



CITY OF KIRKLAND

City Manager's Office

123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3001

www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay, City Manager

From: Tracy Burrows, Intergovernmental Relations Manager

Date: 4/22/08

Subject: Alpine Lakes Wilderness Bill Endorsement

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council sign on to a letter to the Washington Congressional Delegation endorsing the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Bill.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Representative Dave Reichert is sponsoring a bill that would designate an additional 23,000 acres of National Forest lands as part of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area. The Wilderness designation would make the area off-limits to logging, motorized recreation and commercial uses. It allows hunting, fishing, horse riding, climbing, hiking and other non-mechanical activities.

The 23,000 acres includes rare lower elevation forest lands that include critical fish habitat. As part of negotiations with local concerns, the bill excludes the Snoqualmie River Middle Fork Trail that is a popular mountain biking area. A map of the proposed addition is included with this memo.

State Senator Brian Weinstein and State Representatives Glenn Anderson, Jay Rodne, and Fred Jarrett have endorsed the bill. In addition, the Bill has widespread support from recreation groups, religious leaders, local businesses, and conservation organizations. There is a complete list of endorsing organizations that is attached to this memo.

The Washington Wilderness Coalition has requested that the City Council sign on to the attached endorsement letter. In King County, the entire King County Council and the mayors of Redmond, Sammamish, Enumclaw, Burien, North Bend, Duvall, Kent, Lake Forest Park, Maple Valley, and Snoqualmie have signed on to date. In addition, individual Councilmembers from Sammamish, Redmond and Maple Valley have signed on to the letter.

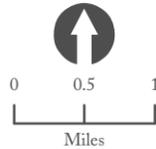
Alpine Lakes Wilderness Additions and Wild Pratt River Act of 2007

October 2007

Legend

- Wilderness Addition
- Wilderness Addition Boundary
- Land to be Donated*
- Proposed Pratt Wild River
- Alpental Ski Area
- National Wilderness Area
- National Forest
- State
- County or Municipal
- Lakes
- Rivers and Streams
- Highways
- Roads

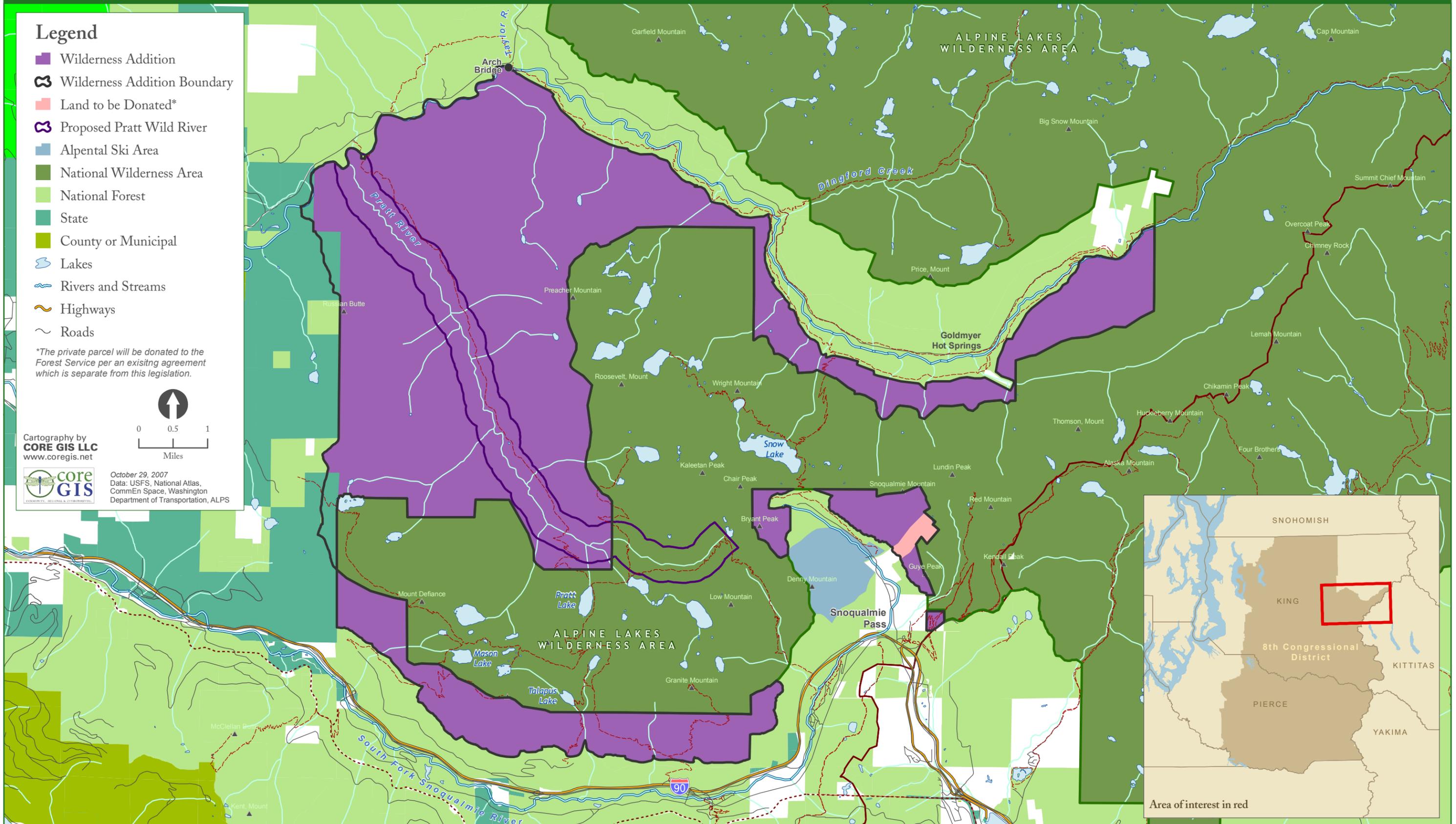
*The private parcel will be donated to the Forest Service per an existing agreement which is separate from this legislation.



Cartography by
CORE GIS LLC
www.coregis.net



October 29, 2007
Data: USFS, National Atlas,
CommEn Space, Washington
Department of Transportation, ALPS



Alpine Lakes Wilderness Additions & Wild Pratt River Act Supporters

Elected Officials (31)

State Representative Glenn Anderson (R-5)
State Representative Jay Rodne (R-5)
State Senator Brian Weinstein (D-41)
State Representative Fred Jarrett (D-41)
King County Executive Ron Sims
King County Council Member Bob Ferguson (D-1)
King County Council Member Larry Gossett (D-2)
King County Council Member Kathy Lambert (R-3)
King County Council Member Larry Phillips (D-4)
King County Council Member Julia Patterson (D-5)
King County Council Member Jane Hague (R-6)
King County Council Member Pete Von Reichbauer (R-7)
King County Council Member Dow Constantine (D-8)
King County Council Member Reagan Dunn (R-9)
Burien Mayor Joan McGilton
Duvall Mayor Will Ibershof
Enumclaw Mayor John Wise
Kent Mayor Suzette Cooke
Lake Forest Park Mayor Dave Hutchinson
North Bend Mayor Ken Hearing
Maple Valley Mayor Laure Iddings
Maple Valley City Council Member Glenn Smith
Pacific Mayor Rich Hildreth
Redmond Mayor John Marchione
Redmond City Council Mayor Pat Vache
Sammamish Mayor Lee Felling
Sammamish Deputy Mayor Don Gerend
Sammamish City Council Member Kathy Huckabay
Sammamish City Council Member Nancy Whitten
Sammamish City Council Member Mark Cross
Snoqualmie Mayor Matt Larsen

Local Businesses (17)

Roaring River Bed and Breakfast (North Bend)
Intrepid Anglers (Fall City)
Creeside Angling Company (Issaquah)
Pacific Bicycle Company (Sammamish)
House in the Trees B&B at Bethabara Farms (Snoqualmie)
Single Track Cycles (North Bend)
Rattlesnake Lake Cycles (North Bend)
Twede's Café (North Bend)
George's Bakery (North Bend)
Renaissance Pet Boutique & Spa (North Bend)
Todd's Models (North Bend)

Lucia's European Tailoring & Alteration (North Bend)
Cascadia Spas & Stoves (North Bend)
Cascade Comics and Games (North Bend)
Two Timing Tam's (North Bend)
Replicator Graphics (North Bend)
Destiny by Design (North Bend)

Local Stakeholders & Organizations (81)

Conservation Organizations (20)

American Rivers
Audubon Washington
Campaign for America's Wilderness
Cascade Chapter Sierra Club
Snohomish Group
Tatoosh Group
Friends of Grays Harbor
Friends of Miller Peninsula State Park
Friends of Wild Sky
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Mt. Baker Wild
Olympic Forest Coalition
Olympic Park Associates
Pilchuck Audubon Society
Republicans for Environmental Protection
The Lands Council
The Nature Conservancy of WA
The Wilderness Society
Washington Wilderness Coalition
Whidbey Environmental Action Network

Recreational Groups (12)

American Canoe Association
American Whitewater
Backcountry Bicycle Trails Club
Backcountry Ski and Snowshoe Club
Paddle Trails Canoe Club
International Mountain Bicycling Association
The Mountaineers
Washington Alpine Club
Washington Kayak Club
Washington Recreational River Runners
Washington Trails Association
Winter Wildlands Alliance

Hunters & Anglers Sportsmen (17)

Inland NW Hunting and Fishing Conservation Coalition
Izaak Walton League of America –Seattle Chapter

National Wildlife Federation – Western Region
Northwest Fly Anglers
Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association
Poggie Club of Washington
Trout Unlimited – Public Lands Initiative
Washington Council
Bellevue-Issaquah Chapter
Elliot Bay Chapter
Sky Valley Chapter
Washington Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Washington Fly Fishing Club
Washington State Council-Federation of Fly Fishers
Washington Wildlife Federation
Western Cascade Archers
Wild Steelhead Coalition

Religious Leaders (33)

Bishop Wm Chris Boerger, NW WA Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Bishop Edward W. Paup, Pacific Northwest Conference
The United Methodist Church
Lee Anne Beres, Executive Director, Earth Ministry
Rev. Paul B. Benz, Director, Lutheran Public Policy
Office of Washington State
Rabbi Anson Laytner, Executive Director, Greater
Seattle Chapter American Jewish Committee
Rabbi Ted Falcon, Ph.D., Bet Alef Meditative
Synagogue (**Bellevue & Seattle**)
Rev. John D. Oerter, First Presbyterian Church
(**Everett**)
Rev. Thomas H. Albright, Pastor, Marysville United
Methodist Church (**Marysville**)
Rev. Cathlynn Law, Associate Pastor, Snoqualmie
United Methodist Church (**Snoqualmie**)
The Rev. Mary L. Allen, Rector, St. Philip's Episcopal
Church (**Marysville**)
Rev. Leslie Ann Knight, Pastor, Mercer Island United
Methodist Church (**Mercer Island**)
Matt Gorman, Pastor, Shelton United Methodist
Church (**Shelton**)
Nancy L. Winder, Pastor, Faith Lutheran Church
(**Seattle**)
Rev. W. Thomas Soeldner, Pastor, Salem Lutheran
Church (**Spokane**)
Dr. Thomas H. Albright, Pastor, Marysville United
Methodist Church (**Marysville**)
The Rev. Paul R. Smith, Pastor, West Side Presbyterian

Church (**Seattle**)
Bruce Jenkins, Pastor, Bethel Lutheran Church
(**Shoreline**)
Rabbi Fern Feldman (**Seattle**)
Brandon Bailey, Youth Director, Mountain View
Presbyterian Church (**Marysville**)
Bruce Kadden, Rabbi Temple Beth El (**Tacoma**)
Rev. Joy R. Haertig, Senior Minister, Richmond Beach
Congregational United Church of Christ (**Seattle**)
Rev. Rich Lang, Pastor, Trinity United Methodist
Church (**Seattle**)
David Parker, Lead Pastor, Central United Protestant
Church (**Richland**)
Harlan Shoop, Pastor, Trinity Presbyterian Church
(**Tacoma**)
Rev. John Boonstra, Pastor, Bethel United Church of
Christ (**White Salmon**)
Larry J. Killion, Pastor, The Lord's Baptist Church
(**Tacoma**)
Rev. Robert L. Jeffrey, Sr, Pastor, New Hope
Missionary Baptist Church (**Seattle**)
Rabbi Zari Weiss, Founder and Director, Rodef Tzedek
(**Seattle**)
Rabbi Jim Mirel, Temple B'nai Torah (Bellevue)
Rev. David R. Sellers, Pastor, Cross Sound Church
(**Bainbridge Island**)
Rev. Michael R. Grogan, Pastor, Bellevue Christian
Church (Disciples of Christ) (**Bellevue**)
The Rev. Blaine R. Hammond, Vicar, St. Peter's Episcopal
Church (**Seaview**)
Rabbi Ted Falcon, Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue
(**Seattle**)
The Rev. James L. Thibodeaux, Deacon Administrator,
St. Peter's Episcopal Parish (**Seattle**)

Other Local Stakeholders ()

February 27, 2008

The Honorable Dave Reichert
U.S. House of Representatives
1223 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Reichert

As local elected officials, we are writing to support your efforts to protect areas of the Middle Fork and South Fork Snoqualmie River Valleys as well as the Pratt River Valley near Snoqualmie Pass.

We understand the value our constituents place on protecting wilderness and wild, free-flowing rivers. Time and again, we hear Washingtonians with disparate political views share one common goal – protection for our natural heritage. Wild forests and rivers offer priceless natural amenities that make the Northwest such a wonderful place to live, and indeed, give the Evergreen State its name. They provide clean water, scenic beauty, solitude, wildlife habitat, world class outdoor recreation opportunities and an unmatched way of life in the Puget Sound area.

Your proposal resonates with the values of our constituents. It would add critical, low-elevation forests to the Alpine Lakes wilderness area, and ensure the Pratt River, a key tributary to the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River, would remain free-flowing for future generations.

In addition, we note that your efforts to expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness follow a proud bi-partisan tradition that began in 1976 with the passage of the original Alpine Lakes Wilderness Act. The Middle Fork Valley has long enjoyed a tradition of collaboration between different user groups under the bi-partisan leadership of our state's congressional delegation. We support this new chapter in the long history of bi-partisan wilderness efforts in Washington State.

Your proposal also embraces the current and future economic direction for the Puget Sound region. Expanding the Alpine Lakes wilderness, one of the most frequented of any wilderness area in the country, adds to the long term economic security of our region by protecting a priceless recreation gem for our children and our children's children.

We also appreciate the inclusive process you have undertaken in drafting your proposal. Bringing together diverse stakeholders such as mountain bikers, rafters, hunters and anglers, conservationists, local businesses, and local elected officials is a testament to how important the protection of this remarkable area is to the quality of life and sustainable future of this region.

We feel strongly about getting action on this important designation as soon as possible. Please let us know what we can do to help you make significant progress in 2008. We look forward to hearing back from you or your staff regarding what efforts are needed from us. Thank you again for your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Glenn Anderson
State Representative (District 5)
Washington State House of Representatives

Jay Rodne
State Representative (District 5)
Washington State House of Representatives

Brian Weinstein
State Senator (District 41)
Washington State Senate

Fred Jarrett
State Representative (District 41)
Washington State House of Representatives

Ron Sims
Executive
King County, WA

Bob Ferguson
Council Member (District 1)
Metropolitan King County Council

Larry Gossett
Council Member (District 2)
Metropolitan King County Council

Kathy Lambert
Council Member (District 3)
Metropolitan King County Council

Larry Phillips
Council Member (District 4)
Metropolitan King County Council

Julia Patterson
Council Member (District 5)
Metropolitan King County Council

Jane Hague
Council Member (District 6)
Metropolitan King County Council

Pete Von Reichbauer
Council Member (District 7)
Metropolitan King County Council

Dow Constantine
Council Member (District 8)
Metropolitan King County Council

Reagan Dunn
Council Member (District 9)
Metropolitan King County Council

Will Ibershof
Mayor
City of Duvall, WA

Laure Iddings
Mayor
City of Maple Valley

Glenn Smith
Council Member
City of Maple Valley

Ken Hearing
Mayor
North Bend, WA

Lee Felling
Mayor
City of Sammamish, WA

Don Gerend
Deputy Mayor
City of Sammamish, WA

Kathy Huckabay
Council Member
City of Sammamish, WA

Nancy Whitten
Council Member
City of Sammamish, WA

Mark Cross
Council Member
City of Sammamish, WA

Matt Larsen
Mayor
City of Snoqualmie, WA

Rich Hildreth
Mayor
City of Pacific, WA

Suzette Cooke
Mayor
City of Kent, WA

John Marchione
Mayor
City of Redmond, WA

Pat Vache
City Council Member
City of Redmond, WA

John Wise
Mayor
City of Enumclaw, WA

Dave Hutchinson
Mayor
City of Lake Forest Park, WA

Joan McGilton
Mayor
City of Burien, WA