

Habitat & Recreation Lands Coordinating Group (Lands Group)

DRAFT Proposal
Work Session on Land Acquisition Planning Frameworks
April 29, 2008

Work Session Origin

Discussion: the Lands Group needs a common understanding of the myriad of conservation planning approaches as they relate to acquisition policies. The group asked workgroup 1 to coordinate an all-day workshop at the Lands Group April 29 meeting. The meeting should include the state natural resource agencies, WA St. Dept. of Transportation, WA Biodiversity Council, WA Invasive Species Council, federal partners, non-government conservation organizations and land trusts, and local governments. These and other organizations should be invited to present their conservation planning and acquisition priority frameworks. Each presentation should be brief with time for Q&A and discussion. The group can decide where they require more in-depth understanding of particular frameworks.¹

Goal

The Lands Group will develop a common knowledge base of significant habitat and recreation planning approaches and tools that can contribute to the Lands Group's mission to "...coordinate state habitat and recreation land acquisitions and disposals through improved communication, documentation, reporting, transparency, and planning."²

Objective

Provide the Lands Group with briefings on most major statewide and eco-regional conservation and recreation planning initiatives and tools that could inform a coordinated strategy for lands acquisition/disposal.

Next Steps/ Proposed timeline

- 1/13/09 – Workgroup 1 provides Pene and Heath feedback on this draft
- 1/21/09 – Lands Group discusses, modifies and approves proposal
- 2/06/09 – Workgroup 1 invites attendees and gets them to save the date
- 3/01/09 – Workgroup 1 circulates questionnaire for panelist completion
- 4/01/09 – Panelists submit questionnaire to Workgroup 1
- 4/08/09 – Workgroup 1 synthesizes questionnaire recommendations
- 4/15/09 – Questionnaires summary provided to lands group for review.
 - “ – Panelists provide PowerPoint presentations to RCO staff for 4/29.

¹ From Draft 10/28/08 Lands group Meeting Summary (page 4);
http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/rco/h&rlcg/meeting_summaries/MeetingSummary10-28-08.pdf

² Lands Group charter: <http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/rco/h&rlcg/Charter.pdf>

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Work Session – Land Acquisition Planning Frameworks

April 29, 2008

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Natural Resources Building, Olympia, WA

Room 175a

DRAFT Agenda

8:30 – Coffee

9:00 – Convene, welcome, work session overview

9:20 – State land acquisition policies and planning panel

WDNR	Natural Heritage Plan
WDFW	Various plans
SPRC	Various plans
WSDOT	Compensatory mitigation planning and inventory

10:00 – Conservation and Recreation planning frameworks and tools

Panel overviews of initiatives that should be considered by the lands group as it advances recommendations toward a coordinated lands strategy.

– Panel 1 – Recreation Planning Panel

CTED	Growth Management Act; recreation and open space planning; farmland preservation
County govt. planner	Recreation planning

10:30 – Break

10:40 - Recreation Planning Panel (cont.)

RCO	State Agency Level of Service Tool
Trust for Public Lands	Greenprint or other prioritization strategies

11:10 – Questions and Answers

11:20 – Landscape Planning Panel

Puget Sound Partnership	Action Agenda Acquisition Priority Process
Biodiversity Council	Conservation Opportunities Framework

11:50– Questions and Answers

12:00 – Lunch

12:45 - Landscape Planning Panel (cont.)

TNC	Ecoregional Assessments
Cascade Land Conservancy	Cascade Agenda
Defenders of Wildlife	Conservation Registry

1:30 – Questions and Answers

1:45 – Break

2:00 – Analysis of the recommendations

Presented by Workgroup 1

2:30 – Recommendation discussion, synthesis and next steps

Lands group members and panelists discuss opportunities to improve state lands coordination, acquisition planning, prioritization, transaction transparency, etc.

Lands Group will use consensus model to identify specific recommendations that should be further developed or advanced. Lands Group will delegate recommendation development to appropriate workgroups.

4:30 – Adjourn

Advance work: Panel participants are asked to answer the following questions in writing (in advance of the meeting for Lands Group review.) Panelists are asked to also prepare and present this information in a 10 minutes PowerPoint on 4/29.

1. What is your approach to landscape planning or prioritizing acquisitions?
2. Describe how your organization's conservation framework, agenda, or tool could be useful for prioritizing the strategic investment of public funds for recreation and habitat lands?
3. How was this approach developed?
4. How is it applied?
5. Who else is using it?
6. What other recommendations do you have to improve the coordination of the state's recreation and habitat land acquisitions?
 - a. What tools and resources can you offer to support these recommendations?
7. What recommendations do you have for balancing conservation and recreation acquisitions with efforts to maintain working lands (e.g. forestry and agricultural lands)?