



August 14, 2023

Mark Reed, Conservation Transaction Unit Supervisor  
Washington Department of Natural Resources  
1111 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98504

RE: Mt. Adams Forest – 2025 Forest Legacy Project

Dear Mr. Reed,

On behalf of the Trout Lake Community Council (TLCC), I am writing to express our support for the Mt. Adams Forest application to the USFS Forest Legacy Program for fiscal year 2025 and beyond. The conservation easements purchased through this voluntary transaction would keep over 13,000 acres of working forest in production in and around the community of Trout Lake (Klickitat County) in Washington State. Trout Lake's economy benefits from the presence of working forests. Certainty about their productive future will allow us to better plan for our future. Additionally, the conservation easements would continue to allow recreational non-motorized access to these forested lands thereby providing a variety of opportunities to residents and visitors to the area.

The Mt. Adams region grows high quality Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine logs. It benefits from strong timber markets including access to at least four regional buyers and multiple transportation routes for moving logs and lumber to markets. These forests support a regional forest products industry composed of dozens of contracting companies and hundreds of well-paid jobs.

The Columbia River region has long benefitted from generations of sustainable forest management. We value our resource base, and this conservation easement proposal seeks to maintain that legacy long into the future. We urge your support of the Mt. Adams Forest Legacy project. The TLCC would be pleased if there is an opportunity to help define priority parcels for easement purchase.

Respectfully,

DAINA L. BAMBE  
Chair, Trout Lake Community Council