

Forest Management Project Approval Requests for 2022



Washington Department of
FISH and WILDLIFE

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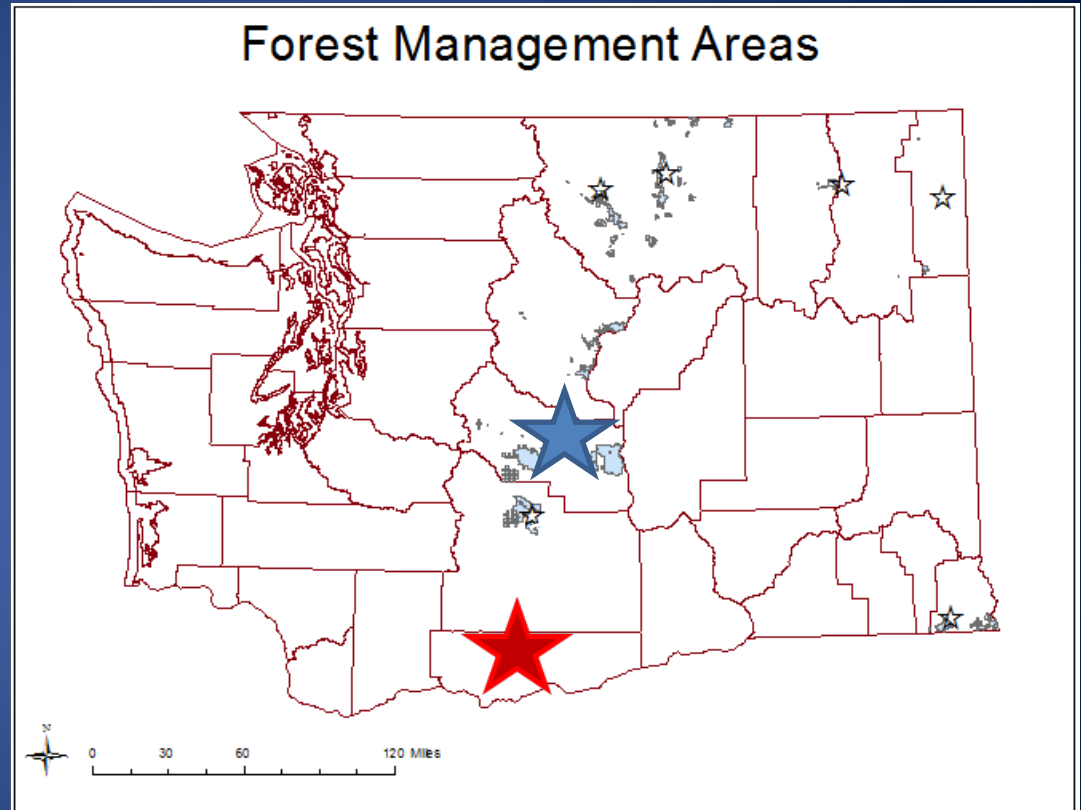
Context for 2022 projects

- Forest Management Strategy for WDFW forests adopted in 2014
- Since then, WDFW has treated 20,468 acres
 - 9.5% of WDFW forested acres
 - Area of a football field stretching from Seattle to Bakersfield, CA
- Major activities
 - Non-commercial thinning – 8,254 acres
 - Commercial thinning – 6,376 acres
 - Prescribed burning - 5,375

More details available at: <https://wdfw.medium.com/healthy-forests-healthy-washington-f3b7789b17eb>

2022 Thinning Projects >1,000,000 board feet

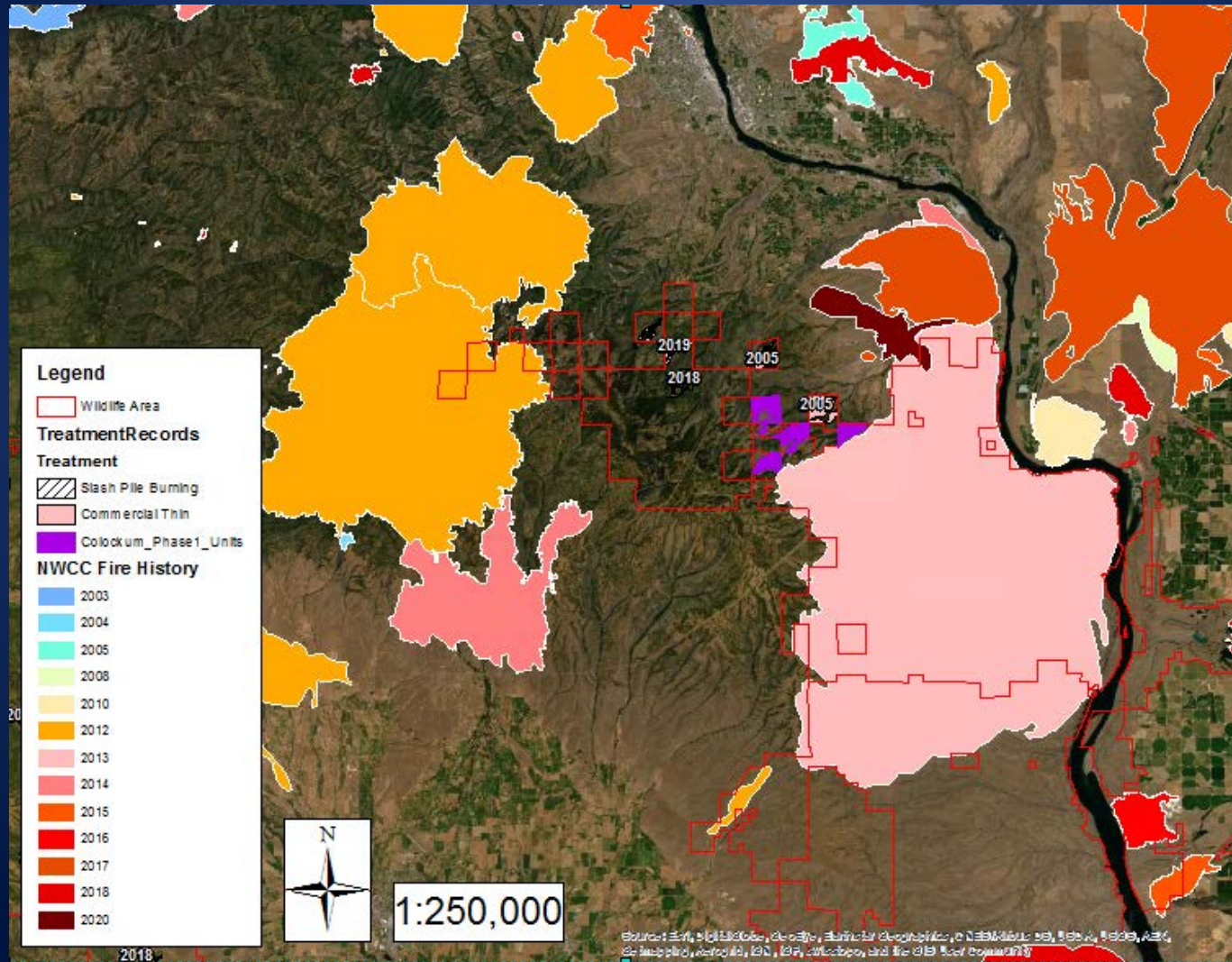
- ★ Colockum Phase 1
- ★ Klickitat Phase 2



Colockum Wildlife Area – Phase 1

- Up to 1,452 acres
- Up to 5 million board feet
- About one truck load per acre
- Leave about 30-40 of the best trees per acre
- Units scattered
- Spread across 1-2 years
- Slash piles will be burned
- Hope to follow up with prescribed fire

Colockum Phase 1 (Chelan County)



Desired Changes

(Photos from the 2019 Stemilt project – 3 miles away)

Pre-treatment



Post-treatment



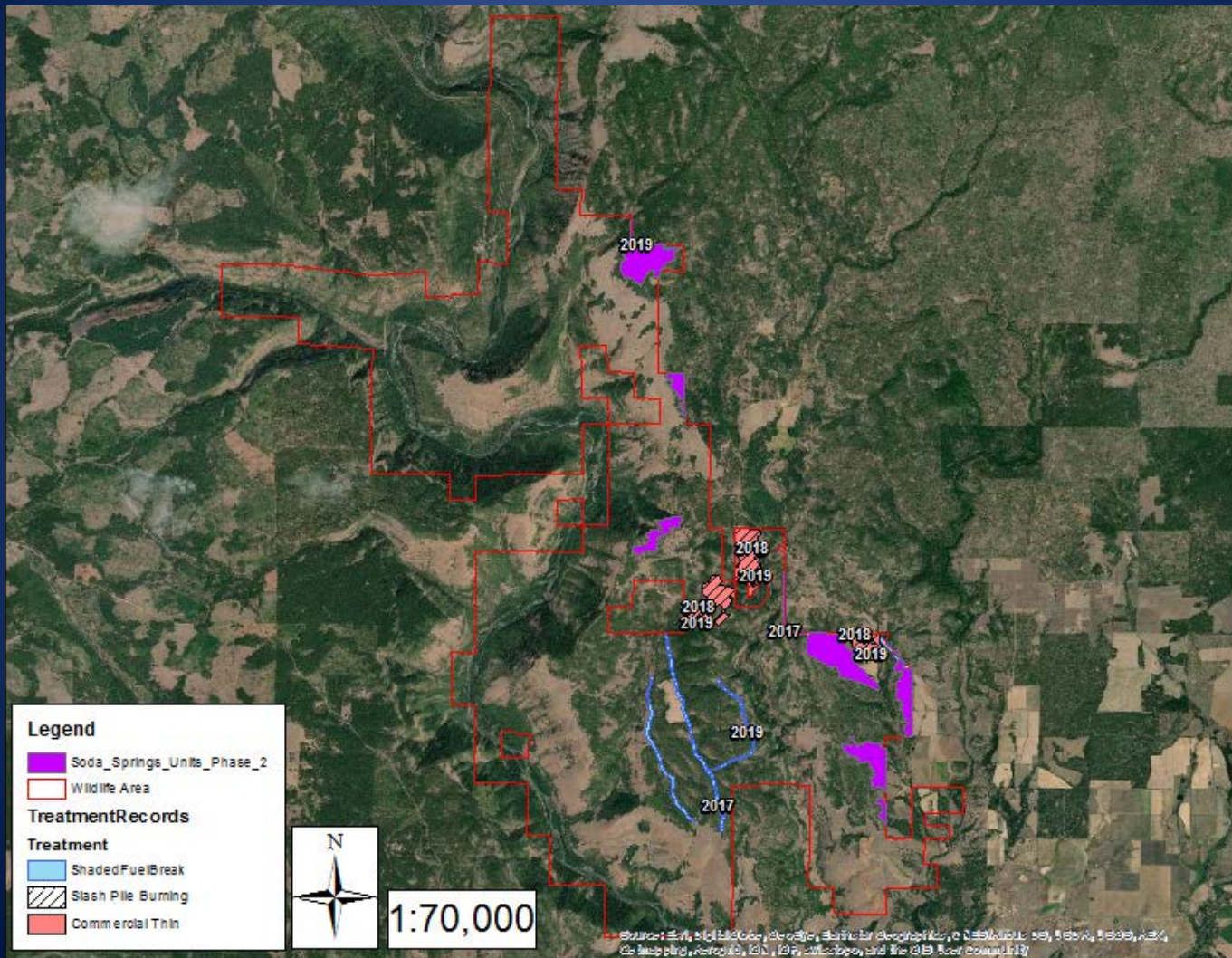
Desired future condition



Klickitat Wildlife Area – Soda Springs Phase 2

- 387 acres
- Up to 1.2 million board feet harvested
- Little over 1/2 truck load per acre
- Leave 25-35 of the best trees per acre
- Buffers around >700 western gray squirrel nest trees
- Likely spread across 2 years
- Slash piles will be burned
- Hope to follow up with prescribed fire.

Soda Springs Phase 2 (Klickitat County)



Desired Changes

(Photos from the nearby 2018, Phase 1 project)

Before



After



Fewer trees = more acorns for western gray squirrels and other wildlife

Trees crowded

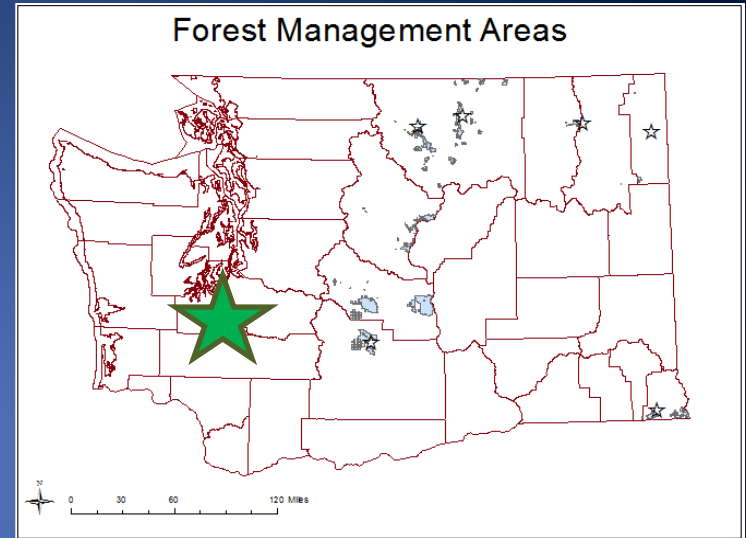


Trees widely spread

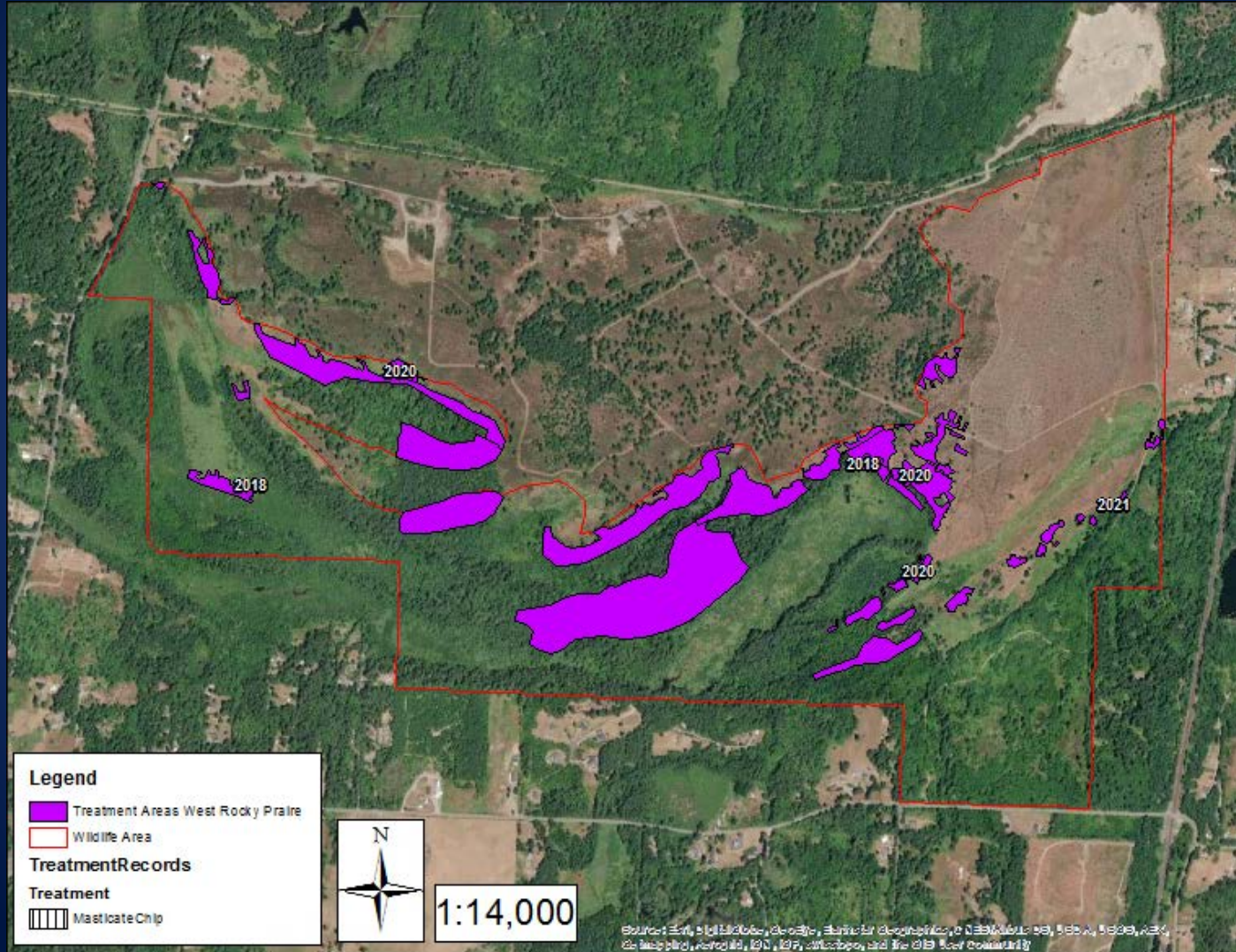


West Rocky Prairie - FYI

- 99 acres
- About 0.82 million board feet
- Oak woodland and prairie restoration
- Average 1-3 truck loads per acre
 - Remove Douglas fir from prairie
 - Thin fir among oaks
- Late summer harvest to minimize impacts to listed species
- Extreme slash cleanup to enable future prairie maintenance
- Pile burning and hope to follow up with prescribed fire
- Want to provide large wood for Chehalis River Basin restoration
- Revenue can only be spent on site - listed species



West Rocky Prairie (Thurston County)



Oak Woodland Changes

(Photos from the nearby 2018, Scatter Creek project)

Before



18 months after



Intermediate Conditions May Generate Concern

Immediately after harvest



6 months later



Desired Priority Species Responses

(Photos from the nearby 2018, Scatter Creek project)

Mazama pocket gopher colonization in 5 months



Great spangled fritillary use in 8 months



Questions?

