WRIA 7: Snoqualmie Forest (Connie Blumen, Parks)

PL Request	$25,000
CFT Request (CFT match status)	$25,000 (match is requested PL funds)
Subtotal: CFT + PL Request	$50,000

Total Project Cost	TBD
Funding Already Secured	None
Additional Funding Sought	None at this time; anticipate a future request.
Will current funding request complete priority acquisitions?	No

Project Description: Seeking feasiblity/appraisal funds in support of additional conservation at Snoqualmie Forest.

Approximately 90,000 acres at Snoqualmie Forest were protected by a conservation easement in 2004, using $22 million in CFT funding. Portions of Hancock-owned land were not included in the easement at that time, including inholdings and areas at the edges of the forest. Some of those lands have since been sold to private investors.

With the sale of the Snoqualmie Forest to Campbell Global in late 2015, King County is approaching the new landowner to gauge interest in working with King County on applying the conservation easement to the parcels which were not included in the prior easement. We also may consider strategic fee purchases for trailhead or trail connections.

Funding request is for feasibility funds (title, due diligence, appraisal, acquisition staff time). Scope of proposed acquisition to be worked out during discussions between KC and Campbell Global.

Habitat Benefit: Retain parcels as working forest and prevent residential development. Add to 90,000+ acres of protected Snoqualmie Forest, which connects to hundreds of thousands of acres of forested public land.

Recreation Benefit: Easement does not secure public access, but many large forest landowners have allowed public access to their lands. Proposal may also include fee purchase of trail or trailhead-related parcels.

Plan Priority: Supports open space preservation & strategic climate action plan goals.

Parcels included in scope: TBD