



## **Making Beacon Public**

Everyone loves riding at Beacon Hill. But did you know that most of your favorite trails are on private property? It's true, over half of the singletrack trail at Beacon is not publicly owned. Translation: you could lose access to your favorite trails at a moment's notice.

Evergreen East Mountain Bike Alliance announced the #makebeaconpublic campaign in the Spring of 2019 after numerous meetings with private landowners, City of Spokane Parks, Spokane County Parks, and the Inland Northwest Land Conservancy. Our goal is to make Beacon public so that future generations may continue to enjoy the world-class mountain biking we have right here in our own backyard.

Now, after over 15 years of advocating for Beacon Hill we have come up with a solution!

## **The Plan**

City of Spokane Parks and Spokane County Parks Departments in partnership with Evergreen East, Avista and Inland Northwest Land Conservancy are collaborating to apply for two joint grant applications totaling \$1.5M through the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) to conserve approximately 250 acres of Beacon Hill. If successful, RCO grant funding will be combined with Conservation Futures funds and partner contributions to complete the acquisition and preservation of property. The grant proposal seeks to:

1. Conserve land that contains a portion (the top) of Beacon Hill's Downhill Mountain Bike Course;
2. Conserve land that contains much of the core of Beacon Hill's cross-country trail system between Camp Sekani, Esmeralda Golf Course, Minnehaha Park, and Shields Park and;
3. Create through acquisition a block of properties which collectively may serve as a single large park

## **How can you help?**

Evergreen East has pledged \$15,000 in matching funds in order to make the RCO grants maximally competitive. We are confident in our potential success at landing these grants, but we need your help in order to demonstrate that preserving Beacon Hill is enthusiastically supported by the community.

**You can support this cause by:**

1. Donating online to Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance and selecting Evergreen *East* as your chapter. Any donation amount above \$35 will include an Evergreen membership. <https://www.evergreenmtb.org/support-us/donate>
2. Attend Evergreen East events such as our spring kickoff film and auction on March 29 at the Cracker Building in downtown Spokane.
3. Get involved as a volunteer with Evergreen East. Contact us at [info@evergreen.org](mailto:info@evergreen.org)

**What will happen to your donation if the RCO grants are not awarded to Beacon Hill?**

Evergreen East has a big 2020 planned and your donations will go toward trail projects in the community including:

1. Completing Upper 290 (The Goods) at Mt Spokane State Park.
2. Completing the Silicate Slide flow trail at Mica Peak Conservation Area.
3. Maintaining and expanding riding opportunities at other non-motorized multi-use areas around the region.

**Following is a map representing the proposed RCO grant property acquisition concept:**

