

# Trust Land Transfer Work Group

PRESENTED BY

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## Support for a robust Trust Land Transfer Program

- The Nature Conservancy
- Legislators and public
- Needs: Recognize value appropriately; modernize expectations and directly acknowledge and address challenges;



## Project Selection

- Counter question: Would a different set of projects, with modified criteria, fundamentally address concerns of stakeholders concerned with TLT? What specifically about the proposed projects blocks more political and stakeholder support?
- Equitable and transparent identification and ranking process, that starts with recognition that the values of TLT are important and supported. Model off other programs. Utilize ‘weighting’, transparently.
- Assess and value carbon and ecosystem services



## Policy and Funding

- 80/20
- Replacement Land
- Administration Cost
- Carbon

# Emissions Targets by Year

Million Metric Tons

Forecasted from latest WA non-CO2 inventory using EPA growth rates

Starting target of 76 MMT: COVID-19 drops emissions below this target

~50% reduction in energy emissions over 10 years

Year	Non-CO <sub>2</sub> /Non-Energy Emissions	Incremental Land Sink	CO <sub>2</sub> Energy and Industry	Economy wide CO <sub>2</sub> Target to reach statewide GHG limits
1990	11.4	0.00	79.2	90.5
2020	14.5	0.00	76.0	90.5
2025	12.8	-0.75	58.1	70.1
2030	11.1	-1.50	40.1	49.8
2035	9.5	-2.25	31.2	38.5
2040	7.8	-3.00	22.3	27.2
2045	6.2	-3.75	11.2	13.6
2050	4.5	-4.5	0.0	0.0

5% gross emissions from non-CO<sub>2</sub>, 100% offset by incremental land sink

Non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reductions significant but uncertain and requires future research

Net zero target in energy and industry

## **RCW 70A.45.90 c**

It is further the policy of the state to support the participation of working forests in current and future carbon markets, strengthening the state's role as a valuable contributor to the global carbon response while supporting one of its largest manufacturing sectors.

## **RCW 70A.45.100**

### **Carbon sequestration.**

(2)(a) All agencies of state government...shall seek all practicable opportunities, consistent with existing legal mandates and requirements and statutory objectives, to cost-effectively maximize carbon sequestration and carbon storage in their nonland management agency operations, contracting, and grant-making activities.

(b) Any such effort to promote carbon sequestration activities that affects support for, or management of private lands or trust lands managed by the department of natural resources must be done in cooperation with the owners and managers of those natural and working lands.

### **Incentives Recommendation 3**

The CSAG finds that forest carbon offset projects, whether through voluntary markets, or through compliance cap and trade offset programs in other states, can offer a tool in the carbon sequestration toolbox – earning revenue for landowners while at the same time helping individuals and organizations, both in-state and out-of-state, offset their carbon footprint by storing and sequestering carbon. CSAG

# Leveraging the potential of nature to meet net zero greenhouse gas emissions in Washington State

James C. Robertson<sup>1</sup> Kristina V. Randrup<sup>2</sup> Emily R. Howe<sup>1</sup> Michael J. Case<sup>1</sup> Phillip S. Levin<sup>1,3</sup>

industrial times or face catastrophic changes. We employed existing approaches to calculate the potential for a suite of Natural Climate Solution (NCS) pathways to reduce Washington's net emissions under three implementation scenarios: Limited, Moderate, and Ambitious. We found that NCS could reduce emissions between 4.3 and 8.8 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e<sup>yr<sup>-1</sup></sup> in thirty-one years, accounting for 4% to 9% of the State's net zero goal. These potential reductions largely rely on changing forest management practices on portions of private and public timber lands. We also mapped the distribution of

# RESULTS

## Washington State

We estimate that NCS has potential to achieve an emissions rate of  $-8.8 \text{ MMT CO}_2\text{e}^{\text{yr}^{-1}}$  in 31 years under an Ambitious pathway ([Table 2](#)). This is approximately 8.9% of the annual emissions reductions needed in Washington to achieve carbon neutrality by the year 2050 (assuming the baseline emissions rate from 2018 and start date of 2020). Of this 8.9% reduction, extending timber harvest rotations has the largest potential contribution (64%), followed by combined agricultural practices (16%) and avoided conversion of forests (13%).

Our results demonstrate that Moderate and Limited scenarios offer pathways for reducing statewide emissions by approximately 5.1% and 4.3% respectively. Like the Ambitious scenario, extending timber harvest rotations, instituting different agricultural practices, and avoiding forest conversion make up the top pathways of these two scenarios. (Annual results of each combination of pathway, scenario, and geography –county and statewide –are in [Tables S4–S8](#)).



- Net carbon flux
  - Assumed harvest deferral is from a 45-year rotation to a
  - 75-year rotation to maximize sequestration potential from tree growth
  - Calculated sequestration and emissions associated with harvest volume, below-ground biomass, unused mill residues, wood as commercial fuel, and short-lived (20-years) transformed wood products,
  - Developed these rates each for wet and dry dominated forests, west and east of the Cascades Mountain Range respectively.
  - Monitoring Trends in Burn Severity (MTBS) fire perimeters to filter out forest cover loss from wildfire and
  - used growth tables for regional forests after clearcuts to estimate differences in carbon sequestration in even-aged managed forests.
- Scenarios
  - Based on discussion with natural resource managers, we selected maximum possible implementation to be limited to 40% on private lands for the Ambitious scenario as a compromise between the percentages used by Graves et al. for private non-industrial forests (100%) and private industrial forests (21%). For state lands, we used the 32% used by Graves et al. 100% for all other lands
  - Moderate: 30% private, 15% state



## SB 5126 (Climate Commitment Act)

- Carbon Offsets - real, permanent, quantifiable, verifiable, and enforceable
- Tribal Land Offset support
- Natural Climate Solutions Account - iii)  
Prevent emissions by preserving natural and working lands from the threat of conversion to development or loss of critical habitat, through actions that include, but are not limited to, the creation of new conservation lands, community forests, or increased support to small forestland owners through assistance programs