# Restoration, Acquisition, and Combination Project Proposal

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| --- | --- |
| **Project Number** | 15-1058 |
| **Project Name** | Lower Bear Creek Natural Area Additions |
| **Sponsor** | King County |

List all related projects previously funded or reviewed by RCO:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Project # or Name | Status | Status of Prior Phase Deliverables and Relationship to Current Proposal? |
|  | Choose a status |  |
|  | Choose a status |  |
|  | Choose a status |  |

If previous project was not funded, describe how the current proposal differs from the original.

*Please respond to each question individually. Do not summarize your answers collectively in essay format. Local citizen and technical advisory groups will use this information to evaluate your project.* ***Limit your response to ten pages (single-sided)****. You may delete the italicized portion of the questions and inapplicable supplemental questions to shorten the proposal.*

*RCO Manual 18, Salmon Recovery Grants section and appendix references are available at* [*www.rco.wa.gov/doc\_pages/manuals\_by\_number.shtml*](http://www.rco.wa.gov/doc_pages/manuals_by_number.shtml)*.*

*Submit this proposal as a PRISM attachment titled “Project Proposal.”*

1. **Project Location.** *Please describe the geographic location, water bodies, and the location of the project in the watershed, i.e. nearshore, tributary, main stem, off-channel, etc.*

This project is located along the main stem of Bear Creek between river mile 2.9 and 3.2 in unincorporated King County, adjacent to the City of Redmond. The WRIA 8 Salmon Conservation Plan identifies this area as Reach 6.

1. **Brief Project Summary.** *Summarize your project in a few sentences. Please be brief, you will be asked for details in the following questions*.

This grant will fund the acquisition of 7.9 acres on portions of two parcels, adjacent to existing public ownership along the main stem of Bear Creek. The portions of the two parcels proposed for acquisition are 2.8 acres and 5.1 acres, and acquisition will protect spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon and allow for future restoration on the sites to enhance salmon habitat

1. **Problems Statement.** *Please describe the problems your project seeks to address by answering the following questions*.
   1. **Describe the problem including the source and scale.** *Describe the site, reach, and watershed conditions. Describe how those conditions impact salmon populations. Include current and historic factors important to understanding the problem.*

The worksite and the reach lack functional riparian buffers, large wood, and large wood recruitment. Limiting factors included degraded habitat-channel structure and complexity and degraded habitat riparian areas and large wood recruitment. The worksite is adjacent to the City of Redmond. The area faces high development pressure and suburban development.

* 1. **List the fish resources present at the site and targeted by your** **project.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Species | Life History Present (egg, juvenile, adult) | Current Population Trend (decline, stable, rising) | Endangered Species Act Coverage (Y/N) |
| Chinook | all | decline | Y |
| Coho | all | decline | N |
| Sockeye | all | decline | N |
| Kokanee | all | decline | N |
| Steelhead | all | decline | Y |
| Cutthroat | all | stable | N |

* 1. **Describe the limiting factors, and limiting life stages (by fish species) that your project expects to address.**

Limiting factors included degraded habitat-channel structure and complexity and degraded habitat riparian areas and large wood recruitment. These factors impact all the life stages of fish, listed above.

1. **Project Goals and Objectives.** *When answering the questions below please refer to Chapter 4 of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s “*[*Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines*](http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01374/)*”* *for more information on goals and objectives.*
   1. **What are your project’s goals**? *The goal of your project should be to remedy observed problems, ideally by addressing the problems’ root causes. Your goal statements should articulate desired outcomes (your vision for desired future condition) and what species, life stages, and time of year (if pertinent) will benefit from those outcomes.*

*Goal examples:*

* + 1. *(Screening project) Decrease irrigation-related juvenile Chinook mortality in the lower Yakima River caused by water withdrawal.*
    2. *(Acquisition project) Protect Tier 1 Chinook rearing habitat and habitat-forming natural processes.*
    3. *(Riparian project) Increase the amount of fully functioning riparian habitat in South Prairie Creek to support Puyallup River Chinook recovery goals.*
    4. *(Restoration project) Reduce impacts of elevated summer water temperatures on fall Chinook migration in the South Fork Nooksack River.*

This project will protect Tier 1 Chinook rearing habitat and habitat-forming natural processes in Reach 6 of Bear Creek. This project will implement WRIA 8 Salmon Conservation Plan N 218, protect undeveloped property along the main stem of Bear Creek in reach 6. Further Plan # N214A describes the need to restore this reach, particularly by addressing riparian vegetation and large wood opportunities.

* 1. **What are your project’s objectives**? *Objectives support and refine your goals, breaking them down into smaller steps. Objectives are specific, quantifiable actions your project will complete to achieve your stated goal. Each objective should be “SMART:”* ***S****pecific,* ***M****easurable,* ***A****chievable,* ***R****elevant, and* ***T****ime-bound*.

*Objective examples:*

* + 1. *(Screening) Eliminate stranding fish at diversions by installing National Marine Fisheries Service-approved fish screens at 13 agricultural diversions in the lower Yakima River by 2017.*
    2. *(Acquisition) Acquire fee simple titled or permanent conservation easements on at least 20 acres of intact riparian forestland in the Tier 1 reach of Finney Creek by 2018.*
    3. *(Riparian) Increase stream shading by at least 30 percent in the treated areas by re-establishing at least 10 acres of native riparian forest habitat adjacent to salmon rearing habitat along South Prairie Creek within 5 years of funding.*
    4. *(Restoration) Construct historic-scale in-stream logjams sufficient to create at least two sustainable colder-water pools at each of three documented hyporheic upwelling locations along the lower South Fork by 2018.*

*Acquire fee simple title on 5.1 acres of the Reid property and a permanent conservation easement on 2.8 acres of the Little Bit property in the Tier 1 reach of Bear Creek by 2016.*

* 1. These acquisitions will protect spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon and allow for future restoration on the sites to enhance salmon habitat. **What are the assumptions and constraints that could impact whether you achieve your objectives?** *Assumptions and constraints are external conditions that are not under the direct control of the project, but directly impact the outcome of the project. These may include subsequent availability of funding, public acceptance of the project, land use constraints, geomorphic factors, additional expenses, delays, etc. How will you address these issues if they arise?*

The owners of both these properties have approached King County’s Water and Land Resources Division about selling their property. Both property owners are highly motivated sellers. Both these properties are donut holes of private ownership, along Bear Creek, surrounded by public ownership. King County has a lot of experience working with potential acquisitions along King County creeks and Rivers. There is a chance that King County and the property owner cannot reach an agreement on value. There are other undeveloped properties along Reach 6 that King County can explore if a sale can’t be negotiated.

Both these properties face development pressures, and they could become developed if not acquired.

There is public acceptance of this project. Other grants are helping to pay for these properties, and they have a public process. There have been no objections to acquire these properties at this time. Further, King County has acquired other properties in this reach over the past several years, and there has been no public objection.

1. **Project Details.** *Please answer the questions below and all pertinent supplemental questions at the end of the application form.*
   1. **Provide a narrative description of your proposed project.** *Describe the specific project elements and explain how they will lead to your project’s objectives. Include relevant existing project documentation (if any) as attachments in PRISM.*

This grant will fund the acquisition of 7.9 acres on portions of two parcels, adjacent to existing public ownership along the main stem of Bear Creek. The two parcels proposed for acquisition are 2.8 acres and 5.1 acres, and acquisition will protect spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon and allow for future restoration on the sites to enhance salmon habitat.

The northern property, as shown on the detail acquisition map, is currently owned by Little Bit Therapeutic Riding Center. King County proposes to purchase a Conservation Easement on the western 2.8 acres of the property. The Conservation Easement will allow King County to conduct restoration activities on the 2.8 acres. The property owner changed their mind about a fee acquisition because they are proposing some impervious surface on the portion of the property that King County is not purchasing. A fee acquisition would reduce the amount of impervious surface that could be done on the property. A Conservation Easement does not impact their impervious surface requirements.

The southern property is owned by the Reid family. This acquisition would purchase the western 5.1 acres of the property, in fee.

King County plans to control invasive plants and replant the riparian areas on the 7.9 acres following acquisition. The addition of large wood would be considered on both properties. King County is planning a restoration project (riparian planting and invasive species control) during the summer of 2015, immediately upstream of the Little Bit property. This project will be expanded to the Little Bit property after the property has closed.

Further, King County and the City of Redmond have restored riparian buffers along Bear Creek, immediately downstream of the Reid Family Investment property. Following acquisition, King County can proceed on conducting invasive species control and riparian restoration on the Reid Family Investment property. Further, the addition of large wood will be investigated during project design.

* 1. **Provide a scope of work.** *Provide a detailed description of the proposed project tasks, who will be responsible for each, what the project deliverables will be, and a schedule for accomplishing them.*

A template Conservation Easement has been submitted to the Little Bit property owners and their Board of Directors are reviewing it. Initial feedback is positive and King County is confident the acquisition is still moving forward. King County will re-do an appraisal following agreement on the Conservation Easement The WRIA 8 Project Selection Committee has reviewed the Easement template too, and they have provided comments to make it sufficiently protective of the resource values and allow for the same level of restoration as would be possible with a fee acquisition. King County plans to acquire the property within 6 months of receiving grant funds (by June 2016).

An appraisal will be started on the Reid Family Investment property within three months after receiving grant funds (around March 2016). An offer will be made around June 2016 and the property could close by Dec. 2016.

The project deliverable for the Little Bit property is a signed and recorded Conservation Easement while the deliverable for the Reid property will be a Deed. The acquisition process will be conducted by WLRD’s acquisition section and the acquisition will receive oversight by the King County project manager.

* 1. **Explain how you determined your cost estimates**. *Please attach a detailed budget for completing the scope of work. Include anticipated costs for labor, land acquisition, consultant fees and tasks, construction contracts, materials, and other relevant costs.*

An appraisal has been completed for the Little Bit property. Cost estimates in PRISM have been based on the appraisal price and King County’s experience with similar acquisitions.

The cost of the Reid Family Investment property is based on the assessed value. Incidental costs are based on King County’s experience with similar acquisitions.

* 1. **Describe the design or acquisition alternatives that you considered to achieve your project’s objectives.** *Why did you choose your preferred alternative?*

These properties are obvious donut holes of private ownership, surrounded by public ownership along Bear Creek. The property owners approached King County about potential sales.

* 1. **How have lessons learned from completed projects or monitoring studies informed your project**? *Sources of results may be from* [*Project Scale Effectiveness Monitoring*](http://www.rco.wa.gov/doc_pages/other_pubs.shtml#monitoring) *from TetraTech, individual sponsors, lessons learned from previously implemented projects, Intensively Monitored Watershed results, or other sources.*

King County has acquired properties in reach 6 of Bear Creek within the last couple of years. Further, County acquisition agents have a lot of experience working with willing and motivated property owners that want to sell their property.

* 1. **Describe the long-term stewardship and maintenance obligations for the project or acquired land**. *For acquisition and combination projects, identify any planned use of the property, including upland areas.*

Following acquisition, these properties will go into the King County Parks inventory, and they will be managed as King County Natural Areas. King County Parks is currently managing adjacent property as Natural Areas. All the property, identified in the grant will be restored, following acquisition. No structures or facilities will be placed on the acquired property.

1. **Context within the Local Recovery Plan.**
   1. **Discuss how this project fits within your regional recovery plan** **and/or local lead entity’s strategy to restore or protect salmonid habitat** (*i.e., addresses a priority action, occurs in a priority area, or targets a priority fish species*).

This project will protect Tier 1 Chinook rearing habitat and habitat-forming natural processes in Reach 6 of Bear Creek. This project will implement WRIA 8 Salmon Conservation Plan N 218, protect undeveloped property along the main stem of Bear Creek in reach 6. Further Plan # N214A describes the need to restore this reach, particularly by addressing riparian vegetation and large wood opportunities. This project occurs in a priority reach and this project is on the 3-year implementation project list.

* 1. **Explain why it is important to do this project now instead of later.** (*Consider its sequence relative to other needs in the watershed and the current level and imminence of risk to habitat).*

The acquisitions are important to accomplish at this time because there are willing and motivating property owners that want to sell their property. Further, the restoration phase of these properties can occur as soon as the property is acquired. The Reid Family Investment property has a pre-development proposal on file.

* 1. **If your project is a part of a larger overall project or strategy, describe the goal of the overall strategy, explain individual sequencing steps, and which of these steps is included in this application for funding.** *Attach a map in PRISM that illustrates how this project fits into the overall strategy, if relevant.*

1. **Project Proponents and Partners.** *Please answer the following questions about your organization and others involved in the project.*
   1. **Describe your experience managing this type of project**. *Please describe other projects where you have successfully used a similar approach.*

King County has been awarded SRFB/PSAR acquisition grants in the past, and these past acquisitions have been managed over time by King County. Some examples, along the Cedar River include:

12-1278, Riverbend Acquisition

11-1528, Cedar River: Mouth of Taylor Ck Reach Acquisitions

10-1699 Cedar River Elliot Bridge Reach Acquire II 2010

09-1575, Cedar River Elliot Bridge Reach Acquisitions

06-2258, Cedar River Rainbow Bend Acquisition

05-1372, Cedar River – Belmondo Reach

* 1. **List all landowner names**. *If your project will occur on land not owned by your organization, attach a Landowner Acknowledgement Form (Manual 18, Appendix F) in PRISM from each landowner acknowledging that his/her property is proposed for SRFB funding consideration. Multi-site acquisition projects need only attach a Landowner Acknowledgement Form for priority parcels*.

Little Bit Therapeutic Riding Center (an NGO)

Reid Family Investment LLC

* 1. **List project partners and their role and contribution to the project**. *Attach a Partner Contribution Form (Manual 18, Appendix G) from each partner in PRISM. Refer to Manual 18, Section 3 for when this is required.*
  2. **Stakeholder Outreach**. *Discuss whether this project has any opposition or barriers to completion, besides funding. Describe your public outreach and feedback you have received. Are there any public safety concerns with the project? How will you address those concerns?*

There are no public safety concerns with the project, and this project has not had any opposition or barriers to completion, besides funding. King County intends to purchase the entire Reid Family Investment property, which is 17.84 acres. King County has applied for Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) and King County Parks Levy grant funding to help fund the remainder of the parcel and to pay for the match for both properties. A Citizens Committee of around 20 citizens will make funding recommendations for these grants. There has been no opposition or barriers to these acquisitions from the Citizens Committee.

## Supplemental Questions

### Restoration Project Supplemental Questions

Answer the following supplemental questions:

1. **Will you complete, or have you already completed, a preliminary design, final design, and design report (per Appendix D) before construction?   
   Choose an answer**
2. If no, please describe your design process and list all pre-construction deliverables you will submit to RCO for review. *Including riparian planting plans.*
3. **Will your project be designed by a licensed professional engineer?  
   Choose an answer**
4. If not, please describe the qualifications of your design team.
5. **If this project includes measures to stabilize an eroding stream bank, explain why bank stabilization there is necessary to accomplish habitat recovery.** *Bank stabilization criteria required to be met for SRFB eligibility are on page 15 of Manual 18.*
6. **Describe the steps you will take to minimize the introduction and spread of invasive species during construction and restoration.** *Specifically consider how you will use un-infested materials and clean equipment entering and leaving the project area*.

### Acquisition Project Supplemental Questions

Applies to both acquisition-only and combination projects. Answer the following supplemental questions (these are not included in the ten-page limit):

1. **Provide a detailed description of the property.** *Describe the habitat types, size, and quality on site (forested riparian/floodplain, wetlands, tributary, main stem, off-channel, bluff-backed beach, barrier beach, open coastal inlet, estuarine delta, pocket estuary, uplands, etc.), critical areas on site, and any other features that make the site unique. Describe existing land use.*

On the Reid Family Investment property, approximately 500 linear feet of Bear Creek (1000 feet including both banks), flow through the 5.1 acre portion of the property. Public ownership exists both up and down stream. Reed canary grass and blackberry dominate the riparian buffer. If one puts a 200 foot riparian buffer on Bear Creek, then the Creek and the buffer occupy most of the 5.1 acres. Approximately 24% of the acquisition area is within the flood way. Approximately 70% of the acquisition area is located within the floodplain. The Reid acquisition map shows the area covered by a 200 foot vegetated stream buffer.

For the Little Bit property, approximately 600 linear feet of Bear Creek (1200 feet including both banks), flow through the 2.8 acre portion of the property. Public ownership exists both up and down stream. Reed canary grass, blackberry and some Japanese Knotweed dominate the riparian buffer. The right bank contains some historic side channels and backwater areas. Approximately 57% of the acquisition area is within the flood way. Approximately 93% of the area is located within the floodplain.

During the Project Site Visit, May 11, 2015, there was concern about Bear Creek migrating towards the Little Bit horse track. King County viewed images of this property and Bear Creek from 2013, 2010, 2005, 2002, 1996, and 1936. Bear Creek has not migrated east of its current location in all of these images. A map was added to the application which shows the floodway and 100 year floodplain of Bear Creek as it flows through the Little Bit property. The Conservation Easement contains all of the mapped floodway and 100 year floodplain.

1. **List type (fee title or conservation easement) and acreage of acquisitions proposed.**

Little Bit Therapeutic Riding Center – King County proposes to purchase the western 2.8 acres with a Conservation Easement. (the area along Bear Creek). The entire Little Bit property is 17.28 acres. The Conservation Easement will be administered by King County Parks, as a Natural Area.

Reid Family Investment LLC. King County intends to purchase the entire 17.84 acre undeveloped property, in fee. However, SRFB funds will be used to purchase the western 5.1 acres – the area around Bear Creek and its associated riparian buffer area.

1. **Do you hold an option or purchase and sale agreement for the property?**

No

1. **Describe adjacent land uses.** Describe the property’s proximity to publically owned or protected properties in the vicinity. Attach a map in PRISM that illustrates this relationship.

Public owned and protected properties are located both up and downstream from both properties. An appropriate map in PRISM shows the proximity of these public lands.

1. **If uplands are included on the property, state their size and explain why they are essential for protecting salmonid habitat.**

Both property acquisitions will allow a 200 foot riparian buffer to be planted along Bear Creek, except for the left bank of the Little Bit property where a smaller buffer has been planted. There is not significant property acreage beyond this buffer.

1. **What percentage of the total project area is intact and fully functioning habitat?**

The entire property acquisition areas can be enhanced through restoration efforts.

1. **Is the site in need of restoration that is not part of this grant application?** If yes, describe the restoration need and planned timeframe for implementation.

The site is in need for restoration and the restoration is not part of this grant application. Within two years following acquisition, King County will conduct some feasibility analysis/ preliminary design through local funds already budgeted. During feasibility/preliminary design, King County will determine funding needs to implement the project. If local funds can’t fund the project, King County will seek outside grants.

1. **List structures (home, barn, outbuildings, fence, levees, bank armoring, other infrastructure) on the property and any proposed modifications.** If possible, please attach a map showing these structures. *Note: In general, structures on SRFB-assisted acquisitions must be removed. Refer to Manual 18, Salmon Recovery Grants, Section 2 for information about ineligible project elements.*

There are no structures on the property acquired through this grant proposal. King County will consider adding large wood to Bear Creek, within these properties, if appropriate.

1. **Describe the:**
2. **Zoning/land use**

The Little Bit property is zoned rural area 2.5 (allowing one home per 2.5 acres). The Reid Investment property is zoned rural area 5. Both properties are located in unincorporated King County, immediately adjacent to the urban growth line with the City of Redmond.

1. **Shoreline Master Plan designation**

Conservancy shoreline designation exists for both properties

1. **Portion of site within 100-year floodplain**

Little Bit property – 93%

Reid Investment property – 70%

1. **Portion of site within designated floodway**

Little Bit – 57 %

Reid Investment – 24%

1. **Explain why federal, state, and local regulations are insufficient to protect the property from degradation.**

The properties are currently degraded under existing federal, state, and local regulations.

1. **For water rights and water savings projects:**
2. **Describe the mechanism that you intend to use to conserve water (trust, etc.) and explain why this is the preferred approach.**
3. **Which steps in the water conservation process will be completed under this project proposal?**
4. **How much water, if any, will be saved as a result of this project? By what methods are you calculating the amount of water conserved**?
5. **For acquisition projects intending to purchase multiple properties within an area, identify the target parcels and how you will prioritize the parcels.**

Portions of two properties are selected for this application. Both these properties have willing sellers.

*Fish Passage Project Supplemental Questions*

Answer the following supplemental questions:

NOTE: For fish passage design and evaluation guidance, applicants should refer to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s [*Fish Passage Barrier and Surface Water Screening Assessment and Prioritization Manual*](http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/pub.php?id=00061), and the [*Design of Road Culverts for Fish Passage*](http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/engineer/cm/) manual. For prioritization questions or technical assistance, contact [Susan Cierebiej](mailto:susan.cierebiej@dfw.wa.gov), Department of Fish and Wildlife, (360) 902-2561. For engineering design questions or technical assistance, contact [Don Ponder](mailto:donald.ponder@dfw.wa.gov), Department of Fish and Wildlife, (360) 902-2547.

1. **Describe the passage problem (outfall, velocity, slope, etc.)**
2. **Describe the current barrier (age, material, shape, and condition).**
3. **Is the current barrier a complete or partial barrier?**
4. **If a culvert or arch is proposed, does it employ a stream simulation, no slope, hydraulic, or other design?**
5. **Describe the amount and quality of habitat made accessible if the barrier is corrected. Has the project received a Priority Index (PI) number?** *If so, provide the PI number and describe how it was generated: Physical survey, reduced sample full survey, expanded threshold determination, or Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife generated PI (list source, such as a study or inventory)*.
6. **Identify if there are additional fish passage barriers downstream or upstream of this project.**
7. **Engineering licensing requirement. Will your project be designed by a licensed professional engineer?  
   Choose an answer**
8. **If not, please describe the qualifications of your design team**.

### Diversions and Screening Project Supplemental Questions

Answer the following supplemental questions:

NOTE: For questions or technical assistance, contact [Pat Schille](mailto:schilpcs@dfw.wa.gov), Department of Fish and Wildlife, (509) 575-2735. Refer to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s [*Fish Passage Barrier and Surface Water Screening Assessment and Prioritization Manual*](http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/pub.php?id=00061) for further guidance.

1. **Problem Statement Information to include in Item 1 of main questions above: If the diversion is equipped with a fish screen, provide details of why it is not functioning properly from a fish protection perspective (entrainment or impingement).**
2. **Has the project received a Screening Priority Index (SPI) number?** *If yes, provide the SPI and indicate if the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife developed the SPI.*
3. **Is this a pump or gravity diversion?**
4. **What is the flow of the diversion in gallons per minute (gpm)?** *How was the flow determined (water right, meter – system meter, calculated from irrigation system components, or direct measurement during peak spring/summer diversion using a flow meter)?*
5. **If it is not possible to determine the flow, then provide the bank-full, cross-sectional area of the ditch, measured 100-300 feet downstream of the point of diversion.** *Refer to Section 8.3 of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s “*[*Fish Passage Barrier and Surface Water Screening Assessment and Prioritization Manual*](http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/pub.php?id=00061)*” for instructions on how to collect this information.*
6. **For projects that have a goal of saving water:**
7. **Describe the mechanism that you intend to use to conserve water (trust, etc.) and explain why this is the preferred approach.**
8. **Which steps in the water conservation process will be completed under this project proposal?**
9. **How much water, if any, will be saved as a result of this project? By what methods are you calculating the amount of water conserved?**
10. **Engineering licensing requirement.** *Will your project be designed by a licensed professional engineer?* Choose an answer
11. **If not, please describe the qualifications of your design team.**

### Knotweed Removal Project Supplemental Questions

Answer the following supplemental questions:

1. **Describe the level of infestation in the watershed.**
2. **What has been accomplished to date related to knotweed control in the watershed?** *Who has done the work? What is the success of these actions?*
3. **What is the planned prioritization strategy for knotweed control within the sub-watershed or watershed?** *Include efforts before and beyond the duration of the requested grant funding.*
4. **What is the anticipated time to control?** *Time to control is defined as treatment from upper extent to lowest, until the need is only a minor maintenance control effort to prevent re-sprouting or new stems from becoming established.*
5. **List the major tasks necessary to reach a maintenance control level and their anticipated time schedule.** *Include efforts before and beyond the duration of the requested grant funding.*
6. **Describe the staffing level needed to meet your annual treatment goals and how you plan to achieve that staffing level.**
7. **What are the completed and/or planned landowner outreach efforts?**
8. **What is the estimated total cost to reach a maintenance control level within the sub-watershed/watershed proposed for treatment?**
9. **What is your funding strategy for:**
10. **Getting to maintenance control levels for the sub-watershed/watershed?**
11. **Long-term maintenance/control?**
12. **How will the SRFB funds be leveraged with other programs in the same sub-watershed/watershed?**
13. **What are the proposed re-vegetation plans for treated sites?**

### Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plan (RMAP) Projects in Large Forest Supplemental Questions

Answer the following supplemental questions:

1. **Explain how your RMAP project is not solely mitigation** *(i.e., not exclusively compensation for unavoidable impacts of specific forestry projects or actions)*.
2. **How will your proposed project help to expedite action ahead of the Department of Natural Resources-approved RMAP schedule?**
3. **Describe how salmon recovery will be harmed if the project is delayed** *(i.e., not completed earlier than the scheduled RMAP completion date)*.
4. **Describe how this RMAP project fits within the landowner’s greater RMAP requirements.** *Describe the landowner’s progress to date on meeting his/her RMAP requirements.*

# Comments

Use this section to respond to the comments you will receive after your initial site visits, and then again after you submit your final application.

Response to Site Visit Comments

Please describe how you’ve responded to the review panel’s initial site visit comments. *We recommend that you list each of the review panel’s comments and questions and identify how you have responded. You also may use this space to respond directly to their comments.*

*The southeastern boundary of the Little Bit property is located adjacent to a horse track. The proposed boundary line adjustment at this location includes a sharp corner at the northwest edge of the horse track. The proposal would be improved by removing the sharp corner and angling the property line directly into the southeast boundary line. While the sharp corner is a small area, its location at the outer edge of a meander bend in Little Bear Creek makes it important to accommodate bank erosion that could impact this riparian area in the future. The project sponsor should also clarify what actions might be taken should channel migration begin to impact the neighboring horse track area and if any restoration activities are planned for the east side of the stream.*

The Conservation Easement boundary was modified to address the concern indicated above. Snapshots of aerial images from 2013, 2010, 2005, 2002, 1996, and 1936 did not show Bear Creek migrating towards Little Bit horse track. Also, the Conservation Easement would encompass the floodway and 100 year floodplain on the Little Bit property. The horse track is not located within the mapped floodway or 100 year floodplain. These images and the map showing the floodway and floodplain have been attached to the application.

Many projects have boundaries that must be protected. On the Little Bit property, King County is committed to protecting Avondale Road and the Little Bit horse tract. Soft wood structures would be added through adaptive management, if necessary, to protect these structures.

Following acquisition and during restoration project design, restoration activities will be evaluated on the east side of the stream.

*A Lidar map of the properties and demarcation of the current floodplain or floodway would be helpful to include in the final application*

The Lidar map and demarcation of the current floodplain and floodway have been added to the application.

*On the Little Bit property, what are the opportunities for widening the stream crossing along NE 106th Street to help re-engage the floodplain in the downstream properties, including the Little Bit parcel?*

The NE 106th Street bridge over Bear Creek is a King County road bridge. King County roads has no plans to replace it at this time.

*The outer edge of the meander bend in the Jim Reid parcel, however, has very little forest cover. Please describe this area in more detail and discuss possible restoration actions at this site. Is this the location for planting a 200-foot riparian buffer, as described in the application?*

The outer edge of the meander bed on the Reid property is dominated by reed canary grass and blackberries. Following acquisition, the entire portion of the property would be evaluated for invasive species control, riparian plantings, wetland enhancement, and the addition of large wood. A 200-foot riparian buffer would occupy most of the 5.1 acres acquired.

Response to Post-Application Comments

Please describe how you’ve responded to the review panel’s post-application comments. *We recommend that you list each of the review panel’s comments and questions and identify how you have responded. You also may use this space to respond directly to their comments.*