

August 1, 1995

Introduced By:

BRIAN DERDOWSKI
LARRY PHILLIPS

midfork:sdw

Proposed No.:

95 - 543

MOTION NO. **9648**

1
2 A MOTION supporting IAC funding for the
3 Middle Fork Snoqualmie Vision Study Group
4 Process and supporting King County's
5 participation in the process and the
6 County's contribution of a portion of the
7 required matching funds.
8

9 WHEREAS, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River was
10 selected as one of the six Waterways 2000 river basins and is
11 the largest of the designated river basins totaling over
12 100,000 acres, and

13 WHEREAS, much of the Middle Fork basin is in relatively
14 pristine forest land and most of that land is currently owned
15 by federal and state government agencies or large timber
16 companies, and

17 WHEREAS, in recognition of the importance of preserving
18 the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River for its natural and
19 resource uses, a coalition of representatives from the U.S.
20 Forest Service (Forest Service), Washington State Department
21 of Natural Resources (DNR), King County, Weyerhaeuser, Sierra
22 Club, MidFORC, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, and other
23 agencies and organizations have developed a proposed Middle
24 Fork Snoqualmie Vision Study Group process, and

25 WHEREAS, the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Vision Study Group
26 is intended to bring interested citizens together to provide
27 information to affected governmental and private entities on

1 the best land management approaches to the Middle Fork
2 Snoqualmie River Valley, and

3 WHEREAS, the vision would ensure the protection of the
4 natural ecological values, recognize the value of commercial
5 activities such as forestry, and identify recreational
6 opportunities which are compatible with the natural features
7 and the commercial activities within the area, and

8 WHEREAS, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust has
9 agreed to serve as the project manager for the vision study
10 process, and

11 WHEREAS, the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Vision Study Group
12 have established a budget for the vision study process over a
13 two year period commencing in 1995 which totals \$330,000 and
14 includes funds for the development of a vision statement, the
15 completion of a detailed resource assessment, and the design
16 of a site specific recreation and land management plan, and

17 WHEREAS, the DNR has submitted one grant application for
18 funding in 1996 and will submit another grant application for
19 funding in 1997 to the State Interagency Committee for
20 Outdoor Recreation (IAC) in the total amount of \$175,000 for
21 public use resource assessment and for recreation planning
22 and development components of the vision study process, and

23 WHEREAS, as a match to the IAC funds, the Forest Service
24 has been requested to contribute \$47,500 in-kind and cash
25 contributions for watershed analysis and related work, DNR
26 has committed to contribute \$52,500 in-kind and cash
27 contributions for GIS services and the development of a
28 public use plan, volunteers will contribute \$10,000 in-kind
29 services, and King County has been requested to contribute

1 \$40,000 cash and \$5,000 in-kind services for the development
2 of the vision statement;

3 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED by the Council of King
4 County:

5 The Metropolitan King County Council endorses the Middle
6 Fork Snoqualmie Vision Study Group process as a comprehensive
7 approach to cooperative land and resource management in the
8 Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and supports DNR's
9 funding requests to the IAC. Furthermore, the Council
10 supports the County's participation in the vision study
11 process and the cash funding request, and requests the
12 Executive to transmit an appropriations ordinance for this
13 effort.

14 PASSED by a vote of 10 to 0 this 28th day of

15 August, 1995.

16 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
17 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

18 Kent Pullen
19 Chair

20 ATTEST:

21 Gerald A. Peterson
22 Clerk of the Council

23 Attachments: Middle Fork Snoqualmie Vision Study Group
24 Proposal and Budget Summary; Project endorsement letters from
25 Weyerhaeuser, Champion, United States Forest Service, and
26 Washington State Department of Natural Resources

27

MIDDLE FORK SNOQUALMIE VISION STUDY GROUP****DRAFT** (5-12-95)****I. PURPOSE**

The Middle Fork Snoqualmie Vision Study Group (SVSG) is intended to bring interested citizens together to provide information to affected governmental entities on the best land management approaches to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River valley.

Goal

Develop a vision for the Middle Fork Snoqualmie valley (and immediately adjacent lands*) within the framework of the King County Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

The vision would ensure the protection of the natural ecological values, recognize commercial activities such as forestry and identify nature related recreation opportunities. The vision will be integrated with the overall Mountains to Sound Greenway plan.

Primary Objective

Propose a conceptual plan for land management and recreational uses to achieve the vision, including a mix of working forestry, natural value protection and compatible recreation.

Integrate urban and agricultural areas in conceptual designs, emphasizing complementary management activities. (Note: The vision is not intended to be land use or zoning plan.)

Encourage cooperative and complementary land management by the agencies.

Prioritize actions and funding needs where appropriate.

Elements*** Ecological Resources**

- wildlife
- fish
- rare plants
- wetlands, riparian zones

*** Recreation**

- developed (e.g., campgrounds)
- trail and dispersed
- various users
- river access

B. Products

The Vision Study Group will produce a document at the end of each of three phases.

Phase I: Vision Statement

The vision statement is a broad conceptual view of the valley. It will identify existing and potential recreational opportunities, ecological protection needs, compatible forestry activities and agency management roles. It will guide later phases which will provide increasing levels of detail. An interim vision statement will be adopted early to guide the scope of the following phases. Once the basic data from the resource assessment is available the vision will be finalized.

Phase II: Resource Assessment

The resource assessment will evaluate types and levels of recreation and other activities that can be sustained in the valley. It will include inventories of natural features and a watershed analysis. It will be the basis for the Phase III recreation Plan.

Phase III: Recreation Plan

The recreation plan will propose site specific projects, such as trails, campgrounds and other facilities.

A final report, incorporating all three phases, will be submitted to the agencies, funding sources and public at the completion of the study.

C. Schedule**1995**

May	Interagency Agreement to form/participate in Study Group
June	County Funds allocated
July	Study Group formed
Sept	Draft Interim Vision Statement
Nov	Final Interim Vision Statement

1996

Jan	IAC Grant initiates phase II
Feb	Watershed analysis begins
July	Watershed analysis complete
Sept	Final Vision Statement complete
Oct	Phase II planning complete
Nov	Phase III begins

1997

Mar	Phase III complete
Apr	Final Report

MIDDLE FORK, SNOQUALMIE VISION PROCESS

BUDGET SUMMARYCOST SUMMARY

\$183,000 - Vision Statement/Resource Assessment

- o Vision Statement:
Create preliminary Vision Statement to guide process.
Identify recreational opportunities, ecological protection needs, forestry plans, and agency management roles.
- o Resource assessment:
Produce detailed environmental assessment. Inventory natural features, conduct watershed analysis. Evaluate what level of recreation and other activities can be sustained in the valley.

\$147,000 - Recreation Planning/Final Vision Statement

- o Recreation planning:
Design site-specific trails, trailheads, campgrounds, and other facilities. Develop management plans.
- o Final Vision Statement:
Refine Vision Statement. Submit final report to agencies, funding sources, and public for action.

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\$330,000 Total cost

FUNDING SUMMARY

\$175,000 - Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation

\$ 47,500 - United States Forest Service

\$ 52,500 - Dept. of Natural Resources

\$ 45,000 - King County

\$ 10,000 - Volunteer hours (@ \$10.00/hr)

=====
\$330,000 Total funding

April 25, 1995

Mr. James Ellis, President
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
506 Second Avenue, Suite 1502
Seattle WA 98104

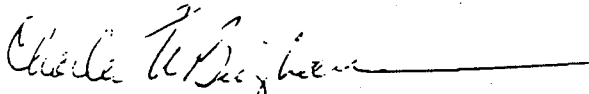
Dear Mr. Ellis:

The Weyerhaeuser Company is pleased to endorse the proposed effort by the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to sponsor a Vision Study Planning Group for the future of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

As a major landowner in the Middle Fork Valley, we have a strong interest in the future management of this area. Beyond endorsing the proposed study effort, we intend to be active participants in the Vision Study Planning effort. We, and other landowners, understand that while the planned 18-month study may provide helpful suggestions to cooperative management efforts between governmental agencies and private owners, we are not obligated to follow these recommendations in future management decisions.

We agree that the Middle Fork Valley offers tremendous potential for multiple use forests, which can support a balanced approach to meeting needs for forest production, recreation, wildlife habitat, natural area preservation, and other needs. The proposed study provides an opportunity to bring all interests together to lay out a creative, well-coordinated plan for the future which we hope will result in recommendations for an optimal approach to managing the Middle Fork Valley in future years.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Bingham
Executive Vice President



May 2, 1995

Mr. James Ellis, President
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
506 Second Avenue, Suite 1502
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mr. Ellis:

The Champion International Corporation is pleased to endorse the proposed effort by the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to sponsor a Vision Study Planning Groups for the future of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

As you know, we are currently a major landowner in the valley, with our total ownership under consideration for exchange with the Department of Natural Resources. We support the planning effort and, until such time as the possible exchange is completed, we will continue to have an interest in the future of the valley. We and other landowners understand that while the planned 18-month study may provide helpful inputs to cooperative management efforts between governmental agencies and private owner, we are not obligated to follow these recommendations in future management decisions.

We agree that the Middle Fork Valley offers tremendous potential for multiple use forests, which can support a balanced approach to meeting needs for timber production, recreation, habitat, natural area protection, and other needs. Champion endorses the Greenway effort to define these needs and to develop a creative, coordinated plan which seeks a balanced approach to managing this valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jack W. Ward', written over a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Jack W. Ward
Timber and Forestry Operation Manger

JWW:dln

9648



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie
National Forest

21905 - 64th Avenue West
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

RECEIVED

File Code: 1500 - MAY 17 1995

Date: May 16, 1995 TPL-NW

Mr. Jim Ellis, President
Mountains to Sound Greenway
506 Second Avenue, Suite 1502
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Jim:

I am pleased to confirm that the USDA Forest Service endorses and will participate in the Mountains to Sound Greenway-sponsored Middle Fork Snoqualmie Vision Process. This citizen-led process offers an exciting opportunity to map out a long-term plan for public use of the Middle Fork Valley.

I have discussed the Vision Process with North Bend District Ranger Rudy Edwards, and we both see many benefits, including increased cooperation between agencies and public consensus on the future of the valley. While management decisions within the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will remain our responsibility, we anticipate that the results of the Vision Process will be extremely helpful to us.

As one of the "urban" national forests, we are committed to working closely with our neighbors, citizenry, and the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to achieve an optimal balance in managing our multiple-use forest.

Sincerely,

DENNIS E. BSCHOR
Forest Supervisor

cc:
R. Edwards, North Bend Ranger District





WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

9648

JENNIFER M. BELCHER
Commissioner of Public Lands
KALEEN COTTINGHAM
Supervisor

May 11, 1995

Jim Ellis, President
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
506 Second Avenue, Suite 1502
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Jim:

The Department of Natural Resources is excited to hear that the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust is willing to sponsor the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River planning process. We have submitted two grant requests to the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) to begin the resource assessment and recreation planning efforts. The partnership developed through coordinated planning between the Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service, industrial forest landowners, King County, and the public will make this effort a success.

We will know in November if our grant proposals from IAC are funded. In advance, however, and with the Mountains to Sound Greenway's support, we hope to begin the planning process this summer. Our first order of business will be to identify the resource assessment and land management needs to help build a common vision for the future of the entire Middle Fork valley.

If the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, through its board, accepts its role as a facilitator of the planning process, we can begin to develop the scope of work for this eighteen month effort.. Although funding is not yet secure, it is critical to begin joint planning and communication with interested parties now. We look forward to working together with the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust in this effort.

Sincerely,

Bonnie B. Bunning
Region Manager

BBB/dmb
MAY95.47

c: Dennis Bschor, Forest Supervisor, USFS
Rudy Edwards, District Ranger, USFS
Doug McClelland, King District Manager, DNR
Tim Larkoski, Weyerhaeuser Company
Stephanie Warden, King County Council
Mark Boyar, MidFORC
Charlie Raines, Sierra Club