

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Individual Comment Form



Lead Entity:	WRIA 8
Project Number:	15-1058
Project Name:	Lower Bear Creek Natural Area Additions
Project Sponsor:	King County
Grant Manager:	Elizabeth Butler

	Date	Status ¹
Post-Application		
Final	9/23/15	Clear

PROJECT SUMMARY *(for Review Panel reference only)*

This proposed fee simple acquisition will acquire 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 (Little Bit Property) and 5.1 acres (Jim Reid Property), for a total cost of \$450,000. The acquisition will protect spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon and allow for future restoration on the sites to enhance salmon habitat.

FINAL REVIEW PANEL COMMENTS

Date: 9/23/15

Final Project Status: Clear

Review Panel Member(s): Full Panel Review

1. If the project is a POC, please identify the SRFB criteria used to determine the status of the project:
2. If the project is Conditioned, the following language will be added to the project agreement:
3. Other comments:

POST-APPLICATION REVIEW PANEL COMMENTS

Date:

Project Status: Click to choose a status

Review Panel Member(s):

1. If the project is a POC, identify the SRFB criteria used to determine the status of the project:
2. If the project is a POC, identify the changes that would make this a technically sound project:
3. If the project is Conditioned, the following language will be added to the project agreement:
4. General comments:



SPONSOR RESPONSE INSTRUCTIONS:

If your project is not cleared (i.e. has a status of NMI, Conditioned, or POC) you must update your proposal, PRISM questions, or attachments as necessary to address the review panel's comments. Use track changes when updating your proposal. Fill out the section at the end of your project proposal to document how you responded to comments.

¹ CLEAR: Cleared to proceed; CONDITIONED: Cleared to proceed with a condition; NMI: Needs More Information; POC: Project of Concern; NOTEWORTHY: Exemplary Project

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DRAFT APPLICATION / SITE VISIT REVIEW PANEL COMMENTS

Date: May 11, 2015

Project Site Visit?

Yes No

Review Panel Member(s): Pat Powers and Steve Toth

1. Recommended improvements to make this a technically sound project according to the SRFB's criteria:

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.

2. Missing Pre-application information.

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

3. General Comments:

The 2.8 acre Little Bit parcel being proposed for acquisition has poor riparian conditions with limited tree cover, few conifers, and infestations of knotweed, reed canarygrass, and other invasive species. The stream also flows along Avondale Road, but does have a small buffer of hardwood trees along the road embankment. Invasive plant control and revegetation of riparian areas are being planned for the Little Bit property following acquisition. 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?

We were not able to visit the Jim Reid property, but the aerial photograph generally shows more forest cover along the stream, than in the Little Bit parcel. Approximately 70 percent of the parcel acquisition is located in the floodplain. 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?

Overall, these acquisitions will expand the protected riparian corridor along lower Bear Creek in this urban landscape and allow for the continued development of natural, dynamic channel processes.

4. Staff Comments:



SPONSOR RESPONSE INSTRUCTIONS:

Revise your project proposals using "track changes" and update any relevant PRISM questions and attachments. Fill out the section at the end of your project proposal to document how you responded to comments.

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