



# MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY

## NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA FEASIBILITY STUDY



APRIL 2012

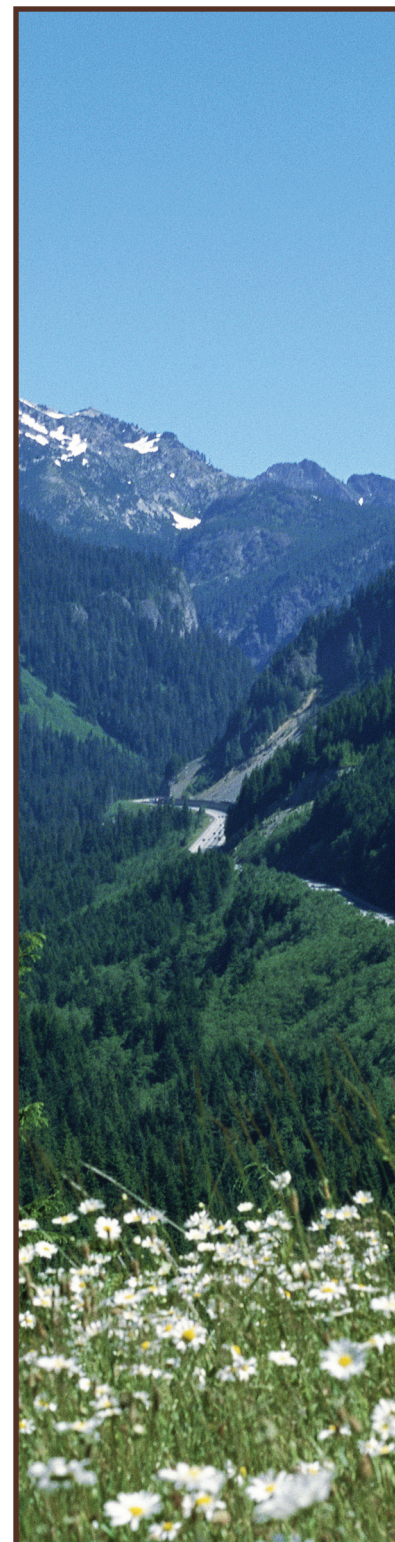
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Vast forests. Meadow-strewn mountain peaks. Small farms that feed city markets. Rural communities, keepers of our region's colorful past. Railroad tunnels and mining shafts. Springboard notches cut six feet high into an old growth stump. Vibrant cities where people want to live and companies want to locate. Broad swaths of connected natural lands for wildlife to roam. Hundreds of places for skiing and hiking, kayaking and cycling. This is the Mountains to Sound Greenway.**

The Mountains to Sound Greenway connects natural landscapes, living history, working farms and forests, and thriving communities in Washington State. Together, these places tell the story of our nation's pioneer history, of how a generation built a thriving economy on the earth's riches, and another generation brought that relationship with the landscape back into

balance. Through innovation and collaboration, citizens in the region created a more sustainable economy and preserved a rugged landscape that has shaped livelihoods, cultures, and characters for thousands of years.

National Heritage Area designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway will officially define this landscape and benefit community groups, local and state governments, and federal agencies by raising awareness of the Greenway's role in the American story – past, present and future. Formal recognition will provide a framework for agencies and the community to collaboratively manage the historic, cultural and natural assets of this nationally significant place. As the proposed local coordinating entity, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust has both the capacity and the community support to steward this historic landscape.

Weaving together the urban and the wild, the Greenway connects 1.5 million acres surrounding Interstate 90, including the fifteenth







largest metropolis in the United States. More than 900,000 acres of land within its boundaries are now publicly owned, from city parks to expansive public forests. In addition, more than 100,000 acres are conserved as permanent forests and farms in private ownership.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway encapsulates the story of the nation's frontier from settlement to exploitation to a community coming full circle to conservation. The iconic landscape of the Greenway shaped local culture and economy and inspired a sense of connection between people and nature that permeates every aspect of the Greenway narrative. From the earliest days, geography shaped transportation, settlement, commerce, and trade. Natural resources provided an economic foundation for pioneer settlement. Twentieth-century collaborative conservation efforts grew out of a shared desire to maintain a scenic and sustainable resource base for future generations. These stories make up a living history, one that is ripe for coordinated stewardship and storytelling by the dynamic and passionate Greenway community.

A vision for preserving the Greenway was born in 1990; community leaders founded the nonprofit Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust a year later. The 60-member Greenway Trust Board of Directors represents a diversity of interests, including environmentalists, developers, small businesses, and local, state, and federal officials. The unique success of the Greenway coalition is based upon the idea that long-term preservation depends on the input, participation, and continued engagement of a whole community.

Beginning in 2009, the Greenway Trust instigated a National Heritage Area Feasibility Study - known as the Heritage Study - identifying and cataloging the stories that shape our heritage. In more than 150 public meetings and with over 1,000 stakeholders, there was a clear consensus: the Mountains to Sound Greenway will benefit enormously from a National Heritage Area designation. Designation will provide unique support to stakeholders as they develop new collaborative tools to carry the Greenway vision into the future.





## CHAPTER 1- INTRODUCTION

# CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION



# WELCOME TO THE MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY

## MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY



The Mountains to Sound Greenway encompasses over 1.5 million acres of connected natural lands and vibrant urban areas surrounding I-90 between Puget Sound and Central Washington. The Greenway conserves a shared heritage of working farms and forests, parks, sustainable communities and abundant outdoor educational and recreational opportunities.

This map illustrates that the Mountains to Sound Greenway is bounded by major watersheds, framed by the urban areas of Seattle and Ellensburg and woven together by the interstate highway and an extensive network of trails that link the public to the Greenway landscape.

*The information included on this map has been compiled from various sources and is subject to change without notice. While not guaranteed, every attempt has been made to present the information accurately and completely. November 2011, HEARTLAND*



Stretching from the shores of Puget Sound to the heart of Washington state, the Mountains to Sound Greenway is a mosaic of thriving communities, living history, and vast natural lands. With 1.5 million acres of rugged mountains, vast forests, high desert, suburban parks and gardens, and metropolitan streets, the Greenway encompasses a shared heritage of historic towns, healthy ecosystems, spectacular alpine wilderness, working farms and forests, and extensive outdoor recreation in a region that includes one of the major metropolitan areas in the United States.

The Greenway sits at the end of the American frontier and at the beginning of a sustainable future. It is a place where landscape shaped travel and commerce, as early settlers were challenged with both extracting wealth from the land and then moving it to market. This connection with the landscape, however, shifted over time. Following an initial surge of logging and mining, local residents began to consider ways of living close to the land without exhausting it. A citizen-based conservation movement was born.





## 1- INTRODUCTION

Twenty years ago, a coalition of civic leaders and community activists came together around the need to preserve the Greenway and its natural and historical assets. These partners, including major landowners, business representatives, environmental activists and elected officials, have worked toward a common vision of accessible natural areas, a rich cultural narrative, vibrant, livable communities, and productive working lands, all set against a backdrop of incomparable scenic beauty.

As the concept of the Greenway became established, community leaders

*The success of the Greenway reflects a deep connection between people and nature. This connection is at the heart of the region's identity.*

began to look at existing models of community-based landscape designation. Ultimately, National Heritage Area designation emerged as the most promising option. With that in mind, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust embarked upon a two-year study process. During 2009 and 2010, the Trust engaged more than 1,000 stakeholders in discussions about

why the Greenway is a special place and what opportunities exist for conserving and enhancing a sustainable balance into the future. Participants discovered broad consensus that the Greenway is a nationally distinctive landscape with abundant opportunities for interpreting historic stories and conserving natural and cultural resources.



Travelers pause to enjoy majestic views of the Cascade Mountains.



# NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS

**Through an extensive public engagement process, Greenway stakeholders and community members determined that a National Heritage Area will ensure the best support for continued preservation of the Greenway by providing a flexible framework for addressing shared challenges, formalizing partnerships, and interpreting resources – all while building on the successes of the past twenty years.**

National Heritage Areas are special regions of the United States that provide outstanding opportunities to tell important chapters of the American story. They represent a locally initiated approach to resource conservation, providing a forum for diverse interests to work cooperatively toward common goals, such as historic preservation, economic development, and increased educational and recreational opportunities. As such, National Heritage Areas play an integral role in preserving and enhancing the physical characteristics and cultural legacy of unique regions throughout the United States. According to the National Park Service:



*National Heritage Areas are large lived-in places where natural, cultural and scenic resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography.*

*These patterns make National Heritage Areas representative of American experience through the physical features that remain and the traditions that have evolved in them. These regions are acknowledged by Congress for their capacity to tell important stories about our nation (National Park Service 2004).*

A National Heritage Area provides a foundation upon which communities can develop a vision, based on a shared heritage, which addresses opportunities for conserving natural and cultural resources while enhancing economic vitality. As the National Park Service explains, “A National Heritage Area can convey the complex history of the area, while also serving as a model for cooperative public and private sector partnerships to preserve, conserve, and interpret its natural and cultural resources.”

## Benefits of a Heritage Area designation include:

- **Federal recognition of an area as nationally distinctive and containing significant resources worthy of collaborative stewardship**
- **The opportunity to connect, conserve and interpret resources across a broad landscape**
- **Planning and technical assistance from the National Park Service**
- **Potential seed funding, at a 1:1 match, to implement programs and initiatives**
- **Stimulation of public/private partnerships**





## 1- INTRODUCTION

Since the National Heritage Areas program began in 1984, Congress has designated 49 National Heritage Areas from the eastern seaboard to the deserts of Arizona – including the Champlain Valley, Illinois & Michigan Canal, Northern Rio Grande and Mississippi Gulf Coast. These areas include battlefields, factory towns, river corridors, and presidential memorials.

While the National Heritage Area program is administered by the National Park Service, National Heritage Areas are locally initiated and independently managed. Unlike National Parks, National Heritage Areas do not add new regulations, nor do they legislate the acquisition of land. Instead, National Heritage Areas provide opportunities for voluntary partnerships, offering a community-based framework for maintaining resources and leveraging funding.



Bicyclists enjoy a ride through Iron Horse State Park, on the historic Milwaukee Road rail right-of way.

### National Park Service National Heritage Area Criteria

1. The area has an assemblage of natural, historic, or cultural resources that together represent distinctive aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and are best managed as such an assemblage through partnerships among public and private entities, and by combining diverse and sometimes noncontiguous resources and active communities;
2. The area reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and folk life that are a valuable part of the national story;
3. The area provides outstanding opportunities to conserve natural, cultural, historic, and/or scenic features;
4. The area provides outstanding recreational and educational opportunities;
5. Resources that are important to the identified theme or themes of the area retain a degree of integrity capable of supporting interpretation;
6. Residents, business interests, nonprofit organizations, and governments within the proposed area that are involved in the planning, have developed a conceptual financial plan that outlines the roles for all participants including the federal government, and have demonstrated support for designation of the area;
7. The proposed management entity and units of government supporting the designation are willing to commit to working in partnership to develop the heritage area;
8. The proposal is consistent with continued economic activity in the area;
9. A conceptual boundary map is supported by the public; and
10. The management entity proposed to plan and implement the project is described.





# THE STUDY AREA

**The Mountains to Sound Greenway traverses a swath of land more than 100 miles long, traveling through landscapes that have defined both culture and commerce for thousands of years and whose continued preservation is essential to the ongoing health and prosperity of Greenway communities.**

Picture the Mountains to Sound Greenway on a journey from east to west:

Beginning in Ellensburg, an hour and a half east of Seattle, you pass through an historic downtown that offers glimpses of life in the 1880s when the city was built. The flat expanse of shrub-steppe grassland encircling the city is interrupted only by the jagged peaks of the Stuart Range, the largest mass of exposed granite in North America. Journeying westward, your route parallels the Yakima River, a tributary of the mighty Columbia River. Home to world-class trout fishing, the Yakima also irrigates prime farmland in the shrub-steppe region of

Central Washington. You pass a number of large-scale agriculture operations; this region is internationally-known for its Timothy hay production, but it also produces more than 70 other crops. As you continue west, the topography steepens and Ponderosa pines begin to dot the landscape. You pass small towns—including Roslyn, a National Historic District, and Cle Elum. These towns were once renowned for coal mining, railroads and timber harvests. Today, these communities celebrate their heritage while looking toward tourism and outdoor recreation to help drive their economies.

Continue climbing, entering into the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest and skirt the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area. Just over an hour's drive from downtown Seattle, the Alpine Lakes is one of the most visited Wilderness Areas in the country. Your route then leads you through Snoqualmie Pass, cresting the Cascade Mountains. Beginning as an Indian Trail that facilitated interaction and trade between tribes on either side of the mountains, the route over Snoqualmie Pass evolved into a military trail and cattle drive and then into a wagon road some have called the "northern branch" of the Oregon Trail. In 1909, only about 100 vehicles crossed Snoqualmie Pass on a one-lane road during the entire year.

*These towns were once renowned for coal mining and timber harvests. Today, they celebrate their heritage while looking toward tourism and outdoor recreation to help drive local economies.*



Nestled in the scenic Cle Elum River valley, the Roslyn Farmers Market invites shoppers to share in local food and artwork.



## 1- INTRODUCTION

Now the pass is traversed by Interstate 90, which each year carries half a billion dollars worth of goods along its six lanes and serves as the main east-west travel corridor in Washington State.

Your route loses elevation dramatically after passing the Snoqualmie Pass ski resort, Washington's most popular, and you enter into another national forest, the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie. The ecology changes dramatically too, from high desert pines to the moss-laden, moist green forests of the western slope. Today one of the top ten carbon-storing forests in the country, this forest was once home to massive old growth Douglas fir and Western red cedar--some more than thirteen feet in diameter.



Since the early days of the motor vehicle, Snoqualmie Pass has enticed visitors to travel into the Cascade Mountains.



Snowmelt from the Cascades creates a spectacular natural attraction in 270-foot Snoqualmie Falls, the second most popular tourist attraction in Washington.

While a few of these old trees remain scattered across the landscape, you're more likely to come across remnants of them along interpretive hikes or in local history museums. Following the South Fork Snoqualmie River, you continue your descent, passing state parks and natural areas, public and private working forests, organic farms, historic mill towns and the Cedar River Watershed, which provides clean drinking water for Seattle residents. The transition into the Puget lowland is marked by Snoqualmie Falls, an iconic cataract that, according to the Snoqualmie Tribe, is where heaven and earth meet.

As you enter the Seattle metropolitan area — the fifteenth largest in the country — you are flanked by a chain of forested hills, dubbed the “Issaquah Alps,” which stretch all the way to the City of Bellevue's urban core, home to more than 200,000 people. Once the site of major coal mining and logging operations, the Alps now offer myriad recreational opportunities, including hiking, wildlife viewing, mountain biking, horseback riding, and hang gliding. The area also is home to important wildlife corridors as well as working





## 1- INTRODUCTION



Mercer Slough Nature Park in Bellevue invites explorations of nature in the heart of the city.

forests that provide local wood products and generate revenue for public schools.

Entering the urban center, you are surrounded by waterways. The deep blue of Lakes Sammamish, Washington and Union is juxtaposed with the grey of building façades, the green of coniferous trees towering in city parks and the white of clouds overhead. Rivers that once carried some of the largest salmon runs in the lower 48 serve as de facto city boundaries and the expanse of Puget Sound now stretches before you. Your view is framed by mountains – the Olympics to the East, the North Cascades to the North, Central Cascades to the East and the majestic cone of Mt. Rainier to the South. Finally, you reach the shores of Puget Sound along the Seattle waterfront. In the late 1700s, upon arriving to this area by sea, Captain George Vancouver remarked upon “the unassisted fertility that nature put forth.” Today, while the skyline now also includes skyscrapers, one still finds that, as British travel writer Jonathan Raban said, “Seattle is the only city in the world that people move to in order to get closer to nature.”

You’ve traveled just over 100 miles along a major interstate highway – the first interstate highway in the country to be designated a National Scenic Byway – and the journey took you a little more than

*“Seattle is the only city in the world that people would move to in order to get closer to nature.”*

**Jonathan Raban**

90 minutes. You passed through the Mountains to Sound Greenway, which includes two counties, 28 cities, three watersheds, two national forests, a National Historical Park, dozens of state-protected natural areas, working farms and forests, and scores of historic sites. Remarkably, this extraordinarily diverse landscape is also home to over 1.8 million people.



Volunteers gather to plant trees in Jose Rizal Park in Seattle, near the intersection of Interstates 5 and 90.





### PURPOSE & PROCESS

**In the Mountains to Sound Greenway, a diverse stakeholder community works together to find collaborative and innovative solutions to preserve the landscape and heritage of the Greenway, while supporting thriving communities. From the initial efforts following a five-day march in 1990, to the many meetings held in 2010 during the Heritage Study process, the Greenway Trust has built its success on the idea that long-term preservation depends on the input, participation and continued engagement of the full Greenway community.**

During the summer of 1990, 100 people marched from Snoqualmie Pass, in the heart of the Cascade Mountains, to the Seattle Waterfront. They

walked for five days through the woods along trails and abandoned railway corridors to publicize the landscape at Seattle's doorstep and the imminent threat of development sprawling from the urban areas along the interstate. Their hike demonstrated the uniqueness of such a rich blend of historical, recreational, and scenic features so close to a growing urban center. The challenge for the first generation of Greenway stakeholders was to preserve this landscape and its defining characteristics while ensuring that such preservation enhanced the area's economic vitality and quality of life.

Following the 1990 march, people of many interests came together to form the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, including representatives from timber companies and conservationists, developers and historians, who jointly created a vision of well-balanced preservation. Many aspects of this vision have been realized, and residents, businesses, and government officials recognize the importance of the Greenway as key to defining the character of the region. The Greenway's resources — an integration of productive working farms and forests, accessible recreation, healthy natural areas, preserved historical sites, and vibrant communities — exist because the Greenway's diverse stakeholders share a common heritage, one that is defined by a deep connection between people and nature.

*The challenge for early Greenway promoters was to preserve this landscape and its defining characteristics while enhancing economic vitality and quality of life in the region.*



The 1990 March inspired a vision of the Greenway we have today.



## 1- INTRODUCTION

Maintaining the Greenway landscape in a rapidly changing world will be a considerable challenge in the coming years. Population growth continues to put great pressures on working farms, forests, and wildlife habitat, as well as on the historical sites and reminders of earlier days that can fall so easily to a bulldozer's blade. The need to conserve the forests that clean our air and water is increasingly apparent in the face of a changing climate. The region must maintain attractive and dynamic cities that accommodate smart development and serve as catalysts for economic growth, without losing its culture and historical connections. And while demand for enhanced outdoor recreation continues to grow, public land managers struggle with safety, signage, security, sanitation and shrinking budgets.

Recently, Greenway stakeholders recognized that these challenges might best be addressed by developing a deeper understanding and official recognition of the landscape as a whole, and by building more formal cooperation within the Greenway community. Over an eighteen-month period, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust led a broad spectrum of stakeholders through the Heritage Study, acknowledging the achievements of the past twenty years, devising ways to celebrate the region's shared history, and determining new strategies for meeting economic, social and environmental goals for the next twenty years and beyond. The goals of the process were as follows:

- To inspire the Greenway coalition, building an even broader community and uniting stakeholders under principles of cooperative management;
- To develop a framework for action for the next twenty years, formalizing partnerships and giving direction to future stewards of the landscape by solidifying commitments that exist today;
- To make the Greenway an officially recognized

landscape, to acknowledge the successes of the past twenty years and to foster an overarching "sense of place" in the region that will build broader public recognition, awareness, and involvement.

To ensure involvement of a broad group of community members in the Heritage Study, the Greenway Trust formed an outreach plan, which included the creation of fifteen stakeholder working groups, an interactive website, a

study brochure, one-on-one meetings with key stakeholders, and public meetings.

Specialized working groups organized around key assets of the Greenway convened to define assets, discuss potential threats, and identify needs and opportunities for future stewardship. Each of these working groups consisted of 6-30 members, representing a diverse set of voices active around that particular asset. Group members included representatives from nonprofit organizations, government agencies, private businesses, and individual community members. Working Group members acted as ambassadors to their stakeholder organizations and to the broader

### Heritage Study Working Groups

- Agriculture
- Cities/Sustainability
- Community Involvement
- Culture
- Ecology
- Education/Interpretation
- Forestry
- History
- Outdoor Recreation
- Regional Trails
- Tourism/Marketing
- Wildland Trails
- Public Land Manager Team
- Heritage Study Committee
- Kittitas Working Group



## 1- INTRODUCTION



Heritage Study meetings brought representatives from a diverse spectrum of stakeholders to plan for the future of the Greenway.

community, collecting and disseminating information. Each of these working groups met from two to twelve times, and built an understanding of the assets of the Greenway and of the desires, needs and viewpoints of the different stakeholder groups. These groups studied the proposed Greenway boundaries and provided input on opportunities to collaboratively manage the Greenway into the future.

Greenway Trust representatives held additional meetings with municipalities, major private landowners, and other key stakeholders. A public open house was held in King County and several were held in Kittitas County. A new, interactive Greenway website provided opportunities for feedback on study documents and Feasibility Study

drafts. A study brochure and a slide presentation, with goals and objectives, a description of the National Heritage Area program and the study boundaries were used in all meetings, and more than 1,000 copies of the brochure were distributed.

Two federal agencies were involved in the Heritage Study: the US Forest Service and the National Park Service. The Forest Service is the largest land manager in the Greenway, with more than 500,000 acres of public land under its purview. This is more than one third of the total acreage of the Greenway and almost 60% of the publicly owned land. These federally managed lands are administered by the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests. The local District Rangers for each forest actively participated in the Public Land Manager Team of the Heritage Study and additional Forest Service staff participated in many of the other Working Groups. Greenway Trust staff kept both Forest Supervisors informed of the process and briefed the Leadership Team of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

The Greenway Trust also held a number of meetings with local National Park Service staff over the eighteen months of this study. The Klondike Gold Rush Superintendent and other staff collaborated with Trust staff on potential connections between the proposed Heritage Area and this National Park unit. More than forty Pacific West Region staff attended an Earth Day presentation about the Greenway and the Heritage Study. The Pacific West Region National





## 1- INTRODUCTION

Heritage Areas Co-Coordinator was involved in the Heritage Study, providing guidance throughout the process. The Greenway Heritage Study was also highlighted at an America's Great Outdoors Initiative field visit hosted by the Greenway Trust during a July 2010 listening session, which was attended by the Director of the National Park Service.

Local, state, and federal legislators were briefed on the Heritage Study (see Appendix for list of meetings,) and financial support for the Study was provided by King County, Washington State, the Bullitt Foundation, the Brainerd Foundation, and Heartland LLC.

In total, more than 1,000 people were involved in more than 150 meetings during the Heritage Study. These voices represented a broad cross-section of stakeholders in the region, from federal, state and local governments, non-profit organizations, private businesses and community groups.



The Greenway Trust Board of Directors leads a coalition of diverse interests, with participants united by a common vision.

Resoundingly, there was strong support for an inclusive and collaborative approach to sustaining the Greenway into the future and for formal recognition of the Greenway as a National Heritage Area.



### REPORT STRUCTURE

**Following the National Park Service’s “National Heritage Area Feasibility Study Guidelines,” this report summarizes the findings of the Greenway Heritage Study and addresses why the Greenway meets the criteria for a “nationally distinctive landscape.”**

This Feasibility Study contextualizes the region’s significant stories; includes an inventory of nationally important Greenway assets – cultural, ecological, historic, and recreational; documents the proposed concept of a Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area, economically and structurally; and analyzes alternatives for managing, interpreting, and conserving the special resources within the Mountains to Sound Greenway, according to the following structure:

- Chapter 2 delves deeper into the story of the Mountains to Sound Greenway, providing additional information about the Study Area and its physical, ecological, historical, and cultural features.
- Chapter 3 develops the themes and related sites that underscore the region’s identity.
- Chapter 4 summarizes the assets that make the Greenway a special place.
- Chapter 5 outlines a brief history of the region.
- Chapter 6 discusses the concept of a Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area.
- Chapter 7 describes a conceptual financial plan.
- Chapter 8 is dedicated to an Impact Assessment that considers potential alternatives to a Greenway National Heritage Area.
- Chapter 9 evaluates the Greenway according to National Park Service guidelines for becoming a Heritage Area, and
- The report concludes in Chapter 10 with a vision for the future of the Greenway.



**The following questions, laid out by the National Park Service, form the core of this report:**

- Is the region a nationally distinctive landscape?
- Are there resources important to the identified themes and do they retain integrity for interpretive purposes?
- Are there outstanding opportunities for conservation, recreation and education?
- Is there sufficient information about natural and cultural resources to describe the “Affected Environment” for the purposes of an Impact Assessment?





# CHAPTER 2 - STUDY AREA: THE MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY - A PLACE LIKE NO OTHER

Twenty years ago, as a group of concerned citizens set out to march from Snoqualmie Pass to Puget Sound, the Mountains to Sound Greenway was at a crossroads. Left unchecked, urban sprawl would soon cover much of the route with strip malls, new developments, and gas stations, creating a landscape indistinguishable from any other place. But the early proponents of the Greenway realized that this region didn't have to follow that well trod path toward homogeneity and instead could retain its defining characteristics: a dramatic physical landscape whose history is still very much intact, giving rise to and sustaining both a unique ecological resource and a network of towns and cities inextricably tied to the land.

### The Greenway Vision: Preserving a Piece of our National Heritage

A green corridor of productive forests and farms, parks, rivers, lakes, and communities, demonstrating our regional commitment to a high quality of life and a sustainable environment; a green parkway accessible to residents and visitors, stimulating recreational, scenic, and economic opportunities; a commitment to protect fish and wildlife resources and to respect private property interests and support development that contributes to the Greenway character; a physical connection of cultural sites, parks, trails, wildlife habitat, and public forests to increase the community value of those resources and link lands and people with the thread of local history.



## 2- STUDY AREA

While ambitious, this vision affirmed the heritage of the Pacific Northwest, where for generations people have lived side-by-side with nature's bounty. A network of salmon runs that were among the largest in the Lower 48 helped sustain Native American tribes for thousands of years. And while timber in the area was big—very big—white settlers also mined coal and farmed fertile river valleys.

For thousands of years, the Greenway landscape has shaped local communities, from the relatively complex settlements of the Coast Salish to the more nomadic tribes of the Columbia Plateau. And when white settlers put down roots, the mountains, rivers and waterways of the area shaped transportation corridors that put the Seattle area on the map and helped it become a center of trade and commerce.

Ultimately, the Greenway's dramatic landscape inspired local conservation efforts that set national precedents. In the 1950s, the region



In the 1800s and early decades of the 1900s, many communities in the Northwest were sustained by mining, logging and other industries that relied on the wealth of natural resources of the region that were plentiful at the time.

*“For generations people have lived beside nature and amidst her bounty.”*

embarked on a metro-wide clean-up initiative to cleanse the waters of Lake Washington, an effort that served as a model for the Clean Water Act. Many other acts of conservation followed: the City of Seattle acquired the remaining swaths of the Cedar River Watershed to protect Seattle's drinking water supply; today, the 90,000-acre watershed, right at Seattle's doorstep, provides some of the cleanest water in the

country to the majority of the 1.5 million people living in the Seattle area. Local citizens and city and county governments coalesced around the idea of one of the nation's first rails-to-trails projects--the Burke-Gilman Trail.

From Native American myths about Moon the Transformer to the springboard notches

**Author Daniel Jack Chasan outlines these questions in *Mountains to Sound: the Creation of a Greenway across the Cascades*:**

How do we keep the traditional working landscape of logging and farming, the characters and sharp boundaries of the small towns, the continuous bands of forest that allow animals and hikers to walk from the mountains to the edge of the city? How do we preserve the views from the freeway and other roadways on which most people spend hours of their everyday lives? How do we enable people to walk or cycle into—or out of—the heart of the city? How do we create—or preserve—connections among the trails and habitats so they don't become fragments scattered across the landscape?





## 2- STUDY AREA

that hikers see in the stumps of old growth trees scattered throughout the region's forests, the Mountains to Sound Greenway is rich in historical sites and cultural resources that detail the story of how the American frontier ended and sustainability began.

More than 200 National Historic Register properties, nine National Historic Landmarks, scores of museums and a host of Native American sites offer the chance to learn about the ways in which the development of civilizations, both ancient and new, have been deeply tied to the landscape of the Greenway.

These connections continue today. Working farms and forests dot the landscape, sustaining land-based livelihoods that have been part of this region's heritage for generations. Environmental education centers and programs teach the next generations of stewards about the importance of healthy ecosystems for a growing population. Wildlife corridors provide safe passage for beasts large and small, who roam the outskirts of the fifteenth largest metropolitan area in the country.

### Nationally distinctive landscapes

Nationally distinctive landscapes are places that contain important regional and national stories that, together with their associated natural and/or cultural resources, enable the American people to understand, preserve and celebrate key components of the multi-faceted character of the Nation's heritage. The landscapes are often places that represent and contain identifiable assemblages of resources with integrity (National Park Service).

*Conservation is a state of harmony  
between people and land -  
the Greenway exudes this balance.*



## 2- STUDY AREA

Time magazine ranked Seattle among its Top 15 Most Active Cities in 2011. With an abundance of outdoor amenities right at its doorstep, it's easy to see why. More than 1,600 miles of trail run through the cities and the mountains, including the remnants of the old Native American trail over Snoqualmie Pass that has been used for thousands of years. Dozens of rivers, lakes and mountains beckon outdoor enthusiasts into nature. In few other places can you start biking from a major urban center in the morning and by late afternoon, be standing at the edge of a US Forest Service Wilderness Area.



Built in 1883 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Thorp Grist Mill is the oldest industrial artifact in Kittitas County, and an important historic site in the small community of Thorp.

### The Mountains to Sound Greenway Is:

- *A diverse ecosystem, comprised of connected open spaces that provide critical wildlife corridors, rivers and lakes that are home to some of the largest salmon runs in the country and provide drinking water for millions of residents, and vast forests that clean our water and air,*
- *Composed of distinct communities, each with its own unique character,*
- *Home to historic and cultural sites and museums that tell stories of Native Americans, pioneer life, working farms and forests and changing modes of transportation, from wagon roads to railroads to interstate highways,*
- *A recreational playground for all types of users and all age groups, containing hundreds of miles of trails; lakes and rivers for swimming, boating, and fishing; and countless other recreational opportunities including camping, rock climbing, hunting, and skiing,*
- *An outdoor classroom with dozens of sites focusing on experiential ecological education,*
- *Working landscapes that are an integral part of this region's heritage, shaping settlement patterns and the economy of the Northwest.*
- *A region with a wealth of nationally distinctive conservation stories to share.*





### PHYSICAL LANDSCAPE

**In the Greenway, colliding plates, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and glaciers have left lasting imprints on the area. Small towns sit in the shadows of an oceanic plate volcano. Travel routes squeeze between mountain passes and follow deep valleys carved over time by rivers. Volcanic soils and steady rain have made the Greenway verdant and fertile.**

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is one of the most geologically active regions on earth. Continental and oceanic plates have repeatedly collided for millions of years, creating a subduction zone that has shaped and reshaped the Cascade Mountains, some of the youngest mountains on the planet. The Cascades were formed less than 10 million years ago and continue to undergo dramatic transformation.

In more recent geologic time, the advance and retreat of ice sheets over the Greenway

landscape has left an indelible mark. Twenty thousand years ago, the vast Cordilleran Ice Sheet covered more than two million square miles of northwest North America, including Montana, Idaho, British Columbia, Alaska, and Washington. Its Puget Lobe, with the Vashon glacier, extended over most of the Greenway region, and as it last retreated, about 10,000 years ago, it ploughed the Puget Lowland, depositing sediment and excavating linear troughs, such as Lake Washington, Lake Sammamish and Puget Sound.

Throughout time, water has been the master architect of the Greenway landscape. Cascade mountain streams born from glaciers rush rapidly downhill, carving steep valleys and deep gorges. The glaciers themselves whittled away at high peaks. And the maritime coastline of Puget Sound is constantly evolving, with the salt-laden waters from this inland sea eternally lapping at the shore.



Glacial landforms in the young Cascade Mountains offer extraordinary vistas and recreational opportunities, such as here in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area. Photo courtesy of Karl Forsgaard.



### ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE

The Mountains to Sound Greenway encompasses five of Washington State's nine ecoregions. From alpine meadows to shrub-steppe grasslands and lush forests to cascading rivers, the Greenway is home to some of the nation's most iconic species, such as salmon, bald eagles, and giant Western red cedars. Many of these ecological resources, particularly salmon and timber, played an important role in sustaining indigenous populations and later fueled the extractive economies of white settlers. Today, local communities are committed to conserving the astonishing diversity of flora and fauna that can be found within the Greenway boundaries.

Part of the broader Salish Sea Ecosystem, which is listed by the World Wildlife Fund as one of 200 priority ecosystems for protecting biodiversity worldwide, the Greenway provides habitat for an array of plants and wildlife. King County alone supports more than 200 species of birds, nearly 70 mammals, and 50 species of native fish. Three watersheds are composed of a system of three regional rivers and a series of fjord-like lakes carved by the last ice age. The spine of the Cascade Mountains—including Mt. Daniel, which rises to almost 8,000 feet—separates the moisture-laden, low-elevation forests of the west side and the shrub-steppe grassland on the east.

This ecological diversity makes the conservation successes of the Greenway all the more important. Particularly in the face of climate change, the Mountains to Sound Greenway provides an important bridge between the north and south Cascades and within the various elevations of the Greenway as it passes from the Columbia River, up and over the Cascades, and back down to Puget Sound.





# HISTORICAL/CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

**Native Americans have occupied river valleys and the Puget Sound coastline for thousands of years, living off of the land's abundant resources. The Native American population of the Greenway was once part of the densest population of natives on the North American continent. Local tribes developed a sophisticated culture that contained art, theatre, and mythology – making them among the few hunter/gatherer cultures to develop such expressive mediums.**

European explorers, arriving off of Washington's coast in the late 1700s, saw in the Greenway a raw land of incredible scenic beauty as they sailed through Puget Sound, the largest fjord system in the lower 48 states. Charting a future for commerce and settlement, these explorers from across the globe marveled at the region's immense resources as they jockeyed for territorial control.

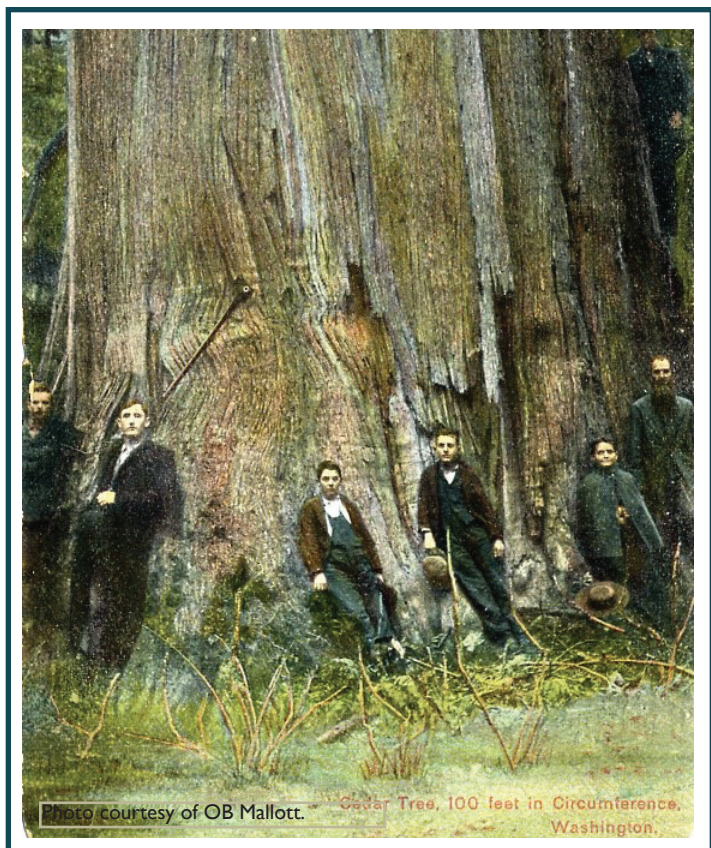
After America successfully laid claim to the lands below the 49th parallel, population growth quickly followed. By the end of the 19th century, large numbers of ethnic-American settlers moved to this epicenter of the Northwest to extract the land's bounty. Timber harvesting, fishing, and coal mining

fueled the region's economy. And, as in so many places across America, humans dramatically altered the landscape in the relatively short period since white settlement.

But, fulfilling an early explorer's belief that nature would exert a strong influence over the people of this region, dramatic transformations of another form have also occurred. Visionary citizens recognized the fragility of the landscape and worked to preserve what remains in order to leave a healthy legacy for future generations. While humans have certainly left a considerable footprint, the current trend toward ecological harmony reflects

the deep bond people here have with their natural surroundings.

*“The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a collection of working, living places that offer glimpses of the past and lessons about how to achieve sustainable balance between people and nature.”*



# THE GREENWAY BOUNDARY

**Since its inception in 1991, the Mountains to Sound Greenway was a loosely defined corridor, anchored by Interstate 90, stretching from Puget Sound to the foothills of Central Washington. The need for more strategic stewardship, however, necessitated a discussion about formal delineation of boundaries. During the Heritage Study Process, meetings with public land managers and other stakeholders confirmed that establishing boundaries would provide an avenue for creating an effective structure for cooperative stewardship.**

In 2009, the Greenway Trust developed a proposed boundary. To the east, this boundary wrapped around Ellensburg, the largest city in Kittitas County, much as the western boundary included Seattle, the largest city in King County. Travelling westward, the boundary on the north and south followed watershed boundaries that have framed this landscape for thousands of years. However, after leaving the Cascade foothills, the proposed boundary shifted to follow regional trails which were historic transportation corridors.

The combination of watershed and transportation boundaries was felt to be very much in keeping with the way that landscape and commerce intersected in the Greenway, each one shaping the other. With these boundaries, the Greenway covered the area's major historic transportation corridors, including I-90, Lake Washington, and the various railroad lines that tied

into Seattle from the Cascade foothills. The Greenway boundaries also included some of Washington's most productive forests, including the Snoqualmie Tree Farm, as well as agricultural lands and mining claims that are an important part of the region's history.

In 2010, stakeholders extensively studied this proposed boundary. Meetings with Kittitas County community members confirmed that the Greenway should stretch around Ellensburg. Greenway coalition members confirmed the logic of watershed boundaries in the center, but questioned defining the western boundary by regional trails. Groups involved in agriculture and in salmon recovery requested that watershed boundaries be followed all the way to Puget Sound, pointing out that the proposed boundary actually divided community efforts. These groups and several cities that were just outside the study boundary petitioned to be added to the study area, arguing that their inclusion in the Greenway would better preserve and showcase the area's heritage by rounding out the connections between working farms and forests

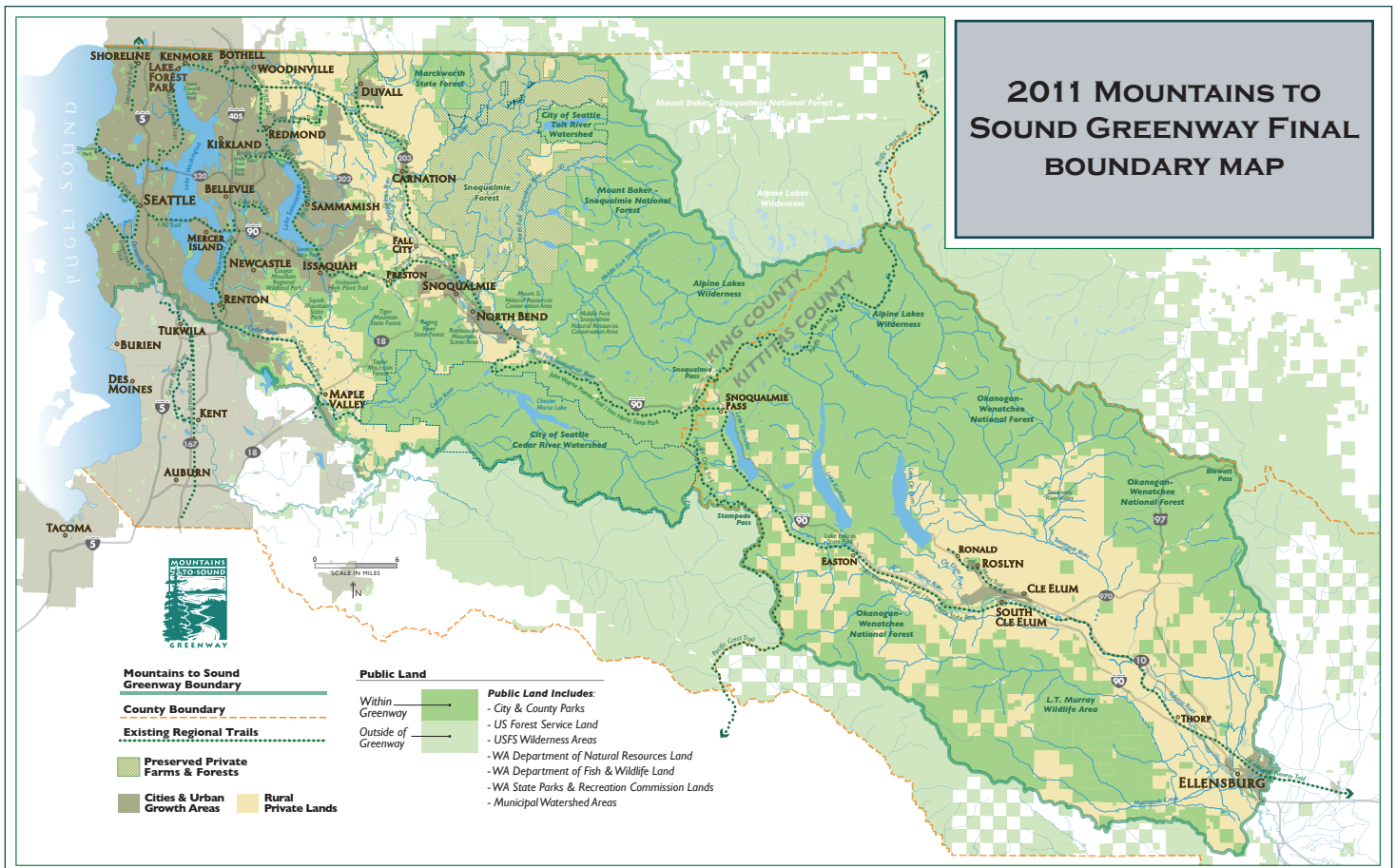


Farmers in the Snoqualmie Valley who work together to preserve farmland and promote local agriculture requested to expand the Greenway boundary north to the King County line.





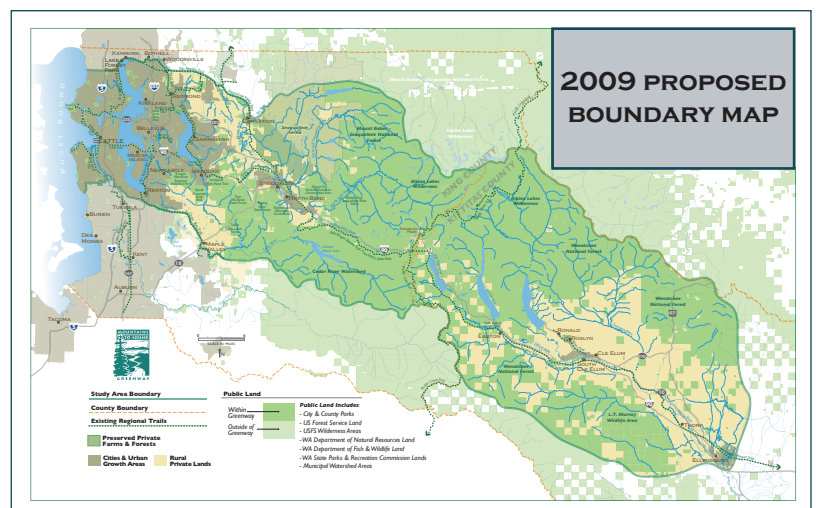
## 2- STUDY AREA



that are at the heart of the Greenway's history and its vision for the future.

In early 2011, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust adopted a final boundary. This boundary expanded the Greenway from the 1.4 million acres that originally had been proposed to 1.55 million acres. This boundary is a fitting framework for the Greenway, as it is defined by watersheds, linked by regional trails and Interstate 90, and includes Seattle, Ellensburg and 26 other cities and towns—underscoring the connections between people and land.

Taken together, the boundaries of the Mountains to Sound Greenway capture a landscape that supported native tribes for thousands of years and ultimately drew white settlers who



prospered from the land. Wealth from natural resource extraction built communities that today have taken a leadership role in conservation and sustainability.



## CHAPTER 3 - HERITAGE THEMES: CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE

Themes are the unifying ideas that, when woven together, make up the fabric of a National Heritage Area. They are a way of presenting and organizing the essential aspects of a region's heritage, demonstrating its national distinctiveness. The National Park Service recommends the identification of themes to illustrate the unique qualities of the heritage area and to provide a broad conceptual framework under which to interpret natural, historic, cultural, and recreational resources.

The single idea that best captures the history and culture of the Mountains to Sound Greenway is the interconnectedness of humans and nature. For thousands of years, the landscape of the Greenway has shaped travel routes, driven

commerce and culture, and inspired bold acts of exploitation followed by groundbreaking conservation.

The roots of this relationship between humans and nature run deep. Long before white settlers arrived, the Coast Salish and Columbia Plateau tribes shared a deep dependence upon – and reverence for – the salmon runs of the Pacific

*“The most repetitive theme in the region’s literature is the interaction of people and their natural environment; much of the region’s history is played out against a backdrop of dramatic landforms.”*  
Charles Schwantes, Northwest historian





### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

*Themes move the history of an area beyond a static one-dimensional portrayal to place a region's history in a dynamic and evolving context.*

Northwest. They lived off the bounty of the land, in villages or as hunter-gatherers, and traveled the mountain passes to trade and visit. Subsequently, white settlers were drawn to the area by other riches: timber, coal, and the prospect of gold. Using travel routes established by local tribes, early pioneers built thriving trade networks that fed our nation's appetites, particularly for timber and coal. As natural resource extraction began to take its toll on the landscape, the citizens of the Greenway blazed a trail of community-based conservation that has inspired similar acts around the country.

When filtered through the lenses of transportation, natural resource economies, and conservation, this sense of connection between humans and nature becomes the unifying thread of a much larger story. The history of the Greenway is one of American pioneers as rugged as the landscape from which they sought to scratch a living. It's the story of building civilization and commerce adjacent to untamed wilderness. And amidst seemingly limitless bounty, it is the story of a people coming to see



The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and partner organizations announced the public acquisition of 7,000 acres of forestland in the Raging River Valley in 2009 that filled a major gap in the connected forestland in the Mountains to Sound Greenway and protected a salmon-bearing river. The Greenway Trust coalition worked for over a decade to find a way to keep this land as forest instead of urban development.

abundance as a finite gift. In the Mountains to Sound Greenway, the American pioneer was transformed from explorer to exploiter to neighbor. Today, these values permeate the region with a shared ethos, admired and emulated throughout the country and even elsewhere in the world.

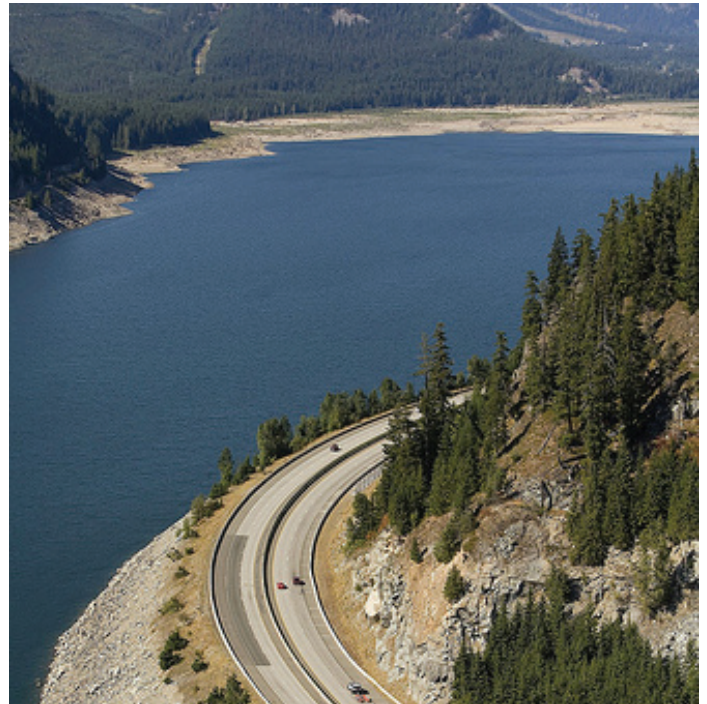
*"This is a civilization infused with the spirit of the land."  
Northwest author Timothy Egan*



## HERITAGE THEME #1: PEOPLE AND NATURE— AND TRANSPORTATION

**Native American trails, interstates, railroads, and waterways connect across a rugged landscape to create a network of trade, commerce and culture.**

Interstate 90 forms the “spine” of the Mountains to Sound Greenway, following a route that is the latest incarnation of a centuries-old footpath and trading route. The region’s economic prosperity, from the deep water port of Seattle to the Kittitas coal mines, depended on being able to move freight and people across the mountains, through the foothills, and over the waters of Puget Sound. California may have had timber closer to San Francisco, but Seattle knew how to get it there. And while San Francisco and Seattle competed to profit from prospectors headed for the Yukon, it was Seattle that racked up the lion’s share of the business, outfitting hopeful travelers with a year’s supply of food before they caught a ship north through the Inside Passage. Despite mountains so rugged that one early surveyor wrote them off as impenetrable, the Greenway thrived because of its trading routes. In the Greenway, the challenges of traversing a rugged landscape were met with innovation that continues today, from avalanche tunnels and floating bridges to wildlife crossings and scenic byways.



Interstate 90, the longest interstate in the country, traverses scenic, rugged terrain at Snoqualmie Pass.



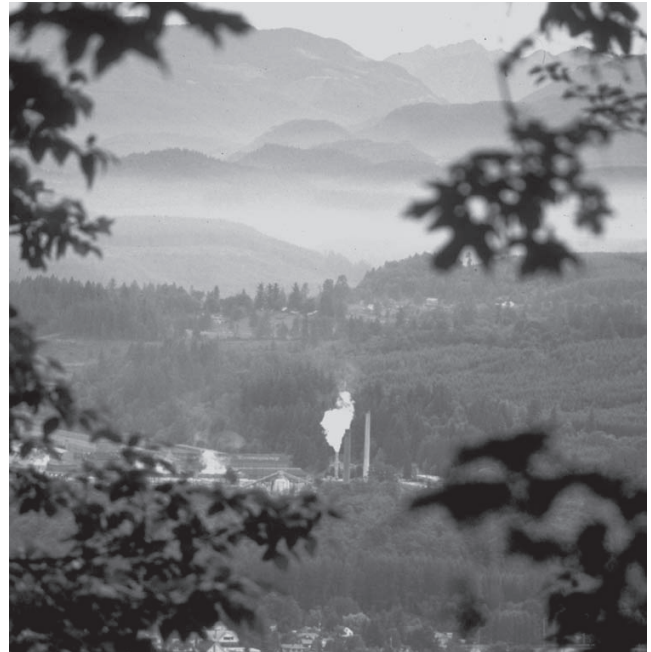
The Milwaukee Road was the longest electrified railroad in the country.



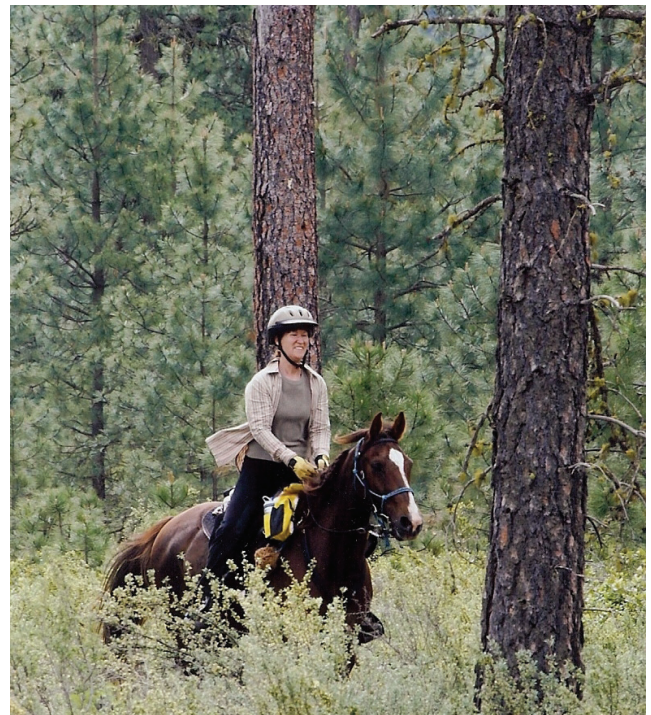
## HERITAGE THEME #2: PEOPLE AND NATURE— AND THE NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMY

**Following a period of extraction and exploitation, the people of the Greenway turned to innovations that provided a more sustainable connection to the area’s wealth of natural resources, from tree farms to hydropower to outdoor recreation.**

The very treasures that drew early explorers to the Greenway region—lofty mountains, salmon-filled rivers, and legions of forests—quickly became objects of extraction and exploitation as settlers moved into the area. Eventually, however, the sense of endless bounty proved finite. Weyerhaeuser launched a radical and creative new program on its Snoqualmie Tree Farm: a nursery to raise seedlings for reforestation. The nation’s first public hydroelectric plant generated power for Seattle, even as the area was exporting coal to San Francisco. In the Greenway today, a philosophy of economic vitality combined with preserving nature remains. The Outdoor recreation industry is among the region’s top five grossing industries, attracting visitors from around the country who come seeking rugged wilderness, railroad tunnels, world-class climbing routes and untamed whitewater runs.



The Weyerhaeuser Snoqualmie Mill operated from 1910 to 2003.



Equestrian heritage remains in the Greenway, including scenic places to ride such as this Ponderosa pine forest near Cle Elum.





## HERITAGE THEME #3: PEOPLE AND NATURE— AND CONSERVATION

**The most groundbreaking – and successful – conservation efforts in the region have sprung from community activism and been rooted in a deep appreciation for the Greenway’s rich environment.**

After a century of exhaustive natural resource extraction, Greenway residents began to ask, at what cost? Hillsides were devoid of trees, and waterways, once teeming with salmon, were turbid and lifeless. Was there a way to maintain functioning economies without continuing to threaten the finite resources of the land? It was no easy task to organize such a sea change in mainstream ideology, but if there was anywhere in the country where it could happen, it was in this region. Local citizens united to clean up Lake Washington – a groundbreaking antecedent to the Clean Water Act. Much of the region’s best farmland was protected and its park and boulevard system was expanded thanks to landmark citizen initiatives. Weyerhaeuser transformed from a timber practice of cutting trees and selling the land to an emphasis on reforestation, and proudly promoted themselves as a tree growing company. And in 1991, citizen activists and community leaders united around the vision of the Mountains to Sound Greenway to ensure the landscape and the history of the region would be managed as a living legacy for current and future residents.



Recreation seekers find nature close to home, including on this former railway grade in Iron Horse State Park.



A growing conservation ethos paired with easy access to nature creates future stewards of the Greenway.



## HERITAGE THEME #1: TRANSPORTATION - SETTLEMENT, COMMERCE, AND TRADE

**Native American trails, interstates, railroads, and waterways connect across a rugged landscape to create a network of trade, commerce and culture.**

The Greenway corridor is a veritable museum of transportation history: Native American trails, early wagon roads, transcontinental railroads, deepwater ports, and the development of the first federal interstate to traverse the rugged Cascade Mountains. These travelways were not easy to blaze, with high mountains, heavy snowfall, and deep waterways making many of these routes accomplishments in and of themselves. From the earliest periods of Native American inhabitation to European exploration, and from pioneer settlement to the expansion of natural resource economies, the mountains and the waterways of the Greenway shaped settlement, commerce, and trade. In the crossroads of the Greenway, Native American tribes gathered for trade and visiting, timber and cattle moved to markets around the country, prospectors outfitted and shipped out.



Before the highway crossed Snoqualmie Pass, a trail created and used by Native Americans led across the Cascades.

### Native American Travel Routes

For thousands of years, a footpath over Snoqualmie Pass linked the Coast Salish tribes with Yakama people of the Columbia Plateau, and ultimately, through an extensive trading network, to the Midwest plains. All types of goods traversed this initial highway through the mountains, including shell necklaces and abalone from the coast, mountain goat hair and roots for basket weaving from the mountains,

and buffalo robes from the plains. The Snoqualmie and Yakama tribes heavily used trails that traversed the pass for hunting, gathering roots, picking berries, and trading with their neighbors on the opposite side of the mountains. By many accounts, members of both tribes spent a great deal



Puget Sound's estuaries provided calm waters near deep water ports, vital for profitable timber harvests and natural resource industries. Photo courtesy Army Corps of Engineers.





### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

of time in each other's camps; white explorers even noted bands of Yakama wintering in the Snoqualmies' camp below Snoqualmie Falls.

Every couple of years, there was a large gathering held in the valley of upper Kittitas, held at a place known as Che-ho-lan. Northwest tribes from what is now Washington, British Columbia, Oregon, and Idaho came together to trade, settle disputes, and gather food from the fertile prairie. Early white settlers expressed astonishment about the gathering's sheer numbers; Alexander Ross, in *The Fur Hunters of the Far West*, estimated that the camp was six miles across with more than 3,000 Native Americans, not counting women and children. This estimation likely does little justice to historical numbers as it reflects a population already decimated by the first wave of European diseases which wiped out nearly 90% of some tribes in the region.

Sharp-eyed wayfarers still find pieces of the original Native American route in places, either as a faint path headed straight uphill through the brush or, in some places, as a deeper trench worn down by thousands of years of footprints.

#### Snoqualmie Pass Wagon Road

In 1867, entrepreneurs from Seattle completed construction of a wagon route across Snoqualmie Pass, shifting trading routes in the Pacific Northwest, as farmers and ranchers chose to run goods up and over the pass, rather than down the Columbia to Portland via steamship. Cattle from as far away as southern Idaho were driven over the Cascades and down to Seattle, where the meat packing industry serviced much of the west coast, as well as countries as far away as China.

The wagon road was also an important link for pioneers heading west to settle in the Puget Sound region. By many accounts, immigrants headed for Puget Sound could save 500 miles by leaving the Oregon Trail



The travel route over Snoqualmie Pass was quite a different road a century ago. The Sunset Highway, as it was called, opened in 1915, although drivers had to make their way through mud or around fallen trees.

Photo courtesy of the Museum of History and Industry.

and crossing over Snoqualmie Pass en route to Puget Sound, enabling them to bypass the circuitous route via Portland and up the Cowlitz River.

Today, drivers can get a glimpse of the old wagon route by exiting I-90 at milepost 47 and following the Denny Creek Road as it winds along the path of the original wagon road, albeit with an asphalt roadbed. Further down the valley, the Snoqualmie Pass Wagon Road





### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

Heritage Area at Olallie State Park includes an interpretive trail educating visitors about the wagon road that once ran through the park.

#### The Milwaukee Road

In 1887, the Northern Pacific Railway built a transcontinental railroad over the Cascades. Trains stopped over in Cle Elum at a railway depot just before ascending the mountains. The Great Northern railroad followed close on the heels of the Northern Pacific, and in 1909, the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad over Snoqualmie Pass provided a direct line to Seattle. Year-round service through the mountains was soon realized with the completion of a tunnel through the pass, in addition to the building of numerous snowsheds, including one at the top of the pass said to be the largest ever made on an American railroad. Known as the Milwaukee Road, this railway through the Cascades was electrified in 1917, which was more efficient than using steam or diesel power. Trains stopped running in 1980. Washington State began acquiring the right of way in 1981 and began opening the right of way to recreation in 1984.

Today, this route is managed as Iron Horse State Park, which is on average only 20 feet wide but nearly 100 miles long. From its western terminus at Rattlesnake Lake just outside North Bend, the John Wayne Pioneer Trail runs east across the state to the Columbia River. Visitors can walk or bicycle from the Columbia River over and through the mountains to Cedar Falls on the west side. At Snoqualmie Pass, the path goes underground through a dark, 2.3-mile former railroad tunnel, which attracts visitors looking for a unique trail experience. The trail then



Milwaukee Road railway looking west at Snoqualmie Pass.  
Photo courtesy of the Gene H. Lawson collection.

continues downhill, crossing old railroad trestles and hugging the sides of steep mountains. In 2003, the site of the South Cle Elum depot and substation gained National Historic Landmark status.

#### Yukon Gold Rush Museum

In 1897, Seattle became the gateway for prospectors heading north to the Yukon. Tens of thousands of speculators arrived in Seattle to purchase millions of dollars of equipment, steamship tickets, pack animals, and other supplies. Canadian officials required all gold rushers to bring a year's supply of goods—about one ton of supplies. The influx of prospectors created a huge economic surge: stores, churches and saloons blossomed, and people flocked to the region. In just ten years, the population of Seattle grew three-fold, from 80,000 to 237,000.

This history is now interpreted at the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, located in the heart of Seattle's tourist district and drawing 65,000 visitors annually.



### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

#### Ship Canal and Hiram M. Chittenden Locks

In 1911, the US Army Corps of Engineers began an earthmoving project that would literally reshape the landscape of Seattle and its environs — all in the name of better shipping and transportation. A long-established log canal between Lake Washington and Lake Union was upgraded to a shipping canal, eight miles long with a minimum depth of almost 30 feet, so that ships small and large could pass through without difficulty.

To carry vessels through the different levels of the Ship Canal, the Army Corps built a series of locks capable of handling large ocean-going vessels — the only such locks in the nation. Not only did the locks have to accommodate large vessels, they also sit between salt and fresh water and so must accommodate tidal fluctuations — again, the only such locks in the nation. And long before salmon migration became a signature issue for the Pacific Northwest, the Chittenden Locks included a fish ladder to help migrating salmon return to spawning grounds in the Lake Washington watershed.

Immediately upon completion of the Ship Canal, boatyards and other industry began sprouting on the

shores of Lake Union. With a plentiful supply of rot-resistant Douglas fir and cedar, Lake Union served as an international hub for wooden boat-building. The Dreamboat Cruiser, built in 1926 by Lake Union Drydock, helped spur the development of recreational boating nationwide. And, during World War II, attention turned to shipbuilding for the war effort.

Today, the Chittenden Locks are the most heavily traveled boat locks in the country, with regular ocean-bound traffic, in addition to numerous recreational and fishing boats. With an accompanying fish ladder, the locks and canal are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are one of Seattle's most popular tourist attractions.



Lake Washington Ship Canal dedication. The Hiram M. Chittenden Locks and the Lake Washington Ship Canal are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.  
Photo courtesy Army Corps of Engineers.





### 3- HERITAGE THEMES



The Burke-Gilman Trail connects Seattle to many rural areas, farms and recreational areas in eastern King County by way of an historic railway right-of-way.

#### Burke-Gilman Trail

The Burke-Gilman Trail follows an old rail line that was once a major transportation corridor for shipping timber, with branches that lead up to Snoqualmie Falls and north to Snohomish County. When Burlington Northern applied to abandon the tracks in 1971, a group of neighbors mobilized to see that the corridor was converted into a public trail. At their behest, Senator Warren Magnuson sent a query to the Interstate Commerce Commission, which resulted in a precedent-setting answer: local governments had right of first refusal when a railroad gives up its right of way. Thus, the rail-trail movement was born.

More than thirty years later, the Burke-Gilman Trail is a major

transportation artery, linking cyclists and pedestrians with the University of Washington, the neighborhoods along Lake Washington, and ultimately, connecting with a statewide network of trails. Proximity to this popular, well-used trail raises nearby property values. The Burke-Gilman Trail was the first regional trail in the nation to receive federal transportation enhancements funding, setting the standard for hundreds of other rails-to-trails projects around the country.

#### I-90 National Scenic Byway

In 1998, the portion of Interstate 90 through the Greenway was designated a National Scenic Byway – the first interstate

highway to receive such a designation. An estimated 150,000 drivers travel Interstate 90



Today's Mountains to Sound Greenway National Scenic Byway on Interstate 90 traverses the landscape from Central Washington's shrub-steppe, over the Cascade Mountains to the Seattle metropolitan area.





### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

within the Greenway every day, passing through a landscape that continues to be defined by mountains, forests and rivers. Each year, 35 million tons of freight – worth \$500 billion – crosses Snoqualmie Pass. While highway engineers made significant road improvements over the years, such as avalanche blasting and embedding rock structures into cliffs to prevent slides, much work was also done to conserve and enhance the scenic and historical features of this unique transportation corridor. This included raised

roadways near Snoqualmie Pass to allow wildlife and trail passage, as well as extensive landscaping in the urban areas of Mercer Island and Seattle to ensure parks and neighborhoods remained intact.

#### Lake Washington Floating Bridges

While the Cascades obviously influenced the course of travel within the Greenway, crossing the waters of Lake Washington posed another natural barrier to travel. Carved by the Puget

Lobe of the Cordilleran Ice Sheet, Lake Washington was too deep and muddy to accommodate pilings for a suspension



In 1940 when the I-90 floating bridge was built over Lake Washington, people probably never imagined bike trails alongside, or a park built on top of a highway. Now, these features are part of what makes I-90 innovative and more scenic than many highways, and the Washington State Department of Transportation is a long-time partner in the Greenway coalition. Photo courtesy Post-Intelligencer Collection, Museum of History and Industry.

bridge. Until the construction of Lake Washington's first floating bridge in 1940, drivers simply chose to go north or south of the lake, or to take a ferry from Kirkland to Seattle.

Eventually, engineers designed and constructed three concrete floating bridges, including the world's longest. The floating section of the SR 520 bridge – officially named the "Governor Albert D. Rosellini Bridge" or the "Evergreen Point Bridge" – checks in at 1.44 miles (7,578 feet) in length. Using some combination of these three bridges, more than 500,000 vehicles cross Lake Washington each day.





### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

#### I-90 Wildlife Bridges

The Cascade Mountains provide an important wildlife corridor running north to south and also from lower elevations to higher elevations. Elk, bear, and deer are among the many animals that travel within the Mountains to Sound Greenway – and who find themselves cut off by Interstate 90 as it crosses Snoqualmie Pass. On the west side of Snoqualmie Pass, I-90 westbound runs on an elevated roadway built in the 1970s, allowing wildlife passage and reducing impact on the landscape. And a major reconstruction of I-90 just east of Snoqualmie Pass began in 2009. When complete, it will include a

series of underpasses to allow wildlife and water to travel unimpeded under the highway. The project will also include vegetated overpasses for wildlife crossing. This groundbreaking solution to a seemingly impenetrable problem showcases



Wildlife crossings, currently under construction as part of the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East highway expansion, are considered to be some of the most innovative on the continent.

once again the region's willingness to adapt to its surroundings, balancing the needs of commerce and community with the wilderness and its denizens.



The I-90 Wildlife Bridges Coalition monitors wildlife passage, such as these black bears on Manastash Ridge. Cameras along the new wildlife bridges and underpasses will show which animals cross I-90 safely. Photo courtesy Conservation Northwest.



## HERITAGE THEME: NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMY

**Following a period of extraction and exploitation, the people of the Greenway turned to innovations that provided a more sustainable connection to the area's wealth of natural resources, from tree farms to hydropower to outdoor recreation.**

The economy of the Greenway has been inextricably linked with the region's natural setting. Immediately following white settlement, the abundance of resources—coal, timber, salmon, fertile soil, and accessible natural areas—paved the way for a robust natural resource economy. And as they built infrastructure, the settlers of the Greenway also pioneered new forms of alternative energy, particularly in the form of hydropower. Today, while extractive industries have been scaled back to more sustainable levels, alternative energy sources account for the majority of the power supply in the Greenway, part of the shared ethos of sustainability. And recreation and tourism are now the largest drivers of the Greenway's natural resource economy. The future of the Greenway's natural resource economy will likely include substantial carbon

sequestration in its forests and wind and solar projects, particularly east of the Cascades.



### The Mill Town

The relative accessibility of the Greenway's forests, in addition to Seattle's deepwater port, facilitated immense growth—for both the logging industry and the region's population. Yesler's steam mill in Seattle was the first in Washington, completed in 1853. Seattle's busiest streets in the early days were skid roads, where greased logs, half-embedded in the soil, provided a runway for getting even the largest logs to waterways. Timber was primarily used for shipbuilding, but San Francisco's demand for spars and piling to build its docks quickly overtook shipbuilding as the primary market for timber.

Small towns grew around Seattle to meet demand for timber. Sawmills in Bothell, Sammamish, Snoqualmie, and Preston flourished. Logging served a dual purpose for the early settlers of the region: in clearing areas of



The North Bend Lumber Company's Edgewick Mill was built in 1906 for logs brought out of the Snoqualmie Valley by railroad. The mill and town were located along Boxley Creek which emptied into the South Fork Snoqualmie. In 1918 a flood known as the Boxley Burst destroyed the mill and town completely.

Photo courtesy of the Snoqualmie Valley Historical Society.





Weyerhaeuser pioneered long-term tree farming at the Snoqualmie Tree Farm, resulting in better forest management practices across the nation.

#### Snoqualmie Tree Farm

At 228 square miles, the Snoqualmie Tree Farm is the largest tract of private land in the Greenway. It was on the Snoqualmie Tree Farm that Weyerhaeuser turned the timber industry from one-time harvest to long-term tree farming. Until the 1930s, Weyerhaeuser practice – and that of the timber industry at large – had been to clear land and sell it for development

forest for farming, timber also provided a ready source of revenue. Ships sailed from Seattle ports to San Francisco, Hawaii, and Asia, carrying lumber from the old growth forests of Puget Sound. By 1880, timber production accounted for nearly two thirds of Washington’s economy.

Over time, more than a hundred mills sprang up in the various small towns of the Greenway, and many of these communities still contain remnants of company towns or monuments to timber at their center. In Snoqualmie Falls, a section of 400-year-old Douglas fir now stands as a testament to the scale of logging that the supported this town. Smoke stacks from the original mill still stand and recently gained landmark status from King County. In Preston, visitors can still find old mill buildings and company-built houses.

or farming. That changed with new laws and tax regulations in the 1930s. In 1937, Weyerhaeuser launched a new public relations campaign: “Timber is a CROP!” In 1938, the company established a seedling nursery at Snoqualmie Falls, with the radical idea of using the seedlings to replant cut acreage. Fifty years later, more than 93 million acres of “tree farms” had been established across the country. Washington State now requires replanting within two years of harvest.

The Snoqualmie Tree Farm remains in forest production today, thanks to a landmark conservation agreement between King County and the area’s current owner, Hancock Timber. In 2004, King County struck a \$22 million deal to buy the development rights from this area, thus providing an important buffer between the Cascades Mountains and the urban growth of the Puget Sound area.





Tiger Mountain, one of the “Issaquah Alps,” provides nearby, year-round recreation for Puget Sound city dwellers, as well as income from its state-owned trust lands for state and local agencies.

Much of Tiger Mountain was owned by Weyerhaeuser until the 1980s, when a land exchange with the Washington Department of Natural Resources helped consolidate the mountain into public ownership. Washington DNR then worked with environmental activists and other community members to develop a management plan for Tiger Mountain that would set the standard for managing active timber next to an urban area. Tiger Mountain continues to be logged today – but most people who visit the area or pass by on I-90 hardly notice. Recognizing that a working forest on the urban fringe must be managed differently than a more remote forest, Washington DNR has used Tiger

Mountain as a demonstration site for innovative techniques including smaller clearcuts, the use of limited helicopter runs, and viewshed planning.

## Tiger Mountain

Tiger Mountain is an imposing bulk on the outskirts of Issaquah, just beyond the urban growth boundary. Its High Point Trailhead is one of the most popular in the state, with more than 250,000 visitors annually. And its forested slopes provide the scenic backdrop for the daily life of tens of thousands of local residents.

## The Journey of the Salmon

The importance of salmon to Northwest Native American tribes cannot be overstated. Salmon are an iconic figure of traditional mythology. Many

stories tell of how salmon’s souls never die, instead they return each year to a new salmon body that will again swim upstream to spawn. Ceremonies have been held for centuries to celebrate the return of the salmon, and various rituals guided the preparation and eating of the season’s first catch to ensure that the salmon will return again the following year. Historically, the salmon runs of the Duwamish, Cedar, Snoqualmie, and Yakima Rivers combined to form one of the largest salmon runs in the lower 48.



The Yakima Basin Environmental Education Program teaches school children and adults about spawning salmon in the Cle Elum River.





### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

Embedded in the treaties signed by the tribes of the Northwest was the right to take fish at all “usual and accustomed stations.” This was the driving force behind the tribes’ insistence on taking what was legally theirs. The famous Boldt decision of 1974 was a huge victory for the tribes, allocating to the tribes 50 percent of the annual catch in their usual and accustomed fishing grounds.

The decision holds important contemporary ramifications for tribes in the Greenway, who are charged with helping manage the fisheries to sustain high yields. Tribal, local, state and federal officials have made important strides to begin restoring fisheries to their traditional health. Though nowhere near their historic proportions, the salmon runs in the Greenway are being conserved to ensure that salmon continue to be a regional icon.

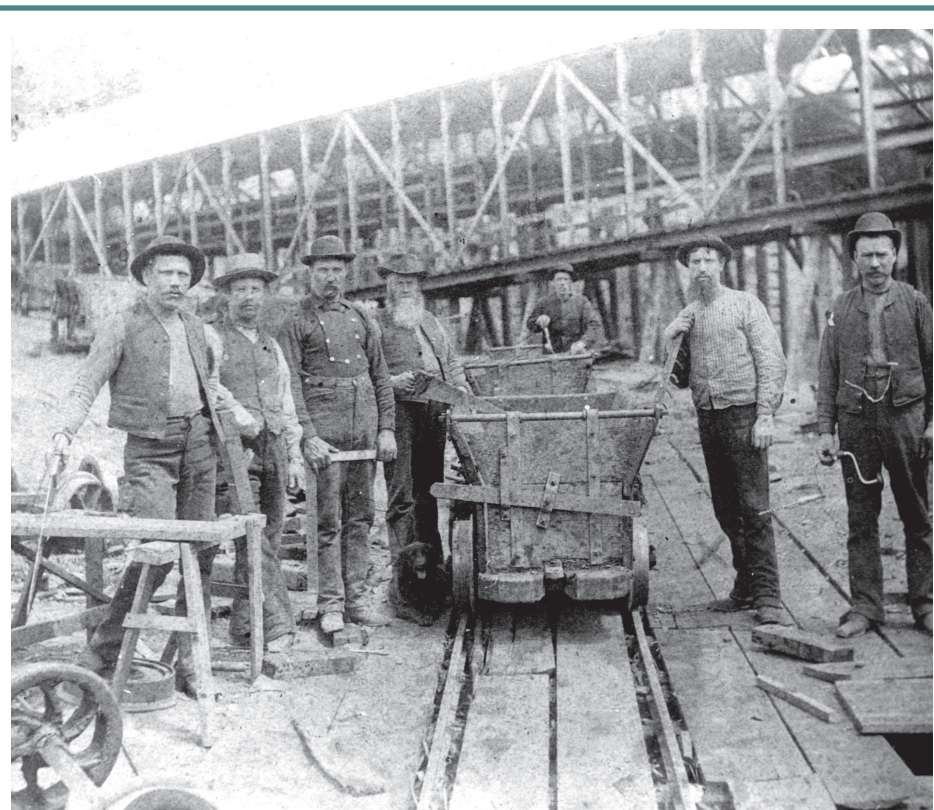
Greenway residents celebrate the salmon’s return each year through community festivals, and several groups, including the Greenway Trust, lead volunteers in salmon habitat restoration projects.

Many places in the Greenway provide excellent opportunities to view and learn about salmon migration. The fish ladder at the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks draws thousands of visitors every year. The Cedar River Watershed provides viewing at the Landsburg Dam each fall, where salmon

are provided passage up into the municipal watershed. Thousands of students of all ages view returning salmon at the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery. On the east side of the mountains, the Yakima Basin Environmental Education Program takes school children and members of the general public out to study returning Chinook salmon each fall.

#### Kittitas Coal

The Northern Pacific Railroad began laying its tracks through upper Kittitas County in the early 1880s, and coal mining in the region was developed to fuel steam locomotives. Both Roslyn and Cle Elum had large coal deposits, and both towns prospered with the expansion of the railroad over the Cascades. Combined, the towns contained six mineable seams with rich deposits.



In the 19th century, coal miners immigrated from all over Europe and Asia to dig coal in Roslyn.

Photo courtesy of the Museum of History and Industry.



### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

The vice president of Northern Pacific platted the new town of Roslyn as a company town. Over the years, Northern Pacific brought in hundreds of immigrants to mine the seams: Croats, Scots, Italians, Slovaks, and many others. The Roslyn Cemetery, on the National Register of Historic Places, reveals this rich ethnic heritage.

The town's early years were plagued with labor strife. There was a serious mining strike in 1888 as workers revolted against the strict regime imposed by the company. Instead of negotiating new wages and work hours, the company imported trainloads of black workers from Illinois to break the strike. One of the decedents of these workers, Willie Craven, was elected as Roslyn's mayor in 1975, becoming Washington's first black mayor.

Today, Roslyn is a National Historic District, and the National Register of Historic Places lists several other sites related to the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1995, Cle Elum, Roslyn, Kittitas County and the Greenway Trust acquired a six-mile abandoned railroad right-of-way from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad to create the Coal Mines Trail. The trail now connects the historic towns of Cle Elum, Roslyn and Ronald through Eastern Washington forests and past small mountains of tailings left from coal mining days. The Greenway Trust and its partners are working to connect the Coal Mines Trail to the John Wayne Pioneer Trail.



#### Timothy Hay

Washington legalized horse racing in 1933, and the growth of the industry boosted

demand for the region's Timothy hay. By the 1950s hay was being exported to other states and to markets in Europe and Asia. Today, worldwide recognition of the region's hay production has driven Timothy hay to the status of the largest cash crop in Kittitas County, with international exports primarily to Japan and the Middle East.



Farmers in the Snoqualmie Valley in 1958.  
Photo courtesy of Mary Norton.

#### Carnation Dairy

By the 1890s, small farms comprised most of the landscape in the Snoqualmie Valley. The moist valley sitting alongside the Snoqualmie River provided an ideal location for farming. Dairy farming was one of the main economic staples, and in the early 1900s the world-famous Carnation dairy farm put the region on the map. One cow from the research farm's herd produced 37,000 pounds of milk in one year—a world record.

Today, the Carnation Farm is the site of Camp Korey, which provides activities for children



### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

facing serious illness. In the still-bucolic setting of this historic farm, children can swim, ride horses, and roast marshmallows over an open fire.

#### Snoqualmie Falls

In a region notorious for its rainfall, it's not surprising that early settlers sought to harness the power of water from an early date. In 1899, the world's first hydroelectric generator sent power from Snoqualmie Falls to a Seattle station. Snoqualmie Falls, a lofty cataract plummeting 268 feet just beyond the confluence of the three forks of the Snoqualmie River, caught the eye of civil engineer Charles Baker, and he set out to design a power generator deep within the rock behind the falls. The achievement of drilling a 270-foot shaft into the bedrock and routing the water through turbines in an underground chamber was an astonishing feat—the first in the nation to be housed completely underground.

The Snoqualmie Falls generator still operates today, and hydropower remains the predominant source of energy for Greenway residents, including electricity generated at the Cedar Falls power plant, the first publicly-owned hydro project in the country.



Snoqualmie Falls is a major tourist attraction as well as the site of the world's first power plant built completely underground.



Power from the Snoqualmie Falls generator flowed from Snoqualmie to Seattle, despite challenges such as this heavy snowstorm.  
Photo courtesy of Puget Sound Energy.







The Cedar River Watershed is the largest municipally owned natural area in the country. Photo courtesy of Rob Gilde.

#### Cedar River Watershed

At 90,000 acres, the Cedar River Municipal Watershed is the largest municipally owned natural area in the country. The land is managed as an ecological preserve that provides habitat, hydropower, and drinking water so clean that the watershed is only one of six major drinking water systems in the country that requires no specially fabricated filtration.

The City of Seattle began acquiring lands in the upper reaches of the Cedar River in the

1890s to ensure a safe and clean water supply. Water first began reaching the city in 1901. Initially, the area was logged, so that only 14,000 acres of old growth forest remain. However, the isolation and ecological stewardship of this area now fosters populations of Rocky Mountain elk, common loons, spotted owls, cougar, black bear, osprey, and bull trout. The Cedar River itself is home to the largest sockeye salmon run in the lower 48 states. Visitors also will find archaeological sites dating back almost 10,000 years.





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#### Outdoor Recreation

Skiing was one of the area's first sustained outdoor recreational activities. Cle Elum had the first organized skiing west of Denver in the 1920s. The small mining town just east of Snoqualmie Pass hosted races, ski jumps, and special contests throughout the decade. The Northern Pacific Railroad provided a tramway from the rail line so that skiers could get closer to the ski hill, and thousands of people flocked to the area every winter. Most of the skiing moved to Snoqualmie Pass by the 1930s with the opening of the year-round highway through the pass. Night lighting was installed in the early 1940s, making it the second area in the country to have night skiing.

Today, due to night skiing, its proximity to a major metropolitan center, and its easy access to an interstate highway, Snoqualmie Pass is one of the most popular ski areas in the country.

In addition to skiing, abundant hiking, camping,

horseback riding, paddling, biking, rock climbing, skiing, snowshoeing, fishing, and wildlife watching trips are all within a 40-minute drive from downtown Seattle. Connected by the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail, a broad network of footpaths and bicycle trails links the public to the natural areas that sit right at the doorstep of Washington's largest cities.

Statewide, the outdoor recreation industry now generates more than \$10 billion for Washington's economy each year, and over time has become the most productive natural resource industry in the Greenway.



The Greenway has always enticed people outdoors for recreation. In the 1920s these members of the Cle Elum Ski Club had no lifts or rope tows. In the 1930s, the Milwaukee Road railway brought skiers by train to the Snoqualmie Ski Bowl at present-day Hyak. Photo courtesy of the Museum of History and Industry.



### **PRIMARY THEME: CONSERVATION AND COLLABORATIVE SPIRIT**

**The most groundbreaking – and successful – conservation efforts in the region have sprung from community activism and been rooted in a deep appreciation for the Greenway’s rich environment.**

An appreciation for the natural setting has always been a part of the region’s history. Defining movements in art and architecture were influenced by nature, symbolizing a connection to the land deeper than sheer economic exploits. In Seattle, the Olmsted Brothers firm, at the time well known for their magnificent parks in New

York, Chicago, and San Francisco, were hired to create a parks system that exhibited the city’s natural surroundings. During the second half of the twentieth century, this appreciation inspired a series of groundbreaking initiatives to protect the region’s waterways, farmland and natural areas.

#### **Olmsted Legacy**

In 1903, the City of Seattle hired the Olmsted Brothers Firm to devise a comprehensive plan for a parks system. The city had already begun to acquire parcels for addition to the park system and continued efforts to set aside land for the parks that the Olmsted Firm envisioned. In his plan for an “emerald necklace” of parks, John C. Olmsted had included the University of Washington campus, the site of the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific (A-Y-P) Exposition. Designing the grounds for the Exposition gave him a chance to

### **Natural Features: The legacy of the Olmsted Brothers**

An important, and tangible, byproduct of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific (A-Y-P) Exposition for the conservation movement in the Greenway was the landscaping designs for the Exposition grounds, completed by the Olmsted Brothers Firm.

The firm had been hired by the City of Seattle a few years earlier to devise a comprehensive plan for a parks system. The city had already begun to acquire select parcels for addition to the park system and continued its efforts to set aside land for the parks that the Olmsted Firm envisioned. In his plan for an “emerald necklace” of parks, John C. Olmsted had included the University of Washington campus, the site of the A-Y-P. Designing the grounds for the Exposition gave him a chance to further refine his designs.

Olmsted’s plan for the campus was forward-looking, as it not only intended to serve the needs of the Exposition, but also those of the university for years to come. The plan differed from other world’s fair plans in that the focal point of the grounds wasn’t the buildings and ornamental landscaping, but its natural surroundings. The design showcased impressive vistas of Mt. Rainier, and Lakes Washington and Union. Native plantings further highlighted the natural scenery of the region. The idea that the Exposition site would be best served not by its human-made elements, but by its harmony with nature was a novel concept—one that shaped the direction of Seattle’s parks system for years to come.





### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

further refine his designs.

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Seattle's Park Commissioners took a noted park designer in 1903 - John C. Olmsted, center, with pipe - to Washington Park (now the Arboretum) to plan a future vision.

The Olmsted Firm continued to advise Seattle in the implementation of their design plan for the next several decades. Today, the Olmsted legacy lives on, showcased in nearly every corner of Seattle. Those early conservation and design efforts have left Seattle with a string of parks, boulevards and green building practices that bring

out the best in the region—a connection to the mountains and water surrounding the city.

#### Lake Washington Clean-Up

One of the lakes that Olmsted sought to showcase in his parks system became the focus



Left: Untreated sewage was being dumped into Lake Washington in the 1950s, spurring a campaign to build regional sewage treatment facilities.

Photo courtesy of King County.

Below: Lake Washington today is clean and popular for recreation. Photo courtesy of Shawnti Rockwell.



### 3- HERITAGE THEMES

of the first major conservation initiative in the region. Up until the 1950s, Lake Washington was a dumping ground for much of Seattle's raw and partially treated sewage. Algae fed on the effluent—their population numbering into the billions—taking up the oxygen in the lake and fouling the lakefront with their stench. In an unprecedented move, Seattle-area citizens voted in 1958 to create Metro, a regional agency to treat the area's sewage. This was decades before the Clean Water Act, and it marked the first voluntary commitment by a major urban center to fight pollution. Between the 1960s and 1980s, the transparency of the lake increased tenfold, and today what was once a body of water brimming with sewage is now a popular boating and swimming destination for residents. The effort was led by James R. Ellis, whom President Nixon later tried to recruit to be the first administrator for his new Environmental Protection Agency. Ellis chose to remain in the Northwest, where he continued to spearhead several more civic projects—including the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

#### Farmland Preservation Program

By the end of the 1970s almost 80% of the farmland that had existed in the region in 1945 had been lost. Citizens of the region felt a sense of urgency to retain open space and farmland, and in 1979, King County voters overwhelmingly approved a farmland preservation bond issue.

This landmark measure protected farmland in the county by using public funds to purchase development rights of farmland facing threat of conversion. King County's

new program was the first such initiative in the country to be enacted by public vote. The victory was all the more significant because it came at the same time that citizens overwhelmingly approved a measure to limit state spending. The public has since invested more than \$50 million in the program, protecting more than 13,000 acres on 200 farms.



A renewed interest in local produce is creating an economically-viable industry in small family farms. Farmland preservation programs in recent decades have made this renaissance possible.

Today, the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District is home to more than 14,000 acres of productive land, more than a third of which has been protected through the King County Farmland Preservation Program, ensuring both farms and farm-based businesses can continue to succeed. Throughout the Snoqualmie area, working and historic farms provide food for the Seattle-Bellevue area, while also serving as a buffer between rural communities, providing open space and wildlife habitat where there might otherwise have been development.





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#### Pike Place Market

In 1907, produce farmers established Pike Place Market in downtown Seattle as a means of connecting directly with customers, thereby saving money for the consumer. The first wagon loads of produce sold out in a matter of hours, and the market continued to be an important urban gathering place through the Great Depression and World War II. In the 1950s and 60s, the market fell into decline, as grocery stores became more commonplace. A citizen-led effort in the 1970s provided for the renovation and revitalization of the market—and saved it from being redeveloped as a commercial complex that would have included apartment buildings and a hockey arena.

Pike Place Market, now on the National Historic Register, is the one of oldest continuously operating public markets in the country. Today, more than 100 farmers sell their produce alongside artisans and street performers. With more than 10 million visitors annually, Pike Place Market is among Seattle’s most popular tourist attractions. Seattle residents and downtown



Railroad land grants resulted in “checkerboard” ownership, resulting in management challenges. Pacific Northwest conservation efforts work toward contiguous ownership, improving wildlife habitat, economics of forestry, and connected recreation opportunities.

employees enjoy picking up fresh, local food for dinner on their way home from work.



Pike Place Market in Seattle brings local produce to residents and draws tourists into the city.

#### Weyerhaeuser and the Cascade Checkerboard

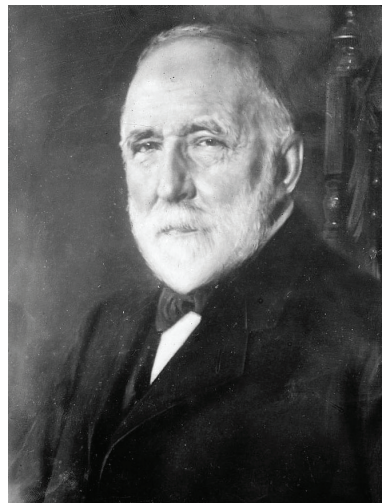
Much of the forested land in the Greenway had a “checkerboard” ownership pattern, a result of the federal government granting land to railroad companies in alternating square miles during the 19th century to encourage the creation of transcontinental railways. Just as timber from Puget Sound was becoming an industry, sawmills in the eastern half of the Greenway were producing timber to build railroad ties and a bridge across the Columbia River. There were several logging camps along the forested western



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edge of Kittitas County. The land granted to the Northern Pacific Railroad by Congress included huge areas of timber. The federal government granted railroad companies ten square miles of land for every mile of track built, in alternating sections.

In this fashion nearly 50 million acres were granted to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in the 1870s and '80s. By 1900, railroad mogul James J. Hill held a controlling interest in the company. In a transaction that sent a ripple throughout the entire West, he negotiated with his neighbor, Frederick Weyerhaeuser, to sell the latter timberland in Washington. Weyerhaeuser continued to purchase timberlands over the next several years and by 1903, the Weyerhaeuser Company held



Frederick Weyerhaeuser founded the Weyerhaeuser Co. with its headquarters in King County in the early 1900s.

more than 1.5 million acres in Washington, including large swaths in the central Cascades. Weyerhaeuser formed the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company soon after the purchase, which immediately grew into the most influential commercial timber empire in the state. By 1910, lumber production exceeded 4 billion board feet per year.

As a legacy of this historical ownership, much of the forest in the

middle of the Greenway lay in a checkerboard pattern well into the 1980s, resulting in

management challenges for both public and private forests. Decades of work by dozens of partner organizations resulted in major land exchanges in the Greenway, which began to significantly consolidate ownership in the Central Cascades. The Huckleberry land exchange brought 30,000 acres into US Forest Service ownership in 1998, and the I-90 land exchange brought an additional 31,000 acres in 1999, providing a more contiguous block of public lands at an important choking point in the Cascades' north-south wildlife migration corridor.

#### **Snoqualmie Tree Farm**

By the 1980s, Weyerhaeuser had begun to divest its forest holdings in Washington, selling to other timber companies or developing the land for housing to meet the needs of the area's growing population. Hancock Timber Resources Group bought





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the 90,000-acre Snoqualmie Forest in 2003. A year later, through a landmark agreement brokered by King County and local conservation groups, King County bought the development rights to this forest using Conservation Futures funding. It was one of the largest purchases of development rights in the country, and it ensures that 145 square miles of low-elevation timber will be protected as a working forest. Local residents may access the forest, with a permit, for hunting, fishing and other recreation.



Greenway supporters hike the Ira Spring Trail to Mason Lake.



## Conservation and Collaborative Spirit

Greenway heritage themes of transportation, natural resource economies, and conservation illustrate three fundamental threads of the Greenway story, as discussed among Greenway community members throughout the Heritage Study process. During meetings with local historians, the National Park Service, the Greenway Trust Board of Directors, and other stakeholders, these three themes were discussed in terms of the traditions and customs that define the region, with a clear consensus on the idea of the interconnectedness of humans and nature as the common culture that resonates across the Greenway's history and into the present day. Photo courtesy of Ray Lapine.



## CHAPTER 4 - GREENWAY ASSETS

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is blessed with an abundance of cultural, historic and natural resources which form a rich tapestry telling a nationally distinctive story: that of the American pioneer and how the economy of the Greenway transformed itself from boom-town plundering to a sustainable conservation ethic closely tied to both the land and the community. From a restored railroad bridge along an historic mining route to the working pastures of a century-old farm, the assets of the Greenway remind us of the connections between land and people that have shaped the Greenway for thousands of years.

As a part of the Heritage Study, Greenway stakeholders inventoried local resources, documenting their regional and national significance and identifying needs and opportunities for future enhancements. Organized into specific Working Groups, these stakeholders focused on particular assets that pertained to their respective areas of expertise. Each team participated in a series of meetings to confirm the appropriate metrics for cataloguing resources and defining them in terms of quality of life benefits and national distinctiveness.

This chapter documents the findings of the 14 Working Groups. The identified natural and human-made assets range from old-growth forests and alpine habitat to hiking trails, education centers, vital riparian habitat and historic sites. It is important to recognize that a number of Greenway resources have already been recognized as nationally significant: a National Historical Park, a federally designated Wilderness Area, several National Historic Landmarks, and hundreds of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. National Heritage Area designation will provide a collaborative framework for the continued conservation and interpretation of these assets within the context of the larger Greenway story.

### Greenway Assets

- **Ecological**
- **Historic and Cultural**
- **Outdoor Recreation**
- **Education**
- **Working Landscapes:**
  - Agriculture and Forests**
- **Community Involvement**



Healthy ecosystems boast flourishing native plants, such as Ocean Spray in lowland forests. Photo courtesy of Ben Legler.





### ECOLOGICAL ASSETS

As a result of its size, geology, topography, and climate, the Mountains to Sound Greenway is an exceptional ecological landscape—one that has shaped its people for thousands of years. In the eastern foothills of the Cascade Mountains, the Greenway is an arid terrain, crossed by elk, mountain lion, and homeward-bound Chinook salmon. At the top of the Cascades, a high alpine environment supports mountain goats, marmots, and resident and migrating raptors. Downhill toward Puget Sound, dwarf conifers give way to dense timberlands. Evergreen trees dripping with moss shelter grazing deer, who wander onto fallowed fields and wet meadows. Fjord-like lakes flow toward the sound, and salmon leap at rivers' mouths.

The diverse and healthy ecosystems of the Greenway provide local residents with billions of dollars worth of goods and services each year, including fisheries, timber, rangelands, and space for outdoor recreation. Trees of all kinds clean the air and cool the ground in the summer. Healthy rivers provide drinking water, flood control and shelter for fish. Wetlands filter water and waste, and stabilize stream banks and lakeshores. As testament to the value of these ecosystems to Greenway residents, more than 100 national, regional and neighborhood environmental organizations are active across the Greenway landscape, seeking a sustainable balance between the built and natural environment, whether their focus be on habitat restoration, transportation planning or farmland preservation.

#### Ecoregions

The Mountains to Sound Greenway encompasses significant acreage in five of the nine Washington State EPA Level III ecoregions: the Puget Lowland, the North Cascades, Cascades, Eastern

Cascade Slopes and Foothills, and Columbia Plateau.

#### Puget Lowland

The Puget Lowland ecoregion includes the marine waters of Puget Sound to the edge of the Cascade foothills, up to about 1,000 feet above sea level. Much of the ecoregion is influenced by the rain shadow effect of the Olympic Mountains, and is dominated by Douglas fir forests with Western hemlock and red cedar.



The 90,000-acre Cedar River Watershed supplies drinking water to the City of Seattle and is the largest municipally-owned natural area in the nation.





### North Cascades

The North Cascades ecoregion includes the Cascade Mountains north of Snoqualmie Pass and west of the Cascade crest. The vegetation consists mostly of western hemlock, Douglas fir, and western red cedar forests at low elevations; Pacific silver fir and western hemlock at middle elevations; and a mosaic of mountain hemlock, silver fir and subalpine parkland at high elevations.

### Cascades

The West Cascades ecoregion extends south and west from the Cascade crest from Snoqualmie Pass. Conifer forests dominate the vegetation of the West Cascades ecoregion. Douglas fir and western hemlock forests are typical at low elevations. Middle elevations characteristically have Pacific silver fir, western hemlock, Douglas fir, and noble fir. High elevations have mountain hemlock and silver fir forests and subalpine parklands.

### Eastern Cascades Slopes and Foothills

This ecoregion lies east of the Cascade crest. Typical elevation range is between 2,000 and

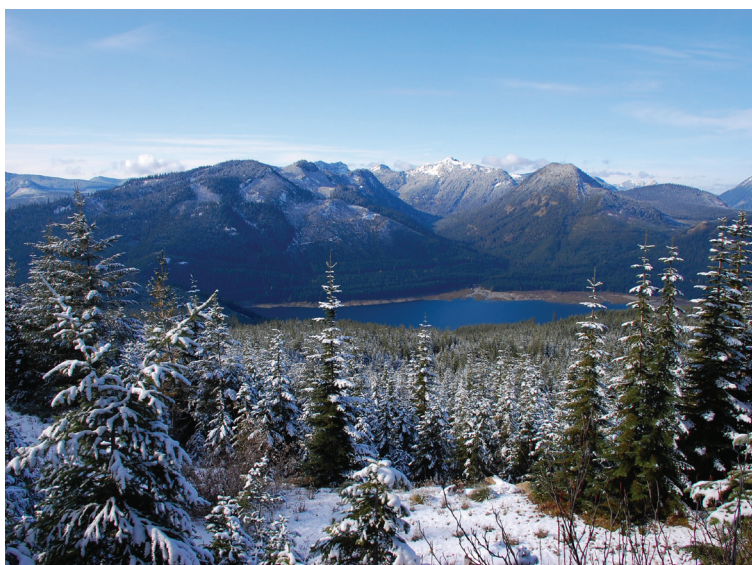


The Teanaway River Valley lies in the heart of Kittitas County, with rugged peaks, pine forests and spectacular scenery.

7,000 feet. The climate changes rapidly west to east, from cold with high precipitation (120 inches) along the Cascade crest to hot and dry with less than 20 inches per year along the foothills. Grand fir, Douglas fir, and ponderosa pine are characteristic tree species. Subalpine fir, mountain hemlock and Engelmann spruce are found at higher elevations.

### Columbia Plateau

Driving east toward Thorp and Ellensburg, the forests of the Cascades are replaced by the much drier shrub-steppe of the Columbia Plateau. Historically, this area was covered in native shrubs, annual and perennial wildflowers and bunchgrasses, but today, most of this ecoregion within the Greenway is farmland.



Fir trees blanket Eastern Cascades slopes near Snoqualmie Pass.





### Watersheds

The Greenway is shaped by three major watersheds that feed regional rivers and lakes. To the west, both the Cedar-Sammamish-Lake Washington and the Snoqualmie River watersheds feed Lakes Washington, Sammamish, and Union, and Puget Sound. To the east, the Cle Elum and Teanaway Rivers flow into the Upper Yakima. These rivers are fed by thousands of tributary streams, wetlands, and high alpine kettle lakes. The City of Seattle draws its drinking water from the Cedar and Tolt rivers as they make their way down the shoulders of the Cascade Mountains. The rivers of the Greenway boast large populations of fish species and nine different types of salmonids, including Chinook, Coho and Sockeye.

### Wildlife

The ecological diversity of the Mountains to Sound Greenway allows species such as Rocky Mountain elk to winter in the shrub steppe lowlands of the LT Murray Wildlife refuge, and then move to higher elevations in the Cascade Mountain range during the summer – all without leaving the Greenway. Bear, bighorn sheep, deer, cougar and numerous other species benefit from the same richness of habitat. The Greenway's ecological integrity attracts biologists from around the country who seek to better understand the complex nature of wildlife interactions, particularly when sited next to large population centers. Recent fieldwork in the Greenway has studied cougars, black bear, wolves, elk, loons, peregrine falcons and great blue herons.

In addition to providing important migration corridors between different elevations, the

- **8 federally listed endangered wildlife species**
- **9 state-listed wildlife species**
- **39 wildlife species that are candidates for listing**
- **20 priority habitats**
- **3 fish hatcheries**
- **22 state-listed rare plant species**
- **58 distinct, high-quality plant habitats**

Mountains to Sound Greenway also houses important north-south migration corridors down the spine of the Cascade Mountains. These travel routes are so critical to ecological integrity that current Interstate 90 expansions at Snoqualmie Pass

include construction of innovative wildlife bridges to aid in species migration across and around the interstate – another hallmark example of Greenway collaboration yielding groundbreaking results. In 2011, a gray wolf pack, a federally endangered species, was documented in the Teanaway Basin in the eastern Greenway. In total, the Greenway contains eight federally listed threatened or endangered species including marbled murrelet, bull trout, northern spotted owls and Columbia River chum salmon. There are nine state-listed threatened or endangered species, including the Oregon spotted frog, Western Pond Turtle and Fisher; and an additional 39 species are candidates for state and/or federal listing.



Elk thrive in the Snoqualmie Valley.



# HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ASSETS

Vestiges of thousands of years of human history can still be seen in the Greenway today. There are archaeological artifacts in key settlement areas, remnants of legends and cultural practices, and traces of trails that existed before European settlement. Evidence of mining abounds, as do the remnants of the towns that housed these early prospectors. A simple walk through any number of low elevation forests will yield tell-tale springboard notches in old-growth stumps that tell the story of the region's early logging history. Closer to the waters of Puget Sound, there are shipyards and docks that tell the story of the Yukon Gold Rush, World War II shipbuilding, and the heyday of the salmon fisheries. Taken together, these stories of Greenway history convey the larger narrative of human settlement, and the building of community and infrastructure, the temptations of overproduction, and – finally – a coming into balance.

More than 150 historical organizations make the stories of the Greenway accessible, through museums, interpretive displays, and heritage programming. In 2004, more than 500,000 people participated in heritage tourism activities in King County alone. These resources support local economies by drawing tourists and other visitors to cultural events, and also educate the public about the region's past.

In downtown Seattle, a number of different neighborhoods and attractions tell stories of



Founded in 1907, Pike Place Market looked in 1959 much as it does today. Citizens thwarted a proposal to raze it entirely in the 1960s. Now it is an Historic District listed on the National Register of Historic Places in the heart of downtown Seattle, drawing residents and tourists from around the world.

this fledgling backwater town blossoming into an international hub of trade and commerce: Pioneer Square-Skid Road Historic District, Pike Place Market, Chinatown International District, and the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park.

Snoqualmie Falls, one of Washington State's most popular scenic attractions, is a 268-foot waterfall listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A traditional burial site for the Snoqualmie Tribe, the falls are center to tribal culture as "the place where First Woman and First Man were created by Moon the Transformer" and "where prayers were carried up to the Creator by great mists that rise from the powerful flow." The mists from the falls are said to connect Earth and the Heavens. Next to the falls is the nationally registered

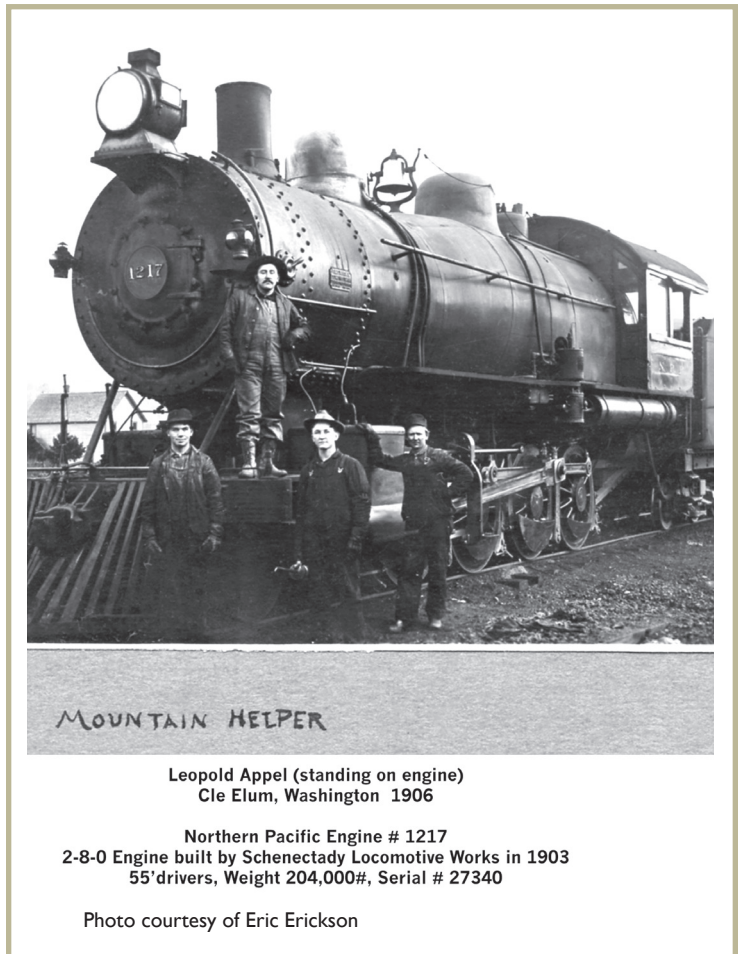




## 4- GREENWAY ASSETS

Snoqualmie Falls Hydroelectric Power Plant Historic District, which preserves significant architecture and engineering feats in creation of clean energy.

Railway history is preserved and interpreted at the Snoqualmie Depot and the South Cle Elum Rail Yard, both of which are on the National Register. At the Snoqualmie Depot, one can ride an historic train between the communities of Snoqualmie and North Bend, run by the Northwest Railway Museum. Along the way, one can stop at their Railway History Center which includes the 8,200-square-foot Conservation and Restoration Center, where historic railway artifacts are restored by volunteers, and the Train Shed, which is under construction and will provide climate-controlled storage of restored artifacts as well as a museum and archives. In South Cle Elum, the history of the Milwaukee Road railway is highlighted in the restored Depot by a museum and interpretive trail. Volunteers with the Cascade Rail Foundation assisted State Parks in the restoration of the Depot and staff the museum.



### Historical and Cultural Assets

- 7 National Historic Landmarks
- 225 National Historic Register sites
- 86 Washington State Historic Register sites
- 155 Historical Organizations
- 29 Museums





## 4- GREENWAY ASSETS

Coal mining history is preserved in the Roslyn Historic District and interpreted at the Roslyn Museum. Work of the Civilian Conservation Corps is present at the North Bend Ranger Station and Camp North Bend, now an outdoor educational camp. Farming history is showcased at the Reard-Freed Farmstead and the Thorp Grist Mill. Logging history calls at the Liberty and Cabin Creek Historic Districts, and is interpreted at the Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum. The history of outdoor recreation is highlighted at Redmond City Park and the Ellensburg Fairgrounds. All of these are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Interpretive signs dot the landscape, like this one adjacent to the Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum.



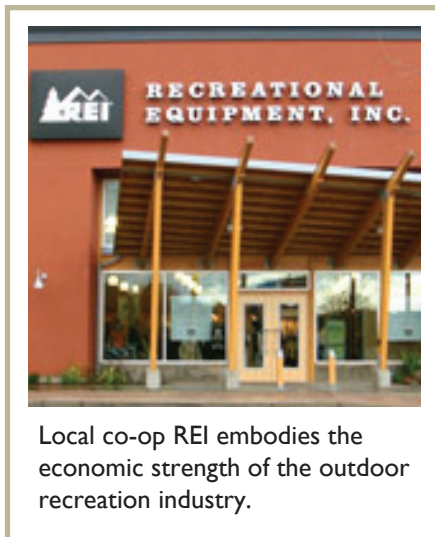
The Olympic Sculpture Park, part of the Seattle Art Museum, brings outdoor art to a spectacular setting on the Seattle waterfront.





### OUTDOOR RECREATION ASSETS

The Seattle region is continuously listed as one of the nation's most livable areas, and a major factor is the wide array of outdoor recreational opportunities within close proximity to metropolitan areas. Greenway residents have the opportunity to maintain their connection to nature through a network of parks, open spaces and trails that link the urban apartment to alpine wilderness.



Local co-op REI embodies the economic strength of the outdoor recreation industry.

More than 1,600 miles of trails represent one of the Greenway's most impressive and most widely used assets. The activities that trails support—hiking, wildlife watching, rock climbing, trail running, horseback riding, snowshoeing, ORV use, cross country skiing, and backpacking—provide numerous economic, social and health benefits for local residents, while also attracting visitors from around the world.

Recent studies have shown that walking/hiking is the most popular outdoor recreation activity in Washington State, with nearly 75% of residents participating each year. Since its inception, the Greenway coalition has worked successfully to build and maintain safe, accessible and scenic trails to accommodate hikers and other

### Parks and Open Spaces

The Greenway is home to more than 800,000 acres of public parks and open spaces, including vast forests, rivers and mountains, as well as city parks within urban centers. These green areas increase the livability of communities by providing abundant recreational opportunities and easy access to "breathing space." Numerous areas can be accessed by a quick bus, bike, or walk. Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, a 3,098-acre park with more than 30 miles of trails, is just 10 minutes from downtown Bellevue.

### Greenway Parks and Natural Areas

#### Federal Management – 620,000 acres

- Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
- Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest
- Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area

#### State Management – 220,000 acres

- Tiger Mountain, Raging River State Forests
- LT Murray and Stillwater Wildlife Areas
- Mt Si, Rattlesnake and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resource Conservation Areas
- Iron Horse, Lake Sammamish, Lake Easton, Squak Mountain, Bridle Trails and Saint Edwards State Parks

#### City and County Parks – 42,000 acres

- King County Parks, Open Spaces and Regional Trails
- City Parks in 28 municipalities
- Several Park and Recreational Districts

### Trails



user groups. Trails provide low-cost health care solutions; support a booming outdoor recreation industry (Washington's second largest industry); offer traffic congestion relief; and provide countless social "intangibles" – from the chance to recharge after a long day at work to the opportunity to rediscover oneself on the summit of a Cascade peak.

Three different categories of trails within the Greenway afford the public access to numerous outdoor opportunities. Community trails provide

### Greenway Trails

- **1,050 miles of forested wildland trails**
- **285 miles of regional trails**
- **350 miles of community trails**

residents easy access to parks and open spaces; regional trails serve millions of pedestrians, equestrians and bikers each year; and wildland trails are gateways to rivers, lakes, waterfalls, ridges and mountains as close as fifteen minutes from downtown Seattle

### Wildland Trails

Wildland trails in the Greenway are destination trails that draw people from a wide area because of dramatic scenery, diverse flora and fauna, and exercise, among many other reasons. They offer a number of recreational opportunities including hiking, horseback riding, trail running, and mountain biking. These trails allow users to explore routes



### ***1,650 miles of wildland, regional and community, trails***

*Serve as an important component of the Greenway, a key ingredient to the high quality of life for residents, and a major attraction for visitors.*

through the varied terrain of the Greenway's natural lands, from craggy granite peaks to lush forested valleys, and from towering ridgelines to expansive alpine meadows. The wildland trail network in the Greenway is a nationally significant asset of the region. Few, if any, areas in the country have more than a thousand miles of wildland trails located within an hour of a major metropolitan area. The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail crosses the Greenway at Snoqualmie Pass and is a highlight of the Greenway's wildland trail network.

Wildland trails provide access to unique regions across the Greenway, such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, and are maintained by a half dozen county, state and federal agencies, with support from nonprofit partners and volunteers. Sustaining this trail network is a huge task, especially given that close proximity to urban areas



Alpine meadows on Granite Mountain.



## 4- GREENWAY ASSETS

results in extremely high use. For over five years, Greenway conservation corps crews, in partnership with Washington State and other organizations, have worked on state and federal land to improve the Greenway wildland trail network. Under this successful partnership, significant trail building and maintenance has occurred across multiple jurisdictions. Collaborative partnerships form a model for the sort of cooperation that can be expanded under the National Heritage Area framework.

### Regional Trails

Regional trails are wide, flat, often paved trails connecting communities of the Greenway. They often follow old railroad right-of-ways, providing alternative transit opportunities in the form of bicycling, rollerblading, walking and other types of non-motorized travel. Twenty-six regional trails running 285 miles transect the Greenway.

### Wildland Trails

- **1,050 miles total**
- **658 miles accessible for equestrians**
- **353 miles accessible for mountain bikes**
- **400 miles accessible for motorized vehicles**



Interstate 90 leads to popular trailheads at Snoqualmie Pass, including Kendall Katwalk and majestic peaks of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

Several rail-to-trails projects have been nationally recognized – including the Burke-Gilman and John Wayne Pioneer trails – and have set a precedent for similar projects throughout the rest of the country.

A significant aspect of the Greenway vision is a connected trail network that will allow an individual to travel by trail across the entire Greenway – from Ellensburg to Seattle – and regional trails represent the major artery of this network. After twenty years of coordinated efforts, there is now a nearly contiguous network running through the Greenway.

### Community Trails

Community trails are short, sometimes private trails in local cities that connect neighborhoods and wind through nearby parks and open spaces, providing opportunities for exercise, recreation,



## 4- GREENWAY ASSETS

community-building and active transportation. In total, more than 350 miles of community trails have been documented in the Greenway, although that number will likely increase considerably in the coming years due to growing demand. Surveys of local residents rate trails and walking paths consistently as a top priority for parks departments and the Greenway Trust has partnered with several cities to plan and construct a growing community trail network.

### Camping Facilities

Camps and campgrounds that allow people to spend the night outside in parks and wilderness areas are among the most popular recreation facilities in the Greenway. The Greenway contains more than 2,000 camping sites, both public and private. The US Forest Service has the largest number of public campsites, including several large group facilities for events or organizations. Multiple church and youth groups also operate camps in the Greenway, such as Camp Wascowitz, run as an environmental education camp by the Highline School District at Camp North Bend, an historic Civilian Conservation Corps facility that is on the National Register of Historic Places.

### Other Outdoor Recreation

Many areas of the Greenway provide unique opportunities for additional types of outdoor recreation. Poo Poo Point on Tiger Mountain is one of the most popular paragliding sites in the region. The Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River is an increasingly popular water recreation site for fishing, rafting and kayaking due to planning assistance from the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program and work by the Greenway Trust to build access points to the river. Numerous climbing and bouldering areas are popular among local residents, and some have been profiled in national climbing magazines. Wildlife watching is another favorite activity, and many sites throughout the Greenway offer outstanding opportunities for viewing birds, fish, and even large mammals. Overall, there are more than 60 organizations that lobby and organize for additional recreational support throughout the Greenway.

### Hunting and Fishing

Many state parks, US Forest Service lands, and special game reserves managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) offer access for hunting and fishing within the Greenway. WDFW manages



Bicyclists enjoy the steady grade of the Coal Mines Trail, the former Burlington Northern Santa Fe railway between Cle Elum, Roslyn and Ronald.

In 2000 the entire Mountains to Sound Greenway trail network was declared a Millennium Trail by the White House because of the Greenway coalition's efforts to develop trails that connect people to their land, history and culture.





### Greenway Camping

- **33 U.S. Forest Service Campgrounds**
- **4 Washington State Parks Campgrounds**
- **1 King County Campground**
- **8 Private Campgrounds**
- **18 Private Camps**

licensing and game management across all lands. Seasonal hunts are opened for deer, elk, cougar, black bear, migratory waterfowl and several species of upland game. WDFW also works with local anglers to stock high country lakes and conduct annual fish surveys.

### Winter Recreation

The Cascade Mountains offer an abundance of winter recreational opportunities to the residents of the Greenway. At Snoqualmie Pass, there are four downhill ski areas and a sledding area which offer many people an introduction to outdoor winter activities in the mountains. With extensive night lighting – the second place in the country to offer such night skiing – and such close proximity to the Seattle metropolis, many area schools provide skiing classes as part of their physical education offerings. There are hundreds of miles of groomed cross-country skiing trails, over 400 miles of groomed snowmobile trails and uncountable places for snowshoeing. The US Forest Service and several local cities offer extremely popular guided snowshoe trips at Snoqualmie Pass.

### Water Recreation

Puget Sound, Lake Washington, Lake Sammamish and the many other lakes and hundreds of miles of rivers and streams

in the Greenway offer extensive opportunities for sailing, motor boating, canoeing, kayaking, rafting and a variety of other water recreation activities. Seattle has long been known for its water recreation, boasting one of the largest per capita ownerships of boats in the country. Right in the centers of the cities of Seattle, Bellevue, Issaquah or Redmond, one can rent a canoe or kayak and paddle around an urban lake. Deeper into the Greenway, the Middle Fork and North Fork Snoqualmie and Yakima Rivers offer world-class kayaking and rafting experiences. In Kittitas County, Lakes Kachess, Keechelus and Cle Elum all offer extensive boating opportunities. In total, there are more than 40 boat launches in the Greenway.



Paragliders enjoy strong wind and views from Poo Poo Point.



### EDUCATIONAL ASSETS

The Greenway is a living laboratory for children and adults alike to learn about green open spaces on the edge of the Cascades. Tens of thousands take part in field classes every year and nearly 30 organizations have active field education programs across the Greenway. Many of these outdoor programs focus on the connections between local residents and the natural world around them, whether that be helping them understand the value of working forests or the complexity of high quality salmon habitat. As such, these programs help ensure that the next generation of Greenway residents continues to understand and relate to what has emerged as a central story of the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area: the connections between humans and the surrounding landscape.

The University of Washington, located on Lake



Cedar River Watershed Education Center teaches 30,000 people each year about the source of their drinking water.

Washington in north Seattle, has extensive programming on environmental sustainability and was selected by the Sierra Club as the top university in the country for its initiatives to operate sustainably. At the other end of the Greenway, Central Washington University in Ellensburg has several environmental programs and operates the Museum of Culture and the Environment.

The City of Seattle operates the Cedar River Watershed Education Center. This award-winning LEED certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) facility educates more than 30,000 people annually about the careful stewardship of the 90,000-acre watershed that supplies water for a million residents. In addition, the City of Seattle operates Environmental Learning Centers at Camp Long,

#### Education/Interpretation Assets

- **5 Environmental Education Facilities**
- **41 Environmental Education Programs**
- **69 Heritage Education Organizations**
- **28 Youth Camps Offering Outdoor Education**





## 4- GREENWAY ASSETS

Carkeek Park, Discovery Park and Seward Park, which offer a broad variety of programming on salmon, birds, plants, natural history, camping, and courses for educators.

The Mercer Slough Education Center, a LEED-Gold certified facility, is run by the City of Bellevue and the Pacific Science Center, and provides year-round interpretation of freshwater ecosystems, wetland ecology, environmental stewardship and the effects of urban development.

The Greenway Trust runs an environmental education program which uses the outdoor classroom of Tiger Mountain State Forest to educate more than 3,000 students each year on the challenges of sustaining a healthy natural environment with the needs of a growing population.



More than 3,000 students each year participate in the Mountains to Sound Greenway Environmental Education Program. The program provides in-class sessions as well as a field study trip in the Greenway's outdoor classroom. For many city students, this is their first trip to a forest.



# ASSETS: FARMS AND FORESTS

For thousands of years, the Greenway landscape has provided bounty and sustenance for those who live there. The economy of European settlement, which started in the mid-1800s, was largely based on timber extraction, with fishing and mining as well. Many of the fertile lowland forests were cleared to make way for farming, which blossomed due to favorable agricultural conditions. Between 1940 and 1980, suburbanization, globalized economies and stronger environmental regulations led to significant loss of forests and farm lands in the Greenway. In recent decades, however, there has been renewed interest among Greenway communities in finding a more sustainable balance. As development threatened to overtake agricultural and forest land, conservation groups and local communities organized to protect these places as working landscapes, both for the marketable goods they can produce and for their ecological benefits.

## Farms

Home to some of the richest farmland in the country, the Snoqualmie Valley holds historic records for food produced per acre in the state. Kittitas County hay is in high demand worldwide. The agricultural industry is a significant economic driver, enriching urban and rural communities across the Greenway and the region. From the irrigated hay fields above the Yakima River to the ditched and drained rows of vegetables in the Snoqualmie Valley, farmers and ranchers across the Greenway grow and raise a remarkable variety of products, including fresh vegetables and

meat for neighborhood markets, as well as hay, feed and herbs exported internationally.

The Puget Sound region is home to nationally known farms and farmers. Full Circle Farm and others in the Snoqualmie Valley have been recognized for their Community Supported Agriculture programs and land stewardship efforts. Just up the valley, fourth and fifth

generation dairy farmers work a river valley that has set records for dairy production. Carnation brand milk and evaporated milk originally came

from the historic Carnation Farm, which operated for nearly one hundred years. Beecher's Cheese crafts artisan cheeses from Snoqualmie Valley milk in the heart of Seattle's Pike Place Market, while HerbCo of Duvall grows, packages, and sells fresh herbs nationwide.

**The Pacific Northwest “may be the best market in the nation for value-added, local, natural foods,”**  
**- Nancy Hutto, Chair of the King County Agriculture Commission**



Snoqualmie Valley's Jubilee Farm produces vegetables, fruit and Halloween pumpkins for local markets.







Timothy hay is the largest cash crop in Kittitas County, prized around the world for its quality.

The region has also been a national model in incentives, programs, and policies to support agriculture in a rapidly urbanizing area. The King County Farmland Preservation Program was created in 1979 to acquire conservation easements on farmlands, reducing the land cost for farmers. County-designated Agricultural Production Districts were created to facilitate focused policy and educational efforts to preserve farms. City governments are also increasingly embracing the agricultural heritage of the landscape.

Residents of the Greenway region are at the forefront of a national movement toward more locally sourced food, and recognize the need to preserve farming and a land base for the future. Farmers in the Greenway are particularly situated

**“Seattle is in the forefront of American cities, adapting city codes and programs to promote food production in neighborhoods and in rooftop greenhouses, along planting strips and in urban farms.”**

**- Richard Conlin, President of the Seattle City Council**

to answer that demand. Growing support from communities and government via local markets, incentives, education, and work towards supportive regulations suggest that agriculture can continue to be a vital part of the Greenway landscape for future generations.

### Forests

From urban greenbelts in Seattle to the forested slopes of the Issaquah Alps, from the 90,000-acre Snoqualmie Forest to the higher elevation stands in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area, forests are the most defining ecological

asset of the Mountains to Sound Greenway. They are a key ingredient to clean air, clean water and healthy habitat, and the Greenway is blessed with large swaths of forest coverage right up, and into, urban areas.

The Cedar and Tolt River Watersheds, owned and managed by the City of Seattle, contain 100,000 acres of forestland and provide some of the cleanest water in the country to 1.5 million people each year. King County and the US Forest Service are active in extensive forest health rehabilitation of lands under their ownership

to increase wildlife habitat values and/or decrease forest fire threats. King County and the state also have multiple education, assistance and incentive programs for small forest land owners to help them steward their lands. Fifteen cities in the Greenway are certified



under the Tree City USA program, and the city of Seattle has established a goal of achieving 30% forest cover by 2037.

Preserving forests has been top priority for the Greenway Trust and its partners since its founding in 1991. Twenty years of dedicated efforts show tremendous results: within the Greenway, 70 percent of land remains under forest cover. Through hundreds of acquisitions and exchanges, more than 900,000 acres of forests are in some protected status, whether under public ownership or via conservation easements held on private lands.

The scale of timber harvesting has changed in the Greenway. There is a growing public understanding that sustainable timber harvest can exist and still provide multiple ecological and recreational benefits that are not provided by conversion of forests to subdivisions. This has been demonstrated at Tiger Mountain (managed by the Department of Natural Resources) and at the privately held Snoqualmie Tree Farm. The US Forest Service occasionally does small timber health projects that result in a few million board feet of timber. There



Working forests provide clean air, clean water, healthy habitat, and income.

are other small-scale logging operations in the Greenway, but in many ways, the word forestry itself is being redefined, with industry leaders working in the Greenway.

Forestry in the Greenway today is characterized by the active management of forests, which preserves and captures a myriad of values provided by healthy forests, public and private. Some forests continue to provide timber products for the region, but all forests, whether they are harvested or not, can provide clean water, clean air, habitat for wildlife,

and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Whether overseeing large commercial timber plantations, small private woodlots or public natural areas, Greenway foresters manage for a mix of these values.

### Forest Assets

- 70% in forest cover
- 950,000 acres zoned as Forest
- 90,000 acres private forest land preserved by conservation easement





### ASSETS: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The success of the Mountains to Sound Greenway is the work of thousands of people. Even a single transaction to preserve a parcel of land likely involves a number of players: the landowner, the conservationist, the funders, the neighbors, and the community at large. It is through such a collaborative approach that truly innovative solutions come to light: wildlife bridges across a federal interstate or a new trailhead managed by one agency, owned by another, and built by the Greenway Trust with public and private funding.

Each year, tens of thousands of people volunteer across the Greenway, restoring wildlife habitat, leading tours of local history, building trails, and more. It's an investment of millions of dollars each year. The Greenway Trust organizes volunteers to plant trees, build trails and staff educational booths, but that is just a portion of the community investment occurring daily across the Greenway. The Washington Trails Association coordinates hikers to maintain trails. The Backcountry Horsemen Association and Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance do the same for equestrian and bike trails. Community organizations such as the Newcastle Weed Warriors coordinate volunteer invasive plant control. Volunteers at



Greenway volunteers from Microsoft bring team-building outdoors to improve local parks.

the Roslyn, North Bend and Issaquah museums donate thousands of hours interpreting history of their communities. Citizens are also heavily involved in local planning, whether sitting on a local Parks Board, a River and Streams Committee, or a Citizens Advisory Committee providing oversight to State Department of Natural Resources timber harvests. Friends of the

Trail organizes volunteer trash removal on public lands, removing tons of dumped cars and trash and cleaning up dispersed camping and illegal target shooting sites.



Friends of the Trail volunteers remove tons of trash from rivers.





## 4- GREENWAY ASSETS

The exhaustive outreach that was part of the Heritage Area Feasibility Study is further evidence of the degree to which the Greenway is defined by community involvement. More than 1,000 people participated in this study, contributing their personal views of this landscape and their hopes for the future as a piece of a collective vision.

While any given individual can leave a legacy, a place where preservation lies in the work of thousands of people becomes a shared asset—one that can be handed down from generation to generation as contributors and stakeholders of today take their children and grandchildren out to experience the Greenway, from hiking trails to historic mine sites to old railroad routes.



Community volunteers join forces to truly make a difference, such as this group from Microsoft that removed invasive weeds from Westside Park in Redmond.



Volunteers produce community events like the Roslyn Crazy for Quilts Show.





## CHAPTER 5 - HISTORY: A WEALTH OF STORIES TO BE TOLD

The history of the Mountains to Sound Greenway is the history of a landscape – and those who traveled within it and harvested its bounty. For thousands of years, Native American tribes sustained themselves with salmon. White settlers brought a more voracious appetite for timber, coal, and for the land itself. As they built new towns and cities, complete with railroads, wagon roads and shipyards, some began to question the costs of unfettered development. New conservation practices took root, as citizens sought creative ways to maintain a balance between the built and natural environment, whether through community clean-up efforts, new tax structures, or a brand-new trail.

### Native American Roots

Archeological records reveal that humans inhabited the Greenway at least 6,000 years ago. Records from Eastern Washington and the Olympic Peninsula show human activity between 10-12,000 years ago, about the same time as the retreat of the last ice age. Native American tribes have been well established in the Greenway in all major river valleys on both sides of the Cascades for thousands of years, hunting and gathering different foods according to the season. To the west lived the Snoqualmies, an interior coast culture who had several villages along the Snoqualmie River. The Yakama lived on the eastern side of the mountains. A plateau people, the Yakama had a number of distinct tribes, with one band occupying several camps in the Greenway in what is now upper Kittitas County.

The Duwamish, Muckleshoot and Tulalip peoples lived in the Puget lowland – the maritime region along the Puget Sound coastline. Theirs was a coastal culture, and they inhabited mudflat villages along the shores of Puget Sound. They lived off of the bounty



Yakama Chief Joe Charlie in ceremonial dress.  
Photo courtesy of the Museum of History and Industry.

*“Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.”*

**- Chief Sealth**



## 5- HISTORY

of the Sound — fishing in the saltwater and the rivers and gathering seafood in tidal flats. With such a cornucopia, these Northwest tribes had a saying: “When the tide is out the table is set.”

The Greenway’s wealth of natural resources sustained local tribes for thousands of years. Cedar trees were used to construct longhouses and dugout canoes. Tribes relied on the annual return of the salmon, which provided food for much of the year after it was caught, dried, and smoked. The Snoqualmie and Yakama also hunted bear, deer, elk, and birds. They burned small patches of forest to clear ground for hunting and to gather berries and dig roots like camas and sweet onion, and they used wild plants for medicinal purposes.

### Early Exploration

Near the time when the horse was first introduced to the Yakama people, facilitating more efficient trade across the mountains, European and American explorers were sailing along Washington’s coast in search of a Northwest Passage. Spanish, Russians, British and Americans vied for geopolitical control. The discovery of Puget Sound was a major breakthrough. Although it did not serve to connect the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans as explorers had hoped, its calm, deep waters would prove ideal for saltwater ports. Along the West Coast’s rugged shoreline, these tranquil waters were an anomaly that opened new doors for commerce and future settlement. Captain George Vancouver claimed Puget Sound for Britain, naming the waterway after one of his officers, Lieutenant Peter Puget. Spanish and Russian vessels were also charting the complex Northwest coastline, laying initial claims to the territory, but these claims were later relinquished.



*“The landforms of the Pacific Northwest are not matters just of geology and real estate but also of aesthetics and culture...Not surprisingly Pacific Northwesterners commonly translate their sense of place into a belief that the natural environment determined the types of people who settled [here]. Rugged mountains and gargantuan trees called forth strong-willed, self-reliant individuals to match them.”*

— Charles Schwantes, northwest historian



Captain George Vancouver sailed into the Strait of Juan de Fuca on the ship *Discovery*, then commenced his exploration of Puget Sound in 1792.



## 5- HISTORY



Situated at the mouth of the Duwamish River on Puget Sound, today's Port of Seattle sees trade from more than one hundred countries around the world.

Throughout the early decades of the 19th century, the Hudson's Bay Company was active in both the Snoqualmie and Yakima River valleys. While they were best known for fur trapping and trading, cattle herding was also an important economic pursuit. Cattlemen were in the eastern half of the Greenway as early as the 1830s. Most were Native American, hired by the company to raise beef for the various trading posts and for export. The bunchgrass prairies of upper Kittitas County, combined with hundreds of streams flowing from the Cascades, made for ideal grazing conditions.

In 1841, nearly 40 years after Vancouver's expedition, American Lieutenant Charles Wilkes explored Puget Sound, charting and naming numerous landmarks. Wilkes' expedition was the first US Navy expedition to explore the Pacific Ocean and the territory that was now jointly occupied by Britain and the United States.

Just seven years after the expedition, the Oregon treaty was signed and Britain was granted the lands above the 49th parallel while the US received the lands to the south, including Puget Sound.

The waterways of Puget Sound became important trade routes, linking Seattle and inland towns with fast-growing West Coast cities like San Francisco, whose residents turned to the Northwest for timber and other resources to build (and rebuild) the city. Importantly, Puget Sound evolved into a major trade artery that linked this region with the Pacific and markets in Asia. Connections between Seattle and China and Japan grew during the middle and end of the 19th century, and continue to prosper to this day. Today, the Port of Seattle facilitates two-way trade with more than one hundred countries, accounting for about seven percent of all United States imports and exports.



### White Settlement

In 1851, explorers John C. Holgate and Colonel Isaac N. Ebey separately explored the territory around Puget Sound's Elliott Bay, near present day Seattle. Holgate laid claim to a plot of land along the Duwamish River. In the spring of that year, Luther M. Collins, Henry Van Asselt, and Jacob and Samuel Maple settled there, planting gardens and fruit trees. The Denny party also arrived in 1851. They came from the Midwest via the Oregon Trail and by schooner up the coast and effectively colonized the city of Seattle.

The last large city to rise during the frontier era of the American West, Seattle sprouted along the shore of Elliott Bay. It was the largest city in the country to be named for a Native American: Seattle honors Chief Sealth of the Duwamish tribe, who aided the immigrants in their early settlement.



James When's sculpture of Chief Sealth at Tilikum Place, Fifth Avenue and Denny Way ca. 1920. Photo courtesy of the US Forest Service.



Third Avenue in Seattle between Pine and Union streets in 1911. Photo courtesy of Seattle Municipal Archives.





## 5- HISTORY

The fledgling city quickly became a haven for lumber merchants, who exported the region's timber to the fast-growing San Francisco. The California city's hunger for timber could hardly be satiated; in just four years' time, San Francisco burned to the ground four times, and its buildings and piers were rebuilt with timber from the Greenway. California's Gold Rush of the 1870s kept up a steady demand for Northwest timber.

While California had plenty of forests, it was difficult to land a ship on its rocky coastline, thus making timber harvest impractical. The calm, deep waters of Puget Sound made for safe harbor, and Seattle, home to the region's only steam sawmill, quickly evolved into the most productive port in the Northwest.

Meanwhile, the Washington Territory was established in 1853, and within two years, Governor Isaac Stevens had signed a treaty with all of the tribal leaders of the region who ceded land to the new territory. In just one year's time, Stevens was able to convince Northwest tribes to give up nearly 64 million acres of land in exchange for just over a million dollars—less than two cents per acre. Outraged, Kamiakian, famous chief of the Yakamas, organized an alliance of inland tribes in an effort to resist the conditions of the treaty. He declared war on the United States in 1855 and for the next several years there was vicious fighting up and down the Kittitas Valley.

But settlers continued to move into the region, lured by the prospects of ranching, farming, and mining. All around, whites were transforming the landscape to facilitate early settlement. Farmers began irrigating their fields, turning the once naturally productive camas-rich prairie into cash crops. Hay and wheat combined with cattle and sheep ranching to form a solid and productive agricultural industry.



Early hay harvest in the Kittitas Valley.  
Photo courtesy of the Kittitas County Historical Museum.

*In the Greenway, the natural world has been so ingrained in daily life that the its inhabitants strive to better understand, celebrate, and maintain their connections to the landscape.*



### Crossing the Cascades

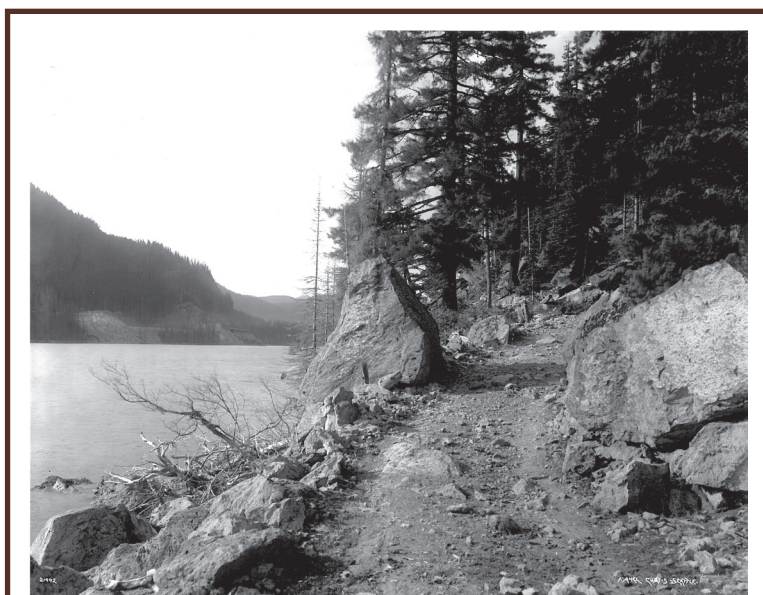
Snoqualmie Pass has been the epicenter for every major land-based transportation development over the past 200 years – from Native American trail to wagon road to railway corridor to interstate highway. It is an active model of how changes in transportation have shaped the development of the American West.

Once heavily utilized by Native Americans to connect tribes on either side of the mountains, Snoqualmie and Stampede passes – the low-elevation points in the Cascades between the Columbia River and Canada – functioned as trade routes from farm to market. Cowboys drove their herds of cattle across the mountains with relative ease, but wagons had more difficulty getting across the streams and steep slopes of the mountain passes.

1853, Congress appropriated funds for a series of transcontinental railroad surveys. Territorial governor Isaac Stevens was assigned the northern survey and he appointed US Army Captain George McClellan to find a route through the Cascades. McClellan was authorized \$20,000 for the project. The experience proved to be difficult, as McClellan's expedition was thwarted by heavy smoke from forest fires and by the challenging topography of the central Cascades. As he found his way to the top of the Yakima River drainage, McClellan concluded that the mountains were too high for a route through them. While his expedition was considered a failure because he did not find an adequate route through the mountains, his survey laid the groundwork for later expeditions.

crossings of the Rockies, was appointed by Stevens to gain a truer picture of potential travel routes. Guided by Yakamas, Tinkham crossed the Cascades, tracing a viable line for a railroad down to Seattle. The Northern Pacific Railroad was eventually built across the Cascades via Stampede Pass in 1887, although the tracks did not actually terminate in Seattle. It wasn't until 1909, when the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad was built across Snoqualmie Pass, that trains ran directly to Seattle.

Meanwhile, work on the wagon road continued. In the 1860s, Washington's territorial legislature requested federal funds to enable construction of a permanent route through Snoqualmie Pass, but the federal government was too occupied with the Civil War to grant any money. Indicative of an entrepreneurial spirit that led to the development of the Northwest, Seattle residents organized a survey for a roadway and raised funds for construction. A wagon road was completed in 1867, enabling goods to travel from



In 1911 travelers faced a rocky path along Lake Keechelus, the site of present day Interstate 90.

Photo courtesy of the Washington State Historical Society.



Lieutenant Abiel Tinkham followed McClellan four months later. Tinkham, fresh off three winter



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Seattle to Ellensburg and vice versa.

By the time the railroads were established, momentum was building for a permanent roadway through the mountains. President Taft had initiated a New York-to-Seattle car race as part of the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, and a racer completed the first transcontinental automobile race in 23 days. Snoqualmie Pass proved to be the most difficult section in the route.

Over the next decade, major work was completed along the old wagon route, as communities on both sides of the pass strove for a roadway



Interstate 90 goes through Snoqualmie Pass with Guye Peak in the background. I-90 is the longest interstate in the country, running from Seattle to Boston.

### Historical snapshot: motorized travel over Snoqualmie Pass

- **1883: Denny and Yesler rallied neighbors, opened the Seattle – Walla Walla Toll road**
- **1905: First cars over the pass**
- **1909: Automobile race from New York to Seattle**
- **1913: Primary transcontinental highway plotted**
- **1915: Formal opening of Sunset Highway (alternate name for Yellowstone Highway)**
- **1940: Floating bridge constructed over Lake Washington**
- **1969: I-90 officially designated as an interstate highway**
- **1990: Floating bridge replaced over Lake Washington**





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that did not have to close in the winter. Heavy snows and mudslides had for years taken their toll on winter travelers, and motorists generally opted to ship their vehicles over the pass by freight instead of possibly breaking down along the primitive roadway.

By 1934, the entire roadway was paved—the first paved route through the Cascades. In the following years, nearly 50 bridges were constructed from Ellensburg to Seattle to shorten the route. At the time of its construction in 1940, the floating bridge connecting Mercer Island and Seattle was the longest pontoon bridge in the world. During World War II, Snoqualmie

Pass was an important military supply line, connecting military bases on the east and west sides of the state. After the war, higher demand for roadways led to further improvements. By 1963, the speed limit over Snoqualmie Pass had been raised to 70 miles per hour.

Today, an estimated 150,000 drivers travel Interstate 90 within the Greenway every day. Once a major bottleneck to transportation and commerce, Snoqualmie Pass is now a paved thoroughfare serving as the major transportation corridor between western and eastern Washington and beyond.



The dark, 2.3-mile Snoqualmie Tunnel on the former Milwaukee Road railway is the longest non-motorized-use tunnel in the nation, providing a novel way to cross the Cascade crest.





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### Logging

No history of the Greenway is complete without the story of logging. For most of the nation's history, Washington has been one of the leading lumber-producing states. In the Greenway, at the time of white settlement, the lowland river valleys and foothills of the Cascades were filled with old growth cedar, fir, and hemlock, some towering more than 300 feet and others nearly fifteen feet in diameter. Henry Yesler's sawmill in Seattle provided the area's first sustained industry, and the region grew because of the exported logs cut in his mill.

For several decades, timber from the region was shipped to California to build the booming cities there, including rebuilding San Francisco after fires. Railroads opened up access to more inland areas and hundreds of mill communities sprung up across the Greenway. In the early 20th century, large timber interests began consolidating land ownership, largely via railroad land grants, and massive-scale industrial timber harvesting was the norm between the 1920s and 1980s. At the same time, the US Forest Service managed timber harvesting on hundreds of thousands of acres of federal forest lands in the Greenway.

The United States entered World War I in 1917,

creating a great demand for timber. Shipyards in Seattle boomed, exporting logs cut in mills across the Greenway. During this period, the logging industry exerted powerful socioeconomic influence throughout the Greenway. Technological advances were stabilizing mill locations, leading to the growth of important cities. While the Great Depression generally slowed the growth of the industry, its solid infrastructure held a promise for prosperity once demand for timber was restored.

World War II once again accelerated growth in the timber industry, as lumber was used to build everything from barracks to minesweepers.



Trees the size of this old-growth Western Washington Fir log drove the growth of the logging industry in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Photo courtesy of Paul Dorpat.

But this new wave of harvest took its toll on the forests of the Greenway. By the end of the War, most of the old growth timber in the region had been cut. Mills that had been built specifically for cutting the big trees were starting to become obsolete. The big mills



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survived, although Weyerhaeuser shut down its company town in 1958. Post-war suburban growth kept timber in demand, but it was clear that major transformations to the region's timber industry were imminent.

By the 1980s, the last of the sawmills in the Greenway were winding down. Weyerhaeuser closed most operations at its Snoqualmie Mill in 1989. Logging throughout the region continued, but at a much less frenzied pace than in years prior. In fact, what was once a staple of the region's economy was beginning to fall out of the public's favor. Clear cutting during the 1980s produced a visceral negative reaction for many residents, and they in turn began challenging established ways of managing forests.

The 1990 Endangered Species listing of the Northern Spotted Owl reduced timber harvests in the Northwest by 80%. Coupled with the decline in timber jobs that was already underway because of dwindling old growth harvests and automation of the industry, timber towns underwent major economic and cultural shifts. In the early 1990s, the future of forestry in the Greenway was uncertain due to tightening

*While some groups remain vehemently opposed to logging, a growing number of people have begun to recognize the many benefits of a working forest in contrast to a development.*

environmental regulations, negative public attitudes and the profit that timber companies could make by converting forest land to residential and other uses.

The debate between logging and preservation made a significant turn: the choice was no longer between periodic logging and permanent forests; it was between periodic logging and permanent loss of forests. In 1990, significant forest acreage in the Greenway was owned by a handful of large timber companies. The region was continuing to grow rapidly, and the economic incentives for converting forestland to developments were higher than ever before. The completion of the federal interstate allowed for people to live across the Greenway and commute with relative ease to the economic epicenters of Seattle, Bellevue, and Redmond. People were even beginning to commute to Seattle from across Snoqualmie Pass. Much of the early work of the Greenway coalition focused on finding practical ways to prevent permanent loss of forests. While some groups remained vehemently opposed to logging, a growing number of people began to recognize the many benefits of a working forest in contrast to a development. Working forests provide



As the Seattle metropolitan area expanded, forests were cleared to make way for subdivisions, and valuable ecosystem services were lost.





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habitat for wildlife, retain storm-water runoff, prevent erosion, and sequester carbon dioxide. Malls and subdivisions do not.

Several large land exchanges between timber companies and either the US Forest Service or the state Department of Natural Resources preserved significant acreage of forests in the Greenway. However, it would have been cost-prohibitive to purchase all the private forestland in the Greenway and put the land in public preserves. Instead, local conservation organizations focused on strategies aimed at keeping land in private forestry, such as conservation easements and transfers of development rights. Foresters began to use increasingly sustainable forest practices. Thinning and sustainable-yield harvests are now employed as an alternative to the much maligned clearcut. Trees are replanted on logged areas within two years. On top of the ecological benefits of a working forest, forestry continues to provide local and regional economic

benefits. Washington exported \$1.5 billion of forest products in 2010, making forest products the third highest export category for the state, behind only aircraft and agricultural products. Within the Greenway, more than 200,000 acres of land remain in private forestry and more than 150,000 acres of public forests are managed for timber harvest by the US Forest Service and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, who harvest forests to fund K-12 school construction and other public facilities.

### Mining

Gold, discovered in Swauk Creek in the foothills of the eastern Cascades, lured prospectors to the Greenway. The subsequent gold rush opened the floodgates of white settlement in the 1860s. The gold rush in Kittitas did not pan out as well as prospectors had hoped, however. While some prospectors found crystalline gold, an extremely rare formation—the Swauk Creek area is one of the few places in the world where that type of gold has been found—discoveries were few and far between. Instead, it was another mineral that put the region on the map: coal.

Coal mining flourished on both sides of the Greenway, with the eastern slope towns of Roslyn and Cle Elum fueling the steam locomotives that traversed the Cascades along the Northern Pacific Railroad. By 1963, when the last of the mines finally closed, Roslyn and Cle Elum had produced more than 50 million tons of coal.

On the other side of the mountains, coal in the



Coal mines at Newcastle, on the western slope of Cougar Mountain, spurred rapid growth in the late 19th century. Coal was moved by cart, barge or train to Seattle and beyond. Photo courtesy of the Renton Historical Society.

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Puget Sound region was tied to the development of railroads, but even more directly to the development of California. Deposits were found in eastern King County as early as the 1860s. The growing population of California had created increasing demand for energy, and prices rose accordingly. At the time, coal in the Northwest cost about \$11 per ton, while in California, coal went for nearly \$30 per ton. This greatly influenced the development of infrastructure and transportation corridors across the region. Getting coal from a mineshaft to the steamers along Elliot Bay on the Seattle waterfront was no small task, and regional planners struggled to find the most efficient and expedient means of transport. By the early 1870s a rail line had been constructed from eastern King County around the shores of Lake Washington to the port of Seattle. Locomotive transport greatly improved the network and throughout the 1870s, about 100 tons of coal were dropped at Elliott Bay each day.

Coal production continued to increase throughout the region into the 20th century, but growing socioeconomic changes began leading to a gradual decline.

For decades, the industry had been mired with labor disputes as mine strikes, fires, and accidents all added up to unstable work conditions. After the Great Depression, oil largely displaced coal for heating and transportation fuel.

Hydroelectric power in the Northwest gained traction as hundreds of dams

were constructed in the first half of the 20th century, eventually accounting for more than three quarters of the region's power. By the early 1960s, the reign of "King Coal" in the Greenway had come to an end.

### Agriculture

On the eastern side of the mountains, the lush prairies that made the area a cattlemen's paradise were quickly turned into prime agriculture lands with the development of irrigation. By the 1880s, farming had eclipsed cattle ranching as Kittitas County's most lucrative enterprise. Hay and wheat became the prominent crops, along with a commercial fruit industry whose growth coincided with more lands becoming irrigated. The Bureau of Reclamation became involved in Kittitas irrigation in the 1920s, creating three reservoirs and an extensive canal network (the Kittitas Division of the Yakima Project) over the next decade. Production levels skyrocketed and the region was soon exporting more corn, potatoes, tree fruit, and hay than ever before.



The Snoqualmie Valley was once dubbed the Largest Hop Ranch in the World.  
Photo courtesy of Snoqualmie Historical Society.





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On the western side of the Greenway, the extensive and fertile prairie of the Snoqualmie Valley also provided ideal grounds for farming. The Homestead Act of 1862 was a major impetus for settling these lands. 160 acres of land were granted to citizens over the age of 21 who agreed to live on the land and improve it for at least five years. A particularly entrepreneurial settler named Jeremiah Borst was able to secure more than 900 acres through land claims and purchase. In the early 1880s, his lands became the site of the largest hop farm in the world. The labor force was almost solely comprised of Native Americans, who came from as far away as British Columbia. Most of the hops were exported to Germany and England.



Early dairy farm in Kittitas County.  
Photo courtesy of the Kittitas County Historical Museum.

News of the area's preeminent farmland began to spread, and coupled with a decline in the timber industry at the end of the World War I, agriculture grew rapidly in eastern King County. The area around present-day Bellevue was



Farms have long been an integral part of the Greenway landscape, bringing local produce and economic vitality to the region.



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renowned for its strawberry production. Skilled Japanese farmers cultivated a world-famous strawberry crop that today is celebrated in an annual Strawberry Festival. Issaquah had extensive dairy operations and small truck farms dotted flat areas throughout eastern King County. In downtown Seattle, the Pike Place Market blossomed as one of the nation's largest farmers markets.

Over the past 20 years, an agricultural renaissance has been underway. Today, the region supports a growing number of small farms. Almost every community in the Greenway has a farmers market, with the Pike Place Market in Seattle now internationally known as one of America's premier farmers markets. Grocery stores and restaurants highlight locally grown produce. Residents sign up for Community Supported Agriculture programs which provide home delivery of boxes of produce from local farms. Local classes teach urban residents how to grow vegetables on condo balconies and how to raise chickens on urban lots.

### Fisheries

The salmon runs of the Snoqualmie, Cedar, Duwamish and Yakima rivers were once among the largest in the Lower 48. They sustained local tribes for thousands of years.

*Through collaboration between tribal, local, state and federal officials, important strides have been made to begin restoring fisheries to their traditional health. Though nowhere near their historic proportions, the salmon runs in the Greenway are being conserved more effectively than ever before.*

Yet, by the middle of the 20th century, dwindling salmon returns throughout the Puget Sound region were a grave concern for the tribes.

The commercial fishing industry had exploded in the 1940s and 1950s. During World War II, the Navy purchased virtually all of the salmon canned in Washington as rations for troops overseas, and after the war, commercial fishermen were

catching millions of tons of salmon in the Pacific and off the coast of Puget Sound.

Native American fishermen were left to catch only what was left over. Much of the public blame for the decline of the salmon fishery was placed on Native Americans, who fished only the rivers and were responsible for catching about 5% of the harvestable salmon. State policing of



Salmon, a Northwest icon.





the fisheries ensued, leading to the arrest and abuse of tribal fishermen. Throughout the 1960s, tribes just south of the Greenway staged “fish-ins,” whereby groups of people gathered to go net fishing as a demonstration of solidarity. National celebrities, from actors to activists, showed up in support of the Natives’ plight. Many were arrested, but the attention they drew was pivotal to realizing future change.

In 1974, a lawsuit filed by the federal government against the State of Washington upheld language from nineteenth-century treaties that gave the tribes the “right of taking fish, at all usual and accustomed grounds and stations. . . in common with all citizens of the Territory.” The Boldt decision, as it was called, returned to the tribes 50% of salmon harvest in their “usual and accustomed grounds” — and made the tribes an important partner in salmon conservation.

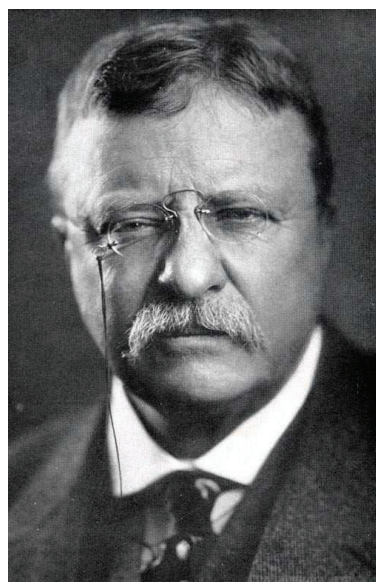
### A Nation Turns to Conservation

The turn of the nineteenth century marked a fundamental shift in Americans’ understanding of their natural resources: the seemingly unlimited resources of America are actually finite. A growing movement arose in response, as people who were interested in conserving resources, and using them more efficiently, organized to spread the word. These early conservationists included businessmen, politicians, and concerned citizens. Support for

the movement came from every corner, with President Theodore Roosevelt leading the call for a more thoughtful approach to resource extraction and permanent preservation of lands for the public’s benefit. He firmly believed that public land was the birthright of every American.

During the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, held on the campus of the University of Washington, the Washington Conservation Association organized the First National Conservation Congress. President Roosevelt had appointed the National Conservation Commission to survey the country’s natural resources, and their report called on Americans to use resources like minerals, water, and timber, more efficiently, thereby conserving them for future generations. This was the major theme for the Conservation Congress at the Exposition, and 45 states sent delegates to participate in the discussions. They were joined by representatives from the federal government, private businesses, and universities. Gifford Pinchot, the first Chief of the US Forest Service, gave a keynote address, advocating “wise use” of natural resources.

As the nation went through two world wars and a major depression, a new conservation ethic continued to evolve within the national



Conservationist President  
Teddy Roosevelt.

*In an unprecedented move, Seattle citizens voted in 1958 to create Metro, a regional agency that would handle the area’s sewage. This was decades before the Clean Water Act and it marked the first voluntary commitment by a major urban center to fight pollution.*



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Hikers enjoy one of many spectacular views near Snoqualmie Pass, with easy access to the Pacific Crest Trail and Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

of capital improvement projects. Voters went on to pass more than \$300 million worth of municipal bonds for Forward Thrust projects, including setting aside \$118 million for the acquisition, creation, and improvements of parks and trails throughout the region.

In 1976, Congress created the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area, protecting almost 400,000 acres in the heart of the Greenway along the Cascades. With snow-capped peaks, deep glacier-carved valleys, alpine meadows, and 692 lakes all just an hour's drive from the Northwest's largest city, this pristine area is a natural treasure and one of the nation's most popular Wilderness Areas.

dialogue. In 1949, Aldo Leopold published his seminal text on land ethic. The following decade saw the Greenway's first great conservation success: the Lake Washington Clean Up, wherein Seattle-area voters authorized Metro, a metropolitan municipal corporation, to build wastewater treatment plants and reduce water pollution.

Encouraged by the success of Metro, civic leader and Greenway founder Jim Ellis and others went on in the late 1960s to develop the most ambitious public works agenda the region had ever witnessed. The "Forward Thrust" campaign called on citizens to plan for the future of the region by financing a series

By the mid 1970s, a great deal of work had been done to protect the crown jewels of the region — Wilderness Areas, National Parks, iconic natural



Civic leader James R. Ellis, Founding President of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust.

areas preserved as State Parks, Natural Resource Conservation Areas, and the City of Seattle's watersheds. While creating National Parks and Wilderness were major accomplishments, there was a growing movement to preserve areas "closer to home." Harvey Manning, a wilderness activist and writer who had a hand in nearly every major Northwest environmental campaign of the second half of the 20th century, noted:





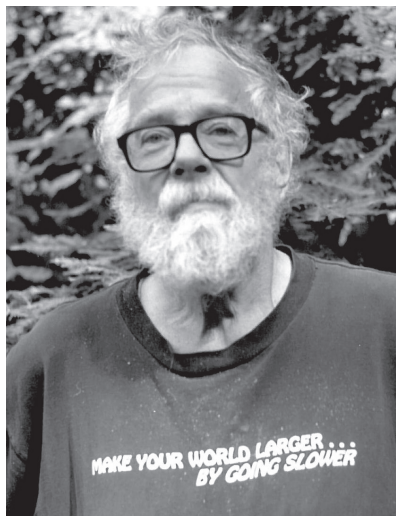
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"The saving of the green spirit of Puget Sound City would be a model for elsewhere. The green and pleasant land is becoming gray, garish, and noisy, indistinguishable from every fast food platter of hash spewed out by the developer's assembly line. While curtailing other ailments, Puget Sound City must stir itself to establish a refuge within, a place to breathe deep and clean, to feel and think green peace, to recreate."

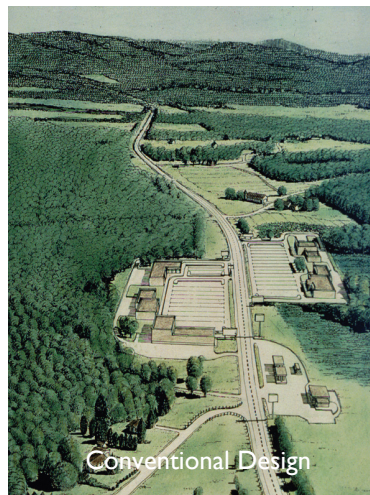
### A Greenway across the Cascades

Early Greenway activists coalesced around the idea that a network of parks and open space could provide benefits to humans and wildlife alike. Building upon the open space conservation completed over the past several decades by local and state governments, they proposed establishing a green corridor that would provide recreational, ecological, and economic benefits. This followed some of the well known ideas for

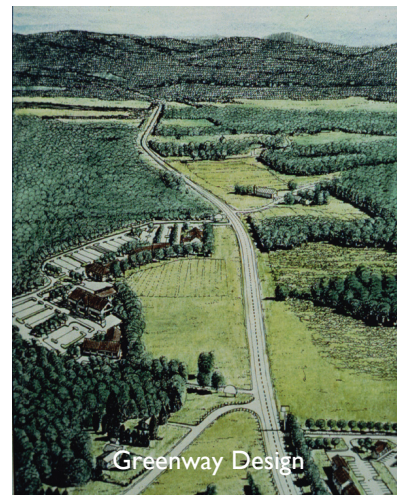
"greenway" corridors that were emerging in other areas across the country. This movement to establish bike paths along abandoned railway corridors, set aside undeveloped land along rivers, and preserve a network



Harvey Manning, 1925-2006, early Greenway advocate, hiking guide author and tireless conservation activist.



Conventional Design



Greenway Design

The 1993 publication of "Mountains to Sound: The Creation of a Greenway Across the Cascades" encouraged development that preserved existing views and respected the contours of the landscape.

of historic sites, was gaining steam. In fact, President Reagan's 1987 Commission on Americans Outdoors went so far as to recommend setting up a network of greenways across America. But nowhere else did the idea encompass such a diverse landscape as the lands stretching from Puget Sound over the Cascades. In the early 1990s, Greenway leaders had an inkling that their vision might prove to be nationally significant:

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is many things: an historic road; a visual corridor stretching from ridge crest to ridge crest along I-90; a network for recreational trails, rest areas, and wildlife corridors; a location for truck stops and high tech businesses; and a landscape of working farms, forests, and communities. A special combination of history, scenery, nature, and transportation, it could be a national treasure.

When regional leaders created the Greenway Trust, they cast their net as widely as



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possible, ensuring that a full range of interests were represented. And with support from leaders in government, business, public interest groups, and communities, the initiative to preserve and enhance this area has achieved tremendous conservation successes over the past twenty years. Major projects have included consolidating public ownership of forest lands for more efficient management and greater public access; preserving historic places and small-town community identity; building and maintaining hundreds of miles of trails; planting hundreds of thousands of trees; and educating thousands of school children about the benefits of healthy ecological conditions.

### Conclusions

Twenty years ago, a group of concerned citizens gathered atop Snoqualmie Pass. Their goal was to galvanize support for the concept of a region with abundant ecological, historical, and recreational benefits at the doorstep of a growing metropolis—and they wanted to draw attention to the inherent threat of not taking timely action to protect it. In their vision for conserving this landscape, they realized that growth couldn't be stopped. But they reasoned that if it could be managed in a manner that preserved historical and scenic features, there would be benefits for everyone. And thus a vision for a balanced landscape took root.

### “The March”

To dramatize the concept of a Mountains to Sound Greenway, 85 citizens hiked from the top of Snoqualmie Pass to the shores of Puget Sound during the summer of 1990. Over the course of five days, they hiked 88 miles through the forests of eastern King County, along abandoned railway corridors, and finally, to Seattle's Elliott Bay shoreline. The March worked, receiving press attention and getting people to start making plans for the future of the landscape. The March was followed by the creation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, a regional nonprofit set up to help implement the idea of a linked “mountains-to-sound greenway corridor.” A Board of Directors was assembled to lead the Trust, made up of representatives from local, state, and federal agencies, private businesses, and citizen groups that owned, managed, or had an interest in the fate of land within the Greenway corridor. While they tended to emphasize different things, all of these stakeholders were able to agree upon a common vision: creating pathways from the mountains, through the cities, and to the sound, all the while preserving the irreplaceable features of the landscape.





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In true Northwest form, successes have been driven by a collaborative spirit that linked a diverse array of interests. James Ellis, speaking about the achievements in the Greenway over the past twenty years, concluded: "It's not what's been done, it's how we've done it." The Greenway community recognizes that preserving the area's heritage and its high quality of life is dependent on conserving the land, as well as the living legacy of our communities. By weaving together the rich history found in the Greenway's parks, historical sites, trails, and natural areas, National Heritage Area designation would help ensure that the many different stakeholders who have helped shaped the Greenway thus far are given a voice as we continue to tell the story of the Greenway and its important place in history.



Roslyn has preserved 300 acres of land surrounding the historic town, and is working to protect and enhance recreation access into nearby forests and mountains.



Looking east across the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, hikers find uninterrupted forestland from Interstate 90 to the doorstep of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area.



### Greenway Historical Snapshot

- Pre-6,000 B.C. – Present: Native American tribes and nations, including the Duwamish, Muckleshoot, Snoqualmie, Tulalip, and Yakama, develop wealthy and vibrant cultures in river valleys and along the Puget Sound Coastline. Snoqualmie Pass is a major artery that connects different groups and facilitates trade.
- 1792: George Vancouver anchors across from present-day Seattle while exploring Puget Sound, and marvels at the region's incomparable scenic beauty.
- 1841: American explorer Charles Wilkes arrives and names Puget Sound's Elliott Bay, and several other points.
- 1846: Great Britain cedes the area to the United States and in 1853, Washington becomes a territory.
- 1847: Catholic Missionaries arrive in the Kittitas Valley, founding a mission near what would later become the city of Ellensburg.
- 1851: The Denny Party, a group of families from Missouri, arrives and founds the city of Seattle, named for Chief Sealth of the Duwamish Tribe who provided critical aid to the first white settlers, helping them survive their first winters.
- 1852: Henry Yesler opens the region's first steam-powered saw mill, paving the way for a timber industry that drives the region's economy for more than a century.
- 1853: Congress appropriates \$20,000 for the survey of routes through the Greenway for a transcontinental railroad. The Greenway's mountain passes prove to be a major obstacle for explorers.
- 1853: Theodore Winthrop journeys to the region, and, enthralled by the iconic features of the landscape—mountains, trees, and water—prophesizes about nature exerting a strong influence on the region's people—a civilization ennobled by the wild.
- 1854: United States Army Lieutenant Abiel Tinkham, guided by Yakama Indians, makes the first recorded crossing of the Cascade Mountains.
- 1854-1855: Washington Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens convinces all Native American tribes in the region to sign treaties that cede the majority of their lands to the United States Government. A brief period of Indian Wars follows, resulting in more extensive reservations for several of the tribes.
- 1867: A wagon road is completed over Snoqualmie Pass to transport goods to and from Seattle.
- 1880: Meadowbrook Farm in the Snoqualmie Valley develops into the largest hop farm in the world, employing nearly 1,200 people, mostly Indians and ethnic immigrants, during harvest.
- 1886: Coal mining is developed in Roslyn and Cle Elum to fuel steam locomotives for the Northern Pacific Railway.
- 1887: The main line of the Northern Pacific crosses the Cascades, and by 1888, trains are traveling over Stampede Pass en route to Puget Sound.
- 1889: The Great Seattle Fire erases the city's downtown. The city rebuilds in brick and stone and embarks on a massive project to regrade the city's hills, flattening the downtown





area. More dirt would be moved in the coming decades than was dug from the Panama Canal.

- 1897: The Klondike Gold Rush lures thousands of prospectors to Seattle, the embarkation point for the Yukon. Seattle's economy booms as numerous businesses sprout up to provide goods and services.
- 1898: Snoqualmie Falls Power Plant, the first plant in the world to house its generators underground, begins generating hydroelectric power for Seattle residents.
- 1903: Seattle hires the Olmsted Brothers firm to design a system of parks for the city.
- 1909: The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad completes a line through Snoqualmie Pass, connecting Seattle with the last transcontinental railroad built in the United States.
- 1909: New York to Seattle cross-country automobile race traverses Snoqualmie Pass, generating momentum for rebuilding the mountain roadway.
- 1916: Weyerhaeuser Company builds lumber mill near Snoqualmie Falls
- 1933: The Federal Bureau of Reclamation completes the Kittitas project, providing irrigated water for agriculture in Kittitas County. Timothy hay becomes the county's predominant cash crop and production to this day reaches worldwide markets.
- 1940s: Weyerhaeuser launches a national "Tree Farm" movement, originating on their Snoqualmie acreage, intending to let trees grow back and re-harvest in the future instead of clear-cutting and moving on.
- 1950s: Post-war growth transforms the region: suburban sprawl takes over land once used for agriculture, gasoline-powered automobiles overtake trains for transportation, and the mining industry fades as coal is phased out of home heating.
- 1958: King County voters create a regional utility, Metro, first tasked with cleaning up Lake Washington—nearly two decades before the Clean Water Act.
- 1968: King County voters pass a series of "Forward Thrust" bonds, which include millions for parks and recreation.
- 1974: Boldt Decision grants Native American tribes protected access to their "usual and accustomed" fishing grounds.
- 1976: Congress sets aside 363,000 acres along the Cascade Crest as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, one of the closest US Forest Service Wilderness Areas to a major metropolitan center in the country.
- 1978: Burke-Gilman trail opens, the first bicycle and pedestrian route in the nation to receive federal gas-tax money.
- 1979: Farmland Preservation Act is passed in King County to purchase development rights from farms across the county. Since 1984, more than 200 farms have been protected from development.
- 1991: The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust is created to serve as a catalyst for preserving and enhancing the historical and scenic resources of this special landscape.





## CHAPTER 6- PROPOSED CONCEPT: A MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

### CHAPTER 6 - PROPOSED CONCEPT: A MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

When a vision for conserving the Mountains to Sound Greenway came together twenty years ago, residents were responding to immediate development and population pressures that threatened to degrade the scenery and the natural resource base upon which the region was built. In the process of coming together to protect the landscape, members of the Greenway community discovered that they shared much more than a desire to conserve the land: they shared a common heritage. Whether a fourth-generation descendent of a Kittitas coal miner or a recently transplanted software engineer, Greenway residents occupy the place where the frontier ended and American pioneers put down roots. And steeped in a tradition that is thousands of years old, the Greenway and its communities are still shaped by their connection to the land. The Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area will provide a collaborative framework within which Greenway partners can preserve and interpret aspects of this story.

This chapter explains goals for the proposed National Heritage Area; the entities involved in planning for and carrying out a long-term vision for the area; and the plan for a coordinating entity to facilitate the management of the heritage area after designation. By addressing these issues, this chapter demonstrates that National Heritage Area designation is a logical and feasible solution for conserving the Greenway; that members of the Greenway community were involved in the planning for National Heritage Area designation and are committed to working in partnership to achieve future goals; and that the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust is the appropriate organization to serve as the local coordinating entity upon designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area.



The Snoqualmie Valley is one of many magnificent places in the Greenway that preserves ecological health, wildlife habitat and quality of life.





### GOALS FOR THE GREENWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

The goals for the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area build upon key National Heritage Area concepts: voluntary, local conservation; cooperative management; public-private partnerships; heritage education and interpretation; and security of property rights. In each of these concept areas, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust has established a clear track record of success. Indeed, each of these concepts represents a core value of the Greenway Trust, making it a clear choice for the Greenway's coordinating entity.

#### Voluntary, Local Conservation

The Mountains to Sound Greenway has a long history of conservation, most often driven by locally initiated projects. In its land acquisition program, the Trust has worked with individual landowners—and at their behest—to conserve parcels of land. Local cities often invite the Trust to assist in planning and land use decisions because they value the spectrum of community stakeholders that the Greenway Trust represents. The Trust also has a long history of providing technical support and assistance to local agencies and organizations seeking to build trails, preserve a local landmark or promote the historic attractions of a small town. Under National Heritage Area designation, private conservation will continue on a voluntary basis—no new regulations will be imposed as a result of designation.

#### Collaborative Framework

Collaboration is a core value of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. The Trust's track record of success owes no small debt to the government and private partners who were actively committed to preserving the Greenway. However, in working to strengthen opportunities for collaboration, the Trust found that some key partners have limits, given the various funding and management mechanisms that govern different agencies.

National Heritage Area designation will provide the framework within which the Greenway Trust and its partners can develop a new collaborative management structure, allowing different agencies to manage better for efficiency, public safety and resource integrity without impacting any current legal structures. A key value of National Heritage Area designation is that it simply creates a framework for stakeholders to better fulfill their missions by working together.



Families come together to plant native trees in their parks.



### Local Management

The Greenway Trust consists of a diverse array of government, business, nonprofit, and tribal stakeholders, each with a vested interest in the continued protection, maintenance, and enhancement of the Greenway. This broad representation reflects a commitment to collaborative decision-making and ensures that all stakeholders have a seat at the table. As the local coordinating entity, the Greenway Trust will serve as a catalyst and convener for conservation, interpretation, and education projects, helping leverage public and private funding. Yet, all local land managers will retain full control of their respective jurisdictions, and key partners will be involved in decisions that might impact their areas of interest.

### Public-Private Partnerships

National Heritage Area designation provides a platform for advancing public-private partnerships, which have been integral to the Greenway from the very beginning. Key Greenway achievements could not have happened without collaboration between local, state, and federal agencies and private nonprofit organizations like the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, the Trust for Public Land and Forterra. In addition, many businesses, ranging from Weyerhaeuser to Boeing and from REI to Microsoft, have been involved with Greenway efforts for many years through financial contributions and other gifts. National Heritage Area designation will be a vehicle for expanding these partnerships by further raising awareness of the Greenway's heritage and providing more opportunities for leveraging private donations with public funds.

*Collaboration between local, state, and federal agencies with private nonprofit organizations like the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Forterra, and Trust for Public Land has been key to many substantial Greenway achievements.*



Snoqualmie Point Park won a 2008 Award of Excellence: Best Special Project, from the Washington State Department of Transportation Highways and Local Programs Division and the Federal Highway Administration.

### Heritage Education and Interpretation

National Heritage Area designation will instill a deeper sense of place by increasing understanding and appreciation of the historical and natural legacies of the Greenway. Several outdoor education centers, hundreds of iconic sites and dozens of museums all share valuable aspects of this region's history, as well as its rich cultural and environmental resources. National Heritage Area designation will connect these interpretive resources under a common set of themes, and help local communities better tell the story of the Greenway.





### Security of Property Rights

Respect for private land is an important feature of National Heritage Area designation. Private landowners, both corporate and individual, have played a leadership role in the Greenway Trust since its founding twenty years ago, and respect for their contributions has been a key part of the Trust's core ethic since its inception. Designation will not affect private property

rights, taxes, zoning, or the right of landowners to change or remove buildings. The proposed local coordinating entity will have no regulatory authority and will be precluded from using National Heritage Area program funds to acquire property. In addition, private property owners will not be required to allow public access to their lands.

#### What a National Heritage Area Designation **WILL** do...

- **Build broader public awareness,** recognition, and involvement through an enhanced sense of place and importance
- **Enhance funding opportunities** through increased visibility and partnerships between private and public entities
- **Document** the historic, cultural, educational, and recreational resources of the Greenway as a whole
- **Empower a multi-party group** to efficiently enhance, interpret, and maintain these resources to preserve quality of life and capitalize on future economic benefits
- **Enable mechanisms strengthening cooperation** among public land managers and other stakeholders
- **Formalize principles** of sustainable conservation on public lands
- **Formalize the Greenway's cooperative nature** to provide direction for future caretakers of public lands

#### What a National Heritage Area Designation **WILL NOT** do...

- **Not add new regulatory authority** or other management restrictions over private lands
- **Not require** any property owner to provide public access to their land
- **Not require** any property owner to participate in any plan, project, program or activity conducted by the Heritage Area
- **Not affect** water rights or fishing and hunting regulations
- **Not add federal government oversight** over local management decisions
- **Not legislate** the acquisition of new public lands
- **Not remove ownership or management** of public lands from any public agencies currently managing them
- **Not change current public land management** allocations or change rules regarding wilderness or other current designations



### INVOLVED PARTNERS

For 20 years, many public agencies, nonprofit organizations and local businesses have been actively involved in the Greenway effort, many of them sitting on the 60-member Board of Directors of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. These partners and many more were involved in this Heritage Study and will play a critical role in the management of the Heritage Area upon designation. The following describes different partners and their roles.

#### Public Land Management Agencies

Fifty-eight percent of the Greenway is in public ownership. Throughout the Greenway, public lands jurisdictions intersect and overlap, and in many instances, members of the general public may not even be aware of exactly whose land they are visiting. For over a decade, leaders of these public land agencies have been discussing ways to collaborate and more efficiently deliver public services, and the Heritage Study provided an opportunity to look at this more systematically. To kick off the Heritage Study, the leaders of the major public land management agencies signed a letter of agreement outlining their commitment to increased collaboration (see Appendix 3). Signatures included the Forest Supervisors of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests, the State Commissioner of Public Lands, the Director of State Parks and the King County Executive.

Throughout the Heritage Study process, stakeholders identified opportunities for increased collaboration and efficiency among agencies, including shared staff and equipment and co-location of facilities. Trail crews, as one small example, could work lower elevation lands (typically State Parks and Washington Department of Natural Resources) during the winter and spring, and then move to

higher elevations during the summer and fall, where they would most likely be working on Forest Service land.

#### United States Forest Service

Established in 1905, the United States Forest Service (USFS) is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The mission of the US Forest Service is “to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.”



The USFS is the largest land manager in the Greenway, which includes parts of the Mt.



Recreation seekers find plenty of places to explore in national forests, including here at Salmon la Sac in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.





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Baker-Snoqualmie and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests. With 620,000 acres, these two National Forests manage 40% of the Greenway, which is 68% of the total public land. The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest contains 14.5% of the Greenway, with 224,000 acres (and represents 24% of public land.) The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest contains 25.5% of the Greenway with 395,800 acres (and represents 44% of public land). The Greenway contains the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and the Cle Elum Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.

Shared by the two Forests, the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area forms a protected core of forest land along the crest of the Cascades. The Alpine Lakes Wilderness is evenly split by both Forests within the Greenway (74,900 acres in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and 73,300 acres in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest). It was officially designated by Congress in 1976. As part of the National

Wilderness Preservation System, use of this area is quite limited in order to protect its “primeval character.” The area is the closest Wilderness Area to any major metropolitan area in the country.

These two national forests illustrate the emphasis placed upon multiple-use working lands within the Greenway. While providing excellent wildlife habitat, a diverse array of recreational opportunities, including a major ski area, and valuable ecosystem and quality-of-life services — such as clean air and water — these forests are also managed to provide lumber and other forest products to support local and national economies.

The Forest Service, under a National Heritage Area designation, will be a key federal partner in the management of the area, as well as a major recreation provider. The Forest Service will continue to provide winter recreation as well as summer alpine hiking and climbing opportunities. Heritage Area designation



### Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area

Managed jointly by the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests, the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area is a truly spectacular landscape and the closest wilderness area to a major metropolitan center in the country. The area gets its name from the nearly 700 small alpine lakes, or tarns, that dot the timbered valleys lying between jagged granite peaks.



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will allow significant opportunities for non-federal stakeholders to assist the Forest Service in stewardship, interpretive and educational activities. As a critical partner, Forest Service staff will have seats on the board and working committees of the coordinating entity.

### Washington State Department of Natural Resources

In 1957, the Washington State Legislature created the Department of Natural



Resources (DNR)

to bring together state agencies responsible for protecting public natural resources and managing state trust lands. The Department of Natural Resources now manages 5.6 million acres within the state, including agricultural, aquatic, range, commercial and forest land. DNR actively manages trust lands to provide funding for roads, schools, hospitals, libraries and fire districts. DNR's management of trust lands includes the harvest of timber and forest products, as well as leases of agricultural and commercial lands and mineral and communications sites. Trust lands also provide income for the state general fund. In 2005, statewide product sales and leases from the lands DNR manages brought in about \$271 million. DNR also manages multiple Natural Resources Conservation Areas, the state's equivalent of Wilderness Areas.

The mission of DNR is, "[to] provide innovative leadership and expertise to ensure environmental protection,

public safety, perpetual funding for schools and communities, and a rich quality of life."

DNR manages 112,000 acres within the Greenway – 65,900 acres in King County and 46,100 within Kittitas County – which make up 12.5% of the public land and 7% of the total acreage of the Greenway. DNR has long been an active Greenway partner, involved in numerous collaborative projects in the area, ranging from land acquisitions to sustainable forest practices. These projects have including conservation of the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area, expansion of the Mt. Si Natural Resource Conservation Area, creation of the Middle Fork Natural Resource Conservation Area, and acquisition of the Raging River State Forest. DNR is also a major recreational provider, especially in the Tiger Mountain State Forest, which provides year-round trail opportunities to the citizens of the Seattle metropolis.



The Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Area was designated by the Washington Department of Natural Resources in 2009. Photo courtesy of DNR.





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The State Department of Natural Resources will play an important role in the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area as a manager of working forests and a provider of relatively undeveloped recreation opportunities. Multiple opportunities for shared resources and facilities between DNR and other stakeholders were identified in the Heritage Study. DNR staff will have several seats on the board and working committees of the coordinating entity.

### Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Established by the Washington State legislature in 1913 — making it the fourth-oldest state parks agency in the nation — the Washington State Parks system includes 130 units on approximately 120,000 acres of land. Their mission is as follows: “[The Commission] acquires, operates, enhances and protects a diverse system of recreational, cultural, historical and natural



sites. The Commission fosters outdoor recreation and education statewide to provide enjoyment and enrichment for all and a valued legacy to future generations.”

Washington State Parks manages approximately 6,800 acres of land within the Greenway. These public lands include Squak Mountain, Lake Easton, and Lake Sammamish State Parks. One of the most recognizable Washington State Parks in the Greenway is the 1,612-acre Iron Horse State Park, which provides access to the John Wayne Pioneer Trail, extending more than 100 miles from Rattlesnake Lake across the state, following portions of the old Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific railway line. This includes the 2.3-mile Snoqualmie Tunnel, the longest recreational tunnel in the country. The John Wayne Trail is a resource for hikers, bikers, equestrians and cross-country skiers, and provides users access to unique tunnel passages and aerial views from railway trestles high above the landscape.

### Iron Horse State Park

One of the most recognizable Washington State Parks features in the Greenway is the 1,612-acre Iron Horse State Park, which provides access to the John Wayne Pioneer Trail —a trail extending over 100 miles from Rattlesnake Lake across Washington state, following portions of the old Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific railway line. The John Wayne Pioneer Trail is a resource for hikers, bikers, equestrians and cross-country skiers, and includes unique tunnel passages and aerial views from railway trestles.



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Because of its mix of protected landscapes, diverse recreation opportunities and interpretive experiences, State Parks is an ideal partner for a National Heritage Area. Iron Horse State Park forms the backbone of the Greenway trail system and tells the story of how a railroad once defined the region. Other State Parks in the Greenway provide family-friendly, introductory experiences for anyone looking to connect with the landscape, as well as glimpses of history, from the old Snoqualmie Pass wagon road, to the Bullitt Fireplace on top of Squak Mountain. The Director of State Parks sits on the Greenway Board of Directors and other staff will sit on relevant committees as the Greenway is designated as an NHA.

### Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) manages more than 640 animal species, from butterflies to elk. In addition, WDFW manages 800,000 acres of land throughout the state to provide habitat and

migration routes for wild species, as well as a variety of recreational opportunities. The mission of the WDFW is, “[to] serve Washington’s citizens by protecting, restoring and enhancing fish and wildlife and their habitats, while providing sustainable and wildlife-related recreational and commercial opportunities.”

One of the major areas within the Greenway managed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife is the L.T. Murray Wildlife



Area. This regional preserve offers wide-open spaces and a network of remote dirt roads southwest of Ellensburg. It spans several varieties of habitat from semi-arid shrub-steppe and grassland at the forest edge to mixed forestland. The L.T. Murray is best known for its large herd of Rocky Mountain elk and also provides living space for bear, mule deer, coyote, and a great variety of migratory and local birds, in addition to outstanding wildflower displays.



### L.T. Murray Wildlife Area

This regional preserve offers wide open spaces and a network of remote dirt roads just west of Ellensburg. It spans several varieties of habitat from semi-arid shrub-steppe and grassland at the forest edge to mixed forestland. The L.T. Murray is best known for its large herd of Rocky Mountain elk and also provides living space for bear, mule deer, coyote, a great variety of migratory and local birds, in addition to outstanding wildflower displays.

Photo courtesy of L.T. Murray Wildlife Area.





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The L.T. Murray Wildlife Area represents a prime example of cooperative stewardship. Portions of the Area are owned by the U.S. Forest Service (341 acres), the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (39,305 acres), and the Washington Department of Natural Resources (14,424 acres which are either leased or managed by WDFW.)

Under the National Heritage Area framework, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will continue to provide an important ecological benefit through its management of habitat and primitive recreation opportunities that are becoming increasingly popular with the public. WDFW has not been a significant partner in Greenway efforts historically, but during the Heritage Study, the WDFW staffer who participated saw great potential in enhancing efforts to manage and enhance wildlife habitat through working with such a motivated group of stakeholders. WDFW will be added as a key partner in the coordinating entity's committees.

### King County

King County has nearly twice the land area as the state of Rhode Island and is the 14th most populous county in the country with more than 1,900,000 citizens. King County contains just over half of the acreage, but over 95% of the population within the Greenway. King County also features thousands of miles of streams, coastline, and more than



**King County**



The 1.5-mile Marymoor Connector Trail runs through King County's Marymoor Park at the north end of Lake Sammamish, creating a safe and convenient link for cyclists, joggers, walkers and other trail users to long stretches of the region's most popular regional trails. The connector trail was built in part with funds generated by the voter-approved 2007 King County Parks Expansion Levy.

1,000 square miles of forests. The county has long been a strong partner in the Greenway, through several different programs and departments. The Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) is dedicated to protecting and preserving King County's open spaces. The mission of the DNRP is "to foster environmental stewardship and strengthen communities by providing regional parks, protecting the region's water, air, land and natural habitats, and reducing, safely disposing of and creating resources from wastewater and solid waste."

King County DNRP manages more than 18,000 acres within the Greenway, including significant regional parks, regional trails, resource/ecological lands, and farmlands. Among the most important parks within the Greenway are Marymoor Park (640 acres) and Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park (3,120



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acres). Along with these public parks, King County is highly involved in the regional trail system of the Greenway, and is responsible for many trails, including the heavily used Burke Gilman Trail, and the seventeen-mile Cedar River Trail. The county also owns easements on more than 90,000 acres of private forests and farms, enabling private forestry and agriculture to continue without development pressure. King County also has significant outreach/assistance programs for forestry, agriculture, noxious weeds, recycling and other sustainability arenas.

As a National Heritage Area partner, King County will continue to steward 18,000 acres of forests and parks, while also providing important recreational and interpretive opportunities for local residents. King County parks will continue to provide an important place for residents to recreate that is close to home and accessible to even the most novice user. The county will also continue to provide significant services to private owners of resource lands. Many of King County's lands in the Greenway are intertwined with other public land managers, and in the Heritage Study, multiple opportunities for collaboration on delivery of public services were discussed. To capitalize on these opportunities, King County staff and elected officials will sit on the board and committees of the coordinating entity.

### Seattle Public Utilities Watersheds

Owned and managed by the City of Seattle, the Cedar River and Tolt River watersheds are the two key sources of drinking water for the greater Seattle region. They have a



The Cedar River Watershed Education Center connects people with the source of their drinking water. Photo courtesy of Jones and Jones.

combined city-owned acreage of 99,038. Both are outstanding examples of land management for ecological benefits. Seattle Public Utilities is one of the six water utilities in the country that does not have to provide secondary treatment of source waters because of the filtration powers of the natural environment in which the water collects. These lands not only provide clean water, they also provide undisturbed wildlife habitat for large carnivores and other wildlife within the Greenway.

Along with the ecological and drinking water services they provide, both of these watersheds offer additional public benefits. The fourteen-mile Tolt Pipeline Trail follows the right-of-way

for the water pipeline between the communities of Bothell and Duvall. Seattle Public Utilities operates the Cedar River Watershed Education Center, located just outside the city of

Seattle  
Public  
Utilities



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North Bend. This Center was created as “a gathering place to connect people with the source of their water” and serves more than 30,000 students every year.

This education mission will be a key component of Seattle Public Utilities’ role as a Heritage Area partner. In addition to an important mandate to supply drinking water to 1,500,000 people each year, Seattle Public Utilities will tell a story that connects the local resident to the landscape by virtue of the water they use every day.

**The City of Seattle is one of the largest landowners in the Greenway:**

- **Cedar River Watershed: 91,300 acres**
- **Tolt River Watershed: 12,500 acres**

### National Park Service

The National Park Service, founded in 1916, is responsible for nearly 400 units, encompassing approximately 83.6 million acres across the United States. In Washington, the Park Service units include the famous Olympic, Mt. Rainier and North Cascades National Parks, Ebey’s Landing National Historic Reserve, and San Juan Island National Historical Park. The mission of the National Park Service is to preserve “unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of

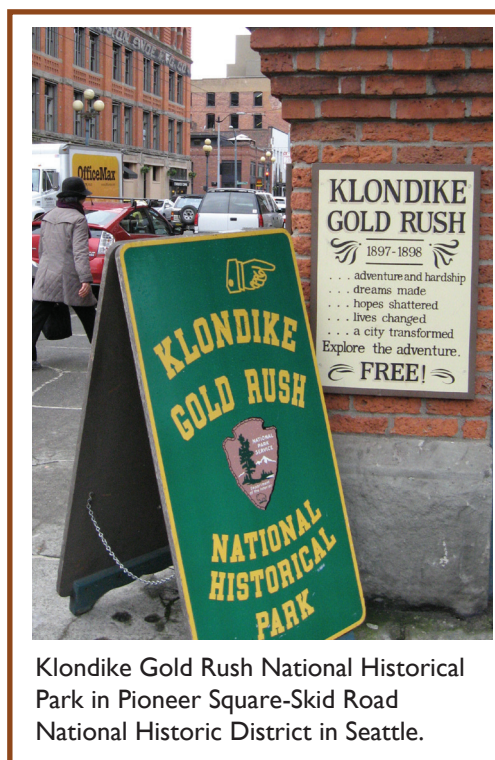


natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.”

One National Park unit lies within the Mountains to Sound Greenway: the Seattle Unit of Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. This park “preserves the story of the 1897-98 stampede to the Yukon gold fields and Seattle’s role in this event. The park offers a glimpse at the stories of adventure and hardship of the gold rush.” Over the past 20 years, the Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance program of the National Park Service has also played a significant role in planning for the Greenway. Not only did they assist in the original Greenway planning in 1991-1993, but they also helped planning efforts in many areas of the Greenway, such as planning for river access along the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River.

As a major federal partner in designation, the Park Service will play an important role in the

Mountains to Sound National Heritage Area, through its technical assistance and potential funding assistance.



Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park in Pioneer Square-Skid Road National Historic District in Seattle.



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Official recognition of the Greenway will bring opportunities for heritage interpretation and tourism to towns such as Cle Elum.

### Municipalities

There are 28 cities and six unincorporated communities within the Greenway, ranging in population from Seattle at 608,000, to South Cle Elum at 532. Cities such as Issaquah and North Bend have long played a significant role in the Greenway. The Greenway Trust and these communities have collaborated on trail-building and environmental restoration; urban planning around proposed developments; and public outreach and marketing of the Greenway as a special place. Other cities, such as Carnation, Duvall and Shoreline, are new to the Greenway, having been included – at their behest – as a part of the Greenway boundary determination that occurred during the Heritage Study (see Chapter Two). These communities have enthusiastically embraced the Greenway and are ready and willing partners for a future of shared conservation and economic development.

Greenway cities were involved in the Heritage Study process and identified extensive opportunities for coordination and collaboration in support of the Greenway. In particular, many Greenway communities

expressed a strong interest in using the National Heritage Area designation as a platform for coordinated heritage interpretation and marketing to increase tourism, which would, in turn, support local economies. Greenway cities also identified other opportunities, including more regional trail coordination, better connections to surrounding public lands and support for sustainable development.

The cities of the Greenway will be critical partners in the National Heritage Area.

### Greenway Cities

- Beaux Arts
- Bellevue
- Bothell
- Carnation
- Cle Elum
- Clyde Hill
- Duvall
- Ellensburg
- Hunts Point
- Issaquah
- Kenmore
- Kirkland
- Lake Forest Park
- Maple Valley
- Medina
- Mercer Island
- Newcastle
- North Bend
- Redmond
- Renton
- Roslyn
- Sammamish
- Seattle
- Shoreline
- Snoqualmie
- South Cle Elum
- Woodinville
- Yarrow Point





Connecting the unique stories and resources of each community into a cohesive whole will greatly increase capacity for heritage interpretation and tourism marketing. For the past twenty years, many Greenway cities have had representatives on the Greenway Trust Board and committees, and now with formal boundaries, other Greenway cities will be offered such official representation.

### **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)**

Scores of nonprofit organizations play active roles within the Greenway, from interpreting local history to conducting trail maintenance and from facilitating conservation easement transactions to advising private landowner stewardship projects. These groups can be credited with being full and equal partners in the work of protecting the Greenway. They are often a vital link between the general public and government agencies. Many organizations that participated in the Heritage Study committed to remain active partners in the future conservation of the Greenway landscape.

### **Private Sector**

Several iconic Northwest companies have been affiliated with the Greenway for a number of years, offering support through donations, technical services, and volunteer labor. For ten years, Boeing provided a loaned executive to support Greenway programs. Each year, the Greenway hosts dozens of corporate volunteer events with local companies, such as Microsoft, Puget Sound Energy, REI and others. The Greenway Trust has acted as a conduit between private businesses and public agencies, and the public/private partnerships that have been achieved are a model for future conservation and interpretation projects.

The regional business community includes:

- Microsoft
- Boeing
- Puget Sound Energy
- REI
- Weyerhaeuser
- Carter Motors
- Plum Creek
- Quadrant Homes
- HomeStreet Bank
- K&L Gates

## **Major nonprofit organizations working together in the Greenway**

### **Conservation Organizations**

- The Trust for Public Land
- Forterra
- Partnership for Rural King County
- Alpine Lakes Protection Society
- Conservation Northwest
- The Wilderness Society

### **Recreational Groups**

- Washington Trails Association
- Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
- Cascade Bicycle Club
- The Mountaineers
- Backcountry Horsemen of Washington
- Issaquah Alps Trails Club

### **Ecological restoration**

- EarthCorps
- Washington Conservation Corps
- Wild Fish Conservancy
- Stewardship Partners
- Issaquah Environmental Council
- People for Puget Sound

### **Historical Organizations and Museums**

- Museum of History and Industry
- Snoqualmie Valley Historical Society
- Burke Museum
- Northwest Railway Museum
- Issaquah History Museum
- Kittitas County Historical Museum



### PLAN FOR LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY

A local coordinating entity serves to organize a region's diverse interests under a unified framework to achieve a National Heritage Area's social, economic, and environmental goals. The entity is formally identified in conjunction with the designation of the Heritage Area. In other National Heritage Areas, local coordinating entities have ranged from local- or state-appointed commissions to nonprofit organizations. Federal agencies are excluded from serving in this position because one of the foremost goals of a National Heritage Area is local management. The local coordinating entity is responsible for receiving, matching, and distributing federal funds, can enter formal cooperative agreements with federal entities, and will be held accountable for facilitating the implementation of a management plan for the Heritage Area, developed after designation.

In many respects, this leadership has been the work of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust for the past twenty years. Since its incorporation as a nonprofit organization in

1991, the Greenway Trust has served as a catalyst for and convener of public and private entities across the Greenway. The Trust is organized as a coalition of stakeholders who make up the Board of Directors, Advisory Council, and Technical Advisory Committee. This remarkably diverse coalition includes major land owners and managers in the Greenway, as well as highway

*A Sierra Club member works alongside a Weyerhaeuser representative, historic preservationists find common ground with transportation planners, and environmentalists have open dialogues with developers.*

planners, conservation activists, corporate executives, and developers. It brings people of diverse viewpoints together to find common ground and work toward a shared vision for the landscape. The King County Executive, State Commissioner of Public Lands, State Secretary of Transportation and State Parks Director all hold seats on the Greenway Trust Board. A Sierra Club member works alongside



The Greenway Board is organized into a number of committees, each with a specific purview. The Stewardship, Education, Finance, Fundraising, and Personnel committees each oversee specific sets of Greenway activities. The Executive Committee serves as a traditional governing board. A Technical Advisory Committee includes additional experts in history, interpretation, culture, forestry, ecology, land use, recreation and conservation, who work on a broad range of issues across the Greenway. Photo courtesy of John Brecher.





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a Weyerhaeuser representative, historic preservationists find common ground with transportation planners, and environmentalists have open dialogues with developers. The personal trust, accommodation and energy resulting from this broad cross-section of interests are key elements of the Greenway's sustained success.



The 60-member Greenway Trust Board of Directors is organized into a number of committees, each with a specific purview. The Stewardship, Education, Finance, Fundraising, and Personnel Committees each oversee specific Greenway activities, while the Executive Committee serves as a traditional governing board. Its fifteen members oversee financial management, policy, and legal issues.

In addition to its Board of Directors, the Greenway Trust maintains a 30-member

Advisory Council, which consists of former board members and long-time Greenway supporters who wish to remain active in the organization. Advisory Council members include former US Senator Daniel J. Evans, Kittitas County Commissioner Alan Crankovich, mayors from Greenway cities, and many other distinguished leaders of the Greenway community.

To involve additional stakeholders beyond the Board and Advisory Council, the Trust also maintains a Technical Advisory Committee. The 100-member Technical Advisory Committee was initiated in 1991

*The stakeholder community indicated that the Greenway Trust has successfully worked to forage public/private partnerships and bridge partisan gaps.*



Founding Greenway Trust President Jim Ellis and U.S. Representative Jim McDermott catch up at the finish line of the 20th Anniversary Mountains to Sound Greenway Trek.



U.S. Senator Slade Gorton and U.S. Forest Supervisor Rob Iwomoto celebrate the opening of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie campground in 2006.



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and was composed of field-level agency staff, nonprofit representatives, and citizen experts. This group developed the initial concept plan that outlined a detailed vision for preserving the Greenway in 1993. Since then, many original members have retired or moved out of the area. The Heritage Study process provided an opportunity to revitalize this resource and engage a new generation of technical experts. Of the more than 1,000 stakeholders who participated in the study process, many of them expressed a strong interest in continued involvement to provide regular consultation and collaboration with the Greenway Trust.

The Greenway Trust staff now consists of thirteen members, several of whom have been with the organization for more than a decade. Staff coordinate a variety of activities, including education and interpretation, ecological restoration, recreation management, and heritage and tourism marketing. Trust staff play a key role in communication and outreach with Greenway stakeholders at all levels and help coordinate projects on the ground. A small, central staff coordinates administrative, fundraising and communication functions, while the bulk of the organization's resources go toward program staff. This includes educators who provide outdoor science education to more than 3,000 students annually; a restoration and trails staff that coordinates a year-round conservation corps crew and a volunteer base of more than 4,000 participants; and planning staff who work with partners on land acquisition, land use, forestry, tourism, history and interpretive projects.

### Recommended Local Coordinating Entity Structure

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust



The Greenway Trust is the logical choice to act as local coordinating entity.

will require only minimal reorganization to fill the role of local coordinating entity, as the majority of involved partners are already

*Mission: The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance the landscape from Seattle across the Cascade Mountains to Central Washington, ensuring a long-term balance between people and nature.*



## 6 - A MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

represented on the Board, Advisory Council, and Technical Advisory Committee. Throughout the Heritage Study, stakeholders strongly supported the concept of the Greenway Trust serving as the local coordinating entity. They noted that the Greenway Trust:

- Is broadly representative
- Is able to facilitate collaboration
- Has sound financial management
- Has a proven track record, now twenty years long, of credibility, integrity and success

In addition, the stakeholder community expressed appreciation for the Greenway Trust's success in forging public/private partnerships and bridging partisan gaps – a key platform for realizing future successes.

Upon designation, the Greenway Trust will in large part maintain its current structure of staff, Board, and Advisory Council; and the 100-person Technical Advisory Committee will be reconstituted to include a new generation of partners who have come to the table during the Heritage Study process. The Trust will involve additional experts in historical preservation and interpretation, agriculture, sustainable development, outdoor recreation and tourism, as well as from all municipalities in the Greenway. These new stakeholders will be included in the boards and various committees of the Trust. Additional committees around certain arenas may be developed as necessary.

Soon after designation, the Greenway Trust will work with agencies and community stakeholders

to develop a detailed Heritage Area management plan that outlines specific roles, responsibilities and structures for the Greenway Trust and the Greenway's multiple agencies and community stakeholders. This plan will also clarify the role of the US Forest Service, a critical federal partner with their management of 40% of the Greenway landscape.



Federal and local officials gather for a public celebration in the Mountains to Sound Greenway in 2010 as part of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative.



# CHAPTER 7 - CONCEPTUAL FINANCIAL PLAN

**This chapter provides a conceptual financial plan for the proposed Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area. A coordinated and well-executed financial plan is key to the long-term economic sustainability of any National Heritage Area.**

**The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, the proposed coordinating entity, has a twenty-year track record of strong fundraising and financial management. The Greenway region has numerous potential sources of funding and many partners, both public and private, who already actively contribute to the conservation and economic development of the Mountains to Sound Greenway.**

This financial framework begins with an assessment of the capability of the coordinating entity to manage and leverage federal funding with other potential financial resources. The plan then identifies potential new funding sources, including state and local contributions and private donations. Finally, this chapter describes economic benefits that can be anticipated from continued investment in the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

## CAPABILITY TO FUND

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and its partners have leveraged more than \$275 million in private, local, state, and federal funds to conserve more than 200,000 acres of public land since 1991. Additionally, more than \$80 million has been invested in recreational access, ecological restoration, and outdoor education and interpretation facilities. No single donor can take credit for the success of the Greenway; its success has been the result of a diverse portfolio of contributors, from an international foundation investing in large capital development projects to a retired couple stepping forward with a matching gift to inspire other individual contributions.



Sunset from the shores of Lake Sammamish. Photo courtesy of Rob Gilde





## 7 - CONCEPTUAL FINANCIAL PLAN

The Greenway Heritage Study process was funded through a local mix of public and private support, without any federal funding. Local and state government funding combined with private foundations to provide funding for research, public outreach, and stakeholder participation. The State of Washington allocated \$100,000 to the study and King County provided \$50,000. Two environmental foundations, the Bullitt and Brainerd Foundations, provided \$50,000 and \$25,000 respectively. Heartland, a real estate consulting and investment company also provided \$50,000 of in-kind graphics and mapping services over the course of the two-year Heritage Study.

### CAPABILITY TO MANAGE

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, the proposed local coordinating entity (see Chapter 5), is a reputable nonprofit organization with a solid history of financial credibility. The Trust manages an annual budget of more than \$2 million. More than half of this budget consists of local, state and federal government grants, which require careful tracking and transparency. Federal, state and local funds are matched by strong corporate and individual support. Nearly 600 individual donors each year contribute to the Trust's conservation, education, interpretation, and stewardship activities.

The Greenway Trust consistently meets financial projections and raises the revenue required to meet its expenses. Since its inception twenty years ago, the Trust has built up operating reserves commensurate to its budget size and has established an endowment at the Seattle Foundation to support continued operations in perpetuity.

Funding for the Greenway Trust comes from an impressive roster of public and private sources. In 2011, 41% of Greenway Trust revenue came

from government grants or contracts, 41% from foundation and corporate grants and 15% from individual donations. The remainder was raised through interest income and endowment distributions. This diversity of funding sources has helped insulate the Greenway Trust during difficult economic times. It also reflects the broad support and trust the organization engenders within the Greenway community.

In addition to regular audits, the Greenway Trust is reviewed annually by Charity Navigator and has been awarded a four-star rating for seven years. Charity Navigator recognizes organizations who demonstrate an efficient ratio of fundraising and administrative costs in relation to size of program. Only two percent of charities rated across the



country receive seven consecutive four-star ratings. The confidence of the Trust's donors is further underscored by the fact that many of the Trust's largest contributors are closely involved in volunteer projects or serve on the Greenway board, where they see first-hand the efficiency and the impact of the organization's financial management.

*The Greenway Model of public-private collaboration has been emulated by numerous nonprofit organizations across the region and state. This model is the backbone of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust's financial endeavors, a framework proven successful by nearly 20 years of collaborative success.*



### Some notable Greenway Funders

#### **Public**

- **Federal Highway Administration**
- **King County Conservation District**
- **King County Noxious Weed Program**
- **USFS Service Provider Agreements**
- **Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office**
- **Washington State Department of Ecology**

#### **Private**

- **AAA Washington**
- **Boeing**
- **Carter Motors**
- **HomeStreet Bank**
- **Microsoft**
- **Puget Sound Energy**
- **Quadrant Homes**
- **REI**
- **Seattle Storm**
- **Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund**
- **Weyerhaeuser**

### POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES AND STRATEGIES

For the past twenty years, the Greenway Trust has leveraged public and private funding to preserve and steward the lands of the Greenway. Due to its ability to return concrete results measurable in terms of acres of land protected, miles of trails maintained, waterways restored, and number of children educated, the Greenway Trust has seen its donor reach expand with every passing year. Once National Heritage Area designation is in place, the increased visibility and awareness afforded the Greenway by such designation will enable the Trust, as the local coordinating entity, to create a detailed fundraising plan commensurate to this landscape's new status as a national icon. Greenway stakeholders have already begun to discuss potential leveraging that may be possible, such as creating a grants program to assist local communities, nonprofits, and other qualified organizations in carrying out heritage, tourism, education and

stewardship projects across the Greenway. The following describes the sources available through existing relationships and the potential for new funding opportunities upon designation.

#### **Corporate Giving**

Major employers in the area such as Boeing, Microsoft, and Weyerhaeuser have provided



Corporate sponsors, such as Carter Motors, are active and innovative supporters of the Greenway. Carter auto dealerships fund tree planting to offset carbon emissions.





## 7 - CONCEPTUAL FINANCIAL PLAN

hundreds of thousands of dollars of cash and in-kind support to the Greenway Trust. These companies are represented on the Greenway Trust's Board of Directors and many of their employees volunteer with the Greenway Trust, which helps foster an enduring relationship.

With the broader awareness that a National Heritage Area designation would bring, and with a management plan outlining priorities, it is expected that the Trust should be able to attract a growing base of private business donors, whose gifts, in turn, can be used as matching funds for federal and other government grants. In the Heritage Study process, dozens of opportunities were identified. A favorite example is a tree planting campaign the Greenway Trust has with a local car dealership. Carter Motors, purveyor of Subarus and Volkswagen, created a program that pays for the planting of four trees for every car sold at their three dealerships. This program has raised more than \$450,000 for the Greenway Trust, not only planting 45,000 trees, but also raising awareness of the Greenway through an accompanying television and radio marketing campaign funded by Carter Motors. This program was even expanded to include a tree planted for every three-point shot made by the Seattle Storm, Seattle's Women's National Basketball Association team.

### State and Local Government Funding

State and local governments have a strong track record when it comes to funding the Greenway. In 1989, King

County voters passed a unique conservation futures program to raise money for open space acquisition through property taxes. At the state level, the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, created in 1990, has directed more than a billion dollars to parks, wildlife habitat and working farms. Both of these sources have contributed significantly to preserving land in the Greenway over the past 20 years. In 2005, the voters in upper Kittitas County approved creation of the first parks and recreation district in the county, which now strives to work with government, private landowners and the public to maintain and increase recreational opportunities.

Because of its strong environmental education and stewardship programs, the Greenway Trust has emerged as a key service provider for local and state agencies. By significantly leveraging



Corporate groups such as Quadrant Homes understand the importance of the Greenway to the regional quality of life. In May of 2010, as part of Quadrant Homes' all-company quarterly meeting and picnic, 150 Quadrant staffers participated in a Greenway restoration event at Lake Sammamish State Park.



public funding with private gifts and volunteer contributions, the Greenway Trust is able to augment existing agency resources. The Greenway Trust currently operates under temporary agreements with at least five municipalities, King County, and several state and federal agencies.

Designation will help facilitate more permanent agreements and provide new matching opportunities. Through the Heritage Study and formal boundary discussions, several additional municipalities expressed strong interest in financially partnering with the Greenway Trust on education and stewardship projects.

Smaller Greenway communities also discussed opportunities to pool financial resources to create more comprehensive planning and marketing around heritage and outdoor tourism. In addition, official recognition of this area will help other government and nonprofit partners acquire support for their own heritage-related projects through grants and other sources.

### Individual Donations

Since its inception, the Greenway Trust has raised \$10 million from local donors, including a \$1,000,000 endowment. More than 600 supporters contribute to the Trust each year, with many bringing further matching support from their employers. With a broader awareness of the Mountains to Sound Greenway fostered through designation, the Greenway Trust anticipates a significantly expanded individual donor base.



Snoqualmie Point Park was preserved by the cooperative work of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, the Trust for Public Land, the City of Snoqualmie and the US Forest Service. Major donors include the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Federal Highways Administration Scenic Byways Program, the 2006 Washington State Legislature and many other generous individuals and organizations.

### In-Kind and Volunteer Match

Federal match requirements stipulate that local match can come from contributions of in-kind goods and services fairly valued. Many private companies already offer in-kind support to the Greenway Trust in the form of graphic design, technology assistance, and consulting. The Greenway Trust also has developed a base of more than 4,000 volunteers, who help restore local habitat and maintain popular trails. In 2010 alone, Greenway Trust volunteers contributed 55,000 hours to tree planting, trail maintenance, and invasive species removal projects—an in-kind value of \$715,000. Many other nonprofit organizations in the area also run volunteer programs that contribute to the Greenway through invasive species monitoring, public lands clean up and outdoor education. All of these efforts will no doubt continue—and likely increase—through the heightened visibility that National Heritage Area designation will bring.





### ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF THE PROPOSED HERITAGE AREA

#### Outdoor Recreation

The outdoor recreation and natural resource industries contribute billions of dollars annually to Washington's economy, while ecosystem services save Washington taxpayers additional billions each year by providing flood control and clean air and water. National Heritage Area designation will give Greenway partners the opportunity to develop and implement critical strategies for maintaining the region's ecosystems and world-class outdoor recreation. This will include expanded outdoor recreational facility development, heritage and environmental education, habitat restoration and interpretive activities to provide recreation opportunities for the more than 1.8 million people who call this area home.

#### Heritage Tourism

The Greenway Trust has always been committed to conserving and promoting the unique identity of each city and town within the Greenway. Tourism provides these communities with a direct and economically viable means of preserving their character, while developing a stronger economic base. Through the Heritage Study process, these communities documented and more clearly articulated their own role in the Greenway story.

Heritage and nature tourism have long been mainstays of the Washington economy, especially for rural Greenway towns like North Bend and Cle Elum. National Heritage Area designation will afford partners a platform to unify and amplify their messaging and capitalize on new and increased tourism opportunities.

#### Infrastructure Investment

The Greenway vision includes a landscape that is home to numerous communities, both large and small, who retain a strong connection to the natural areas around them. Yet, as the region grows, many of these communities will need to



Cabin Creek snowshoe and cross country ski trails, just south of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, are a popular and easily accessible winter destination.

absorb more people. Dense development and more coordinated urban planning, as advocated by the Greenway, can reduce infrastructure costs for these communities. When developers favor well-planned density over expansive sprawl, they reduce the miles of new road and utilities that must be installed and maintained.



### Public Agency Efficiency

Public agencies will be better positioned to operate more collaboratively, as designation will allow for development of new mechanisms for sharing resources, personnel and service contracts. Such collaboration will create money-saving efficiencies in maintenance, law enforcement, interpretation, public access and ecological sciences on the hundreds of thousands of acres of public land in the Greenway. With public agencies facing unprecedented budget shortfalls, while at the same time dealing with heightened public use, designation will provide a framework for implementing strategies for addressing shared challenges and meeting rising needs.

### Global Competitiveness

The Mountains to Sound Greenway has long been an economic engine for the state, with companies from Boeing to Microsoft and from Starbucks to Amazon locating here because of the high quality of life. The Greenway is a great place to live, work, play and raise a family because of its livable communities, nearby outdoor recreation, unparalleled scenic views, and clean air and water. Making the Greenway official will help guarantee these key attractions remain in place, thus generating more capacity for regional economic growth.



### SUMMARY

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, the proposed local coordinating entity, has the organizational capacity to meet the federal matching requirements that may become available upon National Heritage Area designation. The Greenway Trust is a financially sound organization with a strong fundraising program that attracts support from individual donors, corporations and charitable foundations. The Greenway Trust successfully garners in-kind donations, workplace contributions and employer matching gifts after employees volunteer their time on Greenway projects. Several current programs and projects are supported by state and local government grants. Support from all of these sources — both public and private — can be expected to continue long-term.

The Greenway Trust is appropriately frugal and efficient in its expenditures, striving to leverage resources to the fullest extent possible. This history of financial management, coupled with strong public-private support for conservation projects, puts the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust in a strong position to assume financial responsibility for the proposed Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area.

National Heritage Area designation provides a framework for conserving park land, historic sites, farms, forests and other resources, the net effect of which will be more thoughtful and well-managed economic growth. Anticipated economic benefits of designation include: increased visitation through outdoor recreation and heritage tourism; considerable savings through ecosystem services, ranging from flood control to air quality; reduced infrastructure expenses of compact growth versus urban sprawl; greater agency efficiency through stronger partnerships and cost-sharing measures; and an influx of businesses that consider quality of life an employee benefit.







# CHAPTER 8 - MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This chapter considers a range of management alternatives for the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area and evaluates each according to its socio-cultural and environmental impacts.

Three management alternatives are considered: continuation of existing activities; National Heritage Area designation; and a create-your-own model. In accordance with the National Park Service Feasibility Study Suggested Guidelines, each alternative is evaluated in terms of its impacts on natural, historical, cultural, and recreational resources, in addition to current and future socioeconomic conditions.

Before addressing any management alternatives, however, this chapter discusses three key elements that were identified during the Heritage Study as concepts that must be included in any potential designation or recognition.

### KEY ELEMENTS

There are few existing models to serve as guideposts for future Greenway management, given the region's varied landscape, with downtown Seattle, federal wilderness areas, rural farmlands, and working forests falling under one umbrella. In a national survey of coordinated land management models, conducted by the Greenway Trust, many of the organizations and agencies contacted referred us to ourselves.

Over the course of the Heritage Study, stakeholders identified what three key characteristics of the Greenway that must inform any potential designation: federal involvement, urban/rural/wildland integration, and nonprofit involvement. Each element is a defining characteristic of the Mountains to Sound Greenway and, as such, must be taken into account no matter which path is taken regarding designation or recognition.

### Federal involvement

The US Forest Service is the largest landowner in the Greenway, and so any future management regime must include federal recognition. Cooperation between partners at the local, county, state, and federal levels is critical to conservation and management strategies. During the Heritage Study, participants identified potential solutions for resource allocation and cost-sharing between local, county, state, and federal agencies. However, some land managers indicated that legislative direction would be helpful, and might be required in some cases, to realize new efficiency. Under a federal designation, the forest service will be better able to help shape ideas for cooperative stewardship, recreation, education, and interpretation.



### Urban/rural/wildland integration

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a varied landscape, encompassing rivers, lakes, mountains, rural communities, and the largest urban center in the Pacific Northwest. Any future designation framework, therefore, must be flexible enough to overlay these diverse elements. Federal Wilderness designation, for instance, has no practical applicability in downtown Seattle. Similarly, it would be unreasonable to designate the entire Greenway as a National Park.

### Nonprofit involvement

Since 1991, the nonprofit Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust has served as a catalyst for conservation and interpretation by bringing together dozens of organizations and agencies operating in this region. Partners were quick to point out the significance of the Greenway Trust in helping guide many important activities across the landscape, from land acquisition to education to stewardship. As a recognized facilitator with representation and support from both public and private entities, any future recognition or designation must accommodate the continued role of the Greenway Trust.

## MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

### Alternative One: Continuation of Existing Activities

While important strides have been made under the current management framework, continuing with the status quo, in comparison with National Heritage Area designation, would significantly limit the effectiveness of Greenway partners, with potentially detrimental impacts to

conservation, historical preservation, and recreation. Furthermore, the status quo limits potential economic and tourism opportunities that would occur with the unified messaging of a National Heritage Area.

Alternative One assumes no federal, state, or local designation. The National Environmental Policy Act requires evaluation of this alternative as a reference against which other alternatives can be compared.

Under current structures, the Greenway Trust has achieved numerous successes. Thousands of acres of land have been conserved, recreation facilities have been built, education programming has been expanded, and Interstate 90 through the Greenway corridor has been designated as a National Scenic Byway. These successes have preserved an impressive legacy of parks, trails, healthy habitat, and vibrant communities. Dozens of Greenway partners are active on the

landscape, ranging from public land managers to conservation and recreation organizations. Impressive collaboration between nonprofits, government agencies, and private businesses occurs in select arenas.

Without any formal designation, some conservation and interpretation projects would likely continue on a project-specific basis, albeit with limited coordination between agencies. Resources could not easily be shared across boundaries, and management decisions



Budget shortfalls lead to challenges in maintaining public access to natural areas.





would continue to be made in isolation. Opportunities for increased synergy and consensus across an officially recognized landscape would be lost. The resources of the Greenway would not be united under a single, nationally significant story and, as a result, opportunities for recognition and greater awareness of the historical and cultural assets of the Greenway would be lost.

Furthermore, as budget shortfalls for public agencies widen, it will be increasingly difficult to sustain public access to natural areas, adequately interpret local history, and provide safe and accessible recreational opportunities. And, with no framework in place to tell the bigger story of the Greenway, individual communities will miss the marketing and tourism opportunities afforded by the stronger brand awareness of the Greenway that would occur through designation.

### **Alternative Two: National Heritage Area Designation**

Designation of a Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area will have favorable impacts on the Greenway's natural, historical, cultural, and recreational resources by raising awareness of local assets, connecting them into a more comprehensively understood whole, encouraging increased funding, and creating management efficiency. The increased profile of the Greenway National Heritage Area will also benefit the region's economy through increased tourism and by helping ensure that local communities remain sustainable, attractive places to live.

Chapter 6 discusses in detail the proposed concept of a Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area. Designation of the

### **National Park Service on National Heritage Areas**

An NHA can convey the complex history of the area, while also serving as a model for cooperative public and private sector partnerships to preserve, conserve and interpret its natural and cultural resources.

Greenway as a National Heritage Area requires congressional legislation. This alternative also assumes recognition at the state, county, and local levels and authorization for non-federal agencies to collaborate within the NHA framework.

Existing National Heritage Areas have achieved important milestones in the conservation and enhancement of some of our nation's most storied places. According to performance statistics measured by the National Park Service (2006), National Heritage Area designation has helped regions in a number of tangible ways including:

- Increase in formal partnerships
- Increase in volunteer hours
- Increase in visitation
- Increase in trails projects
- Increase in educational programs
- Increase in sites added to the National Historic register

NHA Designation will offer a platform for formalizing partnerships and interpreting resources, without affecting property rights or land management structures. The collaborative framework of National Heritage Area designation will give land



managers, such as the US Forest Service and the Washington Department of Natural Resources, momentum to share resources and staff when managing lands in close proximity to each other. For example, a single law enforcement patrol could cover an entire corridor of public land, covering multiple jurisdictions. Likewise, sanitation and facilities maintenance could be more efficiently managed under a unified collaborative framework. The result will be a trails and public lands network that is safer and well maintained.

The prescribed framework for becoming a Heritage Area, and the subsequent management plan created upon designation, provide a useful path for a new National Heritage Area to follow. National Park Service interim guidelines provide an opportunity to efficiently organize the assets of the Greenway to move forward immediately toward a common vision of conservation.

The official recognition of the Greenway as a nationally distinctive area will very likely result in increased funding opportunities, which in turn will offer new potential for resource protection and interpretive programming. Greater investment in the Greenway infrastructure, whether for trail networks, museums, riverbank restoration or historical markers, will help ensure that the many aspects of the Greenway story are preserved and integrated.

*Designation will elevate the Greenway story to a national audience.*

Designation will elevate the Greenway story to a national audience. Local cities and towns can expect increased nature and heritage tourism, which will benefit local economies dependent on visitor dollars. The formal recognition of a National Heritage Area will also give weight to the Greenway vision of vibrant communities remaining deeply connected to both the landscape and their history. Through designation, it is more likely that the historical and cultural assets of a community will be preserved, as local communities stand behind the NHA designation and its values.

### **Alternative 3: Create-Your-Own Model: Mountains to Sound National Greenway**

A create-your-own designation model could potentially offer formal recognition of the Greenway, all the way up to the federal level, offering solutions for conserving and enhancing natural, historical, cultural, and recreational resources while boosting socioeconomic conditions. But the Feasibility Study process yielded no benefits that a “create-your-own” model could offer over and above National Heritage Area designation.

Furthermore, uncertainties about the legislative process and funding sources make it a questionable alternative, and the need to invest in “creating our own” process would be a diversion from the essential work of conserving and enhancing the Greenway. And, with no management precedent or established guidelines, legislating a new model would be difficult. It is very likely that this alternative would eventually lead back to Alternative 1: status quo.





### EVALUATION

**Alternative 2: National Heritage Area designation offers the best prospect for realizing future social, economic, and environmental goals in the Greenway.**

Under National Heritage Area designation, local parties will have a platform for more focused collaboration, allowing public and private entities to integrate their goals for more efficient management, conservation, and economic development. Building national awareness will help foster a broader sense of the Greenway as a special area, which will increase tourism and help unite local communities around the preservation and celebration of the Greenway's assets.





# CHAPTER 9 - APPLICATION OF INTERIM NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA CRITERIA

**The National Park Service has identified ten criteria to assess whether an area may qualify as a National Heritage Area. These criteria center on whether the area has an assemblage of distinct assets, sufficient resources for managing and interpreting those assets, and significant public support of the National Heritage Area concept. Drawing on previous chapters, this section demonstrates that the Mountains to Sound Greenway, with its abundance of resources as well as its public support and local commitments, meets or exceeds all of the listed criteria.**

## EVALUATION OF EACH CRITERION

*1. The area has an assemblage of natural, historic, or cultural resources that together represent distinctive aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and are best managed as such an assemblage through partnerships among public and private entities, and by combining diverse and sometimes noncontiguous resources and active communities.*

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a special blend of healthy natural areas, accessible recreation, productive working landscapes, vibrant communities, and valued history. Hundreds of lakes and rivers, dozens of heritage and environmental educational facilities, more than 200 National Historic Register properties, 28 cities and more than 900,000 acres of public land — all linked by an

extensive network of trails — combine to form the mosaic of the Mountains to Sound Greenway. The Greenway contains significant historic sites that tell the story of how the American frontier came to an end, with a new civilization built upon the region's wealth of natural resources. Indeed, some later came to feel that the prosperity of white settlers came at the expense of the region's natural resources. Later generations rekindled their connection to the landscape and initiated innovative conservation programs to help bring the region back into balance with nature and set national precedents for sustainability.

Public and private organizations have worked collaboratively in the Greenway for two decades to conserve and enhance the ecological, historical,



The Snoqualmie Valley was once dubbed the Largest Hop Ranch in the World. The last remaining hop drying shed in Fall City was built in 1888 and is now designated a King County Historical Landmark.

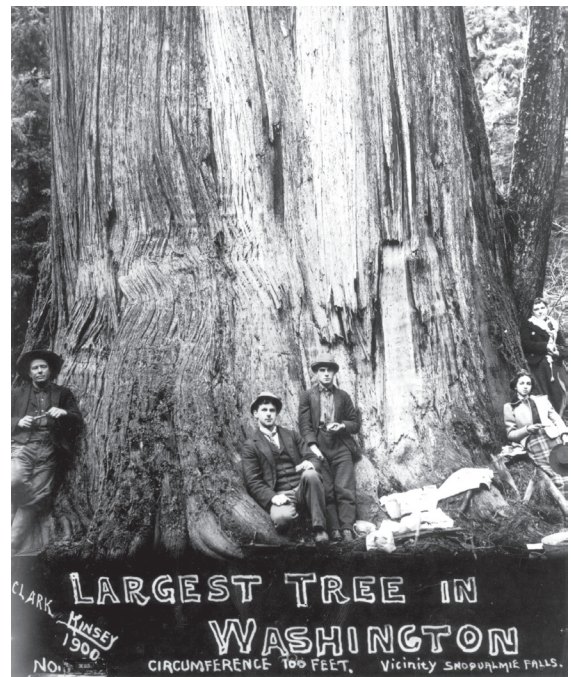




and recreational features. While major strides have been made, National Heritage Area designation will provide a valuable overarching framework for conservation and interpretation, based on the principles of collaboration, local management, and voluntary partnerships. Designation offers an outstanding opportunity to expand and further unify the partnerships that exist today, linking the resources and expertise of a wide array of organizations to conserve this special landscape.

*2. The area reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and folk life that are a valuable part of the national story.*

The historical and cultural traditions of the Greenway, shaped by connections to the natural landscape, are important chapters of the national story. Native Americans have inhabited the region for thousands of years, living off of the land's natural bounty. Seattle was the last large city in the country to be settled during the frontier era, and it served as a hub for timber, mining, fisheries and other industries that sought to prosper from the wealth of the land. The region's land and waterways were key to moving timber, coal, cattle and other new products to markets up and down the West Coast and as far away as China. In more recent times, however, the exploitation that immediately followed White settlement has been transformed into a more sustainable connection to the area's stunning landscape. Residents of the Greenway pioneered a conservation ethic that recognizes the inherent value of the region's natural setting, and citizens have come together to protect natural areas across the region using innovative approaches to keep working forests in production, to clean up freshwater lakes, to restore historic salmon runs, and more. No other place in the country has lived at the final edge of the frontier and had a front-row seat to the future of conservation and sustainability.



Massive trees in vast Northwest forests produced a thriving timber industry.

*3. The area provides outstanding opportunities to conserve natural, cultural, historic, and/or scenic features.*

Although significant work has been done to conserve a legacy of parks, historic sites, and natural areas in the Greenway, many opportunities remain. Stakeholders in the Heritage Study's Ecology, Culture, and History Working Groups listed hundreds of collaborative actions that could be undertaken. There is a strong commitment to preserving these features and ensuring the high quality of life such resources provide.

The population of the Greenway region is expected to grow by a half million people in the next twenty years, and designation will help provide a vision and a framework for ensuring that this growth is absorbed in a



## 9 - APPLICATION OF INTERIM NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA CRITERIA

way that allows retention of the critical natural, cultural, historic and scenic features that make this region unique. By enabling more interagency coordination and cooperation, designation will provide a foundation upon which public land managers can better maintain and enhance their natural, historic and recreation resources.

### *4. The area provides outstanding recreational and educational opportunities.*

Recreational and educational resources are described in Chapter 4. The Greenway's recreational resources include a federally designated Wilderness area, two national forests, dozens of state-owned natural areas, hundreds of county and city parks, and a 1,600-mile network of trails that provide access to these public open spaces.



Riparian areas such as along Bonnie Creek in the Yakima River basin provide ecological and recreation benefits throughout the Greenway.

Several education centers and a number of high-quality educational programs can be found in the Greenway, along with a national park, seven State Parks, and dozens of museums. Programs facilitated by numerous organizations, including the City of Seattle, Pacific Science Center, and the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, educate tens of thousands of local students each year about the importance of healthy ecosystems and the region's rich history. Nearly 100 heritage and environmental education organizations



Skiers, snowshoers and kids with sleds at Snoqualmie Pass find snow, sun and beautiful mountain scenery within an hour's drive of Seattle.

### **Outdoor Recreational Resources**

- 900,000 acres of public land
- 1,600 miles of trails for biking, hiking, and horseback-riding
- 50+ campgrounds
- 25+ winter recreation sites
- 100+ water recreation sites
- 6 climbing areas





## 9 - APPLICATION OF INTERIM NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA CRITERIA

offer walking tours, interactive websites, and interpretive signage throughout the Greenway.

*5. Resources that are important to the identified theme or themes of the area retain a degree of integrity capable of supporting interpretation.*

Chapter 3 identifies the historical themes of the Mountains to Sound Greenway and their related sites, while Chapter 4 speaks more broadly to the Greenway's ecological and historic and cultural resources. The Greenway's assets are numerous and diverse: well preserved natural areas, historic sites, vibrant communities, and working farms and forests. Opportunities for experiencing



A partnership between the Pacific Science Center and City of Bellevue Parks Department, the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center provides year-round education and hands-on learning in a spectacular setting.

### Educational Resources

- 5 award-winning outdoor educational facilities
- 41 environmental education programs
- 35 museums
- 225 National Historic Register sites



Treasured places, natural attractions and time-honored traditions bring a myriad of opportunities for interpretation of Greenway themes.

these assets abound, through accessible outdoor recreation, outdoor education facilities, farmers markets, historical museums, and cultural festivals and events. National Heritage Area designation will link these resources so that they can be interpreted in a broader context that better highlights their significance.

*6. Residents, business interests, nonprofit organizations, and governments within the proposed area that are involved in the planning, have developed a conceptual financial plan that outlines the roles for all participants including the federal government, and have demonstrated support for designation of the area.*

Local communities, government agencies, businesses, conservation organizations and other partners were involved in the Greenway Heritage Study. Chapter 1



### Sample of Involved Entities

- **Government Agencies**
- **Local Farmers**
- **Local, County, State, and Federal Legislators**
- **Conservation and Recreation Nonprofits**
- **Historical Organizations**
- **Private Businesses**

summarizes the participation from public and private organizations, and Appendix 2 details the full array of entities at the table. More than 1,000 members of the Greenway community were involved. The proposal for a Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area received strong support from all of the involved entities.

Chapter 8 discusses a conceptual financial plan for a Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area. It finds that the Greenway Trust, the proposed coordinating entity, is well situated financially to raise and manage funds that can be fully leveraged – including through federal match – to ensure that financial resources devoted to the area are efficient and effectively deployed. Several key stakeholders, including corporations, private individuals and foundations, can be relied upon to support the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area.

*7. The proposed management entity and units of government supporting the designation are willing to commit to working in partnership to develop the heritage area.*

Units of government in the Greenway at the local, regional, state and federal level are committed to partnering with the proposed local coordinating entity, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. Letters of support can be found in Appendix 5.

For 20 years, the Greenway Trust has worked with local, state and federal government partners to create the Mountains to Sound Greenway. Representatives of many government agencies sit on the Board of Directors for the Trust, along with business and nonprofit leaders of the region. Many of these government partners see National Heritage Area designation as a logical next step in this effort. In fact, the concept of a federal designation for the Greenway arose from meetings with the major public land management agencies.

Representatives from local cities, county and state agencies, the US Forest Service, and the National Park Service actively participated the Greenway Heritage Study. The leaders of five of the Greenway's major public land management agencies also signed a letter of agreement committing to Heritage Study planning (see Appendix 3). These five agencies appointed representatives who sat on the Heritage Study Public Land Management Team and developed concepts for coordinated efforts to develop the heritage area.

Many of the cities in the Greenway have long been involved in developing the Greenway and are committed to the Heritage Area. Other cities that have not historically been involved expressed strong interest in joining. The King County Council demonstrated their support by providing \$50,000 to help fund the Greenway Heritage Study.

*8. The proposal is consistent with continued economic activity in the area.*

Chapter 8 presents a conceptual financial plan for economic sustainability in the Greenway. Designating the Greenway a National Heritage Area will assist in the growth of many sectors of the economy, especially outdoor recreation and





### Potential National Heritage Area Economic Benefits

- Increased Outdoor Recreation and Heritage Tourism
- Sustainable Regional Infrastructure Investments
- Public Land Management Efficiencies
- Global Competitiveness
- Job creation in the fields of historic preservation, environmental conservation, regional planning, and resource interpretation
- Increased support for public/private partnerships

heritage tourism. Rural towns from North Bend to Cle Elum have made a conscious choice to support more tourism as their economies begin to rely less on natural resource extraction. National Heritage Area designation will bring additional marketing and interpretive opportunities to increase awareness of the region, which will in turn help drive tourism.

Creation of a National Heritage Area will not be inconsistent with economic activity as it will not affect private property rights, zoning, or taxes. Indeed, designation is likely to increase the area's livability and competitiveness of local businesses, making the region even stronger economically.

*9. A conceptual boundary map is supported by the public.*

The delineation of a formal boundary for the Mountains to Sound Greenway was a key component of the Greenway Heritage Study. Since its inception in 1991, the Greenway had been loosely defined

by conservation efforts along the I-90 corridor. Yet, developing a boundary during the National Heritage Area Feasibility Study process proved to be a relatively easy task. An initial boundary was created for the Heritage Study, which delineated a 1.4 million-acre area stretching from Seattle to Ellensburg, using a mix of watershed boundaries and historic transportation routes as edges.

As described in Chapter 2, the process for confirming this boundary included review by the fifteen different Heritage Study Working Groups and dozens of public stakeholder meetings. Several communities, including the cities of Duvall and Shoreline, as well as local agriculture and salmon restoration groups, advocated for an expansion of the study boundary to include other cities, agricultural production districts or full watersheds. These stakeholders felt strongly that



RAILS to ALES Brewfest, a Greenway Summer event in South Cle Elum, celebrates a local craft at the historic railway depot, bringing much-needed tourism to this small community in Kittitas County.



## 9 - APPLICATION OF INTERIM NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA CRITERIA

their communities were part of the Greenway story and that being a part of the Greenway would bring great benefits.

A final Greenway boundary, expanded to address the aforementioned concerns, was adopted by the Greenway Trust Board of Directors. This boundary now encompasses 1.55 million acres, including the full Yakima River Watershed upstream of Ellensburg in Kittitas County and the entire Snoqualmie and Cedar/Sammamish/Lake Washington Watersheds in King County. The shores of Puget Sound and the urban area of Ellensburg frame the west and east. Greenway boundaries reflect the diversity of the landscape, as the area is bounded by watersheds, framed by the urban areas of Seattle and Ellensburg, and woven together by the interstate highway and an extensive network of trails that link the public to the Greenway landscape.

Support has been unequivocal. It is important to recognize that boundaries are not for regulatory purposes; rather, they provide a

framework for future planning and a foundation for more efficient public land management.

*10. The management entity proposed to plan and implement the project is described.*

Through the Heritage Study process, stakeholders across the Greenway expressed clear consensus that the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust is the most appropriate organization to perform the role of local

coordinating entity. With a proven track record of serving as a catalyst and convener in the Greenway region, leveraging public and private funding and generating bipartisan support, the Greenway

Trust is a recognized and trusted leader in the effort to conserve, interpret and enhance the Mountains to Sound Greenway (see Chapter 6).

**The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust has 20 years of success in managing a broad coalition that works on collaborative efforts to preserve, interpret and enhance the Greenway, and is the logical coordinating entity.**

**More than 150,000 acres were added to the boundary by request from two cities, agricultural and salmon restoration interest groups who felt inclusion in the Heritage Area would be beneficial to their communities.**





# A VISION FOR THE MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA:

**An iconic 1.5 million-acre landscape that conserves a healthy and sustainable relationship between land and people by balancing built and natural environments. A landscape providing places for nature and wildlife, for outdoor recreation and education, for working forests and local agricultural production, while embracing vibrant urban areas with strong economies. A landscape showcasing nationally distinctive stories of transportation development, natural resource economies, and conservation. A landscape supported by a broad cross-section of society, working together to preserve this heritage for future generations.**

### The Greenway -

- fosters a healthy relationship between land and people.
- builds a network of cultural sites, parks, trails, wildlife habitat and public forests, threaded by local history and cherished by communities today.
- preserves the distinct character of local towns, by preserving local heritage, supporting thoughtful development, respecting private property rights, and sustaining land-based livelihoods.
- promotes interagency collaboration, providing tools for cost-saving efficiencies and enhancing funding opportunities.
- protects a mosaic of healthy ecosystems that provide quality wildlife habitat, clean air, clean water, and abundant recreational opportunities.
- believes in working collaboratively within a community of diverse stakeholders to achieve a sustainable balance between built and natural environments.



## APPENDIX 1 - PUBLIC MEETINGS

Working Group Meetings		
Date	Location	Meeting
1/22/2010	Issaquah	Heritage Study Committee
2/19/2010	Issaquah	Heritage Study Committee
2/22/2010	Cle Elum	Kittitas Working Group
2/25/2010	Issaquah	Public Land Manager Team
3/2/2010	Mercer Island	History Working Group
3/12/2010	Issaquah	Public Land Manager Team
3/15/2010	Cle Elum	Kittitas Working Group
3/19/2010	Issaquah	Heritage Study Committee
4/6/2010	Mercer Island	History Working Group
4/9/2010	Seattle	Heritage Study Committee
4/13/2010	Mercer Island	Culture Working Group
4/20/2010	Issaquah	Forestry Working Group
4/20/2010	Issaquah	Outdoor Recreation Working Group
4/20/2010	Issaquah	Wildland Trails Working Group
4/21/2010	Seattle	Cities & Sustainability Working Group
4/22/2010	Issaquah	Community Involvement Working Group
4/22/2010	Issaquah	Ecology Working Group
4/30/2010	Issaquah	Public Land Manager Team
4/30/2010	Issaquah	Heritage Study Committee
5/10/2010	Cle Elum	Kittitas Working Group
5/21/2010	Seattle	Heritage Study Committee
5/24/2010	Cle Elum	Kittitas Working Group
6/8/2010	Issaquah	Forestry Working Group
6/8/2010	Issaquah	Outdoor Recreation Working Group
6/8/2010	Issaquah	Wildland Trails Working Group
6/9/2010	Mercer Island	Culture Working Group
6/9/2010	Mercer Island	History Working Group
6/10/2010	Issaquah	Community Involvement Working Group
6/10/2010	Issaquah	Ecology Working Group
6/11/2010	Issaquah	Public Land Manager Team
6/11/2010	Issaquah	Heritage Study Committee
6/14/2010	Cle Elum	Kittitas Working Group Open House
7/23/2010	Issaquah	Public Land Manager Team
7/23/2010	Issaquah	Heritage Study Committee
8/16/2010	Seattle	Cities & Sustainability Working Group
9/10/2010	Issaquah	Public Land Manager Team
9/10/2010	Issaquah	Heritage Study Committee
9/13/2010	Cle Elum	Kittitas Working Group



## APPENDIX 1 - PUBLIC MEETINGS

Working Group Meetings		
Date	Location	Meeting
9/16/2010	Issaquah	Community Involvement Open House
9/16/2010	North Bend	Outdoor Recreation & Wildland Trails Open House
9/23/2010	Issaquah	Ecology & Forestry Working Groups
9/23/2010	Seattle	Regional Trails Working Group
10/1/2010	Issaquah	Public Land Manager Team
10/1/2010	Seattle	Heritage Study Committee
10/7/2010	Cle Elum	Kittitas Working Group Open House
10/14/2010	Seattle	Regional Trails Working Group
10/21/2010	Mercer Island	Culture Working Group
10/21/2010	Mercer Island	History Working Group
10/25/2010	Seattle	Education & Interpretation Working Group
10/26/2010	Issaquah	Outdoor Recreation Working Group
10/26/2010	Issaquah	Wildland Trails Working Group
10/28/2010	Issaquah	Community Involvement Working Group
10/28/2010	Issaquah	Ecology & Forestry Working Groups
11/5/2010	Issaquah	Tourism & Marketing Working Group
11/12/2010	Seattle	Cities & Sustainability Working Group
11/15/2010	Cle Elum	Kittitas Working Group
11/17/2010	North Bend	Education & Interpretation Working Group
11/19/2010	Issaquah	Public Land Manager Team
11/19/2010	Seattle	Heritage Study Committee
11/22/2010	Issaquah	Agriculture Working Group
12/6/2010	Issaquah	Tourism & Marketing Working Group
12/7/2010	Issaquah	Agriculture Working Group
12/10/2010	Seattle	Heritage Study Committee
1/4/2011	Cle Elum	Kittitas Working Group
1/7/2011	Seattle	Heritage Study Committee
2/11/2011	Seattle	Heritage Study Committee
3/25/2011	Seattle	Heritage Study Committee

## APPENDIX 1 - PUBLIC MEETINGS

### Stakeholder Meetings and Presentations: Individual and Group Meetings

Date	Location	Meeting
2/20/2009	Pasco	Doc Hastings, US Congressman
3/5/2009	Seattle	National Park Service Staff
4/15/2009	Seattle	Rob Iwamoto and Becki Heath, Forest Supervisors, US Forest Service
4/22/2009	Seattle	National Parks Service - Earth Day Presentation
5/6/2009	Seattle	King County Town Hall
6/23/2009	Seattle	Karen Beppler-Dorn, Shaun O'Meara, National Park Service
7/16/2009	Seattle	National Park Service Staff
7/31/2009	Seattle	National Park Service Staff - RTCA, Klondike, Heritage Area Program
11/21/2009	Seattle	National Park Service Staff
1/7/2010	Issaquah	Anne McGill, Parks Director, City of Issaquah
1/21/2010	Seattle	Gretchen Luxenberg, National Parks Service
2/4/2010	North Bend	Jim Franzel, District Ranger, US Forest Service, Snoqualmie District
2/8/2010	Cle Elum	Judy Hallisey, District Ranger, US Forest Service, Cle Elum District
2/17/2010	Cle Elum	Gary Kurtz, Real Estate Agent
2/23/2010	Preston	Association of King County Historical Organizations (AKCHO)
3/1/2010	Seattle	Connie Blumen, King County Parks
3/15/2010	Roslyn	Jennifer Basterrechea, Branch Manager, Ewing & Clark, Inc.
3/18/2010	Mill Creek	Russell Link, Washington State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
3/25/2010	Kirkland	King County Local Arts Agencies
4/7/2010	Seattle	Jennifer Meisner, Washington Trust for Historic Preservation
4/14/2010	Seattle	Peter Dykstra, Pacific Northwest Regional Director, Wilderness Society
5/6/2010	Bellevue	Heather Trescases, Executive Director, Eastside Heritage Center
5/7/2010	Cle Elum	Tim Foss, Wilderness and Trails Coordinator, US Forest Service, Cle Elum District
5/10/2010	Cle Elum	Mayor Charlie Glondo, Gregg Hall and Matt Morton, City of Cle Elum
5/10/2010	Ellensburg	Kirk Holmes, Interim Director, Kittitas County Public Works
5/10/2010	Ellensburg	Jill Arango, Kittitas Conservation Director, Cascade Land Conservancy
5/10/2010	Cle Elum	Russ Hobbs, Chief, Kittitas County Fire District 7
5/19/2010	Bellevue	Quadrant Homes
5/19/2009	Seattle	Gretchen Luxenberg, National Park Service
5/20/2010	Roslyn	Anne Watanabe and Vernon Swesey, Inland Networks
5/24/2010	Ellensburg	Brian Lenz, Government Relations Manager, Puget Sound Energy
5/24/2010	Cle Elum	Eric and Monica Terrill, residents, Cle Elum
5/24/2010	Ellensburg	Anna Lael, Director, Kittitas County Conservation District
5/24/2010	Cle Elum	Colleen Hawley, retired, State Parks Ranger
5/26/2010	Seattle	Julie Ziegler, Executive Director, Humanities Washington
6/1/2010	Snoqualmie	America's Great Outdoors Site Visit
6/4/2010	Cle Elum	Matt Morton, City of Cle Elum
6/7/2010	Seattle	King County Dept. of Natural Resources Executive Staff: Bob Burns, Kevin Brown, Mark Isaacson, John Starbard, Megan Smith, Lauren Smith
6/9/2010	Seattle	Dow Constantine, King County Executive; Fred Jarrett, Deputy Executive



## APPENDIX 1 - PUBLIC MEETINGS

### Stakeholder Meetings and Presentations: Individual and Group Meetings

Date	Location	Meeting
6/20/2010	Fall City	Kathy Lambert, King County Councilmember
6/23/2010	Cle Elum	Roslyn/Cle Elum Chamber of Commerce
8/13/2010	Phone	Mary Hieb, Kittitas Biofuels Proponent
9/8/2010	Seattle	Sally Bagshaw, Councilmember, City of Seattle
10/5/2010	North Bend	US Forest Service, North Bend Ranger District, Monthly Staff Meeting
10/15/2010	North Bend	Mayor Ken Hearing, Duncan Wilson, Gina Estep, City of North Bend
10/17/2010	Maple Valley	David Johnston, City Manager, City of Maple Valley
10/20/2010	Woodinville	Hal Hart, Planning Director, City of Woodinville
10/20/2010	Seattle	King County Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks Staff Presentation
10/20/2010	Everett	US Forest Service, Mount Baker - Snoqualmie Forest Leadership Team
10/21/2010	Maple Valley	David Johnston, Steve Clark, Greg Brown, Dana Parnello, Noel Gerken, City of Maple Valley
10/21/2010	LakeForest Park	David Klein, Steve Bennett, Susan Stein, City of Lake Forest Park
10/21/2010	Kirkland	Kurt Triplett, City of Kirkland
10/29/2010	Snoqualmie	Mayor Matt Larson, Bob Larson, Nancy Tucker, Gwen Voelpel, City of Snoqualmie
11/3/2010	Bothell	Steve Anderson, Deputy City Manager, City of Bothell
11/3/2010	Kenmore	Fred Stouter, City Manager, City of Kenmore
11/5/2010	Bellevue	Dan Stroh, Planning Director, City of Bellevue
11/15/2010	Roslyn	Mayor Jeri Porter, Staffer Mitch Long, City of Roslyn
11/18/2010	Seattle	Regional Environmental Organizations Briefing
12/9/2010	Seattle	Jan Hollenbeck, Cultural Resources, US Forest Service
12/10/2010	Seattle	Chris Bayley, Attorney, American Forest Land Company
12/14/2010	Duvall	Mayor Will Ibershof, Lara Thomas, Elizabeth Walker, City of Duvall
12/14/2010	Carnation	Mayor Lee Grumman, Ken Carter, City of Carnation
12/14/2010	Duvall	Tolt Restoration Group
12/20/2010	Shoreline	Joseph Tovar, Kirk McKinley, Steven Cohn, City of Shoreline
12/20/2010	Carnation	Erick Haakenson, owner, Jubilee Farm
1/6/2011	Sammamish	Dick Watts, Roslyn Cemeteries Commission
2/16/2011	Kapowsin	Hancock Timber Management Group
2/21/2011	Newcastle	Newcastle Trails Club
3/2/2011	Maple Valley	Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Tahoma Chapter
3/24/2011	Cle Elum	Mark Flataum, Superintendent, Cle Elum School District
4/5/2011	Auburn	John Wayne Pioneer Wagon and Trail Riders
4/20/2011	Cle Elum	US Forest Service, Region 6 Forest Service District Ranger Summit
4/28/2011	Issaquah	Issaquah Alps Trails Club
5/24/2011	Ellensburg	Obie O'Brien, Kittitas County Commissioner
5/26/2011	Ellensburg	Paul Jewell, Kittitas County Commissioner
5/26/2011	Ellensburg	Alan Crankovich, Kittitas County Commissioner
6/7/2011	Seattle	Mark McIntyre, Congressman Jay Inslee's Office
6/9/2011	Duvall	Duvall City Council
6/22/2011	Seattle	National Park Service Staff



## APPENDIX 2 - PARTIES INVOLVED

Parties Involved	
Name	Affiliation
Randy Acker	Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources
Kelsey Amara	Resident, Cle Elum
Richard Anderson	Northwest Railway Museum
Chris Anderson	Washington State Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Tami Asars	REI - Issaquah
Chuck Ayers	Cascade Bicycle Club
Brian Ballard	Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources
Feliks Banel	Resident, Seattle
Dave Battey	Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum
Diane Bedell	Washington Trails Association
Kate Bedient	Islandwood Learning Center
Tor Bell	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Chris Benedict	Washington State Univ Small Farms Team
Matt Bergerson	REI - Issaquah
Gary Berndt	Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources
Connie Blumen	King County Natural Lands Program
Micah Bonkowski	Issaquah Resource Conservation Office
Mark Boyar	Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Martin Bremer	Camp Fire USA - Camp Sealth
Howard Briggs	Washington Snowmobile Association
Weston Brinkley	Cascade Land Conservancy
Amy Brockhaus	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
David J. Burger	Stewardship Partners
Steven Burke	King County Noxious Weed Program
joan burlingame	Backcountry Horsemen of Washington
Beth Burman	Goldmyer Hot Springs
Melissa Campbell	PCC Farmland Trust
Howard Carlin	Kittitas County Park & Recreation District
Chris Caviezel	Snoqualmie Pass Advisory Council
John Chaney	Resident, Fall City
Kerry Clark	Swiftwater Tractor LLC
Jennifer Creveling	The Watershed Company
Jordan Denmark	Recess Design
Lyn Derrick	Cascade Assoc. of Museums & History
Laura Ditmer	WA State Dept. of Natural Resources
Brian Dougherty	City of Seattle Bike & Pedestrian Program
Stephanie Dunlap	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Roger Duquette	Vision Cle Elum
Claire Dyckman	King County Agriculture Program
Aleta Eng	US Forest Service - Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie



## APPENDIX 2 - PARTIES INVOLVED

Parties Involved	
Name	Affiliation
Ron Eng	Burke Museum
Steve Evans	King County Agriculture Program
Robert Eversole	TrailMeister.com
Kurt Fraese	GeoEngineers
Jim Franzel	US Forest Service - Snoqualmie District
Charles Glondo	City of Cle Elum
Glenn Glover	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Richard Grillo	Cle Elum Drug
Lillian Grosz	Camp Fire USA - Camp Sealth
Erick Haakenson	Jubilee Farm
Judy Hallisey	US Forest Service - Cle Elum District
Heather Hansen	Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Jennifer Harrison-Cox	Partnership for Rural King County
Colleen Hawley	Retired, Washington State Parks Ranger
Curtis Headrick	Resident, Cle Elum
Kelly Heintz	Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources
Nick Henderson	Roslyn Museum
Judy Herring	King County Agriculture Program
Peter Herzog	Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Mary Hieb	Biomass 2 Energy Now, LLC
Russ Hobbs	Kittitas Fire District #7
Carolyn Hope	City of Redmond Parks Department
Cory Huskinson	Baxter Barn
Jim Hutchinson	Puget Sound Energy
Nancy Hutto	Snoqualmie Valley Honey Farm
Adam Jackson	King Conservation District
Sam Jarrett	Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources
David Kappler	Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Robin Kelley	Issaquah Salmon Days Festival
Jim Kelly	4Culture
Sally Kentch	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Matt Kerns	REI - Southcenter
David Kimmett	King County Natural Lands Program
Bill Knutsen	King Conservation District
Julie Koler	King County Landmarks Commission
Gary Kurtz	Kittitas County Park & Recreation District
Chris LaPointe	EarthCorps
Brian Lee	Cascade Rail Foundation
Chuck Lennox	Cascade Interpretive Consulting
Danny Levine	NationAd Communications

## APPENDIX 2 - PARTIES INVOLVED

Parties Involved	
Name	Affiliation
Franz Loewenherz	City of Bellevue Transportation Dept.
Elizabeth Lunney	Resident, Seattle
Margaret Macleod	City of Issaquah Parks Department
Erica Maniez	Issaquah Historical Society
Judi Maxwell	The Mountaineers
Niki McBride	King County Parks & Recreation
Kevin McCann	McCann Trucking
Doug McClelland	Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources
Kristi McClelland	King County Forestry Program
Lorraine McConaghy	Museum of History and Industry
Sue McLain	Puget Sound Energy
Tina Miller	King County Parks Volunteer Program
Joshua Monaghan	King Conservation District
Al Montgomery	Montgomery Building Design
Matthew Morton	City of Cle Elum
Louis Musso III	Resident, Cle Elum
Wayne Nelsen	Encompass Engineering & Surveying
Dennis Neuzil	Resident, Seattle
Craig Nevil	Kittitas Economic Development Group
Pam Novitzky	US Forest Service - Cle Elum District
Robert Nunnenkamp	King County Parks & Recreation
Rick Oakley	Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Thomas O'Keefe	American Whitewater
Adam Osbekoff	Snoqualmie Tribe
Cory Parker	Jones & Jones Architects LTD
Joel Pfundt	City of Redmond Parks Department
Larry Pickering	King County Agriculture Commission
Justin Vander Pol	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Jack & Linda Price	Happy Trails Horseback Riding Ranch
Charles Raines	Cascade Land Conservancy
Kindra Ramos	Washington Trails Association
Janet Ray	AAA of Washington
Brandy Reed	King Conservation District
Cecilia Reed	US Forest Service - Snoqualmie District
Jim Reinhardsen	HEARTLAND LLC
Sharon Robertson	Northern Kittitas County Historical Society
Matt Rourke	International Forestry Consultants
Doug Schindler	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust



## APPENDIX 2 - PARTIES INVOLVED

Parties Involved	
Name	Affiliation
Tim Schmidt	Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Deborah Schnieder	King County Library System
Doug Schrenk	US Forest Service - Snoqualmie District
Kimberly Scrivner	Puget Sound Regional Council
Sasha Shaw	King County Knoxious Weed Program
Amy Shumann	King County Public Health
Alan Smith	Perkins Coie LLP
Bill Sobieralski	US Forest Service - Snoqualmie District
Celese Spencer	Cedar River Watershed Education Center
Ed Spilker	Washington State Dept. of Transportation
Julie Stangell	Hancock Forest Management
Anthony Starkovich	US Forest Service - Snoqualmie District
Terrie Stedman	Issaquah Chamber of Commerce
Mike Stenger	Terrain Trail Design
Sue Stewart	Friends of Luther Burbank Park
Oliver Stiefel	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Grace Stiller	King County Noxious Weed Board
David Sturtevant	CH2M HILL
Eric Terrill	Edward Jones - Cle Elum
Susan Thomas	US Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee
Fran Troje	The Mountaineers
Nancy Tucker	City of Snoqualmie Planning Dept.
William "Ty" Tyler	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Margaret Ullman	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Coert Voorhees	State Winter Recreation Advisory Council
Deb Wallace	Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Terry Wallgren	Resident, Cle Elum
Doug Walsh	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Bill Way	The Watershed Company
Nathan Weis	Inland Networks
Ginger Weiser	Encompass Engineering & Surveying
Cynthia Welti	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Jean White	King County Water Resource Inventory Area 8
Kathy White	US Forest Service, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie
Leila Wilke	Olympic Sculpture Park
Cynthia Wilkerson	The Wilderness Society
Steve Williams	Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Julie Ziegler	Humanities Washington



## APPENDIX 3 - MAJOR PUBLIC LAND MANAGERS LETTER OF AGREEMENT



### Letter of Agreement Mountains to Sound Greenway Heritage Study

United States Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service (USFS),  
Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources (WADNR),  
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks),  
King County,  
and the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust (Greenway Trust).

**Purpose:** With this Letter of Agreement, the above listed parties have agreed to work in partnership with a broad group of stakeholders to explore strategies for the effective and collaborative long-term stewardship of the Mountains to Sound Greenway (Greenway) along Interstate 90. The 1.4 million-acre Greenway includes a mosaic of 800,000 acres of federal, state, and local public lands, and it is in the best interest of the above parties, and the citizens of the region, to explore opportunities to collaboratively meet the many mandates expected from this multi-use landscape.

**Objective:** The USFS, WADNR, State Parks, and King County manage significant public lands within the Mountains to Sound Greenway / Interstate 90 corridor. As part of their missions, these agencies are charged with a variety of tasks, including: protection, conservation, and enhancement of natural, historic and cultural resources; providing a variety of public recreational opportunities, including but not limited to use of developed recreation areas, regional and wildland trails, and lower-impact recreation in natural areas. The WADNR and King County also have a mandate to produce revenue from sustainable resource management activities.

The Greenway Trust is a non-profit coalition dedicated to conserving the shared heritage of working farms and forests, parks, vibrant urban and rural areas, and abundant outdoor educational and recreational opportunities. The Greenway Trust serves as a catalyst and convener between agencies, non-profit groups, and stakeholders to work toward these goals. The Greenway Trust also seeks to develop opportunities for cooperating agencies and stakeholders to share resources and develop strategies for continued conservation, enhancement, recreation and economic growth within the Greenway.

**Background:** The Mountains to Sound Greenway encompasses over 1.4 million acres of connected natural lands and vibrant urban areas surrounding Interstate 90 between Puget Sound and central Washington. The Greenway conserves a shared heritage of working farms and forests, spectacular alpine wilderness, historic towns, and extensive outdoor recreation and wildlife habitat in the region that includes the fifteenth largest metropolitan area in the country.

The Greenway is a national success story. In 1991, a broad coalition of stakeholders crafted a vision for a sustainable balance between built and natural environments. For nearly 20 years, Greenway partners have worked toward this vision of livable communities right next door to accessible natural areas, productive working lands and incomparable scenic beauty. Today over 800,000 acres are in public ownership, and economically the Seattle metropolitan area is globally competitive.



## APPENDIX 3 - MAJOR PUBLIC LAND MANAGERS LETTER OF AGREEMENT

Letter of Agreement  
USFS, WADNR, State Parks, King County & Greenway Trust  
Page 2 of 4

As successful as the Greenway effort has been in the past, maintaining the Greenway's sustainable balance will be a challenge in coming years. Population growth continues to threaten working farms, forests and wildlife habitat, while the need to conserve the natural areas that clean our air and water is increasingly apparent as climate change becomes more pronounced. Critical steps must be taken to ensure that cities remain attractive and dynamic, accommodating smart development and serving as catalysts for economic growth. Public land managers struggle with safety, signage and sanitation in an age of shrinking budgets and increased demand for new and enhanced outdoor recreation.

**Heritage Study Goals:** After nearly 20 years of success, the Greenway coalition is undertaking a Heritage Study to explore strategies for sustaining this balanced Greenway landscape into the future. As part of the study over 500 stakeholders will be engaged in a collaborative process to inventory the multitude of Greenway assets, identify associated threats and needs, and devise a framework for cooperatively managing these assets into the future. There are three distinct goals for this process:

1. Expand and inspire the Greenway Coalition: Begin to involve representatives from additional constituent groups, and involve the next generation of leaders from currently involved organizations.
2. Develop a Plan for Future Stewardship: Create a Cooperative Stewardship Framework, a stakeholder generated plan for maintaining and enhancing the Greenway for the next 20 years.
3. Make the Greenway Official: Define the best way to get the 1.4-million acre Greenway officially recognized, such as a National Heritage Area, thereby formalizing the Greenway for future generations.

**Heritage Study Process:** The Greenway Trust is the central organizing entity for the Heritage Study and is working with funding from Washington State, King County and several private foundations. To complete the Study, the Greenway Trust is doing the following:

1. Engaging over 500 stakeholders in a dialogue about the future of the Greenway, including both groups and individuals who have been involved in the Greenway effort over the past 19 years as well as individuals and groups who are interested in the future of this landscape.
2. Facilitating up to fifteen (15) Working Groups representing a wide range of Greenway "assets" from Agriculture, Sustainable Cities, Culture, Ecology, Forestry, History, Community Engagement, Tourism, Kittitas County, Regional Trails, Outdoor Recreation, and Wildland Trails. These Working Groups of experts from public agencies and other stakeholder groups are slated to meet through-out 2010 and are tasked to "look" 20 years forward (visioning process) and identify what it will take to protect and enhance their individual Greenway assets. These groups will document specific needs and opportunities for action by the many interested parties in the region. All of this information will be collated into a "Cooperative Stewardship Framework" that is intended to help serve as a guide for action by the many partners over the next 20 years.
3. Completing a National Heritage Area Feasibility Study that will identify and demonstrate why the Greenway is a nationally distinctive landscape and whether it should be a candidate for designation as a National Heritage Area.

Through this outreach to, input and commitment from, and formed partnership between the communities, public representatives, non-profit organizations and public agencies we anticipate that a framework for the stewardship of the Greenway will be developed.

## APPENDIX 3 - MAJOR PUBLIC LAND MANAGERS LETTER OF AGREEMENT

Letter of Agreement  
USFS, WADNR, State Parks, King County & Greenway Trust  
Page 3 of 4

**Major Public Land Manager Representatives:** The USFS, WADNR, State Parks and King County all own and manage extensive lands in the Greenway. While experts from many agencies will be participating in the Working Groups, it is clear that the long-term stewardship of the Greenway is dependent on the coordination and approval of these respective agencies. In search of enhanced performance and potential cost-savings and efficiencies, each of these agencies has assigned a representative to coordinate overall agency communication, to consider how the concepts envisioned by stakeholders can be made actionable, and to explore opportunities for interagency collaboration. These representatives will coordinate input and decisions regarding findings of the Heritage Study with the leadership in each respective agency.

These agency representatives will sit on a "Major Public Land Management Agency Team" during the Heritage Study. The Agency Team will meet approximately every 3-4 weeks during 2010.

Agency Team Representatives are:

**USDA USFS Mt. Baker - Snoqualmie**

Jim Franzel, District Ranger  
Snoqualmie Ranger District  
902 SE North Bend Way, Bldg 1  
North Bend, WA 98045

**USDA USFS Okanogan - Wenatchee**

Judy Hallisey, District Ranger  
Cle Elum Ranger District  
803 W. 2nd Street  
Cle Elum, WA 98922

**WADNR**

Randy Acker, Region Manager  
Puget Sound Region  
950 Farman Ave. North  
Enumclaw, WA 98022-9282

**State Parks**

Peter Herzog, Stewardship Program  
Manager  
P.O. Box 42650  
Olympia, WA 98504-2650

**King County**

Connie Blumen, Program Manager  
201 S. Jackson Street Suite #700  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Greenway Trust**

Doug Schindler, Deputy Director  
911 Western Ave. Suite #523  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Definition of National Heritage Areas:** A National Heritage Area is a "place designated by the United States Congress where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally-distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography." The National Parks Service has defined the following key steps for designation:

1. Completion of a suitability/feasibility study;
2. Public involvement in the suitability/feasibility study;
3. Demonstration of widespread public support among heritage area residents for the proposed designation; and,
4. Commitment to the proposal from key constituents, which may include governments, industry, and private, non-profit organizations.


This Letter of Agreement documents this public-private 'partnership' and encourages the partners to work together to assess effective and collaborative means for future stewardship of the public resources in the Greenway, including the completion of a National Heritage Area Feasibility Study. This Letter of Agreement does not obligate any funding for work by any party of the agreement.




## APPENDIX 3 - MAJOR PUBLIC LAND MANAGERS LETTER OF AGREEMENT

Letter of Agreement  
USFS, WADNR, State Parks, King County & Greenway Trust  
Page 4 of 4


**USDA Forest Service**  
**Mt. Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rob Iwamoto, Forest Supervisor  
Date: 07.26.10


**USDA Forest Service**  
**Okanogan - Wenatchee National Forest**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca Heath, Forest Supervisor  
Date: August 12, 2010


**Washington State**  
**Dept. of Natural Resources**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Goldmark, Commissioner of Public Lands  
Date: July 19, 2010


**Washington State Parks**  
**and Recreation Commission**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rex Derr, Director  
Date: July 22, 2010

**King County**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dow Constantine, King County Executive  
Date: July 12, 2010

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Chapman, Board President  
Date: August 16, 2010

## APPENDIX 4 - DRAFT DESIGNATION BILL

112th Congress

xx Session

**S. xxxx**

To establish the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area  
in the state of Washington, and for other purposes.

### IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

**Date**

Mrs. xxxxxxxx (for herself and Mr./Ms. XXXX) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

### A BILL

To establish the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area  
in the state of Washington, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress  
assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ‘Mountains to Sound Greenway National  
Heritage Area Act’

#### SECTION 2. PURPOSES.

PURPOSES- The purposes of this subtitle include –

- (1) to recognize the national importance of the natural and cultural legacies of the area, as demonstrated in the study entitled ‘Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area Feasibility Study’ dated April 2012;
- (2) to recognize the heritage of natural resource conservation in the Pacific Northwest and in the Mountains to Sound Greenway;
- (3) to preserve, support, conserve, and interpret the legacy of natural resource conservation and community stewardship, passed from generation to generation within the Heritage Area;
- (4) to promote heritage, cultural, and recreational tourism and to develop educational and cultural programs for visitors and the general public;
- (5) to recognize and interpret important events and geographic locations representing key developments in the creation of America, particularly the settlement of the American West and the stories of diverse ethnic groups, including Native Americans and others;



- (6) to enhance a cooperative management framework to assist federal, state, local, and tribal governments, the private sector, and citizens residing in the Heritage Area in conserving, supporting, enhancing, and interpreting the significant historic, cultural, natural and recreational sites in the Heritage Area;
- (7) to recognize and interpret the relationship between land and people, representing broad American ideals demonstrated through the integrity of existing resources within the Heritage Area; and
- (8) to support working relationships between public land managers and the community by creating relevant linkages between the National Park Service, the United States Forest Service, tribes, state and local agencies and community stakeholders within and surrounding the Heritage Area, in order to;
- (9) protect, enhance, and interpret cultural and natural resources within the Heritage Area.

### SECTION 3. FINDINGS

FINDINGS- Congress finds and declares that –

- (1) There exists a unique and significant heritage of natural resource conservation in the Pacific Northwest and in the Mountains to Sound Greenway;
- (2) The Greenway landscape represents a balance between built and natural environments, exemplified by –
  - (a) Hundreds of thousands of acres of forests and fields in close proximity to a major metropolitan area;
  - (b) dynamic and engaging cultural opportunities, including hundreds of museums, environmental education centers, interpretive trails, festivals and community centers; and,
  - (c) an outstanding array of accessible natural lands, highlighted by the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area, the forests of the Teanaway River basin, and the towering Douglas firs of the Issaquah Alps;
- (3) The Mountains to Sound Greenway community has many great American stories to share, including those of –
  - (a) Native American tribes and nations from time immemorial;
  - (b) settlement, travel, and transport in the American West, from footpaths used for trading to today's Mountains to Sound Greenway I-90 National Scenic Byway;
  - (c) working farms and forests of the Snoqualmie and Yakima River valleys and the Cascade foothills; and,
  - (d) globally competitive businesses established and growing in the cities of the Greenway.
- (4) The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust conserves and enhances community-based conservation and stewardship inside and outside of the Greenway landscape, illustrated by the fact that –
  - (a) the Greenway Trust is led by a 60-person board that includes local and state officials, agency staff, and business and nonprofit representatives;
  - (b) thousands of volunteers have donated hundreds of thousands of hours to the Greenway supporting stewardship projects on public lands; and,
  - (c) over the span of 20 years, partners have collaborated to conserve more than 200,000 acres of land in the Greenway for natural systems, recreation, timber, and agriculture.

### SECTION 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

- (1) HERITAGE AREA – The term ‘Heritage Area’ means the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area established in this Act.
- (2) LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY – The term ‘local coordinating entity’ means the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, a nonprofit corporation recognized by the Federal government as being organized for charitable purposes in the State of Washington.
- (3) MANAGEMENT PLAN – The term ‘management plan’ means the plan to be prepared by the local coordinating entity, along with a group comprised of public agency staff and community members, that will specify actions, policies, strategies, performance goals, and recommendations to meet the goals of the Heritage Area, in accordance with this Act.
- (4) MAP – The term “Map” means the document titled “Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area” that outlines the boundaries of the Heritage Area.
- (5) SECRETARY – The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the Interior.
- (6) STATE – The term ‘State’ means the State of Washington.
- (7) TRIBAL – The term ‘Tribal’ means the five Tribes with usual and accustomed places in the Heritage Area, including the Snoqualmie, Yakama, Tulalip, Muckleshoot, and Duwamish.

### SECTION 5. DESIGNATION OF THE MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

- (A) Establishment – There is hereby established the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area.
- (B) Boundaries –
  - (1) IN GENERAL– The Heritage Area shall consist of the 1.55 million acre landscape in the center of the State, all located in King and Kittitas Counties, which includes, in Kittitas County, all lands within the Yakima River basin upstream of Manastash Creek, including the Manastash and Teanaway drainages and the cities of Ellensburg, Cle Elum and South Cle Elum; and within King County, all lands in the Snoqualmie River, Cedar River, and Lake Washington watersheds as well as the Puget Sound nearshore watersheds within and including the cities of Seattle and Shoreline, and 18 additional cities in King County.
  - (2) MAP – The boundaries of the Heritage Area shall include all of those lands and interests as generally depicted on the map titled ‘Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area,’ numbered 1 and dated January 31, 2011. The map shall be on file and available to the public in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service and the local coordinating entity.
- (C) Local Coordinating Entity - The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust is hereby designated by Congress as the local coordinating entity to-
  - (1) FACILITATE, in partnership with federal, state, and local partners, the creation of the management plan for the Heritage Area; and
  - (2) to act as a CATALYST for the implementation of projects and programs among diverse partners in the Heritage Area.



### SECTION 6. MANAGEMENT PLAN.

- (A) In General- Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the local coordinating entity shall submit to the Secretary for approval a proposed management plan for the Heritage Area.
- (B) Requirements- The management plan shall--
- (1) Incorporate an integrated and cooperative approach for the protection, enhancement, and interpretation of the natural, cultural, historic, scenic, and recreational resources of the Heritage Area;
  - (2) Take into consideration State and local plans;
  - (3) Include—
    - (a) an inventory of the natural, historical, cultural, educational, scenic, and recreational resources of the Heritage Area which relate to the national importance and themes of the Heritage Area that should be conserved and enhanced;
    - (b) a description of strategies and recommendations for conservation, funding, management, and development of the Heritage Area;
    - (c) a history of the Mountains to Sound Greenway; and of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and its role in encouraging stewardship of the Heritage Area by local, state, federal, tribal institutions and private organizations;
    - (d) consultation with the US Forest Service, National Park Service, the Governor of the State of Washington, and the Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands;
    - (e) a description of actions federal, state, tribal, local and private partners have agreed to take to protect, enhance, interpret, fund, manage, and develop the natural, historical, cultural, educational, scenic, and recreational resources of the Heritage Area;
    - (f) a program of implementation for the management plan by the local coordinating entity including—
      - (1) performance goals; and
      - (2) commitments for implementation made by partners;
    - (g) the identification of sources of funding [and/or] economic development strategies for carrying out the management plan;
    - (h) analysis and recommendations for means by which local, State, and Federal programs may best be coordinated to carry out this Act;
    - (i) an interpretive plan for the Heritage Area;
    - (j) recommended policies and strategies for resource management, including the development of intergovernmental and interagency agreements to protect, enhance, interpret, fund, manage, and otherwise provide for the enjoyment and understanding of the natural, historical, cultural, educational, scenic, and recreational resources of the Heritage Area; and
    - (k) a definition of the roles of the National Park Service, the United States Forest Service and other federal agencies in the coordination of the Heritage Area and in otherwise furthering the purposes of this section.
- (C) Deadline- If a proposed management plan is not submitted to the Secretary by the date that is 3 years after the date of first receiving funding under this Act, the local coordinating entity shall be ineligible to receive additional funding under this Act until the date that the Secretary receives and approves the management plan.
- (D) Approval of Management Plan-
- (1) REVIEW- Not later than 180 days after receiving the plan, the Secretary shall review and approve

or disapprove the management plan for the Heritage Area on the basis of the criteria established under section 6 (D) (3).

- (2) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL- In determining whether to approve a management plan for a Heritage Area, the Secretary shall consider whether –
- (a) the local coordinating entity has consulted with the diverse interests of the Heritage Area, including Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, natural and historic resource protection organizations, educational institutions, businesses, recreational organizations, community members, and private property owners;
  - (b) the local coordinating entity--
    - (1) has afforded adequate opportunity for the public and Federal, State, Tribal, and local governmental involvement in the preparation of the management plan; and,
    - (2) provides for at least annual public meetings to ensure adequate implementation of the management plan;
  - (c) the resource protection, enhancement, interpretation, funding, and management strategies described in the management plan, if implemented, would adequately protect, enhance, interpret, fund, manage, and otherwise provide for the enjoyment and understanding of the natural, historic, cultural, educational, scenic, and recreational resources of the Heritage Area;
  - (d) the management plan would not adversely affect any activities on Federal land authorized under public land laws or land use plans;
  - (e) the local coordinating entity has demonstrated the financial capability, in partnership with others, to carry out the management plan;
  - (f) the Secretary has received adequate assurances from the appropriate State, Tribal, and local officials whose support is needed to ensure the effective implementation of the State, Tribal, and local elements of the management plan; and
  - (g) the management plan demonstrates partnerships among the local coordinating entity, Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, regional planning organizations, nonprofit organizations, and private sector parties for implementation of the management plan.

(E) DISAPPROVAL-

- (1) IN GENERAL- If the Secretary disapproves the management plan, the Secretary –
  - (a) shall advise the local coordinating entity in writing of the reasons for the disapproval; and
  - (b) shall make recommendations to the local coordinating entity for revisions to the management plan.
- (2) DEADLINE- Not later than 180 days after receiving a revised management plan, the Secretary shall approve or disapprove the revised management plan.

(F) AMENDMENTS-

- (1) IN GENERAL- An amendment to the management plan that substantially alters the purposes of the Heritage Area shall be reviewed by the Secretary and approved or disapproved in the same manner as the original management plan.
- (2) IMPLEMENTATION- The local coordinating entity shall not use Federal funds authorized by this subtitle to implement an amendment to the management plan until the Secretary approves the amendment.

(G) AUTHORITIES- The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture may--

- (1) provide technical assistance under the authority of this subtitle for the implementation of the management plan; and



- (2) enter into cooperative agreements with the local coordinating entity, State and local agencies, and other interested parties to carry out this subtitle, including cooperation and cost sharing as appropriate to provide more cost-effective and coordinated public land management.

### SECTION 7. EVALUATION; REPORTING.

- (A) In General- Not later than 3 years before the date on which authority for Federal funding terminates for the Heritage Area under this subtitle, the Secretary shall –
- (1) conduct an evaluation of the accomplishments of the Heritage Area; and
  - (2) prepare a report in accordance with subsection 7 (B).
- (B) Evaluation- An evaluation conducted under this subsection shall –
- (1) assess the progress of the local coordinating entity with respect to --
    - (a) accomplishing the purposes of the authorizing legislation for the Heritage Area; and
    - (b) achieving the goals and objectives of the approved management plan for the Heritage Area;
  - (2) analyze the Federal, State, Tribal, local, and private investments in the Heritage Area to determine the impact of the investments; and
  - (3) review the management structure, partnership relationships, and funding of the Heritage Area for purposes of identifying the critical components for sustainability of the Heritage Area.
- (C) Report- Based on the evaluation conducted under subsection 7 (B), the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Natural Resources of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate. The report shall include recommendations for the future role of the National Park Service, if any, with respect to the Heritage Area.

### SECTION 8. LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY.

- (A) Duties- To further the purposes of the Heritage Area, the local coordinating entity shall –
- (1) prepare and submit a management plan for the Heritage Area to the Secretary in accordance with section 6;
  - (2) facilitate and expedite the implementation of projects and programs among diverse partners in the Heritage Area;
  - (3) submit an annual report to the Secretary for each fiscal year for which the local coordinating entity receives Federal funds under this subtitle, specifying –
    - (a) the specific performance goals and accomplishments of the local coordinating entity;
    - (b) the expenses and income of the local coordinating entity;
    - (c) the amounts and sources of funds matched to Federal funds received under this subtitle; and,
    - (d) significant grants or contracts made by the local coordinating entity to any other entities during the fiscal year;
  - (4) make available for audit by the Secretary for each fiscal year for which the local coordinating entity receives Federal funds under this subtitle –
    - (a) information pertaining to the expenditure of such Federal funds received under this subtitle; and,
    - (b) any funds matched to Federal funds received under this subtitle;
  - (5) encourage economic viability and sustainability that is consistent with the purposes of the Heritage Area.
- (B) Authorities- To further the purposes of the Heritage Area, the local coordinating entity may –
- (1) use federal funds made available under this subtitle to make grants to political jurisdictions,

- nonprofit organizations, and other parties within the National Heritage Area;
  - (2) enter into cooperative agreements with or provide technical assistance to political jurisdictions, nonprofit organizations, federal agencies, and other interested parties;
  - (3) hire and compensate staff, including individuals with expertise in—
    - (a) natural, historical, cultural, educational, scenic, and recreational resource conservation;
    - (b) economic and community development; and
    - (c) heritage and interpretive planning;
  - (4) obtain funds or services from any source, including other federal programs;
  - (5) contract for goods or services; and
  - (6) support activities that further the purposes of the Heritage Area and are consistent with the approved management plan.
- (C) Prohibition on Acquisition of Real Property- The local coordinating entity may not use Federal funds authorized under this subtitle to acquire any interest in real property, or to acquire land through condemnation.

### SECTION 9. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.

- (A) In General- Nothing in this subtitle affects the authority of a federal agency to provide technical or financial assistance under any other law.
- (B) Consultation and Coordination- Any federal agency planning to conduct activities that may have an impact on the Heritage Area is encouraged to consult and coordinate the activities with the local coordinating entity to the maximum extent practicable.
- (C) Other Federal Agencies- Nothing in this subtitle —
- (1) modifies, alters, or amends any law or regulation authorizing a federal agency to manage federal land under the jurisdiction of the federal agency;
  - (2) limits the discretion of a federal land manager to implement an approved land use plan within the boundaries of the Heritage Area; or
  - (3) modifies, alters, or amends any authorized use of federal land under the jurisdiction of a federal agency.

### SECTION 10. PRIVATE PROPERTY AND REGULATORY PROTECTIONS.

Nothing in this subtitle —

- (1) abridges the rights of any property owner (whether public or private), including the right to refrain from participating in any plan, project, program, or activity conducted within the Heritage Area;
- (2) requires any property owner to permit public access (including access by federal, state, tribal, or local agencies) to the property of the property owner, or to modify public access or use of property of the property owner under any other federal, state, tribal, or local law;
- (3) alters any duly adopted land use regulation, approved land use plan, or other regulatory authority (such as the authority to make safety improvements or increase the capacity of existing roads or to construct new roads) of any federal, state, tribal, or local agency, or conveys any land use or other regulatory authority to any local coordinating entity, including but not necessarily limited to development and management of energy or water or water-related infrastructure;
- (4) authorizes or implies the reservation or appropriation of water or water rights;
- (5) diminishes the authority of the State to manage fish and wildlife, including the regulation of fishing and hunting within the Heritage Area; or
- (6) creates any liability, or affects any liability under any other law, of any private property owner.



### SECTION 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

- (A) Authorization of Appropriations- Subject to subsection 6 (C), there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subtitle not more than \$1,000,000 for any fiscal year. Funds so appropriated shall remain available until expended.
- (B) Limitation on Total Amounts Appropriated- Not more than \$15,000,000 may be appropriated to carry out this subtitle.
- (C) Cost-Sharing Requirement- The federal share of the total cost of activity under this subtitle shall be not more than 50 percent; the non-federal contribution may be in the form of in-kind contributions of goods or services fairly valued.

### SECTION 12. USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS FROM OTHER SOURCES.

Nothing in this subtitle shall preclude the local coordinating entity from using federal funds available under other laws for the purposes for which those funds were authorized.

### SECTION 13. SUNSET FOR GRANTS AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.

The authority of the Secretary to provide financial assistance under this subtitle terminates on the date that is 20 years after the date of enactment of this subtitle.

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**Natural Resources**  
Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands

Caring for  
your natural resources  
... now and forever

November 28, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti:

I am writing to express the Washington State Department Natural Resources' (DNR) enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

DNR has taken a leadership role with the Mountains to Sound Greenway. I serve on the Greenway Trust Board of Directors, as has every Public Lands Commissioner since the organization's founding in 1991. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist DNR in our role of efficiently managing public lands. We believe this designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

Sincerely,

  
Peter Goldmark  
Commissioner of Public Lands

1111 WASHINGTON ST SE ■ MS 47001 ■ OLYMPIA, WA 98504-7001

TEL (360) 902-1000 ■ FAX (360) 902-1775 ■ TTY (360) 902-1125 ■ TRS 711 ■ [WWW.DNR.WA.GOV](http://WWW.DNR.WA.GOV)

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER





## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



**Washington State  
Department of Transportation**  
**Paula J. Hammond, P.E.**  
Secretary of Transportation

**Transportation Building**  
310 Maple Park Avenue S.E.  
P.O. Box 47300  
Olympia, WA 98504-7300  
360-705-7000  
TTY: 1-800-833-6388  
[www.wsdot.wa.gov](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov)

November 29, 2011

Ms. Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti:

The Washington Department of Transportation supports the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

The Department of Transportation has taken a leadership role with the Mountains to Sound Greenway. I serve on the Greenway Trust board of directors, as has every Secretary of Transportation since 1991. The Greenway embodies multiple benefits by achieving a balance between nature and man-made structures. It is appropriate that the stretch of Interstate-90 wending through this landscape was the first interstate highway designated as a National Scenic Byway.

I believe that National Heritage Area designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further develop a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model that has proven its own success.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Paula J. Hammond'.

Paula J. Hammond, P.E.  
Secretary of Transportation

PJH:jaa

cc: Mark Rupp, Gov Office  
Steve Reinmuth, WSDOT  
Allison Camden, WSDOT  
Kathleen Davis, WSDOT

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Don Hoch  
Director



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

1111 Israel Road SW • P.O. Box 42650 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2650  
(360) 902-8500 • Washington Telecommunications Relay Service at (800) 833-6388  
[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)

November 28, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

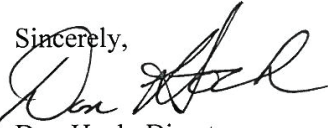
I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and a National Heritage Area designation is fitting recognition.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is one of several federal, state, and local public land managers with holdings in the proposed Natural Heritage Area (NHA). Within the proposed NHA, State Parks operates seven large day-use and camping parks and a 67-mile stretch of the agency's cross-state John Wayne Pioneer Trail, a converted rail corridor that forms the "spine" of the Greenway's non-motorized trail network.

State Parks staff worked closely with the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and government partners during the exploratory stage of the NHA designation process. Through this work your organization has demonstrated a remarkable capacity to bring disparate private and public interests together and unite them in a commitment to conserving the Greenway's natural and cultural heritage.

As part of statewide park planning, State Parks has developed land use plans for parks throughout the Greenway. Our plans mesh seamlessly with the purpose of Natural Heritage Area designation. I believe NHA designation will further coalesce the many interests in the Greenway into a cohesive story and continue to promote consensus-based stewardship of it.

Twenty years of partnership and effort have laid a firm foundation for formal recognition of this iconic area and achieving the Mountains to Sound Greenway vision. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,  
  
Don Hoch, Director



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



---

[Organization Name]  
8130 Railroad Ave. Po Box 969  
Snoqualmie, WA 98065

P: 425.888.6551

F: 425.888.6727

[Www.SnoqualmieNation.Com](http://www.SnoqualmieNation.Com)

---

October 27, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway overlaps the traditional aboriginal territory of the Snoqualmie people. This geographic region is intertwined with the history of the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe. The National Heritage Area designation is an appropriate designation for such a rich regional environment. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway – a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has

**Snoqualmie Tribal Council:** Shelley Burch (Chairwoman), MaryAnne Hinzman (Vice Chair), Nina Repin (Tribal Secretary), Margaret Mullen (Treasurer). **Council Members** JoAnne Dominick, Ray Mullen, Robert Hinzman, Frances de los Angeles and **Council Alternates** Jake Repin & Jolene Williams. **Lifetime Elder** Katherine Barker. **Tribal Chiefs** Andy de los Angeles, Nathan (Pat) Barker & Jerry Enick.

yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

THE SNOQUALMIE INDIAN TRIBE



Matthew Mattson  
Tribal Administrator

**Snoqualmie Tribal Council:** Shelley Burch (Chairwoman), MaryAnne Hinzman (Vice Chair), Nina Repin (Tribal Secretary), Margaret Mullen (Treasurer). **Council Members** JoAnne Dominick, Ray Mullen, Robert Hinzman, Frances de los Angeles and **Council Alternates** Jake Repin & Jolene Williams. **Lifetime Elder** Katherine Barker. **Tribal Chiefs** Andy de los Angeles, Nathan (Pat) Barker & Jerry Enick.



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



### King County

**Dow Constantine**

King County Executive  
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104-1818

**206-263-9600** Fax 206-296-0194  
TTY Relay: 711  
[www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

November 29, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express King County's enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

King County has taken a leadership role with the Mountains to Sound Greenway since its inception. I serve on the Greenway Trust board of directors, as has every King County Executive since the organization's founding in 1991.

Natural Heritage Area designation will help to coalesce the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway, a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. The Greenway acts as a bridge between rural and urban areas, and ties together a wide range of interests to conserve, manage, and improve the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation can help King County to more effectively and efficiently carry out our role in protecting working farm and forest land, safeguarding the environment, and managing a regional network of trails and open spaces.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area.



*King County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer  
and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act*

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Cynthia Welti  
November 29, 2011  
Page 2

I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dow Constantine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dow Constantine  
King County Executive



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



**King County**

**Larry Phillips**

Councilmember, District Four

**Metropolitan King County Council**

March 19, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 523  
Seattle, WA, 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I wish to voice my strong support for the Mountains to Sound Greenway's designation as a National Heritage Area. As you know, I am an Advisory Board member and long time supporter of the Greenway's preservation, and the work the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust has done to protect this iconic land is laudable. Please add me to your official list of supporters for the designation effort.

Further, I am pleased to announce that today the King County Council unanimously approved the enclosed legislation (Motion 2012-0105), urging Congress to designate the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. I look forward to seeing Congress approve the designation of the Greenway and to continued enjoyment of the beautiful trails and views found in the Greenway. I have worked throughout my career to help secure and conserve lands that make up the Greenway because they are so critical to the heritage and sustainability of our region and nation. I am confident that designating the Greenway as a National Heritage Area will strengthen preservation efforts in the corridor.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway provides some of the most beautiful landscapes in our nation, so it is fitting for designation as a National Heritage Area. I am honored to be part of your work to preserve lands within the I-90 corridor. Thank you for the work you and everyone at the Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust have done to preserve and protect the Greenway over many years.

Sincerely,

Larry Phillips, Councilmember  
Metropolitan King County Council, District Four

Enclosure

King County Courthouse, 516 Third Avenue Room 1200, Seattle, WA 98104 206-296-1004

Fax 206-296-0370 TTY 206-296-1024 larry.phillips@kingcounty.gov www.kingcounty.gov/phillips



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



King County

### King County

1200 King County  
Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

#### Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 2012-0105    **Version:** 1    **Name:**

**Type:** Motion    **Status:** Passed

**File created:** 3/5/2012    **In control:** Transportation, Economy and Environment Committee

**On agenda:**    **Final action:** 3/19/2012

**Enactment date:**    **Enactment #:** 13647

**Title:** A MOTION supporting efforts of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to gain designation as a National Heritage Area and urging Congress to approve such designation.

**Sponsors:** Reagan Dunn, Larry Phillips, Bob Ferguson, Jane Hague, Larry Gossett, Julia Patterson, Kathy Lambert, Pete von Reichbauer

**Indexes:**

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:** 2012-0105 Staff Report - Mts to Sound (3-6-12).doc

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/19/2012	1	Metropolitan King County Council		
3/6/2012	1	Transportation, Economy and Environment Committee	Recommended Do Pass	Pass
3/5/2012	1	Metropolitan King County Council	Introduced and Referred	

Drafter

Clerk 03/01/2012

Title

A MOTION supporting efforts of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to gain designation as a National Heritage Area and urging Congress to approve such designation.

Body

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Issaquah Alps Trails Club led a citizens march from Snoqualmie Pass to the Seattle waterfront to dramatize the need for a greenway plan, and

WHEREAS, in 1991, the nonprofit Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust was formed, still governed to this day by a sixty-member board of directors representing a diversity of conservation, development, businesses and local, state and federal interests, with the goal of creating a one-hundred-mile-long Greenway along



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

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File #: 2012-0105, Version: 1

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Interstate 90 from the Seattle waterfront and across the Cascades, and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Federal Highway Administration designated the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Scenic Byway, wherein certain roads receive recognition from the U.S. Department of Transportation based on archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities, and

WHEREAS, today within its 1.5 million acres, more than nine hundred thousand acres of land are publicly owned, from city parks to expansive public forests, more than one hundred thousand acres are conserved as permanent forests and farms in private ownership, there are over one thousand six hundred miles of recreational trails, twenty-eight cities and 1.8 million people, and

WHEREAS, the greenway is often heralded as a national model for conservation and land use, showcasing successful efforts weaving together the urban and the wild landscapes of the 1.5 million acres surrounding Interstate 90, including the fifteenth-largest metropolis in the United States, and

WHEREAS, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust has been uniquely successful in acting as a shepherd for the greenway and that it has the capacity and the support needed to be the local coordinating entity for the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area, and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust board announced a plan to gain National Heritage Area designation for the greenway - a federal designation meant to highlight a unique feature or local history, and

WHEREAS, while there are currently forty-nine National Heritage Areas, the designation of the greenway would be the first in Washington state, and

WHEREAS, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust began the effort by first identifying and cataloging the stories that shape its heritage, and then hosting more than one hundred forty public meetings from which there emerged a clear consensus from over one thousand stakeholders that the greenway will benefit enormously from such a designation, and

WHEREAS, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust released a draft feasibility study dated January

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

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File #: 2012-0105, Version: 1

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2012, and

WHEREAS, National Heritage Areas are designated by Congress as landscapes wherein historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, heritage tourism and educational projects can be more easily supported through public-private partnerships, and

WHEREAS, a National Heritage Area is not a unit of the U.S. National Park Service, and no land is owned, managed or regulated by the U.S. National Park Service, which acts rather to provide advisory and technical assistance and distribute matching federal funds from Congress to National Heritage Area entities, and

WHEREAS, National Heritage Area designation of the greenway would provide increased access to private funds and federal matching funds and technical assistance from the U.S. National Park Service, and

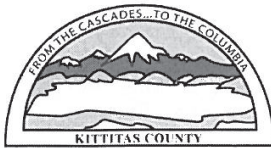
WHEREAS, while National Heritage Area designation for the greenway could increase public awareness of and strengthen conservation efforts within the greenway, the designation does not affect private property rights, legislate new public lands or add land-use regulations or more regulatory authority for lands within the greenway;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

The council supports and endorses the efforts of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to gain official recognition for the greenway, and urges Congress to designate the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



Kittitas County, Washington  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

District One  
Paul Jewell

District Two  
Alan Crankovich

District Three  
Obie O'Brien

November 7, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountians to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

We are writing to express our support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

Half of the Mountains to Sound Greenway is in Kittitas County and the County has been involved with the Greenway coalition for 20 years. In Kittitas, we struggle with balancing recreational access to our natural areas with a need to protect private property rights and grow our economy. It is our understanding that National Heritage Area designation will not affect private property rights, nor legislate new public lands, but does have the potential to create a framework that will assist us in Kittitas County in our goal of preserving a strong quality of life and growing our economic base. Designation could cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway a model proven successful by the achievements of the greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

We have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded great successes in conserving, managing and enhancing recreational access. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, strong economies, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I encourage the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let us know if there is any way we can assist as you work with our congressional delegation on this.

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Jewell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Jewell  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alan Crankovich', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alan Crankovich  
Vice-Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Obie O'Brien', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Obie O'Brien  
Commissioner



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

City of  
Bellevue



Post Office Box 90012 ■ Bellevue, Washington ■ 98009 9012

October 25, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

This letter is to express my strong support for providing Natural Heritage Area designation for the Mountains to Sound Greenway. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is an extraordinary success story of community involvement that has coalesced around preserving and enhancing this nationally significant corridor.

As Planning Director for the City of Bellevue, I am very familiar with the benefits of the Mountains to Sound Greenway. The City of Bellevue includes approximately five miles of the I-90 corridor, virtually from Lake Sammamish to Lake Washington, and forms a key linkage in the Greenway vision. Consistent with Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan, the Greenway emphasizes the strong interaction between the outstanding natural environment and the cultural and built environment of the City. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is recognized in Bellevue's Parks and Open Space System Plan. Its advancement is seen as a critical character-enhancing element of the Eastgate/I-90 corridor planning study currently underway. Clearly the Mountains to Sound Greenway for Bellevue is strongly linked to preserving and enhancing community character, quality of life, and economic development, while connecting us to a larger regional vision.

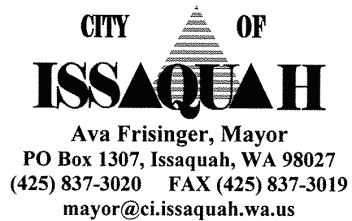
After twenty years, the Mountains to Sound Greenway vision has matured to a point where it deserves formal national recognition. The Greenway meets the criteria of having nationally distinctive natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources that, when linked together, tell a unique story about our country. Natural Heritage designation will help advance this very successful, community-driven and collaborative process into the next decades.

I look forward to following the progress of the Greenway Trust in advancing the Natural Heritage Area designation proposal. Please let me know if I can provide assistance as the proposal moves forward through our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

Dan Stroh  
Planning Director

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



October 31, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Issaquah, my city is part of the Greenway and home to many popular, highly used trails. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist Issaquah in our goal of wild land protection and outdoor recreation. I believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway, a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last twenty years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

This is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

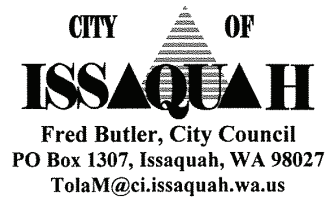
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ava Frisinger".

Ava Frisinger, Mayor  
City of Issaquah



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



November 2, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Issaquah, my city is part of the Greenway and home to many popular, highly used trails. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist Issaquah in our goal of wild land protection and outdoor recreation. I believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway, a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last twenty years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

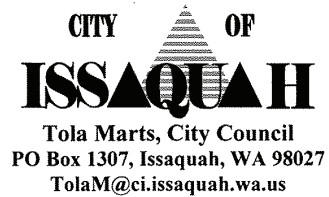
This is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Fred Butler  
Issaquah City Council

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



November 1, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

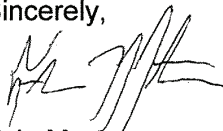
I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Issaquah, my city is part of the Greenway and home to many popular, highly used trails. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist Issaquah in our goal of wild land protection and outdoor recreation. I believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway, a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last twenty years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

This is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

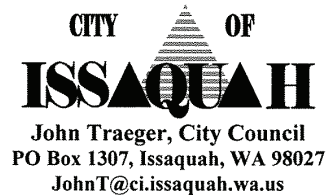
Sincerely,



Tola Marts  
Issaquah City Council / Chair  
Council Land and Shore Committee



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



November 2, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Issaquah, my city is part of the Greenway and home to many popular, highly used trails. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist Issaquah in our goal of wild land protection and outdoor recreation. I believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway, a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last twenty years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

This is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

John Traeger  
Issaquah City Council President

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



**CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON**  
9611 SE 36th Street • Mercer Island, WA 98040-3732  
(206) 275-7793 • [www.mercergov.org](http://www.mercergov.org)

March 7, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Cynthia,

As a city within the Mountains to Sound Greenway, Mercer Island shares the vision of a connected landscape extending from the shores of Puget Sound, across the Cascade crest and into the central portion of Washington State, providing scenic beauty, outstanding recreation and a high quality of life for this region.

Mercer Island has been an active supporter of the Mountains to Sound Greenway coalition. City officials have served on the Greenway board of directors. City planning and parks department staff have worked collaboratively on projects that improve recreation access and wildlife habitat, including building new trails and removing invasive species in City parks. City event planners have also worked with Greenway staff and volunteers to promote tourism and both city and regional events.

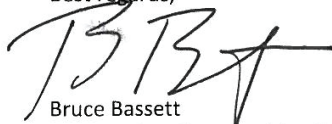
Mercer Island has realized many benefits from this alliance. Residents and visitors alike benefit from invasive weed removal and native tree planting at Luther Burbank Park-- our signature natural area and active park on the east shore of the island. The Mercer Island Lid Park that places Interstate 90 in a tunnel with park land above is often cited as a nationally-significant feature along the I-90 National Scenic Byway. Greenway volunteers and conservation corps crews partner with Mercer Island parks staff for ecological restoration and trail building and maintenance in other city parks, including Pioneer Park and the new trail in the 53rd Street greenbelt. Greenway promotion of events and tourism opportunities further strengthens economic vitality and citizen engagement in our city.

Personally, I am committed to the preservation of this regional asset. At the local level, I am a supporter of our local parks and open spaces. Farther afield, I am a climber of many of the peaks along the Greenway, a hiker of miles of trails and a biker in the cross-state trail in Iron Horse State Park.

Now the Greenway has identified National Heritage Area designation as a key way to officially recognize this broad landscape and bring together the diverse communities as part of a cohesive story.

In my personal capacity as an active user of the resources of this area and in my official capacity as Mayor of Mercer Island, I hereby affirm support for National Heritage Area designation for the Mountains to Sound Greenway. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to assist you in this effort.

Best regards,

  
Bruce Bassett  
Mayor, City of Mercer Island



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



February 21, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist the City of North Bend in our goal of preserving rural character and natural beauty as well as promoting tourism. I believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. I strongly support this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Hearing", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Kenneth Hearing  
Mayor, City of North Bend

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



February 21, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist the City of North Bend in our goal of preserving rural character and natural beauty as well as promoting tourism. I believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. I strongly support this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dee Williamson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dee" being more prominent.

Dee Williamson  
Councilmember, City of North Bend





**City of Seattle**  
Office of the Mayor

November 10, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

While it's known nationally for its thriving economy and culture, as well as its green ethic, the City of Seattle recognizes that some of Seattle's greatest assets waterways, forests, and mountains of which surround the city. It is the combination of urban vitality and bountiful regional natural amenities that attracts national businesses and adds to the quality of life for city, county, and state residents. The National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist the City of Seattle in our goal of increasing the density and livability of our City in such a way that our region's natural beauty is preserved. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

Office of the Mayor  
Seattle City Hall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
600 Fourth Avenue  
PO Box 94749  
Seattle, WA 98124-4749

Tel (206) 684-4000  
Fax (206) 684-5360  
[www.seattle.gov/mayor](http://www.seattle.gov/mayor)  
[mike.mcginns@seattle.gov](mailto:mike.mcginns@seattle.gov)

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

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Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael McGinn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a period at the end.

Michael McGinn  
Mayor of the City of Seattle

Copy: Jill Simmons, Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



**Sally Bagshaw**  
Seattle City Councilmember

December 7, 2011

Cynthia Welte  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welte,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I am an elected member of the City Council for the City of Seattle. In this role, my primary committee assignment is our Department of Parks and Recreation. The City recognizes the importance of parks, open space, and green connections to our quality of life. Connecting our city to the Greenway – thereby allowing our residents and visitors to have the unparalleled opportunity to reach our foothills and mountains by foot and by bike – is one of my personal goals for our city. But recreation is not the only reason to protect and preserve our Greenway.

I have been a long time supporter and advocate for the Mountains to Sound Greenway. Since the early 90's I worked for Metro, the local agency responsible for our sewers and wastewater. At that time I was a staff attorney negotiating with the Greenway founders for a way to recycle our urban solid waste. Jim Ellis – the brains and brawn behind Mountains to Sound -- smartly realized that our local forests could benefit from the urban sewer waste that was first treated through anaerobic digesters, the product with came to be known as biosolids.

Under the guidance of our university researchers, biosolids were carefully tested and spread on our forests within a few miles of Seattle to encourage tree growth, and our region benefited in a myriad of ways: We now locally dispose of and beneficially re-use our urban

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City Hall 600 Fourth Avenue, Floor 2, PO Box 34025, Seattle, WA 98124-4025

(206) 684-8801, Fax: (206) 684-8587, TTY: (206) 233-0025

E-Mail Address: [sally.bagshaw@seattle.gov](mailto:sally.bagshaw@seattle.gov)

Internet Address: <http://www.seattle.gov/council/bagshaw/>

An EEO employer. Accommodations for people with disabilities provided upon request.

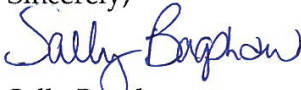
## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

sewer waste to encourage healthy tree growth which in turn helps clean our air and reduce run-off. Because portions of the Greenway are working forests, enhanced tree growth results in economic benefits for our region, too. This is a brilliant solution for a growing region and one which we can continue for future generations thanks to our Greenway.

The Mountain to Sound Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded important successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. The National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time to promote the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Sally Bagshaw



## APPENDIX 5- LETTERS OF SUPPORT



January 5, 2012

Ms. Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and receiving the National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The City of Shoreline has been the beneficiary of the Greenway's partnership in improving one of our local parks by removing invasive species and planting native trees and shrubs in order to return identified areas to a more natural state. The National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will assist the City of Shoreline in our goal of encouraging a healthy natural environment as an important part of creating an environmentally sustainable community. This designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

I commend the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust for pursuing this important designation and if the City of Shoreline can provide additional support please contact Dick Deal, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director at (206) 801-2601.

Sincerely,

Keith A. McGlashan, Mayor

Cc: Shoreline City Council  
Julie T. Underwood, City Manager  
Dick Deal, PRCS Director

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



April 24, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

On behalf of the Puget Sound Regional Council, I am writing in support of the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is an important component of VISION 2040, the region's integrated, long-range strategy for promoting the well-being of people and communities, economic vitality, and a healthy environment. As such, PSRC has provided \$4.2 million in funding to various aspects of the Greenway program to help realize the region's vision for a sustainable future.

Designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area will further highlight the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of preserving dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, healthy ecosystems, productive farms and forests, vibrant historic sites and a wealth of cultural attractions. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. I strongly support this effort. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Drewel".

Bob Drewel, Executive Director  
Puget Sound Regional Council



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



TEL 206.296.7580  
V/TTY 206.296.8574  
FAX 206.296.8629

101 PREFONTAINE PLACE SOUTH

SEATTLE WA 98104

[WWW.4CULTURE.ORG](http://WWW.4CULTURE.ORG)

September 16, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

4Culture, King County's cultural services agency, is very aware of the cultural assets within the Greenway and works to promote arts and heritage organizations and cultural activities to the general public. The area encompassed within the Greenway is rich in history. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist 4Culture in our goal of promoting and sustaining the assets that make the area unique. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Jim Kelly  
Executive Director

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



ALPINE LAKES  
protection society

P. O. Box 27646  
Seattle, WA 98165  
October 29, 2011

Ms. Cynthia Welti, Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Cynthia:

As an organization that shares similar interests with the Trust in the Snoqualmie and Yakima River drainages from North Bend to Cle Elum, the Alpine Protection Society (aka ALPS) supports the Trust's efforts to have Congress declare the Greenway a National Heritage Area per your map.

While extensive clearcutting on private inholdings had left many scars along the I-90 corridor, public acquisition of such lands through the efforts of the Greenway, ALPS and others has helped these lands recover and gradually return to their natural conditions. The agreements reached among the Greenway members have minimized further developments along the corridor.

This corridor also contains a great amount of history, from Native American tribes traveling across the mountains to cattle trails, railroads (some now converted to trails), old highways and an interstate. Memories of the old routes and activities need to be retained, and the best way to do this is to have the corridor officially declared a National Heritage Area.

Please keep us informed of the progress in this matter and let us know what more ALPS can do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick McGuire". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rick" and last name "McGuire" clearly legible.

Rick McGuire  
President

By default the Alpine Lakes are here...by design they will remain.



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



April 25, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express American Rivers' enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

American Rivers works to protect and restore our nation's rivers and streams. Among our priorities in the Northwest is protecting the rivers and watersheds on both sides of Snoqualmie Pass. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist American Rivers in our goal of protecting and restoring the Yakima and Snoqualmie rivers and their fish and wildlife. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway and surrounding watersheds—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of preserving dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, healthy ecosystems, productive farms and forests, vibrant historic sites and a wealth of cultural attractions. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. American Rivers strongly supports this effort. Please let me know if there is any way we can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Garrity", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael Garrity  
Washington State Conservation Director

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



Thomas O'Keefe, PhD  
Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director  
3537 NE 87<sup>th</sup> St.  
Seattle, WA 98115  
[oakeefe@americanwhitewater.org](mailto:oakeefe@americanwhitewater.org)

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Cynthia,

I am writing to express our organization's enthusiastic support for designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

American Whitewater is a national non-profit 501(c)(3) river conservation organization founded in 1954. Among our original founding clubs was the Washington Kayak Club whose members have enjoyed the river-based recreational opportunities in the Greenway for well over 60 years. We have over 5500 individual members and 100 local-based affiliate clubs, representing whitewater paddlers across the nation. American Whitewater's mission is to conserve and restore America's whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely. American Whitewater has an interest in the rivers of the Greenway that include the Snoqualmie, Cedar, and Yakima as well as their tributaries that support some of the most spectacular whitewater resources in the nation in close proximity to a major population center. A significant percentage of American Whitewater members reside in Washington State—a short driving distance from these rivers for recreation.

Among our goals for the Greenway are the long-term conservation of the rivers and enhancement of the recreational experience they provide. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist our organization's goals and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued stewardship of the Greenway and its river resources.

As an active member of the coalition of groups represented by the Mountains to Sound Greenway, we have witnessed first-hand the benefits of collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations that has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. Specifically we have been able to work collaboratively on both river conservation projects as well as initiatives designed to improve public access to the water. These efforts have both protected and enhanced the quality of the recreational experience the Greenway rivers provide and would not have been possible without the active role the Greenway serves in encouraging collaboration among stakeholders. National Heritage Area designation will build on our existing partnerships and



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

The past 20 years of success have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. We support the efforts of the Greenway in establishing a National Heritage Area as the most effective approach to formalizing the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. O'Keefe', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Thomas O'Keefe, PhD  
Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



January 24, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

The Tahoma Chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington is thrilled that the Mountains to Sound Greenway is seeking National Heritage Status for the Greenway. The Tahoma Chapter supports the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The Tahoma Chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen is the largest of 34 chapters in the state of Washington. Our members live in King, Kittitas, and Pierce Counties. The mission of the Backcountry Horsemen is to keep trails open for stock (horse and mule) use. We accomplish our mission in many ways including partnering with other user groups and landowners/land managers to keep the trails open while protecting and enhancing the environment and wildlife habitat.

National Heritage Area designation will create frameworks that will greatly the Backcountry Horse in our goal of working with others to keep the trails open and appealing to future generations. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

Our members ride trails throughout the Mountains to Sound Greenway footprint. We not only appreciate the Greenway's role of consensus building but look to the Greenway to help us understand ways to help new generations love the land as much as we do. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

The foundation put in place by the Greenway is an excellent one on which to build dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, and healthy ecosystems. Formal recognition of this iconic area is a necessary step for us to meet our mission while supporting others in their efforts. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

*joan burlingame*

joan burlingame  
President  
Tahoma Chapter, Backcountry Horsemen



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



3600 15<sup>th</sup> Ave W #101  
Seattle WA 98119  
206.675.9747  
[www.conservationnw.org](http://www.conservationnw.org)

November 27, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

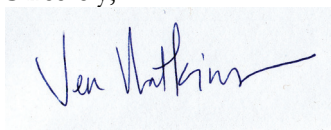
Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express our organization's support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Conservation Northwest has a long history of working on protecting, connecting, and restoring the lands in this ecoregion, from the dry ponderosa pine forests of the east Cascades to the huge Douglas fir and moist western hemlock stands on in the west Cascades. We have a long-term vision to connect and protect wildlife habitat in Washington. Washington's Central Cascades play a key role in fulfilling our mission, as this landscape is a critical connection between the north and south Cascades. We administered The Cascades Conservation Partnership, which was a four-year project (2000-2004) that inspired more than 16,000 people to give \$16 million to protect 45,000 acres of checkerboard forest land lying between the Alpine Lakes and Mount Rainier. We followed this campaign by launching and administering the I-90 Wildlife Bridges Coalition, which is working with Washington Department of Transportation to address the remaining largest barrier to wildlife connectivity in this area – Interstate 90. Through our National Forest Program, we work outside of large scale campaigns on restoration of the habitat within the I-90 corridor by thinning plantations and restoring unnecessary roads on national forest lands. To help ensure this work is coordinated on the east side of the mountains, we host the Upper Yakima Watershed Action Group to bring people that work towards restoration within this landscape together to leverage our efforts.

We believe the National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will benefit this important landscape by recognizing its unique value ecologically and socially. The Greenway's collaboration between agencies, non-profits, and elected officials has provided a vital forum for discussing and moving forward efforts on this landscape. We value this approach and the role that the Greenway plays, and we believe this designation will help ensure collaboration on this landscape continues into the future.

Sincerely,



Jen Watkins  
[jwatkins@conservationnw.org](mailto:jwatkins@conservationnw.org)



6310 NE 74th Street  
Suite 201E  
Seattle, WA 98115  
tel 206.322.9296  
fax 206.322.9312  
info@earthcorps.org  
www.earthcorps.org

January 12, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express EarthCorps' wholehearted support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Since our founding in 1993, EarthCorps has partnered with The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust on environmental restoration and community engagement projects. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist the efforts of organizations in our region to preserve and restore The Mountains to Sound Greenway and maximize public participation in this process as well as public enjoyment of the Greenway. I believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area.

I urge the Greenway Trust to move this proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Dubiel", is written over a series of horizontal lines.

Steve Dubiel  
Executive Director  
EarthCorps



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



[www.evergreenMTB.org](http://www.evergreenMTB.org)  
sustainable trails • rider powered

October 23, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is Washington State's largest mountain bike advocacy and trails organization with over 6,000 supporters statewide. As a volunteer-driven non-profit we have provided thousands of hours of labor and other support to public land managers within the Greenway to maintain and expand opportunities for mountain biking. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist Evergreen in meeting the rapidly growing demand for our form of low-impact, human-powered recreation.

We believe that recreation is a critical element of connecting communities with the outdoors and providing the foundation for healthy, well-balanced living. To that end the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Now is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Increasing pressures from development and growing populations will bring new challenges to the Greenway and NHA designation will be an important tool for finding balanced solutions. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn Glover". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Glenn Glover  
Executive Director

*Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Tax ID: 91-1553023.*

418 NE 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Seattle, WA 98115

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

**MAIN OFFICE**  
615 2nd Ave, Ste 600  
Seattle, WA 98104

T 206 292 5907  
F 206 292 4765  
E [info@forterra.org](mailto:info@forterra.org)

**FORTERRA**

formerly known as  
Cascade Land Conservancy

February 17, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, Washington 98104

Dear Cynthia,

I am writing to express Forterra's enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a nationally recognized success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting way to acknowledge and sustain this. Such a designation will further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years. It is yet another means of achieving the goals of the Cascade Agenda.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. We at Forterra have worked closely with the Greenway on key land conservation projects that protect habitat connectivity for wildlife, provide open space for people, and sustain working farms and forests, as well as innovative programs to build great communities. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will

**FORTERRA.ORG**

Printed on 100% recycled paper with vegetable-based inks



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing an official forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Now is the time to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy vibrant ecosystems. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area proposal forward to Congress. Please let me know if I can assist as you work with our delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Duvernoy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gene Duvernoy  
President

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

MAIN OFFICE  
615 2nd Ave, Ste 600  
Seattle, WA 98104

T 206 292 5907  
F 206 292 4765  
E [info@forterra.org](mailto:info@forterra.org)



November 28, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, Washington 98104

Dear Cynthia,

I am writing to express Forterra's enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a nationally recognized success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting way to acknowledge and sustain this. Such a designation will further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years. It is yet another means of achieving the goals of the *Cascade Agenda*, the 100-year regional vision and action plan that drives our work.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. We at Forterra have worked closely with the Greenway on key land conservation projects that protect habitat connectivity for wildlife, provide open space for people, and sustain working farms and forests, as well as innovative programs to build great communities. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing an official forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Now is the time to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy vibrant ecosystems. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area proposal forward to Congress. Please let me know if I can assist as you work with our delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Connor".

Michelle Connor  
Chief Programs Officer  
Executive Vice President



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



125 WEST SUNSET WAY  
ISSAQUAH, WA 98027  
OFFICE 425 392 1118  
FAX 425 392 3180  
WWW.ISSAQUAHFISH.ORG

January 5, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery (FISH) to express the support of our organization and our 187 members for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

FISH is an organization that advocates for the retention and improvement of the historic Issaquah Salmon Hatchery and is dedicated to promoting watershed stewardship through education. The Mountains to Sound Greenway proposed Heritage Area is our watershed and supports the ecosystem that sustains life for the salmon in the waters of Issaquah Creek. We are located in the center of the Greenway Area. Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist FISH in our goals of educating the public, and most specifically school children, about the importance of good stewardship of the land.

We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway – a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems, values also held by FISH. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. We urge the Greenway Trust to move this proposal forward.

Sincerely,

Jane C. Kuechle, Executive Director

On Behalf of the Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery Board of Directors

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



SCHOOL OF LAW  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

### GreenLaw Environmental Law Society

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

November 3, 2011

Dear Cynthia,

I am writing to express GreenLaw's and my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Greenway is a nationally distinctive region with inspiring stories to tell current and future generations. National Heritage Area designation would be fitting recognition for this special landscape.

GreenLaw is the University of Washington School of Law's environmental law society. We seek to promote student involvement in environmental law through education, outreach, and advocacy. By partnering with attorneys and organizations committed to solving current environmental law issues, we connect students with experts in the field.

The Seattle area is a mecca of environmental law for many reasons, not the least of which is this region's heritage of a strong connection between people and nature. Our legacy of parks, trails, and open spaces, combined with livable communities and a globally competitive economy, has been sculpted by this bond with the natural world. We believe that memorializing this special relationship is an important step for engaging future leaders in the environmental field.

Now is the opportune time for formalizing the principles of cooperative stewardship, sustainable development, and public engagement that have guided Greenway successes over the past 20 years. On behalf of GreenLaw, I urge the Greenway Trust to move forward with this proposal.

Sincerely,

Oliver Stiefel  
GreenLaw Board Member



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



**PO Box 351 Issaquah, WA 98027**

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

October 3, 2011

Dear Ms. Welti,

I write to express Issaquah Alps Trails Club's (IATC) enthusiastic support for designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story. National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this and a measure to ensure this success is sustained in the future.

IATC pioneered the Greenway concept, but the immensity of the work needed to bring cities, agencies, businesses, organizations and individuals together was beyond our capacity as a local group fostering parks, open space, sustainable timberlands, and hiking trails. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist IATC in our goals. We believe designation will cement managerial approaches across the Greenway cohesively and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition.

As active supporters of the Greenway coalition, we have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and it is now time to gain formal recognition of as a National Heritage Area. Please IATC know if there is any way we can assist.

Sincerely,

Ken Konigsmark  
VP, Advocacy, IATC

### THE GREATER ISSAQUAH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE **Issaquah Salmon Days Festival**

---

December 16, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

**I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.** The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The Issaquah Salmon Days Festival has served as the Mountains to Sound Greenway Summer finale event for several years. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist the Issaquah Salmon Days Festival in our goal of sustainability and safe homecoming for the salmon that return from the ocean to our rivers and streams. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition and founding member of the Greenway Summer Organizing Committee, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

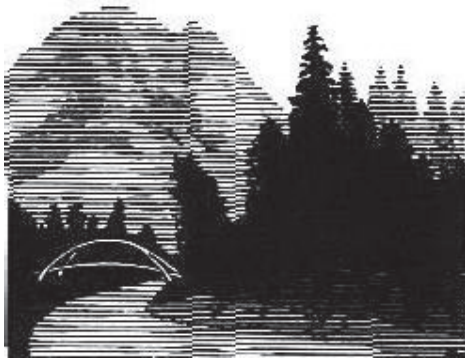
Ohfishally

  
Robin H. Kelley, CFEE  
Director of Festivals



155 NW Gilman Blvd • Issaquah, WA 98027  
(425) 392-0661 • FAX: (425) 392-8101  
email: [info@salmondays.org](mailto:info@salmondays.org) • [www.salmondays.org](http://www.salmondays.org)





## MidFORC

### Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition

6332 57<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.  
Seattle, WA 98118

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Dedicated to Recreation and Conservation on the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River

October 4, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to offer our strongest support for designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

Since the early 1990's we have worked with the Greenway coalition on dozens of projects in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. The coalition supported a valley-wide planning process, helped bring in funding for key land acquisitions, and led the way on restoration work throughout the watershed. This community effort continues on a wide range of recreation and restoration projects.

This sort of work has been going on throughout the Greenway for the past 20 years. The many successes are due to the depth and breadth of the coalition: land managers, elected officials from all levels of government, business leaders, community groups that range from the national to the local, and many individuals. We don't always agree on every detail, but we all share a vision of caring for the Greenway.

National Heritage Area designation will give us new tools to support and expand this effective community, and make sure it continues long after the current generation moves on. For now we have plenty of challenges – handling demand for more recreation opportunities while protecting natural areas, and supporting understaffed agencies as they struggle to maintain facilities, to name a few. National Heritage Area designation will help us solidify our gains and pull together the broadest possible community to solve such long-standing problems.

We have a great foundation. It's a perfect time for the Greenway Trust to take this next step.

Sincerely,

Mark Boyar  
MidFORC president

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



October 13, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

The Mountaineers would like to express our support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The National Heritage Area designation will bolster efforts to preserve the natural landscape and promote livable communities along the Mountains to Sound Greenway and will draw national attention to this innovative model of conservation.

The Mountaineers serves to enrich the lives of people by helping them explore, conserve, learn about, and enjoy the wild lands and waters of the Northwest. Our membership of nearly 10,000 outdoor recreationists extends across Western Washington but is concentrated in the Greater Seattle Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is our portal to an incredible slate of recreational outings and skill-building courses led by volunteer leaders. Each year, the Mountaineers hosts hundreds of hikes, climbs, trail work parties, and ski and snowshoe outings along the I-90 corridor. By enhancing regional efforts to steward the Mountains to Sound Greenway, the National Heritage Area designation will ensure that these high-quality recreational opportunities are available for the next generation of Mountaineers.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway coalition has proven that collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations can make impressive progress toward common goals. We believe that the National Heritage Area designation will further empower the Greenway coalition to provide continued care and improvement of the Greenway by offering new avenues for funding and partnerships.

The Mountaineers urges the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

Martinique Grigg  
Executive Director

7700 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115  
(206) 521-6000  
(206) 523-6763 fax



**The Mountaineers**

[www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org)



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



National Parks Conservation Association®  
*Protecting Our National Parks for Future Generations®*

March 19, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) is the oldest and largest non-profit dedicated to preserving and protecting our national parks. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist NPCA in our goal of in raising awareness of and support for the protection of our national parks. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway – a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of preserving dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, healthy ecosystems, productive farms and forests, vibrant historic sites and a wealth of cultural resources. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. We strongly support this effort. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

Sean Smith  
Policy Director

Northwest Regional Office  
1200 5th Avenue • Suite 1925 • Seattle, WA 98101  
206.903.1444 • Fax 206.903.1448 • [nwro@npca.org](mailto:nwro@npca.org) • [www.npca.org/northwest](http://www.npca.org/northwest)

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## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



### NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION®

Pacific Regional Center  
6 Nickerson Street, Suite 200  
Seattle WA 98109  
206-285-8707  
www.nwf.org

March 22, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express National Wildlife Federation's strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Founded in 1936, NWF has evolved into a premier grassroots conservation organization with four million members and supporters and 47 state-level affiliate organizations. NWF's mission is to inspire Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future. In addition to protecting and restoring wildlife and combating climate change, one of our signature campaigns -- Our Be Out There -- is focused on connecting people with nature, especially kids and families.

In the Pacific Northwest, our Be Out There campaign incorporates events, educational materials and programs to connect people with nature in a variety of ways: classroom curriculum on climate change; outdoor activities like Ranger Rick geocaching trails; Certified Wildlife Habitat programs; Habitat Ambassador and Habitat Steward volunteer programs; and events like Hike & Seek and Great American Backyard Campout that get families outside. We engage our nearly 90,000 Washington members, subscribers to our magazines and other supporters through these activities to send our message of protecting wildlife for our future.

National Heritage Area designation for the Mountains to Sound Greenway will add important public recognition to the enormously valuable outdoors space in the backyard of the Washington's largest metropolitan area. NWF supports that designation because it will add to our ability to execute program and encourage outdoors activity. It will also help provide a framework for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway.

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*NWF – Protecting wildlife for our children's future*



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

March 22, 2012

Page 2

The only way conservation progress is made is through collaboration and the efforts of people of disparate interests finding common ground. The Greenway has been enormously successful in bringing agencies, non-profits, landowners and business together to conserve, manage and improve our common resources. .

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of preserving dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, healthy ecosystems, productive farms and forests, vibrant historic sites and a wealth of cultural attractions. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. NWF strongly support this effort.

Please let me know how we can help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. Adams".

Jim Adams  
Regional Executive Director  
Pacific Regional Center  
National Wildlife Federation

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

**From:** Grace Stiller [gracestiller@comcast.net]

**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2012 2:37 PM

**To:** amy.brockhaus@mtsgreenway.org

**Subject:** NHA Support

The WA stat non-profit group Weed Warriors support the National Heritage Area designation of The Mountains to Sound Greenway.

<http://www.newcastleweedwarriors.org/>

Grace Stiller

President and founder of the Weed Warriors

Newcastle Earth Day Event Chairperson

[Earth Day in Newcastle](#) ~ Saturday, April 21st, 2012

[425.228.7927](#); Cell [206.795.5783](#)

“Think Globally, Act Locally”

Sustainability is the intersection of environmental health, economic prosperity, social justice, and stewardship of the planet's resources.

Being involved locally is a part of creating a sustainable global community for future generations.





October 4, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

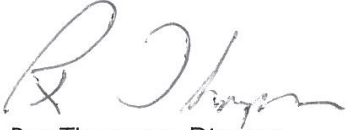
The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a regional and national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this. Such recognition will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of *synergy through partnerships* has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape and its communities. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing an official forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Now is a most opportune time to formalize the Greenway vision of thriving communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, and healthy vibrant ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an incredible foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if we can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R Thompson', written over a light gray horizontal line.

Rex Thompson, Director  
Partnership for Rural King County  
P. O. Box 1018  
Fall City, WA 98024

Cc:  
Jennifer Harrison-Cox, Executive Director PRKC



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



November 15, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

People For Puget Sound is working to protect and restore the Puget Sound Ecosystem. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist People For Puget Sound in our goal of showing how important healthy watersheds are to the long-term well-being of ecosystem. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway – a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

G. Thomas Bancroft, Ph.D.

PUGETSOUND.ORG

MAIN OFFICE

SOUTH SOUND

911 Western Avenue, Suite 580 • Seattle, WA 98104  
tel • 206.382.7007 fax • 206.382.7006  
email • people@pugetsound.org

120 East Union Avenue, Suite 204 • Olympia, WA 98501  
tel • 360.754.9177 fax • 360.534.9371  
email • southsound@pugetsound.org

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

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Gary Young, Vice Chair

21 November 2011

Ms. Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

On behalf of Rainier Scholars, I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Greenway is a national success story and National Heritage Area designation is an important, appropriate and necessary designation.

Rainier Scholars is the only long-term comprehensive college preparatory program for motivated and high-achieving youth of color in the greater-Seattle area. We intentionally serve those youth who are the most underrepresented in college and who have the most barriers to successfully entering and graduating from college. We are currently serving 430 scholars. Our scholars benefit from the Greenway in many ways. We explore the Greenway as part of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade science curriculum (chemistry and water quality) and seek to understand the effects that early settlers and subsequent development have had on the natural environment encompassed within the Greenway. Our scholars have served as interns with the Greenway and have participated in Greenway stewardship events.

I am active member of the Greenway Trust and I embrace the Trust's vision of careful planning for growth and development, preservation of natural resources and the resulting positive effects upon our regional economy and quality of life that is readily available for all to enjoy. The Trust employ's an effective model of collaboration, consensus and synergy which for over 20 years has resulted in remarkable success in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway.

The Greenway is a unique and valuable resource that needs to be promoted and sustained so that future generations can experience and benefit from its many attributes, including members of our communities of color who traditionally have not had the opportunity to explore and recreate outside of urban areas.

Now is the time to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. I urge the Greenway Trust to move forward with the proposal to obtain national Heritage Area designation. Please let me know how I can assist the Trust as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

  
Gordon A. McHenry, Jr.  
Executive Director



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

CONNECTING SEATTLE THROUGH PARKS AND GREEN SPACE



September 30, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Cynthia,

Seattle Parks Foundation is pleased to add our voice to the chorus of support for designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway has inspired area residents for the last two decades. Certainly, Seattle Parks Foundation's efforts to honor the Olmsted legacy and build out the city's system trails and green connections linking parks and neighborhoods is a smaller-scale echo of the extraordinary work of the Greenway.

A National Heritage Area designation would highlight the Greenway's success in connecting sites and communities all along the route. A National Heritage Area designation would acknowledge the cultural and environmental legacy of the Greenway—a 20 year-long commitment to healthy ecosystems, vibrant communities, and enhanced outdoor recreation activities.

On behalf of the Parks Foundation I ask the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thatcher Bailey".

Thatcher Bailey  
Executive Director

105 South Main Street, #235  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
206.332.9900  
seattleparksfoundation.org

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## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



*Trout Unlimited: America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation Organization*

April 27, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104


Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express Trout Unlimited's support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this history and goals for the future.

Trout Unlimited is a national organization with more than 10,000 members nationwide and 4,000 in the state of Washington. We have 10 national staff positions working locally in Washington State, 4 on the Westside and 6 in Eastern Washington. We work in local communities throughout Washington State on projects and policies to conserve, protect and restore coldwater fisheries and their habitats. We support the National Heritage Area designation as it will create a framework that will greatly assist Trout Unlimited in our goal of protecting and enhancing places for Washington citizens and its visitors to fish, hunt, and recreate. Trout Unlimited believes the designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway. The National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy and the fish and wildlife that live or migrate through its boundaries.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of preserving dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, healthy ecosystems, productive farms and forests, vibrant historic sites and a wealth of cultural attractions. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. We strongly support this effort.

Sincerely,

  
Lisa Pelly, Director  
Trout Unlimited Washington Water Project

---

*Washington Water Project*

103 Palouse, Suite 14 – Wenatchee, WA 98801  
(509) 888-0970 • Fax: (509) 888-4352 • [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org)

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



December 15, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The Trust for Public Land is a national conservation organization with a mission to conserve land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come. We have ongoing program work in and around the Greenway to save working lands, recreational opportunities and open space. A National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist us toward those objectives. I believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust was actually founded in our Seattle office in 1990 as we understood the need for conservation focus over this amazing landscape. So as an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

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Now is the time to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for official recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Mike Deller  
Washington State Director  
The Trust for Public Land

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



February 8, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express The Wilderness Society's enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The Wilderness Society works to protect wilderness and inspire Americans to care for wild places. Toward this end, we work in partnership with local communities, businesses, agencies, conservation organizations, recreationists, and local citizens to find solutions for the preservation and stewardship of national public lands. We have over 20,000 members and supporters in Washington State and have long worked to secure conservation of lands within the Greenway geography.

In 2008, The Wilderness Society launched the North Cascades Initiative to protect and enhance the wildlands and waters of the region. The focus of the North Cascades Initiative is threefold: (1) protect wildlands through wilderness and other public land designations as well as private land acquisition; (2) expand opportunities for sustainable recreation on our public lands; and (3) foster stewardship of our wildlands and waters. Over the next ten years, The Wilderness Society will work with myriad partners to achieve our ambitious protection, recreation, and stewardship goals.

National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will mutually support The Wilderness Society in this work in the North Cascades. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway – a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits

720 Third Avenue • Suite 1800 • Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.624.6430 P • 206.624.7101 F • [www.wilderness.org](http://www.wilderness.org) • [www.experiencewilderness.org](http://www.experiencewilderness.org)

*Pacific Northwest Region*

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Two decades years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. We urge the Greenway Trust to move this proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way we can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Dykstra', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Dykstra  
Director, Pacific Northwest Region  
The Wilderness Society



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



**Washington Alpine Club**  
[www.washingtonalpineclub.org](http://www.washingtonalpineclub.org)  
P.O. Box 352  
Seattle, WA 98111  
Skiing, Climbing, Hiking, Fellowship &  
Conservation since 1916

November 28, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104


Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express the Washington Alpine Club's enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The Washington Alpine Club is a historic volunteer based organization that has focused on outdoor education since 1916. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist the Washington Alpine Club with our goals of protecting the Central Cascades and encouraging people from urban areas to enjoy nature. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

This is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,  
  
Mike Mahanay  
Washington Alpine Club, President

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

February 3, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express Washington Environmental Council's strong and enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Washington Environmental Council (WEC) is a nonprofit, statewide advocacy organization that has been driving positive change to solve Washington's most critical environmental challenges since 1967. WEC build and leads partnerships, mobilizes the public, engages decision makers and takes legal action to enact and enforce environmental protection policy.

WEC is working on a multi-year agenda to advance solutions to polluted runoff; develop transportation alternatives; and create a smarter built environment. Mountains to Sound Greenway is doing tremendous work to advance a vision of accessible natural areas and dynamic, thriving cities and communities. The National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will be helpful to WEC as we work to advance policy solutions at the state level to reduce polluted runoff and create healthy communities all across Washington.

We believe designation will help to cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway – a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Joan Crooks  
Executive Director

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



### WASHINGTON FOREST LAW CENTER

615 Second Avenue, Suite 360  
Seattle, WA 98104  
www.wflc.org

Tel: 206.223.4088  
Fax: 206.223.4280

November 29, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The Washington Forest Law Center represents conservation organizations that enforce and improve the Washington forest practice regulations. We understand all too well the difficulties and tensions in managing and regulating industrial forest land in the vicinity of major population centers. But we strongly believe that designating the Greenway as a National Heritage location will greatly assist Washington decision makers in establishing a policy justification for the State designating the forest lands within this corridor to be significant to the State's recreation economy. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Goldman', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Peter Goldman  
WFLC





### Washington Native Plant Society *Appreciate, Conserve, and Study Our Native Flora*

6310 NE 74<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 215E, Seattle, WA 98115  
(206) 527-3210

May 22, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Director Welti,

The Central Puget Sound Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society strongly supports the designation of the Mountain to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Site. This site is an outstanding example of a place where cultural, historic, recreational, and environmental resources combine to form a nationally-distinctive landscape that is a local and national treasure.

Our organization promotes the appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through study, education, and advocacy. Many of our members live within the area proposed for designation. Chapter activities, including educational programs, restoration activities, and hikes that feature the native plants and ecosystems of our urban, rural, and wild areas, occur regularly within the Greenway.

We are pleased to see that the Feasibility Study for the designation recognizes that there are 22 state-listed rare plant species, 58 distinct, high-quality plant habitats, and 70% forest coverage within the Greenway. We believe that the Greenway is an outstanding example of human infrastructure and culture co-existing with natural ecosystems. Our forests and their native plant species contribute to the well-being of our region and country in many ways including: storing carbon and ensuring water quality, providing room for recreational opportunities, telling the story of our post and pre Columbian identity, and contributing a backdrop of unparalleled beauty as we go about our lives.

We encourage recognition of the Mountain to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage site because we believe the designation will allow us to share our community's unique assets nationally while we continue our local education and conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robt W. Smith".

Rob Smith, Chair  
Central Puget Sound Chapter  
Washington Native Plant Society

~AN AFFILIATE OF EARTH SHARE~



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



*Serving hikers  
since 1966*

### *Board of Directors*

*President*  
Rob Shurtleff  
Carole Bianquis  
Lisa Black  
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Jeff Chapman  
Langdon Cook  
Amy Csink  
Karen Daubert  
Todd Dunfield  
Laurie Hartshorn  
Jerry Keppler  
Craig McKibben  
Ken Mondal  
Damien Murphy  
Bill Pope  
Kate Rogers  
Stephen Tan  
Wendy Wheeler-Jacobs

### *Advisory Board*

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Mark Boyar  
Joan Burton  
Bill Chapman  
Karl Forsgaard  
Kevin Hall  
Ken Konigsmark  
Tom Lucas  
Margaret Macleod  
Susan Saul  
John Spring

705 Second Ave, Ste 300  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(206) 625-1367  
www.wta.org

September 21, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

Washington Trails Association is a volunteer-driven non-profit organization dedicated to advocating for hikers, maintaining our state's bounty of hiking trails and educating the public. We are enthusiastic supporters of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust's mission and have worked extensively on state and federal lands in the Greenway. We're very pleased to step up in support of the Greenway's designation as a National Heritage Area (NHA).

The Greenway's mix of public lands, working forests, gateway communities and historical features make it an ideal candidate for NHA designation. The spirit of collaboration embedded within NHA designation is mirrored by the commitment to the Greenway of non-profit and agency partners engaged in work to preserve the cultural, scenic and ecological characteristics of this unparalleled natural area. Indeed, Greenway partners have collaborated for decades now, a relationship that has borne the fruit of a more interconnected and intact landscape and healthier Puget Sound communities.

NHA designation will facilitate this unique and expanding relationship, bringing the wisdom and experience of federal land managers to bear on our ongoing work. It's in this spirit that we offer our unalloyed support for NHA designation and the benefits that it will bring to local communities, the recreating public and the remarkable landscapes of the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can otherwise be of assistance in this effort.

Sincerely,

Craig McKibben  
Acting Executive Director

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

CO-CHAIRS  
Gov. Daniel J. Evans  
Gov. Mike Lowry

OFFICERS  
*President*  
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Tom Dwyer  
Heidi Eisenhour  
Billy Frank, Jr.  
Kevin Godbout  
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George Harris  
Kim Herman  
Terry Hunt  
Joe Hyer  
US Rep. Jay Inslee  
Mark Isaacson  
Deborah Jensen  
Ron G. Judd  
Hon. Pat Lantz  
Keith Loveless  
Elliot Marks  
Mayor Mike McGinn  
John McGlenn  
Mayor Bud Norris  
Lisa Pelly  
Charlie Raines  
Bill Robinson  
Hon. George Rohrbacher  
Jon Rose  
Hon. John Roskelley  
J. Pete Schroeder  
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Fred Wert  
Chris Williams  
David Williams  
Hon. Richard Wojt  
Richard Wynne  
Mariana Parks

EX OFFICIO  
Phil Anderson  
Mark Clark  
Kaleen Cottingham  
Comm. Peter Goldmark  
Don Hoch  
Rep. Norm Johnson  
Senator Craig Pridemore  
Senator Christine Rolfes

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Joanna Grist

### WASHINGTON WILDLIFE AND RECREATION COALITION



October 24, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition's strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this. Such recognition will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway Trust over the last 20 years.

As a fellow organization working to protect and create outdoor recreation opportunities and wildlife areas, we have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. The Mountains to Sound Greenway encompasses numerous parks, recreation and wildlife habitat projects funded by the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, both which our Coalition works to protect. National Heritage Area designation for the Greenway will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing an official forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Now is an opportune time to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy vibrant ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

Joanna Grist  
Executive Director  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition

*The WWRC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, all contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law and this letter confirms no goods or services were received in exchange for this contribution.*



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



AAA WASHINGTON

February 15, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express AAA Washington's support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will provide a higher profile and enhanced reputation for this corridor and allow it to become even more of a destination for heritage and recreational travelers, a goal of our company since its inception.

We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. We strongly support this effort. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janet Ray".

Janet Ray, Assistant Vice President  
Corporate Affairs and Publishing  
AAA Washington  
1745 114<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE  
Bellevue, WA 98004

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

CAIRCROSS&HEMPELMANN  
524 2nd Ave, Suite 500  
Seattle, WA 98104  
www.cairncross.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
office 206 587 0700  
fax 206 587 2308

CH&

October 24, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti:

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I have long supported the vision of the Mountains to Sound Greenway and have worked on projects to implement it. It is a well conceived plan that balances all interests. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Very truly yours,

  
John W. Hempelmann

JWH:msd  
cc: Jim Reinhardsen

[jhempelmann@cairncross.com](mailto:jhempelmann@cairncross.com)  
direct: (206) 254-4400

{01792634.DOC;1 }

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



November 23, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express Carter Subaru & Carter Volkswagen's enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Carter Motors has taken a leadership role with the Mountains to Sound Greenway, and I, Jennifer Moran, serve on the Greenway Trust board of directors. The Greenway takes a key conservation role in the region through its restoration program. Youth interns and volunteers restore habitat and plant thousands of trees annually throughout the Greenway. Carter Subaru and Carter VW is proud to financially support this effort, providing funding to plant over 45,000 trees to date.

We believe National Heritage Area designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Moran', is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Jennifer Moran  
General Manager, Carter Motors





November 28, 2011

Ms. Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

Cynthia:

I am writing to express our support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

Cascade Capital Group

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tod McDonald", is written over the printed name.

Tod McDonald  
Principal



September 21, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my support for the National Park Service designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story and model for greenways and scenic byways. The National Heritage Area (NHA) designation is a fitting recognition of this success. NHA designation will unify the different efforts to protect and manage this important recreation and cultural resource on the edge of a major metropolitan area.

The broad coalition built over the last 20 years by the Greenway has shown how disparate interests can come together in a common cause to support mutual goals without losing their own identities. This consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway will be furthered with national recognition such as a NHA designation.

As a member of the Technical Advisory Group, a former employee of one of the key resource agencies (King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks) in the Greenway and a member of the Environmental Education and Interpretive Advisory Group for the designation study, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits, corporate interests and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing an official forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Now is an opportune time to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy vibrant ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

Sincerely,

  
Chuck Lennox  
Principal/Consultant

507 27th Avenue • Seattle, WA 98122-6133  
Tel: 206-720-4928 • Fax: 206-328-6038 • [chuck.lennox@interpconsulting.com](mailto:chuck.lennox@interpconsulting.com) • [www.interpconsulting.com](http://www.interpconsulting.com)

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



CH2M HILL  
1100 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Bellevue, WA  
98004-5405  
Tel 425-453-5000

February 15, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express our enthusiasm and support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation would be a fitting recognition of this wonderful resource.

CH2M HILL is an employee-owned consulting, design, design-build, operations, and program management company. We maintain offices in Seattle, Tacoma, Bellevue, Bellingham, Spokane, and Richland. CH2M HILL has been a consistent supporter of the work of the Mountains to Sound Greenway since its formation. We believe that the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area would benefit the people and landscape in this area of our state and underscore its unique nature in the country. An NHA designation would unite the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, and healthy ecosystems. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. I strongly support this effort. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Sturtevant", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David C. Sturtevant  
CH2M HILL  
Vice President, Puget Sound Area Manager



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



September 21, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Cynthia:

On behalf of GeoEngineers, I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

GeoEngineers has a long history of participation with the Mountains to Sound Greenway. Our people have participated in its volunteer activities and the firm has donated funds every year for the last six years. We are earth science and technology experts dedicated to the purpose of finding better ways to improve the world we live in. National Heritage Area designation certainly aligns with our purpose. We see it as an effective way to improve the framework for sustaining the built and natural landscapes that comprise the Greenway, which are so highly valued by our employees, clients and the communities we serve. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

GeoEngineers, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kurt R. Fraese'.

Kurt R. Fraese  
CEO

Earth Science + Technology

600 Stewart Street  
Suite 1700  
Seattle, WA 98101

telephone 206.728.2674  
facsimile 206.728.2732  
website [www.geoengineers.com](http://www.geoengineers.com)

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



Joel M. Gordon

2025 First Avenue, Suite 500  
Seattle, WA 98121-3140  
Phone: 206.382.9540  
Fax: 206.626.0675  
www.GordonDerr.com

October 27, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti:

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I am a founding partner of GordonDerr LLP, a Seattle-based law firm concentrating in real estate, land use, environmental, and water law. GordonDerr's intentional focus on all matters related to land—ownership, development, conservation, utilization, operation, and management, gives our firm an unparalleled perspective and insight into the delicate balance between the region's built and natural environments. The National Heritage Area designation will solidify a framework that will greatly assist GordonDerr as a model of forging innovative, reasoned solutions to facilitate the protection of working farms, forests, and wildlife habitat in a way that is compatible with public policy and community values.

Washington State possesses a bounty of ecological, historical, recreational, educational, economic, and cultural assets. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. The efforts of the Greenway coalition have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Very truly yours,

GORDONDERR LLP

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joel M. Gordon", written over the printed name and firm name.

Joel M. Gordon  
Partner



# GranCorp Inc.

September 20, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I am the owner and President of GranCorp Inc, a real estate investment and development company based in Seattle, WA but doing business across the west coast of the US. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist GranCorp in our goal to continue to do business in this part of the country. We support Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust's efforts in working on conserving and restoration of lands, education, promotion of smaller cities, increasing outdoor recreation opportunities, and many other things that we all need to protect the outdoors for future generations. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Heijer', is written over a large, stylized, handwritten flourish that extends downwards and to the right.

Michael Heijer

President, GranCorp Inc.



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



1301 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2700

Seattle, Washington  
98101-2675

T (206) 224-5800  
F (206) 224-5809  
greendiamond.com

September 19, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist Green Diamond Resource Company in our goal to maintain the balance between working forests, and environmental and economic values, assuring that generations to come will enjoy the bounty nature has provided and the wood products that enrich our lives. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Brown".

William R. Brown  
President  
Green Diamond Resource Company

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



October 24, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti:

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of Harbor Properties, a real estate development and investment company based in Seattle, WA. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist Harbor Properties in our goal of sustainable development in Seattle. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Daley".

Douglas L. Daley  
President and CEO  
Harbor Properties, Inc.

# H E A R T L A N D

September 8, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Cynthia:

I am writing to express Heartland's and my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I am an owner and a Managing Director of Heartland LLC, a real estate advisory and investment company based in Seattle and active across the country and internationally. I've been on the Mountains to Sound Greenway Board for over six years, on the Executive Committee for over five years, and have acted as the Chairman of the National Heritage Area Committee. Heartland, as well as my wife and I, have been regular contributors to and volunteers for the Mountains to Sound Greenway and consider it essential to this region's and our quality of life.

A National Heritage designation for the Mountains to Sound Greenway will create a framework that will greatly assist the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to establish a sustainable, next generation platform for this extraordinary balance between the built and natural environment, an ongoing educational resource, and a national example of community volunteerism. My company, Heartland, as many other employers in the region, will also clearly benefit from such a designation as it will help bring definition to and focus on the quality of life we all enjoy. This extraordinary way of life attracts businesses and employees to this region, students and teachers to our universities, and ongoing economic development to the northwest corner of the United States enhancing global competitiveness. Designation will unite the many perspectives across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway- a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous success in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape while encouraging responsible development and urbanization. National Heritage designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time to realize the Greenway's vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of success have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist you as you work with our congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

HEARTLAND LLC



Jim Reinhardsen  
Managing Director



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



Hillis  
Clark  
Martin &  
Peterson P.S.

September 20, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: *Mountains to Sound Greenway - Designation as National Heritage Area*

Dear Ms. Welti:

We are writing to express our strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Our law firm's real estate and land use group has over 40 years of experience in Seattle working on and donating time to issues relating to environmental preservation and stewardship. Our firm supports and respects the Greenway's vision of careful planning for growth and development, preservation of natural resources, and the resulting positive effects on the regional economy and quality of life that we all enjoy. The National Heritage Area designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

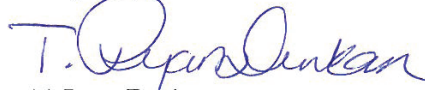
It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. We urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Cynthia Welti  
September 20, 2011  
Page 2 of 2

This letter should be viewed as our law firm's own opinion, and does not represent the views of our clients or their legal positions. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Very truly yours,



T. Ryan Durkan

TRD:dlc  
*E-Mail:* trd@hcmp.com  
*Direct Dial:* (206) 470-7614  
*Fax:* (206) 623-7789

ND: 13000.022 4846-5745-3322v1

Hillis Clark Martin & Peterson P.S.

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

December 22, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104



Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

HomeStreet Bank has long been a supporter of the Mountains to Sound Greenway. As a community bank, headquartered here in Seattle, we know the value of this special area to the well-being of the people who live here and visit here. We take a long-term view of making a difference in our community. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist HomeStreet Bank in our goal of making this a healthy place to live, work, and play. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition including being on the Greenway Board and involved with other organizations whose mission focuses on “parks and open spaces”, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway’s model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

Kathryn A. Williams  
Senior Vice President,  
Director of Community Relations

HomeStreet Bank

HOME OFFICE  
2000 Two Union Square  
601 Union Street  
Seattle, WA 98101

TEL 206-623-3050  
TOLL-FREE 800-654-1075  
[www.homestreet.com](http://www.homestreet.com)

This contains 30% recycled  
post-consumer waste fiber. **FDIC**





K&L Gates LLP  
925 Fourth Avenue  
Suite 2900  
Seattle, WA 98104-1158  
T 206.623.7580    [www.klgates.com](http://www.klgates.com)

December 12, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: National Heritage Area Designation

Dear Ms. Welti:

I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this success.

The Seattle office of K&L Gates has supported the conservation and enhancement of the Mountains to Sound Greenway for 20 years. K&L Gates has provided substantial financial support in addition to literally thousands of hours of volunteer and pro bono work by firm lawyers and staff. We are proud that one of our partners has been board president for 17 of the Greenway's 20 years.

National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will help cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway. K&L Gates is proud to support the economic growth and environmental enhancement of the region in this fashion.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration among agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing, and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

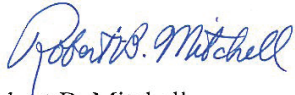
This is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway's vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation. Now is the time for formal recognition

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Cynthia Welti  
December 12, 2011  
Page 2

of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.  
Please let me know if there is any way I can help.

Very truly yours,



Robert B. Mitchell  
Seattle Office Administrative Partner  
K&L GATES LLP

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Microsoft Corporation  
One Microsoft Way  
Redmond, WA 98052-6399

Tel 425 882 8080  
Fax 425 936 7329  
<http://www.microsoft.com/>



March 22, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express Microsoft's support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

Microsoft has been committed to both the health of our natural environment and the provision of quality recreational opportunities for Washington citizens. As such, we have a long history of supporting the Mountains to Sound Greenway stretching from Puget Sound to Central Washington. We believe that the balance of recreational, cultural, environmental and economic benefits provided by the Greenway is essential to the quality of life which Microsoft values for our employees, their families, and all residents of our region.

The Greenway is a national success story, and its official designation as a National Heritage Area would provide appropriate recognition of this fact. Twenty-plus years of committed volunteer efforts have laid a strong foundation and would be validated by the formal recognition of this iconic area as a National Heritage Area. Such recognition will help weave the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and – importantly in today's world of strapped public budgets – help ensure the continued care and improvement of the Greenway for the enjoyment of generations to come.

We at Microsoft feel that this is an opportune time to formally recognize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy vibrant ecosystems. That is why we support the Greenway Trust in moving this designation proposal forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "DeLee Shoemaker".

DeLee Shoemaker  
Senior Director State Government Affairs  
Microsoft Corporation



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

November 28, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

As CEO of a Seattle manufacturer of outdoor clothing and equipment I see the demand from thousands of our customers for opportunities to access pristine wilderness. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will enable a balanced approach and incorporation of the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Dan Nordstrom  
CEO  
Outdoor Research  
dan@outdoorresearch.com

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Rick R. Holley  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

Plum Creek Timber Company, Inc.  
999 Third Avenue, Suite 4300  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
206-467-3603



January 26, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti:

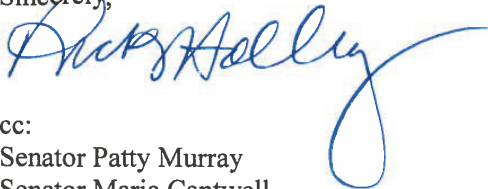
Plum Creek is pleased to offer its support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Plum Creek has been involved with the Greenway since its inception over 20 years ago, and the model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders around conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining and growing the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this beautiful and important area of Washington.

Please let me know if there is any way we can assist as you move this designation proposal forward.

Sincerely,



cc:  
Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Doc Hastings  
Congressman Dave Reichert

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



**PORT BLAKELY**  
COMPANIES

*Integrity and Innovation since 1864*

P: 206-624-5810 F: 206-624-9745  
1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 1000 Seattle, WA 98101-2524  
[www.portblakely.com](http://www.portblakely.com)

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

As a Northwest-based company that owns and manages operations in forestry, real estate and forest products exports, we are a values-driven, family-owned company built over a century of stewardship. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that aligns with Port Blakely Companies' goals of environmental stewardship and sustainable development. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

Rene Ancinas  
CEO  
Port Blakely Companies



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



Puget Sound Energy  
P.O. Box 97034  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9734  
PSE.com

**Sue McLain**  
*Senior Vice President  
Delivery Operations*

November 2, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

On behalf of Puget Sound Energy, I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

As a leader in energy efficiency and renewable energy, PSE is committed to our environment and natural resources. We have been pleased to support and sponsor the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust's programs and we support and respect the Greenway's vision of careful planning for growth and development, preservation of natural resources, and the resulting positive effects on the regional economy and quality of life that we all enjoy. The Greenway's mix of public lands, working forests, gateway communities and historical features make it an ideal candidate. As an active member of the Greenway Trust, I have seen the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. The spirit of collaboration embedded within National Heritage Area designation is mirrored by the commitment to the Greenway of non-profit, private organizations and agency partners engaged in work to preserve the cultural, scenic and ecological characteristics of this unparalleled natural area. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Years of success have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. We urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan McLain". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" and last name "McLain" clearly visible.

Susan McLain  
Senior Vice President Delivery Operations

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

### QUADRANT HOMES

14725 SE 36th Street, Suite 100  
Bellevue, WA 98006

Tel. 425.455.2900  
Fax 425.646.8377

QuadrantHomes.com

November 30, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express Quadrant Homes' enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I currently serve on the Board of Directors of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. I believe the National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist in Quadrant Homes' continuing goal and commitment to preservation and sustainable living in our region. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway – a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

For the past two years, Quadrant Homes and all of our associates have volunteered part of a workday restoring natural areas around Lake Sammamish and the city of Snoqualmie, both in the Greenway. Mountains to Sound Greenway is a great partner for Quadrant Homes because we have a common vision for sustainability – a vibrant economy that co-exists with forest preservation, open space for recreation, and a healthy environment, all of which make for great communities.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,  
QUADRANT HOMES



Ken Krivanec  
President

## REAL RETAIL

September 22, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I am an owner/manager of Real Retail, a retail real estate firm located in Seattle and providing consulting services to clients both locally and across the country. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that is essential to maintaining a region where people value the environment both in where they work, live and recreate. It is our unsurpassed immediate access to nature that attracts businesses and their employees to the Seattle area. This enhances the economic development of the Pacific Northwest and creates more economic validity for our specific industry. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,  
Real Retail



Maria Royer  
Principal



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



PO BOX 1938  
SUMNER, WA  
98390-0800

T | 253.395.3780  
WWW.REI.COM

September 30, 2011

Sally Jewell  
President & CEO

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

On behalf of REI, I am writing to express our wholehearted support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

The preservation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and a National Heritage Area designation for this spectacular landscape between Seattle and Ellensburg is the appropriate next step to ensuring the landscape remains a special place for future generations to enjoy.

REI has supported the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust since its inception over two decades ago. REI and the Greenway Trust share a common mission of inspiring and educating people of all ages for a lifetime of outdoor adventure. We believe that bringing people outdoors, especially young people, is critical to conserving our most important natural lands and guaranteeing recreation opportunities remain accessible for future generations.

As a founding board member and Past President of the Greenway Trust, I have experienced first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of bringing together a collection of diverse interests to unite behind a common vision. National Heritage Area Designation of the Greenway will continue to facilitate thoughtful regional planning for the future by providing a forum to address the shared challenges of maintaining the great legacy of the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

We believe that a National Heritage Area designation will create a framework to assist land management agencies in working cooperatively and efficiently; formalize principles of sustainable conservation; endorse the Greenway coalition's cooperative nature and build public awareness through an enhanced sense of place.

I look forward to talking with our congressional delegation about this wonderful effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Sally Jewell'.

Sally Jewell  
SJ/jt



We inspire, educate and outfit for a lifetime of outdoor adventure and stewardship.

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



September 15, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I and my family are among the long list of supporters strongly in favor of designating the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. We are not simply armchair supporters, encouraging the preservation of this important region from the viewpoint of a car's windshield. Instead, beginning with early family camping trips to the Denney Creek area, through my years as a boy scout, hiking every inch of the "greenway", continuing through thirty years of active mountaineering, I and my family have appreciated the greenway first hand, on an intimate and personal basis. Today, almost sixty years later, that same participation and hands-on appreciation of this unique area continues with my children and grandchildren's active enjoyment of the Mountain to Sound Greenway's natural treasures.

With a view towards expanding and protecting the greenway, we have contributed funds and participated in many events sponsored by the Mountain to Sound Greenway organization, including the hikes, biking and events surrounding the Mountain to Sound Greenway's recent 20th year anniversary.

Several years ago, I established a branch of my company, Thayer Residential "Projects With a Purpose", in order to give charitable assistance and support to the community with emphasis on early age education. We believe supporting the movement to designate the Mountain to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area is perfectly aligned with these goals. The greenway is easily accessible from anywhere in the greater Seattle area. It's deep forests, spectacular mountainsides, lush meadows, and myriad rivers, streams and lakes provide untold opportunities for children of all ages to study and appreciate these natural areas as they so directly affect the economy, lifestyle and character of the millions of people living in the Pacific Northwest.

Once designated as a National Heritage Area, the greenway will achieve the kind of broad recognition that will attract other organizations with ideas, skills, utilizations and the kind of people the Mountain to Sound Greenway needs to exponentially broaden its benefit to the public.

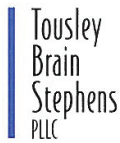
I strongly advocate the Mountain to Sound Greenway's designation as a National Heritage Area and hope the Greenway Trust and its officers will do everything in their power to make this important goal a reality.

Very sincerely,

Bruce Thayer  
President  
Thayer Residential  
Thayer Residential Projects With A Purpose

Enclosed: Greenway Trust donation

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



Attorneys

1700 Seventh Avenue, Suite 2200  
Seattle, Washington 98101-4416  
Telephone (206) 682-5600  
Facsimile (206) 682-2992

KIM D. STEPHENS, P.S.  
kstephens@tousley.com

OUR FILE NO  
0017-001

September 12, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: National Heritage Area Designation for Mountains to Sound Greenway

Dear Ms. Welti:

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway. This model has resulted in remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years. With future demand for resources and the need to manage impact on the Greenway, cooperation among additional stakeholders is crucial.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Successful conservation, management and improvement to the Greenway landscape are a direct result of collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations. National Heritage Area designation will build on these existing partnerships by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems are made possible by cooperation amongst stakeholders. Formal recognition for this iconic area will ensure success in future management and improvement of the Greenway. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

Very truly yours,

TOUSLEY BRAIN STEPHENS PLLC

Kim D. Stephens, P.S.

0001/001/247480.1



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



URBAN RENAISSANCE GROUP, LLC

Joshua Green Building • 1425 Fourth Ave., Suite 500 • Seattle, WA 98101

November 3, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Urban Renaissance Group, LLC (URG) is a full service commercial real estate company based in the Pacific Northwest. Our organization is dedicated to the revitalization of urban areas and to the creation of pedestrian friendly villages in our suburbs. National Heritage Area designation for Mountains to Sound Greenway will create a framework that will greatly assist URG in our goal of redeveloping an auto-oriented suburban office park into a transit oriented development. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Patrick Callahan  
Founder, Chief Executive Officer  
Urban Renaissance Group, LLC

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



October 28, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my **strong support** for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I work at my families' commercial real estate development company, Urban Visions, and my relationship to the Greenway is two-fold.

In a work capacity, our goal is to create dense urban projects that prevent unnecessary sprawl – we like to build up instead of out. I grew up in Sammamish and witnessed the evils of sprawl first hand. Originally, I actually thought cities were evil! I've discovered that in fact healthy cities are a key component of smart growth, and that goes hand in hand with preservation and conservation of unique areas like the Greenway.

On a personal front, you can typically find me out in the Greenway on most any weekend; I am a passionate fly fisherman, hiker, skier, outdoor enthusiast, and all around 'tree hugger'. I have driven the greenway hundreds and hundreds of times, and the ride through the mountains is more beautiful every time. I could not imagine a scenario where we don't have this precious resource which provides some much qualitative value, including carbon reduction and employee recruitment. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist Urban Visions in our goal of preserving our greatest qualitative asset – the lakes, streams, and mountains that surround our beautiful city. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,  
**Urban Visions**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Broderick Smith".

Broderick Smith  
Vice President

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
Millennium Tower  
719 Second Avenue, Suite 1150  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
(206) 623-9372 Telephone  
(206) 374-3044 Facsimile  
[www.vnf.com](http://www.vnf.com)

Washington, D.C.  
(202) 298-1800

**Steven Seward**  
(206) 623-9372 Seattle  
[sts@vnf.com](mailto:sts@vnf.com)

September 9, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti:

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and its designation as a National Heritage Area would be a fitting recognition of this success.

As a Seattle Member of Van Ness Feldman, PC, a law firm focused on energy, environmental, and natural resources law, I support the pending designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. And, as a member of the board of directors of the Student Conservation Association, a national conservation force of college and high school volunteers who protect our parks and restore our environment, I am committed to protecting the rich cultural, historical, and environmental benefits that the Mountains to Sound Greenway provides to the people of the Pacific Northwest. This area has a profound impact on our region, particularly through the secure and sustainable water supply it provides; the watersheds in the Mountains to Sound Greenway are replenished each spring and supply clean water to millions of people in the area. As an active participant in developing regional and national environmental policy and as a resident of this region, I believe that the cooperative relationships formed through the National Heritage Area designation will preserve the quality of life provided by the Mountains to Sound Greenway and help ensure the future economic health of the area.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Cynthia Welti  
September 9, 2011  
Page 2

existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation, and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation, and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,  
VAN NESS FELDMAN, PC



Steven Seward

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



WASHINGTON HOLDINGS

September 12, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

My firm, Washington Holdings, invests in real estate projects throughout the greater Puget Sound area and more broadly throughout the western United States. We invest in communities that have a highly educated workforce, a diverse local economy and which offer a high quality of life. Currently we have committed over \$1 billion to investments within the Puget Sound area.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway very materially adds to the high quality of life in the Puget Sound area and distinguishes this region as one of the most beautiful in the nation. National Heritage Area designation will make it possible for current and future generations to know they can live in the urban northwest, but enjoy unspoiled nature just minutes from their homes. Designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway story and provide a framework for its continued care and improvement.

I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Wrench  
President & CEO

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT



SCIENCE & DESIGN

December 20, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express The Watershed Company's and my personal, enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

The Watershed Company is an environmental consulting firm based in Kirkland, WA. We have designed and permitted natural resource restoration and trail projects and done volunteer work on the Greenway. As well, I am a regional historian and have written a number of local history books, including "Our Town Redmond," the official history book for the City of Redmond. I am also past president of Marymoor Museum, the forerunner to the Eastside Historical Association, which covers the cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond and Issaquah.

I understand the vital role that recognition of local history gives to place people in context so that they are better community citizens. The Watershed Company is committed to restoration of natural environments throughout Washington State. The Greenway is a role model to accomplish this task in a critical ecosystem and National Heritage Area designation will further increase its visibility.

We wish you success in seeking this much deserved designation.

Sincerely,

Vice President  
The Watershed Company



# WRIGHT RUNSTAD & COMPANY

PRINCIPALS:  
H. JON RUNSTAD  
WALTER R. INGRAM  
GREGORY K. JOHNSON

September 21, 2011

Ms. Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

### MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY LETTER OF SUPPORT

Dear Ms. Welti:

I am writing to express my company's support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

Seattle-based Wright Runstad & Company develops, acquires, manages and leases high quality commercial office buildings in the Pacific Northwest. The company has a nearly 40 year history as one of the region's premier real estate development and operating companies. In addition to our record of commercial ventures, Wright Runstad & Company in conjunction with Shorenstein Properties LP, is currently developing a 36 acre neighborhood in the Bell-Red corridor that will include a significant residential element.

Mountains to Sound Greenway receiving National Heritage Area designation will assist your organization's goal of establishing a sustainable platform for the balance between the built and natural environment, an ongoing educational resource, and a national example of community volunteerism. In turn, our company, will benefit from the Greenway being designated a National Heritage Area by sustaining and expanding upon the quality of life we all enjoy, supporting a healthy and active lifestyle for Pacific Northwest residents, which attracts business and employees to this region, furthering ongoing economic development to Washington state. Such designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway - a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Gregory K. Johnson  
President

GKJ/jkh

INVESTMENT BUILDERS AND REAL ESTATE ASSET MANAGERS  
SUITE 2700, 1201 THIRD AVENUE, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101-3274  
TELEPHONE (206) 447-9000 FAX (206) 223-3221

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Brian Boyle  
1301 First Avenue #1005  
Seattle, Washington 98101

September 29, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Cynthia,

Please add me to your list of supporters for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.

The National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of the Mountains to Sound Greenway success story. I am very proud to have been part of the original Greenway coalition, and seen how successive volunteers, agencies, corporations and non-profits have continued our early work to protect, manage and in some cases, acquire parts of the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on these partnerships and provide a much-desired national forum in which to carry on the Greenway legacy.

The Greenway vision to achieve a sustainable balance between the region's rapidly-expanding suburban areas and the natural environment, with its productive working forestlands and accessible scenic beauty, is a model for the nation. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Brian Boyle".

Brian J. Boyle  
Former Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands  
And Greenway Board Founder

**David B. and Dana T. Chapman**

October 20, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

A National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist our local community, long-term regional dynamics, and national vision. We believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



David and Dana Chapman

1620 8<sup>th</sup> Street West, Kirkland, WA 98033



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Erin M. Derrington  
13716 NE 28<sup>th</sup> St.  
Bellevue WA, 98005  
(206) 427-3640  
emderrington@gmail.com

February 15, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story of collaborative stewardship of invaluable natural and culture resources, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of the Greenway's rich history.

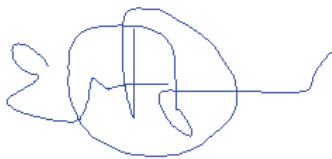
As an environmental law specialist and natural resources consultant, as well as a former conservation crew member and intern with the Mountains to Sound Greenway, I am convinced that the National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist my consulting firm, Eco-MD Services, support the goal of numerous partner organizations to protect human and environmental health in the Northwest. Additionally, I believe the NHA designation will cement the diverse viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway — a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years. This designation will also strengthen the sense of place, partnerships, and funding opportunities in this invaluable corridor.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

The Greenway's exemplary example of cooperative resource stewardship and planning, as well as community outreach and education, and successful preservation of cultural and ecological history bears the indicia of a stellar National Heritage Area.

The Greenway offers rich ecological contributions as well as countless benefits to recreational users. Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Two decades of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. I strongly support this effort. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Erin Derrington', with a stylized, cursive script.

Erin Derrington  
Eco-Management and Design Services (Sole Proprietor)  
J.D., Pace School of Law  
M.E.Sc., Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies



DAVID DUNNING & COMPANY  
CORPORATE LEADERSHIP CONSULTANTS

November 14, 2011

Ms. Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA. 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

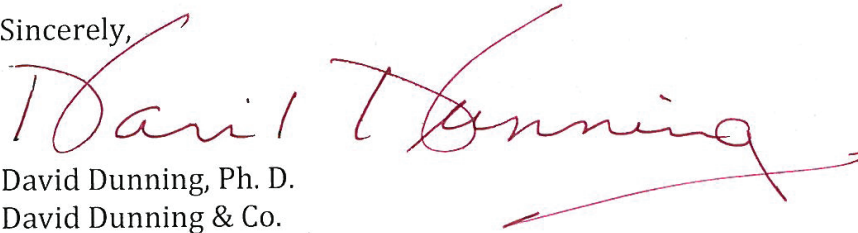
I am writing to strongly support the National Heritage Area designation for the Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust. The long history of the Mountain to Sound Greenway is impressive and a real gift to the area residents and a model of multiple stakeholder collaboration.

My wife is a retired teacher and Principal with the Seattle Public Schools and has experienced and observed the positive, transformational impact the educational programs of the Greenway Trust have had on students in Seattle schools.

I have observed how the Greenway Trust has been able to establish a problem solving, conflict resolving forum involving potential adversaries to seek a collaborative solution to achieve good environmental goals.

The National Heritage Area designation is a much deserved recognition for the impressive contributions and successes of the Greenway Trust. I urge the Greenway Trust to pursue this designation.

Sincerely,



David Dunning, Ph. D.  
David Dunning & Co.

DAVID DUNNING, Ph.D. • Consulting Psychologist  
4225 NE 33RD ST / SEATTLE, WA 98105 (206) 522-7095 FAX (206) 522-7195



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

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**From:** Peggarden@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, February 20, 2012 7:48 AM  
**To:** amy.brockhaus@mtsgreenway.org  
**Subject:** NHA Support

As an early supporter of the Mountains to Sound Greenway, I fully support National Heritage Area Designation for this priceless treasure.

peg ferm  
PO Box 1031  
Monroe, WA 98272

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

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**From:** Mark Gillis [markgi@exchange.microsoft.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 1:23 PM  
**To:** amy.brockhaus@mtsgreenway.org  
**Subject:** NHA Support

To the folks at the National Heritage Area office

I have hiked, biked, skied, and snow showed the Mountains to Sound Greenway for almost 20 years, visited many interesting towns in the area, taken scenic drives, and participated in land preservation activities. Ever since I moved here from Boston in 1994, I have been truly impressed with the wide range of natural activities so close to a major metropolitan area. I consider myself fortunate to have had these wonderful opportunities and believe it is vital that this Greenway take the next step to ensure its long-term survival and success for many generations to come.

Please designate the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area so that this wonderful resource and the people who support it and enjoy it every day can derive the benefits of this official designation.

Mark Gillis  
4524 90<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE  
Issaquah WA  
98027

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Charles V. “Tom” Gibbs

725 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Apt. 2504  
Seattle, WA 98104-2084  
206-682-0962

September 17, 2011

Cynthia Welti, Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Cynthia,

I’m writing to add our enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. Our Greenway is a national success story and such a designation would be a most fitting recognition.

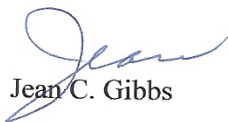
Jean and I have been active participants in all of the Greenway’s activities since its inception 20 years ago. We’ve seen first hand the value of collaboration between the many agencies responsible for managing and preserving elements of this wonderful scenic by-way. Designation as a National Heritage Area would further document the significance of this effort and build on existing partnerships to provide a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Now is the time to take steps to formalize our vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. The successes over the past 20 years have laid a strong foundation for the future of the Greenway. A formal recognition of this iconic area as a National Heritage Area is timely and consistent with our long-range plan. We urge the Trust to move forward with the designation proposal. If we can help with contacts with our Congressional delegation, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Charles V. “Tom” Gibbs

  
Jean C. Gibbs



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

January 26, 2012

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I have the honor of serving as Deputy Mayor in the City of Newcastle and although I am speaking only for myself in this request, I frequently hear from residents in our community that they place a high value on the open space that surrounds us. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will assist our city's dedicated volunteers in our goal of preserving and maintaining valuable open spaces as we grow. I believe designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway – a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

The Greenway's model of synergy and consensus has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

Official recognition would formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Two decades years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation for designation of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Lisa Jensen  
Deputy Mayor  
City of Newcastle

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

October 3, 2011

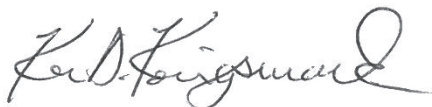
Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my strong support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I have been involved for over 20 years in environmental, conservation, and growth management issues in the Pacific Northwest, much of this focused on the Greenway corridor. The incredible accomplishments of the Greenway coalition during this timeframe have created and enhanced a treasured landscape that will benefit future generations far more than we know today. I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is a critical time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Ken D. Konigsmark  
5713 285th Avenue SE  
Issaquah, WA 98027

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

September 15, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this outstanding success.

I have been on the Board of the Mountains to Sound Greenway for 20 years, representing the City of Issaquah as the City Administrator. National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist the City of Issaquah in the goal of smart growth and environmental protection, most importantly to the City are the salmon in Issaquah Creek and Lake Sammamish. I believe the designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

As an active member of the Greenway coalition, I have seen first-hand the benefits of the Greenway's model of synergy and consensus. Collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy. Issaquah, being located in the center of the Greenway, both benefits by the successes of this model but sees the designation as a critical long term way to maintain the efforts of the past 20 years for the future.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to formalize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. 20 years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition of this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,



Leon Kos  
Issaquah City Administrator Retired



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

**From:** Judith Maxwell [jmtlady@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 2:55 PM  
**To:** amy.brockhaus@mtsgreenway.org  
**Subject:** NHA Support

February 16, 2012

Re: Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area Designation

To Whom It May Concern:

I support the proposed designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area and urge congress to secure the passage of this important National Heritage Legislation. This will help sustain one of the nation's most magnificent landscapes of incomparable scenic beauty and encourage continued growth of thriving communities, with smart development and strong economic growth.

I strongly encourage the passage of this legislation to help continue the Greenway's vision into the future.

Sincerely,

Judith Maxwell  
36310 SE Saint Andrews Lane  
Snoqualmie, WA 98065-9095

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Sept. 27, 2011  
41502 Reinig Rd.,  
Snoqualmie, WA 98065

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA, 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I would like to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway has been a national model in consensus-achieved conservation, and National Heritage Area designation would both recognize and enhance this.

As a citizen interested in open space conservation and trails, I have been a Greenway board member, supporter and volunteer for the past 20 years representing the City of Snoqualmie's Park Board, and have worked on King County's Conservation Futures Committee, and the Meadowbrook Farm Preservation Association, as well as other open space efforts in our community. I have seen first-hand, project by project, how the Greenway's dedication to consensus and collaboration can successfully bring diverse interests together to create a larger whole. The Greenway's influence, coalition-building between jurisdictions, private interests and non-profits, and hands-on stewardship has truly changed the landscape of the Snoqualmie Valley where my family lives. Across the length and breadth of the Greenway, 20 years of partnerships and work has created a legacy of open spaces that has similarly enhanced the quality of life for everyone in our northwest region.

A National Heritage Area designation for the Mountains to Sound Greenway will establish a unified framework to further the Greenway vision into the future: dynamic communities thriving in healthy ecosystems, with outdoor recreation resources accessible for all to enjoy. National Heritage Area designation will formalize, in a nationally recognized context, our regional appreciation of and focus on these Greenway goals.

Now is an opportune time for National Heritage Area designation for the Mountains to Sound Greenway. The quality of life and related economic benefits we enjoy now in the Greenway will require sensitive growth, education, and collaborative stewardship to grow and flourish into the future; formal designation will be an important step to address these challenges while building on past successes. My family and I enthusiastically urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation forward. Please contact me if I may be of any assistance in these efforts.

Sincerely,

Mary Norton 

## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

DOUGLAS W. WALKER  
1301 Second Avenue  
Suite 2850  
Seattle, WA 98101

December 13, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Welti,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and a National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.


I have many connections to the Greenway. I am the Governing Council Chair of The Wilderness Society which has a comprehensive North Cascades Initiative and the Greenway is a key part of this landscape. I am on the board of Forterra (formerly Cascade Land Conservancy) which is active in the counties which contain the Greenway. I am on the board and the Policy Chair of the American Alpine Club which has numerous climbing areas of interest within the Greenway. And finally, on a personal level, I am an incredibly frequent user of the recreation opportunities provided by the Greenway.

A National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist The Wilderness Society and Forterra in meeting our goals for this region. I believe a designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward.

Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Best regards,



Doug Walker



## APPENDIX 5 - LETTERS OF SUPPORT

November 28, 2011

Cynthia Welti  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
911 Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Cynthia:

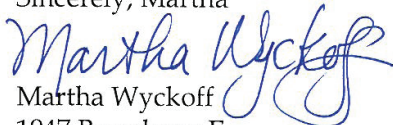
I am writing to express my enthusiastic support and endorsement for the designation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area. The Mountains to Sound Greenway is a national success story, and National Heritage Area designation is a fitting recognition of this.

I have been actively engaged with the Mountains to Sound Greenway from its inception through my volunteer activities with the Trust for Public Land, as a regular hiker, and as a farmer in the Cle Elum area. I use the highway regularly and appreciate the efforts of the Greenway. This National Heritage Area designation will create a framework that will greatly assist in recognizing the importance of the Greenway as a community enhancement into the future at a regional landscape scale. I believe this designation will cement the many viewpoints across the Greenway into one cohesive story and further empower a consensus-based approach for the continued care and improvement of the Greenway—a model proven successful by the remarkable achievements of the Greenway coalition over the last 20 years.

I have always felt proud to be affiliated with The Greenway and its model of synergy and consensus that has been vital in uniting a diverse group of stakeholders. Since its inception, MTGS has been a fine co-collaborator with TPL sharing staff and offices over the years and holding common visions for our northwest land conservation. The Greenway has been a leading role model for collaboration between agencies, non-profits and private organizations. And it has yielded tremendous successes in conserving, managing and improving the Greenway landscape. National Heritage Area designation will build on existing partnerships and forge new ones by providing a forum for addressing the shared challenges of maintaining the Greenway legacy.

It is an opportune time for taking steps to realize the Greenway vision of dynamic communities, safe and accessible outdoor recreation and healthy ecosystems. Twenty years of successes have laid an extraordinary foundation and now it is time to gain formal recognition for this iconic area. I urge the Greenway Trust to move this designation proposal forward. Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you work with our Congressional delegation.

Sincerely, Martha

  
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