



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE
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August 31, 2006

TO: IAC Members & Designees

FROM: Laura Eckert Johnson, Director *LEJ*

PREPARED BY: Marguerite Austin, Manager
 Recreation & Habitat Section, Project Services Division

SUBJECT: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
 Riparian Protection Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2008
 Notebook Item #7e

*"Riparian habitat means land adjacent to water bodies, as well as submerged land such as streambeds, which can provide functional habitat for salmonids and other fish and wildlife species. Riparian habitat includes, but is not limited to shorelines and near-shore marine habitat, estuaries, lakes, wetlands, streams, and rivers."*¹

EVALUATION SUMMARY

Seventeen Riparian Protection (RP) category projects requesting \$9.7 million were evaluated on August 9-10, 2006 in an open public meeting. Utilizing criteria adopted by IAC, a team of eight evaluators reviewed and ranked the RP projects. The team, comprised of individuals recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat conservation, included:

EVALUATOR	DISCIPLINE
Bob Cannon, Department of Natural Resources, Olympia	Land Use Management
Carolyn Kelly, Skagit Conservation District, Mount Vernon	Natural Resource Mgmt
Don Larsen, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Spokane	Environmental Planner
Eric Delvin, The Nature Conservancy, Olympia	Natural Resource Mgmt
Ginger Phalen, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Lacey	Fish & Wildlife Biologist
Joe Kane, Nisqually River Land Trust, Yelm	Natural Resource Mgmt
Michael Kohn, Lewis County Public Utility District, Olympia	Biologist
Rex Porter, Island County Public Works, Coupeville	Ecologist

¹ Chapter 79A.15.010 (7), Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands



The results of the evaluations are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Riparian Protection Ranked List of Projects*, Fiscal Year 2008.

RIPARIAN PROTECTION CATEGORY

Riparian Protection category projects provide water related habitat for fish and wildlife. These habitats include estuaries, lakes, rivers, streams, shorelines, tidelands, and wetlands. To be eligible for consideration in this category, a project must include acquisition of real property interest. Other factors related to this category are:

- Development of a stewardship plan is eligible.
- Funds may be used for mitigation banking projects.
- Extension of Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program leases is eligible.
- Projects may include habitat restoration and enhancement.
- Where appropriate, development of passive public access facilities is allowed.
- Local and state² agencies and lead entities may apply for funding.
- Local agency applicants must provide a 50% matching share.
- Applicants may request a minimum of \$25,000 and a maximum of \$1,000,000.

The Riparian Protection Account (RPA) may only receive funding if the Legislature allocates more than \$40 million for WWRP funding. With a \$40-\$50 million appropriation, 40% of any amount over \$40 million goes into the RPA for these projects. A funding level in excess of \$50 million provides an additional 30% for this category.³

RECOMMENDATION

After reviewing the results of the scoring and ranking of projects, and considering comments from evaluators and applicants, staff recommends approval of the ranked list of projects as shown in Table 1. Staff also recommends that this entire list of projects be forwarded to the Governor and Legislature. Resolution #2006-31 is provided for Board consideration.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution #2006-31
- Table 1 – *WWRP, Riparian Protection Ranked List of Projects*, FY2008
- State Map for Riparian Protection Category projects
- Riparian Protection Evaluation Criteria Summary
- Riparian Protection Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- Riparian Protection Project Summaries

These attachments include a map that shows the location of each project, a summary of the composite scores for each project, and a synopsis of each project proposal.

² State agencies mean the State Parks and Recreation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of General Administration, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Other state agencies may only apply in partnership with one of these eligible agencies.

³ Chapter 79A.15.030(1)(b) RCW

RESOLUTION #2006-31
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
Riparian Protection Category - Fiscal Year 2008
Ranked List of Projects

WHEREAS, for fiscal year 2008 of the 2007-2009 biennium, seventeen Riparian Protection category projects are eligible for funding from the Riparian Protection Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and

WHEREAS, these seventeen Riparian Protection category projects were evaluated using evaluation criteria approved by IAC Board Members, and

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred in an open public meeting, and

WHEREAS, all seventeen Riparian Protection category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in IAC Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation and Riparian Protection Accounts: Policies and Project Selection*,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that IAC hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Riparian Protection Ranked List of Projects*, FY2008 (2006-31), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that IAC hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Riparian Protection category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: September 21, 2006



Table 1
Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program - Riparian Preservation
State Fiscal Year 2008

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Project Sponsor	IAC Amt	Sponsor Amt	Total Amt	Cumulative Amt
1 of 17	106.125	06-1817A	Upper Yakima Riparian	Fish & Wildlife Dept of King County of	818,862	818,862	818,862	818,862
2 of 17	98.375	06-2003A	Taylor Mountain Forest Inholdings	King County of	300,000	850,000	1,150,000	1,118,862
3 of 17	94.125	06-2072A	Mashel Riparian Habitat Acq & Protect Oak Flats	Eatonville Town of	823,286	866,224	1,689,510	1,942,148
4 of 17	92.875	06-1833C	East Fork Lewis Riparian Habitat	Fish & Wildlife Dept of Clark County Parks Dept	645,867	509,115	645,867	2,588,015
6 of 17	91.000	06-1943A	Decker Creek Riparian Conservation	Mason County of	693,925	693,925	1,018,230	3,097,130
7 of 17	86.500	06-2130A	Stavis NRCA Riparian 2006	Natural Resources Dept of	944,580	944,580	1,387,850	3,791,055
8 of 17	86.125	06-1886A	Skookum Riparian Protection	Squaxin Island Tribe	952,500	952,500	1,905,000	4,735,635
9 of 17	85.250	06-1751A	Issequah Creek Waterways - Phase 1	Issaquah City of	500,000	1,369,250	1,869,250	5,688,135
10 of 17	83.500	06-1895A	Lacamas Lake Shoreline	Clark County Parks Dept	391,695	391,695	783,390	6,188,135
11 of 17	82.125	06-1870A	Cherry Creek Acquisitions	Natural Resources Dept of	265,000	265,000	265,000	6,579,830
12 of 17	81.375	06-1816A	Skagit River Forks	Fish & Wildlife Dept of King County of	464,283	700,000	464,283	6,844,830
13 of 17	80.500	06-1892A	Bass/Beaver Lake Complex Acquisition	King County of	525,000	1,225,000	1,225,000	7,309,113
14 of 17	79.125	06-1732A	Right Smart Cove Acquisition	State Parks	999,993	999,993	999,993	7,834,113
15 of 17	77.250	06-1709A	Big Spring Acquisition	King County of	148,200	151,300	299,500	8,834,106
16 of 17	76.250	06-1878A	Middle Fork Natural Area Acquisition	King County of	236,250	236,250	472,500	8,982,306
17 of 17	72.500	06-2022C	Lacamas Watershed Mitigation Bank	Camas City of	522,815	550,000	1,072,815	9,218,556
					9,741,371	7,270,259	17,011,630	

Prepared: 9/5/2006

Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program

Evaluation Criteria

Riparian Protection Account

(Tribal Government, State and Local Agencies, and Lead Entities)

Riparian habitat is defined as land adjacent to water bodies, as well as submerged land such as streambeds, which can provide functional habitat for salmonids and other fish and wildlife species. Riparian habitat includes, but is not limited to, shorelines and nearshore marine habitat, estuaries, lakes, wetlands, streams, and rivers.

RCW 79A.15.101(7)

WWRP Riparian Protection Account Evaluation Criteria			
Criteria Number	Scored By	Criteria Topic	Maximum Score
1	Evaluation Team	Riparian Habitat Benefits	20
2	Evaluation Team	Planning Priority	20
3	Evaluation Team	Site Suitability and Project Design	20
4	Evaluation Team	Threats to the Habitat	15
5	Evaluation Team	Project Support	15
6	Evaluation Team	Public Access Opportunities	15
7	Evaluation Team	On-going Stewardship and Management	10
8	IAC Staff	Matching Share	4
9	IAC Staff	GMA Compliance	0
Maximum Possible Score			119



Evaluation Summary
Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program - Riparian Preservation
State Fiscal Year 2008

Rank	Name/Sponsor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total	
		Riparian Habitat Benefits	Planning Priority	Site Suitability and Project Design	Threats to the Habitat	Project Support	Public Access Opportunities	On-going Stewardship Management	Matching Share	GMA Preference	PRE SCORE	
1	Upper Yakima R/Fish & W	19,125	18,875	19,125	13,375	13,250	14,000	8,375	0,000	0,000	0,000	106,125
2	Taylor Mountain/King Cou	15,125	17,375	17,000	13,125	11,500	11,875	8,375	4,000	0,000	0,000	98,375
3	Mashel Riparian/Eatonvil	15,125	17,750	13,875	13,125	11,000	12,625	8,625	2,000	0,000	0,000	94,125
4	East Fork Lewis/Clark Co	16,375	18,250	15,875	9,000	12,250	11,375	8,750	1,000	0,000	0,000	92,875
4	Oak Flats/Fish & W	16,125	16,125	18,000	8,375	11,875	13,000	9,375	0,000	0,000	0,000	92,875
6	Decker Creek R/Mason Co	17,375	15,375	16,875	9,875	12,250	9,750	8,500	1,000	0,000	0,000	91,000
7	Stavis NRCA Rip/Natural	12,875	15,625	17,125	8,875	11,375	11,500	9,125	0,000	0,000	0,000	86,500
8	Skookum Riparian/Squaxin	14,125	17,250	15,375	10,250	10,125	9,500	8,500	1,000	0,000	0,000	86,125
9	Issaquah Creek /Issaquah	11,125	14,875	10,875	11,625	12,250	12,750	7,750	4,000	0,000	0,000	85,250
10	Lacamas Lake Sh/Clark Co	13,625	14,500	14,875	7,750	11,625	11,875	8,250	1,000	0,000	0,000	83,500
11	Cherry Creek Ac/Natural	15,375	15,125	14,625	9,375	8,375	10,500	8,750	0,000	0,000	0,000	82,125
12	Skagit River Fo/Fish & W	14,500	13,500	15,375	6,375	11,250	12,125	8,250	0,000	0,000	0,000	81,375
13	Bass/Beaver Lak/King Cou	13,875	12,625	13,625	9,250	9,875	11,500	7,750	2,000	0,000	0,000	80,500
14	Right Smart Cow/State Pa	12,625	15,125	13,625	6,500	11,000	12,125	8,125	0,000	0,000	0,000	79,125
15	Big Spring Acqui/King Cou	14,125	12,750	14,500	7,750	10,375	7,750	8,000	2,000	0,000	0,000	77,250
16	Middle Fork Nat/King Cou	11,375	13,500	14,750	7,625	9,125	11,250	7,625	1,000	0,000	0,000	76,250
17	Lacamas Watershi/Camas Ci	9,875	12,625	11,250	8,375	10,625	10,125	8,625	2,000	-1,000	-1,000	72,500

Evaluation Score Questions: 1-7
 Prescore Questions: 8-9

Prepared: 09/05/2006

WWRP
Riparian Protection Account

RIPARIAN PROTECTION

FISCAL YEAR 2008

Project Synopses



**Washington Wildlife and
Recreation Program
Riparian Protection**

State Fiscal Year 2008 Projects, In Ranked Order

Fish & Wildlife Dept of Upper Yakima Riparian	\$818,862	\$0	\$818,862
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The Upper Yakima River Riparian Protection Project proposes to acquire about a 200 acre block of intact and highly complex riparian habitat in the lower Easton reach of the Yakima River. The project is just upriver from 212 acres of WDFW land and adjacent to several hundred acres of protected open space associated with the Suncadia Resort. The properties would be co-managed to protect the entire floodplain, as part of a strategic plan by WDFW and the Yakama Nation, who aim to acquire and enhance the most productive floodplain habitats in priority reaches, using existing protected lands as habitat anchors. Yakima River rafters and fishing interests would also benefit from the project. The property contains prime spawning and rearing habitat, and is located between from the Cle Elum Spring Chinook supplementation facility and the Easton acclimation site. The project will also protect a prime riparian corridor utilized by elk, deer, cougar populations, and several other terrestrial species.

The threat to the property is fragmentation through subdivision and rapid development, as evident on nearby properties. Habitat acquisition is a key strategy for protection and enhancement in the Easton reach, as listed in the Yakima Sub-basin Plan. This project is supported by the Kittitas County Critical Areas Ordinance and the Shoreline Master Plan. Public support for the project comes from the Board of Kittitas County Commissioners, four local conservation/environmental groups, several fly-fishing businesses and Washington State Parks. (06-1817A-FY08)

King County of Taylor Mountain Forest Inholdings	\$300,000	\$850,000	\$1,150,000
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The goal of this proposal is to acquire 80 acres of private lands within Taylor Mountain Forest, which contains key wetland and riparian habitat in the Issaquah Basin. This purchase will eliminate the potential for a subdivision of eight residential lots and a equestrian center in the center of 1,840 acres of resource rich forest lands. The pond, marshes, swamps, creek, and riparian habitats on these parcels are the critical headwaters of a large wetland/riparian system extending both north and south onto Taylor Mt. Forest and draining into both Carey and Holder Creeks. The parcels provide excellent wildlife habitat with black bear, cougar, bobcat, elk, deer, beaver, great blue heron, bald eagle, wood duck, pileated woodpecker, salamander, cutthroat trout and western toad all known to use this wetland and riparian complex. The inholdings are part of a valuable wildlife corridor that connects Tiger Mountain Forest to the Cedar River Watershed.

Acquiring these parcels also increases the ability to manage the landscape according to the approved Taylor Mountain Forest Stewardship Plan. This purchase will allow passive recreational trail access along existing roads to connect to the Holder Creek and Tiger

Clark County Parks Dept	\$509,115	\$509,115	\$1,018,230
East Fork Lewis Riparian Habitat			

This project will acquire 52 acres of shoreline, riparian, and floodplain habitat on the East Fork Lewis River three miles southeast of the town of La Center. The project includes about 1,800 lineal feet of shoreline on the East Fork Lewis and 1,515 lineal feet on Dean Creek, a year-round tributary that flows through the property. The entire site lies within the 100-year floodplain.

The East Fork Lewis is Clark County's largest free-flowing stream. It supports ESA-listed runs of steelhead and coho, chinook, and chum salmon. The project site is centrally located within a 2,100-acre habitat and greenway system that covers 12 miles on the lower East Fork Lewis. In addition to ESA-listed salmonids, the project site provides habitat for deer, river otter, beaver, eagles, hawks, and neotropical migrant birds. (06-1882A-FY08)

Mason County of	\$693,925	\$693,925	\$1,387,850
Decker Creek Riparian Conservation			

This project will provide permanent protection for a 500-acre riparian/wetland complex in western Mason County. The project site is a prime candidate for conservation due to its large size, diversity of riparian habitats, high-quality native plant communities, and exceptional habitat for a variety of priority species including summer and fall chinook, coho, chum, steelhead salmonids, cutthroat trout, western toad, great blue heron, pileated woodpecker, and Roosevelt Elk. Priority habitats found on the project site include Freshwater Wetlands (scrub-shrub, emergent, forested), Instream, Riparian, and Snags and Logs.

The project site, a notable feature on the landscape of western Mason County, contains a diversity of riparian/wetland habitats intermingled together that produce a complex mosaic of native plant communities. The site includes extensive riparian habitat, including approximately two miles of Decker Creek mainstem. Decker Creek is an important salmon-producing stream and is used for spawning and rearing by coho, summer and fall chinook, chum, steelhead, and cutthroat. Salmonids are abundant in the riparian/wetland complex. Forested areas also provide habitat and cover for a large herd of elk that utilize the site.

This unique site faces imminent threat from a planned timber harvest. Completion of the Decker Creek Riparian Conservation Project will provide the highest level of habitat protection. (06-1943A-FY08)

Natural Resources Dept of	\$944,580	\$0	\$944,580
Stavis NRCA Riparian 2006			

This project will acquire riparian properties near Bremerton in Kitsap County. These properties are highly threatened by development and are a crucial part of a larger project area that contains the highest quality occurrence of a rare forest community type and a variety of high quality wildlife habitats. Acquisition of these riparian areas will prevent indirect impacts of development (water quality, sedimentation, hydrologic alterations).

Stavis Creek, which runs through the site and through the priority parcels, is one of the best remaining Hood Canal salmon spawning habitats and is a designated recovery area

for threatened Hood Canal summer chum. This project will facilitate salmon recovery and other riparian restoration activities. The site also hosts an active bald eagle nest, a small great blue heron rookery, breeding mountain quail, chinook salmon, cougar, and black bear. The objective is to protect all functionally connected natural-regeneration forests and high-quality riparian areas from development, timber harvest, and other commercial uses. This project greatly enhances the long-term viability and quality of wildlife habitat in a still-intact functional riparian and forested landscape that is threatened with urban fragmentation. (06-2130A-FY08)

Squaxin Island Tribe **\$952,500** **\$952,500** **\$1,905,000**
Skookum Riparian Protection

The Squaxin Island Tribe is negotiating purchase of 365 acres of riparian habitat from the McDonald Land Company in the Skookum Creek Watershed to protect and enhance fish & wildlife populations. This watershed is not highly developed and therefore, has high restoration potential. It supports healthy stocks of chum salmon, a declining stock of coho, and ESA listed chinook potentially pass through an intact estuary (partially owned by DNR). Also, a local elk population overwinters on the property.

The landowner is committed to selling this and other property and has engaged the services of a real estate company in California. He offered to try to negotiate a sale to the Squaxin Island Tribe before allowing the real estate company to move forward on the Skookum riparian property.

This proposal is for the WWRP program to fund fee simple acquisition of stream channel and riparian lands on each side of Skookum Creek--approximately 15,854 linear feet of channel and a riparian buffer totaling 365 acres. The acquired land constitutes an ancient lakebed and floodplain for Skookum Creek--it does not include extensive uplands.

(06-1886A-FY08)

Issaquah City of **\$500,000** **\$1,369,250** **\$1,869,250**
Issaquah Creek WaterWays - Phase 1

The Issaquah Creek WaterWays Program is a city sponsored program to acquire creekside properties that have identified high resource values. Although Issaquah Creek meanders through the city's urban core, it supports rich habitat values that sustain listed endangered and priority wildlife species. With this application, the City has identified the Johnson Property (also known as "Guano Acres"), a 7.8 acre site, as one of the last large and undeveloped properties located on the creek in the city for acquisition. In addition, acquisition of this site will protect over 600 feet of in-stream and riparian corridor (both sides of the creek).

The proposed acquisition site is identified in the WRIA #8 Proposed Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan as a Tier 1 site (Project #I-220 - Acquisition) for the protection/preservation of Issaquah Chinook Salmon. The plan notes: "This 600 ft. reach of Issaquah Creek offers excellent floodplain restoration, wetland enhancement, side channels, and riparian enhancement potential." The WaterWays Program and Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan focus on protection of Chinook salmon habitat in order to have the most impact on where all

species of salmonids spawn and rear. Without preservation of these habitat values along segments of Issaquah Creek, such as this proposed acquisition project would provide, recovery of the Issaquah salmonid species would be further jeopardized. (06-1751A-FY08)

Clark County Parks Dept \$391,695 \$391,695 \$783,390
Lacamas Lake Shoreline

This project will acquire 67.5 acres of high-quality shoreline, riparian, and wetlands habitat on 315-acre Lacamas Lake in southeast Clark County. The project site includes 6,100 lineal feet of shoreline, and virtually the entire site is designated by Clark County as priority riparian habitat and wetlands. The project site borders 350-acre Lacamas Lake Regional Park, and will become part of an 800-acre system of habitat and parkland that borders a close grouping of three lakes--Lacamas, Round, and Fallen Leaf Lakes.

The project site supports a variety of wildlife including deer, beaver, osprey, bald eagles, great blue heron, wood duck, Canada geese, and neotropical migrant birds. The primary goal of this project is to protect riparian habitat values. However, the property does provide excellent opportunities for wildlife viewing--especially by canoe and kayak--and there is a short strip of uplands at the south end of the project site that provides opportunities for picnicking and fishing. (06-1895A-FY08)

Natural Resources Dept of \$265,000 \$0 \$265,000
Cherry Creek Acquisitions

This project will allow the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to acquire riparian habitat along Cherry Creek, within the Markworth Forest in King County. Cherry Creek is a high quality salmonid stream. Although the project area is above a natural barrier to anadromous fish, it provides vital protection to headwater forest and wetlands. This portion of Cherry Creek is unique in that the Olympic mudminnow, a state sensitive species thought to occur only in coastal drainages and a couple of rivers in southwest Washington, has been found here.

DNR is taking significant steps to eliminate private inholdings within the forest in order to eliminate or relocate a mainline road that has been identified as a major silt producer for nearby Stossel Creek (coho spawning stream).

Acquisition will include a minimum of 220' buffers around significant wetlands adjacent to Cherry Creek. A total of 25 acres of riparian habitat, wetlands and expanded buffers will be protected, most likely through a conservation easement. An empty, rustic house and outbuildings on the property will be demolished and removed. DNR, in partnership with King County, will acquire an additional 30 acres of adjacent uplands, remove the development rights and manage that as a working forest. While acquisition of the riparian area (25 acres) and uplands (30 acres) will occur simultaneously, WWRP grant funds will not be applied to the 30 acres. (06-1870A-FY08)

Fish & Wildlife Dept of \$464,283 \$0 \$464,283
Skagit River Forks

Mature lowland riparian forest was once the dominant habitat type along the lower Skagit River, but incompatible land uses have reduced these forested areas to a fraction

cove. The goal of this proposal is to acquire an additional 26 acres of property adjacent to State Parks' current ownership. Property acquisition is the first phase of this project. If phase one is funded, phase two will focus on restoration of pocket estuary and salt marsh habitat functions. State Parks will develop a stewardship restoration plan with the help of partners including; Washington Trout, the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, and the Hood Canal Coordinating Council. Restoration funds for the second phase of this project are included in State Parks 07-09 capital budget.

This property was identified as a priority for acquisition during State Parks Classification and Management Planning process, or CAMP. Restoration actions planned for phase two of the project are also supported by several salmon recovery plans including: The Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Limiting Factors Analysis for WRIA 17, The Hood Canal Summer Chum Recovery Plan, and The Hood Canal Coordinating Council Salmon Habitat Recovery Strategy.

In addition to preserving and restoring riparian habitat on Hood Canal, this acquisition will provide opportunities for low impact recreation, such as walking, wildlife viewing, and non-motorized boating. The property is owned by a willing seller, and with funding support acquisition can move forward immediately. (06-1732A-FY08)

King County of Big Spring Acquisition	\$148,200	\$151,300	\$299,500
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This project proposes to acquire 33.3 acres of the headwaters of Big Spring Creek, an important cold water source for Newaukum Creek through a combination of fee simple acquisition and conservation easements. Cold, clean water from these springs contribute significantly to the fall minimum flows in lower Newaukum Creek where chinook, coho, and steelhead spawn and rear. Big Spring Creek has provided 27 to 45% of the annual seven-day minimum flows for Newaukum Creek (around RM 1) over the past 5 years. The springs provide a constant source of cool, clean water, and late summer temperatures have ranged from 9.5 to 12 degrees centigrade, with an average of 10.5 C. This acquisition site is 100% wetland, stream, and riparian habitat.

This project will complete the original SRFB acquisition grant awarded in the 2nd round of funding. Funds on the original grant have been expended because of higher than expected acquisition costs, and the County has yet to acquire some key parcels at the head waters. This project is supported by WRIA 9, and it is described as a project in the Salmon Conservation Plan. Further, this acquisition has strong support from the Army Corps of Engineers, neighbors and property owners, and Trout Unlimited. The property owners are willing sellers. The properties have been appraised, but offers to the owners have not been made because of insufficient funds. (06-1709A-FY08)

King County of Middle Fork Natural Area Acquisition	\$236,250	\$236,250	\$472,500
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The scope of this project is to acquire three parcels totaling 50 acres along the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River. The three parcels are private inholdings within 205 acres of county land managed as a natural area. The natural area provides protection along 7750 feet of the Middle Fork. The proposed acquisition would add another 1000 feet of river frontage.

The Middle Fork Natural Area provides high quality riparian habitat that is used extensively by elk, black bear, and cougar. The Natural Area also lies within the WA DNR lands managed for spotted owl habitat in the State's Spotted Owl Habitat Conservation Plan. The Middle Fork Snoqualmie River is an increasingly popular wilderness recreation destination for many Seattle metropolitan area residents. Extensive US Forest Service and State ownership provides numerous opportunities for hiking, biking, kayaking, fishing, and other wilderness activities. The Middle Fork Natural Area lies in the center of that public ownership mosaic and offers opportunities for low-impact day use. A simple kayak launch was recently installed. The Middle Fork River Corridor Public Use planning effort recommends adding a day hike trail from the Middle Fork road to the eastern extent of the Natural Area. Acquiring the large inholdings within the natural area is a critical step to insure long term integrity of the habitat and the development of a trail for day users. (06-1878A-FY08)

Camas City of	\$522,815	\$550,000	\$1,072,815
Lacamas Watershed Mitigation Bank			

This project will establish a riparian mitigation bank in the Lacamas Watershed in southeast Clark County. The project will acquire 63 acres on Fifth Plain Creek, a Class S stream that is tributary to Lacamas Creek. The property includes a 32-acre riparian zone (creek with 250-foot buffer), as well as connected wetlands and uplands. Historically, the entire site has been severely impacted by grazing and other farm practices. This project will restore/enhance 25.6 acres of the site, and the remaining 37.4 acres will be utilized for future restoration as banking revenues are received.

This project will help meet a high need for mitigation bank sites in the Lacamas Watershed. The city of Camas (pop. 15,980)--located at the south end of the watershed--is one of the fastest growing cities in Washington State. Initially, bank credits will be used primarily to mitigate for city capital projects. Credits may also be used to mitigate for private-sector projects in areas zoned for economic growth/development.

This project will support extensive efforts to preserve and restore habitat lands in the Lacamas Watershed. The project site borders a 40-acre parcel acquired by Clark County for wetlands mitigation, and lies 1/2 mile south of a 240-acre park and conservation land. DNR is proposing to establish an NAP/NRCA about one mile south of the project site, and various partners manage over 800 acres of park and habitat land on Lacamas Lake and Lacamas Creek inside the city of Camas. (06-2022C-FY08)

