



EVERYDAY ADVENTURES

# Carbon River Corridor Cooperative Action Plan



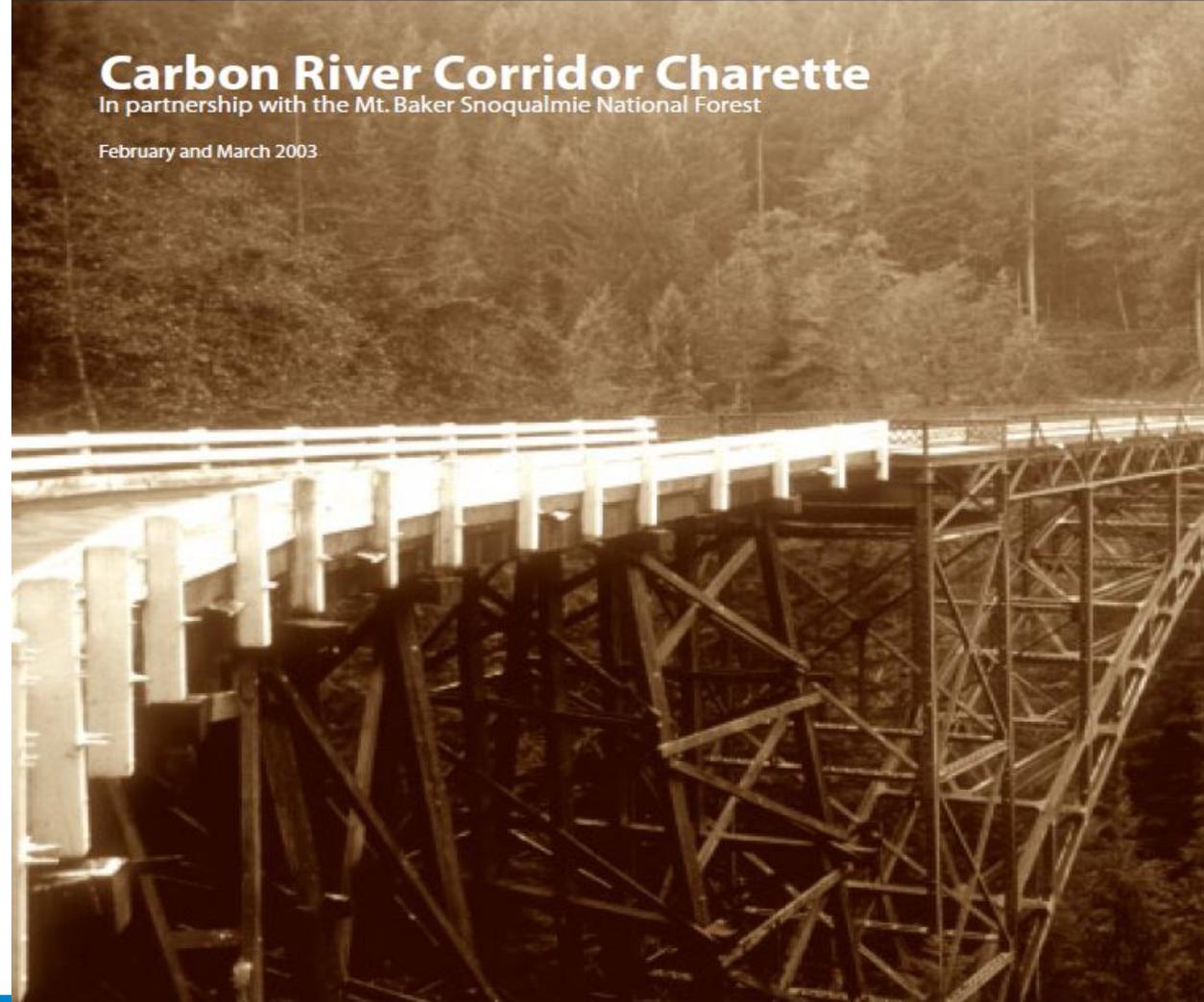
# Goal

Build upon the 2003 Carbon River Corridor Charette, to develop an action plan adopted by major landowners that directs and provides public access to recreation while balancing conservation of the environment and cultural resources in the area.

## Carbon River Corridor Charette

In partnership with the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest

February and March 2003



# Objectives

Map key natural, cultural, and historic resource lands along the corridor.

Produce a strategic action plan with buy-in from corridor partners to identify opportunities for visitor access facilities and improvements that support recreational opportunities.

Plan for future visitor support facilities, programs, and collateral (such as signage, traffic mitigation, parking, and other innovative options).

Develop a cooperative agreement and organizational framework for coordinated management of recreational facilities, visitor services, and infrastructure within the Carbon River Valley.



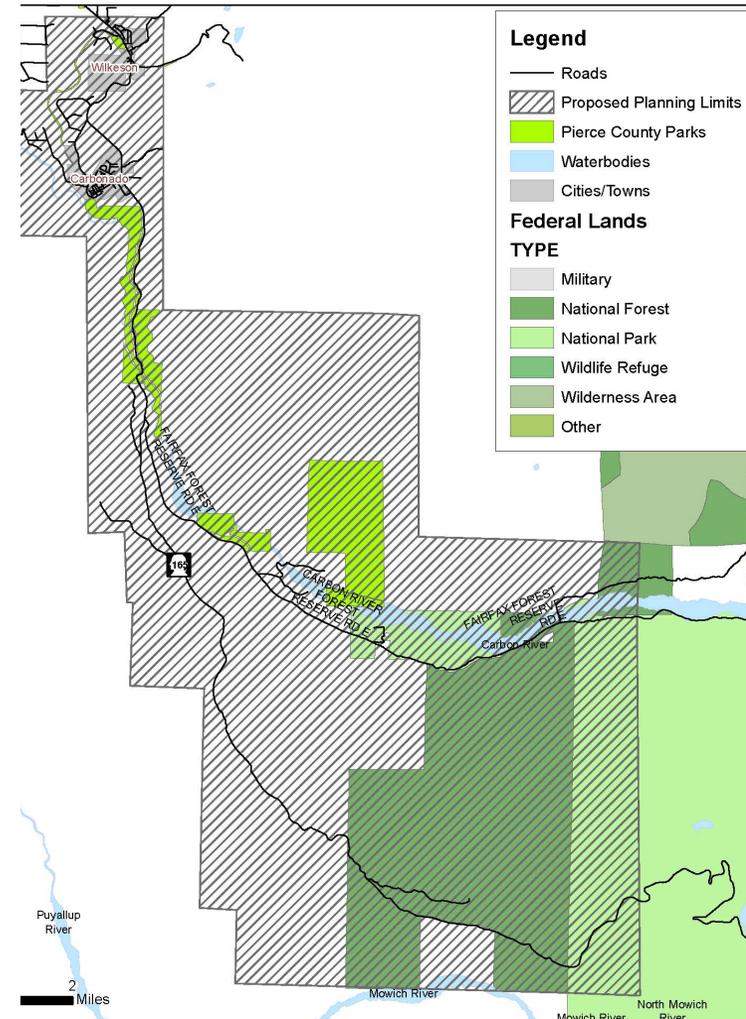
Rivers,  
Trails, and  
Conservation  
Assistance



# Collaborative Leadership

# Planning Area

The planning area will include the area between the town of Wilkeson and the Carbon River entrance to Mount Rainier National Park, as designated by the cross-hatched section of the map.



Carbon River Corridor Cooperative Action Plan



# Project Timeline:

## February-September 2020: Information Gathering

- landowner, stakeholder and general public surveys and interviews
- inventory/mapping

## March 2020-August 2020: Outreach Phase

- Project website, social media, advertising materials
- community presentations, open houses
- coordination with tribes





# Project Timeline:

**September 2020 – December 2020:**  
Cooperative Action Plan Development

- steering committee meetings
- funding determinations

**January 2021:** Draft Plan Completion

**February-May 2021:** Final Plan Development

- additional outreach to stakeholders and the public

**Summer 2021:** Final Plan Completion



# Summer 2020 Outreach Tasks

**Who?** Pierce County Parks is working with ForeverGreen Trails and other partners to deploy outreach materials.

**What?** Outreach materials include the project website and survey, as well as postcards and fliers directing interested parties to the website, where they can take the survey or sign up for email updates.

**When?** The website was available starting in March; the survey opened on June 15, and 100 postcards and 20 fliers have been shared both inside and outside of the planning area.



## Carbon River Corridor Survey

Pierce County is coordinating the development of an action plan for the Carbon River Corridor.

Help us preserve recreational access while protecting natural and historic resources.

We need to hear from you to improve recreational opportunities throughout the area.

**Let us know:**

- How and where you recreate
- What issues you are seeing

**Please take our survey at:**

[piercecountywa.gov/CarbonCorridorPlan](http://piercecountywa.gov/CarbonCorridorPlan)



# Consultant Tasks

**Who?** EnviroIssues was chosen as a consultant for the project through a competitive bid process. EnviroIssues has excellent experience in managing large and complicated planning projects with varied stakeholders.

**What?** EnviroIssues will be conducting stakeholder interviews this summer. Concurrently, they will conduct a mapping process which will lead to an inventory of all properties in the planning area. In the fall of 2020, EnviroIssues will share their research into cooperative management structures and facilitate drafting of the Cooperative Plan.

**When?** EnviroIssues will begin work mid-July.



# GUIDE TO VISITING CARBON RIVER RECREATION AREAS

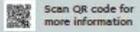
## MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

### National Park Service

The Carbon River area offers visitors a unique experience in a beautiful temperate rainforest. Dynamic natural forces are constantly at work, please check the park's website to learn the latest information on how to access this site. Stop by the Carbon River Ranger Station to inquire about camping options and permits, or visit the park's website for more information.

Although upper sections of the Carbon River Road inside the Park washed out in 2000, remaining portions are open to both bicycle and pedestrian use. The Carbon River entrance to the Park is reached via the Carbon River road off of State Route 105.

Visitors may also enjoy experiencing the Mowich area. Set in a glacial basin surrounded by fragile wildflower meadows, Mowich Lake is the largest and deepest lake in Mount Rainier National Park. The road is unpaved after the first three miles and may be rough. It is generally open mid-July to mid-October. Mowich is reached via State Route 105.



Scan QR code for more information

[www.nps.gov/mora](http://www.nps.gov/mora)

Twitter: @MountRainierNPS

## MT. BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST

### National Forest Service - Snoqualmie Ranger District

Welcome to your National Forest! Recreation opportunities abound in the Carbon River area. Evans Creek Off-Road Vehicle Area (approximately 15 miles on SR 105) has a non-reservation campground with 41 sites and over 50 miles of challenging 4x4, motorcycle and ATV trails. Copley Lake offers rustic camping with minimal facilities and Summit Lake Trailhead is the portal to the Clearwater Wilderness. The opportunities for dispersed recreation along forest roads are numerous.

The Motor Vehicle Use Map as well as the Recreation Visitor map will help you explore these areas. It is important to note that forest roads traverse private land. Please make sure you have a Recreation Pass for the developed sites. Please enjoy your public lands responsibly and remember to Leave No Trace.



Scan QR code for the Motor Vehicle Use Map



Scan QR code for more information on Evans Creek



[www.fs.usda.gov/mbs](http://www.fs.usda.gov/mbs)

## FOOTHILLS TRAIL

### Pierce County Parks

The Foothills Trail is fully paved extending from the City of Puyallup 21 miles to Buckley. We are working with our partners from the Foothills Trail Coalition to develop a continuous section that connects the Foothills Trail from South Prairie to Wilkeson then to Carbonado and on to Mount Rainier National Park. Some of this section of trail is very primitive and may not be accessible across private property.

The trail is built on historic railroad right-of-way, some of which is already owned by Pierce County or the Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition.

Please do not access unopened portions of the trail and be respectful of private properties on those sections that are open.



Scan QR code for more information

Go to [www.piercecountywa.gov/FoothillsTrail](http://www.piercecountywa.gov/FoothillsTrail) to know more about the planning for the Foothills Trail.

To support the efforts of the Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition go to [PierceCountyTrails.org](http://PierceCountyTrails.org)



## CARBON RIVER COOPERATIVE PLAN

Major landowners and land managers in the Carbon River Corridor, the area extending from Wilkeson to Mt. Rainier National Park, are working together to plan for visitor services in the area. Partners include Mt. Rainier National Park, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Pierce County, local towns, and private landowners.

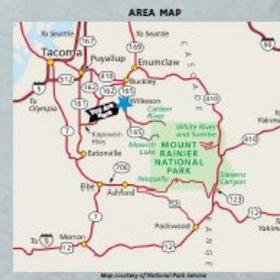
This partnership seeks to develop a Cooperative Action Plan that balances the natural environment and history of the area with the demand for recreation. The plan will result in specific actions that will be implemented by landowners and land managers over time.

Scan QR code for more information



Go to

[www.piercecountywa.gov/CarbonCorridorPlan](http://www.piercecountywa.gov/CarbonCorridorPlan) to get involved in the planning process in 2020-2021.



Early Successes!

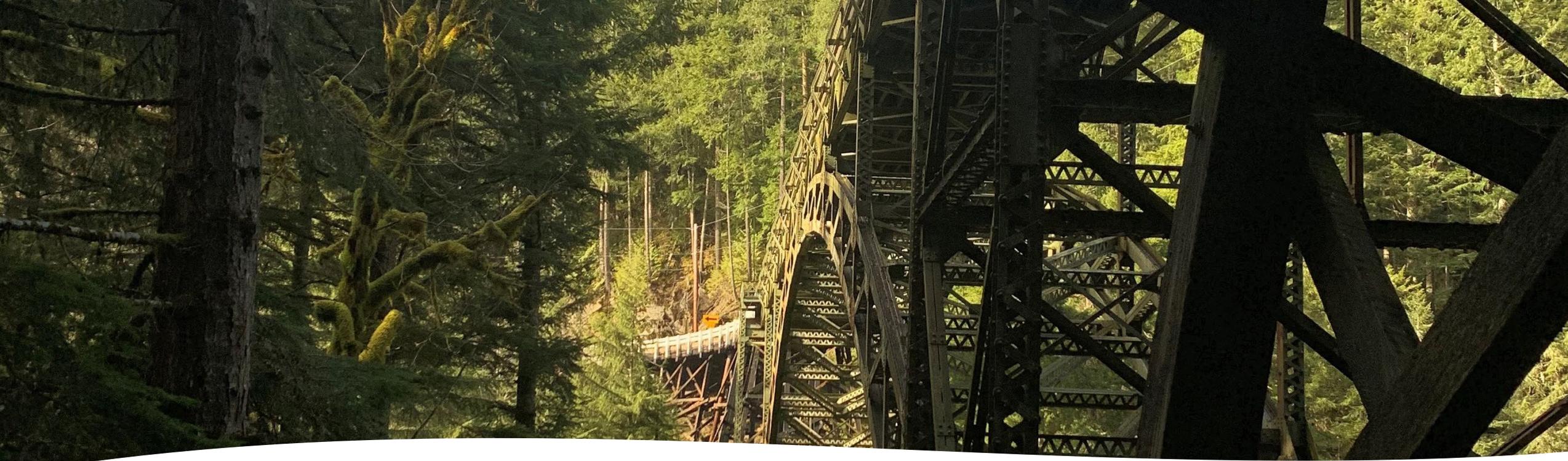
\*Wilkeson Sign – new informational signage has been installed in downtown Wilkeson!

\*Over 400 people have taken the survey!



Pierce County Parks

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# What's Next?

- To develop a structure for ongoing cooperative development and management.
- Partner agencies and private landowners to adopt and allocate resources to the plan.
- 10 year target timeline.

Thank you for your interest in the  
Carbon River Corridor  
Cooperative Action Plan!

Please address questions to:

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