

Proposed Agenda Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Regular Meeting

November 14 - 15, 2011

DAY 1: Puget Sound Partnership Office, 326 East D Street, Tacoma, WA 98421

DAY 2: Room 172, Natural Resources Building, Olympia, WA 98501

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

Order of Presentation:

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

Public Comment:

Comments about topics not on the agenda are taken during General Public Comment. Comment on agenda topics is taken with each topic.

If you wish to comment at a meeting, please fill out a comment card and provide it to staff. The chair will call you to the front at the appropriate time. You also may submit written comments to the Board by mailing them to the RCO, attn: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison or at rebecca.connolly@rco.wa.gov.

Special Accommodations:

If you need special accommodations, please notify us by November 2, 2011 at 360/902-3013 or TDD 360/902-1996.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

LOCATION: Puget Sound Partnership Office, 326 East D Street, Tacoma, WA 98421

OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

11:00 a.m.	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roll Call and Determination of Quorum• Review and Approval of Agenda – November 14-15, 2011• Welcome from Pierce County Executive Pat McCarthy	<i>Board Chair</i> <i>Pat McCarthy</i>
11:15 a.m.	1. Consent Calendar (<i>Decision</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – September 2011b. Time Extension Requests<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RCO #07-1455, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Public Archery Range• RCO #07-1236, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Pistol Range Upgrade• RCO #07-1213, Cowlitz Game and Anglers, Cowlitz County Shooting Range Phase 1• RCO #06-1911, WA State Department of Natural Resources, Klickitat Canyon Restoration <p><u>Resolution #2011-23</u></p>	<i>Board Chair</i>

11:20 a.m.	2. Management Reports (<i>Briefing</i>)	
	a. Director's Report	<i>Kaleen Cottingham</i>
	b. Fiscal Report	
	c. Policy/Legislative Report	<i>Steve McLellan</i>
	• Follow-up: Allowable Uses Subcommittee	
	d. Grant Management Report	<i>Scott Robinson and Marguerite Austin</i>
	e. Performance Report (<i>written only</i>)	<i>Rebecca Connolly</i>

11:35 a.m.	General Public Comment	<i>Chair</i>
	For issues not identified as agenda items. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.	

11:40 a.m.	State Agency Partner Reports
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Noon	3. Puget Sound Partnership: Update and Priorities (<i>Briefing</i>)	<i>Martha Kongsgaard</i> <i>Chair, Puget Sound Partnership</i> <i>Leadership Council</i>
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12:20 p.m.	Tour of the Sustainable Elements of the Center for Urban Waters (Partnership Offices)	<i>Jim Parvey</i> <i>City of Tacoma</i>
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12:45 p.m.	WORKING LUNCH
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1:00 p.m.	4. Review of Board Meeting Practices	<i>Chair</i> <i>Rachael Langen</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Televised board meetings• Agenda development and management• Streamlined staff briefings, memos, and presentations• Board discussions	

2:00 p.m.	5. Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants: Approve List and Funding Authority	<i>Marguerite Austin</i>
	<u>Resolution #2011-24</u>	

2:15 p.m.	Project Tour	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kandle Park, Tacoma, RCO Project #09-1265• Tacoma Nature Center, RCO Projects #08-1094 and #78-014	

5:00 p.m.	Recess for the Day	
	Reconvene Tuesday, November 15 in Olympia	

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

LOCATION: Room 172, Natural Resources Building, Olympia, WA 98501

9:00 a.m. Call to Order, Determination of Quorum

Chair

BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS

9:05 a.m. 6. Board Meeting Schedule for 2012

Rebecca Connolly

Resolution #2011-25

9:10 a.m. 7. Streamlining Proposal: Change to a Written Evaluation Process in Three WWRP Categories: Critical Habitat, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife

Scott Robinson

Resolution #2011-26

9:30 a.m. 8. Streamlining Proposal: Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for the WWRP State Lands Restoration Category

Scott Robinson

Resolution #2011-27

9:45 a.m. 9. Streamlining Proposal: Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for Combination Projects

Marguerite Austin

Resolution #2011-28

10:00 a.m. 10. Draft Recommendations of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group to the Legislature

Dominga Soliz

Resolution #2011-29

10:15 a.m. BREAK

10:30 a.m. 11. Recreational Trails Program Grants: Approve List and Funding Authority

Marguerite Austin

Sarah Thirtyacre

Resolution #2011-30

10:45 a.m. 12. Conversion Request: Cheasty Greenspace, City of Seattle, RCO #91-246

Leslie Ryan-Connelly

Resolution #2011-31

11:30 a.m. 13. Recognition of Board Member's Service: Steven Drew

Chair Chapman

Resolution #2011-32

Noon

WORKING LUNCH

Executive Session: Personnel Matter

- Performance Review of RCO Director

2:00 p.m. ADJOURN

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-23
November 2011 Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following November 2011 Consent Agenda items are approved:

- a. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – September 2011
- b. Time Extension Requests
 - RCO #07-1455, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Public Archery Range
 - RCO #07-1236, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Pistol Range Upgrade
 - RCO #07-1213, Cowlitz Game and Anglers, Cowlitz County Shooting Range Phase 1
 - RCO #06-1911, WA State Department of Natural Resources, Klickitat Canyon Restoration

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS, SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2011

Agenda Items without Formal Action

Item	Board Request for Follow-up
Item 2: Management Report	Staff will contact member Pete Mayer regarding the review of responses to the RFP for SCORP.
Item 4: Follow-up to June 2011 Discussion of Allowable Uses Policy	The board asked staff to work with a subcommittee to address specific concerns of some members. Staff to report back on progress in November.
Item 5A: Summary of general policy and manual changes	No follow-up actions requested.
Item 5B: Streamlining the grant application process	No follow-up actions requested.
Item 5C: Proposal to change to a written evaluation process in three WWRP categories: Critical Habitat, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife	No follow-up actions requested.
Item 5D: Proposed changes to the evaluation criteria for the WWRP State Lands Restoration category	No follow-up actions requested.
Item 5E: Proposed changes to the evaluation criteria for combination projects in the BFP, FARR, and the WWRP State Parks, Trails and Water Access categories	No follow-up actions requested.
Item 6: Overview of the WDFW Conservation Strategy(ies) and the Relationship to RCFB Grant Programs	No follow-up actions requested.
Item 7A: Conservation projects sponsored by WDFW	No follow-up actions requested.
Item 7B: Recreation projects sponsored by state and local organizations	No follow-up actions requested.
Item 8: Joint Session with the Okanogan County Commissioners	No follow-up actions requested.

Agenda Items with Formal Action

Item	Formal Action	Board Request for Follow-up
Item 1: Consent Calendar	Resolution 2011-21 APPROVED <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – June 2011 Recognition of Volunteers Cost Increase Request: TCSA Hunter Education, RCO #09-1204, Tri-Cities Shooting Association Incorporated 	No follow-up actions requested.
Item 3: Sustainability Policy	Revised Resolution 2011-22 APPROVED Approved sustainability policy, effective with the 2012 grant cycle.	No follow-up actions requested.

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: September 21, 2011

Place: Commissioners' Hearing Room, Okanogan, WA

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members Present:

Bill Chapman, Chair	Mercer Island	Stephen Saunders	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Betsy Bloomfield	Yakima	Don Hoch	Director, State Parks
Steven Drew	Olympia	Dave Brittell	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Pete Mayer	Vancouver		

Member Harriet Spanel was excused.

It is intended that this summary be used with the notebook provided in advance of the meeting. A recording is retained by RCO as the formal record of meeting.

Opening and Management Reports

Chair Bill Chapman called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. Staff called roll, and a quorum was determined. Okanogan County Commissioner Andy Lampe was in attendance.

The agenda was approved as presented.

Item 1: Consent Calendar

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) reviewed Resolution #2011-21, Consent Calendar. The consent calendar included the following:

- Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – June 2011
- Recognition of Volunteers
- Cost Increase Request: TCSA Hunter Education, RCO #09-1204, Tri-Cities Shooting Association Incorporated

Resolution 2011-21 introduced by Chair Chapman. Resolution APPROVED.

Item 2: Management Report

Director Cottingham reviewed her management report, noting the recent webinar on grant opportunities from natural resource agencies, and ribbon cuttings. There are many ribbon cuttings scheduled in the next few weeks. She also discussed the five and ten percent budget reduction exercises, noting that it did not affect the board's programs since the cut is in the general fund, which goes towards salmon recovery programs.

Chair Chapman asked what DFW and DNR would be doing instead of presenting at the recent webinar. Director Cottingham noted that the problem was that the timing of the webinar did not coincide with the timing of the grants available from those agencies.

Policy Report: Director Cottingham noted that a request for proposals was out to find a consultant to help with the SCORP development. Member Mayer had asked if a board member or local park representative could assist with the proposal review, provided there is no conflict of interest. The board did not object, so staff will contact him to coordinate that involvement.

Dominga Soliz provided a brief update regarding the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group (Lands Group) as presented in the policy report. Commissioner Lampe noted that it is a positive effort.

Grant Management Report: Conservation and Grant Services Section Manager Scott Robinson discussed the grant management report (staff memo 2D). He noted in particular the new section of the report that addresses returned funds.

Robinson noted that there were no applications in the BIG Tier 1 program this year, so the RCO requested a grant to update boating information for the public. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has notified the RCO that they have received the grant application.

Robinson also gave an overview of the tour, reminding the board that it would start at 7:30 a.m.

State Agency Partner Reports

Don Hoch, State Parks, noted the five to ten percent budget plan went to the Commission last week, and that the Commission chose to take it in staff cuts, furloughs, and holding vacancies. They are still waiting to see what the revenue will be from Discover Pass. They think the cut will be more likely around 15 to 20 percent. They feel very optimistic about the revenue from the Discover Pass. The big issue is transferability of the pass; they are talking with the Governor's Office. They do not think the cuts will affect grant-funded efforts.

Stephen Saunders, Department of Natural Resources (DNR), noted that the Natural Heritage Program is being cut dramatically in the budget. He noted the purpose and benefit of the program. The Conservation Acquisition program also gets funding from the general fund and has experienced major cuts.

Dave Brittell, Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), noted that the funding from the Discover Pass is about equal between the annual and day use passes. It is not a perfect system, and he expects changes in the upcoming legislative session. He discussed the budget cut exercise as well, noting that in 2007-09, they had about \$110 million in general fund dollars; that has been reduced dramatically

over time. Only about 19 percent of the agency is still funded from the general fund. The approach to the cut will be approved by the Fish and Wildlife Commission tomorrow.

General Public Comment

Berent Culp, Okanogan Land Trust, noted that farmland preservation was not an agenda item and he is very concerned about it. He stated that the United States is losing more than an acre of farmland per minute. The amount of public land versus private land is a concern. Director Cottingham noted that Mr. Culp was welcome to join the board on its tour tomorrow. The Ellis Barnes project will receive funding from other projects, and the farmland preservation discussion will happen at that site.

Rocklynn Culp, Town of Winthrop, thanked the board for its support and noted that they are having a very good experience with their grant manager. They are building a trail and a bridge, and they very excited about the project and the changes it is bringing to their community.

Darlene Hajny, Okanogan County Farm Bureau, noted that they had just learned about the board's visit yesterday. She noted that the board has a very narrow mandate, while the commissioners have to look at the cumulative impact of what happens in the county. The public is concerned about the amount of land going into public ownership, and that the path is unsustainable because of the ongoing costs of the property. The costs include restoration, maintenance, operation, and management in perpetuity. The local jurisdiction review doesn't happen in Okanogan County; that is, they don't learn about projects until deals are in place.

Steve Lorz, Tonasket, noted that people he knows are no longer using state lands because of the cost of the Discover Pass.

Board Decisions

Item 3: Sustainability Policy

Director Cottingham introduced this topic, and provided some background and history. Grant manager Myra Barker then presented the policy proposal, as described in the memo as well as examples of sponsors' uses of sustainable practices. Myra will be the staff point person for sustainability issues. Member Mayer noted that this is an opportunity to collaborate with landscape architects.

Member Drew referenced a trail project that, in an effort to promote sustainability, used treated materials that were in contact with soil. He is concerned that the scoring may benefit longevity at the expense of environmental consideration. Barker responded that it would be a good example to share with sponsors. Chair Chapman noted that the board had previously agreed not to be prescriptive, and to let the sponsors figure out what works well. There simply is not enough information to set standards of the best way to do projects. Member Bloomfield stated that the policy allows for the project evaluation to consider situations such as the one raised by Member Drew.

Revised Resolution 2011-22 moved by Chapman and seconded by: Drew
Resolution APPROVED

Board Briefings

Item 4: Follow-up to June 2011 Discussion of Allowable Uses Policy

Dominga Soliz, Policy Specialist, presented information about the policy, as described in the board memo. She noted that the proposal sets up a framework (process) for addressing the "gray areas" in existing policy but does not establish new allowable uses. She requested board input so that the policy can be put forward for approval in November.

Member Mayer asked for clarification of terms used in the policy and presentation, including "consistent with," "minimum impairment," and "primary purpose." He was particularly concerned about an assessment beyond the physical location of the project and the consideration of other sites in the determination of obsolescence in the first example. He also questioned the definitions of lease, agreement, and license as a transfer of property rights; he would like staff to reconsider it.

Member Brittell noted that they have to protect the investments, but he is worried that the gray area may be overbroad. He wants to ensure that land managers can do their jobs, without having to check with RCO on every action. He echoed confusion about the use of lease, license, and other terms. He also does not think that the policy allows them to keep the lands working, especially with regard to the grazing examples.

Member Bloomfield asked how much resource management and expertise will staff need under this policy to address allowability. Director Cottingham noted that the director makes the decision about calling in experts so that they do not get called too often.

Member Drew suggested changes to the "all practical alternatives" language to include showing documentation of the analysis.

Member Saunders suggested that a consideration still needs to include convenience versus necessity. Like Member Brittell, he is concerned that the policy could affect their ability to keep lands working.

The board determined that a subcommittee should work with staff to address specific concerns such as grazing and leases. Members Mayer, Brittell, and Drew were selected to participate.

Item 5: Changes Proposed for the 2012 Grant Cycle

Scott Robinson and Marguerite Austin presented the significant policy proposals noted in the board memos, as follows. Items 5A, 5D, and 5E were not presented due to time constraints.

Streamline the grant application process: Marguerite Austin presented information about streamlining the grant application process, as described in staff memo 5B. The proposed improvements fall into one of three categories: policy changes that require board approval, process changes that require

director approval, and administrative changes designed to capture efficiencies for applicants and staff. The board had no comments or questions.

Proposal to change to a written evaluation process: Scott Robinson presented a proposal to (1) eliminate project review meetings, and (2) conduct a written evaluation process, as described in staff memo 5C. The changes would affect the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and the Riparian Protection Account. He noted that the changes should reduce the time and resources committed to project review and evaluation without losing the effectiveness of the process. The proposal has not yet been published for public comment. Member Saunders noted that DNR has had a good experience moving to a written process in the Natural Areas program, it saves staff time, and focuses the evaluation on the project rather than the ability of the presenter to sell the project.

Item 6: Overview of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Strategy(ies) and the Relationship to RCFB Grant Programs

Board member Don Hoch left the meeting at this point. Okanogan County Commissioner Bud Hover joined the discussion.

Member Brittell presented information about landscape conservation in Okanogan County and projects sponsored by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. WDFW manages 900,000 acres and 700 access sites in the state. He noted that WDFW uses conservation easements for development rights so that the property remains in private ownership; recently, they have tried to also bundle water rights into the easements. He covered the history and funding of WDFW presence, land management, and other activities (e.g., recreation projects) in Okanogan County. He noted how it has changed from opportunistic to strategic, and how they have changed their approach to include more public involvement. Brittell emphasized that they work with willing sellers and try to use the acquisition tool (easement or fee simple) that works best for both the landowner and the agency.

Brittell noted that WDFW needs to expand the discussion to have a broader public perspective, and they that they are doing more outreach, including surveys. He addressed three common concerns – local revenue, economic analyses (how agency actions affect the future of the county), and care of the lands – and how they affect Okanogan County. He concluded by noting the projects that they would see on the project tour the following day.

Item 7: Board-funded Projects in Okanogan County

Dave Brittell discussed Item 7A (Conservation projects sponsored by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) with his overview in Item 6.

Myra Barker presented recreation projects supported by board-funded grants in Okanogan County, as described in staff memo 7B. She highlighted the funding, specific projects, and the various organizations that have received grant funding.

Member Drew asked Member Brittell to describe what is happening at the legislature regarding payment in lieu of taxes (PILT). Brittell responded that there has been significant dialogue, but there has been no major action in the last few years. The issue arises in budget discussions more than it does in the policy discussions.

Commissioner Hover asked whether the state has looked at the impact on the state budget for land that goes into public ownership – both from tax loss and from ongoing maintenance fees. Brittell asked Jennifer Quan, Lands Division Manager for WDFW, to respond, but she stated that she did not know the answer.

Hover noted that the county prefers easements to fee simple because it keeps the property in private hands and continues the use, but respects that individual property owners have the right to make the choice that works for them. The state needs to consider what is left in the county after all of the public ownership, including federal and tribal. The county needs an approach that lessens the concerns about changes in state priorities in the future and allows the county to remain financially viable.

Item 8: Joint Session with the Okanogan County Commissioners

Okanogan County Commissioners Andy Lampe and Bud Hover participated in the discussion.

Commissioner Lampe welcomed the board to the county. Chair Chapman thanked him, and noted that it is important for the board to see the projects and listen to people across the state. He noted four questions on the agenda and invited the commissioners to discuss whatever is on their mind.

Commissioner Lampe noted that the Lands Group has played a very positive role in getting the agencies to talk to each other. The RCO has changed the questions that agencies ask and is making the agencies justify their requests and do a better job. Lampe would like the Lands Group to continue because of the positive role it plays in getting agencies to talk and share their plans. Chapman concurred, and noted that he has had positive conversations with Senator Parlette about the group continuing.

Commissioner Lampe also noted that he would like to see an increase in monitoring to ensure projects are meeting expectations. He stated that costs of maintenance, weed control, and related work should be built into the grants. Alternatively, the applicants should demonstrate that they have the funds to do the maintenance. If the state doesn't do the work, the cost is passed on to adjacent private landowners.

Commissioner Hover noted that the trails and recreation funded by the board have been very welcome. They cannot change to a tourism-based economy, but it is still a recognized benefit to the county. He noted his work with the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, and the need to balance the perspectives. For example, as a commissioner, he is concerned about land going into public ownership, but he is also concerned about how to address the salmon listings so that agriculture can

be protected. Hover said that their concern is the long-term economic impact of moving land from private to public ownership because their economy is based on agriculture, mining, and ranching. They need to know what the plans are.

Member Drew noted that PILT is a better compensation in counties that don't have such a high percentage of land in public ownership. He asked if there had been any analysis of different compensation for counties where there is a higher impact. Member Brittell responded that there had been legislative discussion regularly, but it never evolves into a policy discussion or action.

Chair Chapman asked what the county's plans and priorities are. Commissioner Hover noted that recreation is important for locals and for visitors; people want to visit the open space. It is important to maintain enough opportunities that people still have the space they value.

Chair Chapman then asked if they are experiencing any roadblocks or problems. Commissioner Lampe invited Ted Murray to respond. He noted that the grant match amount is a very tough obstacle.

Member Mayer noted that counties in his area face a similar struggle with regard to public and private ownership. They have sought legislative fixes such as using conservation futures and REET to help local agencies cover operations and maintenance. He thinks a challenge for the board will be how to fund the ongoing stewardship so that public expenditures are better leveraged.

Commissioner Lampe responded that you can't compare local maintenance issues to WDFW not maintaining the huge blocks of land that they purchase. He also noted that public lands need to stay open for motorized recreation, because people who participate in motorized recreation spend more money locally than those who participate in non-motorized recreation.

Commissioner Hover noted that agriculture is not antithetical to habitat and wildlife conservation. Most are not farmed fence line to fence line; they have wild areas. He encouraged the board and state agencies to contract out the weed control and maintenance work to the nearby farmers and ranchers.

Member Bloomfield noted that the county is providing a huge recreational value that is uncompensated and that there needs to be a better conversation in the state about compensation for those values. Ecosystem services could be one way to get there in the future; they can be applied to public and private lands.

Public Comment on Items 6, 7, and 8

Jason Paulsen, Methow Conservancy, noted the policy work on allowable uses and synching the issues. He thanked the board for addressing those issues. He noted that they work with SRFB and WWRP Farmland grants. They are cosponsors on several projects and appreciate the partnerships. He noted

that the low-hanging fruit has been picked, nothing easy is left; he stated that the staff is great to work with and seem to want to help the local sponsors.

John Sunderland declined to comment, stating that Jason had covered what he wanted to say.

Kurt Danison, Planner for Small cities in Okanogan County, stated RCFB grants have encouraged planning by local communities. He noted that a barrier for many communities is keeping up the pools and parks after they exceed their useful life. All available funds are spent on maintenance, so they don't have matching funds for redevelopment. They can't close locations to build up the match funds because the board requires access. Member Drew asked if they had thought about a utility tax, which could gradually build a reserve. Director Cottingham noted that Commerce had programs that might be used as match.

Maggie Coon, WWRC, asked the county commissioners to continue to support WWRP. She noted that the program was created 20 years ago by a broad group of citizens who wanted to look forward and meet the needs of the state for the future. The program is accountable and has withstood the test of time. As a resident of the Methow Valley, she does not think there is a single place you can stand without seeing the benefit of the WWRP.

Jay Kehne, Conservation Northwest, stated that RCO dollars are valuable to the community, helping to protect wildlife and create recreation opportunities, including hunting. He noted that the programs work only with willing sellers, and appreciates that they have options. He thanked the board for their work.

Walter Henze, Okanogan Land Trust, thanked the board and discussed some projects that the trust has been involved in. The RCO is very solution oriented, and they appreciate it. As a citizen and trail user, he appreciated Ted Murray's comments and wonders if there is a way to connect the trails and conservation.

Mitch Friedman, Conservation Northwest, expressed his appreciation to the board and staff. The system works well. He noted that in working with property owners in many counties, he has a sense that it's a real challenge to be successful in agriculture. This program keeps agriculture an option for landowners. He also thinks that NOVA is in a key position to balance the needs motorized recreation opportunities with the need to maintain those opportunities; he suggested a less dispersed infrastructure for motorized recreation.

Charley Knox, Cottage Grove, Oregon, noted that he hunts and fishes in Okanogan County. He thinks conservation is very important. He fully supports efforts of groups like Conservation Northwest, and asked the board to focus on conservation easements.

Meeting recessed for the evening at 6:15 p.m.

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: September 22, 2011

Place: Okanogan County

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members Present:

Bill Chapman, Chair	Mercer Island	Stephen Saunders	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Betsy Bloomfield	Yakima	Dave Brittell	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Pete Mayer	Vancouver		
Steven Drew	Olympia		

It is intended that this summary be used with the notebook provided in advance of the meeting.

Project Tour

Board members and staff participated in a tour of board-funded projects in Okanogan County from 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Approved by:

Bill Chapman, Chair

Date

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-21
September 2011 Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following September 2011 Consent Agenda items are approved:

- a. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – June 2011
- b. Recognition of Volunteers
- c. Cost Increase Request: TCSA Hunter Education, RCO #09-1204, Tri-Cities Shooting Association Incorporated

Resolution introduced by: Chair Chapman

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: September 21, 2011

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Revised Resolution #2011-22
Encouraging Greater Use of Sustainable Practices

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) asked the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff to find ways to encourage greater use of sustainable practices in grant-funded projects; and

WHEREAS, RCO staff revised evaluation questions to include consideration of sustainable design, practices, and elements for projects submitted in the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Local Park and State Park categories; and

WHEREAS, RCO staff circulated the policy and revised questions for public comment and received a positive response from stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, adopting this policy and establishing incentives for increased use of sustainable practices in grant-funded projects supports the board's strategy to maximize the useful life of board funded projects and its objective to support activities that promote continuous quality improvement; and

WHEREAS, the board's three-pronged approach to sustainability is directly supportive of all three of the board's goals, as stated in its 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 using broad public participation and feedback, monitoring, assessment, and adaptive management.;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt the revised evaluation questions and scoring shown in Attachment B to the September 2011 memo regarding sustainability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to incorporate these evaluation questions into the appropriate policy manuals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these policies shall be effective beginning with the 2012 grant cycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to proceed with implementation of the web site enhancements and sponsor outreach efforts associated with sustainability.

Resolution moved by: Chair Chapman

Resolution seconded by: Member Drew

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: September 21, 2011

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Project Time Extensions
Prepared By: Recreation and Conservation Section Grant Managers
Approved by the Director:


Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

This is a request for the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (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 #: 2011-23 (CONSENT)

Purpose of Resolution: Approve time extension requests.

Background

Manual #7, *Funded Projects*, outlines the board's adopted policy for progress on active funded projects. See Section 2, [Grant Time Limits and Extensions](#).

The 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 extensions to continue the agreements beyond the four-year period authorized in board policy.

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;
- 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 reappropriation request levels for RCO.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these requests 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

The RCO received no public comment on the requests.

Staff Recommendation

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

Attachments

- A. Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

Attachment A: Time Extension Request for Board Approval

Project number	Project sponsor	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Circumstances or reasons for delay
07-1455	Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club	BISC Public Archery Range	FARR	\$31,498	11/30/11	5/31/12	<p>The Bainbridge Island Sportmen's Club has two grants for improvements at their shooting range. This grant is for construction of a new indoor-outdoor archery range building and installation of fencing and a berm for safety.</p> <p>Before constructing the building, the club had to prepare the site for the new archery range. They conducted a lead recovery operation that was more extensive than anticipated and it took significantly longer than planned. The recovery operation and berm are now complete.</p> <p>The club began constructing the range building in August and anticipates completing it by November 2011. The building is also 75 percent complete. As a safety precaution, the club needs to install the containment fence between the new building and the completed berm.</p> <p>The club is requesting an extension so they can finish the archery range building and install the containment fence.</p>
07-1236	Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club	BISC Pistol Range Upgrade	FARR	\$11,452	11/30/11	5/31/12	<p>Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club's second grant is for installing a restroom and renovating the pistol range building, berms, and a parking area.</p> <p>During the construction phase of the project, the Club decided to add additional noise and sound barriers to the range. Ordering the materials and installing the barriers delayed renovation of the pistol range building. The noise and sound barriers, parking area, and berms are now complete. The building is 85 percent complete and the club is requesting an extension so they can finish the structure.</p>

Project number	Project sponsor	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Circumstances or reasons for delay
07-1213	Cowlitz Game and Anglers	Cowlitz County Shooting Range Phase 1	FARR	\$86,435	11/30/2011	9/31/2012	<p>This grant is for construction of a new shooting range in Cowlitz County. The project includes facilities for rifle, pistol and shotgun sports.</p> <p>Starting in 2007, the county required Cowlitz Game and Anglers to satisfy 44 different provisos in order to secure a Cowlitz County Special Land Use Permit. This is one of the key permits needed to allow development of the proposed shooting range. During the past four years, the club worked diligently to satisfy the extensive requirements of these various provisos and has finally obtained the key permit required to construct the range. The only permit left is a building and grading permit; the club expects to receive it by the end of October 2011.</p> <p>The club is now ready to start the construction and is asking for a time extension through the next construction season.</p>

Project number	Project sponsor	Project name	Grant program	Grant funds remaining	Current end date	Extension request	Circumstances or reasons for delay
06-1911	WA State Department of Natural Resources	Klickitat Canyon Restoration	WWRP SLR	\$58,971	12/31/11	12/31/12	<p>This grant will restore 50 acres of habitat for the endangered sandhill crane by stabilizing water levels in the existing wetland, planting disturbed areas with native plants, and thinning encroaching lodgepole pine stands.</p> <p>This project was significantly delayed by issues that were outside of the sponsor's control, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work window restrictions for nesting sandhill cranes, which limited work to a 5 month period (October 1 through March 1.) • Early snowfall in 2010/11 limited work in the area • The contractor went out of business before completing the project. <p>Work completed to date includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of a rock weir at the outlet of deer creek wetland. • Thinning of 3-5 acres of encroaching pine (<10 DBH) • Removal of 1,000 feet of abandoned roadbed • Planting of 500 feet of abandoned roadbed with 1,000 herbaceous plants, 100 willows, and native grasses. <p>As a condition of this time extension, additional progress reports will be required at 3 month intervals.</p>

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Item **2A**

Meeting Date: November 2011

Title: Management Reports: Director's Report

Approved by the Director:


Kaleen Cottingham

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

☐

Request for Decision

☐

Request for Direction

☒

Briefing

Included in this report

- ▶ Groundbreakings and Ribbon Cuttings
- ▶ Elwha Dam Removal
- ▶ Natural Resources Grants and Loans Webinar
- ▶ Meetings with Partners
- ▶ Governor's "Get Out West!" Initiative
- ▶ RCO Receives BIG Grant
- ▶ NASORLO Annual Meeting in Delaware
- ▶ Update on Sister Boards

'Tis the Season for Groundbreakings and Ribbon Cuttings

The fall often is a busy time for community events as the weather is predictably better for construction. Board members, staff, and I helped our partners celebrate many projects. Here's just a sampling of the events we've attended this fall for projects funded by the RCO:

- Bremerton's Lions Park – Board Chair Bill Chapman spoke at this event to open a section of park that replaced the waterfront parking lot with a refurbished shoreline.
- Camas' Fallen Leaf Lake Park – Board Member Pete Mayer spoke at the dedication of this park, along with U.S. Senator Patty Murray.
- Castle Rock's Riverfront Trail – I joined what seemed to be the entire population of Castle Rock to celebrate the opening of a new segment of the Riverfront trail.
- McClane Creek Nature Trail in Thurston County – I joined Commissioner of Public Lands Peter Goldmark to thank the Department of Natural Resources' construction crew and volunteers who helped build a new salmon viewing platform and shelter at the park. I was joined by several of the Recreation Section staff to walk the boardwalk.
- Olympia's Percival Landing – I was joined by several of the staff and Board Member Steven Drew at the grand opening celebration of the new waterfront boardwalk.
- Whatcom Creek Trail - Board Member Harriet Spanel spoke at this celebration of the trail's opening.

Here are some other board funded sites with celebratory events this summer. Thanks to all of the staff who attended these events:

- Auburn's Environmental Park – ground breaking
- Chinook Bend Natural Area – Field Day Celebration
- Enumclaw's new turf field – ribbon cutting
- Mukilteo's Lighthouse Park – grand opening
- Tacoma's Chinese Reconciliation Park – dedication of its new pavilion

Elwha Dam Removal Significant for Salmon Recovery

In September, I joined an esteemed group of people: Washington Governor Chris Gregoire, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, Congressman Norm Dicks, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribal Chairwoman Frances Charles, and Tom Skerritt, actor and board member of the nonprofit group American Rivers, to officially mark the beginning of the 3-year project to remove the two dams that block the Elwha River.

The event was a significant step in the larger Elwha River restoration project, which will open more than 70 miles of protected habitat to salmon, and is projected to restore the river's salmon populations from 3,000 to more than 300,000.

Removal of the 108-foot Elwha dam and the 210-foot Glines Canyon dam is the nation's largest dam removal project. It was very exciting to be part of this historic moment and to realize how far we've come in thinking about salmon and what they mean to our culture and economy.

You can watch the progress on these Web cams: www.nps.gov/olym/photosmultimedia/elwha-river-webcams.htm

Natural Resources Grants and Loans Webinar Deemed a Success

RCO, along with other natural resources agencies, hosted an online workshop in September that was attended by more than 400 people. The Webinar gave participants a chance to hear about all the grants and loans offered by many natural resource agencies without having to travel or call each agency individually. The effort was a result of Gov. Chris Gregoire's call to streamline natural resources agencies. Most of those surveyed said they found the information to be useful. To watch the Webinar, visit www.rco.wa.gov/webinar.shtml. RCO's grant programs were presented by Scott Robinson and Brian Abbott.

Out and About – Meeting with our Partners

Here's a recap of meetings I've had with our partners.

- **Tribal and State Natural Resources Agencies** – On September 13, tribal representatives met with state agency directors to discuss salmon recovery efforts, particularly in Puget Sound. The meeting was a follow-up to a tribal white paper titled "Treaty Rights at Risk," which focused on the continuing decline of salmon habitat and lack of progress on the role of regulations in salmon recovery. The meeting included key issues such as in-stream flow, storm water management, toxics and fish consumption, and coordinating salmon recovery funding. Follow-up commitments were made by state agency directors to continue conversations around key issues such as protecting critical habitat and regulations addressing storm water and shorelines management.
- **Park Directors** – Marguerite Austin and I attended a meeting of local park directors to discuss allowable uses and sustainability policy issues. The directors were primarily from King and Snohomish Counties; however, there were also directors from Pierce and Kitsap Counties. We briefed them on our plans for streamlining our grants processes and described some of the specific program changes for 2012. Also, we outlined for them the proposed policy for allowable uses, using a written evaluation process for some of our habitat conservation categories, and revised scoring for combination projects. There were at least 25 directors in attendance and they have asked us to join them again in November to update them on our conversion policies, the streamlining evaluation criteria, and our plans for the next Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
- **Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition Annual Breakfast** – Steve McLellan, Marguerite Austin, and I attended the coalition's annual breakfast on September 16, along with nearly 600 other people. The program included awards to lawmakers who strongly

supported funding the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program last session. A special award for distinguished service was presented to Val Ogden (a former Recreation and Conservation Funding Board chair) and her husband Dan. Speeches were delivered by the coalition's co-chairs (former Governors Dan Evans and Mike Lowry), former King County Executive Ron Sims, and the director of the National Park Service, John Jarvis. Attendees also saw short films highlighting three outstanding projects (Enumclaw Field Improvements, Trout Lake Farm, and Heart of the Cascades). All in all it was a highly energizing event.

Governor Says "Get Out West!"

As chair of the Western Governors Association, Governor Chris Gregoire has launched *Get Out West!*, which is an initiative that will highlight the connection of outdoor recreation and tourism to the health of our local economies and our citizens. In addition to promoting outdoor recreation and tourism across the West, the initiative will draw attention to the importance of effective conservation strategies. Another part of this initiative is the development of an economic analysis of the benefits that conservation and outdoor recreation provide to the states' economies. State efforts on *Get Out West!* are being coordinated through the Governor's executive policy office, and we expect that RCO will be asked to play a significant role in providing information and analysis to the project team. The advisory committee is expected to be announced in late October and the big work will get going shortly thereafter.

RCO Receives BIG Grant

RCO got word recently that our \$200,000 grant application to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to build a better boating database was accepted. With this grant, RCO will collect information and build an up-to-date database of information on recreational motor boat sites, facilities, and services for boats 26 feet and larger. To do this, RCO will collect data, field verify it, and then publish it online for sharing. In addition, RCO will revise the database to allow for easier future data collection and verification to keep information current. The project scope includes creating an "app" so that users of hand-held or mobile technology can access the data while on the water. The funding comes from the federal Boating Infrastructure Grant Tier 1 funds that were unused in 2010 and again in 2011.

NASORLO Annual Meeting in Delaware

Steve McLellan attended the annual meeting of the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers (NASORLO). This is the organization that represents the states who administer the stateside portion of the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). At the meeting, there was a robust dialogue with representatives from the U.S. Department of Interior and the National Park Service about plans to shift a portion of the money from the states to a national competitive grant program. While the Obama administration has requested a substantial increase in LWCF funding, it is highly unlikely that Congress will acquiesce to that

request, given the current budget situation. NASORLO members raised strong objections to any effort that would divert funds away from the states, especially if no additional LWCF funding is forthcoming. There also are changes coming in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) process that would require states to align those plans more closely with federal priorities (urban parks, water trails, and protection of critical landscapes). NASORLO members also reported on budget and policy developments in their states. Comparing our governance structure to other LWCF agencies across the country, we are lucky that we are an independent, Governor's Cabinet-level agency, which gives us more of a policy voice on issues related to outdoor recreation.

Update on Sister Boards

Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)

The SRFB met August 31 and September 1 in Ellensburg. The board approved a request from Ducks Unlimited to change the type, scope, and cost on its Leque Island estuary restoration project. This decision came after considerable input from the grant applicant, staff, and the public. Staff also briefed the board on the follow-up work done with the Pacific County Lead Entity associated with the Bear River estuary project. Following that briefing, the board decided to reallocate the funds from that project to alternates in the region and to other projects as returned funds. Staff also gave briefings regarding landowner commitment for restoration projects and the Family Forest Fish Passage Program. The second day of the meeting was a tour of projects in the area. The tour was coordinated by Alex Conley, from the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board, along with representatives from the lead entities and sponsors.

Washington Invasive Species Council

At its last meeting, the council discussed and provided comments on proposed invasive species strategies and near-term actions for the Puget Sound Partnership's Action Agenda update. The council had, at the request of the Partnership, prepared the strategies and near-term actions but then had to revise them because of partnership change in direction. The council also discussed and provided comments on proposed guidance language on invasive species to be used with the State Environmental Protection Act. Finally, the council discussed its prevention protocols and how to track implementation in member agencies and opportunities for more regional collaboration with the Oregon and Idaho invasive species councils. In addition to this work, council staff is preparing for a presentation on the Don't Move Firewood regional outreach campaign at the Continental Dialogue on Non-Native Forest Insects and Diseases and an invasive species presentation at the state weed meeting.

Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO)


GSRO staff is working closely with lead entities and regional organizations to support their efforts to identify possible 5 percent and 10 percent budget reductions as directed by the SRFB. Additionally, staff is working with lead entities to make updates to the Habitat Work Schedule so that key pieces of information regarding monitoring and recovery plan implementation can be

uploaded and accessed in online database. Finally, GSRO staff is talking with regional organizations, state and federal agencies, and tribes about the 2012 "State of the Salmon report." The key focus is on identifying available data, developing timelines for producing needed data, and discussing regional narratives within the report.

Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group

The lands group is drafting the first "Biennial State Land Acquisition Monitoring Report" to show whether state agencies achieved their initial project objectives. The report looks at projects funded in 2007 and compares the project goals, such as expected number of acres and cost, with the final result. The report will be published in November. The lands group also is developing recommendations to submit to the Legislature on whether the lands group should be continued past its sunset date of July 2012 (see Item 10).

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Management Report: Fiscal Report
Prepared By: Mark Jarasitis, Chief Financial Officer
Approved by the Director:  Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

Periodic update of agency and program budgets, revenues, and expenditures

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

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Fiscal Report

The attached financial reports reflect Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) activities as of September 30, 2011.

- Attachment A reflects the budget status of board activities by program.
- Attachment B reflects the budget status of the entire agency by board.
- Attachment C reflects the revenue collections.
- Attachment D is a Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) summary. Since the beginning of this program, \$567 million of funds appropriated in the WWRP program have been expended.

If you have any questions on the materials, please call Mark Jarasitis at (360) 902-3006 or inquire at the meeting.

Attachments

- A. Recreation and Conservation Funding Board - Activities by Program
- B. Recreation and Conservation Office – Entire Agency Summary by Board
- C. Recreation and Conservation Funding Board – Revenue Report
- D. Recreation and Conservation Funding Board – Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Summary

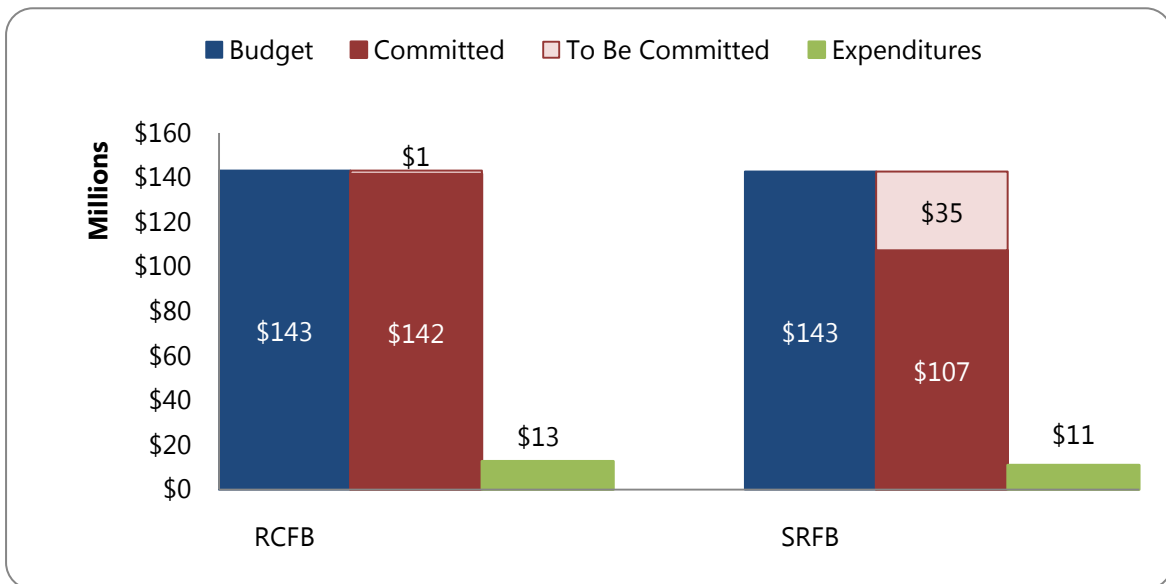
Recreation and Conservation Office – Entire Agency Summary by Board

2011-13 Budget Status Report, Capital + Operating the Agency

For the Period of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2013, actuals through 9/30/2011 (10/14/11 fm 03)

Percentage of biennium reported: 12.5%

	BUDGET			COMMITTED		TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES	
	New	Reapp.	new and reapp. 2011-13	Dollars	% of budget	Dollars	% of budget	Dollars	% of committed
Board/Program									
RCFB	\$67,719,075	\$75,334,490	\$143,053,565	\$141,603,622	99.0%	\$1,449,943	1.0%	\$12,638,107	9%
SRFB	\$37,133,093	\$105,508,039	\$142,641,132	\$107,253,277	75.2%	\$35,387,854	24.8%	\$10,969,817	10%
Invasive Species Council	\$216,000	\$0	\$216,000	\$216,000	100%	\$0	0.0%	\$24,081	11%
Total	\$103,773,786	\$211,986,361	\$315,760,147	\$280,104,611	89%	\$35,655,536	11.29%	\$2,926,790	1%



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board - Activities by Program

For the Period of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2013, actuals through 9/30/2011 (10/14/11 fm 03)

Percentage of biennium reported: 12.5%

	BUDGET	COMMITTED		TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES	
	new & reapp. 2011-13	Dollars	% of budget	Dollars	% of budget	Dollars	% of committed
Grant Programs							
WA Wildlife & Rec. Program (WWRP)							
WWRP Reappropriations	\$57,695,035	\$56,901,132	99%	\$793,902	1.4%	\$3,007,501	5.3%
WWRP New 11-13 Funds	40,740,000	40,739,506	100%	494	0.0%	326,226	0.8%
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)							
BFP Reappropriations	1,229,967	1,125,227	91%	104,740	8.5%	513,274	45.6%
BFP New 11-13 Funds	8,000,000	8,000,000	100%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Nonhighway & Off-Road Vehicle (NOVA)							
NOVA Reappropriations	3,501,063	3,501,063	100%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
NOVA New 11-13 Funds	6,461,782	6,461,782	100%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Land & Water Conserv. Fund (LWCF)							
LWCF Reappropriations	2,574,134	2,574,134	100%	0	0%	662,987	25.8%
LWCF New 11-13 Funds	0	0	0%	0	0%	0	0.0%
Aquatic Lands Enhan. Account (ALEA)							
ALEA Reappropriations	3,431,186	3,360,928	98%	70,258	2.0%	243,683	7.3%
ALEA New 11-13 Funds	6,608,000	6,608,000	100%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)							
RTP Reappropriations	3,041,420	3,041,420	100%	0	0.0%	381,071	12.5%
RTP New 11-13 Funds	0	0	0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF)							
YAF Reappropriations	686,973	538,413	78%	148,559	21.6%	22,832	4.2%
Firearms & Archery Range Rec (FARR)							
FARR Reappropriations	616,194	284,204	46%	331,990	54%	35,913	12.6%
FARR New 11-13 Funds	365,000	365,000	100%	0	0%	69,749	19.1%
Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG)							
BIG Reappropriations	1,447,532	1,447,532	100%	0	0%	152,548	10.5%
BIG New 11-13 Funds	200,000	200,000	100%	0	0%	0	0.0%
Sub Total Grant Programs	136,598,285	135,148,342	99%	1,449,943	1%	5,415,783	4.0%
Administration							
General Operating Funds	6,455,280	6,455,280	100%	0	0%	981,324	15.2%
Grant and Administration Total	143,053,565	141,603,622	99%	1,449,943	1%	6,397,107	4.5%

Note: The budget column shows the state appropriations and any received federal awards.

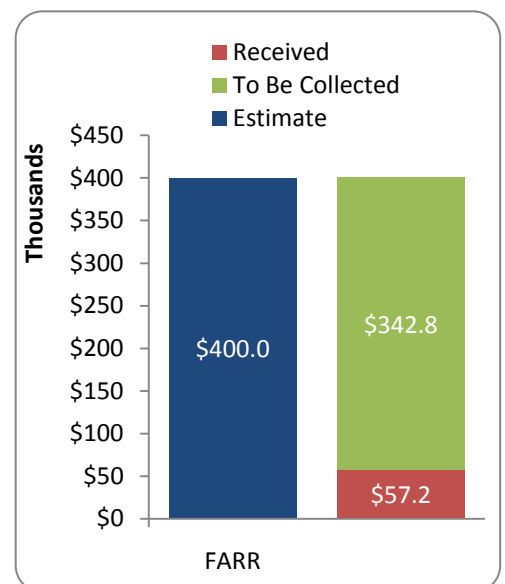
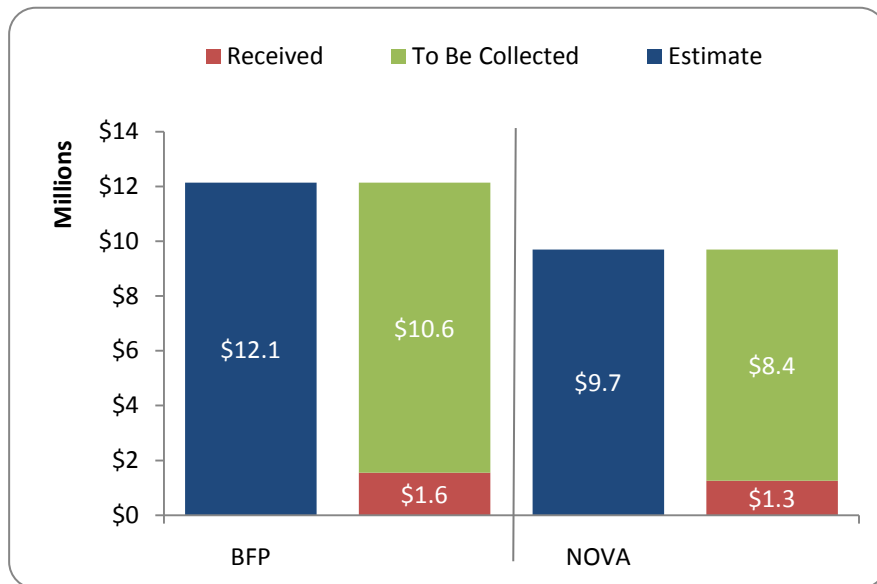
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board – Revenue Report

2009-11 Budget Status Report - Revenues

For the Period of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2013, actuals through 9/30/2011 (10/14/11 fm 03)

Percentage of biennium reported: 12.5%

Revenue	Bienial Forecast Estimate	Collections	
		Actual	% of Estimate
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	\$12,138,800	\$1,554,915	13%
Nonhighway, Off-Road Vehicle Program (NOVA)	9,693,628	1,260,947	13%
Firearms and Archery Range Rec Program (FARR)	400,000	57,198	14%
Total	22,232,428	2,873,060	13%



Revenue Notes:

Boating Facilities Program (BFP) revenue is from the unrefunded marine gasoline taxes.

Nonhighway, Off-Road Vehicle Program (NOVA) revenue is from the motor vehicle gasoline tax paid by users of ORVs and nonhighway roads and from the amount paid for by ORV use permits.

Firearms and Archery Range Rec Program (FARR) revenue is from \$3 each concealed pistol license fee.

This reflects the most recent revenue forecast. The next forecast is due in November 2011.

RCFB – Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Summary

1990 Through September 30, 2011

History of Biennial Appropriations

Biennium	Appropriation
89-91 Biennium	\$53,000,000
91-93 Biennium	61,150,000
93-95 Biennium	65,000,000
95-97 Biennium*	43,760,000
97-99 Biennium	45,000,000
99-01 Biennium	48,000,000
01-03 Biennium	45,000,000
03-05 Biennium	45,000,000
05-07 Biennium **	48,500,000
07-09 Biennium ***	95,491,955
09-11 Biennium ****	67,344,750
11-13 Biennium *****	40,740,000
Grand Total	\$657,986,705

Notes to History of Biennial Appropriations:

* Original appropriation was \$45 million.

** Entire appropriation was \$50 million.

3% (\$1,500,000) went to admin.

*** Entire appropriation was \$100 million.

3% (\$3,000,000) went to admin. Removed \$981,000 with FY 10 supplemental, removed \$527,045 with FY 2011 supplemental.

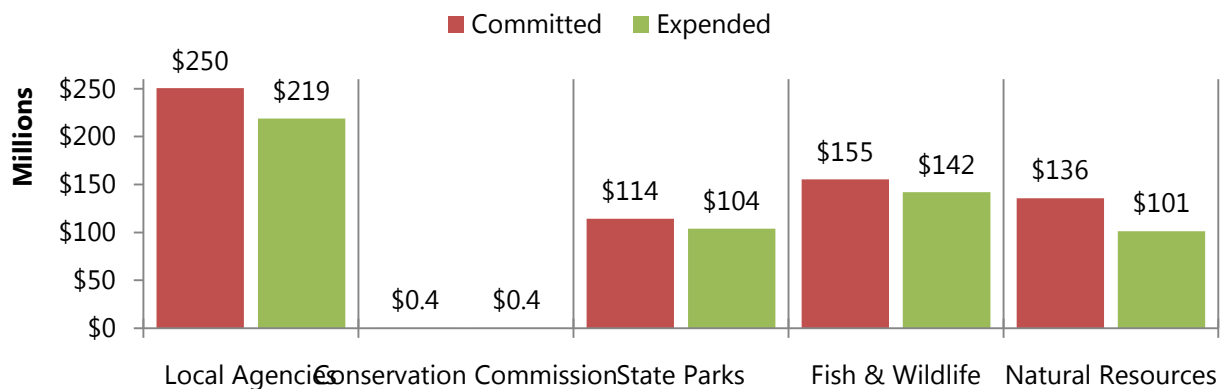
**** Entire appropriation was \$70 million.

3% (\$2,100,000) went to admin. Removed \$555,250 with FY 2011 supplemental.

***** Entire appropriation was \$42 million. 3% or \$1,260,000 went to admin.


History of Committed and Expenditures

Agency	Committed	Expenditures	% Expended
Local Agencies	\$250,466,405	\$218,678,203	87%
Conservation Commission	\$383,178	\$353,018	92%
State Parks	\$114,356,835	\$103,915,270	91%
Fish & Wildlife	\$155,475,176	\$141,950,337	91%
Natural Resources	\$135,773,704	\$101,353,798	75%
Riparian Habitat Admin	\$185,046	\$185,046	100%
Land Inventory	\$549,965	\$549,965	100%
Sub Total Committed	\$657,190,309	\$566,985,637	86%



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Management Report: Policy/Legislative Report
Prepared By: Steve McLellan, Policy Director and Legislative Liaison
Approved by the Director:


Kaleen Cottingham

Topic Summary

Periodic update of (1) work being done by agency policy section and (2) legislative matters that affect the board

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

Included in this report

- Update on Allowable Uses Subcommittee
- November 2011 Legislative Special Session/2012 Regular Session
- Debt Limit Commission
- Puget Sound Action Agenda Update

Update on Allowable Uses Subcommittee

In September, the board directed staff to convene a subcommittee to recommend policy on allowable uses of board-funded land and facilities. The subcommittee includes Members Brittell, Mayer, and Drew.

The subcommittee met on October 17, 2011 and created a plan for developing a policy recommendation. The subcommittee discussed how the allowable uses “grey areas” framework ([presented in September](#)) relates to existing policies regarding which uses are clearly allowable and which uses are conversions. Subcommittee members expressed concern that existing policies do not provide clear answers about whether certain uses would be allowable or conversions. As a result, it was unclear which uses would be considered through the framework review process and how often it might be invoked..

The subcommittee will address these concerns by suggesting ways to clarify the policies that address whether (and under what circumstances) the following uses of land and facilities are allowable or conversions.

- Livestock grazing;
- Communications facilities;
- Project maintenance;
- Conveyances of property interests (such as leases);
- Temporary uses; and
- Forest practices.

Uses that are deemed allowable would not need to go through the framework review process.

The policy recommendations for allowable uses will also clarify the types of projects to which the policy will apply. The subcommittee discussed the diversity of board-funded projects, and noted that specific uses might be treated differently depending on the project type. In other words, a use may be allowable on some types of projects, but could be a conversion on other types.

Similarly, the policy proposal will define the magnitude of the use that is allowable or a conversion. For example, a monopole for a cell tower in a local park might be a conversion, but a 4-foot cell-phone antenna attached to an existing light pole might be allowable in the same park. The magnitude will be defined based on the amount of impairment to the habitat or recreation resource.

The subcommittee also discussed an option to develop a process that would exempt some well-defined proposals from the allowable uses framework under certain circumstances.

Next Steps

The subcommittee concluded that the board should postpone decision on the framework until policies are proposed for at least some of the above uses. Staff will bring final subcommittee policy recommendations for board approval in 2012 after the public has had an opportunity to comment. The subcommittee will meet in December to discuss initial draft policies on the above

uses. The subcommittee also recommended that the board review the approved policies in the future to assess how well they are working and whether any modifications are needed.

Board Action

Because he is leaving the board, the subcommittee recommends another member be appointed to fill Member Drew's position on the subcommittee, beginning January 2012.

November 2011 Legislative Special Session/2012 Regular Session

Governor Gregoire has announced she will call a 30-day special legislative session beginning November 28 to deal with a sharp decline in state revenues. The September revenue forecast lowered revenue projections for the remainder of the biennium by \$1.4 billion. The November forecast (set for November 17) is expected to be weak as well. The Office of Financial Management (OFM) and legislative budget writers are estimating that \$2 billion in spending reductions and/or revenue increases are needed to balance the budget and leave an adequate reserve. Large portions of the budget are protected by the state constitution, so \$2 billion represents about 23% of the unprotected amount.

The drop in general fund revenues also has implications for the capital budget since debt service is constitutionally limited. The best estimate is that the revenue decline has eliminated the capacity to pass a supplemental capital budget and that the budget passed last session may need to be slightly trimmed. The size of the problem will become clearer after the November revenue forecast. To date, OFM has been clear that it will attempt to avoid postponing or canceling projects that are already under contract. That could change if the November forecast is worse than expected.

The 2012 regular session begins January 9. The agenda is in flux, depending on how far lawmakers get in resolving budget issues during the special session. A major issue is likely to be the Discover Pass. There is legislative interest in changing some provisions, such as the transferability of the pass, and early results indicate the Pass may not be generating as much revenue as projected. We also expect that Senator Parlette will propose extending the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group which RCO coordinates (for more detail see Item 10). Without an extension that group will sunset at the end of July 2012.

Debt Limit Commission

The Commission on State Debt, which was chartered last session and is chaired by the State Treasurer, has been meeting to hear expert testimony on state debt trends and options to limit or restructure state borrowing. A significant focus has been on how to smooth out cycles in capital spending. To date, there has been a tendency to take on more debt when economic times are good with sharp cutbacks during contractions. A number of Debt Commission members are interested in ways to boost capital spending during downturns and to bank excess capacity during better times. The Commission is required to report recommendations before the end of the year for possible consideration during the 2012 regular session.

Puget Sound Action Agenda Update

The Puget Sound Partnership is finalizing draft strategies for updating the Puget Sound Action Agenda. The drafts will be available for public comment in December 2011. The Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council is expected to make a final decision on the revised Action Agenda in February 2012.

In September, staff attended stakeholder workgroups to assess how draft Puget Sound strategies and actions will relate to board policies and programs. In October, staff reviewed the draft strategies and provided comments to the Partnership. Staff comments included the following general observations:

- Several of the draft near-term and ongoing actions could affect programs managed by RCO, but it is not yet clear whether any changes to board policies will be needed.
- RCO will be expected to provide regular performance reports on several actions. We have urged that performance reporting be managed to ensure consistency and accuracy, and to avoid duplicative reporting.
- Several draft strategies that are not yet available for review could relate to board programs. These include the land development, upland restoration, salmon recovery, and public access strategies.

Staff will continue to monitor development of the Action Agenda update and keep the board informed.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Management Report: Grant Management Report
Prepared By: Scott Robinson and Marguerite Austin, Section Managers
Approved by the Director:


Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

Periodic update of work being done by the agency's Conservation and Grant Services Section and the Recreation Grants Section.

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

Included in this report

- ▶ Grant Round Updates
- ▶ Washington State Trails Conference
- ▶ US Fish and Wildlife Service Program Manager
- ▶ Compliance
- ▶ Allocation of Returned Funds to Partially-Funded Projects
- ▶ Projects of Note
- ▶ Project Administration Update
- ▶ Preview of Project Tour

Grant Round Updates

Grants Awarded in June 2011

In June, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved 189 grants for 183 recreation and conservation projects¹. As of October 21, staff have issued 174 (95%) of the grant agreements. Of the agreements sent out, 164 (90%) have been fully executed and the projects are underway.

Grant Decisions for November 2011

In September, advisory committees for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) reviewed and evaluated grant applications submitted in May 2011. The results of the evaluations are included in agenda items 5 (LWCF) and 11 (RTP). At the November meeting, staff will ask the board to approve the ranked lists and funding for these two grant programs.

Washington State Trails Conference

Nearly forty trail advocates from around the state met in Lacey on October 11 to begin planning the 2012 Washington State Trails Coalition's (WSTC) conference. Attendees decided on a conference theme of "Building Communities with Trails" and spent time discussing topics for conference sessions. The conference is scheduled for October 25 through 28, 2012 at the Hilton in Vancouver and is expected to draw attendees from Washington and Oregon.

The group represented a variety of state, local, federal, and nonprofit organizations – from land managers and trail providers to trail clubs and maintenance organizations – many of which are or have been beneficiaries of Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) grant assistance. Organizations included the National Park Service, US Forest Service, State Parks, Department of Natural Resources, city of Vancouver, Washington Trails Association, Evergreen Pack Goat Club, Backcountry Horsemen, Foothills Trails Coalition, Pacific Northwest Trails Association, and more.

Also in attendance was former board member Karen Daubert, who is the new executive director of the Washington Trails Association. Current board members Don Hoch and Pete Mayer attended the meeting. Outdoor grants manager Darrell Jennings is replacing Greg Lovelady (retired) as the agency's staff liaison to the WSTC.

US Fish and Wildlife Service Program Manager

On Monday, October 17, US Fish and Wildlife Service Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program staff member Paul Hayduk met with recreation grants staff for introductions and an update on the BIG program. Mr. Hayduk replaces Tony Faast as the BIG program manager for Washington State. After meeting with staff, grants managers Karl Jacobs and Darrell Jennings accompanied

¹ Any project that received funds from more than one board-funded grant would be consolidated into a single project that includes all fund sources.

Mr. Hayduk for inspection of two project sites in the Tacoma area. The first, a project at the Narrows Marina, is the state's only Tier 2 application for the BIG program this year. The second project site was the recently completed Foss Waterway North Moorage Float (#08-1304). Funds were used to construct 900 linear feet of marine floats designated for transient moorage for boats over 26 feet in length. Fire protection was provided for the entire 900 feet of floats. Potable water, sewer pumpout stations, and electrical pedestals were provided for approximately 400 feet of floats, with conduits installed for future utility installation on the remaining 500 feet.

Compliance

King County Sponsor Changes

Two sponsor changes are underway, as described below. In both cases, King County transferred board-funded parks to local government entities several years ago.

Jim Anest, RCO Conversion Specialist, has been working with the county and, in the process, has established a procedure that should make future sponsor changes easier. Sponsor changes can take considerable staff time because RCO needs to review and understand the history of the site and ensure that the new sponsor understands its long-term obligations.

Lake Sawyer Regional Park (97-1042 A): This grant acquired 140 acres of undeveloped land at the south end of the fourth largest lake in King County. The county never developed the site, and in 2005, agreed to transfer the park to the City of Black Diamond. The city has since constructed parking and improved pedestrian access to the park. A planning process is underway to determine a range of future recreational uses as funding becomes available. Mr. Anest conducted a site inspection with the city parks director and mayor in early October.

Lisabeula Park (87-080 A): This grant helped acquire 5.5 acres on south Vashon Island, on Colvos Passage. The property was the site of a former resort. The derelict resort buildings were removed and the site now includes parking and a handheld boat launch. King County agreed to transfer the park to the Vashon Parks and Recreation District in the early 1990s.

City of Newcastle Conversion

The board approved a conversion for the City of Newcastle's May Creek Trail Addition project at its October 2010 board meeting via Resolution 2010-38. This action converted about 2.5 acres of the May Creek Trail Addition located along Coal Creek Parkway and replaced this area with 1.1 acres of similar property located at SE 89th Place. The city recorded the necessary deeds of right on both properties, and the project agreement was amended and closed on September 6, 2011. This conversion is now complete.

Using Returned Funds for Alternates and Partially-Funded Projects

The director has not recently awarded new grants for alternates on Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program lists.

However, as unused funds have become available from other projects (e.g., if a project closes without expending all of its funds), the director has approved additional funding for one partially funded WWRP project, as shown in the table below.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Grant Request	Original Grant Funding	Current Total Grant Funding	WWRP Category
10-1453	Camas Meadows Rare Plant Habitat Restoration	DNR	\$145,500	\$77,450	\$138,712	WWRP State Lands Restoration and Enhancement

Projects of Note

Due to a tight meeting agenda, RCO grant managers will not be able to present the following projects of note during the board meeting in November. However, staff thought that the board would be interested in learning about the following projects:

Project: #10-1497 Project Name: Spokane River Falls YMCA Site Acquisition

- Status:** Active (post demolition)
- Sponsor:** City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department
- Location:** Located just feet away from Spokane River Falls within the heart of the City of Spokane.
- Grant Source:** Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account
- Description:** The Spokane Parks and Recreation Department used this grant to buy 0.8 acre in the heart of the city's Riverfront Park to open views of the majestic river falls. This location on the Spokane falls has been a gathering place for humans since time immemorial. At the start of the project stood a 46-year-old YMCA building, which the city demolished with local funds in the summer of 2011. The Spokane Parks Department purchased the land in 2009 with advance approval from the Recreation and Conservation Office.



Project: #06-1769

Project Name: McLane Creek Nature Trail

Status: Complete

Sponsor: Department of Natural Resources

Location: Eastern edge of Capitol State Forest in Thurston County, just west of Olympia.

Grant Source: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Lands Development

Description: The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) used this grant to renovate the McLane Creek Nature Trail in rural Thurston County to preserve public safety and protect natural resources. Work included building an educational viewing platform to minimize damage to sensitive streamside plants and soil, improving the trail, and replacing the restrooms. Using staff resources, DNR improved the entry by adding a covered shelter for group gatherings and an information board. The facility is near capacity during the summer and fall and was in great need of renovation. The site provides a unique combination of family friendly hiking trails, and easy access to views of freshwater wetland beaver ponds, salmon and bird habitat, and a low elevation forest ecosystem.



Exploring the new viewing platform



New composting restroom



Boardwalk and signs along the McLane Creek Nature Trail

To kick off National Public Lands Day on September 23, Commissioner of Public Lands Peter Goldmark and Director Kaleen Cottingham were the speakers for the dedication of the new shelter and viewing platform at McLane Creek. The commissioner spoke about the importance

of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grant funds and expressed appreciation for the DNR carpentry team who built the structures and volunteers from Thurston County Stream Team and Washington State University Native Plant Salvage Project who worked on the trails and made this project a success.

Project Administration

This table summarizes the outdoor recreation and habitat conservation projects currently being administered by staff:

- Active projects are under agreement.
- Staff is working with sponsors to place the "Board Funded" and "Director Approved" projects under agreement.

In addition, staff monitors several thousand completed projects for long-term compliance.

Program	Active Projects	Board Funded Projects	Director Approved Projects	Total Funded Projects
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (alea)	18	5	2	25
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	26	2	0	28
Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)	2	0	0	2
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR)	13	2	0	15
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	10	0	1	11
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	74	0	0	74
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)	119	1	0	120
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)	170	7	3	180
Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF)	9	0	0	9
Total	441	17	6	464

Project Tour

At the November meeting, staff will present an overview of the projects to be toured on November 14. See Attachment A for information.

Attachments

A. Project Tour Information

Project Tour Information

- 2:15 p.m. Leave Center for Urban Waters (Puget Sound Partnership)**
- 2:35 p.m. Arrive at Kandle Park. Tour begins at 2:45 p.m.**
- 3:15 p.m. Leave Kandle Park**
- 3:25 p.m. Arrive at Tacoma Nature Center. Tour begins at 3:30 p.m.**
- 4:30 p.m. Tour concludes**

Project Details

Project #1: Kandle Park (RCO #09-1265)

Sponsor: Tacoma Metropolitan Park District

Grant Source: Land and Water Conservation Fund

Grant Funding: \$422,765

The park district is contributing more than \$5.0 million in voter-approved bonds.

Description: The Tacoma Metropolitan Park District is using this grant to renovate the 10.4-acre Kandle Park and pool, which have not been updated since they were developed in 1961. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project is swimming. The project scope includes:

- constructing a new 7,500 square foot wave pool and a tot pool
- constructing a bathhouse, pool administration and storage building, and a pool mechanical building
- replacing a restroom
- constructing a new mini-sprayground
- replacing the existing playground
- renovating the multi-purpose field
- renovating the basketball courts
- constructing a skate bowl and skate dots
- relocating the park entrance
- expanding the parking, and
- demolition, site improvements, utilities, and landscaping.

**Project #2: Tacoma Nature Center: Children's Nature Exploration Area
(RCO #08-1094)**

Sponsor: Tacoma Metropolitan Park District
Grant Source: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program-Local Parks category
Grant Funding: \$350,000; sponsor provided \$462,145 in matching funds
Description: Tacoma MPD used this grant to create a unique nature-themed playground at the Tacoma Nature Center. The nature center serves a regional audience with more than 65,000 visitors annually. The playground, now called Discovery Pond, will serve children ages 2 to 12. It provides a wide variety of play elements all designed to mimic the natural environment.

Project #3: Tacoma Nature Center: Snake Lake Natural Area (RCO #78-014)

Sponsor: Tacoma Metropolitan Park District
Grant Source: Land and Water Conservation Fund
Grant Funding: \$90,750; sponsor provided \$184,420 in matching funds
Description: Tacoma MPD used this grant to construct an environmental interpretive facility on an approximate 38 acre site in west central Tacoma. Development included parking, landscaping, irrigation, pathways, boardwalks, footbridges, observation towers, shelters, and restrooms.

Driving Directions and Tour Map

From Center for Urban Waters To Kandle Park (map point B):

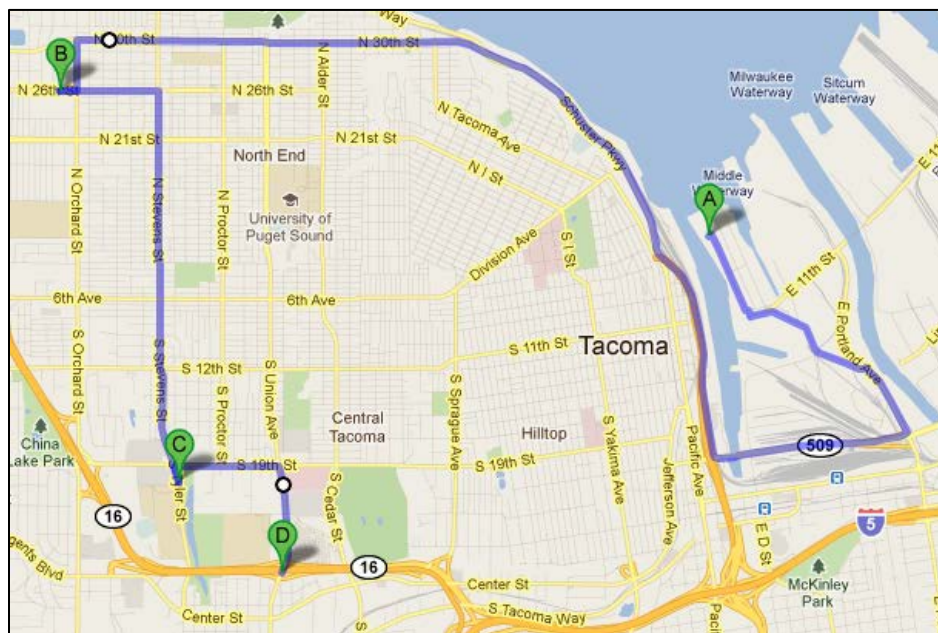
- 1) From parking lot, head south on E. D St.
- 2) Turn Left onto S. 11th Pl.
- 3) Continue straight onto St. Paul Ave.
- 4) Turn Right onto E. Portland Ave.
- 5) Turn Right to merge onto WA-509 S/State Route 509 S toward City Center
- 6) Merge onto I-705 N via the ramp to Schuster Pkwy/Ruston
- 7) Exit on the Left onto Schuster Pkwy
- 8) Keep Right at the fork
- 9) Continue onto N 30th St
- 10) Turn Left onto N Orchard St
- 11) Turn Right onto N 26th St
- 12) Turn Left into parking lot at Boys & Girls Club adjacent to project site.

To Tacoma Nature Center (map point C):

- 1) Head east on N 26th St toward N Orchard St
- 2) Turn right onto N Stevens St
- 3) Continue onto S Mason Ave/S Tyler St
- 4) Take first Left into parking lot for the Tacoma Nature Center (1919 S. Tyler St.)

To Hwy 16 (map point D):

- 1) From parking lot, turn Right on South Tyler St.
- 2) Turn Right on S. 19th St.
- 3) Turn Right on S. Union Ave. to Hwy 16



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
 Title: Management Report: RCO Performance Measures Update
 Prepared By: Rebecca Connolly, Accountability Manager
 Approved by the Director:


 Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

Highlights of agency performance related to the projects and activities funded by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board).

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

Grant Management Measures

All data are for recreation and conservation grants only. Additional detail is shown in the charts in Attachment A.

Measure	Target	FY 2012 Performance Through Oct. 1	Indicator for Current Fiscal Year
1. Percent of recreation/conservation projects closed on time	70%	77%	↑
2. Percent of recreation/conservation projects closed on time and without a time extension	50%	50%	↑
3. % recreation/conservation projects issued a project agreement within 120 days after the board funding date	75%	93%	↑
4. % of recreation/conservation grant projects under agreement within 180 days after the board funding date	95%	83%	↑
5. Fiscal month expenditures, recreation/conservation target	Varies	No data at this time.	
6. Bills paid within 30 days: recreation/conservation projects	100%	56%	↔

Notes and Analysis

Measure 1: Performance declined in September, dropping to 60 percent of projects closed on time, but the overall fiscal year performance continues to be strong. A similar pattern was seen in FY 2011.

Measure 2: Lower performance in July and August was reversed in September, as five of the six projects that closed on time did so without a time extension. The five projects were sponsored by cities or counties, and four were development projects. However, the data are too limited to draw any conclusions.

Measures 3 and 4: Staff has already exceeded the target for issuing grant agreements within 120 days. We are making steady progress on securing the signatures needed to place the grant under agreement; however, once the contract has been mailed, we rely on the sponsor to return the materials in a timely manner. The 120-day mark is October 29, and the 180-day mark is December 28.

Measure 5: The RCO will begin tracking expenditures for this biennium after the last biennium has closed.

Measure 6: 133 invoices were due to be paid in September; of those, only 44% were paid on time. In this fiscal year, it has taken an average of 19 days to pay a bill. While this is below our goal, performance is better than the same period for fiscal year 2011.

Time Extensions

The board's adopted policy for progress on active funded projects requires staff to report all requests for time extensions and subsequent staff actions to the board.

Time Extension Requests – Director Approved

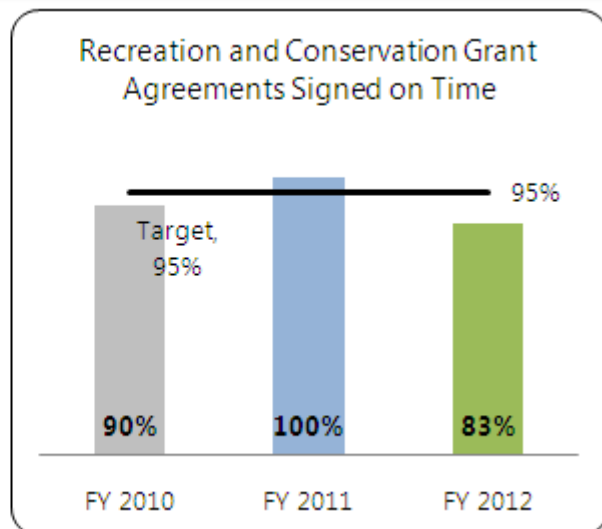
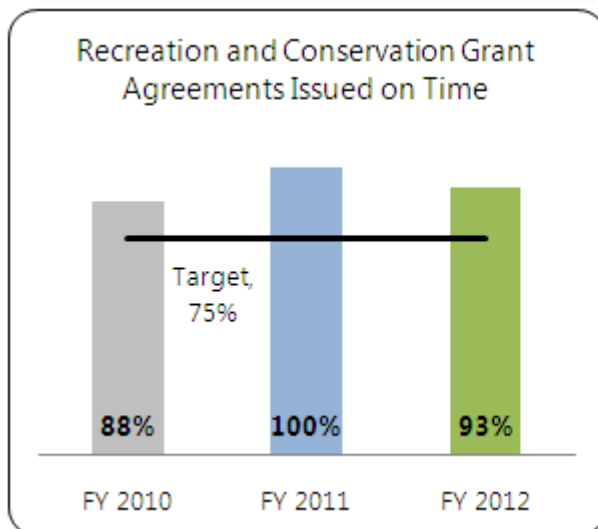
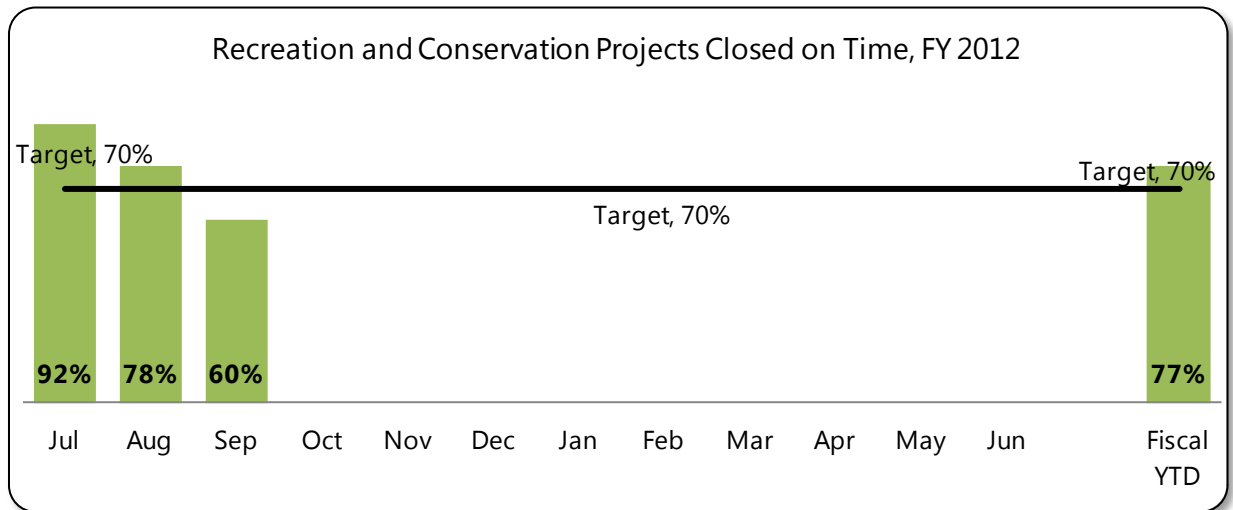
Since the beginning of the biennium, the RCO has received some requests to extend projects. Staff reviewed each request to ensure compliance with established policies. The following table shows information about the time extensions granted by quarter, as of September 1, 2011.

Quarter	Extensions Approved	Number of Repeat Extensions	Average Days Extended	Number Closed to Date
Q1	14	7	268	0 (5 are expected to close later this fiscal year)

Attachments

- A. Performance Measure Charts

Attachment A: Performance Measure Charts






Item 3

Item 3 will be a presentation by Martha Kongsgaard, Chair of the Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council.

There are no advance materials.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Review of Board Meeting Practices
Prepared By: Rachael Langen, Deputy Director
Approved by the Director:

 for
Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

This is a briefing on ways to improve board meeting practices.

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

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) meetings will be filmed and available for viewing on TVW, beginning with the March 2012 meeting. The board and its staff are taking the opportunity to review its practices to ensure meetings run effectively and efficiently.

The chair and staff have reviewed how agendas are set, length of staff presentations, and time available for board member discussion and decision-making. In order to be sure board members have the time needed to discuss policy matters, staff presentations will become more succinct, not going into depth on information covered in materials distributed to board members. Board members are encouraged to be prepared with questions and comments. Board members should give staff a sense of topics that are of particular interest and that the agenda will need to be adjusted to provide adequate time for discussion.

Details of Proposal

Agendas for board meetings intend to provide sufficient time for considering the policy issues and decisions facing the board. When setting board agendas, the chair and the director of RCO are trying to carefully balance time allotted for staff presentation with time needed for discussion and decision-making. When especially complex issues demand lengthier staff

presentations, the board may choose to schedule a work session or appoint a sub-committee to more carefully explore policy implications.

A new template is being used for briefing materials clearly indicating if the board is being asked to make a decision or consider background information for future decisions. Materials will be as concise as possible while still providing board members with the information needed to consider policy recommendations and other decisions.

Staff presentations are being reduced to 3 to 5 minutes in length, which will allow more time for board discussion. It will be important for board members to read board materials in advance. Materials will continue to be sent to board members electronically two weeks before the meeting date.

As always, board members are asked to focus discussions at a policy-setting level and, as much as possible, “avoid the weeds.” The chair and staff are mindful one board member’s “weeds” can be another’s policy issue, and balance will be sought.

Meeting materials will also continue to be available to the public at least one week prior to the meeting. This ensures that those interested have the same access to background information as board members. These materials are easily accessed on the RCO website. Those watching archived TVW programming will also be able to access archived board briefing materials via RCO’s website.

Assessment of the Proposal

We are trying these changes as a way to improve effective use of meeting time and to provide sufficient time for board members to deliberate grant choices and policy issues.

Staff appreciates the iterative process inherent in setting appropriate times for agenda topics and assessing board interest in staff presentations and discussion time.

Attachments

- A. Leadership Toolkit article

Leadership Toolkit

BOARD LEADERSHIP

How well you use members' time at board meetings is one key to developing a cohesive leadership group. Sadly, board meetings themselves are more often part of the problem than part of the solution. They are often tedious, overly-long events that often rotate between boring reports and long-winded diatribes, with little in the way of real discussion or tangible meaning. Here are some ways to make board meetings productive, interesting and supportive of the board's leadership role.

1. Meet only when there is business to accomplish.

If there is no reason to have a meeting, don't meet! Some boards feel that they aren't doing their job if they don't meet ten to twelve months every year. When the meeting time comes round, however, the executive director and/or board chair rack their brains for agenda topics.

- a. **The only time to hold a meeting is when discussion is required to prepare for or reach a decision.** When the only business at hand is to update board members on what has happened since the last meeting, a written report (distributed between meetings) will do the job much more efficiently.
- b. **In exchange for fewer board meetings, however, board members do have to make a commitment to read the material that is sent to them between meetings.** Make sure that this trade-off is explicitly stated and that the expectation is reinforced by not reviewing all of the written material at the next board meeting.
- c. **The Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Guide recommends meeting at least three times a year, with at least one meeting to be held in person.** Most boards meet at least four times a year – one of which is part of an extended retreat – in order to consider all the fiduciary matters.

2. Have an agenda with timeframes.

Assign each topic a reasonable amount of time, with “reasonable” being the operative term. Pay attention to how long substantive discussions take and build in enough time in the agenda for these topics. If there are more topics than there is available time, either agree at the start to lengthen the meeting or move one of the issues to the next meeting.

a. The meeting leader should adhere to the timeframes for the agenda.

If a discussion runs over, point this out to the group and, if necessary, negotiate a specific amount of time for continued discussion. As an alternative, suggest that another agenda item be tabled until the next meeting to accommodate the current lengthy discussion.

b. The agenda should be made available to people in advance of the board meeting so they can prepare for the discussions. Not having the agenda in advance or bringing up matters at the last minute for a vote, often means there isn't enough time for board members to be comfortable with what is being proposed.

3. Make meeting agreements explicit.

Have a discussion at a board meeting or retreat about how to make meetings more efficient and still participatory. Examples of meeting agreements for board meetings include:

a. Start on time and end on time. If meetings do not normally start/end on time, check with members to verify that they are held at the most convenient time for the majority of board members. If socializing before the meeting makes it difficult to get the meeting started, request that members to come half an hour early. The most effective way to start a meeting on time is ... to start the meeting on time! In this way you signal to board members that you are serious about respecting both their time as volunteers and the overall governance needs of the organization.

b. If ending on time is the problem, you can:

- Use a consent agenda.
- Agree to longer meetings.
- Enforce the meeting agreements.
- Reduce the amount you try to cover in a single meeting and/or add another board meeting to the schedule.

c. Stick to the topic. Limit your comments to the topic at hand and wait until an appropriate time to introduce new ideas. Sometimes meetings need to deviate from the planned agenda, and that is fine as long as everyone agrees to the change.

- d. Participate and encourage others to join in the discussions.** As one media-related nonprofit board expressed it, “Share the air time.” One way to allow room for everyone to speak is to speak concisely yourself. Another way to encourage participation is to go around the room and ask each member to offer their point of view about a given topic. Anyone who does not want to speak can “pass.”
- An important aspect of this guideline is to encourage board members to say what is on their mind *in the board meeting* and not wait until they’re in the parking lot. The essence of leadership is being able to raise a question for the board’s consideration and ensure that all members have the opportunity to express a point of view. The more practice all board members have in speaking up, the better equipped they will be to take on difficult issues.
- e. Do not repeat your point.** It is often tempting to repeat an idea, particularly if you feel strongly about a certain outcome. If you do not think you have been heard, however, you may need to do so. If it is clear that people have heard you (and particularly if they do not agree), do not keep restating your point in the hope of changing minds. More often than not it will only annoy the other member(s).
- f. Listen.** Allow other people to finish their thoughts. Hearing out others (particularly when in conflict) is a good way to model how you would like your own ideas to be received. Also, listen to what someone is saying, not necessarily to how they are saying it (no matter how much you may disagree).
- g. Focus on ideas, not people.** By directing comments to the ideas presented, rather than the people or person offering the idea, the group has a better chance of reaching a solution. When people feel personally attacked, it is very difficult to get to the heart of an issue and come to a final decision.
- h. Be respectful.** This is often a difficult challenge since what one person feels is respectful behavior might be seen as unacceptable to another. Actions like interrupting can be the norm in some cultures, while offensive in others. The best way to determine what constitutes respectful behavior is to talk about it explicitly, and make meeting arrangements on what is/is not acceptable.
- It should be clearly stated that the board will not tolerate such obvious examples as eye-rolling, foot tapping, exasperated sighing or other forms of dismissive body language.

4. Use a consent agenda.

Many boards have started to group the acceptance of committee reports and minutes into a section of the agenda called the “consent agenda.” This is a way of minimizing the time spent on reports and maximizing the time available for substantive discussion. Reports and minutes are sent in advance and a motion is made at the board meeting to accept all of the items listed in the consent agenda section.

- a. Any board member can request that an item on the consent agenda be moved to a discussion item.** For example, if the fundraising committee is recommending a certain cost per ticket for the upcoming event and another board member feels that it is too high or too low, that board member might ask to hear more about why that ticket price was selected.

5. Use the board meeting to help members stay connected to the organization's mission, stakeholders and operating environment.

Extended discussions on key issues and trends impacting the organization helps board members fulfill their leadership responsibilities. Understanding these developments help the board to play a more effective role in discussions about strategy and new directions. Hearing from clients, program staff, regulators, funders and other experts helps board members place the organization in a context, and understand the issues more broadly than they can when the only source of information is the executive director or written reports. And finally, hearing about what the organization is accomplishing keeps the board connected to their passion for the mission, and to the importance of the work they are doing.

6. Link a meeting to a social opportunity.

As described in the materials on creating a productive board culture, board members need to get to know each other on a more personal level in order to develop the trust required to tackle difficult discussions. In the same breath, many people are too busy to spend much time before or after the meeting socializing. At least once a year, it is useful to have a social event just before or after a board meeting to build more personal connections.

- a. Some board members are uncomfortable or impatient with social activities.** For those who find socializing difficult, make introductions to ease the process of making connections with other members. For members who are impatient with non-business activities, remind them that this is an investment in the board's ability to act as a cohesive group over the long-term.

Role of the Board Chair

The person leading the meeting is central to the success of the gathering. Many leaders, however, do not have a great deal training or experience running effective meetings. Some of the mistakes leaders make include:

- They dominate the meeting and leave little room for discussion.
- They allow the meeting to ramble on without concern for the agenda timeframe or required actions.
- They allow members to repeat themselves, interrupt or otherwise behave disrespectfully.

There are many good resources available for board chairs and meeting leaders. To help board chairs get off to a good start, you can provide them with one or two of these materials, or have one board chair pass them along to the next.

Part of the problem comes from a board chair not understanding his or her role. That role is to facilitate and encourage the best possible performance from the board as a whole and from individual members. A board chair should not be associated with particular board factions. He or she should pay attention to what is best for the organization and board as a whole. The board chair should do what is needed to ensure that the overall good is served.

In board meetings, the board chair should play the following roles:

- Help the board set meeting agreements.
- Remind the board of those agreements as meetings proceed.
- Work with the executive director and executive committee to create an agenda that focuses on
 - 1) what is most important and
 - 2) what can be accomplished in the time available.
- Encourage everyone to participate.
- Set the tone of the discussion.

Role of Board Members

Board members often expect the board chair to do it all. However, individual board members also have the responsibility and authority to help meetings be more productive. Individual board members can:

- Remind other board members of the meeting agreements.
- Propose an action that will help make the meeting more productive (e.g. send a topic back to committee for further work before putting a matter to a vote, or suggest a return to a topic if the discussion has strayed, etc.).

Role of the Executive Director

Setting the agenda for the board meeting is often seen as the executive director's role. We feel strongly that this role belongs to the board in collaboration with the executive director. The E.D., however, can play a very important role in the success of the meeting. He or she can encourage the board to participate fully and help them be prepared to do so by taking responsibility for the following:

- Help the board chair and/or executive committee identify and prioritize the most important items for discussion.
- Ensure that board members have adequate information and in a timely manner.
- Share information with the board chair and/or executive committee about meeting practices at other nonprofits and best practices from experts in the field.
- Help the board chair keep the meeting on track.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants: Approve List and Funding Authority
Prepared By: Marguerite Austin, Section Manager
Approved by the Director:


Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

Request to approve the ranked list of projects for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), as recommended by the advisory committee.

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 #: 2011-24

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the ranked list of projects for the Land and Water Conservation Fund program.

Delegate authority to the RCO director to submit these projects to the National Park Service for final funding.

Background

The federal LWCF Program provides matching grants to states to preserve and develop quality outdoor recreation resources. Rules governing the program are in the Land and Water Conservation Fund Federal Financial Assistance Manual.

Project Evaluation

On September 13, 2011, the LWCF Advisory Committee (Attachment A) used board-adopted criteria to review and rank twelve Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) projects for federal fiscal year 2012 funding consideration. The requests totaled more than \$4.3 million.

The results of the evaluations are shown in *Table 1, LWCF Program Ranked List of Projects, Federal Fiscal Year 2012*.

Program Details

A prerequisite for a state's participation in this program is the adoption of a State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and development of an open project selection process. The National Park Service approved Washington's current SCORP in July 2008. The plan sets the priorities used to develop both LWCF policies and the evaluation criteria in Manual #15, Land and Water Conservation Fund Program: Policies and Project Selection.

Eligible Applicants	State agencies, municipal governments, and Native American Tribes may apply.
Eligible Project Types	Acquisition, development, and renovation projects are eligible.
Match Requirements	A minimum 50% non-federal matching share is required.
Funding Limits	The minimum fund request is \$25,000 with a maximum request of \$500,000.
Public Access	Public access is required
Other Program Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must establish planning eligibility.• Property acquired, developed, or renovated must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity.

Before issuing a project agreement, the National Park Service also requires applicants to:

- Address any outstanding conversions or other non-compliance issues,
- If required, possess an approved Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) permit,
- Complete required environmental and public reviews of the project, and
- Establish adequate control and tenure of property to be developed.

LWCF Allocation and Estimated Funds Available

Congress approves funding for the stateside LWCF grants program. In recent history, Washington State typically receives between \$400,000 and \$800,000 per year. As of this writing, Congress has yet to approve funding for federal fiscal year 2012.

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.

Summary of Public Comment

The RCO received no public comment on these projects.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve Table 1 and delegate authority to the RCO director to submit these projects to the National Park Service for final funding.

Attachments

Resolution 2011-24

- Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List, LWCF, State Fiscal Year 2012
 - A. Advisory committee members
 - B. Evaluation criteria summary
 - C. Summary of evaluation scores
 - D. State map of ranked projects
 - E. Project synopses

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-24
Land and Water Conservation Fund
Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Projects

WHEREAS, for federal fiscal year 2012, twelve Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program projects are eligible for funding; and

WHEREAS, these LWCF projects were evaluated using the Open Project Selection Process approved and adopted by the National Park Service and Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board); and

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred in an open public meeting, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, all twelve LWCF program projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual 15: *Land and Water Conservation Fund*, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington may receive a federal apportionment for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program for federal fiscal year 2012; and

WHEREAS, the projects acquire and/or develop public outdoor recreation 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 and funding of projects depicted in *Table 1 -- LWCF Program Ranked List of Projects, Federal Fiscal Year 2012*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board authorizes the director to submit application materials to the National Park Service and execute project agreements and amendments necessary to facilitate prompt project implementation of federal fiscal year 2012 funds upon notification of the federal apportionment for this program.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List, Land and Water Conservation Fund
State Fiscal Year 2012

Resolution 2011-24
November 2011

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 12	50.33	11-1191D	Klickitat Prairie Park Phase 2	Mossyrock	\$335,575	\$335,575	\$671,150	\$335,575
2 of 12	46.67	11-1359A	North Creek Forest Phase 1	Bothell	\$109,000	\$109,000	\$218,000	\$444,575
3 of 12	46.25	11-1429D	Claybell Park Improvements	Richland Parks and Recreation	\$500,000	\$706,000	\$1,206,000	\$944,575
4 of 12	45.83	11-1195D	Shane Park Playground	Port Angeles	\$92,975	\$235,957	\$328,932	\$1,037,550
5 of 12	44.67	11-1252A	Sunset Bluff Natural Area Park Acquisition 2011	Mason County	\$302,772	\$1,002,228	\$1,305,000	\$1,340,322
6 of 12	43.33	11-1225D	Lower Kinnear Park Enhancement Plan	Seattle Parks and Recreation	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,840,322
7 of 12	41.67	11-1303A	Grand Forest at Hilltop	Bainbridge Island Park District	\$500,000	\$710,500	\$1,210,500	\$2,340,322
8 of 12	39.17	11-1207D	Confluence Parks Development Phase 1	Issaquah	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$2,840,322
9 of 12	37.08	11-1201D	Sacajawea Park Soccer Field	Federal Way	\$438,972	\$438,972	\$877,944	\$3,279,294
10 of 12	36.00	11-1434D	Highland Park Spray Park	Seattle Parks & Rec Dept	\$500,000	\$635,000	\$1,135,000	\$3,779,294
11 of 12	32.00	11-1275A	Morgan's Retreat 2011	Pacific	\$189,500	\$189,500	\$379,000	\$3,968,794
12 of 12	30.50	11-1278D	McCormick Village Park Development	Port Orchard	\$340,000	\$355,000	\$695,000	\$4,308,794
					\$4,308,794	\$6,217,732	\$10,526,526	

Attachment A: Advisory Committee Members

The LWCF Advisory Committee includes representatives from municipal governments, state agencies, and citizens with expertise in park and recreation resource management. The members who served as evaluators this year included the following:

Evaluator	Position
Rebecca Andrist	Citizen
Rena Brady	Citizen
Justin Bush	Local Agency
Nikki Fields	State Agency
Bruce Giddens	Local Agency
Michael Kaputa	Local Agency
Marilyn LaCelle	Citizen
Michael O'Malley	State Agency
Anna Scarkett	Citizen
Pene Speaks	State Agency
Scott Thomas	Local Agency
Paul Whitemarsh	Citizen

Land and Water Conservation Fund Evaluation Criteria Summary

Priority Rating Analysis					
Scored by	#	Criteria	Score (Multiplier)	Maximum Points	Priority in
LWCF Advisory Committee	1	Consistency with SCORP	0-5 points (x 3)	15	SCORP
LWCF Advisory Committee	2	Need	0-5 points (x 3)	15	SCORP
LWCF Advisory Committee	3	Project Design	Development 0-5 points (x2) Combination 0-5 (x1)	10 Or 5	LWCF
LWCF Advisory Committee	4	Urgency-Viability	Acquisition 0-5 (X2) Combination 0-5 (x1)	10 Or 5	LWCF
LWCF Advisory Committee	5	Federal Grant Program Priorities	0-5 points (x 2)	10	LWCF
LWCF Advisory Committee	6	Readiness	0-5	5	LWCF
LWCF Advisory Committee	7	Cost Efficiencies	0-5	5	LWCF
RCO Staff	8	Population Proximity	0-3	3	State law
RCO Staff	9	Applicant Compliance	-2-0	0	National Park Service policy
Total Points Possible = 63					

Scoring Criteria, Land and Water Conservation Fund

Scored by the Evaluation Team

1. **Consistency with SCORP.** To what extent does the project address one or more LWCF priorities identified in SCORP?
2. **Need.** What is the need for the project?
3. **Project Design.** Is the project well designed? Will the project result in a quality recreational opportunity while protecting the integrity of the environment? *Development and Combination projects answer this question.*
4. **Urgency-Viability.** Why purchase this particular property at this time? How viable are the anticipated future uses and benefits of the site? *Acquisition and Combination projects answer this question.*
5. **Federal Grant Program Priorities.** How well does the proposed project meet Department of the Interior and National Park Service goals for grant programs?
6. **Readiness.** Is the project ready to proceed? National Park Service rules encourage proposals where the applicant is ready to start work as soon as a project agreement is signed.
7. **Cost Efficiencies.** The extent that this project demonstrates efficiencies or reduces government costs through documented use of:
 - a. Volunteers
 - b. Donations
 - c. Innovative or sustainable design or construction resulting in long-term cost savings.
 - d. Signed cooperative agreements
 - e. Signed memoranda of understanding, such as no-cost easements or leases, or similar cost savings.

Scored by RCO Staff

8. **Population Proximity.** Is the project in a populated area?
9. **Applicant Compliance.** Has the sponsor demonstrated good grant stewardship?

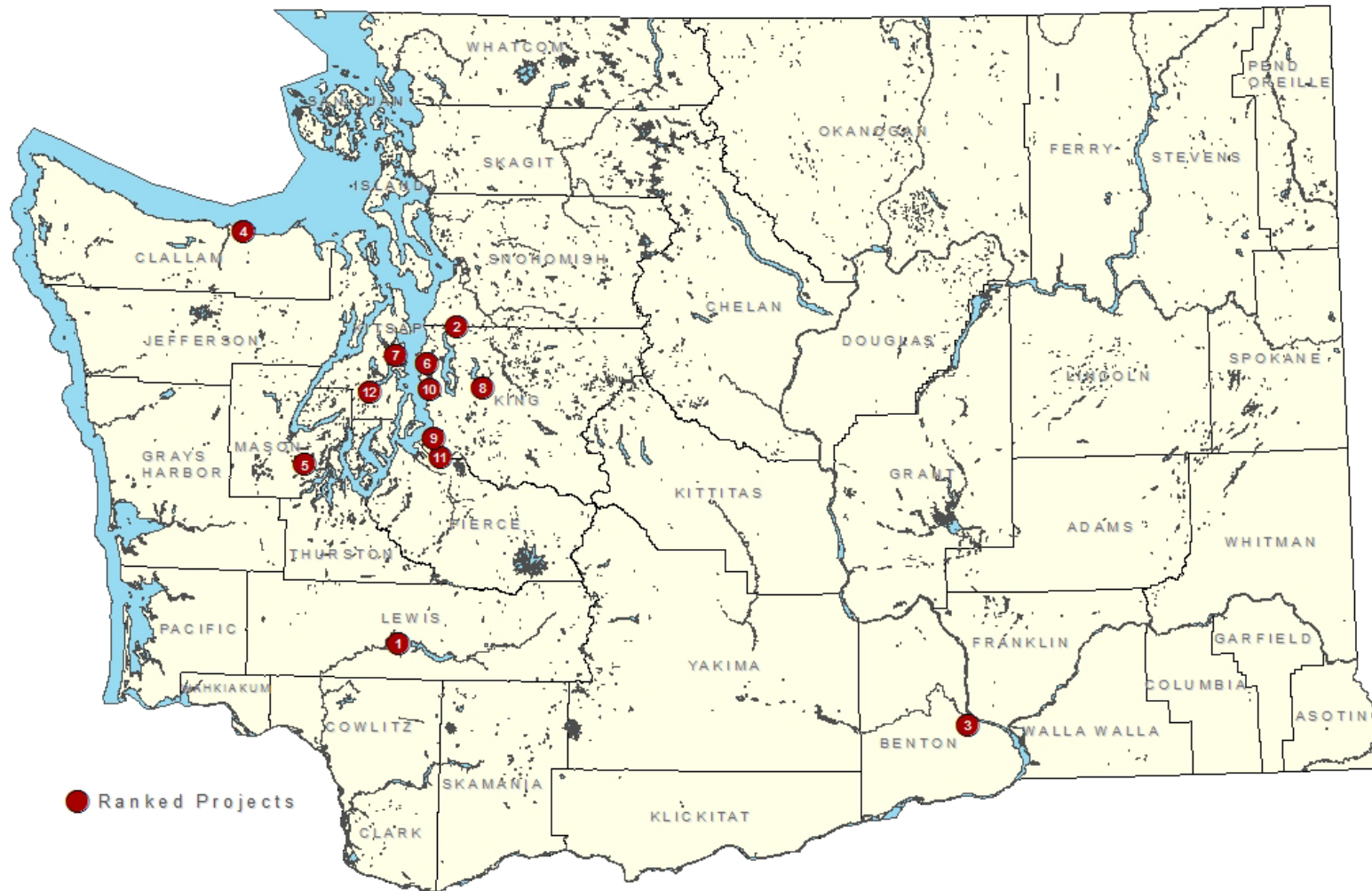
Attachment C: Summary of Evaluation Scores, Land and Water Conservation Fund

State Fiscal Year 2012

Question #		1	2	3		4		5	6	7	8	9	Total
		Consistency with SCORP	Need	Project Design Development	Combination	Urgency Acquisition	Combination	Federal Grant Program	Readiness	Cost Efficiencies	Population Proximity	Applicant Compliance	
Rank	Project Name												
1	Klickitat Prairie Park Phase 2	12.75	13.75	7.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.17	4.42	4.58	0.00	0.00	50.33
2	North Creek Forest Phase 1	10.25	11.50	0.00	0.00	6.67	0.00	7.33	4.25	3.67	3.00	0.00	46.67
3	Claybell Park Improvements	11.25	11.75	8.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.83	3.25	3.67	1.50	0.00	46.25
4	Shane Park Playground	10.25	11.25	8.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	3.92	4.75	1.50	0.00	45.83
5	Sunset Bluff Nature Area Park	11.00	11.00	0.00	0.00	7.33	0.00	7.67	4.08	3.58	0.00	0.00	44.67
6	Lower Kinnear Park Enhancement Plan	10.75	9.75	7.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.17	4.08	3.25	3.00	-2.00	43.33
7	Grand Forest at Hilltop	9.75	9.00	0.00	0.00	6.17	0.00	6.00	3.92	3.83	3.00	0.00	41.67
8	Confluence Parks Development Phase 1	8.00	8.25	6.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.67	3.75	2.67	3.00	0.00	39.17
9	Sacajawea Park Soccer Field	8.75	9.00	5.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.67	3.08	2.92	3.00	0.00	37.08
10	Highland Park Spray Park	7.75	8.75	6.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	3.50	3.17	3.00	-2.00	36.00
11	Morgan's Retreat 2011	6.75	7.25	0.00	0.00	3.67	0.00	5.50	3.25	2.58	3.00	0.00	32.00
12	McCormick Village Park Development	7.00	7.00	4.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.67	1.83	1.83	3.00	0.00	30.50

Evaluators Score Questions #1 - 7
RCO Staff Scores Questions # 8 - 9

Attachment D: State Map of Ranked Projects



Mossyrock**Grant Requested: \$335,575****Developing Klickitat Prairie Park**

The Town of Mossyrock will use this grant to build a play and fitness area, parking, walking trails, community gardens, and picnic areas at Klickitat Prairie Park. The park connects to the community center, city hall and police department and provides access to Klickitat Creek, which runs through the property. Mossyrock will contribute \$335,575 in cash and a local grant. (11-1191)

Bothell**Grant Requested: \$109,000****Expanding North Creek Forest**

The City of Bothell will use this grant to buy nearly 6 acres of a 64-acre forest known as North Creek Forest along Interstate 405. The land contains a mature forest that is home to at least two priority bird species, the pileated woodpecker and band-tailed pigeon, and sits above North Creek, a stream used by Chinook salmon, which are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. The property is near the University of Washington Bothell campus and its 54-acre wetland restoration project. Combined the two areas provide more than 100 acres of diverse habitat for 9,000 students. Bothell will contribute \$109,000 in conservation futures¹. (11-1359)

Richland**Grant Requested: \$500,000****Improving Claybell Park**

The Richland Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to develop 10 acres of Claybell Park. Crews will install two, full-sized, multi-sports fields, improve the existing softball field, build a restroom, create a half-mile paved trail, build a new entry road, and move the parking lot so it is located centrally and double its size. In addition, the city will remove two tennis courts and build four new tennis courts. Richland will contribute \$706,000 in cash and cash donations. (11-1429)

Port Angeles**Grant Requested: \$92,975****Building a New Shane Park Playground**

The City of Port Angeles, the Shane Park Committee, and the local Kiwanis Club are teaming together to build a new playground in Shane Park. City staff will assemble the structure and improve the sidewalks so they are accessible to people with disabilities. Volunteers will clear overgrown landscaping around the park to improve visibility and will prepare the playground site. Port Angeles will contribute \$235,957 in donations of cash, equipment, and labor. (11-1195)

Mason County**Grant Requested: \$302,772****Buying Land for the Sunset Bluff Natural Area Park**

Mason County will use this grant to buy 36.5 acres for the Sunset Bluff Natural Area Park. The County plans to minimally develop the park for low-impact, passive

¹ Conservation futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areas, forests, wetlands, and farms.

recreation, such as beach walks and picnics. This project will protect the high quality, natural functioning Oakland Bay shoreline, which provides critical salmon habitat. The community urgently wants to see this site acquired for recreation and conservation, not developed into house. Community support for this project comes from Mason County, People for Puget Sound, The Trust for Public Land, the Squaxin Island Tribe, Capitol Land Trust, Water Resource Inventory Area 14, Taylor Shellfish, and a wide range of community members. Mason County will contribute \$1 million in staff labor, donated materials, and federal, private, and state grants. (11-1252)

Seattle**Grant Requested: \$500,000****Developing Trails and a Sport Court in Lower Kinnear Park**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to create a three-quarter mile trail that weaves through the Lower Kinnear Park in the Queen Anne neighborhood. The trail will connect several neighborhoods as well as provide the missing link for trails connecting the waterfront along Elliot Bay, Myrtle Edwards Park, and the Sculpture Park. Lower Kinnear Park is the only backyard for many of the Queen Anne neighborhood residents. Crews will transform the 1947 tennis court into a multi-sport court for kids, increase access to a view point and picnic areas for people with disabilities, and install interpretive signs. This project celebrates Kinnear Park's landmarked status and significance to Seattle's history as the first park planted in the city. Seattle will contribute \$500,000 from a voter-approved levy. (11-1225)

Bainbridge Island Park District**Grant Requested: \$500,000****Expanding the Grand Forest**

The Bainbridge Island Park District will use this grant to buy slightly more than 14 acres, expanding and unifying 376 acres of park and conservation lands at the Grand Forest. This acquisition provides an expansive view of the Olympic Mountain Range and improves wildlife corridors. The acquisition will complete efforts begun in 1991 to provide a canopy of continuous public and preserved lands across the center of Bainbridge Island. The land purchase is supported by the Suquamish Tribe, IslandWood, and The Bainbridge Island Land Trust. The park district will contribute \$710,500 in cash, a voter-approved levy, and cash donations. (11-1303)

Issaquah**Grant Requested: \$500,000****Developing Confluence Parks**

The City of Issaquah will use this grant to begin developing Confluence Parks, which is comprised of three contiguous parks: Tolle Anderson, Cybil-Madeline, Issaquah Creek Parks, and the parks maintenance facilities site. Crews will build walking and biking trails, a children's natural play area, and a pedestrian bridge over Issaquah Creek. Crews also will install interpretive features celebrating the site's cultural and natural history, a restroom, picnic shelter, and a community garden. The 15.5-acre park is at the confluence of the east fork and main stem of Issaquah Creek. In 2006, Issaquah

residents passed a park bond, which identified development of this park area as a top priority project. Issaquah will contribute \$1,000,000 in voter-approved bonds. (11-1207)

Federal Way**Grant Requested: \$438,972****Renovating Sacajawea Park Soccer Field**

City of Federal Way will use this grant to renovate a synthetic turf athletic field at Sacajawea Park. The existing turf has exceeded its useful life. Crews will remove 75,235 square feet of turf, add new drainage structures, lay new synthetic turf, and improve existing pathways. Sacajawea is one of only three lighted, synthetic turf fields in the city, and is used by about 6,500 youth and adult athletes each year. The city manages more than 140 adult soccer teams, four Hispanic soccer leagues, the Federal Way Youth Soccer Association, and Federal Way Junior Football – all of which use this field. In addition, the city park is at Sacajawea Middle School and used by physical education classes. Federal Way will contribute \$438,972 in cash and cash donations. (11-1201)

Seattle**Grant Requested: \$500,000****Building a Spray Park in Highland Park**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to convert a wading pool into a spray park at Highland Park in west Seattle. The spray park will include features that spray, gush, dump, and pour water from a variety of playful devices. Crews also will make the 1938 restrooms and the park's pathways accessible for people with disabilities. The spray park will be a showpiece for interactive water play features and sustainable water use. The spray park is adjacent to a playground and tennis courts and near the densely developed Westwood Highland Park neighborhood. Seattle will contribute \$635,000 from a voter-approved levy. (11-1434)

Pacific**Grant Requested: \$189,500****Preserving Morgan's Retreat**

The City of Pacific will use this grant to buy 2.4 acres of forested land, called Morgan's Retreat, next to Trout Lake, saving the land and Jovita Creek from development. The land offers walking and jogging trails in a quiet neighborhood park setting. Long-range plans include adding launch for non-motorized boats, a lakefront picnic area, and a network of trails through the woods. Pacific will contribute \$189,500 in donated land and conservation futures². (11-1275)

Port Orchard**Grant Requested: \$340,000****Developing McCormick Village Park**

The City of Port Orchard will use this grant to complete development of 40 acres in McCormick Village Park, next to Old Clifton Road. The planned park lies on a ridge and contains a small stream a series of connected wetlands. Crews will develop areas for

² Conservation futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areas, forests, wetlands, and farms.

hiking, environmental education, the arts, and children's play. A recently completed plan for the park creates a park that offers recreation while preserving the natural functions of valued forest habitat. Wildlife education is an important part of the park along with walking trails through undisturbed second growth forests. Port Orchard will contribute \$355,000 in cash, staff labor, a local grant, and donations of equipment and labor.
(11-1278)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Board Meeting Schedule for 2012
Prepared By: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison
Approved by the Director:

 for
Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

This is a request for the board to adopt its regular meeting schedule for 2012.

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 #: 2011-25

Purpose of Resolution: Approve 2012 meeting schedule.

Background

The Open Public Meetings Act requires state agencies to identify the time and place they will hold their regular meetings and to publish their schedule in the Washington State Register. The agency must notify the code reviser of that schedule before January of each year.

Board members have indicated availability on the dates suggested by staff.

Details of Proposal

Staff proposes the following dates and locations for 2012.

Date	Location
March 21-22	Olympia
June 27-28	Port Angeles
August 23	Conference Call
October 17-18	Olympia

Assessment of the Proposal

Meeting Dates

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) meets three to six times per year. Staff believes that the board can accomplish its work with three in-person meetings and one conference call in 2012. The dates are designed to support state and federal requirements for submitting ranked lists of projects for funding consideration.

Locations

Staff considered projects that could be of interest to board members, as well as the locations of previous meetings, to determine meeting sites in 2012. The board has traveled to the following locations in recent history:

Year	Travel Locations
2005	Federal Way, North Bend, Pullman, Tukwila
2006	Port Townsend, Vancouver
2007	Seattle , Spokane Valley
2008	Bellingham
2009	Bremerton
2010	Walla Walla (tour in Tri-Cities)
2011	Okanogan, Tacoma

Staff recommends Port Angeles because the location will allow the board to tour projects that were funded through several programs and managed by a diverse group of sponsors. Further, it has been several years since the board has visited this part of the state. Clallam County is home to 74 board-funded projects, including trail construction and maintenance, farmland preservation, water access, and boating. The Olympic Discovery Trail, which is a key recreation feature in the area, has benefited from several grants. Three local farms have been, or will be, protected under conservation easements funded in part with Washington Wildlife and Recreation Farmland Preservation Program grants.

Strategic Plan Link

Approving a schedule and locations for open public meetings supports the board's goal to ensure to achieve a high level of accountability in managing its resources and responsibilities through a process that is efficient, fair, and open to the public.

Summary of Public Comment

The RCO received no public comment on this topic.

Staff Recommendation

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff recommends that the board adopt the proposed meeting schedule and locations.

Attachments

Resolution 2011-25

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution # 2011-25
2012 Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Meeting Schedule

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) is established by statute and conducts regular meetings, pursuant to RCW 42.30.075, according to a schedule it adopts in an open public meeting; and

WHEREAS, RCW 42.30.075 directs state agencies to file with the code reviser a schedule of the time and place of such meetings on or before January of each year for publication in the Washington state register; and

WHEREAS, having open public meetings is essential to achieving the board's goals to use broad public participation and feedback and to achieve a high level of accountability by using a process that is open to the public; and

WHEREAS, having open public meetings also is essential to the Board's ability to conduct its business so that it achieves its mission and goals as documented in statute and/or its strategic plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the following schedule for 2012 regular meetings of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is hereby adopted; and,

Date	Location
March 21-22	Olympia
June 27-28	Port Angeles
August 23	Conference Call
October 17-18	Olympia

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the board directs staff to publish notice in the State Register accordingly.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011

Title: Streamlining Proposal: Change to a Written Evaluation Process for the WWRP Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife Categories and the Riparian Protection Account

Prepared By: Scott Robinson, Section Manager, Conservation and Grant Services Section

Approved by the Director:


Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

This is a proposal to make the following changes to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and the Riparian Protection Account for the 2012 grant cycle only:

- Eliminate project review meetings, and;
- Conduct a written evaluation process that is scored by volunteer evaluators at their home or office.

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 #: 2011-26

Purpose of Resolution: Approve changes to the evaluation process used in WWRP Critical Habitat, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife for the 2012 grant cycle.

Background

The Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories are available to eligible state and local agencies. The WWRP Riparian Protection Account is available to eligible state and local agencies as well as lead entities and non-profit nature conservancy corporations or associations.

The current evaluation process for all three grant programs includes meetings for project review and project evaluation. Each meeting takes one or two days, and involves grant applicants, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff, and up to 10 volunteers.

- At the project review meeting, evaluators comment on proposals so that applicants can improve their projects before final evaluation.
- At the project evaluation meeting, applicants present their proposal and answer questions from evaluators, who then score each project.

About two weeks after the evaluation meeting, RCO staff and the evaluators meet again to review the final project rankings. Many evaluators participate in this post evaluation meeting by conference call.

Details of Proposal

RCO staff proposes that the board eliminate the project review meeting and adopt a written evaluation process for the Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and the Riparian Protection Account for the 2012 grant cycle.

Following that cycle, staff will survey applicants, evaluators, and staff to determine if the written process worked effectively for these programs. Staff will then report back to the board with a long-term recommendation.

Assessment of the Proposal

Project Review Meeting

The project review meeting is intended to give the applicant constructive feedback before they submit the project for final evaluation. It is less useful in the Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and the Riparian Protection Account because nearly all of these projects involve the acquisition of real property. Staff has found that project reviews for acquisition projects typically yield suggestions that improve the application's clarity (e.g., improving map details), but do not significantly affect the scope or acquisition approach.

In lieu of the project review meeting, RCO staff would work with applicants to ensure they have a complete, viable, and clear project proposal.

Written Evaluation Process

In a written evaluation process, evaluators review and score project proposals at their own pace within a given timeframe. Evaluations would continue to be based on the project packet prepared the applicant, which includes:

- Project description/summary;
- Cost estimate summary;
- Evaluation question responses;
- Special status species table;
- Project location map(s); and
- Photos or other graphics.

The board has adopted similar approaches for the WWRP State Lands Development and Renovation, State Lands Restoration and Enhancement, and Natural Areas categories. Making this change would mean that all Habitat Conservation Account categories would be evaluated using a written process.

After all written projects are scored, RCO would conduct a post-evaluation conference call at which evaluators would discuss project rankings and review the evaluation process.

Considerations in Converting to a Written Evaluation Process

There are advantages and disadvantages to this proposed process change. Some factors to consider include:

Advantages

- RCO successfully uses written evaluations in other grant programs.
- This process would reduce travel costs and require less time away from home and office for both evaluators and applicant staff.
- Eliminating the project review meeting would make it easier to recruit volunteers, which would reduce the RCO staff time dedicated to recruitment of evaluators.
- The process would add flexibility for the evaluators by allowing them to score written proposals at their own pace within an identified time period. This may potentially attract a pool of evaluators who are unable to travel the distance currently required by the in-person process.
- Applicants would submit a written application packet instead of producing and practicing at in-person presentation. This would save applicant staff time.
- It is not uncommon for applicants to use federal or other state grants as match for these WWRP applications. Most of those other fund sources use a written process.

Disadvantages

- Projects would not be evaluated in a meeting open to the public. (*Note:* Although welcome to observe the current live evaluation presentation, the public does not have an

opportunity to comment at evaluation meetings. Evaluation materials would be available to interested public through the PRISM database or by request and comments would be made to the board at the meeting in which the ranked lists are approved.)

- Applicants would not have the opportunity to reinforce project benefits or strengths through an oral presentation.
- It would be more difficult for an evaluator to ask an applicant questions; if needed for important issues, an evaluator would submit a question to RCO, which would refer the question to the applicant and then share the answer with all evaluation team members. This approach ensures all evaluators have the same information and that no applicant gains an unfair advantage of direct contact with evaluators.

Strategic Plan Link

Adopting this revision would continue to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources.

Summary of Public Comment

The RCO sought public comment from September 23 to October 25, 2011. Emails were sent to over 700 individuals who have interest in the grant programs, received one of these grants, or been involved in scoring RCO restoration grants. The information was also posted on the RCO web page.

The RCO received 12 comments, which are shown in Attachment A. Five respondents were opposed to the proposal; one spoke to the value of project review, and one favored removing project review but wanted to retain the in-person evaluation process.

Staff Recommendation

Staff appreciates the comments made on this issue. However, in order to capitalize on the advantages outlined above, staff recommends approving the proposed changes for one cycle and then evaluating the results.

Next Steps

If approved the changes would be implemented for the 2012 grant cycle. In addition, communication from RCO would notify potential applicants and the public of the change. Manual 10b would be updated and posted on the RCO web site. A follow-up survey would be done in late 2012 to determine the effectiveness of this proposal.

Attachments

Resolution 2011-26

A. Public Comments

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution #2011-26

Approving Changes to the Evaluation and Review Process in Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Categories: Critical Habitat, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife

WHEREAS, in-person Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) project reviews and evaluations in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and Riparian Protection Account require considerable time and resources from volunteer evaluators, project applicants, and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) wanted to find a way to reduce this commitment without diminishing the high quality of the evaluations; and

WHEREAS, a less time and resource intensive system, based on written evaluations, rather than in-person presentations, is now successfully used in several board program categories including others in the WWRP Habitat Conservation Account; and

WHEREAS, evaluators would discuss project rankings and make final recommendations at the post-evaluation meetings; and

WHEREAS, adopting this revision would continue to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources; and

WHEREAS, using written evaluations in other grant programs has shown that the process supports the board's goal to conduct its work in an open manner;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt the written evaluation process for the Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and Riparian Protection Account; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the project review meeting will be eliminated from the application process for the Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and Riparian Protection Account; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to implement these revisions for the 2012 grant cycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to assess the effectiveness of the changes following and make a recommendation for future grant cycles in 2013.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Attachment A: Summary of Public Comment

Respondent	Comment (edited for brevity)	Staff Response
Scott Fitkin <i>DFW</i>	<p>I fully support the proposed change to eliminate the review and oral components. This will make the process much less onerous and save huge amounts of staff time for applicants. Having also submitted several USFWS section 6 grants, I think a written process will be quite adequate.</p> <p>On a related note, you also mentioned a new final due date of May 1. I guess I would lobby for pushing that to June 1 since during full green-up in May is often the best time to get photos of perspective projects. Also, spring is generally the busiest season for the field bios that develop these grant applications and a little extra time would be helpful.</p>	Thank you for your comments
David Bryant <i>City of Richland</i>	This is an excellent proposal.	Thank you for your comments
Robert Kirkwood <i>WA State Parks</i>	Using the score at home/office prior to the official presentation makes a lot of sense. It is a process we use to narrow the choices for the A&E consultants.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal would actually use the score at home/office process instead of the official presentation.
Susan Perong <i>City of Tacoma</i>	Are you changing Project Review in all of your programs?	No. We are only considering this change in the Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife Categories and the Riparian Protection Account.

Respondent	Comment (edited for brevity)	Staff Response
Randy Person WA State Parks	<p>This is a personal reply to your request for feedback. Some of the points may (or may not) be included in a more formal agency response from State Parks.</p> <p>I've been involved in all aspects of the RCO grant process since at least when the WWRP was created. I have made numerous live presentations in categories such as WWRP-State Parks, BFP, and NOVA. I have been on the review and/or evaluation team for a wide variety of categories. I'm also experienced at written grants. I have successfully received a National Scenic Byways grant for the agency, and have been an "at-home" reviewer and evaluator for RCO's State Lands grants for several cycles.</p> <p>The task of the evaluation panels is to select the best projects to fund, not the best presentations. There is a better chance of achieving this in a live presentation than with a written process.</p> <p>Questions, comments, and discussion from the evaluation panel routinely improve a grant presentation. Points of confusion are clarified, extra relevant detail is gained, and the panel often contributes information of its own. The end result is a more thorough understanding of the project.</p> <p>The process for such interchange in written submittals is impractical. I've seen too many examples of poor graphics and bad, ambiguous writing that present an unclear picture of a proposal. Even worse, when I've taken the time to comment during the review process, I see the same junk come back for evaluation. I have no choice but to score it based on what's there in front of me, as there is really no good way to tease out the real story.</p> <p>That said, the best argument in favor of the change is the preponderance of acquisition projects. An acquisition project is typically less detailed graphically than development. The cost estimate is more basic. Justification and project descriptions can often be described in easily understandable, non-technical terms. Most of the bad written grant proposals I've seen have been for development projects.</p> <p>It's not hard to project one successful money-saving idea into similar venues. If this works, someone will surely suggest that it could work for the recreation side also. There, my response would be different. The personal interchange of dedicated professionals in the live evaluation teams makes a significant contribution to the best allocation of increasingly scarce state resources. Especially for development projects, this proven system should be retained.</p>	Thank you for your comment; we appreciate your past help in reviewing our grants.

Respondent	Comment (edited for brevity)	Staff Response
Lita Stanton <i>City of Gig Harbor</i>	<p>I appreciate your effort to cut costs, and I also find the review process tedious, challenging, and nerve-racking.</p> <p>However, the critical input we receive during the "pre-project review" process provides valuable insight on just what constitutes a competitive design. Without that face-to-face input and dialogue, I'm afraid we all lose out on refinements that can have positive impacts on the final project.</p>	Thank you for your comments
Paul Wik <i>DFW</i>	<p>I do not think it is a good idea to get away from the in person reviews. This allows the reviewers an opportunity to ask questions, see additional pictures of the property through the presentation, and gain a better understanding than just reading a written file. I think savings could be gained by simplifying the application process. I have spent months of the last couple of years jumping through all of the hoops required to get to the presentation stage. Efficiency during this phase would save more than the 2 days of reviews at the end of a 2 year process.</p>	Thank you for your comments. We are working on simplifying our application process as well.
Dave Vorse <i>City of Castle Rock</i>	<p>I have reviewed the proposed changes for WWRP and I am disappointed with these recommendations. I could state what have already been identified in the "Pros and Cons" section, however that would be redundant. In my opinion, the preview review and the face-to-face presentation are some of the most valuable direction and clarification that I get when putting a grant together. This is key to having a well-defined and accurate proposal regardless of whether or not the project is worthy of funding. These aspects of this grant process are unique and provide a more evenly balanced and fair opportunity for those applying for these funds. I think we would be doing the citizens of the State of Washington a severe disservice in eliminating these vital services. I understand that it may cost more to provide this level of service and oversight, but in the long run, I believe, we will continue to have highly successful completed projects with less chance of confusion and misunderstandings. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>	Thank you for your comments.

Respondent	Comment (edited for brevity)	Staff Response
Michael Atamian DFW	<p data-bbox="325 232 1346 259">I would recommend that the in-person presentations be kept for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="422 297 1430 358">• The written portion of the application cannot convey as well or as succinctly all the information put into the presentation. <li data-bbox="422 396 1493 500">• The insight gained from experienced volunteers reviewing a project and presentation is invaluable. The ability of RCO staff to accomplish this to the same degree will require significant additional time from the staff and multiple staff reviewing each project. <li data-bbox="422 537 1514 743">• The ability of the evaluators to ask questions and get immediate answers will be lost breaking their train of thought. Also this could lead to lengthy delays in the process if the applicant's response when shared with other evaluators leads them to reassess a project they had already finished and stimulates new questions of their own. All of this gets delayed even further if the evaluators, RCO staff, or applicants are not available to respond to an email in a timely fashion. <li data-bbox="422 781 1482 915">• Evaluators maybe discouraged from asking questions, especially if they do not feel it is important enough. "If needed for important issues, an evaluator would ask RCO the question..." How do you determine if a question is important? I would say all questions that help clarify a project for an evaluator are important. <li data-bbox="422 953 1503 1088">• The in-person presentation likely discourages some with not so great of projects from applying. Without that hurdle, you will likely get an increase in the number of applicants. There is a positive here in that some cases truly worthy projects that were not submitted, due to the monetary cost of travel or the fear of public presentations, may now be. <li data-bbox="422 1125 1482 1226">• Applicants' time may be saved, but I imagine that everything the applicant formerly supplied in the oral presentation they will now try to be put into the written, so a good amount of time currently spent on the presentation will go into writing. 	Thank you for your comments.

Respondent	Comment (edited for brevity)	Staff Response
Howard L. Ferguson <i>DFW</i>	<p>I echo the comments from Michael Atamian of DFW. One additional argument I hear from our people as well as others is just how much time it takes to prepare one of these presentations. Well I think people would invest just as much time if not more in trying to write up these same presentations, perhaps more since there would be no interaction.</p> <p>Another argument is – oh it is the presenter who makes the difference on the scoring, not the projects own properties. Well I guess that could be true but that is also going to be true and perhaps even more so for writing up our proposals. The “good” writers will probably do better just as the more prepared presenters may do better. However, without the interaction and the one-on-one question and answer session I think the writing style and content may be the determining factor even more so than the actual land being saved.</p> <p>The volunteer judging panel has a focused time that is completely dedicated to the evaluation of these projects; I’m not sure it would be the same if each judge is off evaluating on their own, the RCO projects will receive such dedicated time. I know it is harder for me these days unless isolated to not answer cell phones, emails, etc.</p>	Thank you for your comments.
Curtis Hancock <i>Metro Parks Tacoma</i>	<p>I am writing this in opposition of the proposed changes. As both a presenter and a reviewer, I fully understand the time and expense it takes to submit and review a grant. For the last ten years I have sung the RCO praises as having the best grant review system in the nation. This proposal, though less costly, takes a step in the wrong direction and will result in projects not being ranked on merit as they are now.</p> <p>Fully learning and understanding a project is crucial to knowing its merit in comparison with others. The written materials do not do a project justice. In fact, as a reviewer, I find them almost worthless because of the volume of confusing information and the “one size fits all” metrics, etc. that everyone fills out differently. Only through presentation can a presenter get the true nature of the project across with visuals and conversation. Only through presentation can a reviewer fully understand the nature of the project as well as the skills and ability of the organization by asking questions.</p> <p>The proposed system would also allow politics and quid pro quo to assert itself into the process. I fought hard this past legislative session with my good friend Senator Derek Kilmer to keep the politics out from above. Please don’t allow it to come in from the bottom.</p> <p>Again, I urge you to keep the application and presentation system as they currently are.</p>	Thank you for your comments.

Respondent	Comment (edited for brevity)	Staff Response
Bill Robinson <i>The Nature Conservancy</i>	<p>We understand that due to the state fiscal situation, RCO must find efficiencies and streamline administrative processes while maintaining the quality of the application review process. Our organization has extensive experience with the WWRP evaluation process – both as project reviewers and as a project applicant and a project partner with state agencies. Based on that experience, we support eliminating the project review meetings for these categories, but we do not support the elimination of the in-person project evaluation presentations.</p> <p>We believe that eliminating the early project review meetings will save time and money while not affecting the quality of the application process. RCO staff review of initial project information provides an excellent alternative to the current in-person project review meetings.</p> <p>However, we do not support the elimination of the in-person project evaluation presentations for the categories mentioned above. We have several concerns about this proposed change, which will reduce the quality of the project evaluation process without providing significant cost savings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowing a written application for these categories, but not the other WWRP categories, creates a perception of a double standard. It would be inconsistent to make this change for some categories, but not all. • It is important to have a public presentation for all projects. This increases the visibility, credibility, and accountability of the evaluation process while also being responsive to legislative desires for transparency and open communication between state agencies. • Without an in-person presentation, it will be more difficult for reviewers to ask questions, clarify project information, and thoughtfully assess the quality of a given project. 	Thank you for your comments.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Streamlining Proposal: Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for the WWRP State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category
Prepared By: Scott Robinson, Section Manager Conservation and Grant Services Section
Approved by the Director:


Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

This is a proposal to change the scoring criteria used to evaluate grant applications in the State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation 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 #: 2011-27

Purpose of Resolution: Approve changes to the evaluation criteria in the WWRP State Lands Restoration Category

Background

The State Lands Restoration and Enhancement (SLR) grant category is part of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program's Habitat Conservation Account. Its purpose is to provide grants to restore or enhance land owned by the state of Washington or held in trust by the state. It is open only to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The SLR grant category uses a written review and evaluation process. Volunteer panelists who have reviewed and evaluated the SLR grant applications asked RCO to change the evaluation criteria to:

1. Add criteria regarding project design;
2. Make it easier for sponsors to highlight and explain the important benefits of a project ecologically, biologically, and with regard to specific species;
3. Improve the flow of the sponsors' responses to the criteria by ordering elements in a more logical manner going from goals and objectives to need, then to project design, and finally, to public support; and
4. Broaden the evaluators' scoring range to allow them to develop a point scale that more clearly expressed their evaluation of the project.

RCO staff drafted changes to the evaluation instrument following the recommendations of the evaluation panel.

Details of Proposal

This table summarizes the staff proposal. Details are in Attachment A, which also was provided to the board in September.

Criteria	Evaluation Elements	Possible Points
Project Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project goals and objectives• Statewide, vicinity, and site maps	Not scored
1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bigger picture• Uniqueness or significance• Target species and communities	15
2. Need for Restoration or Enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The problem to be addressed• Threat	15
3. Project Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Details of project design• Best Management Practices	15
4. Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consistency with Existing Plans• Puget Sound Partnership guidelines (if applicable)	5
5. Public Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public educational or scientific value	5
Maximum Possible Score		55

Assessment of the Proposal

Attachment C shows a side-by-side comparison of the current and proposed criteria; this attachment also was provided to the board in September 2011.

The proposal combines portions of the current grant criteria elements and inserts a new criterion that specifically addresses project design. The proposed criteria also would allow the sponsor to describe the project in a more logical order beginning with the goals and objectives of the proposal all the way through project design and public benefit.

The overall points do not change in this proposal. However, staff proposes to change the point range used by evaluators to score the first three criteria. In the current criteria, evaluators score each of the first three questions using a range of 0-5 points; a multiplier is then applied by RCO to come to a total. In the proposed method, evaluators would score each of the first three questions having a point range of 0-15 with no multiplier being applied by RCO.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these changes supports the board's objectives to (1) develop strategic investment policies and plans so that projects selected for funding meet the state's recreation needs and (2) fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process.

Summary of Public Comment

The RCO sought public comment from September 6, 2011 through October 10, 2011. Emails were sent to several hundred individuals interested in RCO restoration grants, including many employees from the Washington State Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Fish and Wildlife (DFW). The information also was posted on the RCO web page. A second 'reminder' email was sent to DNR and DFW staff (the only eligible applicants) on October 4, 2011.

Public comment was supportive of the proposed changes to the criteria. The RCO received no comments from DNR or DFW on the proposal. Comments are shown in Attachment B.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve the changes.

Attachments

Resolution 2011-27

- A. Proposed changes
- B. Public Comment
- C. Side-by-side comparison

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution #2011-27

Approving Changes to the Evaluation Process in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program State Lands Restoration Category

WHEREAS, the volunteer panelists who have reviewed and evaluated grant applications in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) State Lands Restoration category asked that the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) revise the evaluation criteria for the category; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the revisions was to add criteria regarding project design, highlight and explain the important benefits of a project, present the responses in a more logical order, and broaden the evaluators' scoring range to more clearly express their evaluation of the project; and

WHEREAS, this intent is supportive of the board's goals to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources; and

WHEREAS, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff drafted changes to the evaluation instrument following the recommendations of the evaluation panel; and

WHEREAS, the RCO published the proposed changes for public comment, thereby supporting the board's goal to ensure programs are managed in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, public comment supported the changes to the evaluation instrument; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt the revised evaluation criteria for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) State Lands Restoration category as presented in Attachment A to the board memo presented November 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to implement this revision beginning with the 2012 grant cycle.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Attachment A: Proposed State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Scoring Criteria

(Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Washington Department of Natural Resources)

Restoration means bringing a site back to its original function through activities that reasonably can be expected to result in a site that is to the degree possible self-sustaining and will not require continual intervention to function as a predominately natural ecosystem. Enhancement improves the ecological function of a site.

Detailed Scoring Criteria

Project Introduction

This is an opportunity to set the stage for the project. Provide maps showing the location of your project on the landscape and briefly provide a broad overview of the site and the project's goals and objectives.

Project Goals and Objectives

Briefly introduce the site and the project's goals and objectives. The following criteria will provide an opportunity to describe the project in more detail however the intent here is primarily to help orient the evaluators to the project.

Statewide, Vicinity, and Site Maps

- Locate the project on statewide, vicinity, and site maps to help orient the evaluators to the project site.
- In order to demonstrate how the project supports connectivity to other important landscapes please include on a map other sites in the area with similar habitat components.

▲ Project Introduction is not scored.

1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics

Describe why the site is worthy of long-term conservation. "Paint a picture" of the project site for the evaluators – the what, where, and why.

The Bigger Picture

- Demonstrate what specific role this project plays in a broader watershed or landscape picture. Describe if the project has functional connectivity with existing habitats.

- State if the site is part of a larger ownership or a collaborative effort to support wildlife, plants or communities. Describe the ecological and biological quality or potential quality of the habitat.

Uniqueness or Significance

- Explain how the site is unique or significant on a regional, ecosystem, watershed, or urban growth area level.
- State if the site is significant in terms of habitat quality, connectivity, diversity, rarity, etc.

Target Species and Communities

- List the target species and communities with special status that occur on the site. This is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all species in the area. Instead try to narrow the description to those species or communities that would be the primary focus of your restoration efforts.
- Demonstrate how the project benefits the species or communities that are being targeted. Include other relevant facts, such as statistics associated with a decline of the target species using the site due to degradation, or how the site supports a larger population than what typically occurs within the rest of the species range, etc.
- Describe the primary habitat functions. State if the habitat or characteristics of the site have been identified as limiting factors or critical pathways to the target species or communities.

▲ Point Range: 0-15.

2. Need for Restoration or Enhancement

Describe the why this restoration or enhancement project needs to be completed.

The Problem to be addressed

- Describe why this restoration or enhancement project is important. Explain what currently keeps the habitat from being fully functioning.
- Establish need by identifying comparable habitats (quality and quantity) that occur in the area.

Threat

- Describe the current condition of the site and why it is important to restore or enhance the site at this particular time. Discuss what will be lost if deterioration is allowed to continue.

- State if the site is located in an ecologically critical area. Discuss if the habitat is recoverable and what factors have contributed to cause the site to be in need of restoration or enhancement.

▲ Point Range: 0-15.

3. Project Design

Describe how the proposed project will address the problem(s) identified earlier.

Details of Project Design

- Describe your restoration or enhancement plans for the area. Specifically demonstrate how the project design addresses the need described in question number two above.
- In your description include the work that has gone into the project to date, including any planning or permitting work that has been completed. Describe any public outreach that has gone into early design work.
- Describe how the project design will improve the ecological function of the site and result in a site that is self-sustaining and will not require continual intervention to function as a natural ecosystem.
- If applicable, describe how the project would help to better manage public use to reduce impacts to targeted species or habitats.

Best Management Practices

- State if the project design is consistent with the Washington State Aquatic Habitat Guidelines Program (Manual 10b page 22), or industry approved best management practices.
- If you are using a new or innovative process, describe why you believe the design will be successful. For example, state if the design is consistent with other project sites or if there is new research that supports your efforts.

▲ Point Range: 0-15.

4. Planning

Specifically describe how the project is consistent with planning efforts occurring in the area.

Consistency with Existing Plans

- How does this project help meet the goals of existing planning efforts. Avoid simply listing other plans that the project may be consistent with. Instead, demonstrate how the project furthers specific elements within the planning efforts.

Puget Sound Partnership Guidelines

- For Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19, state how the project is referenced in the Action Agenda developed by the Puget Sound Partnership. The Action Agenda can be found at www.psp.wa.gov. This question does not need to be answered for projects outside Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19.

▲ Point Range: 0-5.

5. Public Benefit

Describe the degree to which communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from or support the project.

Public Educational or Scientific Value

- Describe efforts that have been made to involve these groups in the project development.
- Explain any known opposition to the project. Describe the support or partnerships you have from the community, interest groups, volunteers, public agencies, etc.
- Discuss how the project enhances other opportunities available to the public. If public access is not allowed on the site, describe why not. *Note: not all sites need to be available for public access in order to be of public benefit.*

Note: the following reference to being designated as a Puget Sound Partner is a placeholder pending action by the Puget Sound Partnership. As a placeholder, it will not be scored until further notice.

Puget Sound Partners. State if the project is sponsored by an entity that is a Puget Sound partner, as defined in Revised Code of Washington 90.71.010. This criterion will apply only to projects within Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19. This determination will be made by the project evaluation, not at some later date. When the Puget Sound Partnership determines a method for designating Puget Sound partners, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board will modify policies to prevent less preferential funding treatment to sponsors not eligible to be Puget Sound partners.

▲ Point Range: 0-5.

Attachment B: Summary of Public Comment

Respondent	Comment (edited for brevity)	Staff Response
Lora Leschner <i>Pacific Coast Joint Venture</i>	I reviewed the changes to the State Land Restoration Grant criteria. I think the new criteria are appropriate and will help in the evaluation process.	Thank you for your response.
Susan Driver <i>SMD Solutions</i>	I definitely like the criteria revision for #3 Project Design. I also agree with giving evaluators more latitude to score projects	Thank you for your response.
Pat Powell <i>Whidbey Camano Land Trust</i>	<p>I think the proposed changes all make excellent sense. I wrote the DNR grant for Admiralty Inlet restoration when this grant program first came out and it was hard to separate the questions for restoration from the questions we use for acquisition. Staff has done a good job addressing this confusion and focusing on the main element, which is the restoration.</p> <p>With that said, I do have a recommendation and I realize it is larger than this question, but I wonder why State Parks isn't eligible for this grant for the lands that are classified as either Conservation or Natural in their CAMP plans. For example, Fort Casey State Park owns a lot of Crockett Lake, which is designated Natural in the CAMP plan. There is starting to be a huge problem with a very invasive and potentially destructive noxious weed, the hairy willowherb. State Parks has many areas of their parks that are natural or in conservation status that are in need of the same kinds of restoration that Wildlife and DNR lands have. I have looked at the State Park category but this type of restoration wouldn't score at all as that category is over in Outdoor Recreation rather than Habitat Conservation.</p>	Thank you for your comment. State Parks has its own category within the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP). Within that category, they have the latitude to conduct restoration if it is a priority for their agency. State Parks also is eligible in several other WWRP categories as well as the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account grant program in which they may apply for restoration project funds.

Attachment C: Side by Side Comparison of State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Criteria

Introduction

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Criteria	Project Introduction	Project Introduction
Evaluation Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate the project on statewide, vicinity, and site maps • Project narrative (goals and objectives) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project goals and objectives • Statewide, vicinity, and site maps
Possible Points	Not scored	Not scored
Narrative	The current criteria is silent on project introduction	<p>This is an opportunity to set the stage for the project. Provide maps showing the location of your project on the landscape and briefly provide a broad overview of the site and the project's goals and objectives.</p> <p>Project Goals and Objectives</p> <p>Briefly introduce the site and the project's goals and objectives. The following criteria will provide an opportunity to describe the project in more detail however the intent here is primarily to help orient the evaluators to the project.</p> <p>Statewide, Vicinity, and Site Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate the project on statewide, vicinity, and site maps to help orient the evaluators to the project site. • In order to demonstrate how the project supports connectivity to other important landscapes please include on a map other sites in the area with similar habitat components.

Criterion #1

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Criteria	Ecological and Biological Characteristics	Ecological and Biological Characteristics
Evaluation Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bigger picture • Uniqueness or significance of the site • Quality of habitat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bigger picture • Uniqueness or significance • Target species and communities
Possible Points	15 — <i>Point Range: 0-5. Evaluators award a maximum of 5 points that are later multiplied by 3.</i>	15 — <i>Point Range: 0-15</i>
Narrative	<p>Why is the site worthy of long-term conservation?</p> <p>The Bigger Picture "Paint a picture" of your project for the evaluators – the what, where, and why. This is the "heart" of your presentation and evaluators will draw conclusions based on the information presented about the quality and function of the habitat and the demonstrated need to protect, restore, or enhance it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What specific role does this project play in a broader watershed or landscape picture? • Is this site part of a larger ownership? If so, describe the connectivity and management of the larger habitat area. • What are the primary habitat functions? • Does the project have functional connectivity with existing habitats? <p>For Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19, how is the project referenced in the Action Agenda developed by the Puget Sound Partnership? The Action Agenda can be found at www.psp.wa.gov. Evaluators should ignore this question for projects outside Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19.</p> <p>Uniqueness or Significance Explain how the site is unique or significant on a regional, ecosystem, watershed, or urban growth area level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What habitat types exist on site? • How unique is the site in relation to habitat quality, connectivity, diversity, 	<p>Describe why the site is worthy of long-term conservation. "Paint a picture" of the project site for the evaluators – the what, where, and why.</p> <p>The Bigger Picture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate what specific role this project plays in a broader watershed or landscape picture. Describe if the project has functional connectivity with existing habitats. • State if the site is part of a larger ownership or a collaborative effort to support wildlife, plants or communities. Describe the ecological and biological quality or potential quality of the habitat. <p>Uniqueness or Significance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how the site is unique or significant on a regional, ecosystem, watershed, or urban growth area level. • State if the site is significant in terms of habitat quality, connectivity, diversity, rarity, etc. <p>Target Species and Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List the target species and communities with special status that occur on the site. This is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all species in the area. Instead try to narrow the description to those species or communities that would be the primary focus of your restoration efforts. • Demonstrate how the project benefits the species or communities that are

and rarity?

- How is the site important in providing critical habitat or biological function for wildlife species or communities?
- How does this site compare to others of the same type?

Quality of Habitat

Describe the ecological and biological quality or potential quality of the habitat.

- What specific role does the habitat play in supporting the species or communities using the site?
- How is this habitat important in providing food, water, cover, connectivity, and resting areas for wildlife?
- What natural features make this site a priority for restoration or enhancement efforts?
- How well does the restoration or enhancement project contribute to supporting the target species or communities?
- Has the habitat or characteristics of the site been identified as limiting factors or critical pathways to the target species or communities?

being targeted. Include other relevant facts, such as statistics associated with a decline of the target species using the site due to degradation, or how the site supports a larger population than what typically occurs within the rest of the species range, etc.

- Describe the primary habitat functions. State if the habitat or characteristics of the site have been identified as limiting factors or critical pathways to the target species or communities.

Criterion #2

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Criteria	Need for Restoration or Enhancement	Need for Restoration or Enhancement
Evaluation Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrated need for restoration or enhancement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The problem to be addressed Threat
Possible Points	15 — <i>Point Range: 0-5. Evaluators award a maximum of 5 points that are later multiplied by 3.</i>	15 — <i>Point Range: 0-15</i>
Narrative	<p>Demonstrated Need for Restoration or Enhancement</p> <p>What is the need for stewardship activities, whether restoration or enhancement? Establish need by identifying comparable opportunities (quality and quantity). Describe the quality and function of the habitat and the demonstrated need and plans to restore or enhance it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the site located in an ecologically critical area? Is the habitat recoverable? What is the restoration plan? Does this project enhance other restoration efforts with the same or similar goals? How well does the project satisfy the identified needs? 	<p>Describe why this restoration or enhancement project needs to be completed.</p> <p>The Problem to be addressed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe why this restoration or enhancement project is important. Explain what currently keeps the habitat from being fully functioning. Establish need by identifying similar habitats in the area and compare your project site to those in terms of quality and quantity. <p>Threat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the current condition of the site and why it is important to restore or enhance the site at this particular time. Discuss what will be lost if deterioration is allowed to continue. State if the site is located in an ecologically critical area. Discuss if the habitat is recoverable and what factors have contributed to cause the site to be in need of restoration or enhancement.

Criterion #3

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Criteria	Long-Term Manageability and Viability	Project Design
Evaluation Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threat to the site Long-term viability Enhancement of existing protected land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Details of project design Best Management Practices
Possible Points	10 — <i>Point Range: 0-5. Evaluators award a maximum of 5 points that are later multiplied by 2</i>	15 — <i>Point Range: 0-15</i>
Narrative	<p>Will the project result in restoring or enhancing land that functions in a manner that is sustainable and integrates appropriately with bordering communities or habitats? What is the likelihood of the site remaining viable over the long term and why is it important to restore or enhance it now?</p> <p>Threats to the Habitat</p> <p>What, and how imminent, are the threats (i.e., inherent, ecological, human, abatable or non-abatable threats) to the habitat at this site?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are these new threats or ongoing? How do or will these threats affect the function of the habitat? How will restoration or enhancement of the site affect these threats? What steps are you taking to reduce the threats? Outline the proposed project schedule, timelines, and who will perform the work. <p>Long-Term Viability</p> <p>Describe how the site will be managed over time to maintain the desired characteristics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is happening across the landscape or watershed that may affect the viability of the site? What are the long-term stewardship plans and the 	<p>Describe how the proposed project will address the problem(s) identified earlier.</p> <p>Details of Project Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe your restoration or enhancement plans for the area. Specifically demonstrate how the project design addresses the need described in question number two above. In your description include the work that has gone into the project to date, including any planning or permitting work that has been completed. Describe any public outreach that has gone into early design work. Describe how the project design will improve the ecological function of the site and result in a site that is self-sustaining and will not require continual intervention to function as a natural ecosystem. If applicable, describe how the project would help to better manage public use to reduce impacts to targeted species or habitats. <p>Best Management Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State if the project design is consistent with the Washington State Aquatic Habitat Guidelines Program (Manual 10b page 22), or industry approved best management practices. If you are using a new or innovative

anticipated outcome? Describe any long-term site monitoring plans and identify who will implement monitoring?

- What human and financial resources are available to maintain the site? How will noxious weeds and invasive species be controlled?
- What regulatory protections currently are afforded to the site (i.e., critical areas ordinances, zoning, development regulation, shoreline management rules, forest practice rules, etc.)?

Enhancement of Existing Protected Land

Describe the other protected lands (public and private) near this site that have complimentary or compatible land uses or habitats.

- Are they managed and monitored in a manner that is consistent with the stewardship plans for the project area?

process, describe why you believe the design will be successful. For example, state if the design is consistent with other project sites or if there is new research that supports your efforts.

Criterion #4

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Criteria	Species or Communities with Special Status	Criterion #4 will address Planning – see below for comparison to Current Criterion #5, Plan
Evaluation Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat to species or communities • Importance of restoration or enhancement • Ecological roles • Rarity 	
Possible Points	5 — Point range 0-5	
Narrative	<p>What are the habitat communities or species of wildlife that will benefit most from the improvements proposed for this site?</p> <p>This question's intent is to determine the significance of the species or communities with special status and how they may benefit from your project. Some special status species or communities may benefit on a more passive basis, while others may benefit directly.</p> <p><i>Threat to the Species or Communities</i></p> <p>Describe the threat to the species or community (e.g., imminent danger of extinction [range-wide]; in imminent danger of extirpation [population]; threatened within the foreseeable future, or concern because of current trends; population stable, but catastrophic event could threaten; no foreseeable threat).</p> <p><i>Importance of Restoration or Enhancement for the Species or Community Protection or Recovery</i></p> <p>Describe the relative importance of this habitat restoration or enhancement effort when compared to other protection or recovery tasks. Describe the distribution or range and, if known, the abundance of the species or community. Identify any recovery plans, conservation strategies, or similar plans that include reference to this site.</p> <p><i>Ecological Roles</i></p> <p>What role does the target species play in the ecosystem in which it lives? Do other species depend on it for their survival? Will its loss substantially alter the functioning of the ecosystem? What role does the restoration or enhancement play in the viability of the larger ecosystem?</p> <p><i>Rarity</i></p> <p>Describe the distribution or range and, if known, the abundance of the species or community</p>	

Criterion #5

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Criteria	Plan Priority	Planning (Proposed as #4)
Evaluation Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans Prioritization efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistency with Existing Plans Puget Sound Partnership guidelines
Possible Points	5 — Point Range: Point Range: 0-5. Evaluators award a maximum of 5 points that are later multiplied by 1.	5 — Point Range: 0-5.
Narrative	<p>Plans</p> <p>How is this project supported by a current plan (i.e. watershed, stewardship, state or regional resource, species management, shoreline, salmon recovery, open space, land use, habitat conservation, agency) or a coordinated prioritization effort? Describe the plan or prioritization efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the status of the plans? How does this proposal help meet the goals or strategies of the plan? <p>Prioritization Efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How important is this project in comparison to other potential projects? What process was used to identify this project as a priority? 	<p>Specifically describe how the project is consistent with planning efforts occurring in the area.</p> <p>Consistency with Existing Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does this project help meet the goals of existing planning efforts. Avoid simply listing other plans that the project may be consistent with. Instead, demonstrate how the project furthers specific elements within those planning efforts. <p>Puget Sound Partnership Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19, state how the project is referenced in the Action Agenda developed by the Puget Sound Partnership. The Action Agenda can be found at www.psp.wa.gov. This question does not need to be answered for projects outside Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19.

Criterion #6

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Criteria	Public Benefit	Public Benefit (Proposed as Criterion #5, shown here for comparison purposes)
Evaluation Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measurable benefits • Educational and scientific value • Community support 	Public educational or scientific value
Possible Points	5 — <i>Point Range: 0-5</i>	5 — <i>Point Range: 0-5</i>
Narrative	<p>To what extent does this project result in measurable benefits for the species or community impacted as a result of this restoration or enhancement?</p> <p>This question's intent is to find out what <i>unique</i> benefits the project provides to maintaining an ecologically diverse ecosystem and how are those benefits measured to know if the project was successful. This question is not meant to discount projects for <i>not</i> having overwhelming community support or educational opportunities. It may be that the project has qualities that provide a unique opportunity for the community to benefit from its implementation. The answer will be scored on those unique qualities and how they are appropriate for, or are of benefit to, the project.</p> <p>Measurable Benefits The response should describe what ecosystem functions will be restored and how well will the proposed habitat actions address the restoration or enhancement needs identified.</p> <p>Educational and Scientific Value Describe the scientific and educational values of the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>Describe the degree to which communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from or support the project.</p> <p>Public Educational or Scientific Value</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe efforts that have been made to involve these groups in the project development. • Explain any known opposition to the project. • Describe the support or partnerships you have from the community, interest groups, volunteers, public agencies, etc. • Discuss how the project enhances other opportunities available to the public. If public access is not allowed on the site, describe why not. <i>Note: not all sites need to be available for public access in order to be of public benefit.</i> <p>Note: the following reference to being designated as a Puget Sound Partner is a placeholder pending action by the Puget Sound Partnership. As a placeholder, it will not be scored until further notice.</p> <p>Puget Sound Partners. State if the project is sponsored by an entity that is a Puget Sound partner, as defined in Revised Code of Washington 90.71.010. This criterion will apply only to projects within Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19. This determination will be made by the project evaluation, not at some later date. When the Puget Sound</p>

- opportunities will come to fruition?
- How accessible is the site for these activities?

Community Support

Describe the support or partnerships you have from the community, interest groups, volunteers, public agencies, etc.

- To what degree do communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from or support the project?
- How have you involved these groups in project development? Explain any known opposition to the project.
- Describe and document any monetary means that have been secured to help continue stewardship of the habitat area (i.e., endowments, grants, donations, public or private management agreements, etc.)

Note: the following is a placeholder pending action by the Puget Sound Partnership. As a placeholder, it will not be scored until further notice.

Puget Sound Partners. Is the project sponsored by an entity that is a Puget Sound partner, as defined in Revised Code of Washington 90.71.010? This criterion will apply only to projects within Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19. This determination will be made by the project evaluation, not at some later date. When the Puget Sound Partnership determines a method for designating Puget Sound partners, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board will modify policies to prevent less preferential funding treatment to sponsors not eligible to be Puget Sound partners.

Partnership determines a method for designating Puget Sound partners, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board will modify policies to prevent less preferential funding treatment to sponsors not eligible to be Puget Sound partners.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for Combination Projects
Prepared By: Marguerite Austin, Recreation Section Manager
Darrell Jennings, Senior Grants Manager
Approved by the Director:


Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

This is a proposal to modify scoring for combination projects and allow evaluators to award points for all applicable criteria. This change will impact the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – State Parks, Trails, and Water Access categories.

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 #: 2011-28

Purpose of Resolution: Approve changes to the evaluation criteria for combination projects.

Background

When applicants submit projects to RCO they must identify the project type, which is used to determine how a project is scored. The project type is defined by what the grant will accomplish. Sometimes projects have multiple project types. These projects, referred to as combination projects, involve three primary types – acquisition, development, and planning.

- Acquisition projects acquire rights to real property;
- Development projects involve construction or renovation of facilities; and
- Planning projects¹ are for pre-construction activities such as design and engineering, development of bid specifications, cost estimating, and securing permits.

A combination project will include acquisition and either development or planning activities in the scope of work.

Current Scoring Methodology

The following applies to the scoring process in the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program State Parks, Trails and Water Access categories.

Evaluation Criteria

The board adopted evaluation instruments include some criteria that apply to all projects. They also include two or three criteria that are used for a specific project type (e.g., development but not acquisition). The points available for criteria that affect a single project type are balanced so that each type is eligible for the same total score.

As a result, if a combination project were evaluated using the criteria for each individual project type, it would be eligible for more overall points than projects with only one type. To avoid this, RCO staff directs applicants and evaluators to treat combination projects as if they include only one project type².

To do this, RCO staff works with the applicant to determine what part of the project will use the majority of grant funds. The project is then categorized as predominately acquisition, development, or planning. In situations where a sponsor requests equal amounts of grant funding for acquisition and development/planning costs, staff works with the sponsor to adjust costs so that a majority of the funding request is in one project type. Applicants are then instructed to answer the corresponding criteria for only that project type. For example, if a majority of grant funds will be used to acquire land, then the applicant would respond to the criteria for acquisition projects. The project is evaluated and scored as if it is only that one project type.

¹ Of the programs/categories addressed in this memo, only the Boating Facilities Program provides planning grants

² This is an institutionalized practice, but as far as staff can determine, not an adopted policy.

Calculating Points

For most evaluation criteria, evaluators use a scoring range of zero to five. These raw scores are then multiplied by board-approved factors ("multipliers") that add weight to each criterion.

For example, in the Trails category, evaluators award up to five points each for "project support" and for "need." The "project support" criterion uses a multiplier of two, so it is worth a maximum of 10 points. However, the "project need" criterion uses a multiplier of three, so it is worth a maximum of 15 points.

Details of Proposal

Staff proposes to have applicants with combination projects respond to all applicable evaluation criteria rather than just the criteria for the predominant project type. Staff then proposes to change the multiplier for "single project type" criteria when they are applied to combination projects. The new multipliers will be proportional to the current weights so combination projects will be scored equitably with single project types.

Example

For example, the WWRP Trails category includes a project design criterion for development projects that is scored 0-5 points with a multiplier of three making it worth a total of 15 points. The immediacy of threat criterion, used for acquisition projects, is scored 0-5 points with a multiplier of three that makes it worth a total of 15 points. The total possible score for a development or acquisition project is 78 points.

Using staff's proposal, a Trails category applicant that submits a combination acquisition-development project, the applicant would address both the project design and immediacy of threat criteria. To make sure this combination project is scored equitably with a development or acquisition project, the multipliers for these criteria would be reduced from three points to 1.5 each. As a result, the total score for the combination project would remain 78 points.

		Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Combination Projects	
Title	Evaluator Max Score	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Project design	5	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	3	15	1.5	7.5
Immediacy of threat	5	3	15	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	1.5	7.5

Attachments B through F show scoring tables for each program/category that would be affected.

Assessment of the Proposal

Under the current methodology, combination projects may not compete as well as they could, since evaluators score only part of the project. This proposal will allow evaluators to score the entire project and not just one component. Adjusting the multipliers will balance the scoring between single project types and combinations so that neither has an advantage.

The board already has adopted this proposed process for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Local Parks category, the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund program. After the change was made for these programs, evaluators expressed their appreciation for the modification since they were given the opportunity to consider the complete scope of work when scoring projects.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these changes supports the board's objectives to (1) develop strategic investment policies and plans so that projects selected for funding meet the state's recreation needs and (2) fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process.

Summary of Public Comment

The RCO sought public comment from August 24 to September 23. The four comments that we received are shown in Attachment A. Public comment was supportive of the change.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve these changes.

Attachments

Resolution 2011-28

- A. Summary of Public Comment
- B. Revised Scoring Table for the Boating Facilities Program
- C. Revised Scoring Table for the Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program
- D. Revised Scoring Table for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Parks Category
- E. Revised Scoring Table for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Trails Category
- F. Revised Scoring Table for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Waster Access Category

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-28
Approving Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for Combination Projects in
Certain Grant Programs or Categories

WHEREAS, all projects funded by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) must include a project "type" that represents the overall activity of the project; and

WHEREAS, the project type selected by the applicant determines the criteria that will be used to evaluate the project; and

WHEREAS, a "combination" project will include two of three types – acquisition and either development, or planning – but current scoring practices in the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program State Parks, Trails and Water Access categories require applicants with combination projects to select only one type for scoring consideration; and

WHEREAS, the current approach may not allow combination projects to compete as well, and may not give evaluators the complete picture for scoring; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revisions to the scoring criteria remedy the situation by removing the requirement that sponsors choose one type, by changing the multipliers for combination projects, and by ensuring equitable scoring with single project types; and

WHEREAS, this scoring approach has worked well in other board-funded grant programs; and

WHEREAS, adopting this revision would continue to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources; and

WHEREAS, public comment was supportive of this change;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt revised evaluation criteria multiplier changes for the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program State Parks, Trails and Water Access categories, as shown in Attachments B through F to the November 2011 memo; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to implement this revision beginning with the 2012 grant cycle.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Attachment A: Summary of Public Comment

Respondent	Comment (edited for brevity)	Staff Response
Robert Bloch <i>Walla Walla Gun Club</i>	This proposed modification is long overdue. Walla Walla Gun Club's recent application suffered greatly because of the lack of it, and I'm sure that the proposed modification is due in part to staff's realization that the process was lacking. I recommend the proposed change be adopted post haste.	Thank you for your comment.
James Clem <i>FARR Advisory Committee</i>	This newer system seems to work well for me.	Thank you for your comment.
Bonnie Knight <i>Port of Allyn</i>	This will make it easier for me to put together an application for a combination project. It has been a challenge figuring out what to put where when it didn't quite fit the categories.	Thank you for your comment.
Chris Branch <i>City of Oroville</i>	I don't have any issues with the changes proposed but would like to comment that it would seem appropriate to upgrade eligibility requirements for the state parks category to include those local government entities that have taken ownership of state parks to keep them open. Might require a legislative amendment, which is not impossible.	Thank you for your comments and support for our proposed change. You are correct that making local agencies eligible for grants from the state parks category of WWRP would require a change in the statute and is well beyond the scope of this proposal.

Boating Facilities Program

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 3a, 3b and 3c

Scored by	#	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Planning Projects		Combination Projects ³	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	3	15	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	2	Site suitability	5	3	15	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	3a	Urgency	5	2	10	n/a	0	n/a	0	1	5
Committee	3b	Project design	5	n/a	0	2	10	n/a	0	1	5
Committee	3c	Planning success	5	n/a	0	n/a	0	2	10	1	5
Committee	4	Cost benefit	5	2	10	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	5	Boating experience	3	2	6	2	6	2	6	2	6
Committee	6	Readiness	5	1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	7	Matching shares	Local = 4 State = 1	1	Local = 4 State = 1	1	Local = 4 State = 1	1	Local = 4 State = 1	1	Local = 4 State = 1
RCO staff	8	Proximity to people	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
RCO staff	9	GMA	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Total:				Local = 66 State = 63		Local = 66 State = 63		Local = 66 State = 63		Local = 66 State = 63	

³ Combination BFP projects include both acquisition of real property and either development or planning activities.

Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 2 and 3

Scored by	Question	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Combination Projects ⁴	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	2	Immediacy of threat	5	2	10	n/a	n/a	1	5
Committee	3	Project design	5	n/a	n/a	2	10	1	5
Committee	4	Impact on surrounding property	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	5	Expansion or renovation	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	6	Health and safety	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	7	Budget development	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	8	Mandated uses	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	9	Public access	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	10	Need satisfaction	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
RCO Staff	11	Applicant match	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
RCO Staff	12	GMA compliance	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Total points possible - Existing sites:					95		95		95
New sites:					90		90		90

⁴ Combination FARR projects include both acquisition of real property and development of facilities.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – State Parks Category

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 3 and 4

Scored by	Question	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Combination Projects ⁵	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	2	Project significance	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	3	Project design	5	n/a	n/a	2	10	1	5
Committee	4	Immediacy of threat	5	2	10	n/a	n/a	1	5
Committee	5	Expansion/phased project	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	6	Multiple fund sources	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	7	Readiness to proceed	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	8	Application of sustainability	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
RCO Staff	9	Population proximity	3	1	3	1	3	1	3
Total points:				58		58		58	

⁵ Combination WWRP projects include both acquisition of real property and development of facilities.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Trails Category

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 2 and 3

Scored by	Question	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Combination Projects ⁶	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	2	Project design	5	n/a	n/a	3	15	1.5	7.5
Committee	3	Immediacy of threat	5	3	15	n/a	n/a	1.5	7.5
Committee	4	Trail and community linkages	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	5	Water access, views and scenic values	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	6	Wildlife habitat connectivity	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	7	Project support	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	8	Cost efficiencies	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
RCO Staff	9	GMA preference	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
RCO Staff	10	Population proximity	3	1	3	1	3	1	3
Total points:				78		78		78	

⁶ Combination WWRP projects include both acquisition of real property and development of facilities.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Water Access Category

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 2, 3 and 6

Scored by	Question	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Combination Projects ⁷	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	2	Project design	5	n/a	n/a	2	10	1	5
Committee	3	Immediacy of threat	5	3	15	n/a	n/a	1.5	7.5
Committee	4	Site suitability	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	5	Expansion	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	6	Diversity of recreational uses	5	n/a	n/a	1	5	.5	2.5
Committee	7	Project support	5	2	5	2	5	2	5
Committee	8	Cost efficiencies	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
RCO Staff	9	GMA preference	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
RCO Staff	10	Population proximity	3	1	3	1	3	1	3
Total points:				63		63		63	

⁷ Combination WWRP projects include both acquisition of real property and development of facilities.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Draft Recommendations of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group to the Legislature
Prepared By: Dominga Soliz, Policy Specialist
Approved by the Director:


Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

This is a request for the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the draft recommendations of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group (lands group) as required by state law.

The recommendation includes three options for the Legislature to consider regarding the future of the lands group.

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 #: 2011-29

Purpose of Resolution: Recommend three options to the Legislature regarding the future of the lands group.

Background

In 2007, the lands group was created by statute because the Legislature wanted to work toward a statewide strategy for visibility and coordination of habitat and recreation land acquisitions by state agencies. That directive was driven in part by citizens and local government officials who wanted to know more about state land acquisitions in their areas. The enabling legislation¹ is in Attachment A.

The lands group includes representatives from these Washington State natural resource agencies:

- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- State Parks and Recreation Commission
- State Conservation Commission
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Ecology
- Department of Transportation
- Recreation and Conservation Office

The lands group also includes representatives of non-profit organizations, local governments, legislators, private interests, and others (Attachment B). The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) provides staff support and hosts the lands group's web site at <http://www.rco.wa.gov/boards/hrlcg.shtml>.

Since 2007, the lands group has created a vehicle for improving visibility and coordination of state habitat and recreation land acquisitions and disposals. The lands group makes state acquisition projects (1) more visible to local and state officials, citizens, and others and (2) better coordinated at key points before, during, and after they are completed. By using consistent data, the process (described below) allows users to make data comparisons and see broad, county-wide and statewide assessments of acquisitions. It could be expanded over time to include other related topics, such as state land transfers and land management.

The process to improve visibility and coordination occurs on the biennial funding cycle and has the following components:

Annual Coordinating Forum	The Annual State Land Acquisition Coordinating Forum brings together state agencies, local governments, non-government organizations, landowners, tribes, and citizens to learn about and share ideas on proposals for state habitat and recreation land purchases and disposals.
Biennial Forecast Report	The Biennial State Land Acquisition Forecast Report gives information about the state land purchases and disposals that are being planned around the state.
Biennial Performance Monitoring Report	The Biennial State Land Acquisition Performance Monitoring Report shows whether state agencies achieved their initial acquisition project objectives.

¹ RCW 79A.25.260

Specific lands group activities related to visibility and coordination are listed in Attachment C. The group's publications are online at www.rco.wa.gov/doc_pages/other_pubs.shtml#hrlcg.

Budget Background

In 2007, the Legislature made equal appropriations of \$42,000 of general fund to State Parks, DFW, and DNR to participate in the lands group for each fiscal year 2008 and 2009². RCO agreed to support the lands group with existing agency resources.

In the 2008 supplemental budget appropriations bill, the Legislature modified these appropriations: State Parks' appropriation was reduced to \$9,000 for each fiscal year (2008 and 2009); WDFW's appropriation was eliminated for the biennium; and DNR's appropriation was reduced to \$34,000 for each fiscal year³. The agencies have tracked their own expenditures of those appropriations.

In 2009, the budget eliminated all funding for agencies to participate in the lands group. In addition, recent budget cuts have increasingly challenged the agencies to provide the staff time and resources to fully achieve the lands group goals. New budget cuts needed in the supplemental budget are likely to further strain agency resources. While all agencies have benefited from the greater visibility and coordination that the lands group makes possible, it is difficult to perform the core functions of the group without some additional resources.

Need for Recommendation

Absent legislative action, the lands group will sunset in July 2012. Section 6 of the enabling legislation requires the board to make a formal recommendation to the appropriate legislative committee(s) about whether the lands group should be continued, and if so, whether changes to its enabling statute should be pursued. The recommendation must be submitted by January 1, 2012.

Details of Proposal

The lands group proposes recommending three options for the legislature to consider regarding whether to extend the group past the July 2012 sunset date. The options would be presented without a stated preference.

- Option A - The lands group continues with a budget sized to the scope of the original statute
- Option B – The lands group continues with a limited budget and limited scope
- Option C – The lands group sunsets

² 2007 SSB 1128 Sections: 303(12); 307(19); and 308(14) respectively.

³ 2008 ESHB 2687 Sections: 303(12); 307(19); and 308(14) respectively.

Assessment of the Proposal

	Option A The lands group continues with a budget	Option B The lands group continues with a limited budget and limited scope	Option C The lands group sunsets
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The statute would be modified to allow the lands group to continue. The group would continue to host the annual coordinating forums, publish the biennial forecast report, publish the biennial performance monitoring report, hold quarterly meetings, and host the lands group Web site. The group would focus on achieving all lands group goals, including improving coordination of GIS-based documentation and federally-funded acquisitions, and centralizing habitat and recreation land acquisition data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The statute would be modified to allow the lands group to continue. The group would continue to host the annual coordinating forums, publish the biennial forecast report, publish the biennial performance monitoring report, hold quarterly meetings, and host the lands group Web site. The lands group goals would remain in statute with hope they can be fully achieved with future funding. 	The lands group would sunset in July 2012.
What Would Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sunset date would be extended. RCO would receive funding equivalent to ¼ FTE to coordinate the lands group, produce the reports, and host the web site, as well as funding to improve GIS coordination and data centralization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sunset date would be extended. RCO would receive funding equivalent to ¼ FTE to coordinate the lands group, produce the reports, and host the web site. 	The annual coordinating forums, reports, and lands group Web site would be discontinued.
Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominal costs to agencies to provide project information to the coordinator, attend the quarterly meetings, and participate in the annual forum. About \$25,000 per year for RCO to produce and publish the annual progress reports and biennial acquisition reports, coordinate the quarterly meetings and annual forums, and host the web site. About \$200,000 to design and build the GIS component and to coordinate gathering and standardizing the data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominal costs to agencies to provide project information to the coordinator, attend the quarterly meetings, and participate in the annual forum. About \$25,000 per year for RCO to produce and publish the annual progress reports and biennial acquisition reports, coordinate the quarterly meetings and annual forums, and host the web site. 	None

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these recommendations supports the board's objective to provide leadership that helps its partners strategically invest in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat and recreation opportunities through policy development, coordination, and advocacy.

Staff Recommendation

Lands Group Recommendation

The lands group believes that the most effective approach is to provide these three options to the Legislature without stating a preference.

However, the group hopes the Legislature will choose to keep the group intact and, at minimum, support the continuation of core functions during this difficult budget period. While it is difficult to quantify the economic value added by the lands group's visibility and coordination process, the lands group hopes the legislature concludes it will be more economically efficient to retain the group rather than potentially start a new effort in the future. The group also hopes the legislature recognizes the value in having an already-formed group to address issues related to state land acquisitions.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve the lands group proposal to recommend three options to the legislature without preference.

Attachments

Resolution 2011-29

- A. Lands Group Enabling Legislation
- B. Lands Group Membership
- C. Lands Group Activities to Support Visibility and Coordination

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution #2011-29

Approving Draft Recommendations of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group to the Legislature

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) is directed by statute to make a formal recommendation by January 1, 2012 to the appropriate committees of the Legislature as to whether the existence of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group (lands group) should be continued beyond July 31, 2012, and if so, whether any modifications to its enabling statute should be pursued; and

WHEREAS, the board is required by statute to involve the lands group when developing its recommendations to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the lands group has developed proposed recommendations for submitting to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, approving the lands group recommendations would ensure the board's statutory obligation is met by formalizing the lands group's proposed recommendations to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, approving the lands group recommendations will result in the board providing the Legislature with two options for continuing the visibility and coordination functions of the lands group and one option for eliminating the lands group; and

WHEREAS, consideration of these recommendations supports the board's objective to provide leadership that helps its partners strategically invest in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat and recreation opportunities through policy development, coordination, and advocacy;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby approve the lands group recommendations for the Legislature regarding whether the lands group should continue past its sunset date of July 31, 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to submit the lands group recommendations to the appropriate Legislative committee(s) by January 1, 2012.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Attachment A: Lands Group Enabling Legislation

RCW 79A.25.260

Habitat and recreation lands coordinating group — Members — Progress reports — Duties. (Expires July 31, 2012.)

- (1) The habitat and recreation lands coordinating group is established. The habitat and recreation lands coordinating group must include representatives from the *committee, the state parks and recreation commission, the department of natural resources, and the Washington state department of fish and wildlife. The members of the habitat and recreation lands coordinating group must have subject matter expertise with the issues presented in this section. Representatives from appropriate stakeholder organizations and local government must also be considered for participation on the habitat and recreation lands coordinating group, but may only be appointed or invited by the director.
- (2) To ensure timely completion of the duties assigned to the habitat and recreation lands coordinating group, the director shall submit yearly progress reports to the office of financial management.
- (3) The habitat and recreation lands coordinating group must:
 - (a) Review agency land acquisition and disposal plans and policies to help ensure statewide coordination of habitat and recreation land acquisitions and disposals;
 - (b) Produce an interagency, statewide biennial forecast of habitat and recreation land acquisitions [acquisition] and disposal plans;
 - (c) Establish procedures for publishing the biennial forecast of acquisition and disposal plans on web sites or other centralized, easily accessible formats;
 - (d) Develop and convene an annual forum for agencies to coordinate their near-term acquisition and disposal plans;
 - (e) Develop a recommended method for interagency geographic information system-based documentation of habitat and recreation lands in cooperation with other state agencies using geographic information systems;
 - (f) Develop recommendations for standardization of acquisition and disposal recordkeeping, including identifying a preferred process for centralizing acquisition data;
 - (g) Develop an approach for monitoring the success of acquisitions;

- (h) Identify and commence a dialogue with key state and federal partners to develop an inventory of potential public lands for transfer into habitat and recreation land management status;
 - (i) Review existing and proposed habitat conservation plans on a regular basis to foster statewide coordination and save costs.
- (4) The group shall revisit the *committee's and Washington wildlife and recreation program's planning requirements to determine whether coordination of state agency habitat and recreation land acquisition and disposal could be improved by modifying those requirements.
- (5) The group must develop options for centralizing coordination of habitat and recreation land acquisition made with funds from federal grants. The advantages and drawbacks of the following options, at a minimum, must be developed:
- (a) Requiring that agencies provide early communication on the status of federal grant applications to the *committee, the office of financial management, or directly to the legislature;
 - (b) Establishing a centralized pass-through agency for federal funds, where individual agencies would be the primary applicants.
- (6) This section expires July 31, 2012. Prior to January 1, 2012, the *committee shall make a formal recommendation to the appropriate committees of the legislature as to whether the existence of the habitat and recreation lands coordinating group should be continued beyond July 31, 2012, and if so, whether any modifications to its enabling statute should be pursued. The *committee shall involve all participants in the habitat and recreation lands coordinating group when developing the recommendations.

[2007 c 247 § 1.]

Notes:

*Reviser's note: Chapter 241, Laws of 2007 amended RCW 79A.25.010, changing the definition of "committee" to "board."

Attachment B: Lands Group Membership, October 2011

Affiliation / Organization	Members/Alternates
Washington State Legislature	Senator Linda Evans Parlette Alternate: Sean Graham
Washington Recreation and Conservation Office	Kaleen Cottingham Alternate: Steve McLellan Dominga Soliz
Washington Department of Natural Resources	Clay Sprague Alternate: Pene Speaks
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Steve Hahn Alternate: Shannon Stevens
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Elizabeth Rodrick
Washington State Conservation Commission	Ron Shultz Alternate: Josh Giuntoli
Washington Department of Ecology	Jeanne Koenings Alternate: Kathy Taylor
Washington Department of Transportation	Paul Wagner
County Governments/ Okanogan County	Commissioner Andrew Lampe
City Government Park Planners/ Washington Recreation and Parks Association	Leslie Betlach Alternate: Shelley Marelli
Pacific Coast Joint Venture	Lora Leschner
The Nature Conservancy	Bill Robinson
Green Diamond Resources	Eric Beach
Puget Sound Partnership	Michael Grayum
Trust for Public Land	Mike Deller Alternate: Bill Clarke

Attachment C: Lands Group Activities to Support Visibility and Coordination

Efforts to Improve the Visibility

The lands group makes state habitat and recreation land acquisitions more visible:

Easily accessible project information	The lands group provides summarized information about state acquisition projects in one centralized place – the lands group Web site. Through the annual forums and regular reports, the project information is refreshed allowing the public to keep constantly aware of what’s happening with regard to state habitat and recreation land purchases and disposals.
Early notification about projects	At the annual coordinating forum, local, state, federal, and tribal governments, as well as non-profit, private landowner and others are invited to learn about projects planned for near-term funding. The forum is scheduled to give stakeholders time to affect acquisition plans before funding requests are made. The biennial forecast report gives an early, comprehensive look at acquisition proposals for the upcoming biennium. The forecast is published about a year before state capital funding is approved by the Legislature.
Opportunities to communicate	Through the annual coordinating forum, lands group regularly invites the public to participate in a broad discussion about state land purchases, and about specific planned or proposed projects.
Uses clear, standardized data	The lands group presents project data such as: project description, number of acres, cost, type of acquisition, and source of funding. Participating state agencies work towards standardizing the data, including GIS data, and presenting it in an accessible format on the lands group web site.
Shows project results	The biennial performance monitoring report looks back at funded state land acquisition projects and compares the proposals with the current results. The information can be used to identify opportunities for improvement.

Coordination

The lands group makes state habitat and recreation land acquisitions more coordinated.

Regular communication	Through quarterly meetings and the annual forum, the lands group regularly brings agencies together to communicate about acquisition priorities and practices. When agencies review each project together, they identify overlapping priorities and share ideas about “best practices.” These discussions can lead to cost savings on land purchases.
Addresses local concerns	The annual forum and the biennial reports show where, why, and how state agencies are purchasing habitat and recreation land. The statewide and county-wide data help answer questions about the effects of state land purchases on local areas.
Uses a practical, incremental approach	The lands group can be used as a vehicle for broader coordination in the future. For example, the annual forum could include discussion about land management or inter-agency land transfers. Starting in a step-wise fashion allows the coordination to begin immediately.
Centralized documentation	The lands group pulls together acquisition data from the state agencies and presents it at the annual forums and in the biennial reports. Using standardized data makes it possible to analyze state land purchases on a statewide, county-wide, or agency-wide basis.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Recreational Trails Program Grants: Review and Approval of Grants for Fiscal Year 2012
Prepared By: Marguerite Austin, Recreation Section Manager
Approved by the Director:

 for Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

Request to approve the ranked list and funding for projects recommended by the Recreational Trails Program Advisory Committee.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☒ Request for Decision
☐ Request for Direction
☐ Briefing

Resolution #: 2011-30

Purpose of Resolution: Approve ranked list and funding for projects in the Recreational Trails Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2012

Background

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal grant program that provides grants for maintaining recreational trails, developing trail-side and trailhead facilities, and operating environmental education and trail safety programs. Board policy sets its primary emphasis on trail maintenance. Sponsors submitted 62 RTP applications (49 general category and 13 education category) during this grant cycle.

Project Evaluation

In September, the RTP advisory committee used board-approved criteria to evaluate the projects submitted by applicants.

On October 11, the committee met to review the ranked list. After discussion, the members agreed to recommend the list in the attached Table 1 to the board for funding. In addition, the committee requested that the board use five percent of the fund (the maximum amount allowed) for education category projects.

Program Details

Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nonprofit organizations• Municipal subdivisions (cities, towns, counties, and port, park and recreation, and school districts)• State and Tribal agencies• Federal agencies (Forest Service, Park Service, etc.)
Match Requirements	Grant recipients must provide at least 20 percent in matching resources.
Funding Limits¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The minimum fund request for a project is \$5,000• The maximum fund request is:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ \$75,000 – development or maintenance project◦ \$10,000 – education project
Public Access	Required
Other Program Characteristics	The project setting should be predominately natural, and projects must provide a backcountry experience.

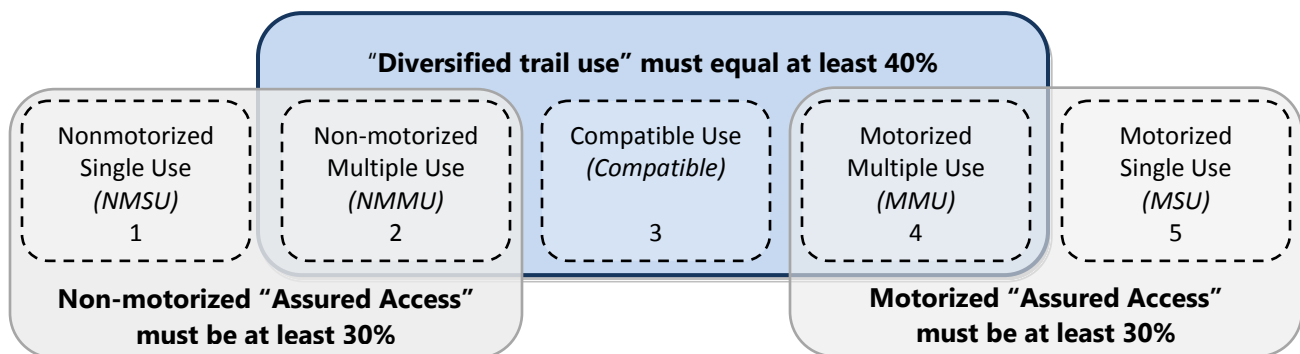
Fund Availability

On October 5, the Federal Highway Administration, through Washington's Department of Transportation, allocated partial funding for RTP. The amount approved for projects in Washington State is \$802,465 for federal fiscal year 2012.

¹ Earlier this year, the board adopted new limits, which will be effective in 2012.

Fund Allocation

RTP has five overlapping categories as shown in the graphic below.



Under the provisions of the RTP governing act², there are four rules the board must observe in awarding funds among these categories.

1. A minimum of 40 percent of the funds must be given to projects that serve diversified trail uses (i.e., Nonmotorized Multiple Use, Compatible Uses, and Motorized Multiple Use).
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. A state *may* allocate up to 5 percent of its total apportionment for programs that promote trail safety and environmental protection.

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.

Public Comment

The RCO received no public comment on these projects.

² 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.

Staff Recommendation

RCO staff and the RTP advisory committee recommend that the board approve the ranked list and funding for the projects listed in *Table 1*.

Next Steps

If the board approves the ranked list and staff's funding recommendation as shown in Table 1, the RCO director will be authorized to execute project agreements pending federal authorization. If additional funds become available, the ranked list of alternate projects will remain eligible for funding until the next grant cycle.

Attachments

Resolution 2011-30

- Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List and Funding Recommendations, RTP, State Fiscal Year 2012
 - A. Advisory committee members
 - B. Evaluation criteria summary
 - C. Summary of evaluation scores
 - D. Project location maps
 - E. Project synopses, general
 - F. Project synopses, education

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-30
Approving Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Recreational Trails
Program Projects

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff provided publications, website updates, public workshops, and other outreach opportunities to notify interested parties about Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding; and

WHEREAS, for federal fiscal year 2012, 62 projects were submitted for RTP funding; and

WHEREAS, these project applications were evaluated by the RTP advisory committee using the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation criteria; 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, all 62 RTP program projects meet federal and state program criteria, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has appropriated \$802,465 in federal fiscal year 2012 funds for this program; 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 approves the ranked list and funding as shown in Table 1, *Evaluation Ranked List and Funding Recommendations, RTP, State Fiscal Year 2012*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is authorized to proceed with execution of project agreements, pending federal approval; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ranked list of alternate projects remains eligible for funding until the next grant cycle.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List, Recreational Trails Program - General
State Fiscal Year 2012

Resolution 2011-30
November 2011

Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request					Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Request	Staff Recommend
					NMSU	NMMU	Compatible	MMU	MSU				
1 of 49	60.333	11-1236D	MTTA Outhouse Replacement	Mount Tahoma Trails Association		\$21,000				\$28,000	\$49,000	\$21,000	\$21,000
2 of 49	59.867	11-1308M	WTA 2012 Front Country Trail Maintenance	Washington Trails Association		\$75,000				\$375,000	\$450,000	\$96,000	\$96,000
3 of 49	58.733	11-1307M	WTA 2012 Backcountry Trail Teams	Washington Trails Association		\$75,000				\$223,000	\$298,000	\$171,000	\$171,000
4 of 49	58.333	11-1253M	PNT North Cascades Youth Crew: 2012	Pacific Northwest Trail Association		\$57,703				\$72,500	\$130,203	\$228,703	\$228,703
		11-1253M	PNT North Cascades Youth Crew: 2012	Pacific Northwest Trail Association		\$12,386					\$12,386	\$241,089	\$241,089
5 of 49	58.200	11-1420M	Nason Ridge Trail System	Wentachee National Forest			\$42,000			\$42,200	\$84,200	\$283,089	\$283,089
6 of 49	57.867	11-1326M	Chelan Uplake Trails 12	Wentachee National Forest Chelan Ranger District			\$75,000			\$66,000	\$141,000	\$358,089	\$358,089
7 of 49	57.600	11-1255M	Mountains to Sound Trail Maintenance 2012	Mountains to Sound Greenway		\$75,000				\$75,000	\$150,000	\$433,089	\$433,089
8 of 49	57.200	11-1328M	Walker Valley ORV M&O 2012	Washington Department of Natural Resources				\$69,500		\$39,000	\$108,500	\$502,589	\$502,589
9 of 49	57.000	11-1305M	WTA 2012 Youth Trail Maintenance Support	Washington Trails Association		\$25,000				\$50,300	\$75,300	\$527,589	\$527,589
9 of 49	57.000	11-1324M	Anderson Lake State Park Trails 2012	Back Country Horsemen of Washington		\$15,000				\$17,000	\$32,000	\$542,589	\$542,589
11 of 49	56.867	11-1287M	MVRD Trail Maintenance 2012-13	Okanogan National Forest Methow Ranger District		\$30,684				\$71,740	\$102,424	\$573,273	\$573,273 P
		11-1287M	MVRD Trail Maintenance 2012-13	Okanogan National Forest Methow Ranger District		\$44,316					\$44,316	\$617,589	Alternate
11 of 49	56.867	11-1404M	Entiat RD- Wilderness Non-Motorized Tr 2012 & 13	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District		\$29,866				\$73,720	\$103,586	\$647,455	\$603,139 P
		11-1404M	Entiat RD- Wilderness Non-Motorized Tr 2012 & 13	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District		\$43,134					\$43,134	\$690,589	Alternate
13 of 49	56.800	11-1437M	Multi-Use Trails Maintenance	Wentachee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District				\$60,000		\$62,300	\$122,300	\$750,589	\$663,139
14 of 49	56.600	11-1223M	Darrington Trail Maintenance 12 & 13	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Darrington Ranger District		\$50,000				\$50,000	\$100,000	\$800,589	Alternate
15 of 49	56.333	11-1254M	PNT Oympic Youth Crew: 2012	Pacific Northwest Trail Association		\$70,911				\$72,000	\$142,911	\$871,500	Alternate
16 of 49	56.133	11-1259M	Volunteer Trail Maintenance 2012	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance		\$29,000				\$82,500	\$111,500	\$900,500	Alternate
16 of 49	56.133	11-1432M	Wildhorse & Whitepine Trails M&O	Wentachee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District		\$38,000				\$49,100	\$87,100	\$938,500	Alternate

Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request					Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Request	Staff Recommend
					NMSU	NMMU	Compatible	MMU	MSU				
18 of 49	56.067	11-1293M	Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2012	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District			\$75,000			\$115,000	\$190,000	\$1,013,500	Alternate
19 of 49	55.133	11-1186M	2012-13 EarthCorps Wilderness Trail Maintenance	EarthCorps		\$35,425				\$35,456	\$70,881	\$1,048,925	Alternate
20 of 49	54.933	11-1288M	Sawtooth Backcountry Trail Maintenance 2012-13	Okanogan National Forest Methow Ranger District				\$12,050		\$8,250	\$20,300	\$1,060,975	\$675,189
21 of 49	54.733	11-1221M	Salmon Ridge Ski Trail Maint. 2011-2013	Nooksack Nordic Ski Club		\$21,300				\$19,900	\$41,200	\$1,082,275	Alternate
22 of 49	54.133	11-1249M	Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2012	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District		\$75,000				\$64,805	\$139,805	\$1,157,275	Alternate
23 of 49	53.667	11-1196M	GPNF Wilderness Trails Maintenance 2012	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Cowlitz Valley Ranger District		\$39,757				\$39,768	\$79,525	\$1,197,032	Alternate
23 of 49	53.667	11-1294M	Evans Creek ORV Maintenance & Operation 2012	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District				\$75,000		\$69,000	\$144,000	\$1,272,032	\$750,189
25 of 49	53.200	11-1217M	Dutch Miller Gap Trail Maintenance	EarthCorps		\$31,975				\$32,237	\$64,212	\$1,304,007	Alternate
26 of 49	53.133	11-1325D	Tiger Mountain Trail Foothridge Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$75,000					\$225,000	\$300,000	\$1,379,007	Alternate
27 of 49	52.000	11-1409M	Entiat & Lk.Wen Snowmobile Trail Mtc -12 & 13	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District			\$64,800			\$159,200	\$224,000	\$1,443,807	Alternate
28 of 49	51.800	11-1222M	Mt Baker Trail Grooming and Maintenance	Northwest Glacier Cruisers					\$12,153	\$50,800	\$62,953	\$1,455,960	\$762,342 P
		11-1222M	Mt Baker Trail Grooming and Maintenance	Northwest Glacier Cruisers					\$49,847		\$49,847	\$1,505,807	Alternate
29 of 49	51.333	11-1218M	Backcountry Site Maintenance	EarthCorps		\$38,294				\$33,376	\$71,670	\$1,544,101	Alternate
29 of 49	51.333	11-1234M	I-90 Corridor Nordic Ski Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission		\$21,889				\$87,556	\$109,445	\$1,565,990	Alternate
29 of 49	51.333	11-1342M	Jones Creek ORV Trail Maintenance V	Jones Creek Trail Riders Association				\$20,000		\$10,000	\$30,000	\$1,585,990	Alternate
32 of 49	50.333	11-1374M	Tolt-MacDonald Trail Rehabilitation	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks		\$26,300				\$36,707	\$63,007	\$1,612,290	Alternate
33 of 49	50.200	11-1229M	Greenwater-Naches-Ahtanum SM Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$50,484	\$201,938	\$252,422	\$1,662,774	Alternate
34 of 49	50.067	11-1226M	South Cascades Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$20,304	\$81,218	\$101,522	\$1,683,078	Alternate
35 of 49	49.933	11-1233M	Snoqualmie Pass to Blewett Pass SM Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$49,910	\$199,643	\$249,553	\$1,732,988	Alternate
36 of 49	49.800	11-1235M	Mt. Spokane Nordic Ski Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission		\$7,423				\$29,695	\$37,118	\$1,740,411	Alternate
37 of 49	49.400	11-1189M	Mt. Baker Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$15,744	\$62,979	\$78,723	\$1,756,155	Alternate

Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request					Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Request	Staff Recommend
					NMSU	NMMU	Compatible	MMU	MSU				
38 of 49	49.267	11-1230M	Taneum-Manastash Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$19,768	\$79,074	\$98,842	\$1,775,923	Alternate
39 of 49	49.200	11-1194M	Okanogan Highlands Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$8,398	\$33,594	\$41,992	\$1,784,321	Alternate
40 of 49	48.933	11-1345D	Lake Serene Trail Rehabilitation	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Skykomish Ranger District		\$75,000				\$32,600	\$107,600	\$1,859,321	Alternate
40 of 49	48.933	11-1416M	Mt. Adams Snowmobile and Trailer Purchase	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Mt. Adams Ranger District			\$24,000			\$20,688	\$44,688	\$1,883,321	Alternate
42 of 49	48.467	11-1388D	Kelley Creek Connector - Phase III	Volunteers for Outdoor Washington	\$51,000					\$60,000	\$111,000	\$1,934,321	Alternate
43 of 49	48.000	11-1231M	Stemilt-Colockum Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$8,227	\$32,912	\$41,139	\$1,942,548	Alternate
44 of 49	47.600	11-1232M	Chelan Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$18,563	\$74,253	\$92,816	\$1,961,111	Alternate
45 of 49	46.400	11-1422D	Hidden Cove Park	Bainbridge Island Park District		\$75,000				\$110,350	\$185,350	\$2,036,111	Alternate
46 of 49	46.067	11-1439D	Middle Fork Trail Flood Repairs	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District		\$45,000				\$11,500	\$56,500	\$2,081,111	Alternate
47 of 49	45.133	11-1302D	Preston Railroad Grade Trail Renovation	Washington Department of Natural Resources		\$55,000				\$13,755	\$68,755	\$2,136,111	Alternate
48 of 49	42.000	11-1301D	Dirty Harry's Peak Trail Rehabilitation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$75,000					\$19,500	\$94,500	\$2,211,111	Alternate
49 of 49	39.600	11-1385D	Ski Trail Development	Wentachee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District		\$32,000				\$8,000	\$40,000	\$2,243,111	Alternate
					\$201,000	\$1,271,363	\$280,800	\$236,550	\$253,398	\$3,508,114	\$5,751,225		\$762,342

Acronyms:

NMSU: Nonmotorized single use

NMMU: Nonmotorized multiple use

Compatible: Combines motorized and nonmotorized uses

MMU: Motorized multiple use

MSU: Motorized single use

P: Partial funding

Funds Available:

\$802,465

Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List, Recreational Trails Program: Education

State Fiscal Year 2012

Resolution 2011-30

November 2011

Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request					Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Request	Staff Recommend
					NMSU	NMMU	Compatible	MMU	MSU				
1 of 13	19.786	11-1248E	Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Program 2012	Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District		\$10,000				\$36,835	\$46,835	\$10,000	\$10,000
2 of 13	18.929	11-1382E	Cle Elum Winter Trail Patrol 2012-2013	Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District				\$10,000		\$26,000	\$36,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
3 of 13	18.571	11-1188E	Water Trail SEA Kayaker Team Educators	Washington Water Trails Association	\$2,037					\$7,500	\$9,537	\$22,037	\$22,037 P
		11-1188E	Water Trail SEA Kayaker Team Educators	Washington Water Trails Association	\$2,963						\$2,963	\$25,000	Alternate
3 of 13	18.571	11-1338E	Mountain Stewards 2012	Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Mt Baker Ranger District		\$10,000				\$13,500	\$23,500	\$35,000	\$32,037
5 of 13	18.000	11-1339E	Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers 2012	Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Mt Baker Ranger District		\$6,049				\$14,210	\$20,259	\$41,049	\$38,086 P
		11-1339E	Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers 2012	Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Mt Baker Ranger District		\$3,951					\$3,951	\$45,000	Alternate
6 of 13	17.857	11-1281E	Cle Elum Wilderness Education 2012	Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District		\$10,000				\$10,500	\$20,500	\$55,000	Alternate
6 of 13	17.857	11-1408E	Lake Wen - Entiat Snow Ranger 2012	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District				\$2,037		\$19,720	\$21,757	\$57,037	\$40,123 P
		11-1408E	Lake Wen - Entiat Snow Ranger 2012	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District				\$7,963			\$7,963	\$65,000	Alternate
8 of 13	17.786	11-1412E	USFS Snoqualmie Pass Winter Education Patrol	Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District			\$10,000			\$12,000	\$22,000	\$75,000	Alternate
8 of 13	17.786	11-1279E	Minimum Impact Recreation 2012	Back Country Horsemen of Washington		\$10,000				\$2,500	\$12,500	\$85,000	Alternate
10 of 13	17.714	11-1212E	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Snow Ranger 11-12	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Mt Adams Ranger District				\$10,000		\$13,385	\$23,385	\$95,000	Alternate
11 of 13	17.357	11-1371E	USFS Cle Elum - Summer SPVIEC	Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District		\$10,000				\$10,000	\$20,000	\$105,000	Alternate
12 of 13	16.643	11-1421E	Snowmobile Educational Signing	Wenatchee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District				\$10,000		\$4,540	\$14,540	\$115,000	Alternate
13 of 13	15.357	11-1436E	Enchantments Information and Education Specialists	Wenatchee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$10,000					\$12,400	\$22,400	\$125,000	Alternate
					\$15,000	\$60,000	\$10,000	\$40,000		\$183,090	\$308,090		\$40,123

Acronyms:

NMSU: Nonmotorized single use

NMMU: Nonmotorized multiple use

Compatible: Combines motorized and nonmotorized uses

MMU: Motorized multiple use

MSU: Motorized single use

P: Partial funding

Funds Available:

\$802,465

Attachment A: Advisory Committee Members

The RTP advisory committee/evaluation team membership reflects a diverse set of trail users and land managers.

Name	City	Position
Doug Conner	Pasco	Motorcycle community
Brian Crowley	Woodinville	Mountain bike community
Kevin Farrell	Olympia	Hiking community
Durlyn Finnie	Allyn	Citizen-at-large
Steve Hahn	Olympia	State Parks and Recreation
Gerry Hodge	Olympia	Water trail community
Ted Jackson	Monroe	All-terrain vehicle community
Michael Jones	Ferndale	Citizen-at-large
John Keates	Mason County	Local agencies
Kristen Kuykendall	Olympia	Department of Fish and Wildlife
Ian Macek	Olympia	Department of Transportation
David McMains	Moses Lake	Four-wheel drive community
Gary Paull	Darrington	Federal agencies
Sandy Sternod	Kent	Snowmobile community
Patti Wible	Port Orchard	Equestrian community

Attachment B: Evaluation Criteria Summary

RTP Evaluation Criteria Summary General (Development and Maintenance) Projects				
Scored by	Number	Item	Multiplier/ Maximum Points	For Development/ Maintenance Projects
Evaluation Team	1	Need	3/15	D/M
Evaluation Team	2	Need satisfaction	3/15	D/M
Evaluation Team	3	Project design	2/10	D
Evaluation Team	4	Maintenance	2/10	M
Evaluation Team	5	Readiness to proceed	1/5	D/M
Evaluation Team	6	Cost-benefit	1/5	D/M
Evaluation Team	7	Non-government contribution	1/5	D/M
Evaluation Team	8	Project support	2/10	D/M
RCO Staff	9	Matching shares	2/10	D/M
RCO Staff	10	GMA preference	-/(-1)	D/M
Total Points Possible–Development=75, Maintenance=75				

RTP Evaluation Criteria Summary Education (Safety-Environmental Awareness) Projects			
Scored by	#	Describe the...	Multiplier/Maximum Points
Evaluation Team	1	Need for this project	1/5
Evaluation Team	2	Extent to which the project satisfies this need	1/5
Evaluation Team	3	Applicant's ability to accomplish the project	1/5
Evaluation Team	4	Project's cost-benefit	1/5
Evaluation Team	5	Support for the project	1/5
Total Points Possible			25

KEY TO TABLES:

Item = Criteria title

D/M = Criterion applicable to either development or maintenance projects

GMA = Growth Management Act

Attachment C: Summary of Evaluation Scores, Recreational Trails Program, General Category Projects

State Fiscal Year 2012

	Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
		Need	Need Satisfaction	Project Design	Maintenance	Readiness to Proceed	Cost Benefit	Non Government Contribution	Project Support	Matching Share	GMA Preference	
Rank	Project Name											Total
1	Mt. Tahoma Trails Association Outhouse Washington Trails Association 2012 Front Country	11.80	13.00	7.73		3.73	3.47	3.27	7.33	10.00	0.00	60.33
2	Trail Maintenance Washington Trails Association 2012 Back Country	12.20	10.40	0.00	7.47	4.13	4.07	4.13	7.47	10.00	0.00	59.87
3	Trail Teams Pacific Northwest Trail North Cascades Youth	11.60	11.00		6.67	4.00	3.93	4.07	7.47	10.00	0.00	58.73
4	Crew 2012	11.40	11.00		6.67	3.93	3.53	3.67	8.13	10.00	0.00	58.33
5	Nason Ridge Trail System	12.00	11.60		6.93	3.87	3.27	3.07	7.47	10.00	0.00	58.20
6	Chelan Uplake Trails 12	11.00	11.80		6.93	3.73	3.47	3.20	7.73	10.00	0.00	57.87
7	Mountains to Sound Trail Maintenance 2012	11.60	10.60		7.60	4.00	3.60	3.53	6.67	10.00	0.00	57.60
8	Walker Valley ORV Maintenance and Operation Washinton Trails Association 2012 Youth Trail	12.40	12.00		7.33	4.13	3.47	3.20	8.67	6.00	0.00	57.20
9	Maintenance Support	11.40	10.60		6.93	3.73	3.53	4.13	6.67	10.00	0.00	57.00
9	Anderson Lake State Park Trails 2012 Entiat Ranger District - Wilderness Non-	11.00	11.20		6.93	3.67	3.40	3.33	7.47	10.00	0.00	57.00
11	motorized Trails 2012 - 2013 Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance	11.40	11.40		7.60	3.93	3.40	3.13	6.00	10.00	0.00	56.87
11	2012 - 2013	11.40	11.00	0.00	7.33	3.53	3.33	3.20	7.07	10.00	0.00	56.87
13	Multi-Use Trails Maintenance	11.20	11.40		7.07	3.93	3.53	2.07	7.60	10.00	0.00	56.80
14	Darrington Trail Maintenance 2012 - 2013	11.60	10.60		7.87	3.93	3.33	3.13	6.13	10.00	0.00	56.60
15	Pacific Northwest Trail Oympic Youth Crew 2012	10.80	10.60		6.80	3.73	3.27	3.67	7.47	10.00	0.00	56.33
16	Volunteer Trail Maintenance 2012 Wildhorse and Whitepine Trails Maintenance and	9.60	10.20		6.67	3.60	3.87	4.07	8.13	10.00	0.00	56.13
16	Operation	11.00	11.00		7.20	3.87	3.00	3.00	7.07	10.00	0.00	56.13
18	Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2012	10.60	10.80		6.93	3.53	3.40	3.60	7.20	10.00	0.00	56.07
19	2012-13 Earth Corps Wilderness Trail	10.40	11.80	0.00	6.67	3.80	3.33	3.13	6.00	10.00	0.00	55.13
20	Sawtooth Backcountry Trail Maintenance 2012 -	10.80	11.40		7.47	3.67	3.47	3.60	6.53	8.00	0.00	54.93
21	Salmon Ridge Ski Trail Maintenance 2011- 2013	10.60	10.20		6.40	4.00	3.13	3.20	7.20	10.00	0.00	54.73
22	Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2012 Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wilderness Trails	11.00	10.80		6.00	3.87	2.87	2.93	6.67	10.00	0.00	54.13
23	Maintenance 2012	11.00	10.20		6.67	4.00	3.40	2.53	5.87	10.00	0.00	53.67
23	Evans Creek ORV Maintenance and Operation	9.00	10.20		7.07	4.00	3.27	3.33	6.80	10.00	0.00	53.67

	Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
		Need	Need Satisfaction	Project Design	Maintenance	Readiness to Proceed	Cost Benefit	Non Government Contribution	Project Support	Matching Share	GMA Preference	
Rank	Project Name											Total
25	Dutch Miller Gap Trail Maintenance	10.40	10.40	0.00	6.40	4.00	3.27	3.13	5.60	10.00	0.00	53.20
26	Tiger Mountain Trail Footbridge Development Entiat/Lake Wenatchee Snowmobile Trail	10.80	11.60	6.40		3.60	2.67	2.07	6.00	10.00	0.00	53.13
27	Maintenance 2012-13	9.80	10.00		6.13	3.93	3.20	2.80	6.13	10.00	0.00	52.00
28	Mt. Baker Trail Grooming and Maintenance	9.80	10.00		6.40	3.80	2.93	3.27	5.60	10.00	0.00	51.80
29	Backcountry Site Maintenance	10.20	9.80		6.00	3.87	3.07	3.20	5.20	10.00	0.00	51.33
29	I-90 Corridor Nordic Ski Trail Grooming	10.20	9.80		6.00	3.87	3.00	2.33	6.13	10.00	0.00	51.33
29	Jones Creek ORV Trail Maintenance	11.40	11.40		7.07	3.80	3.60	3.40	6.67	4.00	0.00	51.33
32	Tolt-MacDonald Trail Rehabilitation Greenwater-Naches-Ahtanum Snowmobile Trail	8.40	9.80		7.07	3.60	3.00	2.47	6.00	10.00	0.00	50.33
33	Grooming	9.20	8.80		6.13	3.93	3.20	2.67	6.27	10.00	0.00	50.20
34	South Cascades Snowmobile Trail Snoqualmie Pass to Blewett Pass Snowmobile	8.80	8.60		6.27	3.87	3.07	3.07	6.40	10.00	0.00	50.07
35	Trail Grooming	9.00	9.00		6.13	3.80	3.00	2.60	6.40	10.00	0.00	49.93
36	Mt. Spokane Nordic Ski Trail Grooming	9.60	8.80		6.13	3.73	3.00	2.67	5.87	10.00	0.00	49.80
37	Mt. Baker Snowmobile Trail Grooming	9.00	9.00	0.00	5.87	4.00	3.07	2.47	6.00	10.00	0.00	49.40
38	Taneum-Manastas Snowmobile Trail Grooming	8.80	8.60		5.87	3.80	3.13	2.67	6.40	10.00	0.00	49.27
39	Okanogan Highlands Snowmobile Trail Grooming	8.20	9.00	0.00	6.00	3.87	3.27	2.87	6.00	10.00	0.00	49.20
40	Lake Serene Trail Rehabilitation	11.20	11.60	6.40		3.67	2.93	2.60	6.53	4.00	0.00	48.93
40	Mt. Adams Snowmobile and Trailer Purchase	8.00	10.20		5.47	4.20	3.13	2.87	5.07	10.00	0.00	48.93
42	Kelley Creek Connector Phase 3	7.60	8.80	6.40		3.73	2.67	3.27	6.00	10.00	0.00	48.47
43	Stemilt-Colockum Snowmobile Trail Grooming	8.60	8.60		5.87	3.80	3.07	2.47	5.60	10.00	0.00	48.00
44	Chelan Snowmobile Trail Grooming	8.20	8.20	0.00	5.73	3.73	2.80	2.67	6.27	10.00	0.00	47.60
45	Hidden Cove Park	7.00	9.00	6.13		3.07	2.87	2.73	5.60	10.00	0.00	46.40
46	Middle Fork Trail Flood Repairs	12.00	12.20	6.53	0.00	3.07	3.07	2.67	6.53	0.00	0.00	46.07
47	Preston Railroad Grade Trail Renovation	11.40	11.80	6.53		3.80	2.93	2.53	6.13	0.00	0.00	45.13
48	Dirty Harry's Peak Trail Rehabilitation	9.80	10.80	6.27		3.87	2.60	2.67	6.00	0.00	0.00	42.00
49	Ski Trail Development	8.20	9.60	6.13		3.87	3.07	2.47	6.27	0.00	0.00	39.60

Evaluators Score Questions # 1 - 8

RCO Staff Scores Questions # 9 - 10

Attachment C: Summary of Evaluation Scores, Recreational Trails Program, Education Projects

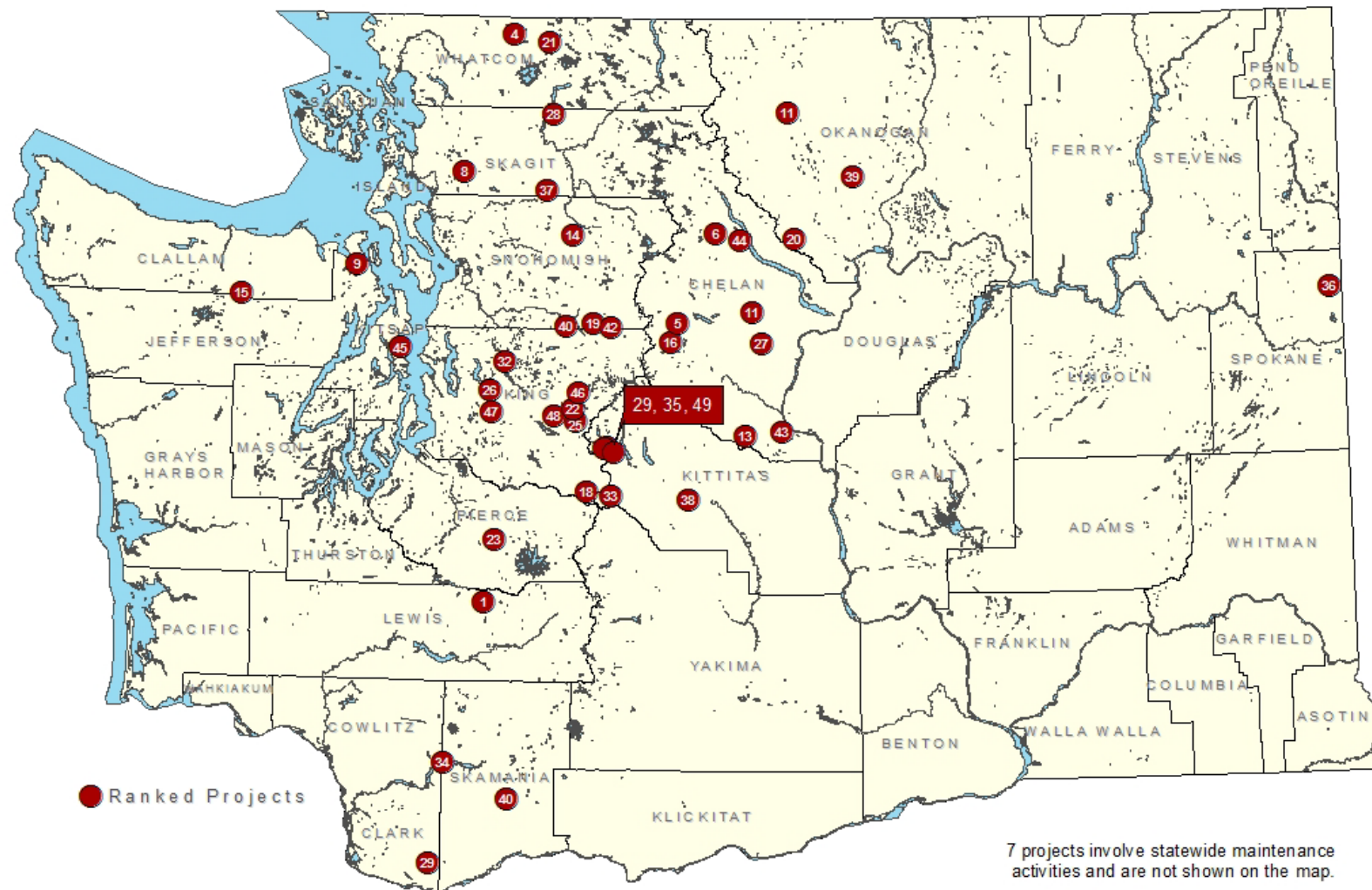
State Fiscal Year 2012

	Question #	1	2	3	4	5	
		Need for Project	Extent Project Satisfies Need	Applicant Ability to Accomplish	Project Cost Benefit	Project Support	Total
Rank	Project Name						
1	Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Program 2012	4.07	4.36	4.00	3.86	3.50	19.79
2	Cle Elum Winter Trail Patrol 2012-2013	3.57	3.50	4.21	3.86	3.79	18.93
3	Water Trail SEA Kayaker Team Educators	3.36	3.79	4.36	3.21	3.86	18.57
3	Mountain Stewards 2012	3.50	3.79	3.93	3.57	3.79	18.57
5	Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers 2012	3.71	3.93	4.07	3.21	3.07	18.00
6	Cle Elum Wilderness Education 2012	3.50	3.43	3.86	3.29	3.79	17.86
6	Lake Wenatchee - Entiat Snow Ranger 2012	3.50	3.50	3.93	3.57	3.36	17.86
8	USFS Snoqualmie Pass Winter Education Patrol	3.43	3.71	3.86	3.21	3.57	17.79
8	Minimum Impact Recreation 2012	3.36	3.57	4.21	3.00	3.64	17.79
10	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Snow Ranger 11	3.29	3.50	4.21	3.29	3.43	17.71
11	USFS Cle Elum - Summer SPVIEC	3.21	3.29	3.93	3.36	3.57	17.36
12	Snowmobile Educational Signing	3.07	3.50	3.79	3.00	3.29	16.64
13	Enchantments Information and Education Speci	2.86	3.21	3.50	2.64	3.14	15.36

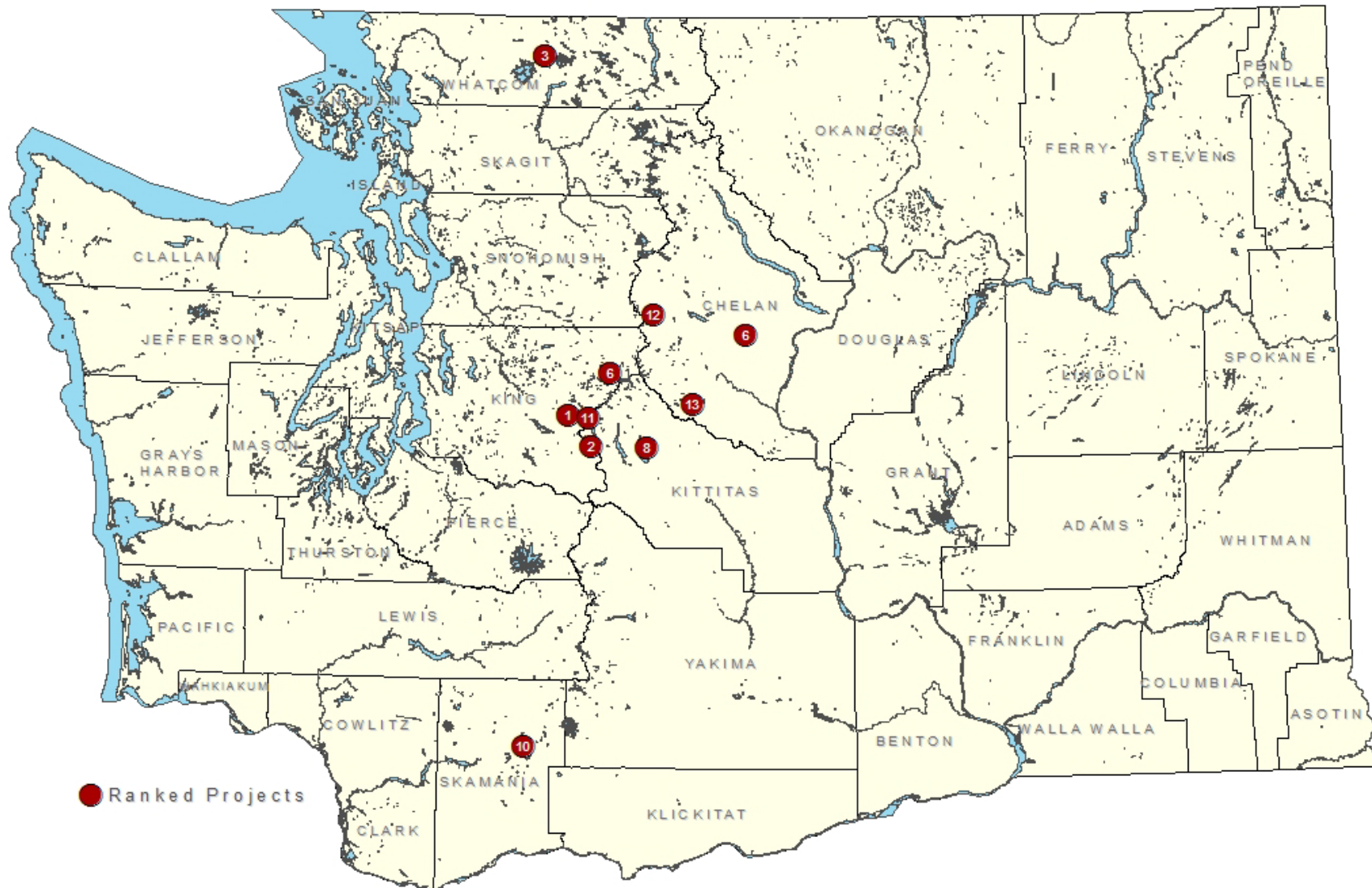
Evaluators Score Questions # 1 - 5

Attachment D: Project Location Maps

Map 1: General Category Projects



Map 2: Education Category Projects



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011
Title: Conversion Request: Cheasty Greenspace, City of Seattle, RCO #91-246
Prepared By: Leslie Ryan-Connelly, Senior Outdoor Grants Manager
Approved by the Director:

 for Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

The City of Seattle (city) is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve a conversion of 0.73 acres of property in the Cheasty Greenspace, which was acquired with WWRP Urban Wildlife funding in 1991 (RCO #91-246). A short briefing was provided in writing in the September 2011 board notebook ([Item 2D, page 4](#)).

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 #: 2011-31

Purpose of Resolution: Approve request for conversion and accept replacement property.

Overview of Board's Role and Applicable Rules and Policies

Manual 7: Funded Projects identifies the circumstances that create a conversion. The matter addressed by this memo is a conversion because the sponsor is asking to convey property interests for uses that are not habitat conservation.

Board's Role

Because local needs change over time, state laws and RCO rules allow conversions of grant funded projects if the project sponsor provides for adequate substitution or replacement as listed below.

The role of the board is to evaluate the practical alternatives considered for the conversion and replacement (including avoidance) and to consider if the replacement property meets the requirements set in RCO administrative rules and policies. The board does not have the authority in statute to levy penalties or dictate the future use of the property being converted.

Applicable Policies and Rules

State law¹ states that WWRP habitat land that was purchased with a board grant may not be converted to a use other than that originally approved, without prior approval of the board. The board has adopted policy that defines when a conversion occurs for an acquisition project, the appropriate replacement measures, and the steps that sponsors must take to request approval. The full list of actions that would be considered a conversion for any board funded project are in [Attachment B](#).

For the Cheasty Greenspace project, the proposed action is considered a conversion because property interests are being conveyed for uses that are not related to habitat conservation.

Conversions in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

In accordance with state law², the board has adopted administrative rules for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) to address a project sponsor's obligation to resolve a conversion for an acquisition project³. The applicable rules that apply to an acquisition project are as follows:

- All practical alternatives to the conversion have been evaluated and rejected, and
- The project sponsor will provide another interest in real property and/or facilities to serve as replacement. The replacement must:
 - Be of equivalent or greater usefulness and location;

² RCW 79A.15.030(8)

³ WAC 286-27-066; staff has omitted rules addressing development or restoration projects because they are inapplicable.

- If an acquisition project, be interests in real property of at least equal market value and public benefit at the time of replacement;
- Be administered by the same project sponsor or successor unless otherwise approved;
- Satisfy needs identified in the most recent plans on file at RCO related to the project sponsor's eligibility; and
- Be eligible in the WWRP account or category of the original project unless otherwise approved.

Board Policies for All Conversions

In addition, the board has adopted policy that requires the project sponsor to address the following for any conversion⁴:

- A list and discussion of all alternatives for replacement or remediation of the conversion, including avoidance.
- 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.

Background

Project Name:	Cheasty Greenbelt and Mountain View Natural Areas 1992	Project #: 91-246
Grant Program:	WWRP Urban Wildlife Habitat	Board funded date: 7/1/91
RCO Amount:	\$ 1,000,000	Original Purpose: Protection of greenbelt
Total Amount:	\$2,000,000	

In 1991 and 1992, the city purchased 17 parcels totaling 14.62 acres as additions to the Cheasty and Mountain View Natural Areas (now known as the Cheasty Greenspace) in southeast Seattle. The matching funds for the project were from King County's 1989 Open Space and Trails bond. The acquisitions protected wooded areas, springs, and wetlands along the Olmstead-designed Cheasty Boulevard, preserved open space and greenbelts, and served as an environmental buffer between commercial and residential areas. The city has continued to purchase additions to the Cheasty Greenspace. Today, it includes 43 acres of protected urban habitat and extends from McClellan Street on the north to Alaska Street on the south. (See location map in Attachment A.)

The Conversion

The property to be converted is 0.73 acres of the original project (5 percent). The property was acquired in March 1991 and contained wooded and wetland areas, with a gently rising slope. It

⁴ Manual 7, Section 3

is located on the north end of the greenspace, one block west of Rainier Avenue on South McClellan Street between 24th and 25th Avenues South. (See location and parcel maps in Attachment A.)

The property is proposed for conversion due to a conveyance of property rights for non-habitat conservation uses. The conversion is a result of construction of the Beacon Hill tunnel for the Central Link Light Rail project built by Sound Transit. The light rail line runs from the airport to downtown Seattle. The city approved a temporary right of entry on March 30, 2004 so that Sound Transit could construct the light rail tunnel according to its schedule. Sound Transit has since completed the tunnel and restored the site as wildlife habitat and opened it for public use. Now, the City and Sound Transit have agreed on the terms and conditions of a permanent subsurface easement.

Actual conversion of property rights does not occur until the conveyance is complete. Therefore, there has been no official conversion of use. However, at its September 26, 2011 meeting, the Seattle City Council approved the transfer of the permanent easement to Sound Transit. Conveyance of the permanent easement is now pending the action of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board at the November 2011 meeting.

The deed of right on the converted property states that the market value of the conversion should be determined as of the date that the conversion of use occurred. Now that the city has agreed to a permanent easement to Sound Transit on the property, RCO is applying the conversion policy retroactively to March 2004 when the temporary right of entry was first issued.

Although the transfer to Sound Transit is only for subsurface easement rights, the city has elected to conduct a fee simple conversion on the property.

Details of Proposed Replacement

The city proposes to replace the converted property with a property that is an inholding⁵ to another WWRP Urban Wildlife Habitat funded property at the Duwamish Head Greenbelt (RCO #91-247 and 92-089), now known as the Duwamish Head Greenspace. The replacement property was purchased under a waiver of retroactivity. Under board policy⁶, the waiver allows the property to be eligible even though the city purchased it in June 2010.

The replacement property is 0.68 acres located in the North Admiral neighborhood of West Seattle, along Lotus Avenue (one block up from Harbor Avenue Southwest) (Attachment A.) The property contains 4 parcels with one single family residence built in 1931 and various other structures and outbuildings. Per RCO requirements, the city plans to demolish the structures. The property also contains wooded areas and wetlands with views of downtown and the Duwamish industrial area. It is intended as an addition to the Duwamish Head Greenspace, which is one of the largest greenspaces in the city.

⁵ An inholding is a privately owned parcel of land within the boundaries of the existing park.

⁶ Manual 3, Section 2

Assessment of the Proposal

Evaluation of Request

Based upon the requirements discussed above, RCO has assessed the proposal as follows.

Evaluation of Practical Alternatives

The preferred location of the light rail corridor as outlined in the “Central Link Light Rail Beacon Hill Tunnel Plans” drove the selection of the converted property for the tunnel project. The location of the light rail tunnel which caused the conversion was the result of numerous studies. The city council approved the alignment of the light rail corridor on April 20, 2000 through resolution and later issued a temporary right of entry for construction of the project in March 2004.

Sound Transit was given only temporary property rights and the surface of the site is restored, so the city considered whether a permanent conversion would be necessary. First, the city considered whether it could issue Sound Transit an indefinite use permit for operation and maintenance of the tunnel for the future. However, issuing an indefinite use permit was not acceptable to Sound Transit because they need permanent, on-going subsurface rights for operation and maintenance of the tunnel.

The city also considered whether it could sell the fee simple interest in the property or only the subsurface easement rights. Either of these alternatives would be viable for Sound Transit’s needs. However, the city prefers to retain the fee simple interest in the property and sell the subsurface easement. For the RCO conversion, however, the city wants to convert the fee simple interest in the property even though the conveyance of property rights was for a lesser interest.

For the replacement property, the city chose the proposed replacement property as the preferred alternative because it protects urban wildlife habitat located within the existing Duwamish Head Greenspace from future development. The property was available on short notice through a bankruptcy action. It meets all of the RCO requirements for replacement and is located within an existing greenspace, which maximizes the benefits of protecting the urban wildlife habitat on site.

Evaluation of Fair Market Value

Appraisals of the properties were conducted with a market value date of March 2005 for the conversion property and March 2004 for the replacement property. Both appraisals were done within 12 months of the date of conversion (March 2004) when the city first approved the temporary right of entry. The deed of right recorded on the conversion property instructs that the market value of any future conversion be assessed as of the date of the conversion of use. The 12 month period between appraisals meets RCO’s policy regarding the shelf life of an appraisal for acquisition projects.

The appraisals found that the fair market value of the proposed replacement property exceeds the value of the conversion property. Any potential decrease in the market value of the replacement property from March 2004 to March 2005 would likely be within the \$200,000

(33%) difference in value. Any increase in the market value of the replacement property would overcompensate for the conversion property and would be acceptable.

	Conversion Property	Replacement Property	Difference
Market Value	\$400,000	\$600,000	+ \$200,000
Value Date	March 2005	March 2004	

Evaluation of Reasonably Equivalent Usefulness and Location

The replacement property offers reasonably equivalent usefulness and location as the conversion property. Both properties have similar habitat functions for urban greenspace with wooded areas and wetlands within an established open space corridor. Both properties are located within residential and commercial areas in Seattle. The property proposed for conversion is in the southeast are of the city and the replacement property is in the southwest area. (Attachment A.)

Same Project Sponsor

The replacement property meets the requirement that it be administered by the same project sponsor or successor unless otherwise approved by the board. The City of Seattle is the original project sponsor and will also be the owner and manager of the replacement property.

Satisfy Needs in Adopted Plan

The replacement property satisfies a need identified in city's adopted plan currently on file at RCO. The city's Parks and Recreation Development Plan (2006) acquisition policies call for acquiring privately owned property within existing greenspaces for preservation purposes. Acquisition of greenspace also contributes towards the city's overall goal for open space.

Eligible in the Funding Program

The replacement property meets the eligibility requirements of the WWRP Urban Wildlife Habitat category. Specifically, the property is located within the city limits of a population of at least 5,000 people⁷.

Evaluation of Public Participation

The public was given reasonable opportunity to participate in the identification, development, and evaluation of the alternatives. The city council published notice on August 19, 2011 for a public hearing on September 22, 2011. The city council adopted legislation in a public meeting on September 26, 2011 related to the conversion property per council bill 117265 and the replacement property per council bill 117266. No public comments were received related to the council actions on this proposal.

⁷ Manual 10b: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Habitat Conservation Account and Riparian Protection Account

In addition, the city council approved various actions in relation to the Central Light Rail Transit Line from 1998 to 2004.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of this conversion supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect and enhance recreation opportunities statewide, as well as its objective to ensure that funded projects are managed in conformance with existing legal authorities.

Staff Recommendation

RCO staff recommends that the board approve the conversion. The conversion proposal meets all of the board's rules and policies and does not contain any unusual circumstances.

Attachments

Resolution 2011-31

- A. Maps
- B. Actions that Constitute a Conversion of a Board-Funded Project

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution 2011-31

Approving Conversion for Cheasty Greenspace in Seattle (RCO #91-246)

WHEREAS, the city of Seattle (city) used a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) to protect urban habitat in the Cheasty Greenbelt, now known as the Cheasty Greenspace; and

WHEREAS, the city proposes conversion of one of the properties acquired under the grant to facilitate construction of the Sound Transit Central Link Light Rail Tunnel at Beacon Hill; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this proposed conversion, the property no longer satisfies the conditions of the RCO grant; and

WHEREAS, the city is asking for Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approval to replace the property proposed for conversion with property purchased under a waiver of retroactivity in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the proposed replacement property is in reasonable proximity to the conversion site, has an appraised value that is greater than the conversion site, is eligible in the funding program, and will provide opportunities that closely match those displaced by the conversion; and

WHEREAS, the replacement property supports the city's documented plans that call for acquiring privately owned property within existing green spaces for preservation purposes as well as its goal for open space, thereby supporting the board's goals to provide funding for projects that protect, restore, and develop habitat opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the sponsor sought public comment on the conversion and discussed it during open public meetings, thereby supporting the board's strategy to regularly seek public feedback in policy and funding decisions;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Recreation and Conservation Funding Board approves the conversion request and the proposed replacement site for RCO Project #91-246 Cheasty Greenspace as presented to the board on November 15, 2011 and set forth in the board memo prepared for that meeting.

Resolution moved by: _____

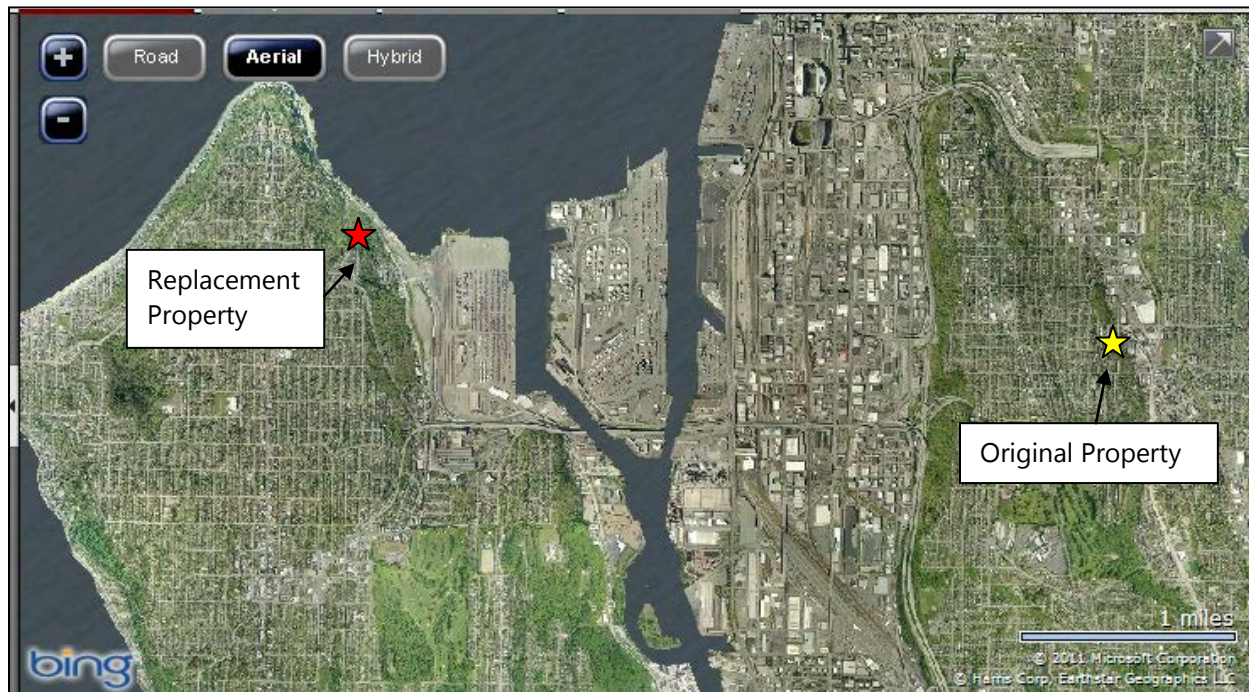
Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

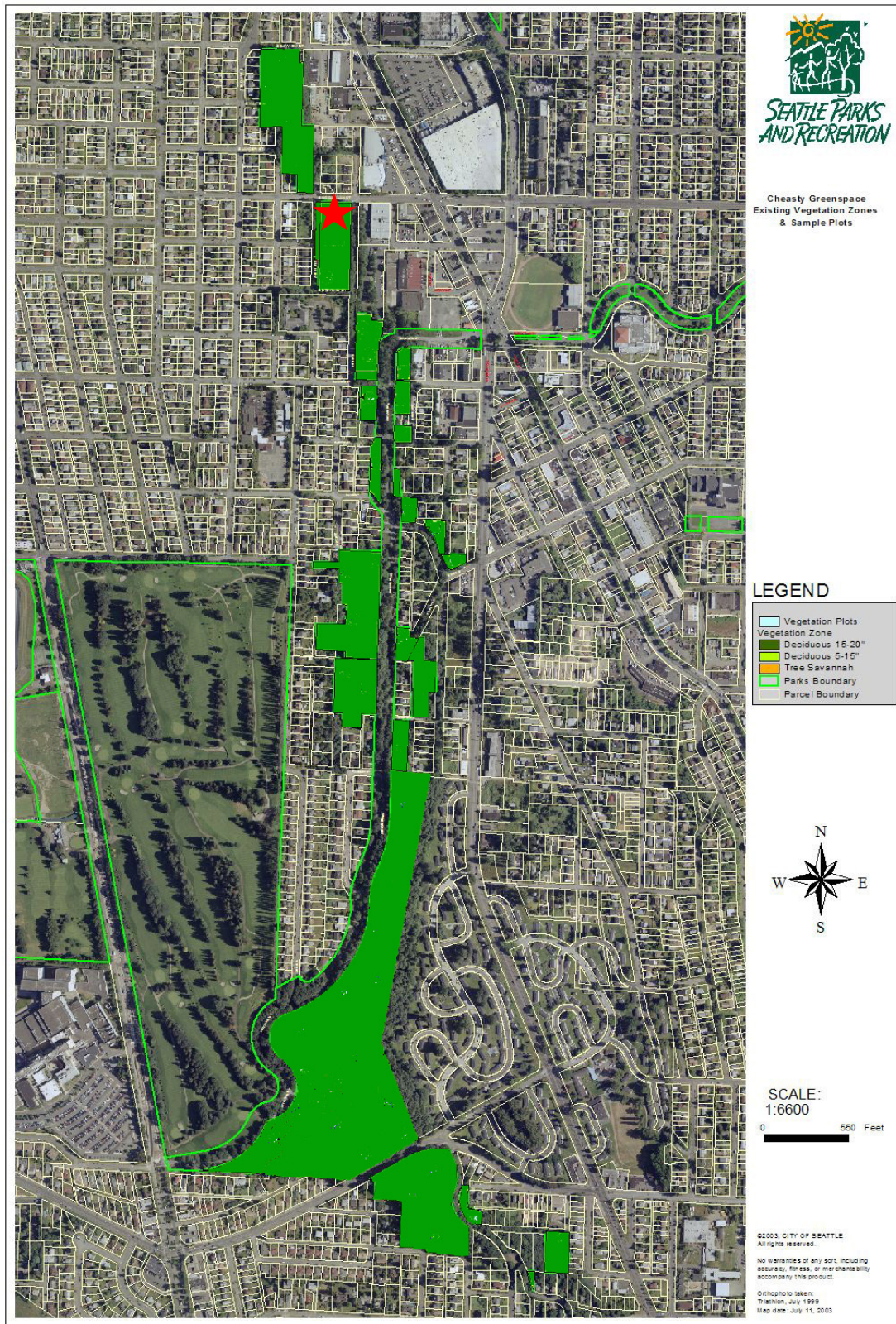
Date: _____

Attachment A: Maps

Location Map: City of Seattle, Cheasty Greenspace Conversion and Replacement Properties



Location Map: City of Seattle, Cheasty Greenspace Conversion

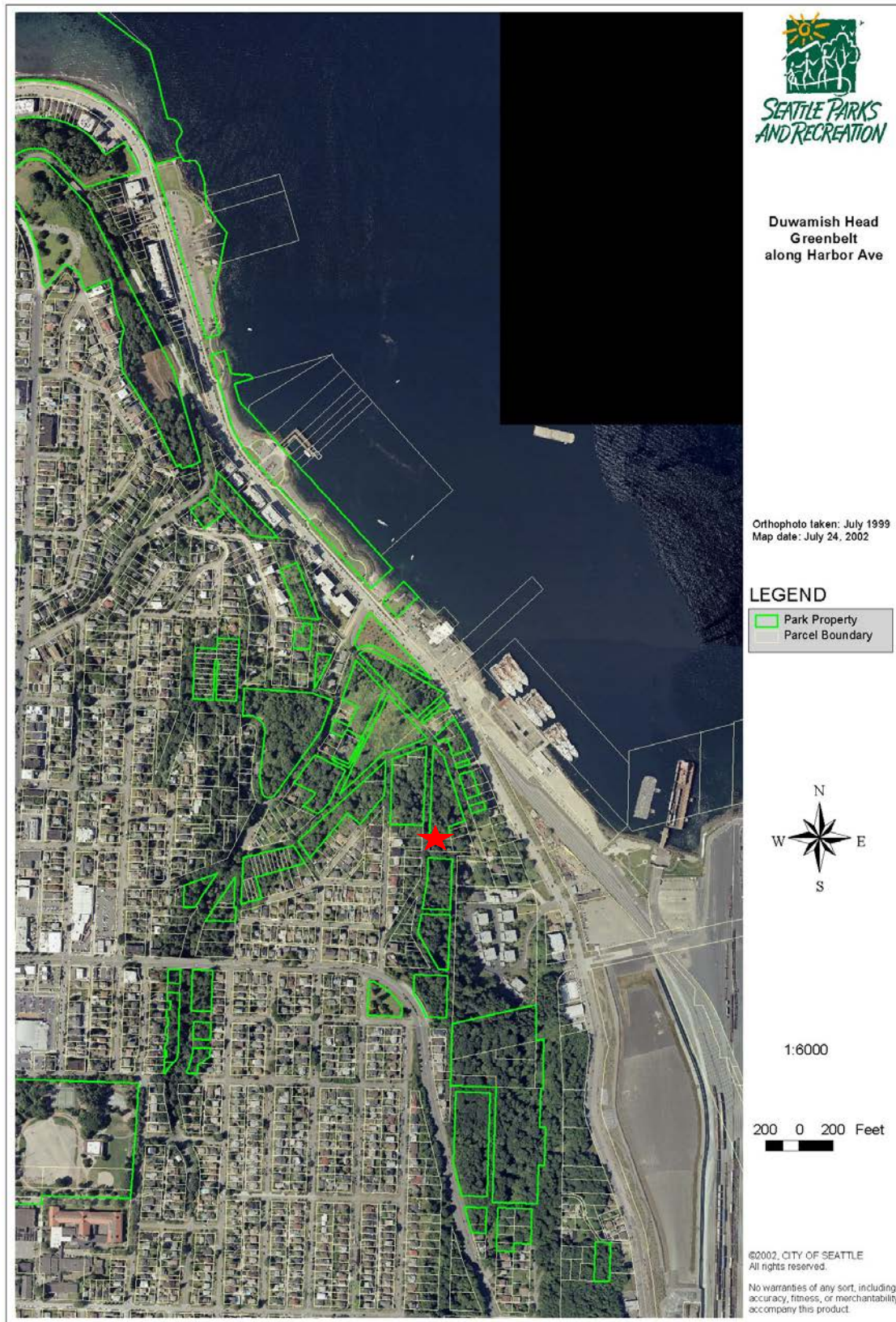


Parcel Map: City of Seattle, Cheasty Greenspace Conversion



Note the tunnel project under construction.

Location Map: City of Seattle, Duwamish Head Greenspace Replacement



Parcel Map: City of Seattle, Duwamish Head Greenspace Replacement



Attachment B: Actions that Constitute a Conversion of a Board-Funded Project

State law states that for WWRP projects:

"Habitat and recreation land and facilities acquired or developed with moneys appropriated for this chapter may not, without prior approval of the board, be converted to a use other than that for which funds were originally approved. The board shall adopt rules and procedures governing the approval of such a conversion."⁸

The board has adopted the following policies in Manual 7 to establish which actions constitute a conversion for any board-funded project:

- Property interests are conveyed for non-public outdoor recreation, habitat conservation, or salmon recovery uses.
- Property interests are conveyed to a third party not otherwise eligible to receive grants in the program from which funding was derived.
- Non-outdoor recreation, habitat conservation, or salmon recovery uses (public or private) are made in a manner that impairs the originally intended purposes of the project area.
- Non-eligible indoor facilities are developed within the project area.
- Public use of the property or a portion of the property acquired or developed/restored with RCFB-SRFB assistance is terminated, unless public use was not allowed under the original grant.
- If a habitat-project, the property or a portion of the property acquired, restored, or enhanced no longer provides the environmental functions for which RCFB-SRFB funds were originally approved.

Note: Prior approval of temporary closure of public access sites will not result in a conversion if the sponsor demonstrates that the closure will last 180 days or less.

⁸ RCW 79A.15.030 (8)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 2011

Title: Recognition of Board Member's Service: Steven Drew

Approved by the Director:

 for
Kaleen Cottingham

Summary

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) member Steven Drew will reach the end of his term in December 2011. Since this is the last meeting of 2011, staff and other board members believe this meeting is the appropriate time to formally recognize the contributions of Mr. Drew to the state through his service on the board.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

☒

Request for Decision

☐

Request for Direction

☐

Briefing

Resolution #: 2011-32

Purpose of Resolution: Recognize the service of member Steven Drew.



A Resolution to Recognize the Service of

Steven Drew

To the Residents of Washington State and the
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

WHEREAS, from March 2006 through December 2011, Steven Drew served the residents of the state of Washington as a member of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew's service assisted the State of Washington in protecting some of its most important wildlife habitat and farmland, and in providing opportunities for recreational pursuits statewide; and

WHEREAS, during his term, the board approved 1,121 grants, creating a state investment of nearly \$345 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew helped lead efforts to ensure that projects sustained our environment and that state investments were protected; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew's extensive and practical knowledge of trails helped guide board decisions and improve our investments in this popular and valuable public resource; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew provided the board with valuable insight, leadership, and excellent advice that assisted in the development of exemplary policies and decisions for funding projects that promoted increased opportunities for outdoor recreation and conservation of the state's most important landscapes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew's term on the board expires on December 31, 2011; and

WHEREAS, members of the board wish to recognize his support, leadership, and service, and to wish him well in future endeavors;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Drew's dedication and excellence in performing his responsibilities and duties as a member, the board and its staff extend their sincere appreciation and compliments on a job well done, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent with a letter of appreciation to Mr. Drew.

Approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
in Olympia, Washington on November 15, 2011

Bill Chapman
Chair

Betsy Bloomfield
Citizen Member

Pete Mayer
Citizen Member

Harriet Spanel
Citizen Member

Don Hoch
Washington State Parks

Steven Saunders
Washington Department of
Natural Resources

Dave Brittell
Washington Department of
Fish and Wildlife

Driving Directions and Tour Map

From Center for Urban Waters To Kandle Park (map point B):

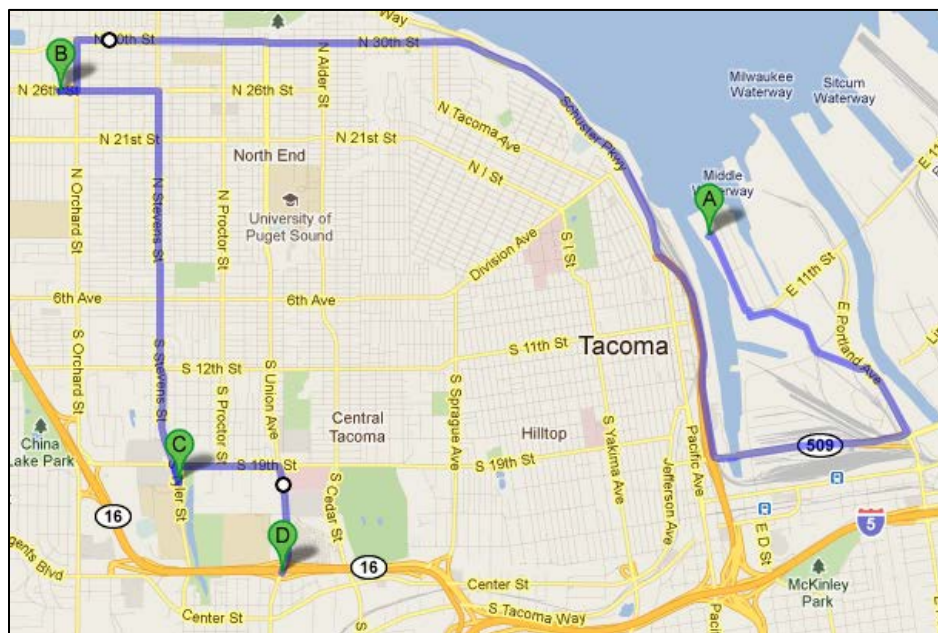
- 1) From parking lot, head south on E. D St.
- 2) Turn Left onto S. 11th Pl.
- 3) Continue straight onto St. Paul Ave.
- 4) Turn Right onto E. Portland Ave.
- 5) Turn Right to merge onto WA-509 S/State Route 509 S toward City Center
- 6) Merge onto I-705 N via the ramp to Schuster Pkwy/Ruston
- 7) Exit on the Left onto Schuster Pkwy
- 8) Keep Right at the fork
- 9) Continue onto N 30th St
- 10) Turn Left onto N Orchard St
- 11) Turn Right onto N 26th St
- 12) Turn Left into parking lot at Boys & Girls Club adjacent to project site.

To Tacoma Nature Center (map point C):

- 1) Head east on N 26th St toward N Orchard St
- 2) Turn right onto N Stevens St
- 3) Continue onto S Mason Ave/S Tyler St
- 4) Take first Left into parking lot for the Tacoma Nature Center (1919 S. Tyler St.)

To Hwy 16 (map point D):

- 1) From parking lot, turn Right on South Tyler St.
- 2) Turn Right on S. 19th St.
- 3) Turn Right on S. Union Ave. to Hwy 16



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-23
November 2011 Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following November 2011 Consent Agenda items are approved:

- a. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – September 2011
- b. Time Extension Requests
 - RCO #07-1455, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Public Archery Range
 - RCO #07-1236, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Pistol Range Upgrade
 - RCO #07-1213, Cowlitz Game and Anglers, Cowlitz County Shooting Range Phase 1
 - RCO #06-1911, WA State Department of Natural Resources, Klickitat Canyon Restoration

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-24
Land and Water Conservation Fund
Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Projects

WHEREAS, for federal fiscal year 2012, twelve Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program projects are eligible for funding; and

WHEREAS, these LWCF projects were evaluated using the Open Project Selection Process approved and adopted by the National Park Service and Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board); and

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred in an open public meeting, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, all twelve LWCF program projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual 15: *Land and Water Conservation Fund*, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington may receive a federal apportionment for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program for federal fiscal year 2012; and

WHEREAS, the projects acquire and/or develop public outdoor recreation 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 and funding of projects depicted in *Table 1 -- LWCF Program Ranked List of Projects, Federal Fiscal Year 2012*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board authorizes the director to submit application materials to the National Park Service and execute project agreements and amendments necessary to facilitate prompt project implementation of federal fiscal year 2012 funds upon notification of the federal apportionment for this program.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List, Land and Water Conservation Fund
State Fiscal Year 2012

Resolution 2011-24
November 2011

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 12	50.33	11-1191D	Klickitat Prairie Park Phase 2	Mossyrock	\$335,575	\$335,575	\$671,150	\$335,575
2 of 12	46.67	11-1359A	North Creek Forest Phase 1	Bothell	\$109,000	\$109,000	\$218,000	\$444,575
3 of 12	46.25	11-1429D	Claybell Park Improvements	Richland Parks and Recreation	\$500,000	\$706,000	\$1,206,000	\$944,575
4 of 12	45.83	11-1195D	Shane Park Playground	Port Angeles	\$92,975	\$235,957	\$328,932	\$1,037,550
5 of 12	44.67	11-1252A	Sunset Bluff Natural Area Park Acquisition 2011	Mason County	\$302,772	\$1,002,228	\$1,305,000	\$1,340,322
6 of 12	43.33	11-1225D	Lower Kinnear Park Enhancement Plan	Seattle Parks and Recreation	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,840,322
7 of 12	41.67	11-1303A	Grand Forest at Hilltop	Bainbridge Island Park District	\$500,000	\$710,500	\$1,210,500	\$2,340,322
8 of 12	39.17	11-1207D	Confluence Parks Development Phase 1	Issaquah	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$2,840,322
9 of 12	37.08	11-1201D	Sacajawea Park Soccer Field	Federal Way	\$438,972	\$438,972	\$877,944	\$3,279,294
10 of 12	36.00	11-1434D	Highland Park Spray Park	Seattle Parks & Rec Dept	\$500,000	\$635,000	\$1,135,000	\$3,779,294
11 of 12	32.00	11-1275A	Morgan's Retreat 2011	Pacific	\$189,500	\$189,500	\$379,000	\$3,968,794
12 of 12	30.50	11-1278D	McCormick Village Park Development	Port Orchard	\$340,000	\$355,000	\$695,000	\$4,308,794
					\$4,308,794	\$6,217,732	\$10,526,526	

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution # 2011-25
2012 Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Meeting Schedule

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) is established by statute and conducts regular meetings, pursuant to RCW 42.30.075, according to a schedule it adopts in an open public meeting; and

WHEREAS, RCW 42.30.075 directs state agencies to file with the code reviser a schedule of the time and place of such meetings on or before January of each year for publication in the Washington state register; and

WHEREAS, having open public meetings is essential to achieving the board's goals to use broad public participation and feedback and to achieve a high level of accountability by using a process that is open to the public; and

WHEREAS, having open public meetings also is essential to the Board's ability to conduct its business so that it achieves its mission and goals as documented in statute and/or its strategic plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the following schedule for 2012 regular meetings of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is hereby adopted; and,

Date	Location
March 21-22	Olympia
June 27-28	Port Angeles
August 23	Conference Call
October 17-18	Olympia

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the board directs staff to publish notice in the State Register accordingly.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution #2011-26

Approving Changes to the Evaluation and Review Process in Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Categories: Critical Habitat, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife

WHEREAS, in-person Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) project reviews and evaluations in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and Riparian Protection Account require considerable time and resources from volunteer evaluators, project applicants, and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) wanted to find a way to reduce this commitment without diminishing the high quality of the evaluations; and

WHEREAS, a less time and resource intensive system, based on written evaluations, rather than in-person presentations, is now successfully used in several board program categories including others in the WWRP Habitat Conservation Account; and

WHEREAS, evaluators would discuss project rankings and make final recommendations at the post-evaluation meetings; and

WHEREAS, adopting this revision would continue to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources; and

WHEREAS, using written evaluations in other grant programs has shown that the process supports the board's goal to conduct its work in an open manner;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt the written evaluation process for the Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and Riparian Protection Account; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the project review meeting will be eliminated from the application process for the Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and Riparian Protection Account; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to implement these revisions for the 2012 grant cycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to assess the effectiveness of the changes following and make a recommendation for future grant cycles in 2013.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution #2011-27

Approving Changes to the Evaluation Process in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program State Lands Restoration Category

WHEREAS, the volunteer panelists who have reviewed and evaluated grant applications in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) State Lands Restoration category asked that the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) revise the evaluation criteria for the category; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the revisions was to add criteria regarding project design, highlight and explain the important benefits of a project, present the responses in a more logical order, and broaden the evaluators' scoring range to more clearly express their evaluation of the project; and

WHEREAS, this intent is supportive of the board's goals to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources; and

WHEREAS, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff drafted changes to the evaluation instrument following the recommendations of the evaluation panel; and

WHEREAS, the RCO published the proposed changes for public comment, thereby supporting the board's goal to ensure programs are managed in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, public comment supported the changes to the evaluation instrument; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt the revised evaluation criteria for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) State Lands Restoration category as presented in Attachment A to the board memo presented November 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to implement this revision beginning with the 2012 grant cycle.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Attachment A: Proposed State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Scoring Criteria

(Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Washington Department of Natural Resources)

Restoration means bringing a site back to its original function through activities that reasonably can be expected to result in a site that is to the degree possible self-sustaining and will not require continual intervention to function as a predominately natural ecosystem. Enhancement improves the ecological function of a site.

Detailed Scoring Criteria

Project Introduction

This is an opportunity to set the stage for the project. Provide maps showing the location of your project on the landscape and briefly provide a broad overview of the site and the project's goals and objectives.

Project Goals and Objectives

Briefly introduce the site and the project's goals and objectives. The following criteria will provide an opportunity to describe the project in more detail however the intent here is primarily to help orient the evaluators to the project.

Statewide, Vicinity, and Site Maps

- Locate the project on statewide, vicinity, and site maps to help orient the evaluators to the project site.
- In order to demonstrate how the project supports connectivity to other important landscapes please include on a map other sites in the area with similar habitat components.

▲ Project Introduction is not scored.

1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics

Describe why the site is worthy of long-term conservation. "Paint a picture" of the project site for the evaluators – the what, where, and why.

The Bigger Picture

- Demonstrate what specific role this project plays in a broader watershed or landscape picture. Describe if the project has functional connectivity with existing habitats.

- State if the site is part of a larger ownership or a collaborative effort to support wildlife, plants or communities. Describe the ecological and biological quality or potential quality of the habitat.

Uniqueness or Significance

- Explain how the site is unique or significant on a regional, ecosystem, watershed, or urban growth area level.
- State if the site is significant in terms of habitat quality, connectivity, diversity, rarity, etc.

Target Species and Communities

- List the target species and communities with special status that occur on the site. This is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all species in the area. Instead try to narrow the description to those species or communities that would be the primary focus of your restoration efforts.
- Demonstrate how the project benefits the species or communities that are being targeted. Include other relevant facts, such as statistics associated with a decline of the target species using the site due to degradation, or how the site supports a larger population than what typically occurs within the rest of the species range, etc.
- Describe the primary habitat functions. State if the habitat or characteristics of the site have been identified as limiting factors or critical pathways to the target species or communities.

▲ Point Range: 0-15.

2. Need for Restoration or Enhancement

Describe the why this restoration or enhancement project needs to be completed.

The Problem to be addressed

- Describe why this restoration or enhancement project is important. Explain what currently keeps the habitat from being fully functioning.
- Establish need by identifying comparable habitats (quality and quantity) that occur in the area.

Threat

- Describe the current condition of the site and why it is important to restore or enhance the site at this particular time. Discuss what will be lost if deterioration is allowed to continue.

- State if the site is located in an ecologically critical area. Discuss if the habitat is recoverable and what factors have contributed to cause the site to be in need of restoration or enhancement.

▲ Point Range: 0-15.

3. Project Design

Describe how the proposed project will address the problem(s) identified earlier.

Details of Project Design

- Describe your restoration or enhancement plans for the area. Specifically demonstrate how the project design addresses the need described in question number two above.
- In your description include the work that has gone into the project to date, including any planning or permitting work that has been completed. Describe any public outreach that has gone into early design work.
- Describe how the project design will improve the ecological function of the site and result in a site that is self-sustaining and will not require continual intervention to function as a natural ecosystem.
- If applicable, describe how the project would help to better manage public use to reduce impacts to targeted species or habitats.

Best Management Practices

- State if the project design is consistent with the Washington State Aquatic Habitat Guidelines Program (Manual 10b page 22), or industry approved best management practices.
- If you are using a new or innovative process, describe why you believe the design will be successful. For example, state if the design is consistent with other project sites or if there is new research that supports your efforts.

▲ Point Range: 0-15.

4. Planning

Specifically describe how the project is consistent with planning efforts occurring in the area.

Consistency with Existing Plans

- How does this project help meet the goals of existing planning efforts. Avoid simply listing other plans that the project may be consistent with. Instead, demonstrate how the project furthers specific elements within the planning efforts.

Puget Sound Partnership Guidelines

- For Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19, state how the project is referenced in the Action Agenda developed by the Puget Sound Partnership. The Action Agenda can be found at www.psp.wa.gov. This question does not need to be answered for projects outside Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19.

▲ Point Range: 0-5.

5. Public Benefit

Describe the degree to which communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from or support the project.

Public Educational or Scientific Value

- Describe efforts that have been made to involve these groups in the project development.
- Explain any known opposition to the project. Describe the support or partnerships you have from the community, interest groups, volunteers, public agencies, etc.
- Discuss how the project enhances other opportunities available to the public. If public access is not allowed on the site, describe why not. *Note: not all sites need to be available for public access in order to be of public benefit.*

Note: the following reference to being designated as a Puget Sound Partner is a placeholder pending action by the Puget Sound Partnership. As a placeholder, it will not be scored until further notice.

Puget Sound Partners. State if the project is sponsored by an entity that is a Puget Sound partner, as defined in Revised Code of Washington 90.71.010. This criterion will apply only to projects within Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19. This determination will be made by the project evaluation, not at some later date. When the Puget Sound Partnership determines a method for designating Puget Sound partners, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board will modify policies to prevent less preferential funding treatment to sponsors not eligible to be Puget Sound partners.

▲ Point Range: 0-5.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-28
Approving Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for Combination Projects in
Certain Grant Programs or Categories

WHEREAS, all projects funded by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) must include a project "type" that represents the overall activity of the project; and

WHEREAS, the project type selected by the applicant determines the criteria that will be used to evaluate the project; and

WHEREAS, a "combination" project will include two of three types – acquisition and either development, or planning – but current scoring practices in the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program State Parks, Trails and Water Access categories require applicants with combination projects to select only one type for scoring consideration; and

WHEREAS, the current approach may not allow combination projects to compete as well, and may not give evaluators the complete picture for scoring; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revisions to the scoring criteria remedy the situation by removing the requirement that sponsors choose one type, by changing the multipliers for combination projects, and by ensuring equitable scoring with single project types; and

WHEREAS, this scoring approach has worked well in other board-funded grant programs; and

WHEREAS, adopting this revision would continue to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources; and

WHEREAS, public comment was supportive of this change;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt revised evaluation criteria multiplier changes for the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program State Parks, Trails and Water Access categories, as shown in Attachments B through F to the November 2011 memo; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to implement this revision beginning with the 2012 grant cycle.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Boating Facilities Program

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 3a, 3b and 3c

Scored by	#	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Planning Projects		Combination Projects ³	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	3	15	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	2	Site suitability	5	3	15	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	3a	Urgency	5	2	10	n/a	0	n/a	0	1	5
Committee	3b	Project design	5	n/a	0	2	10	n/a	0	1	5
Committee	3c	Planning success	5	n/a	0	n/a	0	2	10	1	5
Committee	4	Cost benefit	5	2	10	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	5	Boating experience	3	2	6	2	6	2	6	2	6
Committee	6	Readiness	5	1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	7	Matching shares	Local = 4 State = 1	1	Local = 4 State = 1	1	Local = 4 State = 1	1	Local = 4 State = 1	1	Local = 4 State = 1
RCO staff	8	Proximity to people	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
RCO staff	9	GMA	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Total:				Local = 66 State = 63		Local = 66 State = 63		Local = 66 State = 63		Local = 66 State = 63	

³ Combination BFP projects include both acquisition of real property and either development or planning activities.

Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 2 and 3

Scored by	Question	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Combination Projects ⁴	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	2	Immediacy of threat	5	2	10	n/a	n/a	1	5
Committee	3	Project design	5	n/a	n/a	2	10	1	5
Committee	4	Impact on surrounding property	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	5	Expansion or renovation	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	6	Health and safety	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	7	Budget development	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	8	Mandated uses	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	9	Public access	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	10	Need satisfaction	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
RCO Staff	11	Applicant match	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
RCO Staff	12	GMA compliance	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Total points possible - Existing sites:					95		95		95
New sites:					90		90		90

⁴ Combination FARR projects include both acquisition of real property and development of facilities.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – State Parks Category

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 3 and 4

Scored by	Question	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Combination Projects ⁵	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	2	Project significance	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	3	Project design	5	n/a	n/a	2	10	1	5
Committee	4	Immediacy of threat	5	2	10	n/a	n/a	1	5
Committee	5	Expansion/phased project	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	6	Multiple fund sources	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	7	Readiness to proceed	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	8	Application of sustainability	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
RCO Staff	9	Population proximity	3	1	3	1	3	1	3
Total points:				58		58		58	

⁵ Combination WWRP projects include both acquisition of real property and development of facilities.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Trails Category

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 2 and 3

Scored by	Question	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Combination Projects ⁶	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	2	Project design	5	n/a	n/a	3	15	1.5	7.5
Committee	3	Immediacy of threat	5	3	15	n/a	n/a	1.5	7.5
Committee	4	Trail and community linkages	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	5	Water access, views and scenic values	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	6	Wildlife habitat connectivity	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	7	Project support	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	8	Cost efficiencies	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
RCO Staff	9	GMA preference	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
RCO Staff	10	Population proximity	3	1	3	1	3	1	3
Total points:				78		78		78	

⁶ Combination WWRP projects include both acquisition of real property and development of facilities.

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Water Access Category

Proposed Evaluation Criteria Multiplier Changes, Questions 2, 3 and 6

Scored by	Question	Title	Evaluator Max Score	Acquisition Projects		Development Projects		Combination Projects ⁷	
				Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points	Multiplier	Maximum total points
Committee	1	Need	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Committee	2	Project design	5	n/a	n/a	2	10	1	5
Committee	3	Immediacy of threat	5	3	15	n/a	n/a	1.5	7.5
Committee	4	Site suitability	5	2	10	2	10	2	10
Committee	5	Expansion	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Committee	6	Diversity of recreational uses	5	n/a	n/a	1	5	.5	2.5
Committee	7	Project support	5	2	5	2	5	2	5
Committee	8	Cost efficiencies	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
RCO Staff	9	GMA preference	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
RCO Staff	10	Population proximity	3	1	3	1	3	1	3
Total points:				63		63		63	

⁷ Combination WWRP projects include both acquisition of real property and development of facilities.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution #2011-29

Approving Draft Recommendations of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group to the Legislature

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) is directed by statute to make a formal recommendation by January 1, 2012 to the appropriate committees of the Legislature as to whether the existence of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group (lands group) should be continued beyond July 31, 2012, and if so, whether any modifications to its enabling statute should be pursued; and

WHEREAS, the board is required by statute to involve the lands group when developing its recommendations to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the lands group has developed proposed recommendations for submitting to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, approving the lands group recommendations would ensure the board's statutory obligation is met by formalizing the lands group's proposed recommendations to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, approving the lands group recommendations will result in the board providing the Legislature with two options for continuing the visibility and coordination functions of the lands group and one option for eliminating the lands group; and

WHEREAS, consideration of these recommendations supports the board's objective to provide leadership that helps its partners strategically invest in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat and recreation opportunities through policy development, coordination, and advocacy;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby approve the lands group recommendations for the Legislature regarding whether the lands group should continue past its sunset date of July 31, 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to submit the lands group recommendations to the appropriate Legislative committee(s) by January 1, 2012.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-30
Approving Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Recreational Trails
Program Projects

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff provided publications, website updates, public workshops, and other outreach opportunities to notify interested parties about Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding; and

WHEREAS, for federal fiscal year 2012, 62 projects were submitted for RTP funding; and

WHEREAS, these project applications were evaluated by the RTP advisory committee using the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation criteria; 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, all 62 RTP program projects meet federal and state program criteria, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has appropriated \$802,465 in federal fiscal year 2012 funds for this program; 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 approves the ranked list and funding as shown in Table 1, *Evaluation Ranked List and Funding Recommendations, RTP, State Fiscal Year 2012*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is authorized to proceed with execution of project agreements, pending federal approval; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ranked list of alternate projects remains eligible for funding until the next grant cycle.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List, Recreational Trails Program - General
State Fiscal Year 2012

Resolution 2011-30
November 2011

Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request					Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Request	Staff Recommend
					NMSU	NMMU	Compatible	MMU	MSU				
1 of 49	60.333	11-1236D	MTTA Outhouse Replacement	Mount Tahoma Trails Association		\$21,000				\$28,000	\$49,000	\$21,000	\$21,000
2 of 49	59.867	11-1308M	WTA 2012 Front Country Trail Maintenance	Washington Trails Association		\$75,000				\$375,000	\$450,000	\$96,000	\$96,000
3 of 49	58.733	11-1307M	WTA 2012 Backcountry Trail Teams	Washington Trails Association		\$75,000				\$223,000	\$298,000	\$171,000	\$171,000
4 of 49	58.333	11-1253M	PNT North Cascades Youth Crew: 2012	Pacific Northwest Trail Association		\$57,703				\$72,500	\$130,203	\$228,703	\$228,703
		11-1253M	PNT North Cascades Youth Crew: 2012	Pacific Northwest Trail Association		\$12,386					\$12,386	\$241,089	\$241,089
5 of 49	58.200	11-1420M	Nason Ridge Trail System	Wentachee National Forest			\$42,000			\$42,200	\$84,200	\$283,089	\$283,089
6 of 49	57.867	11-1326M	Chelan Uplake Trails 12	Wentachee National Forest Chelan Ranger District			\$75,000			\$66,000	\$141,000	\$358,089	\$358,089
7 of 49	57.600	11-1255M	Mountains to Sound Trail Maintenance 2012	Mountains to Sound Greenway		\$75,000				\$75,000	\$150,000	\$433,089	\$433,089
8 of 49	57.200	11-1328M	Walker Valley ORV M&O 2012	Washington Department of Natural Resources				\$69,500		\$39,000	\$108,500	\$502,589	\$502,589
9 of 49	57.000	11-1305M	WTA 2012 Youth Trail Maintenance Support	Washington Trails Association		\$25,000				\$50,300	\$75,300	\$527,589	\$527,589
9 of 49	57.000	11-1324M	Anderson Lake State Park Trails 2012	Back Country Horsemen of Washington		\$15,000				\$17,000	\$32,000	\$542,589	\$542,589
11 of 49	56.867	11-1287M	MVRD Trail Maintenance 2012-13	Okanogan National Forest Methow Ranger District		\$30,684				\$71,740	\$102,424	\$573,273	\$573,273 P
		11-1287M	MVRD Trail Maintenance 2012-13	Okanogan National Forest Methow Ranger District		\$44,316					\$44,316	\$617,589	Alternate
11 of 49	56.867	11-1404M	Entiat RD- Wilderness Non-Motorized Tr 2012 & 13	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District		\$29,866				\$73,720	\$103,586	\$647,455	\$603,139 P
		11-1404M	Entiat RD- Wilderness Non-Motorized Tr 2012 & 13	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District		\$43,134					\$43,134	\$690,589	Alternate
13 of 49	56.800	11-1437M	Multi-Use Trails Maintenance	Wentachee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District				\$60,000		\$62,300	\$122,300	\$750,589	\$663,139
14 of 49	56.600	11-1223M	Darrington Trail Maintenance 12 & 13	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Darrington Ranger District		\$50,000				\$50,000	\$100,000	\$800,589	Alternate
15 of 49	56.333	11-1254M	PNT Oympic Youth Crew: 2012	Pacific Northwest Trail Association		\$70,911				\$72,000	\$142,911	\$871,500	Alternate
16 of 49	56.133	11-1259M	Volunteer Trail Maintenance 2012	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance		\$29,000				\$82,500	\$111,500	\$900,500	Alternate
16 of 49	56.133	11-1432M	Wildhorse & Whitepine Trails M&O	Wentachee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District		\$38,000				\$49,100	\$87,100	\$938,500	Alternate

Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request					Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Request	Staff Recommend
					NMSU	NMMU	Compatible	MMU	MSU				
18 of 49	56.067	11-1293M	Snoqualmie-White River Trail Maintenance 2012	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District			\$75,000			\$115,000	\$190,000	\$1,013,500	Alternate
19 of 49	55.133	11-1186M	2012-13 EarthCorps Wilderness Trail Maintenance	EarthCorps		\$35,425				\$35,456	\$70,881	\$1,048,925	Alternate
20 of 49	54.933	11-1288M	Sawtooth Backcountry Trail Maintenance 2012-13	Okanogan National Forest Methow Ranger District				\$12,050		\$8,250	\$20,300	\$1,060,975	\$675,189
21 of 49	54.733	11-1221M	Salmon Ridge Ski Trail Maint. 2011-2013	Nooksack Nordic Ski Club		\$21,300				\$19,900	\$41,200	\$1,082,275	Alternate
22 of 49	54.133	11-1249M	Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2012	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District		\$75,000				\$64,805	\$139,805	\$1,157,275	Alternate
23 of 49	53.667	11-1196M	GPNF Wilderness Trails Maintenance 2012	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Cowlitz Valley Ranger District		\$39,757				\$39,768	\$79,525	\$1,197,032	Alternate
23 of 49	53.667	11-1294M	Evans Creek ORV Maintenance & Operation 2012	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District				\$75,000		\$69,000	\$144,000	\$1,272,032	\$750,189
25 of 49	53.200	11-1217M	Dutch Miller Gap Trail Maintenance	EarthCorps		\$31,975				\$32,237	\$64,212	\$1,304,007	Alternate
26 of 49	53.133	11-1325D	Tiger Mountain Trail Foothridge Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$75,000					\$225,000	\$300,000	\$1,379,007	Alternate
27 of 49	52.000	11-1409M	Entiat & Lk.Wen Snowmobile Trail Mtc -12 & 13	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District			\$64,800			\$159,200	\$224,000	\$1,443,807	Alternate
28 of 49	51.800	11-1222M	Mt Baker Trail Grooming and Maintenance	Northwest Glacier Cruisers					\$12,153	\$50,800	\$62,953	\$1,455,960	\$762,342 P
		11-1222M	Mt Baker Trail Grooming and Maintenance	Northwest Glacier Cruisers					\$49,847		\$49,847	\$1,505,807	Alternate
29 of 49	51.333	11-1218M	Backcountry Site Maintenance	EarthCorps		\$38,294				\$33,376	\$71,670	\$1,544,101	Alternate
29 of 49	51.333	11-1234M	I-90 Corridor Nordic Ski Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission		\$21,889				\$87,556	\$109,445	\$1,565,990	Alternate
29 of 49	51.333	11-1342M	Jones Creek ORV Trail Maintenance V	Jones Creek Trail Riders Association				\$20,000		\$10,000	\$30,000	\$1,585,990	Alternate
32 of 49	50.333	11-1374M	Tolt-MacDonald Trail Rehabilitation	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks		\$26,300				\$36,707	\$63,007	\$1,612,290	Alternate
33 of 49	50.200	11-1229M	Greenwater-Naches-Ahtanum SM Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$50,484	\$201,938	\$252,422	\$1,662,774	Alternate
34 of 49	50.067	11-1226M	South Cascades Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$20,304	\$81,218	\$101,522	\$1,683,078	Alternate
35 of 49	49.933	11-1233M	Snoqualmie Pass to Blewett Pass SM Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$49,910	\$199,643	\$249,553	\$1,732,988	Alternate
36 of 49	49.800	11-1235M	Mt. Spokane Nordic Ski Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission		\$7,423				\$29,695	\$37,118	\$1,740,411	Alternate
37 of 49	49.400	11-1189M	Mt. Baker Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$15,744	\$62,979	\$78,723	\$1,756,155	Alternate

Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request					Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Request	Staff Recommend
					NMSU	NMMU	Compatible	MMU	MSU				
38 of 49	49.267	11-1230M	Taneum-Manastash Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$19,768	\$79,074	\$98,842	\$1,775,923	Alternate
39 of 49	49.200	11-1194M	Okanogan Highlands Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$8,398	\$33,594	\$41,992	\$1,784,321	Alternate
40 of 49	48.933	11-1345D	Lake Serene Trail Rehabilitation	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Skykomish Ranger District		\$75,000				\$32,600	\$107,600	\$1,859,321	Alternate
40 of 49	48.933	11-1416M	Mt. Adams Snowmobile and Trailer Purchase	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Mt. Adams Ranger District			\$24,000			\$20,688	\$44,688	\$1,883,321	Alternate
42 of 49	48.467	11-1388D	Kelley Creek Connector - Phase III	Volunteers for Outdoor Washington	\$51,000					\$60,000	\$111,000	\$1,934,321	Alternate
43 of 49	48.000	11-1231M	Stemilt-Colockum Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$8,227	\$32,912	\$41,139	\$1,942,548	Alternate
44 of 49	47.600	11-1232M	Chelan Snowmobile Trail Grooming	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission					\$18,563	\$74,253	\$92,816	\$1,961,111	Alternate
45 of 49	46.400	11-1422D	Hidden Cove Park	Bainbridge Island Park District		\$75,000				\$110,350	\$185,350	\$2,036,111	Alternate
46 of 49	46.067	11-1439D	Middle Fork Trail Flood Repairs	Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District		\$45,000				\$11,500	\$56,500	\$2,081,111	Alternate
47 of 49	45.133	11-1302D	Preston Railroad Grade Trail Renovation	Washington Department of Natural Resources		\$55,000				\$13,755	\$68,755	\$2,136,111	Alternate
48 of 49	42.000	11-1301D	Dirty Harry's Peak Trail Rehabilitation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$75,000					\$19,500	\$94,500	\$2,211,111	Alternate
49 of 49	39.600	11-1385D	Ski Trail Development	Wentachee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District		\$32,000				\$8,000	\$40,000	\$2,243,111	Alternate
					\$201,000	\$1,271,363	\$280,800	\$236,550	\$253,398	\$3,508,114	\$5,751,225		\$762,342

Acronyms:

NMSU: Nonmotorized single use

NMMU: Nonmotorized multiple use

Compatible: Combines motorized and nonmotorized uses

MMU: Motorized multiple use

MSU: Motorized single use

P: Partial funding

Funds Available:

\$802,465

Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List, Recreational Trails Program: Education

State Fiscal Year 2012

Resolution 2011-30

November 2011

Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request					Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Request	Staff Recommend
					NMSU	NMMU	Compatible	MMU	MSU				
1 of 13	19.786	11-1248E	Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Program 2012	Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Snoqualmie Ranger District		\$10,000				\$36,835	\$46,835	\$10,000	\$10,000
2 of 13	18.929	11-1382E	Cle Elum Winter Trail Patrol 2012-2013	Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District				\$10,000		\$26,000	\$36,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
3 of 13	18.571	11-1188E	Water Trail SEA Kayaker Team Educators	Washington Water Trails Association	\$2,037					\$7,500	\$9,537	\$22,037	\$22,037 P
		11-1188E	Water Trail SEA Kayaker Team Educators	Washington Water Trails Association	\$2,963						\$2,963	\$25,000	Alternate
3 of 13	18.571	11-1338E	Mountain Stewards 2012	Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Mt Baker Ranger District		\$10,000				\$13,500	\$23,500	\$35,000	\$32,037
5 of 13	18.000	11-1339E	Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers 2012	Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Mt Baker Ranger District		\$6,049				\$14,210	\$20,259	\$41,049	\$38,086 P
		11-1339E	Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers 2012	Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Mt Baker Ranger District		\$3,951					\$3,951	\$45,000	Alternate
6 of 13	17.857	11-1281E	Cle Elum Wilderness Education 2012	Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District		\$10,000				\$10,500	\$20,500	\$55,000	Alternate
6 of 13	17.857	11-1408E	Lake Wen - Entiat Snow Ranger 2012	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District				\$2,037		\$19,720	\$21,757	\$57,037	\$40,123 P
		11-1408E	Lake Wen - Entiat Snow Ranger 2012	Wenatchee National Forest Entiat Ranger District				\$7,963			\$7,963	\$65,000	Alternate
8 of 13	17.786	11-1412E	USFS Snoqualmie Pass Winter Education Patrol	Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District			\$10,000			\$12,000	\$22,000	\$75,000	Alternate
8 of 13	17.786	11-1279E	Minimum Impact Recreation 2012	Back Country Horsemen of Washington		\$10,000				\$2,500	\$12,500	\$85,000	Alternate
10 of 13	17.714	11-1212E	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Snow Ranger 11-12	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Mt Adams Ranger District				\$10,000		\$13,385	\$23,385	\$95,000	Alternate
11 of 13	17.357	11-1371E	USFS Cle Elum - Summer SPVIEC	Wenatchee National Forest Cle Elum Ranger District		\$10,000				\$10,000	\$20,000	\$105,000	Alternate
12 of 13	16.643	11-1421E	Snowmobile Educational Signing	Wenatchee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District				\$10,000		\$4,540	\$14,540	\$115,000	Alternate
13 of 13	15.357	11-1436E	Enchantments Information and Education Specialists	Wenatchee National Forest Wenatchee River Ranger District	\$10,000					\$12,400	\$22,400	\$125,000	Alternate
					\$15,000	\$60,000	\$10,000	\$40,000		\$183,090	\$308,090		\$40,123

Acronyms:

NMSU: Nonmotorized single use

NMMU: Nonmotorized multiple use

Compatible: Combines motorized and nonmotorized uses

MMU: Motorized multiple use

MSU: Motorized single use

P: Partial funding

Funds Available:

\$802,465

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution 2011-31

Approving Conversion for Cheasty Greenspace in Seattle (RCO #91-246)

WHEREAS, the city of Seattle (city) used a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) to protect urban habitat in the Cheasty Greenbelt, now known as the Cheasty Greenspace; and

WHEREAS, the city proposes conversion of one of the properties acquired under the grant to facilitate construction of the Sound Transit Central Link Light Rail Tunnel at Beacon Hill; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this proposed conversion, the property no longer satisfies the conditions of the RCO grant; and

WHEREAS, the city is asking for Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approval to replace the property proposed for conversion with property purchased under a waiver of retroactivity in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the proposed replacement property is in reasonable proximity to the conversion site, has an appraised value that is greater than the conversion site, is eligible in the funding program, and will provide opportunities that closely match those displaced by the conversion; and

WHEREAS, the replacement property supports the city's documented plans that call for acquiring privately owned property within existing green spaces for preservation purposes as well as its goal for open space, thereby supporting the board's goals to provide funding for projects that protect, restore, and develop habitat opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the sponsor sought public comment on the conversion and discussed it during open public meetings, thereby supporting the board's strategy to regularly seek public feedback in policy and funding decisions;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Recreation and Conservation Funding Board approves the conversion request and the proposed replacement site for RCO Project #91-246 Cheasty Greenspace as presented to the board on November 15, 2011 and set forth in the board memo prepared for that meeting.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____



A Resolution to Recognize the Service of

Steven Drew

To the Residents of Washington State and the
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

WHEREAS, from March 2006 through December 2011, Steven Drew served the residents of the state of Washington as a member of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew's service assisted the State of Washington in protecting some of its most important wildlife habitat and farmland, and in providing opportunities for recreational pursuits statewide; and

WHEREAS, during his term, the board approved 1,121 grants, creating a state investment of nearly \$345 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew helped lead efforts to ensure that projects sustained our environment and that state investments were protected; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew's extensive and practical knowledge of trails helped guide board decisions and improve our investments in this popular and valuable public resource; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew provided the board with valuable insight, leadership, and excellent advice that assisted in the development of exemplary policies and decisions for funding projects that promoted increased opportunities for outdoor recreation and conservation of the state's most important landscapes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew's term on the board expires on December 31, 2011; and

WHEREAS, members of the board wish to recognize his support, leadership, and service, and to wish him well in future endeavors;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Drew's dedication and excellence in performing his responsibilities and duties as a member, the board and its staff extend their sincere appreciation and compliments on a job well done, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent with a letter of appreciation to Mr. Drew.

Approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
in Olympia, Washington on November 15, 2011

Bill Chapman
Chair

Betsy Bloomfield
Citizen Member

Pete Mayer
Citizen Member

Harriet Spanel
Citizen Member

Don Hoch
Washington State Parks

Steven Saunders
Washington Department of
Natural Resources

Dave Brittell
Washington Department of
Fish and Wildlife

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Summarized Meeting Agenda and Actions, November 14-15, 2011

Agenda Items without Formal Action

Item	Board Request for Follow-up
Item 2: Management Report	Share a list of debt commission members and any updates that may be available.
Item 3: Puget Sound Partnership Update and Priorities	No follow up action requested
Item 4: Board Meeting Practices	No follow up action requested

Agenda Items with Formal Action

Item	Formal Action	Board Request for Follow-up
Item 1: Consent Calendar	Approved <u>Resolution 2011-23</u> a. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – September 2011 b. Time Extension Requests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RCO #07-1455, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Public Archery Range RCO #07-1236, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Pistol Range Upgrade RCO #07-1213, Cowlitz Game and Anglers, Cowlitz County Shooting Range Phase 1 RCO #06-1911, WA State Department of Natural Resources, Klickitat Canyon Restoration 	None
Item 5: Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants:	Approved <u>Resolution 2011-24</u> Approved funding and ranked list of projects	
Item 6: Schedule for 2012	Approved <u>Resolution 2011-25</u> Establishes the board's 2012 meeting schedule.	Reconfirm or change August date in March
Item 7: Written Evaluation Process	Approved <u>Revised Resolution 2011-26</u> For the grant cycle in 2012 only, authorizes a written evaluation in the WWRP Urban Wildlife category and replaces the project review meetings for the Critical Habitat, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife categories with staff review.	
Item 8: Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for State Lands Restoration Category	Approved <u>Resolution 2011-27</u> Adopts revised evaluation criteria	
Item 9: Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for Combination Projects	Approved <u>Resolution 2011-28</u> Adopts revised scoring for combination projects	
Item 10: Recommendations of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group	Approved <u>Revised Resolution 2011-29</u> Approves the draft recommendations of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group and acknowledges the work of the group.	
Item 11: Recreational Trails Program Grants	Approved <u>Resolution 2011-30</u> Approved funding and ranked list of projects	
Item 12: Conversion Request: Cheasty Greenspace, City of Seattle, RCO #91-246	Approved <u>Resolution 2011-31</u> Approves conversion and replacement property for project 91-246.	
Item 13: Recognition of Board Member's Service: Steven Drew	Approved <u>Resolution 2011-32</u> Recognizes the service of board member Steven Drew.	

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Summary Minutes

Date: November 14, 2011

Place: Tacoma, WA

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members Present:

Bill Chapman, Chair	Mercer Island	Stephen Saunders	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Betsy Bloomfield	Yakima	Larry Fairleigh	Designee, State Parks
Steven Drew	Olympia	Jennifer Quan	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Pete Mayer	Vancouver		
Harriet Spanel	Bellingham		

It is intended that this summary be used with the meeting materials provided in advance of the meeting. A recording is retained by RCO as the formal record of meeting.

Opening and Management Reports

Chair Bill Chapman called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Staff called roll, and a quorum was determined.

Member Mayer moved to approve the agenda. Member Brittell seconded. The agenda was approved as presented.

County Executive Pat McCarthy welcomed the board to Pierce County and thanked the members for the board's contributions to their parks programs. She noted several projects and the effect it has had on the quality of life in the county.

Consent Calendar

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) reviewed Resolution #2011-23, Consent Calendar. The consent calendar included the following:

- c. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – September 2011
- d. Time Extension Requests
 - RCO #07-1455, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Public Archery Range
 - RCO #07-1236, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Pistol Range Upgrade
 - RCO #07-1213, Cowlitz Game and Anglers, Cowlitz County Shooting Range Phase 1
 - RCO #06-1911, WA State Department of Natural Resources, Klickitat Canyon Restoration

Resolution 2011-23 moved by: Drew and seconded by: Mayer
Resolution APPROVED

Item 2: Management Report

Director's Report: Director Cottingham noted that she would be going to Washington, DC to discuss salmon funding and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) with the Congressional

delegation. In BIG Tier 1, the RCO's grant to update the boating data has been approved for funding. It will include the ability to access data via a handheld device.

Director Cottingham told the board that the RCO has been sued in federal court with regard to the Kah Tai decision.

Policy and Legislative Update: Steve McLellan updated the board on the status of a proposal with National Park Service to change a portion of the LWCF stateside program into a national competitive grant program under the America's Great Outdoors Initiative. This is subject to the appropriation exceeding \$200 million; the House most recently appropriated \$0. We, and other states, have commented that the program should not begin until a higher amount is appropriated and that the state apportionment should not go away.

McLellan also provided updates on the memo. Special session will be focused on the budget and bills necessary to implement it. He noted that the next revenue forecast would come out on Thursday, but likely would not trigger a major rewrite of the capital budget. He also reported that the debt limit commission had put out a list of 5 or 6 proposals that they will look at in November. The big focus is the calculation of the debt limit. The effect would be lower funds over time, and elimination of the "peaks and valleys" in funding. Chair Chapman asked McLellan to share a list of members and any updates that may be available.

Dominga Soliz provided brief update of the allowable uses subcommittee as described in the staff memo. She noted that they need to select an additional member for the subcommittee since Member Drew is leaving the board at the end of December. Chair Chapman suggested that Member Spanel would be a good choice so that the subcommittee includes a member that is not a grant recipient. She will consider the request and let the board know of her decision.

Grant management report: Marguerite Austin, Recreation Section Manager discussed the two projects that would be visited on the tour.

General Public Comment

There was no public comment.

State Agency Partner Reports

State Parks: Member Fairleigh discussed the effect of budget reductions on State Parks. The agency was organized based on general fund support, so the change to an enterprise system is requiring significant changes internally and externally. They are writing a transformation strategy as an addendum to the Centennial Plan. They also are working on the public's view of service delivery from State Parks; they are no longer supported by taxes, so the expectations and their business model need to change. They are not trying to close parks; they may need to cut back on service, but need to keep them open to keep the Discover Pass viable.

Department of Fish and Wildlife: Member Quan noted that the Discover Pass has produced about 20 percent of the amount needed for the fiscal year and that revenue collection is behind expectations. A recent survey and stakeholder meetings have shown that most people didn't know that they needed a pass. At least half of the sales are day use passes sold at the parks; they think this is an indicator of lack of knowledge. They expect an upturn in April as people prepare for the boating season and summer. They are working on a business plan and ways to "tweak" the pass legislation and address transferability. She also noted that they have seen an increase in the amount of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds being paid to counties.

Department of Natural Resources: Member Saunders noted that they are preparing some legislation including recreational immunity and charging for events on DNR trust lands. They redirected state general fund dollars to the Natural Heritage Program, which had received no specific funding. They have provided minimal funding to keep it intact for a year, so it can look at options for sustainable funding. They did the same for the special lands acquisition group, and elected not to fill a vacancy in that group. They are staffing up in the recreation program, but most of the positions are project positions.

Item 3: PSP Update and Priorities

Martha Kongsgaard, Chair of the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Leadership Council, gave the board an update about their work and priorities. She noted that the PSP and board share common values, staff, economic struggles, and mission. Kongsgaard noted the difficulties in garnering public support because the problems in the sound are not obvious.

The roadmap for their work is the action agenda, which they are currently updating. This version will include clear targets and better measures to track progress toward Puget Sound restoration, all linked to the six goals in the legislation.

Member Drew noted that he hopes to see more coordination between the RCO and PSP regarding ways that grant program criteria and evaluation can support restoration of Puget Sound.

Item 4: Board Meeting Practices

Chair Chapman explained the reasons behind the change – moving to TVW, it is good practice to review the board rules regularly. He wants to have more time for discussion on the agenda by either having a longer agenda or shorter staff presentations. The reason for the meeting is to make decisions, not to share information; however he does not want to lose the quality of staff presentations.

Director Cottingham noted that staff is working to better estimate the time on the agenda and will shorten the length of staff presentations. Presentations will assume that members have read the memos, and will not repeat the information. Deputy Director Rachael Langen provided more detail about best practices for TVW.

The board discussed the way that the agenda is set and how board members can comment on the time and topics. Members expressed a preference for fewer topics, and careful consideration of when potentially contentious issues would be placed on the agenda. Director Cottingham reminded the board that staff now briefs the board at one meeting and asks for decisions at the next one; members stated that they like this approach. Members noted that it is important to come prepared and ready to discuss topics, and that dialogue among members is useful.

Item 5: Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants: Approve List and Funding Authority

Recreation Section Manager Marguerite Austin presented the LWCF ranked list and information about the program, as described in the staff memo. She concluded her presentation by detailing the two top ranked projects on the list and asking the board to approve the list for submission to the National Park Service.

Director Cottingham noted that the agency hopes to get about \$750,000 if it stays consistent with previous years. Austin noted that we will take applications in 2012 for funding in 2013 and 2014

Resolution 2011-24 moved by: Spanel and seconded by: Fairleigh
Resolution APPROVED

Item 6: Schedule for 2012

The board discussed options for meeting dates and locations in 2012. The board asked staff to reconfirm or change the August date at the March meeting.

Resolution 2011-25 moved by: Fairleigh and seconded by: Saunders
Resolution APPROVED

Board departed for a tour of Kandle Park and Tacoma Nature Center at 2 p.m. Curtis Hancock, Project Manager for the Tacoma Metropolitan Park District conducted the tour of the park sites. He provided information about the history of the sites, past grants, current facility development and management activities. Board members and staff expressed their appreciation to Curtis for tour and successful completion of the projects

The board recessed for the day at 5 p.m.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Summary Minutes

Date: November 15, 2011

Place: Room 172, Natural Resources Building, Olympia, WA

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members Present:

Bill Chapman, Chair	Mercer Island	Stephen Saunders	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Betsy Bloomfield	Yakima	Larry Fairleigh	Designee, State Parks
Steven Drew	Olympia	Jennifer Quan	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Pete Mayer	Vancouver		
Harriet Spanel	Bellingham		

**It is intended that this summary be used with the notebook provided in advance of the meeting.
A recording is retained by RCO as the formal record of meeting.**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Harriet Spanel at 9:15 a.m. with a temporary delegation of authority by Chair Chapman. Mr. Drew arrived at 9:20 a.m. and Mr. Chapman arrived at 9:25.

Board Business: Decisions

Item 7: Written Evaluation Process in WWRP Critical Habitat, Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife

Scott Robinson presented the proposal as described in the staff memo. Staff is recommending that the written evaluation process be adopted for the 2012 grant round; there would be an assessment of the process before it is used in future grants rounds. Robinson reviewed the advantages and disadvantages of the proposal, noting that public comment was mixed. The policy would be revisited in 2013.

Board members expressed concern about the proposal, and suggested that staff limit the changes to either (1) omitting project review only or (2) limiting the written evaluation in only one or two categories. They also asked staff about using technology to support the evaluation and exchange of ideas. Members' primary concern about the written process is the lack of interaction and question/answer periods. However, some members thought that the written evaluation could allow the evaluators to focus on the projects rather than the presentation skills of a sponsor. Board members acknowledged the need for balance between efficiency and an open grant process. To achieve this, members discussed the option of testing the written evaluation approach in only one category, omitting the project review in all three categories, and using a staff for project review rather than a separate volunteer review team.

Member Fairleigh moved the resolution with an amendment to eliminate the in-person project review for all three programs, but continue the in-person evaluation. Bloomfield seconded.

Revised Resolution 2011-26 moved by: Fairleigh and seconded by: Bloomfield

Member Drew moved to amend the motion such that the written process would be used in the Critical Habitat Category. Seconded by Saunders.

Board members decided to vote on which category to test: Urban Wildlife received four votes.

Members Drew and Saunders changed the category in their motion to Urban Wildlife.

Motion carried.

Chair Chapman moved to amend the resolution to add the word "only" to clarify that the changes apply to only the 2012 grant cycle and to also amend the resolution to clarify that staff would conduct project review. Seconded by Member Drew. Motion carried.

Resolution APPROVED

Item 8: Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for the WWRP State Lands Restoration Category

The Chair confirmed that members had reviewed the memo, and asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Resolution 2011-27 moved by: Drew and seconded by: Bloomfield
Resolution APPROVED**

Item 9: Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for Combination Projects

Marguerite Austin presented the proposal and public comment as described in the staff memo. There were no questions or comments from the board.

**Resolution 2011-28 moved by: Saunders and seconded by: Mayer
Resolution APPROVED**

Item 10: Draft Recommendations of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group to the Legislature

Dominga Soliz presented the recommendations of the Lands Group as described in the staff memo. In response to a question from the chair, Dominga clarified that the Lands Group preference to continue would be in the report to the legislature, but the formal recommendation would be a set of options with no stated preference.

Director Cottingham reminded the board that they have discussed legislation to move the sunset date with the Governor's Office, and that they were advised not to submit request legislation. The RCO did not submit request legislation, and cannot advocate for an extension.

The board discussed various options for demonstrating that they support the work and continuation of the Lands Group. Chair Chapman proposed revising the resolution to include a "Whereas" statement that applauds the work that the group has done, recognizes the value of the dialogue, and states that the board hopes that the Legislature will support continuation of at least the core functions. Staff revised the resolution accordingly.

Revised Resolution 2011-29 moved by: Spanel and seconded by: Saunders
Resolution APPROVED

Item 11: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grants: Approve List and Funding Authority

Marguerite Austin presented the criteria for RTP along with the top projects in the general and education categories, as described in the staff memo. She clarified that the RCO already has received about \$800,000 for this fiscal year. The second half of the funds, if received, would be used for alternate projects on the list.

Public Comment

John Smithstead, commented on the RTP process. His club is over 40 years old and has about 300 people. Their project received only partial funding, and he appreciates that. The process was overwhelming at first, but the staff and application workshop were very helpful and made it easier.

Resolution 2011-30 moved by: Mayer and seconded by: Fairleigh
Resolution APPROVED

Item 12: Conversion Request: Cheasty Greenspace, City of Seattle, RCO #91-246

Leslie Ryan-Connelly presented this request for a conversion from the city of Seattle, as described in the staff memo. The presentation provided additional photographic and location detail. In response to a question from Member Bloomfield, Leslie confirmed that the city is using a property owned in fee simple to replace a converted easement.

Member Drew asked what options staff had in this situation; he would have preferred that staff be able to negotiate for both on-site and off-site compensation. Leslie responded that for an acquisition project, replacement property was typically the best option for resolving a conversion.

Member Mayer asked if subsurface conversions were typical; Leslie responded that it happens, particularly with utilities. Mayer suggested that it would be a good topic for the allowable uses subcommittee. Chair Chapman noted that a significant question is whether the sponsor seriously considered alternatives to putting utilities through park property.

Resolution 2011-31 moved by: Spanel and seconded by: Quan
Resolution APPROVED

Item 13: Recognition of Board Member's Service: Steven Drew

Chair Chapman and board members thanked Member Drew for his service and read the service resolution. Member Drew stated it had been an honor to serve, and that he was confident that the good work of the board would continue.

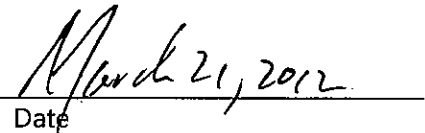
Resolution 2011-32 moved by: Mayer and seconded by: Quan
Resolution APPROVED

Chair Chapman adjourned the public portion of the meeting at 11:45 to convene in executive session for the purpose of conducting the performance review of the RCO director. He noted that the executive session would conclude at or before 2 p.m.

Approved by:



Bill Chapman, Chair



Date

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-23
November 2011 Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following November 2011 Consent Agenda items are approved:

- a. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – September 2011
- b. Time Extension Requests
 - RCO #07-1455, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Public Archery Range
 - RCO #07-1236, Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club, BISC Pistol Range Upgrade
 - RCO #07-1213, Cowlitz Game and Anglers, Cowlitz County Shooting Range Phase 1
 - RCO #06-1911, WA State Department of Natural Resources, Klickitat Canyon Restoration

Resolution moved by:	<u>Drew</u>
Resolution seconded by:	<u>Mayer</u>
<u>Adopted</u> /Defeated/Deferred (underline one)	
Date:	<u>November 14, 2011</u>

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-24
Land and Water Conservation Fund
Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Projects

WHEREAS, for federal fiscal year 2012, twelve Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program projects are eligible for funding; and

WHEREAS, these LWCF projects were evaluated using the Open Project Selection Process approved and adopted by the National Park Service and Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board); and

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred in an open public meeting, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, all twelve LWCF program projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual 15: *Land and Water Conservation Fund*, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington may receive a federal apportionment for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program for federal fiscal year 2012; and

WHEREAS, the projects acquire and/or develop public outdoor recreation 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 and funding of projects depicted in *Table 1 -- LWCF Program Ranked List of Projects, Federal Fiscal Year 2012*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board authorizes the director to submit application materials to the National Park Service and execute project agreements and amendments necessary to facilitate prompt project implementation of federal fiscal year 2012 funds upon notification of the federal apportionment for this program.

Resolution moved by:	<u>Spanel</u>
Resolution seconded by:	<u>Fairleigh</u>
<u>Adopted</u> /Defeated/Deferred (underline one)	
Date:	<u>November 14, 2011</u>

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution # 2011-25
2012 Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Meeting Schedule

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) is established by statute and conducts regular meetings, pursuant to RCW 42.30.075, according to a schedule it adopts in an open public meeting; and

WHEREAS, RCW 42.30.075 directs state agencies to file with the code reviser a schedule of the time and place of such meetings on or before January of each year for publication in the Washington state register; and

WHEREAS, having open public meetings is essential to achieving the board's goals to use broad public participation and feedback and to achieve a high level of accountability by using a process that is open to the public; and

WHEREAS, having open public meetings also is essential to the Board's ability to conduct its business so that it achieves its mission and goals as documented in statute and/or its strategic plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the following schedule for 2012 regular meetings of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is hereby adopted; and,

Date	Location
March 21-22	Olympia
June 27-28	Port Angeles
August 23	Conference Call
October 17-18	Olympia

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the board directs staff to publish notice in the State Register accordingly.

Resolution moved by: Fairleigh

Resolution seconded by: Saunders

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: November 14, 2011

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Revised Resolution #2010-26

Approving Changes to the Evaluation and Review Process in
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Categories: Critical Habitat,
Riparian Protection, and Urban Wildlife

WHEREAS, in-person Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) project reviews and evaluations in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and Riparian Protection Account require considerable time and resources from volunteer evaluators, project applicants, and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) wanted to find a way to reduce this commitment without diminishing the high quality of the evaluations; and

WHEREAS, a less time and resource intensive system, based on written evaluations, rather than in-person presentations, is now successfully used in several board program categories including others in the WWRP Habitat Conservation Account; and

WHEREAS, evaluators would discuss project rankings and make final recommendations at the post-evaluation meetings; and

WHEREAS, adopting this revision would continue to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources; and

WHEREAS, using written evaluations in other grant programs has shown that the process supports the board's goal to conduct its work in an open manner;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt the written evaluation process for the Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Urban Wildlife category; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby retains the in-person evaluation process for the Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat category and Riparian Protection Account; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the project review will be conducted by staff for the Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife categories and Riparian Protection Account; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to implement these revisions only for the 2012 grant cycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to assess the effectiveness of the changes following and make a recommendation for future grant cycles in 2013.

Resolution moved by: Fairleigh

Resolution seconded by: Bloomfield

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: November 15, 2011

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution #2010-27

Approving Changes to the Evaluation Process in the Washington Wildlife
and Recreation Program State Lands Restoration Category

WHEREAS, the volunteer panelists who have reviewed and evaluated grant applications in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) State Lands Restoration category asked that the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) revise the evaluation criteria for the category; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the revisions was to add criteria regarding project design, highlight and explain the important benefits of a project, present the responses in a more logical order, and broaden the evaluators' scoring range to more clearly express their evaluation of the project; and

WHEREAS, this intent is supportive of the board's goals to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources; and

WHEREAS, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff drafted changes to the evaluation instrument following the recommendations of the evaluation panel; and

WHEREAS, the RCO published the proposed changes for public comment, thereby supporting the board's goal to ensure programs are managed in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, public comment supported the changes to the evaluation instrument; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt the revised evaluation criteria for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) State Lands Restoration category as presented in Attachment A to the board memo presented November 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to implement this revision beginning with the 2012 grant cycle.

Resolution moved by: Drew

Resolution seconded by: Bloomfield

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: November 15, 2011

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution #2011-28

Approving Changes to the Evaluation Criteria for Combination Projects in Certain Grant Programs or Categories

WHEREAS, all projects funded by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) must include a project "type" that represents the overall activity of the project; and

WHEREAS, the project type selected by the applicant determines the criteria that will be used to evaluate the project; and

WHEREAS, a "combination" project will include two of three types – acquisition and either development, or planning – but current scoring practices in the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program State Parks, Trails and Water Access categories require applicants with combination projects to select only one type for scoring consideration; and

WHEREAS, the current approach may not allow combination projects to compete as well, and may not give evaluators the complete picture for scoring; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revisions to the scoring criteria remedy the situation by removing the requirement that sponsors choose one type, by changing the multipliers for combination projects, and by ensuring equitable scoring with single project types; and

WHEREAS, this scoring approach has worked well in other board-funded grant programs; and

WHEREAS, adopting this revision would continue to ensure that the board funds the best projects as determined by a fair evaluation process, while also promoting the board's goals to be accountable for and efficient with its resources; and

WHEREAS, public comment was supportive of this change;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby adopt revised evaluation criteria multiplier changes for the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program State Parks, Trails and Water Access categories, as shown in Attachments B through F to the November 2011 memo; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to implement this revision beginning with the 2012 grant cycle.

Resolution moved by: Saunders

Resolution seconded by: Mayer

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: November 15, 2011

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Revised Resolution #2010-29
Approving Draft Recommendations of the Habitat and Recreation Lands
Coordinating Group to the Legislature

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) is directed by statute to make a formal recommendation by January 1, 2012 to the appropriate committees of the Legislature as to whether the existence of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group (lands group) should be continued beyond July 31, 2012, and if so, whether any modifications to its enabling statute should be pursued; and

WHEREAS, the board is required by statute to involve the lands group when developing its recommendations to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the lands group has developed proposed recommendations for submitting to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, approving the lands group recommendations would ensure the board's statutory obligation is met by formalizing the lands group's proposed recommendations to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, approving the lands group recommendations will result in the board providing the Legislature with two options for continuing the visibility and coordination functions of the lands group and one option for eliminating the lands group; and

WHEREAS, consideration of these recommendations supports the board's objective to provide leadership that helps its partners strategically invest in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat and recreation opportunities through policy development, coordination, and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, the board recognizes and appreciates the value and role of the group in fostering improved communication, visibility, and coordination among state agencies and others interested in state habitat and recreation land acquisitions;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board does hereby approve the lands group recommendations for the Legislature regarding whether the lands group should continue past its sunset date of July 31, 2012 and joins the lands group in hoping the Legislature will choose to keep the group intact and, at minimum, support the continuation of core functions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board directs RCO staff to submit the lands group recommendations to the appropriate Legislative committee(s) by January 1, 2012.

Resolution moved by: Spanel

Resolution seconded by: Saunders

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: November 15, 2011

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2011-30
Approving Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Recreational Trails
Program Projects

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff provided publications, website updates, public workshops, and other outreach opportunities to notify interested parties about Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding; and

WHEREAS, for federal fiscal year 2012, 62 projects were submitted for RTP funding; and

WHEREAS, these project applications were evaluated by the RTP advisory committee using the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation criteria; 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, all 62 RTP program projects meet federal and state program criteria, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has appropriated \$802,465 in federal fiscal year 2012 funds for this program; 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 approves the ranked list and funding as shown in Table 1, *Evaluation Ranked List and Funding Recommendations, RTP, State Fiscal Year 2012*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is authorized to proceed with execution of project agreements, pending federal approval; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ranked list of alternate projects remains eligible for funding until the next grant cycle.

Resolution moved by: Mayer

Resolution seconded by: Fairleigh

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: November 15, 2011

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution 2011-31

Approving Conversion for Cheasty Greenspace in Seattle (RCO #91-246)

WHEREAS, the city of Seattle (city) used a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) to protect urban habitat in the Cheasty Greenbelt, now known as the Cheasty Greenspace; and

WHEREAS, the city proposes conversion of one of the properties acquired under the grant to facilitate construction of the Sound Transit Central Link Light Rail Tunnel at Beacon Hill; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this proposed conversion, the property no longer satisfies the conditions of the RCO grant; and

WHEREAS, the city is asking for Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approval to replace the property proposed for conversion with property purchased under a waiver of retroactivity in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the proposed replacement property is in reasonable proximity to the conversion site, has an appraised value that is greater than the conversion site, is eligible in the funding program, and will provide opportunities that closely match those displaced by the conversion; and

WHEREAS, the replacement property supports the city's documented plans that call for acquiring privately owned property within existing green spaces for preservation purposes as well as its goal for open space, thereby supporting the board's goals to provide funding for projects that protect, restore, and develop habitat opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the sponsor sought public comment on the conversion and discussed it during open public meetings, thereby supporting the board's strategy to regularly seek public feedback in policy and funding decisions;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Recreation and Conservation Funding Board approves the conversion request and the proposed replacement site for RCO Project #91-246 Cheasty Greenspace as presented to the board on November 15, 2011 and set forth in the board memo prepared for that meeting.

Resolution moved by: Spanel

Resolution seconded by: Quan

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: November 15, 2011

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Resolution 2011-32

A Resolution to Recognize the Service of Steven Drew
To the Residents of Washington State and the Recreation and
Conservation Funding Board

WHEREAS, from March 2006 through December 2011, Steven Drew served the residents of the state of Washington as a member of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew's service assisted the State of Washington in protecting some of its most important wildlife habitat and farmland, and in providing opportunities for recreational pursuits statewide; and

WHEREAS, during his term, the board approved 1,121 grants, creating a state investment of nearly \$345 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew helped lead efforts to ensure that projects sustained our environment and that state investments were protected; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew's extensive and practical knowledge of trails helped guide board decisions and improve our investments in this popular and valuable public resource; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew provided the board with valuable insight, leadership, and excellent advice that assisted in the development of exemplary policies and decisions for funding projects that promoted increased opportunities for outdoor recreation and conservation of the state's most important landscapes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drew's term on the board expires on December 31, 2011; and

WHEREAS, members of the board wish to recognize his support, leadership, and service, and to wish him well in future endeavors;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Drew's dedication and excellence in performing his responsibilities and duties as a member, the board and its staff extend their sincere appreciation and compliments on a job well done, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent with a letter of appreciation to Mr. Drew.

Resolution moved by: Mayer

Resolution seconded by: Quan

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: November 15, 2011

Dear Mr. Murray:

Thank you for leading the tour of the Similkameen Trail during the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board project tour in Okanogan County last week. The board deeply appreciates your hospitality and outstanding work on the project.

The project tour allowed our board members to learn more about your local issues, share ideas, and gain new perspectives. In particular, they appreciated your insights about the challenges of the project, its future direction, and how it ties into the habitat conservation projects along the proposed trail. Your comments to the board during its meeting regarding the difficulties in providing match were insightful, and sparked good discussion.

Your participation in the tour was beneficial for the board, and I hope that you found it worthwhile as well.

Sincerely,

Kaleen Cottingham

Dear Dave:

I want to thank you and your staff for leading the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board on a tour of Department of Fish and Wildlife projects last week. Your advance work with my staff and with WDFW staff resulted in a successful tour that included good discussion among all participants.

You did an exceptional job sharing the department's perspective and challenges in acquiring land strategically, balancing the needs of landowners and other parties, and making wildlife conservation coexist with agricultural interests. The board also appreciated the discussion of how you have used fire to manage the land.

The tour was beneficial for the board, and I hope that you found it worthwhile as well.

Sincerely,

Kaleen Cottingham

Dear Commissioners Lampe, Hover, and Detro:

Thank you for hosting the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board in Okanogan County last week. The board deeply appreciates the hospitality shown by you and county staff.

The joint public meeting and project tour allowed our board members to learn more about your local issues, share ideas, and gain new perspectives.

Board members appreciated your comments regarding the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group, and its role in improving cross-agency communication. Like you, the board is very interested in how project sponsors maintain grant-funded projects over time. Your suggestions to either build maintenance funds into grants or include criteria to show that maintenance funds exist are intriguing.

Your assessments about the relative benefits of different recreation types for the local economy gave the board a better understanding of recreation in Okanogan County. They appreciated your comments about the ways that trails and other recreational opportunities have improved the quality of life for county residents and visitors. The local concerns about funding for upkeep at recreation sites and the match required for projects sparked good discussion.

Finally, they appreciated your insights about balancing the interests of agriculture, county revenue, individual property rights, water rights, and conservation. Your suggestions about involving local ranchers and farmers in maintaining adjacent state-owned lands are interesting. Your perspective sparked interesting discussions among the tour participants and board members.

I also would like to acknowledge the efforts of Lanie Clark, Tanya Craig, Steve Rowe, and the maintenance team for helping RCO staff to prepare for the meeting. Their work contributed significantly to our ability to have a very productive meeting. I would also like to thank Ted Murray for his contributions to the project tour. His work on the Similkameen Trail is outstanding.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you for the tremendous time and effort that you and county staff put into the meeting. It was beneficial for the board, and I hope that you found it worthwhile as well.

Sincerely,

Kaleen Cottingham