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\$4 Million in Boating Projects Approved, Projects in 8 Counties Make List

OLYMPIA – Boating projects in eight counties will receive grants totaling more than \$4 million, the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation announced today.

“Washington has more than 250,000 registered boats and we need to make sure that the facilities in the state can accommodate those boaters and protect the environment,” said Laura Johnson, director of the Office of the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation. “These grants invest money in fixing what we have and making improvements so it’s easier for people to enjoy their time outdoors.”

Projects in the following counties were approved for funding:

Island County	\$416,360	Pacific County	\$1,731,584
Jefferson County	\$481,740	Spokane County	\$287,427
King County	\$346,000	Stevens County	\$289,103
Kitsap County	\$324,650	Whatcom County	\$257,533

The Interagency Committee is responsible for evaluating and distributing the Boating Facilities Program grants. Since 1965, the Interagency Committee has awarded about \$90 million to local and state governments for 559 projects statewide to accommodate boaters .

– More –

Interagency Committee
Boating Grants
May 31, 2005

Created in 1964 by voter Initiative 215, the Boating Facilities Program offers grants to state and local governments to plan for, buy, develop or renovate boating facilities for motorboats, including launch ramps, short-term moorage and other support facilities. The program is funded by a portion of the gasoline tax paid by boaters.

This year, the Interagency Committee received 12 applications from various state agencies, requesting more than \$4.8 in funding. Earlier this year, the Interagency Committee awarded \$2.5 million to six communities for local projects. Information on the local projects is available at http://www.iac.wa.gov/Documents/IAC/Grants/BFP/BFP-local_grants_award_memo11-04.pdf.

The grant applications were reviewed and ranked by a 10-member evaluation team comprised of representatives of county park departments, state natural resource agencies, ports and boaters.

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

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



Boating Facilities Program 2006 Projects Funded

Island County

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission **\$416,360**
Camano Island Boat Launch Improvements

State Parks will use this grant to renovate a boat launch at Camano Island State Park. The existing two-lane launch ramp will be resurfaced and piers, boarding floats and aluminum ramps that are accessible to people with disabilities will be added. State Parks also will add a restroom, repair the paved approach, organize the gravel parking lot by adding wheel stops, surface two handicapped parking spaces and create a tie-down/rinse-down lane. The park's boat launch is one of only four public launches on the island and the only launch along 30 miles of the western side of the island with direct access to Saratoga Passage.

(04-1232D-FY06)

Jefferson County

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife **\$481,740**
Pleasant Harbor Phase I

Pleasant Harbor is an important place along Hood Canal for boat launching and now serves commercial fishing and a very brief shrimp season. The site is east of State Route 101 on the west shore of Hood Canal near Brinnon. To get to the site, visitors now drive down a narrow winding road to an existing gravel parking lot. There are no facilities at the site except a dilapidated timber dock. The department will use this grant to improve the gravel road that provides access to the beach, add a boat ramp, floats, a restroom and paved parking. (04-1377D-FY06)

King County

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission **\$346,000**
Lake Sammamish Handling Piers

On a busy summer weekend, more than 500 boats are launched from Lake Sammamish State Park, which provides the only public launch on the lake. State Parks will use this grant to replace six boat launch handling floats, which are more than 30 years old and do not meet safety standards. The total length of the floats will increase from 40 feet to 60 feet to provide more room for loading and unloading, resulting in shorter waits between launches. (04-1229D-FY06)



Boating Facilities Program 2006 Projects Funded

Kitsap County

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife **\$200,000**
Misery Point Launch Planning

The department will use this grant to design and get permits for improving the more than 40-year-old Misery Point boat launch. Local fishing groups have expressed interest in extending the ramp, adding a lane and providing boarding floats. (04-1254N-FY06)

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife **\$124,650**
Long Lake Public Access

The department will use this grant to update the public access area on Long Lake to meet current standards for people with disabilities. Work will include installing a loading float, building a path and parking and placing new signs. The existing launch ramp also will be extended into deeper water. The 314-acre lake is a popular fishing destination. (04-1346D-FY06)

Pacific County

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission **\$1,731,584**
Cape Disappointment Launch and Breakwater Phase 2

State Parks will use this grant to replace a two-lane, concrete boat launch with a three-lane ramp at Cape Disappointment State Park. Other replacements include new pilings, grounding floats and concrete piers. The failing breakwater that protects the launch also will be replaced, as will the fish cleaning station. The park offers camping, hiking, beachcombing and access to the famous Buoy 10 fishery. Already a popular destination for boaters, the park expects greatly increased visitation related to the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebrations scheduled for 2005-2008. (04-1228D-FY06)

Spokane County

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife **\$287,427**
Silver Lake Public Access

The department will use this grant to improve the boat launch at Silver Lake, a popular launch 15 miles southwest of Spokane. Work will include replacing and extending the two existing launch ramps, adding boarding floats and providing access for people with disabilities. A paved handicapped parking stall and walkway will be added at the restrooms and two handicapped parking stalls and a pathway will be provided at the launch. (04-1396D-FY06)



Boating Facilities Program 2006 Projects Funded

Stevens County

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
Waitts Lake Public Access

\$289,103

The department will use this grant to make improvements to the restroom, boat launch and parking at Waitts Lake, a 455-acre lake that is 30 miles south of Colville and home to rainbow trout, brown trout, largemouth bass and yellow perch. Work will include replacing the outhouses and boat ramp, installing a new gangway and boarding float that are accessible to people with disabilities, installing new asphalt and crushed rock, planting trees and plants, replacing the concrete bollards along the road and parking lot with a guardrail and barrier rocks and installing a new entrance gate and signs.

(04-1400D-FY06)

Whatcom County

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
Samish Lake Public Access

\$257,533

The department will use this grant to replace deteriorating facilities and provide improved access for people with disabilities at Samish Lake, which is 15 miles southeast of Bellingham. Work will include replacing the boat ramp; installing a new gangway, float and two new restrooms, all of which will be accessible to people with disabilities; and installing new signs. The parking lot and access route will be paved for accessibility. The grant will help the department fix the boat ramp, which currently is unusable. (04-1397D-FY06)