

Attachment 2:  
Project Descriptions of DNRP's 2015 Parks Levy – Regional Open Space Acquisition Proposals

**WRIA 7: Griffin Creek Natural Area Additions (Mary Maier, WLRD)**

<i>PL Request</i>	<b>\$190,000</b>
<i>CFT Request (CFT match status)</i>	<b>\$190,000</b> <i>(match is requested PL funds)</i>
<b>Subtotal: CFT + PL Request</b>	<b>\$380,000</b>

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$600,000 for current priorities</b>
<b>Funding Already Secured</b>	\$220,000 (remaining CFT, PL, CWM)
<b>Additional Funding Sought</b>	CWM \$120,000 2014 request
<b>Will current funding request allow project completion?</b>	Yes for current priorities – and there may be additional acquisitions in future

**Project Description:** Fee simple acquisition of 3 parcels containing 4.6 acres as additions to Griffin Creek Natural Area (SE of Carnation). Broader scope has additional high priority parcels.

Target parcels are between RM 1 and 2.5 of Griffin Creek, approx 2 miles SE of Carnation. These parcels would be added to the Griffin Creek Natural Area in an effort to protect this critical habitat from the headwaters to the mouth. The FPD and the protected Snoqualmie Forest begins at the upstream end of the Natural Area; at the downstream end at SR 203 is the APD where King County previously implemented a large-scale channel meandering project and riparian planting. These parcels are the missing link in the protection of Griffin Creek and connect two separate portions of Griffin Creek Natural Area.

The priority parcels are owned by three separate owners, all willing sellers. One in particular been waiting for the county to secure funding for a few years; the other two are very willing as well.

**Habitat Benefit:** Waterways 2000 identified Griffin Creek as a high quality basin. It hosts a wide range of salmonids, including coho, Chinook, chum and pink salmon and cutthroat and steelhead and rainbow trout. NOAA recently proposed newly designated areas for steelhead recovery and Griffin Creek was designated as a critical habitat. Griffin Creek also produces more coho salmon than any other Snohomish basin drainage; twenty percent of all coho salmon in the Snohomish Basin are produced in Griffin Creek. This stream reach has excellent channel diversity including braiding, logjam and pools. The channel provides good spawning habitat and excellent rearing habitat. The completion of the Griffin Creek Natural Area will protect important habitat and habitat forming processes and contribute to the recovery of ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead trout.

**Recreation Benefit:** Passive recreation and riparian habitat protection and restoration.

**Plan Priority:** Griffin Creek protection is a high priority in the Waterways 2000 Plan and is consistent with the goals of Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan to protect high priority tributaries to the Snoqualmie River.

**Parcels included in scope:** Priority: 342507-9080 (1.05 ac), 342507-9026 (2.62 ac), 342507-9099 (0.93 ac).

*Other first priority included in scope:* 342507-9027 (3.25 ac), 342507-9086 (1.67 ac), 342507-9087 (1.25 ac).