

**Attachment 2:
Project Descriptions of DNRP's 2016 Parks Levy – Regional Open Space Acquisition Proposals**

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

<i>PL Request</i>	\$73,000
<i>CFT Request (CFT match status)</i>	\$73,000 (match is requested PL funds)
Subtotal: CFT + PL Request	\$146,000

Total Project Cost	\$342,200 for current priorities
<i>Funding Already Secured</i>	May be limited funds arranged in current budget, but current funds are mostly spent.
<i>Additional Funding Sought</i>	Future CFT/PL funds for remaining priorities.
<i>Will current funding request complete priority acquisitions?</i>	No – funding request does not complete priorities. Will acquire 1 of 3 priorities.

Project Description: Fee simple acquisition of 1 parcel containing 1.67 acres as additions to Griffin Creek Natural Area (SE of Carnation). Scope contains additional high priority parcels.

Target parcels are between RM 1 and 2.5 of Griffin Creek, approx 2 miles SE of Carnation. Purchase additional parcels to be added to the Griffin Creek Natural Area. These parcels would increase the protection of Griffin Creek from the headwaters to the mouth. The Snoqualmie Forest begins at the upstream end of the current Natural Area. King County previously implemented a large-scale channel meandering project and riparian planting downstream of Hwy 203 on Full Circle Farm. These parcels are the missing link in the protection of Griffin Creek.

The target parcel owner contacted us with the desire to sell. They would like to sell ASAP and have requested that we order an appraisal this year in anticipation of closing in early 2016.

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. In fact, WDFW has four index reaches in Griffin Creek to help monitor coho populations in the Snoqualmie Basin. 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.

Plan Priority: Griffin Creek protection is a high priority in the Waterways 2000 Plan is consistent with the goals of Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan to protect high priority tributaries to the Snoqualmie River. Griffin Creek is proposed by NOAA as a Critical Habitat for steelhead.

Parcels included in scope: Targeted first priority parcel in scope: 342507-9086 (1.67 ac).

Other first priority parcels in scope: 342507-9026 (2.62 ac), 342507-9027 (3.25 ac) + additional second priority parcels in scope.