



Kitsap Trees and Shoreline Association

Planting Trees for a Green Kitsap

To the attention of: Michael Linde, National Park Service, *Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance* (RTCA), c/o Kathleen Byrne-Barrantes and Olympic Property Group

RE: North Kitsap Trails Association (NKTA) Application for RTCA planning assistance

The Non-Profit/All-Volunteer Organization KITSAP TREES & SHORELINE ASSOCIATION (KiTSA) is pleased to provide support and planning assistance for the North Kitsap multi-use trail system proposed by the NKTA.

KiTSA was formed to promote and improve communities by cultivating a public awareness and appreciation of trees, fostering community forestry programs, emphasizing development of educational programs for schools and training for the public, stimulating increased funding for acquisition and maintenance of new and existing forest conservation, and promoting partnerships with private enterprise and residents in the preservation and management of forests, parks, conservation lands, and trails. And to provide unified action to identify short and long-term habitat enhancement projects, facilitate communication and foster mutual support between various interest and user groups including governmental, recreational, commercial, Tribal, forestry, environmental and educational concerns.

The North Kitsap trail system will facilitate the creation of land and water-based trails and kayak routes in North Kitsap and Suquamish Tribal Land. In an effort to add value to its 8,000 acres here, Olympic Property Group (OPG), a Pope Resources Company, has created the "String of Pearls" - a common vision for a trail that would serve both recreation and non-motorized transportation needs, provide a system of permanent wildlife corridors and watchable wildlife opportunities that mesh with KiTSA's core mission and goals.

KiTSA will commit to providing guidance and participate in planning during the course of this project as well as to provide instruction on native plants and trees by Community Forester Jim Trainer and other members of KiTSA.

This project will encourage community members to protect these natural resources while providing an aesthetic benefit and educational value to the entire North Kitsap community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Don Larson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Don Larson, President

P.O. Box 1302

Bremerton, WA 98337

"From seas to trees, we promote environmental education, advocacy, and action"