

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



Projects in Chelan County

Washington State University Cooperative Extension **Grant Awarded: \$34,332** **Providing the 4-H Eco-Stewardship Program in Chelan County**

The Washington State University (WSU) Cooperative Extension in Chelan will use this grant to offer the 4-H Eco-Stewardship program to Wenatchee and Cascade School District students year-round. In this program, the students do maintenance and monitoring activities in shrub-steppe habitats, lowland valleys, and high alpine lakes and forests in the Wenatchee National Forest and on public land in the north central region of Washington State. The kids are given opportunities to engage in nature through meaningful projects that include natural resource education and recreational experiences. The 4-H Eco-Stewardship program began more than 15 years ago in response to the recommendations of a regional advisory committee comprised of school administrators, educators, and representatives from local, state, and federal natural resource management organizations. WSU Extension will contribute \$47,833 in donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1416)

Wenatchee River Institute **Grant Awarded: \$27,237** **Providing a Travelling Naturalist for Schoolyard Science**

The Wenatchee River Institute will use this grant to pay for a naturalist to teach hands-on, science and outdoor activities in four schools in the Wenatchee School District. The Travelling Naturalist program was developed in partnership with the school district as part of an after-school program to enhance education opportunities for under-served, at-risk, and academically-challenged students. Some of the activities include creating rain sticks to learn about the water cycle and rain, nature journaling to learn about observation and reflection, and school yard scavenger hunts to look more closely at the world around them. The grant also will pay for field trips every 6 weeks to Confluence State Park. The Wenatchee River Institute will contribute \$16,800 in in-kind services. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1072)

Projects in Clark County

Clark County **Grant Awarded: \$13,440** **Expanding Camp Hope in Southwest Washington**

Clark County will use this grant to expand activities at its Camp Hope by buying equipment, hiring staff, and upgrading orienteering, geocaching, and archery courses. Camp Hope is in Battle Ground, along the North Fork Lewis River. Camp Hope seeks to empower youth, particularly at-risk youth, and provide them with skills to overcome life's challenges through outdoor recreation, nature-based education, and mentoring. Additional activities will attract

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



more youth and provide new opportunities to teach important life skills such as team building, leadership, and self-confidence. Camp Hope was created to help combat the rise of teen suicides, substance abuse, and low academic performance in southwest Washington. Camp Hope provides creative ways for youth to connect with caring adults and other youth, helping them feel valued and accepted. Clark County will contribute \$22,410 in a local grant and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1463)

For more projects, see the section titled "Multiple Counties" at the end of this document.

Projects in Clallam County

NatureBridge

Grant Awarded: \$26,000

Providing Outdoor Experiences for Olympic Peninsula Youth

NatureBridge will use this grant to provide year-round, experiential environmental education for Olympic Peninsula youth. NatureBridge repurposed a more than 100-year-old family vacation lodge on the shores of Lake Crescent to serve as an environmental learning center that today serves more than 4,000 students and teachers yearly. This grant will provide scholarships for students. Students from Forks and Port Angeles will have access to environmental education during the school year and summer. The Olympic Peninsula is home to what may be the most complex ecosystem in the United States. Yet many young people who call the peninsula home spend little or no time exploring the region. NatureBridge's mission is to foster environmental literacy to sustain the planet. This project represents a shared vision by NatureBridge and Port Angeles and Forks schools. Naturebridge will contribute \$84,000 from a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1073)

North Olympic Salmon Coalition

Grant Awarded: \$8,925

Offering the "Real Learning, Real Work" Education Program

The North Olympic Salmon Coalition will use this grant to offer the "Real Learning, Real Work" education program to middle school students. In the program, students design habitat restoration actions in their region's watersheds, and eventually plant the trees they specify in their action plans at nearby sites. This program links academic work with careers that these students can imagine right in their communities—specifically in the natural resources sector and the growing restoration economy. The education program helps students develop a better understanding of healthy environments and fosters an intimate relationship with their local salmon streams. Students walk away each year with applied skills in both critical thinking and problem solving that are uniquely developed through fieldwork at a local restoration site. The program teaches students to evaluate habitat, engineer solutions, and respond to the complexities of restoring wild salmon stocks to local watersheds. In the past, teachers have reported students who were seldom engaged in the classroom were "on fire" when given the opportunity to act as nursery managers at student planting events. The North Olympic Salmon

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



Coalition will contribute \$9,691 from another grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1182)

Olympic Peninsula Boys & Girls Club Offering the Big Backyard Summer Camp

Grant Awarded: \$18,273

The Olympic Peninsula Boys & Girls Club will use this grant to provide 70 kids, ages 6-18, a 10-week summer program, called Our Big Backyard Summer Morning Camp. Each week's thematic unit culminates with a field trip to a destination, which exposes youth to hiking, camping, outdoor cooking, beachcombing, swimming, tide-pool searching, kayaking, agate rock collecting, plant species collecting, kite flying, winter storm watching, and just soaking up the sun, enjoying the outdoors. A child's sense of coordination develops more quickly when outdoors and children tend to be more adventurous outdoors. Not only is playing outdoors great because of the fresh air and sunshine, but it also encourages children to work harder to develop coordination and motor skills while learning about the plants, trees, and animals that are in their big backyard on the Olympic Peninsula. For many at-risk and disadvantaged youth, their only opportunity to escape the boundaries of their community is through this summer camp. The Olympic Peninsula Boys & Girls will contribute \$45,500. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1151)

Projects in Cowlitz County

Longview

Grant Awarded: \$27,288

Getting Kids Outside in the Longview Parks and Recreation Go Green! Project

The Longview Parks and Recreation Department Go Green! Project will use this grant to hire an environmental education specialist and a gardening and nutrition specialist to enhance its summer day camp programs. The grant also will pay for transportation and additional staff so that each child can go on three field trips to the nearby Mount Saint Helens Institute and Seaquest and Lewis and Clark State Parks. This program fills a much-needed gap in affordable summer care focused on nature, nutrition, and outdoor activities. The City's day camps were full last year with more than 130 children registered. At least 40 percent of children served this year will be from low-income families. The Go Green! Project will provide elementary-aged children with the chance to hike, cook outdoors, canoe, fish, and practice orienteering in regional natural wildlife areas. Longview will contribute \$117,351 in cash, equipment, a federal grant, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1441)

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



Projects in Franklin County

Confluence Project

Grant Awarded: \$10,439

Teaching Kids about the Columbia River System and its People

The Confluence Project will use this grant to pair about 200 students and their teachers from a Pasco school with Native American educators, ecologists, and tradition keepers to learn about the Columbia River system and its cultural history, and to create meaningful art projects that connect people to place. The students from Marie Curie STEM Elementary School in the Pasco School District will attend four days of field trips during which they will engage with indigenous educators leading lessons that integrate environmental education, science, and cultural and language arts. The field trips will be to Sacajawea State Park, a 254-acre park at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers near Pasco. As a result, the students will improve and broaden their understanding of river-, land-, and people-based Columbia River ecologies, and the civic stewardship needed for these resources. The Confluence Project will contribute \$3,786 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1079)

Projects in King County

Horn of Africa Services

Grant Awarded: \$23,631

Offering Year-Round Outdoor Programs for East African Youth

The Horn of Africa Services will use this grant to continue its Summer Youth Engagement Program and begin an Adventure Club to provide a year-round portal to the outdoors for east African immigrant and refugee youth in south Seattle. The two programs provide transportation, instruction, and peer support to help these students feel comfortable participating in new outdoor recreation activities, such as hiking, climbing, and swimming. These activities have been introduced in summer programs, but with yearlong exposure, the youth could build skills and become truly comfortable participating in these activities. Swimming is a particularly important because Seattle is near so many bodies of water, and most of the youth have little swimming experience. The Horn of Africa Services runs programs out of two south Seattle neighborhoods—Rainier Vista and New Holly. The Horn Of Africa Services will contribute \$10,530 in donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1119)

King County

Grant Awarded: \$17,770

Providing Outdoor Experiences in King County's GOAL Program

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks will use this grant to offer ten field trips for youth from White Center to national, state, and local parks for activities such as hiking, camping, cycling, kayaking, snowshoeing, and wildlife watching. Through its Get Out & Learn (GOAL) program, King County will introduce 100 at-risk adolescents from the White Center Teen Program to direct outdoor education and recreation opportunities. GOAL integrates educational

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



concepts of leadership, problem solving, teamwork, water safety, environmental awareness, and nutrition. Located between Seattle and Burien, the White Center community has higher than average levels of households with poor health and low income. King County will contribute \$20,000 in in-kind services. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1156)

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Grant Awarded: \$26,988

Providing Outdoor Education in the Mountains to Sound Greenway

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will use this grant to provide students instruction in three classroom sessions, a field trip to a local forest or natural area, and participation in a restoration event. This extended engagement sets the Greenway Education Program apart from other programs. The trust strives to conserve a 1.5 million-acre landscape that is a cornerstone of the quality of life for nearly 4 million people living in or around the Mountains to Sound Greenway. The trust believes that one of the most impactful things it can do is instill a conservation ethic in young people to ensure this good work is continued and expanded. For nearly two decades, the Greenway Education Program has been engaging King County students in locally focused, hands-on learning about the region's environment and the challenges in conserving it as the cities and population grow. The goal of this program is to teach and inspire the next generation of environmental stewards. Greenway educators work with some of the nation's most ethnically diverse school districts, and focus recruitment efforts on schools with a high free and reduced lunch rate to ensure the program reaches children with the greatest financial need. The Mountains to Sound Greenway will contribute \$35,175 from local grant and private grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1080)

Northwest Youth Corps

Grant Awarded: \$17,069

Offering Summer Camp for Queer Youth

Northwest Youth Corps and OUT There Adventures will use this grant to introduce youth to the outdoors by leading ten queer young people and their crew leaders on 4 weeks of conservation service in Mount Rainier National Park, Olympic National Park, Lewis and Clark National Historic Park, and Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve. The program will culminate with a kayaking trip in the San Juan Islands, near the northern islands of Matia, Sucia, and Patos. This program has been designed to offer outdoor education, adventure, community, job-training, and employment to young people who identify as queer, increase their social inclusion in the outdoors, and provide them with paid conservation service opportunities. The Northwest Youth Corps will contribute \$61,625 in a federal grant, in-kind services, and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1173)

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



Refugee Women's Alliance

Grant Awarded: \$31,450

Branch Out: Expanding Outdoor Exploration to Immigrant Children

The Refugee Women's Alliance will use this grant to provide outdoor environmental education to 40 elementary school children in south Seattle during school breaks. The alliance will combine outdoor excursions and literacy activities to educate children on conservation and responsible use of state parks. They will experience ecosystem exploration in the Cedar River watershed, snowshoeing in Gold Creek Basin, and bouldering in Peshastin Pinnacles State Park. This project seeks to overcome cultural, linguistic, and financial barriers that often preclude children of refugee and immigrant families from exposure to the natural environment. By providing safe, engaging activities that emphasize learning about water cycles and geology, the alliance hopes to tap into children's natural curiosity and help them see their roles as environmental stewards. Children will receive books on the environment, journals, and art supplies to record experiences, allowing them to experiment with expression and practice scientific observation and species identification. Afterwards, children will write letters to state and federal agencies about protecting public lands, furthering literacy skills while also solidifying their role as stewards. The Refugee Women's Alliance will contribute \$147,157 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1036)

Seattle

Grant Awarded: \$42,655

Providing At-risk Teens with Outdoor Opportunities

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to support its Outdoor Opportunities (O2) Program, which provides at-risk, inner city teens with access to outdoor recreation, environmental education, and conservation activities. The O2 program serves Seattle teenagers 15 to 19 years old at Camp Long and Discovery Park Environmental Learning Centers. The O2 program provides weekly educational workshops on topics such as outdoor living skills, wildlife, nature science, and environmental careers. The workshops are combined with monthly overnight trips that might include backpacking, canoeing, rafting, rock climbing, snow camping, and fishing. The teens also complete conservation service projects, such as planting, restoring shorelines, wildlife rehabilitation, and building trails. The grant will cover the costs of two AmeriCorps representatives, an undergraduate intern, contracted services, minor operating expenses, and participants' stipends for job training programs. Seattle will contribute \$80,400. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1019)

YMCA of Greater Seattle

Grant Awarded: \$45,000

Providing Wilderness Experiences through an Outdoor Leadership Program

The YMCA of Greater Seattle will use this grant to implement its Boys and Girls Outdoor Leadership Development (BOLD/GOLD) program. This wilderness experience and education program is designed to develop leadership skills in kids through challenging outdoor activities. The YMCA of Greater Seattle will contribute \$583,301 from a private grant and donations of cash

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



and equipment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1046)

Young Women Empowered Providing Nature Connections for Young Women

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

Young Women Empowered will use this grant to offer Y-WE Nature Connections, a year-round education program for women ages 12-18 based in Seattle. In this program, the young women, along with adult women mentors, engage in outdoor recreation and environmental learning and stewardship activities in diverse locations around the region. Many Y-WE girls live in cities and have limited opportunities to explore the natural world. Of the current Y-WE youth, 60 percent are first or second generation immigrants, 80 percent are of color, and 90 percent are from low-income backgrounds. Y-WE Nature Connections provides many girls with their first immersive experience in wilderness, and also teaches them how to be active outside, close to home. Girls and mentors learn about the natural world as they hike, rock climb, backpack, camp, snowshoe, canoe, engage in hands-on stewardship, and more. Young Women Empowered will contribute \$101,252 in staff labor, in-kind services, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1016)

For more projects, see the section titled "Multiple Counties" at the end of this document.

Projects in Kitsap County

IslandWood Offering an Outdoor Overnight

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

IslandWood will use this grant to offer a School Overnight Program, which is an outdoor environmental education program serving fourth- to sixth-grade students from across the Puget Sound region. More than half of the students come from schools where at least 40 percent of the students are eligible for free and reduced-price school meals. IslandWood's School Overnight Program uses inquiry-based learning and engaging experiences in nature to strengthen students' understanding of academic concepts, develop their critical thinking skills, and increase their enthusiasm for learning and the natural world. The program is uniquely accessible to underserved communities throughout the Puget Sound region because of its closeness to Seattle and its scholarship program. IslandWood will contribute \$173,428 in donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1470)

For more projects, see the section titled "Multiple Counties" at the end of this document.

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



Projects in Kittitas County

Kittitas Environmental Education Network Connecting Kids to Nature

Grant Awarded: \$59,505

The Kittitas Environmental Education Network (KEEN) will use this grant to create and offer outdoor science activities. KEEN will develop 48 place-based, 1-hour outdoor science activities on subjects such as winter ecology, spring phenology, geology, and aquatic biology. KEEN will employ one or more veterans and train a cadre of community volunteers to offer these lessons in afterschool programs, during free summer lunches in community parks, and at its annual summer camp. KEEN also will lease a van to improve access for low-income families to its summer camp. During the school year, KEEN expects to engage 125 kids in its afterschool classes and to reach 185 low-income children in its other activities. The Kittitas Environmental Education Network will contribute \$72,760 in donations of cash, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1478)

Projects in Klickitat County

Columbia Gorge Ecology Institute Providing the Pathfinder Outdoor School for Middle-Schoolers

Grant Awarded: \$72,819

The Columbia Gorge Ecology Institute will use this grant to support the Pathfinder Outdoor Adventure Program, a 3-day camp for Klickitat County students in grades 5-8. Each student participates in eight outdoor sessions at Brooks State Park: astronomy, stewardship, camping, healthy living, fishing, hiking, orienteering, art, and outdoor cooking. On the third day, students take field trips to eastern Washington state parks and trails. Many of the rural Klickitat County students are at a high risk of dropping out from drug and alcohol use, poverty, and academic disadvantages. Though these students are from a rural areas, they have limited knowledge of the environment surrounding them. The Columbia Gorge Ecology Institute will contribute \$78,500 in donations of cash, equipment, and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1071)

Projects in Lewis County

Mount Saint Helens Institute Providing the Volcano Outdoor School at Mount Saint Helens

Grant Awarded: \$25,525

The Mount Saint Helens Institute will use this grant to provide an outdoor, science-based education project to 900 youth on Mount Saint Helens, a national volcanic monument in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The institute will offer day and overnight trips to bring youth face-to-face with geologic forces and discover the amazing stories of wildlife in the heart of the Mount Saint Helens blast zone. The activities will primarily take place at the Science and Learning Center in the Mount Saint Helens Visitor Center at Silver Lake and on the south side of

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



the monument. Activities will include guided hikes, immersed learning using GPS (global positioning system) units, journaling, field studies, and more. The institute's goal is to connect underserved youth to Mount Saint Helens and the natural world to enrich their appreciation and understanding of the Pacific Northwest's youngest and most active volcano. Participating schools in Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Skamania, and Wahkiakum Counties will be selected based on the percentage of students receiving free and reduced meals and those not meeting the state standards for science testing. The Mount Saint Helens Institute will contribute \$29,794 in a federal grant and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1488)

Projects in Mason County

Hands-On Personal Empowerment (HOPE) Garden Project Helping Youth through Environmental Restoration

Grant Awarded: \$8,800

HOPE will use this grant to expand its summer program serving older youth in Mason County. HOPE works with youth, who are often homeless, poor, dealing with addiction, not in school, or burdened with other hardships. The program helps these young people develop usable, employable skills and learn how to function successfully in society. Last year, HOPE began a pilot program with older youth doing environmental education and restoration projects. The group asked experts in environmentally focused careers to lead hikes in forests and along shorelines and wetlands. The experts taught the kids about the plants and animals and related careers while at the same time doing restoration or cleanup work. The youth participants felt deep, meaningful connections to the earth and themselves when taken to remote sites and experienced things completely new, bolstering their sense of empowerment and optimism about their futures. HOPE will contribute \$8,800 from a local grant and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1113)

Hood Canal School District Offering Kids Outdoor Experiences through the BOOTS Program

Grant Awarded: \$61,147

The Hood Canal School District will use this grant to expand its Bringing Outdoor and Occupational Teaching to Students (BOOTS) program to at-risk youth. The program is a year-long, school-based program that aims to expose students to the region's natural beauty and its resources through hands-on learning. Primary activities are two fold: (1) adventure-based opportunities, including hiking, wilderness backpacking, kayaking, and climbing, and (2) outdoor environmental science lessons base on shoreline and estuary studies tied to career readiness. The Hood Canal School District will contribute \$20,500. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1394)

For more projects, see the section titled "Multiple Counties" at the end of this document.

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



Projects in Okanogan County

Northwest Outward Bound School Expanding the Methow Valley Youth Outdoor Program

Grant Awarded: \$22,650

The Northwest Outward Bound School will use this grant to offer seventh- and ninth-grade students in the Methow Valley School District the chance to rock climb, rappel, hike, cook outdoors, and camp in the woods in the Methow Valley, mostly at the Northwest Outward Bound School Base Camp in Mazama. The overall goals of this project are to provide opportunities for students to connect to the wilderness surrounding them and to their school by engaging students and school staff in team building challenges and trust exercises. The grant will pay for direct program expenses including goods and services, travel, meals, lodging; equipment, staff, and contracted services. The Northwest Outward Bound School will contribute \$22,697 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1448)

Projects in Pierce County

Pierce County Providing Outdoor Experiences for Court-Assisted Teens

Grant Awarded: \$53,150

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to fund its LIFE (Leadership Instruction and Field Experiences) Program, which provides court-associated teens (ages 13-17) living in unincorporated Pierce County with access to outdoor experiences. The teens will attend sessions once a week for 6 weeks to build life skills and positive pro-social relationships. They will experience nature-based experiential learning and leadership development, hands-on stewardship service projects embedded with environmental education lessons, and practice in outdoor activities, such as rock climbing, canoeing, fishing, and hiking. The program will culminate in a trip to a state park. As part of the program, youth will be introduced to many activity providers who can help them pursue outdoor recreation beyond the program. In the first year of the program, five sessions will be offered to about 50 youth. Washington State University's Cooperative Extension and Pierce County Juvenile Court are key partners for this project. Pierce County will contribute \$19,995 in in-kind services. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1120)

Sound Experience Rebuilding Young Lives on the Water in Tacoma

Grant Awarded: \$23,060

Sound Experience and the Tacoma Community Boat Builders will use this grant to take 100 at-risk youth aboard the 133-foot Adventuress. The group will offer four 3-hour programs on Commencement Bay and a 3-day journey, including visiting a state park from the water. The program, called Partnership to Rebuild Young Lives on the Water, provides on-the-water experiences for youth who have been involved with the Pierce County Juvenile Court system. Through powerful outdoor maritime experiences, high youth-to-adult ratios, and shipboard and

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



shoreside community support and trust, the partnership hopes the young people can begin to make life-saving changes and “look to the water” for healing and future maritime careers. Sound Experience will contribute \$10,800 from a private grant and donations of labor. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1136)

University of Washington’s Mount Rainier Institute Offering Outdoor Schools to Underserved Youth

Grant Awarded: \$37,481

The University of Washington’s Mount Rainier Institute will use this grant to support underserved students in its Outdoor School programs. Overnight environmental education programs (Outdoor Schools) are powerful experiences for kids. These programs not only are important sources of science education and academic enrichment, but they help students develop positive connections to the environment, foster awareness and appreciation for the outdoors, promote environmental stewardship, expose kids to outdoor recreation activities like snowshoeing, and support positive social and community development. Not all students have the opportunity to experience these programs. Recognizing the need, University of Washington’s School of Environmental and Forest Science and Mount Rainier National Park created the Mount Rainier Institute’s Outdoor School program, which uses the resources of University of Washington’s Pack Forest and Mount Rainier National Park to provide nature-based education experiences rooted in science and aimed at nurturing the next generation of environmental stewards and leaders. The University of Washington’s Mount Rainier Institute will contribute \$120,550 from another grant. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1392)

For more projects, see the section titled “Multiple Counties” at the end of this document.

Projects in Snohomish County

North Counties Family Services Providing a Summer Camp in Darrington

Grant Awarded: \$21,300

North Counties Family Services will use this grant to offer a 6-week summer day camp for 50 youth focused on science, technology, engineering, math, literacy, and art. The grant also will support the Darrington Outdoor Club, which provides year-round outdoor activities for kids, such as hiking, backpacking, camping, rafting, biking, climbing, skating and more. The club emphasizes engagement with the natural world and learning through experience and offers a place to find friendship and belonging. The goal of the Darrington Outdoor Project is to provide outdoor activities and learning for youth in Darrington schools and the greater Stillaguamish River valley. Darrington’s landscape is unparalleled, but the devastation caused by the collapse of the timber industry has left youth isolated with few viable options for success. The Darrington Outdoor Project will help youth connect with the natural world that surrounds their community through hands-on exploration as well as classroom learning. North Counties Family Services will contribute \$31,578 in staff labor, another grant, and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1050)

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



Projects in Spokane County

Camp Fire Inland Northwest Council Providing Outdoor Learning for Urban Spokane Youth

Grant Awarded: \$46,554

The Camp Fire Inland Northwest Council will use this grant to provide outdoor education for 180 low-income urban youth, between 5 and 14 years old in Spokane County. The goal of the program is to get kids outside, building productive lives through youth leadership, camping, and environmental education. Children will participate in hiking, boating, swimming, fishing, archery, pacing, orienteering, knife safety, whittling, fire building, and camp cooking. Many of the youth are at risk for health problems including obesity and anxiety, as well as gang recruitment, and academic failure. Housing instability, trauma, and hunger are daily realities for these kids, and many of the public parks in their Spokane neighborhoods are unsafe because of crime and drug use. The council will bring 150 children to Camp Dart-Lo summer day camp in Spokane County, and 30 children to overnight summer camp at Camp Sweyolakan on Lake Coeur d'Alene. In addition, during the school year, 150 children will participate in after-school programming at Dart-Lo and Riverside State Park. The Camp Fire Inland Northwest Council will contribute \$28,406 from grants and in-kind services. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1451)

Spokane Providing Spokane Parks Rx Outdoor Adventure Camp

Grant Awarded: \$35,000

The City of Spokane will use this grant to provide a 1-week camp to at-risk youth in the Spokane area. Participants will be given the opportunity to hike, bike, canoe, kayak, paddleboard, and white water raft. The Spokane Parks Rx Outdoor Adventure Camp is a partnership between parks and recreation professionals and health care providers. Its goal is to provide at-risk youth with outdoor recreation and education opportunities to improve their health, academics, and social environments. The camp will take place throughout the Spokane area, including Riverside State Park, county parks, and various trails, waterways, and city parks. Spokane will contribute \$36,237 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1134)

Projects in Thurston County

For projects, see the section titled "Multiple Counties" at the end of this document.

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



Projects in Whatcom County

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association Educating Kids about Salmon

Grant Awarded: \$34,850

The Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association will use this grant to provide hands-on, outdoor science education for fourth-graders through the Students for Salmon Program. The salmon enhancement association will create "stream scientists" through a series of in-classroom and field experiences. Students will assess habitat to determine if the creek is healthy enough for salmon, and then restore the study site. Through these activities, the students will increase their interest, motivation, and attitudes towards learning, while achieving environmental stewardship. The Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association will contribute \$98,050 in a federal grant, a local grant, a state grant, and in-kind services. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1464)

North Cascades Institute Offering the North Cascades Youth Leadership Adventures

Grant Awarded: \$60,000

North Cascades Institute will use this grant to fund the Youth Leadership Adventures, an education and outdoor recreation program that immerses youth in North Cascades National Park and regional national forests and state parks. The goal of program is to inspire a lifelong conservation ethic in the next generation of environmental leaders. The youth participate in a suite of programs: 8- and 12-day backcountry courses, a leadership summit, an ambassadors program, and internships. During backcountry courses, kids canoe, backpack, and complete stewardship projects, while receiving training in recreation, leadership, science, and communication. This program serves young people who have leadership potential and interest in the environment, but lack the resources and support to act. Participants come from immigrant, rural, poor, tribal, and underserved communities and 86 percent receive full scholarships. Designed for students with no outdoor experience, the institute provides all the gear, food, and transportation. The North Cascades Institute will contribute \$198,760 in cash, other grants, in-kind services, and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1111)

Wild Whatcom Providing Outdoor Learning in Bellingham through Nature EdVentures

Grant Awarded: \$32,495

Partnering with Bellingham schools, Wild Whatcom will use this grant to provide 195 hands-on outings in local natural areas and state parks for 30 classrooms. Through a series of nature-based outings that take place during the school day, students will immerse themselves in the natural world and build a sense of place, scientific inquiry skills, positive character traits, and community stewardship. The program, called EdVentures, allows kids to learn about the earth, clamber over rocks (and look under them), wonder at the habits of fungi, make friends with plants, follow streams, play cooperative games, build shelters, and get dirty! Research shows that youth are becoming increasingly sedentary and disconnected from nature, with cascading

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



ramifications on health, academic success, and engagement. This “nature gap” disproportionately affects children from low-income households and students with disabilities. The Nature EdVentures Program helps reverse this trend by ensuring that children with the greatest can benefit from time in nature and outdoor environmental education. Wild Whatcom is a nonprofit dedicated to fostering enduring connections to nature and community through outdoor exploration and service. Wild Whatcom will contribute \$32,562 in a local grant and in-kind services. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1435)

Projects in Yakima County

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Providing the Outdoor Adventure Program

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

The Yakima Valley Farm Workers will use this grant to offer its Northwest Community Action Center's Outdoor Adventure Program, which is an after-school program that aims to provide meaningful outdoor experiences for youth who have little or no access to Washington's state and national parks. The outdoor program focuses on providing services to under-served, low-income, at-risk youth in the lower valley area of Yakima County. Through this program, kids experience a variety of activities, including hiking, camping, swimming, backpacking, outdoor cooking, and environmental outdoor education. The program's mission is to engage students in recreational learning experiences that promote personal responsibility and improve academic performance. These experiences are vital to preserving parks and developing youths' appreciation of Washington's diverse natural and cultural heritage. Yakima Valley Farm Workers will contribute \$34,697 in a federal grant. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1456)

Whatcom Family YMCA Offering Y Adventure School

Grant Awarded: \$29,725

The Whatcom Family YMCA will use this grant to support its Y Adventure School, which connects 180 students with the outdoors, guiding them to making healthier choices, communicating better, believing in their self-worth, and becoming leaders. Through dynamic outdoor educational experiences and group exercises, the program introduces middle school students to a world full of adventure—one they may have never had the opportunity to partake in before. Students are identified for a variety of reasons, including poor attendance, below average grades, problems at home, unhealthy peer relationships, substance abuse, and recent life trauma. The YMCA offer financial assistance to those in need. Whatcom Family YMCA will contribute \$12,800 from a local grant and donations of cash. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1489)

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



Projects in Multiple Counties

Clark, King

Big City Mountaineers Offering Teenagers Wilderness Mentoring

Grant Awarded: \$54,486

Big City Mountaineers will use this grant to fund its wilderness mentoring program that teaches critical life skills to teenagers from Seattle, Bellevue, and Vancouver. All of our activities are free to the teens and include day hikes and climbs, a fully outfitted 7-day backpacking expedition, expedition reunion, and opportunities for program alumni to participate as peer leaders and in National Outdoor Leadership School courses. Big City Mountaineers offers a unique and deeply connected experience with small groups of youth and adult mentors that are trained to connect to participants in a meaningful, safe, and supportive way. This provides a depth to the participant's experience that goes well beyond learning the technical skills of an outdoor activity. Big City Mountaineers will contribute \$56,472 in staff labor, in-kind services, and donations of cash, equipment, and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1013)

King and Pierce

Tiny Trees Preschool Expanding Outdoor Preschool in South King and Pierce Counties

Grant Awarded: \$35,000

Tiny Trees Preschool will use this grant to expand its outdoor education program for children ages 3 to 6 years old in south King and Pierce Counties. Each day, more than 270 children attend one of seven outdoor preschools in city, county, and state parks. The expanded program will target areas where the majority of children receive free and reduced lunch, and will include Seahurst Park in Burien, Five Mile Park near Puyallup, Beer Sheva Park in Renton, and Lake Sammamish State Park in Issaquah. In contrast to many outdoor programs where a child visits only once, Tiny Trees children are outdoors every day, year-round. Tiny Trees Preschool will contribute \$141,260 in a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1157)

Kitsap and Pierce Counties

The Mountaineers Expanding Mountain Workshops to Kitsap and Pierce Counties

Grant Awarded: \$74,490

The Mountaineers will use this grant to expand its Mountain Workshops to at-risk and low-income youth in Pierce and Kitsap Counties. The workshops provide recurring outdoor activities such as climbing, hiking, camping, paddling, outdoor cooking, snowshoeing, and stewardship. Because low-income families face significant barriers to accessing the outdoors, the Mountain Workshops provide transportation, financing, and access to gear. The Mountaineers will

No Child Left Inside Grant Summaries



contribute \$236,279 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1055)

Mason and Thurston Counties

Puget Sound Estuarium

Grant Awarded: \$32,286

Providing Ways for Kids to Explore, Connect, and Be Inspired with Puget Sound

The Puget Sound Estuarium will use this grant to provide outdoor environmental education for kindergarten through high school students in Thurston and Mason Counties. Specifically, the grant will pay for more staff hours and funding for coordinating community volunteers and hiring educators for field trips. Puget Sound Estuarium will take kids to explore the Capitol Land Trust's shoreline property in Shelton, conduct its "On the Water" field trip with North Thurston Public Schools, and provide "Meet the Beach" field trips. This project will educate students about estuaries, environmental science, and ways to protect Puget Sound. Many of these students do not have the resources to explore the nearby water. These field trips give kids an unforgettable experience in nature that encourages a life-long appreciation of waterways and estuaries. Puget Sound Estuarium will contribute \$17,944 in private and state grants, in-kind services, and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1116)

Pierce and Thurston Counties

Garden-Raised Bounty (GRuB)

Grant Awarded: \$74,000

Getting Teens Farming in Thurston and Pierce Counties

GRuB will use this grant to give teenagers a chance to farm. The nonprofit GRuB will offer its Youth Growing GRuB program, which provides more than 90 teenagers 7 weeks of hands-on summer job training and drop-out prevention programs and more than 100 teens a chance to farm at four sites during the school. The kids will grow 35,000 pounds of food, which is distributed to school nutrition programs, youth-run neighborhood markets, low-income families and seniors, and hunger programs. GRuB also will engage youth in after-school apprenticeships. The goal of the Youth Growing GRuB project is to reduce educational disparities for low-income and disengaged students and raise public awareness around issues of food security and environmental sustainability. Students will connect with hands-on science and community service opportunities that increase self-esteem, academic confidence, and environmental responsibility while also positively impacting local communities. Garden-Raised Bounty will contribute \$95,000 from three other grants and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1405)