

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

WRIA 8: Taylor Mountain Forest Addition (Ingrid Lundin, Parks)

<i>PL Request</i>	\$125,000
<i>CFT Request</i> <i>(CFT match status)</i>	\$125,000 <i>(match is requested PL funds)</i>
<i>Subtotal: CFT + PL Request</i>	\$250,000

<i>Total Project Cost</i>	\$250,000
<i>Funding Already Secured</i>	None
<i>Additional Funding Sought</i>	None
<i>Will current funding request allow project completion?</i>	Yes

Project Description: Acquire a 35-acre inholding parcel at Taylor Mountain Forest.

Since the original Taylor Mountain Forest purchase in 1997, we have targeted the purchase of the major inholdings at Taylor. Five inholdings were purchased in the early 2000s. With recent purchase of the two last inholdings located within the Forest (one in 2011, the other to be finalized in summer 2014) we move our focus to the remaining two inholders at the northwest side of the mountain who either do have access or potentially could seek access through the forest to their properties. Removing inholdings, reducing potential user conflicts associated with private access on internal forest roads, and securing more habitat protection along Holder Creek are key goals that this acquisition meets.

The initial targeted inholding contains a half mile of Holder Creek, a healthy and highly prioritized salmonid spawning stream under the Issaquah Basin Plan. The parcel also contains steep slopes above Holder Creek which our purchase will ensure are retained in forest cover (though forest stewardship may occur). We would also bring into public ownership about 1,000 feet of the Holder Creek Trail, a popular trail loop at Taylor which runs on this private land.

The grant also includes in its broad scope the other northwestern inholding, two inholdings at the southwest corner near Carey Creek, and potential future habitat-related acquisitions along Carey Creek.

Habitat Benefit: The properties are located within the 61 square mile Issaquah Creek Basin, which supports eight species of salmonids (six anadromous). Holder Creek provides high quality habitat for salmonids.

Recreation Benefit: These parcels contain an existing backcountry trail that links the existing county ownership. Acquiring this property would secure permanent right to allow recreation users use this trail.

Plan Priority: Additional conservation of forest cover is a priority action identified in the WRIA 8 Plan, the King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP), the Park/Recreation/Open Space Plan (PROS), the Taylor Mountain Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP). In addition, The Taylor Forest Public Plan and the KCCP, PROS and FSP plans all call for enhancing connectivity between public ownership and increasing opportunities for non-motorized appropriate low impact recreation through additions to the county's backcountry trail system.

Parcels included in scope: 3123079002 (35 ac)