

Yacolt Forest – Phase 3

The Yacolt Forest Conservation Easement ensures that the largest, intact, private land ownership in Clark County will remain forested in perpetuity.

- ~13,000 acres of permanent forestland protection (34,000 acres total in four phases)
- Permanently protects public access for hunting, fishing, and hiking
- Protects County's timber economy and clean water for communities
- Critical habitat for 5 federally threatened salmonid species
- \$1.1M application to Conservation Futures (\$9,075,000 total)
- 88% match from non-County sources
- Aligns with Clark County Comprehensive Plan and Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery Plan

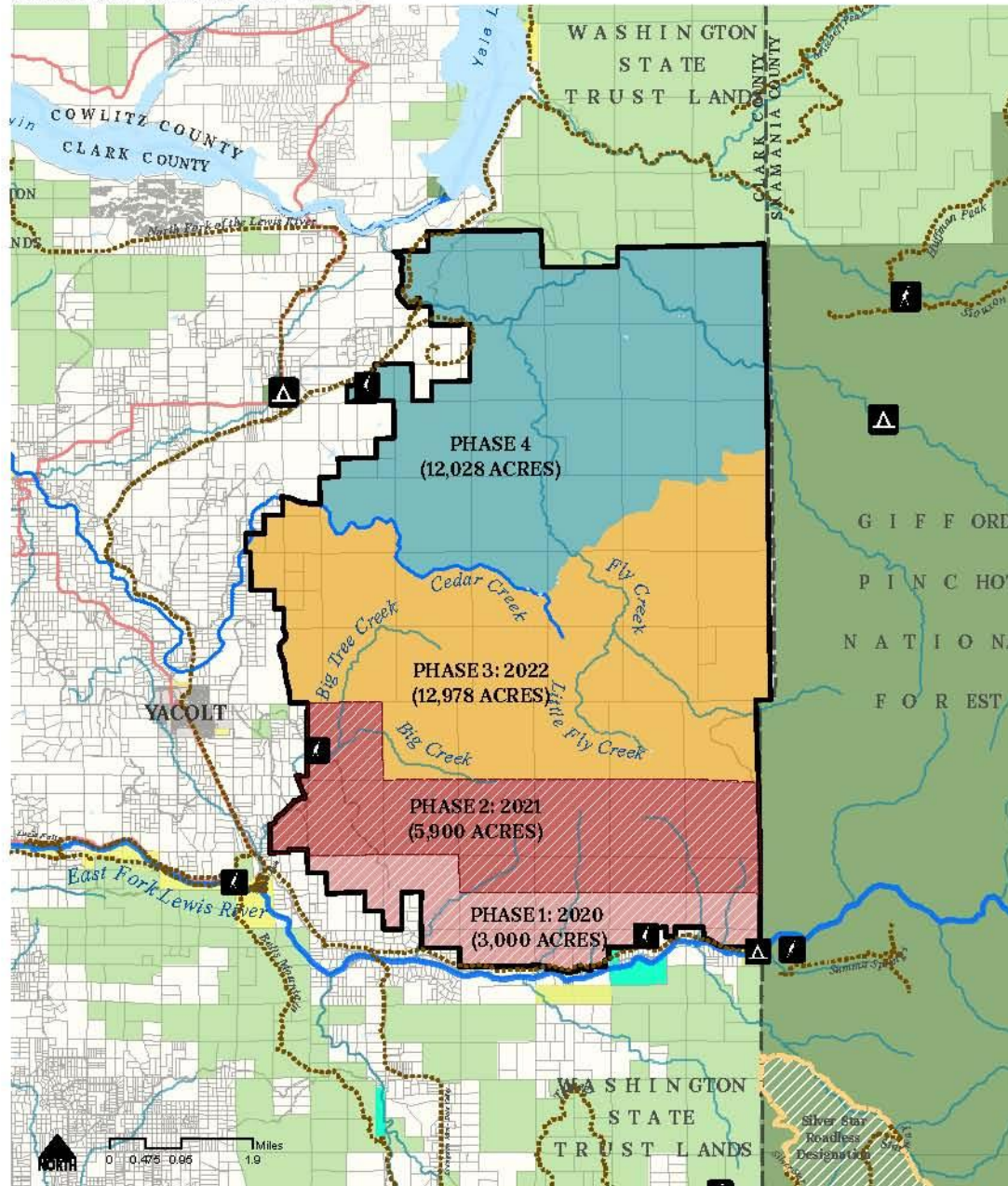




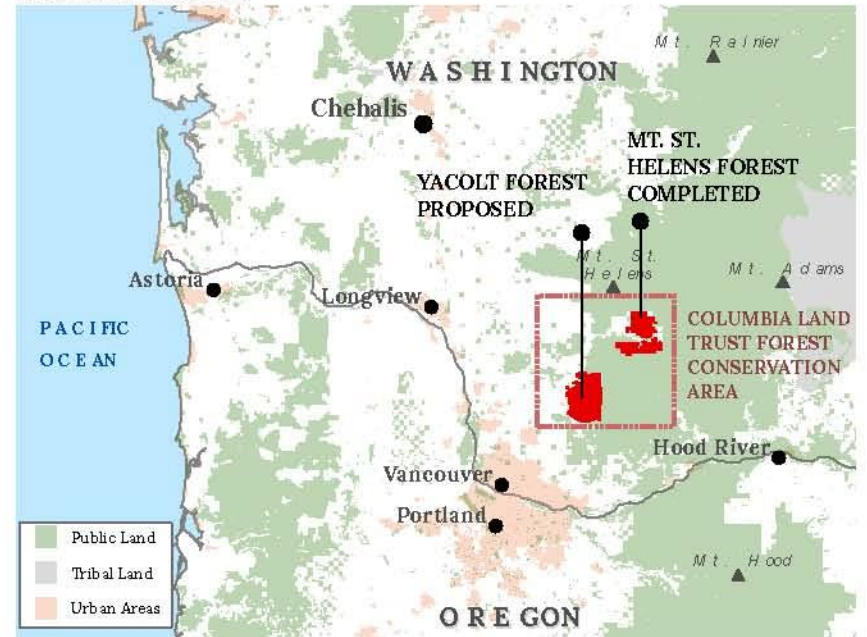
Columbia Land Trust

FY 2021 Conservation Futures Yacolt Forest Phase 3

PROJECT OVERVIEW MAP:



REGIONAL MAP:



Yacolt Forest Conservation Project Area

Project Phases

- Phase 1 - 3,000 Acres
- Phase 2 - 5,900 Acres
- Phase 3 - Proposed Conservation Futures (12,978 Acres)**
- Phase 4 - Future Phase (12,028 Acres)

Land Management

- Federal Government
- State Government
- Local Government
- Columbia Land Trust

Transportation

- Major Roads
- Trails

Hydrography

- Lakes
- Rivers

Map Date: 10/7/2020
Data Sources: USGS, DNR, Clark County

DISCLAIMER: This map is not a survey and must not be construed as one. This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.



proud past, promising future

CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

Conservation Futures Project Application / Summary FUNDING CYCLE 2021

SUBMITTAL DATE: 12/31/2020

PROJECT NAME: Yacolt Forest – Phase 3

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Organization Name: Columbia Land Trust

Agency Address: 850 Officers' Row, Vancouver, WA 98661

Agency Jurisdiction: Lower Columbia River region

Contact Name: Nathan Ulrich

Contact Phone: 360-696-0131

Contact E-Mail Address: nulrich@columbialandtrust.org

PROJECT LOCATION

Property Address(es): N/A

Tax Identification Number(s): 244396-000, 244599-000, 244801-000, 245003-000, 245205-000, 277056-000, 277057-000, 277058-000, 277060-000 (portion), 277264-000, 277267-000, 277268-000, 277269-000, 277270-000, 277271-000, 277272-000, 279670-000, 282391-000 (portion), 283624-000 (portion), 283829000 (portion), 284235-000 (portion), 284440-000 (portion), 284642-000 (portion), 284844-000, 285046-000, 285248-000 (portion), 285451-000 (portion), 285653-000 (portion), 285855-000, 286057-000, 286259-000, 286461-000, 286663-000, 286865-000, 287067-000, 287070-000

Major Street / Intersection Nearest Property Access Point: Eastern terminus of NE Falls Rd

Property Description (type of land use): Timberland

Section: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Township: 4N Range: 4E

Section: 24, 25, 26 Township: 5N Range: 3E

Section: 13, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36 Township: 5N Range: 4E

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Number of Parcels: 36

Addition:

Total Project Acres: ~12,978

Zoning Classification(s): FR-80

Existing Structures/Facilities (No. / Type): None

Current use: Designated Forest Land

Watershed Name: East Fork Lewis River (HUC 10) and Lower Lewis River (HUC 10)

Conservation Futures Program – Department of Environmental Service
1300 Franklin St., PO Box 9810, Vancouver, WA 98666-9810 (360) 397-2121



For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office: **Voice** (360) 397-2322; **Relay** 711 or (800) 833-6388; **Fax** (360) 397-6165; **E-mail** ADA@clark.wa.gov.

- Waterfront Access and type: Numerous tributaries to the East Fork Lewis River and Lower Lewis River (see below). The project provides direct access to all.
- Body of Water: Big Creek (1.2 miles), Big Tree Creek (2.2 miles), Cedar Creek (5.7 miles), Fly Creek (5.0 miles), Little Fly Creek (1.3 miles).
- Shoreline (lineal ft.): See above.
- Historical / Cultural Features: The site is within ceded lands of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, and as one of the earliest sustained yield tree farms in the nation, it includes multiple state listed archaeological sites.
- Owner Tidelands/Shorelands:
- Active Agriculture; Currently leased for agriculture
- Threatened / Endangered species present: Project site includes habitat for five species of federally listed salmonids including Fall Chinook, coho, and chum salmon, and summer and winter steelhead. It also includes land within a Northern Spotted Owl nest circle.
- Utilities on property (list all known):
- Potable water available on site: Well; Water Service; Is there a water right?

SITE DESCRIPTION (Discuss physical characteristics of proposed acquisition):

This project will conserve nearly 13,000 acres (Phase 3) of a 34,268-acre forestland conservation site in Clark County (the initial 8,900 acres of the project have been funded by a previous round of Conservation Futures). This property is unique and valuable for conservation because it is the largest, intact, private ownership remaining in our rapidly urbanizing county. The entirety of the project site is categorized as Tier 1 Forest Resource lands (zoned FR-80) under the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan, encompassing almost half of the County's Tier 1 lands.

The project site is adjacent to or in close proximity to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Yacolt Multiple Use Area, and Columbia Land Trust's Pine Creek Conservation Area and Copper Creek Conservation Area. The project site is an essential component of a connected landscape of public and private lands that provide valuable conservation to the residents of Clark County including outdoor recreation, surface and ground water resources, views and vistas, and fish and wildlife habitat. These lands provide some of the most important areas in the County for terrestrial wildlife including elk, deer, cougar and bear that are being displaced by population growth. Additionally, the project site contains Fly Creek Falls, a scenic 82-foot waterfall.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IMPROVEMENTS: None

PROPOSED USES ON SITE: Public access, commercial timber operations

PROJECT PARTNERS:

- For purchase, list names: WA Department of Natural Resources
- For use of site, list names:

Conservation Futures Program – Department of Environmental Service
1300 Franklin St., PO Box 9810, Vancouver, WA 98666-9810 (360) 397-2121



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TYPE OF INTEREST:

Warranty Deed: **No** Easement: **Yes**

Other (please describe):

Project requires relocation of residents: Yes No

PROJECT COST:

Estimated Total Cost: \$9,075,000

Estimate Based on: Comparable easement sales on timberland adjacent to Mt. St. Helens

Will other agencies/groups contribute to project? Yes No

Name of Contributor: USFS Forest Legacy Programs

Amount of Contribution: \$6,900,000 (75% of project cost)

Total Estimated Request from Conservation Futures: \$1,135,000 (12.5% of project cost)

Attach separate sheet with all anticipated:

- Revenues for project, including donations, in-kind services, grants, partnerships, and other contributions
- Expenses for project, including permits, fees, staff time,

PROJECT MAINTENANCE PLAN (brief summary of maintenance approach): Project site will be managed by fee owner for forestry values. Columbia Land Trust will perform annual monitoring and on-site inspections to ensure conservation values are protected as described in the conservation easement.





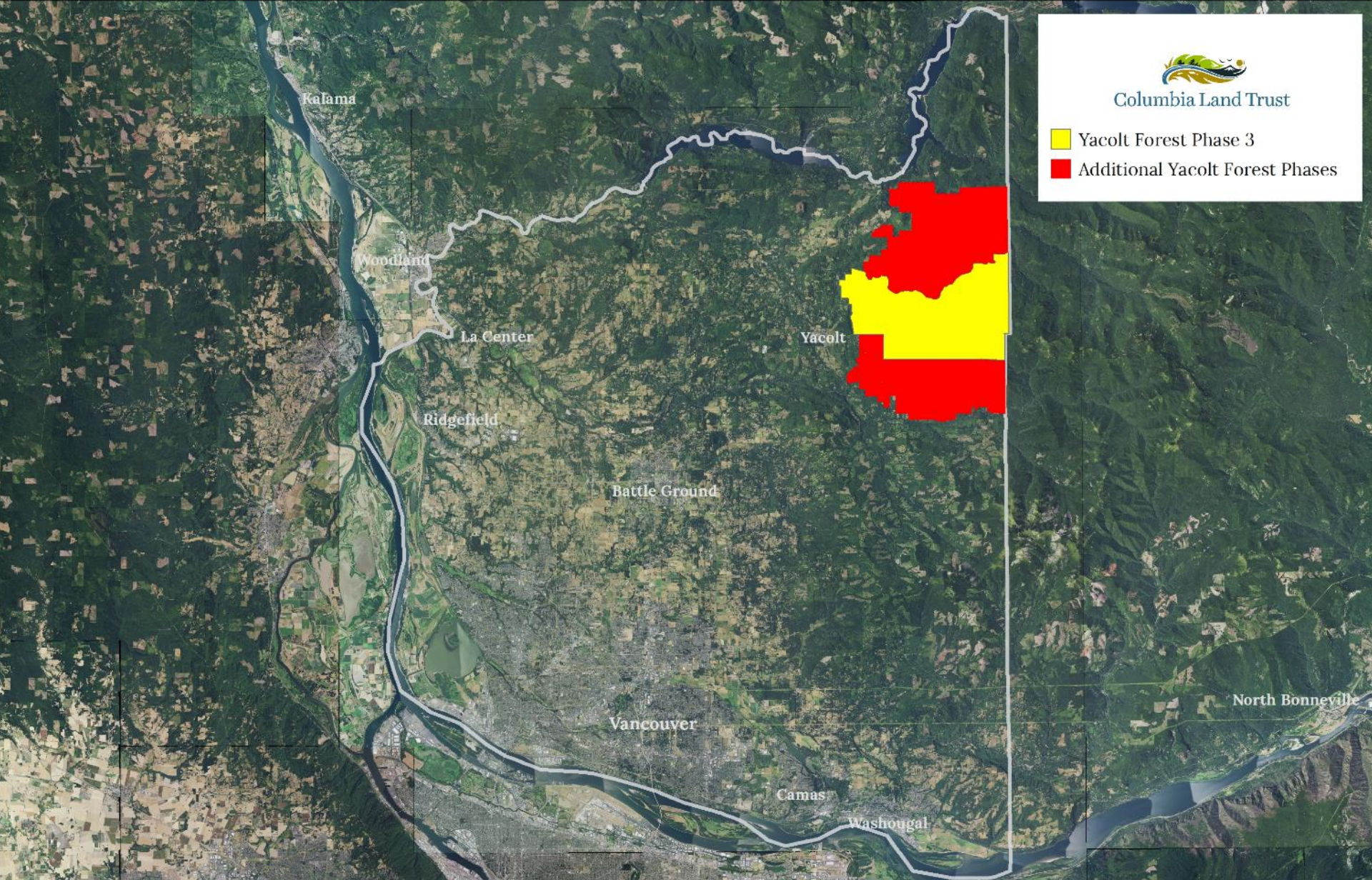
Columbia Land Trust

CONSERVING THE NATURE YOU LOVE

Yacolt Forest - Phase 3
Clark County Conservation Futures

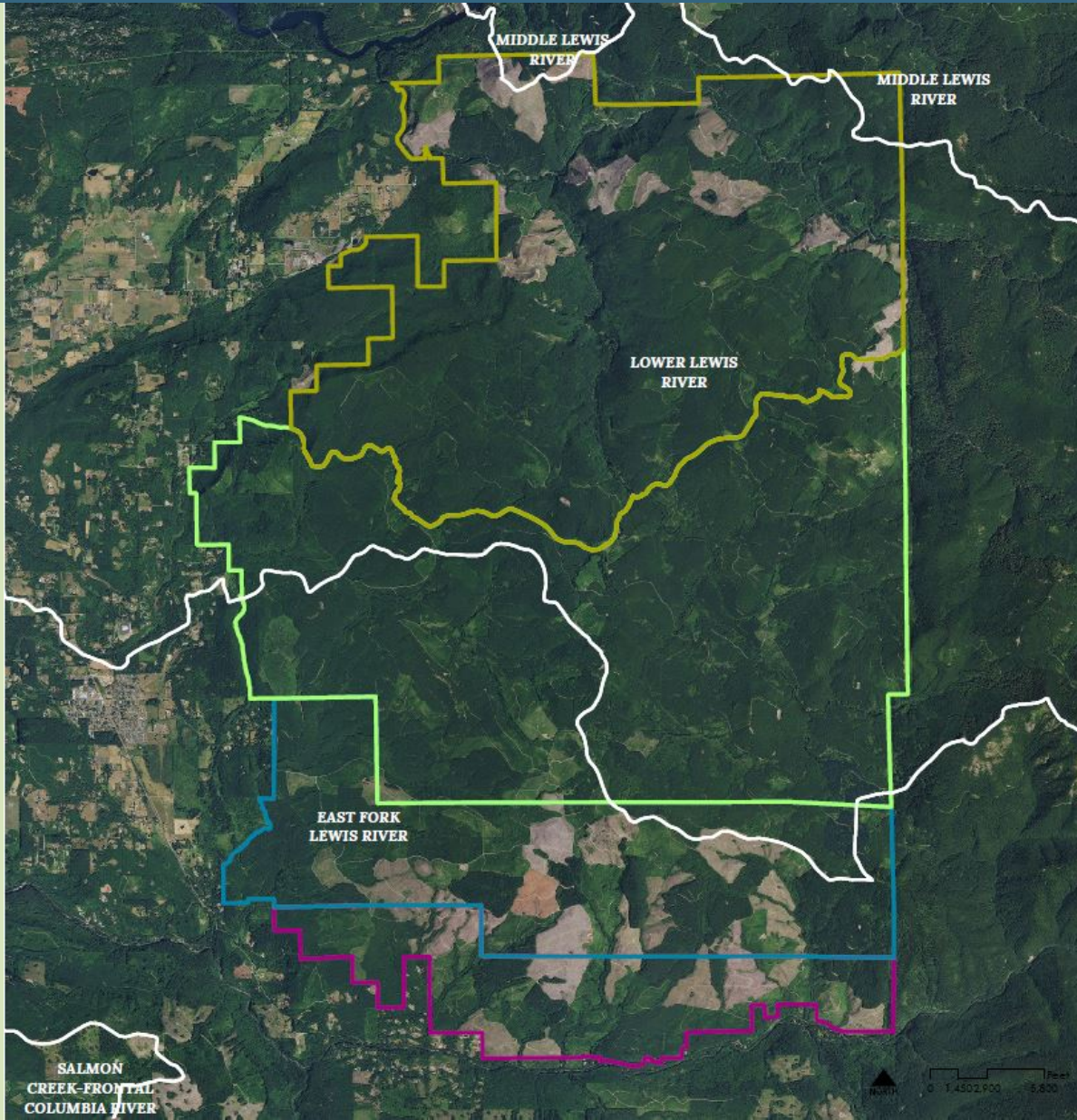


Yacolt Forest – Phase 3 Locator Map



Columbia Land Trust

- Yacolt Forest Phase 3
- Additional Yacolt Forest Phases





Goal:

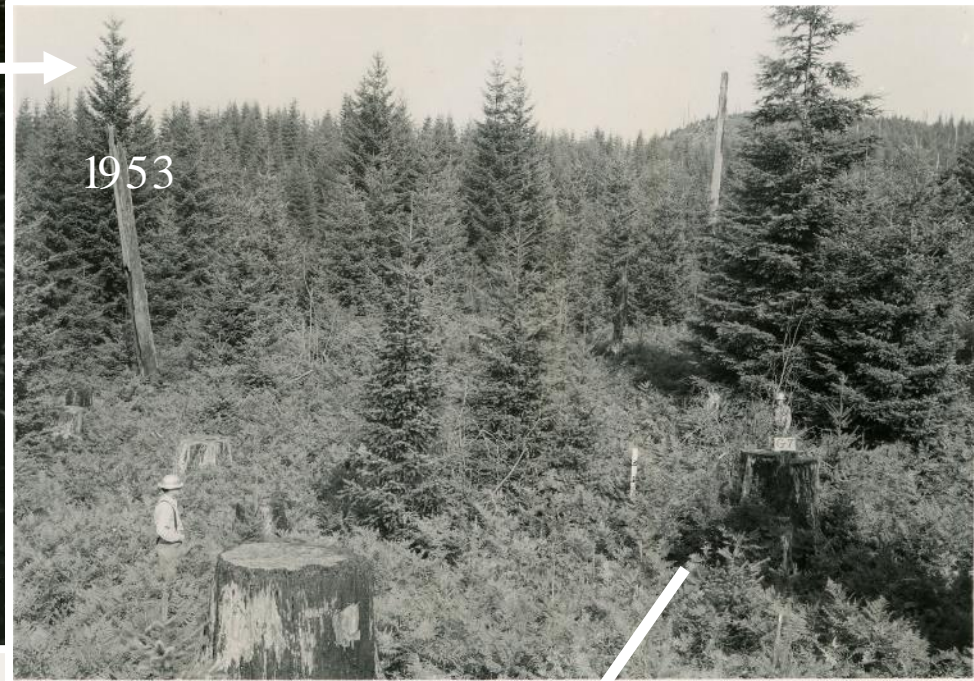
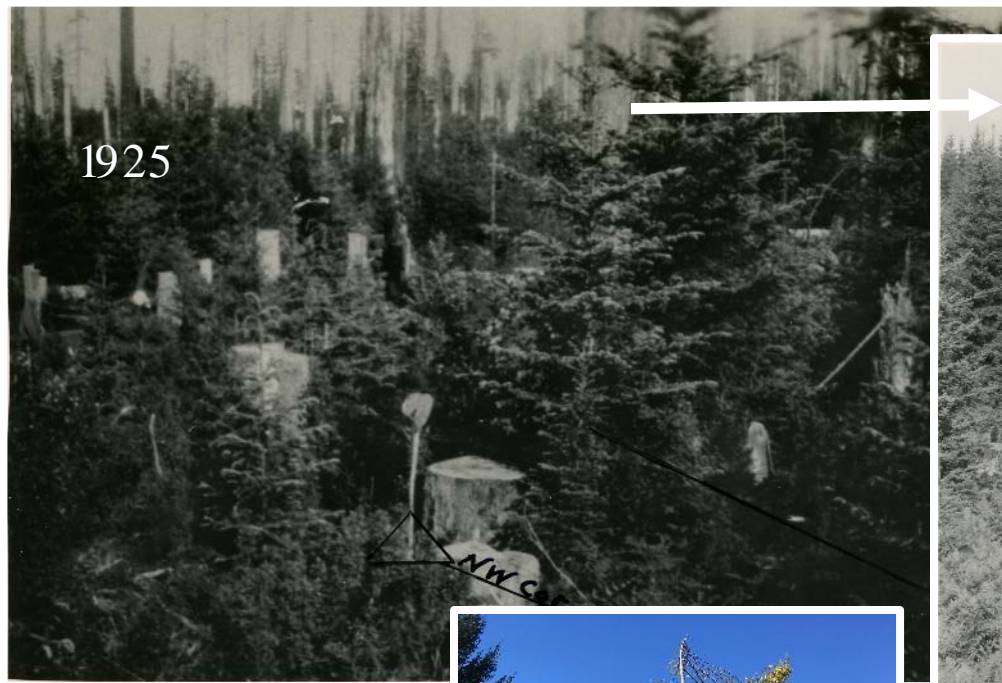
Conserve ~13,000 of highly productive forests using conservation easements.

Objectives:

1. Ensure that Clark County's working forests remain forests.
2. Provide new public access with connectivity to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.
3. Protect wildlife habitat and drinking water including the headwaters of Cedar, Fly and Big Tree Creeks.



Yacolt Forest - Phase 3 History







Yacolt Forest – Phase 3 Public Access





Yacolt Forest – Phase 3

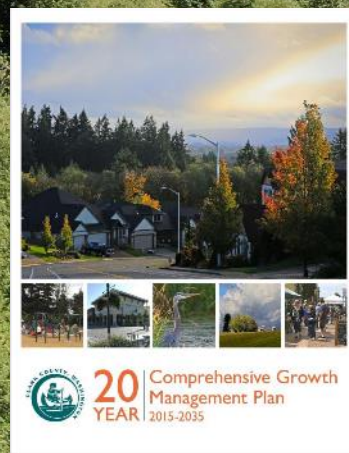
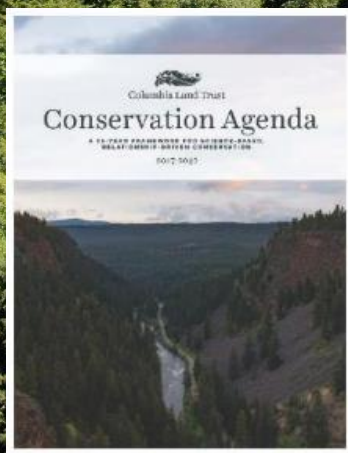
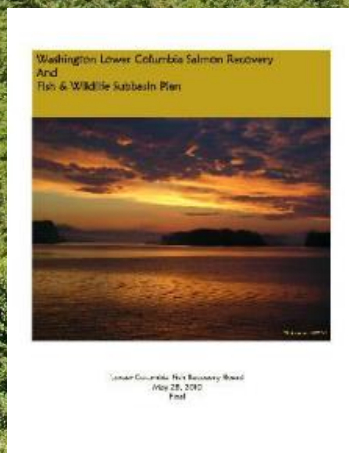
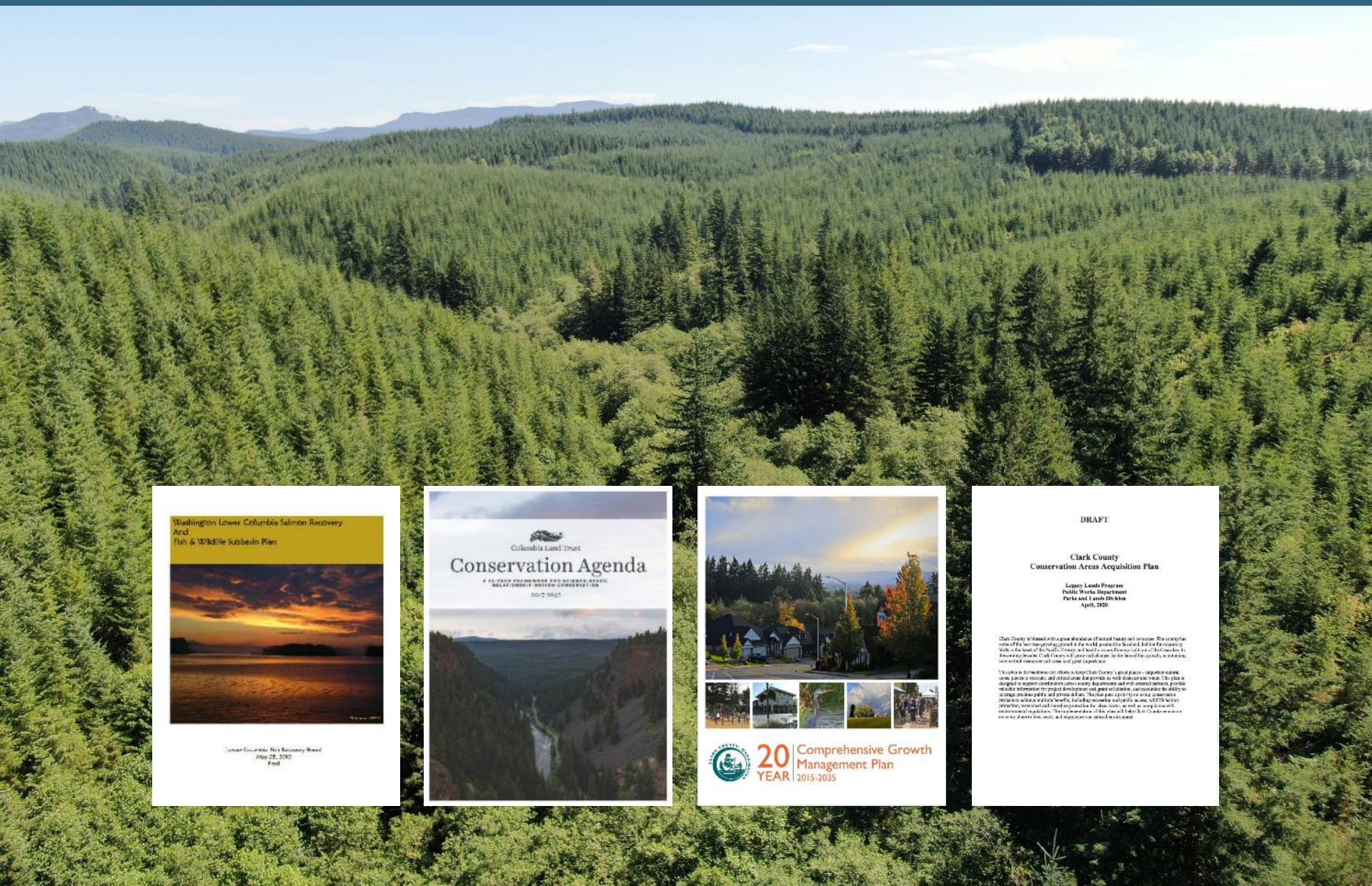
Wildlife Habitat and Water Quality







Yacolt Forest – Phase 3 Planning Priority





Budget:

Conservation Easement:	\$8,580,000
Transaction:	\$ 494,00
Total:	\$9,074,000

Funding:

US Forest Service Forest Legacy Program:	\$6,807,000 (applied)
Clark County Conservation Futures:	\$1,100,000 (applied)
Columbia Land Trust:	\$1,167,000

88% From Partners



Clark County Forests Forever





Thank you!
Questions?

