

Washington | Northeast WA Forest Vision 2020 Collaborative Landscape Restoration Project | 2016



Total acreage of
landscape: 916,283

Partners

- 49 Degrees North Ski Area
- Air Force
- American Forest Resource Council
- Avista
- Avista Utilities
- Bonneville Power Association
- Border patrol
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Land Management
- Columbia Cedar
- Confederated Tribes of the Colville National Forest
- Conservation Northwest
- Federal Department of Highways
- Ferry Conservation District
- Ferry County Department of Public Works
- Forest Capital Partners
- Job Corp
- Kettle Falls Schools
- Kinross
- Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area
- NE WA Forestry Coalition
- Northwest Youth Corp
- NRCS Ferry County
- NRCS Stevens County
- Ponderay Valley Fibre
- Rocky Mountain Research Station
- Spokane FlyFishers
- State Department of Highways
- Stevens County Conservation District
- Stevens County Department of Public Works
- Stimson Lumber
- The Lands Council
- University of Montana
- University of Washington
- Up the Creek Tree Farm
- USFS Range Permittees
- Vaagen Brothers Timber Company
- Volunteers
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington Department of Natural Resources
- Washington State University
- Williamson Consulting
- WWETAC



The Kettle River Range looking south over the project region. © T. Coleman

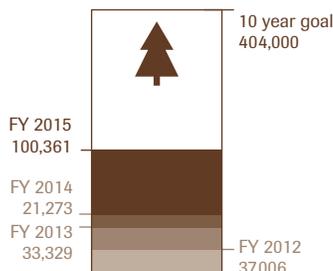
The Kettle River Range is a meeting place for the forests of the Cascade and Rocky Mountains, a diverse haven for elk, bull trout, Canada lynx, and pileated woodpecker. The Northeast Washington Forest Vision 2020 Collaborative project is using brush removal, small diameter tree thinning, and controlled burns to decrease the risk of destructive mega-fires. These activities are producing material for local sawmills and manufacturers and biomass for a local power producer.

Russ Vaagen has lived in the area nearly all of his life. He was born and raised 10 miles from town adjacent to Colville National Forest lands. Growing up, he spent countless hours hiking, fishing, and recreating in northeast Washington. Today Vaagen is working to keep the area's forests healthy for future generations. He pursues this as President of the Northeast Washington Forestry Coalition (NEWFC), a non-profit group collaborating on National Forest issues, and as Vice President of Vaagen Bros. Lumber, Inc., a 60 year old company that specializes in small logs and lumber from forest thinning. "Bringing people together to work on these issues is a great way to drive innovation and provide a catalyst for more great work in the future, especially as we learn how to do it even better," says Vaagen.



Russ Vaagen

NEWFC has successfully collaborated on what will soon be over 40 stewardship projects on the Colville National Forest. The CFLR project complements the Coalition's efforts by focusing work on a large, yet specific area around the Kettle River Range. This project will create direct jobs on the ground and provide needed supplies to local sawmills, pulp mills, and power plants fueled by woody biomass, while reducing the threat of catastrophic wildfire to local communities. "Landscape level projects are the best way to get meaningful work done on the ground," Vaagen offers. "CFLR helps that happen."



Wood Supply
CCF of timber sold

2015 Results

- 190 jobs created or maintained on a yearly average
- \$28.6 million estimated total labor income
- 16,635 acres of fuels reduced near homes
- 666.7 miles of improved or maintained roads
- 21 miles of fish habitat restored

Contact information

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