



**What is reconveyance?** Reconveyance is a process that allows Counties to acquire DNR forest board trust lands for park purposes (RCW 79.22.300). These were once County lands that the State now manages.

**Can the County use these lands for other purposes?** No, reconveyed lands can only be used for park purposes. If they are not used for that purpose, the lands must be conveyed back to the State.

**What is the cost to transfer these lands to the County?** It is estimated that the total cost will be approximately \$296,000 for appraisals, surveys and other similar items.

**What type of park and activities will be allowed?** It is envisioned that the focus will be on the natural environment with passive low impact recreational activities such as hiking. Any development or use will need to be consistent with the Lake Whatcom management goals and current regulations.

**What other costs are anticipated?** While the actual development and maintenance costs will be determined through the planning process, average costs for trail development is estimated at \$15,000 to \$18,000 per mile. Annual operating costs are estimated at \$150,000. Loss of local revenue from timber sales is estimated at approximately \$185,000 annually.

**Where will the funding come from?** Development and maintenance can be funded through a combination of recreational grants, conservation futures fund, real estate excise tax and general park operations.

**Will the Lake Whatcom Landscape Plan be eliminated or modified?** This proposal will not change the landscape plan. While the County also has to abide by the plan, it is anticipated that park use and development will have much less of an impact on the watershed than current land use.

**What would the difference be between DNR and County management on these lands?** DNR currently manages these lands for revenue generation through timber harvesting. The County would manage the lands for park purposes allowing the forest to mature into an old growth environment to better benefit the watershed and wildlife.