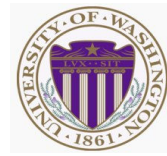




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CITIZEN ACTION**



**USDA Forest  
Service  
Pacific Northwest  
Research Station**



## Study of Residential Location Choices in the Puget Sound Area



### What is the issue?

Population growth and residential development have important implications for forests, fish, and wildlife in the Puget Sound region. This study seeks to understand the factors leading to growth and development along the wildland to urban interface with a special focus on suburban and exurban areas, and to identify the implications for natural resources and environmental stewardship.

### Why is this research important?

The research will provide local and regional planners, and community officials, with an understanding of the motives and preferences of exurban residents regarding their residential decisions. The role that public and private lands play in those decisions will be determined. The information will help public and private land managers to design and implement land management and conservation stewardship strategies that account for the motives and preferences of people locating nearby residential areas.

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### Study Goals

- Document the types and patterns of exurban development;
- Describe the demographic and economic characteristics of exurban residents;
- Identify factors influencing residential location choices;
- Examine residents' recreation uses of public and private lands, and interest in stewardship activities;
- Collaborate with public and private agencies and organizations, landowners, and others to facilitate resource stewardship activities in exurban areas.

### Study Approach

The study team will gather data and information using a combination of interviews, surveys, and focus groups involving residents, homeowner associations, real estate professionals, outdoor recreation groups, and land use planning professionals.

### Research Sponsors



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