

June 30, 2011

Sent via email to: [info@friendsnorthcreekforest.org](mailto:info@friendsnorthcreekforest.org)

Mr. Jim Freese  
c/o Friends of North Creek Forest  
20111 108th Ave NE  
Bothell, WA 98011

Dear Friends of North Creek Forest,

The University of Washington Bothell is committed to environmental and sustainability education that will produce future leaders in environmental science, education, planning, and policy as well as broadly-informed citizens. The North Creek Forest in Bothell provides a unique living laboratory of a mature upland forest ecosystem within easy walking distance for our students. It would complement the 52 acres of wetlands maintained by our campus. Our wetlands are considered one of the most successful renewed wetlands in the nation.

UW Bothell programs in biology, environmental science, education, sustainability, art, and law and public policy would be able to use the forest for valuable hands-on learning. Thus, UW Bothell considers the conservation of North Creek Forest as a key asset to the region, city and UW Bothell current and future students and faculty.

The North Creek Forest site affords outdoor environmental experiences that provide a rich understanding of natural systems from our wetlands to its hillside forest. The forest adds significant opportunities for UW Bothell students and faculty in education, research, and community outreach. UW Bothell sees the North Creek Forest as a site where partnerships could develop around a natural area for students in science, policy, and education. Students in our Education Program could work with nearby K-12 schools to develop environmental education programs; Environmental Science students could partner with citizens groups and the city of Bothell to help restore eroded stream banks; and Public Policy students can learn the intricacies of preserving natural environments in urbanizing communities.

UW Bothell supports the efforts to conserve the North Creek Forest and looks forward to a strong partnership to continue its great value to the region.

Sincerely,



Kenyon S. Chan  
Chancellor

cc: Marilyn Cox, Warren Gold, Kelly Snyder