

**Grants Awarded**  
**Farmland Preservation Category**  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type <sup>1</sup>	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Grant Award
1	49.00	20-1573 A	Methow Conservancy	Wolf Creek Agricultural Conservation Easement Phase 1	\$1,140,000	\$1,189,046	\$2,329,046	\$1,140,000
2	48.60	20-1681 A	Jefferson Land Trust	Natembea Farm Preservation	\$430,000	\$530,800	\$960,800	\$430,000
3	47.40	20-1405 A	Jefferson Land Trust	Hannan Farm	\$255,000	\$319,800	\$574,800	\$255,000
4	46.40	20-1493 A	Okanogan Land Trust	Synarep Rangeland	\$527,301	\$644,479	\$1,171,780	\$527,301
5	45.60	20-1546 A	Conservation Commission	Thornton Ranch Agricultural Easement	\$916,713		\$916,713	\$916,713
5	45.60	20-1781 A	Okanogan Land Trust	Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch	\$204,596	\$250,062	\$454,658	\$204,596
7	44.00	20-1230 A	Forterra	Upper Naneum Creek Farm	\$299,500	\$366,084	\$665,584	\$299,500
8	43.20	20-1619 A	Okanogan Land Trust	Teas Ranch	\$109,265	\$133,547	\$242,812	\$109,265
9	42.80	20-1584 A	Whatcom County	VanderWerff Agricultural Conservation Easement	\$113,775	\$113,775	\$227,550	\$113,775
9	42.80	20-1624 A	Blue Mountain Land Trust	Allen Family Ranch Farmland Preservation Easement	\$377,300	\$377,300	\$754,600	Not Eligible <sup>2</sup>
11	42.00	20-1817 A	Blue Mountain Land Trust	Leland Farmland Preservation Easement	\$240,800	\$240,800	\$481,600	Not Eligible <sup>2</sup>
12	39.80	20-1547 A	Conservation Commission	Hoch Family Farm Agricultural Easement	\$504,539		\$504,539	\$504,539
13	37.40	20-1435 A	Blue Mountain Land Trust	Peyton Ranch Conservation Easement	\$743,300	\$743,300	\$1,486,600	\$743,300
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$5,862,089</b>	<b>\$4,908,993</b>	<b>\$10,771,082</b>	<b>\$5,243,989</b>

<sup>1</sup>Project type: A=Acquisition

<sup>2</sup>Grant applicant did not certify match. Project is not eligible for funding.

**Preliminary Ranking**  
**Farmland Preservation Category**  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
1	49	20-1573 A	Methow Conservancy	Wolf Creek Agricultural Conservation Easement Phase 1	\$1,140,000	\$1,189,046	\$2,329,046
2	48.6	20-1681 A	Jefferson Land Trust	Natembea Farm Preservation	\$430,000	\$530,800	\$960,800
3	47.4	20-1405 A	Jefferson Land Trust	Hannan Farm	\$255,000	\$319,800	\$574,800
4	46.4	20-1493 A	Okanogan Land Trust	Synarep Rangeland	\$527,301	\$644,479	\$1,171,780
5	45.6	20-1546 A	Conservation Commission	Thornton Ranch Agricultural Easement	\$916,713		\$916,713
5	45.6	20-1781 A	Okanogan Land Trust	Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch	\$204,596	\$250,062	\$454,658
7	44	20-1230 A	Forterra	Upper Naneum Creek Farm	\$299,500	\$366,084	\$665,584
8	43.2	20-1619 A	Okanogan Land Trust	Teas Ranch	\$109,265	\$133,547	\$242,812
9	42.8	20-1584 A	Whatcom County	VanderWerff Agricultural Conservation Easement	\$113,775	\$113,775	\$227,550
9	42.8	20-1624 A	Blue Mountain Land Trust	Allen Family Ranch Farmland Preservation Easement	\$377,300	\$377,300	\$754,600
11	42	20-1817 A	Blue Mountain Land Trust	Leland Farmland Preservation Easement	\$240,800	\$240,800	\$481,600
12	39.8	20-1547 A	Conservation Commission	Hoch Family Farm Agricultural Easement	\$504,539		\$504,539
13	37.4	20-1435 A	Blue Mountain Land Trust	Peyton Ranch Conservation Easement	\$743,300	\$743,300	\$1,486,600
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$5,862,089</b>	<b>\$4,908,993</b>	<b>\$10,771,082</b>

**Evaluation Scores**  
**Farmland Preservation Category**  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Viability of the Site	2. Threat to the Land	3. Access to Markets	4. On-site Infrastructure	5. Building Envelope	6. Farmland Stewardship	7. Stewardship Practices	8. Benefits to the Community	9. Community Support	10. Match	11. Easement Duration	Total
		Point Range	0-16	0-10	0-4	0-4	0-4	0-6	0-2	0-6	0-2	0-2	-10-0	
1	20-1573 A	Wolf Creek Agricultural Conservation Easement Phase 1	15.20	9.20	3.40	4.00	3.60	4.40	2.00	5.20	2.00	0.00	0.00	49.00
2	20-1681 A	Natembea Farm Preservation	14.60	8.00	3.60	3.40	3.40	4.60	1.60	5.60	1.80	2.00	0.00	48.60
3	20-1405 A	Hannan Farm	14.40	7.00	3.40	3.40	3.40	5.40	1.80	4.60	2.00	2.00	0.00	47.40
4	20-1493 A	Synarep Rangeland	13.20	7.00	3.40	3.80	4.00	4.40	2.00	4.60	2.00	2.00	0.00	46.40
5	20-1546 A	Thornton Ranch Agricultural Easement	14.60	7.80	3.60	3.60	2.80	4.80	2.00	4.60	1.80	0.00	0.00	45.60
5	20-1781 A	Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch	13.80	6.80	3.80	2.40	3.60	4.40	1.80	5.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	45.60
7	20-1230 A	Upper Naneum Creek Farm	12.80	7.20	3.20	3.80	3.60	3.80	1.80	3.80	2.00	2.00	0.00	44.00
8	20-1619 A	Teas Ranch	12.80	6.00	3.60	3.80	3.60	4.20	1.60	3.60	2.00	2.00	0.00	43.20
9	20-1584 A	VanderWerff Agricultural Conservation Easement	13.00	8.00	3.80	4.00	2.60	4.20	1.60	3.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	42.80
9	20-1624 A	Allen Family Ranch Farmland Preservation Easement	13.40	5.60	3.40	3.60	3.60	5.00	2.00	4.20	2.00	0.00	0.00	42.80
11	20-1817 A	Leland Farmland Preservation Easement	13.60	6.80	3.40	2.20	3.40	4.60	1.80	4.20	2.00	0.00	0.00	42.00
12	20-1547 A	Hoch Family Farm Agricultural Easement	12.00	8.00	3.20	3.00	3.20	3.40	1.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	39.80
13	20-1435 A	Peyton Ranch Conservation Easement	12.40	5.20	3.40	1.20	3.80	4.00	2.00	3.40	2.00	0.00	0.00	37.40

## **Methow Conservancy**

**Grant Requested: \$1,140,000**

### **Conserving a Farm on Wolf Creek Road in the Methow Valley**

The Methow Conservancy will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to permanently protect 390 acres that have been a farm for more than 100 years in the Methow Valley. The farm contains high-quality soils and senior water rights, which will be tied to the land forever as part of the agreement. The conservancy will keep two farmsteads but will prevent further development on the land, part of which is zoned for 5-acre parcels and part of which is in a Planned Destination Resort Zone. Conserving the land also will protect signature scenic views along the Methow Community Trail and will protect wetlands that provide habitat for a wide range of wildlife. The Methow Conservancy will contribute more than \$1.1 million in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1573)

## **Jefferson Land Trust**

**Grant Requested: \$430,000**

### **Conserving Port Townsend's Largest Farm**

The Jefferson Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to permanently protect 77 acres of Natemba Farm, which is on Port Townsend's city limits. The purchase will preserve the prime agricultural soils and productivity, wetlands, and the scenic character of the largest farm in Port Townsend. Natemba Farm provides land to six diverse operations that produce vegetables, fruit and nut trees, flowers, goat meat, and beef for local markets. Additional products include pickles, relish, preserves, and herbs. The agreement will prevent the majority of future development and help ensure there is prime farmland available for food production near Jefferson County's largest population center. The Jefferson Land Trust will contribute \$530,800 in Conservation Futures<sup>1</sup> and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1681)

## **Jefferson Land Trust**

**Grant Requested: \$255,000**

### **Conserving the Hannan Farm**

The Jefferson Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to permanently protect the 115-acre Hannan Farm, 4 miles south of Chimacum. The agreement will preserve permanently one of the largest historical working farms in the Chimacum watershed by preventing subdivision of the land and future development. The agreement also will help protect nearly 1 mile of Chimacum Creek and seasonal streams. The farm is designated as farmland of statewide importance and has prime

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<sup>1</sup>Conservation Futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areas, forests, wetlands, and farms.

# Farmland Preservation Category

## Project Summaries (In Rank Order)

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soils, salmon spawning habitat in Chimacum Creek, and scenic open space. The mother and daughter landowners are raising cattle and hay crops. The Jefferson Land Trust will contribute \$319,800 in local and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1405)

### **Okanogan Land Trust**

**Grant Requested: \$527,301**

#### **Conserving the Synarep Rangeland in the Tunk Valley**

The Okanogan Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve permanently 2,904 acres of ranchland in the Tunk Valley, about 15 miles northeast of Riverside. The Synarep rangeland hosts a successful grazing operation and is designated as both farmland of statewide importance and farmland of unique importance. It also is important for wildlife. The land supports some of the most robust active sharp-tail leks in Washington State, is important for mule deer and Canada Lynx movement, and is an integral part of one of the largest remaining blocks of shrub steppe habitat in north central Washington. The Okanogan Land Trust will contribute \$644,479 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1493)

### **Washington State Conservation Commission**

**Grant Requested: \$916,713**

#### **Conserving the Thornton Ranch**

The State Conservation Commission will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve the 107.7-acre Thornton Ranch, a livestock and hay ranch near Cowiche. The land has prime farmland soils and is considered both farmland of statewide importance and farmland of unique importance. The ranch is bisected by more than a half-mile of Cowiche Creek, which is home to steelhead trout and Chinook and coho salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1546)

### **Okanogan Land Trust**

**Grant Requested: \$204,596**

#### **Conserving the Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch in the Tunk Valley**

The Okanogan Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve forever the 1,051-acre Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch in the Tunk Valley, about 15 miles northeast of Riverside. The land contains significant prime farmland soils and is designated as both farmland of statewide and unique importance. The current farmer is the second generation to own the property, and the agreement would enable the family to solidify its ranching operation and pass it on to future generations, free from development pressures. The ranch provides habitat for sharp-tail grouse, elk, moose, bear, deer, and a wide variety of birds. It also is important for mule deer and Canada Lynx movement.

## Farmland Preservation Category Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



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The Okanogan Land Trust will contribute \$250,061 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1781)

**Forterra** **Grant Requested: \$299,500**  
**Conserving Forever the Upper Naneum Creek Farm**

Forterra will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also known as a conservation easement, to conserve forever the 150-acre Upper Naneum Creek Farm, northeast of Ellensburg. With excellent soils, adequate water rights, significant acreage, and southern exposure, the farm is ideally suited for long-term agricultural use. Currently, the farm is irrigated pasture but is capable of supporting crops, pasture, and rangeland. The farm includes about 43 acres of important shrub steppe habitat, which is excluded from grazing and reserved for wildlife. The agreement will allow for future habitat improvements for wildlife and steelhead trout, which are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. Forterra will contribute \$366,084 in federal and local grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1230)

**Okanogan Land Trust** **Grant Requested: \$109,265**  
**Conserving the Teas Ranch in the Okanogan Highlands**

The Okanogan Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve forever 445 acres of agricultural land in the Okanogan Highlands, about 25 miles northeast of Tonasket. The Teas Ranch contains significant prime farmland soils and is designated as farmland of statewide importance. It also lies in an area designated as grasslands of special significance. The land has been in agricultural production for more than 100 years, and the owner is a fourth-generation rancher. The agreement would enable the owner to solidify the ranching operation and pass it on to the next generations, free from development pressures. The ranch provides habitat for elk, moose, bear, deer, and a wide variety of birds. The agreement also would preserve the scenic beauty of the landscape, including views of nearby Muskrat Lake and a historic homestead. The Okanogan Land Trust will contribute \$133,547 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest, and. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1619)

**Whatcom County** **Grant Requested: \$113,775**  
**Conserving the VanderWerff Farm near Bellingham**

Whatcom County will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 19.77 acres of prime agricultural soils on the VanderWerff property, 8 miles northeast of Bellingham. The VanderWerff family farm raises cattle, pigs, and

## Farmland Preservation Category Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



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riding horses. The farm is next to farmland already conserved. Whatcom County will contribute \$113,775 in Conservation Futures.<sup>2</sup> Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1584)

### **Blue Mountain Land Trust Conserving the Allen Family Ranch**

**Grant Requested: \$377,300**

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 941 acres of the 2,005-acre Allen Family Ranch outside Dayton. The ranch has prime farmland soil and is designated as farmland of statewide significance. It also contains habitat at the headwaters of north Patit Creek and straddles the ridge between the Patit Creek and Tucannon River basins. The ranch abuts the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area and would provide habitat connectivity between the wildlife area and the Blue Mountains. This project is part of a larger project to conserve three properties next to the wildlife area. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$377,300 in private and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1624)

### **Blue Mountain Land Trust Conserving the Blue Mountain Ranch**

**Grant Requested: \$240,800**

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 562 acres of the 2,593-acre Blue Mountain Ranch, which lies between Stevens Ridge, Pataha Creek Canyon, and the W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area. The ranch, which produces canola and wheat, has prime farmland soil and is designated as farmland of statewide significance. This project is part of a larger effort to conserve three properties next to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area to provide contiguous open space. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$240,800 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1817)

### **Washington State Conservation Commission Conserving the Hoch Family Farm in Kennewick**

**Grant Requested: \$504,539**

The State Conservation Commission will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve a nearly 26-acre farm in Kennewick. The farm, which is used for raising livestock and produce, has important silt loam soils and has been farmed since the 1930s. Through a partnership with Washington State University, the landowner has opened the farm to students for education and research purposes.

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<sup>2</sup>Conservation Futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areas, forests, wetlands, and farms.

# Farmland Preservation Category Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



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Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#)  
(20-1547)

## **Blue Mountain Land Trust Conserving the Peyton Ranch**

**Grant Requested: \$743,300**

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve a 1,947-acre ranch. The ranch contains the headwaters of north Patit Creek and straddles the ridge between the Patit Creek and Tucannon River basins. The agreement will ensure the grazing land remains in agricultural use and that the ranch can't be subdivided. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$743,300 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1435)