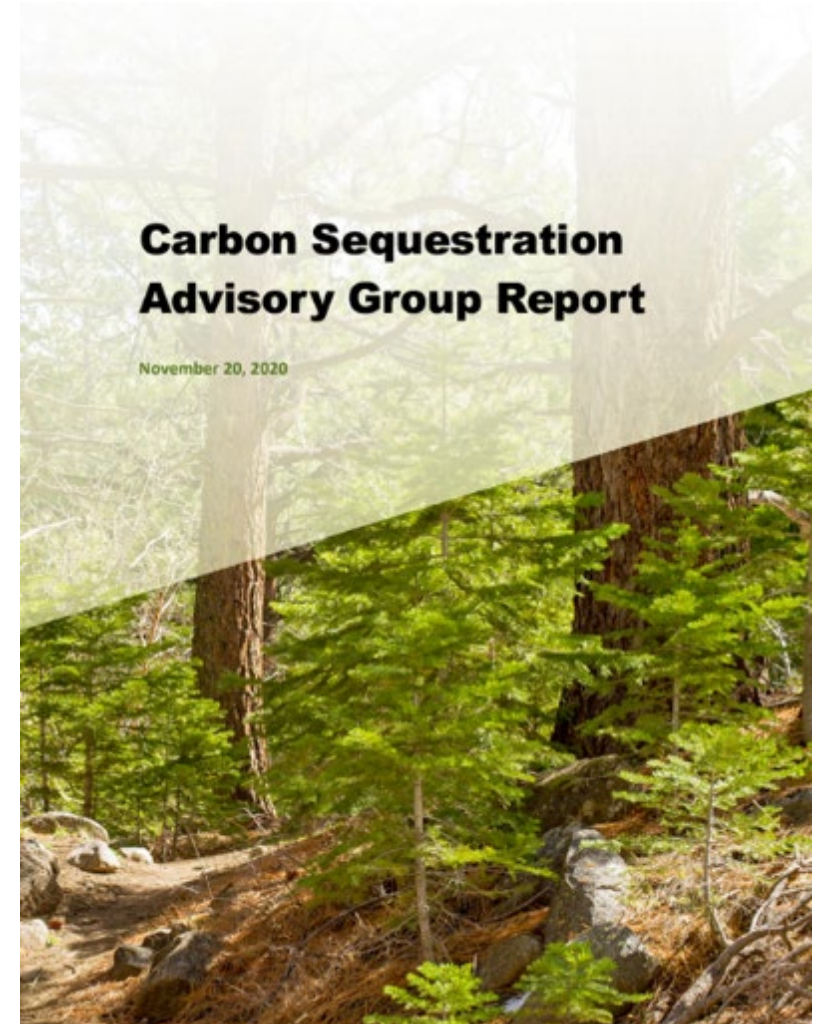
- \$70 million for acquisition of working forests to:
 - Set aside up to 2000 acres of land for carbon sequestration
 - Replace lands encumbered by the HCP in Skamania, Pacific, Wahkiakum, Clallam, and Jefferson County
- \$2.5 million to:
 - convene a workgroup to collaborate on approaches to conservation and management of structurally complex forests
 - increase carbon sequestration & storage in forests and wood products
 - generate predictable revenue to beneficiaries
 - maintain timber supplies that support local industry
 - address economic needs of rural counties and.....



Legislative Funding – Working Forests & Conservation

Highlights cont.

- Develop an understanding of the current timber supply by region and impacts to regional wood supply from management changes
 - Contract with universities or other researchers to develop a common understanding of carbon accounting & quantification methodologies to assess sequestration & storage in both forests and wood products.
 - Report the group's findings to the legislature by December 1, 2023
 - \$500k to investigate hiring brokers to assist in acquiring lands
- AND.....



Legislative Funding – Working Forests & Conservation

Highlights cont.

- \$1.5 million to convene a workgroup to conduct a state ecosystem services inventory and develop a state lands ecosystem service asset plan.
 - Identify how ecosystem services could be monetized
 - Develop a marginal cost abatement model to inform HBU of state assets in ecosystem service markets
 - Conduct a needs assessment for implementation
 - Identify regulatory or policy limitations
 - Create an implementation plan for a virtual dashboard to market the ecosystem service inventory
 - Make recommendations on the creation of an ecosystems services equity and innovation account.
 - Report to the legislature by December 31, 2024



Other Agency Highlights

2SHB 1578 | Cascading Impacts of Wildfire

\$5 million in funding to expand DNR's Wildfire Ready Neighbors Program to western Washington, integrate additional smoke readiness and wildfire readiness resources into this program.

Also, creates a model for state-level burned area emergency response and stabilization teams supporting implementation of hazard mitigation and post-fire treatments for public safety and resource protection; launches a post-wildfire debris flow program; and develops public safety evacuation strategies.



SSB 5433 | Removal of Derelict Aquatic Structures and Restoration of Aquatic Lands

\$10.8 million in funding and established a program where DNR can remove and restore derelict aquatic structures, including removal of the: Triton-America Pier (Anacortes) • Dickman Mill (Tacoma) • Former High Tides Seafood Pier (Neah Bay) • Ray's Boathouse Pier (Ballard). Plus, an additional \$1 million is provided for removal of tires from Puget Sound.



Other Agency Highlights

Geoduck Taskforce

\$790K General Fund State (GF-S) & MOTCA

Funding for a Geoduck Task Force (orig. HB 1297 & SB 5410), consisting mostly of state agencies and Tribes, to address issues specific to geoduck management between the state and Tribal governments, including enhancement and harvest expansion opportunities, improvements to conditions for future generations and ensure the state is upholding Tribal Treaty Rights to geoduck harvesting.

Community Forest Management: Teanaway and Klickitat

\$2 million – General Fund-State (GF-S)

Funding to meet the on-going maintenance and operation needs for these important community treasures. DNR can fully implement the management plans for both community forests ensuring healthy forests that reduce fire threats and provide critical forest and aquatic habitats for local fish, including salmon. Funding also allows for sustainable recreation and economic opportunities for the local communities.

Urban Forestry

\$5.99 million – Natural Climate Solutions Account

Funding for additional community grants that provide necessary assistance for increasing our statewide urban tree canopy. We will also develop a statewide Tree Equity Map, update work on model tree ordinances, conduct a tree canopy analysis, and utilize youth corps conservation crews to plant trees in communities where they will provide the greatest benefit.

Workforce Development

\$2.3 million – General Fund-State (GF-S)

Funding for the agency's workforce "Root to Canopy Framework" that implements targeted investments in critical Natural Resources and Forest Health education and training-to-career workforce pathways.

Watershed Resilience Action Plan (WRAP)

\$2.86 million – Natural Climate Solutions Account

Funding needed to meet Snohomish watershed WRAP deliverables, including kelp and eelgrass stewardship; a large woody debris program; aquatic restoration grants; culvert removal; and begin planning for pilot projects in three additional target watersheds for systems-level efforts to benefit salmon recovery.



