



King County

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

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November 9, 2023

The Honorable Hilary Franz
Office of the Commissioner of Public Lands
MS 47001
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Commissioner Franz:

I am writing regarding the lands identified within King County as part of the capital budget proviso for Carbon Sequestration Forests (2023 c 474 §3130). We have received notification that 326 acres in West Tiger Mountain have been placed on the preliminary list of 2,000 acres of carbon dense, structurally complex forests that would be moved from trust status into conservation status. King County supports including these parcels on the list.

Given that 140 acres of the 326 acres are State Forest Transfer Lands, which provide revenue to the County and junior taxing districts, we look forward to hearing more about the process of identifying replacement lands. We wish to minimize impacts on junior taxing districts that would have received revenue from the timber harvest that was planned for this area. We understand that formal concurrence will not occur until the time of transfer, after the replacement lands have been identified, allowing time for these conversations.

We value the partnership we have with WADNR and stand by to look for more opportunities to conserve these high value forests and look for replacement lands in King County. If you have questions about this letter or our engagement in next steps please contact Kathleen Farley-Wolf at 206-477-4363 or by email at kfarleywolf@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine

cc: Dave Upthegrove, Chair, King County Council
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Mo McBroom, Deputy Director, DNRP
Kathleen Farley-Wolf, Project Program Manager, Water and Land Division, DNRP