



## Introduction

[Northeast Washington Heritage \(NEW Heritage\)](#) strives to advance economic prosperity and long-term certainty for our communities and resources. Together we can reach solutions that assure our forest industries thrive, affirm tribal connections to traditional territories, protect significant areas through designations that include wilderness, enhance recreation, and maintain public access across the Colville National Forest. Ultimately, we will ask our congressional members to introduce and pass mutually beneficial legislation.

The Colville National Forest is our playground, our job site, our hunting ground, our refuge, our heritage, and our home. We value the freedom to use and enjoy the land, water and wildlife, and we have a responsibility to leave these resources healthy and accessible for future generations.

NEW Heritage grew from [Northeast Washington Forest Coalition \(NEWFC\)](#).

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### What is the legislative proposal?

None exists, as we want to develop it together through stakeholder discussions. Though NEWFC has an interest and commitment to continue quality forest stewardship and to protect important areas as wilderness or effective alternatives. NEWFC also seeks to secure existing recreation trails and access and honor the cultural heritage of native people in the region. We envision a process focused on lands within the 1.5 million acre Colville National Forest that results in a plan to provide lasting certainty for all interests by introducing legislation that will be passed by Congress.

### What is the goal?

The goal is to support everyone's values, because everyone in northeast Washington should prosper! We care about forest health, community wildfire protection, conservation, recreation, public access, and native people's cultures. The process we propose could create lasting certainty for public land management that will be good for the economy and our communities.

### How did we get to this point?

Effort toward this proposal began over ten years ago as a collaborative agreement that was reached within

Northeast Washington Forest Coalition (NEWFC). NEWFC is a local group of timber companies, conservationists, and businesses who have an interest in stewarding and conserving public lands. NEWFC's internal agreement, originally the "Blueprint" and recently updated as its "Strategic Vision", includes specific areas for active management, forest restoration, and wilderness across the Colville National Forest. We invite others to consider this product, add their own ideas, and engage in a full discussion to reach a plan that meets many interests.





### **What happened to the NEWFC agreement?**

For the last ten years, NEWFC's efforts have focused on increasing the pace and scale of forest restoration and timber production on the Colville National Forest. This effort has resulted in a record 122.7 million board feet harvested in 2020, the most since 1989. However, the conservation elements have not yet been realized.

### **What is different today?**

The original NEWFC agreement has changed and expanded to better represent existing and increasing recreational use on the forest, and it incorporates cultural heritage. Today's effort also includes new information from the last decade and better aligns with the 2019 Colville Forest Plan. NEW Heritage grew out of NEWFC and is working on the proposal and expanded process today.

### **How is recreation incorporated?**

NEWFC's vision includes designating the remarkable northern Kettle Crest, including the Profanity, Jackknife, and Twin Sisters roadless areas, as a Recreation Management Area or similar designation. These areas would be protected for their recreation, scenic, and cultural values. This would secure the current existing uses for hikers, mountain bikers, motorized users, and horseback riders, and ensure access stays the same in the future as it is today.

### **What about Wilderness?**

NEWFC believes that designated wilderness is an important outcome that should be strongly considered for places like Bald-Snow, Thirteen Mile, Cougar Mountain, Hoodoo, Abercrombie-Hooknose and Salmo-Priest additions. Securing these areas will protect habitat for big game and ensure clean, clear water for drinking and spawning habitat. Wilderness protection would provide a lasting legacy for future generations who live, work, and recreate in northeast Washington.



### **How are tribal cultural values included?**

Tribes have occupied this territory since time immemorial, and amplifying cultural values is long overdue. The proposal would elevate tribal voices through the recognition of ancestral lands.

### **Add your support today**

I believe in, and support, collaborative community developed solutions for the Colville National Forest. I support legislation that will sustain our communities, honor cultures of Indigenous peoples, and permanently protect the vital backcountry areas of northeast Washington.





## Northeast Washington Forest Coalition Strategic Vision

