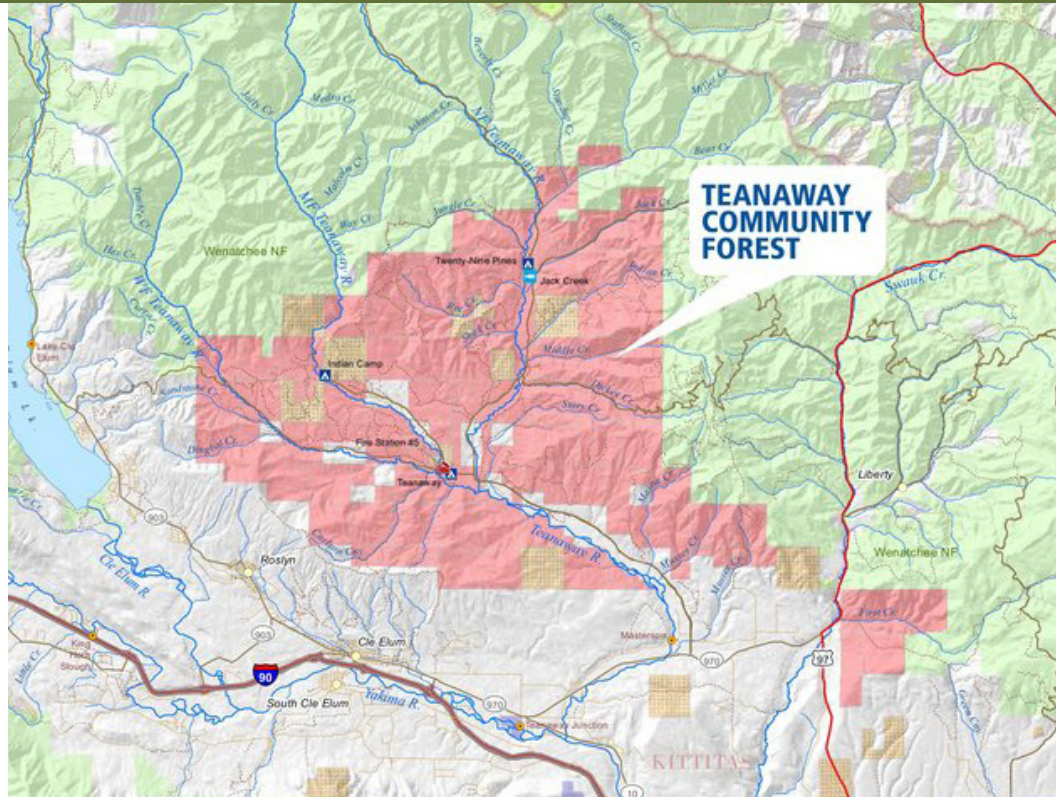


DNR COMMUNITY FOREST CAPITAL BUDGET, 2021-23



WELCOME TO THE TEANAWAY

In 2013, the Washington State Legislature invested \$90 million to acquire 50,241 acres in the Teanaway basin. Historically these headwaters provided timber, grazing land, and clean water, but were also valued for their diverse wildlife habitats and recreational opportunities. Today these values are balanced through collaborative adaptive management, meeting the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan's objectives to provide reliable water supply to the region's fish, farms, forests and communities.



to

The Teanaway Community Forest (TCF) is co-managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) with the input of a citizen advisory committee. Community Forests are working landscapes owned and managed by communities, government agencies, Tribes, and nonprofits to preserve the forest they love and provide public benefits. The TCF was established to:

- Protect and enhance water supply and watershed health
- Maintain working lands for forestry and grazing
- Maintain and, where possible, expand recreation opportunities
- Conserve and restore vital habitat for fish and wildlife
- Support strong community partnerships and engage stakeholders in land management

\$2.4 MILLION - CREATING 42 LOCAL JOBS

- Replacing two unsafe bridges
- Two major floodplain restoration projects
- Five wetland improvement projects
- Engineering two road relocation efforts
- Completion of new Scenic Driving Loop
- Construction of new Day Use rec area
- Two fish passage projects
- Improving grazing infrastructure



WATERSHED PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

The valleys, rivers, forests and mountains of the TCF are home to iconic species like wolves, elk, steelhead, wolverines and bull trout, connecting their ranges from the North Cascades to the Columbia. 400 miles of headwater streams converge here, providing cold, clean water for the rest of the Yakima Basin.

As the area’s population grows, less water remains instream, affecting habitat, reducing groundwater storage, and increasing the risk of catastrophic fire. The TCF management plan prioritizes restoration activities that safeguard watershed health.

Restored

- 300 acres of floodplain
- 13 miles of stream

Removed

- 15 fish passage barriers

Erosion Repaired

- 191 sediment tons/year

WORKING LANDS AND FOREST HEALTH

Due to the importance of protecting the watershed, the WA Legislature exempted the TCF from generating its own operating funds through activities like timber production and grazing. The Teanaway is also a priority watershed for forest health opportunities; DNR works alongside the US Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy, and local homeowners to implement forest health treatments that sustain a healthy, productive forest, and create defensible fire control lines within the watershed.

With sustainable management and support from the legislature while the forest is restored, the TCF will one day sustain itself as a working landscape, balancing economic, ecological, and recreational needs.

Precommercial Harvest, Fuel Breaks, and Salvage

- 2,341 acres

Forest Health Investment

- \$363,125 DNR funds

Homes Protected From Fire

- 4,957

RECREATION AND ACCESS

Washingtonians spend an average of 56 days playing outside every year. In Kittitas County, dollars spent by recreators on gear, guides, hotels, and meals generate about \$185 million annually. The TCF is a popular destination for locals and visitors, with easy access from I-90. It offers developed and dispersed camping, hunting and fishing, hundreds of miles of multi-use trails, and a wealth of opportunities to view flowers, birds and wildlife. County, nonprofit and private partners help maintain access to these public treasures.

Camp Renovations

- 74 improved campsites
- 4 new vault toilets

2019-20 Visitor Numbers

- 90,000 vehicles
- 28,000 campers

LEVERAGED PARTNER RESOURCES SINCE 2015

- **\$777,000 WA State RCO Grants**
- **\$4 million Kittitas County Road Improvements**
- **\$120,000 Partner Staff Match, 2015-2020**
- **\$363,125 DNR Forest Health Investment**
- **\$2.6 million Tribal and NGO Restoration**
- **\$53,174 Volunteer Hours 2015-2020**

www.dnr.wa.gov/Teanaway

DNR contact: kristine.reeves@dnr.wa.gov | WDFW contact: michael.livingston@dfw.wa.gov