

Proposed Agenda May 10-11, 2017



Regular Meeting

South Puget Sound Community College, Lacey Campus, Building 1, Room 194

4220 6th Avenue SE, Lacey, WA, 98503 ([Area/Campus Map](#))

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: Wendy Loosle, Board Liaison, at the address above or to wendy.loosle@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 21, 2017 to ensure availability.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

9:00 a.m. Call to Order

Chair Willhite

- Roll Call and Determination of Quorum
 - Review and Approval of Agenda
 - Remarks of the Chair
 - Honoring former Governor Mike Lowry
- Resolution 2017-16

9:10 a.m. 1. Consent Agenda *(Decision)*

Chair Willhite

- A. Board Meeting Minutes
 - February 8, 2017
 - B. Time Extension Requests
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Fudge Point Acquisition (RCO # [12-1095A](#))
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Cape Disappointment Seaview Dunes Phase 2 (RCO # [12-1530A](#))
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2012 (RCO # [12-1246A](#))
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Olallie Trail Development 2012 (RCO # [12-1248D](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oak Creek Forest Restoration (RCO # [12-1226R](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Heart of the Cascades 2012 (RCO # [12-1132A](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Rock Creek/Simcoe 2012 (RCO # [12-1137A](#))
 - Washington Department of Natural Resources, Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve (RCO # [12-1176A](#))
 - Chelan County, Stemlit Basin Phase 2 (RCO # [12-1510A](#))
 - Tacoma Metropolitan Park District, Point Defiance Missing Link (RCO # [12-1549D](#))
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- Columbia Land Trust, Trout Lake Valley Phase 2 (RCO # [12-1463A](#))
- Capitol Land Trust, Oakland Bay Estuary Conservation Phase 3 (RCO # [12-1590](#))

Resolution 2017-03

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- 9:15 a.m. 2. Director's Report** (*Briefing*)
- Director's Report
 - Legislative, Budget, and Policy Update
 - Grant Management Report
 - Fiscal Report (*written only*)
 - Performance Report (*written only*)
- Kaleen Cottingham
Wendy Brown
Marguerite Austin*
-

- 10:00 a.m. 3. State Agency Partner Reports**
- Governor's Outdoor Recreation Policy Advisor
 - Department of Natural Resources
 - State Parks and Recreation Commission
 - Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Jon Snyder
Brock Milliern
Peter Herzog
Joe Stohr*
-

10:25 a.m. General Public Comment for issues not identified as agenda items. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.

10:30 a.m. BREAK

BOARD BUSINESS: REQUEST FOR DIRECTION

- 10:45 a.m. 4. State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Work Session**
- A. Case Study: Seattle's Park Plan Gap Analysis
 - B. Preview Resident Survey Results
 - C. Preview Draft Findings
 - D. Discuss Potential Plan Recommendations and State Unifying Strategy Action Items
 - E. Next Steps on SCORP
- Michael Shiosaki
Leslie Connelly*
- Public comment:** Please limit comments to three minutes.
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12:30 p.m. LUNCH

BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS ON GRANT AWARDS

- 1:30 p.m. 5. Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Program:
Review and Approve Ranked List for the 2017-19 Biennium**
- Rory Calhoun*
- Resolution 2017-04
- Public comment:** Please limit comments to three minutes.
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- 1:50 p.m. 6. Boating Facilities Program (BFP):
Review and Approve Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium**
- Kyle Guzlas*
- A. State Agencies Resolution 2017-05
 - B. Local Agencies Resolution 2017-06
- Public comment:** Please limit comments to three minutes.
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- 2:10 p.m. 7. Recreational Trails Program (RTP):** *Ben Donatelle*
Review and Approve Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium
A. Overview of the program and categories
B. General [Resolution 2017-07](#)
C. Education [Resolution 2017-08](#)
Public comment: Please limit comments to three minutes.
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- 2:40 p.m. 8. Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program:** *Dan Haws*
Review and Approve Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium
A. Overview of the program and categories
B. Education and Enforcement Category [Resolution 2017-09](#)
C. Nonhighway Road Category [Resolution 2017-10](#)
D. Nonmotorized Category [Resolution 2017-11](#)
E. Off-road Vehicle Category [Resolution 2017-12](#)
Public comment: Please limit comments to three minutes.
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3:10 p.m. BREAK

BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFING

- 3:25 p.m. 9. Updates on Trails Database** *Scott Robinson and
Scot McQueen*
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BOARD BUSINESS: DECISION

- 4:00 p.m. 10. Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Public Hearing** *Leslie Connelly*
[Resolution 2017-13](#)
Public comment: Please limit comments to three minutes.
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5:00 p.m. ADJOURN FOR THE DAY

THURSDAY, MAY 11

OPENING

- 9:00 a.m. Call to Order** *Chair Willhite*
• Roll Call and Determination of Quorum
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BOARD BUSINESS: REQUESTS FOR DIRECTION

- 9:05 a.m. 11. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Match Waiver Policy** *Adam Cole*
10:30 a.m. 12. Control and Tenure Policy on State-Owned Aquatic Lands *Adam Cole*
11:00 a.m. BREAK
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- 11:15 a.m. 13. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Policy and Evaluation Criteria Changes for the Habitat Conservation Account (Phase III)** *Leslie Connelly*
- A. Evaluation Criteria and Other Policy Changes
- Multiple Benefits
 - Other Evaluation Criteria Changes
- B. Acquisition and Development Project Policies:
- Maximum Cost for Noxious Weed Control
 - Eligible Costs for Stewardship Plans
 - Restricting Public Access
 - Purchase of Land from a Land Trust (New Policy)

Public comment: Please limit comments to three minutes.

12:15 p.m. LUNCH

BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS & DECISIONS

- 1:15 p.m. 14. Compliance Issues**
- A. Agricultural Use on State Parks Managed Trails (*Decision**) *Myra Barker and State Parks Staff*
Resolution 2017-14
- B. Follow-up on State Parks' Recreation Concession Areas (RCA) *Nikki Fields*
(*Briefing*)
- C. Policy Waiver Request: City of Mercer Island (RCO #[89-018D](#), #[91-120D](#)) *Myra Barker*
(*Decision**)
Resolution 2017-15
- D. Conversion Briefing: Spokane City Parks & Recreation, Central City Riverfront 72 *Kyle Guzlas*
(RCO #[72-040A](#)) (*Briefing*)

***Public comment** will occur prior to each decision. Please limit comments to three minutes.

3:15 p.m. BREAK

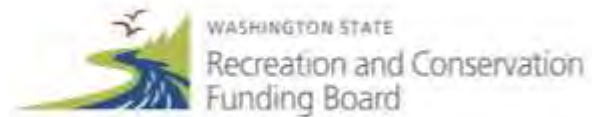
- 3:30 p.m. 15. Planning for the Future**
- A. Survey Responses from RCO Grant Applicants and Advisory Committees *Brent Hedden*
- B. Policy Work Plan Preview *Wendy Brown*
- C. July Board Retreat Agenda Preview *Scott Robinson*
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4:55 p.m. Comments for the Good of the Order *Open*

5:00 p.m. ADJOURN

Proposed Retreat Agenda

July 12, 2017



Special Meeting

Educational Service District 113, Mason Room, 6005 Tyee Drive SW, Tumwater, WA 98512

RETREAT GOALS

- Understand how the various programs administered by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) have evolved and continue to evolve as we prepare to lead into the future.
 - Discuss the impacts of changes at the federal and state levels on the land acquisitions funded by the board.
 - Consider whether or not changes should be made to the various board-funded trail programs.
 - Preview Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) agency and program priorities for the upcoming biennium.
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ORDER OF BUSINESS

9:00 a.m. Opening

- Welcome and introductions *Chair Willhite*
 - Review retreat objectives *Chair Willhite and Kaleen Cottingham*
 - Review agenda *Jim Reid, Facilitator*
 - Agree on ground rules and decision-making framework *Everyone*
-

9:15 a.m. 1. Getting to Know Each Other Better

- Why were you interested in serving on this board and what particular satisfaction have you derived from it? *Everyone*
 - What has the board accomplished over the past biennium? *Scott Robinson*
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9:45 a.m. 2. History of the Board and its Various Grant Programs

- What is the board's purpose and mission? *Kaleen Cottingham*
 - What is the board's role and how has it evolved? *Everyone*
 - How have the various grant programs evolved? Why? *Kaleen Cottingham*
 - What is the intent of involving other state agencies on the board?
 - What do the state agency members of the board need from the citizen members of the board? And vice versa? *State Agency Board Members*
 - What might be impacts of the 2016 statutory amendments? Will they result in more or different kinds of applications? *Wendy Brown*
 - Are there any questions, comments, or suggestions? *Everyone*
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11:15 a.m. BREAK

11:30 a.m. 3. Land Acquisitions in the Time of Change

- Why all the angst about land acquisitions? *Panel Discussion*
 - What issues are often mentioned as causing angst about land acquisitions?
 - At the regional and local levels, what are sources of support and opposition to acquisitions?
 - What role can the board play to address the concerns?
 - Board discussion
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12:30 p.m. LUNCH (provided for board members)

1:00 p.m. 4. A “Deep Dive” Into the Survey Findings

At the May 2017 meeting the board discussed the survey findings from a high level. As we examine the survey findings more closely, what do they appear to portend for our programs, policies and processes in the near future?

*Scott Robinson,
Marguerite Austin, and
Everyone*

2:30 p.m. BREAK

2:45 p.m. 5. State Trail Designations and Other Trail Issues

- How might the board initiate efforts to recruit and designate “state trails”?
- Does the increased gas tax funding in the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) program and the resulting flood of proposals indicate needed changes to the NOVA program, such as changes to the criteria for eligibility, or grant requests, or the applications process?
- Trails data: Next steps

*Darrell Jennings
Kaleen Cottingham,
Darrell Jennings, and
Everyone*

*Scott Robinson
and Everyone*

4:00 p.m. 6. Policy Priorities for the 2017-2019 Biennium

- What are RCO’s proposed policy priorities for the next biennium, particularly the priorities for recreation and conservation?
- What are the interests we are working to advance and the outcomes we seek?
- What will be the Board’s role in advancing these priorities?
- Questions, comments, and discussion

Wendy Brown

Everyone

4:40 p.m. Summary and Next Steps

4:50 p.m. Closing

- What are we taking away from today’s meeting?

Everyone

5:00 p.m. ADJOURN FOR THE DAY

We will convene for the second day of the meeting in the Natural Resources Building, Room 172, in Olympia at 9:00 a.m.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017
Title: Time Extension Requests
Prepared By: Recreation and Conservation Section 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.

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: 2017-03

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;
- Revised milestones or timeline submitted for completion of the project; and

- The effect the extension will have on re-appropriation request levels for RCO.

Plan Link

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

Summary of Public Comment

At the time of the writing of this memo, no public comment on the projects has been received.

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

Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Project number/type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request
<u>12-1095</u> Acquisition	Fudge Point Acquisition	WWRP - State Parks	\$182,335 (8%)	6/30/2017	9 months 3/30/2018	<p>State Parks acquired 140.7 acres of waterfront property on Harstine Island in Mason County as part of this project. They purchased another 40 acres with a 2014 WWRP grant. They have now completed 99 percent of the land acquisition at Fudge Point per their adopted long-term boundary.</p> <p>There are two very small properties remaining and State Parks is requesting additional time to utilize the remaining grant funds to complete the acquisitions.</p> <p>State Parks will initiate the appraisal and appraisal review process, complete surveys, and request Mason County approval of a boundary line adjustment. Upon completion, State Parks will have secured all property within their long-term boundary at Fudge Point.</p>
<u>12-1530</u> Acquisition	Cape Disappointment Seaview Dunes Phase 2	WWRP - State Parks	\$485,632 (65%)	6/30/2017	9 months 3/30/2018	<p>State Parks has purchased 1 of 7 properties in the original scope of work as an addition to Seaview Dunes. The purchase of 11.7 acres represents 55 percent of the proposed acquisition included in this project.</p> <p>Unfortunately, several property owners proved to be unwilling sellers. There is one property remaining where the seller has recently indicated a willingness to sell.</p> <p>State Parks is requesting additional time to use some of the remaining grant funds to complete this acquisition.</p>

Project number/type	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request
12-1246 Acquisition	Inholdings and Adjacent Properties	WWRP - State Parks	\$200,043 (20%)	6/30/2017	12 months 6/30/2018	<p>State Parks has purchased 3 properties, as additions to Grayland Beach State Park, Dash Point State Park, and Cama Beach State Park. The properties total 34.56 acres. State Parks is requesting additional time to use grant funds for asbestos abatement, clearing and demolition on the Parpart property at Grayland Beach State Park. Also, they will use funds to purchase Tekoa Trailhead properties at Iron Horse State Park.</p> <p>The delay is due in part to the extent of work that was involved with the Parpart acquisition, including a very lengthy relocation process. State Parks staff also made an effort to acquire three other properties, however, none of the owners were willing to sell at the appraised value.</p>
12-1248 Development	Olallie Trail Development	WWRP – State Parks	586,385 (50%)	6/30/2017	3 months 9/30/2017	<p>State Parks is developing over 8 miles of mountain bike trail in Olallie State Park just outside of North Bend. The trail gains over 2,700 feet of elevation up the forested slopes of Mount Washington, and connects the John Wayne Pioneer Trail to about 20 miles of trail planned on Forest Service land. State Parks has made significant progress – as of last fall approximately 80% of the trail was completed.</p> <p>Due to the significant snow fall last winter and recent heavy rain, completion of construction has been delayed.</p> <p>State Parks is requesting a three month extension so they can finish construction this summer.</p>

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Project number/type	Project name	Grant programs	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request
<u>12-1226</u> Restoration	Oak Creek Forest Restoration	WWRP – State Lands Restoration	\$99,481 (26%)	6/30/2017	6 months 12/31/2017	<p>To date, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has completed 800 acres of pre-commercial thinning and 411 acres of commercial thinning.</p> <p>WDFW was not able to complete prescribed burns as planned due to burn bans in place over the last couple of years. Additional time will allow WDFW two seasons (spring and fall) to potentially burn another 300 acres. Of this, 100 acres is best burned in the fall due to physical access to the site and its location on the landscape. If burn bans are in place this fall, then WDFW has plans to supplant the burning with additional pre-commercial thinning.</p>
<u>12-1132</u> Acquisition	Heart of the Cascades	WWRP – Critical Habitat	\$27,318 (1.8%)	6/30/2017	1 month 7/31/2017	<p>The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has purchased 3,512 acres of forestland, shrub-steppe, and aquatic habitat which provides critical connectivity within the central Cascades landscape.</p> <p>Due to staff departures and delayed rehiring of staff, the post-closing incidentals on the acquired property have been delayed. New staff has been hired and are working diligently to complete the post-closing work.</p> <p>This time extension will provide the additional time needed to complete the remaining post-closing work on the acquired property, which includes enhancing barriers, noxious weed control, signage, and cultural resources.</p>

Project number/type	Project name	Grant programs	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request
<u>12-1137</u> Acquisition	Rock Creek/Simcoe	WWRP – Critical Habitat	\$415,177 (41.5%)	6/30/2017	3 months 10/1/2017	<p>The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has purchased 919.4 acres of upland forest, shrub-steppe, and riparian habitat along Rock Creek and its tributaries, providing connectivity from the Columbia River to the Cascade Mountains. Since land values came in significantly lower than expected, the remaining funds will be used to acquire an additional 640 acres from the same landowner, who is a willing and eager seller.</p> <p>This time extension will provide the additional time needed to purchase the property and finish the necessary post-closing incidentals, which includes noxious weed control, a boundary survey, cultural resources, and the installation of fencing and signage.</p>

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Project number/type	Project name	Grant programs	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request
<u>12-1176</u> Acquisition	Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve	WWRP- Riparian Protection	\$689,857 (71%)	6/30/17	4 months 10/31/17	<p>The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) worked diligently to purchase 3 properties at Kennedy Creek.</p> <p>Unfortunately, all three of these acquisitions were unsuccessful. This effort took a significant amount of time and left a large amount of grant funding still available. DNR has identified two additional landowners with key property along Kennedy Creek who have indicated a strong interest in selling to DNR.</p> <p>Additional time will allow DNR to pursue these two properties and complete complex survey work. These acquisitions further DNR's long-term goal of purchasing the majority of Kennedy Creek between Summit Lake and Totten Inlet. This land is an important fishery for salmon.</p>

Chelan County and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as Co-Sponsor

Project number/type	Project name	Grant programs	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request
12-1510 Acquisition	Stemilt Basin Phase 2	WWRP – Urban Wildlife Habitat	\$173,889 (14%)	6/30/2017	1 month 7/31/2017	Chelan County has purchased 4,010 acres of upland forest and riparian habitat on the east slope of the Cascade Mountains in Chelan County as part of a larger natural resource planning effort in the Stemilt and Squilchuck watersheds. Since land values came in lower than expected, the Department of Fish and Wildlife (co-sponsor) will use the remaining funds, along with federal funds, to acquire an additional 1,280 acres of school trust land from the Department of Natural Resources, who is a willing and eager seller. This time extension will provide the additional time needed to close the property acquisition and finish the remaining post-closing incidentals, which includes installation of gates and signage.

Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma

Project number/type	Project name	Grant programs	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request
12-1549 Development	Point Defiance Missing Link	Land and Water Conservation Fund WWRP - Trails	\$1,020,158 (34%)	6/30/2017	9 months 3/30/2018	<p>The Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma is using grant funds to develop the final half-mile link in a 7-mile trail network. The trail connects downtown Tacoma to Point Defiance Park. This portion of the trail will be 20 feet wide and will include a pedestrian bridge over Pearl Street.</p> <p>As of March 2017, all design and permitting work has concluded, construction has begun, and the contractors have completed 50 percent of the work. This is a very complex project. Design and permitting took longer than originally anticipated, largely because of cultural resources requirements. Due to this setback, construction was not far enough along to complete necessary plantings in the fall of 2016. This time extension allows Tacoma Metropolitan Park District time to complete construction and plant vegetation this fall, when survivability rates are highest.</p>

Columbia Land Trust

Project number/type	Project name	Grant programs	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request
12-1463 Acquisition	Trout Lake Valley Phase 2	WWRP – Farmland Preservation	\$1,096,494 (98%)	6/30/2017	6 months 12/31/2017	<p>The Columbia Land Trust (CLT) has completed appraisals, survey work, and has entered into a purchase and sale agreement with the landowner contingent upon approval of an easement by RCO.</p> <p>RCO has reviewed the draft easement and it is currently under review by CLT's funding partner, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). In addition, CLT has completed the baseline inventory for the property. Progress to date has been slow due to the federal NRCS process, primarily for review of appraisal documents and the draft easement.</p> <p>Additional time will allow CLT to realize funding from NRCS to match the WWRP grant. CLT hopes to close the easement transaction this summer.</p>

Capitol Land Trust

Project number/type	Project name	Grant programs	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request
12-1590 Acquisition, Restoration	Oakland Bay Estuary Conservation Phase 3	WWRP – Riparian Protection	\$101,534 (5.6%)	06/30/17	5 months (11/30/17)	<p>Capitol Land Trust (CapLT) received a grant to acquire and restore 74 acres of estuary, near shore, and riparian habitat on Oakland Bay in Mason County.</p> <p>All work is complete and there are remaining grant funds. CapLT is requesting a time extension to facilitate establishment of the newly planted vegetation on the property. CapLT will water and maintain planted vegetation throughout the summer of 2017. CapLT will supplement existing plantings in fall 2017 with a selection of plants capable of supplying nutrients to the soil to enhance the growth of the priority plant species.</p>

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Director's Report

Summary

This memo outlines key agency activities and happenings.

Board Action Requested:

This item will be a:

- ☐ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☒ Briefing

In this Report:

- Agency update
- Legislative, budget, and policy update
- Grant management report
- Fiscal report
- Performance report

Agency Update

Whatcom County Funding Forum

RCO Grant Manager Kyle Guzlas gave a presentation on RCO's grant programs at the Whatcom County Funding Forum on March 20. The Port of Bellingham's Economic Development Division coordinated the event, which was designed to provide small municipalities throughout Whatcom County with information on agencies that offer grants or loans for infrastructure development. In addition to RCO, other grant providers included: the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development, the Department of Commerce, the Community Economic Revitalization Board, and the Department of Health. About thirty participated in the event, including staff from congressional offices. The event also included small funding review sessions for individual organizations.

Northwest Land Camp

RCO Grant Managers Alison Greene and Kay Caromile were speakers and panelists at the Northwest Land Camp. The Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts, Washington Association of Land Trusts, and the National Land Trust Alliance offer this biennial conference for their NW land trust members (and partners) as an opportunity for networking and training. Alison and Kay represented RCO in a joint session with staff from Oregon's Watershed Enhancement Board. The session focused on partnerships between state conservation funders and land trusts and how they can work together to implement their state's conservation strategies.

Leadership Training at RCO

In February, staff were offered the opportunity to attend conflict resolution and communications training given by Jim Reid of the Falconer Group. This all-day workshop explored and discussed the fundamental principles of conflict resolution, effective communications, and practical tools and techniques for effectively resolving disputes. Staff were led through discussions, taught techniques, and applied tools through role-playing exercises. This was session three of a multiphase training opportunity offered to all RCO staff.

JLARC Study of Habitat and Recreation Lands and Regulations

The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) continues its research into habitat and recreation lands and regulations in a study that will assess whether the State is maintaining or improving recreational access proportional to the state's population growth since 1990. At JLARC staff request, Director Cottingham met with them to discuss how recreation lands are categorized and whether there are specific performance measures or goals for the amount of recreation land needed. A preliminary report is due December 2017.

Match Waiver Work Group Meets

In March, staff facilitated the fourth meeting of our Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Match Waiver Work Group. This group was formed in response to changes in state law that allow local agencies applying for WWRP grants in the Local Parks, Trails, and Water Access Categories to provide less match if their projects serve "underserved populations" or "communities in need." The group provided feedback on staff policy proposals defining those two population groups and a tiered approach to reducing match for those applicants. The March meeting was to prepare for the group's meeting in Ellensburg in June, which is the last feedback session before staff must present policy recommendations to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board in July. Staff is hoping to have a policy adopted by the board at its October meeting and to begin reducing/waiving match for grants submitted in 2018. The work group is made up of local and tribal elected officials, parks and recreation professionals, and private sector experts. This work group is advisory in nature and will continue to assist us in policy development, which might be expanded to other grant programs at the discretion of the board.

RCO Employee Changes

Nikki Gaddis is the new administrative assistant for the Recreation and Conservation Grants Section and the board. Nikki provided administrative support for the board's February meeting, however, she officially became an RCO employee on March 1, 2017. Nikki comes from the Department of Ecology's Information Technology office where she worked as a secretary for more than ninety employees. One of Nikki's passions is embracing Lean and Kaizen principles to realize efficiencies at work.

Meetings with Partners

- **Washington State Conservation Commission (SCC):** Director Cottingham met with the Mark Clark, director of the SCC, and some of his key staff to discuss topics of mutual interest, primarily the latest legislative budget developments. They also discussed upcoming changes to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program involving land trusts and multiple benefits of conservation lands.
- **Washington Parks and Recreation Association (WRPA):** Director Cottingham met with key stakeholders from WRPA to discuss legislative budget developments and the timing of RCO grant deadlines. Preparing applications for all the grant programs at the same time is an issue affecting some association members. RCO will discuss this with WRPA members at their upcoming

conference. They also discussed RCO's work on the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program's match policy and the state comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (SCORP).

- **Boating:** Director Cottingham delivered two speeches in February centered around boating. At the Seattle Boat Show, she presented at the Washington Boating Alliance's annual Leadership Summit, discussing RCO boating grant programs and projects that are in the queue for funding this year. She also spoke at the leadership conference hosted by the Olympia Yacht Club and Recreational Boating Association of Washington. The conference was meant to educate legislators about the value of boating in Washington.

Update on Sister Boards

Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)

The SRFB met March 1-2 in Olympia. The meeting focused on the continued facilitation of the Salmon Recovery Network and funding projects in intensively monitored watersheds in 2017. The board discussed options for moving forward with the communication plan and fundraising strategy, as well as the recommendations for revising the regional allocation formula. Staff shared salmon-focused communication tools, including a hatchery video produced by Wahoo Films and the recently updated [State of Salmon](#) website. The next meeting will be the planning retreat held May 24 in Olympia.

Washington Invasive Species Council (WISC)

February was especially busy for WISC because Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed February 26 to March 5 as Washington [Invasive Species Awareness Week](#). In addition to sharing ways people can help stop invasive species, events were held statewide to raise awareness. At the state level, representatives from the Oregon and Washington Invasive Species Councils met together in Stevenson in March to discuss collaboration on invasive insect issues. WISC, in partnership with the Snoqualmie Tribe Environmental and Natural Resources Department, is hosting a regional [Scotch Broom Ecology and Management Symposium](#) at the Snoqualmie Casino in May. This free event will feature leaders in research and management from across the Pacific Northwest region. WISC also hired an intern for the Invasive Species Council effort. Kenzi Smith is a student at the Evergreen State College in the Master of Environmental Studies Program. In addition to providing support to various ongoing council initiatives (such as the "[Don't Let it Loose](#)" educational campaign), Kenzi will support several federally-funded invasive species projects. WISC will meet next on June 8 in Arlington.

Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group

The lands group met in February to discuss agency legislative updates, the status of the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update, and development of a unified plan for land acquisition by Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources, and the State Parks and Recreation Commission. Staff from the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee also presented the status of its study on Meeting Outcomes of Habitat and Recreation Acquisitions and Regulations.

Legislative, Budget, and Policy Update

Board Members Have Confirmation Hearings

Seven members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board had their Senate confirmation hearings this legislative session. As of the writing of this memo, three of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board members have been confirmed – Ted Willhite, Mike Deller, and Danica Ready. The other four board members who had confirmation hearings have been moved to the confirmation calendar, which is one step away from official confirmation. These members are Michael Shiosaki and Kathryn Gardow from the RCFB, and Nancy Biery and Phil Rockefeller from the

Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The remaining board members will continue to serve on their board as per normal, and Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff will work on getting their confirmations through next session.

Senate and House Budget Proposals

As of the writing of this memo, the Senate and House proposed budgets have been released. RCO's operating budget remains at the carry-forward level, with additional funding provided for two salmon-related projects and a few minor exceptions of budget 'puts and takes.'

Here are the details of the RCO capital budget as proposed by both the Senate and House:

Program	RCO Request	Senate	House
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	\$120,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000
RCO Recreation Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)	\$6,600,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
ALEA – Bonds Backfill	\$0	\$0	\$0
Youth Athletics Facilities	\$12,000,000	\$4,077,000	\$4,077,000
Boating Facilities Program	\$17,166,000	\$17,175,000	\$17,175,000
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities	\$13,194,000	\$13,195,000	\$13,195,000
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program	\$813,000	\$813,000	\$813,000
Salmon Recovery (SRFB-State)	\$55,300,000	\$20,000,000	\$19,711,000
Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration	\$80,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$40,000,000
Estuary and Salmon Restoration	\$20,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$8,000,000
Family Forest and Fish Passage Program	\$10,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Fish Barrier Removal Board Grants	\$51,400,000	\$19,747,000	\$19,747,000
Coastal Restoration Grants	\$12,500,000	\$12,500,000	\$10,000,000
Boating Infrastructure Grants	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000
Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
Recreational Trails Program	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Salmon Recovery - Federal	\$50,000,000	\$50,000,000	\$50,000,000
Update to the Public Lands Inventory (one-time)	\$250,000	\$230,000	\$230,000
Total	\$460,446,000	\$274,937,000	\$280,148,000

Details related to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board that were called out specifically in the budgets include the following provisos:

- Both Budgets: In the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) section, there is a proviso to allow RCO to begin funding projects in the WWRP Forestland Preservation category immediately after we submit the prioritized list of projects to OFM on or before November 1, 2017, rather than waiting for direction from the legislature in the 2018 supplemental budget. However, in the House budget, the funds for the Forestland Preservation category will not be appropriated until the 2018 supplemental budget.
- House: Two projects are identified for available "returned funds" in the RCO Recreation Grant program – the Willows Road Regional Trail Connection (\$1,100,000) and Wilburton Trestle Section of the Eastside Rail Corridor (\$500,000).
- House: In the Boating Facilities Program, \$220,000 is provided solely for the Port of Garfield for the central ferry boat launch.

The biggest difference in the two budgets for RCO is in the treatment of the WWRP LEAP list. The Senate's proposal removes three projects from the WWRP lists [Mt. View Dairy (FP), Iron Horse Tekoa Trestle Decking and Railing (SP), and Iron Horse Malden to Rosalia Trail Development (SP)], but otherwise funds the program according to the statutory funding formula. The House list, however removes all fee-simple acquisition projects in Republican districts and allocates funding among the three accounts in a way that is contrary to the statute (RCW 79A.15.050). Rather than the statutory 45-45-10 percent distribution, the House budget distributes the appropriation as 23 (HCA) – 63 (ORA) – 14 (FFA) percent. In order to do so, the House budget includes a provision in Section 7027 to disregard the RCW for the next two years. Included on the House WWRP list are the removal of the Iron Horse Tekoa Trestle and the Iron Horse Malden to Rosalia State Park Trail projects.

Other budget items of note include:

- In the Senate operating budget, \$1 million is appropriated in the State Parks budget for the No Child Left Inside grant program; in the House operating budget, \$2 million is appropriated.
- There is language in both budgets that allows landowners adjacent to the John Wayne Trail to use motorized vehicles on the trail adjacent to their property.

Sine die, the last day of the regular session, is April 23. The expectation is that the Legislature will not be finished by then, and the Governor will call them back for a special session. In addition to completing and passing the final budget, the Senate may also move some additional confirmations as well as revenue bills.

Grant Management Report

Forestland Preservation Grant Program Launched

RCO Grants Manager Kim Sellers hosted an online application webinar to kick off the first grants cycle for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program's Forestland Preservation Category. This category provides money to acquire and preserve opportunities for timber production. Cities, counties, nonprofit nature conservancies, and the Washington State Conservation Commission may request up to \$350,000 in grant funds to protect timberland or forestland. Applications are due May 2. Nearly 70 individuals or organizations tuned in to the webinar to hear about this new funding opportunity. The Legislature will approve funding for forestland projects as part of the 2017-19 capital budget. Staff will update the board on the number of applications submitted at the May board meeting.

RCO is Accepting BIG Applications

RCO is accepting grant applications for the federal Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) program for Tier 2 projects. BIG provides funding to develop and renovate public boating facilities targeting recreational boats 26 feet and larger. In 2017, RCO will accept applications for Tier 2 projects only, where the grant amount requested must range from \$200,001 to \$1,440,645. Applications are due July 5. Tier 2 projects will compete nationwide for about \$9 million.

Grant Applications

RCO has wrapped up evaluations for the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation, Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, and the Recreational Trail Programs. Four advisory committees evaluated 240 projects requesting \$41.8 million in grant funds. The board will approve the ranked lists during the May 10-11 meeting and will award grants in July following legislative approval of the state capital budget.

Lean Efforts

Darrell Jennings, Lorinda Anderson, Scott Chapman, Ben Donatelle, Kyle Guzlas, and Gerald Seed are working with Arianna Wood, Senior Lean Consultant from the Department of Enterprises Services, to map out the grant application review and evaluation process for Recreation and Conservation Funding Board grants. Using Lean principles, the mapping allows staff to assess the current process and develop recommendations and an action plan for process improvements. The recommendations will include a proposal for developing a tool that advisory committee members and staff can use for electronic scoring of grant applications. Governor's Executive Order 13-04 directs agencies to develop strategic improvement plans to implement the goals of the Results Washington initiative which includes "effective, efficient and accountable government." We expect electronic scoring have a significant impact on the time put into scoring and tabulating the results after evaluation.

Project Administration

Staff administer outdoor recreation and habitat conservation projects as summarized in the table below. "Active" projects are under agreement and are in the implementation phase. "Director Approved" projects 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 projects under agreement.

Program	Active Projects	Board Funded Projects	Director Approved Projects	Total Funded Projects
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)	13	0	0	13
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	24	0	3	27
Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)	6	0	0	6
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR)	5	0	0	5
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	7	0	0	7
Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)	112	0	0	112
Recreation & Conservation Office Recreation Grants (RRG)	59	0	1	60
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	46	0	0	46
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)	116	0	1	117
Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF)	24	0	1	25
Total	412	0	6	418

Viewing Closed Projects

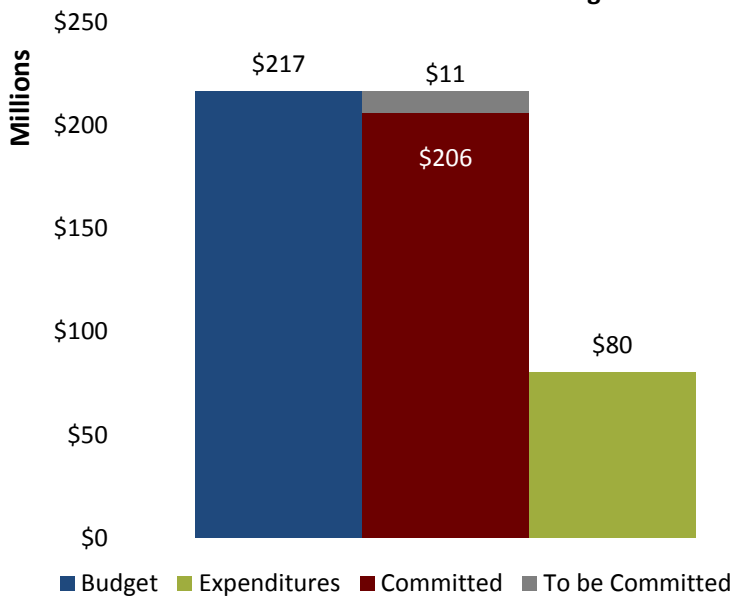
Attachment A lists projects that closed between January 1, 2017 and March 31, 2017. Click on the project number to view the project description, grant funds awarded, and other information (e.g., photos, maps, reports, etc.)

Fiscal Report

For July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2017, actuals through March 31, 2017 (Fiscal Month 21). Percentage of biennium reported: 87.5 percent. The "Budget" column shows the state appropriations and any received federal awards.

Grant Program	BUDGET New and Re-appropriations 2015-2017	COMMITTED Dollars	TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES		
			% of Budget	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% Expended of Committed
Grant Programs							
ALEA	\$10,014,000	\$9,687,263	97%	\$326,737	3%	\$3,882,806	40%
BFP	\$19,108,000	\$18,379,163	96%	\$728,837	4%	\$4,946,709	27%
BIG	\$1,996,860	\$1,996,860	100%	\$0	0%	\$295,834	15%
FARR	\$895,000	\$740,944	83%	\$154,056	17%	\$312,102	42%
LWCF	\$3,968,743	\$3,968,743	100%	\$0	0%	\$897,890	23%
NOVA	\$15,289,708	\$15,165,280	99%	\$124,428	1%	\$5,840,397	39%
RTP	\$6,057,927	\$5,895,928	97%	\$161,999	3%	\$2,944,866	50%
WWRP	\$106,746,111	\$99,422,326	93%	\$7,323,785	7%	\$43,128,207	43%
RRG	\$33,245,160	\$31,609,530	95%	\$1,635,630	5%	\$6,982,485	22%
YAF	\$11,791,595	\$11,699,430	99%	\$92,165	1%	\$5,616,380	48%
Subtotal	\$209,113,104	\$198,565,467	95%	\$10,547,637	5%	\$74,847,676	36%
Administration							
General Operating Funds	\$7,464,926	\$7,464,926	100%	\$0	0%	\$4,763,230	64%
Grand Total	\$216,578,030	\$206,030,393	95%	\$10,547,637	5%	\$80,387,547	37%

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board



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, 2015-June 30, 2017, actuals through February 28, 2016 (Fiscal Month 20).

Percentage of biennium reported: 83.3%.

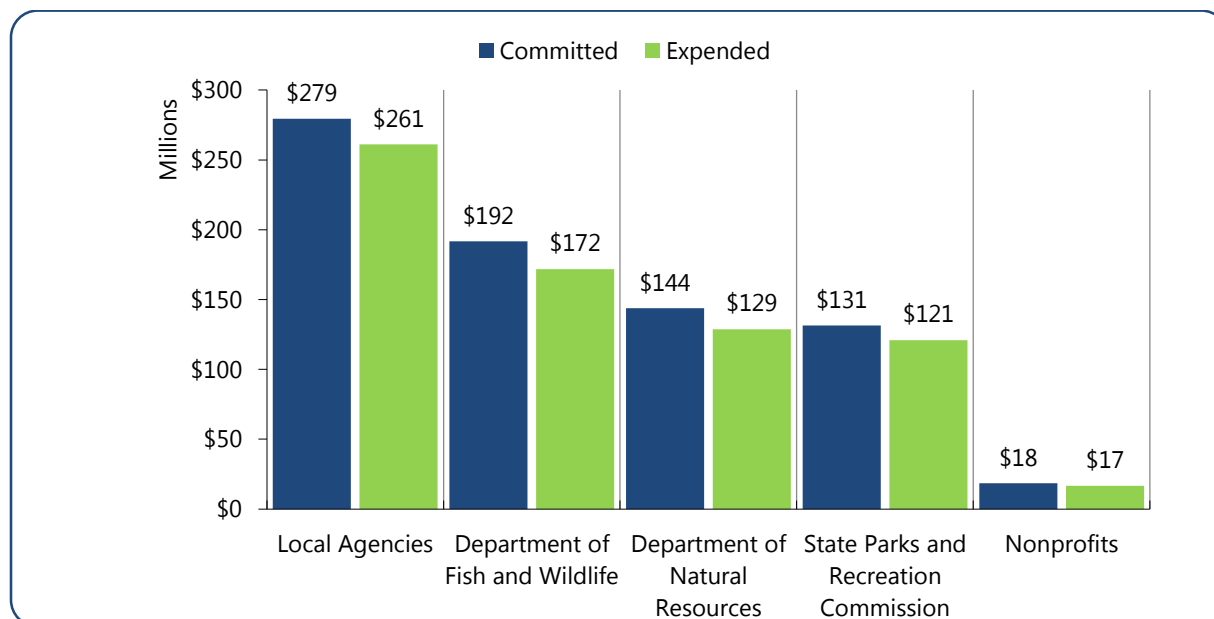
Program	Biennial Forecast	Collections	
	Estimate	Actual	% of Estimate
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	\$17,988,660	\$14,738,263	81.9%
Nonhighway, Off-Road Vehicle Program (NOVA)	\$12,737,364	\$10,395,846	81.6%
Firearms and Archery Range Rec Program (FARR)	\$850,779	\$658,161	77.4%
Total	\$31,576,803	\$25,792,270	81.7%

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 \$3 of each concealed pistol license fee.
- This reflects the most recent revenue forecast of March 2017. The next forecast is due in June 2017.

WWRP Expenditure Rate by Organization (1990-Current)








Agency	Committed	Expenditures	% Expended
Local Agencies	\$279,494,355	\$261,040,067	93%
Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$191,649,266	\$171,802,125	90%
Department of Natural Resources	\$143,738,658	\$128,776,828	90%
State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$131,479,757	\$120,924,803	92%
Nonprofits	\$18,432,013	\$16,660,256	90%
Conservation Commission	\$378,559	\$378,559	100%
Tribes	\$689,411	\$643,054	93%
Other			
Special Projects	\$735,011	\$735,011	100%
Total	\$766,597,030	\$700,960,703	91%



Performance Measures for Fiscal Year 2017

The following performance data are for recreation and conservation projects in fiscal year 2017 (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017). Data are current as of April 5, 2017.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Performance Measures

Measure	Target	Fiscal Year-to-Date	Status	Notes
Percent of Projects Issued Agreement within 120 Days of Board Funding	85-95%	78%		45 agreements for RCFB-funded projects were due to be mailed this fiscal year. Of those, 35 agreements were mailed on time.
Percent of Projects Under Agreement within 180 Days of Board Funding	95%	84%		64 projects were set to come under agreement this fiscal year. Of those, 54 agreements were issued on time.
Percent of Progress Reports Responded to On Time	65-75%	88%		443 progress reports were due so far this fiscal year. Of these, 392 were responded to within 15 days or less.
Percent of Bills Paid within 30 days	100%	100%		640 bills were due this fiscal year, and staff paid all within 30 days.
Percent of Projects Closed on Time	60-70%	56%		There were 48 recreation and conservation projects due to close and 27 closed on time.
Number of Projects in Project Backlog	0	14		Staff continues to work with sponsors to get the proper documentation to close backlog projects.
Number of Compliance Inspections (by Worksite)	No target set	128	N/A	Staff revised the performance query for this measure to count inspections by worksite.
Percent of Project Sponsors Submitting Annual Bill	100%	67%		Of the 296 active recreation and conservation projects required to submit a bill this FY, 199 have done so. The remaining sponsors have until June 30, 2017 to submit a bill.

Attachments

A. Projects Completed and Closed from January 1, 2017 and March 31, 2017

Projects Completed and Closed from January 1, 2017 and March 31, 2017

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
12-1545A	Whirlwind Beach Park Acquisition	Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	01/24/17
14-1086D	South Willapa Bay Access	Pacific County	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	03/02/17
12-1091D	Islands Trailhead Driftboat Access	Spokane County Conservation District	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	03/07/17
14-1523D	Tokeland Marina Transient Float Expansion Phase 2	Port of Willapa Harbor	Boating Infrastructure Grant, Tier 1	03/07/17
14-1105D	Fairhaven Boat Launch Float Replacement	Port of Bellingham	Boating Facilities, Local	02/06/17
11-1117P	Mooring Buoys South Puget Sound Parks	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Boating Facilities, State	03/10/17
14-2101D	Issaquah Sportsmen's Club Sound Abatement	Issaquah Sportsmen's Club	Firearms and Archery Range Recreation	03/29/17
12-1781D	Clubhouse Renovation, Skeet Machines, and Lighting	Lynden Shotgun Club	Firearms and Archery Range Recreation	02/06/17
14-1917A	Waterman Nearshore Acquisition	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	Marine Shoreline Protection	02/06/17
12-1735P	Discovery Bay Trail Connection Planning	Jefferson County	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road	01/09/17
12-1801D	Wild Sky Wilderness Trail Reconstruction	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized	01/24/17
12-1283P	Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trails	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized	02/03/17
14-2124M	Horn Rapids Off-road Vehicle Park Maintenance and Operation	Richland Parks and Recreation	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Off-Road Vehicle	01/06/17
14-1613A	Squire's Landing Park Expansion (Twedt Property)	Kenmore	RCO Recreation Grants, Local Parks	02/10/17
14-1408D	Lake Tye Park Skate Park Improvements	Monroe	RCO Recreation Grants, Local Parks	02/23/17

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
<u>12-1291M</u>	Chelan Uplake Trails 13 &14	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District	Recreational Trails Program, General	01/04/17
<u>12-1474M</u>	Snowmobile Sno-Parks and Trails South Cascades	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Recreational Trails Program, General	02/21/17
<u>12-1482M</u>	Snowmobile Sno-Parks and Trails Okanogan Highlands	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Recreational Trails Program, General	03/13/17
<u>14-1526A</u>	Olma Farmland	Okanogan Land Trust	WWRP Farmland Preservation	03/28/17
<u>14-2178A</u>	Skagit County Farmland	Skagit County	WWRP Farmland Preservation	03/21/17
<u>12-1547D</u>	Rotary Park Redevelopment	Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park and Recreation District	WWRP Local Parks	03/22/17
<u>10-1458A</u>	Dabob Bay Natural Area 2010	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Natural Areas	03/28/17
<u>12-1183A</u>	Washougal Oaks Natural Area 2012	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Natural Areas	03/23/17
<u>08-2187C</u>	Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve 2008	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Riparian Protection	03/28/17
<u>12-1253R</u>	Chehalis River Surge Plain Ecosystem Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Restoration	01/11/17
<u>12-1560R</u>	Kahlotus - Marcellus Natural Area Preserve Shrub Steppe Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Restoration	03/17/17
<u>12-1349R</u>	Klickitat Canyon Natural Resources Conservation Area Forest and Meadow Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Restoration	03/10/17
<u>12-1534R</u>	Washougal Oaks Natural Area Restoration Phase 3	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Restoration	02/16/17
<u>12-1119R</u>	Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area Wetland and Shoreline Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Restoration	01/06/17
<u>12-1420D</u>	Beacon Rock Day Use Picnic Shelter	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	WWRP State Parks	02/27/17

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
14-1486A	Westport Park Connection	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	WWRP State Parks	01/06/17
12-1722D	Wolfe Initial Park Access	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	WWRP State Parks	03/09/17
14-1419D	Squalicum Creek Trail	Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department	WWRP Trails	01/12/17
15-1335D	Volunteer Park LED Lights	Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	Youth Athletic Facilities, Renovation	03/15/17
15-1372D	Highland Park Football Field Lighting and Upgrades	Pasco	Youth Athletic Facilities, Renovation	02/01/17

* WWRP = *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program*

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Work Session

Prepared By: Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist

Summary

At the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) meeting in May, the board will hold a work session to discuss the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and Unifying Strategy in order to inform SCORP's recommendations and the Unifying Strategy's actions. Both are due at the end of 2017. This memo outlines discussion topics for the work session.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☐ Request for Decision
- ☒ Request for Direction
- ☐ Briefing

Background

As Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff continues to develop the next State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and Unifying Strategy, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) will hold a work session to identify potential recommendations and action items to include.

The overall publication should address a:

- Unified statewide strategy for meeting the recreational needs of Washington's citizens;¹
- Strategic plan for the acquisition, renovation, and development of recreational resources and the preservation and conservation of open space;²
- State comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (SCORP) as required by the National Park Service (NPS) in order to be eligible to administer funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund;³
- Plan to administer funds from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP);⁴
- State trails plan;⁵
- Nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities (NOVA) plan;⁶
- Priorities for the board's boating grant programs; and
- Strategic plan for community outdoor athletic fields.⁷

¹ RCW 79A.25.005(1)

² RCW 79A.25.020(3)

³ 16 U.S.C. 460I-4

⁴ 23 U.S.C. 206

⁵ RCW 79A.35.040

⁶ RCW 46.09.370

⁷ RCW 79A.25.820

To accomplish this work, the publication should include:⁸

1. An inventory of current resources (an indicator of supply of recreation facilities);
2. A forecast of recreational resource demand;
3. Identification and analysis of actual and potential funding sources;
4. A process for broad-scale information gathering;
5. An assessment of the capabilities and constraints, both internal and external to state government, that affect the ability of the state to achieve the goals of the plan;
6. An analysis of strategic options and decisions available to the state;
7. An implementation strategy that is coordinated with executive policy and budget priorities; and
8. Elements necessary to qualify for participation in or the receipt of aid from any federal program for outdoor recreation.

For background information on SCORP and the Unifying Strategy, see [Item 10](#) from the September 2015 meeting and [Item 15](#) from the November 2015.

Work Session Topics

Seattle Park's Gap Analysis

The work session will start with a case study of the Seattle Parks and Recreation's 2017 Development Plan and Gap Analysis. Board member Michael Shiosaki will provide an overview of the recent Gap Analysis conducted in preparation for updating its 2017 Development Plan. The 2017 Development Plan is a 6-year plan that documents and describes Seattle Parks and Recreation's facilities and lands, looks at Seattle's changing demographics, and lays out a vision for the future. Seattle 2035 Comprehensive Plan, contains overarching goals and policies, whereas the 2017 Development Plan takes these a step further and helps to define Seattle Parks and Recreation's future acquisition priorities and capital investments.

Seattle Park's Gap Analysis is an example of what is happening in a local community and how the board may envision the focus and content of the SCORP. Information on Seattle Parks and Recreation's 2017 Development Plan and Gap Analysis can be found at this link: <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/about-us/policies-and-plans/2017-development-plan>. The story map visualizing the Gap Analysis can be found at this link: http://www.seattle.gov/ArcGIS/SMSeries_GapAnalysisUpdate2017/index.html.

Preview of Resident Survey Results and Draft Findings

The general population resident survey is being conducted by professors Matt Chase, Jeremy Schultz, and Jeremy Jorstad at Eastern Washington University's Recreation and Tourism Management Program. RCO staff will present a brief overview of the preliminary results and findings from the statewide general resident population survey regarding outdoor recreation. The overview will include the major outdoor recreation categories surveyed with participation rates and frequency of activities statewide. In addition, the overview will include information about where people are recreating outdoors.

Potential SCORP Recommendations and Unifying Strategy Action Items

The next part of the work session will focus on gathering ideas from the board on the findings and recommendations for SCORP and the action items in the Unifying Strategy. The board should focus its discussion around the following questions:

⁸ RCW 79A.25.020(3)

1. Based on the resident survey preliminary results and findings, do you think the grant programs are set up to fund the right projects? If not, where could changes occur?

Below is a list of examples of changes to the grant programs to start the conversation:

- Revise the SCORP question in the evaluation criteria to specifically address key initiatives (see question #2 below).
- Revise the Land and Water Conservation Fund program criteria to prioritize those activities in demand or open space and wetlands preservation priorities.
- Allow for full suite of eligible activities in the Land and Water Conservation Fund program.
- Prioritize the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program local parks category on those activities in demand at local parks.
- Expand the goal of the Recreational Trails Program to other types of trails in addition to back country trails maintenance.
- Remove the preference for trails near urban areas in the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program (population proximity criteria #14).
- Balance funding for trail maintenance, new development of trails, education and law enforcement.
- Revise the sustainability evaluation criteria to include the impacts of climate change.
- Focus the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Urban Wildlife Habitat category closer to urban areas.
- Revise the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Critical Habitat category to better serve local agencies, nonprofit nature conservancies, and Native American Tribes.
- Update the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Riparian Protection category based on best available science work from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (available end of 2017).
- Allow for interpretive centers about nature, culture or history as eligible grant costs.

2. What are key strategies the board might pursue and direct its funding towards?

Below is a list of key strategy topics the board might consider to focus its Unifying Strategy. Implementation of key strategies would occur through 1) changes in the types of outdoor recreation and open space activities funded, 2) changes in the evaluation criteria of certain grant programs, or 3) policy and administrative priorities for the Recreation and Conservation Office to develop with board guidance. The board should consider identifying 3 to 5 key strategies to focus on for the next five years.

Potential Strategy Topics for the Unifying Strategy

Access to Information	Access to Parks
Climate Change Impacts	Develop New Parks and Trails
Diverse Population and Changing Demographics	Economic Benefits of Parks and Open Space
Federal or State Designated Trails and Water Trails	Health Impacts
Increasing Population	Links to Transportation
Maintain Existing Parks and Trails	Open Space and Habitat Conservation
Safety Concerns	Technical Assistance to Local Government
Underserved Populations	Wetlands Conservation

3. How does the board see itself supporting other state organizations' missions related to outdoor recreation and open space conservation?

Outdoor recreation and open space conservation is provided or supported by a number of state agencies. The board provides funding to three state agencies. Many agencies also provide services, funding, or technical assistance for outdoor recreation and open space conservation. The board might consider how SCORP can best serve to incorporate priorities and needs developed by other agencies. Putting the board's work in context with other agencies may also help the board focus on needs not being met by other state programs or activities.

Attachment A is a short list of outdoor recreation and open space conservation programs administered by other agencies. It is not meant to be a comprehensive list, but provide a brief introduction to start the conversation.

4. How does the board see itself supporting local entities missions related to outdoor recreation and conservation?

The board and the Recreation and Conservation Office support local entities in a number of ways such as parks and open space planning technical assistance, accessibility compliance, project scoping, and funding. In addition, some local entities rely on SCORP to support or further enhance local planning and project prioritization efforts.

The board may wish to consider how it supports and affects local entities and consider ways it would like to foster state and local partnerships related to outdoor recreation and open space conservation.

SCORP Production Update

Over the past year, RCO staff has been pulling together the necessary pieces to produce the next SCORP. Accomplishments to date include:

- Presentation to the Washington State Trails Conference in October 2016. Participants were asked questions about the challenges for trails over the next 5 years. Information gather will be used to help inform SCORP findings and recommendations.
- Convening a Planning Advisory Committee to help develop SCORP's content, recommendations, and action items. The committee meets monthly or bimonthly.
- Entering an interagency agreement with Eastern Washington University to conduct the general population outdoor recreation survey. Expected completion date July 2017.
- Drafting a survey for outdoor recreation service providers. Staff will manage the survey and develop key findings. Expected completion date July 2017.
- Issuing a request for proposal for a contractor to develop a SCORP and Unifying Strategy web site and geographic inventory of outdoor recreation and open space and facilities. Contract issue date expected May 1, 2017.
- Presentation scheduled for the Washington Parks and Recreation Association's annual conference May 2-5 in Spokane. Staff and the research team from Eastern WA University will present a general overview of SCORP and the preliminary findings from the general population survey. Discussions with session participants will be used to help inform SCORP findings and recommendations.

The remaining schedule for developing and implementing the next SCORP and Unifying Strategy is below.

Key Milestone	Deadline
Draft general population survey results and findings	May 2017
Recommendations and strategies for implementation identified	June 2017
Final general population survey results and findings complete	July 2017
Public review of SCORP and Unifying Strategy	August 2017
SCORP and Unifying Strategy approved by board	September 2017
SCORP and Unifying Strategy submitted to Governor's office	November 2017
SCORP and Unifying Strategy submitted to NPS	December 2017

Next Steps

Information from the board's work session will be used by RCO staff to develop draft SCORP recommendations and Unifying Strategy actions. At the July meeting, RCO staff will present the draft findings, recommendations, and actions for the board's consideration and direction. The draft SCORP and Unifying Strategy will then be ready for public review in August. The board will be asked to adopt the final SCORP document in October, which will then be forwarded to the Governor for his approval prior to being submitted to the National Park Service as required by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

Link to Strategic Plan

Producing a unifying strategy addresses Goal 2 in the board's *Strategic Plan*.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Goals:

1. We help our partners protect, restore, and develop habitat and recreation opportunities that benefit people, fish and wildlife, and ecosystems.
2. We achieve a high level of accountability in managing the resources and responsibilities entrusted to us.
3. We deliver successful projects by inviting competition and by using broad public participation and feedback, monitoring, assessment, and adaptive management.

Attachments

- A. Brief List of Other Agencies with Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Conservation Programs

Brief List of Other Agencies with Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Conservation Programs

Agency	Program or Activity
Conservation Commission	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Office of Farmland Preservation Regional Conservation Partnership Program
Department of Commerce	Growth Management Planning Youth Recreational Facilities Program
Department of Ecology	Coastal Protection Fund Floodplains by Design National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants National Estuary Program Grants
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Volunteer Cooperative Projects Grant Program Priority Habitat and Species Program Wildlife Action Plan Wild Future Initiative
Department of Health	Healthy Communities Program Healthiest Next Generation Initiative Washington Tracking Network Water Recreation Safety
Department of Natural Resources	Community Forest Trust Program Natural Heritage Plan Trust Land Transfer Program
Department of Transportation	Active Community Environment Program Complete Streets Pedestrian and Bicycle Program Safe Routes to Schools Scenic Highways and Byways State Bike and Pedestrian Plan
Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group	Biennial Forecast Biennial Monitoring Report
Salmon Recovery Funding Board	Salmon Habitat Grants
State Parks and Recreation Commission	No Child Left Inside Pumpout Grant Program Statewide Acquisition and Development Strategy Winter Recreation Sports Funding Program
Transportation Improvement Board	Complete Streets Program Small City Sidewalk Program Urban Sidewalk Program

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Program:
Review and Approve the Preliminary Ranked List for the 2017-19 Biennium

Prepared By: Marguerite Austin, Recreation and Conservation Section Manager

Summary

Applicants submitted six projects for the Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) program. This memo describes the program, evaluation process, and the preliminary ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the May 2017 meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the FARR program.

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 #: 2017-04

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects shown in Table 1.

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 goal of the FARR program is to increase general public access to firearm and archery range facilities. The program is guided by policies outlined in Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) [Manual #11, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program](#). The legislative authority for this program is the Revised Code of Washington 46.09 and Washington Administrative Code 286-30.

Eligible Applicants State and local agencies and qualified nonprofit shooting organizations

Eligible Project Types

- Acquisition
- Development and renovation
- Combination projects involving both acquisition and development/renovation

Grant Limits Grant requests are limited to \$150,000 per project.

Match Requirements Applicant matching shares are:

- 33% for safety or noise abatement elements in range renovation projects.
- 50% for all other project costs.

Public Access	Facilities must be open to the general public for a minimum of eight hours per month, with special emphasis on access for the following: <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

Six FARR projects, requesting \$472,463, were evaluated on January 31, 2017, in an open public meeting in Olympia, Washington. The FARR Advisory Committee used board-adopted evaluation criteria to review and rank projects. The committee included 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
Jerry Cline, Colville	Citizen
Rollie Geppert, Olympia	Citizen
Karen Jennings, Kent	Citizen
Linda Parker, Hoquiam	Citizen
Philip Shave, Olympia	Citizen
Ty Peterson, King County	Local Agency
Christopher Maurer, Department of Ecology	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, 2017-19*.

Review of the Process and Evaluation Criteria

Following the evaluation session, staff held a post evaluation meeting with the advisory committee on February 16, 2017, to debrief and assess the application process, the technical review and evaluation meetings, and the evaluation criteria.

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 *Need Satisfaction* question should be considered right after *Need*, however, after further discussion there were no recommendations for changes.

Applications this Year

The committee was concerned about the number of applications submitted for review and evaluation. Two organizations contacted RCO about grant proposals, however, they did not submit applications because they were concerned about the additional workload associated with addressing the new FARR safety policy. Applicants submitted eight proposals on November 1, 2016. One applicant withdrew its project because the nonprofit shooting organization was not comfortable with the public access requirement. Another applicant decided to withdraw their third-phase proposal due to concerns about having sufficient match funding; they are currently working on two RCO-funded FARR projects. As a result, there were only six grant applications and there will be uncommitted funds based on the projected budget.

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 *Outdoor Recreation in Washington: The 2013 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*.

Public Comment

No public comment has been received to date.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve Resolution 2017-04, including *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2017-19*.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, the list will be available for funding consideration for the 2017-19 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 July 2017 meeting.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2017-04
 - *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2017-19*
- B. State Map of FARR Projects
- C. FARR Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. FARR Evaluation Scoring Summary 2017-19
- E. FARR Project Summaries
- F. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-04
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation
Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, six Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all six 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 286-04-065, 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, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Firearms and Archery Range Recreation
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 6	75.57	16-2650D	Poulsbo Sportsman Club 50 Meter Range Improvement	Poulsbo Sportsman Club	\$150,000	\$84,480	\$234,480	\$150,000
2 of 6	68.00	16-2336D	Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility Improvement	Tri-Cities Shooting Association	\$30,969	\$32,880	\$63,849	\$180,969
3 of 6	66.43	16-2784D	Plantation Indoor Range Roof Replacement	Whatcom County Parks and Recreation	\$149,500	\$150,500	\$300,000	\$330,469
4 of 6	65.71	16-2404D	North Cascade Sportmen Club Rifle and Pistol Range Expansion	North Cascades Sportsmen Club	\$72,586	\$79,046	\$151,632	\$403,055
5 of 6	56.71	16-2481D	Trap Machines to Modernize the Lynden Shotgun Club	Lynden Shotgun Club	\$18,298	\$18,299	\$36,597	\$421,353
6 of 6	55.71	16-2233D	Spokane Gun Club Club House Renovation	Spokane Gun Club	\$51,110	\$51,110	\$102,220	\$472,463
					\$472,463	\$416,315	\$888,778	

*Project Types: D=Development

State Map for Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Projects



*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	Multiplier/ Maximum Points	Project Type
Advisory Committee	1	Need	3/15	All
Advisory Committee	2	Immediacy of threat	2/10	Acquisition
			1/5	Combination
Advisory Committee	3	Project design	2/10	Development
			1/5	Combination
Advisory Committee	4	Impact on surrounding property*	1/5	All
Advisory Committee	5	Expansion or renovation	1/5	All
Advisory Committee	6	Health and safety	3/15	All
Advisory Committee	7	Budget development	1/5	All
Advisory Committee	8	Mandated uses	2/10	All
Advisory Committee	9	Public access	3/15	All
Advisory Committee	10	Need satisfaction	2/10	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.

³RCO Policy

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

Firearms and Archery Range Recreation
Evaluation Scoring Summary
2017-19

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 or Renovation	Health and Safety	Budget Development	Mandated Uses	Public Access	Need Satisfaction	Applicant Match	Growth Management Act Preference	
1	PSC 50 Meter Range Improvement	13.29		8.86	4.29	4.14	13.29	3.43	7.14	12.00	9.14	0.00	0.00	75.57
2	Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility Improvement	11.57		7.14		3.57	11.14	4.29	8.29	12.43	8.57	1.00	0.00	68.00
3	Plantation Indoor Range Roof Replacement	12.43		8.00		3.43	9.86	4.00	7.71	12.43	8.57	1.00	-1.00	66.43
4	North Cascades Sportsmen Club Rifle/Pistol Range Expansion	12.86		8.00		4.43	8.14	4.00	7.14	11.57	8.57	1.00	0.00	65.71
5	Trap Machines to Modernize the Lynden Shotgun Club	9.86		7.43		3.86	6.43	3.86	6.29	10.71	8.29	0.00	0.00	56.71
6	Spokane Gun Club Club House Renovation	10.29		6.29		3.43	7.71	3.14	6.57	11.14	7.14	0.00	0.00	55.71

Evaluators score Questions 1-10; RCO staff scores Questions 11-12

Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Poulsbo Sportsman Club

Grant Requested: \$150,000

Improving Safety at the 50-Meter Range

The Poulsbo Sportsman Club in Kitsap County will use this grant to replace the 25-year-old overhead baffles on the firing line at the 50-meter range. The new baffle design is based on a no-blue-sky model, which is designed to keep all rounds on the range and the club's property. The new baffles have a significant sound-deadening benefit as well. This very active range is at the end of its useful life. The range is used mostly for new-shooter classes, occasional competition, skill building, and informal shooting. The Poulsbo Sportsman Club will contribute \$84,480. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2650)

Tri-Cities Shooting Association

Grant Requested: \$30,969

Improving the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility

The Tri-Cities Shooting Association will use this grant to expand its clubhouse and buy two trap machines for the shotgun range at the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility, located 8 miles north of Benton City, in Benton County. The new trap machines will replace 18-year-old machines that are prone to breakdowns and will enhance the shooting opportunities. The clubhouse expansion will provide more space for range safety officers to conduct safety briefings before allowing the public to handle firearms and will minimize congestion in that area. The association also will buy a heat pump, which will improve the comfort during hot summers and cold winters. The Tri-Cities Shooting Association will contribute \$32,880 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2336)

Whatcom County

Grant Requested: \$149,500

Replacing the Roof on the Plantation Indoor Rifle Range

Whatcom County Parks and Recreation will use this grant to replace the roof of the indoor range to allow a new heating, ventilating, and air conditioning unit, which was purchased with a previous grant, to be installed. The indoor range roof is a membrane material that usually lasts 15 years. With care and maintenance, this roof has lasted 21 years to date. Recently, the roof has begun to show its age though leaks and other problems. The Plantation Rifle Range opened in 1971 with a 300-yard outdoor range and since has expanded to include a small bore rifle and pistol range, a trap range, and classrooms. The Plantation Rifle Range serves as a focal point for public and law enforcement shooting and training activities for the greater Whatcom and Skagit Counties. More than 23,000 shooters visited the range in 2013. Whatcom County will contribute \$150,500 in cash, staff labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2784)

North Cascades Sportsman's Club

Grant Requested: \$72,586

Expanding the Rifle and Pistol Range

The North Cascades Sportsman's Club will use this project to expand the pistol and rifle range, located in Chelan County. The club will expand the range from 24 shooting stations to 60 covered shooting stations, as well as pave the parking lot and access road, build a utility gravel road for access to the target lines, extend several shooting berms, and rebuild and align a containment wall. The North Cascades Sportsman's Club believes that the range expansion will accommodate growth for the next 10 to 15 years. North Cascades Sportsmen Club will contribute \$79,046 in donations of cash, equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2404)

Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Lynden Shotgun Club

Grant Requested: \$18,298

Buying New Trap Machines to Modernize the Lynden Shotgun Club

The Lynden Shotgun Club in Whatcom County will use this grant to buy four trap machines. The club hosts multiple trap shooting competitions throughout the year and supports several youth shooting programs. The new trap machines will replace machines that are more than 25 years old on three fields. While the old machines can throw single and double targets, the machines' mechanisms are wearing out, parts are very difficult to obtain, and targets are frequently broken when thrown. The number of trap shooters using the club has declined because of this unreliability. The club also will buy a machine to throw rabbit targets in a fourth field and will upgrade electrical power to supply the 11 machines in that field. The Lynden Shotgun Club will contribute \$18,299 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2481)

Spokane Gun Club

Grant Requested: \$51,110

Renovating the Clubhouse at the Spokane Gun Club

The Spokane Gun Club will use this grant to renovate its clubhouse by replacing all the exterior doors with steel security doors, adding new floors, renovating or replacing the roof, and replacing the token target management system with a modern card-reader system. The Spokane Gun Club is one of the largest shotgun clubs in the western United States and hosts many trap and skeet competitions. The club also is home to the Washington State Amateur Trapshooting Association Hall of Fame and the Washington State National Skeet Shooting Association Hall of Fame. The Spokane Gun Club will contribute \$51,110 in donations of cash, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2233)

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.

Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Program

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Boating Facilities Program:
Review and Approve the Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium

Prepared By: Kyle Guzlas, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Applicants submitted forty-four projects for the Boating Facilities Program (BFP). This memo describes the program, evaluation process, categories, and the preliminary ranked lists. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the May 2017 meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the preliminary ranked lists, which become the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Boating Facilities Program.

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

Resolutions: 2017-05, State Agency Category
2017-06, Local Agency Category

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked lists of projects shown in Table 1 for each category.

Background

The Boating Facilities Program (BFP) was established through Initiative 215 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.

The Boating Facilities Program provides grants to state and local agencies to preserve and develop motorized boating access. Funds are used 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 [Boating Grant Programs Policy 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 286-35.

Category	Boating Facilities Program State Agency Category	Boating Facilities Program Local Agency Category
Eligible Applicants	State agencies	Municipal governments and Native American tribes may apply.
Eligible Project Types	Planning, acquisition, development, and renovation projects are eligible.	Planning, acquisition, development, and renovation projects are eligible.
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 twenty-one state agency projects and twenty-three local agency projects, requesting nearly \$20 million in grant funds. The committee used board-adopted criteria to review and rank projects in an open public meeting in Olympia on January 31 through February 2, 2017. The committee included the following representatives, all of whom are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge about recreational boating issues.

The following members participated this year:

Advisory Committee Member	Representing
Michael Branstetter, Tumwater	Citizen
Andrea Fontenot Hegland,* Shelton	Citizen

Paul Thorpe, Gig Harbor	Citizen
Doug Chase, Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department	Local Agency
Glenn Guy Jr., Port of Ilwaco and Port of Chinook	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
Al Wolslegel, 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, 2017-19* and *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects, 2017-19* of the attached decision packages.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

Following the evaluation session, staff held a post-evaluation meeting with the advisory committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and evaluation criteria.

Evaluation Process

Overall, the advisory committee felt the process was organized, well-run, and fair. Advisors agreed that the application materials provided for technical review and the evaluation meetings were appropriate for gaining a clear understanding of the projects. The committee emphasized the importance of the in-person technical review and that most applicants were able to create stronger projects from this process. The advisors were excited to hear that Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff is working to develop electronic scoring methods and possibly electronic application materials for future sessions.

Evaluation Criteria

Prior to the 2016 grant cycle, the board approved a number of modifications to the BFP evaluation criteria. The modifications were made in response to staff, advisory committee members, and stakeholders. The board-adopted changes to evaluation criteria included the addition of three new questions.

- **Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship.** Will the project result in a quality, sustainable, recreational opportunity (or planned opportunity) while protecting the integrity of the environment?
- **Boats on Trailers.** Does the proposed project predominantly serve boats on trailers?
- **State Outdoor Comprehensive Recreation Plan (SCORP) Priorities.** How will this project address statewide or regional priorities as described in SCORP?

The advisory committee was satisfied with the addition of the *Boats on Trailers* question and the ranking shows it is an influential criterion.

Committee members had a difficult time scoring the *Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship* criterion. Evaluator frustration with this question may explain the narrow range of scores awarded, thus making it mostly ineffective for distinguishing and measuring differences between projects. Boating facility projects in the marine or aquatic environment require multiple environmental permits that regulate materials used for developing overwater structures. Consequently, the materials are similar from project to project. Very few projects included elements that went beyond the minimum requirements by the permitting agencies or best management practices already in place. In addition, the annotated

explanation includes a list of detailed elements, which presents another challenge since applicants try to address each element regardless of whether or not it is relevant to their specific proposal. Several evaluators felt these elements should be a part of the design criterion and not a separate evaluation question.

Equally, the committee struggled with the new *SCORP* criterion and did not find much value in using this question to differentiate between boating projects. Many applicants used facility location demographics to describe the underserved populations that could benefit. Advisors did not see this as appropriate, because living near a boating facility does not necessarily mean you have a boat or access to a boat. Another common theme included how the proposed renovation or development would improve access for persons with disabilities. Committee members again felt this to be duplicative of the *Design* criterion and felt that state and federal laws already require the accessibility measures. Staff recommends that the board revisit these issues following the adoption of *SCORP* and as part of its prioritization of issues to address in the coming biennium.

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 *Boating Grant Programs Plan* and the *Outdoor Recreation in Washington: The 2013 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*.

Public Comment

No public comment has been received to date for the State Agency Category (Attachment F). See Attachment L for Local Agency Category letters.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects, 2017-19* and *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects, 2017-19*.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, the lists will be available for funding consideration for the 2017-19 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 July 2017 meeting.

Attachments

Decision Package 1: Boating Facilities Program, State Agency Category

- A. Resolution #2017-05
 - Table 1 – *Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects, 2017-19*
- B. BFP State Map of Projects, State Agencies
- C. BFP Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. BFP Evaluation Scoring Summary 2017-19, State Category
- E. BFP Project Summaries State Category
- F. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

Decision Package 2: Boating Facilities Program, Local Agency Category

- G. Resolution #2017-06
 - Table 1 – *Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects, 2017-19*
- H. BFP State Map of Projects, Local Agencies
- I. BFP Evaluation Criteria Summary
- J. BFP Evaluation Scoring Summary 2017-19, Local Category
- K. BFP Project Summaries Local Category
- L. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-05
Boating Facilities Program – State Agency Category
Approval of the 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, twenty-one state agency Boating Facilities Program (BFP) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all twenty-one 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, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Boating Facilities Program

Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects
2017-19

Attachment A

Resolution: 2017-05

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 21	64.38	16-2467D	Lawrence Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$505,000		\$505,000	\$505,000
2 of 21	63.00	16-2510D	Boat Decontamination Station, Spokane	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$285,000		\$285,000	\$790,000
3 of 21	62.50	16-2446D	Palmer Lake Boat Launch Facility	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$164,700	\$18,400	\$183,100	\$954,700
4 of 21	62.38	16-2462P	Ft. Worden State Park Boat Launch	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$315,000		\$315,000	\$1,269,700
4 of 21	62.38	16-2412D	Long Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$420,000		\$420,000	\$1,689,700
6 of 21	61.75	16-2606D	San Juan Marine Area Boating Facility Improvements	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$435,000	\$50,000	\$485,000	\$2,124,700
7 of 21	60.50	16-2266D	Lake Campbell Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$590,000		\$590,000	\$2,714,700
8 of 21	60.25	16-2565P	Penrose Point Pier Replacement Plan	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$265,000		\$265,000	\$2,979,700
9 of 21	60.13	16-2313D	Chapman Lake Access Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$847,000		\$847,000	\$3,826,700
9 of 21	60.13	16-2494D	Stanwood Hamilton Landing Access Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$538,000		\$538,000	\$4,364,700
11 of 21	59.75	16-2605P	Sucia Island Moorage Replacement	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$4,564,700
12 of 21	59.63	16-2430P	Hopkins Ferry Access Development Phase 1 Design	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$380,000		\$380,000	\$4,944,700
13 of 21	58.63	16-2308D	Point Whitney Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$540,000		\$540,000	\$5,484,700
14 of 21	57.63	16-2305D	Luhr's Landing Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$485,000		\$485,000	\$5,969,700
14 of 21	57.63	16-2485D	Boat Decontamination Station, Ephrata	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$285,000		\$285,000	\$6,254,700
16 of 21	57.50	16-2325D	Roses Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$498,000		\$498,000	\$6,752,700
17 of 21	57.13	16-2602P	Stuart Island Moorage Replacement	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$6,952,700
18 of 21	56.25	16-2562D	Sequim Bay Boating Facility Improvements	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$547,000	\$865,000	\$1,412,000	\$7,499,700
19 of 21	56.00	16-2264D	Williams Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$647,000		\$647,000	\$8,146,700
20 of 21	55.13	16-2544D	Skagit Wildlife Area Headquarters Boat Launch Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$436,000		\$436,000	\$8,582,700
21 of 21	52.75	16-2443D	Blue Lake Access Redevelopment, Grant County	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$390,000		\$390,000	\$8,972,700
					\$8,972,700	\$933,400	\$9,906,100	

*Project Types: D=Development, P=Planning

State Map for Boating Facilities Program Projects, State Agencies



*Projects are in ranked order as shown in Table 1.

Boating Facilities Program

Evaluation Criteria Summary

BFP Evaluation Criteria Summary - State				
Scored by	Question	Item	Project Type	Possible Points
Committee	1	Need	All	15
Committee	2	Site suitability	All	15
Committee	3a	Urgency	Acquisition	10
Committee	3b	Project Design	Development	10
Committee	3c	Planning success (architecture and engineering only)	Planning	10
Committee	4	Cost benefit	All	10
Committee	5	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	All	5
Committee	6	Boats on Trailers	All	5
Committee	7	Boating experience	All	6
Committee	8	Readiness	All	5
Committee	9	Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Priorities	All	5
RCO Staff	10	Matching shares including non-government contributions	All	1
RCO Staff	11	Proximity to people	All	1
RCO Staff	12	Growth Management Act compliance (local agencies)	All	0
Total				78

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?
- 3a. **Urgency** (any project with acquisition as a component). How urgent is the need for funding from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board?
- 3b. **Project design** (development or acquisition and development projects only). Is the proposal appropriately designed for the intended use?
- 3c. **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?
4. **Cost-benefit.** Do the benefits of the project outweigh the costs?
5. **Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship.** Will the project result in a quality, sustainable, recreational opportunity (or planned opportunity) while protecting the integrity of the environment?
6. **Boats on Trailers.** Does the proposed project predominantly serve boats on trailers?
7. **Boating experience.** How will the project affect the boating experience?
8. **Readiness.** Is the project ready to proceed?
9. **Statewide Outdoor Comprehensive Recreation Plan Priorities.** How will this project address statewide or regional priorities as described in the Statewide Outdoor Comprehensive Recreation Plan?

Scored by RCO Staff

10. **Matching shares.** To what extent will the applicant match BFP funds with contributions from its own resources?
11. **Proximity to people.** Is the project site in a populated area?
12. **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, State Agency Projects

Evaluation Scoring Summary

2017-19

Question		1	2	3a	3b	3c	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total
Rank	Project Name	Need	Site Suitability	Urgency	Project Design	Planning Success	Cost Benefit	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Boats on Trailers	Boating Experience	Readiness	SCORP Priorities ¹	Matching Share	Proximity to People	
1	Lawrence Lake Access Redevelopment	13.88	13.13		8.00		8.00	4.50	4.50	4.25	3.38	3.75	0.00	1.00	64.38
2	Boat Decontamination Station Spokane	13.88	13.50		9.25		9.00	4.75	4.38	1.75	4.38	1.13	0.00	1.00	63.00
3	Palmer Lake Boat Launch Facility	12.75	13.50		8.75		8.50	3.63	4.38	5.25	3.63	2.13	0.00	0.00	62.50
4	Fort Worden State Park Boat Launch	13.88	11.63			8.50	7.50	4.50	4.38	5.00	3.63	2.38	0.00	1.00	62.38
5	Long Lake Access Redevelopment	13.13	12.75		9.00		8.50	4.50	4.50	3.00	3.88	2.13	0.00	1.00	62.38
5	San Juan Marine Area Boating Facility Improvements	13.50	13.13		8.50		7.75	4.50	2.13	6.00	4.63	1.63	0.00	0.00	61.75
7	Lake Campbell Access Redevelopment	14.63	13.13		8.25		7.25	3.88	4.50	3.25	3.63	2.00	0.00	0.00	60.50
8	Penrose Point Pier Replacement Plan	13.13	12.75			9.00	7.25	3.75	2.38	4.50	4.00	2.50	0.00	1.00	60.25
9	Chapman Lake Access Development	12.38	13.13		8.75		7.00	4.00	4.38	3.75	3.50	2.25	0.00	1.00	60.13
10	Stanwood Hamilton Landing Access Development	12.38	12.00		8.50		8.50	4.25	4.25	3.75	3.63	1.88	0.00	1.00	60.13
11	Sucia Island Moorage Replacement	11.63	12.75			9.00	8.25	4.50	2.13	5.25	4.38	1.88	0.00	0.00	59.75
12	Hopkins Ferry Access Development Phase 1	11.63	13.13			7.50	8.00	3.88	4.63	4.50	4.00	2.38	0.00	0.00	59.63
13	Point Whitney Access Redevelopment	11.63	12.75		8.00		8.25	3.75	4.50	3.75	3.38	2.63	0.00	0.00	58.63
14	Luhr's Landing Access Redevelopment	10.88	12.75		7.00		7.75	4.13	4.63	3.50	3.25	2.75	0.00	1.00	57.63
15	Boat Decontamination Station Ephrata	13.88	9.75		8.50		8.50	4.75	4.38	1.75	4.00	1.13	0.00	1.00	57.63
16	Roses Lake Access Redevelopment	12.00	12.38		8.50		7.50	4.00	4.50	2.75	3.50	2.38	0.00	0.00	57.50
17	Stuart Island Moorage Replacement	11.63	12.75			8.25	7.50	3.88	1.88	5.25	4.25	1.75	0.00	0.00	57.13
18	Sequim Bay Boating Facility Improvements	13.50	10.13		8.50		6.25	4.00	3.38	4.00	4.00	2.50	0.00	0.00	56.25
19	Williams Lake Access Redevelopment	10.50	12.00		8.00		7.00	3.63	4.63	3.25	3.63	2.38	0.00	1.00	56.00
20	Skagit Wildlife Area Headquarters Boat Launch Redevelopment	11.25	11.63		8.25		7.25	3.50	4.50	3.00	3.50	2.25	0.00	0.00	55.13
21	Blue Lake Access Redevelopment	9.38	13.13		7.00		7.25	3.63	4.38	2.75	3.38	1.88	0.00	0.00	52.75

Evaluators score Questions 1-9; RCO staff score Questions 10-11.

¹SCORP=Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Boating Facilities Program – State Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Renovating the Lawrence Lake Access Site

Grant Requested: \$505,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to renovate the entire Lawrence Lake boating access site near Rainer and Yelm, in Thurston County. The department will install a launch ramp with boarding float, a toilet, and an information kiosk, as well as pave the parking lot, add drainage, and generally improve the site. People visit Lake Lawrence year-round to fish, water ski, wake board, boat, and watch wildlife. Planned improvements at the site will help facilitate safe and efficient loading and retrieval of boats and the new kiosk will provide needed information about boating on the lake. For more information and photographs of this project, visit RCO's online Project Snapshot. (16-2467)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Building a Boat Decontamination Station in Spokane

Grant Requested: \$285,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to install a high capacity boat decontamination facility at the Region 1 office in Spokane. The unit is a self-contained, single-lane facility complete with high-pressure hot water system, boat ramp and lift, and wastewater management system. The system requires electricity, water, and fuel, but is a closed so liquids are collected and contaminants are removed. Water-based invasive species threaten fish populations and water resources. One of the primary ways they spread is by hitching rides on boats and in-water equipment. These decontamination facilities will allow people to clean their boats, other watercraft, and equipment before moving them to different water bodies. This project also will increase compliance with state law, which prohibits the transport of aquatic invasive species in Washington State. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2510)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Improving the Palmer Lake Boat Launch Facility

Grant Requested: \$164,700

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to improve the boat launch facilities at the Palmer Lake Campground in northern Okanogan County. The department will build a concrete plank boat ramp, renovate two outhouses, and improve the parking area near the boat launch and outhouses. At 2,032 acres, Palmer Lake is the second largest lake in Okanogan County. The department will contribute \$18,400 in equipment, staff labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2446)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Planning for a New Fort Worden State Park Boat Launch

Grant Requested: \$315,000

State Parks will use this grant to design and get permits to build an elevated boat launch at Fort Worden State Park in Jefferson County. The 434-acre park has more than 2 miles of saltwater shoreline on the Straits of Juan de Fuca and is the closest water access to some of the best fishing in the straits. Intensive use occurs during halibut, salmon, and crabbing seasons. The launch is often buried by circulating sand. This planning grant is essential because permitting agencies will require near-shore habitats and the processes that form and sustain them to be addressed. The new launch will better serve the public, protect vital habitats, and save maintenance expenses. This project is supported by anglers, the

Boating Facilities Program – State Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Department of Natural Resources. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2462)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$420,000

Redeveloping Long Lake Access Site

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to renovate the Long Lake boating access site near Lacey in Thurston County. The department will replace the launch ramp, re-grade gravel overflow parking, repave and stripe the parking lot, build a storm water rain garden, install a new toilet, and replace chain link fence. This lake provides great fishing for largemouth bass, rainbow trout, yellow perch, bluegill rock bass, and catfish. It is popular with boaters and anglers year-round, has spring and fall plants of hatchery fish, and provides opportunities for water sports. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2412)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Grant Requested: \$435,000

Renovating San Juan Marine Area Boating Facilities

State Parks will use this grant to renovate the boating facilities at Matia and Doe Islands, in the San Juan Islands. The moorage at both islands were built in the late 1970s using old construction methods including creosote-treated pile and timber floats. Some of the materials need to be replaced. In addition, at Doe Island, storms damaged the pile and the gangway and float were removed and the facility closed. At both islands, State Parks will replace the moorage and landing floats and the piles and reinstall the gangways. In addition, at Doe Island, State Parks will replace the toilet and pier cross-bracing. State Parks will contribute \$50,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2606)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$590,000

Redeveloping the Lake Campbell Access

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop Lake Campbell, which is south of Anacortes and west of La Conner, in Skagit County. The department will replace the launch ramp, add a boarding float, install a toilet, build a picnic shelter, and pave the parking lot. People visit Lake Campbell primarily to fish, water ski, boat, use personal watercraft, and watch wildlife. The improvements will increase safety during the launching and retrieval of boats. Paving the parking lot will make the site more useable and accessible and will decrease long-term maintenance costs. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2266)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Grant Requested: \$265,000

Planning the Penrose Point Pier Replacement

State Parks will use this grant to design and get permits to build a 160-foot-long pier, 35-foot-long gangway, and 140-foot-long floats at Penrose State Park, near Key Center in Pierce County. The pier is supported by a single line of aging pilings, and it sways significantly during lower tides and peak use. Design and permitting will include light-penetrating floats, upgrading utilities on the pier, replacing the restroom, and improving picnic facilities to comply with State Parks' goal for universal access. The pier and

Boating Facilities Program – State Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



floats provide boater access to the 165-acre park with more than 2 miles of saltwater shoreline on Puget Sound. It is a very popular stop for recreational boaters and yacht clubs. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2565)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$847,000

Renovating the Chapman Lake Boating Access Site

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the boating access site at Chapman Lake, 12 miles south of Cheney, in Spokane County. The department will install a concrete boat launch, boat loading float, toilet, lighting, and parking. People visit the 128-acre Chapman Lake primarily to fish, boat, and watch wildlife. This site, which provides the only boat access to the lake, had been closed since 2011. Chapman Lake is the only lake in the area providing anglers the unique opportunity to catch kokanee, which the department continues to stock annually here. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2313)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$538,000

Developing the Stanwood Hamilton Landing Boat Access Site

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to develop a boat launch for motorized, trailerable boats at Hamilton Landing near the confluence of the Stillaguamish River with Port Susan and Skagit Bay in Stanwood. The department will design and build a launching ramp, parking lot, and restroom. People visit Hamilton Landing primarily to fish, hunt waterfowl, and watch wildlife. The landing is undeveloped except for a relic smoke stake and a primitive boat launch that is rarely used. The new boat launch will provide access to more than 7,000 acres of state-owned land in the Stillaguamish and Skagit Bay estuaries. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2494)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Grant Requested: \$200,000

Planning Sucia Island Moorage Replacement

State Parks will use this grant to design and get permits to replace a moorage facility on Sucia Island State Park, in the San Juan Islands. The moorage facilities were built more than 50 years ago and need replacing. State Parks also will conduct site and eelgrass surveys and study the feasibility of installing a boat pumpout at Sucia Island to serve recreational boaters. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2605)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$380,000

Planning Development of the Hopkins Ferry Access Site

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to plan and design a new boating access site on Rufus Woods Reservoir in the Big Bend Wildlife Area in Douglas County. The department will complete architectural designs, construction drawings, and environmental assessments and get permits. At more than 8,000 acres and 51 miles long, the Rufus Woods Reservoir is a popular year-round destination for fishing, waterfowl hunting, boating, and watching wildlife. It also attracts hunters in pursuit of game birds and big game such as mule deer, which frequent the shoreline and surrounding area. Public access is

Boating Facilities Program – State Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



limited to three sites at the extreme opposite ends of the reservoir and three primitive access sites on the Colville reservation. This site would provide mid-lake access in an otherwise remote area. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2430)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$540,000

Redeveloping the Point Whitney Water Access Site

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Point Whitney Water Access Site in Dabob Bay on Hood Canal, in eastern Jefferson County. The department will install an elevated launching ramp, renovate the toilet and kiosk, and lay gravel for a parking lot. The ramp is often buried by beach substrate and causes vehicles to become stuck, especially during low tides. The new ramp will be higher and wider and include shoulder erosion protection mats. The existing gravel parking will be graded and expanded by setting back the fence. The site, purchased in 1925 and used for launching boats for more than 50 years, requires redevelopment to meet the current and future demand. People visit Point Whitney to fish, hunt for shellfish, boat, and watch wildlife. The site provides direct access to nearby beaches and recreational areas in Hood Canal north of Ayock Point. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2308)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$485,000

Redeveloping the Luhr's Landing Access Site

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop Luhr's Landing, a water access site in northeastern Thurston County on McAllister Creek and near Nisqually Reach in south Puget Sound. The department will renovate the boat launch by lengthening the ramp and reinforcing its shoulders with armor flex matting, pave the gravel parking, replace the toilet, and install a pre-boarding loading platform. The infrastructure at the site is more than 40 years old and requires replacement to meet the growing demand. Traffic counts show nearly 110 vehicles use the site daily from March through August. People visit Luhr's Landing to fish, hunt for shellfish and waterfowl, boat, and watch wildlife. Luhr's Landing provides direct access to an extensive complex of conservation and recreational marine and estuarine areas, including Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Nisqually Wildlife Area Unit, and Nisqually Reach Aquatic Preserve. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2305)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$285,000

Building a Boat Decontamination Station in Ephrata

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to install a high capacity decontamination facility at the Region 2 Office in Grant County in Ephrata. The unit is a self-contained, single-lane facility complete with high-pressure hot water system, boat ramp and lift, and wastewater management system. The system requires electricity, water, and fuel, but is a closed so liquids are collected and contaminants are removed. Water-based invasive species threaten fish populations and water resources. One of the primary ways they spread is by hitching rides on boats and in-water equipment. These decontamination facilities will allow people to clean their boats, other watercraft, and equipment before moving them to different water bodies. This project also will increase compliance with

Boating Facilities Program – State Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



state law, which prohibits the transport of aquatic invasive species in Washington State. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2485)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$498,000

Redeveloping Roses Lake Access

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Roses Lake boating access in Chelan County, just north of Lake Chelan and the town of Manson. The department will pave the entrance road, install a new toilet, extend the boat ramp, and add armor-flex matting and boarding floats. This project will make it more efficient to load and unload boats, especially larger boats, by extending the ramp length and adding more floats for staging boats. Road paving and parking improvements will maximize the space available for parking trailers. People visit Roses Lake to fish, boat, and watch wildlife. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2325)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Grant Requested: \$200,000

Replacing Stuart Island Moorage

State Parks will use this grant to design and get permits to replace the moorage facilities at Stuart Island State Park in the San Juan Islands. The moorage facilities at this popular destination were built more than 50 years ago and have exceed their life span. Accessibility, safety, and environmental risks also support this immediate need. Included in this planning project are site and eelgrass surveys as well as environmental regulatory, permit, and the design process. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2602)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Grant Requested: \$547,000

Improving Sequim Bay Boating Facilities

State Parks will use this grant to build boating facilities at Sequim Bay State Park, just east of Sequim. The park has nearly 1 mile of saltwater shoreline and a popular year-round boat launch. State Parks will remove a rapidly failing, creosote-treated bulkhead and pilings, a creosote timber gangway abutment, the gangway, and floats. In its place, State Parks will build a seawall designed to adapt to changing sea levels and to be better for the environment. State Parks will replace the north end of the bulkhead with native plants to help restore aquatic habitats. A new light-penetrating gangway and ramps will be installed along with a new kiosk with life jacket storage. State Parks also will replace the seating and picnic area that were lost when the seawall failed. Other improvements include treating the boat launch, road, and parking storm water and repaving the potholed parking lot. State Parks will contribute \$865,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2562)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$647,000

Redeveloping the Williams Lake Access Site

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the boating access site on Williams Lake, 16 miles south of Cheney in Spokane County. The department will install a double-lane boat ramp, boarding float, and toilet, and will redesign the parking lot. The 317-acre Williams Lake is one of

Boating Facilities Program – State Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



department's top producers of trout hosting an estimated 25,000 angler trips a year. People visit Williams Lake to fish, boat, and watch wildlife. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2264)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$436,000

Redeveloping the Skagit Wildlife Area Boat Launch

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Headquarters boat launch in the Skagit Wildlife Area on Freshwater Slough, off the South Fork Skagit River in Skagit County. The department will renovate the launch, the approach, and dike area and install a pre-boarding platform and lighting in the adjacent parking lot. The department owns and manages about 12,000 acres in the Skagit Bay estuary and the boat launch is one of two public boat launches on the South Fork Skagit River that provide access to the estuary. People visit the estuary to hunt waterfowl, fish, boat, and watch wildlife. This boat launch is unique because it provides a protected launch site during higher river flows and direct access to Skagit Bay. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2544)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$390,000

Redeveloping the Blue Lake Access Site

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Blue Lake boating access site north of Soap Lake in Grant County. The department will install a boarding float and abutment, develop two lower launch areas, pave the parking lot, and replace the fence. People visit the 534-acre Blue Lake to fish, watch wildlife, boat, and play water sports. This site is the only public access on the lake. Redevelopment of the site will make it safer and more convenient, and will improve accessibility for people with disabilities. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2443)

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.

Boating Facilities Program (BFP) – State Agency Category

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-06
Boating Facilities Program – Local Agency Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, twenty-three local agency Boating Facilities Program (BFP) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all twenty-three 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, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Boating Facilities Program
Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects
2017-19

Attachment G
Resolution: 2017-06

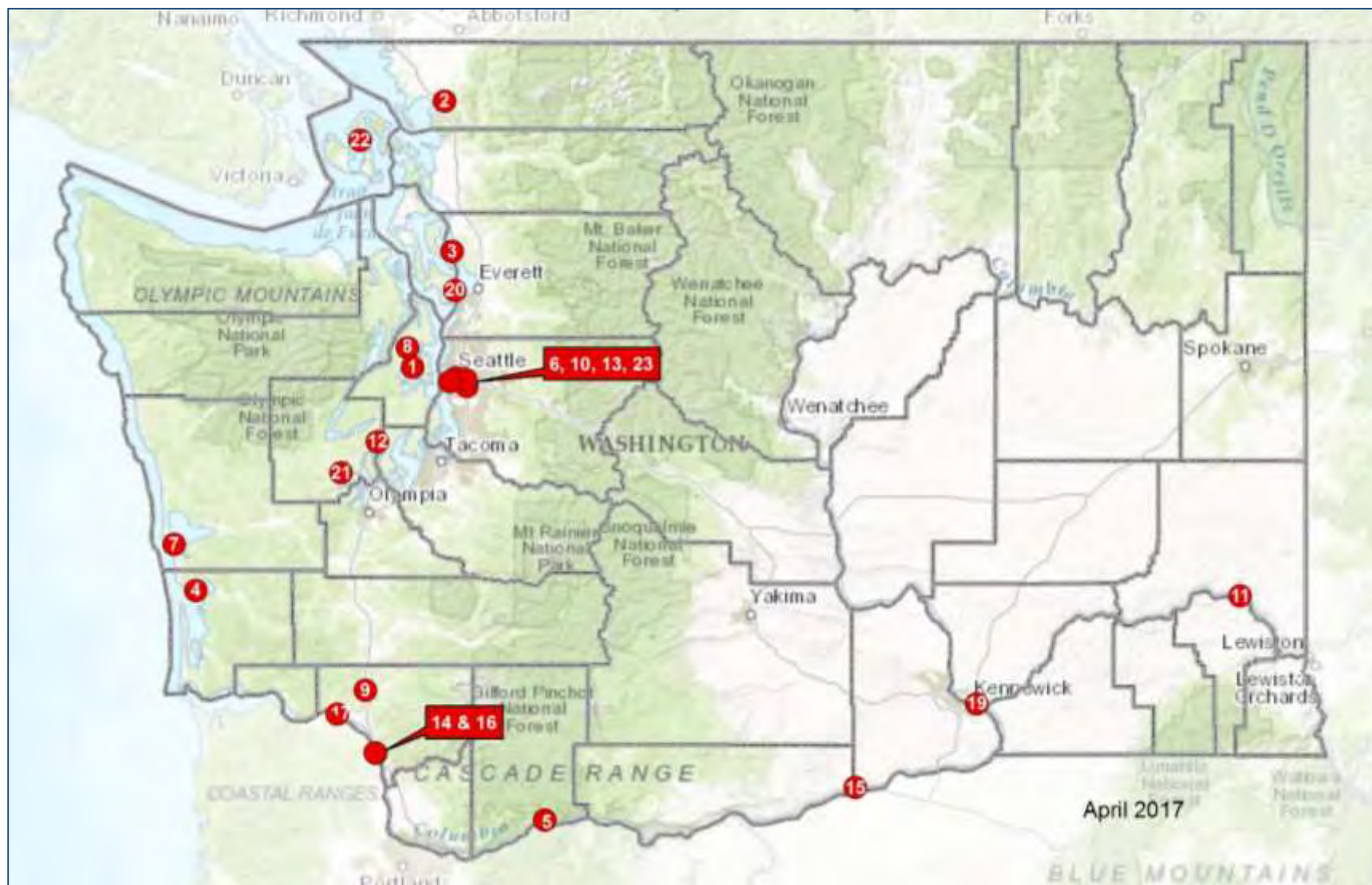
Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 23	70.38	16-2601D	Brownsville Marina Boat Launch and Staging Area	Port of Brownsville	\$653,616	\$217,873	\$871,489	\$653,616
2 of 23	70.00	16-2302D	Bloedel Donovan Park Dock and Piling Replacement	Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department	\$269,168	\$91,826	\$360,994	\$922,784
3 of 23	69.50	16-2563P	Kayak Point Boat Launch Renovation	Snohomish County Parks Department	\$195,491	\$83,782	\$279,273	\$1,118,275
4 of 23	68.75	16-2414D	Tokeland Marina Boarding Redevelopment Phase 3	Port of Willapa Harbor	\$642,000	\$241,000	\$883,000	\$1,760,275
5 of 23	65.75	16-2164D	Wind River Boat Launch Facility	Skamania County	\$1,000,000	\$1,716,336	\$2,716,336	\$2,760,275
6 of 23	65.38	16-2356D	Don Armeni Boat Launch Renovation	Seattle Parks and Recreation Department	\$374,950	\$125,050	\$500,000	\$3,135,225
7 of 23	63.50	16-2388D	Westport Marina Boat Launch Upland Improvements	Port of Grays Harbor	\$916,221	\$313,646	\$1,229,867	\$4,051,446
8 of 23	60.38	16-2224D	Port of Poulsbo Public Boat Launch Rehabilitation	Port of Poulsbo	\$325,906	\$114,508	\$440,414	\$4,377,352
9 of 23	60.25	16-2411P	Al Helenberg Boat Launch Safety Improvements	Castle Rock	\$123,000	\$42,000	\$165,000	\$4,500,352
10 of 23	59.88	16-2357D	Stan Sayres Boat Launch Renovation	Seattle Parks and Recreation Department	\$768,000	\$256,857	\$1,024,857	\$5,268,352
11 of 23	59.38	16-2493P	Boyer Park Dock Replacement Planning	Port of Whitman County	\$198,000	\$77,000	\$275,000	\$5,466,352
12 of 23	59.25	16-2774A	Port of Grapeview Property Acquisition	Port of Grapeview	\$396,112	\$132,038	\$528,150	\$5,862,464
13 of 23	58.88	16-2386D	South Leschi Transient Moorage	Seattle Parks and Recreation Department	\$1,000,000	\$1,522,801	\$2,522,801	\$6,862,464
14 of 23	58.00	16-2581D	Boat Launch and Existing Guest Dock Renovation	Port of Kalama	\$840,271	\$285,425	\$1,125,696	\$7,702,735
15 of 23	57.50	16-2371P	Crow Butte Boater's Campground Planning	Port of Benton	\$210,000	\$75,000	\$285,000	\$7,912,735
16 of 23	56.25	16-2584D	New Guest Dock Construction	Port of Kalama	\$688,550	\$230,850	\$919,400	\$8,601,285
17 of 23	55.63	16-2273D	Willow Grove Boat Launch Improvements	Port of Longview	\$586,991	\$195,664	\$782,655	\$9,188,276
18 of 23	54.88	16-2762P	Orcas Landing Marine Facility Dock Expansion	San Juan County Public Works	\$148,000	\$52,000	\$200,000	\$9,336,276
19 of 23	53.50	16-2716D	Schlagel Park Boating Facilities	Pasco	\$496,200	\$215,000	\$711,200	\$9,832,476
20 of 23	53.38	16-2759D	Clinton Dock Renovation	Port of South Whidbey	\$225,783	\$76,000	\$301,783	\$10,058,259
21 of 23	52.63	16-2518P	Jacoby Park Boat Ramp Improvements	Mason County	\$60,000	\$20,000	\$80,000	\$10,118,259

Table 1: Boating Facilities Program
Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
22 of 23	49.50	16-2763D	Orcas Landing Pedestrian Improvements ADA Ramp	San Juan County Public Works	\$279,000	\$94,200	\$373,200	\$10,397,259
23 of 23	46.75	16-2406D	Seattle Central Waterfront Pier 62 Boat Dock	Seattle	\$550,000	\$685,000	\$1,235,000	\$10,947,259
					\$10,947,259	\$6,863,856	\$17,811,115	

*Project Types: A=Acquisition, D=Development, P=Planning

State Map for Boating Facilities Program Projects, Local Agencies



*Projects are in ranked order as shown in Table 1.

Boating Facilities Program

Evaluation Criteria Summary

BFP Evaluation Criteria Summary - Local				
Scored by	Question	Item	Project Type	Possible Points
Committee	1	Need	All	15
Committee	2	Site suitability	All	15
Committee	3a	Urgency	Acquisition	10
Committee	3b	Project Design	Development	10
Committee	3c	Planning success (architecture and engineering only)	Planning	10
Committee	4	Cost benefit	All	10
Committee	5	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	All	5
Committee	6	Boats on Trailers	All	5
Committee	7	Boating experience	All	6
Committee	8	Readiness	All	5
Committee	9	Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Priorities	All	5
RCO Staff	10	Matching shares (including non-government contributions)	All	4
RCO Staff	11	Proximity to people	All	1
RCO Staff	12	Growth Management Act compliance (local agencies)	All	0
Total				81

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?
- 3a. **Urgency** (any project with acquisition as a component). How urgent is the need for funding from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board?
- 3b. **Project design** (development or acquisition and development projects only). Is the proposal appropriately designed for the intended use?
- 3c. **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?
4. **Cost-benefit.** Do the benefits of the project outweigh the costs?
5. **Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship.** Will the project result in a quality, sustainable, recreational opportunity (or planned opportunity) while protecting the integrity of the environment?
6. **Boats on Trailers.** Does the proposed project predominantly serve boats on trailers?
7. **Boating experience.** How will the project affect the boating experience?
8. **Readiness.** Is the project ready to proceed?
9. **Statewide Outdoor Comprehensive Recreation Plan Priorities.** How will this project address statewide or regional priorities as described in the Statewide Outdoor Comprehensive Recreation Plan?

Scored by RCO Staff

10. **Matching shares.** To what extent will the applicant match BFP funds with contributions from its own resources?
11. **Proximity to people.** Is the project site in a populated area?
12. **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, Local Agency Projects

Evaluation Scoring Summary

2017-19

Question		1	2	3a	3b	3c	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Rank	Project Name	Need	Site Suitability	Urgency	Project Design	Planning Success	Cost Benefit	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Boats on Trailers	Boating Experience	Readiness	SCORP Priorities ¹	Matching Share	Proximity to People	Growth Management Act Compliance	
1	Brownsville Marina Boat Launch and Staging Area	13.88	14.63		10.00		9.50	4.25	4.63	4.50	5.00	3.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	70.38
2	Bloedel Donovan Park Dock and Piling Replacement	13.50	14.63		8.75		9.00	4.38	4.75	5.25	5.00	2.75	1.00	1.00	0.00	70.00
3	Kayak Point Boat Launch Renovation	14.25	13.50			9.25	9.25	4.00	4.50	5.00	4.63	3.13	1.00	1.00	0.00	69.50
4	Tokeland Marina Boarding Redevelopment Phase 3	15.00	13.88		8.25		8.75	3.88	4.50	5.25	4.75	3.50	1.00	0.00	0.00	68.75
5	Wind River Boat Launch Facility	13.50	12.38		8.75		8.25	3.75	4.63	4.75	4.75	2.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	65.75
5	Don Armeni Boat Launch Renovation	13.50	13.50		8.00		8.75	3.50	4.63	4.50	4.13	2.88	1.00	1.00	0.00	65.38
7	Westport Marina Boat Launch Upland Improvements	12.38	13.13		8.25		8.00	4.25	4.63	5.25	4.13	2.50	1.00	0.00	0.00	63.50
8	Port of Poulsbo Public Boat Launch Rehabilitation	11.63	12.75		8.00		8.25	3.00	4.25	4.00	4.00	2.50	1.00	1.00	0.00	60.38
9	Al Helenberg Boat Launch Safety Improvements	14.63	10.50			6.75	8.25	3.50	5.00	4.75	3.63	2.25	1.00	0.00	0.00	60.25
10	Stan Sayres Boat Launch Renovation	11.25	13.13		7.75		8.00	3.25	4.38	3.75	3.75	2.63	1.00	1.00	0.00	59.88
11	Boyer Park Dock Replacement Planning	11.63	13.13			8.00	7.75	3.75	3.75	4.25	3.38	2.75	1.00	0.00	0.00	59.38
12	Port of Grapeview Property Acquisition	13.50	12.75	9.00			7.25	2.38	4.38	4.25	3.88	1.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	59.25
13	South Leschi Transient Moorage	11.25	10.88		8.25		7.75	3.75	2.88	3.75	3.88	2.50	3.00	1.00	0.00	58.88
14	Boat Launch and Existing Guest Dock Removal	11.63	12.75		7.75		6.75	3.63	4.38	4.00	3.88	2.25	1.00	0.00	0.00	58.00
15	Crow Butte Boater's Campground Planning	10.13	13.13			8.50	7.50	3.25	4.00	3.00	4.25	2.75	1.00	0.00	0.00	57.50
16	New Guest Dock Construction	10.50	13.13		7.50		6.50	3.50	3.25	4.75	4.00	2.13	1.00	0.00	0.00	56.25

Boating Facilities Program, Local Agency Projects

Evaluation Scoring Summary

2017-19

Question		1	2	3a	3b	3c	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Rank	Project Name	Need	Site Suitability	Urgency	Project Design	Planning Success	Cost Benefit	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Boats on Trailers	Boating Experience	Readiness	SCORP Priorities ¹	Matching Share	Proximity to People	Growth Management Act Compliance	
17	Willow Grove Boaat Launch Improvements	10.13	12.38		7.50		7.25	3.38	4.50	4.25	3.75	2.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.63
18	Orcas Landing Marine Facility Dock Expansion	10.88	12.00			7.75	8.25	3.75	1.88	5.00	3.63	1.75	1.00	0.00	-1.00	54.88
19	Schlagel Park Boating Facilities	12.00	12.38		5.00		7.00	2.50	3.75	3.50	3.25	2.13	1.00	1.00	0.00	53.50
20	Clinton Dock Renovation	12.75	10.50		7.00		7.50	3.00	2.63	3.50	3.13	1.38	1.00	1.00	0.00	53.38
21	Jacoby Park Boat Ramp Improvements	10.88	10.50			8.00	6.75	3.25	3.88	4.75	3.38	2.25	0.00	0.00	-1.00	52.63
22	Orcas Landing Pedestrian Improvements	10.125	9.75		8.00		6.5	3.125	2.00	4.5	3.625	1.875	1.00	0.00	-1.00	49.5
23	Seattle Central Waterfront Pier 62 Boat Dock	7.875	8.25		6.50		5.00	3.50	2.375	3.25	3.875	2.125	3.00	1.00	0.00	46.75

Evaluators score Questions 1-9; RCO staff score Questions 10-12.

¹SCORP=Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Boating Facilities Program-Local Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Port of Brownsville

Grant Requested: \$653,616

Replacing the Brownsville Marina Boat Launch and Staging Area

The Port of Brownsville will use this grant to replace the two-lane boat launch with a slightly wider one and repave the staging area in the Brownsville Marina in Bremerton. The existing concrete boat launch and asphalt staging area were built in 1978 and are in very poor and rapidly deteriorating condition. The precast panels are separating and sliding toward the water because of failed steel connectors and a displaced riprap base and revetment. The edges of the concrete are cracking off and the grade has become uneven. Repair attempts have been made but at this point the ramp must be replaced. The Port will build a two-lane replacement ramp that is better aligned and at grade, and will take up less shoreline space. The changes will make it easier for boaters to maneuver their trailers and dock their boats. The Port also plans to use less riprap, which will improve habitat for fish. The Port of Brownsville will contribute \$217,873. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2601)

Bellingham

Grant Requested: \$269,168

Replacing Docks and Pilings at Bloedel Donovan Park

The Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to replace aging and damaged floating docks and pilings at Bloedel Donovan Park, one of Bellingham's most popular parks. Built in 1983, the boat launch is one of only two public boat launches on Lake Whatcom in the city limits and is the city's primary checkpoint for aquatic invasive species boat inspections. Lake Whatcom is nearly 10 miles long and 1 mile wide, making it the largest recreational lake in Whatcom County and the seventh largest lake in the state. During peak use, more than 200 motorized boats a day use this facility. Bellingham will contribute \$91,826. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2302)

Snohomish County

Grant Requested: \$195,491

Planning the Renovation of the Kayak Point Boat Launch

Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to plan the renovation of the Kayak Point boat launch and prepare the project for construction. Installation of a second launch lane, courtesy dock, and possible mooring buoys are being considered and will be refined through the design process. Located on the eastern shore of Port Susan, Kayak Point Park provides more than a half-mile of access to Puget Sound. The park is easily one of Snohomish County's most popular facilities, and built in the 1970s, is long overdue for renovation. This project is being pursued in conjunction with renovation of the entire day-use area of the park. Snohomish County will contribute \$83,782. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2563)

Port of Willapa Harbor

Grant Requested: \$642,000

Continuing Redevelopment of the Tokeland Marina

The Port of Willapa Harbor will use this grant to design and build a shower and restroom building and replace the dual purpose moorage and boarding float in the Tokeland Marina located at the mouth of Willapa Bay in Pacific County. The current 43-year-old float is unsafe and dilapidated and its ramp is a bottleneck for the 200 boats using it a day. The new float will provide guest moorage on its outer sides. Currently there are no showers available at the marina or adjoining marina's recreational vehicle park,

Boating Facilities Program-Local Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



which primarily serves boaters. This is the third phase of the marina redevelopment project, which has included a new restroom building near new guest floats, a pumpout station, and landscaping. Tokeland has become a regional fishing destination with great fishing opportunities for smaller recreational boats and generous bag limits on salmon. The Port of Willapa Harbor will contribute \$241,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2414)

Skamania County

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

Building a New Wind River Boat Launch

Skamania County will use this grant to build a boat launch facility at the mouth of the Wind River. During fishing season the current launch site fills and cars choke the roadway into the site and State Route 14, causing a traffic hazard. The current launch area also has parking for only 18 trucks and trailers and only one parking spot for people with disabilities. The rest of the facility does not comply with laws meant to accommodate people with disabilities. At low water, the ramp tilts toward the water creating a hazard. The new launch area will be built near the bridge with easier access to the mouth of the Wind and Columbia Rivers. It will have parking for 100 trucks and trailers and 25 cars, and 5 spots for people with disabilities. The area also will have a two-lane boat ramp, restrooms, kiosk, and lighting. The current launch area will be restored to a natural setting for non-motorized launching and scenic viewing. Skamania County will contribute more than \$1.7 million in staff labor, materials, and a state grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2164)

Seattle

Grant Requested: \$374,950

Renovating the Don Armeni Boat Launch

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate the Don Armeni boat launch on the shore of Elliott Bay in west Seattle. Constructed in 1966, rebuilt in 1988, Don Armeni is Seattle's most popular saltwater boat ramp, with more than 12,000 launches each year. Current conditions can be unsafe. The floats tear apart in rough weather and present a high risk of ramp damage during storms. Due to deteriorating infrastructure, the floating docks are highly susceptible to waves from Puget Sound. Without significant renovation, this facility eventually will be closed to the public. The department will be replacing old pilings and two floating docks with a floating dock system engineered to withstand the wind and wave conditions at the site. Seattle will contribute \$125,050. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2356)

Port of Grays Harbor

Grant Requested: \$916,221

Improving the Westport Marina Boat Launch Area

The Port of Grays Harbor will use this grant to develop about 3.2 acres at the boat launch in the Westport Marina, in Westport. The Port will build a restroom, install an automated pay station and informational kiosk, build a fish cleaning station and boat wash-down area, pave part of the boat ramp approach and parking lot, and create fully accessible vehicle and trailer parking spaces. The Port of Grays Harbor will contribute \$313,646. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2388)

Boating Facilities Program-Local Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Port of Poulsbo

Grant Requested: \$325,906

Restoring the Port of Poulsbo Public Boat Launch

The Port of Poulsbo will use this grant to restore the only public boat launch in Poulsbo, in Kitsap County. The concrete launch ramp is uneven and the plastic piles securing the floating dock are deteriorating and need to be replaced. The sloughing shoreline next to the ramp needs to be contained to prevent future damage to the floating dock and eliminate maintenance needs. The Port will replace the aging launch and adjacent floats with new grated floats and steel pilings to improve safety and function. Additionally, the Port will replace the approach to the walkway to ensure it is useable by people with disabilities. The launch is the only public boat launch in the Liberty Bay community and receives about 100 launches a month mostly for small trailered boats. The Port of Poulsbo will contribute \$114,508. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2224)

Castle Rock

Grant Requested: \$123,000

Planning Safety Improvements for the Al Helenberg Boat Launch

The City of Castle Rock will use this grant to plan a project that will improve safety at the Al Helenberg Boat Launch. This project will fund the design and permit work needed for some structures upstream to slow the river velocity at the boat launch. The speed of the river at the launch makes it unsafe for boaters and too much sediment collects under the ramps and floats. Castle Rock will contribute \$42,000 in a local grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2411)

Seattle

Grant Requested: \$768,000

Renovating the Stan Sayres Boat Launch

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate the boat launch in Stan S. Sayres Memorial Park, also known as "Sayres Pits" because of its association with Seattle's annual Seafair hydroplane races. The existing ramps are old and the fixed docks are not long enough to be fully functional. Seattle will expand the existing docks with gangways and floating docks to provide much needed queuing space. These improvements will enhance boating access, ease of use, and improve user safety. Located on the southern shore of Lake Washington, the popular boat ramp is on the second largest lake in the state and was used for nearly 4,000 motorized boat launches in the past year. The site requires significant renovation to remain usable for guest boaters. Seattle will contribute \$256,857. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2357)

Port of Whitman County

Grant Requested: \$198,000

Planning for the Replacement of the Boyer Park Dock

The Port of Whitman County will use this grant to plan and design new docks, pilings, and utility systems in the Boyer Park Marina, which is on the Snake River below lower Granite Lock and Dam, in Whitman County. Planning will include all designs and permitting needed to construct new marina infrastructure that will replace the original ones built in the early 1970s. The docks are starting to lose flotation, the concrete surfaces are deteriorating and pilings are starting to loosen. Electrical and potable water systems are working but need to be brought up to contemporary marina standards. Replacement of these docks not only will address safety and condition issues but will be more attractive to boaters, thereby

Boating Facilities Program-Local Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



encouraging more recreational boating on the Snake River. The Port of Whitman County will contribute \$77,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2493)

Port of Grapeview

Grant Requested: \$396,112

Buying Waterfront Property on Case Inlet

The Port of Grapeview will use this grant to buy two waterfront parcels, which include 60 feet of shoreline, next to its boat launch on Case Inlet. The land is in a recreational and residential community in rural Mason County. Mason County has no parks devoted to saltwater access on the west side of Case Inlet along the 10 miles of shoreline in the its jurisdiction. The boat ramp had almost 900 launches in one month in 2014. The Port of Grapeview will contribute \$132,038 in cash and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2774)

Seattle

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

Building Guest Moorage in South Leschi

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to build a public guest moorage float in Seattle's Leschi community along the western shoreline of Lake Washington. Lake Washington is the largest lake in western Washington and serves the most populated area in the state. The float will be the only publicly held guest moorage float along the 20 miles of Seattle shoreline. The new L-shaped float will be installed at the site of the existing South Leschi Moorage and will accommodate up to 53 boats (26 feet or smaller) side-tied on both sides of the dock and will include electrical, potable water, and fire suppression systems. The new float will increase available guest moorage by 22 percent on Lake Washington and will be one of only two overnight guest floats on the lake. Seattle will contribute more than \$1.5 million. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2386)

Port of Kalama

Grant Requested: \$840,271

Renovating a Boat Launch and Guest Dock

The Port of Kalama will use this grant to replace the guest dock floats and boat launch docks in the Port of Kalama Marina on the Columbia River. The Port also will update and furnish utilities and install a gangway accessing the guest dock for use by people with disabilities. The marina, which is the only marina between Ridgefield and west Longview on the Washington side of the Columbia River, has 222 permanent moorage slips, a two-lane boat launch, and 140 feet of guest moorage. The two-lane boat launch receives heavy use during fishing and summer seasons and the guest dock reaches capacity then also. The Port of Kalama will contribute \$285,425. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2581)

Port of Benton

Grant Requested: \$210,000

Planning the Crow Butte Boater's Campground

The Port of Benton will use this grant to complete environmental and cultural resources reviews, engineering, design, and permitting for a 20-space campground next to the Crow Butte Marina. Campsites will be within view of the 22-slip marina for added security, and each will contain full hookups and parking for boat trailers and other water toys. A restroom with shower also will be included at the site.

Boating Facilities Program-Local Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Other amenities will include a gazebo, picnic areas, connecting pathways and interpretive signs of interest to boaters. This design project also will consider the feasibility of adding yurts and a group camping area near the marina. The Port of Benton will contribute \$75,000 in cash and staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2371)

Port of Kalama

Grant Requested: \$688,550

Building a New Guest Dock on the Columbia River

The Port of Kalama will use this grant to build a 600-foot-long guest dock, including utilities, on the east side of the Port of Kalama Marina on the Columbia River, in Cowlitz County. By building the guest dock, the Port will be able to accommodate the growing demand for moorage space for recreational boaters. The current guest dock reaches capacity quickly during prime fishing and summer seasons and demand is expected to grow with the development of a 40-room boutique hotel, restaurant, and brew pub on site. The Port of Kalama will contribute \$230,850. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2584)

Port of Longview

Grant Requested: \$586,991

Improving the Willow Grove Boat Launch

The Port of Longview will use this grant to improve the boat launch area in Willow Grove Park, which is on the northern bank of the Columbia River, in Cowlitz County. The Port will revise entry and traffic patterns in the parking lot to keep queued trailers off the public road, renovate the restroom to reduce long-term maintenance and energy use, replace the docks, install lighting to improve safety, and add a new entry sign and informational signs. As one of two public boat launches in a 25-mile radius on the Columbia River, users travel from neighboring counties for salmon, steelhead, and other fishing on the river. The Port of Longview will contribute \$195,664 in cash, equipment, and staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2273)

San Juan County

Grant Requested: \$148,000

Planning the Expansion of the Orcas Landing Marine Facility Dock

The San Juan County Public Works Department will use this grant to plan and design a new float in the Orcas Landing Marine Facility, next to the Orcas Island ferry terminal. Recreational use of the docks often is limited because of insufficient draft during lower tides. Adding another float will accommodate additional berths, more frequent access, and more recreational use. The new float will be designed to be left in place year-round. Work will include research, applying for permits, validation of water rights issues, design, specification of materials to be used, and construction-ready documents. San Juan County will contribute \$52,000 in staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2762)

Pasco

Grant Requested: \$496,200

Improving the Schlager Park Boating Facilities

The City of Pasco will use this grant to replace two boat ramps, the boarding float, and restroom and improve the parking in Schlager Park. Originally built in the 1950s and upgraded in the 1970s, the facility is in poor condition. One ramp is closed because of several large holes in the concrete, the restroom is closed, and the boarding float is flanked by two pilings and has a smooth and unstable walking surface.

Boating Facilities Program-Local Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



The current state of this facility and resulting low use by the public makes this project a high priority to improve its operation, function, and conditions. Pasco will contribute \$215,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2716)

Port of South Whidbey

Grant Requested: \$225,783

Renovating the Clinton Dock

The Port of South Whidbey will use this grant to renovate the Clinton boat dock next to the Clinton ferry landing on southeast Whidbey Island. The Clinton dock is one of very few places where boaters can dock at any time for free. The L-shaped layout of the dock is not suitable for the location and the dock has been damaged enough that it is now closed. The Port of South Whidbey area has a very high per capita ownership of recreational boats, estimated to be more than twice that of the general Puget Sound area. The Port will renovate and reconfigure the dock into a contiguous linear dock to be better suited for the environment. The Port of South Whidbey will contribute \$76,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2759)

Mason County

Grant Requested: \$60,000

Improving Jacoby Park's Boat Facilities

Mason County will use this grant to plan, design, complete engineering, get permits, and develop construction documents needed to improve the boat facilities at the 2.8-acre Jacoby Park, in Mason County's Shorecrest neighborhood. Jacoby Park provides access to Hammersly Inlet and is across the inlet from Shelton. The boat ramp needs to be improved, a boarding float and dock installed, and a parking area designed to accommodate boat trailers and two vehicles. Currently boaters can park only on the street or on the grass in the park. Mason County will contribute \$20,000 in cash and staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2518)

San Juan County

Grant Requested: \$279,000

Making Pedestrian Improvements at Orcas Landing

The San Juan County Public Works Department will use this grant to create accessible pathways at Orcas Landing, on the southern shore of Orcas Island. The County has a public dock and float at the landing with limited space to do anything other than use the float. The new pathways and ramps will connect the guest floats to a park area, to the street, and to the Washington Department of Transportation ferry terminal. San Juan County will contribute \$94,200 in cash and staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2763)

Seattle

Grant Requested: \$550,000

Building the Seattle Central Waterfront Pier 62 Boat Dock

The City of Seattle's Office of the Waterfront will use this grant to develop a new floating dock and gangway attached to the rebuilt Pier 62 structure that is part of Pier 62/63 Park on Elliott Bay. It would be the only free guest moorage on the Seattle downtown waterfront. Seattle's downtown waterfront is quite underserved with only five guest moorage slips provided at the Bell Harbor Marina. The new floating dock would be 200 feet long and would accommodate provide short-stay moorage for motorized boats up to 26 feet long. Recreational boaters would have access to all of the amenities in Seattle's waterfront and downtown. The project is ready-to-go and has the support of the Seattle Parks District Oversight

Boating Facilities Program-Local Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Commission, the Friends of the Seattle Waterfront, and others. Seattle will contribute \$685,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2406)

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.

Boating Facilities Program (BFP) – Local Agency Category

- 16-2563P Kayak Point Boat Launch Renovation (1) Rank 3



Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians

Natural Resources Department

January 31, 2017

WA Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Re: Boating Facilities Program Project 16-2563
Kayak Point Boat Launch Renovation

To grant reviewers at the WA RCO office,

The Stillaguamish Tribe would like to express its support for Snohomish County's RCO Boating Facilities Program application for the Kayak Point Boat Launch Renovation.

The Stillaguamish Tribe is a party to the Treaty of Point Elliot in 1855, and our traditional areas include the land which comprises Kayak Point Park. The Tribe is and has been an active steward of Port Susan shores and waters. This includes collecting water samples from Kayak Point Park during the summer season for the Department of Ecology Beach Environmental Assessment, Communication and Health Program (BEACH). BEACH is the program that monitors swimming beaches for public health safety.

The boat launch at Kayak Point Park is the primary boat launching facility used by the Stillaguamish Tribe. We use the launch at least once a month in winter and at two to four times a month from spring through autumn. The activities the Tribe conducts when launching from Kayak Point include water quality monitoring, estuary health and productivity research, harmful algal bloom monitoring, salmon and shellfish research, youth education, and youth subsistence crabbing. At this time the Tribe is not commercially fishing in Port Susan. Should the Tribe ever decide to embark on active fishing or crabbing, our use of the boat launch would easily double.

The current boat launch does not adequately serve the needs of the Tribe or the public. It can be extremely difficult to launch at the ramp during tides less than zero feet due to the shallow depth, yet it is hard to avoid such tides during summer months. High tidal exchanges move sediment so rapidly onto the ramp that Tribal staff bring shovels to dig out our tires in the event our vehicles get stuck. Park staff work hard to keep the ramp clear but they cannot be expected to standby during an entire tidal cycle and

clear the ramp with every foot of cement that becomes exposed. Finally, during crabbing season, the vehicle back-up to launch boats often extends the entire length of the waterward portion of the park driveway.

The Tribe has reviewed the proposal and supports the launch planning process, particularly the care and effort that will be taken to properly assess and address cultural and natural resources within the project area. The Tribe looks forward to participating in tribal coordination meetings for the boating facility renovation phase and other phases of the renovation of Kayak Point Park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shawn Yanity', is written over a faint, larger signature.

Shawn Yanity
Tribal Chairman and Fisheries Manager
Stillaguamish Tribe

Cc: Scott Mannakee, Stillaguamish Legal Advisor
Kerry Lyste, Stillaguamish Cultural Resources
Gina Gray, Stillaguamish Natural Resources
Franchesca Perez, Stillaguamish Natural Resources
Sharon Swan, Snohomish County Parks

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Recreational Trails Program (RTP):
Review and Approve Preliminary Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium

Prepared By: Darrell Jennings, Senior Grant Manager

Summary

Applicants submitted fifty-eight projects for the the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). This memo describes the program, evaluation process, and the preliminary ranked lists. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the May 2017 meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked lists, which become the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for RTP.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☒ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☐ Briefing

Resolution: 2017-07, General Category Projects
2017-08, Education Category Projects

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects shown in Table 1 for each category.

Background

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal assistance program to assist states in creating and maintaining motorized and nonmotorized recreational trails. The federal program supports recreational trail uses. This includes walking, hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and off-road motorized vehicle driving, including off-road motorcycling, and all-terrain and four-wheel vehicle riding. In the federal program, grants may be used to secure trail right of way; assess trail conditions; construct and maintain recreational trails, trailheads, and trailside facilities; purchase equipment for constructing and maintaining; and education programs for safety and environmental protection.

Each state develops its own procedures to solicit and select projects for funding in response to their recreational trail needs. In 1996 the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) chose to use Washington State's allocation of RTP money to reduce the backlog of deferred maintenance on recreational trails that provide a backcountry experience.

The RTP has two categories: General and Education. The general category provides grants for maintaining existing recreational trails and developing short linking trails, trail-side and trailhead facilities. The education category funds education programs that convey a safety or environmental protection message.

Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State agencies • Tribal governments • Nonprofit organizations • Federal agencies • Local agencies
Eligible Project Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development (limited) • Maintenance, renovation, and reconstruction • Education
Match Requirements	Grant recipients must provide at least 20 percent in matching resources. An evaluation criterion encourages non-RCO match contributions by awarding additional points.
Grant Limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minimum fund request for a project is \$5,000 • The maximum fund requests are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$20,000 – Education (education activities or signs) ○ \$150,000 – General (development or maintenance)
Other Program Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects must provide a backcountry experience. • The project setting should be predominately natural. • Funds must be used for both motorized and nonmotorized recreation.

Rules governing the program are found in 2 CFR part 200, Federal Highway Administration's *Recreational Trails Program Guidance*, and Washington Administrative Code Chapter 286-13. The board's program policies and adopted evaluation criteria are in Manual #16, [Recreational Trails Program](#).

Program Eligibility

The RTP has two major requirements for states to be eligible to receive an apportionment:

1. The Governor of the state shall designate an agency that will be responsible for administering the RTP program and funding; and
2. The state shall establish a state recreational trail advisory committee that represents both motorized and nonmotorized recreational trails users, which shall meet not less often than once per federal fiscal year.

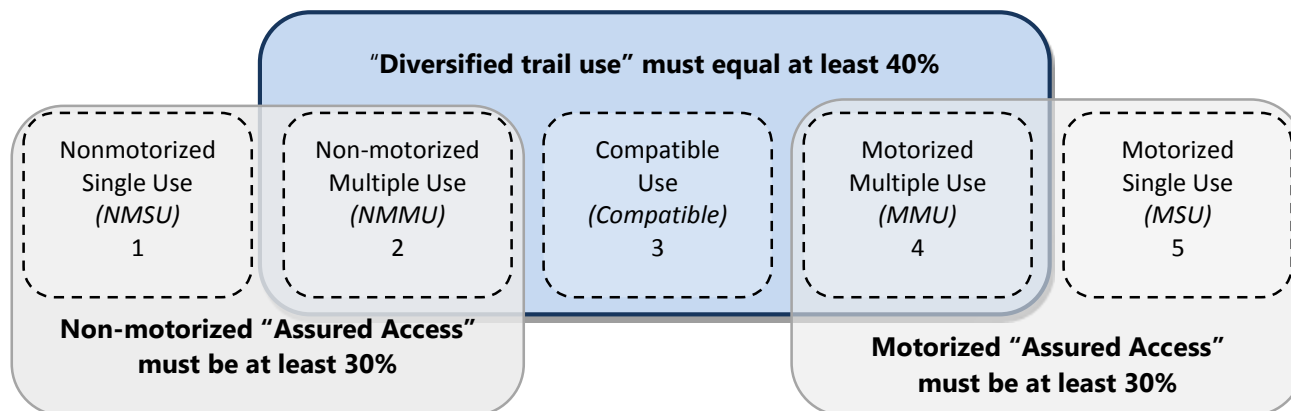
RTP legislation further requires that states are responsible for having a State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) or a recreational trail plan to guide it in administering and setting priorities for distribution of RTP funding.

Program Funding

The RTP applies the "user-pay/user-benefit" philosophy of the Federal Highway Trust Fund. Trail users pay the federal motor fuel excise tax for fuel used for nonhighway recreational trail use and receive the benefit of the RTP through funds provided to states for trail projects. On December 4, 2015, the RTP was reauthorized as part of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, for Federal Fiscal Years 2016-20.

Assured Access Allocation

RTP has five overlapping classes. The classes apply to both general and education category projects. Grant proposals are classified as to the types of trails that the project work is targeting.



Under the provisions of the RTP governing act¹, there are requirements the board must observe in awarding funds among these classes:

- A minimum of 40 percent of the funds must be given to projects that serve diversified trail uses (categories 2, 3, and 4).
- A minimum of 30 percent of the project funds *must* be reserved for uses relating to motorized recreation (categories 4 and 5). These are known as assured access.
- A minimum of 30 percent also *must* be reserved for uses relating to non-motorized recreation (categories 1 and 2). These also are known as assured access.

A state *may* allocate up to five percent of its total apportionment for programs that promote trail safety and environmental protection. The Recreational Trails Program Advisory Committee recommends that the board allocate five percent of its funding for education category projects. Education proposals are also funded using the assured access allocations.

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) accepts RTP grant proposals every other year, even though the state receives a new RTP allocation each federal fiscal year. In late March 2017, RCO received its apportionment of \$1,867,407 for federal fiscal year 2017. RCO expects to receive a similar amount for federal fiscal year 2018 during the next fiscal year for nearly \$3.6 million that can be allocated to this list of proposals. Therefore, the board will allocate two federal fiscal years of RTP funding to the current list. The first allocation will be in July 2017. The next will occur after RCO receives spending authority for federal fiscal year 2018 funding.

As of this writing, the Legislature has not yet adopted a state capital budget for the 2017-19 biennium, authorizing the board to expend the RTP funds. Staff will present the funding decision to the board at their July 2017 meeting.

¹ Part B of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, amended in the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995, and SAFETEA-LU of 2005.

Overview and Analysis

Evaluation Summary

The RTP Advisory Committee evaluated fifty-eight proposals totaling over \$4.7 million in grant requests. There were forty-four proposals in the general category, and fourteen in the education category.

RTP category	Proposals	Request	Match	Total
General	44	\$4,515,782	\$6,032,061	\$10,547,843
Education	14	\$257,143	\$292,960	\$550,103
Total	58	\$4,772,925	\$6,325,021	\$11,097,946

Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the RCO director, are selected for their expertise, experience, and technical knowledge related to recreational trails.

Advisory Committee Member	Representing	Agency/Organization
Steve Brand	Land manager	WA State Parks
Charlotte Claybrooke	Transportation	WA Dept of Transportation
Daniel Collins	Citizen at large	
Don Crook	Nonmotorized boating	
Kevin Farrell	Hiking	
Durlyn Finnie	Citizen at large	
James Hall	4x4 driving	
John Hansen	Land Manager	WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife
Ted Jackson ²	All-Terrain Vehicle riding	
Jonn Lunsford	Local agency	City of Anacortes
Mat Lyons	Mountain bicycling	
Gary Paull	Land manager	US Forest Service
Sandy Sternod ²	Snowmobiling	
Marc Toenyan	ORV / motorcycle riding	
Patricia Wible	Stock / equestrian riding	

The evaluation team reviewed the proposals using a written, score-at-home process using evaluation criteria adopted by the board. The results of the evaluations for each category, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – Recreational Trails Program, Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects, 2017-19*, and *Table 1 – Recreational Trails Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Education Category Projects, 2017-19*.

² Did not participate in evaluation of grant proposals.

Review of Process and Evaluation Criteria

At the grant results meeting, the advisory committee had a good discussion about the resulting project rankings. The committee was joined by Dean Moberg, Federal Highways Administration (FHWA), who oversees RCO's administration of the RTP. Generally, they felt the process was fair and effective in creating a prioritized list of projects. They did express appreciation for the improvements in how evaluation material packets were prepared and presented for their review, including increasing the number of pages for evaluation criteria responses.

Statewide projects

For the second grant cycle, the advisory committee expressed concerns about the statewide trail maintenance proposals submitted by nonprofit organizations. While they recognize the important role these organizations perform in maintaining trails, they are dismayed that grant proposals that are broad and vaguely scoped are consistently ranked high in the process. These statewide trail maintenance organizations often have overwhelming amounts of donated labor included as their match. The committee suggested limits on the number of grants a single organization can receive. They also requested having more information about an organization's performance on past grants to validate those contributions and also to understand the organization's ability to follow through with prior pledges as part of the information they receive to evaluate the projects.

Winter snow grooming, urban trails and bridges

The advisory committee noted the low number of submitted proposals for work on motorized trails in the portfolio. Motorized projects, particularly snow grooming proposals, are consistently low ranking over the history of the program. There is some thought that the board's priority for reducing deferred maintenance rather than projects for routine grooming could be putting motorized proposals of this nature at a disadvantage.

Motorized trail projects

This year saw an overall decline in RTP grant proposals from seventy-nine in 2014 to fifty-seven in 2016. There was also a decrease in the number of proposals for motorized trails. With our projected apportionments and the assured access funding requirement, we believe we do not have enough motorized trail proposals to commit all of the motorized funding once it's received.

Evaluation criteria

Following the 2014 grant round, the advisory committee requested changes to several of the evaluation criteria.

- The committee felt that the *Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship* criterion needs a commonly understood definition for sustainability; that ten points is excessive and disadvantageous to snow-grooming projects; and that applicants use key words to gain points but the criterion doesn't necessarily change or influence the scope of work.
- They also felt that the criterion on *Readiness to Proceed* is not much of a factor for any of the projects, since the vast majority are trail maintenance proposals that require very little if any design or permitting.
- Several members felt that the *Cost Benefit* criterion weight should be increased because this criterion is a good way to measure the merits of a proposal. They also requested having more information in the application to substantiate an applicant's cost of maintaining trails.

Project mapping

The advisory committee again noted their desire for RCO to develop and provide maps at the program level, and for the proposals for work at various locations around the state. While a proposal is measured on its individual merits, the advisory committee wants to see the “big picture” and has the desire to see how nearby proposals relate or support one another. They feel understanding this relationship will help them better evaluate a specific proposal’s need in a geographic area, and to see the distribution of proposals. Staff want this same capability to assess and understand how proposals from different programs, primarily the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) program relate to RTP proposals since the work is often similar, complementary, or contiguous.

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 RTP funding directly support board-adopted priorities in the *Outdoor Recreation in Washington: The 2013 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)*.

Public Comment

See Attachment F for General Category letters. See Attachment L for Education Category letters.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve Resolution 2017-07, including *Table 1 – Recreational Trails Program, Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects, 2017-19*, and Resolution 2017-08, including *Table 1 – Recreational Trails Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Education Category Projects, 2017-19*.

Next Steps

The board will make final approval and funding decisions at its July 2017 meeting after the Legislature approves program funding in the capital budget.

Attachments

Decision Package 1: Recreational Trails Program, General Category

- A. Resolution 2017-07
 - *Table 1 – Recreational Trails Program, Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects, 2017-19*
- B. State Map of Projects
- C. Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Evaluation Scoring Summary 2017-19
- E. Project Summaries
- F. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

Decision Package 2: Recreational Trails Program, Education Category

- G. Resolution 2017-08
 - *Table 1 – Recreational Trails Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Education Category Projects, 2017-19*
- H. State Map of Projects
- I. Evaluation Criteria Summary
- J. Evaluation Scoring Summary 2017-19
- K. Project Summaries
- L. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-07
Recreational Trails Program – General Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, forty-four Recreational Trails Program (RTP) General Category proposals are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all forty-four projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 16, *Recreational Trails Program*; and

WHEREAS, these projects were evaluated by thirteen members of the advisory committee using Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation process and criteria, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the advisory committee and board have discussed and reviewed these evaluations in open public meetings, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, if funded, the projects will provide for maintaining recreational trails, developing trailhead facilities, and operating environmental education and trail safety programs, 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 – Recreational Trails Programs, Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Recreational Trails Program
Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 44	74.31	16-2249M	Statewide Backcountry Trail Maintenance	Washington Trails Association	\$150,000	\$490,000	\$640,000	\$150,000
2 of 44	73.69	16-2248M	Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance	Washington Trails Association	\$150,000	\$930,000	\$1,080,000	\$300,000
3 of 44	71.23	16-2250M	Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance	Washington Trails Association	\$98,000	\$345,000	\$443,000	\$398,000
4 of 44	70.38	16-2724M	Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance	\$150,000	\$425,300	\$575,300	\$548,000
5 of 44	69.77	16-2429M	Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance	U.S.Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$150,000	\$155,603	\$305,603	\$698,000
6 of 44	68.85	16-2259M	Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintanence	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$848,000
7 of 44	68.23	16-2464M	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wilderness Trails Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Cowlitz Valley Ranger District	\$134,624	\$158,654	\$293,278	\$982,624
8 of 44	67.62	16-2675M	Maintaining Forest Service Trails	Back Country Horsemen of Washington	\$150,000	\$208,500	\$358,500	\$1,132,624
9 of 44	67.46	16-2529M	Pacific Northwest Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Fores,t Methow Ranger District	\$136,600	\$115,850	\$252,450	\$1,269,224
10 of 44	67.08	16-2392M	Maintenance on the Pacific Crest Trail	Pacific Crest Trail Association	\$64,880	\$180,000	\$244,880	\$1,334,104
11 of 44	67.00	16-2271M	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail Maintenance	Mountains to Sound Greenway	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$1,484,104
12 of 44	66.69	16-2714M	Maintaining Non-Forest Service Trails	Back Country Horsemen of Washington	\$146,418	\$243,406	\$389,824	\$1,630,522
13 of 44	66.31	16-2319M	Lower Lake Chelan Winter and Summer Trails	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$1,780,522
13 of 44	66.31	16-2504M	Naches Ranger District Motorized Trail Deferred Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$150,000	\$123,000	\$273,000	\$1,930,522
15 of 44	66.15	16-2435M	Cle Elum Ranger District Nonmotorized Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$108,500	\$92,000	\$200,500	\$2,039,022

Table 1: Recreational Trails Program

Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects
2017-19

Attachment A
Resolution: 2017-07

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
16 of 44	65.46	16-2775D	Raven Roost Trailhead Improvement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$20,598	\$45,499	\$66,097	\$2,059,620
17 of 44	64.54	16-2577M	Naches Wilderness Trails Deferred Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$72,000	\$59,378	\$131,378	\$2,131,620
17 of 44	64.54	16-2579M	Okanogan Pacific Northwest Trail Association Youth and Volunteer Crews	Pacific Northwest Trail Association	\$74,250	\$74,250	\$148,500	\$2,205,870
19 of 44	64.39	16-2616D	Chambers Creek Canyon Bridge Crossing	Pierce County Parks and Recreation	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$2,355,870
20 of 44	64.23	16-2298M	Cle Elum Winter Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$42,000	\$42,500	\$84,500	\$2,397,870
21 of 44	63.15	16-2421M	Upper Lake Chelan Trails	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Chelan Ranger District	\$150,000	\$132,000	\$282,000	\$2,547,870
22 of 44	63.08	16-2375M	East Snoqualmie Corridor Trails and Facilities Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$85,000	\$69,560	\$154,560	\$2,632,870
23 of 44	62.54	16-2598M	Colville Youth and Volunteer Crews	Pacific Northwest Trail Association	\$74,250	\$74,250	\$148,500	\$2,707,120
24 of 44	61.15	16-2688M	Ferry County Rail Trail Winter Grooming	Ferry County Rail Trail Partners	\$13,700	\$11,300	\$25,000	\$2,720,820
25 of 44	60.62	16-2523M	Snoqualmie White River Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$93,500	\$114,200	\$207,700	\$2,814,320
26 of 44	60.54	16-2256M	Nooksack Nordic Ski Club Salmon Ridge Trail Maintenance	Nooksack Nordic Ski Club	\$21,214	\$28,446	\$49,660	\$2,835,534
27 of 44	60.15	16-2231M	Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	\$40,000	\$87,241	\$127,241	\$2,875,534
28 of 44	60.00	16-2786M	Moran State Park	San Juan Island Conservation District	\$35,180	\$35,500	\$70,680	\$2,910,714
29 of 44	59.46	16-2524M	Evans Creek Off-road Vehicle Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie Natinal Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$75,000	\$76,000	\$151,000	\$2,985,714
30 of 44	59.15	16-2470M	Heather Meadows Area Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$150,000	\$72,880	\$222,880	\$3,135,714

Table 1: Recreational Trails Program

Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects
2017-19

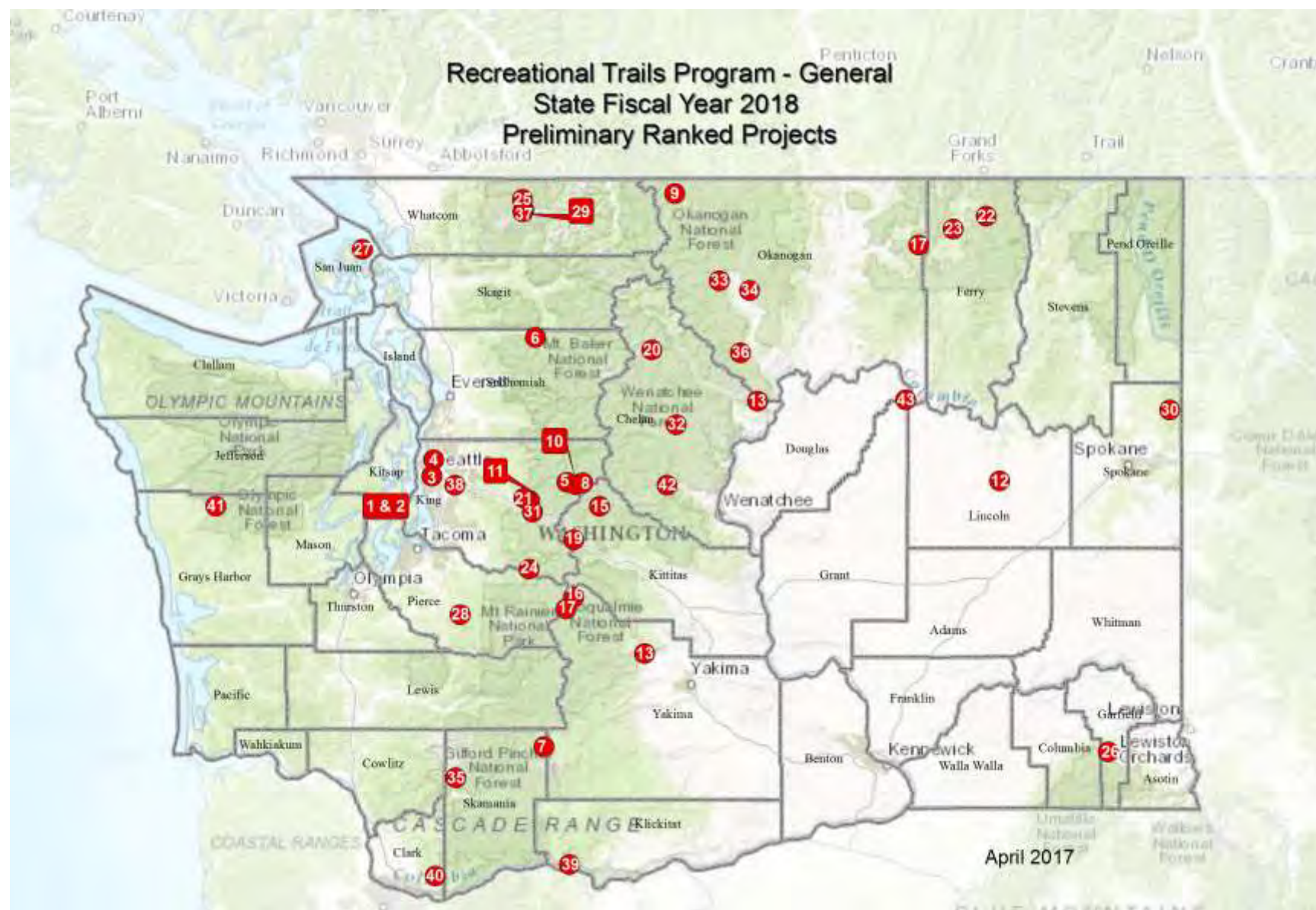
Attachment A

Resolution: 2017-07

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
31 of 44	58.92	16-2245M	Mount Spokane Nordic System Plowing and Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$65,513	\$65,513	\$131,026	\$3,201,227
32 of 44	57.46	16-2377D	Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Area Trail System Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$115,000	\$49,300	\$164,300	\$3,316,227
33 of 44	57.38	16-2700M	Snowmobile Trails Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$64,000	\$160,000	\$224,000	\$3,380,227
34 of 44	56.23	16-2769M	Methow Firebreak and Trail Enhancement	Methow Valley Sport Trail Association	\$52,765	\$73,000	\$125,765	\$3,432,992
35 of 44	55.54	16-2513M	Okanogan Highlands Snowmobile Program	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$79,406	\$79,406	\$158,812	\$3,512,398
36 of 44	55.38	16-2511M	South Cascades Snowmobile Trail Program	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$150,000	\$288,478	\$438,478	\$3,662,398
37 of 44	55.31	16-2594M	Sawtooth Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$103,475	\$56,487	\$159,962	\$3,765,873
38 of 44	54.62	16-2617M	Heather Meadows Americans with Disabilities Act Asphalt Repair and Improvement	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$115,000	\$35,000	\$150,000	\$3,880,873
39 of 44	51.46	16-2630M	Lower Coal Creek Trail Renovation	Bellevue	\$150,000	\$86,610	\$236,610	\$4,030,873
40 of 44	51.00	16-2783M	Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration	U.S. Forest Service, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area	\$64,709	\$17,500	\$82,209	\$4,095,582
41 of 44	50.00	16-2794M	Jones Creek Off Highway Vehicle Maintenance	Jones Creek Trail Riders Association	\$41,750	\$23,250	\$65,000	\$4,137,332
42 of 44	48.85	16-2628M	Quinault Rain Forest Nature Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest Pacific, Ranger District Quinault	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$200,000	\$4,287,332
43 of 44	47.46	16-2754D	Leavenworth Hatchery Trail	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	\$120,000	\$30,000	\$150,000	\$4,407,332
44 of 44	41.00	16-2322D	Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development	Coulee Dam	\$108,450	\$27,200	\$135,650	\$4,515,782
					\$4,515,782	\$6,032,061	\$10,547,843	

*Project Types: D=Development, M=Maintenance

State Map for Recreational Trails Program General Category Projects



*Project numbers are in ranked order as shown in Table 1.

Recreational Trails Program

General Category

Evaluation Criteria Summary

Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

Scored by	Question	Criteria Title	Project Type Questions	Maximum Points
Advisory Committee	1	Need	All	15
Advisory Committee	2	Need satisfaction	All	15
Advisory Committee	3	Project design	Development	10
Advisory Committee	4	Maintenance	Maintenance	10
Advisory Committee	5	Sustainability and environmental stewardship	All	10
Advisory Committee	6	Readiness to proceed	All	5
Advisory Committee	7	Cost-benefit	All	5
Advisory Committee	8	Cost efficiencies	All	5
Advisory Committee	9	Project support	All	10
RCO Staff	10	Matching shares	All	10
RCO Staff	11	Growth Management Act preference	All	0
Total Points Possible				85

Scoring Criteria: General Category**Scored by Advisory Committee**

1. **Need.** How great is the need for improved trail facilities that provide a backcountry experience?
2. **Need satisfaction.** To what extent will the project satisfy the service area needs identified in Question 1, Need?
3. **Project design.** Is the proposal appropriately designed for intended uses and users? (Development projects)
4. **Maintenance.** To what degree will the project reduce recreational trail maintenance backlogs and/or recreate a recreational trail opportunity? (Maintenance projects)
5. **Sustainability and environmental stewardship.** Will the project result in a quality, sustainable, recreational opportunity while protecting the integrity of the environment?
6. **Readiness to proceed.** Is the applicant prepared to begin the project?
7. **Cost-benefit.** Do the benefits of the project outweigh costs?
8. **Cost Efficiencies.** To what extent does this project demonstrate efficiencies or a reduction in government costs through documented use of donations or other resources?
9. **Project support.** To what extent do users and the public support the project?

Scored by RCO Staff

10. **Matching shares.** To what extent will the applicant match the RTP grant with contributions from its own resources?
11. **Growth Management Act Preference.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?

General Category Projects
Evaluation Scores

Attachment D

Recreational Trails Program
2017-19

	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9
	Project Name	Need	Need Satisfaction	Project Design	Maintenance	Sustainability, Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Cost Benefit	Cost Efficiencies	Project Support	Matching Share	GMA* Preference	Total
1	Statewide Backcountry Trail Maintenance	12.69	14.08		8.31	8.00	4.38	4.38	4.31	8.15	10.00	0.00	74.31
2	Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance	12.69	13.38		8.31	7.85	4.31	4.38	4.31	8.46	10.00	0.00	73.69
3	Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance	12.46	12.46		7.54	8.15	4.38	3.92	3.69	8.62	10.00	0.00	71.23
4	Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance	12.69	13.15		6.92	6.92	3.85	3.62	3.85	9.38	10.00	0.00	70.38
5	Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance	12.92	11.77		7.54	7.54	4.15	3.85	3.69	8.31	10.00	0.00	69.77
6	Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance	12.46	11.77		7.23	7.23	4.31	3.62	3.62	8.62	10.00	0.00	68.85
7	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wilderness Trail Maintenance	12.00	11.54		7.69	8.00	4.15	3.69	3.62	7.54	10.00	0.00	68.23
8	Maintaining Forest Service Trails	10.85	11.31		7.69	7.85	3.92	3.46	3.77	8.77	10.00	0.00	67.62
9	Pacific Northwest Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance	12.00	11.54		7.38	7.23	4.00	3.92	3.69	7.69	10.00	0.00	67.46
10	Maintenance on the Pacific Crest Trail	12.69	11.31		7.23	7.38	4.00	3.85	3.69	6.92	10.00	0.00	67.08
11	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail Maintenance	12.46	10.62		7.38	6.77	3.85	3.46	3.54	8.92	10.00	0.00	67.00
12	Maintaining Non-Forest Service Trails	10.85	10.85		7.38	7.54	4.00	3.38	3.77	8.92	10.00	0.00	66.69
13	Lower Lake Chelan Winter Summer Trails	11.54	12.46		8.00	7.23	4.15	3.46	3.62	5.85	10.00	0.00	66.31
13	Naches Ranger District Motorized Trail Deferred Maintenance	11.77	12.00		6.92	6.46	3.92	3.54	3.54	8.15	10.00	0.00	66.31

General Category Projects
Evaluation Scores

Attachment D

Recreational Trails Program
2017-19

	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9
	Project Name	Need	Need Satisfaction	Project Design	Maintenance	Sustainability, Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Cost Benefit	Cost Efficiencies	Project Support	Matching Share	GMA* Preference	Total
15	Cle Elum Ranger District Nonmotorized Trail Maintenance	11.08	11.31		7.54	6.77	4.08	3.46	3.46	8.46	10.00	0.00	66.15
16	Raven Roost Trailhead Improvement	10.62	11.31	7.23		6.92	3.46	3.77	3.69	8.46	10.00	0.00	65.46
17	Naches Wilderness Trails Deferred Maintenance	11.31	12.00		7.08	6.92	3.85	3.38	3.23	6.77	10.00	0.00	64.54
17	Okanogan Pacific Northwest Trail Association Youth and Volunteer Crews	10.15	10.38		7.23	7.23	4.08	3.69	3.46	8.31	10.00	0.00	64.54
19	Chambers Creek Canyon Bridge Crossing	9.46	11.54	7.54		7.39	3.46	3.46	3.23	8.31	10.00	0.00	64.39
20	Cle Elum Winter Trail Maintenance	10.38	11.08		7.85	6.46	3.77	3.38	3.31	8.00	10.00	0.00	64.23
21	Upper Lake Chelan Trails	10.15	11.31		7.69	7.54	3.85	3.46	3.62	5.54	10.00	0.00	63.15
22	East Snoqualmie Corridor Trails and Facilities Maintenance	11.08	10.62		7.23	7.38	3.85	3.15	3.46	8.31	8.00	0.00	63.08
23	Colville Youth and Volunteer Crews	10.15	10.38		6.77	7.08	3.85	3.46	3.31	7.54	10.00	0.00	62.54
24	Ferry County Rail Trail Winter Grooming	10.38	10.15		7.08	6.77	3.62	3.46	3.69	6.00	10.00	0.00	61.15
25	Snoqualmie White River Trail Maintenance	9.92	9.92		6.31	6.62	3.54	3.23	3.23	7.85	10.00	0.00	60.62
26	Nooksack Nordic Ski Club Salmon Ridge Trail Maintenance	10.15	10.85		6.62	6.31	3.85	3.46	3.31	6.00	10.00	0.00	60.54
27	Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming	9.00	10.38		6.31	6.15	4.08	3.08	3.15	8.00	10.00	0.00	60.15
28	Moran State Park	10.85	10.62		6.62	6.92	3.15	3.31	3.31	5.23	10.00	0.00	60.00

General Category Projects
Evaluation Scores

Attachment D

Recreational Trails Program
2017-19

	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9
	Project Name	Need	Need Satisfaction	Project Design	Maintenance	Sustainability, Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Cost Benefit	Cost Efficiencies	Project Support	Matching Share	GMA* Preference	Total
29	Evans Creek Off Road Vehicle Maintenance	10.85	9.92		6.77	6.46	3.92	3.08	3.23	5.23	10.00	0.00	59.46
30	Heather Meadows Area Trail Maintenance	11.31	11.54		7.23	7.85	3.85	3.31	3.62	6.46	4.00	0.00	59.15
31	Mount Spokane Nordic System Plowing and Grooming	10.38	9.92		6.62	6.46	3.92	3.08	3.31	5.23	10.00	0.00	58.92
32	Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Area Trail System Expansion	10.15	11.08	7.08		7.38	3.38	3.08	3.00	8.31	4.00	0.00	57.46
33	Snowmobile Trails Maintenance	9.69	10.62		6.46	5.85	3.77	3.00	3.23	4.77	10.00	0.00	57.38
34	Methow Firebreak and Trail Enhancement	8.31	9.46		6.15	5.85	3.69	2.92	3.08	6.77	10.00	0.00	56.23
35	Okanogan Highlands Snowmobile Program	9.46	8.31		6.46	5.69	3.92	3.23	3.23	5.23	10.00	0.00	55.54
36	South Cascades Snowmobile Trail Program	9.46	8.77		6.31	5.38	3.77	3.15	3.31	5.23	10.00	0.00	55.38
37	Sawtooth Trail Maintenance	10.62	10.38		6.92	5.85	3.54	3.46	3.00	5.54	6.00	0.00	55.31
38	Heather Meadows Americans with Disabilities Act Asphalt Repair and Improvements	11.54	12.00		7.69	7.38	3.69	3.23	3.23	5.85	0.00	0.00	54.62
39	Lower Coal Creek Trail Renovation	8.31	9.46		6.77	6.62	3.00	2.77	2.54	6.00	6.00	0.00	51.46
40	Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration	9.46	10.62		7.23	6.92	3.31	3.08	2.85	7.54	0.00	0.00	51.00
41	Jones Creek Off Highway Vehicle Maintenance	8.77	9.69		5.54	5.69	3.54	3.08	3.08	4.62	6.00	0.00	50.00

General Category Projects
Evaluation Scores

Attachment D

Recreational Trails Program
 2017-19

	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9
	Project Name	Need	Need Satisfaction	Project Design	Maintenance	Sustainability, Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Cost Benefit	Cost Efficiencies	Project Support	Matching Share	GMA* Preference	Total
42	Quinault Rain Forest Nature Trail Maintenance	9.46	10.85		7.54	6.92	3.46	3.38	2.77	4.46	0.00	0.00	48.85
43	Leavenworth Hatchery Trail	7.85	8.77	6.92		7.69	2.85	2.46	2.92	8.00	0.00	0.00	47.46
44	Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development	6.92	8.31	5.23		6.46	2.85	2.31	2.46	6.46	0.00	0.00	41.00

Evaluators score Questions 1-9; RCO staff scores Questions 10-11.

*GMA=Growth Management Act

General Category Projects Summaries (In Rank Order)



Washington Trails Association Statewide Backcountry Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to maintain 350 miles of backcountry trails in Washington. The project will support 100 weeklong Volunteer Vacations and Backcountry Response Teams throughout the Cascades, Olympics, Selkirks/Kettle Range and Blue Mountains. WTA backcountry crews perform a wide variety of maintenance tasks, such as brushing and retread. Crew leaders are also trained to complete technical projects, such as installing a crib wall to stabilize a switchback, or building a bridge using materials found on site. Washington Trails Association's backcountry volunteers will provide 30,000 hours of trail maintenance (\$450,000 in kind). In total, matching contributions of volunteer labor and cash will provide 77% of the project's total value. The Washington Trails Association will contribute \$490,000 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2249)

Washington Trails Association Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to maintain 375 miles of hiking trails in Washington. This project will improve the trail experience of more than 3.9 million hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers from the major urban areas of Puget Sound, Vancouver and Spokane, as well as smaller communities statewide. The Washington Trails Association will coordinate with land managers and recruit volunteers to complete 60,000 hours of trail maintenance on 600 work parties, addressing each land manager's most pressing needs, whether that's brushing and drainage maintenance on heavily used trails, clearing out storm damage, or replacing old puncheon and bridges. The Washington Trails Association will contribute \$930,000 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2248)

Washington Trails Association Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$98,000

Washington Trails Association (WTA) will use this grant to engage youth volunteers in 21,000 hours of trail maintenance on 84 miles of hiking trails in Washington. The two-year project will engage hundreds of youth to address trail maintenance backlogs and improve family-friendly hiking, mountain biking and equestrian opportunities. The Outdoor Industry Association estimates more than 240,000 youth hike in Washington every year. This project teaches young people the technical skills and stewardship ethic necessary to maintain our trail system. Half of the project will consist of day-long work parties for youth, families and other youth-serving organizations. These events will occur around the state, generally within an hour of Washington's major population centers including Seattle, Tacoma, Vancouver and Bellingham. The rest of the project will be completed with 1- and 2-week Youth Volunteer Vacations, which allow high-school-aged volunteers to set up camp and work more intensively on projects, often on backcountry trails in the Olympics, Cascades and Selkirks. The federal, state, and local land managers involved in this project highly value the opportunity to involve the next generation in leveraging volunteer support for trails. WTA youth volunteers will build rock steps, re-deck bridges and uncover lost sections of trail, in addition to performing routine, but necessary, maintenance. RTP funds will be matched more than three

General Category Projects Summaries (In Rank Order)



times over by cash and volunteer labor contributions from WTA. The Washington Trails Association will contribute \$345,000 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2250)

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance proposes to provide 23,020 hours of volunteer labor to maintain over 200 miles non-motorized trails that are of critical importance to mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians statewide. Benefits of our work are threefold: 1) Land manager budget constraints and backlogs have meant that many of the trails covered by this grant application receive little to no maintenance beyond what our community will perform. Our volunteer support and additional matching funds leverages public funds with a \$3.80 match for every \$1 of RCO funding. 2) Increased use of trails have increased maintenance needs. Our community is ready and eager to assist, to help ensure trails continue to be sustainable and to protect habitat. 3) Over 60 new trail miles are being built by Evergreen in the current biennium and are slated to open in 2017. These new trails will require maintenance attention as early as fall 2017. We stand ready to take care of them and have increased our commitment to help meet the demands of our expanding non-motorized trail networks. Evergreen works closely with land managers statewide to identify areas with critical need for maintenance and repairs. We also respond to emergency repairs due to seasonal or storm damage, and mobilize volunteers for early season trail openings. We have a proven track record of high-quality maintenance work, and foster long-term volunteer engagement and new trail stewards who value and help protect public lands and trails. The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance will contribute \$425,300 in a local grant, a private grant, and donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2724)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use these funds to perform seasonal trail maintenance in 2018-2019. Work will include clearing, brushing, drainage, and tread repair along 150 miles of recreation trails in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and surrounding backcountry. Trail maintenance will be accomplished on Forest Service trails within the watersheds of North, Middle and South Forks of the Snoqualmie River, which include trails along the I-90 corridor. More than 150,000 visitors utilize trails in these areas each year. Social and environmental factors such as high visitor use, steep grades, dense forests and winter storms have created conditions of backlogged maintenance within the proposed project area. Existing Forest Service budgets are not sufficient to address ongoing maintenance needs. Thirty-five percent of the trail miles in this project area are non-motorized/multiple use and sixty-five percent are hiker only. There is an emphasis on addressing deferred maintenance for the 35% of multiple use trails for non-hiking NOVA recreationists. Funding will be used to support trail maintenance performed by contractors, force account crews, nonprofit organizations and volunteers including MTSG, EarthCorps, WTA, VOW, NYC, SCA, PNTA, PCTA, BCHA, Boy Scouts, and local school groups. Benefits include fewer safety hazards, reduced erosion and vegetation loss, preservation of trail structures, longer life span for trail facilities, and enhanced public access for outdoor recreation activities. The Forest Service will contribute \$155,603 in staff labor and

General Category Projects Summaries (In Rank Order)



donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2429)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District, Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

The Darrington Ranger District will use this funding to implement annual and backlog trail maintenance activities on approximately 200 miles of trails district wide. These trails provide for overnight and multiple-day backcountry hiking and equestrian experiences within close proximity of Seattle and Everett. The project includes trails off the Mountain Loop Scenic Byway and portions of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and its access trails. This grant will fund 4 seasonal trail crew members over two summers. The Forest Service crew will work in the more remote wilderness areas of the district requiring nine day campouts. Annual maintenance includes removal of windfall, brushing, drainage upkeep, structure maintenance and repair, as well as heavier backlog maintenance. The Darrington Ranger District is an area of challenging maintenance conditions, with fast-growing brush, large old-growth trees, steep slopes, poor soils, and heavy precipitation. Continued annual maintenance of these trails is important to the safety of the public, lowers costs encountered with backlogged repairs, and enables the crew to cover more ground and maintain more miles of trails per year. The Forest Service will contribute \$150,000 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2259)

U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Cowlitz Valley Ranger District GPNF Wilderness Trails Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$134,624

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GPNF) will use this grant to accomplish routine annual and heavy maintenance on approximately 300 miles of wilderness system trails and associated trailheads over 2 years. Regular maintenance decreases resource damage, minimizes conflicts between user groups, and extends the life of the trails. The trail system is located in Lewis, Skamania, and Klickitat counties and offers scenic hiking and horseback riding through old growth forests and alpine meadows with stunning vistas of Mt. Adams, Mt. St. Helen's, and Mt. Rainier. The system also includes 81 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, crossing 4 distinct Wildernesses on the GPNF. Work will be accomplished by a seasoned 4-person crew on the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District in Randle, WA, and by a highly experienced crew on the Mt. Adams Ranger District in Trout Lake, WA. Volunteers will contribute 2800 hours of donated labor over 2 years, in partnership with groups such as the Pacific Crest Trail Association and the Back Country Horsemen of Washington. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this grant is hiking and horseback riding through 7 congressionally designated wilderness areas. It is estimated that 35,000 - 40,000 visitors recreate annually in Wilderness on the Gifford Pinchot. This grant will allow for continued access to the GPNF's inspiring and diverse wilderness trail system, while protecting local resources and promoting responsible wilderness use. The Forest Service will contribute \$158,654 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2464)

General Category Projects Summaries (In Rank Order)



Back Country Horsemen of Washington Maintaining Forest Service Trails

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) will use this grant to maintain backcountry and frontcountry trails at various locations throughout the state of Washington. Maintenance work will include trail log-out, brushing/clearing, replacement or repair of water bars, turnpikes and small bridges and standard maintenance or minor reconstruction of trail tread surfaces. Grant funds will also be used for the purchase of small tools and minor equipment. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project is safe and sustainable nonmotorized multiple use trail recreation. Trail work will be conducted at various areas throughout the state which include the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Indian Heaven Wilderness, the Salmo-Priest Wilderness, the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness, the Snoqualmie Ranger District, and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. BCHW has nearly doubled the number of chapters involved in the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and has submitted two grant requests for the first time in our successful history with RTP. The expense is divided nearly equally between US Forest Service properties and other properties. The Back Country Horsemen will contribute \$208,500 in donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2675)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District PNW Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$136,600

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this funding to address a backlog of deferred maintenance on the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail. The work will focus on the 85 mile section of trail that traverses the Pasayten Wilderness from East to West. Congress designated the trail a National Scenic Trail in 2009 and it is one of eleven National Scenic Trails. It is used by equestrians, hikers and backpackers. Routine maintenance has been limited to removing down logs and some brushing. This project will remove imbedded rock that is easily removed with pick or rockbar. Drainage structures that have failed will be repaired, turnpike ditches and culverts will be cleaned and repaired and encroaching small trees will be removed. Current Forest Service funding isn't sufficient to maintain this trail to the standard associated with a congressionally designated trail. The Forest Service will contribute \$115,850 in staff labor, equipment, and donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2529)

Pacific Crest Trail Association Maintenance on the Pacific Crest Trail

Grant Requested: \$64,880

Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) will use this grant to support community-based volunteers performing deferred maintenance on the 263 miles of Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail on the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests in Washington State. A backlog of maintenance caused by a lack of resources and funding is degrading the PCT experience. Overgrowing brush, deteriorating trail tread, clogged drainages and failing trail structures are causing significant environmental damage and safety concerns for trail users. If this deferred maintenance is not repaired soon, the trail will continue to erode at an accelerated rate, and trail users will continue to face unsafe hiking and riding conditions. PCTA volunteers will address the deferred maintenance needs through a combination of single-day and multi-day maintenance projects accomplishing everything from tread work to log out to drain clearing so that hikers, backpackers, and equestrians may enjoy the beauty of the

General Category Projects Summaries (In Rank Order)



public lands while traveling on a safe, passable trail. This work will be performed in coordination with the U.S. Forest Service. Volunteers will contribute at least 6,000 hours to completing deferred trail maintenance. The Pacific Crest Trail Association will contribute \$180,000 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2392)

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Grant Requested: \$150,000

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail Maintenance

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will use an RTP grant to maintain 80 miles of hiking, biking, and equestrian trails for two years in the Mountains to Sound Greenway in King and Kittitas counties. The 1.5-million acre Mountains to Sound Greenway stretches from Puget Sound across the Cascade Mountains to Central Washington, and includes some of the most popular trails in the state. This project will allow the Greenway Trust to complete needed trail maintenance (clearing wind-fallen timber, brushing, sign replacement, tread and drainage repairs, and minor trail structure repairs) in the "Issaquah Alps" of Cougar, Squak, Tiger, and Rattlesnake Mountains, destinations in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley, and other popular hiking trails along the Interstate 90 corridor. An RTP grant will support the Greenway Trust's sponsorship of AmeriCorps and conservation corps crews and members, Greenway Trust staff to spearhead maintenance efforts and provide oversight for coordination and leadership of volunteer events, and necessary tools and materials, and will be matched at least 1:1. The Greenway Trust will coordinate efforts with many of our recreation partners including two National Forests, the WA State Dept. of Natural Resources, WA State Parks, King County, with other nonprofits, and on land owned and managed by local and municipal governments. The primary recreation opportunity is to provide continued safe and sustainable access for non-motorized trail users. The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will contribute \$150,000 in staff labor, another grant, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2271)

Back Country Horsemen of Washington Maintaining Non-Forest Service Trails

Grant Requested: \$146,418

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) will use this grant to maintain backcountry and frontcountry trails at various locations throughout the state of Washington. Maintenance work will include trail log-out, brushing/clearing, replacement or repair of water bars, turnpikes and small bridges and standard maintenance or minor reconstruction of trail tread surfaces. Grant funds will also be used for the purchase of small tool and minor equipment. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project is safe and sustainable nonmotorized multiple use trail recreation. Trail work will be conducted at various areas throughout the state which include Olympic National Park, Olympic National Forest, Miller Peninsula Park, Gibbs Lake County Park, Rustler's Gulch Wildlife Area, the Lakeview and Telford Recreation Areas, Trillium Community Forest, Yacolt Burn State Forest and Carter Mountain Wildlife Area. BCHW has nearly doubled the number of chapters involved in the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and has submitted two grant requests for the first time in our successful history with RTP. The expense is divided nearly equally between US Forest Service properties and other properties. The Back Country Horsemen will contribute \$243,406 in donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2714)

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U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District, Naches Ranger District Motorized Trail Deferred Maintenance **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

The Naches Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain our 300+ mile motorcycle and 4-wheel drive trail system. The trails are located in Yakima and Kittitas County in central WA. Approximately 5.5 miles of those trails are located on land managed by The Nature Conservancy. Our goal is to clear 100% and complete all deferred maintenance (brushing, drainage, structure cleaning and repair, tread repair and sign maintenance) on approximately 15% or 50 miles of the trail system each year of this two year grant in order to keep the trail system safe and sustainable. Regular maintenance greatly reduces the need for costly reconstruction projects and helps to provide a safe and enjoyable trail experience. The primary recreation opportunity this grant will provide is safe, high-quality motorized trail experiences for motorcycle, jeep, quad and WATV riders. This RCO request includes salaries for a 5-person trail crew, crew leader, transportation and supplies. Work will be completed during the snow free season. The 47% match includes 1750 volunteer hours, crew leader salary, transportation, and misc. supplies. The Naches RD's motorized trail system receives extensive use from an estimated 35,000 recreationists each year on our 140 miles of motorcycle and 170 miles of four-wheel drive trails. The trail system is centrally located in WA State, and is an easy drive from the Seattle area. The area is well known for its variety of trail opportunities, diverse landscapes and sunny weather. The Forest Service will contribute \$123,000 in equipment, staff labor, a federal grant, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2504)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Chelan Ranger District, Lower Lake Chelan Winter/Summer Trails **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

The Chelan Ranger District will use this grant to perform trail maintenance on approximately 236 miles of motorized/non-motorized trails. The project area covers the southeast portion of the Chelan Ranger District. Maintenance work will include trail log-out, brushing/clearing, replacement, or repair of water bars, turnpikes and small bridges, and standard maintenance or minor reconstructions of trail tread surfaces. Grooming of winter trails will also take place for both snowmobile users and cross-country skiers. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is both summer and winter recreational trail use. The Forest Service will contribute \$150,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2319)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District, Cle Elum Ranger District Nonmotorized Trail Maintenance **Grant Requested: \$108,500**

The Cle Elum Ranger District of Okanogan-Wenatchee NF seeks this maintenance grant for 326 miles of non-motorized trails open to hikers, stock users and mountain bikers. This project's primary focus will be on reducing the backlog of trail maintenance work. This will ensure continued public use and enjoyment of trails while protecting adjacent natural resources. Our Kittitas County trails are only 53-100 miles via I-90 from 3+ million residents of Puget Sound, and very popular due to that proximity, easy access and quality. The primary recreation opportunity our trails provide is a primitive backcountry experience. The grant will fund a 4-6 person crew to cut logs and brush, repair/maintain trail structures and drainage structures, restore tread and make, install, maintain trail signs. It will also cover administration,

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coordination and support of our many volunteer groups. This project covers backlog maintenance of a large network of accessible, well-established trails that serves a large number of users and provides unique recreational opportunities for hikers, stock users and mountain bikers. They experience natural settings in roadless areas and the Alpine Lakes Wilderness with natural features like waterfalls, creeks and rivers, rugged peaks, glaciers, alpine meadows and forests. These opportunities and features bring in thousands of visitors a year, boosting the local economy through the purchase of meals, fuel, groceries, lodging, supplies, equipment, and services. The Forest Service will contribute \$92,000 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2435)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District, Raven Roost Trailhead Improvement

Grant Requested: \$20,598

The Naches District will renovate and expand the Raven Roost Trailhead with the intent of maintaining access into the Norse Peak Wilderness for hikers and stock users. The existing parking area was designated in 1990 when Road 1902 was blocked off here. Current capacity is about 4 cars or 3 stock trailers. Fishing, camping, hunting, and access into Crow Creek Lake are primary Wilderness uses. This trailhead is a well-known destination for pleasure drivers enjoying a magnificent 360 degree view of Mount Rainier and the central Washington Cascades. Parking demand is expected to increase as flooding has severely limited alternate access into this part of the Wilderness and future access via that trailhead remains unknown. 2015 Raven Roost Wilderness permits document 233 visitor use days and 138 stock use days here (a very conservative estimate as permits are not required). This project will enlarge, level, and gravel the trailhead driving and parking area to Forest Service standards allowing safer and more negotiable use for all visitors. Installing rock barriers will protect adjacent vegetation, including sensitive whitebark pine; and designated Wilderness. Signs and a bulletin board will be replaced. Raven Roost lies on high, dry, level ground. Investing here is a wise choice. The 68% match will come primarily from Job Corps (an excellent opportunity for heavy equipment students), with additional volunteer assistance. The U.S. Forest Service will contribute \$45,499 in materials, youth groups, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2775)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District, Naches Wilderness Trails Deferred Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$72,000

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to focus on high priority deferred maintenance needs at several specific locations across the Naches backcountry trail system located in and adjacent to the Norse Peak, W. O. Douglas and Goat Rocks Wilderness areas. The goal is to clear approximately 10 miles of trail with severe blow-down, repair 0.5 miles of trail tread, repair or replace 160 feet of puncheon/boardwalk, repair or replace 300 feet of turnpike, replace or repair 4 trail bridges, and replace signage at 16+ wilderness trailheads across the Naches Ranger District. This project's intent is to repair specific problem areas to provide overall safe, high quality backcountry trail experiences for stock and foot travelers while reducing a backlog of maintenance and reconstruction needs. Work will be completed over 2 years. This request includes 50 days each for a crew leader, 4 crew members' salary, and 2 weeks of a Northwest Youth Corps Crew. The 45.20% match includes 50 days of technical expert's salary, transportation, per

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diem, materials, volunteer labor, and logistics. The Naches RD backcountry trails receive about 30,000 visits annually (70% hiker and 30% stock). Structures to be repaired are typically 30+ years old, made of native materials, and have withstood 10-20 feet of snow each year. Current priorities include sites on the Cougar Valley, Pleasant Valley, Goose Prairie, Crow Lake Way, Rattlesnake, Bumping River, McAllister, Union Creek, and Pacific Crest Trails. The Forest Service will contribute \$59,378 in cash, equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2577)

Pacific Northwest Trail Association Okanogan PNTA Youth crews and Volunteer crews

Grant Requested: \$74,250

The scope of this project will be to hire local and Curlew Job Corps youth for our Program, now part of the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps, along with local volunteers to work on segments of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, and connector trails in Central Washington, almost entirely on U.S. Forest Service lands in Okanogan County. A well maintained trail will benefit all surrounding communities, as currently thousands of hikers from across the country visit the trail, increasing eco-tourism opportunities. This project will help reduce the trail maintenance backlogs for the Okanogan National Forest, and the WADNR in the Loomis State Forest. Approximately 150-miles of natural surface trails of the PNNST traverse Central Washington. The PNTA has been working with youth for 13 years. This program allows for a hands-on experience for youth to get away from the world of electronics, learn about nature, and ultimately become better stewards of the environment. They contribute over 25,000 hours per year in maintenance for the 1200-mile National Scenic Trail. Due to reduced budgets of our agency partners there is a dire need for our volunteers and youth crews to perform the jobs needed to keep the trail open and safe. This program is supported by the U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan National Forest, WADNR, Dept. of Interior, BLM, Okanogan County, school districts in Tonasket, Oroville, and Republic, as well as the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Washington Trails Association, and EMBA. The Pacific Northwest Trail Association will contribute \$74,250 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2579)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District, Cle Elum Winter Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$42,000

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund a two person maintenance crew to perform needed maintenance work on the 500 miles of snowmobile trails and 60 miles of ski, snowshoe, and dogsled trails located on National Forest lands within Kittitas County. Maintenance of these trails is required in order to keep them safe and enjoyable as well as protect soil and water. The primary recreation opportunities provided by this project are snowmobiling, cross country skiing, dogsledding, snow play, snowshoeing, and skijoring. Maintenance activities consist of log-out and brushing, sign and marker installation/maintenance, bridge repair, culvert repair and installation, and trail grooming. The Cle Elum Ranger District is one of the most heavily used winter recreation areas in the state, with easy access from population centers, abundant snow, and good weather. There are nearly 600 miles of winter trails on the district range from easiest to most difficult, offering a range of experiences to winter recreationists. Trends indicate that use at the district's Sno-Parks continues to increase, from an average of 24,000 visitors in 2011-12 to 40,000 in 2015-16. Demand for non-motorized winter recreation seems to be

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driving the increase. The Forest Service will contribute \$42,500 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2298)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Chelan Ranger District, Upper Lake Chelan Trails

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Chelan Ranger District will use this grant to perform annual and backlog trail maintenance on approximately 307 miles of non-motorized multiple-use trails in the upper Lake Chelan Basin for two seasons. The primary goals are to provide continued public access via maintenance of trails in a sustainable manner. Maintenance work will include trail log-out, brushing/clearing, replacement or repair of trail signs, drain dips, water bars, turnpikes, culverts, puncheons, small bridges and standard maintenance or minor reconstructions of trail tread surfaces. The primary opportunity provided by this project is non-motorized recreational trail use. The Forest Service will contribute \$132,000 in staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2421)

Washington Department of Natural Resources East Snoqualmie Corridor Trails and Facilities Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$85,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on over 36 miles of non-motorized trails, five trailheads, and four day-use sites. Trail systems and support facilities are located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Areas, in eastern King County. This project will provide partial funding for a Recreation Specialist, Equipment Operator, and two Natural Resource Workers as well as funding for a seasonal crew to perform trail and facility maintenance. Trail maintenance activities will include removal of hazard and downed trees, repairing trail tread and rock armoring, maintaining and repairing trail bridges, brushing trails and maintaining and repairing culverts, drain dips, and ditch-outs. Facility maintenance will include trailhead parking surface grading and surfacing, litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms, along with maintenance of day use viewpoints, river access sites, and signage. Funding will also be used to purchase trail maintenance equipment, including a chainsaw and power wheelbarrow. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable non-motorized recreation trails and support facilities. The department will contribute \$69,560 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2375)

Pacific Northwest Trail Association Colville Youth and Volunteer Crews

Grant Requested: \$74,250

The scope of this project will be to hire local youth for our SKY Program (now part of the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps) which includes Curlew Job Corps, and volunteers in Eastern Washington to perform maintenance on approximately an 111 mile segment of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, almost entirely on U.S. Forest Service, lands in Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille Counties. We will be doing maintenance on non-wilderness trail in the Colville Forest. This section of trail helps thousands of hikers, mountain bikers, hunters, fishermen, and equestrians to reach some of Washington's best recreation areas for these activities. The users come from the local area, as well as the Seattle Metro area,

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and other parts of the country to enjoy this special region. Project helps to reduce the trail maintenance backlogs for the Forests Service. The PNTA has been working with youth for 13 years, and they contribute over 25,000 hours per year in maintenance for the 1200-mile National Scenic Trail. Allowing youth a chance for hands on experience, and to get away from the world of electronics, learn about nature and the environment, and ultimately become better stewards of the environment. Due to reduced budgets there is a dire need for our volunteers and youth crews to step in and keep the PNNST open and safe for users. This program is supported by the U.S. Forest Service, Dept. of Interior, Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille Counties, school districts in Republic, Colville, and Metaline Falls. The Pacific Northwest Trail Association will contribute \$74,250 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2598)

Ferry County Rail Trail Partners

Grant Requested: \$13,700

Ferry County Rail Trail Winter Grooming

Ferry County Rail Trail Partners proposes to use grant funds to purchase cross-country ski grooming equipment, to provide access to the Ferry County Rail Trail and to groom up to 25 miles of the trail. The main focus will be grooming the 5.5 miles along Curlew Lake at the south end of the trail and 10 miles along the Kettle River from the town of Curlew north to the international border at Danville. The Curlew Lake section is a partially developed over half of its length and offers excellent scenic and wildlife viewing opportunities. The Kettle River section is a pristine backcountry experience with only a few homes adjacent to the trail on this spectacular wild and scenic section. Maintenance activities include plowing snow at the Curlew, Kiwanis, Black's Beach and Herron Ck. parking areas as required. Also, grooming frequency is expected to be weekly during the main part of season or more as necessary depending on snowfall during the period of December 1 through March 31. The overall goal is to maintain safe and usable parking areas and trails for non-motorized winter recreation activities such as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Snow plowing will be performed by local contractors and grooming will be performed by volunteers of Ferry County Rail Trail Partners although contractors may augment this effort at times. The Ferry County Rail Trail Partners will contribute \$11,300 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2688)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

Grant Requested: \$93,500

Snoqualmie Ranger District, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-19

This project involves ongoing annual trail maintenance on 230 miles of multi-use trails on the south half of the Snoqualmie Ranger District. Recreation Trail Program (RTP) funds will be matched with Northwest Recreation Pass collections to accomplish logcut, brushing, tread repair and trail structure repair and replacement. The combined funds will be used to employ a four person seasonal force account trail crew along with the purchase of the necessary materials, supplies, equipment and tools to support the crew, volunteers and youth corps crews. Forest Service crews will work independently and cooperatively with volunteer organizations, individuals and youth corps crews in accomplishing the work. Volunteers from various organizations have contributed thousands of hours in the maintenance of district trails for several decades and they are committed to continuing their support. These include but are not limited to Washington Trails Association (WTA), Backcountry Horseman of America (BCH), Pacific Northwest Four Wheel Drive (PNW4WDA), Northwest Motorcycle (NMA), Boy Scouts (BSA), and Evergreen Mountain Bike

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Alliance (EMBA). There has been little to no federal appropriated dollars for National Forest System trail maintenance for several years. The RTP funds along with recreation pass collections have been the sole source of funds for accomplishing annual trail maintenance on the district. This has assured a quality trail system that is safe and enjoyable for the public and has minimal impact to the resources. The Forest Service will contribute \$114,200 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2523)

Nooksack Nordic Ski Club

Grant Requested: \$21,214

Nooksack Nordic Ski Club Salmon Ridge Trail Maintenance

The NNSC (Nooksack Nordic Ski Club) Salmon Ridge Trail Maintenance 2017-19 Project will groom and maintain cross-country ski trails at the Salmon Ridge Sno-Park. The Sno-Park is at Milepost 46 of the Mt. Baker Highway, about 13 miles east of Glacier, WA. The primary outdoor recreational opportunity is over 15 miles of maintained ski trails and 4 miles of maintained snowshoe trails. The overall goal is to provide safe, accessible recreational cross-country ski opportunities for 335,000 residents of Whatcom and Skagit Counties and visitors coming from Everett to southern British Columbia. NNSC, a non-profit, provides volunteers for: brushing trail, removing danger trees and branches, clearing culverts and drainages, grooming ski trails, developing and setting signage, and managing the trail system. Grooming once a week and mowing every two years require specialized equipment and are contracted services. Only costs to set up, maintain, and remove the base for the sani-cans are being requested. The Salmon Ridge Sno-Park is located on the western flank of Mt. Baker. Its elevation and terrain provide the only western Washington cross-country ski opportunity north of Steven's Pass. The trails provide opportunities for families and beginners as well as more challenging terrain for expert cross-country skiers. In other seasons, the public benefits from the maintained trails and clearings by using vehicles for camping, sight-seeing, fishing, hunting, and harvesting forest products. The Nooksack Nordic Ski Club will contribute \$28,446 in a state grant and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2256)

U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District **Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming**

Grant Requested: \$40,000

The Pomeroy Ranger District will use this grant to fund a two person team, along with a crew of volunteers, to provide winter grooming and trail maintenance on approximately 138 miles of snowmobile trails within the district, located in the Umatilla National Forest. Maintenance duties include logout, brushing, signage, trail markers and snow pole installation. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be safe and sustainable winter recreation trails. This funding will help to maintain excellent working relationships with the Mount Misery Sno-Drifters and other volunteers to keep trails safely passible during the winter season and to promote responsible snowmobile operation. The small town of Pomeroy, located in Garfield County, is the gateway to this snowmobiling mecca. Small businesses will continue to receive a significant economic boost from snowmobilers and other winter recreationist who patronize gas stations, stores and restaurants. The Forest Service will contribute \$87,241 in equipment, staff labor, a state grant, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2231)

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San Juan Island Conservation District Moran State Park

Grant Requested: \$35,180

The San Juan Islands Youth Conservation Corps will use this grant to fund 2 years of trail maintenance work on approximately 14 miles of non-motorized hiking, biking, and equestrian trails at Moran State Park on Orcas Island in San Juan County. YCC crews will partner with WTA volunteers to perform brushing, tread repair, trail drainage structure maintenance, and re-vegetation of old growth areas. Additional work will include trail safety improvements that will reduce multi-user conflicts. The primary recreational opportunities are equestrian, hiking, and biking. Annual visitation continues to rise to over 750,000 visitors per year, while a current backlog of trail maintenance within the park is still catching up to minimum maintenance requirements. This project will provide single track trails instead of eroded, braided, degraded unidentifiable trails and will preserve vegetation supportive of protecting old growth habitats from disturbance. Beneficial project outcomes include protection of old growth habitats; improved habitats in areas impacted by overuse; decrease in user complaints; single track trails to reduce erosion issues; youth outdoor experience/connection with environment; youth interaction with users, seeing the immediacy of their work impacting others' lives; and assisting state park in resolving backlogged, under-budgeted maintenance needs. This project will also provide benefits to residents, tourists, local businesses and the stewardship network. The San Juan Island Conservation District will contribute \$35,500 in a private grant and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2786)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District, Evans Creek ORV Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$75,000

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant for ongoing annual maintenance of Evans Creek ORV trails and facilities. The Evans Creek Off-road Vehicle Campground is located off of SR165 in Pierce County, just north of the Mowich Lake Entrance to Mount Rainier National Park. This Off-road Vehicle Campground was constructed with a grant from RCO funds and over the years with subsequent grants, has continued to benefit. These ongoing efforts have allowed the District to continue to provide high quality maintenance at the Campground, Trailhead and trails. Grant funding supplements Recreational Pass dollars and allows us to continue providing a quality experience to Off Road Vehicle enthusiasts. Funding from this request combined with federal Recreation Pass collections will: employ a full time equipment operator, a four person maintenance crew, and one program manager who will coordinate daily trail and facility maintenance activities. This equipment (tractor and excavator) will be used to construct waterbars, drainage, haul rocks and materials for trails and facilities maintenance. Routine service and maintenance on these items will also be a part of this grant. Additional costs include supplies and materials to support force account and volunteer efforts in accomplishing annual maintenance. The Forest Service will contribute \$76,000 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2524)

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U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Mount Baker Ranger District, Heather Meadows Area Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Mount Baker Ranger District will use this maintenance grant to fund two years of general and heavy trail maintenance on 21 miles of hiker trails in the Heather Meadows Recreation Area. Heather Meadows is located at the end of the Mt. Baker Scenic Byway (SR542), where recreational opportunities have been available to the public for almost 90 years. In the early 1990s improvements were made to the Heather Meadows trail system, including construction of new trails. Annual maintenance and minor repairs have occurred on the trails and structures since. Many of the trails now require more intense maintenance. This will make them safer for the visitors and help reduce the resource damage that is occurring. This project will be accomplished by utilizing a 4 person trail crew, youth crew, and volunteers. Work includes brushing, clearing, grubbing, log-out, boardwalk and stairway replacement or repair, drainage structure maintenance, resetting culverts, tread repair, and loose rock removal. These trails receive extra heavy use during the snow-free season and are exposed to extreme weather conditions year round. This proposal will provide safe trails for public use, protect the fragile sub-alpine environment, and reduce a large backlog of maintenance needs. The grant will also be used to purchase supplies to accomplish the work. The recreational trail opportunity provided by this project ranges from easy to more difficult hiking experiences within a mountainous environment. The Forest Service will contribute \$72,880 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2470)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Mount Spokane Nordic System Plowing and Grooming

Grant Requested: \$65,513

State Parks proposes to use grant funds to provide and maintain winter access to the Mt. Spokane Sno-Park and to groom approximately 30 miles of cross-country ski trails located in and adjacent to Mt. Spokane State Park, northeast of Spokane. Maintenance activities include plowing snow at the Sno-Park and access roads as needed, and grooming trails at least once or twice per week or more as necessary during the period of December 1 through March 31, depending on weather and snow conditions. The overall goal is to maintain safe and usable parking areas and trails for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, dog sledding and ski-joring. Snow plowing and grooming are accomplished by staff at Mt. Spokane State Park. The Sno-Parks and trail systems are located within Mt. Spokane State Park and on adjacent lands owned by Inland Empire Paper Company under a cooperative agreement. Due its proximity to the Spokane urban center, this area is an extremely popular destination, and the location for many special winter time events. With the proximity of an alpine ski area, snowmobile trails, snowshoe trails and cross-country ski trails, this is the most intensely used winter recreation site in eastern Washington. The system has trails for beginners, intermediate and advanced skiers, and is used by families and visitors of all ages. State Parks will contribute \$65,513 in a state appropriation. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2245)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Middle Fork Snoqualmie NRCA Trail System Expansion

Grant Requested: \$115,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to construct two new hiking trails, providing 3.1 miles of newly designated trail opportunities, within the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources

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Conservation Area, approximately 35 miles east of Seattle. Development will also include the purchase and installation of a new trail bridge. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be newly developed hiking trails. Renovating 2.5 miles of unsustainable user built trail & installing a trail bridge will complete the Ira Spring Connector Trail, which will provide a trail connection between the DNR managed Dirty Harry's Peak Trail and the U.S. Forest Service, managed Ira Spring Trail. Re-routing and renovating an additional 0.6 miles of trail will provide a sustainable and safe viewpoint hike towards the summit of Defiance Ridge, overlooking the South Fork Snoqualmie River valley. This project proposal will further improve connectivity for backcountry trail opportunities through the U.S. Forest Service, managed Alpine Lakes Wilderness. This project is supported from the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan, a public planning process completed March 2015. The department will contribute \$49,300 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2377)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District, Snowmobile Trails Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$64,000

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to fund 150 miles of trail maintenance be done in both the winter and summer months. Maintenance will include log-out of winter blown down trees, clearing of brush, clearing of culverts and repairs to minor washouts. There will also be installation, removal and maintenance of over 250 trail way signs and route safety markers, new signs will be fabricated as necessary. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is safer more accessible snowmobile trails on the Entiat and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. The Entiat and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts have over 200 miles of groomed trails that are groomed weekly during the winter months. The grooming is made possible through grants provided by Washington State Parks. Estimated visits to this area are over 45,000 annually. The Forest Service will contribute \$160,000 in staff labor, a state grant, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2700)

Methow Valley Sport Trail Association Methow Firebreak and Trail Enhancement

Grant Requested: \$52,765

Methow Trails is requesting funding for maintenance of our 120 mile trail network located in the Methow Valley. Funding would enable the purchase of a chipper and truck allowing us to create an effective fuel break making our neighborhoods more resilient to wildfire threats. We have been able to clear material out of the center of the trail with hand crews, saws, and mowers, however build-up of woody material on the side of the trails cannot be cleared with our current tools and has been deferred for nearly 40 years. The Methow Valley was the site of the two worst fire seasons (2014 and 2015) in recorded Washington State history. Methow Trails coordinated with fire management agencies to utilize our existing trail network as fire breaks for our community. The trail corridors create defensible spaces for fire fighters and in many cases stopped the progression of fire. Proactively, keeping up with trail side woody material accumulation is essentially to the creation of effective firebreaks for a more resilient, fire-ready community. Methow Trails serves an estimated 250,000 user days per year generates \$12.8 million in direct and induced revenue specifically attributed to trail users (*2015 Economic Analysis, Resource Dimensions). The past 10 years show a consistent growth rate in trail use of 12% annually, and if that

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trend continues for another 10 years, by 2025 the trail system will support ½ million trail users annually. The Methow Valley Sport Trail Association will contribute \$73,000 in cash and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2769)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Okanogan Highlands Snowmobile Program

Grant Requested: \$79,406

State Parks' Winter Recreation Program will use this grant to provide access to and maintenance of 16 Sno-Parks and 9 staging areas, and to groom approximately 650 miles of snowmobile trails located in the Okanogan Highlands from Loup Loup Summit to Sherman Pass east of Republic, and to the westerly extent of the Methow Valley around Winthrop, for the 17/18 and 18/19 winter seasons. Maintenance activities include snow plowing at Sno-Parks as needed, and grooming trails once or twice per week as necessary between December 1 through March 31, depending on weather conditions and available funds. The overall goal is to maintain safe and usable parking areas and groomed trails for the enjoyment of snowmobilers and other winter recreationists. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is snowmobiling. Work is accomplished by Okanogan and Ferry Counties under cooperative agreements with oversight by State Parks and with Mountain Trails Grooming Association, all with the guidance and cooperation of local snowmobile clubs, grooming councils and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest and the Colville National Forest. The area offers primarily beginner to intermediate family friendly riding on rolling terrain with a more powder-like snow consistency than the western Cascade Mountains, and makes it the second most popular area to ride in the state. It attracts riders from other areas of the state, has a popular local following with 12% of registered sleds, and capturing more than 20% of the riding days statewide. State Parks will contribute \$79,406 in a state appropriation. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2513)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission South Cascades Snowmobile Trail Program

Grant Requested: \$150,000

State Parks' Winter Recreation Program is seeking an RTP grant to provide access to and maintenance of 11 Sno-Parks, and to groom approximately 281 miles of snowmobile trails located in the southern Cascade Range in eastern Cowlitz and Lewis Counties, and within Skamania County in the vicinity of Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Adams. During the 17/18 and 18/19 winter seasons, maintenance activities would include plowing snow from access roads and Sno-Parks as needed, and grooming snowmobile trails once or twice per week December 1 through March 31 each year, depending upon snow conditions and available funds. The overall goal is to maintain safe and usable parking areas and trails for snowmobilers and other users of all skill levels. Beginner, intermediate and advanced trail riding opportunities are available, and many of the trails are also enjoyed by non-motorized visitors for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Work is accomplished under 4 private snow plowing contracts, 1 agreement with Skamania County, and 3 contracts with private trail grooming companies. Oversight is provided by State Parks and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, three volunteer grooming councils and local snowmobile clubs. State Parks will contribute \$288,478 in a state appropriation. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2511)

General Category Projects Summaries (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Methow Ranger District, Sawtooth Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$103,475

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this funding to complete deferred and routine maintenance on 46 miles of multiple use trails in the Sawtooth Backcountry, and on 9.5 miles of the near-by West Fork Buttermilk Trail in the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness. The project proposes to work with volunteer groups to clear blown-down trees and brush, and perform minor tread and drainage structure maintenance. Deferred maintenance such as heavy brushing, turnpike construction, drainage and tread work, including rock removal using explosives, will be completed by a force account trail crew. The work will maintain the desired level of difficulty for these trails to provide a safe experience for all intended users. The Sawtooth Backcountry is the most popular multiple-use trail system open to motorized use on the District. The West Fork Buttermilk Trail is a popular non-motorized route through the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness providing access to the Sawtooth Backcountry, and other destinations within the Wilderness. The area provides recreational opportunities for a wide variety of user groups, including hikers, equestrians, mountain bike riders, and motor bike riders. Funding from RCO over the past two decades has helped complete routine and deferred maintenance of these popular trails. The trails accommodate a range of skill levels which has increased the diversity of age groups and trails users of the area. The Forest Service will contribute \$56,487 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2594)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Mount Baker Ranger District, Heather Meadows Americans with Disabilities Act Asphalt Repair and Improvement

Grant Requested: \$115,000

The Heather Meadows Recreation Area is located at the end of the Mt. Baker Highway, State Route 542 (Mt. Baker Scenic Byway), on the Mt. Baker Ranger District, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. It is one of the highest locations in the state that is accessible by paved highway. This grant will perform heavy maintenance and repair on three American with Disabilities Act (ADA) hard surfaced trails within the Heather Meadows area. There is 1 mile of asphalt paved and 1 mile of aggregate and native surfaced trail. These heavily used ADA designed trails are situated in three different sub-alpine settings. The Picture Lake Trail is located at the entrance to Heather Meadows, allowing breath taking world class views of Mt. Shuksan. The Fire and Ice Trail connects the ADA accessible Heather Meadows Visitor's Center to viewpoints of Bagley Lakes, Table Mountain, and Mt. Herman. The Artist Ridge Trail, located at the end of the Mt. Baker Highway, provides views of Baker Lake, Swift Creek Valley, Mt. Baker, Mt Shuksan, and the Canadian border peaks. Fire and Ice and Artist Ridge Trails also provide non-ADA designed access to front country trails and the Mt. Baker Wilderness Area. The maintenance involved in this project will resurface all of the asphalt trails, replace and repair snow load damage on existing boardwalks, improve drainage, and install new stone retaining walls that support the asphalt trail edges. Heavy maintenance will also occur on 1 mile of aggregate surfaced trail. The Forest Service will contribute \$35,000 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2617)

General Category Projects Summaries (In Rank Order)



Bellevue Lower Coal Creek Trail Renovation

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The City of Bellevue Parks and Community Services Department will use grant funding to renovate approximately ½ mile of non-motorized, pedestrian trail located within the Coal Creek Natural Area. Coal Creek Natural Area is Bellevue's largest park, comprising over 450 acres of land and containing 4.5 miles of trails. It is located in south Bellevue, south of I-90 and east of I-405, and bordered by the City of Newcastle to the southwest. Trail renovations will include the replacement of 3 dilapidated bridge structures, along with additional trail renovations activities including surface repairs, drainage, switchback repairs, and retainage. The overall goal of the project is to improve accessibility, safety and support increased passive recreational use of the park. New development on the periphery of the park is expected to dramatically increase park trail use and completing the structural renovations to the trail system was identified as a priority in the 2005 management plan. The project is important to the community. Trails provide opportunities for exercise, environmental interpretation, and solitude; and surveys indicate community support of over 85% for Bellevue's trails and open space. In addition, the Coal Creek trail system is a key link in the regional Mountains to Sound Greenway and provides a rare, almost wilderness, experience located in the heart of an urban landscape. Bellevue will contribute \$86,610 in cash, youth groups, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2630)

U.S. Forest Service, Columbia River Gorge Scenic Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration

Grant Requested: \$64,709

The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area will restore 8.8 miles of non-motorized trail on National Forest System lands. Project includes restoration of the 5.1-mile Tracy Hill Trail (hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian use) and 3.3-mile Catherine Creek Loop Trail (hiking only), and installation of a trailhead kiosk providing information about multiple-use trail etiquette, respect for private property and landowners, and use restrictions put in place to minimize user conflict and protect wildlife. In 2010, the Forest Service completed the Burdoin Mountain, Coyote Wall, and Catherine Creek Area Recreation Plan to address increasing use and user-created trail proliferation on 4,700 acres of acquired lands within Klickitat County. The plan resulted in the adoption of a 27-mile, multi-use trail system featuring rugged cliffs, Oregon white oak woodlands, open meadows, views of the Columbia River Gorge, and incredible spring-time wildflower blooms. The trail system is located within a one-hour drive from the Vancouver and Portland metro areas and a 10-minute drive from the cities of White Salmon, WA and Hood River, OR. Since 2010, the Forest Service has partnered with the Washington Trails Association, Columbia Area Mountain Bike Advocates, Back Country Horsemen of Washington, Northwest Trail Alliance, and Hood River Area Trail Stewards to restore over 15 miles of the system's trails. Funding for the proposed project would allow us to continue working with our partners to restore an additional 8.8 miles of trail. The Forest Service will contribute \$17,500 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2783)

General Category Projects Summaries (In Rank Order)



Jones Creek Trail Riders Association Jones Creek OHV Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$41,750

This is an RTP grant requested jointly by the Jones Creek Trail Riders Association (JCTRA) and Pistons Wild Motorsports (PWM). JCTRA maintains the ATV and motorcycle trails and PWM maintains the 4x4 trails of the Jones Creek OHV area in SW Washington in cooperation with the Washington Department of Natural Resources. These two clubs are the only organized clubs currently building and maintaining the OHV trails of the Jones Creek OHV area. Jones Creek is the only source of legal motorized recreation (ATV, UTV, dirt bike, 4x4) on public lands in SW Washington. The over-all goal of both clubs is to keep the OHV trails maintained in a manner which keeps the trails safe, prevents damage to our natural resources, and provides a fun and enjoyable experience for OHV enthusiasts. JCTRA and PWMS will be contributing 35.77% matching funds consisting almost entirely of donated volunteer labor hours. JCTRA would like to replace our oldest, most worn out Polaris 6x6 ATV with a newer model along with purchase of two Stihl Hedge Trimmers and some hand tools. PWM would like to purchase a side by side ATV for hauling in rock, blocks and equipment along with a small off-road capable dump trailer will be used to haul in rock, blocks and other such materials towed by the UTV and/or club 4x4 vehicles and some hand tools. The remainder of the funding would go back into the trails in the form of rock, blocks, and equipment rentals. The Jones Creek Trail Riders Association will contribute \$23,250 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2794)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan National Forest Pacific Ranger District, Quinault Rain Forest Nature Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Olympic National Forest will use this funding to replace a rest room and observation deck at the Rainforest Nature Interpretive Loop Trail and trailhead. The observation deck is currently rotting out and will soon become a safety hazard for visitors. The observation deck allows visitors to take a close look at a giant Douglas Fir Tree without compacting the soil and damaging its root system. The trailhead restroom is outdated and requires large amounts of continuous maintenance. Aging infrastructure has resulted in toilets that plug and overflow constantly, and leaky pipes which have caused extensive water and mold damage. Funding would be used to replace the restroom with a CXT cement structure which would be much easier to maintain to health and safety standards and create a vastly more enjoyable visitor experience. The site hosts an interpretive trail through a stand of old growth forest and provides valuable educational benefit to visitors. Grant funds will be used to cover the cost of purchasing, delivering and installing the restroom, as well as purchasing the materials to reconstruct the observation deck. Deck reconstruction will be accomplished by a Washington Conservation Corp. (WCC) crew as well as Forest Service Recreation Staff. Site preparation for the restroom will be performed by Forest Service Engineers. All Forest Service and WCC's time, and the cost of materials above the requested grant funds are factored into the matching estimate. The U.S. Forest Service will contribute \$50,000 in a federal appropriation. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2628)

Cascade Col Fish Enhance Group Leavenworth Hatchery Trail

Grant Requested: \$120,000

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant for the design and development of a one (1) mile recreational and educational trail. Approximately 4 acres will be developed that will expand

General Category Projects Summaries (In Rank Order)



the existing trail system and increase education for users. The project site is located at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery on Fish Hatchery Road, outside of Leavenworth in Chelan County, Washington. The goal of this project is to build an educational, hands-on and interpretive outdoor recreational trail that leaves users with an appreciation for the natural environment and the remarkable story of the salmon. By developing this parcel, the Hatchery will be able to provide additional educational and back-country recreational opportunities for users. The Friends of Northwest Hatcheries, Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group, Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery and project stakeholders have identified this project as a high priority. In addition, environmental, community and municipal organizations such as; Yakama Nation Fisheries, Trout Unlimited, Port of Chelan County, City of Leavenworth, Icicle Fund, and the Community Foundation of NCW. The trail will be an outdoor education experience and an important natural resource education tool for students throughout the Wenatchee River Valley and beyond. The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$30,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2754)

Town of Coulee Dam

Grant Requested: \$108,450

Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development

The Town of Coulee Dam will use the grant to restore the historic steam building located behind Town Hall and develop this building into a trail head for the Candy Point Trail and Crown Point Trails. This historic building provided heat for the original Administration Building during the construction and early operation of the Grand Coulee Dam. The building contains approximately 414 square feet. The building will be developed as an ADA accessible trail-head with ADA compliant unisex toilet (64 square feet), and a shower (12 square feet). There is adequate parking below the building with 2 designated ADA parking spaces. The plan includes developing an ADA compliant pathway to the building. The building will house educational and informational materials regarding the history of the area, hiking and bird watching, flora and fauna opportunities on these and other trails in the region. The Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead will be included in the Ice Age Flood National Geological Trail Project which stretches from Missoula, Montana to Astoria, Oregon. The Mayor of the Town of Coulee Dam has identified this building as a high priority as has the Parks and Recreation Element of Comprehensive Plan for the town. In addition the community groups such as the Park and Natural Resources Board of the Town of Coulee Dam, Coulee Area Parks and Recreation District, the Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce, and the US Bureau of Reclamation has been working to gather information and support for this project. The Town of Coulee Dam will contribute \$27,200 in cash, equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2322)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

This attachment includes 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.

Recreational Trails Program (RTP) – General Category

• 16-2249M	Statewide Backcountry Trail Maintenance (4)	Rank 1
• 16-2248M	Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance (5)	Rank 2
• 16-2250M	Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance (6)	Rank 3
• 16-2429M	Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance (3)	Rank 5
• 16-2259M	Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance (6)	Rank 6
• 16-2464M	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wilderness Trails Maintenance (1)	Rank 7
• 16-2675M	Maintaining Forest Service Trails (2)	Rank 8
• 16-2529M	Pacific Northwest Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance (1)	Rank 9
• 16-2392M	Maintenance on the Pacific Crest Trail (4)	Rank 10
• 16-2271M	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail Maintenance (1)	Rank 11
• 16-2714M	Maintaining Non-Forest Service Trails (4)	Rank 12
• 16-2504M	Naches Ranger District Motorized Trail Deferred Maintenance (2)	Rank 13
• 16-2435M	Cle Elum Ranger District Nonmotorized Trail Maintenance (2)	Rank 15
• 16-2579M	Okanogan Pacific Northwest Trail Association Youth and Volunteer Crews (4)	Rank 17
• 16-2616D	Chambers Creek Canyon Bridge Crossing (3)	Rank 19
• 16-2298M	Cle Elum Winter Trail Maintenance (1)	Rank 20
• 16-2375M	East Snoqualmie Corridor Trails and Facilities Maintenance (6)	Rank 22
• 16-2598M	Colville Youth and Volunteer Crews (2)	Rank 23
• 16-2523M	Snoqualmie White River Trail Maintenance (3)	Rank 25
• 16-2630M	Lower Coal Creek Trail Renovation (1)	Rank 39
• 16-2783M	Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration (5)	Rank 40
• 16-2754D	Leavenworth Hatchery Trail (4)	Rank 43
• 16-2322D	Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development (14)	Rank 44



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 31, 2016

RCO Staff and RTP Scoring Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington in support of three RTP requests from the Washington Trail Association for trail maintenance in Washington State.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is an organization with a mission to keep trails open. The members of BCHW are dedicated to hands on, ground level volunteer projects that will keep our public lands open for stock use and for other recreational user groups. BCHW has 32 chapters throughout Washington State with approximately 2500 members.

In 2015 Back Country Horsemen contributed over 70,000 volunteer hours working with the various agencies. The US Forest Service, Washington Fish and Wildlife, BLM, DNR, Washington State Parks, Mount Rainier and Olympic National Park are some of the agencies that BCHW partners with. We collaborate with the Washington Trail Association, coordinating with WTA to provide pack support for work projects in Washington State. One of our projects in 2016 included crews from BCHW and WTA working with a crew to replace failed puncheons on Thunder Creek, a feeder trail to the PNNST.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support.

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young

President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

2930 Wetmore Avenue, Suite 3A
Everett, WA 98201

RTP General Ranked #1

File Code: 2350

Date: October 26, 2016

Attn: Recreation Trails Advisory Committee
Recreation and Conservation Office
RTP Program
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Advisory Committee:

I would like to speak in support of Recreation Trails Program (RTP) funding requests by the Washington Trails Association (WTA). The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBS) has worked with WTA through a Challenge Cost Share Agreement since 1994. This has been a very valuable experience for both us, and I believe WTA. Their volunteer trail maintenance program has expanded from a few hundred hours in 1993 to likely over 140,000 hours this year. In 2016 volunteers contributed over 39,000 hours of work to MBS trails on 300 individual work parties. Rarely a day goes by when there are not WTA volunteers working somewhere on the Forest.

What started as a program mostly benefiting the MBS, has expanded to four other National Forests, the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area, National Parks, state, county, city and other trails around the state. With the support of RTP grants, it has also grown to serve a rapidly growing youth program and backcountry response teams. Through this partnership many trails that would not have been maintained at all have received much needed annual care.

Leadership on these maintenance work parties is done by dedicated volunteer and paid crew leaders. The total number of maintenance trips are limited by the number of crew leaders, not the number of volunteers. Thanks to RTP funding and other grants, WTA has expanded its volunteer program to include hundreds of volunteer maintenance projects a year. This has been a major factor in the overall expansion of its volunteer program.

There have been many benefits of this program to the Forest Service, other land management agencies, and the trail community:

1. Literally thousands of volunteers have received a healthy appreciation of the work required to keep our trails open and ecosystems healthy.
2. Interaction between many different user groups is occurring promoting more understanding and less conflict.
3. Having a skilled, motivated and capable group of volunteers gives the Forest Service more flexibility in accomplishing its trail maintenance goals.



4. Increasing trail experience of the volunteer cadre allows work to occur on more challenging jobs, such as building trail structures. Some volunteers are even skilled at sharpening crosscut saws.

All work parties are accomplished with the following goals in mind: Be safe, have fun, get some work done.

Perhaps the greatest satisfaction that the Forest has had in supporting this partnership is the strong civic constituency being built to support trails in Washington State. We hope that you will consider funding this program again this year.

The enclosed letter, which is on file at your office, documents that these projects have been cleared under the National Environmental Policy Act, and are consistent with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Sincerely,



for JAMIE KINGSBURY
Forest Supervisor

cc: Gary Paull



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Okanogan-Wenatchee
National Forest

215 Melody Lane
Wenatchee, WA 98801
TTY (509) 664-9201
Voice (509) 664-9200

RTP General Ranked #1

File Code: 2330

Date: October 24, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
Olympia, Washington

Dear RCO Staff and Advisory Committee:

On behalf of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, I would like to offer my support of the Washington Trails Association's applications for Recreational Trails Program grant funds.

The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest encompasses over 4 million acres along the east slopes of the Cascade Range that are vital for fish and wildlife habitat, water quality and outdoor recreation. More and more, we rely on community partnerships to steward these landscapes and the trails that travel through them.

Washington Trails Association has been a significant partner with the Forest for over 15 years. Our shared goal is to engage volunteers to maintain, repair and construct sustainable trails on the National Forest, while also developing future land stewards. The work completed by WTA volunteers helps minimize the environmental impact of trails. Equally important, WTA's work educates the public about what it takes to steward our public lands and keep our ecosystems healthy. In addition, WTA's Youth Program reinforces Forest Service goals of bringing more young people out to their National Forests.

We simply could not maintain many of our trails without WTA's continued collaboration. That's why I'm pleased to offer my strong support for WTA's grant applications.

Sincerely,

for: MICHAEL J. WILLIAMS
Forest Supervisor



Caring for the Land and Serving People

Printed on Recycled Paper





RTP General Ranked #1

File Code: 2300; 2350
Date: October 26, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Grant Selection Team:

Olympic National Forest supports the Washington Trails Association's (WTA) applications for Recreation and Conservation Office grants including Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance, Backcountry Trail Maintenance, and Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance. The forest's all-volunteer trails program depends on the excellent work provided by WTA members.

Many of forest's 270 miles of trails are maintained by the WTA. Their crew leaders are devoted and highly skilled. Their volunteers are of all ages and from all walks of life. They host hundreds of on-forest events each year including day-long work parties, backcountry response teams, volunteer vacations, and youth vacations. Their partnership provides continued public access to the backcountry and wilderness areas as they clear windfall trees from across trails, maintain the tread surface, clear brush, and repair trail structures.

Perhaps the greatest good from our partnership with the WTA is the organization's fostering a sense of interconnectedness between people in the Puget Sound area and the public land in their back yard. Through service, their volunteers are exposed to the natural environment and learn to appreciate the work it takes to manage our valuable natural resources.

The Olympic National Forest greatly values and appreciates WTA's commitment to trails, community, and service. Thank you for considering their grant applications. For additional information please contact Brian Pope, Wilderness and Trails Coordinator, at bpope@fs.fed.us or 360-765-2219.

Sincerely,

for RETA LAFORD
Forest Supervisor

cc: Rebecca Lavigne, Dean Yoshina,





BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

RTP General Ranked #2

October 31, 2016

RCO Staff and RTP Scoring Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington in support of three RTP requests from the Washington Trail Association for trail maintenance in Washington State.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is an organization with a mission to keep trails open. The members of BCHW are dedicated to hands on, ground level volunteer projects that will keep our public lands open for stock use and for other recreational user groups. BCHW has 32 chapters throughout Washington State with approximately 2500 members.

In 2015 Back Country Horsemen contributed over 70,000 volunteer hours working with the various agencies. The US Forest Service, Washington Fish and Wildlife, BLM, DNR, Washington State Parks, Mount Rainier and Olympic National Park are some of the agencies that BCHW partners with. We collaborate with the Washington Trail Association, coordinating with WTA to provide pack support for work projects in Washington State. One of our projects in 2016 included crews from BCHW and WTA working with a crew to replace failed puncheons on Thunder Creek, a feeder trail to the PNNST.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support.

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young

President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 32 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Parks and Recreation Division

King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700
201 S. Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

October 21, 2016

Washington State
Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Washington Trails Association –Grant Applications #16-2250 and # 16-2248

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing to express King County Park's strong support of the Washington Trails Association's *Trail Maintenance 2016* grant applications (#16-2250 and #16-2248) which have been submitted to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office.

King County Parks manages 180 miles of backcountry trails that offer year-round accessibility for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding to residents of Seattle and the surrounding urban and rural communities of King County. WTA has been a fantastic partner for Parks for the past 17 years, and now provides over 12,000 hours of volunteer service to our backcountry trails each year.

The work completely by **#16-2248 M Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance** is critical to King County Parks backcountry trail program. WTA's adult volunteers working at Cougar Mt., Squak Mt, Taylor Mt, Soaring Eagle and Grand Ridge along the high user trails of the I-90 corridor is critical for keeping the trails up to standard. In addition, WTA is helping us establish a great trail system throughout King County Parks from Pinnacle Peak in Enumclaw to Tolt-MacDonald Park in Carnation

We support whole heartily WTA's work to engage youth in trail maintenance. Parks highly supports **#16-2250 M Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance**. This two-year project will allow youth volunteers to reduce or prevent trail maintenance backlogs on King County Park lands. WTA offers work parties to local schools and youth organizations. Many of the youth are new to trail maintenance and even to hiking, yet WTA's crew leaders always ensure that these young volunteers complete high-quality work. WTA is consistently able to provide a safe and inviting work environment for youth to learn, gain a sense of accomplishment, acquire an interest in hiking, stay fit and have fun.

WTA's contributions are essential to the ongoing maintenance of our trail system, especially in light of budget cuts within our agency. They have been an invaluable partner and I look forward to our continued work together over the next two seasons. I am confident that Washington Trails Association's Adult and youth Trail Maintenance projects will advance our work to help build the next generation of trail users who support, and protect our parks and natural areas. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 206-477-6112.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tina Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tina" and last name "Miller" clearly distinguishable.

Tina Miller
Project Manager
King County DNRP – Parks Division
206-477-6112



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

2930 Wetmore Avenue, Suite 3A
Everett, WA 98201

File Code: 2350

Date: October 26, 2016

Attn: Recreation Trails Advisory Committee
Recreation and Conservation Office
RTP Program
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Advisory Committee:

I would like to speak in support of Recreation Trails Program (RTP) funding requests by the Washington Trails Association (WTA). The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBS) has worked with WTA through a Challenge Cost Share Agreement since 1994. This has been a very valuable experience for both us, and I believe WTA. Their volunteer trail maintenance program has expanded from a few hundred hours in 1993 to likely over 140,000 hours this year. In 2016 volunteers contributed over 39,000 hours of work to MBS trails on 300 individual work parties. Rarely a day goes by when there are not WTA volunteers working somewhere on the Forest.

What started as a program mostly benefiting the MBS, has expanded to four other National Forests, the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area, National Parks, state, county, city and other trails around the state. With the support of RTP grants, it has also grown to serve a rapidly growing youth program and backcountry response teams. Through this partnership many trails that would not have been maintained at all have received much needed annual care.

Leadership on these maintenance work parties is done by dedicated volunteer and paid crew leaders. The total number of maintenance trips are limited by the number of crew leaders, not the number of volunteers. Thanks to RTP funding and other grants, WTA has expanded its volunteer program to include hundreds of volunteer maintenance projects a year. This has been a major factor in the overall expansion of its volunteer program.

There have been many benefits of this program to the Forest Service, other land management agencies, and the trail community:

1. Literally thousands of volunteers have received a healthy appreciation of the work required to keep our trails open and ecosystems healthy.
2. Interaction between many different user groups is occurring promoting more understanding and less conflict.
3. Having a skilled, motivated and capable group of volunteers gives the Forest Service more flexibility in accomplishing its trail maintenance goals.



4. Increasing trail experience of the volunteer cadre allows work to occur on more challenging jobs, such as building trail structures. Some volunteers are even skilled at sharpening crosscut saws.

All work parties are accomplished with the following goals in mind: Be safe, have fun, get some work done.

Perhaps the greatest satisfaction that the Forest has had in supporting this partnership is the strong civic constituency being built to support trails in Washington State. We hope that you will consider funding this program again this year.

The enclosed letter, which is on file at your office, documents that these projects have been cleared under the National Environmental Policy Act, and are consistent with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Sincerely,



for JAMIE KINGSBURY
Forest Supervisor

cc: Gary Paull



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Okanogan-Wenatchee
National Forest

215 Melody Lane
Wenatchee, WA 98801
TTY (509) 664-9201
Voice (509) 664-9200

File Code: 2330

Date: October 24, 2016

RTP General Ranked #2

Recreation and Conservation Office
Olympia, Washington

Dear RCO Staff and Advisory Committee:

On behalf of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, I would like to offer my support of the Washington Trails Association's applications for Recreational Trails Program grant funds.

The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest encompasses over 4 million acres along the east slopes of the Cascade Range that are vital for fish and wildlife habitat, water quality and outdoor recreation. More and more, we rely on community partnerships to steward these landscapes and the trails that travel through them.

Washington Trails Association has been a significant partner with the Forest for over 15 years. Our shared goal is to engage volunteers to maintain, repair and construct sustainable trails on the National Forest, while also developing future land stewards. The work completed by WTA volunteers helps minimize the environmental impact of trails. Equally important, WTA's work educates the public about what it takes to steward our public lands and keep our ecosystems healthy. In addition, WTA's Youth Program reinforces Forest Service goals of bringing more young people out to their National Forests.

We simply could not maintain many of our trails without WTA's continued collaboration. That's why I'm pleased to offer my strong support for WTA's grant applications.

Sincerely,

for: MICHAEL J. WILLIAMS
Forest Supervisor



Caring for the Land and Serving People

Printed on Recycled Paper





File Code: 2300; 2350
Date: October 26, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

RTP General Ranked #2

Dear Grant Selection Team:

Olympic National Forest supports the Washington Trails Association's (WTA) applications for Recreation and Conservation Office grants including Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance, Backcountry Trail Maintenance, and Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance. The forest's all-volunteer trails program depends on the excellent work provided by WTA members.

Many of forest's 270 miles of trails are maintained by the WTA. Their crew leaders are devoted and highly skilled. Their volunteers are of all ages and from all walks of life. They host hundreds of on-forest events each year including day-long work parties, backcountry response teams, volunteer vacations, and youth vacations. Their partnership provides continued public access to the backcountry and wilderness areas as they clear windfall trees from across trails, maintain the tread surface, clear brush, and repair trail structures.

Perhaps the greatest good from our partnership with the WTA is the organization's fostering a sense of interconnectedness between people in the Puget Sound area and the public land in their back yard. Through service, their volunteers are exposed to the natural environment and learn to appreciate the work it takes to manage our valuable natural resources.

The Olympic National Forest greatly values and appreciates WTA's commitment to trails, community, and service. Thank you for considering their grant applications. For additional information please contact Brian Pope, Wilderness and Trails Coordinator, at bpope@fs.fed.us or 360-765-2219.

Sincerely,

for RETA LAFORD
Forest Supervisor

cc: Rebecca Lavigne, Dean Yoshina,





BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

RTP General Ranked #3

October 31, 2016

RCO Staff and RTP Scoring Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington in support of three RTP requests from the Washington Trail Association for trail maintenance in Washington State.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is an organization with a mission to keep trails open. The members of BCHW are dedicated to hands on, ground level volunteer projects that will keep our public lands open for stock use and for other recreational user groups. BCHW has 32 chapters throughout Washington State with approximately 2500 members.

In 2015 Back Country Horsemen contributed over 70,000 volunteer hours working with the various agencies. The US Forest Service, Washington Fish and Wildlife, BLM, DNR, Washington State Parks, Mount Rainier and Olympic National Park are some of the agencies that BCHW partners with. We collaborate with the Washington Trail Association, coordinating with WTA to provide pack support for work projects in Washington State. One of our projects in 2016 included crews from BCHW and WTA working with a crew to replace failed puncheons on Thunder Creek, a feeder trail to the PNNST.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support.

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young

President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Parks and Recreation Division

King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700
201 S. Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

October 21, 2016

Washington State
Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Washington Trails Association –Grant Applications #16-2250 and # 16-2248

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing to express King County Park's strong support of the Washington Trails Association's *Trail Maintenance 2016* grant applications (#16-2250 and #16-2248) which have been submitted to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office.

King County Parks manages 180 miles of backcountry trails that offer year-round accessibility for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding to residents of Seattle and the surrounding urban and rural communities of King County. WTA has been a fantastic partner for Parks for the past 17 years, and now provides over 12,000 hours of volunteer service to our backcountry trails each year.

The work completely by **#16-2248 M Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance** is critical to King County Parks backcountry trail program. WTA's adult volunteers working at Cougar Mt., Squak Mt, Taylor Mt, Soaring Eagle and Grand Ridge along the high user trails of the I-90 corridor is critical for keeping the trails up to standard. In addition, WTA is helping us establish a great trail system throughout King County Parks from Pinnacle Peak in Enumclaw to Tolt-MacDonald Park in Carnation

We support whole heartily WTA's work to engage youth in trail maintenance. Parks highly supports **#16-2250 M Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance**. This two-year project will allow youth volunteers to reduce or prevent trail maintenance backlogs on King County Park lands. WTA offers work parties to local schools and youth organizations. Many of the youth are new to trail maintenance and even to hiking, yet WTA's crew leaders always ensure that these young volunteers complete high-quality work. WTA is consistently able to provide a safe and inviting work environment for youth to learn, gain a sense of accomplishment, acquire an interest in hiking, stay fit and have fun.

WTA's contributions are essential to the ongoing maintenance of our trail system, especially in light of budget cuts within our agency. They have been an invaluable partner and I look forward to our continued work together over the next two seasons. I am confident that Washington Trails Association's Adult and youth Trail Maintenance projects will advance our work to help build the next generation of trail users who support, and protect our parks and natural areas. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 206-477-6112.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tina Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tina Miller
Project Manager
King County DNRP – Parks Division
206-477-6112

Washington State
Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917



Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee:

I am writing to offer my support for Recreational Trails Program application Project #16-2250 submitted by Washington Trails Association called "Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance." WTA is committed to getting young people outside through their youth stewardship trail program and Outdoor Leadership Training program. I have enjoyed bringing my students to engage in hands-on service with WTA for the past 2.5 years as part of the Rites of Passages program at Licton Springs K-8 School in Seattle.

Each year, WTA has provided my 8th grade students a hands on experience in a local park. The 8th grade students volunteer on WTA-led trail work parties and use WTA-lent gear. The work parties do a great job of showing the 8th graders how much time and effort go into building and maintaining the trails we use later on during our week-long backpacking trip. WTA's crew leaders teach them the skills needed to establish and maintain trails with fun and encouragement. This partnership helps me to reach my teaching goal of enlarging each student's world view.

Additionally, WTA's Outdoor Leadership Training gear library provides the opportunity for all of my students to be dressed appropriately for the weather and be prepared for a safe and fun day volunteering on trails. Access to the gear library also supports our culminating outdoor trip at the end of year which includes backpacking.

I cannot thank WTA enough for their support and resources to provide quality outdoor education experiences for my students. I hope that this partnership will continue for many years.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Sommarstrom". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Christian Sommarstrom

Rites of Passage Leader,
Licton Springs K-8, Seattle Public Schools



File Code: 2350

Date: October 26, 2016

RTP General Ranked #3

Attn: Recreation Trails Advisory Committee
Recreation and Conservation Office
RTP Program
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Advisory Committee:

I would like to speak in support of Recreation Trails Program (RTP) funding requests by the Washington Trails Association (WTA). The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBS) has worked with WTA through a Challenge Cost Share Agreement since 1994. This has been a very valuable experience for both us, and I believe WTA. Their volunteer trail maintenance program has expanded from a few hundred hours in 1993 to likely over 140,000 hours this year. In 2016 volunteers contributed over 39,000 hours of work to MBS trails on 300 individual work parties. Rarely a day goes by when there are not WTA volunteers working somewhere on the Forest.

What started as a program mostly benefiting the MBS, has expanded to four other National Forests, the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area, National Parks, state, county, city and other trails around the state. With the support of RTP grants, it has also grown to serve a rapidly growing youth program and backcountry response teams. Through this partnership many trails that would not have been maintained at all have received much needed annual care.

Leadership on these maintenance work parties is done by dedicated volunteer and paid crew leaders. The total number of maintenance trips are limited by the number of crew leaders, not the number of volunteers. Thanks to RTP funding and other grants, WTA has expanded its volunteer program to include hundreds of volunteer maintenance projects a year. This has been a major factor in the overall expansion of its volunteer program.

There have been many benefits of this program to the Forest Service, other land management agencies, and the trail community:

1. Literally thousands of volunteers have received a healthy appreciation of the work required to keep our trails open and ecosystems healthy.
2. Interaction between many different user groups is occurring promoting more understanding and less conflict.
3. Having a skilled, motivated and capable group of volunteers gives the Forest Service more flexibility in accomplishing its trail maintenance goals.



4. Increasing trail experience of the volunteer cadre allows work to occur on more challenging jobs, such as building trail structures. Some volunteers are even skilled at sharpening crosscut saws.

All work parties are accomplished with the following goals in mind: Be safe, have fun, get some work done.

Perhaps the greatest satisfaction that the Forest has had in supporting this partnership is the strong civic constituency being built to support trails in Washington State. We hope that you will consider funding this program again this year.

The enclosed letter, which is on file at your office, documents that these projects have been cleared under the National Environmental Policy Act, and are consistent with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Sincerely,



for JAMIE KINGSBURY
Forest Supervisor

cc: Gary Paull



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Okanogan-Wenatchee
National Forest

215 Melody Lane
Wenatchee, WA 98801
TTY (509) 664-9201
Voice (509) 664-9200

RTP General Ranked #3

File Code: 2330

Date: October 24, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
Olympia, Washington

Dear RCO Staff and Advisory Committee:

On behalf of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, I would like to offer my support of the Washington Trails Association's applications for Recreational Trails Program grant funds.

The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest encompasses over 4 million acres along the east slopes of the Cascade Range that are vital for fish and wildlife habitat, water quality and outdoor recreation. More and more, we rely on community partnerships to steward these landscapes and the trails that travel through them.

Washington Trails Association has been a significant partner with the Forest for over 15 years. Our shared goal is to engage volunteers to maintain, repair and construct sustainable trails on the National Forest, while also developing future land stewards. The work completed by WTA volunteers helps minimize the environmental impact of trails. Equally important, WTA's work educates the public about what it takes to steward our public lands and keep our ecosystems healthy. In addition, WTA's Youth Program reinforces Forest Service goals of bringing more young people out to their National Forests.

We simply could not maintain many of our trails without WTA's continued collaboration. That's why I'm pleased to offer my strong support for WTA's grant applications.

Sincerely,

for: MICHAEL J. WILLIAMS
Forest Supervisor



Caring for the Land and Serving People

Printed on Recycled Paper





RTP General Ranked #3

File Code: 2300; 2350
Date: October 26, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Grant Selection Team:

Olympic National Forest supports the Washington Trails Association's (WTA) applications for Recreation and Conservation Office grants including Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance, Backcountry Trail Maintenance, and Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance. The forest's all-volunteer trails program depends on the excellent work provided by WTA members.

Many of forest's 270 miles of trails are maintained by the WTA. Their crew leaders are devoted and highly skilled. Their volunteers are of all ages and from all walks of life. They host hundreds of on-forest events each year including day-long work parties, backcountry response teams, volunteer vacations, and youth vacations. Their partnership provides continued public access to the backcountry and wilderness areas as they clear windfall trees from across trails, maintain the tread surface, clear brush, and repair trail structures.

Perhaps the greatest good from our partnership with the WTA is the organization's fostering a sense of interconnectedness between people in the Puget Sound area and the public land in their back yard. Through service, their volunteers are exposed to the natural environment and learn to appreciate the work it takes to manage our valuable natural resources.

The Olympic National Forest greatly values and appreciates WTA's commitment to trails, community, and service. Thank you for considering their grant applications. For additional information please contact Brian Pope, Wilderness and Trails Coordinator, at bpope@fs.fed.us or 360-765-2219.

Sincerely,

for RETA LAFORD
Forest Supervisor

cc: Rebecca Lavigne, Dean Yoshina,





President
Kurt Froese (*), President
GeoEngineers, Inc.

President-Elect
Tod McDonald (*), Principal
Cypress Advisors

Founding President
Jim Ellis, Chairman Emeritus
Washington State Convention Center

Immediate Past President
Bill Chapman (*), President and CEO
Millennium Bulk Terminals, Longview

Secretary
John Baier (*), Attorney
Baier Law Firm

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner
KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (*), Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

RTP General Ranked #5

November 21, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2790, Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R.

Project #16-2777, Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19

Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain and build hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is the landscape connecting Seattle to Ellensburg surrounding Interstate 90, including wilderness lands, rural areas and historic sites, and the 15th largest metropolitan area in the country. This spectacular landscape has not happened by accident. More than two decades of collaborative work have preserved the natural heritage of the Greenway, which encompasses some of the most heavily-used trails in the state including locations within the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

Sally Bagshaw (X), Councilmember, City of Seattle
Jim Becker, Founder, SmartLab Toys, becker&mayer
Gary Berndt, Civic Leader, Cle Elum
Mark Boyar (*), President
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, Director, King County Parks & Recreation
Will Castillo, Principal, GGLO
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program
The Wilderness Society
Karl Forsgaard, President
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, City of Issaquah
Todd Glass, Partner
Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati PC
Kari Glover, Global Integration Partner, Retired
K&L Gates
Peter Goldmark (X), Commissioner of Public Lands
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Rich Grillo, Community at Large Representative
Cle Elum
Bruce Gryniowski, Partner, Gallatin Public Affairs
Don Hoch (X), Director
Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Laura Hoffman, Amazon Publishing,
Copper Ridge Farm
Cara Johnson, Geotechnical Engineer
GeoEngineers
Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel
Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
Jamie Kingsbury (X), Supervisor
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Janet Knox, Principal Environmental Geochemist
Pacific Groundwater Group
Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Leon Kos, City Administrator (retired), City of Issaquah
Paul Kundtz, Northwest Director
The Trust for Public Land
Helen Lee, Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Danny Levine, President, NationAd Communications
Arlene Levy (*), Partner, Social Venture Partners
Josh Lipsky (*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC
Robert Manelski, Senior Director, 787 Program
The Boeing Company
Gordon McHenry Jr (*), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Sue McLain (*), Former Senior VP Delivery
Operations, Puget Sound Energy
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement
Mary Norton, City of Snoqualmie Parks Board
Meadowbrook Farm
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific NW Stewardship Director
American Whitewater
Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
College of Environment, University of Washington
Marie Quasius(*), Attorney, K&L Gates LLP
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project
Sierra Club
Janet Ray (*), Asst VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardt (*), Principal & Senior Managing
Director, HEARTLAND LLC
Grant Ringel, Communications Director
Puget Sound Energy
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, Divisional Vice President, Sustainability
REI Co-op
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant (*), Vice President, CH2M
Maryanne Tagney
Community at Large Representative
Leah Tivoli, Organizational Performance Manager
City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor
Okanagan-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Former Senior Vice President,
HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yaker, Solution Architect, Microsoft

(*), Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director



The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for these important projects. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning these proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being more prominent than the last name "Hoekstra".

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



PACIFIC CREST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION

RTP General Ranked #5

North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

December, 28th 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Snoqualmie Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCNST) as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service “recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCNST”. In 2016, programs organized under the PCTA’s leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1500 hours in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 35 miles of the PCNST that passes through the North Cascades Region is managed by the District; much of this is in Norse Peak Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that more than 15 miles of this area was opened and maintained for hiker and equestrian use during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic

setting for education, recreation and solitude. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Additionally it is critical for our collaborative work that the District be supported enough to provide wilderness and front-country rangers and enforcement officers. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington have specific plans to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Snoqualmie Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications:

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2523, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-19

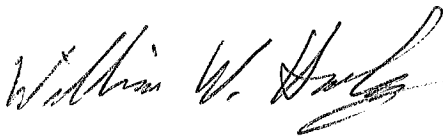
Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

I would point out that funding for Alpine Lakes is particularly critical; this area has been hard hit in the last few seasons and because of its remoteness, it requires an extraordinary effort to address the back-log of work.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William W. Hawley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



RTP General Ranked #5

Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

January 4, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA & RTP proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following NOVA and RTP projects:

- Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement #16-2793
- Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19 #16-2522
- Snoqualmie RD Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19 #16-2491
- Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R. #16-2790
- Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-9 #16-2523
- Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19 #16-2777
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019 #16-2429
- Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019 #16-2489

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

For 50 years, WTA has focused on helping Washingtonians get on trail to experience the great outdoors in our state and national parks, national forests and other public lands with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of trails and making outdoor experiences fulfilling and fun for hikers.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest offers some of the most visited trails and trailheads in the state. Replacement of the Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge will increase safety on a popular trail in the increasingly busy Highway 410 corridor. With this increase in users, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance is essential to providing safe and sustainable trails to all users in addition to the need for more Front Country and Backcountry Ranger Patrols to help alleviate and control user impact.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance on the Snoqualmie Ranger District, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director

January 4, 2017

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RECEIVED

JAN 11 2017

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

Dear Advisory Board,

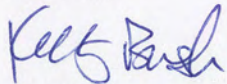
Please consider this letter of support toward the RTP Grant #16-2259, which concerns funding for Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance.

We are retired residents of rural Skagit County, with professional backgrounds of managing public lands particularly in the Pacific Northwest, including those with large trail systems. From those experiences we know that the factors of large trees, big rivers and creeks and severe winter storms make for the most difficult of conditions in which to maintain trails. We are both frequent users of trails in northwest Washington and in particular the trails of the Glacier Peak Wilderness, in which the trails are maintained by the USFS trail crew out of Darrington, WA. Many of our community and visiting tourists use these trails, and we have noticed in the past decade a huge increase of long-distance hikers from all over the world on the Pacific Crest Trail, a segment of which the Darrington trail crew maintains.

We are aware of, and frequently see volunteer trail workers in this area and know they are a huge contributor to keeping our trails open. However, all volunteers must be supervised and directed by professionals, and not all work can be accomplished by volunteer crews.

For all these specific reasons, and due to our belief that the trails in Washington (whether federal or other management) are an immeasurable asset to the state we wanted to express our strong support for funding their maintenance. We feel from our own hiking experiences and in seeing many recreationists on trails within the Glacier Peak Wilderness, that grants such as #16-2259 will be well-used in preserving this resource. We urge the support of this work! Thank you.

Sincerely,



Kelly Bush and Russ Dalton
11633 Martin Road
Rockport, WA 98283



RTP General Ranked #6

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Letter of Support for:

- *16-2238 Mt. Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance (NOVA)
- *16-2260 Milk Creek Bridge and Trail Relocation (NOVA)
- *16-2259 '17-'19 Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance (NRTP)
- *16-2383 Volunteer Program at Big 4

Dear Review Committee,

The Town of Darrington is pleased to support the Darrington Ranger District's applications for RCO grants. Tucked away in the North Cascades the town is surrounded by large tracts of public land. This has offered the community both employment in the woods and an incredible recreational experience for those who have been lucky enough to live and visit here.

In the aftermath of the 2014 Oso Landslide the town is working with various recreational groups to develop world-class recreational opportunities that surround us. The Darrington RD staff has been integral part in this initiative through participation in economic development meetings addressing concerns brought forward by the various user groups.

Maintenance is always an issue, and we understand the problems faced by the Forest Service in having the funds to perform even the simplest of projects. We have applauded the Darrington Districts ability to procure grants, employ youth from our town, and work with local and other volunteer groups to keep the trails open. Many of the members of this small town have spent years working in the woods and understand the tremendous effort it takes to open and maintain the trails in this rugged environment. We commend the efforts of all those who have participated in these initiatives.

I ask the review committee to consider the applications above of which will help our town continue to offer the very best hiking and equestrian wilderness experiences now and in the future. Opening up new trails and re-establishing historic ones, like the crossing for the Milk Creek trail, can only add to the attraction to world class recreational adventure in our area.

Town of Darrington
Mayor, Dan Rankin

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Letter of Support for:

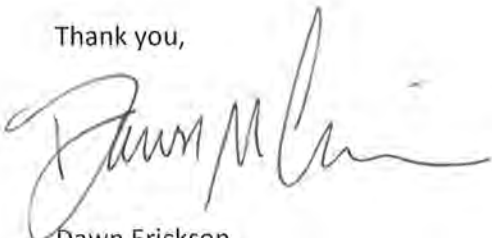
16-2259 '17- '19 - Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance (NRTP)

Dear Review Committee,

As a long time member of the Darrington community and supporter of trails within Washington State I would like to offer my support for the proposed Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance Project. I have lived in Darrington for nearly 30 years and am familiar with the great trail treasure the Darrington Ranger manages and its importance to the local communities of Darrington, Granite Falls and Arlington as well as all of Snohomish County and the greater Puget Sound area. It is a system that offers many management challenges due to remoteness and diversity of trails as well as a diversity of use levels and use types. I commend the district for its ongoing efforts to keep up with maintenance. They are a highly skilled and motivated group that makes the best use of grant money through partnerships with local community groups, local youth, and groups like WTA, Mountaineers, PCTA, PNTA and BCH. The trails are critical to the local communities' transition from a timber economy to tourism as the trail system is one of the major draws for visitors. Its continued maintenance is of great importance.

I also help manage the Darrington Outdoor Club. Our mission is to help get kids outside and connected to the outdoors and the forests that surround their communities. The trails of the Darrington Ranger District are the very first trails we take kids on as they are both close to the community yet offer access to remote and wild locations as well as actual Wilderness. Without ongoing trail maintenance we would lose access to and opportunity for these amazing connections.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dawn Erickson', written in a cursive style.

Dawn Erickson,
Local community member
Darrington Outdoor Club Coordinator

RTP General Ranked #6

Mike and Ruth Hardy

305 S 325th Ln. Federal Way 98003

Email: mike.ruth.hardy@gmail.com Phone: 2539290633

Recreation and Conservation Office

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RECEIVED

JAN - 9 2017

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

Re: RTP Grant #16-2259 17-19 Darrington Back Country Trail Maintenance

Dear Advisory Board:

I am writing to express support for the RTP Grant #16-2259, 17-19 Darrington Back Country Trail Maintenance.

My understanding is that the purpose of this grant is to fund the Darrington RD trail crew for the express purpose of doing major trail maintenance work in remote parts of the Glacier Peak Wilderness on the Darrington Ranger District.

We are lifelong users and volunteers of Washington Wilderness Areas, with a special love for the Glacier Peak Wilderness. In addition, we volunteered as Fire Lookout/Wilderness Rangers at a remote fire lookout in the Darrington RD. Part of our job was keeping trails passable until the Darrington Trail Crew could get back to do the much-needed major maintenance work. Many, if not most times it wasn't possible for the crew to get to this work because of backlog, budget concerns and just running out of time.

The Darrington District has special challenges, ranging from huge and jack-strawed windfall, heavy brush and river flooding washouts in the river bottoms, to avalanche and rockslide trail obliteration in the high country. One weather event can and has, knock out every trail structure in the District which can take decades to repair if in a remote part of the Wilderness.

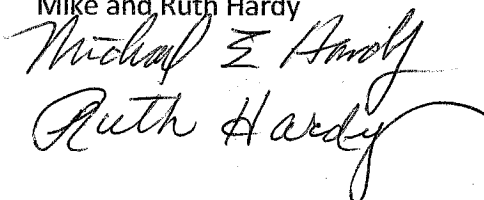
Remote is the key word here. As volunteers for King County Parks, and Washington Trails Association, we know how much simpler it is to build and maintain a trail a mile from the trailhead, opposed to fifteen miles working ten hour days in the Wilderness all with early twentieth century tools.

We've been amazed what the Darrington Trail Crew can accomplish. They're professional, creative, adaptive and hard-working while still protecting our precious Wilderness resources.

We urge you to support them so they can continue and expand their work.

Sincerely,

Mike and Ruth Hardy

Handwritten signatures of Michael E. Amoly and Ruth Hardy. The signature of Michael E. Amoly is written in cursive and is positioned above the signature of Ruth Hardy, which is also in cursive.



RTP General Ranked #6

North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 20th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Darrington Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Darrington Ranger District.

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT". In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the Darrington Ranger District (District), our local volunteers have logged more than 2100 hours so far in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 56 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) lies within Glacier Peak Wilderness and is managed by the District. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude. Due to limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous backlog of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail

users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Darrington Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications:

#16-2238 Mt. Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance (NOVA)

#16-2259 '17-'19 Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance (NRTP)

#16-2260 Milk Creek Bridge and Trail Relocation (NOVA)

The last of these applications is of special concern to the PCTA as this will re-open a 20 mile section that has been re-routed throughout the recent decade.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,



Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative

George Winters

PO Box 757, Darrington WA 98241 • Phone: 360-436-1125
E-Mail: geowinters@frontier.com

RTP General Ranked #6

RECEIVED

JAN - 9 2017

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

Date: January 4, 2017
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: RTP Grant #16-2259 17-19 Darrington Back Country Trail Maintenance
Dear Advisory Board:

I am writing to express support for the RTP Grant #16-2259, 17-19 Darrington Back Country Trail Maintenance.

It is my understanding that the purpose of this grant is to fund the Darrington RD trail crew for the express purpose of doing major trail maintenance work in remote parts of the Glacier Peak Wilderness on the Darrington Ranger District. As an avid backcountry hiker in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, I have personal experience viewing the needs of maintenance, especially on the Pacific Crest Trail. In past years it has been my good fortune while hiking through the area on my days off to encounter the Darrington Trail Crew working in very remote and challenging areas. I have seen the places where the trail has been damaged and needed major repair and relocating. I have seen the rock fall, huge windfall, and amazingly dense brush growth that challenges the hikers in this area, and really appreciate how hard the access and difficulty of work that the trail crew has successfully managed. My regular yearly hikes in the Glacier Peak Wilderness have reinforced my understanding of the repeated and ongoing nature of these maintenance challenges.

I have also taken part in many days of volunteer trail maintenance, and this experience reinforces my support for the extra effort, skills, and long work hours and long work stay campouts that the professional crew of the Darrington District has accomplished in past seasons. I want to urge you to support this important and challenging special skill of the Darrington Trail Crew.

Sincerely,



George Winters

Darrington



RTP General Ranked #7

North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 7th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for USFS Cowlitz Ranger District grant applications.

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the US Forest Service - Cowlitz Ranger District (the District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT. In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the Darrington Ranger District, local volunteers have logged nearly 1100 hours so far in 2016.

Approximately 38 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) lies within Goat Rocks and William O. Douglass Wildernesses and is managed by the District. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in these wildernesses makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude. Due to the access problems during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous amount of deferred

maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the PCTA and the Forest Service does depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons on a variety of projects in Goat Rocks Wilderness. The presence of wilderness rangers and trail crews is a key part of managing the ever-growing visitor impact to these precious lands. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding to support the District's application:

RTP Grant #16-2464: GPNF Wilderness Trails Maintenance

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William W. Hawley", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



PACIFIC CREST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION

North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312-3938
bhawley@pcta.org

RTP General Ranked #8

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 7th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for Tahoma Chapter – Backcountry Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) grant applications.

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the BCHW.

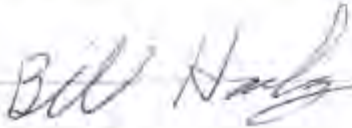
The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service “recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT”. In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA’s leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the Snoqualmie Ranger District (District), our local volunteers have logged more than 1100 hours so far in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 22 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) lies within Norse Peak Wilderness and is managed by the District. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in Norse Peak Wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude. Due to limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous backlog of deferred maintenance. Much of the

funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the BCHW does on behalf of the PCTA and the Forest Service depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Tahoma Chapter - Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Snoqualmie Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bill Hawley", written over a horizontal line.

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

Serving hikers since 1966

RTP General Ranked #8

October 26, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Back Country Horsemen of Washington Project Proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington's (BCHW) project proposals.

Washington Trails Association (WTA) is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is the preeminent state organization committed to protecting horseback riding opportunities on public lands in Washington state. Like WTA, BCHW provides thousands of hours of volunteer maintenance on Washington's trails each year. Washington Trails Association works closely with BCHW to ensure that all Washingtonians and visitors to the state can enjoy our wonderful trails and wilderness. WTA's volunteer trail maintenance program often partners with BCHW on trail work parties. BCHW also provides vital support to WTA's multi-day work parties by packing gear, tools and food into remote areas via horse pack strings. Without this support, WTA would have a difficult time reaching some trail work locations that are miles from roads.

Washington Trails Association appreciates the partnership it has with BCHW and we encourage the support and funding of this organization's vitally important projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



RTP General Ranked #9

North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 20th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Methow Valley Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Methow Valley Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT". In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1600 hours so far in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 39 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) passes through the North Cascades and is managed by the District; much of this is in the Pasayten Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that the southern 10 miles of this area was re-opened to stock travel during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude.

Due to limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous backlog of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Methow Valley Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications that directly support work on the Pacific Crest Trail or trails that connect to it:

16-2519 Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2499 MVRD Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2622 Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements

16-2743 East Creek Bridge Construction

16-2529 PNW Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawley

Bill Hawley

Pacific Crest Trail Association

North Cascades Regional Representative



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Okanogan -Wenatchee
National Forest
Naches Ranger District

10237 U.S. Highway 12
Naches, WA 98937
(509) 653-1401
(509) 653-2638

RTP General Ranked #10

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

October 25, 2016

RE: Letter of support for Pacific Crest Trail Association RTP grant application.

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing to you today in support of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) in support of their RTP grant request – RCO #16-2392 Mnt, Maintenance on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (#2000).

For the last 11 years, the PCTA has been an ever growing volunteer program here in the Naches Ranger District that provides hundreds of hours annually to the maintenance and protection of the Pacific Crest Trail and connecting system trails throughout Washington State. During 2016 the local volunteer group – White Pass Chapter - performed 6 projects totaling more than 800 hours. These projects range from scouting and brushing to major trail reconstruction; this season it included cutting and removing nearly 300 trees to re-open the PCT here in this district.

The PCTA has a developed program of volunteer recruitment, training, and project management with a solid track-record. Their mission statement includes the promotion, protection and preservation of the PCT. To that end, this organization of volunteers (more than 1700 here in Washington) is dedicated to keeping the PCT open and accessible to all allowable user groups. A shared goal is to address the large back-log of trail restoration in the William O Douglas and Goat Rocks Wildernesses in the coming seasons. For this work, the PCTA needs local funding to support its partnership with local ranger districts like the Naches RD.

We encourage your support of the PCTA and its work on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

WILLIAM ZIMMER
Resource Assistant
Oka-Wen National Forest
Naches Ranger District





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Wenatchee
National
Forest

Cle Elum Ranger District
803 W. 2nd St.
Cle Elum, WA 98922
Voice (509) 852-1100
TTY (509) 674-9770

RTP General Ranked #10

File Code:

Date: October 25, 2016

To:
Washington State
Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Pacific Crest Trail Association RTP grant application.

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing to you today in support of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and their RTP grant request, RCO # 16-2392 Mnt, Maintenance on the Pacific Crest Trail.

For the last six years, the PCTA has had an ever growing volunteer program here on the Cle Elum Ranger District. It has provided hundreds of hours of donated labor annually to the maintenance and protection of the Pacific Crest Trail and connecting system trails.

During 2016 the local chapter – North 350 Blades – performed 33 projects totaling more than 1650 hours. These projects range from scouting and brushing to major trail reconstruction. The crews did primary maintenance on over 35 miles of PCT.

The PCTA has a developed program of volunteer recruitment, training, and project management with a solid track-record. Their mission statement includes the promotion, protection and preservation of the PCT. To that end, this organization of volunteers (more than 1700 here in Washington) is dedicated to keeping the PCT open and accessible to all allowable user groups. A shared goal is to reopen all trails in Alpine Lakes Wilderness in the coming season. For this work, the PCTA needs grant funding to support its partnership with local ranger districts like the Cle Elum. We've come to rely on the support, hard work and partnership with the PCTA and encourage your support of the PCTA and its work on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

Sincerely,

Jon R. Herman
Trails
Cle Elum Ranger District
803 West Second St.
Cle Elum, WA 98922
jherman@fs.fed.us



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United States
Department of
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Forest
Service

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie
National Forest
Darrington Ranger District

1405 Emens Street
Darrington, WA 98241
(360) 436-1155

RTP General Ranked #10

File Code: 2350

Date: October 27, 2016

Subject: Letter of Support for Pacific Crest Trail Association

To: Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing to you today in support of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) in support of their RTP grant request – RCO #16-2392 Mnt, Maintenance on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (#2000).

The PCTA is a strong partner with the Darrington Ranger District and over the last few years has been working on expanding their trail maintenance program on the district. This past spring they initiated a trail skills program similar to the one at Cascade Locks in Oregon. The volunteers were instructed on basic trail maintenance skills which provided much needed early season work on some of the district's trails. The PCTA is looking to build on this great start with an expanded program in the coming years.

This past summer the local chapter North 350 Blades contributed 2,150 hours removing logs, brushing, and repairing tread from winter storms. This work was along some of the more remote sections of the PCT on the district. Their efforts are appreciated by all who use the trail. We plan to continue this great partnership into the future.

We encourage your support of the PCTA and its work on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

Sincerely,

Bridget Wisniewski
Forestry Technician -Trails





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Okanogan -Wenatchee
National Forest
Methow Valley Ranger District

24 West Chewuch Road
Winthrop, WA 98862
(509) 996-4003

RTP General Ranked #10

File Code: 2300

Date: October 31, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing to you today in support of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) in support of their RTP grant request – RCO #16-2392 Mnt, Maintenance on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (#2000).

For the last 3 years, the PCTA has been an ever growing volunteer program here in the Methow Valley Ranger District that provides hundreds of hours annually to the maintenance and protection of the Pacific Crest Trail and connecting system trails throughout Washington State. During 2016 the local volunteer group – North 350 Blades - performed 5 projects totaling more than 1600 hours. These projects range from scouting and brushing to major trail reconstruction; in addition, this season it included cutting and removing more than 150 logs from the PCT in this district.

The PCTA has a developed program of volunteer recruitment, training, and project management with a solid track-record. Their mission statement includes the promotion, protection and preservation of the PCT. To that end, this organization of volunteers (more than 1700 here in Washington) is dedicated to keeping the PCT open and accessible to all allowable user groups. A shared goal is to address the large back-log of trail clearing and restoration work in the Pasayten Wilderness in the coming seasons. For this work, the PCTA needs local funding to support its partnership with local Ranger Districts like the Methow Valley RD.

We encourage your support of the PCTA and its work on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

Sincerely,


MICHAEL C LIU

Methow District Ranger





BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

RTP General Ranked #11

October 31, 2016

RCO Staff and RTP Scoring Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington in support of Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust's *Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail Maintenance 2017* grant application (#16-2271) which has been submitted to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is an organization with a mission to keep trails open. The members of BCHW are dedicated to hands on, ground level volunteer projects that will keep our public lands open for stock use and for other recreational user groups. BCHW has 32 chapters throughout Washington State with approximately 2500 members.

In 2015 Back Country Horsemen contributed over 70,000 volunteer hours working with the various agencies. The US Forest Service, Washington Fish and Wildlife, BLM, DNR, Washington State Parks, Mount Rainier and Olympic National Park are some of the agencies that BCHW partners with. We collaborate with the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, coordinating with MSGT to provide pack support for work projects in Washington State. The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust has been a strong partner to BCHW, and has supported improvement and maintenance of the many equestrian facilities in the Greenway, including collaborative efforts on trails such as the Dutch Miller Gap Trail, Waptus River Trail, Lake Michael Trail, Middle Fork Trail, and others within other popular destinations along the I-90 corridor on both sides of Snoqualmie Pass.

Trail maintenance funding has dwindled through the years and has resulted in an ever-increasing maintenance backlog. Heavy public trail use amplifies this backlog, leading to environmental damage and creating significant public safety concerns, and also contributes significantly to a reduction in access on trails designated for stock and equestrian use. Support from the Recreational Trails Program, and the partnership between BCHW and the Greenway Trust to help care for these trails, is important to the trail maintenance work in the Greenway.

The BCHW gladly supports recreation projects dedicated to maintaining the quality recreational assets that embody the high quality of life in the Mountains to Sound Greenway; projects such as the *Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail Maintenance 2017* grant. Thank you for this opportunity to express our support.

s/Kathy Young
Kathy Young
President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 32 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Olympic National Forest

1835 Black Lake Boulevard
Southwest
Olympia, WA 98512
360-956-2402
Fax: 360-956-2330

File Code: 2350
Date: October 27, 2016

RTP General Ranked #12

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympic, WA 98501

Dear Grant Selection Team:

The Olympic National Forest supports the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Peninsula Chapter, in their efforts to compete for trail project funding.

The BCHW, Peninsula Chapter is one of the forest's indispensable partners. They contribute to maintaining the 270-mile forest trail network, which is maintained almost exclusively through the hard work of volunteers. Their support is far-reaching in Wilderness, where horses and pack stock are required to transport heavy materials that otherwise can't be carried. They perform trail work and provide support forest-wide: the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail in the Bogachiel River, Dungeness River, and Salmon Creek drainages; the Olympic Discovery Trail; the Mount Muller trails; Hood Canal area trails.

The organization stands out for their collaborative and cooperative support of other trails and wilderness partners such as the Washington Trails Association, Gray Wolves Trail Crew, Mount Rose Trail Crew, and the Mountaineers, Olympia Branch. The Backcountry Horsemen assist these volunteer groups by packing tools and equipment, providing hands-on assistance, contributing their technical expertise in rigging and building trail bridges.

The Backcountry Horsemen aid Forest Service staff by performing trail reconnaissance, logging out windfall along trails, brushing, tread-work, removal of illegal trash dumps, hauling material for projects, and maintaining horse-related structures such as hitching rails. They also assist our operation by teaching and certifying traditional skills such as crosscut saw use. Their stewardship is vital to the success of our all-volunteer trails program. We are proud of our partnership with them and are grateful for their members' commitment to help maintain the Forest's trails.

Thank you for considering the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Olympia Chapter's application. For additional information please contact Brian Pope, Olympic National Forest Wilderness and Trails Coordinator, at bpope@fs.fed.us or 360-765-2219.

Sincerely,

FLK RETA LAFORD
Forest Supervisor

cc: Brian Pope, FS; Paula Jablonski, FS



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United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Olympic National Park
600 East Park Avenue

Port Angeles, Washington 98362-6798

RTP General Ranked #12

IN REPLY REFER TO:

October 17, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504 - 0917

Members of the Selection Committee:

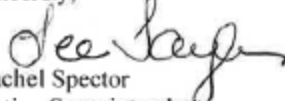
On behalf of Olympic National Park, I am writing to confirm our support of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington –Peninsula Chapter (BCHW) for consideration by the members of the grant selection committee.

The National Park Service celebrated its 100th anniversary of service to the nation this year. Volunteers such as BCHW are vital to our mission of persevering and protecting our public lands for future generations. Olympic National Park has over 600 miles of trails across its 922,651 acres of land, 95% of which is designated wilderness. Located on western Washington's Olympic Peninsula, extreme weather conditions make maintaining these trails a tremendous effort. BCHW and their stock have always been an essential partner in working with our trails managers to maintain our trails. At Olympic National Park our volunteers are dedicated to helping us keep these trails safe and accessible for our visitors. We have included a link with our park reports of visitor use [Olympic Park Reports](#).

Part of the park's mission is to develop the next generation of public land stewards and supporters. As the country's demographics continue to change we are constantly seeking ways to connect diverse audiences to the resources of Olympic National Park. Our strong partnership with BCHW has allowed the volunteers with a wilderness background and Leave No Trace ethic to mentor youth through a variety of events such as Jr Ranger Day and National Public Lands Day. They were a vital resource to our Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Crew sponsored by the park to work on a stock trails last year. This partnership has been an exemplary model of a joint effort that brings diverse youth to the park and creates an experience that links hands on stewardship and potentially a life-long relationship with the National Park!

We look forward to partnering with the Back Country Horsemen –Peninsula Chapter in the future.

Sincerely,


ROR—Rachel Spector
Acting Superintendent



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Olympic National Forest

1835 Black Lake Boulevard Southwest
Olympia, WA 98512
360-956-2402
Fax: 360-956-2330

File Code: 2350

Date: October 24, 2016

RTP General Ranked #12

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympic, WA 98501

Dear Grant Selection Team:

The Olympic National Forest supports the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Peninsula Chapter, in their efforts to compete for trail project funding.

The BCHW, Peninsula Chapter is one of the forest's indispensable partners. They contribute to maintaining the 270-mile forest trail network, which is maintained almost exclusively through the hard work of volunteers. Their support is far-reaching in Wilderness, where horses and pack stock are required to transport heavy materials that otherwise can't be carried. They perform trail work and provide support forest-wide: the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail in the Bogachiel River, Dungeness River, and Salmon Creek drainages; the Olympic Discovery Trail; the Mount Muller trails; Hood Canal area trails.

The organization stands out for their collaborative and cooperative support of other trails and wilderness partners such as the Washington Trails Association, Gray Wolves Trail Crew, Mount Rose Trail Crew, and the Mountaineers, Olympia Branch. The Backcountry Horsemen assist these volunteer groups by packing tools and equipment, providing hands-on assistance, contributing their technical expertise in rigging and building trail bridges.

The Backcountry Horsemen aid Forest Service staff by performing trail reconnaissance, logging out windfall along trails, brushing, tread-work, removal of illegal trash dumps, hauling material for projects, and maintaining horse-related structures such as hitching rails. They also assist our operation by teaching and certifying traditional skills such as crosscut saw use. Their stewardship is vital to the success of our all-volunteer trails program. We are proud of our partnership with them and are grateful for their members' commitment to help maintain the Forest's trails.



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Washington Trails Association

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Serving hikers since 1966

RTP General Ranked #12

October 26, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Back Country Horsemen of Washington Project Proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington's (BCHW) project proposals.

Washington Trails Association (WTA) is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is the preeminent state organization committed to protecting horseback riding opportunities on public lands in Washington state. Like WTA, BCHW provides thousands of hours of volunteer maintenance on Washington's trails each year. Washington Trails Association works closely with BCHW to ensure that all Washingtonians and visitors to the state can enjoy our wonderful trails and wilderness. WTA's volunteer trail maintenance program often partners with BCHW on trail work parties. BCHW also provides vital support to WTA's multi-day work parties by packing gear, tools and food into remote areas via horse pack strings. Without this support, WTA would have a difficult time reaching some trail work locations that are miles from roads.

Washington Trails Association appreciates the partnership it has with BCHW and we encourage the support and funding of this organization's vitally important projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



Clallam County Road Department

223 E. Fourth St., Suite 6
Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015

RTP General Ranked #12

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
Olympia, WA 98504-3015

Dear RCO Funding Assistance Decision Makers,

Clallam County would like to express our enthusiastic support of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), Peninsula Chapter, in their work to continue to support recreation on lands managed for trail and recreation use on the north Olympic peninsula.

The County manages and maintains roughly 85 miles of the Olympic Discovery Trail in Clallam County and relies heavily on volunteers to help maintain this facility for dispersed recreation. Currently, members of the Peninsula chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington are engaged in an adopt-a-trail agreement to help construct and maintain the Olympic Discovery Trail and trails within County parks. Volunteers under the direction of BCHW work with us to clear windfall, brush and improve tread to provide a safe and high quality experience for trail users and recreationalists. We anticipate working closely with BCHW in the near future on upcoming trail projects that will require their level of experience and equipment. This partnership is proving to have many benefits for both us and the BCHW.

A variety of recreational opportunities have expanded greatly on the Olympic Peninsula in the last three to five years. Our visitor estimates show we are experiencing about 200,000 user visits per year on portions of the Olympic Discovery Trail. More than ever we need to continue to work together and support each other's efforts to provide safe and sustainable recreation to the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rich James".

Rich James
Clallam County Transportation Program Manager



PACIFIC NORTHWEST 4-WHEEL-DRIVE ASSOCIATION OREGON—WASHINGTON—IDAHO

October 18, 2016

RTP General Ranked #13

Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance

To: The RTP Advisory Board

This is a letter of support for the Naches Ranger Districts grant application for the districts Motorized Trail Maintenance. This grant will help maintain the trail systems for the safety of recreational users and keep resource damage to a minimum.

We are a motorized 4 X 4 organization The Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association, and have donated many hours of volunteer labor to help with the maintenance of the trail system that we use and enjoy. We need to keep this area open for recreational use.

I represent Region 4 of the Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association. We have 17 clubs with 500 plus members.

Thank you for considering the Motorized Maintenance grant application for the Naches Ranger District.

Sincerely,

Earl P. Nettnin

Earl P. Nettnin, Region 4 Director
Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association
519 North Fisher Place
Kennewick, WA 99336-2701
esnettnin@aol.com

Ron Rutherford
11705 Zier Road
Yakima, WA 98908
jeepingnomad@gmail.com

RTP General Ranked #13

October 26, 2016

Naches Ranger District, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest
Bill Zimmer, Resource Assistant
10237 Highway 12
Naches, WA 98937

Advisory Board:

I am writing to support the Naches Ranger District's request for grant funding of Off Highway Vehicle Rangers and Motorized Trail Maintenance and Operation.

I am a volunteer for the Naches Ranger District and donate countless hours each year providing trail maintenance and assist on other related projects that maintain a sustainable forest for all recreational users. The decline of federal dollars to maintain and support Forest Service Ranger Districts has created an increase in trail damage and an increase in illegal motorized use.

By awarding this grant to the Naches Ranger District, you will assist in bringing our forested area back to an acceptable level of legal motorized use.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ron Rutherford



November 7, 2016

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RTP General Ranked #15

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office,

It is with great pleasure that I write in support of the applications being submitted by the Cle Elum Ranger District and the Wenatchee-Okanogan National Forest to the NOVA & RTP programs. NOVA proposal #16-2255 MNT, Cle Elum RD Non-Motorized Trails M&O 2017 and RTP grant #16-2435 MNT, Cle Elum RD Non-Motorized Trails M&O 2017 will support the efforts of both the Cle Elum RD and the Northwest Youth Corps (NYC). These NOVA & RTP projects will help ensure that youth participants have the opportunity to learn not only job skills but also the chance to experience the beauty of the Central Washington Cascades first hand.

The reduction in recreation dollars allocated to seasonal and backlog maintenance projects makes these RCO requests even more important to ensure safe, well maintained trails for recreationalists. High quality recreation opportunities bring visitors and revenue to the area helping to boost the local economy.

NYC is a youth development and outdoor education organization that has provided opportunities to more than 10,000 young people since its establishment in 1984. NYC employs over 900 youth annually to complete much needed conservation projects throughout the Pacific Northwest; including a seasonal facility outside Leavenworth, WA.

NYC and the Cle Elum RD have enjoyed a long standing partnership that began in the early 1990s. The above mentioned applications will work to further this partnership; giving the District and NYC greater ability to complete necessary maintenance projects and serve regional youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Waksmundski", is positioned above the printed name.

Joe Waksmundski
Program Director



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

October 25, 2016

RE: Letter of support for USFS Cle Elum Ranger District RCO grants

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the following grant applications submitted by the US Forest Service - Cle Elum Ranger District (the District).

Specifically the grants include two for non-motorized trails operations and maintenance; NOVA grant 16-2255 and RTP grant 16-2435. Those grants would provide for continued maintenance of the PCT and other non-motorized trails, including funding for support and partnership with the PCTA. Two more grants, RTP grant 16-2299 and NOVA grant 16-2300, would fund wilderness rangers who do education and enforcement on trails within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, including 52 miles of the PCT. In addition to those 52 wilderness miles, the Cle Elum district administers another 35 non-wilderness miles of PCT south of Snoqualmie Pass. That's a total of 87 miles of PCT on the District.

Due to its scenic beauty and close proximity to the greater Seattle area, the Alpine Lakes Wilderness is heavily used by a large number of visitors, making it a priority area for both trail maintenance and wilderness ranger patrols. The remoteness and diversity of the PCT in Alpine Lakes Wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude. To support these values, it is critical to have

wilderness rangers in the field to monitor and educate the various user groups. Much of the funding for monitoring, maintenance work and structural repairs that the PCTA and the Forest Service does depends on grant funding from state and local programs.

I would like to point out that the Alpine Lakes Wilderness has a considerable backlog of work. To reduce this backlog and provide for continued maintenance, volunteers of the PCTA and Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, leveraging funding so as to exceed current goals and objectives. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding to the District for trail maintenance and wilderness education.

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT. In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. On the Cle Elum District, local volunteers have logged more than 1600 hours so far in 2016.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawley

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON

PO Box 1132

ELLENSBURG, WA 98926

WWW.BCHW.ORG

RTP General Ranked #17

October 24, 2016

RCO Staff and RTP Scoring Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington in support of an RTP request from the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Association for trail maintenance along the PNNST and connecting trails in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is an organization with a mission to keep trails open. The members of BCHW are dedicated to hands on, ground level volunteer projects that will keep our public lands open for stock use and for other recreational user groups. BCHW has 32 chapters throughout Washington State with approximately 2500 members.

In 2015 Back Country Horsemen contributed over 70,000 volunteer hours working with the various agencies. The US Forest Service, Washington Fish and Wildlife, BLM, DNR, Washington State Parks, Mount Rainier and Olympic National Park are some of the agencies that BCHW partners with. We collaborate with the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, coordinating with PNTA to provide pack support for work projects as well as managing our own trail projects to maintain portions of the PNNST in Washington State. One of our projects in 2016 included crews from BCHW and WTA logging out the Boundary Trail in the eastern Pasayten, a part of the PNNST.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support.

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young

President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 33 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Okanogan-Wenatchee
National Forest

215 Melody Lane
Wenatchee, WA 98801
TTY (509) 664-9201
Voice (509) 664-9200

RTP General Ranked #17

File Code: 2330

Date: October 24, 2016

RCO Staff and Advisory Committee
Recreation and Conservation Office
Olympia, Washington

Dear RCO Staff and Advisory Committee:

On behalf of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, I would like to offer my support of the Pacific Northwest Trail Association's application for Recreational Trails Program grant funds.

The Pacific Northwest Trail (PNT) runs 1,200 miles from the Continental Divide in Glacier National Park to the Pacific Ocean at Cape Alava in Olympic National Park. It traverses the entire state of Washington, much of it within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. In 2009, Congress designated the Pacific Northwest Trail as the newest of America's 11 National Scenic Trails. The Forest Service is the agency responsible for preparing a comprehensive management plan for the Trail and for stewardship of those portions of the trail that fall within National Forest boundaries. The Pacific Northwest Trail Association has been a significant partner with the Forest since the Trail was designated. They have also contributed to maintenance of the Pacific Crest Trail. In addition to providing volunteer crews and leaders for trail maintenance, the PNTA also supports youth development through these efforts. In that manner, they meet Forest Service goals of engaging youth in the outdoors, while creating future citizen stewards and providing a valuable public service in the form of trail maintenance.

We hope to continue this mutually beneficial partnership well into the future. I'm pleased to offer my strong support for PNTA's grant applications.

Sincerely,

for MICHAEL J. WILLIAMS
Forest Supervisor





RTP General Ranked #17

Date: October 28, 2016

File Code: 2300

Subject: Pacific Northwest Trail Association RTP Proposal

To: RCO Staff and Advisory Committee
Recreation and Conservation Office
Olympia, WA

Dear RCO Staff and Advisory Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Pacific Northwest Trail Association's RTP proposal for Okanogan County. This project demonstrates the future of sustainable public land management through its interagency nature and strong commitment to partnerships and volunteers.

The Pacific Northwest Trail (PNT) was designated a National Scenic Trail by Congress in 2009. Stretching 1200 miles from the Continental Divide in Montana to Washington's Wilderness Coast in Olympic National Park, the PNT connects people and communities to the natural and cultural heritage of the Pacific Northwest. More than 150 miles of PNT lie on the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF.

This project would support maintenance of more than 60 miles of trail over its two year span and would benefit trails managed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service, National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management. It would strengthen local trail systems in rural communities like Oroville and provide close to home access for outdoor recreation which leads to happier, healthier individuals and stronger families and communities.

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association has a proven track record of success on projects just like this one and I strongly encourage you to approve this proposal.

Please feel free to contact me at mtmcgrath@fs.fed.us or 425-583-9304 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Matt McGrath
Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Program Manager
United States Forest Service
1220 SW 3rd Ave, Portland OR 97204





Washington Trails Association

RTP General Ranked #17

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
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October 31, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Association RTP Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Projects

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association in support of an RTP request from the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Association for trail maintenance in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, along the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail and trails connecting to the PNNST.

Washington Trails Association (WTA) is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

WTA and PNTA are organizations with a similar mission to protect and maintain trails. The members of WTA are dedicated to hands on, ground level volunteer projects that will keep our public lands open for hiker use and for other recreational user groups. In 2016 WTA joined forces with PNTA trail projects and the end results were outstanding. We look forward to working with PNTA in the future.

Washington Trails Association appreciates the partnership it has with PNTA and we encourage the support and funding of this organization's vitally important projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



RTP General Ranked #19

Don Anderson
Mayor

October 27, 2016

Jason Whalen
Deputy Mayor

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504

Mary Moss
Councilmember

Dear Grant Committee:

Michael D. Brandstetter
Councilmember

This letter is to confirm the City of Lakewood's support of the Chambers Creek Trail Project.

John Simpson
Councilmember

The City of Lakewood has been formally working on this project with Pierce County, the City of University Place and various community partners since 2012. The Chamber Creek Canyon is a special place. Nowhere else, within many miles, can you experience this type of back country experience. But the problem is access. Currently Chambers Creek runs in the middle of the canyon and divides the two cities. This trail project will connect our communities and provide an amazing experience to trail visitors.

Marie Barth
Councilmember

Paul Bocchi
Councilmember

In 2013 we co-hosted an open house which focused on potential trail development in the Chambers Creek Canyon. Discussion included trail specifications, access, linkages, environmental impact, safety, volunteer projects and community support. The response from the community was overwhelming positive. This support encouraged our organizations to sign an interlocal agreement to determine how we could make this idea become a reality. Lakewood, UP, Pierce County and other agencies have continued to meet to develop the trail plan. This project will be the first phase in making this trail a reality.

John J. Caulfield
City Manager

We understand that it takes many partners to make a project happen. We would love to partner with the Recreation and Conservation Office on this important community project.

Sincerely,

Mary Dodsworth, Director
Lakewood Parks and Recreation



Partners For Parks

RTP General Ranked #19

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Ted Wier

October 25, 2016

Dear RCO Grant Committee:

This letter is to inform you of our support for the Pierce County grant application to build a bridge and loop trail in the Chambers Creek Canyon.

Partners for Parks is a collaboration of Lakewood service organizations, community groups, educational institutions, military partners and local businesses that come together for the purpose of assisting in the improvement of Lakewood area parks. We have raised funds to purchase land, build restrooms, expand trails and enhance park sites. We have volunteered to clean up parks and improve the quality of life for Lakewood residents and visitors.

Partners for Parks is interested in partnering with the cities of Lakewood and University Place and Pierce County because we understand the importance of creating safe and healthy opportunities for children and families to get out and enjoy the outdoors. We also believe that many hands make light work and if you put the right team together you can do amazing things.

We understand the many issues associated with developing a contiguous trail in the Canyon and believe that this project will be the beginning of many great partnerships. We want to provide support in any way we can.

We look forward to working with Pierce County and other community partners on this important community project.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding our organization, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sally Saunders, President
Partners for Parks



RTP General Ranked #19

Washington Trails Association

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Serving hikers since 1966

October 20, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Pierce County's Bridge Construction Project at Chambers Creek

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of Pierce County's proposal to the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to develop a 100' trail bridge across Chambers Creek .

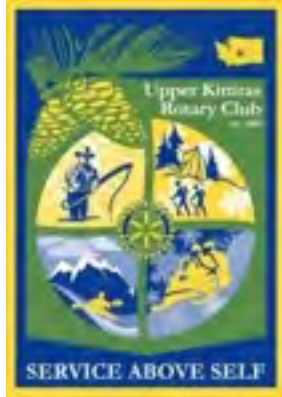
Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

We are fully supportive of Pierce County's plan to develop a new trail bridge across Chambers Creek to connect the trail just below Kobayashi Park in University Place to the Phillips Road trail in Lakewood. This trail bridge will link these presently disconnected trails and curtail hikers, walkers and fishermen from wading across the creek and disturbing valuable fish habitat. It will also be the first piece in implementing a comprehensive community driven trail plan for Chambers Creek Canyon. When completed the system will include trail bridges across the creek, boardwalks through wetlands and almost 3 miles of trail connecting uplands to saltwater. This unique trail system will provide access to a unique natural environment in the middle of a busy urban area and provide a stronger sense of community by creating a unique connection between the cities of University Place and Lakewood.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



RTP General Ranked #20

Rotary of Upper Kittitas County
PO Box 1035
Cle Elum, WA 98922

November 4, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear State Officials:

Rotary of Upper Kittitas County supports the USDA Forest Service, Cle Elum Ranger District's applications for grant funding to enhance and improve recreational experiences on public lands in Kittitas County. The Cle Elum Ranger District has an outstanding record of providing a variety of recreational projects in Kittitas County through previously awarded NOVA and RTP grants. We hope your Office continues to fund these grant requests to the Cle Elum Ranger District.

Recreation in Kittitas County is a primary economic driver and is critical to the local businesses in our area. Public lands provide year-round recreation, drawing thousands of visitors to our area to participate in camping, hiking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, motorized vehicles, skiing, snowshoeing, etc. Maintaining these high quality recreational opportunities ensures future tourism and support of local economics, along with quality of life for local residents.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Judy Hallisey

Judy Hallisey
President
UKC Rotary



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Janice Ringberg (R), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Jared Ross, Principal Environmental Scientist, Pacific Environmental Group
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Cheryl Roper, Communications Director, Puget Sound Energy
Puget Sound Energy
Puget Sound Energy
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Wayne Tugay
Commissioner of Large Recreation
Loren Tross, Organizational Performance Manager, City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Wilson (R), Supervisor
Orestes-Henderson National Forest
Nancy Wilson, Forest Service, National Resource
Henderson Forest
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(R), Director, Commercial Market
(R), Office, Sustainability, Greenway

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Immediate Past President
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BMO U.F.

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Gail Allen (Y), CFO/COO
BIO Co-op

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (Y)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 21, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RTP General Ranked #22

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) General
East Snoqualmie Corridor – Trails & Facilities M&O #16-2375 (MNT)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

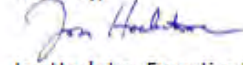
I am writing on behalf of the Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to conduct trail and facility maintenance located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

These NRCAs are in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. The Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley is considered the backyard for many hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and others living or visiting the Mountains to Sound Greenway. Though very accessible to the public, these public lands are considered the most remote of DNR landscapes in the Snoqualmie Corridor and are adjacent to the USFS Alpine Lakes Wilderness. This project's maintenance on 36 miles of trails, five trailheads, and four day use sites is part of a much larger public-private collaboration to improve and maintain trails and recreational facilities across the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan, and is essential to meet growing public visitation and reduce natural resource damage.

DNR is a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, which provides important opportunities for people to connect with nature near the ever-growing Seattle and east King County metropolitan areas. We fully support DNR in their ongoing working to provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities including school groups, skiers, mountain bikers, equestrians, trail runners, kayakers and rafters, rock climbers and nature enthusiasts.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities. The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the DNR and USFS and many others to plan for long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and the increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. This grant opportunity is strongly supported to ensure trail and facilities are up to a standard to support high public visitation. Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,


Jon Hoekstra, Executive Director

MTSGREENWAY.ORG

2701 FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 240, SEATTLE, WA 98101 | 206.382.3555 | INFO@MTSGREENWAY.ORG





RTP General Ranked #22

STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Northwest Region Capital Program
220 North Walnut Street • Burlington, Washington 98233
tel (360) 755-5262 / (360) 428-1094 fax

December 7, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) General
East Snoqualmie Corridor – Trails & Facilities M&O #16-2375 (MNT)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Olallie State Park and Washington State Parks to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and education project located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

Even though very accessible to the public, this is a remote DNR landscape in the Snoqualmie Corridor. DNR and State Parks coordinate recreation management in the southern Middle Fork Snoqualmie NRCA. The Far Side Trailhead is managed by State Parks and accesses DNR managed land, which includes the popular Dirty Harry's Peak Trail.

The goal for this project is to conduct maintenance on 36 miles of trails, five trailheads and four day use sites. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently completed Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. This grant opportunity is strongly supported to ensure balance of recreation opportunity and natural resource protection. State Parks supports this grant opportunity because it helps both agencies provide safe and sustainable trail opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this project.
Sincerely,

Jamie Van De Vanter
Jamie Van De Vanter
NW Region Parks Planner
Landscape Architect



www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. Rider powered.

RTP General Ranked #22

November 30, 2016
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program - East Snoqualmie Corridor – Trails & Facilities M&O #16-2375 (MNT)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to conduct trail maintenance within the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs). With anticipated significant increase in visitorship and recreational use in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley, DNR's proposed maintenance project is crucial to sustainably maintain trails, trailheads, and day use sites.

Located within less than an hour's drive from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley is considered a backyard for hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. Yet despite its geographical closeness to urban centers, the valley's many trails and recreational resources include some of the most remote of DNR landscapes in the Snoqualmie Corridor, and are immediately adjacent and connected to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. This proposal allows for additional DNR staff resources and tools needed to maintain and sustain at least 36 miles of trails, five trailheads, and four day use facilities.

Evergreen MBA is currently involved in a multi-stakeholder recreation planning process for the Middle Fork Valley with the Mountains to Sound Greenway. We are dedicating staff to help DNR and USFS plan for the increased visitation expected to occur due to a road improvement in the Middle Fork Valley. The proposed DNR's maintenance efforts will help protect the stakeholder and public's investment in recreational resources for this increasingly popular destination.

Evergreen MBA is Washington's largest mountain bike organization with over 3,300 members and more than 20,000 supporters statewide. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, advocacy, and youth participation. We particularly support this proposal since it includes a significant planning effort between multiple stakeholders to protect the incredible natural and recreational resources of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley. We stand ready to assist the DNR with future volunteer maintenance needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus".

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director



King County

Parks and Recreation Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700

201 South Jackson Street

Seattle, WA 98104-3855

206-477-4527 Fax 206-588-8011

TTY Relay: 711

RTP General Ranked #22

December 15, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) General
East Snoqualmie Corridor – Trails & Facilities M&O #16-2375 (MNT)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of King County Parks & Recreation Division to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to conduct trail and facility maintenance located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs). The goal for this project is to conduct maintenance on 36 miles of trails, five trailheads and four day use sites. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan.

King County Parks & Recreation Division of the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) owns and manages several large sites within the vicinity of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Area (NRCA). The Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Area, is adjacent to DNR's Middle Fork Snoqualmie NRCA on the northern end. These conservation areas are in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. The Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley is considered the backyard for many hikers, mtn bikers and equestrians. Even though very accessible to the public, they are considered the most remote of DNR landscapes in the Snoqualmie Corridor and are adjacent to the USFS Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

DNR and King County have been working together in Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley for over twenty years. From conservation land acquisitions to recreation management, we have worked together to provide seamless management throughout the valley. We are collaboratively building a new trailhead to access the Granite Creek trail, scheduled to open this summer. Our day use sites are directly adjacent to DNR managed land and providing a DNR education presence will directly benefit our sites. Thank you for the opportunity to support this project,

Kelly Heintz

Natural Lands Program | Parks & Recreation Division

December 5th, 2016

RTP General Ranked #22

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) General
East Snoqualmie Corridor – Trails & Facilities M&O #16-2375 (MNT)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District and U.S Forest Service to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to conduct trail and facility maintenance located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

Both the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and Alpine Lakes Wilderness are adjacent to DNR's conservation lands in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. From conservation land acquisitions and recreation management, our agencies have been working together in this valley for more than 20 years. We look forward to continuing this partnership and ensure trails in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie NRCA & Alpine Lakes Wilderness trail systems provide sustainable backcountry experiences that are very accessible to the Puget Sound Metropolitan Area population.

The goal for this project is to conduct maintenance on 36 miles of trails, five trailheads and four day use sites. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. It is essential to meet growing public visitation while reducing natural resource damage.

USFS and DNR, among other agencies and non-profit recreation organizations, are working together to plan for the improved county road paving project. This grant opportunity was recommended by a multi-stakeholder committee process, which organizes recreation planning in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley.

Sincerely,



Brian McNeil
USFS Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Snoqualmie Ranger District
North Bend, WA



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

RTP General Ranked #22

December 10, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to conduct trail and facility maintenance located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

These two conservation areas are in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. The Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley is considered the backyard for many hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. Even though very accessible to the public, they are considered the most remote of DNR landscapes in the Snoqualmie Corridor and are adjacent to the USFS Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The goal for this project is to conduct maintenance on 36 miles of trails, five trailheads and four day use sites. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. Within the scope of the grant, is the popular C.C.C trail which connects the lower Valley to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington is involved with a multi-stakeholder recreation planning process in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley. We are dedicating staff and resources to help DNR and USFS plan for the increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the valley. This grant opportunity is strongly supported to ensure trails are maintained and provide a safe, enjoyable experience.

Thank you,

s/ Kathy Young

Kathy Young
President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington
president@bchw.org

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 33 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



Date: October 28, 2016

File Code: 2300

Subject: Pacific Northwest Trail Association RTP Proposal

RTP General Ranked #23

To: RCO Staff and Advisory Committee
Recreation and Conservation Office
Olympia, WA

Dear RCO Staff and Advisory Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Pacific Northwest Trail Association's RTP proposal for the Pacific Northwest Trail (PNT) on the Colville National Forest. This proposal is particularly important because it addresses an area with severely limited resources but rapidly increasing use.

The Pacific Northwest Trail was designated a National Scenic Trail by Congress in 2009. Stretching 1200 miles from the Continental Divide in Montana to Washington's Wilderness Coast in Olympic National Park, the PNT connects people and communities to the natural and cultural heritage of the Pacific Northwest. More than 120 miles of the PNT lie on the Colville National Forest.

The Colville National Forest is truly one of Washington's hidden gems. In the past, visitation to this area has been primarily local or weekend traffic from Spokane but an increase in awareness of the PNT has led to a corresponding increase in use. Sadly but not surprisingly, this increase comes with little additional trail maintenance funding. As use of the area by visitors from Western Washington increases, this project would improve approximately 60 miles of trail and benefit residents statewide. It would also provide a much needed boost to the burgeoning outdoor recreation-based economies of small towns like Republic, Northport, and Metaline Falls.

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association has a proven track record of success on projects just like this one and I strongly encourage you to approve this proposal.

Please feel free to contact me at mtmcgrath@fs.fed.us or 425-583-9304 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Matt McGrath
Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Program Manager
United States Forest Service
1220 SW 3rd Ave, Portland OR 97204





RTP General Ranked #23

Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

October 31, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Association RTP Colville National Forest Projects

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association in support of an RTP request from the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Association for trail maintenance in the non-wilderness area west of Lake Sullivan, along the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail and trails connecting to the PNNST in the Colville National Forest.

Washington Trails Association (WTA) is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

WTA and PNTA are organizations with a similar mission to protect and maintain trails. The members of WTA are dedicated to hands on, ground level volunteer projects that will keep our public lands open for hiker use and for other recreational user groups. In 2016 WTA joined forces with PNTA and Back Country Horsemen of Washington on two projects in the Colville National Forest and the end results were outstanding. We look forward to working with PNTA in the future.

Washington Trails Association appreciates the partnership it has with PNTA and we encourage the support and funding of this organization's vitally important projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



President
Kurt Froese (*), President
GeoEngineers, Inc.

President-Elect
Tod McDonald (*), Principal
Cypress Advisors

Founding President
Jim Ellis, Chairman Emeritus
Washington State Convention Center

Immediate Past President
Bill Chapman (*), President and CEO
Millennium Bulk Terminals, Longview

Secretary
John Baier (*), Attorney
Baier Law Firm

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner
KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (*), Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 21, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RTP General Ranked #25

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2790, Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R.

Project #16-2777, Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19

Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain and build hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is the landscape connecting Seattle to Ellensburg surrounding Interstate 90, including wilderness lands, rural areas and historic sites, and the 15th largest metropolitan area in the country. This spectacular landscape has not happened by accident. More than two decades of collaborative work have preserved the natural heritage of the Greenway, which encompasses some of the most heavily-used trails in the state including locations within the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

Sally Bagshaw (X), Councilmember, City of Seattle
Jim Becker, Founder, SmartLab Toys, becker&mayer
Gary Berndt, Civic Leader, Cle Elum
Mark Boyar (*), President
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, Director, King County Parks & Recreation
Will Castillo, Principal, GGLO
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program
The Wilderness Society
Karl Forsgaard, President
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, City of Issaquah
Todd Glass, Partner
Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati PC
Kari Glover, Global Integration Partner, Retired
K&L Gates
Peter Goldmark (X), Commissioner of Public Lands
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Rich Grillo, Community at Large Representative
Cle Elum
Bruce Gryniowski, Partner, Gallatin Public Affairs
Don Hoch (X), Director
Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Laura Hoffman, Amazon Publishing,
Copper Ridge Farm
Cara Johnson, Geotechnical Engineer
GeoEngineers
Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel
Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
Jamie Kingsbury (X), Supervisor
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Janet Knox, Principal Environmental Geochemist
Pacific Groundwater Group
Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Leon Kos, City Administrator (retired), City of Issaquah
Paul Kundtz, Northwest Director
The Trust for Public Land
Helen Lee, Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Danny Levine, President, NationAd Communications
Arlene Levy (*), Partner, Social Venture Partners
Josh Lipsky (*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC
Robert Manelski, Senior Director, 787 Program
The Boeing Company
Gordon McHenry Jr (*), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Sue McLain (*), Former Senior VP Delivery
Operations, Puget Sound Energy
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement
Mary Norton, City of Snoqualmie Parks Board
Meadowbrook Farm
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific NW Stewardship Director
American Whitewater
Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
College of Environment, University of Washington
Marie Quasius(*), Attorney, K&L Gates LLP
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project
Sierra Club
Janet Ray (*), Asst VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardt (*), Principal & Senior Managing
Director, HEARTLAND LLC
Grant Ringel, Communications Director
Puget Sound Energy
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, Divisional Vice President, Sustainability
REI Co-op
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant (*), Vice President, CH2M
Maryanne Tagney
Community at Large Representative
Leah Tivoli, Organizational Performance Manager
City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor
Okanagon-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Former Senior Vice President,
HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yaker, Solution Architect, Microsoft

(*) Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director



The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for these important projects. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning these proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being more prominent than the last name "Hoekstra".

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



RTP General Ranked #25

North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

December, 28th 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Snoqualmie Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCNST) as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCNST". In 2016, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1500 hours in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 35 miles of the PCNST that passes through the North Cascades Region is managed by the District; much of this is in Norse Peak Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that more than 15 miles of this area was opened and maintained for hiker and equestrian use during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic

setting for education, recreation and solitude. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Additionally it is critical for our collaborative work that the District be supported enough to provide wilderness and front-country rangers and enforcement officers. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington have specific plans to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Snoqualmie Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications:

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2523, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-19

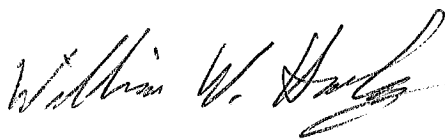
Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

I would point out that funding for Alpine Lakes is particularly critical; this area has been hard hit in the last few seasons and because of its remoteness, it requires an extraordinary effort to address the back-log of work.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William W. Hawley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



RTP General Ranked #25

Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

January 4, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA & RTP proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following NOVA and RTP projects:

- Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement #16-2793
- Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19 #16-2522
- Snoqualmie RD Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19 #16-2491
- Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R. #16-2790
- Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-9 #16-2523
- Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19 #16-2777
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019 #16-2429
- Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019 #16-2489

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

For 50 years, WTA has focused on helping Washingtonians get on trail to experience the great outdoors in our state and national parks, national forests and other public lands with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of trails and making outdoor experiences fulfilling and fun for hikers.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest offers some of the most visited trails and trailheads in the state. Replacement of the Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge will increase safety on a popular trail in the increasingly busy Highway 410 corridor. With this increase in users, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance is essential to providing safe and sustainable trails to all users in addition to the need for more Front Country and Backcountry Ranger Patrols to help alleviate and control user impact.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance on the Snoqualmie Ranger District, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



President
Kurt Fraese (*), President
GeoEngineers, Inc.

President-Elect
Tod McDonald (*), Principal
Cypress Advisors

Founding President
Jim Ellis, Chairman Emeritus
Washington State Convention Center

Immediate Past President
Bill Chapman (*), President and CEO
Millennium Bulk Terminals, Longview

Secretary
John Baier (*), Attorney
Baier Law Firm

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner
KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (*), Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

RTP General Ranked #39

December 30, 2016

Sally Bagshaw (X), Councilmember, City of Seattle
Jim Becker, Founder, SmartLab Toys, becker&mayerl
Gary Berndt, Civic Leader, Cle Elum
Mark Boyar (*), President
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, Director, King County Parks & Recreation
Will Castillo, Principal, GGLO
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program
The Wilderness Society
Karl Forsgaard, President
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, City of Issaquah
Todd Glass, Partner
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Kari Glover, Global Integration Partner, Retired
K&L Gates
Peter Goldmark (X), Commissioner of Public Lands
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Rich Grillo, Community at Large Representative
Cle Elum
Bruce Gryniewski, Partner, Gallatin Public Affairs
Don Hoch (X), Director
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Laura Hoffman, Amazon Publishing,
Copper Ridge Farm
Cora Johnson, Geotechnical Engineer
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Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Danny Levine, President, NationAd Communications
Arlene Levy (*), Partner, Social Venture Partners
Josh Lipsky (*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC
Robert Manelski, Senior Director, 787 Program
The Boeing Company
Gordon McHenry Jr. (*), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Sue McLain (*), Former Senior VP Delivery
Operations, Puget Sound Energy
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement
Mary Norton, City of Snoqualmie Parks Board
Meadowbrook Farm
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific NW Stewardship Director
American Whitewater
Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
College of Environment, University of Washington
Marie Quasius(*), Attorney, K&L Gates LLP
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project
Sierra Club
Janet Ray (*), Asst VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardt (*), Principal & Senior Managing
Director, HEARTLAND LLC
Grant Ringel, Communications Director
Puget Sound Energy
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, Divisional Vice President, Sustainability
REI Co-op
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant (*), Retired, Vice President, CH2M
Marianne Tagney
Community at Large Representative
Leah Tivoli, Organizational Performance Manager
City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor
Okanagan-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Former Senior Vice President,
HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yorker, Solution Architect, Microsoft
(*), Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Recreational Trails Program
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support Lower Coal Creek Trail Renovation (Project #16-2630)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Office:

I am writing on behalf of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to express our enthusiastic support for the City of Bellevue proposal to renovate the Lower Coal Creek Trail through a densely populated neighborhood of Bellevue. This grant will build on prior investments at this beautiful, forested natural area, with a much-needed renovation of a ½ mile of trail and replacement of three bridges.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities with access to the natural world.

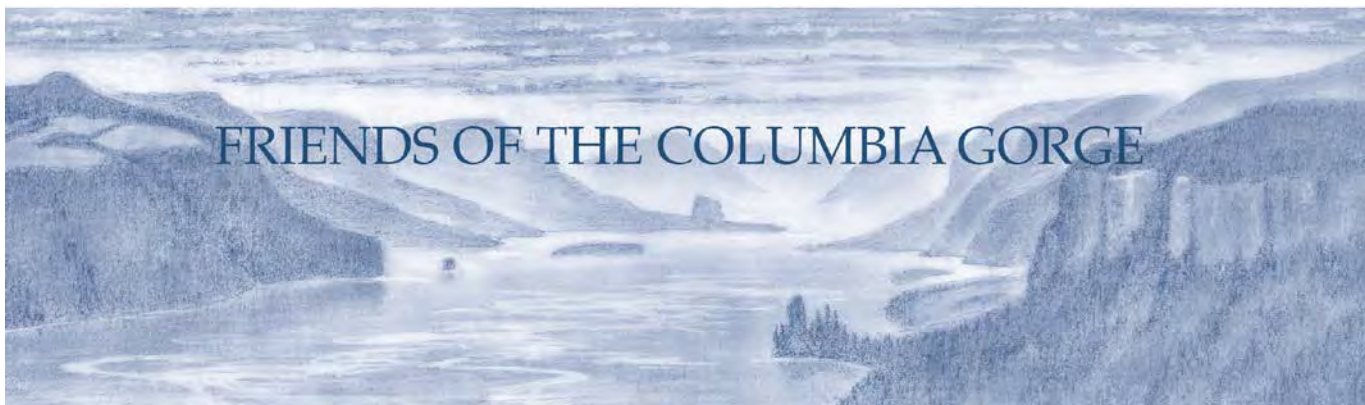
To celebrate the unique spirit of collaboration that has conserved this remarkable landscape since 1990, we host 130-mile celebration treks across the Greenway. The 25th Anniversary Mountains to Sound Greenway Trek was the most recent event, held in 2015. A major Greenway goal is completion of both walking and bicycling routes, east-west, across the entire Greenway. Coal Creek Natural Area is an important segment in this walking route, with connections to Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park and urban neighborhoods, and we support its maintenance and enhancement as a wonderful natural refuge in the city.

The Greenway coalition has worked to conserve a continuous network of open spaces and trails, to and through local communities. We applaud the City of Bellevue Parks and Community Services Department for ensuring this good work continues at Coal Creek Natural Area. Please accept our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Amy Brockhaus
Deputy Director





January 6, 2017

RTP General Ranked #40

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration 16-2783 MNT

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Friends of the Columbia Gorge to express our strong support for the RTP grant application to maintain and restore the trail system at Catherine Creek in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. In 2010, our organization was heavily involved in the planning process to formalize the user-created trail system at the Coyote Wall and Catherine Creek area into a full-fledged recreation plan.

Friends of the Columbia Gorge is the only nonprofit organization that works vigorously to protect the scenic, natural, cultural, and recreational resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. With a staff of 17 and over 6,000 members, Friends is uniquely suited to ensuring that the beautiful and wild Columbia Gorge remains a place apart, an unspoiled treasure for coming generations.

Every spring, hikers and botanists flock to the Catherine Creek area for the profuse early season wildflowers, sweeping eastern Gorge views, western meadowlarks and other wildlife. Support from RCO through this grant, would greatly improve the trail system to enhance user's experience while protecting the unique plant and wildlife communities that make this landscape so unique. Over the past couple of years, the Gorge in general and especially the most popular areas like Catherine Creek have become "loved to death." We strongly believe that adding a trailhead kiosk to educate hikers, building a bridge, and other trail maintenance would improve the sustainability of this area.

Thank you for your consideration. We strongly urge you to support and fund this project in one of the most iconic landscapes in the 293,000-acre Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

Sincerely,

Kevin Gorman
Executive Director | Friends of the Columbia Gorge



Suksdorfia Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society
Contact: Don Hardin, President
P.O. Box 2014
White Salmon, WA
509 493 4819

RTP General Ranked #40

January 5, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration 16-2783 MNT

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Suksdorfia Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society to express our strong support for the RTP grant application to maintain and restore the trail system at Catherine Creek in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Members of our chapter were involved in the initial efforts to establish Catherine Creek as natural habitat and remain active in volunteer efforts to control invasive plants in the area.

The mission of the Washington Native Plant Society is “to promote the appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through study, education and advocacy.” Members of the Suksdorfia Chapter have had long term interest and involvement in establishing Catherine Creek as a natural area, in offering frequent field trips at Catherine Creek, and assisting in volunteer efforts to remove litter, control invasive species, and encourage trail use in ways that decrease the increasing erosion problem in the area.

The Catherine Creek area is extremely popular with hikers during the early spring season when it's unique plant communities blossom. Support from RCO through this grant would greatly improve the trail system to enhance user's experience while protecting the unique biodiversity that makes this part of the Gorge special. We feel that trail restoration and a trailhead information kiosk will help prevent the trampling of native plants and destruction of habitat. Well-maintained and designated trails and hiker education information at a trailhead kiosk will help new hikers as well as repeat visitors better understand their role in keeping Catherine Creek a haven for unique native plants and biodiversity.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

Don Hardin, President
Suksdorfia Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society

Cc Loreli Haukness



A COMPREHENSIVE
MOUNTAINEERING ORGANIZATION
SINCE 1894

•
Mountaineering
Rock Climbing
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Hiking
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Adventure Travel

527 SE 43rd Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97215
T 503.227.2345
F 503.227.0862
E adventure@mazamas.org

mazamas.org



January 5, 2017

RTP General Ranked #40

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration 16-2783
MNT

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Mazamas to express our strong support for the RTP grant application to maintain and restore the trail system at Catherine Creek in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Our organization was involved in the planning process that formalized the user-created trail system and have contributed hundreds of hours of volunteer time to implementing parts of the Coyote Wall, Catherine Creek Area Recreation Plan since 2010.

Founded on the summit of Mt. Hood in 1894, the Mazamas have a 122 year legacy of promoting and protecting recreation resources throughout the Pacific Northwest. The Mazamas were integral partners in the creation of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and have a significant stake in protecting and conserving land all around the Gorge. And as you know, the Columbia River Gorge offers unparalleled access to hiking, climbing, biking, and other forms of human powered recreation which are of keen interest to our members and the broader community.

Support from RCO through this grant would greatly improve the trail system to enhance the user experience while protecting the unique biodiversity that makes this part of the Gorge special. We look forward to collaborating with the Forest Service and other stakeholders to complete similar recreation projects in the Gorge and will commit volunteer hours as needed towards this project.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

Lee Davis
Mazamas Executive Directors



Suksdorfia Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society

Contact: Don Hardin, President

P.O. Box 2014 RTP General Ranked #40

White Salmon, WA

509 493 4819

RECEIVED

JAN 10 2017

January 5, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

RE: Letter of support for Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration 16-2783 MNT

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Suksdorfia Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society to express our strong support for the RTP grant application to maintain and restore the trail system at Catherine Creek in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Members of our chapter were involved in the initial efforts to establish Catherine Creek as natural habitat and remain active in volunteer efforts to control invasive plants in the area.

The mission of the Washington Native Plant Society is "to promote the appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through study, education and advocacy." Members of the Suksdorfia Chapter have had long term interest and involvement in establishing Catherine Creek as a natural area, in offering frequent field trips at Catherine Creek, and assisting in volunteer efforts to remove litter, control invasive species, and encourage trail use in ways that decrease the increasing erosion problem in the area.

The Catherine Creek area is extremely popular with hikers during the early spring season when it's unique plant communities blossom. Support from RCO through this grant would greatly improve the trail system to enhance user's experience while protecting the unique biodiversity that makes this part of the Gorge special. We feel that trail restoration and a trailhead information kiosk will help prevent the trampling of native plants and destruction of habitat. Well-maintained and designated trails and hiker education information at a trailhead kiosk will help new hikers as well as repeat visitors better understand their role in keeping Catherine Creek a haven for unique native plants and biodiversity.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

Don Hardin

Don Hardin, President

Suksdorfia Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society

Cc Loreli Haukness

RECEIVED

JAN 10 2017

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE



P.O. Box 1835
White Salmon, WA 98672

January 5, 2017
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P. O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RTP General Ranked #40

RE: Letter of support for Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration
RCO Grant Number: 16-2783 MNT

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Back Country Horsemen Mt. Adams Chapter to express our strong support for the RTP grant application to maintain and restore the Tracy Hill Equestrian and Hiking Trail at Catherine Creek in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Our Chapter was involved from the first walk through on this trail that included FS personal and area wild flower experts. Mt. Adams Chapter next invited the Scenic Area manager Dan Harkenrider to view the area from the back of a horse. He strongly supported the 5 mile loop as an equestrian trail. We were all in agreement that the 3.3 mile Catherine Creek Loop Trail was not suitable for horse use.

Mt. Adams Chapter greatest contributions to trail maintenance for the last number of years have been as packers. Last year our members and their pack horses and mules made multiple trips in and out with tools, bear proof food boxes, and other needed equipment for two different Pacific Crest Trail work parties in the Mt. Adams Wilderness. We also packed in and out with 6 pack animals all the needed equipment for a WTA trail crew on the north side of Lemei Peak in the Indian Heaven Wilderness. In every case our efforts allow the trail crews to spend two more days of their time doing trail work.

We feel strongly that the greatest need in the Catherine Creek Loop and the Tracy Hill Loop is for directional signage. This whole Columbia River Gorge National Scenic offers exceptional beauty and is being used by more and more people. The trails are a vital asset to the enjoyment and safety of the visiting public.

Thank you for considering this worthwhile project.

For Mt. Adams Chapter BCHW
Connie Baugher, Trail Scout and Membership Chair
12 Hunters Hill Lane
White Salmon, WA 98672
509-493-3666



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

Serving hikers since 1966

RTP General Ranked #40

January 5, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration (RCO #16-2783 MNT)

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our strong support for the RTP grant application to maintain and restore the trail system at Catherine Creek in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Our organization was involved in the planning process that formalized the user-created trail system and have contributed hundreds of hours of volunteer time to implementing parts of the Coyote Wall, Catherine Creek Area Recreation Plan since 2010.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 145,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

The Catherine Creek area is extremely popular with hikers during the early spring season when it's unique plant communities blossom. Support from RCO through this grant would greatly improve the trail system to enhance user's experience while protecting the unique biodiversity that makes this part of the Gorge special. We have successfully collaborated with the Forest Service and other stakeholders to complete similar recreation projects in the past and have committed at least 500 volunteer hours as match towards this project.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

Ryan Ojerio
Southwest Washington Regional Manager



Icicle Valley Chapter No. 391
Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 271
Leavenworth, Washington 98826

October 26, 2016

RTP General Ranked #43

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

RE: Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape Trail
Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I offer this letter of support to the Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape Trail project at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. This project directly addresses environmental education, provides adequate facilities for outdoor recreation and directly benefits the local community. I recognize not only the value of this project to the Hatchery and the surrounding community, but the potential it has to provide recreational, environmental, and economic benefit to the public and users.

The Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape project is an interpretive trail that focuses on educating users on the origins of salmon and their natural habitat. The project site would be approximately 4.0 acres. It is anticipated that a guided trip through the learning landscape would take approximately an hour with stops at the entrance for orientation and several stops along the 1200+/- foot path that represent the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers.

Providing outdoor recreation and education is crucial in helping youth to learn about the environment. Through participation in outdoor recreation, youth learn about the importance of the natural world around them and how they can impact that world, positively or negatively.

Thank you for RCO's support towards this significant project that will provide several long-term benefits to the public, community, and the local region.

Sincerely,

Michael Wyant
President, *Icicle Valley Trout Unlimited*



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery
12790 Fish Hatchery Road,
Leavenworth, WA, 98826



October 26, 2016

RTP General Ranked #43

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

RE: Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape Trail
Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I offer this letter of support for the Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape Trail project at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. This project directly addresses environmental education, provides adequate facilities for outdoor recreation, and directly benefits the local community. I recognize not only the value of this project to the Hatchery and the surrounding community, but the potential it has to provide recreational, environmental, and economic benefit to the public and users.

The Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape project is an interpretive trail that focuses on educating users on the origins of salmon and their natural habitat. The project site would be approximately 4.0 acres. It is anticipated that a guided trip through the learning landscape would take approximately an hour, with stops at the entrance for orientation and several stops along the 1200+/- foot path that represent the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers.

Providing outdoor recreation and education is crucial in helping youth to learn about the environment. Through participation in outdoor recreation, youth learn about the importance of the natural world around them and how they can impact that world, positively or negatively. The Lifecycle trail will become a central part of educational programs at the Hatchery. It will also be a draw for visitors to Leavenworth and an important part of tours of the site, helping us educate the public about the value of salmon and the importance of decision-making around how we impact and use natural resources.

Thank you for RCO's support towards this significant project that will provide several long-term benefits to the public, community, and the local region.

Sincerely,

Julia Pinnix
Information and Education Manager, Leavenworth Fisheries Complex
12790 Fish Hatchery Road,
Leavenworth, WA, 98826
509-548-2915
Julia_pinnix@fws.gov



CASCADE COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

PO Box 3162 Wenatchee, WA 98807

509.888.7268

www.ccfeg.org

RTP General Ranked #43

Board

Chuck Brushwood, President
Omak

Phil Archibald, Vice President
Entiat Valley

Gary Neumann, Treasurer
Palisades

Ken Bevis, Secretary
Twisp

Keith Kistler
Omak

Greg Knott
Twisp

Gary Neumann
Palisades

Dick Evans
Twisp

Chris Danforth
Leavenworth

Mark Kacmarcik
Wenatchee

Staff

Jason Lundgren
Executive Director
Leavenworth

Matt Shales
Project Manager
Wenatchee

Sean Koester
Outreach/Field Technician
Wenatchee

Kristen Kirkby
Project Manager
Twisp

Taylor Belisle
Americorp
Wenatchee

October 26, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office

PO Box 40917

Olympia WA 98504-0917

RE: Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape Trail
Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I offer this letter of support to the Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape Trail project at the Leavenworth National Fish (LNF) Hatchery. This project directly addresses environmental education, provides accessible facilities for outdoor recreation and directly benefits the local community. I recognize not only the value of this project to the Hatchery and the surrounding community, but the potential it has to provide recreational, environmental, and economic benefit to the public and users. The LNF Hatchery receives over 100,000 visitors each year!

The Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape project is an interpretive trail that focuses on educating users on the salmon's lifecycle, their natural habitat and the complex coexistence with humans. The project site would be approximately 4.0 acres and cover the various ecosystems found throughout Washington along the salmon's migration. A guided trip through the learning landscape would take approximately an hour with stops at the entrance for orientation and several stops along the 1200+/- foot path that represent the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers. Educational materials will be developed to facilitate either guided or unguided tours of the landscape.

Providing outdoor recreation and education is crucial in helping youth to learn about the environment. Through participation in outdoor recreation, youth learn about the importance of the natural world around them and how they can impact that world, positively or negatively.

Thank you for RCO's support towards this significant project that will provide several long-term benefits to the public, local community, and the region.

Sincerely,


Jason Lundgren
Executive Director
Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group



City of Leavenworth

700 Highway 2 / Post Office Box 287
Leavenworth, Washington 98826
(509) 548-5275 / Fax: (509) 548-6429
Web: www.cityofleavenworth.com

City Council

Cheryl K. Farivar - *Mayor*
Elmer Larsen
Carolyn Wilson - *Mayor Pro Tem*
Gretchen Wearne
Mia Bretz
Margaret Neighbors
Richard Brinkman
John Bangsund
Joel Walinski - *City Administrator*

November 1, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

RTP General Ranked #43

RE: Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape Trail
Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I offer this letter of support to the Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape Trail project at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. This project directly addresses environmental education, provides adequate facilities for outdoor recreation and directly benefits the local community. I recognize not only the value of this project to the Hatchery and the surrounding community, but the potential it has to provide recreational, environmental, and economic benefit to the public and users.

Trails are important community amenities that help to spur economic development. The Salmon Lifecycle Learning Landscape project is an interpretive trail that focuses on educating users on the origins of salmon and their natural habitat. The project site would be approximately 4.0 acres. It is anticipated that a guided trip through the learning landscape would take approximately an hour with stops at the entrance for orientation and several stops along the 1,200+/- foot path that represent the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers.

Providing outdoor recreation and education is crucial in helping youth to learn about the environment. Through participation in outdoor recreation, youth learn about the importance of the natural world around them and how they can impact that world, positively or negatively.

Thank you for RCO's support toward this significant project that will provide several long-term benefits to the public, community, and the local region.

Sincerely,

Cheri Farivar, Mayor
City of Leavenworth

Project name: Candy Point and Crownpoint Trailhead Development
Project RCO number 16-2322
Applicant: Gayle Swagerty



www.columbiariverinn.com

RTP General Ranked #44

10/31/2016

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office Rural Trails Program Grant Committee:

The Columbia River Inn is a AAA Two Diamond Inn located on the West side of the Town of Coulee Dam. The motel is located just 2 blocks from the proposed Trail head for the Candy Point Trail. The motel attracts visitors from all over the nation and world who come to this area to view the Grand Coulee Dam and the unique geology and the outdoor opportunities in this region. Recently members of the Ice Age Floods Institute visited our town and hiked parts of the Candy Point Trail discussing the geological and archaeological history of the area. The management of this motel is very supportive of developing the Candypoint Trailhead and the grant proposal with the Recreation and Conservation Office Rural Trails Program would help in providing some of the needed funding to develop the Candypoint Trail head. The trail head would be located in the old steam building which provided heat for the Administration Building during the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam. We believe this unique historical building and hiking opportunity will attract a more diverse group of tourists and visitors to this area.

Our staff routinely promotes the Grand Coulee Dam's Visitor Arrival Center and the Laser Light Show which occurs nightly during the summer months. We would love to be able to promote outdoor hiking experiences such as the Candy Point Trail. We highly recommend the Candy Point Trail head project and look forward to hearing about it's success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jerri S. Spotts", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Manager Columbia River Inn

COLUMBIA RIVER INN, LLC

Location

10 Lincoln Street
Coulee Dam
WA 99116

RESERVATIONS
800.633.6421

509.633.2100
Fax 509.633.2633

Corporate Office

16855 Wood-Red Rd.
Woodinville
WA 98072

425.482.1716
Fax 425.482.1887

RE: Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development Project

November 14, 2016

RCO grant number: 16-2322;**Applicant:** Stefani Bowden, Clerk Treasurer; Town of Coulee Dam**RTP General Ranked #44**

To the Recreational and Conservation Office, Rural Trails Program:

I am writing this letter to support the Town of Coulee Dam's Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development Project. The Grant County Health District (GCHD) is collaborating with the Coulee Dam Parks and Natural Resource Board and Town Council to increase the community's access to physical activity opportunities through pedestrian planning and trail development. Coulee Dam is a part of our 1422 Chronic Disease Prevention grant region. They are also a part of the Coulee Medical Center hospital district which has a primary medical center located in Grant County. Coulee Dam has included organizations such as public health in the development of a strategic parks and natural resource plan, including this Candy Point and Crown Point trail project. Over the past year we have been actively participating with the Coulee Dam Parks and Natural Resource Board in engaging the community and promoting physical activity. As part of the community engagement process, including a survey conducted by GCHD, it was found that the residents would like the town to maintain and improve the assets that they already have, including this trail. The close proximity of this trail to downtown also makes it a great asset to the pedestrian network. Improving the trail head at this location will also ease concern of the primary access point currently being on private property. The community will be positively impacted from the health benefits of having an enjoyable and accessible place to hike. The trail to Candy Point and Crown Point is a historical gem of the area and improving the trail head will make it accessible for many more residents to enjoy some physical activity as well as the views of the Grand Coulee Dam and the natural environment.

In our region, we see daily the effects of obesity and unhealthy lifestyles on our population. A growing body of research suggests that changing our environments to promote walking is one of the most effective ways to get people moving. This can reduce obesity, diabetes and other chronic diseases. Improving a trail that is easily accessible for residents and visitors is a great example of this type of environmental change.

We have confidence that the Coulee Dam staff will see this project through completion. We will continue to work with their Parks and Natural Resource Board to improve the walkability of the community. Please contact Tiffany Quilter at the Grant County Health District if we can be of additional assistance (509) 766-7960 x38, tquilter@granhealth.org.

Sincerely,

Theresa Adkinson, Administrator
Grant County Health District

CAPRD

COULEE AREA PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

Post Office Box 411

Grand Coulee, WA 99133-0411

October 25, 2016

RTP General Ranked #44

Project Name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trail head Development

RCO grant number: 16-2322

Applicant: Stefani Bowden, Clerk Treasurer, Town of Coulee Dam

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office Rural Trails Grant Committee:

Please accept this letter of support for the Candy Point Trail Shelter grant effort. As you know, the Coulee Area Park and Recreation District (CAPRD) is the only regional district serving our many communities. We are excited to see work progressing on the historic Candy Point Trail, especially, the effort to re-use an existing structure in a new manner. The town of Coulee Dam Parks and Natural Resources Board is certainly considering innovation and with the proposed re-use of a structure for trailhead purposes and having the Washington Trails Association volunteers working on the actual trail.

The commissioners of CAPRD represent all the communities in the greater Grand Coulee Dam region. The Town of Coulee Dam is fortunate to have town parks and the historic Candy Point Trail that are well maintained and used. A population, of any size, needs these very things for respite and recreation. It also needs these places for health and wellness of both body and mind. CAPRD has provided input with the Town of Coulee Dam in the past regarding these community assets. As part of our larger mission, CAPRD sees this proposed grant request and future work to be an extension of our primary mission. Though there are other trails within the region, a majority of them managed by either a state or federal entity, the Candy Point Trail is the significant historic trail of the region. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1937 with the purpose of providing a commanding view of the Grand Coulee Dam while being constructed and eventually an everlasting view of the completed dam for future generations. The importance of this trail in our communities' histories is rather significant.

The CAPRD commissioners are prepared to offer our assistance and expertise as needed for this project. We believe we can bring some creative ideas to the table leveraging and strengthening the synergy we already have with the Town of Coulee Dam Parks and Natural Resources Board. We have a feel for the regional needs let it be planning for regional health and wellness with the Coulee Medical Center or the proposed Aquatic Wellness Center.

To reiterate, the Town of Coulee Dam Parks and Natural Resources Board has the full support and commitment of the Coulee Area Park and Recreation District to see that this project moves forward to completion. Serving those of your community, the region as well as our tens of thousands seasonal visitors is our mission. We fully recommend this project to other sponsors and will be please to see its completion.

Sincerely,

/signed/

Robert Valen
Commissioner and Chair
CAPRD

ICE AGE FLOODS INSTITUTE
IAFI
CHENEY-SPOKANE CHAPTER

Email: iaficheneyspokane@gmail.com
A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization
Website: www.iafi.org

P. O. Box 622
Cheney, Washington 99004

RTP General Ranked #44

December 4, 2016

Project Name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trail Head Development Project
RCO Grant Number: 16-2322
Applicant: Stefani Bowden Clerk Treasurer Coulee Dam

Dear Resreation and Conservation Office grant committee:

The Cheney-Spokane Chapter of the Ice Age Floods Institute provides this letter of support for the Candy Point Shelter grant effort. Our chapter offers hikes in the Candy Point area, as well as Crown Point, where the landscape was carved by the greatest documented floods on earth as they headed down to the Columbia Gorge and then flowed out into the Pacific Ocean between 13,000 and 15,000 years ago. Eastern Washington is a major area of interest for Floods enthusiasts and now that the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail legislation has passed, work is ongoing between the National Park Service and the Ice Age Floods Institute to develop plans for the Trail. This provides an exciting framework to include the cataclysmic Ice Age Floods Candy Point area as a dramatic asset in this region for engaging the public in recreation, education, and economic development.

The Cheney-Spokane Chapter provides expertise that includes among its more than 120 members and 600+ media partners many amateur and professional geologists, as well as members with interests and careers in other natural sciences and fields, such as soil science, hydrology, agriculture, archaeology, education, outdoor recreation and community development. The Chapter produces various maps, field guides, brochures and flyers that would recognize your sponsorship and display your logo. Google Earth and Google Maps identify Floods features in the Eastern Washington area for anyone anywhere in the world to access.

Please accept our support for the grant.

On behalf of the IAFICS Board of Directors,

Melanie Bell

President

Ice Age Floods Institute, Cheney-Spokane Chapter
509.954.4242
mbell4242@comcast.net



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Pacific Northwest Region
Grand Coulee Power Office
P.O. Box 620
Grand Coulee, WA 99133-0620

IN REPLY REFER TO:

GCP-1300
LND-1.10

RTP General Ranked #44

DEC 29 2016

Grant Committee
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, Washington 98501

Subject: Letter of Support for Coulee Dam Grant Application Applicant: Sfefani Bowden, Clerk Treasurer Coulee
RCO grant number: 16-2322 Dam
Dear Grant Committee:

Please accept this letter of support for Coulee Dam's efforts to preserve and manage the historic Candy Point Trail system.

Candy Point Trail is a historic resource owned by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation and it is managed by the Town of Coulee Dam under a newly issued twenty-five year special use license. Constructed during the depths of the Great Depression in 1937 by the Civilian Conservation Corps, the trail system was intended to provide recreational opportunities for the residents of the government town as well as provide views of the Grand Coulee Dam construction site.

Reclamation's Grand Coulee Power Office values the town's commitment to preserve this important piece of history. Adaptive reuse of the town-owned historic steam building as a trail shelter would add value and continue the original intended use of the trail as a community resource. Reclamation cultural resource staff has been cooperating with the town to assist in trail stabilization and preservation, and we applaud the town's efforts to work within established historic preservation guidelines and practices as they thoughtfully prepare for continued stewardship of the trail system.

Recreational activities are one of the authorized legislative uses of the Grand Coulee project, and the continued involvement of the local community in this work is in keeping with the government's original intent to provide social benefits along with water and electrical power.

We fully support Coulee Dam's efforts to obtain supplemental funding to manage this important historic resource and encourage a favorable review of their grant application. If you need additional information please contact Mr. Shawn Lingo at 509/633-6113, or e-mail at slingo@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

Coleman W. Smith, Jr.
Power Manager

Acting For



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

RTP General Ranked #44

December 9, 2016

Project Name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development
RCO grant number: 16-2322
Applicant: Stefani Bowden, Clerk Treasurer Town of Coulee Dam

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of Coulee Dam's proposal to the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to develop a trailhead facility for the Candy Point and Crown Point trails. This project will revitalize a historic building to provide a place for the public to obtain information and maps on these very important historic trails.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 13,500 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

The construction of a trailhead facility for the Candy Point and Crown Point trails is an important piece in the redevelopment of these historic trails. The Candy Point trail was built by the CCC in 1937 to provide a stunning overlook of Grand Coulee Dam. The rock walls and rock steps on this trail are a testament to the amazing skills of the young men of the CCC. Reconstruction of the historic Stream Plant will provide a place for the public to obtain information and maps for these trails along with other recreational opportunities in the area. It will also be a place for people to find information on the areas geology, ecology, natural and human history. Plans include bathrooms and showers to meet the needs of trail users. This trailhead facility will support and enhance the public's experience of these wonderful trails.

In addition to the trailhead development project the town of Coulee Dam is also working on the maintenance and restoration of the trails themselves. Built in 1937 and having undergone extensive reconstruction in 1979 it is once again time to tackle some reconstruction work on the trails. Washington Trails Association has already spent a long weekend working on the trails to remove brush and locate the trace of the trails where they have been obscured by time. We will continue this effort in 2017 helping to restore lost sections, rebuild damaged rock walls, resetting and restabilizing rock steps, and performing other general maintenance tasks. These two projects will go hand in hand to help rejuvenate these important historic trails and enhance the public's recreational opportunities in this community.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



Don Hoch
Director

RTP General Ranked #44

STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

1111 Israel Road S.W. · P.O. Box 42650 · Olympia, WA 98504-2650 · (360) 902-8500
TDD Telecommunications Device for the Deaf: 800-833-6388
www.parks.wa.gov

November 23, 2016

Project Name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development Project
RCO grant number: 16-2322

Applicant Name: Stefani Bowden Clerk Treasurer
300 Lincoln Avenue
Town of Coulee Dam, WA 99116

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office grant committee,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development Project, which will help create a vibrant community and will increase Recreational and economic opportunities for our region. As you know The Candy Point Trail is the significant historic trail of the region. The trail was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1937 with the purpose of providing a commanding view of the Grand Coulee Dam while being constructed and eventually an everlasting view of the completed dam for future generations. The importance of this trail in our communities' histories is rather significant and by linking the trail to the Crown Point Vista only makes it more spectacular!

This project in turn will draw tourists who come specifically to hike in the area. This will increase business in local hotels, State Park campgrounds, restaurants, and stores. This project is also adjacent to the Coulee Corridor National Scenic Byway and this trail project would incentivize travelers on the Byway to hike the historic trail and consider overnight stays in the area.

We applaud the Town of Coulee Dam and the Parks and Natural Resources Boards work on restoring the historic trail and linking it to Crown Point State Park. The Coulee Corridor Area State Parks fully endorses the project and we look forward to working with you on this venture to ensure the trail's successful completion.

Sincerely,

Denis W. Felton, Area Park Manager

COULEE HOUSE INN & SUITES

RTP General Ranked #44

*110 Roosevelt Way
Coulee Dam, WA 99116
(509)633-1101*

Project name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trail-head Development

RCO grant number: 16-2322

Applicant name: Stefani Bowden, Clerk Treasurer, Coulee Dam

October 31, 2016

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office Rural Trails Program Grant Committee:

The Coulee House Inn is located in the historic Grand Coulee Dam and Lake Roosevelt area. We are very excited about the current effort of restoring the historic steam building into a Trailhead for the Candy Point Trail built in 1938 by the Civilian Conservation Corpse. The intent was to provide vistas to view the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam and today these vistas serve to showcase the dam.

The Grand Coulee Dam area is full of adventure for the outdoor enthusiast as well as the tourists and the Candy Point Trail-head will bring a great opportunity for these visitors to our area to learn more about the area's unique history and geology as well as view the dam from unique perspectives.

Tourists come from all over the country and world to stay in our motel and visit the Grand Coulee Dam's Visitor Arrival Center and watch the Laser Light Show which occurs nightly during the summer months. Our staff is committed to promoting as many of the outdoor hiking experiences in this area as well including this trail right here in our town. We enthusiastically support this trail-head development project and would certainly would promote the Candy Point Trail-head to our guests. We highly recommend the Candy Point Trail-head project and look forward to hearing about it's success.

Manager,



Coulee House Inns & Suites



RTP General Ranked #44

Project name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trail-head Development
RCO grant number: 16-2322
Applicant: Sefani Bowden, Clerk Treasurer, Coulee Dam

10/31/2016

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office Rural Trails Grant Committee:

The Columbia River Inn is a AAA Two Diamond Inn located on the West side of the Town of Coulee Dam. The motel is located just 2 blocks from the proposed Trail head for the Candy Point Trail. The motel attracts visitors from all over the nation and world who come to this area to view the Grand Coulee Dam and the unique geology and other outdoor recreational opportunities in this region. Recently members of the Ice Age Floods Institute visited our town and hiked parts of the Candy Point Trail discussing the geological and archaeological history of the area.

The management of this motel is very supportive of developing the Candy Point Trail-head which would be located in the historic steam building built to provide heat for the Administration Building during the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam. The Candy Point Trail itself was constructed to provide visitors and residents unique views of the Dam while under construction and on into the future. We believe this unique historical building and trail will attract a very diverse group of tourists and visitors to this area.

Our staff routinely promotes the Grand Coulee Dam's Visitor Arrival Center and the Laser Light Show which occurs nightly during the summer months. We would love to be able to promote outdoor educational and hiking experiences such as the Candy Point Trail. We highly recommend the Candy Point Trail head Development Project and look forward to hearing about it's success.

Sincerely,

Gerri L. Spotts
Manager, Columbia River Inn

COLUMBIA RIVER INN, LLC

Location

10 Lincoln Street
Coulee Dam
WA 99116

RESERVATIONS
800.633.6421

509.633.2100
Fax 509.633.2633

Corporate Office

16855 Wood-Red Rd.
Woodinville
WA 98072

425.482.1716
Fax 425.482.1887



RTP General Ranked #44

GRAND COULEE CENTER LODGE

PO Box 72 - 404 Spokane Way

Grand Coulee, WA 99133

1-866-633-2860

Project Name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trail Development

RCO grant number: 16-2322

Applicant: Stefani Bowden, Clerk/Treasurer Coulee Dam

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office:

The Grand Coulee Center Lodge is very pleased to give the Candy Point and Crown Point Trail-head Development Project our complete and enthusiastic support. This trail-head is a much needed focal point for geology, hiking and other outdoor enthusiasts. Our guests come and stay here for many reasons and these outdoors experiences are just one of those. Of course the Grand Coulee Dam is a big attraction for tourists, however, when they are in the area they ask about other natural and historical places to visit. We always point out the many geologic features, trails and birding opportunities in the area. Many of our guests are interested in learning of geology, flora, and fauna of the area but do not have the ability or interest to undertake a challenging hike. Developing a trail-head with ADA access is extremely valuable because this will expand the diversity of visitors to the trail-head itself.

Many of our area's historical buildings have fallen into disrepair. The steam building is indeed one of them. Renovating this building and developing it into a trail-head not only would bring this historical piece back to life but make a very good use of the building by highlighting the connection with the building of the Candy Point Trail to provide many vistas during the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam and for those who visit the Dam in future years.

The Grand Coulee Lodge was built in 1935 during the Dam days and we are proud to be a part of this rich history. We applaud the Town of Coulee Dam and the Parks and Natural Resources Board's work to restore the historic steam building and highlight the outdoor recreational opportunities of this area. We look forward to the successful completion of this project.

Sincerely,

Kathy Baty, by Charles Baty, Office Manager
Kathy Baty, Owner

Superintendent: Paul Turner
Business Manager: ESD 171

Board Members:
Joette Barry, George LaPlace,
Carla Marconi, Kenneth Stanger,
Rich Black

Grand Coulee Dam School District

110 Stevens Avenue
Coulee Dam WA 99116
(509) 633-2143 Fax (509) 633-2530
www.gcddsd.org

RTP General Ranked #44

January 3, 2017

Project Name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development
RCO Grant Number: 16-2322
Applicant: Stefani Bowden, Clerk Treasurer, Town of Coulee Dam

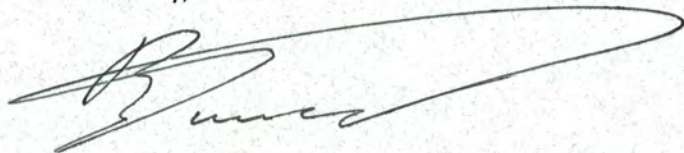
Dear Recreation and Conservation Office Rural Trails Grant Committee:

Please accept this letter for the improvement of the Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead development. By going forward with this project to refurbish the trail heads it would be greatly beneficial to community members, seasonal visitors and students in our area.

Improvement of these trailheads are very important to our community as they are a historical piece of this town, as they were first built in 1937 and largely constructed of hand laid stones by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The proximity of these trails are very close to the Grand Coulee Dam School District, making this trail head project even more important. With the main trail loop being 1.2 miles it would be ideal for students to hike the trail as a class activity for fitness and nature walks, as well as indoor/outdoor educational opportunities in geology, biology and other sciences.

The Grand Coulee Dam School District fully supports the reconstruction of the Candy Point and Crown Point Trails. We hope to see this project move forward so our students, community and seasonal visitors can enjoy the newly refurbished trail heads.

Sincerely,



Paul Turner
Grand Coulee Dam School District
Superintendent



108 Spokane Way
Grand Coulee WA 99133

RTP General Ranked #44

Project Name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trail-head Development
RCO grant number: 16-2322
Applicant: Stefani Bowden, Clerk/Treasurer Coulee Dam

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office:

The Trailwest Motel would like to express our complete support for the Candy Point and Crown Point Trail-head Development Project. Visitors from around the nation and the world come to this area to view and tour the Grand Coulee Dam. Many of these folks participate in other outdoor opportunities such as hiking and bird watching.

From my experience as a motel owner, many tourists are fascinated with the unique story of the building of the Grand Coulee Dam and the rich history surrounding this massive endeavor, the first and largest of its kind at the time. The Steam Building and Candy Point Trail are excellent examples of this history and are very important to restore and showcase.

This trail-head would provide a space for groups to gather for informative talks and for tourists to visit to learn about the history of the Grand Coulee Dam, the geology and ecology of the area. As an ADA accessible and compliant facility even those who are not able to hike the trails can readily access information and participate in events at the trail head.

The trail-head will also provide information regarding the many other trails in this area which will make up the spurs and loops of the Ice Age Flood National Geologic Trail stretching from Missoula, Montana to Astoria, Oregon. The Ice Age Flood Institute Cheney-Spokane Chapter promotes the geological aspects of the region and specifically the Grand Coulee Dam area with hikes and lectures about the unique geology.

I serve as president of the Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce and so I am committed to the promotion of this unique region. Members of the Coulee Dam Parks and Natural Resources Board members and Coulee Dam Town Council are working together with the Chamber's Economic Development Committee to promote the economic development of the area for tourism or residents.

As owner of the Trailwest Motel I am committed to promote all of the fascinating aspects of this unique community. I enthusiastically support the Candy Point and Crown Point Trail head development Project and look forward to its complete success.

Sincerely

Kerry Higgins,
Trailwest Motel Owner

RTP General Ranked #44



Project name: Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development Project
RCO grant number 16-2322
Rural Conversation Office
Rural Trails Program & Grand Application Committee
Applicant: Stefani Bowden, Clerk/Treasurer, Coulee Dam

Dear Ms. Bowden,

Please accept this letter of support for the Candy Point Trail Shelter grant effort. The Grand Coulee Area Chamber of Commerce is very excited to see work progressing on the historic Candy Point Trail, especially the effort to re-use an existing structure in a new manner. The GCDACC sees this trail as serving those of our community, the region, as well as tens of thousands of seasonal visitors. We believe this trail will attract a different kind of tourist who is interested in the flora and fauna of the area. The Town of Coulee Dam Parks and Natural Resources Board is certainly very active. With the proposed re-use of a structure for trailhead purposes, combined with Washington Trails Association volunteers working on the actual trail, we feel this will be a benefit to all who visit as well as those who live in the area.

The Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce represents the several communities in the greater Grand Coulee Dam region. The Town of Coulee Dam is fortunate to have town parks and the historic Candy Point Trail that are well maintained and used. A population, of any size needs these very things for respite and recreation; it also needs these places for health and wellness of both body and mind. The Candy Point Trail was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1937 with the purpose of providing a commanding view of the Grand Coulee Dam during construction and, later an everlasting view of the completed dam for future generations. The importance of this trail in our communities' history is significant indeed.

To reiterate, the Town of Coulee Dam Parks and Natural Resources Board has the full support of the Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce as this project moves forward to completion.

Sincerely,

Peggy S. Nevsimal
Executive Director
GCDA Chamber of Commerce

17 Midway Avenue
PO Box 760
Grand Coulee, WA 99133

509.633.3074
www.grandcouleedam.org
chamber@grandcouleedam.org

To: Recreational Trails Program Advisory Board
Recreation and Conservation Office Recreation Funding Board

Dear Members,

I am writing to voice my opposition to Grant # 16-2322, Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development Grant for the Town of Coulee Dam.

Candy Point Trail is approximately 1.5 miles in length. It is moderately difficult to hike. The trail starts on Town property, crosses BLM land and ends on private property. How many trails of this length or any length, in the State of Washington, have a Bathroom/Shower facility at the trailhead?

There are a multitude of problems in funding this Grant, but the most pressing problem, at the present, is the Bathroom/Shower Facility itself.

If you stand at the front of Coulee Dam Town Hall, the Bathroom/Shower building in this Grant is located less than 100 yards away, at the rear of the Town Hall and up a short but steep partially paved roadway.

Standing at the front of Coulee Dam Town Hall, one can almost see seven (7) other buildings with bathrooms, all within a short walking distance.

1. Coulee Dam Town Hall. Walk straight up the stairs, thru the doors and across the hall. The bathrooms are on the right. These bathrooms are also ADA accessible with parking around the back of the building. Walking time is about one minute.
2. US Bureau of Reclamation Visitor Arrival Center. This building is visible from the Town Hall. It has ADA accessible bathrooms; information desk with local brochures about attractions, points of interest, trails, local history and outdoor activities. There are also historic exhibits and a movie on the building of the Dam. Walking time from the Town Hall is about 5 minutes.
3. US Bureau Of Reclamation, Dam Park There are 2 ADA bathrooms just down a short path from the Visitor Arrival Center. One is located at the north end of the Park and one at the south end of the park. There is ample parking for both bathrooms. Walking time from the Town Hall is between 5 and 10 minutes.
4. Douglas Park. Turn and walk directly away from the Town Hall and straight down the street and across Columbia Street at the bottom. There are two separate bathrooms in the Park and neither one of the facilities are ADA accessible. Both of these bathrooms are not in

service and have been boarded up for years. Walking time from the Town Hall is about 5 minutes.

5. Mason City Park. Walk down the hill from the Town Hall; walk across the Columbia River and up the hill on the other side. The Park is across the street from the Post Office. There are ADA accessible bathrooms and a Visitor Center in the Park. The Visitor Center has brochures about local history, activities and attractions and was manned with volunteer help in past summers. These bathrooms are currently being locked due to vandalism and theft. In addition, local drug use is making it necessary for the maintenance personal cleaning these bathrooms to wear PPE and carry bio-hazard waste containers. Walking time from the Town Hall is about 20 minutes.
6. Cole Park. Walk down the hill to the left of the Town Hall until you come to a foot bridge. Walk across the bridge and you are in Cole Park. As you walk into the Park, on your left and up a short flight of stairs you will see the old swimming pool area and changing facility. In this building are bathrooms and showers that are out of service and the building has been locked up for years. This building is not ADA accessible. Walking time from the Town Hall is about 5 minutes.

One of the last things this Town needs to maintain is another bathroom/shower facility. The Town cannot even take care of what it now has and now the Town is asking for more. If you fund this Grant, another Bathroom/Shower facility will be constructed and open for public use. I believe that in the not so distant future the Town will have another out of service bathroom that will be locked up. For the sake of the Washington State tax payers and to avoid wasting State and local resources, I ask you to NOT fund this Grant.

If there should have any questions or comments you would like to ask, please feel free to contact me at your convenience Thank you for your time and I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Bruce Bartoo
Coulee Dam Resident
310 Stevens
Coulee Dam, WA 99116
509-633-3485

From: Quincy Snow <qsnow@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2017 1:23 PM
To: Edwards, Karen (RCO)
Subject: Recreational Trails Program Advisory Board

RTP General Ranked #44

Recreational Trails Program Advisory Board
Recreation and Conservation Office Recreation Funding Board

To Whom It May Concern:

While I am not necessarily opposed to refurbishing Candy Point and Crown Point Trails, I do have several concerns about the project.

First, I feel that the Town of Coulee Dam can, at this time, ill afford the approximately \$27,000 that would be the town's share for the project. That money would be better spent to help fund other, more pressing, problems, i.e.: sidewalk and street repair and restoration.

However, my biggest opposition to the project is the new trailhead proposal. I believe the old historic steam building could become a wonderful trailhead, but I question the addition of the bathroom/shower room. From this building, there are at least 8 public restroom facilities within an easy 20 minute walk.

1. The closest restroom would be inside Town Hall itself (3 toilets, 2 urinals).*
2. Across a small footbridge to the north, in Cole Park near the tennis courts (2 toilets, 1 urinal)
3. At the bottom of the hill, below Town Hall, is a minimart (2 toilets, 1 urinal)*
4. Across the street, the Visitor Arrival Center for the dam (at least 9 toilets, 2 urinals)*
5. Park directly below the VAC, two restroom buildings, one at the north end and another at the south end of the park (total of at least 14 toilets, 4 urinals)*
6. One block north, Douglas Park (2 toilets, 1 urinal)
7. One block north and across the bridge on the northeast corner is the Community Building w/one ADA restroom (1 toilet)*
8. Approximately one and half blocks east in Mason City Park, restrooms and info center (3 toilets, 1 urinal)*
9. Vault toilet in parking lot at Crown Point (at the top of the trail)

That's a grand total of a possibility of roughly 36 toilets and 12 urinals within 7 blocks of the proposed trailhead, plus one of each at the end of the trail.

We do have another problem with some of these public facilities. VANDALISM!!!!

The restrooms in Cole Park and Douglas Park were refurbished and opened to the public during my 26 year tenure as city councilman and mayor, but we have had to close them due to the vandalism problem. We have also experienced the same problem with the facilities in the Community Building and Mason City Park. We do not have the funding for enough law enforcement to combat the growing theft and drug activity in the community, let alone to deter this vandalism problem.

Even with 2 of these locations currently out of use, that leaves 35 toilets and 11 urinals available for public use.

The town owns and is responsible for the maintenance of five of these facilities and has had to close two of them. I don't believe we need to add another potential liability for the city to maintain. And, a shower! My first reaction is, "Why?" and secondly, "Are you kidding me?" Can you imagine the maintenance nightmare that would create? And where would the funding come from for the upkeep of that facility? Taking care of that restroom/shower would be a full time job during the tourist season.

These trails are a definite asset to the community and should be maintained for public use. However, the Town of Coulee Dam should not carry that burden. Crown Point is a State Park and I would assume that the trail system is a part of that park, though much of the trail system lies on USBR land. Therefore, it would seem to me that the state and federal governments should be responsible for the maintenance of the entire park. And, while they're at it, they might see fit to do something about the parking lot at Crown Point! Tourists are encouraged to visit this amazing viewpoint and terrific photo op, but the entire parking lot is falling apart and the building is sorely in need of some serious TLC.

I notice about a dozen businesses and organizations have written letters of support for this project. I might point out that it is easy for them to write a letter supporting a project that may potentially enhance their particular enterprise, while it will cost them absolutely nothing.

Gayland "Quincy" Snow
Former Mayor/Coulee Dam Resident
803 Aspen
Coulee Dam, WA 99116
509-633-2798

From: Bruce Bartoo <b.bartoo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:07 PM
To: Edwards, Karen (RCO)
Subject: Grant #16-2322 Letter of Opposition

RTP General Ranked #44

Letter of Opposition for RTP Grant # 16-2322
Project: Candy Point/ Crown Point Trailhead Development
Recreation and Conservation Office
Recreation Funding Board
Recreation Trails Program
Advisory Board

Board Members, January 30, 2017

On January 25, 2017, the majority of Coulee Dam Council Members approved the signing of the RCO and RTP Application Resolution for Grant # 16-2322. Item no.11 of this Resolution states: We provided appropriate opportunity for public comment on this application.

NO appropriate opportunity for public comment for this application has been provided. There is no documentation of any public meeting, newspaper announcement, public survey, public poll, or a questionnaire of any kind. There has been no meeting of the Town Council and the Parks and Natural Resources Board (PNRDB) where the public has been invited to comment or discuss this Project. In fact, the Town Council and the PNRDB has never met for any kind of meeting.

The PNRDB does meet on a regular basis and the public is invited to these meeting. The meetings are held on a Wednesday, every other week at 9:00 AM. There is no posted announcement for these meetings. The only time an announcement is made is if the scheduled meeting is cancelled. There is no mention of an agenda or subjects to be discussed. PNRDB meetings are usually attended by four members of the Board and the same few members of the public. I believe that this type of meeting does not meet a minimum definition for an "appropriate opportunity for public comment".

For this reason alone, I request that this Grant be rejected.

I attended a meeting of the PNRD Board on January 11, 2017. During the meeting I asked if there had been any public survey or public comment concerning this Grant. Gayle Swagerty, Council Member and liaison between the Town Council and the PNRDB and person who originally submitted the Grant Application, said "No". Larry Curtis, a member of the PNRD Board said, "The only public comments that were made, were made by the five other people sitting here at this table." I attended another PNRD Board meeting on January 18, 2017. During that meeting, Gayle Swagerty said that public comment had been obtained during a meeting from a group of people writing the Town's Comprehensive Plan in 2003. The Plan was later revised in 2006, with 12 people present. I do not see how a meeting in 2003 or a meeting in 2006 could possibly pertain to this Grant.

I have one last observation concerning public comment for this Project. If you look at the dates when all of the Letters of Support were written you will

see that the Letters were between the end of October and the first of the year. At this time there are no Letters of Support from any private Town residents. Whereas, all of the Letters of Opposition or Non-Support are all dated after January 15, 2017. The reason for this discrepancy is that few people knew of this Project until the middle of January.

Thank You for your time on this matter. I appreciate your efforts.

Bruce Bartoo
Coulee Dam Resident
b.bartoo@yahoo.com
509-633-3485

From: netzelcarol1946@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2017 3:24 PM
To: Edwards, Karen (RCO)
Subject: Candy Point Trailhead

RTP General Ranked #44

Good morning Karen and volunteer Citizens

Thank you for your work to improve the outdoor recreational experiences here in our State, and thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Candy Point Trailhead project. I grew up in houses at the base of Candy Point and the Trail means the world to me. To be brief, my comments deal with a lie, an alternative fact and a snowjob.

First, the lie. The Project Description contains the following statement: “ The Mayor of the Town of Coulee Dam has identified this building as a high priority as has the Parks and Recreation Element of the Comprehensive Plan. “ Mayor Wilder and Council members Schmidt and Swagerty are well aware that Chapter 8, the Parks and Recreation Element of the most recent (2006) Comprehensive Plan was left blank. Instead, the Plan states “ This Chapter is reserved for a future Parks and Recreation Element that will need to be prepared in the future in order to establish eligibility for some Grant Programs. “

Second, the alternative fact. Item 11 on the Resolution passed on Jan 25th states “ We provided appropriate opportunity for public comment on this application. “ In real fact, there has been no effort made to make the public aware of this proposed project. When questioned about this at the Jan 25th Council Meeting, Council Member Swagerty claimed that the public has had two opportunities to provide comment on the proposed project. First, they commented during the writing of the 2006 Comprehensive Plan. Second, the public is welcome to attend the meetings of the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Board. In real fact, the Comprehensive Plan mentions the opportunity to preserve historical buildings and to enter historical buildings on the National Register The Plan makes no mention of this building as an historical building. In real fact, Board meetings are often canceled with 2 days notice, and meeting agendas are provided to Board members minutes before the meeting begins.

Last, the snowjob. This building is historical in the sense that it was constructed in the 1930's along with the adjacent Town Hall and two buildings that served as Dormitories for men and women employed by the USBR during construction of Grand Coulee Dam. It was built with a wood shake roof and scalloped siding that is unique to that time period. Replacing the shake roof, and covering the unique siding with composite planking wall board will result in a modern looking building. Once re-roofed and re-sided it is extremely unlikely people will be able to visually connect this building with the adjacent, historical Tow Hall and Dormitories.

The proposed project also calls for an ADA compliant access ramp and retaining walls constructed by the Town Field Crew utilizing local stone. Constructing a dry-stacked retaining wall to match the character of similar walls visible from this building and along the Candy Point Trail calls for the supervision of an experienced Stone Mason. It will be a labor intense effort to obtain local stone that matches the stones used to construct walls of the 1930's era.

I closing, let me say that my primary objection to this project is the hurry-up fashion in which it came together and received the approval of the Town Council. Haste makes waste, and it would be a shame to waste the future opportunity to properly preserve this historical building such that it visually matches the immediately adjacent Town Hall and Dormitories.

Again, Thank You all for the chance to comment on this proposed project and all your work on behalf of the Citizens of our State.

Fred Netzel 432 Columbia Couee Dam Washington 99116 1-509-633-1235

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-08
Recreational Trails Program – Education Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, fourteen Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Education category proposals are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all fourteen projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 16, *Recreational Trails Program*; and

WHEREAS, these projects were evaluated by thirteen members of the advisory committee using Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation process and criteria, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the advisory committee and board have discussed and reviewed these evaluations in open public meetings, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, if funded, the projects will provide for operating environmental education and trail safety programs, 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 – Recreational Trails Programs, Preliminary Ranked List of Education Category Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Recreational Trails Program

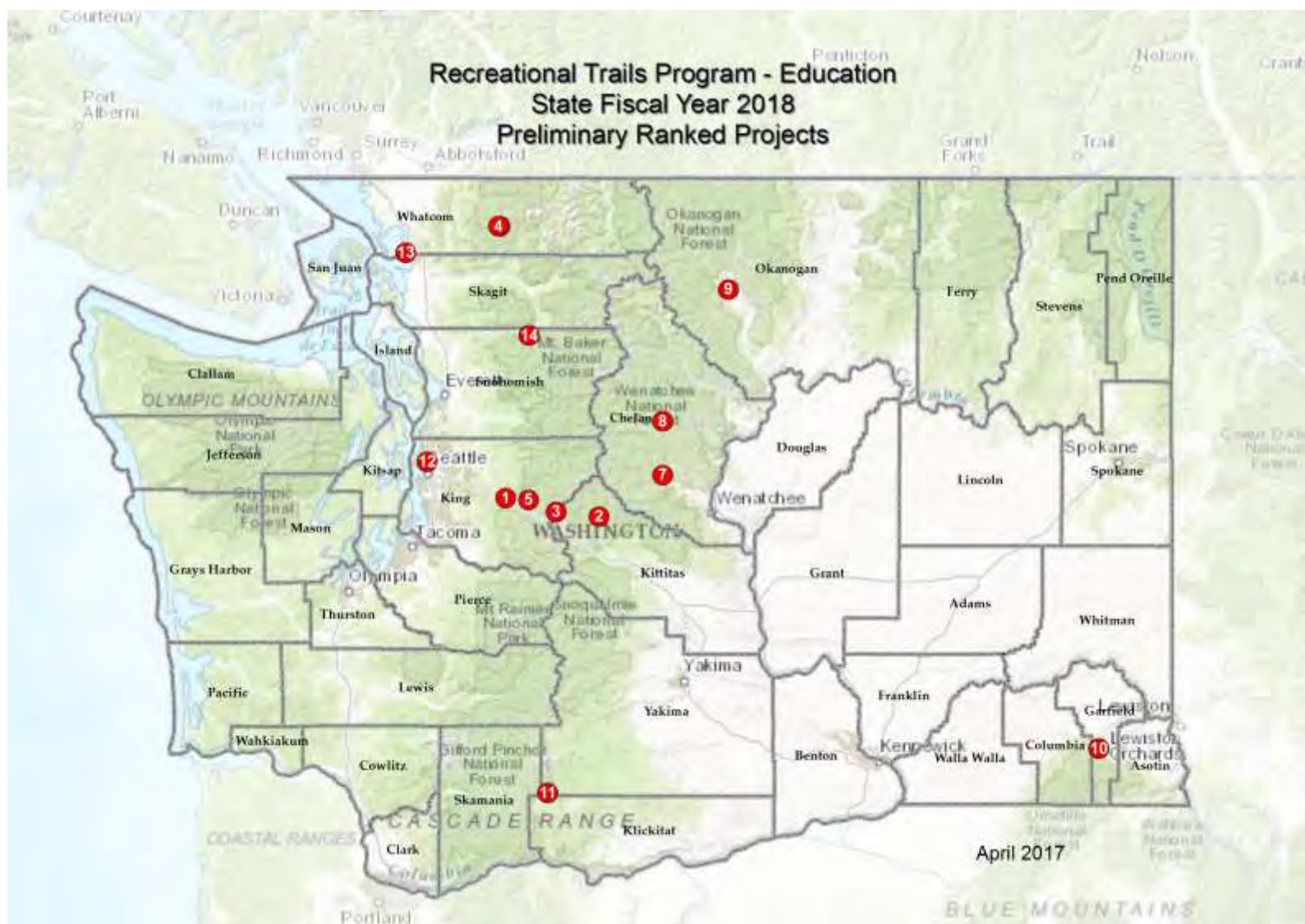
Preliminary Ranked List of Education Category Projects
2017-19

Attachment G
Resolution: 2017- 08

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 14	20.62	16-2489E	Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$20,000	\$75,000	\$95,000	\$20,000
2 of 14	20.15	16-2297E	Cle Elum Winter Trail Patrol	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$20,000	\$22,000	\$42,000	\$40,000
3 of 14	19.92	16-2415E	Cle Elum-Snoqualmie Pass Interstate 90 Corridor Winter Education	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$20,000	\$17,000	\$37,000	\$60,000
4 of 14	19.69	16-2461E	Mount Baker Climbing Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$20,000	\$23,000	\$43,000	\$80,000
5 of 14	19.23	16-2359E	Mount Si and Middle Fork Natural Resources Conservation Area Education	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$20,000	\$16,370	\$36,370	\$100,000
6 of 14	18.92	16-2469E	Mount Baker Ranger District Mountain Stewards	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$20,000	\$22,500	\$42,500	\$120,000
7 of 14	18.31	16-2348E	Wenatchee River Ranger District Snow Ranger Education	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$23,838	\$16,566	\$40,404	\$143,838
8 of 14	18.08	16-2548E	Entiat and Lake Wenatchee Snow Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$20,000	\$14,500	\$34,500	\$163,838
9 of 14	17.77	16-2543E	Methow Valley Snow Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$19,140	\$14,200	\$33,340	\$182,978
10 of 14	17.62	16-2232E	Pomeroy Ranger District Winter Trail Patrol	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	\$10,000	\$22,000	\$32,000	\$192,978
11 of 14	16.54	16-2654E	Winter Education Patrols	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District	\$18,940	\$20,060	\$39,000	\$211,918
12 of 14	16.00	16-2691E	Washington Water and Shore Ethics and Safety Education Statewide	Washington Water Trails Association	\$19,050	\$13,700	\$32,750	\$230,968
13 of 14	15.62	16-2755E	Whatcom County Youth and Trail Education Programs	Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition	\$6,175	\$6,175	\$12,350	\$237,143
14 of 14	15.08	16-2726E	Whitehorse and North Mountain Trail User Education	Washington State University	\$20,000	\$9,889	\$29,889	\$257,143
					\$257,143	\$292,960	\$550,103	

*Project Type: E=Education

State Map for Recreational Trails Program Education Category Projects



*Project numbers are in ranked order as shown in Table 1.

Recreational Trails Program

Education Category

Evaluation Criteria Summary

Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

Scored By	Question	Criteria Title	Maximum Points
Advisory Committee	1	Need	5
Advisory Committee	2	Need satisfaction	5
Advisory Committee	3	Applicant's ability	5
Advisory Committee	4	Cost-benefit	5
Advisory Committee	5	Support	5
Total Points Possible			25

Scoring Criteria: Education Category

Scored by Advisory Committee

- 1. Need.** Describe the need for this project.
- 2. Need satisfaction.** Describe the extent to which the project satisfies this need.
- 3. Applicant's ability.** Describe the applicant's ability to accomplish the project.
- 4. Cost-benefit.** Describe the project's cost-benefit.
- 5. Support.** Describe the support for the project.

**Education Category Projects
Evaluation Scoring Summary**

Recreational Trails Program
2017-19

Attachment J

	Question	1	2	3	4	5	
Rank	Project Name	Public Need	Need Satisfaction	Applicant's Ability to Accomplish	Cost Benefit	Support for Project	Total
1	Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator	4.00	3.92	4.31	4.38	4.00	20.62
2	Cle Elum Winter Trail Patrol	4.08	3.62	4.54	3.77	4.15	20.15
3	Cle Elum-Snoqualmie Pass Interstate 90 Corridor Winter Education	3.62	4.23	4.38	3.62	4.08	19.92
4	Mount Baker Climbing Rangers	3.85	3.77	4.15	3.38	4.54	19.69
5	Mount Si and Middle Fork Natural Resources Conservation Area Education	4.23	3.31	3.92	3.31	4.46	19.23
6	Mount Baker Ranger District Mountain Stewards	3.69	3.92	4.23	3.62	3.46	18.92
7	Wenatchee River Ranger District Snow Ranger Education	3.62	3.54	4.00	3.15	4.00	18.31
8	Entiat and Lake Wenatchee Snow Rangers	3.62	3.85	4.15	3.46	3.00	18.08
9	Methow Valley Snow Rangers	3.62	3.54	3.69	3.15	3.77	17.77
10	Pomeroy Ranger District Winter Trail Patrol	3.08	3.38	3.92	3.31	3.92	17.62
11	Winter Education Patrols	3.15	3.54	3.77	3.38	2.69	16.54
12	Washington Water and Shore Ethics and Safety Education Statewide	3.08	3.00	3.69	3.23	3.00	16.00
13	Whatcom County Youth and Trail Education Programs	2.92	3.08	3.15	3.31	3.15	15.62
14	Whitehorse and North Mountain Trail User Education	2.62	3.00	3.38	2.85	3.23	15.08

Evaluators score Questions 1-5.

Education Category Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



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

Grant Requested: \$20,000

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use RTP funds to hire a volunteer program coordinator (VC). The VC recruits, trains, supervises and supports volunteer ranger patrols within the Alpine Lakes, Clearwater, and Norse Peak Wilderness areas and backcountry administered by the Snoqualmie Ranger District. The VC and volunteer rangers contact visitors to provide education, information, and assistance while promoting safety and stewardship. The program focuses on community outreach including: field contacts, participation in community engagement events, work parties, visitor center displays, and a variety of environmental education efforts. The VC also works with nonprofit organizations including youth groups to support and coordinate stewardship projects. The grant will fund salary and benefits for a VC to supervise and patrol with volunteers for two years. The SRanger District is in close proximity to the Puget Sound metropolitan area, providing outstanding access for millions to recreational opportunities, which create a significant challenge to managers attempting to protect resource and recreational values. Permits and trail counters indicate more than 150,000 visitors annually use trails on the SRanger District. For the past decade volunteers have donated 5,000-8,000 hours each season. Uniformed volunteer rangers represent the Forest Service in the field and provide educational contacts for thousands of visitors each season. This makes a major contribution to resource protection and stewardship within protected areas on the district. The Forest Service will contribute \$75,000 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2489)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District Cle Elum Winter Trail Patrol

Grant Requested: \$20,000

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to provide funding for two education/safety snow rangers to patrol the 10 Sno-parks, 560 miles of winter trails, and approximately 300,000 acres of backcountry area open to winter recreation located within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Snow rangers and volunteers will educate users about safe and courteous operation, trail conditions, avalanche awareness, winter survival, trail etiquette and respect for non-motorized areas. This snow ranger program provides one-on-one interaction with users in the field which is effective at reducing conflicts while providing education in this heavily-used snowmobile riding and winter recreation region. Promoting environmental awareness while providing recreation opportunities is a goal of the US Forest Service. The snow ranger program emphasizes safety and harmony among user groups. Snow rangers may attend club gatherings and council meetings. They will work with volunteers on weekends and holidays. Past experience has shown consistent field presence and one-on-one interaction is highly effective at reducing user conflicts, thereby preserving snowmobile riding opportunities in this heavily-used region. The Cle Elum Ranger District is the busiest winter recreation destination in Washington due to its proximity to the Puget Sound area and good snow. With thousands of users each season, the goal of minimizing user conflicts, providing education and safety messages is a priority. The Forest Service will contribute \$22,000 in a state grant and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2297)

Education Category Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



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

Grant Requested: \$20,000

Cle Elum-Snoqualmie Pass Interstate 90 Corridor Winter Education

This project will be used to hire 2 winter rangers to cover the front and backcountry with the goals of educating users about winter safety, avalanche dangers, route finding and winter ecology and resource protection. One of the rangers will also serve as the Volunteer Coordinator, supervising and training up to 20 volunteers. Annually, this program contacts between 3,000 - 5,000 winter recreationists. The primary recreation opportunity provided is safety information and environmental education in winter. Demand for winter recreation opportunities at Snoqualmie Pass continues to increase. Just a short distance from large populations, the I-90 corridor offers an unmatched spectrum of opportunities from expert level ice-climbing to family snow play. Grant funded rangers support staff that are based in the Forest Service Visitor Information Center at Snoqualmie Pass. Recreationists have grown to appreciate the breadth and accuracy of the information and education provided by winter rangers. Project Goals: 1. Provide the public with conservation education messages on the uniqueness of the winter environment, the significance of protecting the snow pack as a critical water storage reservoir and Leave No Trace winter recreation techniques. 2. To provide accurate and current information on winter route conditions, avalanche danger ratings and serve as a critical resource for information the public needs to recreate safely in winter. The Forest Service will contribute \$17,000 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2415)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Mount Baker Ranger District Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers

Grant Requested: \$20,000

The Climbing Program on Mount Baker Ranger District presently has funds available for one ranger. One ranger working alone cannot safely access the areas on Mount Baker where the majority of climbing activities occur. This education grant will provide a second ranger to work with the first ranger. Together they will be able to safely work as a rope team on the mountain to access camps, routes, and the summit to interact with the climbing public. Due to the large number of climbers on the mountain there are concerns about safety issues such as un-roped climbers and resource management issues such as human waste and campsite impacts. As a skilled and experienced rope team they will be able to contact the climbers and educate them on Leave No Trace techniques appropriate for the alpine environment including waste disposal and campsite selection, and safe climbing practices such as roping up on the glaciers. Thousands of climbers attempt Mt. Baker (10,781') each season. The climb to the top is physically challenging. All routes require technical mountaineering skills. Climbers need to be experienced in glacier travel and crevasse rescue, proficient at route finding, and have proper equipment (and know how to use it) to attempt the summit. There are many approaches and varying degrees of technical difficulty for the routes on the mountain. Experienced climbing rangers will work as a team to reduce resource degradation, promote proper climber preparedness, and increase safe climbing practices on Mt. Baker. The Forest Service will contribute \$23,000 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2461)

Education Category Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Washington Department of Natural Resources Mount Si & Middle Fork NRCA Education

Grant Requested: \$20,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to provide educational resources in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCA), located in east King County. This project will provide a backcountry educator to patrol the popular backcountry trails within the Middle Fork and Mt Si NRCAs, educating non-motorized users on trail etiquette and regulations. The grant will also provide funding for educational materials to distribute to recreationists. The primary opportunity provided by the project will be safer non-motorized trail recreation. Properly educated recreationists will lead to a decrease in search and rescue missions and less damage to sensitive ecosystems. The presence of a visible staff member will also reduce misbehavior and criminal activities. An educator position is supported by local government and non-government organizations in King County. The department will contribute \$16,370 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2359)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Mount Baker Ranger District Mt. Baker Ranger District Mountain Stewards

Grant Requested: \$20,000

This grant will be used by the Mt. Baker Ranger District to hire a volunteer coordinator for our Mountain Stewards Program. With this grant, the people who want to volunteer in this capacity for the Forest Service (FS) will have the opportunity to do so. The role of the coordinator is to train, organize, supervise, and manage the people who participate in the program. Mountain Stewards is an adult based volunteer program dedicated to the education of visitors on 4 of the busiest trail systems on the district. These trails, located in the Mt. Baker Wilderness and National Recreation Area, and Heather Meadows area, are very popular and receive intense use from a widely diverse public. Mountain Stewards will hike the trails to educate visitors about safety concerns, wilderness ethics, Leave No Trace, regulations, and general information about the areas. Special training sessions prepare stewards for interactions with visitors on a variety of topics, including how to reduce recreational impacts on the natural resources and on other visitors. Volunteers have engaged in over 50,000 contacts during the past 15 years of the program. The Mountain Stewards coordinator will manage the program, which includes training, organizing supplies and materials, daily accountability of stewards, and supporting volunteers during involvement in the program. Mountain Stewards are great supporters of the project. Bellingham REI provides room on their community board the month of June where the FS posts a display to recruit volunteers. The Forest Service will contribute \$22,500 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2469)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District Grant Requested: \$23,838 Wenatchee River Ranger District Snow Ranger Education

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this education grant to fund a snow ranger to educate winter recreationists on safe and responsible backcountry and wilderness uses on the district. Funds will be used to purchase and strategically install boundary markers and informational signs that will provide an educational message to users. The goal of this project is to use positive education techniques to reduce the volume of motorized trespasses into wilderness areas located on the district. The primary recreation

Education Category Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



opportunity provided by the project is continued access to winter trail systems and backcountry areas for all user groups. Spanning an area that has become increasingly popular to all types of winter recreation users, the Wenatchee River Ranger District has experienced an increase in conflicts between user groups, inappropriate use of winter trails, and wilderness boundary incursions by motorized users. With this increase in popularity and lack of signing and field U.S. Forest Service, presence, various user groups have identified the need to cooperate together with land managers to protect access to winter recreation opportunities. The Forest Service will contribute \$16,566 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2348)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District Entiat and Lake Wenatchee Snow Rangers

Grant Requested: \$20,000

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to fund two snow rangers who will conduct winter education and safety patrols at 5 Sno-Parks, 250 miles of groomed winter trails on approximately 250,000 acres of backcountry area open to winter recreation on the Entiat and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. U.S. Forest Service, Snow Rangers and volunteers will educate winter users about safe and courteous snowmobile operation, trail conditions, trail etiquette, avalanche awareness, winter survival, winter wildlife and respect for wilderness and non-motorized users. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is safer and more enjoyable winter recreation activities throughout the Entiat and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. This Snow Ranger program provides a consistent field presence and one-on-one interaction with all types of trail users which is effective in reducing user conflicts while providing safety education on this heavily used snowmobile riding and winter recreation area. The Forest Service will contribute \$14,500 in staff labor, a state grant, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2548)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Methow Ranger District Methow Valley Snow Rangers 2018-2019

Grant Requested: \$19,140

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to fund one paid and one volunteer snow ranger for two winters for education patrols of snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and backcountry skiing on the district. The District has approximately 200 miles of groomed snowmobile trails and 125 miles of groomed cross country ski trails. The snow rangers will contact thousands of people over the course of two winters, making educational contacts and disseminating educational materials. The 2010 NVUM estimated that there are approximately 47,000 winter recreation visits to the Methow and Tonasket Ranger Districts each year. The goal of the project will be to educate winter recreationists on environmental issues and social impacts, gather use data, determine educational needs, develop educational material, establish and build relationships with organizations. The primary recreational opportunity provided will be environmentally and socially responsible winter recreation. The economy of the Methow Valley is recreation-dependent, and the steady increase of people coming here in the winter to enjoy the outstanding recreation opportunities is helping to sustain the communities during the typically slow time of year. The quality of the different types of winter recreation are dependent on maintaining the balance of areas designated for each type. As the number of winter recreationists increases, it is becoming more critical for the Forest Service to have a presence in the field to educate

Education Category Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



users. The Forest Service will contribute \$14,200 in equipment and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2543)

U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District Pomeroy Ranger District Winter Trail Patrol

Grant Requested: \$10,000

The Pomeroy Ranger District will use this grant to fund an education/safety snow ranger to patrol 5 snow-parks, 138 miles of groomed winter trails and 180,000 acres of backcountry area open to winter recreation on the district, located with the Umatilla National Forest. The snow ranger and volunteers will educate users about safe and courteous operation, trail conditions, avalanche awareness, winter survival, trail etiquette, big game winter range closures and respect for the wilderness and non-motorized areas. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be the safe use of winter recreation regions and trails. The Forest Service will contribute \$22,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2232)

U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District Winter Education Patrols

Grant Requested: \$18,940

The Mount Adams Ranger District will use RTP funds to hire one seasonal ranger to provide education resources and make in-field contacts related to winter recreation use. Snowmobile visitors will be the primary recreation opportunity focused on for in-field contacts, and non-motorized visitors utilizing groomed trails that originate out of several shared-use snow-parks will be a secondary focus. Visitor education will emphasize safe and responsible trail use, winter safety and avalanche hazards, changes to Sno Park permit reciprocity, presence at special events, conditions updates, and respecting all user groups. This will be done by hiring one snow ranger for two winter seasons that will work with Forest Service Staff and volunteers both on and off groomed trail. Rangers will provide weekend coverage throughout the winter use season. This grant will allow the Mount Adams Ranger District to be proactive and innovative in serving motorized visitors while protecting the land. The Forest Service will contribute \$20,060 in a federal appropriation. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2654)

Washington Water Trails Association Washington Water and Shore Ethics and Safety Education Statewide

Grant Requested: \$19,050

The Washington Water Trails Association will use this funding to engage water trail environmental and safety educators, working in the field and conducting clinics year round: two positions in the high-peak months, and one to two positions throughout the rest of the year. These individuals will work in the highly populated counties around the Cascadia Marine Trail on the Salish Sea as well as taking this work to other water trails in counties across Washington State. This environmental and safety education is needed. The state's population will grow to 8 Million in the next decade, and 85% of the population visit the shoreline (meaning waterways and water trails) several times a year across the state of Washington. This program will help build a strong volunteer stewardship base throughout Washington counties for both waterways (saltwater estuaries, rivers, lakes) and the shore lands along water trails. An overall goal is to reach a high number of youth and young adults, multiple non-motorized water trail users, and day-use recreationalists. These educators will also engage with and instruct diverse communities as well as the general public

Education Category Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



through a variety of events and venues, featuring opportunities for communities to develop and implement strategies that enhance and restore the health of local waterways and surrounding lands. The Washington Water Trails Association will contribute \$13,700 in a private grant and donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2691)

Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition

Grant Requested: \$6,175

Whatcom County Youth and Trail Education Programs

The Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition has created youth education programs that incorporates trail recreation, trail building, balance and bike skills for kids of all ages. A program for "Outdoor recreation for youth through guided stewardship an enriched trail experiences." Our mission is to provide a safe, positive and inspiring trail experiences for Whatcom County youth through structured activities that foster civic responsibility, self-empowerment and a sense of community. Our various projects will be located on Galbraith Mountain and Chuckanut mountains. The types of projects we will be working on are new trail construction and various types of maintenance involving design, maintenance, native plant knowledge while creating and instilling a foundation for work ethic, environmental stewardship, and civic responsibility. We will be working in 2nd to 3rd growth forests where we discuss the value of wetlands, streams and native plants bring to our natural places. Additionally, we'll discuss the value of having working forests near our community and what that brings to recreation access and to our economy. Our goal is to always provide safe and sustainable trails for all non-motorized users including mountain bikers, hikers, trail runners, and equestrians. This easy access to the outdoors has become a pillar of our community and something that the WMBC is very proud to be involved with. The Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition will contribute \$6,175 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2755)

Washington State University

Grant Requested: \$20,000

Whitehorse and North Mountain Trail User Education

Washington State University will use this grant to introduce new recreationalists, and remind those experienced, of safety and environmental stewardship concepts through a year-long series of courses and outings. They will also design and place four sets of six seasonal signs on two trail systems, with content shared on tourism social media. Both trails are near Darrington Washington. North Mountain has forested slopes and views, a lookout (currently in restoration) and the newly planned Darrington Mountain Bike Park, to open in mid-2017. Whitehorse is also expanding an additional twenty miles towards Arlington, paralleling the Stillaguamish River and SR 530 and winding through farms and a variety of habitats. Both trails offer easy access to access backcountry experiences for families of all ages and experience levels. Washington State University and Glacier Peak Institute will offer 12 guided, family-friendly recreation opportunities, including safety and stewardship instruction, in the two trail systems. We will design and place temporary signs with related messages that will be changed seasonally. We will work closely with others planning recreational facility expansion and local recreation promotion. Washington State University will contribute \$9,889 in donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2726)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

This attachment includes 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.

Recreational Trails Program (RTP) – Education Category

- 16-2489E Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator (3) Rank 1
- 16-2297E Cle Elum Winter Trail Patrol (2) Rank 2
- 16-2415E Cle Elum-Snoqualmie Pass Interstate 90 Corridor Winter Education (2) Rank 3
- 16-2461E Mount Baker Climbing Rangers (1) Rank 4
- 16-2359E Mount Si and Middle Fork Natural Resources Conservation Area Education (8) Rank 5
- 16-2348E Wenatchee River Ranger District Snow Ranger Education (1) Rank 7



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Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (*), Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 21, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RTP Education Ranked #1

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2790, Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R.

Project #16-2777, Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19

Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain and build hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is the landscape connecting Seattle to Ellensburg surrounding Interstate 90, including wilderness lands, rural areas and historic sites, and the 15th largest metropolitan area in the country. This spectacular landscape has not happened by accident. More than two decades of collaborative work have preserved the natural heritage of the Greenway, which encompasses some of the most heavily-used trails in the state including locations within the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

Sally Bagshaw (X), Councilmember, City of Seattle
Jim Becker, Founder, SmartLab Toys, becker&mayer
Gary Berndt, Civic Leader, Cle Elum
Mark Boyar (*), President
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, Director, King County Parks & Recreation
Will Castillo, Principal, GGLO
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program
The Wilderness Society
Karl Forsgaard, President
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, City of Issaquah
Todd Glass, Partner
Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati PC
Kari Glover, Global Integration Partner, Retired
K&L Gates
Peter Goldmark (X), Commissioner of Public Lands
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Rich Grillo, Community at Large Representative
Cle Elum
Bruce Gryniowski, Partner, Gallatin Public Affairs
Don Hoch (X), Director
Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Laura Hoffman, Amazon Publishing,
Copper Ridge Farm
Cara Johnson, Geotechnical Engineer
GeoEngineers
Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel
Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
Jamie Kingsbury (X), Supervisor
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Janet Knox, Principal Environmental Geochemist
Pacific Groundwater Group
Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Leon Kos, City Administrator (retired), City of Issaquah
Paul Kundtz, Northwest Director
The Trust for Public Land
Helen Lee, Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Danny Levine, President, NationAd Communications
Arlene Levy (*), Partner, Social Venture Partners
Josh Lipsky (*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC
Robert Manelski, Senior Director, 787 Program
The Boeing Company
Gordon McHenry Jr (*), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Sue McLain (*), Former Senior VP Delivery
Operations, Puget Sound Energy
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement
Mary Norton, City of Snoqualmie Parks Board
Meadowbrook Farm
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific NW Stewardship Director
American Whitewater
Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
College of Environment, University of Washington
Marie Quasius(*), Attorney, K&L Gates LLP
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project
Sierra Club
Janet Ray (*), Asst VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardt (*), Principal & Senior Managing
Director, HEARTLAND LLC
Grant Ringel, Communications Director
Puget Sound Energy
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, Divisional Vice President, Sustainability
REI Co-op
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant (*), Vice President, CH2M
Maryanne Tagney
Community at Large Representative
Leah Tivoli, Organizational Performance Manager
City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor
Okanagon-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Former Senior Vice President,
HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yaker, Solution Architect, Microsoft

(*) Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director



The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for these important projects. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning these proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being more prominent than the last name "Hoekstra".

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



PACIFIC CREST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION

RTP Education Ranked #1

North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

December, 28th 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Snoqualmie Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCNST) as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service “recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCNST”. In 2016, programs organized under the PCTA’s leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1500 hours in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 35 miles of the PCNST that passes through the North Cascades Region is managed by the District; much of this is in Norse Peak Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that more than 15 miles of this area was opened and maintained for hiker and equestrian use during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic

setting for education, recreation and solitude. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Additionally it is critical for our collaborative work that the District be supported enough to provide wilderness and front-country rangers and enforcement officers. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington have specific plans to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Snoqualmie Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications:

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2523, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-19

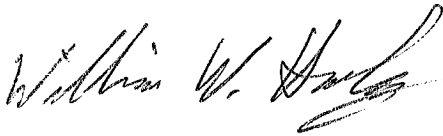
Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

I would point out that funding for Alpine Lakes is particularly critical; this area has been hard hit in the last few seasons and because of its remoteness, it requires an extraordinary effort to address the back-log of work.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William W. Hawley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



RTP Education Ranked #1

Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

January 4, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA & RTP proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following NOVA and RTP projects:

- Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement #16-2793
- Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19 #16-2522
- Snoqualmie RD Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19 #16-2491
- Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R. #16-2790
- Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-9 #16-2523
- Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19 #16-2777
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019 #16-2429
- Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019 #16-2489

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

For 50 years, WTA has focused on helping Washingtonians get on trail to experience the great outdoors in our state and national parks, national forests and other public lands with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of trails and making outdoor experiences fulfilling and fun for hikers.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest offers some of the most visited trails and trailheads in the state. Replacement of the Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge will increase safety on a popular trail in the increasingly busy Highway 410 corridor. With this increase in users, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance is essential to providing safe and sustainable trails to all users in addition to the need for more Front Country and Backcountry Ranger Patrols to help alleviate and control user impact.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance on the Snoqualmie Ranger District, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917


RTP Education Ranked #2

To Whom It May Concern:

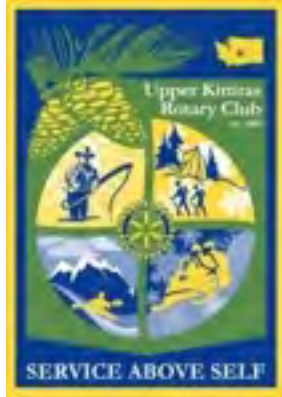
The City of Roslyn is pleased to support the Cle Elum Ranger District in their applications for Recreation and Conservation Office grant funding to enhance and improve the recreational experience on National Forest System lands here in Kittitas County. We understand that the Forest Service has a successful record of using NOVA and RTP grants to accomplish a variety of recreation projects across this area.

The National Forest lands surrounding the City of Roslyn provide year-round recreation and are critically important to the economy of Roslyn. Each year, thousands of people pass through Roslyn on their way to recreation destinations on the Cle Elum Ranger District and support our local businesses. These recreationist include but are not limited to: campers, hikers, horseback riders, trail motorbike riders, mountain bike riders, hunters, fishing folks, boaters, canoeists, kayakers, snowshoers, skiers, snowmobilers, and jeepers. Our local economy depends in part to these visitors and the money they spend in our town while visiting the adjacent Forest. Funding through these grant programs will ensure that these high quality recreation opportunities continue to exist for the many visitors that support our town and local economy.

Sincerely,



Geoff Scherer
Mayor City of Roslyn



RTP Education Ranked #2

Rotary of Upper Kittitas County
PO Box 1035
Cle Elum, WA 98922

November 4, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear State Officials:

Rotary of Upper Kittitas County supports the USDA Forest Service, Cle Elum Ranger District's applications for grant funding to enhance and improve recreational experiences on public lands in Kittitas County. The Cle Elum Ranger District has an outstanding record of providing a variety of recreational projects in Kittitas County through previously awarded NOVA and RTP grants. We hope your Office continues to fund these grant requests to the Cle Elum Ranger District.

Recreation in Kittitas County is a primary economic driver and is critical to the local businesses in our area. Public lands provide year-round recreation, drawing thousands of visitors to our area to participate in camping, hiking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, motorized vehicles, skiing, snowshoeing, etc. Maintaining these high quality recreational opportunities ensures future tourism and support of local economics, along with quality of life for local residents.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Judy Hallisey

Judy Hallisey
President
UKC Rotary



9/23/2016

Dear Grant Committee,

The Winter Recreation program at Snoqualmie Pass is a valuable program to the whole Puget Sound and Washington State community. The Forest Service does an excellent job managing this program and through their efforts thousands of people become more familiar with the amazing winter environment at the pass.

Discover your Northwest is the vendor of record for the Sno-Park permits sold at the Visitor Information Center. That \$21,050 worth of permits were sold through DYNW by Forest Service staff and volunteers is a testament to the value the public places in this program. We enthusiastically support this application!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Adams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "A".

Jim Adams
Executive Director
Discover Your Northwest

To the RTP Education Grant Committee;**Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers 2016, 16-2461**

This letter is an endorsement to fund a climbing ranger for 2016. The climbing rangers of the MBSNF are of great importance to the community. They work tirelessly with thousands of people who frequent the mountain each summer. They are critical to the link between the general public and the forest land. They also support safety, aid in rescue, work closely with guide outfitters, and manage human waste. The job they do is quite large, and is necessary every year with continued growth.

Please keep the Rangers working in the MBSNF.

Sincerely,

Mick Pearson



206.713.2149

mick@kafadventures.com

www.kafadventures.com



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Grant & Galt, Communications Director
 Puget Sound Energy
 Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
 Vix Solway, Divisional Vice President, Sustainability
 RBC Co-Op
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 David Sturtevant, B2, Vice President, City of
 Warner, B2, Partner
 Conner, B2, et Large Reservoirs
 Leah Tinsell, Organizational Performance Manager
 City Budget Office, Seattle
 Mike Williams, B2, Secretary
 Otagawa, Washington National Forest
 Kathy Williams, Former Senior Vice President,
 HomeShed, B2
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 B2, Secretary

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 B2, Co-Op

Executive Director
 Jan Hoekstra, B2
 Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 21, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Education – Mount Si & Middle Fork NRCA Education #16-2359 (EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for an education project located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

These NRCAs are in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. The Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley is considered the backyard for many hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and many others. Though very accessible to the public, these locations are considered the most remote of DNR landscapes in the Snoqualmie Corridor and are adjacent to the USFS Alpine Lakes Wilderness. This project will provide a backcountry educator to patrol trails and distribute education materials throughout the spring and summer seasons, a much-needed resource to inform and educate users and prevent trail and riparian area degradation identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan.

DNR is a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, which provides important opportunities for people to connect with nature near the ever-growing Seattle and east King County metropolitan areas. We fully support DNR in their ongoing working to provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities including school groups, hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, trail runners, kayakers and rafters, rock climbers and nature enthusiasts.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities. The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the DNR and USFS and many others to plan for long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and the increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. This grant opportunity is strongly supported to ensure trail and facilities are up to a standard to support high public visitation. Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

 Jan Hoekstra, Executive Director



RTP Education Ranked #5

December 5th, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Education
Mount Si & Middle Fork NRCA Education #16-2359 (EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District and U.S Forest Service to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for an education project located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

Both the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and Alpine Lakes Wilderness are adjacent to DNR's conservation lands in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. From conservation land acquisitions and recreation management, our agencies have been working together in this valley for more than 20 years. We look forward to continuing this partnership and ensure trails in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie NRCA & Alpine Lakes Wilderness trail systems provide sustainable backcountry experiences that are very accessible to the Puget Sound Metropolitan Area population.

The goal for this project is to provide a backcountry educator to patrol trails and distribute education materials throughout the spring and summer seasons. This project was identified as a high priority of DNR's recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. It is essential for DNR to have an on the ground presence in the valley.

USFS and DNR, among other agencies and non-profit recreation organizations, are working together to plan for the improved county road paving project. This specific grant opportunity was recommended by a multi-stakeholder committee process, which organizes recreation planning in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley.

Sincerely,



Brian McNeil
USFS Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Snoqualmie Ranger District
North Bend, WA



RTP Education Ranked #5

January 4th, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Education
Mount Si & Middle Fork NRCA Education #16-2359 (EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

On behalf of the City of North Bend, I am writing to clearly state our support of the Department of Natural Resource's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to fund an education project located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

DNR's two conservation areas include some of the most popular trail opportunities in the region, located just outside North Bend city limits. North Bend's economy is heavily driven by outdoor recreation tourism. The hiking, mountain biking and equestrian community represents a large portion of our visitors. This grant opportunity will ensure that there is adequate education staff for DNR to manage their backcountry trail experiences. The Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley will also be experiencing a dramatic increase in use with the federal road paving project. It is necessary for agencies to have adequate funding for official presence in the valley.

Increased education and enforcement staff patrolling trails will provide public safety, protect sensitive environmental resources, and improve user experience. All of these benefits will draw recreationists, and bring more visitors into the City of North Bend. Thank you for the opportunity to support this project and we look forward to DNR being awarded this grant.

Sincerely,

Gina Estep, Community & Economic Development Director
City of North Bend
126 E 4th St,
North Bend, WA 98045
425.888.7640



King County

Parks and Recreation Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700

201 South Jackson Street

Seattle, WA 98104-3855

206-477-4527 Fax 206-588-8011

TTY Relay: 711

December 15, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Education
Mount Si & Middle Fork NRCA Education #16-2359 (EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of King County Parks & Recreation Division to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for an educational project located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs). The goal for this project is to provide a backcountry educator to patrol trails and distribute education materials throughout the spring and summer seasons. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan.

King County Parks & Recreation Division of the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) owns and manages several large sites within the vicinity of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Area (NRCA). The Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Area is adjacent to DNR's Middle Fork Snoqualmie NRCA on the northern end. These conservation areas are in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. The Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley is considered the backyard for many hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. Even though very accessible to the public, they are considered the most remote of DNR landscapes in the Snoqualmie Corridor and are adjacent to the USFS Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

DNR and King County have been working together in Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley for over twenty years. From conservation land acquisitions to recreation management, we have worked together to provide seamless management throughout the valley. We are collaboratively building a new trailhead to access the Granite Creek trail, scheduled to open this summer. Our day use sites are directly adjacent to DNR managed land and providing a DNR educational presence will directly benefit our sites. Thank you for the opportunity to support this project.

Kelly Heintz

Natural Lands Program | Parks & Recreation



RTP Education Ranked #5

STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Northwest Region Capital Program

220 North Walnut Street • Burlington, Washington 98233
tel (360) 755-5262 / (360) 428-1094 fax

December 7, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Education
Mount Si & Middle Fork NRCA Education #16-2359 (EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Ollalie State Park and Washington State Parks to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and an education project located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

Even though very accessible to the public, this is a remote of DNR landscape in the Snoqualmie Corridor. DNR and State Parks coordinate recreation management in the southern Middle Fork Snoqualmie NRCA. The Far Side Trailhead is managed by State Parks and accesses DNR managed land, which includes the popular Dirty Harry's Peak Trail. Having official presence on backcountry trails will ensure a better educated visited public and less resource damage.

The goal for this project is to provide a backcountry educator to patrol trails and distribute education materials throughout the spring and summer seasons. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. This grant opportunity is strongly supported to ensure balance of recreation opportunity and natural resource protection.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this project.
Sincerely,

Jamie Van De Vanter
Jamie Van De Vanter
NW Region Parks Planner
Landscape Architect



www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. Rider powered.

November 30, 2016
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program - Mount Si & Middle Fork NRCA Education #16-2359 (EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen MBA) strongly supports DNR's proposal to provide education service and educational resources in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan, and the NRCAs include the popular C.C.C trail, connecting the lower Valley to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. With continually increasing visitorship at Mt. Si, the CCC trail, and the Middle Fork Valley trails, we believe that DNR's proposed education services are essential to accomplishing long-term sustainable and safe non-motorized recreation experiences throughout these NRCAs.

The project goal is to provide a backcountry educator to patrol trails and distribute education materials throughout the spring and summer seasons. Benefits to this effort include a more well-informed, safe, and positive experience for all recreational user groups. Educators will also help foster caring for place, in turn growing future trail stewards and helping to curb vandalism and littering.

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is involved with a multi-stakeholder recreation planning process in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley through the Mountains to Sound Greenway. We are dedicating staff to help DNR and USFS plan for the increased visitation expected to occur due to a road improvement in the Middle Fork Valley. The education program will help protect the stakeholder and public's investment in recreational resources for this increasingly popular destination.

Evergreen is Washington's largest mountain bike organization with over 3,300 members and more than 20,000 supporters statewide. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, advocacy, and youth participation. We particularly support this proposal since it includes a significant planning effort between multiple stakeholders to protect the incredible natural and recreational resources of the Middle Fork, yet make it accessible and safe for all non-motorized recreational user groups.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

December 10, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Education
Mount Si & Middle Fork NRCA Education #16-2359 (EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for an education project located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

These conservation areas are in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. The Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley is considered the backyard for many hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. Even though very accessible to the public, they are considered the most remote of DNR landscapes in the Snoqualmie Corridor and are adjacent to the USFS Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The goal for this project is to provide a backcountry educator to patrol trails and distribute education materials throughout the spring and summer seasons. This type of education project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. Within the scope of this grant is the popular C.C.C trail, which connects the lower valley to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington is involved with a multi-stakeholder recreation planning process in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley. We are dedicating staff and resources to help DNR and USFS plan for the increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the valley. This grant opportunity is strongly supported to ensure much need user education is available for visitors.

Thank you,

s/ Kathy Young

Kathy Young

President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington

president@bchw.org

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 33 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

Serving hikers since 1966

December 12, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Education
Mount Si & Middle Fork NRCA Education #16-2359 (EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for an education project located in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCAs).

These conservation areas are in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. The Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley includes some of the most popular hiking trails in the corridor including Little Si, Mount Si, Mount Teneriffe, Oxbow Loop, C.C.C and Granite Creek.

Even though very accessible to the public, they are considered the most remote of DNR landscapes in the Snoqualmie Corridor and are adjacent to the USFS Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The goal for this project is to provide a backcountry educator to patrol trails and distribute education materials throughout the spring and summer seasons. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. It is essential to meet growing public visitation while reducing natural resource damage.

DNR is a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, which provides important opportunities for people to connect with nature near the ever-growing Seattle and east King County metropolitan areas. We fully support DNR in their ongoing working to provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities including school groups, kiers, mountain bikers, equestrians, trail runners, kayakers and rafters, rock climbers and nature enthusiasts.

Without this funding, there wouldn't be enough staff to cover the backcountry in this important landscape.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this project.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



October 10, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Letter of Support for:

- 16-2335 Wilderness and Non-Motorized Trails M&O 2018-2019 (NOVA)
- 16-2334 Wenatchee River RD ORV Trails M&O 2018-2019 (NOVA)
- 16-2350 Trailhead and Dispersed Site M&O 2017-2018 (NOVA)
- 16-2349 Wilderness & Backcountry E&E 2017-2018 (NOVA)
- 16-2348 Wenatchee River RD Snow Ranger Education (RTP)
- 16-2347 Wenatchee River RD Climbing Ranger Education (NOVA)

Dear Review Committee,

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust is a private, non-profit organization based in Wenatchee, Washington. Founded in 1985, we are comprised of over 1,500 active members and volunteers. The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust engages communities in conserving, caring for, and accessing the natural lands and waters that sustain North Central Washington. As such, we strongly support the above listed US Forest Service, Wenatchee Ranger District's NOVA and RTP grant applications for trail development, maintenance and community education.

These projects involve the annual maintenance of multi-purpose trails including some of the most scenic trails for multiple-recreation activities in the state. These projects complement our trail planning, outreach and maintenance work in Chelan County, and will have huge backing from many local user groups and recreational enthusiasts.

We recognize the importance of partnership in protecting and maintaining trails on public land and we support this not only through endorsing this grant application but also by coordinating our work efforts with the Wenatchee River Ranger District for some of these important projects. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Respectfully,

Curt Soper
Executive Director

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program:
Review and Approve the Preliminary Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium

Prepared By: Darrell Jennings, Senior Grants Manager

Summary

Applicants submitted one hundred thirty-two grant proposals for the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program. This memo describes the NOVA program, categories, evaluation process and the preliminary ranked lists. Staff will present more information about the process and proposals at the May 2017 meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked lists, which becomes the basis for grant funding. Funding decisions will be presented at the July board meeting, after the Legislature has adopted the 2017-19 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

Resolutions:

- 2017-09, Education and Enforcement Category Projects
- 2017-10, Nonhighway Road Category Projects
- 2017-11, Nonmotorized Category Projects
- 2017-12, Off-road Vehicle Category Projects

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the ranked lists of projects shown in Table 1 for each category.

Background

The Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) program is a motor vehicle fuel-tax refund grant program that provides grants for planning, acquiring land, constructing, and maintaining facilities for a variety of back-road activities. This includes cross-country skiing, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, hunting, fishing, sightseeing, motorcycling, and riding all-terrain and four-wheel drive vehicles. A portion of NOVA funding is set aside for grants that may be used for education and enforcement programs serving these recreationists in order to preserve and protect NOVA recreation opportunities.

The NOVA program has four grant categories: 1) Education and Enforcement; 2) Nonhighway Road; 3) Nonmotorized; and 4) Off-road Vehicle. The program categories share these common characteristics:

- Native American tribes, federal, state, and local governments, and nonprofit off-road vehicle organizations are eligible to receive NOVA funding.
- To participate in the program, an applicant must submit a legal opinion.¹

¹ First time applicants only.

- Applicants must have an adopted comprehensive outdoor recreation plan on file with RCO if the grant proposal involves planning, acquisition, or development of facilities.
- By law, no matching share is required, but an evaluation criterion encourages non-RCO match contributions by awarding additional points.

Category	Education and Enforcement	Nonhighway Road	Nonmotorized	Off-road Vehicle
Recreation Activities Targeted	Information, education, and outreach programs for trail and back-road related outdoor recreation; encourages responsible recreational behavior, and may provide law enforcement for the benefit of outdoor recreationists.	Nonmotorized boating, camping, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, fishing, gathering, hunting, and picnicking.	Nonmotorized trail activities such as horseback riding, hiking, climbing, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing.	Motorized off-road activities including motorcycling and riding all-terrain and four-wheel drive vehicles on trails and in sport parks.
Eligible Project Types	Education and law enforcement activities that target NOVA eligible uses and recreationists.	Land acquisition ² , development and/or renovation projects, maintenance and operation of facilities, and planning activities.		
Funding Limits	Up to \$200,000 per project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition, development, and planning projects are limited to \$200,000. • Maintenance and operations projects are limited to \$150,000 for two-year projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition, development, and planning projects are limited to \$200,000. • Maintenance and operations projects are limited to \$150,000 for two-year projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No fund limits for land acquisition, development, and planning projects. • Maintenance and operations projects are limited to a maximum of \$200,000 for two-year projects.
Typical Project Elements	Salaries, operating expenses, and capital equipment including vehicles.	Interpretive trails and related trailheads, picnic areas, day-use areas, viewpoints, campgrounds, and support structures including sanitary facilities and utilities.	Trails, trailheads, and structures including sanitary facilities and utilities that support nonmotorized trail recreation.	Trails, trailheads, day-use areas, sports parks, campgrounds, intensive use areas, and support structures including sanitary facilities and utilities.

Additionally, projects in the Nonhighway Road and Nonmotorized categories must be adjacent to, or accessed by, a nonhighway road. A nonhighway road is any road owned or managed by a public agency, a primitive road, or any private road for which the owner has granted an easement for public use. In

² Federal agencies are not permitted to purchase real property using NOVA funding.

addition appropriations from the motor vehicle fund cannot be used for (a) original construction or reconstruction in the last twenty-five years; or (b) maintenance in the last four years³.

The legislative authority for the NOVA program is the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 46.09 and Washington Administrative Code chapters 286-13 and 286-26. The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board's (board) *NOVA Plan: 2013-2018* sets the priorities that guide the program policies and evaluation criteria. The board adopted these policies into Manual #13, [NOVA Education and Enforcement](#) and Manual #14, [NOVA Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-road Vehicle](#).

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

The NOVA Advisory Committee evaluated one hundred thirty-two NOVA proposals, totaling \$16.6 million in grant requests.

NOVA Category	Proposals	Requests	Match	Total
Education and Enforcement	31	\$3,629,859	\$3,136,670	\$6,766,529
Nonhighway Road	22	\$2,410,919	\$1,635,025	\$4,045,944
Nonmotorized	46	\$5,649,406	\$4,376,228	\$10,025,634
Off-road Vehicle	33	\$4,978,785	\$2,755,956	\$7,734,741
Total	132	\$16,668,969	\$11,903,879	\$28,572,848

The NOVA Advisory Committee has governmental representatives that manage land where NOVA activities occur, and a proportional representation of persons with recreational experiences in areas identified in the most recent fuel use study⁴. Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, are selected for their expertise, experience, and technical knowledge related to NOVA related recreation and topics. All fifteen members participated in the review and evaluation of the one hundred thirty-two proposals. The members include the following:

Advisory Committee Member	Representing	Agency/Organization
Chris Baldini	Nonhighway road recreation	Citizen
Mary Bean	Land manager	U.S. Forest Service
Louise Caywood	Equestrian/stock	Citizen
Crystal Crowder	All-terrain vehicle	Citizen
Dawn Erickson	Hiking	Citizen
Nikki Fields	Land manager	WA State Parks and Recreation
Glenn Glover	Land manager	WA Department of Natural Resources
Richard Haydon	Nonhighway road recreation	Citizen
Yvonne Kraus	Mountain bicycling	Citizen
Melinda Posner	Land manager	WA Department of Fish and Wildlife
Jim Putman	Four-wheel drive	Citizen

³ RCW 46.09.310(7)

⁴ RCW 46.09.340(1)

Bryant Robinson	Local government	Spokane County Parks and Recreation
Aaron Theisen	Nonhighway road recreation	Citizen
Nancy Toenyan	Motorcycling	Citizen
Holly Weiler	Hiking	Citizen

The evaluation team reviewed the Education and Enforcement category using a written, score-at-home process. The team reviewed the Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-road Vehicle projects in an open public meeting. They used the evaluation criteria (Attachments C and I) adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to review and score all projects. Refer to the resulting ranked lists in each of the attached decision packages.

Do Not Fund Recommendation

During the evaluation meeting, one advisory committee member asked the NOVA committee to consider a “Do Not Fund” recommendation for two project proposals. Following the board’s procedure, staff notified the applicant for each proposal and invited them to attend the grant results meeting where they could listen to the advisory committee deliberate and answer questions. Prior to the meeting, one applicant withdrew their grant proposal. The other applicant participated in the discussion with the advisory committee, and the “Do Not Fund” request was subsequently withdrawn.

Review of Process and Criteria

Number of Grant Proposals

This year’s grant cycle presented several challenges. There was a noticeable increase in the number of grant proposals submitted to the NOVA program – one hundred forty one initially. We assume this increase over the last grant cycle is due to increased revenue for the NOVA program and the board’s decision to increase grant limits in the Nonhighway Road and Nonmotorized categories.

Staff recognized early that the number of projects exceeded what could be evaluated within the scheduled time for the in-person evaluation meeting. Through the technical review process, nine proposals were either withdrawn, combined with another project, or moved to the Recreational Trails Program, demonstrating that the current process is better suited for a smaller portfolio of proposals. The advisory committee confirmed this by pointing out that the time commitment during evaluation week probably limits RCO’s ability to recruit members who are not paid by their employer to be there.

Technical Review

Last year, the board approved eliminating advisory committee review of projects during the technical review period. RCO staff reviewed the proposals for applicant and project eligibility, application completeness, program fit and provided assistance to applicants in preparing for evaluations. Not using the advisory committee did not present any procedural or logistical challenges. It did however place more responsibility on grant managers because they did not have the benefit of the advisory committee feedback. This process parallels that of the Recreational Trails Program. Staff may consider additional peer review of certain aspects of the proposals in future grant rounds to ensure the quality of the grant manager review.

Nonhighway Road Eligibility

A key eligibility requirement for proposals in the Nonhighway Road and Nonmotorized categories is that the facility a project benefits is adjacent to, or accessed by, a nonhighway road. This can sometimes be one of the most difficult aspects in determining the eligibility of a project. Staff and the advisory committee struggle when the nonhighway road is short in length and can be viewed as a park access road

or driveway from a highway to a parking lot. A small number of proposals in this portfolio challenged staff with the eligibility determination based only on the statutory requirements. In these instances, the advisory committee seriously questioned staff's determinations because of the legislative intent and purpose of NOVA as a fuel tax refund program intended to benefit the users that pay into the program by driving and consuming fuel on back country roads. Staff has placed this issue on the priority list of policy considerations.

Project Mapping

The advisory committee again noted their desire for RCO to develop and provide maps at the program level. While a project is measured on its individual merits, the advisory committee wants to see the "big picture" and has the desire to see how nearby proposals relate or support one another. They feel understanding this relationship will help them better evaluate need in a specific geographic area, and see the distribution of proposals. Staff want this same capability to assess and understand how proposals from different programs, primarily the Recreational Trails Program, relate to NOVA proposals since the work is often similar or complementary.

Concessionaire Run Facilities

The advisory committee feels strongly that the NOVA program needs to have policies developed for determining allowable maintenance and operational costs for projects that include facilities run by concessionaires. In the NOVA program, typical facilities run by concessionaires include campgrounds and ORV sport parks. The concessionaires typically are for-profit businesses operating public facilities. Currently the program lacks direction for staff or the advisory committee on this subject. Proposals often include costs the committee feels should be covered by the concessionaire and not the NOVA program. The committee also felt that proponents were not forthcoming or did not know the financial plan or arrangements with sport parks concessionaires which gave them additional concerns.

Evaluation Criteria

At the February 2016 meeting, the board approved adding the *Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship* criterion to NOVA as a one-year pilot. Staff was to report back to the board on a recommendation for its continued use. Because of time constraints the advisory committee did not have the benefit of an in-depth discussion regarding the evaluation criteria following the evaluation session. Staff expects to have a discussion with the advisory committee regarding all evaluation criteria once the NOVA plan update is complete. Staff has also identified staff-scored criteria for *Population Proximity* as one that needs advisory committee and board input. When the criteria was established, NOVA maintenance and operation projects were primarily site specific. Over time the proposals have changed from site specific projects to district or region-wide proposals. The staff-scored criteria does not provide guidance on how to score proposals where only a portion (often a very small portion) of the project work falls within the distance necessary for receiving evaluation points.

Project Metrics

Lastly, throughout the process, staff and the advisory committee identified PRISM application metrics that they would like to see either revised or added. Such efforts would provide better consistency between proposals, information useful in scoring, and would add additional information to better measure the outcomes of a funded project.

Overall, the advisory committee felt the process was organized, well-run, and fair. They were confident in the resulting ranked list and felt that the use of such a diverse team of evaluators seems to compensate for any individual biases for or against specific project proposals. Staff appreciates the time that the advisory committee dedicated to preparing for and participating fully in the written and in-person evaluation and grant results meetings.

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 NOVA funding directly support board adopted priorities in the *2013-2018 Washington State Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Plan* and the *Outdoor Recreation in Washington: The 2013 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*.

Public Comment

See Attachment F for Education and Enforcement Category letters; Attachment L for Nonhighway Road Category letters; Attachment Q for Nonmotorized Category letters; and Attachment V for Off-road Vehicle Category letters.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve the preliminary ranked list of projects for each of the four NOVA categories as referenced below:

- Resolution 2017-09, Table 1 – *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects, 2017-19*
- Resolution 2017-10, Table 1 – *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Nonhighway Road Projects, 2017-19*
- Resolution 2017-11, Table 1 – *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects, 2017-19*
- Resolution 2017-12, Table 1 – *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects, 2017-19*

Next Steps

The board will make final approval and funding decisions at its July 2017 meeting after the Legislature approves program funding in the capital budget.

Attachments

Decision Package #1: NOVA Education and Enforcement Category

- A. Resolution #2017-09
 - Table 1 – *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects, 2017-19*
- B. State Map of Projects
- C. Evaluation criteria summary: Education and Enforcement category
- D. Evaluation Scoring Summary 2017-19
- E. Project Summaries
- F. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

Decision Package #2: NOVA Nonhighway Road Category

- G. Resolution #2017-10
 - *Table 1 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Nonhighway Road Projects, 2017-19*
- H. State Map of Projects
- I. Evaluation criteria summary: Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-road Vehicle categories
- J. Evaluation Scoring Summary 2017-19
- K. Project Summaries
- L. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

Decision Package #3: NOVA Nonmotorized Category

- M. Resolution #2017-11
 - *Table 1 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects, 2017-19*
- N. State Map of Projects
- O. Evaluation Scoring Summary 2017-19
- P. Project Summaries
- Q. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

Decision Package #4: NOVA Off-road Vehicle Category

- R. Resolution #2017-12
 - *Table 1 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects, 2017-19*
- S. State Map of Projects
- T. Evaluation Scoring Summary 2017-19
- U. Project Summaries
- V. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-09
NOVA Program Education and Enforcement Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, thirty-one Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement category projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all thirty-one projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 13, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicles Activities: Education and Enforcement Category*; and

WHEREAS, these Education and Enforcement category projects were evaluated by all fifteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee 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 through a written evaluation process approved by the board, supporting the board's strategy to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation; and

WHEREAS, the projects focus on protecting user needs and minimizing environmental impacts and conflict between user groups, 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 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects
2017-19

Attachment A
Resolution: 2017-09

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 31	61.07	16-2389E	Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$185,000	\$185,050	\$370,050	\$185,000
2 of 31	61.00	16-2326E	Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$154,500	\$155,000	\$309,500	\$339,500
3 of 31	59.27	16-2491E	Snoqualmie Ranger District Backcountry Ranger Patrol	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$148,543	\$152,876	\$301,419	\$488,043
4 of 31	58.93	16-2473E	Tahuya and Green Mountain Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$141,100	\$145,000	\$286,100	\$629,143
5 of 31	57.93	16-2419E	Northwest Region Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$145,000	\$97,000	\$242,000	\$774,143
6 of 31	57.73	16-2296E	Cle Elum Frontcountry Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$51,400	\$53,050	\$104,450	\$825,543
7 of 31	57.40	16-2372E	Cle Elum ORV Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$199,916	\$86,174	\$286,090	\$1,025,459
8 of 31	57.33	16-2781E	Riverside State Park Area Education and Enforcement	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$156,516	\$242,367	\$398,883	\$1,181,975
9 of 31	56.80	16-2349E	Wilderness and Backcountry Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$67,189	\$46,691	\$113,880	\$1,249,164
10 of 31	56.73	16-2540E	Methow Valley Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$171,102	\$173,900	\$345,002	\$1,420,266
11 of 31	56.53	16-2228E	Central Zone Backcountry Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$176,400	\$82,000	\$258,400	\$1,596,666
12 of 31	56.27	16-2300E	Cle Elum Alpine Lakes Wilderness Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$80,000	\$55,000	\$135,000	\$1,676,666
13 of 31	55.40	16-2522E	Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Patrol	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$132,078	\$164,647	\$296,725	\$1,808,744

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects
2017-19

Attachment A
Resolution: 2017-09

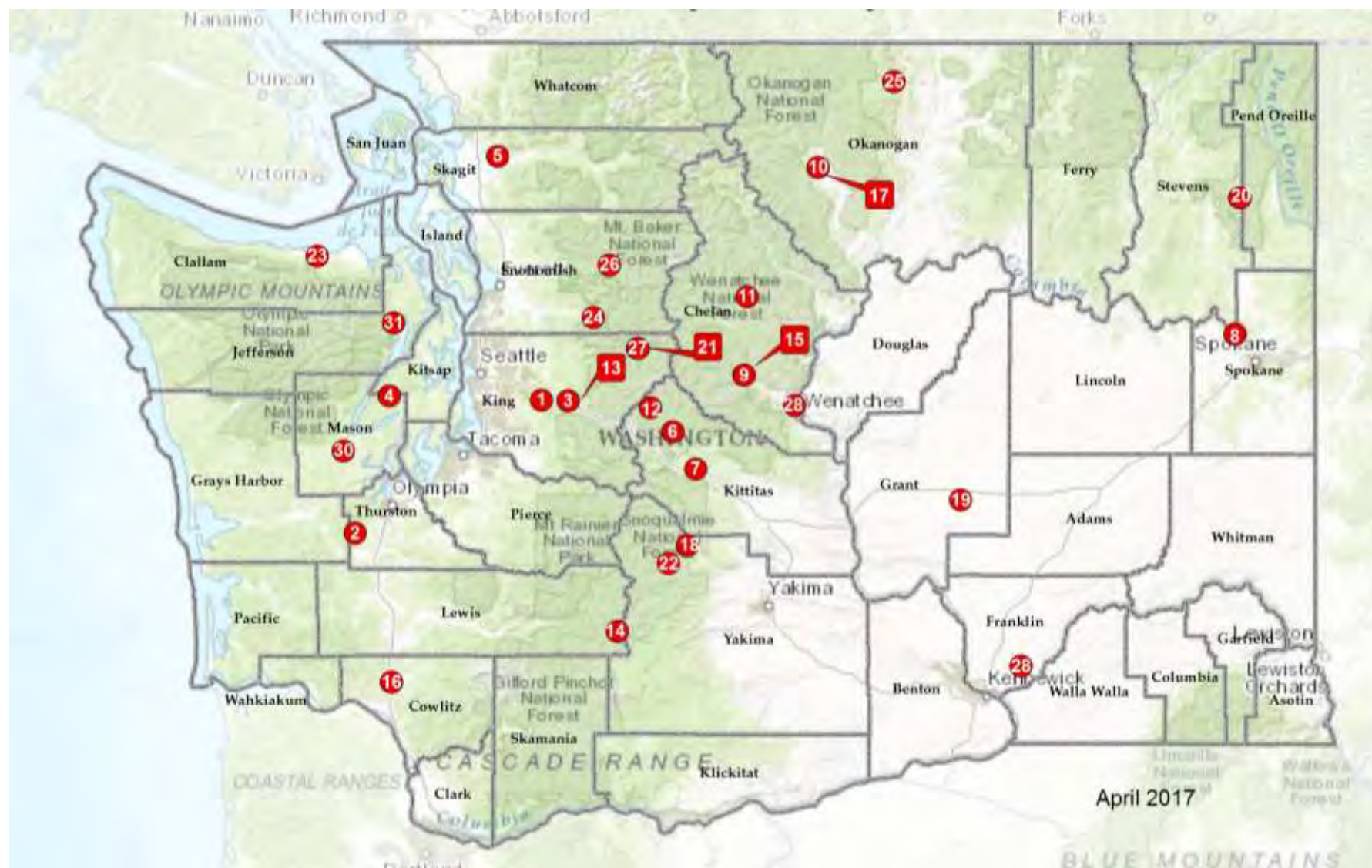
Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
14 of 31	55.20	16-2471E	Gifford Pinchot Wilderness High Use Areas	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District	\$63,600	\$66,400	\$130,000	\$1,872,344
15 of 31	55.00	16-2347E	Wenatchee River Ranger District Climbing Ranger Education	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$57,041	\$39,639	\$96,680	\$1,929,385
16 of 31	54.80	16-2307E	Pacific Cascade Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$171,400	\$115,000	\$286,400	\$2,100,785
17 of 31	54.60	16-2384E	Methow Valley Climbing Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$77,604	\$58,260	\$135,864	\$2,178,389
18 of 31	54.47	16-2596E	Naches Ranger District Off Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$189,000	\$120,000	\$309,000	\$2,367,389
19 of 31	54.20	16-2410E	Grant County Off-road Vehicle Areas Education and Enforcement	Grant County	\$200,000	\$284,495	\$484,495	\$2,567,389
20 of 31	53.60	16-2583E	Colville National Forest Off Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest	\$86,500	\$61,640	\$148,140	\$2,653,889
21 of 31	53.47	16-2586E	Skykomish Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$68,200	\$70,200	\$138,400	\$2,722,089
22 of 31	52.80	16-2703E	Naches Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$48,070	\$37,750	\$85,820	\$2,770,159
23 of 31	51.73	16-2418E	Straits District Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$72,400	\$48,986	\$121,386	\$2,842,559
24 of 31	51.20	16-2440E	Reiter Foothills Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$115,000	\$49,700	\$164,700	\$2,957,559
25 of 31	49.73	16-2444E	Northeast Region Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$122,700	\$122,980	\$245,680	\$3,080,259
26 of 31	48.20	16-2383E	Volunteer Program at Big 4	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Verlot Service Center	\$40,000	\$17,265	\$57,265	\$3,120,259

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities
Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
27 of 31	45.80	16-2757E	Skykomish Ranger District Snow Ranger Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$20,900	\$24,250	\$45,150	\$3,141,159
28 of 31	45.60	16-2782E	Forestwide Respect the River Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$40,000	\$41,550	\$81,550	\$3,181,159
29 of 31	45.60	16-2162E	Franklin County Off Road Education and Enforcement	Franklin County	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000	\$3,381,159
30 of 31	43.07	16-2508E	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 6 Public Access on Private Lands Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$98,700	\$80,000	\$178,700	\$3,479,859
31 of 31	39.73	16-2416E	Olympic National Forest Front Country Field Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest, Hood Canal Ranger District	\$150,000	\$59,800	\$209,800	\$3,629,859
					\$3,629,859	\$3,136,670	\$6,766,529	

*E = Education only or education and law enforcement

State Map for NOVA Program Education and Enforcement Category Projects



* Project numbers are in ranked order as shown in Table 1

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Education and Enforcement Evaluation Criteria Summary

NOVA–Education and Enforcement Evaluation Criteria Summary				
Scoring	Number	Item	Maximum	NOVA Plan Policy
Advisory Committee	1	Need	15	A-1, B-1, B-4
Advisory Committee	2	Need satisfaction	15	A-1, B-1, B-4
Advisory Committee	3	In-field contacts	10	B-2
Advisory Committee	4	Targeting current users	10	B-3
Advisory Committee	5	Project support	10	A-1, B-4
Advisory Committee	6	Non-government contributions	5	C-3
RCO Staff	7	Matching shares	5	A-1, B-4
Total Points Possible			70	

KEY:

Item=Criteria title

Plan Policy=Criteria orientation in accordance with the 2005-2011 NOVA plan. The letter-number codes reference corresponding policies in the plan.

Scoring Criteria, NOVA Education and Enforcement Category

Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** What is the need for an education and enforcement project in the applicant's jurisdiction?
2. **Need Satisfaction.** To what extent will this project meet the service area's education and enforcement needs identified in Question 1, above?
3. **In-Field Contacts.** To what extent will the project address on-the-ground needs, including in-field contact with NOVA users during the high use season?
4. **Targeting Current NOVA Users.** To what extent will the project focus on needs created by current versus potential NOVA recreationists?
5. **Project Support.** To what extent do users and the public (statewide, community, or user groups) support the project?
6. **Non-Government Contributions.** Does this project reduce government costs through documented donations (labor, equipment, materials), signed cooperative agreements, or signed memoranda of understanding (including no cost leases, interagency agreements, donations, or similar cost saving arrangements)?

Scored by RCO Staff

7. **Matching Shares.** What percentage of the total project cost is the applicant contributing?

Education and Enforcement Projects

Attachment D

Evaluation Scoring Summary

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program

2017-19

Rank	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
	Project Name	Need	Need Satisfaction	In-field Contacts	Targeting Current Users	Project Support	Nongovernmental Contributions	Matching Shares	
1	Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley Education and Enforcement	14.00	12.60	8.00	7.87	9.33	4.27	5.00	61.07
2	Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement	13.60	12.00	8.67	8.00	9.47	4.27	5.00	61.00
3	Snoqualmie Ranger District Backcountry Ranger Patrol	12.40	12.00	9.20	8.40	8.13	4.13	5.00	59.27
4	Tahuya/Green Mountain Education and Enforcement	13.20	12.00	7.87	7.87	8.80	4.20	5.00	58.93
5	Northwest Region Education and Enforcement	12.20	12.00	8.40	8.40	8.80	4.13	4.00	57.93
6	Cle Elum Frontcountry Education and Enforcement	13.40	12.40	8.40	8.00	7.20	3.33	5.00	57.73
7	Cle Elum ORV Education and Enforcement	12.80	12.60	8.40	8.53	8.67	3.40	3.00	57.40
8	Riverside State Park Area Education and Enforcement	12.60	11.60	7.73	7.87	8.40	4.13	5.00	57.33
9	Wilderness and Backcountry Education and Enforcement	13.40	11.60	8.27	7.73	8.00	3.80	4.00	56.80
10	Methow Valley Education and Enforcement	11.80	12.20	7.87	7.73	8.00	4.13	5.00	56.73
11	Central Zone Backcountry Education and Enforcement	13.40	12.60	8.53	8.80	6.80	3.40	3.00	56.53
12	Cle Elum Alpine Lakes Wilderness Education and Enforcement	12.40	12.00	8.27	7.73	8.53	3.33	4.00	56.27
13	Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Patrol	12.00	11.80	7.73	7.47	7.60	3.80	5.00	55.40
14	Gifford Pinchot Wilderness High Use Areas	12.80	12.60	7.73	6.67	7.47	2.93	5.00	55.20
15	Wenatchee River Ranger District Climbing Ranger Education	10.80	11.60	8.40	8.13	8.53	3.53	4.00	55.00
16	Pacific Cascade Education and E nforcement	12.20	11.20	7.47	7.20	8.67	4.07	4.00	54.80
17	Methow Valley Climbing Rangers	11.40	11.60	7.73	7.60	8.67	3.60	4.00	54.60
18	Naches Ranger District Off Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers	12.60	12.00	8.00	8.00	7.87	3.00	3.00	54.47
19	Grant County Off Road Vehicle Areas Education and Enforcement	11.80	11.80	7.47	7.47	8.00	2.67	5.00	54.20
20	Colville National Forest Off Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers	11.20	11.60	7.73	7.87	7.87	3.33	4.00	53.60
21	Skykomish Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement	12.00	11.20	8.00	7.60	6.00	3.67	5.00	53.47
22	Naches Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement	11.80	11.20	7.87	7.20	7.20	3.53	4.00	52.80
23	Straits District Education and Enforcement	11.00	10.20	7.33	7.87	8.13	3.20	4.00	51.73

Education and Enforcement Projects

Evaluation Scoring Summary

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-19

	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Rank	Project Name	Need	Need Satisfaction	In-field Contacts	Targeting Current Users	Project Support	Nongovernmental Contributions	Matching Shares	Total
24	Reiter Foothills Education and Enforcement	10.40	11.20	8.00	7.87	7.60	3.13	3.00	51.20
25	Northeast Region Education and Enforcement	11.80	10.60	7.73	7.33	4.80	2.47	5.00	49.73
26	Volunteer Program at Big 4	11.40	9.00	7.33	7.60	7.20	2.67	3.00	48.20
27	Skykomish Ranger District Snow Ranger Education and Enforcement	9.80	10.20	6.67	5.87	4.67	3.60	5.00	45.80
28	Forestwide Respect the River Education and Enforcement	11.00	10.00	6.93	7.07	4.67	0.93	5.00	45.60
28	Franklin County Off Road Education and Enforcement	10.80	9.80	6.13	6.93	4.93	3.00	4.00	45.60
30	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 6 Public Access on Private Lands Education and Enforcement	9.00	8.80	5.20	6.27	6.40	3.40	4.00	43.07
31	Olympic National Forest Front Country Field Rangers	9.80	10.20	7.47	6.40	3.20	0.67	2.00	39.73

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-6; RCO staff scores Question 7.

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$185,000

Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley Education and Enforcement

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to conduct Education and Enforcement (E&E) in the Interstate 90 Snoqualmie Corridor, located in eastern King County. Also within this work unit is the Marckworth State Forest just outside Duvall, in north King County and south Snohomish County. This grant will fully fund one full-time E&E Specialist to patrol 160 miles of trails, nine regional trailheads, and several day-use sites and other informal parking areas. This grant will also fund a seasonal specialist that will be cross-commissioned to also educate and enforce in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, managed by the Forest Service. This E&E specialist will patrol both DNR and U.S. Forest Service, managed land with 115 miles of trails, five trailheads, multiple day use sites and one campground area. Additional costs will include the purchase of small tools and minor equipment and educational materials. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable non-motorized trail use. The department will contribute \$185,050 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#) (16-2389)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$154,500

Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to conduct education and enforcement operations in Capitol State Forest, which is located near Olympia. The grant will fund one full-time recreation warden and additional DNR police services to patrol 143 miles of trail, 4 campgrounds, 6 trailheads and 500 miles of open forest roads. The recreation warden and additional police services, will focus on ORV use compliance, identifying and correcting safety issues for all trail and road users. Additionally, the warden will support Forest Watch volunteers who assist in education efforts to promote safety and proper forest use. The warden and volunteers will also assist in event management. Grant funds will also be used to acquire equipment to aid in the investigation of criminal activity at trailheads. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be safer and more sustainable trail and campground facilities in Capitol State Forest. The department will contribute \$155,000 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#) (16-2326)

U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$148,543

Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District Snoqualmie Ranger District Backcountry Ranger Patrol

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to fund salary and benefits for four backcountry rangers and two SCA interns to patrol trails on the Snoqualmie Ranger District in 2018-19. Rangers will provide education and enforcement while hiking and biking to backcountry destinations within the 300,000 acre district that includes 111,000 acres in the Alpine Lakes, Norse Peak, and Clearwater Wilderness areas. Rangers and volunteers will patrol more than 400 miles of trail and hundreds of destination lakes, streams, and summits which provide a wide spectrum of recreation opportunities that include: hiking, backpacking, climbing, mountain biking, fishing, hunting, foraging, and horseback riding for more than 150,000 NOVA users each year. Rangers contact visitors in the field, while monitoring and protecting natural and cultural

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



resources, and backcountry facilities. Training includes: leave no trace skills, first aid, trail maintenance, and law enforcement. Current funding is inadequate to pay professional rangers to provide law enforcement authority on Forest Service trails. Our goal is to provide improved education and enforcement through field contacts with NOVA users resulting in better protected resources and facilities, reduction in vandalism, fewer user conflicts, and increased visitor satisfaction. Rangers will work with volunteers from the district's Volunteer Ranger Program, EMBA, BCHW, SCA, and other user groups. The Forest Service will contribute \$152,876 in staff labor, a federal grant, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2491)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Tahuya/Green Mountain Education and Enforcement

Grant Requested: \$141,100

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to conduct education and enforcement duties and patrols in the Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests and Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA), located near Bremerton. This project will fund one full-time recreation warden and additional DNR police services to patrol 200 miles of trail, 5 campgrounds, and 5 trailheads. The recreation warden and additional police services will focus on ORV use compliance and identifying and correcting safety concerns for all trail users. The warden will also support forest watch volunteers to educate recreational visitors about rules, regulations, and principals of good stewardship. Additionally this position will help manage organized trail events in the forests. Funding will also be used to acquire needed equipment. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be the safe and sustainable use of trails, trailheads, and camping facilities throughout Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests. The department will contribute \$145,000 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2473)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Northwest Region Education and Enforcement

Grant Requested: \$145,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to provide education and enforcement services across three major recreation landscapes in the northern Puget Sound area totaling over 73,000 acres and more than 90 miles of motorized and non-motorized trails. These areas are all located in Skagit County and include the Walker Valley ORV Area, Blanchard Mountain non-motorized recreation area, and Harry Osborne equestrian area. This project will fund one full-time Recreation Warden field position that will focus on user safety, education, and enforcement. Additionally, this position will coordinate and supervise volunteer efforts to educate recreational visitors about the rules and principals of natural resource stewardship. The goal of this project is to promote safe and responsible recreation and natural resource protection. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this program is the safe and sustainable use of both motorized and non-motorized trails and supporting facilities. The department of Natural Resources will contribute \$97,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2419)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$51,400

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District Cle Elum Front Country Education and Enforcement

Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund three education/enforcement rangers, a law enforcement officer and two volunteers to patrol high use dispersed camping areas, developed campgrounds, and trailheads located within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Rangers will engage users on a variety of topics including: proper sanitation, respecting wildlife, campsite selection, discouraging user-created trails, and promoting environmental stewardship. User contacts will focus primarily on education, but rangers will routinely issue citations when needed. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is increasing environmental stewardship and discouraging resource damage among recreationist engaging in camping or recreational trail activities on the Cle Elum Ranger District. With a conservative estimate of approximately 165,992 summer visits and visitation increasing every year the local community has requested increased education and enforcement. Patrols will focus on dispersed camping areas in ecologically sensitive riparian zones, including areas with threatened and endangered species such as Bull Trout. Patrols will also occur at developed campgrounds, which offer centralized locations to teach environmentally stewardship to overnight visitors, and at popular trailheads. Past experience has shown consistent field presence and one-on-one interactions with users is effective at reducing environmental degradation, limiting user conflicts, and fostering greater environmental stewardship ethic. The Forest Service will contribute \$53,050 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2296)

U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$199,916

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District Cle Elum Off-road Vehicle Education and Enforcement

The Cle Elum Ranger District (CERD) will use this grant to conduct education and enforcement on ORV trails and trailheads within our motorized trail system. CERD is located in Kittitas County. This grant will fund one full-time enforcement officer, four seasonal officers and acquire two patrol motorcycles (replacing two of our 2006 Honda CRF-250's) and 1 patrol mountain bike. ORV rangers patrol over 400 miles of front country trails open to ORV users, including 7 Campgrounds and over 30 trailheads that offer surrounding dispersed camping. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be to secure safer ORV use on our multi-purpose trail system. The CERD is arguably WA State's most popular off-road destination. Located 80 miles east of the state's most densely populated area (Puget Sound), immediately north and south of a major Interstate (I-90), we host thousands of users every week. Education and Enforcement is needed to protect natural resources and allow the busy district to provide a safe trail riding experience. The Forest Service will contribute \$86,174 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2372)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Riverside State Park Area Education and Enforcement

Grant Requested: \$156,516

Washington State Parks will use this grant to conduct education and enforcement efforts in the following areas of Spokane and Stevens counties: - Riverside State Park (12,000-acre camping park-nearly 100 miles of trail) - Spokane River Centennial Trail and Trailheads (Nearly 40-mile long trail) - Columbia Plateau Trail and Trailheads from Fish Lake to Amber Lake (24 miles) This project will fund one full-time E and E ranger, seasonal uniforms and associated gear, outreach materials, iPad, bike, vehicle and fuel to patrol these areas that are open year-round and collectively support more than 4 million visits from motorized and non-motorized NOVA users on an annual basis. It will also support additional services from fully commissioned rangers. The E and E ranger will focus on promoting public safety including emphasis patrols at trailheads that experience a high volume of criminal activity, educating users about park rules and regulations, trail etiquette, and Leave No Trace principles, and developing educational materials. This position will also help to support the volunteer program. Additionally the E and E ranger will help E and E efforts for the nearly 200 annual events that take place in these areas. Funding will also be used to equip the ranger with an iPad to conduct visitor surveys to help guide management decisions. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is the safe and sustainable use of trails, trailheads and day-use areas, campgrounds and other facilities throughout the Spokane area. State Parks will contribute \$242,367 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2781)

U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$67,189

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District Wilderness and Backcountry Education and Enforcement

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to fund two seasonal education and enforcement rangers and up to four full-time volunteers to patrol high use areas within the wilderness and backcountry areas of the district, located in Chelan County. Rangers will provide education and enforcement to promote leave-no-trace ethics, resource protection and visitor safety. The project will fund salaries, uniforms, tools, per diem and transportation costs. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be safe and sustainable wilderness and backcountry public recreation areas. By focusing field-going rangers in high-use areas, we will reach large numbers of NOVA visitors, especially those less experienced recreationists, for whom such contacts are particularly needed. Our current staff of wilderness rangers are all Level-II Forest Protection Officers, and our District is committed to using a combination of positive education techniques, enforcement and engineering to protect natural resources as well as recreation opportunities for the public. The Wenatchee River Ranger District encompasses some of the most popular day hiking, backpacking and horse packing destinations in the State of Washington. Areas such as Eightmile Lake, Stuart Lake, Spider Meadows, Lake Valhalla, Colchuck Lake, and Ingalls Lake have all been popularized in numerous guidebooks as well as in newspaper and magazine articles. The Forest Service will contribute \$46,691 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2349)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$171,102

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District Methow Valley Education and Enforcement

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to fund three seasonal rangers and several volunteers, including two from the Mt. Adams Institute, to provide education and enforcement in high use non-motorized recreation areas for two field seasons. The primary goal will be to perform in-field visitor contacts to promote leave-no-trace techniques and enforce regulations. This will ensure the continued integrity and availability of the outstanding non-motorized recreation found in the Methow Valley. Patrols will be done on foot and with the use of stock. The project area focuses on popular high-use recreation areas along the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, the Harts Pass Area, and the Pasayten and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth wilderness areas. The Pacific Crest Trail and the Pacific Northwest Scenic Trail are included in the project areas. By focusing field patrols in high-use areas, this project will reach visitors where issues are occurring. The project area has been popularized in numerous guidebooks and publications, and attracts both regional and local visitors. Several current rangers are Level-II Forest Protection Officers, and our District is committed to backing-up education with enforcement. The project area is used by day hikers, overnight backpackers, mountain bikers, climbers, photographers, wildlife viewers, backcountry skiers, pack and saddle stock users, and for hunting and fishing. The high levels of use in the project area have led to resource issues and the need for continued education and enforcement. U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Methow RD will contribute \$173,900 in donation of labor, equipment, and staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2540)

U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$176,400

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District Central Zone Backcountry Education and Enforcement

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to perform Education & Enforcement patrols on multiple-use trails and trailheads and wilderness trails and trailheads within the Entiat, Wenatchee River, Chelan and Methow Valley Ranger Districts trail systems located on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, in Chelan and Okanogan counties. This grant will fund 2 seasonal off-highway vehicle (OHV) patrol rangers and 2 AmeriCorps volunteer non-motorized backcountry patrol rangers. The forest service OHV rangers will patrol 300 miles of multiple-use including 7 campgrounds and 29 trailheads that also offer surrounding dispersed camping. The AmeriCorps backcountry rangers will patrol 155 miles of wilderness, multiple-use and non-motorized trails accessed by 11 trailheads. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safer multiple-use, wilderness and non-motorized trails for all trail users. U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Entiat RD will contribute \$82,000 in a federal appropriation, and donation of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2228)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$80,000

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District Cle Elum Alpine Lakes Wilderness Education and Enforcement

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to conduct education and enforcement patrols on wilderness trails, wilderness adjacent trails, and camping destinations in Alpine Lakes Wilderness. This grant will fund a full-time seasonal Lead Wilderness Ranger, a Wilderness Ranger, and volunteers to conduct education patrols and enforce wilderness regulations. The goal of this project is to educate wilderness users and to protect the wilderness and trail resources. Through education and enforcement efforts, continued access to wilderness trails and areas can be ensured without the need for additional regulation. Providing Leave-No-Trace education will also help to reduce or eliminate new impacts to the wilderness resource. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is the continued use of the wilderness area and trails by the hiking, backpacking, mountaineering, climbing, hunting, fishing, horseback riding and horsepacking communities. The Cle Elum Ranger District's portion of Alpine Lakes Wilderness is one of the most popular areas in Washington and provides outstanding opportunities for all of the above listed recreation opportunities. The Wilderness and adjacent area contains 16 trailheads, 157 miles of trail, multiple high country routes, over 60 lake destinations, and over 750 wilderness campsites. With recent and ongoing rapid population increases in the Puget Sound Region, the area now receives greater than 40,000 visits per year. The Forest Service will contribute \$55,000 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2300)

U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$132,078

Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Patrol

This NOVA E and E project will allow the Snoqualmie Ranger District (SRD) to supplement allocated funds in support of the District's Front Country Developed Recreation program. Over the past several years declining budgets and retiring employees have decreased our ability to respond to recreation needs on the District. Recreation Pass dollars have taken the place of appropriated funds for education and enforcement of developed recreation facilities throughout the District. The major recreation corridors that are serviced by the District include I-90 and S.R. 410 corridors. Allocated funding will support two seasoned Forest Protection Officers. A grant will allow the District to field an additional four officers and volunteer per diem for two senior volunteers from May through September for 2017 through 2019. This grant will allow us to continue to maintain the high quality level of service that has been provided during the past several years. The District encompasses 300,000 acres of which 189,000 are non-wilderness and accessible to a broad range of recreation visitors including hikers, equestrians, campers, off road vehicles, recreational target shooters, hunters and many others. There are over 50 trailheads, 6 developed (non-concessionaire) campgrounds and thousands of dispersed sites on the District. A uniformed presence will decrease instances of vandalism and forest infractions, improve our ability to respond to visitor needs and enable us to better serve the public and protect the resources. The Forest Service will contribute \$164,647 in cash, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2522)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$63,600

Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District Gifford Pinchot Wilderness High Use Areas

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest will use this grant for education and enforcement in high use Wilderness areas, specifically: 1) Snowgrass Flats in Goat Rocks Wilderness; 2) Blue Lake in Indian Haven Wilderness; 3) South Climb in Mount Adams Wilderness; and 4) Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) in all three Wilderness Areas. This grant will fund four seasonal Wilderness Rangers to provide education and enforcement in the project area. The focus will be on making productive and positive in-field visitor contacts. Emphasis on visitor safety will also be a focus within the project area. This will help mitigate the ecological and social issues which are occurring. Most of the project area is accessible within 2-5 miles of a trailhead, and many visitors are relatively inexperienced. While well-intentioned, many are not well-versed in appropriate backcountry ethics such as Leave No Trace practices (LNT). Inexperienced visitors have also contributed to an increase in search and rescue activity. There is a trend of increasing visitation at these locations, and it is resulting in ecological and social impacts. Trial permits indicate that the project area sees over 30,000 visitors each year. Population growth in the Vancouver and Portland area is likely contributing to increasing visitation. These areas are consistently highlighted as the premier wilderness destinations in SW Washington. They attract visitors which help sustain rural communities in Skamania, Lewis and Klickitat Counties. The Forest Service will contribute \$66,400 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2471)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District Wenatchee River Ranger District Climbing Ranger Education

Grant Requested: \$57,041

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to fund two seasonal climbing rangers for educational patrols of popular climbing areas located near Leavenworth, located in Chelan County. Rangers will educate climbers on minimizing natural resource impacts, assess use levels, determine signing and educational needs, develop handouts and a climber information web page, and establish new partnerships with climbing organizations, clubs, and volunteer groups. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is responsible use and continued access to climbing areas throughout the Leavenworth area. The areas surrounding Leavenworth are regionally and nationally known destinations for climbing activities drawing tens of thousands of climber visits each year. Very high use in concentrated climbing areas has led to severe impacts to natural resources and threatens access to these areas. Impacts include damage to sensitive and rare vegetation, disturbance of sensitive wildlife species, and social impacts such as crowding and improper disposal of human waste. A targeted climber education program will support responsible use and continued access to phenomenal recreational opportunities while protecting natural resources and providing for visitor safety. The Forest Service will contribute \$39,639 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2347)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



Washington Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Education and Enforcement

Grant Requested: \$171,400

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct education and enforcement in the Pacific Cascade Region which includes the Yacolt Burn State Forest and other forest blocks located in southwest Washington. This project will fund one full-time E and E recreation warden to patrol 770 active road miles, 96 miles of trail, 8 campgrounds, 11 trailheads, and 3 day-use areas on over 210,000 acres. The recreation warden will focus on identifying potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns, providing public outreach, engaging user groups, and providing an additional enforcement presence on the landscapes. This position will also support forest watch volunteers in efforts to educate recreational visitors about rules, regulations and principals of good stewardship. Funding will also be used to purchase education materials and electronic equipment intended to deter criminal activity and increase public safety. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this program is the safe and sustainable use of trails and support facilities in the Yacolt Burn State Forest and other DNR-managed areas in southwest Washington. The department will contribute \$115,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2307)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District Methow Valley Climbing Rangers

Grant Requested: \$77,604

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this education grant to fund two climbing rangers and two volunteer climbing rangers to make quality educational visitor contacts on the popular climbing routes on the Methow Valley RD. The district has over 400 published climbing routes, and the rangers will make contact with thousands of climbers. The goals of the program are to educate climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, determine educational needs, collect use and resource data, identify environmental impacts, continue building relationships within the community and with climbing organizations, and enforce regulations. The primary recreational opportunity provided will be environmentally and socially responsible climbing. The popularity of climbing continues to grow on the MVRD, and two modern guidebooks published within the past four years draw people from all over the world to the area. Climbers make up about 10,800 visitor use days in a single season on the MVRD. At one of the most popular trailheads in the North Cascades, climbers make up 30% of the parties, while many other recreation sites are used solely by the climbing user group. The first season of the Climbing Program has been embraced by the community and partners, making significant progress towards community-identified needs such as planning trail improvement projects, improving sustainability of existing access routes, managing human waste, data collection, and making educational contacts with hundreds of climbing parties. The Forest Service will contribute \$58,260 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2384)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District Naches Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers

Grant Requested: \$189,000

The U.S. Forest Service, will use this grant to perform Education and Enforcement targeted to motorized users on the Naches Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. The grant will fund five OHV

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



Rangers to educate motorized users and enforce OHV rules and regulations by contacting recreationists at camp sites, staging areas, and on the 250+ mile District trail system in portions of Yakima and Kittitas Counties (including the Little Naches and Divide Ridge areas). The Naches District trail system provides an estimated 10% of all motorized trail opportunities in Washington. Its centralized location makes it one of the most highly used areas in the State. The goal is to educate as many motorized visitors as possible to promote responsible OHV, and recreationist activities so the trails may be fully enjoyed while protecting the resources. Over 68 percent of the District's OHV users come from outside the local area. New users are increasing. The primary outdoor recreational opportunity provided by this grant is the continued long term use of the system motorcycle and four wheel drive trails. The Forest Service will contribute \$120,000 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2596)

Grant County

Grant Requested: \$200,000

Grant County Off-Road Vehicle Areas Education and Enforcement

The Grant County Sheriff's Office will use this grant to provide education and enforcement on approximately 8,500 acres of ORV areas located in the Moses Lake and Beverly Sand Dunes. The Moses Lake Sand Dunes are located off of I-90, south of Moses Lake along Sand Dunes Road. The Beverly Sand Dunes are located off SR-243, near the town of Mattawa. This project will fund two full-time officers to perform education and enforcement of ORV laws while assisting in the reduction of human impacts on the environment. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this grant will be safe and sustainable off-road vehicle and nonhighway road recreation within the Moses Lake and Beverly Sand Dune areas. Education will be done through various forms of media: special events, brochures, internet, and signs. This grant project is important to our community in Grant County as it continues to provide and sustain a primary recreational destination for local residents and visitors alike which in turn supports the local economy. The dunes are special and unique as it is used on a consistent basis by ORV riders, equestrian riders, campers, hikers, fishermen, snowmobile riders, boaters, and beach goers. Grant County will contribute \$284,495 in cash, equipment, staff labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2410)

U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest

Grant Requested: \$86,500

Colville National Forest Off-Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers

This project is located in the Colville National Forest (CNF) in the South End Project Area. This project will hire two OHV Rangers, purchase educational materials and provide OHV training. The goal of this project is to educate the public on State and Federal OHV regulations, responsible trail riding etiquette, resource protection and provide forest information related to other activities/uses. The Rangers will monitor routes identified for OHV designation in future phases of the South End Project implementation plan. There are currently 237 miles of OHV designated routes open in the project area with an additional 129 miles of routes to be opened. The end result will be a loop route system connecting communities in two counties. The project area spans 191,000 acres with over 57,000 visitors who participate in OHV recreation annually on the forest. The project worksite is the closest area on the CNF in proximity to Spokane, WA and receives the largest amount of visitation by OHV enthusiasts. The Rangers will be working to improve the relationship between the multiple users and continue to lead the CNF OHV Ambassador Program

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



established in 2015. This program and its volunteers continue to successfully partner with the Rangers to educate, self-patrol and build solid working relationships within the OHV community. This project will provide opportunities for economic growth in support of the local businesses and help to protect our natural resources through education and improved recreation experiences. The Forest Service will contribute \$61,640 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2583)

U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$68,200

Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District Skykomish Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement

The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to provide Wilderness education and regulation enforcement to trail users in the Skykomish District in Snohomish and King Counties. Our goal is to increase awareness of the issues arising from the heavy use of our trails and to foster Wilderness stewardship. The primary recreation opportunity will be continuing partnerships with trail users to ensure appropriate use and Wilderness protection. This project will provide funding for three Wilderness rangers and one SCA intern for two years. They will interact with the visitors to enforce regulations and provide education on low impact camping and waste disposal issues. We will conduct workshops for schools and other large groups to promote "Pack It Out" and "Leave No Trace" programs. We will maintain backcountry toilets, clean and monitor campsites, document trail conditions and develop informational handouts and trailhead posters. Approximately 200,000 acres of the Wild Sky, Henry M Jackson and Alpine Lakes Wilderness areas lie within the Skykomish District. This makes up almost 75% of the District. The close proximity to the coastal metropolitan areas provides easy access for more than 3 million people, making the areas attractive destinations for activities like climbing, hiking, fishing, hunting and stock use. There are over 150 miles of maintained trails, including 50 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, which access these Wilderness areas. The Forest Service will contribute \$70,200 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2586)

U.S. Forest Service

Grant Requested: \$48,070

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District Naches Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to fund two seasonal education and enforcement rangers and up to four part-time volunteers to patrol high-use areas within the wilderness and backcountry areas of the district. Rangers will provide education and enforcement to promote Leave-No-Trace ethics, resource protection and visitor safety. The project will fund salaries, uniforms and tools, per diem and transportation costs. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be safe and sustainable wilderness and backcountry public recreation areas. By focusing field-going rangers in high-use areas, we will reach large numbers of NOVA visitors, especially those less experienced recreationists, for whom such contacts are particularly needed. Our wilderness rangers will be all Level-II Forest Protection Officers, and our District is committed to using a combination of positive education techniques, enforcement and engineering to protect natural resources as well as recreation opportunities for the public. The Naches Ranger District encompasses some of the most popular day hiking, backpacking, and

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



horse packing destinations in the State of Washington. Areas such as Dewey Lakes, Twin Sisters Lakes, and Surprise Lake have all been popularized in numerous guidebooks as well as in newspaper and magazine articles. The Forest Service will contribute \$37,750 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2703)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Straits District Education and Enforcement

Grant Requested: \$72,400

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to reestablish an education and enforcement program in the Olympic Region Straits District, which covers portions of Clallam and Jefferson Counties, along the Strait of Juan de Fuca. This project will fund one seasonal Recreation Warden to patrol the Straits District during the highest use seasons and on weekends. Additionally, the Recreation Warden will be helping to further establish and support a Forest Watch program. The overall goal for this program will be to continue established partnerships with trail user groups and provide education and enforcement to all recreational trail users in the region. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this grant will be safe and sustainable multi-use trail based recreation throughout the Straits District and the surrounding Olympic region. Additional recreation opportunities in this region include the Foothills and Sadie Creek Trails (motorized ORV); the Little River trail, Striped Peak trail, and portions of the Olympic Discovery Trail on DNR managed lands (non-motorized). The Straits district also has the Lyre River Campground (11 sites) and the Murdock Beach Access day use area (the only public beach access for 12 miles between Camp Hayden and the East Twin River). The Dry Hill Mountain Bike Trail System is an undesignated, cooperative project managed under an Adopt-a-Trail Agreement. The department will contribute \$48,986 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2418)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Reiter Foothills Education and Enforcement

Grant Requested: \$115,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct education and enforcement in the Reiter Foothills Forest, located in eastern Snohomish County near the city of Gold Bar. This project will fund one full-time Recreation Warden to patrol and provide public outreach within Reiter Foothills Forest. The Recreation Warden will focus on identifying potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns, performing outreach to visitors about appropriate trail use and protecting natural resources, and enforcing the Discover Pass requirement and other laws as needed. This position will also support forest watch volunteers in efforts to educate recreational visitors about rules, regulations, and principals of good stewardship. The goal of this project is to promote safe and responsible recreation and natural resource protection. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this program is the safe and sustainable use of trails and facilities throughout Reiter Foothills Forest. The department will contribute \$49,700 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2440)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



Washington Department of Natural Resources Northeast Region Education and Enforcement

Grant Requested: \$122,700

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an Education and Enforcement officer to work in the Loomis and Loup State Forests, located in Okanogan County. This position will provide an education and enforcement presence to conduct field contacts to a variety of NOVA users throughout these forests. This position will help encourage responsible recreational behaviors, provide information, assist volunteers, and protect resources and facilities. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be safer trail based recreation. The department will contribute \$122,980 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2444)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Verlot Service Center Requested: \$40,000 Volunteer Program at Big 4

Grant

The Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this funding to establish a volunteer program at Big 4 Ice Caves Trail. The Big 4 Ice Caves trail is a high use recreation area that attracts visitors from all backgrounds and experiences. The trail leads to a terminus and viewpoint of the ice caves but many visitors choose to leave the trail and enter a dangerous boulder field and the caves. Over the years, fatalities have occurred at Big 4 due to this and one of the outcomes of a recent safety assessment was that the Forest Service should work to increase outreach and education efforts along with having a stronger presence on the trail. This project would help in funding a volunteer coordinator to design a volunteer program at Big 4 centered around public interaction and education. We believe that by educating the public on the risks of being in an outdoor environment, Big 4 especially, we can help reduce the number of visitors who choose to leave the trail and enter the caves. This program will be modeled off of other successful Forest Service volunteer programs such as the Mountain Stewards and Eagle Watchers. The volunteer coordinator will develop a rigorous two day training program for new volunteers, including curriculum, safety messaging and general information on the agency. In addition to training development, the volunteer coordinator will actively recruit volunteers from nearby communities, create volunteer schedules and assist in day to day operations of the program. The Forest Service will contribute \$17,265 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2383)

U.S. Forest Service Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District Skykomish Ranger District Snow Ranger Education and Enforcement

Grant Requested: \$20,900

The Skykomish Ranger District will use this education and enforcement grant to fund a snow ranger to patrol the district enforcing regulations and educating winter recreationists on safe and responsible backcountry and wilderness uses on the district. The goal of this project is to promote the use of the Forest in winter while reducing motorized trespassing into the Wilderness areas. The snow ranger will also provide guided interpretive snowshoe walks at various locations on the district. During these scheduled events and during patrols, the snow ranger and volunteers will provide information about trail conditions, avalanche conditions, winter ecology, local history, Wilderness philosophy and regulations. The primary

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



recreation opportunity provided by this project is continued access to winter recreation activities for Forest visitors. The close proximity to the coastal metropolitan areas provides easy access for more than 3 million people, making the district a popular location for winter recreation. Approximately 200,000 acres of the Wild Sky, Henry M Jackson and Alpine Lakes Wilderness areas lie within the Skykomish District. There are over 150 miles of maintained trails, including 50 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. Many of these trails, along with their access roads, are popular skiing and snowshoeing areas. The Forest Service will contribute \$24,250 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2757)

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

Forest-wide Respect the River Education and Enforcement

Grant Requested: \$40,000

The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this education and enforcement grant to fund Forest Service employees to monitor the use and conditions of the dispersed campsites, educate campers about new limitations and enforce regulations. The goal will be to protect critical fish habitat and other riparian areas by limiting impacts from dispersed camping and motorized access to the campsites. This will allow popular dispersed campsites to be used while protecting habitat. The primary recreation opportunity provided will be dispersed camping. The Forest plans to implement its Travel Management program in the summer of 2017. An important component of this will be the limitations on motorized access for dispersed camping. Cross country motorized travel will be prohibited once the Motor Vehicle Use Map (the end product of the Travel Management analysis) is published, but the forest is committed to allowing for limited motorized access for dispersed camping. Educating campers, and enforcing the new regulations are required to ensure compliance with the Endangered Species Act, while allowing continued motorized vehicle access to dispersed campsites. The Forest Service will contribute \$41,550 in equipment, staff labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2782)

Franklin County

Grant Requested: \$200,000

Franklin County Off-Road Education and Enforcement

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office will use this grant to obtain needed equipment which will help to provide ORV, Equestrian, Hikers and other off road users with Education of the area and provide Enforcement of illegal activities of the Juniper Dunes and surrounding area. This will ensure the Private Property Land Owners, Wilderness area users and Outdoor recreational community's needs and concerns are met. The Juniper Dunes is Located in Franklin County 10 miles out of the City limits of Pasco, off of the Pasco-Kahlotus highway. It consists of three adjoining areas comprising a total of approximately 19,600 acres. The Overall goal of this project is to provide Education and Enforcement of Off Road laws and regulations in The Juniper Dunes area, as well as to preserve the natural habitat of the land and the quality of use in the area. This interaction with the users will ensure a safe and enjoyable place to visit. The primary habitat to be protected is the Wilderness area. Some rare species can be found there such as: Gray Cryptantha plant and animals like the Sagebrush Lizard, Black tailed Jackrabbit, Grasshopper Mouse, Kangaroo Rat, Ferruginous Hawk and Swainson's Hawk. Additional animals that use this habitat are Mule Deer, Elk, Cougar, Coyote and Porcupine. The Primary outdoor recreation opportunity to be provided is Off-road vehicle use. There are approximately 20,000 users each year. In the spring of 2017, a new access

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Education and Enforcement Category (In Rank Order)



road will be completed and we anticipate about 80,000 users a year will use this area. Franklin County will contribute \$200,000 in donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2162)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Requested: \$98,700

Region 6 Public Access on Private Lands Education and Enforcement

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife will use the grant for education and enforcement on private lands that are open to free public access. The scope of this project is to utilize modern surveillance technology and a focused outreach campaign to improve public compliance with state laws and the rules of private landowners. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this project is both motorized and non-motorized recreation for hunting, mushroom picking, hiking, mountain biking, and fishing. The focal area is private industrial timberlands located in Mason and Grays Harbor counties, within Game Management Units 648, 636 and 633 (approx. 1,200 square miles). The overall strategy for this outreach effort is to utilize concepts from the field of behavioral economics to promote self-compliance among recreational users. The proposed grant would fund staff and volunteer expenses to make field contacts and supplement enforcement. Funds will also purchase surveillance devices (traffic counters and camera systems) along with signs, kiosks, and radio ads. Messages will be focus group tested and reinforce both, the ethics of fair chase and respecting landowner property when recreationists are most active. The closure of private industrial timberlands to public access has been a key concern for recreationists in western Washington. The department will contribute \$80,000 in a state appropriation and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2508)

U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest, Hood Canal Ranger District

Olympic National Forest Front Country Field Rangers

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Olympic NF will use this grant to expand education and enforcement activities throughout the Olympic NF. This would be accomplished through expanding the Field Ranger program. A Field Ranger is an employee whose goal is to connect with and educate the users of our National Forests through formal and informal interpretative activities, as well as provide additional enforcement. The Field Rangers will focus on connecting with our users at recreation sites, helping to educate users about proper recreational behaviors and answer questions. Overall, the goal of the project would be to hire 8 Field Rangers, over the course of 2 years, allowing us to expand our current program. These individuals would focus their efforts at front country and developed recreation sites including campgrounds, trailheads, and day use areas. In 2016, we hired 2 Field Rangers. These two individuals made over 11,000 unique contacts. They enforced rules, provided information and held interpretive programming. They connected with communities by participating in parades and festivals, and provided information regarding jobs, permits, and recreation opportunities. With the grant funds, we would be able to expand this connection with visitors and communities of the Peninsula. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is community outreach including field contacts, formal and informal interpretive programs, and environmental education activities. The Forest Service will contribute \$59,800 in a federal appropriation and staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2416)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

This attachment includes public correspondence (letters of support & opposition) received by RCO during the grant evaluation process. The number in parenthesis represents the number of letters submitted for that project.

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) – Education and Enforcement

• 16-2326E	Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement (1)	Rank 2
• 16-2491E	Snoqualmie Ranger District Backcountry Ranger Patrol (3)	Rank 3
• 16-2473E	Tahuya and Green Mountain Education and Enforcement (2)	Rank 4
• 16-2296E	Cle Elum Frontcountry Education and Enforcement (1)	Rank 6
• 16-2372E	Cle Elum ORV Education and Enforcement (1)	Rank 7
• 16-2781E	Riverside State Park Area Education and Enforcement (5)	Rank 8
16-2228E	Central Zone Backcountry Education and Enforcement (3)	Rank 11
• 16-2300E	Cle Elum Alpine Lakes Wilderness Education and Enforcement (1)	Rank 12
• 16-2522E	Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Patrol (3)	Rank 13
• 16-2471E	Gifford Pinchot Wilderness High Use Areas (2)	Rank 14
• 16-2307E	Pacific Cascade Education and Enforcement (1)	Rank 16
• 16-2596E	Naches Ranger District ORV Education and Enforcement Rangers (1)	Rank 18
• 16-2410E	Grant County Off-road Vehicle Areas Education and Enforcement (1)	Rank 19
• 16-2703E	Naches Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement (2)	Rank 22
• 16-2383E	Volunteer Program at Big 4 (1)	Rank 26

Friends of Capitol Forest

1713 Camden Park Dr. SW
Olympia, WA 98512
(206) 979-9494
ktwood@gmail.com

January 2017

Dear RCO Board Members,

The Friends of Capitol Forest ("FOCF") is a trail access and maintenance advocacy group based in Olympia, Washington. Collectively, our members perform thousands of volunteer hours building and maintaining recreational trails, mostly in Capitol State Forest, but also in other areas throughout the Puget Sound region. Our members are mostly mountain bike enthusiasts, however, FOCF is an inclusive group that counts hikers, trail runners, and equestrians among its membership. Today I am writing you in support of a number of grants to perform work within the Capitol Forest (listed below).

Capitol Forest continues to be a large draw for recreationalists throughout Western Washington, Northern Oregon, and beyond. In close coordination with local DNR staff, FOCF is proud of the significant progress seen towards making Capitol Forest a premier destination. In the past year, FOCF and DNR are in the early design/construction phases of several new trail opportunities, including:

- An advanced downhill mountain bike trail located near the Straddleline ORV park;
- Climbing and beginner-friendly routes in and around the Little Larch Mountain Trail area;
- A climbing trail parallel to the Green Line trail;
- A mountain-bike specific line on the Twin Peaks motorized trail;

In addition, and with RCO grant assistance, DNR installed new bathroom facilities at the Mima Falls and Fall Creek areas. FOCF assisted in installing a new bridge on the McKinney Trail, and new bridges were placed on the ORV trail system that is also used by mountain bikers.

As Capitol Forest continues to see increasing use, RCO grant funding is a vital part of both maintaining the incredible opportunities Capitol Forest has to offer the region. For these reasons, FOCF offers its wholehearted support for the following grant opportunities:

16-2327 Capitol Forest Non Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

16-2329, McKenny Camp/Trailhead & Fall Creek Trailhead Expansion

16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement

16-2330 Mtn, Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance

16-2328 Mnt, CF ORV Trailhead & Campground Paving Preservation

#16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this year's grant season. FOCF looks forward to assisting DNR in assuring prompt and effective execution of grant awards.

Very truly yours,

Kelly T. Wood
President, Friends of Capitol Forest



President
Kurt Froese (*), President
GeoEngineers, Inc.

President-Elect
Tod McDonald (*), Principal
Cypress Advisors

Founding President
Jim Ellis, Chairman Emeritus
Washington State Convention Center

Immediate Past President
Bill Chapman (*), President and CEO
Millennium Bulk Terminals, Longview

Secretary
John Baier (*), Attorney
Baier Law Firm

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner
KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (*), Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

NOVA Education & Enforcement Ranked #3

November 21, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2790, Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R.

Project #16-2777, Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19

Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain and build hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is the landscape connecting Seattle to Ellensburg surrounding Interstate 90, including wilderness lands, rural areas and historic sites, and the 15th largest metropolitan area in the country. This spectacular landscape has not happened by accident. More than two decades of collaborative work have preserved the natural heritage of the Greenway, which encompasses some of the most heavily-used trails in the state including locations within the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

Sally Bagshaw (X), Councilmember, City of Seattle
Jim Becker, Founder, SmartLab Toys, becker&mayer
Gary Berndt, Civic Leader, Cle Elum
Mark Boyar (*), President
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, Director, King County Parks & Recreation
Will Castillo, Principal, GGLO
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program
The Wilderness Society
Karl Forsgaard, President
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, City of Issaquah
Todd Glass, Partner
Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati PC
Kari Glover, Global Integration Partner, Retired
K&L Gates
Peter Goldmark (X), Commissioner of Public Lands
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Rich Grillo, Community at Large Representative
Cle Elum
Bruce Gryniowski, Partner, Gallatin Public Affairs
Don Hoch (X), Director
Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Laura Hoffman, Amazon Publishing,
Copper Ridge Farm
Cara Johnson, Geotechnical Engineer
GeoEngineers
Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel
Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
Jamie Kingsbury (X), Supervisor
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Janet Knox, Principal Environmental Geochemist
Pacific Groundwater Group
Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Leon Kos, City Administrator (retired), City of Issaquah
Paul Kundtz, Northwest Director
The Trust for Public Land
Helen Lee, Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Danny Levine, President, NationAd Communications
Arlene Levy (*), Partner, Social Venture Partners
Josh Lipsky (*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC
Robert Manelski, Senior Director, 787 Program
The Boeing Company
Gordon McHenry Jr (*), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Sue McLain (*), Former Senior VP Delivery
Operations, Puget Sound Energy
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement
Mary Norton, City of Snoqualmie Parks Board
Meadowbrook Farm
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific NW Stewardship Director
American Whitewater
Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
College of Environment, University of Washington
Marie Quasius (*), Attorney, K&L Gates LLP
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project
Sierra Club
Janet Ray (*), Asst VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardt (*), Principal & Senior Managing
Director, HEARTLAND LLC
Grant Ringel, Communications Director
Puget Sound Energy
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, Divisional Vice President, Sustainability
REI Co-op
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant (*), Vice President, CH2M
Maryanne Tagney
Community at Large Representative
Leah Tivoli, Organizational Performance Manager
City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor
Okanagan-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Former Senior Vice President,
HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yaker, Solution Architect, Microsoft

(* Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director



The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for these important projects. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning these proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being more prominent than the last name "Hoekstra".

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

December, 28th 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Snoqualmie Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCNST) as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service “recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCNST”. In 2016, programs organized under the PCTA’s leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1500 hours in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 35 miles of the PCNST that passes through the North Cascades Region is managed by the District; much of this is in Norse Peak Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that more than 15 miles of this area was opened and maintained for hiker and equestrian use during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic

setting for education, recreation and solitude. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Additionally it is critical for our collaborative work that the District be supported enough to provide wilderness and front-country rangers and enforcement officers. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington have specific plans to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Snoqualmie Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications:

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2523, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-19

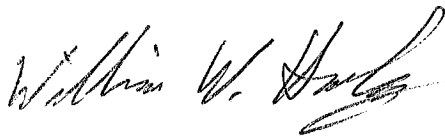
Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

I would point out that funding for Alpine Lakes is particularly critical; this area has been hard hit in the last few seasons and because of its remoteness, it requires an extraordinary effort to address the back-log of work.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William W. Hawley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

Serving hikers since 1966

January 4, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA & RTP proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following NOVA and RTP projects:

- Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement #16-2793
- Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19 #16-2522
- Snoqualmie RD Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19 #16-2491
- Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R. #16-2790
- Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-9 #16-2523
- Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19 #16-2777
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019 #16-2429
- Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019 #16-2489

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

For 50 years, WTA has focused on helping Washingtonians get on trail to experience the great outdoors in our state and national parks, national forests and other public lands with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of trails and making outdoor experiences fulfilling and fun for hikers.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest offers some of the most visited trails and trailheads in the state. Replacement of the Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge will increase safety on a popular trail in the increasingly busy Highway 410 corridor. With this increase in users, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance is essential to providing safe and sustainable trails to all users in addition to the need for more Front Country and Backcountry Ranger Patrols to help alleviate and control user impact.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance on the Snoqualmie Ranger District, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. rider powered.

December 22, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Subject: Tahuya/Green Mountain Education and Enforcement - 16-2473:

Dear Review Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen) supports the Department of Natural Resources' proposal to provide education and enforcement duties and patrols in the Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests. This proposed project will fund one full-time recreation warden and additional DNR patrol services covering 200 miles of trail, 5 campgrounds, and 5 trailheads.

The Olympic District of DNR extends from Forks to Hood Canal. DNR's presence in this area is limited, and education and enforcement officials are spread too thinly to maintain a reliable presence in any given area. This has resulted in misuse and abuse of facilities, added maintenance & repair expenses, and a reduction in public safety. The proposed wardens will help provide education and enforcement to all recreational trail users and ensure sustainable multi-use trail based recreation throughout the Olympic District.

There are multiple benefits to this proposal: Education and enforcement will help curb vandalism and littering, will help educate users and the general public about location-appropriate recreational activities, and it will help deliver a more positive experience for all recreational user groups. The enforcement activities will also help protect the public's investment in recreational resources for this location.

We particularly support this proposal since it includes the Green Mountain Non-Motorized Trail System, a popular mountain bike trail network that is seeing increasing use by mountain bikers, and has become the go-to destination for riders in Bremerton, Silverdale, and surrounding peninsula communities.

We look forward to assisting the Olympic District with its future trail maintenance needs in the region, and support the District's efforts to improve the outdoor recreation experience at Tahuya and Green Mountain, for community members and visitors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Kilpatrick".

Brian Kilpatrick
President
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
West Sound Chapter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus".

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



Mendy Harlow
Executive Director
p: 360.275.3575 ext. 23
f: 360.275.0648
mendy@pnwsalmoncenter.org
P.O. Box 2169 | Belfair, WA
98528

Deepening the connection between land, people, and salmon through restoration, education, and research.

January 3, 2017

Jesse Sims
Recreation and Natural Areas Manager
Hood Canal District, South Puget Sound Region
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Re: NOVA Grant Tahuya /Green Mt. E&E

To the Grant Selection Review Committee:

Our mission as the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group is to deepen the connection between land, people and salmon through restoration, education and research. Our goal is to ensure that wild salmon are once again abundant in the Pacific Northwest.

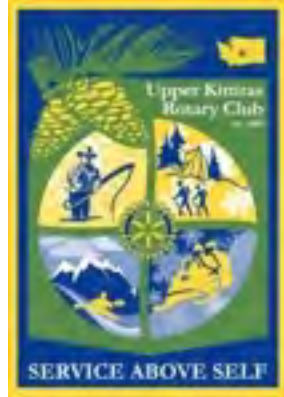
To this end we support actions which will increase safe usage of the outdoors, while encouraging the public to learn about and explore the wilderness and recreational opportunities in our beautiful section of the Pacific Northwest. Education is key in our efforts to teach students and the public about sustainable practices that protect our watershed and protect our wild salmon. This grant will conduct education and enforcement patrols in the Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests along 200 miles of trail, 5 campgrounds, and 5 trailheads which are open year round for recreational use. This area is heavily used and enlisting the help of forest watch volunteers to help educate visitors and trail users about rules, regulations and principals of good stewardship will increase public safety and sustainable use of the trails, trailheads and camping facilities throughout this area. Educating the public to promote stewardship of our public natural areas will promote protection of the streams and habitat necessary for a thriving salmon population.

We highly support this request for education and enforcement, and thank you for your consideration of this grant proposal.

Sincerely,

Mendy A. Harlow
Executive Director

NOVA Education & Enforcement Ranked #6



Rotary of Upper Kittitas County
PO Box 1035
Cle Elum, WA 98922

November 4, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear State Officials:

Rotary of Upper Kittitas County supports the USDA Forest Service, Cle Elum Ranger District's applications for grant funding to enhance and improve recreational experiences on public lands in Kittitas County. The Cle Elum Ranger District has an outstanding record of providing a variety of recreational projects in Kittitas County through previously awarded NOVA and RTP grants. We hope your Office continues to fund these grant requests to the Cle Elum Ranger District.

Recreation in Kittitas County is a primary economic driver and is critical to the local businesses in our area. Public lands provide year-round recreation, drawing thousands of visitors to our area to participate in camping, hiking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, motorized vehicles, skiing, snowshoeing, etc. Maintaining these high quality recreational opportunities ensures future tourism and support of local economics, along with quality of life for local residents.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Judy Hallisey

Judy Hallisey
President
UKC Rotary

NOVA Education & Enforcement Ranked #7



**Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance
PO Box 61161
Seattle WA 98141-6161**

September 14, 2016

Dear NOVA Grant Reviewers,

As President of the Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA), I'd like to offer our support of the Cle-Elum Ranger District's request for 2018-2019 Education and Enforcement grant funds.

We're amazed at what Mikki and her colleagues have accomplished in support of motorized off road recreation and we routinely hear back from our members about the great recreational opportunities in this District.

We realize that grant-funding is a very competitive process so we'd like to single out this grant and the Cle Elum Rangers as they have created a outstanding example of off road recreation support. Thanks in advance for your support of their grant request.

Sincerely,

Byron

Byron Stuck
President, Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance
www.WOHVA.org

NOVA Education & Enforcement Ranked #8

December 29, 2016

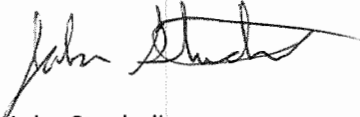
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

Boy Scout Troop 19 enthusiastically supports WA State Park's Project 16-2781 Edu, Riverside State Park Area Education and Enforcement and will commit 200 volunteer hours towards this effort through fall 2019.

Troop 19 has had a long time relationship with Riverside State Parks doing an average of 40 hours while camping on parks manage property. Also the troop has been given the opportunity to complete several Eagle Scout projects which we great appreciate. We hope that this grant is approved so that we may continue to offer service to parks by providing education opportunities on Leave No Trace which is a task for rank advancement

Thank you and we also hope that you will support this project.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Stuchell", with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Stuchell
Troop 19 Committee Chair
Inland Northwest Council



December 30, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Board Members,

The Friends of the Centennial Trail is pleased to support the Riverside State Park grant application to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for Riverside State Park Area Education and Enforcement (Project Name: 16-2781 Edu, Riverside State Park Area E&E).

This project will fund one full-time E&E ranger who will assist Riverside State Park, the Spokane River Centennial Trail and Columbia Plateau Trail State Park. Armed with an iPad and one vehicle to patrol these areas open year-round and collectively support more than 4 million visits from motorized and non-motorized NOVA users annually, this ranger will promote public safety, education and etiquette. They will develop educational materials, support the volunteer program and educate users about everything from trails systems in the park to good stewardship practices. Additionally, the E&E Ranger will help to manage the nearly 200 annual events that take place in Riverside State Park and on the Centennial Trail.

Friends of the Centennial Trail (www.spokanecentennialtrail.org) is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to assist in the maintenance and development of the Spokane River Centennial Trail and its adjacent parklands. As such, we feel it is vital that continuing education, communication and customer service be provided for the millions of users who enjoy the Centennial Trail every year, whether commuting to work, exercising, enjoying nature or participating in a philanthropic run, walk or ride. Thank you for prioritizing this important project.

Sincerely,

Loreen McFaul
Executive Director



Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

January 3, 2017

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Project Name: 16-2781 Edu, Riverside State Park Area E&E

Dear Board Members,

The Riverside State Park Foundation (Foundation) would like to express its support for the Grant application being submitted by Washington State Parks. The Foundation understands that two of the areas within Riverside State Park would benefit from the grant's proceeds:

- **Riverside State Park** (12,000-acre camping park along the Spokane and Little Spokane rivers that includes nearly 100 miles of trail)
- **Spokane River Centennial Trail** (Nearly 40-mile long trail that runs between the Washington-Idaho state line and Nine Mile Falls along the Spokane River)

The project is planned to fund one full-time E&E ranger, an iPad, and one vehicle to patrol these areas, as well as the Columbia Plateau Trail State Park from Fish Lake to Amber Lake. These areas are open year-round and collectively support more than 4 million visits from motorized and non-motorized NOVA users on an annual basis. The ranger will focus on promoting public safety including emphasis patrols at trailheads that experience a high volume of criminal activity, educating users about park rules and regulations, trail etiquette, and Leave No Trace (LNT) principles, and developing educational materials. This position will also help to support the volunteer program and efforts to educate users about everything from trails systems in the park to good stewardship practices. The Foundation has helped in these areas by acquiring cameras and developing a trailhead monitoring program to help to curb illegal activity. The Foundation also provides LNT materials for distribution during Park events.

Additionally, the E&E Ranger will help to manage the nearly 200 annual events that take place in Riverside State Park and on the Centennial Trail. The Volunteer Coordinator position that currently performs these tasks has been partially funded from grants secured by the Foundation. The Foundation believes that, given the substantial success in attracting and coordinating volunteers for the Park, the position is justified in being funded as a permanent position. The funding will help to make this a reality.

The funding also be used to equip the E&E Ranger with an iPad to conduct visitor surveys to help guide management decisions, log GPS coordinates to help with trail map development efforts, and take pictures to include in outreach materials. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is the safe and sustainable use of trails, trailheads and day-use areas, campgrounds and other facilities throughout the Spokane area.

The Foundation thanks the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board for considering the Park's application and requests that the grant be awarded to Washington State Parks for the purposes noted above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Brixey", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mike Brixey, President

Riverside State Park Foundation

January 5, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of Round and Round Productions, Ltd. to express our enthusiastic support of Riverside State Park's NOVA grant proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation office for the education and enforcement for all of Riverside State Park which includes nearly 40 miles of the Spokane River Centennial Trail, 23 miles of the Columbia Plateau Trail State Park and four large campground and day-use areas.

This project would benefit a wide variety of NOVA users by creating another Ranger position within Riverside State Park who will focus on promoting public safety including emphasis patrols at trailheads that experience a high volume of criminal activity, educating park users about the rules and regulations, trail etiquette that will help reduce social trail issues and Leave No Trace principles. Additionally, the position will also help support the volunteer program that will educate users about the trail systems and what it means to be good stewards of the land. The additional Education and Enforcement Ranger will help manage nearly 200 annual events that take place at Riverside State Park and along the Centennial Trail. Funding will also be used to equip the Ranger position with an iPad and a vehicle for necessary duties.

Round and Round Productions, Ltd is a Sports Event Management company that held events and continues to do so, at Riverside State Park, for the last 20 years. Our Company has put on National and International events over the past 30 years and find Riverside State Park to be one of the friendliest, most accommodating Venues to hold outdoor activities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We hope to gain your support on this project.

Sincerely,

Gino Lisiecki

Operations Director/Partner

Round and Round Productions, Ltd.



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

January 4, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Riverside State Park Area E&E (#16-2781 Edu)

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of Riverside State Park's grant proposal to the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to conduct education and enforcement efforts in Riverside State Park, Spokane River Centennial Trail and the Columbia Plateau Trail State Park from Fish Lake to Amber Lake, all located within Spokane and Stevens counties. The direct benefit of this project will be the safe and sustainable use of trails, trailheads and day-use areas, campgrounds and other facilities throughout the Spokane area.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 145,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

The three areas encompassed within this grant proposal see over 4 million visits from a variety of users looking for a wide spectrum of recreational opportunities including hiking, walking, horse riding, biking, camping, flora and fauna identification and sightseeing. The grant will support a ranger who will focus on patrolling trailheads and enforcing park rules and regulations along with educating users about trail etiquette and Leave No Trace principles. The ranger will also help to support volunteer outreach efforts focusing on trail system information and good stewardship practices. The combination of these two approaches will increase both public safety and user enjoyment of all the available facilities within these three units of the Washington State Park system.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



October 26, 2016

Washington State RCO Wilderness Education and Enforcement Grant

RCO Committee Members,

Please accept this letter of support for the Entiat Ranger District Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest request for funding (16-2228 Edu, Central Zone Backcountry E&E 2018-2019).

Mt. Adams Institute (MAI) is a nonprofit organization that strengthens the connection between people and the natural world through education, service learning, career development and research. As a part of programming, we utilize AmeriCorps volunteers to support the work of wilderness managers throughout the Pacific Northwest. Many of our volunteers continue to serve the cause after their term of service ends. Over the past 5 years, our organization's support of wilderness and public lands has resulted in over 27,000 hours of volunteer service.

Since 2004, we have partnered with the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest (OKNF) to provide additional support for managing our public lands. By placing our AmeriCorps Members with the OKNF we realize a dual benefit: The Forest has additional resources to assist its increasing work load due to increased visitor traffic, wildfire recovery and decreasing budgets; And our members have the opportunity to develop career skills and experience that increase their probability of finding permanent employment in the field.

MAI is very supportive of the efforts of the OKNF to minimize the negative impacts by providing more opportunities to educate wilderness visitors and restore impacted areas. In addition to their efforts to increase the presence of wilderness rangers on the ground, MAI is committed to amplifying this awareness, including the relevant Leave No Trace principles, through our various social media channels. Together, we will endeavor to steward public lands so that they remain accessible and healthy as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brendan Norman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Brendan Norman
Executive Director
www.mtadamsinstitute.com



Wenatchee Valley Chapter Backcountry Horsemen
Of Washington
1828 Methow St, Wenatchee, WA 98801

To: Grant Committee

October 24, 2016

From: WVBCHW Membership


Subject: #16-2228 Central Zone Backcountry E&E, #16-2223 Entiat & Chelan Multiple Use Trail M&O 2018—2019, 16-2592 Anthem Creek and Myrtle Lake Bridges,

We the members of WVBCH, many of whom are avid users of various trail systems and facilities throughout the region, support the Forest Service in many ways. It is our common goal to maintain and preserve these forest assets in both active maintenance and in the education of public, in the appropriate use of these facilities, for both the present and the future generations.

Please use this organizations support in consideration of this grant.

Thank you,


Ken Bailey Director
WVBCHW


John Danielson, President
WVBCHW



www.evergreenMTB.org

December 5, 2016

Jon Meier
Entiat Ranger District
Wenatchee National Forest
2108 Entiat Way
Entiat, WA 98822

Letter of Support:

Central Zone Backcountry Education and Enforcement 2018-2019, #16-2228

Dear Review Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (EMBA) strongly supports the above listed US Forest Service, Wenatchee Ranger District RTP grant application for trail maintenance.

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is Washington State's largest mountain bike advocacy and trail building group. Created in 1989 as a grassroots solution to local trail networks closing to riders, Evergreen has since grown to become the primary force in the mountain bike trail maintenance, building and advocacy community of Washington State.

The supported projects involve education and enforcement patrols of over 300 miles of multi-purpose trails. Many of these trails are frequented by mountain bikers, sharing the trails with motorized use with little or no conflict. Without ongoing FS presence these trails would degrade and become unusable, which could increase user density on other trails and reduce the quality of the backcountry experience for everyone.

Please consider our letter of support for this critically important maintenance project.

Respectfully,

Mathew C. Lyons

Mathew C. Lyons
Central Washington Chapter
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (EMBA)

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Tax ID: 91-1553023.



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

October 25, 2016

RE: Letter of support for USFS Cle Elum Ranger District RCO grants

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the following grant applications submitted by the US Forest Service - Cle Elum Ranger District (the District).

Specifically the grants include two for non-motorized trails operations and maintenance; NOVA grant 16-2255 and RTP grant 16-2435. Those grants would provide for continued maintenance of the PCT and other non-motorized trails, including funding for support and partnership with the PCTA. Two more grants, RTP grant 16-2299 and NOVA grant 16-2300, would fund wilderness rangers who do education and enforcement on trails within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, including 52 miles of the PCT. In addition to those 52 wilderness miles, the Cle Elum district administers another 35 non-wilderness miles of PCT south of Snoqualmie Pass. That's a total of 87 miles of PCT on the District.

Due to its scenic beauty and close proximity to the greater Seattle area, the Alpine Lakes Wilderness is heavily used by a large number of visitors, making it a priority area for both trail maintenance and wilderness ranger patrols. The remoteness and diversity of the PCT in Alpine Lakes Wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude. To support these values, it is critical to have

wilderness rangers in the field to monitor and educate the various user groups. Much of the funding for monitoring, maintenance work and structural repairs that the PCTA and the Forest Service does depends on grant funding from state and local programs.

I would like to point out that the Alpine Lakes Wilderness has a considerable backlog of work. To reduce this backlog and provide for continued maintenance, volunteers of the PCTA and Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, leveraging funding so as to exceed current goals and objectives. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding to the District for trail maintenance and wilderness education.

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT. In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. On the Cle Elum District, local volunteers have logged more than 1600 hours so far in 2016.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawley

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



President
Kurt Froese (*), President
GeoEngineers, Inc.

President-Elect
Tod McDonald (*), Principal
Cypress Advisors

Founding President
Jim Ellis, Chairman Emeritus
Washington State Convention Center

Immediate Past President
Bill Chapman (*), President and CEO
Millennium Bulk Terminals, Longview

Secretary
John Baier (*), Attorney
Baier Law Firm

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner
KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (*), Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

NOVA Education & Enforcement Ranked #13

November 21, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2790, Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R.

Project #16-2777, Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19

Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain and build hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is the landscape connecting Seattle to Ellensburg surrounding Interstate 90, including wilderness lands, rural areas and historic sites, and the 15th largest metropolitan area in the country. This spectacular landscape has not happened by accident. More than two decades of collaborative work have preserved the natural heritage of the Greenway, which encompasses some of the most heavily-used trails in the state including locations within the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

Sally Bagshaw (X), Councilmember, City of Seattle
Jim Becker, Founder, SmartLab Toys, becker&mayer
Gary Berndt, Civic Leader, Cle Elum
Mark Boyar (*), President
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, Director, King County Parks & Recreation
Will Castillo, Principal, GGLO
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program
The Wilderness Society
Karl Forsgaard, President
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, City of Issaquah
Todd Glass, Partner
Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati PC
Kari Glover, Global Integration Partner, Retired
K&L Gates
Peter Goldmark (X), Commissioner of Public Lands
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Rich Grillo, Community at Large Representative
Cle Elum
Bruce Gryniowski, Partner, Gallatin Public Affairs
Don Hoch (X), Director
Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Laura Hoffman, Amazon Publishing,
Copper Ridge Farm
Cara Johnson, Geotechnical Engineer
GeoEngineers
Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel
Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
Jamie Kingsbury (X), Supervisor
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Janet Knox, Principal Environmental Geochemist
Pacific Groundwater Group
Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Leon Kos, City Administrator (retired), City of Issaquah
Paul Kundtz, Northwest Director
The Trust for Public Land
Helen Lee, Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Danny Levine, President, NationAd Communications
Arlene Levy (*), Partner, Social Venture Partners
Josh Lipsky (*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC
Robert Manelski, Senior Director, 787 Program
The Boeing Company
Gordon McHenry Jr (*), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Sue McLain (*), Former Senior VP Delivery
Operations, Puget Sound Energy
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement
Mary Norton, City of Snoqualmie Parks Board
Meadowbrook Farm
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific NW Stewardship Director
American Whitewater
Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
College of Environment, University of Washington
Marie Quasius (*), Attorney, K&L Gates LLP
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project
Sierra Club
Janet Ray (*), Asst VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardt (*), Principal & Senior Managing
Director, HEARTLAND LLC
Grant Ringel, Communications Director
Puget Sound Energy
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, Divisional Vice President, Sustainability
REI Co-op
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant (*), Vice President, CH2M
Maryanne Tagney
Community at Large Representative
Leah Tivoli, Organizational Performance Manager
City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor
Okanagon-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Former Senior Vice President,
HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yaker, Solution Architect, Microsoft

(*) Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director



The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for these important projects. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning these proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being more prominent than the last name "Hoekstra".

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

December, 28th 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Snoqualmie Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCNST) as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service “recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCNST”. In 2016, programs organized under the PCTA’s leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1500 hours in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 35 miles of the PCNST that passes through the North Cascades Region is managed by the District; much of this is in Norse Peak Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that more than 15 miles of this area was opened and maintained for hiker and equestrian use during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic

setting for education, recreation and solitude. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Additionally it is critical for our collaborative work that the District be supported enough to provide wilderness and front-country rangers and enforcement officers. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington have specific plans to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Snoqualmie Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications:

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2523, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-19

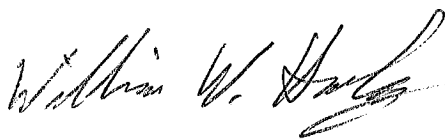
Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

I would point out that funding for Alpine Lakes is particularly critical; this area has been hard hit in the last few seasons and because of its remoteness, it requires an extraordinary effort to address the back-log of work.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William W. Hawley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



Washington Trails Association

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Serving hikers since 1966

January 4, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA & RTP proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following NOVA and RTP projects:

- Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement #16-2793
- Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19 #16-2522
- Snoqualmie RD Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19 #16-2491
- Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R. #16-2790
- Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-9 #16-2523
- Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19 #16-2777
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019 #16-2429
- Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019 #16-2489

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

For 50 years, WTA has focused on helping Washingtonians get on trail to experience the great outdoors in our state and national parks, national forests and other public lands with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of trails and making outdoor experiences fulfilling and fun for hikers.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest offers some of the most visited trails and trailheads in the state. Replacement of the Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge will increase safety on a popular trail in the increasingly busy Highway 410 corridor. With this increase in users, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance is essential to providing safe and sustainable trails to all users in addition to the need for more Front Country and Backcountry Ranger Patrols to help alleviate and control user impact.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance on the Snoqualmie Ranger District, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



NOVA Education & Enforcement Ranked #14

October 18, 2016

Washington State RCO Wilderness Education and Enforcement Grant

RCO Committee Members,

Please accept this letter of support for the Mt. Adams Ranger District Gifford Pinchot National Forest request for funding.

Mt. Adams Institute (MAI) is a nonprofit organization that strengthens the connection between people and the natural world through education, service learning, career development and research. As a part of programming, we utilize AmeriCorps volunteers to support the work of wilderness managers throughout the Pacific Northwest. Many of our volunteers continue to serve the cause after their term of service ends. Over the past 5 years, our organization's support of wilderness has resulted in over 27,000 hours of volunteer service.

Since 2014, we have partnered with the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and the Deschutes National Forest to create and facilitate a regional wilderness volunteer training. MAI helped develop the curriculum that included 10 different training modules ranging from wilderness stewardship 101 to advanced wilderness restoration techniques. As a result of these trainings, over 60 participants have received over 25 hours of wilderness specific training. Additionally, our participation has led to a greater understanding of the issues that are impacting our local wilderness areas on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

As visitor use to these special areas has increased there has been a corresponding negative impact to the land: Trash and other human debris is more visible, more campsites are being established in critical riparian areas, trees are being cut down and, in general, the solitude once offered in these wilderness areas is being endangered.

MAI is very supportive of the efforts of the Forest Service to minimize these impacts by providing more opportunities to educate wilderness visitors and restore impacted areas. In addition to their efforts to increase the presence of wilderness rangers on the ground, MAI is committed to amplifying this awareness, including the relevant Leave No Trace principles, through our various social media channels. Together, we will endeavor to steward public lands so that they remain accessible and healthy as possible.

Sincerely,

Brendan Norman
Executive Director
www.mtadamsinstitute.com

To whom it may concern;

I would like to take this opportunity and explain to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation grant application review board the value of having you support the US Forest Service Mount Adams Rangers.

I am the Yakima County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Coordinator and I have the responsibility of providing rescue capabilities to the eastern slope of Mount Adams. For those who are not familiar with the mountain, most of the 7,000 summer visitors, and climbers, to the mountain during the summer months climb the south/east trail which is inside the boundaries of Yakima County. This year we saw over a dozen missions on the mountain for both medical emergencies and for lost or overdue hikers.

A response from my unit to the mountain may take over 6 hours. The drive alone is close to 4 hours. Upon arrival at the mountain, it is a 4-6 hour climb to get to the location where most assistance is needed. A 12 hour response to the staging area called the "Lunch Counter" is very possible. Logistically it is extremely difficult to provide the immediate help that may be needed.

One of our first steps to a mission on the mountain is to call the Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wilderness Manager, Justin Ewer. Justin and his team of hiking rangers have shown time and time again to be a huge asset and in many cases, helped clear a mission without a response from SAR. One example occurred when I received a call from a lost hiker on the mountain. She was crying and very upset. I called Justin to let him know we are starting a mission. He suggested I call the missing subject and see if she could take a picture of where she was. I did and she sent me the picture in a text. I sent it to Justin and he recognized the area, called her back, and helped her walk out. In other missions his hiking team were able to make contact with injured subjects before my unit could even respond.

The knowledge of the mountain, trails that are used, and what directions most gravitate towards when lost are extremely important when I have a team responding. During a large scale search like we had this summer, Justin offered assistance from his team and they joined in with the other units to help out.

These are just a few of the examples of the true value the rangers of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mt. Adams District provide to the Yakima County Sheriff's Office and to the public. I know the rest of the public is being served by the professionalism and kindness these providers give. Please support them in their efforts!

October 28, 2016

Sergeant Randall K Briscoe

Search and Rescue Coordinator

Yakima County Sheriff's Office

509 728-0802



Washington Trails Association

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October 20, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Washington State Department of Natural Resources – Pacific/Cascade Education and Enforcement #16-2307

Dear RCO Review Committee:

Washington Trails Association (WTA) is pleased to support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Recreation and Conservation Office grant application #16-2307 to support education and enforcement activities in Yacolt Burn State Forest and other forest blocks located in southwest Washington.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

This project funds one full-time Education & Enforcement recreation warden to patrol 83 miles of trail, 8 campgrounds, 11 trailheads and 3 day-use areas on over 250,000 acres. The recreation warden will focus on identifying potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns, providing public outreach, engaging user groups, and providing an additional enforcement presence on the landscapes. This position will also support forest watch volunteers in efforts to educate recreational visitors about rules, regulations and principals of good stewardship. WTA is very supportive of education and enforcement activities that increase safe and sustainable use of trails among all recreation user groups.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support this project.

Sincerely,

Ryan Ojerio
Southwest Washington Regional Manager



PACIFIC NORTHWEST 4-WHEEL-DRIVE ASSOCIATION OREGON—WASHINGTON—IDAHO

October 18, 2016

TO: The NOVA ADVISORY BOARD

SUBJECT: Naches District OHV Education and Enforcement Rangers

This letter is in support of the grant request for the Naches Ranger District to help fund OHV Education and Enforcement Rangers on the Naches District. This grant is necessary to help keep resource damage to a minimum. When education fails enforcement should be there to step in.

Region 4 of the Pacific Northwest Four-Wheel Drive Association (PNW4WDA) represents 17 clubs with 500 plus members. We support the Education and Enforcement activities the rangers perform to assist in keeping our recreational opportunities open now and for future generations.

We appreciate their willingness and yours to work with the user groups to ensure recreational opportunities.

Thank you for considering them for this grant.

Sincerely,

Earl P. Nettnin

Earl P. Nettnin,
Region 4 Director
Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel drive Association (PNW4WDA)
519 North Fisher Place
Kennewick, WA 99336
esnettnin@aol.com

October 6, 2014

To the NOVA Grant Committee,

Thank you once again for allowing us to write letters of support for the ORV world of Grant County Washington for all related venues of ORVing.

We have enjoyed the ORV Parks for many years, adding our children and now our children are adding their children. We want this tradition to continue not only for our family but for other families for many years to come. It is such a joy and irritation to watch young people that are learning how to ride and grow as they learn using ORV related recreational machines from ATVs, Side by Sides, Motorcycles and 4x4s.

Users from all over Washington, Idaho, Oregon and many other states travel to Moses Lake Dunes and other ORV Parks to enjoy all forms of Off Road Vehicles. This tourism is an important part of the economic value to local Cities and Towns.

Safety is the number one concern to us and many others. Without funding, the presence of Law Enforcement will not be there to help educate users and be available when needed.

We very much appreciate the funding sent to Grant County. Officer Voss and his colleagues have done an outstanding job of making their presence known in the ORV Parks. They provide excellent communications with the users of the ORV areas as in educating, just stopping to chat, dealing with special events, seeing them drive by on the main roads or out in the park.

As a member of two clubs, being the WENATCHEE VALLEY RIDGE RUNNERS ATV CLUB and THE WENATCHEE MOUNTAIN MASTERS 4X4 CLUB. We have gone to the Moses Lake Dunes and the Beverly Dunes, not only to play but to also have a "CLEAN UP DAY" along with other clubs that do the same. As friends getting together for the weekend, we have done some clean-up work also.

These two clubs and I am pretty sure I can say we STRONGLY support the Grant County ORV Program. We hope the funding can and will continue for many years to come.

Sincerely,



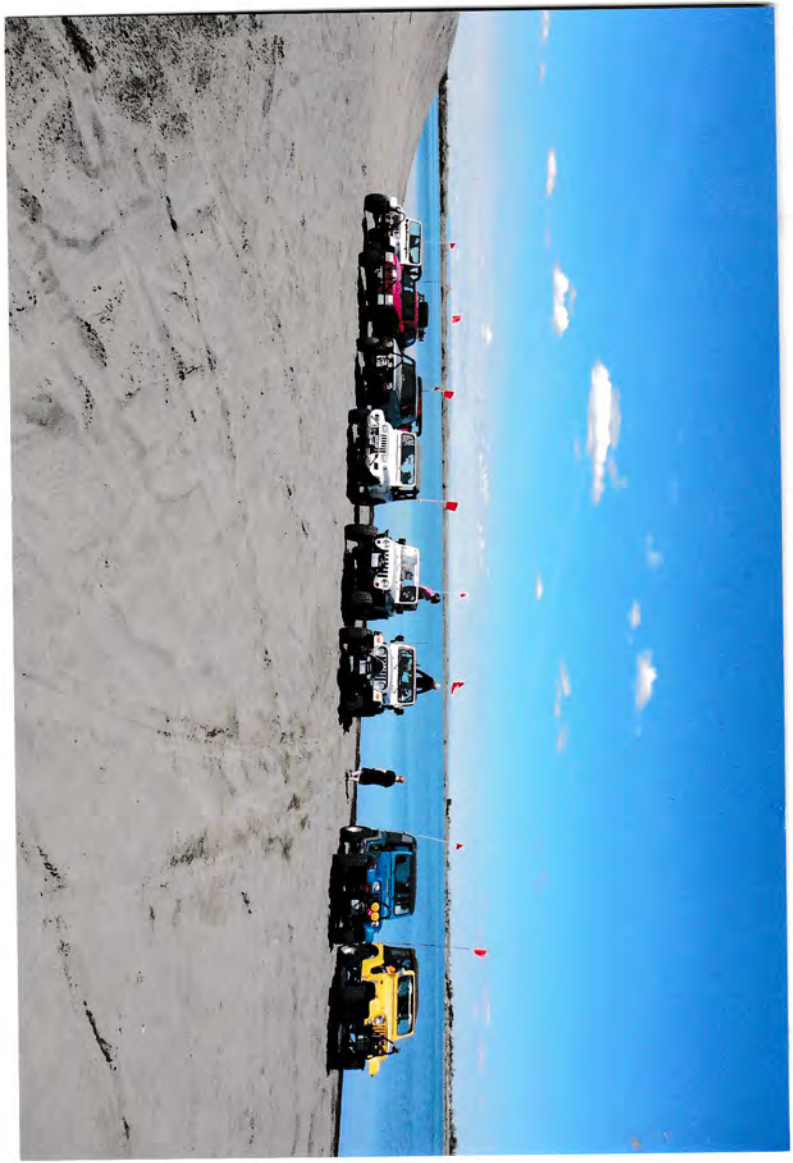
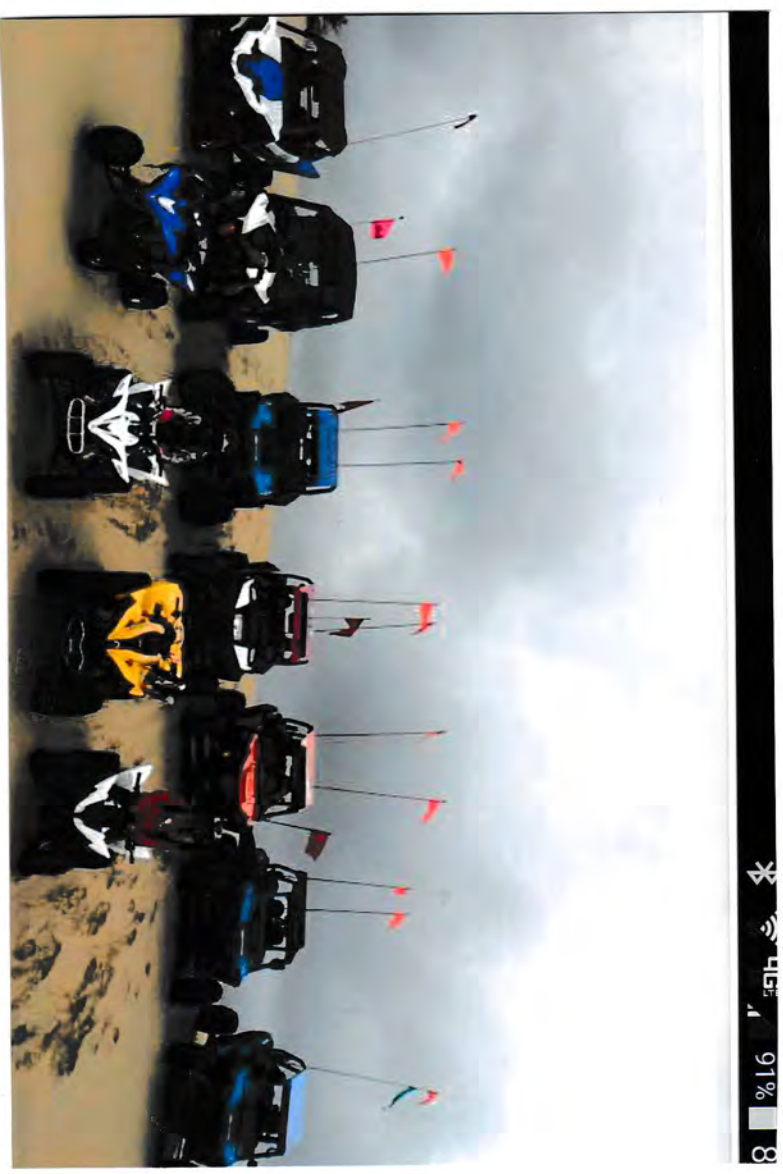
Donna Germain, Secretary of WVRRTV CLUB

Member of the Wenatchee Mountain Masters

Wenatchee Valley Ridge Runners ATV Club



Facebook - Wenatchee Valley Ridge Runners ATV Club





North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 7th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for USFS Naches Ranger District grant applications:

Naches Wilderness E&E, #16-2703

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the US Forest Service - Naches Ranger District (the District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service “recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT. In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA’s leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the Darrington Ranger District, local volunteers have logged 850 hours so far in 2016.

Approximately 43 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) lies within Goat Rocks and William O. Douglass Wildernesses and is managed by the District. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in these wildernesses makes it a wonderland for those interested in the

natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude. Due to the access problems and limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous amount of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement and education that the PCTA and the Forest Service does depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons on a variety of projects in the Naches Ranger District including user education regarding *Leave No Trace* ethics. The presence of wilderness rangers and trail crews is a key part of managing the ever-growing visitor impact to these precious lands. It has been proven in California's high-use areas in the Tahoe Rim area that education in the back-country is very effective and dramatically reduces negative user impacts. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding to support the District's application.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



NOVA Education & Enforcement Ranked #22

Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

November 1, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Naches Wilderness E&E, #16-2703

Dear RCO Review Committee:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest's Naches Ranger District grant proposal for Wilderness Education and Enforcement Rangers.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

Visitation on our national forests, including the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, has increased significantly in recent years. The Naches Ranger District will use the grant funding to provide two seasonal education and enforcement rangers, up to four part-time volunteers and two wilderness interns to patrol high use areas within the wilderness and backcountry areas of the district. Ensuring a ranger presence on the Naches Ranger District will provide valuable information and education to a large amount of hikers and is just as important as maintaining trails. Better educated visitors can help reduce environmental impacts and user conflicts. Hiker safety is also enhanced through the presence of rangers.

We know how important RCO funds are to your ongoing work to steward these public resources. WTA is pleased to support you - not only with the sweat equity of our volunteers, but also with this official endorsement.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



Community First

SNOHOMISH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INTEGRITY ★ DIGNITY ★ COMMITMENT ★ PRIDE

Ty Trenary, Sheriff

NOVA Education & Enforcement Ranked #26

October 4, 2016

Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Selection Committee,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District's proposal for \$80,000 to be used in 2018 and 2019 in an effort to establish a volunteer program at Big 4 Picnic Area and Ice Caves Trailhead.

The Darrington Ranger District is home to the Big 4 Ice Caves, attracting over 60,000 visitors each year. Though the Ice Caves are not safe to enter, a large number of visitors venture off the path and into the caves, despite efforts by the Forest Service. There have been fatalities as recently as 2015 and a safety assessment and meeting with key stakeholders concluded that increased presence and public education could help address the concern.

The safety assessment found that most visitors are unaware of the risks that the Ice Caves pose. Implementing a volunteer program could help in greatly reducing the number of visitors entering the caves through a casual conversation with a volunteer or staff member.

Under Washington State law the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office is responsible for Search and Rescue in unincorporated Snohomish County, including the National Forest, which includes people who become lost, injured or killed at the Big 4 Ice Caves. Deputies and our partnering first responders, including SAR volunteers, firefighters, and Forest Service personnel, have been called all too often to deal with tragedies at Big 4. The popularity of the location with the general public, the ease of access to the site, the general disregard for the posted warning signs, and the extreme hazards presented by the ice caves are a challenge and safety hazard for all public safety personnel responding to an incident.

The Forest Service volunteer program at the Big 4 Picnic Area and the Ice Caves Trailhead will provide a critical enhancement to public safety through education. It will allow us the opportunity to try and mitigate against further injuries and deaths to the visiting public.

Additionally it is my hope that by reducing the level of risk to the public by proactively educating visitors to the risks of approaching, climbing atop of, and entering the caves will reduce the risks to emergency services personnel who in the event of a tragedy, will have to respond.



SNOHOMISH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INTEGRITY ★ DIGNITY ★ COMMITMENT ★ PRIDE

Ty Trenary, Sheriff

Community First

I strongly urge you to consider the Darrington Ranger District's proposal. Implementing a volunteer program at Big 4 has the ability to reach thousands and educate them about the Ice Caves and their surroundings, while at the same time aid in building a positive connection with the natural world.

Sincerely,

Ty Trenary, Sheriff

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-10
NOVA Program Nonhighway Road Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, twenty-two Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Nonhighway Road category projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all twenty-two projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 14, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program*; and

WHEREAS, these Nonhighway Road category projects were evaluated by all fifteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee 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 286-04-065, 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 opportunities for recreationists that enjoy activities such as nonmotorized boating, camping, driving for pleasure, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, fishing, gathering, hunting, and picnicking, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has not yet enacted a 2017-19 budget, so funding is not available and the appropriation amount is unknown for the program for the 2017-19 biennium;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the ranked list for the projects depicted in *Table 1 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Nonhighway Road Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonhighway Road Projects

2017-19

Attachment G

Resolution: 2017-10

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 22	64.73	16-2729M	Colville National Forest Recreation Site Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$100,000
2 of 22	61.67	16-2230M	Pomeroy Ranger District Campgrounds, Dispersed Sites Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$80,000	\$130,000
3 of 22	61.40	16-2350M	Campground and Dispersed Site Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$78,267	\$54,386	\$132,653	\$208,267
4 of 22	61.27	16-2331M	Capitol and Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$105,000	\$105,100	\$210,100	\$313,267
5 of 22	60.87	16-2317M	Samish Overlook Lily and Lizard Lakes Campgrounds Maintenance and Operations	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$58,650	\$58,752	\$117,402	\$371,917
6 of 22	60.20	16-2526M	Methow Valley Ranger District Campground Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$150,000	\$225,100	\$375,100	\$521,917
7 of 22	59.53	16-2607M	Skykomish Dispersed Site and Trailhead Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$117,493	\$125,537	\$243,030	\$639,410
8 of 22	58.93	16-2315M	Southeast Region North Maintenance and Operations	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$115,847	\$51,750	\$167,597	\$755,257
9 of 22	58.40	16-2474M	Hood Canal District Nonhighway Road Maintenance and Operation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$71,900	\$34,500	\$106,400	\$827,157
10 of 22	57.67	16-2597M	Naches Campgrounds Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$150,000	\$229,240	\$379,240	\$977,157
11 of 22	56.73	16-2294M	Cle Elum Frontcountry Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$149,500	\$150,500	\$300,000	\$1,126,657
12 of 22	55.13	16-2295M	Cle Elum Ranger District Sanitation Rentals	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$30,000		\$30,000	\$1,156,657
13 of 22	54.53	16-2434D	Indian Camp Campground Renovation and Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$199,278	\$51,750	\$251,028	\$1,355,935
14 of 22	54.27	16-2777M	Snoqualmie Ranger District Accessible/Interpretive Facility Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$70,000	\$18,000	\$88,000	\$1,425,935
15 of 22	53.73	16-2364M	Seal Rock Campground Accessibility Enhancements	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest Hood, Canal Ranger District	\$102,000	\$26,000	\$128,000	\$1,527,935

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonhighway Road Projects
2017-19

Attachment G
Resolution: 2017-10

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
16 of 22	53.67	16-2226M	Tonasket Ranger District Campground Operations and Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Tonasket Ranger District	\$104,484	\$63,200	\$167,684	\$1,632,419
17 of 22	53.40	16-2547M	Entiat Ranger District Campgrounds and Dispersed Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$130,000	\$65,450	\$195,450	\$1,762,419
18 of 22	52.73	16-2790D	Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie River	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$200,000	\$105,000	\$305,000	\$1,962,419
19 of 22	52.47	16-2378D	Snoqualmie Picnic Shelters and Interpretive Trail	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$145,000	\$62,160	\$207,160	\$2,107,419
20 of 22	52.27	16-2329D	McKenny Campground and Trailhead Improvements and Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$103,500	\$44,600	\$148,100	\$2,210,919
21 of 22	48.47	16-2243D	Wooten Wildlife Area Campground 3 Remodel	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$160,000		\$160,000	\$2,370,919
22 of 22	44.40	16-2553D	Entiat Yurts Lake Creek Campground	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$40,000	\$14,000	\$54,000	\$2,410,919
					\$2,410,919	\$1,635,025	\$4,045,944	

*Project Types: D=Development, M=Maintenance

State Map for NOVA Program Nonhighway Road Category Projects



*Project numbers are in ranked order as shown in Table 1.

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-road Vehicle Categories – Evaluation Criteria Summary

NOVA Evaluation Questions Summary					
Scored By	Question	Title	Questions by Category and Project Type	Maximum Points	NOVA Plan Policy
Advisory Committee	1	Need	All	15	A-1, C-7
Advisory Committee	2	Need fulfillment	All	15	A-1, C-6, C-7
Advisory Committee	3	<i>Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan</i> priorities	All	5	
Advisory Committee	4	Site suitability	Acquisition	10	C-15
			Combination Acquisition and Development	5	
Advisory Committee	5	Project design	Development	10	C-1, C-5, C-7, C-8, C-14
			Combination Acquisition and Development	5	
Advisory Committee	6	Maintenance	Maintenance and Operation	10	C-5, C-7, C-8, C-14
Advisory Committee	7	Planning	Planning	10	C-6, C-15
Advisory Committee	8	Sustainability and environmental stewardship	All	5	
Advisory Committee	9	Readiness to proceed	All	5	
Advisory Committee	10	Predominately natural	Nonmotorized and Nonhighway Road category only	5	C-13
Advisory Committee	11	Project support	All	10	C-3, C-4

NOVA Evaluation Questions Summary					
Scored By	Question	Title	Questions by Category and Project Type	Maximum Points	NOVA Plan Policy
Advisory Committee	12	Cost-benefit	All	5	A-1, C-3
RCO staff	13	Matching shares	All	5	C-4
RCO staff	14	Population proximity	All	2	C-2
RCO staff	15	Growth Management Act preference	All	0	
Nonhighway and Nonmotorized Total Points Possible				82	
ORV Total Possible Points				77	

KEY:

All=includes acquisition, development, maintenance and operation, and planning project types.

NOVA Plan Policy=Criteria orientation in accordance with the NOVA Plan 2005-2011, which were carried forward to 2013-2018 plan. The letter and number codes reference corresponding policies in the plan.

Scoring Criteria: Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-road Vehicle Categories

Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** What is the need for new, improved, or maintained facilities?
2. **Need fulfillment.** How well will this project fulfill the service area's needs identified in Question 1?
3. **Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan priorities.** How will this project address statewide or regional priorities as described in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
4. **Site suitability.** To what extent is the site to be acquired well suited for the intended recreational activity? (*Acquisition projects*)
5. **Project design.** Is the proposal appropriately designed for intended uses and users? (*Development projects*)
6. **Maintenance.** Are the project's maintenance goals and objectives appropriate? (*Maintenance projects*)
7. **Planning.** To what extent will the proposed plan or study help provide opportunities and address sustainability of the natural environment? (*Planning projects*)?
8. **Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship.** Will the project result in a quality sustainable, recreational opportunity while protecting the integrity of the environment?
9. **Readiness to proceed.** How soon after the grant is approved can the project begin?
10. **Predominately natural.** Is the project site in a predominately natural setting? (ORV applicants do not answer this question.)
11. **Project support.** To what extent do users and the public support the project?
12. **Cost-benefit.** Do the project's benefits outweigh its costs?

Scored by RCO Staff

13. **Matching shares.** What percentage of the total project cost is the applicant contributing?
14. **Population proximity.** Is the project site located:
 - In a county with a population density greater than 250 people per square mile
 - Within 30 miles of a city with a population of 25,000 people or more?
15. **Growth Management Act preference.** Has the applicant⁵ made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?⁶

⁵ County, city, town, and special district applicants only. This question does not apply to nonprofit organizations or state and federal agency applicants.

⁶ Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250 (Growth Management Act-preference required)

**Nonhighway Road Projects
Evaluation Scores**

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-2019

	Question	1	2	3	5		6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total ⁴
Rank	Project Name				Project Design ²											
		Need	Need Fulfillment	SCORP ¹ Priorities	Dev	Combo	Maintenance	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Predominantly Natural	Project Support	Cost Benefit	Matching Shares	Population Proximity	GMA ³ Preference	
1	Colville National Forest Recreation Site Maintenance	13.40	12.40	3.60			8.13	3.67	4.40	3.73	6.93	4.47	4.00	0.00	0.00	64.73
2	Pomeroy Ranger District Campgrounds, Dispersed Sites Maintenance and Operation	12.20	11.20	3.20			6.93	3.07	4.13	3.93	8.27	3.73	5.00	0.00	0.00	61.67
3	Campground and Dispersed Site Maintenance and Operation	12.00	10.80	3.67			7.60	3.53	4.53	3.87	6.80	3.60	4.00	1.00	0.00	61.40
4	Capitol and Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance	10.60	10.80	3.53			6.93	3.00	4.20	3.20	8.53	3.47	5.00	2.00	0.00	61.27
5	Samish Overlook Lily/Lizard Lakes Campgrounds Maintenance and Operation	10.60	10.60	3.27			7.33	3.40	4.13	3.33	8.67	3.53	5.00	1.00	0.00	60.87
6	Methow Valley Ranger District Campground Maintenance	10.60	12.20	3.60			7.73	3.73	4.53	4.00	5.07	3.73	5.00	0.00	0.00	60.20
7	Skykomish Dispersed Site and Trailhead Maintenance	11.40	10.60	3.20			6.80	3.40	3.60	3.60	6.93	3.00	5.00	2.00	0.00	59.53
8	Southeast Region North Maintenance and Operation	12.60	10.60	3.67			6.93	3.40	4.13	3.20	6.80	3.60	3.00	1.00	0.00	58.93
9	Hood Canal District Nonhighway Road Maintenance and Operation	11.60	11.20	3.60			7.33	3.27	4.07	3.40	6.13	3.80	3.00	1.00	0.00	58.40
10	Naches Campgrounds Maintenance and Operation	10.80	10.80	3.33			6.67	3.07	4.07	3.53	6.00	3.40	5.00	1.00	0.00	57.67
11	Cle Elum Frontcountry Maintenance and Operation	11.20	10.40	3.60			6.93	3.27	3.73	3.53	5.87	3.20	5.00	0.00	0.00	56.73

**Nonhighway Road Projects
Evaluation Scores**

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-2019

	Question	1	2	3	5		6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total ⁴
Rank	Project Name				Project Design ²											
		Need	Need Fulfillment	SCORP ¹ Priorities	Dev	Combo	Maintenance	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Predominantly Natural	Project Support	Cost Benefit	Matching Shares	Population Proximity	GMA ³ Preference	
12	Cle Elum Ranger District: Sanitation Rentals	12.60	11.80	2.93			6.67	3.53	4.53	3.13	5.87	4.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.13
13	Indian Camp Campground Renovation and Expansion	10.80	11.00	2.93	6.67			3.07	3.07	3.80	7.20	3.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	54.53
14	Snoqualmie Ranger District Accessible/Interpretive Facility Maintenance	10.00	9.80	3.40			6.67	3.27	3.67	3.00	7.20	3.27	2.00	2.00	0.00	54.27
15	Seal Rock Campground Accessibility Enhancements	10.20	11.60	3.40			7.73	3.13	4.07	3.33	4.13	3.13	2.00	1.00	0.00	53.73
16	Tonasket Ranger District Campground Operation and Maintenance	10.60	10.40	3.13			6.80	3.13	4.13	4.00	5.47	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	53.67
17	Entiat Ranger District Campgrounds and Dispersed Maintenance and Operation	10.00	11.00	3.27			7.07	3.47	3.53	3.67	5.07	3.33	3.00	0.00	0.00	53.40
18	Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie River	9.20	8.60	3.20	6.00			2.73	3.40	3.40	8.27	2.93	3.00	2.00	0.00	52.73
19	Snoqualmie Picnic Shelters and Interpretive Trail	7.60	9.60	3.07	7.73			3.93	3.67	3.07	7.07	2.73	2.00	2.00	0.00	52.47
20	McKenny Camp and Trailhead Improvements and Expansion	8.40	9.80	3.07	6.67			2.87	2.93	3.07	7.47	3.00	3.00	2.00	0.00	52.27
21	Wooten Wildlife Area Campground ³ Remodel	11.20	10.00	3.07	7.33	0.00		3.27	3.53	3.33	3.73	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48.47
22	Entiat Yurts Lake Creek Campground	7.00	8.60	2.67	6.67			3.00	3.87	3.13	4.67	2.80	2.00	0.00	0.00	44.40

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-12; RCO staff scores Questions 13-15.
No projects received a score in Questions 4-Site Suitability and 7-Planning.

¹SCORP=Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
²Dev=Development; Combo=Acquisition and Development

³GMA=Growth Management Act

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest Colville National Forest Recreation Site Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$100,000

The Colville National Forest encompasses over one million acres in northeastern Washington. Due to a 50 percent budget reduction for recreation management in the last decade, the Forest has reduced its permanent workforce from 9 to 4 employees. The temporary workforce funded with appropriated dollars has dropped from 12 employees in 2007 to none in 2014. As a result, we have not been able to perform adequate maintenance at recreation sites. Our agency "presence" at these sites has been reduced to the point where essential tasks occur on an intermittent basis. The incidents of littering, improper waste disposal and vandalism to existing facilities, dispersed sites, trees and other vegetation, is increasing. Expansion of our most popular sites is essentially unchecked. Many of these sites occur along fish-bearing streams and lakes. Visitation continues to increase at these locations with the majority of users coming from the greater Spokane metropolitan area. In 2016, the Forest began using the money from the 2014 grant cycle. The temporary employees that we hired began to remove garbage and graffiti, clean toilets and fire rings, remove safety hazards, repair improvements and remove noxious weeds. The crew made visitor contacts, initiated site monitoring and provided guidance and support to volunteers. Funding this project would enable us to continue the work we started to provide the public with a safe environment in which to recreate while protecting natural resources. The Forest Service will contribute \$100,000 in, equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2729)

U.S. Forest Service, UNF Pomeroy Ranger District Pomeroy Ranger District Campgrounds, Dispersed Sites/CUA Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$30,000

The Pomeroy Ranger District will use this grant to fund the maintenance of 13 developed campgrounds, 5 concentrated use areas and dispersed campsites throughout the district, located within the Umatilla National Forest. Maintenance will include annual maintenance and repair and pumping of vault toilets, garbage removal, the purchase of cleaning supplies and toilet paper, fire ring cleaning, picnic table repair, feed managers and hitching rail maintenance and the repair of bulletin boards and general forest signage. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable public campgrounds and dispersed campsites. The Forest Service will contribute \$50,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2230)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District Campground and Dispersed Site Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$78,267

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to perform maintenance on campgrounds and dispersed camping sites throughout the ranger district, located in Chelan County. Maintenance will consist of trash removal, restroom cleaning, kiosk and bulletin board servicing, hazard tree removal and annual repair and maintenance of campgrounds and dispersed recreation areas. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be safe and sustainable campgrounds and dispersed camping areas. The goal of this project is to maintain and improve campgrounds and dispersed camping sites. The

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



Wenatchee River Ranger District sees visits of over one million annually and has 26 campgrounds and over 300 dispersed campsites. The visitation to the Wenatchee River Ranger District has continued to grow. In order to support the increasing recreation demands, adequate staffing is needed to perform these critical functions. Receiving this grant will enable us to increase seasonal field staff by approximately three field going personnel. The recreational opportunities that the Ranger District provides is an important part of the local community's economy. The outcome of this grant will help protect natural resources and provide a safe environment that the public can enjoy. U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District will contribute \$54,386 in a federal appropriation. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2350)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Capitol and Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$105,000

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to conduct routine maintenance on campgrounds and facilities within the Capitol and Yacolt Burn State Forests near Olympia and Longview. This project will provide funding for a professional restroom cleaning contract and/or DNR services for facility maintenance, repairs, purchase of cleaning supplies and vault toilet pumping. Maintenance will include routine sanitary cleaning of restrooms and removal of litter in campgrounds, campsites and trailheads. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable campground and trailhead facilities. The department will contribute \$105,100 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2331)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Samish Overlook, Lily/Lizard Lakes CG Nonhighway Road Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$58,650

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to perform maintenance at the Samish Overlook day-use area and Lily and Lizard Lake campgrounds located in the Blanchard Forest Block, in Skagit County. This project will provide funding for a Maintenance Steward, seasonal WCC crews and support volunteers to perform routine and preventative maintenance. Maintenance will include repair of signage, litter removal, campsite upgrades and repairs, restroom maintenance as well as maintenance to two free-flight launch areas. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be well maintained and usable day-use and campground areas. By providing timely, routine and preventative maintenance this project allows DNR to protect natural resources and enhance the life-expectancy of our recreation assets while preserving safe and enjoyable recreation opportunities. Support for the project comes from a diverse user base - including the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, free flight groups, mountain bike groups and others. Working together these groups donate thousands of hours per year towards DNR's recreation maintenance efforts. The department will contribute \$58,752 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2317)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District Methow Valley Ranger District Campground Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this maintenance grant to help maintain 24 campgrounds on the district. RCO has been helping to fund this maintenance through NOVA grants since 2008. The goal is to provide clean, safe, well-maintained campgrounds. The campground facilities - roads, picnic tables, fire grates, water systems, bulletin boards, interpretive signs, dumpsters, and outhouses - improve the camping experience and protect the environment. The primary recreation opportunity for the project will be camping for people engaging in a wide variety of recreation activities. A Forest Service crew will perform the maintenance activities, with the help of volunteer campground hosts stationed at the busiest campgrounds. Specific tasks would include campground road maintenance, noxious weed control, hazard tree removal, visitor information, fee collection, outhouse cleaning and maintenance, mowing, garbage collection, campsite cleaning and maintenance, and miscellaneous duties. People travel from all over the world to the Methow Valley to camp, hike, mountain climb, horseback ride, bird watch, hunt, fish, ride OHVs, view wildlife, drive through the woods and countless other activities. The economy of the Methow Valley is dependent on recreation tourism, and well maintained Forest service campgrounds help attract people to the area, and encourage them to stay for multiple days. The Forest Service will contribute \$225,100 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2526)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District Skykomish Dispersed Site and Trailhead Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$117,493

The Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to fund a crew to maintain trailheads and dispersed campsites within the Skykomish Ranger District in King and Snohomish Counties and purchase a mini excavator to support our recreation facilities. Maintenance will include the cleaning and pumping of 12 vault toilets, rental of sanicans, trash pickup and disposal, cleaning of dispersed campsites and the annual maintenance of trailhead facilities. This project will prevent further damage to sensitive riparian areas, wetlands and in-stream habitats while providing a safe recreation experience. The primary recreation opportunities provided are accessible camping along Forest Service roads and safe access points to the district's trail system and waterways. There are 25 trailheads and nearly 300 dispersed sites that serve approximately 70,500 day hikers, backpackers, stock users and dispersed campers. Other uses include climbers, kayakers, rafters, fishermen and hunters. The district will increase partnership opportunities and maintain relationships with volunteer groups such as Dirty 13 4x4 Club, Cascade Backcountry Ski Patrol, Washington Trails Association, commercial rafting groups and various individuals. With this grant, we will continue our partnership with the towns of Skykomish & Index and the Skykomish High School. The district will provide employment opportunities to youth with the Seattle Parks & Recreation (O2), Student Conservation Association and military veterans. The Forest Service will contribute \$125,537 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2607)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



Washington Department of Natural Resources Southeast Region North Maintenance and Operations

Grant Requested: \$115,847

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to conduct routine maintenance on campground facilities within Kittitas, Chelan and Grant counties. This project will provide funding for staff, equipment and materials to support general maintenance across the north part of the DNR Southeast Region. Maintenance activities will include the daily routine maintenance of restrooms, camp sites and day-use areas. Additional grant funds will be used for the purchase of a vehicle, vehicle accessories and small tools/minor equipment. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable multiple-use recreation support facilities. The department will contribute \$51,750 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2315)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Hood Canal District Nonhighway Road Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$71,900

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to conduct routine maintenance on non-highway road campgrounds and facilities within the Hood Canal District, located in Mason and Kitsap Counties. This project will provide funding for a professional restroom cleaning contract and or DNR services for facility maintenance, repairs, purchase of supplies and vault toilet pumping. Maintenance will include routine maintenance and repair of restrooms, litter removal, signing implementation project, campsites, day-use areas, and other facility structures. The overall goal of this project is to create a safer and more enjoyable recreation experience at non-highway road facilities in the Hood Canal District. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable multiple use recreation support facilities and interpretative sites. The department will contribute \$34,500 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2474)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District Naches Campgrounds Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$150,000

A maintenance and operations grant is being requested for the Naches Ranger District to enhance services through health and public safety at its 42 recreation areas. Dedicating resources to the upkeep of these sites is crucial for natural resource protection and preservation of the current facilities. This will be done by retaining a crew of four employees for five summer months over two years, along with a match for materials, which will be dedicated only to routine maintenance projects at these sites to care for the longevity of existing investments including repairing deteriorated tables, bent fire ring grills, broken bulletin boards, uprooted bollards, preserving site markers, painting signs, painting bathrooms, and fixing parking areas delineators. The grant would be matched by a 4 person recreation operations crew dedicated to routine maintenance and operations (such as toilet cleaning and pumping, litter and graffiti removal, and general facility upkeep). Force account funds for material, supply, and utility purchases funded by recreation fees, as well as volunteer donations (campground hosts, donated labor) will be used as a match. Finally, the primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be for camping, but

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



also supports hiking, picnicking and boating. Recreation use on the District has been increasing an estimated 124,400 people recreated at 42 developed sites on the District in 2016. The Forest Service will contribute \$229,240 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2597)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District Cle Elum Front Country Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$149,500

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to conduct maintenance on frontcountry campgrounds, dispersed areas and trailhead facilities on the Cle Elum Ranger District, located in Kittitas County. Maintenance activities will consist of trash removal, restroom cleaning, annual maintenance and repair of campgrounds, dispersed camping areas and non-motorized trailhead facilities. Annual maintenance of bulletin boards and general forest signing will also be completed. The goal of this project is to maintain campground, general dispersed area camping, and trailhead facilities for camping, picnicking, sightseeing, swimming, hunting and hiking. The primary recreational opportunities provided by this project are camping and other near-road recreational activities. Because of our close proximity to Puget Sound the Cle Elum Ranger District has a huge number of summer recreational users. Maintenance is required to protect natural resources and allow the district to provide a safe recreation opportunity. There are 24 campgrounds on the district, all of which are Forest Service administered. There are 30 total trailhead toilets serving a diverse array of users and two rental cabins requiring periodic maintenance and servicing. Approximately 1,022 miles of non-highway Forest Service roads host over 375 dispersed camping sites on the district. A typical maintenance crew consists of 4 to 6 people, working April through October. The Forest Service will contribute \$150,500 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2294)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District Cle Elum Ranger District: Sanitation Rentals

Grant Requested: \$30,000

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to rent one large dumpster and multiple portable toilets, including some ADA accessible toilets, to place in highly impacted dispersed camping areas bordering riparian areas from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be the protection of natural resources, especially near riparian areas, to sustain a natural camping experience. Our overall goal is to provide sanitation in areas with very heavy recreation use and to reduce the public health hazards associated with improper disposal of waste. Dispersed camping takes place outside of formally constructed campgrounds. Dispersed campsites are created by campers, not planned by the Forest Service, and do not usually include amenities such as toilets and garbage services. However, in extremely high use areas such as the dispersed camping found on the Cle Elum Ranger District, there has been a tremendous amount of human waste and garbage deposited in the riparian camp areas. These facilities will add needed infrastructure to the project area in response increasingly overwhelming user demand. Each sanitation rental is maintained by a contractor, therefore not impacting our staff with extra demands for maintenance and operation. We feel the combination of providing temporary restroom and garbage facilities along with in the field education and enforcement is the most

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



cost efficient method for combating human waste and garbage in the districts high use dispersed camping areas. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2295)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Indian Camp Campground Renovation and Expansion

Grant Requested: \$199,278

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to renovate and expand Indian Camp Campground within the Teanaway Community Forest, located in Kittitas County north of Cle Elum. This project will provide funding for materials, staffing, permits, and improvements. Renovation will include the addition of an ADA horse ramp, highlines, hitching posts, 20 additional campsites, a double vault CXT toilet, and a storage shed for supplies. By renovating the campground there will be improved parking, sanitation, expanded ADA facilities and camping opportunities, equestrian amenities, and safer access for horse trailers and camp trailers. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is safe and sustainable camping facilities. Currently users park their trailers and hitch their horses wherever they find a flat spot. The addition of more sites will give them a safer and more sustainable place to park and camp. The storage room will allow volunteers to perform maintenance duties at the campground without having to drive to Ellensburg for supplies and the new ADA accessible double vault toilet will provide the needed sanitation for 20 more sites. The department will contribute \$51,750 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2434)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District Snoqualmie Ranger District Accessible and Interpretive Facility Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$70,000

The Snoqualmie Ranger District within the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this funding to complete heavy maintenance on interpretive trails, accessible trails and trailhead facilities. Critical reconstruction projects will be completed on trails and facilities that were designed to be ADA-compliant such as the Gold Creek Pond Nature Loop and certain campsites within the Evans Creek Campground and ORV Area. Additional work will focus on restoring interpretive signs and facilities on trails such as the Asahel Curtis Nature Loop and John Muir Discovery Trail. Accessible and interpretive trails and facilities provide important opportunities for individuals and families who by choice or challenge use the least demanding outdoor recreation facilities. This includes ADA trails, bathroom facilities, campgrounds, historic trails and nature trails. Unfortunately, the highly-developed nature of these facilities make them difficult and expensive to maintain to their design standards, particularly within the dynamic landscape of the Snoqualmie Ranger District. This has resulted in a maintenance backlog that has impaired full accessibility to the facilities included in the project. Reducing this maintenance backlog and insuring continued ADA compliance is a critical first step before seeking to develop additional accessible and interpretive trails and facilities. The Forest Service will contribute \$18,000 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2777)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest, Hood Canal Ranger District Seal Rock Campground Accessibility Enhancements

Grant Requested: \$102,000

The Hood Canal Ranger District of the Olympic National Forest will use this grant to perform numerous campground maintenance projects within Seal Rock Campground in Jefferson County. This project will address deferred maintenance needs identified by facility inspections, as well as, increase accessibility within the campground. These two objectives will help the Olympic National Forest move toward the regional sustainable recreation goals as well as provide updated accessible campground amenities to the recreational users of the Olympic NF. This grant will be used to purchase accessible picnic tables and fire rings for all 41 sites, accessible picnic tables for the day use area, gravel to rehabilitate tent pads, and gravel and fill material to address accessibility issues within each site. ??Seal Rock Campground is one of the most used campgrounds on the Olympic NF. It has been identified as a cornerstone campground because of the unique recreational opportunities available. Located directly on the Hood Canal, Seal Rock CG is one of the few campgrounds in the National Forest System which provides the salt water recreational experience. Just a 1/2 mile north of the town of Brinnon, Seal Rock provides a seasonal boost in tourism dollars for this local community. The Forest Service will contribute \$26,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2364)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Tonasket Ranger District

Grant Requested: \$104,484

Tonasket Ranger District Campground Maintenance and Operation

The Tonasket Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF will use this funding to support the operation and maintenance of 13 campgrounds across the district. The campgrounds that require ongoing operation and maintenance activities are Beth Lake, Bonaparte Lake, Lost Lake, Beaver Lake, Crawfish Lake, Sugarloaf, Cottonwood, Kerr, Oriole, Salmon Meadows, Fourteen Mile, Long Swamp, and Tiffany Springs. Maintenance activities include replacing toilet facilities, water system maintenance and repair, building maintenance and repair, general repairs of campground parking barriers, picnic tables, fire grates, site numbers, campground loop roads, and signs. The primary recreational opportunity that this project will provide is a safe and enjoyable camping experience that protects the natural resources. Both local visitors and those outside of the local area count on the District campgrounds to be a part of their summertime camping experiences. The local merchants also rely on the visitors who are supplying their camping activities and using the National Forest campgrounds. The Forest Service will contribute \$63,200 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2226)

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

Grant Requested: \$130,000

Entiat Ranger District Campgrounds and Dispersed Maintenance and Operation

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 6 campgrounds, 1 rental cabin and 1 group site at front country sites on the Entiat Ranger District, located in Chelan County. Maintenance activities will include: trash removal, restroom cleaning, annual maintenance and repair of campground facilities, hand

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



well maintenance and testing, maintenance of dispersed camping areas and informational kiosks/signs. Grant funds will also be used for the purchase of a tractor and small tools/minor equipment. In addition, two existing lookouts will be upgraded and placed on the rental system for overnight use and three toilets converted from composting to vault style. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be camping and day-use recreation facilities. The latest visitor use surveys for the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF show continued increased use on the forest, including increased demand for overnight camping opportunities. The Entiat Ranger District provides a family recreation experience along the Entiat and Mad Rivers with 6 full service campgrounds and nearly 100 identified dispersed sites throughout the district. There are approximately 350 miles of non-highway FS roads that are host to dispersed sites and informational and educational kiosks which require routine maintenance April - October each year. The Forest Service will contribute \$65,450 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2547)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie River

Grant Requested: \$200,000

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this funding to construct an accessible day use area and interpretive loop trail. More specifically, the District will develop an ADA-compliant trailhead facility and bathroom, eight picnic sites, and an ADA-compliant interpretive loop trail that links these facilities to a scenic gravel bar on the bank of the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River. The Middle Fork Snoqualmie River, recently designated as a Wild and Scenic River, holds great potential as a recreational destination for the Seattle metropolitan area. Located only 35 minutes from downtown Seattle, this 110,000-acre valley has been the focus of intense public acquisition, (about 98% is publicly owned), cleanup, and planning for the past 20 years. The Snoqualmie Ranger District has been working under the guidance of the 1997 Middle Fork Snoqualmie Public Use Concept Plan to collaboratively restore and improve safe public access in the valley with other agencies, environmental organizations, and user groups. The U.S. Forest Service is working with many partners in the region to substantially improve recreation infrastructure in the Valley in preparation for dramatic increase in use that is expected to correspond with the 2017 opening of the Middle Fork Road (Forest Road 56). This effort is one of nearly two dozen shovel-ready recreation infrastructure projects that the U.S. Forest Service, and the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust have moved through design and permitting, and are now ready for construction. The Forest Service will contribute \$105,000 in staff labor and donations of cash. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2790)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Snoqualmie Picnic Shelters and Interpretive Trail

Grant Requested: \$145,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to develop a new day-use picnic area with two viewpoint shelters and a half mile of interpretive trail within Tiger Mountain State Forest. The proposed enhancements are within 30 miles of Seattle, in eastern King County. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be improved viewpoint picnic facilities and non-motorized interpretive trail

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



recreation. This grant proposal seeks to re-purpose an abandoned gravel pit location by developing two picnic shelters that will provide views of Mt. Rainier, with adjacent parking access. In addition, a 0.5 mile length interpretive trail is proposed to connect the new picnic shelters to an existing viewpoint picnic location, located at the 3,004' elevation summit of east Tiger Mountain. This project is supported from the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan, a public planning process completed March 2015 with widespread support from user groups, recreation non-profit organizations, public advisory committees, local jurisdictions, and nearby communities. The department will contribute \$62,160 in staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2378)

Washington Department of Natural Resources McKenny Camp/Trailhead Improvements and Expansion

Grant Requested: \$103,500

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to improve and further develop the Margaret McKenny Campground and Trailhead, located within Capitol State Forest, near Olympia. This project will include installing a sewer and water system for the campground host site, enlarging and repaving the day-use parking area and constructing four new campsites. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be increased camping, day-use and non-motorized trail access through upgraded and enlarged campground and trailhead facilities. This grant will protect and enhance previous RCO investments, greatly reduce maintenance costs, improve the experience for shared-use trail enthusiasts and will help meet the increasing demand for day-use parking and overnight camping. Additionally, having campground host amenities, such as sewer and water, will allow DNR to attract good quality campground hosts. This project has passionate support from all trail and campground enthusiasts who attend Capitol Forest user group meetings. The department will contribute \$44,600 in staff labor and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2329)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Wooten Wildlife Area Campground 3 Remodel

Grant Requested: \$160,000

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to renovate and reconfigure Campground 3 on the W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area located approximately 14 miles south of Pomeroy, WA. The scope of this project is installing a new loop driveway system through the campground, replacing two outhouses with new accessible CXT toilets, adding campsites, and renovating existing campsites. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is recreational vehicle camping for those who are wildlife viewing, fishing, and hunting. Campground 3 is in need of a renovation to accommodate larger RV's and camp trailers. The existing road into and out of the campground with 2 dead-end spurs provides no place for large RV's to turn around if all of the campsites are full. This project will replace the dead-end roads with a gravel loop driveway that runs through the campground. The current campground has 9 designated campsites, and this project will increase the number of designated campsites to 13. This campground is heavily used from March 1 to the end of December. This campground is within walking distance of Rainbow Lake and this project would complement the Rainbow Lake Reconfiguration Project that is being done to reshape and deepen Rainbow Lake to improve fish habitat and increase fishing

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonhighway Road Category (In Rank Order)



opportunity for the public. The Rainbow Lake Reconfiguration Project is a Capital Request Project and work is beginning in June 2017. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2243)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District Entiat Yurts - Lake Creek Campground

Grant Requested: \$40,000

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to construct two yurts in the Lake Creek Campground on the Entiat Ranger District, located in Chelan County. The primary outdoor recreation opportunity provided is overnight camping. The overall goal is to provide quality year-round overnight camping opportunities on the district. Yurts provide opportunities to families who may not have invested in camping equipment, they also provide winter opportunities for skiers and snowmobilers. The Forest Service will contribute \$14,000 in staff labor and donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2553)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

This attachment includes 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.

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) – Nonhighway Road Projects

- 16-2350M Campground and Dispersed Site Maintenance and Operations (1) Rank 3
- 16-2331M Capitol and Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance (5) Rank 4
- 16-2607M Skykomish Dispersed Site and Trailhead Maintenance (5) Rank 7
- 16-2474M Hood Canal District Nonhighway Road Maintenance and Operation (1) Rank 9
- 16-2777M Snoqualmie Ranger District Accessible/Interpretive Facility Maintenance (4) Rank 14
- 16-2790D Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie River (3) Rank 18
- 16-2378D Snoqualmie Picnic Shelters and Interpretive Trail (1) Rank 19
- 16-2329D McKenny Campground and Trailhead Improvements and Expansion (3) Rank 20



October 10, 2016

NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #3

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Letter of Support for:

- 16-2335 Wilderness and Non-Motorized Trails M&O 2018-2019 (NOVA)
- 16-2334 Wenatchee River RD ORV Trails M&O 2018-2019 (NOVA)
- 16-2350 Trailhead and Dispersed Site M&O 2017-2018 (NOVA)
- 16-2349 Wilderness & Backcountry E&E 2017-2018 (NOVA)
- 16-2348 Wenatchee River RD Snow Ranger Education (RTP)
- 16-2347 Wenatchee River RD Climbing Ranger Education (NOVA)

Dear Review Committee,

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust is a private, non-profit organization based in Wenatchee, Washington. Founded in 1985, we are comprised of over 1,500 active members and volunteers. The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust engages communities in conserving, caring for, and accessing the natural lands and waters that sustain North Central Washington. As such, we strongly support the above listed US Forest Service, Wenatchee Ranger District's NOVA and RTP grant applications for trail development, maintenance and community education.

These projects involve the annual maintenance of multi-purpose trails including some of the most scenic trails for multiple-recreation activities in the state. These projects complement our trail planning, outreach and maintenance work in Chelan County, and will have huge backing from many local user groups and recreational enthusiasts.

We recognize the importance of partnership in protecting and maintaining trails on public land and we support this not only through endorsing this grant application but also by coordinating our work efforts with the Wenatchee River Ranger District for some of these important projects. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Respectfully,

Curt Soper
Executive Director

NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #4

RCO Funding Board

2017-2018 RCO Grants – Capitol Forest

16-2331 Capitol Forest & NRCA Facilities Maintenance

I, Laura Dell, a member of Back Country Horsemen of Washington, am writing in support of the above grant proposal.

The trail systems on Capitol Forest and other DNR recreation lands are very popular. At Capitol Forest, where I recreate, this is due in part to its close proximity to Olympia and attracts many motorized and non-motorized users. Ongoing facilities maintenance is necessary to offset this heavy use.

Please accept this letter of support for the Capitol Forest & NRCA Facilities Maintenance grant.

Laura Dell

Rainier, Washington

Craig Dickson
CO-Director, Event Coordinator and Trail Runner
Guerilla Running Racing Club
PO Box 13184
Olympia, WA 98508

12/15/2016

To the Recreation & Conservation Office,

I am the co-director of the Guerilla Running Racing Club and I would like to share my support for several grants for projects in the Capitol and Yacolt State Forests. Guerilla Running puts on an annual trail running race, the Mountain Marathon and Hill Billy Half Marathon which raises funds for Friends of Capitol Forest and South Puget Sound Search and Rescue. These two important organizations help keep people safe and the trails accessible and their partnership with Washington DNR and organizations like my running club have been instrumental in making The Capitol State Forest one of the more popular places for recreation in the area.

I've been running the trails of Capitol State Forest since I moved to Washington in 1995. Back then I felt like just a handful of people were taking advantage of the miles of trails and I believe this was due to the bad reputation the forest had. Vandalism of trail signs and facilities, dumping and illegal shooting was much more out of control then. Since then the forest has seen an upsurge in use by many different groups and the trails are increasingly well maintained and new facilities have sprouted up. I and many other trail runners have put in many hours directly maintaining the trails and contributing funds. Despite these efforts, there continues to be some of the same old human issues, along with Mother Nature's impact, that are beyond the control of a few independent organizations, citizens and DNR employees. This is where the support from these grants would be immensely helpful.

I am asking that the following grants be considered for improving the Capitol and Yacolt State Forest experience.

#16-2825 Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
#16-2327 Mnt, Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
#16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
#16-2329 McKenny Camp/Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
#16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

These grants would be extremely important to keep the trails and facilities safe and well-maintained. Additionally, the grants, especially #16-2326, would help ensure the invaluable DNR staff will continue to have a presence in the forest. Without them our events would not be happening and the forests would be a less safe place for recreation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely and with thanks,



Craig Dickson

Capitol Forest User Group Representatives

NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #4

Tumwater WA 01/26/2017

To the Recreation & Conservation Office,

The Capitol Forest User Group, comprised of neighbors, equestrian, mountain bike, off road vehicle and trail running enthusiasts are in favor of funding grants directed towards improving the recreational use experience in the forest.

Capitol Forest is blessed with and extensive trail network and expansive forest, however the forest has clay based soils and it located in a rain belt, which means diligent maintenance is required on the trails. DNR directed crews and volunteers are needed in efforts to preserve the trail and the environment. The trail side facilities require maintenance by volunteers and DNR resources. The User Group supports needed funding for trails and facilities.

The User Group also supports the two grants to enlarge and improve Margaret McKenny trailhead / campground and the grant to resurface the ORV campground and trailhead located on the East side of the forest.

The User Group is enthusiastic about additional funding to continue the bathroom cleaning contract which is presently funded by a grant for Capitol & Yacolt forest.

In addition to the trail and facility maintenance grants the Capitol Forest User Group also supports the Education & Enforcement (E&E) Grant. The DNR E&E Warden has been doing a great job in educating users about the forest and when necessary writing citations to gain compliance. The Warden has established an effective Forest Watch volunteer program.

The User Group is asking the following grants be considered for improving the Capitol Forest experience:

- #16-2825 Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
- #16-2327 Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
- #16-2326 Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
- #16- 2330 Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance
- #16-2329 McKenny Camp/Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
- #16-2331 Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

Thank you for considering this request

Capitol Forest User Group Members

Name	Recreation Use	Name	Recreation Use
Dave Outbreth	ATV- motorcycl	Beth Neff	Motorcycle
Kent Dixon	ATV-	Laura Dell	EQUINE
Steve Tiedt	motorcycl	Dee Green	EQUINE
Scott Neff	Motorcycle	Paul Butler	Neighbor
Joan Fleming	Horseback & Hiking	Robert O. Ellison	MOTO
Sue Watson ^{BCH} _{Amateur}	Horseback riding	Tad Tower	ATV
Barb Paris	Horseback riding	Joe HEITMANN	ATV
CAROLE KOWIT	HORSE & ATV	Dan Sayl	Trail Runner
Kim Harbel	Horseback Rider	Terri Johnson	EQUINE
Bob BACON	HORSEBACK Rider	Tony W	mountain bike
Andrew Claiborne	Mountain bike	Alan Wolfe	Mountain Bike
Chris Funnico	Horseback Riding		
Norman Green	Horse back Riding		

1/27/16

NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #4

January 21, 2017

Subject: Letter of Support for RCO Grants

Dear Grant Application Reviewers,

I would like to express my enthusiastic support for the grant applications listed below submitted for the purpose of maintaining and improving recreational facilities and opportunities in Capitol State Forest:

- # 16-2329 McKenny Camp/Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
- # 16-2825 Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
- # 16-2327 Mnt, Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
- # 16-2330 Mtn, Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2328 Mnt, CF ORV Trailhead & Campground Paving Preservation
- # 16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

I am a member of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington and a nearby resident to Capitol Forest. As such I can attest to the popularity of Capitol Forest by a wide variety of recreational users, including hikers, runners, campers, horseback riders, mountain bikers, off road vehicle users, hunters, prospectors, and target shooters. I see Capitol Forest being enjoyed by individuals and families, and as a venue for statewide recreational events, educational and training events.

As a result of the heavy use, maintenance and improvement needs are high. Many user groups, such as Friends of Capitol Forest and Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, volunteer time and resources to assist DNR in maintaining these highly valued public recreational facilities. However, the grant funds requested would provide funding for much needed improvements at specific heavily-used campgrounds and trailhead facilities and on trails throughout the forest.

Grant funds invested in Capitol State Forest will benefit and enrich the lives of many, many people across the state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan Davis
7929 105th Ave SW
Olympia, WA 98512

Friends of Capitol Forest

1713 Camden Park Dr. SW
Olympia, WA 98512
(206) 979-9494
ktwood@gmail.com

January 2017

Dear RCO Board Members,

The Friends of Capitol Forest ("FOCF") is a trail access and maintenance advocacy group based in Olympia, Washington. Collectively, our members perform thousands of volunteer hours building and maintaining recreational trails, mostly in Capitol State Forest, but also in other areas throughout the Puget Sound region. Our members are mostly mountain bike enthusiasts, however, FOCF is an inclusive group that counts hikers, trail runners, and equestrians among its membership. Today I am writing you in support of a number of grants to perform work within the Capitol Forest (listed below).

Capitol Forest continues to be a large draw for recreationalists throughout Western Washington, Northern Oregon, and beyond. In close coordination with local DNR staff, FOCF is proud of the significant progress seen towards making Capitol Forest a premier destination. In the past year, FOCF and DNR are in the early design/construction phases of several new trail opportunities, including:

- An advanced downhill mountain bike trail located near the Straddleline ORV park;
- Climbing and beginner-friendly routes in and around the Little Larch Mountain Trail area;
- A climbing trail parallel to the Green Line trail;
- A mountain-bike specific line on the Twin Peaks motorized trail;

In addition, and with RCO grant assistance, DNR installed new bathroom facilities at the Mima Falls and Fall Creek areas. FOCF assisted in installing a new bridge on the McKinney Trail, and new bridges were placed on the ORV trail system that is also used by mountain bikers.

As Capitol Forest continues to see increasing use, RCO grant funding is a vital part of both maintaining the incredible opportunities Capitol Forest has to offer the region. For these reasons, FOCF offers its wholehearted support for the following grant opportunities:

16-2327 Capitol Forest Non Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

16-2329, McKenny Camp/Trailhead & Fall Creek Trailhead Expansion

16-2825 Fall Creek - PW

16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement

16-2330 Mtn, Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance

16-2328 Mnt, CF ORV Trailhead & Campground Paving Preservation

#16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this year's grant season. FOCF looks forward to assisting DNR in assuring prompt and effective execution of grant awards.

Very truly yours,

Kelly T. Wood
President, Friends of Capitol Forest



PO Box 308 – 119 North Fourth Street, Skykomish, WA 98288 – (360) 677-2388

State of Washington
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of Support for RCO Grant for Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance

On behalf of the Town Council and the residents of the Town of Skykomish, I support the Skykomish District Ranger RCO grant application for Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance. This grant is of tremendous importance to both the Skykomish District Ranger Office and to the Town of Skykomish.

Skykomish is a small, quintessential Northwest Town near the top of the Stevens Pass in the Cascade Mountain Range, along the historic Great Northern Railway and Highway 2 corridor. Built from necessity by the railroad and energized by thriving timber mills, these two industries no longer directly contribute to the local economy. Still recovering from a massive ten year environmental cleanup project by BNSF, Skykomish now looks to reinvent itself and strengthen its economic vitality by responsibly promoting outdoor recreational activities that complement existing tourism-related businesses and promoting the town's strong relationship to the environment through access to surrounding outdoor recreational opportunities. These goals are directly linked to public access U.S. Forest Service lands. We strongly support access for trails and other public amenities that would increase recreational opportunities and visitation to the Town and nearby popular recreation destinations, including Stevens Pass Ski (now also mountain bike) Area, Pacific Crest Trail, and Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area.

On April 28th, 2014, The King County Council unanimously adopted the Skykomish Economic Development, Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Initiative (Skykomish Initiative). This was the combined effort of the Town of Skykomish, the U.S. Forest Service (Skykomish Ranger District), Forterra, Washington Trails Association and others with support from King County Councilmembers Kathy Lambert and Rod Dembowski to commit to preserve and protect river frontage and old-growth forest, fish and wildlife habitat and cultivate outdoor recreational access while helping to promote tourism. Chairman Dembowski explained that this unique initiative will be held as an example for future Forest Service and municipal partnerships across the county. Last week Congresswoman Suzan DelBene visited the Skykomish District Office to voice her support of initiative and toured points of interest pertaining to public access to Forest Service lands.

On May 11, 2014, the Skykomish Ranger District and the Town of Skykomish partnered to reopen the USDA Deception Falls trail system on Highway 2 that was closed due to budgetary



PO Box 308 – 119 North Fourth Street, Skykomish, WA 98288 – (360) 677-2388

constraints. This is a mutually beneficial agreement where the town would provide basic maintenance and litter removal from the trail system. This effort shows the commitment and creativity of the Skykomish Ranger District to find cost-saving methods to keep public access of Forest Service lands open and clean.

With coordination between the Forest Service and funding in part by the State Department of Ecology, the Town of Skykomish is finalizing the permitted construction of the Maloney Creek Interpretive Trail on undeveloped National Forest land near the town and alongside the Lower Maloney Creek Restoration Project. The creek restoration was completed by the town for flood abatement and fish habitat improvement in 2011 and Skykomish Environmental Institute volunteers currently monitor creek the for sediment accumulation and salmon spawning. The Maloney Creek Interpretive Trail will be maintained by the Town of Skykomish.

The Town recognizes the importance of the balance between environmental stewardship and well maintained recreational access and applaud the great lengths the Skykomish Ranger District has gone to effectively manage these lands. I fully support the Skykomish Ranger District in their efforts to obtain RCO grant funding for monitoring and maintain dispersed sites and trailheads in the Skykomish area.

Respectfully,

Alan A. Grider
Mayor of Skykomish

Cc: Town Council, Skykomish Environmental Institute



January 24, 2017

State of Washington
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St. SE
Olympia, WA 98504

Re: Letter of Support for RCO Grant request for Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance

The Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Information Center would like to support the U.S. Forest Service request for trailhead and dispersed site maintenance support. As budgets shrink it's even more important to support the assets that we have already invested in. These developed sites have been used by the recreating public for many years and deserve the attention so that they can continue to serve. The Chamber recognizes the economic value of maintaining and keeping access to the US Forest Service lands. The Sky Valley depends on keeping these assets open and functioning properly.

Outdoor recreation has finally been identified as having economic value, which it certainly does, but it also a sacred right for citizens to be able to escape the City and enjoy nature as provided by the U.S. Forest Service and National Parks. Protecting the environment includes proper maintenance of the developed landscape.

The Chamber encourages you to support this very important work by authorizing this grant request.

Feel free to contact us for more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Copple".

Debbie Copple, Director
Sky Valley Chamber & Visitor Center
PO Box 46
Sultan, WA 98294
360-793-0983

Skykomish Public School School District No. 404

P.O. Box 325 • 105 - 6th Street North

Skykomish, WA 98288

Phone: (360) 677-2623 • FAX (360) 677-2418

October 24, 2016

State of Washington
Recreation and Conservation Office
111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of Support for RCO Grant for Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance (14-2095)

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my sincere pleasure to write this letter of support on behalf of the Skykomish Ranger District and the work and endeavors of Mr. John Robinson.

The Skykomish School District is located in close proximity to a large number of trails in the Skykomish area. The District annually provides transportation to several of these sites for outdoor environmental education and learning. One aspect of the outdoor classroom setting takes place at the trailhead before our students start their endeavor on the trail itself. It is essential to maintain these facilities and to make restrooms available at these sites, not only for our students, but for all patrons who utilize these trails. Trailheads provide hikers with critical information about the trail and the surrounding area as well as a minimum impact statement that our students and others use on a regular basis.

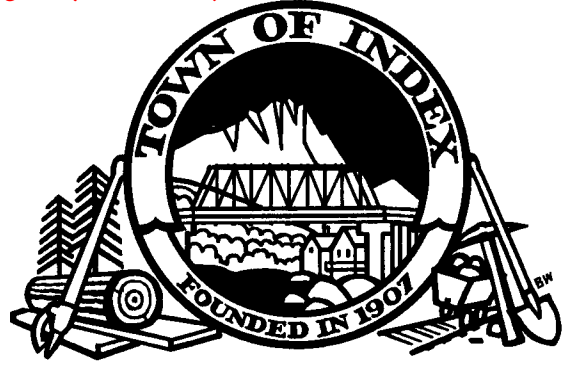
The Skykomish School District partners on a regular basis with the Skykomish Ranger District to assist in constructing bulletin boards and restroom facilities for use at trailheads and dispersed sites in our area. The District also annually participates in roadside and campsite litter pickup and removal throughout the school year in conjunction with Arbor Day and Earth Day events in cooperation with the Skykomish Ranger District.

Our District will continue to support the Skykomish Ranger District in any way possible to help improve our local environment and to provide environmental learning opportunities for our students. We support the efforts of the Skykomish Ranger District, particularly their efforts to secure grant funding sources for trailhead and dispersed site maintenance in the Skykomish area.

Sincerely,



Thomas Jay
Superintendent



511 Avenue A • P.O. Box 88
Index, Washington 98256
(360) 793-2488 • Fax (360) 793-7998
index@seanet.com

State of Washington
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA. 98504-0917

October 25, 2016

Re: Letter of Support for RCO Grant for Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance

I am informed that the Skykomish Ranger District is again submitting a grant application for trailhead and dispersed site maintenance. The Town of Index lies in close proximity to a large number of dispersed sites in the North Fork Skykomish Valley. These sites fulfill a public need for campsites in the area and are an asset to the Town, the local economy, and the general public in that they provide needed recreational opportunities in the area. Usage of these sites continues to increase, and without regular maintenance such heavily used sites are apt to become littered and dilapidated, and to cease to be regional recreational assets.

In the past the Town of Index has partnered with the Skykomish Ranger District to assist in maintaining and monitoring dispersed sites in the area, and we very much appreciate the continuing efforts of the Skykomish Ranger District in maintaining such sites. We will continue to support the Skykomish Ranger district in any way possible to help maintain and improve our local environment and recreational resources. We support the efforts the Skykomish Ranger District is taking to obtain grant funding for trailhead and dispersed site maintenance in the Skykomish area.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Yours very truly,

Bruce Albert
Mayor



NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #9

www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. rider powered.

December 22, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Subject: Hood Canal District Non-Highway Road Maintenance and Operations - 16-2474

Dear Review Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen) would like to express our support for the Department of Natural Resources RCO Grant 16-2474. This grant will provide funds to conduct routine maintenance on non-highway road campgrounds and facilities within the Hood Canal District, located in Mason and Kitsap Counties.

The campgrounds in this region have seen increased use due to population growth and high user interest. Basic maintenance including cleaning and vault toilet pumping are increasingly needed as a result. Funding this grant will facilitate proper care of and protect the public's investment in these valuable resources.

As a recreational user group of our trails and associated facilities, we appreciate the need for maintenance of our treasured assets and support the efforts of the Department of Natural Resources in providing that service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Kilpatrick".

Brian Kilpatrick
President
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
West Sound Chapter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus".

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



December 30, 2016

TO:

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Special Olympics of Washington is embarking on a new initiative to help our athletes and their families become more active and healthy. Currently, approximately 70% of our athletes are considered overweight or obese and this at risk of serious health complications. One of our priorities over the next few years will include encouraging the formation of walking/hiking clubs in every community. These clubs will be inclusive of all segments of the community.

We look forward to promoting use of the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest as an option for the clubs. The Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest is working to fund maintenance for all of their accessible trails and facilities, as well as the development of a new ADA compliant day use site on the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River. These projects are being proposed through the NOVA Non-highway Road program sponsored by RCO. The USFS prides itself in providing opportunities for users of all abilities to enjoy their public lands.

Special Olympics Washington supports this effort and looks forward to encouraging our athletes and participants in our Healthy Communities clubs to take advantage of these trails and facilities.

Project #16-2790, Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R.

Project #16-2777, Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19

Thanks to the Forest Service, Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District for undertaking these projects, and to all who support them in this work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Lenox".

Dave Lenox
President & CEO
Special Olympics Washington
1809 7th Ave, Suite 1509
Seattle, WA 98101
Tel + 206 681 9363
Fax + 206 361 8158
Email dlenox@sowa.org



President
Kurt Froese (*), President
GeoEngineers, Inc.

President-Elect
Tod McDonald (*), Principal
Cypress Advisors

Founding President
Jim Ellis, Chairman Emeritus
Washington State Convention Center

Immediate Past President
Bill Chapman (*), President and CEO
Millennium Bulk Terminals, Longview

Secretary
John Baier (*), Attorney
Baier Law Firm

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner
KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (*), Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #14

November 21, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2790, Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R.

Project #16-2777, Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19

Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain and build hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is the landscape connecting Seattle to Ellensburg surrounding Interstate 90, including wilderness lands, rural areas and historic sites, and the 15th largest metropolitan area in the country. This spectacular landscape has not happened by accident. More than two decades of collaborative work have preserved the natural heritage of the Greenway, which encompasses some of the most heavily-used trails in the state including locations within the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

Sally Bagshaw (X), Councilmember, City of Seattle
Jim Becker, Founder, SmartLab Toys, becker&mayer
Gary Berndt, Civic Leader, Cle Elum
Mark Boyar (*), President
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, Director, King County Parks & Recreation
Will Castillo, Principal, GGLO
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program
The Wilderness Society
Karl Forsgaard, President
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, City of Issaquah
Todd Glass, Partner
Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati PC
Kari Glover, Global Integration Partner, Retired
K&L Gates
Peter Goldmark (X), Commissioner of Public Lands
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Rich Grillo, Community at Large Representative
Cle Elum
Bruce Gryniowski, Partner, Gallatin Public Affairs
Don Hoch (X), Director
Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Laura Hoffman, Amazon Publishing,
Copper Ridge Farm
Cara Johnson, Geotechnical Engineer
GeoEngineers
Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel
Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
Jamie Kingsbury (X), Supervisor
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Janet Knox, Principal Environmental Geochemist
Pacific Groundwater Group
Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Leon Kos, City Administrator (retired), City of Issaquah
Paul Kundtz, Northwest Director
The Trust for Public Land
Helen Lee, Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Danny Levine, President, NationAd Communications
Arlene Levy (*), Partner, Social Venture Partners
Josh Lipsky (*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC
Robert Manelski, Senior Director, 787 Program
The Boeing Company
Gordon McHenry Jr (*), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Sue McLain (*), Former Senior VP Delivery
Operations, Puget Sound Energy
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement
Mary Norton, City of Snoqualmie Parks Board
Meadowbrook Farm
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific NW Stewardship Director
American Whitewater
Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
College of Environment, University of Washington
Marie Quasius (*), Attorney, K&L Gates LLP
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project
Sierra Club
Janet Ray (*), Asst VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardt (*), Principal & Senior Managing
Director, HEARTLAND LLC
Grant Ringel, Communications Director
Puget Sound Energy
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, Divisional Vice President, Sustainability
REI Co-op
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant (*), Vice President, CH2M
Maryanne Tagney
Community at Large Representative
Leah Tivoli, Organizational Performance Manager
City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor
Okanagon-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Former Senior Vice President,
HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yaker, Solution Architect, Microsoft

(*), Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director



The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for these important projects. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning these proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being more prominent than the last name "Hoekstra".

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

December, 28th 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Snoqualmie Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCNST) as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service “recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCNST”. In 2016, programs organized under the PCTA’s leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1500 hours in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 35 miles of the PCNST that passes through the North Cascades Region is managed by the District; much of this is in Norse Peak Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that more than 15 miles of this area was opened and maintained for hiker and equestrian use during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic

setting for education, recreation and solitude. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Additionally it is critical for our collaborative work that the District be supported enough to provide wilderness and front-country rangers and enforcement officers. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington have specific plans to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Snoqualmie Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications:

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2523, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-19

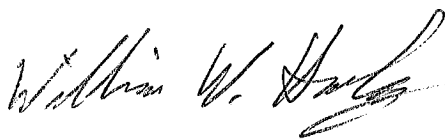
Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

I would point out that funding for Alpine Lakes is particularly critical; this area has been hard hit in the last few seasons and because of its remoteness, it requires an extraordinary effort to address the back-log of work.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William W. Hawley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

January 4, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA & RTP proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following NOVA and RTP projects:

- Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement #16-2793
- Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19 #16-2522
- Snoqualmie RD Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19 #16-2491
- Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R. #16-2790
- Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-9 #16-2523
- Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19 #16-2777
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019 #16-2429
- Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019 #16-2489

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

For 50 years, WTA has focused on helping Washingtonians get on trail to experience the great outdoors in our state and national parks, national forests and other public lands with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of trails and making outdoor experiences fulfilling and fun for hikers.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest offers some of the most visited trails and trailheads in the state. Replacement of the Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge will increase safety on a popular trail in the increasingly busy Highway 410 corridor. With this increase in users, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance is essential to providing safe and sustainable trails to all users in addition to the need for more Front Country and Backcountry Ranger Patrols to help alleviate and control user impact.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance on the Snoqualmie Ranger District, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



President
Kurt Froese (*), President
GeoEngineers, Inc.

President-Elect
Tod McDonald (*), Principal
Cypress Advisors

Founding President
Jim Ellis, Chairman Emeritus
Washington State Convention Center

Immediate Past President
Bill Chapman (*), President and CEO
Millennium Bulk Terminals, Longview

Secretary
John Baier (*), Attorney
Baier Law Firm

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner
KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (*), Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #18

November 21, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Project #16-2522, Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19

Project #16-2491, Snoqualmie R.D. Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19

Project #16-2790, Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R.

Project #16-2777, Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19

Project #16-2429, Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

Project #16-2489, Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain and build hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway is the landscape connecting Seattle to Ellensburg surrounding Interstate 90, including wilderness lands, rural areas and historic sites, and the 15th largest metropolitan area in the country. This spectacular landscape has not happened by accident. More than two decades of collaborative work have preserved the natural heritage of the Greenway, which encompasses some of the most heavily-used trails in the state including locations within the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

Sally Bagshaw (X), Councilmember, City of Seattle
Jim Becker, Founder, SmartLab Toys, becker&mayer
Gary Berndt, Civic Leader, Cle Elum
Mark Boyar (*), President
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, Director, King County Parks & Recreation
Will Castillo, Principal, GGLO
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program
The Wilderness Society
Karl Forsgaard, President
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, City of Issaquah
Todd Glass, Partner
Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati PC
Kari Glover, Global Integration Partner, Retired
K&L Gates
Peter Goldmark (X), Commissioner of Public Lands
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Rich Grillo, Community at Large Representative
Cle Elum
Bruce Gryniowski, Partner, Gallatin Public Affairs
Don Hoch (X), Director
Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Laura Hoffman, Amazon Publishing,
Copper Ridge Farm
Cara Johnson, Geotechnical Engineer
GeoEngineers
Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel
Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
Jamie Kingsbury (X), Supervisor
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Janet Knox, Principal Environmental Geochemist
Pacific Groundwater Group
Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Leon Kos, City Administrator (retired), City of Issaquah
Paul Kundtz, Northwest Director
The Trust for Public Land
Helen Lee, Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Danny Levine, President, NationAd Communications
Arlene Levy (*), Partner, Social Venture Partners
Josh Lipsky (*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC
Robert Manelski, Senior Director, 787 Program
The Boeing Company
Gordon McHenry Jr (*), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Sue McLain (*), Former Senior VP Delivery
Operations, Puget Sound Energy
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement
Mary Norton, City of Snoqualmie Parks Board
Meadowbrook Farm
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific NW Stewardship Director
American Whitewater
Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
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Marie Quasius (*), Attorney, K&L Gates LLP
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project
Sierra Club
Janet Ray (*), Asst VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardt (*), Principal & Senior Managing
Director, HEARTLAND LLC
Grant Ringel, Communications Director
Puget Sound Energy
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, Divisional Vice President, Sustainability
REI Co-op
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant (*), Vice President, CH2M
Maryanne Tagney
Community at Large Representative
Leah Tivoli, Organizational Performance Manager
City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor
Okanagan-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Former Senior Vice President,
HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yaker, Solution Architect, Microsoft

(*), Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director



The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for these important projects. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning these proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being more prominent than the last name "Hoekstra".

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



December 30, 2016

NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #18

TO:

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Special Olympics of Washington is embarking on a new initiative to help our athletes and their families become more active and healthy. Currently, approximately 70% of our athletes are considered overweight or obese and this at risk of serious health complications. One of our priorities over the next few years will include encouraging the formation of walking/hiking clubs in every community. These clubs will be inclusive of all segments of the community.

We look forward to promoting use of the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest as an option for the clubs. The Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest is working to fund maintenance for all of their accessible trails and facilities, as well as the development of a new ADA compliant day use site on the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River. These projects are being proposed through the NOVA Non-highway Road program sponsored by RCO. The USFS prides itself in providing opportunities for users of all abilities to enjoy their public lands.

Special Olympics Washington supports this effort and looks forward to encouraging our athletes and participants in our Healthy Communities clubs to take advantage of these trails and facilities.

Project #16-2790, Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R.

Project #16-2777, Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19

Thanks to the Forest Service, Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District for undertaking these projects, and to all who support them in this work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Lenox".

Dave Lenox
President & CEO
Special Olympics Washington
1809 7th Ave, Suite 1509
Seattle, WA 98101
Tel + 206 681 9363
Fax + 206 361 8158
Email dlenox@sowa.org



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

January 4, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA & RTP proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following NOVA and RTP projects:

- Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement #16-2793
- Snoqualmie RD Front Country Patrol 2017-19 #16-2522
- Snoqualmie RD Backcountry Ranger Patrol 2018-19 #16-2491
- Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie R. #16-2790
- Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2017-9 #16-2523
- Snoq. RD Accessible/Interp. Facility Maint. 18-19 #16-2777
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019 #16-2429
- Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019 #16-2489

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

For 50 years, WTA has focused on helping Washingtonians get on trail to experience the great outdoors in our state and national parks, national forests and other public lands with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of trails and making outdoor experiences fulfilling and fun for hikers.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest offers some of the most visited trails and trailheads in the state. Replacement of the Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge will increase safety on a popular trail in the increasingly busy Highway 410 corridor. With this increase in users, Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance is essential to providing safe and sustainable trails to all users in addition to the need for more Front Country and Backcountry Ranger Patrols to help alleviate and control user impact.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance on the Snoqualmie Ranger District, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #19

www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. Rider powered.

January 18, 2017

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: NOVA Nonhighway Road Program - Snoqualmie Picnic Shelters & Interpretive Trails #16-2378 (DEV)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express support of DNR's proposal to develop new day use picnic shelter facilities and interpretive trails within east Tiger Mountain State Forest & adjacent to the Tiger Summit Trailhead. With recent trail system expansion and an improved connected network of trails, the proposed shelters & trail development is vital to enhance Nonhighway facility related & adjacent activities, while complementing the popularity of recent trail system expansion efforts.

Located within a thirty-mile drive from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center, Tiger Summit Trailhead and the Tiger Mountain State Forest trail system is considered a backyard for many hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. Yet despite its proximity to the region's largest population, the east Tiger Mountain area has not reached its full potential with much needed support facilities and appropriate recreation opportunities adjacent to Nonhighway Road parking facilities to serve a variety of users. This proposal will repurpose an old borrow pit to develop two viewpoint shelters, allowing storm and sun protection for many different non-motorized users including mountain bikers. Proposed trail bridge replacement installations and key trail connections near the Tiger Summit Trailhead & a connection between the summit shelters to the existing picnic area will drastically improve the quality of recreation opportunities near existing & proposed facilities.

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (MBA) participated in the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan process (completed March 2015), which resulted in identifying & prioritizing new trail and facility opportunities represented in this grant funding proposal. We have dedicated staff that can assist DNR with implementing portions of this proposal as increasing visitation is expected to occur with new trail additions added each biennium. The proposed development plan will help protect the stakeholder and public's investment in recreational resources for this increasingly popular destination.

Evergreen MBA is Washington's largest mountain bike organization with over 3,300 members and more than 20,000 supporters statewide. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We particularly support this proposal since it underwent a significant planning effort between multiple stakeholders to protect & enhance the natural and recreational resources within Tiger Mountain State Forest. We stand ready to assist the DNR with any future trail development needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus".

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID: 91-1553023.

438 NE 72nd Street | Seattle WA 98115 | 206.524.2900 | www.evergreenMTB.org

Craig Dickson
CO-Director, Event Coordinator and Trail Runner
Guerilla Running Racing Club
PO Box 13184
Olympia, WA 98508

12/15/2016

To the Recreation & Conservation Office,

I am the co-director of the Guerilla Running Racing Club and I would like to share my support for several grants for projects in the Capitol and Yacolt State Forests. Guerilla Running puts on an annual trail running race, the Mountain Marathon and Hill Billy Half Marathon which raises funds for Friends of Capitol Forest and South Puget Sound Search and Rescue. These two important organizations help keep people safe and the trails accessible and their partnership with Washington DNR and organizations like my running club have been instrumental in making The Capitol State Forest one of the more popular places for recreation in the area.

I've been running the trails of Capitol State Forest since I moved to Washington in 1995. Back then I felt like just a handful of people were taking advantage of the miles of trails and I believe this was due to the bad reputation the forest had. Vandalism of trail signs and facilities, dumping and illegal shooting was much more out of control then. Since then the forest has seen an upsurge in use by many different groups and the trails are increasingly well maintained and new facilities have sprouted up. I and many other trail runners have put in many hours directly maintaining the trails and contributing funds. Despite these efforts, there continues to be some of the same old human issues, along with Mother Nature's impact, that are beyond the control of a few independent organizations, citizens and DNR employees. This is where the support from these grants would be immensely helpful.

I am asking that the following grants be considered for improving the Capitol and Yacolt State Forest experience.

#16-2825 Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
#16-2327 Mnt, Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
#16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
#16-2329 McKenny Camp/Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
#16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

These grants would be extremely important to keep the trails and facilities safe and well-maintained. Additionally, the grants, especially #16-2326, would help ensure the invaluable DNR staff will continue to have a presence in the forest. Without them our events would not be happening and the forests would be a less safe place for recreation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely and with thanks,



Craig Dickson

1/27/16

NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #20

January 21, 2017

Subject: Letter of Support for RCO Grants

Dear Grant Application Reviewers,

I would like to express my enthusiastic support for the grant applications listed below submitted for the purpose of maintaining and improving recreational facilities and opportunities in Capitol State Forest:

- # 16-2329 McKenny Camp/Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
- # 16-2825 Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
- # 16-2327 Mnt, Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
- # 16-2330 Mtn, Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2328 Mnt, CF ORV Trailhead & Campground Paving Preservation
- # 16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

I am a member of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington and a nearby resident to Capitol Forest. As such I can attest to the popularity of Capitol Forest by a wide variety of recreational users, including hikers, runners, campers, horseback riders, mountain bikers, off road vehicle users, hunters, prospectors, and target shooters. I see Capitol Forest being enjoyed by individuals and families, and as a venue for statewide recreational events, educational and training events.

As a result of the heavy use, maintenance and improvement needs are high. Many user groups, such as Friends of Capitol Forest and Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, volunteer time and resources to assist DNR in maintaining these highly valued public recreational facilities. However, the grant funds requested would provide funding for much needed improvements at specific heavily-used campgrounds and trailhead facilities and on trails throughout the forest.

Grant funds invested in Capitol State Forest will benefit and enrich the lives of many, many people across the state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan Davis
7929 105th Ave SW
Olympia, WA 98512



NOVA Nonhighway Road Projects Ranked #20

To Whom it may concern,

I am one of the organizers for the Capitol Forest 50/100 Mile Mountain Bike Event that uses the Capitol Forest trails in Olympia Washington. We are also the only 100-mile mountain bike event in the state of Washington. Our event has brought in many riders from several states as well as Canada over the last several years, providing a large economic impact not only during the event weekend, but many weeks prior to the event as well as riders from all over come in to train for the event.

Without the expansive and well maintained trail network this event and similar events would not happen.

As an event organizer, I along with my team appreciate the hard work and dedication that the DNR has done for this trail system. Constantly improving and working on the trails to keep them in great shape.

I also appreciate the separation of motorized and non-motorized recreations users while working on the together on the trails. The effort and hard work put in by the DNR to keep everyone updated, and organized for the many different events held at Capitol Forest.

We enthusiastically support the following proposed grants:

- # 16-2329 Dev, McKenny Camp/Trailhead & Fall Creek Trailhead expansion- → 16-2825
- # 16-2327 Mnt, Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
- # 16-2330 Mtn, Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2328 Mnt, CF ORV Trailhead & Campground Paving Preservation
- # 16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

We have thoroughly enjoyed working with the DNR, their hard work has made many things possible for events such as ours. On behalf of our riders, staff and volunteers we would like to thank you for your consideration and support of these grants.

Dana Anderson – Organizer of the Capitol Forest 50/100 MTB Endurance Event

Dana Anderson : 4th Dimension Racing, LLC : dana@4thdimensionracing.com : 360-502-1695
www.4thdimensionracing.com : www.nwepicseries.com : www.evergreentrailruns.com :
www.lakesammamishhalf.com : www.lakewashingtonhalf.com

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-11
NOVA Program Nonmotorized Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, forty-six Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Nonmotorized category projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all forty-six projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 14, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program*; and

WHEREAS, these Nonmotorized category projects were evaluated by all fifteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee 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 286-04-065, 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 opportunities for recreationists that enjoy nonmotorized trail activities such as horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking and cross-country skiing, 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 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

2017-19

Attachment M

Resolution: 2017-11

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 46	70.13	16-2358M	Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities and Trail Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$112,000	\$112,050	\$224,050	\$112,000
2 of 46	65.60	16-2327M	Capitol Forest Nonmotorized Trail and Facility Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$104,900	\$105,100	\$210,000	\$216,900
3 of 46	64.87	16-2546M	Mount Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$131,000	\$92,000	\$223,000	\$347,900
4 of 46	64.67	16-2219M	Pomeroy Backcountry Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$150,000	\$422,900
5 of 46	64.33	16-2751M	Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$98,151	\$98,689	\$196,840	\$521,051
6 of 46	64.13	16-2793D	Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$180,000	\$192,754	\$372,754	\$701,051
7 of 46	64.07	16-2449M	Pacific Cascade Nonmotorized Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$120,000	\$120,100	\$240,100	\$821,051
8 of 46	63.87	16-2570D	Mica Peak Trail System Development	Spokane County	\$106,000	\$74,000	\$180,000	\$927,051
9 of 46	63.47	16-2255M	Cle Elum Ranger District Nonmotorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$150,000	\$65,000	\$215,000	\$1,077,051
10 of 46	63.07	16-2573M	North Fork Skykomish Trail Complex Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$63,500	\$65,400	\$128,900	\$1,140,551

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

Resolution: 2017-11

2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
11 of 46	62.53	16-2238M	Mountain Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$1,290,551
12 of 46	62.47	16-2499M	Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$150,000	\$124,438	\$274,438	\$1,440,551
13 of 46	61.13	16-2318M	Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$132,200	\$132,358	\$264,558	\$1,572,751
14 of 46	61.00	16-2335M	Wilderness Nonmotorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$143,500	\$97,000	\$240,500	\$1,716,251
	61.00	16-2393M	Nicholson Trail System Elbe Hills Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$141,300	\$149,000	\$290,300	\$1,857,551
16 of 46	61.00	16-2687D	Frog Mountain Trail Construction	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	129,280	90,220	219,500	\$1,986,831
17 of 46	60.53	16-2825D	Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement and Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$59,700	\$41,900	\$101,600	\$2,046,531
18 of 46	60.00	16-2306D	Yacolt Burn Nonmotorized Trail Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$170,000	\$170,100	\$340,100	\$2,216,531
19 of 46	59.87	16-2301P	Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$170,000	\$115,000	\$285,000	\$2,386,531
20 of 46	59.87	16-2646P	Lord Hill Regional Park Site and Management Plan	Snohomish County	\$150,000	\$174,400	\$324,400	\$2,536,531

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

2017-19

Attachment M

Resolution: 2017-11

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
21 of 46	59.80	16-2753D	Bull Bear Trail	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	\$200,000	\$68,560	\$268,560	\$2,736,531
22 of 46	59.53	16-2576M	Naches Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$96,000	\$97,652	\$193,652	\$2,832,531
23 of 46	59.47	16-2519M	Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$142,000	\$118,478	\$260,478	\$2,974,531
24 of 46	59.07	16-2680M	Lyman Lake and Holden Creek Foot Log Replacements	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District	\$46,800	\$31,100	\$77,900	\$3,021,331
25 of 46	58.67	16-2458D	Rattlesnake Ledge Trail Improvements	Seattle	\$140,000	\$112,500	\$252,500	\$3,161,331
26 of 46	58.20	16-2376D	Raging River State ForestTrail System Development Phase 2	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$185,000	\$259,369	\$444,369	\$3,346,331
27 of 46	58.13	16-2622D	Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$173,803	\$79,640	\$253,443	\$3,520,134
28 of 46	58.00	16-2360D	Colville Mountain Recreation Area	Colville	\$16,120	\$16,620	\$32,740	\$3,536,254
29 of 46	57.60	16-2333D	Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve Trail Development	Whatcom County	\$141,331	\$153,069	\$294,400	\$3,677,585
30 of 46	57.60	16-2830D	Lake Whatcom Park Trail Development	Whatcom County	\$52,647	\$57,523	\$110,170	\$3,730,232

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

2017-19

Attachment M

Resolution: 2017-11

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
31 of 46	57.47	16-2788M	Olympic National Forest Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest, Pacific Ranger District Quinault	\$150,000	\$24,400	\$174,400	\$3,880,232
32 of 46	57.40	16-2640D	South Fork Park Multi-Use Trail Development	Whatcom County	\$200,000	\$258,000	\$458,000	\$4,080,232
33 of 46	56.27	16-2593P	Blanca Lake and Lake Serene Trailhead Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$34,500	\$35,020	\$69,520	\$4,114,732
34 of 46	54.20	16-2475D	Green Mountain Nonmotorized Trail Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$165,000	\$110,030	\$275,030	\$4,279,732
35 of 46	54.13	16-2227M	Trail and Trailhead Operiation and Maintenance Tonasket Ranger District	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Tonasket Ranger District	\$120,301	\$52,586	\$172,887	\$4,400,033
36 of 46	53.93	16-2387D	Washington Pass Spires Access Trail		\$122,440	\$61,132	\$183,572	\$4,522,473
37 of 46	52.47	16-2262D	Chesaw Access Trailhead Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$149,500	\$10,000	\$159,500	\$4,671,973
38 of 46	52.07	16-2420D	Snoqualmie Corridor Green Mountain Trail and Trailhead	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$195,000	\$466,250	\$661,250	\$4,866,973
39 of 46	50.80	16-2413P	Dosewallips River Trail	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$88,400	\$30,100	\$118,500	\$4,955,373
40 of 46	50.53	16-2686D	Chickadee Nonmotorized Trail Development	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$190,000	\$50,100	\$240,100	\$5,145,373

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

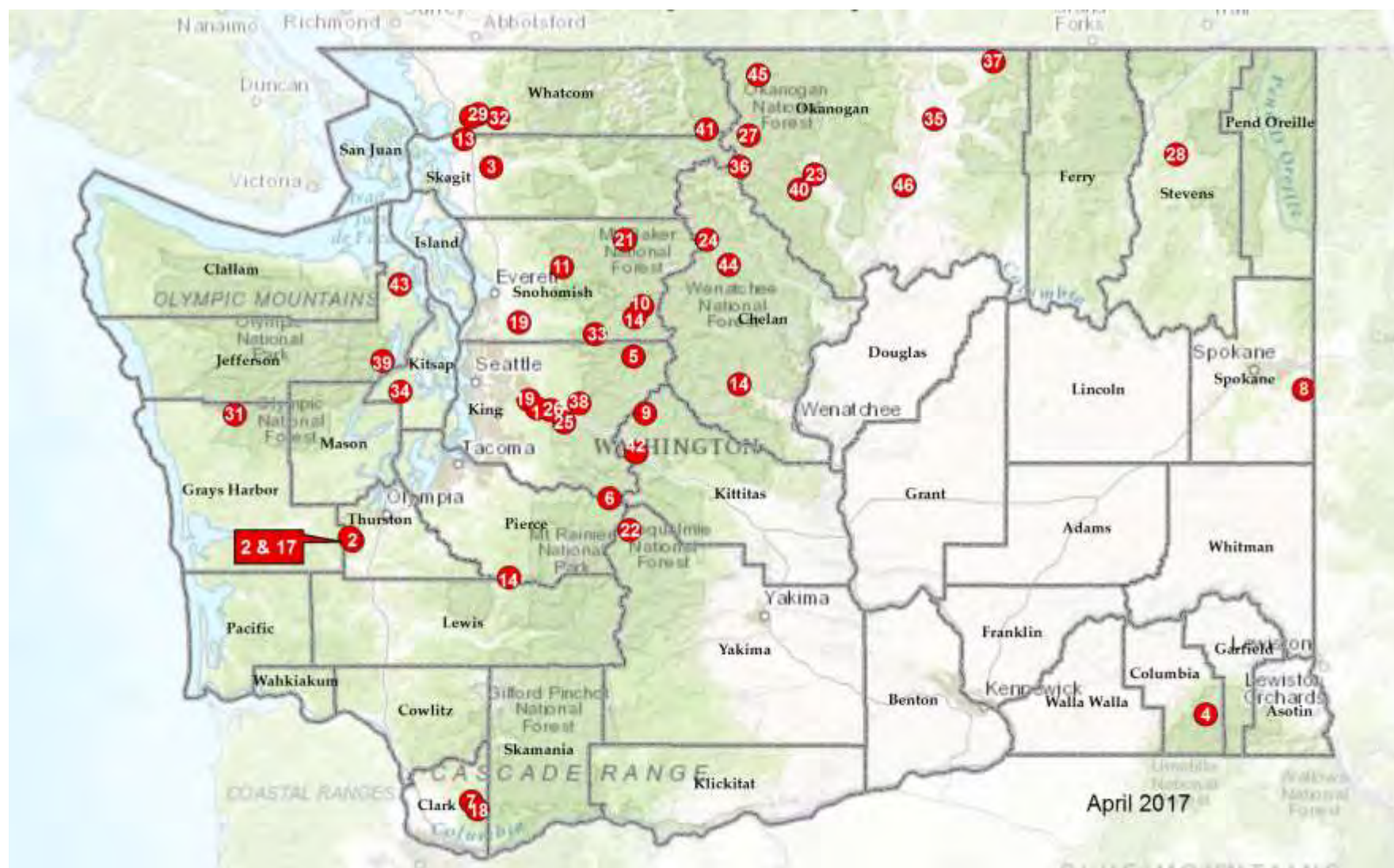
Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
41 of 46	49.47	16-2743D	East Creek Bridge Construction	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$109,400	\$14,050	\$123,450	\$5,254,773
42 of 46	47.20	16-2407P	Crystal Springs Winter Recreation Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$54,670		\$54,670	\$5,309,443
43 of 46	47.07	16-2463P	Anderson Lake State Park	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$130,000		\$130,000	\$5,439,443
44 of 46	46.27	16-2693M	Entiat Wilderness Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District	\$32,000	\$8,000	\$40,000	\$5,471,443
45 of 46	44.2	16-2694P	Tatoosh Buttes Trail Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$36,763	\$7,540	\$44,303	\$5,508,206
46 of 46	41.2	16-2309D	Pogue Mountain Trail	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$141,200	\$10,000	\$151,200	\$5,649,406
					\$5,649,406	\$4,376,228	\$10,025,634	

¹D=Development, M=Maintenance, P=Planning

State Map for NOVA Program Nonmotorized Category Projects



*Project numbers are in ranked order as shown in Table 1.

Nonmotorized Projects
Evaluation Scoring Summary

Attachment O

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-2019

Rank	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total
	Project Name	Need	Need Fulfillment	SCORP ¹ Priorities	Site Suitability (Combo) ²	Project Design (Dev) ³	Main ⁴	Planning	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Predominantly Natural	Project Support	Cost Benefit	Matching Shares	Population Proximity	GMA ⁵ Preference	
1	Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities and Trail Maintenance	13.40	12.60	3.60			8.53		3.73	4.33	3.47	9.33	4.13	5.00	2.00	0.00	70.13
2	Capitol Forest Nonmotorized Trail and Facility Maintenance	12.20	11.40	3.27			8.00		3.40	4.27	3.40	8.80	3.87	5.00	2.00	0.00	65.60
3	Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance	12.40	11.20	3.87			7.73		3.67	4.13	4.67	8.13	4.07	4.00	1.00	0.00	64.87
4	Pomeroy Backcountry Wilderness Trail Maintenance	12.60	11.00	3.40			7.60		3.53	4.33	4.87	8.80	3.53	4.00	1.00	0.00	64.67
5	Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance 2017-2019	12.40	11.80	3.47			7.60		3.33	4.13	4.13	6.67	3.80	5.00	2.00	0.00	64.33
6	Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement	11.80	12.20	3.27		8.13			3.53	3.93	4.27	7.33	3.67	5.00	1.00	0.00	64.13
7	Pacific Cascade Nonmotorized Maintenance	11.00	11.60	3.53			7.60		3.60	4.13	3.47	8.67	3.47	5.00	2.00	0.00	64.07
8	Mica Peak Trail System Development	12.00	11.60	3.67		7.73			3.67	4.27	3.67	8.40	3.87	4.00	2.00	-1.00	63.87
9	Cle Elum Ranger District Nonmotorized Trails Maintenance and Operations 2017-2019	12.00	12.00	3.47			8.27		3.53	4.33	4.53	8.53	3.80	3.00	0.00	0.00	63.47
10	North Fork Skykomish Trail Complex Maintenance	12.40	11.80	3.00			7.60		3.40	4.07	4.73	6.53	3.53	5.00	1.00	0.00	63.07
11	Mt. Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance	12.40	10.40	3.53			7.47		3.53	4.20	4.13	7.47	3.40	4.00	2.00	0.00	62.53
12	Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance 2018-2019	11.60	11.40	3.60			7.87		3.47	4.33	4.47	8.13	3.60	4.00	0.00	0.00	62.47

Nonmotorized Projects
Evaluation Scoring Summary

Attachment O

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-2019

Rank	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total
	Project Name	Need	Need Fulfillment	SCORP ¹ Priorities	Site Suitability (Combo) ²	Project Design (Dev) ³	Main ⁴	Planning	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Predominantly Natural	Project Support	Cost Benefit	Matching Shares	Population Proximity	GMA ⁵ Preference	
13	Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities Maintenance and Operation	10.40	10.60	3.47			7.47		3.40	4.33	3.53	8.53	3.40	5.00	1.00	0.00	61.13
14	Wilderness Nonmotorized Trails Maintenance and Operation 2018-2019	11.80	10.60	3.40			7.47		3.27	3.93	4.73	7.73	3.07	4.00	1.00	0.00	61.00
14	Nicholson Trail System Elbe Hills Maintenance	11.00	11.20	3.13			7.07		3.40	4.20	3.60	7.07	3.33	5.00	2.00	0.00	61.00
14	Frog Mountain Trail Construction	10.40	11.40	3.07		8.13			3.53	4.27	4.27	7.33	3.60	4.00	1.00	0.00	61.00
17	Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement and Expansion	10.80	10.80	3.20		7.87			3.13	3.73	3.13	8.40	3.47	4.00	2.00	0.00	60.53
18	Yacolt Burn Nonmotorized Trail Development	9.20	10.20	3.47		7.33			3.40	3.93	3.53	8.67	3.27	5.00	2.00	0.00	60.00
19	Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design	10.60	10.60	3.53				7.73	3.27	3.27	3.20	8.67	3.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	59.87
19	Lord Hill Regional Park Site and Management Plan	10.80	10.00	3.33				7.73	3.33	3.67	3.40	7.87	2.73	5.00	2.00	0.00	59.87
21	Bull Bear Trail	10.00	11.20	3.47		8.67			3.67	4.27	4.27	8.13	3.13	2.00	1.00	0.00	59.80
22	Naches Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operation 2017-2019	11.00	10.40	3.20			7.73		3.60	4.00	4.67	6.53	3.40	5.00	0.00	0.00	59.53
23	Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance 2018-2019	12.00	11.00	3.27			7.20		3.13	4.20	4.40	7.20	3.07	4.00	0.00	0.00	59.47

**Nonmotorized Projects
Evaluation Scoring Summary**

Attachment O

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-2019

Rank	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total
	Project Name	Need	Need Fulfillment	SCORP ¹ Priorities	Site Suitability (Combo) ²	Project Design (Dev) ³	Main ⁴	Planning	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Predominantly Natural	Project Support	Cost Benefit	Matching Shares	Population Proximity	GMA ⁵ Preference	
24	Lyman Lake and Holden Creek Foot Log Replacements	12.20	11.80	2.87			7.47		3.53	3.13	4.87	6.93	3.27	3.00	0.00	0.00	59.07
25	Rattlesnake Ledge Trail Improvements	10.80	10.40	3.47		6.27			3.33	3.93	3.47	8.00	3.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	58.67
26	Raging River State Forest Trail System Development Phase 2	9.80	11.40	3.13		8.67			3.47	3.53	3.07	8.00	3.13	2.00	2.00	0.00	58.20
27	Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements	11.00	11.60	3.13		7.47			3.53	3.87	4.33	7.20	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	58.13
28	Colville Mountain Recreation Area	11.20	11.60	3.53		6.67			2.87	3.60	3.00	6.67	3.87	5.00	0.00	0.00	58.00
29	Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve Trail Development	10.80	10.00	3.20		6.93			3.47	3.13	3.27	8.80	3.00	5.00	1.00	-1.00	57.60
29	Lake Whatcom Park Trail Development	11.20	9.60	3.07		6.53			3.47	3.60	3.07	8.93	3.13	5.00	1.00	-1.00	57.60
31	Olympic National Forest Trail Maintenance	12.00	11.20	3.27			8.13		3.20	4.27	4.33	6.53	3.53	1.00	0.00	0.00	57.47
32	South Fork Park Multi-Use Trail Development	9.60	10.00	3.33		7.07			3.67	4.00	2.93	8.80	3.00	5.00	1.00	-1.00	57.40
33	Blanca Lake and Lake Serene Trailhead Planning	13.40	8.20	2.73				6.13	3.13	3.73	3.73	5.20	3.00	5.00	2.00	0.00	56.27
34	Green Mountain Nonmotorized Trail Development	10.20	9.80	3.20		7.07			3.27	3.53	2.87	6.27	3.00	3.00	2.00	0.00	54.20
35	Trail and Trailhead Operation and Maintenance Tonasket Ranger District 2018-2019	10.40	10.00	3.13			7.33		3.07	3.73	4.40	6.13	2.93	3.00	0.00	0.00	54.13

Nonmotorized Projects
Evaluation Scoring Summary

Attachment O

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-2019

Rank	Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total
	Project Name	Need	Need Fulfillment	SCORP ¹ Priorities	Site Suitability (Combo) ²	Project Design (Dev) ³	Main ⁴	Planning	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Predominantly Natural	Project Support	Cost Benefit	Matching Shares	Population Proximity	GMA ⁵ Preference	
36	Washington Pass Spires Access Trail	8.00	10.40	2.60		7.73			3.60	3.93	4.27	8.27	2.13	3.00	0.00	0.00	53.93
37	Chesaw Access Trailhead Development	10.80	10.60	3.47		6.67			3.67	3.73	3.73	6.40	3.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	52.47
38	Snoqualmie Corridor Green Mountain Trail and Trailhead	9.40	9.40	3.00		6.67			3.27	3.07	3.53	7.87	2.87	1.00	2.00	0.00	52.07
39	Dosewallips River Trail	8.80	9.40	3.13				6.93	3.33	3.60	3.47	6.13	3.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	50.80
40	Chickadee Nonmotorized Trail Development	8.20	10.60	3.07		7.47			3.13	2.53	3.53	7.20	2.80	2.00	0.00	0.00	50.53
41	East Creek Bridge Construction	9.20	9.40	2.87		7.73			3.13	3.60	3.73	6.13	2.67	1.00	0.00	0.00	49.47
42	Crystal Springs Winter Recreaiton Planning	9.60	8.60	3.00				6.80	2.87	3.33	3.27	6.80	2.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	47.20
43	Anderson Lake State Park	8.80	9.00	2.80				6.67	3.13	3.73	3.53	5.60	2.80	0.00	1.00	0.00	47.07
44	Entiat Wilderness Trail Maintenance	10.00	8.00	2.80			6.40		2.73	3.33	4.40	4.67	2.93	1.00	0.00	0.00	46.27
45	Tatoosh Buttes Trail Planning	7.20	8.20	2.53				6.13	3.33	3.00	4.67	5.47	2.67	1.00	0.00	0.00	44.20
46	Pogue Mountain Trail	9.40	9.00	2.73	0.27	4.40			2.60	2.80	3.53	3.47	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	41.20

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-12; RCO staff scores Questions 13-15.

¹SCORP=Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

²Combo=Acquisition and Development

³Dev=Development

⁴Main=Maintenance

⁵GMA=Growth Management Act

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



Washington Department of Natural Resources Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities & Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$112,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on over 124 miles of non-motorized trails, four trailheads, and two day-use sites within the Snoqualmie Corridor, located in eastern King County. This project will provide partial funding for a Recreation Specialist, Equipment Operator, and two Natural Resource Workers as well as funding for a seasonal crew to perform skilled and routine trail/facility maintenance. Trail maintenance activities include removal of downed trees, repairing trail tread and rock armoring, maintaining and repairing trail bridges, brushing trails, and maintaining culverts, drain dips, and ditch-outs. Facility maintenance will include hazard tree removal, trailhead surfacing, litter removal, restroom maintenance, viewpoint and river access site maintenance and signage repair/replacement. Funding will also be used to purchase trail maintenance equipment including a chainsaw and power wheelbarrow. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable non-motorized recreation trails and support facilities. The department will contribute \$112,050 in staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2358)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail and Facility Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$104,900

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct trail maintenance on 58 miles of non-motorized trail and facility maintenance on one trailhead and campground within Capitol State Forest, located near Olympia. Trail maintenance includes brushing, culvert maintenance, installing grade reversals, trail hardening, construction of short re-routes, bridges, kiosks and signs. Funding will also be used to perform maintenance on the Margaret McKenny Trailhead and campground and to purchase a power wheel barrow. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable non-motorized trails and campground facilities. The forest continues to see an increase in non-motorized use, particularly mountain biking and trail running and equestrian use in winter months. This project has strong support from recreation enthusiasts, who donate equipment and labor for trail maintenance. The department will contribute \$105,100 in staff labor, equipment, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2327)

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

Grant Requested: \$131,000

The Mt. Baker Ranger District, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, will use this grant to maintain 100 miles of the district's wilderness and nonmotorized trails located within Whatcom and Skagit Counties. The goal of this project is to provide visitors safe and enjoyable access to wilderness and backcountry recreation experiences while protecting resources and the natural environment. Trail maintenance will include log out, brushing and clearing, drainage structure work, (culverts, ditches, turnpikes, and waterbars), and maintenance of tread surfaces (rock, berm, slough removal). Heavier trail maintenance may include repair or replacement of boardwalks, stringers, sills, retaining walls, and small bridges. Work will be accomplished through a combination of Forest Service crew, contractors, youth crews, and

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



donated labor. The focus will be on resource protection and visitor safety, with effort placed on trails where damage jeopardizes trail stability and resources. Work will occur in the Mt. Baker, Noisy-Diobsud, and Glacier Peak Wildernesses, as well as in the Mt. Baker National Recreation Area (NRA). The primary recreation opportunity provided are those activities that take place in Congressionally Designated Areas including Wilderness and the NRA, and in non-wilderness. Activities such as hiking, backpacking, climbing, horseback riding, running, hunting, fishing, gathering, photography, and wildlife viewing are a sample of the opportunities available to visitors when using these trails. The Forest Service will contribute \$92,000 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2546)

U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District

Grant Requested: \$75,000

Pomeroy Backcountry Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operation

The Pomeroy Ranger District will use this grant to perform maintenance on wilderness trails located within the Umatilla National Forest. Trail maintenance activities will include: log-out/brushing, trail surfacing, trail hardening, maintenance of culverts, drain-dips and ditch-outs as well as trail bridge inspection and maintenance. This project will provide for continued public access, maintenance of trail safety features and the protection of natural resources. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this project will be sustainable nonmotorized wilderness trail use. The Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness and the Wenatchee backcountry area are unique in that they are the only Wilderness/backcountry areas in southeast corner of Washington State. Columbia, Garfield and Asotin counties serve as portals to these wilderness areas which in-turn provide economic support to communities within the three counties. Recreation is a mainstay for these communities as visitors from across the region come to horseback ride, hike, backpack, hunt, fish or just day trip to these areas for a weekend retreat. The Forest Service will contribute \$75,000 in cash, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2219)

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

Grant Requested: \$98,151

Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance

This grant will fund trail crews, contractors, and coordination of volunteer groups in maintenance of 115 miles of trails on the Skykomish Ranger District, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest during the late 2017 to 2019 seasons. These trails include hiker and stock trails. Work includes log out, brushing, drainage maintenance, structure/bridge repair, slide repair, boulder removal, and tread work to provide improved trail conditions and a significant reduction of the maintenance backlog. Safety hazards will be repaired and resource damage from widening trails and soil erosion will be prevented. The capital investment in the trails system will be preserved, since trail problems will be repaired before they become worse. In addition, the trail system will be more aesthetic and better meet the needs of trail users. The trail system traverses the Alpine Lakes, Henry M. Jackson, and Wild Sky Wilderness Areas and adjacent backcountry areas such as the Mt. Index Scenic Area and includes the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and the barrier free Iron Goat Trail within the Stevens Pass Historic District. The system receives an estimated 170,000

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



visitors per year with use continuing to increase over time. The system features old growth forests, subalpine lakes and meadows, summit views, and wild creeks and rivers. The system is within 1-1/2 hour drive from the Seattle area, via Highway 2, a National Scenic Byway. The Forest Service will contribute \$98,689 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, equipment, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2751)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement

Grant Requested: \$180,000

The Mount Baker Snoqualmie NF will use this funding to repair five bridges on the Greenwater Lakes Trail located on the Snoqualmie Ranger District. The Greenwater Lakes trail is one of the most popular stock trails on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF. At 14 miles long the trail provides 3 season access to the Norse Peak Wilderness Area. The trail is open to hikers of all abilities and stock users. It receives support from local chapters of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington and a variety of other trail advocacy groups. There are 5 footlogs built between 25-30 years ago. All are in a state of disrepair. This project will repair or replace all five structures. Two poorly designed horse fords will also be eliminated. The District is scheduled to receive Region 6 Capital Investment dollars for planning and construction in 2017-2018. This bridge replacement project was ranked number one in Region 6 due to the high safety hazard that currently exists. The first bridge has tipped and is unsafe to cross. The two middle bridges are both severely rotten but are still being used. Of the 2 upper footlogs, one has collapsed, and the other is close behind. Adding two stock bridges to this system will reduce maintenance and bridge replacement costs in the future and reduce the need for stock to be in the river and on very eroded access trails. The existing bridge locations will not change. All of the bridge sites are very good and have not been subject to flood damage. The Forest Service will contribute \$192,754 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2793)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Non-motorized Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$120,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on non-motorized trails and trailhead facilities within the Pacific Cascade Region, located in southwest Washington. This project will provide funding for a Natural Resource Technician as well as crew time to perform routine trail and facility maintenance and repairs, and for supplies and materials to support maintenance and needed repairs. Trail maintenance activities include brushing trails, maintaining culverts, drainage dips and water bars, hardening small sections of trail with crushed rock, inspecting and maintaining bridges, and constructing minor trail re-routes. Facility maintenance will include litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms, signs and other facility structures. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable non-motorized recreation trails and support facilities. The department will contribute \$120,100 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2449)

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Spokane County Parks, Recreation & Golf Mica Peak Trail System Development

Grant Requested: \$106,000

This project will develop a 14-mile, multiple use trail system on Mica Peak Conservation Area, a 911-acre property connected to 640 acres of Washington State Department of Natural Resources property. This project will implement the Mica Peak Non-Motorized Recreation Plan - a plan developed with a 2014 NOVA-Non-Motorized grant and significant community involvement. This project also includes erosion control work and road decommissioning to restore habitat. When completed, the trail system will provide a diverse, four-season experience with over 2,000 feet of vertical elevation between the trailhead parking area (built in 2015) and the eastern boundary of the property, taking recreationists from open Ponderosa pine forest all of the way up to the subalpine zone. With its large size, elevation and proximity to over 600,000 area residents, this project will significantly expand non-motorized trail-based recreation in the region. Spokane County will contribute \$74,000 in Conservation Futures, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2570)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District Cle Elum Ranger District Non-motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Cle Elum Ranger District of Okanogan-Wenatchee NF seeks this grant for annual maintenance of 326 miles of non-motorized trails for hikers, stock users and mountain bikers. Our Kittitas County trails are only 53-100 miles via I-90 from the 3+ million residents of Puget Sound, and extremely popular due to that proximity, easy access and quality. With this project, we will continue vital annual maintenance that allows public use and enjoyment of trails while protecting adjacent natural resources. The primary recreation opportunity our NM trails provide is a primitive backcountry experience. The grant will supply funds for a 4 to 6 person crew to cut logs and brush, repair/maintain trail structures and drainage structures, restore tread and make, install, maintain trail signs. It will also cover administration, coordination and support for our many volunteer groups. This project covers maintenance of a large network of accessible, well-established trails that serves a large number of users and provides unique recreational opportunities for hikers, stock users and mountain bikers. They experience natural settings in roadless areas and the Alpine Lakes Wilderness with natural features like waterfalls, creeks and rivers, rugged peaks, glaciers, alpine meadows and forests. These opportunities and features bring in thousands of visitors a year who boost the local economy through the purchase of meals, fuel, groceries, lodging, supplies, equipment and services. The Forest Service will contribute \$65,000 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2255)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District North Fork Skykomish Trail Complex Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$63,500

The Skykomish Ranger District will use this funding to support heavy maintenance on the 34.5 mile North Fork Skykomish Trail Complex which was severely damaged during the fall 2015 flood and wind events.

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This system of hiker/equestrian trails includes West Cady Ridge, North Fork Skykomish, Pass Creek, Quartz Creek, and Bald Eagle Trails. The complex is currently impassable with over 200 logs to remove and 5 major stream ford washouts. There are also plugged culverts, ditches, and waterbars that require maintenance. Brushing and general tread and drainage maintenance is also badly needed. This complex is the premiere stock trail system on the Skykomish Ranger District, accessed from one common trailhead. The complex features old growth forests, subalpine meadows, lofty mountain views from the ridges, a variety of loop options for day and overnight trips, and accesses the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. Almost the entire project is located within the Wild Sky and Henry M. Jackson Wilderness areas. This project will restore this popular and critical trail system to safe passage by stock and hikers, stop ongoing erosion from plugged drainage structures, and reduce the maintenance backlog. Work will be accomplished by Washington Trails Association volunteers, FS trail crews, and FS trail contractors. The Forest Service will contribute \$65,400 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2573)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District Mountain Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Darrington Ranger District will use this funding to support the maintenance of 21 trailheads, trails and dispersed sites along the Mt. Loop Byway. The trails accessed are on non-highway roads and receive significant visitor use throughout the year. Both the high visitor use and the local precipitation-heavy microclimate greatly impact the facilities, requiring intensive upkeep. Four seasonal employees will be hired for two years to perform maintenance consisting of annual and backlog maintenance as well as resource protection improvements. Funding from this grant would pay for a field supervisor and three force account personal. The field supervisor would also coordinate efforts with various volunteer groups providing logistics, materials and oversight on projects undertaken. The Mt. Loop Hwy provides access to over 100,000 visitors to the South Fork Stillaguamish and Sauk River valleys. The combination of hikes both arduous and easy, along with high mountain lakes, stunning vistas, and unique natural features has long made this a favorite with the Seattle and Everett communities. Local, regional, and international visitors enjoy the Mt. Loop Byway and its facilities for many activities, including day hiking, backpacking, picnicking, camping, hunting, and scenic driving. Adequate trailhead and trail facilities are important for the continued safety and enjoyment of visitors to these North Cascades gems. The Forest Service will contribute \$150,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2238)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to remove fallen trees along approximately 325 miles of trail and conduct tread, drainage and brushing maintenance on trail segments with the greatest need. The project is located in and around the Pasayten and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness areas in

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Okanogan County. This project will restore and maintain access to trails used by hikers, backpackers, equestrians and mountain bikers. The Methow Valley Ranger District has a variety of trails from easy access scenic overlooks to trails leading to high mountain passes and alpine lake destinations. This grant will ensure access to the most remote wilderness and scenic destinations in Washington State. This grant will fund a fulltime trail crew of 4 people to work for two seasons. In addition, several groups donate over 4000 hours of volunteer time to maintaining trails on the Methow Valley Ranger District. These groups include the Washington Trails Association, Back Country Horseman, Pacific Crest Trail Association and the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance. With outdoor recreation being a cornerstone of the Methow Valley economy this project is widely supported by the local community. The Forest Service will contribute \$124,438 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2499)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$132,200

Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities Maintenance and Operation

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to conduct maintenance on non-motorized recreation trails and at trailhead facilities within the Blanchard Forest Block and the Harry Osborne State Forest, located in Skagit County. This project will provide funding for a Maintenance Steward and seasonal WCC crews. Trailhead maintenance will include litter removal and maintenance of parking areas, restrooms and signs. Trail maintenance activities will include trail re-contouring, trail hardening, maintenance of culverts, drain-dips and ditches and the inspection and maintenance of bridges. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be safe and sustainable non-motorized trails and trailhead support facilities. By providing timely, routine and preventative maintenance this project allows DNR to protect natural resources and enhance the life-expectancy of our recreational assets while preserving safe and enjoyable non-motorized recreation opportunities. Support for the project comes from a diverse user base, including the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, free flight groups, mountain bike groups and others. Working together these groups donate thousands of hours per year towards DNR's recreation maintenance efforts. The department will contribute \$132,358 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2318)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District

Grant Requested: \$143,500

Wilderness Non-motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant for maintenance of 450 miles of wilderness and adjacent non-motorized trails located within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, in Chelan County. This project will help fund a 4 to 6 person crew to conduct annual maintenance that will include trail log-out, brushing/clearing, replacement or repair of waterbars, turnpikes, small bridges and reconstruction of trail tread surfaces. Funds will also be used for the purchase of small tools and minor equipment. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be the safe and sustainable use of non-motorized recreational trails. The goal of this project is to provide safe access to wilderness and non-

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motorized recreation trails while protecting the natural environment. The trails are very popular with the surrounding area as well as millions of residents from the Puget Sound area. A more aggressive heavy maintenance standard will be applied to 15 miles of trail each year where rehabilitation work is warranted. A combination of youth corps crews, Forest Service crews, contractors, and volunteers will conduct this maintenance work. The emphasis will be on resource protection and visitor safety, focusing on high use trails and trails where on-going erosion or encroachment of brush threatens long-term trail stability. Work will occur in the Alpine Lakes, Henry M. Jackson, and Glacier Peak Wilderness areas, as well as in the Nason Ridge backcountry area near Stevens Pass. The Forest Service will contribute \$97,000 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2335)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Nicholson Trail System-Elbe Hills Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$141,300

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on 40 miles of non-motorized trails, 3 trailhead facilities, and a campground within Elbe Hills State Forest, located north of Highway 706 between Elbe and Ashford, in Pierce County. This project will provide partial funding for a Natural Resources Specialist and for a seasonal crew to perform routine trail maintenance on the Nicholson Horse Trails and facility maintenance at the trailheads and campground. Trail maintenance activities include brushing trails, maintaining culverts, drain dips and ditching, hardening sections of trail and constructing minor trail re-routes. Facility maintenance includes litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms, campsites, fencing, and high-line poles. Funding will also be used to purchase tools/minor equipment, materials and to perform needed repairs on aged trail structures. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable equestrian and hiker recreation trails and support facilities. This area provides a unique opportunity as a destination for riders seeking overnight camping opportunities directly accessing the trails. Spectacular views of Mt. Rainier are found throughout the trails system and can be easily accessed just off of Highway 706 when pulling horse or RV trailers. This system is an example of a successful volunteer partnership with the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington. The department will contribute \$149,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2393)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District Frog Mountain Trail Construction

Grant Requested: \$129,280

The Skykomish Ranger District will use this funding to construct a 3.8 mile long hiker/equestrian trail from Jacks Pass to the summit of Frog Mountain. In addition, the existing gravel pit at Jacks Pass would be improved to provide a trailhead parking lot. A toilet and bulletin board would also be installed at the trailhead. This trail was identified as a high priority in the Wild Sky Wilderness Trail Plan, and would offer an excellent new day use opportunity. The trail features subalpine meadows and panoramic views from the 4,800' high summit. 1.6 miles of the trail would be located outside Wilderness, with the first 0.8 miles of the trail utilizing segments of a decommissioned road. The last 2.2 miles of trail would be in the

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Wilderness. The trail would be constructed by Washington Trails Association and Backcountry Horsemen volunteers, Forest Service trail crews, youth corps, and contractors. The trailhead improvements would be constructed by contractors and FS crews. This new trail would help meet the growing demand for day use trails, help disperse users from nearby congested trails such as Blanca Lake Trail, and would be designed to minimize maintenance costs. The dry soils and west facing slope with sparse timber are ideally suited for trail construction. The Forest Service will contribute \$90,220 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2687)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement and Expansion

Grant Requested: \$59,700

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to further develop the Fall Creek Trailhead, located in Capitol State Forest, near Olympia. This grant will improve and expand equestrian amenities, with the goals of reducing user conflict, enhancing previous RCO investments, and meeting the increasing demand for parking of both conventional vehicles as well as truck and trailer combinations. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be additional access for various non-motorized trail users through the enlargement and improvement of a popular trailhead that is located near heavily used nonmotorized trails. The department will contribute \$41,900 in staff labor and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2825)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Yacolt Burn Non-motorized Trail Development

Grant Requested: \$170,000

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to develop approximately 13 miles of new non-motorized trails in Yacolt Burn State Forest, located approximately 10 miles Northeast of Vancouver, in Clark County. The project will provide funding for staff time, A&E services, materials, equipment rental and crew time to construct new connector trails and 3 bridges. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is safe and sustainable non-motorized trail recreation. This project will allow DNR to complete a previous planning grant by constructing new multiple-use non-motorized trails. These new trails will connect with the existing Tarbell Trail System. The department will contribute \$170,100 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2306)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Grant Requested: \$170,000

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant for planning and designing non-motorized facilities and trails for DNR, King County and City of Issaquah-managed lands located at the edges of Seattle's greater metropolitan area, in King County. Work includes route surveys, environmental analysis, archeological assessments and public outreach to design trails and facilities for hiking, biking, horseback riding, day use and environmental education. The project will also identify multimodal transportation routes to access these lands. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and

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sustainable future non-motorized trails and facilities. High Point Exit 20 on I-90 will be developed as a gateway to the public forests located east of Issaquah, including DNR-West Tiger Mountain and Issaquah-Tradition Plateau NRCAs, KC-Grand Ridge Park and DNR-Mitchell Hill Blocks. This project will develop construction documents for expanding the High Point Trailhead, a master plan and conceptual designs for environmental education and day use facilities on Tradition Plateau and trail designs with flag lines and details for non-motorized loops and connections between Grand Ridge, Mitchell Hill and the Issaquah-Preston Trail. A conceptual trail and access plan will also be developed for the Marckworth State Forest, east of Duvall, to provide sustainable opportunities for increasing numbers of hikers, bikers and equestrians visiting the forest. The department will contribute \$115,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, a local grant, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2301)

Snohomish County Parks Department Lord Hill Regional Park Site and Management Plan

Grant Requested: \$150,000

Lord Hill Regional Park is a 1,400 acre park located in central Snohomish County between the cities of Snohomish and Monroe, offering users 32 miles of trails throughout the park. Utilizing former logging roads, users can traverse up and down hills through the forest, passing wetlands and ponds scattered within the park. The park is popular with hikers, runners, equestrians, mountain bikers, bird watchers, orienteering groups, and native plant enthusiasts. Parks is seeking an RCO NOVA Planning grant to establish a site and management plan for the park to assist with surveys and studies required for associated permits, site plan and engineering documents, and a wayfinding / signage program. Once operated as DNR timberland, roads were not designed as a trail system, and users have built social trails and single tracks throughout the park. Trails have only recently been mapped and no official trail map or wayfinding system exists within the park. Users sometimes get lost within the park, and the trail system has not been designed to reduce shared use conflicts. Parks has been meeting with representatives from the various user stakeholder groups and is launching an effort to establish an updated site plan and trail system map. The goal of this project is to complete the required studies, obtain permits, and create a site and trail management plan that will allow the construction/renovation phase to begin by Fall 2018. Snohomish County will contribute \$174,400 in cash and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2646)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District Bull Bear Trail

Grant Requested: \$200,000

The Bull Bear Trail project is designed to provide a high quality backcountry experience for hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers. The trail will make a new 5.75 mile-long connection between Rat Trap Pass on Forest Road 27 to the Crystal Lake and Circle Peak Trails at Skaar Pass. A new trailhead will be built at Rat Trap Pass. The trail will replace the current unmaintainable route to Crystal Lake and provide equestrian access to Crystal Lake for the first time. The trail will create a challenging new experience rarely found on the west side of the Cascades for mountain bikers. As the trail climbs it provides sweeping vistas of nearby White Chuck Mountain, runs through quiet meadows and passes by a verdant tarn. Grand views

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of Glacier Peak and many other peaks and valleys are seen near the high point on the trail. The project is necessary as a result of fragmentation of the historic trail system due to past timber harvest and road construction in the area. Once roads were closed, they became the defacto trails - which left a much to be desired experience for users and have become increasingly difficult and costly to maintain. The proposed trail will create a single track trail with diminished annual maintenance costs. Trail grades have been kept near 10% with occasional reverse grades to minimize erosion. All NEPA compliance permitting, field engineering work, and cultural resource reviews are complete and the project is "shovel ready" to begin immediately. The Forest Service will contribute \$68,560 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2753)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District Naches Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$96,000

The Naches District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain our about 380-mile non-motorized backcountry trail system and associated trailheads. The trails are located in and adjacent to the Norse Peak, William O. Douglas and Goat Rocks Wilderness areas located in Yakima County in central Washington State. Our goal is to clear 80% (304 miles) and complete all maintenance (brushing, drainage, structures, signs and tread) on 15% (57 miles) of the trail system each year of this two year grant. Maintenance activities at the Wilderness trailheads include not only routine facility maintenance, but also providing up-to-date information, education, and compliance checks when appropriate. This grant will provide continuation of safe, high quality backcountry trail experiences for stock and foot travelers. A five person trail crew (leader + 4 crew members) and two trailhead staff will complete maintenance during the snow free season (typically June - October). Volunteer training and coordination are also included. This RCO request includes 75 days/year of a crew leader and 65 days/year of 4 crew members' salaries and materials. The 51.11% match includes additional FS salary for trailhead maintenance and technical expertise, logistics, billing, transportation, per diem, equipment, materials and 1,600 hours of donated labor. Our centrally located, easily accessible, backcountry trail system receives approximately 30,000 visits/year; 70% are hikers and 30% use stock. The Forest Service will contribute \$97,652 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2576)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$142,000

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this funding to address back log maintenance on trails affected by wildfires throughout the district. The project includes nearly 75 miles of trail located in and adjacent to the Pasayten and Lake Chelan Wilderness areas, as well as on National Forest lands east of Winthrop, WA. With extensive damage to trails from wildfires dating back to the early 2000's we are accruing a backlog of maintenance. Logout workloads are significantly larger than on unburned trails due to fire damaged snags falling and brush rapidly encroaches on the trail because there is not a forest canopy to block light. In addition erosion damage is greater and the tread and drainage requires additional work to maintain.

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Many of these trails access popular lake destinations and support multiple day loop options. Other trails are at lower elevations and provide early spring and late fall access when the backcountry is snowed in. Several of these trails are popular among mountain bikers who are an underserved user group on the district. This project will improve recreational opportunities for hikers, backpackers, equestrians and mountain bikers. The Forest Service will contribute \$118,478 in equipment, staff labor, a federal grant, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2519)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District Lyman Lake and Holden Creek Foot Log Replacements

Grant Requested: \$46,800

This project consists of replacing one existing foot log (bridge) on the Upper Lyman Lake Trail at the outlet of Lyman Lake and another foot log (bridge) on the Hart/Lyman Trail at the Holden Creek crossing. Both foot logs are located in the Railroad Creek Drainage within the Chelan Ranger District portion of the Glacier Peak Wilderness. The construction of new foot logs will maintain hiker access, provide for public safety, and protect stream side vegetation. The foot logs are integral to access 2 very popular hikes. The Upper Lyman foot log is a critical link in the Phelps Creek/Spider Gap/Cloudy Pass/Buck Creek Pass loop, and the Holden Creek foot log is well used by hikers coming in/out of the Holden Village area backpacking to Lyman/Image Lakes/PCT/Suiattle River or for wilderness day hikes from Holden Village to Hart Lake. Both bridges are heavily used by hikers every season. The Forest Service will contribute \$31,100 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2680)

City of Seattle Rattlesnake Ledge Trail Improvements

Grant Requested: \$140,000

The Rattlesnake Ledge trail's relatively short length, stunning panoramic views, and accessibility for hikers of all abilities combine to provide an unparalleled hiking opportunity with such close proximity to the Seattle metropolitan region. Unfortunately, the popularity of the Rattlesnake Ledge trail is causing significant harm to the trail and to the surrounding environment. Hikers are expanding the width of the trail; switchbacks are being eroded and short-cut; the out-slope of the trail is beginning to collapse in sections; the uphill slope of the trail is eroding; wood-based trail structures are deteriorating and collapsing; unofficial user-built trails are expanding, causing users to wander off-trail; trail tread conditions are deteriorating; and drainage structures (necessary for moving water off of the trail and preventing erosion) are filling with soil and brush. Seattle will contribute \$112,500 in staff labor, a local grant, and donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2458)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Raging River South Fork Trail System Development Phase 2

Grant Requested: \$185,000

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to develop 10.25 miles of new trails in Raging River State Forest, approximately 20 miles east of Seattle, expanding the trail system for hiking

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and mountain biking opportunities. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be improved non-motorized trail recreation in the Raging River State Forest area. The proposed new trails will give visitors an improved user experience, construct a Mountains to Sound Greenway Regional Trail hiking & mountain biking missing link and provide under-served downhill mountain biking opportunities. This grant proposal for 10.25 trail miles will compliment 15 miles of in-progress Phase 1 trail system construction efforts currently expected to be complete by July 2017, with 4.75 additional Phase 2 trial miles funded from other grant sources, resulting in a new 30 mile regionally significant trail system by 2019. Continuing successful project collaboration between DNR and non-profit trail advocacy and user groups in the Snoqualmie Corridor, will ensure high quality trail opportunities. This project is supported from the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan, a public planning process completed March 2015 with widespread support from user groups, recreation non-profit organizations, public advisory committees, local jurisdictions, and nearby communities. The department will contribute \$259,369 in a state appropriation, a state grant, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2376)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements

Grant Requested: \$173,803

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to construct 5 trail bridges. Two of these bridges are located on the West Fork Methow River Trail and three of the bridges are located on the Andrews Creek Trail. On the West Fork Methow River trail the first is a small footlog bridge and the second is a larger stock passable bridge over Trout Creek. The Trout creek bridge has deteriorated and collapsed under a snow load while the footlog is still in place but decaying to the point of becoming unsafe. The trail is very popular with hikers, mountain bikers and equestrian users and provides access to the Pacific Crest Trail. The Andrews creek trail is a popular equestrian and hiker trail that provides access to the widely used Spanish Camp and Cathedral Lakes area in the Pasayten Wilderness. Currently two of the three bridges are impassable to stock and the third needs to be replaced due to its age and condition. Resource damage is occurring where stock users are going around the bridges. ? Project funds will be used to fund a Forest Service trail crew with assistance from volunteer organizations to rebuild the bridges. It will also include the transportation of bridge materials to the site and the removal of old bridge materials. The Forest Service will contribute \$79,640 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2622)

City of Colville Colville Mountain Recreation Area

Grant Requested: \$16,120

The City of Colville will use this grant to designate, design and develop an additional 1.8 miles of trails in the newly designated Colville Mountain Recreation Area. The area is comprised of 256 acres of land conveniently located on the edge of town. Some trails currently exist in the area and the City Volunteers will continue to build and improve trail sections to create the 3-mile Loop Trail during the months when the trail is clear of snow (generally May-October). Larger machinery and a trail building crew will be used to finish the trails and insuring they are constructed to the specs of the USDA Trail Construction and

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



Maintenance standards. Trail signage will be placed at trailheads to allow public to be informed of the trail system once all trails are completed by September of 2018. This large parcel of land adjacent to the city will offer many opportunities for local residents to enjoy safe and easy year-round access to a comprehensive, non-motorized outdoor recreation trail system. The City of Colville's goal for this project is to encourage year-round, family friendly outdoor recreation while preserving the natural character of the area and protecting our natural resources and animal habitats. The primary activities provided by this project include, but are not limited to; hiking, mountain biking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Colville will contribute \$16,620 in staff labor and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2360)

Whatcom County Parks and Recreation Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve Trail Development

Grant Requested: \$141,331

This project will support the first phase of development of non-motorized foot, bike, and equestrian trails in Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve near Bellingham. Grant funds, in conjunction with County capital and operating funds, will be utilized for staff, equipment, and materials to construct up to 6 additional miles of non-motorized trail. Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve encompasses 4,589 acres of forest land on the west side of Lake Whatcom. The majority of this land, 4,251 acres, was reconveyed from the Department of Natural Resources to Whatcom County in 2014 to provide opportunities for sustainable trail-based recreation and to protect the drinking water quality of Lake Whatcom. Trail development proposed in this application is outlined in the Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve and Lake Whatcom Park Recreational Trail Plan, adopted by Whatcom County Council in October, 2016. Existing trail mileage at Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve totals 4 miles. The Trail Plan outlines an additional 90 miles of new non-motorized trail to be built into the future. Further trail development will provide year-round, close-to-town access to a wide variety of non-motorized trail types and challenge levels. Whatcom County Parks & Recreation has a proven track record of well-managed and successfully implemented RCO grant projects. Whatcom County will contribute \$153,069 in cash, equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2333)

Whatcom County Parks and Recreation Lake Whatcom Park Trail Development

Grant Requested: \$52,647

This project will support the first phase of development of non-motorized foot and bike trails at Lake Whatcom Park, near Bellingham. Grant funds, in conjunction with County capital and operating funds, will be utilized for staff, equipment, and materials to plan and construct up to 2.5 additional miles of non-motorized trail. Lake Whatcom Park encompass 4,800 acres of forest land along the eastern shore of Lake Whatcom. The majority of this land was reconveyed from the Department of Natural Resources to Whatcom County in 2014 to provide opportunities for sustainable trail-based recreation and to protect the drinking water quality of Lake Whatcom. Trail development proposed in this application is outlined in the Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve and Lake Whatcom Park Recreational Trail Plan, adopted by Whatcom County Council in October, 2016. Existing trail mileage at Lake Whatcom Park totals 4 miles. The Trail Plan outlines an additional 90 miles of new non-motorized trail to be built into the future. Further trail development will provide year-round, close-to-town access to a wide variety of non-motorized trail

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



types and challenge levels. Whatcom County Parks & Recreation has a proven track record of well-managed and successfully implemented RCO grant projects. Whatcom County will contribute \$57,523 in cash, equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2830)

U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest, Pacific Ranger District – Quinault Olympic National Forest Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Olympic National Forest is applying for a maintenance grant to assist in funding our trails program. The funding would be used to fund a Washington Conservation Corp. to address deferred maintenance on 77 miles of our non-motorized trails. Current deferred maintenance includes; logging out down trees, brushing, fixing tread, and cleaning or placing drainage features. The primary outdoor recreational opportunities it will support are hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding. The Olympic National Forest has many amazing volunteers that help perform valuable trail maintenance every year. However, we are still unable to keep up with the challenges (maintenance needs) our climate and vegetation throw our way every year. Several of our trails are over grown by Salmonberry and damaged by fallen trees, or the approximately 160 inches of rain we receive each year. Although, our trail systems deferred maintenance is increasing, it is still being used heavily by visitors each year. However, as deferred maintenance continues to increase, visitor satisfaction will likely start to decline. Having well maintained and safe trails for these visitors is vital to the local communities and their tourism industries. If visitors do not enjoy hiking on our trails then they may go elsewhere for their recreational needs. The Forest Service will contribute \$24,400 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2788)

Whatcom County Parks and Recreation South Fork Park Multi-Use Trail Development

Grant Requested: \$200,000

Whatcom County is seeking funding to construct a 5-mile multi-use trail at the proposed South Fork Park. The project is located near the town of Acme. The proposed trail will connect a new trailhead near Mosquito Lake Road to the Overby Farm and the Nessel Farm, historic homestead properties located to the south. This trail connection is needed to provide public access to existing park properties that are currently difficult to access because of deed restrictions, adjacent private property and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) timber lands. Whatcom County has secured a trail easement through the DNR properties that separate the northern park property (Galbraith Farm) from those properties located to the south (Overby Farm, and Nessel Farm) allowing Whatcom County to construct the proposed trail through the state-owned timber properties. When completed, this trail will offer hikers, bicyclists and equestrians a truly unique experience. All of the properties have a homesteading history dating back to the late 1800's with remnant structures and other evidence of the rich history of the South Fork Valley. To highlight this history as well as current land management efforts within the South Fork Valley, interpretive elements will be an integral component of the trail development. The completed project is estimated to serve approximately 30,000 visitors per year based on visitor counts at similar facilities within the county park system. Whatcom County will contribute \$258,000 in equipment, staff labor, a voter-approved levy, and

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



donations of cash, equipment, and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2640)

U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District Blanca Lake and Lake Serene Trailhead Planning

Grant Requested: \$34,500

The Skykomish Ranger District will use this funding to complete the planning (NEPA) and preliminary design for expanded trailhead parking for the heavily congested and overflowing Lake Serene and Blanca Lake Trailhead parking lots. In addition, planning and design work would be completed for reconstruction and relocation of the heavily eroded, rooty, rocky, and slippery Blanca Lake Trail. A lakeshore management plan to identify site hardening and site restoration needed at Blanca and Virgin Lakes will also be prepared. Previous RCO grants for these trails did not include any work at the trailheads, and only a 0.2 mile long segment on Blanca Lake Trail. Both of these trailheads are undersized for a typical day of use. Cars overflowing onto adjacent access roads often obstruct vehicles and creates a safety hazard to pedestrians. Stock trailers have been blocked by cars parked near the Blanca Lake Trailhead. Private homeowners beyond the Lake Serene Trailhead are concerned about obstruction of wide vehicles such as fire trucks. Rafters with trailers have been unable to access the adjacent Cable Drop River Access Trail due to the congestion. These are the most popular trails on the Skykomish Ranger District. The Blanca Lake Trailhead provides access to a subalpine gem of a lake and the Columbia Glacier within the Wild Sky and Henry M. Jackson Wilderness areas. The Lake Serene Trailhead provides access to a subalpine lake at the base of the towering cliffs of Mt. Index, and is within the Mt. Index Scenic Area. The Forest Service will contribute \$35,020 in a federal appropriation. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2593)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Green Mountain Non-motorized Trail Development

Grant Requested: \$165,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to develop 6 miles of new trail in Green Mountain State Forest, approximately 18 miles southwest of the Silverdale/Bremerton area. This project will expand the trail system for mountain biking, hiking, and equestrian opportunities. The proposed new trails will improve trail loop opportunities & provide visitors a safer and less congestive experience on the mountain. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be improved non-motorized trail recreation. This grant proposal seeks to renovate & re-route 1 mile of trail, while developing 5 additional trail miles to expand the existing trail system by approximately 25%. Trail renovation & re-route efforts will disperse users out of busy trailheads, while additional trails will improve system connectivity & provide access into remote areas of the state forest with viewpoints. Additionally, a proposed new trail bridge installation on an existing wet trail crossing will protect a sensitive stream resource. This project implements goals & objectives identified in the Green Mountain State Forest Recreation Plan, a public planning process completed December 2013. The department will contribute \$110,030 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2475)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Tonasket Ranger District Trail and Trailhead Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$120,301

This project would operate and maintain 206 miles of Trails and 12 Trailheads on the Tonasket Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. Trails would include non-motorized, and Wilderness Trails. Maintenance work on the Trails would include annual log out, repairing tread, water bars, puncheons, turnpikes, updating signs, and replacing trail bridges. Work on the Trailheads would include updating the facility signs, maintaining and servicing the toilet facilities, garbage service, and parking area maintenance. Having a well-maintained trail system will bring in more local visitors as well as those outside the local area. More trail visits to the trail system should in turn create greater revenue to those local merchants in the towns neighboring the trailheads and the trail systems. The Forest Service will contribute \$52,586 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2227)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District Washington Pass Spires Access Trail

Grant Requested: \$122,440

The Methow Valley R.D. will use this grant for the construction of a trail to provide sustainable access to the most popular alpine rock climbing area in Washington. The site is located in a sub-alpine environment on the west slope of Liberty Bell Mtn. near Washington Pass of the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, and is accessed via the Blue Lake Tr. #314, about 1.5mi from its trailhead. The current route was created by 40+ yrs. of use without intentional design, resulting in severe erosion, braiding, and damaged vegetation. The project's goal is to establish a sustainable trail that will address drainage, snowmelt, safety, and protect surrounding resources. Specific improvements will include constructing rock steps, drainage features, switchbacks and closure and restoration of damaged areas. The primary outdoor recreation opportunity provided is rock climbing and hiking. This trail is currently used by appx. 2,500 climbers per season with additional hiking use. Construction will be carried out by Access Fund trail professionals, AmeriCorps youth crews and volunteer groups with technical support from MVRanger District staff. The U.S. Forest Service, has received numerous requests from the community to improve this trail, and the MVRanger District Climbing Rangers regularly contact users that are concerned about their safety and the impacts of the existing trail. The Climbing Rangers have worked with partner organizations including the Access Fund and local experts to identify this project as a priority for the community. The Forest Service will contribute \$61,132 in donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2387)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Chesaw Access Trailhead Development

Grant Requested: \$149,500

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to construct a trailhead parking lot in Chesaw Wildlife Unit located approximately 20 miles east of Oroville, in Okanogan County. The scope of this project is to construct gravel parking, hitching posts, water trough, interpretive kiosk, and fencing. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this project is hiking, wildlife viewing and equestrian

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



activities. This project between the remote historic towns of Molson and Chesaw has grasslands, timber and meadows are home to many species of birds, including eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, water fowl, song-birds and the threatened Columbian sharp-tailed grouse. There are deer, moose, black bear, beaver and an increasing population of elk. The Chesaw Unit provides abundant public recreational opportunities on its 4,351 acres. Dispersed recreational hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, bird watching, pack-in camping, hunting, and historic homestead discovery are all options. Safe parking is really needed and the post and rail fence enclosure is intended to direct foot and horseback traffic towards the non-motorized primitive road/trail to Strawberry Lake, the nearby homestead sites, and destinations beyond. A kiosk with a map and interpretive panels is designed to educate the public about appreciation and stewardship of the surrounding native plants and animals, and about the many remnants of historic homesteader and miner cabins. The department will contribute \$10,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2262)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Snoqualmie Corridor - Green Mountain Trail and Trailhead

Grant Requested: \$195,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to construct the Green Mountain Summit hiking trail and improve access to the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Trail within east Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area, approximately 30 miles east of Seattle. Trail development will include converting 2.2 miles of decommissioned road to trail, constructing 2.1 miles of new trail, and installing two new trail bridges. Additional development will include the construction of a new trailhead and the installation of a trailhead access road bridge. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be improved hiking, equestrian, and mountain bike trails. This proposed development will provide trailhead access, improve the CCC Trail, and create a safe and sustainable 4.3 mile hiking trail to the summit viewpoint of Green Mountain, overlooking the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River valley. This project is supported from the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan, a public planning process completed in March 2015. The department will contribute \$466,250 in a state appropriation and a state grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2420)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Dosewallips River Trail

Grant Requested: \$88,400

Dosewallips State Park is located on Hood Canal near the town of Brinnon. The 1,039-acre park includes spectacular views of the Olympic Mountains and Hood Canal. It also provides habitat for diverse wildlife species, including salmon, seals, elk, and eagles. Over the past decade, State Parks has used RCO funds to acquire a corridor along the south side of the Dosewallips River, which provides the opportunity for a trail linking Hood Canal with the high country of the Olympics. This project will plan an approximately 6-mile trail connecting the existing Hood Canal beach access parking area and existing Dosewallips State Park trail system to the Olympic National Forest boundary. This stretch of new trail will provide views of Hood Canal, the Olympics, and waterfalls, as well as access to the Dosewallips River and opportunities for wildlife viewing. State Parks will work closely with the Washington Trails Association to route the trail on State Parks property. Staff will also coordinate with the US Forest Service to explore opportunities to link into existing Forest Service trails. In addition to trail routing, the project will include designing water

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



crossings and completing environmental review and permitting needed for trail construction. The completed project will result in construction-ready documents. State Parks will contribute \$30,100 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2413)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District Chickadee Non-Motorized Trail Development

Grant Requested: \$190,000

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant, in association with the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, to construct an approximately 12 mile long multiple use, non-motorized trail in the Chickadee trail system on the Methow Valley Ranger District. The trail will be designed for mountain bike riding, but the goal will be to increase trail use opportunities for mountain bike riders, equestrian riders, hikers, trail runners, and other non-motorized forms of recreation. The Forest Service will contribute \$50,100 in donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2686)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District East Creek Bridge Construction

Grant Requested: \$109,400

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to construct a bridge over Granite Creek on the East Creek trail. The original bridge deteriorated, became unsafe for hikers and was removed. Currently there is not a safe ford for hikers. The East Creek trail begins at the East Creek Trailhead, located off the busy North Cascades Scenic Highway, and is used to access a fire lookout at Mebee pass that was restored by volunteers in 2013. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is backcountry camping and hiking. The Forest Service will contribute \$14,050 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2743)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District Crystal Springs Winter Rec Planning

Grant Requested: \$54,670

This planning project will produce an Environmental Assessment to address long-term maintenance needs and design a unified, sustainable non-motorized winter trail system accessed by the Crystal Springs and Cabin Creek Sno-parks. These Sno-park areas are two heavily-used winter recreation sites in Washington State. Located along Interstate 90 sixty-two miles east of Seattle, the Sno-parks offer parking and trail access for snowmobilers, nordic skiers, snowshoers, and dogsledders. Without this (NEPA) assessment, Forest Service policy prevents the Cle Elum Ranger District and engaged user groups from conducting both routine trail maintenance and improvements to non-motorized winter recreation activities. The existing trail system is user created and has evolved without planning over many years. It is quite substandard and in need of significant improvements, such as trail realignment, hardening, and installation of structures. The current trail system includes 20 miles of groomed ski and dogsled trails and 10 miles of marked snowshoe and dogsled trails. This project will look at the trail system as a whole and

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



analyze optimal trail location, trail features, drainage issues, and other concerns of the public and land managers. The project will produce an Environmental Assessment. This assessment will allow us to implement future maintenance and construction projects to ensure long-term trail sustainability and meet the vast needs and desires of the present and future non-motorized winter recreation community. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2407)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Anderson Lake State Park

Grant Requested: \$130,000

This grant will fund a trail master plan. This scenic park is hilly forest with a lake, small streams, wetlands and meadows. It is popular for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding with over 9 miles of trail and connections to existing and proposed regional trail systems. A trail master plan is needed to establish trail development and maintenance standards for existing and future trails. It will identify new trail routes on newly acquired park property and identify scenic viewpoints for the future installation of developed viewpoints and interpretation. State Park staff will coordinate with the Peninsula Trail Coalition and other stakeholders on the alignment for a section of the Olympic Discovery Trail to be constructed within the park. The master plan will create a priority list, cost estimates and implementation strategies for needed trail improvements. Trailhead improvements including ADA parking, access routes and restroom will be designed as part of the project. Permits will be obtained for priority projects. A trail advisory group with representatives from Backcountry Horseman, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, Peninsula Trails Coalition, Quimper Trails Association and Washington Trail Association will assist on trail inventories, help identify priorities and make recommendations for implementation. Consultants will be utilized for wetland delineation & habitat evaluations. Public meetings will be held to gain understanding of public preferences and needs. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2463)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District Entiat Wilderness Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$32,000

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant for the maintenance of 30 miles of trails in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, located on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The maintenance will be done on trails effected by the 2015 Wolverine Fire on the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts. Due to the severity of the fires and the large trail miles effected there is a tremendous amount of work associated with clearing these trails and repairing tread. Maintenance will include log-out of fallen trees, brushing and trail tread repair. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be sustainable, safe wilderness trail use. It is expected that there will be 100-150 blown down trees per mile on the trails in the coming years. Along with increased tread work from accelerated soil erosion, it is more than the typical sized trail crew hired for the summer. These trails are very popular with horse users and hikers. The goal of this project is to keep up on trial maintenance in fire burned areas, so that a backlog of trees and poor tread conditions don't make the trails unusable, ensuring safe user access and reducing resource damage caused by eroding trials. The Forest Service will contribute \$8,000 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2693)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Nonmotorized Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District Tatoosh Buttes Trail Planning

Grant Requested: \$36,763

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to plan a trail reroute and reconstruction for the Tatoosh Buttes Trail. Tatoosh Buttes is a popular destination for hikers and stock users as the high meadow country offers good graze for stock users and an alternative destination from the heavily used Hidden Lakes area within the Pasayten Wilderness. The trail climbs from the Pasayten Airport on the Middle Fork of the Pasayten river up to Tatoosh Buttes where it then descends down to Hidden Lakes. The current trail exceeds grades that are safe for stock users and is beginning to wash out in several areas exposing rock that is difficult for stock to pass. This grant will be used to do the survey and design of a reroute and the NEPA analysis necessary for reroute and construction. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is equestrian, backcountry camping and hiking use. The Forest Service will contribute \$7,540 in equipment. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2694)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Pogue Mountain Trail

Grant Requested: \$141,200

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to build a multi-use trail in the Pogue Wildlife Area, located in Okanogan County about 5 miles west/northwest of Omak, WA. The scope of this project is to construct a 2 foot wide natural surface trail about 3.5 miles long, renovate a gravel parking lot, install hitching posts, and develop remote camp sites at the lake. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this project is hiking, hunting, camping, wildlife viewing, and sightseeing. The trail will provide public access into the wildlife area for hunting, fishing, hiking and sightseeing opportunities. With this trail close to the towns of Omak and Okanogan, it will provide a closer hiking option for people to get out and explore their public lands. The Wildlife Area is lower in elevation which makes it a good trail to access in early spring or later in the fall when the backcountry trails are difficult to access due to winter snows. The trail is close to Green Lake, which is a popular place for fishing, swimming, camping and recreating. The trailhead will be located at the north end of Little Green Lake, where there is a restroom and parking area. From there the trail will cross Green Lake road and head south along the road until it begins to climb and switchback up the west side of the wildlife area. From there it will wind along an old skid road until it reaches Hunsinger Lake. Total distance is about 3.5 miles. The department will contribute \$10,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2309)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

This attachment includes 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.

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) – Nonmotorized Projects

• 16-2358M	Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities and Trail Maintenance (3)	Rank 1
• 16-2751M	Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance (2)	Rank 5
• 16-2449M	Pacific Cascade Nonmotorized Maintenance (1)	Rank 7
• 16-2570D	Mica Peak Trail System Development (1)	Rank 8
• 16-2255M	Cle Elum Ranger District Nonmotorized Trails Maintenance and Operation (1)	Rank 9
• 16-2573M	North Fork Skykomish Trail Complex Maintenance (1)	Rank 10
• 16-2238M	Mountain Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance (3)	Rank 11
• 16-2499M	Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance (1)	Rank 12
• 16-2318M	Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities Maintenance (3)	Rank 13
• 16-2335M	Wilderness Nonmotorized Trails Maintenance and Operation (1)	Rank 14
• 16-2393M	Nicholson Trail System Elbe Hills Maintenance (1)	Rank 14
• 16-2687D	Frog Mountain Trail Construction (2)	Rank 16
• 16-2825D	Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement and Expansion (6)	Rank 17
• 16-2306D	Yacolt Burn Nonmotorized Trail Development (1)	Rank 18
• 16-2301P	Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design (16)	Rank 19
• 16-2753D	Bull Bear Trail (1)	Rank 21
• 16-2576M	Naches Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operation (2)	Rank 22
• 16-2519M	Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance (1)	Rank 23
• 16-2680M	Lyman Lake and Holden Creek Foot Log Replacements (2)	Rank 24
• 16-2376D	Raging River State Forest Trail System Development Phase (2)	Rank 26
• 16-2622D	Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements (1)	Rank 27
• 16-2360D	Colville Mountain Recreation Area (2)	Rank 28
• 16-2333D	Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve Trail Development (1)	Rank 29
• 16-2593P	Blanca Lake and Lake Serene Trailhead Planning (2)	Rank 33
• 16-2475D	Green Mountain Nonmotorized Trail Development (1)	Rank 34
• 16-2387D	Washington Pass Spires Access Trail (1)	Rank 36
• 16-2420D	Snoqualmie Corridor Green Mountain Trail and Trailhead (3)	Rank 38
• 16-2413P	Dosewallips River Trail (1)	Rank 39
• 16-2743D	East Creek Bridge Construction (2)	Rank 41
• 16-2407P	Crystal Springs Winter Recreation Planning (1)	Rank 42



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #1

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January 16, 2017

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: NOVA Nonmotorized Program - Snoqualmie Corridor Trails & Facilities Maintenance, #16-2358

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen MBA) strongly supports DNR's proposal to fund trail and facility maintenance on more than 124 miles of non-motorized trails, four trailheads, and two day-use sites in the Snoqualmie Corridor. The Snoqualmie Corridor is within an hour's drive from Seattle metropolitan region and is experiencing significant growth in recreational resource use. It is critical that DNR receives funding to continue to maintain and operate facilities to a high service level, to minimize environmental impact, and to ensure continued visitor safety.

The corridor includes the Raging River State Forest and well as Tiger Mountain, one of the most popular mountain bike trail systems in the state. The Raging River State Forest includes a new trail system which will soon open to the mountain bike community and is sure to draw thousands of riders annually. The recently completed Middle Fork road paving project is expected to significantly increase visitation to the valley starting spring and summer 2017, and accesses the popular Middle Fork Snoqualmie trail. DNR's grant funding request is crucial to sustainably maintain all these popular trail networks, and to ensure all Snoqualmie Corridor recreational resources are properly maintained and open for the public to enjoy.

DNR and Evergreen have partnered to build and maintain over 28 miles of mountain bike trails in the Snoqualmie Corridor, and Evergreen has provided thousands of valuable volunteer match hours within the corridor over the past decade. Without this funding, the much-loved public lands and recreational resources in the Snoqualmie corridor could fall into disrepair, and DNR might need to close-down trails due maintenance backlogs.

Evergreen is Washington's largest mountain bike organization with over 3,300 members and more than 20,000 supporters statewide. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, advocacy, and youth participation, and look forward to assisting DNR to maintain the unique and popular trails of the Snoqualmie Corridor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus".

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID: 91-1553023.

438 NE 72nd Street | Seattle WA 98115 | 206.524.2900 | www.evergreenMTB.org

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #1



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Dale Trower, WA

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Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
Angie Kinkor (R), Supervisor
John Kinkor, Snohomish County
John Kinkor, Principal Environmental Scientist
Parker Kinkor, Snohomish County
Mark Kinkor, Snohomish County
Mark Kinkor, City Administrator, Snohomish County
Paul Kinkor, Northwest Director
The Pacific Northwest
Helen Lee, President, Arden
Angie Lewis, Health Management
Doreen Lewis, President, National Communications
Alison Lutz (T), Park, Social, Natural History
John Lutz (T), Park, Social, Natural History
Robert Moravik, Senior Director, WSP Program
The Boeing Company
Gordon Moberg (T), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Sally Nelson (T), Former Senior VP, Delivery
Quintana, Road & Land Energy
Chad Nelson, General Manager, Protonet
Mary Norton, City of Snoqualmie Falls Board
Washington State
Thomas O'Hara, Pacific NW Sweepstakes Director
American Outdoor
John O'Hara, President, Director of Academic Affairs
College of Environmental Studies, University of Washington
Helen O'Hara (T), Member, KSL, Gales, WA
Charles O'Hara, Director, Snohomish County
Snohomish County
John O'Hara (T), WA, WA, Snohomish County, Snohomish County
AAA Snohomish
Jim O'Hara (T), President & Senior Managing
Director, HARTCO LLC
Chris O'Hara, Commercial Director
Rural Sound Energy
Paul O'Hara, Environmental Manager
Viljo O'Hara, Student Vice President, University
of Washington
Michael O'Hara, Pacific Northwest
David O'Hara (T), Vice President, CH2M
Hill
County of King County
Kevin O'Hara, Organizational Development Manager
City of Seattle
Helen O'Hara (T), Supervisor
Cherry O'Hara, National Forest
Sally O'Hara, Former Senior Vice President
Helen O'Hara
John O'Hara, Snohomish County, Snohomish County

MTSGREENWAY.ORG

Sam Jarrett
Snoqualmie Rec. & Natural Areas District Manager – Statewide Trails Specialist
Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
950 Farman Avenue N
Enumclaw, WA 98022-9282

Re: Support for DNR Grant #16-2358

Dear RCO Grant Evaluation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, "Snoqualmie Corridor Trails & Facility Maintenance," (Application #16-2358) to fund trail & facility maintenance efforts across landscapes receiving some of the highest visitation in the state. Without continuing this funding, some of the most iconic trails, day use sites, and trailheads in Washington State would not be adequately maintained for the public.

Snoqualmie Corridor recreation trails & facilities are within 25-35 miles from the Seattle and Bellevue metropolitan center and just outside Issaquah. A recently opened federal road improvement project will vastly improve the primary access to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley, where the popular Mailbox Peak trail and trailhead is located. We cannot stress enough the importance of securing funds to ensure there are enough funds for the DNR to maintain trails and facilities to a high standard. In addition, popular trails within West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area, Tiger Mountain State Forest, new trails opening in Raging River State Forest, & the Rattlesnake Mountain Trail will be maintained along with related day use and trailhead parking facilities.

The Snoqualmie Corridor includes some of the most popular and accessible outdoor recreational opportunities in Washington year-round. In the Snoqualmie Corridor, the Mountains to Sound Greenway is partnering with the DNR to construct new trailheads and build new trail opportunities. The goal for this project is to ensure that these public investments are cared for in the long term & remain open with high public service levels. Without a consistent, funded trail and facility maintenance program that includes professional agency staff and utilizing contractors & volunteers, agencies will be unable to meet the challenge to managing public use and natural resources. Maintaining trails to a high standard was identified as a high priority of the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan and DNR Statewide Trails Policy.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Jon Hoekstra, Executive Director

2701 FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 240, SEATTLE, WA 98101 | 206.362.5665 | INFO@MTSGREENWAY.ORG





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie
National Forest
Snoqualmie Ranger District

902 S.E. North Bend Way, Bldg 1
North Bend, WA 98045
(425) 888-1421

January 19, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)
Snoqualmie Corridor Trails & Facility Maintenance (#16-2358 M)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District and U.S. Forest Service to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to conduct trail and facility maintenance in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which will fund DNR to maintain 124 miles of non-motorized trails, four trailheads and two day use sites.

Both the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and Alpine Lakes Wilderness are adjacent to DNR managed land in the Snoqualmie Corridor. From conservation land acquisitions and recreation management, our agencies have been working together throughout the Snoqualmie Valley for more than 20 years. We look forward to continuing this partnership and ensure trails in the Snoqualmie Corridor & Alpine Lakes Wilderness trail systems provide recreation opportunities that are very accessible to the Puget Sound Metropolitan Area population.

The goal for this project is to conduct maintenance on 124 miles of trails, four trailheads and two day use sites. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. It is essential to meet growing public visitation while reducing natural resource damage.

We hope that this application is funded in order for DNR to provide a committed trail maintenance crew for the Snoqualmie Corridor. This will enhance the recreation experience of those who visit our forests since many of our lands are directly adjacent to each other. Many popular trails start on DNR land and lead to Forest Service managed land. Thank you for this opportunity to support this project.

Sincerely,

Brian McNeil
USFS Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Snoqualmie Ranger District
North Bend, WA



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King County

Parks and Recreation Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700

201 South Jackson Street

Seattle, WA 98104-3855

206-477-4527 Fax 206-588-8011

TTY Relay: 711

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #1

January, 20 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)
Snoqualmie Corridor Trails & Facility Maintenance (#16-2358 M)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of King County to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to conduct trail and facility maintenance located in the popular DNR Snoqualmie Corridor.

The Snoqualmie Corridor is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center and incredibly accessible. It is considered the backyard for many hikers, mtn bikers and equestrians. The Snoqualmie Corridor includes some of the most popular accessible outdoor recreational opportunities in Washington year-round, including West Tiger No. 1, Rattlesnake Mountain, Poo Poo Point, the east Tiger Mountain bike trail system, south Tiger Mountain equestrian trail loop, and many others.

The goal for this project is to conduct trail and facility maintenance on over 124 miles of non-motorized trails, four trailheads, and two day use sites in the Snoqualmie Corridor. This project was identified as a high priority of the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan & DNR Trails Policy by keeping trails and facilities up to high service levels for heavy visitation.

DNR and King County have been working together in Snoqualmie Corridor for over twenty years. From conservation land acquisitions to recreation management, we have worked together to provide seamless management throughout the landscape. Some of our day use sites & trail system networks are directly adjacent to DNR managed lands and providing a DNR maintenance presence will directly benefit our sites.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this project,

Kelly Heintz

Natural Lands Program

King County Department of Natural Resources & Parks, Parks & Recreation Division

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #1



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

January 15, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: NOVA Nonmotorized Program
Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities & Trail Maintenance, #16-2358 (MNT)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to conduct trail and facility maintenance located within West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA), Tiger Mountain State Forest, Raging River State Forest, Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area, and on Mailbox Peak.

These state forests & conservation areas are in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. Many of these recreation areas are particularly important to the equestrian community, including: the south Tiger Mountain State Forest equestrian loop and Poo Poo Point Trail within West Tiger Mountain NRCA. The south Tiger Mountain loop provides a great alternative to equestrian visitors when the nearby Taylor Mountain Forest is overcrowded.

The goal for this project is to conduct maintenance on 124 miles of trails, four trailheads and two day use sites. Maintenance of trails & facilities to provide positive recreation experiences was identified as a high priority of the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. We strongly support funding for professional DNR trail crews to lead trail maintenance efforts, well cleaned restrooms & trailheads, and utilization of volunteers to provide an efficient mix of labor resources to get the job done. This grant opportunity is strongly supported to ensure trails are maintained and provide a safe, enjoyable experience.

Thank you,


Kathy Young
President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington
president@bchw.org



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #1

PO Box 351 Issaquah, WA 98027

January 13, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board P.O. Box 40917 Olympia, Washington
98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)
Snoqualmie Corridor Trails & Facility Maintenance (#16-2358 M)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club is dedicated to the protection of the lush mountains, valleys and rivers and streams in the Issaquah Alps region and beyond. We have partnered with DNR for over twenty years on key conservation acquisitions, recreation planning and volunteer stewardship.

I am writing on behalf of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC) to support DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to fund trail and facility maintenance in the Snoqualmie Corridor.

The Snoqualmie Corridor includes some of the most treasured hikes near Issaquah. This includes West Tiger No 3, Poo Poo Point and the lower elevation Tradition Plateau trail network, perfect for families and environmental education. In addition the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley is less an hour from the greater Seattle area. A multi-million dollar federal road improvement project will vastly improve the primary access to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley, where Mailbox Peak Trailhead sits as the first accessible trailhead for the visiting public.

We fully support this proposal and understand that without continued staff presence, especially on during the spring and summer season, many of our trail investments are in jeopardy. IATC is committed to supporting DNR's mission to provide safe and sustainable recreation in the Snoqualmie Corridor.

Sincerely,

David Kappler

David Kappler

Vice President for Advocacy



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #7

Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

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October 20, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Washington State Department of Natural Resources – Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Maintenance #16-2449

Dear RCO Review Committee:

Washington Trails Association (WTA) is pleased to support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Recreation and Conservation Office grant application #16-2449 to fund the maintenance of nonmotorized trails and facilities in the Yacolt Burn State Forest and Siouxon block trail system, located in southwest Washington.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

Washington State Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on nonmotorized trails and trailhead facilities within Yacolt Burn State Forest and Siouxon block. WTA supports the maintenance of the Yacolt Burn and Siouxon trail systems and assists DNR with volunteer trail maintenance on these trails. Providing funding for trail maintenance and staffing will help WTA coordinate on much needed trail projects in these areas.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support this project.

Sincerely,

Ryan Ojerio
Southwest Washington Regional Manager



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

October 19, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Spokane County's Mica Peak Trail System Development

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of Spokane County Parks' proposal to the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to develop a trail system at Mica Peak, providing a four-season destination supporting a multitude of non-motorized trail based recreation.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

We fully support Spokane County's plan to build a new trail system on Mica Peak based on the non-motorized trail plan that was developed with funding from a previous NOVA-NM grant. WTA volunteers are one of the many groups who helped to develop this trail plan through public meetings and trail surveys and would like to see it fully implemented.

A trail system on Mica Peak will create the opportunity for many miles of trail based recreation by a wide variety of user groups. The trail system will utilize both the existing road system, where appropriate, and new trails to provide a variety of loops across the property giving users the opportunity to explore the area and enjoy sweeping views of the Spokane Valley, Idaho, and Mount Spokane. Mica Peak's elevation and wooded character will make it a destination in summer with its cooler temperatures compared to the valley below and in the winter snow will make it a close-in destination for winter sports such as snowshoeing, cross country skiing and fat tire mountain biking. Another plus for this project is that it will become a vital piece in Spokane County's vision to have a much larger trail system in the area. Liberty Lake Regional Park with its 15 miles of trail lies just east of Mica Peak with a parcel of private property between them. Spokane's Conservation Futures program has made this private parcel a high priority in its next phase of proposed purchases. Combining all three areas into one system will create an even greater regional recreation opportunity.

Washington Trails Association sees the value in this project and our volunteers are willing to commit 2000 hours of volunteer time (worth \$30,000) as in-kind labor towards the construction of this trail system.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #9

November 7, 2016

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office,

It is with great pleasure that I write in support of the applications being submitted by the Cle Elum Ranger District and the Wenatchee-Okanogan National Forest to the NOVA & RTP programs. NOVA proposal #16-2255 MNT, Cle Elum RD Non-Motorized Trails M&O 2017 and RTP grant #16-2435 MNT, Cle Elum RD Non-Motorized Trails M&O 2017 will support the efforts of both the Cle Elum RD and the Northwest Youth Corps (NYC). These NOVA & RTP projects will help ensure that youth participants have the opportunity to learn not only job skills but also the chance to experience the beauty of the Central Washington Cascades first hand.

The reduction in recreation dollars allocated to seasonal and backlog maintenance projects makes these RCO requests even more important to ensure safe, well maintained trails for recreationalists. High quality recreation opportunities bring visitors and revenue to the area helping to boost the local economy.

NYC is a youth development and outdoor education organization that has provided opportunities to more than 10,000 young people since its establishment in 1984. NYC employs over 900 youth annually to complete much needed conservation projects throughout the Pacific Northwest; including a seasonal facility outside Leavenworth, WA.

NYC and the Cle Elum RD have enjoyed a long standing partnership that began in the early 1990s. The above mentioned applications will work to further this partnership; giving the District and NYC greater ability to complete necessary maintenance projects and serve regional youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Waksmundski", is positioned above the printed name.

Joe Waksmundski
Program Director



Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Letter of Support for:

- *16-2238 Mt. Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance (NOVA)
- *16-2260 Milk Creek Bridge and Trail Relocation (NOVA)
- *16-2259 '17-'19 Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance (NRTP)
- *16-2383 Volunteer Program at Big 4

Dear Review Committee,

The Town of Darrington is pleased to support the Darrington Ranger District's applications for RCO grants. Tucked away in the North Cascades the town is surrounded by large tracts of public land. This has offered the community both employment in the woods and an incredible recreational experience for those who have been lucky enough to live and visit here.

In the aftermath of the 2014 Oso Landslide the town is working with various recreational groups to develop world-class recreational opportunities that surround us. The Darrington RD staff has been integral part in this initiative through participation in economic development meetings addressing concerns brought forward by the various user groups.

Maintenance is always an issue, and we understand the problems faced by the Forest Service in having the funds to perform even the simplest of projects. We have applauded the Darrington Districts ability to procure grants, employ youth from our town, and work with local and other volunteer groups to keep the trails open. Many of the members of this small town have spent years working in the woods and understand the tremendous effort it takes to open and maintain the trails in this rugged environment. We commend the efforts of all those who have participated in these initiatives.

I ask the review committee to consider the applications above of which will help our town continue to offer the very best hiking and equestrian wilderness experiences now and in the future. Opening up new trails and re-establishing historic ones, like the crossing for the Milk Creek trail, can only add to the attraction to world class recreational adventure in our area.

Town of Darrington
Mayor, Dan Rankin

December 20, 2016

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #11

Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Selection Committee,

It is my distinct pleasure to write to you in support of Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Darrington Ranger District's request for \$150,000 to be used in 2018 and 2019 for trailhead and trail maintenance around the Mountain Loop scenic byway.

Our local economy is dependent on the success of tourism – hiking, fishing, historic tourism, environmental education, outdoor activities for all ages . . . all make use of the multitude of attractive trails accessible on “the Loop”. The Loop provides paved highway access through some of the most beautiful (and historic) areas of the State, enabling our visitors to safely and quickly reach 21 trailheads for the outdoor experiences of a lifetime. The proximity to large population centers in King, Snohomish, and Pierce counties makes the Loop a convenient day-trip for many outdoor adventurers, but the millions of annual visitors mandate appropriate trail maintenance and repair, trash removal, toilet servicing, and ongoing general cleanup.

I strongly encourage you to consider the Darrington Ranger District's grant proposal, designed to cost-effectively enhance a broad range of recreational experiences in western Washington. Granite Falls has long been known as “The Gateway to the Mountain Loop”, and we join the Forest Service in promoting the enjoyment, preservation, and protection of the land upon which our heritage is built. We hope to share our pride in that heritage with as many visitors as we can safely and cleanly support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Frederick Cruger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Frederick" and last name "Cruger" clearly legible.

Frederick Cruger
Granite Falls Planning Commission
Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission
League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 20th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Darrington Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Darrington Ranger District.

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT". In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the Darrington Ranger District (District), our local volunteers have logged more than 2100 hours so far in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 56 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) lies within Glacier Peak Wilderness and is managed by the District. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude. Due to limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous backlog of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail

users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Darrington Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications:

#16-2238 Mt. Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance (NOVA)

#16-2259 '17-'19 Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance (NRTP)

#16-2260 Milk Creek Bridge and Trail Relocation (NOVA)

The last of these applications is of special concern to the PCTA as this will re-open a 20 mile section that has been re-routed throughout the recent decade.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,



Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 20th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Methow Valley Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Methow Valley Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT". In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1600 hours so far in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 39 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) passes through the North Cascades and is managed by the District; much of this is in the Pasayten Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that the southern 10 miles of this area was re-opened to stock travel during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude.

Due to limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous backlog of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Methow Valley Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications that directly support work on the Pacific Crest Trail or trails that connect to it:

16-2519 Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2499 MVRD Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2622 Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements

16-2743 East Creek Bridge Construction

16-2529 PNW Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawley

Bill Hawley

Pacific Crest Trail Association

North Cascades Regional Representative

Attn: Rick Foster
Baker District Recreation Maintenance Manager
Washington Department of Natural Resources

Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
Project: RCO # 16-2317 and # 16-2318: Samish Overlook; Lily and Lizard Lake
Campgrounds; Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails/Facilities Maintenance

Dear Project Evaluator,

The members of the Skagit Chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington support the Washington Department of Natural Resources effort to apply for grant funds through the Recreation and Conservation Office. Our members ride their horses and mules on the many miles of trails on Blanchard Mountain and the Harry Osborne Park and appreciate all efforts by the DNR staff who maintain and make them safe for recreational use. Our members know what effort it takes to secure grants and realize how important funds are to purchase tools and provide materials to maintain trails and campgrounds. Our members have logged hundreds of volunteer hours and have partnered with DNR on many trail projects.

Our Skagit members were unanimous in their decision to support DNR's effort to secure funding for improvements at Blanchard and Harry Osborne Park. We can also guarantee volunteers from our chapter to participate in projects planned and organized by DNR personnel.

Sincerely,

Janine Frizzell, President
Rich Ruhl, Trail Boss/RTP Grant Coordinator



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #13

January 8, 2017

Attn: Rick Foster
Baker District Recreation Maintenance Manager
Washington Department of Natural Resources

Regarding: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
Project: RCO # 16-2317 and #16-2318: Samish Overlook; Lily and Lizard Lake
Campgrounds; Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails/Facilities Maintenance

Dear Project Evaluator,

Skagit County Parks and Recreation is a devoted supporter of the WDNR efforts to serve their constituents in these valued recreational lands. As an agency providing recreational opportunities in the area, we know how important these sites are to the community and to the greater region. Trails continue to be one of the most publicly demanded park amenities; and access to viewpoints consistently finish at the top of surveys when respondents are asked to let us know how local providers can best meet the public's recreational needs. The WDNR project proposal will allow recreationalists the ability to continue to access these recreational facilities in a safe, reliable and satisfying way.

As a parks provider in Skagit County, I am highly confident that the proposed improvements these recreational facilities will be supported and celebrated by those that regularly use these lands for fulfilling their recreational needs. We believe these projects are of great importance to the community and are of great importance to the region.

Please let me know if I can be of assistance in helping this project succeed.

Sincerely,

Brian Adams, Director
Skagit County Parks and Recreation
1730 Continental Place
Mount Vernon WA 98273

P. O. Box 1326
Mount Vernon WA 98273

360.416.1350 phone
360.336.9493 facsimile

[http://skagitcounty.net/offices/
parks/index.htm](http://skagitcounty.net/offices/parks/index.htm)



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

December 12, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Washington State Department of Natural Resources – Applications #16-2317 & #16-2318

Dear RCO Review Committee:

Washington Trails Association (WTA) is pleased to support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Recreation and Conservation Office grant applications:

- #16-2317 – DNR Samish Overlook Day Use Area and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds
- #16-2318 – DNR Blanchard & Harry Osborne Trails/Facilities Maintenance

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

Application #16-2317 would provide maintenance of one Non Highway Roads Day Use Area and two backcountry campgrounds at Lily and Lizard lakes within the Northwest Region and the Blanchard Forest Block. Application #16-2318 is for the maintenance of two non-motorized trail systems within the region. These systems include the Blanchard Forest Block Trail System and two trailheads and the Les Hilde/H.O. Trail System, both in Skagit County. Combined they provide 45 miles of trail and three trailheads for non-motorized recreational use. In total these projects will serve approximately 90,000 visitors per year by maintaining 45 miles of non-motorized trails, three trailheads, two backcountry campgrounds, as well as the facilities at the Samish Overlook and Les Hilde Trailhead.

Hikers thoroughly enjoy the Blanchard Forest and Harry Osborne trail systems. WTA is pleased to provide our support for all of these projects.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support this project.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imjer
Advocacy Director



28 September, 2016

www.evergreenMTB.org
sustainable trails. rider powered.

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Letter of Support for: #16-2334 MNT, Wenatchee River RD ORV M&O 2017-2018
#16-2335 MNT, Wilderness – Non-Motorized M&O 2017-2018

Dear Review Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (EMBA) strongly supports the above listed US Forest Service, Wenatchee Ranger District Nova grant applications for trail development and maintenance.

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is Washington State's largest mountain bike advocacy and trail building group. Created in 1989 as a grassroots solution to local trail networks closing to riders, Evergreen (previously Backcountry Bicycle Trails Club) has since grown to become the primary force in the mountain bike trail maintenance, building and advocacy community of Washington State.

The supported projects involve general trail maintenance/logout on 120 miles of ORV trail with a main focus is to increase trail sustainability by addressing erosion issues. The other includes over 400 miles of trail maintenance for logout, brushing, tread repair, waterbars, turnpikes and small bridges. This helps provide safe and sustainable use of the districts trails. What we are most excited for is the opportunity to continue our partnership with the Forest Service. These two projects have great backing from many local user groups and recreational enthusiasts.

We recognize the importance of partnership in protecting and maintaining trails on public land and we support this not only through endorsing this grant application but also by providing volunteer labor and coordinating our work efforts with the Wenatchee River Ranger District for these important projects.

Respectfully,

Mathew C. Lyons

Central Washington Chapter
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (EMBA)

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Tax ID: 91-1553023.

418 NE 72nd St / Seattle WA 98115 / 206.524.2900



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #14

Olympia Address:
110 Irv Newhouse Building
PO Box 40402
Olympia, WA 98504-0402

Washington State Senate

Senator Randi Becker
2nd Legislative District

Contact Info:
E-mail: Randi.Becker@leg.wa.gov
Phone: (360) 786-7602
FAX: (360) 786-1999

January 17, 2017

Kaleen Cottingham
Director, Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Director Cottingham,

I am writing to express my support for the Elbe Hills Nicholson Horse Trail System. This trail system, which provides excellent recreation opportunities, is important to the people I represent as the state senator serving Washington's 2nd Legislative District. I am highlighting this trail system because the people who enjoy using the trail and volunteering their time to its upkeep want to continue to work cooperatively with our state's public agencies to ensure that maintenance and operation receives an appropriate level of attention.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randi H. Becker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Senator Randi Becker
2nd Legislative District

Friends of Capitol Forest

1713 Camden Park Dr. SW
Olympia, WA 98512
(206) 979-9494
ktwood@gmail.com

January 2017

Dear RCO Board Members,

The Friends of Capitol Forest ("FOCF") is a trail access and maintenance advocacy group based in Olympia, Washington. Collectively, our members perform thousands of volunteer hours building and maintaining recreational trails, mostly in Capitol State Forest, but also in other areas throughout the Puget Sound region. Our members are mostly mountain bike enthusiasts, however, FOCF is an inclusive group that counts hikers, trail runners, and equestrians among its membership. Today I am writing you in support of a number of grants to perform work within the Capitol Forest (listed below).

Capitol Forest continues to be a large draw for recreationalists throughout Western Washington, Northern Oregon, and beyond. In close coordination with local DNR staff, FOCF is proud of the significant progress seen towards making Capitol Forest a premier destination. In the past year, FOCF and DNR are in the early design/construction phases of several new trail opportunities, including:

- An advanced downhill mountain bike trail located near the Straddleline ORV park;
- Climbing and beginner-friendly routes in and around the Little Larch Mountain Trail area;
- A climbing trail parallel to the Green Line trail;
- A mountain-bike specific line on the Twin Peaks motorized trail;

In addition, and with RCO grant assistance, DNR installed new bathroom facilities at the Mima Falls and Fall Creek areas. FOCF assisted in installing a new bridge on the McKinney Trail, and new bridges were placed on the ORV trail system that is also used by mountain bikers.

As Capitol Forest continues to see increasing use, RCO grant funding is a vital part of both maintaining the incredible opportunities Capitol Forest has to offer the region. For these reasons, FOCF offers its wholehearted support for the following grant opportunities:

16-2327 Capitol Forest Non Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

16-2329, McKenny Camp/Trailhead & Fall Creek Trailhead Expansion

16-2825 Fall Creek - PW

16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement

16-2330 Mtn, Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance

16-2328 Mnt, CF ORV Trailhead & Campground Paving Preservation

#16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this year's grant season. FOCF looks forward to assisting DNR in assuring prompt and effective execution of grant awards.

Very truly yours,

Kelly T. Wood
President, Friends of Capitol Forest

Samuel

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #17

RCO Funding Board
2017-2018 RCO Grants – Capitol Forest

RE: 16-2329 Margaret McKenny Trailhead & Campground and Fall Creek Trailhead expansion
16-2825

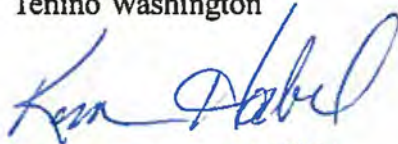
I, Kim Habel, a member of Scatter Creek Riders chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington, am writing in support of the above grant proposal.

The Margaret McKenny trailhead and campground in Capitol Forest is heavily used by non-motorized users – in particular horseback riders. The need to provide campground hosts with basic utilities – sewer and water – helps attract dedicated hosts. The presence of a full time host helps to deter vandalism and vagrancy in the campground, and encourages use of legitimate campers. This grant will expand day use parking and add new campsites to this popular area.

Improvements to the Fall Creek Trailhead - the current day use parking area has limited space, especially for trucks and horse trailers. This grant would expand and improve parking for horseback riders and other non-motorized users, which is urgently needed due to its popularity with horseback riders, mountain bikers, hikers and trail runners.

Please accept this letter of support for the Margaret McKenny Trailhead and Campground grant.

Kim Habel
Tenino Washington



360-264-4882

14749 Tilley Rd S.
Tenino, WA 98589

Capitol Forest User Group Representatives

Tumwater WA 01/26/2017

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #17

To the Recreation & Conservation Office,

The Capitol Forest User Group, comprised of neighbors, equestrian, mountain bike, off road vehicle and trail running enthusiasts are in favor of funding grants directed towards improving the recreational use experience in the forest.

Capitol Forest is blessed with an extensive trail network and expansive forest, however the forest has clay based soils and it is located in a rain belt, which means diligent maintenance is required on the trails. DNR directed crews and volunteers are needed in efforts to preserve the trail and the environment. The trail side facilities require maintenance by volunteers and DNR resources. The User Group supports needed funding for trails and facilities.

The User Group also supports the two grants to enlarge and improve Margaret McKenny trailhead / campground and the grant to resurface the ORV campground and trailhead located on the East side of the forest.

The User Group is enthusiastic about additional funding to continue the bathroom cleaning contract which is presently funded by a grant for Capitol & Yacolt forest.

In addition to the trail and facility maintenance grants the Capitol Forest User Group also supports the Education & Enforcement (E&E) Grant. The DNR E&E Warden has been doing a great job in educating users about the forest and when necessary writing citations to gain compliance. The Warden has established an effective Forest Watch volunteer program.

The User Group is asking the following grants be considered for improving the Capitol Forest experience:

- #16-2825 Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
- #16-2327 Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
- #16-2326 Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
- #16- 2330 Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance
- #16-2329 McKenny Camp/Tailhead Improvement & Expansion
- #16-2331 Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

Thank you for considering this request

Capitol Forest User Group Members

Name	Recreation Use	Name	Recreation Use
Dave Outbark	ATV- motorized	Beth Neff	Motorcycle
Kent Dixon	ATV-	Laura Dell	EQUINE
Steve Tiedle	motorized	Dee Green	EQUINE
Scott Neff	Motorcycle	Paul Butler	Neighbor
Jean Fleming	Horseback & Hiking	Robert O. Ellsworth	MOTO
Sue Watson ^{BCH} _{Amateur}	Horseback riding	Tad Tower	ATV
Barb Paris	Horseback riding	Joe HEITMANN	ATV
Carole Kerwit	HORSE & ATV	Dan Sayl	Trail Runner
Kim Habel	Horseback Rider	Terri Johnson	EQUINE
Bob Bacon	HORSEBACK Rider	Tony W	Mountain Bike
Andrew Claiborne	Mountain bike	Ann Wolfe	Mountain Bike
Chris Funnico	Horseback Riding		
Norman Green	Horse back Riding		

1/27/16

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #17

January 21, 2017

Subject: Letter of Support for RCO Grants

Dear Grant Application Reviewers,

I would like to express my enthusiastic support for the grant applications listed below submitted for the purpose of maintaining and improving recreational facilities and opportunities in Capitol State Forest:

- # 16-2329 McKenny Camp/Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
- # 16-2825 Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
- # 16-2327 Mnt, Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
- # 16-2330 Mtn, Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2328 Mnt, CF ORV Trailhead & Campground Paving Preservation
- # 16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

I am a member of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington and a nearby resident to Capitol Forest. As such I can attest to the popularity of Capitol Forest by a wide variety of recreational users, including hikers, runners, campers, horseback riders, mountain bikers, off road vehicle users, hunters, prospectors, and target shooters. I see Capitol Forest being enjoyed by individuals and families, and as a venue for statewide recreational events, educational and training events.

As a result of the heavy use, maintenance and improvement needs are high. Many user groups, such as Friends of Capitol Forest and Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, volunteer time and resources to assist DNR in maintaining these highly valued public recreational facilities. However, the grant funds requested would provide funding for much needed improvements at specific heavily-used campgrounds and trailhead facilities and on trails throughout the forest.

Grant funds invested in Capitol State Forest will benefit and enrich the lives of many, many people across the state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan Davis
7929 105th Ave SW
Olympia, WA 98512



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #17

January 5, 2017

Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE, #2
Olympia, WA 98501

To Whom It May Concern:

As the official destination marketing organization of Thurston County, the Olympia-Lacey-Tumwater Visitor & Convention Bureau's (OLTVCB) mission is to strengthen the region's economy by developing meaningful experiences and promoting travel to vibrant Thurston County. Our role is to inspire, inform and influence visitors to experience this remarkable region.

The OLTVCB depends on the collective efforts of partners like Capitol Forest to tell our story. Research shows that Thurston County's natural resources and scenic beauty serve as important draws to the area, setting Thurston County apart from other destinations.

We support the Department of Natural Resources in their endeavor to obtain grant funding for the upkeep and maintenance of Capitol Forest for the betterment of our tourist experiences:

- # 16-2329 Dev, McKenny Camp/Trailhead & Fall Creek Trailhead Expansion
- # 16-2327 Mnt, Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
- # 16-2330 Mtn, Capitol Forest ORV Trail & Facility Maintenance
- # 16-2328 Mnt, CF ORV Trailhead & Campground Paving Preservation
- # 16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

Well maintained trails, facilities and education services are important to the region's economic vitality and Thurston County's \$282.8 million tourism industry. Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Shauna Stewart
Shauna Stewart
Executive Director

EXPERIENCEOLYMPIA.COM

T (360) 704-7544 | TF (877) 704-7500
P.O. Box 7338, Olympia, WA 98507

✓

Craig Dickson
CO-Director, Event Coordinator and Trail Runner
Guerilla Running Racing Club
PO Box 13184
Olympia, WA 98508

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #17

12/15/2016

To the Recreation & Conservation Office,

I am the co-director of the Guerilla Running Racing Club and I would like to share my support for several grants for projects in the Capitol and Yacolt State Forests. Guerilla Running puts on an annual trail running race, the Mountain Marathon and Hill Billy Half Marathon which raises funds for Friends of Capitol Forest and South Puget Sound Search and Rescue. These two important organizations help keep people safe and the trails accessible and their partnership with Washington DNR and organizations like my running club have been instrumental in making The Capitol State Forest one of the more popular places for recreation in the area.

I've been running the trails of Capitol State Forest since I moved to Washington in 1995. Back then I felt like just a handful of people were taking advantage of the miles of trails and I believe this was due to the bad reputation the forest had. Vandalism of trail signs and facilities, dumping and illegal shooting was much more out of control then. Since then the forest has seen an upsurge in use by many different groups and the trails are increasingly well maintained and new facilities have sprouted up. I and many other trail runners have put in many hours directly maintaining the trails and contributing funds. Despite these efforts, there continues to be some of the same old human issues, along with Mother Nature's impact, that are beyond the control of a few independent organizations, citizens and DNR employees. This is where the support from these grants would be immensely helpful.

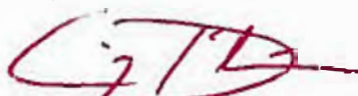
I am asking that the following grants be considered for improving the Capitol and Yacolt State Forest experience.

#16-2825 Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
#16-2327 Mnt, Capitol Forest NM Trail & Facility Maintenance
#16-2326 Edu, Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement
#16-2329 McKenny Camp/Trailhead Improvement & Expansion
#16-2331 Mnt, Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

These grants would be extremely important to keep the trails and facilities safe and well-maintained. Additionally, the grants, especially #16-2326, would help ensure the invaluable DNR staff will continue to have a presence in the forest. Without them our events would not be happening and the forests would be a less safe place for recreation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely and with thanks,



Craig Dickson



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #18

Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

Serving hikers since 1966

October 20, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Washington State Department of Natural Resources – Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridge #16-2306

Dear RCO Review Committee:

Washington Trails Association (WTA) is pleased to support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Recreation and Conservation Office grant application #16-2306 to fund the development of a bridge and several new nonmotorized trails in the Yacolt Burn State Forest.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

Washington State Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to acquire 3 bridges to aid in the development of 13 miles of new non-motorized trails in the Yacolt Burn State Forest, located in Clark County approximately 10 miles Northeast of Vancouver. This project will allow DNR to complete a previous planning grant by enabling us to construct approximately 13 miles of new, multiple use trails. This project will provide funding for staff time, A&E services, materials, equipment rental, and crew time to construct 3 bridges and new connector trails. These new trails will create looped connectors when they are linked with the already existing Tarbell Trail System. The primary outdoor recreation opportunity provided by this project is to create a series of non-motorized loop trails on the land scape, which will be available for public use with the installation of the new bridges.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support this project.

Sincerely,

Ryan Ojerio
Southwest Washington Regional Manager



CITY OF
ISSAQUAH
WASHINGTON

Parks & Recreation

301 Rainier Blvd. S | P.O. Box 1307
Issaquah, WA 98027
425-837-3300
issaquahwa.gov

October 27, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

I am writing on behalf of the **City of Issaquah** to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for DNR, King County (KC) and City of Issaquah-managed forestlands located at the edges of Seattle's greater metropolitan area, where cities and towns meet the foothills of the Cascades. DNR is the lead agency on the application entitled 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design, and Issaquah is a secondary sponsor. By planning and designing new sustainably located access points and trailheads, environmental education and picnic facilities, and trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding, this project will help to protect the environment and improve opportunities for people to enjoy thousands of acres of native forest within a short drive of downtown Seattle.

In particular, DNR's plans to develop a master plan for Tradition Plateau and conceptual designs for environmental and day use facilities will implement a priority in Issaquah's Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Plan, which is being updated this year. Because of its proximity to the Seattle Metropolitan Area, Tradition Plateau is already a popular destination for families and school groups, and this project will improve opportunities for families and youth to experience the outdoors and learn about Washington's forests.

The City of Issaquah will provide \$5,000 in matching funds and donate staff time to support the planning and design of these facilities.

We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users including school groups, hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, trail runners, paragliders and hang gliders, kayakers and rafters, rock climbers, and nature enthusiasts to name a few.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our support for this important project.

Sincerely,


Jeff Watling
Parks and Recreation Director



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie
National Forest
Supervisor's Office

2930 Wetmore Avenue, Suite 3A
Everett, WA 98201
(425) 783-6000

File Code:

Date: 11/1/16

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding
Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBSNF) to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) application to RCO's NOVA-NM program entitled, 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design. DNR's proposal to design non-motorized facilities and trails among DNR, King County, and City of Issaquah-managed forestlands addresses growing demands for accessible recreation opportunities among residents of the Greater Seattle Metropolitan area.

The 2014 Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie Alternative Transportation Plan identified lack of transportation options as a significant barrier for accessing National Forest Lands. MBSNF is currently working with TOTAGO's (Turn Off The App Go Outside) initiative to expand open source data for the creation of alternative transportation trip planning applications that will include destinations on USFS lands in Washington State and California. DNR's proposal also includes planning to identify alternative transportation routes to DNR-managed lands in the Snoqualmie Corridor. MBSNF will contribute \$10,000 in matching funds to help identify alternative transportation routes and expand the open source data set to support the continued development of alternative transit trip planning apps for outdoor destinations. These funds will be available on January 3, 2017.

- We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users including school groups, hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, trail runners, paragliders and hang gliders, kayakers and rafters, rock climbers, and nature enthusiasts to name a few.

Thank you and we hope that you will also support this proposal.

Sincerely,


MICHAEL SCHLAFMANN
PUBLIC SERVICES STAFF OFFICER



Caring for the Land and Serving People

Printed on Recycled Paper





King County

Department of Transportation
Road Services Division

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #19

October 24, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

I am writing on behalf of King County Department of Transportation Road Services Division (Roads) to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) application to RCO's NOVA-NM program entitled, 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design. With these funds, DNR proposes to design non-motorized facilities and trails for DNR, King County (KC) and City of Issaquah-managed forestlands located at the edges of Seattle's greater metropolitan area, where cities and towns meet the foothills of the Cascades.

An important component of this proposal is the plan to expand the Highpoint Trailhead at I-90 Exit 20 for access to public forests located on both sides of the highway. Many hikers visiting Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain currently park and walk along the frontage road when the trailhead is full or because they don't have a discover pass. In addition King County manages a small 6-8 car parking lot at Exit 20 on the south side of I-90 which cannot be expanded because it is hemmed in by the highway and the East Fork of Issaquah Creek. This parking area provides access to the Issaquah-Preston Trail and Grand Ridge Park for hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians.

Roads is in support of the DNR project and will work with DNR to help facilitate the process of vacating the Highpoint Exit 20 frontage road (SE 79th St) and transferring it to DNR's ownership, which will greatly enhance the ability of DNR to expand, improve, and manage public access at this regionally important recreational hub.

Thank you and we hope that you will also support these projects.

Sincerely,

Rick Brater, P.E.
County Road Engineer



King County

Parks and Recreation Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700

201 South Jackson Street

Seattle, WA 98104-3855

206-477-4527 Fax 206-588-8011

TTY Relay: 711

October 20, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

King County Parks and Recreation Division enthusiastically supports Washington State Department of Natural Resources' grant application #16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design. Funding approved with this application will be used to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails on open space land owned by Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), King County Parks and City of Issaquah Parks at the edge of Seattle's greater metropolitan area, where cities and towns meet the foothills of the Cascade Mountains. DNR is the lead agency on the application and King County is a secondary sponsor.

Once designed and constructed, this project will improve opportunities for people to enjoy thousands of acres of forested open space within a 20-minute drive or bus ride from downtown Seattle. DNR, with help from King County Parks, will plan and design new access points, trailheads, trails that provide connections across the landscape, community gathering places and facilities with a focus on environmental education. Through this project, King County and DNR will design new non-motorized trail connections and loops that will expand on the current trail systems at Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill and Preston Ridge Forests.

DNR plans to expand the Highpoint Trailhead at I-90, Exit 20, and that will provide much needed recreation access to Grand Ridge Park, the Issaquah-Preston Trail and other public lands on the north side of I-90. King County will provide \$30,000 in matching funds and donate staff time to support the planning and design of these trails and facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our support and for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brown
Director

RECEIVED

JAN 18 2017

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE



Small Town. Real Life.

January 10, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board-

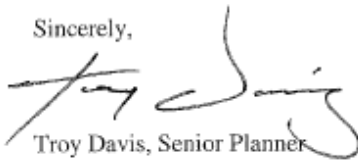
I am writing on behalf of the **City of Duvall** to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for Tradition Plateau, Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill, and the Marckworth State Forest.

Nestled at the foothills of the Cascade Mountains and set among the agricultural lands of the lower Snoqualmie Valley, Duvall prides itself on being *a short drive from Seattle and a world away from the clamor of the cities*. Duvall is joining with the other historic towns in the upper and lower valley, farmers, business owners, cultural organizations, recreation groups, public land managers, and the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust under the banner "Savor Snoqualmie Valley" to enhance tourism that benefits local communities and improves the experience for visitors coming to enjoy the valley.

Improving opportunities for outdoor recreation centered around the historic towns of the valley was identified as a high priority by the Savor Snoqualmie coalition, and DNR's proposal to work with local stakeholders to develop a conceptual trail and facilities plan for the Marckworth State Forest is of particular interest to the City of Duvall. Because the Marckworth is located just east of Duvall, visitors often stop in town on their way to and from Cherry Falls, a beautiful waterfall in the forest. However, due to the lack of designated trails and parking facilities, visitors park haphazardly on the side of the county road and don't always know where to go, impacting local residents and public safety. Developing a trail and facility plan for the forest will improve everyone's experience and provide a wonderful new family friendly and year round opportunity for valley residents and visitors to go for a hike, walk their dog, go mountain biking or horseback riding in a beautiful native forest enjoying the towns and farms of the valley.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,



Troy Davis, Senior Planner
City of Duvall
PO BOX 1300
Duvall, WA 98019

19 December 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the **University of Washington's Green Futures Lab (GFL)** to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for Tradition Plateau, West Tiger Mountain, Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill, and the Marckworth State Forest.

The Green Futures Lab, which I direct, is located in the University of Washington's College of Built Environments. We work with university students, local communities and international partners to develop innovative approaches to the ecological planning and design of public space through interdisciplinary research, design, and education. Since starting in 2006 we have completed over two dozen projects and produced designs and planning documents ranging from small projects such as activating Seattle's network of alleys to more comprehensive open space plans for cities such as Seattle, Burlington, and Kirkland and an open space strategy for the central Puget Sound Region, with projects winning local and national awards. The GFL also recently published the Urban Play Handbook, a carefully researched guide to assist and inspire designers, civic leaders and citizens to invent playful places to integrate opportunities for interactive play into public places.

We are particularly interested in DNR and the City of Issaquah's proposal to develop a master plan for Tradition Plateau with a focus on environmental education and day use. Located just 20 miles from Downtown Seattle, Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain provide a superb outdoor classroom for introducing children and adults to Washington's native forests, streams, and wetlands. The project is also an opportunity to look at ways to enhance connections between the City of Issaquah and its surrounding forestlands, and connections to regional trails and transportation networks. I am personally familiar with this area, having worked extensively with the Mountains to Sound Greenway on several series of interpretive signs—which included Issaquah—and having led projects further into the Greenway, including the planning and design at Rattlesnake Lake Recreation Area and the Cedar River Watershed Education Center.

I have met with Laura Cooper from DNR to discuss the possibility of working together. I consider this project to be an excellent opportunity for the Green Futures Lab to contribute by helping to develop conceptual designs that delight and inspire play, exploration, and learning in kids and adults; connect people with nature; create livable communities; and provide ecological functions such as habitat for animals and clean air and water.

We in the Green Futures Lab strongly believe that partnerships between the university and communities lead to more creative solutions while also helping to fund students and giving them an opportunity to work on real world projects. Our project experience with communities and landscapes in the Puget Sound region over the last decade has proven this concept to be effective, providing excellent planning and design and benefits for all.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light gray rectangular background. The signature reads "Nancy Rottle" in a cursive, flowing script.

Nancy D. Rottle, RLA, FASLA

Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture

Director, Green Futures Research and Design Lab

ScanlDesign Endowed Chair in Built Environments

Adjunct Professor, Departments of Architecture and Urban Design and Planning

College of Built Environments

www.greenfutures.washington.edu

www.openspacepugetsound.org

12/27/2016

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #19

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of **Pacific Science Center** to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for Tradition Plateau, West Tiger Mountain, Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill, and the Marckworth State Forest.

The mission of the Pacific Science Center is to ignite curiosity in every child and fuel a passion for discovery, experimentation, and critical thinking in all of us. Our interactive programs reach more than 1.1 million people each year and are designed to bring science to life by modeling science as a process of inquiry, discovery and problem solving. We inspire people to ask questions, develop hypotheses, conduct experiments, and evaluate evidence in all aspects of their lives.

We are particularly supportive of DNR and the City of Issaquah's proposal to develop a master plan for Tradition Plateau with a focus on environmental education and day use. Our year round education programs at Mercer Slough bring campers, students, early learners, teens and families to learn at a biologically diverse 320-acre wetland nature park in the heart of Bellevue. In less than a 30 minute drive we can also take our students and families to Tradition Plateau and Tiger Mountain to explore 13,000 acres of forest with wetlands, streams, mature and old growth forest, and historic artifacts such as old-growth stumps with spring board notches and abandoned logging equipment.

While the primary goal of our nature programs is to spend time in the woods, we also need indoor and outdoor classrooms, restrooms and storage facilities to support group gatherings and discussions, lectures and projects for a diversity of programs and ages. Situated just 20 miles outside of Seattle at the beginning of the Cascade Foothills, an environmental education center at Tradition Plateau would be an excellent springing off point from which our students would be able to explore hundreds of thousands of acres of forestlands and learn about wildlife, wetlands, streams and forests, and most importantly, the appreciation for environmental stewardship and land conservation.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,



Leilani Nussman | **PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER**

Youth and Family Programs Eastside Supervisor | P (425) 450-0207 | F (425) 450-0219

Pacific Science Center is an independent, not-for-profit educational institution that inspires lifelong interest in science, math and technology.

The Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center is a partnership between Pacific Science Center and the City of Bellevue.



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

December 12, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association (WTA) to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for Tradition Plateau, Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill and the Marckworth State Forest.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

We are particularly supportive of DNR's proposal to plan and design facilities and trails on forestlands, which are located so near to the large numbers of people living in the Seattle Metropolitan area and in the smaller communities and towns of the Snoqualmie Corridor. These lowland forests provide such an important year-round opportunity for families, groups and individuals interested in going on a shorter and easier walk in the woods. As well, DNR's proposal to improve the environmental education and day use facilities on Tradition Plateau will help bring kids into the outdoors.

We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #19

December 9, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

I am writing on behalf of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC) to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for Tradition Plateau, West Tiger Mountain, Grand Ridge, and Mitchell Hill.

The IATC has been a voice for advocacy for the protection of Wild Lands and quality of life since the 1970's. We organized the first march from Snoqualmie Pass to Elliot Bay in 1990, which led to the formation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. We offer free guided hikes every week of the year and volunteer on trail building projects to help introduce the public to the outdoors and promote environmental stewardship. The forests surrounding the City of Issaquah are not only valued and loved by the local community, but they also provide an important natural resource for millions of urban residents to be able to get out into the woods because of the proximity to Downtown Seattle and easy access by public transportation.

We are keenly interested in DNR's plans to develop a master plan for Tradition Plateau with a focus on environmental education and connections to West Tiger Mountain and Grand Ridge. Tradition Plateau is already a very popular destination for families and school groups, and this project will improve opportunities for families and youth to experience the outdoors and learn about Washington's forests. Because of its location in the center of the Issaquah Alps, Tradition Plateau is also the perfect place from which to tell the story of the formation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users including school groups, environmental educators, hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, trail runners, paragliders and hang gliders, kayakers and rafters, rock climbers, and nature enthusiasts to name a few.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Kirt Lenard, President
Issaquah Alps Trails Club



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 David Stromer (V), Retired, Vice President, CH2M
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 Mike Wilford (V), Supervisor
 Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest
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 (V) Board Member, Member

MTSGREENWAY.ORG

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 Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
 Jon Hoelzer (V)
 Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

December 12, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
 PO Box 40917
 Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

I am writing on behalf of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust (the Greenway) to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for Tradition Plateau, West Tiger Mountain, Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill, and the Marckworth State Forest.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

Over the last 30 years, the Greenway coalition has worked to conserve a continuous network of open space connected to local communities. Recent property acquisitions have connected King County-managed Grand Ridge Park and DNR-managed forest lands in the Mitchell Hill Area. DNR's proposed project will expand opportunities for hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians by creating long loop trails, improving links to the Issaquah to Preston Trail, and expanding parking at the High Point Exit with access to Tiger Mountain.

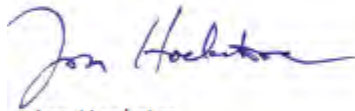
We are particularly supportive of DNR and the City of Issaquah's proposal to develop a master plan for Tradition Plateau with a focus on outdoor environmental education. Located just 20 miles from downtown Seattle, Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain provide a superb outdoor classroom that introduces students to Washington's native forests, streams, and wetlands. The Greenway leads youth programs and often brings students and teachers to the Tiger Mountain area to learn about ecology, restoration, recycling and forest management. This unique education program brings students outdoors to conduct scientific investigations in the forest. We see great value in having on-site facilities to support environmental education and restoration activities, such as indoor and outdoor classrooms and shelters, restrooms, and storage spaces.



We are also greatly interested in DNR's proposal to develop a conceptual trail and facility plan for the Marckworth State Forest. Savor Snoqualmie Valley, a coalition of farmers, businesses, public land managers, towns, and recreation and cultural organizations, is working together to build on the rich natural and cultural heritage of the Snoqualmie Valley to improve recreation access and enhance tourism. While the upper valley is a major destination for outdoor enthusiasts, the lower valley currently has few developed outdoor recreation opportunities. The 16,000 acre Marckworth State Forest, located east of Duvall, would provide a much needed opportunity for local residents and visitors to take a walk in the woods or go mountain biking or horseback riding while visiting the towns and farms of the lower Snoqualmie Valley.

DNR is a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands in the Greenway, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users. Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. Rider powered.

December 12, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support: NOVA-NM 16-2301 - Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen) strongly supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for Tradition Plateau, Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill, and the Marckworth State Forest.

We are particularly supportive of DNR's proposal to plan and design non-motorized trails and facilities for Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill and the Marckworth State Forest. Recent county property acquisitions have connected Grand Ridge Park and DNR's Mitchell Hill, providing new opportunities for long loop trail rides and bringing the region closer to connecting a significant number of major County and DNR greenspaces: from Marckworth Forest at Cherry Valley, all the way to Tiger Mountain via Mitchell Hill in the future. These connections have been a long-time goal of Evergreen, and we are excited about this potential project becoming reality.

Grand Ridge and Duthie Hill Park are already connected and provide premier mountain biking trails within a 20-minute drive of Seattle. These beloved riding destinations are seeing increasing ridership, estimated at 150,000 riders annually at Duthie Hill alone. Parking facilities are inadequate to meet demand. We applaud the DNR for partnering with King County on the design and development of an expanded trailhead facility at I-90 Exit 20, to provide much needed access infrastructure and reduce impact in adjacent neighborhoods.

In addition, while the I-90 corridor provides numerous opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts, the lower Snoqualmie Valley has few formal outdoor recreational opportunities. DNR's proposal to develop a conceptual trail and access plan for Marckworth State Forest will create an important year-round opportunity for non-motorized recreation in the lower valley. Marckworth has seen incredible increase in users in recent years and requires a comprehensive plan for long term sustainable recreational use. With over 16,000 acres of forest, there's significant opportunity to develop a variety of trail types and networks for multiple users.

Evergreen is Washington State's largest mountain bike association with over 3,300 members and more than 20,000 social media followers through seven regional chapters across the state. Our members contributed over 15,000 hours of volunteer labor in the past year alone. We stand ready to support the DNR with any desired planning assistance as well as future maintenance needs on these proposed new trails and plans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director



January 10, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board-

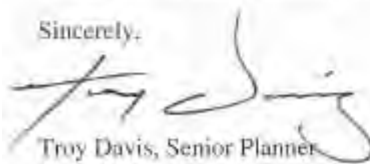
I am writing on behalf of the **City of Duvall** to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for Tradition Plateau, Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill, and the Marckworth State Forest.

Nestled at the foothills of the Cascade Mountains and set among the agricultural lands of the lower Snoqualmie Valley, Duvall prides itself on being *a short drive from Seattle and a world away from the clamor of the cities*. Duvall is joining with the other historic towns in the upper and lower valley, farmers, business owners, cultural organizations, recreation groups, public land managers, and the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust under the banner "Savor Snoqualmie Valley" to enhance tourism that benefits local communities and improves the experience for visitors coming to enjoy the valley.

Improving opportunities for outdoor recreation centered around the historic towns of the valley was identified as a high priority by the Savor Snoqualmie coalition, and DNR's proposal to work with local stakeholders to develop a conceptual trail and facilities plan for the Marckworth State Forest is of particular interest to the City of Duvall. Because the Marckworth is located just east of Duvall, visitors often stop in town on their way to and from Cherry Falls, a beautiful waterfall in the forest. However, due to the lack of designated trails and parking facilities, visitors park haphazardly on the side of the county road and don't always know where to go, impacting local residents and public safety. Developing a trail and facility plan for the forest will improve everyone's experience and provide a wonderful new family friendly and year round opportunity for valley residents and visitors to go for a hike, walk their dog, go mountain biking or horseback riding in a beautiful native forest enjoying the towns and farms of the valley.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,



Troy Davis, Senior Planner
City of Duvall
PO BOX 1300
Duvall, WA 98019



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

Dec 26, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) enthusiastically supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for Tradition Plateau, Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill, and the Marckworth State Forest.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is a statewide organization that is dedicated to keeping trails open for all users, educating horse users in leave-no-trace practices and providing volunteer services to resource agencies.

DNR's proposal to plan and design non-motorized trails and facilities for Grand Ridge Park, Mitchell Hill and the Marckworth State Forest will provide wonderful year round riding for both experienced trail riders and for those who are new to trail riding. BCHW appreciates the opportunity that this proposal creates for the multitude of riders in the greater Puget Sound Area that want to enjoy trails that are close to home and for riders that prefer a front country experience. Equestrians living in the Grand Ridge Park and Mitchell Hill areas will benefit from the additional trail loops created by linking these public forests together. DNR's proposal to plan non-motorized trails and facilities in the Marckworth State Forest will provide a tremendous new regional equestrian opportunity in the lower Snoqualmie Valley. Because of the current lack of designated facilities and trails, it is often very difficult to park and know where to go. Adding parking, signs and trails will be a much needed improvement, and with over 16,000 acres of forest, there should be plenty of area to develop a variety of trails for different types of experiences and uses.

We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Kathy Young
President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 33 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #19

January 27, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 16-2301: Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

I am writing on behalf of the Cherry Valley Riders to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to plan and design non-motorized facilities and trails for the Marckworth State Forest, Tradition Plateau, Grand Ridge Park, and Mitchell Hill.

Our club was founded in 1967, celebrating 50 years! The focus of our club is to provide activities suitable for families and to encourage growth between members and their horses. Our goal is to provide fun, safe, and exciting activities for riders and non-riders of all ages and abilities.

We are especially interested in DNR's proposal to plan and design non-motorized trails and facilities for the Marckworth State Forest. Our club is named for the geographical area surrounding Duvall. We have been organizing rides in the area for years and are quite knowledgeable about the Marckworth.

We are excited to be part of this opportunity to work with the DNR. Several of our members are active retired citizens and trail activists. We would really enjoy helping to identify destinations and plan routes to some of the Marckworth's many gems including water falls, creeks, ponds, bluffs, and haystacks.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project, which will also provide our members and other outdoor enthusiasts in the area an opportunity to work together and contribute to the future.

Sincerely,

Judy Madden
Secretary, Cherry Valley Riders
Retired, King County Executive Horse Council Regional Director, Snoqualmie Valley
Trail activist, BCH

Cherry Valley Riders
P.O. Box 87, Duvall, WA 98019
www.cherryvalleyriders.org

RECEIVED

NOV - 3 2016

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #21

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

Oct. 28, 2016

Dear Advisory Committee,

Having worked for the Forest Service for many years in the Darrington area, I have found the Glacier Peak area an exceptional gem for hiking. After losing so many trails and roads that access the Glacier Peak Wilderness from flooding I find the need for new trails in the area essential! I am especially excited about the proposed Bull Bear Trail and the associated plan for Meadow Mountain. I highly recommend approval of project # 16-2753.

Ray Rasmussen



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 7th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for USFS Naches Ranger District grant applications:

Naches Wilderness E&E, #16-2703
Naches Wilderness Trails Deferred M&O 2017-19, #16-2577
Naches Wilderness Trails M&O 2017-19, #16-2576

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the US Forest Service - Naches Ranger District (the District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT. In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the Darrington Ranger District, local volunteers have logged 850 hours so far in 2016.

Approximately 43 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) lies within Goat Rocks

and William O. Douglass Wildernesses and is managed by the District. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in these wildernesses makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude. Due to the access problems and limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous amount of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement and education that the PCTA and the Forest Service does depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons on a variety of projects in the Naches Ranger District including user education regarding *Leave No Trace* ethics. The presence of wilderness rangers and trail crews is a key part of managing the ever-growing visitor impact to these precious lands. It has been proven in California's high-use areas in the Tahoe Rim area that education in the back-country is very effective and dramatically reduces negative user impacts. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding to support the District's application.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #22

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

January 20th, 2017

Re: Letter of support for USFS Naches Ranger District RCO NOVA grant application:
Naches Wilderness Trail M&O 2017-19, #16-2576

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

Northwest Youth Corps is a long-standing partner of the USFS Naches Ranger District, and strongly supports *Naches Wilderness Trail M&O 2017-19, #16-2576* in its efforts to improving the quality of conservation and user engagement in higher-use areas of the district.

Northwest Youth Corps is a local not-for-profit that believes the volunteers and recreation users we serve deserve equitable and inclusive access to our public lands so that they may have the opportunity to develop both themselves and an appreciation for wilderness irrespective of their individual histories. Last year, 888 participants and their crew-leaders of unique cultural, linguistic, and ethnic backgrounds experienced positive outcomes from 74,834 hours of hands-on education and curriculum engagement, and carried out 199,720 hours of conservation projects for more than 161 partners throughout the Northwest. The Naches Ranger District continues to play an important role in achieving these outcomes, and we are excited to support them.

Naches Ranger District utilizes volunteer-based partnerships with organizations like Northwest Youth Corps to engage our region's youth and public lands users in conversations surrounding public lands conservation and individual excellence. Last summer Naches Ranger District hosted one of our AmeriCorps programs in remote, high-use areas of the Goats Peak Wilderness to improve the conservation and preservation literacy of our members, maintain trail infrastructure, and build a greater sense of personal achievement and environmental value at the core of our organization's mission. Because our partnership's ability to turn out well-educated, "next-generation" land stewards largely depends on procuring grant funds of this kind, we are honored to continue our partnership with Naches Ranger District and other non-federal partners whom also share this mission on the district. We hope that the committee reviewing this grant will help celebrate our *communal* efforts to produce more educated and emphatic users of our public lands.

Sincerely,
Noah Symington
Program Coordinator – Washington
Northwest Youth Corps

*Challenging youth and developing leaders through
education, teamwork, and outdoor experience since 1984.*



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 20th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Methow Valley Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Methow Valley Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT". In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1600 hours so far in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 39 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) passes through the North Cascades and is managed by the District; much of this is in the Pasayten Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that the southern 10 miles of this area was re-opened to stock travel during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude.

Due to limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous backlog of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Methow Valley Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications that directly support work on the Pacific Crest Trail or trails that connect to it:

16-2519 Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2499 MVRD Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2622 Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements

16-2743 East Creek Bridge Construction

16-2529 PNW Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawley

Bill Hawley

Pacific Crest Trail Association

North Cascades Regional Representative



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #24

North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

January, 26th 2017

RE: Letter of support for USFS Chelan Ranger District – Okanagan / Wenatchee National Forest grant applications:

Project # 16-2680 – Lyman Lake and Holden Creek Foot Log Replacements.

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the US Forest Service - Chelan Ranger District (the District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service “recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT. In 2016, programs organized under the PCTA’s leadership and coordination provided more than 204,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail. On the Okanagan/Wenatchee NF, local volunteers logged nearly 5,000 hours in 2016.

Approximately 20 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) lies within Glacier Peak Wilderness as well as nearly 100 miles of feeder trails and is managed by the District. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude. Due to the

access problems and limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous amount of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the PCTA and the Forest Service, does depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA are planning to support the District, in the next two seasons on a variety of projects including small bridge replacements. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding to support the District's application.

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill Hawley

Bill Hawley
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #24

Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

January 26, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Lyman Lake and Holden Creek Foot Log Replacements (#16-2680)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest's Lyman Lake and Holden Creek Foot Log Replacements proposal.

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 15,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,700 WTA volunteers perform more than 150,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

For 50 years, WTA has focused on helping Washingtonians get on trail to experience the great outdoors in our state and national parks, national forests and other public lands with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of trails and making outdoor experiences fulfilling and fun for hikers.

The Lyman Lake and Holden Creek Foot Logs are located along the most popular wilderness trails on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest's Chelan Ranger District. We support the Chelan Ranger District's efforts to replace these structures to maintain public access as well as safe crossing over streams. The bridges are located on trails that provide access to popular backpacking loop trips and connect the unique communities of Holden Village and Stehekin. The Holden Creek Foot Log is also commonly used by day hikers from Holden Village. Replacing these bridges now before they fail will maintain public access, provide for public safety, and protect wilderness resources. If funded WTA would be poised to provide on the ground support for this project.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #26

www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. Rider powered.

January 18, 2017

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: NOVA Nonmotorized Program - Raging River State Forest – Trail System Development, Phase 2 #16-2376

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

Evergreen enthusiastically supports DNR's grant application to build additional new trails within the Raging River State Forest trail system. Grant funding for Phase 2 of the trail network development is critical to complement 15 miles of currently in-progress Phase 1 trail development efforts, and will help complete a high quality and connected trail network by 2019. With an improved connected network of trails, DNR's completed trail system at Raging River will provide much relief to overcrowded mountain bike trail systems in the region, while also serving the hiking & equestrian communities.

The Raging River State Forest trail system will be accessible from the Snoqualmie Point Trailhead, just off of Interstate 90, Exit #27, a mere 30 mile drive from the largest population center in the Pacific Northwest. This proposal will create much needed advanced mountain biking trails for the underserved downhill mountain bike community, as well as long distance cross country loop connections to help with future connectivity to adjacent landscapes & trail systems. Once complete, the Phase 2 trail system development is expected to result in one of the most popular mountain biking destinations in the region.

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (MBA) participated in the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan process (completed March 2015), which resulted in identifying & prioritizing new trail opportunities represented in this grant funding proposal. The northern Raging River State Forest area was identified as a high priority to develop mountain biking trails as the Primary Management Objective (PMO). In addition, the multiple-use equestrian/hike/bike connection that will eventually connect to Taylor Mountain Forest (King County Parks & Recreation Department) was an important missing regional trail link identified in the recreation plan. New trails targeted for development will set the stage for future connection to the east Tiger Mountain State Forest trail system, planned with the Department of Transportation when the proposed Highway 18 expansion is designed, funded, and constructed.

Evergreen MBA is Washington's largest mountain bike organization with over 3,300 members and more than 20,000 supporters. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We particularly support this proposal since it underwent a significant planning effort between multiple stakeholders to protect & enhance the natural and recreational resources within Raging River State Forest. We stand ready to continue assisting the DNR with future trail development needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID: 91-1553023.

438 NE 72nd Street | Seattle WA 98115 | 206.524.2900 | www.evergreenMTB.org

NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #27



PACIFIC CREST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION

North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
— 503-312- 3938 —
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 20th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Methow Valley Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Methow Valley Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service “recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT”. In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA’s leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1600 hours so far in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 39 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) passes through the North Cascades and is managed by the District; much of this is in the Pasayten Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that the southern 10 miles of this area was re-opened to stock travel during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude.

Due to limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous backlog of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Methow Valley Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications that directly support work on the Pacific Crest Trail or trails that connect to it:

16-2519 Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2499 MVRD Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2622 Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements

16-2743 East Creek Bridge Construction

16-2529 PNW Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawley

Bill Hawley

Pacific Crest Trail Association

North Cascades Regional Representative

STEVENS COUNTY LAND SERVICES

January 26, 2017

Anton Adams
404 North Oak Street
Colville, WA 99114

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Colville Mountain Trails NOVA Grant Funding

Dear NOVA Advisory Committee:

As an architect and land use planner living in Colville, I would like to express my enthusiastic support to the partners involved in updating trails and increasing accessibility to Colville Mountain. Natural beauty abounds in our region of NE Washington, yet the recreational opportunities immediately available to the nearby residents and visitors are limited. Colville Mountain is a wonderful public place waiting to be developed to its full potential as the beacon of this town. Increasing the access to mountain trails nearby will be a major step to improve the main need in this area, and that's *connectivity*. Our city streets abut the mountain, and if we can improve the connection and usability, we will greatly enhance its appeal to all and promote the health of our community. Please consider the positive transformation this project could have on our residents and our respectability as a regional hub for outdoors enthusiasts.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Anton Adams
Architect & Planner
Stevens County, WA

Building Division: (509) 684-8325
FAX: (509) 685-0674

TTY: (800) 833-6388

Planning Division: (509) 684-2401
FAX: (509) 684-7525

MAILING ADDRESS: 215 S. Oak St. – Courthouse Annex • Colville, WA 99114
STREET ADDRESS: 260 S. Oak St. – Courthouse Annex • Colville, WA 99114

STEVENS COUNTY LAND SERVICES

January 27, 2017

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Colville Mountain Trails NOVA Grant funding

Dear NOVA Advisory Committee:

Interested parties are requesting NOVA grant funding to establish a trail system on Colville Mountain which lies just outside of the Colville city limits in Stevens County. As the Land Services Director for Stevens County, I commend the group for their efforts to develop a trail system that is within walking distance for the citizens of Colville. Their application is consistent with the Stevens County Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations. The trail system would be a welcome improvement to the outdoor recreational opportunities in the area and would provide access for folks to get outside and enjoy the beautiful Colville valley area. Colville Mountain is a land mark of the area and inviting people to go explore the mountain with an established trail system would be wonderful. When considering this application please keep in mind that this is a collaborative effort amongst those with a passion for the outdoors and a keen interest in creating walk able communities.

Please feel to contact me if you have any questions,

Sincerely,



Erik Johansen
Land Services Director
Stevens County

Building Division: (509) 684-8325
FAX: (509) 685-0674

TTY: (800) 833-6388

Planning Division: (509) 684-2401
FAX: (509) 684-7525

MAILING ADDRESS: 215 S. Oak St. – Courthouse Annex • Colville, WA 99114
STREET ADDRESS: 260 S. Oak St. – Courthouse Annex • Colville, WA 99114



City of Bellingham
Public Works Department

October 24, 2016

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for #16-2333 DEV - Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve & Lake Whatcom Park Trail Development

To: RCO Review Committee

The City of Bellingham is committed to protecting Lake Whatcom water quality from land use practices including residential development, forest practices and recreation. To this end the City funds the Lake Whatcom Watershed Property Acquisition Program, purchasing properties and reducing development potential throughout the watershed. The City also supported the reconveyance of State DNR lands to Whatcom County and the planned recreational use of those properties on the premise that well planned recreational trails will decrease land use impacts to lake water quality. City and County staff work closely to identify and resolve shared property management challenges.

The City supports the Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve & Lake Whatcom Park Trail Plan and believes trail development in accordance with the plan will minimize recreational impact and provide substantial benefit to recreational use of the watershed.

Sincerely,

Renee Lacroix
Assistant Director of Public Works
Public Works Department, Natural Resources

Engineering
104 W. Magnolia Street, Suite 109
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 778-7900
Fax: (360) 778-7901
TTY: (360) 778-8382
pw@cob.org

Natural Resources
Physical: 2200 Nevada Street
Mailing: 2221 Pacific Street
Bellingham, WA 98229
(360) 778-7800
Fax: (360) 778-7801
pw@cob.org

Operations
2221 Pacific Street
Bellingham, WA 98229
(360) 778-7700
Fax: (360) 778-7701
pw@cob.org



TRAILDUSTERS CHAPTER

7102 77th Ave SE
Snohomish, WA 98290-5815

Received
1/7/17

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear RCO People,

I am writing to you in support of four RCO grant applications from the Skykomish Ranger District.

Project #16-2687, Frog Mountain Trail Construction. The creation of the Wild Sky Wilderness in the Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest (MBSNF) came about through the collaboration and compromise of many environmental and recreation groups working with federal legislators. The Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) supported the Wild Sky effort with the understanding that equestrian trails would be developed and maintained. This expectation was written into the bill that passed creating the Wild Sky Wilderness. A trail up Frog Mountain will fit very well into our expectation of new equestrian trail development. Our membership utilizes equestrian rides that can be done in one day more than any other length of trail. To have the trail end at a beautifully scenic location is a great asset. We have confidence in the ability of the USFS to design and construct trails that are equestrian friendly. Our chapter of BCHW will be involved in the "Donated Labor" part of the project funding.

Project #16-2593, Blanca Lake and Lake Serene Trailhead Planning. Both of these trailheads are in serious need of expanding. They both serve popular trails that I have used and appreciate as a hiker/climber. Trailduster members have experienced difficulty driving through the overflow area for the Blanca Lake parking. We can envision an emergency requiring access or evacuation from the Quartz Creek, N. Fork Skykomish, West Cady Ridge trailhead being blocked by this overflow parking.

Project #16-2573, North Fork Skykomish Trail Complex Maintenance. This complex of trails is very popular with Trailduster members, and we greatly miss being able to use them. We have contributed many hours of work on these trails for many years, and appreciate that it will take many more hours to restore them to usable quality after being neglected since 2015.

Project #16-2751, Skykomish Rgr. Dist. Trail Maintenance 2017-2019. These 115 miles of trail are constantly subject to severe mountain weather conditions that create degradation of trail conditions that need repair. Trailduster members are frequent users of these trails and appreciate all that can be done to keep them usable. When only part of the trail system is maintained there can become problems with over use of some trails. This can be corrected by dispersal of users to all trails through maintenance of all trails.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Guthrie, USFS Liaison for Traildusters Chapter BCHW



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #5, 10, 16, 33

Washington Trails Association

705 Second Ave, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org
Serving hikers since 1966

December 12, 2016

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA proposals

Dear RCO Review Committee:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following NOVA projects:

- Frog Mt. Trail Construction # 16-2687
- Blanca Lake and Lake Serene Trailhead Planning # 16-2593
- North Fork Skykomish Trail Complex Maintenance # 16-2573
- Skykomish Rgr. Dist. Trail Maintenance 2017-2019 # 16-2751

Washington Trails Association is the country's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization with more than 14,000 members. WTA's mission is to preserve, enhance, and promote hiking opportunities in Washington State through collaboration, education, advocacy and volunteer trail maintenance. Each year more than 4,400 WTA volunteers perform over 140,000 hours of trail maintenance across Washington.

For 50 years, WTA has focused on helping Washingtonians get on trail to experience the great outdoors in our state and national parks, national forests and other public lands with an emphasis on ensuring the sustainability of trails and making outdoor experiences fulfilling and fun for hikers.

The Skykomish Ranger District on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest offers some of the most visited trails and trailheads in the state. Construction of the Frog Mountain Trail will provide another option for a dayhike trail in an incredibly busy Highway 2 corridor to alleviate pressure on other system trails. Expansion of the Blanca Lake and Lake Serene trailheads will increase safety and provide additional parking for trailheads that are currently undersized. In 2015 the Skykomish Ranger District was hit hard by winter weather and many trails are currently in desperate need of work to remove fallen trees and fix washouts on area trails.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance on the Skykomish Ranger District, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



NOVA Nonmotorized Ranked #34

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December 22, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Subject: Green Mountain State Forest Non-Motorized Trail Development - 16-2475

Dear Review Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen) strongly supports the Department of Natural Resources Olympic Region's proposal to expand the Green Mountain trail system for mountain biking, hiking, equestrian, and other non-motorized use opportunities. The non-motorized trail system at Green Mountain has become a popular mountain bike destination for riders from Bremerton, Silverdale, and surrounding communities. The trail network is seeing increasing use, and requires a re-design and re-build to better connect trails, enhance the user experience, and to more sustainably and safely accommodate increasing numbers of recreational users.

This project represents a significant step forward in implementing goals & objectives identified in the Green Mountain State Forest Recreation Plan, a public planning process completed December 2013. The Plan was developed by a diverse group of representatives from all user groups interested in ensuring that Green Mountain recreation best benefits multiple interests. It also follows up on design efforts that DNR Olympic District currently has underway to inventory, evaluate, and redesign the existing trail system of both formal and informal trails into a long term sustainable and connected trail network with high recreational value and minimized environmental impact.

The proposed new trails will improve trail loop opportunities & provide visitors a safer and less congestive experience on the mountain. This project is of particular importance to Evergreen as there are few high-quality riding areas for our Westsound Chapter members from Poulsbo to Port Orchard and beyond. The more robust trail system envisioned by this effort will also provide increasing business opportunities for recreation businesses in nearby communities.

Evergreen is Washington's largest mountain bike organization with over 3,200 members and more than 20,000 supporters statewide. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, advocacy, and youth participation. As a trusted partner with public land managers, we look forward to working with Olympic Region staff to help realize this project and complete future trail maintenance needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Kilpatrick".

Brian Kilpatrick
President
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
West Sound Chapter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus".

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



October 20, 2016

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

RE: Washington Pass Spires Access Trail Project #16-2387

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to express our shared support for the Washington Pass Spires Access Trail Project (#16-2387). This stewardship project is an extensive collaborative effort with the Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD) of Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest and dozens of local, state, and national conservation and recreation partners.

The Washington Pass Spires area along the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, specifically the sub-alpine environment on the west slope of Liberty Bell Mountain, has been accessed by climbers and hikers since the 1940s. For thousands of people from diverse locations, this "trail" has been their first foray into the alpine areas of Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest and the North Cascades. Users from all over the world come to climb and simply hike up towards the spires to enjoy the incredible landscape. It is a spectacular area that includes two of the most popular alpine climbs in Washington State, the Beckey Route on Liberty Bell and the South Arête of South Early Winter Spire, often first objectives for new alpine climbers.

However, over time the route from the Blue Lake Trail #314 towards the Washington Pass Spires has become braided and severely eroded in many places. The fragile sub-alpine habitat is being significantly impacted by visitors attempting to explore or find a safe way up to the base of the spires. With no well-defined route, networks of paths have developed and run-off from snowmelt and thunderstorms has channeled water down these trails, further impacting the landscape.

In addition to environmental concerns, there are also safety issues that this project will address. As the climber access route continues into the alpine zone and up into approach gullies, many sections are known public safety concerns. According to the Okanogan Sheriff, there have been over 20 rescue missions in this area over the past 15 years in which Search and Rescue workers have been required to access this zone for injured users. Public usage in this area will only increase over time as climbing continues to attract more recreational users and people seek out the challenges and beauty of this amazing place.

As the first alpine trail project of its kind in Washington State, this two-year legacy project will encourage safe and sustainable recreation on and around the Washington Pass Spires. If improvement work is not done in this area, users are put at risk and the environment will be further degraded.

MVRD will use this development grant for the construction of the new trail system to provide sustainable access to the Washington Pass Spires on the west slope of Liberty Mountain. The project's goal is to build a new trail system that will address drainage, snowmelt, grade, and improve safety. Specific improvements will include constructing rock steps, drainage features, new switchbacks, and restoration of previously impacted areas. This trail would be used by about 2,500 climbers and hikers per season, with use expected to grow annually. Construction will be carried out by Access Fund trail professionals and volunteer groups with technical support from MVRD staff.

Collectively, our organizations, as well as numerous local businesses and community members in the Methow Valley, identified this project as a priority and voiced our strong support for MVRD to improve this trail network for conservation, recreation, and safety purposes. This request grew into a collaborative partnership, including input and site visits with MVRD Climbing Rangers, trail experts, local climbing guides, and nonprofits to conduct the initial in-kind trail assessment and environmental review.

In addition to our support of this RCO-NOVA proposal, our organizations are committed to seeking matching funds towards this critical RCO-NOVA proposal and recruiting hundreds of volunteers from our collective network to make this project a success.

Sincerely,

Joe Sambataro, Northwest Regional Director, Access Fund
Eddie Espinosa, American Alpine Club
Jason Martin, Owner, American Alpine Institute
CB Thomas, General Manager, Goat's Beard Mountain Supplies
James DeSalvo, Executive Director, Methow Trails
Rick and Missy Leduc, Owners, The Mazama Store
Katherine Hollis, Conservation and Recreation Manager, The Mountaineers
Patrick Shannon, Pacific Northwest Director, National Forest Foundation

Larry Goldie, Owner, North Cascades Mountain Guides
Erika Halm, Washington Program Director, Northwest Outward Bound School
Ira Rushwald, President, Washington Alpine Club
Dave Haavik, President, Washington Climbers Coalition
Andrea Imler, Advocacy Director, Washington Trails Association
Tom Uniack, Executive Director, Washington Wild
Ben Greuel, Washington State Director, The Wilderness Society



www.evergreenMTB.org
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January 18, 2017

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: NOVA Nonmotorized Program - Snoqualmie Corridor, Green Mountain Trail & CCC Trailhead, #16-2420

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to support DNR's grant application to develop new trails & facilities in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley, east of North Bend, WA. Proposed development includes: an exciting new trail to the summit of Green Mountain (located east of Mount Teneriffe); installation of two new trail bridges over large stream channels along the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Trail; and renovation of an old landing into a trailhead parking area to improve access to adjacent trail opportunities. The proposed additions are located north of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Road (recently paved as part of a Federal Highways funded project) within DNR's Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area. The trail enhancements and trailhead parking facility are expected to receive significantly increased user visits with the recent paving of the main access road. Enhancing and improving recreation opportunities to prepare for the expected influx of recreationists is crucial to ensuring safe and sustainable recreational use and a high quality user experience.

We applaud DNR for proposing to install a forest road vehicle bridge replacement & renovate the existing impacted footprint of an old logging landing up the Bessemer Forest Road. This efficiently uses funds to create a trailhead. The new trailhead will be utilized by the mountain bike community to access the CCC Trail and to travel further east to connect to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Trail. Two new 80' length trail bridge installations along the CCC Trail are crucial to allow access through the wet season, as crossing through the deep incised and heavy flowing stream channels can be unsafe and currently presents a poor user experience.

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (MBA) participated in the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan process (completed March 2015). This resulted in identifying & prioritizing the new trail opportunities represented in this grant funding proposal. Evaluating existing trails in the corridor for renovation needs and identifying new trailhead access opportunities up the Middle Fork valley was an outcome of the planning process. In addition, new trails will help disperse users in the valley & provide a much needed western access point for equestrians & mountain bikers to the CCC Trail. The Green Mtn Summit Trail will provide hikers an amazing new viewpoint alpine type experience and fix the issue of multiple user built unsustainable routes to the top.

Evergreen MBA is Washington's largest mountain bike organization with over 3,300 members and more than 20,000 supporters statewide. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with DNR on the CCC Trail & proposed trailhead access point and adjacent opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director



Spay Maguire (M), Green Mountain, City of Seattle
 Jim Tackler, Founder, Snoqualmie Trailhead Association
 Greg Booth, Chair, Middle Fork Road
 Mary Dyer, (P), President
 Middle Fork Greenway/Recreation Coalition
 Nancy Brown, Deputy, King County Parks & Recreation
 Jeff Canby, Project, GPO
 Don Cooperstein (M), King County/President of
 King County, Deputy Director, Washington Program
 The Wilderness Society
 Ron Fogarty, President
 Mount Rainier National Park
 Jon Fritzsche, former director, City of Everett
 Todd Groat, former
 Village, Everett, (S), and King PC
 Joe Grove, Global Integration, Seattle, former
 MFL Group
 Peter Gustafson (M), Commissioner of Public Lands
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources
 Rich Grillo, Community, a large Washington
 State Park
 Bruce Griesmeyer, former, Gough, Elmer, Abbot
 Don Hadd, (M), Director
 Washington State Parks & Recreation, Commissioner
 Lynn Hoffman, Director, Recreation
 Copper River Falls
 Kevin Johnson, former, local engineer
 Greenway Trust
 Andrew Jansel, former, local engineer
 Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
 Anne Johnson, (M), Supervisor
 MFL, Snoqualmie National Forest
 Kevin King, former, local engineer
 Pacific Northwest Group
 Kim Koenigs, former, local engineer
 Greenway Trust, City of Snoqualmie, former, City of Everett
 Paul Koenigs, former, local engineer
 The Trust for Public Land
 Helen Lee, former, local engineer
 Manager, Mount Rainier National Park
 Donny Lyons, President, National Conservation
 Association (P), former, local engineer
 John Lundy (P), former, local engineer
 Robert Marshall, former, local engineer
 The Seattle Company
 Gordon Ashby, (P), President & CEO, local engineer
 Sun (M), former, local engineer
 Greenway Trust, local engineer
 Chief, Mount Rainier National Park
 Mary Hennes, City of Snoqualmie, local engineer
 Washington State
 Thomas D. Lewis, former, local engineer
 American Wilderness
 John Lewis, former, local engineer
 University of Washington, University of Washington
 Maria G. Lewis (P), former, local engineer
 Charles Lewis, former, local engineer
 Greenway Trust
 John Ray (P), former, local engineer
 AAAA, local engineer
 John Reinhardt (P), former, local engineer
 Charles REINHOLD, LLC
 Queen Ridge, local engineer
 Royal Sound Energy
 Royal Sound Energy
 Vi Sarnay, former, local engineer
 TRC Group
 Alvin, former, local engineer
 David Stinson (P), former, local engineer
 Maryanne Taggart
 Community of local engineers
 Leah Tackler, former, local engineer
 City Budget Office, Seattle
 Mike Wilson (M), Supervisor
 Oregon's Northwest National Forest
 Beth Wilson, former, local engineer
 John Wilson
 Jon/John, former, local engineer
 (P), former, local engineer
 (M), former, local engineer

MTSGREENWAY.ORG

President
 Scott Brown (P), President
 Greenway Trust
President Elect
 Ted McDonald (P), President
 Greenway Trust

Funding President
 Ben Fila, Chairman, Executive
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Immediate Past President
 Ben Fila, Chairman, Executive
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Secretary
 John Dyer (P), Secretary
 Greenway Trust
Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
 Aaron Bismarck (P), Treasurer
 MFL Group

Fundraising Committee Chair
 Ben Fila, Chairman, Executive
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Board Engagement Committee Chair
 Ben Fila, Chairman, Executive
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Program Committee Chair
 Ben Fila, Chairman, Executive
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Executive Director
 Jon Hoekstra (P), Executive Director
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources

January 18, 2017

Sam Jarrett

Snoqualmie Rec. & Natural Areas District Manager – Statewide Trails Specialist
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
 950 Farman Avenue N
 Enumclaw, WA 98022-9282

Re: Support for DNR Grant Application #16-2420

Dear RCO Grant Evaluation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to express our strong support of DNR's proposal to the State Recreation & Conservation Office for grant application #16-2420 "Snoqualmie Corridor – Green Mountain Summit Trail & CCC Trailhead." This project will provide a much needed hiking trail opportunity to the summit of Green Mountain within the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River valley. Also, by repurposing an old logging landing into a trailhead facility-vehicle parking access will be provided for multiple non-motorized recreationists to utilize the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Trail, which connects to the long distance Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Trail. Grant funding will help create a new & regionally significant summit hiking trail & trailhead access point along the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Road anticipated to receive a significant increase in recreational traffic from a recently completed Federal Highways road surface paving and improvement project.

The Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

We have worked with the DNR Snoqualmie Unit for decades and have full confidence that staff will deliver a high quality trail project for the public, if grant funds are awarded. We look forward to offering up our assistance to DNR to help implement this project, including leveraging our strong volunteer base. Popular hiking trails within the Snoqualmie Corridor are at or over capacity, adding a regionally significant summit viewpoint trail opportunity will help disperse crowds of visitors and help alleviate parking issues along the Middle Fork Road.

The DNR's efforts to improve recreational access and infrastructure along the Snoqualmie Corridor are important to the long-term quality of life in the Greenway, and complement the work of the Greenway Trust, USFS, King County, and many other partners working in the region.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Jon Hoekstra, Executive Director

2701 FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 240, SEATTLE, WA 98121 | 206.382.5565 | INFO@MTSGREENWAY.ORG





BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

January 15, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: NOVA Nonmotorized Program
Snoqualmie Corridor – Green Mountain Summit Trail & CCC Trailhead, #16-2420 (DEV)


Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to create a new summit trail to the top of Green Mountain, to repair the CCC Trail by installing two trail bridges on unsafe stream crossings, & to provide new vehicle parking trailhead access to both projects. The proposed enhancements are located in the popular and soon to be overcrowded Middle Fork Snoqualmie River corridor, within the Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area. This proposed project will benefit hikers, mountain bikers, & the equestrian community.

Mount Si NRCA is located within the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less than an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. BCHW is particularly supportive of the improvements to the Civilian Conservation Corps Trail (CCC), as new bridges will allow long distance trail use from the proposed trailhead parking area. In addition, the trailhead will allow for additional parking when the USFS Middle Fork Trailhead is full or no longer has capacity for trailer parking. Parking at the proposed DNR CCC Trailhead will allow the equestrian community to add additional mileage to their riding experience as they connect to the USFS managed Middle Fork River Trail.

We strongly support funding for new trail development and value the equestrian component in the proposed trail and facility efforts. This grant opportunity is strongly supported to ensure new trails are provided for multiple visitors to enjoy a safe & sustainable wildland trail experience.

Thank you,


President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington
president@bchw.org



Wild Fish Conservancy
N O R T H W E S T
S C I E N C E E D U C A T I O N A D V O C A C Y

February 23, 2017

To: RCO Grant Review Team

From: Micah Wait, Wild Fish Conservancy

Re: Support for State Parks Grant to develop the Dosewallips Trail

Wild Fish Conservancy supports Washington State Parks efforts to plan a pedestrian only trail along their newly acquired corridor in the Dosewallips Valley. We are excited to see this important habitat corridor protected in public ownership, and we fully support State Parks effort to plan a trail on this land. This grant will allow State Parks to develop a carefully designed path that minimizes impacts to sensitive habitats. Public access to wild places, like the Dosewallips River valley, enhances the public's understanding of wild fish ecosystems, and encourages people to think about wildlife corridors and ecological connectivity. We have worked closely with State Parks over the last decade to restore salmon habitat in the lower Dosewallips River and Estuary. We have also been working with the US Forest Service to restore salmon habitat in the Olympic National Forest. It will be exciting to see these important pieces in the salmon recovery puzzle linked through public access.



North Cascades
Regional Office
902 S.E. North Bend Way
North Bend, WA 98045
North Bend, Washington 98045
503-312- 3938
bhawley@pcta.org

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
October 20th, 2016

RE: Letter of support for the Methow Valley Ranger District

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and our 11,500 members (1,700 who live here in Washington State) to express our strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Methow Valley Ranger District (District).

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the PCTA, the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service "recognize(s) the PCTA as the major partner in the management and operations of the PCT". In 2015, programs organized under the PCTA's leadership and coordination provided more than 95,000 hours of volunteer labor to manage the trail on the ground. Here in the District, our local volunteers have logged more than 1600 hours so far in 2016 and 13,400 statewide.

Approximately 39 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) passes through the North Cascades and is managed by the District; much of this is in the Pasayten Wilderness. It was through the efforts of the PCTA (local volunteer chapter – North 350 Blades) in partnership with the District, that the southern 10 miles of this area was re-opened to stock travel during 2016. The remoteness and diversity of the trail in this wilderness makes it a wonderland for those interested in the natural sciences and is a classic setting for education, recreation and solitude.

Due to limited resources during the last decade, this section of the PCT has an enormous backlog of deferred maintenance. Much of the funding for maintenance work and structure repair/replacement that the District does on behalf of all trail users depends on grant funding from state and local programs. Volunteers of the PCTA and the Backcountry Horseman of Washington are planning to support the Forest Service, in the next two seasons, to address the deferred maintenance throughout the Methow Valley Ranger District. It is our hope that your committee can support this effort with the award of grant funding for the following applications that directly support work on the Pacific Crest Trail or trails that connect to it:

16-2519 Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2499 MVRD Trail Maintenance 2018-2019

16-2622 Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements

16-2743 East Creek Bridge Construction

16-2529 PNW Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance

Thank you for your service and support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawley

Bill Hawley

Pacific Crest Trail Association

North Cascades Regional Representative

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

Support letter for the USFS Cle Elum Districts' to complete the NEPA process.

Dear RCO committee,

Northwest Sled Dog Association and local musher's fully support the Cle Elum Ranger District's attempt to get funding for the NEPA process in the area around Crystal Springs Sno-Park. Without this funding there is no hope that we will ever get the Crystal Sled Dog Trail System "legitimized" within the USFS system. I have included the complete history of the system so that you will understand the great need to fund the NEPA process.

Crystal Sled Dog Trail System (CSDTS)

History of the system

- In the mid-1990s Seattle area people were looking for a place to run their sled dog teams where there was good snow and not too far from the Seattle area. Crystal Springs offered good snow and some groomed snowmobile routes but it was very hard to get safely out of the parking lot. Some musher discovered the **abandoned** (funded at one time) cross country ski trail in the northwest corner of the original lot and started to use it. The groomer shed now sits atop the original trail head. Since the trail was not groomed it was very hard to run dogs on the trail after snow storms. There were many water problems on the abandoned trail.
- A local musher started to groom the trail with an old snowmobile and a home built drag type groomer. Another musher started to help with the grooming the next year which allowed us to groom a whole system of trails to the east of the Crystal Springs sno-park. For the next few years we worked hard at keeping the system groomed but parking was still a problem.
- In the far southwestern corner of the new upper lot there was a natural area that could be set aside as a dog sled parking area. With the blessings/help of the Winter Recreation Coordinator (Colleen McGuire) and Lake Easton Park Manager (Tim Schmitt) mushers rented a loader/backhoe and moved large boulders around to make the parking area. The parking area and the trail were marked as non-motorized.
- In October 2003 a major 2 day cleaning and widening of the old ski trail was completed.
- For the 2003/2004 grooming season a grant was approved for grooming the one mile trail "The Crystal Dog Trail" from the musher parking to the crossing of the FS road 5480 (Lost Lake). The USFS has designated it as the DP100. With the blessings of the Winter Recreation Coordinator and Lake Easton Park Manager, a short connector trail

was created (brushing) to connect our trail to the John Wayne Pioneer Ski Trail for our safety. It was agreed that we would be able to share the trail with skiers from the USFS road 54 to where the ski trail crossed the USFS road 5480.

- A funding grant was approved to snowcat groom the entire dog sled system for the 2004/2005 season but the land owner (USFS) could not approve the grooming.
- Sometime during the 2004/2005 season the gravel pit operators plowed their access road and this destroyed the groomed trail. This continued to be a problem for the remainder of the season.
- Since we could not groom, some of the funds were used to make improvements to the parking area and the wet areas of the the Crystal Dog Trail. Mushers continued to groom the system by snowmobile with a very rare grooming by snowcat.
- In late summer of 2007 the remainder of the “grooming funds” needed to be used or they would be lost. The old, broken ski trail kiosk was installed at the entrance to the new dog sled parking area trail. Sign posts were installed and large boulders moved to enlarge the parking area. A new route was created to get around the plowed road that had caused lots of problems (4 day job). A second exit was created for the small teams and the cross country skiers that were starting to use the trail. **A major 5 day job even with help from Stampede Gravel.** The contractor for the second groomer shed had left a large embankment in front of the new building. State Parks asked us to try and remove this dirt/rock. The volume was more than the rented equipment could manage but about 2/3rd of it were transported (USFS truck) to low spots of the DP100 trail.
- For the next four years mushers continued to groom the trail system by snowmobile while we tried to work with the USFS to get the needed “permission to groom”.
- In 2011 we received permission to complete a small number of “test groomings” and with this we received funding to groom the entire system.
- In September 2011 the USFS (Tim Foss) provided some needed culverts and mushers provided the loader/backhoe, labor and fuel to improve the Crystal Dog Trail. At the same time other mushers spent all day “brushing” many of the trails.
- For the 2012/2013 season we received permission to groom the system without restrictions on a **year to year** basis.
- During the 2012/2013 grooming season it was discovered that a short portion of Trail 4 was on private lands. The private land owner did not want the trail groomed and no one was to trespass on their lands. In past years Trail 4 was a groomed snowmobile route to Easton. During the early summer of 2013 we worked with the USFS (Tim Foss) and the staff at Lake Easton to move the trail a few feet to get Trail 4 on public lands. This was not good enough for the land owners and Trail 4 was made into a loop that is a long way from private lands.
- Summer/Fall of 2013 a 36 inch by 30 foot culvert was installed on the 5 Dog Loop trail.
- Summer of 2014 cleared a blocked 36 inch culvert on Dave’s trail, trail brushing completed and other work on water problems.
- October 2015 a “winter only” bridge was built on a creek crossing, with other work completed.
- Sumer of 2016 we are waiting on the USFS to come up with a plan to get the “permanent permission to groom” (MOU) completed.



Trail 4 heading west, groomed a few days before.



Musher from Friday Harbor running Dave's Trail near the east side of the Whittier tunnel.



5 Dog Loop



State Park Ranger skijouring on the DP100.

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-12
NOVA Program Off-road Vehicle Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, thirty-three Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Off-road Vehicle category projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all thirty-three projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 14, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program*; and

WHEREAS, these Off-road Vehicle category projects were evaluated by all fifteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee 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 286-04-065, 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 opportunities for recreationists who enjoy motorized off-road activities, including motorcycling and riding all-terrain and four-wheel drive vehicles on trails and in competition sport parks, 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 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities
Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects
2017-19

Attachment R
Resolution: 2017-12

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 33	60.40	16-2451D	Yacolt Burn State Forest ORV Trail Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$350,000	\$240,000	\$590,000	\$350,000
2 of 33	59.13	16-2423M	Tahuya and Green Mountain Trail and Facility Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$198,000	\$97,900	\$295,900	\$548,000
2 of 33	59.13	16-2486M	Naches Pass Trail Bridge Replacement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District	\$63,500	\$31,806	\$95,306	\$611,500
4 of 33	58.80	16-2330M	Capitol Forest ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$189,700	\$126,500	\$316,200	\$801,200
5 of 33	58.60	16-2767M	Riverside ORV Area Maintenance and Operation	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$128,116	\$58,805	\$186,921	\$929,316
6 of 33	58.33	16-2488M	Grant County ORV Maintenance and Operation	Grant County Sheriff Department	\$30,000	\$32,000	\$62,000	\$959,316
7 of 33	58.20	16-2454M	Walker Valley ORV Trails Maintenance and Operation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$198,000	\$200,000	\$398,000	\$1,157,316
8 of 33	58.13	16-2229M	Pomeroy Ranger District Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest Pomeroy Ranger District	\$50,000	\$95,000	\$145,000	\$1,207,316
9 of 33	58.00	16-2575M	Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District	\$150,720	\$127,840	\$278,560	\$1,358,036
10 of 33	57.67	16-2279M	Olympic Region ORV Facility and Trail Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$162,720	\$110,000	\$272,720	\$1,520,756
10 of 33	57.67	16-2399M	Elbe ORV Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$178,000	\$123,500	\$301,500	\$1,698,756
12 of 33	57.27	16-2400C	Elbe ORV Campground Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$350,000	\$521,000	\$871,000	\$2,048,756
13 of 33	56.93	16-2450M	Pacific Cascade ORV Trails and Facility Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$157,500	\$67,600	\$225,100	\$2,206,256
14 of 33	56.33	16-2457M	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Motorized Trails Operations and Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest Cowlitz Valley Ranger District	\$94,000	\$119,000	\$213,000	\$2,300,256

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities
Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects
2017-19

Attachment R
Resolution: 2017-12

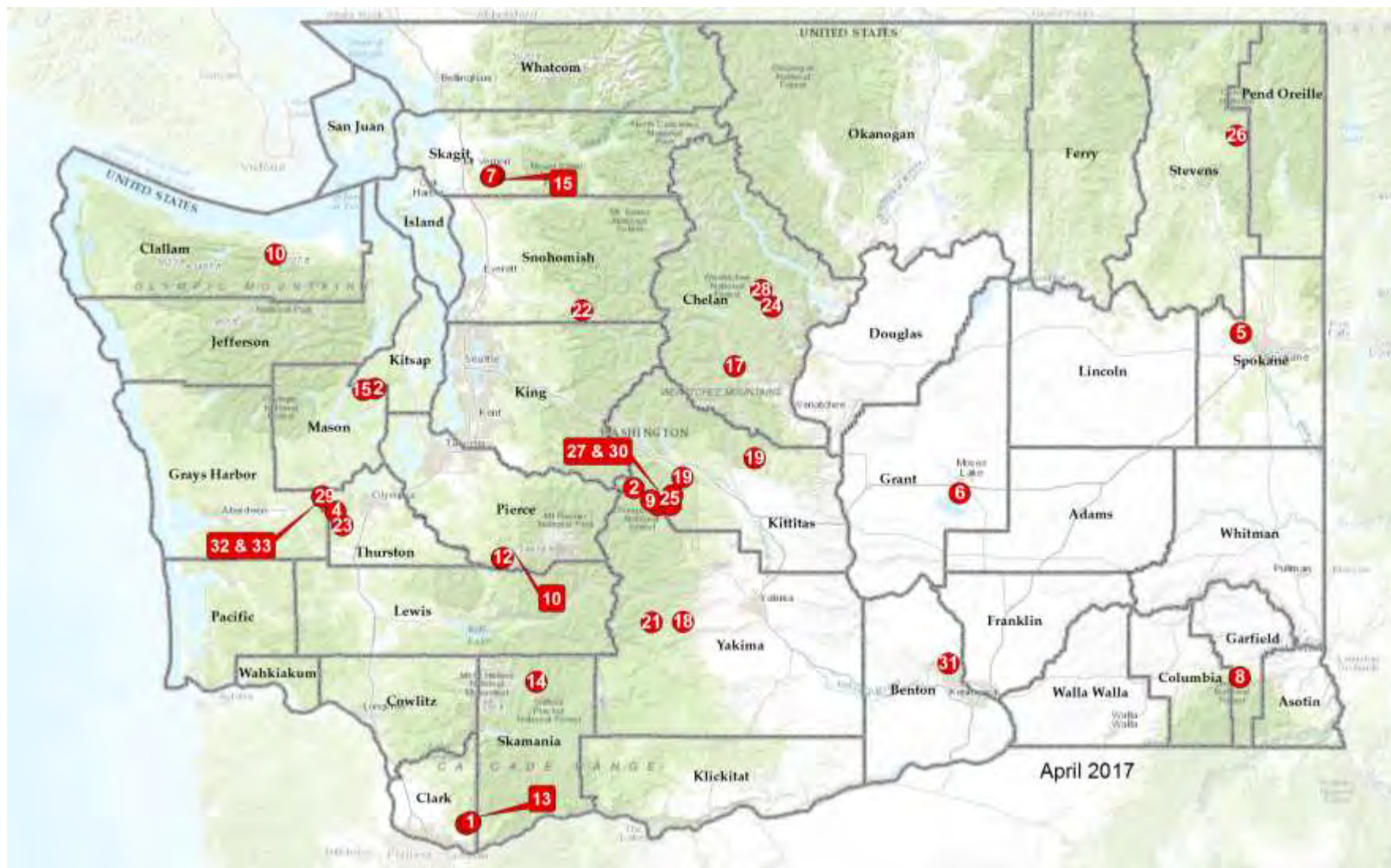
Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
15 of 33	55.13	16-2472M	Tahuya 4x4 Maintenance and Operation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$110,000	\$31,200	\$141,200	\$2,410,256
15 of 33	55.13	16-2456M	Walker Valley ORV Bridge Replacements	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$47,000	\$31,500	\$78,500	\$2,457,256
17 of 33	54.87	16-2334M	Wenatchee River Ranger District ORV Trails Maintenance and Operation	U/S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$148,500	\$100,000	\$248,500	\$2,605,756
18 of 33	54.53	16-2208M	Southeast Region Ahtanum ORV Facilities and Trail Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$179,750	\$46,750	\$226,500	\$2,785,506
19 of 33	54.13	16-2353M	Cle Elum Ranger District North Zone ORV Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District	\$199,000	\$23,000	\$222,000	\$2,984,506
19 of 33	54.13	16-2354M	Cle Elum Ranger District South Zone ORV Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District	\$175,700	\$44,300	\$220,000	\$3,160,206
21 of 33	54.00	16-2242M	Southeast Region ORV Trailhead and Campground Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$75,950	\$19,050	\$95,000	\$3,236,156
22 of 33	53.67	16-2439M	Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$90,949	\$91,605	\$182,554	\$3,327,105
23 of 33	52.93	16-2328M	Capitol Forest Trailhead and Campground Repaving	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$175,500	\$19,600	\$195,100	\$3,502,605
24 of 33	52.53	16-2223M	Entiat and Chelan Multiple Use Trail Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District	\$199,000	\$99,000	\$298,000	\$3,701,605
25 of 33	48.93	16-2715M	Naches and Cle Elum Ranger District Joint Off Highway Vehicle Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District	\$108,000	\$12,500	\$120,500	\$3,809,605
26 of 33	48.13	16-2447C	Little Pend Oreille Radar Dome Trailhead	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$187,000	\$21,000	\$208,000	\$3,996,605
27 of 33	44.13	16-2768P	Naches District Sustainable Recreation Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District	\$69,180	\$110,000	\$179,180	\$4,065,785
28 of 33	38.60	16-2698P	Entiat Valley Comprehensive Plan	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District	\$85,000	\$40,000	\$125,000	\$4,150,785

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities
Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
29 of 33	38.33	16-2779M	Grays Harbor ORV Park Operation and Maintenance	Grays Harbor County	\$200,000	\$12,500	\$212,500	\$4,350,785
30 of 33	38.20	16-2498P	Manastash Taneum Resilient Landscapes Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District	\$63,000	\$16,000	\$79,000	\$4,413,785
31 of 33	35.47	16-2533M	Richland ORV Park Maintenance	Richland Parks and Recreation	\$200,000	\$75,000	\$275,000	\$4,613,785
32 of 33	35.40	16-2671P	Grays Harbor ORV Park Planning	Grays Harbor County	\$192,000		\$192,000	\$4,805,785
33 of 33	33.40	16-2772D	Grays Harbor ORV Park Development Activites	Grays Harbor County	\$173,000	\$12,000	\$185,000	\$4,978,785
					\$4,978,785	\$2,755,956	\$7,734,741	

¹C=Combination of Acquisition and Development or Renovation, M=Maintenance, P=Planning

State Map for NOVA Program Off-road Vehicle Category



*Project numbers are in ranked order as shown in Table 1.

Off-Road Vehicle(ORV) Projects
Evaluation Scoring Summary

Attachment T

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-19

Rank	Question	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	15	Total
	Project Name	Need	Need Fulfillment	SCORP ¹ Priorities	Site Suitability (Combo) ²	Project Design ³ Dev	Combo	Maintenance	Planning	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Project Support	Cost Benefit	Matching Shares	Population Proximity	GMA ⁴ Preference	
1	Yacolt Burn State Forest ORV Trail Development	12.00	11.40	3.13		8.40				3.47	4.40	8.53	3.07	4.00	2.00	0.00	60.40
2	Tahuya and Green Mountain Trail and Facility Maintenance	11.80	11.80	3.33				7.60		3.53	4.67	8.67	3.73	3.00	1.00	0.00	59.13
3	Naches Pass Trail Bridge Replacement	13.80	12.80	3.40				8.13		3.93	3.73	6.80	3.53	3.00	0.00	0.00	59.13
4	Capitol Forest ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance	11.60	11.00	3.47				7.60		3.47	4.20	8.93	3.53	3.00	2.00	0.00	58.80
5	Riverside ORV Area Maintenance and Operation	11.40	11.40	3.80				7.87		3.47	4.20	7.73	3.73	3.00	2.00	0.00	58.60
6	Grant County ORV Maintenance and Operation	12.40	11.60	3.40				7.20		3.47	4.53	6.67	4.07	5.00	0.00	0.00	58.33
7	Walker Valley ORV Trails Maintenance and Operation	11.40	10.00	3.53				7.87		3.47	4.33	8.27	3.33	5.00	1.00	0.00	58.20
8	Pomeroy Ranger District Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	11.20	11.00	3.33				7.73		3.47	4.27	8.40	3.73	5.00	0.00	0.00	58.13
9	Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	11.80	11.60	3.33				8.00		3.47	4.20	7.73	3.87	4.00	0.00	0.00	58.00
10	Olympic Region ORV Facility and Trail Maintenance	11.00	11.40	3.67				7.60		3.73	4.67	8.00	3.60	4.00	0.00	0.00	57.67
10	Elbe ORV Maintenance	12.00	10.40	3.33				7.20		3.27	4.40	8.00	3.07	4.00	2.00	0.00	57.67
12	Elbe ORV Campground Development	10.00	10.80	3.27	4.13		4.00			3.33	3.87	7.87	3.00	5.00	2.00	0.00	57.27
13	Pacific Cascade ORV Trails and Facility Maintenance	11.00	10.60	3.47				7.33		3.33	4.40	8.53	3.27	3.00	2.00	0.00	56.93

Off-Road Vehicle(ORV) Projects
Evaluation Scoring Summary

Attachment T

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-19

Rank	Question	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	15	Total
	Project Name	Need	Need Fulfillment	SCORP ¹ Priorities	Site Suitability (Combo) ²	Dev	Combo	Maintenance	Planning	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Project Support	Cost Benefit	Matching Shares	Population Proximity	GMA ⁴ Preference	
14	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Motorized Trails Operation and Maintenance	12.40	10.20	3.40				7.07		3.27	4.07	7.47	3.47	5.00	0.00	0.00	56.33
15	Tahuya 4x4 Maintenance and Operation	10.80	10.80	3.33				7.33		3.27	4.60	8.53	3.47	2.00	1.00	0.00	55.13
15	Walker Valley ORV Bridge Replacements	10.80	10.20	3.33				7.73		3.73	3.53	7.47	3.33	4.00	1.00	0.00	55.13
17	Wenatchee River Ranger District ORV Trails Maintenance and Operation	11.40	11.20	3.20				7.60		3.53	3.40	5.87	3.67	4.00	1.00	0.00	54.87
18	Southeast Region-Ahtanum ORV Facilities and Trail Maintenance	11.00	10.80	3.47				7.73		3.87	4.20	7.07	3.40	2.00	1.00	0.00	54.53
19	Cle Elum Ranger District North Zone ORV Maintenance	12.40	11.00	3.07				7.07		3.07	4.33	7.87	3.33	1.00	1.00	0.00	54.13
19	Cle Elum Ranger District South Zone ORV Maintenance	12.00	11.00	2.93				7.47		3.07	4.20	8.00	3.47	2.00	0.00	0.00	54.13
21	Southeast Region ORV Trailhead and Campground Maintenance	11.20	11.00	3.47				7.33		3.53	4.07	7.07	3.33	2.00	1.00	0.00	54.00
22	Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance	10.00	9.40	3.13				6.93		3.20	4.20	6.93	2.87	5.00	2.00	0.00	53.67
23	Capitol Forest Trailhead and Campground Repaving	10.20	11.20	3.13				7.07		3.07	4.33	7.73	3.20	1.00	2.00	0.00	52.93
24	Entiat and Chelan Multiple Use Trail Maintenance	11.00	10.20	3.07				7.73		3.33	4.07	5.87	3.27	3.00	1.00	0.00	52.53

Off-Road Vehicle(ORV) Projects
Evaluation Scoring Summary

Attachment T

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program
2017-19

Rank	Question	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	15	Total
	Project Name	Need	Need Fulfillment	SCORP ¹ Priorities	Site Suitability (Combo) ²	Project Design ³ Dev	Combo	Maintenance	Planning	Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship	Readiness to Proceed	Project Support	Cost Benefit	Matching Shares	Population Proximity	GMA ⁴ Preference	
25	Naches and Cle Elum Range District Joint Off Highway Vehicle Trail Maintenance	10.80	10.40	3.00				6.80		3.00	3.73	7.33	2.87	1.00	0.00	0.00	48.93
26	Little Pend Oreille Radar Dome Trailhead	10.40	10.40	3.20	3.80		3.53			3.27	3.60	5.87	3.07	1.00	0.00	0.00	48.13
27	Naches District Sustainable Recreation Planning	8.20	7.40	2.47					6.80	3.27	3.47	4.80	2.73	5.00	0.00	0.00	44.13
28	Entiat Valley Comprehensive Plan	8.40	7.40	2.60					5.33	2.93	2.73	3.87	2.33	3.00	0.00	0.00	38.60
29	Grays Harbor ORV Park Operation and Maintenance	9.00	8.60	2.20				5.47		2.47	2.80	3.47	2.33	0.00	2.00	0.00	38.33
29	Manastash Taneum Resilient Landscapes Planning	8.40	6.80	2.27					5.73	3.00	3.27	4.93	1.80	2.00	0.00	0.00	38.20
31	Richland ORV Park Maintenance	6.80	7.60	2.33				5.47		2.00	3.47	3.07	1.73	2.00	1.00	0.00	35.47
32	Grays Harbor ORV Park Planning	7.40	6.80	2.20					5.47	2.73	2.93	4.00	1.87	0.00	2.00	0.00	35.40
33	Grays Harbor ORV Park Development Activities	7.00	7.80	2.07		4.67				2.33	2.13	3.47	1.93	0.00	2.00	0.00	33.40

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1 - 11; RCO staff scores Questions 12-14.

¹SCORP=Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

²Combo=Acquisition and Development

³Dev=Development, Combo=combination of acquisition and development

⁴GMA=Growth Management Act

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



Washington Department of Natural Resources Yacolt Burn State Forest Off-Road Vehicle Trail Development

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to develop ORV trails in the Yacolt Burn State Forest, located approximately 10 miles northeast of Vancouver. This project will provide funding for staff time, materials, equipment rental, and crew time to construct 3 bridges and approximately 4 miles of new trails for 4x4s, ATVs, and motorcycles. By completing this project, DNR will be providing additional ORV opportunities easily accessible to large population centers. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project is safe and sustainable ORV recreational trails. The department will contribute \$240,000 in materials and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2451)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Tahuya/Green Mt. Trail and Facility Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$198,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on 200 miles of trails, 5 campgrounds, and 5 trailheads, within Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests. This project will fund a Trail Specialist, Trail Technician, and seasonal crews to support volunteers and to perform routine trail and support facility maintenance. Trail maintenance includes brushing, installing grade reversals, hardening where necessary, installation of geo-synthetics main, constructing small re-routes, bridge maintenance and sign installation. Trailhead and facility maintenance includes maintenance of restrooms, campsites, parking areas and signs. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is safe, sustainable ORV trails and support facilities. This project has strong support from the Tahuya and Green Mountain Focus Group that consists of community members and volunteers, who donate both labor and equipment for trail maintenance efforts. The department will contribute \$97,900 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2423)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District Naches Pass Trail Bridge Replacement

Grant Requested: \$63,500

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to replace a highly-used bridge on the historic Naches Pass Trail. Approximately 2500 vehicles use the Naches Pass Trail every season during the snow-free months. The bridge spans the North Fork of the Little Naches River located on trail 4W684 - Naches Pass Trail and is in serious disrepair. Estimated remaining life expectancy of the current bridge is two years. This project will buy the bridge materials and 4X4 and motorcycle club volunteers will assemble and install the bridge. The bridge that will be purchased is a fiberglass bridge. The major advantages of fiberglass bridges is their high strength, they are light weight, easy to install, and require little maintenance. Fiberglass bridges are highly environmentally and economically sustainable. This bridge is essential in protecting the important sensitive fish and aquatic habitat on the Little Naches River including endangered Bull Trout. The bridge also makes it possible for jeeps, WATV's, and motorcycles to access this extremely popular trail. When this bridge fails the Forest Service will be forced to close a one-mile section of trail that the Forest Service and their partners have invested much time and energy and restoring. It would also create a gap in the middle of the Naches Pass Trail making it much less attractive to motorized users by essentially cutting off over two miles of the trail. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be safe and sustainable front country public recreation areas. The Forest Service will contribute \$31,806 in equipment,

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



staff labor, and donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2486)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Capitol Forest ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$189,700

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on 77 miles of ORV trails and 3 support facilities within Capitol State Forest. Trail maintenance will include brushing, installing grade reversals, hardening where necessary, installation of geo-synthetics, constructing small re-routes, bridge maintenance and sign installation. Trailhead and facility maintenance includes upkeep of restrooms, campsites, parking areas and signs. This grant will fund a Trail Technician and seasonal crews will be hired to work with volunteers and to perform routine trail and support facility maintenance. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is safe and sustainable ORV trails and support facilities. Many mountain bike and trail running enthusiasts enjoy the ORV trails as well. This project has strong support from the Capitol Forest user group community and volunteers, who donate both labor and equipment for trail maintenance efforts. The department will contribute \$126,500 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2330)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Riverside Off-Road Vehicle Area Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$128,116

State Parks will use this grant to help maintain facilities, protect natural resources, control noxious weeds, complete special maintenance projects and provide customer service to enhance the recreational experience of Riverside State Park's off-road vehicle users. This project would fund one year-round park aide and vehicle, one part-time park aide, ranger supervision, and contracted labor to control noxious weeds. Riverside State Park Off-Road Vehicle area is a 600-acre fenced in area that is open to all types of off-road vehicle use, including snowmobiles. It is located in Spokane County in Eastern Washington. The terrain is diverse and provides opportunities for riders of all skill levels. It is the only off-road vehicle park in the Washington State Park System and is heavily used by all types of off road enthusiasts receiving approximately 90,000 visitors per year. This grant would provide the staff, transportation and contracted services that are needed year-round to conduct routine maintenance activities such as cleaning restrooms, restocking educational materials and day pass envelopes, controlling noxious weeds, maintaining fencing and signage, picking up garbage and litter, mowing, plowing snow, and maintaining equipment and facilities. In addition, it would provide staff to complete special maintenance projects. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable off-road vehicle use throughout the ORV Park. State Parks will contribute \$58,805 in staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2767)

Grant County Grant County Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$30,000

The Grant County Sheriff's Office will use this grant to provide ongoing maintenance and operation to support off-road vehicle use for the Moses Lake Sand Dunes (MLSD). The MLSD is located south of Moses Lake, in Grant County, exit 174 off of I90 and along Sand Dunes Road SE. Maintenance will include fence

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



repair, servicing of bathrooms, signage repair/replacement, noxious weed control and litter disposal throughout the MLSD. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable off-road vehicle use throughout the MLSD area. This project is important to the local community as the deputies will be able to be proactive and innovative in servicing various user groups while protecting the land and promoting responsible off-road vehicle use at the MLSD. The Grant County Sheriff's Office has established relationships with the local community and off-road vehicle groups to maintain and operate the MLSD. These partnerships have allowed the MLSD to be a clean and safe environment for visitors from all over the Northwest. These visitors continue to benefit the local economy while recreating at the MLSD. The maintenance and operation funding is essential in providing a family friendly venue for the off-road vehicle users and campers while reducing the human impact on the environment. Grant County will contribute \$32,000 in equipment, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2488)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$198,000

Walker Valley Off-Road Vehicle Trails Maintenance and Operation

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct year-round maintenance on 36 miles of ORV trails and supporting trailhead facilities in the Walker Valley forest block, located east of Mount Vernon in Skagit County. This project will provide funding for a Recreation and Maintenance Trail Steward and part-time WCC crews to perform routine trail and trailhead maintenance and repairs. Trail maintenance activities include brushing trails, maintaining culverts, drain dips, water-bars, and ditch-outs, hardening sections of trail with crushed rock and concrete pavers and inspecting and maintaining 22 bridges. Trailhead maintenance will include litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms and signs. The goal of this project is to provide year-round ORV opportunities while protecting natural resources. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be year-round safe and sustainable motorized recreation trails and support facilities. The department will contribute \$200,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2454)

U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District

Grant Requested: \$50,000

Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation

The Pomeroy and Walla Walla Ranger Districts will use this grant to perform maintenance on motorized ORV trails throughout Asotin, Garfield, and Columbia Counties, located within the Umatilla National Forest. Trail maintenance activities will include: log-out/brushing, trail surfacing, trail hardening, maintenance of culverts, drain-dips and ditch-outs as well as trail bridge inspection and maintenance. This project will provide for continued public access, maintenance of trail safety features and the protection of natural resources. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable ORV trail use. Pomeroy and Walla Walla Districts trail systems provide the only OHV recreation opportunities in the Northern Blue Mountains on Federal Lands. Our service area covers the ever expanding Tri-City area, Spokane area and the Clarkston/Lewiston valley. Those small communities which lie in these three counties heavily rely on recreational and tourism activities, primarily activities in the Northern Blue Mountains of the Umatilla. An example of this effort several years ago an ordinance was adopted allowing ORV travel on select county roads, from the cities of Pomeroy and Dayton to the forest boundary. The Forest Service will contribute \$95,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor,

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2229)

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

Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$150,720

The Naches District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, will use this grant to maintain approximately 90% of our motorized motorcycle and 4-wheel drive trail system. The remaining 10% will be maintained by the Cle Elum Ranger District because of the proximity of the trails to their district. Our goal is to clear 100% (290 miles) and complete all maintenance (brushing, drainage, structure cleaning and repair, tread repair and sign maintenance) on 25% (73 miles) of the trail system each year of this two year grant to keep the trail system open for the long term. Regular maintenance reduces the need for costly reconstruction projects. ??All of our trails are located within Yakima and Kittitas Counties in Washington State. The primary recreation opportunity this grant will provide is continuation of safe, sustainable, and high quality motorized trail experiences for motorcycle, jeep and quad riders. This RCO request includes salaries for a four person trail crew, crew leader, transportation and supplies. Work will be completed during the snow free season. The 50.16% match includes appropriated dollars, additional transportation, and 3000 hours of volunteer labor. The Naches District's motorized trail system receives extensive use from an estimated 45,000 recreationists each year on our 140 miles of motorcycle and 170 miles of four wheel drive trails. The trail system is centrally located in Washington State, and is well known for its variety of trail opportunities, landscapes and sunny weather. The Forest Service will contribute \$127,840 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2575)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$162,720

Olympic Region Off-Road Vehicle Facility and Trail Maintenance

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on 36 miles of Off-road Vehicle (ORV) trails and trailhead facilities on the Foothills and Sadie Creek trail systems, both in the Port Angeles area on the northern portion of the Olympic Peninsula. This project will provide funding for a two person crew to perform routine trail and trailhead maintenance and repairs. Trail maintenance activities include brushing trails, maintaining culverts, drain dips, and ditch-outs, hardening small sections of trail with crushed rock and inspection and maintenance of bridges and signs. Trailhead maintenance will include litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms and signs. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable ORV recreation trails and support facilities. The department will contribute \$110,000 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2279)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$178,000

Elbe Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to conduct maintenance on over 13 miles of ORV trails, one trailhead facility and one camping facility within Elbe Hills State Forest, located between Elbe and Ashford in Pierce County. This project will provide funding for a part-time Recreation Specialist, a seasonal equipment operator, and a seasonal crew to perform routine trail and facility maintenance and

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



repairs. Trail maintenance activities will include trail brushing and surfacing, inspecting and maintaining bridges, maintaining culverts, drain-dips, and ditch-outs, and trail hardening by adding rock to prevent erosion and sediment delivery into streams. Facility maintenance will include litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms, campsites and signs. Funding will also be used to maintain and purchase small tools and minor equipment. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable ORV and 4x4 recreation trails and support facilities. By completing this project, DNR will be able to continue to provide year round ORV opportunities which support local economies. The Elbe Hills ORV trail system is highly technical and heavily used and the trails and campground are open year-round. The department will contribute \$123,500 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2399)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Elbe Off-Road Vehicle Campground Development

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to acquire property and develop a new campground facility in Elbe Hills State Forest, located in Pierce County near the town of Elbe. This project will provide funding to acquire 3.9 acres from DNR trust land. It will also provide funding for design, materials, permits, construction and relocation of a campground facility. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is safe and sustainable campground and support facilities. The existing campground will be decommissioned upon completion of the new facility. The redesigned campground will be better suited to accommodate trucks, trailers, and larger RV-style camp vehicles, while the new location provides better protection of nearby sensitive wetlands. The new campground will also more efficiently accommodate the group-style camping which ORV enthusiasts in the Elbe area prefer. The campground provides overnight accommodations for 4WD enthusiasts and overnight camping is highly desirable to fully utilize the 13 miles of 4x4 technical trails, which draw ORV users to the region from around the state. Most work will be completed by contractors, but volunteer labor will be used for shelters and the installation of campground amenities such as picnic tables and fire pits. The department will contribute \$521,000 in cash, equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2400)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Off-Road Vehicle Trails and Facility Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$157,500

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on ORV trails and trailhead facilities within Yacolt Burn State Forest, located east of Vancouver and Elochoman Landscape located west of Longview. This project will provide funding for a Natural Resource Technician and some crew time to perform routine trail and trailhead maintenance and repairs. Trail maintenance activities include brushing trails, maintaining culverts, drain dips, and ditch-outs, repairing trail surfacing, hardening small sections of trail with crushed rock, and constructing small re-routes. Additionally, bridges and signs will be inspected and maintained. Facility maintenance will include litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms and signs. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable motorized recreation trails and support facilities. The department will contribute \$67,600 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2450)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Cowlitz Valley Ranger District

Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$94,000

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GPNF) will use this grant to accomplish routine annual/heavy maintenance on approximately 230 miles of motorized system trails and associated trailheads over 2 years. Regular maintenance decreases resource damage, minimizes conflicts between user groups, and extends the life of the trails. The trail system is located in Lewis, Skamania, and Klickitat counties and offers a unique riding experience through forests and meadows with stunning vistas of Mt. Adams, Mt. St. Helen's, and Mt. Rainier. Work will be accomplished by 2 highly experienced seasonal employees on the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District in Randle, WA, which contains the bulk of the GPNF's motorized trail system. A highly experienced crew will provide the work force on the Mt. Adams Ranger District in Trout Lake, WA. Forest Service personnel will also maintain 6 campgrounds primarily used by motorized recreationists. Volunteers will contribute 2,000 hours of donated labor over 2 years from partners like the Volunteers of Lewis River Trails, Southwest Washington Off Road Riders Association, and long term individuals. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is motorized recreation, although mountain biking and hiking opportunities abound. This grant will allow for continued access to the GPNF's challenging and diverse motorized trail system, while protecting local resources and promoting responsible ORV activity. The Forest Service will contribute \$119,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2457)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Tahuya 4x4 Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$110,000

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to fund a part-time Recreation Specialist and a full time equipment operator to perform routine trail and facility maintenance and repairs on the Tahuya State Forest, located in Mason County. Trail maintenance activities will include trail brushing and surfacing, inspecting and maintaining bridges, maintaining culverts, drain-dips, and ditch-outs, and trail hardening by adding rock to prevent erosion and sediment delivery into streams. Facility maintenance will include litter removal and the maintenance and repair of signs and fencing. Funding will also be used to purchase a hydraulic dump trailer along with small tools and minor equipment. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable 4x4 recreation trails and support facilities. By completing this project, DNR will be able to continue to provide year round 4x4 opportunities which support local economies. The Tahuya 4x4 trail system is a heavily used and loved year round 4x4 opportunity. There is very limited 4x4 opportunities in Washington and especially a trail system that is open 365 days a year. The department will contribute \$31,200 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2472)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Walker Valley Off-Road Vehicle Bridge Replacements

Grant Requested: \$47,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to replace two ORV trail bridges within the Walker Valley Off-Road Vehicle Trails area, located southeast of Mount Vernon. This project will provide funding for construction materials and supplies for two new bridges to replace existing bridges that are nearing the end of their design life spans. By completing this project the new bridges will improve user safety, trail alignments and current environmental problems with sediment delivery to streams. The

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primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is safe and sustainable ORV recreation trail riding. As part of DNR's match component for this grant, DNR will fund all architectural and engineering (AandE) and permitting phases of this project, along with Washington Conservation Corps crew time for the construction phase. Volunteers will also contribute approximately 100 hours of labor. The department will contribute \$31,500 in staff labor and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2456)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District

Off-Road Vehicle Trails Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$148,500

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant for trail maintenance of the district's 120 miles of multi-use motorized trails, located within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan County. The project will fund a 4 to 6 person crew to conduct maintenance that includes log removal/brushing, repair of puncheons, turnpikes and drainage structures and maintenance of trail signs. Funding will also be used to purchase small tools and minor equipment. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project is safe and sustainable multi-use trails. These trails are popular with the surrounding area as well as residents from the Puget Sound region. The goal of this project is to provide high quality trail based recreation, while protecting the natural environment. A more aggressive heavy maintenance standard will be applied to approximately 15 miles of trail each year where rehabilitation work is warranted. A combination of Forest Service crews and Northwest Youth Corps and Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance volunteers will help conduct this maintenance work. The emphasis will be on resource protection and visitor safety, focusing on high use trails and trails where on-going erosion or encroachment of brush threatens long-term trail stability. The Forest Service will contribute \$100,000 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2334)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$179,750

Southeast Region-Ahtanum Off-Road Vehicle Facilities and Trail Maintenance

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on over 40 miles of ORV trails, 12 campgrounds and three trailheads within the Ahtanum State Forest, located 30 miles west of Yakima. This project will provide funding for a two person seasonal crew to perform routine trail, trailhead and campground maintenance and repairs. Trail maintenance activities include brushing trails, maintaining culverts, drain dips, and rolling water bars. Hardening sections of trail with crushed rock and inspecting and maintaining bridges. Facility maintenance will include litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms, kiosk, signs, picnic tables, fire rings and campsites. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable ORV recreation trails and support facilities. The department will contribute \$46,750 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2208)

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

North Zone Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$199,000

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant for trail maintenance of the district's 230 miles of multi-use trails, located within the Wenatchee National Forest in Kittitas County. The project will provide funding for

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



a four-person crew to do log removal, brushing and limbing, maintenance of puncheons, turnpikes and drainage structures, tread restoration, and maintenance of trail signs. The overall goal is to provide trail maintenance, which allows the public to use the trails while protecting adjacent natural resources. The primary recreation opportunity provided is for use of multi-use trails in a primitive backcountry experience. This trail maintenance project covers maintenance for a large network of accessible, well-established motorized trails that serve a large population and provide unique recreational opportunities for people with a wide range of experience levels. The trails are popular and receive a lot of use due to easy access provided by I-90 and U.S. 97. Whether riding on two or four wheels, riding a mountain bike, riding stock, or hiking, trail users experience settings in areas that exhibit features such as waterfalls, creeks and rivers, rugged peaks, and forests. These opportunities bring in thousands of visitors a year who help boost the local economy through the purchase of meals, fuel, groceries, lodging, supplies, equipment and services. The Forest Service will contribute \$23,000 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2353)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District South Zone Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$175,700

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant for trail maintenance of the district's 140 miles of multi-use trails, located within the Wenatchee National Forest in Kittitas County. The project will provide funding for a four-person crew to do log removal, brushing and limbing, maintenance of puncheons, turnpikes and drainage structures, tread restoration, and maintenance of trail signs. Project funding will also be used to purchase a chainsaw and some miscellaneous minor equipment such as hand-tools needed for trail maintenance. The project will provide trail maintenance, which allows the public to use the trails while protecting adjacent natural resources. The primary recreation opportunity provided is for use of multi-use trails in a primitive backcountry experience. This trail maintenance project covers maintenance for a large network of accessible, well-established motorized trails that serve a large population and provide unique recreational opportunities for people with a wide range of experience levels. The Forest Service will contribute \$44,300 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2354)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$75,950

Southeast Region Off-Road Vehicle Trailhead and Campground Maintenance

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to perform maintenance and repairs to nine campgrounds and two trailheads located within the Ahtanum State Forest, located 30 miles west of Yakima. Maintenance will include the replacement of picnic tables, fire pits, kiosks and signage. Gravel will also be purchased to resurface parking areas, pathways and campsites. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable campground and ORV trailhead recreation facilities. The department will contribute \$19,050 in donations of labor, and staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2242)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



Washington Department of Natural Resources Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

Grant Requested: \$90,949

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on ORV trails and facilities within Reiter Foothills Forest, located in eastern Snohomish County near the city of Gold Bar. This project will provide funding for a Natural Resource Specialist and a seasonal crew to perform routine trail and trailhead maintenance and repairs. Trail maintenance activities include brushing trails, maintaining culverts, drain dips, and ditch-outs, clearing wind throw and minor resurfacing. Additional maintenance includes litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms and signs. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable ORV recreation trails and support facilities. The department will contribute \$91,605 in a state appropriation, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2439)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Capitol Forest Trailhead and Campground Repaving

Grant Requested: \$175,500

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to repave Middle Waddell ORV trailhead and campground area on the east side of Capitol Forest. The scope of work will include the preparation and repaving of the trailhead parking area and roads within the campground area. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this grant will be upgraded parking and camping facilities for ORV users in Capitol Forest. The asphalt overlay project will enhance and protect previous Recreation and Conservation Office investments which were made in the early 1990's. The trailhead and campground are primarily used by ORV enthusiasts, however non-motorized trail users frequent both facilities for camping and to participate in events. The campground averages 1,000 overnight visitors per month in the summer. The facilities are located just 25 minutes away from Olympia. The department will contribute \$19,600 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2328)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District Multiple Use Trail Maintenance and Operation

Grant Requested: \$199,000

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to fund a forest service trail crew and a Northwest Youth Corps crew to perform annual and backlog trail maintenance on 195 miles of multiple-use trails located in the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts, located in Chelan County on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Maintenance will include: log out, brushing and clearing, bridge repair and replacement, maintenance of puncheons, turnpikes, drainage structures, tread restoration, trail signs and trailhead maintenance. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project is multiple-use trails in a primitive backcountry setting. The overall goal of the project is to provide trail maintenance which allows the public to use the trails while protecting adjacent natural resources. The 195 miles of multiple-use trails on the Entiat and Chelan Ranger District's is the heart of the hugely popular interconnected 225 mile multiple-use trail system which spans from Lake Wenatchee, across the Entiat and Chelan mountains, to Lake Chelan. The Forest Service will contribute \$99,000 in staff labor and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2223)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District Joint Off-Highway Vehicle Trail Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$108,000

The Cle Elum and Naches Ranger districts need is more efficient 4x4 trail maintenance while supporting watershed health and clean water by preventing sediment delivery to sensitive areas. This can be accomplished by purchasing a 5 ton excavator to maintain the 4x4 trails. The excavator will be used to perform tread work, drainage maintenance and lift materials for bridges and walls. The 2 Districts are strategically looking at ways to increase maintenance productivity while increasing equipment utilization on 4x4 trails. We are going to increase sustainability of the trails while improving the user experience. We will focus on improving drainage on the trails to prevent sediment delivery to sensitive wet lands, streams and rivers to protect Sockeye Salmon, Bull Throat and aquatic organism habitat. We will also harden the tread surface and close braided routes through meadows and sensitive areas. Naches has rented 5 ton excavators found it to be the best size for maintaining 4x4 trails efficiently. Both Districts will train volunteers to operate the equipment and maintain trails. The primary use on these trails is 4x4 user but ATV's Side x Sides and Dirt Bikers frequently use these same trails. We do see limited use of these trails by Equestrian users and Mountain Bikers. The Forest Service will contribute \$12,500 in a federal appropriation and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2715)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Little Pend Oreille Radar Dome Trailhead

Grant Requested: \$187,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to acquire and develop property near the existing Radar Dome Trailhead in the Little Pend Oreille (LPO) Trail System, located in northern Stevens County on the eastside of Highway 20. The acquisition will be approximately 8 acres and development will consist of a new day-use parking area and restroom facilities. Additional development will include fencing, kiosks, signage and site furnishings. The primary recreational opportunity provided by the project will be improved support facilities for the current Little Pend Oreille ORV trail system. The goal of the project is to improve support facilities for off-road vehicle activities within the Little Pend Oreille. A concept plan was developed several years ago as part of the LPO facilities management plan. The recently updated site development plan will be used to develop the construction documents needed for permitting and construction of this project. This project is part of the Little Pend Oreille Off-Road Vehicle Facilities Management Plan (2007) funded by a previous RCO grant. Currently the existing parking includes a small open gravel area only large enough to accommodate a few cars at one time and is located on the opposite side of Highway 20. The department will contribute \$21,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2447)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District Naches District Sustainable Recreation Planning

Grant Requested: \$69,180

Within the Little Naches River Valley on the Naches Ranger District in Yakima County, are many heavily used dispersed recreation areas and user-created motorized trails. In these areas, vehicle traffic has destroyed ground vegetation, created mud holes, and wood-cutting has removed almost all woody debris. Soil compaction has weakened the trees that remain, threatening user safety, and soil erosion is effecting water quality. The areas are in the riparian zone of the Little Naches River, and the floodplain

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



degradation is harming fish habitat. The negative effects on the ecosystem could lead to area and trail closures. This project will allow us to complete the analysis and planning necessary to provide for recreation opportunities in these areas while restoring the ecological function of the floodplain. Our objectives are to maintain and enhance access to camping areas and trails primarily used by the motorized recreation community, promote the Naches Ranger District as a destination for tourism, improve water quality, restore soil and vegetation conditions, maintain an economically and environmentally sustainable motorized trail system, and in the end have a signed NEPA document. We will revisit public input gathered from the Oka-Wen NF Travel Management efforts, fill gaps in data using updated technologies, and conduct public outreach and collaboration efforts in order to design a proposal that could include; trail improvements/repairs, road to trail conversions, rerouting motorized trails, and converting user-created trails to system trails. U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District will contribute \$110,000 in a federal appropriation, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2768)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District Entiat Valley Comprehensive Plan

Grant Requested: \$85,000

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to develop a comprehensive planning document that will help the district with future maintenance and construction of campgrounds, trailheads and trails. The overall goal for this project is to have a comprehensive plan that the district can use as a guide. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be the future maintenance and development of campgrounds, trailheads and trail systems. The district needs to work with the public and partners to determine what trails and developed recreation sites the district can provide to the public under a sustainable operation framework. Working with partners and stakeholders the district will create a plan to identify a trail network that can be maintained to standard on a yearly basis, identify new opportunities the district can provide to the public, define what developed sites will be maintained and at what scale and look for partners to help achieve the goals for the district. After the 2014 and 2015 wildfires that effected over 50 miles of trail, burned through campgrounds and closed others due to flooding hazards, the district is in a unique position to evaluate what it can offer to the public in a safe and sustainable manner. This plan will focus on the Entiat District, but under the realization the sites or trails that cross boundaries will be considered. U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District will contribute \$40,000 in staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2698)

Grays Harbor County Grays Harbor ORV Park Operations and Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$200,000

Grays Harbor County will use grant funds to maintain aging facilities at the Grays Harbor ORV Park for the benefit of NOVA users. The goal of this project is to repair damaged and structurally deficient facilities, maintain the existing campgrounds, purchase materials and supplies for maintenance work, maintain track surfaces, conduct trails maintenance, provide vegetation management, provide litter and cleaning services, septic services, equipment maintenance, replace inoperable equipment, and provide direct management of the park. The aging ORV Park has not seen significant upgrades in over a decade. The County will provide structural upgrades, repair siding and roofs on multiple structures. This project will

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



continue to support the restoration on Mox Chehalis Creek by controlling invasive species, maintaining creek boundaries and educating riders about critical spawning beds for Salmon. This project will provide much needed assistance to economically depressed Grays Harbor County who has taken on long term obligations of this RCO funded park. Grays Harbor County will contribute \$12,500 in donations of labor, and staff labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2779)

U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District Manastash-Tanuem Resilient Landscapes Planning

Grant Requested: \$63,000

This Cle Elum Ranger District planning grant will look at recreation on the watershed level in the Tanuem Manastash. The project outcome will be a more sustainable trail system that provides a better user experience, promoting the area as a destination for tourist while protecting the natural resources. We will be analyzing the motorized trail system as well as dispersed and developed camping directly associated with motorized recreation in the water sheds. This Project will look at trails closed under Travel Management and identify which can/will be added to the official trail system in their current location or with trail reroutes. System trails will also be analyzed for their impact to the aquatic resources and reroutes identified. The project will fund a large data collection effort for the project areas as well as some specialist time to analyze the proposed trail reroutes and new editions. The Cle Elum Ranger District is actively working with partners to get a clear idea of the number of visitors on the district and the use patterns on the district. We will engage the public to find out how and where they use the District and what experiences they are seeking. We can gain this information with trail counters and public contacts. The outcomes will be accurate picture of the current recreation uses in the project areas and multiple trail projects that will be cleared through the NEPA process. We are currently working with Central Washington University and The Nature Conservancy in the Manastash and Tanuem watersheds. U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District will contribute \$16,000 in a federal appropriation. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2498)

Richland Parks and Recreation City of Richland Off-Road Vehicle Park Maintenance

Grant Requested: \$200,000

This request is to fund ongoing park maintenance including the reconstruction of the park access road. Ongoing park maintenance includes, track grooming, irrigation, restroom; building maintenance, RV stall maintenance, road and other hard surface maintenance, etc. The park access road is 3,260 feet long and extends through the ORV Park. The road begins at the entry gate and provides access to all the park amenities including the MX tracks, restrooms, office building, RV campground and the emergency exit on the east side of the park. The road is currently 15 - 21 feet wide and is a gravel and asphalt surface. The asphalt surface is only 1/2 inch thick and has deteriorated. As part of the park maintenance the existing road will be removed and replaced in 2017. The new road will be 24 feet wide. The new road will provide a safer and smoother traveling surface. In addition the gravel parking area in front of the restroom/shower building will be paved to create two ADA parking stalls. Richland will contribute \$75,000 in equipment, staff labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2533)

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Off-road Vehicle Category (In Rank Order)



Grays Harbor County

Grant Requested: \$192,000

Grays Harbor Off-Road Vehicle Park Planning

Grays Harbor County will use this funding to develop a Park Master Plan that will focus on the utilization of the existing property to develop a more fluid park design. The Master Plan will assist the County in prioritizing projects in its aging facility and set timelines for new construction and remodels. A Master Plan will define a County's commitment to cooperate with DNR to set clear goals that affect both Capital Forest and the ORV Park. The County will produce construction ready documents for priority projects within the Master Plan. The County will work with a landscape designer to design a more fluid campground design and implement the changes. The County will do a feasibility and preconstruction study to determine the possibility of a covered motocross riding arena to serve ORV users throughout the entire year. This project will result in a Park Master Plan, updated comprehensive plan, completed feasibility study, environmental assessments, cultural resource studies and construction ready documents and permits for future projects. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2671)

Grays Harbor County

Grant Requested: \$173,000

Grays Harbor Off-Road Vehicle Park Development Activities

The Development project will address several key goals at the Grays Harbor ORV Park and implement a key campground improvement. We will redesign the existing campground, create 25 additional power and water campsites, renovate and make ADA restroom upgrades, develop a community fireplace shelter, replace aging main entrance and event signs, and reconfigure the main MX track to provide a safer course for all users. The overall goal achieved will be increased park usage due to a better camping and off road vehicle experience. The construction of additional power and water sites will encourage longer stays for families. The primary recreation opportunity will be off-road vehicle use at the 155 acre ORV Park. Project improvements will include: MX track redesign, construction of 25 power and water sites, ADA restroom renovation, replacement of a decades old main park sign and purchase an event reader board, design and construction of a community fireplace shelter as a centerpiece of the lower campground. Better camping facilities will attract more events and greater use of the facility. Straddleline is within a 1 hour drive of 1.5 million people and is the most diverse ORV facility in Western Washington. Grays Harbor County will contribute \$12,000 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Snapshot](#). (16-2772)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

This attachment includes 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.

Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) – Off-road Vehicle (ORV) Projects

- 16-2423M Tahuya and Green Mountain Trail and Facility Maintenance (1) Rank 2
- 16-2486M Naches Pass Trail Bridge Replacement (1) Rank 2
- 16-2767M Riverside ORV Area Maintenance and Operation (7) Rank 5
- 16-2488M Grant County ORV Maintenance and Operation (1) Rank 6
- 16-2575M Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation (2) Rank 9
- 16-2457M Gifford Pinchot National Forest Motorized Trails Operation & Maintenance (1) Rank 14
- 16-2472M Tahuya 4x4 Trail Maintenance and Operation (1) Rank 15
- 16-2223M Entiat and Chelan Multiple Use Trail Maintenance and Operation (1) Rank 24



www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. rider powered.

NOVA ORV Ranked #2

December 22, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Subject: Tahuya/Green Mountain Education and Enforcement - 16-2473:

Dear Review Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen) supports the Department of Natural Resources' proposal to provide education and enforcement duties and patrols in the Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests. This proposed project will fund one full-time recreation warden and additional DNR patrol services covering 200 miles of trail, 5 campgrounds, and 5 trailheads.

The Olympic District of DNR extends from Forks to Hood Canal. DNR's presence in this area is limited, and education and enforcement officials are spread too thinly to maintain a reliable presence in any given area. This has resulted in misuse and abuse of facilities, added maintenance & repair expenses, and a reduction in public safety. The proposed wardens will help provide education and enforcement to all recreational trail users and ensure sustainable multi-use trail based recreation throughout the Olympic District.

There are multiple benefits to this proposal: Education and enforcement will help curb vandalism and littering, will help educate users and the general public about location-appropriate recreational activities, and it will help deliver a more positive experience for all recreational user groups. The enforcement activities will also help protect the public's investment in recreational resources for this location.

We particularly support this proposal since it includes the Green Mountain Non-Motorized Trail System, a popular mountain bike trail network that is seeing increasing use by mountain bikers, and has become the go-to destination for riders in Bremerton, Silverdale, and surrounding peninsula communities.

We look forward to assisting the Olympic District with its future trail maintenance needs in the region, and support the District's efforts to improve the outdoor recreation experience at Tahuya and Green Mountain, for community members and visitors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Kilpatrick".

Brian Kilpatrick
President
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
West Sound Chapter

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yvonne Kraus".

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



PACIFIC NORTHWEST 4-WHEEL-DRIVE ASSOCIATION OREGON—WASHINGTON—IDAHO

NOVA ORV Ranked #2

October 18, 2016

To: The NOVA Board

Subject: Bridge replacement on Naches Pass Trail 4W684

This is a letter of support for the Naches Ranger Districts grant request for the replacement of a bridge on the Naches Pass Trail 4W684.

The current bridge has been repaired several times and has considerable damage due to weather and age.

The Naches Pass Trail is a historical trail and has a lot of use by recreationalists. The replacement bridge will ensure the safety and integrity of the trail over the water. Without it and the failure of the old bridge, the original water crossing would be in effect. This would not be desirable for ecology or the fish people.

Thank you for considering this grant request.

Earl P. Nettnin, Region 4 Director
Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association
519 N. Fisher Place
Kennewick, WA 99336
esnettnin@aol.com



Dale E. Stevens
ATV Riding Instructor #116392
23221 East Colony Court
Liberty Lake, WA 99019
509 294-0639
509 755-3768 (Fax)

NOVA ORV Ranked #5

January 12, 2017

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-9017

Re: Riverside State Park Off – Road Vehicle Area – Grant

Members of the Board:

I am the riding instructor assigned to the Eastern Washington and North Idaho region. I want to express my support for the Riverside State Park Off-Road Vehicle Area (7 Mile ORV Park).

The Park is certified as an ATV, Dirt bike and Side By Side training facility to provide rider training courses. The respective RiderCourse is a program to educate riders the principles and behaviors of safer and more responsible riding. Through the years using the Park as my training facility, I have provided the RiderCourse to hundreds of riders. This could not be done with the excellent facilities provide for by the Park.

I sincerely hope the Board understands the tremendous out reach that the Park has in providing a local riding area for off road enthusiasts in addition to the role of teaching safe riding for all disciplines.

Please provide the grant requested so that the Park can continue to be maintained and improved.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance in your attempt to have the grant awarded.
Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale E. Stevens".

Dale E. Stevens
ATV Riding Instructor



NOVA ORV Ranked #5

OFFICE OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Josh Kerns, 1ST DISTRICT • Shelly O'Quinn, 2ND DISTRICT • Al French, 3RD DISTRICT

January 23, 2017

**Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917**

RE: Project Name: 16-2767 Mnt, Riverside ORV Area Maintenance and Operation

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Spokane County Board of Commissioners are pleased to share our enthusiastic support for this grant application for Riverside State Park Off-Road Vehicle area.

For decades, Spokane County has offered an opportunity for enthusiasts locally and from across the nation to experience the joys of off-roading. Located in the heart of Spokane County, the Riverside State Park Off-Road Vehicle area is exactly the type of attraction that is unique to our region and we are committed to doing our part to keep it operational.

WA State Parks plan to use the funds from this grant to help maintain facilities, protect natural resources, control noxious weeds, complete special maintenance projects and provide customer service to enhance the recreational experience of Riverside State Park's off-road vehicle users. This project would fund one year-round park aide and vehicle, one part-time park aide, ranger supervision, and contracted labor to control noxious weeds.

As the only off-road vehicle park in the Washington State Park System, the Riverside ORV area experiences heavy use by all types of off-road enthusiasts. The Park receives approximately 90,000 visitors per year, which in turn provides a significant positive impact to our local economy.

As a County government, our mission is to make the greater Spokane region a place where people and companies chose to live, work, and play. One way we accomplish that mission is to foster a recreational environment that is attractive to a wide array of interests. The Riverside ORV area is one way we can fulfill that need for a large portion of our constituency. Please help us keep the Riverside ORV area preserved for generations to come.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Al French, Chair

Josh Kerns, Vice Chair

Shelly O'Quinn, Commissioner



Let's Ride

NOVA ORV Ranked #5

January 12, 2017

From: The Board of Directors – Eastern Washington ATV Association

To: Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-9017

Re: Riverside State Park Off – Road Vehicle Area – Grant

The Eastern Washington ATV Association (EWATV) is a nonprofit association formed to promote ATV riding and to provide individuals and families a group setting to ride together.

The EWATV Association would like to express our support for the Riverside State Park Off-Road Vehicle Area (7 Mile ORV Park).

For our member and friends, the Park provides a wonderful riding experience. We believe the “family that rides together stays together”. We hope that agencies such as yours understand the family traditions that are created at riding facilities such as 7 Mile ORV Park.

As an association it is exhilarating for us to see fathers and mothers riding with their children at the Park.

Please provide the grant requested so that the Park can continue to be maintained and improved.

Please note that the Association has adopted the Beginner Riding Area of the Park and we look forward to working with the Park in the continued improvement of that area.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance in your attempt to have the grant awarded.

Eastern Washington ATV Association

Officer and Board of Director
EWATV.org



NOVA ORV Ranked #5

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

January 28, 2017

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Project Name: 16-2767 Mnt, Riverside ORV Area Maintenance and Operation

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Riverside State Park Foundation (Foundation) would like to express its support for the Grant application being submitted by Washington State Parks. The Foundation understands that the ORV area within Riverside State Park would benefit from the grant's proceeds:

WA State Parks will use this grant to help maintain facilities, protect natural resources, control noxious weeds, complete special maintenance projects and provide customer service to enhance the recreational experience of Riverside State Park's off-road vehicle users. This project would fund one year-round park aide and vehicle, one part-time park aide, ranger supervision, and contracted labor to control noxious weeds.

Riverside State Park Off-Road Vehicle area is a 600-acre fenced in area that is open to all types of off-road vehicle use, including snowmobiles. It is located in Spokane County in Eastern Washington. The terrain is diverse and provides opportunities for riders of all skill levels. The area includes double-rail fence around the perimeter, parking and loading ramp, full-service restrooms, picnic tables and shelters, visitor orientation bulletin boards, dedicated training and beginner riding areas, and an administrative compound. It is the only off-road vehicle park in the Washington State Park System and is heavily used by all types of off road enthusiasts, receiving approximately 90,000 visitors per year.

This grant would provide the staff, transportation and contracted services that are needed year-round to conduct routine maintenance activities such as cleaning restrooms, restocking educational materials

and day pass envelopes, controlling noxious weeds, maintaining fencing and signage, picking up garbage and litter, mowing, plowing snow, and maintaining equipment and facilities. In addition, it would provide staff to complete special maintenance projects. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable off-road vehicle use throughout the ORV Park.

The Foundation has provided support for the ORV area through prior grant applications, volunteer labor assisting with organized events and providing in-kind labor, equipment and materials for maintenance and adding ORV features.

The Foundation thanks the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board for considering the Park's application and requests that the grant be awarded to Washington State Parks for the purposes noted above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Brixey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mike" and the last name "Brixey" clearly legible.

Mike Brixey, President

Riverside State Park Foundation



Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

PO Box 40917

NOVA ORV Ranked #5

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Project Name: 16-2767 Mnt, Riverside ORV Area Maintenance and Operation

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Motorcycle Safety Foundations MSF Dirt Bike Schools,

Fully supports the excellent safety and recreational ongoing ORV operations at Riverside State Park.

The need for ORV Education and Enforcement as well as noxious weed control is very important, especially since tens of thousands of ORV users who utilize the Riverside ORV area, will also travel to other outlying areas to recreate and possibly carry noxious weeds to those areas. Enhanced efforts to educate ORV user's en mass at the Riverside ORV area would help to reduce significant impacts thorough out the Pacific Northwest.

The Riverside State Park ORV area has been in use for decades and like any facility with almost 100,000 annual ORV users will need routine maintenance for safety and overall marketability to the ORV community as a viable place to recreate. This is a very important ORV facility in that it serves both the Spokane metro region and the North Idaho ORV regions, and is typically the first place riders and users from those metropolitan areas; go to use their ORV's due to its close proximity.

We would much rather have riders using this facility than causing other undesirable ORV related issues by riding illegally throughout these metropolitan regions in unauthorized areas.

WA State Parks will use this grant to help maintain facilities, protect natural resources, control noxious weeds, complete special maintenance projects and provide customer service to enhance the recreational experience of Riverside State Park's off-road vehicle users. This project would fund one year-round park aide and vehicle, one part-time park aide, ranger supervision, and contracted labor to control noxious weeds.

Riverside State Park Off-Road Vehicle area is a 600-acre fenced in area that is open to all types of off-road vehicle use, including snowmobiles. It is located in Spokane County in Eastern Washington. The terrain is diverse and provides opportunities for riders of all skill levels. The area includes double-rail fence around the perimeter, parking and loading ramp, 2 sets of full-service restrooms, picnic tables and multiple shelters, visitor orientation bulletin boards, including a dedicated ORV safety training area used by Nationally Certified Instructors for Motorcycles, ATV's and UTV's to provide ORV safety training for the public, as well as Military and U. S. Border Patrol ORV training. It also provides a special separate large fenced off "beginner" riding area, for new rider safety, as well as an administrative compound. It is the only off-road vehicle park in the Washington State Park System and is heavily used by all types of off road enthusiasts including 4 x4's, receiving approximately 90,000 visitors per year.

This grant would provide the staff, transportation and contracted services that are needed year-round to conduct routine maintenance activities such as cleaning restrooms, restocking educational materials and day pass envelopes, controlling noxious weeds, maintaining fencing and signage, picking up garbage and litter, mowing, plowing snow, and maintaining equipment and facilities.

In addition, it would provide staff to complete special maintenance projects. This would also provide the ranger more time to focus on enforcement and education efforts, respond to emergencies, and assist ORV users. The primary recreational opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable off-road vehicle use throughout the ORV Park.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Dirt Bike Schools, supports and recommends fully funding this ORV grant Project #16-2767 Mnt, Riverside ORV Area Maintenance and Operations.

Sincerely,

Stephen P. May



PACIFIC NORTHWEST 4-WHEEL-DRIVE ASSOCIATION
OREGON—WASHINGTON—IDAHO

January 19, 2017

NOVA ORV Ranked #5

Washington State Recreation & Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Members of the Recreation & Conservation Funding Board,

This is a letter of support for proposed project #16-2767 which is for maintenance & operations of Riverside State Park Off-road Vehicle area. This park in Spokane County is in Eastern Washington and is the only State Park that has an ORV Recreation area.

This park is used by all types of off-road users and has about 90,000 visitors a year. It is an important part of the park system as it gives people a place to recreate legally with their off highway vehicles reducing resource damage elsewhere.

Thank you for considering this proposed grant as it will provide year-round maintenance & operational activities and a safe environment for the users.

Earl P. Nettnin, Region 4 Director
Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association
519 N. Fisher Place
Kennewick, WA 99336-2701
esnettnin@aol.com

From: Gricar, Lara (PARKS)
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 3:57 PM
To: Gricar, Lara (PARKS)
Subject: FW: ORV Area Letter of Support

Letter of support

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board.

I am writing this letter with full support of our club to support the grant project named 16-2767

Mnt. Riverside ORV Area Maintenance and Operation.

I have a very large group in this community that is willing to give hours back to the ORV park in time and labor to make this a better experience and a safer one with the proposed improvements.

Thank you for taking time to look this over. We really appreciate it.

Jeff Williams, President Spokane 4 Wheeler's, Region 7 V.P. Of Pacific Northwest Four wheel Drive Association

October 6, 2014

NOVA ORV Ranked #6

To the NOVA Grant Committee,

Thank you once again for allowing us to write letters of support for the ORV world of Grant County Washington for all related venues of ORVing.

We have enjoyed the ORV Parks for many years, adding our children and now our children are adding their children. We want this tradition to continue not only for our family but for other families for many years to come. It is such a joy and irritation to watch young people that are learning how to ride and grow as they learn using ORV related recreational machines from ATVs, Side by Sides, Motorcycles and 4x4s.

Users from all over Washington, Idaho, Oregon and many other states travel to Moses Lake Dunes and other ORV Parks to enjoy all forms of Off Road Vehicles. This tourism is an important part of the economic value to local Cities and Towns.

Safety is the number one concern to us and many others. Without funding, the presence of Law Enforcement will not be there to help educate users and be available when needed.

We very much appreciate the funding sent to Grant County. Officer Voss and his colleagues have done an outstanding job of making their presence known in the ORV Parks. They provide excellent communications with the users of the ORV areas as in educating, just stopping to chat, dealing with special events, seeing them drive by on the main roads or out in the park.

As a member of two clubs, being the WENATCHEE VALLEY RIDGE RUNNERS ATV CLUB and THE WENATCHEE MOUNTAIN MASTERS 4X4 CLUB. We have gone to the Moses Lake Dunes and the Beverly Dunes, not only to play but to also have a "CLEAN UP DAY" along with other clubs that do the same. As friends getting together for the weekend, we have done some clean-up work also.

These two clubs and I am pretty sure I can say we STRONGLY support the Grant County ORV Program. We hope the funding can and will continue for many years to come.

Sincerely,



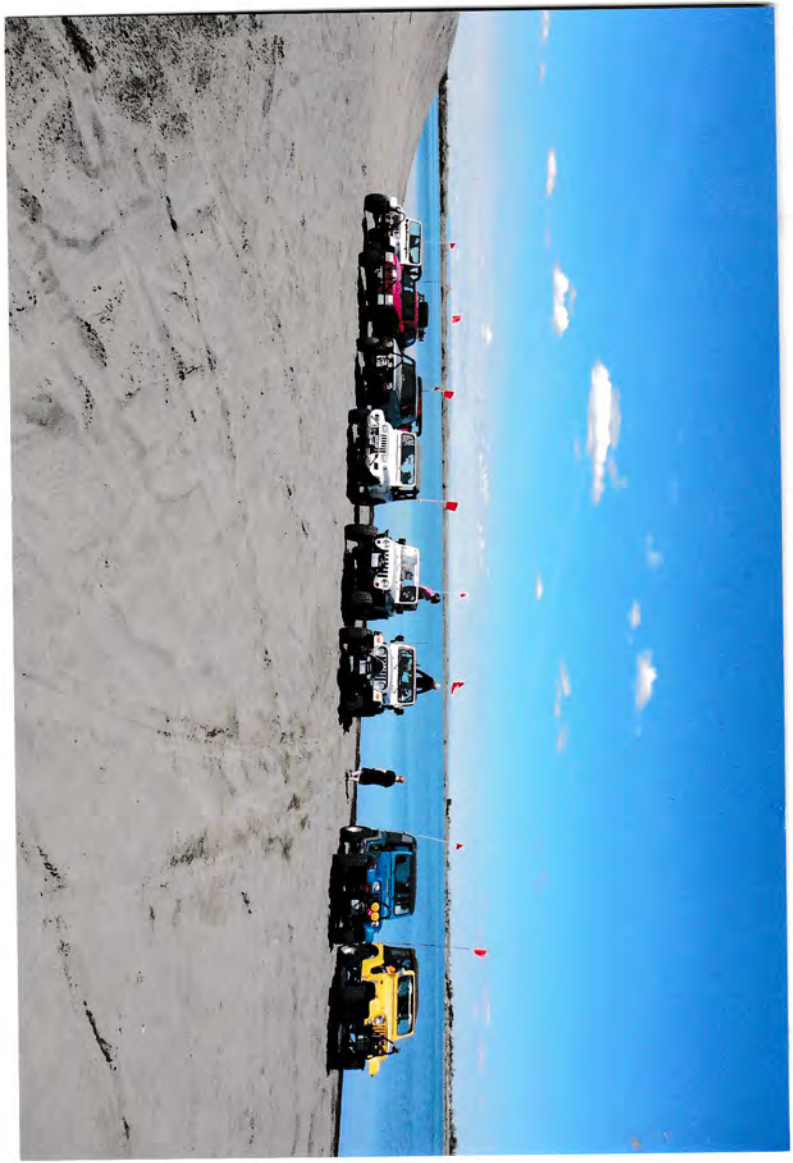
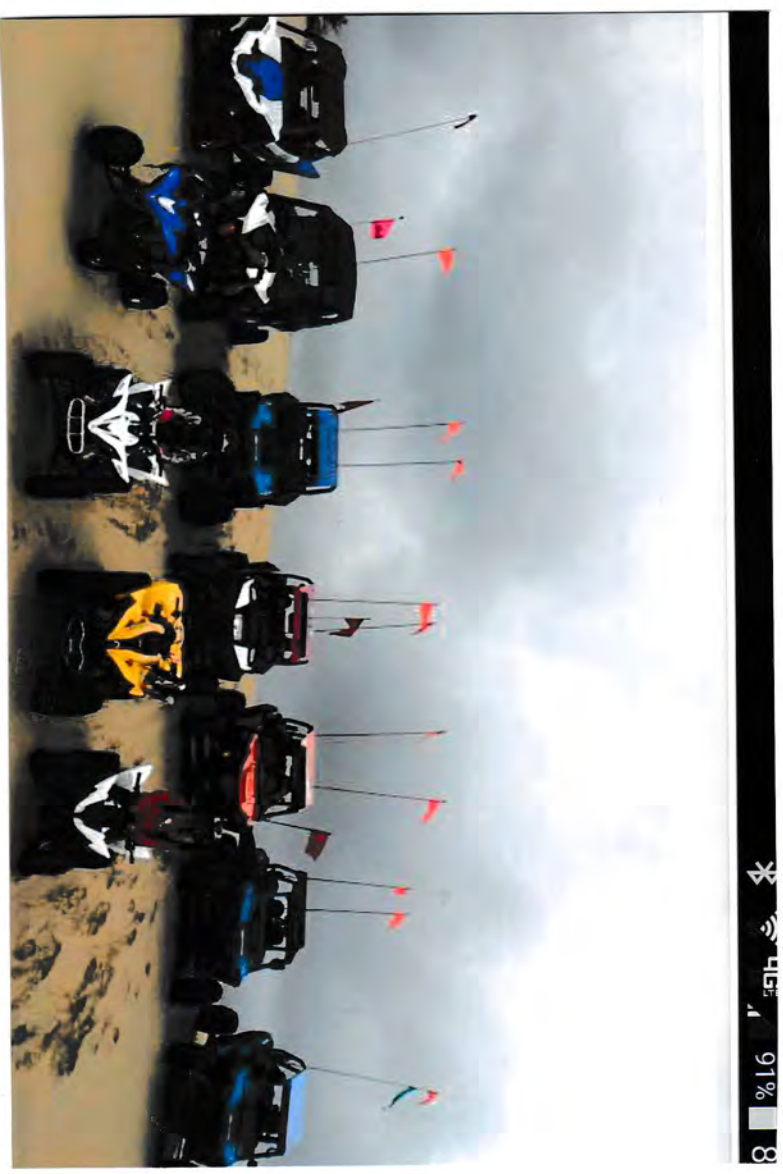
Donna Germain, Secretary of WVRRTV CLUB

Member of the Wenatchee Mountain Masters

Wenatchee Valley Ridge Runners ATV Club



Facebook - Wenatchee Valley Ridge Runners ATV Club



Ron Rutherford
11705 Zier Road
Yakima, WA 98908
jeepingnomad@gmail.com

NOVA ORV Ranked #9

October 26, 2016

Naches Ranger District, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest
Bill Zimmer, Resource Assistant
10237 Highway 12
Naches, WA 98937

Advisory Board:

I am writing to support the Naches Ranger District's request for grant funding of Off Highway Vehicle Rangers and Motorized Trail Maintenance and Operation.

I am a volunteer for the Naches Ranger District and donate countless hours each year providing trail maintenance and assist on other related projects that maintain a sustainable forest for all recreational users. The decline of federal dollars to maintain and support Forest Service Ranger Districts has created an increase in trail damage and an increase in illegal motorized use.

By awarding this grant to the Naches Ranger District, you will assist in bringing our forested area back to an acceptable level of legal motorized use.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ron Rutherford

Ron Rutherford
11705 Zier Road
Yakima, WA 98908
jeepingnomad@gmail.com



NOVA ORV Ranked #9

October 26, 2016

Naches Ranger District, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest
Bill Zimmer, Resource Assistant
10237 Highway 12
Naches, WA 98937

Advisory Board:

I am writing to support the Naches Ranger District's request for grant funding of Off Highway Vehicle Rangers and Motorized Trail Maintenance and Operation.

I am a volunteer for the Naches Ranger District and donate countless hours each year providing trail maintenance and assist on other related projects that maintain a sustainable forest for all recreational users. The decline of federal dollars to maintain and support Forest Service Ranger Districts has created an increase in trail damage and an increase in illegal motorized use.

By awarding this grant to the Naches Ranger District, you will assist in bringing our forested area back to an acceptable level of legal motorized use.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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

Ron Rutherford



PACIFIC NORTHWEST 4-WHEEL-DRIVE ASSOCIATION OREGON—WASHINGTON—IDAHO

October 18, 2016

NOVA ORV Ranked #9

Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance

To: The NOVA Advisory Board

This is a letter of support for the Naches Ranger Districts grant application for the districts Motorized Trail Maintenance. This grant will help maintain the trail systems for the safety of recreational users and keep resource damage to a minimum.

We are a motorized 4 X 4 organization The Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association, and have donated many hours of volunteer labor to help with the maintenance of the trail system that we use and enjoy. We need to keep this area open for recreational use.

I represent Region 4 of the Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association. We have 17 clubs with 500 plus members.

Thank you for considering the Motorized Maintenance grant application for the Naches Ranger District.

Sincerely,

Earl P. Nettnin

Earl P. Nettnin, Region 4 Director
Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association
519 North Fisher Place
Kennewick, WA 99336-2701
esnettnin@aol.com



Dear Committee Members:

This letter is in support of the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District Grant request for maintenance funding. The trails in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest administered by Cowlitz Valley Ranger District are a very unique riding experience. Starting with low elevation trails, and trailheads climbing up to the western Cascade ridge tops, providing spectacular views of the surrounding volcanos, Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Adams, Goat rocks, and Mt. Rainier. These trails get a lot of motorized visits along with many others user types, hiker, horse and mountain biking. These trails go through several types of forest from young reproduction plantations, old growth trees, hardwoods, brush, and high alpine meadows.

The maintenance needs for these trails, ranges from heavy large log out, bees nest tree falls of young crowded stands in the spring, rebuilding of snow and ice ravaged trail beds, and damaged trail beds from heavy winter, spring, and summer rains. Trail damage mostly comes from the forces of nature but trail wear from users promote channeling of water down the trails. With many of the trails climbing alongside hill trail beds there is a lot of needed maintenance to prevent excessive erosion.

Cowlitz Valley Ranger District has a very hard working and outstanding trail crew with years of experience in tree felling, dangerous downed logs removal, and re-construction and repair of trail beds. This experience allows them to complete a tremendous amount of work per man hour. Their experience means they know all the trails well, and the need each trail type and section may need each season. The amount of work they complete per dollar granted has to be one of the most efficient in the state.

Along with their great work Cowlitz Valley Ranger District has a lot of volunteers who help keep trails up to adequate standards. It is an ongoing and never ending battle and there is never enough trail crew and volunteer man hours to get out ahead of all the needs these fantastic and very unique trails provide.

Please continue to grade Cowlitz Valley Ranger districts grant application with high marks. A great need, matched with volunteer support, and an outstandingly efficient Trail Crew.

Sincerely;

Dale Cooper 
Southwest Washington Off Road Riders Association
C/O 838 Skyline View Dr.
Longview, WA 98632
360 751 7600
dale@cooperoil.com

**PARTNERING WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDOWNERS TO
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www.evergreenMTB.org
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NOVA ORV Ranked #15

December 22, 2016

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Subject: Tahuya 4x4 Trail Maintenance and Operations - 16-2472

Dear Review Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen) would like to express our support for the Department of Natural Resources RCO Grant 16-2472. This project provides funding for positions and material to perform routine trail and facility maintenance and repairs on the Tahuya State Forest.

Trail maintenance activities will include trail brushing and surfacing, inspecting and maintaining bridges, maintaining culverts, drain-dips, and ditch-outs, and trail hardening by adding rock to prevent erosion and sediment delivery into streams.

As a mountain bike organization, 4x4 trails are not our direct area of interest. However, we recognize that there are limited motorized trails in this area, yet a significant demand for motorized off-road recreation.

This project would help meet the needs of a user group and thereby reduce pressure for of motorized use in areas where they are not allowed as well as eliminating building of informal trails at Tahuya as the existing trails will offer a more rewarding user experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Kilpatrick".

Brian Kilpatrick
President
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
West Sound Chapter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus".

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



Wenatchee Valley Chapter Backcountry Horsemen
Of Washington
1828 Methow St, Wenatchee, WA 98801

To: Grant Committee

October 24, 2016

From: WVBCHW Membership


Subject: #16-2228 Central Zone Backcountry E&E, #16-2223 Entiat & Chelan Multiple Use Trail M&O 2018—2019, 16-2592 Anthem Creek and Myrtle Lake Bridges,

We the members of WVBCH, many of whom are avid users of various trail systems and facilities throughout the region, support the Forest Service in many ways. It is our common goal to maintain and preserve these forest assets in both active maintenance and in the education of public, in the appropriate use of these facilities, for both the present and the future generations.

Please use this organizations support in consideration of this grant.

Thank you,


Ken Bailey Director
WVBCHW


John Danielson, President
WVBCHW

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017
Title: Updates on Trails Database
Prepared By: Scott Robinson, Deputy Director

Summary

This memo provides an update on recent efforts to digitize statewide trails and make the information available to partners and the public.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☐ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☒ Briefing

Background

In 2006, the Legislature put forth a project that would aggregate trails data in Washington State. An aggregated trails database would allow citizens to view trails and trailhead features for all federal, state and local trails, as well as provide other landscape and policy benefits. However, the project was suspended due to the initial cost estimates of \$1.7 to \$2.3 million.

In addition to the high cost, a decentralized oversight environment created major challenges for enterprise-level trails data projects. In Washington State, no one entity is wholly responsible for managing trails data. Acquiring the data necessary for an aggregated database meant reaching out to many organizations that have no direct requirement to provide data to any one central authority.

In 2013, using a group of volunteers and leveraging cloud-based collaborative tools, the state's Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) began an effort to construct a Washington State Trails Database. Several months into the project, the OCIO was awarded NOVA grant funding (approximately \$230,000) from the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to expand, accelerate and standardize the collection effort. Thus taking essentially what was a pilot effort using volunteers into full development.

The OCIO delivered the first draft of the Washington State Trails Database in 2015. The database represents close to 12,000 miles of trails following the federal data specification. The OCIO also delivered the first prototype for collecting trailhead information that is essential for outdoor enthusiasts, e.g., parking, associated facilities, and pet-friendliness, etc.

Current Activities

The OCIO's work on the Washington State Trails Database continues and it is anticipated that the grant funding will be expended by fall of 2017. In late 2016, RCO hired McQueen Enterprise Analytics to coordinate with OCIO on the database work, meet with interested partners, and develop a strategic

business plan for the future use of the data. Scot McQueen of McQueen Enterprise Analytics will brief the board on his efforts, findings and next steps at the May 2017 meeting.

Attachments

- A. Washington State Trails Data Strategic Plan

Washington State Trails Data Strategic Plan

for

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office

March 17, 2017

McQueen Enterprise Analytics, LLC

Scot McQueen
405 76th Way NE
Olympia, WA 98506

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- Appendix A. GIS Workshop Agenda
- Appendix B. GIS Workshop Attendance Record
- Appendix C. GIS Data Layers
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INTRODUCTION

Overview

The Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is responsible for managing grant programs to create outdoor recreation opportunities within the state of Washington. Many of these outdoor recreation opportunities rely on access to trails and the facilities (bridges, restrooms, etc.) associated with them. Since the agency began in 1964, RCO has allocated almost a half a billion dollars to the creation, maintenance, and education associated with the over 12,000 miles of trails that exist in Washington State. RCO has not done this work alone and relies heavily on the other state land management agencies of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), State Parks, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to collaborate with them in the State's trails mission. RCO also collaborates with the United States Forest Service, the National Park Service, cities, counties, and other nonprofit groups to further the development of Washington's trails. But where are these trails? How heavily are they used? What impacts do they have on local economies? How can we do a better job of planning new trails, maintaining degraded trails, and refocusing the public on little known trails while some trails are heavily used? How do we best spend our limited grant funds allocated to trails? To answer those questions more reliable trail data is needed. Most agencies associated with trails have gathered trail information in a variety of formats according to their own processes and needs. There have been few attempts at compiling information at a statewide level in a way that benefits the active trail users, the public, and the agencies responsible for answering the above questions. Simply put, reliable and pertinent information that can be used to better answer these important questions is hard to come by.

RCO is mandated under the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 79A.25.005 to help other public agencies “preserve, conserve, and enhance recreational resources”. In particular, the “mission of the recreation and conservation funding board and its office is to (a) create and work actively for the implementation of a unified statewide strategy for meeting the recreational needs of Washington's citizens, (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, (d) administer recreational grant-in-aid programs and provide technical assistance, and (e) serve as a repository for information, studies, research, and other data relating to recreation” (emphasis added).

Furthermore, RCO's powers and responsibilities, as laid out in RCW 79A.25.020, are to “prepare and update a strategic plan for the acquisition, renovation, and development of recreational resources and the preservation and conservation of open space. ... The plan shall include, but is not limited to: (a) an inventory of current resources; (b) a forecast of recreational resource demand; (c) identification and analysis of actual and potential funding sources; (d) a process for broad scale information gathering; (e) an assessment of the capabilities and constraints, both internal and external to state government, that affect the ability of the state to achieve the goals of the plan; (f) an analysis of strategic options and decisions available to the state...”

Obviously, these are tall orders if the datasets required to create the plan and analyze the options are not readily available. So, this same RCW mandates that RCO shall “create and maintain a

repository for data, studies, research, and other information relating to recreation and conservation resources in the state, and to encourage the interchange of such information.”

The RCW 79A.25.170 further challenges RCO with the creation of a “(p)ublic parks and recreation sites guide.” The RCO director is “authorized to coordinate the preparation of a comprehensive guide of public parks and recreation sites in the state of Washington. Such guide may include one or more maps showing the locations of such public parks and recreation areas, and may also include information as to the facilities and recreation opportunities available. All state agencies providing public recreational facilities shall participate.”

The purpose of the above discussion of the RCW is to provide context for this current effort to develop a plan for the compilation of these recreation datasets.

Current Status

RCO recently provided funding to Washington State’s Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) to aggregate existing trail data and to create a statewide GIS trail dataset. The OCIO acquired data from a variety of sources (state, federal, and other public agencies) and, through the labor of university interns, compiled it into one dataset making it freely available on the OCIO website for download. This effort focused entirely on the data and its compilation as the deliverable. It was an important accomplishment that allowed RCO and OCIO to understand the magnitude and limitations of existing trail information. While this was an important step forward, the data compiled is an incomplete snapshot in time with enough inconsistencies to leave its applicability questionable. The data also has no clear plan for quality improvements, maintenance, or feedback loops to and from the original sources. In fact, through the workshops undertaken in this planning effort and discussed in this document, it was discovered that none of the source agencies had downloaded or used the aggregated data in any way. This fact highlighted the importance of creating a plan and a community around the trail data to help maintain it and build its value for all concerned.

RCO understood that to meet its own mandates and the needs of its partnering agencies, a plan would need to be developed that involved all those associated with the trail data. The plan should include:

- Measurable goals or benchmarks
- Potential funding options
- Potential outreach activities to involve the public, NGO’s, and other governmental entities
- Marketing and outreach activities to increase engagement around documenting/mapping Washington’s trails
- An Implementation Approach that includes a timeline and technology/data maintenance procedures
- Potential methods for integrating the trails database into current RCO grant programs and grant funded projects.

The following document represents the findings and recommendations that will provide the foundation for the required plan. The plan will be completed once the information contained in this document has been reviewed and vetted with the trail data partners.

KEY FINDINGS

A study was undertaken to answer the above questions and to better understand how trail data is being gathered, used, and disseminated. This study involved hosting a series of workshops and phone interviews with a variety of stakeholders involved with trail data. The purpose was to create a solid understanding of current data maintenance processes, how the data was being used, resource gaps, and potential areas of collaboration. The findings from the workshops and interviews have been summarized below. (Detailed notes from these interactions can be found in the appendixes.)

RCO Internal Workshop Findings

A workshop was held with only RCO staff who are responsible for recreation planning, trail funding, and trail project compliance to understand trail informational needs that exist internal to RCO. The focus of the workshop was to better understand how they were currently meeting the needs, the applicability of the existing trail dataset, and gather ideas for what could be done to bridge the potential gap.

- 1) **Completeness** – The data gathered to date is a good start but everyone acknowledged it is incomplete and is only a partial representation of all the trails in Washington State. RCO staff also pointed out that the need for good, complete information did not stop with trails but extended to other recreational facilities (bridges, restrooms, boat launches, sports fields, trailheads, etc.) information. The current aggregated trail data was not being used within RCO to contribute to the state recreation or trails plans.
- 2) **Relevance** – Even if the dataset was geographically complete, it still would not answer the core questions of where funding should be allocated for trail development and maintenance, if the work currently being funded has been completed, and what the outcomes and benefits are. Both the NOVA and RTP advisory committees have requested that RCO provide maps that illustrate where project work is occurring. This is not possible using the existing data as there is no connection to the PRISM database. Because of this, the value to RCO, the recreation community at large, and those agencies responsible for trails is negligible.
- 3) **Connection to PRISM** – There is only a tentative connection to trail project work information within the PRISM dataset. Maintenance work, new trail sections, bridges, etc. are not connected to the trails database. The connection to the PRISM database is critical to help track grant compliance, undertake funding analysis, and to better forecast need.
- 4) **Understanding Use** – Trail use is poorly understood which creates a hurdle when choosing which projects to fund, developing recreation plans, or adjusting policy. Usage information could also contribute to understanding the impacts of recreation on local economies. More information is needed to do a better job.

- 5) **Planning** – One of the core needs that underlie the above deficiencies is the inability to proactively plan where recreation grant dollars should be spent on the State's trail system. There is an inability to see gaps in a statewide trail system so partners can see how to connect trails to one another and the RCFB can prioritize projects that meet statewide needs.

State Agency Data Partner Workshop Findings

A workshop was undertaken that included the State's land management agencies and those staff directly responsible for trail creation, maintenance, and planning. The Department of Natural Resources, State Parks, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife participated. The focus of the workshop was to better understand how these agencies were gathering, maintaining, and using trail data and to understand how to better partner with them around recreational data.

- 1) **Standards and Best Practices** – Each agency expressed a desire for a more standardized way to gather and maintain their trail information which still recognizes and supports the unique business requirements of each agency. The variety of approaches and processes for gathering data creates problems when the data compilation begins. A significant amount of time is spent just trying to compile the data.
- 2) **Completeness** – The data gathered to date is a good start but, as with RCO staff, everyone acknowledged it is incomplete and is only a partial representation of existing trails within Washington State. In general, all agreed the existing aggregated dataset was of little use to their agencies.
- 3) **Understanding Use** – Trail use is poorly understood with little agency data available which creates a hurdle when submitting budget requests, developing recreation plans, applying for grants, or adjusting policy. More information is needed to do a better job. Access to trail use data presents a very high value to the land management agencies.
- 4) **Insufficient Resources Available** – Each agency expressed a need for resources to collect, process, and maintain trail data. Examples included gathering data on existing trails, compiling existing GPS data that is backlogged, correcting out of date or incorrect information, and updating existing trail data with improved information on facilities, bridges, and other infrastructure.
- 5) **Common Platform for Trail Information** – All agencies looked to RCO to work with the agencies in developing relevant best practices and standards recommendations to aid in their ability to provide accurate trail information. To facilitate the implementation of those standards, a common tool to provide usage statistics and data aggregation was discussed. This platform would allow partnering agencies to log in, upload or edit their data, and download the dataset in a way that connected to their own data models for use. Providing usage statistics coupled with the data aggregation platform created a win-win scenario to help ensure a better dataset. Access to even limited trail usage statistics provided an incentive for participation in the common platform.

Non-State Trail Data Partner Interview Findings

Phone interviews and individual meetings were also undertaken with other potential trail data and use stakeholders external to Washington State government. These interviews included the other groups and partners also sharing responsibility for trail creation, maintenance, and planning. The United States Forest Service, Spokane County Parks Department, and the Washington Trail Association participated. The focus of the workshop was to better understand how these partners were gathering, maintaining, and using trail data and to understand how to better partner with them around recreational data.

- 1) **Active Engagement** – All interviewees expressed the desire to have a more active engagement from RCO when it came to sharing trail data and creating a community around it. Some of the ideas shared included creating a forum or trail data partner group that interacted regularly to discuss any challenges that they might be facing. The interviewees saw this “collaborative outreach” as critical in any efforts to gather a statewide dataset.
- 2) **Standards, Best Practices, and/or General Technology Support** – The variety of approaches, technologies, and processes for gathering data creates problems when any sort of data compilation begins. A basic recommended workflow and data model would help immensely. This was less of a need for the USFS as a data model and standard already exists. However, a workflow that helped each organization understand how to update the data for RCO would be useful and welcomed. *This included technology recommendations and guidance for organizations and partners without IT capabilities.*
- 3) **Existing data of low value** – None of the phone interviewees had downloaded or interacted with the existing trail dataset. As with other trail data partners interviewed, all agreed the existing aggregated dataset was of little use to their organizations without the community behind it engaged.
- 4) **Understanding Use** – As with the state land management agencies above, all interviewed reiterated trail use is poorly understood which creates a hurdle when submitting budget requests, developing recreation plans, applying for grants, or adjusting policy. Access to trail use data also presented a high value to the interviewees.
- 5) **Common Platform for Trail Information** – As with the state agencies above, all interviewees looked to RCO to create and lead a trail data “community of interest” in developing relevant best practices and standards recommendations to aid in their ability to provide accurate and consistent trail information. To facilitate the implementation of those standards, a common tool to provide usage statistics and data aggregation was discussed. Providing the usage statistics coupled with the data aggregation created a win-win scenario to help ensure a better dataset. Those interviewed also agreed that access to even limited trail usage statistics provided an incentive for participation in the common platform.

Findings Summary

The main overlapping needs from the above workshops are summarized below into more succinct points. These summarized needs were common to all the participants so are of the highest value to address. Unique findings not common to all are followed by the responsible organization(s) in parentheses.

1. Existing trails dataset incomplete and of low value

- Not linked to PRISM (RCO)
- Data model does not provide ability for Agencies or others to add their information
- Only partial representation of trails in Washington
- Attributes missing (trail type, surface, maintenance, ADA, width, etc.)
- *ALL recreational facility information needs to be included (RCO)*

2. Standards, Best Practices, and/or Tech Support

- A more standardized way to gather/maintain trail information which is open to unique business requirements (RCO, Agencies, County, WTA)
- A basic Data workflow and open data model that allowed participants to connect to their own extraneous data would help immensely (Agencies, County, WTA)
- Technology recommendations and guidance for organizations/partners without IT capabilities (WTA, County)
- General GIS Support is needed to help compile existing data (Agencies, WTA, County)

3. Insufficient Resources available for trail data

- Funding options to develop or maintain trail information unavailable or poorly understood (Agencies, County, WTA, USFS)
- Resources needed to collect, process, and maintain trail data (Agencies)
- Help with backlogged trail data that had been gathered but not GIS processed (Agencies, WTA, County)

4. Tools for Understanding Trail Usage

- Trail use is poorly understood making it difficult for planning, maintenance, adjusting policy, patrolling, funding, designing, etc. (ALL PARTICIPANTS)
- Need help understanding compliance issues, “social trails”, etc.
- Need help demonstrating trail use to lawmakers, local governments
- Need help demonstrating impact on local economies
- Access to even limited trail usage information would provide sufficient incentive for participants to further participate

5. Common Platform for Trail Information

- Need a trail data “community of interest” to develop understanding to aid in the ability to provide accurate trail information (ALL PARTICIPANTS)
- Common “tool” to provide usage statistics, data editing, and data aggregation (ALL PARTICIPANTS)
- Providing usage statistics coupled with data aggregation created win-win scenario. Access to even limited trail usage information provided sufficient incentive to participate further in the trail data community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The below recommendations were developed to address the workshop findings from above. In general, the recommendations attempt to approach the need for better trail information with a balance of coordination, technology, and resources. (See Figure 1) The recommendations will address these three areas to provide an integrated approach to developing trail data that has value for all participants.



(Figure 1)

Coordination and Process

The ongoing maintenance and relevance of any aggregated dataset requires close coordination with all the data stewards responsible for the creation and upkeep of their respective data. Partner engagement is one of the critical aspects needed to ensure high quality data into the future. Effective engagement with the data partners will require a focused plan and outreach activities to develop a functioning collaborative environment. The work processes for data design, maintenance, and sharing will need to be developed together to ensure all stakeholders are on board. Memorandums of Understandings (MOUs) between RCO and the data partners will then be developed that document the agreed upon activities, processes, and products as defined through the coordination activities. *Given the level of work required to coordinate these activities, it is recommended that RCO consider*

assigning, contracting, or hiring a Recreation Data Coordinator. The below components represent the cornerstones required for a productive data partnership.

Recreational Data Advisory Group

One of the key findings from the workshops was that the current dataset was aggregated into a data model that makes it difficult for any of the partnering agencies to extract it and connect their own data to it. The partners were not included in the data model design, development of maintenance protocols, or sharing requirements. A Recreational Data Advisory Group should be created that gathers input from the key data partners to ensure the relevance of the data aggregated. Membership should be extended beyond just the state land management agencies of Department of Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and State Parks to groups that have a stake in recreation data. These groups could include select cities and counties and data user groups. RCO would be responsible for coordinating the Advisory Group meetings, agendas, and documenting the outcomes. The mission of the Advisory Group would be to provide oversight and steering for the data aggregation activities. These would include agreements on roles and responsibilities for how the data should be maintained.

Common Platform User Group

Part of the recommended activities in this document would be the development of a technology platform that would allow all participants to log in to, upload their information, download data, and have access to trail usage analytics. This sort of platform requires a delicate balance between making sure the aggregated data is secure and accurate without creating too much of a burden on those who would use the system. A user group consisting of those who would be required to use the system should be engaged to develop the requirements for the system so that their input is gathered and considered. Again, RCO would be responsible for coordinating the group meetings, agendas, and documenting the requirements gathered through the workshops. The mission of the Common Platform User Group would be to develop the requirements for the technology platform. This group would be more technical in nature and include the actual data stewards from the participating agencies. Once the platform was implemented, the need for the user group would diminish.

Trail User Group Outreach

Currently, RCO is tasked with outreach to a variety of trail user groups to ensure they are true to their mission of funding appropriate recreational opportunities. It is recommended that the current outreach activities be extended to getting input for how recreational data could be made more useful to those using the trails or recreational facilities. Trail user groups could also provide valuable data on trail conditions and project compliance for RCO. The Washington Trails Association actively maintains trails across Washington State and has their own trailhead website, trip reports, and mobile application. They are interested in collaborating deeper with RCO and are currently working with a GIS consultant to deepen their mapping expertise. Also, the Washington State Trails Coalition biannual conference could be leveraged to include specific sessions hosted by RCO to gather this input and create further support for data development and sharing activities.

Trail Usage Information Partners

There are a variety of 3rd partner vendors that gather and provide trail usage information. This data is typically gathered using mobile applications or GPS devices that track the movements of the

individuals, motorized vehicles, or horses. These organizations include Strava, MapMyFitness, Garmin, Fitbit, Bivy, REI, etc. Some vendors such as Trailhead Labs, include trail usage statistics from Strava in their proprietary trail data aggregation platform. Trail usage information is one of the critical success criteria in providing value back to the trail data partners. Initial contact with Strava and Trailhead Labs occurred to gather information for this paper but more work is needed here. *Note: The current State Trails Plan specifically placed a priority on finding a way to standardize and collect trail use data.*

Technology Ecosystem and Tools

A complete technology ecosystem with appropriate data tools will be required to make sure that the recreation data is aggregated and maintained regularly. The current trail dataset is isolated as a geographic database without the data owners being able to add, delete, or modify the information. There are also limited ways to create products from the dataset without extracting the data into a separate GIS software platform that requires specialized skills. Technology ecosystems represent complete platforms with defined core components complemented by applications developed by 3rd parties. Technology ecosystems are typically built, bought or hybrid in nature. The ability for data stewards to have access to data maintenance tools, trail usage statistics, multiple outputs from the system, and the ability for 3rd party application developers to connect and use the data are all critical success factors for the technology ecosystem.

Common Data Platform

Currently the aggregated trail dataset exists on State Office of the CIO data servers and is available for download or to be viewed through a web map service. As stated elsewhere, having the data available in one place is an important first step but created a dataset that is incomplete and essentially a snapshot in time. A common data platform should be provided that allows data partners to upload, edit, and maintain their respective pieces of the aggregated data. Essentially, the platform would provide a content management system (CMS) that would allow users with a secure login to manage, create, and publish trail data. Users would have the ability to upload their own data or create, edit, and maintain the data through the system tools. These tools would ensure that the trail data is maintained and kept up to date through a common workflow. Users would also be able to download geographically limited areas and connect their own relevant data through a common data model. Ideally, the platform would provide publishing tools that would allow the creation of custom mapping files or online maps. A data model that included all recreation data and allowed the data partners to connect their agency specific data to it would need to be cooperatively developed. The focus of these recommendations is on trail data but RCO has a mandate through the RCW to aggregate a variety of recreation and land data. This common data platform should be extended to include the other recreation datasets. RCO's PRISM database should be connected to this platform to allow access to the important trail project information that PRISM contains. Users could also use the common platform to update trail project data in PRISM. This is a critical link that would provide high value to RCO's planning and funding activities.

Trail Usage Analytics

Understanding trail usage is one of the main priorities in the existing State Trails Plan. Further, trail usage statistics represented one of the biggest information gaps amongst those interviewed through to create this document. This information has high value for understanding how trails are being

used, maintenance requirements, volume trending, planning, and funding requests. Traditionally, trail usage is gathered through a variety of labor intensive and expensive techniques such as installing on-trail mechanical counters, trail surveys, etc. Newer technology has created usage data that could be leveraged more efficiently than older usage data gathering methods. One of the examples used to illustrate trail usage information during this study was from the mobile fitness application Strava. The application maps the movements of its users and couples it with dates, times, and other demographic data. While the users of the app are primarily runners, bike riders, and hikers, usage can be statistically extrapolated to illustrate overall trail use. Heat maps can be generated to show used paths vs what has been mapped. (<http://labs.strava.com/heatmap/#15/-122.89556/47.07214/orange/run>) Other sources of this “crowd sourced” data exist that could be leveraged for more accurate information for other trail use. Tools that allowed the data partners to have access to this information should be included in the technology platform.

Multiple Outputs

The system must have the ability to create multiple outputs. Outputs include pdf maps, raw data file formats (shp, kml, etc.), map services for consumption in mapping websites, and a direct connection to the data through an open API for developers or other sophisticated data consumers who want to connect directly to the data. Direct data outputs should have the ability to field map the data tables to match the partnering agencies’ data models.

3rd Party App Developer Engagement

To ensure the aggregated trail data remains relevant, it is important that 3rd party app developers are linking to the data and have an avenue for feedback. The technology ecosystem would provide open APIs (application program interface) for 3rd party application development. This would allow other organizations to connect and publish the data in their own applications.

Resources and Support

Most of the organizations interviewed through this project had limited abilities to keep their trail data up to date. These limits consisted of a lack of funding, technical expertise, or general knowledge on how trail data should be gathered and maintained.

Funding Mechanisms

Providing funding mechanisms that data partners could leverage to assist the maintenance and development of trail data would encourage greater collaboration and ensure quality data is developed. RCO manages a variety of grant funding sources that could be leveraged to provide data update project funds. RCO could require that funded projects submit pertinent spatial and non-spatial data that would add value to the trails database. The Non-motorized and Offroad Vehicle Activities Program (NOVA) and the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) provide funding for trail development and upkeep. In the past, data partners have attempted to apply for grant funding to update their trail data but have been refused. The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board should be consulted to better understand how this could be done. RCO should also assess long term funding options from operational funds that would provide non-project based funding for ongoing maintenance as required by RCW 79A.25.020. More work is needed here to understand contract requirements, process for data collection, impacts to grant recipients, system requirements, etc.

Best Practices

General guidance on the creation and maintenance was needed among the data partners. This guidance included recommendations on tools and processes best suited for these activities. A “best practices” guide should be developed that includes recommendations on data logging tools, appropriate data models, maintenance workflows, and data aggregation techniques. The best practices document would create a common approach to how trail information is gathered and developed helping ensure that data partners become more efficient at updating the aggregated data. Data partners could disseminate the best practices among their regional operations helping with their own internal processes

Technical Assistance

The partnering agencies also had a variety of technical abilities when it came to how their trail data was compiled. Providing technical assistance to help with backlogged trail data and general GIS questions would ensure the trail data is brought up to date with fewer problems. The technical assistance would likely be intensive in the beginning but trail off over time as the common data platform, data editing tools and best practices become available.

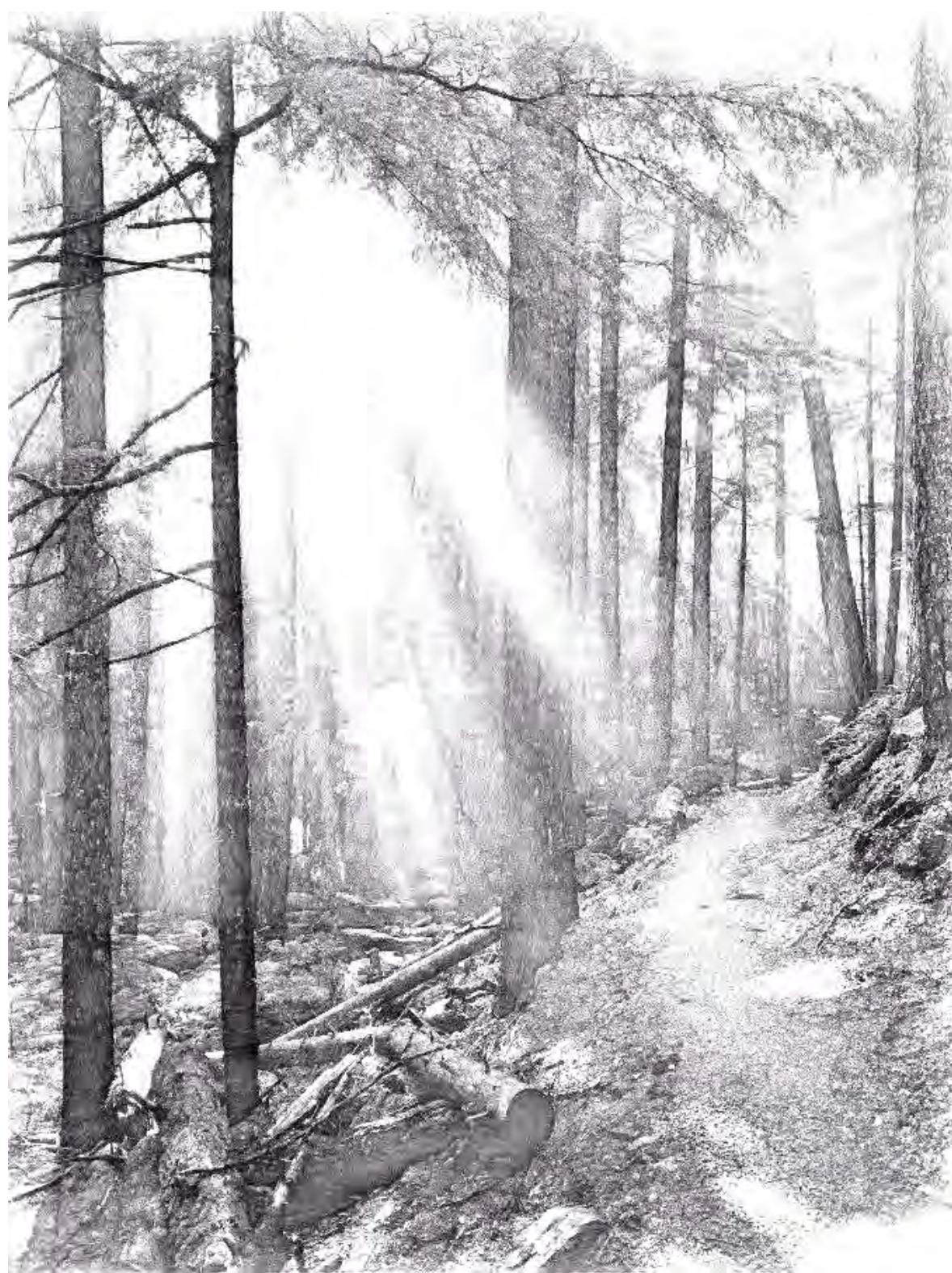
SUMMARY

There are over 12,000 miles of trails in Washington State making them one of the biggest recreational assets we have. Where are they? Who uses them? Which ones should we apply grant funding to? What are their impacts to our economy? How are we leveraging them as recreational opportunities? Answering these important questions requires that we have quality trail data that a community has come together to develop and maintain cooperatively. Involving those responsible for the trails themselves and providing the necessary tools that help them answer their own planning questions will ensure quality data and create a positive feedback loop. To accomplish building the data and community to sustain it, regular coordination, funding, and technology is needed. It will take a significant amount of up front work to coordinate the above recommendations. *RCO will need to assign, contract, or hire a Recreational Data Coordinator whose main responsibilities will involve implementing the tactical steps required to accomplish this work.*

Trail data, much like the actual trails themselves, requires knowledge, maintenance, and regular use to avoid falling into disuse. Without involving the people who develop, manage, and love our trails, we risk the mismanagement of one of our State’s most valuable recreation assets.

APPENDIX A

RCO Internal Workshop Notes



Memorandum

To: RCO Trails Vision Workshop Group

From: Scot McQueen

Date: November 14, 2016

Subject: RCO Internal Visioning Workshop Notes

Introduction

This memorandum documents the results of a Trails Database Visioning workshop. This workshop was internal to RCO to provide a solid understanding of current status, benefits, gaps, and potential areas of improvement to the existing trails database. This notes from this workshop will provide a foundation of knowledge to be utilized as we engage external stakeholders in the next phase of the Trails Database Planning process.

Workshop Date and Attendees

The Workshop was held on November 8, 2016. The workshop was held at the NRB between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm and was attended by those shown in the table below.

Organization/Role	Name(s)
McQueen Enterprise Analytics,	Scot McQueen
RCO - Grants	Marguerite Austin
RCO – Grants – Grant Manager Trails	Kyle Guzas
RCO – Grants – Grant Manager	Ben Donatelli
RCO – Policy Specialist	Leslie Connelly
RCO – CIO	Greg Tudor
RCO – Admin Assistant	Justine Sharp
RCO – Grants – Trail Program Manager	Darrell Jennings
RCO – Planner	Lurinda Anderson
RCO – GIS	Bob Euliss

Workshop Areas of Discussion

The areas of discussion generally included the following:

- Outlining the goals for the Workshop;

- Identifying each participant's opinion regarding the largest challenge facing the trails database;

- Discussing what's going right with the trails database;

- Discussing what's not working well;

- Discussing RCO's programs and how trails fit in

Discussing potential applications of trails data and gaps

Outlining next steps

What's Going Right

Each participant was asked what they thought was going right with the existing Trails data. The responses included the following:

Finally have an aggregated trails database that includes state agencies, federal, local, etc trails information

Data is standardized and accessible in a solid GIS format

Starting place for a trails inventory

RCO's Governing Board is engaged and supportive in the trails efforts

Now have a clearer picture of what data exists, its accuracy, and what improvements should be made

What's Missing – Areas of Improvement

Each participant was asked where they thought things might be improved with the existing Trails data. The responses included the following:

Trails data, while more complete, is not really usable or dynamic

Other agency land managers aren't bought in to providing the data

Need to have a solid understanding of where trails data/information is missing

Pathways to sharing trails data are missing

Trails dataset is not linked to PRISM so have no way of tracking investments etc.

Information is snapshot in time with no update plans – keeping the data up to date

Actual benefit of data to RCO and land managing agencies (DFW, DNR, Parks) is pretty low right now

Right now just "lines on a map"

The discussion of what's missing began to naturally group into the following areas relative to RCO's mission. Each area had its own needs associated with the trails data.

Planning

Recreation Plan due 2017 has a heavy trails component to it

Plan is using surveys to gather trail information but lacks geographic component. I.e. how far are people traveling to utilize trails, which trails they are utilizing, etc

Resident Survey will be sent out in January/February 2017

Unclear where RCO should put trail funding – currently reactionary in approach – just responding to grant applications rather than identifying areas that trails are needed

Need better understanding of types of trails that will meet the biggest needs & ability to show the gap

How do we accommodate the motorized community – missing communication

Are we funding the right things (Bulk of funds go to maintenance, state trails plan directs RCO to evaluate priority investments.)

A better understanding of trails, needs, gaps, and benefits is needed to create better plans

We need a better understanding of trail use, demographics, etc to plan effectively

Policy

Are we asking the right questions when we evaluate funding for grants?

We're missing opportunities to gather info through planning requirements

What are the impacts on public health? How do we improve?

A better understanding of terrain to facilitate ADA compliance/policy

Policy requires us to house recreational data but we need a better business case to justify resources spent on this activity

We're tasked with funding more dirt trails but is this a correct strategy that meets the need?

What is this money supposed to provide? A better framework for accountability through trail funding outcomes and benefits is required.

Ultimately how do we measure the performance of our trail funding for the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB)?

WHERE SHOULD WE PUT OUR FUNDING

Compliance

Grant Managers are responsible for enforcing trail work compliance – too many other duties to follow up effectively

Difficult to tell when maintenance work has been done

Would be great to engage trail user populations to comment on trail conditions, inconsistent use, quality of work etc.

Difficult to track what sponsors are involved with what trail projects – better integration with PRISM is needed

Work that's been funded (PRISM) is missing from trails database – sections of trails worked on, bridges, etc

Summary

The discussion was great with all participants contributing. Ultimately, there was a significant degree of frustration with the amount of data gathered to date and its benefit to RCO. The biggest gaps in the data discussed were:

- 1) Completeness – The data gathered to date is a good start but everyone acknowledged it is incomplete and is only a partial representation of all the trails in Washington State.
- 2) Relevance – Even if the dataset was geographically complete, it still would not answer the core questions of where we should fund trail development and maintenance, if the work we are funding is completed, and what the outcomes and benefits are. Because of this, the value to both the community at large and those agencies responsible for trails is low
- 3) Connection to PRISM – There is no connection to trail project work information within the PRISM dataset. Maintenance work, new trail sections, bridges, etc. are not connected to the trails database.
- 4) Understanding Use – Trail use is poorly understood which creates a hurdle when choosing which projects to fund, developing recreation plans, or adjusting policy. More information is needed to do a better job.

Next Steps

The next steps, lead entities, and deadlines that were discussed during the Workshop included the following:

Provide notes to the attendees (Scot McQueen) – November 15, 2016

Group additions/correction of notes (Group) – approximately November 30, 2016

Land Manager Workshop (Scot McQueen, Scott Robinson) – Hopefully before December 15, 2016

Phone interviews with select non-state agency RCO sponsors – Before end of 2016

APPENDIX B
State Agency Data Partner Workshop Notes



Memorandum

To: Trails Database Partners Group

From: Scot McQueen

Date: December 19, 2016

Subject: RCO Trails Data Partners Workshop Notes

Introduction

This memorandum documents information exchanged during a Trails Database Partners workshop. This workshop included representatives from three Natural Resource State Agencies who are responsible for maintaining public trails and the associated data. The purpose of the workshop was to create a solid understanding between the agencies of the current data maintenance processes, resource gaps, and potential areas of collaboration to help improve the existing and future WA state trails database. The notes from this workshop will provide a foundation of knowledge to be utilized as we continue to develop the business plan for more effectively funding and developing the WA state trails database.

Workshop Date and Attendees

The Workshop was held on December 14, 2016. The workshop was held at the Natural Resources Building between 9:00AM and 11:00AM and was attended by those shown in the table below.

Organization/Role	Name(s)
McQueen Enterprise Analytics,	Scot McQueen
RCO – Deputy Director	Scott Robinson
DNR – Acting Statewide Recreation Coordinator	Glenn Glover
DNR - GIS	Elizabeth Eberle
State Parks – Partnership and Planning Director	Steve Brand
State Parks – Trails Program Coordinator	Nikki Fields
DFW – Outdoor Recreation Planner	Melinda Posner

Workshop Agenda

The areas of discussion generally included the following:

- Introductions (Group)

- Session Goals (Scott Robinson – RCO)

- Trails Database Business Plan (Scot M)

- Project Overview

Agency Trail Data Programs – How are we currently gathering, maintaining, leveraging trail information

- Parks
- DFW
- DNR

Potential Benefits Brainstorm (Scot M)

- Tools, Analytics, Trends

Cooperative Potential Brainstorm (Group)

- Shared Resources
- Production Improvements
- Potential Funding Sources

Next steps

Trails Business Planning Overview

The information gathered in this workshop and others will be utilized to create a business plan for the State's trails database. The basic plan outline for the plan will include:

Measurable goals

Potential funding options

Potential outreach activities to increase engagement between agencies and trail users

Implementation approach that includes a timeline and data maintenance procedures

Potential methods for integrating the trails database into current RCO grant programs and grant funded projects

It is anticipated that a draft plan will be available sometime late January for stakeholder review and comment.

Agency Trail Data Programs

Each participating partner Agency shared their current approach to mapping and maintaining trail data. The questions included the following:

How are you gathering, maintaining, and leveraging trail data?

What's missing?

Where do you need help? (Standards, processes, funding, personnel, other resources)

Importance of trail data within your agency

Below are the responses by Agency:

STATE PARKS

Data gathering and maintenance?

- Trail information is generally gathered by volunteers using GPS devices
- Currently in the process of hiring a new Trails Coordinator
- Data is gathered without concise standards or processes which creates compilation problems in the office
- Information most needed is trail width, surface, and associated facilities
- Currently lacks a standard method/process for gathering new trail data
- Spatial data gathered from volunteer GPS is difficult to integrate
- Dynamic segmentation (GIS data type) is not available
- Trails data is one of the most commonly requested datasets

What's missing and areas of improvement?

- Data collection best practices
- Trails data standards
- Have a big “pile” of trail data that needs to be added
- Cost of trail maintenance is unknown
- Understanding of unmapped social trails – where, impact, design needs
- Inadequate usage data
- Data to support budget/grant requests
 - Basic maintenance tracked
 - Road standards applied
 - Usage counts and statistics tracked
 - Who are we designing for?
- ADA trip planning capabilities
 - Power driven mobility devices
 - Trail width data needed
 - Compliance with new signage requirements
- Planning for non-highway transportation

Where do you need help?

- GIS support (Parks currently has 1.5 FTE as a shared resource)
- Data collection best practices recommendations
- Trails data standards that meet our needs

- Usage statistics
- Understanding of funding options

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Data gathering and maintenance?

- Each of the six DNR regions uses own data model and collection standards (no common approach)
- Trail data is pulled from regions and then aggregated
- Using different region based standards or processes with a variety of discipline creates compilation problems
- Not enough emphasis has been placed on trail data overall
- DNR trail usage is mostly focused on more primitive experiences which creates a different data need than other agencies
- Trails data is one of the most commonly requested datasets

What's missing and areas of improvement?

- Data collection best practices recommendations
- Trails data standards
- Ages of bridges and other trail infrastructure
- Inadequate usage data
- Data to support budget/grant requests
 - Basic maintenance tracked
 - Road standards applied
 - Usage counts and statistics tracked
 - Who are we designing for?

Where do you need help?

- Help creating a DNR data model that is widely acceptable
- Help processing/aggregating existing datasets to create more uniform trails information
- Trails data standards that meet our needs
- Data collection best practices recommendations
- Usage statistics tracked
- Resources for more data collection and maintenance (apps, volunteers, funding)
- Interpreting and maintaining existing data (Common data aggregation platform)
- Understanding of funding options – How can we obtain funding to help us maintain our trail information.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Data gathering and maintenance?

- No clear procedures for mapping trails or gathering trail information
- Trails are not a central priority for DFW
- DFW is working on re-establishing what the recreation vision is for the agency
- Each region uses different methods for gathering trail data making compilation difficult
- Not enough emphasis has been placed on trail data overall
- Good counters on water access points, fishing, hunting blinds

What's missing and areas of improvement?

- Data collection best practices recommendations
- Data stewardship plan to foster importance of trail data for DFW
- Trails data standards
- Inadequate usage data

Where do you need help?

- Help creating a DFW data model that is acceptable across agency
- Help processing/aggregating existing datasets to create more uniform trails information
- Trails data standards that meet our needs
- Data collection best practices recommendations
- Usage statistics
- Resources for more data collection (apps, volunteers, funding)
- Interpreting and maintaining existing data (Common data aggregation platform)
- Understanding of funding options

Potential Approaches and Benefits for Trail Data

A discussion and brainstorm of how better trail data might be developed and leveraged followed. A brief technical demonstration which included some current technologies to stimulate the discussion was given. The discussion included the following:

Brainstorm potential approaches to improving what is done with trail data

Tools to improve accuracy

Available crowdsourcing data for usage analytics (Strava, Trailhead Labs, etc.)

Tools for engagement and public relations

Below is a synopsis of the discussion:

Usage statistics is an important aspect needed to better plan and understand trends

Leveraging crowdsourced data is useful to identify accuracy problems

There is value in being able to attach picture of trail usage to map

Agency still must be responsible for correcting the data versus just using the crowdsourced data

Managing data (collected and crowdsourced) would take resources agencies do not currently have readily available

Need user/user-group participation in aggregating, utilizing, and disseminating trail data

Would be great to have a common platform for aggregating data and understanding usage as a planning tool - *but only if it is simple and effective, not if it increases work and bureaucracy without replacing other work.*

Hard copy maps should match digital data (they don't now)

Mobile apps are important but should use a common dataset

There may not be a single mobile app that is suitable for all agencies. For example Parks may need an app which allows managing campsites and reservations, not something that DNR will need.

RCO should provide some sort of usage tool to better engage funding planning at the agency level – *the tool would need to be simple to use and provide high value information to be effective*

Summary

The discussion was great with all participants contributing. The common needs across the agencies fell into these basic categories:

- 1) Standards and Best Practices – Each agency expressed a desire for a more standardized way to gather and maintain their trail information which still recognizes and supports the unique business requirements of each agency. The variety of approaches and processes for gathering data creates problems when the data compilation begins. A significant amount of time is spent just trying to compile the data.
- 2) Completeness – The data gathered to date is a good start but everyone acknowledged it is incomplete and is only a partial representation of all the trails in Washington State. In general, all agreed the existing aggregated dataset was of little use to their agencies.
- 3) Understanding Use – Trail use is poorly understood which creates a hurdle when submitting budget requests, developing recreation plans, applying for grants, or adjusting policy. More information is needed to do a better job.
- 4) Insufficient Resources Available – Each agency expressed a need for resources to collect, process, and maintain trail data. Examples included gathering data on existing trails, compiling existing GPS data that is backlogged, correcting out of date or incorrect information, and updating existing trail data with improved information on facilities, bridges, and other infrastructure.
- 5) Common Platform for Trail Information – All agencies looked to RCO to work with the agencies in developing relevant best practices and standards recommendations to aid in

their ability to provide accurate trail information. To facilitate the implementation of those standards, a common tool to provide usage statistics and data aggregation was discussed. Providing the usage statistics coupled with the data aggregation created a win-win scenario to help ensure a better dataset.

Next Steps

The next steps, lead entities, and deadlines that were discussed during the Workshop included the following:

Provide notes to the attendees (Scot McQueen) – December 23, 2016

Group additions/correction of notes (Group) – approximately January 6, 2017

APPENDIX C
Non-State Data Partner Interview Notes



Memorandum

To: Trails Database Partners Group

From: Scot McQueen

Date: January 6, 2017

Subject: RCO Trails Data Partners Phone Interview Notes

Introduction

This memorandum documents information exchanged during a series of Trails Database Partners phone interviews. The interviews included representatives from the United States Forest Service, Spokane County, and the Washington Trails Association (WTA) who are responsible for engaging with trail users, maintaining public trails, and utilizing/maintaining the associated data. The purpose of the interviews were to obtain a better understanding from organizations outside of Washington State government of how trail data is being leveraged, current data maintenance processes, resource gaps, and potential areas of collaboration to help improve the existing WA state trails database. The notes from these interviews will provide information to be utilized as we continue to develop the business plan for more effectively funding and developing the WA state trails database.

Interview Dates and Attendees

The Workshop was held on December 14, 2016. The workshop was held at the Natural Resources Building between 9:00AM and 11:00AM and was attended by those shown in the table below.

Organization/Role	Name(s)	Scheduled Date/Time	Status
McQueen Enterprise Analytics	Scot McQueen		
USFS – Assistant Program Manager Trails	Jeff Mast	1/6/2017 09:30 – 10:30 PST	Complete
Spokane County – Park Planner & Real Estate Coordinator	Paul Knowles	1/6/2017 11:00 – 12:30 PST	Complete
Spokane County – Asst. Director County Parks, Recreation, and Golf	John Bottelli	1/6/2017 11:00 – 12:30 PST	Complete
WTA – Digital Content Manager	Loren Drummond	1/24/2017 11:00 -12:00 PST	Complete
WTA – Communications Director	Kindra Ramos	1/24/2017 11:00 -12:00 PST	Complete
WTA – Hiking Guide Coordinator	Anna Roth	1/24/2017 11:00 -12:00 PST	Complete

Interview Agenda

The areas of discussion generally included the following:

Trails Database Business Plan (Scot M)

- Project Overview

Agency Trail Data Programs – How are we currently gathering, maintaining, leveraging trail information

Trail Data Sharing Brainstorm

- Tools, Analytics, Technology trends
- How do we better engage the trail user community?

Cooperative Potential Brainstorm

- Shared Resources
- Thoughts on where RCO can work better with your organization

Next steps

Trails Business Planning Overview

The information gathered in these interviews and others will be utilized to create a business plan for the State's trails database. The basic plan outline for the plan will include:

Measurable goals

Potential funding options

Potential outreach activities to increase engagement between agencies and trail users

Implementation approach that includes a timeline and data maintenance procedures

Potential methods for integrating the trails database into current RCO grant programs and grant funded projects

It is anticipated that a draft plan will be available sometime late January for stakeholder review and comment.

Trail Data Programs

Each phone interviewee shared their current approach to mapping, maintaining, and leveraging trail information. The questions included the following:

How are you gathering, maintaining, and leveraging trail data?

What's missing?

Where do you need help? (Standards, processes, funding, personnel, other resources)

Importance of trail data within your organization

Below are the responses by Organization:

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

What is your role within the Forest Service?

- Assistant National Trails Manager

- Responsible for USFS trails policy

Data gathering and maintenance?

- Trail information is all gathered at the Forest Unit level and then aggregated into the core “INFRA” database
- Each Forest Unit must approve trail data before it is published into INFRA
- This process leads to incomplete datasets at the national level
- INFRA is the enterprise data warehouse used to create the visitor maps for each Forest Region
- INFRA is good but a national level dataset so there’s a fair amount of data maintenance (updates) needed
- INFRA is in the process of being “revamped” into a more current database platform
- Revamp will start with Heritage data not trails
- Each Forest Unit gathers trail data in its own way but there is a standard data model
- Trail usage tracked through trailhead surveys and extrapolated across the Forest Unit(s)

What’s missing and areas of improvement?

- More work is needed on understanding usage and associated analytics
- USFS needs to get better at letting partners (state/local) gather and submit trail data
- USFS trail system huge and hard to track trail conditions/usage/maintenance across the country/state(s)
- Currently working with Trailhead Labs on the Deschutes National Forest to better understand usage and clean up the data.
- Low capacity/funding to work on trails so better usage understanding would help create trail focus areas. USFS just passed the Forest Trails Stewardship Act which requires us to create 9-15 Trail Focus Areas by May. Trail Focus Areas will be utilized to catalogue trail miles maintained, improved, etc. and reported to congress. Also requires the identification of Pilot outfitter and guide vendors that rely on trails to help with maintenance etc.

Where do you need help?

- Primarily we need active engagement with our partners like RCO. That means, regular communication and engagement at the planning funding level.
- WTA has carried most of the torch for trail maintenance in Washington State but us understanding the state level recreation plans and policy would help us make better plans for our trails and trail data.

SPOKANE COUNTY

What are your roles within Spokane County?

- Assistant Director of Recreation Program

- Trail Program Manager
 - Updating current regional trail plan 2014
 - IT/GIS Trail Inventory
 - Trail Signage

Data gathering and maintenance?

- Trail data last updated as part of the regional trail plan in 2014
- Used data donated by trail enthusiasts
- Checked into using Strava data but it was cost prohibitive for Spokane County
- Over 600 miles of trails exist within County
- Most important attribute of the trail data has been public vs private
- Also have trail type (single track, paved, etc.)
- Updates to trail data (maintenance/changes/etc) done by work crew utilizing GPS
- Tried ArcGIS Collector but it was too cumbersome
- We are beginning 2019 Regional Trail Plan update which will include going through the trail information too.
- Usage statistics currently gathered by magnetic car counters

What's missing and areas of improvement?

- Trail Conditions are really not tracked
- Elevation profiles are not part of trail data
- Difficulty level so users could better plan trips
- Some sort of flagging system (WTA trip reports) to notify of problems or maintenance needed
- Need better usage statistics for 2019 planning

Where do you need help?

- Better tools and technology
- Aggregation Platform for uploading data
- Standardized data model that is flexible
- Best practices/recommendations for trail mapping
- Better trail usage analytics so we can focus funding
- Can we fund trail technology through RCO Grants? Things like trail counters, application development, etc.
- Better understanding on funding options. Currently see a gap between urban paths vs back country funding.

- Being able to make trail information available in a lot of different ways (maps, data downloads, mobile apps, programming APIs, etc.) for a lot of different uses/applications (hard copy maps generation, app development, private consumption, reporting, etc.)

WASHINGTON TRAILS ASSOCIATION (WTA)

What are your roles within WTA?

- Loren Drummond – Digital Content Manager
 - All things having to do with the website
 - All things data, how users might consume data on website
 - Work with Trailblazer team (mobile app) – how can we get people where we need to go
 - Mobile app – development is done via a volunteer team with some contractor assistance
 - Website is based on Plone
- Kindra Ramos – Communications Director
 - Oversees all communication
 - Charlie Kale – Information Systems Manager
- Anna Roth – Hiking Guide Manager
 - Manage the hiking guide data (team of volunteer writers who write up guides)
 - This team is gathering some of the trail tracks via GPS or other apps
 - Tracks have been cleaned up but we don't have a solid approach to deploying yet (150 hikes)

Data gathering, maintenance, and mobile app/website?

- Managing data assume the top 100 hikes are up to date – trip reports help confirm
- Hiking guide is continuously being updated
- Trusted contributors are gathering files that come in as gpx and have to be converted to .kml which is time consuming
- Cross referencing with land managers (DFW, DNR, USFS, NPS, Parks). Of these, Forest Service is most vocal and reaches out the most often.
- Hardest aspect is maintaining current information of what's open what's not
- Public information (crowd sourced) data is time intensive – originally started as a wiki, Mountaineers Books also populated a big chunk, then dedicated a person (Anna)
 - WTA has a trusted group of hiking guide correspondents
 - Biggest problem with crowdsourced data is GPS device – too much error from devices, or filing trip reports + tracks from a hike that "doesn't exist" (e.g. on private land or decommissioned trail)

- Have been approached by other 3rd party app to use

What's missing and areas of improvement?

- Looking to expand GIS capabilities (have hired a contractor to research)
- Different approaches to sharing data but need to stay on stewardship message
- Helping the public see the possibilities beyond the overused trails
- Don't have a great sense of actual numbers of how many are doing hikes
- Mount Baker Snoqualmie is looking at usage forecast
- Looked at OCIO trail data but turned off by lack of maintenance by state
- OCIO trail data incomplete
- Who is OCIO data is geared through (want to be able to sort out how trails are used hiking, horses, etc.)
 - If trail data was current/relevant it would be added to website
- Worry about how closely people are using trail line (i.e., gpx track) to navigate
- Looking for definitive source of info so represents the land managers
- Trailhead database – incorporated in main data
- Trails that do not have trailheads (e.g., Frosty – Wildhorse Trail on OKWNF – starts at junction with Icicle Ridge trail w/no trailhead of its own)

Where do you need help?

- Funding for trail maintenance that is focused via usage
- Somehow create a “value” that represents how important trails are in Washington
- Help with more advanced planning
- GIS support to help with data design
- Access to a comprehensive and current database
- Other recreational facilities, trail surface, parking lots, ADA,
- Statewide database that shows trail closures, alerts, etc. USFS fires as an example (KML File)
- Show us where people AREN'T going so we can advocate for those spots
- NW Avalanche Control – Scott Shell

Potential Approaches and Benefits for Trail Data Synopsis

Each interview included a healthy discussion and brainstorm of how better trail data might be developed and leveraged. These responses are part of the notes above but an aggregated synopsis is below.

Better engagement from RCO would help the interviewed organizations do better at matching their trail data and mapping work

Usage statistics is a huge gap

Leveraging crowdsourced data is an important tool to develop trail data but it has not been leveraged at the Federal level

Would be great to have a common platform for aggregating data and understanding usage as a planning tool

RCO should provide some sort of trail usage tool or analytics to better engage funding planning at the trail partner level

Summary

All participants in the phone interviews were highly engaged and eager to work better with RCO on the trail database. The main difference from the phone interviews versus the state agency workshop is that all interviewees wanted a more active engagement from RCO when it came to trail data and planning activities. The common needs listed below are similar to the workshop with DFW, Parks, and DNR:

- 1) Active Engagement – All interviewees expressed the desire to have a more active engagement from RCO when it came to sharing trail data and creating a community around it. Some of the ideas shared included creating a forum or trail data partner group that interacted regularly to discuss any challenges that they might be facing.
- 2) Standards, Best Practices, and/or General Technology Support – The variety of approaches, technologies, and processes for gathering data creates problems when any sort of data compilation begins. A basic recommended workflow and data model would help immensely. This was less of a need for the USFS as data model and standard already exists. However, a workflow that helped each organization understand *how* to update the data for RCO would be useful and welcomed. This included technology recommendations and guidance for organizations and partners without IT capabilities.
- 3) Existing data of little use – The data gathered to date is a good start but is only a partial representation of all the trails in Washington State. None of the phone interviewees had downloaded or interacted with the existing dataset. In general, all agreed the existing aggregated dataset was of little use to their organizations or the public in general.
- 4) Understanding Use – Trail use is poorly understood which creates a hurdle when submitting budget requests, developing recreation plans, applying for grants, or adjusting policy. More information is needed to do a better job.
- 5) Common Platform for Trail Information – All interviewees looked to RCO to create and lead a trail data “community of interest” in developing relevant best practices and standards recommendations to aid in their ability to provide accurate trail information. To facilitate the implementation of those standards, a common tool to provide usage statistics and data aggregation was discussed. Providing the usage statistics coupled with the data aggregation created a win-win scenario to help ensure a better dataset.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Public Hearing for Amendments to Title 286 Washington Administrative Code and Project Area Guidance and Procedures

Prepared By: Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist/Rules Coordinator

Summary

This memo presents a staff recommendation for amendments to the administrative rules in Title 286 of the Washington Administrative Code and outlines the required public review process for the adoption of the amendments. In addition to the administrative rule amendments, staff recommends adoption of the guidance and procedures for project area as proposed by the Project Area Subcommittee.

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: 2017-13

Purpose of Resolution: Adopts amendments to Title 286 of the Washington Administrative Code and guidance and procedures for project area.

Background

The actions in this memo represent Phase V of a four year effort to update the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board's (board) administrative rules in [Title 286 of the Washington Administrative Code](#) (WAC). Phase V is the last phase of amendments planned.

The proposed amendments in this memo are divided into two parts. The first part includes the formal amendments to the WAC. The second part includes the policy guidance and procedures specifically related to "project area," which is a new term defined in the proposed WAC amendments. The proposed amendments are separated into two parts because the guidance and procedures are commonly considered policy by the board, rather than formal rules. The guidance and procedures are instructions to Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff and project sponsors on how to develop a project area as part of a grant application and the associated requirements.

For additional background information about the work to update the WAC, see [Item 5](#) of the February 2016 board meeting materials. Portions of the WAC amendments proposed from February 2016 were adopted by the board in July 2016 (see [Item 10](#)). The WAC amendments that were connected to "project area" were postponed. The board created a subcommittee to develop a definition, guidance and procedures for "project area" before moving forward with the remaining WAC amendments. For additional background information about the subcommittee's work to define project area, see [Item 6](#) of the board's October 2016 meeting and the recommendations from the Project Area Subcommittee.

At the February 2017 board meeting, RCO staff presented Phase V of the proposed amendments which reflected the work done by the board and subcommittee over the past year. The board directed staff to prepare the Phase V amendments for formal public review and a public hearing at the May board meeting. Additional background information is in [Item 9](#) of the February 2017 board meeting materials.

Proposed Amendments

Proposed Amendments Title 286 Washington Administrative Code

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to clarify grant requirements and apply them to all grants for the board. While specific program-related rules would be repealed, the requirements within those programs are consolidated and incorporated into new sections in Chapter 286-13 General grant assistance. The anticipated effects are:

1. Consistent application of rules across grant programs for applicant eligibility, planning eligibility, matching share, grant request limits, public access, compliance with applicable laws, and long-term obligations;
2. Clarification of the long-term obligations of receiving grant funds, including a new definition for project area and requirements to provide a project area map; and
3. Allowing for modified grant program requirements for federal agencies, regardless of the grant program, when approved by the board.

There are two reasons for the proposed amendments. First, the board administers different grant programs, although it applies many of the same rules and policies to grant awards without regard from which grant program the funds were awarded. In addition, there are grant programs administered by the board that do not have administrative rules, but follow the same grant requirements as a matter of policy. Consolidating the grant requirements will ensure consistency in their application and apply them to all projects. Second, adding a definition and a map requirement for project area will provide sponsors a clear understanding of the long-term obligations of receiving grant funds and document where those long-term obligations apply on the ground.

The text of the proposed amendments in strikethrough and underline format is included as Attachment A. As a reference, Attachment B summarizes the proposed amendments with an explanatory statement for each section. Attachment C, also a reference, is a comparison of the existing administrative code with the proposed amendments.

Proposed Guidance and Procedures for Project Area

In addition to the proposed amendments to the administrative rules, the guidance and procedures for developing a project area map are proposed as policy for the board's consideration. The guidance and procedures include instructions on how to develop a project area as part of a grant application. It also includes examples and a step-by-step process to finalize the project area map when the project is complete.

Attachment D includes the definition and map requirements from the proposed administrative rule amendments, as well as the proposed guidance and procedures. RCO staff added an intent statement to the recommendation from the Project Area Subcommittee to clarify the purpose of the project area map requirements for the public comment.

Public Notice

Prior to the board meeting, RCO informed the public of the proposed rulemaking on the following occasions:

- Agenda item at the February 2017 board meeting posted on RCO's website,
- Pre-proposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101, Attachment E) filed January 3, 2017 and published January 18, 2017 in issue #17-02 of the Washington State Register,
- Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102, Attachment F) filed March 1, 2017 and published March 15, 2017 in issue #17-06 of the Washington State Register,
- Proposed Rulemaking filed March 1, 2017 with the Joint Administrative Rules Review Committee,
- Agenda item at the May 2017 board meeting and public hearing posted on RCO's website,
- Posting of proposed rulemaking on RCO's website, and
- Email notification sent to interested persons.

In addition to the formal public process described above, RCO included the guidance and procedures for project area in the board materials, website posting, and email notification. The public comment materials also include the comparison of the existing rules and proposed amendments (Attachment C).

Public Hearing

The Administrative Procedures Act (APA) requires at least one public hearing prior to adopting amendments to the rules.¹ The public hearing for the proposed rulemaking outlined in this memo is during the board's regularly scheduled public meeting and set for:

May 10, 2017 at 4:00 PM
South Puget Sound Community College
Campus Room 194
4220 6th Ave SE.
Lacey, WA 98503

Notice of the public hearing was included in the rulemaking filing and published accordingly in the Washington State Register.

Written Comments

Members of the public may submit written comments in advance of the public hearing or provide comments at the hearing. Written comments can be submitted:

From March 15, 2017 to April 14, 2017
ATTN: Leslie Connelly
WA Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St. SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
Leslie.connelly@rcow.wa.gov
(360) 902-3026 fax

¹ RCW 34.05.325

RCO received five comments during the written public comment period. Staff is currently reviewing the comments and preparing responses which may include suggestions to change the proposed amendments. Staff will provide a summary of all comments received and the staff responses to the board members by May 3. The comments and staff responses will be included in the "Concise Explanatory Statement"² which is required by the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) and will be included in this memo as Attachment G.

Options for Consideration

After the scheduled public hearing, the board will consider whether to adopt the amendments to the rules as written, amend the proposal, or postpone adoption.

State law allows the board to adopt a rule somewhat different than proposed as long as it is not "substantially different."³ Factors that may affect whether a proposed rule might be substantially different include the extent to which:

- A reasonable person affected by the rule would have understood how the rule would have affected his/her interests,
- The subject differs from that originally proposed, or
- The effects of the adopted rule differ from the effects of the proposed rule.

Any changes to the recommended amendments that are substantially different from the proposal cannot be adopted without re-initiating the notification and comment procedures. If the board chooses to make substantial changes to the proposed rulemaking, staff will file a supplemental notice in the Washington State Register and the board must conduct another public hearing.

If the board prefers not to adopt all or portions of the proposed rulemaking at the May meeting, the board can postpone adoption to a future meeting within 180 days of the rulemaking filing, which is November 6, 2017. This means the board could take action on the current recommended amendments at its July, September or October meeting without needing to re-file. The board could also decide to withdraw all or portions of the proposed rulemaking.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends adoption of the proposed rulemaking filed March 1, 2017 and published March 15, 2017 in issue #17-06 of the Washington State Register and the guidance and procedures for project area as proposed by the Project Area Subcommittee.

Request for Decision and Board Direction

Attachment H contains resolution 2017-13 for the board's consideration.

Staff requests direction from the board on whether to apply the requirement for a project area map to new grant contracts awarded starting in July 2017 or new grant applications starting in January 2018.

² RCW 34.05.325(6) and 34.05.370(2)(g)

³ RCW 34.05.340

Strategic Plan Link

The proposed WAC changes reflect the opportunity to make policy improvements that support the board's goal to achieve a high level of accountability in managing the resources and responsibilities entrusted to the board.

Next Steps

Should the board adopt the proposed rulemaking, staff will prepare a final Concise Explanatory Statement and file a final rule adoption notice for publication in the next available Washington State Register. Adopted rules are effective 31 days after filing with the Office of the Code Reviser.

Attachments

- A. Proposed Amendments to Title 286 Washington Administrative Code (**for board action**)
- B. Summary of Proposed Amendments with Explanatory Statement by Section
- C. Comparison of Existing Administrative Code to Proposed Amendments
- D. Proposed Project Area Guidance and Procedures (**for board action**)
- E. Pre-proposal Statement of Inquiry Notice (CR-101)
- F. Proposed Rulemaking Notice (CR-102)
- G. Draft Concise Explanatory Statement (to be distributed May 3rd)
- H. Resolution 2017-13 (**for board action**)

Proposed Amendments to Title 286 Washington Administrative Code

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is proposing to repeal chapters of Title 286 Washington Administrative Code in an effort to consolidate grant program requirements and apply requirements consistently across grant programs. See amendments to [Washington Administrative Code Title 286](#), Washington State Register filing [#17-06-079](#).

Below are the proposed amendments as published in the Washington State Register.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-15-072, filed 7/13/15, effective 8/13/15)

WAC 286-04-010 Definitions.

For purposes of Title 286 WAC, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Acquisition" means the purchase or donation of fee or less than fee interests in real property. These interests include, but are not limited to, conservation easements, access or trail easements, covenants, water rights, leases, and mineral rights.
- (2) "Agreement" or "project agreement" means the accord accepted by the office and the sponsor for the project and includes any supplemental agreements, any amendments to the agreement and any intergovernmental agreements.
- (3) "Applicant" means any party that meets qualifying standards, including deadlines, for submission of an application soliciting a grant of funds from the board.
- (4) "Application" means the documents and other materials that an applicant submits to the office to support the applicant's request for grant funds.
- (5) "Board" means the recreation and conservation funding board as described in RCW [79A.25.110](#).
- (6) "Chair" means the chair of the board as described in RCW [79A.25.110](#).
- (7) "Development project" means a project that results in the construction of or work resulting in new elements including, but not limited to, structures, facilities and materials to enhance outdoor recreation resources.
- (8) "Director" means the director of the office or that person's designee as described in RCW [79A.25.150](#).
- (9) "Education and enforcement project" means a project that provides information, education, and outreach programs; encourages responsible recreational behaviors; and may provide law enforcement for the benefit of outdoor recreationists.
- (10) "Education project" means a project that provides information, education, and outreach programs for the benefit of outdoor recreationists.

(11) "Maintenance project" means a project that maintains existing areas and facilities through repairs and upkeep for the benefit of outdoor recreationists.

(12) "Maintenance and operation project" means a project that maintains existing areas and facilities through repairs, upkeep, and routine servicing for the benefit of outdoor recreationists.

(13) "Manual(s)" means a compilation of state and federal laws; board rules, policies, and procedures; and director procedures, forms, and instructions assembled in manual form for dissemination to parties that participate in the board's or office's grant program(s).

(14) "Match" or "matching share" means the portion of the total project cost in the project agreement provided by the project sponsor.

(15) "Office" means the recreation and conservation office as described in RCW [79A.25.010](#).

(16) "Planning project" means a project that results in one or more of the following: A study, a plan, construction plans and specifications, and permits to increase the availability of outdoor recreational resources.

(17) "Preagreement cost" means a project cost incurred before the period of performance identified in an agreement.

(18) "Project" means the undertaking which is, or may be, funded in whole or in part with funds administered by the office on behalf of the board.

(19) "Project area" is a geographic area that delineates a grant assisted site which is subject to application and project agreement requirements.

(20) "Reimbursement" means the payment of funds from the office to the sponsor for eligible and allowable project costs that have already been paid by the sponsor per the terms of an agreement.

((20)) (21) "Renovation project" means a project that improves an existing site or structure in order to increase its service life or functions.

((21)) (22) "Restoration project" means a project that brings a site back to its historic function as part of a natural ecosystem or improving the ecological functionality of the site.

((22)) (23) "Sponsor" means an eligible applicant who has been awarded a grant of funds and is bound by an executed agreement; includes its officers, employees, agents, and successors.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-16-001, filed 7/20/16, effective 8/20/16)

WAC 286-13-010 Scope of chapter.

(1) This chapter contains general rules for grant program eligibility, applications, and projects funded with money from or through the board.

(2) Further rules are in ((chapter 286-26 WAC (Nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities program), chapter 286-27 WAC (Washington wildlife and recreation program),)) chapter 286-30 WAC (Firearms ((and archery)) range ((recreation program)), chapter 286-35 WAC (Initiative 215 boating facilities

~~program), chapter 286-40 WAC (Land and water conservation fund program) and chapter 286-42 WAC (Aquatic lands enhancement account program)))).~~

(3) The director may apply the rules in this chapter to programs administered by the office that are not subject to the board's approval.

NEW SECTION

WAC 286-13-015 Eligible applicants.

(1) Eligibility to apply for grant funding is determined by a grant program's statutory requirements unless authority is granted to the board.

(2) Eligible applicants in the aquatic lands enhancement account grant program are any division of local or state government and Native American tribes that are legally authorized to acquire and develop public open space, habitat, recreation lands or natural resources.

NEW SECTION

WAC 286-13-035 Planning requirement.

(1) An applicant must submit a plan in accordance with WAC 286-13-040 in order to apply for a grant from any of the following programs:

- (a) Boating facilities program pursuant to the Marine Recreation Land Act, chapter [79A.25](#) RCW;
- (b) Land and water conservation fund pursuant to the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965;
- (c) Nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities account pursuant to chapter [46.09](#) RCW, except when applying for a grant for an education and enforcement project or a maintenance and operation project; or
- (d) Washington wildlife and recreation program funded under chapter [79A.15](#) RCW, except when applying for a grant for a project funded from the farm and forest account.

(2) At a minimum, the plan must include:

- (a) A statement of the applicant's long-range goals and objectives;
- (b) An inventory;
- (c) An analysis of demand and need, that is, why action is required;
- (d) A description of how the planning process gave the public ample opportunity to be involved in development of the plan;
- (e) A current capital improvement program of at least six years; and

(f) Evidence that this plan has been approved by the applicant's governing entity most appropriate to the plan's scope. For example, a city or county-wide plan must be approved at the council or commission level. Plans with a different scope may be approved by department heads, district rangers, regional managers or supervisors, etc.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-09-074, filed 4/18/14, effective 5/19/14)

WAC 286-13-045 (~~What rules govern matching resources?~~) Matching resources and request limits.

(1) The board shall establish sponsor matching share requirements and fund request limits as allowed by law. Any changes will normally be done at a board meeting six months before program funding consideration.

(2) When the board gives preference to an applicant that provides a matching resource, it is the intent of the board to do so to foster and demonstrate local commitment to the proposed project, to make funds from a given grant program and revenue source available to a greater number of projects, and to fund projects that are ready to implement without delay.

~~((2))~~ (3) Applicant resources used to match board funds must be eligible in the grant program. Sources of matching resources include, but are not limited to, any one or more of the following:

- (a) Appropriations and cash;
- (b) Value of the applicant's expenses for labor, materials, and equipment;
- (c) Value of donated real property, labor, services, materials, and equipment use; and
- (d) Grant funds, except those from the same grant program administered by the board.

~~((3))~~ (4) The board may require the applicant to provide a portion of its matching resources in local resources.

~~((4))~~ (5) State agency projects may be assisted by one hundred percent funding from board funds except where prohibited by law or the board.

~~((5))~~ (6) Grants from state funds are intended to supplement the existing capacity of a sponsor. They are not intended to supplant existing programs or fund projects that would have been undertaken without grant funding.

~~((6))~~ (7) Except for grant applications submitted within the same biennium, matching resources or board grant funds committed in one board funded project must not be used as match in another board funded project.

~~((7))~~ (8) If a matching resource is required or provided in the grant application, it must also conform to the deadlines in WAC 286-13-040.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-09-074, filed 4/18/14, effective 5/19/14)

WAC 286-13-060 Project agreement.

For every funded project, an agreement must be executed as provided in this section.

(1) The project agreement shall be prepared by the office subsequent to approval of the project by the board at a public meeting. The project agreement is executed upon the signature of the office and the applicant and the parties are bound by the agreement's terms. The applicant shall not proceed until the project agreement has been executed, unless specific authorization pursuant to WAC 286-13-085 has been given by the director.

(2) If the project is approved by the board to receive a grant from federal funds, the director shall not execute an agreement or amendment with the applicant until federal funding has been authorized through an agreement with the applicable federal agency.

(3) Execution of the project agreement must conform to the deadlines in WAC 286-13-040.

(4) A board-federal agency agreement signed by the parties shall control the provision of funds granted by the board to federal agency sponsored projects. Absent this agreement, the standard terms and conditions of board's project agreement shall control.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-09-074, filed 4/18/14, effective 5/19/14)

WAC 286-13-115 ((~~Discrimination,~~) Nondiscrimination, access to the public, and preferences.

(1) Sponsors shall not discriminate against users of projects assisted with board funds on the basis of race, creed, color, sex or gender, religion, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation.

(2) Properties, structures, and facilities intended for public use within the project area shall meet state and federal accessibility guidelines and nondiscrimination laws, regulations, and policies; be maintained to a standard that encourages use; and be open and available to the public at reasonable hours and times of the year.

(3) Sponsors shall not express a preference for users within the project area of board grant assisted projects on the basis of residence (including preferential reservation, membership, and/or permit systems). However, reasonable differences in admission and other fees may be maintained on the basis of residence. The board does not encourage the imposition of such differential fees. Fees for nonresidents must not exceed twice the fee imposed on residents. Where there is no fee for residents but a fee is charged to nonresidents, the nonresident fee shall not exceed the amount that would be imposed on residents at comparable state or local public facilities.

NEW SECTION

WAC 286-13-130 Compliance with applicable laws.

Properties, structures, and facilities developed with the assistance of money granted by the board and within the project area shall be built, operated, and maintained according to applicable regulations, laws, building codes, and health standards to assure a reasonably safe condition and to prevent premature deterioration.

NEW SECTION**WAC 286-13-140 Project area map.**

(1) A project area map is required for each acquisition, development, renovation, and restoration project.

(2) At a minimum, the project area must include the property acquired, developed, renovated or restored with grant assistance and the route for the public to access the property. The project area must also include sufficient property that is functionally dependent to a grant assisted site and owned or controlled by the sponsor. Any additional property included in the project area must be necessary to complete the programmatic function described in the application and meet the need for the project.

(3) The sponsor must record a notice of grant as provided by the office on the title of the properties in the project area.

NEW SECTION**WAC 286-13-150 Conveyance to the state for acquisition project.**

(1) Acquisition of perpetual interests. When a sponsor acquires real property in perpetuity, the sponsor must record on the title of the property a binding instrument as required by the office that contains:

- (a) A legal description of the real property acquired with grant assistance;
- (b) A conveyance to the state of Washington of the right to use the described real property for the purposes funded by the grant in perpetuity; and
- (c) A restriction on the conversion of use of the real property.

(2) Acquisition of nonperpetual interests. When a sponsor acquires real property for less than perpetuity, the interest may not be revocable at will. The sponsor must record on the title of the property a binding instrument as required by the office that contains:

- (a) A legal description of the real property acquired with grant assistance;
- (b) A conveyance to the state of Washington of the right to use the described real property for the purposes funded by the grant for the duration of the nonperpetual interest acquired; and
- (c) A restriction on the conversion of use of the real property based on the minimum period in the grant program as follows:
 - (i) At least twenty years for projects funded from the youth athletic facilities program;
 - (ii) At least twenty-five years for projects funded from the aquatic lands enhancement account program;
 - (iii) At least twenty-five years for projects funded from the nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities account;

- (iv) At least fifty years for projects funded from the boating facilities program; or
- (v) At least fifty years for projects funded from the Washington wildlife and recreation program, except for:
 - (A) Farmland category projects must be for at least twenty-five years;
 - (B) Riparian protection category projects for conservation reserve enhancement program leases must be for at least twenty-five years; and
 - (C) Forestland category projects because only perpetual acquisitions are eligible.

NEW SECTION

WAC 286-13-160 Long-term obligations for acquisition projects.

- (1) The project area may not, without prior approval of the board or director, be converted to a use other than that for which funds were originally approved.
- (2) Projects impacted by a reversion order by the Interstate Commerce Commission under section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 United States Code 1247(d), are not considered a conversion by the board. Substitution or replacement with interest in real property, facilities or moneys which are of at least equal market value at the time of replacement may be required.
- (3) The board may only approve a conversion when the sponsor:
 - (a) Demonstrates the need to convert the project area including all efforts to consider practical alternatives, how they were evaluated, and the reasons they were not pursued;
 - (b) Provides an opportunity for the public to participate in the identification, development and evaluation of the alternatives, including a minimum public comment period of at least thirty days; and
 - (c) Commits to provide another interest in real property to serve as a replacement. The replacement must:
 - (i) Be of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location;
 - (ii) Be administered by the same sponsor unless otherwise approved by the board;
 - (iii) Satisfy need(s) identified in the sponsor's current plan as described in WAC 286-13-035 or other relevant local or statewide plan;
 - (iv) Be eligible in the same grant program account or category from which funds were originally allocated, unless otherwise approved by the board;
 - (v) Be interest in real property of at least equal current market value to the converted property; and
 - (vi) Satisfies the conversion without grant assistance from the board.

NEW SECTION**WAC 286-13-170 Long-term obligations for development and renovation projects.**

(1) The project area may not, without prior approval of the board or director, be converted to a use other than that for which funds were originally approved.

(2) Projects impacted by a reversion order by the Interstate Commerce Commission under section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 United States Code 1247(d), are not considered a conversion by the board. Substitution or replacement with interest in real property, facilities or moneys which are of at least equal market value at the time of replacement may be required.

(3) The board may only approve a conversion when the sponsor:

(a) Demonstrates the need to convert the project area including all efforts to consider practical alternatives, how they were evaluated, and the reasons they were not pursued;

(b) Provides an opportunity for the public to participate in the identification, development and evaluation of the alternatives, including a minimum public comment period of at least thirty days; and

(c) Provides another project area to serve as a replacement. The replacement must:

(i) Be of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location;

(ii) Be administered by the same sponsor unless otherwise approved by the board;

(iii) Be a new project area with facilities that satisfy need(s) identified in the sponsor's current plan as described in WAC 286-13-035 or the other relevant local or statewide plan;

(iv) Be eligible in the same grant program account or category from which funds were originally allocated, unless otherwise approved by the board; and

(v) Satisfies the conversion without grant assistance from the board.

NEW SECTION**WAC 286-13-180 Long-term obligations for restoration projects.**

(1) The project area may not, without prior approval of the board or director, be converted to a use other than that for which funds were originally approved.

(2) The board may only approve a conversion when the sponsor:

(a) Demonstrates the need to convert the project area including all efforts to consider practical alternatives, how they were evaluated, and the reasons they were not pursued;

(b) Provides an opportunity for the public to participate in the identification, development and evaluation of the alternatives, including a minimum public comment period of at least thirty days; and

(c) Provides another project area to serve as a replacement for the restoration project. The replacement must:

- (i) Be of reasonably equivalent habitat utility and location;
- (ii) Be administered by the same sponsor unless otherwise approved by the board;
- (iii) Be a new project area that satisfies need(s) identified in the sponsor's current plan as described in WAC 286-13-035 or the other relevant local or statewide plan;
- (iv) Be administered under similar stewardship methods as the converted project area;
- (v) Be eligible in the same grant program or category from which funds were originally allocated, unless otherwise approved by the board; and
- (vi) Satisfies the conversion without grant assistance from the board.

REPEALER

The following chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 286-26-010	Scope of chapter.
WAC 286-26-020	What definitions apply to this chapter?
WAC 286-26-080	Does this program have planning eligibility requirements?
WAC 286-26-083	What long term rules apply?
WAC 286-26-085	When considering approval of a conversion, what rules apply?
WAC 286-26-090	For land acquisition projects, are there long term obligations?
WAC 286-26-100	For development projects, are there long term obligations?
WAC 286-26-105	What provisions apply to federal agencies?
WAC 286-26-110	Matching amounts and caps determined.

REPEALER

The following chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 286-27-010	What is the purpose of this chapter?
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WAC 286-27-040	Does the program have planning eligibility requirements?
WAC 286-27-045	What is a conversion of use?
WAC 286-27-055	Are there long-term obligations for acquiring interest in real property?
WAC 286-27-061	Are there long-term obligations for restoration projects?
WAC 286-27-065	Are there long-term obligations for development projects?
WAC 286-27-066	What additional rules apply to conversions of use?
WAC 286-27-071	What rules apply to the sale of farmland?
WAC 286-27-075	Are matching resources required—Are there caps?

REPEALER

The following chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 286-35-010	Scope.
WAC 286-35-030	Planning requirements.
WAC 286-35-060	Matching requirements and caps determined.
WAC 286-35-080	Acquisition projects—Deed of right, conversions, leases and easements.
WAC 286-35-090	Development projects—Conversion to other uses.

REPEALER

The following chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 286-40-010	Scope.
WAC 286-40-020	Funding and candidate selection.

WAC 286-40-030	Matching requirements.
WAC 286-40-040	Projects eligible for funding.
WAC 286-40-050	Acquisition projects—Deed of right, conversions, leases and easements.
WAC 286-40-060	Development projects—Conversion to other uses.

REPEALER

The following chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 286-42-010	What is the purpose of this chapter?
WAC 286-42-020	What organizations may receive grants?
WAC 286-42-030	Do these rules apply to projects funded on or before April 1, 2004?
WAC 286-42-040	What long term rules apply?
WAC 286-42-050	When considering approval of a conversion, what rules apply?
WAC 286-42-060	For land acquisition projects, are there long term obligations?
WAC 286-42-080	For development projects, are there long term obligations?
WAC 286-42-090	Must a grant recipient provide matching funds for the project— Are grant amounts limited?

Summary of Proposed Amendments with Explanatory Statement by Section

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is proposing to repeal chapters of Title 286 Washington Administrative Code in an effort to consolidate grant program requirements and apply requirements consistently across grant programs. See amendments to [Washington Administrative Code Title 286](#), Washington State Register filing [#17-06-079](#).

Below is a table that describes the proposed amendments with an explanatory statement for the changes by section.

New or Amended Section	WAC	Subject	Explanatory Statement of the Proposed Amendment
Amended	286-04-010	Definitions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adds definition for "project area".
Amended	286-13-010	Scope of chapter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deletes references to chapters that are repealed.
New	286-13-015	Eligible applicants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies that eligible applicants is determined by state law unless authority is granted to the board. Incorporates the eligible applicants for the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) grant program from WAC 286-42-020 (proposed to be repealed).
New	286-13-035	Planning requirement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidates the planning requirements from the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) (WAC 286-35-030), Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program (NOVA) (WAC 286-26-080), and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) (WAC 286-27-040) into one section. (The three program sections are proposed to be repealed.) Incorporates the planning requirement for the Land and Water Conservation Fund program (existing board policy).
Amended	286-13-045	Matching resources and request limits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revises the section title. Consolidates rules from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (WAC 286-42-090), Boating Facilities Program (WAC 286-35-060), Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program (WAC 286-26-110), and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WAC 286-27-075) into one section. (The four program sections are proposed to be repealed.) Applies the rules to any grant regardless of the grant program.
Amended	286-13-060	Project agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporates the provisions that applies to federal agencies from the WAC 286-26-105 Nonhighway

New or Amended Section	WAC	Subject	Explanatory Statement of the Proposed Amendment
			<p>and Off-road Vehicle Activities program (proposed to be repealed).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows for an agreement with a federal agency in any grant program, not just the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program.
Amended	286-13-115	Nondiscrimination, access to the public, and preferences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revises the section title. Adds gender as a category to the nondiscrimination section. Consolidates the provisions from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (WAC 286-42-080), Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program (WAC 286-26-100), and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WAC 286-27-065) into one section. (The three program sections are proposed to be repealed.) Applies the rules to any grant regardless of the grant program. Identifies the project area as the place where sponsors allow public use.
New	286-13-130	Compliance with applicable laws.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidates the provisions from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (WAC 286-42-080), Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program (WAC 286-26-100), and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WAC 286-27-065) into one section. (The three program sections are proposed to be repealed.) Applies the rules to any grant regardless of the grant program.
New	286-13-140	Project area map.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adds a requirement to provide a project area map and record a notice on the title of the properties within the project area.
New	286-13-150	Conveyance to the state for acquisition project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidates the provisions to convey rights to the state (called a deed of right) from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (WAC 286-42-060), Boating Facilities Program (WAC 286-35-080), Land and Water Conservation Fund (WAC 286-40-050), Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program (WAC 286-26-100), and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WAC 286-27-055) into one section. (The five program sections are proposed to be repealed.) Applies the rules to any acquisition grant regardless of the grant program. Adds minimum period for the Youth Athletic Facilities Program (existing board policy).

New or Amended Section	WAC	Subject	Explanatory Statement of the Proposed Amendment
New	286-13-160	Long-term obligations for acquisition projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidates the provisions for compliance from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (WAC 286-42-040, 050, and 060), Boating Facilities Program (WAC 286-35-080), Land and Water Conservation Fund (WAC 286-40-050), Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program (WAC 286-26-083, 085, and 090), and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WAC 286-27-045, 055, and 066) into one section. (The five program sections are proposed to be repealed.) Applies the rules to any acquisition grant regardless of the grant program. Identifies the project area as the place where the long-term obligations apply. Adds reference that conversions may not be satisfied with grant assistance from the board (existing board policy).
New	286-13-170	Long-term obligations for development and renovation projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidates the provisions for compliance from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (WAC 286-42-040, 050, and 080), Boating Facilities Program (WAC 286-35-090), Land and Water Conservation Fund (WAC 286-40-060), Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program (WAC 286-26-083, 085, and 100), and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WAC 286-27-045, 065, and 066) into one section. (The five program sections are proposed to be repealed.) Applies the rules to any development or renovation grant regardless of the grant program. Identifies the project area as the place where the long-term obligations apply. Adds reference that conversions may not be satisfied with grant assistance from the board (existing board policy).
New	286-13-180	Long-term obligations for restoration projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidates the provisions for compliance from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (WAC 286-42-050) and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WAC 286-27-045, 061, and 066) into one section. (The two program sections are proposed to be repealed.) Applies the rules to any restoration grant regardless of the grant program. Identifies the project area as the place where the long-term obligations apply.

New or Amended Section	WAC	Subject	Explanatory Statement of the Proposed Amendment
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adds reference that conversions may not be satisfied with grant assistance from the board (existing board policy).

Comparison of Existing Administrative Code to Proposed Amendments

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is proposing to repeal chapters of Title 286 Washington Administrative Code in an effort to consolidate grant program requirements and apply requirements consistently across grant programs. See amendments to [Washington Administrative Code Title 286](#), Washington State Register filing [#17-06-079](#).

Below are two tables. Table 1 compares the sections the administrative code proposed to be repealed and the new or amended sections that capture the requirements from the repealed sections. Table 2 identifies the sections that will be repealed, but not replaced and the reason for repeal. A list of acronyms used is available at the end of this attachment.

Table 1. Comparison of Proposed New Sections and Proposed Repealed Sections of Title 286 WAC.

New or Amended	Section That Replaces Sections Repealed	Sections Repealed	Grant Program
New Section	WAC 286-13-015 Eligible applicants.	WAC 286-42-020 What organizations may receive grants?	ALEA
New Section	WAC 286-13-035 Planning requirement.	WAC 286-26-080 Does this program have planning eligibility requirements?	NOVA
		WAC 286-27-040 Does the program have planning eligibility requirements?	WWRP
		WAC 286-35-030 Planning requirements.	BFP
Amended Section	WAC 286-13-045 Matching resources and request limits.	WAC 286-26-110 Matching amounts and caps determined.	NOVA
		WAC 286-27-075 Are matching resources required—Are there caps?	WWRP
		WAC 286-35-060	BFP

New or Amended	Section That Replaces Sections Repealed	Sections Repealed	Grant Program
		Matching requirements and caps determined.	
		WAC 286-42-090	ALEA
		Must a grant recipient provide matching funds for the project—Are grant amounts limited?	
Amended Section	WAC 286-13-060 Project agreement.	WAC 286-26-105 What provisions apply to federal agencies?	NOVA
Amended Section	WAC 286-13-115 Nondiscrimination, access to the public, and preferences.	WAC 286-26-100 For development projects, are there long term obligations?	NOVA
		WAC 286-27-065 Are there long-term obligations for development projects?	WWRP
		WAC 286-42-080 For development projects, are there long term obligations?	ALEA
New Section	WAC 286-13-130 Compliance with applicable laws.	WAC 286-26-100 For development projects, are there long term obligations?	NOVA
		WAC 286-27-065 Are there long-term obligations for development projects?	WWRP
		WAC 286-42-080 For development projects, are there long term obligations?	ALEA
New Section	WAC 286-13-150	WAC 286-26-090	NOVA

New or Amended	Section That Replaces Sections Repealed	Sections Repealed	Grant Program
	Conveyance to the state for acquisition project.	For land acquisition projects, are there long term obligations?	
		WAC 286-27-055	WWRP
		Are there long-term obligations for acquiring interest in real property?	
		WAC 286-35-080	BFP
		Acquisition projects—Deed of right, conversions, leases and easements.	
		WAC 286-40-050	LWCF
New Section	Long-term obligations for acquisition projects.	WAC 286-42-060	ALEA
		For land acquisition projects, are there long term obligations?	
		WAC 286-26-083	NOVA
		What long term rules apply?	
		WAC 286-26-085	NOVA
		When considering approval of a conversion, what rules apply?	
		WAC 286-26-090	NOVA
		For land acquisition projects, are there long term obligations?	
		WAC 286-27-045	WWRP
		What is a conversion of use?	
		WAC 286-27-055	WWRP
		Are there long-term obligations for acquiring interest in real property?	

New or Amended	Section That Replaces Sections Repealed	Sections Repealed	Grant Program
		WAC 286-27-066	WWRP
		What additional rules apply to conversions of use?	
		WAC 286-35-080	BFP
		Acquisition projects—Deed of right, conversions, leases and easements.	
		WAC 286-40-050	LWCF
		Acquisition projects—Deed of right, conversions, leases and easements.	
		WAC 286-42-040	ALEA
		What long term rules apply?	
		WAC 286-42-050	ALEA
		When considering approval of a conversion, what rules apply?	
		WAC 286-42-060	ALEA
		For land acquisition projects, are there long term obligations?	
New Section	WAC 286-13-170 Long-term obligations for development and renovation projects.	WAC 286-26-083	NOVA
		What long term rules apply?	
		WAC 286-26-085	NOVA
		When considering approval of a conversion, what rules apply?	
		WAC 286-26-100	NOVA
		For development projects, are there long term obligations?	
		WAC 286-27-045	WWRP

New or Amended	Section That Replaces Sections Repealed	Sections Repealed	Grant Program
		What is a conversion of use?	
		WAC 286-27-065	WWRP
		Are there long-term obligations for development projects?	
		WAC 286-27-066	WWRP
		What additional rules apply to conversions of use?	
		WAC 286-35-090	BFP
		Development projects—Conversion to other uses.	
		WAC 286-40-060	LWCF
		Development projects—Conversion to other uses.	
		WAC 286-42-040	ALEA
		What long term rules apply?	
		WAC 286-42-050	ALEA
		When considering approval of a conversion, what rules apply?	
		WAC 286-42-080	ALEA
		For development projects, are there long term obligations?	
New Section	WAC 286-13-180	WAC 286-27-061	WWRP
	Long-term obligations for restoration projects.	Are there long-term obligations for restoration projects?	
		WAC 286-27-045	WWRP

New or Amended	Section That Replaces Sections Repealed	Sections Repealed	Grant Program
		What is a conversion of use?	
		WAC 286-27-066	WWRP
		What additional rules apply to conversions of use?	
		WAC 286-42-040	ALEA
		What long term rules apply?	
		WAC 286-42-050	ALEA
		When considering approval of a conversion, what rules apply?	

Table 2. Sections Proposed to be Repealed from Title 286 WAC and Not Replaced

Grant Program	Sections Repealed	Reason to Repeal
NOVA	WAC 286-26-010 Scope of chapter.	No longer necessary.
	WAC 286-26-020 What definitions apply to this chapter?	Definitions used in the NOVA grant program are in Chapter 46.09 Revised Code of Washington Off-road, nonhighway, and wheeled all-terrain vehicles.
WWRP	WAC 286-27-010 What is the purpose of this chapter?	No longer necessary.
	WAC 286-27-045 What is a conversion of use?	The second sentence is no longer included in WAC. The reference is included in the definition of an acquisition project in Manual 7, Long-term Obligations .
	WAC 286-27-071 What rules apply to the sale of farmland?	Fee simple acquisition of farmland is no longer eligible per Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130 Farm and forest account – Use of funds.
BFP	WAC 286-35-010 Scope.	No longer necessary.
LWCF	WAC 286-40-010 Scope.	No longer necessary.
	WAC 286-40-020 Funding and candidate selection.	Subsections (1) to (3) are required by the National Park Service. Subsection (4) is a consideration of subsection (1) within the evaluation criteria.
	WAC 286-40-030 Matching requirements.	No longer applicable. Board policy requires an equal matching share for all applicants.
	WAC 286-40-040 Projects eligible for funding.	Eligible project costs are determined by the National Park Service. The board further defines eligible costs by policy.

Grant Program	Sections Repealed	Reason to Repeal
ALEA	WAC 286-42-010 What is the purpose of this chapter?	No longer necessary.
	WAC 286-42-030 Do these rules apply to projects funded on or before April 1, 2004?	Unnecessary. Administrative rules may not be applied retroactively.

Acronyms

ALEA – Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account

BFP – Boating Facilities Program

LWCF – Land and Water Conservation Fund

NOVA – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

WAC – Washington Administrative Code

WWRP – Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

Proposed Project Area Guidance and Procedures

Below is an intent statement, guidance and procedures for developing a project area map as required in the proposed new rule in Washington Administrative Code 286-13-140. The new administrative code is provided below for convenience and is also published in the Washington State Register filing [#17-06-079](#).

Project Area Intent Statement

The term “project area” is used to delineate the area on the ground that is subject to long-term obligations for maintaining property acquired, developed, renovated or restored with grant funds. The definition and guidance provides a common understanding for Recreation and Conservation Office staff, grant evaluators, and project sponsor in the grant application and, if funded, the project agreement.

The project area:

- Requires applicants to identify the proposed project area as part of their grant application.
- Ensures the public can legally access a grant assisted site.
- Does not include a whole park or recreation area by default. Project area reflects the limits of the work performed within a project agreement. Additionally, it must include area that is functionally dependent to a grant assisted site as long as that area is owned or controlled by the sponsor.
- Only includes land a sponsor owns or controls and is managed for a similar use or function as the grant assisted site.
- Does not change control and tenure requirements for development, renovation and restoration projects. The project area reflects the area a sponsor controls based on existing requirements. Control and tenure requirements are found in [Manual 4, Development Projects](#) and [Manual 5, Restoration Projects](#).

The definition and accompanying guidance and procedures applies to the term “project area” in any law, administrative rule or policy subject to administration of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board.⁴ In particular, project area applies to:

- Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.110 Review of Proposed Project Application;
- Washington Administrative Code Sections:⁵
 - WAC 286-13-110 Income, Use of Income;
 - WAC 286-13-115 Nondiscrimination, access to the public, and preferences;
 - WAC 286-13-130 Compliance with applicable laws;
 - WAC 286-13-140 Project area map;
 - WAC 286-13-160 Long-term obligations for acquisition projects;
 - WAC 286-13-170 Long-term obligations for development and renovation projects;

⁴ The Salmon Recovery Funding Board’s definition of project area is in Washington Administrative Code 420-04-010.

⁵ See Administrative Rule-making Washington State Register filing [#17-06-079](#)

- WAC 286-13-180 Long-term obligations for restoration projects; and
- Recreation and Conservation Funding Board policy manuals.

Project Area Definition and Map Requirement

The definition of project area, a requirement to provide a project area map and to record a notice of the map are in proposed amendments to the Washington Administrative Code in Washington State Register filing [#17-06-079](#).

Definition of "Project Area"

Proposed WAC 286-04-010(19)

"Project area" is a geographic area that delineates a grant assisted site which is subject to grant application and project agreement requirements.

"Project Area" Map

Proposed WAC 286-13-140 Project area map.

- (1) A project area map is required for each acquisition, development, renovation, and restoration project.
- (2) At a minimum, the project area must include the property acquired, developed, renovated or restored with grant assistance and the route for the public to access the property. The project area must also include sufficient property that is functionally dependent to a grant assisted site and owned or controlled by the sponsor. Any additional property included in the project area must be necessary to complete the programmatic function described in the application and meet the need for the project.
- (3) The sponsor must record a notice of grant as provided by the office on the title of the properties in the project area.

Project Area Guidance and Procedures

Guidance for Determining Project Area

To determine whether additional property is necessary to include in the project area per WAC 286-13-140(3), consider the following questions:

- What property does the sponsor own (if any) or control that supports the programmatic function of the grant assisted site?
- What property was described in the grant application?
- Where does the public access the grant assisted site?
- Where are the support facilities that the public needs when they are at the grant assisted site?
- Where are the other facilities or areas necessary to provide a complete experience at the grant assisted site?
- How does the grant assisted site function as a landscape with other property surrounding it?

Examples

Below are examples of additional property to include in the project area per WAC 286-13-140(3).

- Include additional property that connects with the property to be acquired to provide a larger park, trail, or conservation area with the same programmatic function. Examples include:
 - Property surrounding an in-holding that is to be acquired;
 - Adjacent property when the property to be acquired will expand an existing park or conservation area; and
 - Adjacent trail links and trailhead.
- Include property where existing eligible support amenities and facilities are located that are needed to complete the recreation experience at the grant assisted site. Examples include parking lots, pathways, restrooms, picnic areas, benches, dug outs, fields, trailheads, lights, camping areas, boat launches, and shooting fall out zones.
- Include property where other restoration work complements the programmatic function of the grant assisted site. Examples include riparian corridors, forest thinning and prescribed burns, fill or piling removal, and invasive species treatment.

Project Area Map Requirements and Process

1. **Draft Project Area Map** - Applicants provide a draft project area map with the application. For the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, applicants must provide the project area map to local jurisdictions for their review along with the other application materials.
2. **Identify Inconsistent Uses** - Applicants must identify property ownership and areas under the applicant's control and any contemplated future uses in the project area that may be inconsistent with the on-going obligations of receiving grant funds.

Applicants review the grant program policies to identify whether there are any inconsistent uses of concern. Applicants have a continuing duty to review the grant program policies during the period of the project.

Areas deemed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to be inconsistent with the grant program policies must be excluded from the project area and are not eligible for grant funding. Examples of inconsistent uses vary by program and may include cell towers, water towers, widening roads, community centers, and environmental education centers.

An inconsistent use that is not disclosed may be a conversion by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board's (board) compliance policy. See [Manual 7, Long-term Obligations](#).



3. **Final Project Area Map** – If the project is funded, the sponsor and RCO finalize the project area map. The map is signed by RCO and the sponsor and included in the project agreement. The final project area map is now called a "compliance boundary map."
4. **Map Changes** - When the project is complete, RCO may approve amending the compliance boundary map in the project agreement based on changes to the scope of work and other agreement amendments that occurred during project implementation.
5. **Record on Title of Property** – Before final reimbursement, the sponsor must record a notice of grant with the compliance boundary map.

6. **Post-Completion** – After a project is complete, changes to the compliance boundary map may only be approved according to the board's compliance policy. See [*Manual 7, Long-term Obligations*](#).

Pre-proposal Statement of Inquiry Notice (CR-101)

	PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY	CR-101 (June 2004) (Implements RCW 34.05.310) Do NOT use for expedited rule making
Agency: Recreation and Conservation Office on behalf of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board		
Subject of possible rule making: The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board will consider amendments to Title 286 to clarify grant program requirements and consolidate sections.		
Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 34.05.220; 42.56.040; 46.09.530; 79A.15.030; 79A.15.060; 79A.15.070; 79A.15.120; 79A.15.130; 79A.25.210		
Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: The reason for this proposal is to clarify grant program requirements. The amendments will add definitions and requirements for "project area." The amendments will also consolidate grant program related chapters into one new section that applies to any grant program.		
Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: No other federal or state agencies regulate grant funding programs administered by the board and office.		
Process for developing new rule (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Negotiated rule making <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot rule making <input type="checkbox"/> Agency study <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board will follow the standard process for the adoption of rules under the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW		
How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication: (List names, addresses, telephone, fax numbers, and e-mail of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.) Leslie Connelly, Rules Coordinator, Recreation and Conservation Office 1111 Washington Street SE PO Box 40917 Olympia, WA 98504-0917 (360) 902-3080 (office) / (360) 902-3026 (fax) leslie.connelly@rcob.wa.gov		
DATE January 3, 2017	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> CODE REVISER USE ONLY OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER STATE OF WASHINGTON FILED DATE: January 03, 2017 TIME: 3:51 PM WSR 17-02-075 </div>	
NAME (TYPE OR PRINT) Leslie Connelly		
SIGNATURE 		
TITLE Rules Coordinator, Natural Resource Policy Specialist		

Proposed Rulemaking Notice (CR-102)

 PROPOSED RULE MAKING		CR-102 (June 2012) (Implements RCW 34.05.320) Do NOT use for expedited rule making	
Agency: Recreation and Conservation Office on behalf of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 17-02-075; or Expedited Rule Making-Proposed notice was filed as WSR _____; or <input type="checkbox"/> Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1).		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Notice <input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Notice to WSR _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Continuance of WSR _____	
Title of rule and other identifying information: (Describe Subject) Amendments to chapter 286-04 WAC General and chapter 286-13 General grant assistance WAC and repealing chapter 286-26 WAC Nonhighway road and off-road vehicle funds, chapter 286-27 WAC Washington wildlife and recreation program, chapter 286-35 WAC Boating facilities program, chapter 286-40 WAC Land and water conservation fund, and chapter 286-42 WAC Aquatic lands enhancement account program.			
Hearing location(s): South Puget Sound Community College Campus Room 194 4220 6th Ave SE. Lacey, WA 98503 Date: <u>May 10, 2017</u> Time: <u>4:00 p.m.</u>		Submit written comments to: Name: <u>Leslie Connelly</u> Address: <u>1111 Washington Ave. S., PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917</u> e-mail: <u>leslie.connelly@rcfb.wa.gov</u> fax: <u>(360) 902-3026</u> by <u>April 15, 2017</u> Assistance for persons with disabilities: Contact <u>Leslie Frank</u> by <u>May 9, 2017</u> <u>TTY (360) 902-0220 or (360) 902-3013</u>	
Date of intended adoption: <u>May 10, 2017</u> (Note: This is NOT the effective date)			
Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The purpose of the proposal is to amend and clarify grant requirements and apply them to all grants for the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board. While specific program related rules would be repealed, the requirements within those programs are consolidated and incorporated into new sections in chapter 286-13 General grant assistance. The anticipated effects are: 1) Consistent application of rules across grant programs for applicant eligibility, planning eligibility, matching share, grant request limits, public access, compliance with applicable laws, and long-term obligations; 2) Clarification of the long-term obligations of receiving grant funds, including a new definition for project area and requirements to provide a project area map; and 3) Allowing for modified grant program requirements for federal agencies, regardless of the grant program, when approved by the board. Reasons supporting proposal: There are two reasons for this proposal. First, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board administers different grant programs but applies many of the same rules and policies to grant awards, regardless of which grant program the funds come from. In addition, there are grant programs administered by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board that do not have administrative rules, but follow the same grant requirements as a matter of policy. Consolidating the grant requirements will ensure consistency in their application and allow them to be applied to any project. Second, adding a definition and a map requirement for project area will provide sponsors a clear understanding of the long-term obligations of receiving grant funds and document where those long-term obligations apply on the ground.			
Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 34.05.120; 42.56.040; 46.09.530; 79A.15.060; 79A.15.070; 79A.15.120; 79A.15.130; 79A.25.210		Statute being implemented: Chapters 79A.15 and 79A.25 RCW, RCW 46.09.530	
Is rule necessary because of a: Federal Law? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Federal Court Decision? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No State Court Decision? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, CITATION: _____		CODE REVISER USE ONLY <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER STATE OF WASHINGTON FILED DATE: March 01, 2017 TIME: 10:23 AM WSR 17-06-079 </div>	
DATE <u>March 1, 2017</u>			
NAME (type or print) <u>Leslie Connelly</u>			
SIGNATURE 			
TITLE: <u>Rules Coordinator/Natural Resources Policy Specialist</u>			

(COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE)

Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters: None.			
Name of proponent: (person or organization) Recreation and Conservation Office			<input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governmental
Name of agency personnel responsible for:			
	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting.....	Leslie Connelly	1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia WA 98504	(360) 902-3080
Implementation....	Kaleen Cottingham	1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia WA 98504	(360) 902-3000
Enforcement.....	Kaleen Cottingham	1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia WA 98504	(360) 902-3000
Has a small business economic impact statement been prepared under chapter 19.85 RCW or has a school district fiscal impact statement been prepared under section 1, chapter 210, Laws of 2012?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Attach copy of small business economic impact statement or school district fiscal impact statement. A copy of the statement may be obtained by contacting: Name: Address: <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> phone () _____ fax () _____ e- mail _____ </div>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Explain why no statement was prepared. The proposed rulemaking does not meet the definition of a "minor cost" in RCW 19.85.020(2) nor would it affect "small businesses" as defined in RCW 19.85.020(3).			
Is a cost-benefit analysis required under RCW 34.05.328?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting: Name: Address: <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> phone () _____ fax () _____ e- mail _____ </div>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: Please explain: The Recreation and Conservation Office is not listed as an agency required to complete a cost-benefit analysis under RCW 34.05.328(5)(a)(i).			

Draft Concise Explanatory Statement

To be distributed May 3rd.

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-13
Amendments to Title 286 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC)
Adoption of Project Area Guidance and Procedures**

WHEREAS, pursuant to state law, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) adopts administrative rules that govern its grant programs and sets procedures for the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO); and

WHEREAS, the administrative rules in Title 286 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) provide policy direction to the board, director, and office on general grant program administration and are in need of revision to consolidate grant program requirements and provide requirements for project area; and

WHEREAS, RCO filed a Pre-proposal Statement of Inquiry to amend Title 286 WAC with the Office of the Code Reviser on filed January 3, 2017 and published January 18, 2017 in issue #17-02 of the Washington State Register and no comments were received; and

WHEREAS, RCO filed a Proposed Rule Making to amend Title 286 WAC with the Office of the Code Reviser on March 1, 2017 and published March 15, 2017 in issue #17-06 of the Washington State Register and also provided the proposed rulemaking to the Joint Administrative Rules Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Project Area Subcommittee developed a definition, guidance and procedures for "project area," presented a recommendation to the board in October 2016, and the board directed staff to include the recommendation in the proposed rulemaking to Title 296 WAC; and

WHEREAS, RCO posted notice, in accordance with RCW 34.05.320, of the proposed rulemaking to amend Title 286 WAC and the project area recommendation on its website, sent an email notification to interested persons, and accepted public comments from March 15 to April 14, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the board conducted a public hearing, in accordance with RCW 34.05.325, on the proposed rulemaking to amend Title 286 WAC on May 10, 2017 and considered all written and verbal comments submitted;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt the proposed rulemaking as filed with the Office of the Code Reviser on March 1, 2017 and published March 15, 2017 in issue #17-06 of the Washington State Register and reflected in Attachment A; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLCED, that the board does hereby adopt the guidance and procedures recommended by the Project Area Subcommittee as presented in Attachment D; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board directs RCO staff to file a final rule making order, in accordance with RCW 34.05.325, with the Office of the Code Reviser and it shall have an effective date of 31 days from the date it is filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the requirements for a project area map start with the _____.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Match Waiver Policy

Prepared By: Adam Cole, Natural Resource Policy Specialist

Summary

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff is developing policy options to waive or reduce match requirements if a proposed project benefits underserved populations or communities in need. At this time, these policy options would apply only to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Local Parks, Water Access, and Trails categories. Staff will share draft policy concepts at the May 2017 meeting.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☐ Request for Decision
- ☒ Request for Direction
- ☐ Briefing

Background

The state Legislature mandated that the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) conduct a review¹ of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) in 2015. The following year Substitute Senate Bill 6227² implemented many of its recommendations. Among other changes to the WWRP, the bill added the following underlined language to the existing WWRP statutes³:

"(4) The board may not approve a project of a local agency where the share contributed by the local agency is less than the amount to be awarded from the outdoor recreation account. The local agency's share may be reduced or waived if the project meets the needs of an underserved population or a community in need, as defined by the board."⁴

The terms "underserved population" and "community in need" are statutorily undefined. The WWRP statute 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."⁵ Therefore, the match waiver or reduction shall apply only to the WWRP grant categories in the Outdoor Recreation Account for which local agencies may apply⁶: Local Parks, Trails, and Water Access.

¹ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Review: [Report to the Washington State Legislature \(December 2015\)](#)

² [Substitute Senate Bill 6227](#),

³ [RCW 79A.15](#)

⁴ [Substitute Senate Bill 6227](#), Sec 7(4), Rows 15-20, p12

⁵ RCW 79A.15.010(7)

⁶ RCW 79A.15.050

At the February 2017 meeting of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), RCO staff briefed the board on efforts to implement the new law (see [Item 13](#) from the February meeting), as well as on the findings of an RCO-commissioned [report](#) by the [Washington State University Social and Economic Research Center](#). At that time, staff provided a summary of policy discussions with a stakeholder work group that assists this policy-making effort; a member list is included in Attachment A.

Outreach and Coordination

In addition to meeting bi-monthly with the Match Waiver Work Group, staff solicited feedback from other agency staff and stakeholders on the work plan and policy development. To date, staff have met with forty-nine local government parks directors, policy staff, and elected officials, as well as several state agencies, the National Parks Service, the planning committee for the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and members of the academic community. With regard to state agency assistance and feedback, the Department of Health, the Office of Financial Management, and Department of Commerce have been helpful with recommendations, tools, and data to assist RCO efforts. Once final policy proposals are developed, staff will seek additional comments from RCO's WWRP Local Parks, Trails, and Water Access advisory committees.

Policy Direction and Work Group Feedback

Using Income to Measure Socioeconomic Hardship

Following the recommendation of the Washington State University report and work group feedback, an "Income Only" concept to identify an underserved population and a community in need was prepared. Staff used the median household income (MHI) of the state's census tracts to measure whether or not an area was an "underserved population." Similarly, the MHI of a local government was used to measure whether that jurisdiction was a "community in need."

Income Only Concept

If a grant-funded project is located in a census tract or political jurisdiction where developed ("community") park space is less than XXX, and the median household income (MHI) is less than state median household income (SMHI = \$61,062), the following minimum match amount applies to the project applicant:

Income Within Census Tract Compared to State Median Household Income (SMHI)	Median Household Income (MHI) Range	Minimum Match Required
70-65% of SMHI	\$42,743 – 39,691	40%
65-60% of SMHI	\$39,690 – 36,638	30%
60-55% of SMHI	\$36,637 – 33,585	20%
Below 55% of SMHI	\$33,584 – 0	10%*

**Existing Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Policy requires at least 10% local match.*

To identify the populations that face income hardships under these definitions, staff mapped all state census tracts and listed all 281 cities and towns and 39 counties. The model demonstrated that a map-based approach supports the efforts to apply a match reduction based on income and geography. However, an in-depth look at specific census tracts (underserved populations), and jurisdictions (a local government, or community in need), revealed some weaknesses in using this approach:

- Project Location and Service Area.
 - a. For example, a project may be located in a tract or jurisdiction with a relatively high income, but the project itself may primarily serve a nearby low income community in an adjacent tract or jurisdiction.
- Skewed Income:
 - a. Local governments and census tracts that house post-secondary schools have a very low median income across the board compared to similar communities. The same was true of communities with institutions such as prisons and hospitals. Similarly, areas around military installations showed low income.
 - b. Tracts or Jurisdictions that contain waterfront communities may also contain low income communities but the presence of waterfront homes skews income metrics.
- This method appears to “favor” rural areas.
- Policy (match reductions) does not apply to enough potential applicants.
 - a. In the “community in need” criteria; of the 320 cities, towns, and counties in the state, a match reduction will likely apply to roughly 110 jurisdictions containing 13% of the state’s population. The majority of these jurisdictions are small communities that apply for grants infrequently or not at all.

Expanded Approaches

As an alternate method for identifying socioeconomic hardship in areas of the state, staff developed a criteria-based approach to better measure the communities benefitting from a match reduction/waiver program. The following are examples of criteria that the work group considered.

1) *Eligibly and Weighted Reduction Concept*

If a project is located in a census tract or jurisdiction where developed park space is less than 4 acres per 1000 residents, **or** the community that benefits from project has no parks within a half-mile (10 minute walk), **and** the area median household income (MHI) is 80% of the state median household income, the project is **eligible** for a reduction of match **based on the following characteristics**:

Variable Group	Variable(s)	Threshold	Match Reduction*
Income	Sponsor Chooses One:		
	1. Median Household Income (main campus 4 year college and university, and military installation census tracks excluded)	MHI 65% or less than SMHI, or school lunch 65% (75%?) or more is free and reduced.	20% (10?)
	2. % of Free or Reduced School Lunch in the local school boundary (as opposed to the whole school district)	40% (?) or more of income goes to housing costs.	
	3. Ratio of income to cost of housing.		

Variable Group	Variable(s)	Threshold	Match Reduction*
Demography	1. Language other than English spoken at home ⁷ or residents not born in the United States ⁸ OR 2. Presence of Children and Seniors	1. Two Times or More of Statewide % OR 2. 40% or more of the population of the tract are under 18 and/or over 65 years of age.	5% (10?)
Health Risks and Disparities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asthma Obesity Diabetes Heart Disease Mental Health Sedentary Lifestyle Well Being Premature Death 	Presence of at least 2 of these conditions is 120% of the state rate.	5% (10?)
Density	People per square mile	Above the state average density for Washington's urban areas combined.	5% (10?)
Success in WWRP	Applicant has not received a WWRP (Local Parks, Trails, Water Access) grant in previous 10 years?	Yes/No	5% (10?)

*Regardless of how many layers of match waiver apply (above), sponsor match may not be less than 10%.

*For any single project, the amount of match waived shall not exceed \$500,000.

2) County Only Concept:

If the median household income of a county is less than the state's median household income, the following match reductions may apply:

Variable	Value	Reduce Match by:
70-65 % of SMHI	\$42,743 – 39,691	10%
Less than 65%	\$39,690 – \$0	10%
County is "Rural"	As defined by OFM	5%
County is "Distressed"	As defined by OFM	5%
Less than 40% of the county land is non-taxable		5%
OR		
Less than 20% of the county land is non-taxable		10%
Sponsor has never received a WWRP (LP, TR, WA) grant		5%
OR		
Sponsor has never received a WWRP (LP, TR, WA) grant		10%

*Regardless of the amount of match reduction achieved, sponsor must provide a minimum of 10% match.

⁷ 18.9% of WA State Residents – "Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5 years+, 2011-2015" (2011-2015 United States Census "Quick Facts")

⁸ 13.4% of people in WA State not born in the US (2011-2015 United States Census "Quick Facts")

3) Federal Disaster Concept

Variable	Threshold(s)	Match
Federal Disaster Declaration	1) Project site is within a jurisdictional boundary that the President has declared a major disaster area under the Stafford Act.	Waived For any single project, the amount of match waived shall not exceed \$750,000.

Park Inventory and Access

In addition to using socioeconomic measures, the work group discussed the need to include the quantity, quality, and access to park spaces within a given geography. For the following reasons, the work group cautioned against including a measure of park inventory for the following reasons:

- No reliable geographic information systems (GIS) data layer exists for local government park spaces.
- Measure treats large and small communities differently.
- The designated service area for a park varies greatly.
- Evaluation of amenities within parks needs to be considered and GIS data does not exist.
- Water Access sites are typically in high-income areas.
- Trails projects are not a “point on map,” but rather involve multiple communities.
- Inventory does not measure the need to redevelop existing facilities.
- Allow the applicant to assess its own needs.
- The “Need” and other existing grant evaluation criteria, and RCO’s required local Comprehensive Parks Plan, are in place to evaluate an areas park needs. Adding an additional layer of need analysis would impose another layer of scrutiny that is not warranted or needed at this time.

Alternate Approach

As policy concepts centered on socio-economic measures mature, and the related limitation of some metrics are identified, an alternative approach has been suggested. Rather than measuring “people,” match reductions may be tied to the inability of an agency to raise its own match. If the cost to build a park facility across the state are the same, but the ability of local governments to fund a facility vary greatly across the state, identifying those agency barriers may prove useful in the match reduction consideration.

Proposed measures for this alternate approach may include:

1. Rate Based Analysis:
 - a. Compare the cost of a park project per capita among similar agencies.
2. Gross tax revenues per capita.
3. Property Tax Rates and Limits.
4. Median Property Values.
5. The ability of a jurisdiction to charge impact fees.

6. Economic Vitality of the Community.
7. Compare per capita park spending by agency.
8. Election history related to bonding and districting for parks as compared to other jurisdictions.
9. Compare the income of the community to others, presuming income is a proxy for community capacity to raise capital (political will).

Staff shall evaluate and refine these and other measurements and policy options in preparation for the May 2017 board meeting.

Next Steps

Based on board feedback, the next step will be to draft policy concepts for the work group to review at its June 6, 2017 meeting. Staff shall provide final policy recommendations and request a public comment period at the July 12-13 board meeting in anticipation of a final decision on the match waiver/reduction policy in October 2017.

Attachments

- A. Match Waiver Work Group Members

Match Waiver Work Group

Chris Brong
Commissioner
Skamania County

Soo Ing-Moody
Mayor
Twisp

Brett Freshwaters
Chief Financial Officer
Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma

Suzette Cooke
Mayor
Kent

Patricia ("Trish") Combs
Director
State Arts and Sports Association

Christopher Williams,
Deputy Superintendent
Seattle Parks and Recreation

Dave Erickson
City Council Member
City of Cashmere

Sue Jetter
Principal
Sue Jetter Consulting

Ashley Knapp
Public Sector Grant Writer
Trust for Public Land

Kurt Grinnell*
Tribal Council Member
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Brad Case
Parks & Recreation Director
City of Ellensburg

Andrea McNamara Doyle
Executive Director
Washington Wildlife and Recreation
Coalition

***Alternate: Hansi Hals**
Environmental Planning
Manager, Jamestown
S'Klallam Tribe
*(Serving in place of Tribal
Council Member Grinnel)*

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Control and Tenure Policy on State-Owned Aquatic Lands

Prepared By: Adam Cole, Natural Resource Policy Specialist

Summary

Staff requests direction from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) regarding changes to its control and tenure policy for development projects occurring on state-owned aquatic lands managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Generally speaking, board policy requires 25 to 30 years of control and tenure for development projects. However, DNR has been moving to limiting its Aquatic Use Authorization term for developments on state-owned aquatic lands to 12 years. This memo presents a policy proposal that follows concepts described at the February 8, 2017, board meeting.

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

Control and Tenure Policy

According to policy set by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), any organization receiving a grant must demonstrate that it owns or otherwise controls the land where the project will be implemented (Attachment A). This is referred to as having “control and tenure” of a project site, which takes the form of outright ownership by the sponsor or control of the property through a lease, an easement, use agreement, or similar means. Sponsors must demonstrate that the project meets the board’s control and tenure requirements before the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) will issue a project agreement.

The purpose of the policy is three-fold. First, the policy ensures that RCO enters into an agreement with a sponsor that has the authority to implement a project on the subject lands. Second, it ensures that control and tenure is secured at the time a project agreement may be issued so as not to delay project implementation. Third, the tenure sets the compliance period for the long-term obligations of the project and ensures use of the facility by the public for a reasonable length of time to justify the investment of public funds.

Sponsors who want to conduct grant-funded development projects on [state-owned aquatic lands](#) may not be able to meet the board-adopted minimum term of control and tenure for development projects.¹

¹ Because of statutes unique to Port Districts which allow long-term Port Management Agreements with DNR, these organizations typically meet the board’s control and tenure requirements without issue.

Examples of projects where a sponsor would develop a structure on state-owned aquatic lands includes the installation or renovation of docks, piers, marinas, boat launches, and trails.

State-Owned Aquatic Lands

The Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) leasing practices (on which it bases its "Aquatic Use Authorization") for properties with improvements, generally utilize shorter-term leases which are typically 12 years. With a shorter lease term, DNR can more readily implement best practices that aim to achieve a healthier environment and a better functioning facility. For example, a shorter term will allow the DNR to better address changing regulatory requirements, such as removing creosote pilings or addressing structures that impede the access of salmon along the shoreline. DNR is also able to minimize state liability by keeping lease language up-to-date and ensuring security and insurance clauses are appropriate for the given use.

In addition to leasing preferences, there are also constitutional and statutory limitations on the length of time the agency can issue a lease or easement depending on the type of state-owned aquatic lands (Attachment B).

DNR's Stewardship and Leasing Resources

Additional resources regarding DNR's stewardship and leasing resources include the following:

- Aquatic Stewardship:
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/aquatics/stewardship-measures>
- Leasing for Grant Projects:
http://file.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em_fs11_018.pdf
- Caring for Washington's Nearshore Environments:
http://file.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em_fs10_001.pdf
- Leasing State-owned Aquatic Lands:
http://file.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em_fs11_019_leasing_soal.pdf
- Fact Sheet for Leasing Aquatic Lands:
http://file.dnr.wa.gov/publications/aqr_fs_leasing_guide_0816.pdf

Current Policy and Issues

Current Board Policy

The board policy for control and tenure was adopted in 1996 and calls for a twenty-five year term (Attachment A). However, additional terms now exist by program (see below) due to additional board policies adopted since 1996 and via pre-emption of board policy by the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) or the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations.

The following is the current board policy as expressed in [RCO Manual #4, Development Projects](#):

"Before executing a project agreement, the applicant must provide RCO with documentation as described below:

- **Applicant owns property.** *Current title information for property owned by the applicant. This information must include:*
 - *Legal description*
 - *Documentation of deed restrictions and encumbrances*
 - *Documentation of current owner*
 - *Documentation of easements*
 - *Explanation of the immediate or potential impacts of any restriction, encumbrance, or easement*

If the property was acquired with RCO assistance, simply provide the project name and timeframe to RCO and a list of any deed restrictions, encumbrances, or easements that may have been added after acquisition.

- **Applicant does not own property.** *Copies of applicable leases, easements, or use agreements on the property to be developed including state aquatic lands managed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources. Under this option the lease or easement or use agreement:*
 - **Must extend for the "minimum interest length" shown in the table below from the date RCO releases the final reimbursement and accepts the project as complete.²**
 - *Must not be revocable at will.*
 - *Must ensure the right of continuous public access.*
 - *Allow RCO or designee the right of entry to inspect without notice.*
 - *Incorporate RCO's sign requirements.*

Evidence must be provided by the sponsor that the proposed development and its intended uses are consistent with and legally permissible under the conditions of the lease, easement, or agreement. Completed project elements may not be transferred to the landowner upon completion of the RCO project."

Minimum Control and Tenure Length for Property Not Owned by the Applicant

Grant Program	Interest Length
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	25 years
Boating Facilities Program	25 years
Boating Infrastructure Grant	Useful Life
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation	10 years
Land and Water Conservation Fund (Easements only, leases are not eligible.)	Perpetuity
Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities	25 years
Recreational Trails Program	25 years
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	25 years
Youth Athletic Facilities	20 years

² Emphasis Added

Request to Waive Policy

When a sponsor cannot meet the board-adopted minimum tenure for a development project, typically twenty-five to thirty years, the sponsor often submits a request for a waiver of the board's policy. These are evaluated by RCO on a case-by-case basis. If a waiver is approved, it may be addressed with a special condition in the project agreement. In nearly all cases where a waiver is approved, the sponsor must commit to a long-term obligation timeline that extends beyond the term of its lease (for example). Failure to abide by that commitment would then be a compliance issue, including a potential conversion.

However, for the sake of efficiency, consistency, and transparency, staff recommends that the board consider a policy to resolve this issue.

Recent Attempts at Policy Update

2015

At the September 2015 meeting, the board directed staff to proceed with gathering public comments on recommended policy changes to resolve issues related to control and tenure, including those related to state-owned aquatic lands managed by DNR. [Item 6](#) of the September 2015 meeting materials contain the recommended policy statements and verbatim public comments received. Based on the nature and breadth of the public comments, no policy recommendations were pursued at that time. Staff requested additional time to examine the concerns submitted and to investigate DNR's lease and easement ("Aquatic Use Authorizations") practices before making further recommendations to the board.

2017

At the February 8, 2017 Board Meeting staff presented a new way forward on this issue. Rather than taking a broad approach with an update to the control and tenure policy that would address a variety of needs, staff recommended taking an incremental approach. At that time, staff recommended focusing on the most pressing challenge for sponsors: meeting the board's control and tenure term minimums for projects on state-owned aquatic lands managed by DNR. To that end, staff presented several ways to move forward in [Item 8](#) (beginning on page 4), also shown in the following table.

Table 1. Control and Tenure Policy Approaches

Control and Tenure Policy Approaches For Development Projects On DNR Aquatic Lands	
1) Case by Case	When sponsor has less than the minimum control and tenure term, evaluate sponsor requests for an exception to board policy.
2) Set No Minimum Term (Public Agencies Only)	If the sponsor and landowner are both public agencies, require control and tenure of the project site but prescribe no minimum term.
3) 12 Year Minimum Term	Adapt policy to DNR's preferred term.
4) Require Renewal of Lease Within RCO's Project Agreement Period	If a sponsor has a lease with a term of less than 12 years, the term of the project agreement shall extend beyond the time the sponsor lease will expire. A condition of the project agreement shall state when a sponsor shall apply for and obtain a new lease.

Control and Tenure Policy Approaches For Development Projects On DNR Aquatic Lands

5) Sliding Scale

Base control and tenure term, and long-term obligations on a sliding scale depending on investment and expected useful life of the facility.

6) Require a Combination Project.

If insufficient or no control and tenure exists, require a form of acquisition (obtaining a DNR Aquatic Use Authorization) in the project scope so the sponsor can acquire its control and tenure within the grant period (first two years or a four year grant period for example).

7) Direct Conferral between RCO and DNR

Managers at RCO and DNR could confer to identify possible changes to one another's policies within the limits of existing constitutional and statutory authorities. Conferral may identify policy and procedural opportunities that benefit all stakeholders.

Based on board feedback at the February meeting, and in consultation with DNR, this memo presents a proposal that follows the concepts in #6 and #7 above.

Proposed Policy Approach: Request For Direction

Focused Approach to Revising Current Control and Tenure Policy

Staff recommends the development of new policies to address the most common control and tenure challenge for sponsors: obtaining long-term control and tenure of state-owned aquatic lands managed by DNR.

The following policy proposals would apply only to projects on state-owned aquatic lands managed by the Department of Natural Resources (and not covered under a Port Management Agreement).

To better understand the flow of this policy proposal, a flow chart has been developed (Attachment C). It might help to preview the flow chart before reviewing the proposed policy language.

RCO – DNR Coordinated Control and Tenure Proposal

Policy Intent

For the following policy proposals, the intent is to create the opportunity for an early and coordinated review of a grant request to determine if an "Aquatic Use Authorization" term longer than DNR's preferred 12-year term is appropriate. A longer term may be possible depending on the degree to which the scope of work and long-term management of the site support the state's water access, environmental stewardship, and public recreation goals.

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the board to fund new recreation sites and renovate and replace existing sites to maximize recreation utility while protecting the environment. This is best achieved through granting funds to projects that replace out-of-date facilities rather than partially renovating them to continue into the short-term; and funding projects that use sustainable, modern, long-lasting, and environmentally-friendly materials and technologies.

Planning Project Policy Proposals

For the "Development Project Policy Proposals" (outlined below) to be feasible, and compliant with current board policies, these proposals related to planning projects need to be evaluated as well.³

1. For planning projects, the sponsor does not need to meet the board's control and tenure policy in the application and funding process. Rather, a required deliverable of a planning project is a signed "Aquatic Use Authorization" consistent with the board's control and tenure policy and minimum term, unless one already exists. The term must cover the anticipated completion date of the planned project.
 - 1.1. If the necessary term exceeds DNR's statutory limit on the issuance of an "Aquatic Use Authorization," a lesser term may be accepted at the discretion of the RCO Director.
2. A sponsor may not receive more than one planning grant at a given work site for the same or similar scope of work.

Development Project Policy Proposals

The following policy is for development projects only, including those under the umbrella of a combination⁴ project.

EXISTING DNR AUTHORIZATION

If sponsor has an existing Aquatic Use Authorization which complies with the board control and tenure policy, and it has more than 19 years left on its term when the project is expected to be completed, this term shall suffice in meeting the board's policy.

APPLICATION PHASE

1. Prior to RCO's Application Submit deadline, sponsor shall conduct a site visit with RCO and DNR to discuss project scope, budget, timeline, and long-term maintenance and management of the site.
2. Prior to RCO's Application Complete deadline, sponsor shall provide RCO with a written assurance (not necessarily an approval) from DNR that a long term Aquatic Use Authorization ("Authorization"), or amended Authorization, or a combination thereof, consistent with board adopted minimum control and tenure term⁵, is likely.
 - 2.1. If the written assurance has been provided, the sponsor has 2 years from this date to sign and provide to RCO the Aquatic Use Authorization that meets the board's control and tenure policy.
 - 2.1.1. In the case where an amended Authorization, or short term Authorization is signed in order to complete the project, and a longer-term Authorization meeting the board's minimum control and tenure term is pending (per the written assurance), this shall be considered policy compliant.
 - 2.2. If no assurance has been provided the grant application shall not proceed, except as noted below in 2.2.1.

³ To better understand these sections, see Attachment C: Policy Flowchart.

⁴ A "Combination" project is when a sponsor combines more than one project types in its grant application, such as a Combination Acquisition and Development, or Combination Acquisition and Planning.

⁵ See table above, typically 25 years after the project is completed.

- 2.2.1.** If the project is in the Boating Facilities Program or Non-Highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities program, the project may be converted into a planning project and may proceed.

AGREEMENT PHASE

- 1.** If a sponsor has a signed project agreement with RCO and does not provide a signed Use Authorization, meeting the board's adopted minimum term within 2 years from the Application Complete deadline (see #2 above), the agreement shall be terminated, except as noted below in 2.
 - 1.1.** In the case where an amended Authorization, or short term Authorization is signed in order to complete the project, and a longer-term Authorization meeting the board's control and tenure policy term is pending (per the written assurance), this shall be considered policy compliant.
- 2.** If a development project agreement is to be terminated because the sponsor cannot secure the required minimum term, and the grant is in the Boating Facilities Program or Non-Highway and Off-Road Vehicle program, the project may be converted into a planning project and may proceed.

Policy Pros and Cons

The proposed policy changes have the following pros and cons.

Table 2. Policy Proposal Pros

Policy Pros	Example
Increases Utility of Planning Grants for Sponsors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduces burden on sponsors to obtain long-term control and tenure of a project site in order to apply for planning grant.• Establishes a "decision tree" when a planning grant may be needed prior to a development grant.• May result in two shorter term grants and increases project success.
Manages Expectations Proactively	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formalizes conferral and decision-making options to reduce confusion and ambiguity in the grant making process.• Sponsor can better identify its financial needs and timeline before its application is complete.• Reduces sponsor requests for policy waivers.
Promotes Longer Lasting Sites and Better Stewardship of State Owned Aquatic Lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grant funds may support newer, more modern facilities over renovating out of date sites.• Institutionalizes best practices into scope of work and long-term management of the site.
Better Utility for Recreationists	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Modern sites increase the public's utility of facilities.• Longer-term Authorizations mean long-term public use.

Policy Pros	Example
Captures Long-Term Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsor facilities potentially last longer and require less maintenance. Modern facilities may require less insurance and bonding in the Aquatic Use Authorization process. Longer Authorization terms require fewer negotiations and renewals.
Reduce Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better design and stewardship practices reduce the state's and sponsor's regulatory liability.

Table 3. Policy Proposal Cons

Policy Cons	Example
Increase Project Cost for Sponsors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scope of project may increase in order to get a long-term authorization.
Projects may take longer to complete.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiating a long-term Authorization within the project agreement phase of the grant delays construction activities. Grant cycles for a phased approach (planning then development grant) means longer timeline for a complete project.
May reduce public access in the short-term.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May reduce opportunity for a sponsor to apply for a "smaller" project to shore up a failing site while it raises capital for a newer facility.
Wasted Effort/Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following a planning grant, if development funds are not readily available, permits may expire.
Policy Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a short-term Authorization is issued to complete the project, sponsor may choose not to sign a longer-term lease.

Next Steps

Based on board feedback, staff shall continue to meet with DNR and others to identify policy and operational opportunities that may align board and DNR policies. Staff's goal is to have policies and procedures in place in preparation for the 2018 grant cycle.

Attachments

- A. Control and Tenure Policy Adopted Per Board Resolution #1996-10
- B. DNR Lease and Easement Terms for State-Owned Aquatic Lands
- C. Draft Policy Flowchart

Control and Tenure Policy Adopted in 1996 per RCFB Resolution #1996-10

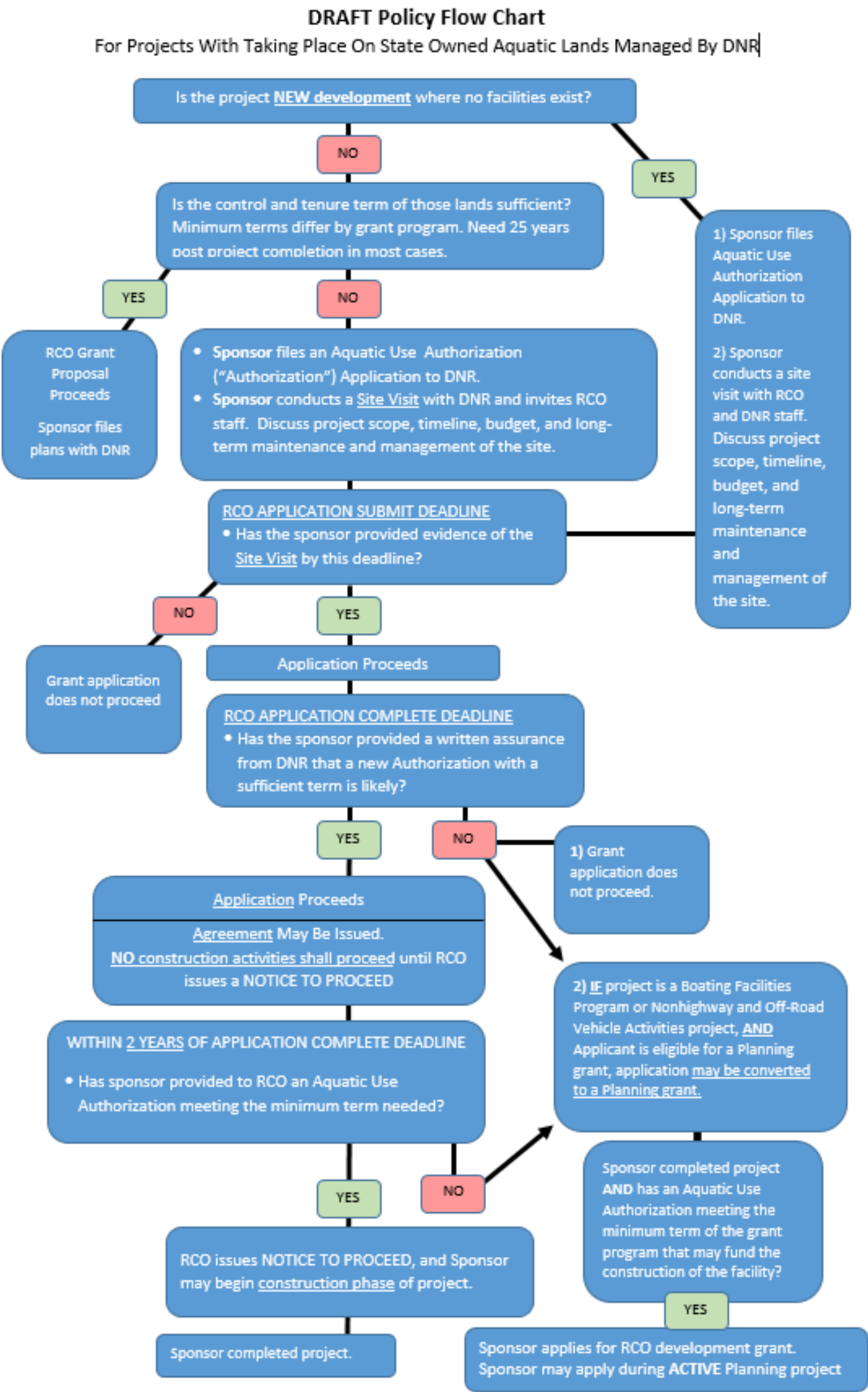
"To protect the RCFB assisted capital investment, sponsors must have adequate control and tenure of development project areas. This may be documented in several ways, including by showing land ownership, lease, use agreement, or easement.

Before executing a project agreement, the applicant must provide RCO with:

1. Current title information for project property owned by the applicant, but not acquired with RCFB assistance. This information must include:
 - Legal description,
 - Deed description,
 - Encumbrances,
 - Documentation of current owner, and
 - Easements. Explain the immediate or potential impact of any restriction, easement, or encumbrance.
2. Copies of applicable leases, easements, or use agreements on the area or property to be developed, if not owned by the sponsor. Under this option:
 - The lease, easement, or use agreement must extend for 25 years from the date of RCFB approval.
 - The lease, easement, or use agreement may not be revocable at will.
 - Evidence must be provided by the sponsor that the proposed development and its intended uses are consistent with and legally permissible under the conditions of the lease, easement, or agreement."

DNR's Lease and Easement Terms for State-Owned Aquatic Lands

Agreement type	Locations (<u>Defined</u>)	DNR Preferred Term	Maximum Term allowed by Statute	Authority
Easements	Bedlands – in front of second-class tide/shorelands	Depends 12 years	NA	RCW 79.36.355
	Bedlands – in front of unplatted first-class tide/shorelands	10 years	NA	
	First and second-class platted tidelands and shorelands	12 years	NA	
	First class unplatted tide/shorelands	10 years	NA	
	Harbor Areas	12 years	NA	
	Waterways	5 years	NA	
Lease	Bedlands – in front of second-class tide/shorelands	12 years	30 years	RCW 79.130.020
Lease	Bedlands – in front of unplatted first-class tide/shorelands	10 years	10 years	RCW 79.130.020
Lease	First and second-class platted tidelands/shorelands	12 years	55 years	RCW 79.125.200
Lease	First class unplatted tide/shorelands	10 years	10 years	RCW 79.125.410
Lease	Harbor Areas	12 years	30 years	State Constitution, Article XV, §2, RCW 79.115.110 & RCW 79.115.120
Waterway permit – Salmon Bay and East and West Duwamish River	Tidelands and shorelands	5 years	30 years	RCW 79.120.040
Waterway Permit – elsewhere		Up to 1 year	1 year	WAC 332-30-117 (3)
Waterway Permit – certain uses		Up to 5 years	5 years	WAC 332-30-117 (4)



APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**Meeting Date:** May 10-11, 2017**Title:** Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Habitat Conservation Account:
Evaluation Criteria and Other Policy Changes**Prepared By:** Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist**Summary**

This memo summarizes changes to the evaluation criteria in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Habitat Conservation Account in preparation for the 2018 grant cycle. The proposed changes in this memo represent some of the phase III changes to implement Senate Substitute Bill (SSB) 6227. Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff will brief the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) on the status of "straw dog" proposals, stakeholder input, and request input from the board before developing a formal draft for the consideration at the next meeting in July 2017.

In addition, the memo includes technical adjustments to the WWRP, Riparian Habitat category which are necessary as a result of its move to the Habitat Conservation Account as required in SSB 6227. RCO staff requests direction from the board on whether to make these adjustments in preparation for the 2018 grant cycle.

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**Statutory Changes to Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

[Senate Substitute Bill \(SSB\) 6227](#) changed the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) in early 2016 in a number of ways. The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) has implemented the changes in three phases based on direction in the law and past Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) decisions. The first phase addressed everything necessary to accept applications for the 2016 grant round, including changing the funding allocation formulas and eligible grant applicants. The second phase included everything necessary to evaluate the 2016 grant round, including creating the Forestland Preservation category. Phase 3 includes all the changes necessary for the 2018 grant round.

Phase Three

The changes to WWRP in phase three are summarized in the following table. All referenced agenda items are found in the materials for the board's May 2017 meeting.

Policies Covered in Phase Three of WWRP Implementation	Agenda Item
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) match policy	Item 11
Multiple benefits and other evaluation criteria changes into the Habitat Conservation Account (excluding the State Lands Restoration category) and Forestland Preservation Category and policy changes for the Riparian Habitat category	Item 13A
Acquisition and Development policies	Item 13B

Evaluation Criteria Changes

This memo includes the following required changes in SSB 6227:

- Incorporating the definition of multiple benefits and adding consideration of multiple benefits into the evaluation criteria in the following grant categories: Critical Habitat, Forestland Preservation, Natural Areas, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife Habitat.
- Adding the following considerations to the evaluation criteria for Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories:

The extent to which a conservation easement can be used to meet the purpose of the project, Community support from local citizens, local organizations, and local elected officials, and Estimated costs of maintaining and operating the property acquired.

Multiple Benefits

SSB 6227 provides a definition for multiple benefits and adds multiple benefits as a consideration when evaluating grant applications in the categories listed in the previous section. This section describes a “straw dog” of proposed changes to address multiple benefits and initial feedback received from stakeholders. RCO staff requests direction from the board on some key questions before developing a formal draft for the board’s consideration at the next meeting.

Definition

RCO staff developed a “straw dog” working definition of multiple benefits for incorporation into the grant program manuals.

Multiple Benefits Defined

Projects funded in the Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories may provide other benefits in addition to the conservation values of the project. These other benefits are called “multiple benefits” and may include recreational uses, natural resource uses such as grazing and forestry, or other management practices that are compatible with the intended conservation values of the project.

RCO staff shared this definition with a group of nonprofit nature conservancies and state agency staff members for initial feedback. RCO received feedback from staff from the Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Natural Resources. A summary of their comments and questions follows:

- Clarify multiple benefits are compatible with and do not diminish the conservation values.
- Concern for the grant evaluation team to discern between compatible and non-compatible multiple benefits.

- Potential overlap for projects with forest management practices in the habitat categories with the farmland and forestland categories.
- Does multiple benefits include any type of farming, or only grazing?

Based on this feedback, RCO staff requests direction from the board on the following questions:

1. Whether it is the board's intent of the multiple benefits allowance to overlap with existing working lands categories for farmland and forestland?
2. What other types of multiple benefits should be allowable beyond outdoor recreation, grazing and forestry? For example, should farming, energy development, mining, or other resource extraction and management opportunities be considered a multiple benefit?

Evaluation Criteria Changes

RCO staff developed a "straw dog" proposal of changes to the evaluation criteria to incorporate multiple benefits based on an example from the Critical Habitat Category. See Attachment A which includes the multiple benefits criteria and the other criteria described in the next section of this memo. The changes are included together in order to demonstrate all of the evaluation criteria changes underway.

This early draft was shared with a group of nonprofit nature conservancies and state agency staff members for initial feedback. RCO received feedback from former board member Betsy Bloomfield, Director of the Cowiche Canyon Conservancy, and staff from the Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Natural Resources. A summary of their comments and questions is below.

- Consider multiple benefits as a stand-alone evaluation criteria.
- Consider multiple benefits within the existing criteria related to supporting growth management planning efforts and other land use management efforts such as wildfire reduction and forest health.
- Include a description of how multiple benefits will be managed within the evaluation criteria.
- Other evaluation criteria suggestions outside the scope of the statutory change requirements.

Based on this feedback, RCO staff requests direction from the board on the following questions:

1. Should multiple benefits be included as a stand-alone evaluation criteria or should it be embedded within an existing criteria such as Management and Viability or Community Support?
2. Does the board want to entertain other changes to the evaluation criteria at this time or focus solely on changes related to the recent statutory changes?

Other Evaluation Criteria and Category Changes

Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, and Urban Wildlife

SSB 6227 requires three additional changes to the evaluation criteria for Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories:

- The extent to which a conservation easement can be used to meet the purpose of the project,
- Community support from local citizens, local organizations, and local elected officials, and
- Estimated costs of maintaining and operating the property acquired.

RCO staff developed a “straw dog” proposal of changes to the evaluation criteria to incorporate these additional criteria based on an example from the Critical Habitat Category. See Attachment A which includes these criteria and the multiple benefits criteria described in the previous section of this memo. The changes are included together in order to demonstrate all of the evaluation criteria changes underway.

This early draft was shared with a group of nonprofit nature conservancies and state agency staff members for initial feedback. RCO did not receive any significant feedback on these proposed changes. Staff from the Departments of Fish and Wildlife provided some clarifying language which is included in the draft “straw dog” proposal in Attachment A.

Riparian Habitat Category

SSB 6227 moved Riparian Habitat from its own account to a category within the Habitat Conservation Account. Applications for the 2016 grant cycle competed under this new structure as required by the law. In preparation for the next grant cycle, there are a few changes that need to be made to the Riparian Habitat category in order for it to fit into the Habitat Conservation Account. These changes are in addition to the requirement to consider multiple benefits as discussed in the previous section. The additional changes are:

- Consideration of whether a project located in the Puget Sound area is referenced in the Puget Sound Action Agenda,
- Consideration of environmental benefits of the project, and
- Include development of passive use recreational amenities within the project.

The above grant policies already exist for the Habitat Conservation Account. RCO staff recommends the board use the same policies for the Riparian Protection category so all categories have the same requirements. Attachment B reflects the existing policies that would be applied to the Riparian Habitat category starting in 2018.

RCO staff requests direction from the board on whether to adopt the existing policies for the Riparian Protection category. Staff also request direction on whether these changes can be considered a technical adjustment and implemented immediately.

Next Steps

After receiving feedback from the board on the four questions posed in this memo, RCO staff will prepare a formal draft for the board’s consideration at the next meeting in July. Public comment on the draft changes is proposed for August. Final adoption of the changes would occur at the board’s October meeting.

Link to Strategic Plan

Revising the board’s policies and evaluation criteria addresses Goals 1, 2, and 3 of the board’s *Strategic Plan*.

1. We help our partners protect, restore, and develop habitat and recreation opportunities that benefit people, fish and wildlife, and ecosystems.
2. We achieve a high level of accountability in managing the resources and responsibilities entrusted to us.

3. We deliver successful projects by inviting competition and by using broad public participation and feedback, monitoring, assessment, and adaptive management.

Attachments

- A. Example Evaluation Criteria Changes in the Critical Habitat Category
- B. Riparian Habitat Category Changes

Example Evaluation Criteria Changes in the Critical Habitat Category

The proposed changes below reflect the “straw dog” changes to the evaluation criteria for the Critical Habitat Category as a result of SSB 6227. Similar changes would occur in the Natural Areas and Urban Wildlife Habitat category. In addition, only the multiple benefits reference in the evaluation criteria will be incorporated into the Riparian Protection and Forestland Preservation categories.

WWRP Critical Habitat Evaluation Summary			
Criteria	Evaluation Elements	Possible Points	Weight
Project Introduction	Locate the project on statewide, vicinity, and site maps. Brief summary of the project (goals and objectives statement)	Not scored	0%
1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bigger picture • Uniqueness and significance of the site • Fish and wildlife species or communities • Quality of habitat 	20	40%
2. Species and Communities with Special Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat to species or communities • Importance of acquisitions • Ecological roles • Taxonomic distinctness • Rarity 	10	20%
3. Manageability and Viability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediacy of threat to the site • Long-term viability • Enhancement of existing protected land • Ongoing stewardship • Livestock grazing uses 	15	30%
4. Public Benefit and <u>Community Support and Multiple Benefits</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project<u>Community</u> support • <u>Educational</u> and/or scientific value • <u>Multiple Benefits</u> 	5	10%
Total Points Possible		50	

Evaluation Criteria #3: Manageability and Viability

What is the likelihood of the site remaining viable over the long term and why is it important to secure it now?¹ This question’s intent is to determine whether the site can be managed, and how it will be managed, to protect the target species or communities.

Immediacy of Threat of the Habitat

What, and how immediate or imminent, are the threats to the habitat at the site (i.e. inherent, ecological, human, conversion, abatable or non-abatable threats)? Are these new threats or ongoing threats? How do or will these threats affect the function of the habitat? How will protection of the site affect these threats? What steps already have been taken to secure the land or reduce the threats? _

¹ Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.060 ~~(6)(a)(ii, iv, viii, x)~~

Would a conservation easement, rather than fee simple acquisition, meet the goals and objectives of the project? If yes, but fee simple acquisition is the preferred approach, describe the reasons why a conservation easement is not being pursued.

Long-Term Viability

What regulatory protections currently are afforded the site (i.e., county comprehensive plan, critical areas ordinances, zoning, development regulation, shoreline management rules, forest practice rules including landowner landscape plans, habitat conservation plans, etc.)? Demonstrate how the site will be managed over time to maintain the desired characteristics. 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 and 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?

Enhancement of Existing Protected Land

Are there other protected lands (public and private) near or adjoining this site that have complementary or compatible land uses for the target species (consider wide-ranging or migratory species)? Are they managed in a manner consistent with the needs of the target species or communities? Is this site part of a larger ownership? If so, describe the connectivity and management of the other land.

Ongoing Stewardship

Describe the ongoing stewardship program for the site that includes the estimated costs of maintaining and operating the project, including control of noxious weeds and detrimental invasive species, and that identifies the source of funds from which the program will be funded.

Livestock Grazing Uses

~~Livestock grazing may not diminish the essential purposes of the proposed project. Describe livestock grazing uses of the property that would occur if the property is acquired. Describe the site-specific management plan for livestock grazing that protects or enhances the health of the species targeted in the grant proposal. The site-specific management plan must incorporate current laws, rules, and guidelines for wildlife species protection and include a duration and periodic renewal schedule.~~

▲ Maximum Points=15

Evaluation Criteria #4: Public Benefit and Community Support and Multiple Benefits

To what degree do communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from or support the project?

This question's intent is to find out what the unique public benefits are of your project. Public benefit should not be equated with "public access." The question is not meant to discount projects for *not* having overwhelming support or educational opportunities. It may be that your project has one or the other qualities and not both. Your answer will be scored on those unique qualities and how they are appropriate for, or of benefit to, your project.

ProjectCommunity Support

Describe the support or partnerships from local citizens, the community, interest groups, local organizations, volunteers, public agencies, local elected officials, etc. How have these groups been involved in project development? Explain any known opposition to the project.

Describe and document other monetary means that have been secured to help cover the costs for the project, i.e., grants, donations, in-kind contributions, etc.

Educational or Scientific Value

Describe the scientific and educational values of the site. Is there an identified research or educational need documented in a management plan, thesis, or scientific journal related to the habitat, species, or communities at the site? How likely is it that these opportunities will come to fruition? How accessible is the site for these activities?

Multiple Benefits

Describe the multiple benefits of the project such as recreation uses, natural resource uses such as grazing or forestry, or other management practices that are compatible with the project's conservation benefits.

▲ Maximum Point=5

Riparian Habitat Category Changes

The following grant requirements are existing policies for the WWRP Habitat Conservation Account. In 2016, Riparian Habitat was moved into the Habitat Conservation Account. To accommodate this shift, the following policies are proposed to also apply to the Riparian Habitat category starting in 2018.

Puget Sound Projects

The law² prevents the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board from funding any project in the Habitat Conservation Account that is in conflict with the Puget Sound Partnership's *Action Agenda*. A project may be in conflict with the *Action Agenda* if it results in water quality degradation in Puget Sound or the loss of ecosystem processes, structure, or functions, and the impacts are not mitigated fully using state-approved protocols.

An applicant for a project in the Puget Sound area, which is defined as the geographic areas within Water Resource Inventory Areas 1 through 19, inclusive, must include in the adopted resolution or application authorization (state agency applicants) a statement certifying that the project is not in conflict with the *Action Agenda*.

The law³ requires the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to give funding consideration to projects in this program that are referenced in the *Action Agenda*. Applicants for projects in the Puget Sound area may address a question in the evaluation criteria⁴ that considers whether the project is referenced in the *Action Agenda* or is a priority in other comprehensive plans or strategies. There are no additional points for this question, but the evaluator has the ability within the current scoring system to give points based on the answer to this question. The *Action Agenda* can be found online at www.psp.wa.gov.

Environmental Benefits

Applicants for Habitat Conservation Account projects must provide a written statement of the environmental benefits⁵ of the proposed project. This statement will be provided to evaluators for consideration during their review of project applications.

Development

The Habitat Conservation Account allows for limited development. Complete guidelines for development projects are in *Manual 4, Development Projects*. Eligible project elements include:

- Park furniture, such as benches and tables
- Paths
- Restrooms
- Interpretive kiosks and signs
- Roads
- Parking
- Viewing shelters

² Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.040

³ Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.040

⁴ "Ecological and Biological Characteristics," see the detailed scoring criteria for Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, and Urban Wildlife Habitat.

⁵ Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.065

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Habitat Conservation Account:
Acquisition and Development Project Policies

Prepared By: Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist

Summary

This memo summarizes changes to the acquisition project policies in preparation for the 2018 grant cycle. The proposed changes in this memo represent phase III of the implementation of Senate Substitute Bill (SSB) 6227 for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Recreation and Conservation Office staff will brief the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) on the status of “straw dog” proposals, stakeholder input, and request input from the board before developing a formal draft for the consideration at the next meeting in July.

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

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Review

In 2015, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) conducted a review of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) which resulted in a number of recommendations to change the statute, as well as other programmatic improvements at the discretion of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board). One of the discretionary recommendations is to increase the maximum allowable cost for management of noxious weeds. This item is discussed in the section below on eligible costs.

Statutory Changes to Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

[Senate Substitute Bill \(SSB\) 6227](#) changed the WWRP in early 2016 in a number of ways. RCO has implemented the changes in three phases based on direction in the law and past board decisions. The first phase addressed everything necessary to accept applications for the 2016 grant round, including changing the funding allocation formulas and eligible grant applicants. The second phase included everything necessary to evaluate the 2016 grant round, including creating the Forestland Preservation category. Phase 3 includes all the changes necessary for the 2018 grant round.

Phase Three

The changes to WWRP in phase three are summarized in the following table. All agenda items referenced may be found in the materials for the May board meeting.

Policies Covered in Phase Three of WWRP Implementation	Agenda Item
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) match policy	Item 11
Multiple benefits and other evaluation criteria changes into the Habitat Conservation Account (excluding the State Lands Restoration category) and Forestland Preservation Category and policy changes for the Riparian Habitat category	Item 13A
Acquisition and Development policies	Item 13B

Policies Changes

This memo addresses the acquisition and development policies necessary to fully implement the statutory changes:

- Increase the maximum allowable cost for managing noxious weeds on property acquired with grant funds.
- Develop a policy for development projects, recreational access projects, or fee simple acquisition projects that allows sponsors to limit public access to protect sensitive species, water quality, or public safety.

In addition, staff recommends the board consider three additional policy changes:

- Allow for stewardship planning costs in any category in the Habitat Conservation Account.
- Revise the acquisition partnerships policy to address matching share requirements between partners.
- Create a new policy to allow property already owned by a nonprofit nature conservation to be eligible for acquisition under certain circumstances.

Eligible Costs

Noxious Weed Costs

Sponsors typically work to eradicate or at least control noxious weeds and invasive plants that exist on the property at the time it is purchased with grant funds. The costs to control noxious weeds is intended to be an initial effort by the new landowner. It is not intended to support on-going operation and maintenance of property acquired with WWRP grant funds per RCW 79A.15.060(2).

The board's noxious weed policy allows sponsors to conduct initial control, up to \$125 per acre or \$2,500 per property for acquired properties less than 20 acres. The policy applies to any acquisition project, not just those funded in WWRP, and was last revised by the board in March 2010.

The WWRP review recommends the board increase the maximum noxious weed cost to \$150 per acre.

RCO staff request direction from the board on whether it would like to pursue the proposed change to increase the noxious weed control maximum from \$125 per acres to \$150 per acre.

Stewardship Plan Costs

Costs to develop a stewardship plan of property acquired with grant funds is currently an eligible cost in the Riparian Protection category of the WWRP Habitat Protection Account. This is only allowed in the Riparian Protection category because the Riparian Protection category used to be its own account in

WWRP. The Riparian Protection Account was developed in 2007 separately from the Habitat Conservation Account and the Riparian Protection Account advisory committee felt strongly that allowing for stewardship planning was an important option for sponsors to include in their grant application.

The current stewardship plan policy for the Riparian Protection category is:

Site Stewardship Plan

Development of a site stewardship plan is an eligible cost activity up to 1 percent of the total project cost or \$10,000, whichever is less. An outline for the stewardship plan must be submitted with the grant application and, at a minimum, it must contain the following elements:

- Long-term stewardship goals and objectives
- Monitoring goals and objectives
- Restoration goals and objectives (if applicable)
- Short-term land management goals and objectives
- Description of the project area, including the following:
 - U.S. Geological Survey quadrant map and county assessor's parcel map
 - Map showing all human-made and natural features
 - Narrative description of the property
 - Photographs taken at permanent photograph points
- A detailed stewardship plan implementation budget that also identifies the source of funding.

With the legislative change to move the Riparian Protection from its own account into the Habitat Conservation Account, it begs the question "Why not allow stewardship plan costs as an eligible cost for any acquisition project in the Habitat Conservation Account other categories?"

RCO staff request direction from the board on whether to expand the stewardship plan eligible cost policy to all categories with land acquisition in the Habitat Conservation Account.

Limiting Public Access

SSB 6227 includes new language that specifically requires all WWRP development projects, recreational access projects, or fee simple acquisition projects be accessible to the public. The law also directs the board to set policy on when it is allowable for a sponsor to limit public access to protect sensitive species, water quality, or public safety.

The board has existing policy related to public access at development and acquisition projects. Specifically, the board will consider (and likely adopt) public access requirements as part of administrative rulemaking in Item 10 of this meeting. The proposed amendment to Washington Administrative Code 286-13-115 considered by the board is below.

WAC 286-13-115 (~~(Discrimination,))~~ Nondiscrimination, access to the public, and preferences.

(1) Sponsors shall not discriminate against users of projects assisted with board funds on the basis of race, creed, color, sex or gender, religion, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation.

(2) Properties, structures, and facilities intended for public use within the project area shall meet state and federal accessibility guidelines and nondiscrimination laws, regulations, and policies; be maintained to a standard that encourages use; and be open and available to the public at reasonable hours and times of the year.

(3) Sponsors shall not express a preference for users within the project area of board grant assisted projects on the basis of residence (including preferential reservation, membership, and/or permit systems). However, reasonable differences in admission and other fees may be maintained on the basis of residence. The board does not encourage the imposition of such differential fees. Fees for nonresidents must not exceed twice the fee imposed on residents. Where there is no fee for residents but a fee is charged to nonresidents, the nonresident fee shall not exceed the amount that would be imposed on residents at comparable state or local public facilities.

In addition to the (proposed) administrative rule above, Manual 3: *Acquiring Land* includes the following statement regarding public access for any acquisition project regardless of grant program.

Public Access (Acquisition Projects)

In most cases, regardless of whether the property is developed, all property acquired in fee title with RCO grants must be available for public use. Public use means that the general public has regular access and use of property acquired with RCO grants. Where appropriate, public use may be limited to non-motorized access only or as allowed by the grant program from which funding was derived or as defined in the project agreement.

Providing public use to the site does not mean that developed facilities must be provided. Project sponsors must immediately dedicate lands acquired with RCO grants to public use even in the period between acquisition and any planned development or restoration. Use of undeveloped or partially developed properties may be restricted; however, total exclusion of the general public must be avoided. RCO may approve a request to restrict the public's use of a property to protect sensitive natural areas, salmon habitat recovery areas, critical habitats, or cultural resources.

Finally, the board should note the compliance policy states closure of public access of any funded project for more than 180 days is a conversion.

Based on the rules and policies, the board may wish to consider further articulating policy specifically for the WWRP based on SSB 6227 direction. The acquisition statement doesn't specifically call out the exact language used in SSB 6227 (sensitive species, water quality, or public safety). The board currently does not have policy that allows for the limiting of public access for development projects.

It is also important that any policy not require an elaborate process that would add additional work for RCO grant managers.

RCO staff request direction on the following questions.

- **Does the board want to create a new policy regarding limiting or closing public access at WWRP funded sites?**
- **If so, what types of situations warrant limiting or closing public access?**
- **Do the conditions differ for habitat projects and recreation projects?**
- **Would the board consider delegating approval to the RCO director for request from sponsors to limit or close public access?**

Acquisition Partnership Policy

SSB 6227 added nonprofit nature conservancies as eligible applicants to the Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories of WWRP. Nonprofit nature conservancies first participated as applicants in the 2016 grant cycle. To accommodate this expansion in the types of eligible sponsors, the board adopted acquisition policies in April 2016 which documented how sponsors can work together to acquire property. See the "Partnerships" policy adopted in [resolution 2016-13, as amended](#).

One part of the Partnership policy has caused some hurdles for partners working with nonprofit nature conservancies to accomplish their work. The policy states that the minimum matching share required in the application is determined by who will own the property at the time of acquisition by an eligible sponsor. In practice, this means that if a nonprofit nature conservancy purchases property as a "bridge" or holding partner on behalf of another sponsor, the nonprofit nature conservancy must provide a fifty percent matching share.

This has created a hardship in some situations. Mostly recently, the board considered this situation at its meeting in October 2016 regarding Department of Fish and Wildlife's Merrill Lake project. See [Item 8](#) of the October meeting materials for more information on this project. The board approved allowing the nonprofit nature conservancy to acquire the property on behalf of Department of Fish and Wildlife without triggering the fifty percent matching share.

RCO staff requests direction from the board on whether it would like to pursue amending the Partnerships policy by determining the minimum matching share required in the application by who will own the property at the time the project is complete. Such a change would allow nonprofit nature conservancies to partner with state agencies without the burden of providing a fifty percent matching share to the acquisition of the property. Based on discussions with state agency staff and nonprofit conservancy partners, RCO staff believes such a change would assist with addressing the hurdles for partnering with nonprofit nature conservancies now that they are also eligible sponsors.

A proposed revision could be:

The minimum matching share required in the application is determined by who will own *the property at the time the project is complete*.

RCO staff request direction on whether to amend the Partnership policy to apply the matching share requirement to the sponsor that will own the property when the project is complete rather than the sponsor that first acquires the property.

Acquiring Project from a Nonprofit Nature Conservancy

As discussed in the previous section, SSB 6227 added nonprofit nature conservancies as eligible applicants to the Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories of WWRP. Inclusion of nonprofit nature conservancies as eligible applicants had the unintended consequence of prohibiting acquisition of property currently owned by a nonprofit nature conservancy by another sponsor. Prior to the law changing, sponsors would sometimes acquire property from a nonprofit for various reasons. Examples might include landowner willingness to sell to a nonprofit rather than a government entity, ability of a nonprofit to leverage funds not available to government entities, or the ability for the nonprofit to act quickly to protect a property under threat.

Adoption of the Partnership policy discussed in the previous section was intended to address how government agencies and nonprofits can work together to acquire property within the board's existing policy framework. However, as discussed at the time of adoption of the Partnership policy, nonprofits were concerned that there would be situations that would not fit within the Partnership policy. RCO staff presented some of these concerns at the board meeting in February 2017. See [Item 10](#) of the February 2017 board meeting materials for more background on this discussion.

At the February 2017 meeting, the board instructed staff to develop new policy to provide the same level of flexibility that sponsors were able to do with nonprofits before the law changed and nonprofits became eligible applicants in more grant categories. This new policy is intended to fill the gap discussed at the February 2017 board meeting.

After discussions with state agency staff and a group of nonprofit nature conservancies, RCO developed the following "straw dog" proposal that identifies the conditions when it would be eligible for a sponsor to acquire property from a nonprofit nature conservancy. This policy is similar to the board's existing policy that allows certain property already owned by a government entity to be eligible for grant funding.

Acquisition of Nonprofit Nature Conservancy Property ("Straw Dog")

The following policy applies to acquisition of real property held by a non-profit nature conservancy in the following grant programs:

- Habitat Conservation Account in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program,
- Farm and Forest Account in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, or
- Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

Property owned by a nonprofit nature conservancy is eligible for funding only when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The property was not originally acquired by the nonprofit nature conservancy for conservation purposes;
2. The property has never been managed by the nonprofit nature conservancy for conservation purposes;
3. The nonprofit nature conservancy did not use public funds to acquire the property;
4. There are no conservation related encumbrances recorded on the title of the property; and
5. The board of the nonprofit nature conservancy has identified the property for sale by adopted resolution.

Property that meets all of the above conditions is eligible for grant funding. The sponsor of the project to acquire the property from the nonprofit nature conservancy must comply with the acquisition procedures and appraisal requirements in Manual 3: *Acquiring Land*. Therefore, the nonprofit nature conservancy will act as the seller of the property and receive just compensation at fair market value.

Costs associated with the acquisition of the property by the sponsor from the nonprofit nature conservancy are eligible for grant funding as allowed in Manual 3: *Acquiring Land*. Costs associated with the operation, management, stewardship or financing of the property by the nonprofit nature conservancy while it owned the property are not eligible for grant funding.

RCO staff shared this “straw dog” with a group of nonprofit nature conservancies and state agency staff members for initial feedback. RCO received feedback from most of the partners consulted. A summary of their comments and questions is below.

- Focus on the “net conservation” and ensure funds are only used to protect properties that are not already protected.
- Consider providing an intent statement to clarify the purpose of the policy.
- Why would a nonprofit nature conservancy acquire property that wasn’t for conservation purposes? (criteria #1)
- Nonprofit should demonstrate the acquisition is not arbitrary by demonstrating it fits within a statewide plan or that an agency partner is identified in advance. (criteria #1)
- The nonprofit should document why it did not acquire the property for conservation purposes. (criteria #1)
- How would RCO determine whether a property had been purchased or managed for “conservation purposes” (criteria #1 and #2).
- Does management for conservation purposes include activities such as fencing and noxious weed control? (criteria #2)
- Why can’t a nonprofit be managing the property for conservation purposes? (criteria #2)
- Should property acquired with a publicly funded loan pool be eligible? (criteria #4)
- Could conservation related encumbrances existing on the property be allowed as long as it was considered in the appraisal. (criteria #4)
- Clarify the purpose of nonprofit board resolution. (criteria #5)
- Suggestions on language about the board resolution to identify the property as surplus and not aligned with the nonprofit’s conservation mission. (criteria #5)
- Questions about specific scenarios of sponsors and nonprofit partnerships and how the straw dog would apply.
- Should there be an exception for certain circumstances?
- Concern for the evaluation process and that evaluators may get confused or distracted by the eligibility screening and not be able to focus on evaluating the merits of the proposed project.

Based on this feedback, RCO staff requests direction from the board on the following questions:

- **Should the policy include a threshold for the conservation status of the property owned by the nonprofit? If so, what triggers would identify a property as “conserved”?**
- **Should management of the property while it was owned by a nonprofit be considered as part of the policy?**
- **Should property acquired with public funds (whether grants or loans) be eligible for grant funding?**
- **How can a nonprofit demonstrate that the property does not meet its intended conservation mission and is available for other conservation organizations to acquire?**
- **Should there be exceptions to the policy or should any unusual situations be brought to the board for consideration?**

Next Steps

After receiving feedback from the board on the questions posed in this memo, RCO staff will prepare a formal draft for the board's consideration at the next meeting in July. Public comment on the draft changes is proposed for August. Final adoption of the changes would occur at the board's October meeting.

Link to Strategic Plan

Revising the board's policies and evaluation criteria addresses Goals 1, 2, and 3 of the board's *Strategic Plan*.

1. We help our partners protect, restore, and develop habitat and recreation opportunities that benefit people, fish and wildlife, and ecosystems.
2. We achieve a high level of accountability in managing the resources and responsibilities entrusted to us.
3. We deliver successful projects by inviting competition and by using broad public participation and feedback, monitoring, assessment, and adaptive management.

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**Meeting Date:** May 10-11, 2017**Title:** Agricultural Use on State Parks Managed Trails and State Parks Allowable Use Requests**Prepared By:** Myra Barker, Compliance Specialist**Summary**

This memo includes three sections concerning allowable uses on sites funded by the Recreation and Conservation Office:

1. an overview of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board's (board) allowable use policy;
2. a request for board decision on two allowable use requests from the State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks) for agricultural-related transportation uses on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail; and
3. a request for board direction on future development of policy regarding non-recreational uses on funded State Parks trails.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☒ Request for Decision (Resolution 2017-14)
- ☒ Request for Direction (Future policy on non-recreational uses on trails)
- ☐ Briefing

Resolution #: 2017-14**Purpose of Resolution:** Board approval or denial of State Parks allowable use requests.**Allowable Uses**

Grant funding requires a project sponsor to operate, maintain, and manage a funded site in compliance with the conditions of the project agreement and the grant program rules. Use of a site for a purpose that does not support public outdoor recreation or habitat conservation is generally prohibited.

Project sponsors contact Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff to find out whether or not the use may take place without creating a compliance issue. Staff review the proposed use to determine if it complies or conflicts with the intended purpose of the funded project, the project agreement, and grant program rules. If the proposed use is identified in the project agreement or allowed by grant program rules, staff may approve the request without further review. For example, Boating Facilities Program (BFP) policy allows certain kinds of uses of funded sites; if the proposed use is consistent with program policy¹, staff can approve it by issuing a use certification.

¹ Boating Facilities Program (BFP), Manual 9

However, if the use is not identified in the project agreement or allowed by the grant program rules, staff follow the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board's (board) Allowable Uses policy (Attachment A) which was adopted in October 2012.

A project sponsor submits an allowable use request that is reviewed by RCO's compliance team, composed of grants managers, who then make a recommendation to the RCO director.

The compliance team considers the following guidance when evaluating an allowable use request:

- Whether the proposed use conflicts with the project agreement or funding program.
- Whether the funded project area may be affected; if so, how will it be affected?
- What types of effects to the project area would be allowed.
- Is the use compatible with the objectives of the project agreement?
- Will the use be secondary to the uses in the project agreement?
- Will the use displace any recreation or conservation uses in the project agreement?
- Does the use fit within the natural features and hydrology of the site?
- How long will the use occur? If the use is for a specified time period, will the project area return to its former state afterwards?
- Will the proposed use limit the future use of the project area?
- Does the use negatively change the recreational experience or intrinsic values of the site?
- What design alternatives at the funded project site were considered for the proposed use?

Based on the review by the RCO compliance team, the RCO director may approve the request; approve the request with added conditions; deny the request; submit the request and compliance team recommendation to an ad hoc review panel before making a decision; or submit the request and staff recommendation directly to the board.

The board has options in making a decision on a request to allow uses on grant-funded sites, including:

- Agree or disagree with staff's recommendation to either approve or deny the request under the allowable use policy;
- Approve a request and impose conditions, after considering the information provided by the project sponsor; or
- Defer the decision and request more information from the project sponsor.

State Parks Allowable Use Requests - John Wayne Pioneer Trail

The State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks) submitted two requests for private agricultural-related transportation uses on portions of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail (Milwaukee Railroad Right-of-Way) located in eastern Washington. RCO's compliance team reviewed the requests and recommended denying them because the use is inconsistent with grant program rules and there are practical alternatives (existing county roads) to the use of the trail. The compliance team provided the recommendation and rationale to the director, who decided to submit the two requests to the board for decision. The requests are described in the next two sections.

During the time these requests have been pending before RCO, language has been inserted into the Senate Operating Budget and in the House Capital Budget to allow landowners with property adjacent to

the John Wayne Pioneer Trail (JWPT) the ability to use the trail without constraints.²

The RCO director has provided the following comments to the House Capital Budget chair regarding the proviso in the House Capital budget:

"I have concerns with the proviso in Section 3133 of the budget that pertains to the John Wayne Trail. The proviso gives adjacent landowners permission to use motorized vehicles on the trail without fees or controls. This trail was funded by the predecessor to the RCO through the Outdoor Recreation Account for outdoor recreation purposes and is covered by contract language and board policy. If the Legislature intends to allow motorized use of the trail, there are several risk management and asset protection provisions that should be included in the proviso language. Motorized use of the trail has the very real possibility of damaging the trail and compromising the safety of hikers, bikers, and equestrians. This represents a liability not only to the state, but to the farmers themselves.

If removing this language is not an option, then I would suggest including certain conditions allowing State Parks to manage for safety (including posting notice of motorized use and limiting motorized use during heavy recreation seasons or days) and requiring that the adjoining landowners be responsible for repairing any damage caused by the motorized usage.

By way of context, State Parks has not denied any adjacent landowner access to the trail, but has put conditions in their permit to address these liability issues. There have been 9 applications to State Parks for agricultural access – three have been approved, four are in process and two will be before the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board at its May 10 and 11th board meeting. Decisions on these types of 'allowable uses' on grant funded properties are best left for the funding board and the land managing agency, where site-specific issues can be addressed. "

Milwaukee Railroad Right-of-Way, RCO #82-701A (John Wayne Pioneer Trail)

The Legislature directed the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to acquire the Milwaukee Railroad right-of-way for trail purposes. State bonds, administered through the Outdoor Recreation Account by the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC), now RCO, were used to fund acquisition of nearly 213 miles of the railroad right-of-way in 1981. The trail corridor extends from the Idaho line in Spokane County northeast of Tekoa to Warden in Grant County, and from Royal City in Grant County to Easton in Kittitas County.

The grant contract for the project is unique. The IAC's standard project agreement at that time was not used. The project contract was negotiated between the DNR and IAC. As such, the property is not encumbered with a Deed of Right and the contract does not contain the standard terms and conditions for the operation, maintenance, and use of the funded corridor. The contract refers to the Milwaukee Railroad Right-of-Way as an outdoor recreation project and file documentation describes the corridor as a recreational trail.

Since the original acquisition, sixteen additional grants have been awarded for improvements to the trail in various locations (Attachment B). The IAC/RCO investment totals approximately \$6.65 million.

² NEW SECTION. Sec. 3133. FOR THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION Parkland Acquisition (30000976) The appropriation in this section is subject to the following conditions and limitations: Landowners adjacent to the John Wayne trail may use motorized vehicles on the trail adjacent to their property. The state parks and recreation commission shall waive permit fees for any motorized vehicles adjacent landowners deem necessary and appropriate.

State Parks Allowable Use Requests

State Parks submitted the first allowable use requests in 2015. The board was briefed on those requests at the April 2016 meeting (see [Item 12](#)).

In January 2017, State Parks submitted three allowable use requests for private agricultural-related transportation uses on trails. One request for use on the Willapa Hills Trail (RCO #91-811A, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Trails Category) and two requests for use on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail (RCO #82-701A, State Bonds). Consistent with the policy and standard practice, the compliance team reviewed the requests and made recommendations to the director.

The director approved the State Parks Marwood Farm request with conditions³ to use about one mile of the Willapa Hills Trail to move equipment and vehicles, access agricultural fields, and to haul crops. This section of the trail is located near Ceres Hill Road by Adna in Lewis County.

The State Parks Eason and Clerf requests for agricultural-related transportation use of portions of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail located near Ellensburg are described as follows and provided for the board's decision (Attachment D).

State Parks Allowable Use Request - Eason	Project #: 82-701A
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Description: To use about 2,900 feet (0.55 miles) of the trail to access via vehicles and equipment privately-owned agricultural fields from March through September for six (6) years. The location is about 2.5 miles from the central part of Ellensburg and is adjacent to county road Number 6. (Attachment D)

Reason for Use: The reason cited in the request is for convenience and to keep the equipment off of county roads.

State Parks Proposed Permit Conditions: The term of the permit is six years with a renewal option. Use would be permitted from dawn to dusk on weekdays and after 10 AM on weekends for vehicles under 15,000 pounds; and dawn to 3 PM for heavier vehicles; a 10 mph speed limit; recreational users have right-of-way. If the vehicle/equipment is too wide to allow for safe passing by recreational users, the permittee must provide flaggers or barricades or post signs of the use; total width not to be wider than 90% of the trail tread. No delays allowed to exceed 10 minutes or a total of 60 minutes per day. Trail damage must be repaired.

Proposed Inspection/Monitoring of Use: Parks would inspect at the beginning of the use, monthly during the active use season, and at the end of each season.

³ Conditions include the allowed use is tailored to the specific time period and season of use; daily, year-round use and weekend use is not permitted; off-season access is through existing roads; signs are posted prior to use; State Parks provides management oversight and regular monitoring of the use and trail conditions, and provides a report to RCO on the impact of the use, public comments received, and a description of any enforcement actions taken against the permittee.

Description: To use about 4,100 feet (0.78 miles) of the trail to access via vehicles and equipment privately-owned agricultural fields from March through September for six (6) years. The location is about 5 miles from the central part of Ellensburg and at the convergence of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail and the Kittitas Highway. (Attachment D)

Reason for Use: The reason cited in the request is for convenience and to keep the equipment off of county roads.

State Parks Proposed Permit Conditions: The term of the permit is six years with a renewal option. Use would be permitted from dawn to dusk on weekdays and after 10 AM on weekends for vehicles under 15,000 pounds; and dawn to 3 PM for heavier vehicles; a 10 mph speed limit; recreational users have right-of-way. If the vehicle/equipment is too wide to allow for safe passing by recreational users, the permittee must provide flaggers or barricades or post signs of the use; total width not to be wider than 90% of the trail tread. No delays allowed to exceed 10 minutes or a total of 60 minutes per day. Trail damage must be repaired.

Proposed Inspection/Monitoring of Use: Parks would inspect at the beginning of the use, monthly during the active use season, and at the end of each season.

Board Decision - State Parks Allowable Use Requests

The board may consider the following options in making a decision:

- Approve State Parks Eason and Clerf requests.
- Approve State Parks Eason and Clerf requests for one year with conditions as determined by the board, such as limiting the use to certain times and days.
- Deny State Parks Eason and Clerf requests.
- Deny State Parks Eason and Clerf requests until such time as the board adopts a policy to address agricultural-related transportation uses of the trail by adjacent landowners.
- Authorize the director to approve State Parks' requests to permit agricultural-related transportation uses by adjacent landowners on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail until such time as the board adopts a policy to address non-recreational uses on the trail.
- Authorize the director to approve State Parks' requests to permit agricultural-related transportation uses by adjacent landowners on funded State Parks trails until such time as the board adopts a policy to address non-recreational uses on said trails.

Resolution 2017-14 is provided for board consideration (Attachment E). Several options have been noted in the resolution.

Direction on Future Policy Development

Staff requests board direction on developing policy for non-recreational motorized uses specifically on funded State Parks trails. The request for direction is prompted by annual State Parks requests for approval of non-recreational motorized use of linear sections of trails primarily for agricultural-related

transportation use. Additionally, recent legislative action to address access on and along the John Wayne Pioneer Trail for adjacent landowners has included a proposal to close the trail and pending provisos in the various budgets attached to State Parks funding that allows unrestricted use of the trail.

The board's allowable use policy does not address this particular issue. Non-recreational motorized use is not consistent with the project agreement, grant program rules, results in no benefit or enhancement to the outdoor recreation experience provided by a trail. The use can negatively impact the experience and damage the trail.

In the event a sponsor would proceed with permitting a non-recreational use that had been denied through the allowable use policy process, the sponsor would be out of compliance with the project agreement. Staff would apply the board's conversion policy to the situation.

The conversion process is used to when a sponsor conveys easements on trails for private crossings, road widening, and overhead utility line installation. An example of a previously approved conversion for this type of use is the City of Bellingham South Bay Trail, where an easement was conveyed for overhead utility lines.

Options the board may want to consider for future policy development include:

- a policy specifically for the agricultural-related transportation uses by adjacent landowners on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail;
- a policy for agricultural-related transportation uses by adjacent landowners on State Parks trails;
- a policy for non-recreational motorized uses on State Parks trails; and
- a policy for multiple uses on trails.

Following direction by the board, staff would initiate discussions with the advisory committees for trail grant programs, State Parks staff, and trail project sponsors, and provide an update at a future board meeting.

Attachments

- A. Allowable Uses Policy
- B. State Parks Iron Horse/John Wayne Pioneer Trail Map of Grants
- C. State Parks Iron Horse/John Wayne Pioneer Trail Grants Summary
- D. State Parks Eason and Clerf Allowable Use Requests – General Location Map
- E. State Parks Eason and Clerf Allowable Use Requests – Individual Location Maps
- F. Resolution 2017-14

Allowable Uses Policy

RCO grants are intended to support Washington State's habitat, outdoor recreation, and salmon habitat resources. Uses of project sites must have no overall impairment to the habitat conservation, outdoor recreation, or salmon habitat resource funded by RCO.

To be in compliance with the grant, uses of grant-assisted project sites must be either:

- A. Identified in the project agreement; OR
- B. Allowed by RCO policy; OR
- C. Approved by RCO or the funding board.

For the use to be approved by RCO or the funding board (Option C, above) it must meet all of the following criteria:

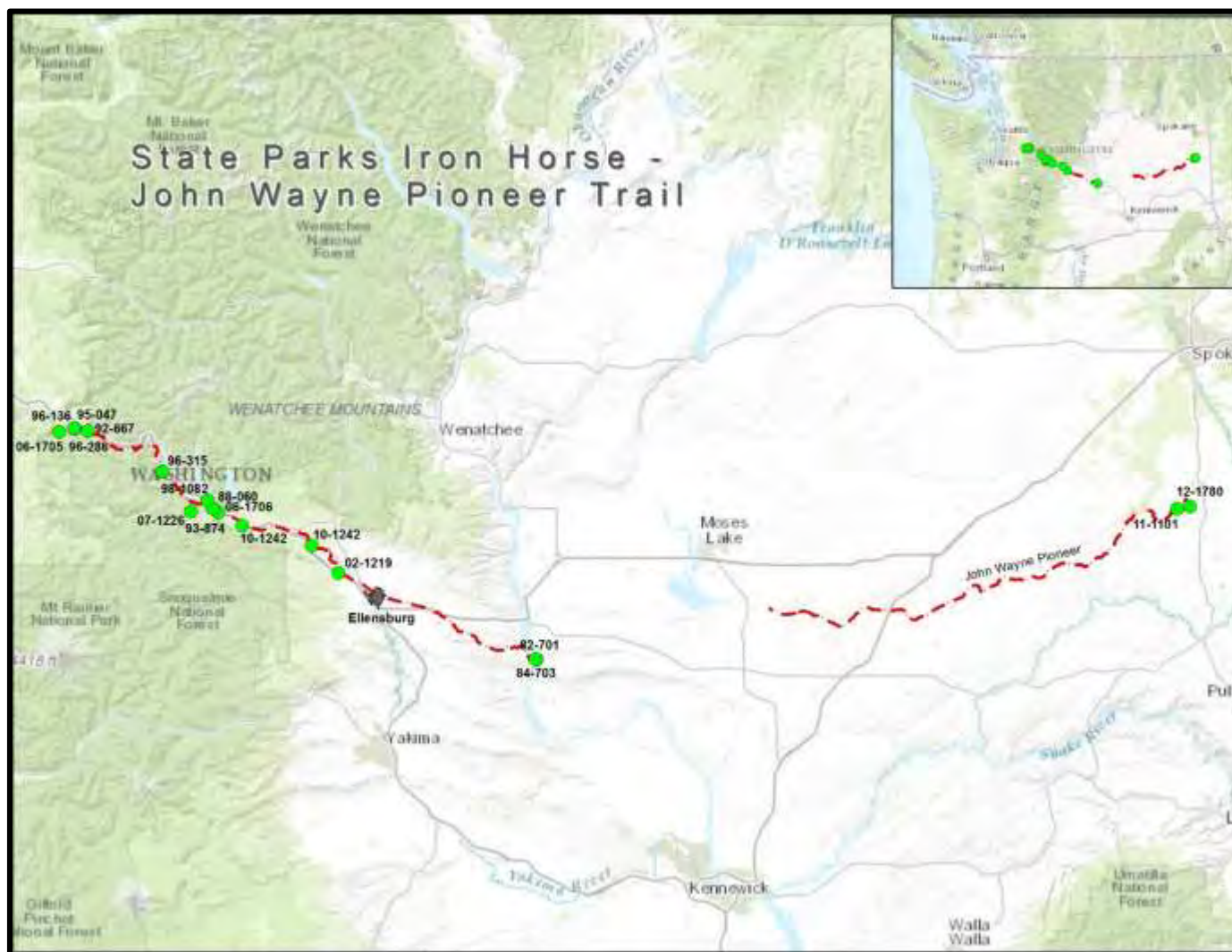
- The use must be consistent with the essential purposes of the grant (i.e., consistent with the grant agreement and grant program).
- All practical alternatives to the use, including the option of no action, must have been considered and rejected on a sound basis.
- The use must achieve its intended purpose with the least possible impact to the habitat, outdoor recreation, or salmon habitat resource.
 - If the use impacts the type of resource the grant is designed to protect (habitat, outdoor recreation, or salmon habitat), it also must provide at least equivalent benefits to that type of resource so there is no overall impairment.

An approved use of a project site must continue in the way it was approved to remain in compliance with the grant. This policy does not modify other RCO policies, such as cultural resource policies.

Income generated on the project site must be managed in accordance with RCO policies on Income and Income Use. (*Manual 7, Funded Projects*).

Adopted October 18, 2012.

Iron Horse/John Wayne Pioneer Trail Grants Map



**Green dots represent funded projects along the Iron Horse/John Wayne Pioneer Trail.*

Iron Horse/John Wayne Pioneer Trail Grants Summary

Milwaukee Railroad ROW Acquisition, RCO#82-701A, State Bonds

Acquired about 213 miles of the Milwaukee Railroad right-of-way from the Idaho line in Spokane County, northeast of Tekoa to Warden in Grant County and from Royal City Junction in Grant County to Easton in Kittitas County.

Milwaukee Railroad Right-of-Way, RCO#84-703D, State Bonds

Funded interim maintenance of the right-of-way corridor and a land use study.

Iron Horse Trailhead, RCO#88-060D, NOVA-Nonmotorized Category

Developed a trailhead south of Easton on railroad right-of-way in Kittitas County.

Iron Horse Trail Development, RCO#92-667D, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Trails Category

Restored a railroad trestle at Hall Creek on the trail in King County.

Iron Horse/John Wayne Snow Sheds, RCO#93-874D, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Trails Category

Restored a section of a snow shed on the trail corridor in King County.

Iron Horse Trail Safety, RCO#95-047D, NOVA-Nonmotorized Category

Installed safety railings on three trestles on the west side of Snoqualmie Pass in King County.

Iron Horse Cedar Falls to Cabin Creek, RCO#96-136D, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Trails Category

Developed a trailhead and trail improvements in King and Kittitas Counties.

Iron Horse/John Wayne Three Trestles, RCO#96-286AD Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Trails Category

Installed trestle improvements, decking, fencing, and railings in King and Kittitas Counties; and acquired 12 acres in Cle Elum along the railroad corridor in Kittitas County.

Iron Horse Remote Campsites, RCO#96-315D, NOVA-Nonmotorized Category

Developed four primitive campsites and vault toilets at 5-mile intervals along the trail toilets in King and Kittitas Counties.

Iron Horse Lake Easton Trestle, RCO#98-1082D, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Trails Category

Installed a 370 foot bridge and railings on existing piers on Lake Easton trestle and repaired abutments over trail section above the Yakima River in Kittitas County.

Iron Horse – Cle Elum to Ellensburg, RCO#02-1219, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Trails Category

Resurfaced about 25 miles of trail and installed safety rails along sections of the trail between the Cle Elum Depot and Water Street in Ellensburg, developed a trailhead at Kittitas County Fairgrounds, and improved access at the Thorp trailhead in Kittitas County.

JWPT Bridge Repair King County, RCO#06-1705D, Recreational Trails Program

Repaired timbers and installed safety rails on seven railroad trestles in King County.

JWPT Bridge Repair Kittitas County, RCO#06-1706D, Recreational Trails Program

Repaired timbers and installed safety rails on seven railroad trestles in Kittitas County.

Reload to JWPT Trail, RCO#07-1226D, Recreational Trails Program

Graded a section of trail, installed control gates, information kiosk, and trail signage in Kittitas County.

Iron Horse Tunnel and Culvert Planning, RCO#07-1499P, NOVA Nonmotorized Category

Completed safety and geotechnical assessments, planning for five trail tunnels, culvert design, and permitting in King and Kittitas Counties. (Note: Project is not displayed on the map)

Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2010, RCO #10-1242A, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – State Parks Category

There were 27.87 acres acquired adjacent to the trail in two locations. One property is adjacent to the South Cle Elum Depot, the other property is located a few miles southeast of Cle Elum in Kittitas County.

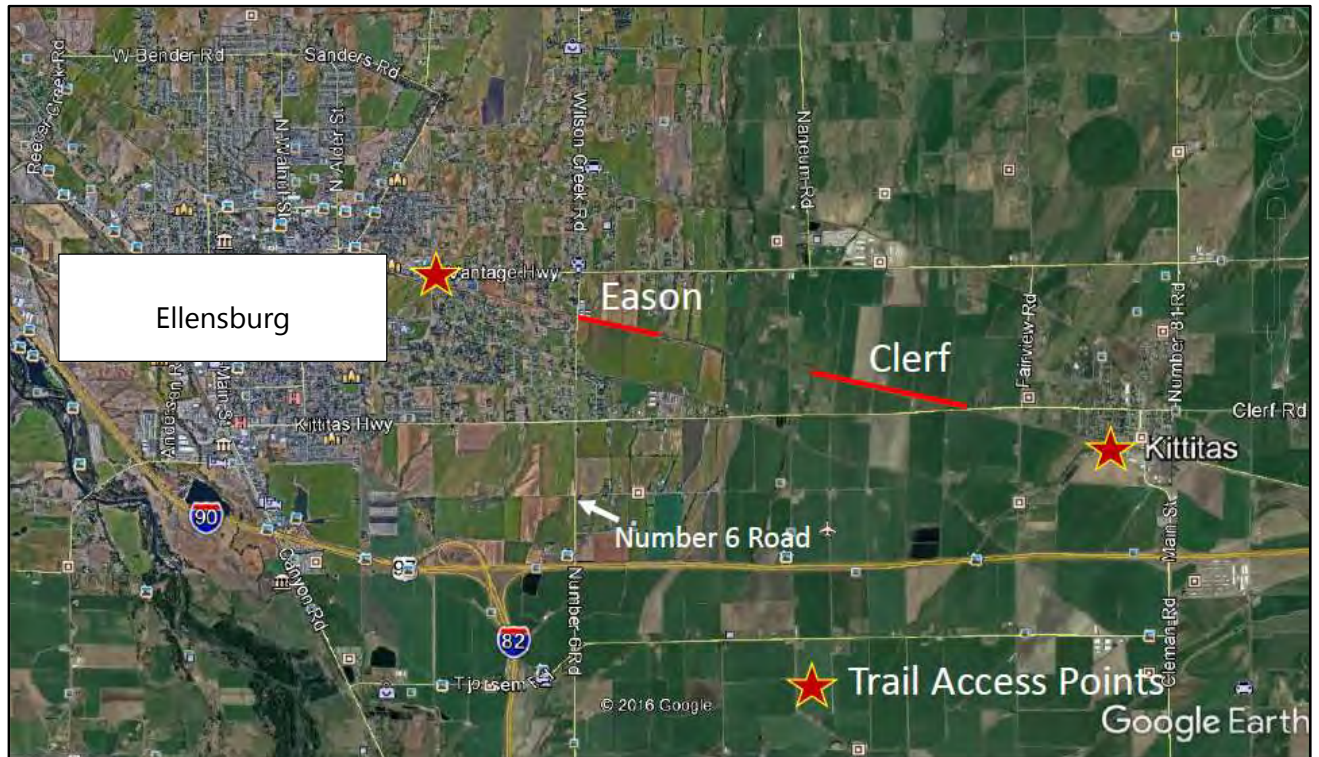
JWPT Malden-Tekoa Trail Phase 1, RCO#11-1101P, NOVA Nonmotorized Category

Conducted a trail inventory for this segment (34-miles) located in Whitman County and completed a level one environmental assessment, and conceptual trail development plans and estimates.

JWPT Malden to Rosalia Trail Development (Planning), RCO#12-1780P, NOVA Nonmotorized Category

This is an active project for planning and design of a nine mile section of trail located in Whitman County.

State Parks Eason and Clerf Allowable Use Requests General Location Map



State Parks Eason and Clerk Requests Individual Location Maps

State Parks Eason Allowable Use Request



State Parks Clerf Allowable Use Request



**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-14
State Parks Allowable Use Requests**

WHEREAS, a state bonds grant was awarded to the Department of Natural Resources in 1981 for acquiring the Milwaukee Railroad Right-of-Way for trail purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature transferred the railroad right-of-way property acquired to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks); and

WHEREAS, State Parks is the responsible project sponsor; and

WHEREAS, State Parks has requested approval through the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board's (board) Allowable Uses policy of private agricultural-related transportation use of portions of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail; and

WHEREAS, the requests have been reviewed through the Allowable Use policy and guidance process and standard practice; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director has submitted the two requests to the board for decision;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the board has considered the information provided as presented May 11, 2017 and set forth in the board materials prepared for that meeting, along with public comment received at the meeting;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the board:

- ☐ Approves State Parks Eason and Clerf Allowable Use requests
- ☐ Approves State Parks Eason Allowable Use request
- ☐ Approves State Parks Clerf Allowable Use request
- ☐ Approves State Parks Eason and Clerf Allowable Use requests with conditions
- ☐ Denies State Parks Eason Allowable Use request
- ☐ Denies State Parks Clerf Allowable Use request
- ☐ Denies State Parks Eason and Clerf Allowable Use requests

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017

Title: Policy Waiver Request: City of Mercer Island (RCO #89-018D, #91-120D)

Prepared By: Myra Barker, Compliance Specialist

Summary

The City of Mercer Island requests approval from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board for a temporary closure that may exceed the 180-day limit due to the seismic retrofit of the I-90 East Channel Bridge.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☒ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☐ Briefing

Resolution #: 2017-15

Purpose of Resolution: To waive the temporary closure limit of 180-days and approve a temporary partial closure of the Mercer Island Boat Launch for a period not to exceed one year.

Background

A standard condition in the Project Agreement requires that a site must be open and available to the public at reasonable hours and times of the year for the intended purpose of providing outdoor recreation and/or habitat protection. The board's compliance policy states: "*Prior approval of temporary closure of public access sites will not result in a conversion if the sponsor demonstrates the closure will last 180 days or less.*"¹

The City of Mercer Island seeks approval from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) for a temporary closure of a portion of their respective site due to a seismic retrofit of the I-90 East Channel Bridge over Lake Washington. The bridge retrofit is necessary in order to meet standards that will accommodate the Sound Transit East Link Extension Light Rail line. A portion of the boat launch site will be used to access and perform the retrofit, as well as to serve as a staging area for that work. The boat launch is located on the western end of the I-90 East Channel Bridge.

The estimated temporary closure of the City of Mercer Island Boat Launch is not expected to exceed the 180-day period. However, the city requests a waiver of the 180-day limit and approval for a period not to exceed one year in the event that the construction schedule changes.

¹ Manual 7 Long-term Obligations

City of Mercer Island

Mercer Island Boat Launch, RCO #89-018D/#91-120D

The City of Mercer Island received a Boating Facilities Program (BFP) grant in 1990 and an Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) grant in 1991 to develop a boat launch on the eastern shoreline of the island. The facility provides the only public launch on fourteen miles of shoreline to Lake Washington. Development included installation of a boat launch ramp, floats, pathways, landscaping, and parking. The approximately 2.5-acre project area is located underneath the I-90 East Channel Bridge in Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) right-of-way. WSDOT leases the site to the city for the boat launch.

The City of Mercer Island has been in discussions with WSDOT and Sound Transit concerning the impacts to the boat launch from the seismic retrofit to the bridge columns and girders. On March 3, 2017, WSDOT notified the city that the lease would be suspended during Sound Transit's use of the site for a staging area and retrofitting the I-90 East Channel Bridge.

The site will remain partially open for public use. The impact of the bridge work includes intermittent closure of the two-lane access road into the boat launch and use of about forty percent of the parking spaces. A detour to the boat launch will be provided when the access road is closed and the remaining parking spaces will be available for public use.

Upon completion of the bridge retrofit and removal of related equipment and materials, Sound Transit will restore disturbed areas. At such time, WSDOT will reinstate the city's lease and the boat launch will return to normal operation and availability to the public.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the request to waive the temporary closure limit of 180-days and approve a temporary partial closure of the Mercer Island Boat Launch for a period not to exceed one year.

Attachments

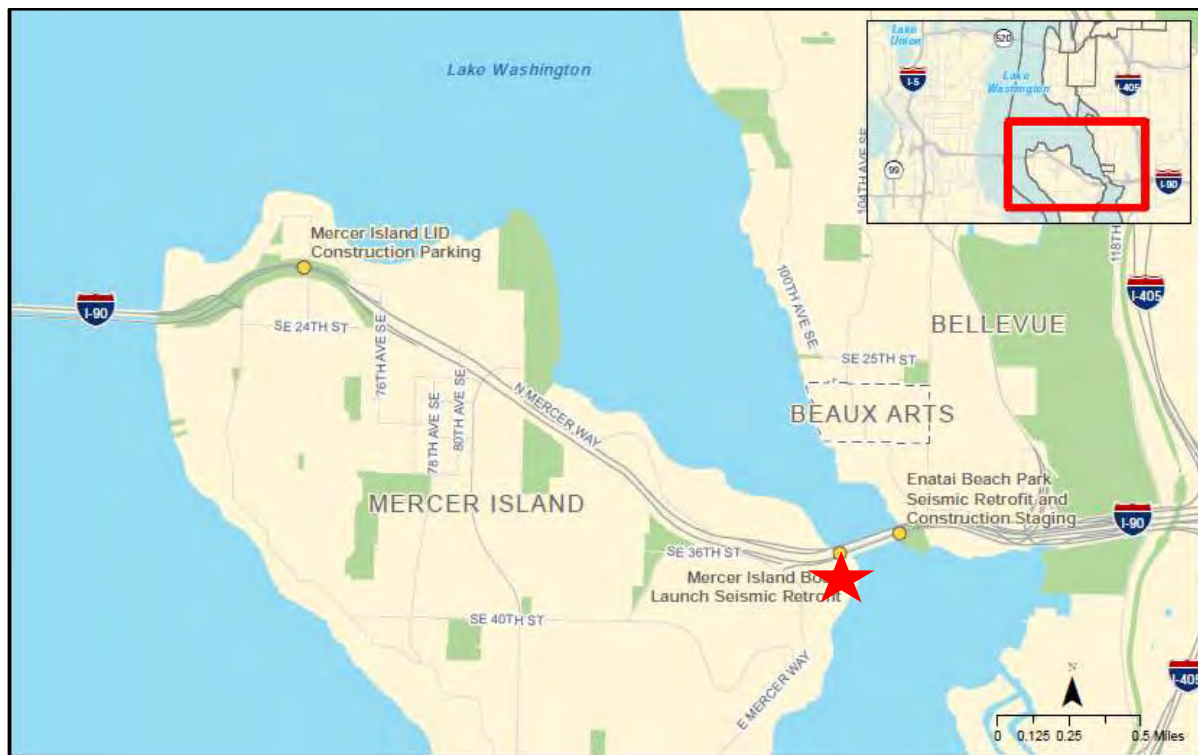
- A. Area and Project Site Location Maps
- B. Project Site Photos
- C. Resolution 2017-15

Location Maps

I-90 East Channel Bridge



Mercer Island Boat Launch



Mercer Island Boat Launch Photos



**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-15
Policy Waiver Request – Temporary Closure of Funded Site
City of Mercer Island Boat Launch**

WHEREAS, the City of Mercer Island used a grant from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) and a grant from the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) to develop a public boat launch; and

WHEREAS, the boat launch is located underneath the I-90 East Channel Bridge within Washington State Department of Transportation right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, improvements to the I-90 East Channel Bridge will temporarily close a portion of the funded site; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this I-90 East Channel Bridge project, public access to the funded site will be limited; and

WHEREAS, the city is asking for Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to waive the 180-day temporary closure and approval for a temporary closure for a period not to exceed one year; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the I-90 East Channel Bridge project, the boat launch will be returned to normal operation and public use; thereby supporting the board's goals to provide funding for projects that result in public outdoor recreation purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the city's request.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**Meeting Date:** May 10-11, 2017**Title:** Conversion Briefing: City of Spokane Parks & Recreation, Central City Riverfront 72 (RCO #72-040A)**Prepared By:** Kyle Guzlas, Outdoor Grant Manager**Summary**

The City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department (Spokane Parks) intends to convert 1.13 acres of land located adjacent to Riverfront Park in downtown Spokane. Spokane Parks will sell or lease a portion of the property for commercial mixed-use development (specifically, an indoor climbing facility) and will construct a multi-level parking garage on the remaining portion of the property. Spokane Parks has identified two potential replacement properties for consideration. Staff will request comments and questions from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board at the May 2017 meeting in order to prepare for a decision at the October 2017 meeting.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☐ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☒ Briefing

Conversion Policy and Board's Role

Approximately forty-five years ago, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) awarded a grant for the Spokane Central City Riverfront project ([RCO #72-040](#)), used to acquire a downtown park property located adjacent to the Spokane River. The City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department (Spokane Parks) purchased the property for public recreation. Spokane Parks is requesting approval to convert a portion of the property acquired with grant funds.

Conversion Policy

A "conversion" occurs when interests in real property acquired with board funds are converted to uses other than those for which the funds were originally approved. The board has adopted policies for addressing conversions. Board policy states:

"Interests in real property, structures, and facilities that were acquired, developed, enhanced, or restored with board funds, including state bond funds, must not be changed (either in part or in whole) or converted to uses other than those for which the funds were originally approved without the approval of the board."

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) project agreement provides additional protections from conversion and requires that the sponsor record something on the title to indicate that the property cannot be converted to other uses unless it has board approval. Because local needs and values change over time, state law and board policy allow conversions of grant funded property if the project sponsor provides for adequate substitution or replacement as described below.

The Role of the Board

The role of the board is to evaluate the practical alternatives considered for the conversion and replacement (including avoidance) and to consider whether the replacement property meets the requirements set forth in RCO administrative rules and policies. The board does not have the statutory authority to levy penalties or dictate the future use of the property being converted.

In addition, the board has adopted policies that require the project sponsor to supply the following for any conversion:¹

- A list and discussion of all alternatives for replacement or remediation of the conversion, including avoidance; and
- Evidence that the public has been given a reasonable opportunity to participate in the identification, development, and evaluation of alternatives. The minimum requirement is publication of notice and a 30-day public comment period.

Project Summary and Background Information

The City of Spokane's Central City Riverfront project ([RCO #72-040](#)), included the acquisition of approximately five acres of uplands along the Spokane River for public recreation purposes. The total project cost was \$1,255,650 of which \$941,739 was derived from bonds² in the Outdoor Recreation Account (ORA) and a Housing and Urban Development grant in 1972. Matching funds from the sponsor included land donations. The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provided grant funding for acquiring properties to provide open space. HUD funds were used to match state bonds for several projects. The HUD Open Space program authorized by Title VII of the Housing Act of 1961 was repealed in 1983. While the federal program rules no longer apply, the compliance requirements and conditions of the project agreement and state bonds continue in perpetuity.

The project was the second phase of the larger acquisition strategy for developing a downtown park located at the Spokane River Falls. The project did not include any development, only the acquisition and donation of twelve parcels (Attachment B, Map of Central City Riverfront Properties). These parcels are predominantly located on the north side of the Spokane River and were acquired in preparation for the 1974 World Exposition.

Project Name:	Central City Riverfront	Project #:	72-040A
Grant Program:	Referendum 28 (bond funds)		
HUD Amount	\$ 627,825	Original Purpose: This project acquired about 5 acres to consolidate the remaining riverfront area as proposed in the Spokane Parks and Open Space Plan of 1965.	
Bonds	\$ 313,912		
Project Sponsor Match	\$ 313,913		
Total Amount:	\$ 1,255,650		

The board awarded a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant for River Park, Phase 2, ([RCO #77-053](#)) in 1977. The \$500,166 grant provided funds for acquisition of easements and development of walkways, festival areas, restrooms and other amenities. With LWCF funding, much of the park is

¹ Manual 7, Long Term Obligations, Section 2

² Funding was from Referendum 28, RCW [43.83](#)

subject to federal protection as provided for in the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. Attachment C, Map of All Riverfront Park Properties, shows all of the park properties purchased since 1967 for Riverfront Park. The federal protection areas, commonly described as the “section 6(f) boundary” is shown on the map. The proposed conversion site, acquired with funding from state bonds and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is located outside of the federal 6(f) boundary.

Conversion Area

Spokane Parks plans to convert the property known as the Bosch Lot, which contains five parcels totaling 1.13 acres (Attachment D, Conversion Area and the Proposed Replacement Properties). Spokane Parks intends to convey this conversion area to the City of Spokane’s Public Works and Utilities Department (Public Works). Public Works will lease or sell all or a portion of the property for an indoor climbing facility, which would be located on the south edge of the property. Development plans for the remainder of the Bosch Lot include surface parking, a multi-story public parking garage, and retail development. The parking will serve the retail area, Riverfront Park, Veterans Park (located adjacent to the Bosch Lot), and function as another trailhead for the Centennial Trail and the South Gorge Trail. Attachment E, Conceptual Plan for the Bosch Lot, displays a schematic of the future development of the conversion area.

Spokane Parks submitted a formal allowable use request to the RCO Director in 2015 for consideration of installing a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Tank underneath the Bosch Lot (conversion area). The Director conditionally approved this request pending board consideration of waiving the policy limiting temporary closure of the funded site in excess of 180 days. At the February 2016 meeting, the board approved this request for a 12-month period while the CSO tank was installed on the site.

Replacement Properties

The proposed replacement parcels are both located in downtown Spokane, in close proximity to the Bosch Lot and other park properties. Public Works owns and manages both of the proposed replacement properties. In general, property that already is under public ownership or management is not eligible for RCO grant funding³. There is one exception to this policy that allows existing public property to be eligible for RCO grant funding (or in this instance as replacement properties), if the following conditions are satisfied:

1. State law requires that the agency selling the land must receive compensation; and
2. The land was not originally acquired by the selling agency for habitat conservation (for habitat conservation proposals), salmon habitat recovery (for salmon habitat recovery proposals), or recreation use (for outdoor recreation proposals); and
3. The land has never been publicly managed for habitat conservation (for habitat conservation proposals), salmon habitat recovery (for salmon habitat recovery proposals), or recreation (for outdoor recreation proposals).

RCO staff conducted an initial review of the proposed replacement properties; it appears the properties will meet the eligibility requirements. However, further consultation with the Attorney General’s office is underway and RCO staff will provide an update at the upcoming May meeting.

³ Manual 3, Acquisition Projects, Section 2

Replacement Property 1, Bridge Street Right of Way Vacation

Immediately to the south of the Bosch Lot is Bridge Street (Attachment D). Through a public right-of-way vacation⁴ the ownership of this property will be transferred from Public Works to Spokane Parks. This additional 20,000 square feet of property will expand the existing Veteran's Park, located to the south. Veterans Park overlooks the Spokane Falls, and the Centennial Trail passes through the park, as it crosses the Post Street Bridge connecting the north and south banks and Riverfront Park.

Replacement Property 2, Monroe Street Bridge

The Monroe Street Bridge property consists of three parcels totaling 1.7 acres (Attachment D). Public Works purchased these properties for possible relocation or re-alignment of the Monroe Street Bridge. These parcels are located predominantly on a steep slope overlooking Huntington Park; however, Public Works will install a combined sewer overflow (CSO) tank on this property, effectively eliminating the slope. Spokane Parks plans to develop the site on top of the CSO as an expansion of Huntington Park, with a corridor for the South Gorge Trail. Development will include pathways, seating, gathering spaces and viewing areas of the Spokane River falls.

What is a Combined Sewer?

In some older parts of Spokane, stormwater runoff from roofs, parking lots, and streets empty into the same system that carries sanitary wastes to the Water Reclamation Facility. During heavy rainstorms and rapid snowmelt, extra flow from stormwater runoff into these combined sewers is greater than the interceptor pipes and treatment plant can accommodate. At these times, the combined wastewater surpasses the capacity of the pipes, resulting in an overflow to the Spokane River. The city's strategy to address the untreated overflow that is discharged into the river includes building underground concrete tanks to hold the combined wastewater during a storm and then meter it back to the wastewater treatment plant when the storm surge subsides.

Analysis

When reviewing conversion requests, the board considers the following factors, in addition to the scope of the original grant and the proposed substitution of land or facilities⁵.

- All practical alternatives to the conversion have been evaluated and rejected on a sound basis.
- The fair market value of the converted property has been established and the proposed replacement property is of at least equal fair market value.
- Justification exists to show that the replacement property has at least reasonably equivalent utility and location.
- The public has had opportunities for participation in the process.

Evaluation of Practical Alternatives

Staff will provide Spokane Parks' analysis of alternatives at the October 2017 board meeting.

⁴ A road or street vacation is the termination or transfer of the public interest in a street or right-of-way (opened or unopened).

⁵ Manual 7, Long-Term Obligations

Evaluation of Fair Market Value

The converted and replacement properties will be appraised upon determination that the proposed replacement properties meet the board's eligibility requirements. With initial financial research and historical transactions, it is assumed that the two replacement properties are at least equal or greater than fair market value of the Bosch Lot.

Evaluation of Reasonably Equivalent Location

The proposed replacement property is located adjacent to the Bosch Lots near Riverfront Park.

Evaluation of Reasonably Equivalent Utility

Both proposed replacement properties would enhance the recreational opportunities and preserve open space along the Spokane River Falls and the river gorge. Each site will provide pedestrian linkages to adjacent multi-use pathways and trail systems and extend Riverfront Park gateways and entrances. Staff will provide Spokane Parks' complete justification of the replacement property meeting the equivalent recreational utility requirement at the October 2017 board meeting.

Evaluation of Public Participation

With the existing structure of the Spokane City Council and the Park Board, the public will have the opportunity to comment and engage with the decision making process. In March 2017, Joint Resolution 2017-0019⁶ was passed by the City Council and Park Board for support of the continued integrated planning and work to utilize City Parks and other City properties to meet a range of mutually identified strategic goals and objectives. Staff will provide a summary of the City's outreach efforts at the October 2017 board meeting.

Other Basic Requirements Met

Same Project Sponsor

The replacement property will be administered by the same project sponsor (City of Spokane's Parks and Recreation Department).

Satisfy Needs in Adopted Plan

The activation and integration of key properties on the North Bank is a high priority of the City's new Strategic Development Plan. The Bosch Lot and Bridge Avenue right of way presents one of the best opportunities for the City to transform underutilized property into an incredible City asset.

As the CSO tank project on the Bosch Lot reaches completion this spring, it is critical for Public Works and Spokane Parks to move quickly to repurpose this key asset. In keeping with the primary goal of the Integrated Clean Water Plan, the vision is to achieve multiple benefits on this CSO site:

1. A public trail-head for the Downtown Centennial Trail and Gorge Loop Trail.
2. A new Northwest entry to Riverfront Park.
3. A phenomenal overlook for the Falls and integration with Veteran's Park.
4. A climbing gym/facility as identified by the 2014 Riverfront Park Master Plan.
5. Additional parking to support items 1-4.

⁶ [RES 2017-0019](#)

Eligible in the Funding Program

The proposed replacement property is currently in public ownership. Staff is working with the Attorney General's Office to determine eligibility. Spokane Parks is working on the documentation needed to satisfy all of the conversion requirements. Staff will provide details of the analysis at the October 2017 meeting.

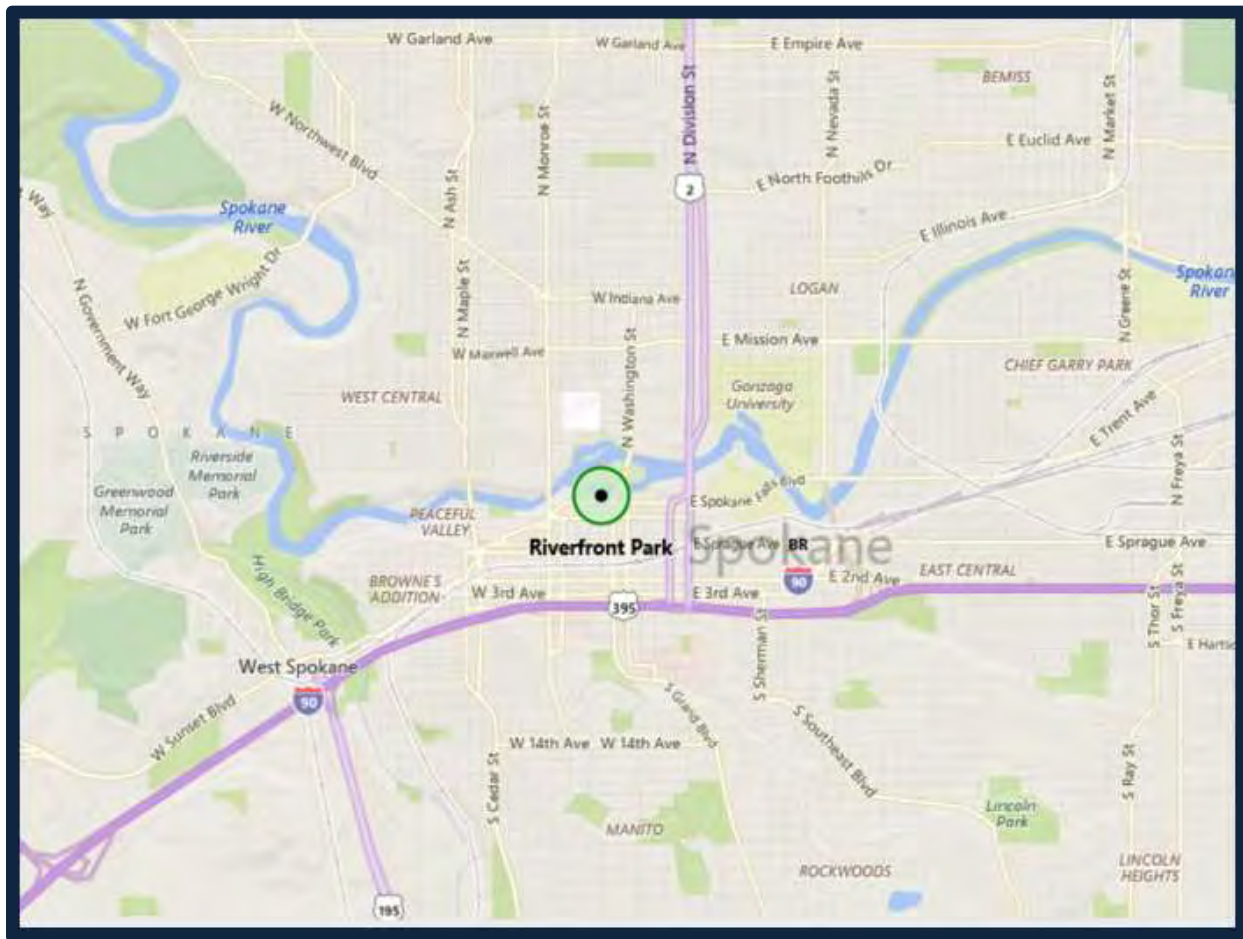
Next Steps

RCO staff will work with the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department to address the board's questions and ensure compliance with the board's conversion requirements. Staff will finalize the conversion request for board decision at its meeting in October 2017.

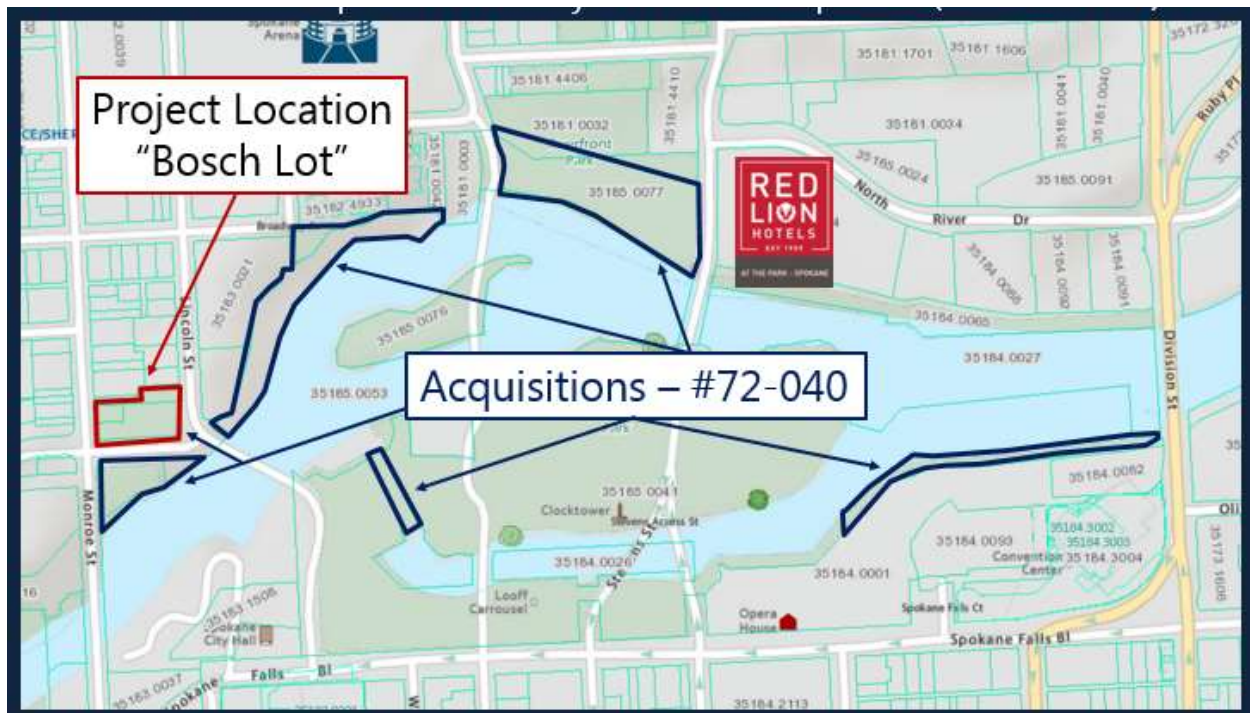
Attachments

- A. Location Map – Spokane Riverfront Park
- B. Map of Central City Riverfront Properties (RCO #72-040)
- C. Map of All Riverfront Park Properties
- D. Conversion Area (Bosch Lot) and the Proposed Replacement Properties
- E. Conceptual Plan for the Bosch Lot

Location Map – Spokane Riverfront Park



Map of Central City Riverfront Properties (RCO #72-040)



Map of All Riverfront Park Properties



Conversion Area (Bosch Lot) and the Proposed Replacement Properties



Conceptual Plan for the Bosch Lot



APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: May 10-11, 2017
Title: Policy Work Plan Preview
Prepared By: Wendy Brown, Policy Director

Summary

This memo summarizes the policy work completed in the 2015-17 biennium and identifies some topics that have been identified for policy development in 2017-19.

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

Policy Work Plan Development

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) policy work plan is developed every two years to identify policy assignments for the biennium ahead. Tasks are organized by priority into three tiers, which are defined in the following way:

- Tier 1. Tasks that are required by law, the Governor, or previous board direction; are to be completed first; and are to be completed by the end of the biennium.
- Tier 2. Tasks that are of second priority: have been identified by staff and/or RCFB-approved plans; and are to be completed by the end of the biennium, if possible.
- Tier 3. Additional, lower priority policy tasks that are to be completed as time allows.

2015-17 Policy Work Plan Progress

The RCO Policy Team has been hard at work over the past two years completing assignments in the current work plan. The following table summarizes work tasks that are either complete, on target for completion by the end of the biennium, or will be ongoing into the next biennium (2017-19).

Table 1. 2015-17 Policy Work Plan Status

Work Plan Assignment	Status
TIER 1	
Required by Law, Governor, or Previous Board Direction - To be Completed by June 2017	
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Farmland Preservation Account Revise the evaluation criteria and program policies.	Complete
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) Policy Changes Revise grant program policies and evaluation criteria for 2016 grant round to include elements identified by the RCFB (June 24, 2015).	Complete
Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) Policy Changes – Large Capital Grant Program Scope the development of a large capacity grant category	Complete
Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Amendments Revise the administrative rules pertinent to clarify grant program definitions and requirements.	On track
New Grant Programs – Coastal and Catastrophic Flood Relief Develop policies for new grant programs assigned by the Legislature.	Complete
Omni Circular Update fiscal policies and procedures and project agreement to reflect new federal Omni Circular requirements.	Complete
WWRP Statute Review and Revisions Support RCFB in the stakeholder process and review of WWRP statute. Potential submittal of request legislation in 2016 Legislative Session.	Complete
Respond to Join Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) Study on State Lands Participate in developing scope of a lands accountability system per recommendations from JLARC study.	Complete
Invasive Species Council Reauthorization Lead effort to gain reauthorization of the Invasive Species Council.	Complete
Aquatic Invasive Species Funding Advisory Committee Lead the legislatively-mandated effort to find funding options for aquatic invasive species response and prevention.	Complete
Revise Compliance Policies Revise grant program policies for allowable uses and conversions.	Ongoing
SRFB Policy Changes Revise SRFB policies from the technical review plan and others.	Complete
Multiple Benefits Develop and modify eligibility and evaluation criteria for the concept of multiple benefits.	On track

Work Plan Assignment	Status
State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2017 Produce the 2017 SCORP, including a map-based information system to inventory recreation supply.	On track
Climate Change Scope if and how to incorporate climate change as a significant factor in grant applications.	Complete
RCFB Performance Measures Report out on performance measures in strategic plan. Work with the RCFB to determine whether they wish to revise the measures.	Complete
RCFB Strategic Plan Revise RCFB strategic plan to include additional guiding principles identified at the board's retreat.	Complete
SRFB Strategic Plan Revise SRFB strategic plan per the board's request.	Complete
TIER 2 Priorities Identified by Staff and/or RCFB-Approved Plans and to be Completed by June 2017	
Update the Public Lands Inventory Update the GIS-based public lands inventory with current state agency land acquisition parcel and meta-data.	Not started – Seeking funding in 2017 budget
Revise How Manuals are Prepared and Published Develop procedures for revising manuals, consider alternative forms for publication.	Ongoing
Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) Guidance Update the FFFPP policies to include relevant policies and grant requirements.	On track
Hatchery Reform and Monitoring Project Manual Develop policies and grant requirements for salmon recovery research and monitoring manual.	On track
Use of Upland Areas Acquired with SRFB and RCFB Funds Provide guidance on the types of uses allowed on upland property acquired in conjunction with adjacent riparian or near shore land necessary for salmon recovery, conservation, and recreation projects.	Not started
State Trails System Evaluate whether to reinstate a system of state-designated recreation trails.	Not started
Trails Website Scope the development of a website that is a clearinghouse for trails information.	Not started
TIER 3 Assignments to be Completed as Time Allows	
Revised Code of Washington (RCW), WAC and Policies Library Develop system to index RCW, WACs, and policy statements.	On track

Work Plan Assignment	Status
Water Rights Scope whether additional policies are needed to protect water rights acquired with grant funds.	Not started
Trail User Data Provide incentives for applicants to submit trail data in consistent way.	Not started
Contract Improvements Move to an electronically-generated contract that is specific to each grant program and to a completely paperless contract with use of electronic signatures. Update and simplify grant contract language.	On track
Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Fuel Use Study Update The study is needed to determine the percent of fuel to different types of recreation funded through NOVA and then guide who needs to be on the advisory committee.	Not started
Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) Strategic Plan Prepare and update a strategic plan for the development, maintenance, and improvement of community outdoor athletic fields in the state.	On track

Topics and Needs for the 2017-19 RCFB Policy Work Plan

The RCFB portion of the 2017-19 policy work plan is currently under development and will be further defined from discussions at the board's retreat in July. Policy items from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group, and Washington Invasive Species Council will be included in the final plan. To date, RCFB-related policy topics remaining from the current work plan and those identified by the Legislature and staff include the following:

Tasks Remaining from the 2015-17 Work Plan:

- Update the Public Lands Inventory
- Continue revising grant program policies for allowable uses and conversions, including mitigation projects, acquisition policies for replacement properties, requirements for conversions on development projects, and small or low value conversions
- Use of Upland Areas Acquired with Funds from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
- Evaluate whether to re-initiate a system of state-designated recreation trails
- Scope the development of a website that is a clearinghouse for trails information
- Develop requirements for water rights acquired with grant funds
- Provide incentives for applicants to submit trail user data in consistent way
- Complete the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) fuel use study update

Legislative Direction:

- Update the Public Lands Inventory with funding provided in the 2017-19 capital budget

- Continue to track and provide data and information for the on-going JLARC study, 'Measuring Outcomes of Habitat and Recreation Acquisitions and Regulations.'

Staff Recommendations:

- Review and update of the following Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) categories: Urban Wildlife, Riparian Habitat
- Review and update the sustainability and environmental stewardship criteria
- Implement 2017 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) recommendations
- Implement outcomes/board decisions from the Match Waiver Workgroup
- Identify and implement any policy implications arising from the current, internal grant processes LEAN projects
- Evaluate and perhaps revise the allowable use policy for acquisition projects
- Provide clarification about structures eligible for purchase and retention, particularly in a habitat project
- Identify and implement changes to the NOVA grant program needed to address the increased work load resulting from the increased gas taxes into the program

Next Steps

Following the RCFB retreat in July, the SRFB retreat in May, as well as release of the final budget, staff will complete development of the policy work plan for 2017-19. RCO will include policy needs identified by all RCO-administered boards, staff, Governor, and the Legislature, and put them into the three tiers of priority. The final policy work plan will be shared with board members.

APPROVED RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**Meeting Date:** May 10-11, 2017**Title:** July Board Retreat Agenda Preview**Prepared By:** Scott Robinson, Deputy Director**Summary**

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) is planning to hold a retreat on July 12, 2017. This memo proposes a draft retreat agenda for board member comment and consideration.

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

At the October 2016 meeting, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) decided to hold a retreat on July 12, 2017. The retreat will be held at Educational Service District 113, Mason Room, 6005 Tyee Drive SW, Tumwater, WA 98512.

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) hired Jim Reid to assist with preparation and facilitate the retreat. The board formed a subcommittee at the February 2017 meeting, consisting of Chair Ted Willhite, Member Joe Stohr, Director Kaleen Cottingham and RCO staff, to develop an agenda and set-up meeting logistics.

The subcommittee, facilitator, and RCO staff met in March 2017 and developed a draft agenda for board member review and consideration.

Next Steps

At the May 2017 board meeting, RCO staff will request board feedback on the agenda and ask for concurrence on the proposed discussion items.

Attachments

A. Draft Retreat Agenda for July 12, 2017

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED AGENDA & ACTIONS
May 10-11, 2017

Item	Formal Action	Board Request for Follow-up
Honoring former Governor Mike Lowry	Resolution 2017-16 Decision: Approved	Resolution will be sent to the Lowry Family.
1. Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Board Meeting Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 8, 2017 B. Time Extension Requests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Fudge Point Acquisition (RCO #12-1095A) • Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Cape Disappointment Seaview Dunes Phase 2 (RCO #12-1530A) • Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2012 (RCO #12-1246A) • Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Olallie Trail Development 2012 (RCO #12-1248D) • Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oak Creek Forest Restoration (RCO #12-1226R) • Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Heart of the Cascades 2012 (RCO #12-1132A) • Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Rock Creek/Simcoe 2012 (RCO #12-1137A) • Washington Department of Natural Resources, Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve (RCO #12-1176A) • Chelan County, Stemlit Basin Phase 2 (RCO #12-1510A) • Tacoma Metropolitan Park District, Point Defiance Missing Link (RCO #12-1549D) • Columbia Land Trust, Trout Lake Valley Phase 2 (RCO #12-1463A) • Capitol Land Trust, Oakland Bay Estuary Conservation Phase 3 (RCO #12-1590) 	Resolution 2017-03 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.

2. Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Report • Legislative, Budget, and Policy Updates • Grant Management Report • Fiscal Report <i>(written only)</i> • Performance Report <i>(written only)</i> 	Briefings	No follow-up action requested.
3. State Agency Partner Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor's Outdoor Recreation Policy Advisor • Department of Natural Resources • State Parks and Recreation Commission • Department of Fish and Wildlife 	Briefings	No follow-up action requested.
General Public Comment		<p>Staff will follow up on comment provided by Bob Allen regarding RCO Project #16-2774A, sponsored by the Port of Grapeview (a project on the Boating Facilities Program ranked list) and his concerns that the sponsor may not have match funding.</p> <p><i>(As of June 19, 2017, staff confirmed that the sponsor, Port of Grapeview, was able to certify match by June 1 in order to receive grant funding. The project will be brought before the board in July for funding consideration)</i></p>
4. State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Work Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Case Study: Seattle's Park Plan Gap Analysis B. Preview Resident Survey Results C. Preview Draft Findings D. Discuss Potential Plan Recommendations and State Unifying Strategy Action Items E. Next Steps on SCORP 	<p>Briefing</p> <p>Request for Direction</p>	<p>No follow-up action requested.</p> <p>Staff will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share the board's feedback from the work session with the SCORP advisory committee at their next meeting. • Bring recommendations and options for board consideration and approval at the July meeting. • Share information with partner agencies and interested partners after July's meeting.
5. Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Program: Review and Approve Ranked List for the 2017-19 Biennium	Resolution 2017-04 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.

<p>6. Follow- Boating Facilities Program (BFP): Review and Approve Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium</p> <p>A. State Agencies</p> <p>B. Local Agencies</p>	<p>Decisions</p> <p>Resolution 2017-05 Decision: Approved</p> <p>Resolution 2017-06 Decision: Approved</p>	<p>No follow-up action requested.</p>
<p>7. Recreational Trails Program (RTP): Review and Approve Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium</p> <p>A. Overview of the program and categories</p> <p>B. General</p> <p>C. Education</p>	<p>Briefing</p> <p>Resolution 2017-07 Decision: Approved</p> <p>Resolution 2017-08 Decision: Approved</p>	<p>No follow-up action requested.</p>
<p>8. Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Review and Approve Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium</p> <p>A. Overview of the program and categories</p> <p>B. Education and Enforcement Category</p> <p>C. Nonhighway Road Category</p> <p>D. Nonmotorized Category</p> <p>E. Off-road Vehicle Category</p>	<p>Briefing</p> <p>Resolution 2017-09 Decision: Approved</p> <p>Resolution 2017-10 Decision: Approved</p> <p>Resolution 2017-11 Decision: Approved</p> <p>Resolution 2017-12 Decision: Approved</p>	<p>No follow-up action requested.</p>
<p>9. Updates on Trails Database</p>	<p>Briefing</p>	<p>No follow-up action requested.</p>

10. Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Public Hearing	Resolution 2017-13, as amended Decision: Approved	<p>The board approved a revised version of Resolution 2017-13, Attachment H, amending it further to adopt Attachment A as written with the exception of Chapter 286.13.140.</p> <p>The board deferred adoption of Attachment D, which details the guidance and procedures for the definition of "project area."</p> <p>Staff will prepare a final Concise Explanatory Statement and file a final rule adoption notice for publication in the next available Washington State Register for the adopted amendments. Adopted rules are effective 31 days after filing with the Office of the Code Reviser.</p>
11. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Match Waiver Policy	Request for Direction	No follow-up action requested.
12. Control and Tenure Policy on State-Owned Aquatic Lands	Request for Direction	No follow-up action requested.
13. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Policy and Evaluation Criteria Changes for the Habitat Conservation Account (Phase III) A. Evaluation Criteria and Other Policy Changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple Benefits • Other Evaluation Criteria Changes B. Acquisition and Development Project Policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum Cost for Noxious Weed Control • Eligible Costs for Stewardship Plans • Restricting Public Access • Purchase of Land from a Land Trust (New Policy) 	Requests for Direction	Staff will prepare draft policies for review by the board at the July meeting.

<p>14. Compliance Issues</p> <p>A. Agricultural Use on State Parks Managed Trails</p> <p>B. Follow-up on State Parks' Recreation Concession Areas (RCAs)</p> <p>C. Policy Waiver Request: City of Mercer Island (RCO #89-018D, #91-120D)</p> <p>D. Conversion Briefing: Spokane City Parks & Recreation, Central City Riverfront 72 (RCO #72-040A)</p>	<p>Resolution 2017-14 Decision: Approved</p> <p>Briefing</p> <p>Resolution 2017-15 Decision: Approved</p> <p>Briefing</p>	<p>Resolution approved as amended, with the option to authorize the director to approve State Parks' allowable use requests to permit agricultural-related transportation uses by adjacent landowners on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail until such time as the board adopts a policy to address non-recreational uses on the trail.</p> <p>Ms. Barker will use the board's direction to draft an amendment to the allowable use policy for board consideration at a future meeting.</p>
<p>15. Planning for the Future</p> <p>A. Survey Responses from RCO Grant Applicants and Advisory Committees</p> <p>B. Policy Work Plan Preview</p> <p>C. July Board Retreat Agenda Preview</p>	<p>Briefings</p>	<p>Staff will follow up in July with the final policy work plan.</p>

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: May 10, 2017

Place: South Puget Sound Community College, Lacey Campus, Building 1, Room 194
4220 6th Avenue SE, Lacey, WA, 98503

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members Present:

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

It is intended that this summary 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 Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) meeting.

Opening and Call to Order

Chair Willhite called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Staff called roll and a quorum was determined.

Member Deller moved to approve the May 10-11, 2017 agenda; Member Stohr seconded. The motion carried.

Item 1: Consent Agenda

The board reviewed Resolution 2017-03, Consent Agenda, which included approval of the February 8, 2017 meeting minutes and twelve time extension requests for RCO Projects: #12-1095A, #12-1530A, #12-1246A, #12-1248D, #12-1226R, #12-1132A, #12-1137A, #12-1176A, #12-1510A, #12-1549D, #12-1463A, and #12-1590.

Resolution 2017-03

Moved by: Member Michael Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Brock Milliern

Decision: Approved

Chair Willhite welcomed board members, staff, and audience. He emphasized the open public meeting purpose of transparent discussion, reviewing the protocol for providing public comment.

Chair Willhite summarized Resolution 2017-16, honoring the life and service of former Governor Mike Lowry.

Resolution 2017-16

Moved by: Member Danica Ready

Seconded by: Member Kathryn Gardow

Decision: Approved

Management Reports

Item 2: Director's Report

Director's Report: Director Kaleen Cottingham informed members that they may be invited to a number of upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremonies. With regards to the legislative process, she shared that if the Legislature had not passed a budget by June 1, RCO will undergo the process of notifying staff and grant sponsors of a potential shutdown should the budget not be passed by June 30, which may affect the July board meeting. She summarized staff changes, current work, and priorities, noting that most items would be discussed in depth during the meeting.

Legislative Update: Wendy Brown, Policy Director, shared information about the current legislative session, now in the first special session after the regular session ended on April 23. Ms. Brown provided an overview of RCO's capital budget request and the differences between the three capital budgets that have thus far been proposed from the House, Senate, and Governor. The operating budget saw few proposed changes. Ms. Brown summarized budget provisos proposed for the WWRP, WWRP LEAP list, RCO Recreation Grants, the Boating Facilities Program (BFP), and the John Wayne/Pioneer Trail. Currently, a number of House legislators have decided to remove acquisition projects from the ranked project lists; it is unknown whether the final list will include these projects. The Legislature has the ability to remove projects from the ranked lists, but not add projects.

Ms. Brown highlighted bills that may affect RCO's grant programs, as well as three board member confirmations for Chair Willhite, Member Danica Ready, and Member Mike Deller.

Grant Management Report: Marguerite Austin provided an update on the current grant round activities, staff participation in conferences and project site visits, and collaboration with state and federal grant partners. She shared that the Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG) Program received two, potentially three, applications for the federal competition; more information will be brought to the board in July. Additionally, four grant requests were received for the new WWRP, Forestland Preservation category. The board-adopted policies and criteria will guide the evaluation of these grant proposals and more information will be brought to the board at the October meeting.

Item 3: State Agency Partner Reports

Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR): Member Milliern provided an update on behalf of DNR, describing the potential budget cuts that may come with the passing of the capital budget this year. The agency is notably concerned about continued funding, staffing resources, and support for their natural areas. Member Milliern provided updates on the Blanchard State Forest and the Teanaway Community Forest.

Governor's Outdoor Recreation Advisor: Jon Snyder commended Member Shiosaki for his work on SCORP advisory committee. He briefed the board on February's 2017 Outdoor Recreation Summit, held in Bellingham, Washington, which focused on tourism and recreation; Governor Inslee and Member Gardow also attended.

He reported on several bills passed this session, focused on issues such as recreation access, firearms transfer (regulating flare-guns on boats), and the outdoor preschool bill. He provided an update on his recent activities, including attending the Tacoma Metro Parks "Hack-a-thon," engaging students in their local parks using technical skills and games.

He commented on the strong, recent focus on youth outdoor activities and education, including the outdoor school initiative and *No Child Left Inside*. Mr. Snyder concluded with information about a

Recreational Access Budget Proviso which has a process parallel to SCORP, though not as extensive. A survey will be conducted to gather information about paying recreation fees and to inform future decisions about recreation access.

Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission (State Parks): Member Herzog provided an update on behalf of State Parks. In April, State Parks hosted the [Rocky Mountain State Park Executives Conference](#), showcasing various parks in Washington. Member Herzog also summarized the legislative and Governor's capital budget proposals and potential effects on the agency, highlighting *No Child Left Inside*, the John Wayne/Pioneer Trail, and budget provisos that would regulate the cost of capital projects. He also described Senate Bill 5838 which concerns the capital construction of and bonding for addressing the facilities maintenance backlog for the agency; the bill's passing would elevate the maintenance level for state parks and provide critical funding over the next five biennia.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW): Member Stohr provided an update on behalf of WDFW, focusing on three main issues. First, he briefed the board on aquatic invasives species (AIS) legislation introduced this session which would provide a new revenue source through out-of-state, commercial, and other non-resident user boating fees and public utilities tax fees. The bill supports an already strong AIS management program, helps recreation users, and supports power and irrigation needs. Second, Member Stohr shared that the agency purchased several hundred additional acres along the northern shore of Merrill Lake, located in Cowlitz County. To celebrate the recreation area, the agency will host a one-day open house on August 11 at Merrill Lake in partnership with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Member Stohr concluded with details about a youth debate event held at Reardan Audubon Lake.

General Public Comment

Bob Allen, a former port commissioner and project manager, addressed the board regarding a project on the Boating Facilities Program ranked list. Sponsored by the Port of Grapeview, RCO Project #16-2774A, would allow for the acquisition of two waterfront parcels, which include 60 feet of shoreline, next to the boat launch on Case Inlet. Mr. Allen provided background information on the boat ramp, including the park acquisition of two parcels with houses and waterfront property that adjoin the boat ramp. The Port of Grapeview presented a diagram previously to the board displaying entry to the ramp. Mr. Allen shared three letters with the board from a local watch-dog group that point out errors complying with state law and open public meeting requirements. He added that the letters also demonstrate that local area residents do not agree with the acquisition because the houses will need to be removed and this would require another grant. The Port proposed a budget with funds earmarked for the ramp project; however, they do not have match funds for a grant through the board. Mr. Allen expressed concerns about the lack of funding for completing the proposed projects; he explained that the Port has not created long-term plan for maintenance and upkeep. Mr. Allen concluded by requesting that the board remove the project from the funding list and to allow the community to enjoy the area and continue the boat ramp project independently.

Ms. Austin summarized RCO's requirements for certifying match, noting that the Port is beholden to these requirements by June 1 in order to receive grant funding. The RCO director has the authority to extend the deadline on a case-by-case basis, but the sponsor will need to certify match before the project is brought before the board. She described the intent of the project and surrounding concerns.

Mr. Allen responded to board questions about logistics of the project, including concerns about the entry to the boat ramp area and acquisition of the park. The project will be brought before the board in July, should match be certified and a budget passed in the Legislature.

Break: 10:08 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.

Board Business: Request for Direction

Item 4: State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Work Session

Overview

Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist, briefed the board on progress made to update the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). She introduced the purpose of the work session, an important opportunity for the board to review the progress, provide direction, and share recommendations for the draft plan which staff will bring to the July meeting.

For the benefit of new board members, Ms. Connelly provided an overview of SCORP, summarizing the background, purpose, and the process for updating the plan. SCORP guides other grant and recreation plans related to youth activities, boating, trails, athletic fields, and nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities. The plan is also used to inform the federal Recreational Trails and the Land and Water Conservation Fund plans.

Case Study: Seattle's Park Plan Gap Analysis

Member Shiosaki present information on the City of Seattle, Parks and Recreation's 2017 Gap Analysis and Walkability modeling, a part of informing their six-year plan update – *2017 Parks and Open Space Plan*. The study focused on how to create "livability" within the city. He shared that Seattle's population was 686,800 in 2016; it is expected to grow by over 120,000 new residents over the next 20 years. This information led the City to ask how they could create livability, accommodate growth, and measure the success of these efforts. To answer these questions, the study utilized practical application of GIS-mapping (Geographic Information Systems) to evaluate public access to the City's facilities and parklands as a means towards accommodating growth. Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) manages a 6,414-acre park system with over 485 parks and natural areas; with the system comprising about 12% of the city's land area. This data was used to determine gap areas where access limited or non-existent. Other factors examined included population density, equity and health, and poverty and income. Ultimately, the study and resulting mapping application supports the City in identifying areas of need, informing policy decisions, engaging with the public, collaboration and data sharing, and refining service delivery to Seattle constituents.

In terms of the five-minute walk metric, Member Ready asked about how the City intends to measure public use. Member Shiosaki responded, stating that this level of data is more difficult to determine. The metrics support measuring accessibility, but other (often unknown) factors will determine who uses a park and when. He hopes that the gap analysis will support an increase in urban parks and maintain a positive relationship with population density.

The board discussed park access and public space while respecting private ownership, as well as the costs associated with acquisitions and maintenance. Member Shiosaki added that urban greening is another method that increases green space without creating new park spaces.

Ms. Connelly shared that the City of Seattle model provides an example of what some grant sponsors are doing to assess need within their areas. She asked that the board consider how an inventory could be used to show public need, what other layers could be added that will support this assessment, and how the information can be displayed that clearly demonstrates the statewide needs for public need.

Preview Resident Survey Results and Draft Findings

Ms. Connelly summarized the SCORP survey development and implementation, conducted by professors at Eastern Washington University. The fully online survey was a change from past years and also included the option for Spanish translation services. She shared the preliminary results and findings of the major outdoor categories surveyed with participation rates, frequency of activities, and where people are

recreating. Over 3,600 respondents have provided data so far; surveyors are continuing until they are able to statistically well-represent every region within the state and a cover a wide demographic range.

Ms. Connelly previewed the top ten recreation activities, primarily distinguished between those with children or without children (however, data will be rolled up for the final results). She focused on the top five activities in order to demonstrate to the board the level of detail achieved within the survey questions: walking, leisure activities, nature activities, day-hiking, and freshwater-based activities.

Director Cottingham and Ms. Connelly shared that staff will be able to provide presentations of the data once the survey results are finalized, as well as share raw data with interested partners.

The board discussed public access needs with regards to their chosen days of use or times of year, learning that the survey does not address this level of detail. Ms. Connelly described the distribution of responses across the state and the potential effect on the results. She noted that the demographic range of responses thus far are leading the researchers to weight the responses and provide guidance for how to receive a wider range in future surveys.

Ms. Connelly provided an overview of the SCORP elements and remaining tasks. The board inquired about the purpose of focus groups, learning that they will be used to determine more about the survey results, e.g., why certain demographic groups were less responsive than others.

Chair Willhite emphasized the importance of SCORP; he encouraged members to share observations, participate in the future direction of the plan, and support staff in implementing these recommendations.

Ms. Connelly opened the work session for the board by introducing the following discussion questions. (Responses and direction provided by board members are included with each question.)

1. Based on the resident survey preliminary results and findings, do you think the grant programs are set up to fund the right projects? If not, where could changes occur?

- The board decided to wait until the draft SCORP plan is available and hold a deeper discussion at the July retreat.
- Strategies are often mixed up – are we trying to derive a benefit from the strategies? Need to support why certain questions are asked in the grant application process.
- Are programs set up to maximize available resources? Need to understand demand and resources' availability.

2. What are key strategies the board might pursue and direct its funding towards?

- Keep underserved populations in mind, as well as those not responding, and keep this information as a baseline to use in directing future efforts.
- How are we maintaining diversity on evaluation committees? While the focus of volunteer recruitment is diversity, committees notably lack persons of color. Male to female ratios are stronger.
- Set priorities on underserved populations, keep energy on addressing climate change, new opportunities of recreation.
- Maintenance costs are important – acquiring new parcels is good, but need to maintain existing properties and respond to the “politics” of acquisition.

- Respond to increasing populations – what will they need, how do we anticipate need, balance need, and prioritize where the money goes based on these needs?
- Underserved populations – who are they? Need discussion as a board to determine this definition; survey may help to identify populations that are “underserved” and the board can use this information in their definition.
- Changing demographics of the state – understand how and in what direction.
- Link parks and open space to human health impacts.
- As a term, “parks” does not capture what DFW and DNR do with recreation lands, etc. Do we need consistent terminology? Agencies are beholden to funding sources and limitations on those sources; parks may be reserve for the future as open space becomes more limited.
- Access to Information – empowering parks with websites and internet sources to bring voice to these resources.
- Addressing climate change continues to be important.
- Acknowledge that underserved communities are located in both urban and rural areas.
- Leverage the recent statutory change whereby NGOs are now eligible sponsors – how to work with them, make their work easier?
- New funding sources? Crowd-sourcing? Statutory matches for sponsors?
- How the different state agency missions are shared; open to new concepts of parks (e.g. skate parks, spray parks, etc.)
- Outreach to medical community; health care providers (prescriptions for walking).
- Strong return on investment by type of community.
- Using park system/resources more efficiently; how to steer people towards their desired opportunities and help manage crowding; are we using the parks we have now effectively?
- Will the registration system re-direct people or tailor marketing messages to the public? Can we create deal or offers (financial incentives) to get people to do so?

3. How does the board see itself supporting other state organizations’ missions related to outdoor recreation and open space conservation?

- How to better connect opportunities with the Endangered Species Act? This is done with salmon recovery efforts; can we do it with recreation?
- Maintain the goal of reaching a unified vision/strategy across agencies/partners – save NGO resources, reduce redundancies for more efficient operations.
- U.S. Forest Service partnerships – looking at national lands within Washington – keeping in mind the potential for change – via trails, NOVA, RTP RCO funds a significant amount within the State – user-based program (NOVA) supports the facilities and the program is limited by its nature and forces you to back-country.
- Lands Group – to what extent does an agency’s ownership tell you what is happening on the property? Move beyond assumptions of land-base and look at bi-ownership – could we use the Public Land Inventory (PLI) to do this? Could we look at how lands are used for recreation, forestry, etc. and use this to unify the mission?
- Concentrate on successes and then focus on gaps to align with other agencies?

4. How does the board see itself supporting local entities missions related to outdoor recreation and conservation?

- Encourage members to continue community engagement in personal and professional lives: participate in planning activities; track actions and support them; go to ribbon-cutting and ground-breaking to build relationships with local officials.
- Be cognizant of the burden placed on smaller jurisdictions or sponsors with limited resources – how can we simplify eligibility requirements? Suggestions include a potential categorical exclusion, e.g., a certain dollar amount, grant category, etc., where we could consider an expedited application process. This would also help with the match waiver requirement.
- Offer expertise to local entities – borrow landscape architect; provide guidance or information; break-down some bureaucratic division to support neighbors; offer assistance in upgrading/updating plans.
- Encourage use of templates and best practices (avoid duplication or “from-scratch” efforts) for park development to enable communities to share resources (without exposing the state to liability). Partner or coordinate with other agencies that have expertise, e.g., when building a campground or building trails, seek support from that agency that is excelling in those areas.
- Local planning grants for multi-development plans or projects.

The next SCORP advisory committee meeting will be held June 21. Ms. Connelly will share the board’s feedback with committee members. The draft SCORP and related plans will be brought back to the board at its July meeting.

Public Comment

No public comment was received at this time.

Lunch Break: 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Board Business: Briefings & Discussions

Item 5: Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Program: Review and Approve Ranked List for the 2017-19 Biennium

Karl Jacobs, Recreation and Conservation Senior Outdoor Grants Manager, provided an overview of the Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Program which supports shooting sports including handgun, muzzleloader, rifle, shotgun, and archery activities. Mr. Jacobs described the unique match and liability insurance requirements, as well as the applicant eligibility requirements. Mr. Jacobs described the make-up of the advisory committee, comprised of local, state, and tribal community members who represent various shooting disciplines.

Mr. Jacobs summarized the six grant applications submitted in 2016, including the distribution of the projects across the state and the total funding request. Mr. Jacobs gave a brief description of each ranked project, concluding with the top-ranked project from the Poulsbo Sportsman Club, the 50-Meter Range Improvement (RCO Project [16-2650D](#)). Located in Kitsap County, the baffles on the range will be updated to meet current best practices with a “no blue sky” design that prevents escapement when the range is used properly.

Public Comment

Doug O'Connor, Poulsbo Sportsmen's Club President, addressed the board regarding the top-ranked project. He expressed appreciation to RCO grant manager, Rory Calhoun, as well as thanked the board for their support. He described the project scope and the large volume of club members that the project will benefit. He highlighted the 25-year old, volunteer-build baffles that will be updated based on the engineer's designs and the permitting process. He stated that the Club anticipates up to 10,000 visitors who will use the range, therefore critical safety practices, instruction, and supervision are all supported through this project.

Alan Kasper, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club President, addressed the board regarding two previously-awarded FARR grants received by the club. He expressed appreciation to RCO grant manager, Rory Calhoun, as well as the new PRISM Online application which significantly helped his organization. He described the updates made possible to the club's ranges due to the FARR funding received. The club began to strategize ways to encourage youth engagement and contribute to youth education, ultimately using funding from a local auction to provide youth coaches and safety instruction.

Resolution 2017-04

Moved by: Member Mike Deller

Seconded by: Member Brock Milliern

Decision: Approved

Item 6: Boating Facilities Program (BFP): Review and Approve Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium

Kyle Guzlas, Recreation and Conservation Outdoor Grants Manager, presented an overview of the Boating Facilities Program (BFP), in which grants may be used to acquire land, develop or renovate facilities, design and permit facilities, or a combination. Since the program started, RCO has funded over 600 total projects. By statute, the BFP is split into two categories for State and Local Agency projects with equally divided funding. Mr. Guzlas provided overall statistics on the project applications received this year for both the Local and State Agency categories. New in this grant round included the addition of decontamination stations as an eligible project, per legislative direction.

Mr. Guzlas described the State Agency category's top-ranked project: Lawrence Lake Access Redevelopment sponsored by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (RCO #16-2467D). Located in Thurston County, the project scope includes paving of the parking areas, renovation of the existing ramp, the addition of a boarding float, a new restroom facility, stormwater management, and signage.

Mr. Guzlas highlighted two rather unique projects received in the Local Agency category, both a-typical of the type of applications normally submitted: Skamania County's project, Wind River Boat Launch Development, which will construct a new boat launch for access to high-pressure fishing areas in the lower Columbia River (RCO #16-2164); and the City of Castle Rock's Al Helenberg Boat Launch, a planning project what will lead to a development project that will construct a structure to reduce the river velocity in the area of the ramps in order to make it safer for the majority of the users (RCO #16-2411).

Mr. Guzlas described the Local Agency category's top-ranked project: Brownsville Marina and Boat Launch Staging Area sponsored by the Port of Brownsville (RCO #16-2601). Located in Kitsap County, the project would relocate and replace the double launch lanes and repave the staging area for the boat ramp.

Public Comment

No public comment was received at this time.

Resolution 2017-05 (State Agencies)**Moved by:** Member Michael Shiosaki**Seconded by:** Member Danica Ready**Decision:** Approved**Resolution 2017-06 (Local Agencies)****Moved by:** Member Mike Deller**Seconded by:** Member Joe Stohr**Decision:** Approved**Item 7: Recreational Trails Program (RTP): Review and Approve Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium**

Ben Donatelle, Recreation and Conservation Outdoor Grants Manager, described the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), a federal-aid assistance program intended to help states create and maintain recreational trails for both motorized and nonmotorized recreational trail use. The program's goal is to reduce the backlog of deferred maintenance on recreational trails that provide a backcountry experience.

Mr. Donatelle provided background on the funding sources and policy guidance for RTP, which is divided into two categories of projects: general and education. To distribute Washington's RTP funds, the board elected to use 5% towards education.

Applications vary somewhat by sponsor, but are mainly comprised of federal agencies and non-profit organizations. Mr. Donatelle provided general statistics regarding the 2016 grant requests (total funding amounts) and 2016 applications as compared to other grant programs.

Mr. Donatelle highlighted programmatic changes for this year's applications:

- Modified page limits for the evaluation packets
- Removal of the bonus point from the *Cost Efficiencies* evaluation criterion
- New requirement for all non-federal applicants to fill out RCO's Fiscal Data Collection Sheet
- Allowing indirect costs
- Moving the grant cycle to the fall to avoid conflicts with the summer field season

Mr. Donatelle summarized the annual advisory committee meeting. Feedback from the meeting centered on three main areas: statewide trail maintenance projects submitted by nonprofit organizations; consistently low-ranking for motorized projects, particularly snow grooming proposals; and feedback on several of the evaluation criteria.

Mr. Donatelle provided details regarding the General category criteria, funding, and metrics. The top-ranked General category project was RCO #[16-2249M](#), Statewide Backcountry Trail Maintenance. The sponsor, Washington Trails Association (WTA), will use this grant to maintain 350 miles of hiking trails throughout the Cascades, Olympics, Selkirks/Kettle Range and Blue Mountains. WTA will engage thousands of volunteers to reduce maintenance backlogs on some of the state's most popular trails. Many of these trails would not see any maintenance without volunteer work and are at risk of being lost altogether if not adequately maintained.

Mr. Donatelle provided details regarding the Education category criteria, funding, and metrics. The top-ranked Education category project was RCO #[16-2489](#), Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator 2018-2019. The sponsor, Snoqualmie Ranger District of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, will use this grant to hire a Volunteer Program Coordinator who will recruit, train, supervise and support volunteer

rangers patrolling the Alpine Lakes, Clearwater, and Norse Peak Wilderness areas and surrounding backcountry. For the past decade these volunteers have donated 5,000-8,000 hours each season.

The board discussed how the SCORP survey may influence the RTP program in the future, how match requirements are met, and the advisory committee suggestion to limit project sponsors' receipt of grants.

Member Ready recused herself from Resolutions 2017-07 and 2017-08 due to her involvement with some sponsor groups included on the ranked lists.

Public comment:

No public comment was received at this time.

Resolution 2017-07 (General)

Moved by: Member Joe Stohr

Seconded by: Member Kathryn Gardow

Decision: Approved

Resolution 2017-08 (Education)

Moved by: Member Brock Milliern

Seconded by: Member Mike Deller

Decision: Approved

Item 8: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Review and Approve Ranked Lists for the 2017-19 Biennium

Dan Haws, Recreation and Conservation Outdoor Grants Manager, presented information on the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) program, which provides grants to plan, buy, develop and maintain land and facilities that support a range of trail and back-road related recreation. The NOVA program is divided into four different categories: nonhighway road, nonmotorized, off-road vehicles, and education and enforcement. Funding comes from a portion of the motor vehicle fuel tax, which is used for grants and grant program administration. Government agencies and eligible non-profit organizations may apply for NOVA program funds. Applying agencies must have a long-range strategic plan on file to be eligible to for application.

Mr. Haws summarized the applications received in the 2016 grant round, noting a continued increase in applications. Mr. Haws briefed the board on the post-evaluation review meeting with the NOVA advisory committee, at which staff received feedback on the grant evaluation process. Several areas of concern were noted by the committee and outlined in the board materials; however, Mr. Haws highlighted three issues. First, in the Nonhighway Road category, the advisory committee expressed concerns on the definition of a nonhighway road in relation to the length of some of the roads found in certain projects. Currently, the category does not define, require, or recommend an official road length. Some projects received in this grant round presented challenges for the committee; it was difficult to determine the eligibility of some projects due the type and short length of the some of the access roads proposed for funding. Second, the advisory committee expressed concerns about concessionaire-operated facilities and feels strongly that the NOVA program needs to have policies developed for determining allowable maintenance and operational costs for proposals that include facilities run by concessionaires. Third, during the 2016 evaluation meeting, an advisory committee member requested that two proposals be considered for a "Do Not Fund" recommendation. Following the board's procedure, staff notified the applicant for each proposal and invited them to attend the grant results meeting where they could listen to the advisory committee deliberate. Prior to the meeting, one applicant withdrew their grant proposal.

The other participated in the discussion with the advisory committee and the "Do Not Fund" request was withdrawn with no vote taken.

Mr. Haws described the Education and Enforcement (E&E) category criteria, applicant eligibility, funding structure, and applications received. He presented the top-ranked project: RCO #[16-2389](#), Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley Education and Enforcement, sponsored by the Washington Department of Natural Resources. The project will fund one, full-time E&E Specialist to patrol and coordinate "forest watch" volunteers in high-use areas along the Snoqualmie Corridor.

Public Comment

No public comment was received at this time.

Resolution 2017-09 (Education and Enforcement)

Moved by: Member Kathryn Gardow

Seconded by: Member Michael Shiosaki

Decision: Approved

Mr. Haws described the Nonhighway Road (NHR) category criteria, applicant eligibility, funding structure, and applications received. He presented the top-ranked project: RCO #[16-2729](#), Colville National Forest Recreation Site Maintenance, sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service - Colville National Forest. After significant budget reductions in the past decade, the Colville National Forest will use the project funding to continue the work of recreation management, providing the public with a safe environment in which to recreate while protecting natural resources.

Public Comment

No public comment was received at this time.

Resolution 2017-10 (Nonhighway Road)

Moved by: Member Mike Deller

Seconded by: Member Danica Ready

Decision: Approved

Mr. Haws described the Nonmotorized category criteria, applicant eligibility, funding structure, and applications received. He presented the top-ranked project: RCO #[16-2358](#), Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities and Trail Maintenance, sponsored by the Washington Department of Natural Resources. The project will provide funding to conduct maintenance on over 124 miles of non-motorized trails, four trailheads, and two day-use sites within the Snoqualmie Corridor; provide partial funding for a three full-time employees and a seasonal crew; and to purchase trail maintenance equipment.

Public Comment

No public comment was received at this time.

Resolution 2017-11 (Nonmotorized)

Moved by: Member Joe Stohr

Seconded by: Member Kathryn Gardow

Decision: Approved

Mr. Haws described the Off-road Vehicle category criteria, applicant eligibility, funding structure, and applications received. He presented the top-ranked project: RCO #16-2451, Yacolt Burn State Forest, sponsored by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The project will provide funding

for architecture and engineering services, equipment rental, and DNR crew time to construct three bridges and four miles of new motorized trail in the Yacolt Burn State Forest.

Public Comment

No public comment was received at this time.

Resolution 2017-12 (Off-road Vehicle)

Moved by: Member Michael Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Mike Deller

Decision: Approved

Break: 3:10 p.m. – 3:25 p.m.

Item 9: Updates on Trails Database

Scott Robinson, RCO Deputy Director, and contractor Scot McQueen, McQueen Enterprise Analytics, LLC., briefed the board on recent efforts to digitize statewide trails and make the information available to partners and the public.

About 2000 projects have been funded in the NOVA, RTP and WWRP Trails categories alone since 1964. These grants have acquired right-of-way, developed trails and facilities and assist in the maintenance of these systems. In 2006, a study was conducted to determine the cost of a GIS database of motorized and non-motorized trails through the state. At the time, the cost was prohibitive. Since that time, volunteers have strived to revive the effort and have entered over 12,000 miles of trails data. Last year, 2016, RCO contracted McQueen Enterprise Analytics, LLC, to draft a business plan for the future use and management of the database.

Mr. McQueen described the current status of the data and the ongoing planning and development efforts to build out the database. The findings and recommendations are provided in McQueen LLC's report, included as Item 9, Attachment A in the board materials.

Mr. McQueen summarized the main planning process findings, including the following: 1) the existing trails dataset is incomplete and of low value; 2) best practices in data-gathering and management, as well as technical support, are necessary; 3) sufficient resources are not available to collect, manage, and process the data; 4) certain tools are necessary for understanding the data; and 5) there should be a common platform for trail information.

Based on these findings, Mr. McQueen shared recommendations for moving forward that will support coordination and process, technology and tools, and resources and support to maximize the value of the trail data. Part of the process involves forming several user and advisory groups that will inform the database from various perspectives. Mr. McQueen recommended outreach to several recreation-based data partners to share information and best practices. Additionally, a third-party application developer would support engagement and data connections with existing recreation industry and users.

Factors critical to the project's success include hiring a recreational data coordinator and developing a funding source for maintaining the database. Mr. McQueen summarized next steps, proposing continued engagement with data partners to complete the technology inventory, reviewing the report recommendations to support a funding plan, and to develop data program plan and implementation timeline.

Deputy Robinson requested board feedback on pursuing the recommendations presented by Mr. McQueen. The board discussed potential funding received from interested agency partners who are sharing and using the data. Mr. McQueen explained that as a public engagement platform, the database could extend beyond trails to include all recreational data, thus encouraging broader use.

Chair Willhite shared information about a mobile application – Guthook – which allows trail users to download information about trails. He cautioned staff and board members on where to put the application's focus: on what RCO wants, on what trail users want, or on other agencies' needs. He questioned whether this should be made part of the grant process, and if so, would users need to incorporate data in PRISM to support efforts and have this as part of the grant application and/or project agreement?

The board discussed other options suggested for mobile application use, including three new platforms sponsored by Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI). Member Herzog suggested looking at revenue from the Discover Pass to fund these efforts. Mr. McQueen will contact both REI and the Guthook developers to determine potential options.

Item 10: Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Public Hearing

Public Hearing

Chair Willhite opened the public hearing.

Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist, summarized the history and progress made in amendments to Title 286 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). She described the amendments that constitute the fifth phase of changes since April 2014. These amendments will 1) add a definition for "project area", 2) incorporate guidelines for identifying a project area, 3) consolidate grant program requirements into one new section that applies to any grant program, and 4) address an exemption for the new Forestland Preservation category in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP). The amendments will apply board rules consistently to all programs and support grant managers and sponsors by defining "project area" and creating a map requirement.

Ms. Connelly shared that RCO followed the required public process for rule-making and provided a summary of the steps and timeline for the process, including the informal public process which included the "project area" board subcommittee, briefings to stakeholder groups, and staff responses to inquiries. Ms. Connelly outlined the steps for the public hearing and summarized the process for adoption of the proposed rule.

Ms. Connelly reviewed the proposed amendments and options for board consideration. She distributed copies of Resolution 2017-13, amended since the board materials were published to account for changes made after public comments were provided.

Public Comment

Cyndi Comfort, Department of Natural Resources Environmental Planner, addressed the board, acknowledging the staff and subcommittee intent to provide clarity for staff and sponsors. She expressed concerns about the mapping requirement and language regarding this in the proposed amendments. She stated that the requirement would add unnecessary burden to their project activities, and suggested using guidance language versus creating a new term. She also commented on the guidance language addressing user's "complete experience," requesting that the definition for "project area map" be amended or postponed. There remain concerns about encumbering lands not originally included within a project.

Melinda Posner, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Lands Division, addressed the board. She acknowledged the board's intent to provide clear guidance, but echoed DNR's concerns regarding the definition of "project area map." She shared a handout with the board (see Appendix A) that outlined two project examples to demonstrate a potential misinterpretation of the proposed guidance. She described scenarios in which the agency may be put out of compliance based on their project needs and the proposed requirements.

Chair Willhite confirmed with both Ms. Comfort and Ms. Posner that they are only concerned about the "project area" definition and map requirements. Member Deller, a member of the subcommittee, thanked them for providing comment and further clarification.

Chair Willhite closed the public hearing.

Ms. Connelly summarized the written public testimony and the staff response to public comment. She reviewed Attachment D, as amended and distributed to the board on May 3.

Ms. Connelly outlined the options for adopting the rules, amendments, postponement, and/or withdrawal. The staff recommendation is to adopt Revised Resolution 2017-13 with Attachment A (as written) and Attachment D, as amended.

Board Discussion

Chair Willhite confirmed that, despite the staff revisions to the proposed amendments, representatives from DNR and WDFW remain concerned with the definition and map requirements. The board discussed adopting the proposed changes in Attachment A, excluding the "project area map" guidance and procedures in Attachment D.

Resolution 2017-13 Amended, including Attachment A as written with the exception of Chapter 286.13.140

Moved by: Member Mike Deller
Seconded by: Member Danica Ready
Decision: Approved, Member Gardow voted "nay"

The board discussed re-convening the project area subcommittee to discuss the mapping requirement.

Ms. Connelly will engage with the subcommittee members to continue developing guidance recommendations for the project area mapping requirement. Options will be brought before the board at a future meeting.

For the amendments approved by the board, Ms. Connelly will prepare a final Concise Explanatory Statement and file a final rule adoption notice for publication in the next available Washington State Register.

ADJOURN FOR THE DAY

The meeting was adjourned for the day at 5:20 p.m. by Chair Willhite.

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: May 11, 2017

Place: South Puget Sound Community College, Lacey Campus, Building 1, Room 194
4220 6th Avenue SE, Lacey, WA, 98503

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members Present:

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

Call to Order

Chair Willhite called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Staff called roll and a quorum was determined.

Chair Willhite acknowledged staffs' efforts in preparing the materials for the meeting, thanked the board members for their efficient meeting operation, and reminded members, staff, and the audience of the importance of open public meeting rules.

Board Business: Requests for Direction

Item 11: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Match Waiver Policy

Adam Cole, Natural Resources Policy Specialist, summarized the background and context for the need to draft policy for waiving or reducing the match requirements if a proposed project benefits underserved populations or communities in need. The policy need is due in part from the recent review of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) conducted in 2015, citing statutory changes made in 2016.

Mr. Cole outlined the WWRP grant category structure and reminded the board of the categories that would be affected by the policy changes: Local Parks, Water Access, and Trails. He summarized the progress made so far, including the outreach efforts, technical assistance from Washington State University (WSU) and other contractors, and the future timeline for completing the policy-drafting and approval process. Staff anticipates having policy options for the board to consider and approve at the July meeting.

Mr. Cole summarized the most recent meeting of the work group tasked with developing the policy options, emphasizing the "project values" that the policy will serve. These values include serving the highest community needs, consideration of socioeconomic and park inventories, and be clear and transparent in order to facilitate public use.

Mr. Cole highlighted the results of the study conducted by WSU which provided definitions for "communities in need" and "underserved populations." The study's conclusions stated that the greatest disparities in park access are related to low-income populations. Recommendations included using income level as a foundational measure; it is tied to several socioeconomic factors and is used by multiple other programs. Mr. Cole concluded the portion by outlining other ways to address participation and equity in WWRP.

As outlined in the board materials, Mr. Cole reviewed several policy options based on an income-only concept, a county only concept, and a federal disaster concept. He discussed the questions, pros, and cons that are associated with each policy option, using examples to demonstrate how different concepts may be interpreted and/or affect communities in various ways.

The work group identified several weaknesses with the income-only concept – one of which was that it did not apply to enough potential applications – and ultimately favored a more expanded approach. Mr. Cole also discussed the related limitations of a county-only or federal disaster concept, describing how these options led to drafting alternative approaches. For example, rather than measuring “people,” match reductions may be tied to the inability of an agency to raise its own match.

To assess these options, the work group deliberated ways to measure park deficiency and how this may be applied to the grant application and project evaluation processes in the three WWRP categories. Variables included distance to a park, “no deficiency” tests, or counting non-sponsor properties. Each category presented several, unique challenges with a “one-size-fits-all” approach to a match waiver or reduction policy.

Mr. Cole summarized the work group’s feedback on creating a park inventory, noting several challenges. Examples included: the lack of a comprehensive GIS layer; trails projects involve multiple communities; and the designated service areas for parks varies greatly. The work group examined several approaches to address these challenges, focusing on the capacity of the applicant to secure match funds. Mr. Cole shared that these discussions led the work group to consider the potential for an alternative approach that measures the “Funding Capacity” or “Institutional Strength” of applicant.

Mr. Cole responded to board questions about the WWRP review and need for a match waiver or reduction policy, how to include rural versus urban community needs in the policy for underserved populations, and developing tools for communities to self-assess their need in the context of the grant program policies. Member Herzog cautioned staff and members that it is important to recognize and support communities in need, but any policy developed should not be used to force priorities upon them.

Mr. Cole asked the board to consider whether there should be policy that addresses smaller versus larger communities differently, according to jurisdiction and population size. Member Milliarn echoed Member Herzog’s comments, stating that communities that don’t prioritize parks will continue to have underserved communities, but it is not the board’s responsibility to determine when it is an ability or decision of the community to do so. Member Deller agreed that the primary issue is the capacity of the sponsor when considering the policy; proximity does not mean access. Member Shiosaki also agreed, noting that larger communities do have more choices when prioritizing parks.

Chair Willhite asked about continuing to draft policy according to an incremental approach, perhaps adjusting the policy based on category, e.g., a county-only concept for the Trails category. The board discussed several approaches and associated variables based on this concept, focused on allowing communities to self-assess their priorities and need. Examples of variables included the eastern and western sides of the state, population density, affluent versus low-income community capacity, the transient nature of community development, health impacts, and demographics.

Mr. Cole notified the board that he will take the board members’ comments and suggestions to the work group meeting on June 6. He will return to present the draft approach to the board at the July meeting, followed by a public review process.

General Public Comment

Doug Levy, a state lobbyist with the Washington Recreation and Park Association, addressed the board regarding the Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) program. Mr. Levy thanked the board for their work on the YAF program and for the funding recommendation of \$12 million, despite a potentially low applicant turnout. He advised the board of potential action by the Legislature to approve a different funding amount this session, as detailed in their budget proposals. He wanted to apprise the board of discussions that may affect YAF projects and funding maximums, providing context for the competitive nature of the program and competition with other grant programs.

Board Business: Requests for Direction

Item 12: Briefing on Control and Tenure Policy Changes

Adam Cole, Natural Resource Policy Specialist, reviewed the board's existing control and tenure policy. He described some of the challenges that sponsor's face when trying to secure long-term lease agreements from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that meet the minimum control and tenure terms adopted by the board. DNR's policy is relatively new; RCO will usually negotiate a remedy for a projects that do not meet the control and tenure policy.

Michael Rechner, DNR, described some situations in which DNR will negotiate lease terms and offered himself as a resource for continued board discussions. The board discussed project examples and unique circumstances in which sponsors are faced with these issues.

Mr. Cole described the recent attempts to update the policy, reviewing the options presented earlier this year at the board's February meeting.

He requested board direction on the policy proposals outlined in the materials. He recommended a "direct conferral" approach which is intended to create the opportunity for an early and coordinated review of a grant request to determine if an "Aquatic Use Authorization" term longer than DNR's preferred 12-year term is appropriate. He described the current grant application and project timeline, explaining how a new policy could support an improved, coordinated process. The new proposal would cause a potential shift in some grant programs, mainly the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) and the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle (NOVA) program. Director Cottingham emphasized the role of RCO as an optional or as-needed partner, in order to protect staff resources and time.

Mr. Cole anticipates presenting options at the July meeting for the board to consider, decide upon, and then release for public comment.

Public Comment

No public comment was received at this time.

Break: 11:13 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.

Item 13: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Habitat Conservation Account: Evaluation Criteria and Other Policy Changes

Item 13A: Evaluation Criteria and Other Policy Changes

Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist, summarized proposed changes to the evaluation criteria for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Habitat Conservation Account in preparation for the 2018 grant cycle, as well as technical adjustments to the WWRP, Riparian Habitat

category which are necessary as a result of its move to the Habitat Conservation Account as required in Senate Substitute Bill (SSB) 6227.

Ms. Connelly explained that the evaluation criteria changes include considering “multiple benefits” in the following grant categories: Critical Habitat, Forestland Preservation, Natural Areas, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife Habitat.

Ms. Connelly requested board direction on whether it is the board’s intent of the multiple benefits allowance to overlap with existing working lands categories for farmland and forestland. The board discussed the social acceptance of multiple uses, the perception of farming practices (beyond grazing), conflicts with private and public ownership, habitat considerations, and ecosystem values. Ms. Connelly suggested directing applicants to the primary goal of each category with the guidance that other, multiple benefits are encouraged, but secondary. Some overlap would remain, but the primary purpose would be maintained in each category.

Ms. Connelly requested board direction on other types of multiple benefits that should be allowable – beyond outdoor recreation, grazing, and forestry – that are compatible with the conservation work of the project. With the new WWRP requirements, public access is required for all categories, with the exception of Farmland and Forestland Preservation. The board discussed the unique habitat goals of each project, noting that this would be the determining factor in the allowable recreation activities. Other suggestions included consideration of ecosystem values (leaving the land as it is).

Regarding the evaluation criteria, Ms. Connelly requested board direction on whether multiple benefits should be included as a stand-alone evaluation criterion or should be embedded within existing criteria. The board discussed maintaining the primary purpose of conservation and habitat benefits, and multiple benefits would be secondary. The board also recommended soliciting feedback from advisory committee members.

Ms. Connelly explained that SSB 6227 requires three additional changes to the evaluation criteria for Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories: 1) The extent to which a conservation easement can be used to meet the purpose of the project; 2) Community support from local citizens, local organizations, and local elected officials; and 3) Estimated costs of maintaining and operating the property acquired. Ms. Connelly recommended continuing to work with the advisory committees and local partners on these changes and bring recommendations to the board at a later time. The board agreed.

Ms. Connelly requested board direction on whether to adopt the existing policies for the Riparian Protection category, as well as whether these changes can be considered a technical adjustment and be implemented immediately. The board agreed with the suggested approach. Member Deller requested clarification on the criteria for “consideration,” rather than a stated preference. Ms. Connelly confirmed.

Item 13B: Acquisition and Development Project Policies

Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist, summarized proposed changes to the acquisition project policies in preparation for the 2018 grant cycle and as part of phase III of the implementation of Senate Substitute Bill (SSB) 6227 for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP).

Regarding eligible costs, Ms. Connelly requested board direction on whether it would like to pursue the proposed change to increase the noxious weed control maximum from \$125 per acres to \$150 per acre.

Regarding stewardship plan costs, Ms. Connelly requested board direction on whether to expand the stewardship plan eligible cost policy to all categories with land acquisition in the Habitat Conservation Account. The board approved staff moving forward with releasing the proposal for public comment.

Regarding limiting public access, Ms. Connelly requested board direction on when limitations are allowable within WWRP development, recreational access, and acquisition projects.

The board could create a new policy limiting or closing public access at WWRP funded sites. If so, Ms. Connelly requested feedback on what situations apply, whether conditions differ on habitat or recreation projects, and whether the board would delegate authority to the director in certain cases. The board discussed project examples that would be affected by this policy. The board approved staff moving forward with drafting policy proposals based on this direction.

Regarding the recently board-approved policy on partnership acquisitions, Ms. Connelly requested board direction on whether to amend the partnership policy to apply the matching share requirement to the sponsor that will own the property when the project is complete rather than the sponsor that first acquires the property. The board approved staff moving forward with releasing the proposal for public comment.

Adoption of the partnership policy was intended to address how government agencies and nonprofits can work together to acquire property within the board's existing policy framework. However, nonprofits were concerned that there would be situations that would not fit within the partnership policy. At the February 2017 meeting, the board instructed staff to develop new policy to provide the same level of flexibility that sponsors were able to do with nonprofits before the law changed and nonprofits became eligible applicants in more grant categories.

Public Comment

Hannah Clark, Executive Director of the Washington Association of Land Trusts (WALT), agreed that conservation should be the primary focus and multiple benefits as secondary, and that public access should follow the same guidelines for nonprofits as those for a state agency. She explained that the partnership acquisition policy does not account for all situations in which a nonprofit may act as a partner in the grant application process. She advocated for another option in which the nonprofit could act as a seller. She also expressed concerns with the conservation purpose documentation and how it would be maintained permanently in transfers of ownership.

Leda Chahim, Government Affairs with Forterra, addressed the board regarding an example of the conflicts brought forth by the partnership acquisition policy, Zorro Ridge, in which Forterra served as a bridge. She emphasized the issue of who is an appropriate "end" owner and who would maintain the property in perpetuity. She agreed that conservation purpose is primary; multiple benefits should not conflict with the original purpose.

Ms. Connelly will use the direction provided by the board to draft policy options for board consideration in July.

Lunch Break: 12:37 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Item 14: Compliance Issues

Item 14A: Agricultural Use of State Parks Managed Trails

Myra Barker, RCO Compliance Specialist, introduced the issue before the board regarding agricultural-related transportation use on trails managed by Washington State Parks.

Member Herzog, as the state agency designee from State Parks, added further context to the issue by describing common challenges, public access concerns, and problems encountered during trail maintenance. He briefed the board on the history of public use on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail, including legislative actions and coordination with local authorities and private landowners.

Ms. Barker provided an overview of the board's allowable use policy, then described two allowable use requests from State Parks for agricultural-related transportation uses on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail.

Steve Hahn of State Parks' Real Estate Program provided further detail regarding historical context and current issues of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail. He shared State Parks' non-recreational motorized use of Long Distance Trail Corridors policy, informing the board that more projects will be coming up potentially affected by the policy. Ms. Barker continued to provide a more thorough, detailed history of the trail development from an RCO funding perspective.

Ms. Barker reviewed the allowable use requests from State Parks brought before the board for consideration (RCO Projects: #82-701A and #82-701A). Approval of the requests would allow two adjacent landowners to seasonally utilize portions of the trail for transportation of agricultural and related equipment. The board discussed requirements for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access, permit requirements related to seasonal or recreation use, maintaining trail surfaces, and compliance with state statute.

Chair Willhite spoke in favor of the option presented to authorize the director to approve State Parks' requests to permit agricultural-related transportation uses by adjacent landowners on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail until such time as the board adopts a policy to address non-recreational uses on the trail. Member Milliern spoke in favor of allowing flexibility for State Parks in order to relieve political or legislative pressure, letting them focus on working internally and with landowners to address these issues (outlined in the materials as delegating authority to the RCO director for State Parks' trails). Members Shiosaki and Ready agreed, encouraging coordination between RCO and State Parks.

Public Comment

No public comment was received at this time.

Resolution 2017-14 As amended, with the option to authorize the RCO Director to approve State Parks' allowable use requests to permit agricultural-related transportation uses by adjacent landowners on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail until such time as the board adopts a policy to address non-recreational uses on the trail.

Moved by: Member Michael Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Mike Deller

Decision: Approved, Member Brock Milliern voted "nay"

Ms. Barker requested board direction on future development of a policy regarding non-recreational uses on funded State Parks trails. Ms. Barker provided context for the request, explaining that the board's allowable use policy does not address this particular issue. Non-recreational motorized use is not

consistent with the project agreement, grant program rules, results in no benefit or enhancement to the outdoor recreation experience provided by a trail. The use can negatively impact the experience and damage the trail. The board discussed options presented by Ms. Barker to develop a new policy. Ms. Barker will use the board's direction to draft proposals for board consideration at a future meeting.

Item 14B: Follow-up on State Parks' Recreation Concession Areas (RCA)

Nikki Fields, State Parks Planner, briefed the board on the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's Recreation Concession Areas (RCAs). Member Herzog provided historical context focused on the revenue sources of State Parks in order to introduce Ms. Fields presentation on how RCAs have come to serve as an important revenue source to their agency.

Ms. Fields defined RCAs for the board: privately financed recreation developments intended to provide amenities for park visitors while also generating revenue to support the state park system. She emphasized that the purpose and intent is not to privatize state parks, but rather to meet community demand or to encourage use of underdeveloped parks, among other reasons.

State Parks concessions range from small food and beverage stands to bigger operations like Tillicum Village at Blake Island, where the concessionaire brings people to the island on a boat from Seattle, and then feeds them and provides them a Native-American themed dinner show.

RCAs are essentially concessions that will require a longer lease term for private-sector partner to amortize their development investment. State Parks has developed a series of safeguards to ensure that RCAs contribute to parks, including integration into a land classification system, developing policy guidelines, setting development restrictions, and going through a public process.

Ms. Fields explained that process to designate and develop an RCA includes many opportunities for public process, detailing the process in 2016 for identifying candidate sites. The two-year process resulted in RCA pilot sites located in four state parks including: the historic area of Fort Flagler; the former sand and gravel site at Millersylvania; the developed area at Squilchuck; and a portion of the abandoned golf course area at Westport Light.

Two of the pilot sites have received RCO funding through the board's grant programs. In order to encourage creative proposals and avoid deterring potential private sector partners, State Parks is interested in using Waivers of Retroactivity to transfer the grant deed restrictions from the RCA sites in these two parks to other properties they are acquiring with non-grant funds. State Parks would bring these potential requests to a future board meeting.

The board discussed the business proposals State Parks is considering to solicit potential private sector partners for continued development of RCAs.

Item 14C: Policy Waiver Request: City of Mercer Island

Myra Barker, RCO Compliance Specialist, summarized a request from the City of Mercer Island for a policy waiver to approve of a temporary closure of a portion of the Mercer Island Boat Launch that could exceed the 180-day limit due to the seismic retrofit of the I-90 East Channel Bridge over Lake Washington (RCO [#89-018D](#), [#91-120D](#)) needed for the Sound Transit Light Rail East Link Extension

Paul West, Parks Superintendent with the City of Mercer Island, did not provide comment, but made himself available to respond to board questions. Chair Willhite asked about the process to inform the public of the development process and potential access delays. Mr. West shared that other than

traditional methods, the City is using social media to inform the public. Mr. West responded to questions about parking demand and need during the site's partial closure.

Resolution 2017-15

Moved by: Member Kathryn Gardow

Seconded by: Member Danica Ready

Decision: Approved

Item 14D: Conversion Briefing: Spokane City Parks and Recreation, Central City Riverfront 72

Kyle Guzlas, Outdoor Grants Manager, presented a request from the City of Spokane's Parks and Recreation Department to convert 1.13 acres of land located adjacent to Riverfront Park in downtown Spokane (RCO #72-040A). Garrett Jones, Spokane Parks, and Rick Romero, Spokane Mayor's Office, attended and were available to answer board questions.

Mr. Guzlas provided an overview of the board's responsibility in conversions. He summarized the conversion request, for which Spokane Parks plans sell or lease a portion of the property for commercial mixed-use development (specifically, an indoor climbing facility) and will construct a multi-level parking garage on the remaining portion of the property. Spokane Parks has identified two potential replacement properties for consideration.

Mr. Guzlas requested board comment and direction, in order to prepare for a decision at the October 2017 meeting. Mr. Romero explained the difference between the requirements for each replacement parcel based on city or county ownership. Mr. Guzlas responded to board questions about conditions for replacement property in a conversion in which a parcel is publicly owned; he explained that consultation with RCO's attorney general resulted in confirmation that Spokane Parks' proposal meets the required conditions. Mr. Romero described the design plans for the CSO tank for the benefit of the board.

Chair Willhite encouraged timely preparation of the appraisal and other required documentation in order to prepare for the October meeting.

Break: 3:25 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.

Item 15: Planning for the Future

Item 15A: Survey Responses from RCO Grant Applicants and Advisory Committees

Brent Hedden, Performance Specialist, provided a high-level overview of the results of the applicant survey and advisory committee member survey. Marguerite Austin, the RCO Recreation and Conservation Grant Section Manager, and her staff are reviewing the results; more detailed information will be available for the board in July.

With the split grant round this year, staff were able to conduct two surveys in 2016 for both groups. Mr. Hedden reviewed the response statistics, survey questions and aggregate responses, and next steps for determining any necessary follow-up actions to the survey for the 2018 grant round. The board discussed potential trends and how funds available for the grant round may have affected survey results.

Mr. Hedden will work with staff to provide an update regarding any proposed policy or process improvements for 2018 at the July retreat.

Item 15B: Policy Work Plan Preview

Wendy Brown, Policy Director, provided an overview of the policy work completed during the current 2015-17 biennium and shared some of the topics identified for the 2017-19 biennium. Policy tasks are prioritized into three tiers based on legislative direction, board direction, any agency or board strategic plans, timeframe limitations, fiscal requirements, and/or other requirements.

Ms. Brown advised the board that the planning has begun to prepare for the 2017-19 biennial work plan. She shared remaining tasks that will move forward into the next biennium, for example, the public lands inventory update. Additionally, there are items resulting from legislative direction and some staff recommendations that will be included in the 2017-19 plan. Ms. Brown will share more detail with the board at their July retreat.

Chair Willhite asked about additional tasks that are not included, that may come from other legislative direction or staff advisement. Ms. Brown recommended including tasks related to trails and trail plans, noting that SCORP will likely provide several follow-up actions that will need to be included.

Member Gardow requested information about the climate change grant application question and how the board intends to move forward with this issue. Director Cottingham responded, explaining that this will come to the board should they choose to include this as a scored criterion.

Item 15C: July Board Retreat Agenda Preview

Scott Robinson, Deputy Director, requested board feedback on the proposed retreat agenda, scheduled for July 12, 2017 at the Educational Service District in Tumwater. Deputy Robinson requested feedback on the proposed meeting topics. He suggested eliminating the deeper dive into the survey results, as most of the comments focus on internal RCO procedures which can be addressed by staff.

Director Cottingham suggested surveying board members to assess their ranking of policy priorities for the upcoming biennium. Chair Willhite spoke in favor of a survey in order to focus the agenda on items of importance to the board in an unstructured setting. Once survey results are in hand, Chair Willhite suggested reconvening the subcommittee to update the draft retreat agenda.

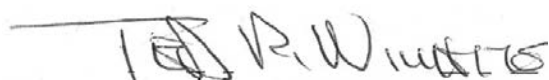
Member Shiosaki, and later Chair Willhite, advocated for including the SCORP work session into the retreat to allow for deeper discussion.

Member Deller asked for suggestions on how to best prepare for the retreat, aside from extensive briefing materials and the format of a regular meeting. Deputy Robinson explained that the facilitator, Jim Reid, will have pre-retreat one-on-one calls and staff will provide some materials. Director Cottingham added that base materials such as the board's strategic plan would also be provided for review.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m. by Chair Willhite.

Approved by:



Theodore Willhite, Chair

July 13, 2017

Date



A Resolution to Recognize the Contributions of

Mike Lowry

To the Residents of Washington State and the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

WHEREAS, former Governor Mike Lowry was a larger-than-life figure in Washington politics for two decades, serving as a congressman from 1978 to 1988 and governor from 1992 to 1996, and was a tireless supporter of the homeless, migrant workers, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Governor Lowry joined with former competitor, Governor Evans, as a bipartisan team to co-chair the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition, which was instrumental in supporting legislation to create a program to protect the best of Washington's great outdoors; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Washington State Legislature created the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and directed the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to acquire, as soon as possible, the most significant lands for wildlife conservation and outdoor recreation before they were converted to other uses, and to develop existing public recreational land and facilities to meet the needs of present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Governor Lowry continued to advocate for funding for this incredible, bipartisan program, along with the coalition of more than 280 members, from REI to timber companies, cities, land trusts and others; and




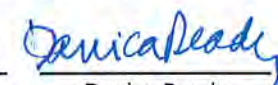



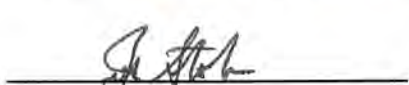
WHEREAS, as a result of these efforts, the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program has funded 1,250 projects in nearly every county of the state, contributing more than \$1.3 billion to date to protect and preserve our way of life and the natural beauty that surrounds us; and

WHEREAS, Governor Lowry's visionary and inspirational leadership is directly responsible for the creation of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and ensuring that Washington remains a great place to live, work, and play; and

WHEREAS, Governor Lowry passed away on May 1, 2017 after a lifetime of dedicated public service;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Governor Lowry's dedication and vision, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board extends their sincere condolences to his family and appreciation for a job well done and life well-lived.

Approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
in Olympia, Washington on May 10, 2017

 Ted Willhite, Chair Citizen Member	 Mike Deller Citizen Member	 Michael Shiosaki Citizen Member	 Danica Ready Citizen Member	 Kathryn Gardow Citizen Member
 Peter Herzog Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	 Brock Milliern Department of Natural Resources	 Joe Stohr Department of Fish and Wildlife		

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-03
May 10-11, 2017 Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following May 10-11, 2017 Consent Agenda items are approved:

- A. Board Meeting Minutes
 - February 8, 2017
- B. Time Extension Requests
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Fudge Point Acquisition (RCO # [12-1095A](#))
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Cape Disappointment Seaview Dunes Phase 2 (RCO # [12-1530A](#))
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2012 (RCO # [12-1246A](#))
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Olallie Trail Development 2012 (RCO # [12-1248D](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oak Creek Forest Restoration (RCO # [12-1226R](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Heart of the Cascades 2012 (RCO # [12-1132A](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Rock Creek/Simcoe 2012 (RCO # [12-1137A](#))
 - Washington Department of Natural Resources, Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve (RCO # [12-1176A](#))
 - Chelan County, Stemlit Basin Phase 2 (RCO # [12-1510A](#))
 - Tacoma Metropolitan Park District, Point Defiance Missing Link (RCO # [12-1549D](#))
 - Columbia Land Trust, Trout Lake Valley Phase 2 (RCO # [12-1463A](#))
 - Capitol Land Trust, Oakland Bay Estuary Conservation Phase 3 (RCO # [12-1590](#))

Resolution moved by: Michael Shiosaki

Resolution seconded by: Brock Milliern

Adopted Date: May 10, 2017

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-04
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation
Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, six Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all six 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 286-04-065, 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, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by: Mike Deller

Resolution seconded by: Brock Milliern

Adopted Date: May 10, 2017

Table 1: Firearms and Archery Range Recreation
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 6	75.57	16-2650D	Poulsbo Sportsman Club 50 Meter Range Improvement	Poulsbo Sportsman Club	\$150,000	\$84,480	\$234,480	\$150,000
2 of 6	68.00	16-2336D	Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility Improvement	Tri-Cities Shooting Association	\$30,969	\$32,880	\$63,849	\$180,969
3 of 6	66.43	16-2784D	Plantation Indoor Range Roof Replacement	Whatcom County Parks and Recreation	\$149,500	\$150,500	\$300,000	\$330,469
4 of 6	65.71	16-2404D	North Cascade Sportmen Club Rifle and Pistol Range Expansion	North Cascades Sportsmen Club	\$72,586	\$79,046	\$151,632	\$403,055
5 of 6	56.71	16-2481D	Trap Machines to Modernize the Lynden Shotgun Club	Lynden Shotgun Club	\$18,298	\$18,299	\$36,597	\$421,353
6 of 6	55.71	16-2233D	Spokane Gun Club Club House Renovation	Spokane Gun Club	\$51,110	\$51,110	\$102,220	\$472,463
					\$472,463	\$416,315	\$888,778	

*Project Types: D=Development

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-05
Boating Facilities Program – State Agency Category
Approval of the 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, twenty-one state agency Boating Facilities Program (BFP) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all twenty-one 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, 2017-19*.

<i>Resolution moved by:</i>	<u>Michael Shiosaki</u>
<i>Resolution seconded by:</i>	<u>Danica Ready</u>
<i>Adopted Date:</i>	<u>May 10, 2017</u>

Table 1: Boating Facilities Program

Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects
2017-19

Attachment A

Resolution: 2017-05

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 21	64.38	16-2467D	Lawrence Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$505,000		\$505,000	\$505,000
2 of 21	63.00	16-2510D	Boat Decontamination Station, Spokane	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$285,000		\$285,000	\$790,000
3 of 21	62.50	16-2446D	Palmer Lake Boat Launch Facility	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$164,700	\$18,400	\$183,100	\$954,700
4 of 21	62.38	16-2462P	Ft. Worden State Park Boat Launch	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$315,000		\$315,000	\$1,269,700
4 of 21	62.38	16-2412D	Long Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$420,000		\$420,000	\$1,689,700
6 of 21	61.75	16-2606D	San Juan Marine Area Boating Facility Improvements	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$435,000	\$50,000	\$485,000	\$2,124,700
7 of 21	60.50	16-2266D	Lake Campbell Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$590,000		\$590,000	\$2,714,700
8 of 21	60.25	16-2565P	Penrose Point Pier Replacement Plan	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$265,000		\$265,000	\$2,979,700
9 of 21	60.13	16-2313D	Chapman Lake Access Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$847,000		\$847,000	\$3,826,700
9 of 21	60.13	16-2494D	Stanwood Hamilton Landing Access Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$538,000		\$538,000	\$4,364,700
11 of 21	59.75	16-2605P	Sucia Island Moorage Replacement	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$4,564,700
12 of 21	59.63	16-2430P	Hopkins Ferry Access Development Phase 1 Design	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$380,000		\$380,000	\$4,944,700
13 of 21	58.63	16-2308D	Point Whitney Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$540,000		\$540,000	\$5,484,700
14 of 21	57.63	16-2305D	Luhr's Landing Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$485,000		\$485,000	\$5,969,700
14 of 21	57.63	16-2485D	Boat Decontamination Station, Ephrata	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$285,000		\$285,000	\$6,254,700
16 of 21	57.50	16-2325D	Roses Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$498,000		\$498,000	\$6,752,700
17 of 21	57.13	16-2602P	Stuart Island Moorage Replacement	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$6,952,700
18 of 21	56.25	16-2562D	Sequim Bay Boating Facility Improvements	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$547,000	\$865,000	\$1,412,000	\$7,499,700
19 of 21	56.00	16-2264D	Williams Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$647,000		\$647,000	\$8,146,700
20 of 21	55.13	16-2544D	Skagit Wildlife Area Headquarters Boat Launch Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$436,000		\$436,000	\$8,582,700
21 of 21	52.75	16-2443D	Blue Lake Access Redevelopment, Grant County	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$390,000		\$390,000	\$8,972,700
					\$8,972,700	\$933,400	\$9,906,100	

*Project Types: D=Development, P=Planning

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-06
Boating Facilities Program – Local Agency Category
Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, twenty-three local agency Boating Facilities Program (BFP) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all twenty-three 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, 2017-19*.

<i>Resolution moved by:</i>	<u>Mike Deller</u>
<i>Resolution seconded by:</i>	<u>Joe Stohr</u>
<i>Adopted Date:</i>	<u>May 10, 2017</u>

Table 1: Boating Facilities Program
Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects
2017-19

Attachment G
Resolution: 2017-06

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 23	70.38	16-2601D	Brownsville Marina Boat Launch and Staging Area	Port of Brownsville	\$653,616	\$217,873	\$871,489	\$653,616
2 of 23	70.00	16-2302D	Bloedel Donovan Park Dock and Piling Replacement	Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department	\$269,168	\$91,826	\$360,994	\$922,784
3 of 23	69.50	16-2563P	Kayak Point Boat Launch Renovation	Snohomish County Parks Department	\$195,491	\$83,782	\$279,273	\$1,118,275
4 of 23	68.75	16-2414D	Tokeland Marina Boarding Redevelopment Phase 3	Port of Willapa Harbor	\$642,000	\$241,000	\$883,000	\$1,760,275
5 of 23	65.75	16-2164D	Wind River Boat Launch Facility	Skamania County	\$1,000,000	\$1,716,336	\$2,716,336	\$2,760,275
6 of 23	65.38	16-2356D	Don Armeni Boat Launch Renovation	Seattle Parks and Recreation Department	\$374,950	\$125,050	\$500,000	\$3,135,225
7 of 23	63.50	16-2388D	Westport Marina Boat Launch Upland Improvements	Port of Grays Harbor	\$916,221	\$313,646	\$1,229,867	\$4,051,446
8 of 23	60.38	16-2224D	Port of Poulsbo Public Boat Launch Rehabilitation	Port of Poulsbo	\$325,906	\$114,508	\$440,414	\$4,377,352
9 of 23	60.25	16-2411P	Al Helenberg Boat Launch Safety Improvements	Castle Rock	\$123,000	\$42,000	\$165,000	\$4,500,352
10 of 23	59.88	16-2357D	Stan Sayres Boat Launch Renovation	Seattle Parks and Recreation Department	\$768,000	\$256,857	\$1,024,857	\$5,268,352
11 of 23	59.38	16-2493P	Boyer Park Dock Replacement Planning	Port of Whitman County	\$198,000	\$77,000	\$275,000	\$5,466,352
12 of 23	59.25	16-2774A	Port of Grapeview Property Acquisition	Port of Grapeview	\$396,112	\$132,038	\$528,150	\$5,862,464
13 of 23	58.88	16-2386D	South Leschi Transient Moorage	Seattle Parks and Recreation Department	\$1,000,000	\$1,522,801	\$2,522,801	\$6,862,464
14 of 23	58.00	16-2581D	Boat Launch and Existing Guest Dock Renovation	Port of Kalama	\$840,271	\$285,425	\$1,125,696	\$7,702,735
15 of 23	57.50	16-2371P	Crow Butte Boater's Campground Planning	Port of Benton	\$210,000	\$75,000	\$285,000	\$7,912,735
16 of 23	56.25	16-2584D	New Guest Dock Construction	Port of Kalama	\$688,550	\$230,850	\$919,400	\$8,601,285
17 of 23	55.63	16-2273D	Willow Grove Boat Launch Improvements	Port of Longview	\$586,991	\$195,664	\$782,655	\$9,188,276
18 of 23	54.88	16-2762P	Orcas Landing Marine Facility Dock Expansion	San Juan County Public Works	\$148,000	\$52,000	\$200,000	\$9,336,276
19 of 23	53.50	16-2716D	Schlagel Park Boating Facilities	Pasco	\$496,200	\$215,000	\$711,200	\$9,832,476
20 of 23	53.38	16-2759D	Clinton Dock Renovation	Port of South Whidbey	\$225,783	\$76,000	\$301,783	\$10,058,259
21 of 23	52.63	16-2518P	Jacoby Park Boat Ramp Improvements	Mason County	\$60,000	\$20,000	\$80,000	\$10,118,259

Table 1: Boating Facilities Program
Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
22 of 23	49.50	16-2763D	Orcas Landing Pedestrian Improvements ADA Ramp	San Juan County Public Works	\$279,000	\$94,200	\$373,200	\$10,397,259
23 of 23	46.75	16-2406D	Seattle Central Waterfront Pier 62 Boat Dock	Seattle	\$550,000	\$685,000	\$1,235,000	\$10,947,259
					\$10,947,259	\$6,863,856	\$17,811,115	

*Project Types: A=Acquisition, D=Development, P=Planning

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-07
Recreational Trails Program – General Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, forty-four Recreational Trails Program (RTP) General Category proposals are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all forty-four projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 16, *Recreational Trails Program*; and

WHEREAS, these projects were evaluated by thirteen members of the advisory committee using Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation process and criteria, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the advisory committee and board have discussed and reviewed these evaluations in open public meetings, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, if funded, the projects will provide for maintaining recreational trails, developing trailhead facilities, and operating environmental education and trail safety programs, 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 – Recreational Trails Programs, Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by: Joe Stohr

Resolution seconded by: Kathryn Gardow

Adopted Date: May 10, 2017

Table 1: Recreational Trails Program
Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 44	74.31	16-2249M	Statewide Backcountry Trail Maintenance	Washington Trails Association	\$150,000	\$490,000	\$640,000	\$150,000
2 of 44	73.69	16-2248M	Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance	Washington Trails Association	\$150,000	\$930,000	\$1,080,000	\$300,000
3 of 44	71.23	16-2250M	Statewide Youth Volunteer Trail Maintenance	Washington Trails Association	\$98,000	\$345,000	\$443,000	\$398,000
4 of 44	70.38	16-2724M	Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance	\$150,000	\$425,300	\$575,300	\$548,000
5 of 44	69.77	16-2429M	Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance	U.S.Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$150,000	\$155,603	\$305,603	\$698,000
6 of 44	68.85	16-2259M	Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintanence	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$848,000
7 of 44	68.23	16-2464M	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wilderness Trails Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Cowlitz Valley Ranger District	\$134,624	\$158,654	\$293,278	\$982,624
8 of 44	67.62	16-2675M	Maintaining Forest Service Trails	Back Country Horsemen of Washington	\$150,000	\$208,500	\$358,500	\$1,132,624
9 of 44	67.46	16-2529M	Pacific Northwest Scenic Trail Deferred Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Fores,t Methow Ranger District	\$136,600	\$115,850	\$252,450	\$1,269,224
10 of 44	67.08	16-2392M	Maintenance on the Pacific Crest Trail	Pacific Crest Trail Association	\$64,880	\$180,000	\$244,880	\$1,334,104
11 of 44	67.00	16-2271M	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail Maintenance	Mountains to Sound Greenway	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$1,484,104
12 of 44	66.69	16-2714M	Maintaining Non-Forest Service Trails	Back Country Horsemen of Washington	\$146,418	\$243,406	\$389,824	\$1,630,522
13 of 44	66.31	16-2319M	Lower Lake Chelan Winter and Summer Trails	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$1,780,522
13 of 44	66.31	16-2504M	Naches Ranger District Motorized Trail Deferred Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$150,000	\$123,000	\$273,000	\$1,930,522
15 of 44	66.15	16-2435M	Cle Elum Ranger District Nonmotorized Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$108,500	\$92,000	\$200,500	\$2,039,022

Table 1: Recreational Trails Program

Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects
2017-19

Attachment A
Resolution: 2017-07

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
16 of 44	65.46	16-2775D	Raven Roost Trailhead Improvement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$20,598	\$45,499	\$66,097	\$2,059,620
17 of 44	64.54	16-2577M	Naches Wilderness Trails Deferred Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$72,000	\$59,378	\$131,378	\$2,131,620
17 of 44	64.54	16-2579M	Okanogan Pacific Northwest Trail Association Youth and Volunteer Crews	Pacific Northwest Trail Association	\$74,250	\$74,250	\$148,500	\$2,205,870
19 of 44	64.39	16-2616D	Chambers Creek Canyon Bridge Crossing	Pierce County Parks and Recreation	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$2,355,870
20 of 44	64.23	16-2298M	Cle Elum Winter Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$42,000	\$42,500	\$84,500	\$2,397,870
21 of 44	63.15	16-2421M	Upper Lake Chelan Trails	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Chelan Ranger District	\$150,000	\$132,000	\$282,000	\$2,547,870
22 of 44	63.08	16-2375M	East Snoqualmie Corridor Trails and Facilities Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$85,000	\$69,560	\$154,560	\$2,632,870
23 of 44	62.54	16-2598M	Colville Youth and Volunteer Crews	Pacific Northwest Trail Association	\$74,250	\$74,250	\$148,500	\$2,707,120
24 of 44	61.15	16-2688M	Ferry County Rail Trail Winter Grooming	Ferry County Rail Trail Partners	\$13,700	\$11,300	\$25,000	\$2,720,820
25 of 44	60.62	16-2523M	Snoqualmie White River Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$93,500	\$114,200	\$207,700	\$2,814,320
26 of 44	60.54	16-2256M	Nooksack Nordic Ski Club Salmon Ridge Trail Maintenance	Nooksack Nordic Ski Club	\$21,214	\$28,446	\$49,660	\$2,835,534
27 of 44	60.15	16-2231M	Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	\$40,000	\$87,241	\$127,241	\$2,875,534
28 of 44	60.00	16-2786M	Moran State Park	San Juan Island Conservation District	\$35,180	\$35,500	\$70,680	\$2,910,714
29 of 44	59.46	16-2524M	Evans Creek Off-road Vehicle Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie Natinal Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$75,000	\$76,000	\$151,000	\$2,985,714
30 of 44	59.15	16-2470M	Heather Meadows Area Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$150,000	\$72,880	\$222,880	\$3,135,714

Table 1: Recreational Trails Program

Preliminary Ranked List of General Category Projects
2017-19

Attachment A

Resolution: 2017-07

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
31 of 44	58.92	16-2245M	Mount Spokane Nordic System Plowing and Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$65,513	\$65,513	\$131,026	\$3,201,227
32 of 44	57.46	16-2377D	Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Area Trail System Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$115,000	\$49,300	\$164,300	\$3,316,227
33 of 44	57.38	16-2700M	Snowmobile Trails Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$64,000	\$160,000	\$224,000	\$3,380,227
34 of 44	56.23	16-2769M	Methow Firebreak and Trail Enhancement	Methow Valley Sport Trail Association	\$52,765	\$73,000	\$125,765	\$3,432,992
35 of 44	55.54	16-2513M	Okanogan Highlands Snowmobile Program	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$79,406	\$79,406	\$158,812	\$3,512,398
36 of 44	55.38	16-2511M	South Cascades Snowmobile Trail Program	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$150,000	\$288,478	\$438,478	\$3,662,398
37 of 44	55.31	16-2594M	Sawtooth Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$103,475	\$56,487	\$159,962	\$3,765,873
38 of 44	54.62	16-2617M	Heather Meadows Americans with Disabilities Act Asphalt Repair and Improvement	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$115,000	\$35,000	\$150,000	\$3,880,873
39 of 44	51.46	16-2630M	Lower Coal Creek Trail Renovation	Bellevue	\$150,000	\$86,610	\$236,610	\$4,030,873
40 of 44	51.00	16-2783M	Catherine Creek Trail System Restoration	U.S. Forest Service, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area	\$64,709	\$17,500	\$82,209	\$4,095,582
41 of 44	50.00	16-2794M	Jones Creek Off Highway Vehicle Maintenance	Jones Creek Trail Riders Association	\$41,750	\$23,250	\$65,000	\$4,137,332
42 of 44	48.85	16-2628M	Quinault Rain Forest Nature Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest Pacific, Ranger District Quinault	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$200,000	\$4,287,332
43 of 44	47.46	16-2754D	Leavenworth Hatchery Trail	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	\$120,000	\$30,000	\$150,000	\$4,407,332
44 of 44	41.00	16-2322D	Candy Point and Crown Point Trailhead Development	Coulee Dam	\$108,450	\$27,200	\$135,650	\$4,515,782
					\$4,515,782	\$6,032,061	\$10,547,843	

*Project Types: D=Development, M=Maintenance

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-08
Recreational Trails Program – Education Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, fourteen Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Education category proposals are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all fourteen projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 16, *Recreational Trails Program*; and

WHEREAS, these projects were evaluated by thirteen members of the advisory committee using Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation process and criteria, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the advisory committee and board have discussed and reviewed these evaluations in open public meetings, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, if funded, the projects will provide for operating environmental education and trail safety programs, 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 – Recreational Trails Programs, Preliminary Ranked List of Education Category Projects, 2017-19*.

<i>Resolution moved by:</i>	<u>Brock Milliern</u>
<i>Resolution seconded by:</i>	<u>Mike Deller</u>
<i>Adopted Date:</i>	<u>May 10, 2017</u>

Table 1: Recreational Trails Program

Preliminary Ranked List of Education Category Projects
2017-19

Attachment G
Resolution: 2017- 08

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 14	20.62	16-2489E	Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Coordinator	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$20,000	\$75,000	\$95,000	\$20,000
2 of 14	20.15	16-2297E	Cle Elum Winter Trail Patrol	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$20,000	\$22,000	\$42,000	\$40,000
3 of 14	19.92	16-2415E	Cle Elum-Snoqualmie Pass Interstate 90 Corridor Winter Education	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$20,000	\$17,000	\$37,000	\$60,000
4 of 14	19.69	16-2461E	Mount Baker Climbing Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$20,000	\$23,000	\$43,000	\$80,000
5 of 14	19.23	16-2359E	Mount Si and Middle Fork Natural Resources Conservation Area Education	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$20,000	\$16,370	\$36,370	\$100,000
6 of 14	18.92	16-2469E	Mount Baker Ranger District Mountain Stewards	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$20,000	\$22,500	\$42,500	\$120,000
7 of 14	18.31	16-2348E	Wenatchee River Ranger District Snow Ranger Education	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$23,838	\$16,566	\$40,404	\$143,838
8 of 14	18.08	16-2548E	Entiat and Lake Wenatchee Snow Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$20,000	\$14,500	\$34,500	\$163,838
9 of 14	17.77	16-2543E	Methow Valley Snow Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$19,140	\$14,200	\$33,340	\$182,978
10 of 14	17.62	16-2232E	Pomeroy Ranger District Winter Trail Patrol	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	\$10,000	\$22,000	\$32,000	\$192,978
11 of 14	16.54	16-2654E	Winter Education Patrols	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District	\$18,940	\$20,060	\$39,000	\$211,918
12 of 14	16.00	16-2691E	Washington Water and Shore Ethics and Safety Education Statewide	Washington Water Trails Association	\$19,050	\$13,700	\$32,750	\$230,968
13 of 14	15.62	16-2755E	Whatcom County Youth and Trail Education Programs	Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition	\$6,175	\$6,175	\$12,350	\$237,143
14 of 14	15.08	16-2726E	Whitehorse and North Mountain Trail User Education	Washington State University	\$20,000	\$9,889	\$29,889	\$257,143
					\$257,143	\$292,960	\$550,103	

*Project Type: E=Education

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-09
NOVA Program Education and Enforcement Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, thirty-one Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement category projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all thirty-one projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 13, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicles Activities: Education and Enforcement Category*; and

WHEREAS, these Education and Enforcement category projects were evaluated by all fifteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee 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 through a written evaluation process approved by the board, supporting the board's strategy to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation; and

WHEREAS, the projects focus on protecting user needs and minimizing environmental impacts and conflict between user groups, 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 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects
2017-19

Attachment A
Resolution: 2017-09

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 31	61.07	16-2389E	Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$185,000	\$185,050	\$370,050	\$185,000
2 of 31	61.00	16-2326E	Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$154,500	\$155,000	\$309,500	\$339,500
3 of 31	59.27	16-2491E	Snoqualmie Ranger District Backcountry Ranger Patrol	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$148,543	\$152,876	\$301,419	\$488,043
4 of 31	58.93	16-2473E	Tahuya and Green Mountain Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$141,100	\$145,000	\$286,100	\$629,143
5 of 31	57.93	16-2419E	Northwest Region Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$145,000	\$97,000	\$242,000	\$774,143
6 of 31	57.73	16-2296E	Cle Elum Frontcountry Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$51,400	\$53,050	\$104,450	\$825,543
7 of 31	57.40	16-2372E	Cle Elum ORV Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$199,916	\$86,174	\$286,090	\$1,025,459
8 of 31	57.33	16-2781E	Riverside State Park Area Education and Enforcement	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$156,516	\$242,367	\$398,883	\$1,181,975
9 of 31	56.80	16-2349E	Wilderness and Backcountry Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$67,189	\$46,691	\$113,880	\$1,249,164
10 of 31	56.73	16-2540E	Methow Valley Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$171,102	\$173,900	\$345,002	\$1,420,266
11 of 31	56.53	16-2228E	Central Zone Backcountry Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$176,400	\$82,000	\$258,400	\$1,596,666
12 of 31	56.27	16-2300E	Cle Elum Alpine Lakes Wilderness Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$80,000	\$55,000	\$135,000	\$1,676,666
13 of 31	55.40	16-2522E	Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Patrol	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$132,078	\$164,647	\$296,725	\$1,808,744

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects
2017-19

Attachment A
Resolution: 2017-09

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
14 of 31	55.20	16-2471E	Gifford Pinchot Wilderness High Use Areas	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District	\$63,600	\$66,400	\$130,000	\$1,872,344
15 of 31	55.00	16-2347E	Wenatchee River Ranger District Climbing Ranger Education	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$57,041	\$39,639	\$96,680	\$1,929,385
16 of 31	54.80	16-2307E	Pacific Cascade Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$171,400	\$115,000	\$286,400	\$2,100,785
17 of 31	54.60	16-2384E	Methow Valley Climbing Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$77,604	\$58,260	\$135,864	\$2,178,389
18 of 31	54.47	16-2596E	Naches Ranger District Off Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$189,000	\$120,000	\$309,000	\$2,367,389
19 of 31	54.20	16-2410E	Grant County Off-road Vehicle Areas Education and Enforcement	Grant County	\$200,000	\$284,495	\$484,495	\$2,567,389
20 of 31	53.60	16-2583E	Colville National Forest Off Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest	\$86,500	\$61,640	\$148,140	\$2,653,889
21 of 31	53.47	16-2586E	Skykomish Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$68,200	\$70,200	\$138,400	\$2,722,089
22 of 31	52.80	16-2703E	Naches Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$48,070	\$37,750	\$85,820	\$2,770,159
23 of 31	51.73	16-2418E	Straits District Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$72,400	\$48,986	\$121,386	\$2,842,559
24 of 31	51.20	16-2440E	Reiter Foothills Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$115,000	\$49,700	\$164,700	\$2,957,559
25 of 31	49.73	16-2444E	Northeast Region Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$122,700	\$122,980	\$245,680	\$3,080,259
26 of 31	48.20	16-2383E	Volunteer Program at Big 4	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Verlot Service Center	\$40,000	\$17,265	\$57,265	\$3,120,259

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities
Preliminary Ranked List of Education and Enforcement Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
27 of 31	45.80	16-2757E	Skykomish Ranger District Snow Ranger Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$20,900	\$24,250	\$45,150	\$3,141,159
28 of 31	45.60	16-2782E	Forestwide Respect the River Education and Enforcement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$40,000	\$41,550	\$81,550	\$3,181,159
29 of 31	45.60	16-2162E	Franklin County Off Road Education and Enforcement	Franklin County	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000	\$3,381,159
30 of 31	43.07	16-2508E	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 6 Public Access on Private Lands Education and Enforcement	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$98,700	\$80,000	\$178,700	\$3,479,859
31 of 31	39.73	16-2416E	Olympic National Forest Front Country Field Rangers	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest, Hood Canal Ranger District	\$150,000	\$59,800	\$209,800	\$3,629,859
					\$3,629,859	\$3,136,670	\$6,766,529	

*E = Education only or education and law enforcement

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-10
NOVA Program Nonhighway Road Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, twenty-two Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Nonhighway Road category projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all twenty-two projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 14, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program*; and

WHEREAS, these Nonhighway Road category projects were evaluated by all fifteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee 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 286-04-065, 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 opportunities for recreationists that enjoy activities such as nonmotorized boating, camping, driving for pleasure, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, fishing, gathering, hunting, and picnicking, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has not yet enacted a 2017-19 budget, so funding is not available and the appropriation amount is unknown for the program for the 2017-19 biennium;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the ranked list for the projects depicted in *Table 1 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Nonhighway Road Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonhighway Road Projects
2017-19

Attachment G
Resolution: 2017-10

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 22	64.73	16-2729M	Colville National Forest Recreation Site Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$100,000
2 of 22	61.67	16-2230M	Pomeroy Ranger District Campgrounds, Dispersed Sites Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$80,000	\$130,000
3 of 22	61.40	16-2350M	Campground and Dispersed Site Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$78,267	\$54,386	\$132,653	\$208,267
4 of 22	61.27	16-2331M	Capitol and Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$105,000	\$105,100	\$210,100	\$313,267
5 of 22	60.87	16-2317M	Samish Overlook Lily and Lizard Lakes Campgrounds Maintenance and Operations	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$58,650	\$58,752	\$117,402	\$371,917
6 of 22	60.20	16-2526M	Methow Valley Ranger District Campground Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$150,000	\$225,100	\$375,100	\$521,917
7 of 22	59.53	16-2607M	Skykomish Dispersed Site and Trailhead Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$117,493	\$125,537	\$243,030	\$639,410
8 of 22	58.93	16-2315M	Southeast Region North Maintenance and Operations	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$115,847	\$51,750	\$167,597	\$755,257
9 of 22	58.40	16-2474M	Hood Canal District Nonhighway Road Maintenance and Operation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$71,900	\$34,500	\$106,400	\$827,157
10 of 22	57.67	16-2597M	Naches Campgrounds Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$150,000	\$229,240	\$379,240	\$977,157
11 of 22	56.73	16-2294M	Cle Elum Frontcountry Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$149,500	\$150,500	\$300,000	\$1,126,657
12 of 22	55.13	16-2295M	Cle Elum Ranger District Sanitation Rentals	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$30,000		\$30,000	\$1,156,657
13 of 22	54.53	16-2434D	Indian Camp Campground Renovation and Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$199,278	\$51,750	\$251,028	\$1,355,935
14 of 22	54.27	16-2777M	Snoqualmie Ranger District Accessible/Interpretive Facility Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$70,000	\$18,000	\$88,000	\$1,425,935
15 of 22	53.73	16-2364M	Seal Rock Campground Accessibility Enhancements	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest Hood, Canal Ranger District	\$102,000	\$26,000	\$128,000	\$1,527,935

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonhighway Road Projects
2017-19

Attachment G
Resolution: 2017-10

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type*	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
16 of 22	53.67	16-2226M	Tonasket Ranger District Campground Operations and Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Tonasket Ranger District	\$104,484	\$63,200	\$167,684	\$1,632,419
17 of 22	53.40	16-2547M	Entiat Ranger District Campgrounds and Dispersed Maintenance and Operations	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$130,000	\$65,450	\$195,450	\$1,762,419
18 of 22	52.73	16-2790D	Camp Brown Day Use Area, Middle Fork Snoqualmie River	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$200,000	\$105,000	\$305,000	\$1,962,419
19 of 22	52.47	16-2378D	Snoqualmie Picnic Shelters and Interpretive Trail	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$145,000	\$62,160	\$207,160	\$2,107,419
20 of 22	52.27	16-2329D	McKenny Campground and Trailhead Improvements and Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$103,500	\$44,600	\$148,100	\$2,210,919
21 of 22	48.47	16-2243D	Wooten Wildlife Area Campground 3 Remodel	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$160,000		\$160,000	\$2,370,919
22 of 22	44.40	16-2553D	Entiat Yurts Lake Creek Campground	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	\$40,000	\$14,000	\$54,000	\$2,410,919
					\$2,410,919	\$1,635,025	\$4,045,944	

*Project Types: D=Development, M=Maintenance

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-11
NOVA Program Nonmotorized Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, forty-six Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Nonmotorized category projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all forty-six projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 14, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program*; and

WHEREAS, these Nonmotorized category projects were evaluated by all fifteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee 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 286-04-065, 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 opportunities for recreationists that enjoy nonmotorized trail activities such as horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking and cross-country skiing, 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 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

2017-19

Attachment M

Resolution: 2017-11

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 46	70.13	16-2358M	Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities and Trail Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$112,000	\$112,050	\$224,050	\$112,000
2 of 46	65.60	16-2327M	Capitol Forest Nonmotorized Trail and Facility Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$104,900	\$105,100	\$210,000	\$216,900
3 of 46	64.87	16-2546M	Mount Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	\$131,000	\$92,000	\$223,000	\$347,900
4 of 46	64.67	16-2219M	Pomeroy Backcountry Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$150,000	\$422,900
5 of 46	64.33	16-2751M	Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$98,151	\$98,689	\$196,840	\$521,051
6 of 46	64.13	16-2793D	Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	\$180,000	\$192,754	\$372,754	\$701,051
7 of 46	64.07	16-2449M	Pacific Cascade Nonmotorized Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$120,000	\$120,100	\$240,100	\$821,051
8 of 46	63.87	16-2570D	Mica Peak Trail System Development	Spokane County	\$106,000	\$74,000	\$180,000	\$927,051
9 of 46	63.47	16-2255M	Cle Elum Ranger District Nonmotorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$150,000	\$65,000	\$215,000	\$1,077,051
10 of 46	63.07	16-2573M	North Fork Skykomish Trail Complex Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$63,500	\$65,400	\$128,900	\$1,140,551

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
11 of 46	62.53	16-2238M	Mountain Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$1,290,551
12 of 46	62.47	16-2499M	Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$150,000	\$124,438	\$274,438	\$1,440,551
13 of 46	61.13	16-2318M	Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$132,200	\$132,358	\$264,558	\$1,572,751
14 of 46	61.00	16-2335M	Wilderness Nonmotorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$143,500	\$97,000	\$240,500	\$1,716,251
	61.00	16-2393M	Nicholson Trail System Elbe Hills Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$141,300	\$149,000	\$290,300	\$1,857,551
16 of 46	61.00	16-2687D	Frog Mountain Trail Construction	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	129,280	90,220	219,500	\$1,986,831
17 of 46	60.53	16-2825D	Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement and Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$59,700	\$41,900	\$101,600	\$2,046,531
18 of 46	60.00	16-2306D	Yacolt Burn Nonmotorized Trail Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$170,000	\$170,100	\$340,100	\$2,216,531
19 of 46	59.87	16-2301P	Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$170,000	\$115,000	\$285,000	\$2,386,531
20 of 46	59.87	16-2646P	Lord Hill Regional Park Site and Management Plan	Snohomish County	\$150,000	\$174,400	\$324,400	\$2,536,531

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

2017-19

Attachment M

Resolution: 2017-11

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
21 of 46	59.80	16-2753D	Bull Bear Trail	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	\$200,000	\$68,560	\$268,560	\$2,736,531
22 of 46	59.53	16-2576M	Naches Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	\$96,000	\$97,652	\$193,652	\$2,832,531
23 of 46	59.47	16-2519M	Methow Valley Fire Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$142,000	\$118,478	\$260,478	\$2,974,531
24 of 46	59.07	16-2680M	Lyman Lake and Holden Creek Foot Log Replacements	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District	\$46,800	\$31,100	\$77,900	\$3,021,331
25 of 46	58.67	16-2458D	Rattlesnake Ledge Trail Improvements	Seattle	\$140,000	\$112,500	\$252,500	\$3,161,331
26 of 46	58.20	16-2376D	Raging River State ForestTrail System Development Phase 2	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$185,000	\$259,369	\$444,369	\$3,346,331
27 of 46	58.13	16-2622D	Methow Valley Trail Bridge Replacements	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$173,803	\$79,640	\$253,443	\$3,520,134
28 of 46	58.00	16-2360D	Colville Mountain Recreation Area	Colville	\$16,120	\$16,620	\$32,740	\$3,536,254
29 of 46	57.60	16-2333D	Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve Trail Development	Whatcom County	\$141,331	\$153,069	\$294,400	\$3,677,585
30 of 46	57.60	16-2830D	Lake Whatcom Park Trail Development	Whatcom County	\$52,647	\$57,523	\$110,170	\$3,730,232

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

2017-19

Attachment M

Resolution: 2017-11

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
31 of 46	57.47	16-2788M	Olympic National Forest Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest, Pacific Ranger District Quinault	\$150,000	\$24,400	\$174,400	\$3,880,232
32 of 46	57.40	16-2640D	South Fork Park Multi-Use Trail Development	Whatcom County	\$200,000	\$258,000	\$458,000	\$4,080,232
33 of 46	56.27	16-2593P	Blanca Lake and Lake Serene Trailhead Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	\$34,500	\$35,020	\$69,520	\$4,114,732
34 of 46	54.20	16-2475D	Green Mountain Nonmotorized Trail Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$165,000	\$110,030	\$275,030	\$4,279,732
35 of 46	54.13	16-2227M	Trail and Trailhead Operiation and Maintenance Tonasket Ranger District	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Tonasket Ranger District	\$120,301	\$52,586	\$172,887	\$4,400,033
36 of 46	53.93	16-2387D	Washington Pass Spires Access Trail		\$122,440	\$61,132	\$183,572	\$4,522,473
37 of 46	52.47	16-2262D	Chesaw Access Trailhead Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$149,500	\$10,000	\$159,500	\$4,671,973
38 of 46	52.07	16-2420D	Snoqualmie Corridor Green Mountain Trail and Trailhead	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$195,000	\$466,250	\$661,250	\$4,866,973
39 of 46	50.80	16-2413P	Dosewallips River Trail	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$88,400	\$30,100	\$118,500	\$4,955,373
40 of 46	50.53	16-2686D	Chickadee Nonmotorized Trail Development	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$190,000	\$50,100	\$240,100	\$5,145,373

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

Preliminary Ranked List of Nonmotorized Projects

2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
41 of 46	49.47	16-2743D	East Creek Bridge Construction	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$109,400	\$14,050	\$123,450	\$5,254,773
42 of 46	47.20	16-2407P	Crystal Springs Winter Recreation Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	\$54,670		\$54,670	\$5,309,443
43 of 46	47.07	16-2463P	Anderson Lake State Park	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$130,000		\$130,000	\$5,439,443
44 of 46	46.27	16-2693M	Entiat Wilderness Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District	\$32,000	\$8,000	\$40,000	\$5,471,443
45 of 46	44.2	16-2694P	Tatoosh Buttes Trail Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Ranger District	\$36,763	\$7,540	\$44,303	\$5,508,206
46 of 46	41.2	16-2309D	Pogue Mountain Trail	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$141,200	\$10,000	\$151,200	\$5,649,406
					\$5,649,406	\$4,376,228	\$10,025,634	

¹D=Development, M=Maintenance, P=Planning

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-12
NOVA Program Off-road Vehicle Category
Final Approval for 2017-19 Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**

WHEREAS, for the 2017-19 biennium, thirty-three Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Off-road Vehicle category projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all thirty-three projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 14, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program*; and

WHEREAS, these Off-road Vehicle category projects were evaluated by all fifteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee 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 286-04-065, 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 opportunities for recreationists who enjoy motorized off-road activities, including motorcycling and riding all-terrain and four-wheel drive vehicles on trails and in competition sport parks, 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 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects, 2017-19*.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities
Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects
2017-19

Attachment R
Resolution: 2017-12

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 33	60.40	16-2451D	Yacolt Burn State Forest ORV Trail Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$350,000	\$240,000	\$590,000	\$350,000
2 of 33	59.13	16-2423M	Tahuya and Green Mountain Trail and Facility Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$198,000	\$97,900	\$295,900	\$548,000
2 of 33	59.13	16-2486M	Naches Pass Trail Bridge Replacement	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District	\$63,500	\$31,806	\$95,306	\$611,500
4 of 33	58.80	16-2330M	Capitol Forest ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$189,700	\$126,500	\$316,200	\$801,200
5 of 33	58.60	16-2767M	Riverside ORV Area Maintenance and Operation	Washington State Parks and Recreation	\$128,116	\$58,805	\$186,921	\$929,316
6 of 33	58.33	16-2488M	Grant County ORV Maintenance and Operation	Grant County Sheriff Department	\$30,000	\$32,000	\$62,000	\$959,316
7 of 33	58.20	16-2454M	Walker Valley ORV Trails Maintenance and Operation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$198,000	\$200,000	\$398,000	\$1,157,316
8 of 33	58.13	16-2229M	Pomeroy Ranger District Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest Pomeroy Ranger District	\$50,000	\$95,000	\$145,000	\$1,207,316
9 of 33	58.00	16-2575M	Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District	\$150,720	\$127,840	\$278,560	\$1,358,036
10 of 33	57.67	16-2279M	Olympic Region ORV Facility and Trail Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$162,720	\$110,000	\$272,720	\$1,520,756
10 of 33	57.67	16-2399M	Elbe ORV Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$178,000	\$123,500	\$301,500	\$1,698,756
12 of 33	57.27	16-2400C	Elbe ORV Campground Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$350,000	\$521,000	\$871,000	\$2,048,756
13 of 33	56.93	16-2450M	Pacific Cascade ORV Trails and Facility Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$157,500	\$67,600	\$225,100	\$2,206,256
14 of 33	56.33	16-2457M	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Motorized Trails Operations and Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest Cowlitz Valley Ranger District	\$94,000	\$119,000	\$213,000	\$2,300,256

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities
Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
15 of 33	55.13	16-2472M	Tahuya 4x4 Maintenance and Operation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$110,000	\$31,200	\$141,200	\$2,410,256
15 of 33	55.13	16-2456M	Walker Valley ORV Bridge Replacements	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$47,000	\$31,500	\$78,500	\$2,457,256
17 of 33	54.87	16-2334M	Wenatchee River Ranger District ORV Trails Maintenance and Operation	U/S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$148,500	\$100,000	\$248,500	\$2,605,756
18 of 33	54.53	16-2208M	Southeast Region Ahtanum ORV Facilities and Trail Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$179,750	\$46,750	\$226,500	\$2,785,506
19 of 33	54.13	16-2353M	Cle Elum Ranger District North Zone ORV Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District	\$199,000	\$23,000	\$222,000	\$2,984,506
19 of 33	54.13	16-2354M	Cle Elum Ranger District South Zone ORV Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District	\$175,700	\$44,300	\$220,000	\$3,160,206
21 of 33	54.00	16-2242M	Southeast Region ORV Trailhead and Campground Maintenance	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$75,950	\$19,050	\$95,000	\$3,236,156
22 of 33	53.67	16-2439M	Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$90,949	\$91,605	\$182,554	\$3,327,105
23 of 33	52.93	16-2328M	Capitol Forest Trailhead and Campground Repaving	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$175,500	\$19,600	\$195,100	\$3,502,605
24 of 33	52.53	16-2223M	Entiat and Chelan Multiple Use Trail Maintenance and Operation	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District	\$199,000	\$99,000	\$298,000	\$3,701,605
25 of 33	48.93	16-2715M	Naches and Cle Elum Ranger District Joint Off Highway Vehicle Trail Maintenance	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District	\$108,000	\$12,500	\$120,500	\$3,809,605
26 of 33	48.13	16-2447C	Little Pend Oreille Radar Dome Trailhead	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$187,000	\$21,000	\$208,000	\$3,996,605
27 of 33	44.13	16-2768P	Naches District Sustainable Recreation Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Naches Ranger District	\$69,180	\$110,000	\$179,180	\$4,065,785
28 of 33	38.60	16-2698P	Entiat Valley Comprehensive Plan	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District	\$85,000	\$40,000	\$125,000	\$4,150,785

Table 1: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities
Preliminary Ranked List of Off-road Vehicle Projects
2017-19

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type ¹	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	Cumulative Grant Request
29 of 33	38.33	16-2779M	Grays Harbor ORV Park Operation and Maintenance	Grays Harbor County	\$200,000	\$12,500	\$212,500	\$4,350,785
30 of 33	38.20	16-2498P	Manastash Taneum Resilient Landscapes Planning	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District	\$63,000	\$16,000	\$79,000	\$4,413,785
31 of 33	35.47	16-2533M	Richland ORV Park Maintenance	Richland Parks and Recreation	\$200,000	\$75,000	\$275,000	\$4,613,785
32 of 33	35.40	16-2671P	Grays Harbor ORV Park Planning	Grays Harbor County	\$192,000		\$192,000	\$4,805,785
33 of 33	33.40	16-2772D	Grays Harbor ORV Park Development Activites	Grays Harbor County	\$173,000	\$12,000	\$185,000	\$4,978,785
					\$4,978,785	\$2,755,956	\$7,734,741	

¹C=Combination of Acquisition and Development or Renovation, M=Maintenance, P=Planning

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-13
Amendments to Title 286 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC)
Adoption of Project Area Guidance and Procedures**

WHEREAS, pursuant to state law, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) adopts administrative rules that govern its grant programs and sets procedures for the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO); and

WHEREAS, the administrative rules in Title 286 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) provide policy direction to the board, director, and office on general grant program administration and are in need of revision to consolidate grant program requirements and provide requirements for project area; and

WHEREAS, RCO filed a Pre-proposal Statement of Inquiry to amend Title 286 WAC with the Office of the Code Reviser on filed January 3, 2017 and published January 18, 2017 in issue #17-02 of the Washington State Register and no comments were received; and

WHEREAS, RCO filed a Proposed Rule Making to amend Title 286 WAC with the Office of the Code Reviser on March 1, 2017 and published March 15, 2017 in issue #17-06 of the Washington State Register and also provided the proposed rulemaking to the Joint Administrative Rules Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Project Area Subcommittee developed a definition, guidance and procedures for "project area," presented a recommendation to the board in October 2016, and the board directed staff to include the recommendation in the proposed rulemaking to Title 296 WAC; and

WHEREAS, RCO posted notice, in accordance with RCW 34.05.320, of the proposed rulemaking to amend Title 286 WAC and the project area recommendation on its website, sent an email notification to interested persons, and accepted public comments from March 15 to April 14, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the board conducted a public hearing, in accordance with RCW 34.05.325, on the proposed rulemaking to amend Title 286 WAC on May 10, 2017 and considered all written and verbal comments submitted;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt the proposed rulemaking as filed with the Office of the Code Reviser on March 1, 2017 and published March 15, 2017 in issue #17-06 of the Washington State Register and reflected in Attachment A; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLCED, that the board does hereby adopt the guidance and procedures recommended by the Project Area Subcommittee as presented in Attachment D; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board directs RCO staff to file a final rule making order, in accordance with RCW 34.05.325, with the Office of the Code Reviser and it shall have an effective date of 31 days from the date it is filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the requirements for a project area map start with the _____.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-14
State Parks Allowable Use Requests**

WHEREAS, a state bonds grant was awarded to the Department of Natural Resources in 1981 for acquiring the Milwaukee Railroad Right-of-Way for trail purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature transferred the railroad right-of-way property acquired to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks); and

WHEREAS, State Parks is the responsible project sponsor; and

WHEREAS, State Parks has requested approval through the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board's (board) Allowable Uses policy of private agricultural-related transportation use of portions of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail; and

WHEREAS, the requests have been reviewed through the Allowable Use policy and guidance process and standard practice; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director has submitted the two requests to the board for decision;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the board has considered the information provided as presented May 11, 2017 and set forth in the board materials prepared for that meeting, along with public comment received at the meeting;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the board:

- ☐ Approves State Parks Eason and Clerf Allowable Use requests
- ☐ Approves State Parks Eason Allowable Use request
- ☐ Approves State Parks Clerf Allowable Use request
- ☐ Approves State Parks Eason and Clerf Allowable Use requests with conditions
- ☐ Denies State Parks Eason Allowable Use request
- ☐ Denies State Parks Clerf Allowable Use request
- ☐ Denies State Parks Eason and Clerf Allowable Use requests

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-15
Policy Waiver Request – Temporary Closure of Funded Site
City of Mercer Island Boat Launch**

WHEREAS, the City of Mercer Island used a grant from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) and a grant from the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) to develop a public boat launch; and

WHEREAS, the boat launch is located underneath the I-90 East Channel Bridge within Washington State Department of Transportation right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, improvements to the I-90 East Channel Bridge will temporarily close a portion of the funded site; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this I-90 East Channel Bridge project, public access to the funded site will be limited; and

WHEREAS, the city is asking for Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to waive the 180-day temporary closure and approval for a temporary closure for a period not to exceed one year; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the I-90 East Channel Bridge project, the boat launch will be returned to normal operation and public use; thereby supporting the board's goals to provide funding for projects that result in public outdoor recreation purposes;

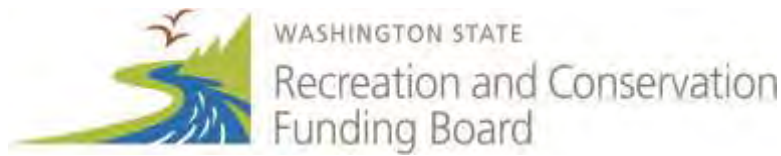
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the city's request.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____



A Resolution to Recognize the Contributions of

Mike Lowry

To the Residents of Washington State and the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

WHEREAS, former Governor Mike Lowry was a larger-than-life figure in Washington politics for two decades, serving as a congressman from 1978 to 1988 and governor from 1992 to 1996, and was a tireless supporter of the homeless, migrant workers, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Governor Lowry joined with former competitor, Governor Evans, as a bipartisan team to co-chair the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition, which was instrumental in supporting legislation to create a program to protect the best of Washington's great outdoors; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Washington State Legislature created the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and directed the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to acquire, as soon as possible, the most significant lands for wildlife conservation and outdoor recreation before they were converted to other uses, and to develop existing public recreational land and facilities to meet the needs of present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Governor Lowry continued to advocate for funding for this incredible, bipartisan program, along with the coalition of more than 280 members, from REI to timber companies, cities, land trusts and others; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these efforts, the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program has funded 1,250 projects in nearly every county of the state, contributing more than \$1.3 billion to date to protect and preserve our way of life and the natural beauty that surrounds us; and

WHEREAS, Governor Lowry's visionary and inspirational leadership is directly responsible for the creation of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and ensuring that Washington remains a great place to live, work, and play; and

WHEREAS, Governor Lowry passed away on May 1, 2017 after a lifetime of dedicated public service;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Governor Lowry's dedication and vision, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board extends their sincere condolences to his family and appreciation for a job well done and life well-lived.

Approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
in Olympia, Washington on May 10, 2017

Ted Willhite, Chair
Citizen Member

Mike Deller
Citizen Member

Michael Shiosaki
Citizen Member

Danica Ready
Citizen Member

Kathryn Gardow
Citizen Member

Peter Herzog
Washington State Parks
and Recreation Commission

Brock Milliern
Department of Natural Resources

Joe Stohr
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2017-03
May 10-11, 2017 Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following May 10-11, 2017 Consent Agenda items are approved:

- A. Board Meeting Minutes
 - February 8, 2017
- B. Time Extension Requests
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Fudge Point Acquisition (RCO # [12-1095A](#))
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Cape Disappointment Seaview Dunes Phase 2 (RCO # [12-1530A](#))
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2012 (RCO # [12-1246A](#))
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Olallie Trail Development 2012 (RCO # [12-1248D](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oak Creek Forest Restoration (RCO # [12-1226R](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Heart of the Cascades 2012 (RCO # [12-1132A](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Rock Creek/Simcoe 2012 (RCO # [12-1137A](#))
 - Washington Department of Natural Resources, Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve (RCO # [12-1176A](#))
 - Chelan County, Stemlit Basin Phase 2 (RCO # [12-1510A](#))
 - Tacoma Metropolitan Park District, Point Defiance Missing Link (RCO # [12-1549D](#))
 - Columbia Land Trust, Trout Lake Valley Phase 2 (RCO # [12-1463A](#))
 - Capitol Land Trust, Oakland Bay Estuary Conservation Phase 3 (RCO # [12-1590](#))

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted Date: _____