



# Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account



# Funded Projects Fiscal Year 2006



# Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation

**Our Mission:** Provide leadership and funding to help our partners protect and enhance Washington's natural and recreational resources for current and future generations.

**Our Services:** Statewide strategic investments through policy development, grant funding, technical assistance, coordination, and advocacy.

**Our Values:** Efficient, fair, and open programs conducted with integrity. The results foster healthy lifestyles and communities, stewardship, and economic prosperity in Washington.

## Committee Members

### **Citizen Members**

Val Ogden, Vancouver, chair  
Bill Chapman, Mercer Island  
Karen Daubert, Seattle  
Jeff Parsons, Leavenworth  
Yvonne Yokota, Sequim

### **Participating Agencies**

Department of Natural Resources  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

## Director

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# Table of Contents

Introduction .....	1
Eligible Applicants .....	1
Project Evaluation .....	2
Timeline.....	2
Directory of Projects by County .....	3
Projects Funded in Fiscal Year 2006.....	5
Alternate Projects.....	11
Ranked List .....	13
Appendix: ALEA Statutory References.....	15



# Introduction

Aquatic lands lie at the bottom of navigable water bodies – such as Puget Sound, rivers, and lakes – and include the surrounding shores and tidelands.

Washington's aquatic lands are rich in natural resources and also have great commercial, recreational, and aesthetic value. The state's first leaders recognized their worth and affirmed public ownership of these lands in the Washington State Constitution. For the next century, aquatic lands were a center of industry, recreation, navigation, and commerce.

In 1984, the Washington State Legislature passed Chapter 79.90 of the Revised Code of Washington and created the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) to ensure that money generated from aquatic lands was used to protect and enhance those lands.

The state Department of Natural Resources manages the state's 2.4 million acres of aquatic lands and raises revenue through activities, such as leasing state-owned waterfront sites and selling harvest rights for geoduck clams. A portion of that income is deposited into the enhancement account and then granted for projects that purchase, improve, protect, or provide access to aquatic lands.

The Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation manages that grant program, which is funded entirely by the revenue generated by the state Department of Natural Resources. The grant program is guided by concepts originally developed by the Department of Natural Resources, including re-establishing naturally self-sustaining ecological functions, providing public access to the water, and increasing public awareness of aquatic lands as a finite natural resource and irreplaceable public heritage.

The Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation is an executive branch agency composed of five citizen members appointed by the Governor, and three state agency directors. It is charged with financing recreation and conservation projects throughout the state through multiple grant programs, including the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account grant program.

## Eligible Applicants

Local and state government agencies and Native American tribes may apply for the grants if legally authorized to acquire and develop public open space, habitat, or recreation lands. Federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private entities are not eligible, but are encouraged to seek partnerships with eligible organizations.

Applicants must provide a minimum 50 percent match.

# Project Evaluation

Projects go through a rigorous application process that includes a staff and team review and oral presentations. The evaluation teams assess each project in the following areas:

- Need
- Suitability of the site
- Desirability for acquisition – is the property unique?
- Sustainability and integration – to what extent will the project fix the underlying cause of the need for restoration, integrate with bordering communities or habitats, and result in aquatic lands that function as a natural ecosystem?
- Design
- Opportunity for improved public access
- Performance measures – to what extent does the project make progress toward goals for habitat or public access to aquatic lands?
- Local community support
- Growth Management Act preference – has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?
- Proximity to people

The Interagency Committee manages the grant program with the assistance of a standing advisory committee, made up of representatives from state and local government, as well as citizens with expertise in aquatic lands or associated issues. The advisory committee's role is to recommend to the Interagency Committee policies and procedures for administering grants and to evaluate grant applications.

## Timeline

May of even years – Applications submitted.

June-August – Advisory committee reviews and ranks the applications.

September – Interagency Committee approves list and submits to the Governor's Office.

October-December – Governor approves projects.

January-May – Legislature approves projects.

June of odd years – Grants awarded.

## Directory of Projects By County Funded and Alternate

Sponsor	Project	Funding Status	Page
Benton Richland	Yakima Delta Habitat Restoration and Access	Alternate	12
Grays Harbor Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Bottle Beach Development	Funded	6
Jefferson Port Townsend	Downtown Waterfront Access Restoration	Alternate	11
King Kent Parks, Recreation & Community Service	Riverview Park Development	Funded	7
King County Department of Natural Resources & Parks	Lower Tolt River Floodplain Reconnect	Funded	5
Port of Seattle	Shilshole Bay Sailing Center	Funded	8
Seattle Parks & Recreation Department	Myrtle Edwards Park Beach Restoration	Funded	7
Kitsap Poulsbo	Dogfish Creek Restoration & Development	Funded	8
Kitsap County Parks and Recreation	Seabeck Center and Beach Access	Alternate	12
Kitsap County Parks and Recreation	Hansville Waterfront Park	Funded	6
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife	Union River Estuary	Funded	8
Pierce Tacoma	Chinese Garden Reconciliation Park and Shoreline	Partial funding	9, 11
Tacoma Public Works	Waterway Park	Funded	7
Skagit Padilla Bay Reserve	Padilla Bay Trail Interpretive Signs	Alternate	12
Port of Anacortes	Cap Sante Public Access Improvements	Alternate	11
Skagit County Dike District #12	Skagit Riverwalk South Gateway	Funded	6
Whatcom Bellingham Parks & Recreation Department	Inspiration Point & Chuckanut Bay Acquisition	Funded	5



# Projects Funded in Fiscal Year 2006

Project	IAC Amount	Sponsor Amount	Total Amount
	\$600,000	\$1,252,650	\$1,852,650

## **Creating the Longest, Wildest Public Shore in the Bellingham Area Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department**

This 12.3-acre acquisition in Bellingham's Chuckanut Bay Greenway in Whatcom County has 1,800 feet of marine shore, 3.5 acres of tideland, and 8.7 acres of upland. When combined with other public land, this project creates the longest and wildest public shore in the area and enlarges an existing wildlife preserve. The project ties 88 acres of public tideland and salt marsh to its north (the Chuckanut Creek estuary) with a 14-acre public beach and rocky shore to its south. It also ties 67 acres of upland park on the north to 9-acre Teddy Bear Park to the south. It provides the nearest kayak and rowboat access to Chuckanut Rocks, Chuckanut Island, and the scenic, rocky shores of Clark Point and inner Chuckanut Bay. The site will contain 2,400 feet of major trails connecting it with other public land, a nearby trail head parking lot, and the regional Interurban/Coast Millennium Trail. The site includes the mouth of salmon-bearing Chuckanut Creek and part of the smaller Woodstock Creek as well as existing paths, dramatic views, wildlife observation points, a caretaker's cottage, boathouse, and two prehistoric archaeological sites. There are rocky headlands, a 300-foot beach, oyster beds, and uplands featuring vegetation typical of the Olympic rain-shadow islands. (04-1504A-FY06)

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	\$500,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,500,000
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## **Restoring a Floodplain King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks**

This project will restore an active floodplain in the lower half-mile of the Tolt River by tearing down an existing levee and building one further back, allowing the river to meander through the restored floodplain. Chinook spawn in the Tolt River in large numbers. The project takes place in Tolt MacDonald Park, a 530-acre regional park that attracts sports teams, campers, mountain bikers, and users of the Snoqualmie Valley Regional Trail. The project will restore side channel habitat and improve fish spawning and rearing habitat in the main channel. Work also may include placement of large, woody debris in the river to provide places for the salmon to rest and hide from predators, planting, and construction of trails and interpretive materials. (04-1507R-FY06)

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**\$246,244    \$246,244    \$492,488**

**Providing for Shorebird Viewing at Bottle Beach in Grays Harbor  
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission**

This grant will provide shorebird viewing and educational information at Bottle Beach State Park in Grays Harbor County. Bottle Beach, one of the top 50 rated shorebird sites in the nation, is a popular area for bird watchers to see shorebirds migrating along the Pacific Flyway. The site has no facilities to support viewing or to meet ecotourism interests. Work will include building nearly 1 mile of trail, a trail head and 19-space parking lot, a bus drop-off site, and a small restroom. Interpretive signs and wildlife viewing platforms and blinds will help educate the public about wetland and coastal environments. These improvements will manage public access, provide educational opportunities, and enhance wetlands while minimizing impacts to shorebird habitat. The Audubon Society has agreed to monitor the site. (04-1259D-FY06)

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**\$1,000,000    \$1,133,915    \$2,133,915**

**Creating a Waterfront Park  
Kitsap County Department of Facilities, Parks and Recreation**

This grant will help buy 6.15 acres, including 420 feet of sandy waterfront on Puget Sound, in the center of the community of Hansville. The purchase will help remedy one of Kitsap County's greatest park and recreation needs – additional waterfront access. Only 5.6 percent of the county's 228 miles of saltwater shoreline is open to the public. The land serves as one end of the Hansville Greenway, which eventually will span the Kitsap Peninsula from Puget Sound to Hood Canal. More than 4 miles of trail now reach the site as part of that greenway. A stream and about an acre of associated wetlands run through the property and they would be restored. (04-1484A-FY06)

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**\$354,758    \$354,758    \$709,516**

**Adding to the Skagit Riverwalk South Gateway  
Skagit County Dike District #12**

The grant will purchase 4.56 acres along the Skagit River and Burlington and provide public access to the river's shore. The public uses this privately owned land, creating conflicts with landowners and the dike district as well as safety and ecological problems.

The site is next to land already being purchased for public use. Future development plans call for parking on both sides of the setback levee so the land is accessible at all times, information kiosks, trail connections (to the Burlington River Walk and Around Burlington Bicycle and Pedestrian Path), picnic tables, and pads. All facilities and the river shore will be accessible to people with disabilities. The project is a partnership between the City of Burlington and the Skagit County Dike District #12. (04-1490A-FY06)

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**\$500,000      \$2,015,173      \$2,515,173**

**Restoring the Beach for Salmon in Myrtle Edwards Park  
Seattle Parks and Recreation Department**

This grant will help create a pocket beach in Myrtle Edwards Park in King County, providing the first section of natural shoreline that young salmon encounter as they leave the Duwamish River on the eastern side of Elliott Bay headed toward Puget Sound. Work will include removing the large rocks along the shore to make a natural beach, planting kelp and native plants, and creating saltwater marsh habitats and rocky tide pools. This habitat restoration project on .64 acre of city parkland in downtown Seattle is a key element in the design of the Olympic Sculpture Park, a new 8.5-acre open space at the southern entrance of Myrtle Edwards Park. Trails, signs, and benches will invite the public to visit this downtown shoreline. (04-1266R-FY06)

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**\$498,836      \$593,108      \$1,091,944**

**Developing a Riverfront Park and Boat Launch  
Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services**

Kent will use this grant to develop a 15-acre waterfront park in central Kent on the Green River in King County. The park will include a car-top boat launch, accessible fishing area, picnic tables, salmon and wildlife restoration areas, restroom, picnic shelter, 75-stall parking lot, and trails. Creating public access to the Green River for fishing, boating, and walking trails is a high priority in Kent because few other opportunities exist. There is only one car-top boat launch along the river from Auburn to Tukwila. This project will double the recreation opportunities for boat launching, accessible fishing, and bank fishing. It will add almost a half-mile of trail and enhance the area for wildlife and the habitat for fish. The Green River flows on the south and west sides of the park with the Green River Regional Trail on the east side of the park. (04-1249D-FY06)

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**\$390,000      \$390,000      \$780,000**

**Helping Build a Waterfront Park  
Tacoma Public Works**

Tacoma will use this grant to help purchase 3.7 acres on the Thea Foss Waterway at East 21st Street as part of the city's Waterway Park project. Waterway Park is an important element of the revitalization of Tacoma's downtown waterfront. The city plans to build a shoreline esplanade, a non-motorized boat launch and float. The Thea Foss Waterway area serves thousands of visitors annually on Tacoma's waterfront. (04-1277A-FY06)

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**\$261,492      \$261,909      \$523,401**

**Restoring Dogfish Creek Estuary  
City of Poulsbo**

This grant will help restore habitat necessary to the proper natural functioning of the Dogfish Creek estuary in Kitsap County. Work will include planting native plants and building more than a third of a mile of looped trails, educational kiosks, and an overlook along the creek. The estuary is designated as a shoreline conservancy area, and has been identified as a salmon-bearing stream including Chinook, coho, chum, steelhead, and sea-run cutthroat trout. This site includes at least three valuable wetlands and is host to many species of birds and wildlife. (04-1450D-FY06)

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**\$87,283      \$87,284      \$174,567**

**Preserving the Pristine Union River Estuary Near Belfair  
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife**

In an effort to continue work to preserve and restore estuaries near Belfair in Kitsap County, the Department of Fish and Wildlife will purchase three pristine parcels of estuarine salt marsh and shoreline. These parcels are next to publicly owned lands and provide an undisturbed pathway for young summer chum and Chinook salmon. These types of salmon spawn in the Union River and are dependent upon healthy shorelines for food and safety from predators. The department's goal is to create a trail along the shoreline that connects Theler Wetlands and a future Pacific Northwest Salmon Center with Belfair State Park. The department has ranked protection of high quality estuarine wetlands along the shoreline as a high priority for Hood Canal, which is home to two species of salmon that are federally listed as threatened with extinction. State and local governments have purchased much of the Union River estuary to help protect it. In addition, the Theler Wetlands in Belfair provide walking trails and outreach programs for the public and a new salmon center is in the planning stages. (04-1427A-FY06)

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**\$290,000      \$295,000      \$585,000**

**Fixing up the Shilshole Bay Sailing Center  
Port of Seattle**

The Port of Seattle will renovate and replace the 40-year-old sailing center facility on the north end of Shilshole Bay in King County. Work includes building new docks and providing new floats for launching kayaks, dinghies, and small, hand-carried vessels, and adding an overhead hoist for launching small sailboats. The port also will build a new promenade, including railings, lighting, benches, landscaping, and signs. Completing this picture, local clubs will provide a public restroom, classrooms, storage lockers, and a meeting space at the North End Sailing Center. Shilshole Bay Marina is

a major public saltwater marina owned and operated by the Port of Seattle in the heavily populated central Puget Sound region. The sailing center serves thousands of users each year through classes, day-access, and regattas. (04-1462D-FY06)

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**\$295,887      \$300,329      \$596,216**

**Working on Tacoma’s Waterfront Chinese Garden  
City of Tacoma**

The City of Tacoma in Pierce County will use this grant to build a shoreline trail, restore the shoreline to provide additional habitat, and build an entrance gate and an intertidal grotto at the 4.5-acre Chinese garden and reconciliation park on Commencement Bay in Tacoma. This project is on the southern end of Ruston Way, a 2.5-mile ribbon of parkland that wraps along the waterfront. This initial development will help prepare the park for additional buildings, a pond, a pagoda, and bridges that the Chinese Reconciliation Foundation is working to secure. This project was partially funded. The rest of the requested amount is listed as an alternate. (04-1374D-FY06)



# Alternate Projects

Project	IAC Requested Amount	Sponsor Amount	Total Amount
	\$182,212	\$184,948	\$367,160`

**Working on Tacoma’s Waterfront Chinese Garden  
City of Tacoma**

This project was partially funded. See details on page 9. (04-1374D-FY06)

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	\$308,787	\$308,787	\$617,574
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**Creating Waterfront Walkways  
Port of Anacortes**

The Port of Anacortes will rebuild about 2,500 linear feet of shoreline walkway at Cap Sante in Skagit County. Work will include replacing the existing concrete walkways and handrails and adding interpretive signs, viewing platforms, lighting, and picnic tables, to create a waterfront esplanade. The port also will build a pathway along an unimproved section of the shoreline esplanade, creating a viewing area. This new work will connect the north and south esplanades, providing for a continuous walkway along the water from the Cap Sante Marina’s northern most point at Rotary Park to the southern most point at Seafarers' Memorial Park. The main entrance to the shoreline esplanade also will be improved to include special paving, landscaping, signs, and art. (04-1483D-FY06)

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	\$299,571	\$299,572	\$599,143
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**Replacing a Dock and Restoring Public Access  
City of Port Townsend**

The City of Port Townsend in Jefferson County will replace an abandoned ferry dock and the pilings and bulkhead of the Wave Viewing Gallery to restore the downtown's prime public waterfront access. The Quincy Street Dock had long been used for water viewing and fishing until it was closed in 1999. The pilings at the Wave Viewing Gallery also were found to have extensive damage and the end of the north viewing area was closed to the public. The boardwalk that connects these two features also is closed because of a collapsing bulkhead. This project will pay for the replacement of the dock, pilings, and bulkhead and restore this important public access. (04-1502D-FY06)

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<b>\$280,748</b>	<b>\$280,750</b>	<b>\$561,498</b>
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**Creating a Waterfront Park at Seabeck  
Kitsap County Parks and Recreation**

Kitsap County will create a new park along 450 feet of beachfront. Work will include building a dock, sidewalks, parking, picnic areas, restrooms, viewpoints, interpretive features, and places where people can launch canoes and kayaks. Water trails will connect to an existing 35-acre wooded county park. The county also will remove 250 feet of abandoned concrete pilings from a failing bulkhead that has piled up on the shore. Work will include rebuilding the beach by grading the land, adding clean gravel, and planting beach sea grasses and salt-tolerant plants. The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group and Port of Bremerton will contribute funding, expertise, and technical support. (04-1468D-FY06)

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<b>\$26,400</b>	<b>\$26,400</b>	<b>\$52,800</b>
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**Fixing Padilla Bay Trail Interpretive Signs  
Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve**

The Padilla Bay Reserve will repair signs and add new ones along the 2.2-mile Padilla Bay Shore Trail in Skagit County. The trail, which was opened in 1988 by the Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and Skagit County Parks, now is the most heavily used of Skagit County's parks. The trail follows the top of a dike that separates Padilla Bay from farmland. The existing signs that will be repaired provided information about the ecology of estuaries, teaching people about the importance of the diverse habitats they see along the way including salt marshes, mud flats, and eelgrass. The new signs will illustrate the effects of pollution on environmental quality. (04-1493D-FY06)

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<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$1,820,938</b>	<b>\$2,120,938</b>
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**Restoring Fish Habitat in the Yakima Delta  
City of Richland**

The City of Richland will restore shoreline habitat altered by levee construction on the Columbia River immediately east of the confluence with the Yakima River in Benton County. The city hopes to improve endangered steelhead and salmon survival by cooling the water and opening a causeway where fish are trapped in slow moving warm water. Work will include building accessible fishing piers, a trail for bicyclists and walkers, parking, and a nature trail. (04-1499D-FY06)

# Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account

Ranked

Fiscal Year 2006

Funding Level = \$5,024,500

Project #	Project Sponsor	Project Name	Request to IAC	Funding Level
04-1504	Bellingham Parks & Recreation Department	Inspiration Point & Chuckanut Bay Acquisition	\$600,000	\$600,000
04-1507	King County Department of Natural Resources & Parks	Lower Tolt River Floodplain Reconnect	\$500,000	\$500,000
04-1259	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Bottle Beach Development	\$246,244	\$246,244
04-1484	Kitsap County Parks and Recreation	Hansville Waterfront Park	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
04-1490	Skagit County Dike District #12	Skagit Riverwalk South Gateway	\$354,758	\$354,758
04-1266	Seattle Parks & Recreation Department	Myrtle Edwards Park Beach Restoration	\$500,000	\$500,000
04-1249	Kent Parks, Recreation & Community Service	Riverview Park Development	\$498,836	\$498,836
04-1277	Tacoma Public Works	Waterway Park	\$390,000	\$390,000
04-1450	Poulsbo	Dogfish Creek Restoration and Development	\$261,492	\$261,492
04-1427	Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife	Union River Estuary	\$87,283	\$87,283
04-1462	Port of Seattle	Shilshole Bay Sailing Center	\$290,000	\$290,000
04-1374	Tacoma	Chinese Garden and Reconciliation Park and Shoreline*	\$478,099	\$295,887
04-1483	Port of Anacortes	Cap Sante Public Access Improvements	\$308,787	Alternate
04-1502	Port Townsend	Downtown Waterfront Access Restoration	\$299,571	Alternate
04-1468	Kitsap County Parks and Recreation	Seabeck Center and Beach Access	\$280,748	Alternate
04-1493	Padilla Bay Reserve	Padilla Bay Trail Interpretive Signs	\$26,400	Alternate
04-1499	Richland	Yakima Delta Habitat Restoration and Access	\$300,000	Alternate
			\$6,422,218	\$5,024,500

\*Partial funding



## ALEA Statutory References

### **RCW 79.90.245**

Deposit, use of proceeds from sale or lease of aquatic lands or valuable materials therefrom -- Aquatic lands enhancement project grant requirements -- Aquatic lands enhancement account.

After deduction for management costs as provided in RCW 79.64.040 and payments to towns under RCW 79.92.110(2), all moneys received by the state from the sale or lease of state-owned aquatic lands and from the sale of valuable material from state-owned aquatic lands shall be deposited in the aquatic lands enhancement account which is hereby created in the state treasury. After appropriation, these funds shall be used solely for aquatic lands enhancement projects; for the purchase, improvement, or protection of aquatic lands for public purposes; for providing and improving access to such lands; and for volunteer cooperative fish and game projects.

In providing grants for aquatic lands enhancement projects, the department shall require grant recipients to incorporate the environmental benefits of the project into their grant applications, and the department shall utilize the statement of environmental benefits in its prioritization and selection process. The department shall also develop appropriate outcome-focused performance measures to be used both for management and performance assessment of the grants. To the extent possible, the department should coordinate its performance measure system with other natural resource-related agencies as defined in RCW 43.41.270. The department shall consult with affected interest groups in implementing this section.

During the fiscal biennium ending June 30, 2003, the funds may be appropriated for boating safety and shellfish management, enforcement, and enhancement.

[2002 c 371 § 923; 2001 c 227 § 7; 1999 c 309 § 919; 1997 c 149 § 913; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 18 § 923; 1994 c 219 § 12; 1993 sp.s. c 24 § 927; 1987 c 350 § 1; 1985 c 57 § 79; 1984 c 221 § 24; 1982 2nd ex.s. c 8 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 273 § 12; 1967 ex.s. c 105 § 3; 1961 c 167 § 9. Formerly RCW 79.24.580.]

## **2003 Capital Budget [Substitute Senate Bill 5401]**

NEW SECTION. Sec. 377. FOR THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Grants (04-4-018)

The appropriation in this section is subject to the following conditions and limitations:

(1) The appropriation in this section is provided for a list of projects in LEAP capital document No. 2003-32, as developed on June 4, 2003.

(2) The committee shall submit a list of recommended projects to be funded from the aquatic lands enhancement account in the 2005-2007 capital budget. The list shall result from a competitive grants program developed by the committee based upon, at a minimum: (a) A uniform criteria for selecting projects and awarding grants for up to fifty percent of the total project cost; (b) local community support for the project; and (c) environmental benefits to be derived from projects. This process must be coordinated with the salmon recovery funding board selection process. The list of projects must be submitted to the office of financial management by September 15, 2004.

"Washington's Department of Natural Resources is the steward of state-owned aquatic lands, managed on the public's behalf. Our primary goal is not to produce income for a specific program, but to benefit all the people of Washington, forever.

"We feel strongly that these grants are an important way to protect Washington's valuable aquatic lands and to provide people with access to the water.

"Funds for the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account grant program result from the Department of Natural Resources' active management of state aquatic lands. Revenue is earned primarily through the sale of geoducks, and through leases with individuals or businesses that use these aquatic lands owned by Washington's citizens."

*Doug Sutherland  
Commissioner of Public Lands  
Administrator of Washington's Department of Natural Resources*