



United States
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Agriculture

National Institute
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Empowering New Forest Owners in the Northwest

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Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development
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Project Audience

- First-time forest owners & landowners new to active forest stewardship
 - SW Washington and NW Oregon
 - Woodland ownerships of 10-500 acres
 - Ecologically-based forest management (multiple species, uneven-aged silviculture, biodiversity, water quality)
 - Beginning stage – purchased land in last 10 years or transitioning from passive ownership to active forest stewardship



Partners/Collaborators

- Kirk Hanson, **Northwest Natural Resource Group**, curriculum development, landowner outreach & instruction
- Rick Helman, **Northwest Natural Resource Group**, ecologically-based selective harvests & landowner outreach
- Michael Ahr, **West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District**, curriculum development, landowner outreach & instruction
- Luke Rogers, **University of Washington**, update and configure forest owner database
- **Build Local Alliance**, workshops for landowners and wood buyers



Key Approaches

- GIS to identify new forest owners
- Online case studies & forest tours
- Workshops on ecological forestry & marketing
- One-on-one site visits
- Encourage enrollment in management planning & cost-share programs
- Encourage & facilitate ecological thinning projects
- Outreach & education to wood users (architects, contractors, builders)
- Facilitate transactions for green building & value-added projects



Overall Target Outcome

By the end of this project, we will have helped:

- 200 landowners understand benefits of active forest stewardship through 8 workshops
- 40 landowners complete management plans for 1,200 acres
- 1,000 acres enrolled in public cost-share programs
- 80 participants understand how to connect to green markets through 4 training events
- Improve productivity of 300 acres of forest through selective thinning harvests that generate \$540K gross revenue, & sustain 8 jobs
- Train 10 architects, builders, & wood users about local forest products
- Facilitate \$100K gross revenue in local green building transactions



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What do you have to share?

- Farmers are forest owners too!
 - We work with ag producers who are interested in stewarding their woodlands.



What do you hope to learn from other projects?

- Recruitment strategies to reach passive landowners
- Role organizations play in peer networking, information clearing house
- How do ag professionals coach producers to “brand their own” or go commodity?



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Keep in touch!

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