

Washington's Working Forests Newsletter

December 2019

What are "Working Forests?"

A Working Forest is professionally managed to provide a continuous supply of renewable, sustainable wood products for building materials -- with a focus on protecting fish, water and wildlife. Using scientific practices and adhering to comprehensive state forestry laws, Washington's working forests work to give back to our entire state. Growing working forests absorb carbon, wood products store carbon, and the forest sector taken as a whole currently operates with a negative carbon footprint that supports greenhouse gas reduction goals and rural economies across Washington, a fact that is recognized in state law.

The Good News from the Woods

Working forests are vital to healthy waterways

Sustainable forestry is beneficial for water quality and salmon habitat preservation

Well managed forestlands play a vital role in maintaining water quality and supporting biodiversity, and a Snohomish County program that assesses local waterway health is underscoring just that.

A Snohomish County State of Our Waters report identified the Olney Creek waterway, which is surrounded primarily by public and private working forested lands in the Gold Bar area, as "excellent" for water quality and habitat. The County also gave Olney Creek high marks for aquatic life, noting that the waterway is "a diverse community with lots of insects, including those that only live in good conditions."

The State of Our Waters program is an environmental health monitoring action plan that includes the frequent gathering of biological, physical and chemical data to provide the county and residents information on the condition and health of local waterways. The program also aims to track any changes over time to "identify problems and their causes" as well as determine what resources are needed to "protect healthy waters and improve impaired ones."

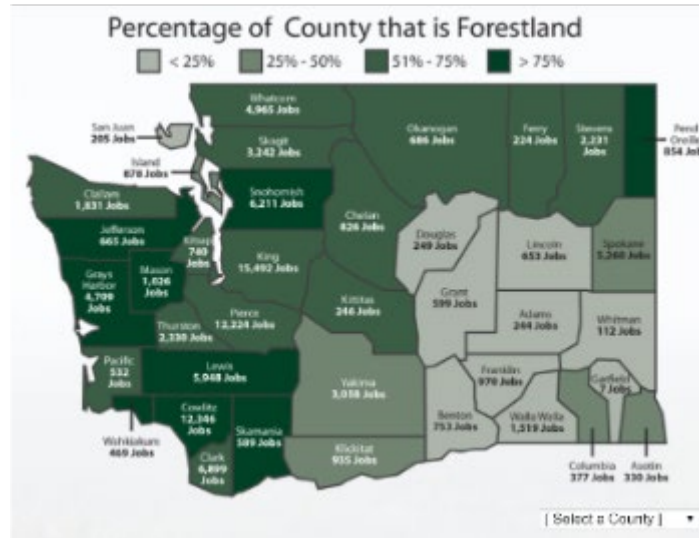
[Read more ...](#)

Did You Know?

The average 2,400 square foot home made from wood stores 30 metric tons of carbon, the same amount of CO2 generated by the average commuter over 5 years. (Source: Woodworks)



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How much do working forestry and wood products mean to Washington state? An awful lot.

Our interactive map tells the whole story. [Click](#) to learn more.

Know the Lingo?

Tin Pants - Heavy, waterproof trousers, usually made of canvas soaked in paraffin wax.

Bucker - A logger who, once a tree is felled, saws the timber into log-sized lengths.



Have You Signed?

Show your support for working forests and the 20th Anniversary of the Washington State Forests & Fish Law by indicating you'd like to see a special "Forests & Fish" Washington state vehicle license plate, with no obligation to purchase.

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