



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

For immediate release: Sept. 10, 2004
(NR-001)

Contact: Susan Zemek, 360-902-3081
Communications Manager
E-mail: susanz@iac.wa.gov

\$1.2 Million in Trail Funding Approved, Projects in 12 Counties Make List

OLYMPIA – Trail projects in 12 counties will receive federal funding totaling about \$1.2 million, the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation announced today.

The Interagency Committee, which is responsible for evaluating and distributing the National Recreational Trails Program grants, approved a list of 36 projects in 12 counties at its quarterly meeting Sept. 9 in Olympia.

“Washington is a special place to live because there are so many great outdoor places to play,” said Laura Eckert Johnson, director of the Interagency Committee. “These grants invest money in maintaining what we have, fixing problems that are harming the environment, and making improvements so it’s easier for people to enjoy their time outdoors.”

Projects in the following counties were approved for funding:

Chelan County	\$191,091	Pierce County	\$35,000
King County	\$279,437	Skamania	Part of \$6,748
Kittitas County	\$96,325	Snohomish County	\$50,000
Lewis County	\$50,000	Whatcom County	\$70,905
Okanogan County	\$135,270	Yakima County	\$45,617
Pacific County	\$40,742	Statewide	\$150,000
Pend Oreille County	\$32,980		

Interagency Committee
Trail Funding
Sept. 9, 2004

This year, the Interagency Committee received 73 applications. The grant applications were reviewed and ranked in July and August by a 15-member evaluation team comprised of representatives of federal, state and local governments and recreational trail users, including hikers, equestrians, bicyclists, off-road vehicle users, snowmobilers and skiers.

Under federal guidelines, the Interagency Committee must allocate 40 percent of the funding to trail projects serving multiple uses, 30 percent to motorized recreation, and 30 percent to non-motorized recreation. The federal government also allows states to spend up to 5 percent for education programs to promote safety and environmental protection on trails.

Paid for by federal gasoline taxes, the National Recreational Trails Program funds projects that repair and maintain recreational trails and facilities to provide a backcountry experience. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation through the Federal Highway Administration and the state Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation.

A summary of the grant program is available at the Interagency Committee Web site at:
<http://www.iac.wa.gov/iac/grants/nrtp.htm>.

The Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation was established in 1964 to finance recreation and conservation projects throughout the state.



National Recreation Trails Program
Projects Recommended for Funding
September 2004

Chelan County \$191,091

Fixing More Than 100 Miles of Trails \$40,360

U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District

The grant will help fund maintenance for two years on 54 miles of non-motorized trails, which are open to hikers, horses and other pack animals and mountain bikes, and on 55 miles of wilderness trails. Work includes clearing trees and brush from trails and maintaining drainage, footbridges, wooden walkways, the trail surface and signs. (04-1098M)

Maintaining Wilderness Trails \$40,500

U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Leavenworth and Lake Wenatchee Ranger Districts

The grant will help fund maintenance work on 350 miles of wilderness trails, including clearing out trees and brush along the trails, fixing drainage issues and pathways in wet areas and rebuilding trail surfaces. (04-1106M)

Replacing a Bridge Destroyed by Fire \$50,000

U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District

The grant will help pay for the replacement of the 60-foot-span, 6.5-foot-wide Lakeshore Trail bridge over Fish Creek. The 55,000-acre Rex Creek fire in 2001 destroyed the bridge, which is just outside the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness boundary and was used by wilderness backpackers, horse and other pack animal users, and as a viewing platform by hikers camped at Moore Point. The project also includes work on a half-mile of trail from Moore Point to the bridge and installation of a new bulletin board and trail sign at the trail head. (04-1057D)

Maintaining the Henry M. Jackson Wilderness Trails \$32,821

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District

The grant will help fund a seven-person crew to work with volunteer groups on trail maintenance, such as clearing brush, fixing drainage issues, and repairing the trail surface along 102 miles of non-motorized trails within the heavily used Henry M. Jackson Wilderness. Less than two hours from Seattle, the trail provides 50,000 annual visitors a trip through old growth forests, scenic viewpoints and sub-alpine lakes. (04-1121M)



National Recreation Trails Program
Projects Recommended for Funding
September 2004

Educating the Public about Wilderness **\$7,500**

U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Leavenworth and Lake Wenatchee Ranger Districts - Educational Grant

The grant will help pay for housing, equipment, and other costs for two seasonal volunteer wilderness trail rangers, who will serve as the public contact in portions of three wilderness areas. They will help educate the 70,000 annual visitors to the ranger districts by providing information on minimum impact camping, proper stock and hiker etiquette, and the rationale for rules designed to protect wilderness resources. (04-1107E)

Providing Snowmobile Rangers **\$9,910**

U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District - Educational Grant

The grant will help fund two teams of snowmobile rangers on weekends from December through March in the Entiat and Lake Wenatchee ranger districts. The rangers are charged with educating the 42,000 snowmobilers on safe travel speeds, avalanche awareness, winter survival and trail etiquette. The teams also will help maintain more than 250 safety signs, hand out information and area maps, assist the Chelan County sheriff's office with rescue efforts and conduct a snowmobile safety classes for kids. (04-1052E)

Providing Snowmobiler Education Program **\$10,000**

U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District - Educational Grant

The grant will help fund a snowmobiler education program aimed at increasing the safety of winter users and reducing human impacts on wildlife on the 170 miles of groomed snowmobile trails in the district. A snowmobile ranger will provide information about safe winter travel, survival, the mule deer winter range and the Canadian lynx habitat. In addition, the ranger will install signs, post bulletin boards with information and interpretive messages and hand out brochures and maps. (04-1046E)

King County **\$279,437**

Hiring an Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance Crew **\$50,000**

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District

This grant will help fund a five-person crew for a season to perform maintenance along 125 miles of trails in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and surrounding backcountry. Work will include clearing trees and brush, fixing drainage issues and repairing the trail surface. The crews, along with volunteer groups, will concentrate on trails in the watersheds of the north, middle and south forks of the Snoqualmie River, including trails along Interstate 90 corridors. (04-1091M)

Rebuilding the Dorothy Lake Trail **\$50,000**

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District

This grant will help rebuild 2.2 miles of the Dorothy Lake Trail by repairing rotten structures and reducing erosion. The Dorothy Lake Trail is one of the most heavily used trails within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, seeing more than 5,000 users annually. (04-1110D)



National Recreation Trails Program

Projects Recommended for Funding

September 2004

Renovating the Mt. Si Trail

\$50,000

Washington State Department of Natural Resources

This grant will help finish the renovation of the 4-mile Mt. Si Trail near North Bend. Work includes renovation of the upper 2 miles of the trail from the Snag Flats Interpretive Area to the summit. (04-1078D)

Repairing Wind and Ice Storm Damage on West Tiger Mountain

\$38,000

Washington State Department of Natural Resources

This grant will help fund trail maintenance in the Tradition Plateau/West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area. The windstorm in December 2003 and the ice storm the following January severely damaged the trails, and especially the boardwalks. Work is expected to occur around the Lake/Bus Accessible Trail Loop, West Tiger #3, Wetlands/Round Lake, Section Line, Talus Rocks Loop, Tiger Mountain Trail and the Swamp/Kees Big Tree Boardwalks. (04-1074M)

Rebuilding the McClellan Butte Trail

\$50,000

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District

The grant will help fund the maintenance and rebuilding of sections of McClellan Butte Trail #1015, which begins near Interstate 90, 42 miles east of Seattle and climbs steeply to the summit of McClellan Butte, a 3,600' elevation gain. Work will include relocation or reconstruction to improve drainage and reduce the grade, clearing out trees and brush and re-grading slumping trail surfaces. (04-1141D)

Building a Pyramid Creek Parking Area

\$31,437

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District

The grant will help build a 1-acre parking area at the Pyramid Creek Sno-Park and improve the turnaround site, eliminating safety hazards. The parking area will serve as overflow parking for both the Naches and Greenwater trail heads. (04-1103D)

Funding the Alpine Lakes Volunteer Ranger Program

\$10,000

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District - Educational Grant

The grant will help fund the Volunteer Ranger Program for a year. The volunteer rangers patrol the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and backcountry; design educational programs; provide visitors with trail safety and resource protection information; maintain bulletin boards, trails and campsites; and help with community outreach programs. (04-1151E)

Kittitas County

\$96,325

Maintaining Alpine Lakes Wilderness Trail

\$40,000

U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District

This grant will help fund maintenance work on the 157 miles of trail within the Cle Elum Ranger District portion of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. The highest priorities for work will be the Waptus River, Pete Lake, Rachel Lake, Deception Pass and Pacific Crest trails. (04-1063M)



National Recreation Trails Program
Projects Recommended for Funding
September 2004

Repairing Jolly Mountain Trail **\$9,125**
U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District

The grant will help repair the Jolly Mountain Trail, a popular motorcycle trail that is badly rutted and eroding. Work will include surveying, planning and building a series of reroutes and climbing turns designed to lower the grade to as low as 10 percent from 40 percent. (04-1066D)

Building a wooden pathway on Shoestring Jeep Trail **\$37,500**
U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District

The grant will help fund construction of a 300-foot-long wooden pathway on Shoestring Jeep Trail #4W308 to allow users to cross a wet area. (04-1065D)

Hiring Winter Trail Patrols **\$9,700**
U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District - Educational Grant

The grant would pay for a team of safety and education rangers to patrol the district, provide visitors with snowmobile information and maps, maintain signs, aid in rescue efforts and educate trail users on safe travel speeds, winter survival, avalanche awareness, respect for wilderness and trail etiquette. The Cle Elum Ranger District manages more than a third of the snowmobile use in the state and the rangers patrol about 21 snow parks, more than 500 miles of groomed trails and thousands of acres of snowmobile off-trail riding areas. (04-1067E)

Lewis County **\$50,000**

Purchasing Snowmobiles for Trail Grooming **\$50,000**
Mount Tahoma Trails Association

The grant will help purchase snowmobiles to pull grooming equipment on 40 miles of ski trails and parking areas that link together four backcountry ski huts and a yurt. The Mount Tahoma Ski Trail System is both north and south of State Route 706, east of Ashford and west of Mount Rainier National Park. (04-1136M)

Supporting Gifford Pinchot Snow Ranger **(see listing under Yakima County)**

Okanogan County **\$135,270**

Purchasing Trail Grooming Equipment **\$22,000**
Mountain Trails Grooming Association

The grant will help purchase a multi-blade planer and compactor bar that will allow the association to increase the miles of trails groomed by 27 percent. The new groomer will allow the association to provide improved snowmobile, cross-country ski, dog sled and snowshoe trails on more than 175 miles of multi-use trails and in five parking areas in the Okanogan National Forest near Winthrop and Twisp. (04-1095M)

Purchasing Trail Grooming Equipment **\$50,000**
Mountain Trails Grooming Association

The grant will help the Mountain Trails Grooming Association buy a snow grooming machine to improve trails for snowmobiling, cross country skiing, snowshoeing and dog sledding in the Okanogan National Forest near Winthrop and Twisp. (04-1096M)



National Recreation Trails Program

Projects Recommended for Funding

September 2004

Repairing Fire-Ravaged Lake Creek Trail **\$40,785**

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan National Forest, Methow Ranger District

This grant will help replace three small bridges, repair the trail surface and remove hazardous trees from 14 miles of the Lake Creek Trail, which was damaged during the 2003 Farewell Fire. (04-1108D)

Repairing the Diamond Jack Trail **\$22,485**

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan National Forest, Methow Ranger District

The grant will help repair the Diamond Jack Trail, which was damaged in the 2003 Farewell Fire. Work will include repairing the trail surface, installing drainage and removing hazardous trees. (04-1112D)

Pacific County **\$40,742**

Finishing Bridges on the Willapa Hills Trail **\$40,742**

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

The grant will help pay for installing decking, surface material, safety railings and signs on seven railroad bridges on the Willapa Hills Trail between Raymond and Lebam, opening to the public 12 miles of the trail, more than double the amount of trail currently open. The trail eventually will run 56 miles on a former railroad route from Chehalis to South Bend and will be open year-round to hikers, bicyclists and equestrians. (04-1134D)

Pend Oreille County **\$32,980**

Maintaining Trails in Kanisku National Forest **\$32,980**

U.S. Forest Service, Idaho Panhandle National Forest

The grant will help provide maintenance on 40 miles of multi-use trails in the Kanisku National Forest near the Washington and Idaho border. Work will include removing trees and brush and replacing deteriorated drainage structures. The work will improve and re-open longer distance loop trails preferred by bicyclists and equestrians. (04-1133M)

Pierce County **\$35,000**

Maintaining White River, Snoqualmie trails **\$35,000**

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District

The grant will help offset declining federal funding for trail maintenance and will help pay for a crew to maintain and coordinate volunteer work on the 230-mile Snoqualmie/White River multi-user trail system. (04-1092M)

Purchasing Snowmobiles for Trail Grooming (See listing under Lewis County)



National Recreation Trails Program
Projects Recommended for Funding
September 2004

Skamania County

Supporting Gifford Pinchot Snow Ranger

(See listing under Yakima County)

Snohomish County

\$50,000

Repairing Flood Damage on Suiattle River Trail

\$50,000

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest, Darrington Ranger District

The grant will help repair the 12-mile Suiattle River Trail #784, which was damaged severely by a flood in 2003. Work will include building rock retaining walls, removing debris and downed trees, repairing drainage structures and relocating three small sections of the trail. This project is the first phase of repairs to flood-damaged trails in this portion of the Glacier Peak Wilderness. The Suiattle River Trail is one of the main west side access routes into the Glacier Peak Wilderness and to the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. (04-1180D)

Whatcom County

\$70,905

Restoring Mount Baker Trails

\$50,000

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District

The grant will help fund a 2-year, trail reconstruction project on about 25 miles of pack and saddle trails in the North Fork Nooksack River basin, including the High Divide, Silesia Creek, Hannegan Pass and Goat Mountain trails. Work includes removing logs and brush, repairing and replacement of drainage structures, relocating minor sections of the trail and replacing the trail surface. (04-1062D)

Supporting a Youth Trail Maintenance Crew

\$20,905

Pacific Northwest Trail Association

The grant will support the Cascade Northwest Crew, a volunteer and youth program sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, to complete backlogged maintenance projects on 21 miles of Pacific Northwest Trail from Welcome Pass to the western Canyon Ridge trail head. The Pacific Northwest Trail stretches 1,300 miles from the Olympic Coast to Glacier National Park in Montana. (04-1192M)

Yakima County

\$45,617

Maintaining 97 Miles of Wilderness Trails

\$20,880

U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District

This grant will help pay for work on about 97 miles of trails in the Norse Peak and Goat Rocks wilderness areas, including clearing brush and fixing drainage issues and the trail surface. (04-1055M)

Working on Cross-Country Skiing and Mountain Bike Trails

\$9,109

U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District

The grant will help pay for general maintenance work on 18 miles of non-motorized trail used primarily for cross-country skiing, family-oriented mountain biking, and large hiking and stock groups. Also, maps will be updated to improve visitor safety. (04-1045M)



National Recreation Trails Program
Projects Recommended for Funding
September 2004

Hiring Snow Rangers **\$8,880**
U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District - Educational Grant

The grant will help pay for two snow rangers, whose duties include educating the public about safety issues such as appropriate speeds, weather and trail conditions, trail etiquette, state and forest regulations, wildlife encounters, and wilderness boundaries. The rangers also will monitor signs and conditions along 150 miles of snowmobile trails and at 16 parking areas. (04-1049E)

Supporting Gifford Pinchot Snow Ranger **\$6,748**
U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District - Educational Grant

The grant will support snow rangers, who provide education and safety patrols throughout the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and its nearly 165 miles of groomed snowmobile routes. The rangers work with volunteers and educate the public about safe and responsible trail use. The rangers will be located at the Mount Adams Ranger District where there is access to 80 percent of the groomed trails but rangers also will patrol in the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District and the Mount Saint Helens National Volcanic Monument. (04-1093E)

Statewide \$150,000

Supporting Volunteer Trail Maintenance **\$50,000**
Backcountry Horsemen of Washington

The grant will help pay for work on Forest Service trails by the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, a 3,300-member organization that provides volunteer labor and leadership to help land managers address maintenance backlogs on local, state and federal lands. Since 1977, the organization has helped with trail maintenance such as clearing out trees and brush, building or repairing wooden walkways and hauling planks for bridges or other supplies to a project deep in the wilderness. (04-1042M)

Supporting Volunteer Trail Crews **\$50,000**
Washington Trails Association

The grant will support the association's Volunteer Trail Maintenance Program, which recruits volunteers and manages work on variety of trail maintenance projects. The association's 2,000 volunteers will work on more than 100 trails and help maintain more than 500 miles of trail yearly. This funding will allow the association to continue repairing trails damaged by the storms of 2003 and 2004. (04-1088M)

Providing Backcountry Trail Crews **\$50,000**
Washington Trails Association

The grant will support the Washington Trails Association's Backcountry Trail Teams Program, which provides volunteer crews in more than two dozen locations around the state. The work parties will focus efforts on areas such as Dishpan Gap, the Pacific Crest Trail, Lake Chelan, the Goat Rocks Wilderness and others. (04-1089M)