

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

WRIA 7: Mitchell Hill Forest Additions (David Kimmett, Parks)
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PL Request	\$750,000
CFT Request <i>(CFT match status)</i>	\$750,000 <i>(match is requested PL funds)</i>
Subtotal: CFT + PL Request	\$1,500,000

Total Project Cost	\$1,500,000 for 2015 priorities
Funding Already Secured	~\$300,000 from past allocations already allocated to other priorities within past project scope.
Additional Funding Sought	Possibly REET
Will current funding request complete priority acquisitions?	Yes – funding request completes current priorities; there may be additional future requests for project.

Project Description: Fee simple acquisition of four forested parcels (76 acres) connecting Mitchell Hill Forest with adjacent WADNR lands. Located between Issaquah and Preston.

This request is part of ongoing work acquiring lands at Mitchell Hill Forest to link public lands and eventually create a loop trail system as suggested on vicinity map. Past grant funds are dedicated to a Mitchell Hill inholding and King County Roads properties.

These four parcels are a key connection between King County and WADNR land. Bringing these into the Mitchell Hill Forest will preserve forest cover and prevent residential development. Acquisition will secure a public land link for the backcountry trail network extending to the east. WADNR has indicated support and possible assistance in management/development of trails on these parcels.

The two landowners are willing sellers. Pickard represents ~\$950K and Isaac represents about \$570K of the ask.

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 Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (WADNR's) ownership.

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: Pickard 172407-9011 (10 ac), 172407-9016 (36 ac); 172407-9033 (10 ac); 172407-9032 (20 ac).

Other parcels in scope: Please refer to map.