



November 28, 2023

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Mark McCauley, County Administrator

FROM: Pinky Mingo, Environmental Public Health and Water Quality
Director
Tami Pokorny, Natural Resources Program Coordinator

DATE: December 4, 2023

SUBJECT: Agenda Request: Setting a Public Hearing Date and Publishing a Public
Hearing Notice on the Conservation Futures Applications for 2023.

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

Public Health requests BoCC approval of a Public Hearing Notice to take comments regarding the three Conservation Futures project applications submitted for consideration during the 2023 funding round. The notice is to be published on December 20th and December 27th, 2023 in *The Leader*. The hearing is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024 at 10:15 a.m.

ANALYSIS/STRATEGIC GOALS/PRO'S and CON'S:

Jefferson County Code (JCC) 3.08.030(4) requires a duly noticed public hearing prior to final action by the Board of County Commissioners on the annual allocations from the Conservation Futures Fund. Public comment on the Lower Chimacum Creek Mainstem Acquisitions, North Barry Snow Creek, and Schmidt Farm projects will be accepted from December 20th, 2023 until the close of the Commissioners' hearing. After the public hearing, the BoCC may resolve to award funding to one or more of these projects.

FISCAL IMPACT/COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:

Costs to publish the Public Hearing Notice in *The Leader* will be paid for with funds from the Conservation Futures Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

To facilitate a timely public process, Public Health recommends that the BoCC approve the Public Hearing Notice to hold the hearing on Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024 at 10:15 a.m.

REVIEWED BY:


Mark McCauley, County Administrator

Date 11/28/23

Please publish 2 times: December 20 and 27, 2023

Contact Person: Tami Pokorny

Bill to: Jefferson County Public Health

615 Sheridan St.

Port Townsend, WA 98368

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Conservation Futures Program Project Applications in 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing is scheduled by the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners for **TUESDAY, January 2, 2024 at 10:15 a.m.** in the Commissioners' Chambers, County Courthouse, 1820 Jefferson Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368 (HYBRID). Notice of said hearing is to be published in the official newspaper of Jefferson County.

The public hearing is to take comments on the three projects submitted for consideration during the 2023 conservation futures funding cycle. Conservation futures funds available to projects in 2023 equal \$230,000. The total amount requested for the Lower Chimacum Creek Mainstem Acquisitions, North Barry Snow Creek, and Schmidt Farm projects is \$186,000. The projects are summarized as follows:

1. Lower Chimacum Creek Mainstem Acquisitions, \$47,00 towards fee simple acquisition of two parcels and a conservation easement, or combination of conservation easement and fee simple, acquisition of two additional parcels, all totaling 3.14 acres. The properties are located in the Chimacum Creek watershed in the Irondale neighborhood of Port Hadlock. Open space protections will support improvements to fish and wildlife habitat, landslide risk reduction, and recreational use. The application also requests \$5,000 towards reimbursement of operations and maintenance costs. The proposed match is a \$165,750 grant from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The project applicant and sponsor is Jefferson Land Trust; Project locations: S34 T30N R1W.
2. North Barry Snow Creek, \$69,000 towards the fees simple acquisition of two parcels totaling 20.45 acres in the Snow Creek watershed south of Discovery Bay. The properties will support improvements to Strait of Juan De Fuca Summer Chum salmon and winter steelhead habitat, reduce sediment inputs, and improve water quality. The application also requests \$5,000 towards reimbursement of operations and maintenance costs. The proposed match is a \$85,000 grant from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The project applicant and sponsor is Jefferson Land Trust; Project locations: S35 T29N R2W.
3. Schmidt Farm, \$55,000 towards the acquisition of a conservation easement on two parcels totaling 67 acres in the Jakeway Creek watershed north of Quilcene Bay. Open space protections will support continued agricultural activities and sustain an existing treed corridor for Jakeway Creek. The application also requests \$5,000 towards reimbursement of operations and maintenance costs. The proposed match is \$514,600 in grants from the State Farmland Preservation and Navy's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) programs. The project applicant and sponsor is Jefferson Land Trust; Project locations: S18 T27N R1W.

The information is available for viewing on the County website by visiting: www.co.jefferson.wa.us and follow this pathway – Services – Laserfiche Web Portal (username and password is: public) - Board of Commissioners – BOCC Agenda Packet – 2024 Weekly Agenda Items – 02 January 2024 – 01022024 – Hearing/Testimony re: Conservation Futures Program Project Applications in 2023

You are welcome to participate in this hearing. You will need to join the meeting by 10:15 a.m. using the following methods: **VIRTUALLY:** Via the following Zoom, link: <https://zoom.us/j/93777841705>, **PHONE:** Dial 1-253-215-8782 and enter access code: 937-7784-1705# and press *9 to “raise your hand” to be called upon. Access for the hearing impaired can be accommodated using Washington Relay Service at 1-800-833-6384, or **IN-PERSON**

To view documents or watch this meeting live with no participation, go to www.co.jefferson.wa.us Follow the links under “*Quick Links: Videos of Meetings: Today.*” If you experience difficulties joining the meeting or viewing documents please call 360-385-9100 to report any issues.

In addition, written testimony is also invited beginning on December 20, 2023 and ending on January 2, 2024 at the end of the Public Hearing, unless extended by the Board of County Commissioners. Written public testimony may be submitted by **Email to:** jeffbocc@co.jefferson.wa.us You may view testimony received by visiting: www.co.jefferson.wa.us and following this pathway – Services – Laserfiche Web Portal (username and password is: public) – Board of County Commissioners – BOCC Agenda Packets – 2023 Weekly Agenda Items – 01 January 2024 – 01022024 – Hearing/Testimony re: Conservation Futures Program Project Applications in 2023

You can also **Mail** your testimony to: Jefferson County Commissioners’ Office; P.O. Box 1220, Port Townsend, WA 98368. Written testimony must be received by the Board of County Commissioners by the end of the hearing testimony period.

Signed this 4th day of December, 2023.

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Greg Brotherton, Chair