



LAND CONSERVATION INITIATIVE QUARTERLY REPORT

March 31, 2022

The Snohomish County Land Conservation Initiative (LCI) is a program focused on identifying and preserving priority properties across Snohomish County to be conserved for the reasons of agricultural production, recreation, habitat, carbon sequestration, urban green space and other values. In addition to identifying priority properties, this project will develop an acquisition prioritization approach, identify funding strategies, address operation and maintenance needs, develop a strategy for enhancing forest stands and provide seed money for a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program.

Four million dollars in funding has been provided beginning with the 2022 budget to accomplish three key priorities:

1. Establish a TDR bank
2. Develop a Strategic Land Acquisition and Management Plan
3. Implement a Healthy Forest Forestry Program

The current status of these priorities is as follows:

Establish a Transfer of Development Rights Bank		<i>Staff Contacts: Linda Neunzig & Kye Iris</i>
Funding is provided for consultant support for bank establishment and initial operation and also to provide seed money for the bank.		
Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for Proposal (RFP) being drafted 	
What's Next:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release RFP through Purchasing 	
Remaining Budget:		\$2,750,000

Develop a Strategic Land Acquisition and Management Plan		<i>Staff Contacts: Sharon Swan & OES Manager</i>
Funding is provided for consultant support to develop strategic plan.		
Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFP for consultant support with Purchasing for release 	
What's Next:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review RFP submittals • Negotiate contract • Begin process 	
Remaining Budget:		\$400,000

Implement a Healthy Forest Forestry Program		<i>Staff Contacts:</i> Sharon Swan & Adam Jackson
Funding is provided to continue/support Forterra’s Healthy Forest Program and consider opportunities for advanced forest management for current DCNR custodial properties in both urban and rural areas. This program is envisioned to be further supported by a new Forester position to be funded by the Conservation Futures program.		
Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract for Healthy Forest Program with Forterra Extended Staff scoping expanded forestry strategy, which is envisioned to include development of a Forest Management Plan for all DCNR custodial forest stands Preparing priority package for Conservation Futures funded Forester position to be considered as part of 2023 budget process 	
What’s Next:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to coordinate with Forterra to implement Healthy Forest Program Draft RFP for Forest Management Plan, release and go through consultant selection process Submit priority project for Conservation Futures funded Forester through budget process 	
Remaining Budget:		\$164,000

Other Notes:

1. Staffing needs are being considered through all stages of the LCI program
2. OES Manager position is currently vacant and is expected to be filled in the next quarter.