

Thurston County Conservation Futures Program

Administrative Guidelines

March 2026

Table of Contents

Purpose and Background	1
Overall Annual Conservation Futures Process	2
Policies	3
Application Requirements	3
Match Requirement	3
Sponsor and Project Eligibility	3
Ranking Committee Participation	4
Ranking Committee: Parks Representation	5
Ranking Committee Term Limits	5
“Cooling Off” Between Ranking Committee Participation and Subsequent Involvement in Application for Funds	5
Land Use Violations on Properties Requesting Conservation Futures Funds	5
Award Notification	6
Award Duration and Extensions	6
Conservation Agreements	7
Adequate Legal Protection	8
Property Appraisal & Review Appraisals	8
Closing Dates – Notice to County	9
Methods of Payment	9
Invoicing – General	9
Invoicing – Allowable Costs & Documentation	9
Invoicing – Disallowed Costs	10
Invoicing – Interim Invoices	10
Due Diligence Reimbursement for Unsuccessful Projects	11
Reimbursement for Past Purchases	11
Post-Award Property Inspection, Enforcement and Monitoring	11
Severability	12
Appendix A: Thurston County Conservation Futures Application Form	13
Appendix B: Thurston County Conservation Futures Ranking Criteria	16

Purpose & Background

This policy document is intended to provide a clear guide to how the annual award cycle of the Thurston County Conservation Futures Program is administered, including the application review process, how funds are awarded, and project management from notice of award to project completion. It is intended to be instructional to County staff, elected officials, project sponsors, and the general public, and will be updated periodically. The Conservation Futures program administrator is available to field questions regarding these administrative guidelines. Requests to deviate from any program guidelines may be considered by the CPED Director (or designee) as appropriate on a case-by-case basis, but may also require County management or Board of County Commissioners (Board) approval.

This document was developed based on past policy decisions by the Board and County management, incorporating administrative and Board decisions on individual projects, and by considering day-to-day program management over time. This document does not discuss strategic acquisitions of mitigation property that occur outside of the annual award cycle described herein.

Conservation Futures is a land preservation program that protects, preserves, maintains, improves, restores, and limits the future use of threatened areas of open space, timberlands, wetlands, habitat areas, culturally significant sites, and agricultural farmlands within Thurston County. Conservation Futures funds, acquired through a property tax levy, are used to purchase the land or the rights to future development of the land.

The Washington State Legislature first granted the authority for a Conservation Futures tax levy in 1971 when RCW 84.34 was enacted and later amended in 1988. RCW 84.34.200 declares that the acquisition of interests or rights in real property for the preservation of open spaces and areas constitutes a public purpose for which public funds may properly be expended or advanced. RCW 84.34.230 declares the county may levy an amount not to exceed 6.25-cents per \$1,000 of assessed value of all taxable property within the county for the Conservation Futures Program.

The Legislature found that Conservation Futures are a useful tool for counties to preserve land of public interest for future generations and are encouraged to use some conservation futures as one tool for salmon preservation purposes. Any county, city, town, nonprofit historic preservation corporation (RCW 64.04.130) or nonprofit nature conservancy corporation or association (RCW 84.34.250) may qualify for Conservation Futures funds. Up to twenty-five percent of annual Conservation Futures revenues may be used for the maintenance and operation of any property acquired with Conservation Futures funds.

In 1989, Thurston County became one of the first counties in the state to implement the tax levy and has been collecting it ever since.

Overall Annual Conservation Futures Process

The Conservation Futures program operates like an annual grant program. The application period typically opens each year on January 1. Complete applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM PST on the last day of February, by applicants who meet the requirements of RCW 84.34.220 and .250 at the application deadline. An application form is attached to this policy document as Appendix A. If the last day of February falls on a weekend, holiday, or other date that county offices are closed, then 5:00 PM PST on the next day of normal County operations shall be the standard application deadline. In the event the application period does not begin on January 1 in a given year, the County will update the Conservation Futures website with the new start date and note the modified application window in its annual press release. Applications submitted after the due date will be rejected. No additional information may be submitted by project sponsors after the due date, unless solicited by the program administrator for the purposes of clarifying the proposal.

The program administrator will work with the project sponsors to arrange a date for presentations to be made to the Conservation Futures Ranking Committee, typically in late spring. Following those presentations, the ranking committee will rank the project proposals using the program's review and ranking criteria, located in Appendix B, and draft recommendations for the Board.

The program administrator will typically brief the Board on the project proposals and the Ranking Committee's recommendations during the summer. The Board, with consideration of the Ranking Committee's recommendations, ultimately decides how Conservation Futures dollars are spent each year. The Board may also, at its discretion, waive its annual briefing and enable County management and CPED to proceed with funding projects based on the number, complexity, and competitiveness of applications under review, and the outcome of the ranking committee's review process.

Policies

Application Requirements

1. Completed application form (including conceptual project budget that outlines which expenses—and estimated amounts—are anticipated to be billed to Conservation Futures)
2. Aerial photograph showing parcel boundaries
3. Legal description of parcel(s), if known at the time of application (Note: A full legal description must be included in the final conservation covenant prior to project close out, which may require the applicant to conduct a property survey.)
4. Proof of eligibility under RCW 84.34.220 and 250 (UBI #, articles of incorporation, IRS 501(c)(3) letter). For nonprofit nature conservancy corporation or association applicants, the project applicant's Articles of Incorporation must have as "one of its principle purposes...the conducting of natural resources, including but not limited to biological resources, for the general public, or the conserving of open space, including but not limited to wildlife habitat to be utilized as public areas, for the use and enjoyment of the general public." (RCW 84.34.250)

Applicants shall provide the most complete and accurate information possible on the application. It shall be the applicant's responsibility thereafter to inform Thurston County about any changes in the project, including but not limited to:

- Acreage of property to be conserved
- Anticipated post-award property management objectives
- Property ownership
- Availability of matching funds or other changes in the project's financial details
- Land uses occurring on the property.

Match Requirement

There is no match requirement for Thurston County Conservation Futures funds. However, projects with matching funds are eligible for additional points in the program's ranking criteria. The donation of value by a landowner (i.e. agreeing to sell property or an easement at less than the appraised value) may be counted as project match.

Sponsor and Project Eligibility

A project sponsor must meet the requirements of RCW 84.34.220 and 250 at the time of the application deadline. The program administrator shall verify that the eligibility information submitted by the project sponsor qualifies that sponsor to apply for Conservation Futures funds.

The program administrator shall also verify that the proposed project meets the intent of RCW 84.34.

Ranking Committee Participation

The Conservation Futures Ranking Committee shall be made up representatives of the following, or similar, entities. If any of the listed groups below are unable to provide a representative, the program administrator will work with the CPED Director (or designee) to locate and secure alternate representation:

Thurston County & Neighboring Jurisdiction Advisory Groups

- Thurston County Agricultural Advisory Committee
- Thurston County Historic Commission
- Thurston County Water Resources Advisory Board
- Parks representation – revolving participation from cities in Thurston County (see next section)

Technical Agencies (Note: County may request participation from agencies not listed below.)

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (prairie and fish habitat representatives)
- Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Washington Department of Archaeological and Historical Preservation
- Thurston Conservation District
- Thurston Regional Planning Council
- Real estate representation – recommendation from Thurston County REALTORS Association

Each year, the program administrator will solicit proposed ranking committee members and will include these names to the Board along with brief biographical information. If possible, committees and agencies will provide the name of a proposed representative and a proposed alternate, should scheduling prove difficult with all proposed representatives. The methods by which each agency or committee selects its proposed representatives and alternatives is left to the discretion and standard operating procedures of each agency or committee.

Upon receipt of application materials, ranking committee members must report if they are aware of any conflicts of interest on any applications (e.g. having a pre-existing relationship with a landowner seeking Conservation Futures funds or a professional affiliation that could be a conflict of interest).

Ranking Committee: Parks Representation

Since the dissolution of the Thurston County Parks Board in 2014, parks representation for the ranking committee has come from volunteers from other municipal park committees/boards in Thurston County. The program administrator gauges participation interest each year. Volunteers from participating jurisdictions are randomly selected each year.

Cities who are applying for Conservation Futures funds, or have a project application with public access within their municipal boundaries or Urban Growth Area, may not be eligible to participate. The program administrator, in consultation with the CPED Director (or designee), will make these decisions on a case-by-case basis to avoid conflicts of interest, or the appearance of conflicts of interest.

Ranking Committee Term Limits

Conservation Futures Ranking Committee members that represent county advisory groups may serve on the ranking committee for two (2) consecutive application cycles. This does not apply to technical agency representatives. Term expirations should be staggered between advisory committees if possible, to help preserve process knowledge among committee members. Ranking committee members are not prohibited from serving again in the future after one application cycle in which they do not serve. Term limits may be waived if there are no other volunteers from a given advisory group and a representative who served the previous two consecutive application cycles wishes to do so in the current year.

“Cooling Off” Between Ranking Committee Participation and Subsequent Involvement in Application for Funds

After departing the ranking committee, a former ranking committee member must wait one full funding cycle before applying for funds for any property in their ownership, sponsoring a project, or otherwise being significantly involved in a Conservation Futures funding proposal. For example, a ranking committee member who served in 2026 must wait until 2028 before engaging in the above activities.

Land Use Violations on Properties Requesting Conservation Futures Funds

It is the responsibility of the project sponsor to disclose any known county, state, or federal land use, building, or health violations on the property for which Conservation Futures funding is sought. This information shall be included as part of the Conservation Futures application, or disclosed at a later date if it becomes known to the project sponsor during the review cycle or post-award. The program administrator will provide information about any land use violations to the Board.

The presence of land use violations on a property does not mean an application for funds may not be submitted on that property. The Board shall have the ultimate discretion in whether to approve Conservation Futures funds for a property with known violations.

Award Notification

When the County makes its award decision, the sponsors of any funded projects will receive notification via mail and email. The cover letter and award materials will include:

1. The award announcement
2. The amount of funds awarded
3. Parcel(s) for which funds can be applied
4. What award funds may be used for
5. The expiration date of award funds
6. Any funding conditions made by the County.

The award packet will also include a copy of the program's administrative guidelines. The program administrator will request acknowledgment of receipt of the administrative guidelines.

It is the project sponsor's responsibility to be aware of all award expiration dates, appraisal dates, project timelines, and all other information included in the Thurston County Conservation Futures Administrative Guidelines.

The County reserves the right to deny funds awarded under the Conservation Futures program due to newly discovered information that materially changes the scoring of a particular project or changes the eligibility of a project. Denial may occur anytime from the date of application until actual disbursement of funds. In the event that an award letter is issued and the County subsequently denies funding, the applicant may, at the County's discretion, be reimbursed for the cost due diligence and other reasonable, eligible costs incurred, except in cases of bad faith or wrongdoing on the part of the project sponsor.

Award Duration and Extensions

Conservation Futures award letters will include an award expiration date. It is expected that real estate proceedings related to acquisition of property or conservation easement are substantially completed by this time, and that invoices have been submitted for all funds in the Conservation Futures award. For the purposes of this section, substantially complete shall mean that any purchase and sale agreements have been finalized, escrow is open with all funds deposited (including Conservation Futures funds), and closing is anticipated to occur in the reasonably near future (but no longer than 3 months).

A project sponsor may request a project extension from the County,. All extension requests must be submitted to the program administrator in writing, and must document the reason(s) for the request, explain what steps remain to successfully complete the project, and propose a new project deadline. Project sponsors are responsible for knowing the award expiration date and should proactively approach the program administrator to discuss any extension requests at least 90 days prior to the award expiration date. Failure to notify the County of a needed extension prior to the expiration of a Conservation Futures award may result in the denial of the extension request.

Conservation Covenants

Projects that receive Conservation Futures funds must demonstrate how the County's interests in the property will be upheld over time. This is typically accomplished through completion of a conservation covenant which must be executed prior to disbursement of funds for property or easement purchase. The intent of a conservation covenant is to outline the intended uses and management of a property receiving Conservation Futures funds, and to ensure that the County can maintain stewardship of the public's interest in the property. The covenant gives the County the right to enforce proper stewardship of the property's conservation values. The County can provide examples of conservation covenants upon request.

Generally, the conservation covenant shall include:

1. Background information on the project
2. A description of the property's conservation values
3. Information regarding succession of property ownership or interest in the property by the project sponsor – transfer to qualified agency
4. The right of County enforcement of protection of the conservation values, including the right to inspect the property at regular intervals
5. Details of allowable activities on the property, if appropriate
6. Dispute resolution information
7. Indemnification/Hold Harmless for County officials, employees and agents
8. Any requirements for the project sponsor to provide periodic updates on the property to the County, and/or provide the results of any regular inspections to the County.
9. Description of circumstances where the County may access the property for monitoring purposes
10. Condemnation language

It is the project sponsor's responsibility to initiate development of the conservation covenant when sufficient details are known about the property to supply the above information, and to request templates or other guidance from the program administrator as needed. Conservation covenants are reviewed by the program administrator and county legal counsel, and ultimately approved and signed by the County Manager. The project sponsor is responsible for recording the covenant during the real estate closing process. The cost of recording may be included in the project sponsor's invoice to the Conservation Futures program.

Adequate Legal Protection

Thurston County has an interest in ensuring that all projects meet the intent of Conservation Futures funding and demonstrate proper stewardship of public dollars. The County requires all properties or easements purchased with Conservation Futures to be restricted with adequate legal protection (e.g. a conservation easement, deeds of right, title restrictions) which assures the preservation of conservation values on the property.

The project sponsor shall provide the County with documentation of any binding restrictions or other encumbrances placed on the property to ensure that the property's conservation values will be upheld over time.

If a project involves a conservation easement (vs. acquisition of real property), the project sponsor shall provide the County an opportunity to review and comment on the draft easement. The County may elect to append a deed of right or other protective mechanism to the easement in lieu of requiring a conservation covenant. The project sponsor shall also keep the program administrator apprised of any subsequent substantial modifications to the easement language leading up to final signature of the easement.

Property Appraisal & Review Appraisals

An appraisal must be completed and submitted to the County for all properties that receive Conservation Futures funds. Property appraisals for projects in which Conservation Futures funds are the largest contribution to the acquisition or easement cost shall conform to the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA), currently referred to as a Yellow Book Appraisal. For projects where Conservation Futures is not the largest contributor to the acquisition or easement cost, the County will defer to the appraisal method required by the majority funder. Should a project sponsor identify a reasonable and prudent reason to deviate from providing a Yellow Book appraisal on a specific project, they shall request a waiver in writing to the program administrator. The approval authority for waiver requests lies with the CPED Director (or designee).

In general, the effective date of appraisal must be no earlier than twelve (12) months prior to real estate closing, or the full execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement. A supplemental appraisal may be submitted if the original appraisal is more than one year old. If the appraisal report contains a stated duration of validity which is shorter than 12 months, the County will defer to this date.

The appraisal must be performed by a state licensed and certified appraiser. The appraised market value of the property must be a point value, rather than a value range.

If a project sponsor conducts a review appraisal, they shall provide the review appraisal to the County. Thurston County reserves the right to require a review appraisal for any Conservation Futures project.

Closing Dates – Notice to County

It is the applicant's responsibility to consult with the County prior to setting an escrow closing date. Project sponsors are advised to notify the County about the intent to close 60 days prior to the intended closing date. This helps to ensure that all project requirements have been met or are on track to being met ahead of the anticipated closing date. The County may not be able to process payment invoices until all conditions of the funding have been met.

Methods of Payment

The details of financial transactions for Conservation Futures projects can vary depending on the project's specific circumstances. Typically, Conservation Futures funds are paid via check, ACH, or wire transfer. Funds may be sent to escrow or directly to the project sponsor, depending on the situation. Project sponsors should proactively communicate their preferred method and destination of funds transfer at least 60 days prior to the expected project close out date, but are advised that the County retains control over the method of funds transfer that is ultimately available.

Invoicing – General

When a Conservation Futures project is nearing closing, the sponsor shall submit an invoice for funds to the county. This final invoice for funds must be submitted at least three (3) weeks prior to the date of real estate closing, but projects sponsors are encouraged to submit earlier when possible to allow time to resolve any issues that may arise during the County's invoice review process (e.g. bottlenecks or back-and-forth communication regarding submitted invoice materials) and help ensure funds are delivered on time. It is the project sponsor's responsibility to adhere to this timeline and ensure that invoices include the proper documentation (see table below). If there is a documented need to deviate from the three week notice period, project sponsors should contact the program administrator to discuss the situation.

There is no strict format for invoice submittal, but the invoice must include a current date, invoice number and to whom the invoice is payable. Costs must be itemized. All reimbursable expenses must be incurred and invoiced by the Conservation Futures award letter expiration date.

Invoicing – Allowable Costs & Documentation

Costs related to the acquisition of real property or a conservation easement that are incurred by a project sponsor are reimbursable. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, appraisal, review appraisal, closing costs, surveys, environmental assessments, title work, recording fees, and reasonable staff time spent by the project sponsor. All invoices shall be accompanied by appropriate documentation for all items listed on the invoice. See the table below for general guidance.

Final closing costs may differ from the costs that are estimated when escrow is opened. If final closing costs are less than closing costs on the Conservation Futures invoice, the project sponsor shall promptly return unspent funds to Thurston County.

Item on Conservation Futures Invoice	Example Documentation
Property acquisition/easement cost	Property appraisal, closing statement
Due diligence item (e.g. appraisal, appraisal review, environmental survey, property survey, title search, legal fees)	Copy of actual document, invoice from entity who performed work
Staff costs (incurred from date of Conservation Futures award through project close out)	Description of tasks performed and by whom, number of hours, hourly rate
Real estate closing costs	Closing statement
Maintenance & Operations Endowment (Not to be used for site enhancement or restoration. M&O requests cannot exceed 25% of total Conservation Futures ask.) <i>Note: The use of Conservation Futures funds for M&O is capped under state law. New requests for M&O funds may only be granted if there is capacity in the fund in a given year, based on previously identified funding priorities established by the Board of County Commissioners.</i>	Budget and work plan (including dates) that show how requested funds will be utilized to support maintenance and operation of the property's baseline ecological conditions.

Invoicing – Disallowed Costs

Conservation Futures funds may only be used to pay for the costs of acquiring property or rights in property, and to a limited extent, maintenance and operation of property previously purchased with Conservation Futures funds. Applicants may not request funds for site restoration or enhancement activities.

Invoicing – Interim Invoices

Typically, Conservation Futures awards are paid in full when the project enters escrow. However, from time to time project sponsors request a portion of the funds up front to cover project costs (e.g. property appraisal) based on cash flow issues they may encounter. Project sponsors may submit interim invoices if needed, which will be reviewed by the program

administrator and the county's financial team on a case-by-case basis. The County reserves the right to limit the number of such interim invoices for any given project.

Due Diligence Reimbursement for Unsuccessful Projects

Project sponsors may seek—but are not automatically entitled to—reimbursement of due diligence funds expended for projects which ultimately are not successful, provided that:

- The sponsor can adequately demonstrate the project failure was due to no fault of the project sponsor.
- The request for funds will cover only allowable costs under the Thurston County Conservation Futures Program (see the Invoicing – Allowable Costs & Documentation section of this document), and shall be accompanied by an invoice developed to the County's specifications (see the Invoicing – General section of this document).
- Requested due diligence costs are prorated based on the Conservation Futures' contribution to the total project cost. For example, if Conservation Futures comprises 50% of the total project cost, the project sponsor may bill the program for 50% of project due diligence costs. *If other funding sources do not allow due diligence expenditures, the project sponsor shall provide documentation to the County before billing for due diligence costs above and beyond the Conservation Futures' portion of the total project cost.*

The County Manager shall be the approval authority for any requests for reimbursement for unsuccessful projects. The County Manager will coordinate requests for reimbursement with the County Budget Director, or designee.

Reimbursement for Past Purchases

The County recognizes that the entities that make use of Conservation Futures funds may need to act quickly on acquisition opportunities, and in some cases use bridge loans to complete an acquisition. An application for Conservation Futures funding can be submitted for acquisitions that were made in the 12 months prior to the funding deadline of the year in which Conservation Futures funds are being sought. For example, acquisitions dating as far back as February 28, 2025 would be eligible for consideration during the 2026 annual funding cycle.

Post-Award Property Inspection, Enforcement and Monitoring

Thurston County intends to ensure that properties that receive Conservation Futures funds are managed in a way that meets the intent of RCW 84.34 and demonstrates proper stewardship of public dollars. The County reserves the right to access and inspect property to achieve this objective should a need arise to do so. This right to access shall be included in each project's

conservation covenant (or deed of right granted to Thurston County, if applicable). The County also reserves the right to establish a broader monitoring program for properties previously awarded Conservation Futures funds.

The County will work with project sponsors to arrange property access when necessary, which shall not occur more frequently than once per year, unless a violation of the conservation covenant (or deed of right granted to Thurston County, if applicable) is occurring or believed to be occurring. Notice shall be provided to the project sponsor and/or landowner prior to any site visits, unless damage to the conservation values is believed to be ongoing, in which case the County may enter the property at any time in accordance with its standard code compliance procedures.

The Conservation Futures program administrator may periodically request updates on projects that have previously been awarded Conservation Futures funding. Project-specific information on reporting and County permission to access to the property shall be included in the conservation covenant. For conservation easements, project sponsors shall provide copies to the program administrator of any reports prepared to document monitoring activities on the property.

Severability and Internal Inconsistency

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or other portion of this document or its application to any person is, for any reason, declared invalid, illegal or unconstitutional in whole or in part by any court or agency of competent jurisdiction, said decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof. Nothing included in or excluded from this document shall limit other powers or responsibilities Thurston County has to provide appropriate stewardship of public dollars.

Appendix A: Thurston County Conservation Futures Program

Project Proposal Form

Project Name:

Project Sponsor:

Sponsor Contact: *(Please include name and mailing address)*

Sponsor Phone:

E-mail:

Sponsor information: Non-profit corporations need to provide information that meets the requirements in RCW 84.34.250 including but not limited to:

- Articles of Incorporation
- Washington State UBI number:
- Internal Revenue Service's §501(c) declaration of tax exemption

Acquisition type?			
Fee simple		Development Rights	
Easement		Conservation Easement	
Other:		Explain Other?	

Is the property already protected by any legal instruments (e.g. conservation easement, deed restriction)? ___ No ___ Yes *(Explain)*

Does the property contain any residences onsite? ___ No ___ Yes If so, will they continue to be used as such? _____ No ___ Yes *(If yes, explain)*

Describe the specific legal instrument that will protect the conservation values of this property.

Are there any known violations of local, state, or federal law occurring on the property? If so, please provide details, including whether there is a schedule for remedying the violation(s).

___ No ___ Yes

Is the proposal prioritized by an existing plan? *(check all that apply and attach copies of the pertinent sections)*

_____ County Comprehensive Plan

_____ State Plan

_____ Federal Plan

_____ Watershed Plan

_____ Salmon Recovery Strategy

_____ Stormwater Comprehensive Plan

_____ Park Comprehensive Plan

_____ Other *(please explain below)*

Acquisition Priority: _____ High _____ Medium _____ Low

Estimated project closing date:

Estimated project total cost:

Estimated Conservation Futures contribution:

Conceptual Budget Breakdown (Replace example text below with estimates of types and amounts of anticipated expenses. This information is used to determine that requested funds are generated from eligible expenses.):

Item	Estimated Conservation Futures Contribution
Property Purchase/Closing Costs	\$187,500
Appraisal	\$5,000
Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment	\$5,000
Property Survey	\$2,500
Total:	\$200,000

Project description: (Include all parcel numbers. Discuss how project meets intent of RCW 84.34. Identify approximate acreages of each resource type, if possible. For example: "This 45 acre property contains a 17-acre wetland and 28 acres of upland forest habitat.")

List potential funding partners *(include contribution estimate and identify what has been realized and what is potential)*:

Consulting partners:

Other than conservation futures, what other funding sources are available? *(check all that apply)*

_____ State Grants

_____ Federal Grants

_____ Land Trust

_____ Private Donations

_____ Other *(specify)*

Certainty of project success: _____ High _____ Medium _____ Low

Party(s) responsible for maintenance and operation costs *(If Thurston County is responsible for maintenance and operation, please provide an estimate of the annual cost.)*:

Below is for County Use only: _____

Date project is submitted:

Appendix B: Thurston County Conservation Futures Ranking Criteria

Project Name: _____

Please circle your score.

1. Meets Conservation Futures' Program Goal and Policies. Yes No
2. Rank this project in how acquisition of this site fits the objective of applicable plans:
1 2 3 4 5 points
3. Is time of the essence in acquisition? 1 2 3 4 5 points
4. Does this site preserve:
 - A. Critical/sensitive lands?
✓ (e.g. wetlands, prairies, presence of species protected by the County's Critical Areas Ordinance or subject to state/federal listing, such as the Mazama pocket gopher, Oregon vesper sparrow, Taylor's checkerspot butterfly, or Oregon spotted frog).
1 2 3 4 5 points
 - B. Does the site provide salmon habitat recovery opportunity?
1 2 3 4 5 points
 - C. Unique natural features and or natural resources? 1 2 3 4 5 points
✓ e.g. Mima Mounds
 - D. Historical or cultural significant lands or markers? 1 2 3 4 5 points
 - E. Desirable agricultural and forest working lands characteristics?
1 2 3 4 5 points
5. Certainty of project success. 1 2 3 4 5 points
6. Level of sponsor leverage or match. 1 2 3 4 5 points
7. Includes public access. 1 2 3 4 5 points
8. Partner and project support. 1 2 3 4 5 points

Name of Rater: _____