

# BIENNIAL STATE LAND ACQUISITION PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT 2023

## HABITAT AND RECREATION LANDS COORDINATING GROUP



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November 2023

# INTRODUCTION

## State Habitat and Recreation Land Acquisitions

The percentage of public, natural resource lands owned by Washington State accounts for 9 percent of all lands in the state, according to a 2015 study of the economic impact of public lands by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee. These natural resource lands include those used for recreation and habitat and as trust land.

State agencies buy land to protect important state resources such as habitat for threatened and endangered species and outdoor recreation opportunities. As population increases, so does the need to preserve the land and its resources for future generations. These lands can serve multiple state objectives, such as protecting habitat and supporting working farms.

State habitat and recreation land acquisitions are strategic and flexible. They are strategic because each acquisition must meet priorities identified in an agency's plan to compete for grants. They also must meet detailed grant program evaluation criteria. These state agency and grant program priorities ensure that the best state habitat and recreation lands are acquired.

State agencies must be flexible because the purchases are from willing sellers. Landowners may have a variety of motivations for selling, including price and a desire to protect the land into the future. Agencies have some tools to make purchase offers more desirable, such as purchasing conservation easements that allow the seller to remain on the property or to continue using the land for farming or ranching. Some constraints limit agencies' flexibility, such as the law against offering more than fair market value.

With an increasing demand for public accountability, it is more important than ever to ensure that each project is the best investment of limited public resources. The public wants information that helps decide whether it's a good investment, including information about how the land will be maintained over time. While acquisitions and land management are budgeted separately, there is increasing demand to understand how the capital investment in buying the land relates to the impact on the operating budget for managing the land.

Open, visible, acquisition processes help make strong public investments. As agencies work to protect natural resources under increased scrutiny, transparent land transactions help inform local and state decision-makers.

## Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group

The Legislature created the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group in 2007 to improve the visibility and coordination of state habitat and recreation land acquisitions. The Legislature wanted to see better coordination by state agencies with the goal of working toward a statewide strategy for land acquisitions. Local governments and citizens wanted more information about state projects in their areas.

The lands group is comprised of representatives from the following state agencies:

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

The lands group also includes representatives of nonprofit organizations, local governments, the Legislature, private interests, and others.

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) provides staff support and hosts the [lands group's web page](#).

The lands group has created a structure for improving the visibility and coordination of state land acquisitions. It has three components:

- The **Annual State Land Acquisition Coordinating Forum** brings together state agencies, local governments, non-government organizations, landowners, tribes, and citizens to learn about and share ideas on proposals for state habitat and recreation land purchases and disposals.
- The **Biennial State Land Acquisition Forecast Report** gives information about the state land purchases and disposals that are being planned around the state.
- The **Biennial State Land Acquisition Performance Monitoring Report** shows whether state agencies achieved their initial project objectives.

BACKGROUND

## Biennial State Land Acquisition Performance Monitoring Report

This is the seventh *Biennial State Land Acquisition Performance Monitoring Report*. Its goal is to monitor the success of state habitat and recreation land acquisitions by examining whether state agencies achieved their acquisition objectives. Data from the report may be used to identify strengths and weaknesses in state acquisition processes and to inform decisions made by state agencies, the Legislature, local governments, and others.

The focus is on land acquired by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources, and the State Parks and Recreation Commission. The report does not focus on lands purchased primarily for non-habitat or non-recreation purposes, such as infrastructure or state-owned trust lands.

### State Agency Profiles

This section describes the habitat and recreation land acquisition missions and processes of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources, and State Parks and Recreation Commission.

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.

### Department of Fish and Wildlife

#### Mission

The Department of Fish and Wildlife has dual mandates to protect hunting and fishing opportunities and to protect fish and other wildlife. 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 agency has authority to acquire critical habitat to fulfill its missions.

The 2011 Department of Fish and Wildlife strategic plan includes the following principles for land management:

- Conserve and restore biodiversity.
- Ensure the health of our ecosystems.
- Ensure sustainable social and economic utilization of Washington's fish, wildlife habitat, and natural resources.

#### Plan

The intent of the Lands 20/20 policy is to ensure that future land acquisitions are consistent with the agency's mission statement: Preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife, and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

In addition, land acquisition projects are to be consistent with the Conservation Initiative Strategic Acquisition Priorities and evaluated through the Lands 20/20 process, which provides more detail for implementing foundational values.

#### Department Acquisition Principles

- Optimize, pursue, and use partnerships to identify and prioritize land acquisitions, nurture collaborative support, and leverage capacity.

Evaluate whether acquisition is the best conservation alternative to achieve the desired result. Evaluate alternative tools before acquisition (e.g., incentives, different land stewardship by current owner, or education). If acquisition is the best alternative, then evaluate options to acquire the real property interests (e.g., easement, fee title, donation, exchange).

- Pursue lands that provide long-term opportunities for public recreation or that create access to existing public land.
- Pursue lands that will provide long-term ecological value in light of climate change impacts, such as sea level rise and possible range shifts.
- Place a higher value on acquisitions that create blocks of ownership that increase function, value, and resiliency to disturbance and make management more efficient.
- As we move, spatially, further away from existing public holdings, particularly with smaller tracts, pursue easements or other non-fee title protection.
- Prioritize lands that are ecologically or socially important and that are at risk to loss in the near-term.

### 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.

Based on the information above, department staff and conservation partners

identify potential conservation sites within a geographic envelope. 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 multi-state, federal, city, county, and non-government organization initiatives.

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

### Department of Natural Resources

#### Mission

Habitat and recreation lands purchased by the Department of Natural Resources are managed by the Natural Areas Program. The primary mission of the Natural Areas Program 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 designations to provide for low-impact public access while providing greater protection for sensitive features.

Natural Area Preserves protect rare 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 may 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

Washington's *Natural Heritage Plan* establishes the criteria for natural area selection and the approval process. 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 selection of areas for



Natural Area Preserve or Natural Resources Conservation Area designation or a combination of the two.

### **Land Acquisition Process**

Natural area boundaries initially are identified by scientists in the department's Natural Heritage Program and Natural Areas Program, 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 natural areas (and expansions of natural areas) are presented to the Natural Heritage Advisory Council. Upon approval by the council, the sites go through a public process including informational meetings, opportunities for landowners to meet with scientists and land managers, and a public hearing. Some Natural Resources Conservation Areas are designated by the department without review by the council. The recommendation from the Natural Heritage Advisory Council and information from the public hearing are forwarded to the Commissioner of Public Lands. The commissioner establishes the boundary within which department staff is then authorized to pursue acquisition.

Staff identifies potential funding sources and works with willing landowners.

### **Trust Land Transfer Program**

Information about the Department of Natural Resource's Trust Land Transfer Program is included in separate charts in this report.

The department manages more than three million acres of state trust forest, agricultural, range, and commercial properties. Trust lands earn income to build schools, universities, and other state institutions and help fund local services in many counties. They also provide important habitat for fish and other wildlife, recreation, and educational opportunities for the public.

The department strives to improve returns from state trust lands; however, not all trust lands are best suited for income production. Some lands have important social or ecological values that are desirable of protection for public use and benefit.

The program provides an opportunity to retain identified special trust lands in public ownership while maintaining and improving economic return to trust beneficiaries.

Designated properties are appraised and transferred at market value. The value of the timber is deposited into the Common School Construction Account to provide immediate revenue for schools for kindergarten through high school students.

The land value is used to acquire replacement property better suited to generate future revenue for common schools.

The timbered property is transferred to another public agency to be managed and protected for public use and enjoyment. The legislation stipulates that the aggregate timber value of all transfers be at least 80 percent of the total appropriation. This high timber-to-land ratio ensures that most of the appropriation is directed to education in the current biennium.

The program provides an innovative means for the Washington State Legislature, through the department, to fund school construction, dispose of non-performing assets, acquire replacement properties with high revenue generating potential, and protect and maintain in public ownership properties with important social or ecologic attributes.

### **State Parks and Recreation Commission**

#### **Mission**

The State Parks and Recreation Commission 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 next to existing state parks to provide new or improved recreational opportunities to the public.

### **Plan**

Property acquisitions are prioritized through the Classification and Management Planning (CAMP) process. Once prioritized, the commission adopts a biennial listing of priorities through the adoption of the agency's capital budget. The majority of funding used in acquiring new land is provided by grants managed through the state Recreation and Conservation Office or through a variety of 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, donations, or property transfers from other government agencies.

## State Agency Acquisition Priorities

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

## State Acquisition Practices

State land acquisition practices are guided by the statutes, rules, and policies of the agencies and the grant programs. The best practices are those that ensure the best public investment through public outreach and open grant competitions while also giving agencies flexibility to negotiate with willing landowners.

Agencies use a variety of mechanisms to purchase priority habitat and recreation lands, including fee simple, conservation easements, and leasehold interests.

Conservation easements are used to place restrictions on how the land is used while allowing the landowner to continue holding title to the land. All purchases are from willing sellers, and a seller may prefer one mechanism over another.

When an agency cannot predict whether a landowner will be willing to sell a particular parcel, the agency may apply for a grant by identifying a project area with a number of potential high-priority parcels, intending to purchase only some of them. This strategy is designed to give clarity to elected officials, the public, grant evaluation teams, and the funding board about which properties are intended to be purchased, while giving agencies flexibility to acquire

viable, high-priority land. Sometimes agencies do not identify a specific site in order to comply with a landowner's desire to protect his or her privacy.

When a project is evaluated and approved for a grant, the cost of the project is based on a best estimate. This is because agencies do not have appropriated funding to conduct appraisals. Most grants preclude reimbursement for work performed in advance of a signed grant agreement. Appraisals generally take place once a grant is approved.

Negotiations with the landowner may be challenging and lengthy because an agency's offer to buy may be less desirable than a private buyer's offer. The seller may not want to wait for a year or more for the agency to secure a grant and may expect an offer above fair market value. Agencies cannot offer more than appraised value except under rare circumstances, and they are required to offer no less than appraised value (Title 8 Revised Code of Washington).

In the case of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, if an agency is unable to use the grant in the identified project area, the money may be returned to the grant program to be applied to the next alternate on the ranked project list or, at

the agency's request, the grant may be amended to change the location of the project.

Agencies typically expect to complete the acquisition within two years of funding approval. However, the time it takes to complete an acquisition may vary based on several factors, including unpredictable negotiations with the seller.

## Funding for State Acquisitions

State agencies purchase habitat and recreation lands using a variety of funding sources, including state and federal grants. Major state grant programs include the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, and Salmon Recovery Funding Board programs. Major federal grant programs include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service section 6, National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Act, North American Wetlands Conservation Act, Coastal and Estuarine Lands Conservation Program, and Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Grant program priorities are established in statute. A state agency requests funding based on how well the project meets the grant program priorities. For example, an agency may request funding through the

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program’s Urban Wildlife Habitat Category to acquire wildlife habitat close to an urban growth area or an agency may request Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account funds to buy aquatic lands for public purposes, such as providing or improving public access to aquatic lands.

Through an open, competitive evaluation process, the agency must show how well the proposed project meets specific criteria. The agency must show, for example, how well the project is coordinated with other state or local plans, whether it is a regional priority, and how it fits with the broader landscape or watershed.

Grant programs are competitive and managed to ensure the projects that best meet the program objectives get funding priority. State grant programs use citizen evaluation committees made up of experts in recreation and conservation issues. The evaluation committees score projects based on criteria established by the funding board and submit ranked lists to the funding board for consideration. For most state agency acquisition grants, the funding board submits a prioritized list of projects to the Governor and Legislature for approval.

Most state habitat and recreation land acquisition grant programs are on a biennial

**Example**

Criteria	Evaluation Elements	Possible Points
Project Information	Locate the project on statewide, vicinity, and site maps. Brief summary of the project goals and objectives.	Not scored
Ecological and Biological Characteristics	The bigger picture Uniqueness and significance of the site Statewide significance Fish and other wildlife species or communities Quality of habitat	20
Species and Communities with Special Status	Threat to species or communities Importance of acquisitions Ecological roles Taxonomic distinctness Rarity	10
Manageability and Viability	Immediacy of threat to site Consideration of a conservation easement Long-term viability Enhancement of existing protected land Ongoing stewardship Livestock grazing	15
Public Benefit and Community Support	Community support Educational and/or scientific value	5
Multiple Benefits	Recreation uses Resource uses and management practices	3
<b>Total Possible Points</b>		<b>53</b>

cycle that coincides with the biennial state capital budget cycle. State grants are

typically approved about a year after the agency applies for a grant.

Major Funding Sources for State Land Acquisitions

Grant Program	Fund Source	Administering Agency	Eligible Receiving Agencies	Purpose
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	State bonds	Recreation and Conservation Office	Department of Enterprise Services Department of Fish and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources State Conservation Commission State Parks and Recreation Commission	Habitat, ecosystem, and species conservation; farmland and forestland preservation; riparian protection; and outdoor recreation
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	Aquatic land leases	Recreation and Conservation Office	Department of Ecology Department of Fish and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources State Parks and Recreation Commission	Shoreline preservation and public access enhancement
Salmon Recovery Funding Board	State bonds, Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund	Recreation and Conservation Office	Department of Fish and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources State Parks and Recreation Commission	Salmon recovery
Land and Water Conservation Fund	Federal offshore oil and gas resources	Recreation and Conservation Office	Department of Fish and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources State Parks and Recreation Commission	Public outdoor recreation and conservation
National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Act	Taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat, and small engine fuel	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Department of Ecology Department of Fish and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources State Parks and Recreation Commission	Coastal wetlands acquisition or restoration
Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program	Appropriated by Congress annually	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Ocean Coastal Resource Management to Department of Ecology	Department of Ecology (Padilla Bay) Department of Fish and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources State Parks and Recreation Commission	Coastal and estuarine land protection

Grant Program	Fund Source	Administering Agency	Eligible Receiving Agencies	Purpose
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (Endangered Species Act)	Appropriated by Congress annually	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Department of Fish and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources	Habitat conservation on non-federal lands
Northwest American Wetlands Conservation Act	Appropriated by Congress annually	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Department of Fish and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources	Wetlands conservation for migratory wildlife

PROJECTS MONITORED FOR PERFORMANCE (2019-2021)



## Projects Monitored for Performance

This section summarizes data from state habitat and recreation land acquisition projects proposed for funding in the 2019-2021 biennium. Project details were provided by the purchasing agency.

This section compares each project from when it was awarded a grant to its status in November 2023. This section compares project information such as number of acres, project cost, location, acquisition type, and estimated future costs (where the agency had data to provide).

For some of the projects, the land has not yet been purchased and the grants are not closed. For these projects, the data shown are not final; final data will be available after this report is published.

For additional project details, including a location map of the project, please refer to the [Biennial State Land Acquisition Forecast Dashboard](#).

### How to Read the Data

**Agency**—State agency responsible for the acquisition or disposal.

**County**—County in which the project is located.

**Project Name**—Name of the project.

**Acres Proposed**—Number of acres that the agency agreed to purchase with state grant. Does not include acres proposed to be purchased with other funds unless indicated.

**Acres Acquired**—Number of acres acquired with state grant as of November 2023. Does not include acres acquired with other funds unless indicated.

**Type of Acquisition**—Type of real property interest that was transferred. May indicate fee simple, conservation easement, or leasehold interest.

**Acquisition Cost**—Amount of the state grant and grant recipient match.

**Estimated Annual Future Costs**—Amount the agency estimates that the acquisition will cost to operate or maintain in future. Costs can include Payment In-Lieu of Taxes, annual operation and maintenance, future development costs, and others.

**Comments**—General information about what happened with the project and the acquisition process.

## Summary by Agency

The following table summarizes, by state agency, how state habitat and recreation acquisitions compare with their proposals as of November 2023.

Agency	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Estimated Annual Future Costs
Department of Fish and Wildlife	34,339	19,117	\$44,977,776	\$1,404,786
Department of Natural Resources	2,168	627	\$17,919,664	\$363,000
State Parks and Recreation Commission	727	351	\$3,719,102	\$252,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,234</b>	<b>20,095</b>	<b>\$66,616,542</b>	<b>\$2,019,786</b>

### Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group Monitoring Report

The table below also includes land acquisitions made by the State Parks and Recreation Commission that were not included in the 2019 forecast report.

Agency	Project	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Type of Acquisition	Estimated Annual Future Costs	Note
<b>Asotin County</b>							
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Snyder Bar/Cassidy	7.00	7.00	Donation	Fee Title	\$600	Acquired June 30, 2021. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
<b>Clallam County</b>							
State Parks and Recreation Commission	Miller Peninsula State Park-Jones Trust Property	21.00	21.00	\$310,000	Fee Title	\$200,000	Acquired September 29, 2022, with RCO grant 20-1295.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Sekiu Water Access	6.50	0.00	\$0	Fee Title	\$114,000	Acquisition area reduced to 2.5 acres. Boating Facilities Program funding of \$950,000. Supplemental capital budget request submitted in 2024 for additional funding needed.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Twin Rivers Nearshore and West Twin	216.00	0.00	\$0	Fee Title	\$11,232	Purchase underway. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
<b>Clark County</b>							
State Parks and Recreation Commission	INHOLDINGS-Battle Ground Lake-Davenport Property	24.00	24.35	\$72,500	Fee Title	\$0	Acquired November 29, 2021, with RCO grant 16-1974.

Agency	Project	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Type of Acquisition	Estimated Annual Future Costs	Note
Department of Natural Resources	Lacamas Prairie Natural Area Preserve	281.00	2.02	\$3,412,391	Fee Title	\$51,000	Negotiating with landowner for 407.4 acres.
<b>Columbia County</b>							
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Goat Mountain Property	43.00	0.00	\$0	Fee Title	\$0	Land sold to a private buyer before it was funded successfully.
<b>Cowlitz County</b>							
Department of Natural Resources	Merrill Lake Natural Resource Conservation Area	71.80	0.00	\$770,185	Fee Title	\$12,000	Negotiating with landowner for 71.64 acres.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Hoffstadt Hills 2019-2021	7,300.00	0.00	\$14,500,000	Fee Title	\$379,600	No funding in hand.
<b>Douglas County</b>							
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Mid Columbia Central Ferry Canyon	2,185.00	1,513.20	\$580,000	Fee Title	\$51,448	Phase one closed April 12, 2022; second phase is pending. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Mid Columbia-Big Bend	0.00	1364.55	\$313,000	Fee Title	\$70,957	Purchased June 7, 2021. These were properties amended into a Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grant. These acres were not proposed originally. Project

Agency	Project	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Type of Acquisition	Estimated Annual Future Costs	Note
							not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
<b>Grays Harbor County</b>							
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Grayland Property	1,750.00	1,670.75	\$3,163,000	Fee Title	\$22,750	Initially was to be a partial conservation easement. Was purchased fee title in its entirety. Purchased 1,110.75 acres April 17, 2019, and 560 acres December 6, 2019.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Chehalis River Floodplain	88.50	88.48	\$175,000	Fee Title	\$2,913	Purchased December 4, 2020, as part of the Chehalis Wildlife Area.
<b>Jefferson County</b>							
Department of Natural Resources	Dabob Bay Natural Area	277.00	14.12	\$3,801,601	Fee Title	\$90,000	Closing in December on 786.56 acres of Trust Land Transfer property.
<b>King County</b>							
State Parks and Recreation Commission	Flaming Geyser State Park-Nelson Property	36.70	0.00	\$0	Fee Title	\$0	Landowner sold to a private party.
State Parks and Recreation Commission	Green River Gorge State Park Conservation Area-Butt Property	33.60	0.00	\$0	Fee Title	\$0	Landowner sold to a private party.

Agency	Project	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Type of Acquisition	Estimated Annual Future Costs	Note
<b>Kitsap County</b>							
Department of Natural Resources	Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area	157.50	29.22	\$1,831,729	Fee Title	\$36,000	Landowner of the largest property rejected appraised value offer.
<b>Kittitas County</b>							
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Taneum Creek	370.00	317.66	\$1,867,804	Fee Title	\$5,812	Acquired June 8, 2021. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
<b>Klickitat County</b>							
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Simcoe	5,373.00	5,087.64	\$3,353,000	Fee Title	\$264,557	Purchased August 27, 2019. Remaining property sold to another buyer.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Simcoe 2020	5,112.00	597.50	\$580,000	Fee Title	\$31,070	Purchased July 27, 2023. Remaining property sold to another buyer. Additional property is being amended into the grant. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
<b>Lewis County</b>							
State Parks and Recreation Commission	Willapa Hills State Park Trail-Marwood Farms Property	178.00	0.00	\$704,102	Fee Title	\$16,000	Acquisition in progress
<b>Mason County</b>							
Department of Natural Resources	Kennedy Creek Natural Area	138.00	15.87	\$1,259,317	Fee Title	\$46,000	Acquired 177.43 acres with funding from 2016 and 2018 grants.

Agency	Project	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Type of Acquisition	Estimated Annual Future Costs	Note
<b>Okanogan County</b>							
Department of Natural Resources	Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve	585.00	0.00	\$3,312,526	Fee Title	\$46,000	Negotiating with landowner for 610 acres.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Rendezvous Additions	210.00	220.85	\$1,070,000	Fee Title	\$11,484	Purchased 21.37 acres August 31, 2022, and 199.48 acres August 29, 2022. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Hunter Mountain	400.00	401.06	\$401,000	Fee Title	\$20,855	Acquired June 6, 2023; working on post-closing. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Golden Doe	110.00	0.00	\$0	Fee Title	\$5,720	Purchase underway. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Chehalis River Davis Creek Expansion	416.00	94.00	\$565,000	Fee Title	\$4,888	Acquired one of the three target properties June 22, 2022. Two remaining unwilling sellers. Looking at amended other properties into grant. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	McLoughlin Falls West	730.00	338.92	\$1,356,000	Fee Title	\$17,638	Acquired 338.92 acres February 23, 2023, second half of target sold to Confederated Tribes of

Agency	Project	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Type of Acquisition	Estimated Annual Future Costs	Note
							the Colville Reservation. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
<b>Pacific County</b>							
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Nemah Tideland Access	103.00	103.20	\$564,000	Fee Title	\$5,366	Purchased May 10, 2022, for saltwater access. Subsequent Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grant for development awarded.
State Parks and Recreation Commission	INHOLDINGS-Fort Columbia-LeTourneau Property	35.00	34.87	\$114,000	Fee Title	\$0	Acquired March 15, 2022, with RCO grant 18-1839.
<b>Pierce County</b>							
State Parks and Recreation Commission	Haley State Park-Haley Property	38.70	50.66	\$405,000	Fee Title	\$36,000	Acquired April 18, 2022, with RCO grants 16-1974 and 20-1293.
State Parks and Recreation Commission	INHOLDINGS-Penrose Point-Winters et. al. property	4.50	4.50	\$208,500	Fee Title	\$0	Acquired April 4, 2022, with RCO grant 20-1293.
<b>San Juan County</b>							
State Parks and Recreation Commission	Moran State Park-Youngren Property	80.00	0.00	\$0	Fee Title	\$0	Landowner sold to a private party
State Parks and Recreation Commission	Moran State Park-Wilcox Property	55.00	55.00	\$1,125,000	Fee Title	\$0	Acquired December 28, 2020, with RCO grant 18-1480.



Agency	Project	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Type of Acquisition	Estimated Annual Future Costs	Note
State Parks and Recreation Commission	Obstruction Pass State Park-Spring Bay Property	56.00	0.00	\$0	Fee Title	\$0	Sellers decided they did not want to allow public access to the water and to remain on the property. May reconsider later as part of their estate planning.
<b>Skamania County</b>							
State Parks and Recreation Commission	INHOLDINGS-Beacon Rock-Friends of the Columbia Gorge Property	4.50	4.52	\$175,000	Fee Simple	\$0	Acquired June 13, 2022, with RCO grant 20-1293.
<b>Snohomish County</b>							
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Ebey Island Wildlife Area Addition	63.00	0.00	\$0	Fee Title	\$0	Successfully funded with a Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grant but property sold before funding was in place. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
<b>Spokane County</b>							
State Parks and Recreation Commission	Mount Spokane State Park-Day Mountain Property	160.00	156.55	\$605,000	Fee Title	\$0	Acquired May 27, 2022, with RCO grant 18-1942.

Agency	Project	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Type of Acquisition	Estimated Annual Future Costs	Note
<b>Thurston County</b>							
Department of Natural Resources	Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve	220.50	118.70	\$2,689,255	Fee Title	\$36,000	Grant is still active.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	South Sound Prairie	930.00	1,386.09	\$10,395,952	Fee Title	\$81,496	Purchased 1,035.32 acres May 9, 2022, and 350.77 acres November 14, 2022. Funding to acquire remaining 90 acres secured in 2022 Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program combination grant, which also will develop parking lot.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Oregon Spotted Frog	138.00	105.00 Fee Title, 34.19 Easement	\$550,000	Fee Title, Conservation Easement	\$5,824	Purchased 112 acres fee title February 10, 2021, and 38-acre conservation easement December 21, 2021. Another 7 acres of the 112-acre fee-title property sold via public auction July 20, 2023.
<b>Whitman County</b>							
Department of Natural Resources	Steptoe Butte Natural Area Preserve	437.00	447.28	\$842,660	Fee Title	\$46,000	Acquired December 15, 2021, with RCO grant 18-1526.

Agency	Project	Acres Proposed	Acres Acquired	Acquisition Cost	Type of Acquisition	Estimated Annual Future Costs	Note
<b>Yakima County</b>							
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Cowiche Watershed	4,488.00	4,455.74	\$3,554,900	Fee Title	\$232,960	Purchased 3,555.49 acres July 12, 2019, and 900.25 acres February 10, 2020.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Cowiche Watershed	3,200.00	382.84	\$733,600	Fee Title	\$7,082	Acquired one of the six target properties December 7, 2021, and one target property August 26, 2020. Remaining sellers unwilling. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Wenas-Cleman Mountain	1,100.00	1,070.19 Fee Simple, 17.00 Easement	\$1,255,520	Fee Title, Conservation Easement	\$56,533	Acquired 1,033.88 acres fee title on August 24, 2022, 36.31 acres fee title on March 3, 2023, and 17 acres in conservation easement March 1, 2023. Working on post closing. Project not in the original 2019-2021 forecast report.