

**State and Private Forestry
FY 2010 Western Competitive
Resource Allocation
Single-State Project Proposal**

Filename	
2010S&PFGrantAppPugetSoundStewardship.doc	
Administration Information	
Dollar Amount Requested:	\$300,000
Matching Share:	\$300,000

Applicant Information	
State Forestry Agency:	Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Contact Person:	Steve Gibbs, Forest Stewardship Program Manager
Address:	P. O. Box 47012
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Project Information			
Descriptive Title of Project:	Puget Sound Family Forest Conservation Project		
Names of Partnering Agencies / Organizations:	Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Washington State University Extension, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Districts (12 counties), Cascade Land Conservancy, Local Land Trusts, Washington Farm Forestry Association, Washington Tree Farm Program, Society of American Foresters		
State(s):	WA	Congressional Districts:	1,2,3, 7, 8, 9
Counties:	12 counties in the Puget Sound basin	Forest Service Regions:	6

Total Leverage							
Please specify each 3 rd party contributor (partnering organizations and agencies, including other Federal) and the dollar value of each contribution. Please DO NOT show grant requested funds in this table.							
Contributors: (Please specify by name)	DNR- FFFP Manager	NRCS Estimated EQIP Cost- Share	WSU Ext. & Cons. Dist. Staff	SAF/Tree Farm/WFFA	Misc. Field Day Donors	Fish Passage Cost-Share (Est)	TOTAL
Value of Contributions:	\$72,000	\$600,000	\$480,000	\$7,000	\$4,000	\$3,000,000	\$4,163,000

Project Budget					
	Grant Share (\$ requested)	Applicant	Non-Federal Contributors	TOTAL	
		Cash ¹	In-Kind ²		
4	Personnel / Labor:	\$167,508	\$204,000	\$0	\$371,508
	Fringe Benefits:	\$45,227	\$54,928	\$0	\$100,155
	Travel:	\$21,072	\$21,072	\$0	\$42,144
	Equipment:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
	Supplies:	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$40,000
	Contractual:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
	Construction:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
	Other:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
	Indirect Costs:	\$46,193	\$0	\$0	\$46,193
	TOTAL:	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$ 0	\$600,000

Project Duration	
5	What is the duration of this project? <input type="checkbox"/> One Year <input type="checkbox"/> Two Years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Three Years

National Relevance	
6	Conserve Working Forest Landscapes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect Forests From Harm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Public Benefits From Trees and Forests <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Description	
7	<p>Maximum 5500 Characters Including Spaces – Clearly summarize the proposed project, including goals, objectives, measurable outputs, outcomes, and how grant funds will be used towards successful completion of the project.</p> <p>Background: Protection and restoration of the Puget Sound is THE top environmental priority in the State of Washington. A newly-created state agency, the Puget Sound Partnership, has been established to coordinate monitoring and restoration of the Sound. This agency's Puget Sound Action Plan specifically identifies long-term retention and sustainable management of forest lands as critical to their mission. There are over 1.1 million acres of family forest lands within the Puget Sound basin. These lands provide the last remaining high quality riparian habitat for threatened and endangered salmonid stocks in the lower elevations surrounding the Sound. The Action Plan identifies conversion and fragmentation of these lands as serious threats to the health of the Puget Sound ecosystem and endorses programs like the Forest Stewardship Program as a highly valuable and effective vehicle for encouraging long-term retention and sustainable management of forest lands. Other partners have pledged funds to accomplish specific fish habitat and water quality objectives (e.g. \$3 million is available to solve fish passage problems on family forest lands). Unfortunately, due to the current fiscal situation, no funds are available to provide the necessary technical and educational assistance necessary to provide a complete and effective program which addresses current fish passage, habitat, and water quality priorities and encourages long-term retention and</p>

¹ 'Cash' is the value of any qualifying match the applicant pays for such as cash, staff time, supplies, or equipment.

² 'In-Kind' is the value of any qualifying match contributed by a non-federal 3rd party contributor such as donated time, supplies, or equipment.

	<p>sustainable management of family forest lands in the Puget Sound basin. This grant will provide the "missing piece" which will allow the Puget Sound Partnership's Action Plan to be effectively carried out on family forest lands across the Sound.</p> <p>The Project: This project will provide an integrated program of aggressive landowner outreach, educational programs, and technical assistance, to complement financial assistance from other sources, which will achieve the following goal, objective, outputs and outcomes:</p> <p>Project Goals: 1) Long-term retention and sustainable management of family forest lands in the Puget Sound basin. 2) Improved fish habitat, fish passage, and water quality resulting from projects focused and targeted on specific, already identified, high priority areas.</p> <p>Project Objective: Conduct an effective program of landowner outreach, educational programs, and technical assistance, leveraged by financial assistance from other programs, to achieve the above goals.</p> <p>Estimated Outputs: 1) Outreach and Education: 15,000 family forest owners will be contacted via a targeted direct mail campaign. 1000 landowners will attend educational programs including a regional Forest Owners Field Day event, at least 6 Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Shortcourses, and other subject-specific workshops. 1000 targeted landowners will receive ongoing information via an electronic newsletter. 100 "urban forest managers" will receive training in management of remnant forest stands. 2) Technical Assistance: 400 landowners will receive on-site assistance. 1000 others will receive verbal or written information and assistance.</p> <p>Estimated Outcome: 1) Over \$3 million of targeted, high-priority fish passage, fish habitat, and water quality improvement practices will be completed (using complementary funds from other sources which will leverage the effectiveness of this grant). 2) Long-term retention and sustainable management will be positively influenced on 200,000 acres of family forest land.</p> <p>Grant funds will be used for: 1) Program promotion and landowner outreach; 2) Advertising and conducting educational programs for family forest landowners and urban forest managers. 3) Providing advice and technical assistance to family forest owners. 4) Grant management and reporting.</p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;">Program Integration</p> <p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>The following S&PF programs will integrate with this project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Urban and Community Forestry -- Persons responsible for managing urban forests will receive education regarding management of "remnant forest stands" in urban environments, including forest ecology, silvicultural practices, hazard tree recognition and management, root diseases recognition and management, wildfire hazard reduction, and fish and wildlife habitat enhancement. 2) Forest Health: Forest health program staff will teach at landowner educational programs and provide specific forest-health related technical assistance to forest owners and their advisors. Stewardship Foresters will disseminate forest health information to landowners and respond to forest health problems. 3) State Fire Assistance (National Fire Plan): Fire prevention education foresters will teach at landowner education programs. Stewardship Foresters will provide wildfire hazard reduction information to landowners as part of their technical assistance 4) Seedling, Nursery, and Tree Improvement: DNR seed orchard and nursery will provide genetically improved tree seedlings to landowners in the project area.
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9	Collaboration
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	<p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>This project will include partnerships and collaboration with several external entities, including:</p> <p>Washington State University Extension -- will partner with DNR, and other public and private entities, to conduct landowner education programs, including Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Shortcourses, Regional Forest Owners Field Days, and many individual subject-specific workshops.</p> <p>USDA-NRCS -- will provide personnel to teach at educational programs, refer existing and potential cooperators seeking forestry assistance to DNR, and provide EQIP funds for forest conservation practices on family forest lands.</p> <p>Conservation Districts -- will help advertise and promote this project, refer landowners seeking forestry assistance to DNR, co-sponsor and teach at educational programs.</p> <p>Washington Tree Farm Program -- co-sponsor educational programs. Refer candidates for certification who need management plans to DNR.</p> <p>Washington Farm Forestry Association (forest landowner association): co-sponsor educational programs, provide volunteer labor and financial support for Forest Owners Field Days.</p> <p>Land Trusts- co-sponsor/present at landowner education programs.</p>
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Leverage	
10	<p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) -- Will provide an estimated \$3,000,000 in non-federal funds to enable family forest owners in the project area to remove barriers to fish passage (e.g. undersized, damaged, misaligned culverts).</p> <p>WSU Extension Forester will provide full-time educational support within the project area at no cost to this grant.</p> <p>NRCS will provide EQIP funds to help family forest owners implement conservation practices within the project area.</p> <p>Society of American Foresters -- Financial support for Forest Owners Field Days.</p> <p>Tree Farm Program -- Financial support for Forest Owners Field Days.</p> <p>Washington Farm Forestry Association -- Financial support for Forest Owners Field Days.</p> <p>Forest Products Companies -- Financial support for Forest Owners Field Days.</p> <p>Land Trusts -- Financial support for Forest Owners Field Days.</p> <p>Skagit Conservation District -- Conservation District forester will provide technical assistance, and support educational programs, within the District's service area, at no cost to the project.</p>

Meaningful Scale	
11	<p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>The goal of this project -- long-term retention and sustainable management of forest lands to support the health of the Puget Sound ecosystem -- essentially self-defines its own "meaningful scale" as being the Puget Sound basin. The Puget Sound Action Plan recognizes the need for an effective program of landowner outreach, education, and technical assistance implemented in a coordinated, programmatic, manner across the entire Puget Sound basin -- a message we are also unanimously hearing from all of the organizations identified above who are willing to partner with us, or otherwise support this project. Within the project area, "high priority" areas have already been identified through the Forest Stewardship Spatial Analysis Project (SAP) and fish passage barrier database. This will allow us to "focus" limited resources on the highest priority areas for maximum outcome for the funds expended.</p>

Sphere of Influence	
12	<p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>The success, and widespread geographic applicability of this type of model is already well proven and widely known. The organizational and operational aspects of this project can be easily replicated to facilitate implementation of a program of landowner outreach, education, and technical assistance to encourage long-term retention and sustainable management of forest lands anywhere in the country. Additionally, this approach can be tailored to any scale project from a single watershed, to a river basin, to a Puget Sound-sized project. Any entity in any geographic area can be successful with this type of approach, as long as all 3 program elements are adequately represented and thoroughly integrated: Extensive outreach, a continuing program of landowner education -- both of these conducted in a well-organized, close partnership with other applicable public and private entities appropriate to the locale -- and supported by an adequate level of technical assistance, and financial incentives for practice implementation where available. In particular, two very successful components of this model are likely to be of interest and applicability to other states: Forest Owners Field Days and Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Courses.</p>

Sustainability of Outcomes	
13	<p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>Several components of this model are designed to help ensure "outcome sustainability" -- which, in this case, is defined as the landowner's long-term commitment to retaining and managing their forest land. First, a program of on-going educational programming is important to both attracting "new" forest owners but also keeping them motivated, informed, and committed over time. This is supported by follow up technical assistance to ensure that the landowners are able to translate knowledge into practice and have access to continuous timely advice so they can implement management practices continuously over time. One component of this model, in particular, helps ensure long-term landowner commitment and "sustainable outcomes": Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Shortcourses. The eight-week investment of time participants have in this approach to Forest Stewardship Plan development ensures a level of "ownership" in the plan and high probability of commitment to its implementation (in contrast to agency-prepared plans in which landowners have nothing invested and no particular commitment to implementation). DNR will aggressively pursue sustainable program funding to help ensure the continuation of an effective program over time.</p>