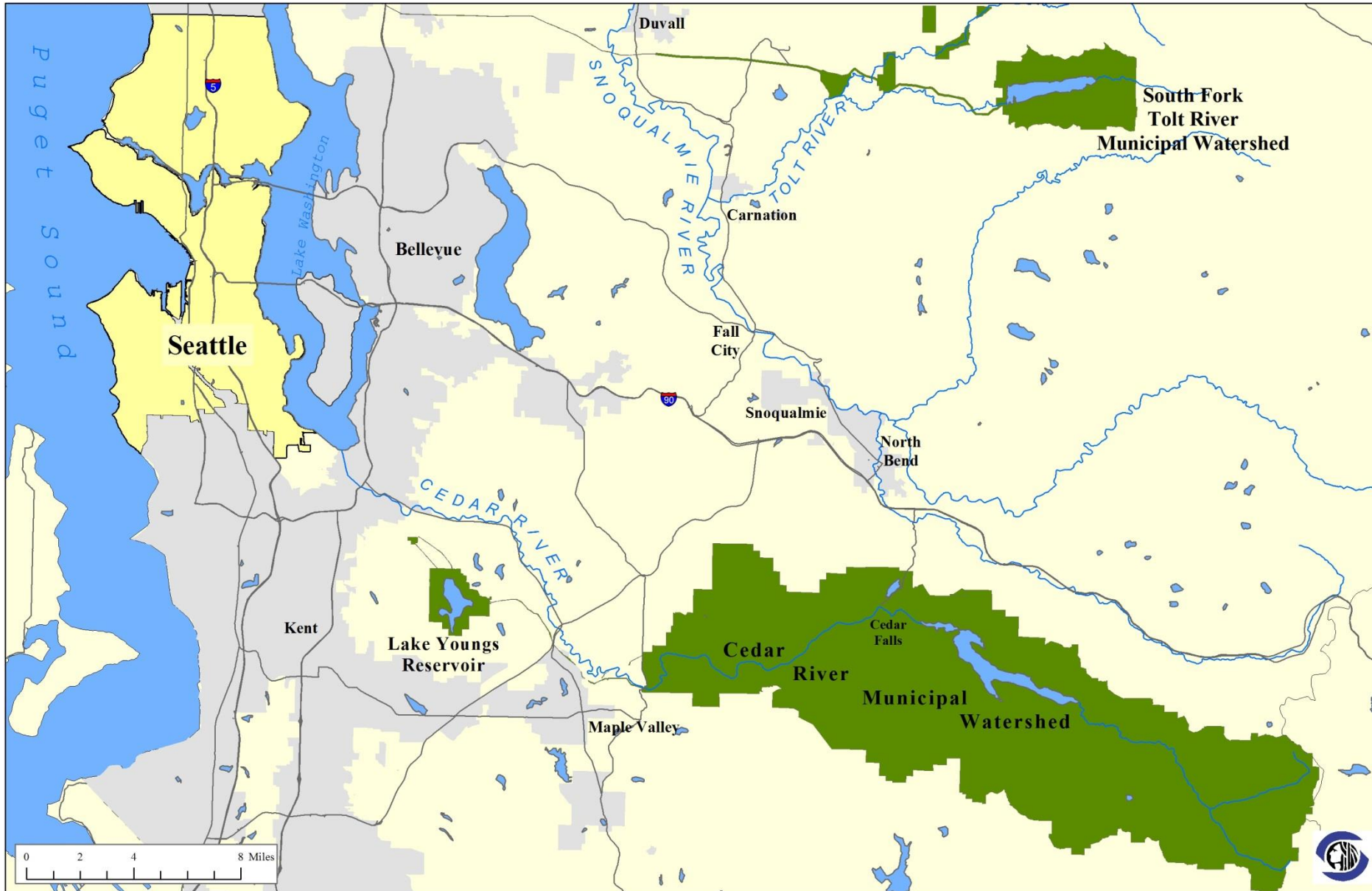


# **Two Ordinances for Ecological Thinning in the Cedar River and South Fork Tolt River Municipal Watersheds, 2016-2020**

August 20, 2015

# Vicinity Map



# **Seattle's Municipal Watersheds contain 100,000 forested acres**

## **Cedar River Watershed**

- **Over 90,000 acres**
- **Habitat Conservation Plan (2000)**

## **South Fork Tolt River Watershed**

- **Over 8,000 acres**
- **Tolt Watershed Management Plan (2011)**

# Forest Restoration Programs

## Goals

Improve forest habitat

Increase forest diversity and resilience



## Strategies

Protection

Ecological  
Thinning

Planting

Monitoring

# Five-year Ecological Thinning Ordinances



- Support forest habitat restoration and forest resilience
- Allow SPU to meet Plan commitments through 2020
- Provide authority to sell surplus logs

# Ecological Thinning Approach

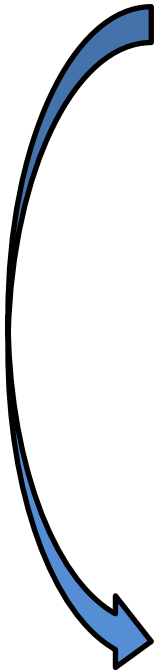


- Leave largest trees
- Retain and plant diverse species
- Create “gaps” and leave “skips”
- Create down wood
- Monitor over time

# Thinning for increased tree growth and diversity



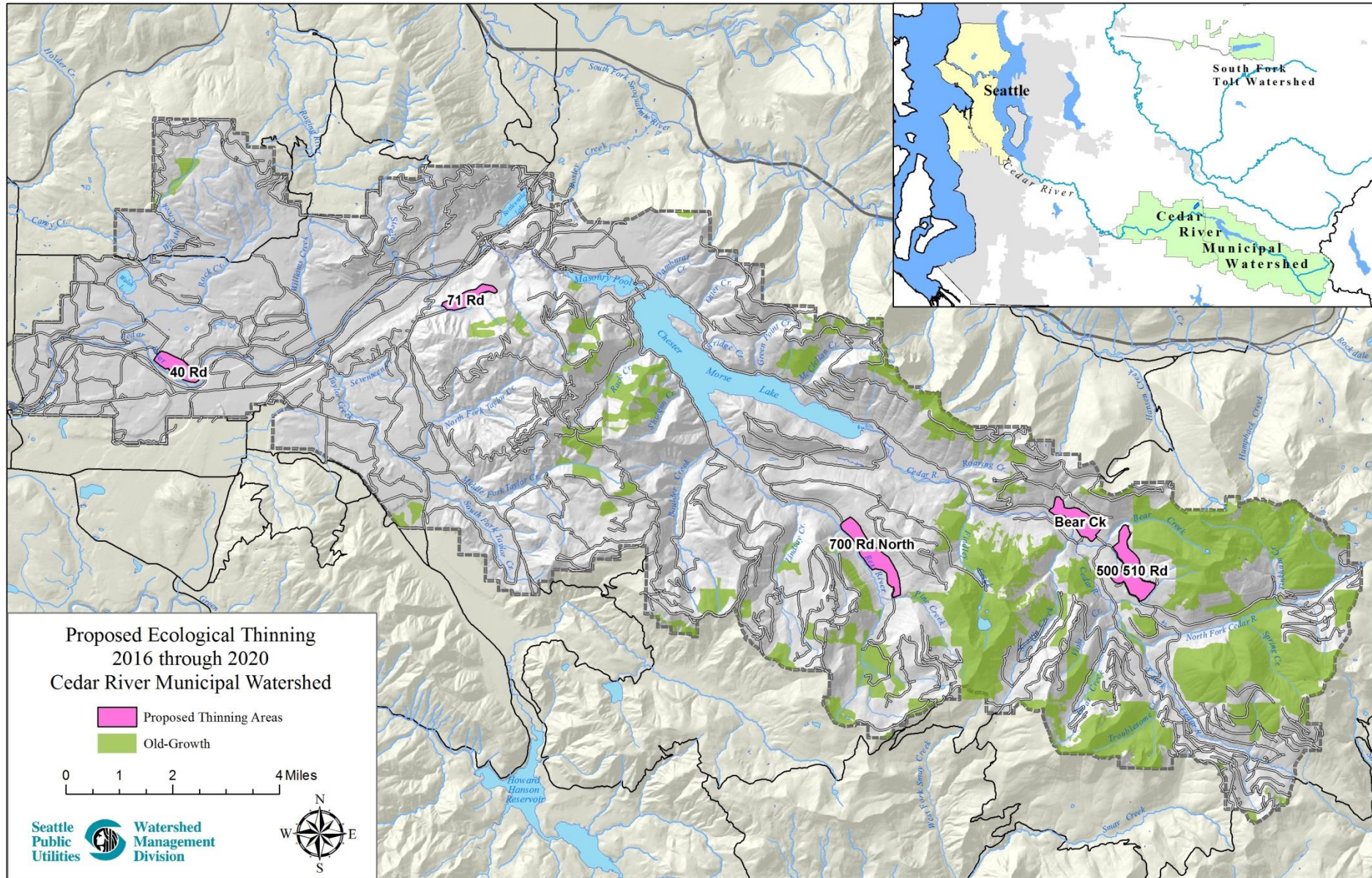
# Ecological Thinning



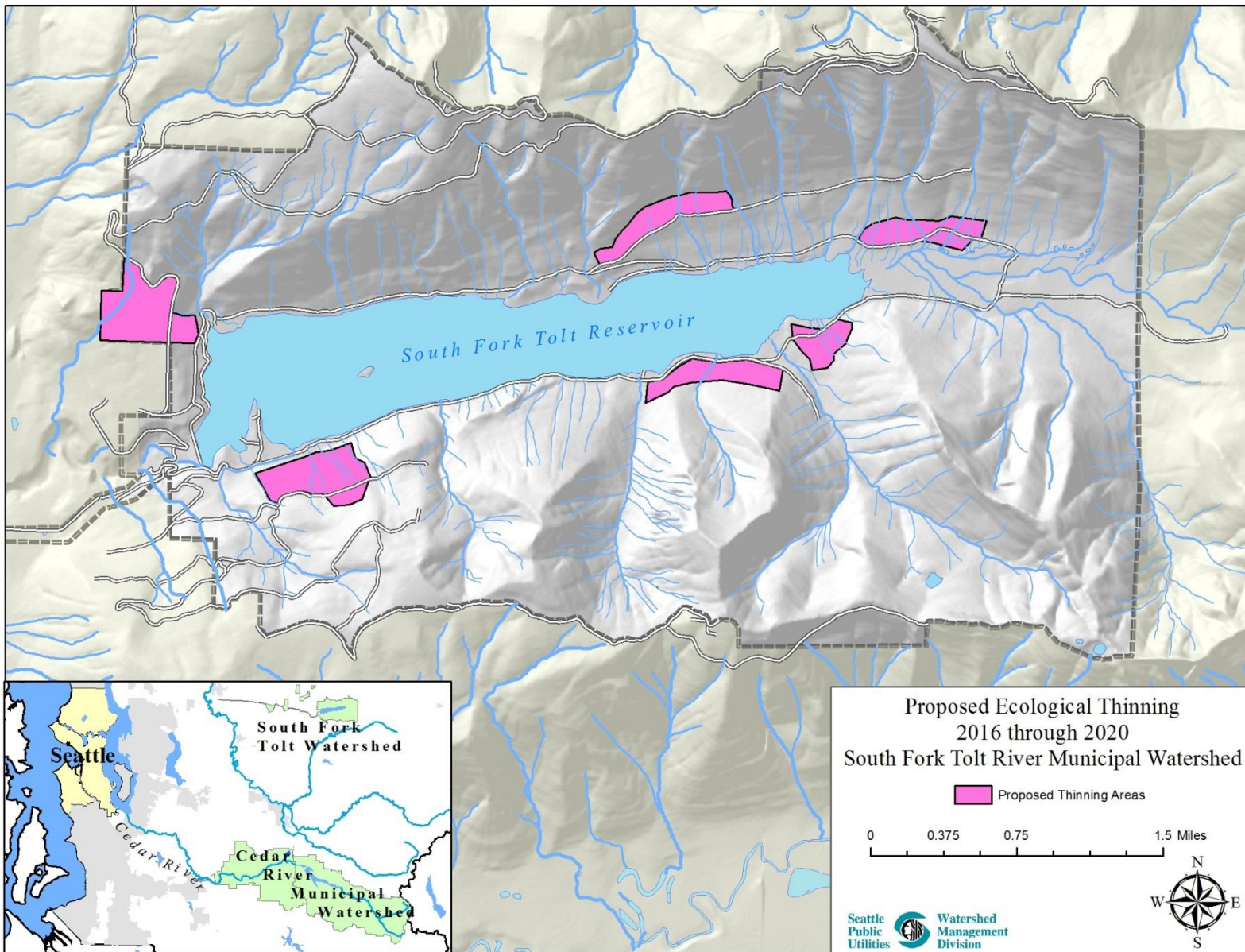
- Thin 800 acres in the Cedar
- Thin 330 acres in the Tolt
- To meet ecological objectives
- Sell logs as surplus
- Offset costs of implementing Plans



# 2016-2020 Cedar River Project Areas



# 2016-2020 Tolt River Project Areas



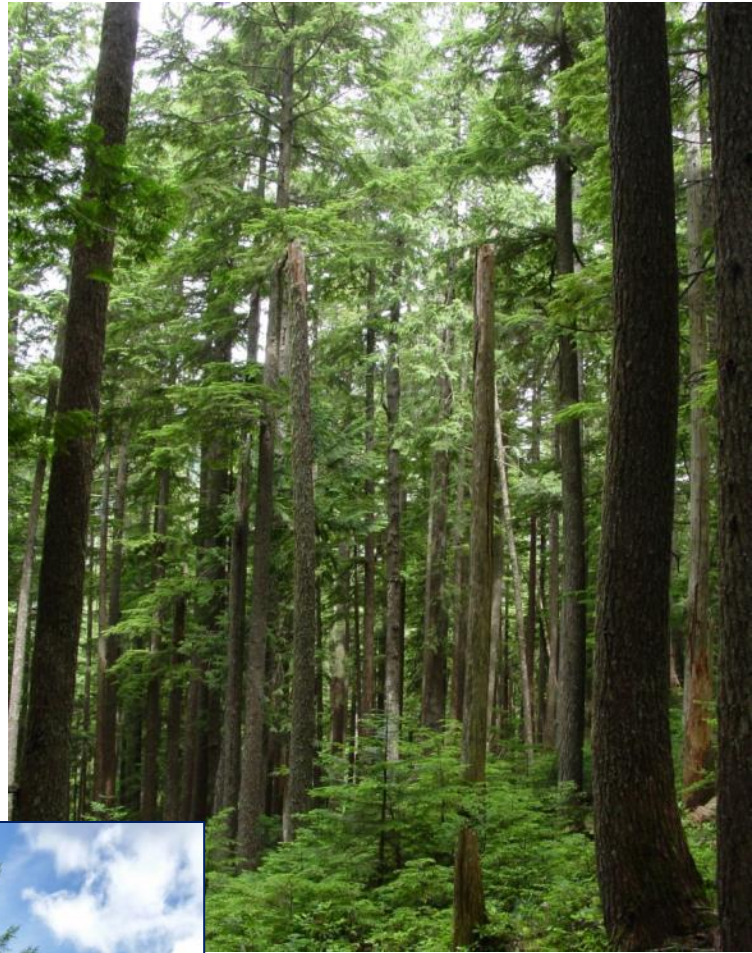
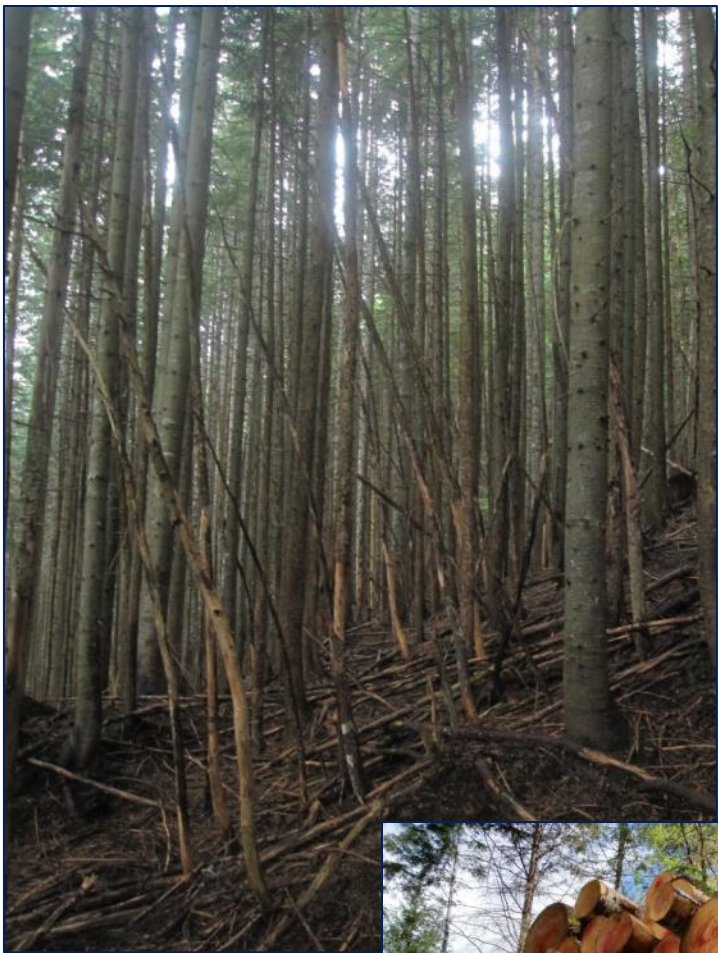
# Public Involvement



SPU staff provide regular updates to stakeholders to solicit input and answer questions

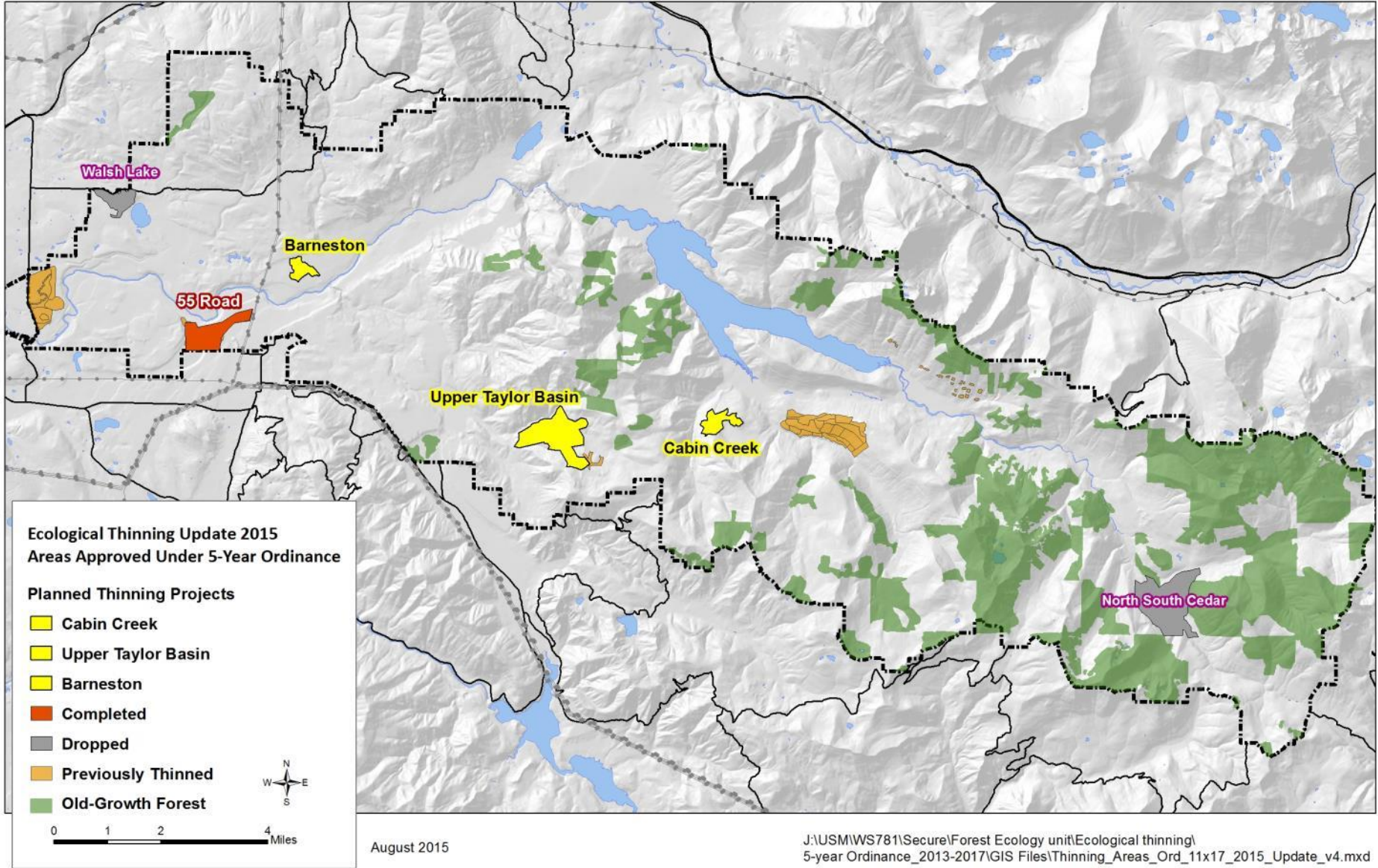
# Conclusion

- Five years of surplus log sale
  - Request authority to sell up to 7 million board feet from 800 acres in the Cedar River Watershed (Council Bill 118484)
  - Request authority to sell up to 4 million board feet from 330 acres in the South Fork Tolt River Watershed (Council Bill 118485)
- Variable annual net revenue that will offset costs of implementing the Plans
- Annual reports to Council

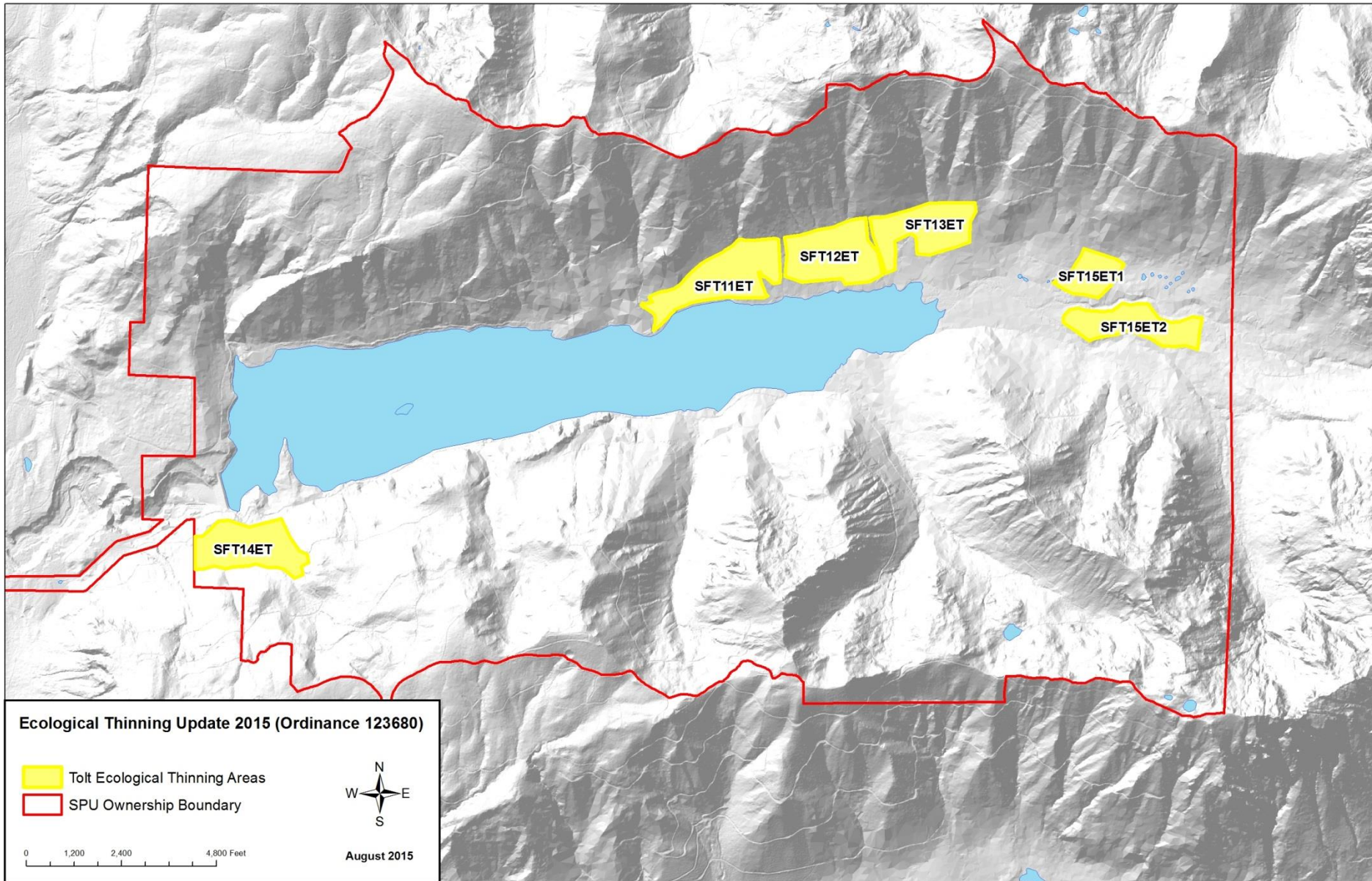


**The following slides provide Council an update on the last Cedar & Tolt Ecological Thinning ordinances and/or surplus log sales to date....**

# 2015 Status of Ecological Thinning (Ordinance 124068)



# 2015 Status of Ecological Thinning (Ordinance 123680)





# Ecological Thinning Surplus Log Sale Volume, Revenue and Acres by Watershed, 2000-2014

Watershed	Volume (million board feet)	Revenue	Acres
Cedar	5.3	\$578,919	706
Tolt	2.6	\$178,079	171