

## March-April NYCU

### Grants Available in 2011

RCO is offering grants for 2011 that can help you complete your outdoor recreation projects. This year you may submit applications for federal grants to build parks, develop boat moorage, and build or maintain trails. Grant applications will be accepted through **May 2, 2011** in the following programs:

#### Boating

The [Boating Infrastructure Grant Program](#) provides grants to develop and renovate boating facilities or provide boater education programs aimed at motor boats 26 feet and longer.

#### Parks

The [Land and Water Conservation Fund](#) provides grants to acquire land and develop parks, ball fields, sports courts, outdoor swimming pools, and waterfront access areas for the public.

#### Trails

- [Recreational Trails Program](#)
- [Land and Water Conservation Fund](#)

Funding to maintain backcountry trails, develop trails and trail related facilities, or to provide education for trail users.

### Planning Deadline Approaches

Don't forget to check your agency's eligibility for grants. You must meet the RCO planning requirement by **August 1, 2011** to apply for a [Land and Water Conservation Fund](#) grant.

### Fiscal Year End Reports Due in June

We are fast approaching the end of the state's fiscal year. This means we want you to submit a bill with the required backup documentation for your project.

As you know, progress reports and final reports are PRISM tools RCO uses for active projects to monitor progress and identify successes of a funded project. Grant recipients must submit these electronic reports by the deadlines included in your project agreement and when requested by RCO staff. If you have not submitted a report within the last few weeks, please do so now. For more information about submitting a progress report, please review the Progress Report Questions and Answers sheet.

In February, RCO launched electronic final reports. This report must be completed before RCO releases final payment for your project. You may start a final report at any time. In fact, we encourage you to check it out now, so you can make sure you keep track of the information required when closing a project. You may want to review the [Final Report FAQ](#) document and see if it answers some of your questions about our reporting requirement.

As always, if you have additional questions, just contact your RCO grants manager.

### Expanded Bill Documentation for all of RCO Grants in Place:

In an effort to meet federal and state auditing requirements, RCO has changed the amount of documentation that grant recipients will submit with their bills to RCO. Grant recipients are assigned a category that determines the amount of documentation that must be submitted with each bill.

All sponsors have been alerted to their classification. If there are any questions about your classification, please contact your grant manager. More information about the current process [Questions and Answers document](#) and [presentation](#).

## Grant Reimbursement Training

Did you know RCO provides special training on how to submit your bills? We provide this through the Internet using online meeting software. From the comfort of your own desk (or wherever your computer resides), you can receive the training. This training goes over the basics in grant reimbursements, the forms, the processes, and the theory behind it all. [Register](#) Online.

## New Report Shows Some Salmon Populations Improving

Did you know that of the 12 Endangered Species Act listed salmon with available data, 8 are stable or increasing? Did you know that one species, Hood Canal summer chum appears to be near its spawning goal. Find out these and other interesting facts in the recently released [2010 State of the Salmon in Watersheds](#). The report consolidates information from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, the Forum on Monitoring Salmon Recovery and Watershed Health, and watershed planning efforts into a single biennial report on the statewide status of salmon recovery and watershed health. Like previous reports, the 2010 report contains indicators of adult and juvenile fish abundance, watershed health, and implementation. The report also identifies key information gaps and overarching threats to salmon recovery.

Hard copies are available but limited. The [report](#) is available online or by contact [Jennifer Johnson](#) at (360) 902-2219, TDD 360-902-1996.

## Salmon Grant Successful Applicant Training Online

If you are a new grant recipient or simply need a refresher on Salmon Recovery Funding Board policies and procedures, we highly recommend that you attend an online training from the convenience of your office. You'll watch a live presentation on your computer and listen from your telephone. You can use a speakerphone for multiple listeners. You also will get to ask questions and listen to others like you.

### Training Highlights

- Overview of important changes in PRISM
- The fundamentals of the project agreement
- Changes to the salmon recovery grants manual
- Sponsor profile: how it affects you
- Opportunity for questions and answers with a SRFB grant manager
- Resources and information for managing your grant

Meeting Dates	Meeting Time	SRFB Staff Trainers
April 12	1:30-3 p.m.	Dave Caudill Tara Galuska Kay Caromile
April 20	10 a.m. - Noon	Mike Ramsey Marc Duboiski Kat Moore

**Register by E-mailing:** [Lucienne.Guyot@rco.wa.gov](mailto:Lucienne.Guyot@rco.wa.gov). Please note which meeting you'd like to attend. Once registered, you'll receive e-mail confirmation along with steps to join the online meeting.

## RCO Updates its Planning Policies, Deadline Moved Up

RCO recently revised its [Manual 2](#) Planning Policies, including establishing a standardized planning deadline for all grants that is two months before applications are due. Other features of the updated manual include a bit of reorganization and the addition of Level of Service (LOS) information, which gives agencies a way to begin to answer the question of how many parks are enough.

Remember, you only need to have a plan on file with RCO for grant applications in these programs:

- Boating Facilities Program (BFP)
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)\*
- Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)\*

*\*Some exceptions apply in the NOVA program – no plans are needed for maintenance and operation or education and enforcement projects. In the WWRP no plans are needed for farmland preservation projects.*

This might be a good time to start thinking about any potential 2012 grant applications to RCO. Does your organization have a current plan? Will your planning process be complete? Check your [eligibility status](#). See the link in the Eligible Agencies box.

## **2011 Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program Investment Plan Approved**

The Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program's draft 2011 Investment Plan was approved recently by the Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council. The projects contained in this investment plan represent the best opportunities available to advance nearshore ecosystem recovery in Puget Sound. It should be noted that the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program has been identified as one of the Partnership's Tier 1 budget priorities in the Governor's budget. The announcement describes the program, its needs, and more importantly talks about the value of restoration for providing jobs and benefits to local communities.