



Proposed Agenda & Meeting Materials

April 24, 2019

Regular Meeting

Natural Resources Building, Room 172, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA 98501

Time: Opening sessions will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

Order of Presentation: In general, each agenda item will include a presentation, followed by board discussion and then public comment. The board makes decisions following the public comment portion of the agenda item.

Public Comment: To comment at the meeting, please fill out a comment card and provide it to staff. Please be sure to note on the card if you are speaking about a particular agenda topic. The chair will call you to the front at the appropriate time. Public comment will be limited to 3 minutes per person. You may also submit written comments to the board by mailing them to RCO, attn: Wyatt Lundquist, Board Liaison, at the address above or to wyatt.lundquist@rco.wa.gov.

Meeting Accommodations: Persons with disabilities needing an accommodation to participate in RCO public meetings are invited to contact us via the following options: 1) Leslie Frank by phone (360) 902-0220 or email leslie.frank@rco.wa.gov; or 2) 711 relay service. Accommodation requests should be received by April 10, 2019 to ensure availability.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019

OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

9:00 a.m.	Call to Order A. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum B. Review and Approval of Agenda C. Remarks of the Chair	<i>Chair Willhite</i>
9:10 a.m.	1. Consent Agenda <i>(Decision)</i> A. Board Meeting Minutes: January 22, 2019 B. Time Extensions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port of Skamania, Stevenson Shoreline Restoration-Recreation Enhancement, RCO #14-1125C • Town of Winthrop, Susie Stephens Trail Phase 2, RCO #12-1122C • Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Reardon Audubon Lake 2014, RCO #14-1097C • Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Simco 2014, RCO #14-1096A 	<i>Chair Willhite</i>

- Washington Department of Natural Resources, Dabob Natural Area Shoreline, RCO #[14-1249A](#)
- Washington Department of Natural Resources, Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve, RCO #[14-1254A](#)
- Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Inholdings and Adjacent Properties, RCO #[14-1681A](#)
- Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Larabee - Clayton Beach Railway Overpass, RCO #[14-1555D](#)
- ~~Whidbey Camano Land Trust, Vander Voet Farm, RCO #[14-1510A](#)~~

[Resolution 2019-07](#)

C. LWCF Resolution

[Resolution 2019-11](#)

9:15 a.m. 2. Director's Report *(Briefing)*

- A. Director's Report
- B. Legislative and Budget Update
- C. Grant Management Report
- D. Performance Report (In Person)
- E. Fiscal Report (In Person)

*Kaleen Cottingham
Wendy Brown
Marguerite Austin
Brent Hedden
Mark Jarasitis*

10:00 a.m. 3. State Agency Partner Reports:

- Governor's Office
- Department of Natural Resources
- State Parks and Recreation Commission
- Department of Fish and Wildlife

*Jon Snyder
Brock Milliern
Peter Herzog
Joe Stohr*

10:30 a.m. General Public Comment for issues not identified as agenda items. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.

10:35 a.m. BREAK

BOARD BUSINESS: REQUEST FOR DIRECTION

**10:50 a.m. 4. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP):
Proposed Urban Wildlife Habitat Policy and
Criteria Changes**

Ben Donatelle

**11:20 a.m. 5. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP):
Proposed Riparian Protection Criteria Changes**

Ben Donatelle

12:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. 6. Climate Policy Framework *Ben Donatelle*

BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS

1:40 p.m. 7. Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance Study *Adam Cole*

2:30 p.m. 8. Communications Update *Susan Zemek*

2:50 p.m. BREAK

BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS

3:05 p.m. 9. Boating Facilities Program (BFP) Approval of Ranked Lists *Kyle Guzlas*

A. Local Agency Category[Resolution 2019-08](#)

B. State Agency Category[Resolution 2019-09](#)

3:40 p.m. 10. Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Approval of Ranked List *Karl Jacobs*

[Resolution 2019-10](#)

BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS

4:00 p.m. 11. PRISM *Scott Chapman*

A. Updates

B. Demonstration of How Grant Applications Are Submitted

4:30 p.m. 12. Projects of Note *Beth Auerbach*

A. Olympia, West Bay Woods Acquisition, RCO #[16-1620A](#)

B. Olympia, Kaiser Woods Acquisition, RCO #[16-1384A](#)

5:00 p.m. ADJOURN

Next Meeting:

June 26, 2019, Board Retreat, TBD, Olympia, WA

June 27, 2019, Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2019

Title: Time Extension Requests

Prepared By: Recreation and Conservation Grants Managers

Summary

This is a request for the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to consider the proposed project time extensions shown in Attachment A. There are several requests this quarter, since we are nearing the end of the 2017-19 biennium. Board approval of the extensions is subject to re-appropriation of funds allocated to these projects through legislative approval of the state capital budget.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for Decision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Direction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Briefing

Resolution: 2019-07

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the requested time extensions.

Background

Manual #7, Funded Projects, outlines the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board's (board) adopted policy for progress on active funded projects. Key elements of this policy are that the sponsor must complete a funded project promptly and meet the project milestones outlined in the project agreement. The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director has authority to extend an agreement for up to four years. Extensions beyond four years require board action.

RCO received requests for time extensions for the projects listed in Attachment A. This document summarizes the circumstances for the requested extensions and the expected date of project completion. Board action is required because the project sponsors are requesting an extension to continue the agreement beyond four years.

General considerations for approving time extension requests include:

- Receipt of a written request for the time extension;

- Reimbursements requested and approved;
- Date the board granted funding approval;
- Conditions surrounding the delay;
- Sponsor's reasons or justification for requesting the extension;
- Likelihood of sponsor completing the project within the extended period;
- Original dates for project completion;
- Current status of activities within the grant;
- Sponsor's progress on this and other funded projects;

Plan Link

Consideration of these requests supports the board's goal of helping its partners protect, restore, and develop habitat, working lands, and recreation opportunities that benefit people, fish and wildlife, and ecosystems.

Summary of Public Comment

RCO has received a public comment on the extension requests. See Attachment B.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the time extension requests for the projects listed in Attachment A.

Attachments

- A. Time Extension Requests for Board Approval
- B. Public Comment

Port of Skamania

Project number and type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request
14-1125 Combination Acquisition and Development	Stevenson Shoreline Restoration and Recreation Enhancements	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$354,000 (100%)	6/30/19	10/31/20

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

The Port of Skamania is using this grant to expand waterfront recreational opportunities in Stevenson. The Port will enhance the area by adding 975' of new paved trail, developing a new scenic overlook, public access to the river, restroom, and a parking lot.

The Port included in the original project scope mitigation that RCO staff has deemed ineligible as sponsor match. The Port revised the scope to remove the ineligible items and added eligible shoreline improvements. The Port needed additional time to plan, design, and permit the scope additions. The Port has now completed the final design. They are currently working through one last permitting issue before they can go out to bid on the construction phase.

The Port is requesting a 16-month extension. They hope to wrap up the permitting and possibly begin construction as early as this fall. They will use the remainder of 2019 in addition to the 2020 construction window to complete this project.

Town of Winthrop

Project number and type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request
12-1122 Development	Susie Stephens Trail Phase 2	WWRP – Trails	\$129,055 (35%)	06/15/19	06/30/21

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

The Town of Winthrop is constructing the Susie Stephens Trail. They completed the first segment, which was a half-mile long extension of the existing trail. Segment 2 involves the "undercrossing" of the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Highway 20 bridge over the Chewuch River.

After a year of negotiations, WSDOT has now approved the design and public use of the undercrossing. Formal Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation began in November 2018, which can take up to 15 months. Following ESA clearance, the acquisitions and development will commence throughout the spring and summer of 2020. Winthrop plans to complete the scour

protection and trail development work in the following low-water season (September – November 2020). They will complete the cleanup work and trailside environmental restoration in the spring of 2021.

This 24-month extension will provide the additional time needed to ensure Winthrop can complete the project even if there are some weather delays.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Project number and type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request
14-1097 Combination (Acquisition and Development)	Reardan Audubon Lake 2014	WWRP – Riparian Protection	\$145,000 (44%)	6/30/19	6/30/20

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has purchased 150 acres of biscuit and swale prairies containing vernal pools and mounds, just north of Reardan in Lincoln County.

The unique geology of the site naturally leads to cultural resource sensitivities. The site is located adjacent to and partially within a known cultural resources area, which added the need to work in close coordination with affected tribes.

Additional time will allow WDFW to complete a diligent review of cultural resources on the site. Afterwards, WDFW will construct a parking area and install fencing at this wildlife viewing area.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Project number and type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request
14-1096 Acquisition	Simcoe 2014	WWRP – Critical Habitat	\$393,512 (13%)	6/30/2019	6/30/2020

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has purchased 3,848 acres with this grant. The property is located in the Simcoe Mountains in Klickitat County. Post-closing work such as surveys, noxious weed control, and fencing is typically much more time consuming with a property acquisition of this size as compared to smaller acquisitions. In the case of the Simcoe acquisition, this work is further complicated by the remote ruggedness of the terrain.

Additionally, the property is in an area that is highly sensitive for cultural resources. The property directly borders the reservation of the Yakama Indian Nation, so close coordination with the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer is essential.

Cultural resources surveys are wrapping up this spring, which will allow WDFW to proceed with post-closing work. With approval of the additional time, WDFW will conduct a general survey of the property boundary and complete the final design and installation of perimeter fencing. WDFW estimates the need for about 7 miles of fencing for this acquisition.

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Project number and type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request
14-1249 Acquisition	Dabob Bay Natural Area Shoreline 2014	WWRP –Natural Areas	\$1,129,555 (35%)	6/30/19	12/31/19

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has acquired 383 acres of riparian and forested uplands totaling just over \$2.1 million. The purpose of this acquisition is to acquire and permanently protect coastal shoreline and high quality under-represented forest vegetation types listed in the Natural Heritage Plan. Acquiring these parcels also will provide access for education and research and possibly low-impact recreation.

DNR is requesting a time extension to allow for the acquisition of three other target properties totaling approximately 67 acres. These properties include forested uplands, riparian and shoreline access and are in active negotiation status.

This 6-month time extension will provide the additional time needed to complete the project and protect these important properties.

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Project number and type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request
14-1254 Acquisition	Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve 2014	WWRP –Natural Areas	\$832,463 (98%)	6/30/19	12/31/19

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

The purpose of this project is to increase protection for one of the few remaining high-quality salt marsh communities in Puget Sound, including vital habitat for migrating shorebirds and salmon. It includes protection of a segment of Schneider Creek, which supports the health of the salt marsh ecosystem.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has pursued all of the priority parcels eligible for acquisition under this grant. Some landowners declined DNR's offer to purchase their property and others were just not interested in selling at this time. DNR is currently securing appraisals for a critical 36-acre inholding, which includes frontage along Kennedy Creek and Oyster Bay. If acquired, this site will increase protection of the high quality salt marsh already in the existing natural area

DNR is requesting a 6-month time extension to complete the appraisal work and negotiations (including terms of an easement for an existing well) needed to protect this important 36-acre property.

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Project number and type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request
14-1681 Acquisition	Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2014	WWRP – State Parks Category	\$50,000 (5%)	6/30/19	6/30/2020

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission has acquired 4 properties totaling approximately 86 acres with this grant. State Parks is requesting a time extension to allow for acquisition of targeted properties at Penrose Point State Park in Pierce County. There are several small lots under different ownerships within the adopted long-term boundary at the park. These properties include forested uplands and are in active negotiation status.

This 12-month time extension will provide the additional time needed to complete the acquisitions.

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Project number and type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request
14-1555 Development	Larrabee – Clayton Beach Railway Overpass	WWRP – State Parks Category	\$2,223,154 (95%)	6/30/19	3/31/2021

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is building a pedestrian bridge over an active rail line at Larrabee State Park. This will solve a critical trespass and safety issue allowing the public to access Clayton Beach.

The need for an extension is based upon the delays coordinating the needed approvals from all of the various jurisdictions with authority. These include: Puget Sound Energy, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF), Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Army Corps of Engineers, Skagit and Whatcom Counties, Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Department of Ecology.

Working through various conditions, requirements, and approvals from BNSF has been ongoing since the beginning of the project in 2016 and has resulted in a two-year delay. This is directly attributed to lengthy BNSF communications and process protocols. Further, the consultant team hired for all design and surveying coordination removed themselves from the project due to the schedule impacts. Finally, State Parks had significant staffing impacts (layoffs) due to the 2017-19 capital budget delay.

However, following recent communications with BNSF and a new consultant team under contract, Parks is confident that the project can be completed by the end of 2020. State Parks has a new project engineer assigned to the project who has made positive contact made with all parties involved. All entities are familiar with the project, have staff assigned to the project, and have verbally expressed affirmative and practical direction for the project. In short, all parties want this project completed and now the staff and participants are available to execute their contribution to its success.

This 21-month time extension will provide the additional time needed to complete design and permitting over the next 12 months, and go to construction summer 2020.

From: [Loren Meagher](#)
To: [Lundquist, Wyatt \(RCO\)](#)
Cc:
Subject: Support for extension request of RCO grant 14-1097
Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 10:07:21 AM

Wyatt,

Please consider extending grant # 14-1097, named Simcoe 2014. This extension will facilitate the completion of the planned fencing which is a critical component of not only this phase of the Simcoe Unit project but the other phases which are contiguous to Simcoe 2014.

Both Central Klickitat Conservation District and Eastern Klickitat Conservation District support this extension. Both districts will also provide support to DFW to complete the work.

Thank you,

Loren Meagher P.E.
District Manager, Regional Engineer
Central Klickitat Conservation District
Eastern Klickitat Conservation District
(509)261-2707

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2019

Title: Director's Report

Prepared By: Kaleen Cottingham, Director

Summary

This memo outlines key agency activities and happenings.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- Briefing

Agency Updates

RCO Offers Farm, Forest, and Boating Grants in 2019.

RCO is holding a supplemental grant round to accept applications for two Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) categories and for Boating Infrastructure Grants. The two WWRP grant programs are Farmland and Forestland Preservation. To generate interest in the farm and forest grants, RCO hired a consultant to reach out to representative groups and eligible sponsors to educate them about the grant programs and their importance in protecting Washington's rural legacy. The grants pay landowners for conservation easements, which prevent the land from being developed and ensure it will continue to be used for farming and timber production for the long-term. Grants will be accepted this year because there were too few applications submitted in May 2018 and it is expected that the legislative appropriation will fund additional projects. RCO is asking applicants to submit pre-applications by May 1 and final applications by June 4, after the budget is known. Read the [news release](#). In addition to hiring the consultant, RCO hosted a Webinar in March for 51 participants. This 60-minute [online workshop](#) was designed to help applicants prepare grant proposals for all three grant programs open this year. Already, there are six pre-applications for this supplemental round.



Program Reviews Underway for Two Grant Categories

RCO has convened two workgroups consisting of stakeholders, advisory committee members, and agency partners to review the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program's Urban Wildlife Habitat and Riparian Protection Categories. The goal of these reviews is to assess the strengths and challenges of these programs today, assess whether funded projects meet the programs'



intents, and recommend changes to policies and evaluation criteria for consideration by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board. The workgroups are reviewing program policies and evaluation criteria now and will develop alternatives for consideration by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board at its October meeting. The public can review recommended changes in late summer or early fall. Staff will present updates on these categories in more detail in Item 4 and Item 5.

Staff Begins Study of State's Recreational Assets

Staff has begun a study to look at Washington's recreational assets of statewide significance and identify the gaps and investment strategies for filling those gaps. The Legislature requested the study, which is due June 30. The study is taking a two-pronged approach: 1) Identify assets that support the most popular recreational activities in the state (walking, biking, hiking, swimming, boating, camping,



competitive sports, leisure activities at local parks, visiting nature parks, and snow activities); and 2) Identify assets of an exceptional nature that draw people from across the state and to our state. These assets are the most iconic and popular in the state and users participating in a given activity see these places as critical to their recreational passion. Our contractors, Washington Hometown and ESRI are identifying the current assets of statewide significance and the service gaps. They will produce a Web-map that shows the gaps in access to those sites. Meanwhile, RCO staff are contacting recreational users to begin to identify where the exceptional assets are and where service gaps need to be filled. Staff will present more detail on this study in Item 7.

Director Speaks at the Seattle Boat Show

The Boating Leadership Summit asked me to talk to a group of marina operators, boaters, and trade association members about RCO's issues that affect boaters. I gave my talk at Seattle's Boat Show. I talked to the group about RCO's boating grants, salmon recovery efforts, and work on the Governor's orca task force. In addition to my



presentation, the Washington Invasive Species Council partnered with the Clean Boating Foundation to host a booth focused on pollution and invasive species prevention. The booth was staffed by more than 12 volunteers and reached more than 2,000 people with invasive species prevention messages.

Bellevue Cuts Ribbon on Meydenbauer Bay Park

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board member Michael Shiosaki represented the board at the ribbon cutting of Bellevue's newest waterfront park—Meydenbauer Bay Park. The City had used six grants in this park for everything from buying the land to totally redeveloping the expanded park. The City used four different RCO grant programs—Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Boating Facilities Program, RCO Recreation Grants, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. The City restored the shoreline and built a swim beach, pedestrian pier, small boat launch, viewing platforms, children's play area, a promenade, restrooms, and lifeguard facilities. Meydenbauer Bay Park is in downtown Bellevue on the shoreline of Meydenbauer Bay



on Lake Washington. Although Bellevue is bounded by water—on the west by Lake Washington and on the east by Lake Sammamish—the public has limited visual and physical access to these lakes. Of the more than 11 miles of shoreline along the two lakes, less than 10 percent is publicly owned. Bellevue has made a substantial commitment to increase the public presence along the waterfront, and Meydenbauer Bay Park is a shining example of it. See a [drone video of the park and its construction](#).

Moorlands Park Multipurpose Field Opens

RCO outdoor grants manager DeAnn Beck was a featured speaker at the opening ceremony for Kenmore’s newly renovated multipurpose ballfields in Moorlands Park. The city used a Youth Athletic Facilities grant to improve the field for youth baseball, soccer, softball, and lacrosse. A Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grant provided funds for the play area, new restrooms, and a picnic shelter. This popular ballfield is the only field owned and operated by the city.



Gig Harbor Celebrates the Opening of Ancich Waterfront Park

RCO outdoor grants manager Beth Auerbach and I attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for Ancich Waterfront Park in Gig Harbor. The city used a grant of \$500,000 from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account to create an open grassy area, walkways, kayak and canoe storage, restrooms, and an overlook with fantastic views of Gig Harbor and Mount Rainier. This access site is especially popular for recreationist who enjoy paddle sports.



Staff Changes

Katie Pruitt joined RCO in mid-February as a policy and planning analyst. She has worked as a state agency policy lead, local government planner, and land trust conservation director. Katie spent 5 years at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife leading the local government technical assistance program under the state Growth Management and Shoreline Management Acts, and managed the Priority Habitats and Species Program. Previously, she worked at Thurston County, where she administered county conservation programs, managed public process and zoning code changes, and worked on a habitat conservation plan to protect federally listed species. Katie started her conservation career working at land trusts in Alaska and Washington to protect the last great places. Katie loves exploring new places and being outside with her family whether it is hiking, beachcombing, swimming, or just taking it all in.



Sister Board Updates

The **Salmon Recovery Funding Board** held its first meeting of the year on March 6. The board discussed the upcoming Salmon Recovery Conference in April, implementation of the Lean study, release of the [State of Salmon in Watersheds](#) report, invasive species, monitoring, streamflow restoration program, and Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program and its investment plan.

At its March meeting, the **Washington Invasive Species Council** heard a city government panel discussion, discussed a proposed species reclassification with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and heard an overview of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's mussel funding to Washington State.

Legislative and Budget Report

The Legislature has released all six of their proposed budgets for the 2019-21 biennium. The versions differ slightly in what is funded, as well as the level of funding to some of our programs, but the general picture is favorable for RCO. In the operating budget, the House funds the update to the outdoor recreation economic study (\$50K), while the Senate version does not. The House budget also funds some salmon-related work that the Senate budget has omitted. For the No Child Left Inside Program, the House funds it at \$1.5 m, while the Senate increases that amount to \$2 m.

In the capital budget, here is summary table showing the various funding amount proposed:

Program	2019-21 Request	2019-21 Governor	2019-21 House	2019-21 Senate
Outdoor Recreation:				
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	\$130,000,000	\$115,000,000	\$80,000,000*	\$90,000,000
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$6,600,000	\$4,963,000	\$4,306,000	\$6,600,000
Youth Athletics Facilities	\$12,000,000	\$5,035,000	\$12,000,000	\$5,035,000
Boating Facilities Program	\$17,872,000	\$17,872,000	\$17,872,000	\$17,872,000
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities	\$13,911,000	\$11,411,000	\$11,411,000	\$11,411,000
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program	\$735,000	\$735,000	\$735,000	\$735,000
Community Forest Pilot Program	-	-	-	\$6,096,000
Federal Funds:				
Boating Infrastructure Grants	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000
Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000
Recreational Trails Program	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Salmon Recovery – Federal	\$50,000,000	\$50,000,000	\$50,000,000	\$50,000,000

*State Parks project, Palouse to Cascades Connection Malden to Rosalia is removed from the list.

Some important differences between the House and Senate capital budgets include the following:

- The House budget removes a project from the State Parks category (listed above), while the Senate budget maintains the integrity of the WWRP list.
- The Senate budget funds three community forest projects in a newly-created Community Forest Pilot Program, but this funding is contingent on the policy bill (2SSB 5873) passing.
- The Senate budget fully funds the ALEA list, but falls much shorter than the House in funding the YAF list.

Grant Management Report

Washington Receives Grants for Boating Infrastructure

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has approved \$683,986 in grant funds for projects in Washington State that support recreational boating through the Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) program. The program provides funds to construct, renovate, and maintain facilities that support recreational boating for vessels that are 26 feet or more in length. Tier 1 grants are for projects requesting \$200,000 or less and Tier 2 are for projects requesting more than \$200,001 as part of a national competition.

The board delegated authority to me to approve Tier 1 projects and to submit Tier 2 projects to the national competition after presenting the projects to the board for public review and comment. This year Washington State submitted two successful grant proposals. The table below lists the projects and grant awards.

Table 1: BIG Grant Awards for Federal Fiscal Year 2019

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Category and Grant Award	Match	Total
18-1779D	Van Riper's Resort Transient Moorage	Van Riper's Resort	Tier 1 \$159,600	\$56,077	\$215,677
18-1954D	Port Angeles Fuel Float	Port of Port Angeles	Tier 2 \$497,320	\$223,433	\$720,753

Since Washington State began participating in the program, in 1998 we have now received 30 grants. Here is a quick summary

- **Tier 1.** There were 17 grant awards, three education projects and 14 facility developments. Applicants included public agencies, three private nonprofits, and one private operator.
- **Tier 2.** RCO received funding for 13 of the 19 development projects submitted to the USFWS for the national competition. This represents a 68 percent success rate! Successful applicants include 12 public agencies and one private operator.

Funding for the BIG program comes from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, which boaters and manufacturers support through excise and other taxes on certain fishing and boating equipment and gasoline.

Evaluations Conducted for Several Recreation Grant Programs

Evaluations for the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) and Firearm and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) were completed. Staff is asking the board to approve preliminary ranked lists of projects for BFP (Item 9) and FARR (Item 10) at the April meeting. Due to the federal government shutdown, evaluations were delayed for the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program and the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). During in-person evaluations, advisory committees for boating, shooting range, and

backcountry trail grants evaluated 131 grant proposals in February and March. Written evaluations are currently underway for trail related development, maintenance, and education projects. Staff will request board approval of NOVA and RTP ranked lists and grant awards for all programs at the board's June meeting following legislative approval of the 2019-21 state capital budget.

Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club Update

Background

In January 2018, the board passed Resolution 2018-05, as amended, allowing the Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club (Club) additional time to resolve their permitting issues with Kitsap County (County). By that time, court injunctions had forced the Club to remain closed for the purposes of shooting firearms from 2012 forward for extensive periods of time in violation of their grant agreement (RCO [#03-1156D](#)).

Resolution 2018-05 directed an amendment to the Club's agreement with RCO. This amendment stated, in part, that if the Club fails to reopen to the public for the purposes of shooting firearms for at least 60 consecutive days prior to January 1, 2021, the Director may declare a conversion requiring the Club to repay the entire grant award of \$46,965.16. Additionally, the Club must submit bi-monthly progress reports starting in May of 2018 and show diligent pursuit and good faith progress in obtaining any permits required to resume public shooting of firearms. If the Club fails to do so, the board may declare a conversion.

Status

Since May of 2018, the Club has submitted progress reports every other month by the required deadline. Although the summaries in the progress reports are brief, the information included is sufficient to allow RCO staff to track the Club's progress.

The Club submitted applications for both an Operating Permit and a Development Permit, while they continued working with their attorneys through the court process. In January 2019, the County cancelled the Club's application for their Development Permit stating that the Club had failed to submit the required documents and that they had submitted an application for the wrong permit type. The Club is still working with the County to submit the required information for their Operating Permit.

Reviewing Federal Program Policy Guidelines

RCO staff are coordinating and participating in a review of an updated version of the guidelines for the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program. The National Park Service is looking for feedback on revisions designed to improve the content of the policy document that is used to administer the stateside program.

Project Administration

Staff administer outdoor recreation and habitat conservation projects as summarized in the table below. "Active" grants are those currently under agreement and in the implementation phase. "Director Approved" grants includes grant awards made by the RCO director after receiving board-delegated authority to award grants. Staff are working with sponsors to secure the materials needed to place the Director Approved grants under agreement.

Program	Active Projects	Director Approved Projects	Total Funded Projects
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)	15	4	19
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	45	1	46
Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG)	5	1	6
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR)	5	0	5
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	14	3	17
Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)	112	0	112
Recreation & Conservation Office Recreation Grants (RRG)	24	0	24
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	40	1	41
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)	144	3	147
Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF)	14	3	17
Total	418	16	434

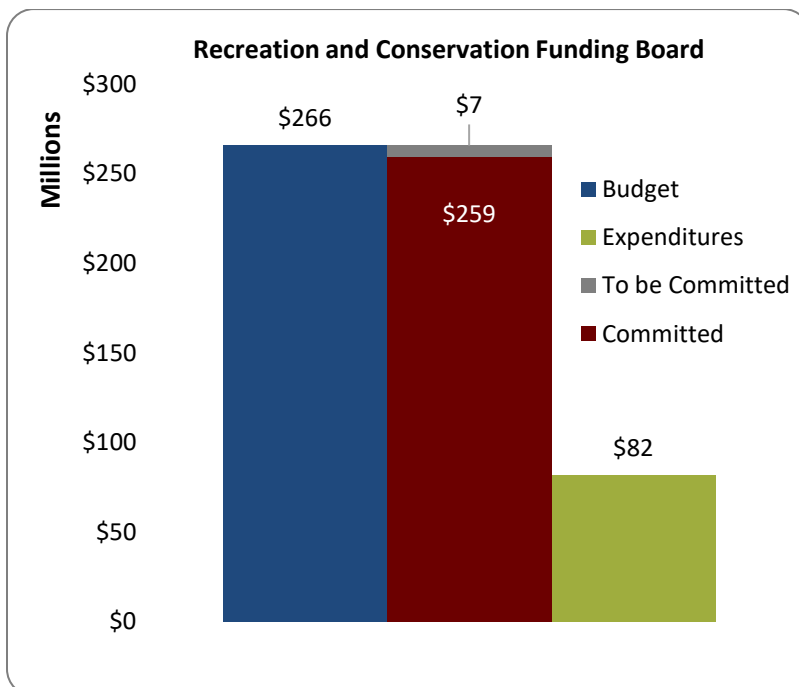
Viewing Closed Projects

Attachment A lists projects that closed between December 16, 2018 and March 31, 2019. Click on the project number to view the project description, grant funds awarded, and other information (e.g., photos, maps, reports, etc.).

Fiscal Report

For July 1, 2017-June 30, 2019, actuals through March 15, 2019 (Fiscal Month 20). Percentage of biennium reported: 83.3 percent. The "Budget" column shows the state appropriations and any received federal awards.

Grant Program	BUDGET	COMMITTED		TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES	
	Re-appropriations 2017-2019	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% Expended of Committed
Grant Programs							
ALEA	\$16,732,166	\$16,508,932	99%	\$223,234	1%	\$5,575,269	34%
BFP	\$30,471,144	\$30,065,910	99%	\$405,234	1%	\$8,813,579	29%
BIG	\$3,924,298	\$3,924,298	100%	\$0	0%	\$1,259,166	32%
FARR	\$1,414,298	\$1,086,798	77%	\$327,500	23%	\$606,232	56%
LWCF	\$8,965,470	\$8,965,470	100%	\$0	0%	\$3,226,494	36%
NOVA	\$18,007,269	\$17,306,763	96%	\$700,506	4%	\$5,895,711	34%
RTP	\$5,953,317	\$5,619,438	94%	\$333,879	6%	\$2,626,591	47%
WWRP	\$136,856,500	\$133,165,496	97%	\$3,691,004	3%	\$34,397,222	26%
RRG	\$25,765,297	\$24,986,181	97%	\$779,116	3%	\$10,711,582	43%
YAF	\$9,775,000	\$9,553,935	98%	\$221,065	2%	\$3,007,226	31%
Subtotal	\$257,864,759	\$251,183,221	97%	\$6,681,538	3%	\$76,119,072	30%
Administration							
General Operating Funds	\$7,871,177	\$7,871,177	100%	\$0	0%	\$5,918,711	75%
Grand Total	\$265,735,936	\$259,054,398	98%	\$6,681,537	2%	\$82,037,784	32%



Acronym	Grant Program
ALEA	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account
BFP	Boating Facilities Program
BIG	Boating Infrastructure Grant
FARR	Firearms and Archery Range Recreation
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund
NOVA	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities
RTP	Recreational Trails Program
WWRP	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
RRG	RCO Recreation Grants
YAF	Youth Athletic Facilities

Board Revenue Report

For July 1, 2017-June 30, 2019, actuals through March 14, 2019 (Fiscal Month 20).
Percentage of biennium reported: 83.3%.

Program	Biennial Forecast	Collections	
	Estimate	Actual	% of Estimate
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	\$20,716,886	\$17,298,887	83.5%
Nonhighway, Off-Road Vehicle Program (NOVA)	\$14,591,264	\$11,891,685	81.5%
Firearms and Archery Range Rec Program (FARR)	\$574,137	\$518,931	90.4%
Total	\$35,882,287	\$29,709,503	82.8%

Revenue Notes:

BFP revenue is from the un-refunded marine gasoline taxes.

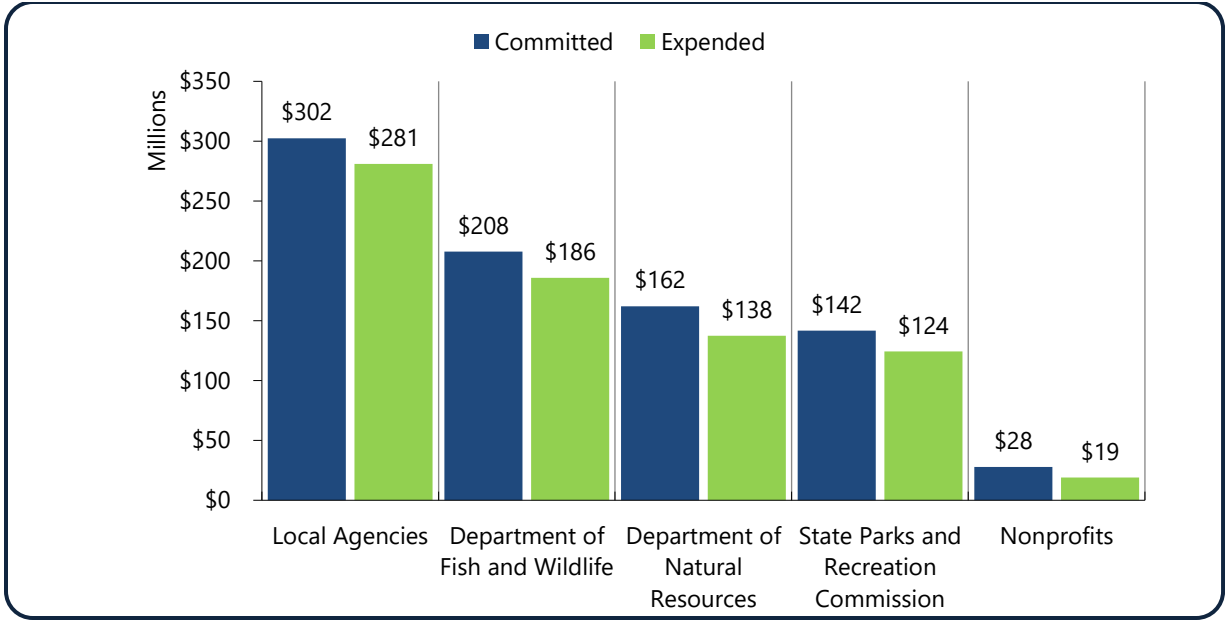
NOVA revenue is from the motor vehicle gasoline tax paid by users of off-road vehicles and nonhighway roads and from the amount paid for by off-road vehicle use permits. NOVA revenue is from the motor vehicle gasoline tax paid by users of off-road vehicles and nonhighway roads and from the amount paid for by off-road vehicle use permits.

FARR revenue is from \$2.16 of each concealed pistol license fee.

This reflects the most recent revenue forecast of March 2019. The next forecast is due in June 2019.

WWRP Expenditure Rate by Organization (1990-Current)

Agency	Committed	Expenditures	% Expended
Local Agencies	\$302,345,419	\$280,913,508	93%
Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$207,750,563	\$185,870,658	89%
Department of Natural Resources	\$162,034,907	\$137,508,577	85%
State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$141,629,532	\$124,315,890	88%
Nonprofits	\$27,856,928	\$18,872,479	68%
Conservation Commission	\$3,840,040	\$444,234	12%
Tribes	\$741,411	\$741,411	100%
Other			
Special Projects	\$735,011	\$735,011	100%
Total	\$846,933,811	\$749,401,768	88%



Performance Measures for Fiscal Year 2019

The following performance data are for recreation and conservation projects in fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019). Data are current as of March 26, 2019.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Performance Measures

Measure	Target	Fiscal Year-to-Date	Status	Notes
Grant agreements mailed within 120 days of funding	90%	78%	●	38 of 49 agreements were mailed to sponsors within 120 days
Grants under agreement within 180 days of funding	95%	86%	●	240 of 279 agreements were under agreement within 180 days of funding.
Progress reports responded to within 15 days	90%	89%	●	RCFB staff received 505 progress reports and responded to them in an average of 6 days.
Bills paid in 30 days	100%	100%	●	635 bills have come due and all were paid within 30 days. On average, staff paid bills within 11 days.
Projects closed within 150 days of funding end date	85%	81%	●	60 of 74 projects have closed on time.
Projects in Backlog	5	18	●	There are 18 RCFB projects in the backlog
Compliance inspections done	125	114	●	There has been 114 worksites inspected.
Annual bills submitted	100%	77%	●	Bills for 254 of 330 projects have been submitted thru March 25, 2019. The remaining projects have until June 30, 2019 to submit a bill.

Projects Completed and Closed from December 16, 2018 to March 31, 2019

Project Number ⁱ	Project Name	Sponsor	Program ⁱⁱ	Closed On
16-2020A	Birch Bay Park Acquisition	Whatcom County	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	2/13/2019
14-1304D	Port Angeles Boat Haven Laundry Facility	Port of Port Angeles	Boating Infrastructure Grant, Tier 1	2/5/2019
14-1324D	Port of Poulsbo Guest Marina Facility Upgrades	Port of Poulsbo	Boating Infrastructure Grant, Tier 1	1/11/2019
15-1253D	Eagle Harbor City Dock Replacement	Bainbridge Island	Boating Infrastructure Grant, Tier 2	1/16/2019
14-1615D	Port Angeles Transient Moorage Float Replacement	Port Angeles	Boating Infrastructure Grant, Tier 2	1/10/2019
14-1953D	Eagle Harbor Waterfront Park: City Dock	Bainbridge Island	Boating Facilities Program, Local	1/16/2019
14-2142D	Kirkland's Marina Pier and Boat Launch Renovation	Kirkland	Boating Facilities Program, Local	2/26/2019
16-2258D	Port of Garfield Central Ferry Boat Launch Paving	Port of Garfield	Boating Facilities Program, Local	1/29/2019
14-1948D	Port of Grays Harbor, 28th Street Landing Phase 2	Port of Grays Harbor	Boating Facilities Program, Local	12/19/2018
16-2581D	Boat Launch and Existing Guest Dock Renovation	Port of Kalama	Boating Facilities Program, Local	3/25/2019
14-1178D	Wenberg County Park Waterfront Improvements	Snohomish County	Boating Facilities Program, Local	1/7/2019

Project Number ⁱ	Project Name	Sponsor	Program ⁱⁱ	Closed On
13-1565D	Klickitat County Shooting Range Development Phase 1	Klickitat County	Firearms and Archery Range Recreation	3/26/2019
12-1230A	North Creek Forest Acquisition Phase 2	Bothell	Land and Water Conservation Fund	12/17/2018
16-1984A	Barnum Point LWCF	Island County	Land and Water Conservation Fund	3/8/2019
14-2037M	Naches Campgrounds Maintenance and Operation 2016-2017	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road	1/30/2019
14-2069D	Ski Hill – Freund Trail System Development	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized	1/2/2019
14-2148P	Wenas Wildlife Area Manastash Ridge Trails	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized	12/17/2018
16-2486M	Naches Pass Trail Bridge Replacement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Off-Road Vehicle	3/21/2019
14-1823D	Reiter Foothills Forest 4x4 Trail Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Off-Road Vehicle	3/25/2019
14-1606D	Pearl Street Memorial Plaza and Fountain	Centralia	RCO Recreation Grants, Local Parks	1/9/2019

Project Number ⁱ	Project Name	Sponsor	Program ⁱⁱ	Closed On
14-1581D	North Mason Soccer - Football Field Renovation	Mason County of	RCO Recreation Grants, Local Parks	2/14/2019
14-1763D	Klickitat Prairie Park Phase 3	Mossyrock	RCO Recreation Grants, Local Parks	1/9/2019
14-1173D	Crow Butte Park Playground Development	Port of Benton	RCO Recreation Grants, Local Parks	3/19/2019
14-1592D	Snoqualmie Skate Park	Snoqualmie	RCO Recreation Grants, Local Parks	2/14/2019
14-1515D	Woodland Creek Community Park Trail Connection	Lacey	RCO Recreation Grants, Trails	2/14/2019
14-1627D	Wenber County Park Water Access Improvements	Snohomish County	RCO Recreation Grants, Water Access	1/7/2019
14-2052E	Snoqualmie Pass I-90 Corridor Winter Education	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	Recreational Trails Program, Education	2/15/2019
14-2044D	Marble Mountain Trailhead Sno-Park Shelter	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount St Helens National Volcanic Monument	Recreational Trails Program, General	2/13/2019
14-1768M	Stemilt-Colockum Sno-Parks and Groomed Trails	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Recreational Trails Program, General	3/11/2019
14-1775M	Southeast Region Snowmobile Sno-Parks and Trails	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Recreational Trails Program, General	2/5/2019
12-1125A	Mountain View 4-0 and Hansen Ridge	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP Critical Habitat	1/9/2019

Project Number ⁱ	Project Name	Sponsor	Program ⁱⁱ	Closed On
12-1137A	Rock Creek Simcoe 2012	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP Critical Habitat	1/9/2019
12-1229A	Capitol Olympic Vista Park	Olympia	WWRP Local Parks	3/21/2019
16-1384A	Kaiser Woods Acquisition	Olympia	WWRP Local Parks	1/14/2019
16-1359A	LBA Woods Morse-Merryman Parcel Acquisition	Olympia	WWRP Local Parks	3/27/2019
14-1701C	Prairie View Park Expansion	Spokane County	WWRP Local Parks	1/29/2019
12-1173A	Camas Meadows Natural Area Preserve 2012	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Natural Areas	1/9/2019
12-1180A	Trombetta Canyon Natural Area Preserve 2012	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Natural Areas	12/19/2018
14-1252A	Ink Blot and Schumacher Creek Natural Area Preserves 2014	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Natural Areas	12/18/2018
14-1548D	Riverside Access Site Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP State Lands Development and Renovation	12/20/2018
12-1606R	Methow Forest Restoration Project Phase I	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP State Lands Restoration and Enhancement	1/9/2019
14-1355R	LT Murray Forest and Aquatic Habitat Enhancement	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP State Lands Restoration and Enhancement	2/8/2019
14-1485R	Lacamas Prairie Oak and Wet Prairie Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Restoration and Enhancement	3/1/2019
14-1626D	Tolmie State Park Parking	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	WWRP State Parks	1/10/2019

Project Number ⁱ	Project Name	Sponsor	Program ⁱⁱ	Closed On
14-1442D	Foothills National Recreation Trail Final Phase	Pierce County	WWRP Trails	3/27/2019
16-1620A	West Bay Woods Acquisition	Olympia	WWRP Urban Wildlife	2/19/2019
14-1441C	Hooven Bog Conservation Area	Snohomish County	WWRP Urban Wildlife	1/7/2019
16-2006A	West Poulsbo Waterfront Park	Poulsbo	WWRP Water Access	1/31/2019
15-1371D	Fort Steilacoom Park Sports Field Enhancements	Lakewood	Youth Athletic Facilities, Renovation	1/9/2019
15-1378D	Hogan Park Athletic Field Renovation	Kent	Youth Athletic Facilities, Renovation	2/14/2019
15-1389D	Heritage Soccer Field Artificial Turf	Pierce County	Youth Athletic Facilities, Renovation	1/17/2019
16-1999D	Columbia Playfield Field Lighting	Richland	Youth Athletic Facilities, Renovation	1/24/2019

ⁱ A=Acquisition, C=Acquisition and Development, D=Development, E=Education/Education and Enforcement, M=Maintenance, O=Operation R=Restoration

ⁱⁱ WWRP = Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2018

Title: Urban Wildlife Habitat category policy review

Prepared By: Ben Donatelle, Policy Specialist

Summary

This memo summarizes policy issues and goals identified as part of the program review of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Urban Wildlife Habitat category.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a: Request for Decision
 Request for Direction
 Briefing

Project Summary

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board's (board) 2018 [Unifying Strategy](#) directed RCO staff to review the Urban Wildlife Habitat category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program to assess whether the policies and evaluation criteria are meeting the statutory intent. The board also expressed an interest in considering how the category can best serve community interests in nature-based activities; improve equitable funding of parks, trails, and conservation lands; and get youth outside.

RCO staff convened an Urban Wildlife Habitat policy workgroup in January and, at the time of this writing, has held three meetings. Workgroup discussions first focused on clarifying the intent of the Urban Wildlife Habitat category and identifying two major challenges with the existing funding policies and evaluation criteria, including:

- a) A trend of funding acquisition projects further away from population centers (at the edge of the five mile radius) is not aligned with the perceived intent of the Urban Wildlife category; and
- b) Projects in dense urban areas don't compete well based on the current evaluation criteria.

RCO staff analyzed project applications and funding distribution between 2006 and 2018 to inform the above conclusions. For summary of the analysis please see Attachment A. Additional background information on the history of the Urban Wildlife Habitat program prior to 2006 can be found in RCO staff's [white paper](#) from June 2006, and the brief policy history included in the board's July 2016 memo (Attachment C).

Next steps for the working group include developing policy options for the board to consider and revising the category's evaluation criteria.

Policy Workgroup

At the time of this writing, the Urban Wildlife Habitat policy workgroup discussed the challenges highlighted above, developed a shared vision statement for the category, outlined high-level policy goals, and discussed preliminary recommendations to address the outlined goals. Next steps for the workgroup include developing options for policy recommendations and reviewing the evaluation criteria. The workgroup intends to provide recommendations that better align the program policies and evaluation criteria with the statutory intent and board guidance discussed in the Unifying Strategy.

Vision Statement

The workgroup developed the following DRAFT vision statement to guide this project:

The Urban Wildlife Habitat program provides a source of funds to protect quality, close-to-home native habitat near urban and urbanizing communities that supports the human-nature connection.

Policy goals

The workgroup developed the following goals for aligning the category with its interpretation of the statutory intent and board direction. These goals are not presented in any specific order.

- Maintain the category focus on protecting native habitat;
- Increase the number of applications and funded projects, especially from "local entities;"
- Provide close-to-home opportunities for "nature activities;"
- Increase human-nature interaction that doesn't impair habitat values;
- Increase access to nature, especially for underserved communities;
- Increase habitat connectivity and landscape permeability; and
- Protect and enhance ecosystem services.

Policy issues identified for discussion

Project location eligibility and the definition of “urban”

Current board policy¹ requires a project be located either:

- a) within the corporate limits of a city or town with a population of at least 5,000 or within 5 miles of such a city or town (or its adopted Urban Growth Area boundary); or
- b) Within 5 miles of an adopted Urban Growth Area in a county, which has a population density of at least 250 people per square mile.

The workgroup expressed interest in addressing this policy in two different ways. First, the workgroup wants to broaden the eligibility policy to include projects near communities that are urbanizing but do not meet the 5,000 population limit and are not in a county with a population density of 250 people per square mile. The workgroup believes that a number of smaller, outlying communities near the Wenatchee, Yakima, Bellingham, Tri-Cities and other urban communities serve as bedroom communities and have an increasing need to protect wildlife habitat before it is developed. Reducing the population eligibility threshold may help to increase the number of applications from local entities, particularly from these smaller urbanizing communities.

Second, the workgroup wants to revise the five-mile proximity policy with the goal of rewarding projects that are closer to urban centers or within urban growth boundaries. Currently a project is eligible if any part of the parcel to be acquired or developed touches the five mile (as a crow flies) radius of a qualifying community. Evaluation points are then awarded based on the population of the qualifying community. The workgroup believes an additional reward for being closer to the urban growth boundary would increase the accessibility of projects, especially for residents who rely on public or alternative modes of transportation.

Funding allocation policy

Current board policy² distributes funding following a 40/40/20 formula as follows:

40 percent to local agencies, Native American tribes, and nonprofit organizations; 40 percent to state agencies; 20 percent to fully fund partially funded local agency, Native American tribe, and nonprofit organizations; then fully fund partially funded

¹ Manual 10B, pg. 19

² Resolution 2016-36

state agency projects, and apply any remaining amount to the next highest ranked project(s), regardless of sponsor.

This funding allocation policy was originally implemented for the 2008 application cycle, and was intended to provide equal distribution of funding to local and state agency sponsored projects. In practice, it is having an unintended effect. When any sponsors return funds from projects that close short or there are unspent funds from previous biennia left in the category, those funds are first distributed to partially funded projects regardless of sponsor. Since 2008, five of six partially funded projects have been multi-million dollar acquisitions sponsored by state agencies. So, when returned and unused funds are redistributed, they generally are used to add funds to these partially funded, multi-million dollar projects. This could be one reason why the number of funded projects appears evenly split, but the actual funding distribution favors state agencies (67%) to local entities (33%).

Grant limits

Imposing grant limits may provide some distributional breadth to the category. For the purposes of policy analysis, RCO Staff hypothetically imposed a \$1,000,000 grant maximum on the past funded project list (2016, See Attachment A). Such a cap would only have increased the number of state agency funded projects because of the funding allocation policy discussed above. It remains to be seen whether those state agency projects would be viable projects under a new grant maximum limit. Additionally, any recommended grant maximum will need to account for property values that are inherently higher in urban settings.

Targeting underserved populations

RCO's current method of rewarding or incentivizing projects that address the needs of underserved communities is to offer a [reduced match](#) obligation to the sponsor.³ That policy option is currently limited by statute to projects in categories in the Outdoor Recreation Account.⁴ The board expressed interest in prioritizing Urban Wildlife funding to address the Statewide Recreation and Conservation Plan priorities to improve equity of parks, trails, and conservation lands. The workgroup is equally interested in addressing issues of equity and access to wildlife habitat, but at the time of this writing has not weighed substantive policy options for doing so.

³ Resolution 2017-33

⁴ RCW 79A.15.050

Clarifying eligible development activities

The board requested staff look at how Urban Wildlife Habitat funding could address the Statewide Recreation and Conservation Plan priorities to get youth outside. In the resident demand survey, Nature Activities (such as wildlife viewing) rank as second behind walking for most popular activities statewide. "Development" is an authorized use of grant funds in statute⁵, and Urban Wildlife Habitat projects are well positioned to support "Nature Based" activities. However, there is not clear guidance on what level of development is appropriate to support those activities? The workgroup and RCO Staff are eager to clarify the level of development that may be appropriate for Urban Wildlife Habitat projects to support the statutory considerations for providing public access, opportunities education and scientific research, and potential for use by special needs populations.⁶

Evaluation Criteria Changes

The evaluation criteria have changed very little since the beginning of the program except for the addition of the "multiple benefits" criteria after the 2016 WWRP statutory changes.⁷ Different iterations of the evaluation criteria have weighted questions differently, which has resulted in projects being funded that had a greater benefit to biodiversity and "big picture conservation" (1994 -2006) or attempted to rebalance funding toward close-to-home projects that provide greater public benefit (2006 - present). All the while, an underlying sentiment that local projects cannot compete against state agency projects remains a consistent theme. The advisory committee will evaluate the reasons behind this sentiment and commit to developing recommendations that reframe evaluation questions to align with the current interpretation of statutory intent and board's direction. At the time of this writing work has not yet taken place, but is on the workgroup's agenda for April and May 2019.

Summary and Next steps

This analysis highlights a number of important trends and issues with the current state of the Urban Wildlife Habitat category. First, the workgroup believes the intent of the Urban Wildlife Habitat program is to protect native habitat that provides access for people to maintain a human-nature interaction, particularly in the densely populated urban parts of the state. Second, there has been a trend of expanding the project

⁵ RCW 79A.15.

⁶ RCW 79A.15.060(5)(b)

⁷ Substitute Senate Bill 6227

location eligibility policy to include projects that are further from urban centers. Third, the funding allocation policy has had an undesired, unanticipated effect of distributing funds to large (high dollar), state agency sponsored projects. Fourth, the evaluation criteria is not designed and weighted to favor projects to meet the needs of urban and urbanizing communities.

Based on direction from the board, RCO Staff will coordinate with the workgroup to continue drafting policy options and refine the evaluation criteria for the board's consideration at the June meeting.

Attachment

Attachment A - Project Analysis; Fiscal Years 2008-2020

Attachment B - Hypothetical Maximum Grant Limit of \$1,000,000

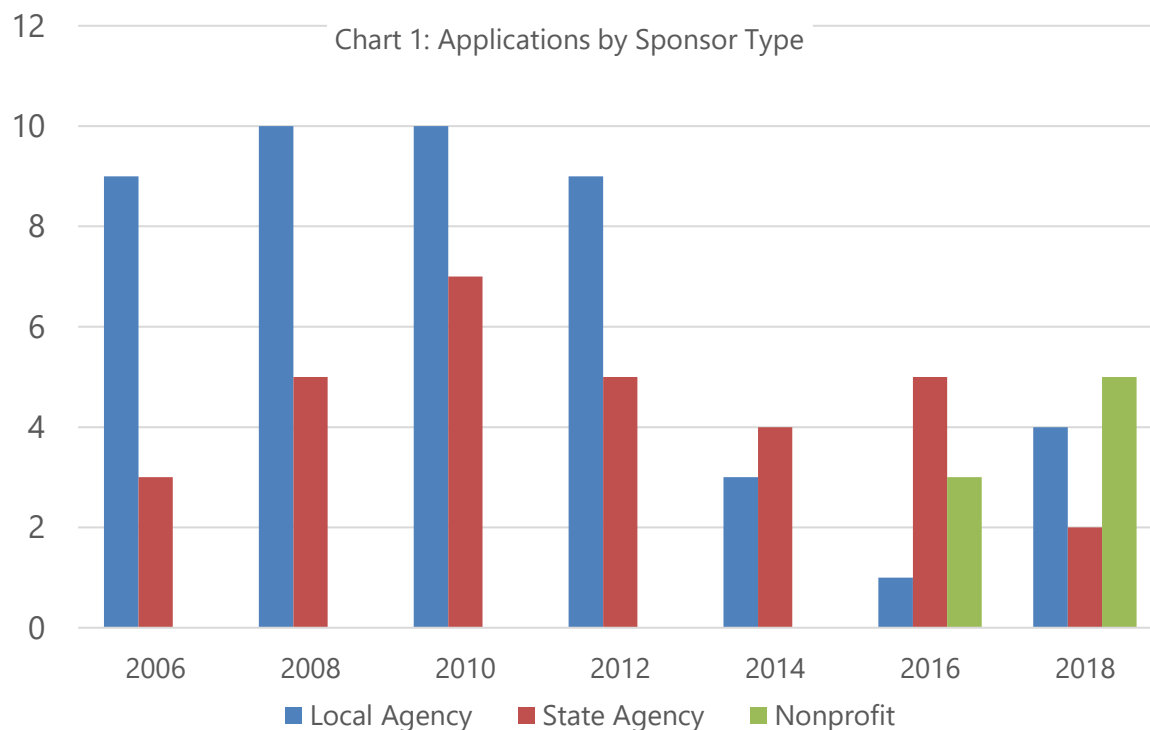
Attachment C – Item 7B from RCFB July 2016

Attachment A: Project Analysis; Fiscal Years 2008-2020

RCO staff provides this analysis of project applications and fund distribution since the last Urban Wildlife Habitat program review changes were implemented for the 2008 application year. Policy changes resulting from the board's discussions between 2006 and 2008 were summarized in [Item 12](#) at the board's January 2019 meeting.

Applications

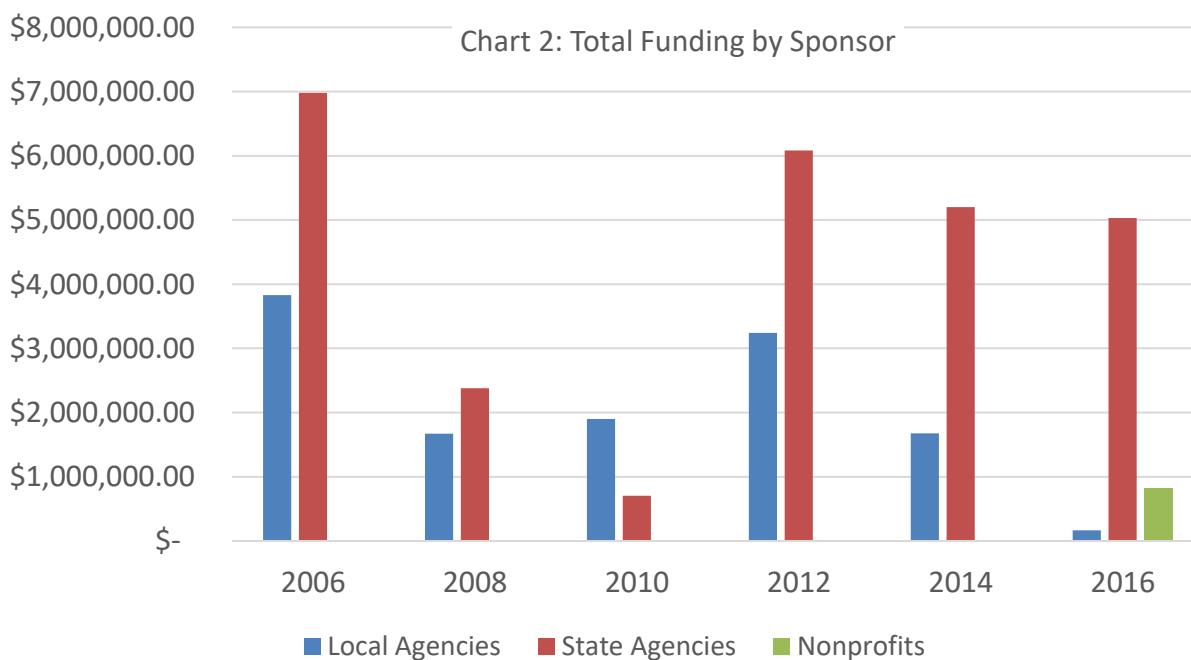
Since 2006, RCO received 85 project applications in the Urban Wildlife Habitat category (see Chart 1). However, applications from local agencies have sharply declined in recent biennium. In 2008 and 2010, local agencies submitted 10 applications each year. The category once again saw a sharp decline of local agency sponsored applications beginning in 2012. Non-profit nature conservancies are filling some of that gap since they were included as local entities in 2016, however, unlike cities, non-profit entities have the flexibility of acquiring property both within and outside of the urban growth boundaries. Project applications from state agencies have averaged 4.4 per biennium, with a low of two applications in 2018, and a high of seven applications in 2010.



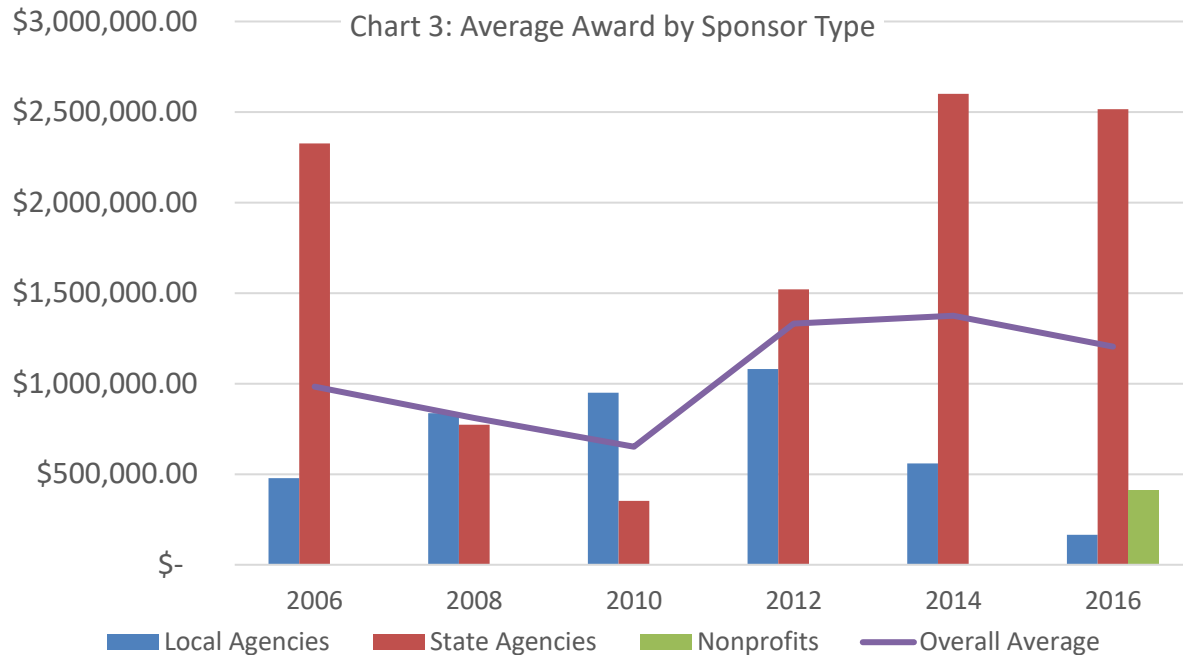
Funded Projects

RCO has funded 35 projects since 2006. Of those, 19 projects were sponsored by local entities and 16 were sponsored by state agencies. Through this lens, the 40/40/20 funding allocation policy appears to be accomplishing its goal.⁸ However, when the value of completed projects is considered, the majority of the funding was distributed to the state agencies. Of \$38.8 million awarded between fiscal year 2008 - present, \$26.3 million (67.8%) went to state agency sponsored projects while only \$12.5 million (32.1%) went to local entity sponsored projects (See Chart 2, below).

Since 2006, grant awards per biennium for locally sponsored projects have averaged \$657,000 and ranged from \$164,000 (2016 application year) to \$1.08 million (2012 application year). Awards to state agency sponsored projects have averaged \$1.65 million per biennium and ranged between \$352,000 (2010 application year) to \$2.6 million (2014 application year). Local entities are required to provide at least 50% match and on average have provided \$726,000 per biennium. State agencies are not required to provide match, which likely accounts for the greater average grant request, and subsequent awards (See Chart 3, next page).



⁸ The 40/40/20 funding allocation policy was originally adopted by the board in 2008 to equalize the funding distribution between state agency sponsors and local sponsors. See: [Item 9](#), January 2008.



Project Location

Between 1991, the first year of the program, and 2006, 56% (47 of 74) of funded projects were located within Urban Growth Boundaries. The majority of those projects were in the first two years of the program (1991 and 1992). In those first years, projects were required to be located within municipal city limits. In 1992, the board expanded the location eligibility policy to include projects within five miles of the incorporated boundary of cities with a population of 5,000 or greater.⁹ Since that time, the board has expanded the location eligibility policy twice to include projects located further from urban centers and only 19 projects (of 75 projects funded after 1992) have been located inside Urban Growth Boundaries. RCO staff developed a map that shows the location of past funded projects, alternate projects, and their proximity to current Urban Growth Boundaries which can be viewed [HERE](#).

⁹ Archived minutes from Recreation and Conservation Funding Board September and November 1999 meeting. Available: [September](#) and [November](#)

Attachment B: Hypothetical Maximum Grant Limit of \$1,000,000

Urban Wildlife Category Ranked List

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, 2017-19

Project funding at \$80 million appropriation. Statutory formula vs statutory formula with a \$1M cap.

Rank	Score	Number & Type	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Project Amount	Cumulative Grant Request	Amount Funded Statute	Amount Funded \$1M Cap
1	63.500	16-1442A	Woodard Bay NRCA 2016	Natural Resources Dept of	\$ 3,232,991	\$ -	\$ 3,232,991	\$ 3,232,991	\$ 3,232,991	\$ 1,000,000
2	59.500	16-1440A	Stavis NRCA & Kitsap Forest NAP 2016	Natural Resources Dept of	\$ 3,569,499	\$ -	\$ 3,569,499	\$ 6,802,490	\$ 553,784	\$ 1,000,000
3	59.300	16-1439A	Mt Si & Middle Fork NRCAs/Rattlesnake Mtn 2016	Natural Resources Dept of	\$ 3,431,186	\$ -	\$ 3,431,186	\$ 10,233,676	Alternate	\$ 1,000,000
4	57.900	16-1916A	Lower Henderson Inlet Habitat Protection	Capitol Land Trust	\$ 610,000	\$ 610,000	\$ 1,220,000	\$ 10,843,676	\$ 610,000	\$ 610,000
5	55.800	16-1350A	West Rocky Prairie 2016	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	\$ 2,200,000	\$ -	\$ 2,200,000	\$ 13,043,676	Alternate	\$ 786,775
6	53.700	16-1352A	Scatter Creek Addition	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 14,043,676	Alternate	Alternate
7	53.300	16-1920C	Middle Ohop Protection Phase 3	Nisqually Land Trust	\$ 215,818	\$ 215,819	\$ 431,637	\$ 14,259,494	\$ 215,818	\$ 215,818
8	52.100	16-1380A	Castle Rock Acquisition, Phase 2	Chelan-Douglas Land Trust	\$ 400,000	\$ 418,250	\$ 818,250	\$ 14,659,494	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
9	47.200	16-1620A	West Bay Woods Acquisition	Olympia Parks, Arts & Rec	\$ 164,927	\$ 164,928	\$ 329,855	\$ 14,824,421	\$ 164,927	\$ 164,927
					\$14,824,421	\$1,408,997	\$16,233,418		\$5,177,520	\$5,177,520



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: July 13-14, 2016

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program:
Funding Allocation in the Urban Wildlife Habitat Category

Prepared By: Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist

Summary

This memo summarizes changes made in state law to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Urban Wildlife Habitat category. Due to the changes in the types of sponsors eligible for funding, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) must reconsider its policy of funding allocations based on the types of sponsors. Staff presents three options for the board's consideration and requests direction on which options to distribute for public comment in August. The board will make a decision at the October meeting.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

Request for Decision

Request for Direction

Briefing

Background

Urban Wildlife Habitat Category

The Urban Wildlife Habitat (UWH) category is one of four categories in the Habitat Conservation Account (HCA) of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP). Over time, the statutory allocation to the UWH category has changed as shown in Attachment A. Starting July 1, 2016, the funding allocation to the UWH is 15 percent of funding in the HCA.

Since the inception of the WWRP in 1989, the board has awarded \$79 million to 89 projects in the UWH category.

Urban wildlife habitat is defined in state law as "lands that provide habitat important to wildlife in proximity to a metropolitan area."¹ The law also directs the board to consider the urban area nearest the UWH project.² Based on these two factors, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) adopted policy that defines an eligible project in the UWH category is:

- In or within 5 miles of an adopted Urban Growth Area of a community in a county that has a population density of at least 200 people per square mile, or

¹ [RCW 79A.15.010\(12\)](#)

² [RCW 79A.15.060\(5\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)

- Within the corporate limits of a community with a population of at least 5,000 or within 5 miles of such a community (or its adopted urban growth area boundary).

Eligible sponsors in the UWH category are local agencies including Native American tribes and state agencies.³ In 2016, the Legislature added non-profit nature conservancies as eligible applicants. Local agencies, Native American tribes, and non-profits must provide a matching share that is at least equal to the amount of the grant award.⁴

History of Current Funding Allocation in the Urban Wildlife Category

The Legislature revised the WWRP law in 2005 and one of the changes increased the funding allocation to the UWH category from fifteen to twenty percent of the Habitat Conservation Account.⁵ In response to this increase in funding, the board reviewed the history of grant awards in the UWH category because there was a concern that state agencies were receiving a majority of the funding and would benefit the most from the additional money available.

In 2006, staff analysis determined that state agencies were receiving more grants than local agencies and projects were located further from the urban core areas compared to earlier years of the program. See [Item 10](#) from the June 2006 meeting for a thorough history of the UWH category and WWRP.

Based on this review, in 2008, the board adopted an allocation policy for the UWH category to distribute funding more evenly among local agencies, including Native American tribes, and state agencies. The current funding allocation formula is:

Urban Wildlife Habitat Funding Allocation⁶

- 40% local agencies including Native American tribes
- 40% state agencies
- 20% fully fund partially funded local agency and Native American tribes projects, then fully fund partially funded state agency projects, and finally apply any remaining funds to the next highest ranked project(s), regardless of sponsor. Funds remaining, due to an insufficient number of applications by either local agency (including Native American tribes) or state agency sponsors, will be awarded to the next highest ranked project(s) regardless of sponsor.

WWRP Changes 2016

The Legislature changed the UWH category again in 2016 in two ways.⁷ First, the Legislature reduced the funding allocation to the UWH category from 20 to 15 percent. In addition, the Legislature reduced the funding allocation to the HCA from 50 to 45 percent. Therefore, there will be slightly less funding in the UWH category.

³ [RCW 79A.15.010\(5\)](#) defines local agencies as “a city, county, town, federally recognized Indian tribe, special purpose district, port district, or other political subdivision of the state providing services to less than the entire state”.

⁴ [RCW 79A.15.060\(4\)](#)

⁵ [Chapter 303, Laws of 2005](#)

⁶ [Item 9 January 2008, Resolution 2008-06](#)

⁷ [Chapter 149, Laws of 2016](#)

The second change the Legislature made added non-profit nature conservancies as eligible sponsors in several categories, including UWH. As of the writing of this memo, there are nine 2016 applications in the UWH category by the following types of sponsors:

- 5 state agency applications
- 3 non-profit organization applications
- 1 local agency application

Issues and Analysis

At a minimum, the board must revisit its policy on funding allocation by the type of sponsor within the UWH category since non-profit organizations are eligible sponsors. The board must provide direction to staff at the October meeting because the ranked list of projects is due to the Legislature by November 1, 2016.⁸ In order to identify what projects may be funded during the 2017 legislative session, staff requests direction on how the board wants to address this allocation issue.

Effect of Board Funding Allocation Policy Since 2008

The board's current policy took effect starting with the 2007-2009 biennium. Overall, the UWH funding allocation policy is achieving its original intent to ensure an equal distribution of funds among local and state agency sponsors when the board awards the grants. However, based on analysis of projects completed or near completion, there is not an equal distribution of funds since the policy started in 2007-2009 biennium.

Chart 1 shows the funding amounts by the type of sponsor. The UWH allocation policy applied in the last five biennium. In three out of five of those biennia, more UWH funding went to state agency sponsors than local agency sponsors.⁹

Chart 2 shows the number of projects by the type of sponsor. Since 1999-2001 biennium, the number of projects by type of sponsor has remained equal ranging between two to six projects for both state and local agency sponsors.

⁸ [RCW 79A.15.060\(6\)](#)

⁹ In the 2009-2011 biennium, the Legislature exercised their discretion to alter the ranked project list and the board policy did not apply.

Chart 1

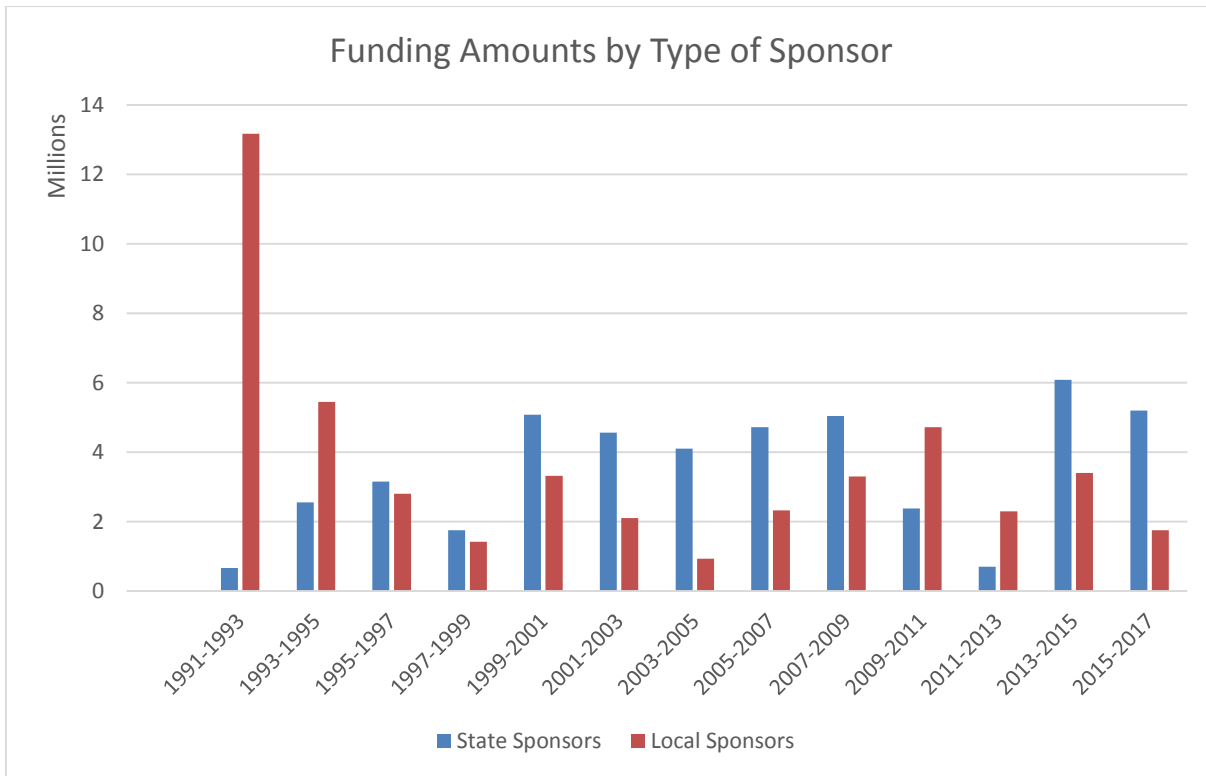
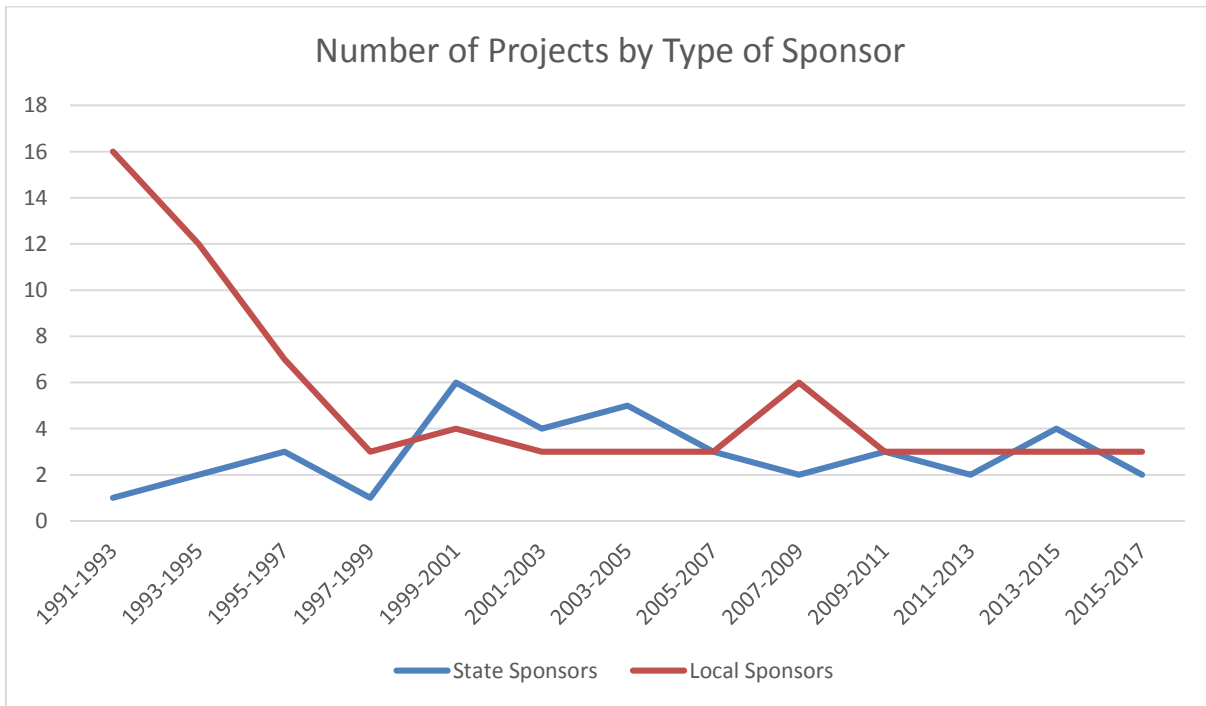


Chart 2



The reasons why the board policy is not meeting the intended results to provide equal funding among state and local agency sponsors could be:

- There are less applications from local sponsors,
- State agencies are requesting more funding, or
- Local sponsors are not completing projects as originally funded.

Staff would need to conduct additional research to verify why the UWH allocation policy is not meeting the intended results.

Options for Consideration

To address the statutory changes allowing nonprofits to be eligible in the UWH category, staff has prepared the following options for consideration. Staff seeks direction on which options to prepare for formal public comment in August.

1. Competitive allocation
2. 40/40/20 percent allocation
3. 30/30/30/10 percent allocation

Option 1 – Competitive Allocation

The board allocates UWH category funds in ranked order on the project list regardless of the type sponsor.

Effect of the Change	Pros	Cons
Funding would no longer be allocated based on the type of project sponsor.	Awards grant funds based on competitive scoring results.	Sponsors not guaranteed a portion of the funds.

Option 2 - 40/40/20 Percent Allocation

The board retains the current funding allocation policy and adds non-profit nature conservancies to the portion of funds awarded to local agencies and Native American tribes.

- 40% local agencies including Native American tribes and non-profit organizations
- 40% state agencies
- 20% fully fund partially funded local agency, Native American tribes, and non-profit organization projects, then fully fund partially funded state agency projects, and finally apply any remaining funds to the next highest ranked project(s), regardless of sponsor. Funds remaining, due to an insufficient number of applications by either local agency, Native American tribes, and non-profit organization or state agency sponsors, will be awarded to the next highest ranked project(s) regardless of sponsor.

Effect of the Change	Pros	Cons
Non-profit organizations added to the funding allocation with local agencies and Native American tribes.	Incorporates non-profits into the framework of the existing policy.	Funding allocation shared between local agencies, non-profit organizations, and Native American tribes.

Option 3 - 30/30/30/10 Percent Allocation

The board distributes funds equally at 30 percent each to local agencies (including Native American tribes), non-profit organizations, and state agencies. Ten percent is remains to fully fund partially funded projects.

- 30% local agencies including Native American tribes
- 30% non-profit organizations
- 30% state agencies
- 10% fully fund partially funded local agency and Native American tribes, then fully fund partially funded non-profit organization projects, then fully fund partially funded state agency projects, and finally apply any remaining funds to the next highest ranked project(s), regardless of sponsor. Funds remaining, due to an insufficient number of applications by either local agency, Native American tribes, non-profit organization or state agency sponsors, will be awarded to the next highest ranked project(s) regardless of sponsor.

Effect of the Change	Pros	Cons
Funding allocation split equally at 30% between the types of project sponsors and 10% to complete funding of partially funded projects.	Guarantees a portion of funds to specific types of sponsors.	Does not award grant funds on an overall competitive basis.

Next Steps

Based on direction from the board, RCO staff will prepare materials for public comment in August. Staff will consider comments received and prepare final draft materials for the board's consideration at the October 2016 meeting. The board will need to make a decision in October because the ranked list of projects is due to the Legislature by November 1, 2016.

Attachments

- A. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program - Funding Allocation Changes Since 1989

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program - Funding Allocation Changes Since 1989

Attachment A

WWRP Funding Allocation Formula (1989 - 2004)

Habitat Conservation Account: 50% of all funds

Critical Habitat	not less than 35% of account
Natural Areas	not less than 20% of account
Urban Wildlife Habitat	not less than 15% of account
Unallocated	not more than 30% of account
	100%

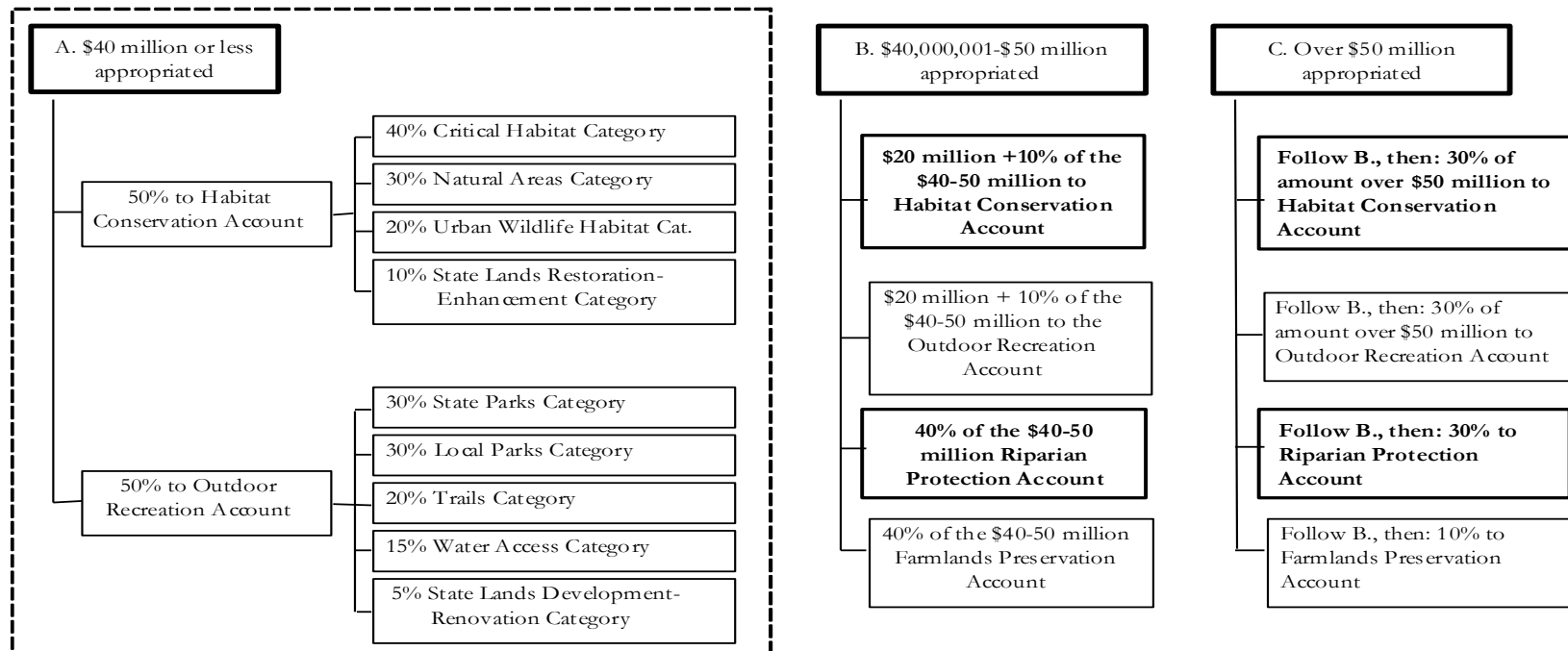
Outdoor Recreation Account: 50% of all funds

<i>State Parks</i>	not less than 25% of account (Min. 75% for Acquisition) ¹⁰
<i>Local Parks</i>	not less than 25% of account (Min. 50% for Acquisition)
<i>Trails</i>	not less than 15% of account
<i>Water Access</i>	not less than 10% of account (Min. 75% for Acquisition)
<i>Unallocated</i>	not more than 25% of account
	100%

¹⁰Between July 27, 2003 and June 30, 2009, at least 50% for acquisition costs, per RCW 79A.15.050.

WWRP Funding Allocation Formula (2005-2015)

Appendix B. Allocation of WWRP Funds



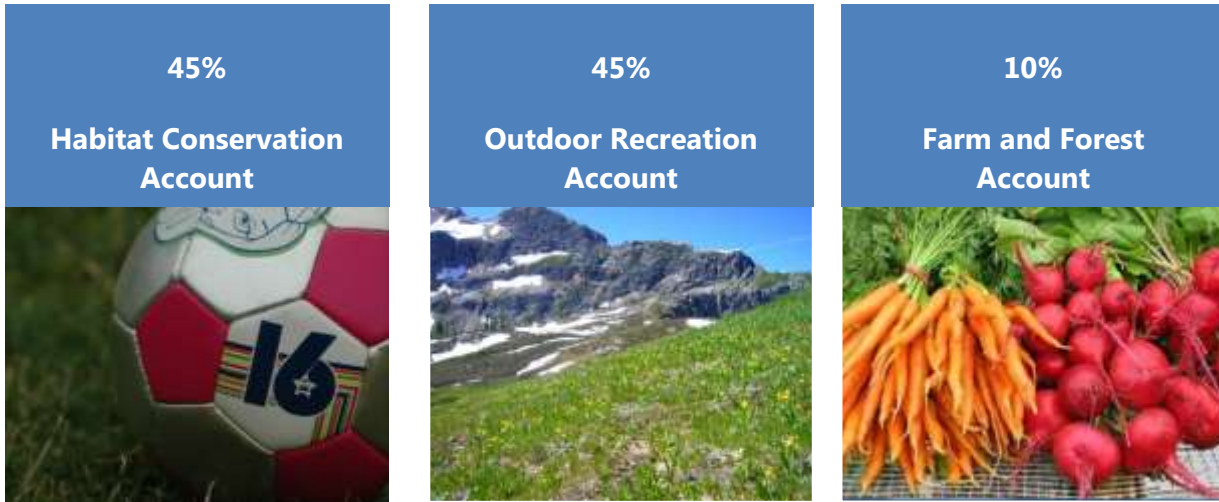
RCW 79A.15.030:

- (a) Appropriations for a biennium of \$40 million or less must be allocated equally between HCA and ORA.
- (b) If appropriations for a biennium total more than \$40 million, the money must be allocated as follows:
 - (i) \$20 million to HCA and \$20 million to ORA;
 - (ii) Any amount over \$40 million up to \$50 million shall be allocated as follows: (A) 10% to HCA; (B) 10% to ORA; (C) 40% to RPA; (D) 40% to FPA;
 - (iii) Any amounts over \$50 million must be allocated as follows: (A) 30% to HCA; (B) 30% to ORA; (C) 30% to RPA; and (D) 10% to FPA.

Under distribution scenarios B and C, Habitat Conservation Account and Outdoor Recreation Account funds are distributed as shown in the nine categories under scenario A.

WWRP Funding Allocation Formula (2016)

Attachment A



Categories		
35%	Critical Habitat	30%
25%	Natural Areas	Local Parks <i>40%-50% must be acquisition</i>
15%	Riparian Protection	10%*
10%*	State Lands Restoration and Enhancement	State Lands Development and Renovation
15%	Urban Wildlife Habitat	30%
*or \$3 million, whichever is less		State Parks
		20%
		Trails
		10%
		Water Access <i>75% must be acquisition</i>
		*or \$3 million, whichever is less
		90%
		Farmland Preservation Category
		10%
		Forestland Preservation Category

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2018

Title: Riparian Protection category review

Prepared By: Ben Donatelle, Policy Specialist

Summary

This memo summarizes policy issues and preliminary recommendations for changes to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Riparian Protection category.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a: Request for Decision
 Request for Direction
 Briefing

Summary and Background

In January 2018, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) directed RCO staff to review the WWRP’s Riparian Protection category. The goal of the review is to evaluate how well the funded projects align with the statutory intent of the category, make recommendations to address issues raised by the Advisory Committee, and include criteria related to climate change. This WWRP category has not been reviewed since inception in 2005 and some issues surfaced after the category was merged into the Habitat Conservation Account in 2016. RCO staff convened a workgroup to review the Riparian Protection category and assembled a separate climate change advisory panel to assist in developing an overall approach for climate change, initially focusing on the Riparian Protection and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories.

Policy Workgroup

Several members of the Habitat Restoration Advisory Committee volunteered to serve on the workgroup to review the Riparian Protection evaluation criteria and funding policies. The workgroup began meeting in January and has set a timeline to develop draft recommendations for changes to the policy and evaluation criteria by the board’s June meeting. The scope of this review is to determine if the funded projects are aligned with the program’s statutory intent and identify opportunities to streamline the

evaluation criteria. At the time of this writing, the workgroup has met three times (January, February, and March) to review past funded and alternate projects, identify policy questions, and assess the effectiveness of the evaluation criteria.

Identified Policy Questions and Preliminary Recommendations

- Should projects be better integrated, coordinated, or focused on salmon and orca recovery or should the board strive to maintain a distinction between riparian protection and salmon recovery funding by focusing on other benefits of protecting riparian habitat (e.g. water quality, mitigation of flood impacts, aquifer recharge, etc.)?
- Does having no maximum grant limit substantially reduce the number and distribution of Riparian Protection projects? Would imposing a maximum grant limit increase or reduce the impact of funded projects?
- Previous evaluation criteria has mirrored the considerations enumerated in statute but there is no requirement to use all considerations as scored questions. Can the workgroup develop simplified evaluation criteria that address but do not directly mirror the statutory considerations?

Maintain Distinct Program Identity

The workgroup has agreed that one of the many benefits of the Riparian Protection category as it currently exists is its ability to fund projects that broadly target watershed integrity and provide benefits to species beyond the more focused salmon recovery programs. The ability to not only fund projects along stream and river corridors, but also to fund projects that conserve wetlands, aquifer recharge areas, marine and nearshore habitat, as well as some riparian connected uplands provides flexibility for grant sponsors to think from a watershed perspective when designing a project. "Riparian Habitat" is defined broadly in statute¹, which is seen as a purposeful intent to distinguish this program from the salmon focused programs administered by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The workgroup aims to maintain the WWRP Riparian Protection category's unique identity and niche within the portfolio of funding opportunities offered by RCO.

¹ RCW [79A.15.010](#) defines Riparian Habitat as, "land adjacent to water bodies, as well as submerged land such as streambeds, which can provide functional habitat for salmonids and other fish and wildlife species. Riparian habitat includes, but is not limited to, shorelines and near-shore marine habitat, estuaries, lakes, wetlands, streams, and rivers."

Grant Limits

The board requested that the staff evaluate whether implementing a maximum grant limit in the Riparian Protection category would allow the funding to be distributed to a greater number of projects. For analysis purposes, RCO staff hypothetically applied a maximum grant limit of \$1,000,000 (which is consistent with maximum grant limits in other WWRP categories in the Outdoor Recreation Account) to the 2016 funded project list and three funding scenarios of the 2018 ranked list that was approved by this board in October 2018 (see Attachment A)

A maximum grant limit would distribute the available funding further down the ranked list, however several of the larger (high-dollar value) and higher-ranked projects would no longer be viable under such a scenario. For example, the 2016 Kennedy Creek ([16-1418A](#)) and Chehalis River ([16-1413](#)) projects sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources, and the 2018 Grayland ([18-1343](#)) project sponsored by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, are acquisitions from a single large landowner and without the total requested funding the acquisitions would fall through.

The ability to fund large landscape projects such as those described above is widely recognized as one of the major benefits of the Riparian Protection category. The committee agreed that imposing a funding cap would all but eliminate that benefit and rule out projects that provide extremely valuable riparian protection benefits. Therefore, the workgroup does not foresee recommending the board establish a maximum grant limit at this time.

Evaluation Criteria

The workgroup has committed to a thorough assessment of the existing evaluation criteria at their April and May meetings. Recommendations are forthcoming, but initial feedback identified specific challenges with the following criteria: planning priority, site suitability and project design, threats to the habitat, project support, and multiple benefits. The workgroup will also provide recommendations and feedback on whether and/or how the board could incorporate climate change considerations in the evaluation criteria questions or program policies.

Next Steps

Based on the board's discussion and direction, RCO staff will continue efforts with the workgroup to develop draft recommendations for updating the Riparian Protection policies and streamlining the evaluation criteria. Staff will provide a complete package of draft recommendations for the board to consider in June.

Attachment A: Hypothetical Grant Limits
Riparian Protection Account 2016 Ranked List

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, 2017-19

Project funding at \$80 million appropriation. Statutory formula vs statutory formula with a \$1M cap.

Rank	Number & Type	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Project Amount	Cumulative Grant Request	Amount Funded	Amount Funded \$1M Cap
1	16-1871A	Wenatchee Sleepy Hollow Floodplain Protection	Chelan Douglas Land Trust	\$319,600	\$330,400	\$650,000	\$319,600	\$319,600	\$319,600
2	16-1957A	Clearwater Riparian Protection Phase 3	The Nature Conservancy	\$877,000	\$879,300	\$1,756,300	\$1,196,600	\$877,000	\$877,000
3	16-1413A	Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$2,321,124	\$ -	\$2,321,124	\$3,517,724	\$2,321,124	\$1,000,000
4	16-1418A	Kennedy Creek	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$4,312,549	\$ -	\$4,312,549	\$7,830,273	\$2,111,476	\$1,000,000
5	16-1342A	Teanaway Valley Riparian	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,500,000	\$ -	\$2,500,000	\$10,330,273	Alternate	\$1,000,000
6	16-1878A	Nisqually Shoreline Wilcox Reach Protection	Nisqually Land Trust	\$705,000	\$711,000	\$1,416,000	\$11,035,273	Alternate	\$705,000
7	16-1348A	Merrill Lake Riparian Protection	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,300,000	\$ -	\$2,300,000	\$13,335,273	Alternate	\$727,600
8	16-1654A	Wayne Sammamish Riverfront Community	King County	\$1,000,000	\$4,057,000	\$5,057,000	\$14,335,273	Alternate	Alternate
9	16-1816A	Skookum Riparian Protection	Squaxin Island Tribe	\$660,055	\$660,320	\$1,320,375	\$14,995,328	Alternate	Alternate
10	16-2003A	Grayland Acquisition	Ducks Unlimited Vancouver	\$1,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$15,995,328	Alternate	Alternate
11	16-1379C	Upper Sweetwater Creek Riparian Protection	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	\$438,547	\$453,547	\$892,094	\$16,433,875	Alternate	Alternate
				\$16,433,875	\$10,091,567	\$26,525,442		\$5,629,200	\$5,629,200

Riparian Protection Account 2018 Ranked List

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, 2019-21

Anticipated project funding at \$50-\$80-\$120 million appropriation. Statutory formula vs statutory formula with a \$1M cap.

Rank	Number & Type	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Project Amount	\$50M Amount Funded Statute	\$50M Amount Funded \$1M Cap	\$80M Amount Funded Statute	\$80M Amount Funded \$1M Cap	\$120M Amount Funded Statute	\$120M Amount Funded \$1M Cap
1	18-1249A	Hoh River Recreation and Conservation Area	The Nature Conservancy	\$1,487,600	\$1,487,600	\$2,975,200	\$1,487,600	\$1,000,000	\$1,487,600	\$1,000,000	\$1,487,600	\$1,000,000
2	18-1521A	Merrill Lake Natural Resources Conservation Area	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$767,739	\$ -	\$767,739	\$767,739	\$767,739	\$767,739	\$767,739	\$767,739	\$767,739
3	18-1654A	Skookum Valley Acquisition	Squaxin Island Tribe	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
4	18-1343A	Grayland Property	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,500,000	\$ -	\$1,500,000	\$483,311	\$970,911	\$1,500,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,000,000
5	18-1899C	Saltse Flats Wetland Protection and Restoration	Ducks Unlimited Vancouver	\$473,000	\$475,200	\$948,203	Alternate	Alternate	\$473,000	\$473,000	\$473,000	\$473,000
6	18-1373A	Skookum Creek Acquisition	Whatcom Land Trust	\$864,260	\$1,098,000	\$1,962,260	Alternate	Alternate	\$864,260	\$864,260	\$864,260	\$864,260
8*	18-1529A	Lower Big Beef Creek Acquisition	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	\$1,572,330	\$1,847,550	\$3,419,880	Alternate	Alternate	\$43,801	\$1,000,000	\$1,572,330	\$1,000,000
9	18-1918A	Lake Kapowsin Riparian Phase 1	Forterra	\$856,187	\$856,188	\$1,712,375	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	\$31,401	\$856,187	\$856,187
10	18-1327A	Raging River Natural Area	King County Water and Land Resources Division	\$850,000	\$2,950,000	\$3,800,000	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	\$850,000	\$850,000
11	18-1868A	Lower Elwha River Protection Priority Number 4	North Olympic Land Trust	\$107,233	\$262,536	\$369,769	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	\$107,233	\$107,233
12	18-1911C	Clallam Bay Acquisition	North Olympic Land Trust	\$38,770	\$94,920	\$133,690	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	\$38,770	\$38,770
13	18-1329A	Chehalis Floodplain	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$200,000	\$ -	\$200,000	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	\$200,000	\$200,000
14	18-1478A	Salmonberry Creek and Wetland Protection	Great Peninsula Conservancy	\$260,000	\$260,000	\$520,000	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	\$260,000	\$260,000
15	18-1448A	Zackuse Creek Property Acquisition	Sammamish	\$581,325	\$591,325	\$1,172,650	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	\$477,481	\$581,325
				\$10,058,444	\$10,423,322	\$20,481,766	\$3,238,650	\$3,238,650	\$5,636,400	\$5,636,400	\$9,954,600	\$8,498,514

* The 7th ranked project (18-1518) was withdrawn on 10/25/2018.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2018

Title: Climate Change Policy Strategy

Prepared By: Ben Donatelle, Policy Specialist

Summary

This memo summarizes RCO staff progress towards developing a climate change policy strategy.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Decision
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for Direction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Briefing

Background

In January 2018, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) directed staff to develop an approach to address climate change in the Urban Wildlife Habitat and Riparian Protection categories of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP).

The challenge facing the board can be summarized by two primary questions:

1. How might a changing climate affect the projects the board funds?
2. Can the board better direct funding to future projects that increase landscape or community resiliency and mitigate climate stressors?

Acknowledging that these are big questions, the board has chosen to focus this initial effort on the Riparian Protection and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories since they were scheduled for programmatic review in 2019.

To help answer these questions, RCO staff convened a climate change advisory panel and working group consisting of three board members (working group) and agency and community partners from around the state (see list of advisors – Attachment A). RCO staff conducted outreach to the advisors in early 2019 to better understand the level to which climate change intersects with their current operations and the actions they are

taking to address climate change within their organizations. The board members and RCO staff also held three conference calls between January and March to outline high-level goals, desired outcomes, requirements and a potential framework to guide developing and implementing a climate focused funding strategy.

Climate Change Policy Strategy Development

RCO staff, with assistance from the working group (RCFB members Ted Willhite, Danica Ready and Katherine Gardow), has outlined a policy strategy framework. While this framework is focused primarily on the WWRP's Urban Wildlife Habitat and Riparian Protection categories, the methodology applied there could inform future efforts to include considerations of climate change in other categories and programs.

To guide the development of this strategy, the board members and RCO staff first identified a number of high-level requirements:

- Products or results must align with the statutory mandates of the RCFB, RCO and partners;
- Work and resulting products must be within the timeframe, staff resources and budget available;
- Final product must respect the policies, resources and prior work of all grant applicants, public, private, tribal nations, and non-governmental organizations;
- Final product (risk assessment and/or response plan) must be grounded in best available science and summarize the scientific justification for any policy recommendations or products;
- Policy or program change must recognize and fairly account for the different abilities, resources and capacity of grant applicants;
- Policy should provide flexibility to blend different response strategies; and
- Policy must acknowledge that responding to the causes and impacts of a changing climate is ongoing, iterative and adaptive.

Board members also articulated two desired outcomes leading to investments that:

1. Increase community¹ resiliency and/or carbon sequestration capacity; and
2. Encourage site designs that are resilient to climatic changes and/or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

¹ Community here is defined to include social, ecological, political, as well as local, regional, and statewide communities and agencies.

One additional statutory consideration that may be necessary to include in this discussion was enacted under the Limiting Greenhouse Gas Emissions Act of 2009 ([ESSB 5560](#), now RCW [70.235](#)). The law, (RCW [70.235.070](#)), requires state agencies to consider whether grant recipients have adopted policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as a means to help the state reach its emissions goals. How this consideration is integrated into the grant application, and whether it is used as weighted criteria in the evaluation process, is a topic for further discussion.

Climate Change Policy Strategy Framework

Response strategies for addressing climate change generally take two approaches:

1. Anticipate the changes that are already projected to occur and take action to minimize risk and/or lessen the impact; and
2. Mitigate the causes of climate change through actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions or actively sequester existing greenhouse gases.

This proposed climate change policy strategy framework is based on the requirements and desired outcomes described above and generally recognized best practices for climate change response planning²

Below is a menu of options the board may consider as part of a comprehensive climate change policy strategy. The first three options are components of an iterative planning process. Ideally, the completion of each step facilitates the ability to move on to the next. The remaining (options 4-7) could be considered *a la carte* and either integrated with the proposed response planning effort or done separately.

1. Develop a resolution from the board addressing climate change that:
 - a. Acknowledges the impacts of climate change pose significant risks to the board's recreation and conservation investments statewide;
 - b. Recognizes the work RCO's partners and grantees are already doing to address climate change within their jurisdictions, missions, legal authorities and mandates;
 - c. Commits RCO to learning from our partners and sharing best practices and resources with other organizations to raise the level of climate preparedness statewide;

² Examples include: [U.S. Climate Resilience Tool Kit](#); Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science's [Climate Change Response Framework](#); Climate Impacts Group's [Preparing for Climate Change: Guidebook for Local, Regional and State Governments](#).

- d. Empowers staff to integrate climate considerations (impacts, risks benefits, and opportunities) into future program and policy reviews, evaluation criteria updates, and internal agency operations.
2. Conduct a vulnerability assessment³ (potential risks and impacts, beginning with Riparian Protection and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories) that increases RCO's understanding of and ability to communicate how climate change intersects with past and future funded projects.
3. Develop a response plan⁴ for Urban Wildlife Habitat and Riparian Protection programs based on findings of the vulnerability assessment. The board may consider:
 - a. Developing new evaluation questions to address specific climate impacts, risks, or benefits of projects proposed within each category;
 - b. Creating new or modifying existing application and reporting metrics to measure and evaluate desired climate related outcomes (e.g. effectiveness of buffer widths in riparian projects, urban forest canopy in urban wildlife projects);
 - c. Identifying the highest value projects based on identified risks and highest-level threats or vulnerabilities (i.e. are we willing to create policy that directs investments to a specific place or issue for a determined timeframe? Are we willing to retreat from areas or projects that data suggest should not be invested in?)
 - d. Developing a menu of best design and management practices that increase resiliency, adaptive capacity and greenhouse gas mitigation.
4. Integrate consideration of known climate impacts and stressors into existing evaluation criteria that are tailored to the specific risks to and benefits of projects in the program/category (See examples, Attachment B).
5. Integrate greenhouse gas mitigation and carbon footprint reduction strategies into the Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship evaluation criteria.
6. Work with partners to identify or develop tools that demonstrate and communicate the climate related benefits and resiliency of RCFB funded projects.
 - a. GIS based landscape analysis.
 - b. Carbon footprint calculator.

³ Dependent on budget request or narrowed to an assessment conducted by RCO staff.

⁴ Dependent on budget request or narrowed to a plan developed by RCO staff.

7. Assemble resources (i.e. build a toolkit) to assist communities in addressing climate impacts when developing projects to be funded by the board.

Statutory and Strategic Plan Link

RCW [79A.25.005](#) – Mission of the Board –

- b) represent and promote the interests of the state on recreational issues in concert with other state and local agencies and the governor;
- c) encourage and provide interagency and regional coordination, and interaction between public and private organizations;
- e) serve as a repository for information, studies, research, and other data relating to recreation.

RCW [70.235.070](#) - Distribution of funds for infrastructure and capital development projects—Prerequisites.

“...when distributing capital funds through competitive programs for infrastructure and economic development projects, all state agencies must consider whether the entity receiving the funds has adopted policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”

Unifying Strategy – Conserve Habitat; Climate Change – The board supports conservation efforts to increase the state’s resiliency to climate change. Climate change affects recreation opportunities (such as less snow in winter for skiing) and conservation measures (such as shifts in the habitat on the landscape). Applicants for grants are encouraged to propose conservation efforts in the context of the latest climate change research and impacts assessments. Resources for applicants include work done by the Climate Impacts Group, at the College of the Environment at the University of Washington. Applicants also are encouraged to incorporate the effects of climate change in their land use planning.

2017 Board Adopted [Strategic Plan](#)

- **Strategy 1.A.1.** – Evaluate and develop strategic plans and investment policies so that projects selected for funding meet the state’s recreation and conservation priorities and assist communities in need.
- **Strategy 1.B.4.** – Help sponsors maximize the useful life of board-funded projects.
- **Strategy 3.A.3.** – Increase the public and sponsor understanding of the relationship between projects and climate change.

Summary and Next Steps

The integration of climate change considerations in the WWRP should be an iterative process that inherently embraces risk, uncertainty and organizational self-reflection. The timeframe for completing this work depends on how the board wishes to move forward and which, if any, of the above options are chosen. RCO staff is committed to working with our partners and project sponsors to pursue the best way to address the impacts of climate change through programs and policies where the board determines it could provide greater conservation and recreation benefits for the state's residents. Regardless of how the board chooses to proceed, RCO staff will be responsible for completing the work products within existing budget resources and available capacity.

Pending the board's discussion and direction, RCO policy staff will prioritize items from the framework above and continue developing implementation options for the board to consider.

Attachments

Attachment A – RCO Climate Strategy Advisory Panel

Attachment B – Potential climate related considerations in existing evaluation criteria.

Attachment A – RCO Climate Strategy Advisory Panel

Board Working Group

Ted Willhite
Kathryn Gardow
Danica Ready

Agency and Local Community Advisors

Lynn Helbrecht -- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Curt Pavola -- Washington Department of Natural Resources
Lisa Lantz -- Washington State Parks
Amy Snover -- University of Washington Climate Impacts Group
Andrew Austin -- Tacoma Metro Parks
Marty Stump -- Tacoma Metro Parks
Brad Case -- City of Ellensburg Parks and Recreation
Nick Norton -- Washington Association of Land Trusts
Christine Mahler -- Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition

Other External Advisors

Dr. Jalonne White-Newsome -- Senior Program Officer, Kresge Foundation
Steve Whitney -- Senior Program Officer, Bullitt Foundation
Gary Idleburg -- Senior Planner, Washington Department of Commerce
Adam Liljeblad -- Director of Conservation Awards, National Forest Foundation
Heather Ramsay -- Program Officer, National Park Service - State and Local Assistance

Attachment B: Potential climate related considerations in existing evaluation criteria.

Please note changes in RED

Riparian Protection Category

3. Site Suitability and Project Design

- How is this site linked to other quality habitats that provide for species movement across the landscape?
- Is this site linked to other protected habitats?
- What are the surrounding land uses including up, down, and across the stream or shoreline? How is this site positioned to buffer those land uses from increased frequency of major flooding, sea level rise and storm surges, and/or periods of low-flow?
- What are the future potential additions to the public land base in the area? Is this site an “anchor site” for future opportunities?
- How is this project supported or not supported by local critical areas ordinances?
- What level of protection will be placed on the property? Will the site be protected in perpetuity?
- For projects involving restoration or enhancement, what is the potential for restoring quality habitat at the site?
- What is the restoration plan? When will it be implemented?
 - If restoration is not included in this proposal, but needed, what is the plan for conducting restoration? Is funding secure to implement future restoration activities?
 - If restoration is part of this proposal, describe the restoration goals and project design. Please include consideration of future temperature, precipitation, hydrological, or ecological conditions.

4. Threats to the Habitat

- What are the potential threats to the loss of riparian habitat at this property? Threats may be ecological, biological, or human caused, or related to climate change. Please consider the probability and impact of the risk and include scientific justification for your risk assessment.
- Are the potential threats new or ongoing? Are the threats abatable?
- How do these threats affect the function of the riparian habitat?
- How will this project address these threats?
- What other alternatives exist to address these threats?

Urban Wildlife Habitat Category

3. Manageability and Viability

Immediacy of Threat to the Habitat

What, and how imminent, are the threats to the habitat at the site (i.e., inherent, ecological, human, conversion, abatable or non-abatable threats)?

- Are these threats new, ~~or~~ ongoing, or projected for the future?
- How do or will these threats affect the function of the habitat?
- How will protection of the site affect or reduce these threats?
- What steps already have been taken to secure the land or reduce the threat?

Long-term Viability

- What regulatory protections currently are afforded to the site (i.e., county comprehensive plan, critical areas ordinances, zoning, development regulation, shoreline management rules, forest practice rules, etc.)?
- Demonstrate how the site will be managed over time to maintain the desired characteristics. How do projections of future climate conditions influence the management of the site?
- Who will maintain it and what human and financial resources are available to do it? What management needs are there?
- Is the habitat recoverable? What restorative efforts, if any, are needed or planned?
- What is happening across the landscape or watershed that may affect the viability of the site?
- Describe any long-term site monitoring plans and identify who will implement monitoring?

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2019

Title: Update on the Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance Study

Prepared By: Adam Cole, Natural Resource Policy Specialist

Summary

This memo summarizes the RCO's study of recreational assets of statewide significance. The study is looking to identify recreational assets of statewide significance, gaps in recreational assets, and investment strategies and options for addressing those gaps.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Decision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Direction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Briefing

Overview

The study is mandated by a budget proviso passed as part of the 2018 capital budget. The study must address existing and projected future needs of the people of Washington State, and help to fulfill the goals of the [2018 Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022](#).

The study is funded by an appropriation of \$100,000 from the state building construction account. To date, staff have:

1. Hired two GIS contractors to conduct spatial analyses and create map applications;
2. Hired a separate contractor to assist with outreach and data-gathering activities.
3. Formed the Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance Advisory Committee to help scope out the study, evaluate mapped gaps, and discuss recommendations; and
4. Conducted stakeholder outreach.

The study is due to the Legislature by June 30, 2019.

The Advisory Committee consists of the following representatives:

- Nancy Lilquist, Ellensburg City Council Member
- David Schaub, Spokane County Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
- Jon Snyder, Recreation Policy Advisory, Governor's Office
- Peter Mayer, Deputy Executive Director, Metro Tacoma Parks
- Brian Adams, Director, Skagit County Parks and Recreation
- Larry Otos, Principal, The Otos Group
- Andrea Imler, Advocacy Director, Washington Trails Association
- Doug Levy, Principal, Outcomes By Levy
- David Patton, Northwest Director, Trust of Public Land
- Mike Racine, Washington SCUBA Alliance
- Peter Schrappen, Director of Government Affairs, Northwest Maritime Trade Association
- Owen Rowe, Government and Legislative Affairs Director, State Parks
- Tim Stapleton, Recreation Program Manager, Department of Natural Resources
- Cynthia Wilkerson, Land Division Manager, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Chis Zipperer, Physical Activity Coordinator, Washington Department of Health

For verbatim language and citation of the study proviso, see Attachment A.

Scope of Study

Based on staff's outreach with stakeholders and consultation with the Advisory Committee, the current scope of the study is two-fold. We are evaluating the following two classes of recreational assets of statewide significance:

1. **Foundational Assets.** These are assets with amenities that support the most popular recreational activities in the state.
2. **Exceptional Assets.** These are assets that represent the most popular, destination-oriented, and iconic places in the state to recreate.

These two groups of assets are not mutually exclusive.

The focus of the study will be on publicly-owned outdoor facilities. However, private recreation facilities such as sport stadiums, marinas, pools, and golf courses shall be

included provided they are primarily open and available to the general public¹ and not for the purpose of professional or semi-pro sports.

Foundational Recreation Assets

Foundational recreation assets are those that support the most popular activities as determined by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022. These assets are considered important to have in or nearby every community in the state because they are important for every locale in the state. These assets strengthen the livability, vitality, and the economic and public health of a community. These facilities likely also provide needed ecosystem services.

The most popular activities and the related foundational assets are:

Most Popular Activities (At a minimum, roughly one third of residents participate in these)	Foundational Assets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Hiking • Bicycling 	Trails, Urban Bicycle and Pedestrian Networks ²
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisure Activities (picnicking, socializing, events) 	Neighborhood/Community Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Activities • Sightseeing 	Natural Areas (Geographies that provide multiple benefits to include recreation, conservation, education, and ecosystem services)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing • Swimming • Wading Pools/Splash Pads • Paddling (floating) 	Water Access Sites/Water Bodies, Marine Parks, Marine Trails,
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing Sports 	Local Parks and Regional Athletic Complexes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming (pool) 	Outdoor and Indoor Pools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor boating/Sailing 	Launch Sites, Moorages, Marinas, Water Bodies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camping 	Campgrounds (developed or undeveloped)

¹ Anyone may use them for no cost or an affordable price.

² A community with an approved and funded bike or pedestrian master plan.

• Snow and Ice Activities	Trails, Winter Recreation Facilities
---------------------------	--------------------------------------

This part of the study will:

1. Identify the current mapped inventory of these foundational assets.
2. Establish standards for the public opportunity for each asset and use these as metrics to establish gaps.
3. Identify how gaps may exist into the future based on demographic changes.
4. Display data on a map.

Exceptional Recreation Assets

Exceptional recreation assets of state-wide significance are specific places that provide regional or “destination” recreational experiences. Exceptional recreational assets will be identified through outreach to stakeholder groups and should include two or more of the following criteria:

1. A “destination” type facility that is well-known, a major gathering place, and important to an organized statewide or regional user group(s), and these groups provide advocacy and resources (volunteers, donations) to support the facility.
2. A centerpiece outdoor recreation attraction that draws significant number of visitors, particularly from other areas, other states, and even other countries.
3. Is highly important to a specific user group that has disproportionately limited opportunities, or those under threat of closer.
4. Enhances Washington’s economic standing with particular user groups; supports the tourism sector and other businesses.
5. Popular venues that host large events or competitions.
6. Sites that are connected to larger recreational goals (example: national trail system or scenic roadway system, National Wildlife Refuges)
7. Large or otherwise significant sites that combine recreation and high conservation and aesthetic/scenic value, and significant ecosystem services contributions.

This part of the study will:

1. Identify these exceptional assets through interviews and site visits with state-wide user and advocacy groups, community groups, land managers and government officials, elected officials, retailers, trade associations, focus groups, and individuals.

2. Establish standards for the public opportunity for each asset and use these as metrics to establish the gaps for each asset.
3. Identify how gaps may exist into the future based on demographic changes.
4. Display data in a map application, or story map format.

Supporting the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan

Through staff's analysis of the 2018 [Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022](#) (Plan), the study will help fulfill the goals of the following sections of the plan:

1. Sustain and Grow the Legacy of Parks, Trails, and Conservation Lands
 - a. Renovate facilities to meet today's recreation needs.
 - b. Pursue regional solutions to recreation and conservation.
 - c. Maintain residents' level of satisfaction in recreation.
2. Position Recreation and Conservation as a Vital Public Service
 - a. Promote the outdoor recreation economy and other benefits.
3. Improve Equity
 - a. Locate and build recreation facilities for underserved populations³.
 - b. Connect more people to popular activities.
 - c. Provide experiences where people go the most.
 - d. Enhance community health and safety.
4. Get Youth Outside
 - a. Provide a variety of activities for youth.
 - b. Build and renovate athletic facilities.
5. Plan for Culturally Relevant Parks and Trails to Meet Changing Demographics
 - a. Create new and diverse opportunities.
Accommodate the Active Senior Population

³ ...often referred to as "at-risk populations"

Study Format

Format

The assets featured in the study will be displayed on one or more map applications, which show the service area of the asset and associated service gaps. The study will identify important assets across a multitude of jurisdictions without being limited to single agencies or organization's priorities, needs, mission, authority, or geography. The study will include a written report with recommendations to fill gaps including projected future needs.

Accomplishments to Date

Foundational Assets

In March, staff evaluated the first iteration of a statewide inventory of recreational facilities that support each of the foundational assets, and gaps based on geography. Staff, working with the Advisory Committee established walk and drive times to these facilities depending on a reasonable period of time citizens in the state should spend accessing these sites. See Attachment B for the complete list of foundational activities, assets, and gap measures.

Our GIS contractor (ESRI) has provided its first iteration of a gap analysis based on these gap measures. At the April board meeting, staff will show the board this map application and provide insights into each foundational asset layer and a summary of initial findings. Staff is in the process of requesting a second map application that contains population measures within each foundational assets service area in order to compare urban, suburban, and rural geographies to see if a qualitative level of service standard can be established for each asset and geography.

Exceptional Assets

Staff has hired Red Barn Communications to assist with outreach and data-gathering efforts to identify these assets. [A web page, study fact sheet, and a survey have been added to the RCO website](#) to collect data and schedule interviews with statewide user groups towards identifying what these groups define as exceptional assets, where gaps exist, challenges and opportunities around a particular recreational activity, and an assessment of future needs and funding strategies to fill gaps. This website will also be a way for the public to provide feedback on the study outcomes. After a complete survey of user groups and the state of their recreational opportunities in the state, staff will develop draft recommendations and vet these with land managers and other stakeholders.

Next Steps

April will be spent completing interviews and mapping significant sites for both classes of assets. In May staff will work with the study Advisory Committee to produce draft recommendations and evaluate public comments. Recommendations will be finalized in June.

Based on the information generated from the GIS analyses of statewide recreational assets, and survey and interviews with user groups, staff and the study Advisory Committee will identify recommendations and strategies to fill the gaps in foundational and exceptional assets now and into the future.

Staff will continue to engage stakeholders and refine this study and its recommendations.

Staff will schedule a Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance Study Report agenda item at the board's June retreat to explore ways the board would like to implement study recommendation or take action on related items.

Attachments

- Attachment A - 2018 Session Laws of the State of Washington Volume 3
- Attachment B - Foundational Activities, Assets, and Gap Measures

[2018 Session Laws of the State of Washington Volume 3](#)

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3051.** A new section is added to 2018 c 2 (uncodified) to read as follows:

FOR THE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance (92000446)

The appropriation in this section is subject to the following conditions and limitations: The appropriation is provided solely to conduct the study required in section 7012 of this act.

Appropriation:

State Building Construction Account—State	\$100,000
Prior Biennia (Expenditures)	\$0
Future Biennia (Projected Costs)	\$0
TOTAL	\$100,000

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7012.** A new section is added to 2018 c 2 (uncodified) to read as follows:

(1) The legislature recognizes that outdoor recreation in Washington provides multiple benefits including significant business and retail tax revenue, business and job creation, improved physical and mental health, higher quality of-life that attracts and retains businesses and workers from beyond the recreation sector, and conservation and education values. To fulfill the goals of the 2018 recreation and conservation plan for Washington State, the recreation and conservation office must conduct a study that identifies recreational assets of statewide significance, where gaps in recreational assets exist, and investment strategies and options for addressing those gaps. The study must address existing and projected future needs of the people of Washington State.

(2) The office must submit a report with its findings and recommendations to the appropriate committees of the legislature by June 30, 2019.

Foundational Activities, Assets, and Gap Measures

ACTIVITIES to Include in Foundational Asset Analysis (these are the most popular forms of recreation in the state)	FOUNDATIONAL ASSETS to Map Within or Near Population Centers of the State ("Population Center" = Urban Areas, Urban Clusters, and Cities and Towns not include in an urban area or cluster and above a population of 1000)	"GAP MEASURE" (Distances a person would travel within or from a population center to get to the asset.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Hiking • Bicycling • Mountain Biking 	<p>Trails</p> <p>Bike "Park" (other than BMX bike park)</p> <p>Walking Areas (not Biking)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools with green/open space, and paved and natural pathways (subjective per WHT) 	<p>For Walking/Biking on Paved or Pavement-Like Surfaces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Minute Walk/Bike to Any Trail • 30 Min Drive to "<u>Backcountry</u>" trail (owned by USFS, NPS, DNR, WDFW, BLM, etc.) <p>Mountain Biking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 Min Drive to "<u>Backcountry</u>" trail (owned by USFS, NPS, DNR, WDFW, BLM, etc.) ...or a "<u>Bike Park</u>" (<u>Mountain Bike Park</u>)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisure Activities (picnicking/day use, socializing, events) 	<p>Neighborhood Park</p> <p>Community Park</p> <p>Regional Park</p> <p>Day Use Areas (at State Parks for example)</p> <p>Plaza/Gazebo/Picnic Shelter Park</p> <p>Schools with green/open space (subjective)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Minute Walk/Bike to a park with leisure activities (Can be open landscaped area only, but exclude "pocket parks")

ACTIVITIES to Include in Foundational Asset Analysis (these are the most popular forms of recreation in the state)	FOUNDATIONAL ASSETS to Map Within or Near Population Centers of the State ("Population Center" = Urban Areas, Urban Clusters, and Cities and Towns not include in an urban area or cluster and above a population of 1000)	"GAP MEASURE" (Distances a person would travel within or from a population center to get to the asset.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature Activities Beachcombing 	Natural Areas or "Nature Parks" Water Access Site Beach (fresh or salt water)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Minute Walk/Bike to a "Nature Park" or water access site or beach. (This likely includes WDFW wildlife areas, state parks, DNR forests and waterfronts, etc...)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing 	Water Access Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Minute Drive/Transit to a water access site
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paddling (Floating) 	Boat/Hand Launch site (developed or primitive/natural) Marine Trail (Trail head) Any Creek/River (subjective)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 Minute Drive to water access site appropriate for paddling/floating access.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming 	Indoor Pool and Outdoor Pool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor and Indoor Pools, both "private" and public (simplify to be "open" vs "closed" facilities, use subjectivity) Ocean Beach Lake Beach or River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 Min Drive/Transit to a swim opportunity (This category may be duplicative of water access sites for other water based recreation assets)

ACTIVITIES to Include in Foundational Asset Analysis (these are the most popular forms of recreation in the state)	FOUNDATIONAL ASSETS to Map Within or Near Population Centers of the State (“Population Center” = Urban Areas, Urban Clusters, and Cities and Towns not include in an urban area or cluster and above a population of 1000)	“GAP MEASURE” (Distances a person would travel within or from a population center to get to the asset.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing Sports 	Local Parks Community Parks Schools with fields and courts Regional Competitive Athletic Complex (categorize by type of fields/courts present)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Minute Walk/Bike to Any Park of School with Sport Facility. • 45 Min Drive to Regional Competitive Athletic Complex
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Splash Pad/Wading Pool 	Splash Pad/Wading Pool (publicly Owned and available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 Minute Drive to a splash pad/wading pool
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor boating/Sailing 	Launch Sites, Moorages, Marinas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 Min Drive/Transit to Boating Access
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camping 	Campgrounds (developed or undeveloped)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Hour Drive/Transit to Camping Facility (may be a trail that accesses an area where camping is allowed.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snow and Ice Activities 	Winter Recreation Facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X-Country Ski • Downhill Ski • Snowshoe • Snowmobile (Trail vs Open Area Riding) • Undeveloped Accessible Snow/Ice Site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.5 Hour Drive To Developed Winter Site • 1 Hour to Undeveloped Accessible Snow/Ice Site (such as a forest for snow, and eastside lake for ice)

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2018

Title: Communications Plan Update

Prepared By: Susan Zemek, Communications Director

Summary

This memo summarizes the progress of the implementation of the communications plan and outlines the work for 2019.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- Briefing

Overview

RCO communications staff developed a 6-year, agency-wide, multi-board communications plan, which began in 2013. The plan has three main goals:

- **Goal 1:** Build support for RCO's missions of salmon recovery, land conservation, recreation, and invasive species management.

To accomplish this goal, communications staff focused on creating a compelling story about the benefit of investing in RCO's programs and then worked with the media and partners to help spread those messages.

- **Goal 2:** Ensure RCO maintains its brand as an exemplary, ethical, and open grant agency.

For this goal, communications staff focused on keeping partners informed of RCO activities and involved in its issues.

- **Goal 3:** Strengthen RCO's internal communications.

For this goal, communications staff worked to ensure RCO staff had the tools they needed to be good communicators and ambassadors of RCO.

Attachment A contains a complete list of the recreation- and conservation-related strategies, activities, and tasks used to implement the goals above. The plan also contained several measures to gauge effectiveness of the actions, which are below.

Measurements of Success

Measurement 1: Development of key messages for all three boards

Key messages have been developed for the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board. They are as follows:

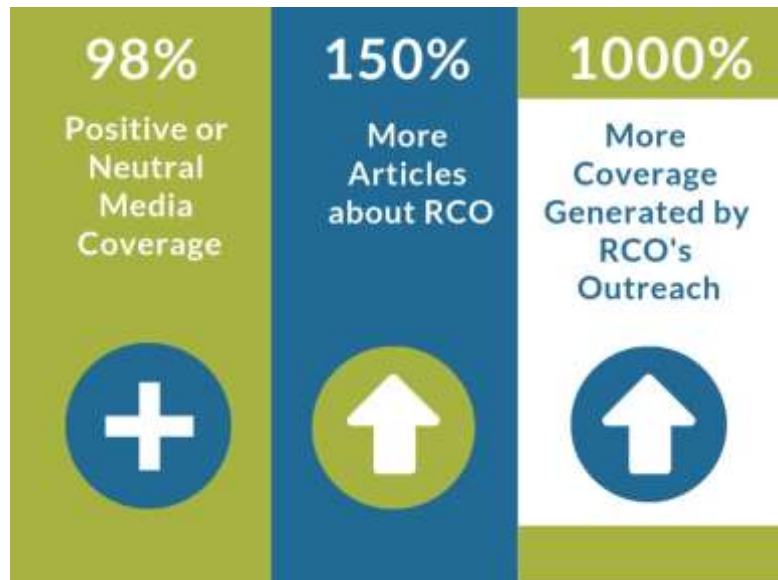
- Washington citizens voted to create RCO, and we honor that direct accountability to citizens in all our work.
- RCO brings citizens and governments together for the common good, and that is democracy at its best.
- RCO staff and experts make sure that tax dollars support only the best and most lasting projects.
- The best time to invest in outdoor recreation is right now. Spending time outdoors is vital to the mental and physical health of both kids and adults.
- Investments in outdoor recreation pay many dividends.

Measurement 2: Increased media coverage generated by RCO outreach efforts

Media coverage of RCO has improved significantly since the start of the communications program in 2003. In fact, the number of news articles written about the agency has increased 150 percent from 131 articles in 2003 to 330 in 2018. More than 4,500 articles have been written about RCO since the start of its communications program.

Not only are people seeing more about RCO, but what they are seeing is positive the majority of time.

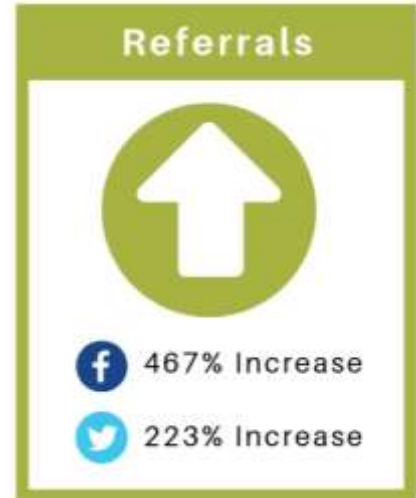
In addition, RCO, through its media releases and social media, is generating more coverage. The number of news articles resulting from RCO outreach has improved 1,000 percent since 2003.



Measurement 3: Increased visits to places on the RCO Web sites targeted by social media tools

To increase the visits to RCO’s Web sites from social media, we first needed to grow our social media audiences. In 2018, RCO hired a communications specialist who splits her time between work for the Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office and social media. The dedicated staff to social media is paying off.

RCO has seen referrals from social media to our Web site increase by more than 467 percent from Facebook and more than 223 percent from Twitter since 2013.



Measurement 4: Appearance by RCO at partner annual meetings and community events to share RCO’s missions

RCO leadership makes appearances throughout the year at partner quarterly and annual meetings and at community events. Below is a list of such recreation- and conservation-related appearances since 2013.

Community Appearances	
Event	City
John Storvik Spray Park Grand Opening	Anacortes
Downtown Park Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening	Bellevue
Meydenbauer Bay Park Grand Opening	Bellevue
North Creek Forest Ribbon Cutting	Bothell
Big Rock Park	Duvall
Fishing Pier	Edmonds
Gateway Park Ribbon Cutting	Gig Harbor
Ancich Park Ribbon Cutting	Gig Harbor
Lake Sammamish State Park’s Sunset Beach Opening	Issaquah
Olympic Discovery Trail Ribbon Cutting	Jefferson County
Memorial Athletic Field Lighting Project Ribbon Cutting	Jefferson County
Meadowdale Playfields Grand Opening	Lynnwood
Ebey Waterfront Park’s Qwuloolt Estuary Trail Ribbon Cutting	Marysville
Torguson Park Gateway Grand Opening	North Bend
Big Tent Coalition	Olympia

State Conservation Commission Workshop	Olympia
The Evergreen State College Legislative Policy Class	Olympia
McFee Tunnel Opening	Port Angeles
Port Gamble Forest Community Celebration	Port Gamble
Candy Mountain Acquisition Grand Opening	Richland
East Lake Sammamish Trail Grand Opening	Sammamish
Boating Leadership Summit	Seattle
Snoqualmie Skate Park	Snoqualmie
The Nature Conservancy Acquisition Workshop	Tukwila
Twisp Community Trail Groundbreaking	Twisp
Hale Dog Park Grand Opening	Wenatchee
Saddle Rock Gateway Grand Opening	Wenatchee
Washington State Trails Conference	Wenatchee
Partner Meetings	
Boating Stakeholders	Quarterly
Boating Legislative Day	Olympia Yacht Club, Northwest Marine Trade Association, Recreational Boating Association of Washington
Boating Alliance	Special presentation
State Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	Special presentation
Washington Association of Land Trusts	Quarterly
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition	Quarterly

Measurement 5: Development of products contained in the communications plan

The majority of products have been produced. A full list is in Attachment A.

Looking Ahead

Although the communications plan has expired, staff continues to work on ongoing communications and items that were delayed. In 2019, staff will focus on the following elements:

1. Redesign of the agency’s Web Site

RCO has begun to redesign its four Web sites to make them more compatible with mobile technology, more accessible to people with disabilities, and more modern. It has been about 10 years since RCO last redesigned its Web sites. Since

then, more people are visiting the sites on mobile telephones (about 20 percent of visits).

RCO has hired a consultant to redesign its family of four Web sites. The consultants have completed interviews with staff and customers, analyzed computer data about customers' use of the sites, tested the navigation with users, and developed the design scheme. The top conclusion was that RCO's main site needed to be clearer about what the agency does, namely give out grants. The consultants found that most people visit RCO's main site for technical information about grants. The new site will be designed with that in mind and will be focused on helping grant applicants.



Mood board for redesigned Web site depicting colors, fonts, and overall feel.

2. Development of a new communications plan

Staff will begin mapping out the work to be done during the next 5 years and writing a new communications plan.

Attachments

Attachment A - Communications Plan Status Report

Attachment A

Attachment A: Communications Plan Status Report

Activity	Tasks	Status
Goal 1: Build support for RCO's missions of salmon recovery, land conservation, recreation, and invasive species management.		
Strategy 1: Create compelling information about the benefit of investing in RCO's missions.		
Activity 1: Develop Key Messages	Tasks 1: Develop key messages	Complete
Strategy 2: Engage the media in telling the story of RCO's missions.		
Activity 1: Promote RCO's missions to the media through a combination of news releases, editorial boards, guest editorials, letters to the editor, reporters' tours, and interviews.	Task 1: Create RCFB news releases that on focus key times in the grant cycle as well as trend information produced by the State Recreation and Conservation Plan.	Complete. 48 news releases distributed.
	Task 4: For significant topics only, pitch stories to the media.	Complete.
Activity 2: Update the media distribution list. Try to add blogs and other social media outlets.		Complete.
Strategy 3: Engage partners in educating their constituents about RCO's missions.		
Activity 1: Ask partners to share information with their constituents about RCO's missions.	Task 1: Share media releases, key messages, and specially written stories with key partners, asking them to use the information on their Web sites and in their constituent newsletters and social media.	Complete. Regularly ask them to share grant round key dates, volunteer recruitment, board policy public comment opportunities, and grant award news.

Activity	Tasks	Status
Activity 2: Recognize top ranking projects through RCO awards.	Task 1: Create a recognition award for top ranked projects completed each year.	Complete. 10 Bravo Awards have been given out to date.
	Task 2: Promote the noteworthy project designated by the RCFB through news releases, Web postings, and social media.	Complete. New releases, web and social media postings done with each Bravo Award.
Activity 3: Attend annual meetings and conferences of key partners to share RCO's missions.	Task 1: Attend annual conferences and trade shows of key partners.	Complete.
Strategy 4: Educate the Public		
Activity 1: Make our Web sites and publications sources of information about the benefits of RCO's missions.	Task 1: Develop interactive features that engage the public.	Held for Web site redesign in 2019. State recreation plan Web pages are the only interactive feature.
	Task 2: Incorporate more videos on our Web sites.	Complete.
Activity 2: Develop social media tools to draw people to RCO's Web sites.	Task 1: Develop a Facebook site or blog to highlight projects, the benefits of RCO's mission, and the work of our partners.	Complete. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, and LinkedIn sites developed.
Activity 3: Schedule agency leaders to speak at community events.	Task 1: Schedule agency representatives to share RCO's missions at special community events and large gatherings of stakeholders.	Complete. Speeches at 84 events given.

Activity	Tasks	Status
Goal 2: Ensure RCO maintains its brand as an exemplary, ethical, and open grant agency.		
Strategy 1: Increase partners' understanding of RCO grant processes and programs.		
Activity 1: Keep partners informed of RCO activities and involved in its issues.	Task 1: Create a director's electronic newsletter that informs partners of RCO activities and ways to participate.	Partially complete. Director's internal newsletter was turned into blog but is delivered to only a few external partners. This will be a feature when the Web site is redesigned in 2019.
	Task 2: Convert <i>Grant News You Can Use</i> into an electronic newsletter.	Complete.
	Task 3: Schedule regular meetings between the director and key stakeholder groups and elected officials to discuss issues and hear the latest RCO activities.	Complete. Quarterly meetings set with stakeholders for boating, land trusts, parks and recreation, and the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition.
	Task 4: Participate in the annual meetings and conferences of key stakeholders.	Complete. RCO is co-leader of state Trails Coalition, and participates in annual parks and recreation conferences.
	Task 5: When seeking comment from partners on policy issues, ensure adequate response time and wide distribution of information.	Complete. Special outreach efforts will be made for all board policy decisions.
	Task 6: Educate legislators, the congressional delegation, and other elected officials about RCO's grant processes and programs by sending periodic updates and scheduled meetings.	Complete. Agency leadership schedules the meetings. Communications staff provide educational publications.

Activity	Tasks	Status
	Task 7: Continue support of agency's online grant workshops as a means of delivering information about RCO processes to partners.	Complete
Strategy 2: Ensure RCO's grant processes and programs are accessible to the public.		
Activity 1: Make our publications and online efforts sources of information about RCO's grant programs and processes.	Task 1: Regularly review materials to ensure they are up-to-date, easily understood by the public, and clearly explain our grant processes.	Complete
	Task 2: Develop information graphics that explain the relationship between RCO and its partners (Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition, etc.)	Delayed due to workload.
	Task 3: Develop generic PowerPoint presentations and talking points about the agency and its grant processes for use by staff and board members.	Underway
Activity 2: Proactively work with project sponsors and partners to schedule community celebrations for Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and Land and Water Conservation Fund projects and use the opportunity to explain RCO's role in those projects.	Task 1: Develop a priority list of special events that kick off new projects and celebrate the completion of projects to attend. Proactively work with sponsors and partner organizations to promote the events.	Partially complete. Monthly conference calls are held with the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition to discuss upcoming activities. All ribbon cuttings and groundbreakings are promoted online. Communications staff has not initiated any local events on its own.

Activity	Tasks	Status
	Task 2: Develop an automatic PRISM trigger for projects nearing completion, so that celebrations can be encouraged.	Complete. Quarterly list of projects closing is shared with the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition.
Activity 3: Look for ways to share RCO information on the publications and Web sites of our partners.	Task 1: Investigate getting grant information in the grant portals of other organizations.	Delayed due to workload.
Strategy 3: Strengthen agency identity.		
Activity 1: Develop a unified look for agency publications, presentations and e-mail.	Task 1: Develop graphic standards and templates for agency publications, presentations, and Internet presence.	Underway. There are unified standards for board PowerPoints, fact sheets, manuals, and most Web sites but not for e-mail.
Strategy 4: Provide tools for staff to be RCO brand ambassadors		
Activity 1: Ensure staff has the communications tools they need to do their jobs successfully and understand their role as RCO brand ambassadors.	Task 1: Regularly visit section meetings to discuss communications issues and query staff on needs for communications products.	Partially complete. Regular communication happens but not at section meetings.
	Task 2: Develop template talking points for when they are at speaking engagements.	Complete
	Task 3: Collect and distribute links of all news coverage of RCO programs to help staff stay informed.	Complete. News clips are distributed weekly to staff and board members.

Activity	Tasks	Status
Goal 3: Strengthen RCO's internal communications.		
Strategy 1: Ensure there are tools to keep staff involved in and informed of agency activities.		
Activity 1: Survey staff about use of internal communications tools.	Task 1: Survey staff to see if the current communication tools are useful. Gauge how well agency leadership is keeping them informed of major decisions and recognizing their valuable contributions.	Delayed due to workload and competing surveys.
Activity 2: Develop routine ways for staff to stay informed and engaged in agency activities.	Task 1: Develop a plan for improving internal communications.	Delayed due to workload.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2019

Title: Boating Facilities Program (BFP):
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked Lists for the 2019-21 Biennium

Prepared By: Kyle Guzlas, Grant Services Section Manager

Summary

Applicants submitted thirty projects for the Boating Facilities Program. This memo describes the program, evaluation process, categories, and the preliminary ranked lists. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the April 2019 meeting.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a: Request for Decision
 Request for Direction
 Briefing

Resolution #: 2019-08, Local Agency Category
2019-09, State Agency Category

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked lists of projects shown in Table 1 for each category. These lists will become the basis for future funding.

Background

Washington State citizens, through Initiative 215, established the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) in 1964 with passage of the Marine Recreation Land Act. The Act authorizes the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to provide financial assistance for acquisition and development of recreational boating access on both fresh and salt waters.

State, local, and tribal government may request grant funds to:

- Acquire real property for motorized recreational boating;

- Develop or renovate sites and facilities used exclusively or primarily by recreational boaters; and
- Complete the design and engineering, environmental and cultural resources reviews, and permitting activities required for a development project.

To participate in the program, an applicant must adopt a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. The board’s [Recreational Boating Programs Plan](#) sets the priorities that shape the program policies and evaluation criteria that the board adopted into [Manual #9, Boating Facilities Program](#). The legislative authority for this program is the Revised Code of Washington 75A.25 and Washington Administrative Code 286.

Category	State Agency Category	Local Agency Category
Eligible Applicants	State agencies	Municipal governments and Native American tribes
Eligible Project Types	Planning, acquisition, development, and renovation projects.	Planning, acquisition, development, and renovation projects
Grant Limits	No limits on the maximum grant request for a project, but the total funds requested by an agency may not exceed twice the estimated funds available for the grants cycle.	The maximum request for a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning project is \$200,000, or 20 percent of the estimated construction cost (whichever is less). • Acquisition, development or renovation project is \$1 million.
Match Requirements	No match required	A minimum twenty-five percent matching share is required.
Public Access	Required	Required
Other Program Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning projects must result in construction ready documents. • Property acquired, developed, or renovated must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. • Multi-site projects are eligible. • Launch facilities are primarily for public, non-commercial recreational boat launching and retrieval. 	

- Commercial or non-recreational use between October and April may be allowed if the sponsor ensures it will not displace recreational boaters.
- Applicants must prorate costs for facilities used for both eligible and ineligible boating activities. For example, since long-term guest moorage is not eligible for funding, an applicant would prorate costs for a breakwater that protects transient recreational moorage and long-term moorage.

Overview

Evaluation Summary

Members of the Boating Programs Advisory Committee (committee) evaluated twelve state agency projects and eighteen local agency projects, requesting \$16,099,119 in grant funds. The committee used board-adopted criteria to review and rank projects in an open public meeting in Olympia on March 26-27, 2019. The committee included the following representatives, all of whom are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge about recreational boating issues.

Advisory Committee Member	Representing
Karl Harris, Shelton	Citizen
Paul Thorpe, Gig Harbor	Citizen
Al Wolslegel, Olympia	Citizen
Doug Chase, Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf	Local Agency
Glenn Guy Jr., Port of Ilwaco and Port of Chinook	Local Agency
Tami Hays, Port of Friday Harbor	Local Agency
Dennis Lefevre, City of Oak Harbor	Local Agency
Shane Belson, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	State Agency
*Lowell Dickson, Washington Department of Natural Resources	State Agency
*Chris Guidotti, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	State Agency

* *Participated in the technical review meeting only.*

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects, 2019-21* and *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects, 2019-21* of the attached decision packages.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

Staff will hold a post-evaluation meeting on April 11 with the advisory committee to debrief and assess the application process, the technical review and evaluation meetings, and the evaluation criteria. Staff will provide a summary of the advisory committee's assessment at the April board meeting.

Evaluation Criteria

Prior to this grant cycle, the board approved one modification to the BFP evaluation criteria in response to a recommendation from staff, advisory committee members, and stakeholders. This modification involved removing the following evaluation criterion:

State Outdoor Comprehensive Recreation Plan (SCORP) Priorities. How will this project address statewide or regional priorities as described in SCORP?

The board approved the revision to the criteria, in October 2017, as part of its adoption of the *Recreational Boating Programs Plan*. Specifically, the board improved the effectiveness of the evaluation criteria and accommodated the needs of boaters and facility providers. In addition to removing the SCORP criterion, staff intends to propose changes to improve the Environmental Stewardship question to ensure it aligns with the unique issues related to boating. The board will consider revisions to this criterion before the 2020 grants cycle.

Control and Tenure of State Owned Aquatic Lands

In 2018, the board approved changes to its control and tenure policy for projects on state-owned aquatic lands managed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR aquatic lease terms are typically for shorter periods than the required minimum length required by board policy for BFP funding eligibility. Board policy now requires applicants to engage DNR staff in the early grant development process so DNR can evaluate the proposed scope of work and consider an extended lease agreement that would meet the minimum term required for BFP. Local agency applicants must submit a Scope of Work Acknowledgement Form (signed by a DNR aquatic land manager) by the technical completion deadline. State agency applicants must follow the same procedure when developing a new facility where one currently does not exist.

This BFP grant cycle is the first to use this new DNR-engagement process. In keeping with board policy, RCO staff coordinated an interagency in-person review of proposals for all state agency grant applications. Local agency applicants worked to secure the required acknowledgement form. Staff will provide an update on policy implementation at the April meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation. The criteria for selecting projects support strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of recreation opportunities. Projects considered for BFP funding directly support board-adopted priorities in the board's Recreational Boating Programs Plan adopted October 11, 2017.

Public Comment

Letters of support or concern are in Attachment F, Local Agency Category and Attachment L, State Agency Category.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects, 2019-21* and *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects, 2019-21*.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, the lists will be available for funding consideration for the 2019-21 biennium. The Legislature will set the BFP funding authority in the state capital budget. The board will approve the final list and make its funding decisions at its June 2019 meeting.

Attachments

Note: The advisory committee will meet on April 11 to review and validate the preliminary ranked list. Staff will add as "late arriving" attachments that could be modified following that review.

Decision Package 1: Boating Facilities Program, Local Agency Category

- A. Resolution #2019-08
 - *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects, 2019-21 (late arriving)*
- B. BFP State Map of Projects, Local Agencies *(late arriving)*
- C. BFP Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. BFP Evaluation Scoring Summary 2019-21, Local Category *(late arriving)*
- E. BFP Project Summaries Local Category *(late arriving)*

F. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

Decision Package 2: Boating Facilities Program, State Agency Category

G. Resolution #2019-09

- Table 1 – *Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects, 2019-21 (late arriving)*

H. BFP State Map of Projects, State Agencies *(late arriving)*

I. BFP Evaluation Criteria Summary

J. BFP Evaluation Scoring Summary 2019-21, State Category *(late arriving)*

K. BFP Project Summaries State Category *(late arriving)*

L. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2019-08
Boating Facilities Program – Local Agency Category
Approval of the 2019-21 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2019-21 biennium, eighteen local agency Boating Facilities Program (BFP) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all eighteen projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in *Manual 9, Boating Facilities Program*, and

WHEREAS, these BFP projects were evaluated by a team of state and local agency representatives and citizens-at-large using the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation criteria, thereby supporting the board’s strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred in open public meetings as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-13-020, thereby supporting the board’s strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, the projects provide for planning, development, and renovation of motorized boating access areas and facilities, thereby supporting the board’s strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the ranked list for the projects depicted in *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects, 2019-21*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

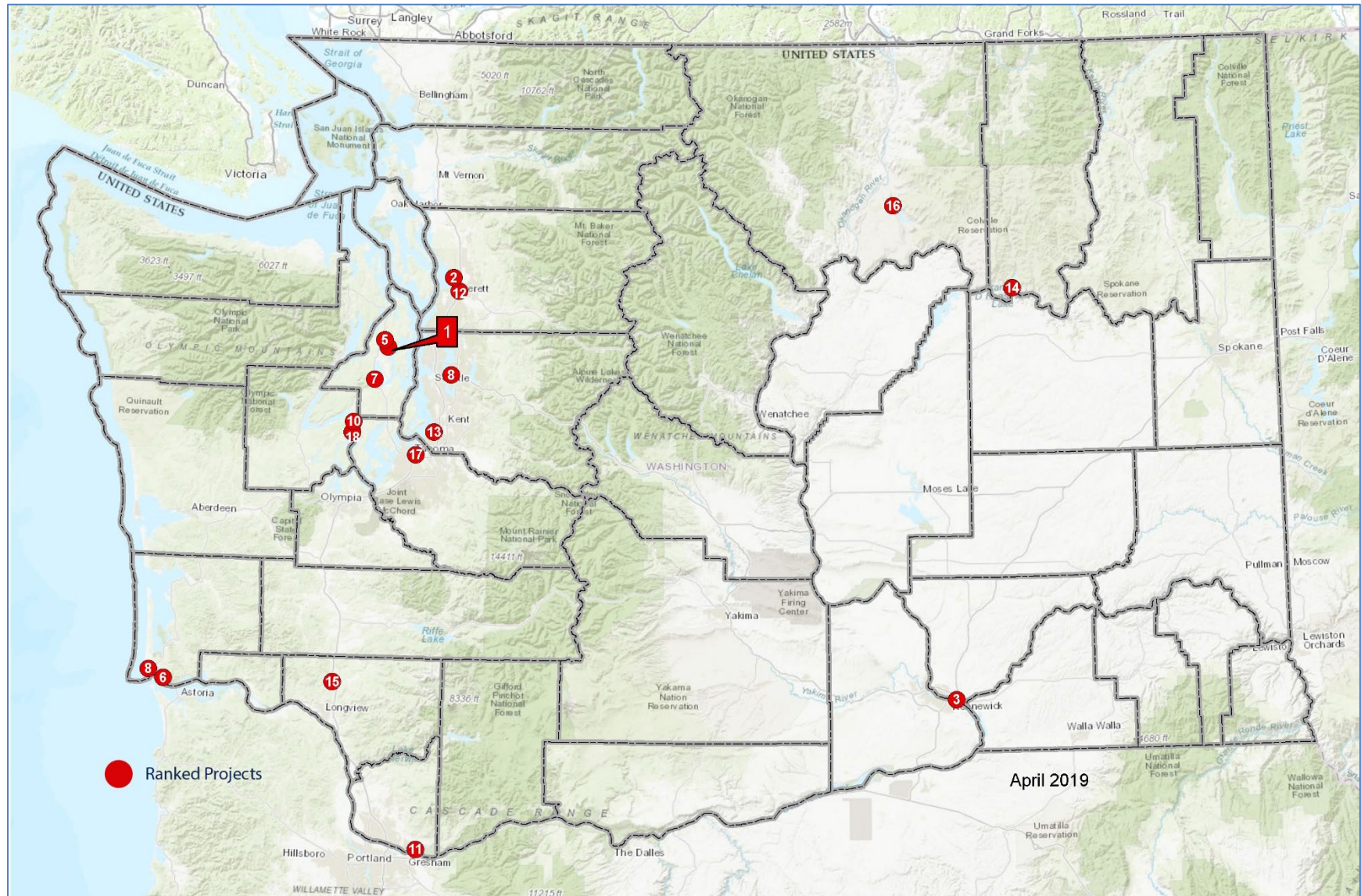
Date: _____

**Table 1: Boating Facilities Program
Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects
2019-2021**

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Total
1	65.63	18-2421D	Port of Keyport Boat Ramp Reconstruction	Port of Keyport	\$520,650	\$173,550	\$694,200	\$520,650
2	64.38	18-2524D	Jetty Landing Restroom Development	Port of Everett	\$584,500	\$198,063	\$782,563	\$1,105,150
3	63.25	18-2355D	Schlagel Park Boating Facilities Updates	Pasco	\$660,839	\$235,000	\$895,839	\$1,765,989
4	62.00	18-2462D	Port of Chinook Boat Ramp Pay Station	Port of Chinook	\$29,775	\$9,925	\$39,700	\$1,795,764
5	62.88	18-2571D	Port of Poulsbo New Floating Breakwater	Port of Poulsbo	\$1,000,000	\$1,302,500	\$2,302,500	\$2,795,764
6	60.88	18-2372P	Port of Chinook Boat Launch Planning	Port of Chinook	\$112,500	\$37,500	\$150,000	\$2,908,264
7	60.75	18-2567D	Kitsap Lake Park Boat Launch Replacement	Bremerton	\$556,200	\$187,660	\$743,860	\$3,464,464
8	61.38	18-2373D	Port of Ilwaco Boat Launch Area Renovation	Port of Ilwaco	\$331,350	\$110,450	\$441,800	\$3,795,814
8	60.38	18-2396P	Luther Burbank Park Dock Reconfiguration Design	Mercer Island	\$173,000	\$58,000	\$231,000	\$3,968,814
10	59.13	18-2337C	Ogren Property Purchase	Port of Allyn	\$386,100	\$128,700	\$514,800	\$4,354,914
11	58.63	18-2282P	Washougal Breakwater Access Planning	Port of Camas-Washougal	\$67,050	\$22,350	\$89,400	\$4,421,964
12	58.38	18-2338D	Rotary Park Renovations	Everett	\$299,086	\$100,761	\$399,847	\$4,721,050
13	58.25	18-2256D	Redondo Boat Float Upgrades	Des Moines	\$211,107	\$72,258	\$283,365	\$4,932,157
14	56.63	18-2425D	Keller Ferry Boat Launch Phase 2	Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	\$640,875	\$213,625	\$854,500	\$5,573,032
15	55.75	18-2479D	Al Helenberg Boat Launch Safety Improvements Construction	Castle Rock	\$708,000	\$237,000	\$945,000	\$6,281,032
16	55.00	18-2447P	Nicholson Beach Boat Launch Planning	Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	\$93,750	\$31,250	\$125,000	\$6,374,782
17	49.00	18-2498D	15th Street Transient Moorage Replacement	Tacoma	\$598,337	\$199,446	\$797,783	\$6,973,119
18	48.50	18-2420D	Grapeview Boat Launch Development	Port of Grapeview	\$628,000	\$212,000	\$840,000	\$7,601,119
					\$7,601,119	\$3,530,038	\$11,131,157	

¹Project Types: D=Development, C=Combination, P=Planning

State Map for Boating Facilities Program, Local Agency Category Projects, 2019-21



*Projects are in ranked order as shown in Table 1

Boating Facilities Program

Evaluation Criteria Summary

Boating Facilities Program Evaluation Criteria Summary				
Scored by	#	Item	Project Type *	Possible Points
Advisory Committee	1	Need	All	15
Advisory Committee	2	Site Suitability	All	15
Advisory Committee	3	Urgency	Acquisition	10
			Acquisition and Planning	5
			Acquisition and Development	5
Advisory Committee	4	Project Design	Development	10
			Acquisition and Development	5
Advisory Committee	5	Planning Success (architectural/engineering only)	Planning	10
			Acquisition and Planning	5
Advisory Committee	6	Cost-benefit	All	10
Advisory Committee	7	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	All	5
Advisory Committee	8	Boats on Trailers	All	5
Advisory Committee	9	Boating Experience	All	6
Advisory Committee	10	Readiness	All	5
RCO Staff	11	Matching Shares (including non-government contributions)	All	4 Local
				1 State
RCO Staff	12	Proximity to People	All	1
RCO Staff	13	Growth Management Act (local agencies) Preference	All	0
Total				Local=76 State=73

*All project types=Acquisition, development or renovation, and planning (architecture-engineering or permit related)

Scoring Criteria, Boating Facilities Program

Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** Is the project needed?
2. **Site suitability.** Is the site well-suited for the intended recreational uses?
3. **Urgency** (any project with acquisition as a component). How urgent is the need for funding from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board?
4. **Project design** (development or acquisition and development projects only). Is the proposal appropriately designed for the intended use?
5. **Planning success** (planning or acquisition and planning projects only). What potential does this project have to successfully complete the required documents needed to start a development project?
6. **Cost-benefit.** Do the benefits of the project outweigh the costs?
7. **Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship.** Will the project result in a quality, sustainable, recreational opportunity (or planned opportunity) while protecting the integrity of the environment?
8. **Boats on Trailers.** Does the proposed project predominantly serve boats on trailers?
9. **Boating experience.** How will the project affect the boating experience?
10. **Readiness.** Is the project ready to proceed?

Scored by RCO Staff

11. **Matching shares.** To what extent will the applicant match BFP funds with contributions from its own resources?
12. **Proximity to people.** Is the project site in a populated area?
13. **Growth Management Act compliance.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?¹

¹ Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250 (Growth Management Act preference required.)

**Boating Facilities Program
Evaluation Scoring Summary, Local Agency Category
2019-2021**

Rank	Question	1	2	3			4		5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Total
				Project Name	Need	Site Suitability	Urgency ¹			Project Design ¹									
				Acq	Acq and Pln	Acq and Dev	Dev	Acq and Dev	Pln Success	Acq and Pln	Cost Benefit								
1	Port of Keyport Boat Ramp Reconstruction	15.00	12.75				9.00				8.50	4.50	4.50	5.50	4.88	0.00	1.00	0.00	65.63
2	Jetty Landing Restroom Development	13.50	14.25				9.00				8.25	4.00	4.88	4.25	4.25	1.00	1.00	0.00	64.38
3	Schlagel Park Boating Facilities Updates	14.25	13.88				8.50				8.50	3.88	4.88	4.25	4.13	1.00	1.00	-1.00	63.25
4	Port of Chinook Boat Ramp Pay Station	11.25	14.25				9.25				9.25	3.88	4.75	3.75	4.63	1.00	0.00	0.00	62.00
5	Port of Poulsbo New Floating Breakwater	11.63	13.13				9.25				8.75	4.50	2.88	3.75	4.00	3.00	1.00	0.00	61.88
6	Port of Chinook Boat Launch Planning	12.75	13.50						8.00		9.00	3.88	4.75	4.50	4.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.88
7	Kitsap Lake Park Boat Launch Replacement	12.75	13.50				8.25				8.25	4.63	4.13	3.25	4.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	60.75
8	Port of Ilwaco Boat Launch Area Renovation	11.63	14.25				8.50				9.00	3.75	4.88	4.25	4.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.38
8	Luther Burbank Park Dock Reconfiguration Design	11.63	13.50						9.25		8.25	4.00	3.38	4.75	4.63	1.00	1.00	-1.00	60.38
10	Ogren Property Purchase	12.38	13.50			4.63		4.00			8.00	3.75	4.75	3.50	4.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	59.13
11	Washougal Breakwater Access Planning	12.38	12.75						8.50		8.00	3.63	3.38	4.50	4.50	0.00	1.00	0.00	58.63
12	Rotary Park Renovations	11.25	12.75				8.25				8.25	3.88	4.50	4.00	3.50	1.00	1.00	0.00	58.38

**Boating Facilities Program
Evaluation Scoring Summary, Local Agency Category
2019-2021**

Rank	Question	1	2	3			4		5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Total
				Project Name	Need	Site Suitability	Urgency ¹		Project Design ¹										
Acq	Acq and Pln	Acq and Dev	Dev				Acq and Dev	Pln Success	Acq and Pln	Cost Benefit									
13	Redondo Boat Float Upgrades	10.88	13.50				8.00				8.25	3.88	4.00	3.75	4.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	58.25
14	Keller Ferry Boat Launch Phase 2	13.13	12.00				7.75				7.00	3.38	4.75	4.25	4.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	56.63
15	Al Helenberg Boat Launch Safety Improvements Construction	13.88	10.13				8.25				7.25	3.38	4.63	3.50	3.75	1.00	0.00	0.00	55.75
16	Nicholson Beach Boat Launch Planning	11.63	12.38						8.50		7.00	3.50	4.75	3.75	3.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.00
17	15th Street Transient Moorage Replacement	12.00	12.00				8.00				6.25	3.38	1.13	1.50	3.75	0.00	1.00	0.00	49.00
18	Grapeview Boat Launch Development	12.00	9.75				5.75				7.00	3.00	4.25	2.50	3.25	1.00	0.00	0.00	48.50

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-10; RCO staff scores Questions 11-13

¹Acq=Acquisition, Dev=Development, Pln=Planning

Port of Keyport
Building a Port of Keyport Boat Ramp

Grant Requested: \$520,650

The Port of Keyport will use this grant to build a boat ramp at its small marina on Liberty Bay in Keyport. The existing boat ramp has deteriorated severely and has a cracked concrete surface and uneven grades. In addition, the approach to the ramp is narrow with crumbling pavement, which has caused some boaters to accidentally back onto the adjacent beach. The Port will build a one-lane concrete boat launch ramp and rebuild a portion of the adjacent wood pier with environmentally friendly, grated decking. The new design will allow for a slightly wider ramp and improved maneuvering for trailers and docking boats. The Port of Keyport will contribute \$173,550. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2421)

Port of Everett
Replacing the Jetty Landing Restroom

Grant Requested: \$584,500

The Port of Everett will use this grant to replace a restroom at Jetty Landing Park and Boat Launch. The Port also will landscape, add sidewalks, improve access for people with disabilities, and install two entrance signs and security lighting. The current restroom was built in 1982 to serve the boat launch and adjacent park, which includes picnic facilities, guest docks, and a public fishing pier. At the time, the boat launch consisted of only six launch lanes. Today the outdated and undersized restroom continues to serve the park and boat launch, which now consists of 13 lanes and is the largest public boat launch in western Washington. The restroom building serves more than 50,000 people annually. The Port of Everett will contribute \$198,063. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2524)

Pasco
Renovating the Schlagel Park Boat Launch

Grant Requested: \$660,839

The City of Pasco will use this grant to build a two-lane boat launch at Schlagel Park on the Columbia River. The existing launch was built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the 1950s, upgraded in the 1970s, and is in very poor condition. The City will replace the boat ramps and launches with boarding floats and concrete ramps, replace the restroom, and reorganize traffic flow and parking. Pasco will contribute \$235,000 in cash and staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2355)

Boating Facilities Program

Local Project Summaries

(In Rank Order)

Attachment E

Port of Chinook

Grant Requested: \$29,775

Port of Chinook Boat Ramp Pay Station

The Port of Chinook Marina in Pacific County will use this grant to install an automated pay station at the boat launch and support features for the station, such as electrical service, trenching, and a kiosk protected from the weather. The Port of Chinook will contribute \$9,925 in donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2462)

Port of Poulsbo

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

Building a Floating Breakwater in Poulsbo

The Port of Poulsbo will use this grant to replace a deteriorated, aging breakwater in Liberty Bay. The south fixed breakwater, supported by creosote-treated timber piling, will be replaced with a floating installation. With plans for the Elliott Bay Marina to contribute an existing floating breakwater, the new repurposed docks would expand guest moorage and dramatically improve public access. The Port of Poulsbo will contribute \$1.3 million in cash and donation of materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2571)

Port of Chinook

Grant Requested: \$112,500

Planning Improvements at Port of Chinook Marina

The Port of Chinook Marina will use this grant to develop its recreational boating plan for the marina in Pacific County. The plan could include boat ramps, boarding floats, guest moorage, parking, and restrooms. This plan would address launching and parking to speed up launching at peak times. The Port of Chinook will contribute \$37,500 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2372)

Bremerton

Grant Requested: \$556,200

Replacing a Kitsap Lake Park Boat Launch

The City of Bremerton will use this grant to replace the deteriorating boat launch, upgrade the restroom with a new roof and outdoor shower, and build a boat trailer parking stall and pathways accessible to people with disabilities. Built in 1989, the boat launch has outlived its useful life and is deteriorating rapidly. The ramp's panels have separated, creating wheel stops and damage to trailers. The floating dock is listing, its planks are rotting causing hardware to protrude, and the walkway leading to the dock is not accessible to people with disabilities. The City will replace the failing boat launch with a wider, concrete boat ramp and a boarding float. Kitsap Lake is the only freshwater lake in Bremerton and it is stocked for year-round fishing making it a popular destination. During peak use, more than 50 motorized boats a day use this facility for fishing, wildlife viewing, water skiing, tubing, and riding personal watercraft.

Boating Facilities Program

Local Project Summaries

(In Rank Order)

Attachment E

Bremerton will contribute \$187,660 in cash, staff labor, a local grant, and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2567)

Port of Ilwaco

Grant Requested: \$331,350

Renovating the Port of Ilwaco Boat Launch Area

The Port of Ilwaco will use this grant to renovate the area around the boat launch in its marina in Pacific County. The Port will install a restroom, landscape, repave and stripe the parking lot, and add an automated pay station, kiosk, and signs. The boat launch is a popular sport for boating, crabbing, fishing, and viewing of Cape Disappointment to the west and Baker Bay and the Columbia River to the south. The Port of Ilwaco will contribute \$110,450 in donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2373)

Mercer Island

Grant Requested: \$173,000

Redesigning the Luther Burbank Park Dock

The City of Mercer Island will use this grant to redesign the Luther Burbank Park boat launch, on the northeast end of Mercer Island. The existing dock layout was designed for use by large boats with high decks. Built in 1974, these docks now need repair. A previous study of boating needs recommended reconfiguring the docks to serve small, motorized boats. Luther Burbank Park features spectacular views of Lake Washington and is used for swimming, boating, and fishing. Mercer Island will contribute \$58,000 in a voter-approved levy and park impact fees. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2396)

Port of Allyn

Grant Requested: \$386,100

Buying Land to Create a Boat Launch Staging Area

The Port of Allyn will use this grant to buy the last piece of privately owned land next to its boat launch near Allyn Waterfront Park. The Port plans to demolish the only structure on the property—a 1940s-era house—and use the land as a staging area for boaters waiting to use the boat ramp. There is no waiting area for vehicles towing boats, which means they often block access to the ramp and the entrance and exits to the parking lots, park on private property, and sometimes create waiting lines that extend onto State Highway 3. A staging area would alleviate these problems. The Port of Allyn will contribute \$128,700 in donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2337)

Port of Camas-Washougal

Grant Requested: \$67,050

Designing Improvements to the Washougal Breakwater Dock

The Port of Camas-Washougal will use this grant to design and develop construction plans for renovating the access ramp from Washougal Waterfront Park to the Breakwater Dock. The dock

Boating Facilities Program

Local Project Summaries

(In Rank Order)

Attachment E

is the only one between the cities of Tri-Cities and Kalama on the Columbia River and is used by for overnight stays by visiting boaters. The renovation will include making the dock accessible to people using wheelchairs and upgrading the electrical system by moving the overhead powerline to the dock surface and installing eight lighted electrical pedestals. The Port of Camas-Washougal will contribute \$22,350. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2282)

Everett

Grant Requested: \$299,086

Renovating Rotary Park's Boat Launch

The Everett Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to develop and renovate the Rotary Park waterfront boating access facility. Work will include replacing the boarding float, renovating the parking, and installing general security lighting. Rotary Park was developed in 1990 and includes a two-lane boat launch with a boarding float next to the Snohomish River. The boat launch is used by anglers, waterskiers, personal watercraft operators, and wildlife enthusiasts. Everett will contribute \$100,761. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2338)

Des Moines

Grant Requested: \$211,107

Renovating the Redondo Boat Ramp

The City of Des Moines will use this grant to upgrade the boarding floats at the Redondo boat ramp. Many of the steel hinge connections between the floats have worn out, allowing too much movement between the floats. As a result, the floats are unstable even in mild wind and wave conditions. The City will replace the older string on the south side of the ramp with a new float string and refurbish the floats on the north side by replacing hardware and developing a wider approach. The ramp averages about 4,000 launches a year and is the primary launch for boaters who want to get from Three Tree Point to Dash Point. Des Moines will contribute \$72,258. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2256)

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Building the Kelly Ferry Boat Launch

Grant Requested: \$640,875

The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation's Park and Recreation Program will use this grant to build a boat launch on the San Poil arm of the Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area in northeastern Washington. Currently, anglers and boaters in Ferry County have to ride the Keller Ferry to the Lincoln County side of Lake Roosevelt to use the National Park Service's boat launch to lake. The Tribes will build the launch on 91 acres of undeveloped tribal land. The launch area will include an access road, boat trailer parking, a ramp, skid docks, and restrooms. The Colville Confederated Tribes will contribute \$213,625. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2425)

Boating Facilities Program

Local Project Summaries

(In Rank Order)

Attachment E

Castle Rock

Grant Requested: \$708,000

Building the Al Helenberg Boat Launch

The City of Castle Rock will use this grant to improve safety at the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch. The City will build a structure in the water that will provide a safer experience by reducing the river's velocity and moving sediment away from the ramp area. Castle Rock will contribute \$237,000 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2479)

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Designing a Boat Launch at Nicholson Beach

Grant Requested: \$93,750

The Confederated Colville Tribes will use this grant to design and permit a boat launch at the undeveloped Nicholson Beach at the north end of Omak Lake. There is only one other boat launch on the 3,200-acre lake; however it is unusable and is being removed. The largest saltwater lake in Washington, Omak Lake is a unique natural area, with almost no surrounding development. It's a popular destination for fishing, boating, waterskiing, and more. The Colville Confederated Tribes will contribute \$31,250. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2447)

Tacoma

Grant Requested: \$598,337

Replacing the 15th Street Guest Moorage Dock

The City of Tacoma will use this grant to replace about 225 feet of dock used for guest moorage along the Thea Foss Waterway in downtown Tacoma. The 1975 dock has deteriorated concrete decking and the gangway is not accessible by people with disabilities. In addition, the wood wharf leading from the shoreline to the gangway is structurally inadequate for the level of activity it sees and needs replacing. The dock is next to the 15th Street view corridor that leads directly to downtown Tacoma. Tacoma will contribute \$199,446. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2498)

Port of Grapeview

Grant Requested: \$628,000

Developing the Grapeview Boat Launch

The Port of Grapeview will use this grant to build parking and paths and install a picnic shelter and pump-out station for the recently completed boat launch. The Port's facilities are crowded into a narrow area leading to the launch, which leaves little room for people to maneuver their boats and trailers. Parking is across the main Grapeview Loop Road and therefore not easily accessible for people with disabilities. The Port will create a turnaround area, trailer parking, pathways for safer and easier access to the launch, and a picnic area for boaters to spend time before and after launching. The Port of Grapeview will contribute \$212,000 in cash, council

Boating Facilities Program Local Project Summaries (In Rank Order)

Attachment E

bonds, and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2420)

Boating Facilities Program – Local Agency Category Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

These attachments include public correspondence (letters of support and opposition) received by RCO during the grant evaluation process. The number in parenthesis represents the number of letters submitted for that project.

Letters are in Numerical Order

- 18-2355D Schlagel Park Boating Facilities Updates (2)
- 18-2396P Luther Burbank Park Dock Reconfiguration Design (1)
- 18-2479D Al Helenberg Boat Launch Safety Improvements (1)
- 18-2524D Jetty Landing Restroom Development (2)
- 18-2567D Kitsap Lake Park Boat Launch Replacement (1)

RESOLUTION NO. 1498

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CITY OF PASCO APPLICATION TO THE WASHINGTON STATE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE – BOATING FACILITIES PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE SCHLAGEL PARK BOATING FACILITIES

WHEREAS, the Schlagel Park Boating Facilities are located between the Port of Pasco's Osprey Pointe and Marine Terminal development projects; and,

WHEREAS, the Port is pursuing mixed-use developments at these waterfront locations, which is supported by the City of Pasco; and,

WHEREAS, numerous community surveys have indicated a community desire to have 'more things to do along the waterfront'; and,

WHEREAS, neither Osprey Pointe, shallow river depth, or the Marine Terminal, existing high wharf, are suitable for recreational boating; and,

WHEREAS, both developments will rely on the Schlagel Park facilities to provide a recreational boat launch access to the waterfront; and,

WHEREAS, the facilities originally constructed in the 1950's and partly upgraded in the 1970's, are in poor condition and unsafe; and,

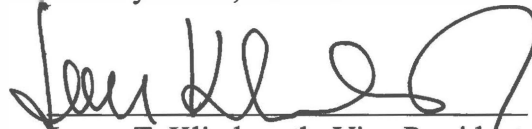
WHEREAS, the proposed project will create a safe, upgraded and ADA-compliant boating facilities that enable public watercraft access to the Columbia River.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Commissioners for the Port of Pasco fully supports the City of Pasco application to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office.

ADOPTED this 25th day of October, 2018.

PORT OF PASCO COMMISSION

Jean Ryckman, President



James T. Klindworth, Vice-President



Vicki Gordon, Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, WALLA WALLA DISTRICT
201 NORTH 3RD AVENUE
WALLA WALLA, WA 99362-1876

RECEIVED

OCT 31 2018

October 31, 2018

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

Real Estate Division

SUBJECT: 2018 Boating Facilities Grant Request #18-2355D, City of Pasco

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
2018 Boating Facilities Grant Request
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

To Whom It May Concern:

The US Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) strongly supports the City of Pasco's (the City) 2018 Boating Facilities Grant Request #18-2355D to fund improvements and updates to the current boating facilities at Schlagel Park. This area has been leased out to the City of Pasco since 1976 for Public Recreation from the Corps.

There is a critical need for the City to receive this grant funding to provide updates to Schlagel Park. The existing boating facilities are in poor and unsafe conditions and are not ADA compliant. If the City were to receive this grant they would be able to improve public recreation and allow more members in the community to access the Columbia River at Schlagel Park.

Using the requested state grant matched with the City's funds, the City intends to improve the existing facilities by replacing the existing boat launch ramps and boarding dock, along with constructing an ADA-compliant restroom and adding sufficient regular and pull-through boat trailer parking.

Water based Public Recreation is a mission of the Corps and to improve access and safety of public facilities on Corps managed land is a high priority. We applaud the City's efforts to build upon past public investments and maintain the value and facilities of Schlagel Park by upgrading and updating its boating facilities.

Thank you for taking our support into consideration. Please feel free to contact me at 509-527-7321 or Rodney.C.Huffman@usace.army.mil with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rodney C. Huffman".

Rodney C. Huffman
Chief, Real Estate
Real Estate Contracting Officer

FRIENDS OF LUTHER BURBANK PARK

November 7, 2018

Attention: Ms. DeAnna Beck
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Dear Boating Facilities Program panelists,

Luther Burbank Park is the jewel park of Mercer Island. It has three quarters of a mile of waterfront along northeast portion of our island in the middle of Lake Washington. It has a rich history prior to being a King County park but due to budget problems at the turn of the century the county gifted the park to the city of Mercer Island. The park had become rundown and the public docks may be the most obvious example of that long slow decline.

The 7000 square feet of today's failing docks were constructed in 1974. Today this prime location could serve a great variety of water-based activities to one of the most vibrant water sports populations in the nation.

Small power boats are today's main dock users. But the old dilapidated docks can be potentially damaging to their boats since they are falling apart. Secondary floating docks have been put in place to support a popular sailing program over the years and sailing classes require small motor boats for training purposes out on the water and at the docks edge. Many residents would appreciate a city run rental facility for kayaks, canoes and paddle boards. The historic steam plant is perfectly situated to serve that need.

The beach area next to the docks is registered as a Lake to Locks stopping point that links Lake Washington, Lake Union and Ballard's Hiram M. Chittenden Locks with salt water of Puget Sound at Shilshole Bay. Working restrooms are one strategic draw at Luther Burbank Park...but the historic steam plant's restrooms along with the children's playground, tennis courts, picnic areas, swim beach and wetland walks should be more available to water-oriented park lovers.

Mercer Island puts on a hugely popular Summer Celebration in July and Argosy boats tie up to one pier to take scenic cruises around the island. That likely draws more people onto today's docks than any other single day of the year. Luther Burbank Park is also a

stop for Christmas ships in December. Recently the swim beach has been the only logical place for people to gather on shore. The steam plant and waterfront docks remain dormant and dark which is a missed opportunity as a social gathering place in winter.

Friends of Luther Burbank Park does not wish to see the park privatized or commercialized. We support that focus from our City Council and our Mercer Island Parks Department as they plan for unregulated docks becoming a more vibrant waterfront park without losing the park's serenity with nature. A dock upgrade is past due. We trust that dock upgrade can enhance aquatic and land-based ecosystems and at the same time allow for this regionally significant park to welcome a water-oriented population of park lovers to our shores. We urge you to grant state funds to this critical need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sue Stewart, President
Friends of Luther Burbank Park

**P.O. Box 552
MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040**



CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT #401

Jim Mabbott, Superintendent
600 Huntington Ave. S • Castle Rock, WA 98611 • T: 360.501.2940 • F: 360.501.3140
www.crschools.org

January 11, 2019

Recreation Conservation Office, Boating Facility program

To whom it may concern:

This letter is to state that, on behalf of the Castle Rock School District Board of Directors, the Castle Rock School District strongly supports the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Launch Safety Improvement project.

At this time, the river current is stronger than desirable for the ideal safety of boaters on the river. Every year there are accidents and/or tragedies on our rivers, many due to people either unaware of or underestimating the strong current. This project will help to mitigate these accidents and tragedies. One less accident or tragedy will be a win!

Please help us in keeping our river safe!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Mabbott".

Jim Mabbott, Superintendent



Recreation and Conservation Office

Boating Facilities Program

The existing restroom facility at Jetty Landing Boat Launch is certainly showing age and is outdated from a technology standpoint and ability to accommodate the continuing growth of boat launch users. Jetty Landing boat launch is a public jewel, as the largest publicly owned launch in the state and more and more people every year are taking advantage of this public amenity. The restrooms should help exemplify this great facility and be the right size to meet the needs of our local boaters.

Sincerely

Jeff LaLone

VP Everett Bayside Marine inc

Managing partner Bayside Holdings, Bayside Drystack

**THE TULALIP TRIBES****Board of Directors:**

Marie Zackuse - Chairwoman
Teri Gobin - Vice-Chairwoman
Mel Sheldon - Treasurer
Bonnie Juneau - Secretary
Les Parks - Board Member
Marlin J. Fryberg, Jr., *Sxwilus* - Board Member
Jared Parks, Board Member

6406 Marine Drive
TULALIP, WA 98271-9694
(360) 716-4000
FAX (360) 716-4032

The Tulalip Tribes are the successors in interest to the Snohomish, Snoqualmie, and Skykomish tribes and band signatory to the Treaty of Point Elliott

January 8, 2019

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917
Boating Facilities Program

RE: Grant application number 18-2524D: Jetty Landing Restroom Rebuild

Dear Review Board,

The Tulalip Tribe supports the Port of Everett's efforts to replace the aging restroom facilities at the Jetty Landing Boat Launch in Everett, Washington. The facility is important to the Tribe's members as they use the boat launch facilities year round both recreationally and commercially. The boat launch is the largest publicly owned launch in the state and it has ample parking which makes it very popular. However, given the size of the launch facility, the existing restroom is undersized. It would benefit the Tribal community as well as the broader general community to have a new restroom building that is better able to support this valuable public access asset.

Thank you for considering funding a replacement restroom facility.

Sincerely,

Kurt Nelson
Environmental Division Manager
Tulalip Tribes Natural Resources Department

cc: Laura Gurley, Port of Everett



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

680 LEBO BOULEVARD • BREMERTON, WA 98310-5841

TEL: 360.473.5305 • FAX: 360.473.5882

EMAIL: parks@ci.bremerton.wa.us • www.ci.bremerton.wa.us

December 18, 2018

Dear **Recreation & Conservation Office** Grant Evaluation Committee,

The Bremerton Parks & Recreation Commission would like to express its strong and unanimous support for the City of Bremerton's **Boating Facilities Program** grant application to fund renovations to replace the boat launch at **Kitsap Lake Park** located on Bremerton's *only* freshwater lake.

Renovations to Kitsap Lake Park are identified as a priority in the current *Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan*, which was adopted in March 2014 after an extensive 18-month public outreach and comment period. The recommendations in the PROS Plan identified the need to ensure the boat launch remains in safe, usable condition and upgrade the site to be ADA compliant to provide access to the boat launch and boating amenities. Based on the needs identified in the 2014 PROS Plan, the Parks and Recreation Commission has collaborated with the City to develop a master plan that addresses these site deficiencies and has conducted several public meetings (including one on-site) to invite community feedback on the proposed improvements. In addition to replacing the nearly 30-year old boat launch, this project will also improve the environment by installing a fish-friendly dock and modular wetland.

We thank you for your consideration to support replacement of this aging boat launch.

Sincerely,

Bremerton Parks and Recreation Commission

Timothy Baker, Chair, Position #1

Benjamin Burnette, Vice-Chair, Position #3

Maggie Williams, Position #6

Elizabeth Wrenn, Position #2

Patrick Watson, Position #5

David Hedger, Position #7

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2019-09
Boating Facilities Program – State Agency Category
Approval of the 2019-21 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2019-21 biennium, twelve state agency Boating Facilities Program (BFP) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all twelve BFP projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 9, *Boating Facilities Program*; and

WHEREAS, these BFP projects were evaluated by a team of state and local agency representatives and citizens-at-large using Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation criteria, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred in open public meetings as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-13-020, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, the projects provide for planning, development, and renovation of motorized boating access areas and facilities, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked list for the projects depicted in *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects, 2019-21*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

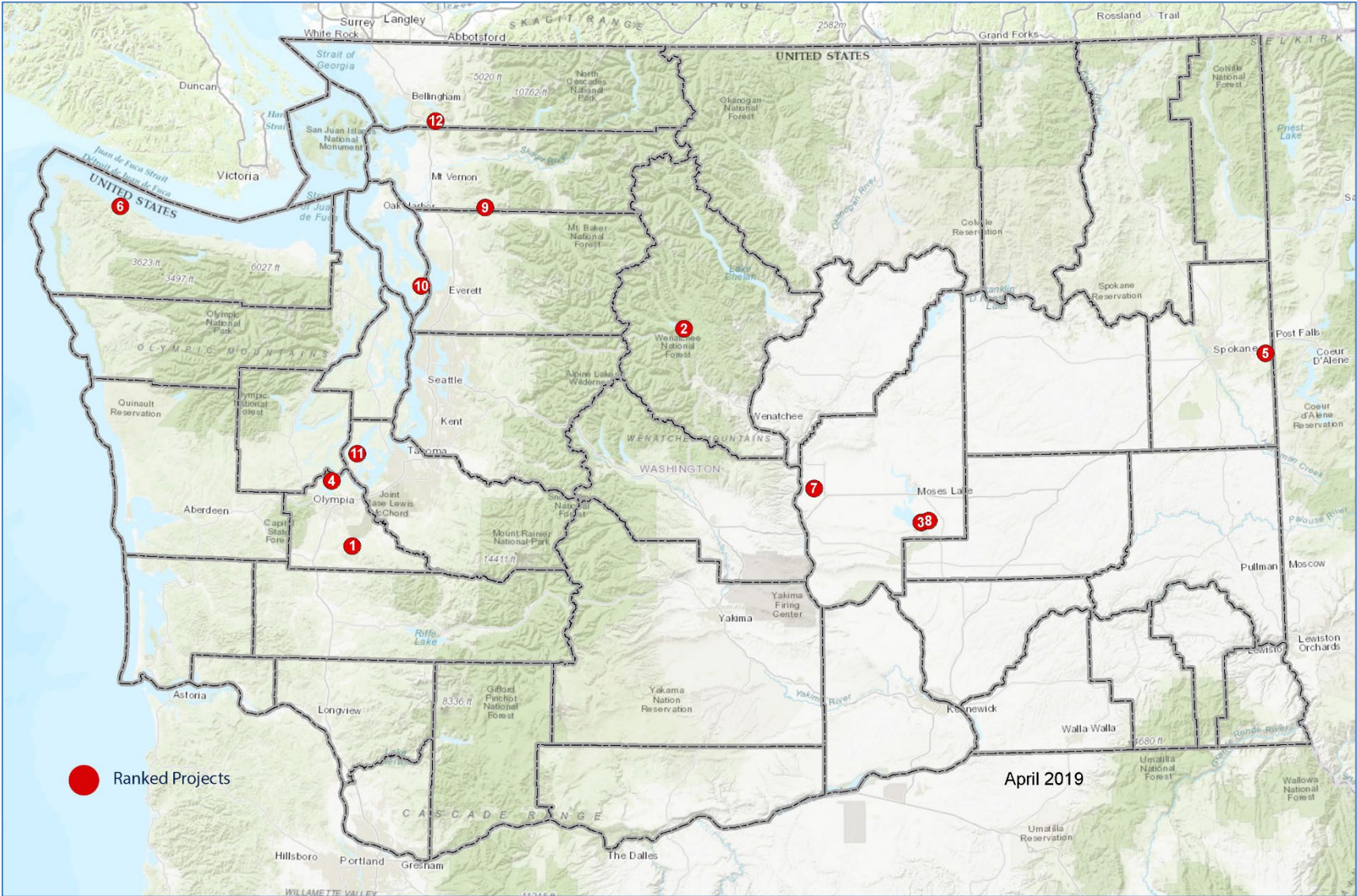
Date: _____

**Table 1: Boating Facilities Program
Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects
2019-2021**

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Total	Cumulative Total
1	63.63	18-2422D	Region 6 Boating Access Site Improvements	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$320,000
2	63.38	18-2558P	Lake Wenatchee Launch Improvements	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$248,000	\$248,000	\$568,000
3	62.13	18-2424D	Glen Williams Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,818,000
4	61.38	18-2423D	Boston Harbor Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$930,000	\$930,000	\$2,748,000
5	59.25	18-2461D	Liberty Lake Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$354,000	\$354,000	\$3,102,000
6	57.38	18-2259A	Sekiu Boating Access	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$4,102,000
7	56.88	18-2516D	Burke Lake Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$398,000	\$398,000	\$4,500,000
8	56.63	18-2515D	Lind Coulee Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$630,000	\$630,000	\$5,130,000
9	55.50	18-2349D	Lake Cavanaugh Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$490,000	\$490,000	\$5,620,000
10	54.88	18-2356D	Deer Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$404,000	\$404,000	\$6,024,000
11	54.50	18-2555D	Penrose Point Boating Improvements	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$1,969,000	\$1,969,000	\$7,993,000
12	53.50	18-2350D	Lake Whatcom Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$505,000	\$505,000	\$8,498,000
					\$8,498,000	\$8,498,000	

¹Project Type: A=Acquisition, D=Development, P=Planning

State Map for Boating Facilities Program, State Agency Category Projects, 2019-21



*Projects are in ranked order as shown in Table 1

Boating Facilities Program

Evaluation Criteria Summary

Boating Facilities Program Evaluation Criteria Summary				
Scored by	#	Item	Project Type *	Possible Points
Advisory Committee	1	Need	All	15
Advisory Committee	2	Site Suitability	All	15
Advisory Committee	3	Urgency	Acquisition	10
			Acquisition and Planning	5
			Acquisition and Development	5
Advisory Committee	4	Project Design	Development	10
			Acquisition and Development	5
Advisory Committee	5	Planning Success (architecture/engineering only)	Planning	10
			Acquisition and Planning	5
Advisory Committee	6	Cost-benefit	All	10
Advisory Committee	7	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	All	5
Advisory Committee	8	Boats on Trailers	All	5
Advisory Committee	9	Boating Experience	All	6
Advisory Committee	10	Readiness	All	5
RCO Staff	11	Matching Shares (including non-government contributions)	All	4 Local
				1 State
RCO Staff	12	Proximity to People	All	1
RCO Staff	13	Growth Management Act (local agencies) Preference	All	0
Total				Local=76 State=73

*All project types=Acquisition, development or renovation, and planning (architecture-engineering or permit related)

Scoring Criteria, Boating Facilities Program

Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** Is the project needed?
2. **Site suitability.** Is the site well-suited for the intended recreational uses?
3. **Urgency** (any project with acquisition as a component). How urgent is the need for funding from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board?
4. **Project design** (development or acquisition and development projects only). Is the proposal appropriately designed for the intended use?
5. **Planning success** (planning or acquisition and planning projects only). What potential does this project have to successfully complete the required documents needed to start a development project?
6. **Cost-benefit.** Do the benefits of the project outweigh the costs?
7. **Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship.** Will the project result in a quality, sustainable, recreational opportunity (or planned opportunity) while protecting the integrity of the environment?
8. **Boats on Trailers.** Does the proposed project predominantly serve boats on trailers?
9. **Boating experience.** How will the project affect the boating experience?
10. **Readiness.** Is the project ready to proceed?

Scored by RCO Staff

11. **Matching shares.** To what extent will the applicant match BFP funds with contributions from its own resources?
12. **Proximity to people.** Is the project site in a populated area?
13. **Growth Management Act compliance.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?²

² Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250 (Growth Management Act preference required.)

Boating Facilities Program
Evaluation Scoring Summary, State Agency Category
2019-2021

Rank	Project Name	Question	1	2	3		4		5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
		Need	Site Suitability	Urgency ¹	Acq and Dev	Project Design ¹	Acq and Dev	Planning Success	Acq and Pln	Cost Benefit	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Boats on Trailers	Boating Experience	Readiness	Matching Shares	Proximity to People		
1	Region 6 Boating Access Site Improvements	14.63	13.50				9.25				9.25	3.88	4.25	3.75	4.13	0.00	1.00	63.63
2	Lake Wenatchee Launch Improvements	14.63	14.25						8.75		8.25	4.25	4.88	4.25	4.13	0.00	0.00	63.38
3	Glen Williams Access Redevelopment	13.88	13.88				9.00				8.50	3.50	4.75	4.75	3.88	0.00	0.00	62.13
4	Boston Harbor Access Redevelopment	13.88	13.88				7.75				8.25	3.75	4.88	4.25	3.75	0.00	1.00	61.38
5	Liberty Lake Redevelopment	13.50	13.13				8.00				7.75	3.38	4.63	4.00	3.88	0.00	1.00	59.25
6	Sekiu Boating Access	12.00	12.75	7.75							8.25	3.13	4.63	4.75	4.13	0.00	0.00	57.38
7	Burke Lake Redevelopment	12.38	13.13				8.25				8.00	3.13	4.63	3.50	3.88	0.00	0.00	56.88
8	Lind Coulee Redevelopment	12.00	13.13				8.00				7.75	3.00	4.50	4.25	4.00	0.00	0.00	56.63
9	Lake Cavanaugh Access Redevelopment	11.25	12.38				8.00				7.50	4.00	4.50	3.75	4.13	0.00	0.00	55.50
10	Deer Lake Access Redevelopment	12.00	11.25				7.50				7.75	3.50	4.25	3.50	4.13	0.00	1.00	54.88
11	Penrose Point Boating Improvements	12.75	11.25				8.75				7.00	3.75	2.00	4.00	4.00	0.00	1.00	54.50
12	Lake Whatcom Access Redevelopment	12.38	10.88				7.25				7.00	3.75	4.63	3.75	3.88	0.00	0.00	53.50

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-10; RCO staff scores Questions 11-12

¹Acq=Acquisition, Dev=Development, Pln=Planning

Boating Facilities Program

State Agency Project Summaries

(In Rank Order)

Attachment K

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Requested: \$320,000** **Improving Boating Access Sites in Mason and Thurston Counties**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve four water access sites in Thurston County and one in Mason County. The department will create parking stalls and pathways for people with disabilities and install new toilets at McIntosh Lake, Offut Lake, Pattison Lake, and Clear Lake in Thurston County and at Nahwatzel Lake in Mason County. Most of these restrooms have been in service for more than 50 years and are not accessible to people with disabilities. The surrounding parking near the toilets will be graded and paved. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2422)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission **Grant Requested: \$248,000** **Planning Improvements to Lake Wenatchee State Park's Boat Launch Area**

State Parks will use this grant to plan and design improvements to the boat launch area in Lake Wenatchee State Park. The improvements will increase efficiency, improve traffic circulation, and increase the number of boats that can launch at one time. State Parks will be planning for a new boat ramp and boarding floats, paving of the overflow parking area and pathways for people with disabilities, improvements to the restroom, and installation of signs. Lake Wenatchee State Park has the only improved boat launch on the lake, resulting in large backups at the single-lane ramp. Staff spend many hours helping people park in the unimproved lot. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2558)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Requested: \$1,250,000** **Redeveloping the Glen Williams Access Site on Potholes Reservoir**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to renovate the Glen Williams access site on Potholes Reservoir in Grant County. The department will replace 230 feet of boat ramp, install three new toilets and a loading platform, pave the parking areas, and install signs. This access site receives the highest public use of any access site on Potholes Reservoir and is the only public access usable during reservoir drawdown. As one of the premiere recreational destinations in the Pacific Northwest, Glenn Williams access site serves anglers, hunters, and watersport enthusiasts year-round. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2424)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Requested: \$930,000** **Redeveloping the Boston Harbor Boat Launch**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Boston Harbor Access at the northeastern end of Budd Inlet in Thurston County. The department will replace the boat launch ramp, improve the parking area, replace the restroom, enhance fencing and signs, and

Boating Facilities Program

State Agency Project Summaries

(In Rank Order)

Attachment K

install a loading platform. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2423)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Redeveloping the Liberty Lake Access Site**

Grant Requested: \$354,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Liberty Lake access site, which is 20 miles east of Spokane in Spokane County. The department will replace the toilets, reseal and stripe the parking lot, install a boarding float extension, and renovate infrastructure including armoring the ramp, and install signs. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2461)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Buying a Boat Launch at Sekiu**

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy about 6.5 acres of a private fishing resort at Sekiu in Clallam County. The land includes a four-lane boat launch and boat trailer parking and two additional overflow parking areas away from the main launching site. These launches accommodate all sizes of trailerable boats at most tides, giving recreational boaters access to the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2259)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Renovating the Burke Lake Access Site**

Grant Requested: \$398,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to renovate the Burke Lake access site in the Quincy Wildlife Area in Grant County. The department will replace the boat launch, pave the gravel parking lot, and install a boarding float and piles. Burke Lake is one of many lakes in the Quincy wildlife area, but one of the few that allow boats with motors. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2516)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Redeveloping the Lind Coulee Access Site on Potholes Reservoir**

Grant Requested: \$630,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to renovate the Lind Coulee access site south of Moses Lake on the east end of Potholes Reservoir in Grant County. The department will replace planks and toilets, pave, and install a loading platform accessible to people with disabilities. The Lind Coulee access site provides access for boating, fishing, hunting, and camping, across a wind-sheltered portion of the Potholes Reservoir. Potholes offers world-class fishing and waterfowl hunting, bringing people from all over the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2515)

Boating Facilities Program

State Agency Project Summaries

(In Rank Order)

Attachment K

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Requested: \$490,000** **Redeveloping the Lake Cavanaugh Water Access Site**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Lake Cavanaugh water access site east of Mount Vernon in Skagit County. The department will build a concrete boat launch, pave a gravel parking lot, and install a toilet, boarding float, and moorage dock. Currently the public uses the gravel shoreline to launch boats. The new boarding float and launch will increase safety during the retrieval and launching of powered boats. Paving the parking lot will increase the usability of the site by controlled parking in spaces rather than having cars park all over the site. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2349)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Requested: \$404,000** **Redeveloping the Deer Lake Water Access Site**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Deer Lake water access site on Whidbey Island in Island County. The department will replace the boat launch and pave the entry road, above the launch, and a parking spot for people with disabilities. The department also will install an L-shaped boat dock. These improvements will increase use the use and safety of the site and reduce long-term maintenance. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2356)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission **Grant Requested: \$1,969,000** **Renovating Boating Amenities in Penrose Point State Park**

State Parks will use this grant to renovate boating amenities in Penrose Point State Park, a 165-acre park on Mayo Cove and Carr Inlet at the southern end of Puget Sound in Pierce County. State Parks will replace the pier and moorage floats and install a restroom and picnic facilities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2555)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Requested: \$505,000** **Redeveloping the Lake Whatcom Boat Launch**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Lake Whatcom water access site in Whatcom County. The department will build a concrete boat launch and moorage and loading dock, pave the parking lot, and install a toilet. The new boat launch and dock will increase safety during the retrieval and launching of powered boats. The paving of the parking area will decrease long-term maintenance of the site. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2350)

Boating Facilities Program – State Agency Category Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

These attachments include public correspondence (letters of support and opposition) received by RCO during the grant evaluation process. The number in parenthesis represents the number of letters submitted for that project.

Letters are in Numerical Order

- 18-2423D Boston Harbor Access Redevelopment (2)

To: Recreation and Conservation office

From: Officer Greg Haw

Subject: Support for improvements to Boston Harbor WDFW Access Area

WDFW Boston Harbor Access Area

A justification for improvements to the facility and suggestions.

(Officer Greg Haw)

ABSTRACT

Marine Area 13 includes all contiguous marine areas south of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge. Very few high use public access sites exist in this area with only two maintained and operated by WDFW. These include the Boston Harbor and Luhrs Beach site. The only others are Arcadia Point (Squaxin Tribe) Latimers Landing (Mason County) and Swan Town Marine (Budd Inlet). The Luhrs Beach site is highly limited due to very shallow water adjacent to Nisqually Reach. In summer months, where low tides occur during daylight hours boaters and anglers can only launch the smallest of vessel. Marina facilities and services are not available and this area is highly vulnerable to a SE wind. The Boston Harbor site is protected from prevailing winds. It is adjacent to a full service marina, fuel is available and it is located very nearby popular fishing, crabbing and boating areas. In addition this site serves the entire greater Olympia area. Seasonal activity is heavy. Starting with a May shrimp fishery, a typical July crab opener and culminating with the largest return of hatchery Fall Chinook in Puget Sound (July, September). Currently the Boston Harbor facility is by far the most centrally located marine access point in Marine Area 13 and it serves the largest population base. (Olympia) Improvements to this access site needs to be prioritized.

Emergency access: If one were to anticipate the need for emergency access to Marine Area 13 due to a life threatening event, this would be the most centrally located departure point for an emergency response. Currently the Thurston County Sheriff's Office has an emergency response vessel moored at Swan town Marina (About 7 miles away) It needs to be noted that Advanced Life Support serviced would be best accommodated by land, at the Boston Harbor Access Point. This emergency access advantage would also apply equally to remote areas on Pierce, Mason AND Thurston County.

Official Access: This site is heavily used by state environmental agencies as well as private sector watchdog organizations to include numerous State Colleges and Universities.

Boating and Wildlife viewing access: The non-angling public is also well served by the Boston Harbor Facility. Recent years have shown a vast increase in the amount of all forms of recreational motorized watercraft, as people are finally discovering the wonderful and currently underutilized boating and wildlife viewing opportunity that Marine Area 13 has to offer. There is currently some scouring occurring under the existing ramp that makes launching a small boat hazardous at times, especially for early, pre-dawn anglers.



Thurston County Fire Protection District 8

Proudly Serving Northeast Thurston County Since 1953

4 February 2019

Brian Mitchell

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

Recreation & Conservation Office

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been asked to provide input on a proposal for funding of upgrades for the public boat launch at the Boston Harbor Marina near Olympia, Washington. This facility is located within our fire district, and I know it to be a very valuable asset to the community, and can be, during boating season, a very busy spot for recreational boating. Safety is one of the most important considerations that we place on use of public facilities, and the improvements described to me that would be funded under the proposal would certainly increase the safe access and travel of the boating public.

Our fire district has worked with a variety of organizations to promote and implement improvements to public facilities throughout the community, and we see this as a very good opportunity for the State to provide a wise investment for public use, convenience and safety. Please consider this letter as an endorsement for the proposal for funding of such a project.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information. I may be reached by telephone at 360-491-5320 or e-mail at vancamp@southbayfire.com. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian K VanCamp, Fire Chief

Thurston County Fire Protection District 8

BVC:ths

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2019

Title: Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Program:
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked List for the 2019-21 Biennium

Prepared By: Karl Jacobs, Senior Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Applicants submitted ten projects for the Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) program. This memo describes the program, evaluation process, and preliminary ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the April 2019 meeting.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a: Request for Decision
 Request for Direction
 Briefing

Resolution #: 2019-10

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects shown in Table 1, which will become the basis of awarding grants following legislative approval.

Background

The Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) program provides funding to support firearm and archery recreation. This includes facilities for handgun, muzzleloader, rifle, shotgun, and archery activities. Established by the Legislature in 1990, the primary goals of the FARR program is to increase general public access to firearm and archery range facilities and provide hunter safety education. Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) policies that guide this program are outlined in [Manual #11](#), *Firearms and Archery Range Recreation*. The legislative authority is the Revised Code of Washington 79A.25 and Washington Administrative Code 286.

The following table provides a summary of the program:

Eligible Applicants	State and local agencies and qualified nonprofit shooting organizations
Eligible Project Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition • Development and renovation • Combination projects involving both acquisition and development or renovation
Grant Limits	Grant requests are limited to \$150,000 per project.
Match Requirements	<p>Applicant matching shares are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33% for safety or noise abatement elements in range renovation projects. • 50% for all other project costs.
Public Access	<p>Facilities must be open to the general public for a minimum of eight hours per month, with special emphasis on access for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hunter and safety education classes ○ Law enforcement personnel ○ Members of the public with concealed pistol License
Other Program Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor and outdoor ranges are eligible. • Liability insurance is the only operational expense eligible for funding. • A public hearing or meeting is required for projects that will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acquire or develop a range facility where one does not currently exist. ○ Result in substantial new external impact on the surrounding area of an existing range.

Overview

Evaluation Summary

The FARR Advisory Committee evaluated ten FARR projects, requesting \$862,626, on March 27, in an open public meeting in Olympia, Washington. They used board-adopted evaluation criteria to review and rank projects. The committee includes the following representatives, all of whom are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge about recreational shooting sports and hunter education:

Advisory Committee Member	Representing
Rachel Bouchillon, Olympia	Citizen
Jenny Bull, Bellingham	Citizen

Rollie Geppert, Olympia	Citizen
Brian Schilt, Tenino	Citizen
Philip Shave, Olympia	Citizen
Lorrie Starkweather, Seattle	Citizen
Ty Peterson, King County	Local Agency
Christopher Maurer, Department of Ecology	State Agency
Dave Whipple, Department of Fish and Wildlife	State Agency

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2019-21*

Review of the Process and Evaluation Criteria

Staff will hold a post-evaluation meeting, on April 11, with the advisory committee to share the preliminary ranked lists, debrief and assess the application process, the technical review and evaluation meetings, and the evaluation criteria. Outlined below is a summary of the discussion with committee members immediately after the evaluation meeting. Staff will share additional thoughts or comments at the April board meeting.

Evaluation Process

The advisory committee felt the process was organized and efficient. They understood the expectations, received the application materials early enough to conduct their preliminary reviews, and enjoyed participating in the process. Committee members discussed the value of the in-person technical review meeting and expressed appreciation for the work applicants put into addressing questions raised during the reviews.

Evaluation Criteria

The advisory committee was satisfied with the evaluation criteria. There was discussion about whether the board should expand the *Health and Safety* criterion to include more considerations for the health of the range users/recreationists. The current evaluation question primarily focuses on the safety of the surrounding community, for example, by containing projectiles and reducing noise. There was interest in expanding the question to help improve the health and safety of users, including improving air quality and reducing the potential for concussions.

The committee discussed the *Mandated Uses* question, which focuses primarily on firearms recreation. The concern is whether this puts archery range projects at a disadvantage. This may be by design, since legislatively mandated users are concealed pistol license holders, hunter and firearm safety education class participants, and law enforcement. The board may want to consider revising the criterion to give archery range projects an opportunity to earn the same number of points. Staff will discuss this

further with the committee at the post evaluation meeting on April 11 when scores are available for review.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation. The criteria for selecting projects support strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of recreation opportunities.

Projects considered for funding in the FARR program directly support board-adopted priorities in *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan, 2018-2022*.

Public Comment

No public comment has been received to date.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve Resolution 2019-10, including *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2019-21*.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, the preliminary ranked list will be available for funding consideration for the 2019-21 biennium. The Legislature will set the FARR funding authority in the state capital budget. The board will approve the final list and make its funding decision at its June 2019 meeting.

Attachments

Note: The advisory committee will meet on April 11 to review and validate the preliminary ranked list. Staff will add as "late arriving" attachments that could be modified following that review.

- A. Resolution #2019-10
 - *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2019-21 (late arriving)*
- B. State Map of FARR Projects *(late arriving)*
- C. FARR Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. FARR Evaluation Scoring Summary 2019-21 *(late arriving)*
- E. FARR Project Summaries *(late arriving)*
- F. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2019-10
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation
Approval for the 2019-21 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2019-21 biennium, ten Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all ten projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 11, *Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program*; and

WHEREAS, these FARR projects were evaluated by a team of state and local agency representatives and citizens-at-large using evaluation criteria approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), thereby supporting the board's goal to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred in an open public meeting as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-13-020, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, the projects develop and renovate public outdoor recreation facilities, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the ranked list for the projects depicted in *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2019-21*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

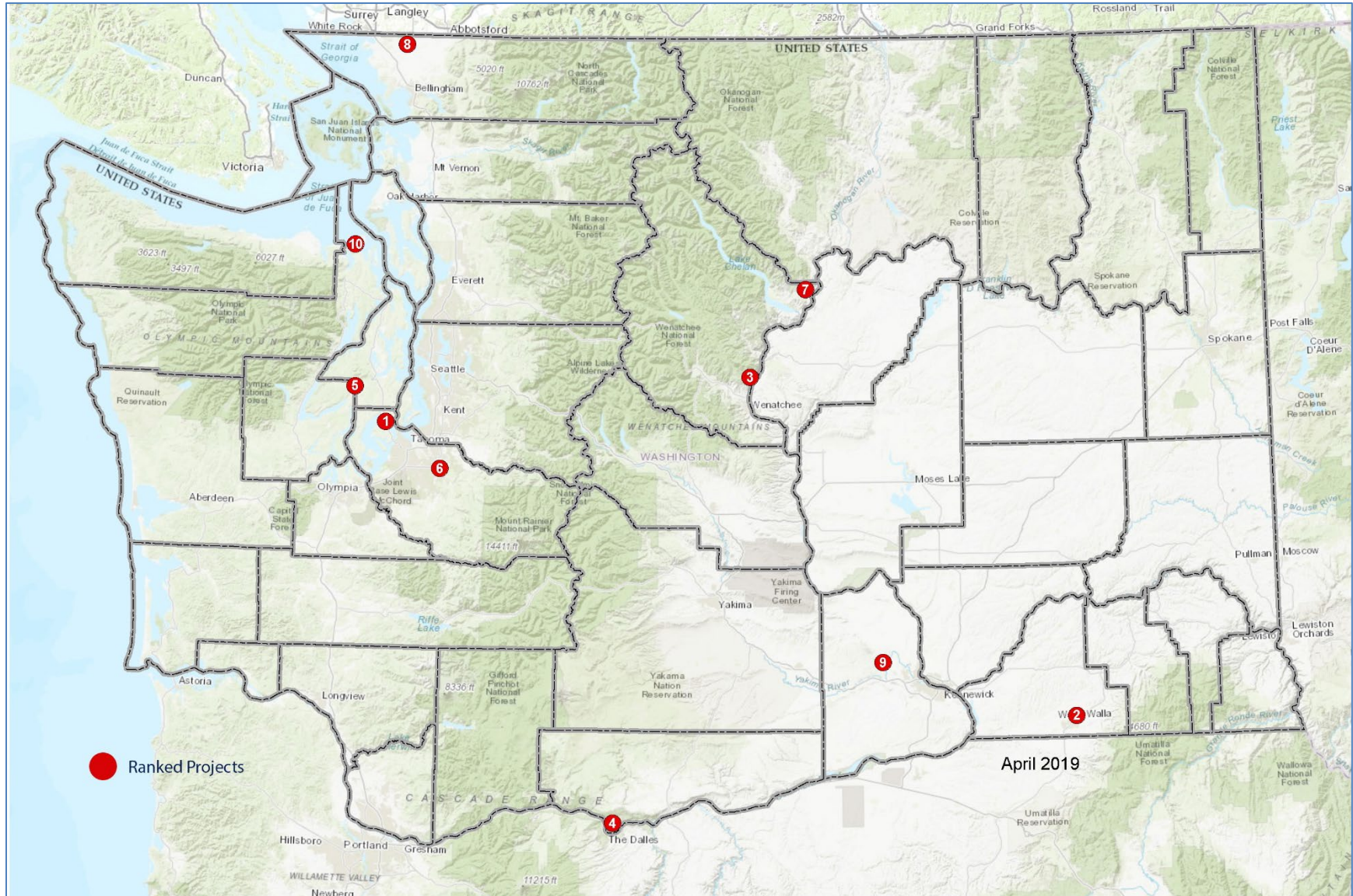
Date:

**Table 1: Firearms and Archery Range Recreation
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2019-2021**

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Total
1	76.67	18-2444D	Noise and Safety Improvements to Rifle and Pistol Building	Gig Harbor Sportsmens Club	\$46,000	\$46,000	\$92,000	\$46,000
2	72.89	18-2315D	Walla Walla Gun Club Covered Pistol and Rimfire Rifle Range	Walla Walla Gun Club	\$150,000	\$330,440	\$480,440	\$196,000
3	72.22	18-2394D	Swakane Canyon Rifle and Pistol Range Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$180,000	\$286,000
4	64.33	18-2389D	Klickitat County Gun Range Phase 2 Upgrades	Klickitat County Public Works	\$150,000	\$350,000	\$500,000	\$436,000
5	60.44	18-2297D	KBH Archers Clubhouse and Field Course Upgrades	KBH Archers Incorporated	\$41,027	\$41,028	\$82,055	\$477,027
6	59.89	18-2541D	Skookum Archers Range Improvements	Skookum Archers	\$99,024	\$99,024	\$198,048	\$576,051
7	56.44	18-2353D	North Cascades Sportsman's Rifle and Pistol Range Restrooms	North Cascades Sportsman's Club	\$41,200	\$41,419	\$82,619	\$617,251
8	54.78	18-2300D	Lynden Shotgun Club Goes Wireless	Lynden Shotgun Club	\$22,850	\$22,850	\$45,700	\$640,101
8	54.33	18-2262D	Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility Access	Tri-Cities Shooting Association	\$72,525	\$76,525	\$149,050	\$712,626
10	53.44	18-2561D	Jefferson County Sportsmen's Club Noise Safety Improvements	Jefferson County Sportsmen's Association	\$150,000	\$86,000	\$236,000	\$862,626
					\$862,626	\$1,183,286	\$2,045,912	

¹Project Types: D=Development

State Map for Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Projects, 2019-21



*Projects are in ranked order as shown in Table 1

Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program Evaluation Criteria Summary

FARR Evaluation Criteria Summary				
Scored by	Question	Item	Maximum Points	Project Type
Advisory Committee	1	Need	15	All
Advisory Committee	2	Immediacy of threat	10	Acquisition
			5	Combination
Advisory Committee	3	Project design	10	Development
			5	Combination
Advisory Committee	4	Impact on surrounding property*	5	All
Advisory Committee	5	Expansion or renovation	5	All
Advisory Committee	6	Health and safety	15	All
Advisory Committee	7	Budget development	5	All
Advisory Committee	8	Mandated uses	10	All
Advisory Committee	9	Public access	15	All
Advisory Committee	10	Need satisfaction	10	All
RCO Staff	11	Applicant match	5	All
RCO Staff	12	Growth Management Act compliance	0	All
Total Points Possible for Existing Sites=95				All
Total Points Possible for New Sites=90				All

**Applies only to existing sites and projects certified as qualifying for a higher funding level. See Question 3.*

Scoring Criteria, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program

Scored by the Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** To what extent is this type of FARR project needed in the service area?
2. **Threat Immediacy (acquisition and combination projects only).** To what degree will implementation of this proposal reduce the impact of a threat to the future availability of this opportunity?
3. **Project Design (development and combination projects only).** Has this project been designed in a high quality manner?
4. **Impact on Surrounding Property.** How much will this project protect surrounding properties from noise impacts and/or projectile hazards originating from the range?
5. **Expansion and renovation.** Will the project effectively expand or renovate an existing facility?
6. **Health and Safety.** How much will this project improve the health and safety qualities of the range property?¹ How does your project address the safety guidelines required in the FARR program?
7. **Budget Development.** Is the budget appropriately developed with sufficient detail to ensure a successful, cost-effective project?
8. **Mandated Uses.** To what extent will the applicant make the facility available for range purposes to license holders, hunter or firearm education, or law enforcement?²
9. **Public Access.** To what extent will the FARR facility be available for access by the general public?³
10. **Need Satisfaction.** How well does this project satisfy the need identified in Question 1?

Scored by RCO Staff

11. **Applicant Match.** What is the value of applicant contributions to this project?
12. **Growth Management Act Compliance.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)?⁴

¹Revised Code of Washington 79A.25.720

²Revised Code of Washington 79A.25.720, paragraph 3.

³Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Policy

⁴Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250 (Growth Management Act-preference required.)

Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Evaluation Scoring Summary 2019-2021

Rank	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
	Project Name	Need	Immediacy of Threat	Project Design	Impact on Surrounding Property	Expansion/Renovation	Health and Safety	Budget Development	Mandated Uses	Public Access	Need Satisfaction	Applicant Match	Growth Management Act Preference	
1	Noise and Safety Improvements to Rifle and Pistol Building	14.00		8.00	3.33	4.22	12.67	3.67	8.89	13.00	8.89	0.00	0.00	76.67
2	Walla Walla Gun Club Covered Pistol and Rimfire Rifle Range	11.00		8.44		4.22	10.33	4.22	9.11	12.67	8.89	4.00	0.00	72.89
3	Swakane Canyon Rifle and Pistol Range Development	13.00		8.44		3.78	13.00	4.11	7.56	13.00	9.33	0.00	0.00	72.22
4	Klickitat County Gun Range Phase 2 Upgrades	9.33		8.00		4.11	9.67	3.22	7.78	10.67	7.56	4.00	0.00	64.33
5	KBH Archers Clubhouse and Field Course Upgrades	10.00		6.89		3.22	9.00	3.56	7.56	12.67	7.56	0.00	0.00	60.44
6	Skookum Archers Range Improvements	9.00		6.00		3.22	9.67	3.44	8.00	13.00	7.56	0.00	0.00	59.89
7	North Cascades Sportsman's Rifle and Pistol Range Restrooms	8.00		7.11		3.00	7.67	3.67	7.33	12.00	6.67	1.00	0.00	56.44
8	Lynden Shotgun Club Goes Wireless	9.33		6.89		3.22	6.33	4.00	6.89	9.67	8.44	0.00	0.00	54.78
9	Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility Access	8.33		8.22		2.78	5.67	4.00	7.56	10.33	6.44	1.00	0.00	54.33
10	Jefferson County Sportsmen's Club Noise Safety Improvements	7.67		5.56	2.67	3.00	8.00	2.78	6.89	11.33	5.56	0.00	0.00	53.44

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-10; RCO staff scores Questions 11-12

FARR Grants (2019-2021) In Ranked Order

Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club **Grant Requested: \$46,000** **Making Noise and Safety Improvements at a Gig Harbor Shooting Range**

The Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club in Gig Harbor will use this grant to make safety improvements in the club house. The club will build additional space for training classes, staging, and a waiting area. The club also will install noise reduction improvements and a monitor system. The Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club will contribute \$46,000 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2444)

Walla Walla Gun Club **Grant Requested: \$150,000** **Building a Firing Range**

The Walla Walla Gun Club will use this grant to design and build a covered pistol and small bore rifle range off Middle Waitsburg Road, in Walla Walla County. This range will be used by the public, law enforcement, schools, 4H clubs, and youth organizations of all types for a myriad of small bore rifle and pistol practice and competitions. The Walla Walla Gun Club will contribute \$330,440 in a private grant and donations of cash, equipment, and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2315)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Requested: \$90,000** **Developing the Swakane Canyon Rifle and Pistol Range**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to build separate 100- and 200-yard ranges with safety berms, backstops, and designated firing lines in Swakane Canyon, in the Swakane Unit of the Chelan Wildlife Area, in Chelan County. The department also will install signs and a parking lot. The department will contribute \$90,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2394)

Klickitat County **Grant Requested: \$150,000** **Upgrading a Gun Range**

The Klickitat County Public Works Department will use this grant to finish the second phase of a 300-yard range in Dallesport. The County will add overhead baffles, finish berms, and complete the shooting line. The County already has finished the 100-yard range. The range will fill a long awaited need for public shooting and law enforcement shooting facilities. Klickitat County will contribute \$350,000 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2389)

KBH Archers **Grant Requested: \$41,027** **Replacing a Roof and Wetland Boardwalk**

KBH Archers will use this grant to replace the clubhouse roof and a wetlands boardwalk at its Kitsap County range. Crews will replace the 25-year-old failing roof with a steel roof. They also will replace 170 feet of raised walkway that runs through the wetlands of the archery field course, limiting the environmental impact of foot traffic in this area. KBH Archers will contribute \$41,028 in donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2297)

Skookum Archers Improving the Skookum Archers Range

Grant Requested: \$99,024

The Skookum Archers will use this grant to improve the grounds at its Puyallup range in Pierce County. The club will move the septic system, build a maintenance building, install permanent mounted target stops, landscape, and improve the irrigation. The Skookum Archers will contribute \$99,024. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2541)

North Cascades Sportsman's Club Installing Range Restrooms

Grant Requested: \$41,200

The North Cascades Sportsman's Club will use this grant to build a restroom at its Washington Creek Road range, in Chelan County. The restroom will be a prefabricated, concrete-style, heated building with both men's and women's facilities. The North Cascades Sportsman's Club will contribute \$41,419 in cash and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2353)

Lynden Shotgun Club Buying Wireless Equipment

Grant Requested: \$22,850

The Lynden Shotgun Club will use this grant to make improvements for people with disabilities and buy equipment for its Whatcom County shooting range. The club will create one parking stall for people with disabilities and an accessible route to the clubhouse and firing line. The club also will buy skeet and trap machines, a wireless voice call system, and wireless control devices. Finally, the club will install solar and battery support systems for the machine operations, and weather protection for target throwing equipment. The Lynden Shotgun Club will contribute \$22,850 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2300)

Tri-Cities Shooting Association

Grant Requested: \$72,525

Paving the Entry Road to the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Range

The Tri Cities Shooting Association will use this grant to pave about more than three-quarter mile of road used to access the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility, which is 8 miles north of Benton City, in Benton County. The current entry road is very steep and rough, which limits access. Paving the road will allow more members of the range and public to get to the range more easily and will reduce maintenance costs. The Tri-Cities Shooting Association will contribute \$76,525 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2262)

Jefferson County Sportsmen's Association Improving Safety and Decreasing Noise

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Jefferson County Sportsmen's Association will use this grant to control noise and improve safety at its 100-yard range, in Port Townsend, in Jefferson County. The association will install two noise abatement and errant projectile control stalls, lighting, and fans. The club is used by more than 3,000 visitors a year and hosts special events that attract many from well outside the Olympic Peninsula area. The Jefferson County Sportsmen's Association will contribute \$86,000 in donations of cash, equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2561)

Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

Any public correspondence (letters of support and opposition) received by RCO during the grant evaluation process will be listed here. No letters have been received as of the writing of this memo.

FARR letters will be in numerical order.

No letters received at this time

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: April 24, 2019

Title: PRISM Update and Application Demonstration

Prepared By: Scott Chapman

Summary

RCO staff will update board members about PRISM enhancements and demonstrate how applicants submit applications using the PRISM on line features. The demonstration is a result of board members wanting to understand what our applicants experience in using PRISM to apply for grant funding.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Decision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Direction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Briefing

Background

RCO began the design and development of our Project Management Information System (PRISM) in 1994. The need to develop a data system was driven by the increased number of projects funded by the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, which started in 1990.

Over the past twenty-five years, RCO has continued to invest in PRISM by continually developing new features and updating the application to take advantage of the latest technology.

Here is a list of some of PRISM's key features and functions:

- Applications
- Progress Reports
- Electronic Bill
- Project Final Reports
- Program Scheduling
- Attachments
- PRISM Project Search
- Activity Alerts
- Project Progress Reports
- Worksite and Property Mapping
- PRISM Project Snapshot
- Organization and Person Mgmt.
- Salmon Project Ranked Lists
- Financial Module Allotments
- Compliance Inspection Module
- Mass Mailing
- Review and Evaluation Scheduling
- Admin. Console to manage security
- Lookup Table Maintenance Tool
- Interfaces to other systems

PRISM Enhancements in Progress

Custom Agreements Development – This feature will allow RCO to customize Project Agreements based on Program and Project Type, Organization Table, Federal Funding Requirements, and other criteria.

Evaluation Scoring Module Development – This feature will allow our project evaluators to score projects using new PRISM screens versus using Excel Spreadsheets.

Review and Evaluation Module Design – This feature will complement the new scoring module and will allow staff manage the review and evaluation process, track comments and recommendations from reviewers/evaluations, and automate the notifications sent to sponsors for meeting schedules and results.

Cultural Resource Module Design – The goal of this project is to design a new module that will help RCO manage its growing Cultural Resource Review and Approval responsibilities. This design project will document requirements, pathways, workflows, and GIS mapping needs.

Application Demonstration

Sponsors have been submitting electronic application using PRISM since 1996. Over the last 23 years, we have made significant enhancements to PRISM to make it easier for sponsors to submit applications. With that said, submitting a complete and quality application to RCO does require sponsors' to spend considerable time completing application elements outside of PRISM – descriptions, costs estimates, maps, plans, visuals, PowerPoint presentations, and preparing evaluation question responses.

Today I plan to show you how the City of Olympia would use PRISM to enter and submit an application to RCO for a Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Local Parks category project.

Attachments

Attachment A - Key PRISM Development Milestones

Year	Key PRISM Milestone
1994	Worked with DNR staff to complete a review of IAC requirements – RCWs, WACs, OFM Policies, financial requirements, and IAC Board policies and requirements.
1994	<p>First data model developed – focused on financial management.</p> <p>Scott recommended to management that system did nothing to help Grant Managers with increasing workload. Started developing requirements and designing screens for paperless applications. Scott developed the design for PRISM Project Browse screen.</p>
1995	<p>Completed System requirements and started initial development --VB6</p> <p>System allow sponsors to submit applications electronically and allowed RCO staff to process and review applications, Track project evaluation results, manage program schedules, prepare and manage project agreements, manage reimbursements to sponsors, interface with Washington’s Agency Financial Reporting System (AFRS) for processing invoices, manage funding allotments, and track long-term compliance of project responsibilities.</p>
1997	Updated to allow sponsors to connect via the internet versus dialup
1998 - 2003	<p>Project Workbench – Applications, Agreements, Amendments, Mapping, Org/Person, Mailings, Inspections, Billings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fiscal Workbench – Allotments, Line of OCoding, Transactions, Evaluation, Group status, Group Line of OCoding, Logons, - Group Workbench – Meeting scheduler, Policy Manuals, Reassignment, Copy Project, Project Results, Maintain elements and items - Inventory Workbench – Boating Inventory, Site facilities, Compliance Area, Organization Planning - Monitoring Workbench – Salmon Project Implementation monitoring, ten categories, random selection of projects, detail monitoring data
2003	<p>GIS integration – started mapping location of worksites with a point. Map Objects.</p> <p>Developed Boating Map and Project Maps using Map Objects that display the location and provided basic information about projects funded by RCO and the location and condition of boat ramps and other boating facilities.</p>
2004	Electronic Attachments – added the ability for sponsors to attach required application materials to their applications and projects in PRISM.
2005	Acquisition Inventory Workbench – State Land Acquisitions as part of Public Lands Inventory Project (PLIP).
2005	Completed investment plan to upgrade PRISM at an estimated cost of \$2.5 million. Scott hired as PRISM Manager.

Year	Key PRISM Milestone
2007	<p>Implemented PRISM 2007 that included significant changes in database design and underlying technology. Upgraded from VB6 to .NET Framework WinForms.</p> <p>Changed project structure to include Project, Worksite, and Property levels (Required for PCSRF reporting). Enhanced the system reporting capability by adding over 100 new reports. PRISM 2007 has about 300 "canned" reports using Crystal Reports.</p>
	Upgraded mapping technology to allow mapping of point, lines, and polygons. Started mapping property polygons for lands acquired with grant funds. ArcGIS 9.2.
	Developed a Security Administrator Console to allow the system administrator to manage all elements of security. Creating logons, creating system roles, assigning roles to users, managing field status, and Role Based Security. This new feature was used to setup the 93 programs managed by RCO.
2009	Implemented Progress Reports Module
2010	Implemented PCSRF Phase II performance Metrics – Changed from Elements and Items to Categories, Worktypes, and Metrics. This change impacted all grant programs and not just the Salmon grant program.
	Designated allotments, developed to help manage PSAR funding.
	Implemented a Lookup Table Maintenance tool to allow staff to manage all lookup tables in the PRISM database. Tool includes a generated validation table that identifies errors or missing data in the lookup tables.
2011	Migrated key Fiscal Workbench functions from old technology (VB6) to PRISM 2007.
	Complete Habitat Work Schedule (HWS) Interface and developed Project Search, Project Snapshot, and Shared Attachments, Submit from HWS to PRISM.
	Implemented Final Reports in PRISM 2007
	Sponsor Invoice Documentation requirements
	Developed Project Alerts – Progress and Final Reports
	Allowed sponsors to Reset their system passwords.
2012	Spatially enabled the PRISM Database and updated to Standard Query Language (SQL) Server 2008 with Spatial data type. NOTE: This broke PRISM 2007 Mapping Tools. Unable to map points, lines, or polygons.
	Puget Sound Partnership used PRISM to interface with OFM Reporting Performance Management database for their performance application "Report Card"

Year	Key PRISM Milestone
	Puget Sound Partnership developed the Project Atlas, which links Prism projects located in Puget Sound to Vital Signs.
	Completed the migration of the remaining elements on the old Group and Fiscal Workbenches (except evaluations) – Copy Project, Person reassignment, Purge Projects,
2013	Enhanced the HWS Interface to report performance metrics back to HWS from PRISM. While PRISM web service include Application, Proposed, and Final Metrics, HWS only consumed Final Metrics once the project was Completed.
	Implemented PRISM Online – web based application. Sponsors could now submit applications to RCO without needing to download PRISM 2007. Simplified the applications screens and created an application wizard to help sponsors complete their applications. Developed a mapping tool using ArcGIS 10.1 to allow sponsors to map the location of the project worksites.
2014	Implemented Compliance Workbench – allow staff to complete compliance area inspections versus just project inspections.
2015	Electronic Billings – March 2105. Sponsor could submit electronic billings to RCO using PRISM Online.
	Salmon Ranked List – August 2015. Lead Entities could submit their Ranked Lists (Habitat Work Schedule) to RCO for the SRFB funding approval.
	Contact Reassignment – New tool to allow RCO staff to add, remove, or reassign grant managers and sponsor contacts on projects. Project Agreement – Developed new Project Agreements for Office, Boards, and USFS. Office of Management and Budget (OMNI) MNI Circular – Implemented several changes to meet the Federal OMNI circular requirements, including the additional of Indirect Costs.
2016	Updated project statuses; tracking Outdoor Grant Manager at every status change; added Contact grid in SWB Project Brief page; added Check Application on App Review page;
	SQL Server Reporting Services Reporting – Implemented SSRS reporting in SWB so we could develop reports that could be run from PRISM Online and did not require PRISM 2007 Implementations.
	Notifications – Implemented processes and tables in PRISM to allow PRISM staff to create new notifications and modify the notification wording as needed. As of March 2019, we have 47 notifications.

Year	Key PRISM Milestone
2017	February - Migrated Progress and Final Reports to PRISM Online. Sponsors no longer need to use PRISM 2007 for any required grant requirement.
	June - New Property Module – detail, metrics, costs, attachments
	June - New Attachment features implemented on Progress Report, Final Report, Property Module, and Project Attachments.
	June – Updated the HWS web service to report Progress Metrics back to HWS.
	August – New Worksite Property Mapping Tool. Sponsor and staff can use PRISM to map the properties acquired by selecting parcels, uploading shape file, or drawing a polygon.
2018	<p>November - Developed a new Home page in PRISM Online.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove the map - Added function buttons for sponsors - Added a project search screen similar to the browse screen in PRISM 2007 - Add the alerts screen. - Allow access to Narrative screen from PRISM Online.
2019	January – Major enhancement to the Compliance Workbench (CWB). New Compliance Portfolio dashboard that shows every worksite that has ongoing compliance responsibilities. New Inspections dashboard.
2019	March – Phase II enhancements to Compliance WorkbenchWB. Implemented new dashboards for Issues/Tasks, Compliance Areas, and developed a new Compliance Portfolio Map.

RECREATION CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD Pre-Agenda Quick Notes

April 24, 2019

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24		
Item	Formal Action	Follow-up Action
OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS		No follow-up action requested.
Opening and Call to Order	Decision	No follow-up action requested.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum B. Review and Approval of Agenda C. Remarks of the Chair 	<p><u>April 2019 Meeting Agenda</u> Moved by: Member Deller Seconded by: Member Shiosaki Decision: Approved</p>	
1. Consent Agenda	Decision	No follow-up action requested.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Board Meeting Minutes: January 22, 2019 B. Time Extensions <u>Resolution 2019-07</u> C. LWCF Resolution <u>Resolution 2019-11</u> 	<p><u>Resolution 2019-07</u> <u>Resolution 2019-11</u> Moved by: Member Herzog Seconded by: Member Ready Decision: Approved</p>	
2. Director's Report	Briefing	No follow-up action requested.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Director's Report B. Legislative, Budget and Policy Update C. Grant Management Report D. Performance Report (<i>written only</i>) E. Fiscal Report (<i>written only</i>) 		
3. State Agency Partner Reports	Briefing	No follow-up action requested.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor's Outdoor Recreation Policy Advisor, Jon Snyder 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Natural Resources, Brock Milliern • State Parks and Recreation Commission, Peter Herzog • Department of Fish and Wildlife, Joe Stohr 		
General Public Comment	No public comment	
BOARD BUSINESS: DIRECTION		
4. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP): Proposed Urban Wildlife Habitat Policy and Criteria Changes	Direction	Bring this item back to the board in June
5. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP): Proposed Riparian Protection Criteria Changes This category could creep towards salmon, orca or other areas.	Direction	Bring this item back to the board in June
6. Climate Policy Framework	Direction	Bring this item back to the retreat in June
BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS		
7. Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance Study	Briefing	Bring this item back to the board pending timeline
8. Communications Update	Briefing	Have regular check-ins on this once a year

BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS		
<p>9. Boating Facilities Program (BFP) Approval of Ranked Lists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Agency Category <u>Resolution 2019-08</u> • State Agency Category <u>Resolution 2019-09</u> 	<p>Decision</p> <p><u>Resolution 2018-08</u> Moved by: Member Ready Seconded by: Member Gardow Decision: Approved</p> <p><u>Resolution 2018-09</u> Moved by: Member Shiosaki Seconded by: Member Deller Decision: Approved</p>	<p>No follow-up action requested.</p>
<p>10. Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Approval of Ranked List <u>Resolution 2019-10</u></p>	<p>Decision</p> <p><u>Resolution 2018-10</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Herzog Decision: Approved</p>	<p>No follow-up action requested.</p>
BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS		
<p>11. PRISM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Updates B. Demonstration of How Grant Applications Are Submitted 	<p>Briefing</p>	<p>No follow-up action requested.</p>
<p>12. Projects of Note</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olympia, West Bay Woods Acquisition, RCO #16-1620A • Olympia, Kaiser Woods Acquisition, RCO #16-1384A 	<p>Briefing</p>	<p>No follow-up action requested.</p>

ADJOURN 4:47

Next Meeting:

June 26, 2019, Board Retreat, TBD, Olympia, WA

June 27, 2019, Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: April 24, 2019

Place: Natural Resources Building, Olympia Campus, First Floor, Room 172, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA 98501

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members:

Ted Willhite, Chair	Seattle	Kathryn Gardow	Seattle
Mike Deller	Mukilteo	Brock Milliern	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Michael Shiosaki	Seattle	Peter Herzog	Designee, Washington State Parks
Danica Ready	Winthrop	Joe Stohr	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife

This summary is intended to be used with the materials provided in advance of the meeting. The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) retains a recording as the formal record of the meeting.

Opening and Call to Order

Chair Willhite began the meeting at 9:00 am with a greeting to the board, to staff members and to the members of the public seated in the gallery. Remarks of the Chair were as follows:

- Quorum determined
- Washington State Senate confirmed RCFB board members, Theodore Willhite and Michael Shiosaki. As a result, all board members have been confirmed by the senate.
- Retreat scheduled in June, further discussion to come.

April 2019 Meeting Agenda

Moved by: Member Deller

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: Approved

Item 1: Consent Agenda

The board approved the January 2019 meeting minutes, and the following agenda items:

Eight Time Extensions

- Port of Skamania, Stevenson Shoreline Restoration-Recreation Enhancement, RCO #14-1125C
- Town of Winthrop, Susie Stephens Trail Phase 2, RCO #12-1122C
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Reardon Audubon Lake 2014, RCO #14-1097C

- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Simco 2014, RCO #14-1096A
- Washington Department of Natural Resources, Dabob Natural Area Shoreline, RCO #14-1249A
- Washington Department of Natural Resources, Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve, RCO #14-1254A
- Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Inholdings and Adjacent Properties, RCO #14-1681A
- Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Larabee - Clayton Beach Railway Overpass, RCO #14-1555D

Partner Recognition:

Special recognition was given to all members of the Washington State Congressional delegation for their work on reauthorizing the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Resolution 2019-11 was approved as part of the consent agenda.

[Resolution 2019-07](#)

[Resolution 2019-11](#)

Moved by: Member Herzog

Seconded by: Member Ready

Decision: [Approved](#)

Management Reports

Item 2: Director's Report

Director's Report: Director Cottingham gave the following updates:

New Staff:

- Policy Planner: Katie Pruitt
- GSRO Executive Coordinator: Erik Neatherlin
- GRSO Program Coordinator: Jeannie Abbott

Discussion highlights included information for the board retreat in June:

- Hired facilitator Susan Gulick
- Found inspirational speaker, Glenn Nelson
- Developing a list of policies and other topics for work in the next biennium, survey forthcoming

Other items of note

- Director Cottingham gave a presentation to governor Inslee on our efforts to more equitably distribute our recreation funds. She received positive feedback on the good work we do around SCORP and Match Reduction.
- Communications Team: Website redesign is currently underway

Legislative Update:

Wendy Brown, RCO Policy Director, gave a 2019 legislative update to the board.

Bills covered:

- SSB 5552, Adds language to WWRP to include considerations of 'habitat benefits for the feeding, nesting, and reproduction of all pollinators, including honey bees.'
- HB 1028, Authorizes rural counties to allow wheeled all-terrain vehicle use.
- HB 1846, Technical correction to NOVA statute governing disposition of fees. No change in amounts.

Legislative Budget Table:

Program	2017-19 Funding	2019-21 Request	2019-21 Governor	2019-21 House	2019-21 Senate
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	\$80,000,000	\$130,000,000	\$115,000,000	\$80,000,000*	\$90,000,000
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$12,285,000	\$6,600,000	\$4,963,000	\$4,306,000	\$6,600,000
Youth Athletics Facilities	\$4,077,000	\$12,000,000	\$5,035,000	\$12,000,000	\$5,035,000
Boating Facilities Program	\$17,175,000	\$17,872,000	\$17,872,000	\$17,872,000	\$17,872,000
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities	\$13,195,000	\$13,911,000	\$11,411,000	\$11,411,000	\$11,411,000
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program	\$813,000	\$735,000	\$735,000	\$735,000	\$735,000
Community Forest Pilot	-	-	-	-	\$6,096,000
Federal Funds					
Boating Infrastructure Grants	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000
Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$4,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000
Recreational Trails Program	\$4,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000

Grant Management Report: Marguerite Austin, Recreation and Conservation Grants Section Manager, provided an update on the work her staff completed since the last meeting.

Highlights included:

- We have received nearly 600 grant requests for the last two grant cycles. Will be wrapping up the lists on May 15, to present funding request to the board at the June meeting.
- Karl Jacobs and the team were commended getting the 2020 SCORP & match reduction updates to our policies to the public. The team gave two presentations at a recent trails conference and four more presentations are planned for this year.
- Received nearly \$700,000 for Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG)
- We received Federal BIG program kudos for the work we do from the US Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Working with Federal partners on a national panel to review and edit the Land and Water Conservation Fund manuals
- 15 applications have been received so far for the supplemental grant round authorized by the board for the Farm and Forest Accounts. \$2-4 million to fund these projects.

Performance Report: Brent Hedden, Performance and Data Analyst, provided his annual report to the board.

Fiscal Report: Mark Jarasitis, Chief Financial Officer, provided his annual report to the board.

Item 3: State Agency Partner Report

Governor's Outdoor Office: Jon Snyder, the Governor's Recreation Policy Advisor, gave an update to the board. Mr. Snyder first addressed a question from Member Deller earlier in the morning. Commenting that the Palouse to Cascade project was pulled out by the legislature. Mr. Snyder then gave a brief update on the 2019-2021 budget, stating that overall it looks good with some minor concerns around school bond funding. A special highlight was given to the [Great American Rail to Trail Conservancy](#). The goal is to have a non-motorized trail from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. The trail is about 50% completed and the conservancy is ready to start advertising the historic work towards the completion of the trail. May 8, 2019 a celebration of the Rail to Trail in Cle Elum, Washington.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR): Member Brock Milliern, gave an update to the board on legislation that impacted DNR as well as a budget update. Currently the House budget looks better for DNR than the Senate budget.

State Parks and Recreation Commission: Member Peter Herzog, gave an update to the board gave an update to the board on the current budget outlook, overall this looks really good for State Parks. Member Herzog also talked about some program highlights within state parks.

Department of Fish and Wildlife: Member Joe Stohr, updated the board on WDFW's continuing budget deficit. Overall, none of the current options proposed provide WDFW with their full budget ask but the House Budget looks better for WDFW than the Senate Budget. Member Stohr also briefly spoke to Orca legislation and funding.

General Public Comment:

Christine Mahler, Executive Director of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition (WWRC) expressed her appreciation to the agency partners for all the budget updates and comments around legislative session. WWRC has worked hard to provide advocacy support for the Governor's Budget. We asked for \$133 million, and knew that we would perhaps receive less.

BREAK 10:50-11:02

Item 4: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Urban Wildlife Habitat

Ben Donatelle, Policy Specialist, briefed the board on current policy changes to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Urban Wildlife Habitat Category. Mr. Donatelle covered the committee work since the January meeting to ensure that the work is aligned with the previous board direction. The work group had four meetings and worked extensively on vision and policy goals to articulate the intent and future direction of this program.

Recommended Options (preliminary)

- No change - maintain current state
- Eliminate 40/40/20 split – all projects compete head-to-head
- Change 40/40/20 split to some other ratio, distribution
- Implement grant maximum of \$1,000,000 (or other amount)

Next Steps

- Finalize recommendations
- Project Evaluation Criteria
- Incorporating underserved communities
- Final recommendations presented to the board in October

Item 5: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Riparian Protection

Ben Donatelle, Policy Specialist, briefed the board on current policy changes to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Riparian Protection Category. The work group went through a process of visioning and assessment to ensure that projects were meeting the intent of the category. The results of that visioning and policy review are to maintain the programmatic focus of the Riparian Protection category.

Recommended Options (preliminary)

- Maintain programmatic distinction
- Assess the need for targeted outreach to recruit quality projects from underrepresented parts of the state
- Maintain no maximum grant limit
- Simplify the Evaluation Criteria

Next Steps

- Continue simplifying and streamlining the evaluation criteria
- Final recommendations presented to the board in October

LUNCH 11:58 – 1:00

Item 6: Climate Change Strategy

Ben Donatelle, Policy Specialist, briefed the board on current work around Climate Change. In January 2018, the Board directed RCO staff to develop an approach to addressing climate change in the Urban Wildlife Habitat and the Riparian Protection categories, which may include a scored evaluation question to help the board understand a proposed project's resiliency to climate change impacts or ability to mitigate the causes of climate change.

Project Mission

- Develop an approach to address climate change in the Urban Wildlife Habitat and Riparian Protection categories of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Project Challenge

- How might a changing climate impact projects the board funds; and
- Can the board direct funding to future projects that increase landscape or community resiliency and mitigate climate stressors better than they already do?

Desired Outcomes, Policies that lead to:

- Increased community resiliency and/or carbon sequestration capacity; and
- Encourage designs for passive recreation and ones that are resilient to climatic changes and/or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Next Steps

- Pending the board's discussion and direction, RCO policy staff will prioritize items from the framework above and continue developing implementation options for the board to consider.
- Return with an update to board at a future meeting

Item 7: Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance Study

Adam Cole, Policy Specialist, gave a briefing on the Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance Study. The study is looking to identify recreational assets of statewide significance, gaps in recreational assets, and investment strategies and options for addressing those gaps.

Scope of Study

- **Foundational Assets.** These are assets with amenities that support the most popular recreational activities in the state.
- **Exceptional Assets.** These are assets that represent the most popular, destination-oriented, and iconic places in the state to recreate.

Next Steps

- Advisory Committee will produce draft recommendations and evaluate public comments
- Advisory Committee will identify recommendations and strategies to fill the gaps in foundational and exceptional assets
- Continue to engage stakeholders and refine the study and recommendations
- Report will be part of the June board retreat for discussion

Item 8: Communications Plan Update

Susan Zemek, Communications Director, gave a quick report to the board on the progress and implementation of the communications plan for 2019. Goals are below:

- **Goal 1:** Build support for RCO's missions of salmon recovery, land conservation, recreation, and invasive species management.

To accomplish this goal, communications staff focused on creating a compelling story about the benefit of investing in RCO's programs and then worked with the media and partners to help spread those messages.

- **Goal 2:** Ensure RCO maintains its brand as an exemplary, ethical, and open grant agency.

For this goal, communications staff focused on keeping partners informed of RCO activities and involved in its issues.

- **Goal 3:** Strengthen RCO's internal communications.

For this goal, communications staff worked to ensure RCO staff had the tools they needed to be good communicators and ambassadors of RCO.

Looking Ahead

- In the middle for redesigning agency's Web Site
- Development of a new communications plan

BREAK 3:00-3:15

Item 9: Boating Facilities Program (BFP) Approval of Ranked Lists

Kyle Guzlas, Grant Services Section Manager, gave a quick overview of the program and made a recommendation to the board for the approval of the ranked lists. Members of the Boating Programs Advisory Committee (committee) evaluated twelve state agency projects and eighteen local agency projects, requesting \$16,099,119 in grant funds. The committee used board-adopted criteria to review and rank projects in an open public meeting in Olympia on March 26-27, 2019.

Staff Recommendations

- Approval of Resolution #2019-08
Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects, 2019-21
- Approval of Resolution #2019-09
Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects, 2019-21

Resolution 2019-08

Moved by: Member Ready
Seconded by: Member Gardow
Decision: Approved

Resolution 2019-09

Moved by: Member Shiosaki
Seconded by: Member Deller
Decision: Approved

Item 10: Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Approval of Ranked List

Karl Jacobs, Senior Grants Manager, gave a quick overview of the program and made a recommendation to the board for the approval of the FARR ranked lists. The FARR Advisory Committee evaluated ten FARR projects, requesting \$862,626, on March 27, in an open public meeting in Olympia, Washington. They used board-adopted evaluation criteria to review and rank projects.

Staff Recommendation

- Approval of Resolution #2019-10
Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2019-21

Resolution 2019-10

Moved by: Member Milliern
Seconded by: Member Herzog
Decision: Approved

Item 11: PRISM Update and Application Demonstration

Scott Chapman, PRISM Systems Administrator, gave an update to board members about PRISM enhancements and demonstrated how applicants submit applications using the PRISM on line features. RCO began the design and development of our Project Management Information System (PRISM) in 1994. The need to develop a data system was driven by the increased number of projects funded by the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, which started in 1990. Over the past twenty-five years, RCO has continued to invest in PRISM by continually developing new features and updating the application to take advantage of the latest technology.

New PRISM Enhancements:

- Compliance Workbench Upgrades - March
- Custom Project Agreements – June
- Project Scoring Module – July

Future Enhancements:

- Custom Agreements Development – This feature will allow RCO to customize Project Agreements based on Program and Project Type, Organization Table, Federal Funding Requirements, and other criteria.
- Evaluation Scoring Module Development – This feature will allow our project evaluators to score projects using new PRISM screens versus using Excel Spreadsheets.
- Review and Evaluation Module Design – This feature will complement the new scoring module and will allow staff manage the review and evaluation process, track comments and recommendations from reviewers/evaluations, and automate the notifications sent to sponsors for meeting schedules and results.
- Cultural Resource Module Design – The goal of this project is to design a new module that will help RCO manage its growing Cultural Resource Review and Approval responsibilities. This design project will document requirements, pathways, workflows, and GIS mapping needs.

Item 12: Projects of Note

Beth Auerbach, Recreation Conservation Outdoor Grants Manager, presented two feature projects from the City of Olympia.

- Olympia, West Bay Woods Acquisition, RCO #16-1620A
- Olympia, Kaiser Woods Acquisition, RCO #16-1384A

Closing:

Chair Willhite adjourned the meeting at 4:47 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled June 26 & 27, 2019 – Olympia, WA

Approved by:

TWD Willhite

Theodore Willhite, Chair

June 27, 2019

Date

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