

Proposed Final Report:  
**State Recreation and Habitat Lands**

Legislative Auditor's Conclusion:

**Legislature Would Benefit From  
Additional Information About Detailed  
Outcomes and Future Costs of  
Recreation and Habitat Lands When  
Considering Funding Requests**

JLARC Staff  
Ryan McCord • Rebecca Connolly

Staff to the Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee

July 2015

**Recreation and habitat lands owned or  
managed by three state agencies**

State Parks



**State Parks and  
Recreation Commission**

- 124 Parks

DNR



**Department of  
Natural Resources**

- 55 Natural Area Preserves
- 36 Natural Resources Conservation Areas

WDFW



**Department of Fish  
and Wildlife**

- 33 Wildlife Areas
- 690 Water Access Sites

## Agencies acquire land, offering limited information about detailed outcomes

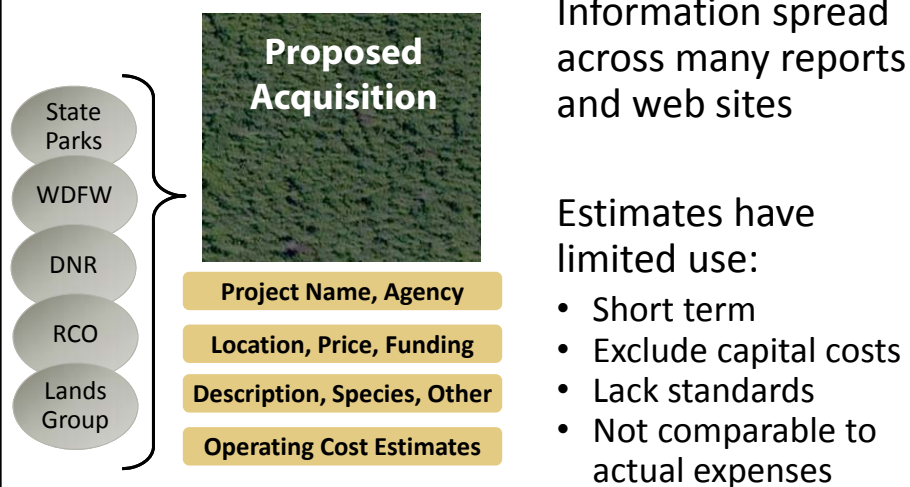
**Acreage owned or managed** by three state agencies **increased 11%** between 2004-2013

[Details on JLARC web site](#)

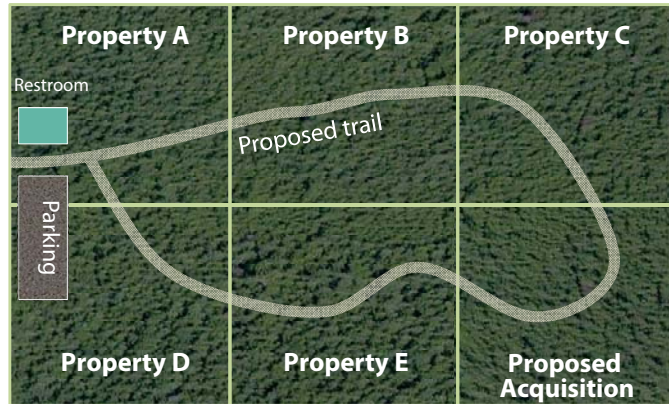
Information about **detailed outcomes and future costs** of proposed acquisitions is **limited**

[Recommendation: Single Information Source](#)

## Agencies offer basic data and limited estimates of future operating costs



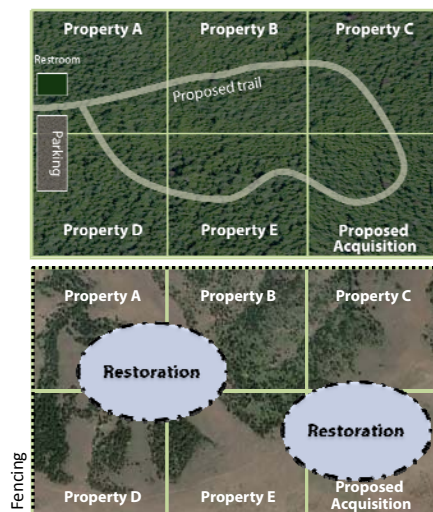
## Detailed outcomes for proposed acquisitions not reported to Legislature



## Detailed outcomes are needed to estimate future costs

Estimated **future costs** are needed for:

- Additional acquisitions
- Developments: trail, parking, restrooms
- Operations and maintenance



## Recommendation: Single source of complete and standardized information

Develop **single, easily accessible source for information:**

- ✓ proposed acquisitions
- ✓ detailed outcomes
- ✓ future costs

Implementation proposal  
due January 1, 2016

OFM, RCO,  
State Parks,  
DNR, WDFW

**Partially  
Concur**

## Contacts

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<http://leg.wa.gov/jlarc/reports/publicLandsInv/pf/default.htm>

[www.jlarc.leg.wa.gov](http://www.jlarc.leg.wa.gov)

