

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a vast green field under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. In the distance, there are rolling hills and mountains, some with patches of snow. A line of trees separates the field from the mountains.

FORTERRA
LAND FOR GOOD

IMPACT REPORT 2021

Forterra envisions people and nature thriving in coexistence. Our mission is to drive land-based solutions in Washington to support a healthy environment and resilient communities for all.

FORTERRA.ORG

PHOTO BY LIZ JOHNSON

**“CONSERVING LAND
FOR PEOPLE AND
NATURE IS OUR
WAY OF SHARING
LAND FOR GOOD.”**

—Michelle Connor,
Forterra President and CEO

ABOUT FORTERRA

Forterra is an unconventional land trust that works across Washington's communities and landscapes, from the ranches and shrub-steppe of the Yakima basin, to the estuaries, farms and forests of Washington's coast, reaching more than 100 counties, cities, towns and rural communities. Working cooperatively with people and nature, Forterra drives land stewardship, management and planning; innovative programs and policies; farming and forestry approaches; community ownership opportunities and development solutions.



PHOTO BY MARGOT CHEEL

LETTER FROM THE CEO

Michelle Connor, President & CEO, Forterra

Friends,

Throughout the pandemic and these times of social reckoning, Forterra has sought the silver linings – the new learnings, the new perspectives, the new ways to carry forward important conservation work, innovative solutions for land ownership and to foster resilience with the communities we serve.

The opportunity to share our work with you gives me a chance to step back; to see how Forterra is navigating the most challenging times many of us have ever seen. Like you, we've had to rethink our priorities, to adapt to our personal and organizational vulnerabilities, and to take inspiration where we can find it.

The impact of these times has challenged us to support not just the health and resilience of the land and communities we serve but the well-being of our people. We each are working with a deeply personal sense of concern and urgency for the people and natural systems we strive to support from the corners of our living rooms, basements, kitchens and garages. The board and executive team are committed to making Forterra a best place to work in our region, and are investing in our systems and our people so that we can meet the challenge of our mission in these urgent times.

The first half of 2021 saw an uptick in new donors and overall funds contributed as the region responded to the inspiring causes we are pursuing. The generosity of donors and volunteers allows us to continue and expand the impact of our work, and we are excited to share with you in the following pages some of our early successes in 2021.

At Forterra, we continuously strive to conserve places where our footprints lead to better places, where equity is a goal and land is for good. We hope you will continue to walk and work alongside us.



- Michelle

2021 UPDATE

In 2021, we are focused on our core functions—to protect natural resources from irreversible conversion, to work alongside communities to scale innovative opportunities and toward equitable solutions, and to restore and steward lands for habitat, community and climate resilience.



PHOTO BY AMY SCARFONE

INNOVATION

Cross-laminated Timber (CLT)

- Completion of CLT Coalition contract with the Department of Commerce.
- Planning into the future of Forterra's leadership in catalyzing the CLT marketplace beyond Commerce contract is ongoing, including plans for a fall annual event.
- Contract overall produced eight quarterly newsletters to more than 700 Washington CLT stakeholders, CLT Workforce Development roundtables, Carbon and CLT environmental impact research, two annual events, quarterly statewide stakeholder coordinating calls, biannual CLT leadership team meetings

Darrington Wood Innovation Center

- Received \$6 million federal grant to advance the new Darrington Wood Innovation Center, totaling to \$8 million in state and federal support.

CLT Modular Prototype

- Project documents completed.
- Project specification, 3D model completed.
- Interior design renderings in progress.
- Procurement in progress.

Transfer of Development Rights (TDR)

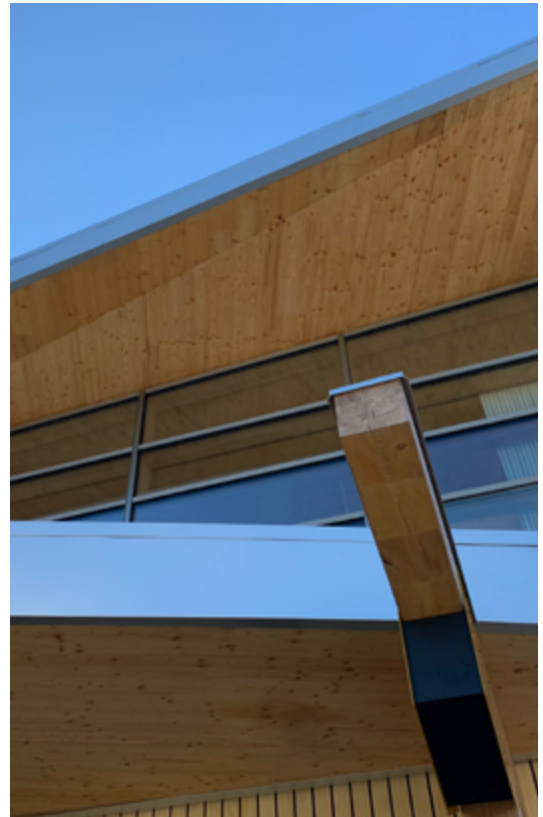
- Supported the City of Shoreline's work drafting legislation to join the regional TDR marketplace.
- Coordinated advocacy in support of expanding Seattle's TDR market to include regional-scale conservation.
- Seattle surpassed conservation of 100,000 acres of conservation using regional TDR program that Forterra designed.

Legislative

- \$1.5M to Forterra for Hilltop construction.
- \$919K to the Tacoma Association of Colored Women's Club for Nettie Asberry home site acquisition.
- \$1.3M to Abu Bakr for Wadajir Souq construction.

Policy

- Led stakeholder engagement with partners in the Sustainable Lands Strategy to develop policy recommendations for updates to the Snohomish County comprehensive plan addressing farmland conservation, restoration, climate change and equity.





RESTORATION

Lands management

- Completed 3 acres of forest restoration activities including invasive plant removal and installation of 1,200 Evergreen Carbon Capture conifer trees at Patterson Creek Preserve.
- Monitored 33 fee properties and 33 conservation easements.
- Volunteers donated an estimated 400 hours towards stewardship activities on Forterra fee properties and easements.

Riparian restoration

- Secured \$528K in grant funding to continue our Riparian Restoration programs on the Cedar River, Bear Creek, Springbrook Creek, Green-Duwamish River and Skykomish River.
- Built 12 huglekulture pods along the Cedar River—a raised bed/mound building technique for improving soil quality and establishing native plant species.
- Reached out to more than 1,700 landowners along the Cedar River, Bear Creek and Thornton Creek to engage with them to eradicate invasive knotweed and establish native species on critical habitats adjacent to these waterways.

Evergreen Carbon Capture

- Planted 4,867 trees to offset the carbon from ECC participants in 2020.
- Trees were planted by five field partners, including Green Seattle Partnership and Green Redmond Partnership, as well as through Forterra's Riparian Restoration and Lands programming.

Green Cities

- Green Issaquah 20-Year Plan published and hosted first Partnership volunteer events.
- Launched Forest Steward programs for Snohomish Healthy Forest Project and Green Issaquah Partnership.
- Working with Partner In Employment's paid Youth Forest Steward Crews to support forest restoration projects and volunteer events at parks in South King County Green Cities (Tukwila, SeaTac, Burien, Des Moines and South Seattle).



CONSERVATION

- Total acreage protected in 2021 January to June (all June closings): 101 acres vs 80 acres in the prior year.
 - o Crane acquisition, Grays Harbor County (23 acres)
 - o Breckveldt Farm, Snohomish County (29 acres)
 - o Wood Property, King County (5 acres)
 - o Yakima River Vickers Property, Kittitas County (44 acres)

COMMUNITY

Hamilton

- Finalized master plan, which was unanimously approved by Hamilton Town Council.
- Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, our community partner, received a grant to work with Forterra to design a stream and wetland restoration plan for 20 acres of land and 1,500 feet of Little Carey's Creek on the future site of Hamilton Center.

Hilltop

- Conducted Design Labs series - Public, virtual events created in collaboration with local nonprofit Fab-5 and Mithun, a design firm.
- Celebrating Hilltop (Community Investment Council-inspired art funding)
 - Get Ready - Community artists' mural panels were installed on buildings.
 - Lasting Legacy - Individual artist's community engagement were completed and final pieces were collected in July.
- Other – Completed the Community Investment Council Report, won a City of Tacoma Award for community partnership, Bite of Black Business.

Everett Station

- As board representative, Forterra supported a master planning process to design a vision for sustainable and affordable redevelopment of city lands neighboring the Everett Transit Center.

Roslyn

- Kicked off Roslyn community engagement with six PAT (planning advisory team) meetings and a well-attended community meeting.
- Began the community visioning process with architects Ross Chapin and Laurence Qamar.



MOCKUP BY JEREMY GREEN

Wadajir

- The project team completed the pre-application for HUD 213 financing.
- The project was allocated \$1.3 million from the 2021 State legislature.

Metropole

- The project hired “Community Steward” to lead building programming, operations, and community engagement.
- Pioneer Square Preservation Board approval.

Food systems

- Convened a series of meetings in Snohomish County to better understand priorities and needs of producers and food system stakeholders.



PHOTO BY CHARLIE RAINES

HAPPENING NOW

- Developing **1,000 homes** under our community-led sustainable guidelines.
- Developing **80,000 sf of commercial space** for Black- and immigrant-owned businesses.
- Manage more than **17,000 acres**.
- Manage more than **20 miles of riparian zones**.



STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Protect precious natural resources threatened by irreversible conversion and fragmentation

- Conserve an additional 100,000 acres of forests, farms and habitat.
- Create five new or improved Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) programs in the central Puget Sound region.
- Reach 1,200 new and renewed public and private landowners working with Forterra on riparian restoration projects, improving water quality and salmon habitat.

2. Create equitable solutions that enable collaboration and self-determination, working alongside communities to scale innovative opportunities

- Lead in the development, deployment of attainable and sustainable housing solutions that address the racial wealth gap.
- Design marketplace incentives for better social, ecological and economic outcomes.
- Restore tribal land ownership and management to address the historic loss of tribal lands.

3. Restore and steward lands for habitat, community, and climate resilience

- Create five new Green City Partnerships, with the network serving more than 1.8 million residents in our region.
- Reach 1,200 new and renewed public and private landowners working with Forterra on riparian restoration projects, improving water quality and salmon habitat.
- Invest in restoration, infrastructure, and programming on at least 10 Forterra-owned properties, improving ecological function and access for social and cultural purposes.
- Enlist 200 companies to participate in Evergreen Carbon Capture.



BY THE NUMBERS

CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR TYPE

91%

INDIVIDUALS

7%

CORPORATIONS

2%

FOUNDATIONS

PHILANTHROPY

216

Number of new
donors in 2021

44%

Donors giving \$150
or more (2020-2021)

PROGRAMMATIC EFFICIENCY

80.8%

PROGRAMS

7.6%

MG&A

11.7%

FUNDRAISING



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