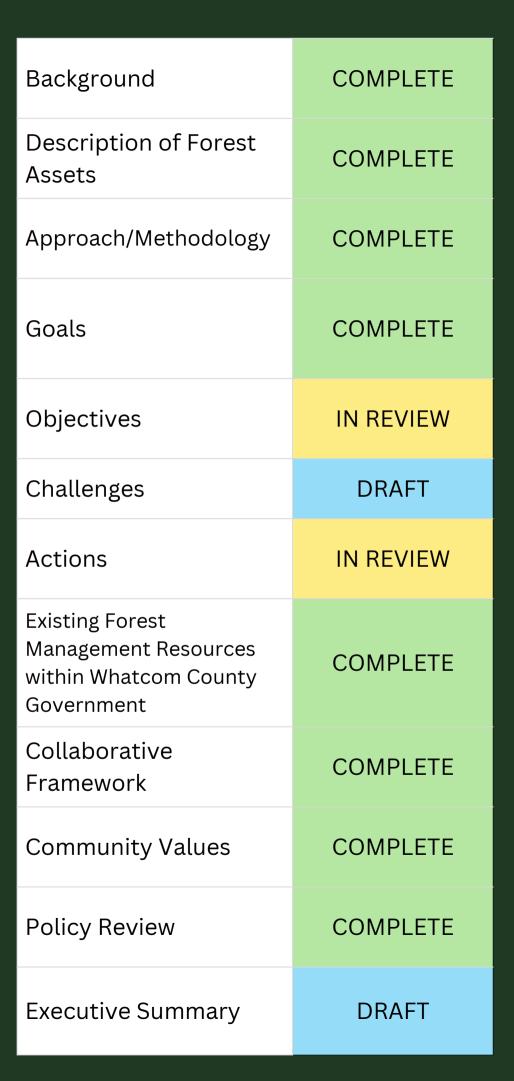


#### PLAN STATUS TO DATE

- 17 Task Force Members
- 13 Task Force Meetings since July 2024
- 6 Task Force Subcommittees:
  - Climate Informed Forest Management
  - Forest Industry and Economics
  - Forest Management Coordination
  - Stewardship and Land Use
  - Consolidation Committee
  - Review Committee







## GOAL 1: THE WHATCOM COUNTY FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY WORKS TO STRENGTHEN FOREST RESILIENCE AND PROVIDE DIRECT AND INDIRECT ECONOMIC BENEFITS.

GOAL 2. WHATCOM COUNTY FOREST LANDOWNERS ACTIVELY MANAGE FOREST LAND FOR RESILIENCE AGAINST CLIMATE-RELATED IMPACTS TO PROVIDE HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES.

GOAL 3: ALL SECTORS OF FOREST LANDOWNERS MANAGE FORESTS FOR RESILIENCE WHILE MEETING THEIR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND PRIORITIES.

GOAL 4: WILDLAND FIRE RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT ENTITIES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS COLLABORATE TO DIRECT COMMUNITY WILDLAND-FIRE PREVENTION, RISK REDUCTION, AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

## GOAL 1: THE WHATCOM COUNTY FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY WORKS TO STRENGTHEN FOREST RESILIENCE AND PROVIDE DIRECT AND INDIRECT ECONOMIC BENEFITS.

OBJECTIVE 1: MAINTAIN A THRIVING TIMBER INDUSTRY, WORKING FOREST LAND BASE,
AND ASSOCIATED SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS.

OBJECTIVE 2: MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP SUSTAINABLE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES THAT DELIVER ECONOMIC AND HEALTH BENEFITS TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

OBJECTIVE 3: SUPPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT BENEFITS BOTH COMMERCIAL AND NON-COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT SECTORS BY ATTRACTING INVESTMENTS, REBUILDING AND MAINTAINING A SKILLED WORKFORCE, AND SUPPORTING ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY AND HUMAN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

## GOAL 2. WHATCOM COUNTY FOREST LANDOWNERS ACTIVELY MANAGE FOREST LAND FOR RESILIENCE AGAINST CLIMATE-RELATED IMPACTS TO PROVIDE HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES.

OBJECTIVE 1: PRIORITIZE AND INCENTIVIZE FOREST HEALTH TREATMENTS ON LANDSCAPES WITH THE HIGHEST NEED AND RELATIVE RISK TO REDUCE DAMAGE FROM WILDFIRES, PESTS, AND DISEASES

OBJECTIVE 2: CONSERVE THE BIODIVERSITY AND ENHANCE THE HABITATS OF FAUNA, FLORA, AND FUNGI IN WHATCOM COUNTY FORESTS.

OBJECTIVE 3: IMPROVE FOREST STRUCTURES THAT PROMOTE ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

## GOAL 2. WHATCOM COUNTY FOREST LANDOWNERS ACTIVELY MANAGE FOREST LAND FOR RESILIENCE AGAINST CLIMATE-RELATED IMPACTS TO PROVIDE HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES.

OBJECTIVE 4: ENHANCE FOREST WATERSHED HEALTH TO MAXIMIZE SOIL MOISTURE AND DRY-SEASON STREAM FLOWS AND REDUCE WET-SEASON PEAK STREAM FLOWS AND FLOODS.

**OBJECTIVE 5: CREATE A WHATCOM COUNTY FOREST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM** 

OBJECTIVE 6: INCREASE ACTIVE MANAGEMENT OF FOREST ACREAGE ACROSS WHATCOM
COUNTY FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE.

#### GOAL 3: ALL SECTORS OF FOREST LANDOWNERS MANAGE FORESTS FOR RESILIENCE WHILE MEETING THEIR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND PRIORITIES.

OBJECTIVE 1: DEVELOP A FRAMEWORK FOR ENGAGEMENT AND COORDINATION ACROSS LOCAL, STATE, FEDERAL, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS ON FORESTRY ISSUES.

OBJECTIVE 2: BUILDS AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY, THE NOOKSACK INDIAN TRIBE AND LUMMI NATION TO ALIGN THE PRIORITIES OF THE FOREST RESILIENCE TASK FORCE (FRTF) PLAN TO HONOR TREATY RIGHTS AND SUPPORT ONGOING ACCESS AND USE OF USUAL AND ACCUSTOMED AREAS AND STATIONS.

OBJECTIVE 3: RETAIN FOREST LAND IN A FORESTED CONDITION THROUGH STEWARDSHIP AND INCENTIVE PROGRAMS AND BY REDUCING CONVERSION AND REZONING TO OTHER USES.

# GOAL 4: WILDLAND FIRE RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT ENTITIES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS COLLABORATE TO DIRECT COMMUNITY WILDLAND-FIRE PREVENTION, RISK REDUCTION, AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

OBJECTIVE 1: ASSESS AND SUMMARIZE THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF LOCAL WILDFIRE-RESPONSE ENTITIES AND IDENTIFY INFORMATIONAL GAPS, IF ANY, THAT AFFECT PUBLIC SAFETY.

OBJECTIVE 2: REDUCE THE RISK OF MORE FREQUENT, INTENSE, AND WIDESPREAD WILDFIRES.

#### NEXT STEPS

- The Forest Advisory Committee is currently reviewing the draft Plan and discussing their comments at their meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup>
- The Task Force will meet on August 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss how to incorporate the feedback from the FAC
- County staff will review an updated draft after August 14th
- The Task Force will meet in early September to discuss County staff feedback and any final recommended edits.
- The Task Force will vote on the Plan on September 15th



#### THANKYOU