

# Herbicide Use in Forestry and the Interplay Public Perceptions

November 13, 2019



**Pope Resources**  
*A Limited Partnership*

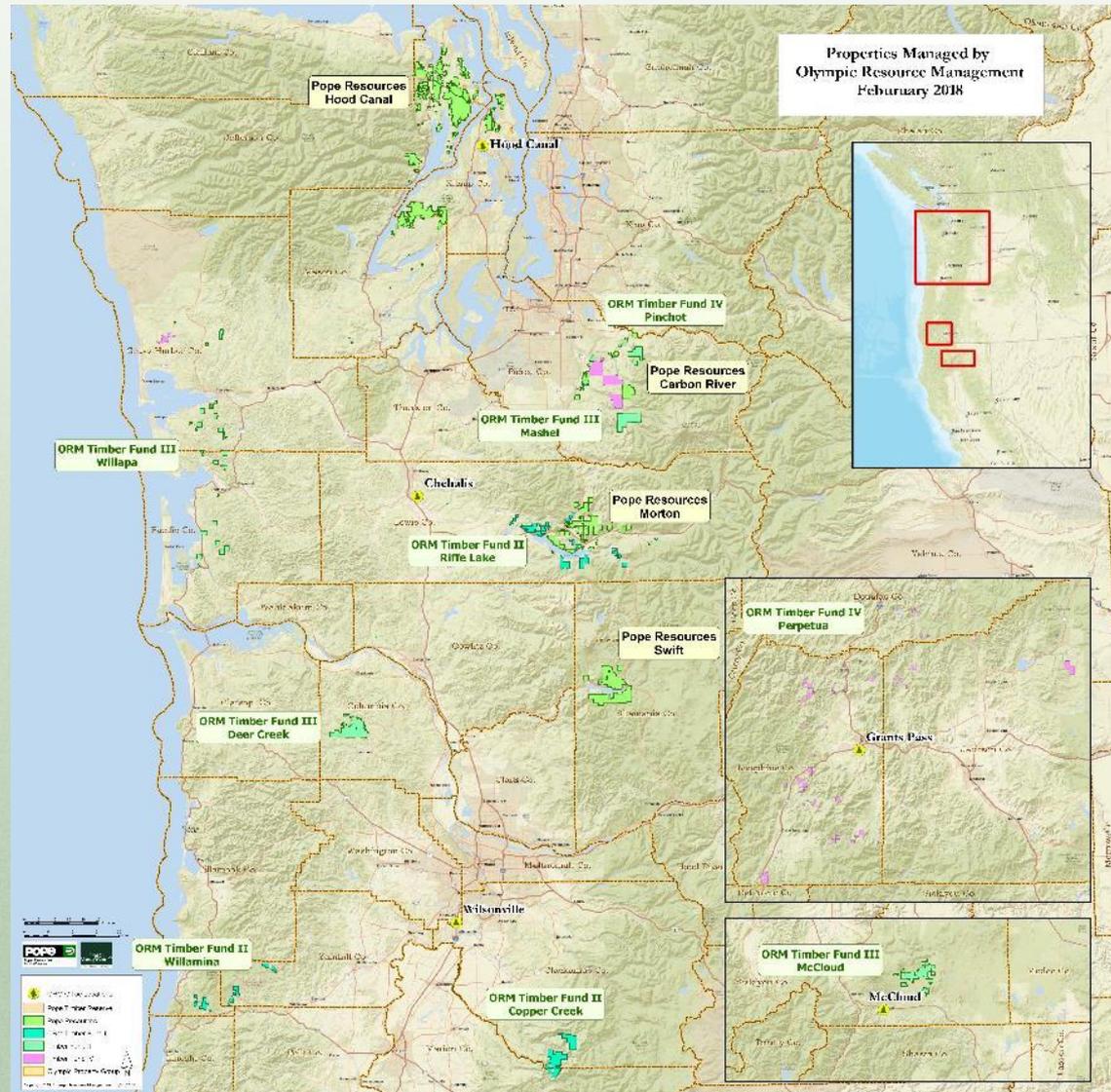
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# Who are we?



# Ownership

- Footprints in WA, OR, and CA
- Total footprint is approximately 265,000 acres
- We manage over 45,000 acres in Jefferson County



# Why and how do we use herbicides?

- To ensure that the trees we are legally required to replant survive and thrive
- To control invasive weeds
- Aerial application
- Hand application
- Ground based vehicle application

# Regulations

- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)
  - Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2003
  - Label is the law
  - Restricted Use
- Washington State Department of Agriculture
  - Enforcement
  - Licensing
  - Record Retention
- Washington State Department of Natural Resources
  - Forest Practice Application

# Best Practices

- Site specific evaluation
- Minimize the amount of herbicides used
- On site, qualified, employee supervision of contractors
- Neighbor notification
- Voluntary observation of practices by regulators
- Selective use of pre and post sampling

# Herbicide Use Minimization

Brand	Chemical(s)	Maximum Label Rate (acre)	ORM Rate (acre)
Oust Extra	sulfometuron methyl	5 and 1/3 ounces	4 ounces
Alligare Rotary 2 SL	imazaphyr	48 ounces	16 ounces
Alligare Glyphosate 5.4	glyphosate	7.5 quarts	1.5 quarts
Crosshair (Drift Control)	vegetable oil, amine salts of organic acids, and organic acid	4 ounces	4 ounces
Super Spread MSO (Surfactant)	methyl soyate, nonylphenal exthoxylate	64 ounces	16 ounces

- If we apply herbicides, we generally only apply once on a particular acre, over the course of 40 years
- Put another way, we are applying herbicides on less than 3% of our ownership on an annual basis



Jefferson County

Hansville

Port Gamble

Edmonds

Kitsap County

North Seattle

Google Earth



19

Beaver Valley Rd

104

© 2018 Google

Google Earth

300 feet to nearest house,  
zero feet to nearest lot







200 foot aerial  
spray buffer



# The Fire Triangle

#RESIST

CORPORATIONS  
~~We the People~~  
insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common  
and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution  
Article I  
Section 1  
All legislative Powers herein granted shall vest in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.



\$289 Million  
Jury Settlement



# What Our Permit Ignited



- County Commissioners
- State Elected Officials

# Results of the 2018 Controversy

- Kitsap Environmental Coalition appealed the Hansville Forest Practice Permit
- Held a public meeting
- Publicly committed to not apply herbicides on the Hansville unit until after the Pollution Control Hearing Board heard the appeal
- Kitsap Environmental Coalition dropped the appeal after receiving discovery requests from the Department of Natural Resources

# Impact to 2019 Operations

- Pope Resources did not aeriually apply herbicides in Kitsap County in 2019
- Launched a website to be fully transparent about all of our herbicide applications in both Jefferson and Kitsap County
- Extensive communications directly to local elected officials about our operations

# 2019 Accusations of Drift

- WSDA observed and conducted sampling of two aerial applications in Jefferson County where neighbors had “preemptively” accused us of allowing herbicides to leave the area of application
  - Both areas showed no detection of herbicides outside of the area of application

# 2019 Accusations of Drift

- Protesters alleged that our operations allowed herbicide to enter City Lake, the drinking water reservoir for the City of Port Townsend
- We notified Port Townsend in advance of our application and they tested the water source before and after application
  - There was no detection of herbicides in City Lake.

# 2019 Accusations of Drift

- Protesters alleged that our contractor deliberately sprayed them and that our operator sprayed motorists traveling on a public road
  - We have interviewed our employee on site as well as our contractor and we do not believe there was any intentional application to individuals
  - The Department of Natural Resources was on site during this application and has publicly stated that they did not observe our contractor applying herbicides on activists
  - Washington State Department of Agriculture is investigating and as reported by the Port Townsend Leader, “McGann said it is still too early in the investigation to make any clear conclusions, but that the lab tests were clear: they did not find evidence that the pesticide had drifted outside of the intended area.”

# Looking Forward

- Supported and actively participating in the implementation of SB 5597
- More community engagement on this issue as well as working forests more generally