

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

WRIA 7: Mitchell Hill Forest Additions (David Kimmett/Connie Blumen, Parks)

<i>PL Request</i>	\$500,000
<i>CFT Request (CFT match status)</i>	\$500,000 (match is requested PL funds)
Subtotal: CFT + PL Request	\$1,000,000

Total Project Cost	\$1,000,000 for current priorities
<i>Funding Already Secured</i>	Should be ~\$300,000 from earlier Mitchell Hill projects to go toward the priority inholding parcel.
<i>Additional Funding Sought</i>	none
<i>Will current funding request allow project completion?</i>	Yes for current priority – and there may be additional acquisitions in future

Project Description: Fee simple acquisition of one inholding parcel (4.73 acres) at Mitchell Hill Forest, and two surplus King County Roads parcels (79 acres) to be added to site, in support of building broader connections between King County and WADNR lands. Located between Issaquah and Preston.

The priority parcel eliminates an inholding, providing more efficient management of county lands, creates more opportunities for backcountry trails and provides additional protection to designated wildlife habitat network.

The other parcels in scope would be future acquisitions to connect Mitchell Hill/Grand Ridge complex to WADNR lands and to Preston Ridge Park. This will allow future trail and parking opportunities to link these sites.

Owner of the inholding parcel is willing, and we have acquired other land from her in 2011. Roads has identified two parcels (Raging River Pits) for surplus, so we have let them know our interest in these parcels.

Habitat Benefit: Provides additional conservation of forest land and connectivity between thousands of acres of public park and forest land, allowing for protection of terrestrial and aquatic habitat.

Recreation Benefit: Increased backcountry trail connectivity between King County Parks (Duthie and Grand Ridge Parks and Mitchell Hill and Preston Ridge Forests) and WADNR's ownership. Also allows for opportunity for development of a trailhead facility on Preston Ridge Forest that could serve all those KC Park sites.

Plan Priority: Acquisition of lands to connect to Mitchell Hill Forest to Preston Ridge Forest and WADNR lands is a recommendation in the Draft Mitchell Forest Plan, the WADNR Draft Concept Snoqualmie Recreation Corridor Plan, and the Forest Stewardship Plan for Preston Ridge Forest (2001). Also, facilitating connectivity and expanding the backcountry trail system are listed as acquisition criteria in the 2010 Parks Open Space Plan and policy goals listed in the King County Comprehensive Plan.

Parcels included in scope:

Priority: 192407-9091 (4.73 ac), 212407-9003 (39 ac), 212407-9015 (40 ac).

Other parcels in scope: Please refer to map.