### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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**HILARY S. FRANZ.** is Washington's fourteenth Commissioner of Public Lands since statehood in 1889.

**WE WANT STUDENTS TO KNOW THEY DON'T HAVE TO LEAVE** THE LANDS THEY **LOVE TO HAVE A FULFILLING CAREER AND SUPPORT THEIR** FAMILIES."

**HILARY S. FRANZ** COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS



### RURAL COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

## Forest Management Learning Laboratory



**Connecting students to career opportunities** by using the management of an adjacent 32-acre forest.



KALAMA, WA

### **PARTNERS**

- Kalama School District
- RSG Forest Products
- Green River College
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
- Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
- AWC Center for Quality Communities
- Pacific Education Institute.

### INVESTMENT

## **DNR Staff Expertise**





**THROUGH** 











# Partnering with communities for sustainable development opportunities.

### **ABOUT DNR**

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is present in every county in Washington state. From the shellfish beds of the Pacific coast to the eastern wheat fields of our state. DNR oversees a profound amount of resources and expertise. Three essential components of the agency's mission include the stewardship of state lands, meeting our trust beneficiary obligations and improving the quality of life for our residents to the maximum extent possible.

DNR staff will help students develop a sustainable forest management plan for their adjacent forest with a harvest schedule. DNR staff will pull from their professional networks to bring in additional expertise. A DNR outreach and education survey will further inform agency involvement.

To further student learning, DNR staff will connect students with job shadowing, Washington Conservation Corps and DNR college internship opportunities.

DNR has difficulty recruiting for forest management jobs in this area and similar regions.

WE'RE VERY
EXCITED ABOUT THE
RURAL COMMUNITIES
PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE, AS
IT WILL NOT ONLY BRING
INDUSTRY EXPERTISE INTO
OUR PROGRAM, BUT IT WILL
BE ONE MORE OPPORTUNITY
FOR STUDENTS TO SEE HOW
THEIR LEARNING ABOUT
SCIENCE RELATES TO THE
REAL WORLD AND CAREERS
IN FIELDS RELATED TO
NATURAL RESOURCES."

### **ERIC NERISON**

SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE KALAMA SCHOOL DISTRICT

### About the Rural Communities Partnership Initiative

- Partnerships can be initiated and facilitated by a city council, chamber of commerce, DNR employees, county leadership, tribal governments, local organizations and businesses.
- There is no minimum requirement for a person or group to invite DNR to discuss potential collaboration or development and investment opportunities in a community, however we encourage interested parties to consider the whole community ecosystem when assembling proposals.
- Projects should intersect with DNR's lands and people and be geared toward creating hard economic value in local communities.
- These sustainable projects should offer long-term solutions that make use of renewable natural resources, maintain biodiversity, support ecological systems and can provide communities with multi-generational economic opportunities.

### **INITIATIVE CONTACT**

### **Josh Wilund**

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