

**From:** [Van Leuven, Susan \(DFW\)](#)  
**To:** [Turcotte, Carol M \(DFW\)](#);  
**Subject:** FW: SDS Mitigation (PDR 10458)  
**Date:** Monday, November 29, 2010 1:38:16 PM

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Carol,

This is the last of the items I have to send relative to this request.

Susan Van Leuven

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**From:** Van Leuven, Susan (DFW)  
**Sent:** Tue 8/31/2010 12:06 PM  
**To:** Anderson, David P (DFW)  
**Subject:** RE: SDS Mitigation

Thanks for relaying. I agree with your comments on this.

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**From:** Anderson, David P (DFW)  
**Sent:** Tue 8/31/2010 8:34 AM  
**To:** Van Leuven, Susan (DFW)  
**Cc:** Jonker, Sandra A (DFW)  
**Subject:** FW: SDS Mitigation

This is what I sent Travis on the SDS mitigation parcel...

David P. Anderson  
District Wildlife Biologist  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
P.O. Box 68  
Trout Lake, WA 98650  
509-395-2232

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Nelson, Travis W (DFW)  
**Sent:** Mon 8/30/2010 9:12 PM  
**To:** Anderson, David P (DFW)

Subject: RE: SDS Mitigation

Thanks for taking a look at this parcel David. I will get in contact with you soon and discuss.

Travis

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From: Anderson, David P (DFW)  
Sent: Mon 8/30/2010 5:18 PM  
To: Nelson, Travis W (DFW)  
Subject: SDS Mitigation

I conducted a site visit to the SDS parcel in Silvas Creek again today as there was a fire there this weekend. The SDS parcel escaped as the fire was lower in the drainage.

I have a few thoughts on the parcel:

First the negative aspects:

1. Most of the property is fairly steep and does not have a lot of development threat. It seems to have little value to SDS in comparison to what they are developing in the Gorge.
2. The property is identified for its western gray squirrel values, but has little nesting habitat as the area is mostly oak.
3. The oak would have some food benefit for western gray squirrel, but I would not consider the site of high value and a priority for western gray squirrel conservation itself.
4. There are many (new) private ownerships that border the property and there would be issues regarding firewood cutting, trash etc if WDFW was to manage it. This is the area primarily on the east side of Silvas Creek. The area is being broken up into many small lots and there will be an increase in local residence that will utilize the property.

5. DNR would like to get out (trade, sell) of the adjacent state parcels due to the above issues they deal with.

The positive aspects:

1. The parcel is located within Silvas Creek and is connected on the upper and lower ends by some good fish and wildlife habitat.

2. Western gray squirrels on adjacent lands are most likely using certain aspects of the site for foraging.

3. IF DNR keeps their holdings in the area - the potential for a reasonable conservation area exists considering the surrounding landscape is being developed, primarily on the uplands.

Summary:

I believe the parcel is only of value to WDFW if the adjacent DNR parcel, in particular the 40 acre site immediately to the north stays in state ownership. In addition, the site would be enhanced if SDS considered (or we tried to negotiate) adding additional land from their ownership to the west of the DNR piece. That would be those forested lands east of Canyon road to the DNR 40. I suspect that is about 30 acres. I doubt they would offer that up. Considering they are developing 56 acres then a 2:1 mitigation would technically be 112 acres and that might offer some discussion for additional land at this site.

Since the Land Trust is really not that interested in the site, then I am not sure how WDFW would feel about owning the land itself. I would recommend that the 100 acres itself is of moderate value, but the 100 acres in combination with the adjacent DNR 40 and other SDS land upstream would make a decent conservation area.

I think we should still recommend further analysis closer to the project site and see where that goes. In the mean time we could keep this one in Silvas Creek on hold, and consider asking for some additional land upstream to be considered if something in the Gorge can't not be worked out. You will have to consider the potential for that discussion.

I assume SDS wants to mitigate the wind power project via land and not financial compensation. If financial compensation was considered, the money could be used for more "priority conservation" projects we are already working

on.

Call me and we can talk about this further.

Thanks