

2019-2021 STATE LAND ACQUISITION FORECAST REPORT

Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group



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1 | INTRODUCTION

In 2007, the Legislature created the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group to improve the visibility and coordination of the purchase and sale of land by state agencies for habitat and recreation.

The intention is to ensure that state agencies acquiring lands are coordinating their efforts with one another. That directive was driven in part by citizens and local officials who wanted to know about purchases planned in their areas. Different land buyers using different planning processes had made it difficult for them to track what was going on. They wanted to know: Who was planning to buy land in their counties? What land was planned for purchase? Why was the land being bought? How could they get involved in the planning process?

The lands group has become a key vehicle for improving the visibility and coordination of land purchases by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks).

The Washington State Legislature has extended the lands group twice, with a current sunset date of 2027.

In 2013, the Legislature asked the Recreation and Conservation Office to provide an inventory of lands in Washington owned by federal, state, and local governments, and by Native American tribes. The resulting 2014 Washington Public Lands Inventory Web application is at <http://publiclandsinventory.wa.gov/#Map>.

While state-owned habitat and recreation lands make up only a small percentage of land in Washington, there is increased scrutiny of the costs and benefits of state ownership. State natural resource agencies are struggling to meet their public mandates to protect habitat and recreation lands for current and future generations with fewer resources available for purchasing and maintaining those lands. This report helps to highlight where improvements can be made.

Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group

The lands group is comprised of representatives from these Washington State natural resources agencies:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Recreation and Conservation Office
- State Conservation Commission
- State Parks and Recreation Commission

The lands group also includes representatives of nonprofit organizations, local governments, the Legislature, and others including American Farmland Trust, The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, Washington Forest Protection Association, Pacific Coast Joint Venture, and Washington Association of Land Trusts.

The Recreation and Conservation Office provides support and hosts the lands group's Web site at www.rco.wa.gov/boards/hrlcg.shtml.

- Visibility and Coordination
- The lands group visibility and coordination process occurs on the biennial funding cycle and has the following components:
- Annual State Land Acquisition Coordinating Forum, which brings together state agencies, local governments, non-government organizations, landowners, tribes, and citizens to share ideas on proposals for state habitat and recreation land purchases and disposals.
- *State Land Acquisition Forecast Report*, which gives information about the state land purchases and disposals that are being planned around the state.
- *Biennial State Land Acquisition Performance Monitoring Report*, which shows whether state agencies achieved their initial acquisition project objectives.
- What Stakeholders are Requesting
- Early notification about planned purchases in their areas.
- Meaningful opportunity to engage in the planning process for purchases in their areas.
- Complete, consistent, and accessible information about proposed projects, such as why projects are proposed for purchase, who the proposed purchasers are, what the proposed funding sources are, and maps.
- State land purchase data on a county-wide and statewide scale.
- Follow-up information that shows how well projects met intended objectives.

This Report

The report provides early notification about plans for land purchases by the state natural resources agencies. This and previous years' reports are available on the lands group Web site: www.rco.wa.gov/boards/hrlcg.shtml.

Early notification about projects—The forecast provides early information on state land acquisition project proposals for the upcoming biennium. The forecast is published several months before final state capital funding is approved by the Legislature to give citizens time to engage in the planning process.

Comprehensive overview—The report gives a comprehensive look at what's being planned around the state. It provides county-wide and statewide maps and data, as well as maps and data about specific project sites.

Clear and accessible data—The forecast provides data such as project descriptions, number of acres, costs and types of acquisitions, future costs, and funding sources. The data are standardized to allow comparative analyses, such as comparing the cost of one agency's proposal with the cost of another's. The forecast also includes Geographical Information System (GIS) data and is published on the lands group Web site for easy access.

Potential projects—The projects in this report are potential acquisitions and disposals that are either in the planning stage or part of a grant application or an agency budget request to the Legislature. The agencies do not have money for these transactions and will not proceed until all approval processes have been completed. The projects and costs in this report may differ from those in the presentations on the lands group Web site because they were refined as the agencies submitted grant applications.

Snapshot information—This report provides a snapshot designed to help planners and others who want to know the status of project proposals. The data are based on best estimates as of May 2018. Because the projects are in the early planning stages, the data are likely to change before the projects are complete.

Natural resource agency projects—This report covers information about potential habitat and recreation land acquisition and disposal projects proposed for funding in the 2019-2021 biennium by the following state agencies:

- DFW
- DNR
- State Parks

New information to the report—In response to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee’s recent report on State Recreation and Habitat Lands (15-1) and 2016 legislation on reforming the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (Senate Substitute Bill 6227), the lands groups has added new information to this report, including the following:

- Current use of the property
- Link to the agency’s strategic plan

- Anticipated project outcomes
- Current progress on outcomes
- Partners
- Anticipated future costs
- Local government support

Report Contents

Section 1—Introduction: Describes the lands group and what will be found in this report.

Section 2—Context: Provides an overview of public lands in Washington State, including costs and benefits of state habitat and recreation land ownership and state agency visions for the future.

Section 3—State Agency Profiles and Acquisition Priorities: Describes the habitat and recreation land acquisition missions, priorities, and processes of the three natural resources agencies.

Section 4—Proposed State Land Acquisitions 2019-2021: Presents acquisitions proposed for funding in the 2019-21 biennium. Provides a summary table and maps of proposed acquisitions by county, as well as maps and details of each project. Data and maps were provided by the purchasing agency. The land for these projects has not yet been

purchased and the funding has not been approved. Data shown are not final; final data will be available after this report is published.

Report Terms

Acquisition type—Type of real property interest that is proposed to be purchased. May indicate fee simple, conservation easement, or leasehold interest.

Anticipated future costs—Cost estimates on future capital, operating, and maintenance costs, and additional costs to the agency from the addition of the property. Agencies used guidance from the Office of Financial Management to derive cost estimates.

Legislative district—Legislative district in which the proposed project is located.

Local government support—Whether there is local government support for the proposed project.

Parcel maps—Project area proposed for purchase as of May 2018.

Partners—Agencies, tribes, nonprofits, or other groups that are helping with the proposed purchase.

Planning link—How the proposed project aligns with statewide and other strategic plans and how it is a strategic investment for the agency.

Project outcomes and current progress—Anticipated outcomes of the acquisition in detail, including specific development plans, service improvements, habitat restoration needs, and projected accomplishments. Current progress on achieving the detailed project outcomes.

Proposed acquisition cost—Total cost proposed for purchasing with funds requested for the 2019-21 biennium.

Proposed acres—Total acres proposed for purchase with 2019-21 funds.

Proposed funding source—All sources of funding proposed for purchasing the land. May include state, federal, and other sources, including grants.

Proposed project description and purpose—Project description as of May 2018, what makes it significant, and details about how the purchasing agency intends to use the land.

Revenue generation—The money the agency expects to raise from use of the land.

2 | CONTEXT

History of Washington State Public Lands

Most government-owned lands in Washington State were acquired before or within the first 20 years of statehood. The largest government landholdings were in place before the first half of the twentieth century. The estimated total land area of Washington State is 45,663,000 acres. As a percent of land area, non-public ownership is roughly 57 percent.¹

Federal lands—When Washington achieved statehood in 1889, the federal government granted lands to the State to stimulate settlement and economic development in the West. Of the 19.8 million acres in public ownership, the federal government owns 12.7 million acres of land for various purposes such as wildlife refuges, national forests and parks, fish hatcheries, forest reserves, military bases, and post offices. Federal lands represent about 64 percent of land in public ownership.²

State lands—State trust lands comprise the largest block of state-owned lands. At its inception, the state was granted lands by the federal government to be managed in trust for particular purposes

such as common schools, higher education, penal institutions, and state capitol buildings. The State also manages trust lands that support local county services such as firefighting and road maintenance. In 1990, the State invested in additional trust forestlands to provide support for community and technical colleges. The State also has acquired land for various other purposes including preserving lands for fish and wildlife habitat and providing public recreational opportunities. State-owned natural resource and recreation lands represent roughly 6.5 million acres, or 33 percent of public lands in Washington State.³

Local lands—Washington’s 39 counties, numerous cities, and most special purpose districts, such as fire districts, school districts, and port districts, are authorized to own land. Locally-owned lands represent about 3 percent (622,879 acres) of land in public ownership.⁴

Washington State Habitat and Recreation Lands

Washington State natural resource agencies—DFW, DNR, and State Parks—purchase land to protect important state resources such as recreation opportunities and habitat for threatened

and endangered species. As population increases, there is greater need to preserve these resources for current and future generations.

At the same time, population growth and declining revenues has led to an increased scrutiny of the costs and benefits of state land ownership. Costs and benefits can be non-economic (e.g. social, cultural, and environmental). Economic costs and benefits can be direct and indirect.

Some economic studies have been conducted on specific public lands, but there are few economic studies that can be applied statewide because they depend on land use, location, and other factors. Similarly, non-economic costs and benefits are difficult to quantify and compare.

Costs of State Habitat and Recreation Lands

Acquisition and maintenance costs—

The State incurs the one-time cost of purchasing the land and the ongoing costs for the operation and maintenance of the land. Funding for ongoing maintenance has decreased over the years, leaving some to ask why the State

is purchasing lands it might not have money to maintain.

Reduced property tax revenues–

Public lands are tax-exempt and reduce the property tax revenue to counties and other tax revenue districts. In some cases, property taxes are increased on the remaining private sector to offset impacts of lost tax revenue. In other cases, local governments receive payments, such as Payments in Lieu of Taxes, to offset lost tax revenue. Some also believe there is a cost of lost opportunity to the local community that would have yielded more property tax revenues if the land had been developed for residential and commercial purposes.

On the other hand, public lands generate other taxes for local benefit. For example, increased tourism, public access to recreation opportunities, and enhanced quality of life can draw businesses to areas of high public land ownership, resulting in more tax revenue.

A 2014 economic analysis of outdoor recreation by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office showed that outdoor recreation generates \$2 billion in state and local taxes.⁵

Loss of economic opportunities–

Some citizens and local communities feel that employment and rural economic development opportunities are lost because of public land ownership. On the other hand, communities benefit from the spending by tourists and resident outdoor recreationists on recreation opportunities provided on state-owned lands.

Benefits of State Habitat and Recreation Lands

Opportunities for nature-based and cultural activities–Getting people, especially kids, outdoors provides lasting economic and non-economic benefits to Washington. A 2014 economic analysis showed that Washingtonians and visitors annually spend \$21.6 billion on outdoor recreation and that outdoor recreation supports 199,000 jobs in Washington.

Introducing young people to nature improves their health and sparks an interest in nature-based recreation and careers. By promoting volunteerism to maintain trails and facilities among children, college students, veterans, retirees, and others, states can better rely on private and nonprofit efforts to ease the strain on public funding sources. Washington's habitat and recreation lands generate these opportunities.

Protects wildlife habitat–

Habitat protection laws reflect our desire to preserve Washington's forests, mountains, wildlife, waters, and other natural resources to increase the quality of life for present and future generations. The economic analysis evaluated the non-market values, such as the value of ecosystem services provided by the trees, water, and animals found on public recreation lands. Those services—clean water, habitat for wildlife, aesthetic beauty, and enhanced recreational experiences—have a combined value of between \$134 billion and \$248 billion a year.

Public laws recognize that population growth has created greater stress on public lands and that residential and commercial development can destroy species and habitat forever. Land acquisition is an essential tool used by the state natural resources agencies to meet their public mandates to preserve habitat and provide sustainable recreational opportunities.

Promotes tourism and generates jobs–

Washington's land and waterways support a robust tourism industry, bringing travelers from across the world. The 2014 economic analysis showed that out-of-state visitors spend an estimated

\$3.4 billion per year in Washington. Many local communities depend on a strong tourist industry.

Payments to local communities–

The state natural resources agencies pay local governments offsetting revenues from the state’s ownership of habitat and recreation lands. Some examples of these revenues are:

- Benefit assessments–Payments to local taxing districts for costs such as weed protection and fire protection.
- Local Improvement District assessments–Payments to cities, towns, diking districts, drainage districts, or port districts.
- Payments in Lieu of Taxes–The DFW and DNR make payments to local governments for habitat and recreation lands based on the amount of taxes that would have been paid on the property if it were taxed under the current use assessment laws.
- Leasehold Excise Taxes–These are payments on certain leasehold interests on public property.
- Real estate excise taxes and forest land compensating taxes–When

applicable, these are paid to counties and sometimes cities when the land is taken off the tax rolls.

While some criticize the payments because they spread local burdens across the state, the state natural resources agencies support compensation mechanisms to local governments because they recognize it as necessary to being good neighbors.

Governor Jay Inslee’s veto letter regarding the 2013 budget bill directed the Department of Revenue to work with the DFW and the Office of Financial Management to examine the Payment in Lieu of Taxes methodologies. Recommendations generated from the 2013 report (<http://dor.wa.gov/docs/reports/2013/PILTReport2013.pdf>) may drive future legislative changes.

Vision for the Future

DFW

Washington’s population has more than quadrupled in the past 80 years, reducing wildlife habitat to a fraction of what existed in the early 1900s. With the population expected to grow from the current 7 million to 8.7 million by 2030,

critically important lands and waterways will face increasing development pressure.

In this context, land acquisition and conservation easements are important strategies for preserving Washington’s legacy of habitat and recreational lands. With broad public support, they have become two of DFW’s most successful conservation tools. Once the agency acquires property or a conservation easement, it strives to be a good neighbor by restoring habitat, controlling weeds, providing quality recreation access, and undertaking a myriad of other stewardship and conservation activities. This proven combination–sound acquisition priorities and responsible stewardship–reinforced by strong community partnerships across the state, will continue to guide DFW land acquisition in the coming years.

In 1939, the Department of Game purchased about 14,000 acres of winter range for mule deer–land that became the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area in Okanogan County. Since then, the DFW lands portfolio has grown to about 1 million acres and more than 700 water access sites. In addition to conserving fish and other wildlife habitat, these properties generate substantial economic benefit by

employing local residents and providing places for millions of Washingtonians and visitors to fish, hunt, watch wildlife, and enjoy other recreational activities.

DFW conducts a rigorous process to determine whether acquisition is the best conservation strategy available. Local community support is essential, as is the application of science to determine which lands are best-suited for habitat and wildlife needs. In addition to extensive internal review, acquisition options are reviewed by local governments, citizens, and other interested parties.

Partnerships with conservation groups, hunting and fishing organizations, and other public agencies help DFW preserve iconic landscapes that no single organization could do on its own. Partners include The Nature Conservancy, Conservation Northwest, Ducks Unlimited, the Mule Deer Foundation, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Wilderness Society, and local lands conservancies and councils.

DFW strives to acquire lands that provide the highest benefit to wildlife and the public, and only from willing sellers. Broad public support also is critical.

These principles have served wildlife and the people of Washington very well over the years and will continue to guide the department's efforts in the future.

DNR

DNR manages two different kinds of natural areas to conserve and restore special state-managed lands.

Natural Area Preserves—Natural Area Preserves protect the best remaining examples of many ecological communities including rare plant and animal habitat. The DNR Natural Heritage Program identifies the highest quality, most ecologically important sites for protection as natural area preserves. The resulting network of preserves represents a legacy for future generations and helps ensure that blueprints of the state's natural ecosystems are protected forever.

The preserve system includes more than 38,290 acres in 56 sites throughout the state. In eastern Washington, habitats protected on preserves include outstanding examples of arid land shrub-steppe, grasslands, vernal ponds, oak woodlands, subalpine meadows and forest, ponderosa pine forests, and rare plant habitats. Western Washington preserves include several large coastal

preserves supporting high quality wetlands, salt marshes, and forested buffers. Other west side habitats include mounded prairies, sphagnum bogs, natural late-successional forests, and grassland balds.

Natural Resources Conservation Areas—Natural Resources Conservation Areas protect outstanding examples of native ecosystems; habitat for endangered, threatened, and sensitive plants and animals; and scenic landscapes. Environmental education and low-impact public use are appropriate on conservation areas where they do not impair the protected features. Critical habitat is conserved in these areas for many plant and animal species, including rare species. Natural Resources Conservation Areas include coastal and high elevation forests, alpine lakes, wetlands, scenic vistas, nesting birds of prey, rocky headlands, and high-quality native plant communities. Conservation areas also protect geologic, cultural, historical, and archeological sites. More than 118,700 acres are conserved in 36 Washington State Natural Resources Conservation Areas.

State Parks

The state park system continues as a “work in progress” since its creation by the Legislature in 1913. At the core of the commission’s approach is the recognition that as the state’s population grows, so too must its park system to meet expanding demand. During times of economic hardship, land prices are low and owners of priority lands are more willing to sell. Even if funds are not available to develop properties into full-service state parks, acquiring property for future generations is necessary and appropriate. State Parks’ land acquisitions typically fall into one or more of the following categories:

Properties that address park management—These properties fall within a designated long-term park boundary identified through the agency’s public planning process. These properties address park management concerns, remove incompatible land uses, resolve trespasses, connect disjointed properties, and remove inholdings. These smaller properties come on the market quickly and require swift action to acquire.

Stand-alone properties held for future generations—These are properties held for development of new parks, have

extensive natural and/or cultural resources, and clearly meet the agency’s vision of premier destinations of uncommon quality. These are typically very high-quality properties (e.g. expansive undeveloped waterfront) that form the nucleus of a future major park. Over time, adjacent properties are acquired as landowners become willing sellers and as funding permits. In most cases, these properties remain undeveloped for decades with access limited to pedestrian use only. Full-scale development of these properties only occurs after critical mass is achieved and there is sufficient public will to commit necessary funds.

Properties that serve a sub-system—Park sub-systems are properties that work together to create a natural, cultural, or recreational experience that is greater than the sum of its parts. An example of this is the Cascadia Marine Trail where even small, modest sites are acquired for overnight campsites to facilitate use of the iconic marine trail.

Properties that assist with the agency’s transition to self-sufficiency—These include properties that can be used to enable partnerships with other organizations or that generate operating income (e.g. waterfront, residential

properties rented as public vacation rentals). These properties also lend themselves to day-use activities that likely will attract a lot of visitors, and therefore promote the sale of Discover Passes and daily permits. An example of these are small properties that serve as trailheads for the agency’s cross-state trail and regional trail systems.

Long-term development—As State Parks transitions to a self-funding model without significant General Fund support, the agency is evaluating what kinds of overnight and day-use opportunities are feasible to provide the public. With limited General Fund support, many park operating expenses must be covered by funds from permits and fees. Some additional work may be offset by expanded volunteer efforts and activities that promote sale of Discover Passes (e.g. special events, arts festivals, interpretive and recreational programs.

3 | STATE AGENCY PROFILES AND ACQUISITION PRIORITIES

State Agency Profiles

This section describes the state agency land acquisition processes and priorities.

State agency acquisition goals are based on recreation and conservation needs expressed by the public and on state and federal legal requirements to provide recreational opportunities and protect threatened and endangered wildlife. Each agency has distinct missions directed by legislation designed to meet those needs. Agency acquisition plans establish criteria for identifying priority purchases that will best fulfill the agency mission, and processes for pursuing the priorities.

DFW	DNR	State Parks
<p>Missions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve, protect, and perpetuate fish and wildlife species • Maximize the public recreational game fishing and hunting opportunities 	<p>Mission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserving Washington’s native species and ecosystems, today and for future generations. 	<p>Missions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to free or low-cost recreational opportunities⁶ • Acquire and manage state park lands to maintain and enhance ecological, aesthetic, and recreational purposes⁷
<p>Statewide Plan <i>Lands 20/20: A Clear Vision for the Future (2005)</i></p>	<p>Statewide Plan <i>Natural Heritage Plan (2011)</i></p>	<p>Statewide Plan <i>Transformational Plan (2010)</i></p>
<p>Statewide Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide benefits for fish and wildlife (identify and prioritize crucial habitats for priority species and habitats as identified in department plans). • Provide benefits for the public (available and accessible fish- and wildlife-related recreation and educational opportunities; local or state economic benefits). • Operational excellence (habitat values maintained, wildlife area management plans updated, operation and maintenance support ensured, partnerships and citizen involvement utilized.) 	<p>Statewide Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify priority ecosystems and species for conservation. • Build and maintain a database for priority ecosystems and species. • Share and use the information to ensure potential public and private acquisitions have high conservation value. • Maintain a statewide system of natural areas representative of Washington’s ecosystems and natural features. 	<p>Statewide Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix what we have. • Upgrade existing parks, trails, and services. • Add new parks, trails, and services and work towards opening new parks.

DFW

Mission

The DFW has a dual mandate to preserve, protect, and perpetuate fish, wildlife, and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities. The agency is charged with sustaining all wildlife species other than plants, including invertebrates, fish and marine invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles, and birds and mammals.

The department's *2015-17 Strategic Plan* applies conservation principles to the following goals:

Goal 1: Conserve and protect native fish and wildlife

Goal 2: Provide sustainable fishing, hunting, and other wildlife related recreational and commercial experiences

Goal 3: Promote a healthy economy, protect community character, maintain an overall high quality of life, and deliver high quality customer service

Goal 4: Build an effective and efficient organization by supporting the workforce, improving business processes, and investing in technology.

Plan

The department's *Lands 20/20: A Clear Vision for the Future* guides decisions on the agency's land portfolio.

Provide benefits to fish and other wildlife

Provide benefits for the public

Ensure operational excellence

The *2016-2021 Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Recreation Lands RCO Grant Eligibility Plan* qualifies the department to participate in certain Recreation and Conservation Office grant programs that have a planning requirement.

Land acquisition is an essential tool used by the department to meet its legislative mandate. Its land acquisition work is aimed at maintaining a citizen-supported portfolio of lands that will sustain Washington's diverse wildlife and their habitats into the next century.

Land Acquisition Process

The department assesses species and landscape conservation needs using species recovery and management plans, habitat conservation plans, biodiversity conservation framework, habitat connectivity analyses, and other data.

Department staff and conservation partners identify potential habitat and recreation lands using the Lands 20/20 framework. Internal policy and the Lands Evaluation Tool screen projects for grant categories.

The agency evaluates compatibility with statewide and regional conservation initiatives including the Governor's priorities and initiatives from other state, federal, city, county, and non-government organizations.

Staff applies for federal and state grants and, when awarded, works with willing sellers to acquire either conservation easements or fee interest.

DNR

Mission

Habitat and recreation lands purchased by the DNR are managed by the Natural Areas Program. The program's primary mission is to protect outstanding examples of the state's biodiversity. The program manages land under two natural area designations: Natural Area Preserve and Natural Resources Conservation Area. Some sites are given dual designation to provide for low-impact public access while providing protection for more sensitive features.

Natural Area Preserves protect plant and animal populations and ecosystems that are rare or that are representative of healthy, functioning native habitat. The preserves contain some of the most uncommon and sensitive plant and animal communities native to Washington, including several species that are found nowhere else in the world. Some preserves also include intact ecosystems that can be used as reference sites of natural ecological function. While public access to Natural Area Preserves generally is limited to research and education, low-impact recreation is allowed in appropriate areas on some sites.

The Natural Resources Conservation Areas are similar to Natural Area Preserves, with important distinctions. The conservation areas have a broader mission by including as priorities, lands with outstanding natural scenic values, geological or archaeological significance, or environmentally significant sites under threat of conversion to other uses. Natural Resources Conservation Areas provide opportunities for low-impact recreation.

Plan

The *Natural Heritage Plan* establishes the criteria for natural area selection and the process by which natural areas are approved. The plan lists the statewide conservation priorities for ecosystems and rare species, which are established by the Natural Heritage Program in consultation with others. The conservation priorities listed in the plan drive the designation of areas as Natural Area Preserves, Natural Resources Conservation Areas, or a combination of the two.

Land Acquisition Process

Natural area boundaries are initially identified by scientists in the Natural Heritage and Natural Areas Programs,

primarily based on an assessment of the protection needs of the particular features (species and/or ecosystems) for which the natural area has been identified. Potential and expansions of existing natural areas are presented to the Natural Heritage Advisory Council. Upon approval by the council, proposed sites go through a public process including information meetings, opportunities for landowners to meet with scientists and land managers, and a public hearing. Some Natural Resources Conservation Areas are designated by the DNR without review by the council. Natural Heritage Advisory Council recommendations and information from the public meetings and hearing are forwarded to the Commissioner of Public Lands. The commissioner establishes the boundary within which staff then is authorized to pursue acquisition. Staff identifies potential funding sources and works with willing landowners.

State Parks

Mission

The State Parks mission focuses on managing how people interact with natural, historic, and developed landscapes. State Parks acquires land to protect and manage natural resources that are important for people. State Parks additionally acquires lands within and adjacent to state parks to provide new or improved recreational opportunities to the public.

Plan

Property acquisitions are prioritized through the Classification and Management Planning or CAMP process. Once prioritized, the commission adopts a biennial listing of priorities through agency's capital budget. The majority of funding used in acquiring new land is provided by grants managed through the Recreation and Conservation Office and other grant sources.

Land Acquisition Process

Properties are acquired from willing sellers after appraisal in accordance with the priority rankings as provided through the CAMP process. State Parks

occasionally acquires new lands through land exchanges with second parties, through donations from second parties, or through property transfers from other government organizations.

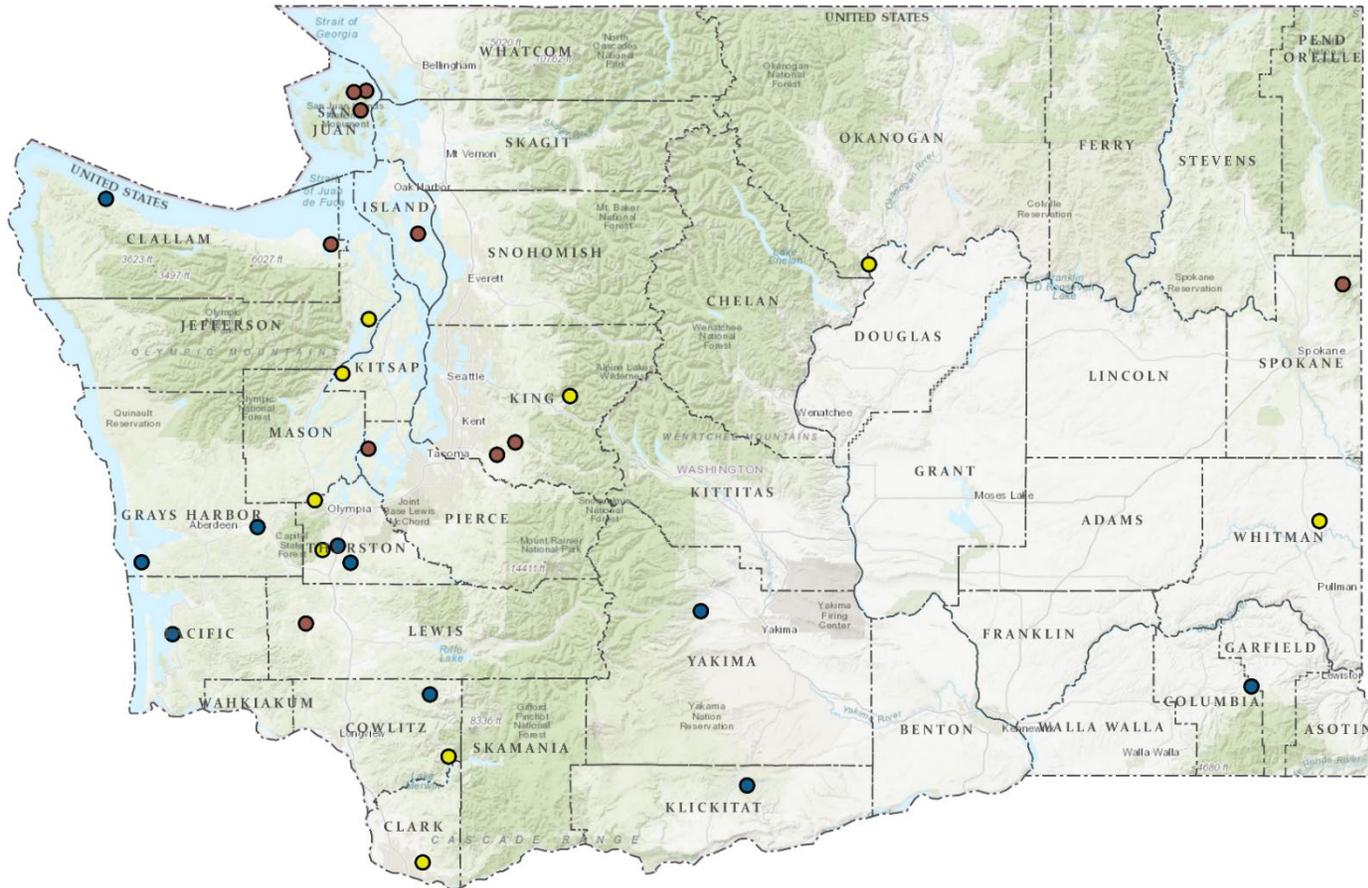
State Agency Habitat and Recreation Land Acquisition Priorities

DFW	DNR	State Parks
<p>Natural Area Preserves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative examples of highest quality native ecosystems • Populations of endangered, threatened, sensitive, rare, or diminishing animal species 	<p>Natural Area Preserves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative examples of highest quality native ecosystems • Rare or diminishing plant or animal populations 	<p>Natural Area Preserves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative examples of highest quality native ecosystems
<p>Wildlife Areas Objective: Focus on lands that are necessary to recover, maintain, or enhance the integrity of priority species, habitats, and ecosystems.</p> <p>Criteria: Priority species, habitat values, biodiversity, appropriate and accessible recreation, research and education, economics, fiscal accountability, stewardship, partnership, and citizen involvement.</p>	<p>Natural Resources Conservation Areas Objective: Areas with high priority for conservation, natural systems, wildlife, and low-impact public use values</p> <p>Criteria: Flora, fauna, geological, archaeological, scenic, or similar features; native ecological communities; connectivity between protected areas; protection of Natural Area Preserves’ core areas; and opportunities for low-impact public use</p>	<p>Classification and Management Planning Includes: Natural Area Preserves, Natural Areas, Natural Forest Areas, Resource Recreation Areas, Recreation Areas, and Heritage Areas.</p> <p>Objective: Protect a view shed or stewardship of natural and cultural resources.</p> <p>Criteria: Significance, popularity, experiences, uniqueness, flora and fauna, scenery, size, condition, and revenue.</p>
<p>Recreation Lands Objective: Acquire property to provide fish- and other wildlife-related recreational opportunities for the public and for department administrative support.</p> <p>Criteria: Need, site suitability and design, diversity and compatibility, performance measures, public benefit, and population proximity.</p>	<p>Recreation Lands Objective: DNR does not buy land primarily for recreation purposes; however, DNR-managed state trust lands offer a variety of public access and uses compatible with the revenue-generation purpose of trust lands and conservation areas offer low-impact recreation as a secondary use when compatible with conservation goals.</p>	<p>Recreation Lands Objective: Acquire parkland for outdoor recreational opportunities for the public.</p> <p>Criteria: Significance, popularity, experiences, uniqueness, flora and fauna, scenery, size, condition, and revenue</p>

4 | PROPOSED STATE LAND ACQUISITIONS 2019-2021

Statewide Summary

- DFW
- DNR
- State Parks



Agency	Number of Proposed Acquisitions	Proposed Acres	Proposed Costs
DFW	10	14,220	\$18,420,000
DNR	8	2,300	\$21,944,630
State Parks	10	786	\$8,775,969
DNR, State Parks	1	437	\$842,660
Total	29	17,743	\$49,983,259

Statewide Summary by County

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District	Report Pages
Clallam County							
Miller Peninsula State Park–Jones Trust Property	State Parks	21	\$1,041,998	Fee simple	State	24	24-26
Sekiu Water Access	DFW	6.5	\$400,000	Fee simple	State	24	24, 27-28
Clark County							
Lacamas Prairie Natural Area Preserve	DNR	281	\$3,412,391	Fee simple	State	18	29-31
Colombia County							
Goat Mountain Property	DFW	43	\$120,000	Fee simple	State	16	32-34
Cowlitz County							
Hoffstadt Hills	DFW	1300	\$3,000,000	Fee simple	State	20	35-37
Merrill Lake	DNR	71.8	\$770,185	Fee simple	State	20	35, 38-39
Grays Harbor County							
Chehalis River Floodplain	DFW	88.5	\$200,000	Fee simple	State	19	40-42
Grayland Property	DFW	1750	\$1,300,000	Fee simple	State	19	42, 43-44
Jefferson County							
Dabob Bay Natural Area	DNR	277	\$3,801,601	Fee simple	State	24	45-47
King County							
Flaming Geyser State Park–Nelson Property	State Parks	36.7	\$895,000	Fee simple	State	31	48-50
Green River Gorge State Park Conservation Area–Butt Property	State Parks	33.6	\$873,000	Fee simple	State	5	48, 51-52
Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area	DNR	569	\$4,867,626	Fee Simple	State	5	48, 53-54
Kitsap County							
Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area	DNR	157.5	\$1,831,729	Fee Simple	State	35	55-57
Klickitat County							
Simcoe	DFW	5,373	\$4,300,000	Fee Simple	State	14	58-60
Lewis County							
Willapa Hills State Park Trail–Marwood Farms Property	State Parks	178	\$704,102	Fee Simple	State	20	61-63
Mason County							
Kennedy Creek Natural Area	DNR	138	\$1,259,317	Fee Simple	State	22	64-66

4 | Proposed State Land Acquisitions

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District	Report Pages
Okanogan County							
Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve	DNR	585	\$3,312,526	Fee Simple	State	12	67-69
Pacific County							
Nemah Tideland Access	DFW	103	\$1,000,000	Fee simple	State	19	70-72
Pierce County							
Haley State Park Property–Haley Property	State Parks	38.7	\$462,835	Fee simple	State	26	73-75
San Juan County							
Moran State Park–Wilcox Property	State Parks	55	\$1,636,400	Fee simple	State	40	76-78
Moran State Park–Youngren Property	State Parks	80	\$484,000	Fee simple	State	40	76, 79-80
Obstruction Pass State Park–Spring Bay Property	State Parks	56	\$979,929	Fee simple	State	40	76, 81-82
Spokane County							
Mount Spokane State Park–Day Mountain Property	State Parks	160	\$698,705	Fee simple	State	4	83-85
Thurston County							
Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve	DNR	220.5	\$2,689,255	Fee simple	State	20	86-88
Oregon Spotted Frog	DFW	138	\$1,100,000	Fee simple	State	20	86, 89-90
South Sound Prairies	DFW	930	\$3,000,000	Fee simple, easement	State	20	86, 91-92
Whitman County							
Step toe Butte Natural Area Preserve	DNR, State Parks	437	\$842,660	Fee simple	State	9	93-95
Yakima County							
Cowiche Watershed	DFW	4,488	\$4,000,000	Fee Simple	State	14	96-98
Statewide							
Inholdings	State Parks	127.4	\$1,000,000	Fee Simple	State	10, 14, 19, others	22-23
Total		17,743.2	\$49,983,259				

Statewide Inholdings | State Parks



Location: Statewide

Legislative District: 10, 14, 19, Other

Counties: Island, Klickitat, Pacific, Thurston, Others

Local Government Support: Unknown

Current Use: Varies

Partners: Unknown

Financials	
Proposed Acres	127.4
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$1 million
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	Future costs cannot be determined until willing sellers are confirmed from candidate properties as prioritized by the agency
Revenue Generation	None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This project will purchase smaller properties in or next to state park ownership. It is intended to be a flexible source of funding that allows the agency to act quickly and opportunistically to buy smaller or lower cost properties as they become available. It also facilitates the purchase of smaller properties that might not score competitively, but that address conflicting uses in park long-term boundaries and are essential to more effective park operation.

Planning Link

Pursues the highest priority properties that demonstrate a clear potential to become developed into a use that conflicts with the agency's mission if not acquired. Properties acquired are in some form of open space or are undeveloped with the landowner working towards future development of the property.

Project Outcome and Current Progress

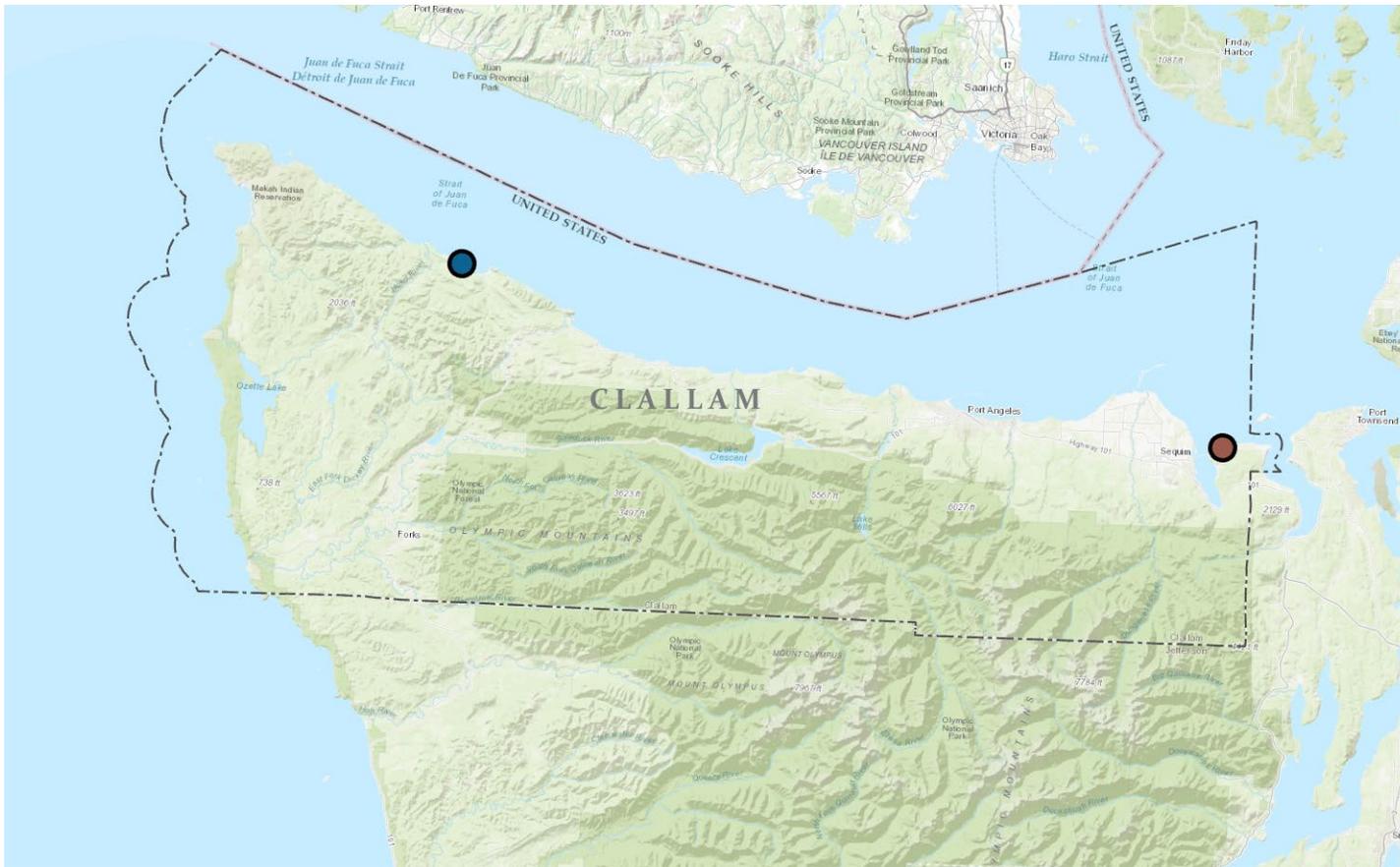
Outcomes: The agency works from a ranked list based on agency priority then pursues property acquisitions based on the willingness of landowners to sell at market value.

Progress: The agency has a ranked list containing more than 50 candidate properties.

Statewide Inholdings and Adjacent Properties | State Parks

Proposed Acquisitions	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Camano Island State Park–Cohee Landing, LLC Property	State Parks	28.4	\$299,250	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	10
Fort Columbia State Park–LeTourneau Property	State Parks	35	\$130,680	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	19
Klickitat Trail–Moss Property	State Parks	24	\$453,925	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	14
Statewide Opportunities–Several	State Parks	40±	\$116,145	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	Several
Total		127.4±	\$1,000,000			

Clallam County Summary



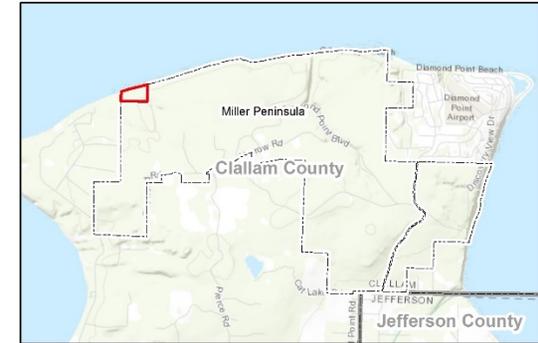
- DFW
- State Parks

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Miller Peninsula State Park–Jones Trust Property	State Parks	21	\$1,041,998	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	24
Sekiu Water Access	DFW	6.5	\$400,000	Fee simple	Boating Facilities Program	24
	Total	27.5	\$1,441,998			

Miller Peninsula State Park Property–Jones Trust Property | State Parks

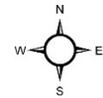


Miller Peninsula State Park Jones Trust Property



Legend

- Acquisition Candidate
- Park Boundaries



Miller Peninsula State Park Property–Jones Trust Property | State Parks



Location: Next to the northwest corner of Miller Peninsula State Park property, near Sequim.

Legislative District: 24

Current Use: Undeveloped

Local Government Support: Yes

Partners: None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This 21-acre property is forested and undeveloped and includes a quarter-mile of Strait of Juan de Fuca shoreline and a small stream in a ravine. Because much of the existing state park property is very high bank, this property is one of the few places on the north side of the park where it might be possible to build beach access. Currently, there is no road access to the Jones Trust property.

Planning Link

The Miller Peninsula State Park property encompasses about 2,800 acres of the north Olympic Peninsula and includes an extensive trail system popular with hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and wildlife viewers. Although a master plan has not been completed, this parcel is an obvious choice for inclusion in the park’s long-term boundary.

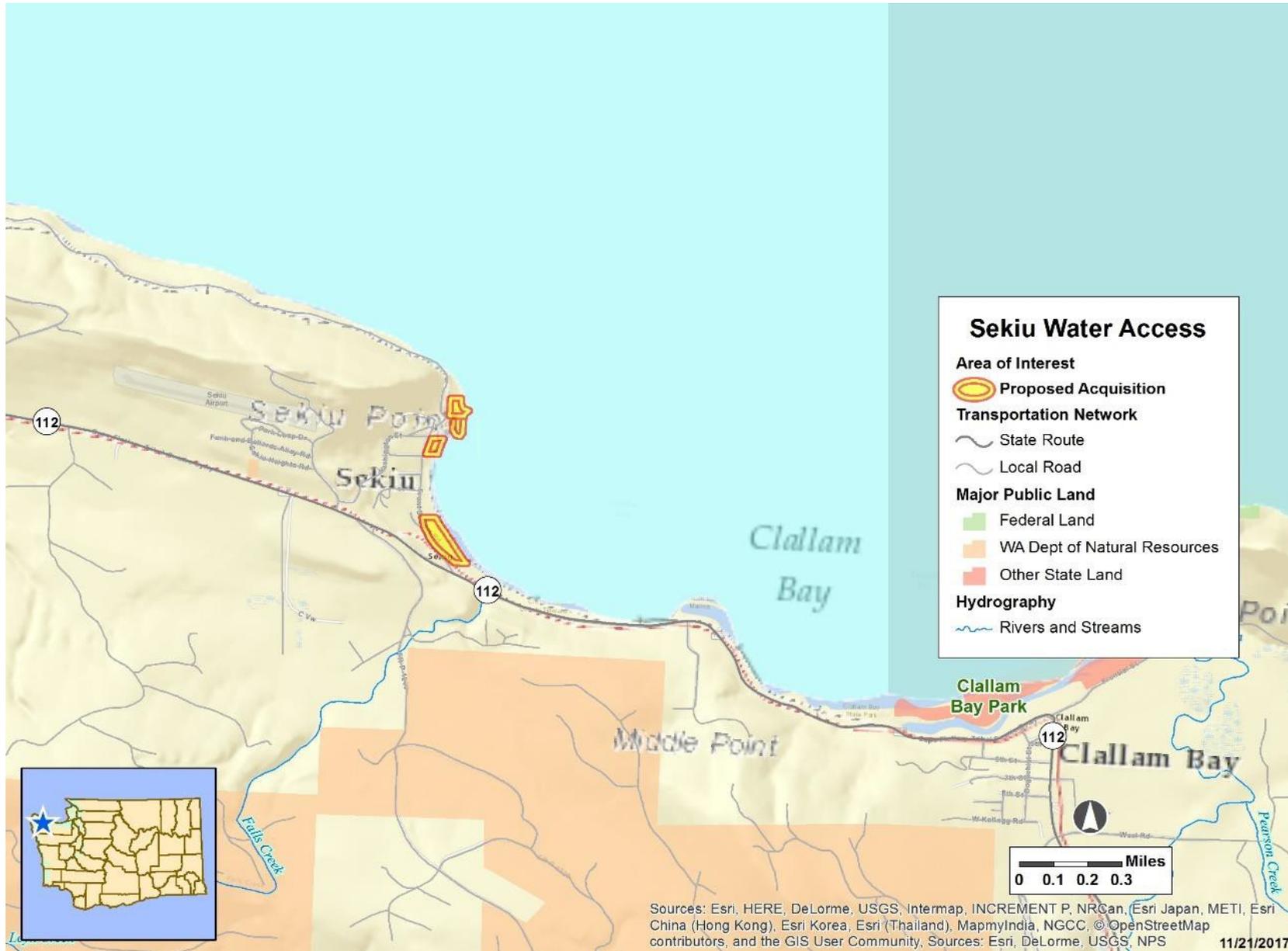
Project Outcome and Current Progress

Outcomes: Provides potential public access route to the shoreline that does not exist in the northern boundaries of the park. If acquired, this land could be developed as a trail connection from the uplands to the shoreline.

Progress: The land is privately owned, and the owner is a willing seller.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	21
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$1,041,998
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future capital costs for the property estimated at \$200,000 (trail connections). • Future operating costs are unknown, pending initial park development in 2030. • Future maintenance costs are unknown, pending initial park development in 2030.
Revenue Generation	None

Sekiu Water Access | DFW



Seki Water Access| DFW



S

Location: West side of Clallam Bay
Legislative District: 24
Current Use: Private resort
Local Government Support: Region director has conferred with local government
Partners: None

Financials	
Proposed Acres	6.5
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$400,000
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Boating Facilities Program
Anticipated Future Costs	Future Operation and Maintenance costs are unknown at this time
Revenue Generation	Some revenue will be generated through the Discovery Pass sales and fish license sales.

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

The owner of Mason’s Resort (formally Olsen’s Resort) has indicated interest in selling a portion of the facilities, which provide the only public boat ramp between Port Angeles and Neah Bay not dependent on tides. DFW has proposed purchasing the four-lane boat ramp and two parking areas in the town of Sekiu for public use.

Planning Link

This project will continue to ensure continued public access to the Strait of Juan de Fuca from a highly popular boat launch that has been in continuous operation since 1939. This ramp is the only ramp for public use in this area.

Project Outcomes

Use at the site will be able to continue as is. In the future, DFW may apply for a grant to improve the infrastructure.

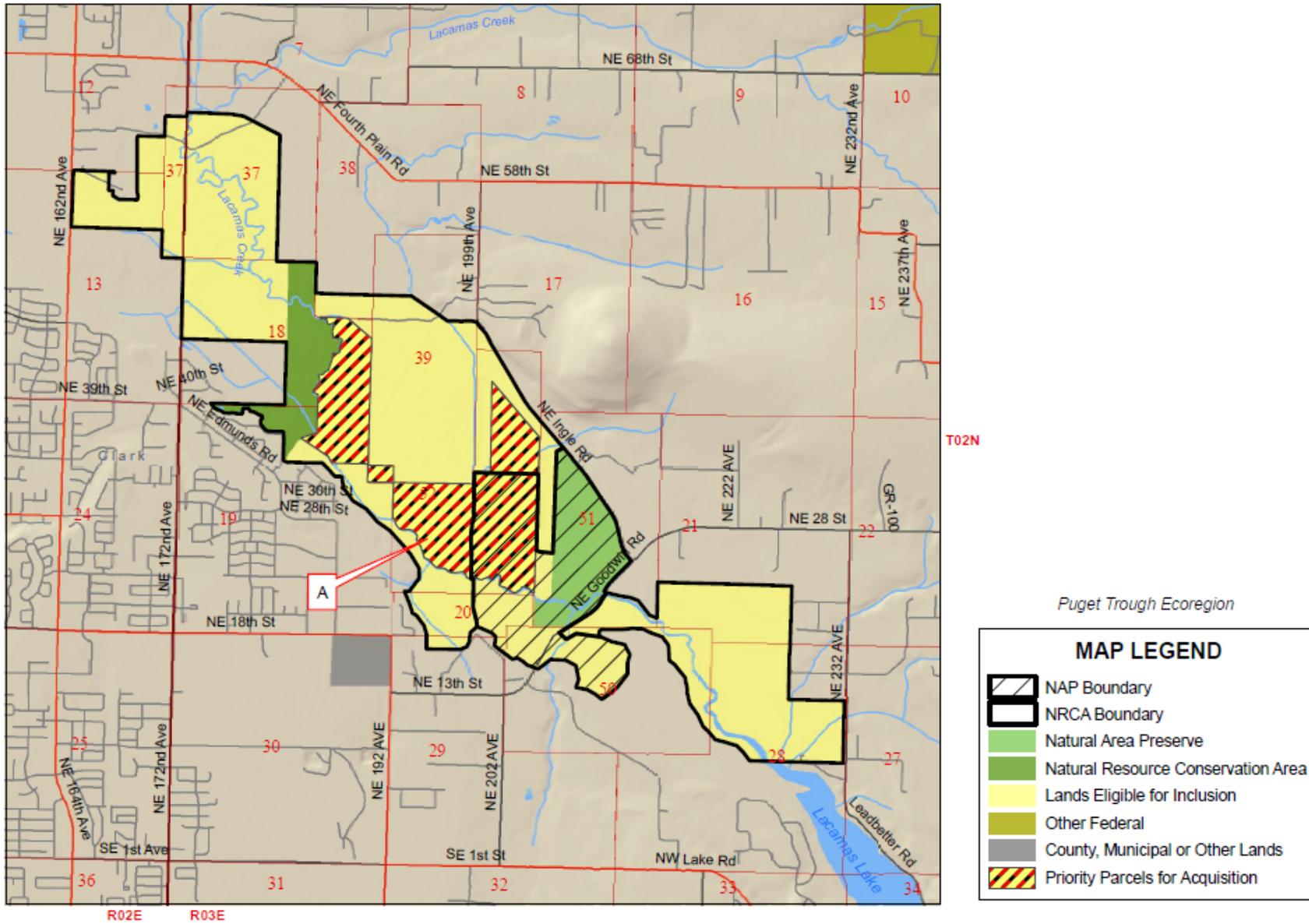
Clark County Summary



● DNR

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Lacamas Prairie Natural Area Preserve	DNR	281	\$3,412,391	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category	18
Total		281	\$3,412,391			

Lacamas Prairie Natural Area Preserve | DNR



Lacamas Prairie Natural Area Preserve | DNR



Location: Northeast of Vancouver.

Legislative District: 18

Local Government Support:

County council members have been notified; no concerns have been communicated to DNR.

Current Use: Low-intensity grazing and buffer; open space as part of adjacent development.

Partners: Columbia Land Trust

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

DNR will use this grant to purchase about 281 acres of rare plant communities and species. This includes 58 acres of riparian habitat, 20 acres of wetlands, and 200 acres of uplands. This wet prairie represents the only example of its type, size and quality in Washington. These ecosystems, which are considered priority 1 plant communities by the Natural Heritage Program, are threatened by habitat destruction and degradation in one of the most rapidly urbanizing counties in the state. They support the second largest of 20 known populations of Bradshaw's lomatium, a globally critically imperiled, federally-listed endangered plant species.

Planning Link

Implements conservation priorities of the *State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan* and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's recovery plan for Bradshaw's lomatium. Land is within approved boundary for Natural Area Preserve and Natural Resources Conservation Area.

Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Outcomes: Habitat for endangered, threatened, or sensitive species and ecosystems. Primary species is Bradshaw's lomatium, and a secondary conservation priority is the imperiled wet prairie ecosystem and Oregon white oak habitat. Protect or restore ecological processes. Access for environmental education and research.

Progress: The department owns 201 acres in preserve designation and manages them for conservation and restoration.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	281
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$3,412,391
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$51,000 estimated biennial operating costs for weed control labor and materials; inspect for dumping / public safety / vandalism / theft; pay Fire Protection fee. The annual DNR Payment in Lieu of Taxes is paid by the State Treasurer's Office following legislative appropriation.
Revenue Generation	None

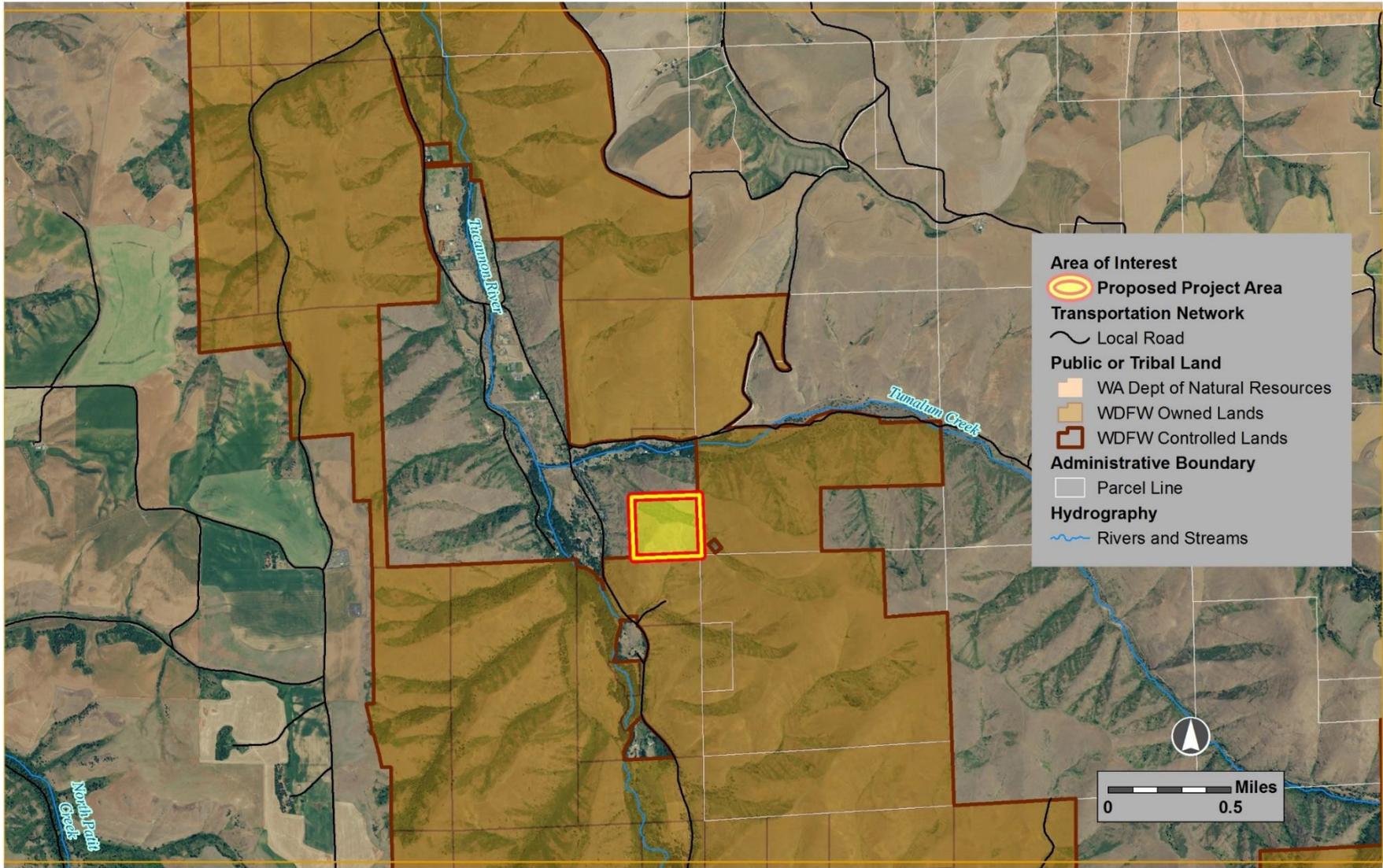
Columbia County Summary



- DFW

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Goat Mountain Property	DFW	43	\$120,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat	16
Total		43	\$120,000			

Goat Mountain| DFW



Goat Mountain| DFW



Location: Inholding to W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area

Legislative District: 16

Current Use: Private

Local Government

Support: Region director has conferred with county commissioners.

Partners: None

Financials	
Proposed Acres	43
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$120,000
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1,405 estimated annual operating costs for the site visits, routine weed control, and property management Future Payment in Lieu of Taxes \$162 annually
Revenue Generation	None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

The land is bordered on two sides by the W.T. Wooten Wildlife area in Columbia County and includes an access road that runs through the wildlife area. Acquisition would facilitate management of area habitat, benefitting wildlife, including big horn sheep, American badger, and golden eagle.

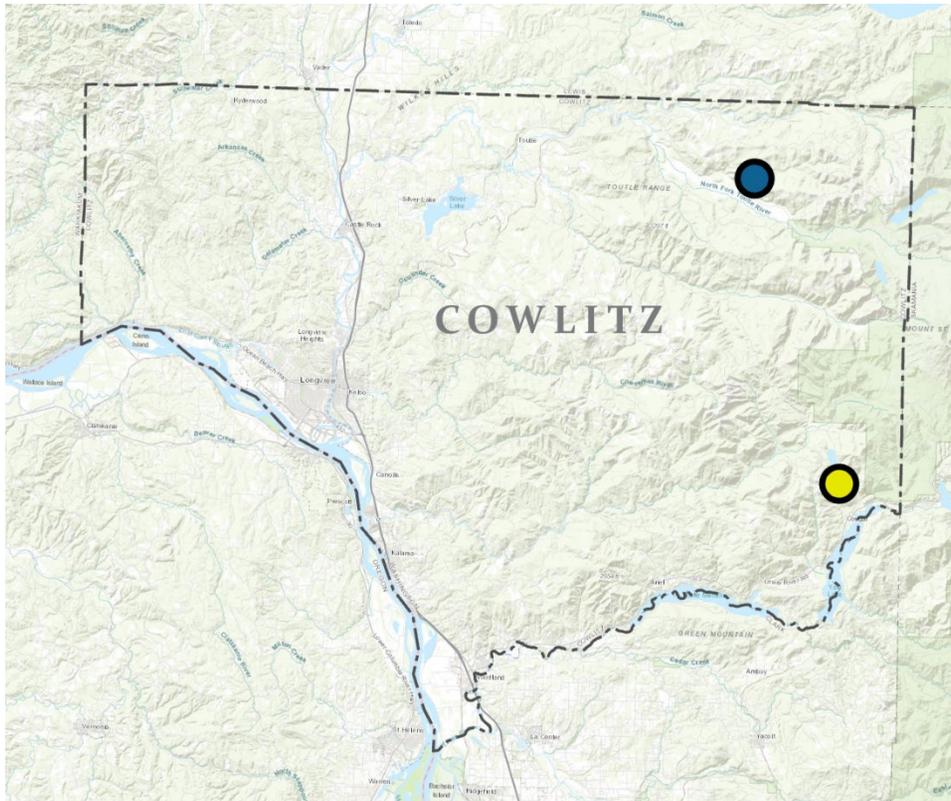
Planning Link

Purchasing this land would increase lands available for hunting and other recreational opportunities and increase manageability of the wildlife area.

Project Outcomes

Property will be added to and maintained with the existing wildlife area.

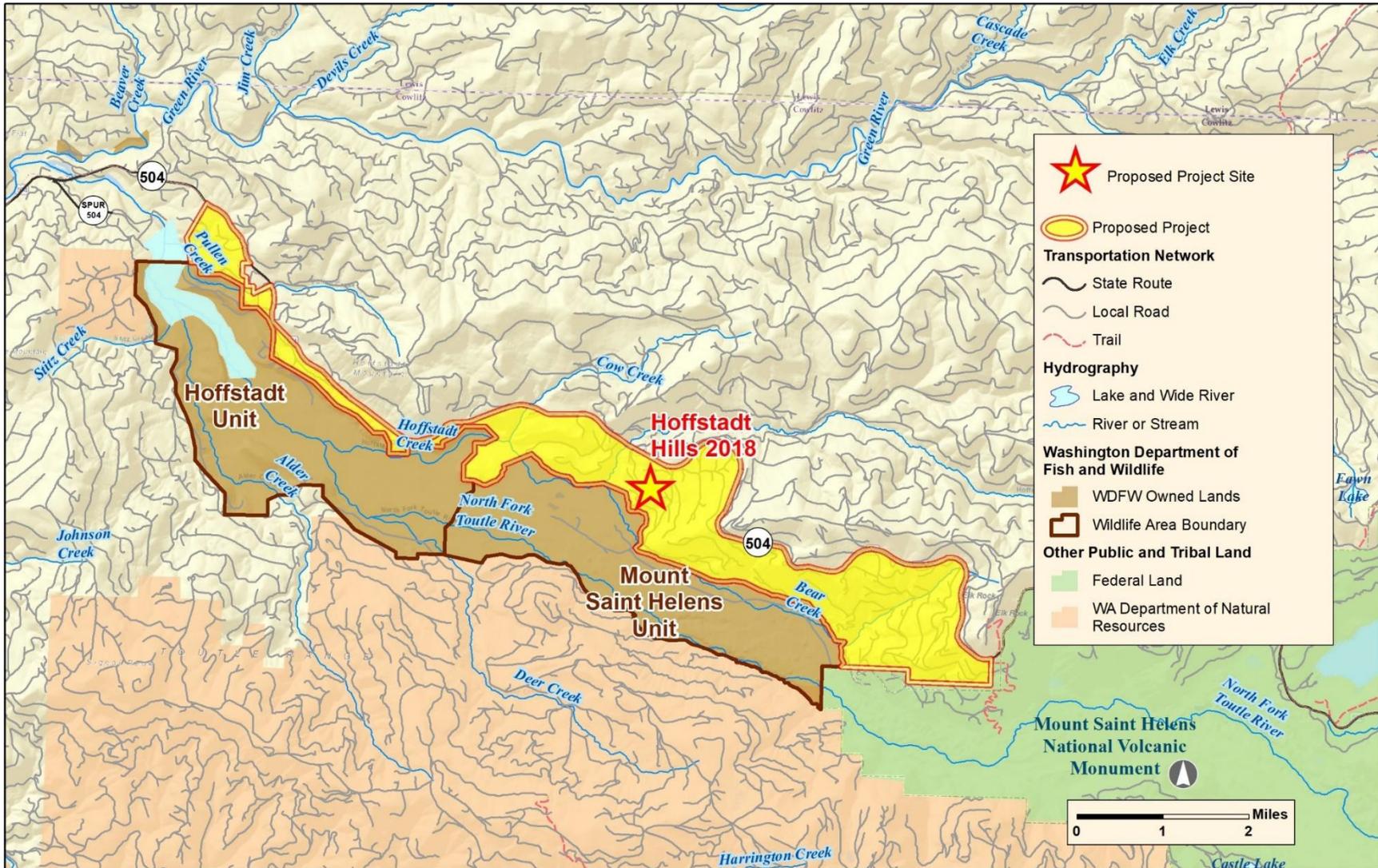
Cowlitz County Summary



- DFW
- DNR

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Hoffstadt Hills	DFW	1,300	\$3,000,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat Category	20
Merrill Lake	DNR	71.8	\$770,185	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Riparian Protection Category	20
Totals		1,371.8	\$3,770,185			

Hoffstadt Hills | DFW



Hoffstadt Hills | DFW



Location: North of Mount Saint Helens Wildlife Area and just west of Mount Saint Helens National Monument

Legislative District: 20

Local Government Support: Cowlitz County commissioners support this acquisition.

Current Use: Timber

Partners: Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

The first segment of this multi-phase project proposes to acquire about 1,300 acres of a 4,100-acre property. The focus of the project is to protect and enhance elk winter range habitat for the Mount Saint Helens elk herd as well as to protect steelhead and coho spawning and rearing areas. An important benefit of the acquisition is to provide year-round public access to the Mount Saint Helens Wildlife Area, which is effectively landlocked. This project, including the Mount Saint Helens Wildlife Area, will complement Cowlitz County’s proposed Toutle Valley Community Forest Trust by sharing common values of protecting habitat for multiple species and preserving clean air and water, while enhancing non-motorized public access for wildlife viewing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and other recreational activities.

Planning Link

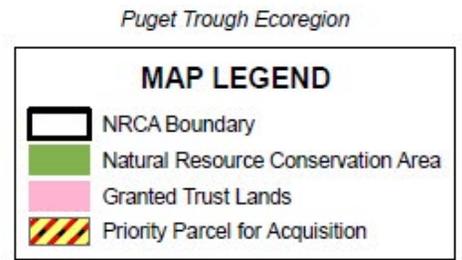
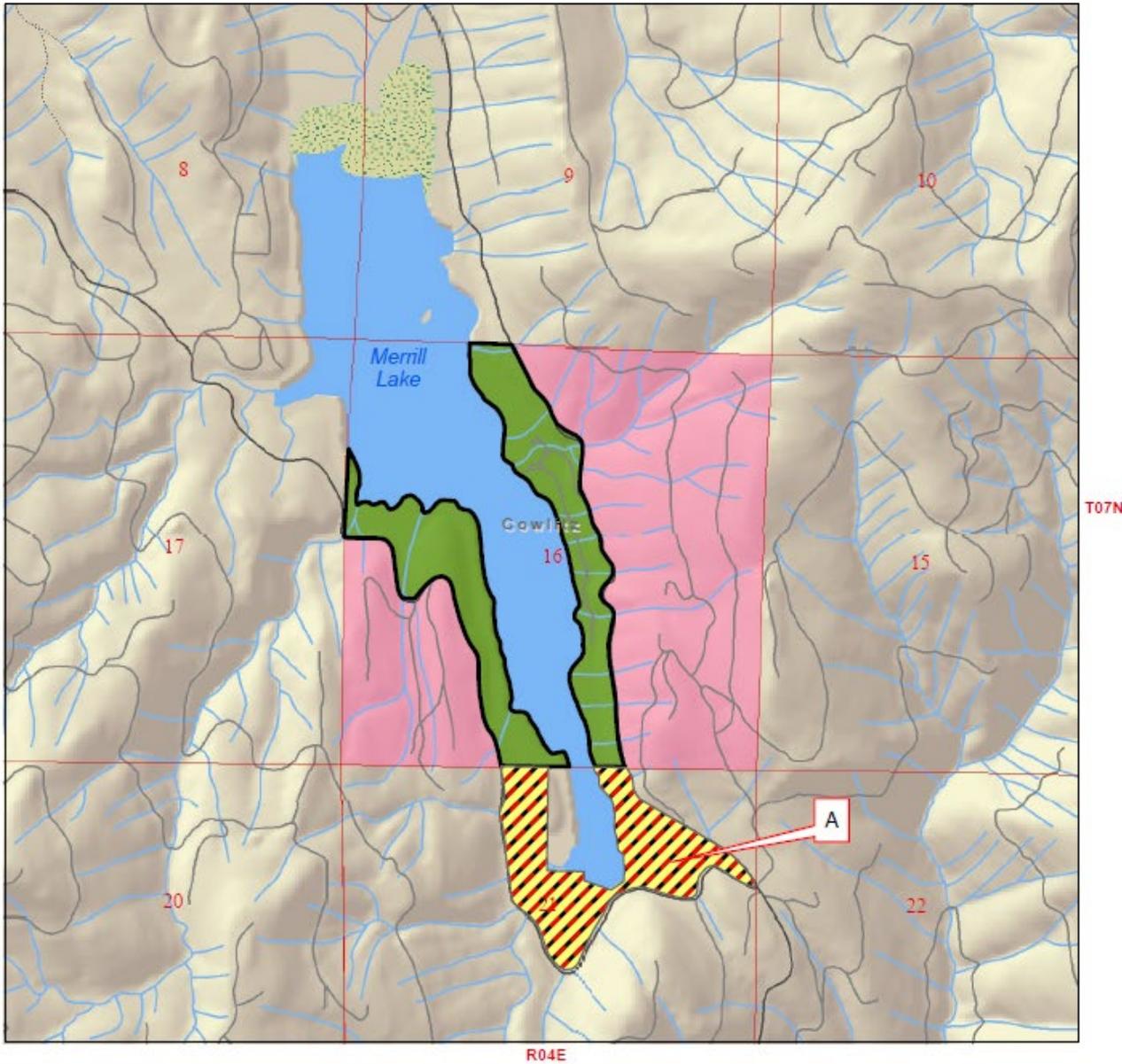
Enhances the Mount Saint Helens Wildlife Area by creating year-round public access.

Project Outcomes

Provides expanded habitat for the Mount Saint Helens elk herd and increases access and opportunities for public recreation such as hunting, hiking, and wildlife viewing. Submitted to Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and in DFW’s capital budget request.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	1,300
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$3 million
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$67,600 estimated annual operating costs for the site visits, routine weed control, and property management Future public fishing access
Revenue Generation	Discover Pass

Merrill Lake Natural Resources Conservation Area | DNR



Merrill Lake Natural Resources Conservation Area | DNR



Location: Southwest of Mount Saint Helens.

Legislative District: 20

Current Use: Commercial timber production, hunting, fishing, and horse trails. This parcel is connected to DNR’s Natural Resources Conservation Area.

Local Government Support: County commissioners have been notified; they have expressed support for this project.

Partners: DFW

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

Acquisition for the protection of a key, 71.8-acre private parcel at the south end of Merrill Lake. This parcel contains the last unprotected area of old growth forest at the lake and would add to a growing block of state (DNR and WDFW) managed wildlife habitat, which currently includes 2,170 acres of contiguous upland old growth forest, wetland, riparian forest and lakeshore. These lands provide important habitat for deer, elk, waterfowl, migratory songbirds, amphibians, raptors and mammals such as martin and bobcat.

Planning Link

Implements conservation priorities of *State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan*. Management direction is provided by the *State of Washington Natural Resources Conservation Areas Statewide Management Plan*.

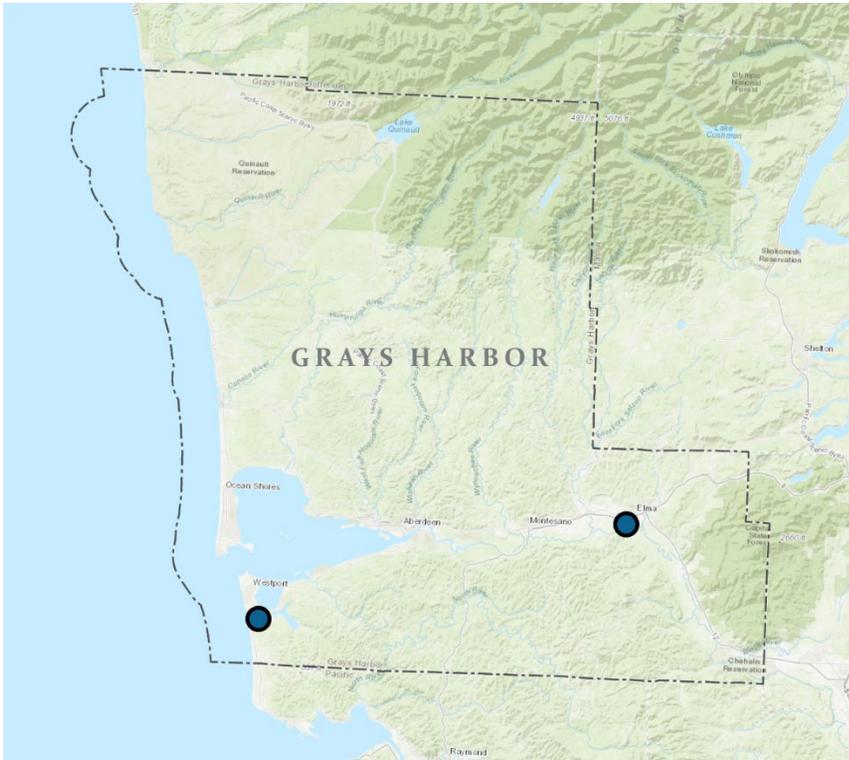
Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Outcomes: Additional shoreline adjacent to state-managed lands at Merrill lake Natural Resources Conservation Area, for riparian habitat values and low-impact recreation including camping and fly-fishing.

Progress: DNR owns 126 acres in conservation designation.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	71.8
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$770,185
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Riparian Protection Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$12,000 estimated biennial operating costs for weed control labor and materials; inspect for dumping/public safety/vandalism/theft; pay Fire Protection fee. The annual DNR Payment in Lieu of Taxes is paid by the State Treasurer’s Office following legislative appropriation.
Revenue Generation	None

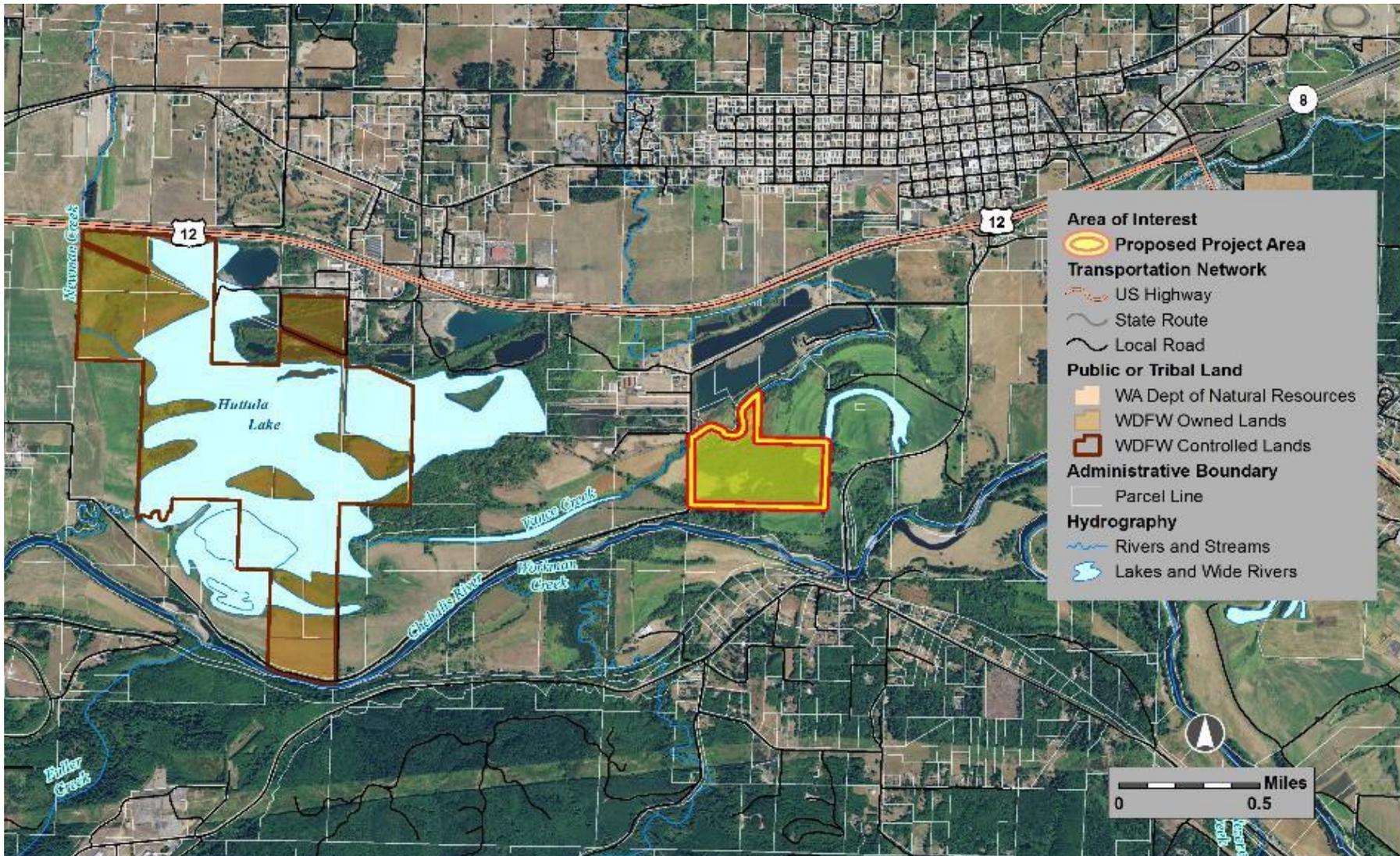
Grays Harbor County Summary



- DFW

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Chehalis River Floodplain	DFW	88.5	\$200,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Riparian Protection Category	19
Grayland Property	DFW	1,750	\$1,300,000	Easement	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Riparian Protection Category	24
Total		1,838.5	\$1,500,000			

Chehalis River Floodplain| DFW



Chehalis Floodplain| DFW



Location: South of Elma in Grays Harbor County

Legislative District: 19

Local Government Support: Region director has conferred with county commissioners.

Current Use: Open space, recently used as a tree farm.

Partners: None

Financials	
Proposed Acres	88.5
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$200,000
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Riparian Protection Category
Anticipated Future Costs	\$4,602 estimated annual operating costs for site visits, routine weed control, and property management
Revenue Generation	None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

Project will expand the ownership of the Chehalis Wildlife Area to incorporate a greater proportion of the adjacent floodplain wetland habitats with resulting benefits to recreational fishing, waterfowl hunting, and species conservation. The lower Chehalis Valley is an overwintering site for about 5,000–20,000 ducks and geese annually.

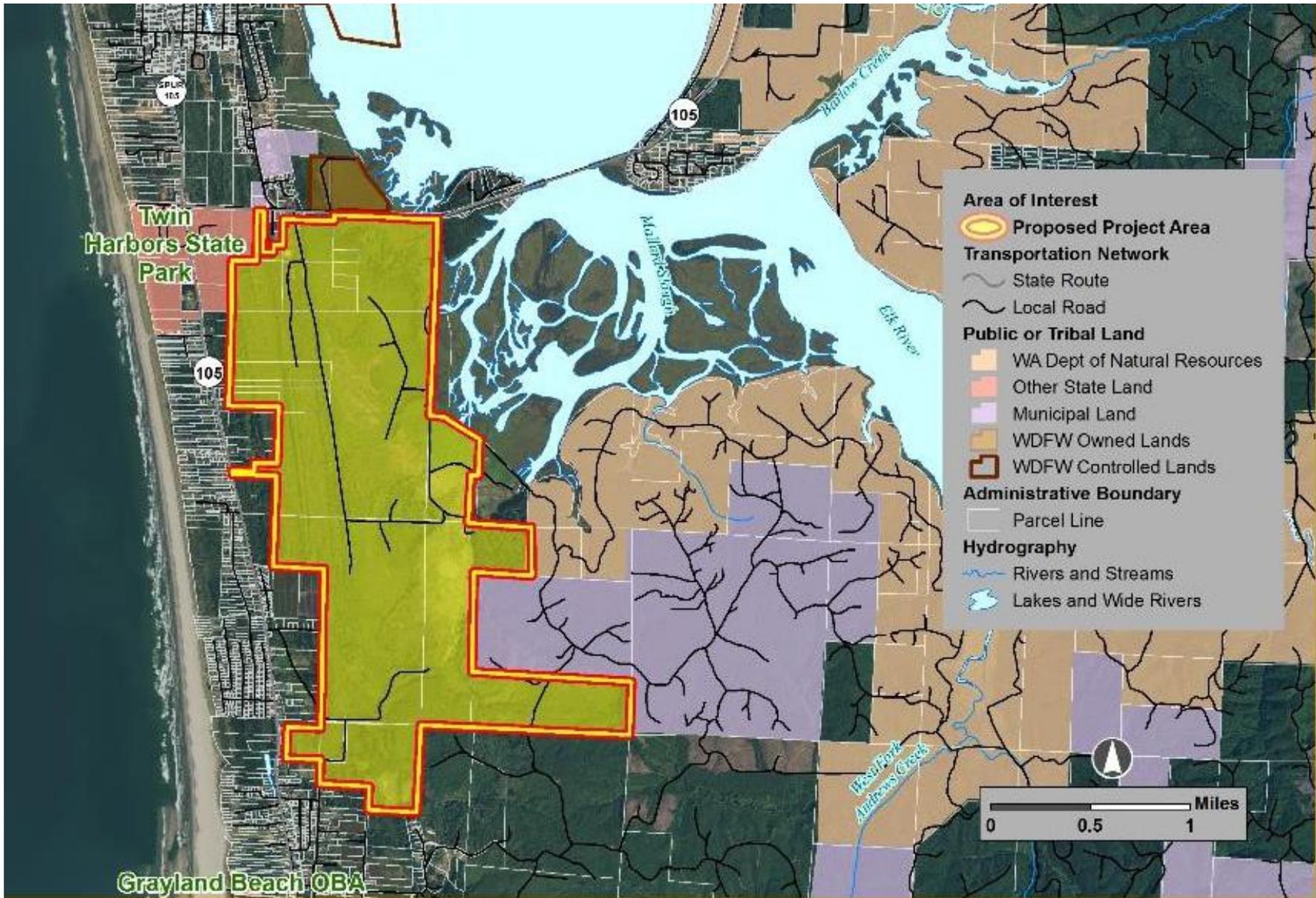
Planning Link

The project falls within the guidelines of the Chehalis River Flood Authority’s comprehensive strategy to reduce flood damage, restore salmon populations, and support communities in the Chehalis River basin.

Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Project Outcomes: The project would expand the boundaries of DFW ownership to ensure the preservation of conservation values and increase opportunities for recreational hunting and fishing.

Grayland Property | DFW



Grayland Property | DFW



Location: North of Montesano

Legislative District: 24

Local Government Support: Region director has conferred with county commissioners.

Current Use: Commercial forest

Partners: Ducks Unlimited, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chehalis Basin Watershed partnership, Pacific Bird Habitat Joint Venture

Financials	
Propose Acres	1,750
Proposed Acquisition Costs	\$1.3 million
Type of Acquisition	Easement
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Riparian Protection Category
Anticipated Future Costs	\$22,750 estimated annual operating costs for the site visits, routine weed control, and property management etc.
Revenue Generation	Discover Pass

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This project greatly expands the Elk River unit of the John’s Wildlife Area in Grays Harbor County. Project protects sensitive wildlife species and their coastal habitat while also providing recreational opportunities near other public lands.

Planning Link

Washington State Wildlife Action Plan, project will protect several habitats designated as Ecological Systems of Concern, which are critical to numerous species and embedded within a network of protected lands.

Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Project Outcomes: Habitat protection and public access to waterfowl hunting, wildlife viewing, and other recreational opportunities.

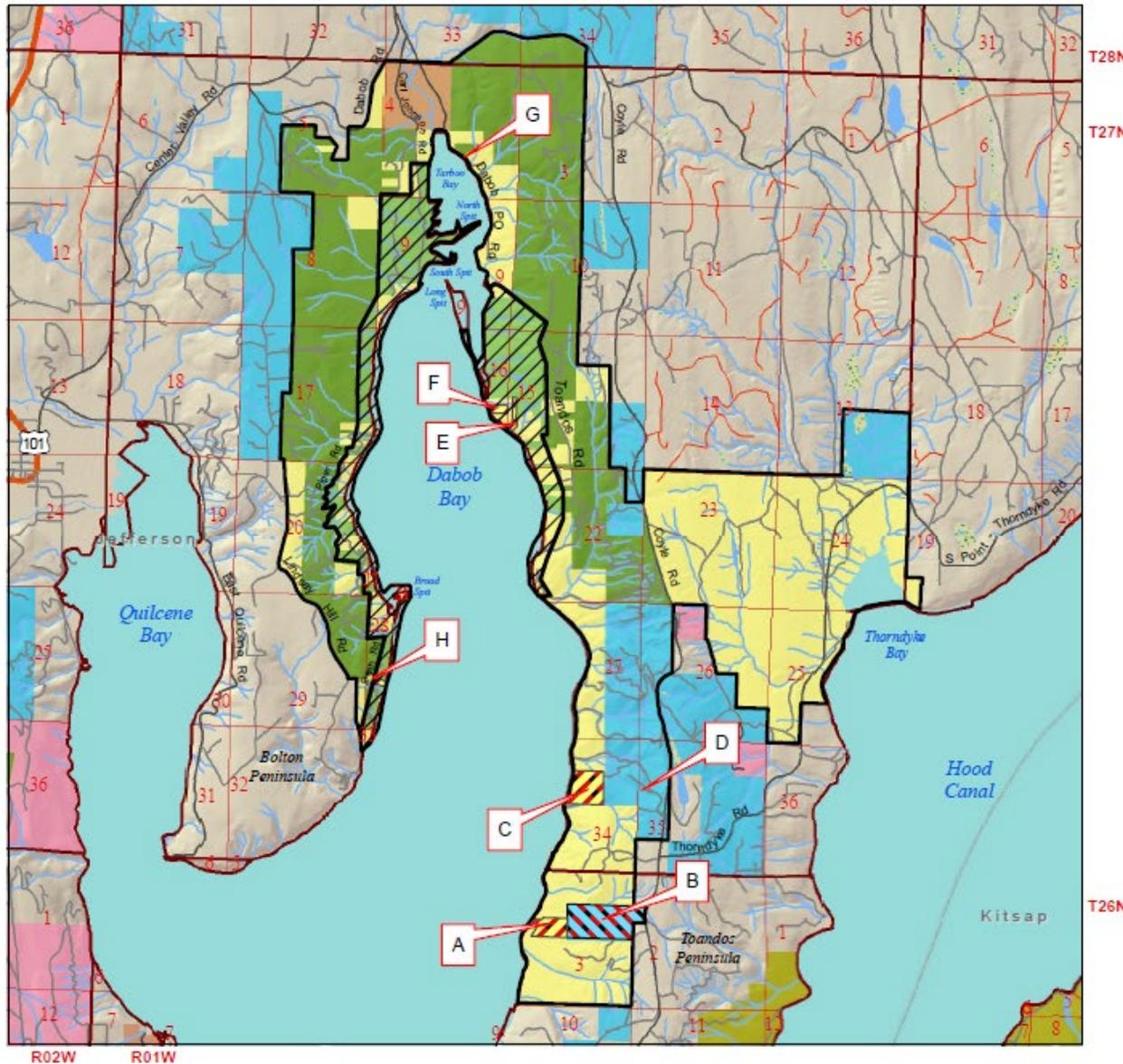
Jefferson County Summary



● DNR

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Dabob Bay Natural Area	DNR	277	\$3,801,601	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category	24
Total		277	\$3,801,601			

Dabob Bay Natural Area | DNR



Dabob Bay Natural Area | DNR



Location: Hood Canal region.

Legislative District: 24

Current Use: Commercial timber, hunting, fishing, and horse trails.

Local Government Support: County commissioners are supportive and have made recommendations regarding project implementation.

Partners: The Nature Conservancy, Jefferson County, Northwest Watershed Institute, Jefferson Land Trust, DFW, several tribes, and neighboring landowners

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

Acquisition of approximately 277 acres of shoreline and mature riparian forest parcels within Dabob Bay Natural Area. This project contains high-quality examples of coastal spits, which are supported by coastal bluffs and shorelines within the natural area that provide sediment and woody debris for continued ecological function.

Planning Link

Implements conservation priorities of the *State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan*. Management direction is provided by a management plan for the Natural Area Preserve (1988) and by the *State of Washington Natural Resources Conservation Areas Statewide Management Plan*.

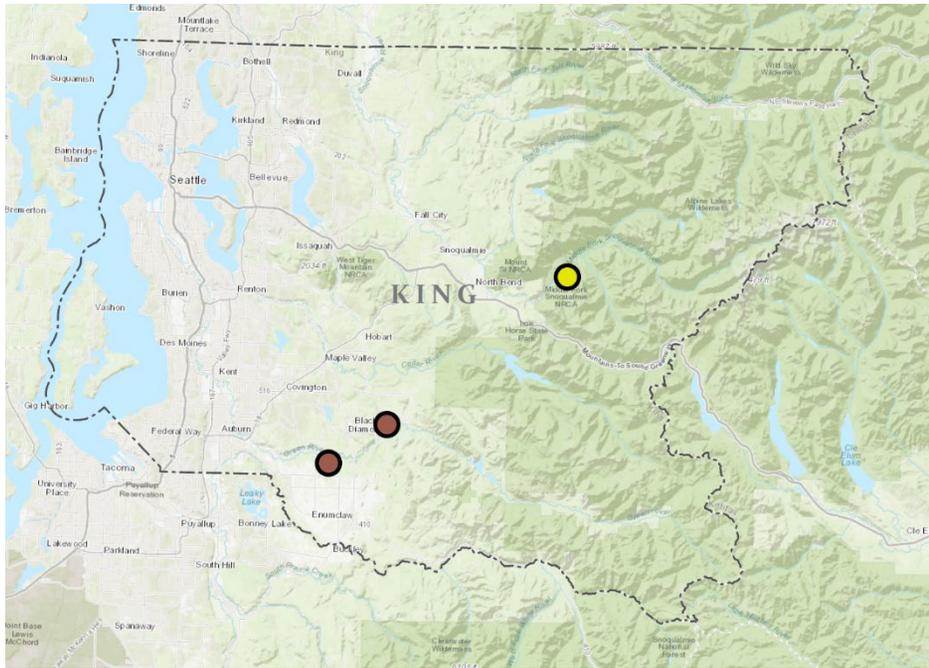
Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Outcomes: Protect ecological processes supporting high quality and priority coastal wetlands, adjacent forested and riparian uplands, and habitat for salmonids. Provide access for environmental education, research, and low-impact recreation.

Progress: The department owns 2,592 acres in conservation designation, plus 602 acres in Natural Area Preserve designation managed for conservation and restoration.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	277
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$3,801,601
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$90,000 estimated biennial operating costs for weed control labor and materials; inspect for dumping/public safety/vandalism/theft; pay Fire Protection fee. The annual DNR Payment in Lieu of Taxes is paid by the State Treasurer's Office following legislative appropriation.
Revenue Generation	None

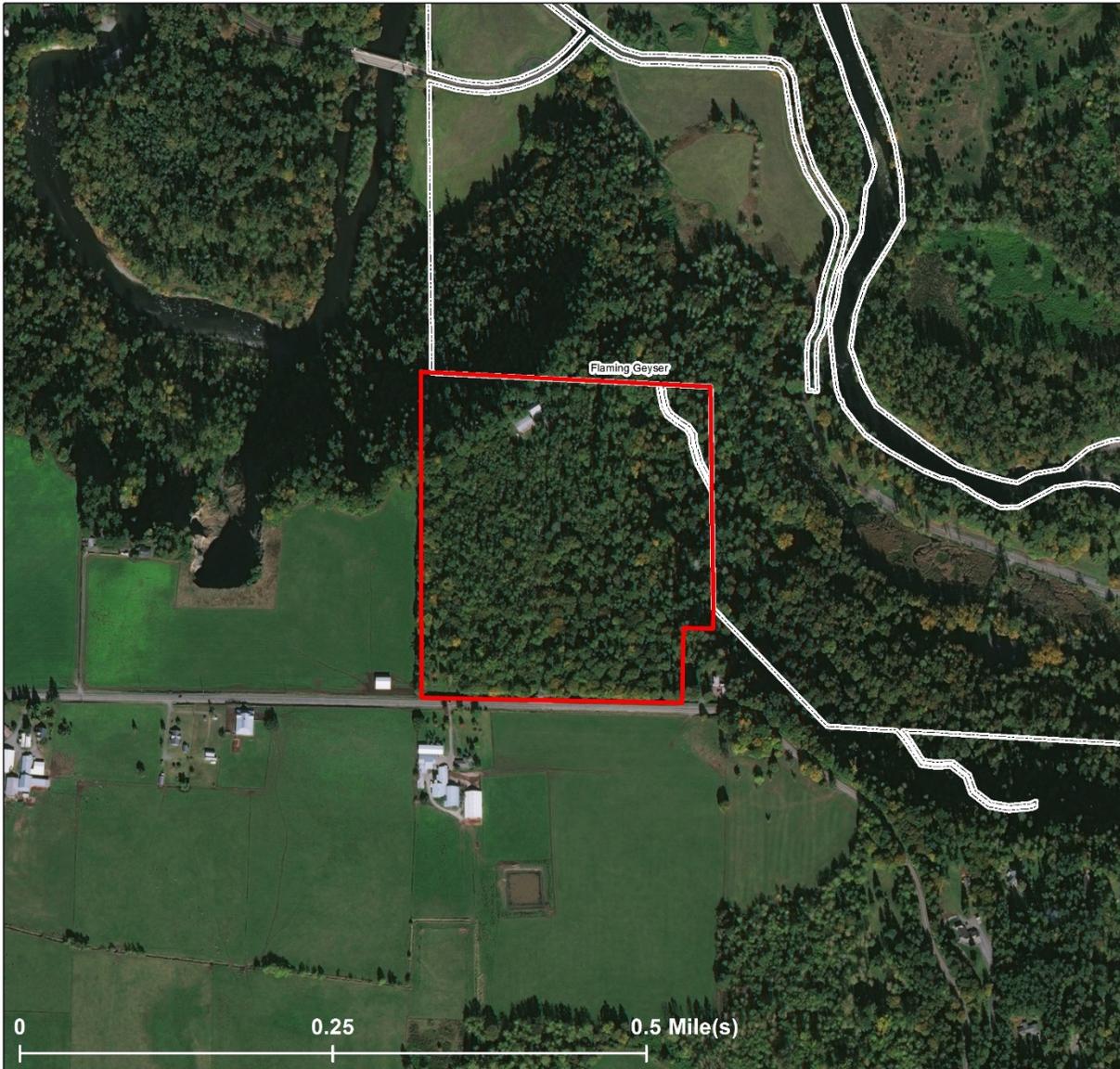
King County Summary



- DNR
- State Parks

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Flaming Geyser State Park–Nelson Property	State Parks	36.7	\$895,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	31
Green River Gorge State Park Conservation Area–Butt Property	State Parks	33.6	\$873,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	5
Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area	DNR	569	\$4,867,626	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Urban Wildlife Category	5
	Total	639.3	\$6,635,626			

Flaming Geyser State Park–Nelson Property | State Parks

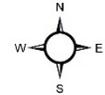


Flaming Geyser State Park Nelson Property



Legend

-  Acquisition Candidate
-  Park Boundaries



Flaming Geyser State Park–Nelson Property | State Parks



Location: Next to the southwest boundary of Flaming Geyser State Park, near Auburn

Legislative District: 31

Current Use: Developed with residence

Local Government Support: Yes

Partners: None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This 36.7-acre property is next to the southwest corner of Flaming Geyser State Park. The land is forested and undeveloped and is the furthest downstream property of the Green River Gorge that is not yet owned or managed by State Parks. In addition to protecting the Gorge view corridor, acquiring this land will ensure continued use of a park trail that runs through it, and will provide opportunities to improve the park's administrative facilities. The property's well also may be used to provide a much-needed water system for the park, which does not have potable water, and has been bringing water in by truck for several years.

Planning Link

The Nelson property is in the long-term boundary for the Green River Gorge Conservation Area.

Project Outcome and Current Progress

Outcomes: Provides protection of the Green River Gorge view corridor and ensures continued use of a State Park trail on the property. If acquired, this land also could provide much needed potable water for the park.

Progress: The land is privately owned and the owner is a willing seller, depending on the appraised value.

Financials

Proposed Acres	36.7
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$895,000
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	Routine maintenance on the existing house and well is expected to cost about \$6,600 a biennium. There may be additional future costs if the land is used as part of the park's maintenance/ administrative area, but those costs are unknown at this time.
Revenue Generation	None expected

Green River Gorge State Park Conservation Area–Butt Property | State Parks

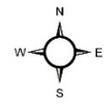


Green River Gorge Conservation Area Butt Property



Legend

-  Acquisition Candidate
-  Park Boundaries



Green River Gorge Conservation Area–Butt Property | State Parks



Location: Next to the Green River Gorge Conservation Area, near Kanaskat

Legislative District: 5

Current Use: Undeveloped

Local Government Support: Yes

Partners: None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This 33.6-acre property is next to the Green River Gorge Conservation Area. The forested and undeveloped land will help facilitate a north rim trail between Kanaskat-Palmer State Park and the Jellum property, which is not feasible on current State Park land because of the steep topography. This property will help to secure the only way to develop a trail in this area and will provide public access to two other state park properties, used for rescue operations on the river.

Planning Link

This acquisition is consistent with the original legislative intent of acquiring the Green River Gorge Conservation Area, which was to protect the view of the gorge from the river. It also is consistent with the park’s Classification and Management Plan goal of developing a trail along the north rim of the Green River Gorge. That said, the property is not in the conservation area’s long-term boundary. The long-term boundary was expanded in 2008 to include additional land to facilitate trail connections on the south side of the river, and the intention has been to go through a similar process on the north side, but it has not happened yet.

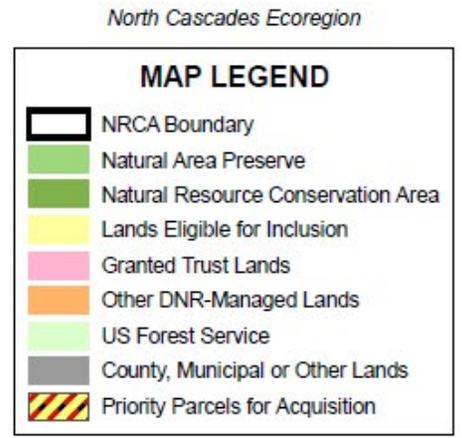
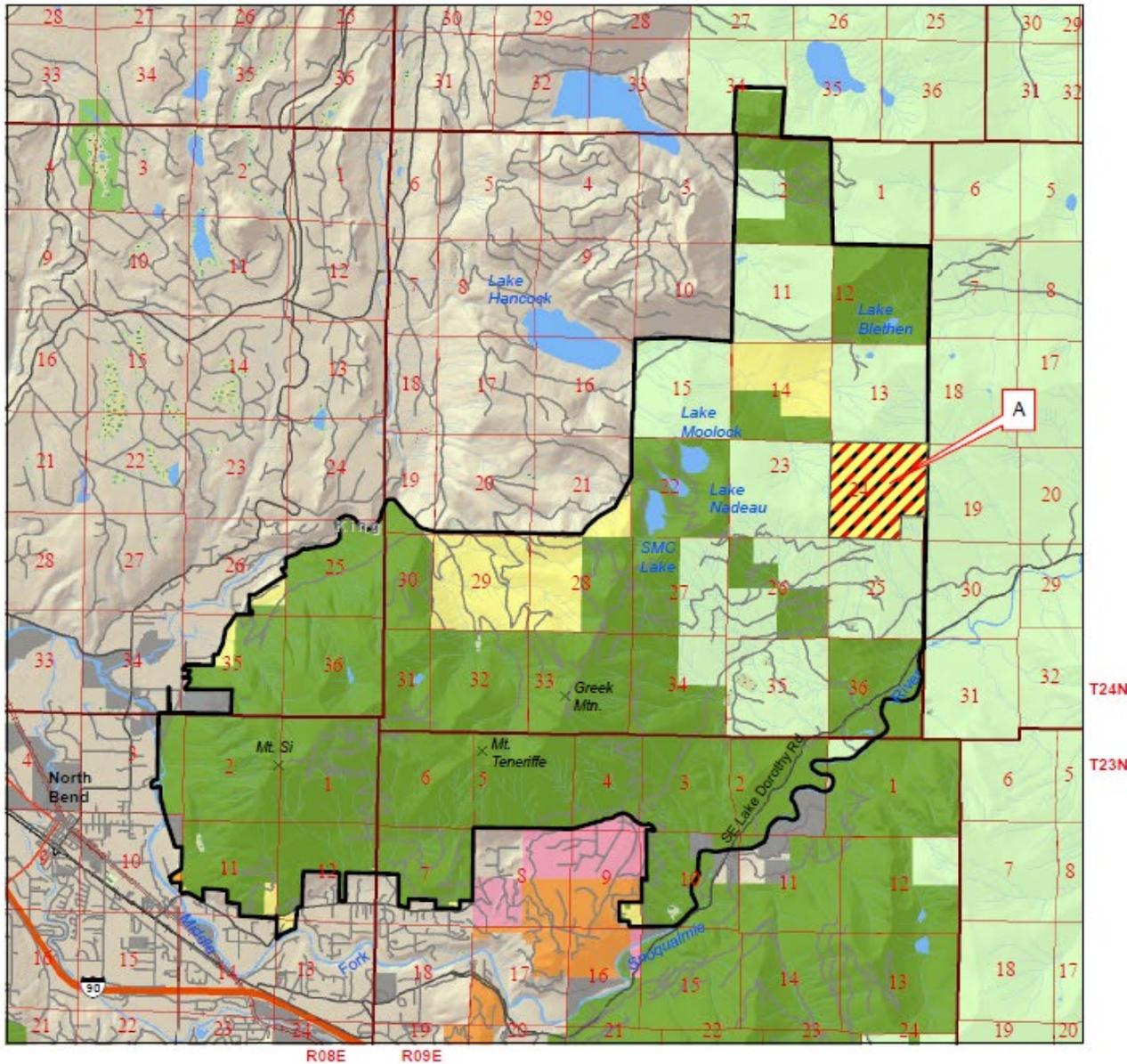
Project Outcome and Current Progress

Outcomes: Provides land needed for a north rim trail between current State Park land and provides public access to those properties. If acquired, this property also will be used for rescue operations on the river.

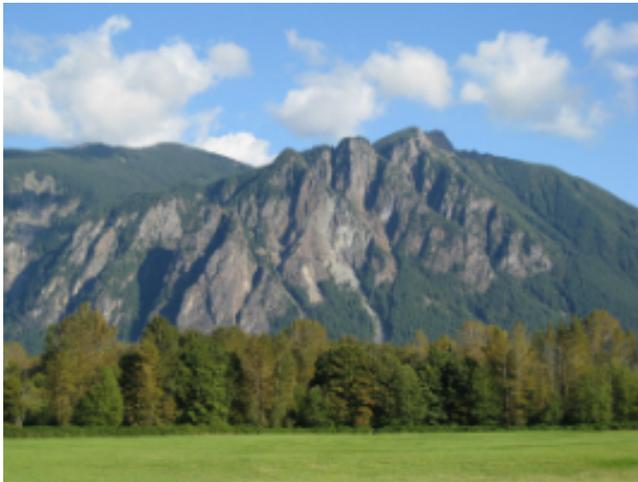
Progress: The land is privately owned and the owner is a willing seller.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	33.6
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$873,000
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	No anticipated costs in the near future. Within 20 years, there may be trail development costs and associated operating costs for that trail.
Revenue Generation	None. There may be future revenue generation from a north rim trail in the Green River Gorge Conservation Area, but the revenue generated solely from this property would be minimal.

Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area | DNR



Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area | DNR



Location: Eastern King County outside of North Bend

Legislative District: 5

Local Government Support: County council members have been notified and letters of support received.

Current Use: Forest, some undeveloped residential areas

Partners: Forterra, King County, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Washington Conservation Corps, and Washington Trails Association

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

Acquisition of approximately 569 acres in the Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area in east King County. This acquisition is considered the largest in size and highest quality private in-holding remaining in the Mount Si NRCA, literally a mountain-top in the heart of a contiguous conservation landscape.

Planning Link

Implements conservation priorities of the *State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan*. Management direction is provided by a management plan and public use plan (1997) and a recreation plan for the Snoqualmie corridor (2015).

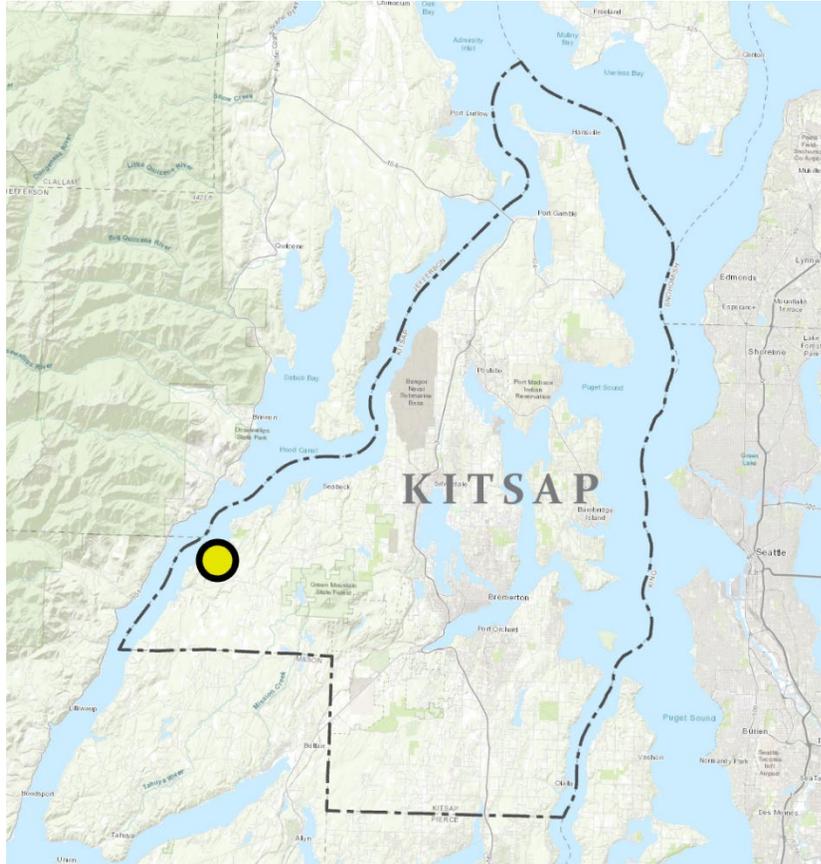
Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Outcomes: Protect ecological processes, maintain wildlife habitat and scenic values, and provide access for environmental education, research, and low-impact recreation (e.g. hiking, wildlife viewing, picnicking, and photography).

Progress: DNR owns 13,562 acres at Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	569
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$4,867,626
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Urban Wildlife Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$46,000 estimated biennial operating costs for weed control labor and materials; inspect for dumping / public safety / vandalism / theft; pay Fire Protection fee. The annual DNR Payment in Lieu of Taxes is paid by the State Treasurer's Office following legislative appropriation.
Revenue Generation	None

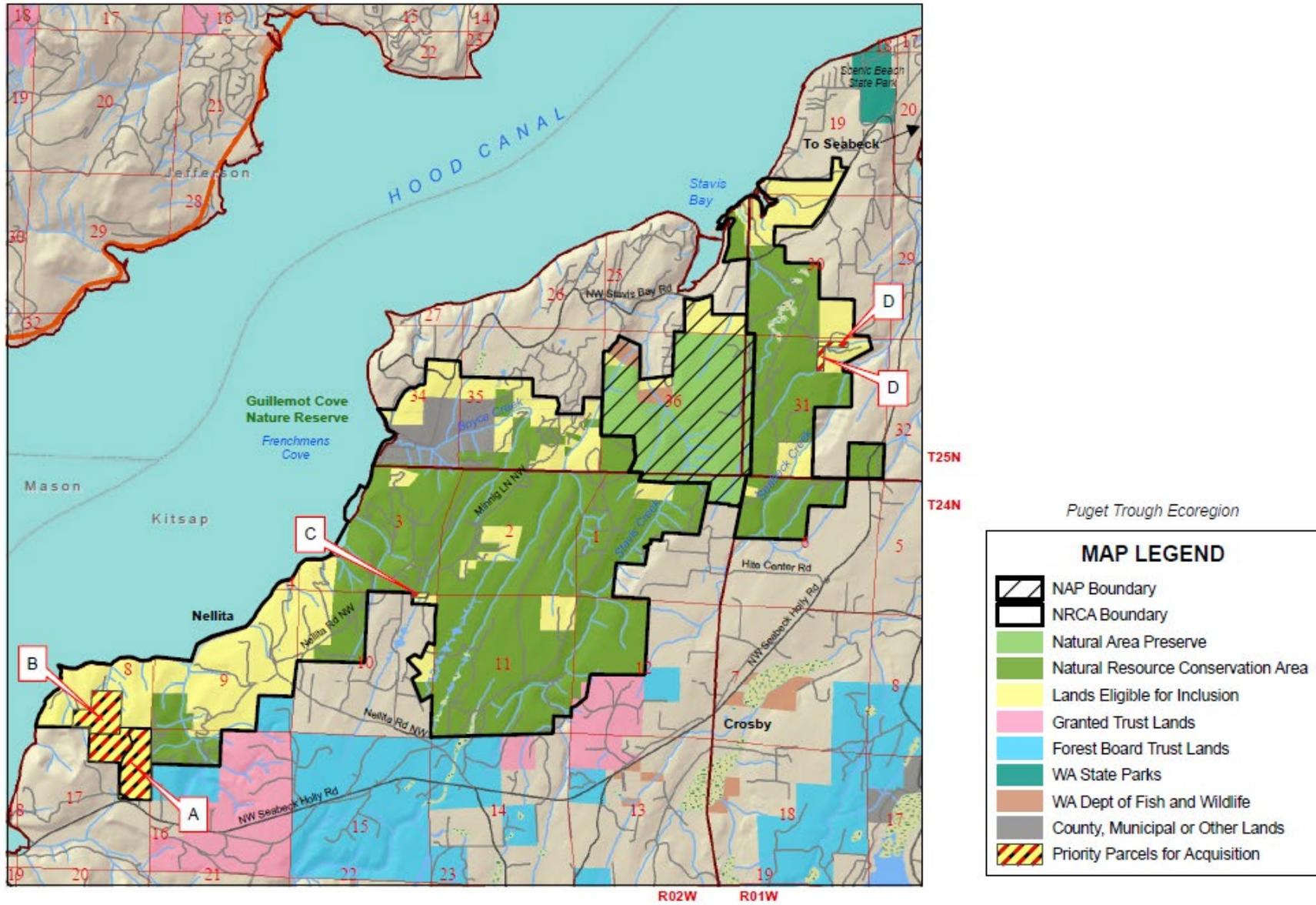
Kitsap County Summary



● DNR

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area	DNR	157.5	\$1,831,729	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Urban Wildlife Category	35
Total		157.5	\$1,831,729			

Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area | DNR



Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area | DNR



Location: Near Silverdale take Newberry Hill exit.

Legislative District: 35

Current Use: Forest, some undeveloped rural residential areas.

Local Government Support: County commissioners have been notified; no concerns have been shared with DNR.

Partners: Trust for Public Lands, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, Great Peninsula Conservancy, Hood Canal Coordinating Council, and Kitsap County.

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

Acquisition of 158 acres within the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area. This project will protect forests along the west forks of Harding and Seabeck Creek and main fork of Boyce Creek. This project will protect and enhance rare forest communities in one of most important corridors for biodiversity conservation in the Puget trough. Stavis NRCA and Kitsap Forest NAP (within the conservation boundary of Stavis) both provide high quality and rare wildlife habitat, making up a crucial part of a larger landscape of forests on the western Kitsap peninsula.

Planning Link

Implements conservation priorities of the *State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan*. Management direction is provided by the *State of Washington Natural Resources Conservation Areas Statewide Management Plan*.

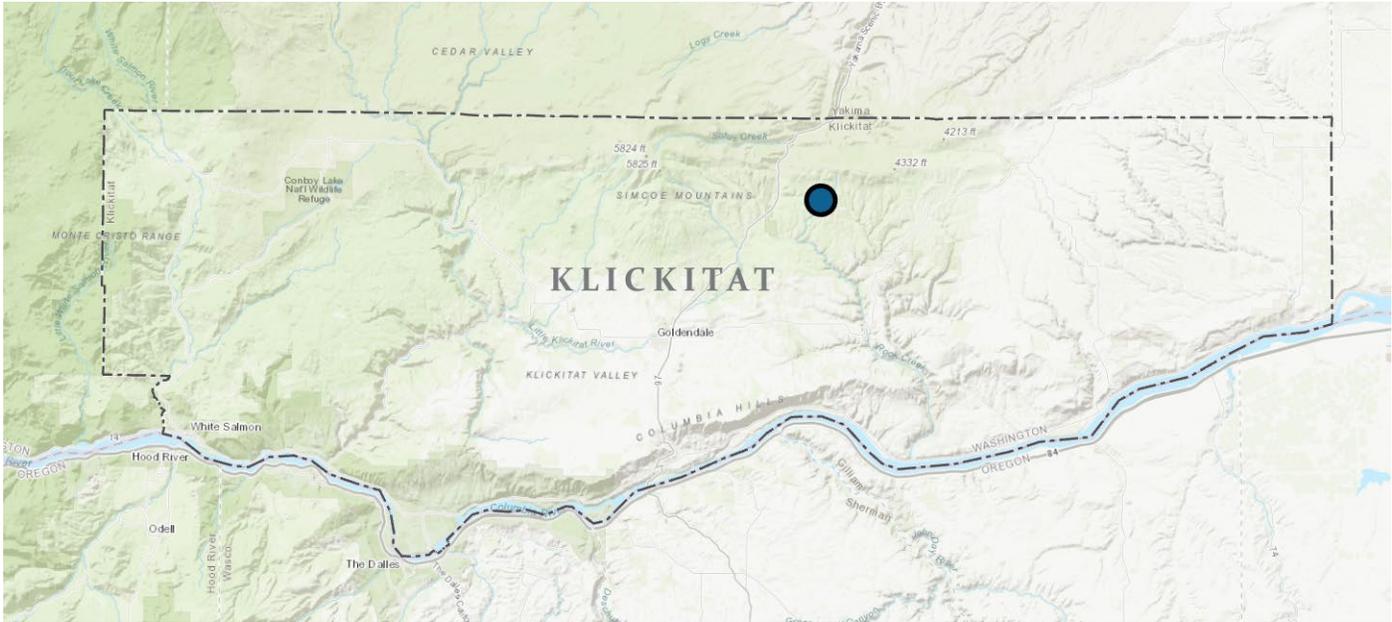
Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Outcomes: Protect ecological processes, maintain wildlife habitat and scenic values, and provide access for environmental education, research, and low-impact recreation (e.g. wildlife viewing, picnicking, and photography).

Progress: DNR owns 2,985 acres in conservation designation, plus 572 acres in the adjacent Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	157.5
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$1,831,729
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Urban Wildlife Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$36,000 estimated biennial operating costs for weed control labor and materials; inspect for dumping / public safety / vandalism / theft; pay Fire Protection fee. The annual DNR Payment in Lieu of Taxes is paid by the State Treasurer's Office following legislative appropriation.
Revenue Generation	None

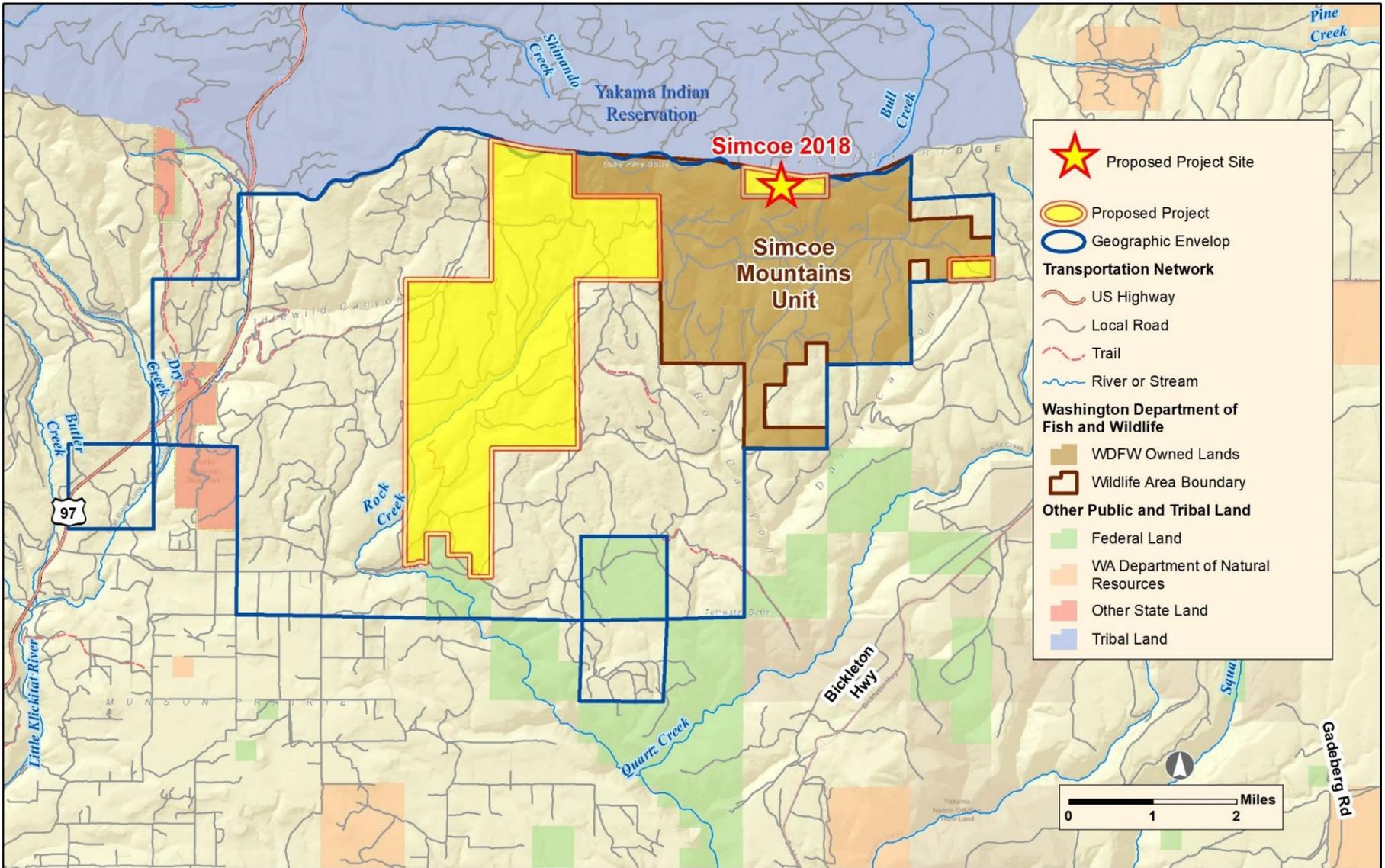
Klickitat County Summary



- DFW

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Simcoe	DFW	5,373	\$4,300,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat Category	14
Total		5,373	\$4,300,000			

Simcoe | DFW



Simcoe | DFW



Location: Simcoe Mountains east of U.S. Highway 97
Legislative District: 14
Local Government Support: Klickitat County supports
Current Use: Commercial forest and rangeland
Partners: Eastern and Central Klickitat Conservation Districts, State Conservation Commission

Financials	
Proposed Acres	5,373
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$4.3 million
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat Category
Anticipated Future Costs	
Revenue Generation	

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This project is a unique landscape that includes primarily ponderosa pine, Oregon white oak, white alder, shrub steppe, grasslands, cliffs, and 16 miles of streambank habitat that includes upper Rock Creek drainage. Priority species that would be protected include federally listed steelhead, Chinook salmon, state threatened western gray squirrel, burrowing owl, and western toad. This multi-phased project provides quality public recreation (hiking, fishing, and hunting) previously unavailable in this area. To date, about 5,207 acres have been acquired. Restoration would focus on managing habitats for critical species longevity. The local economy would continue to benefit from compatible grazing and forest management to reduce wildfire risk.

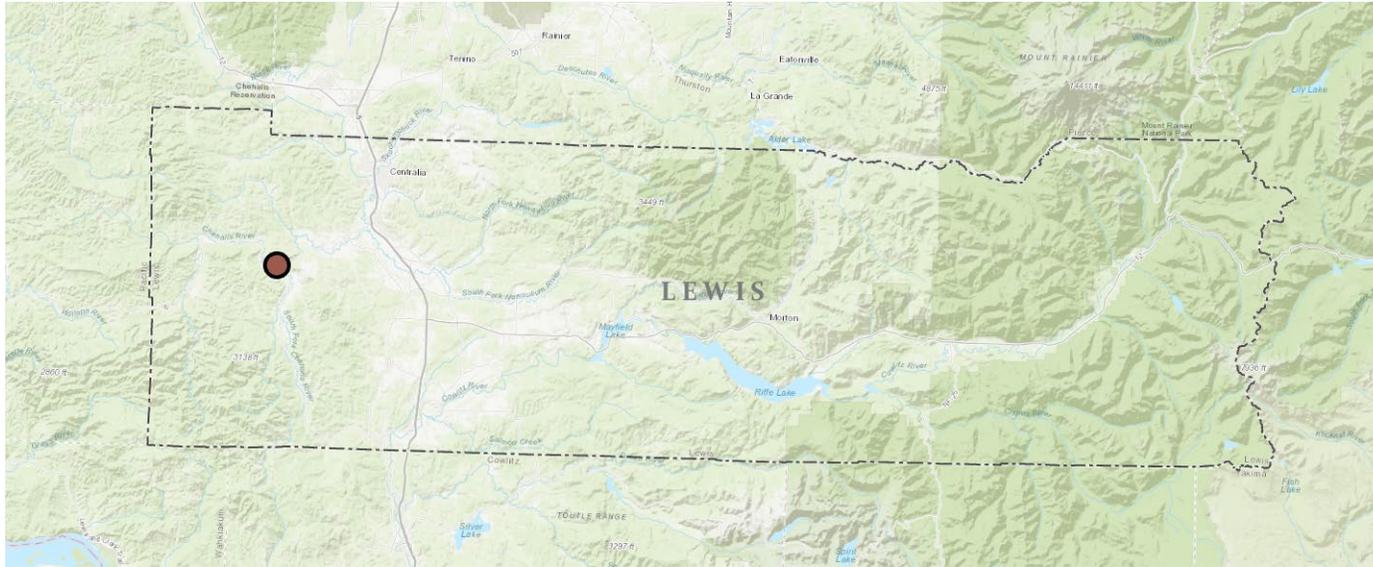
Planning Link

Property will add to a new wildlife area in eastern Klickitat County and provides connectivity from the Columbia River to the Cascade Mountains for protection of fish and other wildlife habitat. The lands are managed according to a collaborative management plan being developed through a Coordinated Resource Management process with Eastern and Central Klickitat Conservation Districts.

Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Project Outcomes: Provides expanded winter habitat for the Klickitat deer herd, aids in the recovery of threatened western gray squirrel, increases opportunity for public recreation, and provides continued working lands with grazing and forest management compatible with habitat preservation.

Lewis County Summary



● State Parks

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Willapa Hills State Park Trail–Marwood Farms Property	State Parks	178	\$704,102	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	20
Total		178	\$704,102			

Willapa Hills State Park Trail-Marwood Farms Property | State Parks

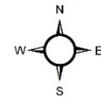


Willapa Hills State Park Trail Marwood Farms Property



Legend

- Acquisition Candidate
- Park Boundaries



Willapa Hills State Park Trail–Marwood Farms Property | State Parks



Location: South of the Willapa Hills State Park Trail, near Adna

Legislative District: 20

Current Use: Undeveloped

Local Government Support: Mixed. Generally local communities are supportive, and farming interests are opposed.

Partners: None

Financials	
Proposed Acres	178
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$704,102
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	Parks anticipates developing a picnic area and a primitive camping area on the property in the 2021-23 biennium. Development costs are unknown at this time. Operating costs are expected to be \$16,000-20,000 per biennium after development.
Revenue Generation	Some revenue generation is expected from the primitive camping area, but there are not yet revenue projections.

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

The Willapa Hills Trail is 56-miles long and is aligned east/west from Chehalis to South Bend. This 178 acres is strategically located in an otherwise remote segment of the trail along the Chehalis River near Ceres Hill Road, about 6.5 miles east of Rainbow Falls State Park. Acquisition of the land will provide visitors with a stopover place with opportunities to develop hiker-biker campsites, restrooms, picnicking, and access to the Chehalis River. This land also would provide opportunities for restoration of the Chehalis River floodplain and shoreline.

Planning Link

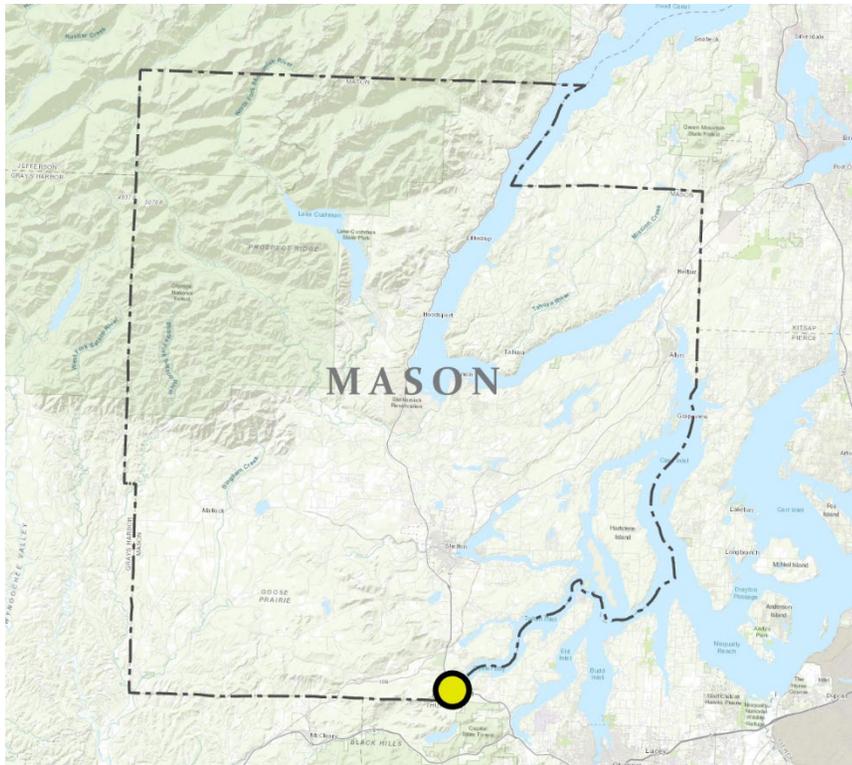
The property is not in the long-term boundary of Willapa Hills State Park Trail, but the project does help implement State Parks’ mission to connect Washingtonians to treasured resources, in this case, water. The project also implements the agency’s strategic goal to provide the kinds of recreational opportunities people want, including camping and picnicking.

Project Outcome and Current Progress

Outcomes: Acquisition of the property will provide visitors with a stopover place with opportunities to develop hiker-biker campsites, restrooms, picnicking, and access to the Chehalis River. Acquisition of the land also would provide opportunities for restoration of the Chehalis River floodplain and shoreline.

Progress: The land is privately owned and the owner is a willing seller.

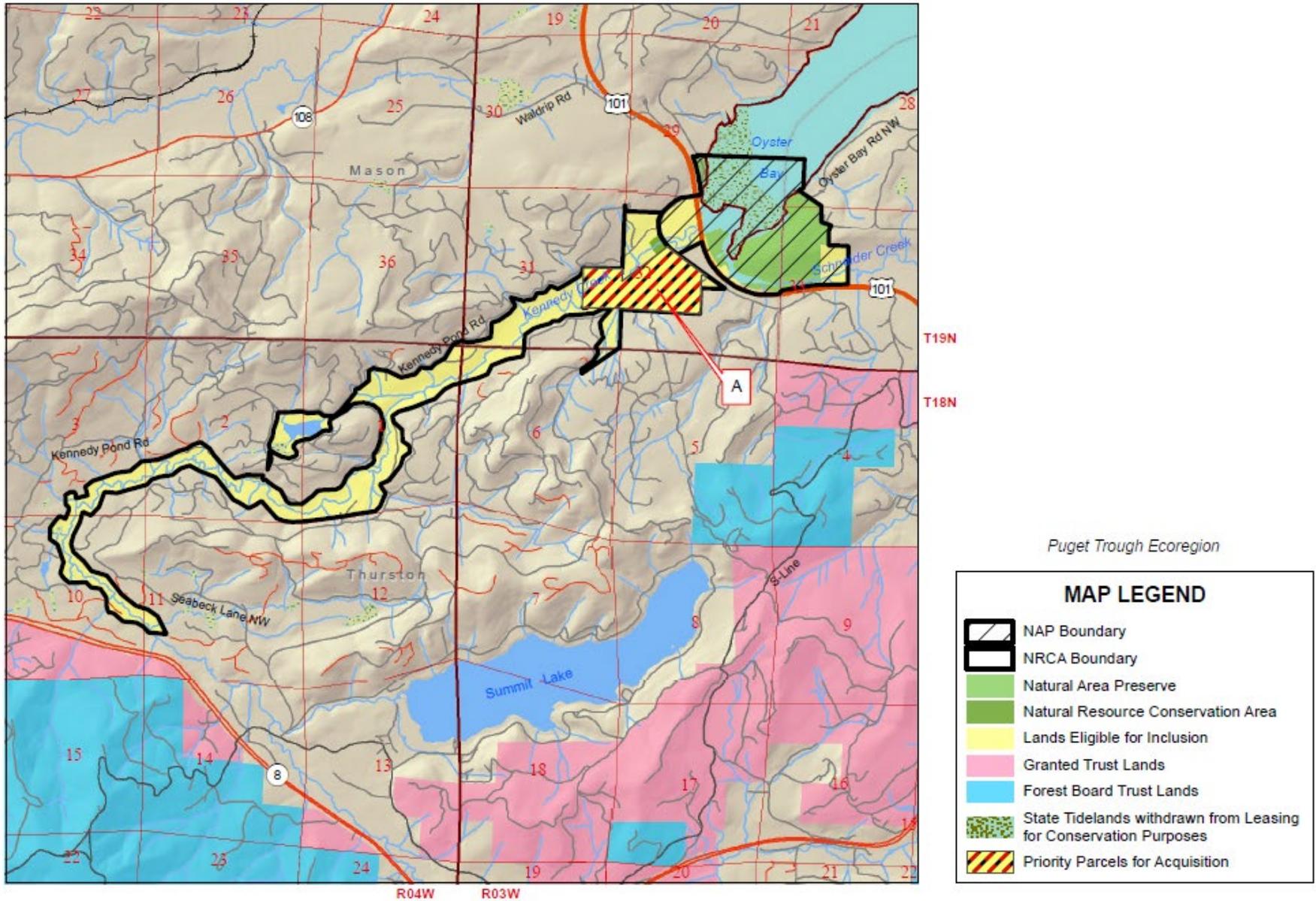
Mason County Summary



● DNR

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Kennedy Creek Natural Area	DNR	138	\$1,259,317	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Riparian Protection Category	22
Total		138	\$1,259,317			

Kennedy Creek Natural Area | DNR



Kennedy Creek Natural Area | DNR



Location: The land is off U.S. Route 101 near the Mason-Thurston County line, about 12 miles west of Olympia.

Legislative District: 22

Current Use: Commercial timber production, hunting, fishing, and horse trails. Habitat protection: Four habitats with special status. Species protection: 20 species with special status. Education and research.

Local Government Support: County commissioners have been notified; no concerns have been expressed to DNR.

Partners: South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group, Capital Land Trust, and the Squaxin Island Tribe.

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

Acquisition of 138 acres in the Natural Resources Conservation Area, along the Kennedy Creek corridor that connects to the Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve. The proposed acquisition will increase protection for one of the few remaining high-quality salt marsh communities in Puget Sound, including vital habitat for migrating shorebirds.

Planning Link

Implements conservation priorities of the *State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan*. Management direction is provided by the *State of Washington Natural Resources Conservation Areas Statewide Management Plan*.

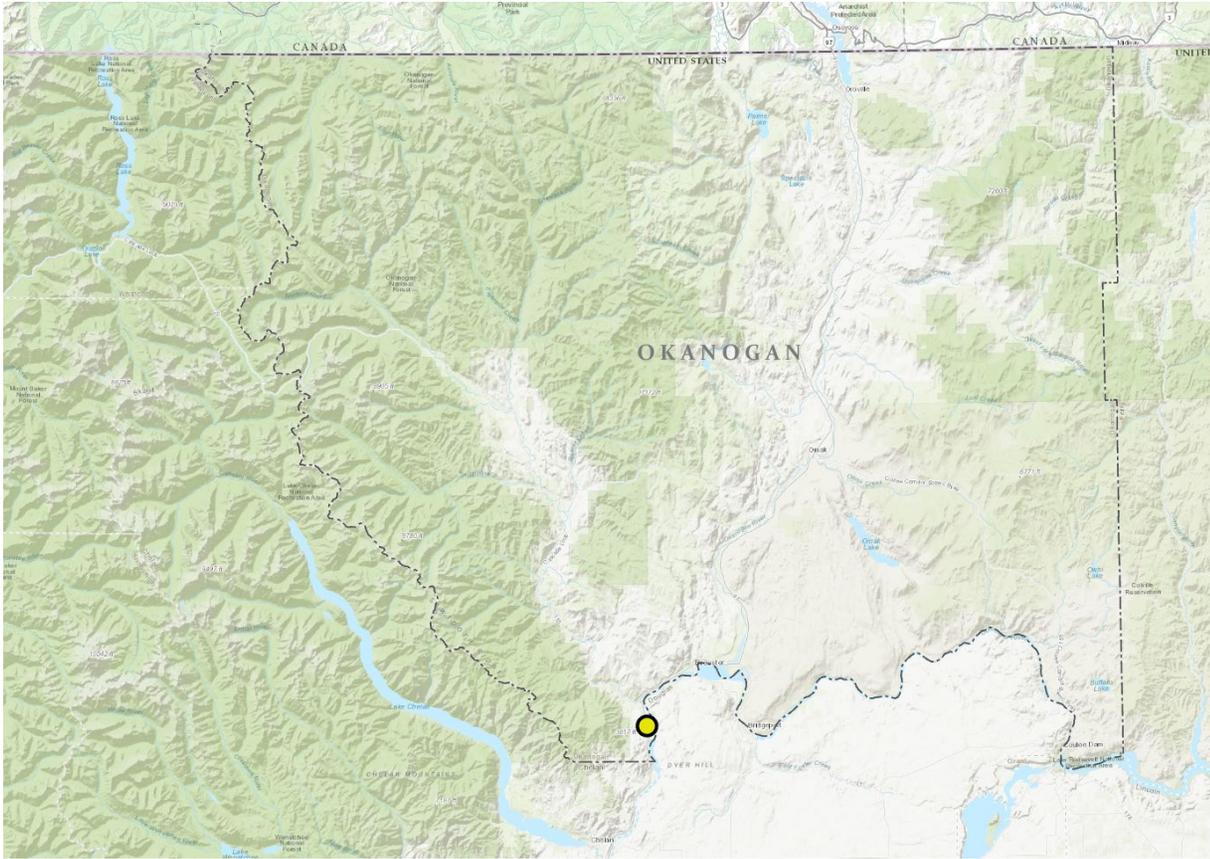
Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Outcomes: Protect ecological processes and habitat for salmonids. Access for environmental education, research, and low-impact recreation (e.g. wildlife viewing, photography).

Progress: The department owns 5 acres in conservation designation, plus 203 acres in Natural Area Preserve designation and adjacent state-owned aquatic lands have been formally withdrawn from leasing.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	138
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$1,259,317
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Riparian Protection Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$46,000 estimated biennial operating costs for weed control labor and materials; inspect for dumping / public safety / vandalism / theft; pay Fire Protection fee. The annual DNR Payment in Lieu of Taxes is paid by the State Treasurer's Office following legislative appropriation.
Revenue Generation	None

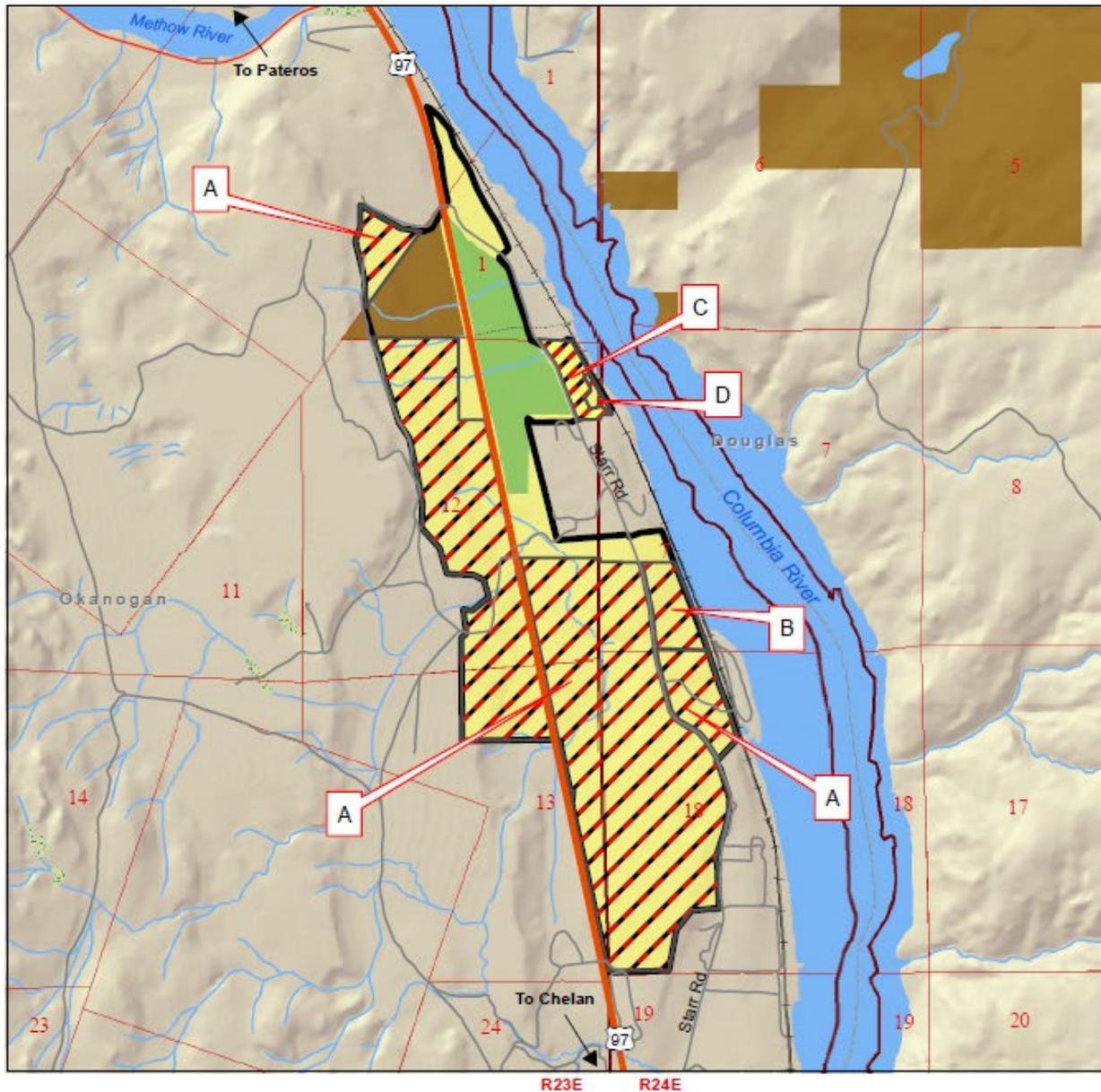
Okanogan County Summary



● DNR

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve	DNR	585	\$3,312,526	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category	12
Total		585	\$3,312,526			

Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve | DNR



Puget Trough Ecoregion

MAP LEGEND

- NAP Boundary
- Natural Area Preserve
- Lands Eligible for Inclusion
- US Bureau of Land Management
- Priority Parcels for Acquisition

Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve | DNR



Location: Located in the southwest corner of Okanogan County.

Legislative District: 12

Current Use: The Carlton Complex wildfire burned through virtually all of the preserve in 2014, removing most of the shrub cover but leaving an intact native grassland.

Local Government Support: County commissioners have been notified, and commissioners expressed support for educational access and interpretation.

Partners: None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve supports outstanding examples of two types of shrub-steppe communities that are among the least-protected and most limited in extent within the state. Historically, these two communities were most extensive in the Okanogan Valley and along the Snake and Columbia Rivers. Intact examples of these communities now are very limited.

Planning Link

Implements conservation priorities of the *State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan*. Management direction is provided by a site specific management plan (1987).

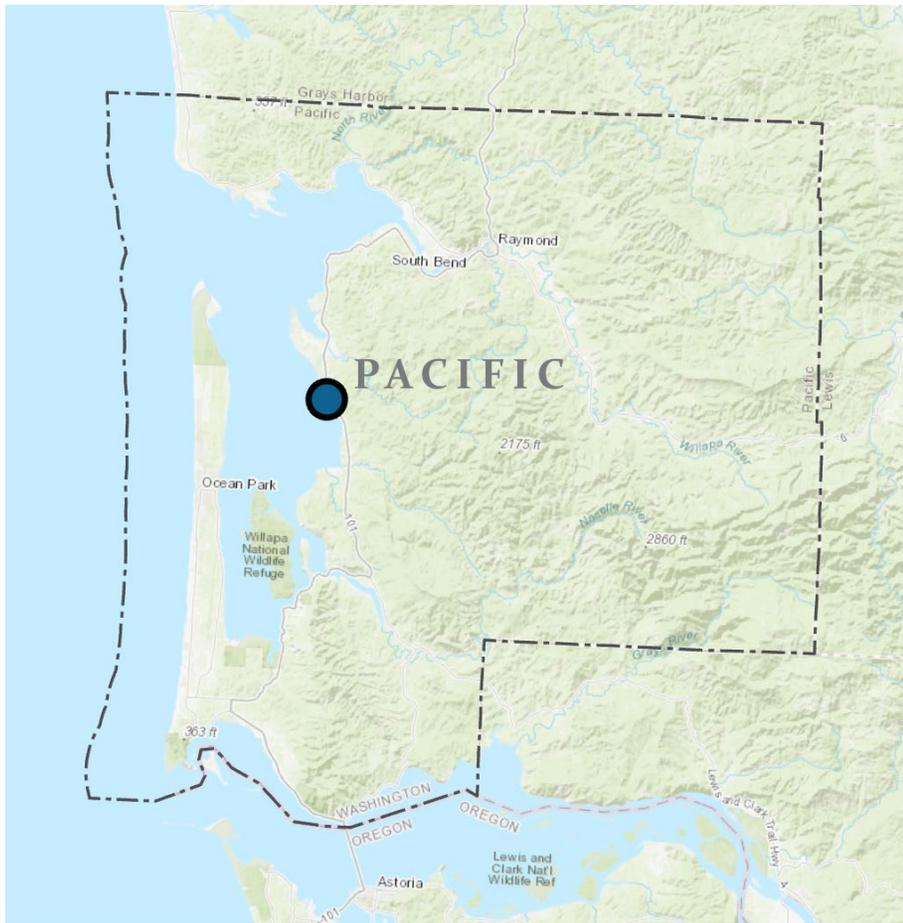
Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Outcomes: Protecting the rare communities, which in turn will help provide protection for wildlife species associated with shrub-steppe habitat, including thrasher and loggerhead shrike.

Progress: The department owns 79 acres in Natural Area Preserve designation.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	585
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$3,312,526
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$46,000 estimated biennial operating costs for weed control labor and materials; inspect for dumping / public safety / vandalism / theft; pay Fire Protection fee. The annual DNR Payment in Lieu of Taxes is paid by the State Treasurer's Office following legislative appropriation.
Revenue Generation	None

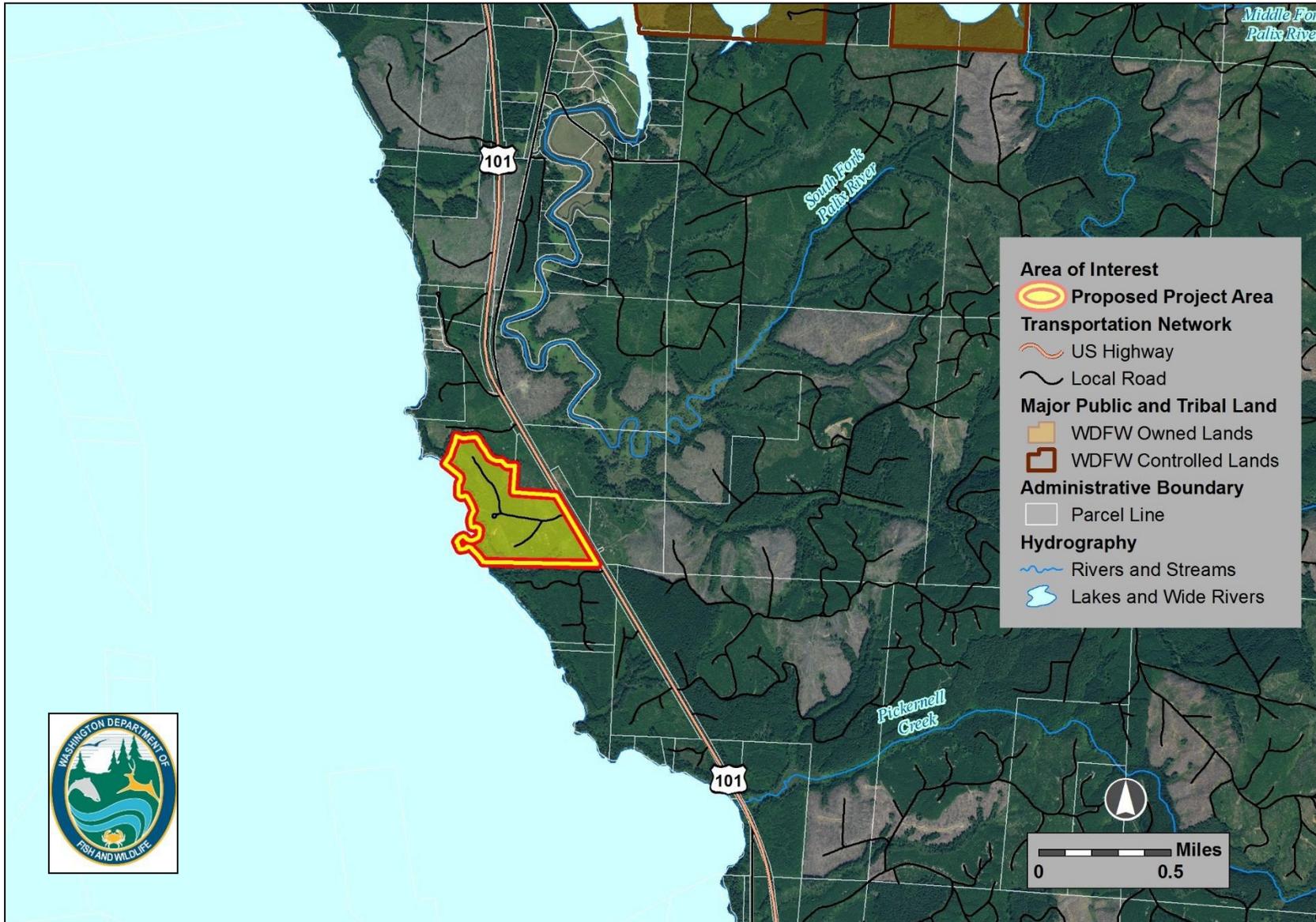
Pacific County Summary



- DFW

Proposed Acquisitions	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Nemah Tideland Access	DFW	103	\$1,000,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Water Access Category	19
Total		103	\$1,000,000			

Nemah Tidelands Access | DFW



Nemah Tidelands Access | DFW



Location: North of Naselle, off U.S. Highway 101 on Willapa Bay

Legislative District: 19

Local Government Support: Yes

Current Use: Private with some harvested tree areas

Partners: Volunteers at the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce, the Long beach interpretive center, the Nahcotta interpretive center, local business owners, the Friends of Willapa Bay

Financials	
Proposed Acres	103
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$1,000,000
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Water Access
Anticipated Future Costs	\$1,339 estimated annual operating costs for the site visits, routine weed control and property management, etc.
Revenue Generation	Discover Pass

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

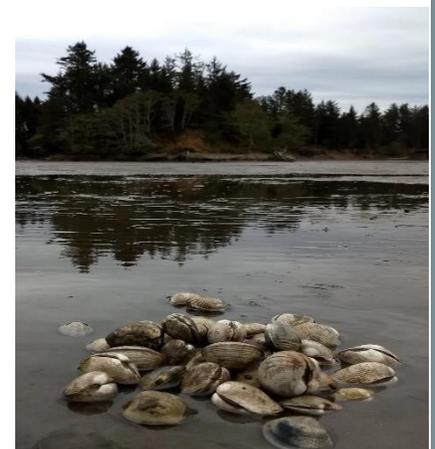
Acquisition will protect nearly 1 mile of shoreline on Willapa Bay in Pacific County for public recreation, including shellfish harvesting. The site will provide public access to one of the state’s largest tidelands, known for an abundance of hard shell clams.

Planning Link

Along with its recreational value, the project likely would benefit the local economy.

Project Outcome and Current Progress

Access for recreation, shell fishing, and possible hunting and wildlife viewing.



Pierce County Summary



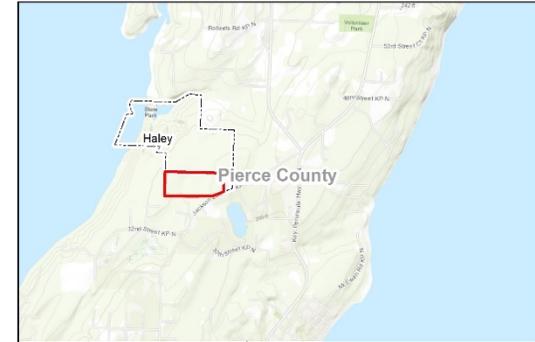
● State Parks

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Haley State Park Property– Haley Property	State Parks	38.7	\$462,835	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	26
	Total	38.7	\$462,835			

Haley State Park Property–Haley Property | State Parks

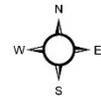


Haley State Park Property Anne Haley Property



Legend

- Acquisition Candidate
- Park Boundaries



Haley State Park Property–Haley Property | State Parks



Location: Next to the southern boundary of the Haley State Park property, near Vaughn

Legislative District: 26

Current Use: Undeveloped

Local Government Support: Yes

Partners: None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This 38.7-acre property is next to the southern boundary of Haley State Park property. The undeveloped, forested land is relatively flat and will be developed for public access, the first at this park.

Planning Link

The Anne Haley parcel is in the park’s designated long-term boundary.

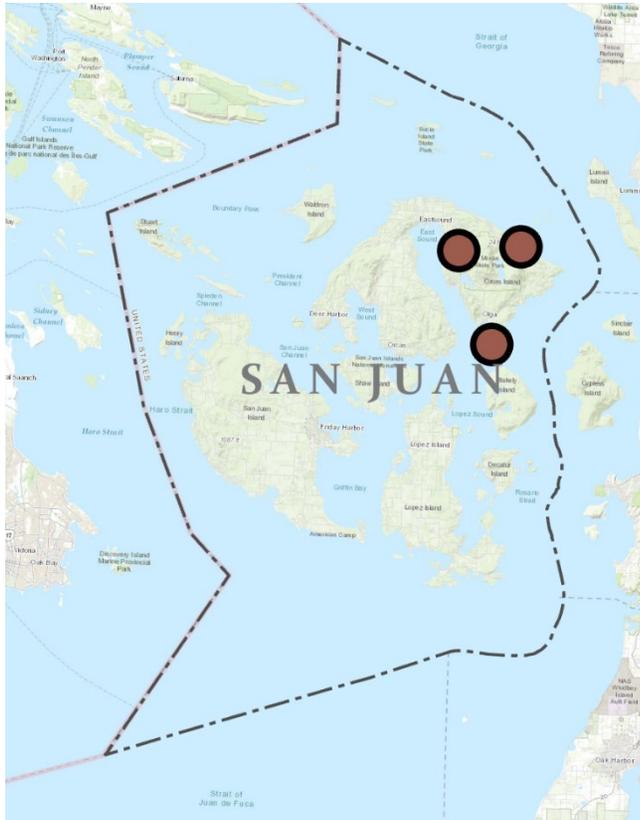
Project Outcome and Current Progress

Outcomes: Provides flat land for development of a trailhead and trail to the beach.

Progress: The land is privately owned and the owner is a willing seller.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	38.7
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$462,835
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	After development, the project is expected to cost about \$36,000 a biennium to operate. Additional capital costs also are expected, but not within 10 years.
Revenue Generation	The project will allow State Parks to begin collecting Discover Pass revenue from the Haley property, but revenue projections have not been developed yet.

San Juan County Summary



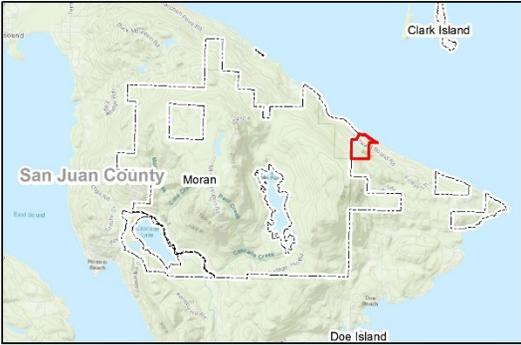
● State Parks

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Moran State Park–Wilcox Property	State Parks	55	\$1,636,400	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	40
Moran State Park–Youngren Property	State Parks	80	\$484,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	40
Obstruction Pass State Park–Spring Bay Property	State Parks	56	\$979,929	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	40
Total		191	\$3,100,329			

Moran State Park–Wilcox Property | State Parks



Moran State Park Wilcox Property



Legend

- Acquisition Candidate
- Park Boundaries



Moran State Park–Wilcox Property | State Parks



Location: Adjacent to the northeast boundary of Moran State Park, near Rosario

Legislative District: 40

Current Use: Undeveloped

Local Government Support: Yes

Partners: None

Financials	
Proposed Acres	55
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$1,636,400
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	No additional operating costs are expected.
Revenue Generation	None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This 55-acre property is next to the northeast boundary of Moran State Park, on Orcas Island. The land is on the park’s shoreline on the Strait of Georgia in the northeast corner of the park. Most of the shoreline along the strait is high-bank and by acquiring this property, State Parks will be able to extend the park’s trail system and allow visitors to walk to the water, which isn’t possible currently on park land.

Planning Link

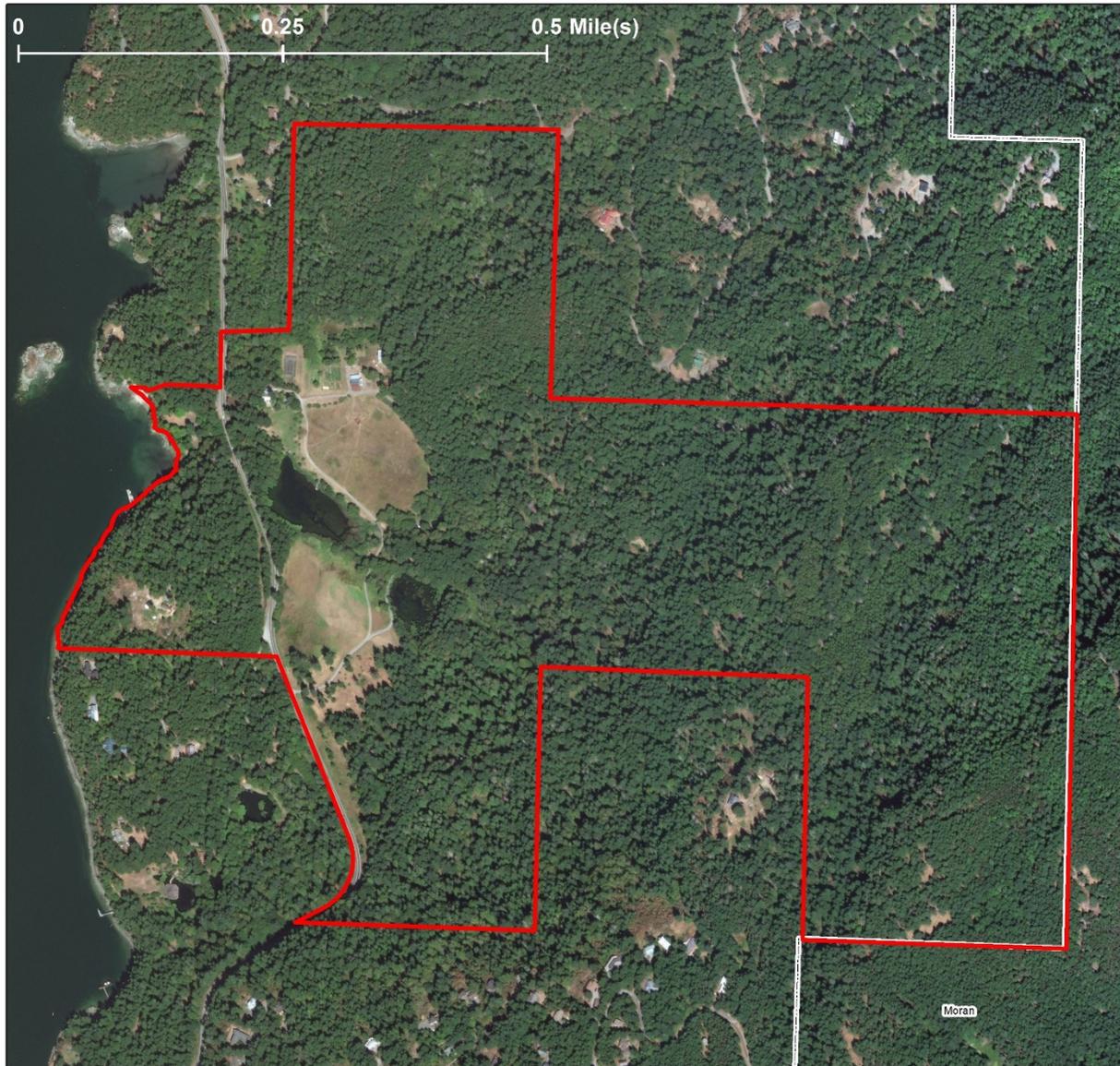
The Wilcox property is in the designated long-term boundary of Moran State Park.

Project Outcome and Current Progress

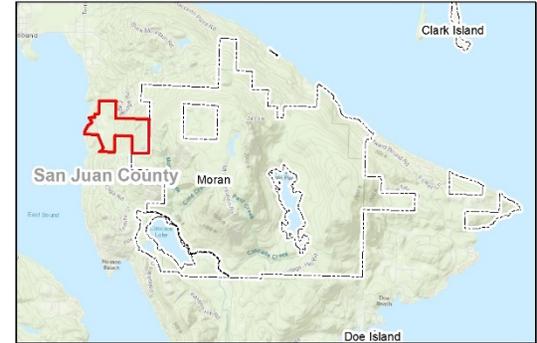
Outcomes: By acquiring this property, State Parks will be able to extend the park’s trail system and allow visitors to walk to the water, which isn’t possible within State Parks’ current ownership.

Progress: The land is privately owned and the owner is a willing seller.

Moran State Park–Youngren Property | State Parks

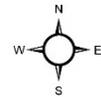


Moran State Park Youngren Property



Legend

-  Acquisition Candidate
-  Park Boundaries



Moran State Park–Youngren Property | State Parks



Location: Next to the western boundary of Moran State Park, near Rosario

Legislative District: 40

Current Use: Undeveloped

Local Government Support: Yes

Partners: There is a possible partnership with the Lummi Nation on trail access through this property and land the tribe is acquiring.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	80
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$484,000
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	None expected
Revenue Generation	None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This 80-acre property is next to the western boundary of Moran State Park on Orcas Island. State Parks will be able to secure and protect the view, and in the future provide a trailhead and trail from that side of the park to Mount Constitution. This project will provide land for future parking and trails connecting to the existing park trail system. With the trailhead located off Olga Road before the main entrance of the park, the project will provide relief to the park during periods of peak recreation demand.

Planning Link

The Youngren property is in the designated long-term boundary of Moran State Park.

Project Outcome and Current Progress

Outcomes: This acquisition will provide land for future parking and trails connecting to the existing park trail system.

Progress: The land is privately owned and the owner is a willing seller.

Obstruction Pass State Park–Spring Bay Property | State Parks

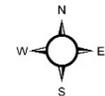


Obstruction Pass State Park Spring Bay Property



Legend

- Acquisition Candidate
- Park Boundaries



Obstruction Pass State Park–Spring Bay Property | State Parks



Location: Next to the eastern boundary of Obstruction Pass State Park, near Olga

Legislative District: 40

Current Use: Developed with small cabin

Local Government Support: Yes

Partners: None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This property is next to the eastern boundary of Obstruction Pass State Park. Nearly doubling the size of the park, the property will connect trails and extend the shoreline to Spring Bay. All of the shoreline in Obstruction State Park is high-bank and by acquiring this property State Parks will be able to provide access for visitors with disabilities to walk to the water, which is not possible with current ownership. This property also will provide access to Spring Bay for kayaking, beach exploration, wildlife viewing, and trail use. The forest areas will be managed for preservation, restoration, and interpretation.

Planning Link

The Spring Bay property is in the designated long-term boundary of Obstruction Pass State Park.

Project Outcome and Current Progress

Outcomes: Provides public access to Spring Bay waterfront for kayaking, beach exploration, wildlife viewing, and trail use. The forest areas will be managed for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of the natural forest processes.

Progress: The land is privately owned and the owner is a willing seller.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	56
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$979,929
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	State Parks does not anticipate additional capital or operating costs within 10 years. Once the whole property is acquired, there will be additional capital and operating costs, but they have not been estimated yet.
Revenue Generation	None expected within 10 years, but once the whole property is acquired, there would be additional Discover Pass and camping revenue expected.

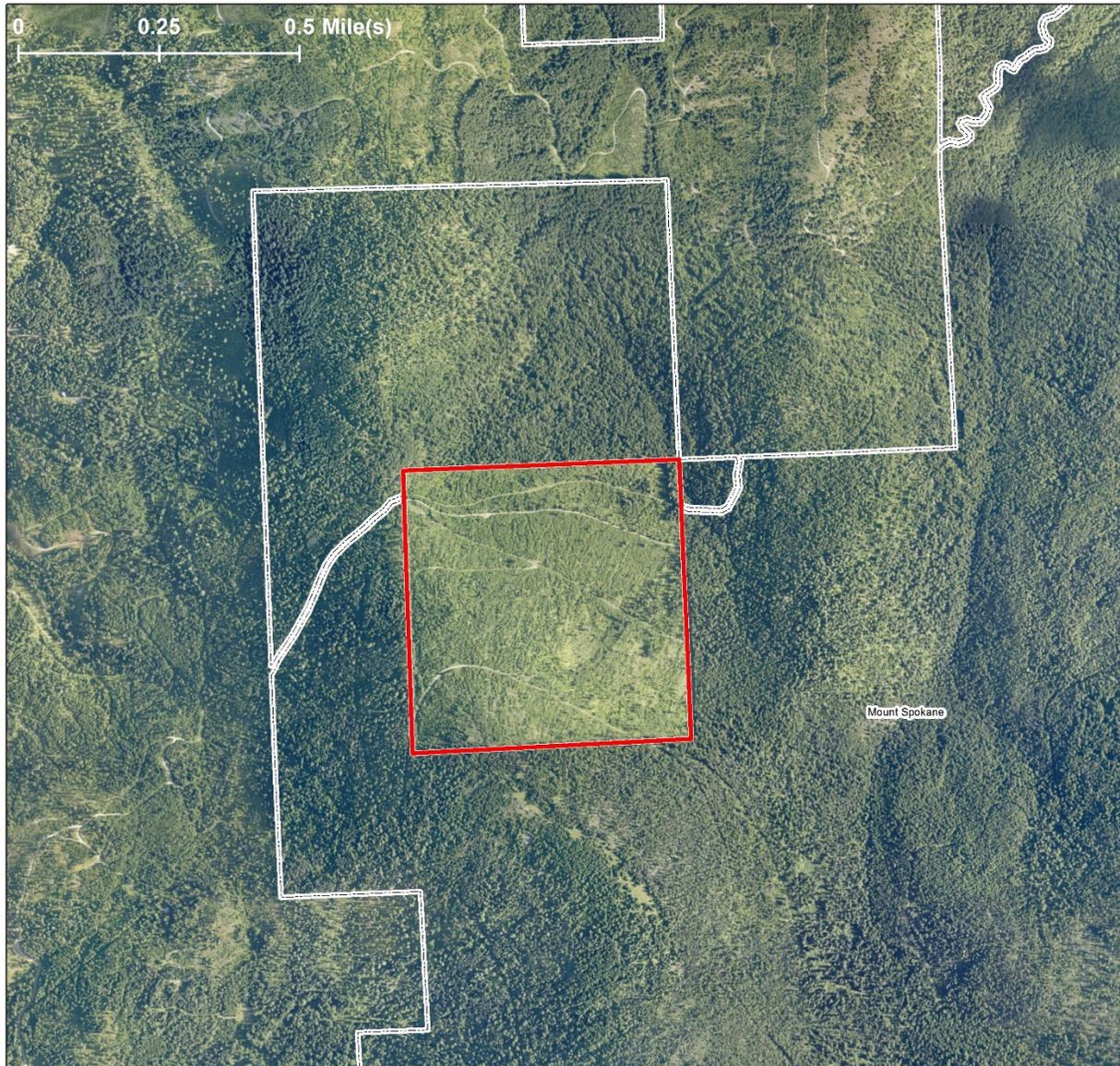
Spokane County Summary



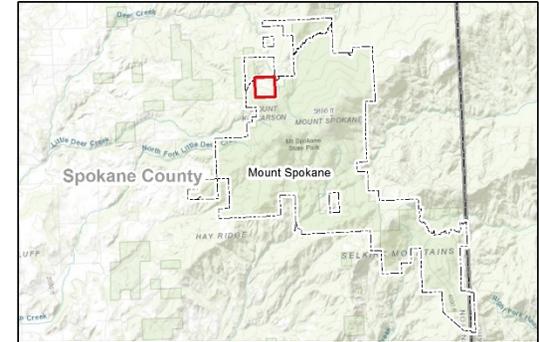
- State Parks

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Mount Spokane State Park– Day Mountain Property	State Parks	160	\$698,705	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category	4
Total		160	\$698,705			

Mount Spokane State Park–Day Mountain Property | State Parks

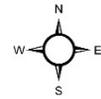


Mount Spokane State Park Day Mountain Property



Legend

-  Acquisition Candidate
-  Park Boundaries



Mount Spokane State Park–Day Mountain Property | State Parks



Location: Inholding in Mount Spokane State Park, near Spokane

Legislative District: 4

Current Use: Undeveloped

Local Government Support: Yes

Partners: None

Financials	
Proposed Acres	160
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$698,705
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: State Parks Category
Anticipated Future Costs	None expected
Revenue Generation	None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This 160-acre parcel is an inholding in Mount Spokane State Park. The parcels is completely surrounded by state park property. The land was identified in the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's proposed long-term boundary approved in 1999. The commission has authorized purchase of this land to ensure it remains available for recreation use and is not converted to a use incompatible with park purposes.

The parcel has been logged and contains a road and several recreation trails associated with the state park. The land has quality habitat and value for wildlife and with improved management will have greater significance and value to the park and region. The land is also the location of a 1962 plane crash.

Planning Link

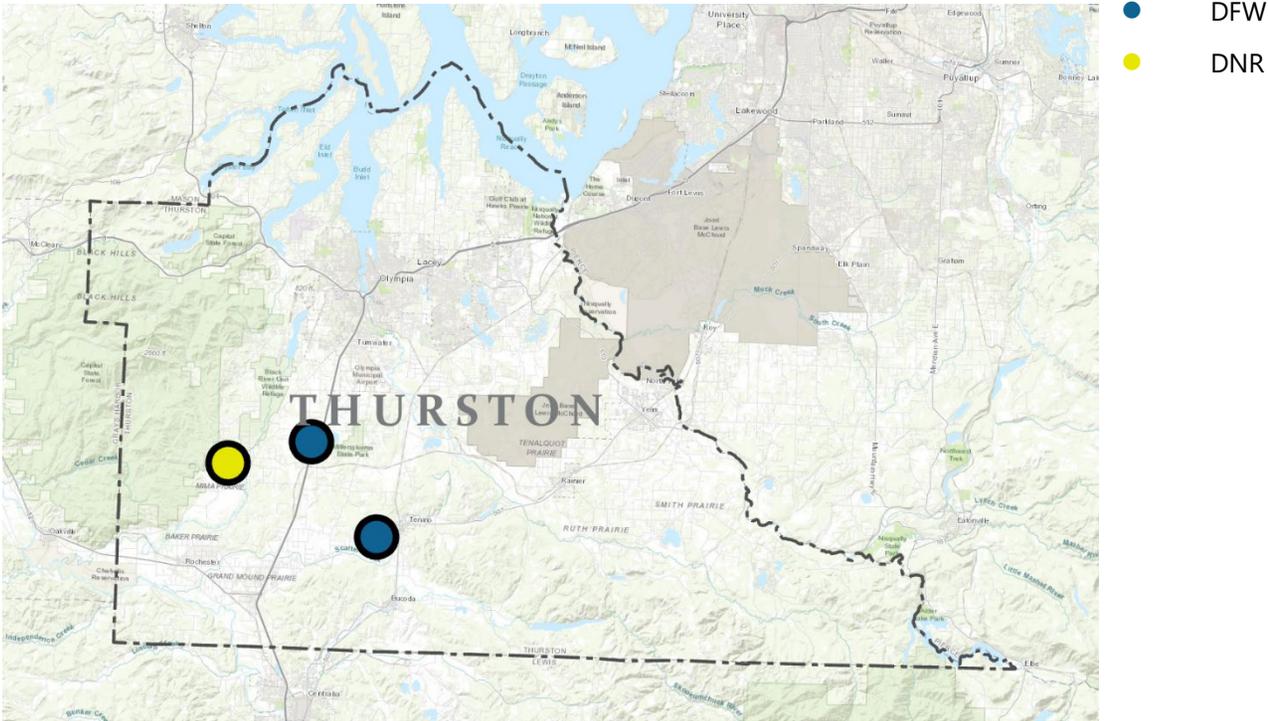
The Day Mountain property is in the designated long-term boundary of Mount Spokane State Park.

Project Outcome and Current Progress

Outcomes: This property will ensure the land remains available for recreation use and is not converted to a use incompatible with park purposes.

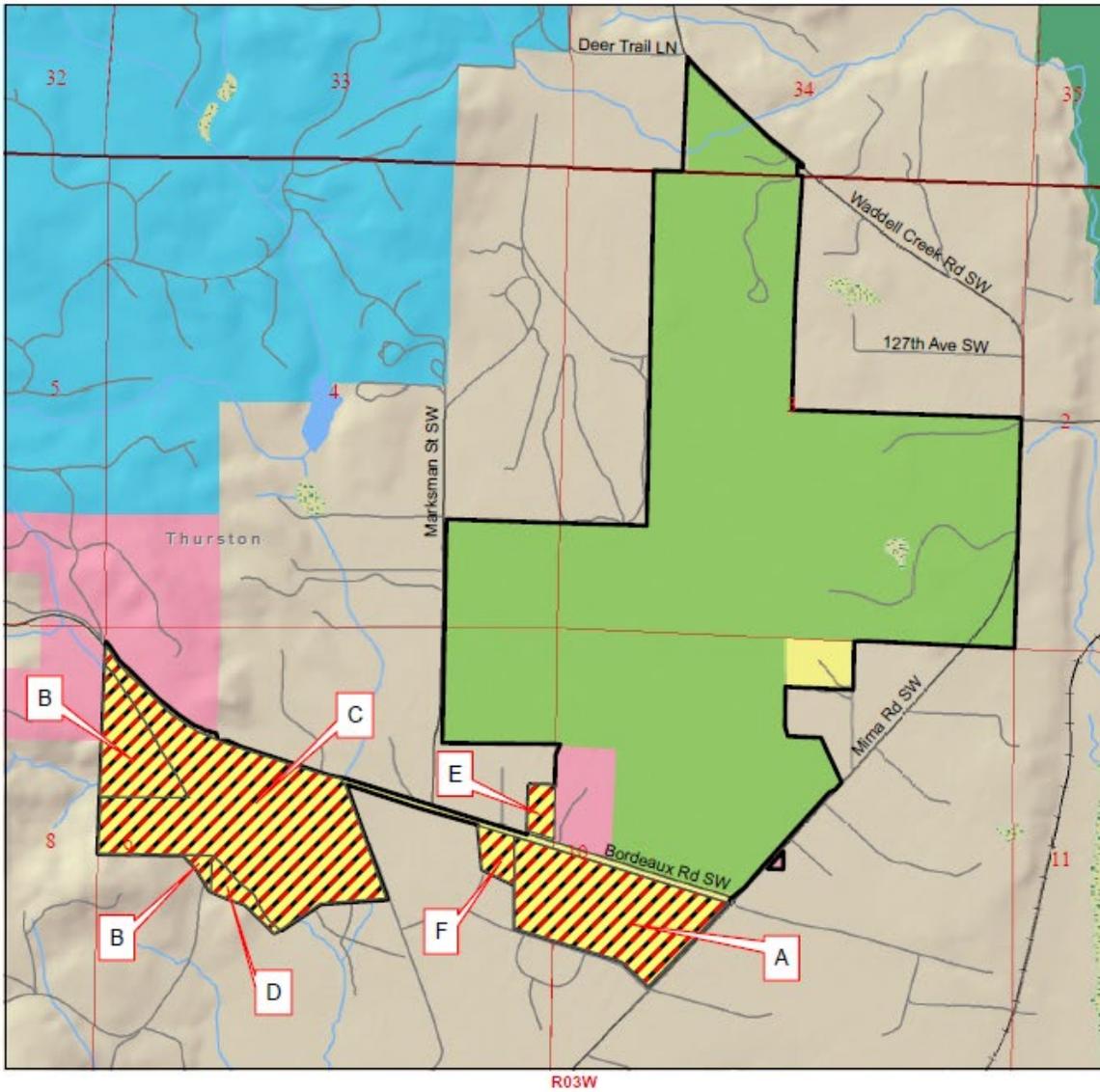
Progress: The land is privately owned and the owner is a willing seller.

Thurston County Summary



Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve	DNR	220.5	\$2,689,255	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category	20
Oregon Spotted Frog	DFW	138	\$1,100,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat Category	20
South Sound Prairie	DFW	930	\$3,000,000	Fee simple, easement	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat Category,	20
Total		1,288.5	\$6,789,255			

Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve | DNR



Puget Trough Ecoregion

MAP LEGEND

- NAP Boundary
- Natural Area Preserve
- Lands Eligible for Inclusion
- Granted Trust Lands
- Forest Board Trust Lands
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Priority Parcels for Acquisition

Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve | DNR



Location: West of Littlerock, Thurston County

Legislative District: 20

Current Use: Mounded prairie with oak stands and open shoreline

Local Government Support: County commissioners have been notified; no concerns have been expressed to DNR.

Partners: None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

Acquisition of 220.5 acres of oak woodland, prairie, and riparian habitat adjacent to the existing Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve. Prairie and oak woodland habitats are among the most threatened in Washington State, with only 3% of the historic prairie-oak landscape still intact. This preserve is one of the largest intact prairie sites left in western Washington and includes the last, best example of mounded prairie in the state. It is also recognized nationally, for its ecological and geological importance, as a National Natural Landmark.

Planning Link

Implements conservation priorities of the *State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan*. Management direction is provided by a site-specific management plan (1989).

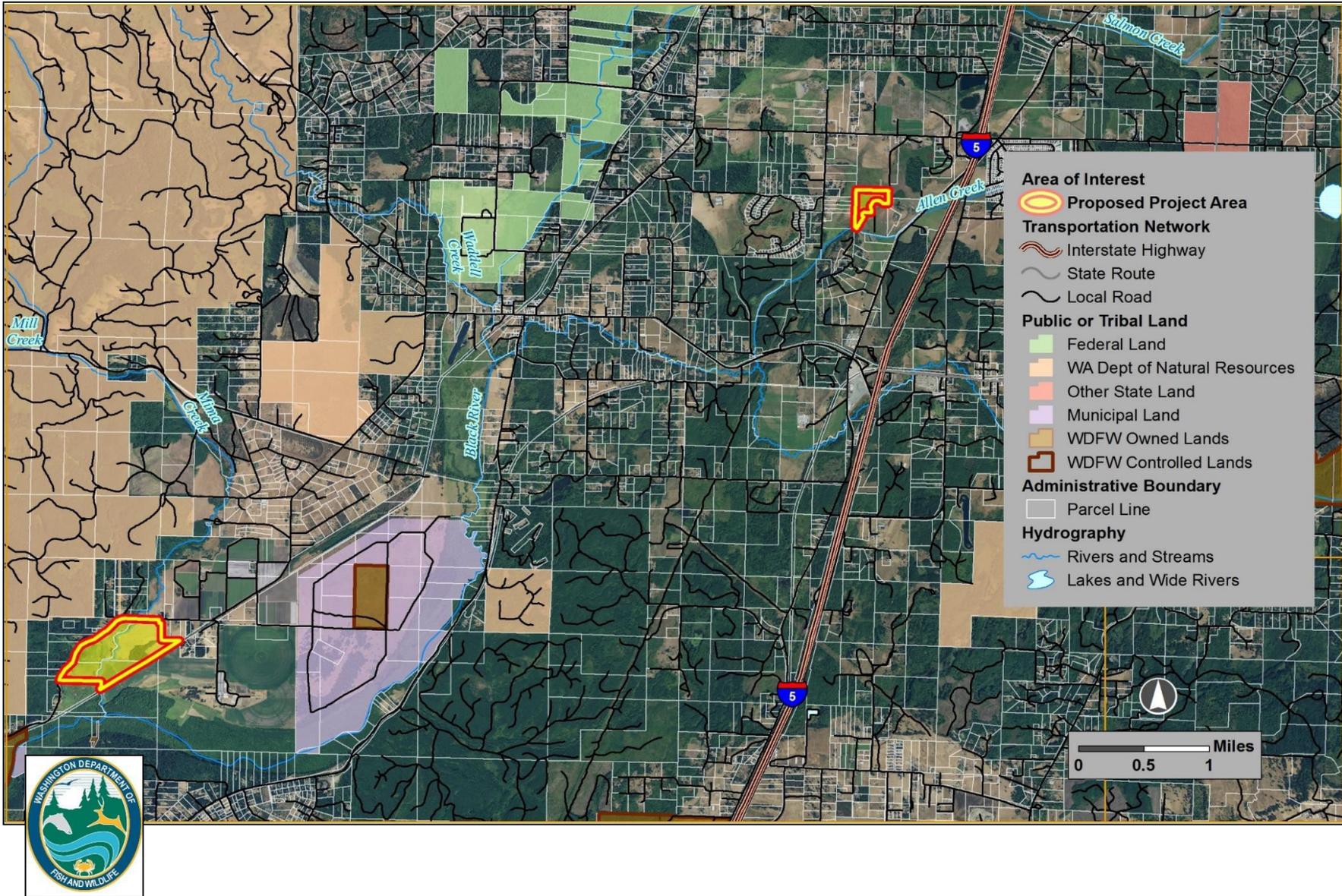
Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Outcomes: The prairie and oak habitats on the site support populations of a number of prairie-dependent butterflies and birds, including the Valley silverspot, Oregon branded skipper, western meadowlark, and savannah sparrow.

Progress: The department owns 641 acres in Natural Area Preserve designation.

Financials	
Proposed Acres	220.5
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$2,689,255
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$36,000 estimated biennial operating costs for weed control labor and materials; inspect for dumping / public safety / vandalism / theft; pay Fire Protection fee. The annual DNR Payment in Lieu of Taxes is paid by the State Treasurer's Office following legislative appropriation.
Revenue Generation	None

Oregon Spotted Frog Conservation | DFW



Oregon Spotted Frog Conservation | DFW



Location: South Thurston County

Legislative District: 20

Local Government Support:
Region has informed Thurston County commissioners.

Current Use: Private land

Partners: Center for Natural Lands Management, Capital Land Trust, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Financials	
Proposed Acres	138
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$1.1 million
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple one property, conservation easement on one property
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Urban Wildlife Habitat Category
Anticipated Future Costs	\$1,794 estimated annual operating costs for the site visits, routine weed control and property management etc.
Revenue Generation	Discover Pass

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This proposal will protect Oregon spotted frog nesting areas on two properties in Thurston County. The project uses a combination of conservation easement and fee title. Oregon spotted frog is listed as endangered by the state and threatened under federal law.

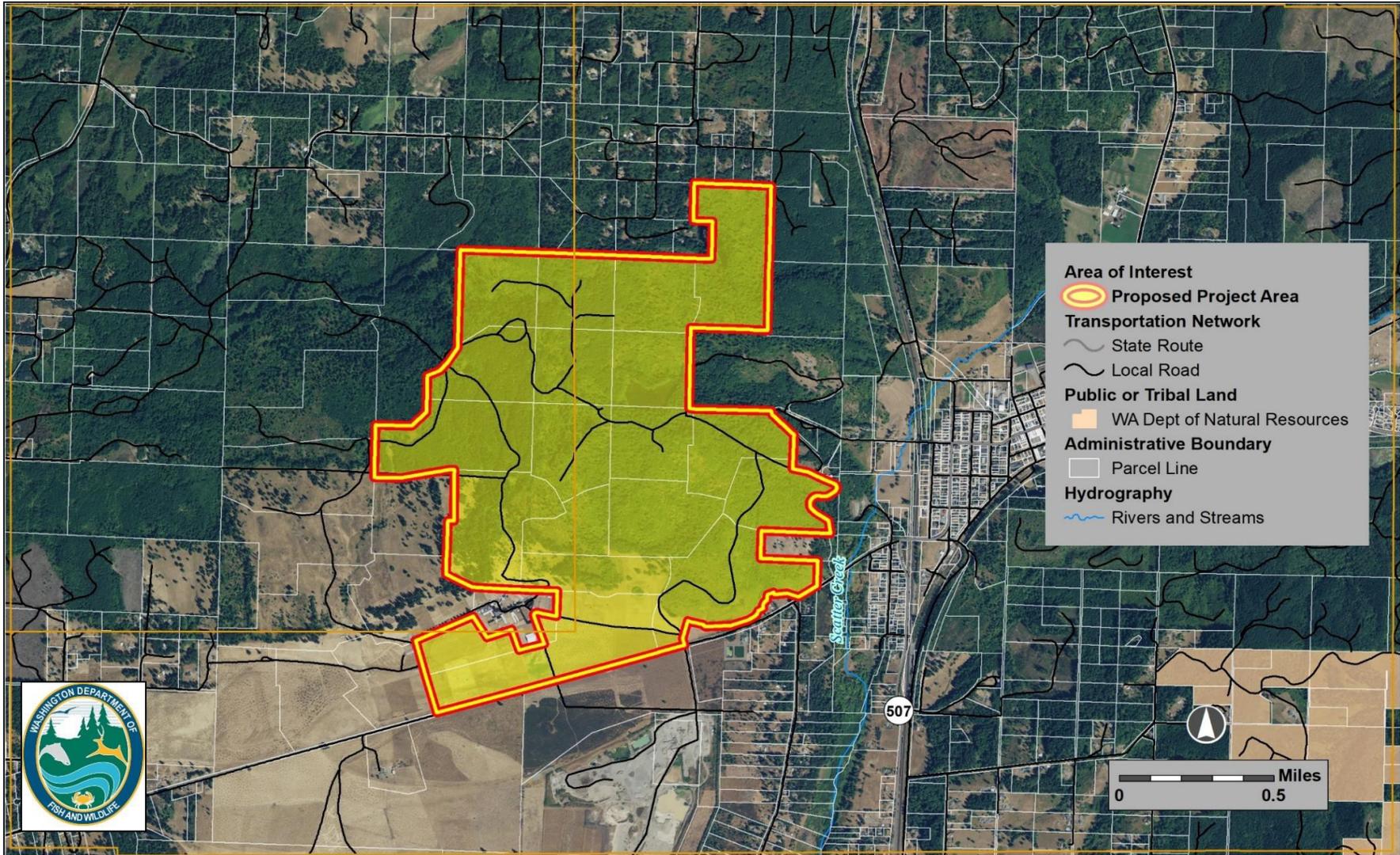
Planning Link

Managed as a part of the Scatter Creek Wildlife Area and will be included in its Wildlife Area Plan. Primary habitat management focus is restoration and maintenance of nesting Oregon spotted frog.

Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Permanent conservation, which allows ongoing compatible working land practices. Public access to be allowed on fee title property.

South Sound Prairies | DFW



South Sound Prairies | DFW



Location: South Thurston County

Legislative District: 20

Local Government Support: Region is conferring with Thurston County commissioners.

Current Use: Private property, agricultural fields

Partners: Sentinel Lands Working Group, which is made up of the Capital Land Trust, Center for Natural Land Management, Nisqually Land Trust, Thurston County, U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Financials	
Proposed Acres	930
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$3 million
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat Category
Anticipated Future Costs	\$12,090 estimated annual operating costs for the site visits, routine weed control, and property management etc.
Revenue Generation	Discover Pass

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This proposal is to acquire in fee title the first phase of a large property focused on the conservation of the South Puget Sound Prairies. Species conservation focuses on the Mazama pocket gopher and several species of butterfly. Acquisition of the property will enhance opportunities for habitat maintenance and restoration.

Planning Link

Next to the city of Tenino. Managed for prairie and oak habitat, freshwater wetlands, and shoreline habitats including critical habitat for Mazama pocket gopher, and Taylor’s checkerspot and Mardon skipper butterfly species.

Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Provides expanded prairie habitat for Mazama pocket gopher and butterfly species; increases opportunity for public recreation including hunting, wildlife viewing, and low-impact trails.



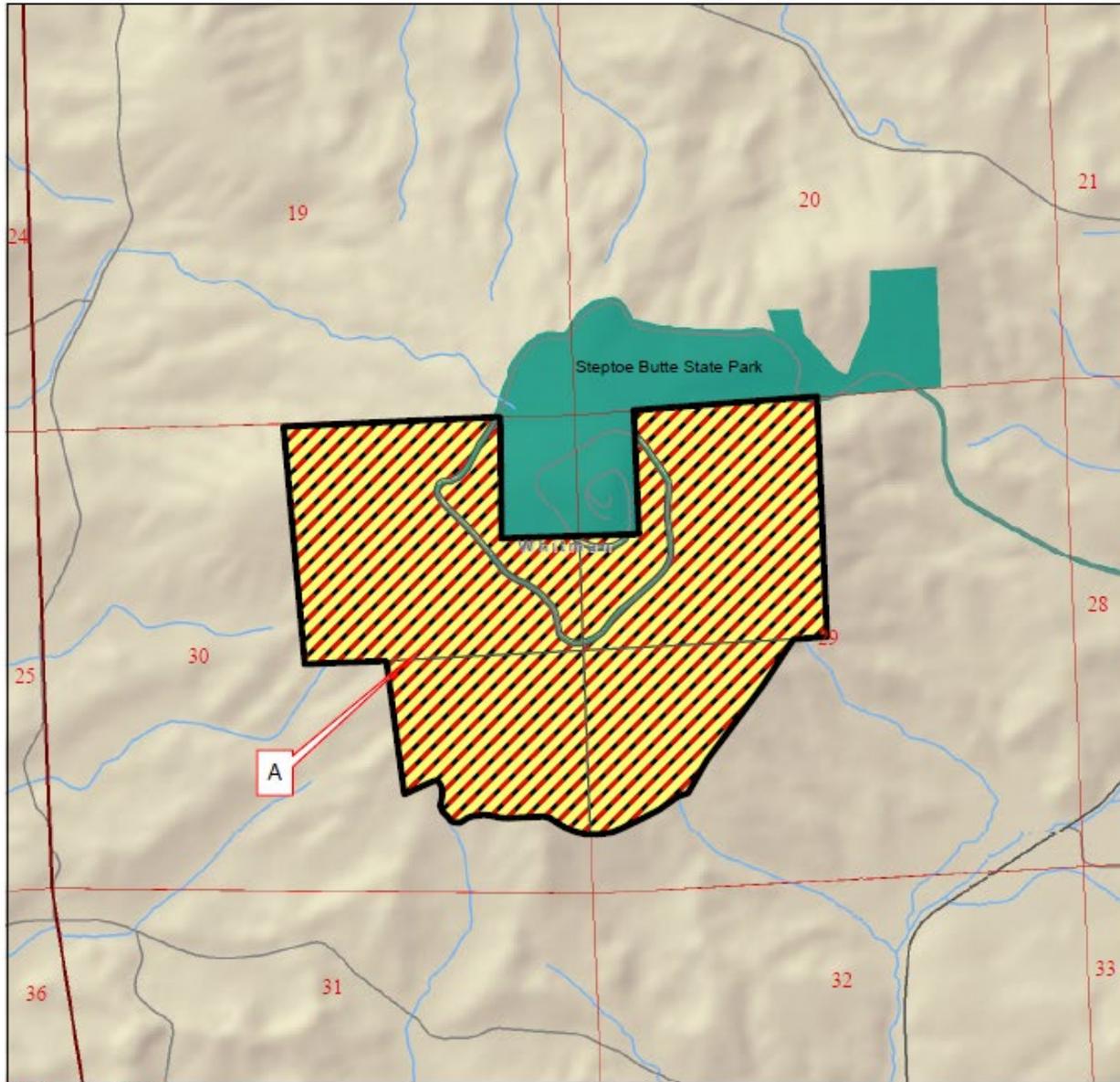
Whitman County Summary



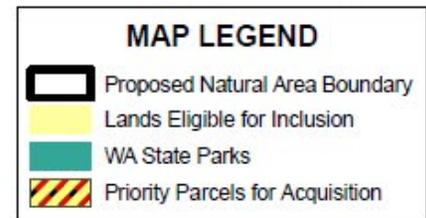
● DNR

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Step toe Butte Natural Area Preserve	DNR, State Parks	437	\$842,660	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category	9
Total		437	\$842,660			

Step toe Butte Natural Area Preserve | DNR and State Parks



Columbia Plateau Ecoregion



R43E R44E

Steptoe Butte Natural Area Preserve | DNR and State Parks



Location: This site is next to the Steptoe Butte State Park.

Legislative District: 9

Current Use: Recreation, education, and research.

Local Government Support: DNR staff have discussed the project with the county commissioners. Commissioners are supportive and want the public to be able to continue to visit and enjoy the site as they have traditionally been able to do.

Partners: Washington State Parks

Financials	
Proposed Acres	437
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$842,660
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Natural Areas Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$46,000 estimated biennial operating costs for weed control labor and materials; inspect for dumping / public safety / vandalism / theft; pay Fire Protection fee. The annual DNR Payment in Lieu of Taxes is paid by the State Treasurer's Office following legislative appropriation.
Revenue Generation	None

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

Acquisition of 437 acres at Steptoe Butte, adjacent to Steptoe Butte State Park, in Whitman County. If acquired by DNR, the parcels will be designated as a Natural Area Preserve or Natural Resources Conservation Area, protecting the largest known remaining occurrence of Palouse prairie in Washington.

Planning Link

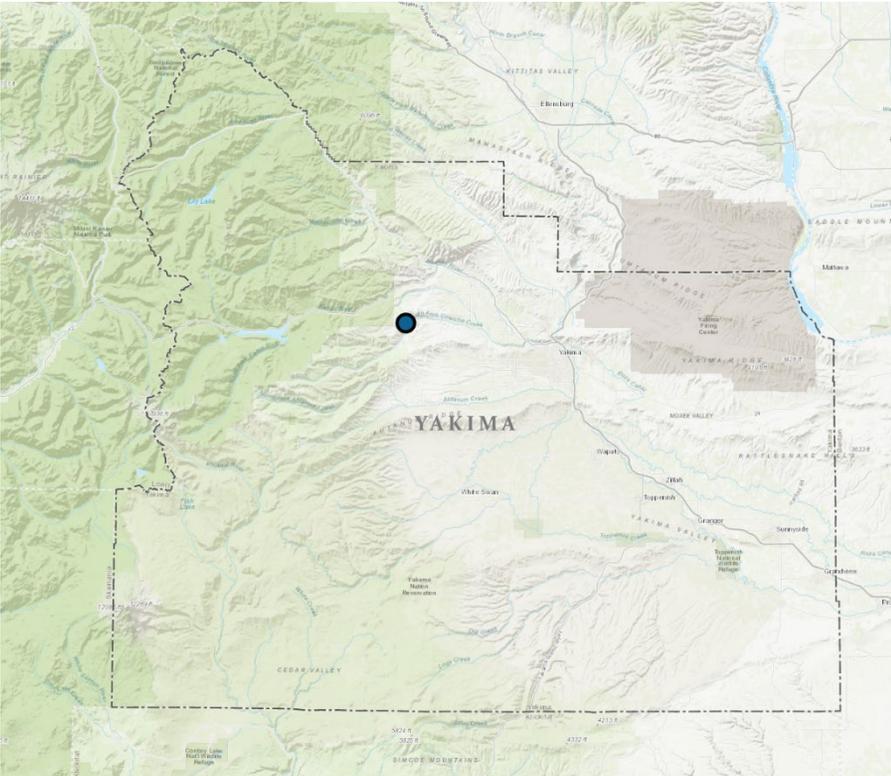
Implements conservation priorities of the *State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan*. Management direction would initially be provided by the *State of Washington Natural Resources Conservation Areas Statewide Management Plan*.

Project Outcomes and Current Progress

Outcomes: Habitat for endangered, threatened, or sensitive species and ecosystems. Protect or restore ecological processes.

Progress: Scope of boundary designation is under review.

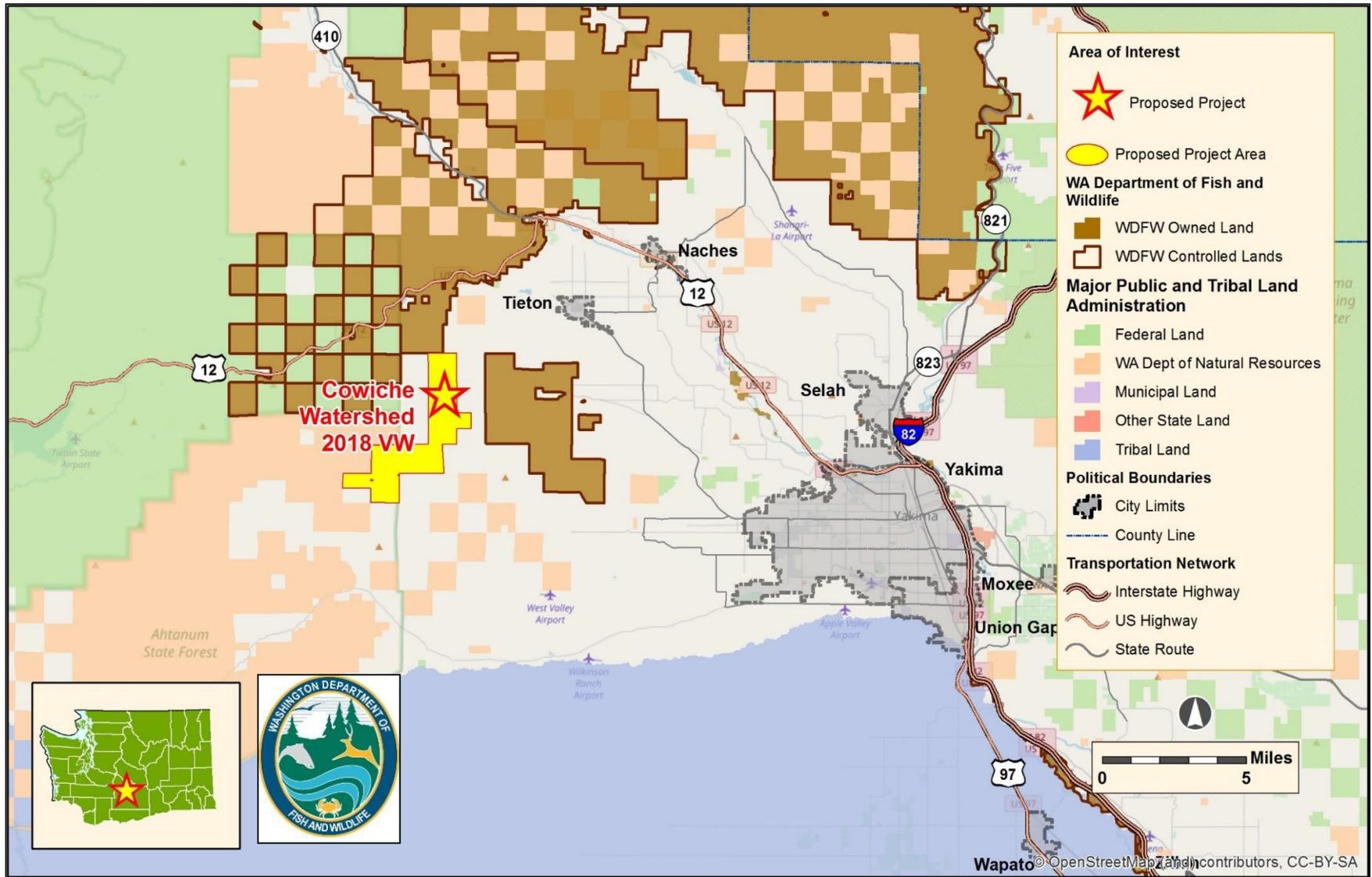
Yakima County Summary



- DFW

Proposed Acquisition	Agency	Proposed Acres	Proposed Cost	Acquisition Type	Proposed Funding Source	Legislative District
Cowiche Watershed	DFW	4,488	\$4,000,000	Fee simple	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat Category	14
Total		4,488	\$4,000,000			

Cowiche Watershed | DFW



Cowiche Watershed | DFW



Location: Northwest of Yakima

Legislative District: 14

Local Government Support:

Ongoing conferral with Yakima County commissioners

Current Use: Grazing, forest management, recreation

Partners: Cowiche Canyon Conservancy, Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Lands, U.S. Forest Service, Wild Sheep Foundation, Yakima County

Financials	
Proposed Acres	4,488
Proposed Acquisition Cost	\$4 million
Type of Acquisition	Fee simple
Proposed Funding Source	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Critical Habitat Category
Anticipated Future Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$58,344 estimated annual operating costs for the site visits, routine weed control, property management, etc. \$21,228 annual Payment in Lieu of Taxes to the county
Revenue Generation	Discover Pass

Proposed Project Description and Purpose

This project is a key location between two department wildlife area units (Cowiche and Oak Creek) and is next to other public lands. The area contains large parcels of valuable habitats found in the shrub steppe/forest transitional zone including: shrub steppe, stream, aspen, oak woodlands, and big game winter range. These priority habitats meet the needs of target species including: raptors, bats, woodpeckers, mid-Columbia steelhead, mule deer, and elk. The area supports strong public recreation including hunting, wildlife viewing, camping, hiking, and mountain biking.

Planning Link

Connects two wildlife units. Will be managed as part of the Cowiche Wildlife Area as a vital migration corridor for big game.

Project Outcomes

Increased opportunity for public recreation such as hiking and hunting. Enhances habitat for big game winter range.

5 | ENDNOTES

Endnotes

¹⁻⁴Washington Recreation and Conservation Office. (2014). *Washington Public Lands Inventory: Final Report*. Retrieved from: www.rco.wa.gov/doc_pages/other_pubs.shtml.

⁵Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, *Economic Analysis of Outdoor Recreation in Washington State*, Retrieved from www.rco.wa.gov/documents/ORTF/EconomicAnalysisOutdoorRec.pdf.

⁶Revised Code of Washington 79A.05

⁷Revised Code of Washington 79A.05