

Washington Forest Practices and the Clean Water Act

by:

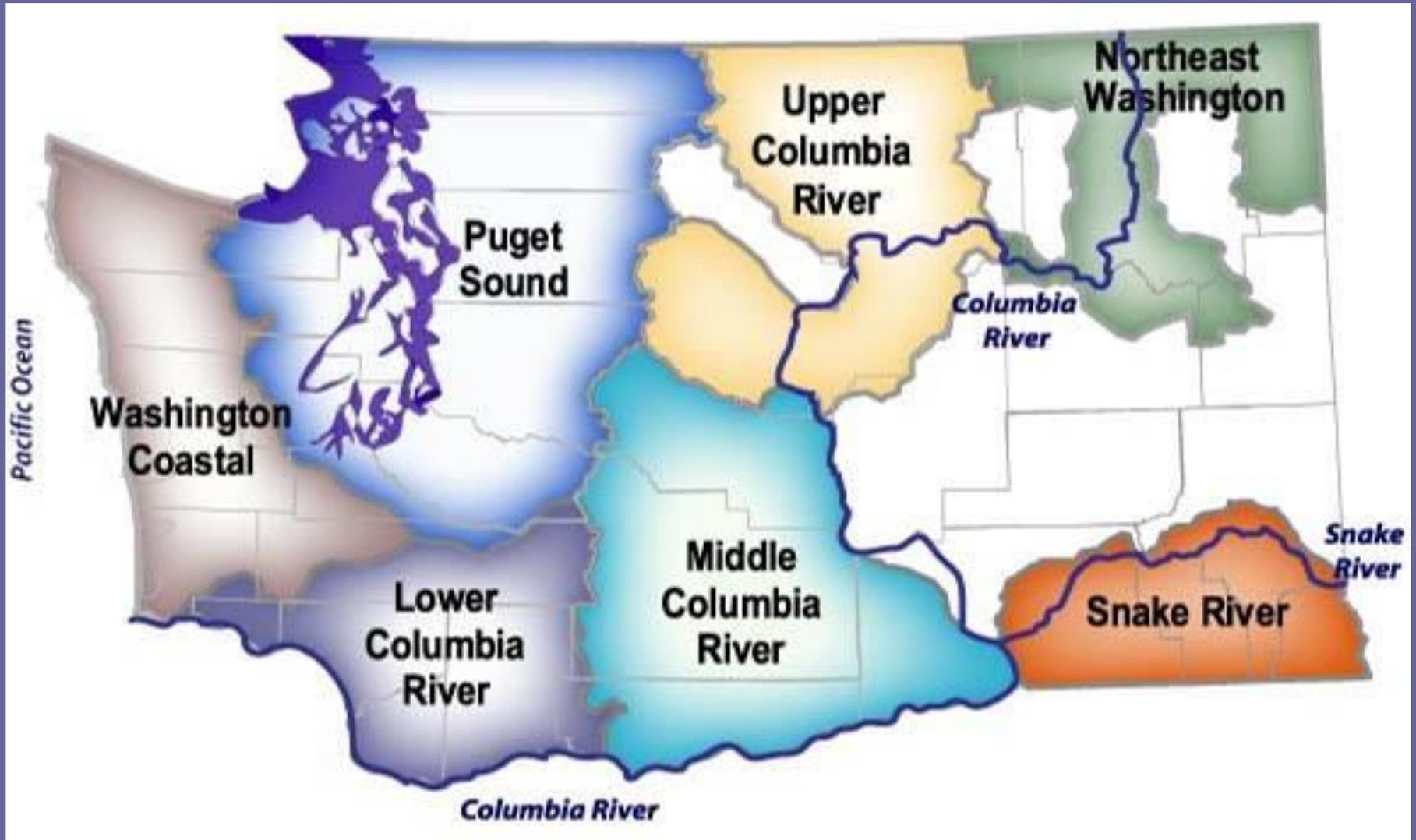
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**Presentation to:
Deschutes TMDL Workshop
September 29, 2009**

Forest practice regulations

- 1974 State Forest Practices Act
 - Forest Practices Board created
 - Complex rulemaking governing forestry
 - Goal: Maintain a viable forest products industry and protect public resources
- Rules have been amended 30 times.
 - 1987 TFW
 - 1992 SFR
 - 1999 FFR

Mid 90's 75% State Affected by ESA Listings



1996 +300 CWA Listings on forestlands

Streams

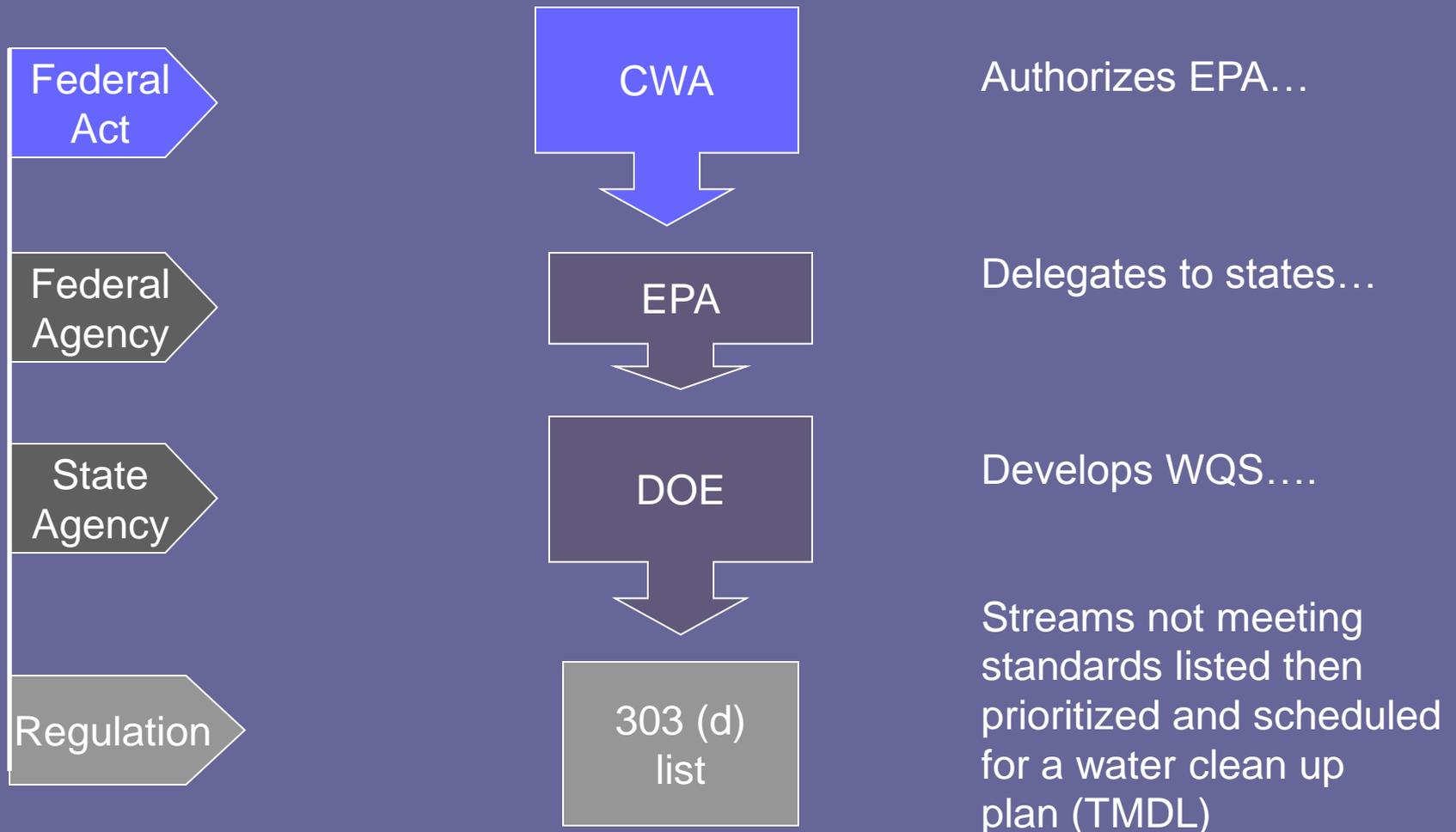
1996 303(d) Impaired and Threatened Water Bodies



ESA and CWA Prompts Change in State Forest Practices Regulations

- Seek a cooperative solution vs. 'go to war'
- Legislature adopted the Forests & Fish Law in 1999
- Meets both Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts
 - Wider streamside buffer of trees
 - New road construction and maintenance standards
 - Extra protection for steep or unstable slopes
 - Covers 60,000 miles of forest streams on 9.1mm acres
- Effect on vegetation management

Regulatory Authorities



Ecology and Forest Practices

- Delegation of Authority to the Department of Ecology
- The significance of an asterisk (*)
- Right of Entry
- Enforcement
- DOE must regulate through the Forest Practice System

Schedule M-2 (WQ Assurances)

- Postponed development of TMDLs in Forested Watersheds Until 2009.
- DOE is in the process of conditionally extending these assurances.

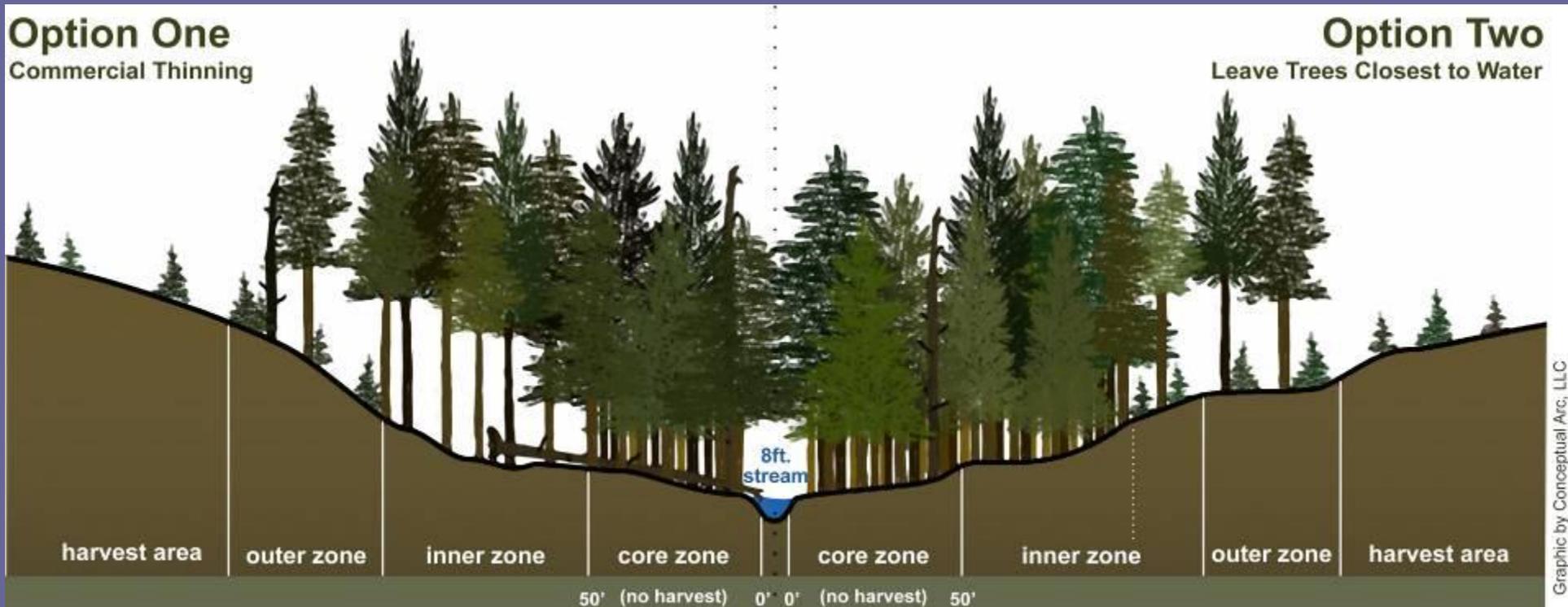
Forest Practices and WQ

- Chemicals
- Fertilizers
- Temperature
- Sediment



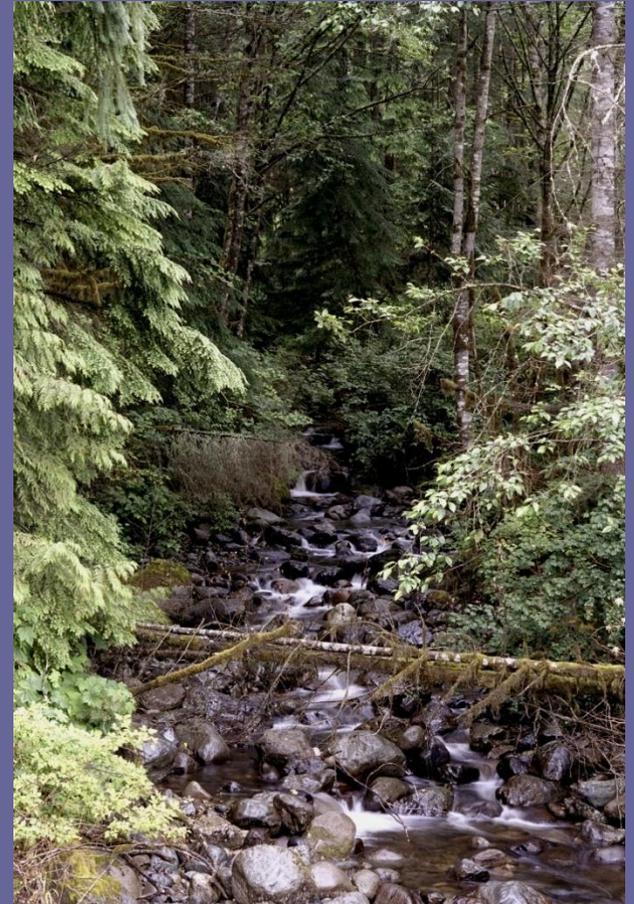
Temperature (Shade, LWD)

- Tripled width of streamside buffers
- 60,000 miles of streams on 9.3 million ac.
- \$2.1 billion investment in road improvements



Sediment

- Roads
 - Runoff
 - landslide
- Watercourse Buffers
 - Bank Stability
 - Filters
- Mass Wasting



Forests & Fish Law

- Protects fish habitat and clean water, meets ESA and CWA
 - widens streamside buffers
 - road construction/maintenance
 - steep and unstable slopes
 - 60,000 miles of streams on 9.3 million acres
 - 2,400 blockages removed
 - 1,572 miles stream habitat opened



Mixed Use Zone Challenges...



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Class A Wetland

Industrial Forest

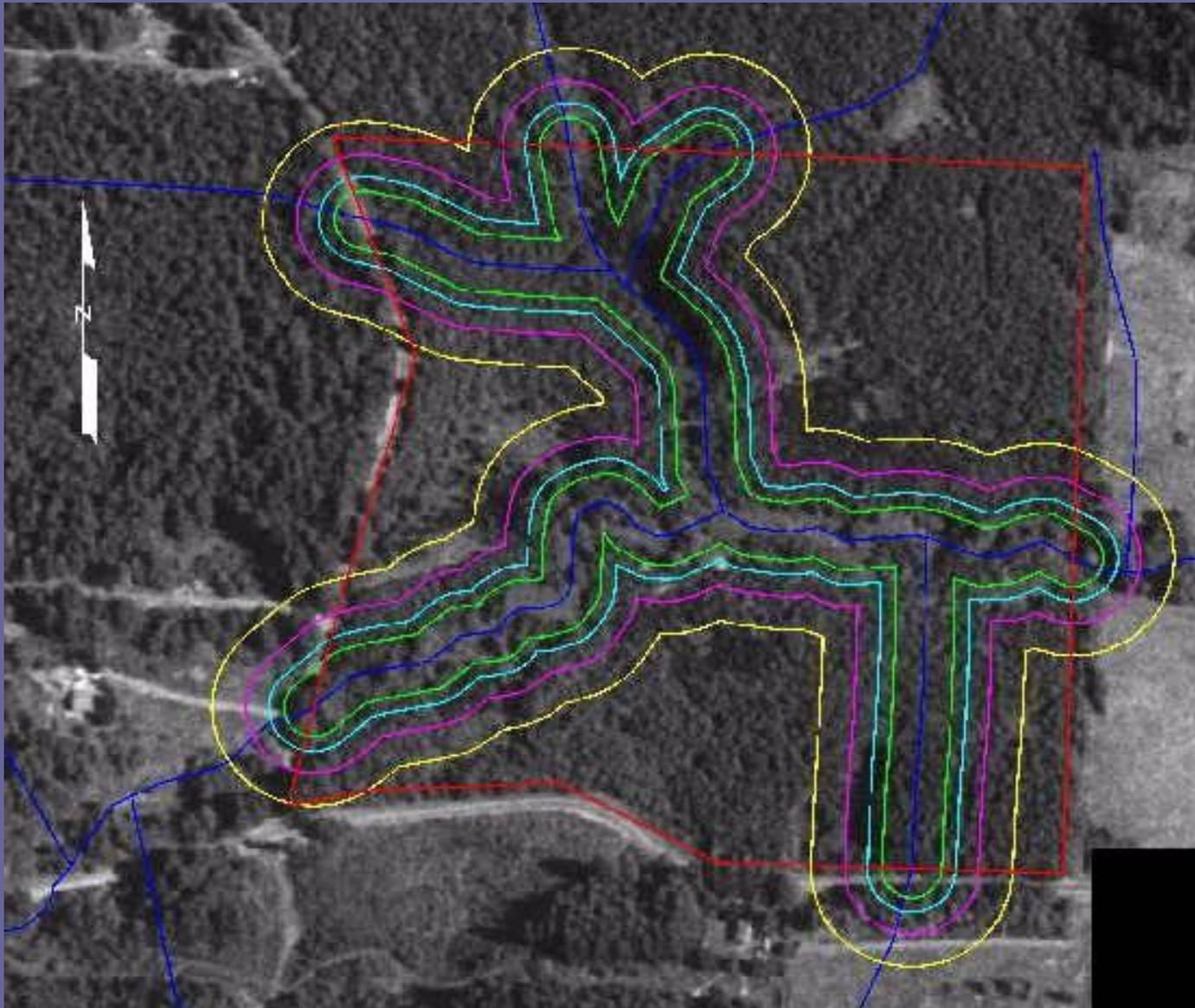
Development?

Family Forestland

Residential

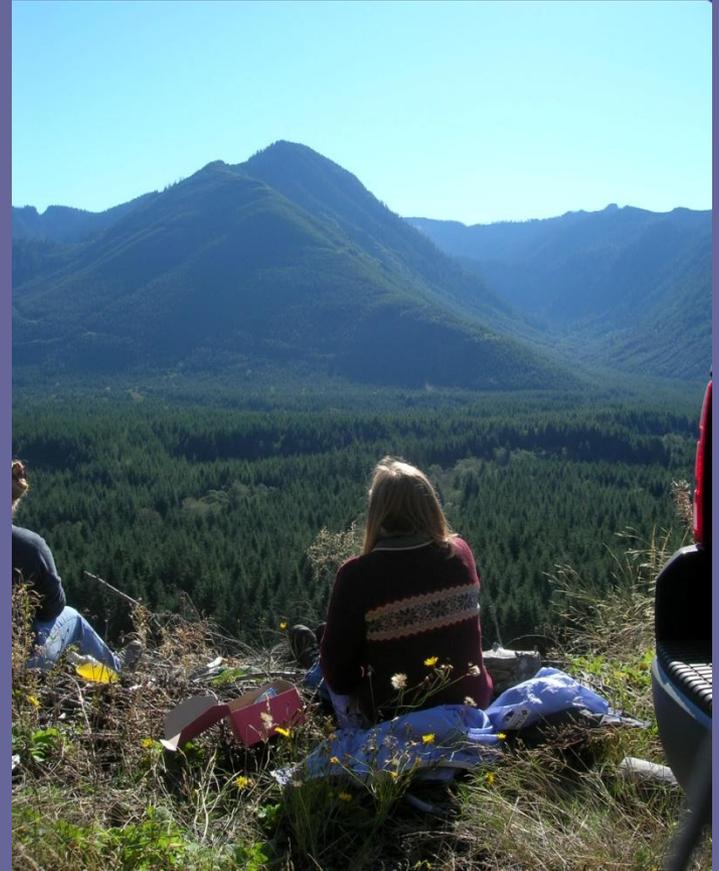
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Unintended Consequences?



Sustainable Forestry is the Solution

- Wood products and forestry offer sustainable, environmentally-friendly solutions to climate change
- Working forests provide clean air and water, fish and wildlife habitat, and green landscapes
- As population increases, forest resources become more important



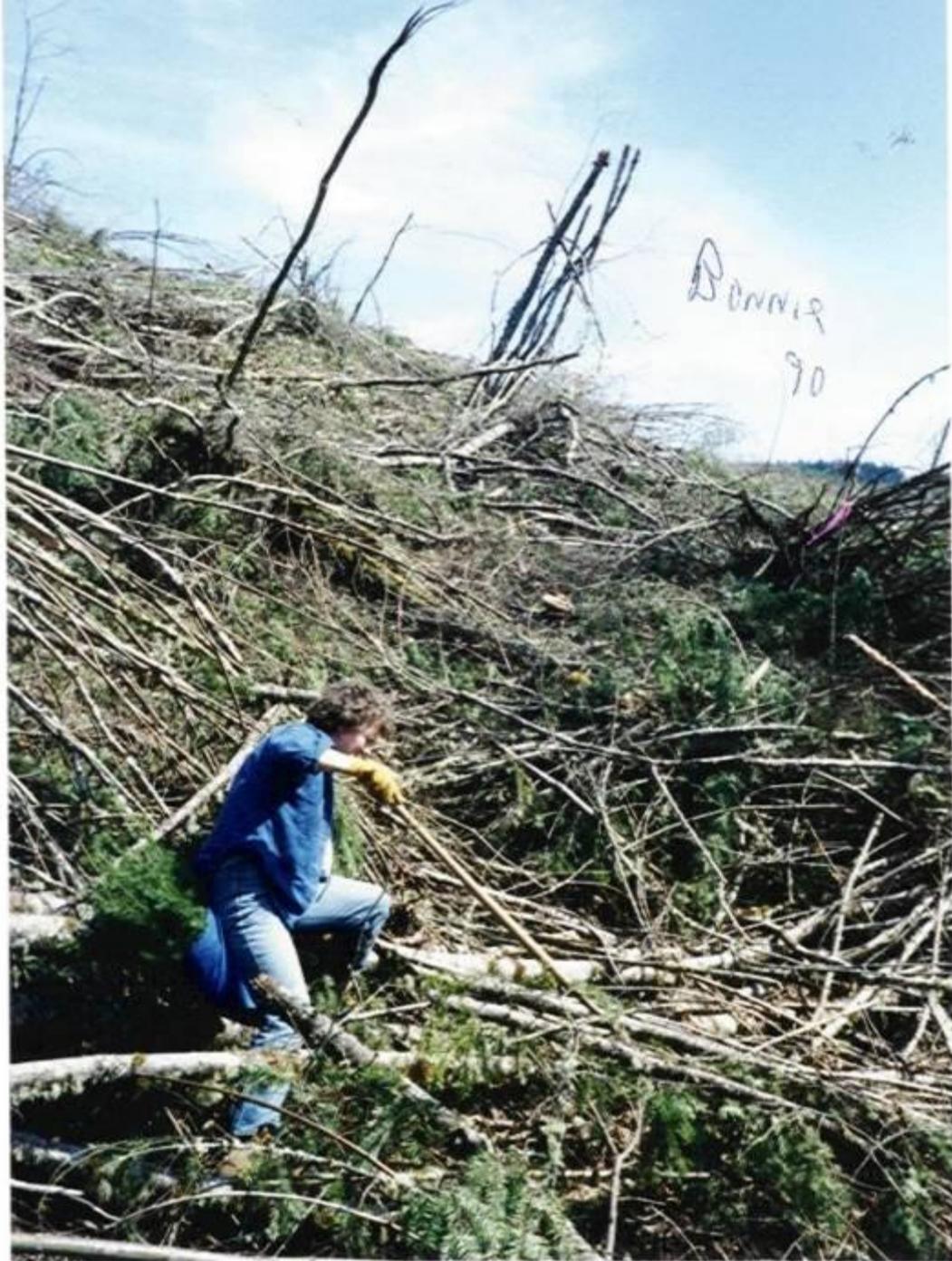
Working Forest – Snoqualmie Tree Farm

Forestry is an investment

- You plant trees, prune, weed and ultimately harvest...tools we use:
 - Tree Planting
 - Brush Control
 - Animal Damage
 - Pruning
 - Thinning
 - Harvesting

Tree Planting





Brush Control



Animal Damage





05.31.2005

Pruning





Thinning



Harvest

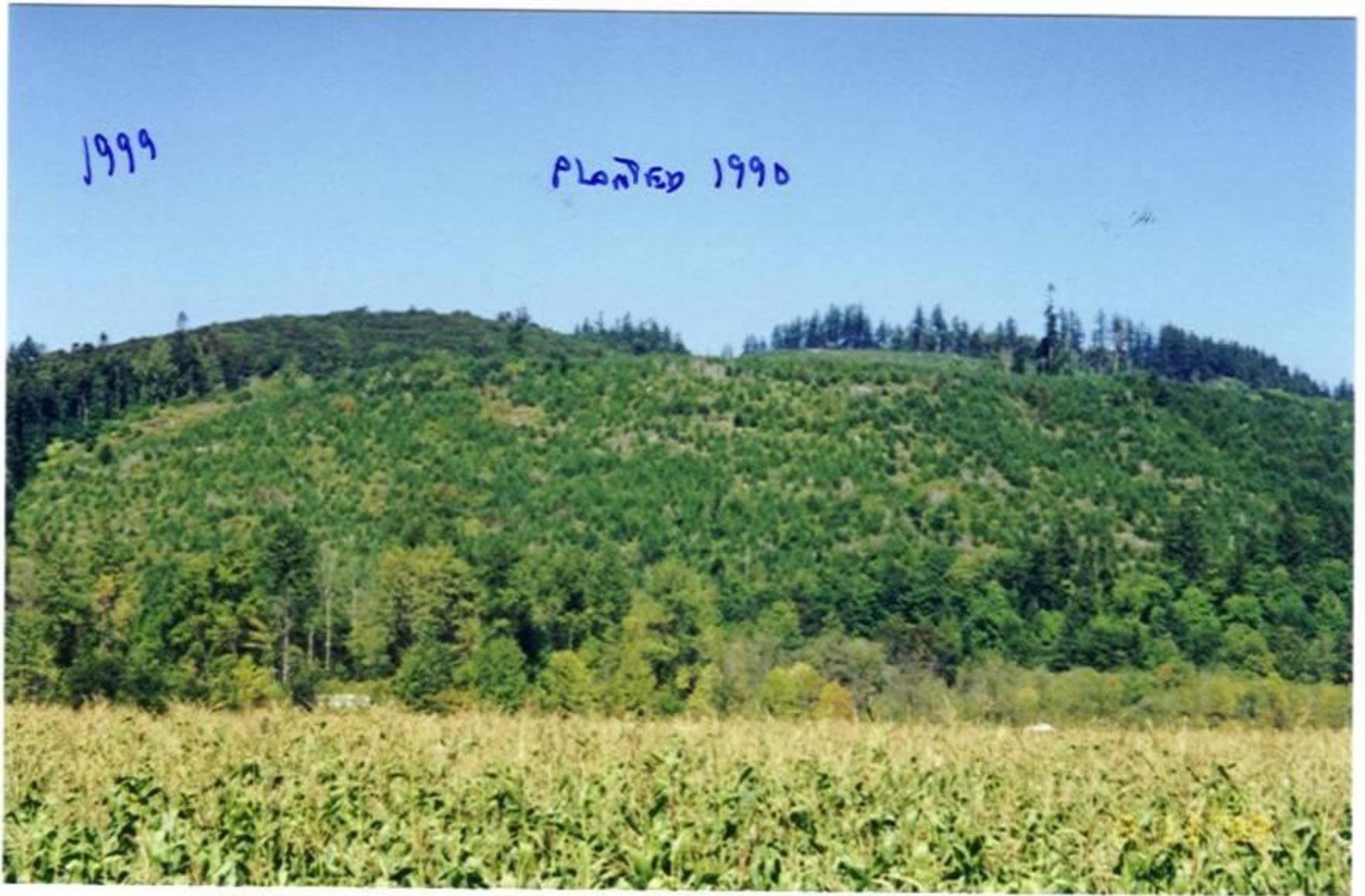




Time Lapse Photo's 1992



Time Lapse Photo's 1999



Time Lapse Photo's 2004



Special Places and Moments







03.22.2005

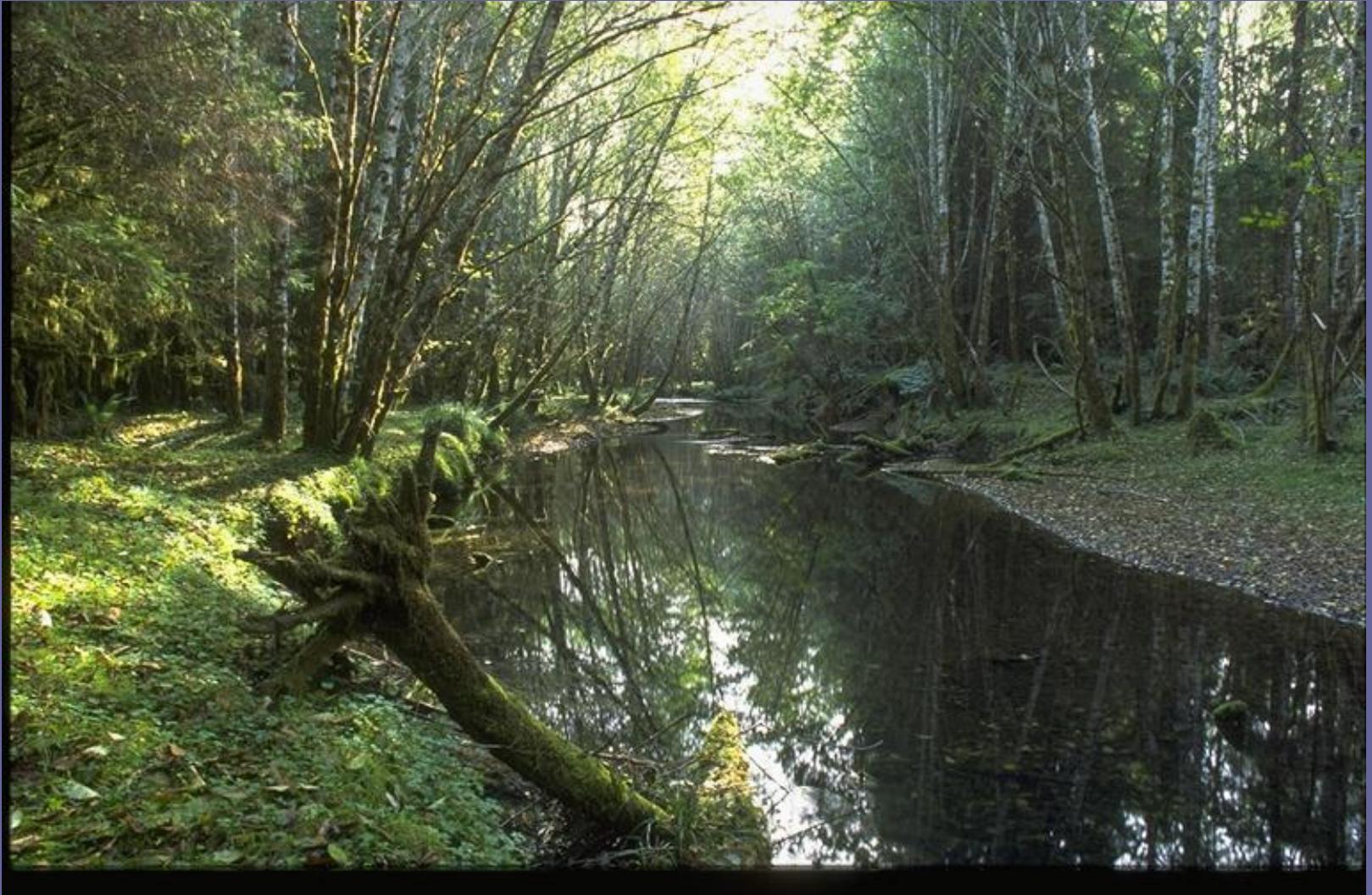




Forestry is something deep inside...



Keep Working Forests on the Landscape



The End

