



September 16, 2013

Kaleen Cottingham, Director
Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board

Derek Van Marter, Executive Director
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

Re: Letter to Land Trust regarding EWPU decision on selling upland portion of property

Dear Kaleen and Derek,

This letter is to inform you of the supportive response by the Entiat Watershed Planning Unit regarding a request from the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust (“CDLT”) with regard to selling portions of certain properties in the watershed that CDLT acquired with SRFB and other salmon recovery funding.

CDLT asked the Planning Unit for its opinion on whether the Land Trust should seek to sell the portions of parcels acquired under projects #09-1455 and #11-1415 that lie on the east side of Entiat River Road (see enclosed map). All of the portions potentially to be sold are uplands east of the road that are suitable for home sites that would not negatively impact the riparian habitat on the opposite side of Entiat River Road. In fact, in both of these projects, the upland area had power and a well at the time of acquisition, but no structures had been built.

CDLT presented this proposal to the Planning Unit on January, 2013 and again in July, 2013. We feel comfortable that the community was well represented in hearing the Land Trust’s presentation. Chelan County was represented by Natural Resources Director Mike Kaputa in January and by the County Commissioner Doug England at the July meeting. All groups expressed support for the proposal for two reasons: (1) the lower conservation value upland

Sustainable watershed health in balance with community values, growth and vitality



portions could be put back into private hands for home sites, and (2) the proceeds of sale would provide additional resources for salmon recovery work.

We understand that CDLT has received the following information from SRFB grant Manager Marc Duboiski regarding potential transactions and we concur in this process:

- Funds from sale of uplands would be deposited in an interest-bearing escrow account with the title company until CDLT, the Lead Entity and RCO have agreed upon replacement property;
- Approval for replacement property would be required under scope change process for Lead Entity and RCO approval;
- Priority for replacement property is as close as possible to the properties acquired under the grants under which the property was acquired; and

The Planning Unit supports this proposal as consistent with salmon recovery and community goals in the Entiat Watershed. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Rickel
Cascadia Conservation District