

## Proposed Agenda Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Regular Meeting

October 28-29, 2010  
Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA

---

**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:

If you wish to comment at a meeting, please fill out a comment card and provide it to staff. Please be sure to note on the card if you are speaking about a particular agenda topic. The chair will call you to the front at the appropriate time.

You also may submit written comments to the Board by mailing them to the RCO, attn: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison at the address above or at [rebecca.connolly@rco.wa.gov](mailto:rebecca.connolly@rco.wa.gov).

### Special Accommodations:

If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please notify us by October 14, 2010 at 360/902-3013 or TDD 360/902-1996.

---

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

---

### OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- |                  |  |                    |
|------------------|--|--------------------|
| <b>9:00 a.m.</b> | <b>CALL TO ORDER</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Roll Call and Determination of Quorum</li><li>• Review and Approval of Agenda – October 28-29, 2010</li></ul>   | <i>Board Chair</i> |
| <br>             |  |                    |
| <b>9:05 a.m.</b> | <b>1. Consent Calendar (<i>Decision</i>)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2010</li><li>b. Time Extension Request<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• L.T. Murray Wenas Wildlife Area Rehabilitation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #06-1778</li><li>• Wind River Boat Ramp Improvements, Skamania County, Project #06-1679</li></ul></li><li>c. Major Scope Change Request: Skagit River Forks, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #06-1816</li><li>d. Major Scope Change Request: Methow Watershed Phase Six, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #08-1505</li></ul> <p><u>Resolution #2010-14</u></p> | <i>Board Chair</i> |

- 9:15 a.m. 2. Management Report (*Briefing*)** *Kaleen Cottingham*
- a. Director's Report
  - b. Fiscal Report and Budget Update *Steve McLellan*
    - Status of unobligated funds per capital budget proviso
    - Proposed general fund budget reductions
  - c. Policy and Legislative Report *Steve McLellan*
  - d. Grant Management Report *Scott Robinson*
    - Follow up regarding Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) projects
    - Update on schedule for 2011 grant rounds for Nonhighway Off-Road Vehicle Activities and Boating Facilities Program
  - e. Performance Report *Marguerite Austin*
  - f. Sponsor Satisfaction Survey Results *Rebecca Connolly*  
*Rebecca Connolly*

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

- 10:10 a.m. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:** *For issues not identified as agenda items. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.* *Chair*

*Please make comments about specific agenda items and/or individual project applications during the related item's discussion.*

**10:15 a.m. BREAK**

**OTHER BOARD BUSINESS (*Decisions*)**

- 10:30 a.m. 3. 2011 Meeting Schedule** *Rebecca Connolly*  
Resolution #2010-15
- 10:35 a.m. 4. Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) Framework (*Briefing*)** *Steve McLellan*
- 10:45 a.m. 5. Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) Habitat and Conservation Grants** *Scott Robinson*
- a. Critical Habitat Category .....Resolution #2010-16 *Scott Robinson*
  - b. Natural Areas Category .....Resolution #2010-17 *Scott Robinson*
  - c. State Lands Restoration Category .....Resolution #2010-18 *Kim Sellers*
  - d. Urban Wildlife Category .....Resolution #2010-19 *Elizabeth Butler*

**12:15 p.m. LUNCH**

- 1:00 p.m. 6. Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) Riparian Protection Account Grants** *Kim Sellers*  
Resolution #2010-20

- 1:20 p.m. 7. Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) Farmland Preservation Account Grants** *Kammie Bunes*  
Resolution #2010-21
- 1:40 p.m. 8. Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) Outdoor Recreation Account Grants** *Marguerite Austin*
- a. Local Parks Category .....Resolution #2010-22 *Laura Moxham*  
b. State Lands Development Category .....Resolution #2010-23 *Dan Haws*  
c. State Parks Category.....Resolution #2010-24 *Myra Barker*  
d. Trails Category .....Resolution #2010-25 *Dan Haws*  
e. Water Access Category.....Resolution #2010-26 *Karl Jacobs*
- 2:45 p.m. BREAK**
- 3:00 p.m. 9. Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Grants** *Leslie Ryan-Connelly*  
Resolution #2010-27
- 3:25 p.m. 10. Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants: Approve List and Funding Authority** *Sarah Thirtyacre*  
Resolution #2010-28
- 3:45 p.m. 11. Recreational Trails Program Grants: Approve List and Funding Authority** *Greg Lovelady*  
Resolution #2010-29
- 4:15 p.m. 12. Recognition of Board Members' Service**
- Resolution #2010-30: Rex Derr *Chair*  
Resolution #2010-31: Karen Daubert *Chair*  
Resolution #2010-32: Jeff Parsons *Chair*  
Resolution #2010-33: Bill Chapman *Director Cottingham*
- 4:30 p.m. ADJOURN FOR THE DAY**

---

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29**

---

- 9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER** *Board Chair*
- 9:05 a.m. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:** *For issues not identified as agenda items. Please limit comments to 3 minutes. Please make comments about specific agenda items during that item's discussion.* *Chair*
- 9:15 a.m. 13. Approve Acquisition Policy Updates and Changes for Manual 3** *Leslie Ryan-Connelly*  
Resolution #2010-34

**10:30 a.m. 14. Approve Changes to Evaluation Questions for Boating Facilities Program**

*Jim Eychaner*

Resolution #2010-35

**10:45 a.m. Executive Session: Personnel Matters**

Performance Review of RCO Director

**Noon LUNCH**

**1:00 p.m. 15. Conversion Policy Framework (*Briefing*)**

*Scott Robinson*

a. Current policy and board authority

**1:30 p.m. 16. Conversion Request: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife,  
Statewide Water Access Stage 1 ("Martin-Yakima River"), Project #68-603**

*Jim Anest*

Resolution #2010-36

**2:15 p.m. BREAK**

**2:30 p.m. 17. Conversion Request: City of Newcastle, May Creek Trail Addition,  
Project #91-211**

*Marguerite Austin*

*Laura Moxham*

Resolution #2010-37

**3:15 p.m. ADJOURN**



## RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS, AUGUST 20, 2010

---

### Agenda Items without Formal Action

Item	Board Request for Follow-up ( <i>Due Date in Italics</i> )
Acquisition Policy Updates and Potential Changes	Staff should proceed with the work as planned, and bring decisions to the board in October. ( <i>October</i> )

### Agenda Items with Formal Action

Item	Formal Action	Board Request for Follow-up <i>(Due Date in Italics)</i>																				
Consent Calendar	<a href="#">Approved</a> Approved minutes from June 2010 meeting																					
Operating and Capital Budget Requests for 2011- 13	<a href="#">Approved</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approves the 2011-13 Budget requests as follows:<table><tr><td>○ Boating Activities Program</td><td>\$0</td></tr><tr><td>○ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program</td><td>\$100,000,000</td></tr><tr><td>○ Youth Athletic Facilities</td><td>\$0</td></tr><tr><td>○ Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account</td><td>\$5,025,000</td></tr><tr><td>○ Boating Facilities Program</td><td>\$9,590,400</td></tr><tr><td>○ Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)</td><td>\$2,200,000</td></tr><tr><td>○ Firearm and Archery Range Recreation</td><td>\$264,600</td></tr><tr><td>○ Land and Water Conservation Fund</td><td>\$4,000,000</td></tr><tr><td>○ Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities</td><td>\$9,031,400</td></tr><tr><td>○ Recreational Trails Program</td><td>\$5,000,000</td></tr></table></li><li>• Authorizes the director to modify and/or update the amounts<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ as new revenue forecasts become available, or</li><li>○ to comply with Office of Financial Management budget instructions or directives, or</li><li>○ to meet the budget needs of the affiliated boards and councils, and</li><li>○ to provide for scheduled rent, services, personnel increment dates, labor contract costs, and other operations costs.</li></ul></li><li>• Authorizes the Director to apply for outside funding sources to supplement the capital budget</li><li>• Authorizes the Director to submit any necessary reappropriation requests</li></ul>	○ Boating Activities Program	\$0	○ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	\$100,000,000	○ Youth Athletic Facilities	\$0	○ Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$5,025,000	○ Boating Facilities Program	\$9,590,400	○ Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)	\$2,200,000	○ Firearm and Archery Range Recreation	\$264,600	○ Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$4,000,000	○ Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities	\$9,031,400	○ Recreational Trails Program	\$5,000,000	
○ Boating Activities Program	\$0																					
○ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program	\$100,000,000																					
○ Youth Athletic Facilities	\$0																					
○ Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$5,025,000																					
○ Boating Facilities Program	\$9,590,400																					
○ Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)	\$2,200,000																					
○ Firearm and Archery Range Recreation	\$264,600																					
○ Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$4,000,000																					
○ Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities	\$9,031,400																					
○ Recreational Trails Program	\$5,000,000																					

## RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

---

Date: August 20, 2010

Place: Room 172, Natural Resources Building, Olympia, WA  
Some board members via conference call

### Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members Present:

<b>Bill Chapman, Chair</b>	Mercer Island	<b>Stephen Saunders</b>	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
<b>Jeff Parsons</b>	Leavenworth	<b>Steve Hahn</b>	Designee, State Parks and Recreation
<b>Harriet Spanel</b>	Bellingham	<b>Dave Brittell</b>	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Karen Daubert</b>	Seattle		

**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.**

---

Friday, August 20, 2010

### Opening and Management Report

Chair Bill Chapman called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Staff called roll, and a quorum was determined.

- The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) reviewed Resolution #2010-12, Consent Calendar. The consent calendar included only the June 2010 meeting minutes.

**Resolution 2010-12 moved by: Parsons                      and seconded by: Daubert**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

### Board Decisions

#### Item 2: Operating and Capital Budget Requests for 2011-13

RCO Policy Director Steve McLellan provided an overview of the budget shortfalls in the current and upcoming biennia. He noted that the operating budget shortfalls would contribute to a tight capital budget. He then explained the new budget process that the governor will use and shared information about the previous requests and appropriations for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), Boating Activities Program (BAP), and Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) program.

### Board Discussion

The board agreed not to request funding for BAP or YAF. Their discussion focused on the level of funding to request for WWRP.

Chair Chapman and Members Spanel, Daubert, and Parsons shared the following observations:

- The applications received by the RCO exceed the funding available, even at the \$100 million level.
- It is important to ask for \$100 million because the need as evidenced by applications exceeds that level. The board has an obligation to make the Legislature aware of that need, and let them decide how to allocate the budget.
- A \$100 million request is about two percent of the anticipated \$4 billion capital budget.
- The board does not have the information to compare its capital-funding request to those that will be made by other agencies such as K-12.
- The funds help meet needs now and in the future; the opportunities that sponsors have now may not exist in the future.
- Parks may be the only recreation option for many people during difficult economic times.

Member Brittell commented that the need may be understated. He noted that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) submitted fewer projects than they would like to propose due to furloughs and staffing reductions, and suggested that the same may be true for other sponsors. He expressed concern that the board not undercut the efforts of WWRP supporters.

Members Hahn and Saunders stated that they had held discussions within their individual agencies, and suggested that a \$70 million request would be more fiscally appropriate and respective of the economic situation. Member Saunders noted that both the benefits and the financial obligation were long-term.

The board discussion also contained the following key points:

- Members noted the competing values of being fiscally conservative and advocating for the purpose and mission of WWRP. Members also noted that taking advantage of good market conditions was fiscally prudent.
- Members noted that development projects create local jobs. In response to questions, section manager Marguerite Austin stated that 24% of the WWRP applications include some type of development, and that they represent about \$44 million of the requests. She explained that staff is continuing to interpret the data from the "jobs created" metric, which was added this year.

### Public Comment

*Tom Reeve, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition (WWRC)*, noted that WWRC has been advocating for WWRP for 20 years. He reminded the board that the WWRC represented groups of all sizes throughout the state. Their interests include recreation, firearms, conservation, farming, and more. The WWRC believes there is no better time to return to the \$100 million funding level. He noted that the projects create better human health, community health, and economic health. He said that the money creates an environment for jobs, and creates local jobs (e.g., the farmlands category helps farmers and ranchers stay on their land). Reeve also noted that WWRP helps to bring federal and foundation dollars to the state that otherwise would be spent elsewhere.

*Bill Robinson, Nature Conservancy*, said that the economic cloud is obvious, but that the state has a responsibility to take a more proactive approach to solving the economic difficulties. WWRP raises matching funds, creates jobs, and stimulates the local economies. Robinson cited a Wenatchee study on the effect of parks in attracting tourists and businesses. He also noted that the capital budget is not faced with shortfalls, and that delaying WWRP would not save any money at this time. He noted that WWRP provides habitat for future populations of animals, and cited projections of housing over the next 30 years.

### **Resolution 2010-13 with a request of \$100 million for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) and no funding request for the Boating Activities Program or Youth Athletic Facilities Program.**

**moved by:     Daubert**

**and seconded by:     Spanel**

### **Resolution APPROVED 5-0 with two abstentions**

**Members Chapman, Brittell, Parsons, Spanel, and Daubert voted in favor**

**Members Hahn and Saunders abstained from the vote**

## **Briefings**

### Item 3: Acquisition Policy Updates and Potential Changes

Senior grants manager Leslie Ryan-Connelly explained that RCO staff is working on updates and revisions to Manual #3: *Acquiring Lands*. Changes will include clarifying procedures; ensuring consistency with other laws and rules; incorporating board-approved policies; and revising existing policy. She explained the different approval processes for procedural changes versus significant policy changes, and gave examples of both. She then walked the board through the proposed policy changes. Leslie concluded by describing the timeline and next steps for the process.

In response to a question from Member Daubert, Leslie noted that the two comments that RCO had received indicated concern with adding a time limit for developing property that was acquired and asking for landowner acknowledgment. Member Hahn stated that 3 years for the future development of a park was a tight timeline and that 4 years would be more in line with the budget biennial cycle. Member Saunders concurred, noting that four years would also have greater alignment with permitting timelines.

Chair Chapman recalled that Member Saunders had expressed concern in June about using yellow book standards for appraisals. Director Cottingham noted that the issue was whether there were enough appraisers who were certified to yellow book standards. Member Saunders responded that the issue was no longer as significant, and that half of the DNR appraisers are now yellow-book certified. Director Cottingham noted that the requirement may still be a concern for land trusts.

Member Saunders suggested that the policy clearly define legal access.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.**

Approved by:

---

Bill Chapman, Chair

---

Date

**Item 1B**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Project Time Extensions  
Prepared By: Myra Barker, Grant Manager  
Elizabeth Butler, Grant Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Summary

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff requests that the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) consider the proposed project time extensions shown in Attachment A.

### 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.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the extension requests included in Attachment A, Time Extension Requests for Board Approval, via Resolution #2010-14 (consent calendar).

### Background

Manual #7, *Funded Projects: Policies and the Project Agreement*, outlines the board's adopted policy for progress on active funded projects.

The RCO received time extension requests for the projects listed in Attachment A. This document summarizes the circumstances for the requested extension 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.

## Analysis

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.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will execute the appropriate amendments and monitor progress through successful completion of the projects. It is staff's intention to allow the sponsor to finish what is already underway. If negotiations should stall on any of the acquisitions, the RCO would close the project and move the funding to the next available project on the list. This condition will be written into the time extensions.

## Attachments

- A. Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

## Attachment A: Time Extension Request for Board Approval

Project #	Project sponsor	Project name	Grant program	Grant Amount Remaining	Funding date	Extension request	Circumstances or reasons for delay
06-1679P	Skamania County	Wind River Boat Ramp Improvements	Boating Facilities Program	\$102,725	11/16/06	11/30/11	<p>Grant funds were awarded for the design and permitting work to replace and relocate the boat ramp at Wind River. The existing ramp is failing and parking is limited, so boaters use the shoulders of SR 14 making for unsafe conditions for boaters and motorists.</p> <p>Due to the site's location in the Columbia River Gorge Scenic area, it is subject to additional review by the Gorge Commission. Design review and permits are required from the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), Ecology, WDFW, and WSDOT.</p> <p>The county has encountered numerous delays, but has made progress. Public comment periods are closed. There is agreement on the mitigation plan, and issues about use within the WSDOT right-of-way are resolved. The county has received the Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA), a critical areas variance, and approval of the site master plan by the Gorge Commission.</p> <p>The extension allows for redesign as needed, based on public comment and final regulatory review. The county anticipates permits will be obtained within the next year.</p>



Project #	Project sponsor	Project name	Grant program	Grant Amount Remaining	Funding date	Extension request	Circumstances or reasons for delay
06-1778	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)	L.T. Murray/Wenas Wildlife Area Rehab	State Lands Restoration	\$114,205	6/7/2007	10/31/2012	<p>This project restores shrub-steppe habitat at four highly degraded locations on the L.T. Murray-Wenas Wildlife Area Complex that were used for agricultural crops or pasture.</p> <p>Restoration of the Møllergaard site was stalled until recently because it is enrolled in the Federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and required Farm Service Agency (FSA) approval of restoration plans. During the grant application process, FSA representatives were supportive of the restoration proposal, but FSA staff later withheld permission.</p> <p>The CRP on 47 acres of the Møllergaard site expired on September 30, 2010. WDFW would only re-enroll the property with the stipulation that these acres be reseeded with a native shrub-steppe seed to benefit wildlife. As of October 1, 2010 restoration work can begin with weed treatment on these acres. A time extension through October 2012 will allow WDFW to use remaining grant funds to complete the Møllergaard restoration</p>

**Item 1C**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Scope Change Request, Skagit River Forks, # 06-1816A  
Prepared By: Elizabeth Butler, Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

**Summary**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is requesting a major scope change to the Skagit River Forks project, which was funded in the Riparian Protection Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. The proposed scope change would allow acquisition of an in-holding in the DeBay's Slough Swan Reserve, which is located 7.5 miles northeast of the original project area.

**Staff Recommendation**

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff reviewed the materials provided by WDFW, and recommend that the major scope change be approved for the following reasons:

- The amended project meets the eligibility requirements and achieves many of the goals of the original project.
- The Evans property represents a relatively rare and important acquisition opportunity; local lead entity staff reports it is difficult to find willing sellers in this reach of the Skagit River.
- This acquisition removes the development threat from this privately owned in-holding of the DeBay's Slough Swan Reserve.

Staff recommends that the board approve this scope change via the consent calendar, Resolution #2010-14.

**Strategic Plan Link**

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

## Background

### Original Scope: Skagit River Forks

In 2007, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) funded the Skagit River Forks project in the amount of \$464,283 to acquire 93 acres of riparian forest along the lower Skagit River (Attachment A), protecting riparian habitat, wetlands, uplands, and a freshwater slough.

The original project targeted four properties located on the eastside of the river where it branches into the north and south fork of the Skagit. The target species that would benefit were bald eagles, peregrine falcons, pileated woodpeckers, Chinook salmon, and bull trout.

Only two of the four owners were willing to sell. WDFW acquired 56.34 acres and 1,700 lineal feet of Skagit River shoreline in the project area (Attachment B). The remaining grant balance is just over \$245,000.

In July 2010, WDFW reported to the RCO that the remaining target properties cannot be purchased. WDFW then requested that the grant agreement be amended to include the Evans property, which is a privately owned in-holding of the 331-acre DeBay's Slough Swan Reserve (Attachment D).

### Proposed Scope: Evans Property, Debay's Slough Swan Reserve

The Evans property is not contiguous with the original project area. Rather, it is located about 7.5 miles northeast on the south side of the Skagit River, two miles southwest of Sedro-Woolley, two miles east of Burlington, and one mile west of SR-9 in unincorporated Skagit County (Attachment C).

It has been a priority WDFW acquisition target since the reserve was established in 1995, but until recently, the owner was unwilling to sell. The Fish and Wildlife Commission approved acquisition of the Evans property at its August 6, 2010 meeting.

WDFW has an option to buy the full fee interest in the 27.97-acre Evans property for appraised value (\$220,000). The completion date for this grant is June 30, 2011. Evans has requested an immediate closing, and WDFW reports they can complete the transaction well before the grant agreement expiration date.

This scope amendment is supported by the Skagit Watershed Council, the Skagit Land Trust, and The Trumpeter Swan Society.

## Analysis

Changing the scope of an acquisition project to a property outside the project's original geographic envelope is considered a major scope change and requires board approval. For this project, the outermost boundary of the original four properties is considered the "geographic

envelope,” making this a major scope change. In deciding whether to approve a major scope change, the board considers the following factors:

**Is the amended project eligible in the same grant program?**

Yes. The Evans property is undeveloped riparian habitat adjacent to the Skagit River and DeBay’s Slough in Skagit County.

**What is the reaction and/or position, if any, of the local government with regard to the requested amendment?**

WDFW’s Regional Director met with two of three Skagit County Commissioners to notify them of this proposed acquisition on September 14, 2010. The third commissioner had a scheduling conflict. Skagit County has not provided a written position to RCO, but WDFW reports the commissioners had no objections to the proposal.

This acquisition helps to achieve multiple environmental goals stated in the County’s Comprehensive Plan under Countywide Planning Policy 10.5: “Skagit County shall recognize the river systems within the County as pivotal freshwater resources and shall manage development within the greater watershed in a manner consistent with planning practices that enhance the integrity of the aquatic resource, fish and wildlife habitat, and recreational and aesthetic quality.” Specific goals in the Comprehensive Plan that apply to this acquisition include 1) preserve and protect wetlands, 2) protect, restore, and enhance fish and wildlife populations and their associated habitats, and 3) preserve, protect, and restore the natural resources of the county’s shorelines.

**How does the amended project fit with priorities identified in state approved strategies including, but not limited to, the Natural Heritage Plan, State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Lands 20/20, Biodiversity Strategy, A Regional Recovery Plan, or a three-year work plan for salmon recovery?**

The Evans acquisition includes about 1,100 feet of Skagit River shoreline, which has been designated by state law as a Shoreline of Statewide Significance. According to WDFW’s Priority Habitats and Species Database and National Wetlands Inventory data, this acquisition contains about 5.75 acres of palustrine forested and scrub-shrub seasonally flooded habitat. The wetland portion of the acquisition has been identified as WDFW Priority Habitat in the wetland and trumpeter and tundra swan habitat categories. This area of the Skagit Floodplain historically had been actively connected to the river and has thus been identified in the Skagit River chapter of the Puget Sound Chinook Recovery Plan for restoration. The North American Waterfowl Plan and Pacific Coast Joint Venture have identified habitat in the area as critical wintering and migration habitat for waterfowl.

**Will federal or other matching resources be lost if a scope change is not approved?**

No.

**What opportunity will be lost if the request is not granted? (Consider, for example, consequences to the public, the resources, and the grant program.)**

If this request is not granted, WDFW will not be able to consolidate ownership and protect this swan reserve in-holding from development, and the Skagit River Forks project will close far short of its target, at approximately 50 percent complete.

With this acquisition, the protected land funded by this grant agreement increases from 56 to 84 acres and completes 90 percent of the project's acreage goals. Additionally, the total lineal feet of Skagit River shoreline protected through this grant increases from 1,700 to 2,800 feet, achieving 77 percent of the project's shoreline goals. Unprotected, the Evans property could be developed into a single family residence.<sup>1</sup>

**What other project or projects could the money go to if this request is denied?**

All other 2006 Riparian Protection grant applications have been funded. As a result, if this amendment is not approved, the next project to receive returned funds would be on the following biennium's list. The next project on that list is the Stavis NRCA/Kitsap Forest NAP #08-1183A, which is partially funded with slightly less than half of the \$3.4 million requested. This project is sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA) completely surrounds the existing Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve (NAP), and protects the best quality example known of the Douglas fir-western hemlock/evergreen huckleberry forest community and one of the only extensive areas of mature and old growth forest in the Puget Sound lowlands area.

The Stavis NRCA/Kitsap Forest NAP is a multi-phase project that has received funding in every biennium since FY 2004. DNR currently has three active land acquisition grants in the Stavis NRCA (08-1183, 08-1182, 06-1743), with more than \$3 million in funds available for acquisitions. DNR is successfully acquiring land in the Stavis NRCA.

DNR applied for additional WWRP funding this past summer and is well-positioned for additional funding if the WWRP program receives an appropriation in the next biennium. The Stavis 2010 Urban Wildlife application (10-1117) ranked at the top of the list, and the Riparian Protection (10-1118) application ranked as a high alternate for funding.

**How does the amended project compare with the original project and with the alternate project on the funding priority list?**

The amended project meets many of the same conservation goals and species benefits of the original project. It includes all habitat types originally identified, including wetland, upland, a mature riparian low-lying forest that buffers the northeast end of DeBay's Slough, and a portion of the freshwater slough. It also includes agricultural fields that provide essential feeding and loafing grounds for migrating ducks, geese, swans, shorebirds.

The site has potential for quality wildlife viewing within the swan reserve, which is a night roost for trumpeter and tundra swans and other waterfowl. Listed species that would benefit from

---

<sup>1</sup> Lot Certification filed Nov 30, 2000 with County Auditor confirms parcel is a lot of record for building purposes under Skagit County Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision codes and in compliance with RCW 58.17.210.

conservation ownership of this property include Chinook salmon, bald eagle, and peregrine falcon. Priority species benefitting from the acquisition include steelhead, chum, coho, pink and sockeye salmon, great blue heron, wood duck, hooded merganser, pileated woodpecker and Columbia black-tailed deer.

The Evans property includes about 1,100 lineal feet along the southern bank of the Skagit River. The riparian habitat function along this section are limited by a hardened bank with little interaction between the shoreline and the river. Acquisition of the Evans parcel would be a first step towards riparian habitat restoration along this portion of the Skagit River, as prioritized by the local lead entity for salmon recovery. The property could be enhanced by softening the bank and establishing a mature riparian buffer along the river shoreline.

### **Next Steps**

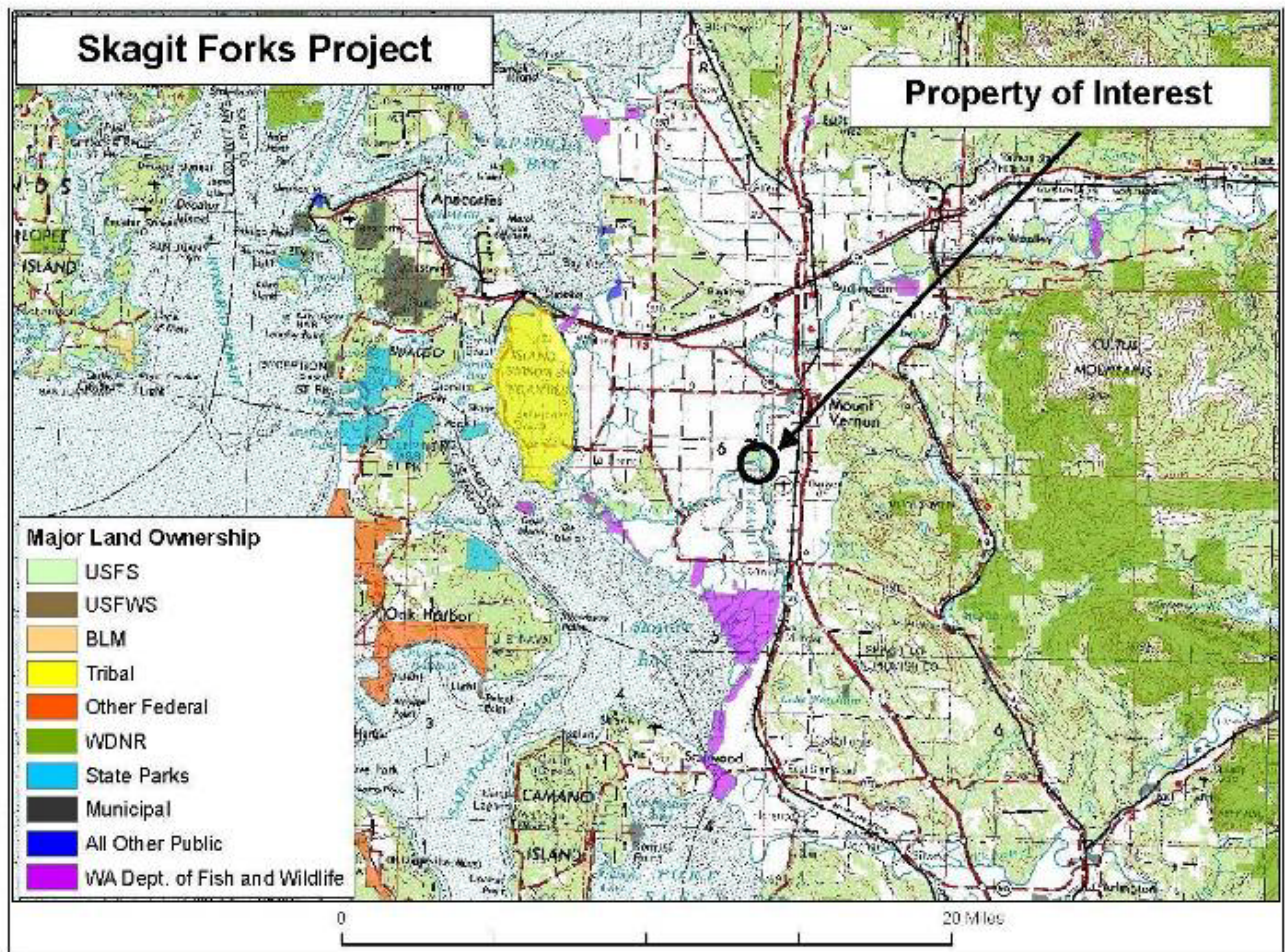
Staff is prepared to implement direction from the board regarding WDFW's scope change request.

### **Attachments**

- A. Skagit River Forks Regional Map
- B. Original scope
- C. Distance between original Skagit River Forks project and Evans property
- D. Evans Property Parcel Map
- E. Sponsor's scope change request
- F. Sponsor response to Riparian Protection Account criteria.

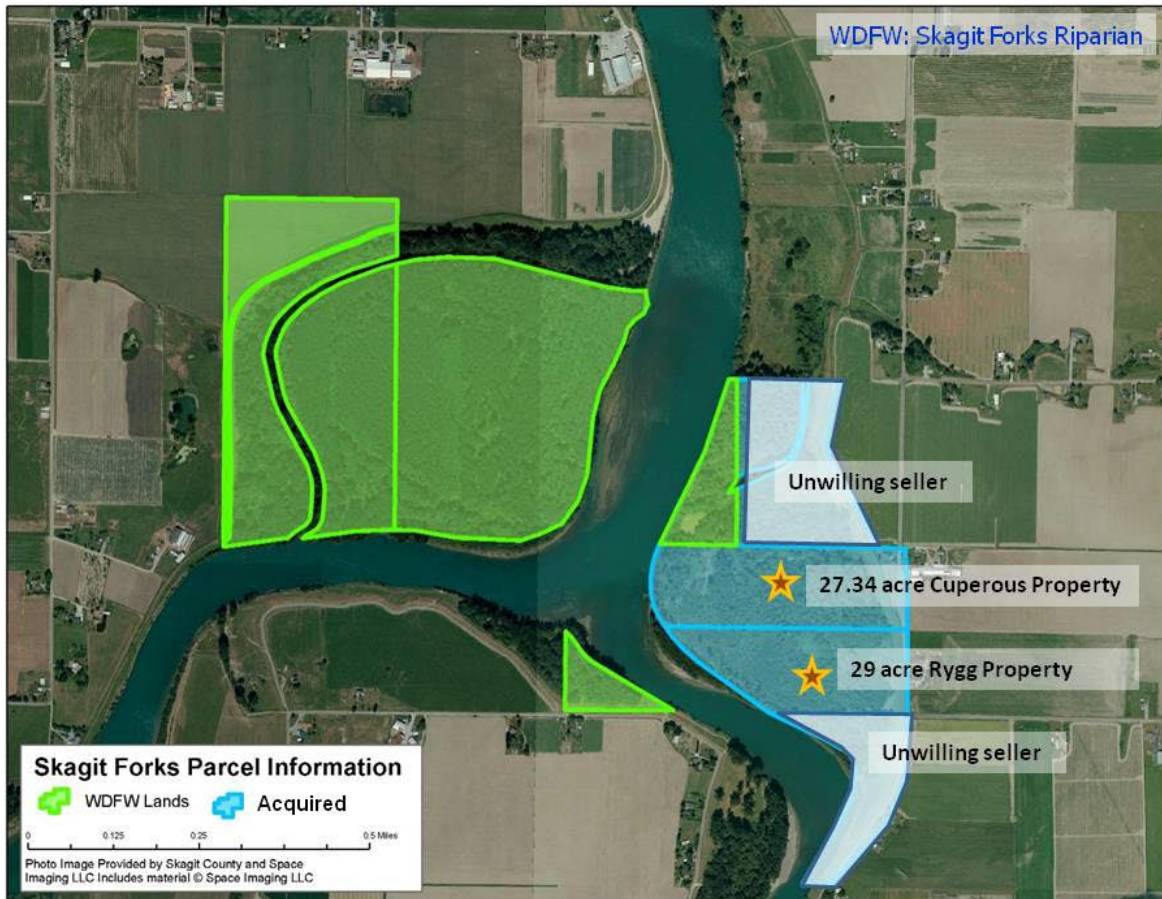


## Skagit River Forks Regional Map



Fish & Wildlife Dept of; Skagit River Forks (#06-1816)

Original scope





**Distance between original Skagit River Forks project and Evans property**



## Evans Property Parcel Map



**Item 1D**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Scope Change Request, Methow Watershed Ph 6, # 08-1505A  
Prepared By: Kammie Bunes, Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

**Summary**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is requesting a major scope change to the Methow Watershed Phase 6 project funded in the Critical Habitat category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP). The proposed scope change would allow acquisition of the 104-acre Miller-Harrison property, originally proposed for acquisition in Methow Watershed Phase 5.

**Staff Recommendation**

RCO Staff reviewed the materials provided by Fish and Wildlife and recommends the major scope change be approved for the following reasons:

- The amended project meets the eligibility requirements and achieves many of the goals of the original project.
- The amendment would simply allow acquisition of a property previously evaluated in Phase 5 to occur in Phase 6.
- The amendment would remove the threat of development on property strategically located between existing public ownership.
- Acquisition of this property will add high quality deer winter/spring range and prevent fragmentation of the migration routes. This property is an important component of major deer migration routes.

Staff recommends that the board approve this scope change via the consent calendar, Resolution #2010-14.

**Strategic Plan Link**

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

## Background

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has been awarded ten WWRP grants over the past 19 years for habitat preservation in the Methow Valley area of Okanogan County. The primary focus of the grants has been to assemble a wildlife habitat corridor and key habitats for target species such as winter range for mule deer. These grants have all been submitted in the Critical Habitat category of the WWRP Habitat Conservation Account (HCA).

The Miller-Harrison property, which is the subject of this scope change request, was identified and evaluated as a priority acquisition within the geographic envelope of WDFW's Methow Watershed – Phase 5 application, RCO project #06-1810A. The property is located between recently acquired State Park land at Pearrygin Lake to the west and existing WDFW ownership to the east (Attachment A).

The project was a proposed alternate on the preliminary WWRP HCA Critical Habitat category list. However, at the preliminary funding meeting in September 2006, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) voted to move projects that would be alternates on the Critical Habitat category list to the Riparian Protection Account list. As a result, only the Methow Watershed – Phase 5 target properties with riparian habitat were eligible for funding when the project was put under agreement in 2009. The Miller-Harrison property did not have riparian value, so it was not included in the Phase 5 scope.

In the following grant round, WDFW submitted an application and was awarded a WWRP HCA Critical Habitat category grant for Methow Watershed Phase 6. This phase includes geographic envelopes to the north and south of the Miller-Harrison property (Attachment B). The Miller-Harrison property is now on the market and WDFW is asking that the scope of Phase 6 be increased to include this property.

## Analysis

Changing the scope of an acquisition project to a property outside the project's original geographic envelope is considered a major scope change and requires board approval. In deciding whether to approve a major scope change, the board considers the following factors:

### **Is the amended project eligible in the same grant program category?**

Yes. The Miller-Harrison property is eligible and was previously evaluated in the Critical Habitat category.

### **What is the reaction and/or position, if any, of the local government with regard to the requested amendment?**

WDFW Regional Director Dennis Beich and Special Assistant Dave Brittell met with Okanogan County Commissioners on October 5, 2010 to discuss this and other proposed acquisitions. WDFW reports that the Commissioners acknowledged the project and indicated they would not oppose it.

**How does the amended project fit with priorities identified in state approved strategies including, but not limited to, the Natural Heritage Plan, State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Lands 20/20, Biodiversity Strategy, A Regional Recovery Plan, or a three-year work plan for salmon recovery?**

The Miller-Harrison property includes about 104 acres that is dominated by shrub-steppe habitat, which is critical for sharp-tailed grouse recovery and provides habitat for many other species. The property contains high-density winter range for deer and is part of a deer migration corridor. As such, it directly addresses the objectives of many regional planning efforts including WDFW's Strategic Plan, Okanogan Ecoregional Assessment and the Methow Subbasin plan.

The property's strategic location between existing WDFW and State Parks land makes it especially desirable for habitat connectivity and to improve management options on existing state ownership (Attachment C).

**Will federal or other matching resources be lost if a scope change is not approved?**

Yes. In partnership with USFWS on the Methow Watershed Project, WDFW currently has 3 USFWS Methow Watershed Project grants. These grants require 55 percent matching funds. This property – as well as other priority properties – have been identified and are within the scopes of the USFWS Methow Watershed Project grants.

**What opportunity will be lost if the request is not granted? (Consider, for example, consequences to the public, the resources, and the grant program.)**

If this request is not granted, the opportunity to acquire this important property may be lost forever. The current owners inherited this property in 1994 and have recently retained a broker. This property is currently for sale. The broker is working on plans to subdivide this property for a housing development (one home per 20 acres). Threat of development is imminent.

**What other project or projects could the money go to if this request is denied?**

If this scope change amendment is denied, WDFW will continue pursuing other properties within the existing geographic envelopes of the Phase 6 project. To date, one property has been acquired and 12 percent of the \$3.5 million grant has been spent.

**How does the amended project compare with the original project and with the alternate project on the funding priority list?**

The amended project meets the same conservation goals and species benefits of the original project:

- Assemble a functional wildlife corridor
- Connect existing public lands
- Conserve winter deer range
- Conserve shrub-steppe habitat

## Next Steps

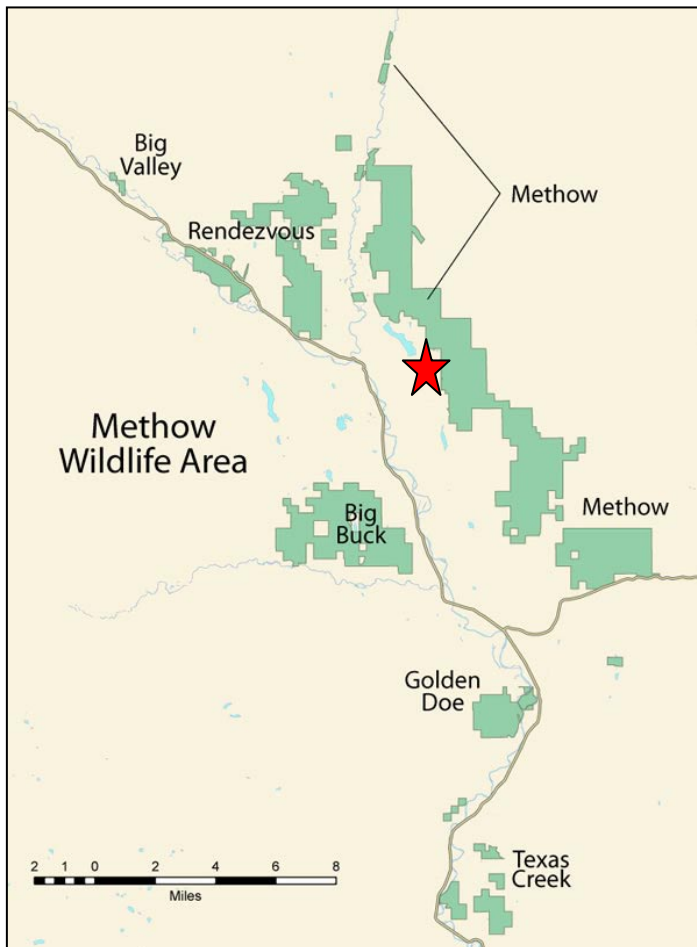
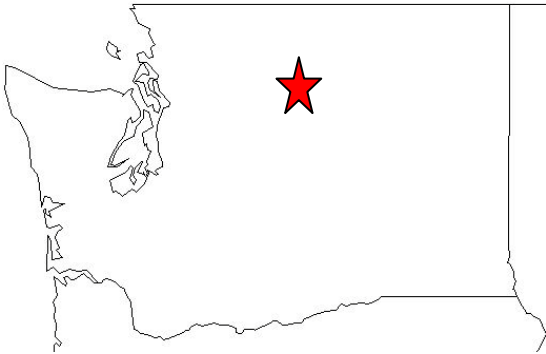
Staff is prepared to implement direction from the board regarding WDFW's scope change request.

## Attachments

- A. Map: Subject Property Location
- B. Map: Geographic Envelopes Phases 5 and 6
- C. Map: Subject Property in Relation to Existing State Ownership

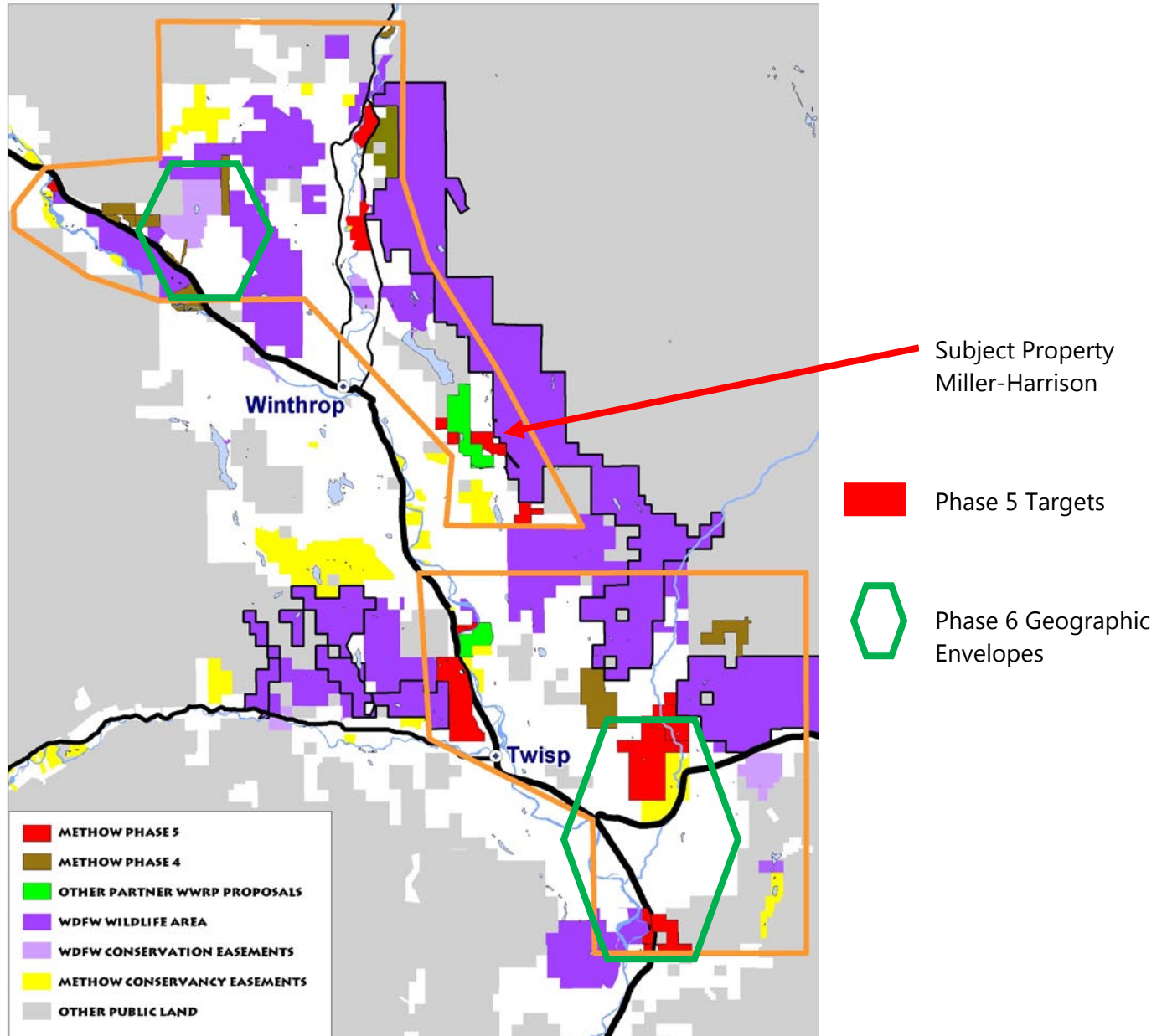


**Map: Subject Property Location**



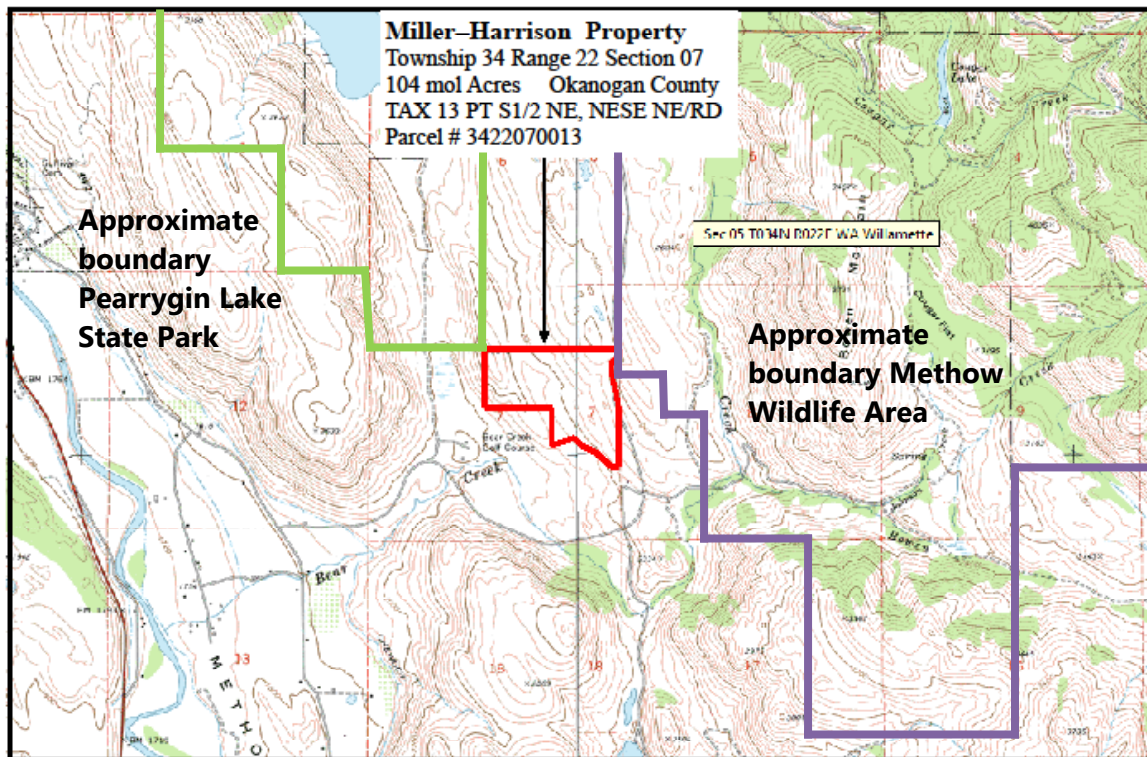
★ Subject Property

### Map: Geographic Envelopes Phases 5 and 6





**Map: Subject Property in Relation to Existing State Ownership**



Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Director's Report  
Prepared By: Kaleen Cottingham, Director

---

**Proposed Action: Briefing**

## Summary

### Grant Management

Staff in the three grant sections has been extremely busy this summer processing the avalanche of new applications.

- Recreation and Conservation staff spent the early summer reviewing projects in three grant programs. By the end of June, more than 100 volunteers with expertise in recreation, conservation, and wildlife habitats reviewed about 275 projects during 12 days of review meetings. In August, RCO used more than 100 volunteers to evaluate and score projects at 19 evaluation meetings. Staff also prepared materials for written evaluations of 125 projects.
- The Salmon Team reviewed 121 projects in the field with project applicants and members of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board's Technical Review Panel.
- Recreation and Conservation Section interns inspected 250 completed projects this summer, focusing on sites funded with Land and Water Conservation Fund and Boating Facilities Program grants.
- All grant managers are working on getting the remaining funded projects under contract. Recreation Team grant managers are working on issuing agreements for 44 Recreational Trails Program projects that were just notified of nearly \$1.9 million in federal funds. The Salmon Team is working with the Puget Sound Partnership to get funds from the Puget Sound Restoration and Acquisition Fund approved by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and under contract.

### RCFB Projects in the News

#### Seahurst Park Named One of Best Restored Beaches in U.S.

The American Shore and Beach Preservation Association has given Burien's Seahurst Park the 2010 award for the best restored beach. The association gives four awards each year to two beaches on each coast. Burien and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers teamed up to restore the

beach in 2004 at a cost of \$1.5 million. Work involved removing a 1,400-foot seawall, restoring the beach to its natural state and restoring habitat for threatened species such as Puget Sound Chinook salmon. In 2008, the City completed another \$1 million in habitat and recreation improvements including adding trails and picnic areas, replacing the restroom, and replanting the shoreline. Restoration of the gravel beach provides space for forage fish to spawn, which is a primary food source for salmon.

Since 1971, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) have provided several grants to improve the park. The RCFB has awarded over \$1.85 million in grants funded through bonds, the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The SRFB has provided just over \$1 million in Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) and salmon recovery grants.

## Community Celebrates Kiket Island Acquisition

About 300 people joined Governor Chris Gregoire, the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, and the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission in celebrating the acquisition of Kiket Island in Skagit County. The island has more than 2 miles of intact shoreline, forested uplands with old growth trees, and diverse habitat including bluffs, and kelp and eelgrass that support Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. In the 1970s, Kiket Island was the proposed site for a nuclear power plant. Since then, the island's uplands have been privately owned by a family who, for the most part, chose not to develop the property. As a result, the natural ecology and beauty of Kiket Island are largely undisturbed.

The RCFB provided \$4.5 million in Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) grants and the SRFB provided a \$1 million PSAR grant.

## RCO Web to Get Modern Maps

RCO is working with the Department of Fish and Wildlife GIS staff to update the maps RCO uses to locate boat launches and grant projects on the Web. The current maps do not take advantage of modern GIS capabilities. When revamped, the new maps will allow users to choose between aerial photographs or other backgrounds, and to more easily create and navigate around the maps. This work should be completed in December.

## New Employees

**Kat Moore** will join the Salmon Section on October 15 as a grant manager to fill a vacancy. She comes to RCO from the Capitol Land Trust where she spent the past four years managing acquisition and restoration projects in south Puget Sound. Kat has a master of environmental studies and a law degree. She is a licensed attorney in Washington.

**Lynn Kennedy** has joined RCO as the executive assistant, supporting the director, deputy director, policy director, and human resources director. She comes to us from the Health Care Authority, where she was the executive assistant to the director. Before that, she served as the executive assistant to the director of the Department of Information Services.

**Greg Tudor** is the new joint information technology manager for RCO and the Puget Sound Partnership. Greg came to us from the Department of Natural Resources. He will report to Rachael but work with the partnership's deputy director to ensure the Partnership's technology needs are met. Greg will supervise the information technology staff at the RCO and at the Puget Sound Partnership as part of our agency consortium.

## **Preparing for the LWCF Program Review**

Staff is preparing for a federal review of how we manage Land and Water Conservation Fund grants. Staff is completing file audits, gathering program information, and developing performance and metric data reports where none exist. The first two days of the program review will focus on a review of RCO's compliance program (field inspections) in the greater Spokane area. Key RCO staff will accompany staff from the National Park Service for this portion of the review. The remainder of the review will occur at RCO's offices and will include interviewing staff and reviewing files and program information.

## **State opens "One Front Door to Washington's Outdoors" Online**

Gov. Chris Gregoire and Commissioner of Public Lands Peter Goldmark announced a new online service making it easier for people to find what they need from Washington's natural resources agencies. "One Front Door to Washington's Outdoors" makes a wide range of information on environmental services, permits, outdoor recreation, natural resources, forestry, farming, and easier to find. RCO played a large role in the effort by compiling a section on all the available natural resources grants and loans. "One Front Door to Washington's Outdoors" is a direct result of Gov. Gregoire's government reform initiative. The link:

<http://access.wa.gov/environment/index.aspx>

## **Customers Generally Satisfied with RCO**

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) finished a customer satisfaction survey of our grant applicants in August and received 130 responses from our mailing list of 641 – a 20 percent response rate. The survey addressed our grant management, reimbursement process, policy development and manuals, technology, communication, and Web site. Most sponsors reported that they were generally satisfied and offered specific suggestions for improvement. Staff, especially grant managers, received very high praise from respondents for their communication, program knowledge, availability, and customer service. The results are discussed in detail in memo 2F.

## **RCO Awards Big Checks**

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board members and staff have visited several communities this summer to award oversized checks to grant recipients with outstanding projects. I visited Bremerton to present a check for two of the city's parks, Kiwanis and Lions, which scored well in the competition for Land and Water Conservation Fund grants. Board member Steven Drew presented checks to the City of Olympia for its work on Rotary Park and to the City of Lacey for its work on Woodland Trail.

## **PRISM Contractor Selected**

Rudeen & Associates were awarded a new contract for maintenance and operation of our PRISM data base system. Rudeen & Associates competed for the contract against two other companies. Proposals were evaluated in May and the contract awarded in April. RCO has the option to extend the contract into 2015. The contractors will assist with the ongoing maintenance and operation of PRISM as well as any new enhancements.

## **Boards and Commissions Report Completed**

In July, we submitted a comprehensive report on our boards and commissions as required by the Legislature. This report required basic information such as purpose, membership, method of creation, class designation, and meeting frequency. In addition, we reported actual expense information (by account) for each board and commission for fiscal years 2008 and 2009. This included staff and board member salaries, benefits, per diem and travel as well as meeting costs such as food and facilities. RCO reported the information for 16 boards, councils, and committees. We lumped all of our WWRP evaluation committees into one for purposes of this report.

## **News from our Sister Boards**

### **Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)**

The SRFB set a target of \$20.1 million as the amount to be awarded for salmon recovery grants in December. Grant applicants have submitted 121 applications for that funding. In addition, SRFB approved an additional \$250,000 for the National Fish and Wildlife Fund's small grant program. The SRFB also set the budget request amounts to include or support for the upcoming biennium: \$7 million for the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, \$55 million for the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration grants, and \$10 million for the Family Forest Fish Passage Program. The SRFB also agreed to request \$19.8 million for its grant program in the 2011-13 budget; this is the amount required to match the expected federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund awards of \$60 million for the biennium.

### **Washington Biodiversity Council**

The Biodiversity Council held its final meeting in June with the conversation centering on how to continue to move projects forward during the coming year. Funding for staff will continue through the remainder of the biennium to transition projects to new homes.

## Washington Invasive Species Council

Council has prepared a legislative proposal to extend the council's sunset date from December 2011 to June 2017. An earlier idea to create an invasive species emergency response fund has been tabled due to lack of support for the funding mechanism. In other work, the council contracted to survey water bodies within 5 miles of Capitol Lake to see if the New Zealand mud snail infestation has grown. This information is critical to the Department of General Administration as it decides how to move forward in managing the Capitol Lake infestation. Finally, the council agreed to look at state agency performance measures on invasive species, and decide if they are appropriate or if new measures are needed.

## Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group

The lands group published the 2010 Biennial State Land Acquisition Forecast Report and map on the Web page at

[www.rco.wa.gov/documents/hrlcg/2010BiennialStateLandAcquisitionForecastReport.pdf](http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/hrlcg/2010BiennialStateLandAcquisitionForecastReport.pdf). The report and map provide information about proposed state land acquisitions for the 2011-2013 biennium.

## Washington Forum on Monitoring Salmon Recovery and Watershed Health

The forum completed a major task in August when it adopted protocols and methods for measuring the high-level indicators of salmon recovery and watershed health. Adopting specific indicators and protocols is an important step toward bringing consistency across a variety of state and local monitoring programs. Next, the forum will provide tools to help agencies incorporate the protocols into their individual monitoring programs. The forum completed a second major task when it made recommendations to the Office of Financial Management and the Legislature about agency budget proposals for monitoring projects. The forum also decided to submit legislation requesting an extension of itself after its sunset date in 2011.

## Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO)

GSRO has been working on three major tasks. First, GSRO is completing annual performance reviews for seven regional salmon recovery organizations. These reviews include discussion about better integrating regional and lead entity operating grant agreements. Second, staff is writing the biennial "State of Salmon in Watersheds" report, which provides the Governor, legislators, federal agencies, and others with a barometer of the state's salmon recovery efforts. Third, GSRO is developing a state and regional funding strategy on implementing salmon recovery plans. As part of that, GSRO is analyzing the functional requirements for tracking recovery plan implementation, data management, and reporting needs to better determine if existing data systems can perform this work or if new technology will be needed.



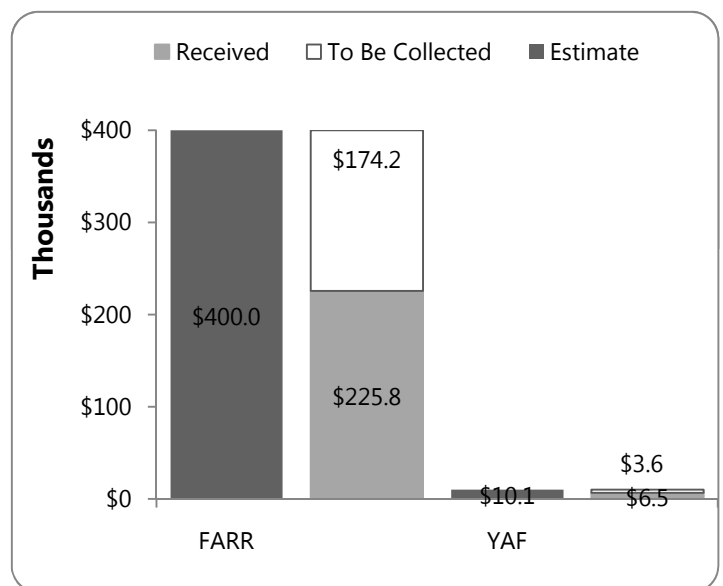
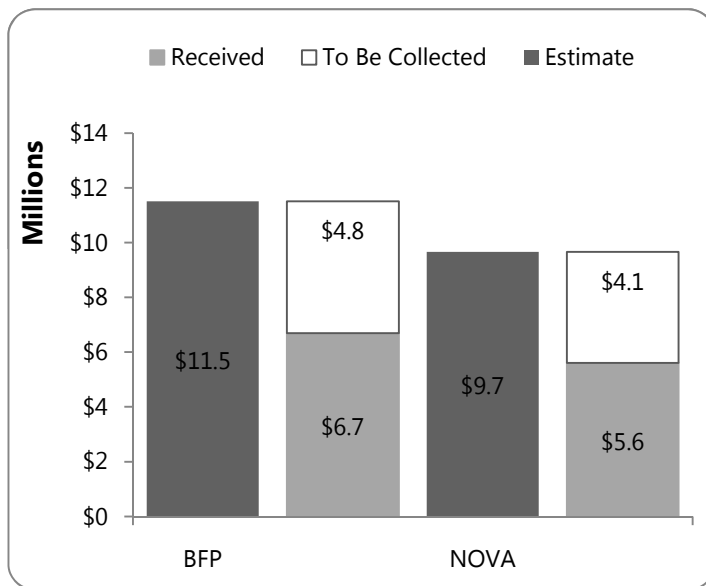
## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board – Revenue Report

2009-11 Budget Status Report - Revenues

For the Period of July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2011, actuals through 8/30/2010 (fm 14)

Percentage of biennium reported: 58.3%

Revenue	Bienial Forecast Estimate	Collections	
		Actual	% of Estimate
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	\$11,511,100	\$6,696,239	58%
Nonhighway, Off-Road Vehicle Program (NOVA)	9,665,033	5,612,503	58%
Firearms and Archery Range Rec Program (FARR)	400,000	225,795	56%
Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF)	10,139	6,505	64%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,586,272</b>	<b>12,541,042</b>	<b>58%</b>



### 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.

Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) revenue is from an initial \$10 million contribution by the Seattle Seahawks "team affiliate" in 1998. The new revenue is from the interest on the unexpended amount of the fund.

This reflects the most recent revenue forecast of February 2010. The next forecast is due in June 2010.





**Item 2B**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Fiscal Report  
Prepared By: Mark Jarasitis, Chief Financial Officer  
Steve McLellan, Policy Director

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Briefing**

### **Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Fiscal Report**

The attached financial reports reflect Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) activities as of September 30, 2010.

- Attachment A reflects the budget status of board activities by program.

Note: The Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) program is \$136 million committed. The remaining \$691,057 is being committed by assigning returned funding to projects.

- Attachment B reflects the budget status of the entire agency by board.
- Attachment C reflects the revenue collections.

Note: The revenue spreadsheet reflects the most recent revenue forecasts as of September 2010 for the new biennium 2009-11. There were decreases in the projected revenue collections for the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) and the Nonhighway, Off-Road Vehicle Program (NOVA). RCO is contacting the other agencies with budgeted amounts in these funds because reductions will be necessary.

- Attachment D is a Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) summary. Since the beginning of this program, \$617 million of funds appropriated in the WWRP program have been spent or accrued. The report also reflects a \$981,000 reduction to WWRP from the 2010 state supplemental budget.

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

## Budget Report

Since the last meeting of the board, state revenues have continued to decline. The result is that the state faces a deficit for the remainder of the current biennium, and the projected General Fund shortfall for the next biennium has risen from \$3.1 billion to \$4.5 billion.

At the direction of the Governor, RCO submitted two separate sets of general fund budget cuts to address these shortfalls.

- The first set of cuts, which are “across the board” cuts, will address revenue shortfalls for the remainder of this biennium. RCO chose to meet this 6.3 percent reduction (\$93,000) by reducing the remaining Biodiversity Council general fund support by \$45,000. Remaining Biodiversity activities will be shifted to a Department of Transportation grant we received. RCO also shifted \$45,000 of lead entity funding to federal salmon funds. The remaining cuts (\$3,000) were taken from all other general fund activities. These “across the board” cuts went into effect October 1. They will be incorporated in a supplemental budget request, which the Governor will ask lawmakers to pass during the first weeks of session. The actual level of cuts RCO will ultimately need to take for the current biennium could increase depending on the November revenue forecast, caseload forecasts, and policy decisions by the Governor or legislature to change where cuts are focused.
- Agencies also were asked to submit ten percent general fund reductions for the next biennium. For RCO, ten percent of general fund appropriations equals a \$245,000 reduction. These proposed reductions will be considered by the Office of Financial Management (OFM) and the Governor for inclusion in the 2011-13 budget. For these cuts, RCO has proposed shifting \$150,000 from lead entity state contracts and \$48,000 from the SRFB technical review panel to federal salmon funds. RCO has also recommended spreading the remainder of reductions (\$47,000) among the rest of the programs receiving general funds (Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office, Invasive Species Council, lead entity administration, and administrative costs associated with the agency director/legislative liaison/Salmon Recovery Funding Board).

The next revenue forecast is scheduled for November 18, after which the Governor will make her final decisions about cuts for the supplemental and biennial budgets. Early indications are that revenues continue to be soft, making it likely that the ultimate level of cuts will be somewhat higher than those projected to date. Also, the Governor will be considering results from the Priorities of Government (POG) process and recommendations from the Transforming Washington’s Budget panel she created earlier this year. Those recommendations are expected in early November and are expected to focus on significant structural changes in state government that would address longer-term cost and revenue challenges. The Governor’s budget proposal is scheduled to be released December 20.

RCO also is preparing to submit information to OFM to comply with a proviso in last year’s capital budget that requires agencies to identify projects without executed contracts as of November 30, 2010. OFM has been directed to identify \$50 million in savings from this pool; the capital budget level assumes these savings. We expect that very few, if any, RCFB-approved

projects will fall into this category. The most likely scenario is that if a project closes under budget and returns funds close to the deadline, it is unlikely that an alternate project would be selected and brought under contract before the deadline. Staff will provide the board with an update once the OFM submission is made.

## 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

## Item 2C

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Policy and Legislative Report  
Prepared By: Steve McLellan, Policy Director

Approved by the Director:

---

### **Proposed Action: Briefing**

The Policy Section is working on a number of issues at the request of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB), Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), the legislature, and the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff and director. This memo highlights the status of some key efforts.

### **Progress on Sustainability Policy Development**

Staff has completed an analysis of sustainability measures found in 2011 applications for WWRP state lands, trails, and local parks. We have found that applicants are claiming legitimate sustainability elements at a very high rate. For example, over 90 percent of the state lands applications feature sustainability elements. With this evidence that the client base for grants is already engaged in sustainable practices, staff believes that the RCFB will be able to articulate a simple yet powerful policy foundation for sustainability while minimizing the impact to grant applicants. Staff plans to bring more a more detailed analysis and a policy proposal to the RCFB at its next meeting.

### **Level of Service**

RCO's contractor, AECOM, is testing the "level of service" concept found in the 2008 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning (SCORP) document. The intent of the level of service (LOS) is to provide planners with an additional, modern tool with which to determine current needs for recreation sites and facilities.

AECOM is expected to propose major changes to the LOS tool for local and state agencies. Local agencies have expressed a high level of support for the LOS tool found in SCORP; in fact, 73 percent of local communities involved in the test either support or strongly support the LOS tool. The final part of the test is to incorporate the LOS into a mock evaluation of 2011 LWCF grants.

RCO Staff, the National Park Service, 2011 LWCF applicants, and the LWCF advisory committee have been kept fully informed of the test. Staff anticipates incorporating the LOS tool as a

recommended, but not required, approach to recreation planning in Manual #2, Planning Policies.

## Compatible Land Uses Policy

Policy staff is developing policies for this board and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board that describe when certain commonly requested land uses are consistent or inconsistent with grant funding. Such commonly requested land uses include cattle grazing, communications towers, recreational uses on habitat land, historic structures, temporary non-conforming uses, and public visitor facilities, structures, or infrastructure elements.

The compatible land uses policies are part of a greater effort by policy staff to clarify that a land use<sup>1</sup> can avoid being out of compliance if it is consistent with both the grant program and the project agreement. We also will describe some land uses that are clearly not allowed on grant funded lands because they are inconsistent with the funding purposes. For each type of commonly requested use, the policies will require the sponsor to prove that the use will not diminish the values intended for protection by the grant program.

Staff expects to bring policy proposals to this board and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board early next year.

## Possible Request Legislation

RCO has submitted proposals for agency request legislation on behalf of the Forum on Monitoring Salmon Recovery and Watershed Health and the Washington Invasive Species Council.

***The Monitoring Forum proposal*** would extend its sunset date until June 30, 2015 and assign it additional tasks, including:

- Adopting additional high-level indicators and monitoring protocols for nearshore and estuarine habitat and for large rivers,
- Additional work on increasing the use of existing protocols, and
- A possible role in implementing the Natural Resources Reform executive order on monitoring coordination.

***The Invasive Species Council's proposal*** would extend the sunset date of the Council to June 30, 2017. Work is ongoing to combine the Council's request with invasive species legislation from the Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Ecology.

Decisions by the Governor's office on these legislative proposals are expected after the Governor's proposed budget is released December 20.

---

<sup>1</sup> A land use can include human and non-human activities, structures, infrastructure elements, and management activities.

## **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Grants for Puget Sound Ecosystem Restoration and Protection**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently awarded \$6 million to the Puget Sound Partnership to implement the Action Agenda. In addition, on September 1, 2010, the EPA issued a request for proposals to implement work consistent with the 2020 Puget Sound Action Agenda. The initial annual awards will average \$3 million in four categories; additional funds will be provided incrementally over 6 years, and could total up to \$48 million.

The grant money will be awarded to implement work in the following categories:

- Marine and nearshore protection and restoration
- Watershed protection and restoration
- Toxics and nutrients prevention, reduction, and control
- Pathogens prevention, reduction, and control

The EPA will award funds to only one organization in each of the four categories. The lead organizations are expected to develop 6-year implementation and funding strategies, coordinate with other entities including the Puget Sound Partnership, and provide performance accountability and adaptive management. RCO is not expected to be the lead organization for any category, but will likely be asked to administer and manage competitive grants for the lead organization(s).

The proposals are due to the EPA on November 1, 2010. The first awards will be made in February 2011.

## **Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group**

The Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group (lands group) was created by statute in 2007 primarily because the Legislature wanted a statewide strategy for coordination of land acquisitions by state agencies. This year, the lands group hosted the second State Land Acquisition Coordinating Forum to help state agencies coordinate acquisition grant requests and present information about proposed 2011-2013 acquisition and disposal projects. The lands group also published the first Biennial State Land Acquisition Forecast Report on its web. The lands group will track proposed acquisition projects through the funding cycles on its web site.

The lands group is working to complete its statutory tasks by its sunset date of July 2012. Next year it will publish a state land acquisitions monitoring report to compare the success of completed projects with the initial plans. It will also submit recommendations to the Legislature in advance of the 2012 legislative session.

## **Water Rights Associated with Grant Funded Projects**

The RCO does not have a policy to help ensure that water rights acquired with grant funds from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) are protected to the maximum extent possible.

To address this issue, staff is analyzing several potential approaches to protect water rights that are: (1) purchased outright with grant funds, (2) acquired through fee simple acquisitions or conservation easements, or (3) achieved through water conservation or efficiencies projects. Staff wants to ensure that we use the water rights and savings to advance the grant objectives and address water resource needs around the state.

Staff's initial proposal is that water rights and water claims that sponsors acquire with RCFB or SRFB funds be placed into the state's trust water rights program at the Department of Ecology. Staff plans to test this concept in the RCO grant programs where water rights issues are the most prevalent – that is, the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (Riparian Protection, Critical Habitat, and Natural Areas Accounts), and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board grants. RCO staff is in the process of identifying possible pilot projects. We will provide periodic updates to this board as efforts progress.

**Boating Infrastructure Grant  
Grants Requested 2010****Pierce County****Grant Requested: \$4,093,000****Connecting the Chambers Creek Properties' North Dock**

Pierce County Public Works and Utilities will use this grant to connect an existing pedestrian overpass with a 4,700-square-foot dock, gangway, and moorage float at its Chambers Creek Properties along the shores of southern Puget Sound. The project will provide guest moorage for large recreational boaters and access to more than 2 miles of shoreline and upland amenities. The 1,200-square-foot float will be joined to the dock by a 630-square-foot, grated gangway. Tie ups will run along the length and end of the float. Lighting and a waterline also will be installed. The Chambers Creek Properties includes a golf course, playfields, off-leash dog area, and more than 3 miles of trail in the Chambers Creek canyon. Pierce County will contribute \$1.5 million in cash and donated labor and materials. This grant is from the Boating Infrastructure Grant program. (10-1162)

**Port of Anacortes****Grant Requested: \$1,447,532****Increasing Cap Sante Boat Haven Guest Moorage**

The Port of Anacortes will use this grant to replace two guest moorage docks, which are more than 40 years old, at Cap Sante Boat Haven. The new docks will have 54 guest moorage slips. The Port will replace the wood docks and piles with concrete floats and steel piles and upgrade the power supply. Cap Sante Boat Haven has 30 guest moorage slips and receives more than 11,000 requests a year for guest moorage. Boat Haven is at a major Pacific Northwest destination, the gateway to the San Juan Islands in the Puget Sound. During boating season, Boat Haven has converted its permanent slips to temporary guest moorage slips to accommodate demand. The Port will contribute \$1.4 million. This grant is from the Boating Infrastructure Grant program. (10-1538)

**Port of Kalama****Grant Requested: \$600,000****Expanding Guest Moorage**

The Port of Kalama will use this grant to expand the guest dock moorage by 660 feet to accommodate larger recreational boats. The Columbia River marina is the only public boating facility for 85 river miles. Its 222 slips are full all year and the current guest moorage dock can hold only three, 26-foot boats at once. The expansion will allow the marina to accommodate another 20 large boats. The port is a stopping place for many boaters because it is half way between Portland and the Pacific Ocean. A long waiting list begins the first of each year for guest moorage. The Port will contribute \$230,000. This grant is from the Boating Infrastructure Grant program. (10-1135)

**Port Orchard****Grant Requested: \$364,659****Renovating DeKalb Dock**

Port Orchard will use this grant to renovate and extend a city dock by 100 feet to accommodate larger boats. The City will add lighting and sewage pump-out facilities to the dock and replace the access ramp and weakened portions of the existing dock. Improving [this](#) public dock by renovating, replacing, and lengthening will ensure economic vitality of the downtown businesses that are supported by Puget Sound boaters. Lengthening the dock also will prevent it from resting on the mud flats at low tide, and damaging them. The boat dock is at the end of DeKalb Street. The City will contribute \$121,554 in cash, staff equipment and labor, and a grant. This grant is from the Boating Infrastructure Grant program. (10-1714)



**Boating Infrastructure Grant  
Grants Requested 2010****Port of South Whidbey Island****Grant Requested: \$1,848,821****Expanding South Whidbey Harbor Guest Moorage**

The Port of South Whidbey Island will use this grant to expand the South Whidbey Harbor at Langley by adding a 370-foot, floating breakwater for guest moorage by boats 26 feet in length and larger. The existing 34-slip facility is comprised of a palisade-type breakwater of creosote timber piles and floating docks and frequently has demand for moorage well in excess of available space, particularly from larger vessels. The Harbor at Langley is an important safe harbor for vessels traveling through Saratoga Passage to and from the San Juan and Gulf Islands and central and south Puget Sound. Local partners have been very involved with this project from the start and have donated labor and property. The Port will contribute \$1.1 million in cash donations, staff labor, and a local grant. This grant is from the Boating Infrastructure Grant program. (10-1335)

**Item 2D**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Recreation and Conservation Grants Management Report  
Prepared By: Scott Robinson and Marguerite Austin, Section Managers

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Briefing**

## **Grant Cycles**

### **2010 Grants Cycle Complete**

Recreation and Conservation section staff spent most of August conducting project evaluation meetings. There were 19 in-person evaluation meetings, at which 226 projects were reviewed and scored. Staff also prepared materials for the written evaluations of 125 projects. Once the evaluations were complete, staff tabulated the results and conducted post evaluation conferences with evaluators. Staff then notified the applicants of their ranking and posted the preliminary ranked lists on RCO's web site: Projects evaluated by category include:

- Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account – 27 projects requesting \$10.5 million
- Land and Water Conservation Fund – 14 projects requesting \$4.5 million
- Recreational Trails Program – 86 projects requesting \$3.5 million
- Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – 224 projects requesting \$162.6 million

### **Volunteer Reviewers and Evaluators**

Volunteers are the backbone of RCO's grant process. The time and expertise our volunteers commit to reviewing and evaluating projects not only makes our process unique but ensures it's a fair and open process. RCO staff very much appreciates its volunteers.

Due to the down economy it was a challenge to find individuals who could spend several hours reviewing or evaluating projects in Olympia for the in-person process or at home or in-office for the written process. However, many volunteers came through to help out, spending nearly 2,400 hours to review and evaluate projects<sup>1</sup>.

RCO cannot pay for an individual's time to review and evaluate projects, but can reimburse travel and per-diem costs for volunteers who are either general public or local government employees. We estimate that slightly less than half of the volunteers sought reimbursement this year.

---

<sup>1</sup> RCO staff estimate. We do not formally track individual volunteer hours.

## Boating Infrastructure Grants

The purpose of the Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) program is to develop and renovate boating facilities that target recreational boats 26 feet and larger. Funds also may be used to provide information and to enhance boater education.

The USFWS has established two "tiers" of grants.

- Tier 1 is for projects that request \$100,000 or less. Each year, Washington State may submit one Tier 1 application.
- Tier 2 is for projects that request \$100,001 or more. States may submit applications for any number of Tier 2 grants. These projects are submitted for national competition with no assurances of success.

### Tier 1 Projects

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) had received applications for three Tier 1 Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) project proposals, but the sponsors withdrew them during the review process because of issues regarding permits, sponsor match, and/or control and tenure. Staff is researching other options.

### Tier 2 Projects

In June, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) delegated authority to the director to decide if Tier 2 projects should be forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for the federal fiscal year 2011 funding consideration.

The RCO director approved the submission of five Tier 2 BIG project proposals following review and comment by the Boating Programs Advisory Committee. The requests total more than \$8 million. Although the Congressional budget has not yet been approved, the USFWS anticipates that about \$10 million dollars will be available nationwide. Synopses of the projects are shown in Attachment A.

## Staff Activity

### PRISM Testing

During the month of October staff will test the new Final Reports Module in PRISM.

Last year, the RCO released a PRISM progress report module that allows project sponsors to provide updates to RCO on their funded projects. Likewise, the final report will allow RCO to collect final metrics and other needed information in an electronic format. It also will create a summary of what was completed for easy future reference.

### 2010 Inspection Project

RCO grant managers routinely visit funded projects as they travel around the state working with applicants and sponsors. However, due to competing workload priorities, grant managers are

unable to keep up with the number of inspections that come due each year. This summer, RCO again hired three college interns to inspect previously completed projects. RCO focused these inspection efforts on projects funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, WWRP Water Access, or Boating Facilities Program. The interns spent about 950 hours traveling through 29 counties and inspecting 273 sites. They entered the inspection data into PRISM, where it will be reviewed by the grant manager. In turn, the grant manager will share the report with the sponsor. Any questions or obvious compliance issues will be evaluated further and prioritized for resolution.

## 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.
- Completed applications are the projects under consideration at the October board meeting.

In addition, staff has several hundred funded projects that they monitor for long-term compliance.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Active Projects</b>	<b>Board Funded Projects</b>	<b>Director Approved Projects</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Completed Applications</b>
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)	22	0	2	<b>24</b>	27
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	21	0	0	<b>21</b>	0
Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)	3	0	0	<b>3</b>	5
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR)	13	1	0	<b>14</b>	0
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	11	0	1	<b>12</b>	14
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	61	8	0	<b>69</b>	86
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)	68	0	0	<b>68</b>	0
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)	172	3	7	<b>182</b>	224
Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF)	12	0	0	<b>12</b>	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>356</b>

## Attachments

- A. Project Synopses for BIG Tier 2 Projects

## Item 2E

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: RCO Performance Measures Update  
Prepared By: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison and Accountability Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

### Proposed Action: Briefing

### Summary

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) uses performance measures to help the agency reduce reappropriations and improve the way we do business. Staff combines the measures and the agency work plan updates in the monthly Government Management Accountability and Performance (GMAP) report. This memo provides highlights of agency performance related to the projects and activities funded by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board).

### Grant Management

The following measures are among those that help us to check our processes at several points in the grant management cycle. All data are for recreation and conservation grants only. Additional detail is shown in the charts in Attachment A.

Measure	Target	FY 2010 Performance <i>FINAL</i>	FY 2011 Performance <i>Through Sept. 30</i>	Indicator <i>for Current Fiscal Year</i>
Percent of recreation/conservation projects closed on time	80%	64%	56%	↓
Percent of recreation/conservation projects closed on time and without a time extension	50%	69%	64%	↑
% recreation/conservation projects issued a project agreement within 120 days after the board funding date	75%	88%	No data at this time.	
% of recreation/conservation grant projects under agreement within 180 days after the board funding date	95%	92%	No data at this time.	
Fiscal month expenditures, recreation/conservation target	Varies by Fiscal Month	31% (30% target)	32% (31% target)	↑
Bills paid within 30 days: recreation/conservation projects	100%	63% Average days to pay = 30	38% Average days to pay = 28	↓

## 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 several 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 October 4, 2010.

Quarter	Extensions Approved	Number of Repeat Extensions	Average Total Days Extended	Number Closed to Date
Q1	20	8	236	9
Q2	45	13	268	7
Q3	12	5	224	0
Q4	33	14	257	0
Q5	15	3	259	0

## Key Agency Activities

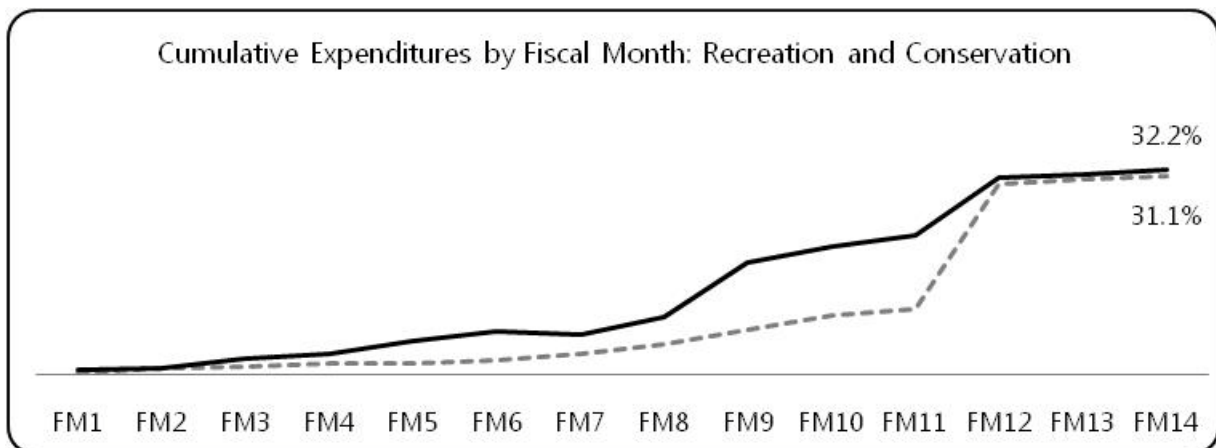
The RCO also tracks progress on key activities through its fiscal year work plan. The following are a few of the actions that the operations team reviews on a monthly basis.

Agency Work Plan Task	Current Status	
Create operations manual for grant management	Incorporated review comments into draft sections. Overall progress slowed due to priority of RCFB grant application/evaluation cycle, and staff reductions in salmon section.	↑
Propose policies to encourage sustainable practices in grant programs.	Staff has started an analysis of sustainability metrics from PRISM, based on applications received.	↑
Conduct survey of sponsors regarding satisfaction with grant management; Develop survey for evaluation process	Sponsor survey is complete (see item #2F). The evaluation process survey was complete on 9/27/2010, and survey analysis is beginning. Meeting with section managers in October to review results of both surveys.	↑

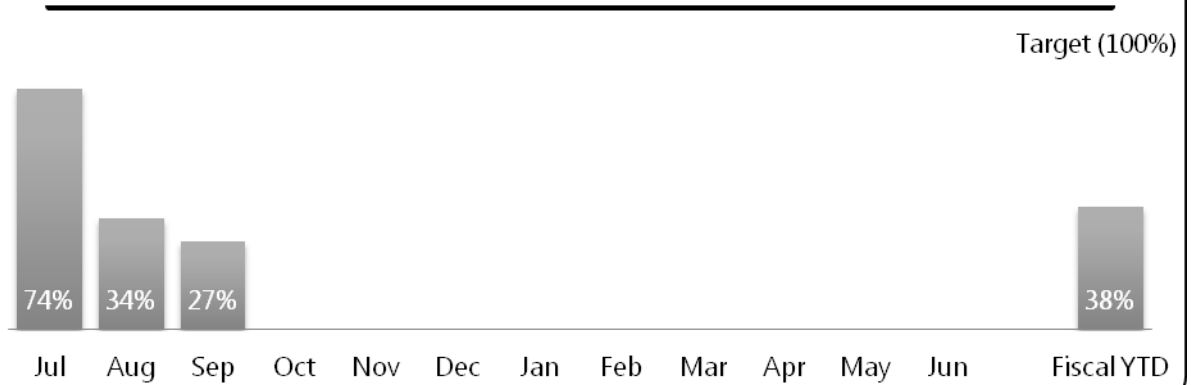
## Attachments

### A. Performance Measure Charts

## Performance Measure Charts



Percent of Bills Paid Within 30 Days: Recreation and Conservation Projects,  
FY 2011







**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE**

August 17, 2010

To: Kaleen Cottingham, Director  
From: Rebecca Connolly, Accountability Manager  
RE: Responses to 2010 Sponsor Satisfaction Survey

This memo provides the highlights of my initial review of the response data from the recently completed sponsor satisfaction survey, which we conducted online through SurveyMonkey.com. I will continue to review the data, and will complete a more complex analysis by September 21. I believe, however, that this summary will be sufficient for your upcoming evaluation.

### Survey Structure

The survey had 25 questions. Of these, 21 offered either multiple-choice or a rating scale; most of these also offered an opportunity for open-ended comments. The remaining four questions gave respondents an opportunity to provide unstructured feedback, suggestions, or recommendations.

The questions were sorted into seven categories: respondent information, grant management, reimbursement process, policy development/manuals, technology, communication/web, and open-ended comments. This memo is organized accordingly.

### Response Rate and Respondent Information

On July 26, I sent an email link to the survey to 641. Each of these individuals was the primary program contact for a project that was active at some point between July 1, 2008 and July 1, 2010. As shown in the following table, 129 people responded, for a 20% response rate. The survey was not distributed in a way that would provide statistically valid samples.

Sponsor Type	Potential Respondents	Actual Responses	Rate
City or Town	122	24	20%
Conservation District	41	7	17%
County	112	24	21%
Federal agency	50	8	16%
Lead entity	3	1	33%
Nonprofit	137	22	16%
Other (please specify)	8	4	50%
Park district	8	1	13%
Port	17	2	12%
RFEG	17	4	24%
School district	5	0	0%
State agency	77	24	31%
Tribe	44	8	18%
	<b>641</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>20%</b>



Although this is a good overall response rate, the small number of responses for each sponsor type or program limits our ability to apply the results across specific groups. This memo analyzes the results by sponsor type, but the small sample size should be taken into consideration.

### ***Sponsor Type***

The majority of respondents represented cities, towns, counties, state agencies, or nonprofits. The survey did not identify individual respondents or their organization.

### ***RCO Grant Experience***

We asked respondents to estimate the number of grants their organization had received in the last ten years. Just over half of the respondents reported that they had received between 1 and 10 grants from the RCO. Another 22% reported having received over 30 grants; most of these responses came from state agencies.

The number of grants received does not seem to be correlated to other survey responses (i.e., responses to other questions did not vary based on number of grants received).

### ***RCO Grants Received***

We asked respondents to tell us the programs from which they had received grants; multiple selections were allowed. The most commonly selected choices were: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA), Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), Recreational Trails Program (RTP), Salmon Recovery Funding Board Grants (SRFB), and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP).

### ***Perception of Application Success***

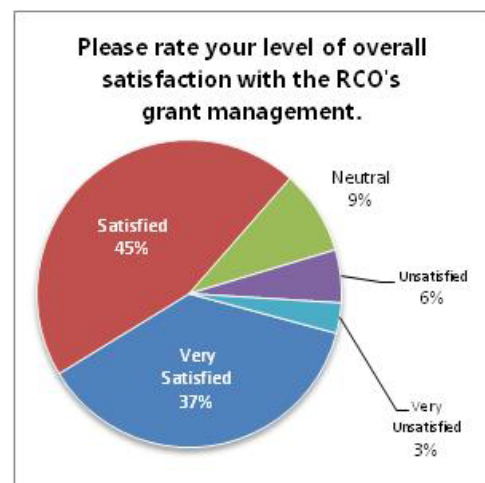
We asked respondents to rate their organization's success at securing grants from the RCO. Sixty-five percent responded that their success was good; 33% responded it was average; 2% said poor.

These ratings correlated most significantly with the questions about PRISM; those who rated their success as "good" or "average" rated PRISM's usability nearly twice as high as those who rated their success as "poor."

### **Grant Management**

Overall, 82% of sponsors reported that they were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with RCO's grant management.

- Every respondent from tribes, ports, park districts, lead entities, and RFEGs reported that they were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied."
- Respondents from federal agencies, cities, counties, and non-profits also seem to be satisfied, with 83% - 86% reporting that they were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied."
- However, only 67% of conservation district respondents and 64% of state agency respondents reported that they were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied."



- Nonprofits, conservation districts, and state agencies reported the lowest satisfaction, with 14% to 23% in each group reporting being “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied.” Their comments reflected frustration with PRISM, process complexity, and project review.

### ***Specific Satisfaction Questions***

Sponsors responded to the following statements on a rating scale of strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, or strongly agree. To analyze the results, responses were linked to point values that ranged from 1 to 5 (see diagram). “Don’t know” was an unscored option.



	Average	State agency	County	City or Town	Conservation District	Nonprofit	Tribe	Port	Lead entity	Federal agency	RFEF	% Don't Know
<b>Answer Options</b>												
My grant manager(s) contacts me at least twice per year by phone, in person, or by e-mail.	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.9	5.0	4.0	4.3	4.8	0%
My grant manager(s) is helpful, knowledgeable, and gives good guidance.	4.2	3.3	4.3	4.5	4.0	4.4	4.8	4.0	4.0	4.8	4.5	0%
When I contact the RCO, my question or issue is addressed in a timely fashion.	4.2	3.6	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.8	2.5	4.0	4.9	4.3	4%
I know how to meet the contract requirements for an active project.	4.1	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.0	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.4	3.8	1%
RCO staff provides clear and helpful information about how to meet contract requirements.	4.1	3.7	4.1	4.4	3.8	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.0	4.6	4.5	0%
The RCO provides clear information about how to ask for changes to the contract, such as scope changes and time extensions.	4.0	3.6	4.1	4.5	4.0	3.9	4.5	5.0	4.0	4.1	4.0	0%
I know how to meet the long-term contract requirements for a completed project.	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.3	3.9	3.9	4.0	0.0	4.3	3.5	0%
I am able to get information I need from the manuals.	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.9	4.0	3.5	3.6	5.0	4.0	4.5	2.8	1%
I am able to get information I need from the RCO web site.	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.9	3.6	3.1	3.5	3.0	4.0	4.5	3.0	4%

### ***Summary of Comments***

- Staff, especially grant managers, received very high praise from respondents for their communication, program knowledge, availability, and customer service.
- Respondents noted that staff turnover and workload are problems because new managers may not understand projects and may interpret policies differently. Many respondents wanted more verbal communication and face-to-face interaction, including site visits.

- Respondents found the changes in processes – especially application and reimbursement -- to be confusing and frustrating. It appears that some of the frustration stems from not knowing why the change is taking place (i.e., they seem to be arbitrary).

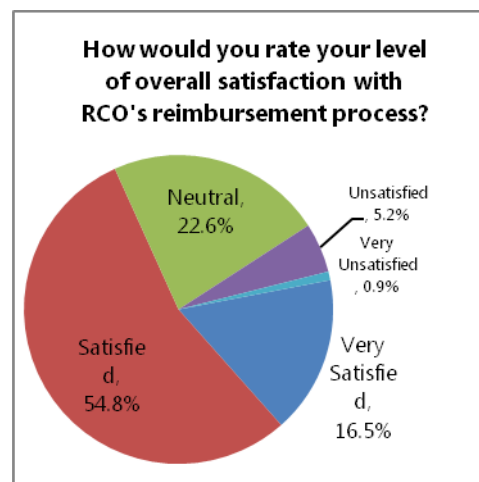
### ***Summary of Recommendations from Respondents***

- Reduce the frequency of grant manager reassignments
- Maintain or increase the direct manager to grantee contact.
- Provide more assistance to those not familiar with the application process.
- Reduce the paperwork and make better use of technology; however, do so without putting sponsors with fewer technological resources at a disadvantage.
- Continue to ensure timely responses to questions.

### **Reimbursement Process**

Overall, 71% of sponsors reported that they were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with RCO’s reimbursement process.

- Lead entities, counties, cities/towns, tribes, and federal agencies each reported that between 73% and 100% were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied.”
- Seven survey respondents reported being unsatisfied or very unsatisfied. No single sponsor type had more unsatisfied respondents than others. These individuals commented that their response was based on either (1) a situation from two or three years ago, or (2) changes in the billing process.



### ***Specific Satisfaction Questions***

Sponsors responded to the following statements on a rating scale of strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, or strongly agree. To analyze the results, responses were linked to point values that ranged from 1 to 5 (see diagram). “Don’t know” was an unscored option.



The average point values indicate that the sponsors’ responses to the statements fall between neutral and agreement. Regional fisheries enhancement groups (RFEs) had the lowest levels of agreement with the statements; absent those four responses, the average scores rise to between 3.5 and 4.1.

<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>State agency</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>City or Town</b>	<b>Conservation District</b>	<b>Nonprofit</b>	<b>Tribe</b>	<b>Port</b>	<b>Lead entity</b>	<b>Federal agency</b>	<b>RFEF</b>	<b>% Don't Know</b>
When I contact the RCO, my question or issue is addressed in a timely fashion.	<b>3.9</b>	3.7	4.5	4.1	4.5	3.8	4.5	3.5	4	4.4	3	8%
Forms for getting reimbursed are readily available.	<b>3.7</b>	3.8	4.4	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.5	4	4.3	2.5	12%
I understand what I need to submit so that I can receive payment from the RCO.	<b>3.7</b>	3.8	4.2	4.1	4.2	3.9	4.0	4.0	4	3.9	3	10%
When my billing request is missing information, the RCO's follow-up helps me correct the error and avoid it in the future.	<b>3.6</b>	3.2	4.4	4.3	4.2	3.9	4.1	3.5	4	4.48	4	10%
Fiscal staff is helpful, knowledgeable, and gives good guidance.	<b>3.5</b>	4.1	4.2	3.9	4.3	3.7	4.0	4.0	4	4.1	2.5	16%
The reimbursement forms are clear.	<b>3.2</b>	3.4	4.0	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.9	3.5	4	3.6	3	13%
The training about reimbursement and billing offered by the RCO is helpful and accessible.	<b>3.1</b>	3.6	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.4	3.7	4.0	4	3.7	3	5%
I am able to find the information I need in the reimbursement manual.	<b>3.0</b>	3.5	3.7	3.9	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.5	4	3.9	1.5	16%
I am able to find the information I need on the RCO web site.	<b>3.0</b>	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.6	3.2	3.1	2.5	4	3.8	1.5	14%

### ***Summary of Comments***

- One sponsor mentioned the agency's new policy regarding additional documentation (i.e., the approach to address audit findings), noting that it caused their response to drop from "very satisfied" to "very unsatisfied." For them, the new rules increase overhead costs.
- Even among satisfied sponsors, respondents noted that the rules for documentation seem to change frequently and that the process is too complicated and time intensive.
- 28% of sponsors noted areas of the process that were especially difficult or confusing. Of those, many responded that the following areas were especially difficult or confusing: match requirements; reimbursement forms; eligibility of administrative and/or "A&E" costs; and requirements for documentation of expenses.

### ***Summary of Recommendations from Respondents***

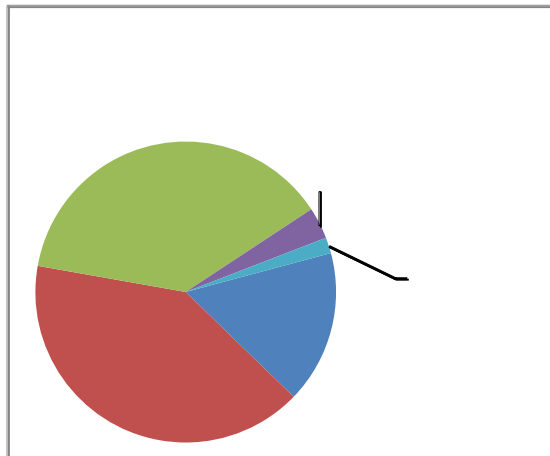
- Improve the usability of the reimbursement form with reformatting and electronic submission.
- Simplify the reimbursement manual with bullet points and checklists.
- Continue to provide training; provide more information at the time of application about what is and is not eligible for reimbursement.
- Clarify the match requirements (e.g., what they are, how to meet them, how to present it on reimbursement forms, how to request a waiver, etc.).
- Pay invoices more quickly and/or provide regular status updates.

- Align the grant management procedures with federal requirements to reduce sponsor's administrative time. As part of that, consider reviewing the policy regarding indirect cost reimbursement.

### Policy Development and Manuals

Overall, 57% of sponsors reported that they were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with RCO's policy development process.

- Lead entities and conservation districts reported that 100% and 83%, respectively, were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied."
- Federal agencies, RFEs, counties, and cities/towns each reported that between 67% and 75% were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied."
- State agencies and ports each reported about 50% were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied."
- Nonprofits and tribes reported the lowest satisfaction, with "very satisfied" or "satisfied." Further, 15% of nonprofit resp "very unsatisfied."



In a separate question, 82% of sponsors found the manuals "easy to use." In the comments accompanying the question, sponsors clarified that the information in the manuals was helpful, but finding the applicable policy(ies) often is difficult.

### Specific Satisfaction Questions

Sponsors responded to the following statements on a rating scale from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). To analyze the results, responses were converted to a score from 1 to 5 (see diagram). "Don't know" was an unscored option.



<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>State agency</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>City or Town</b>	<b>Conservation District</b>	<b>Nonprofit</b>	<b>Tribe</b>	<b>Port</b>	<b>Lead entity</b>	<b>Federal agency</b>	<b>RFEF</b>	<b>% Don't Know</b>
The RCO provides clear information about how to understand and apply its policies.	3.6	3.1	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.4	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	3.3	2%
I know where to find information about policy changes under consideration.	3.4	3.1	3.6	3.8	3.6	2.8	3.4	3.0	4.0	4.1	2.8	8%
The RCO provides sufficient time for comment on proposed policies.	3.8	3.4	3.8	4.2	4.0	3.5	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.3	3.3	13%
The RCO and its boards consider input before adopting new policies.	3.8	3.5	3.7	4.3	3.8	3.6	3.3	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.3	23%
The RCO clearly communicates policy changes when they take effect.	3.9	3.5	4.1	4.2	4.0	3.5	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.4	3.3	6%
I believe that the RCO applies its policies consistently across sponsors and projects.	3.7	3.1	3.9	4.2	3.5	3.6	3.6	4.5	4.0	4.3	3.8	16%
When I contact the RCO about policies, my question or issue is addressed in a timely fashion.	3.9	3.7	4.3	4.1	4.0	3.8	4.1	3.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	9%
I am able to find the information I need on the RCO web site.	3.6	3.4	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.3	3.4	3.0	4.0	3.9	2.8	6%

### ***Summary of Comments***

- Some respondents noted that the process is improving. Recent updates improved the manuals, but more can be done.
- Overall, respondents believed that the policies and manuals are too long and complicated, and that they can conflict. The information is good, but the organization is poor.
- Respondents repeatedly noted that it was “easier to call a grant manager,” in part because staff could interpret policies or “connect the dots.”

### ***Summary of Recommendations from Respondents***

- Add more checklists and bullet points
- Streamline the manuals to reduce their size and number; clarify the connections between them.
- Make manuals more customer-focused; some sponsors found them to be internally focused.
- Ensure that policy interpretations are consistent, and provide the right answer the first time.
- Simplify and streamline the documentation required.

### ***Summary of Responses to Online Manuals***

- Current system works, but could benefit from better/expanded searches, links within and among documents, and forms that could be completed electronically.

- Many sponsors print the online versions or save them to their hard drive.

## Technology

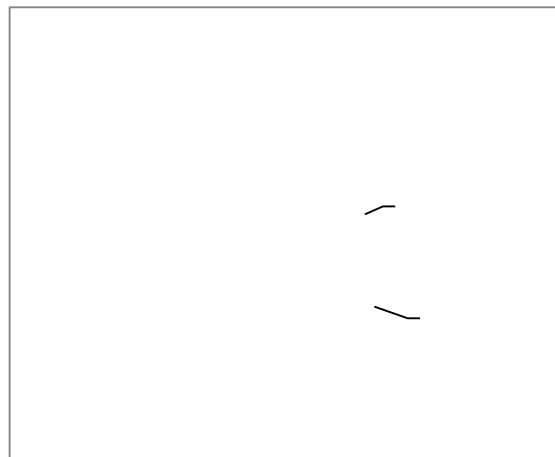
Overall, 56% of sponsors reported that they were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with PRISM.

By sponsor, the percent reporting that they were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied" is follows:

- State and federal agencies reported 75% and 63%, respectively;
- Counties, cities/towns, nonprofits, tribes, and ports each reported between 50% and 57% ;
- Conservation districts and RFEGs reported 40% and 25%, respectively;

- Lead entities reported only "neutral" responses to this question.

Sponsors with RCFB-funded grants reported higher satisfaction (61%) than sponsors with SRFB-funded grants (40%).



### Specific Satisfaction Questions

Sponsors responded to the following statements on a rating scale of strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, or strongly agree. To analyze the results, responses were linked to point values that ranged from 1 to 5 (see diagram). "Don't know" was an unscored option.



	Average	State agency	County	City or Town	Conservation District	Nonprofit	Tribe	Port	Lead entity	Federal agency	RFEG	% Don't Know
<b>Answer Options</b>												
PRISM was easy for me to learn.	3.3	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.3	2.8	3.0	3.5	3.0	3.8	3.0	4%
PRISM is easy for me to use.	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.0	4.5	2.0	3.9	3.0	4%
Navigating between the PRISM screens is straightforward.	3.3	3.6	3.3	3.3	3.3	2.8	3.3	3.0	3.0	4.0	2.8	4%
I can find the reports and information I need in PRISM.	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.5	3.0	3.4	4.0	2.0	3.7	3.0	4%
I understand how to use the PRISM progress report.	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	2.7	3.4	3.1	4.0	2.0	3.7	3.0	8%
In general, I can use PRISM without asking for help from RCO staff.	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.1	4.0	3.0	4.0	2.8	4%



### ***Summary of Comments***

- Several sponsors noted that PRISM took a long time to learn, but that once learned, it was easy to use and navigate. When they have specific questions or problems, staff is able to assist.
- Sponsors also commented that the system is sluggish, and seems to get worse with each application cycle. One sponsor noted that having to use an application system that required a continuous high-speed internet connect is challenging for sponsors in rural or remote areas. Many noted that they have difficulty in getting screens to respond.
- Many sponsors commented that PRISM has too many screens and features, and that navigation is difficult. Frequent updates contributed to the confusion. Some stated that the system was not structured with the sponsors in mind.

### ***Summary of Recommendations from Respondents***

- Simplify the screens and navigation for sponsors; offer fewer choices for features.
- Consider a web-based interface rather than the program download.
- Offer more training.
- Add more space for the project description.
- Eliminate duplicate fields in the application.

### ***Habitat Work Schedule***

In a series of separate questions, sponsors with salmon projects were asked about Habitat Work Schedule. The majority (59%) had heard of HWS, but only 33% were using the system. However, of those who responded that HWS is "applicable to their work," 75% reported using the system.

Two respondents commented that the RCO should use either PRISM or HWS, but not both.

### ***Communication***

The survey asked respondents to rate the amount of communication from the RCO. 87% reported that it was "just right," while 12% stated that it was "not enough." Nearly all (96%) found RCO's emails and letters easy to understand. There were few specific comments, except to note that reminder emails are useful, and that "Grant News You Can Use" is a good tool, but hard to find.

### ***Web Site***

With regard to the web site, only 3% had never been to the site. About 60% visit once or twice per month, while 20% visit only once or twice per year. As shown below, the most common uses for the site are to research policies and get contact information.

Answer Options	Response Percent
Read or download policy manuals	83.6%
Get contact information	60.0%
Research available grants	52.7%

Find out how to apply for a grant	45.5%
Read or download "Grant News You Can Use"	23.6%
Find information about board meetings	13.6%

## Best Practices

The survey also asked whether there are other best practices that the RCO should consider adopting. The most specific responses are as follows:

- Department of Commerce grant process
- Federal programs that allow charging indirect rates on salaries for staff workers who implement on ground projects
- Department of Ecology grant manuals and allowable costs. Also, Ecology's Water Quality Financial Assistance annual grant workshops are excellent.
- King County Conservation Futures Program schedules a field trip of all project applications for its evaluators, allows more time to present a project, and is less structured.
- Other agencies allow sponsors to download the application from their web site and email it to them.
- The Conservation Commission allows 25% overhead to help pay for administrations costs and program development. They process reimbursement in a 5-day turn around.

More analysis is needed to determine which, if any, of these suggestions are applicable to the RCO and merit further research.

## General Comments

The final survey question provided an opportunity for additional comments. In response, we received 122 comments. An initial analysis shows that most are repetitive of the comments made earlier in the survey. However, I will complete a more thorough analysis of the comments.

## Next Steps

I will be meeting with other agency staff to determine other ways to analyze and interpret the data. I expect to have a more complete analysis done by September 21. Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

**Item 2F**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Sponsor Satisfaction Survey Results  
Prepared By: Board Liaison and Accountability Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Briefing**

## Summary

In July, the RCO conducted a comprehensive sponsor satisfaction survey. A 25-question survey was sent to 641 individuals, each of whom was the primary program contact for a project that was active at some point between July 1, 2008 and July 1, 2010. We were pleased to achieve a 20% response rate. Most respondents represented cities, towns, counties, state agencies, or nonprofits. The survey did not identify individual respondents or their organization.

The survey asked respondents to list the grant programs in which they have received grants.

- Nearly half reported having received a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP).
- Between 22 and 28 percent reported having received a grant from ALEA, RTP, or LWCF.

Those who listed grants funded by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) did not respond in a way that was significantly different from those who listed other grants. This is likely because nearly 40 percent of those who reported receiving an RCFB-funded grant had also received grants from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

In response to questions regarding general satisfaction, sponsors gave the RCO high marks.

- 82% are either satisfied or very satisfied with our grant management
- 71% are either satisfied or very satisfied with our reimbursement process
- 57% are either satisfied or very satisfied with our policy development process
- 82% find the manuals to be "easy to understand"
- 56% are either satisfied or very satisfied with PRISM (our project database)

Staff, especially grant managers, received very high praise from respondents for their communication, program knowledge, availability, and customer service. Sponsors strongly

encouraged the RCO to continue supporting as much personal interaction, site visits, and direct "grant manager to grantee" contact as possible.

Other recommendations followed key themes:

- Simplify documents as much as possible, using bullet points and checklists
- Use technology to reduce paper, but not at the expense of less technologically-advanced sponsors
- Continue to ensure timely responses to questions, and ensure that the responses are right the first time
- Simplify processes, and make changes only as needed
- Ensure that processes and systems (e.g., application process and PRISM) consider customer needs

More detail is in the staff memo, included as Attachment A.

The grant section managers and deputy director will further assess the results at a meeting on October 19, along with the results of a recently completed survey regarding the evaluation and review processes. They will consider the recommendations and work to align them with other agency work priorities. Staff will update the board on the results of that discussion and on the evaluation process survey at the October board meeting.

## Attachments

- A. Staff Memo to the Director Regarding Initial Survey Results

**Item 3**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: 2011 Meeting Schedule  
Prepared By: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

**Summary**

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) meets four to six times per year to award grant funding and provide policy direction for the grant programs and planning activities. Statute requires the board to establish its regular meeting schedule and notify the Code Reviser of the dates and locations before January 1 of each year. Board members have indicated availability on the dates suggested by staff, and are therefore asked to approve the proposed schedule.

**Staff Recommendation**

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff recommends that the board adopt the proposed meeting schedule and locations for 2011 via Resolution #2010-15.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>
February 1, 2011	Conference Call
March 31 – April 1, 2011	Olympia
June 22 – 23, 2011	Olympia or Travel Meeting
September 21 – 22, 2011	Olympia
November 14 – 15, 2011	Olympia

**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.

## 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. Accordingly, the board typically has approved its meeting schedule for the next year in October.

## Analysis

Staff believes that the board can accomplish its work in four or five meetings. If needed, the chair may call for an additional special meeting, which could be conducted by phone. Further, the meetings may be reduced to one day each, depending on the topics to be addressed.

## Meeting Locations

During the 2010 legislative session, the legislature approved restrictions on state board and commission travel reimbursements, effective July 1, 2010 (HB2617). The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is a class three board that is not funded from the General Fund, so the following provisions apply:

- when feasible, shall use an alternative means of conducting a meeting that does not require travel, while still maximizing member and public participation;
- is encouraged to reduce travel, lodging, and other costs associated with conducting the business of the group;
- may use a meeting format that requires members to be physically present at one location only when necessary; and
- use only state facilities for in-person meetings.

Given these limitations, the board should discuss whether it wants to conduct all of its meetings in Olympia, or travel to another location. Although meetings in Olympia are local for staff and agency members, the location does require four of the five current citizen members to travel. Staff is working on the technology to increase statewide participation at meetings in Olympia (e.g., conference calls and web streaming), but the tools are not yet in place. Traveling to another location requires more staff and agency member travel, but also provides an opportunity for greater interaction with local project sponsors.

If the board wishes to travel during 2011, staff requests that they indicate areas of interest. The final location can be established early in 2011 based on the project sites available for review.

## **Next Steps**

Staff will plan meetings for 2011 and make the required notifications. Dates or locations for regularly scheduled meetings can be altered, with sufficient notice. The Chair may call special meetings at any location or time in compliance with the notice provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

## **Attachments**

Resolution # 2010-15

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution # 2010-15  
2011 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 2011 regular meetings of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is hereby adopted; and,

Dates	Location
February 1, 2011	Conference Call
March 31 – April 1, 2011	Olympia
June 22 – 23, 2011	Olympia or Travel Meeting
September 21 – 22, 2011	Olympia
November 14 – 15, 2011	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: \_\_\_\_\_



**Item 4**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Framework  
Prepared By: Steve McLellan, Policy Director

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Briefing**

### Summary

At its October meeting, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) will be asked to adopt the ranked lists of projects for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP). Per RCW 79A.15, the board must submit these lists to the Governor by November 1, 2010. This memo summarizes the WWRP grants process and outlines the decisions that the board must make.

### Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's goal to protect, restore, and develop habitat and recreation opportunities that benefit people, fish and wildlife, and ecosystems. The grant process supports the board's goals to (a) achieve a high level of accountability in managing the resources and responsibilities entrusted to it, and (b) deliver successful projects by using broad public participation and feedback, monitoring, assessment, and adaptive management. The criteria for selecting projects support strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat and recreation opportunities.

### Background

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grants are made to state and local government bodies, and tribes. In addition, qualified conservation non-profit organizations are eligible in the riparian and farmland categories. In the riparian category, salmon recovery lead entities also are eligible. The project sponsors use the funds to purchase, develop, renovate, and/or restore parks, open space, farmland, and habitat areas.

The state legislature appropriates funds for the WWRP in the capital budget. The board uses the formula set in statute to divide the funds between the Outdoor Recreation Account (ORA), Habitat Conservation Account (HCA), Riparian Protection Account (RPA), and the Farmland

Preservation Account (FPA). The law also sets the formulae for dividing the funds between categories within the accounts. More information is in Attachment A.

## **Application and Evaluation Process**

### **Announcement of WWRP Grant Cycle**

In October 2009, RCO staff began notifying potential applicants about the grants that would be offered in 2010. In January 2010, staff distributed announcements about the grants offered and announced the dates for the grant information workshops. Staff posted the announcement on the RCO web site and sent it to more than 6,000 individuals, agencies, and organizations.

Staff also sent notices to potential applicants asking them to update their comprehensive plans to establish eligibility for the WWRP grant round.

### **Application Workshops**

In February 2010, staff conducted grant workshops in Moses Lake and Tacoma. At the workshops, staff outlined the types of grants available, described the application, review, and evaluation processes, and answered questions. More than 350 individuals attended the two workshops.

### **Grant Manager Site Visits**

In the spring, outdoor grant managers met with applicants to review potential projects and discuss grant program requirements.

### **Application Deadline**

The RCO received 279 WWRP applications requesting more than \$192 million by the May 3, 2010 deadline.

### **Review by Grant Managers**

Following the application deadline, RCO staff reviewed each application. They sent a list to each project sponsor showing which application items were incomplete, along with a schedule of key deadlines. Staff also attempted to visit sites they had not seen before. During these visits, staff met with applicants to discuss project eligibility, the technical merits of a proposal, and other issues.

### **Volunteer Recruitment**

Volunteer recruitment for participation in WWRP begins well before the applications arrive in May. Staff starts recruiting the previous fall with emails, press releases, and personal phone calls. This year, we also added a volunteer page on the agency web site. Staff spent a considerable amount of time recruiting volunteers to conduct project reviews and evaluations, and fill

vacancies in many of our standing advisory committees. The time and expertise our volunteers commit to reviewing and evaluating grants helps to ensure a fair and open process.

Typically, the individuals who review projects are not the same as those who evaluate projects. This year, 45 people volunteered to be reviewers; of those, 13 were new to the process.

Staff aims to recruit about 100 volunteers for the evaluation panels, so that each panel has ten people<sup>1</sup>. This year, 87 people volunteered to be evaluators; of those, 32 were new to the process.

## **Project Review Meetings**

RCO staff and a team of experienced and/or expert volunteers held 14 WWRP project review meetings in June and July. These meetings gave applicants an opportunity to present their projects and receive feedback on the merits of the proposal and suggestions about ways to refine the project scope, design, cost estimates, and graphics. Staff used a new method of review this year, incorporating a web-based system to reduce or eliminate travel costs for applicants. Although staff recommended that applicants use this opportunity, participation was optional. Applicants submitted over 60 percent of WWRP project proposals for review.

Many applicants revised their grant proposals based on comments and recommendations made during the project review meeting. All changes were completed by the technical completion deadline, which varied by category.

Between the application deadline and the project evaluation meetings, 55 projects were withdrawn by applicants or terminated by RCO staff because the projects were either ineligible or missed established deadlines.

## **Project Evaluation Meetings**

In August and September, volunteer teams evaluated 224 proposed WWRP projects. The evaluators included federal, state, and local agency representatives, citizens, scientific experts, and representatives of organizations interested in parks, recreation, and habitat conservation. A separate team evaluated each WWRP category. The Farmland Preservation Advisory Committee reviewed and ranked farmland preservation projects.

Applicants had between 20-30 minutes, depending on the category, to present their project, respond to the evaluation criteria, and answer evaluators' questions. Every evaluator scored the project for each criterion. Some evaluations were conducted through a written process. After all evaluations, staff tabulated the overall scores for each project, reviewed the results with the evaluation committees, and prepared ranked lists of projects for each category. The ranked lists were made public in September.

---

<sup>1</sup> The WWRP Farmland Preservation Program uses a standing advisory committee of eight people. Staff does not recruit new evaluators for each application cycle.

Staff will review the ranked lists and any statutory requirements for distributing the funds (as noted in the memos for each category) at the October board meeting.

## Next Steps

The board is required to approve ranked lists of WWRP projects for each of the eleven funding categories and submit the lists to the Governor no later than November 1. This notebook includes a preliminary ranked list of projects for each WWRP category and a brief summary of each proposal. At the meeting, staff will present the top two ranked project proposals in each category.

RCW 79A.15.110 requires state and local agencies to review proposed acquisitions with the county or city legislative authority that has jurisdiction over the project area<sup>2</sup>. The local legislative body may submit a letter to the board stating its position about the project. As of this mailing, the RCO received 20 such letters, all of which are supportive, and has provided them as Attachment B. The board is required to make the letters received available to the Governor and Legislature.

After receiving public testimony, the board will consider approval of the eleven ranked lists for submission to the Governor.

## WWRP Alternates

Current policy states that the board will submit alternate projects for each account. The alternates must total 50 percent of the dollar amount requested for each account, with no fewer than six alternates in each category. To help ensure an adequate list of alternates, staff recommends that the board submit the complete ranked list of approved projects.

## Board Recommendation

At the August 2010 meeting, board members directed RCO to request \$100 million for WWRP for the next biennium. Staff has done so, and will forward the final project lists, including alternates, to the Governor by November 1. The ranked lists will be accompanied by a description of each project, list of matching funds, and letters of support or opposition received from local legislative bodies.

---

<sup>2</sup> A state or local agency shall review the proposed project application with the county or city with jurisdiction over the project area prior to applying for funds for the acquisition of property under this chapter. The appropriate county or city legislative authority may, at its discretion, submit a letter to the board identifying the authority's position with regard to the acquisition project. The board shall make the letters received under this section available to the governor and the legislature when the prioritized project list is submitted under RCW 79A.15.120, 79A.15.060, and 79A.15.070.

## Legislative Approval

The Governor submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add to or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation level and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The legislature may remove projects from the list recommended by the Governor, but cannot add to or re-order the list.

## Final Approval

The Board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Until the WWRP appropriation is known, it is difficult to predict exactly which projects will receive funding. For example, statute requires that some categories allocate a specific percentage of the funds in that category for acquisition projects, which may result in skipping higher-ranked development projects to meet the acquisition requirement. All parties are cautioned to not consider the lists approved by the board at this meeting to be final.

## Attachments

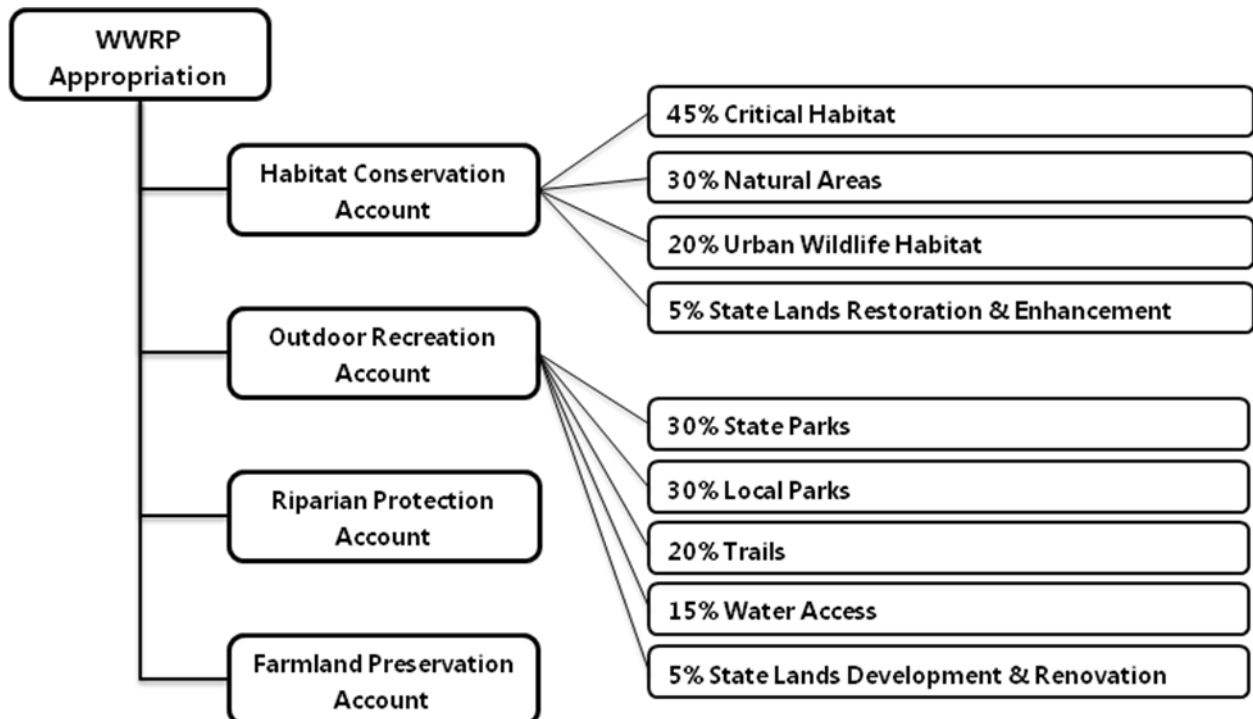
- A. Allocation of WWRP Funds
- B. City/County Legislative Review Letters
- C. Other Letters Regarding Project Proposals

## Allocation of WWRP Funds

### Allocation by Account (Set by Statute)

ACCOUNT	<u>WWRP APPROPRIATION</u>		
	Under \$40 million	\$40 - \$50 million	Over \$50 million
<b>Habitat Conservation Account</b>	50%	\$20M <i>plus</i> 10% of amount over \$40M	\$21M <i>plus</i> 30% of amount over \$50M
<b>Outdoor Recreation Account</b>	50%	\$20M <i>plus</i> 10% of amount over \$40M	\$21M <i>plus</i> 30% of amount over \$50M
<b>Riparian Protection Account</b>	0%	40% of amount over \$40M	\$4M <i>plus</i> 30% of amount over \$50M
<b>Farmland Preservation Account</b>	0%	40% of amount over \$40M	\$4M <i>plus</i> 10% of amount over \$50M

### Allocation by Category within Accounts (Set by Statute)



**City/County Legislative Review Letters**

## Other Letters Regarding Project Proposals



**State Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Requested: \$2,750,000**  
**Conserving the Heart of Cascades at Bald Mountain**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 7,711 acres on the east slope of the central Cascade Mountains near Yakima. A striking array of habitat and species occur here because of the substantial elevation change, from 2,500 feet to 6,000 feet in height, and the wide range of rain and snow levels. Spotted owls live in the old growth forests, mountain goats climb the upper elevations, coho salmon and steelhead live in the streams, and several species of lizards and snakes reside at the lower elevations. Four watersheds have their headwaters on Bald Mountain and feed both the Naches and Yakima Rivers. The land has a checkerboard of ownership and is within the Wenatchee National Forest, next to the Wenas Wildlife Area and State Department of Natural Resources' forestlands. The land also is used extensively for recreation. This purchase is part of a larger effort that already has conserved 2,675 acres and is a critical match for recent federal funding. (10-1272)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Requested: \$4,200,000**  
**Protecting Mountain View Habitat**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 6,500 acres in southern Asotin County, including portions of the Wenatchee and Cottonwood Creek drainages, tributaries of the Grande Ronde River, and Grande Ronde River shorelines. The land is bordered on the north by a national forest, on the south by Bureau of Land Management lands, and on the east and west by private lands. This purchase will protect creek and river shorelines, cliff and talus habitats, riparian, meadows, springs, curleaf mahogany, interior grassland, and ponderosa pine habitats to benefit steelhead, bull trout, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, wolves, golden eagles, and many other plants and animals. (10-1613)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Requested: \$3,500,000**  
**Protecting Rattlesnake Mountain**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy nearly 13,400 acres of ecologically unique shrub steppe habitat on Rattlesnake Mountain. Buying this much land offers a rare opportunity to conserve wildlife corridors and buffer existing conservation lands at Hanford Reach National Monument and the Sunnyside Wildlife Area on the north side of the mountain. This purchase will protect a substantial portion of the south side, preventing development of wind turbines, houses, and vineyards on land Ferruginous hawks call home. The hawks are state listed as threatened with extinction. Fewer than 40 breeding pairs remain in southeastern Washington. The land also is home to other priority species including burrowing owl, long-billed curlew, Townsend's ground squirrel, American badger, black- and white-tailed jackrabbit, sage sparrow, sage thrasher, elk, and mule deer. Conservation and outdoor recreation groups have identified this property as a priority for protection. The project is supported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Richland Rod and Gun Club, and the Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society. (10-1150)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Conserving Big Bend Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat****Grant Requested: \$1,000,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 2,900 acres of critical habitat for sharp-tailed grouse within the heart of Washington's remaining shrub-steppe. The department hopes to protect key plant communities supporting the grouse, which are Washington's most imperiled wildlife species, and reestablish the connection between grouse on the Colville reservation, Dire Hill, and Okanogan areas. Sharp-tailed grouse represent a keystone species that depend solely on the riparian communities and the unique and threatened shrub-steppe of Mansfield Plateau. Sage grouse, Washington ground squirrels, burrowing owls, white- and black-tailed jackrabbits, Townsend's big-eared bats, sage thrashers, loggerhead shrike, and pygmy short-horned lizards are a small representation of the diverse range of species living in the project area. Other benefits of the project are retention of diminishing riparian winter habitat, expansion of sage grouse back into previously occupied ranges, and increased access to public lands for recreation and education. (10-1140)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Conserving the Methow Watershed****Grant Requested: \$2,500,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to conserve 1,000 acres of critical habitat in the Methow watershed. The department will purchase some of the land outright and buy voluntary land preservation agreements on other properties to protect it from development. The department's goal is to conserve the ecological integrity and extraordinary biological diversity of the watershed by purchasing critical habitats, such as shrub-steppe, dry forest, and stream banks, including .5 mile of the banks of Libby Creek, and linking these areas to existing public lands. The purchases will create corridors of natural areas for animal migration; protect habitat for wolves, deer, and other priority species including sharp-tail grouse, steelhead, bull trout, and rare carnivores; provide management efficiency by linking existing public lands; and enhance public fishing, hunting, and watchable wildlife opportunities. (10-1142)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Conserving the Okanogan Watershed****Grant Requested: \$3,300,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 1,600 acres of critical habitat in the Okanogan watershed to conserve the ecological integrity and extraordinary biological diversity of the area. The department plans to buy shrub-steppe, stream banks, and dry forest areas, including more than 2 miles of Similkameen River shoreline, and link these areas to existing public lands. The purchases will maintain the only low-elevation, biological corridor connecting the Columbia basin with the remaining endangered shrub-steppe and grassland habitats in Canada. The purchase will create a corridor of natural area for animal migration; protect habitat for almost 80 internationally recognized at risk species; enhance

public fishing, hunting, and watchable wildlife opportunities; and help secure several stretches of the county's planned regional trail network. This project is part of a larger, multi-phase landscape conservation effort that has attracted investments of more than \$15 million, and it is a critical match for recent federal funding. (10-1145)

**State Department of Natural Resources****Grant Requested: \$3,426,937****Conserving Sand Dunes in the Wanapum Natural Area Preserve**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 4,127 acres in the proposed Wanapum Natural Area Preserve. The preserve is designed to protect sand dunes, the striped whipsnake, and 12 other priority species and ecological systems. The land will connect the only two known populations of striped whipsnakes in Washington, and is the first site in Washington designed to conserve inland sand dunes. The 11,620-acre preserve will allow the sand dunes to migrate, allowing the natural dynamic processes associated with this ecological system. Plants and animals listed on the state and federal endangered species lists that live on the property include sagebrush lizard, peregrine falcon, Ferruginous hawk, Washington ground squirrel, and black-tailed jackrabbit. The property also supports rare plant species including Geyer's milkvetch, beaked spike rush, great basin gilia, and gray cryptantha. About 2,300 acres of the globally rare Wyoming big sagebrush/needle-and-thread grass plant association occurs here also. (10-1474)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife****Grant Requested: \$500,000****Conserving the Cowiche River Watershed**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 925 acres of critical and diverse habitats on the slopes of the south central Cascades Mountains. Housing developments are approaching the area and regulatory protections will not adequately protect it. The department hopes to protect stream, riparian, shrub-steppe, oak woodland, cliffs, and talus habitats to benefit raptors, bats, white-headed woodpeckers, steelhead and bull trout (both of which are listed as threatened with extinction), coho, west-slope cutthroat, sage thrasher, sage sparrow, loggerhead shrike, white-breasted nuthatch, Vaux's swift, Lewis' woodpecker, greater sage-grouse, and elk. Partners include the Cowiche Canyon Conservancy, North Yakima Conservation District, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and The Nature Conservancy. (10-1273)

**State Department of Natural Resources****Grant Requested: \$2,828,017****Completing the White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 310 acres toward the completion of the White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area. The conservation area protects oak and oak-pine woodlands, a mixed conifer forest, grassland balds, at-risk plant species, and habitat for the western gray squirrel. The squirrel has declined dramatically in Washington because of habitat loss and alteration. Oak and oak-pine woodlands have undergone severe declines throughout

Washington and are listed as one of the highest priorities for habitat conservation in the state. In addition to western gray squirrel, oak woodlands are important habitat for many other wildlife such as Neotropical migratory birds, woodpeckers, and various insects. Grassland balds support plant and animal species not found under woodland and forest canopies and are also ranked as a high priority for conservation within the state. (10-1475)

**Clark County****Grant Requested: \$639,150****Protecting Land along the Lewis River and Mud Lake**

Clark County will use this grant to buy 341 acres of shoreline, wetlands, and forests along the Lewis River and Mud Lake in the northwestern part of the county. The County will buy 1 mile of shoreline on the Lewis River and the entire 74-acre Mud Lake. The property includes six priority habitats and is home to more than 30 priority species, including four salmon and steelhead species that are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. The property also is within the Sauvies Island Christmas Bird Count Circle and typically averages more than 120 species of birds. The project borders a 70-acre natural area owned by the Columbia Land Trust and is a key link between the county's two largest protected habitat areas – the 5,280-acre Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge and the 2,200-acre East Fork Lewis Habitat and Greenway System. On a larger scale, the property is a central feature in a bi-state system of protected lands on the Columbia River between the Lewis and Willamette Rivers. Partner agencies manage more than 22,000 acres of critical habitat within this system. The County will contribute \$639,150 in conservation futures<sup>1</sup> and a federal grant. (10-1304)

**Spokane County****Grant Requested: \$1,000,000****Restoring the Saltese Flats Wetland**

The Spokane County Utilities Division will use this grant to help restore about 500 acres of historic wetlands in the Saltese Flats, which are southeast of Spokane Valley and occupy about 1,200 acres in a 14,000-acre watershed. The goal of the project is to restore wetlands to a portion of the historic lake and wetland system that was drained for agriculture in 1892. Restoration will return the site to a functional wetland, improve wildlife habitat, and return more natural hydrologic conditions that will, in part, help improve stream flows in the Spokane River. The work also will provide for recreation and education. The County has support from Ducks Unlimited, Spokane Audubon Society, Lands Council, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District, and State Department of Fish and Wildlife. The County will contribute \$2.5 million. (10-1065)

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**Item 5A**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Critical Habitat Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Scott Robinson, Conservation and Grant Services Section Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*Critical habitat projects provide habitat important for the protection, management, or public enjoyment of certain wildlife species or groups of species, including, but not limited to, wintering range for deer, elk, and other species, waterfowl and upland bird habitat, fish habitat, and habitat for endangered, threatened, or sensitive species.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Eleven Critical Habitat projects requesting \$25.6 million were evaluated on August 10, 2010 in an open public meeting. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Critical Habitat Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-16. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 79A.15.010(3), Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands

## Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's goal to help its partners protect, restore, and develop habitat opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems. 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 habitat opportunities.

## Background

Critical Habitat category projects provide habitat for wildlife including game and non-game species. These habitats include freshwater, salt-water, forests, riparian zones, shrub-steppe, wetlands, winter range, etc. Acquisitions often provide protection of habitat for both federal and state endangered, threatened, or sensitive species.

The Critical Habitat category is eligible to receive 45 percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program funds in the Habitat Conservation Account.<sup>2</sup>

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Local, state agencies and Native American Tribes may apply for funding
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquisition</li><li>• Restoration</li><li>• Habitat enhancement or creation</li><li>• Where appropriate, development of public use facilities such as trails, wildlife blinds, interpretive signs, parking and restrooms</li></ul>
<b>Funding Limits</b>	No minimum or maximum grant request limit per project
<b>Match Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No match required for state agencies</li><li>• Local agency applicants must provide a minimum 50% matching share</li></ul>
<b>Public Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public use for both consumptive and non-consumptive activities is allowed.</li><li>• Public use may be excluded if needed to protect habitat and species</li></ul>
<b>Other Program Characteristics</b>	Projects involving renovation of an existing facility are ineligible

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 79A.15.040(1)(d) RCW. Before June 30, 2011, this category was eligible for 40 percent of the funds in the Habitat Conservation Account (HCA). Beginning with this grant cycle, the amount in this category increases to 45%, and the State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category drops from 10 to 5 percent of the funds in HCA.



## Evaluation Summary

Eleven Critical Habitat category projects requesting \$25.6 million were evaluated on August 10, 2010 in an open public meeting in Olympia, Washington. A team of eight evaluators used criteria adopted by the board to review and rank each project. The evaluation team included the following individuals who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat enhancement and conservation:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Pene Speaks	Dept. Natural Resources
Elizabeth Rodrick	Dept. Fish and Wildlife
Rollie Geppert	Citizen
Fayette Krause	Citizen
Lora Leschner	Pacific Coast Joint Venture
Jim Rachelle	Citizen
Sonya Schaller	Whatcom Conservation District
Ned Wright	Western WA USFWS Office

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Critical Habitat Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## Attachments

Resolution # 2010-16

- Table 1 – WWRP, Critical Habitat Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
- A. State Map for Critical Habitat Category projects
- B. Critical Habitat Project Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. Critical Habitat Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. Critical Habitat Project Summaries (a synopsis of each proposal)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-16  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Critical Habitat Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, eleven Critical Habitat category projects are eligible for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Critical Habitat category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (Board) members; 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 eleven Critical Habitat category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation Account and Riparian Protection Account*, including criteria regarding public benefit and relationship to established plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects address a variety of critical habitat needs and their evaluation included information about the quality and function of the habitat and the demonstrated need to protect it for fish and/or wildlife, thereby supporting the Board's strategy to provide partners with funding for projects that help sustain Washington's biodiversity, protect "listed" species, and maintain fully functioning ecosystems;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Critical Habitat Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Critical Habitat category projects for further consideration.

*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

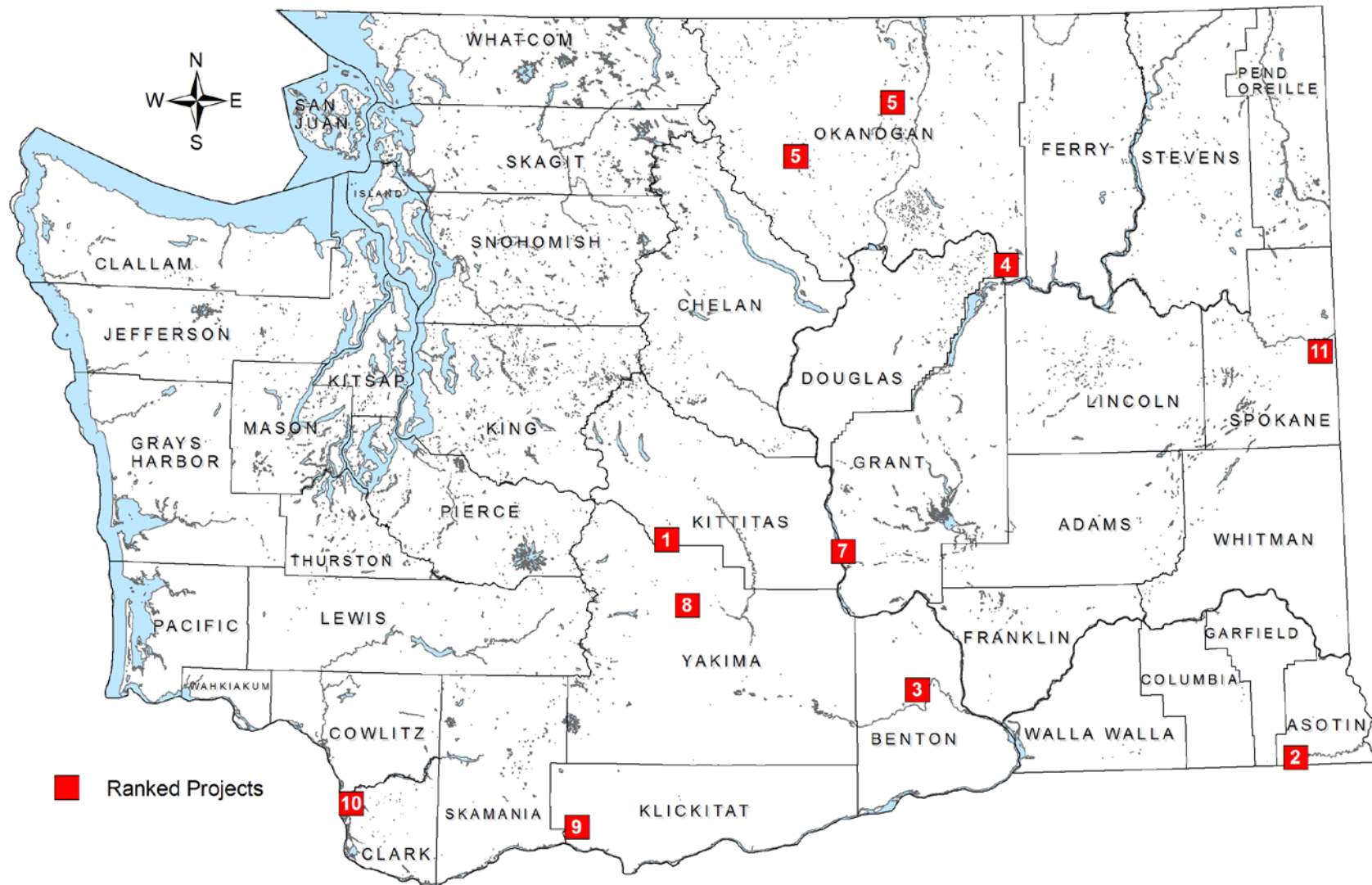
*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_



## State Map for Critical Habitat Category projects



## Critical Habitat Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

### Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

*"Critical Habitat means lands important for the protection, management, or public enjoyment of certain wildlife species or groups of species, including but not limited to, wintering range for deer, elk and other species, waterfowl and upland bird habitat, fish habitat and habitat for endangered, threatened or sensitive species" RCW 79A.15.010*

Critical Habitat Evaluation Summary		
Criteria	Evaluation Elements	Possible Points
Project Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locate the project on statewide, vicinity, and site maps</li> <li>• Brief summary of the project [goal(s) and objective(s) statement]</li> </ul>	Not scored
1.Ecological and Biological Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bigger picture</li> <li>• Uniqueness or significance of the site</li> <li>• Fish and wildlife species and or communities</li> <li>• Quality of habitat</li> </ul>	20
2.Species and Communities with Special Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Threat to species or communities</li> <li>• Importance of acquisitions</li> <li>• Ecological roles</li> <li>• Taxonomic distinctness</li> <li>• Rarity</li> </ul>	10
3.Manageability and Viability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediacy of threat to the site</li> <li>• Long-term viability</li> <li>• Enhancement of existing protected land</li> <li>• Ongoing stewardship</li> </ul>	15
4.Public Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project support</li> <li>• Educational and/or scientific value</li> </ul>	5
	<b>Total Points Possible</b>	<b>50</b>

## Critical Habitat Detailed Scoring Criteria

### Team Scored

#### 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics

Why is the site worthy of long-term conservation? RCW 79A.15.060 (6)(a) (iii, v-vii, xi, xiv); (6)(b)(ii)

#### 2. Species or Communities with Special Status

What is the significance of each species or community listed on your species and communities status table? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (iv, ix, xiii).

#### 3. Manageability and Viability

What is the likelihood of the site remaining viable over the long-term and why is it important to secure it now? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (ii, IV, viii, x)

#### 4. Public Benefit

To what degree do communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from or support the project? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (I, xii).

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources Grant Requested: \$1,887,138**  
**Expanding the Klickitat Canyon Natural Resources Conservation Area**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 1,120 acres for inclusion in the Klickitat Canyon Natural Resources Conservation Area. The land contains habitat for sandhill cranes, Mardon skipper butterflies, and six rare plant populations. This is one of only four nesting, foraging, and fledging habitats in Washington for the state endangered sandhill crane, and provides a vital link between similar habitat on Yakama Nation lands and in the Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge. The area used by the cranes includes a remote wetland and dry meadow complex that provides an undisturbed nesting location. The purchase will protect the various habitats, provide opportunities for restoration that will improve habitat on lands already in the conservation area, and add rare plant populations to the site. (10-1472)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources Grant Requested: \$2,925,261**  
**Protecting the Dabob Bay Natural Area Shoreline**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 90 acres to protect some of the most ecologically important and highly threatened private shoreline in the 6,287-acre Dabob Bay Natural Area on Puget Sound. The land includes coastal bluffs and shorelines that provide sediment and woody materials to keep the Dabob Bay system functioning. The purchase will protect local water quality and habitat for animals listed under the federal Endangered Species Act, such as orca, marbled murrelet, Hood Canal summer chum salmon, Chinook salmon, and steelhead trout. Dabob Bay is one of the most intact estuarine bays remaining in Puget Sound, but is threatened by increasing shoreline development within rapidly growing eastern Jefferson County. The department is working with The Nature Conservancy, Northwest Watershed Institute, and Jefferson Land Trust on a multi-phased project to protect an intact coastal estuarine system. (10-1458)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources Grant Requested: \$1,586,523**  
**Expanding the Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve to Protect Prairie, Woodlands**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 150 acres of oak woodland, prairie, and riparian habitat next to the Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve. Prairie and oak woodland habitats are among the most threatened in Washington, with only 3 percent of the historic prairie-oak landscape still intact. This preserve is one of the largest intact prairie sites left in western Washington and includes the last, best example of mounded prairie in the state. It also is recognized nationally for its ecological and geological importance, as a national natural landmark. The prairie and oak habitats on the site support populations of a number of prairie-dependent butterflies and birds, including the valley silverspot, Oregon branded skipper, western meadowlark, and savannah sparrow. Mima Mounds is also a high priority location for re-introduction of other imperiled prairie species such as the Mardon skipper butterfly and golden paintbrush. This proposal is part of a

regional conservation plan developed by partners, including the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Fort Lewis Military Reservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and The Nature Conservancy to protect remnants of these natural communities and restore their structure and function. (10-1465)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources    Grant Requested: \$792,330**  
**Expanding the Dyer Haystacks and Two Steppe Natural Area Preserves**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 2,110 acres to protect two examples of eastern Washington's original sagebrush-bunchgrass steppe in northern Douglas County. The Dyer Haystacks proposed natural area supports big sagebrush and bluebunch wheatgrass (the state grass), and the Two Steppe Natural Area supports three-tip sagebrush with Idaho fescue and a diversity of native wildflowers. These sites include representatives of the state's unique geology: Dyer Haystacks is a jumble of glacial erratic boulders and Two Steppe includes a cliff along Moses coulee, one of the channels cut by ice age floods. Lands proposed for purchase provide habitat for federal and state listed species: sharp-tail grouse and sage grouse (federal species of concern and state threatened); sage sparrow, sage thrasher, and golden eagle (state candidate species). (10-1471)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources    Grant Requested: \$3,499,912**  
**Expanding the Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve to Protect Rare Plants**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy up to 3,286 acres to expand the Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve near Wenatchee and provide protection for a rare plant, whited's milkvetch (*Astragalus sinuatus*). The plant exists nowhere else in the world except for 3 miles between Colockum Creek and the preserve. The plant species is designated as endangered by the Washington Natural Heritage Program and classified as a species of concern by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The purchase also will protect shrub-steppe habitat, one of the most threatened ecosystems in Washington. The land is threatened by a proposal to build a large housing development with equestrian amenities. (10-1473)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources    Grant Requested: \$2,037,575**  
**Expanding Two Natural Area Preserves to Protect Coastal Wetlands**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 617 acres in two coastal natural area preserves that include the Bone and Niawiakum Rivers. These coastal wetland and estuary ecosystems are among the highest quality examples remaining of native coastal salt marsh communities in Washington. The superb wetlands of the Bone River and Niawiakum River preserves are recognized as national priorities for protection. These two sites protect seven important wetland communities that were identified in the state Natural Heritage Plan as priorities for protection. The forests adjacent to the salt marshes protect a large portion of both rivers' watersheds and provide nesting habitat for bald eagles, marbled murrelets, great blue herons, and a range of other species. The upper reaches of the

Niawiakum River sloughs support rare wetlands that transition from those dominated by tides and saltwater to those dominated by freshwater. The river and slough channels and tidal mudflats provide habitat for coastal cutthroat trout and salmon, invertebrates, waterfowl, and shorebirds. The remaining undeveloped lands are threatened with conversion to housing developments. (10-1462)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources    Grant Requested: \$283,972**  
**Expanding the North Bay Natural Area Preserve to Protect Wetlands**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 119 acres for inclusion in the North Bay Natural Area Preserve, which is on the north side of the Grays Harbor estuary, 2 miles east of Ocean City. The land contains a diverse array of high quality saltwater and freshwater wetland communities of plant and animals. This unique coastal wetland is a mosaic of freshwater wetland, sphagnum bog and bog forest, and coastal marsh communities. In addition, the preserve contains part of a naturally occurring forested coastal berm, estuarine scrub-shrub habitat, and forests. The bog and wetlands support the Makah copper butterfly and the Olympic mudminnow. The preserve stands out as being the premier site of its kind in both the Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay estuary complexes. (10-1460)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources    Grant Requested: \$1,359,697**  
**Adding to the Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 81 acres within the Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve. The properties include privately owned salt marsh and land along Kennedy and Schneider Creeks. The preserve protects three, high quality, native, intertidal salt marsh ecosystems that are considered rare in the Puget Trough Ecoregion. The estuary protected by the preserve also provides critical habitat for shorebirds and waterfowl including dunlin, greater yellowlegs, black-bellied plovers, and sandpipers. Birds of prey including bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and merlin forage in the estuary. The site also supports a robust run of fall chum, as well as coho, winter steelhead, and coastal cutthroat. (10-1466)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources    Grant Requested: \$1,726,042**  
**Expanding the Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve to Protect Shrub-steppe**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 570 acres of shrub-steppe habitat to expand the Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve. More than half of shrub-steppe habitat in Washington has been lost, and much of that remaining has been degraded. The preserve, located along the Columbia River in southwestern Okanogan County, supports outstanding examples of two types of shrub-steppe communities that are among the least protected and most limited in extent within the state. Intact examples of these communities are very limited because of historic overgrazing, as well as expanding agricultural and residential development. Protecting these rare communities will in turn help protect wildlife species associated with shrub-steppe habitat, including sage thrasher and

loggerhead shrike. The project will add significantly to the statewide protection of these communities, enhance the long-term viability of the site for shrub-steppe wildlife, and provide a protected habitat connection to the Columbia River. (10-1470)



**Item 5B**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Natural Areas Category Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Scott Robinson, Conservation and Grant Services Section Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*Natural Areas means areas that have, to a significant degree, retained their natural character and are important in preserving rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical, or similar features of scientific or educational value.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Nine Natural Areas projects requesting \$16.1 million were evaluated between July 20 and August 10, 2010 through a written evaluation process. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Natural Areas Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-17. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 79A.15.010(6), Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands



## Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's goal to help its partners protect, restore, and develop habitat opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems. 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 habitat opportunities.

## Program Policies

Projects in the Natural Areas category protect high quality, representative native ecosystems, or unique plant or animal communities. Species protected on these habitats often are classified as endangered, threatened, or sensitive at the federal or state level. Rare geological features or features of scientific or educational value also are considered.

The Natural Areas category is eligible to receive 30 percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program funds in the Habitat Conservation Account.<sup>2</sup>

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	WA State Parks, WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, WA Dept. of Natural Resources, General Administration
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquisition, fee simple or lesser interests</li><li>• Where appropriate, development of public use facilities such as trails, interpretive signs, parking and restrooms</li></ul>
<b>Funding Limits</b>	No minimum or maximum grant request limit per project
<b>Match Requirements</b>	No match required
<b>Public Access</b>	Public use may be excluded if needed to protect habitat and species
<b>Other Program Characteristics</b>	Areas must be managed primarily for resource preservation, protection and study

## Evaluation Summary

Nine Natural Areas category projects requesting \$16.1 million were evaluated between July 20 and August 10, 2010.

A team of eight evaluators used criteria adopted by the board to review and rank each project through a written evaluation process. The evaluation team included the following individuals

---

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 79A.15.040(1)(a) RCW

who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat preservation and conservation:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Pene Speaks	Dept. Natural Resources
Elizabeth Rodrick	Dept. Fish and Wildlife
Deb Peterson	State Parks
Karen Bergeron	King County
Fayette Krause	Citizen
David Giblin	University of Washington
Jason Detamore	Chelan County
Kathy O'Halloran	USFS Olympic National Forest

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Natural Areas Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## Attachments

Resolution # 2010-17

- Table 1 – WWRP, Natural Areas Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
- A. State Map for Natural Areas Category projects
- B. Natural Areas Project Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. Natural Areas Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. Natural Areas Project Summaries (a synopsis of each proposal)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-17  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Natural Areas Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, nine Natural Areas category projects are eligible for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Natural Areas category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (Board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred through a written evaluation process approved by the board, supporting the board's strategy to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation; and

**WHEREAS**, all nine Natural Areas category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation Account and Riparian Protection Account*, including criteria regarding public benefit and relationship to established plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects address a variety of critical habitat needs and their evaluation included information about the quality and function of the habitat and the demonstrated need to protect it for fish and/or wildlife, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding for projects that help sustain Washington's biodiversity, protect "listed" species; and maintain fully functioning ecosystems,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Natural Areas Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Natural Areas category projects for further consideration.

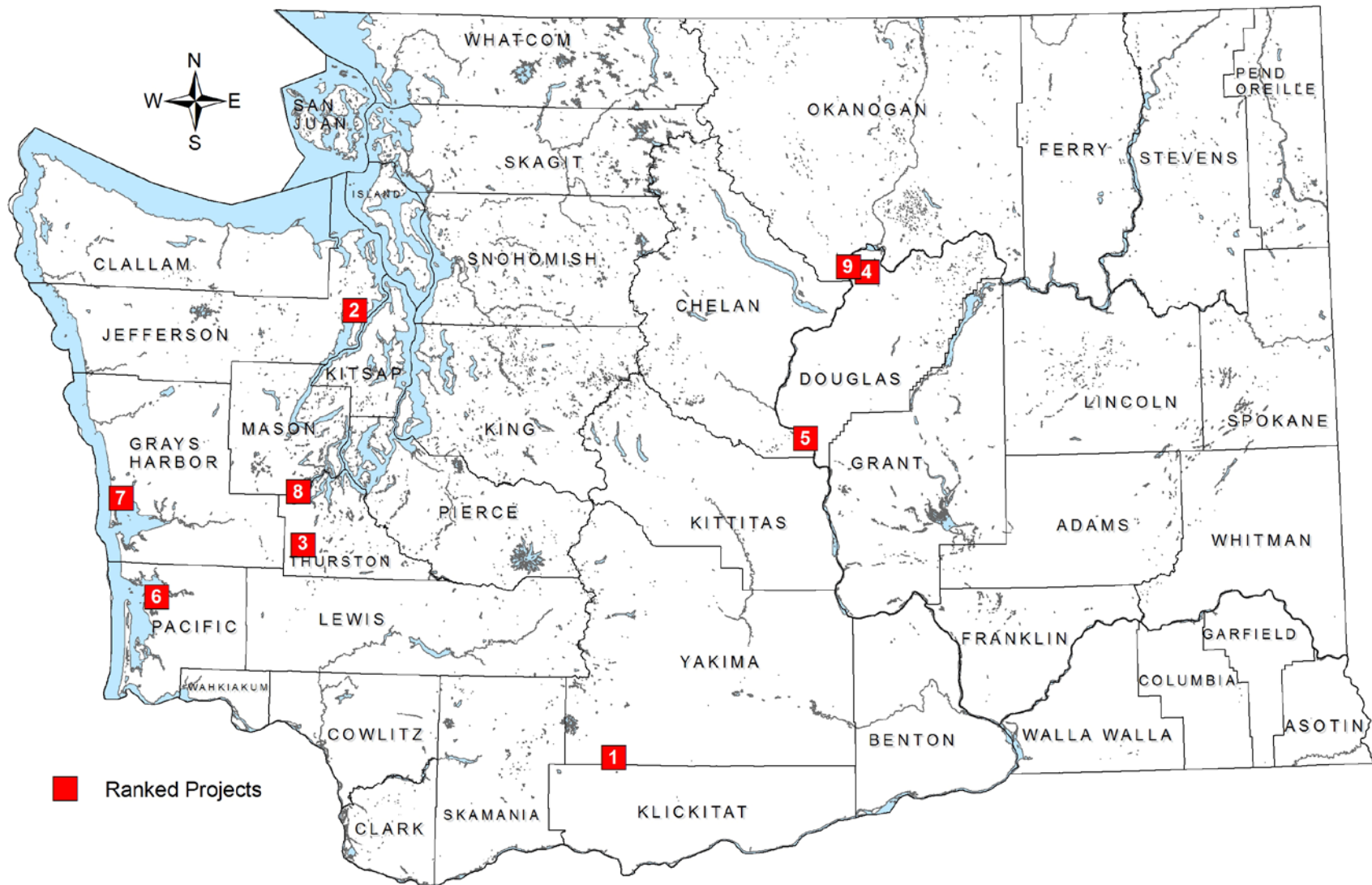
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

# State Map for Natural Areas Category projects



## Natural Areas Evaluation Summary

### Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

*"Natural Areas means areas that have, to a significant degree, retained their natural character and are important in preserving rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical, or similar features of scientific or educational value." RCW 79A.15.010*

Natural Areas Evaluation Summary		
Criteria	Evaluation Elements	Possible Points
Project Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locate the project on statewide, vicinity, and site maps</li> <li>• Brief summary of the project [goal(s) and objective(s) statement]</li> </ul>	Not scored
1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bigger picture</li> <li>• Uniqueness or significance of the site</li> <li>• Fish and wildlife species and or communities</li> <li>• Quality of habitat</li> </ul>	20
2. Species and Communities with Special Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Threat to species or communities</li> <li>• Importance of acquisitions</li> <li>• Ecological roles</li> <li>• Taxonomic distinctness</li> </ul>	10
3. Manageability and Viability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediacy of threat to the site</li> <li>• Long-term viability</li> <li>• Enhancement of existing protected land</li> <li>• Ongoing stewardship</li> </ul>	15
4. Public Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project support</li> <li>• Educational and/or scientific value</li> </ul>	5
	<b>Total Points Possible</b>	<b>50</b>

## Natural Areas Category Detailed Scoring Criteria

### Team Scored

#### 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics

Why is the site worthy of long-term conservation? RCW 79A.15.060 (6)(a) (iii, v-vii, xi, xiv); (6)(b)(ii)

#### 2. Species or Communities with Special Status

What is the significance of each species or community listed on your species and communities status table? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (iv, ix, xiii).

#### 3. Manageability and Viability

What is the likelihood of the site remaining viable over the long-term and why is it important to secure it now? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (ii, iv, viii, x)

#### 4. Public Benefit

To what degree do communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from or support the project? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (i, xii).

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Restoring the Washougal Oaks Natural Area**

**Grant Requested: \$151,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to restore important wildlife habitat in the Washougal Oaks Natural Area, which contains the largest, high quality, native, oak woodland remaining in western Washington. Oak woodland ecosystems in western Washington have declined and those that remain have been degraded significantly by land conversion, fire suppression, grazing, and invasion by conifers and non-native plants. The oak forest protected in the natural area is in good condition; however, some patches of native oak forest were cleared in the past. The department will restore 15 acres of horse pasture to native oak habitat by planting Oregon white oaks and other native plants. The department also will remove invasive plants, such as Himalayan blackberry. A second component of this project is to improve fish habitat. Past mining and logging have altered the natural hydrology of Lawton Creek and greatly reduced the amount of tree root wads and other large woody materials in the creek, which are needed for healthy salmon habitat. The department will place Douglas fir trees, which will be thinned during the first phase of this project, in Lawton and Walton Creeks. The department also will build an off-channel pond to improve fish habitat. The department will contribute \$3,500 in donated labor. (10-1646)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Restoring the Sinlahekin Ecosystem through Fire**

**Grant Requested: \$244,800**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to restore the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area ecosystem by thinning and burning the ponderosa pine forest. Fire, a key ecological process, has been eliminated for nearly 100 years. Fire and fire byproducts support a mosaic of plant communities, in various stages of growth, across the landscape, and wildlife dependent on these habitats. The department will reduce the historically uncharacteristic accumulation of brush and trees by thinning, pruning, piling, and burning the bushes and trees, and doing controlled burns. This project is expected to improve conditions for many wildlife species, particularly flammulated owls, pygmy nuthatches, white-headed woodpeckers, and mule deer. The project will also reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, improve forest health, and provide jobs. (10-1629)

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Restoring Trout Lake Meadow**

**Grant Requested: \$145,500**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to restore the hydrology and vegetation of the meadows at Trout Lake Natural Area Preserve, with the goal of improving habitat for the Oregon spotted frog, sandhill crane, pale blue-eyed grass, and other wetland species. The Trout Lake wetland system contains the second largest of the four known Washington populations of the Oregon spotted frog, a state sensitive species. Sandhill cranes, a state endangered species, use this



site as a staging area and potential nesting area. The department will remove .37 mile of old irrigation ditches in the east meadow area and take out the old road on the western part of the preserve. The department also will control weeds on 25 acres, allowing native species to reestablish in the meadow. The ditches and old road will be planted with native plants. Past diversion of water from the meadow made the area drier, which decreases Oregon spotted frog breeding habitat, limits food for sandhill cranes, and limits pale blue-eyed grass habitat. (10-1508)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Restoring South Sound Prairies**

**Grant Requested: \$360,950**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to continue restoration of five areas in southern Puget Sound by removing invasive plants and replanting. Scatter Creek, Mima Mounds, Bald Hill, Rocky Prairie, and West Rocky Prairie are home to many rare plants, animals, and plant communities of concern to the Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Natural Resources. The five sites contain more than 60 percent of the remaining, native-dominated prairie outside of Joint Base Lewis McChord in southern Puget Sound. The department will eradicate invasive plant species, using controlled fire and herbicide. The two agencies are partnering with The Nature Conservancy and Joint Base Lewis McChord to increase the seed production capacity. This cooperative project will save the agencies time and money by avoiding redundancies in staffing, contracting, and seed source development. The department will contribute \$20,000 from a federal grant. (10-1440)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Restoring Camas Meadows' Rare Plant Habitat**

**Grant Requested: \$145,500**

The Department of Natural Resources' Natural Areas Program will use this grant to restore and enhance habitat for two, rare plant species, the Wenatchee mountain checkermallow and Wenatchee larkspur. The Camas Meadows contain the largest populations in the world of both species. The site is critical to the long-term viability of both plants, which require open, seasonally wet habitats. Ditches, livestock grazing, and invasive species have degraded the site. This project will restore hydrology on 18 acres and restore native wet meadow plant communities, including the two rare plants, on 5 acres. Invasive species will be controlled on an additional 11 acres adjacent to the wet meadow. The department also will burn 3 acres to reduce encroaching shrubs and trees and to stimulate growth of both rare plant species. The department will contribute \$6,000 in a federal grant and donated labor. (10-1453)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Restoring Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area's Weyer Point**

**Grant Requested: \$294,678**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to remove invasive species and replant 24 acres in the Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area in



Henderson Inlet in southern Puget Sound. The conservation area was designated to protect a large complex of near-shore ecosystems. The area includes the former Weyerhaeuser South Bay Log Dump that was in operation for 60 years. Impacts from the log dump continue to significantly affect the conservation area's ecosystems. (10-1353)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Restoring the Methow Forest through Fire**

**Grant Requested: \$502,300**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to restore the Methow Wildlife Area by thinning and burning the ponderosa pine forest. Fire, a key ecological process, has been eliminated for nearly 100 years. Fire and fire byproducts support a mosaic of plant communities, in various stages of growth, across the landscape, and wildlife dependent on these habitats. The department will reduce the historically uncharacteristic accumulation of bushes and trees by thinning, pruning, piling, and burning, and prepare a series of controlled fires implemented jointly with the U.S. Forest Service. The project is expected to improve conditions for many wildlife species, including flammulated owls, pygmy nuthatches, white-headed woodpeckers, and mule deer. The project also will reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, improve forest health, and provide jobs. The department will contribute \$37,700 in donated labor and a private grant. (10-1631)

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Restoring Secret Harbor Estuary and Salt Marsh**

**Grant Requested: \$246,292**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to remove a dike to create a salt marsh and reconnect a wetland complex at Secret Harbor, located in the Cypress Island Natural Resources Conservation Area and Aquatic Reserve. Currently, no functional salt marsh habitat exists behind the dike where a small culvert allows for only limited exchange of saltwater. Additionally, the wetlands have only freshwater characteristics with an abundance of non-native species. Work also will include filling irrigation ditches and connecting a stock pond to the stream to restore upland processes that will support habitat for various species of fish and other animals. The department will contribute \$324,615 in staff labor, a federal grant, and donated labor. (10-1106)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Restoring Willapa Bay**

**Grant Requested: \$124,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to restore 200 acres in Willapa Bay that have been impacted by the invasive cordgrass, *Spartina alterniflora*. Willapa Bay, a 60,000-acre estuary is home to a diversity of wildlife species and an important stopover site for migratory waterfowl and shorebirds. Since its accidental introduction in the early 1900s as packing material for imported oysters, *Spartina* had colonized 7,400 acres by 2004. *Spartina* out-competes native

plants and creates meadows that raise the elevation of the mudflat, destroying habitat. A multi-agency Spartina control program has reduced the infestation to about 50 acres. The department will work on two, state-owned sites. The department will contribute \$20,000 in staff equipment and labor and donated materials. (10-1687)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Restoring Telford Road Shrub-Steppe**

**Grant Requested: \$98,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to convert 250 acres of old agricultural fields filled with non-native grasses and noxious weeds in the Swanson Lakes Wildlife Area into quality shrub-steppe habitat. In their present condition, these fields are of little ecological value. Restoration of this shrub-steppe habitat will expand critical habitat and improve connectivity through the wildlife area and adjacent landscape, to benefit numerous shrub-steppe dependent wildlife that live in the area, especially Columbian sharp-tailed grouse. There is one active sharp-tailed grouse mating ground, or "lek," within 1 mile of the restoration sites. Shrub-steppe restoration is one of the highest priorities for this wildlife area. In the past 16 years, staff has restored more than 1,000 acres of shrub-steppe habitat in Lincoln County. The department will contribute \$27,000 from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District. (10-1679)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Restoring West Foster Creek Meadow**

**Grant Requested: \$102,656**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to protect and restore about 20 acres of meadow and portions of West Foster Creek in the Wells Wildlife Area. The project will address a 10-foot headcut at the lower end of the meadow, which is causing extensive bank scouring and widening of the creek bed. Untreated, this headcut effectively will drain the meadow in just a few years and will eliminate existing riparian habitat. Work will include installing an erosion control structure at the headcut and restoring riparian habitat to reduce erosion, raise and stabilize the water table in the meadow, and improve water quality. (10-1170)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Thinning the Understory on Cleman Mountain**

**Grant Requested: \$198,775**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to restore 300 acres of forest on Cleman Mountain. Past logging and fire suppression have resulted in overstocked stands of small diameter, shade-dependent trees offering limited wildlife benefit and imposing a high risk of wildfire. Thinning the understory trees will enhance reproduction and vigor of fire dependent plants to improve wildlife habitat. Over the long-term, open stands of large diameter, Ponderosa pine and Douglas fir will provide habitat for fire dependent species such as white-headed woodpecker and pygmy nuthatch. A controlled fire after the timber removal will reduce the risk of catastrophic fire and restore ecological function. (10-1429)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Restoring Reiter Foothills**

**Grant Requested: \$167,569**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to begin restoring Reiter foothills, a 10,000-acre, sub-alpine forest northeast of Monroe. The department will focus on stabilizing damaged stream banks, evaluating hydrologic function, and restoring stream bank habitat at multiple places along Deer and Hogarty Creeks. The work is designed to improve fish habitat and water quality and will include evaluating hydrologic and stream bank damage, rebuilding and replanting stream banks, installing erosion control devices, and creating new forest patches. Reiter Forest provides opportunities for conservation, logging, and recreation. Unfortunately, past, unauthorized recreational use in the forest has resulted in serious resource damage, particularly along streams. The department will contribute \$20,000 in donated labor. (10-1071)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Restoring Whiskey Dick Creek**

**Grant Requested: \$150,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve Whiskey Dick Creek hydrologic function by closing 3 miles of road, installing 10-15 sediment catch basins, planting native plants, and controlling weeds with controlled fires and herbicide. Historic grazing practices caused deeply incised stream channels, lack of stream bank plants, and a road that meanders through the creek bed. This project will benefit endangered steelhead that spawn in lower Whiskey Dick Creek and uncommon native phragmites plants found at Kohler Spring. Improvements to Ridge Road will give four-wheelers an alternative to riding along Whiskey Dick Creek, and the new stream bank plantings will transform the Creek Road into a trail for hiking and nature viewing. (10-1352)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Thinning the Chesaw Forest**

**Grant Requested: \$170,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to restore forest habitat in the Chesaw Wildlife Unit in Okanogan County. The 448-acre forest is dense and prone to disease and wildfire. The department will thin trees to restore ecological functions and systems, promote habitat diversity, reduce the possibility of wildfire, increase disease and insect resistance, and limit encroachment into shrub-steppe plant communities. The selective logging will open up the forest canopy, increasing forbs and grasses, and increasing habitat for forest species. (10-1573)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Removing Scotch Broom in the Mount Saint Helens Wildlife Area**

**Grant Requested: \$69,850**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to enhance 60 acres of elk winter habitat in the Mount Saint Helens Wildlife Area by removing invasive plants

and replanting the site. Scotch broom, a non-native, invasive shrub, has infested the Oxbow Spoil area, limiting the value to wildlife. The department will combine cutting, grubbing, pulling, burning, herbicide application, and competitive planting to remove the Scotch broom. Because Scotch broom is so competitive, a non-invasive, non-native mix of grasses and legumes will be planted to limit weed growth, along with native trees and shrubs to increase diversity. Over time, native trees, shrubs, and forbs are expected to replace the grasses and legumes. The department will contribute \$16,200 in staff labor and donated labor. (10-1482)

**Item 5C**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Kim Sellers, Grant Manager  
Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

**Description of Category**

*The State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category provides funding to restore or enhance land owned by the State of Washington or held in trust by the State.*

**Summary**

Sixteen State Lands Restoration category projects requesting approximately \$3.2 million were evaluated between August 23 and September 7, 2010 through a written evaluation process. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

**Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-18. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

**Strategic Plan Link**

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's goal to help its partners protect, restore, and develop habitat opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems. 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 habitat opportunities.

## Background

State Lands Restoration category projects allow for restoration and enhancement of habitats on existing state lands. These habitats may include salt or freshwater areas, forests, riparian zones, shrub-steppe, wetlands, and other native ecosystems or habitats native to Washington State. Restoration brings the site back to its original function through activities that can reasonably be expected to result in a site that is, to the degree possible, self-sustaining. Enhancement improves the ecological functionality of the site.

Beginning with this grant cycle, the State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category is eligible to receive 5 percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program funds in the Habitat Conservation Account.<sup>1</sup>

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Department of Natural Resources</li><li>• Department of Fish and Wildlife</li></ul>
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	Habitat enhancement or creation
<b>Funding Limits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimum of \$25,000 per project</li><li>• Maximum of \$500,000 per multi-site project</li><li>• Maximum of \$1,000,000 per single site project</li></ul>
<b>Match Requirements</b>	None
<b>Public Access</b>	Public use may be excluded if needed to protect habitat and species
<b>Other Program Characteristics</b>	Properties should be managed primarily for resource preservation and protection

## Evaluation Summary

Sixteen State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects requesting \$3.2 million were evaluated between August 23 and September 3, 2010.

A team of eight evaluators used a written evaluation process and criteria adopted by the board to review and rank the projects. The evaluation team includes the following individuals who are

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 79A.15.040(1)(d) RCW. Before June 30, 2011, this category was eligible for 10 percent of the funds in the Habitat Conservation Account (HCA). Beginning with this grant cycle, the amount in this category drops to 5%, and the Critical Habitat category will receive 45 percent of the funds in HCA.

recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat conservation, restoration, and enhancement:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Dale Davis	Department of Ecology
Steve Erickson	Citizen
John Konovsky	Squaxin Island Tribe
Bill Koss	Citizen
Doug Myers	People for Puget Sound
Bill Robinson	The Nature Conservancy
Derek Van Marter	Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
Laurie Vigue	Department of Fish and Wildlife

*Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012* shows the results of the evaluations.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## Attachments

Resolution #2010-18

- Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Restoration Category Ranked List of Projects, FY2012
- A. State Map for State Lands Restoration Category projects
  - B. State Lands Restoration Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
  - C. State Lands Restoration Category Evaluation Scoring Summary
  - D. State Lands Restoration Category Summaries (synopsis of each proposal)



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-18  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category, Fiscal Year 2012,  
Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, sixteen State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects are eligible for funding from the Habitat Conservation Category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these State Lands Restoration category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board); and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred through a written evaluation process approved by the board, supporting the board's strategy to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation; and

**WHEREAS**, all sixteen State Lands Restoration category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation Account and Riparian Protection Account: Policies and Project Selection*, including public benefit and relationship to other plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects restore existing state lands to self-sustaining functionality, and their evaluation included the quality and function of the habitat, longer-term viability, and demonstrated need, thereby supporting the board's objectives to help sponsors maximize the useful life of board-funded projects and to fund projects that maintain fully functioning ecosystems;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects for further consideration.

*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

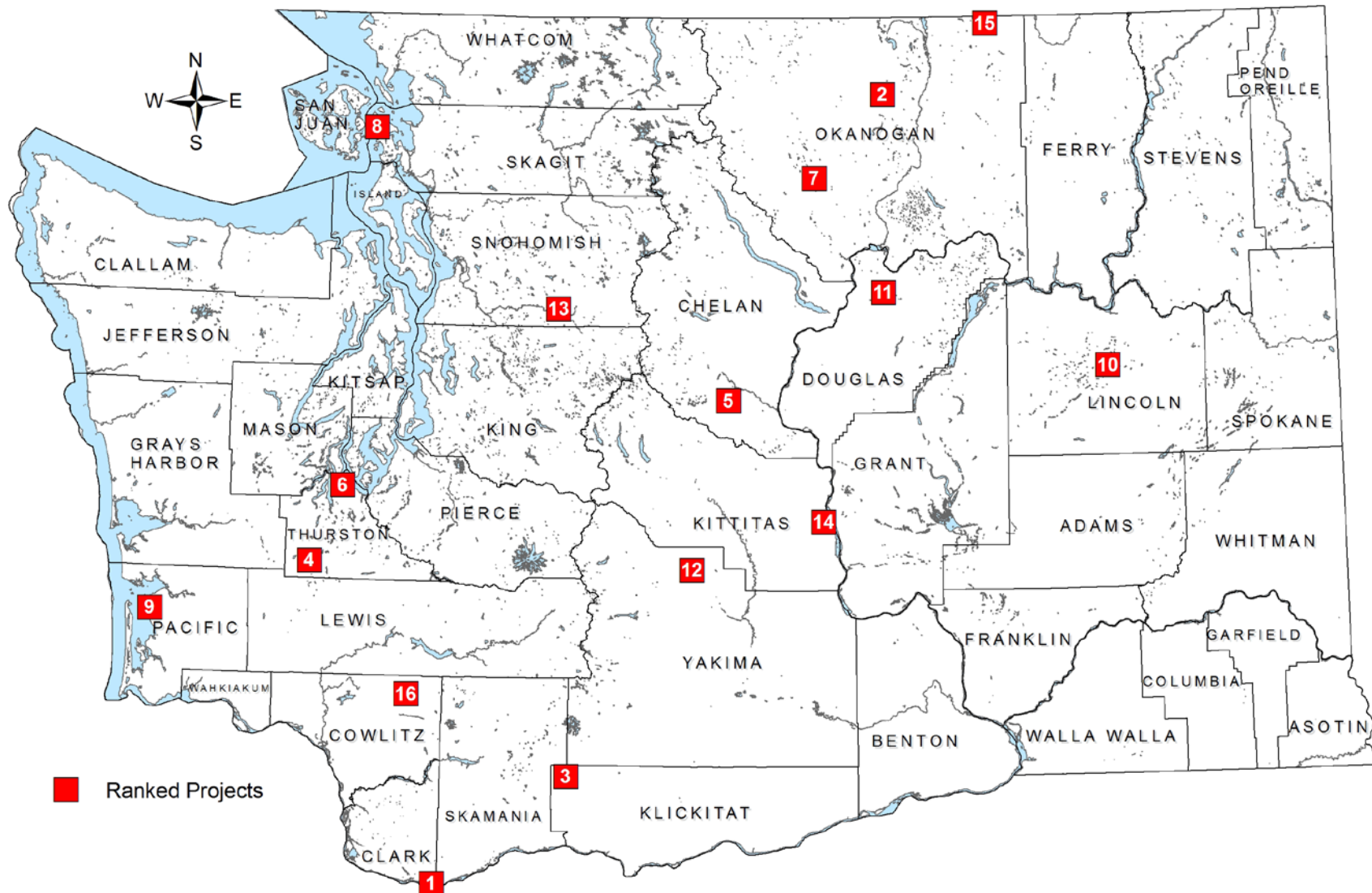
*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_



# State Map for State Lands Restoration Category projects



## State Lands Restoration Category Evaluation Summary

### Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Evaluation Criteria			
Number	Scored By	Topic	Maximum Score
--	Evaluation Team	Project Introduction	Not scored
1.	Evaluation Team	Ecological and Biological Characteristics	15
2.	Evaluation Team	Need for Restoration or Enhancement	15
3.	Evaluation Team	Long-Term Manageability and Viability	10
4.	Evaluation Team	Species or Communities With Special Status	5
5.	Evaluation Team	Plan Priority	5
6.	Evaluation Team	Public Benefit	5
Maximum Possible Score			55

### State Lands Restoration Category Detailed Scoring Criteria

#### Evaluation Team Scored

1. **Ecological and Biological Characteristics**

Why is the site worthy of long-term conservation?

For Water Resource Inventory Areas 1-19, how is the project referenced in the Action Agenda developed by the Puget Sound Partnership?

2. **Need for Restoration or Enhancement**

What is the need for stewardship activities, whether restoration or enhancement?

3. **Long-Term Manageability and Viability**

What is the likelihood of the site remaining viable over the long term and why is it important to restore or enhance it now?

4. **Species or Communities with Special Status**

What are the habitat communities or species of wildlife that will benefit most from the improvements proposed for this site?

5. **Plan Priority**

How is this project supported by a current plan or a coordinated prioritization effort? Describe the plan or prioritization efforts.

6. **Public Benefit**

To what extent does this project result in measurable benefits for the species or community impacted as a result of this restoration or enhancement?

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Protecting 100-year-old Forests****Grant Requested: \$1,810,042**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 103 acres in the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area and Kitsap Forest Natural Area near Bremerton. The land is part of a larger area that contains the highest quality of a rare forest of trees more than 100 years old. More than 98 percent of similar mature forests have been lost since European settlement in the Puget trough ecoregion, which runs the length of Washington between the Cascade Mountains on the east and the Olympic Mountains and Willapa Hills on the west. The larger area contains managed forestlands that are one of the most important landscapes for the conservation of biological diversity in the Puget trough. Stavis Creek, which runs through the property, is one of the best remaining Hood Canal salmon spawning habitats and is a designated recovery area for threatened Hood Canal summer chum. High-quality freshwater wetlands form the headwaters of the creek and have habitat for cavity-nesting ducks. The land also hosts an active bald eagle nest, a small great blue heron rookery, breeding mountain quail, cougar, and black bear. The objective is to protect the connected forests and wetlands from development, logging, and other commercial uses. (10-1117)

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Expanding the Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve****Grant Requested: \$2,041,500**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy and protect 60 acres containing an endangered prairie plant population, imperiled old-growth forest, .4 mile of a feeder bluff, and numerous wildlife species dependent on these habitats. The property includes six waterfront lots, with outstanding views, that are threatened by development into high-end houses. The golden paintbrush population, which lives on the land, is one of only 12 remaining in the world. The 36-acre, old growth forest, which combines Douglas fir, western hemlock, oceanspray and swordfern, is one of only six in Washington. Wildlife nesting on the property include bald eagles, merlins, pileated woodpeckers, band-tailed pigeons, and pigeon guillemots. The bluffs, which feed the beach with sediment, and its adjacent kelp and eelgrass beds are critical fish and wildlife areas. The shoreline is a primary migration route for salmon and other species, including Puget Sound Chinook and Hood Canal summer-run chum, both federally designated as threatened with extinction. The land abuts the south boundary of the Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve, and together, they will protect more than 90 contiguous acres of upland, 1 mile of shoreline, two rare prairie plant communities, and a rare natural forest community. Viewing areas and established, easily accessible walking trails exist on the property. The department will contribute more than \$2 million from a federal grant and cash donations. (10-1641)

**Vashon Park District**  
**Protecting the Whispering Firs Bog****Grant Requested: \$400,000**

The Vashon Park District will use this grant to buy voluntary land preservation agreements that prevent development on nearly 17 acres, encompassing 95 percent of Whispering Firs bog, and bringing the total protected acres to nearly 19. Housing development along the edge of this sensitive habitat would endanger the health of this sphagnum-dominated wetland, a wetland type listed as a top priority for protection by the State Department of Natural Resources. Whispering Firs bog is along the Vashon highway, and offers visitors opportunities to see birds such as the pileated woodpecker, a state candidate for listing as at risk of extinction, and migrating song birds. The park district will contribute \$420,000 in donations of cash and property interest. (10-1050)

**Spokane County**  
**Buying Antoine Peak****Grant Requested: \$1,633,198**

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department will use this grant to buy 338.75 acres, including the 3,375-foot-tall Antoine Peak, completing the last phase of a 1,061-acre conservation project. Antoine Peak forms a prominent backdrop to Spokane, Spokane Valley, Liberty Lake, and Newman Lake. The County wants to protect this critical habitat for wildlife and the million dollar views it offers, and open the area for wildlife watching. It is rare, if not unique, for a natural area of this size and diversity to be within 1 mile of an urban growth boundary. The land offers a broad range of year-round outdoor activities such as hiking, wildlife watching, equestrian use, mountain biking, picnicking, trail running, and cross-country skiing. Part of an important wildlife corridor that stretches north to Mount Spokane State Park and up into the Selkirk Mountains, it is used year-round by elk, moose, black bear, deer, and many other animals. A pond and many streams transect the property and help recharge the Rathdrum Prairie-Spokane Aquifer, the sole source of drinking water for more than 500,000 people. More than eight federal or state species with special status use the area. The County will contribute more than \$1.6 million in conservation futures<sup>1</sup>. (10-1264)

**Wenatchee**  
**Conserving the Wenatchee Foothills****Grant Requested: \$2,052,750**

Wenatchee will use this grant to buy nearly 400 acres to complete a 16,000-acre corridor of protected habitat. The larger area is bounded by the Wenatchee River on the north, the Wenatchee urban growth area on the east, Squilchuck Canyon on the south, and U.S. Forest Service lands on the west. It rises from 900 feet of elevation to 4,600 feet, and includes shrub-steppe and mixed conifer forests, ridges, canyons,

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

seeps, and springs that support a diverse community of wildlife including mule deer, migratory songbirds, and raptors. The City will contribute more than \$2 million in donations of cash, labor, and land. (10-1277)

**Clark County**  
**Conserving Tukes Mountain****Grant Requested: \$278,650**

Clark County will use this grant to buy 40 acres of high-quality habitat on the north side of Tukes Mountain, at the eastern edge of Battle Ground's urban growth boundary. The 600-foot-tall Tukes Mountain supports extensive mixed mature and Douglas fir forests and a wide variety of wildlife including more than 85 bird species and three plant species (tall bugbane, western wahoo, and small-flowered trillium) at risk of extinction. On a larger scale, the mountain is within a 220-acre habitat and greenway system. It is bordered by state trust lands, a city natural area, and forests, which are being acquired by Clark County for habitat protection. Battle Ground and the State Department of Natural Resources are partnering with the County in the conservation vision for Tukes Mountain. The County will contribute \$278,650 in conservation futures<sup>2</sup>. (10-1610)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Protecting Amon Basin****Grant Requested: \$2,180,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 119 acres in the Amon basin to protect freshwater riparian, wetland, and shrub-steppe habitat. The area is threatened by a 454-unit housing development. The property is home to 47 plant and 150 bird species. Its sandy soils support a unique shrub, grass, and forb community, including 100-year-old Wyoming sagebrush and rare spiny hopsage. Abundant sagebrush on the land provide cover for black-tailed jackrabbits, which are a state candidate for designation as at risk of extinction. American badger and side-blotched lizards are plentiful there also. Habitat for these species has been lost in the Tri-Cities. The diverse conservation value has drawn scouting troops, church, community groups, and schools to support the need for protection. More than 200 citizens, 20 businesses, corporations, agencies, and non-profits have contributed to the project. Partnering with the department are the Tapteal Greenway Association and The Trust for Public Land. (10-1147)

**Clark County**  
**Conserving Salmon and Morgan Creeks' Habitat Area****Grant Requested: \$1,056,720**

Clark County will use this grant to buy 81.3 acres of shoreline, wetlands, riparian forests, and uplands at the southeast corner of Battle Ground's urban growth

---

<sup>2</sup> 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.



boundary. The property is at the confluence of Morgan and Salmon Creeks, and includes .8 mile of shoreline and about 50 acres of floodplain, wetlands, and forested hillsides. Upland areas cover 30 acres and support a mixed forest of Douglas fir, cedar, maple, and alder. The property is home to Endangered Species Act listed Chinook, coho, and steelhead, and supports more than 75 bird species. The land was threatened by development into 90-100 houses. The County bought this property in the winter with advance approval from the Recreation and Conservation Office, pending its scoring well in the grant competition. The County will contribute more than \$1 million in conservation futures<sup>3</sup> and a federal grant. (10-1214)

**Kitsap County****Grant Requested: \$680,000****Protecting Grover's Creek Headwaters**

The Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 252 acres to expand the North Kitsap Heritage Park to 700 acres. This purchase conserves critically important habitat for a host of animals and two priority salmon-bearing streams. It provides people with a place to interact with nature and access a regional trail network for horseback riding, hiking, and biking. The land contains rare wetlands, ponds, mature lowland forests, and Grover's and Carpenter Creeks. It is home to beavers, black bears, minks, western-red back salamanders, red-legged frogs, coho, searun cutthroat trout, great blue herons, woodpeckers, waterfowl, and eagles. This purchase creates a critical buffer and habitat corridor between two major housing developments. The County will contribute \$736,500 in cash and donations of labor and land. (10-1255)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Conserving Mica Peak****Grant Requested: \$2,301,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 920 acres of undeveloped land on Mica Peak. Mica Peak is on the southeastern edge of the Spokane Valley urban area, with development creeping up its foothills. The property provides a key connection to about 12,000 acres of contiguous undeveloped forestland. Public ownership of this land will allow users to cross Mica Peak from north to south and east to west without trespassing on private property. The purchase would preserve a diverse mix of conifer woodland with open meadows, aspen stringers, brushy slopes, and the headwaters of California and Saltese Creeks. The land is home to white tailed deer, coyotes, martens, stellar jays, great horned owls, western toads, and others, and connects to land that supports larger wildlife species, such as moose, elk, cougars, and black bears. (10-1137)

---

<sup>3</sup> 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.

**State Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$1,541,006**  
**Acquiring Land for the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 91.5 acres in the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area in east King County. The property is threatened by housing development. The land provides crucial wildlife habitat in an urban area, and is part of the Mountains to Sound Greenway. The greenway is a 100-mile landscape of forests, wildlife habitat, and open spaces along Interstate 90, and a National Scenic Byway. Distinctive physical features of the property include mature Douglas fir forests, pockets of old growth forests, snag-rich wildlife habitats, numerous riparian systems, cliffs, steep slopes, and wildlife corridors. The quality of this site is high due to the habitat diversity, remote character, and wildlife connections it provides in the surrounding landscape and region. A variety of wildlife use the area including northern spotted owls, pileated woodpeckers, peregrine falcons, black bears, Roosevelt elk, bobcats, cougars, foxes, coyotes, ospreys, black-tailed deer, and a variety of other wildlife. (10-1468)

**State Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$1,693,754**  
**Expanding the Middle Fork Snoqualmie and Mount Si Conservation Areas**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 156.1 acres in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Areas. High priority properties identified for purchase are key parcels in the Mountains to Sound Greenway and are threatened by housing developments. The greenway is a 100-mile landscape of forests, wildlife habitat, and open spaces along Interstate 90, and a National Scenic Byway. Distinctive physical features of the property include talus, lakes, numerous streams, wetlands, old growth and mature forests, cliffs, and landscape connections for wildlife. Wildlife that use the property include cougars, bobcats, mountain goats, black bears, coyotes, elk, red-tailed hawks, ospreys, barred owls, pygmy owls, and pileated woodpeckers. (10-1467)

**Issaquah** **Grant Requested: \$200,000**  
**Purchasing the Tradition Plateau**

Issaquah will use this grant to buy 5.8 acres within West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area. The 4,400-acre conservation area is co-managed by Issaquah and the State Department of Natural Resources. The city's owns 450 acres of the conservation area, which includes much of the Tradition Plateau, while the state owns the surrounding conservation area. The purchase will protect significant urban wildlife habitat and a trail connection from Issaquah's downtown. The City will contribute \$203,000 in cash and labor. (10-1681)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Buying Land on Ebey Island****Grant Requested: \$1,500,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy and protect 130 acres, expanding the department's 1,237-acre Ebey Island unit of the Snoqualmie Wildlife Area in the Snohomish River delta, near Everett. The land is for sale, and department ownership is key to future restoration and public access development on Ebey Island. While this project is focused only on purchasing the land, the department has long-term plans for habitat restoration and recreational improvements for kayaking, hunting from boats, and trails for wildlife viewing. (10-1151)

**Snohomish County**  
**Constructing the Northwest Stream Center Interpretive Trail****Grant Requested: \$230,750**

Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to build a nearly .4 mile, raised boardwalk and interpretive trail through 20 acres at the Northwest Stream Center in McCollum Park, a 74-acre regional park south of Everett. The center is the first regional environmental learning facility in the state that has stream and wetland ecology and fish and wildlife habitat as its central themes. The boardwalk will lead visitors through a forest and wetlands next to a salmon stream. Interpretive signs will guide people through natural ecosystems and offer strategies for sound watershed stewardship. Visitors will experience the interconnections between forests, wetlands, streams, wildlife, and people. The Adopt A Stream Foundation recently built a visitors building with conference, exhibit, and classroom space on site; and now is building an outdoor trout stream exhibit with viewing windows into stream habitat. The foundation is using labor, equipment, and materials donated by 47 businesses from the construction industry. The County will contribute \$230,750 in donations of cash and labor, \$200,000 of which will come from the foundation. (10-1683)

**Port Townsend**  
**Buying Land in the Quimper Wildlife Corridor****Grant Requested: \$408,440**

Port Townsend will use this grant to buy nearly 13 acres of critical habitat in the Winona wetland basin, which provides a rich diversity of wetlands, forests, and uplands that are considered state priority habitat. The entire basin is within the city's most rapidly growing area and purchasing the land not only will protect the habitat, but will provide storm water retention and connect important habitat areas that extend from the city into Jefferson County. The land is within the Quimper wildlife corridor, which, when complete, will protect the largest, natural drainage basin within the city and provide opportunities for some recreation. The wildlife corridor stretches 3.5 miles across the Quimper peninsula in eastern Jefferson County linking six major wildlife habitat areas, including four high-priority wetlands. It is home for nearly 110 bird species including 12 species with special status. Port Townsend, Jefferson Land



Trust, and Jefferson County have worked with the community since 1995 to protect land within the corridor. The City will contribute \$497,767 in donated land. (10-1647)

**Mercer Island****Grant Requested: \$175,000****Buying the North Star Conservation and Trail Easement**

Mercer Island will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prevent future development on .5 acre, and a trail easement to expand the 121-acre Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space complex, used by barred owls, pileated woodpeckers, coyotes, and black-tailed deer. The Engstrom Open Space contains high quality upland, wetland, and riparian habitat. The City will contribute \$219,037 in cash, conservation futures<sup>4</sup>, labor, and a voter-approved levy. (10-1108)

---

<sup>4</sup> 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.

**Item 5D**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Urban Wildlife Habitat Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Elizabeth Butler, Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*Urban Wildlife Habitat means lands that provide habitat important to wildlife in close proximity to a metropolitan area.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Seventeen Urban Wildlife Habitat projects requesting \$20.2 million were evaluated between August 12 and 13, 2010 in an open public meeting. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Urban Wildlife Habitat Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-19. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

### Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's goal to help its partners protect, restore, and develop habitat opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems. The

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 79A.15.010(11), Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands

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 habitat opportunities.

## Program Policies

Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects provide habitat for fish and wildlife. These habitats may include forests, riparian zones, and wetlands, and may serve as a corridor for wildlife movement in existing populated areas.

To be eligible for consideration in this category, a project must be:

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

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Native American Tribes, local government, and state agencies
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquisition</li><li>• Restoration</li><li>• Habitat enhancement or creation</li><li>• Where appropriate, development of public use facilities such as trails, viewing blinds, restrooms, and parking</li></ul>
<b>Funding Limits</b>	No minimum or maximum grant request limit per project
<b>Match Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No match required for state agencies</li><li>• Local agency applicants must provide a 50% matching share.</li></ul>
<b>Public Access</b>	May include and encourage public use for wildlife interpretation and observation
<b>Other</b>	Projects involving renovation of an existing facility are ineligible

## Funding Allocation

The Urban Wildlife Habitat category is eligible to receive not less than 20 percent of the WWRP Habitat Conservation Account funds.<sup>2</sup>

The board allocates urban wildlife habitat funding as follows:

---

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 79A.15.040(1)(c) RCW

- 40 percent to the top local agency projects
- 40 percent to the top state agency projects
- 20 percent distributed as follows:
  - Fully fund partially funded local agency projects,
  - Fully fund partially funded state agency projects, and then
  - Fund the next highest ranked projects, regardless of sponsor.

## Evaluation Summary

Seventeen Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects requesting \$20.2 million were evaluated on between August 12 and 13, 2010 in an open public meeting in Olympia, Washington. A team of eight evaluators used criteria adopted by the board to review and rank projects. The evaluation team included the following individuals who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat enhancement and conservation:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Nadia Gardner	Columbia Land Trust
Cathy Lear	Clallam County
Glenn Kost	Bellevue Parks and Recreation
Mark Mead	Seattle Parks and Recreation
Pene Speaks	State Department of Natural Resources
Patricia Thompson	State Department of Fish and Wildlife
Anne Van Sweringen	Citizen
Barb Wood	Thurston County

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Urban Wildlife Habitat Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## Attachments

Resolution # 2010-19

- Table 1 – WWRP, Urban Wildlife Habitat Ranked List of Projects, FY 2010
  
- A. State Map for Urban Wildlife Habitat Category projects
- B. Urban Wildlife Habitat Project Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. Urban Wildlife Habitat Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. Urban Wildlife Habitat Project Summaries (a synopsis of each proposal)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-19  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Urban Wildlife Habitat Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, seventeen Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects are eligible for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by the 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 seventeen Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation and Riparian Protection Accounts*, including criteria regarding public benefit and relationship to established plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects address a variety of Urban Wildlife habitat needs, and the evaluation included information about the quality and function of the habitat and the demonstrated need to protect it for fish and/or wildlife, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding for projects that help sustain Washington's biodiversity, protect "listed" species, and maintain fully functioning ecosystems;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Urban Wildlife Habitat Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects for further consideration.

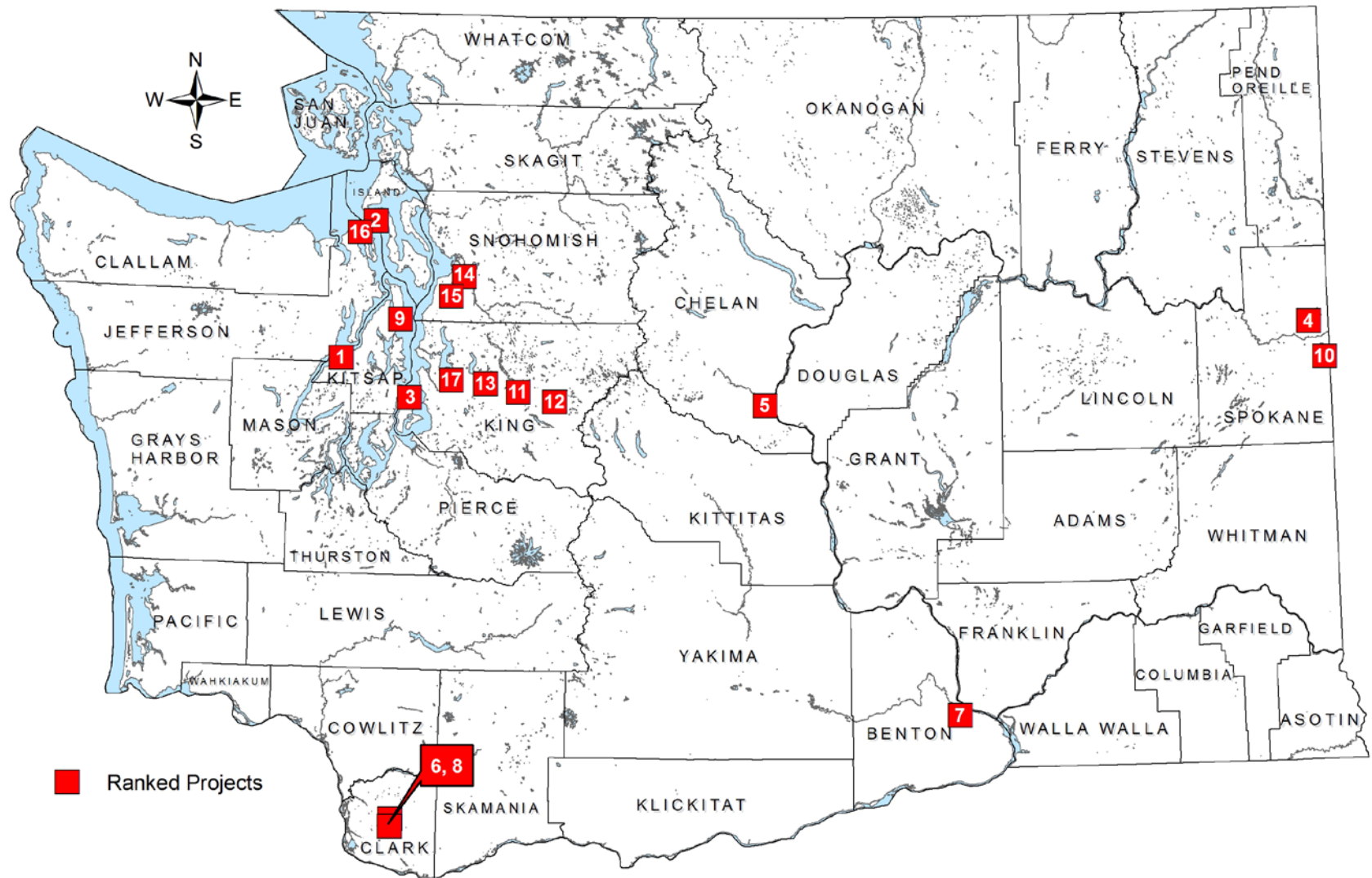
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:*

# State Map for Urban Wildlife Habitat Category projects



## Urban Wildlife Habitat Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

### Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

"Urban Wildlife Habitat means lands that provide habitat important to wildlife in proximity to a metropolitan area." RCW 79A.15.010

Urban Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Summary		
Criteria	Evaluation Elements	Possible Points
Project Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Locate the project on statewide, vicinity, and site maps</li> <li>Brief summary of the project [goal(s) and objective(s) statement]</li> </ul>	Not scored
1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The bigger picture</li> <li>Uniqueness or significance of the site</li> <li>Fish and wildlife species and or communities</li> <li>Quality of habitat</li> </ul>	20
2. Species and Communities with Special Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threat to species or communities</li> <li>Importance of acquisitions</li> <li>Ecological roles</li> <li>Taxonomic distinctness</li> <li>Rarity</li> </ul>	10
3. Manageability and Viability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediacy of threat to the site</li> <li>Long-term viability</li> <li>Enhancement of existing protected land</li> <li>Ongoing stewardship</li> </ul>	15
4. Public Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project support</li> </ul>	10
5. Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educational and scientific value</li> </ul>	5
6. Public Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for, and appropriate level of, public use</li> </ul>	10
7. GMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growth Management Act Planning Requirement</li> </ul>	0
8. Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population of, and proximity to, the nearest urban area</li> </ul>	10
<b>Total Points Possible</b>		<b>80</b>



## Urban Wildlife Habitat Detailed Scoring Criteria

### Team Scored

#### 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics

Why is the site worthy of long-term conservation? RCW 79A.15.060 (6)(a) (iii, v-vii, xi, xiv); (6)(b)(ii)

#### 2. Species or Communities with Special Status

What is the significance of each species or community listed on your species and communities status table? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (IV, ix, xiii).

#### 3. Manageability and Viability

What is the likelihood of the site remaining viable over the long-term and why is it important to secure it now? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (ii, IV, viii, x)

#### 4. Public Benefit

To what degree do communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from or support the project? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (I, xii).

#### 5. Education

To what degree does this project provide potential opportunities for educational and scientific value? RCW 79A.15.060 (6) (a) (xii)

#### 6. Public Use

Does this project provide potential opportunities for public access, education, or enjoyment? Assessment of Outdoor Recreation in Washington State-2002-2007, Chapters 1 and 5

### Prescored/RCO Staff Scored

#### 7. Growth Management Act (GMA) Preference

Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)? RCW 43.17.250 (GMA-preference required.)

#### 8. Population

Where is this project located with respect to urban growth areas, cities/towns, and county density? (Acquisition/Development) RCW 79A.25.250; RCW 79A.15.060 (6)(b)(i)(WWRP)

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Riparian Protection Account Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Kim Sellers, Grant Manager  
Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*Riparian habitat means land adjacent to water bodies, as well as submerged land such as streambeds, which can provide functional habitat for salmonids and other fish and wildlife species. Riparian habitat includes, but is not limited to shorelines and near-shore marine habitat, estuaries, lakes, wetlands, streams, and rivers.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Twenty Riparian Protection Account projects requesting \$21.7 million were evaluated on August 11 and 12, 2010 in an open public meeting. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Riparian Protection Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-20. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

### Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's goal to help its partners protect, restore, and develop habitat opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems. The

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 79A.15.010 (7), Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands

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 habitat opportunities.

## Program Policies

Riparian Protection Account projects provide water-related habitat for fish and wildlife. These habitats include estuaries, lakes, rivers, streams, shorelines, tidelands, and wetlands. To be eligible for consideration in this grant account, a project must include the acquisition of a real property interest.

The Riparian Protection Account receives funding only if the Legislature allocates more than \$40 million for WWRP. If WWRP receives more than \$40 million, the allocation to this account is governed by statutory formula, as described in notebook item #4.

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Native American tribes, local and state agencies, lead entities, qualified non-profits and the WA State Conservation Commission
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	Development of a stewardship plan Acquisition Acquisition and development Acquisition and habitat restoration and enhancement Extension of Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) leases
<b>Funding Limits</b>	Applicants must request a minimum of \$25,000 and there is no maximum request amount
<b>Match Requirements</b>	No match required for state agencies Local agencies and non-profit applicants must provide a 50% matching share
<b>Public Access</b>	Where appropriate, projects may include passive public access

## Evaluation Summary

Twenty Riparian Protection Account projects requesting \$21.7 million were evaluated between August 11 and 12, 2010 in an open public meeting in Olympia, Washington. A team of eight evaluators used criteria adopted by the board to review and rank the projects. The team includes the following individuals who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat conservation:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Eric Beach	Green Diamond Resources
Bill Bowles	US Forest Service, Pomeroy Ranger District
Linda Chalker-Scott	Washington State University
Rollie Geppert	Citizen
Heather Kapust	State Department of Natural Resources
Michael Kohn	Lewis County Public Utilities District
Theresa Marquardt	Grays Harbor Conservation District
Greg Schirato	State Department of Fish and Wildlife

*Table 1 – WWRP, Riparian Protection Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012* shows the results of the evaluations.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## Attachments

Resolution # 2010-20

- Table 1 – WWRP, Riparian Protection Account Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
  
- A. State Map for Riparian Protection Account projects
- B. Riparian Protection Account Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. Riparian Protection Account Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. Riparian Protection Account Project Summaries

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-20  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Riparian Protection Account, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twenty Riparian Protection account projects are eligible for funding from the Riparian Protection Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Riparian Protection account projects were evaluated using criteria approved by the 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 twenty Riparian Protection Account projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation and Riparian Protection Account: Policies and Project Selection*; and

**WHEREAS**, those program requirements include criteria regarding riparian habitat benefits, public access and education, relationship to existing planning documents, and ongoing stewardship, such that providing funds to these projects would further the board's goals to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process and make strategic investments; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects provide habitat benefits for a variety of species, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to for projects that help sustain Washington's biodiversity; protect "listed" species, and maintain fully functioning ecosystems; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Riparian Protection Account Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Riparian Protection Account projects for further consideration.

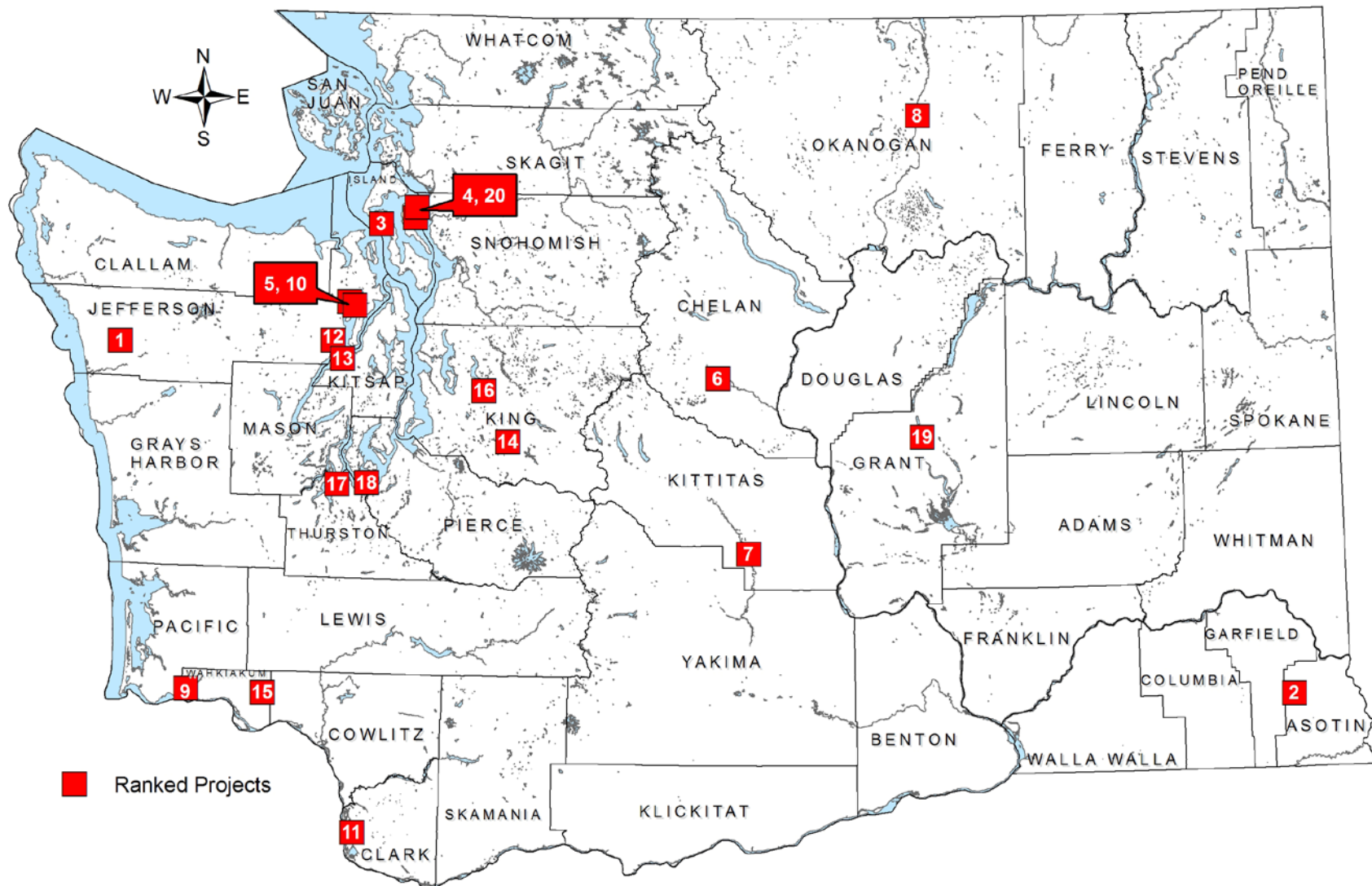
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:*

## State Map for Riparian Protection Account projects



## Riparian Protection Account Evaluation Criteria Summary

*Riparian habitat* is defined as land adjacent to water bodies, as well as submerged land such as streambeds, which can provide functional habitat for salmonids and other fish and wildlife species. Riparian habitat includes, but is not limited to, shorelines and near-shore marine habitat, estuaries, lakes, wetlands, streams, and rivers. RCW 79A.15.101(7)

Riparian Protection Account Evaluation Criteria			
Number	Scored By	Topic	Maximum Score
1	Evaluation Team	Riparian habitat benefits	20
2	Evaluation Team	Planning priority	20
3	Evaluation Team	Site suitability and project design	20
4	Evaluation Team	Threats to the habitat	15
5	Evaluation Team	Project support	15
6	Evaluation Team	Public access opportunities	15
7	Evaluation Team	Ongoing stewardship and management	10
8	RCO Staff	Matching share	4
9	RCO Staff	Growth Management Act compliance	0
Maximum Possible Score			119

## Riparian Protection Account Detailed Scoring Criteria

### Evaluation Team Scored

#### 1. Riparian Habitat Benefits

Describe the specific riparian habitat benefits for this project.

#### 2. Planning Priority

Describe how the proposal meets goals within various plans (watershed, salmon recovery, shoreline, land use, comprehensive plans , etc.)

#### 3. Site Suitability and Project Design

Describe surrounding land uses and the relationship (links) of this site to other protected habitats or future phases. What is the restoration plan?

**4. Threats to the Habitat**

What are the ecological, biological or human caused threats to the riparian habitat?

**5. Project Support**

Describe community support and partnerships.

**6. Public Access Opportunities**

Describe passive recreation opportunities, educational or scientific values. If access is excluded, explain why.

**7. Ongoing Stewardship and Management**

Describe level of stewardship required and the capacity of sponsor to provide it.

RCO Staff Scored

**8. Matching Share**

What matching funds are associated with this project?

**9. Growth Management Act Compliance**

Is the applicant in compliance with the Growth Management Act?



**The Nature Conservancy**  
**Conserving the Clearwater River Banks****Grant Requested: \$930,200**

The Nature Conservancy will use this grant to buy 1,114 acres, including more than 648 acres of riparian forest and wetland habitat along the Queets and Clearwater Rivers on the Olympic peninsula. These two rivers support some of the healthiest, most viable, and genetically diverse salmon populations in the lower 48 states, making them an essential anchor for the conservation of salmon ecosystems and biological diversity on the Washington coast. The rivers drain an area of more than 287,383 acres and are home to wild populations of Chinook, coho, chum, pink, and sockeye salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat and bull trout. The rivers and the forests along them also support other important animals, such as the Pacific lampreys, Olympic mudminnows, marbled murrelets, and bald eagles. This purchase is the first phase of a multi-year project to create a system of protected riparian forest habitat from the headwaters of the Clearwater to its confluence with the Queets. The purchase will address the two most significant habitat threats to these river systems: ongoing logging and development. The project protects a complex of riparian habitat, including mature, low-elevation Sitka spruce forest in the valley-bottom floodplain. The Nature Conservancy will contribute \$1.4 million in cash donations. (10-1553)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Protecting Land along Asotin and Charley Creeks****Grant Requested: \$1,300,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 1,500 acres, protecting the last remaining privately owned property in the Charley Creek drainage, between the Asotin Creek headwaters and the confluence of Asotin and Charley Creeks. The land includes .5 mile of creek bank and uplands along Asotin Creek and 4.36 miles on Charley Creek. The property is home to steelhead, bull trout, Chinook salmon, golden eagles, and bighorn sheep, and includes priority habitats of stream, riparian, wetland, grassland and steppe, cliffs, caves, and talus slopes. The Asotin Creek drainage was designated as a wild steelhead refuge in 1997 and is one of the largest in the Columbia River and Snake River basins. The purchase will connect critical habitat for fish and wildlife, and open more than 15,000 acres to the public. The land is within the Asotin Creek Wildlife Area. (10-1136)

**Whidbey Camano Land Trust**  
**Conserving Crockett Lake Wetlands****Grant Requested: \$406,584**

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust will use this grant to buy 416 acres surrounding Crockett Lake, which is the largest wetland system on Whidbey Island. On Admiralty Bay and within Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, the lake's physical conditions are considered unique in western Washington. Crockett Lake includes a 391-acre open water lagoon surrounded by a mixture of mud flats, low and high salt marshes, fresh and brackish water wetlands, shrub scrub, and forest. The purchase will protect a critical patch of Douglas-fir, grand fir, and Sitka spruce forest. Crockett Lake and its wetlands provide unusual and important functions because of their

location near Puget Sound and the mixture of saltwater and freshwater communities, including resources for many life stages of the more than 238 species of birds using the area. Migratory birds, particularly shorebirds and waterfowl, rely on Crockett Lake during spring and fall migrations. The land trust will contribute \$631,341 from a federal grant and cash donations. (10-1632)

**Island County****Grant Requested: \$1,000,000****Protecting Barnum Point**

Island County will use this grant to buy and permanently protect about 49 acres, including .5 mile of forested shoreline on Camano Island. The purchase of the Barnum Point property will protect an important bluff that supplies sediment to Port Susan Bay, conserve intact habitat that is used by all eight species of salmon that spawn in the Skagit and Stillaguamish Rivers, and provide public access. Of the Island County shorelines, 80 percent have houses on them, leading to beach armoring, overwater docks, and water quality issues. The landowners are selling the property and zoning would allow 12 additional homes. Barnum Point is directly adjacent to 7,100 acres of already protected aquatic lands and is a priority both for its high quality habitats and the habitat-forming processes it sustains. This purchase is part of a multi-phase project that ultimately will conserve 120 acres. Barnum Point will be managed as a county park. The County will contribute \$1.2 million from private and state grants. (10-1585)

**State Department of Natural Resources****Grant Requested: \$1,289,189****Conserving Creek Banks in the Dabob Bay Natural Area**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy and protect 175 acres of the most ecologically important riparian properties within the 6,287-acre Dabob Bay Natural Area. Dabob Bay is one of a few functional estuarine bays remaining in Puget Sound – both spit and marsh complexes within the natural area have had very little alteration since the 1800s. Protection of these tidal wetland ecosystems is a major conservation goal in Puget Sound because of past losses and ongoing degradation of these habitats. This purchase will include private property in the natural area that connects existing department-owned lands. The department is working with The Nature Conservancy, Northwest Watershed Institute, and Jefferson Land Trust as part of a multi-phased project to protect this intact coastal estuarine system and ensure opportunities for public use. (10-1459)

**Chelan-Douglas Land Trust****Grant Requested: \$650,000****Protecting Land along Lower Icicle Creek**

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement on 65 acres of the largest, contiguous ownership of floodplain on lower Icicle Creek, a tributary of the Wenatchee River, near Leavenworth. The purchase protects .7 mile of stream bank, and extinguishes all development rights and prohibits alteration of the land. This is the first of three phases on the Icicle. Salmon recovery plans suggest letting the creek migrate

naturally, and the best way to do that is to protect riparian habitat in the Icicle Creek watershed. The creek is home to spring Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. The land trust will contribute \$1.8 million in grants and donations of labor and property interest. (10-1225)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Protecting Yakima Canyon River Banks****Grant Requested: \$3,000,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 740 acres along the Yakima canyon between Ellensburg and Yakima. This private piece of property within the department's Wenas Wildlife Area includes 3 miles of the Yakima River and is threatened with development. The biological diversity in the Yakima canyon is high because of the riverbank habitat, shrub-steppe, cliffs, and talus. Thousands of salmon and steelhead migrate up the Yakima River to spawn in the upper watershed. Additionally, the canyon is important for raptors, bighorn sheep, mule deer, and elk. Protecting these key habitats is critical to preserving species diversity and provides migration corridors for wildlife. The property also offers abundant recreational opportunities along the Yakima River. It includes two, non-motorized boat launches, a trout fishery, and serves thousands of fly fishermen. Additionally, local hiking trails cross the property. The Yakima canyon is one of the most scenic and biologically important areas in the state. (10-1149)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Protecting McLoughlin Falls Shoreline****Grant Requested: \$850,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to protect about 160 acres, including 100 acres of critical riparian and wetland habitat, and 1.1 miles of Okanogan River shoreline. The department will buy some of the land and will purchase a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prevent further development on the remaining land. The purchases will protect the last undeveloped stretch of the Okanogan River, preserving the ecological integrity and extraordinary biological diversity of the Okanogan watershed. The land contains critical riverbank habitats that support almost 40 priority habitats and species including upper Columbia River summer steelhead, spring Chinook, bull trout, migratory songbirds, and rare carnivores. The property will link this land to existing public land, thereby maintaining corridors for wildlife movement. The purchases also will enhance public fishing, hunting, and watchable wildlife opportunities as well as help secure an important segment of the county's planned regional water trail network. (10-1651)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Conserving the Grays Bay Estuary for Salmon and Water birds****Grant Requested: \$450,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife Washington will use this grant to buy 287 acres of tidal wetland marsh on the lower Columbia River, at the mouth of Deep and Grays Rivers, to protect the estuary for waterfowl, salmon, and other wildlife. The estuary is home to five species of fish, all of which are threatened with extinction: Fall Chinook, chum, coho, winter steelhead, and green sturgeon. Juvenile summer chum and

Chinook salmon depend upon the estuary to hide from predators and find abundant food sources. The estuary also is an important wintering area for water birds. Visiting populations can exceed 200,000 waterfowl and 150,000 shorebirds. More than 6,000 ducks and geese feed and rest here through the winter, and the largest Washington coastal population of wintering scaup calls Grays Bay home. The project will protect critically important estuarine habitat including tidelands, mature spruce bottomland forest, and emergent marsh. (10-1152)

**Northwest Watershed Institute****Grant Requested: \$1,700,000****Protecting Tarboo from the Headwaters to the Bay**

The Northwest Watershed Institute will use this grant to buy voluntary land preservation agreements that will prevent further development on 680 acres from the headwaters of Tarboo Creek to Tarboo-Dabob Bay, one of largest intact coastal embayments remaining in Washington. The purchase will protect a broad diversity of freshwater and estuarine species and habitats including headwater tributaries, beaver pond wetlands, a rare spruce wetland forest along Tarboo Creek, high quality forested shorelines within the Dabob Bay Natural Area, and a diversity of federally threatened and priority species. The project is part of a whole watershed approach being undertaken by a coalition of conservation groups, landowners, tribes, and local, state, and federal agencies. About 2,500 acres, or one-half of the riparian conservation zone along Tarboo Creek and Dabob Bay Natural Area, is being protected already, with \$15 million invested. The institute will contribute \$1.7 million in donated land. (10-1599)

**Clark County****Grant Requested: \$376,125****Conserving Land along Whipple Creek**

Clark County will use this grant to buy and conserve 50 acres of shoreline, floodplain, wetlands, and forest on Whipple Creek. The property includes nearly half a mile of shoreline on Whipple Creek and a small tributary, which are home to Endangered Species Act-listed coho salmon, Chinook salmon, steelhead, and resident cutthroat trout. The land also is designated as a state-priority habitat for waterfowl, including Canada geese, tundra swans, white-fronted geese, and dabbling ducks. The purchase will protect the shoreline and riparian habitat along Whipple Creek, as well as provide opportunities for outdoor education, hiking, and wildlife viewing. The County will contribute \$378,125 in conservation futures.<sup>1</sup> (10-1219)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission****Grant Requested: \$1,000,000****Buying Land along the Dosewallips River**

State Parks will use this grant to buy about 333 acres along the south side of the Dosewallips River, between Dosewallips State Park and the Olympic National

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

Forest. Purchase of the land along this reach will conserve a complete riparian corridor from the headwaters of the Dosewallips River in Olympic National Park to one of the largest estuarine deltas in Hood Canal. The river is home to Puget Sound Chinook salmon, which are threatened with extinction, and Hood Canal summer chum. State Parks is partnering with the Hood Canal Coordinating Council, The Nature Conservancy, Jefferson Land Trust, and others. (10-1385)

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Protecting Waterfront in Kitsap County****Grant Requested: \$3,969,840**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 145 acres of waterfront in the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area and Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve near Bremerton. These waterfront properties are highly threatened by development. The conservation area surrounds the Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve, creating 4,395 acres of protected area that includes high-quality wetland and riparian habitat. The preserve protects freshwater wetlands, stream and stream bank habitat, estuaries, beach and estuary shoreline, and mature and old-growth forests. The land to be purchased is part of a much larger landscape of managed forestlands on the western Kitsap peninsula that form one of the most important landscapes for conservation of biological diversity in the Puget trough. Stavis Creek, which runs through the conservation area, is one of the best remaining Hood Canal salmon spawning habitats and is a designated recovery area for threatened Hood Canal summer chum. (10-1118)

**King County**  
**Protecting the Green River's Kanaskat Reach****Grant Requested: \$875,000**

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks will use this grant to buy and conserve 33.2 acres in the Kanaskat reach of the Green River. This reach connects 41,000 acres of state land upriver with 4,000 acres of state land in the Green River Gorge and King County's Green River Natural Areas downriver. The County owns more than 200 acres in the Kanaskat reach, but private in-holdings remain. Acquiring this property will prevent further development from impacting three major Green River side channels, two large wetlands complexes, three tributaries, and mature forests. Kanaskat reach is a high priority because fall Chinook salmon spawn in the river at one of the highest densities in the watershed. Protecting the reach also will benefit steelhead and coho, chum, and pink salmon. Nine fish-bearing streams and 13 seasonal tributaries enter the Green River in this reach. The North Rainier Elk Herd, White River Unit (one of 10 documented elk herds in state), regularly traverses the Kanaskat reach, as do cougars, black bears, bobcats, red foxes, bald eagles, turkey vultures, pileated woodpeckers, wood ducks, blue grouse,



and possibly wolves. The County will contribute \$885,000 in cash donations, conservation futures<sup>2</sup>, and a voter-approved levy. (10-1370)

**Columbia Land Trust****Grant Requested: \$200,000****Conserving Land along the Upper Elochoman River**

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to buy and permanently protect 135 acres along the upper Elochoman River and its tributaries. The forested riverbank habitat is in a fairly natural state, offering significant watershed benefits. The reach is important for steelhead, and coho and Chinook salmon. Endangered marbled murrelet and northern spotted owl are nearby. The property, which includes 2.6 miles of the upper Elochoman River and .6 mile of tributaries outside of Cathlamet, is next to the state Department of Natural Resources' lands, which are managed for multiple uses, including critical habitat for murrelets and owls. Just across the Elochoman River is a 400-acre marbled murrelet area. This stretch of river also is popular for walking, swimming, and fishing. The land trust will contribute \$250,000 from state and private grants. (10-1155)

**Issaquah****Grant Requested: \$300,000****Expanding the South Issaquah Creek Greenway**

Issaquah will use this grant to buy a 4.38-acre mosaic of aquatic, riparian, wetland, and upland habitat on Hope Creek. The property is within 250 feet of the confluence of Hope and Issaquah Creeks. This project is the fourth phase of a larger project to increase the South Issaquah Creek Greenway. The property will expand the wildlife corridor of land owned by the city between Squak Mountain State Park and Tiger Mountain State Forest. These contiguous lands provide the ability for wildlife, such as black bears, bobcats, pileated woodpeckers, bald eagles, amphibians, and Chinook and coho salmon, to migrate east for west between the two mountains and north or south along Issaquah Creek. The City will contribute \$305,000 in conservation futures<sup>3</sup> and staff labor. (10-1675)

**Capitol Land Trust****Grant Requested: \$937,900****Conserving Habitat Lands between Budd and Henderson Inlets**

The Capitol Land Trust will use this grant to buy 150 acres between Gull Harbor in Budd Inlet and Woodard Bay in Henderson Inlet, in southern Puget Sound. The purchase will connect wetland, stream bank, and forest habitat threatened by development and logging. The ultimate goal is to create a conservation corridor between the two inlets. This project builds upon conservation efforts by the land trust and the state Department of Natural Resources that already have conserved more than 800 acres in the area. Project partners include Thurston County, Squaxin Island

---

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> Same as footnote 2.

Tribe, state Department of Natural Resources, South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The land trust will contribute \$938,000 in local and federal grants. (10-1198)

**Anderson Island Park District**  
**Conserving Jacobs Point****Grant Requested: \$1,056,457**

The Anderson Island Park and Recreation District will use this grant to buy and permanently protect 82 acres at Jacob's Point on Anderson Island in south Puget Sound. The property is on a peninsula separating East Oro Bay from Oro Bay and includes nearly a mile of pristine beach. The park district plans to develop 1.5 miles of trail and picnic areas, and provide shoreline access for non-motorized boats. The shoreline of Jacob's Point supports a diverse array of fish, invertebrate, bird and mammal species. Oro Bay is one of the closest pocket estuaries to the Nisqually River and provides significant rearing potential for Chinook salmon. The park district will contribute \$1.2 million in conservation futures<sup>4</sup> and a state grant. (10-1685)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Conserving Ephrata Lake Shoreline for Waterfowl Viewing****Grant Requested: \$205,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 560 acres around Ephrata Lake to allow wildlife viewing and prevent development. Ephrata Lake produces abundant food that attracts high numbers of birds throughout the year including up to 10,000 Canada geese, 5,000 mallards, and 20,000 diving ducks. There is no safe overlook available for wildlife watchers and this purchase would allow safe access to the lake's shoreline. Ephrata Lake boasts no shoreline development, though a private parcel recently was subdivided. (10-1141)

**Whidbey Camano Land Trust**  
**Conserving Livingston Bay****Grant Requested: \$1,247,000**

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust will use this grant to buy 170 acres of farmland and 45 acres of tidelands on Livingston Bay. Protection of these properties will greatly expand the area already protected at Livingston Bay and Port Susan Bay, which includes the land trust's 3,160-acre Livingston Bay Preserve, nearly 4,000 acres protected by The Nature Conservancy, and an additional 13,000 acres managed by state Department of Fish and Wildlife. The tidelands at Livingston Bay are identified as a top priority for protection because they are used by salmon during their migration to and from the Stillaguamish River. Protection of the diked farmlands and historic tidally influenced estuary will provide an opportunity for future restoration and water quality improvement. The purchase will benefit migratory birds, including large numbers of waterfowl and shorebirds that depend on coastal habitats. More than 30 species of shorebirds commonly use this area during migration or wintering.

---

<sup>4</sup> 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.

The land trust will contribute \$1.2 million in donated property interest and a federal grant. (10-1688)



**Columbia Land Trust**  
**Preserving Trout Lake Valley Farms****Grant Requested: \$685,857**

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement to prohibit further development of 215.5 acres of the Schmid farm in the Trout Lake valley. The valley is a unique agricultural valley in the shadow of Mount Adams. It is renowned for its beauty, productive farm and forest lands, and abundant wildlife and recreation. The valley farmland is threatened by development of vacation houses. Of the 7,500 acres of land zoned for farmland, more than 300 homes could be built. The Schmid farm produces alfalfa, used to feed its dairy cows. The Schmid family is fourth generation Trout Lake farmers, and one of the first organic dairy farmers in the Pacific Northwest. The landowner will contribute \$685,857 in donated property interest. (10-1682)

**Okanogan Valley Land Council**  
**Preserving the Ellis Barnes Livestock Company Ranch****Grant Requested: \$849,200**

The Okanogan Valley Land Council will use this grant to buy a permanent, voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development of 1,590 acres of the Ellis Barnes Livestock Company's ranch. The agreement will keep valuable rangeland and significant soils intact for agricultural use. The land includes 47 acres of wetlands that provide exceptional waterfowl habitat and other riparian values critical to the arid climate. The ranch abuts Whitestone Lake and is near Spectacle Lake, both open to the public for fishing and boating. The Barnes family began assembling this ranch in 1924 and it was incorporated in 1929, distinguishing it as one of the oldest "incorporated" ranches in Okanogan County. This family owned cow-calf operation is one of a handful still operating in the north end of the Okanogan Valley and contributes significantly to the local agricultural economy. The council will contribute \$849,200 in staff labor, a federal grant, and donated labor. (10-1275)

**Skagit County**  
**Protecting the Firdell Farm****Grant Requested: \$205,000**

Skagit County will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement to prohibit further development on the 157-acre Firdell farm. The farm contains a barn listed on the Washington State Heritage Barn Register. This farm produces seed crops, seeds, and forage. Cover crops are planted when possible to provide food for wildlife as well as to improve the soil. This farm supports agricultural education through its "Cow Town" presentations. The farm has provided hands-on tours and educational information about agriculture, particularly for children. Firdell Farm is extremely popular for birding due to its location off the Skagit delta. The farm provides habitat for birds, including snow geese, tundra and trumpeter swans, great blue herons, bald eagles, hawks, and many species of ducks. The County will contribute \$205,000 from a federal grant. (10-1549)

**Blue Mountain Land Trust**  
**Protecting the Schwerin Farmland****Grant Requested: \$100,000**

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that permanently will prevent further development of 238.5 acres on very productive soils. Located in the foothills of the Blue Mountains, the site grows wheat, peas, garbanzos, canola, alfalfa, and grass seed. Adjacent hilltops are being developed for large homes. The close proximity to Walla Walla and the scenic views makes this area attractive for development. Subdivision of the land will be permanently excluded, and mining, wind turbines, and motorized recreational vehicles will be banned. The land includes a riparian area along two forks of Mud Creek and an area of steep slopes, both presently in natural vegetation. Both of these areas will be permanently protected for wildlife habitat. The land trust will contribute \$100,750 in donated land. (10-1485)

**Inland Northwest Land Trust**  
**Protecting Valuable Ranch Lands****Grant Requested: \$300,000**

The Inland Northwest Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development of 115 acres. Bisected by Mill Creek, the land includes 8 acres of wetlands. The property owner intends to donate an easement on another 85 acres of forestland to the land trust. The soils are some of the best in the state, and with irrigation, produce top yields of alfalfa hay. These hay lands serve as the base for the Dawson cattle operation including leases and grazing allotments on thousands of acres of private and federal lands. The Dawson's long family history of working in the cattle business combined with a diverse land base has created an economically stable, long-term ranching operation. The property contains habitat for gray wolves, golden eagles, bald eagles, elk, mule deer, whitetail deer, bears, mountain lions, cutthroat trout, turkeys, and songbirds, all of which can be viewed from nearby public roads. Lands still farmed for hay are critical to the whitetail deer herds near Colville. With Colville only 4 miles away, the threat of subdivision is very real. An easement on this property will assure prime agricultural soils are protected from development, maintain and potentially expand a ranching operation that helps support the economy of the region, and provide protection for critical wildlife habitat. The land trust will contribute \$300,000 from a federal grant. (10-1096)

**State Conservation Commission**  
**Preserving Cowiche Basin Working Rangelands****Grant Requested: \$2,172,680**

The North Yakima Conservation District will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement to prohibit development of 4,516 acres of working rangeland. The agreement will preserve a viable cow and calf grazing operation, avert pressure to subdivide and develop, and maintain important environmental, cultural, and economic benefits to the community. The project represents a large portion of the Cowiche watershed, which faces increasing development pressure that threatens the ranching

industry. For more than 100 years, the watershed has provided grazing pastures. The ranch is large enough to support a mosaic of eight habitat types including shrub-steppe, riparian, and oak woodlands, and 11 at-risk species such as sage thrasher, sage sparrow, white headed woodpecker, and sage grouse. More than 5 miles of Cowiche Creek runs through the property, providing habitat for steelhead. The state's largest elk herd migrates through on the way to and from winter feeding grounds. The ranch also offers other values like storm water retention, views, open space, and aquifer recharge. Many diverse groups support the project, including the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Cattleman's Association, Cowiche Canyon Conservancy, and Yakima County Farm Bureau. The commission will contribute \$35,000 in cash and a state grant. (10-1670)

**Skagit County****Grant Requested: \$160,000****Preserving the Harmony Dairy Farm**

Skagit County will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement to prohibit permanently further development of 197 acres of Harmony Farm, a multi-generational farm and the largest dairy operation in Skagit County. The 277-acre farm includes feed crop production, dairy infrastructure, pasture, and 80 acres that already have been protected. The farm is visible to those traveling on Highway 20. It lies along the Pacific Flyway. The pasture and crop land provides priority habitat for birds, including snow geese, tundra and trumpeter swans, great blue herons, bald eagles, hawks, and many species of ducks. The County will contribute \$160,000 in conservation futures.<sup>1</sup> (10-1551)

**Kittitas County****Grant Requested: \$485,000****Preserving Two Robinson Canyon Farms**

Kittitas County will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that permanently will prevent further development of 83 acres of two Robinson Canyon farms, west of Ellensburg. Kittitas County and the Cascade Land Conservancy are working with a local organic seed producer, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds to consolidate its operations. The seed company leases one of the properties and will hold title to it in the future. The seed company cultivates more than 170 acres in the Kittitas Valley. The company is interested in consolidating its operations to save management costs and has formed a relationship with the two landowners. The County will purchase the agreements, which then would allow the seed company to buy the underlying title to the properties in private transactions. The County will contribute \$485,000 from a federal grant. (10-1582)

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**PCC Farmland Trust**  
**Preserving the Reise Trust Farm****Grant Requested: \$357,000**

The PCC Farmland Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development on the 87.7-acre Reise Trust Farms in the Puyallup River valley. The agreement will allow up to two farmers to buy a working farm at a reasonable cost. The Reise Trust Farms are facing increasing development pressure, being located on Highway 162, 3 miles south of the intersection of Highways 162 and 410, and adjacent to the developed, South Hill retail region of Pierce County. The Reise Trust Farms has prime agricultural soils, excellent market access, water rights, irrigation systems, and infrastructure. The property is next to other working farms. PCC Farmland Trust will contribute \$388,000 in cash and conservation futures<sup>2</sup>. (10-1703)

**Whidbey Camano Land Trust**  
**Protecting Ebey's Reserve Farmland at North Penn Cove****Grant Requested: \$1,250,000**

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust will use this grant to buy a permanent, voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development of 155 acres of prime, productive farmland within Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve on Whidbey Island. The properties have been farmed for more than a century. Due to prime soils, a long growing season, and mild climate, the properties' economic productivity is excellent for a wide variety of crops, including produce, seed crops, alfalfa, wheat, barley, and corn. All of the proposed properties are farmed by the successful 3 Sisters Cattle Company, producing free range beef, natural pork, and chicken products. There are hundreds of acres protected by agricultural conservation easements within Ebey's reserve. However, this project represents the first project on the north side of Penn Cove. Whidbey Island properties are highly sought after for development because of their location within the reserve and their incredible views. Once protected from development, the properties will remain in agriculture and help ensure ongoing viability of farmland within the reserve. The land trust will contribute \$1.2 million in conservation futures<sup>3</sup> and a federal grant. (10-1677)

**Whidbey Camano Land Trust**  
**Preserving Ebey's Reserve Farmland at Ebey's Prairie****Grant Requested: \$955,000**

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit future development on 92 acres of prime, productive farmland within Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve on Whidbey Island. The properties have been farmed for more than a century. Due to prime soils, long growing season, and a mild climate, the properties' economic productivity is

---

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

excellent for a wide variety of crops, including produce, seed crops, alfalfa, wheat, barley, and corn. The five proposed properties are all farmed by the historical Engle Family Farms. While they are surrounded by hundreds of acres protected by preservation agreements, these properties are unprotected "holes" in an otherwise protected landscape. Whidbey Island property is highly sought for development because of its location near the historic town of Coupeville, other protected lands, and scenic views. Once protected from development, the properties will remain in agriculture and help ensure ongoing viability of farmland within the reserve. The land trust will contribute \$955,000 in conservation futures<sup>4</sup> and a federal grant. (10-1684)

**Skagit County**  
**Protecting the Nelson Farm****Grant Requested: \$93,187**

Skagit County will use this grant to buy a permanent, voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development on 62.5 acres of the Nelson farm within the lower Skagit watershed. Currently planted in potatoes, the farm is a buffer between the Samish River and the road, which is a connector to the Samish Island community. Keeping the property as farmland is more environmentally sound than any other type of development. The farm is a priority habitat for birds, including snow geese, tundra and trumpeter swans, great blue herons, bald eagles, hawks, and many species of ducks. The County will contribute \$93,188 from a federal grant. (10-1546)

**Jefferson Land Trust**  
**Preserving the Boulton Farm for Local Food Production****Grant Requested: \$288,750**

The Jefferson Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development of 144 acres of the 204-acre Boulton farm, located on Highway 101 just south of Crocker Lake. The Boulton farm, owned by the Boulton family since the 1940s, has been a working farm since the turn of the last century and has a long history of dairy and beef production. The Boultons are eager to ensure that the family farm remains available for agriculture. The proposed easement area has the potential for eight houses. It currently has home sites, the historic barn, 112 acres of prime pasture land, 22 acres of working forestland, 4 acres of riparian land, 6 acres of farmstead, and about 2,000 feet of Andrews Creek. Protection of this historically significant farm will protect a family legacy, provide valuable farmland for creative and diverse local food production, and provide a model of working farm and forestland protection. The land trust will contribute \$288,750 in cash donations and a federal grant. (10-1165)

---

<sup>4</sup> 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.



**PCC Farmland Trust**  
**Preserving Chervenka Farm****Grant Requested: \$690,300**

The PCC Farmland Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development on the 62.66-acre Chervenka Farm in the Puyallup River valley. The farm is facing increasing pressure for annexation and development. The property, currently for sale, is in a superior agricultural production district with prime agricultural soils, excellent market access, water rights, irrigation systems, and infrastructure. The Chervenka Farm project offers the opportunity for the current tenant farmer to purchase the property, and over time, transition the current rhubarb operation into organic production. At the same time, this project protects the property from residential development in perpetuity. The trust will contribute \$748,000. (10-1704)

**Skagit County**  
**Preserving the Knutzen Farm****Grant Requested: \$132,000**

Skagit County will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development on 100 acres of the 160-acre Knutzen farm, a multi-generational farm established in 1905 as a dairy. The farm abuts an urban growth area and this is a strategic property to help block further development of farmlands. The upland portion of this farm, which is currently forest and a pastured woodlot, serves as a substantial visual buffer between more intensive development and agricultural land, and serves to treat storm water runoff from upland properties. The land provides habitat for many types of ducks, tundra and trumpeter swans, and snow geese. The County will contribute \$132,000 from a federal grant. (10-1550)

**Methow Conservancy**  
**Protecting Hancock Springs Farmland****Grant Requested: \$428,542**

The Methow Conservancy will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development of 111 acres of high quality farmland on the Hancock Springs farm. More than 95 percent of the land has soils of statewide importance and the farm includes habitat used by spring Chinook, steelhead, and bull trout, which are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. The proposed easement area includes 109.2 acres of farmland and a 1.7-acre farmstead area. The farm is used for pasture (cattle) and alfalfa production. Zoning would allow 22 houses on the property. Hancock Springs LLC owns 424 acres of riparian, agricultural, and forestland in the Methow Valley. The conservancy has been working on a three-phase effort to conserve the majority of the farm through easements. This project represents the final phase of conservation on Hancock Springs farm and is part of farmland protection efforts supported by Okanogan County and local community planning groups. Earlier phases conserved 202 acres of adjacent land for riparian and farmland purposes. The conservancy will contribute \$428,542 in staff labor, a federal grant, and cash donations. (10-1115)

**PCC Farmland Trust**  
**Preserving Copeland Creek Farm****Grant Requested: \$375,360**

The PCC Farmland Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement to prohibit further development on the 70-acre Copeland Creek farm, which is in the heart of some of the most productive soils in Pierce County. The agreement will require the land to be organically farmed. In addition, the project will allow a farmer to establish a long-term lease agreement with the current landowner and develop an independent commercial farm. The Puyallup River Valley and this farm in particular are facing increasing pressure to be sold for housing developments. Historically operated as a dairy farm, the property has highly productive prime agricultural soils, excellent farm-to-market access, and water rights. Copeland Creek farm includes a home, six barns, and additional agricultural facilities. The significant agricultural infrastructure and access to public water supply makes this property an ideal space for on-site processing opportunities. The property connects to the recently preserved 100-acre Orting Valley Farms property, includes Copeland Creek – a tributary to the Carbon River, is in an open space corridor, and is home to a diversity of wildlife. The trust will contribute \$406,640 in cash and conservation futures<sup>5</sup>. (10-1649)

**San Juan County Land Bank**  
**Preserving the Mitchell Bay Farm****Grant Requested: \$60,000**

The San Juan County Land Bank will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development on the 21-acre Mitchell Bay farm on San Juan Island. The farm sits in an area primed for a housing development. The protection agreement would allow the owners to continue its operation as a certified organic producer of kiwi fruit, Asian pears, berries, plums, filberts, honey, perennial nursery stock, and grass-fed lamb. In addition, the owners would continue their efforts to enhance wildlife habitat, including growing Garry Oak seedlings for off-site restoration projects. The owners have put considerable energy into outreach efforts, including running educational programs on farm management for students and adults on the property. The land bank will contribute \$60,000 from a voter-approved levy. (10-1445)

**San Juan County Land Bank**  
**Preserving the Lopez Island Vineyards****Grant Requested: \$160,000**

The San Juan County Land Bank will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development on 30 acres of the Lopez Island vineyards. The vineyard is one of the few in the western part of the state and one of only two in San Juan County. The agreement will ensure the property remains in agriculture and will provide working capital for reinvestment in all aspects of the operation. The land bank will contribute \$160,000 from a voter-approved levy. (10-1491)

---

<sup>5</sup> 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.

**Skagit County**  
**Protecting the Young Dairy****Grant Requested: \$302,500**

Skagit County will use this grant to buy a voluntary protection agreement that will prohibit permanently further development on 100 acres of the Young dairy. The dairy sits between the hills in the Skagit River valley just east of Sedro Woolley. This purchase will stop a cluster of growth in the center of farmland. The farm grows corn and grass to feed 360 cows and calves. Due to the productive soils, the farm also is able to sell feed to other local operations. This site boasts views of Mount Baker and is home to a variety of wildlife including waterfowl, raptors, deer, and sometimes elk. The County will contribute \$302,500 in conservation futures<sup>6</sup>. (10-1528)

**Great Peninsula Conservancy**  
**Permanently Protecting the Petersen Farm****Grant Requested: \$538,000**

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development of 97.5 acres of the Petersen farm, a historical working farm that borders Silverdale. The farm was formerly a dairy and is one of the largest farms remaining in Kitsap County. More recently, hay and beef were the primary products to come off the low lying pastureland. Conservation of this property will protect important agricultural soils, habitat, scenic landscapes, and a historic farm that provides local products to nearby markets. Additionally, the environmental benefits of the project are altogether high. The project protects more than 1 mile of bank along Clear Creek, which flows to Dyes Inlet in west Puget Sound. The perpetual conservation easement will allow for preservation of historic structures, forest stewardship, riparian protection, and removal of development rights not necessary to the farm. The conservancy will contribute \$877,000 in a federal grant and donations of labor and property interest. (10-1213)

**Skagit County**  
**Preserving the Moe Dairy Farm****Grant Requested: \$52,762**

Skagit County will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development permanently on 38.38 acres of a dairy farm in Skagit County. The farm is along the Skagit River and excellent for growing feed and forage crops for the dairy. Besides protecting farmland from development, the farmer will be able to reinvest dollars into his farm. This property provides habitat for numerous bird species such as ducks, tundra and trumpeter swans, and snow geese. The County will contribute \$52,763 from a federal grant. (10-1548)

---

<sup>6</sup> 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.



**Methow Conservancy**  
**Preserving the Christianson Ranch****Grant Requested: \$297,383**

The Methow Conservancy will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will prohibit further development of 66.5 acres of high quality farmland on the Christianson ranch, an alfalfa production and cattle ranching operation in the Methow Valley. The land to be preserved fronts the Twisp River, which provides spawning habitat for salmon species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. About 91 percent of the property is classified as prime, unique, or statewide important soils. Under current zoning, there could be up to 13 homes on the land. The proposed preservation agreement permanently will restrict development to one home and will protect valuable farmlands. The conservancy will contribute \$297,383 from a federal grant and donations of cash and labor. (10-1114)

**King County**  
**Preserving the Van Hoof Dairy Farm****Grant Requested: \$450,000**

King County Water and Land Resources Division will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement that will limit development on a 78.2-acre dairy and place it under King County's Farmland Preservation Program. In purchasing the development rights, covenants will be placed on the property that will protect its agricultural soils and preserve it for farming. Keeping this property as farmland will help to ensure that locally produced food and agricultural products remain available to King County residents. This project also addresses one of the primary threats to agriculture in the county; the high cost of farmland. Farmers who are looking for land to farm are often competing with buyers who are interested in purchasing the same land for housing developments. This grant will buy away the right to have a residence on four parcels and will limit permanently the size of the existing residences on the other four parcels. Although the value of this property will undoubtedly increase over time, removing the ability to have additional residences, limiting the size of the residences and restricting their occupancy will help keep the overall cost of the property down, thereby helping to keep it affordable for farming. The County will contribute \$850,000 in federal funding and conservation futures<sup>7</sup>. (10-1597)

---

<sup>7</sup> 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.

**Item 7**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Farmland Preservation Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Kammie Bunes, Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*The primary focus of the Farmland Preservation category in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) is to acquire development rights on farmland in Washington and to ensure the land remains available for agricultural practices.*

*Farmland preservation means protection of any land defined as farm and agricultural land in RCW 84.34.020.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Twenty-four Farmland Preservation Account (FPA) project proposals requesting \$11.4 million were evaluated between August 23 and 25, 2010. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Farmland Preservation Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-21. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 79A.15.010 (4), Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands

## Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's goal to help its partners protect, restore, and develop opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems. 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 investment of state funds.

## Program Policies

The primary focus of the Farmland Preservation category in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) is to acquire development rights on farmland in Washington and ensure the land remains available for agricultural practices. A secondary goal is to enhance or restore ecological functions on farmland.

The Farmland Preservation Account will receive funding only if the Legislature appropriates more than \$40 million for WWRP. If WWRP receives more than \$40 million, the allocation to this account is governed by statutory formula, as described in notebook item #4.

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Cities, counties, Washington State Conservation Commission and qualified non-profit nature conservancy organizations
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Projects must include acquisition of property interest</li><li>• Restoration elements may be combined with acquisition elements</li></ul>
<b>Funding Limits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is no minimum or maximum request limit</li><li>• The restoration total shall not exceed more than half of the total acquisition costs, including match towards acquisition.</li></ul>
<b>Match Requirements</b>	Applicants must provide a minimum match of 50 percent, with the exception of the State Conservation Commission.
<b>Public Access</b>	Not required

## Evaluation Summary

Between August 23 and 25, 2010, the Farmland Preservation Advisory Committee used criteria adopted by the board to evaluate and rank twenty-four Farmland Preservation category projects requesting \$11.4 million. They conducted the evaluation in open public meetings.

The committee includes eleven members, two of whom are ex-officio, meaning their scores are not counted in project ranking. Six of the nine scoring committee members were present to evaluate the projects. These individuals are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to agricultural production, agri-business, real estate, land management, and

community interests related to farming. Cindy Ray, a committee member whose term expired December 2009, also agreed to score projects after RCO staff learned that three of the scoring committee members could not attend the evaluation meetings. The members who conducted the evaluation were as follows:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Patricia Arnold	Washington Growers League
Fred Berman	Department of Agriculture
Lynn Bahrych (ex-officio)	Conservation Commission
Fran Einertz	Farmer, Island County
Scott Nelson	Farmer, Thurston County
Cindy Ray	Farmer, Grant County
Jeanne Williams	Department of Natural Resources
Don Young	Cattleman's Association

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Farmland Preservation Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## **Next Steps**

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add to or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## **Attachments**

Resolution # 2010-21

- Table 1 – WWRP, Farmland Preservation Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
- A. State Map for Farmland Preservation Category projects
- B. Farmland Preservation Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. Farmland Preservation Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. Farmland Preservation Project Summaries

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-21  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Farmland Preservation Program, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twenty-four Farmland Preservation Program projects are eligible for funding from the Farmland Preservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and

**WHEREAS**, these Farmland Preservation Program projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members, 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 twenty-four Farmland Preservation Program projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10f, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program-Farmland Preservation Program*, including criteria regarding agricultural, environmental and community values, and

**WHEREAS**, all of the projects meet criteria that demonstrate preference for perpetual easements, thus supporting the board's strategic goal to maximize the useful life of board-funded projects; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Farmland Preservation Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Farmland Preservation Program projects for further consideration.

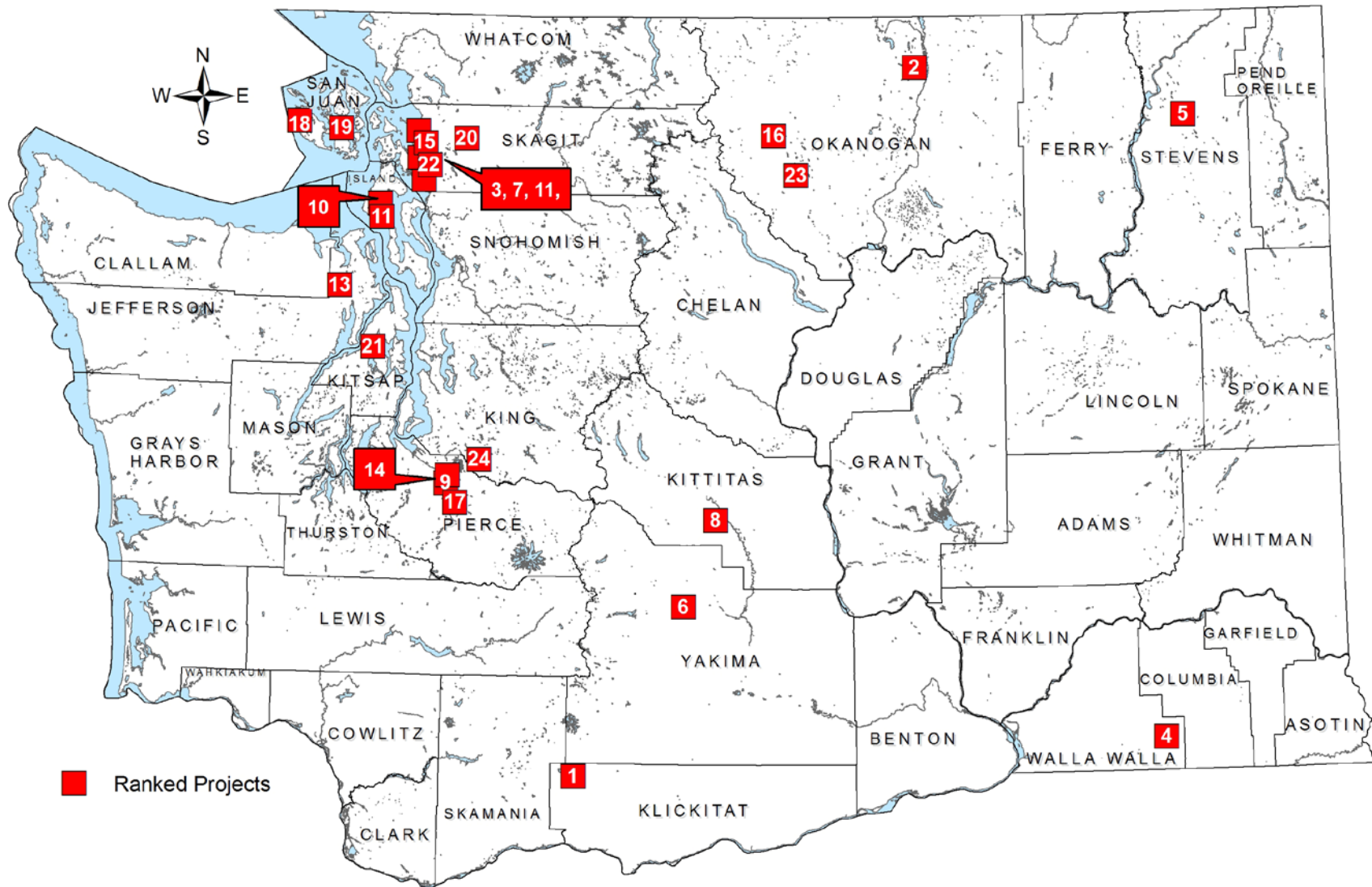
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

# State Map for Farmland Preservation Category projects



## Farmland Preservation Program Evaluation Criteria Summary

Criteria	Points
<b>Agricultural Values</b> Importance: Soil types; suitability for producing agricultural products; size; economic productivity; fit of the project to local priorities Viability: On-site production and support facilities; farm to market access; proximity to roads and utilities (croplands only); carrying capacity (rangelands only); water availability; drainage; presence of other features that could hinder or restrict use for agriculture; zoning; likelihood that the farm will remain in agriculture; immediacy of threat to conversion to non-agricultural uses; likelihood that the region will continue to support agriculture	68
<b>Environmental Values (Acquisition only projects)</b> Species and habitat support: Description of supported species; reliance of species on the property; quality of habitat provided; impact to the species if the habitat were converted. Bigger picture: Fit of the project with local, regional, and statewide conservation priorities Agricultural productivity: Consider how production activities benefit the environment	22
<b>OR</b>	
<b>Environmental Values (Combination acquisition + restoration/enhancement projects)</b> Species and habitat support: Description of supported species; reliance of species on the property; quality of habitat provided; how restoration/enhancement will benefit the species Bigger picture: Fit of the project with local, regional, and statewide conservation priorities Likelihood of success: Likelihood that restoration/enhancement will achieve the anticipated benefits to species and habitat; results of any past stewardship activities Agricultural productivity: Consider how restoration or enhancement will promote productivity	22
<b>Community Values and Priorities</b> Community support for the project; consistency with a local land use or a regional or statewide recreational or resource plan Other community values: Viewshed; aquifer recharge; occasional or periodic collector for storm water runoff; floods; agricultural sector job creation; educational and curriculum potential; historic value; buffer to public lands, demonstration	12
<b>Other</b> Cost benefit; local match; sponsor's ability to acquire, manage, monitor, and enforce conservation easements, term	31
<b>Total Points Available</b>	133



**Enumclaw**  
**Improving Enumclaw Field****Grant Requested: \$300,000**

Enumclaw will use this grant to convert a 60-year-old sports field into a modern, multi-sports field with artificial turf. The field, known as Pete's Pool, was once the King County Fairgrounds Stadium and is the oldest football field in the state. The City will excavate the existing turf and soil, install a drainage system and artificial turf with football and soccer markings, update the visitor bleachers, replace the goal posts, install soccer goals, and put in accessible pathways to and around the field. The City also will make the parking lot accessible for people with disabilities. The field has poor drainage and turns into a muddy swamp by mid-season. There is no other artificial turf or lighted fields in the Enumclaw School District, which serves an area of more than 25,000 people. Enumclaw Field is the home field for high school and youth football teams. The City will contribute \$600,000 in staff labor, local and private grants, and donations of cash, labor, and materials. (10-1410)

**Cheney**  
**Developing Betz Park Baseball and Softball Fields****Grant Requested: \$500,000**

Cheney will use this grant to develop baseball and softball fields on 5 out of 50 acres of undeveloped property that it purchased 13 years ago. Development will include parking, a restroom, Little League-sized baseball field, a youth and adult softball field, and a smaller field designed for both T-ball and the challenger division for youth with physical disabilities. The City will contribute \$500,000 in cash and donations of cash and labor. (10-1237)

**Covington**  
**Improving Covington Community Park with a Sports Field and Trails****Grant Requested: \$500,000**

Covington will use this grant to improve Covington Community Park by expanding the trail system, adding a multi-purpose sports field, and providing a place for community events. The city does not have a municipal sports field so kids must travel to other city and county fields to play soccer. Community events were one of the top ranked recreation needs, yet Covington does not have a suitable location to hold events. Expanding Covington Community Park will address a long-term dream of citizens who have been working on this project since 2003, when the property was donated to the city. The City will contribute \$1 million from state funding, cash, and a local grant. (10-1346)

**Pierce County**  
**Building the Playground by the Sound****Grant Requested: \$100,000**

Pierce County Public Works and Utilities will use this grant to develop a 12,000-square-foot playground near University Place. When developed, it will be one of the largest in the community. Built for children aged 2-12, the playground will feature swings, tunnels, nets, bridges, slides, monkey bars, and a climbing wall. The Playground by the Sound will be in the north meadow of Pierce County's Chambers Creek Properties on Puget Sound and will tie into the existing trail system. University



Place partnered with local schools and community groups to look for opportunities to create parks. A committee approached the county with the idea for this playground. Hundreds of local school children and families helped design the playground to incorporate maritime and avian wildlife structures, which will capture the region's unique spirit and history. These same families plus many others are volunteering to raise money and build the playground. The County will contribute \$202,083 in staff labor, materials, state and private grants, and donations of cash, equipment, and labor. (10-1209)

**King County****Grant Requested: \$317,477****Developing Duthie Hill Park's Trailhead**

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks will use this grant to develop a trailhead in Duthie Hill Park, the region's first mountain bike skills park. Crews will construct a 75-vehicle parking lot and staging area and install signs and park furniture. The 120-acre park has parking for only 15 vehicles forcing many visitors to park nearby and bike to the park on busy roadways with narrow shoulders and limited visibility. This project is part of a larger effort by King County and the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance to improve the park. The County will contribute \$317,477. (10-1321)

**Newport****Grant Requested: \$100,000****Constructing a Spray Park**

Newport will use this grant to build a 3,500-square-foot spray park in the city's main park. The city has no swimming pools or outdoor water activities and the nearest spray park is nearly an hour's drive away. By building a spray park, the City will be providing a fun and safe place for children and the community to enjoy a free water feature. The City will contribute \$100,000 in cash, staff labor, equipment, materials, and donations of cash, equipment, labor, and materials. (10-1236)

**Tacoma Metropolitan Park District****Grant Requested: \$500,000****Developing Franklin Park**

The Tacoma Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to upgrade the 20-acre Franklin Park. The district will build a sprayground to replace a 58-year-old wading pool, and construct a surrounding plaza and picnic shelter to support community events. The district also will add walking paths throughout the park to meet new standards for outdoor accessibility, install a rain garden drainage system, expand the community garden, install park furnishings and landscaping, and upgrade parking and street access. The park is in the Hilltop community, which is one of the most economically challenged, socially diverse areas in Tacoma. The district will contribute \$536,039 in voter-approved bonds. (10-1288)

**Mason County****Grant Requested: \$275,500****Renovating Infields at Mason County Recreation Area Park**

Mason County will use this grant to renovate two infields at the Mason County Recreation Area Park near Shelton. The 30-acre sports complex hosts seven baseball and softball fields, and is used by multiple youth leagues, the Shelton School District, and tournaments. The county will replace the dirt infields with synthetic turf, and the outfields will remain grass. This project will improve field playability and reduce maintenance costs, rainouts, and the amount of water used at the park. The County also will make facilities accessible to people with disabilities by paving park pathways and the access to the bleachers and dugouts. The County will contribute \$275,660 in cash, equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. (10-1064)

**Pierce County** **Grant Requested: \$125,700**  
**Providing New Playground Equipment at Frontier Park**

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services and the fifth-grade class of Kapowsin Elementary will use this grant to replace the heavily used play equipment at Frontier Park in Graham. The old play equipment was removed in 2009 when it failed a safety inspection. The community is raising money for the new equipment and its installation. The County will prepare the site, pave, and install signs. The new play equipment will include ramps, single and double slides, climbers, talk tubes, a tunnel, overhead ladders, crisscross webs, sky wheels, swings, and more. The County will contribute \$125,700 in cash and cash donations. (10-1609)

**Hoquiam** **Grant Requested: \$198,754**  
**Redeveloping Central Play Park**

Hoquiam will use this grant to redevelop Art Pocklington Central Play Park, which is the city's most used and highly visible community park. The City will install a new playground, fence, and spray park. The existing wading pool requires lifeguards, which are difficult to find and afford on the city's limited budget. The spray park will be safer, less costly, and allow use on weekends and in the evenings. The City and Hoquiam School District use this park exclusively for summer recreation programs. The City will contribute \$242,922 in cash and a state grant. (10-1588)

**DuPont** **Grant Requested: \$97,057**  
**Building the DuPont PowderWorks Skatepark**

DuPont will use this grant to construct a 6,000-square-foot skate park that will accommodate a variety of skating types and skill levels. The modular components will be constructed in PowderWorks Park on a level cement pad and will include simulated street features such as hand rails, ramps, steps, and grinding rails. The local skateboarding community helped design the skate park. The City will contribute \$97,057 in cash, and donations of cash, labor, and materials. (10-1672)

**Clark County** **Grant Requested: \$337,301**  
**Developing the East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park**

The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to develop a 7.5-acre park in the East Minnehaha neighborhood to serve 3,700 residents. The

park is bisected by a wetland and will feature a playground, open grassy areas for informal play, a boardwalk, and a viewing area at the wetland and seasonal pond. The project has outspoken support from the neighborhood association and students from the nearby Walnut Grove Elementary School. The neighborhood association president, the association's park committee, and 27 children wrote letters of support. The County will contribute \$337,301. (10-1181)

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

The Richland Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to redevelop a neighborhood park into a larger, community park. In 2007, the City bought 39 acres adjacent to the 11-acre Claybell Park. With this grant, the City will develop 10 of the 39 acres. The City will add turf to accommodate two, full sized, multi-sports fields, and improve the existing softball field. The City also will make room for a smaller sized, multi-sport field; relocate the parking so it will be centrally located in the park; remove two tennis courts and build four new tennis courts where the parking was; build a restroom; and add an asphalt looped trail and a road into the new parking lot. A dramatic increase in population has left this area deficient in many recreational activities. Also, there is no park within the entire service area that has a restroom. The City will contribute \$706,000 in cash and cash donations. (10-1586)

**Swinomish Tribe**  
**Expanding Swadabs Waterfront Park****Grant Requested: \$301,750**

The Swinomish Tribe will use this grant to expand the 4.5-acre Swadabs Waterfront Park to 11 acres, including .28 mile of shoreline, by developing neighboring property. The tribe will add a natural playground with log slides, rock tunnels, and story poles; a picnic area and shelter; interpretive trails; restrooms; parking; and the only public, non-motorized boat launch for more than 6 miles. The playground is a first for the community, and will be designed for children up to 12 years old. Accessible walking trails bordered with native plantings will improve access to and within the park. The park development is integrated with a restoration project being completed nearby, and together, they will restore 4.6 acres of salt marsh along the Swinomish Channel, a protected waterway linking Padilla and Skagit Bays. The tribe will contribute \$301,750 from a state grant. (10-1643)

**Kent**  
**Renovating Lake Meridian Park****Grant Requested: \$278,490**

Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services will use this grant to complete the first of three phases of renovation of Lake Meridian Park. With this grant, the City will renovate the playground and pave a section of access road that connects the park to the Soos Creek Trail. The existing playground at the park is dilapidated and does not meet the needs of Kent's most popular park. The swings, some rubber tiles, and many other features are past the point of repair and have been removed. The remaining play structure does not meet safety standards and is rapidly decaying. This park serves all

of Kent as well as the surrounding Auburn, Covington, Renton, and Maple Valley communities. This playground expansion will take advantage of existing facilities like a huge parking lot and restrooms and make this park a year-round destination. The City will contribute \$280,000 in cash, cash donations, and a local grant. (10-1451)

**Mossyrock****Grant Requested: \$327,600****Buying Land for a Mossyrock Area Park**

Mossyrock will use this grant to buy 32.25 acres for a community park. The property is historically significant, as it was a trading ground for Native Americans and the first settlers. The property was sold about 3 years ago for a 50-house development, but the developer went bankrupt. This land is ideally suited for a park because it is centrally located to downtown and is close to the school, community center, and city offices. Outside of school areas, there are limited recreation facilities within 40 miles of Mossyrock. This property will allow a wide range of activities for everyone. The Town will contribute \$338,560 from state and private grants and donations of labor and land. (10-1095)

**Lacey****Grant Requested: \$1,000,000****Buying Land for Pleasant Glade Community Park**

The Lacey Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 67.09 acres for the future Pleasant Glade Community Park, which is in an area with no developed community parks. The City wants to buy land in the Woodland Creek corridor to add to the 313 acres currently owned by the city or protected. The purchase also will help improve water quality in the Henderson Inlet watershed and preserve the wildlife corridor along the creek. The land is up for sale and could be developed with more than 300 houses. The City will contribute \$1.3 million in cash, conservation futures<sup>1</sup>, donated land, and staff labor. (10-1690)

**Arlington****Grant Requested: \$65,000****Building the Legion Park Restroom**

Arlington will use this grant to build a restroom to serve the historical Legion Park and the Centennial Trail, both of which are in downtown Arlington. The park is next to a railroad line where a train depot stood until 1983. The City plans to build the restroom as a replica of the depot. The building will have accessible restrooms and a lobby for visitor information, historical photos, and historical information. The plan also includes bike racks, picnic tables, a drinking fountain, and an air station. A restroom is needed to serve park users and future users of the trail, which will run from Snohomish to the Skagit County line once completed. The City will contribute \$65,000 in cash, a local grant, and donations of labor and materials. (10-1339)

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**Maple Valley**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

**Building Ball Fields and a Trailhead at Summit Park**

Maple Valley will use this grant to construct two, all-season athletic fields and a trailhead as part of the first phase of development of the 23-acre Summit Park. The fields will be lighted with synthetic turf. One field will accommodate baseball and softball and the other will be multipurpose, accommodating soccer, football, and lacrosse. The City also will build a restroom and a trailhead and pathway connections to King County's Cedar to Green Regional Trail. Summit Park will be Maple Valley's first community park. In the service area for this project, no other community parks exist, and only four developed sport fields exist and three of them are heavily booked. This first phase of development will provide space for more than 4,000 youth sport league participants. The City will contribute more than \$2.3 million in cash and donations of cash and labor. (10-1266)

**Seattle**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

**Developing West Seattle Reservoir Park**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to develop 20 acres of open area atop the newly lidded West Seattle reservoir. This will create an innovative addition to the neighboring 80-acre Westcrest park and the west Duwamish greenbelt, which contains the most intact, coniferous forest and understory in West Seattle. There are no parks of this size and with such diverse recreational opportunities within a mile of this site. The project will feature sustainable design, green infrastructure, native plants, and smooth flowing transitional areas. The City will contribute \$500,000 from a voter-approved levy. (10-1126)

**Burien**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

**Improving Seahurst Park Amenities**

The Burien Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department will use this grant to restore, develop, and improve the more than 35-year-old facilities at Seahurst Park. The City will build a playground and walkways; install picnic facilities, park furnishings, and signs; and create viewpoints. Seahurst Park is the city's most popular park, which sees more than 650 vehicles a day. The walkways, furnishings, and play equipment will be designed and placed for barrier-free access. This project will follow a seawall removal project next summer, which restores the natural shoreline, reduces beach erosion, and improves salmon habitat. The City will contribute \$681,990 in cash, federal funding, and a state grant. (10-1233)

**Mount Vernon**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

**Building the Skagit Riverwalk Park**

Mount Vernon will use this grant to convert a parking lot into a park along the Skagit River in the city's historic downtown. The 25,000-square-foot park will include a lowered plaza area with seating steps and viewpoints of the river, native landscaping, a children's play sculpture, a restroom, and a large open area for events including a farmers' market that currently sets up in the parking lot. The Skagit Riverwalk is a



riverfront trail, which broke ground in April. The project significantly increases access to the shoreline and opportunity for public recreation. This park will be the first in downtown Mount Vernon. The City will contribute \$600,000. (10-1592)

**Wenatchee****Grant Requested: \$213,000****Building Two Baseball Fields at Lincoln Park Athletic Field**

Wenatchee will use this grant to build two youth baseball fields in an existing 22-acre park in south Wenatchee. Wenatchee has a shortage of 11 youth sports fields, which limits the number of kids who can play, causes players to travel to other communities to participate, and creates larger teams. The new fields, when combined with Lincoln Park's existing two fields, will allow for league play, informal recreational play, and tournaments. The Wenatchee Youth Baseball Association, Greater Wenatchee Babe Ruth, Wenatchee Applesox, Wenatchee Valley Sports Council, Apple Valley Baseball/American Legion, Greater Wenatchee Girls Softball, AAU Baseball and Softball, and Triple Crown Sports support the project. The City will contribute \$222,500 in cash, a private grant, and donations of labor and materials. (10-1053)

**King County****Grant Requested: \$500,000****Expanding Cougar Mountain Park**

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks will use this grant to buy 55 acres to expand the 3,100-acre Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park. The land is in the "Precipice Trail" area, which is in the northeast corner of the park adjacent to Issaquah. Acquiring land in this area has been a long-time priority of King County, Issaquah, and community partners such as the Mountains to Sound Greenway. About 40 acres border Newport Way Northwest, which will be used for a trailhead and parking lot, creating an Issaquah entrance to the park that is walking distance from a regional transit center. Another 15 acres contain existing trails and connect the future trailhead to the park boundary. These and future acquisitions in this area will create a permanent buffer between nearby homes and the park. The County will contribute \$1.5 million in conservation futures<sup>2</sup> and a local grant. (10-1313)

**Wenatchee****Grant Requested: \$342,620****Acquiring Saddle Rock**

Wenatchee will use this grant to buy 325.12 acres, which includes Saddle Rock, one of the most identifiable land forms in the Wenatchee valley. The City first started discussing acquiring the land for a city park or natural area in 1909. In the 1940s, a local effort to turn Saddle Rock into a state park never came to fruition. In 1963, a citizen committee formed to preserve Saddle Rock as an outlook but was unsuccessful. In 1967, the plans for the park were shelved. In 2007, city staff again started working to purchase the property. Local donors provided matching funds, the

---

<sup>2</sup> 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.

City received advance approval from the state to purchase the land, and the property was purchased. This grant will reimburse the city for the purchase. The acquisition will accomplish a 100-year-old community goal by protecting the community landmark in perpetuity. The land will provide a non-motorized trail system, important wildlife habitat, and an environmental education site for school children. The City will contribute \$361,620 in staff labor and donations of cash and labor. (10-1082)

**Clark County**  
**Developing Curtin Creek Community Park**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to develop the first phase of a 38.5-acre community park. The County will build a playground, pathways, and the county's first bicycle motocross facility. Volunteers from local biking clubs will help build the motocross area by donating material, equipment, and labor for the track. This area of the county has a significant deficit of developed parks. This new park is near the intersection of two primary roads and will provide an entry point to a greenway and regional trail in the future. The eastern portion of the property contains Curtin Creek. The County will contribute \$1.9 million in cash and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. (10-1180)

**Seattle**  
**Developing Jefferson Skate Park**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to help develop a 15,000-square-foot, regional skating area in Jefferson Park on Beacon Hill. There are no legal skating areas in this part of the city, which has the highest percentage of people age 18 and under in the city. The details of the park are being developed through community input and a professional skate park designer. Jefferson Park is a popular, 52.4-acre park that is home to a community center, basketball and tennis courts, open lawns, ball fields, a community garden, and an extensive play area. The City will contribute \$500,000 from a voter-approved levy. (10-1128)

**Port of Clarkston**  
**Renovating Granite Lake Park**

**Grant Requested: \$111,986**

The Port of Clarkston will use this grant to renovate Granite Lake Park. The Port will install lighting throughout the park, build three observation viewpoints and a large viewpoint retaining wall, create a landscaped area, and install interpretive signs and shoreline plantings. Renovation also will include widening the existing pathways and placing recycled rubber mulch where needed. The Port will contribute \$112,000 in cash, staff labor, materials, and donations of cash, labor, and materials. (10-1021)

**University Place**  
**Buying the Leach Creek Property for a Park**

**\$750,000**

University Place will use this grant to help buy nearly 15 acres for a park. There are no other parks or public open spaces within the area, which serves about 11,590 residents. The park, which will have baseball fields, a picnic shelter with tables,

children's play equipment, benches, and walking paths, also will be home to a trailhead for the proposed Leach Creek Trail. The City will contribute \$750,000 in conservation futures.<sup>3</sup> (10-1157)

**Yakima****Grant Requested: \$480,000****Adding a Baseball Field to Kiwanis Park**

Yakima will use this grant to build a youth baseball and softball field, restrooms, and parking for 100 vehicles at its Kiwanis Park. Located just southeast of Yakima's central business district, the park has served as the city's primary softball and baseball complex for nearly 50 years. Recent improvements include basketball courts, a skate park, and children's play area. The members of the Yakima Rotary, Kiwanis, and Lions service clubs have agreed to provide \$300,000 in matching funds. In total, the service clubs have contributed more than \$1.2 million in donations for this park. The City will contribute \$803,500 in cash and cash donations. (10-1511)

**Peninsula Metropolitan Park District****Grant Requested: \$381,832****Buying Knight Forest to Expand a Local Park**

The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to buy 18.79 acres, known as the Knight Forest, next to the Harbor Family Park on the Gig Harbor peninsula. The forest will add trails and natural areas to the Harbor Family Park site, which will have ball fields and other recreation elements. The surrounding area is the most densely populated area of the peninsula outside of Gig Harbor, with public and private elementary schools nearby. The owners are selling the property and have obtained a logging permit. The district will contribute \$381,833 in donations of cash and land. (10-1268)

**Vancouver****Grant Requested: \$171,400****Acquiring Land for Columbia Springs Neighborhood Park**

The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 1.6 acres, which are the last acres owned privately within Columbia Springs, a unique urban, natural area between Highway 14 and the Columbia River in Vancouver. The acquisition will ensure the area is preserved for recreation and environmental education. In addition, the property offers the opportunity to complement Columbia Springs by providing an area for more active recreation. The project builds upon the partnership between Vancouver, Clark County, Evergreen School District, Clark College, State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Columbia Springs Foundation to maintain open space and environmental education opportunities. Columbia Springs is site of the historic Vancouver Trout Hatchery, which began operation in 1938. The City will contribute \$171,400. (10-1188)

---

<sup>3</sup> 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.



**Tacoma Metropolitan Park District**  
**Developing Multi-Sports Field at Peck Field****Grant Requested: \$500,000**

The Tacoma Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to develop an all-weather, multi-sports field at Peck Field. This will be the first, all-weather sports field in the Tacoma parks system. Occupying a full city block, this 10-acre site is used as a youth baseball and softball athletic complex. Needs and sports interests have changed, and today Tacoma has more than 10,000 youth playing in recreational, school, and elite soccer programs; and high school rugby and lacrosse programs have been expanding yearly. The number and quality of facilities are inadequate to meet the increasing demands for field space, and pressure for year-round and early evening play. Located next to downtown Tacoma, Peck Field will serve a variety of users, including University of Washington Tacoma and Tacoma Public School District students, a local soccer club, and a rugby club. The district will contribute \$500,000 in voter-approved bonds and cash donations. (10-1043)

**Ridgefield**  
**Improving and Expanding Abrams Park****Grant Requested: \$730,134**

Ridgefield will use this grant to buy 3 acres and redevelop a section of Abrams Park, the city's largest and most widely used park. The City will renovate the core components of the park, including replacing the dilapidated treated wood play structure with accessible play equipment, adding a picnic shelter, making accessibility upgrades to the restroom, and renovating the parking to increase the number of stalls and improve circulation. Abrams Park is a 38-acre community park that was developed in the 1970s and serves more than 4,000 residents. The park's fields serve as the primary place for organized baseball and soccer leagues in the city and offer one of the few places for large gatherings. While the park has been maintained, it is in need of renovation and expansion to meet current demands and future needs. The City had the opportunity to expand the park boundaries and, with advance approval from the Recreation and Conservation Office, bought 3 acres on the northwest corner. This grant will reimburse the city for the cost of the land. The City will contribute \$730,134 in cash and staff labor. (10-1204)

**Vancouver**  
**Buying Land for the Rose Village Neighborhood Park****Grant Requested: \$292,300**

The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy .5 acre in the Rose Village neighborhood in Vancouver for a park. The Rose Village area is a densely developed, low-income area, isolated by Interstate 5 to the west, State Route 500 to the north, and a major road to the south. Another major arterial bisects the neighborhood east-west, making it unsafe for children to cross to school. There are no parks to serve this neighborhood; and school facilities are available only after school and do not provide play equipment for small children. The City is negotiating with two willing landowners to buy adjacent lots for the park, which will provide a play area for small children. The City will contribute \$292,300. (10-1187)

**Clark County**  
**Developing the Sorenson Neighborhood Park**

**Grant Requested: \$302,820**

The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to develop a 4.9-acre park next to a future elementary school site. The County will add a playground, a basketball half-court, and open grassy areas. The County also will build a pathway and overlook on a steep hill in the northeast corner of the site, leaving a large section of the hillside undeveloped for its traditional use as a sledding hill. The Vancouver School District has pledged its support for park development and shared use and maintenance of these combined facilities. The County will contribute \$302,820. (10-1179)

**Peninsula Metropolitan Park District**  
**Developing Hales Pass**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to renovate the 3.8-acre Hales Pass Park to serve a greater spectrum of users with greater safety, better access, and improved parking. The district will add a ball field, play equipment, a basketball half-court, a ropes course, and improved access for people with disabilities. The improvements will increase the time the fields can be used for both T-ball and soccer, and increase safety around and on the field. The new play equipment will include both preschool and grade school play structures. The district will contribute \$527,547. (10-1269)

**Moses Lake**  
**Improving a Lower Peninsula Park**

**Grant Requested: \$474,385**

Moses Lake will use this grant to develop a portion of a 22-acre community park in the lower peninsula area of Moses Lake. The City will landscape 19 acres with turf, shrubs and trees, create an open-area and multi-use athletic fields, and install parking, a playground, walking paths, and picnic areas. This will expand the park's development, which currently has a boat launch, parking, nature viewing paths, and a restroom. In the past 10 years, about 150 new homes have been built nearby. There is no park within the half-mile service area for a neighborhood park and no multi-use sports fields within the 1-mile community park service area. The City will contribute \$474,386. (10-1210)

**Sammamish**  
**Developing the Evans Creek Preserve**

**Grant Requested: \$350,000**

Sammamish will use this grant to develop the Evans Creek Preserve, which currently is raw land, not open to the public. The City will build a gravel parking lot, trailhead, restroom, toolshed, and 2.3 miles of meadow trails with interpretive signs, as well as demolish existing structures and restore the site. This phase one development project will open this 179-acre site to the community for nature-based recreation such as hiking, environmental education, and bird watching. The City will contribute \$653,648. (10-1167)

**Pierce County**  
**Developing Ashford County Park****Grant Requested: \$500,000**

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to continue development of the 34-acre Ashford County Park. The County will build a grassy, outdoor amphitheater and play area, walking trails, and parking, and install lighting and other infrastructure. When complete, visitors will have opportunities for recreation that are presently non-existent in the upper Nisqually Valley. The County will contribute \$668,332 from a local grant. (10-1423)

**Kent**  
**Expanding Clark Lake Park****Grant Requested: \$403,900**

Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services will use this grant to buy 2.2 acres to expand Clark Lake Park. The 131-acre park is located centrally on the East Hill of Kent, where about 80 percent of the city's residents live, and surrounds the 7-acre freshwater lake. The land includes 30 feet of lake shoreline and about 10,000 square feet of the lake. Without this property, the City's goal of turning the existing 2 miles of trail into a loop around the lake would not be possible. The upland portion of the property likely will be used for future park amenities and will allow the City to keep the middle of the eventual 167-acre park as natural as possible. King County begun to assemble the land around Clark Lake in the 1990s and since annexation into Kent in 1997, Kent Parks has more than doubled the size of the park. This is one of the remaining four key parcels to complete the park. The owners have expressed a desire to sell and it is vital for the City to take advantage of this rare opportunity. The City will contribute \$403,900 in cash and a local grant. (10-1653)

**La Conner**  
**Building La Conner's Only Skateboard Park****Grant Requested: \$67,905**

La Conner will use this grant to build a 4,800-square-foot skateboard park at the end of North Sixth Street, next to the high school and middle school ball fields. The park will be above-grade and include many standard skating features (quarter pipe, drop-ins, pyramid). The Town also will install a picnic shelter, drinking fountain, viewing bleachers, security cameras, landscaping, and fences. Both the La Conner School District and town council endorsed the project and the La Conner Senior Center has been fundraising. The closest skate parks for La Conner and Swinomish youths are 10 miles away. The Town will contribute \$67,905 in cash and donations of cash and labor. (10-1121)

**Clark County**  
**Buying Land for Shaffer Community Park****Grant Requested: \$1,000,000**

The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 10 acres for a future community park in the heart of an unincorporated part of Vancouver. The property is a gem of refreshing green space in the midst of more than 1 square mile of the city that is rapidly converting from houses to apartments. The property has inherent beauty with a variety of mature trees, pasture, and a signature black walnut

tree. The land has been highly sought by developers in the past two decades because of its location and high development value. The owners have rejected multiple offers and want the site to become a park. This purchase will help address the County's need for 29 acres of additional park land in the area. The County purchased the land with advance approval by the Recreation and Conservation Office and this grant will reimburse it for the costs. The County will contribute \$2.1 million. (10-1177)

**Kent****Grant Requested: \$834,725****Buying Land for a Soos Creek Park and Trailhead**

Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services will use this grant to buy 33.7 acres next to Soos Creek in the newly annexed Panther Lake area for a park and trailhead. The land is next to King County's 7.62-mile Soos Creek Trail and will serve as the main north trailhead in Kent for using this trail. The trailhead would connect the Panther Lake area to Lake Meridian Park, so that residents could easily jog, bike, or walk between the two parks. When developed, the park will include a playground, picnic shelter, a 1-mile loop trail, parking, a restroom, and a large playfield. The site also boasts tremendous views of Mount Rainer and the Soos Creek Valley. The site was identified by King County as a high priority for acquisition because of its wildlife habitat, salmon, water quality, and flood storage value. The City will contribute \$834,725 in cash and a local grant. (10-1450)

**Fall City Metropolitan Park District****Grant Requested: \$480,000****Buying the Wells Site for a Community Park**

The Fall City Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to buy 9.3 acres of the 14.3-acre Wells Farm & Nursery for a community park. The land is within walking distance to the heart of the town, outside of the Snoqualmie and Raging River floodways, flat, cleared, and undeveloped. The district's plan for the park includes a .3-mile loop trail, a multi-use field, a playground, sport courts, and areas for group picnics. The district will contribute \$500,000 in bonds. (10-1674)

**Washougal****Grant Requested: \$41,785****Improving Beaver Park by Adding "Things with Wings" Elements**

Washougal will use this grant to renovate Beaver Park to an area where residents can view birds and other winged animals. Dedicated in 1986 to honor an influential Washougal leader, Dick Beaver, the park since has been reduced in size from 1 acre to .17 acre. The park soon will get plants designed to attract winged wildlife. The City will use the grant to add a playground element to the park, called a raptor dig, as well as benches, a trail, an accessible gazebo, and an educational display on conservation, local bird species, and a "How-To" for children wanting to attract birds to their own backyards. The City will contribute \$41,785 in cash and a private grant. (10-1099)

**Fife****Grant Requested: \$500,000****Developing Brookville Gardens Community Park**

Fife will use this grant to help develop the 11-acre Brookville Gardens community park. The City will install two children's play areas, two picnic shelters, trails, interpretative areas, a large lawn, and interpretative elements on Fife's rich ethnic, cultural, and agricultural history. The City also will restore about 800 feet of Wapato Creek with scenic overlooks and signs explaining the importance of healthy ecosystems. Fife has grown 40 percent in the past 5 years and Brookville Gardens will fill the void of places for quieter, recreational pursuits. The City is using environmentally friendly design elements to demonstrate construction methods that promote sustainability and highlight the importance of being responsible stewards of resources. The City will contribute \$4.2 million in cash and voter-approved bonds. (10-1241)

**Snohomish County**  
**Rehabilitating McCollum Park's Outdoor Pool**

**Grant Requested: \$391,425**

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to rehabilitate the outdoor pool at McCollum Park. The County will remove and replace the leaking pool liner, replace the pool decking including retiling and installing non-slip surfaces, rewire the lighting at the bottom of the pool, replace fixtures, and upgrade the electrical system. The County will contribute \$391,425. (10-1171)

**Cathlamet**  
**Developing Queen Sally Park**

**Grant Requested: \$429,735**

Cathlamet will use this grant to develop a park and public square on the town's primary commercial street. The park will contain an amphitheater with covered seating and a plaza for weekend gatherings. The park sits between two historic buildings – Pioneer Church, now a performance hall, and the old Cathlamet Firehouse, home to the library, town office, and a planned community center. The plaza area will have picnic tables, a bike rack, and shade trees. A garden will use native plantings and benches along a walking path that offers panoramas of the town and the Columbia River. The entire park will be lighted for nighttime use. The park will commemorate a Native American woman revered by 19th century European settlers, who called her Queen Sally, by incorporating artwork by artists of Chinook and European ancestry that conveys her story. The Town will contribute \$429,735 in cash, staff labor, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. (10-1417)

**Mukilteo**  
**Buying Japanese Gulch Property for Parks, Trails, and Wildlife Lands**

**Grant Requested: \$737,250**

Mukilteo will use this grant to buy 7.45 acres for future use as a park with trails and wildlife habitat. The land is a large, relatively flat piece of land that could accommodate two ball fields. Mukilteo's parks plan shows a deficiency in softball and baseball fields, and there is limited land available for ball fields because of the city's topography, which includes 13 natural ravine systems, and many steep slopes, wetlands, and streams. The City has purchased the land with advance approval from the Recreation and Conservation Office and this grant will reimburse the city for its expenditures. The City will contribute \$737,250. (10-1480)



**Wilkeson****Grant Requested: \$43,000****Buying Land for Wilkeson's Downtown Park**

Wilkeson will use this grant to buy .6 acre for a downtown park. The goal is to develop a community park geared to local youth, provide access to Wilkeson Creek and a trailhead for the "Rails to Trails" multi-use pathway, and protect creek habitat.

Wilkeson is a small rural town and the future park is within walking distance of all town residences. The land is also part of the State Route 165 corridor to Mount Rainier's Carbon Glacier and Mowich off-road vehicle park. The Town has identified future park elements to include a picnic area, spray park, playground, trails, creek access, and a fish and habitat interpretive area. The Town will contribute \$43,000. (10-1361)

**Redmond****Grant Requested: \$500,000****Expanding the North East Redmond Park**

Redmond will use this grant to buy 4.89 acres containing a grassy lawn and arboretum-like setting to complement the adjacent and undeveloped North East Redmond Park. An existing 5-acre park contains extensive wooded wetlands and buffers that limit development for recreation. The proposed acquisition nearly will double the size of the park and allow for a wealth of activities from exploring the natural environment to socializing in the garden. Surrounding the land is a rapidly growing neighborhood with small housing lots. A park in this area has been identified as one of the highest needs in the parks plan. The design for the combined park site includes trails, a variety of play areas, display gardens, and a gathering space for community events. The City will contribute \$608,170. (10-1296)

**Washougal****Grant Requested: \$227,500****Buying the Hartwood Property for a Neighborhood Park**

Washougal will use this grant to buy 7 acres for a neighborhood park. The property would expand services to the underserved northeast portion of the city and provide the only neighborhood park in 1,700 acres inside Washougal's approved Urban Growth Boundary. The property abuts Eldridge Park and allows for the continuation of planned trails along the Campen Creek corridor. The purchase will prevent the land from being developed for houses and protects habitat for deer, hawks, and other important species. The City will contribute \$227,500 in cash and conservation futures<sup>4</sup>. (10-1101)

**Whatcom County****Grant Requested: \$300,000****Buying Riverplace Park**

The Whatcom County Parks & Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 55 acres of the former Riverside Golf Course along the Nooksack River in Ferndale for a

---

<sup>4</sup> 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.

multi-use, regional park and trail corridor. The County plans to develop the park with fields for soccer, lacrosse, and rugby. The county has 53 soccer and sports fields, and needs eight more to meet current demand. This site will accommodate seven, full-sized, soccer fields. The property also will serve as an important link in a regional trail system by connecting city and county parklands along the Nooksack River with a multiuse trail and providing access for shore fishing and other water-related activities. Public ownership of this site will allow for restoration of habitat along the Nooksack River and for preservation of water storage capacity for flood prevention. The County will contribute \$300,000 in conservation futures.<sup>5</sup> (10-1584)

**Ridgefield****Grant Requested: \$654,025****Buying Land for Ridge Crest Park**

Ridgefield will use this grant to buy 36.7 acres to create Ridge Crest, a new community park. The land consists of rolling farmland, mature forests, and about .3 mile along a Gee Creek tributary. In the future, the City plans to develop the park with sports fields, picnic areas, a small amphitheater, trails, open grassy areas, interpretive signs, and connections to the City's Gee Creek Trail Corridor. The City will contribute \$654,025 in cash and conservation futures<sup>6</sup>. (10-1377)

**Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District****Grant Requested: \$250,000****Buying the Anderson Property for a Park**

The Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to buy 16.75 acres east of and nearly adjacent to the 360 Regional Park on the Key Peninsula. The property, which fronts on State Route 302, has a fairly level meadow that would be ideal soccer, baseball, lacrosse, flag football, and other team sports. The area furthest from the highway has trees and a stream running through it, and would offer birding and other nature activities. It also could accommodate parking and restrooms to serve visitors to both this park and the regional park. The district will contribute \$250,000 in cash and conservation futures<sup>7</sup>. (10-1283)

**Si View Metropolitan Park District****Grant Requested: \$500,000****Developing Si View and Shamrock Parks**

The Si View Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to develop and rehabilitate Si View and Shamrock Parks. The district will build two grass multi-purpose fields, one high school regulation baseball field, an outdoor basketball court, portable stage, two

---

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> 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.



play areas, a picnic shelter, restrooms, a river viewpoint, pathways, and landscaping improvements. Si View Park is a 10-acre park in a densely populated area, yet within a rural city, and Shamrock Park is a 1-acre park across the street from it. The district has identified a need for walking and biking trails, large community parks, picnic shelters, and picnic areas. Because of the geographical make up of the Snoqualmie Valley – being within a river valley confined by undevelopable land, mountains, and protected open space – the district has prioritized rehabilitation and renovation of existing property to meet the needs of residents. The district will contribute more than \$2.9 million in voter-approved bonds. (10-1185)

**College Place**  
**Renovating Kiwanis Park****Grant Requested: \$100,000**

College Place will use this grant to develop and renovate Kiwanis Park. The 7-acre park was donated by the Kiwanis Club in 1956 and includes a tennis court built in 1959 and restrooms, which are not accessible to people with disabilities. The City will replace the tennis courts with a multi-purpose court, replace the restrooms with accessible facilities, pave the parking area, and repair or replace the irrigation system to reduce maintenance and improve water conservation. The City will contribute \$100,000 in cash, equipment, and staff labor. (10-1513)

**Kitsap County**  
**Installing the Horseshoe Lake Picnic Shelter****Grant Requested: \$35,000**

The Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to install a picnic shelter at Horseshoe Lake County Park. The 1970s-era park features a ball field, parking, boat dock, restrooms, and playground. The park's lack of a covered picnic area reduces use and the ability to generate revenue from its rental. A picnic shelter will provide revenue for ongoing operations and maintenance. The County will contribute \$35,000. (10-1220)

**Pasco**  
**Developing the Northeast Soccer Complex****Grant Requested: \$422,500**

Pasco will use this grant to develop eight new soccer fields on property being provided by the Port of Pasco. The new fields will replace four, substandard fields that generally are unsafe because of over use. The City also will add a playground, picnic shelter, and parking. The City will contribute \$422,500 in cash, staff labor, and another grant. (10-1309)

**Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District**  
**Buying Land for the 360 Regional Park****Grant Requested: \$618,000**

The Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to buy 360 acres for a regional park. The property consists of diverse terrain with a variety of sloping meadows, open space, riparian areas, and thinned out forests. This site could provide a multitude of recreational activities in one location without local players having to

travel elsewhere. The majority of the site will remain nearly undisturbed. The district will contribute \$618,000. (10-1291)

**Snohomish County** **Grant Requested: \$475,000**  
**Improving the Outdoor Equestrian and Motocross Arena**

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to build a roof over an outdoor equestrian arena. The roof will enable the arena to be used year-round by equestrians during their season and bicycle motocross (BMX) riders in the winter. The County will install curtains between the roof and perimeter wall to keep out winter weather, bleachers for events, and energy efficient lighting. The County also will build a warm-up arena and move a road to allow access to the facilities. The County will contribute \$519,396 in council bonds. (10-1174)

**Snohomish County** **Grant Requested: \$295,500**  
**Improving Recreational Vehicle Camping**

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to upgrade existing sites and add new sites to the recreational vehicle (RV) camping area at the Snohomish County Evergreen State Fairgrounds Park. The County will add utilities, expand the number of RV campsites, upgrade existing campsites by rehabilitating the camping pads, and construct a building with restrooms, showers, and laundry machines. The existing RV camping is limited and mostly used during the annual, 12-day fair and for large equestrian events. The County is steadily upgrading the fairgrounds, creating a 365-day facility that serves events, recreation, programs, and RV campers traveling on U.S. Route 2 over the mountains. The County will contribute \$299,000 in cash and council bonds. (10-1173)

**Item 8A**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Outdoor Recreation Account  
Local Parks Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Laura Moxham, Recreation Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*Local parks provide property or facilities for active or passive outdoor recreation. Projects may contain both upland and water oriented elements, although the primary focus is on uplands.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Sixty-three Local Parks category projects requesting \$24.7 million were evaluated between August 16 and 19 in open public meetings. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Local Parks Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-22. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

### Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal

---

<sup>1</sup> RCFB Manual 10a, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account: Policies and Project Selection

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.

## Program Policies

The Local Parks category provides funds for active and passive outdoor recreation facilities. Acquisition, development, and renovation of existing facilities are eligible. Facilities may include athletic fields, hard courts, picnic sites, playgrounds, outdoor swimming pools, and support amenities.

The Local Parks category is eligible to receive 30 percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program funds in the Outdoor Recreation account.<sup>2</sup> Fifty percent of the funds allocated in this category must be used for acquisition costs. Meeting this statutory requirement may require skipping higher-ranked development projects in favor of acquisition projects.

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Local agencies (cities/towns, counties, park, port, and school districts, Native American Tribes, and other special districts)
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquisition, development, and renovation of existing facilities</li><li>• Combination projects involve both acquisition and development/renovation</li></ul>
<b>Funding Limits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$500,000 for development or renovation projects</li><li>• \$1 million for acquisition and combination projects (with a maximum of \$500,000 for development)</li></ul>
<b>Match Requirements</b>	50 percent matching share
<b>Public Access</b>	Required

## Evaluation Summary

Sixty-three Local Parks category projects requesting \$24.7 million were evaluated between August 16 and 19, 2010 in open public meetings. A team of nine evaluators used criteria adopted by the board to review and rank the projects. As shown in the following table, the team included state and local agency representatives and citizens who have expertise and experience in local land use issues, park and recreation resource management, engineering, and design.

---

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 79A.15.050(1)(b) RCW

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Representing</b>
James Horan, Olympia	Citizen
Robert Wuotila, Burien	Citizen
John Bottelli, Spokane County Parks & Recreation	Local Agency
Sharon Claussen, King County Parks & Recreation	Local Agency
Bryan Higgins, Federal Way Parks & Recreation	Local Agency
Paul J. Kaftanski, Everett Parks & Recreation	Local Agency
Chuck Gibilisco, Department of Fish and Wildlife	State Agency
Christ Thomsen, Department of Natural Resources	State Agency
Al Wolslegel, State Parks	State Agency

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – WWRP, Local Parks Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The Board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## Attachments

Resolution #2010-22

- Table 1 – WWRP, Local Parks Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
- A. State Map for Local Parks Category projects
- B. Local Parks Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. Local Parks Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. Local Parks Project Summaries (a synopsis of each proposal)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-22  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Local Parks Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, sixty-three Local Parks category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Local Parks category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred 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 sixty-three Local Parks category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual 10a: *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account*, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects involve acquisition, development, and/or renovation of properties for recreation, 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 of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Local Parks Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Local Parks category projects for further consideration.

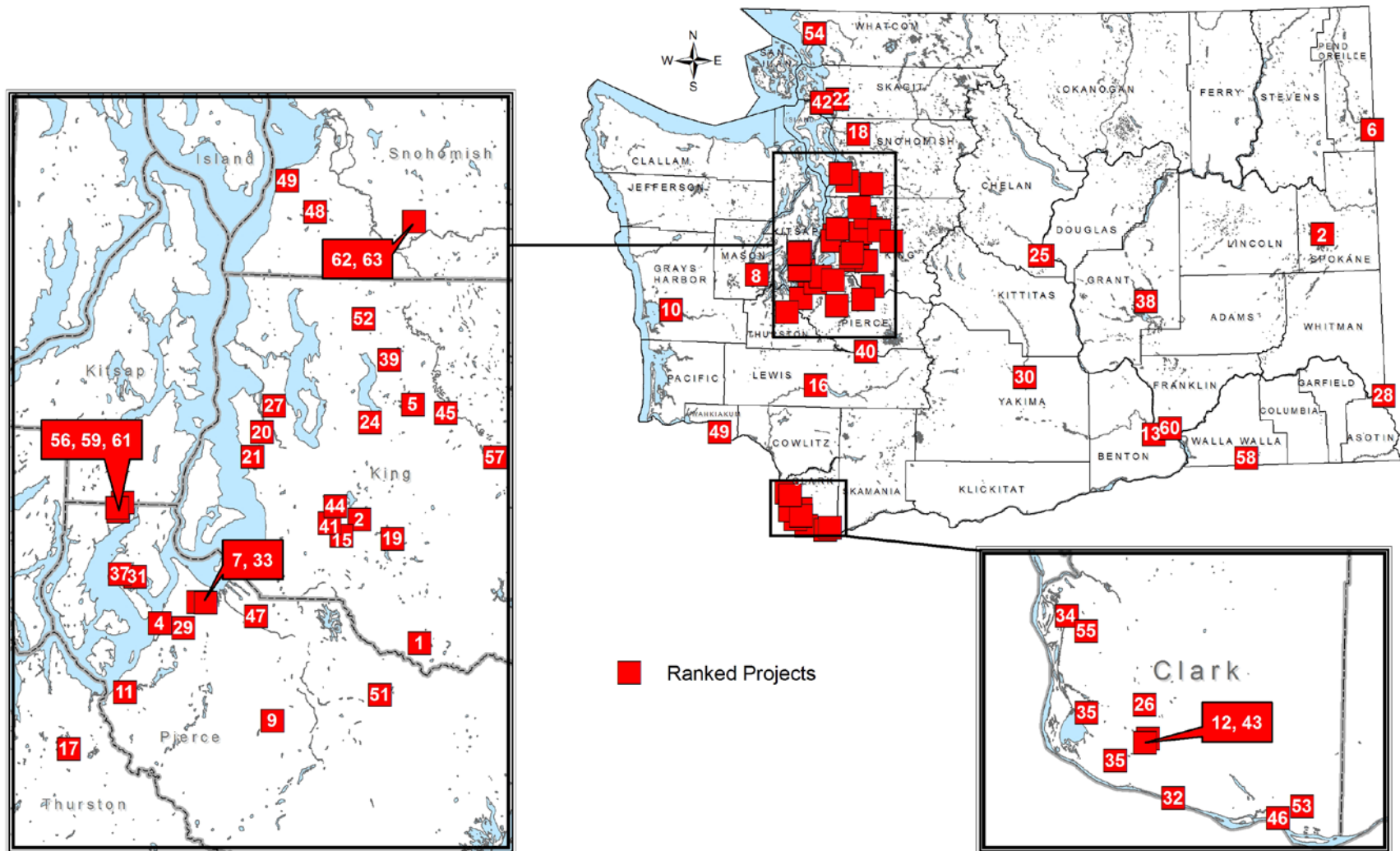
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

## State Map for Local Parks Category projects





## Local Parks Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

Local parks provide property or facilities for active (high impact) or passive (low impact) outdoor recreation. They may contain both upland and water-oriented elements.

Local Parks Criteria Analysis					
Scored by	#	Title	Project Type Questions	Maximum Points	Focus*
Evaluation Team	1	Public Need	Acquisition, Development, Combination	15	Local
Evaluation Team	2	Project Scope	Acquisition, Development, Combination	15	Local
Evaluation Team	3	Project Design	Development	15	Technical
			Combination	7.5	
Evaluation Team	4	Immediacy of Threat	Acquisition	10	Local
			Combination	5	
Evaluation Team	5	Site Suitability	Acquisition	5	Technical
			Combination	2.5	
Evaluation Team	6	Expansion/Renovation	Acquisition, Development, Combination	5	Local
Evaluation Team	7	Project Support	Acquisition, Development, Combination	10	State/Local
Evaluation Team	8	Cost Efficiencies	Acquisition, Development, Combination	5	State/Local
RCO Staff	9	Growth Management Act Preference	Acquisition, Development, Combination	0	State
RCO Staff	10	Population Proximity	Acquisition, Development, Combination	3	State

\*Focus – Criteria orientation in accordance with Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) policy of developing evaluation systems based on three need factors:

- State – Those that meet general *statewide* needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or SCORP)
- Local – Those that meet *local* needs (usually an item of narrower purview, often called for in local plans)
- Technical – Those that meet *technical* considerations (usually more objective decisions than those of policy).

## Scoring Criteria, Local Parks Category

### Team Scored Criteria

1. **Public need.** Considering the availability of existing outdoor recreation facilities within the service area, what is the need for new or improved facilities?
2. **Project Scope.** Does the project scope meet deficient recreational opportunities within the service area as identified in question one, Public Need?
3. **Project Design.** Does the project demonstrate good design criteria? Does it make the best use of the site?
4. **Immediacy of Threat.** Is there a threat to the public availability of the resources the site possesses?
5. **Site Suitability.** Is the site to be acquired well suited for the intended recreational uses?
6. **Expansion or Renovation.** Will the acquisition or development project expand or renovate an existing recreation area or facility?
7. **Project Support.** The extent that the public (statewide, community, and/or user groups) has been provided with an adequate opportunity to become informed, and/or support for the project seems apparent.
8. **Cost Efficiencies.** The extent that this project demonstrates efficiencies and/or reduces government costs through documented use of volunteers, donations, signed cooperative agreements, or signed memoranda of understanding (such as no cost easements/leases, maintenance/operation arrangements, or similar cost savings).

### Scored by RCO Staff

9. **GMA Preference.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)?  
RCW 43.17.250
10. **Population Proximity.** Is the project in a populated area?
  - a. The project is located within the urban growth area boundary of a city or town with a population of 5,000 or more. AND
  - b. The project is located within a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile.  
RCW 79A.25.25

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Replacing Tiger Mountain State Forest Trail Bridges**

**Grant Requested: \$247,870**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to replace a collapsed trail bridge and install two new trail bridges along a new trail connection within Tiger Mountain State Forest. By installing two new bridges, using an existing trail segment, and building 1.96 miles of new trail, the popular Railroad Trail and Northwest Timber Trail finally will connect. Tiger Mountain offers a great recreational opportunity; many people use the forest daily for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding. The department will contribute \$62,000 in staff and donated labor. (10-1067)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Building the Middle Fork Ahtanum Trail and Trailhead**

**Grant Requested: \$275,271**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to develop 2-4 miles of a non-motorized trail and a trailhead in the Ahtanum State Forest, which is 25 miles west of Yakima. The department also will develop a parking area, build a restroom, install signs and kiosks, and landscape. The development is the result of a community planning effort that identified the middle fork Ahtanum area as a logical place for a year-round, non-motorized trail system. The area is unique because its relatively low elevation, low amount of rain and snow, and closeness to a paved road means it will have year-round use. The department will contribute \$23,800 in donated labor. (10-1427)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Developing the Reiter Foothills Trail System**

**Grant Requested: \$325,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to develop a non-motorized trail system in northwest portion of Reiter Foothills Forest, extending from Reiter Road north and connecting to Wallace Falls State Park. The department will build trails for hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian use, and install a major trail bridge and signs. Construction of these trails will improve public safety, reduce natural resource damage, and meet increasing public demand for the area. Less than 30 miles from Everett, the Reiter Foothills Forest includes about 10,000 acres of sub-alpine terrain between the Skykomish River to the south and the Sultan River basin to the north. The Wild Sky Wilderness Area makes up the eastern border of the forest, and forest and houses are along the western edge. The department will contribute \$20,000 in donated labor. (10-1070)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Developing the Mailbox Peak Trail**

**Grant Requested: \$325,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to build a 5-mile trail to the summit of Mailbox Peak, which is in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Area in eastern King County. The trail will improve public safety, reduce natural resource damage, and meet increasing public demand. It will provide

an alternative to the direct trail to the peak, which was "boot-built" many years ago, is unsuitable for most hikers, and cannot sustain its current high level of use. The existing route is extremely steep and gains 4,000 feet of elevation in less than 2.5 miles. King County Search and Rescue is called weekly during the spring and summer to rescue lost or injured hikers. In addition, increased use is causing severe erosion. The new trailhead will serve as an entrance portal for the public lands in the valley surrounding the middle fork of the Snoqualmie River and construction will be completed in 2011. The department will contribute \$189,500 in staff labor, equipment, a federal grant, and donated labor. (10-1072)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Providing Access to the Chehalis River**

**Grant Requested: \$153,800**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to provide access to the Chehalis River within the Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve. The department will create a launch for hand-carried boats, a shoreline trail, improved parking, bank fishing sites, and natural area interpretation. Two ramps for hand-carried boat will provide access for canoes, kayaks, and skiffs to both the Chehalis River and Blue Slough. Parking will be improved for both sites and a riverbank interpretive trail will border the river along an existing screen of native trees and shrubs. Access for bank fishing will be made safer, with erosion protection, at both work sites. The Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve is 2,700 acres and protects the largest high quality surge plain wetland in the state. Sitka spruce dominated wetland forests hang over winding sloughs, and fish, waterfowl, and wildlife thrive here. The department will contribute \$15,000 in donated labor. (10-1489)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Developing the Beebe Springs Trail**

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to build a .38-mile extension of the Beebe Springs loop trail along the Columbia River shoreline, with three viewpoints, benches, and interpretive signs. The department also will remove an old orchard road and culvert, and restore .28 mile of Columbia River shoreline. This project continues implementation of the Beebe Springs Master Plan, and when complete, more than 1 mile of Columbia River shoreline will be restored to native wetland, riparian, and shrub-steppe habitats, encompassing about 60 acres. Future phases will provide a trail connection to the Chelan Hatchery and shrub-steppe and cliff habitats west of Highway 97. (10-1642)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Renovating Cypress Recreation Facilities**

**Grant Requested: \$201,325**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to renovate the Cypress Head Campground on Cypress Island in the San Juan archipelago. The department will renovate five campsites; replace all picnic tables and fire rings, including the group fire ring and benches; reconstruct tent pads; level common areas for each

site; convert two underused areas to campsites; and upgrade a campsite to a group campsite. The department will re-establish trails within the campground and renovate the trail stairway, which provides access from the landing area on the tombolo to the campground. The department also will renovate the loop trail around Cypress Head, install signs, produce a site map, and create and install campsite numbers. Cypress Head visitors arrive by boat and do a wide range of activities from bird watching to camping, hiking, fishing, and hunting. The renovations will direct where and how use takes place, and as a result, will improve public safety, reduce user conflicts, protect resources, and provide new and improved visitor opportunities. (10-1068)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Constructing a Fishing Dock on Black Lake**

**Grant Requested: \$325,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to build a fishing dock on Black Lake. The dock will give anglers without boats a place to fish. Currently shore anglers must fish from the beach next to and on top of the boat ramps. This often causes conflicts between users. Black Lake is a popular year-round recreational site for many activities such as fishing, boating, swimming, water skiing, and skiing with personal watercraft. This lake also boasts populations of smallmouth and largemouth bass, yellow perch, brown bullhead catfish, black crappie, common carp, and rainbow trout. (10-1363)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Improving the McLane Creek Nature Trail**

**Grant Requested: \$322,310**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to improve the McLane Creek Nature Trail in Capitol State Forest. The department will complete construction of a covered gathering shelter and entry improvements, expand parking, install a new elevated boardwalk trail to replace worn out structures, replace an aging viewing pier, realign the back loop trail, and install new signs. The McLane Creek Nature Trail provides easy access to a unique combination of hiking trails and views of wetlands, beaver ponds, salmon, and bird habitat, in a low elevation forest. Each fall, salmon return to McLane Creek to spawn. This annual event attracts thousands of interested visitors and school groups to this popular outdoor nature area. This project is the second phase of a long-term renovation needed to preserve safe public access and protect natural resources. (10-1020)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Renovating the Teanaway Junction Access Area**

**Grant Requested: \$314,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to renovate the Teanaway Junction boat launch site. The department will remove an old derelict boat ramp, replace toilets, add gravel for the road, improve the boat ramp and parking, install new signs, establish a 50-foot buffer along the Yakima River, and replant portions of the parking lot to stabilize the bank and improve habitat. The department closed the

boat ramp 3 years ago because of safety concerns, and built a basic drift boat access in a safer location. However, the replacement ramp needs improving. The Teanaway Junction Access Area is along the Yakima River just east of Cle Elum, and upstream from the confluence of the Yakima and Teanaway Rivers. Water access sites are sparse on the upper Yakima River and the distance between each is long. The nearest access sites are about 12 miles away. The upper Yakima River supports a trout fishery and is used by anglers and recreational floaters. (10-1536)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Replacing the Dock on Lake Terrell**

**Grant Requested: \$325,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to replace a dock on Lake Terrell, near Ferndale. The department will lengthen the existing fishing dock and install a "T" end piece that will greatly increase the square footage of fishing space on the dock. The department also will remove the old fishing pier, concrete float, toilet, and fence. This is the second phase of development. In the first phase, the department built a fishing pier that is accessible to people with disabilities, a vault toilet, and a parking area. (10-1190)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Improving Tim's Pond Fishing Access**

**Grant Requested: \$319,100**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve fishing areas and other amenities at Tim's Pond, near Yakima. The department will develop a pathway around the pond for wildlife and river viewing, install accessible restrooms, and pave parking, unloading areas, and fishing areas. The site lacks the hard surface needed to provide good routes of travel for people with disabilities and to guide all users to appropriate ways to access the lake. Tim's Pond is at the entrance to the Tieton River Canyon, and set below massive cliffs, towering pines, and oak woodlands. This popular fishing spot in the Oak Creek Wildlife Area is stocked with rainbow trout. There are wooded pathways surrounding the lake and along the Tieton River, but no restrooms. (10-1535)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Developing Koopmans Wildlife Area Parking and Amenities**

**Grant Requested: \$198,370**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve the Koopmans Wildlife Area by developing a short interpretive trail leading to a viewpoint, building a parking area with a horse loading ramp and landscaping, constructing a horse corral, installing interpretive kiosks, and adding a restroom. Interpretive displays will inform visitors about the importance of oak woodlands and other priority habitats, migratory bird use of the site, and the agricultural history of the lower Chehalis valley. The 500-acre Davis Creek (Koopmans) Unit is just outside Oakville. The wildlife area is best characterized as open wetland, riparian shrub habitat, meadow and field habitat, and oak woodland. The property hosts a number of recreational activities including

hunting for waterfowl, deer, elk, and doves. The site also hosts events for dog field trials and training. (10-1607)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Improving the Oneida Boat Launch**

**Grant Requested: \$325,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve the Onieda boat launch. The launch is a single boat launch with a degraded dock and a parking area that is just an open field. The department will improve the launch and parking area and add signs. The boat launch is an important launch for waterfowl hunters and anglers, especially sturgeon anglers, in the lower Columbia River. The boat launch also is the main access point for this reach of the lower Columbia River. (10-1408)



**Item 8B**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Outdoor Recreation Account  
State Lands Development Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Dan Haws, Recreation Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*This category is reserved for the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Natural Resources for development and/or renovation of state recreation lands.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Fourteen State Lands Development and Renovation category projects requesting \$3.9 million were evaluated between August 23 and September 3 through a written evaluation process. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Development and Renovation Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-23. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

### Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 79A.15.050, Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands

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.

## Program Policies

The State Lands Development and Renovation category provides funds for projects that involve development and renovation of public access facilities on existing state recreation lands. Typical facilities include campsites, fishing piers, interpretive trails, non-motorized boating access, picnic sites, and wildlife viewing blinds.

The State Lands Development and Renovation category is eligible to receive five percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program funds in the Outdoor Recreation account.<sup>2</sup>

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	Development and renovation
<b>Funding Limits</b>	Minimum of \$25,000 and a maximum of \$325,000 per project
<b>Match Requirements</b>	None
<b>Planning Requirement</b>	Outdoor recreation plan
<b>Public Access</b>	Required
<b>Other Program Characteristics</b>	Multi-site projects allowed <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elements must be the same at each site (fishing docks, vault toilets, interpretive kiosk )</li><li>• Sites limited to no more than two adjacent counties</li><li>• Elements must meet capital project criteria</li><li>• No more than \$100,000 per site</li><li>• No more than five sites per project</li></ul>

## Evaluation Summary

Fourteen State Lands Development and Renovation category projects requesting \$3.9 million were evaluated between August 23 and September 3 through a written evaluation process. Using criteria adopted by the board, a team of eight evaluators reviewed and ranked the

---

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 79A.15.050(1)(e) RCW

projects. The team included the following state and local agency representatives and citizens who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to outdoor recreation:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Ken Krasner, Seattle	Citizen
T. Perry Barrett, Bainbridge Island Park District	Local Agency
Margaret Fleek, City of Burlington	Local Agency
Frana Milan, King County DNR & Parks	Local Agency
David Velej, Yakima County Public Services	Local Agency
Tim Werner, Richland Parks & Recreation	Local Agency
Bruce Bolding, Department of Fish & Wildlife	State Agency
Randy Person, State Parks	State Agency

The results of the evaluations are in *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Development and Renovation Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## Attachments

Resolution #2010-23

- Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Development and Renovation Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
- A. State Map for State Lands Development and Renovation Category projects
- B. State Lands Development Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. State Lands Development Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. State Lands Development Project Synopses

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-23  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
State Lands Development and Renovation Category, Fiscal Year 2012,  
Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, fourteen State Lands Development and Renovation category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these State Lands Development and Renovation category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred through a written evaluation process approved by the board, supporting the board's strategy to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation; and

**WHEREAS**, all fourteen State Lands Development and Renovation category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10a, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Outdoor Recreation Account: Policies and Project Selection*, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects involve development and renovation of public access sites on state lands, 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 of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Development and Renovation Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of State Lands Development and Renovation category projects for further consideration.

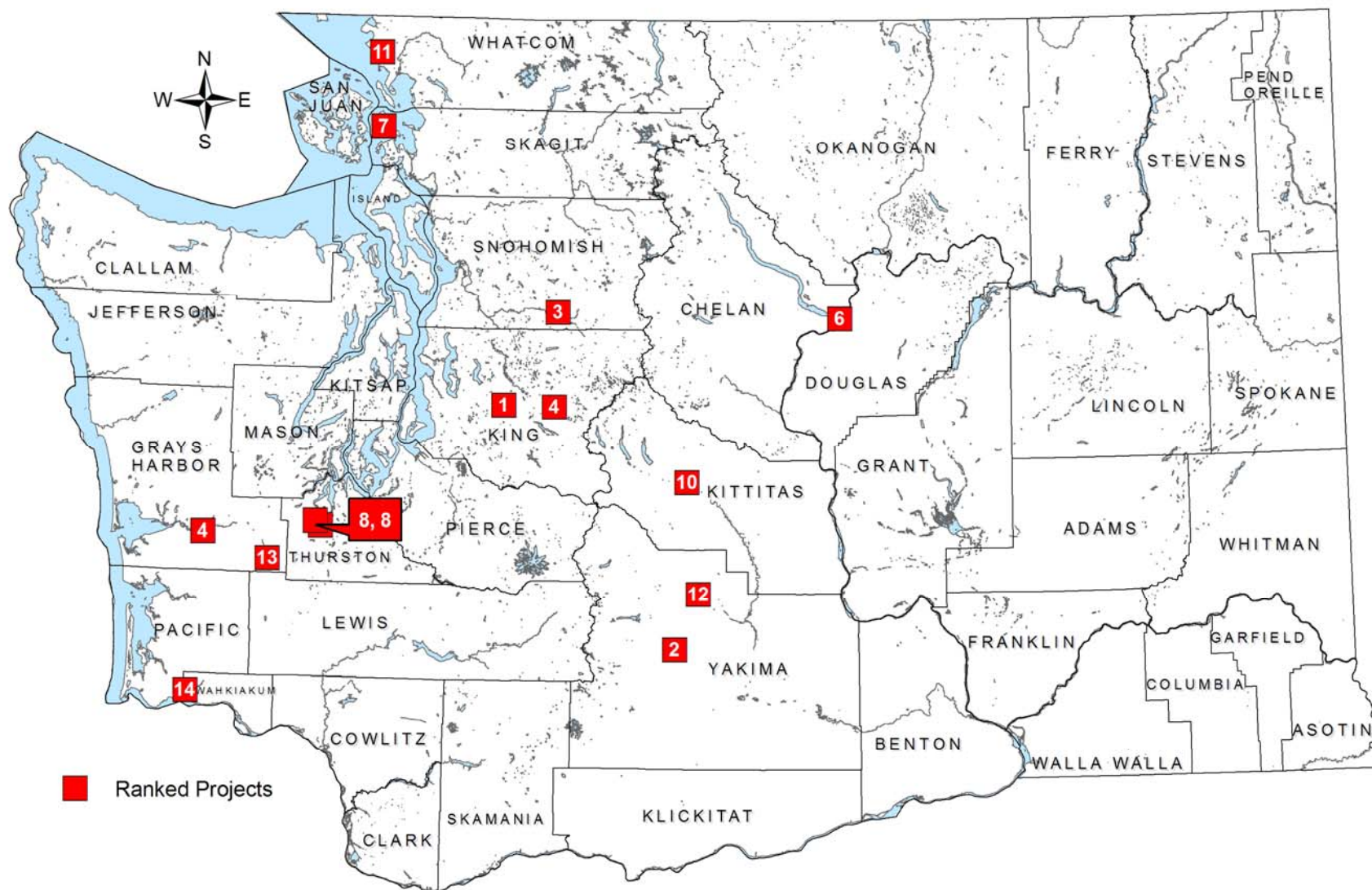
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

# State Map for State Lands Development and Renovation Category projects



## State Lands Development and Renovation Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

This project category is reserved for the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Natural Resources for development and/or renovation of state recreation lands.

State Lands Development and Renovation Criteria Analysis					
Scored by	#	Question	Project Type	Maximum Points	Focus*
Evaluation Team	1	Public Need	Development and Renovation	20	State
Evaluation Team	2	Site Suitability and Design	Development and Renovation	15	Technical
Evaluation Team	3	Diversity and Compatibility	Development and Renovation	10	State
Evaluation Team	4	Performance Measure	Development and Renovation	5	State
Evaluation Team	5	Public Benefit	Development and Renovation	5	State
RCO Staff	6	Population Proximity	Development and Renovation	1	State
<b>Total Points Possible=56</b>					

\*Focus – Criteria orientation in accordance with Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning Program (SCORP) policy of developing evaluation systems based on three need factors:

- State – Those that meet general statewide needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or SCORP)
- Local – Those that meet local needs (usually an item of narrower purview, often called for in local plans)
- Technical – Those that meet technical considerations (usually more objective decisions than those of policy)

## Scoring Criteria, State Lands Development and Renovation Category

### Team Scored Criteria

1. **Public need.**

Considering the availability and use of existing facilities within the service area, what is the need for new or improved facilities?

*Assessment of Outdoor Recreation in Washington State, 2002-2007, Chapter 5.*

2. **Site Suitability and Project Design.**

Does the project demonstrate good design criteria; does it make the best use of the site?

3. **Diversity of and Compatibility of Recreational Uses.**

To what extent does this project provide diversity of possible recreational uses?

*Assessment of Outdoor Recreation in Washington State 2002-2007, Chapters 1 and 5.*

4. **Outcome-Focused Performance Measures.**

To what extent does the project result in measurable progress toward goals and objectives for the recreation or access area?

5. **Public Benefit and Project Support.**

To what extent does this project result in measurable benefits for the community impacted as a result of this development or renovation?

### Scored by RCO Staff

6. **Proximity to Human Populations.**

Is the project in a populated area? *RCW 79A.25.250*





## State Lands Development (Fiscal Year 2012)

### Preliminary Evaluation Summary

### Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	
		Site Suitability and Design	Diversity and Compatibility	Performance Measure	Public Benefit	Population Proximity	
Rank Project Name	Public Need						Total
1 Tiger Mountain State Forest Trail Bridges	18.00	12.75	7.75	3.88	4.63	1.00	57.56
2 Middle Fork Ahtanum Trailhead and Trail	18.00	12.38	6.75	3.13	4.13	0.00	55.56
2 Reiter Foothills Trail System Development Phase 1	16.00	11.25	6.75	3.63	4.13	1.00	55.56
4 Mailbox Peak Trail Development	15.50	12.38	5.00	3.13	3.88	1.00	54.00
5 Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve Water Access	14.00	12.38	6.75	3.63	4.13	0.00	53.28
6 Beebe Springs Trail Phase 4	14.00	12.00	7.25	3.63	3.75	0.00	52.56
7 Cypress Recreation Facilities Renovation	15.50	10.88	6.75	3.38	3.63	0.00	51.89
8 Black Lake Fishing Dock	14.50	12.00	5.75	3.50	3.25	1.00	51.61
9 McLane Creek Nature Trail Phase 2	15.00	11.25	6.25	3.00	3.50	1.00	49.94
10 Teanaway Junction River Access Improvements 2010	15.00	11.25	5.75	3.38	3.50	0.00	49.61
11 Whatcom Americans with Disabilities Act Dock Replacement Phase 2	15.00	10.88	6.00	3.63	3.25	0.00	49.56
12 Tim's Pond Americans with Disabilities Act Fishing Access 2010	15.00	10.88	6.25	2.63	3.63	0.00	49.33
13 Koopmans Parking Facility and Access Improvements	14.50	11.63	6.00	2.88	3.25	0.00	49.06
14 Oneida Boat Launch	12.00	9.38	6.00	2.50	3.00	0.00	49.00

Evaluators Score Questions: #1-5, RCO Staff Scores Questions: #6

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$900,000**  
**Protecting State Parks by Buying Inholdings and Adjacent Properties**

State Parks will use this grant to buy private property that is within or adjacent to park boundaries. From time-to-time, State Parks learns of desirable properties adjacent to or actually within the boundaries of a park. Some of these properties are small and consequently may not compete well during a competitive grant process. Others must be purchased quickly. In the past, grants have been used to buy property to remove undesirable neighbors (tavern) from a park, to obtain legal access to a park, to acquire desirable property listed with a real estate agent, and to buy land with high natural resources value. (10-1242)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$2,250,000**  
**Buying Land to Protect Long Beach**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 30.4 acres including nearly .2 mile of ocean waterfront in the Seaview Dunes area on the Long Beach peninsula. Long Beach has 26 miles of public beach. The Seaview Dunes portion was zoned for development as single-family and multi-family homes. State Parks wants to buy them as they become available to retain the visual integrity and habitat of the dunes and beach. (10-1306)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$1,600,000**  
**Extending Cape Disappointment State Park's Multi-Use Trail**

State Parks will use this grant to construct a .5-mile trail that will link North Head Lighthouse with the Lewis and Clark Discovery Trail. The lighthouse is the most visited area of Cape Disappointment State Park. It also is a key site on the discovery trail, which runs from Ilwaco's waterfront, to the state park at Beards Hollow, and to Long Beach. State Parks' portion of the trail connects at a county road and this grant will allow the agency to build a new connector that is separate from the county road and will link with the future Bell's View Trail. (10-1308)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$540,828**  
**Buying a Trail Easement through the Green River Gorge**

State Parks will use this grant to buy an easement for a 2.2-mile trail in the Green River Gorge Conservation Area. State Parks has been trying to buy land within the gorge between Flaming Geyser and Kanaskat-Palmer State Parks since the conservation area's creation in 1969. There are only a few gaps in ownership on the south side of the river, and this purchase will close the most significant of those gaps. The trail easement runs along the top of the gorge in the Icy Creek area, just east of State Route 169. It will provide a route for a trail that connects State Parks' land in the Kummer Mines Heritage Area and the Hanging Gardens area. Recently, the owner subdivided the property for development. This project will ensure the trail corridor remains open to the public and houses aren't built on the edge of the gorge. (10-1723)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Expanding Nisqually State Park**

**Grant Requested: \$900,000**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 82.98 acres within the long-term boundary of Nisqually State Park. The land provides the only road and trail access to a large portion of the park. It also includes prairie that is recognized for its important natural and cultural resource values. Some of the land is in danger of being sold. (10-1244)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Developing the Lake Sammamish Boardwalk**

**Grant Requested: \$351,052**

State Parks will use this grant to develop an interpretive boardwalk along the spine of Sunset Beach Spit in Lake Sammamish State Park. State Parks will restore .8 acre of sandy beach and lawn, replant 175 feet of the banks along Issaquah Creek, and place large trees with root wads along the lakeshore near the mouth of Issaquah Creek to improve habitat for Chinook salmon. The boardwalk will include interpretive signs, and will protect the restored areas from trampling. The boardwalk also will provide a barrier-free route from the area's main parking to the mouth of Issaquah Creek, making this a way for people using wheelchairs to view salmon. State Parks will contribute \$351,052 from a state grant. (10-1384)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Expanding Pearrygin Lake State Park**

**Grant Requested: \$2,186,352**

State Parks will use this grant to begin developing the western portion of Pearrygin Lake State Park. The agency will build a new entrance road, a campground registration building, a parking lot, trails, and a trailer dump station. State Parks also will extend utilities to a new campground area. The work will complete the initial work needed to unite two separate areas of the park. The new entrance road into the park will eliminate safety concerns about drivers not being able to see far enough, and it will allow the park to stay open in the winter. This popular north central Washington park serves more than 30,000 camping and day-use visitors a year and has more than 2 miles of freshwater shoreline for boating, swimming, and fishing. (10-1087)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Buying Land for Loomis Lake State Park**

**Grant Requested: \$415,800**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 13 acres of private property within Loomis Lake State Park on the Long Beach Peninsula. The park consists of two separate properties: the 13.5-acre ocean beach approach and 330 acres on Loomis and Island Lakes. The purchase would add to State Parks' ownership about 600 feet of shoreline on Loomis Lake and about 750 feet on Island Lake. It also would protect wetlands, eliminate the threat of a planned housing development, and provide outdoor public recreation opportunities. (10-1243)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Buying Deep Lake Resort****Grant Requested: \$1,938,553**

State Parks will use this grant to buy Deep Lake Resort, adjacent to Millersylvania State Park. The 5.53-acre resort has about .2 mile of shoreline on Deep Lake, 20 sites with full utility hook-ups for recreational vehicles(RVs), a swim area with a dock, a boat launch, houses, and a combination shop and administrative building. Millersylvania is an extremely popular 912-acre camping park on Deep Lake, just south of Olympia. Established by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935, the park's unique natural and historic resources limit ability to expand RV camping. The purchase would increase the number of utility campsites in the park by 30 percent. (10-1305)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Expanding Mount Spokane State Park****Grant Requested: \$890,343**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 320 acres to expand Mount Spokane State Park. The land consists of 160 acres surrounded by state park property, and another 160 acres bordered on three sides by state park property. Both are in the long-term park boundary and they contain a road and several recreation trails. (10-1559)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Developing Public Amenities for Kiket Island Access****Grant Requested:\$463,727**

State Parks will use this grant to improve access to Kiket Island. State Parks will build a small parking lot for up to ten cars and a bus drop-turnaround, a restroom, and a path on the mainland, as well as install interpretive signs on the island. Kiket Island is a peninsula connected to Fidalgo and Flagstaff Islands by tombolos east of Deception Pass and within the Swinomish Reservation. The improvements will open 2.5 miles of shoreline, 90 acres, and 4 wetland acres on Kiket Island for limited recreation and environmental education. (10-1085)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Buying the Whidbey Market in Deception Pass State Park****Grant Requested: \$539,450**

State Parks will use this grant to buy .6 acre that has served as a market and gas station in Deception Pass State Park. The land is the last of the key, privately owned parcels within the park, and once acquired will serve as the site for a future visitor orientation facility. The park has several distinct recreational areas that are separated in an east-west direction by State Route 20 and in a north-south direction by Deception Pass. With this separation, visitor orientation is critical. The visitor orientation facility will provide a central location for visitor information. Deception Pass is a 4,174-acre marine and camping park with 14.5 miles of saltwater shoreline and 6.4 miles of freshwater shoreline on three lakes. (10-1084)

**Item 8C**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Outdoor Recreation Account  
State Parks Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Myra Barker, Recreation Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*The State Parks category is reserved for the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) for acquisition and/or development of state parks.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Twelve State Parks category projects requesting \$13 million were evaluated on August 3 in an open public meeting. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendation list of projects (Table 2) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 2 – WWRP, State Parks Commission Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-24. This revised list is the Commission's recommendation for projects to be forwarded to the Governor and Legislature. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

---

<sup>1</sup> RCFB Manual 10a, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account: Policies and Project Selection

## 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.

## Program Policies

The State Parks category provides funds for acquiring and developing active and passive outdoor recreation facilities. Facilities may include campgrounds, fishing sites, picnic areas, swim beaches, trails, and support amenities including administrative and maintenance structures.

The State Parks category is eligible to receive 30 percent of the funds in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Outdoor Recreation account. Fifty percent of the funds allocated in this category must be used for acquisition. Meeting this statutory requirement may require skipping higher-ranked development projects in favor of acquisition projects.

<b>Eligible Applicant</b>	State Parks and Recreation Commission only
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquisition and development</li><li>• Combination projects involve both acquisition and development</li><li>• Renovation is not eligible</li></ul>
<b>Funding Limits</b>	No limits
<b>Match Requirements</b>	None required
<b>Public Access</b>	Required

## Evaluation Summary

In November 2007, the board adopted Resolution 2007-30, which delegated the evaluation and ranking of State Parks category projects to the Commission. The board approved the policy revision because the Commission is the sole eligible applicant for the category and the WWRP statute does not include specific criteria for assessing projects in the category.

By delegating the project evaluation and ranking process, the board intended to:

- avoid duplication of evaluation processes;
- eliminate the problem of having the Commission reorder a ranked list that was provided by a volunteer panel; and
- allow the Commission to place greater emphasis on the priorities it establishes through planning and prioritization.

The board adopted criteria for the evaluation process in March 2008.

## 2010 Evaluation

On August 3, 2010, a team of eight evaluators used the criteria adopted by the board to evaluate twelve State Parks category projects requesting \$13 million. The evaluation was done in an open public meeting. The team included State Parks staff with expertise and experience in land use issues and park and recreation resource management. Members included:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Richard Brown, Architectural Support Manager	State Agency
Daniel Farber, Parks Development Regional Manager	State Agency
Ken Graham, Property & Acquisition Specialist	State Agency
Jim Harris, Region Manager	State Agency
Don Hoch, Region Manager	State Agency
Ryan Karlson, Interpretive Program Manager	State Agency
Randy Kline, Environmental Planner	State Agency
Deb Wallace, Planning Program Manager	State Agency

The results of that evaluation are shown in *Table 1 – WWRP, State Parks Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

Following that evaluation, State Parks staff prepared its recommendation for the Commission. Their recommendation adjusted the preliminary ranked list to reflect high priority projects that have an element of urgency. Specifically, State Parks staff recommended that the Lake Sammamish boardwalk (#3) and the Cape Disappointment Multi-Use Trail Extension (#6) projects be exchanged in the rankings. At its August 12, 2010 meeting, the Commission adopted the alternate ranking that reflects priorities established by State Parks, as provided for in board policy.

The Commission requests board review and approval of the priority list shown in *Table 2 – WWRP, State Parks Commission Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 2 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The Board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.



## Attachments

### Resolution #2010-24

- Table 1 – WWRP, State Parks Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
- Table 2 – WWRP, State Parks Commission Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
  
- A. State Map for State Parks Category projects
- B. State Parks Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. State Parks Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. State Parks Project Synopses

Resolution #2010-24  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
State Parks Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twelve State Parks category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these twelve State Parks category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission ranked the projects to place high priority on those that have an element of urgency; 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 State Parks category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account: Policies and Project Selection*, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects involve acquisition and development of properties for recreation, 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 of projects depicted in *Table 2 – WWRP, State Parks Commission Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor this ranked list of State Parks category projects for further consideration.

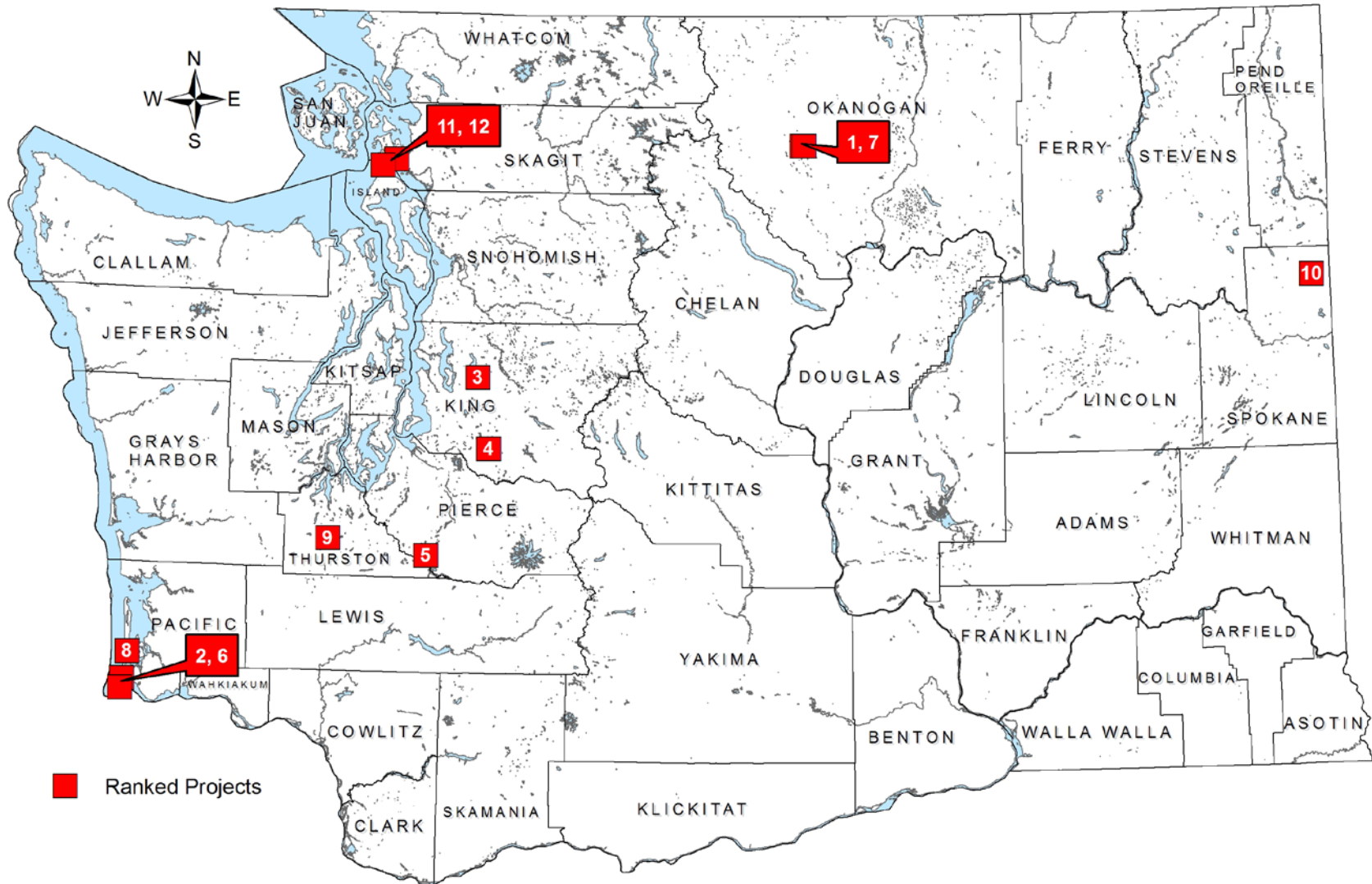
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

## State Map for State Parks Category projects



## State Parks Category, Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

*This project category is reserved for the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for acquisition and/or development of state parks.*

RCFB Manual 10a.

WWRP - State Parks Criteria Analysis						
Score	#	Title	A/D	Multiplier	Maximum Points	Focus
Team	1	Public Need	A/D	1	5.0	State
Team	2	Project Significance	A/D	3	15.0	State Parks
Team	3	Project Design	D	2	10.0	Technical
Team	4	Immediacy of Threat	A	2	10.0	State
Team	5	Expansion / Phased Project	A/D	2	10.0	State
Team	6	Multiple Fund Sources	A/D	1	5.0	State
Team	7	Readiness to Proceed	A/D	1	5.0	State Parks
Team	8	Shows Application of Sustainability	A/D	1	5.0	State Parks
RCO Staff	9	Population Proximity	A/D	1	3.0	State
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE      A= 58 / D= 58						

### Key:

RCO Staff = Criteria scored by RCO staff

Team = Criteria scored by interdisciplinary *team*

A/D = Acquisition or Development specific question

Mult/Mx = Multiplier and maximum points possible for this criterion

Focus = *State/State Parks/Technical*; Criteria based on three need factors: those that meet general *statewide* needs (often called for in RCW or the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan), those that specifically meet *State Parks'* needs, and those that meet *technical* considerations (usually more objective decisions than those of policy).

## Scoring Criteria, State Parks category

### Team Scored

1. **Public Need.**  
Describe why this facility should be built or property acquired?
2. **Project Significance.**  
Describe why this is a project of statewide or regional merit. Is this a "high priority" project?
3. **Project Design.**  
Describe how this project demonstrates good site and building design. (Development Only)
4. **Immediacy of Threat.**  
Describe the consequences of not obtaining this land now. (Acquisition Only)
5. **Expansion/Phased Project.**  
Is this a continuation of a previous project? When did the previous project start and end (if applicable)? Is this a distinct stand-alone phase?
6. **Multiple Funding Sources.**  
Are there multiple funding sources proposed to support this project? A fund source must contribute 5% or more of the total project cost in cash, grants, or in-kind services to qualify as a fund source.
7. **Readiness to Proceed.**  
Is the project fully designed and permitted (development) or is there a written sales agreement with the property owner (acquisition)? Are there any significant local zoning or permitting issues?
8. **Application of Sustainability.**  
Does the proposed design or acquisition meet accepted sustainability standards, best management practices, and/or stewardship of natural or cultural resources?

### Scored by RCO Staff

9. **Population Proximity.**  
Is the project in a populated area?      RCW 79A.25.25

**Mount Vernon****Grant Requested: \$781,200****Building the Skagit Riverwalk Trail**

Mount Vernon will use this grant to build a .34-mile riverfront trail in the city's historic downtown. The pedestrian trail will have a 24-foot-wide, decorative concrete walkway with expansive views of the Skagit River and downtown. This trail, the city's most significant, will increase access to the shoreline and opportunities for public recreation. It is being built on the city's main parking lot. This project has strong community involvement and support among citizens, public officials, and key city leaders. Senator Patty Murray and the Governor's Office financially have supported the project. The City will contribute \$781,200 in cash and a state grant. (10-1591)

**King County****Grant Requested: \$500,000****Building a Trail in East Lake Sammamish**

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks will use this grant to develop 1 mile of trail from Northwest Gilman Boulevard in central Issaquah to Southeast 56th Street along an abandoned railroad. The paved trail will be 12 feet wide with 2-foot-wide gravel shoulders on each side. The County will add a retaining wall and install landscaping, fences, signs, and traffic controls. This is the second phase of a multi-phase project to complete an 11-mile trail corridor, which runs the length of the east side of Lake Sammamish, connecting the cities of Redmond, Sammamish, and Issaquah. This trail is a vital part of a 44-mile, multi-modal, non-motorized trail system extending from Puget Sound in Seattle to the Cascade foothills. This project will replace a gravel path, which is approved for use through 2015. Supporters of this project include Issaquah, Sammamish, Redmond, Cascade Bicycle Club, Bicycle Alliance of Washington, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, and Transportation Choices Coalition. The County will contribute more than \$1 million from a federal grant and a voter-approved levy. (10-1615)

**Eatonville****Grant Requested: \$700,000****Building the Bud Blancher Trail**

Eatonville will use this grant to build a 2.3-mile, non-motorized, multi-use trail between Eatonville and the University of Washington's Pack Forest. The 10-foot-wide trail will begin at the Eatonville School District playfields near the town center and end at Pack Forest, providing access to the hundreds of miles of trails within the forest. The town's long-term goals would extend the trail to Rim Rocks County Park, the planned Nisqually Mashel State Park, the Cascade Foothills Trail, and the Yelm Tenino Trail. The Bud Blancher Trail was identified as the backbone of a local trails system and momentum for the proposed trail has been growing. Eatonville received about \$500,000 in donations from the Bud Blancher Estate, the Rails to Trails Conservancy, and Peter and Christine Koch. When constructed, this trail would be the first paved, multi-use trail in south Pierce County. The Town will contribute \$702,546 in cash and cash donations. (10-1037)

**Bainbridge Island Park District**  
**Buying Land for the Forest to Sky Trail****Grant Requested: \$211,000**

The Bainbridge Island Park District will use this grant to buy 4 acres to provide the last link in the east-west corridor of the 5.5-mile Forest to Sky Trail. Contemplated since the 1970s, the Forest to Sky Trail crosses Bainbridge Island to link three parks (The Grand Forest, Meigs Park, and Battle Point Park) and two Bainbridge Island Land Trust corridor lands. This purchase will connect two portions of The Grand Forest together and connect to Meigs Park and Manitou Beach. Trail users will see a panoramic view from Manitou Beach to Seattle, as well as forests, ponds, wetlands, meadows, and the Olympic Mountains. The district will contribute \$211,000 in voter bonds and donated land. (10-1568)

**Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe**  
**Extending a Railroad Bridge over the Dungeness River****Grant Requested: \$52,000**

The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe will use this grant to extend an historic bridge and trestle 100 feet so that it fully spans the Dungeness River's migration area. Erosion, snow, and floods have damaged the trail bridge. The historic bridge is in the 28-acre Railroad Bridge Park and is a centerpiece of the Olympic Discovery Trail, which connects Port Townsend to the west Olympic peninsula. The trail is used by commuters, runners, bicyclists, and walkers, and is especially popular for families because of its scenic, quiet setting and safety away from traffic. It also is a popular bird and fish watching spot, as the bridge crosses the Dungeness River and multiple side channels. The trail extension will prevent impairment to the west side channel of the river, which provides rearing habitat for four salmon species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act (Puget Sound Chinook, Hood Canal and Strait of Juan de Fuca summer chum, Puget Sound steelhead, and bull trout). The tribe will contribute \$52,000 in cash donations, staff labor, and a federal grant. (10-1364)

**Sumner**  
**Building a Section of the Urban to Mountain Trail****Grant Requested: \$978,999**

Sumner will use this grant to build .37 mile of trail on the north end of Sumner's Urban to Mountain Trail. The trail follows the White River on the west edge of Sumner Meadows Golf Links, crosses the river on a pedestrian bridge, and continues to the site of a future city park. Sumner's Urban to Mountain Trail, including this section, is the missing link for 38 continuous miles of trail from Seattle's Interurban Trail to the Foothills Trail leading to Mount Rainier. The City will contribute more than \$1.2 million in cash and federal and private grants. (10-1660)



**Entiat****Grant Requested: \$500,000****Building the Entiat Waterfront Trail**

Entiat will use this grant to redevelop about 6 acres along the Columbia River and Lake Entiat. The City will develop a 1-mile waterfront trail; restore habitat along the shoreline; install trail lights, benches, and trash cans; and build a parking area, road, and restroom. The project will establish habitat along this shoreline of statewide significance, provide the public with access and views to the water, and create environmental and historical educational opportunities at viewing areas and with interpretive signs. The trail is part of a larger, planned project that ultimately will connect to form about 6 miles of continuous trail. The City will contribute \$500,000 from local and state grants. (10-1113)

**Mukilteo****Grant Requested: \$220,000****Finishing the Big Gulch Trail**

Mukilteo will use this grant to build a .64-mile nature trail in Big Gulch. Development will include a 3- to 4-foot-wide, soft surface, natural trail, boardwalks, education signs, a viewpoint, and entry structures. The trail will accommodate walkers, hikers, and bicyclists. This trail segment is the last remaining undeveloped link of a 2-mile recreational trail system within Big Gulch and connects to a regional bicycle system on State Route 525 and 112th Street that feeds into the countywide, interurban trail system. The trail also provides important local connections to neighborhoods, 92nd Street Park and trails, the city library and fire station, and schools. The City will contribute \$301,505. (10-1038)

**Twisp****Grant Requested: \$75,107****Securing Land for the Twisp Community Trail**

Twisp will use this grant to buy right-of-way across six pieces of property for a trail that will connect to the town's park. Visitors along much of the route will have views of the Methow and Twisp Rivers from low bank areas and dike trails. This is the first phase of a larger town trail plan and ensures public access and neighborhood connections to more than 1 mile of Twisp and Methow River shoreline. The Twisp Community Trail will connect neighborhoods south of the town park and west of Highway 20 to the park by a safe pathway. Currently, children have to walk on the road because there are no sidewalks. The Town will contribute \$80,757 in donations of labor and property interest. (10-1378)

**Yakima County****Grant Requested: \$810,829****Buying Land and Developing the Naches Spur Rail to Trail**

Yakima County Public Services will use this grant to buy 2.4 acres for a trailhead, and build 4.6 miles of a paved trail and two trailheads complete with restrooms, picnic areas, and parking lots. This new trail will link Naches to the community of Gleeby

connecting to an existing trail originating in Naches. Ultimately, the trails will extend to Yakima and connect to the Yakima Greenway, which is a 10-mile-long recreational pathway and park system. The result will be the creation of a paved trail and parks system boasting more than 20 miles of non-motorized transportation routes connecting several communities as well as providing links to neighboring trail systems including the William O. Douglas Trail. The proposed pathway will be maintained by the Yakima Greenway Foundation, which has a 30-year history of successful path and park administration. The County will contribute \$810,829 in donations of cash and land. (10-1596)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$280,350**  
**Buying Land to Connect Deception Pass with an Anacortes Forest**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 5 acres of undeveloped forestland between Deception Pass State Park and land that Skagit County is buying. The purchase will connect the state park to a piece of property on which Skagit County is acquiring an easement, which will allow users to walk or bike from the state park, to the easement property, then along a county road to the Anacortes Community Forest Lands and its 50 miles of trail. This connection will serve as the formal route of the 1,200-mile Pacific Northwest Trail, which runs from the Continental Divide in Montana to the Washington Coast. (10-1713)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$770,000**  
**Repairing a Willapa Hills Trail Bridge**

State Parks will use this grant to install decking, safety railings, and signs, as well as repair wing-walls on a railroad bridge on the Willapa Hills Trail. Referred to as Bridge 5, this 823-foot-long structure is less than 1 mile from the Adna trailhead, which is about 3 miles east of Chehalis. The repairs are necessary to improve safety and will open the trail from Chehalis to Pe Ell. The Willapa Hills Trail is a non-motorized, 56-mile trail that runs from Chehalis to South Bend. (10-1307)

**Gig Harbor** **Grant Requested: \$1,000,000**  
**Completing the Cushman Trail**

Gig Harbor, in partnership with Tacoma Public Utilities, will use this grant to build the final mile of a 6-mile, pedestrian trail that links one end of the city to the other. The trail provides access to a regional center of restaurants, services, and shopping; a new hospital; and one of the fastest growing neighborhoods in the area. The new trail will cross ½-mile of wetlands over a bridge and boardwalk. The City will build a trailhead with parking and restrooms, and install benches, trash cans, viewing overlooks, wood railings, utilities, and rock walls. The existing Cushman Trail is a 5-mile, 16-foot-wide, asphalt path that runs within the Tacoma-Cushman Power Line utility corridor. It is part of a regional walking, jogging, and biking path that will connect to Tacoma's Scott

Pierson Trail at the Narrows Bridge for an uninterrupted 12-mile route. The City will contribute more than \$1.4 million in cash and a federal grant. (10-1278)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Extending the Centennial Trail****Grant Requested: \$663,898**

State Parks will use this grant to build a 2-mile, 10-foot-wide, paved trail that will extend Spokane's Centennial Trail. The 2-mile extension will link Avista Utilities' Nine Mile Resort on Lake Spokane with the 37-mile Spokane River Centennial Trail and Spokane County's Sontag Park. In addition to increasing the regional trail system and linking recreational facilities, the expanded trail will address the need for a non-motorized trail in the Nine Mile community. State Parks will contribute \$110,000 in cash donations from Avista Utilities Corporation and Friends of the Centennial Trail. (10-1088)

**Peninsula Metropolitan Park District**  
**Buying and Building Cushman-Pierson Trails Connector****Grant Requested: \$922,025**

The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to buy 9 acres for a trail to connect the Cushman and the Scott Pierson Trails on the Gig Harbor side of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge, and then develop .5 mile of trail and a trailhead with parking, a restroom, and a picnic area. If the property is not acquired, it most likely will be sold for commercial business use. Trail connectors to the beach would be developed in a later phase. The district will contribute \$922,026. (10-1267)

**Tacoma**  
**Building the Beginning of the Prairie Line Trail****Grant Requested: \$1,746,015**

Tacoma will use this grant to build a .5-mile section of the Prairie Line Trail, which will transform an historic railroad corridor into a pedestrian and bicycle trail connecting downtown Tacoma's most significant recreational, cultural, and educational destinations to its waterfront. In this first phase, the City will connect the revitalized Thea Foss Waterway to the museum district and onto the University of Washington Tacoma campus. The City and University of Washington Tacoma are partnering to develop the trail. The Prairie Line Trail is a critical link in the region's trail system, connecting Tacoma's waterfront and downtown with multiple city and regional trails. Traversing the steep hills of Tacoma is a challenge; but the gentle grade of this former rail corridor provides an easier walking and cycling alternative. In future phases, the trail will extend to the historic Brewery District, connecting with the Water Ditch Trail and south Tacoma neighborhoods. The City will contribute more than \$2.2 million in staff labor, a state grant, and donations of labor and land. (10-1505)

**Cheney**  
**Building the Cheney Wetland Trail****Grant Requested: \$37,500**

Cheney will use this grant to transform 1.5 miles of a wetland utility road into a gravel trail that will travel around the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant wetlands and connect to the 23-mile Columbia Plateau Trail and eventually Spokane's 10.8-mile Fish Lake Trail. The trail is less than 1 mile from downtown Cheney and easily accessible. The City will contribute \$37,500 in cash, staff labor, and donated equipment. (10-1240)

**Kitsap County**  
**Buying Land for the North Kitsap Heritage Park Trails****Grant Requested: \$475,000**

The Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 218 acres for a hub in a regional trail system. Upon purchase, Kitsap County and the North Kitsap Trails Association, along with the volunteers, will develop nearly 2 miles of non-motorized and interconnecting recreational trail. The property links existing trails in the adjacent Suquamish Tribe Whitehorse housing development and the Arborwood planned residential development. It will provide for links to southern regional trails connecting through Poulsbo to Bainbridge Island, northwestern links to the Hansville Greenway and the Hood Canal Bridge, and eastern links to Kingston and regional trails in south Snohomish County. The County will contribute \$925,000 in cash, a federal grant, and donated land. (10-1257)

**Kirkland**  
**Developing the Forbes Lake Park Trail****Grant Requested: \$760,586**

Kirkland will use this grant to build a .35-mile foot trail and boardwalk system with viewing platforms and interpretive displays at the 16-acre Forbes Lake. The City also will make habitat and landscaping improvements and install trail amenities. The City plans to provide access to the Forbes Lake shore for people with disabilities for the first time since buying the property 20 years ago. The trail will include historic interpretation of early settlement, and viewing platforms with displays detailing the abundance of wildlife and the important role the lake plays in providing habitat and improving water quality for the community. The trail will complete an important neighborhood link in the city's non-motorized transportation, improving connections to commercial and community facilities. The project will be a demonstration site for low impact development techniques including the use of pervious asphalt paving, rain gardens, and recycled materials. The City will contribute \$760,587. (10-1342)

**Moses Lake****Grant Requested: \$183,891****Extending the Trail at Blue Heron Park**

Moses Lake will use this grant to extend the Neppel Trail, which runs along the shore of Moses Lake, by .64 mile through Blue Heron Park to connect with a housing development. The trail currently ends at the park. The City will build a 10-foot-wide, accessible trail, including installing lights, benches for wildlife viewing, and bike racks near the swimming area. The City will contribute \$183,891. (10-1045)

**Des Moines****Grant Requested: \$1,000,000****Buying Land for the Barnes Creek Trail**

Des Moines will use this grant to buy 25 acres of the Barnes Creek trail corridor. The land is heavily forested with wetlands and adjacent to the salmon-bearing Barnes Creek. Future development of the Barnes Creek Trail will provide connections to major public facilities such as Highline Community College, three schools, Mount Rainier Pool, Des Moines Activity Center, Steven J. Underwood Memorial Sports Park, Port of Seattle business center, and the Des Moines Creek Trail, which is part of south King County's Lake Washington to Puget Sound trail system. The Barnes Creek Trail corridor connects to three park systems including Des Moines Creek Park, Des Moines Beach Park National Historic District and Tidelands, and Des Moines Marina, providing 101 acres of contiguous park and open areas with more than 4 miles of scenic trails and access to Puget Sound. The City will contribute more than \$2.8 million in conservation futures<sup>1</sup>, a voter-approved levy, and donated land. (10-1594)

**Sumner****Grant Requested: \$324,505****Extending the Sumner Urban to Mountain Trail**

Sumner will use this grant to build .5 mile of trail on the northern most point of the Sumner Urban to Mountain Trail, separating trail users from a heavily used road. This new section of the trail follows the north side of Sumner Meadows Golf Links, connecting the Sumner Urban to Mountain Trail to the Lakeland Hills trail. Sumner's Urban to Mountain Trail, including this section, is the missing link for 38 continuous miles of trail from the Seattle's Interurban Trail to the Foothills Trail leading to Mount Rainier. This is a special missing link because in 2008, 22-year-old Colin Keck lost his life when riding his bike from his home in Lakeland Hills to work in downtown Sumner. This project provides a designated trail in this section, pulling bikers and walkers off Stewart Road, which is used by 733 cars, 4 buses, and 325 trucks in just one hour alone. The City will contribute \$324,506 in cash and cash donations. (10-1668)

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.



**Sequim** **Grant Requested: \$341,497**  
**Building the Sequim Missing Link in the Olympic Discovery Trail**

Sequim will use this grant to develop .85 mile of trail through a neighborhood, completing the missing link in Sequim for the Olympic Discovery Trail. With 40 trail miles finished, and 20 more in the works, the Olympic Discovery Trail is fast turning the dream of a Puget Sound to Pacific trail into reality. This missing section has been in the works for more than ten years, while the City worked closely with landowners and the community. The City will build a 10-foot-wide, paved trail through an established urban neighborhood, from Sequim's Carrie Blake Park on the east to Sequim Avenue on the west. The City also will realign the existing trail through Carrie Blake Park to match the new trail location on the east. The route will provide a safe path to schools from Sequim's eastside. The majority of the route is along city streets that do not have sidewalks, which allows the trail to be built within the street right-of-way. The City will contribute \$341,497 in cash and donated labor. (10-1292)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$1,173,822**  
**Developing the Olallie Trail**

State Parks will use this grant to build 8.6 miles of the Olallie Trail, giving trail users a unique opportunity to explore a dramatic and previously inaccessible area of Olallie State Park. The trail will ascend the forested slopes of Mount Washington above the John Wayne Pioneer Trail for 3.9 miles before connecting with abandoned logging roads that provide frequent, expansive views of the broad glacial valleys and the dramatic topography of the Mountains to Sound Greenway. The trail ascends 2,700 feet in elevation. This trail represents one of the most important opportunities for mountain biking in the region. It connects the John Wayne Pioneer Trail to about 20 miles of trail planned on U.S. Forest Service land and it will connect to a recently completed hiking route to the summit of Mount Washington. (10-1662)

**Mason County** **Grant Requested: \$377,000**  
**Developing the Mason County North Bay Trail**

Mason County will use this grant to develop the 1.6-mile North Bay Trail, a walking and biking trail that runs from the Port of Allyn Park to the future Coulter Creek Park at the tip of Case Inlet. The trail will use county road right-of-way along North Bay County Road and State Route 3. This project is also the beginning of the Mason Regional Trail system, which would create a 10-mile loop trail that links this trail to Belfair, Theler Wetlands, Wagon Wheel Park, and Lakeland Village. Mason County partners include Allyn Business Association, Port of Allyn, Cascade Land Conservancy, Taylor Shellfish, Squaxin Island Tribe, State Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Transportation, and Overton Associates. The County will contribute \$377,500 in a state grant and donations of cash, equipment, and labor. (10-1604)

**Item 8D**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Outdoor Recreation Account  
Trails Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Darrell Jennings, Senior Recreation Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*Trails means public ways constructed for and open to pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists, or any combination thereof, other than a sidewalk constructed as a part of a city street or county road for exclusive use of pedestrians.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Twenty-five Trails Category projects requesting \$14.9 million were evaluated between August 18 and 19 in open public meetings. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Trails Category Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-25. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

### Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 79A.15.010 (10), Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands



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.

## Program Policies

The Trails category provides funds for pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian, or cross-country ski trails. Trails must be for nonmotorized use and cannot be part of a street or roadway. If located along a roadway, the trail must be separated from the roadway by a physical barrier. Sponsors may use funds for facilities such as parking and rest, picnic, or viewing areas that are directly related to an existing or proposed public trail.

The Trails category is eligible to receive 20 percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program funds in the Outdoor Recreation account.

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Local and state agencies
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquisition, development, and renovation of trails and trailheads</li><li>• Combination projects involving both acquisition and development/renovation</li></ul>
<b>Funding Limits</b>	No limits
<b>Match Requirements</b>	Local agencies must provide at least a 50 percent matching share
<b>Public Access</b>	Required

## Evaluation Summary

Twenty-five Trails category projects requesting \$14.9 million were evaluated between August 18 and 19 in open public meetings. Using criteria adopted by the board, a team of eight evaluators reviewed and ranked the projects. The team included the following state and local agency representatives and citizens-at-large who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to trail issues:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Tom Eksten, Bothell	Citizen
Linda Gorremans, Winlock	Citizen
Shawn F. Smith, Lacey	Citizen
Stacie Barnum, Aberdeen Parks & Recreation	Local Agency
Kris Pomianek, Chelan County Public Utility District	Local Agency
Tim Wahl, Bellingham Parks & Recreation	Local Agency
Michael O'Malley, Department of Fish & Wildlife	State Agency
Ed Spilker, Department of Transportation	State Agency
Deb Wallace, State Parks	State Agency

*Table 1 – WWRP, Trails Category Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012* shows the results of the evaluation.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The Board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## Attachments

Resolution #2010-25

- Table 1 – WWRP, Trails Category Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
  
- A. State Map for Trails Category projects
- B. Trails Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. Trails Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. Trails Project Synopses

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-25  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Trails Category, Fiscal Year 2012, ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twenty-five Trails category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Trails category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred 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 twenty-five Trails category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program - Outdoor Recreation Account*, thereby supporting the board's goal to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, all of the projects acquire, develop or renovate pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian, or cross-country ski trails, thereby furthering the board's goal to provide funding for recreation opportunities statewide, including bicycling and walking facilities and facilities most conducive to improved health;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Trails Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Trails category projects for further consideration.

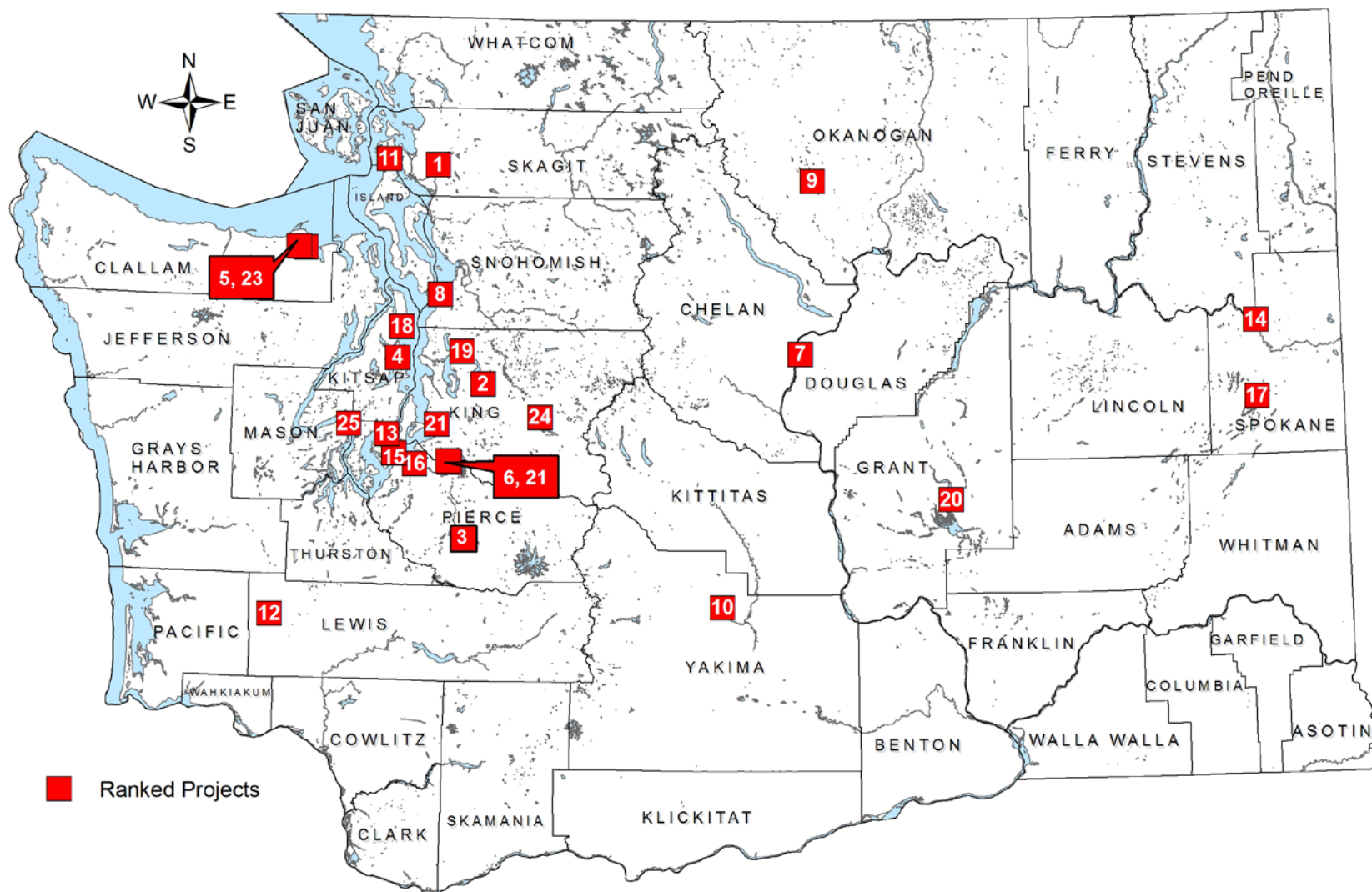
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

## State Map for Trails Category projects



## Trails Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

Trails means public ways constructed for and open to pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists, or any combination thereof, other than a sidewalk constructed as a part of a city street or county road for exclusive use of pedestrians.<sup>2</sup>

Trails Criteria Analysis					
Score	#	Question	Project Type	Maximum Points Possible	Focus*
Evaluation Team	1	Need	Acquisition, Development	15	Local
Evaluation Team	2	Project Design	Development	15	Technical
Evaluation Team	3	Immediacy of Threat	Acquisition	15	Local
Evaluation Team	4	Trail and Community Linkages	Acquisition, Development	15	State and Local
Evaluation Team	5	Water Access, Views, and Scenic Values	Acquisition, Development	10	State
Evaluation Team	6	Wildlife Habitat Connectivity	Acquisition, Development	5	State
Evaluation Team	7	Project Support	Acquisition, Development	10	State and Local
Evaluation Team	8	Cost Efficiencies	Acquisition, Development	5	State and Local
RCO Staff	9	Growth Management Act Preference	Acquisition, Development	0	State
RCO Staff	10	Population Proximity	Acquisition, Development	3	State
<b>Total Points Possible: Acquisition=78, Development=78</b>					

\*Focus – Criteria orientation in accordance with Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) policy of developing evaluation systems based on three need factors:

- State – those that meet general statewide needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or SCORP)
- Local – those that meet local needs (usually an item of narrower purview, often called for in local plans)
- Technical – those that meet technical considerations (usually more objective decisions than those of policy).

<sup>2</sup> Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.010

## Scoring Criteria, Trails Category

### Team Scored Criteria

1. **Need.**  
Is the project needed? RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(v-vi)
1. **Project Design.**  
Is the proposal appropriately designed for the intended use(s)?  
Development RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(v)
3. **Immediacy of Threat.**  
Does a threat to the public availability of a part of the trail exist?  
Acquisition RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(ii)
4. **Trail and Community Linkages.**  
Does the trail project connect trails and communities or provide linkages to community oriented facilities or resources? RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(iii)(iv)
5. **Water Access, Views, and Scenic Values.**  
Does the project provide scenic values and/or direct and immediate recreational *access to or views of* a "significant" natural water body? Water access is the primary criterion; scenic values or views of water are secondary. RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(vii)(ix)
6. **Wildlife Habitat Connectivity.**  
Will this proposal enhance wildlife's *access to food, water, or cover*? RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(viii)
7. **Project Support.**  
The extent that the public (statewide, community, and/or user groups) has been provided with an adequate *opportunity to become informed*, and/or *support* for the project seems apparent. RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(i)
8. **Cost Efficiencies.**  
Does the project demonstrate efficiencies and/or reduce government costs through documented use of:
  - a. Volunteers,
  - b. Donations,
  - c. *Signed* cooperative agreements or
  - d. *Signed* memoranda of understanding (such as no cost easements/leases, maintenance/operation arrangements, or similar cost savings).

## Scored by RCO Staff

### 9. **GMA Preference.**

Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)? RCW 43.17.250 (GMA-preference required.)

### 10. **Population Proximity.**

- a. The project is located within the urban growth area boundary of a city or town with a population of 5,000 or more. AND
- b. The project is located within a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile RCW 79A.25.250



**Peninsula Metropolitan Park District**  
**Buying the DeMolay Property for a Park****Grant Requested: \$1,267,875**

The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to buy 3.56 acres, including about a quarter mile of shoreline, for a park, and to protect valuable habitat. The DeMolay property is a pristine sand spit on the north east tip of Fox Island, just west of Gig Harbor. The purchase will protect a treasured piece of waterfront from development while providing access to the water for the public. Protection of the natural area is another benefit of this acquisition. The property is for sale and likely would be developed for homes. The district will contribute more than \$1.2 million in cash and donated land. (10-1271)

**Clallam County**  
**Buying Clallam Bay Property for a Park****Grant Requested: \$50,000**

Clallam County Parks, Fair and Facilities Division will use this grant to buy 7.45 acres in the community of Clallam Bay. The County owns the adjacent parcel and, with this purchase, would create a place for a future, 8.64-acre park. The waterfront property would provide year-round access to Clallam Bay, on the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Water access sites are limited in this area, with the county's Clallam Bay Spit Park only allowing limited public access because of recent flooding and a washed out bridge. Future development would include paving the entry road and parking area, and installing a vault toilet, picnic tables, and barbeque grills. The County will contribute \$50,000. (10-1348)

**Kent**  
**Buying Panther Lake Property for a Park****Grant Requested: \$310,800**

Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services will use this grant to buy 1 acre in the newly annexed Panther Lake area. The City is buying 5.62 acres, including 450 feet of shoreline on Panther Lake, and when combined with this new purchase, the City will have enough for a park. The new purchase provides 150 feet of street frontage, space for a parking lot, restroom, and other park amenities. The City plans to develop the park to include a hand launch for small, non-motorized boats, trails, benches, a picnic shelter, a restroom, a playground, parking, and a pier that extends over the lake to allow for nature watching and fishing. The City will contribute \$310,800 in cash and conservation futures<sup>1</sup>. (10-1449)

**Shelton**  
**Buying Land at Eagle Point for a Park****Grant Requested: \$212,000**

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

Shelton will use this grant to buy 14 acres including .3 mile on Oakland Bay and more than 4 acres of tideland for a park. This prime waterfront property will be developed if it is not acquired for the public. The natural, wooded setting offers a unique opportunity for beachcombing, picnicking, and viewing Mount Rainier, wildlife, and boats traveling in and out of Shelton's historic waterfront. Eagle Point also provides rich shellfish grounds and important habitat for coho, steelhead, and cutthroat salmon that spawn in Goldsborough Creek. An easy, shallow cove would allow for launching canoes or kayaks into Oakland Bay. The community has strong ties to the bay, as it is the sole reason Shelton was established in 1890. Currently, there is very limited public access on Shelton's waterfront. The City will contribute \$220,500 in a state grant and donations of cash and labor. (10-1092)

**Chelan**  
**Improving Access to the Water at Don Morse Park**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

Chelan Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to restore about 2.5 acres and 175 feet of natural beach at Don Morse Park, the first phase of a multi-phase project to restore about a quarter mile of natural beach. The City will provide erosion protection by building a drift sill, restore the swimming beach, create a pea gravel beach that will be more stable and require minimal maintenance, and plant native plantings at the top of the sill to provide habitat for wildlife. The City also will add a crushed rock path from the parking area to the water, build an accessible swim ramp into the water, and add a launch for hand-carried boats. Chelan's population swells from 4,000 to more than 20,000 in summer. Residents and visitors are cut off from much of Lake Chelan by private development and a lack of beaches. The City will contribute \$500,000. (10-1212)

**Port of Allyn**  
**Expanding Allyn's Waterfront Park**

**Grant Requested: \$291,000**

The Port of Allyn will use this grant to buy 32,000 square feet of property, including tidelands, next to the existing Allyn Waterfront Park for public access to North Bay in Case Inlet, and to restore it to a more natural state. The Port will remove a house, garage, fence, driveway, and parking area. The Port owns the only developed public parks on the inlet. This expansion will provide the opportunity for more people to enjoy the waterfront. There will be interpretive signs and the area can serve as the starting point for the proposed North Bay Trail. The Port will contribute \$360,400 in cash, staff labor, materials, grants, and donations of equipment and labor. (10-1109)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Expanding Saint Edward State Park**

**Grant Requested: \$2,163,603**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 9.77 acres on Lake Washington, next to Saint Edward State Park. The park is one of the top ten most visited state parks, with more than 750,000 visitors a year. At 316 acres and with a half mile of Lake

Washington waterfront, it is often termed an oasis of green in the highly developed Kenmore and Kirkland area. The park and the two properties north of it, including the McDonald property, which would be purchased with this grant, are the last stretches of undeveloped, forested shoreline on Lake Washington. The purchase will increase the park's shoreline by 15 percent and will provide more places for swimming, fishing, and kayaking, as well as for enjoying the phenomenal views of Lake Washington from the lakefront trail. The water is shallower along the shore of the McDonald property than in the rest of the park, which makes it warmer, and ideal for swimming. This purchase also will preserve two park trails: one that connects the neighborhood north of the park to Saint Edward along the beach, and the other that provides a hiking loop within the park. The project also preserves habitat for freshwater clams and salmon. (10-1556)

**Washougal**  
**Replacing the Hathaway Boat Launch****Grant Requested: \$64,795**

Washougal will use this grant to remove the Hathaway boat launch, construct a new launch, and create a more accessible path to the beach for people with disabilities. Hathaway Park, one of Washougal's most visited parks, provides boat access to the Washougal River. The launch has seen no major improvements or repairs since it was built 30 years ago, and it has worn into a potentially unsafe condition. The upper Washougal River is known as an advanced water trail because of its challenging boulders and narrow channels. Hathaway Park provides one of two trailer launches on the river and a gentle river experience for a wide variety of users. The potential loss of this launch eliminates a valuable service for both upstream users who take out here and boats that travel between Hathaway and the downstream access points. The City will contribute \$64,796. (10-1098)

**Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District**  
**Developing a Park on Taylor Bay****Grant Requested: \$244,000**

The Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to develop 6.3 acres on Taylor Bay into a day use park and water trail camping site. The district will develop a picnic shelter, viewpoint, launch for hand-carried boats, footbridge, primitive campsites, restroom, and parking. The 39-acre Taylor Bay property has special natural habitat and scenic values and nearly a half mile of saltwater shoreline. The property offers views of Case Inlet and the Olympic Mountains. The development will provide educational opportunities for environmental learning, enhance public access to the shoreline in an area with few beaches, and serve as a canoe and kayak launching spot. Currently, there are launching sites at various points along Key Peninsula, but no water access along the southern section, making Taylor Bay a prime launching spot. The district will contribute \$244,000 in cash, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. This grant is from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (10-1312)



**Mason County**  
**Buying and Developing Coulter Creek Park****Grant Requested: \$450,000**

Mason County will use this grant to buy and develop about 50 acres at the head of North Bay, between Allyn and Victor. The property has about 18 acres of forest and about 32 acres of wetlands, primarily tidelands and mud flats. The County plans to develop a trailhead for the North Bay Trail, a boardwalk, and forested trail to a water viewpoint, as well as provide environmental education, historical interpretation, a community shellfish area, and a small parking area with a restroom. The majority of the property would be left undisturbed. Partners include the Allyn Business Association, Port of Allyn, Squaxin Island Tribe, and Taylor's Shellfish. The County will contribute \$550,000 in cash, staff labor, grants, and cash donations. (10-1601)

**Bainbridge Island Park District**  
**Manzanita Bay Park II: Water Access****Grant Requested: \$840,061**

The Bainbridge Island Park District will use this grant to buy and conserve 8.8 acres, including 464 feet of shoreline, on Bainbridge Island near Manzanita Bay Park. The park provides the only public access to Manzanita Bay aside from a single, public road end. Of the island's 53 miles of shoreline, only 3.4 miles or less than 7 percent is in public ownership. The purchase will provide access to the water for the public and preserve salmon habitat. The property has a pebbly beach and tideland area, fruit trees, a lawn, and views across the bay. The tidelands are an abundant source of forage fish, particularly herring important to coho, Chinook, and other priority fish species. Bainbridge Island's Historic Preservation Commission, Open Space Commission, Watershed Council, Suquamish Tribe, and kayak enthusiasts support the project. The district will contribute \$1.1 million in cash and a state grant. (10-1730)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Buying Land to Expand Iron Horse State Park****Grant Requested: \$573,600**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 30.5 acres to provide much needed access from the John Wayne Pioneer Trail in Iron Horse State Park to the Yakima River. The property is halfway between two highly used boat launches managed by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. Iron Horse State Park provides for a range of activities, including walking, bicycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, dog sledding, and fishing. The park and trail are an integral part of the cross-state trail network that extends from Puget Sound to Idaho and from Pasco to Spokane, a distance of 108 miles. The cross-state trail is the backbone of a larger network of local and regional trails. Future development of the property includes the construction of trails from the John Wayne Pioneer Trail to the Yakima River, a picnic shelter, and a launch for hand-carried boats. (10-1570)

**State Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Buying the Badlands and their Lakes****Grant Requested: \$1,000,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 1,060 acres that includes two lakes for fishing. Big Badlands Lake is a 19-acre, relatively deep, cold water lake that is home to trout. Little Badlands Lake is a 6-acre, shallow, warm water lake that will offer largemouth bass, crappie, and bluegill sunfish fishing. The property also will accommodate waterfowl and bird hunting (quail, pheasants, and doves). The property is unique because it has the only natural lakes in Benton County capable of supporting rainbow trout year-round. The property would be managed as part of the Rattlesnake Slope Wildlife Area, and restricted to walk-in or non-motorized use. (10-1148)

**Item 8E**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Outdoor Recreation Account  
Water Access Ranked List for Fiscal Year 2012  
Prepared By: Karl Jacobs, Recreation Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*Water Access means boat or foot access to marine waters, lakes, rivers, or streams.<sup>1</sup>*

### Summary

Thirteen Water Access category projects requesting \$8 million were evaluated on August 17 in an open public meeting. Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Water Access Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*, via Resolution #2010-26. In keeping with board guidelines, this list includes enough projects to use the statutory amount set aside for this category, with the remainder identified as alternates should funds be available.

If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

### Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 79A.15.010 (12), Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands



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.

## Program Policies

The Water Access category provides funds for projects that provide physical access to shorelines for non-motorized, water-related recreation activities. These include boating, fishing, swimming, and beach access. Grants may be used to acquire land for, or develop facilities that support, water-dependent recreation such as fishing piers and platforms, boat access facilities, swim beaches, and water trails for canoes and kayaks.

The Water Access category is eligible to receive 15 percent of the WWRP funds in the Outdoor Recreation account.<sup>2</sup> Seventy-five percent of the funds allocated in this category must be used for acquisition costs. Meeting this statutory requirement may require skipping higher-ranked development projects in favor of acquisition projects.

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Local and state <sup>3</sup> agencies, federally recognized Native American tribes, special purpose and port districts
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	Acquisition, development, and renovation of water access sites or facilities Combination projects involve both acquisition and development/renovation
<b>Funding Limits</b>	No limits
<b>Match Requirements</b>	Local agencies, federally recognized Native American tribes, and special purpose and port districts must provide a 50 percent matching share. There is no match requirement for state agencies, although they are encouraged to contribute match.
<b>Public Access</b>	Required

## Evaluation Summary

Thirteen Water Access category projects requesting \$8 million were evaluated on August 17 in an open public meeting. Using criteria adopted by the board, a team of ten evaluators reviewed and ranked the projects. The team included the following state and local agency representatives

---

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 79A.15.050(1)(d) RCW

<sup>3</sup> State agencies mean the State Parks and Recreation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of General Administration, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

and citizens who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to water access issues:

<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Mark Levensky, Seattle	Citizen
Loren Stern, Olympia	Citizen
Rick Terway, Pasco	Citizen
Ed Field, Port of South Whidbey Island	Local Agency
Curtis Hancock, Tacoma Metropolitan Parks District	Local Agency
Jeroen Kok, Vancouver Parks & Recreation	Local Agency
Camron Parker, City of Bellevue	Local Agency
Jessi Richardson, City of Sammamish	Local Agency
Randy Kline, State Parks	State Agency
Penny Warren, Department of Fish & Wildlife	State Agency

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – WWRP, Water Access Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Governor then submits the list of WWRP projects to the legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove projects from the list but cannot add or re-order the list. The 2011 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The Board will make final approval and funding decisions at its June 2011 meeting. Notebook item #4 describes the full WWRP funding process.

## Attachments

Resolution #2010-26

- Table 1 – WWRP, Water Access Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
- 
- A. State Map for Water Access Category projects
  - B. Water Access Evaluation Criteria Summary
  - C. Water Access Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
  - D. Water Access Project Summaries (a synopsis of each proposal)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-26  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Water Access Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, thirteen Water Access category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these thirteen Water Access category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; 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 thirteen Water Access category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual 10a: *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account*, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects involve acquisition, development, and/or renovation of properties for recreational access to water, 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 of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Water Access Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Water Access category projects for further consideration.

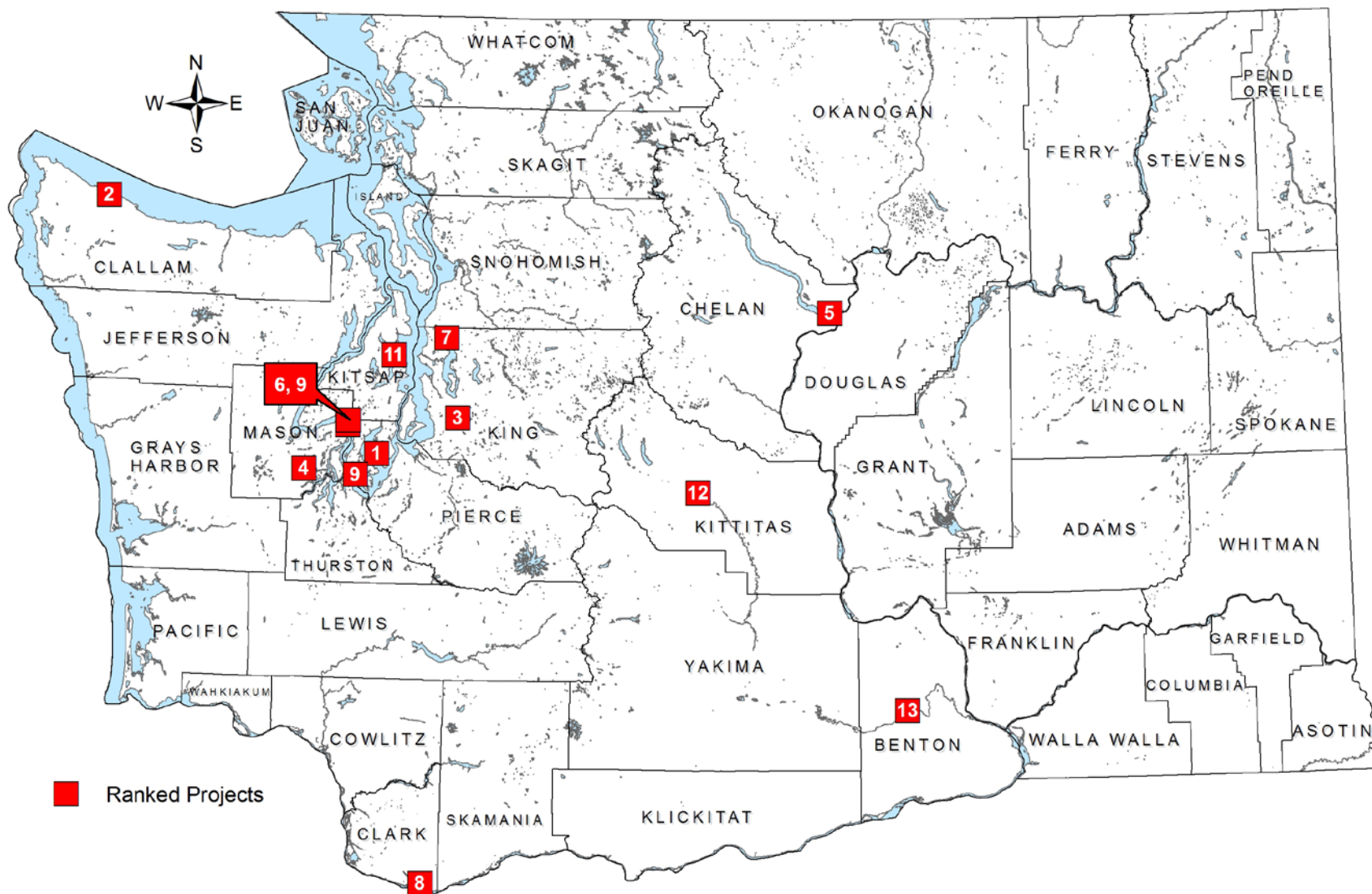
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

## State Map for Water Access Category projects



## Water Access Category, Evaluation Criteria Summary

Water access means boat or foot access to marine waters, lakes, river, or streams. *(Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.010)*

Water Access Criteria Analysis					
Score	#	Question	Project Type	Maximum Points Possible	Focus
Evaluation Team	1	Public Need	Acquisition, Development	15	Local
Evaluation Team	2	Project Design	Development	10	Technical
Evaluation Team	3	Immediacy of Threat	Acquisition	15	Local
Evaluation Team	4	Site Suitability	Acquisition, Development	10	Technical
Evaluation Team	5	Expansion	Acquisition, Development	5	State
Evaluation Team	6	Diversity of Recreational Uses	Development	5	State
Evaluation Team	7	Project Support	Acquisition, Development	10	State, Local
Evaluation Team	8	Cost Efficiencies	Acquisition, Development	5	State, Local
RCO Staff	9	Growth Management Act Preference	Acquisition, Development	0	State
RCO Staff	10	Population Proximity	Acquisition, Development	3	State
<b>Total Points Possible: Acquisition=63, Development=63</b>					

\*Focus: Criteria orientation in accordance with State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) policy of developing evaluation systems based on three need factors:

- State – those that meet general statewide needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or SCORP)
- Local –those that meet local needs (usually an item of narrower purview, often called for in local plans)
- Technical – those that meet technical considerations (usually more objective decisions than those of policy).

## Scoring Criteria, Water Access Category

### Team Scored Criteria

1. **Public Need**

Considering the availability of existing public water access sites within at least 15 miles of the project site, what is the need for additional such sites?

RCW 79A.15.070(6)(b)(v-vi)

2. **Project Design**

Does the project demonstrate good design criteria; does it make the best use of the site?  
Development only

3. **Immediacy of Threat**

To what extent will this project reduce a threat to the public availability of water access?  
Acquisition only

RCW 79A.15.070(6)(b)(iii)

4. **Site Suitability**

Is the site well suited for the intended recreational uses?

RCW 79A.15.070(6)(b)(v)

5. **Expansion**

Will the project expand an existing recreation area or facility?

6. **Diversity of Recreational Uses**

To what extent does this project provide diversity of possible water based recreational activities? Development only

RCW 79A.15.070(6)(b)(iv)

7. **Project Support**

The extent that the public (statewide, community, and/or user groups) has been provided with an adequate *opportunity to become informed*, and/or *support* for the project seems apparent.

RCW 79A.15.070(6)(b)(i)

8. **Cost Efficiencies.**

The extent that this project demonstrates efficiencies and/or reduces government costs through documented use of:

- a. Volunteers,
- b. Donations,
- c. *Signed* cooperative agreements or
- d. *Signed* memoranda of understanding (such as no cost easements/leases, maintenance/operation arrangements, or similar cost savings).

## Scored by RCO Staff

9. **GMA Preference.**

Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)?

RCW 43.17.250 (GMA-preference required.)

10. **Population Proximity.**

a. The project is located within the urban growth area boundary of a city or town with a population of 5,000 or more. AND

b. The project is located within a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile.

RCW 79A.25.250



## Item 9

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Fiscal Year 2010 Projects  
Prepared By: Leslie Ryan-Connelly, Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

### Proposed Action: Decision

### Program Description

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) grant program funds are used for the acquisition, restoration, or enhancement of aquatic lands for public purposes and for providing and improving public access to aquatic lands and associated waters. "Aquatic lands" means all tidelands, shorelands, harbor areas, and the beds of navigable waters.

### Summary

Twenty-seven Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) projects, requesting more than \$10.5 million, were submitted for fiscal year 2012 funding consideration. The Board is asked to approve the ranked list of projects, which will then be forwarded to the Governor for inclusion in the 2011-2013 Capital Budget. This memo highlights the process used for evaluating these projects and includes staff's recommendation for final ranking.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – ALEA Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012* via Resolution #2010-27. If approved by the board, staff will forward the list to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2011-2013 biennium.

### Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance habitat and 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 habitat and recreation opportunities.

## Program Policies

The ALEA grant program provides funds for acquisition, restoration, or enhancement of aquatic lands for public purposes, and for development or renovation of facilities that provide or improve public access to aquatic lands and associated waters. Policies governing the program are outlined in Board Manual #21, *ALEA Program: Policies and Project Selection*.

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Native American tribes, local and state agencies
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	Acquisition, restoration, development, or enhancement
<b>Match Requirements</b>	Minimum 50% matching share is required for <u>all</u> applicants
<b>Funding Limits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$1,000,000 maximum for acquisition and combination (acquisition and development) projects</li><li>• \$500,000 for restoration or development projects and combination (restoration and development) projects</li></ul>
<b>Public Access</b>	Public access to aquatic lands must exist or be included in the project proposal
<b>Other Program Characteristics</b>	Projects must be adjacent to a "navigable" <sup>1</sup> water body

## Revenue and Fund Distribution

The ALEA grant program is funded with revenue generated by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from the management of state-owned aquatic lands. Revenue sources include the sale or lease of state-owned aquatic lands and the sale of valuable materials (e.g., geoduck harvest rights).

The state treasurer deducts DNR management costs and payments to towns from the total funds that the state receives. The remaining funds are placed into the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. The legislature appropriates the funds to various state agencies, including RCO, for the following purposes:

- aquatic lands enhancement projects;
- purchase, improvement, or protection of aquatic lands for public purposes; and
- providing and improving access to the lands.

---

<sup>1</sup> Defined in Washington State Constitution, Article XVII, and 33 Code of Federal Regulations 32 .

## Evaluation Summary

Twenty-seven Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) projects, requesting more than \$10.5 million, were submitted for fiscal year 2012 funding consideration.

The ALEA Advisory Committee used board-adopted criteria to review and rank projects on August 3 and 4, 2010, in an open public meeting in Olympia, WA. The nine-member committee included the following state and local agency representatives and a private citizen, all of whom are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge about the enhancement and protection of aquatic resources:

<b>Advisory Committee Member</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Clay Antieau	Seattle Public Utilities
Rick Eichstaedt	Citizen
Tom Ernsberger	State Parks
Jason Filan	Kirkland Community Services
Tana Bader Inglima	Port of Kennewick
Jeanne Koenings	State Department of Ecology
Barry Troutman	State Department of Fish and Wildlife
Tim Myers	Whitman County Parks
Dona Wuthnow	San Juan County Parks

The results of the evaluations, provided for Board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – ALEA Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## Next Steps

The results of the evaluations, provided for Board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – ALEA Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012*.

## Attachments

Resolution #2010-27

- Table 1 – ALEA Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012
- A. State Map for ALEA projects
- B. ALEA Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. ALEA Project Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. ALEA Project Summaries

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-27

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twenty-seven Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) program projects are eligible for funding; and

**WHEREAS**, these ALEA projects were evaluated using criteria approved by the 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 twenty-seven ALEA program projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual 21: *Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Grant Program: Policies And Project Selection*; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects enhance, improve, or protect aquatic lands and provide public access to such lands and associated waters, thereby supporting the board's strategies to provide partners with funding for both conservation and recreation opportunities statewide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – ALEA Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of ALEA projects for further consideration.

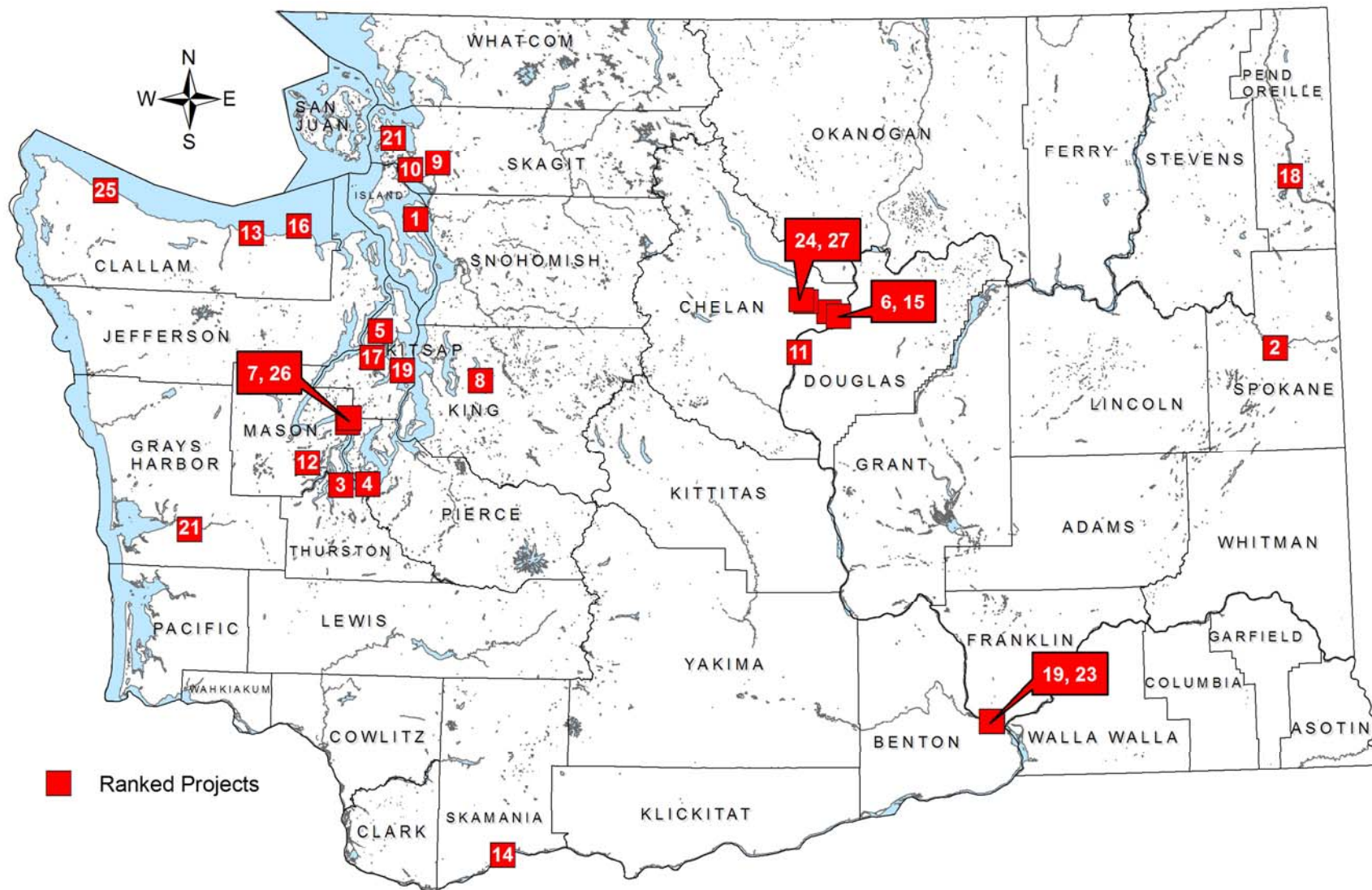
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

## State Map for ALEA projects



## Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Evaluation Criteria Summary

### Evaluation Criteria Summary Tables

#### Projects Meeting the Single Purpose of Protection or Enhancement

Projects that meet the single program purpose of protecting or enhancing aquatic lands should address those annotated elements within each question under the heading *Protection or Enhancement Projects* for criteria 1 through 3, and 4b, and all elements for criteria 4a and 5.

Scored By	#	Question	Evaluators Score	Multiplier	Maximum Points
Advisory Committee	1	Fit with ALEA Program Goals	0-5	3	15
Advisory Committee	2	Project Need	0-5	4	20
Advisory Committee	3	Site Suitability	0-5	2	10
Advisory Committee	4a	Urgency and Viability ( <i>acquisition projects only</i> )	0-5	2	10
<b>OR</b>					
Advisory Committee	4b	Project Design and Viability ( <i>restoration and development projects only</i> )	0-5	2	10
Advisory Committee	5	Community Involvement and Support	0-5	2	10
RCO Staff	6	GMA Preference	0	1	0
RCO Staff	7	Proximity to People	0-1	1	1
<b>Total Possible Points</b>					66

## Projects Meeting the Single Purpose of Public Access

Projects meeting the single program purpose of providing or improving public access to aquatic lands should address those annotated elements under the heading *Public Access Projects* for criteria 1 through 3 and 4b, and all elements for criteria 4a and 5.

Scored By	#	Question	Evaluators Score	Multiplier	Maximum Points
Advisory Committee	1	Fit with ALEA Program Goals	0-5	3	15
Advisory Committee	2	Project Need	0-5	4	20
Advisory Committee	3	Site Suitability	0-5	2	10
Advisory Committee	4a	Urgency and Viability ( <i>acquisition projects only</i> )	0-5	2	10
<b>OR</b>					
Advisory Committee	4b	Project Design and Viability ( <i>restoration and development projects only</i> )	0-5	2	10
Advisory Committee	5	Community Involvement and Support	0-5	2	10
RCO Staff	6	GMA Preference	0	1	0
RCO Staff	7	Proximity to People	0-1	1	1
<b>Total Possible Points</b>				66	



## Projects Meeting Both Program Purposes Protection or Enhancement AND Public Access Projects

Applicants whose projects meet both program purposes of protecting or enhancing aquatic lands and providing or improving public access to aquatic lands should address all elements for each criterion.

Scored By	#	Question	Elements	Score	Multiplier	Maximum Points	Total Points
Advisory Committee	1	Fit with ALEA Program Goals	Protection and Enhancement Elements	0-5	2	10	20
			Public Access Elements	0-5	2	10	
Advisory Committee	2	Project Need	Protection and Enhancement Elements	0-5	2	10	20
			Public Access Elements	0-5	2	10	
Advisory Committee	3	Site Suitability	Protection and Enhancement Elements	0-5	1	5	10
			Public Access Elements	0-5	1	5	
Advisory Committee	4a	Urgency and Viability (acquisition projects only)	All Elements	0-5	2	10	10
OR							
Advisory Committee	4b	Project Design and Viability (restoration and development projects only)	Protection and Enhancement Elements	0-5	1	5	10
			Public Access Elements	0-5	1	5	
Advisory Committee	5	Community Involvement and Support	All Elements	0-5	2	10	10
RCO Staff	6	Growth Management Act Preference	All Elements	0	1	0	0
RCO Staff	7	Proximity to People	All Elements	0-1	1	1	1
Total Possible Points						71	71

## ALEA Scoring Criteria

### Advisory Committee Scored

**1. Fit with ALEA Program Goals:**

How well does this project fit the ALEA program goals to enhance, improve or protect aquatic lands and provide public access to aquatic lands? (RCW 79.105.150)

**2. Project Need:**

What is the need for this project?

**3. Site Suitability**

Is the site well suited for the intended uses?

**4. 4a. Urgency and Viability:**

Why purchase this particular property at this time? How viable are the anticipated future uses and benefits of the site? (Only acquisition projects answer this question.)

**4b. Project Design and Viability:**

(Only restoration and enhancement projects, public access development projects, or combination projects answer this question.)

How does the project address the stated restoration or enhancement need?

Is the project well designed? Will the project lead to sustainable ecological functions and processes over time?

How well does the project address the stated public access need? Is the project well designed? Will the project result in public access to aquatic lands that protect the integrity of the environment?

**5. Community Involvement and Support:**

To what extent has the community been provided with an adequate opportunity to become informed about the project and provide input? What is the level of community support for the project?

### RCO Staff Scored (All projects)

**6. GMA Preference:**

Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)? *RCW 43.17.250 (GMA-preference required.)*

**7. Proximity to People:**

RCO is required by law to give funding preference to projects located in populated areas. Populated areas are defined as a town or city with a population of 5,000 or more, or a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile. *RCW 79A.25.250*

**Table 1 -- ALEA Ranked List of Projects, Fiscal Year 2012**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 27	55.3	10-1438A	Barnum Point Acquisition Phase 1	Island County	\$1,000,000	\$1,223,000	\$2,223,000	\$1,000,000
2 of 27	53.3	10-1497A	Spokane River Falls YMCA Site Acquisition	Spokane City Parks and Recreation	\$1,000,000	\$4,390,000	\$5,390,000	\$2,000,000
			Woodard Bay NRCA Nearshore Restoration and	Washington State Dept of Natural				
3 of 27	52.9	10-1116C	Protection	Resources	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,500,000
4 of 27	52.7	10-1317C	Jacobs Point	Anderson Island Park District	\$1,000,000	\$1,285,007	\$2,285,007	\$3,500,000
5 of 27	51.9	10-1337C	Poulsbo's Fish Park Expansion	Poulsbo	\$460,000	\$487,462	\$947,462	\$3,960,000
				Washington State Dept of Fish and				
6 of 27	50.9	10-1626C	Beebe Springs Restoration/Access Phase 4	Wildlife	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000	\$4,160,000
7 of 27	50.8	10-1060A	North Bay and Coulter Creek Estuary	Mason County	\$450,000	\$550,000	\$1,000,000	\$4,610,000
				Washington State Parks and				
8 of 27	50.4	10-1383C	Lake Sammamish Boardwalk	Recreation Commission	\$351,052	\$351,052	\$702,104	\$4,961,052
9 of 27	50.1	10-1590D	Skagit Riverwalk Phase 2	Mount Vernon	\$500,000	\$1,062,400	\$1,562,400	\$5,461,052
10 of 27	48.3	10-1580C	Swadabs Shoreline Access and Restoration	Swinomish Tribe	\$280,150	\$280,150	\$560,300	\$5,741,202
11 of 27	48.1	10-1041C	Entiat Shoreline Redevelopment	Entiat	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$6,241,202
12 of 27	46.2	10-1062C	Sunset Bluff Natural Area Acquisition	Mason County	\$709,450	\$709,450	\$1,418,900	\$6,950,652
13 of 27	42.8	10-1618D	Port Angeles Waterfront Park	Port Angeles	\$302,400	\$302,400	\$604,800	\$7,253,052
14 of 27	42.4	10-1463C	Stevenson Waterfront Enhancement and Public Access	Port of Skamania	\$333,945	\$334,000	\$667,945	\$7,586,997
				Chelan Parks and Recreation				
15 of 27	42.0	10-1211C	Don Morse Park Uplake Beach Restoration	Department	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$8,086,997
16 of 27	41.0	10-1347D	Dungeness Landing Pier Upgrade	Clallam County Park Fair and Building	\$112,500	\$112,500	\$225,000	\$8,199,497
17 of 27	40.1	10-1721C	Silverdale Wetlands and Kayak Launch	Port of Silverdale	\$220,221	\$220,221	\$440,442	\$8,419,718
18 of 27	39.9	10-1598D	Cusick Park River Enhancement Phase 2	Cusick	\$49,000	\$49,000	\$98,000	\$8,468,718
19 of 27	38.7	10-1689C	Blakely Harbor	Bainbridge Island Park District	\$126,000	\$126,934	\$252,934	\$8,594,718
19 of 27	38.7	10-1543C	Clover Island Improvement Project - North Shoreline	Port of Kennewick	\$493,263	\$493,264	\$986,527	\$9,087,981
21 of 27	38.0	10-1094D	Cap Sante Esplanade Phase 2	Port of Anacortes	\$500,000	\$555,280	\$1,055,280	\$9,587,981
				Washington State Dept of Natural				
21 of 27	38.0	10-1154C	Chehalis River Surge Plain Water Access	Resources	\$198,000	\$228,500	\$426,500	\$9,785,981
23 of 27	35.6	10-1221C	Clover Island Improvement Project - East Causeway	Port of Kennewick	\$271,850	\$271,850	\$543,700	\$10,057,831
24 of 27	35.2	10-1302C	Willow Point Park Shoreline Restoration	Manson Park and Recreation District	\$127,425	\$127,425	\$254,850	\$10,185,256
25 of 27	32.2	10-1763D	Sekiu Shoreline Access and Wildlife Viewing	Clallam County Park Fair and Building	\$57,500	\$57,500	\$115,000	\$10,242,756
26 of 27	29.0	10-1630C	Expand Waterfront Park	Port of Allyn	\$291,000	\$360,400	\$651,400	\$10,533,756
27 of 27	25.9	10-1303D	Old Swimming Hole Shoreline Restoration	Manson Park and Recreation District	\$52,252	\$52,252	\$104,504	\$10,586,008
19-Aug-10					<b>\$10,586,008</b>	<b>\$15,330,047</b>	<b>\$25,916,055</b>	

**Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account  
Grants Requested 2010****Entiat****Grant Request: \$500,000****Re-developing the Lake Entiat Shoreline**

Entiat will use this grant to re-develop about 6 acres along the Columbia River and Lake Entiat. This project will include design, permitting, and construction of 1 mile of trail along the shoreline as well as restoration of habitat along the shoreline. The trail will connect to others to create a network of 6 miles of trails. Crews also will install trail lighting, benches, and trash cans, and build a parking lot, access road, and a restroom. The City will contribute \$500,000 from local and state grants. (10-1041)

**Mason County****\$450,000****Conserving the North Bay and Coulter Creek Estuary**

Mason County will use this grant to buy 50 acres at the head of North Bay between Allyn and Victor. The land includes about 18 acres of forest, .5 mile of shoreline on Puget Sound and Coulter Creek, and 32 acres of wetlands, tidelands, and mud flats. Coulter Creek and its estuary host a state fish hatchery supporting the recovery of salmon. Future development of the property could include a boardwalk and forested trail to a water viewpoint, environmental education and historical interpretation kiosks, and a small parking area with a restroom. The majority of the property will be left undisturbed. Partners include Overton and Associates, Allyn Business Association, Port of Allyn, Squaxin Island Tribe, and Taylor Shellfish. The County will contribute \$550,000 in cash, staff labor, other grant funding, and donated land. This grant is from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Acct program. (10-1060)

**Mason County****Grant Request: \$709,450****Acquiring Sunset Bluff and Beach**

Mason County will use this grant to buy 36.5 acres along Oakland Bay to protect the forest, wetland, beach, bluff, and tidelands. The acquisition will play a pivotal role in conserving habitat and increasing public access to the water. The bluff-backed beach does not have a bulkhead or armoring and has many native trees and shrubs, which provide shade and organic material for fish and other animals that live in the bay. The Squaxin Island Tribe, Capitol Land Trust, Trust for Public Land, Taylor Shellfish, and Mason County are interested in seeing this property developed as a park allowing low-impact recreation and in preserving the natural shoreline. People for Puget Sound will restore the shoreline and control invasive plants. The county will contribute \$709,450 in staff labor; grants from local, private, and state sources; and donations of labor and materials. (10-1062)

**Port of Anacortes****Grant Request: \$500,000****Redeveloping the Cap Sante Esplanade**

The Port of Anacortes will use this grant to redevelop about 600 feet of a pedestrian shoreline esplanade that connects two waterfront parks at both ends of Boat Haven. The Port will enhance existing concrete paving and guardrails, extending the interpretive waterfront esplanade northward along the shoreline. The esplanade improvements include adding concrete paving, drainage, and plants. The aging rock revetment will be upgraded to a concrete block wall at the edge of the esplanade with rip-rap rock slope armoring to protect the shoreline in the enclosed Boat Haven. The Port also will add lights with hanging baskets, seating, and an interpretive sign at a viewpoint. The Port will contribute \$555,280. (10-1094)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources      Grant Request: \$500,000**  
**Restoring and Protecting the Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy nearly 20 acres of shoreline and adjacent uplands and to remove creosoted material from a pier at the mouth of Chapman Bay. This work is part of a larger effort to protect a large complex of shoreline habitats and plants and animals through the Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area in Henderson Inlet in southern Puget Sound. The Legislature designated the conservation area in 1987 to protect the area and to provide opportunities for public use and environmental education. The site includes the former Weyerhaeuser South Bay Log Dump that operated from the 1920s until the 1980s. The department will contribute \$500,000 from a state grant. (10-1116)

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources      Grant Request: \$198,000**  
**Expanding and Creating Water Access in the Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 148 acres and provide access to the Chehalis River in the Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve. The department is looking to buy land in the ecological core of the preserve. In addition, the department will use the grant to create two ramps for hand carried boats to launch into both the Chehalis River and Blue Slough. The department also will improve parking, create a trail along the river, improve safety of bank fishing sites with erosion protection, and improve natural area interpretation. The preserve is 2,700 acres and protects the largest, high quality surge plain wetland in the state. Sitka spruce dominated wetland forests hang over winding sloughs, and fish, wildlife, and waterfowl thrive here. The department will contribute \$228,500 from a state grant. (10-1154)

**Chelan      Grant Request: \$500,000**  
**Restoring the Don Morse Park Beach**

The Chelan Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to restore a portion of the beach in Don Morse Park. This project is the first phase in a larger effort to restore nearly one-quarter mile of beach in the park. Crews will build a drift sill that provides

erosion protection, create a pea gravel beach that will be more stable and require minimal maintenance, plant native vegetation along the shore to provide habitat for fish and wildlife, and lay a crushed rock path from the parking lot to the water. In preparation, crews will demolish two docks that are safety hazards. The City also will plant native plants above the marina. Future phases will add three drift sills and restore the remaining beach. Chelan's population swells from 4,000 to more than 20,000 in summer. Currently residents and visitors are cut off from Lake Chelan by private development and a lack of beaches. The City will contribute \$500,000 in cash. (10-1211)

**Port of Kennewick  
Improving the Clover Island East Causeway****Grant Request: \$271,850**

The Port of Kennewick will use this grant to improve Clover Island for visitors and improve habitat for endangered fish. The Port will stabilize the shoreline by planting native plants and adding boulders, gravel, and root wads. This work will enhance habitat for threatened Chinook salmon, upper and middle Columbia River steelhead, and Columbia River bull trout. The Port also will build a restroom and install benches, trash cans, bike racks, and signs to tell the restoration story. When McNary Dam was built, Clover Island was flooded, creating unnatural shorelines. Concrete and rubble were dumped down the riverbanks to control erosion, destroying habitat. The Port will contribute \$271,850 in cash and staff labor. (10-1221)

**Manson Parks and Recreation District  
Restoring Willow Point Park Shoreline****Grant Request: \$127,425**

The Manson Parks and Recreation District will use this grant to stabilize the shoreline and refurbish a swim beach in Willow Point Waterfront Park on Lake Chelan. Crews will place boulders and tree root wads in the lake, plant native plants, and reshape the area to slow erosion, restore shoreline stability, and improve water quality in the lake. Crews also will rework and move the public swim area and lake access to limit impacts to the shoreline. The district will build a swim beach and grass sitting area, and install educational signs to provide environmental information to the public. The 1.85-acre park is on the north shore of Lake Chelan and includes about 500 feet of shoreline. Waves combined with hydro project operations have degraded the shoreline. The district will contribute \$127,425. (10-1302)

**Manson Park and Recreation District  
Restoring the Old Swimming Hole Shoreline****Grant Request: \$52,252**

The Manson Park and Recreation District will use this grant to demolish a seawall and replace it with concrete steps to create a place for people to enter Lake Chelan to swim. Crews also will create a grass sitting area, install an interpretive sign and two benches, and plant native plants. The Old Swimming Hole is about .2 acre on the north shore of Lake Chelan, immediately adjacent to State Route 150. This project



would create a public access point on a thin strip of land formerly used as a landing for the Lady of the Lake boat. The district will contribute \$52,252. (10-1303)

**Anderson Island Park and Recreation District  
Protecting Jacob's Point on Anderson Island****Grant Request: \$1million**

The Anderson Island Park and Recreation District will use this grant to buy 82 acres on Jacob's Point on Anderson Island in south Puget Sound. The land is on a peninsula separating East Oro Bay from Oro Bay and includes about .6 mile of pristine beach. The site, which includes tidelands, wetlands, and forests, will be open to the public and include 1.5 miles of trail, picnic areas, and access to the beach for non-motorized boats. The shoreline of Jacob's Point supports a diverse array of fish, birds, and mammals. Oro Bay is one of the closest pocket estuaries to the Nisqually River and provides significant rearing potential for Chinook salmon. The park district will contribute nearly \$1.3 million in conservation futures<sup>1</sup> and a state grant. (10-1317)

**Poulsbo  
Expanding Poulsbo's Fish Park****Grant Request: \$460,000**

Poulsbo will use this grant to buy 12.3 acres along the eastern shore of the Liberty Bay estuary, protecting the entire estuary and providing public access. The land will connect Dogfish Creek, which runs through the property, to the estuary, and will allow the city to extend an interpretive trail through this natural oasis in the middle of Poulsbo. The city also will demolish a home site, restore shoreline habitat, enhance waterfront buffers, and add parking, trails, two viewing platforms, benches, and interpretive signs. Poulsbo will contribute \$487,462 in cash and donations of equipment, labor, land, and materials. (10-1337)

**Clallam County  
Upgrading the Dungeness Landing Pier****Grant Request: \$112,500**

Clallam County Park and Fair Building will use this grant to renovate a pier and provide educational material at Dungeness Landing County Park, which is about 7 miles north of Sequim. The pier was the former site a shellfish processing building and retail outlet. Crews have demolished the building and with this grant will dismantle a portion of the pier that is unstable, remove some pilings and replace others, construct a rail around the remaining pier, add a new surface, and install educational signs. The pier has been closed to the public. Once renovated, the pier will give people a place to watch Dungeness Bay wildlife, harvest crabs or fish at high tide, and enjoy the experience of being above the water. Dungeness Landing County Park is 5.6 acres,

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.



with 13 acres of tidelands, and is on the Great Washington State Birding Trail. The County will contribute \$112,500. (10-1347)

**Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Request: \$351,052**  
**Building a Boardwalk in Lake Sammamish State Park**

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will use this grant to develop an interpretive boardwalk along the spine of the Sunset Beach Spit in Lake Sammamish State Park. Crews also will restore nearly an acre of beach and lawn areas, replant a portion of the bank along Issaquah Creek, and install large trees with root wads along the lakeshore near the mouth of Issaquah Creek. Restoration of stream banks at the mouth of Issaquah Creek is a high priority for salmon restoration in the area. Volunteers will assist with restoration planting. State Parks will contribute \$351,052 from a state grant. (10-1383)

**Island County      Grant Request: \$1 million**  
**Protecting Barnum Point**

Island County will use this grant to buy 49 acres of Barnum Point on Camano Island to conserve important salmon habitat. The purchase of the point is part of a larger project to protect 120 acres of forested shoreline. On Island County, about 80 percent of the shoreline is owned privately, which often means the shoreline has bulkheads, docks, and water quality issues. The property owners of the 49 acres are trying to sell the land, which is zoned for 12 homes. Barnum Point is adjacent to 7,100 acres of protected land and includes a forest, a bluff that supplies sediment to Port Susan Bay for salmon habitat, .5 mile of shoreline, and habitat near the shoreline that is used by all eight species of salmon that spawn in the Skagit and Stillaguamish Rivers. Ultimately, Barnum Point will be managed as a county park. Island County will contribute \$1.2 million from private and state grants. (10-1438)

**Port of Skamania      Grant Request: \$333,945**  
**Building a New Waterfront Trail and Beach Access in Stevenson**

The Port of Skamania will use this grant to build a new waterfront trail and beach access to the Columbia River in the city of Stevenson. The new trail will connect to two interpretive trails – the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail. Those trails have a dozen interpretive signs and informational kiosks and link to major facilities including the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center museum, Skamania Lodge, the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Forest Service Center, Skamania County Fairgrounds, several public parks, Stevenson Landing Pier, public parking, three public restrooms, and several public art installations. Stevenson and Skamania County have a tourism-based economy and Stevenson is one of the few places in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area where the downtown retail area is on the river. The Port will contribute \$334,000 in cash, a local grant, and donated materials. (10-1463)

## **Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Grants Requested 2010**

**Spokane** **Grant Request: \$1 million**  
**Purchasing the YMCA Site to Open Views of the Spokane River Falls**

The Spokane Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy .8 acre in the heart of the city's Riverfront Park to open views of the majestic river falls. On the land sits a 46-year-old YMCA building, which the city plans to demolish. The Spokane parks department purchased the land in 2009 with advance approval from the Recreation and Conservation Office, and this grant will reimburse the city for its purchase. More than 2.5 million people visit the park annually. This location on the Spokane falls has been a gathering place for humans since time immemorial. Spokane will contribute nearly \$4.4 million in cash and conservation futures<sup>2</sup>. (10-1497)

**Port of Kennewick** **Grant Request: \$493,263**  
**Improving Clover Island's Shoreline and Trail**

The Port of Kennewick will use this grant to build a section of the Clover Island Shoreline Trail and improve the shoreline. Work will include renovating two unsightly concrete viewing platforms, creating an accessible shoreline trail between those two viewpoints and two boat docks. The Port also will add benches, railings, lights, and interpretive signs. The project will create access to the Columbia River shoreline, stabilize the island's north shoreline, and improve habitat for endangered and threatened salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. When McNary Dam was built, Clover Island was flooded, creating unnatural shorelines. Concrete and rubble were dumped down the riverbanks to control erosion, destroying habitat. The Port will contribute \$493,264 in cash and staff labor. (10-1543)

**Swinomish Tribe** **Grant Request: \$280,150**  
**Expanding and Restoring Swadabs Waterfront Park**

The Swinomish Tribe will use this grant to expand and develop the 4.5-acre Swadabs Waterfront Park by adding parking, restrooms, a picnic shelter, an interpretive trail, a launch for kayaks and canoes, native landscaping, and an environmental learning and play area. The waterfront park is along the Swinomish Channel, across from La Conner's waterfront. The park development is integrated with a restoration project being completed nearby, and together, they will restore 4.6 acres of salt marsh along Swinomish Channel. The tribe will contribute \$280,150 from a state grant. (10-1580)

---

<sup>2</sup> 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.

**Mount Vernon****Grant Request: \$500,000****Building a Shoreline Boardwalk**

Mount Vernon will use this grant to replace a parking lot with a 24-foot-wide, decorative concrete walkway along the Skagit River. This phase of the Mount Vernon River Walk will allow the city to face its most beautiful natural asset – the great Skagit River – the third largest river on the West Coast. The trail will extend .3 mile south from the Division Bridge to Mount Vernon's city center. The boardwalk will offer expansive views of the Skagit River and historic downtown. Interpretive signs related to the river will be placed along the trail. This phase of the Mount Vernon Skagit River Walk Trail is the next section in the city's most significant trail system. This project has strong community involvement and support amongst citizens, public officials, and key city leaders, including Senator Patty Murray and the Governor's Office, which have financially supported the project. Mount Vernon will contribute more than \$1 million in cash and a state grant. (10-1590)

**Cusick****Grant Request: \$49,000****Enhancing a Park Along the Pend Oreille River**

Cusick will use this grant to improve a conservation area adjacent the Pend Oreille River. Crews will remove invasive plants, plant native plants to stabilize the river bank, and renovate walking trails. The conservation area is the jewel of the park but its use is impaired by noxious weeds and it has been largely ignored while structural elements, such as a skate park, were built. Spokane volunteers worked 100 hours to plant trees, cleanup, and paint. Cusick offers the only public boating access to the Pend Oreille River within 18 miles and the only park with multi recreational outdoor activities all in one location. The Town will contribute \$49,000 from local and federal grants and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. (10-1598)

**Port Angeles****Grant Request: \$302,400****Developing a Waterfront Park**

Port Angeles will use this grant to develop a 3-acre park downtown on the waterfront. Work will include extending the Olympic Discovery bike trail, installing informational kiosks, and developing an open area for activities such as kite flying, picnicking, and dog walking. The park will serve as the western anchor to the .4-mile-long development extending from Hollywood Beach to the Valley Creek Estuary. This site has long been seen as an environmentally and culturally significant area. Located near the ferry terminal with service to Victoria, B.C., the area is an international gateway for visitors to both the city and state. The City will contribute \$302,400 from a local grant. (10-1618)

**Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Restoring Beebe Springs and Providing Access****Grant Request: \$200,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve access to the Columbia River shoreline and enhance habitat. Work will include grading a trail, removing an old orchard road and culvert, extending a loop trail along the Columbia River shoreline, and adding three viewpoints, benches, and interpretive signs. These developments compliment restoration of 3 acres of riparian and wetland habitat along the Columbia River and shrub steppe habitat. This phase of the Beebe Springs project will extend .3 mile up river from previous phases to complete access and habitat restoration on the Columbia River portion of the site. When this phase is complete, more than 1 mile of Columbia River shoreline will have been restored to native habitats encompassing about 60 acres. The department will contribute \$200,000 from a state grant. (10-1626)

**Port of Allyn  
Expanding a Waterfront Park****\$291,000**

The Port of Allyn will use this grant to buy and restore .6 acre adjacent to the Allyn waterfront park for public access to North Bay on Case Inlet. Crews will remove a house, garage, concrete driveway, parking area, and a fence. There is a great deal of private property lining the shores of Case Inlet. The Port owns the only developed parks for public access. There are no other similar facilities with waterfront access within 20 miles. There will be interpretive signs and the area will serve as the starting point for the proposed North Bay Trail. The Port will contribute \$360,400 in cash, staff labor, materials, a state grant, and donations of equipment and labor. (10-1630)

**Bainbridge Island Park District  
Improving and Connecting Blakely Harbor Park****Grant Request: \$126,000**

The Bainbridge Island Park District will use this grant to improve Blakely Harbor Park by installing a restroom, kayak storage, parking, historical and environmental interpretation, trails, a view point and bird blind, a bridge and gateway, and access to the beach for people with disabilities. Blakely Harbor Park is a popular destination for boaters, beach enthusiasts, and about 3,000 students annually attending IslandWood, a non-profit environmental learning center adjacent to the park for middle and elementary school students. Work will allow for the two areas of the park (the uplands and the beach) to be accessed directly. Currently, park users must cross to exit the park and re-enter to experience both areas of the park. The site will be tied also to an adjoining cultural site, Yama, recently purchased. Site development has been endorsed by IslandWood, Washington Water Trails, and the Bainbridge Island Land Trust. The park district will contribute \$126,934 in cash and donations of cash and labor. (10-1689)

**Port of Silverdale****Grant Request: \$220,221****Protecting Silverdale Wetlands and Buying Land for a Kayak Launch**

The Port of Silverdale will use this grant to buy and preserve about 1.25 acres of wetlands, .64 acre of tidelands, and more than 360 feet of beach, adjacent to the port's boat launch at north end of Dyes Inlet. Crews will remove invasive species to restore the wetlands, build a boardwalk with interpretive signs as an extension of the popular Clear Creek trail, and remove existing dumped concrete. In the future, the Port plans to build a launch and a kayak and canoe storage area to meet this growing boating need. The Port will contribute \$220,221. (10-1721)

**Clallam County****Grant Request: \$57,500****Creating Sekiu Shoreline Access and Wildlife Viewing**

The Clallam County Park Fair and Building will use this grant to develop a wildlife viewing area on the shore of Clallam Bay, in Sekiu. The viewing area will include seating, interpretive material highlighting the birds and marine life visible from the site, and a walkway. The design incorporates several environmental features including concrete permeable pavers, recycled plastic fence boards, and driftwood logs as seating. The viewing area, which will extend from Front Street to the water's edge, will offer visitors views of the Sekiu marina and Clallam Bay. The project will provide the public with access to the Sekiu shoreline, which currently is not available. The project has the support of the Clallam County Commissioners, the Clallam Bay/Sekiu Chamber of Commerce, local community members, and others. The County will contribute \$57,500. (10-1763)

**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (Fiscal Year 2012)**

Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Rank	Fit with ALEA	Fit with ALEA Protection	Fit with ALEA Access	Need	Project Need Protection	Project Need Access	Site Suitability	Site Suitability Protection	Site Suitability Access	Urgency and Viability	Project Design	Project Design Protection	Project Design Access	Local Community Support	GMA Preference	Proximity to People	Total
1 Barnum Point Acquisition	13.3			17.8			8.9			9.1				6.2	-1	1	55.3
2 Spokane River Falls YMCA	11.7			16.4			8.2			7.1				8.9	0	1	53.3
Woodard Bay Natural Resources																	
3 Conservation Area	12.3			16.9			8.2				6.9			7.6	0	1	52.9
4 Jacobs Point		7.6	6.4		7.6	6.9		4.0	3.7	8.4				7.1	0	1	52.7
5 Poulsbo's Fish Park		7.3	7.8		6.9	6.7		3.6	3.6	7.1				8.0	0	1	51.9
6 Beebe Springs		7.1	7.3		7.6	5.8		3.9	3.6			4.1	4.2	7.3	0	0	50.9
7 North Bay and Coulter Creek		8.2	6.2		8.0	6.0		4.1	3.1	8.2				6.9	0	0	50.8
8 Lake Sammamish Boardwalk		6.9	6.7		6.9	6.4		3.8	3.4			3.9	3.7	7.8	0	1	50.4
9 Skagit Riverwalk	10.0			14.2			8.4				8.4			8.0	0	1	50.1
10 Swadabs Shoreline Access		6.4	7.1		6.2	7.3		3.4	3.8			3.2	3.4	7.3	0	0	48.3
11 Entiat Shoreline Redevelopment	10.3			15.1			7.1				7.8			7.8	0	0	48.1
12 Sunset Bluff Natural Area		6.9	5.1		6.9	6.2		3.6	2.9	8.4				6.2	0	0	46.2
13 Port Angeles Waterfront Park	10.0			12.9			7.3				5.8			5.8	0	1	42.8
14 Stevenson Waterfront Enhancement	9.3			12.4			6.7				7.3			6.7	0	0	42.4
15 Don Morse Park Beach Restoration		5.3	6.7		5.3	6.0		2.4	3.6			2.8	3.2	6.7	0	0	42.0
16 Dungeness Landing Pier	9.3			12.9			6.9				6.4			6.4	-1	0	41.0
17 Silverdale Wetlands and Kayak Launch		5.3	6.0		5.1	5.1		2.7	2.9	5.3				6.7	0	1	40.1
18 Cusick Park River Enhance.	9.0			11.1			6.9				5.3			7.6	0	0	39.9
19 Blakely Harbor		4.9	5.6		4.7	5.6		2.6	2.7			2.6	3.0	6.2	0	1	38.7
19 Clover Island and North Shoreline		5.3	5.6		5.6	4.7		2.6	2.3			2.9	2.6	6.2	0	1	38.7
21 Cap Sante Esplanade	7.7			9.3			6.7				7.1			6.2	0	1	38.0
21 Chehalis River Surge Plain	9.3			11.1			6.9			4.9				5.8	0	0	38.0
23 Clover Island and East Causeway		4.7	4.2		4.2	5.3		2.1	2.6			2.2	2.8	6.4	0	1	35.6
24 Willow Point Park	7.0			12.0			5.6				5.6			5.1	0	0	35.2
25 Sekiu Shoreline Access	7.0			9.8			4.4				5.8			6.2	-1	0	32.2
26 Waterfront Park Expansion		4.2	3.6		3.8	3.6		2.3	2.9	5.3				3.3	0	0	29.0
27 Old Swimming Hole Shoreline	5.0			8.0			3.6				4.7			4.7	0	0	25.9

Evaluators Score Questions: #1-14, RCO Staff Scores Questions: #15-16





## Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants Requested 2010

### **Mossyrock**

**Grant Requested: \$307,500**

#### **Buying Land for a Mossyrock Community Park**

Mossyrock will use this grant to buy 32.25 acres for a community park. The property was a trading ground for the first settlers and Native Americans of the area. It is downtown, close to the school, and is bisected by Klickitat Creek. Outside of school grounds, there are few recreation facilities within 40 miles of the town. Mossyrock will contribute \$335,625 in donated land and staff labor. (10-1603)

### **Mason County**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

#### **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 develop this shoreline property for low-impact recreation. In addition, this project will protect key ecological functions and features of the Oakland Bay shoreline, including preserving high quality, natural functioning shoreline and critical salmon habitat. Support for this project comes from Mason County, People for Puget Sound, Trust for Public Land, Squaxin Island Tribe, Capitol Land Trust, Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 14, and Taylor Shellfish. Mason County will contribute \$862,700 in local, private, and other grants and donated materials. (10-1061)

### **Tacoma Metropolitan Park District**

**Grant Requested: \$400,000**

#### **Improving the Kandle Park and Pool**

The Tacoma Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to improve Kandle Park by adding a restroom building, spray toys, skating areas, and a playground. Six interactive spray toys will be added to the main pool, and another five water toys will be added to the tot pool. The skating areas include a beginner's area, a skating bowl and walls, and a mini spray ground with three water elements. The playground will cover 8,100 square feet and will be fully accessible. The district will contribute \$400,000 in voter-approved bonds. (10-1044)

### **Covington**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

#### **Expanding the Covington Community Park Trail System**

Covington will use this grant to expand Covington Community Park by adding a trailhead for the community trail system along with an accessible interpretive trail within the park. This project will provide a trailhead and the first segments for both the "BPA Trail" and the "PSE Trail," both of which use utility corridors. Covington Community Park is the nexus of where these north-south and east-west trails cross and where they connect with the bike lane system. When completed, the PSE Trail will connect King County's Soos Creek and Green River Trails, thus connecting Covington residents to the extensive regional trail system. The BPA Trail provides a north-south connection between neighborhoods and the regional trail system. The accessible internal park trails will provide access throughout 15 acres of second growth forest



## Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants Requested 2010

and a looping interpretive trail suitable for exercisers. This project also will provide for removal of invasive plants and replanting with native plants. The City will contribute \$509,816 in cash and a local grant. (10-1310)

### **Burien**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

#### **Renovating the North Shore Area of Seahurst Park**

The Burien Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department will use this grant to build trails and add picnic shelters and other improvements in Seahurst Park. Crews will build .4 mile of trail, including a 12-foot-wide shoreline trail and an accessible upland trail. They also will install two picnic shelters, interpretive signs, and plants and irrigation for a rain garden and open play area next to a picnic area and playground. The City also will install a crushed rock base for concrete walkways from parking to the park. The improvements will protect the site's natural resources. The City will contribute \$645,282 in cash and a state grant. (10-1227)

### **Bainbridge Island Park District**

**Grant Requested: \$500,000**

#### **Buying Land in the Grand Forest**

The Bainbridge Island Park District will use this grant to buy 11 acres to unify more than 240 acres of park land and provide the missing link to a 5-mile segment of the Cross Island Trail. Purchased in 1991, the Grand Forest is made up of three distinct segments. Additions have occurred during the years that link these segments together, but this project represents the last land connection needed. The acquisition will link Grand Forest West to the Grand Forest East. The land also protects a wildlife corridor and provides an open area with views to the Olympic Mountains. The district will contribute \$500,000 in donated land and funding from a voter-approved levy. (10-1726)

### **Hoquiam**

**Grant Requested: \$198,754**

#### **Redeveloping Central Play Park**

Hoquiam will use this grant to redevelop Central Play Park, which was built in 1924. The City will replace the aging wading pool with a spray park and install new playground equipment that will allow more children to participate in safe, physical exercise. Also included in the project are new fences, accessible walkways, a picnic shelter, a new entryway, and interpretive panels. Central Play Park is the most highly used park in Hoquiam. Use of the park's wading pool is limited because a lifeguard must be on duty at all times. By replacing the wading pool with a spray park, the City will be able to provide water-based recreation less expensively and improve the safety of the site. The City will contribute \$242,922. (10-1628)



## Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants Requested 2010

### **Shoreline**

**Grant Requested: \$204,327**

#### **Developing the Boeing Creek Open Space Trail**

Shoreline will use this grant to build trails through 4.5 acres of undeveloped land across the street from Boeing Creek Park. The land is forested with steep slopes to the north and west and an open lawn to the south and east. Crews will build .25 mile of hiking trail through the steep sloped areas and nearly .25 mile of accessible pathway in the open area of the site. They also will install benches, fences, two entrances, a kiosk, informational and interpretive signs, and native plant landscaping. Construction would be complete in 2012. The City will contribute \$204,327 in voter-approved bonds. (10-1351)

### **Kitsap County**

**Grant Requested: \$300,000**

#### **Buying Land for Trails in North Kitsap Heritage Park**

The Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 218 acres, completing phase 2 of the North Kitsap Heritage Park trail plan, and providing a center point in regional trail connections. Kitsap County plans to develop nearly 2 miles of non-motorized trails. The site will link trails in two housing developments, connect to southern regional trails through Poulsbo to Bainbridge Island, provide northwestern links to the Hansville Greenway and the Hood Canal Bridge, and provide eastern links to Kingston and regional trails in south Snohomish County. The County will contribute \$1.1 million in cash and donated land. (10-1256)

### **Pacific**

**Grant Requested: \$154,250**

#### **Buying Morgan's Retreat**

Pacific will use this grant to buy 2.42 partially forested acres adjacent to Trout Lake for a neighborhood park and retreat setting. The property, known as Morgan's Retreat, will provide connections to local and regional trail systems in King and Pierce Counties. The City plans eventually to add a launch for non-motorized boats, a lake front picnic area, and a network of connecting walking trails through the woods. The City will contribute \$189,500 in cash donations and conservation futures<sup>1</sup>. (10-1640)

### **Port of Benton**

**Grant Requested: \$91,178**

#### **Improving Crow Butte Park**

The Port of Benton will use this grant to add play equipment and trails in Crow Butte Park. The Port will install a 10-component play structure and play area. The recycled steel play structure includes slides, climbers, and play panels, including a panel showing Washington State's bird and flower. The 275-acre park doesn't have any play

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.



## Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants Requested 2010

equipment, even though surveys have showed that more than two-thirds of park visitors bring children. The Port also will pave bicycle and walking pathways to connect parking lots with other areas of the park, such as the playground, concessions, marina, and swimming areas. More than 17,500 people visited the park last year, an increase of 44 percent from 2008, and the Port expects that trend to continue as a result of improvements and marketing. The Port will contribute \$91,178 in cash, staff labor, and a local grant. (10-1104)

### **Mason County**

**Grant Requested: \$377,000**

#### **Developing Mason County's North Bay Trail**

Mason County will use this grant is to develop a walking and biking trail from the Port of Allyn Park north to the Coulter Creek property at the north end of Case Inlet. The North Bay Trail will extend 1.6 miles on county road right-of-way along North Bay County Road and on a very small portion of right-of-way along State Route 3. This trail will be the beginning of a north Mason regional trail system. Once complete, the county plans to connect the North Bay Trail to Belfair, Theler Wetlands, Wagon Wheel Park, and Lakeland Village, creating a loop trail total of about 10 miles. Development of this trail project will be a step toward addressing a severe deficiency of walking and biking trails in the county. Project partners include: Allyn Business Association, Port of Allyn, Cascade Land Conservancy, Taylor Shellfish, Squaxin Island Tribe, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Department of Transportation, and Overton Associates. Mason County will contribute \$377,500 in cash, staff labor, and donations of cash, equipment, and labor. (10-1056)

### **King County**

**Grant Requested: \$275,500**

#### **Developing a Trailhead in the Black Diamond Natural Area**

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks will use this grant to build a 78-vehicle parking lot, rain garden, and trailhead amenities (signs, kiosk, and staging area) on 2 acres in the Black Diamond Natural Area. The site is centrally located in a 500-acre expanse of public land offering backcountry trails for mountain biking, horseback riding, and hiking. The natural area features wetlands, forests, and bogs. The overall area has limited parking. Visitors park on narrow shoulders along busy State Route 169, which has limited visibility and significant, high-speed truck traffic. The project site is supported by the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, the Backcountry Horsemen-Tahoma Chapter, Real Life Church (an adjacent property owner with a mountain bike skills course), and Black Diamond. The County will contribute \$275,500. (10-1289)

### **Skykomish**

**Grant Requested: \$235,000**



## **Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants Requested 2010**

### **Building the Maloney Creek Trail and Viewing Platform**

Skykomish will use this grant to build a pedestrian trail and viewing platform to view lower Maloney Creek, a salmon-bearing stream that runs parallel to the town and national forest boundary. The trail will lead south from a planned visitor center to Maloney Creek, then run east on top of an elevated berm that parallels the stream for about .14 mile, then end at a rustic viewing platform cantilevered over the stream in a tranquil, second growth forest. Visitors will be able to see a pristine mountain in one direction and a large section of restored stream. Crews will place benches and interpretive signs along the trail and on the viewing platform. Town leaders envision the trail as the nexus of a much larger trail system enabling hikers to reach nearby wilderness areas. Future phases include building a visitor center, footbridge, and connector trail that intersects with a Forest Service road to Maloney Ridge and an abandoned fire lookout. The Town will contribute \$237,780 from a local grant. (10-1724)

**Item 10**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Land and Water Conservation Fund Program  
Funding of Projects for Federal Fiscal Year 2011  
Prepared By: Sarah Thirtyacre, Recreation Grant Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Description of Category

*The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Program was established by Congress in 1965 with the passage of the LWCF Act. The Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the states for the acquisition and/or development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities found to be in accord with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.*

### Summary

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) received fourteen Land and Water Conservation Fund projects to review for federal fiscal year 2011 funding consideration. The requests total more than \$4.5 million.

At the October Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) meeting, the board will be asked to approve the ranked list and funding for projects recommended by the LWCF Advisory Committee. This memorandum highlights the process used to assess these applications, the evaluation results, and funding recommendation.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve Resolution #2010-28, thereby approving *Table 1, LWCF Program Ranked List of Projects and Fund Recommendation, Federal Fiscal Year 2011* and delegating authority to the RCO director to submit these projects to the National Park Service for final funding.

## 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.

## Program Policies

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

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 board adopted the new SCORP at its March 2008 meeting. The Governor's Office submitted this plan to the National Park Service in June 2008. In July 2008, the National Park Service approved the plan, which sets the priorities that staff and the board use to develop both LWCF policies and the evaluation criteria in Manual #15, Land and Water Conservation Fund Program: Policies and Project Selection.

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

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. This table shows the amounts approved for Washington for the past three years.

Year	Funds Approved
Federal Fiscal Year 2008	\$469,285
Federal Fiscal Year 2009	\$551,547
Federal Fiscal Year 2010	\$775,289

As of this writing, Congress has yet to make much progress on approving funding for the 2011 grant cycle.

Given the current economic climate, we cannot predict when Congress will authorize an appropriation for federal fiscal year 2011 or how much it will be. RCO staff will update the board at the October meeting on the status of the funding authorization.

## Evaluation Summary

On August 5, 2010, the LWCF Advisory Committee used board-adopted criteria to review and rank fourteen Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) projects for federal fiscal year 2011 funding consideration. The requests totaled more than \$4.5 million.

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 L. Andrist, Omak	Citizen
Rena Brady, Sammamish	Citizen
Anna Scarlett, Spokane	Citizen
Paul Whitemarsh, Pasco	Citizen
Bruce Giddens, Clallam County Parks, Fair and Facilities Division	Local Agency
Michael Kaputa, Chelan County Natural Resource	Local Agency
David Schwab, Eastmont Parks & Recreation	Local Agency
Scott Thomas, City of Covington	Local Agency
Michael O'Malley, Department of Fish & Wildlife	State Agency
Pene Speaks, Department of Natural Resources	State Agency

The results of the evaluations are shown in *Table 1, LWCF Program Ranked List of Projects and Fund Recommendation, Federal Fiscal Year 2011*.

## Next Steps

If the board approves the ranked list of projects shown in Table 1, staff will forward the projects to the National Park Service for review and final authorization when Washington receives its federal apportionment letter.

## Attachments

Resolution #2010-28

- Table 1 – LWCF Program Ranked List of Projects and Fund Recommendation, Federal Fiscal Year 2011
  
- A. State Map of Ranked Projects
- B. LWCF Evaluation Criteria Summary
- C. LWCF Evaluation Scoring Summary
- D. LWCF Project Synopses in Ranked Order with Congressional Districts

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-28  
Land and Water Conservation Fund  
Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2011 Projects

**WHEREAS**, for federal fiscal year 2011, fourteen 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 fourteen 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 2011; 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 and Fund Recommendation, Federal Fiscal Year 2011*; 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 2011 funds upon notification of the federal apportionment for this program.

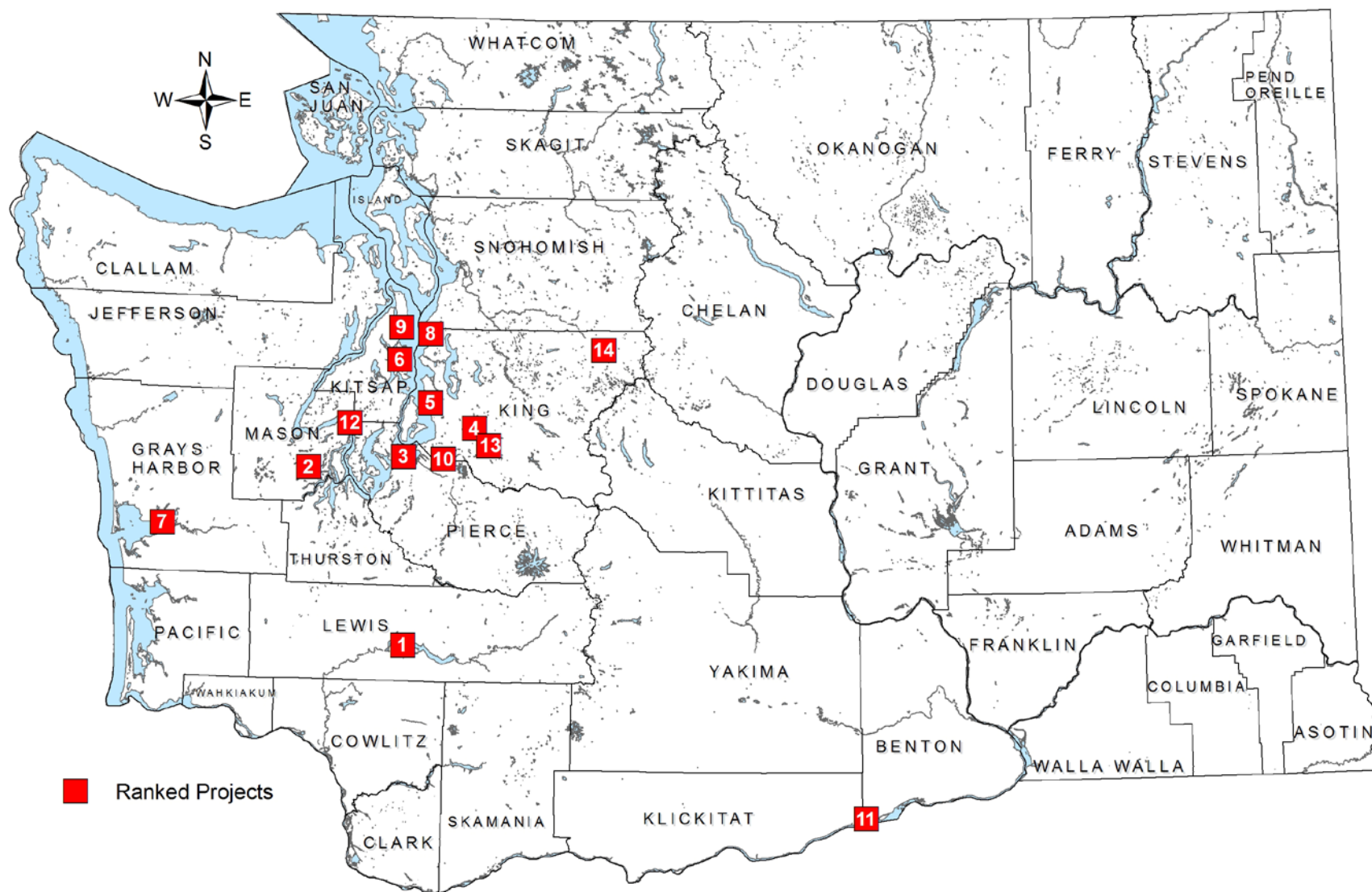
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

## State Map of Ranked Projects



## Land and Water Conservation Fund Evaluation Criteria Summary

Priority Rating Analysis					
Score 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	0-5	5	National Park Service policy
Total Points Possible = 68					

## Scoring Criteria, Land and Water Conservation Fund

### Team Scored Criteria

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?

4. **Urgency-Viability.** Why purchase this particular property at this time? How viable are the anticipated future uses and benefits of the site? Acquisition or 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?

**Table 1 -- LWCF Program Ranked List of Projects and Fund Recommendations  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 14	53.80	10-1603A	Mossyrock Community Park	Mossyrock	\$307,500	\$335,625	\$643,125	\$307,500
2 of 14	51.80	10-1061A	Sunset Bluff Natural Area Park Acquisition	Mason County	\$500,000	\$862,700	\$1,362,700	\$807,500
3 of 14	51.70	10-1044D	Kandle Park and Pool Phase 2	Tacoma Metropolitan Park District	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$800,000	\$1,207,500
4 of 14	51.30	10-1310D	Covington Community Park Trail System	Covington	\$500,000	\$509,816	\$1,009,816	\$1,707,500
5 of 14	50.60	10-1227D	Seahurst Park Northshore Renovation	Burien Parks and Recreation	\$500,000	\$645,282	\$1,145,282	\$2,207,500
6 of 14	49.80	10-1726A	Hilltop at Grand Forest	Bainbridge Island Park District	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,707,500
7 of 14	49.00	10-1628D	Central Play Park Redevelopment	Hoquiam	\$198,754	\$242,922	\$441,676	\$2,906,254
8 of 14	48.10	10-1351D	Boeing Creek Open Space Trail Development	Shoreline	\$204,327	\$204,327	\$408,654	\$3,110,581
9 of 14	44.30	10-1256A	North Kitsap Heritage Park, Phase 2 Acquisition	Kitsap County Parks and Recreation	\$300,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,400,000	\$3,410,581
10 of 14	43.50	10-1640A	Pacific Morgan's Retreat 2010	Pacific City of	\$154,250	\$189,500	\$343,750	\$3,564,831
11 of 14	41.50	10-1104D	Crow Butte Park Improvement	Port of Benton	\$91,178	\$91,178	\$182,356	\$3,656,009
12 of 14	41.10	10-1056D	Mason County North Bay Trail	Mason County	\$377,000	\$377,500	\$754,500	\$4,033,009
13 of 14	40.30	10-1289D	Black Diamond Natural Area Trailhead Development	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks	\$275,500	\$275,500	\$551,000	\$4,308,509
14 of 14	37.20	10-1724D	Maloney Creek Trail and Viewing Platform	Skykomish	\$235,000	\$237,780	\$472,780	\$4,543,509
26-Aug-10					<b>\$4,543,509</b>	<b>\$5,972,130</b>	<b>\$10,515,639</b>	



**Item 11**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Recreational Trails Program Grants: Approve List and Funding Authority  
Prepared By: Greg Lovelady, Grant Services Program Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

**Program Description**

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal grant program that provides funds to rehabilitate and maintain recreational trails and facilities that provide a backcountry experience.

**Summary**

Applicants have submitted 86 projects (62 general category, 24 education category) for funding consideration. The RTP advisory committee evaluated the projects and developed the ranked list shown in Table 1. Congress has not yet appropriated funds for this program for federal fiscal year 2011.

Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to approve the ranked list and authorize the director to enter into contracts, once the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) receives the federal funds.

**Staff Recommendation**

RCO staff and the RTP advisory committee recommend that the board approve funding for the projects listed in *Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List and Funding Recommendations, RTP, State Fiscal Year 2011*, subject to federal fund availability, via Resolution #2010-29.

**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.

## Program Policies

RTP is a federal grant program that provides grants for maintaining and re-routing recreational trails, developing trail-side and trail-head facilities, and operating environmental education and trail safety programs. Board policy sets its primary emphasis on trail maintenance.

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nonprofit organizations</li><li>• Municipal subdivisions (cities, towns, counties, and port, park and recreation, and school districts)</li><li>• State and Tribal agencies</li><li>• Federal agencies (Forest Service, Park Service, etc.)</li></ul>
<b>Match Requirements</b>	Grant recipients must provide at least 20 percent in matching resources.
<b>Funding Limits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The minimum fund request for a project is \$5,000</li><li>• The maximum fund request is:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ \$75,000 – development or maintenance project</li><li>◦ \$10,000 – education project</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Public Access</b>	Required
<b>Other Program Characteristics</b>	We receive few motorized grant applications, so nonmotorized grant applicants usually receive most of this program's funds.

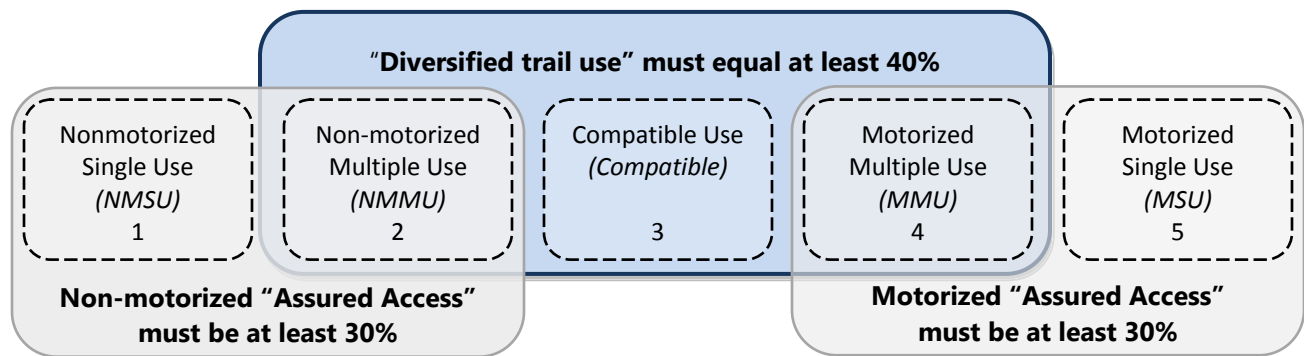
## Fund Availability

RTP is a relatively small grant program for the board but available funding has gradually increased each year. About \$1.8 million was eventually approved for the 2009 grants cycle, but as of this writing, Congress has yet to make much progress on approving funding for the 2011 grant cycle.

Given the current economic climate, we cannot predict if or when Congress will authorize an appropriation for federal fiscal year 2011, and if it does, how much it will be. RCO staff will update the board at the October meeting on the status of the funding authorization.

## Fund Allocation

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



Under the provisions of the RTP governing act<sup>1</sup>, 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.

If the state were to receive a \$1.8 million appropriation (see above), and if the board were to again allocate the 5 percent maximum amount permitted to education projects, RCO staff would allocate the funds as follows. This hypothetical allocation<sup>2</sup> is further described in the colored boxes in Attachment C.

Description	Sub-Categories Included	General Category	Education Category
30% Non-Motorized	Nonmotorized Single Use Non-motorized Multiple Use	~\$475,200	~\$27,000
40% Diversified	Non-motorized Multiple Use Motorized Multiple Use Compatible Use	~\$633,600	~\$36,000
30% Motorized	Motorized Multiple Use Motorized Single Use	~\$475,200	~\$27,000

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Net: after removing RCO administrative funds and any previous distributions

## Evaluation Summary

The RTP advisory committee/evaluation team includes the following individuals, who reflect a diverse set of trail users and land managers.

<b>Name</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Position</b>
Doug Conner	Pasco	Motorcycle community
Brian Crowley	Woodinville	Mountain bike community
Lunell Haught	Spokane	Hiking community
Gerry Hodge	Olympia	Water trail community
Susan Kavanaugh	Olympia	State Parks
Durlyn Finnie	Allyn	At large
Gary Johnson	Yelm	All- terrain vehicle community
Michael Jones	Ferndale	At-large
John Keates	Mason Co	Local agencies
Kristen Kuykendall	Olympia	State Dept. Fish and Wildlife
Ian Macek	Olympia	State Dept. of Transportation
Dave McMains	Moses Lake	Four-wheel drive community
Gary Paull	Darrington	Federal agencies
Patti Wible	Port Orchard	Equestrian community
Tom Windsor	Omak	Snowmobile community

In August and September, the advisory committee used board-approved criteria to evaluate 86 projects submitted by applicants. On October 5, 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 fund the maximum number of high-ranking education category projects allowed.

As part of its discussion, the committee noted that the board should reconsider its policy of defining an RTP project as “motorized” if the amount of motorized use is more than “incidental.” The policy was adopted to help the board meet the federal rule requiring that at least 30 percent of RTP funds to be allocated to motorized projects. Before this policy, too few applications for motor-oriented projects were submitted to allow the board to meet the 30 percent criteria.<sup>3</sup> RCO staff agrees that the policy should be revisited for the next grant round. Staff will develop policy proposals, seek public comments, and prepare recommendations for the board to consider at its March 2011 meeting. Any policy changes would not affect the current ranked list.

---

<sup>3</sup> For example, requests for motorized assured access dollars have been below the minimum in seven of the past eight years, missing the 30 percent target by an average of \$95,000 per year. In the same period, requests for non-motorized assured access dollars exceeded the minimum by an average of \$560,000 per year.

## Next Steps

If the board approves the ranked project list in Table 1, RCO staff will ask the Federal Highway Administration to release Washington's RTP funds as soon as they are available. Staff also will ask successful sponsors to complete post-approval requirements (e.g., obtaining permits, etc.) before executing the individual project agreements and beginning compliance monitoring.

## Attachments

Resolution 2010-29

- Table 1, Evaluation Ranked List and Funding Recommendations, RTP, State Fiscal Year 2011
  - A. Evaluation criteria summary
  - B. Summary of evaluation scores
  - C. Ranked list at hypothetical funding level
  - D. Project synopses, general
  - E. Project synopses, education

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-29  
Federal Fiscal Year 2010 Recreational Trails Program Project Funding

**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 2011, 86 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 86 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 not yet appropriated federal fiscal year 2011 funds for this program; and

**WHEREAS**, if funded, the projects will provide for maintaining recreational trails, developing trailside 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 2011*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Director is instructed to seek authorization from the Federal Highway Administration to proceed with execution of applicable agreements and other appropriate steps to implement these projects, and on receipt of this authorization, to proceed with agreement execution.

*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

## Attachment A: 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
<b>Total Points Possible–Development=75, Maintenance=75</b>				

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
<b>Total Points Possible</b>			<b>25</b>

### KEY TO TABLES:

Team = Criterion scored by the evaluation team      Item = Criteria title  
 Prescore = Criterion prescored by RCO staff      Mult/Mx = *Multiplier* and *maximum* pts  
 D/M = Criterion applicable to either development or maintenance projects





**Preliminary Evaluation Summary  
Recreational Trails Program (Federal Fiscal Year 2011)**

**General Recreation Projects**

Question #		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
Rank Project Name		Need	Need satisfaction	Project design	Maintenance	Readiness to proceed	Cost-benefit	Non-government contribution	Project support	Matching shares	GMA preference	
1	WTA 2011 Front /Washingt	11.40	12.20		8.40	4.53	4.33	4.53	8.27	10.00	0.00	63.67
2	Naches Motorize/USFS WNF	12.40	12.00		8.40	4.33	3.87	3.87	7.60	10.00	0.00	62.47
3	WTA 2011 Backco/Washingt	11.40	11.60		7.73	4.07	4.40	4.27	8.27	10.00	0.00	61.73
4	Walker Valley O/Natural	12.40	12.00		8.27	4.47	3.80	3.67	8.27	8.00	0.00	60.87
5	WTA 2011 Youth /Washingt	11.20	11.80		7.73	4.07	3.93	4.07	7.73	10.00	0.00	60.53
6	PNTA Olympic Yo/Pacific	10.60	11.80		7.33	4.00	4.00	3.60	7.60	10.00	0.00	58.93
7	2011-12 EarthCo/EarthCor	11.80	12.20		7.73	4.20	3.47	3.20	6.13	10.00	0.00	58.73
7	Chelan Uplake T/USFS WNF	10.80	11.00		7.73	4.00	4.20	3.53	7.47	10.00	0.00	58.73
9	Naches Wilderne/USFS WNF	11.40	11.20		7.60	4.20	3.67	3.07	7.47	10.00	0.00	58.60
10	North Cascade Y/Pacific	10.60	11.40		7.47	4.00	4.00	3.40	7.60	10.00	0.00	58.47
11	2011 Tahoma Tra/Mount Ta	10.00	11.00		7.33	4.07	3.67	4.07	7.87	10.00	0.00	58.00
12	Cle Elum NM Tra/USFS WNF	11.20	11.80		7.60	4.13	3.27	3.20	6.00	10.00	0.00	57.20
13	Mountains to So/Mountain	11.00	10.80		7.73	4.00	3.47	3.47	6.67	10.00	0.00	57.13
14	Cle Elum NM win/USFS WNF	10.00	11.00		7.73	4.07	3.33	3.53	7.07	10.00	0.00	56.73
15	Mt. Baker RD Tr/USFS MBN	11.40	10.00		7.20	3.93	3.60	3.80	6.53	10.00	0.00	56.47
16	Copper City 4WD/USFS WNF	9.80	11.40	7.60		3.93	3.27	3.33	6.93	10.00	0.00	56.27
17	Cle Elum Wilder/USFS WNF	10.80	10.80		7.33	4.07	3.47	3.20	6.13	10.00	0.00	55.80
18	S. Fork Snoqual/Evergree	10.60	10.40	7.47		3.73	3.00	3.20	6.80	10.00	0.00	55.20
19	Alpine Lakes Tr/USFS MBN	11.40	10.20		6.27	3.87	3.00	3.07	6.80	10.00	0.00	54.60
20	Sylvia Creek Tr/Montesan	10.40	11.40	7.07		3.40	3.07	3.27	7.73	8.00	0.00	54.33
20	Lower Big Quilc/USFS ONF	11.20	12.60	7.73		3.20	3.60	3.07	6.93	6.00	0.00	54.33
22	Skykomish Trail/USFS MBN	11.20	10.20		7.20	3.87	3.33	3.13	5.07	10.00	0.00	54.00
23	Iron Goat/Horse/Voluntee	9.00	9.80	6.80		4.07	3.33	3.80	6.93	10.00	0.00	53.73
24	Loop Trail Reha/Spokane	10.40	11.20	7.20		2.80	3.33	2.80	6.67	10.00	-1.00	53.40
25	WRRD Wilderness/USFS WNF	10.40	9.80		6.93	3.93	3.40	2.53	6.27	10.00	0.00	53.27
25	Evans Creek ORV/USFS MBN	10.00	9.40		6.80	3.93	3.07	3.67	6.40	10.00	0.00	53.27
27	Wilderness and /USFS WNF	11.20	11.40	7.60		3.33	3.73	2.33	5.60	8.00	0.00	53.20
28	NW Region Non-M/Natural	9.40	9.00	0.00	6.67	4.13	3.40	3.33	6.80	10.00	0.00	52.73
29	Cle Elum ORV M&/USFS WNF	10.80	11.60		7.07	4.00	3.53	2.87	6.67	6.00	0.00	52.53
30	Forest Lands Tr/Anacorte	9.60	10.20		6.27	3.80	3.20	2.80	6.13	10.00	0.00	52.00
31	USFS UNF Pomero/USFS UNF	9.20	9.60		6.40	4.40	2.93	2.93	6.40	10.00	0.00	51.87

32	SW Region Non-M/Natural	10.40	9.80		7.07	3.87	3.00	3.00	6.67	8.00	0.00	51.80
33	SW Region Motor/Natural	9.20	9.80		7.07	4.13	3.00	3.33	7.20	8.00	0.00	51.73
33	Stewardship Cre/USFS WNF	8.40	10.60		6.80	3.93	3.40	2.87	5.73	10.00	0.00	51.73
35	Snoqualmie Pass/State Pa	9.80	10.00		6.53	3.67	3.20	2.20	5.73	10.00	0.00	51.13
36	Franklin Falls /USFS MBN	10.80	9.60	6.53		3.40	3.07	3.13	6.40	8.00	0.00	50.93
36	Spokane Nordic /Spokane	9.60	9.60	6.00		2.60	2.87	3.60	6.67	10.00	0.00	50.93
38	Inland NE/SE Ar/State Pa	9.20	10.00		6.80	3.93	2.93	2.13	5.87	10.00	0.00	50.87
39	Tahuya-Green Mt/Natural	12.20	11.80		7.60	4.33	3.53	3.20	8.13	0.00	0.00	50.80
40	Snoqualmie Rang/USFS MBN	8.80	9.80		6.80	3.60	3.27	3.13	5.33	10.00	0.00	50.73
41	Backcountry Tra/King Cou	8.80	11.20	6.00		3.47	2.93	2.40	5.73	10.00	0.00	50.53
42	Mt. Baker Trail/Northwes	8.80	9.40		6.13	4.00	2.87	3.40	5.47	10.00	0.00	50.07
43	GPNF Motorized /USFS GPN	10.40	10.20		7.07	3.93	3.33	2.33	6.53	6.00	0.00	49.80
44	Wenaha-Tucannon/USFS UNF	8.60	9.20		6.00	4.13	3.00	2.80	5.73	10.00	0.00	49.47
45	Walker Valley O/Natural	11.40	11.00	6.53		3.13	3.27	2.73	7.33	4.00	0.00	49.40
46	Taneum/Manastas/State Pa	9.00	9.40		6.40	3.73	2.80	2.00	5.73	10.00	0.00	49.07
47	Taneum Ridge Tr/USFS WNF	10.40	10.60		7.20	3.93	3.20	3.27	6.40	4.00	0.00	49.00
48	Mt. Spokane Are/State Pa	8.60	10.60		6.67	3.53	2.80	1.73	4.80	10.00	0.00	48.73
49	Leavenworth/Che/State Pa	8.60	9.20		6.13	3.87	2.93	2.07	5.47	10.00	0.00	48.27
50	Capitol Forest /Natural	10.60	10.40	7.07		4.13	3.00	2.53	6.13	4.00	0.00	47.87
51	Grey Rock Multi/Natural	10.60	11.80		7.47	3.60	3.27	2.73	5.87	2.00	0.00	47.33
52	Entiat RD - Mul/USFS WNF	11.20	11.60		7.73	4.20	3.40	2.73	5.73	0.00	0.00	46.60
53	Devils Gulch OR/USFS WNF	10.80	11.40		6.67	4.20	3.27	2.73	7.20	0.00	0.00	46.27
54	Lake Wenatchee /USFS WNF	10.60	11.20		6.80	4.07	3.27	2.87	7.07	0.00	0.00	45.87
54	Kennedy Creek B/Mason Co	9.60	10.60	6.80		3.40	3.27	3.27	6.93	2.00	0.00	45.87
56	Farrell's Marsh/Steilaco	7.20	7.60	5.60		3.60	2.47	3.07	5.87	10.00	0.00	45.40
57	Snoqualmie Back/USFS MBN	10.60	10.20		6.13	3.60	3.13	2.80	6.00	2.00	0.00	44.47
57	Hoyt Trail rero/USFS WNF	11.20	11.20	7.20		3.87	3.00	2.13	5.87	0.00	0.00	44.47
59	Capitol Forest /Natural	9.40	10.00		6.67	3.80	2.60	1.33	6.00	0.00	0.00	39.80
60	Elbe Hills M&O /Natural	7.60	10.40		6.13	3.60	3.13	2.73	6.00	0.00	0.00	39.60
61	Cross country s/USFS CNF	7.00	9.00		5.33	3.47	2.80	1.60	4.80	0.00	0.00	34.00
62	Centennial Trai/Snohomish	6.60	8.20		4.40	3.47	2.53	1.87	5.07	0.00	0.00	32.13



## Preliminary Evaluation Summary Recreational Trails Program (Federal Fiscal Year 2011)

### Education Projects

	Question #	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Rank	Project Name	Need for this project	Extent to which the project satisfies this need	Applicant's ability to accomplish the project	Project's cost-benefit	Support for the project	
1	Cle Elum ORV Ed/USFS WNF	4.13	4.20	4.33	3.80	4.07	20.53
2	Naches District/USFS WNF	4.27	3.87	4.40	3.67	3.80	20.00
3	Minimum Impact /Backcoun	4.00	4.00	4.27	3.53	3.73	19.53
4	Mountain Stewar/USFS MBN	4.00	3.87	4.07	3.87	3.53	19.33
5	Snoqualmie Volu/USFS MBN	4.13	4.00	4.00	3.67	3.07	18.87
6	Snoqualmie Pass/USFS WNF	3.40	3.93	3.93	3.73	3.73	18.73
7	Cle Elum Winter/USFS WNF	3.47	3.67	4.13	3.53	3.60	18.40
8	Cle Elum Wilder/USFS WNF	3.93	3.60	4.13	3.20	3.40	18.27
9	Mt. Baker Climb/USFS MBN	3.33	3.73	4.07	3.27	3.73	18.13
10	Watertrails Lea/WA Water	3.33	3.53	3.80	3.53	3.80	18.00
10	Tahuya Educatio/Natural	3.80	3.67	3.93	2.80	3.80	18.00
12	Walker Valley O/Natural	3.67	3.60	3.67	3.33	3.53	17.80
13	WRRD Rock Climb/USFS WNF	3.67	3.73	3.87	3.20	3.13	17.60
14	Pend Oreille Va/USFS CNF	3.53	3.80	3.80	3.07	3.13	17.33
15	Capitol Forest /Natural	4.00	3.67	3.80	2.67	3.13	17.27
16	Entiat RD - OHV/USFS WNF	3.33	3.53	3.73	3.07	3.47	17.13
17	WRRD Wilderness/USFS WNF	3.53	3.53	3.67	3.20	3.13	17.07
18	Leave No Trace /USFS UNF	3.53	3.60	3.67	3.33	2.07	16.20
18	Green Mt. Educa/Natural	3.27	3.27	3.93	2.27	3.47	16.20
20	Reiter Off Road/Natural	3.47	3.20	3.47	2.67	3.27	16.07
21	Morningstar and/Natural	3.07	3.20	3.60	2.80	2.20	14.87
22	Harry Osborne E/Natural	2.60	2.87	3.33	2.53	2.87	14.20
23	Cypress Natural/Natural	3.00	2.87	3.33	2.47	2.40	14.07
24	Blanchard Mount/Natural	2.93	2.93	2.93	2.40	2.60	13.80

# Evaluation Ranked List: Hypothetical Funding Level of \$1.8 million

Rank	Score	Proj #	Sponsor	Project Name	CATEGORIES					Total Amount
					NMSU Amount	NMMU Amount	Compatib Amount	MMU Amount	MSU Amount	
GENERAL RECREATION PROJECTS										
01 of 62	63.667	10-1193M	Washington Trails	WTA 2011 Front Country	A	\$75,000			C	\$75,000
02 of 62	62.467	10-1576M	USFS WNF Naches RD	Naches Motorized Trails				\$74,400		\$74,400
03 of 62	61.733	10-1373M	Washington Trails	WTA 2011 Backcountry		\$75,000				\$75,000
04 of 62	60.867	10-1076M	Natural Resources Dept	Walker Valley Off-Road				\$75,000		\$75,000
05 of 62	60.533	10-1510M	Washington Trails	WTA 2011 Youth Trail	≈\$475,200	\$25,000			≈\$475,200	\$25,000
06 of 62	58.933	10-1564M	Pacific Northwest Trail	PNTA Olympic Youth		\$71,140				\$71,140
07 of 62	58.733	10-1298M	USFS WNF Chelan RD	Chelan Uplake Trails 11			\$75,000			\$75,000
07 of 62	58.733	10-1444M	EarthCorps	2011-12 EarthCorps		\$45,110				\$45,110
09 of 62	58.600	10-1577M	USFS WNF Naches RD	Naches Wilderness Trails		\$73,700				\$73,700
10 of 62	58.467	10-1539M	Pacific Northwest Trail	North Cascade Youth		\$70,864				\$70,864
11 of 62	58.000	10-1336M	Mount Tahoma Trails	2011 Tahoma Trails		\$63,000	B			\$63,000
12 of 62	57.200	10-1501M	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Cle Elum NM Trails M&O		\$40,800				\$40,800
13 of 62	57.133	10-1562M	Mountains to Sound	Mountains to Sound Trail		\$75,000				\$75,000
14 of 62	56.733	10-1431M	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Cle Elum NM winter trail		\$48,000				\$48,000
15 of 62	56.467	10-1655M	USFS MBNF Mt Baker	Mt. Baker RD Trail		\$50,000	≈\$633,600			\$50,000
16 of 62	56.267	10-1579D	USFS WNF Naches RD	Copper City 4WD				\$24,300		\$24,300
17 of 62	55.800	10-1502M	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Cle Elum Wilderness		\$43,500				\$43,500
18 of 62	55.200	10-1712D	Evergreen Mt Bike	S. Fork Snoqualmie		\$75,000				\$75,000
19 of 62	54.600	10-1435M	USFS MBNF	Alpine Lakes Trail		\$75,000				\$75,000
20 of 62	54.333	10-1169D	USFS ONF Hood Canal	Lower Big Quilcene Trail				\$75,000		\$75,000
20 of 62	54.333	10-1366D	Montesano City of	Sylvia Creek Trails		\$30,000				\$30,000
22 of 62	54.000	10-1490M	USFS MBNF Skykomish	Skykomish Trail		\$75,000				\$75,000
23 of 62	53.733	10-1375D	Volunteers for Outdoor	Iron Goat/Horseshoe	\$75,000					\$75,000
24 of 62	53.400	10-1265D	Spokane County Parks	Loop Trail Rehabilitation		\$36,860				\$36,860
25 of 62	53.267	10-1156M	USFS MBNF	Evans Creek ORV				\$75,000		\$75,000
25 of 62	53.267	10-1392M	USFS WNF Wenatchee	WRRD Wilderness Trail		\$40,000				\$40,000
27 of 62	53.200	10-1203D	USFS WNF Wenatchee	Wilderness and		\$14,000				\$14,000
28 of 62	52.733	10-1077M	Natural Resources Dept	NW Region Non-		\$61,718				\$61,718
29 of 62	52.533	10-1541M	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Cle Elum ORV M&O				\$68,000		\$68,000
30 of 62	52.000	10-1396M	Anacortes Parks & Rec	Forest Lands Trails				\$23,000		\$23,000
31 of 62	51.867	10-1019M	USFS UNF Pomeroy RD	USFS UNF Pomeroy RD				\$40,000		\$40,000
32 of 62	51.800	10-1074M	Natural Resources Dept	SW Region Non-		\$60,500				\$60,500
33 of 62	51.733	10-1075M	Natural Resources Dept	SW Region Motorized				\$57,935		\$57,935
33 of 62	51.733	10-1199M	USFS WNF Wenatchee	Stewardship Crew		\$39,000				\$39,000
35 of 62	51.133	10-1326M	State Parks	Snoqualmie Pass/I-90		\$18,700				\$18,700
36 of 62	50.933	10-1434D	USFS MBNF	Franklin Falls Trail	\$75,000					\$75,000
36 of 62	50.933	10-1693D	Spokane Nordic Ski Edu	Spokane Nordic Ski Club -					\$20,000	\$20,000
38 of 62	50.867	10-1328M	State Parks	Inland NE/SE Area					\$45,200	\$45,200

## Item 12, Attachment C

39 of 62	50.800	10-1533M	Natural Resources Dept	Tahuya-Green Mt. Trail				\$75,000		\$75,000
40 of 62	50.733	10-1676M	USFS MBNF	Snoqualmie Ranger			\$60,400			\$60,400
41 of 62	50.533	10-1614D	King County DNR &	Backcountry Trail		\$72,800				\$72,800
42 of 62	50.067	10-1107M	Northwest Glacier	Mt. Baker Trail Grooming					\$62,000	\$62,000
43 of 62	49.800	10-1387M	USFS GPNF Cowlitz	GPNF Motorized Trails				\$75,000		\$75,000
44 of 62	49.467	10-1018M	USFS UNF Pomeroy RD	Wenaha-Tucannon		\$75,000				\$75,000
45 of 62	49.400	10-1079D	Natural Resources Dept	Walker Valley ORV				\$20,500		\$20,500
46 of 62	49.067	10-1331M	State Parks	Taneum/Manastash &					\$29,795	\$29,795
47 of 62	49.000	10-1583M	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Taneum Ridge Trail				\$25,600		\$25,600
48 of 62	48.733	10-1325M	State Parks	Mt. Spokane Area Snow	\$75,000					\$75,000
49 of 62	48.267	10-1327M	State Parks	Leavenworth/Chelan					\$49,228	\$49,228
50 of 62	47.867	10-1081D	Natural Resources Dept	Capitol Forest Motorized				\$15,700		\$15,700
51 of 62	47.333	10-1073M	Natural Resources Dept	Grey Rock Multiple-Use				\$75,000		\$75,000
52 of 62	46.600	10-1514M	USFS WNF Entiat RD	Entiat RD - Multiple Use					\$75,000	\$75,000
53 of 62	46.267	10-1393M	USFS WNF Wenatchee	Devils Gulch ORV M&O					\$42,200	\$42,200
54 of 62	45.867	10-1063D	Mason County	Kennedy Creek		\$50,000				\$50,000
54 of 62	45.867	10-1394M	USFS WNF Wenatchee	Lake Wenatchee ORV					\$40,000	\$40,000
56 of 62	45.400	10-1133D	Steilacoom Town of	Farrell's Marsh Trails		\$34,700				\$34,700
57 of 62	44.467	10-1436M	USFS MBNF	Snoqualmie Backcountry		\$72,000				\$72,000
57 of 62	44.467	10-1619D	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Hoyt Trail reroute			\$39,500			\$39,500
59 of 62	39.800	10-1083M	Natural Resources Dept	Capitol Forest Non-		\$57,500				\$57,500
60 of 62	39.600	10-1080M	Natural Resources Dept	Elbe Hills M&O				\$45,138		\$45,138
61 of 62	34.000	10-1371M	USFS CNF Three Rivers	Cross country ski trail		\$10,000				\$10,000
62 of 62	32.133	10-1097M	Snohomish County	Centennial Trail		\$35,422				\$35,422
				<b>General Rec Sub Total</b>	<b>\$225,000</b>	<b>\$1,689,314</b>	<b>\$174,900</b>	<b>\$844,573</b>	<b>\$363,423</b>	<b>\$3,297,210</b>

Rank	Score	Proj #	Sponsor	Project Name	CATEGORIES					Total Amount
					NMSU Amount	NMMU Amount	Compatib Amount	MMU Amount	MSU Amount	
EDUCATION PROJECTS										
01 of 24	20.533	10-1519E	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Cle Elum ORV Education	D ≈\$27,000			\$10,000	F ≈\$27,000	\$10,000
02 of 24	20.000	10-1578E	USFS WNF Naches RD	Naches District OHV				\$10,000		\$10,000
03 of 24	19.533	10-1039E	Backcountry Horsemen	Minimum Impact		\$10,000				\$10,000
04 of 24	19.333	10-1381E	USFS MBNF Mt Baker	Mountain Stewards 2011		\$10,000				\$10,000
05 of 24	18.867	10-1433E	USFS MBNF	Snoqualmie Volunteer		\$10,000				\$10,000
06 of 24	18.733	10-1608E	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Snoqualmie Pass Winter			\$10,000			\$10,000
07 of 24	18.400	10-1430E	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Cle Elum Winter Trail					\$10,000	\$10,000
08 of 24	18.267	10-1707E	USFS WNF Cle Elum	Cle Elum Wilderness		\$9,800	E ≈\$36,000			\$9,800
09 of 24	18.133	10-1382E	USFS MBNF Mt Baker	Mt. Baker Climbing	\$10,000					\$10,000
10 of 24	18.000	10-1530E	Natural Resources Dept	Tahuya Education				\$10,000		\$10,000
10 of 24	18.000	10-1372E	WA Water Trails	Watertrails Leave No	\$7,500					
12 of 24	17.800	10-1622E	Natural Resources Dept	Walker Valley Off Road				\$10,000		\$10,000
13 of 24	17.600	10-1201E	USFS WNF Wenatchee	WRRD Rock Climbing		\$10,000				\$10,000
14 of 24	17.333	10-1648E	USFS CNF Sullivan	Pend Oreille Valley OHV				\$10,000		\$10,000
15 of 24	17.267	10-1593E	Natural Resources Dept	Capitol Forest Education				\$10,000		\$10,000
16 of 24	17.133	10-1515E	USFS WNF Entiat RD	Entiat RD - OHV					\$10,000	\$10,000
17 of 24	17.067	10-1200E	USFS WNF Wenatchee	WRRD Wilderness					\$10,000	\$10,000
18 of 24	16.200	10-1532E	Natural Resources Dept	Green Mt. Education					\$10,000	\$10,000
18 of 24	16.200	10-1040E	USFS UNF Pomeroy RD	Leave No Trace and			\$10,000			\$10,000
20 of 24	16.067	10-1621E	Natural Resources Dept	Reiter Off Road Vehicle				\$10,000		\$10,000
21 of 24	14.867	10-1078E	Natural Resources Dept	Morningstar and	\$10,000					\$10,000
22 of 24	14.200	10-1625E	Natural Resources Dept	Harry Osborne		\$10,000				\$10,000
23 of 24	14.067	10-1623E	Natural Resources Dept	Cypress Natural Area		\$10,000				\$10,000
24 of 24	13.800	10-1624E	Natural Resources Dept	Blanchard Mountain		\$10,000				\$10,000
				Education Sub Total	\$17,500	\$89,800	\$20,000	\$70,000	\$40,000	\$237,300

**Acronyms:**

**NMSU:** Nonmotorized single use  
**NMMU:** Nonmotorized multiple use  
**Compatible:** Combines motor and nonmotor uses  
**MMU:** Motorized multiple use  
**MSU:** Motorized single use

**Notes:**

+ Funding for this grant program has not yet been approved by Congress; it is possible that the program will not be reauthorized.  
 + The enclosed dashed lines, above, show the projects that could be funded if \$1.8 million were to be appropriated. \$1.8 million was received for '09 projects.  
 + The last project shown in each box, with the amount italicized, would be eligible for partial funding.

**If and when approved, grants are subject to several factors, including:**

- Congressional appropriation of program funds
- Approval of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board and the Federal Highways Administration
- Rules and recommendations regarding minimum and maximum amounts to be distributed among the categories shown above.



**Recreational Trails Program**  
**General Category**  
**Grants Requested 2010**

**Washington Trails Association**  
**Providing Front Country Trail Maintenance**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to support volunteer trail maintenance on more than 100 trails across the state. The association will host 250 "front country" work parties, totaling more than 25,000 volunteer hours, on trails throughout the Cascade and Olympic Mountains and in eastern Washington. The association will target popular day hike routes, accessible from the major cities of Puget Sound and southwest Washington. Volunteers will remove brush and fallen trees, maintain drainage structures, repair trail surfaces, and perform other maintenance tasks. Most of these trails will see two to four days of routine annual maintenance. The association will contribute \$375,000 in donations of cash and labor. (10-1193)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest**  
**Maintaining Naches Motorized Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$74,400**

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to fund a maintenance crew supervisor and crew, transportation, and supplies for two years to clear all 250 miles of trail in the district each year. The crews also will complete maintenance tasks, such as removing brush, repairing drainage structures, and fixing trail surfaces, on half the trails each year. The district has 140 miles of motorcycle trail and 110 miles of four-wheel drive trail, which are used by an estimated 100,000 people annually. Heavy trail use, coupled with steep slopes, poor soils, and numerous stream and wetland crossings requires maintenance to keep the trails safe, enjoyable, and within standards. The ranger district will contribute \$163,580 in cash, equipment, and staff and donated labor. (10-1576)

**Washington Trails Association**  
**Funding Backcountry Trail Teams**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to fund at least 45 volunteer trail teams to maintain more than 100 miles of backcountry trails open to hiker and equestrian use. The teams will work in locations throughout the Cascade and Olympic Mountains, and from the northernmost reaches of the Salmo-Priest Wilderness to Bird Creek Meadows near Mount Adams on Yakama Nation land. The teams will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, and fix trail surfaces. The association's backcountry trail teams will work on trails that are further than a single day trip. The association will contribute \$237,000 in donations of cash and labor. (10-1373)

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Operating and Maintaining the Walker Valley Off-Road Vehicle Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain and operate the 36-mile, 8,000-acre Walker Valley Off-road Vehicle (ORV) trail system for a year. The



department will hire an on-site trail manager and use volunteers and Washington Conservation Corps crews to maintain trails and trailheads. The trails get heavy, year-round use, which has increased because of recent closures of other ORV sites in the area. The crews will work to maintain the existing trails for user safety, to protect the water quality and natural environment, and to prevent damage to trail infrastructure. The department will contribute \$56,800 in staff labor, equipment, and donations of equipment and labor. (10-1076)

**Washington Trails Association  
Funding Youth Trail Maintenance Teams**

**Grant Requested: \$25,000**

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to support five, front-country youth projects working in national forests and state and national parks. The youth teams will work on trails in locations such as Jug Lake Trail near Packwood, Cape Disappointment State Park, Beacon Rock State Park, and White River Campground in Mount Rainier National Park. Many of these agencies do not have dedicated trail maintenance crews and rely on volunteers to keep their trail systems operational. By completing basic trail maintenance tasks, youth learn trail maintenance skills as well as address significant trail maintenance needs of the agencies. These young adults also learn valuable skills, such as self-reliance and self-confidence, by completing challenging projects. The association will contribute \$50,300 in donations of cash and labor. (10-1510)

**Pacific Northwest Trail Association  
Providing Olympic Youth Crews**

**Grant Requested: \$71,140**

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association will use this grant to support youth crews to maintain 120 miles of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, part of which runs across the northern end of the Olympic Peninsula, through Jefferson and Clallam Counties. Crews will work in the following areas: 1) from Snow Creek and Mount Zion, through Gold Creek, the upper Dungeness River, and the Buckhorn Wilderness, to the national park boundary; 2) the Hi-Divide and Low Divide areas on the upper Solduc River and the upper and lower Bogachiel River in the park. The trail work gives the agencies much needed help, and allows the youth to get away from the electronic world, learn about nature, and ultimately become better stewards of the environment. The association will contribute \$69,000 in donations of equipment and labor. (10-1564)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest  
Maintaining Chelan Uplake Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Chelan Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 195 miles of trail in Glacier Peak and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness areas, Sawtooth and Domke Lake Roadless areas, and Lucerne-Holden Village Scenic Corridor. Crews will remove fallen trees, clean drainage structures, and remove loose rock. These trails are open for backpacking and stock packing, day hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing,

mountain biking, and motorcycling. The district also will do more heavy maintenance, such as cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures and bridges, fix trail surfaces, repair signs, and remove fallen trees from burned areas on 20 miles of the Company Creek, Devore Creek, Horton Butte, 10 Mile Falls, Holden, and Summit Trails. The ranger district will contribute \$66,000 in staff labor, materials, and donations of labor and materials. (10-1298)

**EarthCorps**  
**Providing Wilderness Trail Maintenance**

**Grant Requested: \$45,110**

EarthCorps will use this grant to complete more than 3,000 hours of maintenance on the Necklace Valley Trail during two years. This trail is one of the most popular hikes in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area in the Mount Baker- Snoqualmie National Forest, and continues to have increased use because of flood damage to other trails in the area. The trail is extremely steep, severely eroded, and needs a complete reworking of its drainage system to ensure user safety. EarthCorps will field four crews to remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, and fix trail surfaces on a 9-mile section of trail between the trailhead on Foss River Road #68 and Opal Lake. EarthCorps will contribute \$45,440 in staff and donated labor. (10-1444)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest**  
**Maintaining the Naches Wilderness Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$73,700**

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to fund a crew supervisor and five-person crew, transportation, and supplies for two years to maintain 380 miles of non-motorized, backcountry trails within the Norse Peak, William O. Douglas, and Goat Rocks Wilderness areas. The crews will clear about 75 percent of the trails each year. They also will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, and fix trail surfaces on about 50 percent of the trails over two years. More than 30,000 hikers and stock users use the trails annually. The ranger district will contribute \$90,948 in federal funding and donated labor. (10-1577)

**Pacific Northwest Trail Association**  
**Funding the North Cascade Youth Crews**

**Grant Requested: \$70,864**

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association will use this grant to fund a crew leader and a five-person youth crew to maintain the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail through Island, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties. This 220-mile segment of the trail includes lands managed by the State Parks and Recreation Commission, the State Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Park Service. For the past 10 years, these agencies have relied on the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, non-profits, volunteers, and youth crews, to maintain trails because of dwindling budgets. The association will contribute \$67,500 in donations of equipment and labor. (10-1539)

**Mount Tahoma Trails Association**  
**Grooming and Maintaining Tahoma Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$63,000**

The Mount Tahoma Trails Association will use this grant to groom 30 miles of skiing and snowshoeing trail, and to clear brush and trees from 50 miles of trail. These trails link three backcountry huts for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in the winter and are used in the summer for hiking and mountain biking. An estimated 8,000 people use the trails each season. The association also will use the grant to maintain snow machines and install signs along the trail. The trail system has been in operation for 20 years and has grown every year, with more than 100,000 cumulative trail users. The local Ashford business community supports the association, along with a volunteer force producing more than 6,000 volunteer hours each year. The association will contribute \$126,000 in donated labor. (10-1336)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest**  
**Maintaining Cle Elum Hiking Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$40,800**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to maintain the district's 298 miles of non-motorized trails for hikers, mountain bikers, and stock users. The project will maintain the public's access to and use of trails as well as continue to protect adjacent resources. The district will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, fix trail surfaces, and install trail signs. Funds also will be used to purchase materials, supplies, and tools for the project. The ranger district will contribute \$33,700 in staff and donated labor. (10-1501)

**Mountains to Sound Greenway**  
**Providing Mountains to Sound Trail Maintenance**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Mountains to Sound Greenway will use this grant to maintain 60 miles of trail in the greenway, some of the most heavily used trails in the state. The grant will fund staff, a Washington Conservation Corps crew, materials, and tools. The crew will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, fix trail surfaces, replace signs, and make minor trail structure repairs. The crews will work on the Mount Si and Little Si Trails, the West Tiger #3 Trail, Rattlesnake Ledge, Rattlesnake Mountain Trails, Swamp and Big Tree Trails, Twin Falls Trail, additional trails on Tiger Mountain, and the first 2 miles of some U.S. Forest Service, trails along the south and middle forks of the Snoqualmie River, as well as the remainder of the trails in the Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area. The wild land trails system in the greenway consists of more than 1,000 miles of trails in the Interstate 90 corridor. The greenway will contribute \$75,000 in staff labor, a local grant, and donations of cash and labor. (10-1562)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest**  
**Maintaining Cle Elum Winter Trails****Grant Requested: \$48,000**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund a two-person team, along with volunteers, to maintain 84 miles of ski, snowshoe, and dogsled trail. The team will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, install signs and markers, and maintain small bridges. The trails vary greatly in terms of difficulty and amount of grooming, so maintaining signs, markers, bridges, and vegetation is important to user safety and enjoyment. In 2009, a new ski trail was approved in the Roaring Ridge area, which will form a loop with the existing John Wayne trail. This grant will allow the ranger district to prepare this trail as a full-fledged part of the system. The ranger district will contribute \$88,000 in a state grant, and staff and donated labor. (10-1431)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest**  
**Maintaining Mount Baker Area Trails****Grant Requested: \$50,000**

The Mount Baker Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 90 miles of hiker and stock trail for two years. These trails provide a range of trips into the north Cascade Mountains backcountry for the estimated 100,000 annual visitors. The district will focus on trails near Bellingham, Seattle, Everett, Burlington, and Mount Vernon. Heavy use of the trails in a short, snow-free season, combined with a wet climate, fast growing brush, and storms has damaged the trails. Crews will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, and fix trail surfaces. Completing this work will reduce the district's deferred trail maintenance by 35 percent. The district will use staff trail crews, contractors, and a variety of volunteer and youth service organizations including Washington Trails Association, Pacific Northwest Trail Association, Northwest Youth Corp, Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Sierra Club, and Mountaineers. The ranger district will contribute \$90,000 in federal funding and donated labor. (10-1655)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest**  
**Rebuilding the Copper City Four-wheel Drive Trail****Grant Requested: \$24,300**

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to complete reconstruction of the historic Copper City 4WD Trail #654 in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. This 2.3-mile trail is the only four-wheel drive trail in the Bumping River watershed. The district will fix drainage problems and develop and install regulatory and interpretive signs about the old mining road. The rebuilt trail will allow the district to protect the environment, preserve historic features, and enhance interpretation of a 1930s mining center. The Hombres, a Pacific Northwest 4WD Association chapter, will provide volunteers. The ranger district will contribute \$20,755 in staff labor, materials, and donations of equipment and labor. (10-1579)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest**  
**Maintaining Alpine Lakes Wilderness Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$43,500**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to maintain Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area trails. The district will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, fix trail surfaces, and install trail signs. The district will focus on high-use trails such as Wapatus River, Pete Lake, Rachel Lake, Deception Pass, and Pacific Crest Trails. Work will be done by staff, volunteers from the Washington Trail Association and the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, as well as individuals, youth corps crews, and contractors. The ranger district will contribute \$36,000 in staff and donated labor. (10-1502)

**Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance**  
**Converting Roads to Trails along the South Fork of the Snoqualmie River**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance will use this grant to develop 3 miles of multi-use trail following road decommissioning in the south fork of the Snoqualmie River basin, along the south side of Interstate 90 between Olallie State Park and Hansen Creek. The U.S. Forest Service, has acquired all necessary land from Weyerhaeuser and has begun decommissioning 50 miles of roads. Development ultimately will yield a 23-mile network of trails, and tie into the John Wayne Pioneer Trail and the future Mount Washington Trail in Olallie State Park. This project is supported by the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Cascade Chapter of the Sierra Club, State Parks and Recreation Commission, and Washington Trails Association, all of whom identified a growing demand for new mountain bike trails in the region and recognized a shortage of trails along the Interstate 90 corridor. The alliance will contribute \$63,000 in a federal grant and donations of cash and labor. (10-1712)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest**  
**Maintaining Alpine Lakes Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to clear trails, trim overgrown brush, and repair drainage structures along 125 miles of trail in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area and surrounding backcountry. The district will focus on trails in the watersheds of the north, middle, and south forks of the Snoqualmie River, including trails along the Interstate 90 corridor. More than 100,000 visitors use this trail system each year. The ranger district will contribute \$64,805 in staff labor, equipment, materials, and donations of labor and materials. (10-1435)

**U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan National Forest**  
**Replacing the Lower Big Quilcene River Trail Bridges**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Hood Canal Ranger District will use this grant to replace two bridges, restoring access for stock and motorcycles to the entire Lower Big Quilcene Trail. The larger of the two bridges, spanning the Big Quilcene, was hit by a tree and is expected to fail



soon. The second bridge at Wet Weather Creek has washed out footings and a late summer ford limits use by stock and motorcycle. The two new bridges would restore full access to the lower 6.2 miles of the trail. The ranger district will replace the larger bridge with a prefabricated one, doubling the lifespan of the existing bridge. The ranger district will rebuild the smaller bridge using time and supplies from local trail volunteers. The ranger district will contribute \$42,257 in a federal grant and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. (10-1169)

**Montesano**  
**Rehabilitating Sylvia Creek Trails****Grant Requested: \$30,000**

Montesano will use this grant to rehabilitate the 2-mile Sylvia Creek Forestry Interpretive Trail, redesign and install new interpretive stops, and install uniform signs in the greater 20-mile hiking and biking trail system in the Sylvia Creek drainage. Situated in central Grays Harbor County, the 220-acre Lake Sylvia State Park and the surrounding 5,000-acre forested watershed owned by the City offer nearly 20 miles of hiking and biking trails. One of the most heavily used trails is the forestry interpretive trail. The City will contribute \$20,500 in donations of cash, equipment, and labor. (10-1366)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest**  
**Maintaining Skykomish Trails****Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Skykomish Ranger District will use this grant to fund trail crews, youth corps, contractors, and coordination of volunteer groups to maintain 144 miles of trail in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. These trails include hiker and stock trails. The crews will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures and bridges, fix trail surfaces, repair slides, and remove boulders. The trail system traverses the Alpine Lakes, Henry M. Jackson, and Wild Sky Wilderness Areas and adjacent backcountry areas such as the Mount Index Scenic Area, and includes the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and the Iron Goat Trail within the Stevens Pass Historic District. The system receives more than 50,000 visitors a year and features old growth forests, subalpine lakes and meadows, mountain views, and wild creeks and rivers. The ranger district will contribute \$70,000 in federal funding and donated labor. (10-1490)

**Volunteers for Outdoor Washington**  
**Connecting the Iron Goat Trail to the Wild Sky Wilderness****Grant Requested: \$75,000**

Volunteers for Outdoor Washington will use this grant to build a 3-mile trail from the Martin Creek Trailhead of the Iron Goat Trail to the Kelley Creek Trail in the Wild Sky Wilderness. The Kelley Creek Trail is underused because of an inadequate trailhead. The ranger district will move the Kelley Creek trailhead to coexist with the Martin Creek trailhead. This move and the resulting increased exposure of the Kelley Creek Trail could double its use and reduce pressure on the other, better known trails and on

the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. The ranger district will extend the Kelley Creek Trail across Martin Creek and provide access to the historical remnants of the Great Northern Horseshoe Tunnel and trestles on the west side of the creek. The tunnel and trestles are a National Civil Engineering Landmark, and are within the Stevens Pass Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The project is in partnership with Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, more than 70 recreation and conservation groups; historical agencies and organizations; educational institutions and professional societies; federal, state, and local governments; and the private sector. More than 2,500 volunteers have contributed more than 100,000 hours on the project. The Volunteers for Outdoor Washington will contribute \$78,950 in donated labor. (10-1375)

**Spokane County**  
**Rehabilitating the Loop Trail at Liberty Lake Park**

**Grant Requested: \$36,860**

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department will use this grant to rehabilitate the popular 7-mile Liberty Lake Loop Trail. The County will build a bridge and expand a .5-mile reroute trail to bypass permanently flooded beaver wetlands. The County will restore the old crossing by planting wetland and native plants and will install a museum quality kiosk that educates visitors about the beaver's ecological role and benefits. The County also will fix a dangerous segment of the loop trail that provides access to Liberty Creek Falls, a star attraction to the park. The County will blast rock to create an easier pathway to the falls loop. Liberty Lake Regional Park provides a unique backcountry wilderness experience 20 miles from downtown Spokane and Coeur D'Alene, serving more than 600,000 residents. The County will contribute \$30,920 in donations of labor and materials. (10-1265)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest**  
**Maintaining the Evans Creek Off-road Vehicle Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to maintain the Evans Creek off-road vehicle trails and facilities. The ranger district will employ a seasonal trail crew and a patrol and facility maintenance crew, buy a small tractor and loader machine to haul rocks and materials, and continue heavy maintenance. The ranger district also will pump toilets, rent dumpsters, and sample water supplies. The ranger district will contribute \$76,000 in staff labor, materials, equipment, and donations of equipment and labor. (10-1156)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest**  
**Maintaining Wilderness Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$40,000**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to perform backlog and yearly maintenance on about 400 miles of wilderness and adjacent trails in the district. Crews will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, and fix trail surfaces. A combination of contractors, youth corps crews, staff crews, and



volunteers will do the work. The ranger district will contribute \$35,000 in cash and donated labor. (10-1392)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest  
Renovating Wilderness and Backcountry Toilets**

**Grant Requested: \$14,000**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to buy 12 portable, modern outhouses for use in the Enchantment Lakes area. The district also will build 20 Wallowa toilet kits, which are partially pre-assembled toilets designed to be carried by backpack or pack animal to remote sites and installed as simple pit toilets. High visitation at places such as Enchantment Lakes, Eight Mile Lake, Coluchuck Lake, Stuart Lake, Lake Valhalla, Spider Meadows, and others, resulted in 128 toilets scattered throughout the wilderness. The district will eliminate toilets from a number of these sites. Many of these are wood toilets more than two decades old, and in need of replacement. The ranger district will contribute \$9,400 in federal funding and donated labor. (10-1203)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Maintaining Northwest Region Hiking Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$61,718**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to provide staff and materials to maintain about 60 miles of non-motorized trail, two backcountry campgrounds, and three trailheads in the Blanchard Forest Block and the Harry Osborne State Forest. Crews will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures and bridges, fix trail surfaces, clean restrooms, and maintain grounds and other campground amenities such as signs, picnic tables, and fire rings. The department will contribute \$62,286 in staff labor, materials, equipment, and donations of labor and materials. (10-1077)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest  
Maintaining Cle Elum Off-road Vehicle Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$68,000**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund a crew leader and a two-person team to maintain the motorized trails in the district. Crews will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures and bridges, fix trail surfaces, and maintain signs. The team will work with volunteers to complete the work. The district will contribute \$38,021 in donations of equipment and labor. (10-1541)

**Anacortes  
Maintaining Forest Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$23,000**

The Anacortes Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to maintain all 52 miles of trail in the Anacortes Community Forest Lands. The 2,800-acre forest combines old growth groves, sensitive wildlife habitat, and recreational trails on Fidalgo Island. The forest provide an "island" backcountry experience that is enjoyed

by thousands of recreationists. About 24,000 Fidalgo residents have a trailhead within 15 minutes of their home. Well-maintained trails reduce user conflict and keep people on the trails and out of sensitive areas. The City will contribute \$32,000 in staff and donated labor. (10-1396)

**U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest** **\$40,000**  
**Maintaining Motorized Trails**

The Pomeroy Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 31 miles of motorized trails and four trailheads and campgrounds in the district. Crews will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, and remove rocks from trail surfaces. The ranger district will contribute \$47,100 in cash, equipment, materials, and staff and donated labor. (10-1019)

**State Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$60,500**  
**Maintaining Southwest Washington Non-motorized Trails**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain about 54 miles of non-motorized trail and the three primary trailheads in the Yacolt Burn State Forest and the Siouxon area. These trails receive very heavy use because they are the only free forest recreation opportunities near Vancouver and Portland. The department crews will shape trail surfaces, harden sections of trail by applying crushed rock, install and maintain drainage structures, inspect and maintain bridges, trim overgrown brush, maintain restrooms and signs, remove litter, and pump toilets. The department will contribute \$42,640 in equipment, materials, and staff and donated labor. (10-1074)

**State Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$57,935**  
**Maintaining Southwest Washington Motorized Trails**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain 18 miles of off-road vehicle trail and the two primary trailheads in the Yacolt Burn State Forest and the Elochoman area. These trails receive very heavy use because they are the only two off-road vehicle forest riding opportunities near Vancouver and Portland. The department will contribute \$39,000 in equipment, materials, and staff and donated labor. (10-1075)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest** **Grant Requested: \$39,000**  
**Funding a Stewardship Crew**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to fund a wilderness stewardship crew and crew leader to help maintain trails in the Alpine Lakes, Glacier Peak, and the Henry Jackson Wilderness Areas. This crew will do more targeted maintenance work. In the heavily used Enchantment Lakes area, the crew will maintain toilets, repair trail surfaces, and build rock cairns across areas of talus. In Glacier Peak Wilderness, the crew will remove noxious weeds at several infested

trailheads. As portals to our nearly weed-free wilderness areas, hand pulling weeds at these sites is critical to the long-term ecological integrity of a vast area. The crew also will deal with a serious infestation of noxious weeds near Eight Mile Lake and at Trout Lake, where weed control has been ongoing for more than a dozen years. The ranger district will contribute \$43,000 in cash and staff and donated labor. (10-1199)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Snow Grooming at Snoqualmie Pass****Grant Requested: \$18,700**

State Parks will use this grant to groom more than 35 miles of cross-country ski trails along Interstate 90 near Snoqualmie Pass. The trails are used for non-motorized recreation including dog sledding and snowshoeing. Grooming is especially necessary on well-traveled trails, and keeps the trails smooth and in a safely useable condition. State Parks will contribute \$74,800. (10-1326)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest**  
**Improving Franklin Falls Trail****Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to complete repair work at the lower and upper end of the Franklin Falls Trail. The 1-mile forest walk travels through old growth forest from the Denny Creek Campground to Franklin Falls on the south fork of the Snoqualmie River. The hike offers outstanding views of dark pools and whitewater cascades as the river rushes through a deep gorge below the trail. The district will repair the first 600 feet of trail from Denny Creek Campground to the first river overlook accessible to people with disabilities. The district will move another 500 feet of the lower portion of the trail out of the river's flood channel. The district also will fix drainage structures, construct a viewing platform near the falls that provides safe access to the gravel bar below the plunge pool, and build four overlooks with gravel surfacing, benches, and handrails along the trail. The ranger district will contribute \$50,300 in equipment, and staff and donated labor. (10-1434)

**Spokane Nordic Ski Education Foundation**  
**Expanding a Nordic Trail****Grant Requested: \$20,000**

The Spokane Nordic Ski Education Foundation will use this grant to build .75-mile of new trail, Trail 260, which will connect two major trails and move snowmobilers from the Linder Ridge Road down to Condo Road. These two roads are designated trails for winter recreation. Trail 260 will start near a snowmobile lot and travel below Linder Ridge Road to reach Condo Road. The trail will divert snowmobilers and other users from the Linder Ridge Road, as well as provide Nordic skiers a trail connection from Selkirk Lodge and a skier parking lot to the rest of the ski area. Currently, there is no level place for skiers to get from Selkirk Lodge onto a level trail. The foundation will contribute \$88,634 in donated labor. (10-1693)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$45,200**  
**Grooming Snowmobile Trails in the Okanogan Highlands**

State Parks will use this grant to help groom about 746 miles of snowmobile trails in the Okanogan Highlands Province, which range from Mount Spokane to the Blue Mountains in southeast Washington. These trails are accessed from 13 different sno-parks at some of the most remote areas of the state. Matching funding comes from snowmobile registration fees and a percentage of the state fuel tax attributed to snowmobile use. During the past few years, revenues have not kept pace with rising costs, and this grant will help fill the funding gap. Grooming typically is provided from December 1 to March 31 each year and is coordinated by a cadre of dedicated volunteers. State Parks will contribute \$180,799. (10-1328)

**State Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$75,000**  
**Maintaining Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests Trails**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a crew to maintain 100 miles of trail in the Tahuya State Forest, 13 miles of trail in the Green Mountain State Forest, and facilities throughout eight, off-road vehicle areas. The crew will focus on the two-track, off-road vehicle, and 4X4 multiple-use trail networks and their campgrounds, trailheads, and day-use facilities. Volunteers will support the trail crew in performing the routine maintenance. The two state forests receive more than 200,000 user visits annually. The department will contribute \$20,000 in donated and staff labor. (10-1533)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest** **Grant Requested: \$60,400**  
**Maintaining Trailheads**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to fund forest protection officers and volunteers in the summer to maintain trailheads. The crew will mow, weed, paint, and repair and restore all amenities and site features at the district's 50 trailheads. The district encompasses 300,000 acres of which 189,000 are non-wilderness and accessible to a broad range of recreationists. These facilities and sites are often the first stop for visitors to the national forest. The ranger district will contribute \$74,540 in a grant, staff labor, materials, and donations of labor and materials. (10-1676)

**King County** **Grant Requested: \$72,800**  
**Funding a Backcountry Trails Maintenance Crew**

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks will use this grant to fund seasonal staff, tools, and materials to maintain four trails in Maury Island Marine Park, Dockton Forest, Island Center Forest, and Green River Natural Area-O'Grady. At the 320-acre Maury Island Marine Park, the crew will create a series of switchbacks and decommission a steep, erosion-prone trail, also creating access to stunning viewpoints of Puget Sound and Mount Rainier. At the 106-acre Dockton Forest, the

crew will reduce the steep grade at the entrance trail, addressing erosion and better accommodating hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians. At the 370-acre Island Center Forest, the crew will reroute a segment of poorly draining trail that is often impassable, especially for equestrians, to higher ground. At O'Grady, the crew will move a trail away from the Green River, which has carved 150 feet out of the riverbank and is now causing the trail to erode. The Friends of Maury Island Marine Park, Friends of Island Center Forest, Vashon Maury Island Land Trust, Vashon Forest Stewards, Vashon Parks District, Vashon-Maury Island Horse Association, and Washington Trails Association supported this project. The County will contribute \$89,000 in staff labor and materials. (10-1614)

**Northwest Glacier Cruisers  
Increasing Snow Grooming on Mount Baker**

**Grant Requested: \$62,000**

The Northwest Glacier Cruisers will use this grant to groom snowmobile trails more frequently in Skagit and Whatcom Counties and the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. State funding for the snowmobile grooming program has decreased each year for the past three years, and most recently only covered 35 days of grooming. This is far below the grooming frequency desired for this area, which historically receives the first snow of the season, the most snow, and has a season that extends past those in most areas of the state. The U.S. Forest Service, counted 20,154 snowmobilers on the 165 miles of trail in this area. The two-year grant will allow an extra 25 days of grooming a year. The Northwest Glacier Cruisers snowmobile club contributes more than 500 hours and \$10,000 in donated equipment use for trail maintenance each year. Northwest Glacier Cruisers will contribute \$50,800 in donations of equipment, labor, and materials. (10-1107)

**U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest  
Maintaining Motorized Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Cowlitz Valley Ranger District will use this grant to hire a crew to maintain 190 miles of trail, trailheads, and camping areas. The Gifford Pinchot National Forest continues to see increased use of its extensive motorized trail system. These are the primary motorized trails in southwest Washington. The crew will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, fix trail surfaces, maintain signs, and clean campsites and toilets. The ranger district will contribute \$41,636 in equipment and staff and donated labor. (10-1387)

**U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest  
Maintaining the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness Trails and Trailheads**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Pomeroy Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 100 miles of wilderness trail and eight trailheads. Crews will remove fallen trees and brush, repair water control structures, and remove scattered rocks from the trail. The work will provide safe travel for users and ensure that these trails stay open in the future. Maintenance



costs on these trails are high due to the wilderness location. Steep rugged slopes, winter storm damage, fast growing brush, and high visitor use are all contributors to needed maintenance. The Forest Service will work with the Backcountry Horseman of Washington to accomplish this project. The ranger district will contribute \$183,640 in cash, staff labor, equipment, and donated labor. (10-1018)

**State Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$20,500**  
**Renovating Walker Valley Off-road Vehicle and Motorized Trail**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to obliterate 800 feet of an all-terrain vehicle and motorcycle trail and remove two associated stream crossings. The trail is causing chronic erosion into the streams. The department also will redevelop 1 mile of a motorcycle trail to fix water quality problems and worn out trail infrastructure. The department will contribute \$10,200 in equipment and staff and donated labor. (10-1079)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$29,795**  
**Grooming the Taneum-Manastash and Stemilt-Colockum Areas**

State Parks will use this grant to groom about 285 miles of snowmobile trails in the Taneum-Manastash and Stemilt-Colockum area, which straddle Interstate 90. Matching funding comes from snowmobile registration fees and a percentage of the state fuel tax attributed to snowmobile use. During the past few years, revenues have not kept pace with rising costs, and a grant would help fill the funding gap. Grooming typically is provided from December 1 to March 31 each year and is coordinated by a cadre of dedicated volunteers. Stemilt-Colockum lies to the southeast of Blewett Pass, and Taneum-Manastash to the south of Cle Elum. State Parks will contribute \$119,179. (10-1331)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest** **Grant Requested: \$25,600**  
**Maintaining the Taneum Ridge Trail**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund a trail crew to catch up on a considerable amount of deferred maintenance on Taneum Ridge Trail, which is a popular multi-use trail connecting Taneum Junction to Manastash Ridge at Quartz Mountain. There are numerous concerns on this trail, including eroding sections of tread, brushy sections, narrow areas, and root and rock steps. The crew will fix drainage structures, level the trail surface where necessary, and trim overgrown brush. The ranger district will contribute \$13,000 in donated labor. (10-1583)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$75,000**  
**Replacing the Mount Spokane Area Snow Grooming Machine**

State Parks will use this grant to help buy a new snow groomer for the 30.5-mile Mount Spokane State Park Nordic ski area. The old machine is well past its life expectancy

and repair costs are exceeding the value of the machine. In the 2008-2009 winter, the old machine broke down and was out of service for nearly a month during the busiest time of the year. The new machine will allow more effective and reliable grooming of the entire ski trail system and could increase grooming frequency. State Parks will contribute \$124,800. (10-1325)

**State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$49,228**  
**Grooming Snowmobile Trails in the Leavenworth and Chelan Areas**

State Parks will use this grant to help groom about 507 miles of snowmobile trails in the Leavenworth and Chelan areas. Matching funding comes from snowmobile registration fees and a percentage of the state fuel tax attributed to snowmobile use. During the past few years, revenues have not kept pace with rising costs, and this grant will help fill the funding gap. Grooming typically is provided from December 1 to March 31 each year and is coordinated by a cadre of dedicated volunteers State Parks will contribute \$196,914. (10-1327)

**State Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$15,700**  
**Developing a Capitol Forest Motorized Trail**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to re-define and rehabilitate popular trails between the Middle Waddell trailhead and a campground in the Capitol Forest. There is a lack of definition and control of heavily used trails between these two areas. The department will define the trails by using fencing, route markers, and downed logs as boundaries. The department also will establish one-way trails to improve safety and congestion between the campground and the trailhead. Undesignated trails will be closed and the land rehabilitated by installing fences, moving logs into place, and loosening the soil. More off-road vehicle owners, coupled with a new bridge across Waddell Creek, have greatly increased the off-road vehicle use in the area, highlighting the need for this project. The department will contribute \$8,000 in donated labor. (10-1081)

**State Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$75,000**  
**Maintaining the Grey Rock Multiple-Use Trail**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a seasonal crew to maintain the motorized, multiple-use Grey Rock Trail, as well as maintain six campgrounds, two recreation areas, and two trailheads in the Ahtanum State Forest. The crew will perform much needed routine trail maintenance and minimal trail renovation. In addition, this grant will help fund a volunteer coordinator and pay for a trail excavator and other tools needed to accomplish the maintenance work. The department's facilities receive intense use because of their closeness to major cities and the fact that there are few other similar recreational opportunities in the area for off-road vehicle enthusiasts. The department will contribute \$25,200 in donated labor. (10-1073)



**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest  
Maintaining Multiple Use Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$75,000**

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to fund two crews to maintain 195 miles of trail in the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts. The crews will remove fallen trees early so people can use the trail longer, maintain drainage structures to prevent erosion and excess trail damage, correct safety issues, trim overgrown brush, and maintain trail signs and bulletin boards. The ranger district will contribute \$25,000 in donated and staff labor. (10-1514)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest  
Maintaining the Devils Gulch Off-road Vehicle Trail System**

**Grant Requested: \$42,200**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 56 miles of off-road vehicle trails and nine trailheads in the Devils Gulch Off-road Vehicle Trail System for two years. These facilities are managed mostly for motorcyclists but also are popular with mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians. The district will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair and clean drainage structures and bridges, maintain signs and bulletin boards, remove rocks and fix trail surfaces, clean and pump toilets, and pick up litter. The ranger district will contribute \$12,600 in cash and donated labor. (10-1393)

**Mason County  
Extending the Kennedy Creek Salmon Interpretation Trail**

**Grant Requested: \$50,000**

Mason County will use this grant to extend the popular Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail by 2 miles upstream to a spectacular waterfall. The trail is used to educate people about salmon. This project is a cooperative venture by Mason County, Green Diamond Resource Company, Mason County 4-H, Mason Conservation District, and the Cascade Land Conservancy. The County will contribute \$17,330 in staff labor and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. (10-1063)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest  
Maintaining the Lake Wenatchee Off-road Vehicle Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$40,000**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 52 miles of off-road vehicle trail and six trailheads in the Lower Chiwawa, Chikamin, and Nason Ridge off-road vehicle areas for two years. These facilities are managed primarily for motorcyclists, but are also popular with mountain bikers, hikers, and horseback riders. Crews will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair drainage structures and bridges, maintain signs and bulletin boards, fix trail slumps and slides, remove rocks from trails, and clean and pump toilets. The ranger district will contribute \$12,600 in cash and donated labor. (10-1394)

**Steilacoom****Grant Requested: \$34,700****Improving Farrell's Marsh Trails**

Steilacoom will use this grant to identify and mark trails in Farrell's Marsh Park, improve the main trails by laying wood chips, buy trail maintenance equipment, and buy and install three kiosks. The 64-acre Farrell's Marsh Park is a favorite for residents to hike and enjoy nature. The Town surveyed its residents and heard of their desires for better walking trails and maps. The Town has a limited budget, but has a large and enthusiastic volunteer community. In the past year, volunteers have removed invasive plants at three parks, placed wood chips in two parks, replanted native plants at Sunnyside Beach, and rehabilitated a trail. They are eager to begin work in Farrell's Marsh. The Town will contribute \$34,700 in cash, staff labor, and donations of labor and materials. (10-1133)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest**  
**Maintaining Snoqualmie Backcountry Sites****Grant Requested: \$72,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to fund crews to maintain backcountry facilities in the Alpine Lakes, Norse Peak, and Clearwater Wilderness Areas, and surrounding backcountry. Current Forest Service budgets are inadequate to maintain backcountry recreation sites at popular destinations resulting in deteriorating facilities and resource conditions. The 300,000-acre district includes more than 400 miles of trails and more than 100 alpine lakes where more than 100,000 people visit. The district wants to maintain, repair, and replace these facilities to ensure public safety, sanitation, and increased trail user satisfaction. The ranger district will contribute \$25,320 equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. (10-1436)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest**  
**Moving the Hoyt Trail****Grant Requested: \$39,500**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to reroute a series of trail segments and bridges, reconstruct trail surfaces, and rehabilitate the bypassed sections of the old trail in the Hoyt area of Taneum Creek, which includes three multiple-use trails: Hoyt, Frost Creek, and Gnat Flat. These three trails form parts of several popular loops, and are a main motorcycle route between the Taneum and Manastash drainages. However, they include some very steep pitches and several muddy creek crossings, which make them increasingly difficult to ride, as well as contributing to environmental damage. The district will build 3.5 miles of new trail, reconstruct 2 miles of trail, remove 1.7 miles of old trail, and build four new bridges, making this a safe and sustainable series of trails. The ranger district will contribute \$11,000 in donated and staff labor. (10-1619)

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Fixing a Horse Loop Trail in the Capitol Forest**

**Grant Requested: \$57,500**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to harden and maintain the most popular, non-motorized loop trail in the Capitol Forest. This low elevation trail connects two trailheads and is popular for equestrians, mountain bikers, and hikers. However, all trails in the forest are closed to horses seasonally because of soft surfaces and the potential for sediment to enter the streams. The department will harden the 6-mile loop trail by laying gravel and geo-synthetics in soft areas, constructing proper drainage, and performing other maintenance work, enabling the trail to be open to horses year-round. The department will contribute \$17,500 in staff and donated labor. (10-1083)

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Buying Maintenance Equipment for the Elbe Hills Trail System**

**Grant Requested: \$45,138**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy a mini trail excavator to maintain the Elbe Hills trail system. The machine will provide a tool to clean sediment traps designed to protect sensitive wetlands, and will be available for volunteer work parties. The Elbe Hills off-road vehicle trail system is 13.5 miles of 4x4 trails in the foothills of Mount Rainier. The weather and soils make maintenance very difficult and the opportunity to do effective trail maintenance can be very narrow, especially with long winters. A trailer to transport and house the machine will be provided by the Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association. The department will contribute \$12,250 in donated equipment. (10-1080)

**U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest**  
**Buying a Cross-country Ski Trail Snowmobile**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Three Rivers Ranger District will use this grant to buy a snowmobile to support the cross-country ski program in the Colville National Forest. The Forest Service grooms two locations for cross-country skiing but its equipment is failing. The district would like to buy a snowmobile to pull the grooming implement and for rangers to use when educating the public about the trail system, rules of the ranger district, and current safety concerns. The ranger district will contribute \$2,500 in federal funding. (10-1371)

**Snohomish County**  
**Maintaining Centennial Trail**

**Grant Requested: \$35,422**

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to maintain the 17.5-mile Centennial Trail. The trail is 10-foot-wide paved trail for non-motorized uses with a parallel 6-foot-wide equestrian trail. The County will use the grant to trim overgrown bushes, remove litter, fix trail surfaces, maintain trailheads, and paint bollards, benches, and fences. The County will contribute \$11,808. (10-1097)



**Recreational Trails Program  
Education Category  
Grants Requested 2010**

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest  
Providing a Ranger for Off-road Vehicle Education**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to support the off-road vehicle education and volunteer programs by funding one full-time education ranger. The ranger district manages more than 400 miles of off-road trails. Its program involves many major off-road clubs and associations in the northwest, with education volunteers serving nearly 3,000 hours last year. The district has doubled its workforce on weekends through resourceful hiring and by dividing two positions into four part-time positions. This hiring approach has enabled the forest service to cover the entire district each weekend. The ranger district will contribute \$15,000 in donated and staff labor. (10-1519)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest  
Providing a Ranger for Off-road Vehicle Education**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to fund one, off-road vehicle education ranger for the summer. The district manages more than 250 miles of motorcycle and four-wheel drive trails for an estimated 70,000 people annually, and provides 10 percent of all the motorized trail opportunities in Washington. The ranger will specialize in motorized education and make field contacts at campsites, staging areas, and on the trails. The district is seeing an increase in new users unfamiliar with the district's rules because they are coming to the Naches area from other parts of the state where off-road riding has been shut down. The district will contribute \$34,942 in cash, materials, and staff and donated labor. (10-1578)

**Backcountry Horsemen of Washington  
Teaching Minimum Impact Recreation**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Backcountry Horsemen of Washington will use this grant to pay for materials and expenses of volunteers who teach the "Ethics of Leave No Trace," a program designed to teach recreationists how to minimize their impact on the environment. The grant will cover travel, lodging, and meals for volunteers as well as the costs to print materials and replace worn out equipment. The grant also will pay to produce educational DVDs that teach the seven principles of educational program. The Backcountry Horsemen supplied more than 64,000 hours of labor on trails and more than 2,000 hours on teaching the Leave No Trace program in 2008. The Backcountry Horsemen will contribute \$2,500 in donated labor. (10-1039)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest  
Providing a Coordinator for Mountain Stewards**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Mount Baker Ranger District will use this grant to fund a volunteer coordinator to support the Mountain Stewards Program. The program trains volunteer to educate visitors about safety, wilderness ethics, minimizing impact on the environment, forest

regulations, and general park information at three of the busiest trail systems in the district – those in the Mount Baker Wilderness and National Recreation Area, and around the Heather Meadows area. Volunteers have made more than 14,700 visitor contacts in the past eight seasons. The ranger district will contribute \$13,060 in donated and staff labor. (10-1381)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest                      Grant Requested: \$10,000**  
**Hiring a Snoqualmie Volunteer Ranger Program Coordinator**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to hire a seasonal volunteer program coordinator. The program coordinator recruits, trains, supervises, and provides logistical support for volunteer rangers patrolling the Alpine Lakes, Clearwater, and Norse Peak Wilderness and surrounding backcountry. Volunteer rangers contact visitors and provide information and assistance, promoting safety in the backcountry and protection of the environment. They assist in the maintenance of trails, campsites, toilets, signs, and bulletin boards. Volunteers also help with community outreach programs including walks, talks, work parties, slide shows, and visitor center displays, interpretive programs, and environmental education efforts. This project will fund the salary and travel costs for the volunteer coordinator and supplies for the Volunteer Ranger Program for one year. More than 100,000 visitors use trails in the district each year. For the past 10 years, 30 to 50 volunteers have donated between 3,000 and 5,000 hours each season. The district will contribute \$36,835 in federal funding, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. (10-1433)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest                      Grant Requested: \$10,000**  
**Providing Snoqualmie Pass Winter Education**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund two backcountry winter rangers to cover an increasingly busy backcountry at Snoqualmie Pass. Rangers will provide information on sno-parks, contact visitors in the backcountry, and lead interpretive educational snowshoe walks with the goal of educating users about winter safety, avalanche danger assessments, route finding, and winter ecology. One of the rangers also will supervise up to 20 volunteers. Encounters on a busy weekend at Snoqualmie Pass have increased drastically in the past 5-7 years. Common problems are lack of avalanche training and education, oversized groups in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, winter preparedness and safety, and a need for general information. Fatalities and injuries from avalanches and lost winter recreationists have increased the need for more education. The district will contribute \$22,610 in donated and staff labor. (10-1608)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest                      Grant Requested: \$10,000**  
**Providing Cle Elum Winter Trail Patrols**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund two education and safety snow rangers to patrol the 21 sno-parks and staging areas, 500 miles of groomed



snowmobile trails, and about 300,000 acres of backcountry area open to snowmobiling in the district. In addition, these rangers will attend club gatherings, council meetings, and events. Snow rangers and volunteers will educate visitors about safe and courteous snowmobile operation, trail conditions, avalanche awareness, winter survival, respect for wilderness and other non-motorized areas, and trail etiquette. Past experience has shown consistent field presence and one-on-one interaction reduces user conflicts, thereby preserving snowmobile riding opportunities in this heavily used region. The district will contribute \$23,500 in a state grant and donated and staff labor. (10-1430)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest                      Grant Requested: \$9,800**  
**Providing a Ranger for Cle Elum Wilderness Education**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund one wilderness ranger to help patrol trails, campsites, and lakeshores in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. The ranger will teach visitors how to reduce their impact on the environment, how to protect the trail and wilderness, and about district regulations. Rangers also design brochures and trailhead posters, coordinate volunteers, teach trail etiquette to minimize conflicts, and demonstrate safe backcountry travel techniques. Other duties include documenting trail conditions to address safety and maintenance needs. The ranger district manages the 86,000-acre Alpine Lakes Wilderness and other areas that, combined, have 12 trailheads, 157 miles of trail including numerous high country routes, more than 60 lake destinations, more than 750 wilderness campsites, and more than 27,000 visitors annually. The district will contribute \$9,820 in donated and staff labor. (10-1707)

**U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker National Forest                      Grant Requested: \$10,000**  
**Providing a Mount Baker Climbing Ranger**

The Mount Baker Ranger District will use this grant to fund a second climbing ranger. The district has only one ranger in its climbing program, and it's unsafe for that ranger to work alone in many areas. Two rangers would be able to work as a rope team on the mountain, and get to camps, routes, and the summit to interact with climbers. The rangers would contact the public and educate them on minimizing their impact on the environment, including proper waste disposal and campsite selection, and safe climbing practices. Thousand of climbers attempt the Mount Baker summit each season. The climb is physically challenging and all the routes require technical mountaineering skills. Climbers need to be experienced in glacier travel and crevasse rescue, proficient at route finding, and have proper equipment before attempting the summit. The district will contribute \$14,210 in federal funding and donated labor. (10-1382)

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Providing for Tahuya Education****Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to provide one education specialist to patrol trails and trailheads, educate the public about proper trail use and its correlation to the environment and public safety, give assistance to lost or injured riders, and protect the natural resources. The education specialist will be assisted by the department's region staff and volunteers, including an active Forest Watch and Hosting program. The education specialist will help provide for a safe and responsible recreational experience for off-road vehicle riders in the Tahuya State Forest, which is open year-round and offers 170 miles of multiple-use trails, campgrounds, trailheads, and roads. The department will contribute \$2,700 in donated labor. (10-1530)

**Washington Water Trails Association**  
**Providing for Water Trails Education****Grant Requested: \$7,500**

The Washington Water Trails Association will use this grant to fund the association's award-winning Sound Education and Action (SEA) Kayaker Team and supporting Leave No Trace training program for one year. The kayaker team will educate the public at Cascadia Marine Trail shore sites about the importance of protecting and expanding public access to all public waterways. Canoeing, kayaking, and other non-motorized boating is projected to increase more than 30 percent by 2023. With less than 17 percent of Puget Sound's shoreline accessible for boat launch, this growth will be concentrated in limited areas, multiplying the impacts of users on erosion, wildlife disturbance, and water quality. To minimize impacts, it is vital for this growing population, of boaters and others, to be educated on Leave No Trace practices, a training program that teaches people how to minimize their impact on the environment. The association will contribute \$10,100 in cash, a grant, staff labor, and donated equipment. (10-1372)

**State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Providing Walker Valley Off-road Vehicle Education****Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to provide education and information to users of the Walker Valley off-road vehicle area. Department staff will educate visitors about appropriate trail use, including rider safety and environmental protection. The expected outcomes are a reduction in user injuries, improved environmental protection and water quality, and a more enjoyable rider experience. Volunteers in the Forest Watch program will partner with the department to implement this project. The department will contribute \$15,200 in equipment and donated labor. (10-1622)



**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest,  
Providing Rock Climbing Education Patrols**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to fund a ranger to patrol popular climbing areas in the Icicle Creek drainage and along Forest Service roads, as well as in more remote climbing areas accessible by other trails. This ranger will educate climbers about resource impacts and safety, assess use levels, and determine sign and educational needs. Other district wilderness rangers and volunteers will assist, but this grant will allow for a dedicated ranger to contact climbers at trailheads, base camps, and approaches. The district sees an estimated 18,000 visitor days of climbing annually. Some sites, such as Snow Creek Wall, Dragontail, and Prusik Peak are known internationally for their exceptional climbing opportunities and draw many climbers and nearly a dozen different climbing guide companies. The district is concerned about the impacts of climbers, such as damage to plants and soils along access points, the increased number of accidents, and user conflicts. The ranger district will contribute \$8,540 in federal funding and donated labor. (10-1201)

**U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest  
Providing for Pend Oreille Valley Safety and Education Patrols**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Sullivan Lake Ranger District will use this grant to fund up to two rangers to educate visitors about new off-highway vehicle routes, noise regulations, safe and responsible vehicle operation, and how to protect the environment. The rangers will work with volunteer stewardship rangers from local motorized user clubs. The project goals are to educate the public about recent changes in laws, help prevent further damage to sensitive areas, and reduce user conflicts. The ranger district will contribute \$4,500 in donated and staff labor. (10-1648)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Providing Capitol Forest Education**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a community education and outreach specialist, who will educate visitors about rules and the principals of good stewardship in the Capitol State Forest, near Olympia. The primary focus will be visitors who use the state forest's 167 miles of trail, 7 campgrounds, and 5 trailheads. The department will contribute \$2,500 in donated labor. (10-1593)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest  
Providing Off-road Vehicle Education**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to fund an off-road vehicle ranger to educate trail users on how to minimize their impacts on the environment, cooperate with other user groups, and ride safely. The ranger will focus on the Chiwawa, Mad River, and Devils backbone trail systems, the area's most highly used and easily

impacted recreation area. Altogether, the area makes up a 220-mile regional trail system that links Lake Wenatchee with Lake Chelan. This trail system travels through fragile, easily impacted, sub-alpine environments. This education program will use volunteers from local and regional clubs. The ranger district will contribute \$16,000 in donated and staff labor. (10-1515)

**U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest                      Grant Requested: \$10,000  
Providing Wilderness Boundary and Snowmobile Education**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to educate snowmobilers about the wilderness boundary. When the Stevens Pass Ski Area ends operations, Mill Valley opens to snowmobiles. The Stevens Pass Nordic Center parking lot typically overflows, and snowmobilers unload their machines on Highway 2 and often travel on un-groomed roads and routes into wilderness areas. Because it is not part of the sno-park or groomed trail system, the area isn't patrolled. The district will make educational contacts with snowmobilers during the Mill Valley snowmobile season and improve the wilderness boundary signs. District staff also will post the boundary before the season opens and patrol problem boundary areas. The ranger district will contribute \$8,540 in federal funding and donated labor. (10-1200)

**State Department of Natural Resources                      Grant Requested: \$10,000  
Providing for Green Mountain State Forest Education**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an education specialist to patrol multiple-use trails and trailheads, educate the public about proper trail use and its correlation to the environment and public safety, give assistance to lost or injured riders, and protect the natural resources. The education specialist will be assisted by the department's region staff and volunteers, including an active Forest Watch and Hosting program. The education specialist will help provide for a safe and responsible recreational experience for off-road vehicle riders in Green Mountain State Forest, which is open year-round and offers 13 miles of multiple-use trails, campgrounds, trailheads, and miles of roads. The department will contribute \$2,700 in donated labor. (10-1532)

**U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest                      Grant Requested: \$10,000  
Teaching Children to Tread Lightly**

The Pomeroy Ranger District will use this grant to provide funding to teach students attending Camp Wooten State Park Environmental Learning Center about how to minimize their impact on the environment. District staff will explain and demonstrate the principles to sixth-grade students who visit the camp. Respect for environment values will help reduce adverse impacts to wilderness campsites, trailheads, and trails. The Pomeroy Ranger District manages 177,000 acres, including 300 miles of trail, and 17 trailheads in the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness. The ranger district will contribute \$7,500 in equipment and staff and donated labor. (10-1040)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Providing for Reiter Off-Road Vehicle Education**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an education steward for off-road vehicle recreationists visiting Reiter Foothills Forest. The steward will distribute safety information, as well as educate visitors about appropriate off-road vehicle use and the principals of good stewardship. Department staff, along with volunteers, will work together to implement this project. The department will contribute \$2,500 in donated labor. (10-1621)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Funding Stewards for Morningstar and U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund two summer interns to serve as backcountry site stewards, representing both the department and the U.S. Forest Service. The stewards will educate visitors about the purpose and benefits of the Morning Star Natural Resource Conservation Area and federal forestlands in the Darrington Ranger District. The stewards also will monitor impacts to sensitive environmental features. The conservation area and forestlands contain vast and environmentally significant natural areas that also provide miles of backcountry hiking and camping opportunities. Thousands of visitors use these areas every year. Recent state budget cuts have removed all funding for public education and site monitoring services to the conservation area and budget constraints have limited the Forest Service's ability to serve its natural areas. The department will contribute \$5,000 in equipment and staff labor. (10-1078)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Funding an Education Steward for Harry Osborne Equestrian Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an education steward for the Harry Osborne trail system. The steward will distribute safety information, as well as educate visitors about appropriate use of natural resources and the principals of good stewardship. The steward also will monitor the area for resource damage. Department staff and volunteers will work together to implement this project. The department will contribute \$9,700 in equipment and donated labor. (10-1625)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Funding a Cypress Island Education Steward**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an education steward for Cypress Island. The steward will distribute safety information, as well as educate visitors about appropriate use of natural resources and the principals of good stewardship. The steward also will monitor the area for resource damage. Department staff and volunteers will work together to implement this project. The department will contribute \$3,100 in equipment and donated labor. (10-1623)

**State Department of Natural Resources  
Funding a Blanchard Mountain Education Steward**

**Grant Requested: \$10,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an education steward for Blanchard Mountain. The steward will distribute safety information, as well as educate visitors about appropriate use of natural resources and the principals of good stewardship. The steward also will monitor the area for resource damage. Department staff and volunteers will work together to implement this project. The department will contribute \$3,400 in equipment and donated labor. (10-1624)

**Item 12**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Recognition of Board Members' Service  
Prepared By: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Summary

Four Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) will either retire from state service or reach the end of their term within the next few months:

- State Parks Director Rex Derr has announced his retirement from the State Parks and Recreation Commission in November 2010, which will end his term as the State Parks' representative on the board.
- Members Jeff Parsons, Karen Daubert, and William Chapman all will reach the end of their second terms on December 31, 2010. Each of these members will serve until either the Governor re-appoints them or appoints new board members.

Since this is the last meeting of 2010, Staff and other board members believe this meeting is the appropriate time to formally recognize the contributions of these four individuals to the state through their service on the board.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board formally recognize the contributions of these four individuals via Resolutions #2010-30, #2010-31, #2010-32, and #2010-33.

### Attachments

Resolution #2010-30: Recognizing the Service of Rex Derr

Resolution #2010-31: Recognizing the Service of Karen Daubert

Resolution #2010-32: Recognizing the Service of Jeff Parsons

Resolution #2010-33: Recognizing the Service of William Chapman

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-30

A Resolution to Recognize the Service of Rex Derr  
to the Residents of Washington State  
and the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

**WHEREAS**, from September 2002 through November 2010, Rex Derr served the residents of the state of Washington and the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission as the commission's designee on the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Derr helped the board embrace a new grant program, the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, and four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, with thoughtfulness and an eye toward customer service; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Derr always displayed gentlemanly qualities, dedication to his work and the needs of the people of Washington, and superbly colorful ties; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Derr provided the board with excellent advice, valuable insight, and strong leadership that assisted in the development of exemplary policies and funding decisions to award grants to 1,344 projects, creating a state investment of more than \$376 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Derr has announced his retirement from the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, and thus will be leaving the board; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Derr'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. Derr.

Approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
in Olympia, Washington  
on October 28, 2010

---

Bill Chapman, Chair

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-31

A Resolution to Recognize the Service of Karen Daubert  
to the Residents of Washington State  
and the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

**WHEREAS**, from January 2004 through December 2010, Karen Daubert served the residents of the state of Washington as a member of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Daubert helped the board embrace four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and reconsider the proportion of funding allocated to local governments in other categories, with thoughtfulness, intelligence, patience, and creativity; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Daubert always displayed kindness to staff, creative problem solving skills, dedication to providing service to the public, and an enthusiasm for outdoor recreation that would let no mountain keep her down; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Daubert provided the board with grace, valuable insight, and excellent advice that assisted in the development of exemplary policies and decisions for funding projects that promoted sound investments of public funds; and

**WHEREAS**, during her term, the board approved 1,110 grants, creating a state investment of \$314 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Daubert's term on the board expires on December 31, 2010; and members of the board wish to recognize her support, leadership, and service, and wish her well in future endeavors;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Ms. Daubert's dedication and excellence in performing her 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 Ms. Daubert.

Approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
in Olympia, Washington  
on October 28, 2010

---

Bill Chapman, Chair



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-32

A Resolution to Recognize the Service of Jeff Parsons  
to the Residents of Washington State  
and the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

**WHEREAS**, from December 2004 through December 2010, Jeff Parsons served the residents of the state of Washington as a member of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Parsons helped the board embrace four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and was always willing to travel across the expanse of Eastern Washington to deliver a big check; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Parsons 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 sound investments of public funds; and

**WHEREAS**, during his term, the board approved 974 grants, creating a state investment of \$301 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Parsons' term on the board expires on December 31, 2010; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Parsons' 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. Parsons.

Approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
in Olympia, Washington  
on October 28, 2010

---

Bill Chapman, Chair

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-33

A Resolution to Recognize the Service of William Chapman  
to the Citizens of Washington State  
and the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

**WHEREAS**, from November 2004 through February 2009, William Chapman served the residents of the state of Washington as a member of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

**WHEREAS**, from March 2009 through December 2010, William Chapman served the residents of the state of Washington as the chair of the board; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Chapman's intellect, statesmanship, creativity, lawyerly debate skills, and general good thinking helped the board work through many challenging assignments, including embracing four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and a statewide study of acquisitions; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Chapman provided the board with valuable insight, leadership, and excellent advice that assisted in the development of exemplary policies and decisions to fund 980 grants, creating a state investment of \$304 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Chapman's current term as chair expires on December 31, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the board wish to recognize his support, leadership, and service;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Chapman'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. Chapman.

Approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
in Olympia, Washington on October 28, 2010

---

Jeff Parsons  
Citizen Member

---

Harriet Spanel  
Citizen Member

---

Steven Drew  
Citizen Member

---

Karen Daubert  
Citizen Member

---

Rex Derr  
Washington State Parks

---

Steven Saunders  
Washington Department  
of Natural Resources

---

Dave Brittell  
Washington Department  
of Fish and Wildlife



**Item 13**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Acquisition Policy Updates  
Prepared By: Leslie Ryan-Connelly, Senior Grants Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Summary

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff has prepared updates and revisions to Manual #3: *Acquiring Lands*, with the intent that the revised manual be available in early 2011. The new manual would apply to any new RCO acquisition grant put under contract.

The proposed changes include both significant policy changes and procedural changes.

- Staff is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to consider the significant or substantive policy changes at the October board meeting.
- The RCO director will approve procedural changes recommended by staff after the board acts on the substantive policy changes. The goal is to have a revised manual available in early 2011.

This memo outlines the process used to draft, review, and finalize the revised policies, describes the staff approach to the board's review of the final drafts, and makes a recommendation to adopt the final drafts.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve the Manual 3 policy statements proposed in Attachment A via Resolution #2010-34. These policies address the following broad topics:

- Appraisal and Review Appraisal Requirements
- Environmental Audits and Contaminated Property
- Eligible Costs
- Ineligible Project Types
- Interim Land Uses
- Conservation Easement Compliance
- Legal Access

- Landowner Acknowledgement
- Acquisition of Future Use

## Strategic Plan Link

This work supports the board's strategy to "evaluate and develop strategic investment policies and plans so that projects selected for funding meet the state's recreation and conservation needs." The public review process for these proposals supports the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner.

## Background

All board-funded projects that result in the acquisition of land or property rights must comply with policies adopted in *Manual #3: Acquiring Land*. The Salmon Recovery Funding Board also uses the manual for managing its acquisition projects. The manual includes the types of projects that are eligible, policies, and requirements for protecting the board's investment. This manual was last updated in March 2007. Since then, RCO staff has identified various clarifications, revisions, and new issues that warrant an update to the policies.

## Review Process

In December 2009, the RCO convened an internal Acquisition Team to discuss and propose revisions to acquisition procedures and policies. Team members included policy staff and grant management staff from the Recreation, Conservation, and Salmon sections. The team developed recommendations that could apply to all funding programs, where appropriate, so that policies could be consistent across the agency.

In July 2010, RCO staff presented a draft of all recommendations for the RCO director's consideration. The RCO director determined which recommendations were procedural and which issues constituted significant policy changes that would require board action.

All of the changes (both procedural and policy) were released for public review between August 8 and September 13, 2010.

The RCO received comments from 25 individuals representing federal, state, local government, salmon recovery Lead Entities, land trusts, and the forestry industry. The complete set of public comments is included as Attachment B. RCO is preparing a response to comments; staff will distribute it to persons who provided comments. In addition, RCO staff briefed the Salmon Recovery Funding Board on the proposed changes at its meeting October 7, 2010.

### Significant Policy Changes

Eleven significant policy changes were drafted for public review. Based upon comments received, RCO staff recommends the board consider nine of the policy changes, as revised to reflect public comment. RCO staff prepared a policy issue paper for each topic (Attachment C). Each policy issue paper is organized as follows:

- A summary of the current policy language in Manual 3.
- Draft policy statements provided during the public comment period.
- A summary of comments received on the draft policy.
- Final draft policy statements for board consideration with an explanation of changes made from the draft policy.

At the board meeting, RCO staff will present each policy issue with a brief summary of the current policy, draft policy, and public comments received. RCO staff will then present the final draft policy for board consideration. The resolution is written to adopt the set of policy issues as presented. The resolution also provides authority to the RCO director to apply the new policies retroactivity if doing so is agreeable to the project sponsor.

### Draft Policies Not Pursued

Staff is proposing that the board not address two of the significant policy issues at this time.

- A majority of commenters opposed the proposed changes to the waiver of retroactivity. As a result, RCO staff is recommending that in lieu of any significant changes, we streamline the approval process for waivers of retroactivity.
- The other significant policy issue not recommended at this time is a requirement to list the RCO as additionally insured on the final title insurance policy. Some comments stated that RCO does not have a real property interest that can be insured; therefore, the policy was not implementable. RCO will review these comments in conjunction with revising the deed of right and assignment of rights.

### Other Emerging Issues

A number of comments were received that were outside the scope of the draft proposals presented to the public. The board may wish to consider some of these other emerging issues in future policy discussions.

1. Allow for monitoring costs in restoration projects.
2. Allow for certain indoor recreation facilities.

3. Allow for compatible uses outside riparian buffer areas.
4. Allow for an alternative method to value conservation lands such as those used in the Department of Natural Resource's Riparian Open Space Program or the Natural Resource Conservation Service's Wetland Reserve Program.
5. Develop a "fast track" method for acquisition projects so landowners see results more quickly.
6. Allow for Internal Revenue Service 1031 land exchanges.
7. Do not apply the acquisition policies to land acquired by a project sponsor within an RCO funded development project when the land is required to meet mitigation requirements for that project (e.g., purchase of a new wetland to mitigate for wetland impacts from a park project).

## Next Steps

If the board approves the policies, RCO staff will incorporate them into a revised Manual 3. The RCO director will approve procedural and administrative changes following the board's policy action.

A new Manual 3 will be available in early 2011, and will apply to all new RCO acquisition contracts as of January 1, 2011. RCO staff will provide training to grant managers and project sponsors on the manual changes at internal and external workshops.

## Attachments

Resolution # 2010-34

- A. Policy Language to be Adopted
- B. Public Comment Summary
- C. Issue Papers



# Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

## Resolution #2010-34

### Adoption of Policy Updates and Changes Regarding Acquisitions (Manual 3)

**WHEREAS**, all projects funded by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) or the Salmon Recovery Funding Board that result in the acquisition of land or property rights must comply with policies adopted in *Manual #3: Acquiring Land*; and

**WHEREAS**, Manual #3 was last updated in March 2007, and Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff identified various clarifications, revisions, and new issues that warrant an update to the policies; and

**WHEREAS**, RCO staff developed and circulated eleven significant policy proposals and several additional procedural revisions for public review and comment, thereby supporting the board's goals to (1) ensure that its work is conducted in an open manner and (2) deliver successful projects by using broad public participation and feedback; and

**WHEREAS**, the public responses provided constructive suggestions for modifications to the drafts and were generally supportive of nine of the eleven significant policy changes proposed by RCO staff; and

**WHEREAS**, based on public comment, RCO staff adjusted the drafts as appropriate and is recommending that the board approve only nine of the eleven significant policy changes; and

**WHEREAS**, adopting this revision would improve the policies and procedures governing acquisitions, thereby advancing the board's goal to help its partners protect, restore, and develop habitat and recreation opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, the RCO director currently has authority to implement the procedural changes as recommended by staff, based on public feedback;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board does hereby adopt the statements of policy intent shown in Attachment A; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the board directs RCO staff to incorporate these policy statements into Manual 3 with language that reflects the policy intent; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that unless otherwise agreed to between a project sponsor and the RCO director, these policies shall be effective beginning January 1, 2011.

Resolution moved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Policy Statements for Adoption

### #1 - Appraisal and Review Appraisal Requirements

The final draft policy retains the original draft policy except revisions to the shelf life policy to be more consistent with yellow book requirements. The final draft policy for appraisal and review appraisal requirements is as follows:

- 1) **Appraisal Standards** - Require all RCO funded acquisition projects to use the federal appraisal standards Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA) with one exception as follows:
  - a) In the WWRP Farmland Preservation Program, allow for appraisal standards as set and conducted by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) if NRCS is a funding partner on the project.
- 2) **Third Party Appraisals** - Allow for a third party (e.g., land trust or other agency assisting with negotiating the transaction or co-holding rights) to conduct the appraisal as long as the appraisal is conducted on behalf of the project sponsor and the project sponsor is listed as an intended user of the appraisal.
- 3) **Shelf Life** - Allow appraisals to be valid for 12-months from the effective date.
  - a) The property must be acquired within 12-months of the effective date of the appraisal or the project sponsor must have a signed purchase and sale agreement secure.
  - b) If the 12-month period has expired, the project sponsor must obtain an appraisal update from the appraiser and review appraiser.
  - c) An updated appraisal and review appraisal is only an eligible grant expense, if the 12-month period has expired. RCO will not reimburse for another appraisal on the same property if a valid appraisal exists.
- 4) **Statement of Value Less Than \$10,000** - Require that anyone preparing a statement of value for properties less than \$10,000 possess sufficient understanding of the real estate market and not have any interest, direct or indirect, in the real property to be valued for compensation. Project sponsor staff may not prepare the statement of value.

## #2 - Environmental Audits and Contaminated Property

The final draft policy clarifies under what circumstances purchase of property with contamination would be eligible for grant funding, clarifies when to issue a waiver of retroactivity for contaminated property, and retains the rest of the draft policy language.

The final draft policy for environmental audit requirements and contaminated property is as follows:

- **Standards** - Purchase of property contaminated with any hazardous substance not meeting state standards as determined by the Department of Ecology's Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) is ineligible for RCO grant funding except under the following circumstances:
  - The intended future use of the property as proposed in the grant application can proceed and the Department of Ecology or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has determined that cleanup is complete or no further cleanup action is needed; or
  - A site that requires ongoing cleanup monitoring per a cleanup action plan may be eligible for funding as long as the intended future use of the property as proposed in the grant application can proceed; or
  - The property contains contaminated pilings which the project sponsor plans to remove in a future action or in combination with a funded RCO grant.
- **Environmental Audits** - Defines acceptable an environmental audit as:
  - Environmental site assessment per American Society for Testing and Materials standards, or
  - All Appropriate Inquiry per U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards, or
  - Property Assessment Checklist provided by RCO.
- **Allowable Costs** - Allows for costs related to removal of non-hazardous materials (e.g., debris removal, empty tank removal, structure removal, well decommissioning, materials below MTCA cleanup levels) identified in an environmental audit as an eligible demolition expense in the Project Agreement.
- **Waiver of Retroactivity** - Provides for issuing a waiver of retroactivity if a project sponsor wishes to purchase contaminated property. The project sponsor may apply for a grant application while implementing the required cleanup of the property, but would need to meet the RCO policy requirements before RCO issues a Project Agreement.

### **#3 - Eligible Costs**

The final draft policy retains the original proposal and incorporates all of the public comment suggestions except for baseline inventories for fee simple acquisitions. Assessment of a property's current condition (i.e., baseline inventory) is already an allowable stewardship plan cost in the following programs: Salmon Recovery Grants and WWRP's Riparian Protection Account and Farmland Preservation Program. Stewardship plan costs are added as an eligible pre-agreement cost.

The final policy adds the following expenses as eligible costs:

- Administration costs
  - Attorney fees for document review and drafting, clearing title, and other project related work
  - GIS mapping
- Boundary line adjustments, lot line adjustments, and subdivision exemptions
- Extended title insurance on a case by case basis, pre-approved by RCO

The final policy adds the following expenses as eligible pre-agreement costs:

- Administration costs
  - Attorney fees for document review and drafting, clearing title, other project related work
  - GIS mapping
- Baseline documentation - conservation easements only
- Boundary line adjustments, lot line adjustments, and subdivision exemptions
- Land survey (i.e., property boundaries)
- Relocation administration (e.g., developing a relocation plan)
- Stewardship plans in Salmon Recovery Grants and WWRP's Riparian Protection Account and Farmland Preservation Program

## #4 - Ineligible Project Types

There is no change to the draft policy on transfer of development rights. The policy regarding land donated in lieu of mitigation fees is clarified to include permit and impact fees and that impact fee funds and land donated in excess value is eligible as sponsor match.

The final policy adds two types of projects as ineligible project types.

- 1) Purchase of development rights for transfer to a receiving property.
- 2) Land donated by a third party in lieu of mitigation fees, including permit fees and impact fees, required for a development. Funds collected for impact fees are an eligible source of sponsor match. Excess land value above the land donation required by the mitigation is eligible as non-reimbursable sponsor match.

## #5 - Interim Land Uses

The final draft policy retains the original draft except it removes the withholding of grant funds during the period of a secondary party use. However, the withholding of grant funds for a secondary party use is a requirement of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and will be retained for that program only. The policy also clarifies secondary party uses beyond three years may be considered a conversion of use. RCO will provide examples of acceptable terms and conditions and guidance to project sponsors on how to quit claim deed property to other individuals for purposes of the life estate reservation.

The final draft of the complete interim land use policy, including existing policy and proposed changes, is as follows. Proposed changes are underlined.

- A **secondary party use** is allowed when all of the criteria below are satisfied:
  - The use is a continuing secondary party use.
  - There is minimal impact to the public use or purpose of the Project Agreement or funding program.
  - The second party's use will be phased out within three years of the date of acquisition. If the use will continue for more than three years, it must be reviewed under the compatible use policy.
  - Use of any income derived from the second party use is consistent with the RCO income policy.

- For Land and Water Conservation Fund projects only, RCO may withhold a percentage of the grant funds until the secondary party use ceases based upon an amount determined by the National Park Service.
- A **life estate** is allowed when all of the criteria below are satisfied:
  - The estate does not totally limit public use or the purpose of the Project Agreement or funding program.
  - The life estate reservation is for the property owner only.
  - The impact of the reservation of the estate is addressed in the valuation of the property.
  - The Director gives written approval of the estate's provisions.

## #6 - Conservation Easement Compliance

- The final draft remains as originally drafted. RCO will work to provide guidance on conservation easement monitoring in the final manual.
- The final draft adds the following policy statements under conservation easements:
- Encourage project sponsors to monitor RCO funded conservation easements annually.
- Require project sponsors to submit a conservation easement monitoring report to RCO at least once every five years.

## #7 - Legal Access

- The final draft policy is significantly revised to clarify the definition of legal access, describe legal access in relation to public access, what forms of informal access may be acceptable, and provisions for waiving legal and informal access requirements.
- The final draft policy for legal access requirements for all RCO acquisition projects as follows:
- **Legal Access.** Public access requirements include legal access to the land. If RCO waives the requirement to provide public access on a fee title acquisition, the property must have direct legal access in order for the property to be managed by the project sponsor and RCO to conduct its compliance inspections.

- Legal access to a property means the project sponsor has the legal, insurable right and means to reach the property year-round. For properties surrounded by water (i.e., islands), legal access must be obtained across shorelands, tidelands or bedlands, as appropriate.
- Legal access must provide sufficient access rights for RCO to monitor compliance for which the grant funding was provided and for the project sponsor to maintain the property.
- **Informal Access.** If the project sponsor cannot obtain legal access rights to the property, informal access may be pre-approved by RCO under the following three conditions:
  - The project sponsor owns the adjacent property and can access the RCO funded property from the project sponsor's existing property holdings; or
  - Access to the property can be accomplished through existing public land; and
  - RCO will be able to conduct compliance inspections with minimal burden to get to the property; and
  - The appraised value reflects a lack of legal access to the property.
- **No Access.** Approval to purchase property with no legal or informal access may be approved in limited circumstances. If the project sponsor cannot obtain legal access or demonstrate informal access by one of the above means, the RCO may approve acquisition of property without any means of access on a case by case basis under the following three conditions:
  - All reasonable alternatives have been exhausted; and
  - The property to be acquired is critical to implementation of the Project Agreement, and
  - The appraised value reflects a lack of legal access to the property.



## # 8 - Landowner Acknowledgement

The final draft policy retains the original draft proposal but allows for a substitute process if the project sponsor can demonstrate previous contact with the current landowner regarding acquisition of the property at the time of the grant application.

The final draft policy adds the following requirement for all RCO acquisition grant applications:

- Submit a landowner acknowledgement form for each parcel to be acquired.
- For multi-site acquisition projects, submit landowner acknowledgement forms for the top three priority parcels.
- The landowner acknowledgement form includes the following statement and is signed by the landowner:

*I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ (Landowner or Organization) is the legal owner of property described in this grant application to the RCO. I am aware the project is being proposed on my property. My signature authorizes the applicant listed below to seek funding for project implementation, however, does not represent authorization of project implementation.*

- If the project sponsor has had previous contact with the current landowner regarding purchase of their property, the project sponsor may submit evidence of the previous communication instead of the above statement. The project sponsor must demonstrate that the current landowner was contacted and provide evidence (e.g., letter or other written communication) that the landowner has been made aware the project sponsor is interested in purchasing their property.

## # 9 - Acquisition of Future Use

The final draft policy changes the timeframe from three years to five years (five years is consistent with the RCO grant inspection program) for all programs except the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The final draft also allows for longer timeframes to be proposed at the time of a grant application. The policy also refers to the compliance policies as a means to evaluate projects that are not implemented as planned.

The final draft policy adds the following requirement for all RCO funded acquisition grants when a future development or restoration project was the primary purpose for acquiring the property.

- 1) When a project sponsor acquires real property for the purpose of conducting restoration work or public recreation development in the future, the property must be restored or developed within five years from the date the property was acquired.

- 2) If the planned future use of the property will be delayed for more than five years, the project sponsor must request approval from RCO for an extension of the delayed future use in writing before the five year period expires. RCO may approve an extension based upon the project sponsor's current plans and schedule for constructing the project. Projects receiving an extension will remain in compliance with the Project Agreement.
- 3) The project sponsor may propose a longer timeframe for large scale, multi-phased projects during the grant application process. RCO may incorporate the longer timeframe in the Project Agreement, if the application receives funding.
- 4) Projects that are not constructed as proposed in the acquisition phase and not granted a time extension will be reviewed per RCO's conversion policy in *Manual #7: Funding Projects*.
- 5) Where appropriate, RCO may approve a request to restrict the public's use of a property for safety concerns until the property is developed or restored as planned.
- 6) For Land and Water Conservation Fund projects only, the property must be restored or developed within three years from the date the property was acquired. RCO may forward time extension requests to the National Park Service for consideration, as appropriate and consistent with Land and Water Conservation Fund requirements.

# ***Hood Canal Coordinating Council***

JEFFERSON, KITSAP & MASON COUNTIES  
PORT GAMBLE S'KLALLAM & SKOKOMISH TRIBES  
STATE & FEDERAL AGENCIES

September 13, 2010

Recreation and Conservation Office  
PO Box 40917  
Olympia, WA 98504-0917  
Submitted via email to [manual3@rco.wa.gov](mailto:manual3@rco.wa.gov)

Re: Proposed Changes to RCO Acquisition Policies, Manual 3

Dear Leslie,

This letter is to provide requested input on proposed changes in the Recreation and Conservation Office's (RCO) Acquisition Policies as outlined in Manual 3 and related documents. After a series of in-depth conversations with our own local partners that implement habitat conservation projects in Hood Canal, we've identified one particular proposed change that would have significant detrimental effects on our ability to implement salmon and habitat recovery in an efficient and effective manner.

Specifically, we are strongly opposed to a new section near the end of the manual titled "Acquisition for Future Use." The intent statement suggests this policy change is to align all RCO programs, including salmon recovery, with the federal LWCF policies by requiring property acquired for development or conservation to have the planned activity completed within three years of purchase.

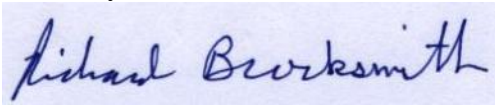
We recognize that it would be inappropriate for lands to be purchased for restoration and then left abandoned with much but not all of the benefit unrecognized. However, it is unrealistic and less than strategic to require a short time frame for the utilization of the property. Our experience is that it can take many years to finish a conservation strategy to protect properties at a scale that is most often appropriate for restoration to be completed beneficially, that often it is much more strategic to move to secure other areas to protect future opportunities rather than restoration of a site given limited funding, and that even if property and strategies align for a conceptual restoration project to be implemented it can take many years of design, permitting, and fund raising before restoration can be completed.

The current proposed 3 year time frame is insufficient under almost any circumstance, and it creates an onus for project sponsors, lead entities, and RCO grant managers to track another timeframe that could potentially result in missed deadlines for time extensions and thus have negative consequences for when projects are ready to implement further down the road.

In further discussions with other lead entities in Puget Sound (we have not yet had the opportunity to discuss at the state scale), it has become clear that there is complete consensus among all 15 Puget Sound leads (15 of the 27 lead entities in Washington authorized under RCW 77.85) that this proposed change will have negative effects on our efforts to implement salmon recovery strategically. I have been authorized by each to sign in their names, as reflected below.

We look forward to further discussion on this topic with our partners across the state (i.e. LEAG meeting September 16, 2010) in order to determine if there is indeed a problem with the current policy, and if so, how we can best improve it. Please feel free to contact me at (360) 531-2166 if I can be of more help in the interim.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Brocksmit". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light blue rectangular background.

Richard Brocksmit  
Hood Canal Coordinating Council, Director for Habitat Programs

Signed for the following Salmon Recovery Lead Entities:

Hood Canal  
Island  
King 8  
King 9  
Mason  
Nisqually  
North Olympic  
Pierce  
San Juan  
Skagit  
Stillaguamish  
Snohomish  
Thurston  
West Sound  
WRIA 1

Cc: Scott Brewer, HCCC  
Joe Ryan, Puget Sound Partnership  
Alex Conley, Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board  
Jeff Breckel, Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board  
Miles Batchelder, Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership  
Steve Martin, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board  
Julie Morgan, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board  
Barbara Rosenkotter, Chair, Lead Entity Advisory Group

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on RCO's proposed acquisition policy changes. For the most part, Bellevue supports the new policy language, as it reflects a contemporary application of current practice. However, we are concerned about several proposed changes, as follows:

- We don't understand the need for RCO to be named as an additional insured on title policies. We don't understand what needed protection RCO would gain that doesn't already exist through the Deed of Right, or what past problems might have been avoided. We therefore see no reason to add this to the list of requirements.
- We understand the desire to limit interim use of property acquired with the assistance of State funds, especially if it limits public access to the property, but believe that the proposed timeline is unnecessarily short, and suggest extending it to at least 5-years.
- We strongly object to the concept of requiring development or restoration of properties acquired with RCO assistance within a limited (3-year) timeframe. The early acquisition of property is a time-honored practice that recognizes the need for long-range planning and the desire to stay ahead of urban growth. This policy would seem to penalize agencies that employ these practices, such as land-banking, to address future need. It also ignores economic downturns or other fiscal challenges that agencies routinely face. It might also set up debates between agencies and RCO staff about what constitutes "development" or the amount of development needed to satisfy this requirement. We strongly suggest eliminating this proposed policy altogether, or significantly extend the timeline to at least 10-years.

Thank you very much for the chance to comment on the proposed policy changes. Please keep us apprised of the policies and process moving forward, and feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need clarification on any point.

Glenn Kost

Bellevue

Regarding the proposed revisions on pages 45 and 46 of the Land Acquisition Manual:

RCW 82.02 allows cities, counties and towns to impose impact fees on development activity as part of the financing for public facilities, including parks.

We agree that donations of land that are in lieu of **permit** fees or a requirement of development should not be given donation credit as a savings of government funding. However, donations in lieu of **impact** fees should be counted as a local match, and any excess value should be allowed as a donation value. If a developer dedicates land to the City of Bellingham for a park, in lieu of paying park impact fees, the value of the land, as determined by appraisal, must be equal to, or greater than the PIF fees that are required. In essence, the City is "buying" the land by giving credit against park impact fees that otherwise would be collected. It should be allowed as a sponsor match for a grant application to buy additional acreage, or develop the property. Any added value of the land, that exceeds the amount of impact fees otherwise required, should be allowed donation value credit in a grant application.

We request the section be clarified to allow for land dedications in lieu of impact fees be allowed as local match and any dedication value that exceeds appraised value, be allowed as donation credit.

The City of Bellingham reserves the right to send additional comments prior to the Sept. 13 deadline.

Leslie Bryson  
Bellingham

September 12, 2010

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office  
Recreation and Conservation Board Members  
Manual #3 Update  
PO Box 40917  
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Board Members and RCO staff,

Please accept my comments on changes to Manual #3 Acquiring Land Policies  
My comments pertain to the section entitled Appraisal Requirements, Page 16.

I believe that moving to require all appraisals be done in accordance with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (Yellow Book) is a good step. The detail and guidance will help provide a more consistent and well documented approach to natural resource land appraisals. There is one issue, however, with the strict application of the Yellow Book methodology in some instances that has the unintended consequence of preventing conservation acquisitions. I am asking that Manual #3 provide a remedy in addition to the Yellow Book, wherever possible.

During my tenure at the Department of Natural Resources I worked closely with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on our State's ESA Section 6 grants program. Washington State was very successful and was awarded significant amounts of federal funding from the Endangered Species Act, Section 6 grant program. Washington won on the basis of the national priority and value of the project sites as occupied marbled murrelet habitat and intact old growth for northern spotted owls. But we ran into a snag on the appraisal of the property, and those grants were never completed.

Because those habitats are protected under the Endangered Species Act and Forest Practice Rules in our state, the value of the trees is deeply discounted from a market perspective. Because the Yellow Book is market based, and because the old growth represented a huge portion of the value, those discounts were huge. In one instance the value fell from several million dollars (the amount we were awarded out of the national pot of funds) to less than one million in the appraisal. In more than one instance, those parcels remained in private ownership, and still have not been protected.

Certainly the rationale and methodology behind the Yellow Book is understandable, and I am not suggesting that the Forest Practice rules for riparian, wetland, green tree retention and so on be ignored in any appraisal of value. The vast value differential is attributable to the very high value of the old growth trees, combined with the large parcel size, a situation that is somewhat unique to the Pacific Northwest, and these species and habitats. I am, however, suggesting that when ESA protection affects value so dramatically on the owl and murrelet habitat we are seeking to protect, there needs to be some mechanism to address the gap. Otherwise the conservation outcomes that the Section 6 and other conservation grant funding programs are designed to achieve, cannot be met.

I recognize that the Recreation and Conservation Funding Office (RCO) implements federal grant making and does not control the rules of federal funding programs like the one I am describing, however, there are state funding sources like the WWRP and others where the use of Yellow book standards could run into the same appraisal issues that frustrate conservation acquisitions from willing sellers.

#### My Request

I am asking that the RCO provide an avenue in Manual #3 for resolving similar appraisal differential issues in those Federal, State, or Local programs where it is possible to do so. One method to consider has already been adopted by our legislature in the Riparian Open Space (2000) and Habitat Open Space (2009) laws. That method uses existing value tables for land and timber on the east and west sides of our state which are kept by the Department of Revenue for tax purposes. It is a fair way to estimate the sales



value of the land and resources when the market value is deeply skewed by regulations on large tracts of land containing high value resources. Having an alternative approach will result in the protection of some of our best remaining threatened and endangered species habitat, and give us hope in the recovery of our species on the brink.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments

Sincerely,

Bonnie B Bunning

[bbbunning@aol.com](mailto:bbbunning@aol.com)

360-786-0189

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these proposed changes.

Page 20 and 35: Legal access – Properties can be accessed for inspection by foot, canoe, or even by helicopter or airplane. It is not reasonable to require the seller of a pristine piece of habitat to obtain legal access, when a principal purpose of the acquisition is to protect the habitat from the negative effects of development. Generally, the property owner needs legal access in order to support a reasonable value of the property. However, if the goal is to protect the property from development, it would be at cross purposes to force the seller to actually obtain the permission and costs to develop the access in order to sell it for conservation. In such cases, the owner may actually decide that the development is an attractive option after all. We have had just that discussion with a landowner on a project that the State Review Panel included in its “noteworthy” list last year. It’s large size, amount of floodplain and riverbank, fish use and reasonable price were all factors for that distinction. The property can be inspected on foot by crossing the river from WDFW property or on foot through USFS property. Installing a road access would be prohibitively expensive and would greatly increase the cost & value of the property. This provision, if adopted, should not be applied to habitat programs.

Page 16: Survey recorded on title – In Chelan County, surveys must be recorded. However, CDLT does not always have a boundary survey if boundaries can otherwise be established. Such surveys, especially involving waterway boundaries, are extremely expensive.

Page 18: Effective period for Waiver of Retroactivity - The 2 year period is OK for SRFB on one-year cycles, but is not reasonable for programs like WWRP with less frequent applications and possibility of having to re-apply due to shortage of funding. A waiver should be good for two cycles of each program. Also, a waiver for donated property that can be used as match should have a longer shelf life.

Page 19: Making development rights transfer as an ineligible project - One of the local concerns about fee and conservation easement acquisitions is that there is a “loss” of development rights that some translate to a loss of tax base. Our County Commissioners have expressed an interest in use of such rights in other locations, although there is not yet any enabling legislation in Chelan County. As long as the purchase of development rights is accompanied by an acceptable conservation easement protecting the valuable habitat, and the rights are transferred to a site without habitat importance, why shouldn’t SRFB or WWRP funds be used to move the rights off the critical habitat? If there is concern about monitoring where the rights are going, and being sure that the funds ultimately paid by a receiving property are used for habitat purposes, this is an important issue to address – but by means different than simply making TDR projects ineligible.

Page 38: Environmental Site Assessments – We currently contract for these even though they were not required in the past. They are expensive - \$3,5000 for one recently, which the contractor suggested was a good deal.

Retroactivity – I did not see this mentioned, but any changes should apply only to applications/waivers etc. AFTER the adoption date. Rules should not be changed mid-stream.

Mickey Fleming  
Lands Project Manager  
Chelan-Douglas Land Trust  
P.O. Box 4461

Wenatchee, WA 98807  
Tel: 509-667-9708  
Fax: 509-667-0719  
[mickey@cdlandtrust.org](mailto:mickey@cdlandtrust.org)



1351 Officers' Row  
Vancouver, WA 98661  
(360) 696-0131  
(503) 224-0631  
Fax (360) 696-1847  
[www.columbialandtrust.org](http://www.columbialandtrust.org)

Coast & Estuary Office  
750 Commercial St., #208  
Astoria, OR 97103  
(503) 338-5263

Gorge & East  
Cascades Office  
8 Fourth Street  
Hood River, OR 97031  
(541) 386-5420

PRESIDENT

*Jennifer Sims*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Bill Barron*

*Steve Cook*

*David DeAntonis*

*Kathy Dietrich*

*Greg Kimsey*

*Paul King*

*Jane Van Dyke*

*Jennifer Vail*

*David Williams*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Glenn Lamb*

September 13, 2010

RE: Proposed changes to *Manual #3: Acquiring Land Policies*

Dear RCO Staff,

This letter is to provide comment on proposed changes to *Manual #3: Acquiring Land Policies*. Columbia Land Trust is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that has a long history of successful projects funded by the RCO, including in the SRFB, Riparian Protection and Farmland Protection categories. We also support public agencies in their proposals for other categories. Our comments are as follows.

**Eligibility Policies, Page 3:** The entity that will hold title to the property interests acquired must be a project sponsor or co-sponsor on the RCO Project Agreement, the formal contract between RCO and the project sponsor(s).

Often a property acquired by a land trust is transferred to an appropriate long term owner, including other non-profit organization and government entities. This change appears to prohibit such a transfer. We recommend that wording be included to allow this activity.

**Eligible Costs & Administrative Costs, Page 5:** Limits attorney fees associated with drafting and review of easement language or quieting non-contested title interests only.

It is critical that a sponsor confer with attorneys a number of times during the acquisition process. By excluding this cost, RCO is effectively discouraging sponsors to work with an attorney on title review, Purchase & Sale Agreement drafting, etc. This can lead to major issues after acquisition such as unknown title issues and ownership challenges. We recommend that the RCO encourage attorney review by allowing such costs, possibly up to a certain monetary amount.

**Encumbrances, Page 11:** RCO must be listed as additionally insured on the final title insurance policy.

According to our title company, because RCO is not the vested owner, they cannot be listed additionally insured on the final title insurance policy. We recommend that this requirement be removed.

Sincerely,

*Nadia Gardner*

Coast & Estuary Conservation Lead  
Columbia Land Trust

## Memorandum

Date: September 13, 2010

To: RCO at manual3@rco.wa.gov

From: DNR Asset and Property Management Division, Transactions and Appraisal Sections

DNR Forest Resources and Conservation Division, Natural Areas and Natural Heritage Program

We appreciate the opportunity to comments on the proposed changes to Manual #3: Acquiring Land Policies. Included are the assembled comments from various DNR Programs that work with RCO funded acquisition projects. First, our comments will be referring to the pages of the RCO eighty page draft that compares the Current Manual #3 text to the Proposed Manual #3 text.

Second, please note that many of DNR's comments and suggestions are meant to clarify RCO's expectations, distinguish what is typical routine business from what is atypical and where RCO will require a waiver of policy and RCO Director's approval. Given that securing waivers/approvals can add significant time to transaction and grant management processes and workloads, DNR proposes to alleviate unnecessary approvals wherever possible.

### **Specific DNR comments on the Propose Manual 3 changes:**

Pages 11 to 13, 'Eligible Costs.' The more descriptive eligible costs and the three year pre-agreement timeframe are helpful.

Pages 16 and 17, 'Allowed Incidental Costs'. Please consider adding reimbursement of administrative and incidental costs for donations of land. Our costs can include closing costs and some minimal staff time (preparing a deed of right and a deed or conservation easement to transfer the real estate interest. Can these administrative and incidental costs be included in the list?

Also, DNR has routinely removed structures, demolition debris, empty tanks, capped wells, etc. and it has been approved as a demolition expense by RCO. Please add clarification to the new manual and list these items as an example of allowable costs, either as "Demolition (removal of non-hazardous debris, removing empty tanks, capping wells, removal of structures, and other costs)" or elsewhere under eligible incidental costs so that sponsors do not have to ask for special permission each time these routine activities are performed.

Pages 19 to 21, 'Waiver of Retroactivity.' The shortening to the waiver back to two years may not allow enough time to apply for a grant and get a contract in place. It should be at least three years.

Pages 28 to 30, 'Conservation Easements (CE).' DNR currently has two CEs in the Natural Areas Program that would need reporting every five years-- what are the components of this report? DNR is developing a process to monitor CEs under its Forest Legacy and Section 6 federal grant programs and can share its format when completed for RCO's consideration and adoption.

Pages 32 and 33, 'Acquiring Public Owned Property.' DNR is concerned depending on how 2 (a-c) are read together that this section may prohibit the purchase of DNR trust parcels in HCP planning units. DNR sees a potential conflict with the new RCO language in a limited sense that we may want to acquire some trust parcels in the future with WWRP grant funds, when no other funding is available, and whether HCP management of trust lands conflicts with the new RCO prohibition on use of funds.

Pages 35 to 38, 'Encumbrances.' Rule requiring RCO to be listed as additionally insured on title policy. We checked with three title insurance companies we work with regularly as to how listing as an additional insured would actually work. We found that including RCO (or another agency) as an additional insured may be treated inconsistently among title insurance professionals. To avoid any issues at closing, DNR suggests that RCO clarify the policy to recommend that sponsors advise title companies upon ordering preliminary title that RCO will be listed as an additional insured at closing and further to confirm that there is no requirement to include RCO as a grantee in the deed or as a buyer in the purchase and sale agreement. We have an email trail (attached hereto, ATTACHMENT ONE) for your inspection and consideration in further development of this policy.

Pages 42 and 43, 'Acknowledgements and signs.' The flexibility to harmonize signs is good.

Pages 49 to 51, 'Interim Land Uses.' See "existing second party use" on the top of Page 50, RCO writes "RCO may retain a percentage of grant funding during the interim period until the second party use ceases." Questions: Based on what value? What is the purpose of the retained grant funding? DNR suggests RCO revise manual to reflect that any existing second party use be considered in the appraisal process.

Pages 51 to 58, 'Appraisals Requirements.' and 'Appraisal Reviews.' We've included extensive and detailed comment from DNR's Chief Appraiser, Glen Cole:

- On page 54, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, it talks about the use of Extra-ordinary assumptions and Hypothetical conditions and that RCO "recommends" that they review the use of such and that the RCO reserves the right to require the project sponsor to update an appraisal if they do not approve the use of the extraordinary assumption and/or hypothetical condition (**at the project sponsors expense**). My recommendation is that the wording be changed to "requires written approval" by the RCO. USPAP 2-2 (a)(x) requires that the appraiser "clearly and conspicuously state all extraordinary assumptions and hypothetical conditions; and state that their use might have affected the assignment results". UASFLA expands upon the use of assumptions and Section D-3 of those standards states in part "Agency instructions and/or legal instructions must have a sound foundation, must be in writing and must be included in the appraisal report". Therefore, if there is a need to provide instructions in an appraisal report that require the use of an extraordinary assumption or hypothetical condition, then these should be approved in writing by RCO and the project sponsor. *DNR staff also suggests that a 'blanket' type of*

*approval for certain commonly occurring hypothetical conditions or extraordinary assumptions be developed. Or instead of a blanket approval after the first of that type circumstance is approved in writing [like those concerning access to an appraised parcel] the approval should spell out that RCO understands that this a recurring circumstance in the sponsor's activities and that the approval is a precedent for future identical appraisal circumstances.*

- Also on page 54, beginning with the last paragraph, “RCO has proposed the shelf life of an appraisal be 12 months and if the property is not acquired or a purchase and sale agreement is not secured within 12 months..., the project sponsor must obtain a written statement from the review appraiser, or the appraiser with confirmation from the review appraiser, stating that land values have not changed and the appraised value is the same since the effective date of the appraisal”. USPAP is clear that when an appraiser provides an opinion of value, a direction in value, or a range of value, that this is an appraisal. Since the appraisal and review have been completed any subsequent analysis (references - USPAP FAQ 171 & AO-3) asking the appraiser to provide an opinion of value is an appraisal update. The appraiser is obligated to comply with the reporting requirements of USPAP (AO-3 for appraisal updates). Section D-13 of UASFLA has reference to updating appraisal reports. There are a number of things that are not clear with this: 1) Does RCO consider the “written statement” by the appraiser or reviewer something other than an appraisal update? This written statement is considered an appraisal update according to USPAP and UASFLA. 2) When should the Project sponsor order the appraisal update (between 12-18 months) and whether this will be good thru the 24 month period, and/or 3) The project sponsor must order 2 appraisal updates, one between 12-18 months and another just before the 24 months period?
- Appraisal report formats on page 56 needs clarification. This has been a confusing topic on what constitutes a self contained report as opposed to a summary report. The level of detail in the report has been the distinction of the two, per USPAP. Standard 2 of USPAP addresses the content and level of information required in a report that communicates the results of real property appraisal. I don't think the complexity of the assignment should dictate what reporting format should be used. In addition, Pages 8-9 of the UASFLA has clarifying language to address this issue: “Much confusion exists in the appraisal industry regarding what constitutes a self-contained report as opposed to a summary report, and the terminology used by appraisers varies on a regional basis. However, for the purpose of these Standards any appraisal report, whether identified by the appraiser as a self-contained report or a summary report, will be considered as meeting the USPAP requirements for a self-contained report if it has been prepared in accordance with these Standards.” Therefore, if the RCO is requiring that all appraisals be completed to UASFLA standards then all should be considered “Self-Contained” USPAP reports.
- Page 57 discusses subject property's that have less than \$10,000 in value. This is unclear because in order to get an exemption, the project sponsor must submit a written “Finding of Value”. Although the RCO is stating that UASFLA standards do not have to be met, USPAP applies to all appraisal assignments if completed by a certified or licensed appraiser. Question 1 - What is the definition of “Finding of Value”? Any analysis completed by a licensed or certified appraiser must meet at a minimum USPAP. Question 2 - What would be minimum reporting requirements? Will the RCO accept a restricted use report for this type of analysis? Question 3 - “Sponsor staff may not prepare the “Finding of Value”? Does this mean that if the project



sponsor has appraisal staff that they cannot complete a valuation of the subject and provide a restricted use report or summary appraisal report? Question 4 – What level of analysis is the RCO expecting? Will a BPO completed by a real estate agent or broker be sufficient?

- Appraisal review on page 58 – USPAP #3 pertains to Appraisal Review, Development and Reporting and Section “C” of UASFLA are Standards for Review of Appraisals. Appraisal review is more than just approving or rejecting the value conclusion in the original report. It would be prudent if RCO expanded upon the “Scope of Work” required to meet their review expectations in the appraisal assignment in this portion of the manual. It seems progressive if the wording “value” be changed to “appraisal” in the context of the manual. The wording presented in the manual pertains to only 1 aspect of the review assignment. It is important to note that USPAP and UASFLA both require, whether the appraiser accepts or rejects a value opinion that the reviewer must then comply with the Standards applicable to the development of that opinion. The following is taken from the UASFLA and may help the RCO in establishing their review criteria: *“A technical review is performed by an appraiser in accordance with these Standards, and in accordance with agency-adopted policies, rules, and regulations. Such reviews are subject to Standard 3 of USPAP. In completing a technical review, the appraisal reviewer renders an opinion concerning whether the opinions of value are adequately supported and in compliance with all appropriate standards, laws, and regulations relating to the appraisal of property for federal acquisition purposes. In addition, as a part of a technical review, the agency appraisal reviewer may reach a conclusion regarding whether to approve (or recommend approval), disapprove, or modify the conclusions presented in the appraisal report under review. If appropriate to the assignment, the agency review appraiser performing a technical review may render a separate opinion of value. However, if the review appraiser renders a separate opinion of value, the value opinion must be developed in accordance with Section C-4 of these Standards. The development of such opinions and further review of the initial reviewer’s opinion of value and the support therefore may also be subject to the pertinent agency’s policies, rules, and/or regulations.”* Additionally, Section C-3 of UASFLA is presented to lend some guidance as to what RCO may request in the review assignment: **C-3. Responsibilities of the Review Appraiser.** *Like the appraiser, review appraisers must remain objective in their appraisal review activities. They cannot let agency goals or adversarial pressure influence their opinions of an appraisal report’s appropriateness or of the value estimate(s) it reports, nor can they let their personal opinions regarding the advisability of the agency’s proposed acquisition enter into the review process. Also, appraisal reviewers should not attempt to substitute their judgment for that of the appraiser unless they are willing and able to develop their own opinions of value, and become the agency’s appraiser of record. Appraisal reviewers must recognize that technical deficiencies can be found in nearly every appraisal report. However, minor technical nonconformance with these Standards or USPAP standards should not be the cause of disapproval of an appraisal report, unless the deficiency affects the reliability of the value estimate, or the value estimate itself. Minor technical non-conformance with these Standards should never be used as an excuse to reject a report when the underlying reason for rejection is the reviewer’s differing opinion of the market value of the property appraised. In conducting an appraisal review the reviewer must:* • *Identify the agency client and intended users of the reviewer’s opinions and conclusions, and the purpose of the assignment.* • *Identify the appraisal report under review, the date of the review, the property and ownership interest appraised in the report under review, the date of the report under review and the effective date of the value estimate(s) reported, and the names of the appraisers that completed the report under review.* • *Identify the scope of work performed in the review.* • *Develop an opinion as to the completeness*

*of the appraisal report under review within the scope of work applicable to the appraisal assignment, which shall include these Standards. • Develop an opinion as to the apparent adequacy and relevance of the data and propriety of any adjustments to the data. • Develop an opinion as to the appropriateness of the appraisal methods and techniques used and develop the reasons for any disagreements. • Develop an opinion as to whether the analyses, opinions and conclusions in the appraisal report under review are appropriate and reasonable, and develop the reasons for any disagreement. • Prepare an appraisal review report in compliance with agency policies, rules, and regulations, and in accordance with Section C-6 of these Standards.* These are some recommendations that the RCO could follow in establishing clear review objectives and include such in their manual.

- The last paragraph in this section, on page 60, needs clarification. “If a project sponsor’s staff is conducting appraisal or review appraisal work, that same staff person may not function as a negotiator in the transaction or work directly with the independent appraiser or review appraiser that performed appraisal work for that property”. What does “working directly with” mean? This needs to be clarified because some project sponsor’s have staff appraisers that may complete one function (appraisal or review) and I am unclear what RCO’s language here means.

Page 65, ‘Environmental audits.’ DNR has removed non-hazardous debris, empty tanks, capped wells, removed structures, etc., post-acquisition with funding remaining in the contract. The proposed draft language causes some confusion and leads us to believe that DNR will need to ask for specific permission in order to perform these required tasks and receive approval for these action items, that were, in the past, deemed an eligible demolition expense. DNR suggests changing the language to something such as “If the sponsor chooses not to complete any action item identified in an environmental audit that is not related to a hazardous substance (e.g., debris cleanup, empty tank removal, well-capping, structure removal), consult with RCO to see which items may remain on site under the terms of the Project Agreement. RCO will review the environmental audit report for action items necessary to make the property safe and available for public use. Non-hazardous substance action items are eligible as demolition expenses as listed under “Allowed Incidental Costs” (see related comment for that section).

Pages 65 and 66, ‘Hazardous Substances Support Documentation.’ Would the prohibition against using RCO funds to purchase contaminated lands mean that DNR could not purchase privately owned aquatic lands if they include pilings? We need to purchase such lands before we can use any public funds to remove pilings, or we’d need to have the private party first remove the pilings, which many would not do and consequently we would not be able to acquire those parcels).

Pages 70 and 71, ‘Legal Access.’ Does “legal access” include “public access”? Maybe this is addressed via “Public Access”--- see Page 48 in the table.

Page 74, ‘Landowner Acknowledgement of Application.’ As RCO is aware, DNR works with the Natural Heritage Program (NHP) and the Natural Heritage Advisory Council (NHAC) when proposing natural area boundaries. Once the NHAC has recommended approval of a proposed boundary, DNR then follows a public process. This process includes notification of landowners within the proposed boundary as well

as neighboring landowners. The notification letter describes the proposed natural area (or expansion) and how the designation of the boundary does not affect their property in any way other than it gives DNR the authority to acquire properties within the boundary for inclusion in the Natural Area. Typically, the letter also briefly explains the application/acquisition process. The letter also invites them to participate in a public meeting and/or public hearing. A summary of public testimony is given to the Commissioner of Public Lands, who makes the final decision to approve, modify, or reject the boundary proposal. Acquisition funding may or may not be available at this time. Landowner contacts are very sensitive and in some cases (Dabob Bay, Stavis, etc.), there are dozens of landowners within proposed boundaries. It would not be practical to expect a 100% or even a majority response to acknowledgement forms. It has been our experience that many landowners are not willing to entertain the idea of selling their property if there are no existing funds, but will often wish to sell if the funding is in place and available. Due to the nature of DNR Natural Area boundaries, DNR often does not contact landowners until funds are available, and has been extremely successful working within this model. Within the current Natural Area boundary establishment process, DNR believes that it is fulfilling the intent of the proposed revision (landowner contact) and retains copies of the boundary notification letters in its files.

**DNR's proposed clarification:** *As part of any grant application for acquisition of real property, the project sponsor must submit a Landowner Acknowledgement Form in Appendix \_\_ with the grant application for each parcel to be acquired. For multi-site acquisition projects, include, at a minimum, signed Landowner Acknowledgement Forms for all known priority parcels. **If the project sponsor is already following a documented public process (public meetings and/or public hearings) to notify landowners that their property is eligible to be acquired for habitat conservation, sponsor is not required to submit Landowner Acknowledgement Forms. (new language hi-lighted)***

Pages 79 and 80 'Acquisition for Future Use.' DNR needs clarification on this section. This should apply to combination acquisition-restoration projects but not to straightforward acquisitions. We don't see how RCO could hold DNR to an "intent" unless they've funded it. Example: DNR will eventually restore a large portion of the Secret Harbor acquisition on Cypress Island, and likely develop other areas for low-impact public access, yet this is all dependent upon future program funding and capital-funded or grant-funded projects. No timeline can be assured. On the other hand, DNR did acquire the land and also use the RCO funds for demolition within a three-year window. So, again, if we stick to what RCO is funding in the original grant, the time restriction makes more sense.

#### ATTACHMENT ONE

**From:** MELROSE, MICHELE (DNR)

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 08, 2010 10:49 AM

**To:** JOHNIGK, DEANNA (DNR); KAPUST, HEATHER (DNR); STONE, KATHY (DNR)

**Subject:** Adding RCO as an additional insured

Below you will find feedback that I've received from three different title companies regarding the abovementioned. I wasn't sure how to compile the information; so, I've just copied and pasted everything below. It starts off with the e-mail I posed...

*I wanted to get your opinion on something, if you don't mind. I was asked to do a bit of research with the title companies that I've had the pleasure of working with and was wondering what your thoughts were on the following.*

*Our funding source, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), is in the process of updating their policy manual and one of the many items they are proposing is to have themselves listed as an additional insured on the title report. So, the insured would read as "the State of Washington, acting by and through the Department of Natural Resources and the Recreation and Conservation Office."*

- 1. Would this be problematic or confusing for the title companies to do?*
- 2. What additional work, if any, would be created?*
- 3. If they were added, would they also need to be added to deeds at the time of closing?*
- 4. Would RCO have to be added as signatory on anything?*

**Response #1:**

**From:** Kathryn Lowery [mailto:KathrynL@pnwtkitsap.com]

**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 2:53 PM

They can be added to the policies that they fund, they don't have to be added to the deeds.

**From:** MELROSE, MICHELE (DNR) [mailto:MICHELE.MELROSE@dnr.wa.gov]

**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 2:45 PM

So, RCO can be added to the policy as an additional insured without being required to sign any of the necessary documents that DNR is required to sign prior to and at closing? For example, purchase and sale agreement, deed, closing documents, etc.? I'm afraid that it would just waylay things more if we had to incorporate time for them to route documents for signature.

My posing this question is only in the "fact-finding or research" stage, so it is not RCO policy at this time. Would it be better for us to request them to be added to the policy at the time of closing, as opposed to opening a preliminary title?

Thank you so much!

**From:** Rana Buford [mailto:RanaB@pnwtkitsap.com]

**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 2:39 PM

Michele,

If Kathy's email below answers your question you will just need to make sure you include this information in your escrow instructions that are sent to me for any future transactions. I can then let title know that RCO needs to be added as an additional insured when I give them their instructions on the closing order.

**From:** Kathryn Lowery

**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 2:34 PM

**Cc:** Rana Buford

Hi Michele,

I have talked with our underwriter regarding your question about Recreation and Conservation Office. We would be able to show Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office as an additional named insured in policies insuring DNR acquisition deeds funded by the RCO grant funds. If this is what you want to do, let me know which files, so I can mark them. I think this answers your question, if not or if you have any others let me know.

Hope you have a lovely long weekend!!!!

Kathy

**Response #2:**

**From:** Dennis Pickard (Mason Co Title) [mailto:dpickard@hctc.com]

**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 12:40 PM

Not a problem! We would not require they be included in the deed in order to add as an additional insured on the policy - of course the vesting of title on the policy would reflect only what's in the deed. If they aren't on the deed, you would want to make sure the title company was provided with appropriate instructions at the time of closing, or pre-arranged with the title company during the preliminary stage.

Let me know if you have any questions or if we may be of any assistance.

Thanks,  
Dennis

**Response #3:** **From:** Jundt, Karen [mailto:Karen.Jundt@ctt.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, September 02, 2010 4:23 PM

Good afternoon Michele -

It would not be a problem to insure as shown below. It would not be any additional work. They would have to be added to the deeds at the time of closing. RCO would need to be added to the purchase and sales agreements as a buyer and they would have to sign. Hope this helps and if you have any other questions, just ask.

"the State of Washington, acting by and through the Department of Natural Resources and the Recreation and Conservation Office."

Enjoy the evening. KJ

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. Mine pertain to appraisal and appraisal review.

#### Appraisal “Shelf Life”

There is a discussion of the “shelf life” of an appraisal and various expiration benchmarks on pages 31 and 32. The difficulty I find with the RCO discussion is there is no corollary in either USPAP or UASFLA. The Yellow Book correctly notes that the need for a new appraisal arises primarily from the interplay of market conditions, type of property, and location. When agencies have an arbitrary benchmark, the tendency is to try to extend the life of the appraisal even when market conditions are volatile and pricing is changing rapidly. On the other hand, I recognize there is merit in trying to limit the use of outdated valuations by imposing a one-year life span. Perhaps it would be clearer to just state that under no circumstances should an appraisal be used more than one year from its original date of value and that during the intervening period, the potential for changes in property values must be weighed and considered by the agency.

#### Updating Appraisals:

There is a 24 month window on “updating” appraisals in the RCO manual. There is also the provision for extending an appraisal’s shelf life to 18 months with concurrence from either the appraiser or reviewer. Again, USPAP doesn’t have a provision for updates per se. What is being described as an update is technically a new appraisal under USPAP. The appraiser would, therefore, have the same due diligence requirements, appraisal development requirements, and appraisal reporting requirements. I believe 18 month and 24 month options are unnecessary and should be eliminated.

#### Summary vs. Self-Contained Reports:

Since the RCO has adopted the Yellow Book for essentially all appraisals, the discussion of summary and self-contained reporting formats doesn’t really apply. On Page 9 of the Yellow Book, the question of format is addressed as follows:

“...for purpose of these Standards any appraisal report, whether identified by the appraiser as a self-contained report or a summary report, will be considered as meeting the USPAP requirements for a self-contained report if it has been prepared in accordance with these Standards.” (Introduction, Page 9)

All Yellow Book compliant appraisals are, by definition, considered to be self-contained.

Distinguishing between partial and whole acquisitions for determining the appropriate reporting format is similar to what the WSDOT has built into their manual. I think offering this option is a mistake. With vacant or underdeveloped land, the complexity is often quite high even for total takes, especially where there is the potential for subdivision. Since RCO is going to a Yellow Book reporting format, I would suggest getting rid of the distinction between complex and non-complex assignments with regard to reporting since all reports should meet the requirements for being self-contained. The Scope Rule in USPAP combined with the rules in the UASFLA will adequately address the reporting needs of RCO.



### Field Review Requirements:

Since the field review reflects the highest level of due diligence by the reviewer, it is by necessity quite labor and time intensive. The Yellow Book provides some guidance on when a field review is warranted, described as follows:

“The determination of the proper scope of work to be performed within the review process should be based on the dollar value of the property, the complexity of the appraisal problem, and the regulatory and policy requirements of the acquiring agency.” (Section C-2, Page 72)

Often, a non-complex acquisition of a tract of land or house in the King County market can easily exceed the amount of \$250,000. Yet, the RCO guidelines specify the need for a field review. On the other hand, a partial acquisition that results in a dollar amount below \$250,000, but where questions of damages to the remainder may be involved, would be satisfied by a technical desk review.

I wonder if there could be flexibility on this requirement. Perhaps the reviewer could be required by RCO to address whether or not a field review was warranted for properties over \$250,000 by addressing criteria specified in the Yellow Book. This could be a scope of work requirement in the RCO manual. This would allow a reviewer to state whether or not there are reasons to conduct a field review, but without an automatic requirement based just on the dollar amount.

Kurt Engstrom, Senior Review Appraiser  
King County Dept of Natural Resources and Parks  
Water and Land Resources Division  
201 South Jackson, Suite 600  
Seattle, WA 98104

Ph. (206) 296-7813  
Fax (206) 296-0192

To: [manual3@rco.wa.gov](mailto:manual3@rco.wa.gov)  
From: [lflemm@ci.lacey.wa.us](mailto:lflemm@ci.lacey.wa.us)

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to comment. Some of my comments are questions, so if possible for you to respond to the questions, please call me on Monday, September 13, at 360.438.2633.

**1. Less Than Fee Title Acquisitions, Page 3/TABLE p.3-4.**

Less than fee acquisition includes the purchase of a lease, easement (road, right-of-way, trail, conservation right, agricultural, etc.), other property right (development, mineral, timber, water, etc.), or reserve interest deed. A reserve interest deed conveys all rights to a property except those rights specifically reserved by the seller.

**Comment: Many local and state agencies have acquired trail corridors under a rail banking agreement, where the railroad reserves the right for use of the corridor for rail traffic if needed in the future. Please indicate the interest length for trails acquired via Rail banking.**

**2. Less Than Fee Title, Lease Requirements Page 3/TABLE p.5**

**Comment: add "d".** If the lease is revoked by a third party, the project sponsor will need to mitigate for the lost lease per RCO's conversion policy in Manual #7: Funded Projects.

**3. Ineligible Land Acquisition Projects, Page 4, Table pages 9-10**

2. Land to be used in support of indoor recreation. This applies equally to existing buildings and undeveloped land where major indoor facilities will be constructed. Excepted are: (a) Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Program indoor shooting ranges. (b) Enclosed swimming pools or ice-skating rinks that meet Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) guidelines.

**Comment: The LWCF guidelines are too restrictive for ice rinks and indoor pools and should only be used if the project is funded by LWCF. The RCO should allow for these two type of facilities to be constructed on land acquired with WWRP funds if it is a secondary or subordinate purpose on the land. These facilities should not trigger the need for a conversion.**

(c) Existing or future indoor facilities that are compatible with the outdoor uses for which the land was acquired, such as restrooms, storage facilities, site maintenance structure, caretaker's residence, and overnight rustic cabins.

**Comment: There are other indoor facilities that are compatible with the outdoor uses on a site that are not listed here, such as a visitor center, interpretive center, indoor/outdoor picnic facilities, community centers, environmental learning centers/meeting rooms that should be listed here.**

**3. Land with museums,** or sites to be used for museums.

**Comment: If the museum is a secondary or subordinate purpose of the land acquisition, that interprets the history of the site, or is an existing historic structure that contributes to the outdoor recreation experience, than it should be eligible to remain or be constructed on the site without triggering the need for a conversion.**

**4. Waiver of retroactivity page 7/table p.19**

**Comment: The effective period is proposed to change to 2 years from date of acquisition—why? Has there been a problem is allowing sponsors to apply for grant for two consecutive grant rounds?**

**5. Pre-Agreement Costs Table p. 35**

Typically, acquisition costs incurred by a project sponsor before signing the Project Agreement (the formal contract between RCO and successful project applicants) are ineligible for reimbursement. However, there are some administrative and incidental costs which applicants may incur before signing the Project Agreement. These costs are eligible pre-agreement costs if incurred up to three years prior to the Project Agreement. Intent Statement: Provides clarifying information and procedures regarding preliminary title review. Requires RCO to be listed as additionally insured on the final title insurance policy. Allows for costs related to extended title insurance on a case by case basis. Requiring RCO to be listed as additionally insured on the title insurance policy and allowing for costs related to extended title insurance are considered significant policy changes.

**Comment: Requires RCO to be listed as additionally insured on the final title insurance policy – why? What has happened that you are hoping to remedy with this proposed language? If property is acquired with a Waiver of Retroactivity, is it easy and cost effective to have a new title insurance policy list the RCO as additionally insured?**

The Page 15/table p.50

The second party's use will be phased out within three years of the date of acquisition. If the use will proceed longer than three years, it may only be considered for approval under the compatible use policy.

**6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR LAND DONATIONS, PAGE 14/Table p.45**

**Identifies land donations related to development impact fees is not eligible for grant funding or sponsor match which is considered a significant policy change.**

In general, donations of land in lieu of permit fees or dedication of land as a requirement of a permit approval for third party related development impacts are not eligible donations of land for RCO grant purposes and may not be used as sponsor match.

**Comment: I support this.**

**7. APPRAISALS AND APPRAISAL REVIEWS, table P. 57**

All appraisals and review appraisals must meet the standards in the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA).

**Comment: I QUESTION this because in the past when I had to get a yellow book appraisal done for a LWCF funded project conversion, many of our regular appraisers were not performing appraisals using the yellow book, it was tough to find one who was, and it always cost us more. Why are we switching to the yellow book? What problems are you hoping to remedy? Have you sought the opinion of an appraiser?**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to Manual 3. The following are my questions/comments:

Page 37 – Title Insurance: It states that the cost for extended title insurance will be reimbursed by RCO. Does this expense need to be identified by the sponsor during the application phase of the project or is this a required expense that will be learned about after the project has been approved for funding?

Page 50 – Existing second party use: It states that RCO may retain a percentage of the grant funding during the interim period. How is the percentage determined? Is there a formula that will be used?

- - Life estate: It states that the life estate is only for the owner of the property. So if a couple is identified as the owners of the property, the life estate is extended to both of them. But if the ownership is only in one of the spouses' names, the other spouse loses the property if the named spouse dies. In these cases, the property owner is generally not going to be very willing to sell to the sponsor if it leaves the partner without the benefit of continued use of the property. My opinion is that this wording should be changed to cover both individuals or else sponsors are not going to find willing sellers who want the benefit of a life estate.

Page 79 – Acquisition for future use: The requirement seems to be that property acquired must be restored or developed within 3-years. To what level does it have to be developed? Does the projected development identified in the acquisition application have to be completed during the 3-year time period or is there a minimum level of development that would qualify? I don't think this is sufficient time for a sponsor to get a RCO development grant following the acquisition and then complete the development particularly within those funding programs that are on an every other year cycle, or developments that require regulatory permits prior to construction. I think the timeline should be extended at least to 6-years. What is the penalty if this timeline isn't met?

Richard Bemm, CPRP

Director of Parks and Recreation

Longview Parks and Recreation Department

2920 Douglas St.

Longview, WA 98632

Re: comments on proposed RCO changes to manual #3: Acquisitions

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept and consider the following comments on the proposed changes to RCO Manual #3 Acquisitions from the Methow Conservancy.

1. p 13 Requirement that “surveys must be recorded on the property title” to be eligible for reimbursement—First of all, this requirement will often end up costing RCO considerably more money than is necessary; surveyors will have to go through the process of preparing mylars, review by county auditors, and recording the surveys (assuming that is what is meant by this requirement) when a boundary survey is required. More importantly, sponsors often use surveyors’ services as part of their due diligence (a complete boundary survey may not be necessary if some of the monuments are in place)—the sponsor might just need one corner located, for example, to determine whether a neighbor might be encroaching on the prospective easement property with structures or uses, or to determine whether a particular feature (side channel) is on or off the property. The proposed requirement unduly limits the use of surveyors’ services and may hobble sponsors ability to get the information required by good due diligence practices without an expensive record of survey. Currently the only time we commission complete boundary surveys is when we are placing an easement on only a portion of an ownership, and the easement does not follow existing parcel boundaries (and therefore a new legal is required).
2. p. 36 Approval to conduct independent title review—this provision makes sense so long as there is some standard and consistency with the approvals. Currently our practices are that title is reviewed by one of our project managers (both of whom are attorneys) and is reviewed by outside legal counsel. I would hope this “best practice” would meet the requirement.
3. p. 65 Supporting documentation for Hazmat Certification—again, overall this provision makes sense; in fact we have included such supporting documentation for our SRFB projects for many years, in the form of an Environmental Screening Questionnaire from the landowner and an Environmental Screening Site Inspection Report from the project manager. We used the ASTM standards and the AAI to develop these documents, and customized (read improved) them to get to the documents we currently use. We would like to continue to use these documents, and not be limited to ASTM standards, AAI or the property assessment checklist in the manual. Maybe language could be added to include other approved supporting documentation that meets the standard of ASTM, AAI or the Property Assessment Checklist.

4. p. 71 Legal Access requirements for fee acquisitions—The waiver provisions of this section should be clarified. For example, is access by water or walking to the property under the ordinary high water line a “minimal burden to get to the property”? For riparian projects in particular, strict construction of the legal access requirement may hamstring sponsor’s ability to do good work. A relevant question is whether the absence of this requirement has created problems for RCO in the past—if not one might recall the old adage “if it ain’t broke don’t fix it”.
5. p. 79 Acquisition for Future Use for the Purpose of Restoration-Limitation to 3 Years For Restoration to be Complete—1) The language of this provision suggests that it is meant to apply only to fee acquisitions (as opposed to conservation easement acquisitions), this should be clarified; 2) while 3 years may seem like a long time, to those who do restoration on the ground it seems unduly short. For large riparian projects, hydrological modeling, project design and engineering, surveying, permitting (JARPA), negotiations with adjoining landowners, contracting, construction and adaptive management will often take more than 3 years to accomplish.



All page numbers refer to the comparison chart document:

p. 10 - I'm unclear what constitutes a "major" indoor facility. For example, LWCF would allow acquisition of property where a portion would be used for an indoor facility (even those that aren't ice skating and swimming) if outdoor recreation remained the clear majority use at the site and/or if the structures were repurposed for use in support of outdoor recreation (i.e. nature center, visitor center, overnight cabins, bathrooms, park maintenance or admin offices, etc.). Perhaps this is made more clear in the RCO LWCF manual, which I'll admit, I don't have good recall for.

p. 10 - We would also allow acquisition of properties already developed with recreation facilities if they weren't already in public ownership (they could be in public management).

p. 14 - It's not admin costs we prohibit; it's incidental costs

p. 17 - environmental resources survey is not an incidental cost and IS eligible as a grant expense for LWCF acquisitions

p. 20 - you might want to clarify for LWCF a waiver on a new grant acquisition is not good for two years, but until the end of the following federal fiscal year

p. 56 - you might want to clarify that for USFLA most conversions should be interpreted as land exchanges and therefore the before and after methodology is not appropriate but instead they should use the "part taken". This does not work if the conversion is very small (e.g. a road strip take) such that the part taken is too small to be considered a viable unit of property.

p. 70 - GPS coordinates where? One point at the entrance? Cardinal points? Corners?

P. 71 - just the ability for RCO to inspect the property wouldn't be enough for LWCF since the public also needs to have legal access

p. 73 - the stop work order boiler plate seems out of context on an acquisition grant. Once the acquisition is closed, any construction done on the sponsor's dime may or may not be subject to cultural resources review.

p. 79 - "public access development"? Don't you mean "public outdoor recreation development"?

P. 80 - is it addressed somewhere under what circumstances such extensions will be allowed and what happens when the property continues to remain undeveloped for more than 6 years? That guidance should be referenced in this section.

Do you want to address the question about whether a sponsor agency can conduct their own appraisal? What about the agency causing the conversion?

Heather Ramsay, NPS

Dear Leslie,

The Puget Sound Partnership supports for the comments submitted by Richard Brocksmith of the Hood Canal Coordinating Council on proposed changes to Manual 3.

The Puget Sound Partnership is especially concerned about the proposed language that planned restoration work be completed within three years of acquisition.

This proposed changes to Manual 3 could have the unintended consequence of frustrating implementation of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan and the Action Agenda for Puget Sound.

Central restoration priorities for the Sound and for Salmon include “large scale restoration projects at the mouths of major river systems in Puget Sound where there is a high likelihood of re-creating ecosystem function.” Action Agenda at Page 90. Similarly, the Action Agenda requires us to “restore floodplain and river processes where there is a high likelihood of re-creating ecosystem function.” Id.

These large projects are included in almost all of the 14 chapters of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery plan.

In our experience, many of the most important and cost effective projects require many years to assemble the land. Project sponsors patiently acquire the multiple parcels for these critical projects **as they become available**. For the most important projects, completing the necessary multiple parcel acquisitions would it would not be feasible if it were required to even commence the restoration work within three years of the first acquisition, let alone complete it.

We appreciate RCO’s efforts; we would be interested in addressing these concerns with RCO.

Warm regards,

Joe Ryan, Director  
Salmon and Ecosystem Recovery

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office  
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members  
Chair Bill Chapman  
Senator Harriet Spaniel  
Karen Daubert  
Steven Drew  
Jeff Parsons  
Steve Saunders, Designee for Commissioner of Public Lands Peter Goldmark  
Larry Fairleigh, Designee for Director Rex Derr, State Parks and Recreation  
Dave Brittell, Designee for Director Phil Anderson, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife  
Manual 3 Update  
PO Box 40917  
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

September 12, 2010

RE: Manual 3 Update

Dear Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Chair, Members and RCO Staff

I am asking you to adopt a conservation tool in Manual 3 to advance the quality and effectiveness of conservation in Washington State. The concepts are not new, they have been recommended twice by very diverse membership policy groups and both times were enacted by the State Legislature. What is new, and what you control, is the application of this approach through a larger conservation program at RCO. The concept was born in the Forest and Fish negotiations and led to Legislation creating the Riparian Open Space Program (ROS)<sup>1</sup>. The success of ROS was so compelling that the Forests Practices Board Spotted Owl Policy Advisory Committee recommended to the legislature that the program be expanded to include threatened and endangered species habitat. The legislation was supported by environmentalists, landowners and agency representatives including the Commissioner of Public Lands Peter Goldmark. The legislation passed unanimously and was signed by Governor Gregoire in 2009<sup>2</sup>. This legislation sets out how unconfined channel migration zones, and with the new legislation, occupied threatened and endangered species habitat as identified by the Forest Practices Board will be appraised for acquisition of a permanent conservation easements. You have the ability through your policies in Manual 3 to expand the use of this appraisal method and fill a critical gap in the states current conservation program.

The conservation power of the Riparian Open Space Program was not anticipated at the time it was originally adopted. It was envisioned as a compensation program for landowners who were unevenly and dramatically impacted by certain conditions in Forests & Fish legislation. However, when the existence of the program solved an appraisal issue on a small portion of a conservation package ultimately resulting in conservation of 4,500 acres along the Hoh River it became apparent that the program was a powerful conservation tool. The DNR has informed me that another smaller but significant acquisition has been completed on the Hoh River; again the ROS program was credited with helping make that transaction work. It was through this experience

---

<sup>1</sup> The Forest Practices Board is currently considering changing the ROS name to Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program to better reflect the expanded goals of the program.

<sup>2</sup> SSB5401 amending RCW 76.09.040

that I personally came to understand the extraordinary conservation power of the ROS program. The power was not just about fairly compensating a landowner for a timber crop and it was not just about preserving a specific and small area of habitat, but it brought together the opportunity for the application of all the forms of conservations meaning expanded acquisitions, protection, restoration, and connecting the acquisition to the greater landscape. It was a small program with a huge impact.

The acquisition of high quality spotted owl and marbled murrelet habitat has been stalled for many years by uncertainty of appraised value or values so low that landowners decline offers. I know of at least three Section 6 proposals (\$16 Million) sponsored by DNR winning full funding because of very high conservation ratings at the national level that failed due to yellow book appraisal methods. As a result restoration grants to remove roads and bridges and plant open areas have also been lost. Ancient old growth timber could have had a habitat connection to the Olympic National Park, now it has none. It has been my experience that land trusts ironically often must avoid occupied habitat in conservation acquisitions due to appraisal issues. When the very finest occupied old growth habitat is avoided or cut out of conservation projects there is a problem. The Riparian Open Space appraisal model addresses this issue in a way that is fair to landowners, conservation groups and the State. It provides a basis upon which to appraise timber crops that cannot be harvested under a standard forest practice application in a simple, straight forward, repeatable way that responds to timber markets over time. Value is determined by multiplying the average stumpage value for a particular location and species by the volume of that species. These stumpage values which are used by the Department of Revenue to calculate forest excise tax are set every 6 months by the department and go through a public review process.

This type of model for pricing is being used to replace the "market" when public policy has interceded in a way that has distorted the market and thus the market value for these properties. Under yellow book guidance appraisers have little choice but to arbitrarily discount the value of these properties 75 to 90% timber value. Landowners and government are typically protected from these value changes for roadway acquisitions and public projects by rules that fix the value of property at its current use. An example is when a home, land or farmers crop is being purchased for a roadway. A higher value is not set because of the new use and likewise a lower value is not set because the roadway would have devalued the home or made the farmers crop uneconomical to harvest. These concepts address fair compensation when all or most of the use or value of a property is changed by a government action.

RCO like other state agencies is required to establish an amount which it believes to be "just compensation." Prior to offering just compensation they must obtain an appraisal and just compensation must not be less than the appraised value. The board has an obligation to determine how "appraised values" are to be determined and also to determine how "just compensation" is to be determined. In the use of two terms the legislature clearly indicated that the two terms may be different from each other, in that "just compensation" cannot be less than appraised value. Since the board has an obligation to set policy for both, there are two options for the board in incorporating a riparian open space appraisal method. The first is to instruct appraisers to use the model when appraising occupied habitat of the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet. The second would be to use appraised values as determined by the appraisers and then adjusting the appraised value to the "just value" using the ROS model. In either case the Board could require board or agency approval to use such methods prior to application and would have to restrict use where federal grant rules did not allow its use. In both cases the yellow book appraisal process could be used as the appraisal process with the adjustment for the restricted timber.

Specific Changes in the Manual #3 Acquiring Land: Policies to implement an adjustment to yellow book appraisal methods could take one of two approaches. Staff policy experts and the AG

would need to provide the exact language and location of that language. Section 4: Appraisals and Review Appraisals is the appropriate section under Just Compensation to make these adjustments. Sample language is provided below as an example of two approaches:

Alternative 1. In the event that some or all of the timber crop on subject land is qualified for the Riparian Open Space Program the RCO may approve use of ROS appraisal methods for the timber crop only as part of the approved appraisal which shall otherwise meet all other requirements of this section.

Alternative 2. In the event that some or all of the timber crop on subject land is qualified for the Riparian Open Space Program the RCO may approve the use of an adjustment to the appraised value which substitutes the ROS method value for the standard appraisal value for the qualified timber crop as an adjustment from appraisal to reach just compensation.

The State Legislature has twice determined that when appraisal issues cloud the appraisal process for conservation purposes that the ROS model is an appropriate method of determining value. If the State is using the ROS model for permanent easements on the timber crop it is likewise appropriate to use the ROS model in conservation purchases where the timber crops would otherwise qualify for the ROS program.

As you know conservation is much more than the purchase of cheap land or lots of acres. You have no doubt suspected that the ROS model will result in higher purchase prices for certain conservation properties. This would be true if occupied habitat was actually transacting on a frequent basis at the very low values of the yellow book appraisal, but most of it is not even being considered for conservation transactions because of the appraisal issues. The benefit to the public comes in buying the very best habitats and if used appropriately, expanded conservation areas with the ability to apply all of our conservation tools to that habitat and adjacent non-habitat. Much of the conservation value of a project derives from the current condition of the habitat, its relative location and future conservation management opportunities. Clearly old growth and occupied stands will almost always have a higher conservation value than second growth, young forests or cut over lands. Because of appraisal issues these very best habitats seem to be the least conserved. This is a huge gap in our conservation program. The Statewide Forest Resources Assessment & Strategy for Washington State, Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands, June 2010 identified Unmet Opportunities & Non-Lead Responsibilities as conserving Westside legacy features and to identify and protect priority species and ecosystems. The northern spotted owl and the marbled murrelet were identified as two of the species most at risk. It also pointed out that only 1% of 100-year-plus stands are located on non-federal lands. These are the very lands that are least likely to be conserved because of yellow book appraisal issues. One of the major powers of the ROS appraisal system is that it is directed at these least preserved, but most critical sites.

Conservation is also much more than regulations. If it was not the RCO could just be a regulatory agency taking private property from landowners. Some have suggested that there is no need to conserve these lands because regulations prevent them from being clear cut. Some would say we have already taken these lands from the landowner through regulation, why should we pay them? Stopping one particular activity in a timber stand for an undefined period of time is a far cry from conservation. The environment is dynamic and the occupancy status or the rules can change over time resulting in a change of status. In addition landowners can submit Class IV harvest permits where a harvest at some level will likely have to be approved or a private property takings case is likely to follow. Both have been done successfully. Ironically, if occupancy status changes or the rules change, there may be a brief window of opportunity to buy the habitat from the landowner at for timber value, if they are willing and funding is immediately available, otherwise the timber will be cut down. This has also happened. Conservation is best if permanent; it allows for protection, restoration, enhancement, expansion and connectivity with the

landscape. Regulations usually result in reduced protection, no restoration, no enhancement, no expansion and isolation in landscapes managed to avoid creating new habitat, with harvests scheduled based on landowner's fear of additional regulation. The second power of the ROS is to transition the current regulatory model into a model of conservation. This should also reduce landowner anxiety over T&E species and lessen the impacts of landowner reactions to ESA regulations.

The type of conservation mechanism is also important as determined in a recent RCO study. Fee ownership typically has significant advantages over other forms of conservation rights. This was well documented in *Conservation Tools: An Evaluation and Comparison of the Use of Certain Land Preservation Mechanisms*, Final Report, December 23, 2009, Prepared for Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, Pursuant to SHB 1957(2009).

The report reviewed eight conservation mechanisms. Generally the report concluded that perpetual land preservation mechanisms have a greater potential than temporary mechanisms to achieve conservation goals of state agencies. Perpetual land preservation mechanisms, unlike temporary mechanisms, provide long term "conservation equity" because they create perpetual assets with inherent financial value. In general perpetual mechanisms provide the most flexibility in responding to future economic, social, and environmental changes. The range of conservation mechanisms effectiveness went from fee acquisition with generally the highest effectiveness to voluntary registries with the lowest effectiveness. The report did not review regulation as a conservation mechanism. It is clear that if it had been reviewed it would have been rated poorly given the most important characteristics of the best conservation mechanisms.

Implementing the ROS appraisal method can create larger integrated conservation strategies. The ability to appraise occupied habitat at a value that would interest private landowners is a very powerful tool. The ability to approach a landowner with a full conservation acquisition package of occupied habitat and commercial forest land is the third power of the ROS appraisal. The commercial forest land acquired can then be used for conservation support or even as working forests in a conservation oriented forest investment. This will allow conservation groups to build up larger landscape strategies. If you have the opportunity to review marbled murrelet observations in Western Washington you will quickly recognize the opportunities to tie together occupied stands with other timber or conservation lands to create greater conservation values. Rather than disregarding these key habitats from conservation purchases they will become the focal point for conservation strategies at a landscape level. This is the power that you have to effect conservation in Washington for years to come.

The establishment of a consistent appraisal approach using ROS will increase outside capital available for conservation projects; both as a direct investment by conservation investors and as an investment for working forest conservation oriented investor funds aimed at creating and selling ecological goods and services as well as traditional economic products. More capital in the conservation market is a good thing for conservation organizations, landowners and the environment. You can think of this as creating a goods and services market in Washington. This has been talked about in so many forums I cannot count them, yet with this simple modification to an appraisal system we have the opportunity to create a significant environmental goods and services market. That market can not only protect existing habitat, but also result in the creation of habitat where it no longer exists today. This could be the basis for a conservation investment growing owl or murrelet habitat as a product rather than logs for lumber.

There are a number of concerns that you may have. I will attempt to address some of these here. The first concern is a desire and support for a single consistent appraisal method. I understand that and I am not opposing yellow book, but advocating the retention of an option to be used along with yellow book methodology to supplement the appraisal or adjust the outcome of the yellow book when appropriate and approved by the Board or the Agency.

Another concern I have heard is how to contain the approach or does it open up appraisals for everyone who, just wants a higher property value. The proposal is limited to a small subset of timber crops on forest land qualified for ROS and not land use changes, zoning or wetlands. You can as I would recommend, limit it further to spotted owl and marbled murrelet habitat as a specific conservation target of the Board. This would be very timely given the current discussions of the Forest Practices Board looking for conservation incentives and proposals for the spotted owl recovery plan to protect additional habitat.

Another concern is that this would increase the cost of acquisitions. That may be the case, but a price increase would likely be driven by the quality of acquisitions rather than the appraisal method. Instead of buying "almost" murrelet habitat or "unoccupied" habitat for timber value you will be buying proven occupied habitat for timber value. There is probably a reason "almost" habitat and unoccupied habitat is unoccupied, and thus it is a riskier investment. Higher quality murrelet and owl habitat almost always has higher timber volume than non habitat so the cost per acre would be higher in those cases, but the quality would be better. An advantage of buying known habitat is that all other conservation investments in and around that proven habitat will have a higher conservation return because of the likelihood of success for expansion of habitat and insurance of having adjacent alternative habitat developing as backup for the original habitat.

The ROS appraisal process will not qualify for Section 6 funding which requires yellow book appraisals. This is correct and is exactly where the gap in conservation exists in Washington State today. The ROS appraisal methods can solve that gap. It is likely that a purchase made using ROS appraisal methods will have to be kept separate from other purchases for Section 6 lands, but together they can have additive conservation effects. In addition purchases made with a ROS appraisal will probably not be usable as match, at least not at full value. This disadvantage can be minimized by the way purchases are structured so that ROS portions of projects are relatively small and you control what you pre-approve for ROS appraisal methods. This will minimize these impacts. The ROS qualified portions of a project may have to stay out of Section 6 but may help lift the overall conservation value of the project to get the Section 6 funding. It is like having a saw in your tool box, there is a lot you can do, but if you also have a hammer and nails you can do so much more. ROS appraisal is a specialized tool, it is to be used where it is needed and only there to do the most good for conservation.

Another concern may be that projects under the ROS appraisal process will compete for money. The ROS appraisal process may make higher quality habitat available to the Board for funding and in that sense higher conservation value projects will compete with other projects. My sense is that once the opportunity is understood, it will generate conservation projects focused around the highest quality habitats and conservation restoration projects in the state. That is a good form of competition. I also suspect it will begin to change landowner behavior. If a landowner has occupied murrelet habitat and a conservation group says they want to buy the habitat and adjacent mature timber a landowner is more likely to save the mature timber since the risk of regulations devaluing the timber would be offset by a potentially higher ranking of the project.

The ROS has its own money so why look for other programs to use the appraisal method? Funding has ranged from \$0.5 million last biennium to \$1.5-2 million in prior bienniums. While there is some funding in ROS it is a small program limited to conservation easements on habitat only. Allowing the ROS appraisal method in RCO would give RCO one more tool to create a greater conservation opportunity. I expect conservation groups to find creative ways to use ROS and RCO and that you will see beneficial interactions of the two programs as well as the unique benefits of each program. The use of ROS appraisal methods within RCO will create new and expanded opportunities. The expansion and interaction of both programs should be our united goal.



You have a rare opportunity to change the future direction of conservation in Washington. It takes great courage to lead change, but ask yourself, is your job just about buying property or is it about protecting the ecologically best property, creating the greatest conservation value and opportunity beyond just purchasing property and about creating a climate of conservation in the State of Washington. If it is the more holistic view and about leadership in conservation then retaining appraisal latitude is critical to your mission. The yellow book cannot be changed directly, but you can modify and supplement the use of the yellow book. We are not asking for multiple appraisal systems but rather the option to be used at your discretion to supplement an appraisal system which was designed to ignore ecological and conservation values and opportunities. Many have talked about creating markets around ecological goods and services. Today you have the opportunity to actually lead the way. If you are looking for a reason not to do this, they are abundant and you can quickly dismiss this issue, but if you are looking to progress conservation you have a powerful tool in this proposal.

Let's have that discussion and work together to figure out how this can work to benefit your programs. I do not know all the needs and concerns you have, but I am willing to help you solve them. I do know that each of you is highly committed to conservation in Washington and that commitment and it is because of that commitment that I hope this proposal will find favor with you. Let's talk, find the answers to your questions, lay out the pros and cons and weigh them for the benefit of conservation in Washington. It would be my great pleasure to meet with any or all of you to discuss this proposal.

Sincerely



Robert Meier  
Manager, Forest Policy and Environment

360-538-4560  
360-580-3955 cell



## Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Rance Block  
Lands Program Manager  
2909 S. Molter Rd.  
Liberty Lake, WA 99019  
Phone (509) 255-6183  
rblock@rmef.org  
www.rmef.org

September 22, 2010

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

RE: Manual 3 Acquiring Land Policies update

To whom it may concern,

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed update to RCO manual 3 acquisition policies. RMEF values our relationships with the State of Washington's natural resource agencies, and looks forward to partnering to protect and enhance key habitats in the future. We believe our participation on important land acquisition and exchange projects has provided substantial benefit to our agency partners, and therefore to the citizens of Washington. In partnering with Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Natural Resources real estate acquisition staff on past acquisition projects, we have found them to be professional and highly competent.

With that professional respect as a backdrop, we offer the following comments on some of the proposed changes. Our comments here refer to the side-by-side comparison document. In general, many of the proposed changes are administrative in nature, and will serve to clarify specific process steps. However, in some cases, proposed changes will have the effect of complicating the transaction process or in some cases, risking the State's ability to perform transactions altogether.

Pages 49-51 Interim Land Uses - In rural Eastern Washington, working lands are a very important part of community values. Generations of local residents have made a living on the land, as do their neighbors and friends. Those traditional uses include grazing, timber harvest, farming and others. In these rural areas, local politics often lean toward a position against public land acquisition. Obtaining political support for public acquisition in these areas often hinges on assurance the acquisition lands will continue to be working lands. Any policy shift toward a more restrictive view of working lands will, in essence, kill public land acquisition in many Eastern Washington counties. There are extremely high wildlife and recreation values on many working lands. We shouldn't risk losing opportunity to acquire key parcels (and therefore protect critical wildlife habitat) because local politicians perceive a state government movement against agricultural producers.

RMEF strongly urges against further restrictions in this section.



## Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Rance Block  
Lands Program Manager  
2909 S. Molter Rd.  
Liberty Lake, WA 99019  
Phone (509) 255-6183  
rblock@rmef.org  
www.rmef.org

Page 51-60 Property Appraisal Requirements - There are several proposed changes in regard to appraisals, some of which RMEF is not qualified to comment on because they are internal processes. Our experiences in working with the natural resource agencies have shown the current procedures and processes to be adequate to protect the public interest and provide fair compensation to landowners. We don't see the reason to require "yellow book" standard appraisal in all cases except Farmland Protection Program. Even though WDFW uses that standard for most of their appraisal work, requiring that same standard for other agencies and small land trusts would be an unnecessary burden. Nor do we see benefit to requiring an appraisal for properties less than \$10,000 in value. In many of these small property acquisitions, the cost of the appraisal may approach the value of the land itself.

RMEF does acknowledge there may be additional procedural needs when working in some programs that allow local governments and land trusts to acquire lands with WWRP or other funding. Those smaller entities may not have adequate expertise to manage the current appraisal process. However, the proposed changes seem to add unnecessary cost and time for the two primary state-level natural resource agencies which have skilled staff, and serve the public well in direct interaction with appraisers, and in performing review appraisals.

Page 74 Intent Statement - This proposed section would establish a new requirement for project sponsor to submit a Landowner Acknowledgement Form along with the grant application. Often, landowners do not wish their intent to sell to a government agency to be made public knowledge. In some rural areas, there are individuals who hold decidedly anti-public land viewpoints and can cause personal problems for landowners desiring to offer their lands to the public. Since the current process may require that form to be public record for a year or more before funds are available, the requirement alone would have the unintended consequence of scaring some landowners away from a sale to a public entity. This requirement would be especially burdensome for multi-site acquisition projects. RMEF recommends deletion of this proposed change.

In addition to the above specific comments, RMEF would make the observation that other proposed changes such as: indemnification for RCO; RCO review of legal documentation prior to closing; requiring the addition of RCO as an additional insured to title insurance; and others serve to add complexity and possibly cost to the real estate transaction process while not protecting public investment. In some cases, proposed changes would transfer responsibility for completion of a task from the resource agency (WDFW or DNR) where the expertise exists, to an agency (RCO), where the expertise may not exist. Some of the proposed changes don't appear to add value to the process, and may result in duplicative effort. In a recessionary time where the State of Washington is searching to reduce unnecessary government practices, some of these proposals do not seem timely or warranted.

Rance Block

WA-ID Lands Program Manager, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation





**SDS Co. LLC**

PO Box 266  
Bingen, WA 98605  
509-493-2155

September 13, 2010

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

RE: Manual 3 Update

Dear Board Members and RCO Staff:

SDS Co. LLC ("SDS") is writing to express its full support for RCO's modification of its policy in Manual 3 to consider a fully valued appraisal system for conservation acquisition.

SDS is the owner of approximately 70,000 acres of forest land in southern central Washington in Skamania and Klickitat Counties. Our private lands are regulated under State and Federal wildlife rules for the protection of wildlife and endangered species. While we have attempted to manage our lands under these regulations, in some cases we have found them to inevitably result in our inability to manage our private lands for sustainable forestry. On several of these occasions, SDS has attempted to enter into land exchanges or sales with the State or Federal Government only to have these efforts fail due to the agencies' inability to fully value forest lands for conservation purposes under current appraisal requirements. The consequence of these appraisal rules is a strong disincentive for private landowners to manage or allow their forested lands to provide wildlife or conservation values.

SDS consider full valuation of the timber asset and land by markets and market-based mechanisms, such as in conservation acquisitions, the key to maintaining our lands in forest management. With alternative land use options, the way to preserve our forest lands as working forests, and providing the wildlife, conservation and recreation values inherent within working forests, is to maintain the economic value of the land. Therefore programs that seek to acquire private lands with special conservation values should compensate the owner for the full market value of the land. The RCO program could be such a program if its policy regarding appraisals is appropriately modified. SDS strongly support such this modification as in the public's interest.

Sincerely,

*Wallace E. Stevenson*

Wallace E. Stevenson, President



I offer the following comments as a land acquisition manager for Seattle City Light (SCL). The page numbers below refer to the side by side table referred to in the Aug 11th email.

Pg 48 Compatible use: RCO must approve any proposed compatible use in advance.

As this section is still under review, I offer comments based on current SCL situations. SCL has three properties purchased with SRFB funds that are in active agriculture (grazing and haying). While SCL is currently replanting the riparian buffers (or establishing them in areas) it is possible that agriculture could continue for an extended period of years (beyond the three year period that has been included in other sections) or perhaps permanently in sections of the properties. Could agriculture be permitted if conditions are met such as large buffers to protect the riparian areas/wetlands/critical areas; permitting natural processes to occur particularly channel migration (no rip rap or levees); and BMPs followed on pesticide/herbicide use? Is there a process envisioned to reconcile differences in management intent/actions between the owning entity and RCO?

Pg 50 Existing 2nd party use: RCO may keep percentage of grant funding during the interim period until the second party use ceases. If the use will proceed longer than 3 years it may only be considered for approval under compatible use policy.

Several questions are raised in this section. One, what percentage of the grant funds does RCO propose to withhold during the interim period? As the compatible use policy is under review, the concerns raised above still hold. Additionally, if the owning entity sees a benefit in a type of use and RCO does not see that use as compatible, what is the remedy?

Pg 71 Legal access: Must obtain pre-approval from RCO for acquisition of property with no legal access

SCL requires legal access to purchase a property. In limited cases in the past SCL has perfected legal access during the acquisition process. It is unclear from the wording in this section if the acquisition process could begin and costs be covered by the grant if legal access is not established prior to the initiation of the acquisition process. The major concern being that the increase in time may deter potential sellers.

I agree with the HCCC's assessment that a 3-year timeframe for completion of restoration activities is too short. Observing the changes to a site over various seasonal conditions will greatly improve the design of restoration work, leading to more effective project outcomes. Increasing the 3-year timeframe would increase project effectiveness overall.

A general comment I would like to add is that RCO should cover monitoring and stewardships costs beyond the timeframe of the short term restoration projects. It currently is a major disincentive to groups, particularly smaller organizations, for restoration projects and is the most cost-effective form of conservation.

I look forward to working with RCO to update Manual 3 in a manner that works for all parties involved in salmonid habitat acquisition. Please feel free to contact me at this email or number below.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment,

Denise Krownbell  
Sr. Environmental Analyst  
Seattle City Light

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed changes to your acquisition grant policies. State Parks has reviewed the proposed changes, and has the following comments:

1. In general, the changes that include clarification on the policies are good, and quite helpful.
2. The change to the time period for a Waiver of Retroactivity may create could be problematic in the case when a grant program is temporarily suspended, which has happened to two grant programs recently. It could also cause hardships for State Parks in cases where other grant projects need to be given a higher priority due to an emergency situation. We believe the previous time period, two consecutive grant cycles in the program in which the applicant seeks funding, is more reasonable.
3. The proposed requirement that development or restoration be completed within three years would place a significant hardship on State Parks. Our agency often seeks to acquire properties because they are under immediate threat, and indeed this threat is built into your grant criteria. But our agency's priorities for development are developed statewide, and give preference for projects that correct health and safety issues, or that repair major problems with our existing facilities. In fact, it is difficult to get Parks and Recreation Commission, OFM, or legislative approval for projects that construct new facilities, particularly in the current economic climate. For this reason, development of new facilities on recently acquired land cannot be our highest priority.

Further, our budget cycles, like yours, go in 2-year increments, so a 3-year limit only allows us one chance to secure funding for development.

If RCO makes this policy change, State Parks would be forced to ignore opportunities for acquisition of significant properties that are under threat because we would not be able to commit to development within three years. Our acquisition priorities and our development priorities just cannot follow the same timeline. State Parks strongly urges RCO not to make this policy change. If your agency proceeds with such a change anyway, we ask that the timeline be increased significantly, perhaps to 10 years, plus extension. This would allow our agency to build the development projects into our priority lists, but would allow for some flexibility for emergencies, or if the projects are not funded in the capital budget.

Thank you again for giving us the opportunity to review the proposed changes. We sincerely hope that you will consider the changes recommended above, particularly on the issue of development and restoration.

Sincerely,

Nikki Fields  
Parks Planner  
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
360-902-8658



September 9, 2010

Recreation and Conservation Office  
Manual 3 Update  
P.O. Box 40917  
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Revisions and updates to Manual 3: *Acquiring Lands*

Dear RCO:

The Nature Conservancy appreciates this opportunity to review and comment on proposed changes to RCO Manual 3: *Acquiring Lands*. We support the intention of the RCO to update and improve the manuals and make them more uniform. In most cases the revisions will serve the intended positive result. However, in several cases the revisions to the manual, even with good intentions, may have undesirable results for program administration or, more importantly, for the conservation value of land acquisition programs.

Listed below are our comments on revisions that seem likely to have negative impacts, and our recommendations to solve the potential problems. All page references are to the side-by-side comparison document.

**Pg. 19 – Waiver of Retroactivity**

**Comments:** The proposed change in the effective period for a waiver (from 2 consecutive grant cycles to 2 years) is significantly limiting for biennial grant programs. It would be especially limiting in bad state budget years where some grant categories are at risk of not receiving substantial funding (e.g. WWRP – Riparian Protection Account). It is also unclear what threshold must be met within the proposed 2-year effective period in order for a project to receive funding – i.e. grant application, funding board approval, or Project Agreement. The proposed Manual 3 text states: “When approved, a waiver is good for two years from the date of acquisition.” Does this mean that the project must be under contract within the two year period? If so, this would be quite challenging both for project sponsors and RCO staff, given the application timeline and volume of contracting. Overall, the reduction in the effective period for the waiver and the uncertainty of funding levels could result in fewer worthy conservation projects.

**Recommendation:** Keep the effective period for a waiver of retroactivity the same as the current manual, and clarify what stage in the funding process must be reached within the waiver period.

**Pg. 51-55 – Appraisal Requirements**

**Comments:** The existing RCO appraisal standards are workable, and we don’t understand the justification for changing them. The existing Manual 3 is clear and understandable, and is helpful in requesting appraisals that meet RCO standards. Requiring Yellow Book standards would unnecessarily complicate the appraisal process to the extent that many eligible sponsors lack familiarity with the intricacies of the Yellow Book, which was developed specifically for federal agencies that have

condemnation authority. Moreover, there may be a number of state-certified general appraisers who are not qualified to write appraisals to Yellow Book standards, but who can follow the RCO guidelines.

**Recommendation:** Retain the existing appraisal requirements, or add the particular appraisal specifications of the Yellow Book that would improve on RCO's existing requirements.

**Pg. 70-71 – Legal Access**

**Comments:** We understand the need for RCO to be able to gain access for compliance inspection purposes and, more important, a landowner whose acquisition is RCO-funded needs to be able to steward its land. However, the proposed standard for legal access is undesirably strict and could be problematic in a number of situations, especially for salmon and riparian grants where the primary objective is protection of habitat values. In cases with no legal access, the requirement that the project sponsor must own the adjacent land and can access the property from its existing property holdings is unnecessarily restrictive. Access across adjacent land owned by public agencies, whether federal, state or local, should be included as an acceptable alternative to access across sponsor-owned land.

**Recommendation:** Access through state or other public land should be specifically identified in bullet #1 (in addition to project sponsor) as acceptable adjacent landowners.

**Pg. 79 – Intended future development or restoration**

**Comments:** The intent to complete projects quickly is understandable, but the proposed 3-year period for completion of planned future development or restoration is impractical and, particularly, misunderstands the complexity of implementing large restoration projects. The length of time to build partnerships, secure landowner agreement and purchase property, raise funds for restoration, complete feasibility, design and permitting, and implement restoration projects is rarely less than three years.

**Recommendations:**

- Include a provision for RCO to approve a longer timeframe for completion of planned development and/or restoration as part of the application process.
- Separate requirements for development and restoration. Allow more time for completion of restoration projects (minimum of 5 years).

**Pg. 23 – Director's Decisions**

**Comments:** Bullet #3 regarding approval for project cost increases for SRFB projects is unclear and appears to be a typo.

Should you have any questions regarding these comments or wish to discuss them further, please contact me at (206) 343-4345 x305 or via email at [pscholes@tnc.org](mailto:pscholes@tnc.org).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Scholes".

Peter Scholes  
Director of Protection



Northwest & Rocky  
Mountain Regional Office  
Waterfront Place Building  
1011 Western Ave.  
Suite 605  
Seattle, WA  
98104  
T: (206) 587-2447  
F: (206) 382-3414  
www.tpl.org

September 13, 2010

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

RE: Proposed Changes to Manual 3: *Acquisition Policy*

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office:

We thank the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to Manual 3: *Acquisition Policy*. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is a valued partner to many eligible project sponsors. We provide expertise in negotiations, due diligence, and closing land transactions. Both TPL and our partners have greatly benefitted from the grant programs administered by RCO to fund a variety of conservation projects across Washington saving habitat, recreation lands, and working lands.

Enumerated below are TPL's comments on the proposed changes to Manual 3.

1. Overall, TPL would encourage RCO to maintain flexibility when approving changes to the intent, language, and legal templates for the acquisition policies. From our experience, real property transactions are not "cookie cutter" deals and often require creative thinking and flexibility to close.
2. The proposed changes appear to place much more review responsibility on RCO project managers. We support aligning priorities and evaluating project viability as early as possible; however, the extra review raises concerns about timely review and coordination among parties.
3. Templates of the legal documents, like conservation easement language, will impact certain areas of proposed policy changes. We would welcome the opportunity to comment on those legal templates as they become available and encourage RCO to not adopt changes in policy until that review is complete.
4. Further investigation is necessary to evaluate the requirement to have RCO named as an additional insured on the title report. As RCO is not identified as an owner on the deed, title companies will not deem it as having an insurable interest. We suggest exploring this item with a title insurer before adding to the grant guidelines and creating policy that cannot be implemented.



5. TPL recommends no changes to the "interim land uses and interim land use approval process" in order to meet the many needs of families with working lands opportunities. TPL works with a wide range of people with a wide range of needs whereby eliminating options for life estates and longer-term leases will make conservation opportunities less desirable to many of the landowners we work with.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to comment upon these proposed changes. We look forward to continued success in working with the Recreation and Conservation Office on projects benefitting the citizens of Washington.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike Deller", with a stylized, flowing script.

Mike Deller  
The Trust for Public Land  
Washington State Director



From: Jeroen Kok, Senior Planner, Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation Department

To: Leslie Ryan-Connelly, RCO

Date: September 8, 2010

Subject: Proposed Changes to RCO Acquisition Policies

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed acquisition policy changes included in your draft Manual #3. The following comments and questions are offered in an attempt to better understand the purpose and intent of the proposed changes, as well as offering an on-the-ground perspective and potential implications that need to be considered as these proposed changes are further discussed and considered.

Page 6 – Deed of Right. What is the purpose of the requirement to record the deed of right upon taking title to the property? What is the purpose of requiring that the Deed of Right be included in the final title insurance policy? What problem(s) are these new requirements intended to fix? It may not always be practical for the sponsors to undertake these requirements – especially when the property is being acquired under a waiver of retroactivity.

Page 9-10 – Ineligible Projects. Isn't this area being reviewed separately by RCO? Should changes to this area be made through that process? Also, given the current and ongoing budget challenges and need for creative partnerships, it seems that the RCO should be aiming for increased flexibility and creativity in helping jurisdictions achieve park, recreation and open space goals – thereby creating greater opportunities for successful outcomes, while retaining existing safeguards to prevent inappropriate or unintended consequences.

Page 12 – Pre-agreement costs. Should note that the 3 year provision is dependent on support for the change in the period for which a Waiver of Retroactivity is valid (from 4 years to 2 years). Would also be helpful to define what is meant by "baseline documentation" – listed under incidental costs. Also noted on page 17 (second bullet).

Page 18 (and page 37) – Title reports and insurance. What is the purpose of requiring that the RCO be listed as an additionally insured party in the final title policy? Note that this requirement represents an additional cost to the sponsor and may also result in delays in issuance of the final title policy, and will issuance of a new title policy for those properties purchased under a waiver of retroactivity.

Page 19 – Period of Waiver of Retroactivity. What is prompting the proposed change from 4 years to 2 years? What does this proposed change accomplish? This change will provide sponsors only one opportunity to be successful in gaining grant funding.

Page 22 – Major Scope Change (Item #5). Needs further definition and clarification (here and in Manual #7).

Page 25 – Combination Projects. Is the addition of a feasibility study new? If so, what is it intended to cover? This could be an exciting new opportunity that will help sponsors determine the feasibility of a potential future grant, and also eliminate some of the hurdles that inhibit timely and cost-effective completion of grant projects.

Page 30 – Easement Compliance. Is there a template for the monitoring report requirement?

Page 32 – Property Acquired for Mitigation Purposes. Project sponsors usually are not aware of mitigation requirements until well after the project has been funded. In some circumstances, the land required for mitigation purposes – sometimes off-site, is relatively small and insignificant. Why require the sponsors to go through all this for those minor instances. Can the RCO give the sponsors the option to opt out of this requirement?

Page 33 – Acquisition of Existing Public Property. Do these provisions prevent creative partnerships that may benefit both state agencies and local jurisdictions? Do they eliminate the possibility of a transfer of lands that would be retained or re-used at a higher public benefit – especially if those lands would otherwise be converted to non-public use?

Page 36 – Preliminary Title Review. Are there specific problems that this policy change is intended to address? Will RCO staff be able to turn-around these reviews in a timely manner? Due diligence efforts usually operate under a “time is of the essence” provision.

Page 50 – Existing Second Party Use. This policy seems contrary to the RCO’s policies that encourage cost efficiencies. What percentage of the grant funding will be retained by RCO in the interim use period? The three year limitations may preclude wise interim use. Should include a reference to the RCO income policy in the last bullet.

Page 50 – Life Estate. Not always practical to require some public use during the term of the life estate – especially if the property is a relatively small urban single-family lot. Can the RCO provide examples of terms and conditions that would not be acceptable in a life estate? Again, if time is of the essence, will RCO be able to provide timely and definitive feedback to sponsors?

Page 52 (and page 58) – Appraisals and Review Appraisals. Please explain the purpose and intent of requiring federal appraisal standards. Is this practical and will it solve a real problem? Note that sponsors will incur added costs, have more difficulty finding qualified and available appraisers and reviewers, and in some circumstances jeopardize a successful deal as a result of this requirement.

Page 55 – Shelf Life – Unclear about the 24 month provision for updating an appraisal and review, needs additional explanation.

Page 66 – Contaminated Properties. Is it reasonable to allow a contaminated property to be eligible if the extent of the contamination has been quantified and

determine, and sufficient resources to meet clean-up standards are committed? Some properties may require an extensive period in which clean-up actions are accomplished (i.e., pump and treat for groundwater contamination) – but those circumstance may not necessarily preclude acquisition and public use.

Page 74 – Intent Statement – What is the purpose of this policy change? Is there an underlying problem this is intended to solve? This policy may have the unintended consequences of giving a potential seller the impression that, if grant dollars are available, that the purchaser has the ability to pay a higher price than they otherwise would/could. Conversely, this form may give the landowner the impression that the purchaser has insufficient funds to acquire the property, which may prompt them to seek another buyer who has sufficient funding on hand.

Page 75 – Local jurisdiction review. Isn't this already required through the resolution authorizing the grant application submittal?

Page 76 – Project Scoping – Does this provision apply to interim uses as well?

Page 79 – Acquisition for Future Use – What problem is this policy change attempting to address? Now, more than ever, the RCO should be sensitive to the economic realities of state and local jurisdictions. It has never been practical to commit to a three year development commitment. Even in the best of times, the master planning, design, permitting and construction timelines can easily stretch beyond three years. In these times of extreme austerity, it is just not realistic to expect that newly acquired properties will be developed within three years of acquisition. Given current circumstances, a 10-year horizon is much more realistic.





STATE OF WASHINGTON

**Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N • Olympia WA 98501-1091 • (360) 902-2200; TTY (800) 833-6388

Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building • 1111 Washington Street SE • Olympia WA

September 9, 2010

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

RECEIVED

SEP 13 2010

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

To whom it may concern:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Recreation and Conservation Office's (RCO) revision and update to *Manual 3 Acquiring Land Policies*. Our comments are specific to the table on the RCO website that compares the current manual text with the proposed revised text.

Many of these changes recommended by RCO are helpful and provide necessary structure. However, the changes blur the line between RCO being a natural resource grant manager and RCO becoming the land manager of acquired properties and easements. Also, when WDFW deals with landowners for the long-term goal of landscape conservation there is not a single "cookie cutter" set of rules that can be followed. To be successful we must meet the needs of landowners and they have varied interests. Privacy, a deeply felt commitment to the land they own, and family needs are but a few of the important values each transaction must address to be successful. The changes proposed (easement restrictions, not recognizing the expertise of the resource agency to manage lands and meet the needs of fish and wildlife, and required public acknowledgements prior to a landowner understanding their options) will negatively impact the implementation of landscape conservation efforts. With the proposed changes, RCO is moving a long way into the management of the transactions.

RCO's proposal's repeated requirements for RCO approval prior to recording documents or recording transactions will cause a significant increase in the time it takes to process a land transaction, if implemented as written.

**Deed of Right**

The proposed policy requires the sponsor to provide a draft Deed of Right before recording. This may delay closing or require that the Deed of Right be amended into the title policy at a later date.

**RECOMMENDATION:** RCO should provide the correct Deed of Right template and consult with project sponsors to confirm they have the correct template.



RCO is requiring that the Deed of Right must appear on the title insurance policy. This requirement may delay closing or cause extra title expense amending the policy at a later date.

RECOMMENDATION: This proposal should be dropped as it is unnecessary and provides no additional value. Once the Deed of Right is made record it becomes part of the title to the property by operation of law.

#### **Assignment of Rights**

Sponsors must indemnify RCO. The Office of the Attorney General advises WDFW that state agencies do not have authority to agree to indemnify other parties.

RECOMMENDATION: Remove this proposal.

#### **Pre-Agreement Costs**

The proposed language requires any survey of property boundaries to be recorded on the property title. WDFW conducts pre-purchase survey work to identify the area of a partial acquisition. These surveys are not recorded if the transaction does not close. This proposal would result in providing landowners free surveys if they chose not to sell the land.

RECOMMENDATION: Remove the requirement to record the survey work in situations where the transactions do not close.

#### **Incidental Costs**

RCO should allow baseline documentation to be included as an eligible incidental cost on fee acquisition.

Include agency costs of compiling GIS data for land inventory mapping.

RECOMMENDATION: Support their increase for weed control from \$75 per acre to \$125.

#### **Buying Land before an RCO Project Agreement is Signed**

Waiver of Retroactivity is limited to two years. Because of funding cycles the two year limit may result in lost opportunities. There is no rationale for limiting the time frame of the waiver.

RECOMMENDATION: Remove this proposal

#### **Acquiring Easements, Leases and other Targeted Property Rights**

This section is proposing that draft legal documentation be pre-approved by RCO in order to ensure compliance with RCO policies. This proposal will cause delays in processing transactions. Until documents are approved the sponsor cannot begin negotiations because the document wording is the basis of negotiations.

RECOMMENDATION: RCO should clearly identify the parameters of the property rights to be acquired and allow the sponsor's professional staff to work with the Office of the Attorney General as needed on document language.

### **Habitat and Salmon Recovery Conservation Easements**

In reference to the following statement: “the property title must be reviewed prior to closing on property to ensure consistency...” we strongly encourage RCO to play the role of grant manager and NOT land manager. If WDFW believes a particular easement meets the needs of a critical species, it is not the grant manager position to disagree.

RECOMMENDATION: Maintain focus of RCO staff on grant management and not land management.

In regards to requiring project sponsors to submit easement monitoring reports to RCO every five years. WDFW supports conservation easement monitoring. We have the expertise and the process in place for monitoring and it is unclear to us what value this adds by requiring reports be submitted to RCO.

RECOMMENDATION: Remove or exempt WDFW from this requirement. We have an adequate process in place for monitoring.

The proposed language requires that the appraisal and appraisal review be provided to RCO prior to closing. This is a policy change. RCO has no licensed or accredited appraiser on staff to interpret appraisals. Sponsor staff is placed in the position of debating the merits of an appraisal with RCO staff that have no credentials to discuss the issues.

RECOMMENDATION: Remove this requirement and rely on professional appraisals.

### **Acquisition of Existing Public Property**

Current policy prohibits the use of RCO funds to acquire property presently owned by a government entity unless that entity is required to receive full compensation. The proposed language now places a further requirement that some statutory evidence is provided that the selling agency is required to receive full value. Local government and state agencies are not politically or economically motivated to transfer property without receiving full value. The proposed language infers that the full value requirement of RCW 43.09.210 only applies to property transfers between departments of local government and that transactions between different governments do not. As referenced in AGO 1997 No.5 in State v. Grays Harbor County, 98 Wn.2d 606, 656 P.2d 1084 the court held that RCW 43.09.210 also applies to transactions between two different governments.

RECOMMENDATION: RCO should recognize that property transfers between two government agencies require full value and drop the requirement for providing further statutory evidence.

### **Encumbrances and Title Insurance**

As interpreted, it seems this policy inserts RCO as the property manager and places them in the role of document review. This could be a big process issue for WDFW. For all the items added by RCO we need to ensure those costs are specifically listed as reimbursable costs.

The proposed language requires the project sponsor to provide a preliminary commitment for title insurance prior to signing the project agreement. On multi-site projects all title prelims are not normally ordered prior to the project agreement signing, since not all properties within a project's scope will be pursued at the same time. Some may not be pursued at all if priority properties use up all the grant funds.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Provide a fourth alternative that allows title prelims to be provided after the project agreement is signed on multi-site projects.

### **Interim Land Uses**

This policy proposal is an assault to working lands. Retaining grant funds, limiting life estates, etc. will seriously impact efforts for landscape conservation where local communities are encouraging/demanding working lands.

Through conservation easements, agriculture leases, grazing permits and other land stewardship activities, the agency partners with property owners and nonprofit organizations protect critical habitat and private lands management practices. These are *working* lands – farming, timber harvesting, generating wind energy, and share crop agreements where farmers are supported for not harvesting certain crops.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Do not assault conservation efforts by prohibiting working landscapes. Make no changes to current *Manual 3* language.

### **Acquisition Procedures**

The draft policy requires RCO to approve any draft legal documents before proceeding with closing. This action will seriously slow down the transaction process with little or no value added. State agency project sponsors have the expertise to draft proper legal documents and have access to legal counsel by the Office of the Attorney General, as needed.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Change this language from a requirement to a recommendation that sponsors who lack document drafting expertise consult with their respective RCO grant manager.

### **Appraisals**

The WDFW has concerns with the following section: "RCO recommends that any extraordinary assumptions or hypothetical conditions provided to the appraiser first be reviewed by RCO for compliance with RCO policies and the Project Agreement."

The proposed change that RCO approve use of any and all above, will be cumbersome to employ and add time to the appraisal and thus acquisition process. Currently, any extraordinary assumptions or hypothetical conditions that contract appraisers employ are discussed and cleared with WDFW (the client). This arrangement is in harmony with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (Yellow Book) recommendations, and provides assurance that appraisals are completed with only necessary and sound assumptions/conditions, if needed. Most often, the need to utilize a specific assumption or condition is not known at the inception of the appraisal process. By adding an additional "clearing" party (a non-client, without the

familiarity with the specific property knowledge or appraiser credentials), will not only add delay to the acquisition process, but potentially jeopardize the establishment of just compensation. Additionally, this is a prime example of the importance of appraiser/client interaction during the appraisal process.

RECOMMENDATION: Remove this requirement.

#### **Appraiser and Review Appraiser Qualifications**

The proposed language prohibits the sponsor's staff review appraiser from working directly with the independent appraiser when conducting appraisal review. It is the role of the review appraiser to work directly with the appraiser when conducting the appraisal review. Written or verbal discussions with the appraiser are the only ways to communicate the need for corrective action that can save a deficient appraisal. Communication between appraiser and review appraiser is the industry norm and leads to quality appraisals.

RECOMMENDATION: Clarification needs to be provided in this regard. It is critical that contract appraisers engage and work with WDFW staff to not only "scope" the appraisal assignment, but to learn about the acquisition property, and lastly work through any review issues upon appraisal submission. This interaction is noted in the RCO Review Appraisal responsibilities and is in-line with Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions guidance. If the intention is to show separate employment or management between the appraiser and agency staff, WDFW is in support of the policy intent, and requests rewording of the sentence to encourage interaction between staff and appraisers.

Under DeMinimus Value, Finding of Value: The proposed change will preclude agency staff (lands agents) from conducting findings of value for property less than \$10,000. Without using qualified agency staff to provide such estimates will add time and expense to the acquisition process. Appraisal and appraisal review costs will likely meet or exceed the just compensation due to the landowner. This proposed policy is not in-line with other governmental agencies involved in real property acquisitions.

RECOMMENDATION: Remove this requirement.

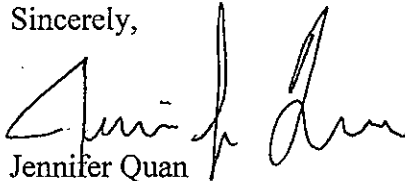
#### **Application Requirements**

The proposed language is requiring the owners of the targeted properties to sign a Landowner Acknowledgement form to be submitted along with the grant application. Without the ability to review the proposed language of the Landowner Acknowledgement which was not included with proposed language, it is impossible to evaluate the probability that a landowner would sign such a document. All lands WDFW acquires are from willing sellers; but, often the landowner wishes to remain anonymous until they recognize an acceptable deal is available. Multi-site acquisition projects become even more onerous.

RECOMMENATION: Remove this proposed requirement.

We hope you have found these comments and suggestions helpful in the update of *Manual 3 Acquiring Land Policies*. If you have any specific questions regarding the comments please contact me at (360)902-2508 or [Jennifer.Quan@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Quan@dfw.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Quan', written over a horizontal line.

Jennifer Quan  
Lands Division Manager

cc: Dave Pulliam, WDFW  
Dave Brittell, WDFW  
Dan Budd, WDFW  
Elizabeth Rodrick, WDFW  
Leslie Ryan-Connelly, RCO  
Scott Robinson, RCO



WASHINGTON FOREST PROTECTION ASSOCIATION  
724 Columbia St NW, Suite 250  
Olympia, WA 98501  
Fax: 360-352-4621

September 10, 2010

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

RE: Manual 3 Update

Dear Board Members and RCO Staff:

On behalf of WFPA members, private landowners in Washington State representing nearly 4 million acres of forest land, we'd like to support RCO's modification of its policy in Manual 3 to consider a fully valued appraisal system for conservation acquisition. Our members are large and small, individuals, companies and businesses that have been practicing sustainable forestry in Washington State for more than 150 years. WFPA as an organization is guided by its mission:

***Advance sustainable forestry...by supporting balanced forest policies that encourage investment in forestland...and promote responsible forest management as a preferred land use.***

We consider full valuation of the timber asset and land by markets and market-based mechanisms, such as in conservation acquisitions, the key to maintaining sustainable, working forests on our landscape. With pressure for alternative land uses mounting, the only real way to preserve a working forest, and the conservation values inherent within a forest ecosystem, is to maintain the economic value of the land. Therefore programs that seek to acquire private lands with special conservation value should compensate the owner for the full market value of the land.

As noted in the recent publication commissioned by the Puget Sound Partnership, *Valuing the Puget Sound Basin*, by Earth Economics (pg 17), federal rules do not value many of the ecosystem assets, or natural capital on the land, when developing cost/benefit analyses to determine investment by state agencies, cities and counties. When the value of the ecosystem, or natural capital is not taken into account, then investment dollars, or exchanges of land cannot be made efficiently. For example under federal valuation rules, a levee would count as an asset, but the wetlands, forests, lakes and rivers that protect the wetland don't count unless a special exemption is made. In summary, built capital counts, natural capital does not. This limits the amount of investment that can be made to protect the conservation values desired. In a land exchange market, if the conservation benefit of the land were accounted for, despite regulatory restrictions, the fair value of the land would be accounted for and a robust market and land exchange system would be possible.



Legislation was passed last year, HB 1484 & SB 5401 Threatened or Endangered Species – Habitat Open Space, which established a program for acquisition of critical habitat for threatened or endangered species on private lands. This establishes an appraisal valuation system based on fair market value of the land, without consideration of the management or regulatory encumbrances.

As stated in the Earth Economic Report “Washington State and the counties of the Puget Sound Basin should lead the way initiating changed in national accounting rules to accommodate the economic value that natural capital...provides.” (pg 12)

If we adopt full market appraisal values for private-public land exchanges, we could develop a very robust program resulting in preserving the environmental values we seek, and economic value of maintaining sustainable, working forests on our landscape.

WFPA is very interested in discussing the development of new markets for conservation value. We would be very interested in a follow up discussion to see how we can assist RCO in this effort.

Sincerely,



Mark L. Doumit  
Executive Director

Att:    Earth Economics  
       SB 5401

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5401

61st Legislature  
2009 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 20, 2009  
YEAS 45 NAYS 0

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 13, 2009  
YEAS 97 NAYS 0

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5401** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

FILED

Secretary of State  
State of Washington

---

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5401**

---

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2009 Regular Session

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senate Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation (originally sponsored by Senators Morton, Jacobsen, Stevens, Ranker, Hatfield, Roach, and Kline)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to habitat open space; and amending RCW 76.09.040,  
2 84.33.140, 84.34.108, and 76.09.020.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 76.09.040 and 2000 c 11 s 3 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) Where necessary to accomplish the purposes and policies stated  
7 in RCW 76.09.010, and to implement the provisions of this chapter, the  
8 board shall adopt forest practices rules pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW  
9 and in accordance with the procedures enumerated in this section that:

10 (a) Establish minimum standards for forest practices;

11 (b) Provide procedures for the voluntary development of resource  
12 management plans which may be adopted as an alternative to the minimum  
13 standards in (a) of this subsection if the plan is consistent with the  
14 purposes and policies stated in RCW 76.09.010 and the plan meets or  
15 exceeds the objectives of the minimum standards;

16 (c) Set forth necessary administrative provisions;

17 (d) Establish procedures for the collection and administration of  
18 forest practice fees as set forth by this chapter; and

19 (e) Allow for the development of watershed analyses.

1 Forest practices rules pertaining to water quality protection shall  
2 be adopted by the board after reaching agreement with the director of  
3 the department of ecology or the director's designee on the board with  
4 respect thereto. All other forest practices rules shall be adopted by  
5 the board.

6 Forest practices rules shall be administered and enforced by either  
7 the department or the local governmental entity as provided in this  
8 chapter. Such rules shall be adopted and administered so as to give  
9 consideration to all purposes and policies set forth in RCW 76.09.010.

10 (2) The board shall prepare proposed forest practices rules. In  
11 addition to any forest practices rules relating to water quality  
12 protection proposed by the board, the department of ecology may submit  
13 to the board proposed forest practices rules relating to water quality  
14 protection.

15 Prior to initiating the rule-making process, the proposed rules  
16 shall be submitted for review and comments to the department of fish  
17 and wildlife and to the counties of the state. After receipt of the  
18 proposed forest practices rules, the department of fish and wildlife  
19 and the counties of the state shall have thirty days in which to review  
20 and submit comments to the board, and to the department of ecology with  
21 respect to its proposed rules relating to water quality protection.  
22 After the expiration of such thirty day period the board and the  
23 department of ecology shall jointly hold one or more hearings on the  
24 proposed rules pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW. At such hearing(s) any  
25 county may propose specific forest practices rules relating to problems  
26 existing within such county. The board may adopt and the department of  
27 ecology may approve such proposals if they find the proposals are  
28 consistent with the purposes and policies of this chapter.

29 (3) The board shall establish by rule a program for the acquisition  
30 of riparian open space (~~((program that includes acquisition of a fee~~  
31 ~~interest in, or at the landowner's option, a conservation easement on))~~  
32 and critical habitat for threatened or endangered species as designated  
33 by the board. Acquisition must be a conservation easement. Lands  
34 eligible for acquisition are forest lands within unconfined  
35 ((avulsing)) channel migration zones or forest lands containing  
36 critical habitat for threatened or endangered species as designated by  
37 the board. Once acquired, these lands may be held and managed by the  
38 department, transferred to another state agency, transferred to an

1 appropriate local government agency, or transferred to a private  
2 nonprofit nature conservancy corporation, as defined in RCW 64.04.130,  
3 in fee or transfer of management obligation. The board shall adopt  
4 rules governing the acquisition by the state or donation to the state  
5 of such interest in lands including the right of refusal if the lands  
6 are subject to unacceptable liabilities. The rules shall include  
7 definitions of qualifying lands, priorities for acquisition, and  
8 provide for the opportunity to transfer such lands with limited  
9 warranties and with a description of boundaries that does not require  
10 full surveys where the cost of securing the surveys would be  
11 unreasonable in relation to the value of the lands conveyed. The rules  
12 shall provide for the management of the lands for ecological protection  
13 or fisheries enhancement. (~~Because there are few, if any, comparable~~  
14 ~~sales of forest land within unconfined avulsing channel migration~~  
15 ~~zones, separate from the other lands or assets, these lands are likely~~  
16 ~~to be extraordinarily difficult to appraise and the cost of a~~  
17 ~~conventional appraisal often would be unreasonable in relation to the~~  
18 ~~value of the land involved. Therefore, for the purposes of voluntary~~  
19 ~~sales under this section, the legislature declares that these lands are~~  
20 ~~presumed to have a value equal to: (a) The acreage in the sale~~  
21 ~~multiplied by the average value of commercial forest land in the region~~  
22 ~~under the land value tables used for property tax purposes under RCW~~  
23 ~~84.33.120; plus (b) the cruised volume of any timber located within the~~  
24 ~~channel migration multiplied by the appropriate quality code stumpage~~  
25 ~~value for timber of the same species shown on the appropriate table~~  
26 ~~used for timber harvest excise tax purposes under RCW 84.33.091. For~~  
27 ~~purposes of this section, there shall be an eastside region and a~~  
28 ~~westside region as defined in the forests and fish report as defined in~~  
29 ~~RCW 76.09.020.)) For the purposes of conservation easements entered~~  
30 into under this section, the following apply: (a) For conveyances of  
31 a conservation easement in which the landowner conveys an interest in  
32 the trees only, the compensation must include the timber value  
33 component, as determined by the cruised volume of any timber located  
34 within the channel migration zone or critical habitat for threatened or  
35 endangered species as designated by the board, multiplied by the  
36 appropriate quality code stumpage value for timber of the same species  
37 shown on the appropriate table used for timber harvest excise tax  
38 purposes under RCW 84.33.091; (b) for conveyances of a conservation

1 easement in which the landowner conveys interests in both land and  
2 trees, the compensation must include the timber value component in (a)  
3 of this subsection plus such portion of the land value component as  
4 determined just and equitable by the department. The land value  
5 component must be the acreage of qualifying channel migration zone or  
6 critical habitat for threatened or endangered species as determined by  
7 the board, to be conveyed, multiplied by the average per acre value of  
8 all commercial forest land in western Washington or the average for  
9 eastern Washington, whichever average is applicable to the qualifying  
10 lands. The department must determine the western and eastern  
11 Washington averages based on the land value tables established by RCW  
12 84.33.140 and revised annually by the department of revenue.

13 (4) Subject to appropriations sufficient to cover the cost of such  
14 an acquisition program and the related costs of administering the  
15 program, the department (~~((is directed to purchase a fee interest or, at~~  
16 ~~the owner's option,))~~ must establish a conservation easement in land  
17 that an owner tenders for purchase; provided that such lands have been  
18 taxed as forest lands and are located within an unconfined (~~((avulsing))~~)  
19 channel migration zone or contain critical habitat for threatened or  
20 endangered species as designated by the board. Lands acquired under  
21 this section shall become riparian or habitat open space. These  
22 acquisitions shall not be deemed to trigger the compensating tax of  
23 chapters 84.33 and 84.34 RCW.

24 (5) Instead of offering to sell interests in qualifying lands,  
25 owners may elect to donate the interests to the state.

26 (6) Any acquired interest in qualifying lands by the state under  
27 this section shall be managed as riparian open space or critical  
28 habitat.

29 **Sec. 2.** RCW 84.33.140 and 2007 c 54 s 24 are each amended to read  
30 as follows:

31 (1) When land has been designated as forest land under RCW  
32 84.33.130, a notation of the designation shall be made each year upon  
33 the assessment and tax rolls. A copy of the notice of approval  
34 together with the legal description or assessor's parcel numbers for  
35 the land shall, at the expense of the applicant, be filed by the  
36 assessor in the same manner as deeds are recorded.

(2) In preparing the assessment roll as of January 1, 2002, for taxes payable in 2003 and each January 1st thereafter, the assessor shall list each parcel of designated forest land at a value with respect to the grade and class provided in this subsection and adjusted as provided in subsection (3) of this section. The assessor shall compute the assessed value of the land using the same assessment ratio applied generally in computing the assessed value of other property in the county. Values for the several grades of bare forest land shall be as follows:

LAND	OPERABILITY	VALUES
GRADE	CLASS	PER ACRE
1	1	\$234
	2	229
	3	217
	4	157
2	1	198
	2	190
	3	183
	4	132
3	1	154
	2	149
	3	148
	4	113
4	1	117
	2	114
	3	113
	4	86
5	1	85
	2	78
	3	77
	4	52
6	1	43
	2	39
	3	39
	4	37
	1	21



1	7	2	21
2		3	20
3		4	20
4	8		1

(3) On or before December 31, 2001, the department shall adjust by rule under chapter 34.05 RCW, the forest land values contained in subsection (2) of this section in accordance with this subsection, and shall certify the adjusted values to the assessor who will use these values in preparing the assessment roll as of January 1, 2002. For the adjustment to be made on or before December 31, 2001, for use in the 2002 assessment year, the department shall:

(a) Divide the aggregate value of all timber harvested within the state between July 1, 1996, and June 30, 2001, by the aggregate harvest volume for the same period, as determined from the harvester excise tax returns filed with the department under RCW 84.33.074; and

(b) Divide the aggregate value of all timber harvested within the state between July 1, 1995, and June 30, 2000, by the aggregate harvest volume for the same period, as determined from the harvester excise tax returns filed with the department under RCW 84.33.074; and

(c) Adjust the forest land values contained in subsection (2) of this section by a percentage equal to one-half of the percentage change in the average values of harvested timber reflected by comparing the resultant values calculated under (a) and (b) of this subsection.

(4) For the adjustments to be made on or before December 31, 2002, and each succeeding year thereafter, the same procedure described in subsection (3) of this section shall be followed using harvester excise tax returns filed under RCW 84.33.074. However, this adjustment shall be made to the prior year's adjusted value, and the five-year periods for calculating average harvested timber values shall be successively one year more recent.

(5) Land graded, assessed, and valued as forest land shall continue to be so graded, assessed, and valued until removal of designation by the assessor upon the occurrence of any of the following:

(a) Receipt of notice from the owner to remove the designation;

(b) Sale or transfer to an ownership making the land exempt from ad valorem taxation;

1 (c) Sale or transfer of all or a portion of the land to a new  
2 owner, unless the new owner has signed a notice of forest land  
3 designation continuance, except transfer to an owner who is an heir or  
4 devisee of a deceased owner, shall not, by itself, result in removal of  
5 designation. The signed notice of continuance shall be attached to the  
6 real estate excise tax affidavit provided for in RCW 82.45.150. The  
7 notice of continuance shall be on a form prepared by the department.  
8 If the notice of continuance is not signed by the new owner and  
9 attached to the real estate excise tax affidavit, all compensating  
10 taxes calculated under subsection (11) of this section shall become due  
11 and payable by the seller or transferor at time of sale. The auditor  
12 shall not accept an instrument of conveyance regarding designated  
13 forest land for filing or recording unless the new owner has signed the  
14 notice of continuance or the compensating tax has been paid, as  
15 evidenced by the real estate excise tax stamp affixed thereto by the  
16 treasurer. The seller, transferor, or new owner may appeal the new  
17 assessed valuation calculated under subsection (11) of this section to  
18 the county board of equalization in accordance with the provisions of  
19 RCW 84.40.038. Jurisdiction is hereby conferred on the county board of  
20 equalization to hear these appeals;

21 (d) Determination by the assessor, after giving the owner written  
22 notice and an opportunity to be heard, that:

23 (i) The land is no longer primarily devoted to and used for growing  
24 and harvesting timber. However, land shall not be removed from  
25 designation if a governmental agency, organization, or other recipient  
26 identified in subsection (13) or (14) of this section as exempt from  
27 the payment of compensating tax has manifested its intent in writing or  
28 by other official action to acquire a property interest in the  
29 designated forest land by means of a transaction that qualifies for an  
30 exemption under subsection (13) or (14) of this section. The  
31 governmental agency, organization, or recipient shall annually provide  
32 the assessor of the county in which the land is located reasonable  
33 evidence in writing of the intent to acquire the designated land as  
34 long as the intent continues or within sixty days of a request by the  
35 assessor. The assessor may not request this evidence more than once in  
36 a calendar year;

37 (ii) The owner has failed to comply with a final administrative or  
38 judicial order with respect to a violation of the restocking, forest

1 management, fire protection, insect and disease control, and forest  
2 debris provisions of Title 76 RCW or any applicable rules under Title  
3 76 RCW; or

4 (iii) Restocking has not occurred to the extent or within the time  
5 specified in the application for designation of such land.

6 (6) Land shall not be removed from designation if there is a  
7 governmental restriction that prohibits, in whole or in part, the owner  
8 from harvesting timber from the owner's designated forest land. If  
9 only a portion of the parcel is impacted by governmental restrictions  
10 of this nature, the restrictions cannot be used as a basis to remove  
11 the remainder of the forest land from designation under this chapter.  
12 For the purposes of this section, "governmental restrictions" includes:

13 (a) Any law, regulation, rule, ordinance, program, or other action  
14 adopted or taken by a federal, state, county, city, or other  
15 governmental entity; or (b) the land's zoning or its presence within an  
16 urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110.

17 (7) The assessor shall have the option of requiring an owner of  
18 forest land to file a timber management plan with the assessor upon the  
19 occurrence of one of the following:

20 (a) An application for designation as forest land is submitted; or

21 (b) Designated forest land is sold or transferred and a notice of  
22 continuance, described in subsection (5)(c) of this section, is signed.

23 (8) If land is removed from designation because of any of the  
24 circumstances listed in subsection (5)(a) through (c) of this section,  
25 the removal shall apply only to the land affected. If land is removed  
26 from designation because of subsection (5)(d) of this section, the  
27 removal shall apply only to the actual area of land that is no longer  
28 primarily devoted to the growing and harvesting of timber, without  
29 regard to any other land that may have been included in the application  
30 and approved for designation, as long as the remaining designated  
31 forest land meets the definition of forest land contained in RCW  
32 84.33.035.

33 (9) Within thirty days after the removal of designation as forest  
34 land, the assessor shall notify the owner in writing, setting forth the  
35 reasons for the removal. The seller, transferor, or owner may appeal  
36 the removal to the county board of equalization in accordance with the  
37 provisions of RCW 84.40.038.

1       (10) Unless the removal is reversed on appeal a copy of the notice  
2 of removal with a notation of the action, if any, upon appeal, together  
3 with the legal description or assessor's parcel numbers for the land  
4 removed from designation shall, at the expense of the applicant, be  
5 filed by the assessor in the same manner as deeds are recorded and a  
6 notation of removal from designation shall immediately be made upon the  
7 assessment and tax rolls. The assessor shall revalue the land to be  
8 removed with reference to its true and fair value as of January 1st of  
9 the year of removal from designation. Both the assessed value before  
10 and after the removal of designation shall be listed. Taxes based on  
11 the value of the land as forest land shall be assessed and payable up  
12 until the date of removal and taxes based on the true and fair value of  
13 the land shall be assessed and payable from the date of removal from  
14 designation.

15       (11) Except as provided in subsection (5)(c), (13), or (14) of this  
16 section, a compensating tax shall be imposed on land removed from  
17 designation as forest land. The compensating tax shall be due and  
18 payable to the treasurer thirty days after the owner is notified of the  
19 amount of this tax. As soon as possible after the land is removed from  
20 designation, the assessor shall compute the amount of compensating tax  
21 and mail a notice to the owner of the amount of compensating tax owed  
22 and the date on which payment of this tax is due. The amount of  
23 compensating tax shall be equal to the difference between the amount of  
24 tax last levied on the land as designated forest land and an amount  
25 equal to the new assessed value of the land multiplied by the dollar  
26 rate of the last levy extended against the land, multiplied by a  
27 number, in no event greater than nine, equal to the number of years for  
28 which the land was designated as forest land, plus compensating taxes  
29 on the land at forest land values up until the date of removal and the  
30 prorated taxes on the land at true and fair value from the date of  
31 removal to the end of the current tax year.

32       (12) Compensating tax, together with applicable interest thereon,  
33 shall become a lien on the land which shall attach at the time the land  
34 is removed from designation as forest land and shall have priority to  
35 and shall be fully paid and satisfied before any recognizance,  
36 mortgage, judgment, debt, obligation, or responsibility to or with  
37 which the land may become charged or liable. The lien may be  
38 foreclosed upon expiration of the same period after delinquency and in

1 the same manner provided by law for foreclosure of liens for delinquent  
2 real property taxes as provided in RCW 84.64.050. Any compensating tax  
3 unpaid on its due date shall thereupon become delinquent. From the  
4 date of delinquency until paid, interest shall be charged at the same  
5 rate applied by law to delinquent ad valorem property taxes.

6 (13) The compensating tax specified in subsection (11) of this  
7 section shall not be imposed if the removal of designation under  
8 subsection (5) of this section resulted solely from:

9 (a) Transfer to a government entity in exchange for other forest  
10 land located within the state of Washington;

11 (b) A taking through the exercise of the power of eminent domain,  
12 or sale or transfer to an entity having the power of eminent domain in  
13 anticipation of the exercise of such power;

14 (c) A donation of fee title, development rights, or the right to  
15 harvest timber, to a government agency or organization qualified under  
16 RCW 84.34.210 and 64.04.130 for the purposes enumerated in those  
17 sections, or the sale or transfer of fee title to a governmental entity  
18 or a nonprofit nature conservancy corporation, as defined in RCW  
19 64.04.130, exclusively for the protection and conservation of lands  
20 recommended for state natural area preserve purposes by the natural  
21 heritage council and natural heritage plan as defined in chapter 79.70  
22 RCW or approved for state natural resources conservation area purposes  
23 as defined in chapter 79.71 RCW. At such time as the land is not used  
24 for the purposes enumerated, the compensating tax specified in  
25 subsection (11) of this section shall be imposed upon the current  
26 owner;

27 (d) The sale or transfer of fee title to the parks and recreation  
28 commission for park and recreation purposes;

29 (e) Official action by an agency of the state of Washington or by  
30 the county or city within which the land is located that disallows the  
31 present use of the land;

32 (f) The creation, sale, or transfer of forestry riparian easements  
33 under RCW 76.13.120;

34 (g) The creation, sale, or transfer of a ~~((fee interest or a))~~  
35 conservation easement ~~((for the riparian open space program))~~ of  
36 private forest lands within unconfined channel migration zones or  
37 containing critical habitat for threatened or endangered species under  
38 RCW 76.09.040; or

1 (h) The sale or transfer of land within two years after the death  
2 of the owner of at least a fifty percent interest in the land if the  
3 land has been assessed and valued as classified forest land, designated  
4 as forest land under this chapter, or classified under chapter 84.34  
5 RCW continuously since 1993. The date of death shown on a death  
6 certificate is the date used for the purposes of this subsection  
7 (13) (h).

8 (14) In a county with a population of more than one million  
9 inhabitants, the compensating tax specified in subsection (11) of this  
10 section shall not be imposed if the removal of designation as forest  
11 land under subsection (5) of this section resulted solely from:

12 (a) An action described in subsection (13) of this section; or

13 (b) A transfer of a property interest to a government entity, or to  
14 a nonprofit historic preservation corporation or nonprofit nature  
15 conservancy corporation, as defined in RCW 64.04.130, to protect or  
16 enhance public resources, or to preserve, maintain, improve, restore,  
17 limit the future use of, or otherwise to conserve for public use or  
18 enjoyment, the property interest being transferred. At such time as  
19 the property interest is not used for the purposes enumerated, the  
20 compensating tax shall be imposed upon the current owner.

21 **Sec. 3.** RCW 84.34.108 and 2007 c 54 s 25 are each amended to read  
22 as follows:

23 (1) When land has once been classified under this chapter, a  
24 notation of the classification shall be made each year upon the  
25 assessment and tax rolls and the land shall be valued pursuant to RCW  
26 84.34.060 or 84.34.065 until removal of all or a portion of the  
27 classification by the assessor upon occurrence of any of the following:

28 (a) Receipt of notice from the owner to remove all or a portion of  
29 the classification;

30 (b) Sale or transfer to an ownership, except a transfer that  
31 resulted from a default in loan payments made to or secured by a  
32 governmental agency that intends to or is required by law or regulation  
33 to resell the property for the same use as before, making all or a  
34 portion of the land exempt from ad valorem taxation;

35 (c) Sale or transfer of all or a portion of the land to a new  
36 owner, unless the new owner has signed a notice of classification  
37 continuance, except transfer to an owner who is an heir or devisee of

1 a deceased owner shall not, by itself, result in removal of  
2 classification. The notice of continuance shall be on a form prepared  
3 by the department. If the notice of continuance is not signed by the  
4 new owner and attached to the real estate excise tax affidavit, all  
5 additional taxes calculated pursuant to subsection (4) of this section  
6 shall become due and payable by the seller or transferor at time of  
7 sale. The auditor shall not accept an instrument of conveyance  
8 regarding classified land for filing or recording unless the new owner  
9 has signed the notice of continuance or the additional tax has been  
10 paid, as evidenced by the real estate excise tax stamp affixed thereto  
11 by the treasurer. The seller, transferor, or new owner may appeal the  
12 new assessed valuation calculated under subsection (4) of this section  
13 to the county board of equalization in accordance with the provisions  
14 of RCW 84.40.038. Jurisdiction is hereby conferred on the county board  
15 of equalization to hear these appeals;

16 (d) Determination by the assessor, after giving the owner written  
17 notice and an opportunity to be heard, that all or a portion of the  
18 land no longer meets the criteria for classification under this  
19 chapter. The criteria for classification pursuant to this chapter  
20 continue to apply after classification has been granted.

21 The granting authority, upon request of an assessor, shall provide  
22 reasonable assistance to the assessor in making a determination whether  
23 the land continues to meet the qualifications of RCW 84.34.020 (1) or  
24 (3). The assistance shall be provided within thirty days of receipt of  
25 the request.

26 (2) Land may not be removed from classification because of:

27 (a) The creation, sale, or transfer of forestry riparian easements  
28 under RCW 76.13.120; or

29 (b) The creation, sale, or transfer of a fee interest or a  
30 conservation easement for the riparian open space program under RCW  
31 76.09.040.

32 (3) Within thirty days after such removal of all or a portion of  
33 the land from current use classification, the assessor shall notify the  
34 owner in writing, setting forth the reasons for the removal. The  
35 seller, transferor, or owner may appeal the removal to the county board  
36 of equalization in accordance with the provisions of RCW 84.40.038.

37 (4) Unless the removal is reversed on appeal, the assessor shall  
38 revalue the affected land with reference to its true and fair value on



1 January 1st of the year of removal from classification. Both the  
2 assessed valuation before and after the removal of classification shall  
3 be listed and taxes shall be allocated according to that part of the  
4 year to which each assessed valuation applies. Except as provided in  
5 subsection (6) of this section, an additional tax, applicable interest,  
6 and penalty shall be imposed which shall be due and payable to the  
7 treasurer thirty days after the owner is notified of the amount of the  
8 additional tax. As soon as possible, the assessor shall compute the  
9 amount of additional tax, applicable interest, and penalty and the  
10 treasurer shall mail notice to the owner of the amount thereof and the  
11 date on which payment is due. The amount of the additional tax,  
12 applicable interest, and penalty shall be determined as follows:

13 (a) The amount of additional tax shall be equal to the difference  
14 between the property tax paid as "open space land," "farm and  
15 agricultural land," or "timber land" and the amount of property tax  
16 otherwise due and payable for the seven years last past had the land  
17 not been so classified;

18 (b) The amount of applicable interest shall be equal to the  
19 interest upon the amounts of the additional tax paid at the same  
20 statutory rate charged on delinquent property taxes from the dates on  
21 which the additional tax could have been paid without penalty if the  
22 land had been assessed at a value without regard to this chapter;

23 (c) The amount of the penalty shall be as provided in RCW  
24 84.34.080. The penalty shall not be imposed if the removal satisfies  
25 the conditions of RCW 84.34.070.

26 (5) Additional tax, applicable interest, and penalty, shall become  
27 a lien on the land which shall attach at the time the land is removed  
28 from classification under this chapter and shall have priority to and  
29 shall be fully paid and satisfied before any recognizance, mortgage,  
30 judgment, debt, obligation or responsibility to or with which the land  
31 may become charged or liable. This lien may be foreclosed upon  
32 expiration of the same period after delinquency and in the same manner  
33 provided by law for foreclosure of liens for delinquent real property  
34 taxes as provided in RCW 84.64.050. Any additional tax unpaid on its  
35 due date shall thereupon become delinquent. From the date of  
36 delinquency until paid, interest shall be charged at the same rate  
37 applied by law to delinquent ad valorem property taxes.

1       (6) The additional tax, applicable interest, and penalty specified  
2 in subsection (4) of this section shall not be imposed if the removal  
3 of classification pursuant to subsection (1) of this section resulted  
4 solely from:

5       (a) Transfer to a government entity in exchange for other land  
6 located within the state of Washington;

7       (b)(i) A taking through the exercise of the power of eminent  
8 domain, or (ii) sale or transfer to an entity having the power of  
9 eminent domain in anticipation of the exercise of such power, said  
10 entity having manifested its intent in writing or by other official  
11 action;

12       (c) A natural disaster such as a flood, windstorm, earthquake, or  
13 other such calamity rather than by virtue of the act of the landowner  
14 changing the use of the property;

15       (d) Official action by an agency of the state of Washington or by  
16 the county or city within which the land is located which disallows the  
17 present use of the land;

18       (e) Transfer of land to a church when the land would qualify for  
19 exemption pursuant to RCW 84.36.020;

20       (f) Acquisition of property interests by state agencies or agencies  
21 or organizations qualified under RCW 84.34.210 and 64.04.130 for the  
22 purposes enumerated in those sections. At such time as these property  
23 interests are not used for the purposes enumerated in RCW 84.34.210 and  
24 64.04.130 the additional tax specified in subsection (4) of this  
25 section shall be imposed;

26       (g) Removal of land classified as farm and agricultural land under  
27 RCW 84.34.020(2)(e);

28       (h) Removal of land from classification after enactment of a  
29 statutory exemption that qualifies the land for exemption and receipt  
30 of notice from the owner to remove the land from classification;

31       (i) The creation, sale, or transfer of forestry riparian easements  
32 under RCW 76.13.120;

33       (j) The creation, sale, or transfer of a (~~fee interest or a~~)  
34 conservation easement (~~for the riparian open space program~~) of  
35 private forest lands within unconfined channel migration zones or  
36 containing critical habitat for threatened or endangered species under  
37 RCW 76.09.040; or

1 (k) The sale or transfer of land within two years after the death  
2 of the owner of at least a fifty percent interest in the land if the  
3 land has been assessed and valued as classified forest land, designated  
4 as forest land under chapter 84.33 RCW, or classified under this  
5 chapter continuously since 1993. The date of death shown on a death  
6 certificate is the date used for the purposes of this subsection  
7 (6) (k).

8 **Sec. 4.** RCW 76.09.020 and 2003 c 311 s 3 are each amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
11 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

12 (1) "Adaptive management" means reliance on scientific methods to  
13 test the results of actions taken so that the management and related  
14 policy can be changed promptly and appropriately.

15 (2) "Appeals board" means the forest practices appeals board  
16 created by RCW 76.09.210.

17 (3) "Aquatic resources" includes water quality, salmon, other  
18 species of the vertebrate classes Cephalaspidomorphi and Osteichthyes  
19 identified in the forests and fish report, the Columbia torrent  
20 salamander (*Rhyacotriton kezeri*), the Cascade torrent salamander  
21 (*Rhyacotriton cascadae*), the Olympic torrent salamander (*Rhyacotriton*  
22 *olympian*), the Dunn's salamander (*Plethodon dunni*), the Van Dyke's  
23 salamander (*Plethodon vandyke*), the tailed frog (*Ascaphus truei*), and  
24 their respective habitats.

25 (4) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of public lands.

26 (5) "Contiguous" means land adjoining or touching by common corner  
27 or otherwise. Land having common ownership divided by a road or other  
28 right-of-way shall be considered contiguous.

29 (6) "Conversion to a use other than commercial timber operation"  
30 means a bona fide conversion to an active use which is incompatible  
31 with timber growing and as may be defined by forest practices rules.

32 (7) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

33 (8) "Fish passage barrier" means any artificial instream structure  
34 that impedes the free passage of fish.

35 (9) "Forest land" means all land which is capable of supporting a  
36 merchantable stand of timber and is not being actively used for a use  
37 which is incompatible with timber growing. Forest land does not

1 include agricultural land that is or was enrolled in the conservation  
2 reserve enhancement program by contract if such agricultural land was  
3 historically used for agricultural purposes and the landowner intends  
4 to continue to use the land for agricultural purposes in the future.  
5 As it applies to the operation of the road maintenance and abandonment  
6 plan element of the forest practices rules on small forest landowners,  
7 the term "forest land" excludes:

8 (a) Residential home sites, which may include up to five acres; and

9 (b) Cropfields, orchards, vineyards, pastures, feedlots, fish pens,  
10 and the land on which appurtenances necessary to the production,  
11 preparation, or sale of crops, fruit, dairy products, fish, and  
12 livestock exist.

13 (10) "Forest landowner" means any person in actual control of  
14 forest land, whether such control is based either on legal or equitable  
15 title, or on any other interest entitling the holder to sell or  
16 otherwise dispose of any or all of the timber on such land in any  
17 manner. However, any lessee or other person in possession of forest  
18 land without legal or equitable title to such land shall be excluded  
19 from the definition of "forest landowner" unless such lessee or other  
20 person has the right to sell or otherwise dispose of any or all of the  
21 timber located on such forest land.

22 (11) "Forest practice" means any activity conducted on or directly  
23 pertaining to forest land and relating to growing, harvesting, or  
24 processing timber, including but not limited to:

25 (a) Road and trail construction;

26 (b) Harvesting, final and intermediate;

27 (c) Precommercial thinning;

28 (d) Reforestation;

29 (e) Fertilization;

30 (f) Prevention and suppression of diseases and insects;

31 (g) Salvage of trees; and

32 (h) Brush control.

33 "Forest practice" shall not include preparatory work such as tree  
34 marking, surveying and road flagging, and removal or harvesting of  
35 incidental vegetation from forest lands such as berries, ferns,  
36 greenery, mistletoe, herbs, mushrooms, and other products which cannot  
37 normally be expected to result in damage to forest soils, timber, or  
38 public resources.

1       (12) "Forest practices rules" means any rules adopted pursuant to  
2 RCW 76.09.040.

3       (13) "Forest road," as it applies to the operation of the road  
4 maintenance and abandonment plan element of the forest practices rules  
5 on small forest landowners, means a road or road segment that crosses  
6 land that meets the definition of forest land, but excludes residential  
7 access roads.

8       (14) "Forest trees" does not include hardwood trees cultivated by  
9 agricultural methods in growing cycles shorter than fifteen years if  
10 the trees were planted on land that was not in forest use immediately  
11 before the trees were planted and before the land was prepared for  
12 planting the trees. "Forest trees" includes Christmas trees, but does  
13 not include Christmas trees that are cultivated by agricultural  
14 methods, as that term is defined in RCW 84.33.035.

15       (15) "Forests and fish report" means the forests and fish report to  
16 the board dated April 29, 1999.

17       (16) "Application" means the application required pursuant to RCW  
18 76.09.050.

19       (17) "Operator" means any person engaging in forest practices  
20 except an employee with wages as his or her sole compensation.

21       (18) "Person" means any individual, partnership, private, public,  
22 or municipal corporation, county, the department or other state or  
23 local governmental entity, or association of individuals of whatever  
24 nature.

25       (19) "Public resources" means water, fish and wildlife, and in  
26 addition shall mean capital improvements of the state or its political  
27 subdivisions.

28       (20) "Small forest landowner" has the same meaning as defined in  
29 RCW 76.09.450.

30       (21) "Timber" means forest trees, standing or down, of a commercial  
31 species, including Christmas trees. However, "timber" does not include  
32 Christmas trees that are cultivated by agricultural methods, as that  
33 term is defined in RCW 84.33.035.

34       (22) "Timber owner" means any person having all or any part of the  
35 legal interest in timber. Where such timber is subject to a contract  
36 of sale, "timber owner" shall mean the contract purchaser.

37       (23) "Board" means the forest practices board created in RCW  
38 76.09.030.

1       (24) "Unconfined ((avulsing)) channel migration zone" means the  
2 area within which the active channel of an unconfined ((avulsing))  
3 stream is prone to move and where the movement would result in a  
4 potential near-term loss of riparian forest adjacent to the stream.  
5 Sizeable islands with productive timber may exist within the zone.

6       (25) "Unconfined ((avulsing)) stream" means generally fifth order  
7 or larger waters that experience abrupt shifts in channel location,  
8 creating a complex floodplain characterized by extensive gravel bars,  
9 disturbance species of vegetation of variable age, numerous side  
10 channels, wall-based channels, oxbow lakes, and wetland complexes.  
11 Many of these streams have dikes and levees that may temporarily or  
12 permanently restrict channel movement.

--- END ---

# Valuing The Puget Sound Basin

Revealing Our Best Investments 2010

EARTH  
ECONOMICS 





# EARTH ECONOMICS

**Authors: David Batker and Maya Kocian**

**Acknowledgements:** The authors would like to thank the board of Earth Economics, Josh Reyneveld, Ingrid Rasch, David Cosman and Josh Farley. This report would not be possible without the assistance from Jennifer Harrison-Cox, Allyson Schrier, Tedi Dickinson, Jenn McFadden, Rowan Schmidt, Jon Roberts, Colin Cornin, Kellen Hawley, Jon Stout, Patrick Miller, Caleb Tomlinson, and Zac Christin. The board of Earth Economics provided unwavering and selfless support to help complete these studies.

**We would also like to thank Jan Kocian for the cover photo.**

**This report was made possible by the generous support of The Russell Family Foundation and Seattle Venture Kids.**

*This page intentionally left blank.*

<b>Executive Summary .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Objectives of the Study and Report Organization .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Section 1: Economic Analysis Incentives and Investment .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Accounting for Natural Capital .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Improving Jobs Analysis for Restoration .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Adopting New Industrial Indicators .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Redefining Green Jobs.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Changing Cost/Benefit Analysis.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Getting the Scale of Jurisdictions Right.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Rationalizing Tax Districts.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Upgrading Environmental Impact Assessments .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Strengthening Watershed Characterization Studies .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Section 2: Key Concepts.....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Ecosystem Goods and Services .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Natural Capital in our Economy .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Economic Goals .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Five Capitals.....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Natural Capital and Economic Value .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Identifying and Classifying Ecosystem Services .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Section 3: Valuing the Puget Sound Basin .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>What has Changed Since the 2008 Report?.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Valuation of the Ecosystem Services of the Puget Sound Watershed .....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Earth Economics Ecosystem Service Valuation Analysis Summary.....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Conclusion .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>References .....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Appendix A. Greater Detail on Ecosystem Services .....</b>	<b>51</b>

<b>Appendix B. Valuation of the Puget Sound Basin Ecosystem Services.</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Appendix C. Low and High Values of Ecosystem Services .....</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Appendix D. List of Value-Transfer Studies Used .....</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Appendix E. Limitations of Approach and Results .....</b>	<b>89</b>

## Executive Summary

Nature provides goods and services offering magnificent value and extraordinary investment opportunity. 14 goods and services provided by nature within the Puget Sound Basin provide benefits worth between \$9.7 billion and \$83 billion every year. This “natural capital” includes drinking water, food, wildlife, climate regulation, flood protection, recreation, aesthetic value and more. Valuing the asset that provides this annual flow of goods and services—that is, the natural capital of the Puget Sound Basin, as if it were a capital asset shows it would be valued between \$305 billion and \$2.6 trillion (at a 3% discount rate).

This wide range in value should not be surprising. Every house or business appraisal has a range in potential values. Appraisers arbitrarily pick a number between these figures to provide to clients. By providing a range this report avoids that arbitrary single number selection. In addition, volatility in asset value is normal. Consider the value of Washington Mutual Bank, \$306 billion in January 2008 yet it was sold for \$1.3 billion in October 2008. The lower values provided in this study are really base values.

Natural assets examined in this report, such as water, flood protection and recreation, are far more stable in value than many other economic assets.

This study identifies 23 natural goods and services that provide value to people, businesses and government agencies. Of these, 14 were valued. These ecosystem services can also be mapped, showing the provisioning areas, beneficiaries and impairments to ecosystem services; values will be further refined when we are able to take full advantage of modeling systems currently under development (See page 76). Understanding the value ecosystem services provide, where these benefits are provided on the landscape, who benefits from them and where they are impaired sets up a sound scientific and economic basis for developing funding mechanisms to secure this vast value.

**Natural systems in the Puget Sound basin, if valued as economic assets, would be worth between \$305 billion and \$2.6 trillion.**

Even at the low end of this estimate the value of natural systems in the Puget Sound Basin is enormous. Yet this wealth is being lost. As the ecological health of the region deteriorates, benefits once provided for free and potentially in perpetuity are deteriorating or disappearing. As each ecosystem service is lost, residents, businesses and agencies suffer damage. To reduce damage, new expensive engineered infrastructure is developed to replace nature’s lost and previously free services. Levees, stormwater systems, water filtration plants and other built capital all require maintenance, depreciate in value and require replacement every 40-60 years.

The most efficient, least costly, sustainable and robust systems often require a combination of

natural and built capital. For example, the Cedar River watershed provides water (natural capital), while pipes (built capital) deliver the water to people's homes. This is not an either/or discussion, it is about how built and natural capital are complements.

The key to securing ecological sustainability, fairness, and economic prosperity is investment. Today's investment determines the physical nature of tomorrow's economy.

Success in achieving sustainability in the Puget Sound Basin requires a shift to green infrastructure, including ecological restoration, stormwater retention, green building, better industrial processes and far more. Shifting investment requires accounting that includes the value of natural capital, improved jobs analysis, better cost/benefit analysis and economic incentives that reward green investment. Earth Economics worked with diverse institutions to demonstrate improved economic analysis. In **Section 1: Economic Analysis Incentives and Investment** we present a series of briefs from 12 of these studies. The lesson to be drawn from each is summarized below:

*Accounting for Natural Capital* - Currently natural capital is not recognized as a capital asset that is measurable within standard accounting systems. As a result, these assets are undervalued and investment in the form of capital improvements, maintenance and operations are insufficient. Washington State and the counties of the Puget Sound Basin should lead the way initiating changes in national accounting rules to accommodate the economic value that natural capital provides.

*Improving Jobs Analysis for Restoration* - As jobs analysis is increasingly important for the allocation of federal funds, counting green jobs from restored ecosystem services is a vital part of any restoration effort. Washington State and the Puget Sound Partnership should have the capacity to calculate jobs resulting from natural system restoration for any restoration or related project in the Puget Sound Basin or in the State.

*Adopting New Industrial Indicators* - Green businesses can include heavy industry. Industries that use indicators to show their environmental, social and economic footprints can reduce negative impacts on the environment, communities and people—while at the same time enhancing economic development, jobs, productivity, profits and competitiveness. The right information allows firms to make better investments. To do so requires innovation in the environmental, economic and social indicators used by private firms to evaluate their impact. Five paper mills in Washington are pioneering this work. Private investment is vital to securing sustainability. Washington State and Washington State companies should pursue new industrial indicators in an effort to facilitate economic gains to private firms, and to achieve environmental improvements beyond regulatory compliance.



*Redefining Green Jobs* - Most accepted definitions of green jobs are inappropriately narrow. There is room for a far more visionary and comprehensive definition that would allow nearly every industry to become a green jobs industry. Part of saving Puget Sound—shifting the economy and ensuring a high quality of life at work and at home—is the economy-wide shift to, and investment in, green jobs in virtually all sectors. The spot prawn fishery provides a good example of a fundamental shift from trawling to a trap fishery securing sustainability, fairness and economic prosperity. Clear strategies for shifting economic sectors in the state with sustainability indicators are needed to help expand existing industries and employment, secure greater economic productivity and generate additional green jobs.

*Changing Cost/Benefit Analysis* - All federal and state agencies, cities, counties and many private firms utilize cost/benefit analysis to make investment decisions, but often these decisions are made without taking into account the value of ecosystem services. The State of Washington and Puget Sound Basin could lead the way by instituting changes in State cost/benefit analysis and requesting improvements in Army Corps of Engineers and other federal agency cost/benefit analyses to include ecosystem services. We have the means to apply this in many areas, such as flood protection. The State should quickly include ecosystem services and pioneer changes in state cost/benefit analysis to lead the nation and hasten rule improvements.

*Getting the Scale of Jurisdictions Right* - Many Washington State tax districts are tied to ecosystem services. The boundaries of jurisdictions are often set where the service is lost as in the case of flood districts at the base of a watershed. Yet the provisioning of flood protection is watershed-wide. From flood districts to shellfish districts, jurisdictions need to be set at a scale that includes the beneficiaries and the provisioning area. For a flood district, that means a watershed scale. The King County Flood Control District and the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority are good examples. Washington State should conduct a comprehensive review of the scale and efficiency of existing tax districts. The determination of the scale of these districts should be informed by both the scale of influences contributing to the problem and the scale of assets contributing to the solution. This could save vast expenditures and provide greater benefits.

*Rationalizing Tax Districts* - Washington State has an abundance of tax districts. Sometimes these districts have shared goals, and sometimes actions of one district have unintended negative impacts on the goals of another. Flood districts, for instance, can invest in massive projects that safeguard against flooding but can damage salmon populations. Stormwater districts may contribute to increased flood waters, forcing greater expenditures by flood districts. Washington State should facilitate institutions and improvements that help coordinate and rationalize current tax districts. The creation of entities to rationalize, coordinate and possibly merge these districts into a more coherent and efficient system should be examined. Water Resource Inventory Area #9 (WRIA 9) in the Green River Valley is leading the way on this issue. Ecosystem services can be a guide for these improvements.

*Upgrading Environmental Impact Assessments* - Environmental impact statements (EIS) are required by Washington State and the federal government for projects with significant environmental impact. While these studies identify environmental actions to reduce negative environmental impacts or enhance restoration, there is not currently an ecosystem service component that would assign dollar values to the benefits derived from these actions. Public and private institutions should include an ecosystem service analysis to strengthen environmental impact assessments, and Washington State should lead the nation in requiring ecosystem service analysis in all significant environmental impact statements.

*Strengthening Watershed Characterization Studies* - Watershed characterization studies are performed to gain an understanding of the physical nature of watersheds. It has been demonstrated that they are strengthened by the inclusion of ecosystem service analysis as part of that study. As has been shown in the work done by WRIA 9 salmon habitat plans, too, are stronger when they include ecosystem service analysis. All watersheds in the Puget Sound Basin should have ecosystem service analysis performed, and these analyses should be updated every five years. Staff from government, private firms and non-profits should be trained to apply ecosystem service tools in their work.

**Section 2: Key Concepts** provides a primer on the field of ecosystem services and their economic importance. Terms and concepts are defined with local examples.

**Section 3: Valuing the Puget Sound Basin** describes in detail the analysis behind the range of values assigned to the natural capital in the Puget Sound Basin. While this adheres closely to the work done in the 2008 report there are several significant changes, most notably the addition of two new ecosystem values. One of these is the medicinal value of the Pacific yew tree. Taxol, derived from the yew, is one of the most effective chemicals in treating breast, lung and other cancers. The second is the value of snow pack, which is tremendously valuable to the Puget Sound Basin as it provides water storage services for drinking water, irrigation, industrial use and electricity generation.

Our Puget Sound economy is built upon the land and waters of the Puget Sound Basin. We cannot live without the ecosystem services the Puget Sound Basin provides.

## **Summary of Conclusions:**

- 1. The Puget Sound Basin provides 23 categories of valuable ecosystem services and goods, which are essential to a prosperous economy and high quality of life.**
- 2. The partial annual value of nature's goods and services ranges between \$9.7 billion and \$83 billion.**
- 3. The present value for this flow of benefits, analogous to an asset value is partially valued between \$305 billion and \$2.6 trillion.**
- 4. Ongoing studies are critically needed to update valuations and further justify investment.**
- 5. It is possible, in fact imperative, to identify specific providers of ecosystem services, the beneficiaries of those services and impediments to their continued success.**
- 6. Modeling of ecosystem services is advancing rapidly.**
- 7. Further funding and research can play a key role in informing public and private investment.**
- 8. Achieving sustainability requires shifting investment from investments that damage ecosystem services to investments that improve and sustain them.**
- 9. Improving economic analysis to secure more productive and sustainable investment requires:**
  - Accounting for natural capital
  - Improving jobs analysis for restoration
  - Adopting new industrial indicators
  - Redefining green jobs
  - Changing cost/benefit analysis
  - Getting the scale of jurisdictions right
  - Rationalizing tax districts
  - Upgrading environmental impact assessments
  - Including ecosystem service valuation in all watershed scale studies
  - Training government, private firm and non-profit staff in ecosystem services and the use of ecosystem service valuation tools

# Introduction

In 2008, Earth Economics conducted the first comprehensive valuation of ecosystem services in the Puget Sound Basin. This report updates the 2008 study, taking into account additional ecosystem service values not available two years ago. It also examines the need for transformative infrastructure investment in the Basin's natural and built capital and describes the economic tools to make that happen. Natural capital provides daily benefits including the air we breathe, water we drink, aesthetic value, climate stability and more to the millions of people living in the Puget Sound Basin. It also provides basic inputs to the private and public sectors of the economy. Natural capital is the climate, ecosystems, nutrient cycles, water, geology and topography that provide us with an abundance of goods and services. It is an economic asset vital to our quality of life.

All major cities of this region are located at river deltas and on the shores of Puget Sound. Most of the smaller upland cities and towns were founded to deliver timber, coal, rock, food or other resources to those major cities within the Puget Sound Basin. Our economy has been successful because it was built with the spectacular natural capital of the region. That natural capital is an essential complement to the built economy, and to people's quality of life. A composite satellite photo of the Puget Sound Basin is shown in Figure 1. Areas of high "built capital" (high density urban built infrastructure) are grey. The rest of the photo represents the Basin's natural capital, including forests, agriculture, prairies, and wetlands (in green); Puget Sound (in blue to black); lakes (in turquoise to black); and snow and ice (in white). Our built capital resides within—and depends upon—a landscape of natural capital. This is our home. It is our economy's habitat.

**Figure 1.**  
**The Puget**  
**Sound**  
**Basin**



Rivers that feed Puget Sound and their watersheds are the key to the health of this ecosystem. Figure 2 shows the major rivers of the Puget Sound Basin.

**Figure 2. Major Rivers of the Puget Sound Basin.**



This report is primarily about value and economic drivers for green infrastructure solutions. The current state of Puget Sound Basin's natural systems and their continuing degradation is well documented in reports by The Puget Sound Partnership, Department of Ecology, People for Puget Sound, Cascade Land Conservancy, Department of Natural Resources, US Geological Survey and others. The facts of declining health are not repeated in this study, which focuses instead on the economics of providing solutions at the needed scale.

### **Objectives of the Study and Report Organization**

This study has three objectives, each of which is provided in a separate section of the report:

### ***Section 1: Economic Analysis Incentives and Investment***

Here we suggest changes in economic analysis to include ecosystem services in public and private decision making to lead toward decisions to invest in a more productive, greener infrastructure.

### ***Section 2: Key Concepts***

Here we define concepts key to understanding the nature of ecosystem services and their importance.

### ***Section 3: Valuation of Puget Sound Basin Ecosystem Services***

Here we present an estimation of the partial dollar value of 14 ecosystem services in the Puget Sound Basin.

## Section 1: Economic Analysis Incentives and Investment

---

### **A Sustainable Economy Achieved by Upgrading Economic Analysis**

Economic advancement is driven by investment and an economy is the physical product of previous decades of investment. When committing resources to the building of our future economy, we must act with wisdom and responsibility to build solid infrastructure. From high-quality education for our children to transportation, emphasis should be placed on developing structures that are robust and just. And now more than ever, it is imperative to look at the retention or restoration of natural systems as a key component to investment in our future economy as we work toward the development of a greener infrastructure.

Green infrastructure can be both “natural capital” like forests, wetlands and Puget Sound, and green “built capital” such as green buildings, renewable energy or paper mills with low ecological footprints. Green infrastructure is likely best accomplished as a combination of natural and built capital. For example, flood protection is most effective when it utilizes a natural system like a wider floodway in conjunction with built systems like properly located buildings and the judicious use of levees and dams.

Good economic decisions and good infrastructure choices require good information. The large-scale shift to better green infrastructure requires better information through improvements in economic analysis. This is because economic analysis is the guide to both public and private infrastructure investment. Economic rewards must follow good investment and provide greater returns to projects that internalize environmental and social costs (internalizing costs means the costs are fully included in the price of products, projects or services. For example, the price of the glass in a car is included in the final price of the car). On the other hand, financial penalties should result in the case of negative actions like the Deepwater Horizon oil spill that dump costs on others (externalized costs). If environmental and social benefits and costs are not counted,

green infrastructure will take a back seat to investments that can shove costs onto the environment and people outside the transactions. As AIG, BP, and others have shown, poor investment choices without diligent attention to risk and potential impact on others can be catastrophic.

Informal interviews with Puget Sound investors indicate that hundreds of billions—if not a trillion dollars—will be spent on private and public investment in the Puget Sound Basin in the next 20 years. Like the investments of past decades, this massive investment will determine the physical nature of the Puget Sound economy. It will also determine most of the environmental impacts of that economy on Puget Sound and the lands which contains the cities, wetlands, houses, prairies, manufacturing facilities, forests, economy, rivers and mountains of this rich basin. Every dollar invested or spent can contribute to further ecological damage or benefit—we can choose now to set up investments that will provide benefit.

It is increasingly clear that the major negative impacts to Puget Sound are the result of environmental impacts from expanding built infrastructure. Stormwater, sewer effluent, non-point pollution and land use changes are all driven by infrastructure investments which do not fully include environmental costs. They demonstrate that our investments in infrastructure can hurt us as well as help us. The Puget Sound Basin cannot be ecologically healthy or restored if both public and private infrastructure investment do not improve beyond that which has historically damaged our area from the mountains all the way to Puget Sound. Increasingly, economic success is tied to ecological sustainability.

The following work is a series of briefs pulled together from a recent suite of Earth Economics reports. (References to full reports are provided.) These reports were designed to have a cumulative value greater than the sum of their individual contributions as together they demonstrate a sea change in investment strategies for greener infrastructure. The wide variety of locations and subjects reflects the uncertainty nonprofits face when seeking funding, and the forward-thinking approaches needed to establish creative and potentially better economic approaches.

The staff and Board of Earth Economics would like to recognize the following institutions in Washington State that paid for the parts of this suite of analyses:

- The Bullitt Foundation
- The Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- The Department of Ecology
- The King Conservation District
- King County Water Resources Inventory Area #9 (WRIA 9)
- The Nisqually River Council
- The Nisqually Tribe
- The Packard Foundation
- The Puget Sound Partnership
- The Russell Family Foundation
- Seattle Public Utilities
- Snohomish County
- Walla Walla Community College



All of these institutions were willing to fund economic analysis that they deemed valuable and sensible. This work represents a bold effort at improving on historic economic analysis. While many of the staff of these institutions, as well as many stakeholders and companies, contributed tremendously to these studies, they are not responsible for any errors, and the conclusions do not necessarily reflect their views or the positions of the institutions discussed.

The cumulative value of these studies is finally presented in this report, which was generously funded by The Russell Family Foundation.

**The lesson of these report summaries is that pursuing ecological sustainability and economic prosperity requires improving economic analysis, indicators, and incentives. These changes must be significant enough to affect a robust shift in infrastructure investment at scale sufficient to achieve complementary ecological health and economic prosperity objectives.**

Following is a list of the briefs, which describe areas of economic analysis that should be changed to help shift investment in the Puget Sound Basin. Links to the full reports are referenced in each section:

- Accounting for Natural Capital
- Improving Jobs Analysis for Restoration
- Adopting New Industrial Indicators
- Redefining Green Jobs
- Changing Cost/Benefit Analysis
- Getting the Scale of Jurisdictions Right
- Rationalizing Tax Districts
- Upgrading Environmental Impact Assessments
- Strengthening Watershed Characterization Studies

## **Accounting for Natural Capital**

To shift private and public investment toward green infrastructure, buildings, and investment, requires that natural capital be recognized as a capital asset that is measurable within standard accounting systems. The following example demonstrates legitimate and achievable steps for improved accounting.

The creation of Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) more than a century ago was a visionary and successful institutional development. Purchasing a watershed secured to provide and filter the water supply for the city in perpetuity was a radical and expensive idea at the time. Had the Seattle City Council required a threshold rate of return on investment, it would likely never have justified this daring project. The goal of the investment was not to maximize “net present value,” but to provide safe and reliable drinking water for the people of Seattle forever.

As it turned out, this was a magnificent investment by any measure. Today SPU would have to pay \$250 million to build a filtration plant to filter the city’s water supply if the forest did not do

the job. In addition, by 2010 it would likely have been the third or fourth filtration plant to be built as filtration plants, like all built capital, depreciate and eventually fall apart. Like most natural capital, the forest did not depreciate or fall apart. Relative to the size of the asset, a forest requires light maintenance. The watershed now provides far more water and value than ever was imagined by the original SPU directors. An additional benefit reaped from this wise investment is that lives were saved as cholera, once a significant problem in Seattle, was eliminated through the development of a clean, reliable water supply.

Every 30 years, the utility conducts an “asset management plan.” To their great credit, SPU was the first public utility in the world to apply an ecosystem service valuation (conducted by Earth Economics in the Tolt River Watershed) as part of its most recent asset management plan. During this process they had to grapple with the fact that while the impressive investment history is accounted for, there is a serious accounting omission.

The problem is that the watershed does not count as an economic asset in the utility’s financial books. Facilities, pipes, vehicles, buildings, roads, computers, copy machines, fences, and pencils all count as assets. If SPU had to install a \$250 million filtration plant, it would count as an asset on their books. The value of the forest accomplishing the same task does not.

This is not SPU’s choice, nor is it their fault. They must adhere to standards set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), which sets accounting rules for governments. Why is this a problem?

Consider one big advantage of a valued economic asset: you can invest in it. If SPU needs a new fleet of vehicles, they can borrow money, invest in a new fleet, and pay back the loans. In addition, since the vehicles are assets a sufficient budget for maintenance and operations is justified. The problem with not recognizing the watershed as an economic asset is that the utility cannot have a capital improvement project (borrow money against that asset to pay for improvements) to accomplish needed restoration. In addition, because the utility’s largest asset (the watershed) is not measured as a financial asset, the operations and management budget does not have the same financial justification and may be too small (in the opinion of this report’s authors). Finally, if a road needs to be decommissioned to prevent sediment and runoff from entering the reservoir and degrading water quality, the utility’s assets will take a write-down. The road is counted as an asset even though in reality it is an economic liability.

Again to SPU’s credit, they recently pulled together six other West Coast public utilities to discuss this issue. They are likely the first in the world to take this forward-thinking step. Staff from all six utilities agreed that this is an accounting issue that needs correction.

This is but one example of how accounting rules are blind to the obvious economic value of natural capital and the ecosystem goods and services it provides. There are more. Consider municipal parks with green spaces: they have a net absorption of stormwater yet they often must pay stormwater fees. Green buildings that handle their own stormwater also pay stormwater fees. There is concern that correcting this problem would result in too little funding for stormwater systems. Another solution would be a higher billing rate for those who actually do generate stormwater. Yet in some areas such as Mason County, which has less than two

percent impermeable surfaces, this would create a huge tax burden on very few property owners. In Mason County, putting several services together into one institution would likely create greater efficiency, and a more fair funding mechanism. The solutions are present—green infrastructure—but the incentives and funding mechanisms are not.

Private firms and non-profits also have this difficulty. The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), which sets accounting rules for non-governmental institutions also needs updating to recognize natural capital as a capital asset.

Another example is natural systems such as rivers, permeable soils, forests, wetlands, and lakes that provide as much or more flood protection as levees (which divert flood waters) and dams (which store flood waters). Puget Sound itself provides an enormous amount of flood relief for the Puget Sound Basin, yet this natural system does not count as a flood protection asset. Thus investment is inefficiently focused on built systems, such as levees and dams, while natural systems that provide the same service at less cost are degraded. A better solution is to examine and value all the assets that provide flood protection, built and natural, and invest in a combination of natural and built flood protection assets that provide the most robust, dependent, resilient, and least expensive flood protection.

Every year national accounting rules are changed for good reasons. Responsible investment in green infrastructure is a good reason for even more changes.

**Washington State and the counties of the Puget Sound Basin should lead the way initiating changes in national accounting rules to accommodate the economic value that natural capital such as the Tolt River Watershed provides.**

#### References:

Batker, D.K. 2005. Supplemental Ecological Services Study: Tolt River Watershed Asset Management Plan. Earth Economics (The Asia Pacific Environmental Exchange). Prepared for Seattle Public Utilities.

Pending publication: Batker, D.K. 2010. Water, Ecosystem Services and Opportunities. Prepared for Seattle Public Utilities. Available through Earth Economics with permission pending from SPU.

#### **Improving Jobs Analysis for Restoration**

Ecosystem services and jobs are closely connected. On June 24, 2010, Governor Christine Gregoire broke ground for a new building at Walla Walla Community College. The new Water and Environment Center was funded with a construction grant from the federal Economic Development Administration (co-funded by the State of Washington and Umatilla Tribe). Jobs analysis is increasingly important for the allocation of federal grants, and key to securing this one was an estimation of potential jobs the project would create. Though it was not part of the criteria, it turned out that counting green jobs from restored ecosystem services helped secure

the grant. Here is how that was accomplished:

When applying for a highly competitive grant, Walla Walla Community College developed an excellent proposal showing not only the traditional jobs that would be created from construction of their new Center, but also jobs resulting from the watershed and salmon restoration, which the Center will contribute to.

With 6 of over 20 identified ecosystem goods and services, the green jobs and benefits were related to enhanced flood control, increased agriculture (due to water savings), greater salmon populations, greater water availability, improved recreation and greater carbon sequestration. These areas, expected to be enhanced by the proposed facility, provided additional green jobs not generally included in traditional job analysis. Both traditional calculations and the supplemental ecosystem service analysis showed that the benefits in year one were estimated to be 88 temporary construction jobs, 287 permanent jobs and 376 employable college graduates. These are estimated to provide \$89.5 million in earnings value, \$171.6 million in regional economic benefits, and \$141.2 million in additional regional and national GDP.

An examination of jobs created by capital and restoration projects that improve natural systems generally looks at how many construction jobs are created by pushing dirt around or planting native vegetation. Yet most restoration projects also provide quantifiable ecosystem goods and services, which have economic importance and provide an increase in sustainable, well-paid jobs. Establishing an increase in permanent employment is far more important than providing temporary jobs, and federal agencies recognize and measure this accordingly.

Walla Walla Community College has shown how new and better economic analysis brings investment. The EDA awarded the grant and recognized the ecosystem services jobs analysis as highly valuable.

**Washington State and the Puget Sound Partnership should have the capacity to calculate jobs resulting from natural system restoration for any restoration or related project in the State or in the Puget Sound Basin.**

Reference:

Batker, D., Lovell., B. 2009. The Economic Benefits of the Walla Walla Community College Water and Environmental Center Expansion. Earth Economics. Prepared for Walla Walla Community College.

## **Adopting New Industrial Indicators**

It has been said that “we pay attention to what we measure”.

Is it possible to move the Puget Sound Basin toward sustainability, reducing negative impacts on the environment, communities and people while at the same time enhancing economic

development, jobs, productivity and competitiveness? In a word, yes.

Can companies move beyond compliance requirements and regulations to achieve higher environmental goals and improve the bottom line? Again, yes.

If businesses could more accurately measure both their negative impacts and the potential economic gain, including benefits they provide to communities, they could make better investment decisions to reduce negative impacts and risk while improving productivity and returns. The goal is to develop a more accurate measurement of ecological and economic indicators for each industrial sector. Measures for paper mills, chemical plants, aircraft manufacturers and concrete facilities would have many similar indicators, but also indicators very specific to the industry and even to the individual plant. This work would feed directly into improving the bottom line and improved competitiveness of local companies.

By building more green and sustainable basic industries, Washington State businesses can lead the world in green products and competitiveness. This can lead to important higher value markets. When Washington State consumers, businesses and government agencies purchase green and locally produced paper products, for example, there are clearly identifiable ecological, social and economic impacts that contribute to sustainability, employment and economic development.

A collaborative project funded by the EPA and run by the Washington State Department of Ecology shows companies are more than willing to surpass regulatory compliance if provided with information and the potential for savings. For example, this enables them to schedule identified changes into regular maintenance and capital improvement schedules, thereby reducing costs.

In 2010, Earth Economics completed a contract with the Department of Ecology to develop industrial footprint indicators in collaboration with five paper mills: Port Angeles Nippon Paper Industries, Port Townsend Paper Corporation, Simpson Tacoma Kraft, Boise Wallula and Grays Harbor Paper. These paper mills contributed staff time and data to develop the indicators and projects collaboratively. Other mills in the state were invited to join, but declined.

Environmental, social and economic indicators were developed to measure the impacts of paper mills. These indicators were not developed to compare paper mills (many are fundamentally different in products and processes), but to assist mill managers in identifying investments that would reduce environmental impacts and potentially improve the bottom line for the mills. Out of the many indicators considered, the following is the list that was developed collaboratively between the mills, Department of Ecology representatives and Earth Economics.

**Environmental indicators:** 14 air quality/emissions measures, four energy conservation measures, four raw material measures, one environmental management indicator, two regulatory compliance and waste disposal measures, two water intensity and four water quality measures and a biodiversity measure.

**Economic indicators:** three economic impact measures, two regional economic impact measures, one capital investment indicator, three community involvement indicators, one economic development measure, three job indicators and a measure of customer satisfaction.

**Social indicators:** five measures of health and safety, one indicator each of odor, traffic intensity, human rights and eight indicators of employee relations.

As a result of this process numerous areas were identified where local paper mills could move beyond regulatory compliance, reduce costs, lower negative environmental impacts and improve efficiency within the mills. In the end, a strong economic case enables staff within the mills to justify investment that improves performance and sustainability. This allows plant managers and owners to allocate plant improvements and investments in the mill across income, production, maintenance and new equipment installation schedules.

Similar indicators could be developed for all industries in Washington State from concrete to data centers. This would assist individual operations and companies in scheduling investments, which would enable them to surpass compliance requirements and save on energy and water consumption as well as in other areas.

**Washington State and Washington State companies should pursue new industrial indicators to facilitate economic gains to private firms and achieve environmental improvements beyond regulatory compliance.**

Reference:

Pending publication and title: Fritz, A., Crook, M. 2011. Industrial Footprint Project: Developing Indicators for Sustainable Practices. Washington State Department of Ecology.

## **Redefining Green Jobs**

Most accepted definitions of green jobs are rather narrow, such as planting trees, energy efficiency and organic farming. The vision and definition of green jobs should be far more comprehensive. Washington State produces timber and paper, fish, commercial jets, agricultural products and many, many more goods and services. Nearly every industry can become a green jobs industry. One example is provided here.

Earth Economics, with support from The Russell Family Foundation and Packard Foundation, worked with the fishing industry to shift the West Coast spot prawn fishery to the world's first trap-only—and likely the world's most sustainable—shrimp fishery. Trawl-caught wild shrimp catches often bring in four to ten pounds of bycatch (other species) for every pound of shrimp caught, but trawling has now been phased out in Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and California in the spot prawn fishery. Three elements were key to this accomplishment:

- **Sustainability indicators** for robust fisheries management.

- **Fairness** instituted by limits of 500 pots per boat and no more than two boats per owner, which ensure that a few owners cannot monopolize the fishery and that it remains community based.
- **Greater incomes** from the water to the table, as the economics of trap-caught spot prawns provided higher incomes to everyone in the chain of custody. Trawled shrimp are often damaged, but trap-caught shrimp are live and can be sold for a far higher price from the dock to the restaurant.

The spot prawn fishery is a green jobs industry both because it has secured sustainability and fairness, and because it is both highly lucrative and well governed. But there is more to the story about green jobs and the spot prawn fishery.

An oddity of the spot prawn is that they all start out as males and become females at about three years of age. Thus, the most commercially valuable spot prawns are female because they are larger. British Columbia has developed an impressive “stock independent” management structure with a tight grid of small districts. If a district records the ratio of females to males caught has fallen, that district and those immediately adjacent are closed to fishing. Rather than targeting “maximum sustainable yield” when that amount can never be known due to uncertainty, British Columbia has a policy to avoid collapse. This policy actually secures greater long term health and catches than do attempts at maximum sustainable yield, which inevitably miss the target and deplete stocks. Thus, including greater attention to measurement, ecosystems and economics are additional keys to management advances and to securing sustainable, lucrative green jobs.

Fisheries are not the only industry with green job potential, and green jobs need to be the foundation of a robust and diverse economy. Jobs from agriculture, manufacturing, service sectors, paper mills, energy, transportation, education, medicine and other sectors need to become green jobs to strengthen these sectors economically.

**Part of saving Puget Sound—shifting the economy, ensuring a high quality of life at work and at home—is the economy-wide shift to, and investment in, green jobs in virtually all sectors. Clear sustainability indicators are needed to help guide industry investment to shift and expand existing industries and employment, secure greater economic productivity and generate additional green jobs.**

Reference:

Mormorunni, C.L. 2001. The Spot Prawn: A Status Report. Earth Economics (The Asia Pacific Environmental Exchange).



## Changing Cost/Benefit Analysis

All federal and state agencies, cities, counties and many private firms utilize cost/benefit analysis to make investment decisions. This covers a wildly diverse set of investments including health care, levee construction, education investments, road building, economic development, tax breaks and others. The following example demonstrates the importance of taking into account the value of ecosystem services when performing a cost/benefit analysis.

Cost/benefit analysis is the primary factor in flood protection investment decisions at the Army Corps of Engineers. They require that the cost/benefit ratio be above one for any flood control investment to even be considered for funding. That is generally a hard and fast rule. However, the Chief Economist of the Corps allowed an exemption to this rule in levee construction in the Mississippi Delta after Hurricane Katrina. The Army Corps recognized the hurricane protection value of wetlands for the protection they provide to built assets, including levees. Further, they recognized the importance of investments in wetland restoration specifically for hurricane protection.

This exemption was facilitated with overwhelming physical evidence presented by Dr. Paul Kemp, Dr. Hassan Mashriqui and other Louisiana scientists, spurring legislative action. One of the causes of the catastrophic Hurricane Katrina disaster was that the hurricane buffering provided by wetlands had never been counted in cost/benefit analysis of hurricane protection projects. As a result, too little investment was made in wetland protection and restoration. The Army Corps is now funding a \$500 million restoration project at Myrtle Grove, Louisiana, one of about six planned large-scale water and sediment diversions.

If cost/benefit analysis is flawed, investments will be flawed.

And flaws still exist. No levee built in Washington State has ever had a cost/benefit analysis that included the value of natural capital for flood protection or the value of many other ecosystem services. A fish processing plant counts as an asset in cost/benefit analysis, yet federal rules dictate that the system that actually produces the fish does not count as an asset and cannot be valued in the analysis. Levees that provide flood protection count, but wetlands, forests, lakes and rivers that provide flood protection don't count unless a special exemption is made. In summary, built capital counts, natural capital does not. This is a significant and potentially catastrophic flaw.

An Earth Economics report on the Cedar River prepared for King County demonstrated that long-term costs of flooding on the river would be reduced with a long term strategy of buying out property and widening the floodway. This would take the energy out of flood waters, provide better flood protection, enhance water quality and salmon habitat, and give far greater longevity to levee investments. Narrower, higher levees actually give greater erosive power to floodwaters and can result in catastrophic levee failures, overtopping and chronic damage to levees.

For about a decade, the United Kingdom has required that ecosystem services be valued and

factored into all flood protection cost/benefit analysis. This has resulted in more levee setbacks, which have slowed floodwaters by providing greater floodways. It has also added habitat, improved water quality and provided far more robust and dependable flood protection.

In the US, the federal rules for cost/benefit analysis are currently under consideration for significant changes. Proposed changes include the valuation of ecosystem services. It is uncertain how long this will take.

**The State of Washington and Puget Sound Basin could lead the way by requesting improvements in Army Corps of Engineers and other federal agency cost/benefit analysis to include ecosystem services. The State should quickly include ecosystem services and pioneer changes in state cost/benefit analysis to lead the nation and hasten rule improvements.**

Reference:

Batker, D., de la Torre, I., Costanza, R., Swedeen, P., Day, J., Boumans, R., Bagstad., K. 2008. Gaining Ground—Wetlands, Hurricanes and the Economy: The Value of Restoring the Mississippi River Delta. Earth Economics.

## **Getting the Scale of Jurisdictions Right**

Every economic decision requires an understanding of scale (size) whether it is a person deciding how much pizza to eat, a firm deciding how many gadgets to produce or a nation deciding the size of the national budget. Scale also applies to how the boundaries of jurisdictions are set with respect to the services that a specific jurisdiction is intended to provide. From school districts to shellfish districts, jurisdictions need to be at the scale of the service needs. Flood districts are the example presented here. If the jurisdiction is not set at the scale of the problem or landscape, the tax district may be dysfunctional from the beginning.

Western Washington has experienced record flooding this decade. Records have been set in flood elevations, damages, or both on the Chehalis, Puyallup, White, Green, Cedar, Snoqualmie, Snohomish, Raging, Cowlitz, Nisqually, Skagit and other rivers. Western Washington is fifth in the nation for receiving federal flood assistance. Billions of dollars have already been spent on flood protection. Rivers have even been relocated, such as shifting the flow of the White River from the Green River into the Puyallup River over 80 years ago. One solution to the ongoing issue of flooding is to reevaluate the scale at which we invest in flood protection and prevention.

Traditionally in Washington State, flood districts were established where flooding took place. Until 2008, King County had six flood districts focused on the flat, flood-prone lower reaches of the watersheds. This meant that flood district investments were limited within their jurisdictions to the lower watershed, omitting the surrounding higher landscape that contributed both flood protection and floodwaters to the flood zone. Restricted as they were to the bottom of the watershed, these flood districts invested heavily in levees. Realizing that flood districts that are restricted to the area of flooding simply could not provide adequate or cost

effective flood protection, King County wisely created a new county-wide flood district that included the middle and upper portions of the watershed, allowing for more comprehensive flood prevention investment.

The county-wide approach was an enormous improvement, but better still is an approach that transcends county boundaries and looks at the watershed as a whole. Encompassing the right scale for flood protection, this basin-wide watershed scale is a relatively new but superior approach. The Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority has avoided this “scale” error by setting flood jurisdiction at a basin scale. Other areas in Washington State still retain flood districts restricted to the locations that experience flooding, and do not encompass watershed areas that are both source areas for floodwaters and that provide natural flood protection.

This is not just a problem for flood districts. The Puget Sound Partnership is entrusted with protecting Puget Sound, but the agency’s jurisdiction is not fully at the scale of the system affecting Puget Sound, which consists of the full Puget Sound Basin.

**Washington State should conduct a comprehensive review of the scale and efficiency of existing tax districts. The determination of the scale of these districts should be informed by both the scale of influences contributing to the problem and the scale of assets contributing to the solution. For example, flood districts should be set at the scale of the watershed.**

Reference:

Batker, D., Lovell, B., Kocian, M., Harrison-Cox., J. 2010. Flood protection and ecosystem services in the Chehalis River Basin. Earth Economics. Prepared for the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority.

## **Rationalizing Tax Districts**

Washington may have more tax districts than any state in the US. This stems from our history as a populist state where citizens did not want any one governmental entity to have too much power. The general philosophy was that government closest to the people is the best government. As a result we have tax districts at the state, county, and city levels. There are tax districts for schools (295), fire, 911 service, hospital, stormwater, sewer, water, energy, conservation, shellfish, flood and flood control, park, police, port, public facility, transportation benefit areas—and the list goes on. Sometimes these districts have shared goals, and sometimes actions of one district have unintended negative impacts on the goals of another. The work accomplished by Water Resource Inventory Area #9 (WRIA 9) with Earth Economics in the Green River Valley demonstrates an impressive, innovative approach for adding a new level of rationality to our existing tax district structure.

WRIA 9 is charged with salmon restoration and encompasses the cities of the Green River Valley from Seattle to Black Diamond. Along with Vashon Island, Seattle Public Utilities, the King Conservation District, King County, Boeing Corporation and other stakeholders, WRIA 9 is likely leading the charge in the state by boldly proposing a path to better coordinate and rationalize

watershed-based tax districts as part of their effort to restore salmon populations. Earth Economics' recent report outlines a process that entails changing state law and creating a Watershed Investment District to help rationalize investments from the many districts in the watershed.

As our region has become more crowded, so have our tax districts. Inevitably, there can be conflicts. In the Green River Valley over a dozen stormwater districts, previously invested millions of dollars to build stormwater systems that generally get water out of cities and into the main stem of the river as fast as possible. Prior to 2008, there was a flood district positioned at the lower reaches of the river, which received higher peak flows every year as impermeable surfaces and stormwater systems expanded, contributing to greater flooding. The flood district invested in higher levees, which were increasingly damaged by higher peak water flows. This is infrastructure conflict, and it is part of a vicious cycle that is unhealthy for humans, salmon, the economy and the environment.

WRIA 9 is the first watershed to start examining how multiple benefits can be gained through greater coordination among tax districts. They identified \$30-70 million in salmon restoration projects which overlap with identified flood protection projects. In addition, the WRIA 9 Ecosystem Forum has recognized that implementing the Salmon Habitat Plan is an investment that requires a dependable funding mechanism sufficient to get the job done, just like building roads. They have approved pursuing a \$300 million funding mechanism for salmon restoration, which will provide jobs, economic development and salmon restoration sufficient to restore wild Chinook salmon populations. Bringing Chinook salmon back from the brink of extinction to abundance increases jobs, recreation, quality of life and flood protection. It opens new opportunities for better stormwater planning already underway.

The choice is clear: Lose self-maintaining ecosystem services and pay, or restore natural capital and gain. One approach is to let natural systems go, and replace every lost service with a new tax district and new concrete system. As we lose wetlands, for example, there is a decline in the recharging of groundwater. As a result there is a quick evacuation of surface water through stormwater systems and waste water through sewerage systems. This allows polluted and treated but nutrient-rich water to wind up in the Sound. Without sufficient wetlands, point source and non-point source pollution moves faster from the source of contamination into creeks, rivers and Puget Sound. With less water soaking in and recharging groundwater, wells go dry in the summer. Creeks go dry. Salmon lose habitat due to levees and less water. Salmon populations decline to the point of near extinction. Because salmon function as a keystone species, this has further implications for their ecosystems.

Another approach is a systems approach—looking at buildings, pavement, ground and surface water, flood protection, stormwater and sewerage within a watershed as a systems problem needing an integrated approach. Integrating wetlands helps slow stormwater flows, promotes infiltration and groundwater recharge, more ground water resources, higher creeks, better salmon habitat, fewer flood waters and greater groundwater resources. Investment in salmon restoration needs to be integrated with flood protection, green building, greater stormwater infiltration and other built investments. Where every previously free, value-providing, self-maintaining ecosystem service is lost, a new tax district is born.

Investment is needed to provide infrastructure for stormwater, salmon, flood protection and water quality improvements. With a systems approach, better coordination, stable funding mechanisms and more rational tax districts, these investments can likely provide this full suite of benefits at less overall cost.

**Washington State should help facilitate institutions and improvements that help coordinate and rationalize current tax districts. Ecosystem services can be a guide for improvement.**

#### References:

Earth Economics. 2009. WRIA 9 Funding Mechanism Report: Generating Payments for Ecosystem Services. Prepared for the WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum.

Earth Economics. 2010. Toward Implementing the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan. Prepared for the WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum.

### Upgrading Environmental Impact Assessments

Washington State and the federal government require environmental impact statements (EIS) for projects with significant environmental impact. An EIS often has an effect on project design and thus investment by identifying actions that reduce the negative environmental impacts or enhance restoration. One of the fundamental problems of environmental impact statements is the lack of an economic interface. In other words, environmental damages can be quantified in scientific terms but this has no common language with project financing, which is denominated in dollars.

Earth Economics will complete the first economic section in an environmental impact analysis that includes a full identification of ecosystem services and valuation of ecosystem services. The EIS will be completed in early July 2010. This work is supported by Snohomish County for the Smith Island restoration project. Three scenarios were examined for ecosystem service enhancement and valuation. Providing this information allows for a stronger understanding of the economic benefits the project provides. Identifying the dollar value of ecosystem services enhanced by the project and provided to the public also strengthens the capacity for funding proposals.

Ecosystem service identification and valuation often strengthens what is the weakest area of environmental planning and analysis: the economic implications and value provided by restoration projects. In 2005 the Green Duwamish Central Puget Sound Watershed (also known as Water Resources Inventory Area #9 or WRIA 9) Salmon Habitat Plan was established. It was the first salmon habitat plan to include an ecosystem service valuation as a core of the socioeconomic analysis for the plan. The Salmon Habitat Plan won the 2020 Award from the Puget Sound Regional Council, who specifically mentioned our analysis in bestowing the award.

The same type of analysis can be conducted to show the dollar value of benefits provided. In

addition, an ecosystem service valuation was part of the economic analysis conducted by WRIA 9 for the North Winds Weir. This \$4 million salmon restoration project was approved and recently completed on the Green River by WRIA 9, King County, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Seattle Public Utilities requires economic justification for large infrastructure projects. Earth Economics completed the economic analysis for the Tolt River Levee Setback and Salmon Restoration Project, a \$5 million project.

Today, the economics are available to strengthen environmental impact statements, salmon habitat plans and the economic justification of restoration projects. Currently, economic analysis can be conducted in environmental impact statements but is not required.

**Private and public institutions should include an ecosystem service analysis to strengthen environmental impact assessments. Washington State should lead the nation in requiring ecosystem service analysis in all significant environmental impact statements.**

#### References:

Batker, D.K. 2005. Supplemental Ecological Services Study: Tolt River Watershed Asset Management Plan. Earth Economics (The Asia Pacific Environmental Exchange). Prepared for Seattle Public Utilities.

Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed Water Resource Inventory Area 9 (WRIA 9) Steering Committee. Salmon Habitat Plan: Making Our Watershed Fit for a King. Prepared for the WRIA 9 Forum.

Pending publication: Earth Economics. 2010. Nature's Value in the Snohomish Basin: Restoring Smith Island. Prepared for Snohomish County.

### **Strengthening Watershed Characterization Studies**

Watershed characterization studies are important to understanding the physical nature of watersheds. Several watershed inventory areas (WRIAs) have included ecosystem service analysis in these studies.

To date ecosystem service analysis and valuation studies have been completed on a watershed, delta, or larger area in the Green River/Duwamish Central Puget Sound Watershed, Nisqually River Watershed, Snohomish River Watershed, Tolt and Snoqualmie sub-watersheds, the Mississippi River Delta, Yazoo River (Mississippi), the State of New Jersey, in Palawan (Philippines), Yasuní National Park (Ecuador), the Amazon River to the coast in Peru, the Osa Peninsula (Costa Rica), Qinghai Province (China) and other areas. The Puget Sound Basin is a leader in both the development and application of ecosystem service analysis at a watershed scale and there is room for them to be even stronger.

Waters Resources Inventory Area 9 was the first watershed to apply ecosystem service analysis, using our study to lay out the economic benefits of the Salmon Habitat Plan. Since then, this work has progressed to the development of funding mechanisms strongly informed by ecosystem services to implement the plan.

Watershed characterizations, salmon habitat plans and other watershed based analysis should be informed by ecosystem service analysis.

It is also important that State agencies, particularly the Department of Natural Resources and Department of Ecology (which has supported ecosystem service analysis) adopt this analysis as a normal part of operations. Training for private firms including consulting companies, government agencies and non-profits in ecosystem service analysis should proceed at a rapid pace.

**Watershed characterization studies, salmon habitat plans and other watershed-based analysis should include ecosystem service analysis. All watersheds in the Puget Sound Basin should have ecosystem service analysis. These analyses should be updated every five years. The appropriate staff from government, private firms and non-profits should have ecosystem service training and the capacity to apply ecosystem service tools in their work.**

Earth Economics studies cited in this brief are available on our website:  
<http://www.eartheconomics.org>.

Each of the above discussions has a common thread, that the economic benefits provided by natural systems are important and need to count. These improvements in economic analysis, which promote better investment, are informed by ecosystem services. The mapping of ecosystem services on the landscape, their provisioning, beneficiaries and impediments inform how institutions should be set up and how incentives and funding mechanisms should be created. Ecosystem services are crucial to solving many of our sustainability issues in the Puget Sound Basin. The next section provides important ecosystem services definitions and concepts.



## Section 2: Key Concepts

---

Our natural environment provides many of the things we need to survive: breathable air, drinkable water, food for nourishment and stable atmospheric conditions, to name a few. These are what we refer to as “ecosystem goods and services.” The following section explains the difference between goods and services, how ecosystems provide these essential functions, why they are economically valuable and how we can begin including that value in our economic accounting. When we alter environmental conditions, these services are often lost and must be replaced by costly built alternatives. In some instances, ecosystem goods and services cannot be recovered once they are lost.

### **Ecosystem Goods and Services**

#### Ecosystem Goods

Goods are things you can drop on your toe. Ecosystem goods are tangible, quantifiable items or flows such as timber, drinking water, fish, crops and wildlife. The production of electricity is sometimes considered a good, sometimes a service. Most goods are exclusive, which means that if one individual owns or uses a particular good that individual can exclude others from owning or using the same good. For example, if one person eats an apple, another person cannot eat that same apple. Excludable goods can be traded and valued in markets. The quantity of water produced per second or number of board feet of timber cut in a 40-year rotation can be measured by the physical quantity an ecosystem produces over time. The current production of goods can be easily valued by multiplying the quantity produced by the current market price.

The sustainable stream of goods provided by an ecosystem is a “flow of goods.” These goods can provide enormous economic return. For instance, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) estimated over \$222 million worth of timber sales and removals for 2009. Timber revenue can be realized by a public agency such as the DNR, or by a private corporation. However, the collection and sales of ecosystem goods can affect the ability of the remaining ecosystem to provide other goods and services such as clean drinking water, flood protection or recreation. In order to achieve economic efficiency, the value of timber revenue and clean water, recreation and other goods and services should be considered. Though timber harvest may be a private good, maximizing its value may lower the value of other, public goods such as drinking water or flood protection. By including the value of the entire suite of ecosystem goods and services in this assessment, relationships and tradeoffs can be better understood.

#### Ecosystem Services

Services are valuable benefits that you cannot drop on your toe. Examples are things like cooking, cleaning, analysis of geologic features, electricity and dentistry. Ecosystem services are defined as “the conditions and processes through which natural ecosystems, and the species that make them up, sustain and fulfill human life” (Daily et al. 1997). Unlike ecosystem goods, ecosystem services

are not tangible items that you can weigh or hold. Flood protection, recreational value, aesthetic value, storm prevention, waste treatment, climate stability and water filtration are a few of the services that ecosystems provide. Although they are often more difficult to value because markets (and thus market values) may not exist, ecosystem services are critical both for our quality of life and for economic production (Daily et al. 1997; Costanza et al. 1997).

For the most part, ecosystem services are non-excludable. When one person enjoys a view of Mount Rainier, it does not prevent another person from enjoying the same view (service), unless congestion develops. Similarly, all downstream residents benefit from the flood protection provided by forested land upstream. Many ecosystem services, such as global oxygen production, soil regulation and storm protection are not—or cannot—be packaged and sold in markets. However, some markets for ecosystem services do exist.

Typically in an ecosystem service market, beneficiaries of an ecosystem service pay those who offer to provide the ecosystem service. In Costa Rica, many local public utilities rely on the water purification and provisioning services provided by forested areas. However, the clearing of forest cover for farming and cattle ranching greatly decreased the ability of forestland to provide ecosystem services. Now, these utilities pay landowners for hydrological ecosystem services so the owners will keep trees on their land. Some markets are developing in the Snoqualmie Watershed and elsewhere.

The effectiveness of markets for ecosystem services will likely be seen in the coming years as markets develop for habitat, climate control (carbon), temperature and water quality in the United States and internationally. A number of factors make ecosystem service markets more challenging than markets for goods. A flow of services, or “service flux,” cannot be measured in the same terms—quantitative productivity over time—as goods. Quantifying the amount of flood protection provided by a given forest tract and the value of that flood protection is much more difficult than calculating the potential for timber harvest.

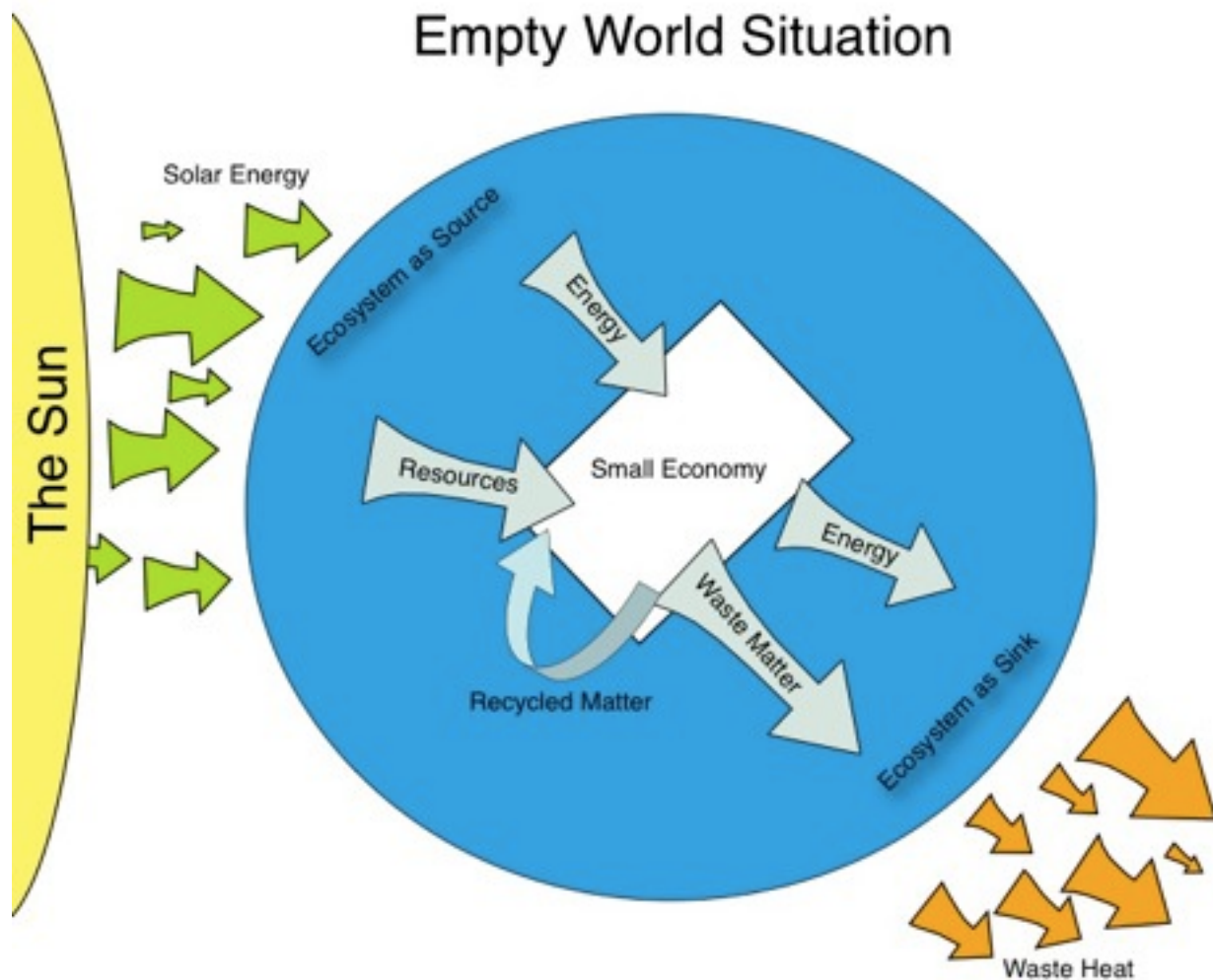
Though the value of a service flux may be more difficult to measure, in many cases its value may significantly exceed the value of the flow of goods. For example, a study of Philippine mangroves showed that the services of storm protection and fishery nursery functions produced several times the value of shrimp aquaculture operations, which had displaced mangrove forests. Because 85% of commercial fish species are dependent on the mangroves for a period of time within their life cycle, the lost nursery and habitat services resulted in a significant economic loss far exceeding the economic gain in aquaculture production. This case also highlights the issue of excludability: if the beneficiary of a good or service is a private enterprise, they may act to the detriment of public goods and services. While a single owner can capture the revenue from a shrimp aquaculture operation, a greater number of local people can benefit from fish in mangroves and along the coastline (Boumans et al., 2004).

## **Natural Capital in our Economy**

A century ago, it seemed that the forests, waters, fish and other resources were virtually unlimited. There were few people, and the size of the economy relative to the natural systems that supported it was small. A funding mechanism for schools based on logging of state lands, for example, worked well with a state full of trees and housing relatively few kids. However, as timber resources have

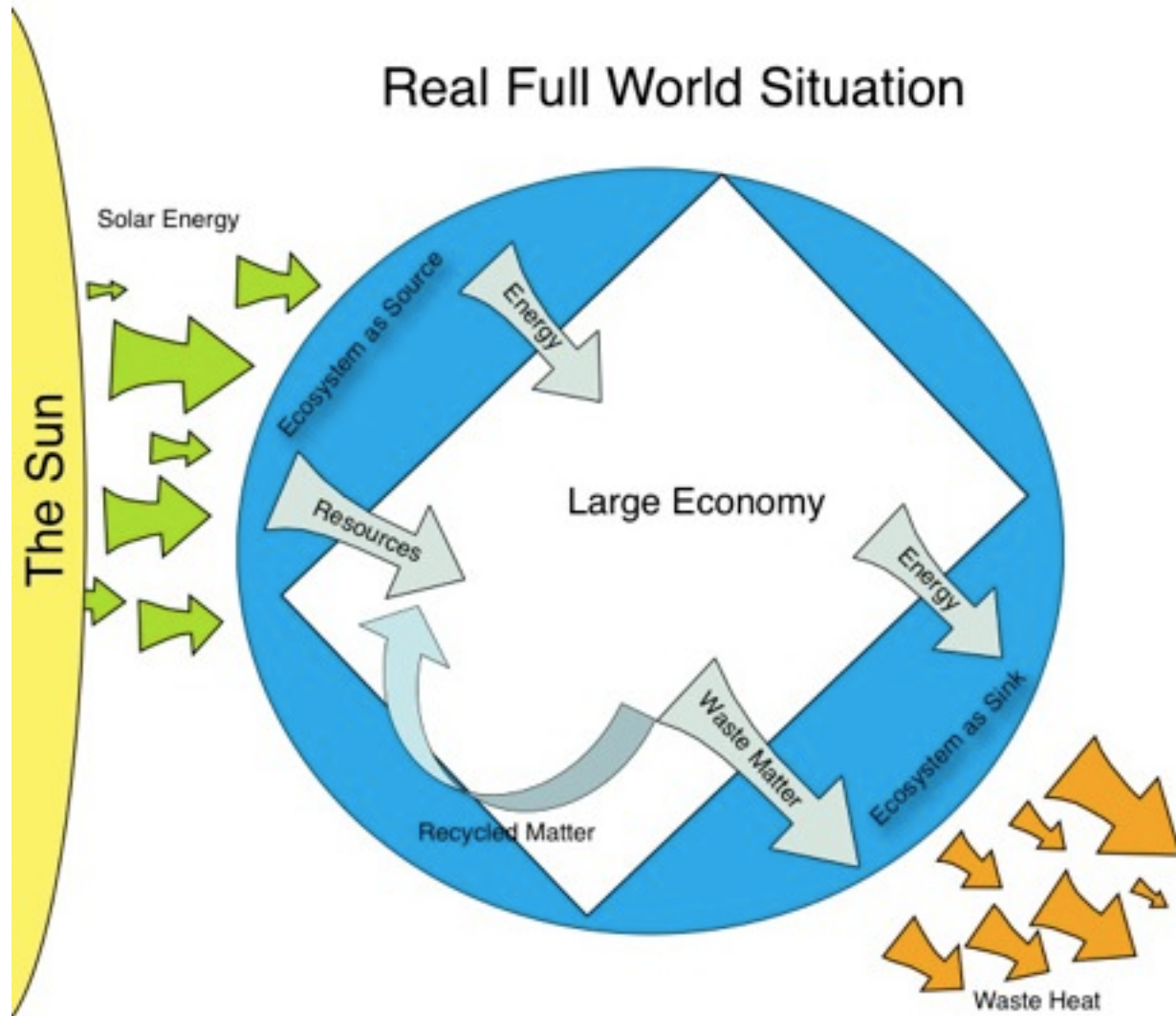
shrunk and kids multiplied, the system is no longer sufficient to fund the state's educational needs. This reflects a shift from a world with few people and lots of resources to a world that is filling up. Figure 3 shows an "Empty" world economy where human labor is scarce and natural resources are abundant. Figure 4 illustrates what happens when the economy expands relative to the size of the natural systems that sustain and maintain it. As the economy expands, ecosystems are impacted by its increasing size and demands. In the past century, we have shifted from a relatively empty world of abundant and stable resources and natural systems with relatively few people to a full world scenario where natural resources are becoming scarce and even global systems like climate and ozone protection can be disrupted.

**Figure 3. Empty World**



Based on Goodland, Daly, and El Serafy, 1992

Figure 4. Full World



Based on Goodland, Daly, and El Serafy, 1992

As scarcity shifts, so do our economic goals. In the 1930s when paved roads were scarce, road-building yielded high returns. Today, roads are abundant. The services of natural systems are scarce and improvements to natural systems provide high returns. Thus investment in restoring and securing these systems, investments in green building, better stormwater and flood systems that incorporate the services of wetlands, forests and rivers are good, high return investments.

### Economic Goals

Economic sustainability relies on environmental sustainability. The loss of nature's bounty has real economic costs because natural systems provide valuable goods and services across vast spans of time and well beyond their physical boundaries. Restoring healthy natural systems in

the Puget Sound Basin is critical to improving quality of life and to securing sustainability, justice, and economic progress in the area.

Economics is retooling for the 21<sup>st</sup> century with four essential goals: sustainability, justice, economic progress and good governance.

**Sustainability** requires living within a physical scale that does not destroy the basic natural systems that maintain the economy. Natural systems are part of our “commonwealth,” which can be mismanaged at great cost or managed sustainably at great economic benefit to all.

**Justice** and rights are core American values. Rights frame and help define value; market valuations do not determine rights. Markets remain healthy and efficient because they are subject to a just and fair legal framework. The distribution of the value of many goods and services is determined by how rights are conferred. Consider water rights, tribal rights to wildlife, fish and shellfish, and citizens’ rights to clean water and air. By securing treaty rights to salmon and shellfish, the Nisqually Tribe quickly increased economic development, diversification and quality of life for tribal members. The Nisqually Tribe’s experience shows that the recognition and enforcement of environmental rights can help establish a fair and just framework for better resource management, sustainability, value creation and economic progress. See *The Natural Economy of the Nisqually Watershed* in our publications on [www.eartheconomics.org](http://www.eartheconomics.org) for further analysis.

**Economic Progress** has traditionally been measured by a single yardstick: quantity of “built capital” production. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measures the production and sales of stuff. The houses and garages of today are filled with far more stuff than those of a generation ago, yet surveys show that people are not as happy now as they were then. Thanks to the tremendous productivity of modern economies, many marketed goods and services are now plentiful. In contrast, nature’s goods and services, leisure time and family time are now scarce. Economic progress now needs to be defined more broadly, depending on five capitals: human, social, built, financial and natural.

**Good governance** is essential for securing all three of the above goals. Creating and sustaining institutions—private or public, market or non-market—is critically important to governing how sustainability, justice and economic progress are achieved. Markets require sufficient regulation and oversight, otherwise cheaters will take advantage of fair competitors. Markets need to include the full cost of activities, otherwise there will be distortion toward damaging (externalized) activities. Private corporations require good governance, lest the debacles of Enron, AIG and BP be repeated. Government institutions need to operate efficiently at the scale of the issue or problem they are meant to address and provided with sufficient powers and resources to get the job done.

## Five Capitals

In 1910, catching more fish required more nets and boats. Nets and boats were scarce while fish were plentiful, so we invested in factories and built more nets and boats. In 2010, nets and boats are plentiful; fish are scarce. The 20<sup>th</sup> century concept of capital was heavily weighted toward financial and built assets. Today, natural capital (as well as human and social capital) is increasingly

scarce and increasingly valuable, with the returns on investing in natural capital rising. Adding more fishing boats to the salmon fishery really does not increase salmon production—increasing salmon habitat does. To meet the economic goals listed above, the concept of capital must be broadened.

Here are five capitals required to secure economic progress and a high quality of life:

- **Natural Capital:** This is the earth's stock of organic and inorganic materials and energies, both renewable and nonrenewable, as well as the planetary inventory of living biological systems (ecosystems). When taken as one whole system, natural capital provides the total biophysical context for the human economy. Nature provides natural resources as inputs, energy and ecosystem functions that allow for the continued production of natural resources and the purification and recycling of waste products. Human wellbeing depends on these resources and services.
- **Human Capital:** This includes self-esteem; knowledge acquired through education; interpersonal skills such as communication, listening, cooperation; and individual motivation to be productive and socially responsible. It is well recognized that education and training are essential to economic progress, innovation and a high quality of life.
- **Social Capital:** Social capital is comprised of the inventory of organizations, institutions, laws, informal social networks and relationships of trust that make up or provide for the productive organization of the economy. Without a functioning society in which people respect each other and have some concern for the well-being of others, most economic activity would be impossible.
- **Built Capital:** This is the productive infrastructure of technologies, machines, tools and transport that humans design, build and use for productive purposes. Coupled with our learned skills and capabilities, our built techno-infrastructure is what directly allows raw materials to be converted into goods and services, the typical products that we find in markets.
- **Financial Capital:** Financial capital is a subset of social capital. Trust that others will honor money for goods and services is required in monetary transactions. Currency, retirement funds, stocks, bonds and banks all rely on this social trust. The value of financial capital is realized when it is exchanged for real goods and services.

### **Natural Capital and Economic Value**

All built capital requires natural capital inputs of material and energy. Natural capital, including ecosystem goods and services, is an essential component of our economic vitality. Valuation techniques for understanding the connection between ecosystem processes, functions, and economic value are advancing.

## Complements

In fact, natural capital and built capital are most often productively used as complements rather than substitutes (Daly and Farley 2004). Neither one can reach optimum efficiency and productivity without the other. Fishing boats, which are human built capital, are useless without fish, the natural capital. Built and natural capitals are most often complements in generating economic value and meeting human needs.

## Healthy Ecosystems are Self-maintaining

If healthy, natural systems can be self-maintaining, natural capital can appreciate in value over time and provide a sustainable output of valuable goods and services in perpetuity. In contrast, built capital depreciates in value over time, eventually falling apart. Factories do not produce goods across time like a watershed can produce water, and built capital requires consistent capital investment and maintenance.

## How ecosystem value is provided and protected

Natural capital assets are different from built capital assets in a few important ways. These differences serve to increase the value of ecosystem goods and services, and also to change the way that they should be valued over time. In instances such as a specific animal species where there is no built alternative, the value may be relatively constant up to the point at which the population is near extinction when value rises. Environmental thresholds greatly affect value.

## Ecosystem Structure and Process

Structural components within an ecosystem include things like trees, wetland plants, soil and hill slopes. Ecosystem processes include dynamic processes like water flows, animal life cycles, photosynthesis and many others. Together, ecosystem structures and processes support ecosystem functions such as water catchment, soil accumulation, habitat creation, reduced fetch and buffers to hurricane storm surges. These ecosystem functions generate ecological goods and services. Figure 5 summarizes these relationships in a simplified diagram.

**Figure 5. Relationship of Ecosystems to the Goods and Services Produced**



Different types of ecosystems support different types of infrastructure and processes. Marine areas with eelgrass beds contribute to water purification, food provisioning and habitat. Salt marshes, herbaceous wetlands, forested wetlands, coniferous forests and deciduous forests all contain different infrastructure and maintain different ecosystem functions, producing varied goods and services. The infrastructure itself is dynamic. For example, our rivers show a great deal of dynamism when grading the deposition of gravel, sand and silt to provide just the right habitat (sorted pea gravel) for salmon spawning. These functions vary widely in spatial boundaries: oxygen migrates globally and salmon range throughout the North Pacific, while drinking water production



is locally confined. Thus ecosystems may provide benefits that extend globally (carbon sequestration) or locally (drinking water production).

Like human health, the provisioning of ecosystem goods and services relies on many of these processes working together over time. A heart cannot function without the body, nor can the body function without a heart. The same is true for ecosystems. Interactions between the components make the whole greater than the sum of its individual parts—if they existed separately, the physical and biological components of the watershed would not be capable of generating the same goods and services provided by the processes and functions of an intact watershed system (EPA 2004).

### **Ecosystem Value Over Time**

Unlike a building, most healthy ecosystems are self-maintaining. Ecosystems have the potential to appreciate in value over time—potentially forever. A forest provides water control, flood protection, aesthetic and recreational values, slope stability, biodiversity and other services without maintenance costs. Human-produced goods and services like cars, houses, energy and telecommunications require maintenance costs and usually degrade, depreciate, and are ultimately disposed of, requiring further energy inputs for disposal or recycling. Destruction of ecosystem functions thus disrupts economically valuable ecological services.

### **Identifying and Classifying Ecosystem Services**

Identifying and classifying ecosystem services is an ongoing task. In 2001, scientists from NASA, the World Bank, the United Nations Environmental Program, the World Resources Institute, and other institutions examined the effects of ecosystem change on human well-being. The product of this collaboration was the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA), which classifies ecosystem services into four broad categories describing their ecological role (MEA 2003):

- **Provisioning services** provide basic materials, mostly ecosystem service goods. Forests grow trees that can be used for lumber and paper, berries and mushrooms for food, and other plants for medicinal purposes. Rivers provide fresh water for drinking and fish for food. The waters of the Puget Sound provide fish, shellfish and seaweed. Provisioning of these goods is a familiar service provided by nature, and is easiest to quantify in monetary terms. (Farber, et al., 2006)
- **Regulating services** are benefits obtained from the natural control of ecosystem processes. Intact ecosystems provide regulation of climate, water and soil, and keep disease organisms in check. Degraded systems propagate disease organisms to the detriment of human health. (UNEP 2005)
- **Supporting services** include primary productivity, nutrient cycling and the fixing of CO<sub>2</sub> by plants to produce food. These services are the basis of the vast majority of food webs and life on the planet.
- **Cultural services** are those that provide humans with meaningful interaction with nature. These services include spiritually significant species and natural areas, enjoying natural places for recreation, and

learning about the planet through science and education.

Table 1 describes these four services, with further detail provided in Appendix A.

**Table 1. Table of Ecosystem Services**

Ecosystem Service	Description
<b>Provisioning</b>	
Drinking Water	Water for human consumption
Food	Biomass for human consumption
Raw Materials	Biological materials used for fuel, art and building. Geological materials used for construction or other purposes
Medicinal Resources	Biological materials used for medicines
<b>Regulating</b>	
Gas and Climate Regulation	Regulation of greenhouse gases, absorption of carbon and sulfur dioxide, and creation of oxygen, evapotranspiration, cloud formation and rainfall provided by vegetated and oceanic areas
Disturbance Regulation	Protection from storms and flooding, drought recovery
Soil Erosion Control	Erosion protection provided by plant roots and tree cover
Water Regulation	Water absorption during rains and release in dry times, temperature and flow regulation for plant and animal species
Biological Control	Natural control of pest species
Waste Treatment	Absorption of organic waste, filtration of pollution
Soil Formation	Formation of sand and soil from through natural processes
<b>Supporting</b>	
Nutrient Cycling	Transfer of nutrients from one place to another; transformation of critical nutrients from unusable to usable forms
Biodiversity and Habitat	Providing for the life history needs of plants and animals
Primary Productivity	Growth by plants provides basis for all terrestrial and most marine food chains
Pollination	Fertilization of plants and crops through natural systems
<b>Cultural</b>	
Aesthetic	The role which natural beauty plays in attracting people to live, work and recreate in an area
Recreation and Tourism	The contribution of intact ecosystems and environments in attracting people to engage in recreational activities
Scientific and Educational	Value of natural resources for education and scientific research
Spiritual and Religious	Use of nature for religious or historic purposes (i.e., heritage value of natural ecosystems and features)

Based on Daly and Farley 2004 and de Groot 2005

## **Valuing Ecosystem Services**

The value of ecosystem goods can be quantified by the market—what are people willing to pay for them? The value of ecosystem services can sometimes be measured by the market, but many services are not for sale. For example there is no market price for clean air. Instead, the value of ecosystem services is measured using seven additional valuation methods including replacement cost, hedonic value and contingent valuation.

When determining the value of ecosystem goods and services in the Puget Sound Basin one would ideally like to perform studies on each specific good and service using the methods described above, but such an endeavor would be financially impractical, and in some cases feasibly impossible. How then, were we able to assign value to the ecosystem goods and services of the Basin? While we certainly relied extensively on first-hand studies, we also turned to studies cited in academic peer reviewed literature to find comparable data. This “benefit transfer” methodology, common in studies such as this one, is similar to the use of “comps” in a house appraisal where value is determined by looking at similar homes. But unlike a house appraisal where the realtor has high and low values and out of that simply picks the best professional guess at a single value, this study provides the full range of values from the lowest in the academic peer reviewed literature to the highest. The high estimates, and certainly the low estimates, both understate the true value because many ecosystem services, which clearly have value, are still lacking valuation studies, and thus show no value.

A full discussion of the valuation methods used in this report was provided in the 2008 report and is discussed in greater detail in Appendix A.

## Section 3: Valuing the Puget Sound Basin

---

### **What has Changed Since the 2008 Report?**

This updated report is intended to incorporate values that have been updated since publication of the 2008 report, and to address criticisms of the values originally used. Out of more than 100 studies in the earlier analysis, two were criticized. Pollination was seen as an intermediate good that should not be counted. Just as the production of glass and metal (intermediate goods) that go into producing a car are not counted in the Gross Domestic Product, it was argued, pollination of coniferous forests should not be counted. This would be a valid criticism if pollination of timber were like the production of cars, where the costs of input goods like glass and metal are directly included in the final cost of the car (metal and glass have to be purchased as an input). However, pollination of coniferous forests to be used as seeds for planting and harvesting is not included in the price of timber. If glass were free in car production, the cost of producing glass would not be included in the final price of the car. If glass producers were not paid, they would quickly quit providing glass. Car production would stop. The cost of pollination for many fruit crops is paid for and included in the final product. However, because pollination is not included in the price of timber, but is valuable and quantifiable, it is correctly included in this study.

Another criticism had to do with the storm protection value provided by wetlands. It was argued that a value based on a study in the Gulf of Mexico should not be used in Puget Sound where hurricanes do not occur. This is a valid criticism. That storm protection analysis and the value provided was not included in this 2010 study. Still, it is worth considering that Puget Sound has experienced many tsunamis in the past and coastal systems provide defense to inland areas. There is no study quantifying this infrequent, but valuable service for Puget Sound coastal systems and so no value was included.

Two areas of important values not included in the 2008 study but examined here are medicinal value and the value of snow pack. Only one medicinal plant value was included, out of many identified. That is the Pacific yew tree from which we derive Taxol, a cure for breast and other cancers.

Snow pack is tremendously valuable to the Puget Sound Basin as it provides water storage services for drinking water, irrigation, industrial use and electricity generation. The value of snow pack per acre varies depending on elevation, snowfall and the beneficiaries served.

## Medicinal Value

People have derived medicinal benefits from nature since the Paleolithic age. The Puget Sound Basin derives a great number of medicinal benefits from nature. These include medicines used by indigenous peoples, homeopathic remedies and naturally derived medicines widely recognized by the scientific community to have saved many lives. This study only includes one medicinal substance derived from a Puget Sound Basin plant, Taxol, an organic chemical derived from the bark of the Pacific yew tree, native to the Pacific Northwest.

Taxol is one of the most effective cancer-fighting substances ever discovered. It was first used to treat breast cancer patients, but has since been found to be effective against lung and ovarian cancer as well as Kaposi's sarcoma in AIDS patients. A single gram of pure Taxol is more than sufficient to fully treat one cancer patient (Choi, 2007). Taxol was discovered in the bark of a Pacific Yew tree in a sampling project north of Packwood, Washington (Goodman and Walsh, 2001). The Pacific Yew tree is native to and grows almost solely in the Pacific Northwest, making it a highly valuable asset unique to the region.

Stripping the bark kills the yew tree and heavy harvests were reducing its abundance. Since then, Taxol has been found in the berries of the tree, in the soil where yew trees grow or once grew and in hazelnuts (Hoffman et al, 1998; Daley, 2000). These discoveries provide hope that Taxol may be economically extracted without overharvesting and death of ancient yew trees. Although the chemical can be synthesized, the process is far more difficult and expensive than extraction (Susman, 2000).

Since its release on the market in 1992, Taxol has generated over \$11 billion in revenue (Stephenson, 2002). Peak sales were reached in 2000 at \$1.6 billion. By dividing the highest annual revenue value and the lowest annual value of revenue by the total acreage of Pacific Yew (10,608,943 acres) on the Pacific Coast, a very rough approximation of the value of Taxol per acre at between \$4.71/acre/year and \$150.82/acre/year where yews occur.

For decades, yew trees were logged off, slash burned (considered a waste tree) and not replanted on millions of acres of timberlands in the Northwest. Thus, yew trees rarely occur on recently cut, pole, or 40-80 year old forestlands where yew trees were once found in abundance. Though yew trees occur on some of these lands, they were given a zero value in this study. Abundance varies widely: one half-acre site in a Parkland, Washington riparian area contains over 20 yew trees each over 200 years in age.

The total value in the Puget Sound Basin, obtained by applying value per acre per year to late and old growth forest and riparian evergreen forest where yew trees are most abundant (see Tables 12 and 13), adds \$12,798,647.85 and \$409,828,464.70 per year to Puget Sound's economy.

This represents only the market value of the drug. In the ten years following FDA approval, over 100,000 people were treated with Taxol (PR Newswire, 1993). Like many ecosystem services, the market value of Taxol does not reflect the full value provided. The full value includes, for

example, the added income of cancer patients who survived or—far more importantly—the value of extended life to many women, and to their spouses and their children. The story of Taxol is a prime example of the interconnectedness of natural, social, human and built capital. Had yew trees gone the way of the passenger pigeon, driven to extinction, this drug would likely never have been discovered.

## **Snowpack Value**

Snowpack is an important link between the economy and the water cycle in the Puget Sound Basin. Snowpack retains water from the wet winter and slowly releases it in the spring, during the summer dry season and in the fall. Snowpack provides drinking water supply, water flow regulation (including groundwater recharge and stream flows for salmon), energy generation, recreation, habitat and climate stability. Snowpack maintains stream flows during periods of low precipitation.

In the western portion of the United States, including Puget Sound, snowmelt provides approximately 70% of drinking water annually (Chang et al., 1987). In the absence of a snowpack, winter rains would need to be captured in reservoirs for later use. This is particularly true in the Puget Sound Basin, where approximately 75% of annual precipitation in the Cascades falls during the cool season (Snover and Miles, in review). Further, current reservoir systems in the Puget Sound depend on snowpack to supplement water storage; almost all of the major municipal water systems west of the Cascades have storage to instream flow ratios of less than 10% (Hamlet et al., 2001).

Thus, snowpack in Puget Sound may be viewed as essentially a large, inexpensive system of water reservoirs. Economists can establish value for some ecosystem services by examining the replacement cost. In this report the economic value of snowpack to Puget Sound residents has been assessed by exploring the costs of an alternative storage system, i.e. surface water reservoir construction, and was found to be in the range of \$100 million - \$15 billion annually. If the environmental costs of such reservoir systems were included, such as disruption of salmon runs and loss of vegetation, the replacement cost of snowpack might be substantially higher.

The water storage function of snowpack is also important for flood protection, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, where flooding is a common occurrence in many watersheds. Much of the precipitation that falls in the Cascades is stored as snowpack, thus reducing potential surface runoff that might exacerbate floodwaters. This can work both ways, however: under certain conditions, warm heavy rain falling on snowpack can cause “rain-on-snow” events, where existing snowpack quickly melts and exacerbates surface runoff. Under these conditions, the flood protection value of snowpack will shift: from a source of *flood protection* it becomes a source of *floodwater*. The Washington snowpack is especially sensitive to climate change because of its relatively low elevations (Elsner et al., 2009).

The gradual release of snowmelt not only benefits humans. Many fish species (e.g. trout) living or rearing in the rivers and streams of Puget Sound rely on snowmelt to provide a source of cool water throughout the year. The presence of fish in turn attracts recreational anglers who spend substantial sums on equipment, transport and accommodation costs. For example, trout alone

generated a net economic value of \$145,903,900 in Washington State during 2006 (TCW Economics).

### **Valuation of the Ecosystem Services of the Puget Sound Watershed**

Partial valuation of 14 ecosystem services across 17 land cover types in the Puget Sound Basin shows an annual flow of \$9.7 billion to \$83 billion. This figure will likely to change with the inclusion of more values and analyses that other ecosystems provide.

From this annual flow of value a capital asset value analogous to an “asset value” can be calculated. This is like the difference between the sum of monthly mortgage payments across a year (the annual flow of value for living in a house in one year) and the full sale value of that house (the asset value, or present value). In order to determine value of ecosystems to society, we apply a depreciation (or discount) rate of 3% over 100 years, from the present day, to obtain its *present value*. Natural assets appreciate, rather than depreciate, thus this value is likely much larger. A zero discount rate was also calculated, which treats the value that these ecosystems will provide to future generations as equal to that of present generations. This takes into account the assumption that breathable air, for instance, will be as valuable to people one-hundred years from now as it is to us today.

Using a 3% discount rate (for no better reason than it is convention), the asset or present value provided by these 14 ecosystem services in the Puget Sound Basin is between \$305 billion and \$2.6 trillion. As the analysis is refined the range of values may decrease. Using a 0% discount rate the asset or present value of ecosystem services in the Puget Sound Basin would be \$967 billion to \$8.3 trillion. The asset value of marine and terrestrial ecosystems in the Puget Sound Basin alone is certainly in the many billions of dollars, with *annual* benefits between \$9.7 and \$83 billion.

These values, even on the low side, clearly justify consideration of significantly higher investment in restoration and conservation than is currently provided. The rate of return on a particular restoration or green infrastructure investment depends on the specific characteristics of the investment. In the past, this has not been calculated. Today, we can estimate the expected dollar value of ecosystem services provided by restoration or green infrastructure investments.

### **Earth Economics Ecosystem Service Valuation Analysis Summary**

A total of 23 ecosystem services were identified in the watershed. Valuation proceeded on 14 of them. Table 2 shows the ecosystem services that were valued for each land cover type.



**Table 2. Valued Ecosystem Services for Each Land Cover Type**

	Mid Forest	Late/Old Growth Forest	Riparian Forest	Pole Forest	Wetland	Shrub	Grassland	Agriculture
Gas and Climate Regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disturbance Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Flow Regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waste Treatment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Habitat Refugium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pollination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Soil Erosion Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soil Formation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biological Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Genetic Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nutrient Cycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aesthetic and Recreational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Medicinal Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Pasture	Rivers & Lakes	Urban Green Space	Beach	Estuary	Salt Marsh	Eelgrass Beds	Marine Water
Gas and Climate Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disturbance Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Flow Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waste Treatment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Habitat Refugium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pollination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soil Erosion Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soil Formation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biological Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Genetic Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nutrient Cycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aesthetic and Recreational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medicinal Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*Snowpack values not included

Land cover data, provided by the EPA National Land Cover Data, reflects the best available GIS data for Puget Sound.

Table 3 summarizes the land cover classes and acreage for each class in the Puget Sound Basin. Valuation data exists for eelgrass beds, however the NLCD does not include area coverage of eelgrass beds, which can be incorporated with data from surveys conducted by Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

**Table 3. Overall Land Cover Summary**

<b>OVERALL LAND COVER SUMMARY (NLCD)</b>		
<b>NLCD Code</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Acres</b>
0	Unclassified	2,766
11	Open water (total)	1,802,508
	River	15,905
	Lakes	106,000
	Estuary+Salt water	1,680,603
	Estuary	552,712
	Salt water	1,127,891
12	Perennial ice/snow	97,849
21	Developed open space	421,574
22	Developed low density	429,382
23	Developed medium density	167,844
24	Developed high density	66,678
31	Barren (rock/sand/clay) (total)	340,592
	Beach	48,341
	Non-beach	292,251
41	Deciduous forest	267,010
42	Evergreen forest	4,534,878
43	Mixed forest	677,680
52	Scrub/shrub	794,631
71	Grassland/herbaceous	320,443
81	Pasture/hay	307,242
82	Cultivated crops	73,266
90	Woody wetlands	174,132
	Saltwater woody wetlands	7,024
	Freshwater woody wetlands	167,109
95	Emergent herbaceous wetlands	124,918
	Saltwater herbaceous wetlands	76,120
	Freshwater herbaceous wetlands	48,798
<b>Total</b>		<b>10,603,394</b>

Table 4 shows the acreage of Riparian land cover drawn from a hydrography layer (OR/WA Hydrography Framework Partnership, 2005). This was used to identify the riparian areas within a 50 meter buffer and to calculate the riparian forest and riparian shrub values. To avoid double counting, the riparian areas were deducted from the total area of corresponding vegetation classes in the NLCD figures.

**Table 4. Riparian Land Cover**

<b>RIPARIAN AREAS - USING 50m BUFFER AND DNR HYDROGRAPHY LAYER</b>		
<b>NLCD Code</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Acres</b>
0	Unclassified	66
11	Open water (total)	14,202
12	Perennial ice/snow	4,693
21	Developed open space	69,982
22	Developed low density	34,010
23	Developed medium density	8,472
24	Developed high density	2,792
31	Barren (rock/sand/clay) (total)	32,127
41	Deciduous forest	61,154
42	Evergreen forest	1,027,004
43	Mixed forest	162,159
52	Scrub/shrub	200,180
71	Grassland/herbaceous	55,429
81	Pasture/hay	36,762
82	Cultivated crops	10,812
90	Woody wetlands	58,917
n/a	Eel grass beds	49,422
95	Emergent herbaceous wetlands	18,665
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,797,362</b>

### **Forest Successional Stage**

Not all forests provide equal ecosystem services. A recently cut and planted area does not prevent flooding, provide water filtration, or recreational values the way a mature or an old growth forest does. In this study the stand size—that is, the diameter of the timber—in a forest is used to determine age and maturity, or what we label as successional stages. Table 5 shows the successional stages and acreage of forest areas in the Puget Sound Basin.

To avoid overestimating the value of forests, five forest successional stages for the Puget Sound region were identified based on recent successional stage mapping data (Interagency Vegetation Mapping Project, 2004). This data was provided as total forest acreage; the areas for coniferous, deciduous, and mixed forests could not be separated. Because this database does not exactly match the NLCD for total forest acres, we assumed that each of the forest types, including riparian, has the same ratio of stages in the NLCD database as the total forested area in the Interagency Vegetation Mapping Project. NLCD data in Table 5 was used to calculate the ecosystem services within these successional stages. Because logging in riparian areas is restricted, this assumption underestimates the actual successional stage for riparian areas; the value that riparian areas provide is embedded with the ecosystem services examined, and is an underestimate because these areas are generally of a later successional stage than is extrapolated from the Interagency data.

**Table 5. Forest Stand Size Data**

<b>FOREST SUCCESSIONAL STAGE SUMMARY</b>		
<b>Size</b>	<b>Stage</b>	<b>Acres</b>
0-4.9	Early successional	911,059
5-9.9	Pole	892,615
10-19.9	Mid successional	1,682,082
20-29.9	Late successional	931,873
30+	Old growth	758,458
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,176,087</b>

Earth Economics maintains and is consistently expanding a database of ecosystem service valuation studies. The following tables show the dollar values for the low and high boundaries for ecosystem service values after an extensive literature review. Table 10 shows estimates based on peer-reviewed academic journal articles for the Puget Sound Basin using a benefit transfer methodology.

**Table 6. High and Low Dollar per Acre Estimates for Wetland and Salt Marsh**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Wetland</b>		<b>Salt Marsh</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation	\$31.32	\$284.58		
Water Regulation	\$6,765.49	\$6,765.49		
Genetic Resources				
Aesthetic & Recreational	\$33.49	\$9,946.87	\$5.19	\$103.82
Habitat Refugium & Nursery	\$6.30	\$13,341.27	\$1.25	\$1,082.32
Water Supply	\$193.92	\$33,418.85		
Disturbance Regulation			\$258.49	\$102,105.30
Waste treatment			\$116.82	\$18,807.44
Soil Formation				
Nutrient Cycling	\$7,346.62	\$7,346.62		
Biological Control				
Soil Erosion Control				
Pollination				
Medicinal resources				
<b>Total by Cover Type</b>	<b>\$14,377.14</b>	<b>\$71,103.69</b>	<b>\$381.75</b>	<b>\$122,098.87</b>

**Table 7. High and Low Dollar per Acre Estimates for Grassland and Shrub**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Grasslands</b>		<b>Shrub</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation	\$0.06	\$4.10	\$6.60	\$78.00
Water Regulation	\$1.76	\$2.16		
Genetic Resources	\$0.01	\$0.01		
Aesthetic & Recreational			\$0.19	\$678.72
Habitat Refugium & Nursery			\$1.31	\$532.33
Water Supply				
Disturbance Regulation				
Waste treatment	\$50.98	\$50.98		
Soil Formation	\$0.52	\$0.59		
Nutrient Cycling				
Biological Control	\$9.74	\$13.47		
Soil Erosion Control	\$16.99	\$19.04		
Pollination	\$10.77	\$14.65		
Medicinal resources				
<b>Total by Cover Type</b>	<b>\$90.83</b>	<b>\$105.00</b>	<b>\$8.10</b>	<b>\$1,289.05</b>

**Table 8. High and Low Dollar per Acre Estimates for Agricultural Lands and Riparian Buffer**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Agricultural lands</b>		<b>Riparian buffer</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation				
Water Regulation				
Genetic Resources				
Aesthetic & Recreational	\$29.26	\$29.26		
Habitat Refugium & Nursery				
Water Supply				
Disturbance Regulation				
Waste treatment				
Soil Formation				
Nutrient Cycling				
Biological Control				
Soil Erosion Control				
Pollination	\$2.55	\$12.88		
Medicinal resources			\$5.01	\$160.49
<b>Total by Cover Type</b>	<b>\$31.82</b>	<b>\$42.14</b>	<b>\$5.01</b>	<b>\$160.49</b>

**Table 9. High and Low Dollar per Acre Estimates for Urban Green Space and Pasture**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Urban green space</b>		<b>Pasture</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation	\$28.53	\$930.90		
Water Regulation	\$6.09	\$181.85		
Genetic Resources				
Aesthetic & Recreational	\$1,342.21	\$3,934.57	\$0.03	\$0.03
Habitat Refugium & Nursery				
Water Supply				
Disturbance Regulation				
Waste treatment				
Soil Formation			\$6.62	\$6.62
Nutrient Cycling				
Biological Control				
Soil Erosion Control				
Pollination				
Medicinal resources				
<b>Total by Cover Type</b>	<b>\$1,376.83</b>	<b>\$5,047.32</b>	<b>\$6.65</b>	<b>\$6.65</b>

**Table 10. High and Low Dollar per Acre Estimates for Eelgrass beds and Beach**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Eel grass beds</b>		<b>Beach</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation				
Water Regulation				
Genetic Resources				
Aesthetic & Recreational			\$149.20	\$48,441.03
Habitat Refugium & Nursery				
Water Supply				
Disturbance Regulation			\$23,637.86	\$38,316.19
Waste treatment				
Soil Formation				
Nutrient Cycling	\$5,860.22	\$16,410.10		
Biological Control				
Soil Erosion Control				
Pollination				
Medicinal resources				
<b>Total by Cover Type</b>	<b>\$5,860.22</b>	<b>\$16,410.10</b>	<b>\$23,787.06</b>	<b>\$86,757.22</b>

**Table 11. High and Low Dollar per Acre Estimates for Marine and Pole Forest**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Marine</b>		<b>Pole Forest</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation			\$24.04	\$464.33
Water Regulation			\$10.23	\$10.23
Genetic Resources				
Aesthetic & Recreational				
Habitat Refugium & Nursery				
Water Supply	\$275.97	\$822.24		
Disturbance Regulation				
Waste treatment				
Soil Formation				
Nutrient Cycling				
Biological Control				
Soil Erosion Control				
Pollination				
Medicinal resources				
<b>Total by Cover Type</b>	<b>\$275.97</b>	<b>\$822.24</b>	<b>\$34.27</b>	<b>\$474.55</b>

**Table 12. High and Low Dollar per Acre Estimates for Mid Forest and Late/Old Forest**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Mid Forest</b>		<b>Late/Old Forest</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation	\$34.34	\$663.37	\$46.35	\$895.47
Water Regulation	\$10.23	\$10.23	\$10.23	\$10.23
Genetic Resources				
Aesthetic & Recreational	\$5.20	\$339.36	\$10.41	\$678.72
Habitat Refugium & Nursery			\$287.16	\$532.33
Water Supply				
Disturbance Regulation				
Waste treatment				
Soil Formation				
Nutrient Cycling				
Biological Control				
Soil Erosion Control				
Pollination	\$33.51	\$150.48	\$67.01	\$300.96
Medicinal resources			\$5.01	\$160.49
<b>Total by Cover Type</b>	<b>\$83.28</b>	<b>\$1,163.45</b>	<b>\$426.17</b>	<b>\$2,578.20</b>

**Table 13. High and Low Dollar per Acre Estimates for Riparian Forests**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Riparian Forest (pole)</b>		<b>Riparian Forest (mid to late)</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation	\$24.04	\$464.33	\$46.35	\$895.47
Water Regulation	\$10.23	\$10.23	\$10.23	\$10.23
Genetic Resources				
Aesthetic & Recreational	\$1,109.90	\$11,305.57	\$1,109.90	\$11,305.57
Habitat Refugium & Nursery			\$287.16	\$532.33
Water Supply			\$2,240.01	\$13,849.87
Disturbance Regulation			\$8.04	\$250.85
Waste treatment				
Soil Formation				
Nutrient Cycling				
Biological Control				
Soil Erosion Control				
Pollination				
Medicinal resources			\$5.01	\$160.49
<b>Total by Cover Type</b>	<b>\$1,144.16</b>	<b>\$11,780.13</b>	<b>\$3,706.70</b>	<b>\$27,004.81</b>

**Table 14. High and Low Dollar per Acre Estimates for Estuaries and Lakes/Rivers**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Open Water Estuary</b>		<b>Lakes/Rivers</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation				
Water Regulation				
Genetic Resources				
Aesthetic & Recreational	\$11.51	\$1,381.50	\$1.69	\$19,699
Habitat Refugium & Nursery	\$92.75	\$354.14	17.13	\$1,479.84
Water Supply	\$5.88	\$127.47	\$58.89	\$843.44
Disturbance Regulation				
Waste treatment				
Soil Formation				
Nutrient Cycling				
Biological Control				
Soil Erosion Control				
Pollination				
Medicinal resources				
<b>Total by Cover Type</b>	<b>\$110.15</b>	<b>\$1,863.11</b>	<b>\$77.71</b>	<b>\$22,022.28</b>



To estimate an “appraisal” value of The Puget Sound Basin, per acre values were summed up for each land cover type across ecosystem services. Table 15 shows the acreage of each vegetation type within the watershed and the total \$/acre for that vegetation type across the ecosystem services where values exist. Because no valuation studies exist for some of these vegetation type/ecosystem service value combinations, these are clearly underestimates (see Table 2).

**Table 15. High and Low Estimates of Ecosystem Value Flows in the Puget Sound Watershed**

<i>Cover Type</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Total \$/ac/yr by cover type</i>		<i>Total \$/yr by cover type</i>	
		<i>Low</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>High</i>
Freshwater					
Wetland	215,907	\$14,377.14	\$71,103.69	\$3,104,124,725	\$15,351,783,369
Salt Marsh	83,144	\$381.75	\$122,098.87	\$31,740,187	\$10,151,788,468
Grasslands	320,443	\$90.83	\$105.00	\$29,107,437	\$33,646,096
Shrubs	594,451	\$8.10	\$1,289.05	\$4,813,927	\$766,274,677
Agricultural Lands	73,266	\$31.82	\$42.14	\$2,331,162	\$3,087,425
Urban Green					
Space	421,574	\$1,376.83	\$5,047.32	\$580,434,423	\$2,127,819,908
Pastures	307,242	\$6.65	\$6.65	\$2,043,428	\$2,043,428
Eel Grass Beds	49,422	\$5,860.22	\$16,410.10	\$289,623,742	\$811,020,108
Beach	48,341	\$23,787.06	\$86,757.22	\$1,149,890,361	\$4,193,930,606
Marine	1,127,891	\$275.97	\$822.24	\$311,268,667	\$927,396,752
Lakes/Rivers	121,905	\$77.71	\$22,022.28	\$9,473,238	\$2,684,626,043
Open Water					
Estuaries	552,712	\$110.15	\$1,863.11	\$60,880,747	\$1,029,761,570
Early Forest	964,475	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Pole Forest	729,333	\$34.27	\$474.55	\$24,990,820	\$346,107,333
Mid Forest	1,374,387	\$83.28	\$1,163.45	\$114,458,395	\$1,599,024,432
Late/Old Forest	1,381,127	\$426.17	\$2,578.20	\$588,590,456	\$3,560,819,411
Riparian Forest					
(pole)	215,617	\$1,144.16	\$11,780.13	\$246,701,064	\$2,539,995,336
Riparian Forest					
(mid to late)	814,628	\$3,701.70	\$26,844.31	\$3,015,505,308	\$21,868,130,544
Riparian Shrub					
	200,180	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Snowpack*	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$100,403,350	\$15,450,313,315
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,596,045</b>			<b>\$9,666,381,437</b>	<b>\$83,447,568,821</b>

\*Values not presented per acre

**Table 16. Present Value of Ecosystem Service of the Puget Sound Basin**

<b>Discount Rate</b>	<b>Low Estimate</b>	<b>High Estimate</b>
<i>0% (100 years)</i>	\$967 billion	\$8.3 trillion
<i>3% (100 years)</i>	\$305 billion	\$2.6 trillion

Appendix B describes the land cover type, ecosystem service, authors of papers used in the study, the lowest average presented in the papers and the highest value known for each value utilized in this study. There is also a single value column where low and high values do not exist.

## Conclusion

The key to securing ecological sustainability, fairness and economic prosperity is investment—today’s investment determines the physical nature of tomorrow’s economy. Success in achieving sustainability in the Puget Sound Basin requires a shift to green infrastructure including ecological restoration, stormwater retention, green building, better industrial processes and far more. Shifting investment requires accounting that includes the value of natural capital, improved jobs analysis, better cost/benefit analysis and economic incentives that reward green investment.

Our Puget Sound economy is built upon the land and waters of the Puget Sound Basin. We cannot live without the ecosystem services the Puget Sound Basin provides.

### Summary of Conclusions:

1. The Puget Sound Basin provides 23 categories of valuable ecosystem services and goods, which are essential to a prosperous economy and high quality of life.
2. The partial annual value of nature’s goods and services ranges between \$9.7 billion and \$83 billion.
3. The present value for this flow of benefits, analogous to an asset value is partially valued between \$305 billion and \$2.6 trillion.
4. Ongoing studies are critically needed to update valuations and further justify investment.
5. It is possible, in fact imperative, to identify specific providers of ecosystem services, the beneficiaries of those services and impediments to their continued success.

6. Modeling of ecosystem services is advancing rapidly.
7. Further funding and research can play a key role in informing public and private investment.
8. Achieving sustainability requires shifting investment from investments that damage ecosystem services to investments that improve and sustain them.
9. Improving economic analysis to secure more productive and sustainable investment requires:
  - Accounting for natural capital
  - Improving jobs analysis for restoration
  - Adopting new industrial indicators
  - Redefining green jobs
  - Changing cost/benefit analysis
  - Getting the scale of jurisdictions right
  - Rationalizing tax districts
  - Upgrading environmental impact assessments
  - Including ecosystem service valuation in all watershed scale studies
  - Training government, private firm and non-profit staff in ecosystem services and the use of ecosystem service valuation tools

## References

- Buchanan, J.B., Johnson, D.H., Greda, E.L., Green, G.A., Wahl, T.R., Jeffries, S.J., 2001. Wildlife of coastal and marine habitats. Pages 389-422 in D.H. Johnson, and T.A. O'Neil (managing directors). Wildlife-habitat relationships in Oregon and Washington. Oregon State University Press, Corvallis, Oregon.
- Center for Biological Diversity, Friends of the San Juans, 2005. The Puget Sound Basin: A Biodiversity Assessment.
- Chang, A. T. C., Foster, J. L., Gloersen, P., Campbell, W. J., Josberger, E. G., Rango, A., and Danes, Z. F. 1987. Estimating snowpack parameters in the Colorado River basin by microwave radiometry. IAHS Series. 166:343-352. 1987.
- Choi, C.Q. 2007. "Cancer-fighting drug found in dirt." Retrieved July 2, 2009 from [http://www.livescience.com/health/070424\\_soil\\_drugs.html](http://www.livescience.com/health/070424_soil_drugs.html).
- Daley, L.S. 2000. Cuban Flora, Endophytic and Other, as a Potential Source of Bioactive Compounds: Two Technical Approaches to Bioactive Compound Discovery. Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy 10: 391-398
- EDA. 2009. Lewis County 2007 Flood Disaster Recovery Strategy. Lewis County.
- Elsner, M.M., Littell, J., and Binder, L.W. (eds). Center for Science in the Earth System, Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Oceans, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.
- Elsner, M. M., Cuo, L., Voisin, N., Hamlet, A. F., Deems, J. S., Lettenmaier, D. P., Mickelson, K. E. B., Lee, S. Y. 2009. Implications of 21st century climate change for the hydrology of Washington State.
- Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team, 1993. Forest ecosystem management: an ecological, economic, and social assessment. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture; U.S. Department of the Interior [and others].
- Goodman, J., Walsh, V. 2001. The Story of Paclitaxel: Nature and Politics in the Pursuit of an Anti-Cancer Drug. Cambridge University Press. p17
- Hamlet, A. F., Fluharty, D., Lettenmaier, D. P., Mantua, N., Miles, E., Mote, P., Whitely Binder, L., 2001. Effects of Climate Change on Water Resources in the Pacific Northwest: Impacts and Policy Implications. JISAO Climate Impacts Group, University of Washington.
- Hoffman, A., Khan, W., Worapong, J., Strobel, G., Griffin, D., Arbogast, B., Barofsky, D., Boone, R.B., Ning, L., Zheng, P., Daley, L. 1998. Bioprospecting for Paclitaxel in angiosperm plant extracts: Using high performance liquid chromatography-thermospray mass

- spectrometry to detect the anti- cancer agent and its related metabolites in filbert trees. *Spectroscopy* 13:22-32.
- Inkpen, E.L, Embrey, S.S., 1998. Nutrient Transport in the Major Rivers and Streams of the Puget Sound Basin, Washington. USGS Fact Sheet FS-009-98
- Konrad, C.P., 2003, Effects of urban development on floods: U.S. Geological Survey Fact Sheet 076-03, 4 p.
- Kresch, D.L., and Dinicola, K., 1997. What causes floods in Washington state? U.S. Geological Survey Fact Sheet FS-228-96.
- Mumford, Jr., T.F., 2007. Kelp and Eelgrass in Puget Sound. Prepared in support of the Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership.
- Olson, D.M. et al., 2001. Terrestrial ecoregions of the world: A new map of life on Earth. *Bioscience*. 51:933-938.
- Pauly, D., Christensen, V., 1995. Primary production required to sustain global fisheries. *Nature*. 347: 255-257.
- Pimm, S.L., 2001. The World According to Pimm: A Scientist Audits the Earth. R.R. Donnelly and Sons Co.
- PR Newswire. September 22, 1993. One million patients have received treatment with Taxol (paclitaxel) in 10 years since it was first approved. Retrieved June 17, 2010 from <http://www.prnewswire.co.uk/cgi/news/release?id=108641>.
- Puget Sound Assessment and Monitoring Program (PSAMP) and the Puget Sound Action Team (PSAT), 2007. 2007 Puget Sound Update. Puget Sound Partnership.
- Rabalais, N. N., 2005. Consequences of Mississippi River diversion for Louisiana Coastal Restoration. *National Wetlands Newsletter*, July-August, 2005: 21-24.
- Stephenson, F., 2002. A Tale of Paclitaxel. Florida State University Office of Research. Retrieved July 2, 2009 from <http://www.rinr.fsu.edu/fall2002/paclitaxel.html>.
- Susman, Ed. 2000., Going Nuts Over Paclitaxel. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 108(9): 397
- TCW Economics. 2008. Economic analysis of the non-treaty commercial and recreational fisheries in Washington State. With technical assistance from The Research Group, Corvallis, OR and Sacramento, CA.
- USDA Economic Research. 2010. Farm Income and Costs: 2010 Farm Sector Income Forecast.

Worm, B., Edward B. Barbier, E.B.B., Nicola Beaumont, N., J. Emmett Duffy, J.E., Carl Folke, C., Benjamin S. Halpern, B.S., Jeremy B. C. Jackson, J.B.C., Heike K. Lotze, H.K., Fiorenza Micheli, F., Stephen R. Palumbi, S.R. Enric Sala, E., Kimberley A. Selkoe, K.A., John J. Stachowicz, J.J., Reg Watson, R., 2006. Impacts of Biodiversity Loss on Ecosystem Services. *Science*. 314(5800): 787-790.

## Appendix A. Greater Detail on Ecosystem Services

In 2001, an international coalition of scientists within NASA, the World Bank, the United Nations Environmental Program, the World Resources Institute, and others initiated an assessment of the effects of ecosystem change on human wellbeing. The product of this collaboration was the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, which classifies ecosystem services into four broad categories describing their ecological role (MEA 2003). Ecological economists generally use these same categories.

- **Provisioning services** provide basic materials; mostly ecosystem service goods. Forests grow trees that can be used for lumber and paper, berries and mushrooms for food, and other plants for medicinal purposes. Rivers provide fresh water for drinking and fish for food. The waters of the Puget Sound provide fish, shellfish and seaweed. Provisioning of these goods is a familiar service provided by nature, and is easiest to quantify in monetary terms (Farber et al., 2006).
- **Regulating services** are benefits obtained from the natural control of ecosystem processes. Intact ecosystems provide regulation of climate, water, soil, and keep disease organisms in check. Degraded systems propagate disease organisms to the detriment of human health (UNEP, 2005).
- **Supporting services** include primary productivity, nutrient cycling and the fixing of CO<sub>2</sub> by plants to produce food. These services are the basis of the vast majority of food webs and life on the planet.
- **Cultural services** are those that provide humans with meaningful interaction with nature. These services include spiritually significant species and natural areas, enjoying natural places for recreation, and learning about the planet through science and education.

Within each category, there are many more specific ecosystems services. These services are identified in the following table.

**Table 1A. Table of Ecosystem Services**

Provisioning	
Drinking Water	Water for human consumption
Food	Biomass for human consumption
Raw Materials	Biological materials used for fuel, art and building. Geological materials used for construction or other purposes
Medicinal Resources	Biological materials used for medicines
Regulating	
Gas and Climate Regulation	Regulation of greenhouse gases, absorption of carbon and sulfur dioxide, and creation of oxygen, evapotranspiration, cloud formation and rainfall provided by vegetated and oceanic areas
Disturbance Regulation	Protection from storms and flooding, drought recovery
Soil Erosion Control	Erosion protection provided by plant roots and tree cover
Water Regulation	Water absorption during rains and release in dry times, temperature and flow regulation for plant and animal species
Biological Control	Natural control of pest species
Waste Treatment	Absorption of organic waste, filtration of pollution
Soil Formation	Formation of sand and soil from through natural processes
Supporting	
Nutrient Cycling	Transfer of nutrients from one place to another; transformation of critical nutrients from unusable to usable forms
Biodiversity and Habitat	Providing for the life history needs of plants and animals
Primary Productivity	Growth by plants provides basis for all terrestrial and most marine food chains
Pollination	Fertilization of plants and crops through natural systems
Cultural	
Aesthetic	The role which natural beauty plays in attracting people to live, work and recreate in an area
Recreation and Tourism	The contribution of intact ecosystems and environments in attracting people to engage in recreational activities
Scientific and Educational	Value of natural resources for education and scientific research
Spiritual and Religious	Use of nature for religious or historic purposes (i.e., heritage value of natural ecosystems and features)

Based on Daly and Farley 2004 and de Groot 2005

These are the primary categories of ecosystem services, and are discussed below. It should be kept in mind that these can be further broken down into sub-categories. For example, recreation contains boating, fishing, birding, hiking, swimming and other activities. Every year,

ecosystem services are added to the more detailed categories.

The following sections provide an overview of provisioning, regulating, supporting and cultural ecosystem services. For this basic ESV report, three specific examples for the Puget Sound Basin are provided in special “Spotlight on the Puget Sound Basin ” figures within orange text boxes throughout this section. Should a full ESV report be done by Earth Economics, each service would contain regional analysis.

## **Provisioning Services**

### **Fresh Water**

Watersheds provide fresh water for human consumption and agriculture; including surface water and ground water for large metropolitan areas, wells, industry and irrigation. The hydrological cycle is affected by structural elements of a watershed such as forests, wetlands and geology, as well as processes such as evapotranspiration and climate. Over 60% of the world’s population gets their drinking water from forested watersheds (UNEP 2005). Some Puget Sound Basin residents are among these. Increasing loss of forest cover around the world has decreased water supply, due to lower ground water recharge and to lower flow reliability (Syvitski, 2005).

The Puget Sound Basin is heavily influenced by its proximity to the Pacific Ocean and the Olympic and Cascade Mountains. Local ecosystems capture precipitation in the form of rain and snow. Water is filtered through forests and other vegetation to produce clean ground water and surface water.

#### **Fresh Water in the Puget Sound Basin**

In the Snoqualmie Basin, nearly 90% of private, municipal, industrial, and agricultural water comes from groundwater sources. Most of this water comes from wells, which are treated with fluoride and chlorine. Much of the groundwater is incorporated into the East King County Groundwater Management Area, which covers 225 miles of land in or near the Snoqualmie River Valley. A Groundwater Protection Committee met from 2002-2004, at which time the Committee disbanded.

Although local, short-term demand for water withdrawal is predicted to remain fairly stable in the Snoqualmie Basin, experts predict pressure from elsewhere in the Puget Sound will contribute to increasing water demand. Additionally, Washington State climate change predictions indicate that prolonged droughts and decreased snowmelt might exaggerate low-flow summer conditions (EKCRWA 2007). Currently, there are some projects to alter stream flow in the Snoqualmie Watershed, both for human use and for aquatic species. This work is discussed in the section on “Water Regulation”.



## Food

Food includes biomass for human consumption, provided by a web of organisms and a functioning ecosystem. Providing food is one of the most important functions of marine ecosystems. Globally, fish and seafood provide the primary source of protein to one billion people. Fishing and fish industries provide direct employment to some 38 million people (UNEP, 2006). Agricultural land also provides a great deal of food value. Agricultural lands in the U.S. are forecasted to produce \$63 billion worth of crops and livestock in 2010 (USDA, 2010). Berries, peas, potatoes, flower bulbs, seeds and dairy products are the major economic yields of Puget Sound farms. Berries are especially high value products for the region.

### Food in the Puget Sound Basin

Historically, the Snoqualmie Valley has been an area rich in natural resources. Before settlers arrived, the area supplied deer, mountain goats, edible bulbs and plant roots, berries, and above all, abundant salmon. The Snoqualmie Tribe managed the prairie's productivity with occasional burns. Arriving settlers later developed a large hops industry in the 1880's, which flourished until the late 1890's. Other agriculture filled its place until the 1960's, when agriculture in the valley declined (King County website, 2010).

Today, the Snoqualmie Agricultural Production District (APD) covers 14,000 acres, largely located along main-stem rivers and along lowland tributaries. Over 4,500 acres of this land has been protected under the Farmland Preservation Program (King County, 2010). According to a 2003 survey by King County, approximately half of total agricultural activity in the Snoqualmie Basin is located within the APD. These lands provide both local and national food, as well as local employment and ecosystem benefits. Livestock and dairy farms cover the largest amount of acreage (4,300 acres of forage lands for livestock), with other significant uses including produce, tree farms, corn, and nurseries (Kaje, 2009).

Additionally, agricultural lands, both active and fallow, provide aesthetic and cultural value. The King County Conservation District assisted with the purchase of the historical Meadowbrook farm, which remains as an open space corridor in the Valley. The King County Historic and Scenic Corridors Project helped develop the West Snoqualmie River Road Heritage Corridor, which capitalizes on historical corridor features as well as views of agricultural lands such as cut flower fields and pastures, and historic architecture such as dairy farmsteads and barns (KCDOT, 2009).

The Snoqualmie Basin has a large amount of critical salmon habitat, which traditionally provided a valuable food source to the Snoqualmie Tribe and others. The details of the habitat and non-commercial values will be discussed in later sections.

However, agricultural production, particularly cattle operations, can degrade water quality and fish habitat when not properly managed. One of our partners on this project, Stewardship Partners, with support from King County, has helped many farms within the Snoqualmie Valley improve practices to reduce negative environmental effects. Through activities such as planting riparian vegetation, both the value of this farmland is increased, and the local economy is enhanced. Better salmon habitat will provide greater return in fishing, local food, and will draw recreational and sports fishers as tourists.

## Raw Materials

Raw Materials include biological materials used for medicines, fuel, art and building, and

geological materials used for construction or other purposes.

### **Raw Materials in the Puget Sound Basin**

The Snoqualmie Basin contains a great deal of working forestlands, with over 75% of its land in the Forest Production District. Trees have been harvested from the area from the late 1800s to the present. Logging of old-growth timber peaked in the 1920s, so there are no old growth stands remaining, and most of the current forest is third or fourth generation growth. Timber production is still active in the area, and about twenty mining claims (primarily for quartz crystals) are still active in the nearby National Forest. The Snoqualmie Valley also has a significant amount of land in tree farms.

## **Regulating Services**

### **Gas and Climate Regulation**

Ecosystems help to regulate the gaseous portion of nutrient cycles that effect atmospheric composition, air quality and climate regulation. This process is facilitated by the capture and long-term storage of carbon as a part of the global carbon cycle. Forests and individual trees play an important role in regulating the amount of oxygen in the atmosphere and in filtering pollutants out of the air, including removal of tropospheric ozone, ammonia, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide compounds (NOx), carbon monoxide and methane.

Carbon sequestration is a specific and important type of gas regulation. Forests, agricultural lands, wetlands and marine ecosystems all play a role in carbon sequestration. Undisturbed old growth forests have very large carbon stocks that have accumulated over thousands of years. Replacing old growth forests with new trees results in net carbon emissions caused by the loss of hundreds of years of carbon accumulation in soil carbon pools and large trees (Harmon, 1990).

Maintaining a climate within a stable range is increasingly a priority for local, federal and international jurisdictions. The role of forests and other ecosystems in controlling Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) – those that contribute to global warming – is essential to the continuation of life on earth. However, carbon sequestration is not the only value provided by gas and climate regulation. Low air quality can cause health care costs to spike, as respiratory diseases develop. In the Puget Sound, the gases sequestered by forests saved \$166.5 million per year in avoided health care costs and other costs in 1996. The extensive forest cover of the entire Puget Sound Basin thus likely provides a significant amount of gas regulation services that is very valuable in terms of public health.

Managed forests have the potential to sequester nearly as much carbon as old growth forests, but this requires longer rotations than current industrial standards and other changes (Harmon and Marks, 2002). Agricultural soils can also sequester more carbon when certain techniques are used, including crop rotations, livestock waste disposal and conservation tillage, especially no-till (West and Post, 2002; Tweeten et al., 1998). Because these types of practices could provide significant global value – \$8 to \$59 per ton by some estimates – there is increased interest in including agricultural lands in carbon trading markets, with farmers receiving

payments for their sequestration. The potential of this market and others related to agricultural lands will be discussed in the section on funding mechanisms

### **Gas and Climate Regulation in the Puget Sound Basin**

The Snoqualmie Basin still contains a great deal of forested land, though working forests and farmland could play a larger role in climate and gas absorption in the Snoqualmie Watershed. Payments to farmers may someday incentivize no-till agriculture and longer forest rotations for working forests. Additionally, some cities, such as Snoqualmie, have taken measures to improve sustainability. The city expects to save \$1,000 annually in stormwater costs from urban tree planting; these trees will likely also contribute to additional carbon sequestration.

### **Disturbance Regulation**

Estuaries and bays, coastal wetlands, headlands, intertidal mudflats, seagrass beds, rock reefs and kelp forests provide storm protection. These areas are able to absorb and store large amounts of rainwater or water runoff during a storm, in addition to providing a buffer against coastal waves. Estuaries, bays and wetlands are particularly important for absorbing floodwaters (Costanza et al., 2008; UNEP, 2005).

Today, changes in land use, combined with the potential for higher frequency storm events due to climate change, make this service one of the most important for the future of economic development in the Snoqualmie Watershed. In order to have productive agricultural and forested lands, protected built capital and high value, productive ecosystems, flood protection must be effective and efficient. Given that significant infrastructure can be damaged during large storm events, tourism and recreation could be harmed as well.

One of the most significant factors in an ecosystem's ability to prevent flooding is the absorption capacity of the land. This is determined by land cover type (forest vs. pavement), soil quality and other hydrological and geological dynamics within the watershed. In the Puget Sound, impermeable surface area has increased by over 10% in the past 15 years. The USGS estimates that urban development leads to increases in flood peak discharges flows of 100-600% for 2-year storm events, 20-300% for 10-year events and 10-250% for 100-year events (Konrad, 2003). One recent study in Renton found that wetlands provide over \$40,000 per acre of flood damage protection (Leschine, 1997). Another pilot study in King County demonstrated that flood hazard reduction projects in the floodplain and Cedar River could avoid \$468 to \$22,333 per acre per year in damages to homes and county flood control facilities (Swedeen and Pittman, 2007).

The retention of forest cover and restoration of floodplains and wetlands provides a tangible and valuable ecosystem service. Most notably, it reduces the devastating effects of floods, which include property damage, lost work time, injury and loss of life. Unfortunately, Puget Sound estuaries have lost about 60% of their salt marshes since European settlement (Buchanan et al., 2001). Wetlands and intact riverine floodplains, including riparian forests, absorb the increased river flows that result from storm events and high snowmelt. Upland forests also absorb rainwater, reducing surface runoff into major stream and river systems. Greater over-land water flows during winter storms cause more flood damage when wetlands are lost, riparian areas are disconnected from rivers and streams or forestland is replaced by

houses and commercial development (Kresch and Dinicola, 1997).

### **Disturbance Regulation in the Puget Sound Basin**

Prior to its recent settlement and industrial development, the Snoqualmie Basin experienced regular storms and flooding, just as it does today. Without any concrete levees, wetland and riparian vegetation was forced to adapt to these regular natural disturbances. An array of complex plant communities arose, which withstood natural disturbances by absorbing their energy. During storms old growth forests soaked up a great deal of water, allowing only a low level of surface runoff. Flooding was further buffered by large tracts of wetland and riparian vegetation which served as a sink for excess water and prevented buildup of water downstream.

Today, existing forest within the Snoqualmie Basin has become increasingly fragmented, partly due to pressures such as land use value increases, changing ownership patterns and residential development (King County WLR, 2010; McCaffrey, 2004). Riparian vegetation and wetlands are following similar trends of fragmentation and altered hydrology (Catchpole and Geggel, 2009a). As a result, the watershed's ability to absorb the energy of natural disturbances has been significantly reduced.

In the Snoqualmie Basin, urban areas line the riverbanks - often in areas that are natural floodways. It was recently estimated that a 100-year flood along the Snoqualmie River would displace approximately 1600 residents in Snoqualmie alone and cost more than \$29 million (King County Flooding Services, 2010). Also, the close proximity of urban areas to natural floodways means that during a flood there is a greater likelihood that floodwaters will pick up land-based pollutants such as industrial and residential chemicals, manure and agricultural fertilizer (Kaje, 2009).

If global temperatures continue to rise, models predict that the Pacific Northwest will experience wetter winters and drier summers (Mote and Salathe, 2009). In Puget Sound watersheds, snowpack is likely to decrease, while rain will increase (Elsner et al., 2009). A reduction in upland vegetation, along with these climatic changes, will result in an increase in rain-on-snow events, further adding to the severity of surface water buildup, flooding and landslides (Coffin and Harr, 1992).

Residents in the Snoqualmie Basin understand that storms and flooding are regular events in the Watershed, and employ a variety of strategies to reduce the stress and danger that comes from such disturbances. After the 2006 floods in Snoqualmie, for example, 90 residents applied to have their houses raised, while 12 applied to have their houses bought out (Catchpole and Geggel, 2009b). Local government continues to maintain flood levees along key riverbanks, but is more often beginning to implement non-traditional flood protection measures, such as levee setbacks and the planting of riparian vegetation along riverbanks (Catchpole and Geggel, 2009b). Policies that recognize the Snoqualmie River's natural tendency to flood will save money in the long term.

### **Soil Erosion Control**

Natural erosion and landslides provide sand and gravel to streams, creating habitat for fish and other species. Additionally, these processes can move Large Woody Debris (LWD) through the process of recruitment, which are needed for healthy aquatic processes. However, if too many areas become unstable, too much LWD will be deposited, causing unnatural jams that damage

habitat and infringe on recreational activity.

Natural erosion protection is provided by plant roots and tree cover. Soil erosion control is closely linked with disturbance prevention. While the absorption capacity of the land will largely determine floodwater levels, the retention of this water can play a significant role in preventing landslides and other damaging forms of erosion. Sedimentation from a large number of landslides can harm salmon habitat.

On the other hand, human alteration of shoreline and stream corridors can prevent the type of natural erosion upon which salmon and other species depend. Forested and vegetated areas naturally provide stability and erosion control, while impermeable built surfaces or deforested areas cannot retain soil well. Human activities may not only affect an area's ability to retain soil, but can also increase the flow of water that may mobilize soil particles. Accidental surface-water

### **Soil Erosion Control in the Puget Sound Basin**

Erosion control in the Snoqualmie Watershed is an important service, as the sedimentation from large amounts of erosion can be extremely damaging to downstream water quality and fish habitat (KCDES et al., 2004). Erosion Hazard Areas were mapped by King County beginning in the late 1980s. The susceptibility of a given slope is determined by grain-size, soil cohesion, slope gradient, rainfall frequency and intensity, surface composition and permeability, and type of land cover (Kresch and Dinicola, 1997).

The best management in the Snoqualmie Basin will allow for natural erosion while protecting habitat and built value by avoiding development and deforestation in areas that are at risk of severe erosion or landslides.

discharges or increased storms related to climate change can both increase erosion risk.

### **Water Regulation**

Ecosystems absorb water during rains and release it in dry times, and also regulate water temperature and flow for plant and animal species. The amount and timing of water flow in the Puget Sound Basin is important for many reasons; the supply of adequate amounts of cool water at critical times is important for salmon migration, the provisioning of drinking and irrigation water allows for ecosystem goods such as clean drinking water and agricultural products and the maintenance of adequate water flows generates electricity for hydroelectric dams. Forest cover, riparian vegetation and wetlands all contribute to modulating the flow of water from upper portions of the watershed to streams and rivers in the lower watershed. Agricultural and urban development often results in lost forest cover or riparian vegetation. This shift in land cover is among the most important causes of a smaller fresh water flow to coastal wetlands and bays. When forested basins are heavily harvested, they become dominated by recently clear-cut or young stands, causing the remaining vegetation and litter layer on the forest floor to absorb less water. More water then flows over land into streams and rivers, contributing to higher peak flows, flood events, erosion and landslide issues (Moore and Wondzell, 2005). Heavy harvesting also reduces the ability of forests to slowly release water during dry summer months and moderate stream temperatures. The soil from erosion entering streambeds injures fish and fills spawning beds. These cumulative effects can damage built and

natural capital.

Coastal freshwater wetlands form a salinity gradient with saltwater marshes and the ocean. These freshwater wetlands keep salt water from intruding on coastal freshwater supplies, both at the surface and in aquifers. Alteration of hydrology by diverting water from estuaries is considered to be a major threat to coastal areas. Hypersalinization can occur when too much fresh water is prevented from reaching estuaries, threatening fresh water supplies, habitat and other services.

As was discussed in the section on Drinking Water, ecosystems are able to naturally both supply and then filter clean water for human use. One way to understand the economic value of intact watersheds is to compare it to the cost of building and maintaining water supply and treatment facilities. To the extent that loss of ecological systems results in reduced supply, value can also be ascertained through the cost of having to import water from elsewhere. These are examples of what economists call replacement costs (see Appendix B).

A wide variety of stream-flow augmentation techniques have been adopted in the United States, Great Britain, and elsewhere. In order to balance human desire to maximize water supply with other services such as water regulation and habitat, these types of management techniques must be carefully evaluated regarding their impact on water flows elsewhere in the watershed. Much of the science behind stream-aquifer relationships and other hydrologic relationships within the watershed are still not fully understood, and will greatly impact our ability to protect other ecosystem services as we utilize this valuable one.

#### **Water Regulation in the Puget Sound Basin**

Currently, the East King County Regional Water Association (EKRWA) - in conjunction with the Department of Ecology (DOE) and Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) - is pursuing projects to impact ground and surface water resources in the Snoqualmie Basin, documented in an extensive Streamflow Enhancement Report produced in 2007. Studies in the 1980s and 1990s indicated that East King County might experience future water shortages, sparking an investigation by the EKRWA. This work has analyzed the potential of various stream flow augmentation techniques in the Snoqualmie Basin, specifically the Snoqualmie Aquifer Regional Water Supply Project.

The project would deliver water from the upper Snoqualmie Basin to the regional supply system. However, since such action could jeopardize flows needed for salmon and other species, the EKRWA has proposed managing ground water together with surface water, so that groundwater would be withdrawn from wells in the upper Middle and South Fork basins, added to the Snoqualmie River as it flows through Duvall, and withdrawn once past critical salmon areas.

Additionally, high temperatures during summer months threaten aquatic populations, and temperature is now the largest water quality concern in the mainstem of the Snoqualmie River (Kaje, 2009). Future conditions may vary due to climate change, including reduced snowmelt and lower summer flows. New water management strategies will need to be developed to meet both increasing human demand and increasing pressure to restore and protect salmon and other aquatic species.

#### **Pollination**

Pollination supports wild and cultivated plants, which are an important supply of food for



people. Pollination also plays a critical role in ecosystem productivity. Many plant species, and the animals that rely on them for food, would go extinct without animal and insect mediated pollination. Pollination services are also crucial for crop productivity for many types of cultivated foods, enhancing the basic productivity and economic value of agriculture (Nabhan and Buchmann, 1997). Wild habitats near croplands are necessary in order to provide sufficient habitat to keep populations of pollinators, so vital to crop production, intact. The loss of forestlands and native shrubby riparian areas in suburbanizing rural areas has a negative impact on the ability of wild pollinators to perform this service.

### **Pollination in the Puget Sound Basin**

Pollination drives many of the ecosystem services provided by the Snoqualmie Basin. Agriculture, for example, relies heavily on pollination. Insect-pollinated market crops were valued at approximately \$20 billion to the U.S. economy in 2000 (Morse and Calderone, 2000). The Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District (APD), found within the Snoqualmie Basin, is the second largest APD in King County. In terms of acreage, its market crops account for around half of the King County total (this includes flowers) (KCDNRP and KCAC, 2009), many of which rely on natural pollinators. Livestock make up around a third of the valley's APD, and is indirectly reliant on pollinators, in that forage crops such as alfalfa are grown with the help of pollinators. Pollinators also ensure that local flowering plants are able to reproduce. These plants in turn provide us with a number of ecosystem services, such as breathable air, and some of the natural beauty that attracts visitors to the Snoqualmie Basin.

### **Biological Control**

Biological Control is the ability of ecosystems to limit the prevalence of crop and livestock pests and diseases. A wide variety of pest species destroy human agricultural crops, reducing worldwide harvest by an estimated 42%, thereby causing a loss of \$244 billion each year (Pimentel et al., 1997). A number of natural predators for pest species contribute to natural control of damages. These predators also play a role in protecting forests from pests. Birds, for example, are a natural predator of some harmful insects. Unfortunately, many exotic pests, for which no natural predators exist, have been introduced to areas beyond their natural range. These new pests have caused annual damage ranging from \$1.1 to \$134 million dollars in the United States alone (Chapin et al., 2000).

In recent years, humans have turned increasingly towards pesticides to control crop losses. While pesticides can reduce the risk of specific pest attacks, they can also harm natural predator populations and lead to resistance among pests, making them even more difficult to control in the future. Overuse of pesticides is also known to reduce provisioning of some other ecosystem services, particularly water quality. While there may be a role for pesticide control in agricultural practice, there are also ways to manage crops so as to enhance biological control services. These techniques include crop diversification and genetic diversity, crop rotation and promoting an abundance of smaller patches of fields (Dordas, 2009; Risch et al., 1983).

### **Biological Control in the Puget Sound Basin**

Because the Snoqualmie Basin has a substantial agricultural community, there is ample opportunity to improve the use of biological control measures to assist farming practices. There are a number of resources available; The National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service provides both English and Spanish language information on sustainable farming, including pest management approaches. The Snoqualmie Basin is also home to Stewardship Partner's pilot "Salmon Safe" Program, which requires farm owners to adopt natural pest control methods and increase diversity (Stewardship Partners, 2010).

### **Water Quality and Waste Processing**

Microorganisms in sediments and mudflats of estuaries, bays and nearshore areas break down human and other animal wastes (Weslawski et al., 2004). They can also detoxify petroleum products. The physical destruction of habitat, alteration of food webs, or overload of nutrients and waste products disrupts disease regulation and waste processing services. Changes to ecosystems can also create breeding sites for disease vectors where they were previously non-existent. People can be exposed to disease in coastal areas through direct contact with bacterial or viral agents while swimming or washing in fresh or saltwater, and by ingesting contaminated fish, seafood or water. The recent rise of cholera outbreaks in the southern hemisphere is associated with degradation of coastal ecosystems (UNEP, 2006).

The Puget Sound area has had several incidents of shellfish and beach closures due to red tide and amnesic shellfish poisoning in recent years. While the algae that cause toxic blooms are native to west coast waters, and toxic blooms can occur as natural events, there is evidence that increasing pollution loads and climate change exacerbate the conditions that lead to toxic blooms (Rabalais, 2005). Many areas in Puget Sound also have health advisories due to high bacteria counts from human and domestic animal waste, especially in late summer, and many shellfish harvest areas have been closed as a result (PSAT, 2007). Reduced access to beaches, fish and shellfish due to disease has obvious impacts to human health and economic activity in the Puget Sound counties.

Wetlands, estuarine macroalgae and nearshore sedimentary biota play a crucial role in removing nitrogen and phosphorous from water (Garber et al., 1992; Weslawski et al., 2004). The removal of these nutrients maintains offshore water conditions that are conducive to native fish and invertebrate biota. The rise of nutrient overload and hypoxic zones caused by a combination of agricultural run-off, failed septic systems and the dumping of fish carcasses have become a major issue in Hood Canal in recent years. Land use patterns also play an important role. Researchers have found that more agriculturally active and heavily urbanized watersheds contribute three times the nitrogen and phosphorous loads to the Puget Sound than the forested watersheds in the Olympic Mountains (Inkpen and Embrey., 1998).



### **Waste Treatment in the Puget Sound Basin**

Water Quality in the Snoqualmie Watershed has remained relatively high, but there may be reason for concern as conditions change in the coming years. A 2009 report produced by King County, “Snoqualmie Water Quality Synthesis”, found that growing population, changing land use and climate change may all present threats to water quality. Population growth will require additional waste processing and sewage facilities, though it is possible that some natural management approaches could be used. Growing urban and rural populations will also add development pressure to wetlands, forests, and riparian areas. However, there are some positive trends as well. Agricultural land uses have diversified in recent years, moving away from historically common dairy farming, which may help water quality.

Thus far, nutrient inputs to the mainstem have been small enough that the River continues to meet state standards, though many sites occasionally exceed fecal coliform bacteria limits. A number of tributaries have consistent water quality problems, especially Kimball, Patterson, Ames, Cherry and Tuck Creeks. Problems include high temperature, excessive bacterial load largely due to livestock operations and septic system failures, low pH, and low dissolved oxygen. Some of the current conditions likely result from long-term changes in soil and drainage patterns resulting from past conversion of forest to agricultural land and logging practices. Still, the findings of the 2009 report support previous sections of this document: intact wetlands and forests are the best defense against water quality degradation. Local jurisdictions should place a premium on protecting these assets in perpetuity. They also reduce flooding and bank erosion while sustaining the aesthetic beauty of rural communities.

## **Supporting Services**

### **Nutrient Cycling**

There are 22 elements essential to the growth and maintenance of living organisms. While some of these elements are needed only by a small number of organisms, or in small amounts in specific circumstances, all living things depend on the nutrient cycles of carbon, nitrogen, phosphorous and sulfur in relatively large quantities. These are the cycles that human actions have most affected. Silicon and iron are also important elements in ocean nutrient cycles because they affect phytoplankton community composition and productivity. It is living things that facilitate the movement of nutrients between and within ecosystems and which turn them from biologically unavailable forms, such as rocks or the atmosphere, into forms that can be used by others. Without functioning nutrient cycles, life on the planet would cease to exist. As plants and plant parts die, they contribute to the pool of organic matter that feeds the microbial, fungal and micro-invertebrate communities in soils. These communities facilitate the transformation of nutrients from one form to another. Larger animals play a crucial role in nutrient cycles by moving nutrients from one place to another in the form of excrement, and through the decomposition of their bodies after they die. Forests also play a significant role in global nutrient cycles; they hold large volumes of basic nutrients and keep them within the system, buffering global flows. Deforestation has played a large part in altering global carbon and nitrogen cycles (Vitousek et al., 1997).

The marine environment plays a central role in all major global nutrient cycles. Marine organisms fix nitrogen and take up carbon, phosphorous and sulfur from the water or from

other organisms. Much of the mass of these macronutrients is deposited in sediments where it is either stored for the long term or taken back up to surface waters by upwelling. The ability of marine environments to cycle nutrients can be negatively affected but nutrient overloads, which result largely from human actions that cause water pollution such as fertilizer runoff.

The removal of forests, riparian areas and wetlands has had a significant effect on nutrient cycles. These ecosystems trap and retain nutrients that would otherwise run off into streams and rivers, and eventually end up in the ocean. A combination of increased use of fertilizers and the loss of the buffering capacity of these ecosystems has led to fresh water, estuarine and ocean systems suffering nutrient overloads which lead to large blooms of phytoplankton. Loss of commercially, recreationally and culturally important fish species has occurred as a result. The number of marine dead zones in the world has doubled every decade since the advent of nitrogen fertilizers after World War II (UNEP, 2005). The presence of these dead zones is a clear indication that global nutrient cycles have been severely altered by human actions.

Nutrient cycling is a supporting service because many other services depend on it. Given that ecosystem productivity would cease without it, production is impaired when these cycles become significantly altered. Nutrient cycling is a fundamental precursor to ecosystem and economic productivity. This fundamental role cannot be fully substituted by human-made solutions, and operates at multiple, overlapping scales, so it is difficult to arrive at an accurate economic value for this service, and it is often undervalued (Farber et al., 2006). Given that nutrient cycling is fundamental to the operation of life on the planet, it is important that biological science inform policy that will protect this critical service.

### **Soil Formation**

Soil is formed over thousands of years through a process that involves parent material, climate, topography, organisms and time. Soil quality and abundance is critical for human survival, yet human actions can also affect nature's ability to provide high quality soils (USDA-SCS, 1983). Soil should be considered a capital asset providing a suite of benefits into the future depending on the health and abundance of the soil.

### **Soil Formation in the Puget Sound Basin**

There are five significant factors in soil formation:

- Parent material is for the most part chemically weathered mineral or organic matter that contributes to soil formation. In Snohomish and King Counties, most of the soil was formed from deposits of glacial drift, though some was deposited by till, outwash and material mixed with volcanic ash.
- Topography affects soil formation by changing the drainage and surface flow of rain and runoff. The slope of the land, the ways in which topography dictates water flows and absorption, and solar evaporation are all examples of ways in which topography can relate to soil formation and soil characteristics.
- Living organisms contribute to soil formation as they decompose. Plants, microorganisms, earthworms, insects, fungi and other life forms contribute organic matter and nitrogen. The type of plants in an area can determine characteristics of the soil. Animals contribute less to this process, but earthworms, insects and small animals assist with soil aeration and deposit nutrients.
- The climate in Snohomish County has three distinct zones: Western (lower elevation, lower precipitation, a high period of frost-free days and a mean temperature of 55 degrees F), Central (elevation ranging from 800 – 1,800 ft, slightly more precipitation, fewer frost free days and an average air temperature of 45 degrees F) and the Eastern (elevation above 1,800 ft, high annual precipitation, short frost-free period and mean annual air temperature is 42 degrees F.) The amount of precipitation and the air temperature are primary factors in the climate's influence on soil formation processes. Because of the colder temperatures and higher precipitation in the Eastern area, soils have a distinct surface layer and subsurface layer.
- Time is absolutely essential to soil formation. In the Snohomish area, soil-forming processes began following glacial melting, around 12,000 years ago. Some types of soils develop more slowly than others, but all develop over the course of thousands of years.

### **Biodiversity and Habitat**

Puget Sound Basin is home to a rich diversity of species and ecosystems. Biological diversity is defined as the number and types of species and the ecosystems they comprise. It is measured at gene, population, species, ecosystem and regional levels (Magurran, 1988). For all ecosystems, biodiversity is both a precondition of the flow of ecosystem services and an ecosystem service in itself (UNEP, 2006). It is a precondition because ecosystems, with their full native complement of species, tend to be more productive and more resilient to change in environmental conditions or external shocks. Biodiversity is also an ecosystem service in itself because novel products have been derived from genetic and chemical properties of species, it provides a secure food base (multiple sources of food with different seasonal availability), and people ascribe value to it simply for its existence.

Habitat is the biophysical space and process in which wild species meet their needs – a healthy ecosystem provides physical structure, adequate food availability, appropriate chemical and temperature regimes, and protection from predators. Habitat may provide refugium and nursery functions; a refugium refers to general living space for organisms, while nursery habitat is specifically habitat where all the requirements for successful reproduction occur (De Groot et al., 2002). In addition to the physical structure provided to species, food web relationships are important components of habitats that support all species. For instance, food webs based on

kelp and eelgrass beds provide the conditions necessary for salmon, crab, sea cucumbers and sea urchins – all commercially important species in the Puget Sound (Mumford, 2007). A recent assessment found that there are at least 7,013 species, including animals (vertebrate and invertebrate), flowering plants, fungi and marine algae in the habitat types of the Puget Sound Basin (CFBD and FSJ, 2005). Given that little is known about some invertebrates and most microorganisms, the total is likely much higher. Western Washington forests are home to 82 species of mammals, 120 bird species, 27 amphibian species, 14 reptile species (Olson et al., 2001) and several thousand invertebrate species including fresh water mussels, insects and arthropods (FEMAT, 1993). All seven species of salmonids found in the Puget Sound use forested streams and rivers for part of their life cycle. Many forest species depend on, or are at their highest abundance, in late-successional or old growth forests (FEMAT, 1993).

Habitat areas in the Puget Sound Basin have widely suffered degradation due to development, conversion from a natural to a heavily managed type, logging, pollution or the impact of invasive species (Buchanan et al., 2001; Olson et al. 2001). Toxic and biological pollution continue to pose a threat to nearshore and pelagic habitats and their associated species in the Puget Sound (PSAMP and PSAT, 2007).

A recent meta-analysis of marine data and studies examining the effects of biodiversity on ecosystem services found strong evidence that loss of biodiversity leads to fisheries collapse, lower potential for stock and system recovery, loss of system stability, and lower water quality. The relationship is one of an exponential loss of ecosystem services with declining diversity (Worm et al., 2006). In contrast, Worm et al. also found that restoration of biodiversity, including the establishment of marine reserves protected from fishing pressures, leads to a fourfold increase in system productivity and a 21% decrease in variability (i.e., an increase in stability). This study provides the best evidence to date of the direct relationship between biological diversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment.

At a global scale, the loss of biodiversity in all ecosystems through over-harvest, habitat degradation and loss has been substantial in marine and coastal ecosystems, forests, grasslands and agricultural systems. This has large implications for maintenance of ecosystem services. Over-fishing and habitat loss have affected Puget Sound's fish stocks; urbanization and industrial development have led to the loss of large portions of historical forest and wetland cover; pollution and land loss from residential and commercial development continue to threaten the continued persistence of many species and ecosystems. There are currently 17 species listed as federally threatened or endangered that live in the Puget Sound Basin, though the Center for Biodiversity (2005) estimates that there are at least 285 species that are critically imperiled.

Habitat contributes significantly to other ecosystem services, namely, fisheries, recreation through wildlife watching, and cultural or spiritual values, which are often expressed through people's willingness to pay for protection of natural areas and through public or private expenditures on acquiring and protecting habitat.

### **Biodiversity and Habitat the Puget Sound Basin**

The US Fish and Wildlife service lists species as “endangered” or “threatened,” in order to assure protection of these species under the Endangered Species Act. In the Snoqualmie Basin, listed species that are likely present include bald eagles, Chinook salmon, bull trout, steelhead, northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets.

### **Primary Productivity**

Primary productivity is another supporting service upon which all other ecosystem services depend. It refers to the conversion of energy from sunlight into forms that living organisms use. Marine and land plants perform this function, using the sugars that are products of photosynthesis for their own respiration. Human life depends directly on primary productivity through consumption of crops, wild plants, seaweed, fish and seafood, and livestock. In the past, we depended mainly on the direct energy flow from food consumption to survive. Then we used the help of draft animals and simple machines. At the onset of the industrial age, humans increasingly depended on fossil fuels, which are ancient stored energy from photosynthesis. Since humans started to perform work with the use of fossil fuels, the number of people and amount of consumption has far exceeded what would have been possible just by operating on current energy flows. Humans appropriate over 40% of the planet’s terrestrial primary productivity. This share is increasing – with massive ecological implications for the rest of planet’s organisms and energy budget (Vitousek, 1986). One likely consequence is a loss of biological diversity, which, as discussed above, would have severe consequences on the delivery of many other ecosystem services.

About 8% of total primary productivity of ocean ecosystems supports human fisheries. However, when the calculation is confined to parts of the ocean where most primary productivity and fish catches occur, the number approaches the productivity of terrestrial systems, 25-30% (Pauly and Christensen, 1995; Pimm, 2001). Again, if humans consume most ocean primary productivity in the form of fish and seafood, not much will be left to fuel the remainder of the food web and all the ecological processes that it drives (Pimm, 2001).

Terrestrial primary productivity comes mainly from forests, but ecosystem types such as grasslands and meadows also contribute, although at a much lower rate. Loss of forests to development decreases primary productivity. Such loss is an issue in the Puget Sound Basin, especially in the suburbanizing fringe.

Marine primary productivity comes from wetland plants, macroalgae and sea grasses in the coastal and near shore environment, and from phytoplankton in the continental shelf and deep-sea waters. Most marine primary productivity occurs in the coastal zone out to the farthest extent of the continental shelf. Due to changes in currents, upwelling and changes in water chemistry, which may affect the ability of diatomaceous phytoplankton to form calcareous shells, climate change has large implications for ocean productivity (Orr et al., 2005).

## **Cultural Services**

### **Aesthetic**

Aesthetic value, as an ecosystem service refers to the appreciation of, and attraction to, beautiful natural land and seascapes (De Groot et al., 2002). The existence of National Seashores, State and National Parks, Scenic Areas, and officially designated scenic roads and pullouts attest to the social importance of this service. There is also substantial evidence demonstrating the economic value of environmental aesthetics through analysis of data on housing markets, wages and relocation decisions (Palmquist, 2002). Puget Sound's islands, rocky beaches, and views of water, forests and mountains, are of major importance to the cultural and economic character of the region. There is also evidence substantiating the view that degraded landscapes are associated with economic decline and stagnation (Power, 1996).

### **Recreation and Tourism**

Ecosystem features like biological diversity and clean water attract people to engage in recreational activities, and can also increase property values or attractiveness for business. Tourism and recreation are related to, but not totally encompassed by, aesthetic values. People travel to beautiful places for vacation, but they also engage in specific activities associated with the ecosystems in those places.

Recreational fishing, scuba diving, surfing, kayaking, whale and bird watching, hunting, enjoying local seafood and wines, and beachcombing are all activities that would not occur or be thoroughly enjoyed without intact shorelines, healthy fish and wildlife populations, and clean water.

Storm protection, shoreline stabilization and waste treatment are also important ecological services associated with recreation and tourism because they help keep tourists safe and protect both private and public infrastructure needed for the tourism industry.

Tourism and recreation, significant parts of nearly all coastal economies throughout the world, are both a blessing and a curse. Development designed to attract tourists has been a major source of degradation in coastal environments, causing water quality and habitat degradation. Too much recreational fishing pressure and too many whale-watching boats can also put excessive pressure on the species that attract people in the first place. The concept of ecotourism has arisen in part to deal with these issues. It is, however, an incomplete solution to date.

Recreation and tourism are, like aesthetics, an important part of the link between ecosystem services and the Puget Sound's economy. The Department of Ecology valued the tourism revenue generated annually in the Puget Sound region to be \$9.5 billion (2008). More than half of recreational salmon that are caught in Washington State are from Puget Sound (Puget Sound Partnership, 2007).

Recreational fishing brings in substantial revenue to the state (approximately \$854 million in 2001 according to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (2002)), and thus to the Puget Sound area. Healthy, fishable salmon populations are therefore important to the tourism

economy. Scuba diving, kayaking, bird watching, hiking, climbing and nature photography draw people, both residents and visitors, to the natural areas of the watershed.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife calculated that wildlife watching in Washington State brought in \$980 million in 2001 (WDFW, 2002). It is interesting to note that in the year for which these spending statistics were reported, non-consumptive wildlife viewing accounted for more than double the expenditures for hunting, and exceeded spending on recreational fishing by nearly \$130 million. Although not all of this spending occurred in the Puget Sound Basin, statistics on the proportion of overall tourism revenue generated in Washington that comes from Puget Sound indicates that more than half of this was likely spent in the region.

The State of Washington has also invested in ensuring that people have public access to the 35 State Parks located in the region. Washington does not charge users fees for these parks, indicating that it is willing to spend considerable fiscal resources to support outdoor recreation.

While teasing out the direct monetary contribution of the ecosystems themselves to the recreation and tourism economy, there is no doubt that attractive landscapes, clean water, and healthy fish and wildlife populations provide a necessary underpinning to this sector of the economy. Several studies of nature-related recreation are included in the ecosystem service value analysis described below.

#### **Aesthetic and Recreation Values in the Puget Sound Basin**

The aesthetic value of the Snoqualmie Valley plays a big part in attracting and retaining residents, even in the face of regular flooding (Catchpole and Geggel, 2009b). Snoqualmie Falls alone is estimated to attract 2.2 million visitors each year, making it the second most-visited attraction in Washington State after Mount Rainier (City of Snoqualmie, 2009). People visit throughout the year, engaging in activities such as skiing, hiking, kayaking and fishing (Snoqualmie Valley CoC, 2010). The Valley's natural and social capital give it even greater potential as a tourist destination, and King County is eager to promote it more actively as a place to stay (Catchpole, 2010).

The population explosion in the City of Snoqualmie is a testament to this popularity. Between 2000 and 2009, thanks to an increase in available housing, the city's population grew by 496.6%, making it the fastest growing city in Washington State for that period (PSRC, 2009).

#### **Scientific and Educational**

Ecosystems are the subject of much scientific study for both basic knowledge and for understanding the contribution of functioning ecosystems to human wellbeing. The number of educational and research institutions devoted to studying marine and terrestrial environments shows the scientific and educational importance of ecosystems. Government, academic and private resources are all devoted to formal study of ecosystems in the Puget Sound Basin. Such pursuits benefit people through direct knowledge gained for subsistence, safety and commercial purposes. The study of natural systems is also an important intellectual pursuit for helping people understand how complex systems work. Scientific and educational institutions devoted to both marine and terrestrial environments also provide locally significant employment. These institutions include Batelle Northwest, University of Washington Biology and Forestry schools,

The Pacific Northwest Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service and NOAA Pacific Fisheries Science Center.

### **Scientific and Educational Values in the Puget Sound Basin**

The Snoqualmie Basin generates significant employment for scientific monitoring, research, educational and restoration activities. For example, salmon and stream restoration projects bring in federal, state, county and private funding, while educating the broader community in the science and value of healthy streams. The valley is also providing important insights into flood control management, as a part of the King County Flood Control District. The area is effectively a “living laboratory” for flood control measures, and the high frequency of flood disasters has forced King County to develop one of the nation’s most progressive flood management strategies (King County DNRP, 2010). Insights gained here will not only save money for residents of the Snoqualmie Basin in the future, but will also gain statewide and international attention if they succeed, helping other jurisdictions to reduce the costs involved in flood protection.

### **Spiritual and Religious**

Ecosystems and their components play a role in the spiritual beliefs of people. These values do not lend themselves well to economic quantification. Other aspects of the linkage between ecosystem and culture include the spiritual significance that individuals and societies place on nature, and the scientific and educational value derived from studying natural systems. The watershed is especially important to the Snoqualmie Tribe from a spiritual perspective, as evidenced by their traditions around salmon and other marine organisms, and by their art and stories. People of non-native American ancestry also often have spiritual values for nature expressed in many ways. There is no method for establishing a complete dollar value for spiritual value. The value for “my way of life” may be incommensurable with a dollar value. That is, these are two fundamentally different valuations, such as weight and length. They simply cannot be expressed in a common unit. However, partial valuation of some spiritual values may be possible and established through willingness to pay surveys for existence value for spiritual appreciation, ranking this spiritual value against material choices.

### **Spiritual and Religious Values in the Puget Sound Basin**

A number of natural features within the Snoqualmie Basin are linked to the creation stories of Snoqualmie Tribe.

### **Ecological Economics**

The field of economics was heavily influenced during the industrial revolution, and grew to focus on increasing the production of manufactured goods and built capital above all else. This approach has yielded a highly productive market system for manufactured capital, which we measure using Gross National Product (GNP). However, it is generally agreed that there are many things that we care about beyond manufactured products. In fact, a great deal of research suggests that things like leisure time, equality and healthy relationships with other people are much more important to happiness (Easterlin 1974; 1995; Graham 2005). Traditionally, economics has provided a poor measurement of human, social and natural capital productivity. Built capital and labor have been



the primary “factors of production.” Land and other resources are only occasionally included in economic analysis. Figure 1A provides a sketch of this perspective.

**Figure 1A. Model of the Economy that Excludes Natural Capital**



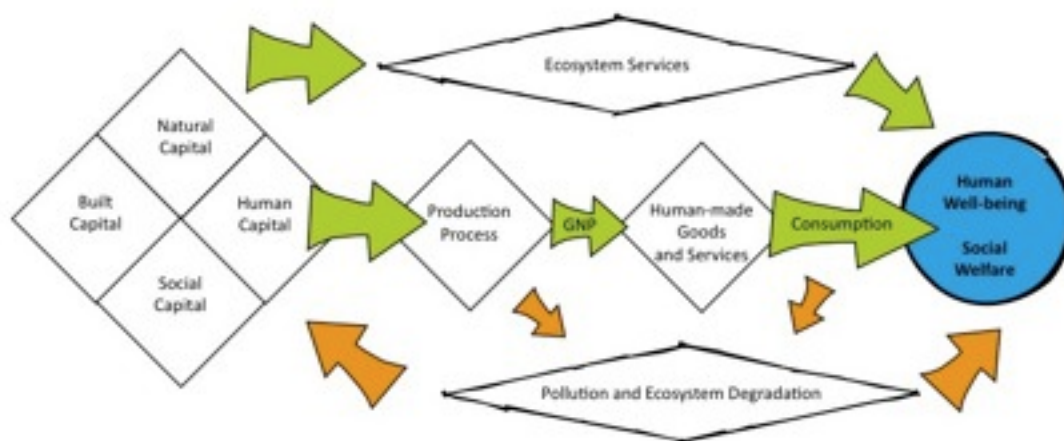
Adapted from Costanza et al. 1997a

As natural capital has become scarcer, increasing attention and research has been aimed at developing alternative economic approaches. In 2001 Joseph Stiglitz, George Akerlof and Michael Spence won the Nobel Prize in Economics for their work examining some of the imperfections in market economies, often overlooked by traditional economics.

One reason that natural capital is often ignored is the fact that it is often thought of as something that human-built alternatives can replace. In many cases, however, built capital cannot replace natural capital. When water becomes polluted and natural systems are not available to filter it, it is possible to build a water filtration plant. However, if diverse salmon populations become extinct, their genetic variance will be lost forever.

This report focuses on the contribution of natural capital to the Puget Sound economy. While we will discuss built, human and social capital assets in the watershed, we will not estimate their value. Figure 2A illustrates a more robust vision of the economy, which takes all four capitals into account.

**Figure 2A. Ecological Economic Model of the Economy**



Adapted from Costanza et al. 1997a

When salmon were thought to be unlimited, rights to salmon seemed unimportant. However, as dams, overfishing, loss of nearshore habitat and other factors reduced salmon populations, and technology and human population increased, there was a shift from an empty world scenario to a full world scenario. Sustainability of salmon catches, something no one worried about in past decades, is now a crucial question. As salmon, water, timber, flood control and other ecosystem services become scarcer, they become more valuable.

Unlike a factory that produces a single product, like a car or toy, watersheds produce a full suite of goods and services. This is both highly productive and economically complex. Thus, it is important that the Snoqualmie Watershed has the right institutions to help guide responsible watershed planning.

## **Appendix B. Valuation of the Puget Sound Basin Ecosystem Services**

The economy of the Puget Sound Basin cannot be understood without examining the contribution of natural capital and its associated flows of ecosystems services to the economy and well-being of people. Our economy and communities reside within the landscape as part of the environment. However, most decisions are made without considering the explicit contribution of functioning ecosystems to economic activity and output. Interest in identifying, describing and quantifying the economic value of ecosystem services has grown tremendously over the past 20 years, expressly for the purpose of improving environmental decision making (Daily 1997; Costanza et al. 1997b; Balmford et al. 2002). This is particularly relevant for coastal

areas. Rough and preliminary estimates of the global economic value of coastal and nearshore marine ecosystems demonstrated that two-thirds of the total ecosystem service value of all systems on earth come from coastal and marine systems (Costanza et al., 1997b; Costanza, 1999). Understanding the nature of this economic value and how it changes with ecosystem restoration or degradation is also crucial because coastal systems are under great development and extraction pressure relative to other biomes (UNEP, 2005).

Ecosystems produce goods and services. Ecosystem goods like fish or trees can be excludable and amenable to market pricing while ecosystem services like the production of climate protection, or hurricane storm protection are public services, non-excludable, and not amenable to market pricing. Markets for fish and timber can exist because people can be excluded; once a fish is caught, nobody else can catch that same fish. Markets for breathable air cannot exist because people cannot be excluded from breathing air. In addition, breathing air is not rival; a person's breathing does not restrict another's breathing. Roads are rival; we all have equal access to roads, however, having too many people on the road restricts its effective use. Air is neither excludable (cannot be owned) nor rival (everyone can breathe the air). Every specific ecosystem good or service has special physical qualities which determine if it is an excludable or rival good or service and how well market valuation fits the nature of that service.

Ecosystem functions and the services they produce are diverse and operate across large landscapes (storm buffering) or, in some cases, the whole planet (carbon sequestration). Highly interdependent physical and biological systems make life, and economic life, on the planet possible – the operation of climate, oxygen production, nutrient cycles, water and energy flows, the movements of seeds, pollen, and pollinators, the distribution of different types of plants and soils, biodiversity, and the availability of decomposer organisms, such as bacteria, to clean up natural waste products. Oceans operate in a similar way with some organisms spanning large parts of the globe, and ocean nutrient cycles taking place over very large spaces and long time frames.

Because ecosystems provide a tremendously valuable, wide variety of common wealth, public goods and services at the lowest cost over long periods of time, they are the best systems for producing these goods and services. It would be impractical, and in some cases impossible and simply undesirable, to replace these economically valuable natural systems with more costly and less efficient built capital substitutes.

Valuing services which are “public goods” that are not excludable and thus unmarketable, but do contribute to our common wealth, is difficult. However, a number of techniques have been developed to derive economic values for ecosystem services.

## **Valuation Techniques**

Ascribing economic value to these ecosystem services helps policy makers and the public decide how to allocate public funds for the common good upon which private wealth depends (Costanza, 2006). Ecosystem goods and services may be divided into two general categories: market and non-market. Measuring market values simply requires monitoring market data for prices and quantities sold. This production creates a flow of ecosystem goods that have a market-defined economic value over time.

Non-market values of goods and services are more difficult to measure. When there is no explicit market for services, more indirect means of assessing values must be used.

The valuation techniques that were used to derive the values in the database were developed within environmental and natural resource economics. As Table 1B indicates, these techniques include direct market pricing, replacement cost, avoided cost, factor income method, travel cost, hedonic pricing and contingent valuation.

**Table 1B. Valuation Methodologies**

**Avoided Cost (AC):** services allow society to avoid costs that would have been incurred in the absence of those services; storm protection provided by barrier islands avoids property damages along the coast.

**Replacement Cost (RC):** services can be replaced with man-made systems; nutrient cycling waste treatment provided by wetlands can be replaced with costly treatment systems.

**Factor Income (FI):** services provide for the enhancement of incomes; water quality improvements increase commercial fisheries catch and the incomes of fisherfolk.

**Travel Cost (TC):** service demand may require travel, which have costs that can reflect the implied value of the service; recreation areas can be valued at least by what visitors are willing to pay to travel to it, including the imputed value of their time

**Hedonic Pricing (HP):** service demand may be reflected in the prices people will pay for associated goods, for example housing prices along the coastline tend to exceed the prices of inland homes.

**Marginal Product Estimation (MP):** service demand is generated in a dynamic modeling environment using a production function (Cobb-Douglas) to estimate the change in the value of outputs in response to a change in material inputs.

**Contingent Valuation (CV):** service demand may be elicited by posing hypothetical scenarios that involve some valuation of alternatives; for instance, people generally state that they are willing to pay for increased preservation of beaches and shoreline.

**Group Valuation (GV):** this approach is based on principles of deliberative democracy and the assumption that public decision making should result, not from the aggregation of separately measured individual preferences, but from *open public debate*.

Adapted from Farber et al 2006

**Table 2B. Appropriateness of Valuation Methodologies for Ecosystem Service Type**

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Amenability to Economic Valuation</b>	<b>Most Appropriate Method for Valuation</b>	<b>Transferability Across Sites</b>
Gas regulation	Medium	CV, AC, RC	High
Climate regulation	Low	CV, AC, RC	High
Disturbance regulation	High	AC	Medium
Biological regulation	Medium	AC, P	High
Water regulation	High	M, AC, RC, H, P, CV	Medium
Soil retention	Medium	AC, RC, H	Medium
Waste regulation	High	RC, AC, CV	Medium to high
Nutrient regulation	Medium	AC, RC, CV	Medium
Water supply	High	AC, RC, M, TC	Medium
Food	High	MP	High
Raw materials	High	MP	High
Genetic resources	Low	M, AC	Low
Medicinal resources	High	AC, RC, P	High
Ornamental resources	High	AC, RC, H	Medium
Recreation	High	TC, CV, ranking	Low
Aesthetics	High	H, TC, CV, ranking	Low
Science and education	Low	Ranking	High
Spiritual and historic	Low	CV, ranking	Low

Tables 1B and 2B show that each valuation methodology has its own strengths and limitations; often restricting its use to a select range of ecosystem goods and services within a given landscape. For instance, the value generated by a naturally functioning ecological system in the treatment of wastewater can be estimated by using the replacement cost (RC) method which is based on the price of the cheapest alternative for obtaining that service (the cost of chemical or mechanical alternatives). Avoided cost (AC), which is a related method, can be used to estimate value based on the cost of damages due to lost services. This method was used to value the flood protection services provided by restored habitats and functions within the flood plain. Travel cost (TC) and contingent valuation (CV) surveys are useful for estimating recreation values while hedonic pricing (HP) is used for estimating property values associated with aesthetic qualities of natural ecosystems. Contingent valuation surveys and conjoint analysis can be used to measure existence value of ecosystems and charismatic animals. Marginal product estimation (MP) has generally been used in a dynamic modeling context and aids in examining how ecosystem service values change over time. Finally, group valuation (GV), a more recent addition to the valuation literature, directly addresses the need to measure social values in a group context. In many applications, the full suite of ecosystem valuation techniques will be

required to account for the economic value of goods and services that a natural landscape provides. Note from the tables above that not all ecosystem services are readily valued and that some services have no valuation studies. Very important services such as climate regulation, genetic resources, and spiritual and historical significance, are of great value but have low valuation amenability. In addition, nutrient cycling as a basic supporting service usually receives relatively low values even though life on the planet would not be possible without it (UNEP, 2005). Because traditional economic valuation is based on marginal market values, valuation methodologies are not well suited to the valuation of natural systems that provision essential goods and services freely.

### **Conducting an “Appraisal” of our Natural Capital**

While original studies are desirable for context and accuracy, such data are often simply not available within the desired time frame. Conducting original empirical work for all services and all ecosystem types in a study area would entail over 100 primary ecosystem service valuation studies and would be cost prohibitive. This study is intended to emphasize the importance of filling critical informational gaps in ecosystem service valuation. Greater primary research over the next few years will enable a sharper understanding of Puget Sound ecosystem services.

To address the difficulty of conducting primary evaluations for each study area, economists use a methodology that is similar to a house appraisal and is called value or benefit transfer (see below for a more detailed discussion of this method). The market value of a house before it is sold is not known. To estimate the value, an appraisal is conducted to determine a likely range of values. Appraisals are based on established values of other houses that are close by and share similar attributes. The particular aspects of the house, such as a good roof, the number of bedrooms, a finished basement, and a mountain view, are also considered in the appraisal. These attributes comprise additive values for estimating the appraised value of the house.

Similarly, a value transfer study uses values derived from studies of similar ecosystem types; the closer to the study site in location and attributes the better. However, studies from other parts of the country or world can be used to estimate the values in the target study area. More studies from distant areas broaden the low-high range estimate of values. Called the benefit transfer method, this is done by conducting a careful analysis of economic values for the appropriate ecosystem type, determining applicability to the target area, converting values to common units – usually dollars per acre per year – then applying them to acres of ecosystem type based on GIS analysis.

The wide ranges of value that can emerge from these studies and other issues involving incommensurability have resulted in a vigorous discussion in the academic literature on the use of benefit-transfer methods (see e.g., Wilson and Hoehn, 2006; and Spash and Vatn, 2006). While these studies have limitations, they provide valuable information in the appropriate context. The purpose of estimating ecosystem services is to provide a better valuation than the implicit value of zero. Estimates from value transfer studies have inherent uncertainty. By using the lowest estimates and the highest in the literature, a range of values are provided that should capture the value of the ecosystem services examined in the study area. The low valuation boundary, as in this case, are underestimates of actual value; they can demonstrate

that ecological services in an area are worth at least a certain dollar amount which is usually sufficient to inform policy decisions such as restoring or maintaining those systems.

In addition, economic values are not the sole decision-making criteria. Techniques called multi-criteria decision analysis are available to formally incorporate economic values with other social and policy concerns (see Janssen and Munda, 2002; and de Montis et al., 2005 for reviews). Having economic information on ecosystem services usually helps this process because traditionally, only opportunity costs of forgoing development or exploitation are counted against non-quantified environmental concerns.

There are also social issues involved with the entire exercise of assigning monetary values to nature. Discussions of the economic value of ecosystem services are often laden with concerns of privatizing nature (e.g., McCauley, 2006) or worries that the act of putting dollar values on what ecosystems do will lead private landowners to demand payments for the services their lands provide without regard for wider social or legal obligations. It is important to frame the discussion of ecosystems and their services with an analysis of both the ecological economic and legal underpinnings of ecosystem services as public and/or common property resources (Barnes, 2006). Understanding that ecosystems have economic value does not mean that ecosystem services can or should be privatized. In fact, because most ecosystem services are non-excludable, public goods by nature (or by definition), they simply cannot be privatized and must fall under the remit of public institutions.

Perhaps most importantly, financial and investment decisions that are denominated in dollars are constantly being made, thereby allocating public and private money and resulting in a profound impact on natural capital systems and ecological and economic productivity. Establishing a range of value with the best available valuation methodology allows for the more effective inclusion of natural capital in budgetary, financial, and investment decisions.

Valuation of ecosystem services in Washington State is a relatively new field. There are few studies. Individual valuation studies are the basis for understanding how value is provided from a land cover type to people. These studies give a glimpse of value and are not comprehensive. The valuation of flood protection provided by wetlands, for example, (Leschine et al., 1997) examines the value of wetlands in urban and rural areas. In Lynnwood, WA a community just north of Seattle, only 2% of wetlands are left; they are scarce and those left provide important services and are of greater value per acre than more abundant wetlands in upland areas. Leschine et al. assess the value these urban wetlands at between \$36,000 in Lynnwood and \$51,000 in Renton, a community just south of Seattle. Wetlands in North Scriber Creek, a more rural area, range from \$8,000 to \$12,000/acre. This study describes one vegetation type and one ecosystem service. A compilation of studies across different vegetation types and ecosystem services is required to understand the value of flood protection provided in a watershed composed of forests, grasslands, agricultural areas, urban land and wetlands. This is only representative of a number of studies that have been conducted in the Northwest on ecosystem services.

Currently, benefit transfer offers an imperfect but workable methodology for deriving an “appraisal” of the value of natural capital. This is a static approach, a snapshot of valuation at a

specific time, with a set of GIS data and valuation studies. A dynamic systems analysis, such as that being developed by the University of Vermont Gund Institute (MIMES Project), in partnership with Earth Economics, promises to provide dynamic modeling directly connected to physical data. This allows an examination of change in physical conditions and changes in value over time. Scenarios with or without restoration can be examined. It also allows spatially explicit mapping of ecosystem services, the mechanics of their provisioning and the systems delivering these services to beneficiaries.

In the development of another methodology, Earth Economics is currently co-principle with the University of Vermont Gund Institute For Ecological Economics (ARIES Project) on a National Science Foundation Grant. The ARIES Project examines methodologies for linking studies that show the differences in the provisioning of flood services spatially across the landscape, and how to utilize the diversity of information provided by valuation studies in conjunction with GIS information systems and an “ontology” or understanding of how these ecosystem services are provisioned.

Another project, the Natural Capital Project, also seeks to map the provisioning of ecosystem services and the beneficiaries across the landscape.

The Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership produced several reports outlining benefits Puget Sound ecosystems provide. Leschine and Petersen (2007) provide a discussion of “valued ecosystem components” which incorporate aspects of social, cultural, spiritual, ecological and economic values. They also provide a discussion of ecosystem services and valuation techniques.

The fact remains, that there is a dearth of data (Plummer, 2007), analysis and methodology for accurately calculating the value of most natural capital, particularly services for which there are no markets.

### **Value Transfer Methodology**

This study used the value transfer methodology which takes the results of previous studies, screens them for appropriate fit, then applies them to a target site which has very little or no coverage from original empirical studies (Devouges et al. 1998; Loomis, 1992). It is often the only feasible approach to a comprehensive valuation of ecosystem services in an area, due to limitations of time and funds. Conducting all new empirical research for all ecosystem types and services in a particular region, especially an area as large and as diverse as the Puget Sound Basin, would take millions of dollars and many years to complete. Since it can be used to reliably estimate a range of economic values associated with a particular landscape, based on existing research, for considerably less time and expense than a new primary study, the value transfer method has become a very important tool for policy makers in the US and other countries.

Value transfer studies of large landscapes like the entire Puget Sound Basin by necessity aggregate peer reviewed valuation estimates using all or most of the techniques described in Tables 1B and 2B. This is because such a large landscape will encompass many types of ecosystem services and not all services can be ascribed economic value using the same techniques or even family of techniques.



Using Geographic Information System (GIS) data for the Puget Sound Basin, the acreages of forest, grass and shrub, agriculture and pasturelands, wetlands, urban areas, lakes, ponds, rivers and streams, marine and estuarine waters, eel grass, and ice and rock were multiplied by the estimated value production per acre, where reasonable values could be found, for each identified ecosystem services. Peer reviewed journal articles were reviewed for each GIS classification and the values associated with each ecological service. The high and low values for each ecosystem type and ecological service were selected to provide the high and low range estimates. A benefit transfer methodology was applied to the GIS data to calculate a range of dollar values of ecosystem services provided annually within the Puget Sound Basin.

One of the most comprehensive value transfer studies in the United States was recently conducted for the State of New Jersey (Costanza et al., 2007). The authors conducted a thorough literature review of valuation studies, screened them for appropriate demographic and economic variables, and converted all values to 2004 dollars per acre per year. They focused on 10 ecosystem services for which empirical studies were available and that are non-market in nature (as data is readily available for ecosystem goods which are sold in markets).

This study of the Puget Sound ecosystem services also applied the approach used by Costanza et al. (2007) and used the values published therein as a base point (in dollars per acre per year). Studies specific to ecosystems of the Pacific Northwest and Puget Sound that were not included in the New Jersey study were added here. Studies that were not appropriate to the Puget Sound were screened out. Low and high estimates are provided to give the range of variation on estimates for each ecosystem cover type and service combination. While this low and high range in estimates of ecosystem service values reflects the innate uncertainty in applying value transfer, it also provides a reasonably robust result.

Because this is a meta-study, utilizing many valuation studies, we do not know the cumulative shape of the error. However, both the low and high values established are likely underestimates of the full value of ecosystem services provided within the Puget Sound basin because values for most ecosystem services have not been estimated. In addition, for those ecosystem services for which we estimate a value, most have not been estimated across all vegetation types. Omission is still the greatest hurdle, and likely the greatest source of error in the valuation of ecosystem services.

The lower value boundary represents a “below the floor” value for natural capital and carries a great deal of confidence. It can be an important guidepost for policy.

To calculate the entire range of estimated values, the full list of estimated values available in the literature for a particular cover type/ecosystem service combination was reviewed. Many individual valuation studies include low and high estimates. All the lowest estimates from each list of studies for each ecosystem service within a cover type were totaled to provide a low estimate with the same procedure to establish the high estimates. The estimates were not averaged. This approach results in a larger range than would be the case if all low (high) estimates within a cover type ecosystem service combination were first averaged prior to aggregating across ecosystem services within a cover type, however it better reflects the

underlying uncertainty.

All studies from which estimates are derived were from temperate zone ecosystems and high-income countries. In this way, estimates from ecosystem types with very different ecological parameters (e.g., tropical versus temperate forests) or from countries with very different income demographics (industrialized versus non-industrialized) were excluded. Almost all of the studies were conducted in the United States. Appendix C lists the studies used for the value transfer estimates. All values were standardized to 2006 dollars using the Bureau of Economic Statistics Consumer Price Index Inflation Calculator.

## Appendix C. Low and High Values of Ecosystem Services

<b>Ecosystem Service</b>	<b>Land Cover</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Gas & Climate Regulation	Wetland	Dodds, W.K., et al. 2008	\$121.79	\$121.79
		Roel calculation for LA	\$31.32	\$284.58
	Grasslands	Copeland et al. (in press)		
		(Calculated 1994)	\$0.06	\$0.06
		Costanza et al. 1997	\$4.10	\$4.10
	Shrub	Fankhauser and Pearce (1994)	\$4.05	\$4.05
		In house calculation	\$6.60	\$66.30
		local estimate	\$7.77	\$78.00
	Urban green space	Birdsey, R.A.	\$216.49	\$216.49
		McPherson, E. G. 1992	\$186.62	\$930.90
	Pole Forest Mid Forest Late/Old Forest Riparian Forest (pole) Riparian Forest (mid to late)	McPherson, E. G., Scott, K. I. and Simpson, J. R. 1998	\$28.53	\$28.53
		In house calculation	\$24.04	\$464.33
		In house calculation	\$34.34	\$663.37
		In house calculation	\$46.35	\$895.47
		In house calculation	\$24.04	\$464.33
		In house calculation	\$46.35	\$895.47
Water Regulation	Wetland	Thibodeau, F. R. and Ostro, B. D.	\$6,765.49	\$6,765.49
	Grasslands	Costanza et al. 1997	\$1.76	\$1.76

Genetic Resources	Urban green space	Jones et al. (1985) (Calculated 1992)	\$2.16	\$2.16
		Birdsey, R.A.	\$181.85	\$181.85
	Pole Forest Mid Forest Late/Old Forest Riparian Forest (pole) Riparian Forest (mid to late)	McPherson, E. G. 1992	\$6.09	\$6.09
		In house calculation	\$10.23	\$10.23
		In house calculation	\$10.23	\$10.23
		In house calculation	\$10.23	\$10.23
		In house calculation	\$10.23	\$10.23
		In house calculation	\$10.23	\$10.23
	Grasslands	Perrings (1995) (Calculated 1992)	\$0.01	\$0.01
Aesthetic & Recreational	Wetland	Allen, J. 1992	\$109.98	\$9,946.87
		Dodds, W.K., et al. 2008	\$1,662.36	\$1,662.36
		Doss, C. R. and Taff, S. J.	\$4,456.50	\$4,923.49
		Hayes, K. M., Tyrrell, T. J. and Anderson, G. 1992	\$1,290.63	\$2,466.77
		Mahan, B. L., Polasky, S. and Adams, R. M.	\$36.98	\$36.98
		Thibodeau, F. R. and Ostro, B. D.	\$33.49	\$698.43
		Whitehead, J. C.	\$1,111.66	\$2,235.11
		Anderson, G. D. and Edwards, S. F. 1986	\$22.19	\$103.82
		Bergstrom, J. C., et. al. 1990	\$15.66	\$25.31
		Farber, S. 1987	\$5.19	\$5.19
	Shrub	Bennett, R., et. al.	\$179.98	\$179.98
		Bishop, K.	\$605.51	\$678.72
		Boxall, P. C., McFarlane, B. L. and Gartrell, M.	\$0.19	\$0.19
		Haener, M. K. and Adamowicz, W. L.	\$0.21	\$0.21
		Maxwell, S.	\$12.54	\$12.54
		Prince, R. and Ahmed, E.	\$1.59	\$2.02
		Shafer, E. L., et. al.	\$573.56	\$573.56
		Willis, K. G.	\$0.45	\$202.89
		Willis, K. G. and Garrod, G. D.	\$4.37	\$4.37

Habitat Refugium & Nursery	Agricultural lands	Bergstrom, J., Dillman, B. L. and Stoll, J. R. 1985	\$29.26	\$29.26
	Urban green space	Tyrvaainen, L.	\$1,342.21	\$3,934.57
	Lakes/Rivers	Burt, O. R. and Brewer, D.	\$461.82	\$461.82
		Cordell, H. K. and Bergstrom, J. C.	\$135.37	\$1,419.65
		Kealy, M. J. and Bishop, R. C.	\$12.93	\$12.93
		Kreutzwiser, R.	\$181.25	\$181.25
		Loomis J.B. 2002	\$11,131.00	\$19,699.00
		Patrick, R., et. al.	\$1.69	\$25.56
		Piper, S.	\$240.20	\$240.20
		Shafer, E. L. et. al.	\$551.74	\$1,101.41
		Ward, F. A., Roach, B. A. and Henderson, J. E.	\$20.48	\$1,918.61
		Young, C. E. and Shortle, J. S.	\$81.85	\$81.85
	Pasture	Boxall, P. C.	\$0.03	\$0.03
	Beach	Edwards, S. F. and Gable, F. J. 1991	\$149.20	\$149.20
		Kline, J. D. and Swallow, S. K.	\$37,535.93	\$48,441.03
		Silberman, J., Gerlowski, D. A. and Williams, N. A.	\$23,486.04	\$23,486.04
		Taylor, L. O. and Smith, V. K.	\$445.46	\$445.46
	Mid Forest	In house calculation	\$5.20	\$339.36
	Late/Old Forest	In house calculation	\$10.41	\$678.72
	Riparian Forest (pole)	In house calculation	\$1,109.90	\$11,305.57
	Riparian Forest (mid to late)	In house calculation	\$1,109.90	\$11,305.57
	Open Water Estuary	New Jersey Type A-C studies	\$11.51	\$1,381.50
	Wetland	Allen, J. et. al. 1992	\$5,477.34	\$13,341.27
		Knowler, D. J. et. al.	\$62.67	\$287.22
		Streiner and Loomis 1996	\$1,574.76	\$1,574.76
		Vankooten, G. C. and Schmitz, A.	\$6.30	\$6.30
	Salt Marsh	Batie, S. S. and Wilson, J. R.	\$6.66	\$6.66
		Bell, F. W. 1997	\$164.08	\$1,082.32

Water Supply	Shrub	Farber, S. and Costanza, R. 1987	\$1.42	\$1.42
		Lynne, G. D., Conroy, P. and Prochaska, F. J.	\$1.25	\$1.25
		Haener, M. K. and Adamowicz, W. L. 2000	\$1.31	\$9.00
	Lakes/Rivers	Kenyon, W. and Nevin, C.	\$532.33	\$532.33
		Shafer, E. L. et. al.	\$3.17	\$3.17
		Loomis 1996	\$17.13	\$17.13
	Late/Old Forest Riparian Forest (mid to late)	Streiner and Loomis 1996	\$1,479.84	\$1,479.84
		In house calculation	\$287.16	\$532.33
		In house calculation	\$287.16	\$532.33
	Open Water Estuary	Woodward and Wui, 2001 (low value); New Jersey from A-C studies (for high value)	\$92.75	\$354.14
	Wetland	Allen, J. et. al. 1992	\$11,160.70	\$33,418.85
	Lakes/Rivers	Creel, M. and Loomis, J.	\$577.46	\$577.46
		Dodds, W.K., et al. 2008	\$1,357.64	\$1,357.64
		Hayes, K. M., Tyrrell, T. J. and Anderson, G. 1992	\$1,370.43	\$2,130.25
		Lant, C. L. and Tobin, G.	\$211.88	\$2,333.31
		Lant? - IL water qual study 1989	\$193.92	\$193.92
		Pate, J. and Loomis, J.	\$3,829.07	\$3,829.07
		Bouwes, N. W. and Scheider, R.	\$617.46	\$617.46
		Croke, K., Fabian, R. and Brenniman, G.	\$565.91	\$565.91
		Henry, R., Ley, R. and Welle, P.	\$429.30	\$429.30
		Knowler, D. J. et. al.	\$58.89	\$269.91
	Marine	Ribaudo, M. and Epp, D. J.	\$843.44	\$843.44
		Hanley, N., Bell, D. and Alvarez-Farizo, B. 2003	\$822.24	\$822.24
		Nunes, P and Van den Bergh, J. 2004	\$587.15	\$587.15
	Riparian Forest (mid to late)	Soderqvist, T. and Scharin, H.	\$275.97	\$458.81
		In house calculation	\$2,240.01	\$13,849.87

Disturbance Regulation	Open Water Estuary	New Jersey Type A-C studies	\$5.88	\$127.47
	Salt Marsh	Costanza et al. 2007	\$258.49	\$102,105.30
	Beach	Parsons, G. R. and Powell, M. Pompe, J. J. and Rinehart, J. R.	\$23,637.86 \$38,316.19	\$23,637.86 \$38,316.19
Waste treatment	Riparian Forest (mid to late)	In house calculation	\$8.04	\$250.85
	Salt Marsh	Breaux, A., Farber, S. and Day, J. 1995	\$116.82	\$18,807.44
	Grasslands	Pimentel et al. 1997	\$50.98	\$50.98
Soil Formation	Grasslands	Costanza et al. 1997	\$0.59	\$0.59
Nutrient Cycling	Pasture	Sala and Paruelo (1997) (Calculated 1994)	\$0.52	\$0.52
		Pimentel, D. 1998	\$6.62	\$6.62
Biological Control	Wetland	Dodds, W.K., et al. 2008	\$7,346.62	\$7,346.62
	Eel grass beds	Costanza et al. 1997	\$5,860.22	\$16,410.10
Soil Erosion Control	Grasslands	Pimentel et al. 1995	\$9.74	\$9.74
		Pimentel et al. 1997	\$13.47	\$13.47
Pollination	Grasslands	Barrow (1991) (Calculated 1992)	\$19.04	\$19.04
		Costanza et al. 1997	\$16.99	\$16.99
Medicinal Value	Agricultural lands	Pimentel et al. 1995	\$10.77	\$10.77
		Pimentel et al. 1997	\$14.65	\$14.65
		Robinson, W. S., Nowogrodzki, R. and Morse, R. A. 1989	\$12.88	\$12.88
Medicinal Value	Mid Forest Late/Old Forest	Southwick, E. E. and Southwick, L. 1992	\$2.55	\$2.55
		In house calculation	\$33.51	\$150.48
		In house calculation	\$67.01	\$300.96
	Late/Old Forest	In house calculation	\$5.01	\$160.49

## Appendix D. List of Value-Transfer Studies Used

- Allen, J., M. Cunningham, A. Greenwood, and L. Rosenthal. 1992. The value of California wetlands: an analysis of their economic benefits. Campaign to Save California Wetlands, Oakland, California.
- Alvarez-Farizo, B., N. Hanley, R.E. Wright, and D. MacMillan. 1999. "Estimating the benefits of agri-environmental policy: econometric issues in open-ended contingent valuation studies." *Journal Of Environmental Planning And Management* 42:23-43.
- Anderson, G. D. and S. F. Edwards. 1986. "Protecting Rhode-Island Coastal Salt Ponds - an Economic-Assessment of Downzoning." *Coastal Zone Management Journal* 14:67-91.
- Barrow, C.J. 1991. Land degradation. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Batie, S.S. and J.R. Wilson. 1978. "Economic Values Attributable to Virginia's Coastal Wetlands as Inputs in Oyster Production." *Southern Journal of Agricultural Economics* July:111-118.
- Bell, F. W. 1997. "The economic valuation of saltwater marsh supporting marine recreational fishing in the southeastern United States." *Ecological Economics* 21:243-254.
- Bennett, Richard, Richard Tranter, Nick Beard, and Philip Jones. 1995. "The Value of Footpath Provision in the Countryside: A Case-Study of Public Access to Urban-fringe Woodland." *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management* 38:409-417.
- Bergstrom, J. C., J. R. Stoll, J. P. Titre, and V. L. Wright. 1990. "Economic value of wetlands-based recreation." *Ecological Economics* 2:129-147.
- Bergstrom, J., B.L. Dillman, and J. R. Stoll. 1985. "Public environmental amenity benefits of private land: the case of prime agricultural land." *South Journal of Agricultural Economics* 7:139-149.
- Birdsey, R.A. 1996. Regional Estimates of Timber Volume and Forest Carbon for Fully Stocked Timberland, Average Management After Final Clearcut Harvest. In *Forests and Global Change: Volume 2, Forest Management Opportunities for Mitigating Carbon Emissions*, eds. R.N. Sampson and D. Hair, American Forests, Washington, DC.
- Bishop, Kevin. 1992. "Assessing the Benefits of Community Forests: An Evaluation of the Recreational of Use Benefits of Two Urban Fringe Woodlands." *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management* 35:63-76.
- Boxall, P. C. 1995. "The Economic Value of Lottery-Rationed Recreational Hunting." *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics-Revue Canadienne D Economie Rurale* 43:119-131.
- Boxall, P. C., B. L. McFarlane, and M. Gartrell. 1996. "An aggregate travel cost approach to valuing forest recreation at managed sites." *Forestry Chronicle* 72:615-621.
- Breaux, A., S. Farber, and J. Day. 1995. "Using Natural Coastal Wetlands Systems for Waste-

- Water Treatment - an Economic Benefit Analysis." *Journal of Environmental Management* 44:285-291.
- Chapin III, F.S., Walker, B.H., Hobbs, R.J., Hooper, D.U., J.H., Sala, O.E., Tilman, D., 1997. Biotic Control over the Functioning of Ecosystems *Science*. 277(5325): 500-504.
- Copeland, J.H., R.A. Pielke, and T.G.F. Kittel. 1996. Potential climatic impacts of vegetation change: a regional modeling study. *Journal of Geophysical Research* (submitted).
- Costanza, R., R. d'Arge, R. deGroot, S. Farber, M. Grasso, B. Hannon, K. Limburg, S. Naeem, R. V. Oneill, J. Paruelo, R. G. Raskin, P. Sutton, and M. vandenBelt. 1997. "The value of the world's ecosystem services and natural capital." *Nature* 387:253-260.
- Costanza, R. and J. Farley. 2007. "The Ecological Economics of Coastal Disasters." *Ecological Economics* Vol. 63; Issues 2-3: 344-354.
- Creel, M. and J. Loomis. 1992. "Recreation Value of Water to Wetlands in the San-Joaquin Valley - Linked Multinomial Logit and Count Data Trip Frequency Models." *Water Resources Research* 28:2597-2606.
- Dodds, W.K., K.C. Wilson, R.L. Rehmeier, G.L. Knight, S. Wiggam, J.A. Falke, H.J. Dalgleish, and K.N. Bertrand. 2008. Comparing ecosystem goods and services provided by restored and native lands. *BioScience* 58 (9): 837-845.
- Doss, C. R. and S. J. Taff. 1996. "The influence of wetland type and wetland proximity on residential property values." *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* 21:120-129.
- Edwards, S. F. and F.J. Gable. 1991. "Estimating the value of beach recreation from property values: an exploration with comparisons to nourishment costs." *Ocean & Shoreline Management* 15:37-55.
- Fankhauser, S. 1994. "The Social Costs Of Greenhouse-Gas Emissions - An Expected Value Approach." *Energy Journal* 15:157-184.
- Farber, S. 1987. "The Value of Coastal Wetlands for Protection of Property against Hurricane Wind Damage." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 14:143-151.
- Farber, S. and R. Costanza. 1987. "The Economic Value of Wetlands Systems." *Journal of Environmental Management* 24:41-51.
- "Focus on Puget Sound: Economic Facts," Washington State Department of Ecology, October, 2008
- Garrod, G. D. and K. G. Willis. 1997. "The non-use benefits of enhancing forest biodiversity: A contingent ranking study." *Ecological Economics* 21:45-61.
- Hanley, N., D. Bell, and B. Alvarez-Farizo. 2003. "Valuing the benefits of coastal water quality improvements using contingent and real behaviour." *Environmental & Resource*



Economics 24:273-285.

Hayes, K.M., T.J. Tyrrell, and G. Anderson. 1992. "Estimating the benefits of water quality improvements in the Upper Narragansett Bay." *Marine Resource Economics* 7:75-85.

Henry, R., R. Ley, and P. Welle. 1988. "The economic value of water resources: the Lake Bemidji Survey." *Journal of the Minnesota Academy of Science* 53:37-44.

Kenyon, W. and C. Nevin. 2001. "The use of economic and participatory approaches to assess forest development: a case study in the Ettrick Valley." *Forest Policy and Economics* 3:69-80.

Kline, J. D. and S. K. Swallow. 1998. "The demand for local access to coastal recreation in southern New England." *Coastal Management* 26:177-190.

Lant, C. L. and R. S. Roberts. 1990. "Greenbelts in the Corn-Belt - Riparian Wetlands, Intrinsic Values, and Market Failure." *Environment and Planning A* 22:1375-1388.

Lant, C. L. and G. Tobin. 1989. "The economic value of riparian corridors in cornbelt floodplains: a research framework." *Professional Geographer* 41:337-349.

Leschine, T.M., and A.W. Petersen. 2007. *Valuing Puget Sound's Valued Ecosystem Components. Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership Report No. 2007-07.* Published by Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle, Washington. Available at [www.pugetsoundnearshore.org](http://www.pugetsoundnearshore.org).

Leschine, T. M., K F. Wellman and T. H. Green. 1997. *The Economic Value of Wetlands: Wetland's Role in Flood Protection in Western Washington.* Washington State Department of Ecology. Ecology Publication 97-100, Olympia, Washington.

Loomis, J. B. 1988. "The bioeconomic effects of timber harvesting on recreational and commercial salmon and steelhead fishing: a case study of the Siuslaw National Forest." *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 5:43-60.

Loomis, J.B. 2002. *Quantifying Recreation Use Values from Removing Dams and Restoring Free-Flowing Rivers: A Contingent Behavior Travel Cost Demand Model for the Lower Snake River.* *Water Resources Research* 38 (6)

Lynne, G.D., P. Conroy, and F.J. Prochaska. 1981. "Economic Valuation of Marsh Areas for Marine Production Processes." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 8:175-186.

Mahan, B. L., S. Polasky, and R. M. Adams. 2000. "Valuing urban wetlands: A property price approach." *Land Economics* 76:100-113.

Maxwell, Simon. 1994. "Valuation of Rural Environmental Improvements using Contingent Valuation Methodology: A Case Study of the Martson Vale Community Forest Project." *Journal of Environmental Management* 41:385-399.

- McPherson, E. G. 1992. "Accounting for Benefits and Costs of Urban Greenspace." *Landscape and Urban Planning* 22:41-51.
- McPherson, E. G., K. I. Scott, and J. R. Simpson. 1998. "Estimating cost effectiveness of residential yard trees for improving air quality in Sacramento, California, using existing models." *Atmospheric Environment* 32:75-84.
- Nordhaus, W. D. 1991. "To Slow Or Not To Slow - The Economics of The Greenhouse-Effect." *Economic Journal* 101:920-937.
- . 1993. "Rolling The Dice - An Optimal Transition Path For Controlling Greenhouse Gases." *Resource And Energy Economics* 15:27-50.
- Nunes, Pald and Jcjm Van den Bergh. 2004. "Can people value protection against invasive marine species? Evidence from a joint TC-CV survey in the Netherlands." *Environmental & Resource Economics* 28:517-532.
- Parsons, G. R. and M. Powell. 2001. "Measuring the Cost of Beach Retreat." *Coastal Management* 29:91-103.
- Pate, J., and J. Loomis. 1997. The effect of distance on willingness to pay values: a case study of wetlands and salmon in California. *Ecological Economics* 20(3): 199-207.
- Perrings, C. 1995. Economic values of biodiversity. In *Global Biodiversity Assessment*, edited by R.T. Watson, V.H. Heywood, I. Baste, B. Dias, R. Gamez, T. Janetos, W. Reid and R. Ruark. United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), Press Syndicate
- Pimentel, D., C. Wilson, C. McCullum, R. Huang, P. Dwen, J. Flack, Q. Tran, T. Saltman, and B. Cliff. 1997. "Economic and environmental benefits of biodiversity." *Bioscience* 47:747-757.
- Plummer, M. 2007. Welcome to the Data-Poor Real World: Incorporating Benefit-Cost Principles into Environmental Policymaking. *Research in Law and Economics*, 23:103-130.
- Pompe, J. J. and J. R. Rinehart. 1995. "Beach Quality and the Enhancement of Recreational Property-Values." *Journal of Leisure Research* 27:143-154.
- Prince, R. and E. Ahmed. 1989. "Estimating Individual Recreation Benefits under Congestion and Uncertainty." *Journal of Leisure Research* 21:61-76.
- Puget Sound Regional Council, 2009. Puget Sound Trends. No. D9.
- Robinson, W.S, R. Nowogrodzki, and R.A. Morse. 1989. "The value of honey bees as pollinators of US crops." *American Bee Journal*:177-487.
- Sala, O.E. and f. M. Paruelo. 1997. "Ecosystem services in grassland." Pp. 237-252 in *Nature's services: Societal dependence on natural ecosystems*, edited by G. C. Daily. Washington, D.C.: Island Press.

- Shafer, E. L., R. Carline, R. W. Guldin, and H. K. Cordell. 1993. "Economic Amenity Values of Wildlife - 6 Case-Studies in Pennsylvania." *Environmental Management* 17:669-682.
- Silberman, J., D. A. Gerlowski, and N. A. Williams. 1992. "Estimating Existence Value for Users and Nonusers of New-Jersey Beaches." *Land Economics* 68:225-236.
- Soderqvist, T. and H. Scharin. 2000. "The regional willingness to pay for a reduced eutrophication in the Stockholm archipelago." in Beijer Discussion paper No. 128.
- Southwick, E. E. and L. Southwick. 1992. "Estimating the Economic Value of Honey-Bees (Hymenoptera, Apidae) as Agricultural Pollinators in the United-States." *Journal of Economic Entomology* 85:621-633.
- Streiner, Carol and John Loomis. 1996. Estimating the Benefits of Urban Stream Restoration Using the Hedonic Price Method *Rivers* 5 (4) 267-78.
- Swedeen, P., Pittman, J., 2007. An Ecological Assessment of King County's Flood Hazard Management Plan. Prepared for King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, River, and Floodplain Management Program.
- Taylor, L. O. and V. K. Smith. 2000. "Environmental amenities as a source of market power." *Land Economics* 76:550-568.
- Thibodeau, F. R. and B.D. Ostro. 1981. "An economic analysis of wetland protection." *Journal of Environmental Management* 12:19-30.
- Tyrvaainen, L. 2001. "Economic valuation of urban forest benefits in Finland." *Journal of Environmental Management* 62:75-92.
- Vankooten, G. C. and A. Schmitz. 1992. "Preserving Waterfowl Habitat on the Canadian Prairies - Economic Incentives Versus Moral Suasion." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 74:79-89.
- Whitehead, J. C. 1990. "Measuring Willingness-to-Pay for Wetlands Preservation with the Contingent Valuation Method." *Wetlands* 10:187-201.
- Whitehead, J. C., T. L. Hoban, and W. B. Clifford. 1997. "Economic analysis of an estuarine quality improvement program: The Albemarle-Pamlico system." *Coastal Management* 25:43-57.
- Willis, K. G. 1991. "The Recreational Value of the Forestry Commission Estate in Great-Britain - a Clawson-Knetsch Travel Cost-Analysis." *Scottish Journal of Political Economy* 38:58-75.
- Willis, K.G. and G.D. Garrod. 1991. "An Individual Travel-Cost Method of Evaluating Forest Recreation." *Journal of Agricultural Economics* 42:33-42.
- Woodward, R., and Wui, Y. 2001. The economic value of wetland services: a meta-analysis. *Ecological Economics* 37(2): 257-270.

## Appendix E. Limitations of Approach and Results

The results of this first attempt to assign monetary value to the ecosystem services rendered by the Puget Sound Basin have important and significant implications on the restoration and management of this natural capital. Valuation exercises have limitations that must be noted. However, these limitations do not detract from the core finding that ecosystems produce significant economic value to society.

Transferred value analysis estimates the economic value of a given ecosystem (e.g., wetlands) from prior studies of that ecosystem. Like any economic analysis, this methodology has strengths and weaknesses. Because this is a meta-study, it has greater opportunity for error, and as the numbers show, a very wide range between low and high estimates. Some have objected to this approach on the grounds that:

1. Every ecosystem is unique; per acre values derived from another part of the world may be irrelevant to the ecosystems being studied.
2. Even within a single ecosystem, the value per acre depends on the size of the ecosystem; in most cases, as the size decreases, the per-acre value is expected to increase and vice versa. (In technical terms, the marginal cost per acre is generally expected to increase as the quantity supplied decreases; a single average value is not the same as a range of marginal values). This remains an important issue even though this was partly addressed in the spatial modelling component of this project.
3. Gathering all the information needed to estimate the specific value for every ecosystem within the study area is not feasible. Therefore, the “true” value of all of the wetlands, forests, pastureland, etc. in a large geographic area cannot be ascertained. In technical terms, we have far too few data points to construct a realistic demand curve or estimate a demand function.
4. To value all, or a large proportion, of the ecosystems in a large geographic area is questionable in terms of the standard definition of “exchange” value; we cannot conceive of a transaction in which all or most of a large area’s ecosystems would be bought and sold. This emphasizes the point that the value estimates for large areas (as opposed to the unit values per acre) are more comparable to national income accounts aggregates and not exchange values (Howarth & Farber, 2002). These aggregates (i.e. GDP) routinely impute values to public goods for which no conceivable market transaction is possible. The value of ecosystem services of large geographic areas is comparable to these kinds of aggregates (see below).

Proponents of the above arguments recommend an alternative that amounts to limiting valuation to a single ecosystem in a single location and only using data developed expressly for the unique ecosystem being studied, with no attempt to extrapolate from other ecosystems in other locations. An area with the size and landscape complexity of the Puget Sound Basin will make this approach to valuation extremely difficult and costly.

Responses to these critiques can be summarized as follows (See Costanza et al., 1998; and Howarth and Farber, 2002 for more detailed discussion):

1. While every wetland, forest or other ecosystem is unique in some way, ecosystems of a given type, by their definition, have many things in common. The use of average values in ecosystem valuation is no more and no less justified than their use in other “macroeconomic” contexts, for instance, developing economic statistics such as Gross Domestic or Gross State Product. This study’s estimate of the aggregate value of the Puget Sound Basin’s ecosystem services is a valid and useful (albeit imperfect, as are all aggregated economic measures) basis for assessing and comparing these services with conventional economic goods and services.

2. The results of the spatial modeling analysis that were described in other studies do not support an across-the-board claim that the per-acre value of forest or agricultural land depends on the size of the parcel. While the claim does appear to hold for nutrient cycling and other services, the opposite position holds up fairly well for what ecologists call “net primary productivity” or NPP, a major indicator of ecosystem health – and by implication, of services tied to NPP – where each acre makes about the same contribution to the whole regardless of whether it is part of a large patch or a small one. This area of inquiry needs further research, but for the most part the assumption (that average value is a reasonable proxy for marginal value) seems appropriate as a first approximation.

3. As employed here, the prior studies we analyzed (most of which were peer-reviewed) encompass a wide variety of time periods, geographic areas, investigators and analytic methods. Many of them provide a range of estimated values rather than single point estimates. The present study preserves this variance; no studies were removed from the database because their estimated values were deemed to be “too high” or “too low.” Limited sensitivity analyses were performed. The approach is similar to determining an asking price for a piece of land based on the prices for “comparable” parcels; even though the property being sold is unique, realtors and lenders feel justified in following this procedure to the extent of publicizing a single asking price rather than a price range.

4. The objection to the absence of even an imaginary exchange transaction was made in response to the study by Costanza et al. (1997) of the value of *all* of the world’s ecosystems. Leaving that debate aside, one can in fact conceive of an exchange transaction in which all or a large portion of, for example, a watershed were sold for development so that the basic technical requirement that economic value reflect exchange values could in principle be satisfied. Even this is not necessary if one recognizes the different purpose of valuation at this scale – a purpose more analogous to national income accounting than to estimating exchange values (Howarth and Farber 2002).

In the last analysis, this report takes the position that “the proof of the pudding is in the eating”, i.e., estimating the value of an area’s ecosystem services is best demonstrated by presenting the results of an attempt to do so. In this report we have tried to display our results in a way that allows one to appreciate the range of values and their distribution. It is clear from inspection of the tables that the final estimates are not extremely precise. However, they are much better

estimates than the alternative of assuming that ecosystem services have zero value, or, alternatively, of assuming they have infinite value. Pragmatically, in estimating the value of ecosystem services it seems better to be approximately right than precisely wrong.

The estimated value of the world's ecosystems presented in Costanza et al. (1997) has been criticized as both (1) a serious underestimate of infinity and (2) impossibly exceeding the entire Gross World Product. These objections seem to be difficult to reconcile, but that may not be so. Just as a human life is "priceless" so are ecosystems, yet, people are paid for the work they do. That the value ecosystems provide to people exceeds the gross world product should, with some reflection, not be so surprising. Costanza's estimate of the work that ecosystem do is an underestimate of the "infinity" value of priceless systems because that is not what he sought to estimate. Consider the value of one ecosystem service, photosynthesis, and the ecosystem good it produces, atmospheric oxygen. Neither is valued in Costanza's study. Given the choice between breathable air, and possessions, informal surveys have shown the choice of oxygen over stuff is unanimous. This indicates that the value of photosynthesis and atmospheric oxygen to people exceeds the value of the gross world product. That is only a single ecosystem service and good.

In terms of more specific concerns, the value transfer methodology introduces an unknown level of error because with the exception of some studies that were conducted in this area, we usually do not know how well the original study site approximates conditions in the Puget Sound Basin. Other potential sources of error in this type of analysis have been identified (Costanza et al. 1997) as follows:

1. Incomplete coverage – not all ecosystems have been valued or studied well – is perhaps the most serious issue since it results in a significant underestimate of the value of ecosystem services. More complete coverage would almost certainly increase the values shown in this report, since no known valuation studies have reported estimated values of zero or less.
2. Distortions in current prices used to estimate ecosystem service values are carried through the analysis. These prices do not reflect environmental externalities and are therefore again likely to be underestimates of "true" values.
3. Most estimates are based on current willingness-to-pay or proxies, which are limited by people's perceptions and knowledge base. Improving people's knowledge base about the contributions of ecosystem services to their welfare would almost certainly increase the values based on willingness-to-pay, as people would realize that ecosystems provided more services than they had previously known.
4. The valuations probably underestimate shifts in the relevant demand curves as the sources of ecosystem services become more limited. If the Puget Sound Basin's ecosystem services are scarcer than assumed here, their value has been underestimated in this study. Such reductions in "supply" appear likely as land conversion and development proceed; climate change may also adversely affect the ecosystems, although the precise impacts are more difficult to predict.
5. The valuations assume smooth responses to changes in ecosystem quantity with no

thresholds or discontinuities. Assuming (as seems likely) that such gaps or jumps in the demand curve would move demand to higher levels than a smooth curve, the presence of thresholds or discontinuities would likely produce higher values for affected services (Limburg et al., 2002).

6. As noted above, the method used here assumes spatial homogeneity of services within ecosystems. The spatial modeling component of the project was intended to address this issue and showed that, indeed, the physical quantities of some services vary significantly with spatial patterns of land use and land cover. Whether this fact would increase or decrease value is unclear, and depends on the specific spatial patterns and services involved.

7. Our analysis uses a static, partial equilibrium framework that ignores interdependencies and dynamics. More elaborate systems dynamics studies of ecosystem services have shown that including interdependencies and dynamics leads to significantly higher values (Boumans et al., 2002), as changes in ecosystem service levels ripple throughout the economy.

8. The value estimates are not necessarily based on sustainable use levels. Limiting use to sustainable levels would imply higher values for ecosystem services as the effective supply of such services is reduced.

9. The approach does not fully include the “infrastructure” or “existence” value of ecosystems. It is well known that people value the “existence” of certain ecosystems, even if they never plan to use or benefit from them in any direct way. Estimates of existence value are rare; including this service will obviously increase the total values.

10. There are great difficulties and imprecision in making inter-country comparisons on a global level. This problem was of limited relevance to the current project, since the majority of value transfer estimates were from the U.S. or other developed countries.

11. In the few cases where we needed to convert from stock values to annual flow values, the amortization procedure also creates significant uncertainty, both as to the method chosen and the specific amortization rate used. (In this context, amortization is the converse of discounting.)

12. All of these valuation methods use static snapshots of ecosystems with no dynamic interactions. The effect of this omission on valuations is difficult to assess.

13. Because the transferred value method is based on average rather than marginal cost, it cannot provide estimates of consumer surplus. However, this means that valuations based on averages are more likely to underestimate total value.

The result would most likely be significantly higher values if these problems and limitations were addressed. Unfortunately, it is impossible to know how much higher the values would be if these limitations were addressed. One example may be worth mentioning, however. Boumans et al. (2002) produced a dynamic global simulation model that estimated the value of global ecosystem services in a general equilibrium framework to be roughly twice of what

Costanza et al. (1997) estimated using a static, partial equilibrium analysis. It is impossible to say whether a similar result would be obtained for the Nisqually Basin, but it does give an indication of the potential range of values.





# EARTH ECONOMICS

What is your planet worth?

September 13, 2010

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

**RE: Manual 3 Update**

Dear Board Members:

Weyerhaeuser Company, the largest private forest landowner in Washington State, supports your efforts to modify Manual 3, provided the modification adopts a full value appraisal system. We suggest that Manual 3 adopt the State of Washington's Riparian Open Space Program (ROSP) easement appraisal language when appraising land and timber containing habitat listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act and Washington State critical habitats of threatened and endangered species (WAC 222-16-080).

The key to maintaining sustainable, working forests on our landscape is simple; landowners must receive full valuation of both the timber and land assets, otherwise alternative land uses will be pursued or pressure to modify conservation-based regulations will increase. If the economic value of a working forest is recognized, then landowners will support programs which promote conservation concurrent with active forest management. If the RCO seeks to acquire private lands with special conservation value, it should support policies which compensate landowners for the full market value of the land.

The Washington State Legislation recognized the importance of such a policy position when in 2009 it adopted HB 1484 and SB 5401 Threatened or Endangered Species – Habitat Open Space. That legislation established a program for acquisition of critical habitat for threatened or endangered species on private lands. Inherent to the legislation is an appraisal valuation system based on fair market value of the land, without consideration of the management or regulatory encumbrances.

In closing, we request that the RCO Board harmonize its Manual 3 process with HB 1484 and SB 5401.

Sincerely,



Kevin Godbout  
Director, External and Regulatory Affairs



Based on our experience with salmon habitat acquisition, the most significant problems facing successful and effective acquisitions is landowner willingness to sell at appraised fair-market value and within the timeframe established by the grant process. This issue has proven to be a major impediment to effective use of public funds by the land trust in acquiring salmon habitat. To diminish some of these constraints, we recommend changes to the RCO / SRFB grant and acquisition process in the following areas by shortening the drawn out grant process timeline and revising the appraisal limitations.

Whatcom Land Trust requests that RCO strongly consider the following recommendations during the Manual 3: Acquiring Land Policies Revision:

RCO / SRFB in conjunction with local WRIsAs should establish a fast track option for acquisition grants where shortening the time to closing is critical to success of the acquisition. Timing can be a significant issue to addressing the landowners critical questions, "How much and when?" While the waiver of retroactivity is one option/tool, it places a significant risk upon the applicant and the need for a potentially large revolving acquisition fund or line of credit.

In addition to USPAP and UASFLA, RCO / SRFB should develop an acceptable appraisal methodology for including habitat value as a factor to be considered in addition to the traditional highest and best use. Similar to Wetland Reserve program that establishes a set rate for easement purchase across the state for tillable land at \$2,500/acre, this may help with willingness to sell riparian salmon habitat lands.

WLT also recommends RCO / SFRB allow acquisition funds be used to purchase lands that can be exchanged through 1031 exchanges. Ex: Timberland owners often are not willing to sell lands, but would be willing to exchange. Purchase of a fairly small amount of operable could be purchased and traded for lands with higher habitat value.

WLT recommends that Boundary Line Adjustments, Lot Line Adjustments and Exemption subdivision costs be covered as Pre-agreement incidental costs. These can be fairly expensive transactional costs. This should help with reducing the amount of non-essential habitat land being acquired.

Recommend raising the value for appraisal reporting from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Since USPAP and UASFLA appraisals and reviews often cost applicants close to \$5k, it wasteful for an incidental to cost or nearly half of the land value.

Recommend closing occur within 30 days of escrow payments rather than the stated 14 days.

Thank you,

Eric Carabba  
Conservation Director  
Whatcom Land Trust  
110 Central Ave. Bellingham, WA 98225  
P.O. Box 6131, Bellingham, WA 98227  
(360) 650 - 9470 (b) 650 - 0495 (f)  
[eric@whatcomlandtrust.org](mailto:eric@whatcomlandtrust.org)

*The Mission of the Whatcom Land Trust is to preserve and protect wildlife habitat, scenic, agricultural and open space lands in Whatcom County for future generations by securing interests in land and promoting land stewardship.*

September 13, 2010

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

Re: Proposed Changes to RCO acquisition policies

Dear Leslie:

I am writing in response to your request for comments on the proposed changes to RCO Manual #3, Acquisition Policies.

For 25 years, the Whidbey Camano Land Trust has been committed to protecting high quality habitat and working farms on Whidbey and Camano Island. We appreciate RCO's efforts to fund the very best projects and maintain a streamlined process for both application and project completion.

Our comments are specific to the proposed requirement for appraisals to meet the Uniform Standards for Federal Land Acquisition (UASFLA) or "yellow book" standards. When the yellow book standards were developed in 1971, they were developed specifically to address the fair market value of fee simple land being taken by the federal government under eminent domain "takings." This land is significantly different from land acquired for the purposes of protection wildlife habitat, riparian areas, open spaces, or working farmlands.

The yellow book standards have a limited definition of market value. For example, yellow book standards do not put a premium on development approaches, when it is in fact the future development potential that may be threatening an important property and be driving the need to protect. This is particularly problematic for appraisals of conservation easement acquisitions as the most critical restrictions in most conservation easements is the removal of development rights.

Also, the yellow book standards require an appraisal to address the "Larger Parcel" issue and address adjacent land owned by the landowner and family members. However, often times the relationship between the owner of the subject land is geographic and familial, it is often not economical.

Addressing these issues within an appraisal is costly, time consuming, and does not necessarily produce a better valuation. The Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP), as currently allowed by RCO, provide good and reasonable documentation of fair market value of lands slated for either fee simple or conservation easement acquisition.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Thank you,

Chris Hilton  
Land Protection Specialist  
Whidbey Camano Land Trust

## #1 - Appraisal and Review Appraisal Requirements

### Current Policy

Acquisition projects must follow certain appraisal requirements based upon the program funding. The appraised value determines the just compensation to the landowner. Projects funded from a federal grant program (e.g., Land and Water Conservation fund, Salmon Recovery Grants) must use the federal appraisal standards called the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA). Projects funded from a state grant program (e.g., Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Salmon Recovery Grants) must meet the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) with special instructions per RCO policy.

### Draft Policy for Public Comment

The draft policy included the following changes to RCO's appraisal and review appraisal requirements:

- 1) **Appraisal Standards** - Require all RCO funded acquisition projects to use the federal appraisal standards Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA) with one exception as follows:
  - a) In the WWRP Farmland Preservation Program, allow for appraisal standards as set and conducted by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) if NRCS is a funding partner on the project.
- 2) **Third Party Appraisals** - Allow for a third party (e.g., land trust or other agency assisting with negotiating the transaction or co-holding rights) to conduct the appraisal as long as the appraisal is conducted on behalf of the project sponsor and the project sponsor is listed as an intended user of the appraisal.
- 3) **Shelf Life** - Apply the existing policy regarding appraisal shelf life to all appraisals, not just state funded projects.
  - a) The existing policy allows for a 12-month "shelf life" for any appraisal. The property must be acquired within the 12-month effective date of the appraisal or the project sponsor must have a signed purchase and sale agreement secure.
  - b) The appraisal can remain valid beyond the 12-month period for up to 18-months from the effective date if the appraiser or review appraiser provides a written statement confirming that land values have not changed.
  - c) Appraisal updates are allowed 24-months from the effective date of the appraisal.
  - d) Only one appraisal and review appraisal is allowed per project.
- 4) **Statement of Value Less Than \$10,000** - Require that anyone preparing a statement of value for properties less than \$10,000 possess sufficient understanding of the real estate market and not have any interest, direct or indirect, in the real property to be valued for compensation. Project sponsor staff may not prepare the statement of value.

### Summary of Comments Received

- 1) **Appraisal Standards** - Require all RCO funded acquisition projects to use the federal appraisal standards Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA) (aka yellow book).
  - a) Lacey – It can be hard to find a yellow book appraiser and it always costs more.
  - b) The Nature Conservancy – Requiring yellow book standards would unnecessarily complicate the appraisal process and many eligible sponsors lack familiarity with the intricacies of the Yellow Book. There may be a number of state-certified general appraisers who are not qualified to write appraisals to yellow book standards.
  - c) Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation – Sponsors will incur added costs, have more difficulty finding qualified and available appraisers and reviewers, and in some circumstances jeopardize a successful deal as a result of this requirement.
  - d) Whidbey Camano Land Trust – The yellow book standards were developed for federal condemnation purposes, have a limited definition of market value, require the appraiser to address the “larger parcel”, and are costly, time consuming, and does not necessarily produce a better valuation.
- 2) **Third Party Appraisals** - Allow for a third party to conduct the appraisal.
  - a) No comments received.
- 3) **Shelf Life** - Apply the existing policy regarding appraisal shelf life to all appraisals.
  - a) King County – It would be clearer to state under no circumstances should an appraisal be used more than one year from its original date of value. Yellow book does not provide for appraisal updates. What is described as an update is technically a new appraisal under USPAP. I believe 18 month and 24 month options are unnecessary and should be eliminated.
  - b) Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation – The policy is unclear about the 24 month provision for updating an appraisal and review.
  - c) DNR – This written statement regarding shelf life is considered an appraisal update according to USPAP and UASFLA. The timing for requesting an appraisal update is unclear.
- 4) **Statement of Value Less Than \$10,000** - Requirements regarding a statement of value for property less than \$10,000.
  - a) Whatcom Land Trust - Recommend raising the value for appraisal reporting from \$10,000 to \$25,000 since appraisal and reviews cost about \$5,000.
  - b) WDFW – Without using qualified agency staff to provide such estimates will add time and expense to the acquisition process. Appraisal and appraisal review costs will likely meet or exceed the just compensation due to the landowner.
  - c) DNR - Any analysis completed by a licensed or certified appraiser must meet at a minimum USPAP. What type of report or analysis will RCO accept and by whom?
- 5) Other suggestion



- a) King County - Provide for more flexibility when requiring a field review for the review appraisal. The reviewer could be required by RCO to address whether or not a field review was warranted for properties over \$250,000 by addressing criteria specified in the Yellow Book.

### **Final Draft Policy**

The final draft policy retains the original draft policy except revisions to the shelf life policy to be more consistent with yellow book requirements. The final draft policy for appraisal and review appraisal requirements is as follows:

- 1) **Appraisal Standards** - Require all RCO funded acquisition projects to use the federal appraisal standards Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA) with one exception as follows:
  - a) In the WWRP Farmland Preservation Program, allow for appraisal standards as set and conducted by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) if NRCS is a funding partner on the project.
- 2) **Third Party Appraisals** - Allow for a third party (e.g., land trust or other agency assisting with negotiating the transaction or co-holding rights) to conduct the appraisal as long as the appraisal is conducted on behalf of the project sponsor and the project sponsor is listed as an intended user of the appraisal.
- 3) **Shelf Life** - Allow appraisals to be valid for 12-months from the effective date.
  - a) The property must be acquired within 12-months of the effective date of the appraisal or the project sponsor must have a signed purchase and sale agreement secure.
  - b) If the 12-month period has expired, the project sponsor must obtain an appraisal update from the appraiser and review appraiser.
  - c) An updated appraisal and review appraisal is only an eligible grant expense, if the 12-month period has expired. RCO will not reimburse for another appraisal on the same property if a valid appraisal exists.
- 4) **Statement of Value Less Than \$10,000** - Require that anyone preparing a statement of value for properties less than \$10,000 possess sufficient understanding of the real estate market and not have any interest, direct or indirect, in the real property to be valued for compensation. Project sponsor staff may not prepare the statement of value.

## #2 - Environmental Audits and Contaminated Property

### Current Policy

All sponsors must complete a hazardous substances certification and support the certification with an environmental assessment per The American Society of Testing Materials standards or RCO Property Assessment Checklist.

The director may approve purchase of land with hazardous substances. The project sponsor may be reimbursed up to 90 percent of eligible costs before the site meets the standards for acceptable contamination levels. Once these standards have been met, RCO will reimburse the remaining 10 percent.

In estimating fair market value for grant reimbursement purposes, the value is based upon the land appraised as if it were clean. RCO will not consider cost increases for expenses related to clean-up or a seller's desire to recover clean-up costs.

### Draft Policy for Public Comment

The draft policy included the following changes to the environmental audit and contaminated property policies:

- 1) **Standards** - Purchase of property contaminated with any hazardous substance not meeting state standards as determined by the Department of Ecology's Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is ineligible for RCO grant funding.
- 2) **Environmental Audits** - Defines acceptable environmental audits as:
  - a) Environmental site assessments per American Society for Testing and Materials standards,
  - b) All Appropriate Inquiries per U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards, or
  - c) Property Assessment Checklist provided by RCO.
- 3) **Allowable Costs** - Allows for costs related to removal of non-hazardous materials (e.g., debris cleanup, empty tank removal, structure removal) identified in an environmental audit as an eligible demolition expense in the Project Agreement.
- 4) **Waiver of Retroactivity** - Provides for issuing a waiver of retroactivity at the time of a new grant application, if a project sponsor wishes to purchase contaminated property.

### Summary of Comments Received

- 1) **Standards**
  - a) DNR – Would the prohibition limit the purchase of privately owned aquatic lands if they include pilings? Add language clarifying that environmental audit

recommendations (e.g., asbestos removal, well decommissioning, etc) are allowable costs.

- b) Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation – Is it reasonable to allow a contaminated property to be eligible if the extent of the contamination has been quantified and determine, and sufficient resources to meet clean-up standards are committed?

### **Final Draft Policy**

The final draft policy clarifies under what circumstances purchase of property with contamination would be eligible for grant funding, clarifies when to issue a waiver of retroactivity for contaminated property, and retains the rest of the draft policy language.

The final draft policy for environmental audit requirements and contaminated property is as follows:

- 1) **Standards** - Purchase of property contaminated with any hazardous substance not meeting state standards as determined by the Department of Ecology's Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) is ineligible for RCO grant funding except under the following circumstances:
  - a) The intended future use of the property as proposed in the grant application can proceed and the Department of Ecology or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has determined that cleanup is complete or no further cleanup action is needed; or
  - b) A site that requires ongoing cleanup monitoring per a cleanup action plan may be eligible for funding as long as the intended future use of the property as proposed in the grant application can proceed; or
  - c) The property contains contaminated pilings which the project sponsor plans to remove in a future action or in combination with a funded RCO grant.
- 2) **Environmental Audits** - Defines acceptable an environmental audit as:
  - a) Environmental site assessment per American Society for Testing and Materials standards, or
  - b) All Appropriate Inquiry per U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards, or
  - c) Property Assessment Checklist provided by RCO.
- 3) **Allowable Costs** - Allows for costs related to removal of non-hazardous materials (e.g., debris removal, empty tank removal, structure removal, well decommissioning, materials below MTCA cleanup levels) identified in an environmental audit as an eligible demolition expense in the Project Agreement.

- 4) **Waiver of Retroactivity** - Provides for issuing a waiver of retroactivity if a project sponsor wishes to purchase contaminated property. The project sponsor may apply for a grant application while implementing the required cleanup of the property, but would need to meet the RCO policy requirements before RCO issues a Project Agreement.

### #3 - Eligible Costs

#### Current Policy

Eligible costs are defined in three categories: administration, incidentals, and property. Pre-agreement costs are eligible costs incurred prior to signing a Project Agreement.

#### Draft Policy for Public Comment

The draft policy added the following expenses as eligible costs:

- Extended title insurance on a case by case basis, pre-approved by RCO.

The draft policy added the following expenses as eligible pre-agreement costs:

- Baseline documentation - conservation easements only
- Clearing the property title (i.e., non-contested quiet title actions and quelling of outstanding interests)
- Demolition
- Relocation

#### Summary of Comments Received

No comments were received on the draft policy. Project sponsors offered other recommendations for eligible costs.

1. Columbia Land Trust – Allow for attorney fees to review title, draft purchase and sale agreement, etc.
2. WDFW – Allow for GIS mapping and baseline inventories for fee title acquisitions.
3. Whatcom Land Trust – Allow for boundary line adjustments, lot line adjustments, and subdivision exemptions.

#### Final Draft Policy

The final draft policy retains the original proposal and incorporates all of the public comment suggestions except for baseline inventories for fee simple acquisitions. Assessment of a property's current condition (i.e., baseline inventory) is already an allowable stewardship plan cost in the following programs: Salmon Recovery Grants and WWRP's Riparian Protection Account and Farmland Preservation Program. Stewardship plan costs are added as an eligible pre-agreement cost.

The final policy adds the following expenses as eligible costs:

- Administration costs

- Attorney fees for document review and drafting, clearing title, and other project related work
- GIS mapping
- Boundary line adjustments, lot line adjustments, and subdivision exemptions
- Extended title insurance on a case by case basis, pre-approved by RCO

The final policy adds the following expenses as eligible pre-agreement costs:

- Administration costs
  - Attorney fees for document review and drafting, clearing title, other project related work
  - GIS mapping
- Baseline documentation - conservation easements only
- Boundary line adjustments, lot line adjustments, and subdivision exemptions
- Land survey (i.e., property boundaries)
- Relocation administration (e.g., developing a relocation plan)
- Stewardship plans in Salmon Recovery Grants and WWRP's Riparian Protection Account and Farmland Preservation Program

## #4 - Ineligible Project Types

### Current Policy

The manual lists the types of projects that are ineligible for RCO grant funding in any program.

### Draft Policy for Public Comment

The draft policy added two types of projects as ineligible project types.

- 1) Purchase of development rights for transfer to a receiving property.
- 2) Land donated by a third party in lieu of mitigation fees required for a development.

### Summary of Comments Received

- 1) **Purchase of development rights for transfer to a receiving property.**
  - a) Chelan Douglas Land Trust – Encourage SRFB or WWRP funds be used to move the development rights off the critical habitat.
- 2) **Land donated by a third party in lieu of mitigation fees required for a development.**
  - a) Bellingham – Supports the restriction on donations of land in lieu of permit fees or a requirement of development, but supports the use of donations in lieu of impact fees as sponsor match and any excess value allowed as a donation value.
  - b) Lacey - In support.
- 3) **Compatible Use Policy**
  - a) Vancouver-Clark County – Ineligible project types are being addressed in conjunction with the compatible use policy currently under review by RCO in a separate action.

### Final Draft Policy

There is no change to the draft policy on transfer of development rights. The policy regarding land donated in lieu of mitigation fees is clarified to include permit and impact fees and that impact fee funds and land donated in excess value is eligible as sponsor match.

The final policy adds two types of projects as ineligible project types.

- 1) Purchase of development rights for transfer to a receiving property.
- 2) Land donated by a third party in lieu of mitigation fees, including permit fees and impact fees, required for a development. Funds collected for impact fees are an eligible source of sponsor match. Excess land value above the land donation required by the mitigation is eligible as non-reimbursable sponsor match.

## #5 - Interim Land Uses

### Current Policy

The interim land use policy allows RCO to approve secondary party uses and life estates on a case by case basis. A secondary party use is an activity that exists on the property at the time it is acquired such as a lease or other encumbrance. Secondary party uses are different than compatible uses which are uses of the property proposed by the project sponsor after it is acquired. Interim land uses are often part of negotiations with the landowner or informed by lease terms and conditions.

The criterion for approving interim land uses is as follows:

A **secondary party use** is allowed when:

1. The use is a continuing second party use, and
2. Any hindrance to public use of the assisted site is minimal, and
3. The second party's use will be phased out within three years of the date of acquisition, and
4. Use of any income derived from the second party use is consistent with the RCO income policy.

A **life estate** is allowed when:

1. The estate does not totally limit public use of the site, and
2. The impact of the reservation of the estate is addressed in the valuation of the property, and
3. The Director gives written approval of the estate's provisions.

### Draft Policy for Public Comment

The draft policy added these additional criteria for approving interim land uses.

Additional criteria for a **secondary party use**:

5. Allow RCO to retain a percentage of the grant funds until the secondary party use ceases.
6. Allow RCO to consider the purpose of the Project Agreement or funding program requirements when considering approval.
7. Allow for secondary party uses proposed for more than three years to be considered under the compatible use policy.



**Additional criteria for a life estate:**

4. Allow RCO to consider the purpose of the Project Agreement or funding program requirements when considering approval.
5. Limit the life estate reservation to the property owner only.

**Summary of Comments Received****1) Secondary party uses**

- a) Bellevue - Suggests extending the timeline to at least 5-years.
- b) DNR – How much will be retained and what is the purposes? Reflect that any existing second party use be considered in the appraisal process.
- c) Longview – What is the percentage determined?
- d) Seattle City Light - What percentage of the grant funds to withhold? If the project sponsor sees a benefit in a type of use and RCO does not agree, what is the remedy?
- e) Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation - What percentage of the grant funding will be retained by RCO in the interim use period? The three year limitations may preclude wise interim use. Should include a reference to the RCO income policy in the last bullet.

**2) Life estates**

- a) Longview – If the ownership is only in one of the spouses' names, the other spouse loses the property if the named spouse dies.
- b) Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation – It is not always practical to require some public use during the term of the life estate. Provide examples of terms and conditions that would not be acceptable in a life estate.

**3) General Comments**

- a) Trust for Public Land - Eliminating options for life estates and longer term leases will make conservation opportunities less desirable to many of the landowners we work with and may limit transactions on working lands.
- b) WDFW - Retaining grant funds and limiting life estates will seriously impact efforts for landscape conservation where local communities are encouraging/demanding working lands.

**Final Draft Policy**

The final draft policy retains the original draft except it removes the withholding of grant funds during the period of a secondary party use. However, the withholding of grant funds for a secondary party use is a requirement of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and will be retained for that program only. The policy also clarifies secondary party uses beyond three years may be considered a conversion of use. RCO will provide examples of acceptable terms

and conditions and guidance to project sponsors on how to quit claim deed property to other individuals for purposes of the life estate reservation.

The final draft of the complete interim land use policy, including existing policy and proposed changes, is as follows. Proposed changes are underlined.

A **secondary party use** is allowed when all of the criteria below are satisfied:

1. The use is a continuing secondary party use.
2. There is minimal impact to the public use or purpose of the Project Agreement or funding program.
3. The second party's use will be phased out within three years of the date of acquisition. If the use will continue for more than three years, it must be reviewed under the compatible use policy.
4. Use of any income derived from the second party use is consistent with the RCO income policy.

For Land and Water Conservation Fund projects only, RCO may withhold a percentage of the grant funds until the secondary party use ceases based upon an amount determined by the National Park Service.

A **life estate** is allowed when all of the criteria below are satisfied:

1. The estate does not totally limit public use or the purpose of the Project Agreement or funding program.
2. The life estate reservation is for the property owner only.
3. The impact of the reservation of the estate is addressed in the valuation of the property.
4. The Director gives written approval of the estate's provisions.

## #6 - Conservation Easement Compliance

### Current Policy

There is currently no guidance regarding conservation easement monitoring. In the WWRP Farmland Preservation Program, annual conservation easement monitoring is required, but there is no requirement to provide monitoring reports to RCO. As a party to any conservation easement, RCO has an obligation to ensure the easement is being monitored on a regular basis.

### Draft Policy for Public Comment

The draft added the following policy statements under conservation easements:

- Encourage project sponsors to monitor RCO funded conservation easements annually.
- Require project sponsors to submit a conservation easement monitoring report to RCO at least once every five years (five years is consistent with the RCO grant inspection program).

### Summary of Comments Received

1. WDFW – It is unclear what value is added by requiring reports be submitted to RCO. The conservation easement monitoring report should not be required as WDFW has an adequate process in place.
2. DNR – Provide guidance on the conservation easement monitoring report.
3. Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation – Provide a template for the conservation easement monitoring report.

### Final Draft Policy

The final draft remains as originally drafted. RCO will work to provide guidance on conservation easement monitoring in the final manual.

The final draft adds the following policy statements under conservation easements:

- Encourage project sponsors to monitor RCO funded conservation easements annually.
- Require project sponsors to submit a conservation easement monitoring report to RCO at least once every five years.

## #7 - Legal Access

### Current Policy

There is no current policy regarding whether a property should have legal access when property is acquired with RCO funds.

### Draft Policy for Public Comment

The draft policy proposed legal access requirements for all RCO acquisition projects as follows:

- 1) Lands acquired in fee title with RCO grant assistance must have legal access to the land or by other adjacent land.
- 2) A project sponsor must obtain pre-approval from RCO for acquisition of property with no legal access. RCO may approve acquisition of property with no legal access with the following three conditions:
  - a) The project sponsor owns the adjacent land and can access the property from its existing property holdings;
  - b) RCO will be able to conduct compliance inspections with minimal burden to get to the property; and
  - c) The review appraised value reflects a lack of legal access to the property.

### Summary of Comments Received

- 1) Chelan Douglas Land Trust - It is not reasonable to require the seller of a pristine piece of habitat to obtain legal access, when a principal purpose of the acquisition is to protect the habitat from the negative effects of development.
- 2) DNR – Clarify whether legal access includes public access.
- 3) National Park Service - Legal access must include public access for the Land and Water Conservation Fund program.
- 4) Seattle City Light – We require legal access to purchase a property. It is unclear whether the grant would cover costs if legal access is not established prior to the initiation of the acquisition process.
- 5) The Nature Conservancy - Access through state or other public land should be specifically identified in bullet as acceptable adjacent landowners.

### Final Draft Policy

The final draft policy is significantly revised to clarify the definition of legal access, describe legal access in relation to public access, what forms of informal access may be acceptable, and provisions for waiving legal and informal access requirements.

The final draft policy for legal access requirements for all RCO acquisition projects as follows:

- 1) **Legal Access.** Public access requirements include legal access to the land. If RCO waives the requirement to provide public access on a fee title acquisition, the property must have direct legal access in order for the property to be managed by the project sponsor and RCO to conduct its compliance inspections.
  - a) Legal access to a property means the project sponsor has the legal, insurable right and means to reach the property year-round. For properties surrounded by water (i.e., islands), legal access must be obtained across shorelands, tidelands or bedlands, as appropriate.
  - b) Legal access must provide sufficient access rights for RCO to monitor compliance for which the grant funding was provided and for the project sponsor to maintain the property.
- 2) **Informal Access.** If the project sponsor cannot obtain legal access rights to the property, informal access may be pre-approved by RCO under the following three conditions:
  - a) The project sponsor owns the adjacent property and can access the RCO funded property from the project sponsor's existing property holdings; or
  - b) Access to the property can be accomplished through existing public land; and
  - c) RCO will be able to conduct compliance inspections with minimal burden to get to the property; and
  - d) The appraised value reflects a lack of legal access to the property.
- 3) **No Access.** Approval to purchase property with no legal or informal access may be approved in limited circumstances. If the project sponsor cannot obtain legal access or demonstrate informal access by one of the above means, the RCO may approve acquisition of property without any means of access on a case by case basis under the following three conditions:
  - a) All reasonable alternatives have been exhausted; and
  - b) The property to be acquired is critical to implementation of the Project Agreement, and
  - c) The appraised value reflects a lack of legal access to the property.

## # 8 - Landowner Acknowledgement

### Current Policy

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board requires submittal of a landowner acknowledgement form at the time of a grant application for acquisition projects. For grant applications covering a stream reach with multiple target properties, the project sponsor must submit the landowner acknowledgement form for the primary target properties. There is no requirement to contact the landowner for applications submitted to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board.

### Draft Policy for Public Comment

The draft policy added the following requirement for all RCO acquisition grant applications:

- 1) Submit a landowner acknowledgement form for each parcel to be acquired.
- 2) For multi-site acquisition projects, submit landowner acknowledgement forms for all known priority parcels.
- 3) The landowner acknowledgement form includes the following statement and is signed by the landowner:

*I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ (Landowner or Organization) is the legal owner of property described in this grant application to the RCO. I am aware the project is being proposed on my property. My signature authorizes the applicant listed below to seek funding for project implementation, however, does not represent authorization of project implementation.*

### Summary of Comments Received

- 1) DNR – Allow for a documented public process (public meetings and/or public hearings) that notifies landowners their property is eligible to be acquired for habitat conservation to substitute for submittal of the landowner acknowledgement form.
- 2) Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation – This policy may have the unintended consequences of giving a potential seller the impression that, if grant dollars are available, that the purchaser has the ability to pay a higher price than they otherwise would/could. Conversely, this form may give the landowner the impression that the purchaser has insufficient funds to acquire the property, which may prompt them to seek another buyer who has sufficient funding on hand.
- 3) WDFW – Often the landowner wishes to remain anonymous until they recognize an acceptable deal is available. Multi-site acquisition projects become even more onerous. Remove this requirement.

### **Final Draft Policy**

The final draft policy retains the original draft proposal but allows for a substitute process if the project sponsor can demonstrate previous contact with the current landowner regarding acquisition of the property at the time of the grant application.

The final draft policy adds the following requirement for all RCO acquisition grant applications:

- 1) Submit a landowner acknowledgement form for each parcel to be acquired.
- 2) For multi-site acquisition projects, submit landowner acknowledgement forms for the top three priority parcels.
- 3) The landowner acknowledgement form includes the following statement and is signed by the landowner:

*I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ (Landowner or Organization) is the legal owner of property described in this grant application to the RCO. I am aware the project is being proposed on my property. My signature authorizes the applicant listed below to seek funding for project implementation, however, does not represent authorization of project implementation.*

- 4) If the project sponsor has had previous contact with the current landowner regarding purchase of their property, the project sponsor may submit evidence of the previous communication instead of the above statement. The project sponsor must demonstrate that the current landowner was contacted and provide evidence (e.g., letter or other written communication) that the landowner has been made aware the project sponsor is interested in purchasing their property.

## # 9 - Acquisition for Future Use

### Current Policy

There is currently no policy regarding the timeframe for constructing a project after the property has been acquired with RCO funding assistance. The Land and Water Conservation Fund requires properties to be developed for public outdoor recreation within three years.

### Draft Policy for Public Comment

The draft policy added the following requirement for all RCO funded acquisition grants when a future development or restoration project was the primary purpose for acquiring the property.

- 1) When a project sponsor acquires real property for the purpose of conducting restoration work or public access development in the future, the property must be restored or developed within three years.
- 2) If the planned future use of the property will be delayed for more than three years, the project sponsor must request approval for an extension of the delayed future use in writing before the three year period expires.

### Summary of Comments Received

- 1) Bellevue - The proposed timeline is unnecessarily short and suggest extending it to at least 5-years.
- 2) Longview - The timeframe is insufficient for a sponsor to get a RCO development grant following the acquisition and then complete the development particularly within those funding programs that are on an every other year cycle, or developments that require regulatory permits prior to construction. The timeline should be extended at least to 6-years.
- 3) National Park Service – Address under what circumstances extensions will be allowed and what happens when the property continues to remain undeveloped.
- 4) Puget Sound Lead Entities – It is unrealistic and less than strategic to require a short timeframe for the utilization of the property.
- 5) Puget Sound Partnership – The policy could have the unintended consequence of frustrating implementation of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan and the Action Agenda for Puget Sound.
- 6) Seattle City Light - A 3-year timeframe for completion of restoration activities is too short. Increasing the 3-year timeframe would increase project effectiveness overall.



- 7) State Parks - The proposed requirement that development or restoration be completed within three years would place a significant hardship on State Parks. We ask that the timeline be increased significantly, perhaps to 10 years, plus extension.
- 8) The Nature Conservancy – The proposed 3-year completion of planned future development or restoration is impractical, and misunderstands the complexity of implementing large restoration projects. Include a provision for RCO to approve a longer timeframe for completion as part of the application process. Provide separate requirements for development and restoration. Allows more time for completion of restoration projects (minimum 5 years).
- 9) Vancouver-Clark County - It has never been practical to commit to a three year development commitment. Given current circumstances, a 10-year horizon is much more realistic.
- 10) WDNR - This should apply to combination acquisition-restoration projects but not to straightforward acquisitions. We don't see how RCO could hold DNR to an "intent" unless they've funded it.

### **Final Draft Policy**

The final draft policy changes the timeframe from three years to five years (five years is consistent with the RCO grant inspection program) for all programs except the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The final draft also allows for longer timeframes to be proposed at the time of a grant application. The policy also refers to the compliance policies as a means to evaluate projects that are not implemented as planned.

The final draft policy adds the following requirement for all RCO funded acquisition grants when a future development or restoration project was the primary purpose for acquiring the property.

- 1) When a project sponsor acquires real property for the purpose of conducting restoration work or public recreation development in the future, the property must be restored or developed within five years from the date the property was acquired.
- 2) If the planned future use of the property will be delayed for more than five years, the project sponsor must request approval from RCO for an extension of the delayed future use in writing before the five year period expires. RCO may approve an extension based upon the project sponsor's current plans and schedule for constructing the project. Projects receiving an extension will remain in compliance with the Project Agreement.
- 3) The project sponsor may propose a longer timeframe for large scale, multi-phased projects during the grant application process. RCO may incorporate the longer timeframe in the Project Agreement, if the application receives funding.

- 4) Projects that are not constructed as proposed in the acquisition phase and not granted a time extension will be reviewed per RCO's conversion policy in *Manual #7: Funding Projects*.
- 5) Where appropriate, RCO may approve a request to restrict the public's use of a property for safety concerns until the property is developed or restored as planned.
- 6) For Land and Water Conservation Fund projects only, the property must be restored or developed within three years from the date the property was acquired. RCO may forward time extension requests to the National Park Service for consideration, as appropriate and consistent with Land and Water Conservation Fund requirements.

## Scoring Criteria

### 1. Need. Is the project needed?

#### ***All proposals***

Consider whether the project addresses boater needs as described in the Boating Programs Policy Plan (RCO, 2009). Consider the goal of the project and how it relates to the service area:

- Inventory of existing sites and facilities
- Physical condition of the inventory
- Unserved or under-served populations
- Amount of use of existing sites
- Potential use of proposed sites
- How the project meets the need
- Is the project named by location or type as a priority in an adopted plan? Examples of such plans include: comprehensive, shoreline, port, waterfront access, park, open space, capital improvement, and capital facilities.

For example, a proposal for a new site in a large city with few existing sites would seem likely to fill a substantial need and could receive a high score. A proposal for improving a geographically remote site accessing an important sport fishery in high demand could also receive a high score.

Evaluators award 0-5 points that are later multiplied by 3.

### 2. Site Suitability. Is the site well-suited for the intended recreational uses?

#### ***All proposals***

Consider the following:

- The site's size and location
- Topography and soil conditions
- Existing facilities or development (if any)
- Adjacent land uses
- Natural features or attractions (such as productive fishing locations)
- Alternatives that may have been considered.

In general, sites more suitable for the intended uses should get higher scores.

Evaluators award 0-5 points that are later multiplied by 3.

**3a. Urgency. How urgent is the need for RCFB funding?**

***Acquisition proposals only***

If RCFB funding is not made available, will public access or use be lost? Consider the availability of alternatives. Where none exist, the significance of RCFB funding may be higher. RCFB funding shall augment, not replace, other sources of funding available to a sponsor or applicant.

- a. *No evidence* presented.....(0 points)
- b. *Minimal urgency*: site opportunity appears to be in no immediate danger of a loss in quality or to public use in the next two years .....(Low score)
- c. Actions are under *consideration* that *could* result in the opportunity losing quality or becoming unavailable for future public use ..... (Medium score)
- d. *Actions will be taken* that will result in the opportunity losing quality or becoming unavailable for future public use. .... (High score)

Evaluators award 0-5 points that are later multiplied by 2.

**3b. Project Design. Is the proposal appropriately designed for the intended use?**

***Development only***

RCFB policy rewards design standards and construction techniques intended to maximize service life, minimize routine maintenance, and avoid environmental impacts.

For example, if users of a proposed boat ramp can be expected to be power loading, solid concrete ramp construction may be more appropriate than concrete plank construction. In harsh marine conditions, steel piling or concrete could be expected to have a longer service life than timber piling.

Evaluators should consider design and construction elements such as:

- Materials and specifications
- User friendly elements
- Innovative and creative elements
- Aesthetics
- Future maintenance needs
- Risk management
- Space relationships
- Accurate cost estimates
- Barrier-free considerations
- Environmental impacts

Evaluators award 0-5 points that are later multiplied by 2.

**3c. Planning success. What potential does this project have to successfully complete the required documents needed to start a development project?**

***Planning Proposals Only***

Evaluators are asked to judge how likely it is that the project will result in development in the near future. Factors to consider include:

- Cost-effective design and construction standards
- Site conditions that might require extraordinary or unique architectural and engineering efforts
- The results of public involvement
- Whether design approaches are untested or have been successfully tested
- The experience or expertise of the organization that will do the work
- The complexity or feasibility of environmental mitigation that could be required.

Evaluators award 0-5 points that are later multiplied by 2.

**4. Cost-benefit. Do the benefits of the project outweigh the costs?**

***All proposals***

Having reviewed the technical and other merits of the project proposal, evaluators are now asked to determine its overall cost-benefit.

- *Cost* can be more than dollars: it also can be unacceptable harm to the environment, or something that causes unnecessary ill will for boaters.
- *Benefit* is the gain realized with the requested level of public investment: it can be gain for boaters, the environment, or the general public, or some other gain.

Proposals demonstrating greater net benefits should score higher than proposals with limited value, or with value at too great a cost.

Evaluators award 0-5 points that are later multiplied by 2.

**5. Boating experience. How will the project affect the boating experience?**  
***All proposals***

Boaters are increasingly concerned about the quality of the boating experience. Although the meaning of a quality experience is highly personal, RCFB suggests that evaluators consider the complex relationships among:

- The size and location of the water body to be accessed
- The number and types of boats currently using that water body
- The traditional or historic use of the water body
- The number and types of additional boats that could gain access
- Current and expected boat speeds

Evaluators are asked to consider the overall potential impact of a proposal.

- a. A proposal that will harm or disrupt a quality boating experience should receive *negative* points. .... (minus 2 or minus 1)
- b. Proposals that will not change the boating experience should probably get a zero. .... (0)
- c. Proposals that will enhance or improve quality boating should score positive points. .... (1 to 3)

Evaluators award -2 (minus two) to +3 (plus three) points that are later multiplied by 2.

**6. Readiness. Is the project ready to proceed?**  
***All proposals***

RCFB policy encourages proposals that are ready for immediate implementation. That is, an applicant should be ready to start work as soon as a project agreement is signed.

- Acquisition proposals that have completed negotiations should get a higher score than a proposal for which negotiations are still underway or have not yet started.
- Development proposals with permits in hand should score higher than proposals that are in the process of securing permits.
- An architecture and engineering proposal may merit a high score if it is clear that work on the permit or plan can start immediately.

Evaluators award 0-5 points; there is no multiplier.

## SCORED BY RCO STAFF

### **7. Matching Shares. To what extent will the applicant match any RCFB grant funds with contributions from its own resources?**

This question is scored by RCO staff based on information submitted in the application. Local agency applicants are required to provide a match and therefore are scored on items a-d; State agencies are not required to provide a matching share and therefore are not scored on items a-d but may receive 1 point under item e.

To qualify, contributions must be eligible for BFP funding, and may include:

- Cash, the value of donated labor, equipment, and materials.
  - The value of donated land or lesser interests in land, except when the interest is currently owned by the applicant or by a public agency.
- a. 0 to 25 percent of project's value will be contributed from applicant's resources ..... (0 points)
  - b. 25.1 to 45 percent of project's value will be contributed from applicant's resources ..... (1 point)
  - c. 45.1 to 55 percent of project's value will be contributed from applicant's resources ..... (2 points)
  - d. 55.1 percent or more of project's value will be contributed from applicant's resources ..... (3 points)
  - e. If an applicant demonstrates that its matching share includes non-government contributions equivalent to 10 percent or more of the total project cost:  
..... (Staff adds 1 point to the score assigned above.)

RCO staff awards a maximum of 4 points; there is no multiplier. Revised 11/19/04

**8. Proximity to people. Is the project site in a populated area?**

***All proposals***

RCFB policy is to give preference to projects in populated areas. Populated areas are defined (Revised Code of Washington 43.51.380) as a town or city with a population of 5,000 or more, or a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile.

Is the project in an area meeting this definition?

No..... 0 points

Yes ..... 1 point

RCO staff awards a maximum of 1 point; there is no multiplier.



**9. GMA Compliance. Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)?**

Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250 (GMA-preference required.)

State law requires that:

- (1) Whenever a state agency is considering awarding grants to finance public facilities, it shall consider whether the applicant<sup>[1]</sup> has adopted a comprehensive plan and development regulations as required by Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.040 ("state law").
- (2) When reviewing such requests, the state agency shall accord additional preference to applicants<sup>[\*]</sup> that have adopted the comprehensive plan and development regulations. An applicant<sup>[\*]</sup> is deemed to have satisfied the requirements for adopting a comprehensive plan and development regulations if it:
  - ▶ Adopts or has adopted within the time periods specified in state law;
  - ▶ Adopts or has adopted by the time it requests a grant or loan; or
  - ▶ Demonstrates substantial progress toward adopting within the time periods specified in state law. An agency that is more than six months out of compliance with the time periods has not demonstrated substantial progress.
- (3) A request from an applicant<sup>[\*]</sup> planning under state law shall be accorded no additional preference based on subsection (2) over a request from an applicant<sup>[\*]</sup> not planning under this state law.

This question is pre-scored by RCO staff based on information obtained from the state Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development, GMA Division. To qualify for the current grant cycle, the GMA comprehensive plan and development regulations must be completed by RCO's technical completion deadline.

- a. The applicant does *not* meet the requirements of Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250.....(minus 1 point)
- b. The applicant *meets* the requirements of Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250..... (0 points)
- c. The applicant is a nonprofit organization, or state or federal agency..... (0 points)

RCO staff subtracts a maximum of 1 point; there is no multiplier.

---

<sup>[1]</sup> Counties, cities, towns only.

**Item 14**

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Critical Updates for Boating Facilities Program  
Prepared By: Jim Eychaner, Policy Specialist

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Summary

The Boating Facilities Program (BFP) provides money to local and state agencies to help pay for sites and facilities supporting recreational motor boating.

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is proposing changes to the scoring criteria used to evaluate grant applications for motor boat projects in the Boating Facilities Program (BFP). The changes are needed to make the scoring criteria consistent with the *Boating Programs Policy Plan*, which the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved in October 2009.

### 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.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve changes to the scoring criteria used to review and evaluate grant proposals for BFP via Resolution #2010-35. Specifically, the changes would:

- Add the following sentence to Question 1, "Need": Consider whether the project addresses boater needs as described in the *Boating Programs Policy Plan* (RCO, 2009).
- Eliminate question 6: "Boats on Trailers."

Staff also would renumber the questions and correct the point total.

## Background

In October 2009, the board approved the *Boating Programs Policy Plan*. The 2009 *Policy Plan* has new priorities for projects that are proposed for grant funding in the Boating Facilities Program (BFP).

A key policy change in the approved *Policy Plan* is a more flexible way to look at priorities for BFP funding. Specifically, the old BFP policy gave priority to projects that supported trailerable motor boats. The new policy gives priority to projects that best meet the needs of the (motorized) boating public.

RCFB approved the following in Funding Priority Policies:

- Policy C-1    Recreation and Conservation Funding Board shall encourage projects that best meet the needs of the boating public. Boater needs have been surveyed as recently as 2007. Grant evaluation will be consistent with boater needs.

## Analysis

Evaluators currently use 10 questions to evaluate projects in the Boating Facilities Program. Staff is proposing to change evaluation question #1 by adding one sentence, shown in underline:

### 1. Need. Is the project needed?

#### ***All proposals***

Consider whether the project addresses boater needs as described in the *Boating Programs Policy Plan* (RCO, 2009). Consider the goal of the project and how it relates to the service area:

- ▶ Inventory of existing sites and facilities
- ▶ Physical condition of the inventory
- ▶ Unserved or under-served populations
- ▶ Amount of use of existing sites
- ▶ Potential use of proposed sites
- ▶ How the project meets the need
- ▶ Is the project named by location or type as a priority in an adopted plan? Examples of such plans include: comprehensive, shoreline, port, waterfront access, park, open space, capital improvement, and capital facilities.

For example, a proposal for a new site in a large city with few existing sites would seem likely to fill a substantial need and could receive a high score. A proposal for improving a geographically remote site accessing an important sport fishery in high demand could also receive a high score.

Evaluators award 0-5 points that are later multiplied by 3.

In addition, staff proposes deleting evaluation question #6, Boats on Trailers, and correcting the total point value accordingly. The result is summarized in the scoring table below.

<b>Boating Facilities Program - Criteria Summary</b>					
<b>Score</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>A-D-P</b>	<b>Mult/Max.</b>	<b>Policy</b>
Team	1	Need	A-D-P	3 / 15	<a href="#">A-1</a> , C-1
Team	2	Site suitability	A-D-P	3 / 15	A-1, C-2
Team	3a	Urgency	A	2 / 10	A-3, C-5
Team	3b	Project Design	D	2 / 10	C-1, C-4
Team	3c	Planning success (A&E only)	P	2 / 10	B-5
Team	4	Cost benefit	A-D-P	2 / 10	A-2, A-3
Team	5	Boating experience	A-D-P	2 / 6	A-2
<del>Team</del>	<del>6</del>	<del>Boats on trailers</del>	<del>A-D-P</del>	<del>2 / 10</del>	<del>B-5</del>
Team	<del>6</del> 7	Readiness	A-D-P	5	B-5
RCO score	<del>7</del> 8	Matching shares including non government contributions	A-D-P	4	C-3
RCO score	<del>8</del> 9	Proximity to people	A-D-P	1	RCW
RCO score	<del>9</del> 10	GMA preference (local agencies)	A-D-P	0	RCW
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE, ALL CATEGORIES			Local A-D-P	= <del>66.76</del>	
			State A-D-P	= <del>63.73</del>	

Staff anticipates that use of the additional question will allow better evaluation results.

## Public Involvement

Boating Programs Advisory Committee has reviewed the proposal. In addition, staff made the proposed criteria available to the public via email and the agency web site. The RCO received seven written comments (Attachment B).

- Five favored the proposal as presented or with minor edits.
- One respondent suggested that the "Need" question be reorganized.
- One, which the RCO received after the comment deadline, strongly opposed the 2009 policy change and, in particular, the removal of the evaluation question related to "boats on trailers."

## **Next Steps**

If approved, staff will publish the revised criteria in Manual 9 for the 2011 grant cycle, if funds are available for the program.

## **Attachments**

Resolution #2011-35

- A. Revised Evaluation Questions
- B. Summarized Public Comments

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-35  
Critical Updates for Boating Facilities Program

**WHEREAS**, RCW 79A.25.080 authorizes the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to fund marine recreation land projects through the recreation resources account; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the state that RCO manage this program and funds based on a foundation of good data based on sound research, systematic analysis, and public involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Boating Grant Programs Policy Plan (Plan) was developed according to these principles; and

**WHEREAS**, in October 2009, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved the *Boating Programs Policy Plan*; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Boating Programs Policy Plan* states that the "Recreation and Conservation Funding Board shall encourage projects that best meet the needs of the boating public. .... Grant evaluation will be consistent with boater needs."; and

**WHEREAS**, RCO staff revised the scoring criteria for the Boating Facilities Program to align with the *Boating Programs Policy Plan*; and

**WHEREAS**, RCO staff circulated the policy revisions for public comment, thereby supporting the board's goal to ensure the work of the board and staff is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner, with broad public participation; and

**WHEREAS**, adopting this revision would further the boards' goal to develop strategic investment policies and plans so that projects selected for funding meet the state's recreation needs;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board does hereby adopt the new policy language shown in Attachment A to the October 2010 board memo to add one sentence to question #1, remove question #6, and adjust the point total accordingly; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the board directs RCO staff to implement this policy beginning with the 2011 grant cycle.

*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

### Summarized Public Comments and Staff Responses

Name	Comment	Staff response
Martha Comfort, Boating Programs Advisory Committee	I believe that you are proposing good improvements in the program mandate.	Thank you.
Mike Branstetter, Boating Programs Advisory Committee	No concerns here.	Thank you.
Reed Waite, Boating Programs Advisory Committee	Not much to say - scoring changes seem to be covered well.	Thank you.
Susan Kavanaugh, State Parks	Looks good.	Thank you.
Deb Wallace, State Parks	The change to eliminate boats on trailers makes sense to balance the program.	Thank you.
Lorena Landon, Boating Programs Advisory Committee	<p>In regards to the first criteria entitled "Need;" the importance of breaking this one out has become evident to me while scoring projects. The definition of "Need" is so inclusive, many scores end up being the same or closely ranked but for different reasons under the same criteria. The suggestion to break out this criteria was discussed by several of us during a post scoring conference call with RCO. To achieve a more diverse score under "Need" I propose that we break out the definitions and group them as follows:</p> <p>1a. Need Inventory of existing sites and facilities Unserved or under-served populations</p> <p>1b. Need Physical condition of the inventory Amount of use of existing sites</p>	<p>"Need" in recreation is difficult to define and measure. Policy staff has been working for several years on a tool with which to measure "need" at the local level.</p> <p>Grant staff has noted that WWRP evaluators are also increasingly interested in quantitative responses and defensible data.</p>

	<p>1c Need Potential use of proposed sites How the project meets the need Is the project named by location or type as a priority in . . . . .</p>	<p>The proposed "Need" question refers specifically to the quantitative data available in the <i>Boating Programs Policy Plan</i>. We believe that asking applicants to refer to boater needs identified and quantified in the <i>Plan</i> will make it easier on both applicants and evaluators.</p>
	<p>Under the "Readiness" criteria (now no. 6); it would be helpful for scoring purposes to have applicants stipulate what permit phase they are currently in i.e. permit in review; permits submitted, or permits in-hand.</p> <p>It would also be helpful to have a standard cost reference sheet of basic construction elements/materials for use by committee members when reviewing and scoring proposed projects along with a basic guide on design standards.</p> <p>A new criteria entitled "Maintenance &amp; Life Expectancy" might be a good addition. (Committee members often ask presenters for information regarding the age of a facility, maintenance history, and future maintenance and life expectancy of the proposed project). Law enforcement and oversight might also be part of this criteria.</p> <p>RCO might consider adding the words "&amp; usage statistics" with "Proximity to people" (now no. 8)</p>	<p>We remind applicants that more precision on this question will result in better scores. The Readiness criterion already asks about permits at various stages.</p> <p>Unfortunately, no standard cost reference exists. The Agency Boating Committee is working on "best practices" for boating facilities. While we anticipate more "standard" design guidance may result, a standard cost reference is some years away.</p> <p>Our agency's previous experience with evaluation questions on maintenance and life expectancy proved problematic. The items you reference should be part of an applicant's response to "Design" and perhaps "Cost-benefit."</p> <p>Proximity to people refers to the geographic location, not user demographics. Usage statistics would be appropriate for an applicant to report under "Need" or "Boating experience."</p>
<p>Eric Egge, Former Boating Programs Advisory Committee Member</p>	<p>To eliminate "Question 6" is wrong. Q6 is intended to recognize the source of the BFP dollars. The non-refunded road tax dollars come mainly from trailerable boaters. So, it is appropriate to continue allowing launch ramp projects a small advantage. Nothing in the survey indicates removing that advantage.</p>	<p>The RCFB has already approved the policy to eliminate the preference. The survey data indicates a strong need for facilities serving trailered boats, so these types of projects are unlikely to lose their advantage.</p>



Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Conversion Policy Framework  
Prepared By: Scott Robinson, Conservation and Grants Services Section Manager

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Briefing****Summary**

Over the past three years, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) has revised and clarified the conversion policy. The purpose of this memo is to review the current policy and articulate the board's legal authority when addressing a conversion. If the board wishes to discuss strengthening the conversion policy, staff will be prepared document the ideas and do any follow up work that is required.

**Strategic Plan Link**

The board has a strategy to "evaluate and develop strategic investment policies and plans..." This strategy specifically mentions compliance and conversion policies. Further, strategy 2.1.A states that the board will provide clear policies for post-completion compliance (e.g., conversions), and that staff will track and report on the success rate.

**Background**

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) manages an extensive grant portfolio that began in 1965. The portfolio has more than 6,400 grant projects totaling \$1.4 billion. Grant recipients have contributed more than \$877 million in matching resources, making the total investment in Washington's outdoors more than \$2.3 billion.

However, since 1965, public needs, values, and priorities are constantly evolving. In addition, project sponsors are not always aware of their contractual obligations. This is particularly true if there has been high staff turnover for the sponsor, projects are old, or project ownership has changed (e.g., from a county to a newly-incorporated city). Such changes and issues have contributed to a growing list of projects that are out of compliance with their original project agreement. Although RCO inspects its projects on a periodic basis, RCO staff and sponsors sometimes are unaware that a compliance problem exists.

The RCO has only one dedicated staff position assigned to resolve compliance issues, and provide needed outreach and training. This specialist, who was hired in 2008, has a typical workload of 40 projects for compliance and conversion resolution, and is responsible for establishing procedures and assisting in the development of conversion related policies. Other grant managers also inspect sites and fix compliance issues as part of their overall workload, but these tasks are generally a lower priority than the high-demand and deadline-driven activities of processing new applications and managing active grant projects.

## Conversions

Although there are a number of ways that a sponsor can be out of compliance, only the most serious are considered conversions.

### Definition

A conversion occurs when the sponsor takes an action that changes the original project in a way that does not comply with the original project scope. Put another way, a conversion occurs when the sponsor changes the use or function of a completed project to a use or function that is different from the project approved by the board.

The following are some examples of possible conversions:

- Grant funded property interests are conveyed for non-public outdoor recreation or habitat conservation purposes;
- Grant funded property interests are conveyed to an ineligible third party;
- Public or private uses are made in a manner that impairs the originally intended purposes;
- Non-eligible indoor facilities are developed;
- Public use is terminated for all or a portion of the property; and/or
- Habitat functions or outdoor recreation opportunities are no longer provided.

When determining whether a project compliance issue rises to the level of a conversion, the central question is “What were the essential purposes of the grant?” The answer to this question is pivotal in determining the nature and extent of the compliance issue. The question is answered by analyzing how the proposed land use affects the uses and values intended to be funded by the grant program and those specifically listed in the project agreement.

## Analysis

RCO staff estimates that 5 to 10 percent of the grant portfolio may have a compliance issue of some degree. We believe that most compliance issues will not rise to the level of a conversion, but many will require other forms of remediation such as a sponsor change, name change, or updated boundary map. Determining whether a grant is noncompliant requires considerable

staff effort and largely depends upon sponsor self-reporting. Our ability to convey a more precise number is limited by our lack of resources for more frequent site inspections.

While we do not know the specific number of conversions, there is no doubt about the importance, complexity, and time demands of addressing inspections and conversions. A single conversion often requires 1 to 3 years to resolve. Some of the more complex conversions have histories going back 30 years. This is because resolving a conversion involves:

- finding and researching old records,
- identifying the nature of the conversion and its size,
- identifying the amount and quality of replacement land that must be purchased,
- finding suitable candidate properties,
- securing funding to purchase the replacement property,
- securing a proper appraisal and review appraisal,
- securing the property, and
- putting together a proposal to bring to the board.

The board affects this process in two ways:

1. Setting the policy (in regulation and in policy manuals), and
2. Ensuring that conversions (either pre-approval or after-the-fact) comply with the established policy.

The board has delegated its authority to approve conversions to the Director if the conversion is (a) less than twenty percent of the original project scope or cost, and (b) if the total value of the conversion is \$75,000 or less in current dollars. Otherwise, with a few exceptions, the board is the final decision maker.

When the board evaluates a proposed conversion, the authority and guidance for its decision comes from several sources.

1. Revised Code of Washington (RCW): RCW 79A.15.030 and RCW 79A.25.100
2. Washington Administrative Code (WAC): WAC 286-26-090; WAC 286-26-100; WAC 286-27-055; WAC 286-27-061; WAC 286-27-065; WAC 286-27-066; WAC 286-30-030; WAC 286-30-040; WAC 286-40-050; and WAC 286-42-050
3. The conversion policies and procedures in Section 3 of Manual 7, *Funded Projects: Policies*<sup>1</sup> adopted by the board in June 2007.

---

<sup>1</sup> The language in Manual 7 may not apply to some older grants because the board's conversion policies were not referenced in those project agreements. In those older agreements, the agreement language itself will indicate the governing authority for conversion decision-making.

The board's compliance policy describes different types of compliance issues, including those that rise to the level of a conversion (see definitions above). The conversion policy does not prohibit conversions. Nor does the policy differentiate between requests to convert in advance from those that are discovered after the fact. Rather, it addresses only how sponsors should work with the RCO and the board to resolve them. The policy's focus is on providing replacement property to offset the converted property. The policy outlines the process for resolving a conversion and notes the extra steps if Land and Water Conservation Funds were part of the original grant. The only punitive aspect to the current policy or other legal guidance is the "high risk" sponsor designation that may be applied to a sponsor that is making insufficient progress in resolving a conversion. The "high risk" designation is not written to apply to a sponsor who is making a good faith effort at resolving the conversion.

The conversion policy aligns closely with several of the WACs and states that the sponsor must provide the following information to the RCO:

1. A description of the original project proposal;
2. A description of the proposed conversion;
3. A list and discussion of alternatives for replacement;
4. Evidence that the public has been given reasonable opportunity to participate;
5. Justification of the reasonable equivalency of the replacement site in terms of utility and location; and
6. Documentation that the replacement site is at least equal in market value.

The board has latitude or discretion in evaluating three of these six factors:

- #3: discussion of reasonable alternatives for replacement;
- #4: opportunities for public participation; and
- #5: the reasonable equivalency of the replacement site in terms of utility and location.

The Attorney General's Office has previously advised RCO that the board is not a quasi-judicial body. Therefore, it does not have the ability to levy fines or demand additional mitigation beyond determining the reasonable equivalency of the replacement site in terms of utility and location. Staff is currently working with stakeholders to better clarify the concept of "reasonable equivalency," and will report to the board at a later time.

Attached are copies of the board's conversion policy (Attachment A), a copy of the current agreement language regarding compliance (Attachment B), and copies of the pertinent RCWs and WACs (Attachment C).

As a practical matter, RCO relies on cooperation by project sponsors to process most conversions. If the board were to implement new requirements that are perceived as overly burdensome or punitive, it could discourage sponsors from cooperating. Such a change in policy would have serious staffing and cost issues, especially if the use of litigation becomes

necessary to bring about compliance. Further, many of the conversion resolutions that staff and sponsors are now developing are based on requirements set forth in the current policy. Should the board desire to modify the policy, the board will need to discuss how to fairly deal with the conversion resolutions already underway.

## **Next Steps**

If the board continues to support its current conversion policy, staff will work to ensure that proposed conversions are brought forth in a procedural fashion that allows for efficient decision-making. If policy changes or additions are desired, staff can work to develop options based upon the need, the desired outcome, and the board's legal authority.

## **Attachments**

- A. Recreation and Conservation Funding Board conversion policy
- B. Current agreement language regarding compliance
- C. Copies of pertinent RCWs and WACs

Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Conversion Request: Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife;  
Statewide Water Access (Stage 1) RCO # 68-603A  
Prepared By: Jim Anest, RCO Conversion Specialist

Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action: Decision**

### Summary

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to recommend that the National Park Service approve a partial conversion for a 1968 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant.

RCO grant #68-603A, Statewide Water Access (Stage 1), funded 17 separate water access sites across the state. WDFW is proposing to convert a portion of one of those sites, which is located along the canyon of the Yakima River, between the cities of Ellensburg and Yakima. The property to be converted is 9.04 acres and includes 225 linear feet of riverbank. The three proposed replacement properties total 133 acres and 1,649 linear feet of riverbank and include three small lakes. The appraised values of the property to be converted and replacement properties are the same.

### 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

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff recommends that the board approve Resolution #2010-36 to recommend approval of the proposed conversion and direct staff to forward the recommendation on to the National Park Service for consideration.

## Background

In 1968, the board<sup>1</sup> awarded WDFW a grant entitled "Statewide Water Access Stage 1." Several funding sources (Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), bonds, and Boating Facilities grants) funded this grant. This grant was an omnibus grant that purchased 17 different water access sites across the state. While this approach is significantly different from current practice, it was not uncommon at the time.

Specifically, this statewide project involved the acquisition of about 10 miles of perpetual water easements, 17 sites for boat launching and/or vehicle parking, and the necessary access rights of way in locations throughout the state. LWCF funding totaled \$65,700 plus an equal amount of combined bond and boating funds. The following table summarizes the grant.

<b>Project Name:</b>	Statewide Water Access (Stage 1)	<b>Project #:</b>	68-603A
<b>Grant Program:</b>	50% Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), 32 % Bonds, 18% Boating Facilities	<b>Board funded date:</b>	1968
<b>RCO Amount:</b>	\$ 131,400	<b>Original Purpose:</b> Provide public access and fishing opportunities at 17 sites across the state	
<b>Total Amount:</b>	\$ 131,400		
<b>Acres:</b>	96		

One of the 17 sites is now being proposed for partial conversion. The site has 13.64 acres; of those, 9.04 are proposed for conversion. These nine acres are less than 10 percent of the 96 acres acquired with the grant and represent less than one percent of the total market value of the 17 sites purchased.

## Current Uses of the Site

The site is not developed; that is, there is no parking lot, boat launch, or trail to the river. Although the land was purchased for primitive public water access and fishing, an adverse possession claim and physical constraints (see below) now limit the public's ability to use the part of the site that is being proposed for conversion.

## Reason for the Proposed Conversion

WDFW came to the RCO in 2008 to resolve a boundary dispute with its adjacent landowner to the south, Canyon River Ranch (CRR). WDFW and CRR had discovered an encroachment that predated WDFW's ownership. A subsequent WDFW survey showed that two small cabins, which were originally mapped as south of the shared boundary, are, in fact, on WDFW's property. CRR asserted a claim of adverse possession against WDFW. If successful, the claim would be

---

<sup>1</sup> In 1968, the board was known as the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation.

significant because it would further narrow WDFW's property and Yakima River frontage (currently only 225 feet wide).

The parties are proposing a land exchange as a way to avoid the cost and uncertainty of litigation and to further their separate interests.

- CRR wishes to expand its facilities and lodge. It has agreed to replace the converted property to meet the LWCF requirements.
- WDFW is proposing a solution that would allow it to better serve the public's recreational needs in the immediate area and in the region by converting not only the immediate area in dispute, but also land on the opposite side of the highway which is not usable for recreation.

## Conversion Policy

Use of grant funds creates a condition under which funded property and structures become part of the public domain in perpetuity.

Board policy provides that interests in real property, structures, and facilities that were acquired, developed, enhanced, or restored with board funds must not be changed (either in part or in whole) or converted to uses other than those for which the funds were originally approved without the approval of the board.<sup>2</sup>

If a board-funded project is changed or converted, the project sponsor must replace the changed or converted interests in real property, structures, or facilities. The replacement must have at least equal value and have reasonably equivalent recreation utility and location.

The RCO considers this situation to be a conversion because WDFW wishes to sell the property to an ineligible party and for a use other than outdoor recreation. More detail on the conversion policy is in notebook item #15.

Because this project was funded in part by the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the role of the board is to decide whether to recommend approval of the conversion to the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS has the legal authority to make the final decision.

## Replacement Property

While it was relatively easy to replace the recreational utility of the converted parcel, it is much more difficult to match the market value of this property. To do so, WDFW chose to include the following three parcels, each of which has a willing seller. The Land and Water Conservation Fund standard for timely appraisals of conversions is that they be "reasonably contemporaneous." That is, that the appraisal of the converted property occur in the same time period as the appraisal of the replacement property. The property proposed for conversion was appraised in December

---

<sup>2</sup> Policy is consistent with state law. See especially RCW 79A.25.100 and RCW 79A.15.030 (8).



2008, and all replacement properties were appraised within 2 months of that. Although the appraisals are nearly two years old, they do meet the contemporaneous standard.

1. **The Wenas property** is a 26-acre parcel located just south of the converted property along the river, adjacent to the WDFW Wenas Wildlife Area. The Wenas Wildlife area and the Yakima River surround it. There is no access to this part of the wildlife area except through the Wildlife area; therefore acquisition is important to prevent private development which would have required the building of an access road through the wildlife area. This parcel was appraised in February 2009 at \$10,400.
2. **The Thorp property** is also on the banks of the Yakima River a few miles northwest of Ellensburg. It is 3.19 acres and is located about 20 miles north and west of the converted property. The property includes 1,649 feet of river frontage with an established boat launch. This parcel was appraised in December 2008 at \$75,000.
3. **The Mesa Lake property** is a 104-acre parcel in Franklin County, located about 25 miles north of Pasco. It includes three small lakes with established resources for fishing, duck hunting, canoeing, kayaking and wildlife viewing. This parcel was appraised in October 2008 at \$318,600.

The river frontage, established boat launches, parking lots, and other opportunities for water access at these sites are superior to the water access on the property to be converted.

## Analysis

When reviewing conversion requests, the RCO considers the following factors, in addition to the scope of the original grant and the proposed substitution of land or facilities<sup>3</sup>.

Factor	Staff Finding
All practical alternatives to the conversion have been evaluated and rejected on a sound basis.	Meets criteria (see evaluation of practical alternatives)
The fair market value of the converted property has been established and the proposed replacement land is of at least equal fair market value.	Meets criteria (see evaluation of fair market value)
Justification exists to show that the replacement site has at least reasonably equivalent utility and location.	Meets criteria (see evaluation of reasonably equivalent utility and location)
The public has opportunities for participation in the process.	Meets criteria (see evaluation of public participation)

<sup>3</sup> Manual #7: *Funded Projects: Policies and the Project Agreement*

## Evaluation of Practical Alternatives

The proposed conversion came to the RCO in the context of a claim of adverse possession, so the only practical alternative to a partial conversion is to litigate the matter. After CRR agreed to fully finance the conversion, WDFW explored the alternative of replacing the land with nearby land, but found that there are very few sizable parcels located between the highway and the river, due to the geography of the narrow canyon, and lack of willing sellers.

WDFW also evaluated the alternative of merely carving out the disputed area, and rejected it as inadequate to generate enough economic value to meet the RCO and LWCF replacement requirement of creating a viable recreational site.

WDFW looked extensively for possible replacement properties. WDFW owns virtually all of the Yakima Canyon property west of the river, and found no willing sellers on the east side of the Yakima River. For example, the Nature Conservancy owns the small parcel just north of the conversion, and they were not interested in selling. They found only two parcels in the Canyon with reasonable size and access, but neither owner wanted to sell. Therefore, WDFW had to go further north and east to find water access property with a willing seller.

## Evaluation of Fair Market Value

The property to be converted is valued at \$400,000 as a residential building site, so considerably greater acreage is required to meet the "equivalent market value" standard of RCO Manual 7.

The converted property and all replacement properties were appraised between October 2008 and February 2009. These appraisals were done within a few months of each other, thus meeting the LWCF standards for contemporaneous appraisal of converted and replacement properties.

	Property to be Converted	Replacement Properties		Difference
<b>Acres</b>	<b>9.04</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>+126 acres</b>
		<i>Wenas property</i>	26	
		<i>Thorp property</i>	3	
		<i>Mesa Lake property</i>	104	
<b>Value</b>	<b>\$404,000</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$404,000</b>	<b>No Change</b>
		<i>Wenas property</i>	\$10,400	
		<i>Thorp property</i>	\$75,000	
		<i>Mesa Lake property</i>	\$318,600	
<b>Shoreline</b>	<b>225 linear feet</b>	<b>1,649 linear feet</b> ( <i>Thorp property</i> <sup>4</sup> )		<b>+1,424 linear feet</b>

---

<sup>4</sup> Although the Wenas replacement property also has shoreline, it was not counted in the total because it is not reasonably accessible for recreational use.

## Evaluation of Reasonably Equivalent Utility and Location

In evaluating utility and location, RCO staff considered whether the replacement property furthered the original intent of the grant, which was to provide "statewide water access" for fish and wildlife purposes. RCO staff believes that the replacement property will support that purpose. Huge increases in acreage and shoreline are achievable in this situation due to the high market value of the converted property.

- The Wenas replacement site is surrounded by the 105,000-acre Wenas Wildlife area and the Yakima River. Because there is no access to the replacement site except through the existing wildlife area, acquisition of this parcel is important to prevent private development of the parcel, which would have led to the creation of an access road through the wildlife area.
- The Thorp replacement site adds a developed boat launch on the Yakima River; none exists at the converted site.
- Three small lakes at the Mesa Lake replacement site are well recognized for fishing, and the considerable acreage around those lakes is valuable hunting property.

The location question was more difficult. WDFW had to expand their search several miles from the converted property to find sizable parcels with water access, willing sellers, and sufficient market value.

## Evaluation of Public Participation

WDFW placed notice of the proposed conversion for 30 days in the Yakima Herald-Republic. They also have posted the notice in their regional office in Yakima and mailed notices to adjacent and nearby neighbors.

WDFW has received no adverse comments during the public notice and comment period and presenting the proposed exchange in open public forum to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission.

## Next Steps

If the board chooses to recommend approval of the conversion, RCO staff will prepare the required federal documentation and transmit that recommendation to the National Park Service. Staff will further execute all necessary amendments to the project agreement, as directed.

## Attachments

Resolution 2010-36

- A. Maps of properties proposed for conversion and replacement

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution 2010-36  
Approving Conversion for Statewide Water Access (RCO #68-603-A)

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) used a grant from the three separate funds (Land and Water Conservation Fund, bonds, and Boating Facilities) to acquire property on the Yakima River to provide public water access and fishing opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, WDFW faced a claim of adverse possession along its southern boundary and proposes to enter into a land exchange with the adjacent private landowner to avoid the costs and uncertainty of litigation; and

**WHEREAS**, WDFW proposes to grant the portion of the site on the east side of the Yakima River (9 acres) to the adjacent landowner in exchange for property of equal value and equal or superior recreational utility; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the relatively high value of the nine acres to be exchanged, the exchange presents the opportunity to purchase property at three sites: 26 acres directly across the Yakima River; more than 1,600 feet of river frontage in a three-acre parcel up-river near Thorp; and, more than 100 acres at Mesa Lake in Franklin County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) and staff have determined the proposed exchange meets the following factors: (a) all practical alternatives to the conversion have been evaluated and rejected on a sound basis, (b) the proposed replacement property meets the program eligibility requirements, (c) justification exists to show that the replacement sites have reasonably equivalent utility and location, and (d) the fair market value of the converted property has been established and the proposed replacement land is of at least equal fair market value; and

**WHEREAS**, meeting these factors supports the board's goal to protect, restore, and develop habitat and recreation opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems; 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; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board approves the partial conversion request and the proposed replacement sites for Project #68-603A Statewide Water Access and the submittal of the request to the National Park Service for final approval, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Director is authorized to execute the necessary amendments subject to National Park Service action.

*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

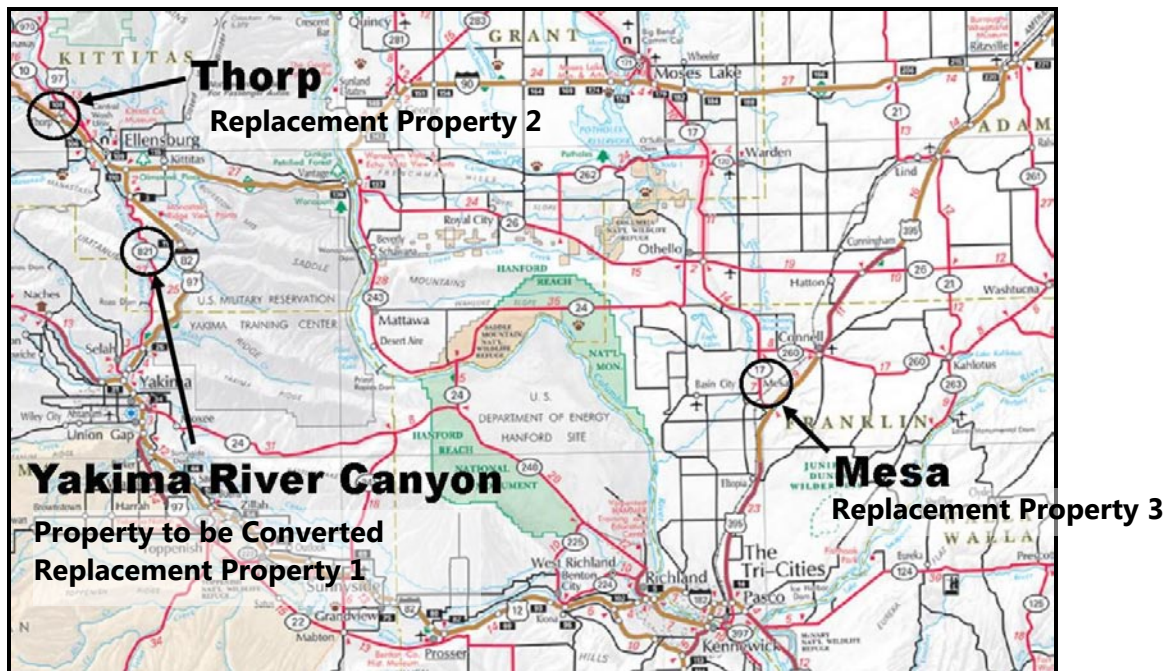
*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_



## Maps of properties proposed for conversion and replacement

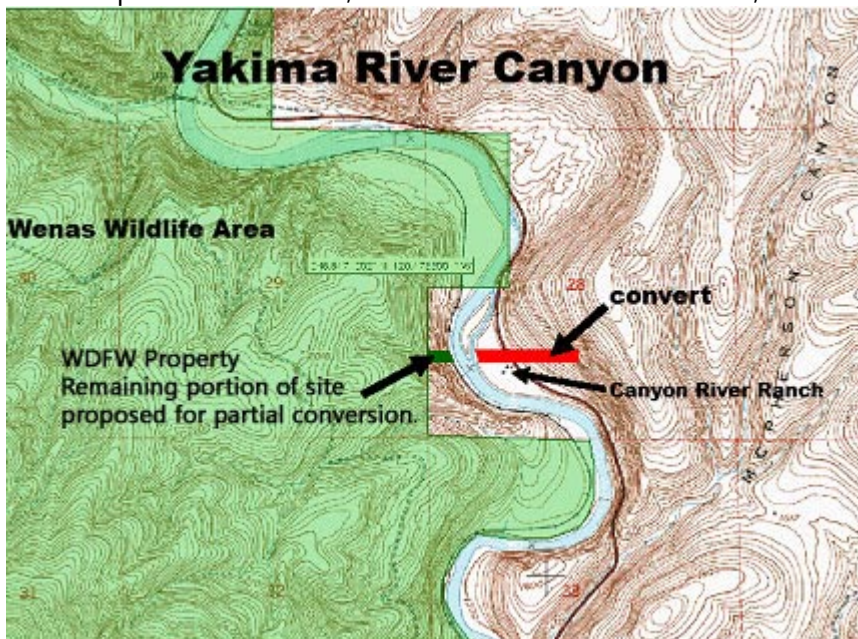
### Location Overview Map



### Property to be converted:

9 acres, shown in red

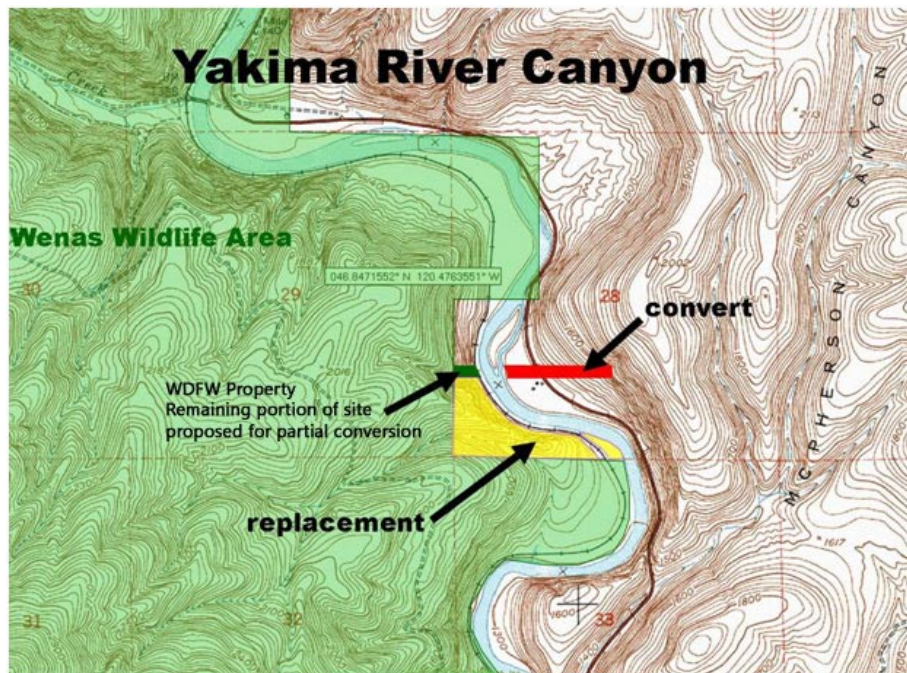
This is a partial conversion; WDFW will retain the 4.6 acres, which are shown in dark green





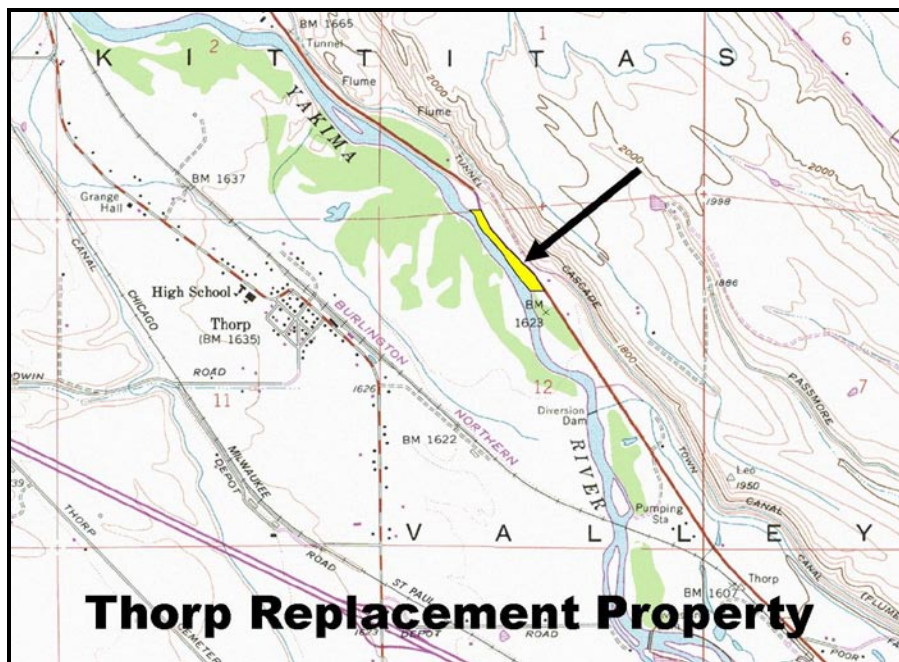
## Replacement Property 1: Wenas property

26 acres, shown in yellow



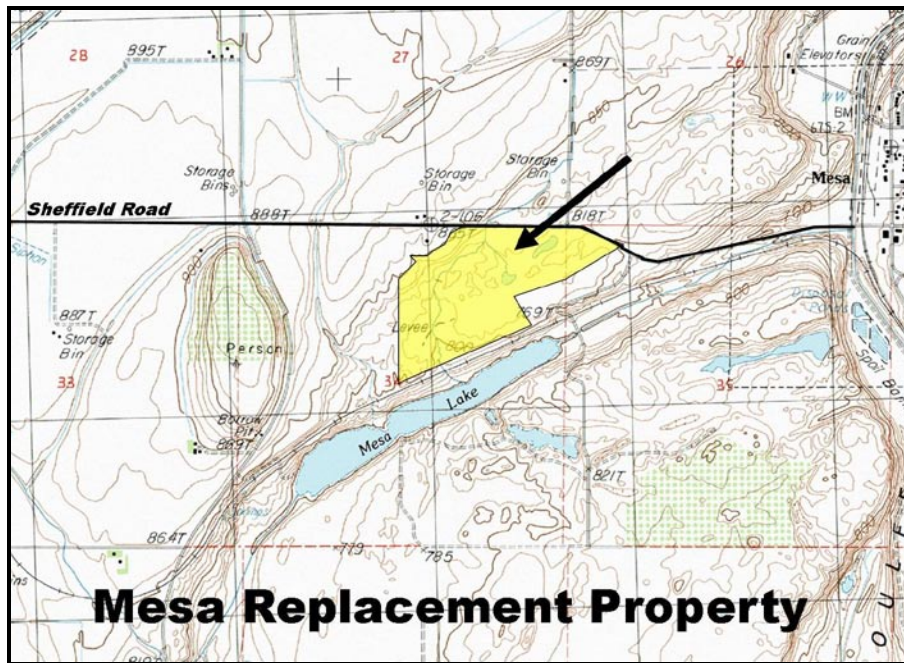
## Replacement Property 2: Thorp property

3 acres, shown in yellow



### Replacement Property 3: Mesa Lake property

103 acres, shown in yellow



Meeting Date: October 2010  
Title: Conversion Request: City of Newcastle, May Creek Trail Addition, RCO #91-211  
Prepared By: Laura Moxham, Outdoor Grants Manager  
Approved by the Director:

---

**Proposed Action:    Decision**

### Summary

The City of Newcastle is asking the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to reconsider its earlier decision and approve the conversion of approximately 2.5 acres of the May Creek Trail Addition project located along Coal Creek Parkway. The city proposes to replace this property with about 1.1 acres of similar property. The board considered and rejected the conversion request in June 2010, pending further review of the board's authority and conversion policy. At that meeting, board members asked both policy and project-specific questions. This memo addresses the project related questions. Questions regarding policies are addressed in notebook item #15.

### 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

Staff recommends that the board approve the conversion via Resolution #2010-38, subject to the city executing all necessary materials within 180 days of board approval.

### Background

In 1991, King County acquired 40.06 acres, for a route to build a future 18-mile soft surface trail connecting May Creek, Cougar Mountain, Coal Creek, and Lake Washington trails. The property was transferred to the city of Newcastle following its incorporation in 1994. People currently use the trail corridor, but the regional trail has not been developed, except for a few hundred feet on the converted property. The following table summarizes the original grant.



<b>Project Name:</b>	May Creek Trail Addition	<b>Project #:</b>	91-211A
<b>Grant Program:</b>	WWRP-Trails	<b>Board funded date:</b>	July 1, 1991
<b>RCO Amount:</b>	\$267,915	<b>Original Purpose:</b> Acquire parcels to support trails that would link the May Creek/Honey Creek greenbelt with Cougar Mountain Regional Park.	
<b>Total Amount:</b>	\$535,830		
<b>Acres:</b>	40.06, multiple parcels		

In 2004, the RCO conducted a site visit and learned of the conversion. The city had allowed the Issaquah School District to construct a surface water pond within May Creek Park on property they thought was purchased exclusively with King County Open Space funds. They later learned that the facility was on property purchased with both Open Space funds and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) funds.

To address this conversion, the city, beginning in 2005, identified several possible replacement properties (see analysis, below), which the RCO rejected because they did not have equivalent recreational value or utility. The city then identified a parcel located at SE 89th Place as a potential replacement property (Attachment A). The property has many of the qualities of the initially funded property. The property is currently vacant, and has a subterranean water pipeline right of way that bisects the property.

The owner of this property was initially an unwilling seller. However, in 2008, he indicated a willingness to sell if the city would accelerate the property transfer. The city requested a waiver of retroactivity (#09-21) in May 2009, which was approved by RCO. In keeping with the city's intent, the waiver allowed the property to be considered as replacement property for this conversion (this action did not constitute approval of the conversion). The board considered and rejected the conversion request in June 2010 (Resolution #2010-11), pending further review of the board's authority and conversion policy. The city of Newcastle is asking the board to reconsider its earlier decision and approve the conversion (Attachment C).

## Conversion Policy

Use of grant funds creates a condition under which funded property and structures become part of the public domain in perpetuity.

Board policy is that interests in real property, structures, and facilities that were acquired, developed, enhanced, or restored with board funds must not be changed (either in part or in whole) or converted to uses other than those for which the funds were originally approved.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Policy is consistent with state law. See especially RCW 79A.25.100 and RCW 79A.15.030(8).

If a board-funded project is changed or converted, the project sponsor must replace the changed or converted interests in real property, structures, or facilities. The replacement must have at least equal value and have reasonably equivalent recreation utility and location.

The RCO considers this situation to be a conversion because the sponsor allowed a non-outdoor recreation use that impairs the originally intended purpose of the project area. More detail on the conversion policy is in notebook item #15.

## Analysis

The city is asking the board to approve the conversion of 2.5 acres of the May Creek Trail Addition project, which is located along Coal Creek Parkway. They plan to replace the converted property with 1.1 acres located at SE 89<sup>th</sup> Place. The city proposes that this satisfies the conversion policy requirements (Attachment C).

When reviewing conversion requests, the RCO considers the following factors, in addition to the scope of the original grant and the proposed substitution of land or facilities<sup>2</sup>.

Factor	Staff Finding
All practical alternatives to the conversion have been evaluated and rejected on a sound basis.	The conversion has taken place. Staff evaluated the replacement property alternatives (see evaluation of practical alternatives)
The fair market value of the converted property has been established and the proposed replacement land is of at least equal fair market value.	Meets criteria (see evaluation of fair market value)
Justification exists to show that the replacement site has at least reasonably equivalent utility and location.	Meets criteria (see evaluation of reasonably equivalent utility and location)
The public has opportunities for participation in the process.	Meets criteria (see evaluation of public participation)

## Evaluation of Practical Alternatives

RCO policy speaks to the evaluation of alternatives to the conversion. When the Issaquah School District developed its plans for the Newcastle Elementary School, the original plan was for onsite treatment of the storm water runoff. Unfortunately, the school property could not adequately handle the surface water generated by its development, so the alternative site was a portion of the May Creek Trail Addition. This property was close to the school, in public ownership, and

---

<sup>2</sup> Manual #7: *Funded Projects: Policies and the Project Agreement*

undeveloped. Further, it had the capacity to support the stormwater runoff and serve as a regional stormwater retention area.

Since that time, staff has left the city, so it is unclear whether other alternatives were considered. Newcastle is reviewing archived records for documentation about other considerations. RCO staff will provide an update at the board meeting. RCO staff was not informed of the proposed use of the property and thus were not involved in any review of alternatives.

When the May Creek site was selected for the stormwater retention area, the city believed that the site had been purchased exclusively with King County Open Space funds. The city mitigated the impact of using park land by placing a deed restriction on two acres of existing open space. However, they did not realize King County also had used WWRP grant funds for the original purchase and did not consult RCO about its conversion requirements.

## **Evaluation of Replacement Properties**

An initial property under consideration was a separate property given to the city by the Issaquah School District in exchange for allowing them to construct a surface water detention facility on the conversion property<sup>3</sup>. This property possesses a route for a proposed trail in Newcastle (Milepost Trail) and is intended to remain open for recreational endeavors. However, the property does not add to May Creek Park or directly create a connection to the May Creek Trail. Therefore, it did not warrant further consideration as an appropriate transfer for replacement.

Other properties that were considered for possible replacement were situated on the west side of Coal Creek Parkway where a wetland was enhanced during the recent expansion of Coal Creek Parkway. Discussions between the City and the RCO led the RCO to determine that the properties in question did not meet the threshold of being equivalent in utility or usefulness, so these properties were eliminated from consideration as replacement properties.

The city then identified the parcel that is now proposed as replacement property. The property has many of the qualities the initially funded property contains, including a natural connection with the existing May Creek Trail and the Waterline Trail. The Waterline Trail continues north and provides a connection to Bellevue. The May Creek Trail goes east and provides a regional connection with the Mountains to Sound route and west to the Lake Washington Trails. As noted below, it has reasonably equivalent utility and value, and is connected to the original acquisition. The city purchased the property under a waiver of retroactivity from the RCO.

---

<sup>3</sup> This is different from the open space property noted above, which was ineligible as replacement property.

## Evaluation of Fair Market Value

In accordance with RCO policy, appraisals were done on both the converted and the proposed replacement properties with supporting review appraisals<sup>4</sup>.

Property Converted	Replacement Property	Difference
2.5 acres	1.1 acres	- 1.4 acres
Appraised Value \$113,000	Appraised Value \$200,000	+ \$87,000

While the differences of the two properties result in a deficit of acreage, the value of the replacement property is considerably higher than the property to be converted. The replacement and conversion properties were appraised at an R-1 value, as if the retention pond were not on the converted property. The appraisal for the proposed replacement property was completed in August 2008. The appraisal of the converted property was done in April 2009. Board policy states that the "shelf life" of an appraisal is one year from the effective date of the appraisal. In this case, the appraisals were completed within eight months of each other. Given the higher market value and the recreational utility (described below), staff believes that the reduction in acreage is acceptable.

## Evaluation of Reasonably Equivalent Utility and Location

In evaluating utility and location, RCO staff considered whether the proposed replacement property added to May Creek Park and created a connection to the May Creek Trail. The original intent of the grant was to support development of an 18-mile connector trail. Staff believes that the replacement property supports that effort. In addition, the proposed replacement property would provide connection with the Waterline Trail, which continues north into Bellevue.

The converted property has a paved trail along the north side of the park, which allows trail users to continue through the site to Coal Creek Parkway. Trail users can then cross Coal Creek Parkway (a major arterial) at a lighted intersection and connect with the Highlands Trail system that continues to Cougar Mountain. This developed trail segment will remain open to the public because it is included in the Newcastle Comprehensive Plan and Newcastle's Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.

The city will retain ownership of the converted property. At the June board meeting the city indicated a willingness to retain the deed of right on the converted property, but have since withdrawn this offer due to potential duplication of conversions should any future work be needed on the retention ponds.

---

<sup>4</sup> Manual #3: *Acquiring Land: Policies*

## Proposed Replacement Property

The public currently uses the proposed replacement property as an informal connection between the Waterline Trail and the May Creek Trail because the steep topography in the area makes it the easiest route. Plans for the trail, which are referenced in the City's comprehensive and non-motorized transportation plans, include this segment becoming an official city trail. The property is a critical acquisition and supports the effort to have the May Creek Trail form a regional connection with the Mountains to Sound route and provide for a connection to the Waterline Trail. The property would remain primarily forest. (Attachment B)

The property also contains a section of the old railroad bed that was used by the Seattle Coal and Transportation Company to route coal mined in Newcastle to Seattle in the 1800s. The city wants to protect this historical component of the site.

## Evaluation of Public Participation

Discussions of the property conversion took place during several City Council meetings, but the conversion was not an agenda item with notice to the public. The city posted public notice signs at the sites of the conversion and replacement properties, at City Hall and Lake Boren Park, and on the main page of the city's website from August 21 until September 28, 2009. During this time, the city received no comments regarding the proposed property conversion.

## Next Steps

If the board approves the conversion, RCO staff will execute the necessary amendments to amend the project agreement as directed.

## Attachments

Resolution 2010-11

- A. Map of properties proposed for conversion and replacement
- B. City of Newcastle's Trail Map
- C. Letter from Newcastle City Attorney Requesting Approval of the Conversion

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution 2010-38  
Approving Conversion for May Creek Trail Addition (RCO #91-211)

**WHEREAS**, King County (county) used a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Trails category to acquire property to extend the May Creek Trail and designated the areas as open space with public outdoor recreation purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, the county then transferred the property to the City of Newcastle (city) following the city's incorporation; and

**WHEREAS**, the city permitted conversion of a portion of the property to a surface water detention pond; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of this 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 converted property with a property that could extend the May Creek Trail, as envisioned in the original project scope; and

**WHEREAS**, the site will continue to provide opportunities as described in the original agreement, thereby supporting the board's goals to provide funding for projects that result in public outdoor recreation purposes and the expansion of trails;

**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; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Recreation and Conservation Funding Board approves the conversion request and the proposed replacement site for RCO Project #91-211A May Creek Trail Addition, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the board authorizes the director to execute the necessary amendments, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this approval is conditioned on the sponsor executing all necessary materials within 180 days of board approval or the action is reversed.

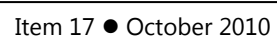
*Resolution moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Resolution seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

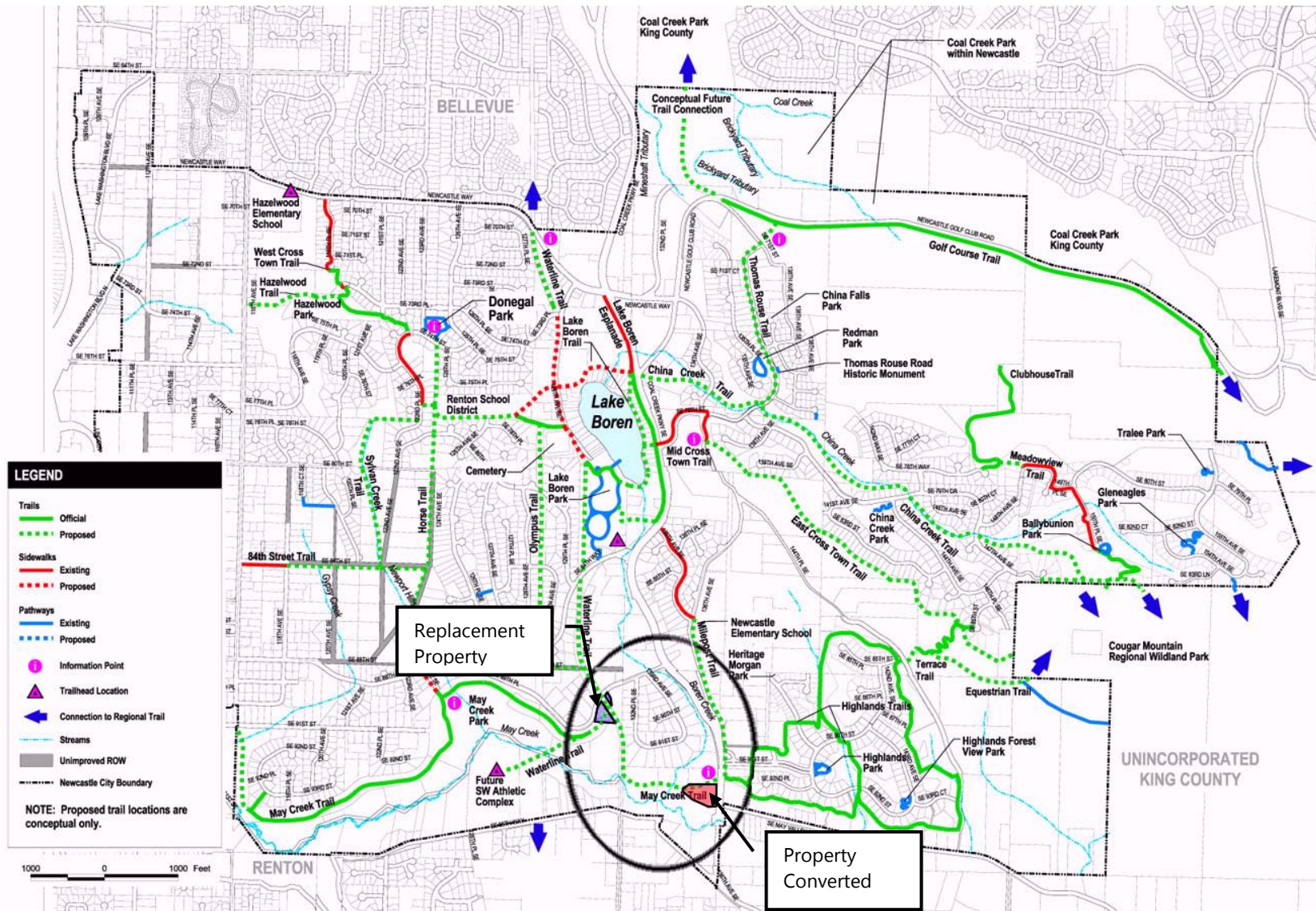
*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_







## Map of Newcastle Trails





**Critical Habitat (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 11	44.13	10-1272A	Heart of Cascades Phase 2 - Bald Mountain/Rock Creek	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,750,000		\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000
2 of 11	40.75	10-1613A	Mountain View Property Phase 1	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$4,200,000		\$4,200,000	\$6,950,000
3 of 11	39.75	10-1150A	Rattlesnake Mountain Phase 1	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$3,500,000		\$3,500,000	\$10,450,000
4 of 11	37.38	10-1140A	Big Bend Sharp-tailed Grouse	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	\$11,450,000
5 of 11	37.13	10-1142A	Methow Watershed Phase 7	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,500,000		\$2,500,000	\$13,950,000
5 of 11	37.13	10-1145A	Okanogan - Similkameen Phase 3	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$3,300,000		\$3,300,000	\$17,250,000
7 of 11	34.63	10-1474A	Wanapum Natural Area Preserve	Washington State Department of Natural Resources	\$3,426,937		\$3,426,937	\$20,676,937
8 of 11	33.75	10-1273A	Cowiche Phase 5	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$500,000		\$500,000	\$21,176,937
9 of 11	32.75	10-1475A	White Salmon Oak Natural Resource Conservation Area	Washington State Department of Natural Resources	\$2,828,017		\$2,828,017	\$24,004,954
10 of 11	30.75	10-1304A	Lewis River/Mud Lake	Clark County	\$639,150	\$639,150	\$1,278,300	\$24,644,104
11 of 11	24.38	10-1065C	Saltese Flats Wetland Restoration	Spokane County Utilities Division	\$1,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$25,644,104
					<b>\$25,644,104</b>	<b>\$3,139,150</b>	<b>\$28,783,254</b>	

**Critical Habitat (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Question #		1	2	3	4	
Rank	Project Name	Ecological and Biological Characteristics	Species and Communities with Special Status	Manageability and Viability	Public Benefit	Total
1	Heart of Cascades Phase 2 Bald Mountain Rock Creek	18.13	8.38	13.13	4.50	44.13
2	Mountain View Phase 1	16.75	7.63	12.13	4.25	40.75
3	Rattlesnake Mountain Phase 1	16.13	7.50	12.13	4.00	39.75
4	Big Bend Sharp-tailed Grouse	15.13	8.00	10.63	3.63	37.38
5	Methow Watershed Phase 7	14.75	8.00	10.63	3.75	37.13
5	Okanogan - Similkameen Phase 3	15.00	7.00	11.00	4.13	37.13
7	Wanapum Natural Area Preserve	14.38	7.63	9.63	3.00	34.63
8	Cowiche Phase 5	13.88	6.38	9.75	3.75	33.75
9	White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area	12.63	6.13	10.88	3.13	32.75
10	Lewis River/Mud Lake	12.88	5.88	8.50	3.50	30.75
11	Saltese Flats Wetlands Restoration	9.38	4.88	6.63	3.50	24.38

Evaluators Score Questions: #1-4

**Farmland Preservation (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 24	118.29	10-1682A	Trout Lake Valley	Columbia Land Trust	\$685,857	\$685,857	\$1,371,714	\$685,857
2 of 24	113.71	10-1275A	Ellis Barnes Livestock Company	Okanogan Valley Land Council	\$849,200	\$849,200	\$1,698,400	\$1,535,057
3 of 24	113.14	10-1549A	Firdell Farm	Skagit County	\$205,000	\$205,000	\$410,000	\$1,740,057
4 of 24	112.57	10-1485A	Schwerin Farmland Preservation Easement	Blue Mountain Land Trust	\$100,000	\$100,750	\$200,750	\$1,840,057
5 of 24	112.14	10-1096A	Jeff Dawson	Inland Northwest Land Trust	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$2,140,057
6 of 24	110.86	10-1670A	Cowiche Basin Working Rangelands	Conservation Commission	\$2,172,680	\$35,000	\$2,207,680	\$4,312,737
7 of 24	110.57	10-1551A	Harmony Dairy Farm	Skagit County	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$320,000	\$4,472,737
8 of 24	109.71	10-1582A	Robinson Canyon Farms	Kittitas County	\$485,000	\$485,000	\$970,000	\$4,957,737
9 of 24	107.29	10-1703A	Reise Trust Farm	PCC Farmland Trust	\$357,000	\$388,000	\$745,000	\$5,314,737
10 of 24	107.14	10-1677A	Ebey's Reserve Farmland - North Penn Cove	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$2,500,000	\$6,564,737
11 of 24	106.71	10-1684A	Ebey's Reserve Farmland - Ebey's Prairie	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	\$955,000	\$955,000	\$1,910,000	\$7,519,737
11 of 24	106.71	10-1546A	Nelson Farm	Skagit County	\$93,187	\$93,188	\$186,375	\$7,612,924
13 of 24	106.29	10-1165A	Boulton Farm	Jefferson Land Trust	\$288,750	\$288,750	\$577,500	\$7,901,674
14 of 24	105.71	10-1704A	Chervenka Farm	PCC Farmland Trust	\$690,300	\$748,000	\$1,438,300	\$8,591,974
15 of 24	105.43	10-1550A	Knutzen Farm	Skagit County	\$132,000	\$132,000	\$264,000	\$8,723,974
16 of 24	104.14	10-1115A	Hancock Springs Agricultural Preservation	Methow Conservancy	\$428,542	\$428,542	\$857,084	\$9,152,516
17 of 24	104.00	10-1649A	Copeland Creek Farm	PCC Farmland Trust	\$375,360	\$406,640	\$782,000	\$9,527,876
18 of 24	103.57	10-1445A	Mitchell Bay Farm	San Juan County Land Bank	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$120,000	\$9,587,876
19 of 24	103.29	10-1491A	Lopez Island Vineyards	San Juan County Land Bank	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$320,000	\$9,747,876
20 of 24	102.71	10-1528A	Young Dairy LLC	Skagit County	\$302,500	\$302,500	\$605,000	\$10,050,376
21 of 24	100.71	10-1213A	Petersen Farm Acquisition	Great Peninsula Conservancy	\$538,000	\$877,000	\$1,415,000	\$10,588,376
22 of 24	99.57	10-1548A	Moe Dairy Farm	Skagit County	\$52,762	\$52,763	\$105,525	\$10,641,138
23 of 24	99.29	10-1114A	Christianson Ranch Preservation	Methow Conservancy	\$297,383	\$297,383	\$594,766	\$10,938,521
24 of 24	98.29	10-1597A	Van Hoof Dairy Development Rights	King County Water and Land Resources Division	\$450,000	\$850,000	\$1,300,000	\$11,388,521
					<b>\$11,388,521</b>	<b>\$10,110,573</b>	<b>\$21,499,094</b>	

## Farmland Preservation (Fiscal Year 2012)

### Preliminary Evaluation Summary

#### Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

	Question #	1	2	3	4	
Rank	Project Name	Agricultural Values	Environmental Values	Community Values and Priorities	Other	Total
1	Trout Lake Valley	61.43	18.43	9.71	28.71	118.29
2	Ellis Barnes Livestock Company	57.86	17.86	9.86	28.14	113.71
3	Firdell Farm	56.00	18.14	10.29	28.71	113.14
4	Schwerin Farmland Preservation Easement	56.00	17.57	9.43	29.57	112.57
5	Jeff Dawson	55.29	18.29	10.29	28.29	112.14
6	Cowiche Basin Working Rangelands	54.71	18.14	9.86	28.14	110.86
7	Harmony Dairy Farm	56.71	15.14	10.00	28.71	110.57
8	Robinson Canyon Farms	57.57	15.57	9.29	27.29	109.71
9	Reise Trust Farm	55.86	13.86	8.86	28.71	107.29
10	Ebey's Reserve Farmland - North Penn Cove	55.43	14.86	10.00	26.86	107.14
11	Ebey's Reserve Farmland - Ebey's Prairie	54.14	15.00	10.57	27.00	106.71
11	Nelson Farm	54.43	14.71	9.57	28.00	106.71
13	Boulton Farm	50.71	17.43	10.00	28.14	106.29
14	Chervenka Farm	54.86	13.29	10.00	27.57	105.71
15	Knutzen Farm	52.71	14.71	9.86	28.14	105.43
16	Hancock Springs Agricultural Preservation	51.43	15.43	9.43	27.86	104.14
17	Copeland Creek Farm	52.43	13.71	9.57	28.29	104.00
18	Mitchell Bay Farm	49.86	16.00	9.86	27.86	103.57
19	Lopez Island Vineyards	52.29	13.57	9.86	27.57	103.29
20	Young Dairy LLC	50.57	13.86	9.43	28.86	102.71
21	Petersen Farm Acquisition	49.57	14.71	9.43	27.00	100.71
22	Moe Dairy Farm	48.43	14.29	9.14	27.71	99.57
23	Christianson Ranch Preservation	47.86	15.14	8.86	27.43	99.29
24	Van Hoof Dairy Development Rights Acquisition	49.43	13.29	8.86	26.71	98.29

**Local Parks (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 63	57.56	10-1410D	Enumclaw Field Improvements	Enumclaw	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$900,000	\$300,000
2 of 63	55.56	10-1237D	Betz Park Baseball/Softball Fields	Cheney	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$800,000
2 of 63	55.56	10-1346D	Covington Community Park Sports Field and Trails	Covington	\$500,000	\$1,083,766	\$1,583,766	\$1,300,000
4 of 63	54.00	10-1209D	Playground By The Sound	Pierce County Public Works and Utilities	\$100,000	\$202,083	\$302,083	\$1,400,000
5 of 63	53.28	10-1321D	Duthie Hill Park Trailhead Development	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks	\$317,477	\$317,477	\$634,954	\$1,717,477
6 of 63	52.56	10-1236D	Newport Spray Park	Newport	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$1,817,477
7 of 63	51.89	10-1288D	Franklin Park Development	Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma	\$500,000	\$536,039	\$1,036,039	\$2,317,477
8 of 63	51.61	10-1064D	MCRA Park Infield Renovation	Mason County	\$275,500	\$275,660	\$551,160	\$2,592,977
9 of 63	49.94	10-1609D	Frontier Park Renovation - Inclusive Playground	Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services	\$125,700	\$125,700	\$251,400	\$2,718,677
10 of 63	49.61	10-1588D	Central Play Park Redevelopment	Hoquiam	\$198,754	\$242,922	\$441,676	\$2,917,431
11 of 63	49.56	10-1672D	DuPont PowderWorks Skatepark	DuPont	\$97,057	\$97,057	\$194,114	\$3,014,488
12 of 63	49.33	10-1181D	East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park Development	Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation Department	\$337,301	\$337,301	\$674,602	\$3,351,789
13 of 63	49.06	10-1586D	Claybell Park Improvements 2010	Richland Parks and Recreation Department	\$500,000	\$706,000	\$1,206,000	\$3,851,789
14 of 63	49.00	10-1643D	Swadabs Waterfront Park Expansion	Swinomish Tribe	\$301,750	\$301,750	\$603,500	\$4,153,539
15 of 63	48.11	10-1451D	Lake Meridian Park Renovation Phase 1	Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services	\$278,490	\$280,000	\$558,490	\$4,432,029
16 of 63	47.89	10-1095A	Mossyrock Area Park Project	Mossyrock	\$327,600	\$338,560	\$666,160	\$4,759,629
17 of 63	47.56	10-1690A	Pleasant Glade Community Park Expansion	Lacey Parks and Recreation Department	\$1,000,000	\$1,305,782	\$2,305,782	\$5,759,629
18 of 63	47.11	10-1339D	Legion Park Restroom	Arlington	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$130,000	\$5,824,629
19 of 63	47.00	10-1266D	Summit Park + Ball Fields Phase 1	Maple Valley	\$500,000	\$2,380,420	\$2,880,420	\$6,324,629
20 of 63	46.78	10-1126D	West Seattle Reservoir Park Development	Seattle Parks and Recreation Department	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$6,824,629
21 of 63	46.67	10-1233D	Seahurst Park Recreational Improvements	Burien Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department	\$500,000	\$681,990	\$1,181,990	\$7,324,629
22 of 63	46.61	10-1592D	Skagit Riverwalk Park	Mount Vernon	\$500,000	\$600,000	\$1,100,000	\$7,824,629
23 of 63	45.83	10-1053D	Lincoln Park Athletic Field	Wenatchee	\$213,000	\$222,500	\$435,500	\$8,037,629
24 of 63	45.78	10-1313A	Cougar Mountain Park - Precipice Trail Additions	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks	\$500,000	\$1,550,000	\$2,050,000	\$8,537,629
25 of 63	45.67	10-1082A	Saddle Rock Acquisition	Wenatchee	\$342,620	\$361,620	\$704,240	\$8,880,249
26 of 63	45.56	10-1180D	Curtin Creek Community Park Phase 1	Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation Department	\$500,000	\$1,934,228	\$2,434,228	\$9,380,249
27 of 63	44.89	10-1128D	Jefferson Skate Park Development	Seattle Parks and Recreation Department	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$9,880,249
28 of 63	44.17	10-1021D	Granite Lake Park Renovation and Added Amenities	Port of Clarkston	\$111,986	\$112,000	\$223,986	\$9,992,235
29 of 63	44.00	10-1157A	Leach Creek Property Acquisition	University Place	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$1,500,000	\$10,742,235
30 of 63	43.72	10-1511D	Upper Kiwanis Park Ballfield	Yakima	\$480,000	\$803,500	\$1,283,500	\$11,222,235
31 of 63	43.17	10-1268A	Knight Forest Acquisition	Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$381,832	\$381,833	\$763,665	\$11,604,067
32 of 63	42.89	10-1188A	Columbia Springs Neighborhood Park Acquisition	Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation Department	\$171,400	\$171,400	\$342,800	\$11,775,467
33 of 63	42.78	10-1043D	Peck Field Multi Sport Field Development Project	Tacoma Metropolitan Park District	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$12,275,467
34 of 63	42.50	10-1204C	Abrams Park Improvements Phase 1	Ridgefield	\$730,134	\$730,134	\$1,460,268	\$13,005,601
35 of 63	41.44	10-1187A	Rose Village Neighborhood Park Acquisition	Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation Department	\$292,300	\$292,300	\$584,600	\$13,297,901
35 of 63	41.44	10-1179D	Sorenson Neighborhood Park Development	Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation Department	\$302,820	\$302,820	\$605,640	\$13,600,721
37 of 63	41.06	10-1269D	Hales Pass Development	Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$500,000	\$527,547	\$1,027,547	\$14,100,721
38 of 63	40.83	10-1210D	Lower Peninsula Park Improvement Phase 2	Moses Lake	\$474,385	\$474,386	\$948,771	\$14,575,106
39 of 63	39.94	10-1167D	Evans Creek Preserve	Sammamish	\$350,000	\$653,648	\$1,003,648	\$14,925,106
40 of 63	39.83	10-1423D	Ashford County Park Phase 2	Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services	\$500,000	\$668,332	\$1,168,332	\$15,425,106
41 of 63	39.78	10-1653A	Clark Lake Park Expansion - Lannoye Acquisition	Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services	\$403,900	\$403,900	\$807,800	\$15,829,006

**Local Parks (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
42 of 63	39.44	10-1121D	La Conner Skateboard Park	La Conner	\$67,905	\$67,905	\$135,810	\$15,896,911
43 of 63	39.33	10-1177A	Shaffer Community Park Acquisition	Vancouver-Clark County Parks and Recreation Department	\$1,000,000	\$2,105,060	\$3,105,060	\$16,896,911
44 of 63	39.00	10-1450A	Huse Soos Creek Property Acquisition	Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services	\$834,725	\$834,725	\$1,669,450	\$17,731,636
45 of 63	38.72	10-1674A	Wells Site Park Acquisition	Fall City Metropolitan Park District	\$480,000	\$500,000	\$980,000	\$18,211,636
46 of 63	38.33	10-1099D	Beaver Park "Things With Wings"	Washougal	\$41,785	\$41,785	\$83,570	\$18,253,421
47 of 63	37.89	10-1241D	Brookville Gardens Community Park	Fife	\$500,000	\$4,274,900	\$4,774,900	\$18,753,421
48 of 63	37.33	10-1171D	McCollum Park Outdoor Pool Rehabilitation	Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation	\$391,425	\$391,425	\$782,850	\$19,144,846
49 of 63	37.11	10-1417D	Queen Sally Park	Cathlamet	\$429,735	\$429,735	\$859,470	\$19,574,581
49 of 63	37.11	10-1480A	Japanese Gulch Property Purchase	Mukilteo	\$737,250	\$737,250	\$1,474,500	\$20,311,831
51 of 63	35.83	10-1361A	Wilkeson SR165 Downtown Park	Wilkeson	\$43,000	\$43,000	\$86,000	\$20,354,831
52 of 63	35.78	10-1296A	North East Redmond Park	Redmond	\$500,000	\$608,170	\$1,108,170	\$20,854,831
53 of 63	35.22	10-1101A	Hartwood Property Acquisition	Washougal	\$227,500	\$227,500	\$455,000	\$21,082,331
54 of 63	34.94	10-1584A	Riverplace Park Acquisition	Whatcom County Parks & Recreation Department	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$21,382,331
55 of 63	33.06	10-1377A	Ridge Crest Park Acquisition	Ridgefield	\$654,025	\$654,025	\$1,308,050	\$22,036,356
56 of 63	32.83	10-1283A	Anderson Acquisition Phase 1	Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000	\$22,286,356
57 of 63	32.33	10-1185D	Si View and Shamrock Parks Development	Si View Metropolitan Park District	\$500,000	\$2,947,242	\$3,447,242	\$22,786,356
58 of 63	32.06	10-1513D	Kiwanis Park	College Place	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$22,886,356
59 of 63	30.72	10-1220D	Horseshoe Lake Picnic Shelter	Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$70,000	\$22,921,356
60 of 63	30.06	10-1309D	Northeast Soccer Complex	Pasco	\$422,500	\$422,500	\$845,000	\$23,343,856
61 of 63	28.50	10-1291A	360 Regional Park Acquisition	Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$618,000	\$618,000	\$1,236,000	\$23,961,856
62 of 63	26.78	10-1174D	Outdoor Equestrian and BMX Arena Improvements	Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation	\$475,000	\$519,396	\$994,396	\$24,436,856
63 of 63	22.00	10-1173D	Recreational Vehicle Camping Improvements	Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation	\$295,500	\$299,000	\$594,500	
2-Sep-10					<b>\$24,732,356</b>	<b>\$39,324,273</b>	<b>\$64,056,629</b>	

**Local Parks (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

	Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Rank	Project Name	Public Need	Project Scope	Project Design Development	Project Design Combination	Immediacy of Threat Acquisition	Immediacy of Threat Combination	Site Suitability Acquisition	Site Suitability Combination	Expansion/R enovation	Project Support	Cost Efficiencies	GMA Preference	Population Proximity	Total
1	Enumclaw Field Improvements	13.33	12.00	11.67						3.56	9.56	4.44	0.00	3.00	57.56
2	Betz Park Baseball/Softball Fields	13.33	11.67	13.33						3.56	8.00	2.67	0.00	3.00	55.56
2	Covington Community Park Sports Field and Trails	12.33	12.00	13.00						2.33	8.44	4.44	0.00	3.00	55.56
4	Playground by the Sound	10.33	11.67	12.00						3.56	8.89	4.56	0.00	3.00	54.00
5	Duthie Hill Park Trailhead Development	13.67	12.00	11.67						4.22	8.00	2.22	0.00	1.50	53.28
6	Newport Spray Park	13.00	12.00	12.00						3.33	8.00	4.22	0.00	0.00	52.56
7	Franklin Park Development	11.33	12.33	12.33						4.11	6.89	1.89	0.00	3.00	51.89
8	MCRA Park Infield Renovation	11.67	12.67	11.67						4.00	6.89	3.22	0.00	1.50	51.61
9	Frontier Park Renovation - Inclusive Playground	11.00	11.00	11.33						4.00	7.78	3.33	0.00	1.50	49.94
10	Central Play Park Redevelopment	12.00	11.00	11.67						4.00	6.22	3.22	0.00	1.50	49.61
11	DuPont PowderWorks Skatepark	11.67	11.67	11.00						3.22	6.44	2.56	0.00	3.00	49.56
12	East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park Development	12.00	11.67	12.00						0.67	7.78	2.22	0.00	3.00	49.33
13	Claybell Park Improvements 2010	10.33	11.67	12.00						4.22	6.00	3.33	0.00	1.50	49.06
14	Swadabs Waterfront Park Expansion	12.33	12.00	11.67						3.56	6.67	2.78	0.00	0.00	49.00
15	Lake Meridian Park Renovation Phase 1	10.33	10.33	11.33						3.44	6.67	3.00	0.00	3.00	48.11
16	Mossyrock Area Park Project	13.33	11.00			7.78		3.89		1.56	7.33	4.00	-1.00	0.00	47.89
17	Pleasant Glade Community Park Expansion	10.67	11.00			7.56		4.33		2.56	6.67	1.78	0.00	3.00	47.56
18	Legion Park Restroom	11.00	11.33	11.00						2.44	5.56	2.78	0.00	3.00	47.11
19	Summit Park + Ball Fields Phase 1	12.00	11.33	10.67						0.44	6.89	2.67	0.00	3.00	47.00
20	West Seattle Reservoir Park Development	8.00	10.00	12.67						3.89	7.11	2.11	0.00	3.00	46.78
21	Seahurst Park Recreational Improvements	9.33	10.33	11.67						3.89	6.22	2.22	0.00	3.00	46.67
22	Skagit Riverwalk Park	10.00	11.00	11.67						3.00	7.11	2.33	0.00	1.50	46.61
23	Lincoln Park Athletic Field	11.33	10.33	9.67						3.00	6.67	3.33	0.00	1.50	45.83
24	Cougar Mountain Park - Precipice Trail Additions	11.00	10.00			6.00		4.00		3.33	6.22	2.22	0.00	3.00	45.78
25	Saddle Rock Acquisition	11.67	10.33			5.33		4.22		2.56	6.89	4.67	0.00	0.00	45.67
26	Curtin Creek Community Park Phase 1	11.33	10.67	9.67						0.44	7.56	2.89	0.00	3.00	45.56
27	Jefferson Skate Park Development	9.33	9.33	12.00						2.89	6.67	1.67	0.00	3.00	44.89
28	Granite Lake Park Renovation and Added Amenities	9.33	10.33	9.67						3.56	6.89	2.89	0.00	1.50	44.17
29	Leach Creek Property Acquisition	11.33	9.67	0.00	0.00	6.89	0.00	4.11	0.00	0.56	6.44	2.00	0.00	3.00	44.00
30	Upper Kiwanis Park Ballfield	8.33	8.67	10.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		3.00	8.00	4.22	0.00	1.50	43.72
31	Knight Forest Acquisition	9.33	9.33			5.78		3.33		2.11	7.78	4.00	0.00	1.50	43.17
32	Columbia Springs Neighborhood Park Acquisition	8.67	10.33			4.67		4.11		3.44	5.78	2.89	0.00	3.00	42.89
33	Peck Field Multi Sport Field Development Project	8.67	9.67	9.00						3.33	6.22	2.89	0.00	3.00	42.78
34	Abrams Park Improvements Phase 1	9.67	10.00		5.17		2.33		1.83	3.78	6.22	2.00	0.00	1.50	42.50

**Local Parks (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

	Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Rank	Project Name	Public Need	Project Scope	Project Design Development	Project Design Combination	Immediacy of Threat Acquisition	Immediacy of Threat Combination	Site Suitability Acquisition	Site Suitability Combination	Expansion/R enovation	Project Support	Cost Efficiencies	GMA Preference	Population Proximity	Total
35	Rose Village Neighborhood Park Acquisition	12.33	10.33			4.67		3.78		0.33	5.56	1.44	0.00	3.00	41.44
35	Sorenson Neighborhood Park Development	9.67	9.67	9.33		0.00		0.00		0.56	7.11	2.11	0.00	3.00	41.44
37	Hales Pass Development	8.67	9.00	10.67						3.44	6.22	1.56	0.00	1.50	41.06
38	Lower Peninsula Park Improvement Phase 2	10.33	10.33	9.33						2.67	6.00	1.67	-1.00	1.50	40.83
39	Evans Creek Preserve	8.67	9.00	10.67						1.33	6.00	2.78	0.00	1.50	39.94
40	Ashford County Park Phase 2	7.67	9.00	10.00						3.56	6.00	2.11	0.00	1.50	39.83
41	Clark Lake Park Expansion - Lannoye Acquisition	9.33	7.33			6.00		3.56		2.33	6.22	2.00	0.00	3.00	39.78
42	La Conner Skateboard Park	11.67	10.00	6.33						1.56	7.33	2.56	0.00	0.00	39.44
43	Shaffer Community Park Acquisition	9.00	8.33			7.11		4.11		0.22	6.22	1.33	0.00	3.00	39.33
44	Huse Soos Creek Property Acquisition	8.67	8.67			6.00		3.33		1.22	6.00	2.11	0.00	3.00	39.00
45	Wells Site Park Acquisition	10.00	9.00			5.33		4.00		0.44	7.33	1.11	0.00	1.50	38.72
46	Beaver Park "Things With Wings"	6.67	8.33	9.67						3.33	4.67	2.67	0.00	3.00	38.33
47	Brookville Gardens Community Park	9.67	8.33	10.67						0.67	4.44	1.11	0.00	3.00	37.89
48	McCollum Park Outdoor Pool Rehabilitation	9.00	9.00	8.33						3.00	3.78	1.22	0.00	3.00	37.33
49	Queen Sally Park	7.33	8.33	10.00						2.33	6.22	2.89	0.00	0.00	37.11
49	Japanese Gulch Property Purchase	8.67	8.67			6.22		2.89		1.11	5.78	0.78	0.00	3.00	37.11
51	Wilkeson State Route 165 Downtown Park	8.67	8.67			6.00		3.22		0.89	5.33	1.56	0.00	1.50	35.83
52	North East Redmond Park	7.33	7.67			5.11		3.11		2.11	6.44	1.00	0.00	3.00	35.78
53	Hartwood Property Acquisition	7.67	8.00			5.11		3.33		2.00	4.67	1.44	0.00	3.00	35.22
54	Riverplace Park Acquisition	8.67	7.33			4.89		3.33		1.89	4.67	2.67	0.00	1.50	34.94
55	Ridge Crest Park Acquisition	7.67	8.00			4.67		3.56		0.78	5.33	1.56	0.00	1.50	33.06
56	Anderson Acquisition Phase 1	7.00	8.00			5.11		4.00		1.11	4.22	1.89	0.00	1.50	32.83
57	Si View and Shamrock Parks Development	8.33	6.67	5.67						2.89	4.67	1.11	0.00	3.00	32.33
58	Kiwanis Park	8.33	7.00	6.00						2.78	4.89	1.56	0.00	1.50	32.06
59	Horseshoe Lake Picnic Shelter	7.33	8.33	7.00						2.33	2.67	1.56	0.00	1.50	30.72
60	Northeast Soccer Complex	7.00	7.67	7.00						1.33	4.00	1.56	0.00	1.50	30.06
61	360 Regional Park Acquisition	6.67	7.33			3.33		2.89		0.78	4.44	1.56	0.00	1.50	28.50
62	Outdoor Equestrian and BMX Arena Improvements	5.00	7.33	5.00						2.22	3.11	1.11	0.00	3.00	26.78
63	Recreational Vehicle Camping Improvements	4.33	4.67	3.67						1.78	3.33	1.22	0.00	3.00	22.00

2-Sep-10

Evaluators Score Questions: #1-11, RCO Staff Scores Questions: #12-13



**Natural Areas (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 9	40.00	10-1472A	Klickitat Canyon Natural Resource Conservaton Area	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$1,887,138	\$0	\$1,887,138	\$1,887,138
2 of 9	39.63	10-1458A	Dabob Bay Natural Area	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$2,925,261	\$0	\$2,925,261	\$4,812,399
3 of 9	39.38	10-1465A	Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$1,586,523	\$0	\$1,586,523	\$6,398,922
4 of 9	38.88	10-1471A	Dyer Haystacks and Two Steppe Natural Area Preserves	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$792,330	\$0	\$792,330	\$7,191,252
5 of 9	38.13	10-1473A	Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$3,499,912	\$0	\$3,499,912	\$10,691,164
6 of 9	36.75	10-1462A	Bone River and Niawiakum River Natural Area Preserves	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$2,037,575	\$0	\$2,037,575	\$12,728,739
7 of 9	35.63	10-1460A	North Bay Natural Area Preserve	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$283,972	\$0	\$283,972	\$13,012,711
8 of 9	33.63	10-1466A	Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$1,359,697	\$0	\$1,359,697	\$14,372,408
9 of 9	32.00	10-1470A	Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$1,726,042	\$0	\$1,726,042	\$16,098,450
					<b>\$16,098,450</b>		<b>\$16,098,450</b>	

**Riparian Protection (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Project		Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant		Cumulative
		Number	Project Name			Match	Total Amount	Grant Request
1 of 20	98.3	10-1553A	Clearwater Riparian Protection Project	The Nature Conservancy	\$930,200	\$1,405,000	\$2,335,200	\$930,200
2 of 20	94.5	10-1136A	Asotin Creek / Charley Fork Riparian	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,300,000		\$1,300,000	\$2,230,200
3 of 20	90.6	10-1632A	Crockett Lake Riparian Phase 2	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	\$406,584	\$631,341	\$1,037,925	\$2,636,784
4 of 20	90.5	10-1585A	Barnum Point Riparian Protection	Island County	\$1,000,000	\$1,223,000	\$2,223,000	\$3,636,784
5 of 20	89.9	10-1459A	Dabob Bay Natural Area Riparian 2010	Washington State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,289,189		\$1,289,189	\$4,925,973
6 of 20	88.5	10-1225A	Lower Icicle Riparian Protection	Chelan-Douglas Land Trust	\$650,000	\$1,856,200	\$2,506,200	\$5,575,973
7 of 20	88.4	10-1149A	Yakima Canyon Riparian	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$3,000,000		\$3,000,000	\$8,575,973
8 of 20	88.1	10-1651A	McLoughlin Falls 1	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$850,000		\$850,000	\$9,425,973
9 of 20	87.8	10-1152A	Grays Bay Estuary	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$450,000		\$450,000	\$9,875,973
10 of 20	86.1	10-1599A	Tarboo Headwaters to Bay 2010	Northwest Watershed Institute	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$3,400,000	\$11,575,973
11 of 20	85.6	10-1219A	Whipple Creek Riparian Area	Clark County	\$376,125	\$378,125	\$754,250	\$11,952,098
12 of 20	85.1	10-1385A	Dosewallips - Pope Riparian Acquisition	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	\$12,952,098
13 of 20	84.9	10-1118A	Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area / Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve Riparian 2010	Washington State Department of Natural Resources	\$3,969,840		\$3,969,840	\$16,921,938
14 of 20	84.3	10-1370A	Green River - Kanaskat Reach	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks	\$875,000	\$885,000	\$1,760,000	\$17,796,938
15 of 20	83.5	10-1155A	Upper Elochoman River Conservation Project	Columbia Land Trust	\$200,000	\$250,000	\$450,000	\$17,996,938
16 of 20	82.3	10-1675A	South Issaquah Creek Greenway Phase 4	Issaquah	\$300,000	\$305,000	\$605,000	\$18,296,938
17 of 20	82.1	10-1198A	Budd to Henderson Conservation Initiative Phase 3	Capitol Land Trust	\$937,900	\$938,000	\$1,875,900	\$19,234,838
18 of 20	80.6	10-1685C	Jacobs Point Acquisition and Development	Anderson Island Park District	\$1,056,457	\$1,228,550	\$2,285,007	\$20,291,295
19 of 20	80.4	10-1141A	Ephrata Lake	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$205,000		\$205,000	\$20,496,295
20 of 20	77.1	10-1688A	Livingston Bay Acquisition Phase 2	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	\$1,247,000	\$1,253,000	\$2,500,000	\$21,743,295
					<b>\$21,743,295</b>	<b>\$12,053,216</b>	<b>\$33,796,511</b>	

## Riparian Protection (Fiscal Year 2012)

### Preliminary Evaluation Summary

### Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

Question #		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Rank	Project Name	Riparian Habitat Benefits	Planning Priority	Site Suitability and Project Design	Threats to the Habitat	Project Support	Public Access Opportunities	Ongoing Stewardship and Management	Matching Share	GMA Compliance	Total
1	Clearwater Riparian	18.25	15.50	18.25	10.38	12.13	11.63	9.13	3	0	98.25
2	Asotin Creek / Charley Fork Riparian	18.38	15.38	16.88	10.38	12.38	11.75	9.38	0	0	94.50
3	Crockett Lake Riparian Phase 2	15.88	14.00	14.63	7.75	13.38	13.13	8.88	3	0	90.63
4	Barnum Point Riparian Protection	15.25	14.75	16.13	12.13	11.38	11.63	8.25	2	-1	90.50
5	Dabob Bay Natural Area Riparian	14.75	14.63	16.75	9.38	13.75	11.75	8.88	0	0	89.88
6	Lower Icicle Riparian Protection	14.38	17.00	15.50	10.13	12.38	7.50	7.63	4	0	88.50
7	Yakima Canyon Riparian	15.88	15.00	16.38	10.38	10.63	11.63	8.50	0	0	88.38
8	McLoughlin Falls Phase 1	16.38	15.00	16.00	10.38	10.75	11.25	8.38	0	0	88.13
9	Grays Bay Estuary	16.75	15.75	16.13	7.13	10.25	13.13	8.63	0	0	87.75
10	Tarboo Headwaters to Bay	15.00	13.88	15.38	9.63	12.25	10.88	8.13	1	0	86.13
11	Whipple Creek Riparian Area	13.50	16.00	13.88	10.13	11.75	10.25	8.13	2	0	85.63
12	Dosewallips - Pope Riparian	15.50	16.50	17.25	7.88	10.63	9.13	8.25	0	0	85.13
13	Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area/Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve	14.38	14.75	15.88	9.00	12.63	8.88	9.38	0	0	84.88
14	Green River - Kanasket Reach	14.25	16.75	13.88	9.00	10.88	9.38	8.13	2	0	84.25
15	Upper Elochoman River Conservation	16.00	13.88	14.50	8.00	10.88	10.00	8.25	2	0	83.50
16	South Issaquah Creek Greenway Phase 4	11.38	14.13	14.88	9.88	12.00	9.00	9.00	2	0	82.25
17	Budd to Henderson Phase 3	13.25	13.13	14.38	10.88	12.88	9.75	6.88	1	0	82.13
18	Jacobs Point Acquisition and Development	13.38	12.50	13.50	10.38	10.88	11.13	6.88	2	0	80.63
19	Ephrata Lake	14.25	12.88	14.13	8.63	11.00	11.13	8.38	0	0	80.38
20	Livingston Bay Acquisition Phase 2	11.50	11.88	11.63	8.13	12.00	11.88	8.13	2	0	77.13

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

27-Aug-10

**State Lands Development and Renovation (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 14	48.00	10-1067D	Tiger Mountain State Forest Trail Bridges	Department of Natural Resources	\$247,870	\$62,000	\$309,870	\$247,870
2 of 14	44.38	10-1427D	Middle Fork Ahtanum Trailhead and Trail	Department of Natural Resources	\$275,271	\$23,800	\$299,071	\$523,141
3 of 14	42.75	10-1070D	Reiter Foothills Trail System Development Phase I	Department of Natural Resources	\$325,000	\$20,000	\$345,000	\$848,141
4 of 14	40.88	10-1072D	Mailbox Peak Trail Development	Department of Natural Resources	\$325,000	\$189,500	\$514,500	\$1,173,141
4 of 14	40.88	10-1489D	Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve Water Access	Department of Natural Resources	\$153,800	\$15,000	\$168,800	\$1,326,941
6 of 14	40.63	10-1642D	Beebe Springs Trail Phase 4	Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$1,526,941
7 of 14	40.13	10-1068D	Cypress Recreation Facilities Renovation	Department of Natural Resources	\$201,325		\$201,325	\$1,728,266
8 of 14	40.00	10-1363D	Black Lake Fishing Dock	Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$325,000		\$325,000	\$2,053,266
8 of 14	40.00	10-1020D	McLane Creek Nature Trail Phase 2	Department of Natural Resources	\$322,310		\$322,310	\$2,375,576
10 of 14	38.88	10-1536D	Teaway Junction River Access Improvements 2010	Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$314,000		\$314,000	\$2,689,576
11 of 14	38.75	10-1190D	Whatcom Americans with Disabilities Act Dock Replacement Phase 2	Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$325,000		\$325,000	\$3,014,576
12 of 14	38.38	10-1535D	Tim's Pond Americans with Disabilities Act Fishing Access 2010	Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$319,100		\$319,100	\$3,333,676
13 of 14	38.25	10-1607D	Koopmans Parking Facility and Access Improvements	Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$198,370		\$198,370	\$3,532,046
14 of 14	32.88	10-1408D	Oneida Boat Launch	Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$325,000		\$325,000	\$3,857,046
24-Sep-10					<b>\$3,857,046</b>	<b>\$310,300</b>	<b>\$4,167,346</b>	

## State Lands Development and Renovation (Fiscal Year 2012)

### Preliminary Evaluation Summary

### Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	
		Site Suitability and Design	Diversity and Compatibility	Performance Measure	Public Benefit	Population Proximity	
Rank Project Name	Public Need						Total
1 Tiger Mountain State Forest Trail Bridges	18.00	12.75	7.75	3.88	4.63	1.00	48.00
2 Middle Fork Ahtanum Trailhead and Trail	18.00	12.38	6.75	3.13	4.13	0.00	44.38
2 Reiter Foothills Trail System Development Phase 1	16.00	11.25	6.75	3.63	4.13	1.00	42.75
4 Mailbox Peak Trail Development	15.50	12.38	5.00	3.13	3.88	1.00	40.88
5 Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve Water Access	14.00	12.38	6.75	3.63	4.13	0.00	40.88
6 Beebe Springs Trail Phase 4	14.00	12.00	7.25	3.63	3.75	0.00	40.63
7 Cypress Recreation Facilities Renovation	15.50	10.88	6.75	3.38	3.63	0.00	40.13
8 Black Lake Fishing Dock	14.50	12.00	5.75	3.50	3.25	1.00	40.00
9 McLane Creek Nature Trail Phase 2	15.00	11.25	6.25	3.00	3.50	1.00	40.00
10 Teanaway Junction River Access Improvements 2010	15.00	11.25	5.75	3.38	3.50	0.00	38.88
11 Whatcom Americans with Disabilities Act Dock Replacement Phase 2	15.00	10.88	6.00	3.63	3.25	0.00	38.75
12 Tim's Pond Americans with Disabilities Act Fishing Access 2010	15.00	10.88	6.25	2.63	3.63	0.00	38.38
13 Koopmans Parking Facility and Access Improvements	14.50	11.63	6.00	2.88	3.25	0.00	38.25
14 Oneida Boat Launch	12.00	9.38	6.00	2.50	3.00	0.00	32.88

Evaluators Score Questions: #1-5, RCO Staff Scores Questions: #6

**State Lands Restoration and Enhancement (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 16	46.38	10-1646R	Washougal Oaks Natural Area Restoration Phase 2	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$151,000	\$3,500	\$154,500	\$151,000
2 of 16	44.00	10-1629R	Sinlahekin Ecosystem Restoration Phase 2	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$244,800		\$244,800	\$395,800
3 of 16	43.38	10-1508R	Trout Lake Meadow Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$145,500		\$145,500	\$541,300
4 of 16	43.00	10-1440R	South Sound Prairie and Bald Restoration Phase 2	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$360,950	\$20,000	\$380,950	\$902,250
5 of 16	42.63	10-1453R	Camas Meadows Rare Plant Habitat Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$145,500	\$6,000	\$151,500	\$1,047,750
6 of 16	41.50	10-1353R	Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area -Weyer Point Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$294,678		\$294,678	\$1,342,428
7 of 16	40.50	10-1631R	Methow Forest Rehab Project	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$502,300	\$37,700	\$540,000	\$1,844,728
8 of 16	39.25	10-1106R	Secret Harbor Estuary and Salt Marsh Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$246,292	\$324,615	\$570,907	\$2,091,020
9 of 16	39.13	10-1687R	Willapa Bay Restoration Phase 2	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$124,000	\$20,000	\$144,000	\$2,215,020
10 of 16	38.25	10-1679R	Telford Road Shrub Steppe Grassland Restoration	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$98,000	\$27,000	\$125,000	\$2,313,020
11 of 16	37.38	10-1170R	West Foster Creek Meadow Restoration	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$102,656		\$102,656	\$2,415,676
12 of 16	37.25	10-1429R	Cleman Mountain Understory Thinning	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$198,775		\$198,775	\$2,614,451
13 of 16	36.13	10-1071R	Reiter Foothills Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$167,569	\$20,000	\$187,569	\$2,782,020
14 of 16	35.63	10-1352R	Whiskey Dick Creek Restoration	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$150,000		\$150,000	\$2,932,020
15 of 16	34.13	10-1573R	Chesaw Timber Stand Improvement	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$170,000		\$170,000	\$3,102,020
16 of 16	31.63	10-1482R	Oxbow Spoil Site Enhancement	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$69,850	\$16,200	\$86,050	\$3,171,870
					<b>\$3,171,870</b>	<b>\$475,015</b>	<b>\$3,646,885</b>	

15-Sep-2010

**State Lands Restoration (Fiscal Year 2012)  
Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 16	46.38	10-1646R	Washougal Oaks Natural Area Restoration Phase 2	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$151,000	\$3,500	\$154,500	\$151,000
2 of 16	44.00	10-1629R	Sinlahekin Ecosystem Restoration Phase 2	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$244,800		\$244,800	\$395,800
3 of 16	43.38	10-1508R	Trout Lake Meadow Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$145,500		\$145,500	\$541,300
4 of 16	43.00	10-1440R	South Sound Prairie and Bald Restoration Phase 2	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$360,950	\$20,000	\$380,950	\$902,250
5 of 16	42.63	10-1453R	Camas Meadows Rare Plant Habitat Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$145,500	\$6,000	\$151,500	\$1,047,750
6 of 16	41.50	10-1353R	Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area -Weyer Point Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$294,678		\$294,678	\$1,342,428
7 of 16	40.50	10-1631R	Methow Forest Rehab Project	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$502,300	\$37,700	\$540,000	\$1,844,728
8 of 16	39.25	10-1106R	Secret Harbor Estuary and Salt Marsh Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$246,292	\$324,615	\$570,907	\$2,091,020
9 of 16	39.13	10-1687R	Willapa Bay Restoration Phase 2	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$124,000	\$20,000	\$144,000	\$2,215,020
10 of 16	38.25	10-1679R	Telford Road Shrub Steppe Grassland Restoration	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$98,000	\$27,000	\$125,000	\$2,313,020
11 of 16	37.38	10-1170R	West Foster Creek Meadow Restoration	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$102,656		\$102,656	\$2,415,676
12 of 16	37.25	10-1429R	Cleman Mountain Understory Thinning	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$198,775		\$198,775	\$2,614,451
13 of 16	36.13	10-1071R	Reiter Foothills Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	\$167,569	\$20,000	\$187,569	\$2,782,020
14 of 16	35.63	10-1352R	Whiskey Dick Creek Restoration	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$150,000		\$150,000	\$2,932,020
15 of 16	34.13	10-1573R	Chesaw Timber Stand Improvement	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$170,000		\$170,000	\$3,102,020
16 of 16	31.63	10-1482R	Oxbow Spoil Site Enhancement	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$69,850	\$16,200	\$86,050	\$3,171,870
					<b>\$3,171,870</b>	<b>\$475,015</b>	<b>\$3,646,885</b>	

15-Sep-2010

**State Lands Restoration and Enhancement (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

	Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Rank	Project Name	Ecological and Biological Characteristics	Need for Restoration or Enhancement	Long Term Manageability and Viability	Species or Communities with Special Status	Plan Priority	Public Benefit	Total
1	Washougal Oaks Natural Area Restoration Phase 2	13.50	12.75	7.75	4.13	4.13	4.13	46.38
2	Sinlahekin Ecosystem Restoration Phase 2	12.00	12.75	8.50	3.38	3.50	3.88	44.00
3	Trout Lake Meadow Restoration	12.75	11.63	7.25	4.38	3.88	3.50	43.38
4	South Sound Prairie and Bald Restoration Phase 2	12.38	11.63	7.25	4.25	4.13	3.38	43.00
5	Camas Meadows Rare Plant Habitat Restoration	12.75	11.25	7.00	4.25	4.00	3.38	42.63
6	Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area - Weyer Point Restoration	12.00	10.13	7.75	3.38	4.00	4.25	41.50
7	Methow Forest Rehabilitation	11.25	11.63	7.50	3.13	3.38	3.63	40.50
8	Secret Harbor Estuary and Salt Marsh Restoration	10.88	11.25	7.50	3.00	3.50	3.13	39.25
9	Willapa Bay Restoration Phase 2	11.25	10.88	7.00	3.00	3.38	3.63	39.13
10	Telford Road Shrub Steppe Grassland Restoration	10.88	10.50	6.75	3.38	3.38	3.38	38.25
11	West Foster Creek Meadow Restoration	10.50	9.38	7.00	3.50	3.75	3.25	37.38
12	Cleman Mountain Understory Thinning	10.13	10.50	7.75	2.38	3.50	3.00	37.25
13	Reiter Foothills Restoration	9.75	10.13	6.50	3.13	3.25	3.38	36.13
14	Whiskey Dick Creek Restoration	9.75	9.75	6.50	3.38	3.00	3.25	35.63
15	Chesaw Timber Stand Improvement	9.38	9.00	6.50	3.25	3.13	2.88	34.13
16	Oxbow Spoil Site Enhancement	9.38	7.88	6.25	2.25	2.88	3.00	31.63

Evaluators Score Questions: #1-6

15-Sep-2010





**State Parks (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 12	48.75	10-1242A	Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2010	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$900,000		\$900,000	\$900,000
2 of 12	46.38	10-1306A	Cape Disappointment - Seaview Dunes Acquisition	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$2,250,000		\$2,250,000	\$3,150,000
3 of 12	43.88	10-1384D	Lake Sammamish Boardwalk	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$351,052	\$351,052	\$702,104	\$3,501,052
4 of 12	40.88	10-1723A	Green River Gorge - Icy Creek Trail	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$540,828		\$540,828	\$4,041,880
5 of 12	40.38	10-1244A	Nisqually State Park Acquisitions	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$900,000		\$900,000	\$4,941,880
6 of 12	39.38	10-1308D	Cape Disappointment Multiple-Use Trail Extension	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$1,600,000		\$1,600,000	\$6,541,880
7 of 12	37.25	10-1087D	Pearrygin Lake Expansion Phase 1	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$2,186,352		\$2,186,352	\$8,728,232
8 of 12	36.88	10-1243A	Loomis Lake Acquisitions Phase 2	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$415,800		\$415,800	\$9,144,032
9 of 12	33.63	10-1305A	Millersylvania - Deep Lake Resort Acquisition	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$1,938,553		\$1,938,553	\$11,082,585
10 of 12	31.13	10-1559A	Mount Spokane - Forest Capital and Riley Creek	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$890,343		\$890,343	\$11,972,928
11 of 12	29.75	10-1085D	Deception Pass - Kiket Island Initial Development	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$463,727		\$463,727	\$12,436,655
12 of 12	27.88	10-1084A	Deception Pass - Whidbey Market Acquisition	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$539,450		\$539,450	\$12,976,105
10-Sep-10					<b>\$12,976,105</b>	<b>\$351,052</b>	<b>\$13,327,157</b>	

**State Parks (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Rank Project Name	Public Need	Project Significance	Project Design Development	Immediacy of Threat Acquisition	Expansion/ Phased	Multiple Fund Sources	Readiness to Proceed	Shows Application of Sustainability	Population Proximity	Total
1 Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2010	4.63	13.50		9.25	7.75	3.25	3.38	4.00	3.00	48.75
2 Cape Disappointment - Seaview Dunes Acquisition	4.63	13.50		9.25	9.25	2.00	3.50	4.25	0.00	46.38
3 Lake Sammamish Boardwalk	4.00	10.50	7.75		7.00	3.50	3.63	4.50	3.00	43.88
4 Green River Gorge - Icy Creek Trail	4.38	12.38		9.25	7.50	0.50	1.75	3.63	1.50	40.88
5 Nisqually State Park Acquisitions	4.13	12.00		7.75	7.25	1.38	2.38	4.00	1.50	40.38
6 Cape Disappointment Multiple-Use Trail Extension	4.38	12.00	7.50		8.00	1.75	2.13	3.63	0.00	39.38
7 Pearygin Lake Expansion Phase 1	3.75	10.50	7.75		6.75	1.63	3.38	3.50	0.00	37.25
8 Loomis Lake Acquisitions Phase 2	3.38	11.63		6.50	7.25	1.63	2.50	4.00	0.00	36.88
9 Millersylvania - Deep Lake Resort Acquisition	3.88	9.75		6.50	6.00	0.75	2.13	3.13	1.50	33.63
10 Mount Spokane - Forest Capital and Riley Creek	3.25	10.13		5.00	5.25	0.38	2.50	3.13	1.50	31.13
11 Deception Pass - Kiket Island Initial Development	2.50	11.25	5.00		4.25	1.75	1.75	3.25	0.00	29.75
12 Deception Pass - Whidbey Market Acquisition	3.00	9.38		3.75	5.50	1.38	1.13	2.25	1.50	27.88

Evaluators Score Questions: #1-8, RCO Staff Scores Questions: #9

**Trails (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 25	60.83	10-1591D	Skagit Riverwalk Trail Phase 2	Mount Vernon	\$781,200	\$781,200	\$1,562,400	\$781,200
2 of 25	59.56	10-1615D	East Lake Sammamish Trail Development	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks	\$500,000	\$1,017,653	\$1,517,653	\$1,281,200
3 of 25	58.39	10-1037D	Bud Blancher Trail	Eatonville	\$700,000	\$702,546	\$1,402,546	\$1,981,200
4 of 25	57.44	10-1568A	Forest to Sky Trail Corridor II	Bainbridge Island Park District	\$211,000	\$211,000	\$422,000	\$2,192,200
5 of 25	57.33	10-1364D	Railroad Bridge Trestle Extension	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$104,000	\$2,244,200
6 of 25	57.11	10-1660D	Sumner Urban to Mountain Trail, Section #4	Sumner	\$978,999	\$1,221,001	\$2,200,000	\$3,223,199
7 of 25	56.44	10-1113D	Entiat Waterfront Trail	Entiat	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$3,723,199
8 of 25	56.00	10-1038D	Big Gulch Trail - Gap Area	Mukilteo	\$220,000	\$301,505	\$521,505	\$3,943,199
9 of 25	55.56	10-1378A	Twisp Community Trail	Twisp	\$75,107	\$80,757	\$155,864	\$4,018,306
10 of 25	54.33	10-1596C	Naches Spur Rail to Trail	Yakima County Public Services	\$810,829	\$810,829	\$1,621,658	\$4,829,135
11 of 25	53.22	10-1713A	Deception Pass - Anacortes Community Forest Lands Connection	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$280,350		\$280,350	\$5,109,485
12 of 25	53.00	10-1307D	Willapa Hills Trail Bridge Decking Phase 2	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$770,000		\$770,000	\$5,879,485
13 of 25	52.22	10-1278D	Cushman Trail 2010	Gig Harbor	\$1,000,000	\$1,420,000	\$2,420,000	\$6,879,485
14 of 25	51.28	10-1088D	Centennial Trail NW Extension	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$663,898	\$110,000	\$773,898	\$7,543,383
15 of 25	50.28	10-1267C	Cushman-Pierson Trails Connector	Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$922,025	\$922,026	\$1,844,051	\$8,465,408
16 of 25	50.11	10-1505C	Prairie Line Trail Phase 1	Tacoma	\$1,746,015	\$2,246,015	\$3,992,030	\$10,211,423
17 of 25	49.89	10-1240D	Cheney Wetland Trail	Cheney	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$75,000	\$10,248,923
18 of 25	49.17	10-1257A	North Kitsap Heritage Park, Phase 2 Acquisition - Trails	Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department	\$475,000	\$925,000	\$1,400,000	\$10,723,923
19 of 25	46.78	10-1342D	Forbes Lake Park Trail Development	Kirkland	\$760,586	\$760,587	\$1,521,173	\$11,484,509
20 of 25	45.72	10-1045D	Heron Bluff Trail	Moses Lake	\$183,891	\$183,891	\$367,782	\$11,668,400
21 of 25	45.00	10-1594A	Barnes Creek Trail Acquisition Project	Des Moines	\$1,000,000	\$2,878,148	\$3,878,148	\$12,668,400
21 of 25	45.00	10-1668D	Sumner Urban to Mountain Trail, Section #6	Sumner	\$324,505	\$324,506	\$649,011	\$12,992,905
23 of 25	44.39	10-1292D	Olympic Discovery Trail: Sequim Missing Link	Sequim	\$341,497	\$341,497	\$682,994	\$13,334,402
24 of 25	43.83	10-1662D	Olallie Trail Development	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$1,173,822		\$1,173,822	\$14,508,224
25 of 25	42.89	10-1604D	Mason County North Bay Trail 2010	Mason County	\$377,000	\$377,500	\$754,500	\$14,885,224
					<b>\$14,885,224</b>	<b>\$16,205,161</b>	<b>\$31,090,385</b>	

**Trails (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Rank Project Name	Need	Project Design Development	Immediacy of Threat Acquisition	Trail and Community Linkages	Water Access, Views, Scenic Values	Wildlife Habitat Connectivity	Project Support	Cost Efficiencies	GMA Preference	Population Proximity	Total
1 Skagit Riverwalk Trail Phase 2	12.67	14.00		11.00	8.44	1.89	8.44	2.89	0.00	1.50	60.83
2 East Lake Sammamish Trail Development	11.00	13.00		13.33	5.56	2.22	8.67	2.78	0.00	3.00	59.56
3 Bud Blancher Trail	11.33	11.33		11.67	7.33	2.78	8.67	3.78	0.00	1.50	58.39
4 Forest to Sky Trail Corridor 2	12.33		12.67	11.67	5.33	2.44	7.33	2.67	0.00	3.00	57.44
5 Railroad Bridge Trestle Extension	14.00	8.67		13.33	8.67	3.33	7.56	1.78	0.00	0.00	57.33
6 Sumner Urban to Mountain Trail, Section #4	12.33	11.67		11.33	6.67	1.33	8.22	2.56	0.00	3.00	57.11
7 Entiat Waterfront Trail	11.67	11.00		10.33	9.33	2.67	8.89	2.56	0.00	0.00	56.44
8 Big Gulch Trail - Gap Area	11.67	10.00		12.33	6.00	1.56	8.89	2.56	0.00	3.00	56.00
9 Twisp Community Trail	13.67		9.33	11.33	8.44	2.44	8.00	2.33	0.00	0.00	55.56
10 Naches Spur Rail to Trail	11.67	11.67		13.00	5.56	0.67	9.11	2.67	0.00	0.00	54.33
11 Deception Pass - Anacortes Community Forest Lands Connection	11.00		12.00	11.67	6.89	2.44	7.56	1.67	0.00	0.00	53.22
12 Willapa Hills Trail Bridge Decking Phase 2	12.67	10.67		12.67	6.22	1.67	7.56	1.56	0.00	0.00	53.00
13 Cushman Trail 2010	11.33	12.33		10.67	4.67	1.33	7.11	1.78	0.00	3.00	52.22
14 Centennial Trail Northwest Extension	10.00	12.00		9.67	7.78	1.56	6.89	1.89	0.00	1.50	51.28
15 Cushman-Pierson Trails Connector	11.33	11.67		11.00	5.11	0.78	7.11	1.78	0.00	1.50	50.28
16 Prairie Line Trail Phase 1	10.00	10.67		10.00	6.67	0.56	7.33	1.89	0.00	3.00	50.11
17 Cheney Wetland Trail	10.00	8.67		9.33	7.33	2.11	7.33	2.11	0.00	3.00	49.89
18 North Kitsap Heritage Park, Phase 2 Acquisition Trails	9.67		10.67	10.00	4.22	1.78	7.78	3.56	0.00	1.50	49.17
19 Forbes Lake Park Trail Development	7.00	11.33		10.33	6.67	1.67	6.22	1.56	-1.00	3.00	46.78
20 Heron Bluff Trail	9.67	8.67		9.33	9.11	0.78	6.44	1.22	-1.00	1.50	45.72
21 Barnes Creek Trail Acquisition Project	8.67		8.00	8.67	6.00	2.11	6.89	1.67	0.00	3.00	45.00
21 Sumner Urban to Mountain Trail, Section #6	10.33	10.00		9.67	2.22	0.56	7.11	2.11	0.00	3.00	45.00
23 Olympic Discovery Trail: Sequim Missing Link	11.00	6.67		11.67	3.56	0.78	7.78	2.44	-1.00	1.50	44.39
24 Olallie Trail Development	9.67	8.33		9.00	6.22	1.22	6.44	1.44	0.00	1.50	43.83
25 Mason County North Bay Trail 2010	9.33	6.33		7.33	9.11	0.89	8.00	1.89	0.00	0.00	42.89

**Natural Areas (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Question #		1	2	3	4	
Rank	Project Name	Ecological and Biological Characteristics	Species and Communities with Special Status	Manageability and Viability	Public Benefit	Total
1	Klickitat Canyon Natural Resource Conservation Area	16.13	8.63	11.63	3.63	40.00
2	Dabob Bay Natural Area	16.63	7.38	11.75	3.88	39.63
3	Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve	15.38	7.88	11.75	4.38	39.38
4	Dyer Haystacks and Two Steppe Natural Area Preserves	15.75	8.13	11.50	3.50	38.88
5	Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve	15.38	8.00	11.88	2.88	38.13
6	Bone River and Niawiakum River Natural Area Preserves	15.13	6.63	11.25	3.75	36.75
7	North Bay Natural Area Preserve	14.50	7.38	10.38	3.38	35.63
8	Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve	12.13	6.75	10.50	4.25	33.63
9	Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve	12.75	6.00	10.13	3.13	32.00

Evaluators Score Questions: # 1-4

## Urban Wildlife Habitat (Fiscal Year 2012)

### Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List

### Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 17	62.88	10-1117A	Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area and Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve	Washington State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,810,042		\$1,810,042	\$1,810,042
2 of 17	61.88	10-1641A	Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve	Washington State Department of Natural Resources	\$2,041,500	\$2,041,500	\$4,083,000	\$3,851,542
3 of 17	60.75	10-1050A	Whispering Firs Bog	Vashon Park District	\$400,000	\$420,000	\$820,000	\$4,251,542
4 of 17	60.13	10-1264A	Antoine Peak Phase 3 Acquisition	Spokane County Parks and Recreation	\$1,633,198	\$1,633,198	\$3,266,396	\$5,884,740
5 of 17	58.50	10-1277A	Wenatchee Foothills Phase 1	Wenatchee	\$2,052,750	\$2,052,750	\$4,105,500	\$7,937,490
6 of 17	58.38	10-1610A	Tukes Mountain	Clark County	\$278,650	\$278,650	\$557,300	\$8,216,140
7 of 17	58.25	10-1147A	Amon Basin Phase 3	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,180,000		\$2,180,000	\$10,396,140
8 of 17	56.38	10-1214A	Salmon/Morgan Creek Habitat Area	Clark County	\$1,056,720	\$1,056,720	\$2,113,440	\$11,452,860
9 of 17	56.00	10-1255A	Grovers Creek Headwaters	Kitsap County Parks and Recreation	\$680,000	\$736,500	\$1,416,500	\$12,132,860
10 of 17	54.38	10-1137A	Mica Peak	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,301,000		\$2,301,000	\$14,433,860
11 of 17	51.25	10-1468A	Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area	Washington State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,541,006		\$1,541,006	\$15,974,866
12 of 17	50.75	10-1467A	Middle Fork Snoqualmie and Mt Si Natural Resource Conservation Areas	Washington State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,693,754		\$1,693,754	\$17,668,620
13 of 17	46.50	10-1681A	Tradition Plateau Natural Resource Conservation Area - Larson	Issaquah	\$200,000	\$203,000	\$403,000	\$17,868,620
14 of 17	45.25	10-1151A	Ebey Island Acquisitions	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000	\$19,368,620
15 of 17	43.13	10-1683D	Northwest Stream Center Interpretive Trail	Snohomish County Parks Dept	\$230,750	\$230,750	\$461,500	\$19,599,370
16 of 17	42.75	10-1647A	Quimper Wildlife Corridor	Port Townsend	\$408,440	\$497,767	\$906,207	\$20,007,810
17 of 17	35.13	10-1108A	North Star Conservation and Trail Easement	Mercer Island	\$175,000	\$219,037	\$394,037	\$20,182,810
					<b>\$20,182,810</b>	<b>\$9,369,872</b>	<b>\$29,552,682</b>	

**Urban Wildlife Habitat (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Question #		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
		Ecological and Biological Characteristics	Species and Communities with Special Status	Manageability and Viability	Public Benefit	Education	Public Use	GMA Compliance	Population	
Rank	Project Name									Total
1	Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area and Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve	15.63	7.88	12.25	8.88	4.00	6.25	0	8	62.88
2	Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve	18.00	9.00	11.75	8.75	3.38	8.00	0	3	61.88
3	Whispering Firs Bog	14.75	7.13	10.75	7.88	3.50	6.75	0	10	60.75
4	Antoine Peak Phase 3 Acquisition	16.88	8.00	12.63	8.13	3.50	8.00	-1	4	60.13
5	Wenatchee Foothills Phase 1	15.00	7.13	12.38	8.63	4.13	8.25	0	3	58.50
6	Tukes Mountain	15.38	7.63	12.00	7.25	3.13	6.00	0	7	58.38
7	Amon Basin Phase 3	15.63	8.00	10.50	8.88	4.50	7.75	0	3	58.25
8	Salmon and Morgan Creek Habitat Area	13.88	6.88	11.00	7.13	3.13	7.38	0	7	56.38
9	Grovers Creek Headwaters	14.38	6.88	10.63	6.88	3.63	6.63	0	7	56.00
10	Mica Peak	15.25	7.25	9.75	7.50	3.50	6.13	0	4	53.38
11	Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area	14.50	6.13	10.75	7.25	2.50	4.13	0	6	51.25
12	Middle Fork Snoquamie and Mount Si	12.75	5.88	10.13	7.38	2.63	6.00	0	6	50.75
13	Tradition Plateau Natural Resources Conservation Area	8.00	5.00	10.25	7.13	2.25	5.88	0	8	46.50
14	Ebey Island Acquisitions	12.25	5.25	6.63	6.50	3.25	6.38	0	5	45.25
15	Northwest Stream Center Interpretive Trail	7.38	4.00	8.75	6.38	4.63	7.00	0	5	43.13
16	Quimper Wildlife Corridor	11.25	5.88	8.88	7.25	3.75	4.75	0	1	42.75
17	North Star Conservation and Trail Easement	6.75	3.38	7.50	3.38	1.00	3.13	0	10	35.13

Evaluators Score Questions: #1-6; RCO Staff Scores  
Questions: #7-8



**Water Access (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Ranked List**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Cumulative Grant Request
1 of 13	44.70	10-1271A	DeMolay Property Acquisition	Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$1,267,875	\$1,267,875	\$2,535,750	\$1,267,875
2 of 13	43.60	10-1348A	Clallam Bay Property Acquisition	Clallam County Park Fair and Building	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$1,317,875
3 of 13	43.20	10-1449A	Van Dyke Panther Lake Acquisition 2	Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Service	\$310,800	\$310,800	\$621,600	\$1,628,675
4 of 13	42.90	10-1092A	Eagle Point Acquisition	Shelton	\$212,000	\$220,500	\$432,500	\$1,840,675
5 of 13	42.40	10-1212D	Don Morse Park Water Access Improvements	Chelan Parks and Recreation Department	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,340,675
6 of 13	41.20	10-1109C	Waterfront Park Expansion	Port of Allyn	\$291,000	\$360,400	\$651,400	\$2,631,675
7 of 13	41.00	10-1556A	Saint Edward - McDonald	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$2,163,603		\$2,163,603	\$4,795,278
8 of 13	39.50	10-1098D	Hathaway Boat Launch Replacement	Washougal	\$64,795	\$64,796	\$129,591	\$4,860,073
9 of 13	39.40	10-1312D	Taylor Bay Phase 1	Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$244,000	\$244,000	\$488,000	\$5,104,073
9 of 13	39.40	10-1601A	Coulter Creek Park Acquisition 2010	Mason County	\$450,000	\$550,000	\$1,000,000	\$5,554,073
11 of 13	38.50	10-1730A	Manzanita Bay Park 2: Water Access	Bainbridge Island Park District	\$840,061	\$1,162,439	\$2,002,500	\$6,394,134
12 of 13	38.10	10-1570C	Iron Horse, Yakima River - Palmer	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$573,600		\$573,600	\$6,967,734
13 of 13	33.50	10-1148A	Badlands and Badland Lakes	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	\$7,967,734
8-Sep-10					<b>\$7,967,734</b>	<b>\$4,730,810</b>	<b>\$12,698,544</b>	



**Water Access (Fiscal Year 2012)**  
**Preliminary Evaluation Summary**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Question #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	Public Need	Project Design Development	Immediacy of Threat Acquisition	Site Suitability	Expansion	Diversity of Recreational Uses Development	Project Support	Cost Efficiencies	GMA Preference	Population Proximity	Total
<b>Rank Project Name</b>											
1 DeMolay Property Acquisition	10.80		11.40	8.40	2.20		6.80	3.60	0.00	1.50	44.70
2 Clallam Bay Property Acquisition	10.80		12.30	8.40	4.00		6.80	2.30	-1.00	0.00	43.60
3 Van Dyke Panther Lake Acquisition 2	10.20		10.50	7.00	3.30		6.60	2.60	0.00	3.00	43.20
4 Eagle Point Acquisition	12.90		8.40	7.00	2.90		7.20	3.00	0.00	1.50	42.90
5 Don Morse Park Water Access Improvements	10.80	7.40		7.80	3.20	3.30	7.60	2.30	0.00	0.00	42.40
6 Waterfront Park Expansion	9.90		10.80	7.60	3.60		6.60	2.70	0.00	0.00	41.20
7 Saint Edward - McDonald	9.00		10.80	7.40	3.60		5.40	1.80	0.00	3.00	41.00
8 Hathaway Boat Launch Replacement	10.20	6.20		6.80	2.20	3.10	6.20	1.80	0.00	3.00	39.50
9 Taylor Bay Phase 1	9.60	6.00		7.80	2.20	3.10	6.60	2.60	0.00	1.50	39.40
9 Coulter Creek Park Acquisition 2010	9.30		9.30	7.40	2.10		8.20	3.10	0.00	0.00	39.40
11 Manzanita Bay Park 2: Water Access	8.70		9.00	7.20	1.90		7.00	1.70	0.00	3.00	38.50
12 Iron Horse, Yakima River - Palmer	9.30		10.20	8.20	3.20		5.20	2.00	0.00	0.00	38.10
13 Badlands and Badland Lakes	8.40		8.40	6.60	2.20		5.60	2.30	0.00	0.00	33.50

Evaluators Score Questions: #1-8, RCO Staff Scores Questions: #9-10

**Critical Habitat  
Fiscal Year 2012  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
								\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	44.13	10-1272A	Heart of Cascades Phase 2 - Bald Mountain/Rock Creek	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,750,000		\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000
2	40.75	10-1613A	Mountain View Property Phase 1	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$4,200,000		\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000
3	39.75	10-1150A	Rattlesnake Mountain Phase 1	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$3,500,000		\$3,500,000	\$2,216,500	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
4	37.38	10-1140A	Big Bend Sharp-tailed Grouse	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000		\$26,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
5	37.13	10-1142A	Methow Watershed Phase 7	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,500,000		\$2,500,000			\$144,612	\$709,052	\$1,273,491	\$1,837,931
5	37.13	10-1145A	Okanogan-Similkameen Phase 3	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$3,300,000		\$3,300,000			\$190,888	\$935,948	\$1,681,009	\$2,426,069
7	34.63	10-1474A	Wanapum Natural Area Preserve	State Department of Natural Resources	\$3,426,937		\$3,426,937						
8	33.75	10-1273A	Cowiche Phase 5	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$500,000		\$500,000						
9	32.75	10-1475A	White Salmon Oak Natural Resource Conservation Area	State Department of Natural Resources	\$2,828,017		\$2,828,017						
10	30.75	10-1304A	Lewis River/Mud Lake	Clark County	\$639,150	\$639,150	\$1,278,300						
11	24.38	10-1065C	Saltese Flats Wetland Restoration	Spokane County	\$1,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$3,500,000						
					<b>\$25,644,104</b>	<b>\$3,139,150</b>	<b>\$28,783,254</b>	<b>\$9,166,500</b>	<b>\$10,476,000</b>	<b>\$11,785,500</b>	<b>\$13,095,000</b>	<b>\$14,404,500</b>	<b>\$15,714,000</b>

**Farmland Preservation**  
**Fiscal Year 2012**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

								Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	118.29	10-1682A	Trout Lake Valley	Columbia Land Trust	\$685,857	\$685,857	\$1,371,714	\$685,857	\$685,857	\$685,857	\$685,857	\$685,857	\$685,857
2	113.71	10-1275A	Ellis Barnes Livestock Company	Okanogan Valley Land Council	\$849,200	\$849,200	\$1,698,400	\$849,200	\$849,200	\$849,200	\$849,200	\$849,200	\$849,200
3	113.14	10-1549A	Firdell Farm	Skagit County	\$205,000	\$205,000	\$410,000	\$205,000	\$205,000	\$205,000	\$205,000	\$205,000	\$205,000
4	112.57	10-1485A	Schwerin Farmland Preservation Easement	Blue Mountain Land Trust	\$100,000	\$100,750	\$200,750	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
5	112.14	10-1096A	Jeff Dawson	Inland Northwest Land Trust	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
6	110.86	10-1670A	Cowiche Basin Working Rangelands	State Conservation Commission	\$2,172,680	\$35,000	\$2,207,680	\$1,739,943	\$2,172,680	\$2,172,680	\$2,172,680	\$2,172,680	\$2,172,680
7	110.57	10-1551A	Harmony Dairy Farm	Skagit County	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$320,000		\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
8	109.71	10-1582A	Robinson Canyon Farms	Kittitas County	\$485,000	\$485,000	\$970,000		\$377,263	\$485,000	\$485,000	\$485,000	\$485,000
9	107.29	10-1703A	Reise Trust Farm	PCC Farmland Trust	\$357,000	\$388,000	\$745,000			\$357,000	\$357,000	\$357,000	\$357,000
10	107.14	10-1677A	Ebey's Reserve Farmland - North Penn Cove	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$2,500,000			\$505,263	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000
11	106.71	10-1684A	Ebey's Reserve Farmland - Ebey's Prairie	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	\$955,000	\$955,000	\$1,910,000				\$205,236	\$955,000	\$955,000
11	106.71	10-1546A	Nelson Farm	Skagit County	\$93,187	\$93,188	\$186,375				\$20,027	\$93,187	\$93,187
13	106.29	10-1165A	Boulton Farm	Jefferson Land Trust	\$288,750	\$288,750	\$577,500					\$147,076	\$288,750
14	105.71	10-1704A	Chervenka Farm	PCC Farmland Trust	\$690,300	\$748,000	\$1,438,300						\$690,300
15	105.43	10-1550A	Knutzen Farm	Skagit County	\$132,000	\$132,000	\$264,000						\$132,000
16	104.14	10-1115A	Hancock Springs Agricultural Preservation	Methow Conservancy	\$428,542	\$428,542	\$857,084						\$6,026
17	104.00	10-1649A	Copeland Creek Farm	PCC Farmland Trust	\$375,360	\$406,640	\$782,000						
18	103.57	10-1445A	Mitchell Bay Farm	San Juan County Land Bank	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$120,000						
19	103.29	10-1491A	Lopez Island Vineyards	San Juan County Land Bank	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$320,000						
20	102.71	10-1528A	Young Dairy LLC	Skagit County	\$302,500	\$302,500	\$605,000						
21	100.71	10-1213A	Petersen Farm Acquisition	Great Peninsula Conservancy	\$538,000	\$877,000	\$1,415,000						
22	99.57	10-1548A	Moe Dairy Farm	Skagit County	\$52,762	\$52,763	\$105,525						
23	99.29	10-1114A	Christianson Ranch Preservation	Methow Conservancy	\$297,383	\$297,383	\$594,766						
24	98.29	10-1597A	Van Hoof Dairy Development Rights	King County	\$450,000	\$850,000	\$1,300,000						
					\$11,388,521	\$10,110,573	\$21,499,094	\$3,880,000	\$4,850,000	\$5,820,000	\$6,790,000	\$7,760,000	\$8,730,000

**Local Parks**  
**Fiscal Year 2012**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

							Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels						
Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	57.56	10-1410D	Enumclaw Field Improvements	Enumclaw	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$900,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
2	55.56	10-1237D	Betz Park Baseball and Softball Fields	Cheney	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
2	55.56	10-1346D	Covington Community Park Sports Field and Trails	Covington	\$500,000	\$1,083,766	\$1,583,766	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
4	54.00	10-1209D	Playground by the Sound	Pierce County	\$100,000	\$202,083	\$302,083	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
5	53.28	10-1321D	Duthie Hill Park Trailhead Development	King County	\$317,477	\$317,477	\$634,954	\$317,477	\$317,477	\$317,477	\$317,477	\$317,477	\$317,477
6	52.56	10-1236D	Newport Spray Park	Newport	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
7	51.89	10-1288D	Franklin Park Development	Tacoma Metropolitan Park District	\$500,000	\$536,039	\$1,036,039	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
8	51.61	10-1064D	Mason County Recreation Area Park Infield Renovation	Mason County	\$275,500	\$275,660	\$551,160	\$275,500	\$275,500	\$275,500	\$275,500	\$275,500	\$275,500
9	49.94	10-1609D	Frontier Park Renovation - Inclusive Playground	Pierce County	\$125,700	\$125,700	\$251,400	\$125,700	\$125,700	\$125,700	\$125,700	\$125,700	\$125,700
10	49.61	10-1588D	Central Play Park Redevelopment	Hoquiam	\$198,754	\$242,922	\$441,676	\$198,754	\$198,754	\$198,754	\$198,754	\$198,754	\$198,754
11	49.56	10-1672D	DuPont PowderWorks Skatepark	DuPont	\$97,057	\$97,057	\$194,114	\$97,057	\$97,057	\$97,057	\$97,057	\$97,057	\$97,057
12	49.33	10-1181D	East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park Development	Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department	\$337,301	\$337,301	\$674,602	\$41,012	\$337,301	\$337,301	\$337,301	\$337,301	\$337,301
13	49.06	10-1586D	Claybell Park Improvements 2010	Richland	\$500,000	\$706,000	\$1,206,000		\$140,211	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
14	49.00	10-1643D	Swadabs Waterfront Park Expansion	Swinomish Tribe	\$301,750	\$301,750	\$603,500			\$76,711	\$301,750	\$301,750	\$301,750
15	48.11	10-1451D	Lake Meridian Park Renovation Phase 1	Kent	\$278,490	\$280,000	\$558,490				\$211,461	\$278,490	\$278,490
16	47.89	10-1095A	Mossyrock Area Park	Mossyrock	\$327,600	\$338,560	\$666,160	\$327,600	\$327,600	\$327,600	\$327,600	\$327,600	\$327,600
17	47.56	10-1690A	Pleasant Glade Community Park Expansion	Lacey	\$1,000,000	\$1,305,782	\$2,305,782	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
18	47.11	10-1339D	Legion Park Restroom	Arlington	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$130,000					\$65,000	\$65,000
19	47.00	10-1266D	Summit Park + Ball Fields Phase 1	Maple Valley	\$500,000	\$2,380,420	\$2,880,420					\$304,471	\$500,000
20	46.78	10-1126D	West Seattle Reservoir Park Development	Seattle	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000						\$240,971
21	46.67	10-1233D	Seahurst Park Recreational Improvements	Burien	\$500,000	\$681,990	\$1,181,990						
22	46.61	10-1592D	Skagit Riverwalk Park	Mount Vernon	\$500,000	\$600,000	\$1,100,000						

**Local Parks**  
**Fiscal Year 2012**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

							Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels						
Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
23	45.83	10-1053D	Lincoln Park Athletic Field	Wenatchee	\$213,000	\$222,500	\$435,500						
24	45.78	10-1313A	Cougar Mountain Park Precipice Trail Additions	King County	\$500,000	\$1,550,000	\$2,050,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
25	45.67	10-1082A	Saddle Rock Acquisition	Wenatchee	\$342,620	\$361,620	\$704,240	\$342,620	\$342,620	\$342,620	\$342,620	\$342,620	\$342,620
26	45.56	10-1180D	Curtin Creek Community Park Phase 1	Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department	\$500,000	\$1,934,228	\$2,434,228						
27	44.89	10-1128D	Jefferson Skate Park Development	Seattle	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000						
28	44.17	10-1021D	Granite Lake Park Renovation and Added Amenities	Clarkston	\$111,986	\$112,000	\$223,986						
29	44.00	10-1157A	Leach Creek Property Acquisition	University Place	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$1,500,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000
30	43.72	10-1511D	Upper Kiwanis Park Ballfield	Yakima	\$480,000	\$803,500	\$1,283,500						
31	43.17	10-1268A	Knight Forest Acquisition	Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$381,832	\$381,833	\$763,665	\$135,280	\$381,832	\$381,832	\$381,832	\$381,832	\$381,832
32	42.89	10-1188A	Columbia Springs Neighborhood Park Acquisition	Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department	\$171,400	\$171,400	\$342,800		\$171,400	\$171,400	\$171,400	\$171,400	\$171,400
33	42.78	10-1043D	Peck Field Multi Sport Field Development	Tacoma Metropolitan Park District	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000						
34	42.50	10-1204C	Abrams Park Improvements Phase 1	Ridgefield	\$730,134	\$730,134	\$1,460,268		\$18,548	\$153,775	\$153,775	\$153,775	\$153,775
35	41.44	10-1187A	Rose Village Neighborhood Park Acquisition	Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department	\$292,300	\$292,300	\$584,600			\$292,300	\$292,300	\$292,300	\$292,300
35	41.44	10-1179D	Sorenson Neighborhood Park Development	Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department	\$302,820	\$302,820	\$605,640						
37	41.06	10-1269D	Hales Pass Development	Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$500,000	\$527,547	\$1,027,547						
38	40.83	10-1210D	Lower Peninsula Park Improvement Phase 2	Moses Lake	\$474,385	\$474,386	\$948,771						
39	39.94	10-1167D	Evans Creek Preserve	Sammamish	\$350,000	\$653,648	\$1,003,648						
40	39.83	10-1423D	Ashford County Park Phase 2	Pierce County	\$500,000	\$668,332	\$1,168,332						
41	39.78	10-1653A	Clark Lake Park Expansion - Lannoye Acquisition	Kent	\$403,900	\$403,900	\$807,800			\$8,973	\$403,900	\$403,900	\$403,900
42	39.44	10-1121D	La Conner Skateboard Park	La Conner	\$67,905	\$67,905	\$135,810						
43	39.33	10-1177A	Shaffer Community Park Acquisition	Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department	\$1,000,000	\$2,105,060	\$3,105,060				\$41,573	\$478,073	\$914,573

**Local Parks**  
**Fiscal Year 2012**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

								Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
44	39.00	10-1450A	Huse Soos Creek Property Acquisition	Kent	\$834,725	\$834,725	\$1,669,450						
45	38.72	10-1674A	Wells Site Park Acquisition	Fall City Metropolitan Park District	\$480,000	\$500,000	\$980,000						
46	38.33	10-1099D	Beaver Park "Things With Wings"	Washougal	\$41,785	\$41,785	\$83,570						
47	37.89	10-1241D	Brookville Gardens Community Park	Fife	\$500,000	\$4,274,900	\$4,774,900						
48	37.33	10-1171D	McCollum Park Outdoor Pool Rehabilitation	Snohomish County	\$391,425	\$391,425	\$782,850						
49	37.11	10-1417D	Queen Sally Park	Cathlamet	\$429,735	\$429,735	\$859,470						
49	37.11	10-1480A	Japanese Gulch Property Purchase	Mukilteo	\$737,250	\$737,250	\$1,474,500						
51	35.83	10-1361A	Wilkeson State Route 165 Downtown Park	Wilkeson	\$43,000	\$43,000	\$86,000						
52	35.78	10-1296A	North East Redmond Park	Redmond	\$500,000	\$608,170	\$1,108,170						
53	35.22	10-1101A	Hartwood Property Acquisition	Washougal	\$227,500	\$227,500	\$455,000						
54	34.94	10-1584A	Riverplace Park Acquisition	Whatcom County	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$600,000						
55	33.06	10-1377A	Ridge Crest Park Acquisition	Ridgefield	\$654,025	\$654,025	\$1,308,050						
56	32.83	10-1283A	Anderson Acquisition Phase 1	Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000						
57	32.33	10-1185D	Si View and Shamrock Parks Development	Si View Metropolitan Park District	\$500,000	\$2,947,242	\$3,447,242						
58	32.06	10-1513D	Kiwanis Park	College Place	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000						
59	30.72	10-1220D	Horseshoe Lake Picnic Shelter	Kitsap County	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$70,000						
60	30.06	10-1309D	Northeast Soccer Complex	Pasco	\$422,500	\$422,500	\$845,000						
61	28.50	10-1291A	360 Regional Park Acquisition	Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$618,000	\$618,000	\$1,236,000						
62	26.78	10-1174D	Outdoor Equestrian and Bicycle Motocross Arena Improvements	Snohomish County	\$475,000	\$519,396	\$994,396						
63	22.00	10-1173D	Recreational Vehicle Camping Improvements	Snohomish County	\$295,500	\$299,000	\$594,500						
					<b>\$24,732,356</b>	<b>\$39,324,273</b>	<b>\$64,056,629</b>	<b>\$6,111,000</b>	<b>\$6,984,000</b>	<b>\$7,857,000</b>	<b>\$8,730,000</b>	<b>\$9,603,000</b>	<b>\$10,476,000</b>

**Natural Areas**  
**Fiscal Year 2012**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

								Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	40.00	10-1472A	Klickitat Canyon Natural Resource Conservaton Area	State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,887,138	\$0	\$1,887,138	\$1,887,138	\$1,887,138	\$1,887,138	\$1,887,138	\$1,887,138	\$1,887,138
2	39.63	10-1458A	Dabob Bay Natural Area	State Department of Natural Resources	\$2,925,261	\$0	\$2,925,261	\$2,925,261	\$2,925,261	\$2,925,261	\$2,925,261	\$2,925,261	\$2,925,261
3	39.38	10-1465A	Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve	State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,586,523	\$0	\$1,586,523	\$1,298,601	\$1,586,523	\$1,586,523	\$1,586,523	\$1,586,523	\$1,586,523
4	38.88	10-1471A	Dyer Haystacks and Two Steppe Natural Area Preserves	State Department of Natural Resources	\$792,330	\$0	\$792,330		\$585,078	\$792,330	\$792,330	\$792,330	\$792,330
5	38.13	10-1473A	Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve	State Department of Natural Resources	\$3,499,912	\$0	\$3,499,912			\$665,748	\$1,538,748	\$2,411,748	\$3,284,748
6	36.75	10-1462A	Bone River and Niawiakum River Natural Area Preserves	State Department of Natural Resources	\$2,037,575	\$0	\$2,037,575						
7	35.63	10-1460A	North Bay Natural Area Preserve	State Department of Natural Resources	\$283,972	\$0	\$283,972						
8	33.63	10-1466A	Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve	State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,359,697	\$0	\$1,359,697						
9	32.00	10-1470A	Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve	State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,726,042	\$0	\$1,726,042						
					\$16,098,450		\$16,098,450	\$6,111,000	\$6,984,000	\$7,857,000	\$8,730,000	\$9,603,000	\$10,476,000





Riparian Protection  
Fiscal Year 2012  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

								Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	98.25	10-1553A	Clearwater Riparian Protection Project	The Nature Conservancy	\$930,200	\$1,405,000	\$2,335,200	\$930,200	\$930,200	\$930,200	\$930,200	\$930,200	\$930,200
2	94.50	10-1136A	Asotin Creek/Charley Fork Riparian	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,300,000		\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000
3	90.63	10-1632A	Crockett Lake Riparian Phase 2	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	\$406,584	\$631,341	\$1,037,925	\$406,584	\$406,584	\$406,584	\$406,584	\$406,584	\$406,584
4	90.50	10-1585A	Barnum Point Riparian Protection	Island County	\$1,000,000	\$1,223,000	\$2,223,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
5	89.88	10-1459A	Dabob Bay Natural Area Riparian 2010	State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,289,189		\$1,289,189	\$243,216	\$1,289,189	\$1,289,189	\$1,289,189	\$1,289,189	\$1,289,189
6	88.50	10-1225A	Lower Icicle Riparian Protection	Chelan-Douglas Land Trust	\$650,000	\$1,856,200	\$2,506,200		\$650,000	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$650,000
7	88.38	10-1149A	Yakima Canyon Riparian	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$3,000,000		\$3,000,000		\$1,214,027	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
8	88.13	10-1651A	McLoughlin Falls 1	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$850,000		\$850,000			\$1,124,027	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$850,000
9	87.75	10-1152A	Grays Bay Estuary	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$450,000		\$450,000				\$450,000	\$450,000	\$450,000
10	86.13	10-1599A	Tarboo Headwaters to Bay 2010	Northwest Watershed Institute	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$3,400,000				\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000
11	85.63	10-1219A	Whipple Creek Riparian Area	Clark County	\$376,125	\$378,125	\$754,250				\$376,125	\$376,125	\$376,125
12	85.13	10-1385A	Dosewallips - Pope Riparian Acquisition	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000				\$657,902	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
13	84.88	10-1118A	Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area/Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve Riparian 2010	State Department of Natural Resources	\$3,969,840		\$3,969,840					\$2,567,902	\$3,969,840
14	84.25	10-1370A	Green River - Kanaskat Reach	King County	\$875,000	\$885,000	\$1,760,000						\$875,000
15	83.50	10-1155A	Upper Elochoman River Conservation Project	Columbia Land Trust	\$200,000	\$250,000	\$450,000						\$200,000
16	82.25	10-1675A	South Issaquah Creek Greenway Phase 4	Issaquah	\$300,000	\$305,000	\$605,000						\$300,000
17	82.13	10-1198A	Budd to Henderson Conservation Initiative Phase 3	Capitol Land Trust	\$937,900	\$938,000	\$1,875,900						\$133,062
18	80.63	10-1685C	Jacobs Point Acquisition and Development	Anderson Island Park District	\$1,056,457	\$1,228,550	\$2,285,007						
19	80.38	10-1141A	Ephrata Lake	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$205,000		\$205,000						
20	77.13	10-1688A	Livingston Bay Acquisition Phase 2	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	\$1,247,000	\$1,253,000	\$2,500,000						
					\$21,743,295	\$12,053,216	\$33,796,511	\$3,880,000	\$6,790,000	\$9,700,000	\$12,610,000	\$15,520,000	\$18,430,000



**State Lands Development and Renovation**  
**Fiscal Year 2012**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

								Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	48.00	10-1067D	Tiger Mountain State Forest Trail Bridges	State Department of Natural Resources	\$247,870	\$62,000	\$309,870	\$247,870	\$247,870	\$247,870	\$247,870	\$247,870	\$247,870
2	44.38	10-1427D	Middle Fork Ahtanum Trailhead and Trail	State Department of Natural Resources	\$275,271	\$23,800	\$299,071	\$275,271	\$275,271	\$275,271	\$275,271	\$275,271	\$275,271
3	42.75	10-1070D	Reiter Foothills Trail System Development Phase 1	State Department of Natural Resources	\$325,000	\$20,000	\$345,000	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$325,000
4	40.88	10-1072D	Mailbox Peak Trail Development	State Department of Natural Resources	\$325,000	\$189,500	\$514,500	115,636	214,399	313,161	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$325,000
4	40.88	10-1489D	Chehalis River Surge Plain Natural Area Preserve Water Access	State Department of Natural Resources	\$153,800	\$15,000	\$168,800	54,723	101,460	148,198	\$153,800	\$153,800	\$153,800
6	40.63	10-1642D	Beebe Springs Trail Phase 4	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$200,000		\$200,000				\$128,059	\$200,000	\$200,000
7	40.13	10-1068D	Cypress Recreation Facilities Renovation	State Department of Natural Resources	\$201,325		\$201,325					\$73,559	\$201,325
8	40.00	10-1363D	Black Lake Fishing Dock	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$325,000		\$325,000						
8	40.00	10-1020D	McLane Creek Nature Trail Phase 2	State Department of Natural Resources	\$322,310		\$322,310						\$17,734
10	38.88	10-1536D	Teanaway Junction River Access Improvements 2010	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$314,000		\$314,000						
11	38.75	10-1190D	Whatcom Americans with Disabilities Act Dock Replacement Phase 2	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$325,000		\$325,000						
12	38.38	10-1535D	Tim's Pond Americans with Disabilities Act Fishing Access 2010	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$319,100		\$319,100						
13	38.25	10-1607D	Koopmans Parking Facility and Access Improvements	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$198,370		\$198,370						
14	32.88	10-1408D	Oneida Boat Launch	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$325,000		\$325,000						
					\$3,857,046	\$310,300	\$4,167,346	\$1,018,500	\$1,164,000	\$1,309,500	\$1,455,000	\$1,600,500	\$1,746,000

**State Lands Restoration and Enhancement  
Fiscal Year 2012  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

								Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	46.38	10-1646R	Washougal Oaks Natural Area Restoration Phase 2	State Department of Natural Resources	\$151,000	\$3,500	\$154,500	\$151,000	\$151,000	\$151,000	\$151,000	\$151,000	\$151,000
2	44.00	10-1629R	Sinlahekin Ecosystem Restoration Phase 2	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$244,800		\$244,800	\$244,800	\$244,800	\$244,800	\$244,800	\$244,800	\$244,800
3	43.38	10-1508R	Trout Lake Meadow Restoration	State Department of Natural Resources	\$145,500		\$145,500	\$145,500	\$145,500	\$145,500	\$145,500	\$145,500	\$145,500
4	43.00	10-1440R	South Sound Prairie and Bald Restoration Phase 2	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$360,950	\$20,000	\$380,950	\$360,950	\$360,950	\$360,950	\$360,950	\$360,950	\$360,950
5	42.63	10-1453R	Camas Meadows Rare Plant Habitat Restoration	State Department of Natural Resources	\$145,500	\$6,000	\$151,500	\$116,250	\$145,500	\$145,500	\$145,500	\$145,500	\$145,500
6	41.50	10-1353R	Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area - Weyer Point Restoration	State Department of Natural Resources	\$294,678		\$294,678		\$116,250	\$261,750	\$294,678	\$294,678	\$294,678
7	40.50	10-1631R	Methow Forest Rehab Project	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$502,300	\$37,700	\$540,000				\$112,572	\$258,072	\$403,572
8	39.25	10-1106R	Secret Harbor Estuary and Salt Marsh Restoration	State Department of Natural Resources	\$246,292	\$324,615	\$570,907						
9	39.13	10-1687R	Willapa Bay Restoration Phase 2	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$124,000	\$20,000	\$144,000						
10	38.25	10-1679R	Telford Road Shrub Steppe Grassland Restoration	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$98,000	\$27,000	\$125,000						
11	37.38	10-1170R	West Foster Creek Meadow Restoration	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$102,656		\$102,656						
12	37.25	10-1429R	Cleman Mountain Understory Thinning	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$198,775		\$198,775						
13	36.13	10-1071R	Reiter Foothills Restoration	State Department of Natural Resources	\$167,569	\$20,000	\$187,569						
14	35.63	10-1352R	Whiskey Dick Creek Restoration	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$150,000		\$150,000						
15	34.13	10-1573R	Chesaw Timber Stand Improvement	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$170,000		\$170,000						
16	31.63	10-1482R	Oxbow Spoil Site Enhancement	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$69,850	\$16,200	\$86,050						
October 2010					\$3,171,870	\$475,015	\$3,646,885	\$1,018,500	\$1,164,000	\$1,309,500	\$1,455,000	\$1,600,500	\$1,746,000

**State Parks**  
**Fiscal Year 2012**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

									Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
RCO Rank	State Parks Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	1	48.75	10-1242A	Inholdings and Adjacent Properties 2010	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$900,000		\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000
2	2	46.38	10-1306A	Cape Disappointment - Seaview Dunes Acquisition	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$2,250,000		\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000
6	3	39.38	10-1308D	Cape Disappointment Multiple-Use Trail Extension	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$1,600,000		\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000
4	4	40.88	10-1723A	Green River Gorge - Icy Creek Trail	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$540,828		\$540,828	\$540,828	\$540,828	\$540,828	\$540,828	\$540,828	\$540,828
5	5	40.38	10-1244A	Nisqually State Park Acquisitions	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$900,000		\$900,000	\$820,172	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000
3	6	43.88	10-1384D	Lake Sammamish Boardwalk	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$351,052	\$351,052	\$702,104		\$351,052	\$351,052	\$351,052	\$351,052	\$351,052
7	7	37.25	10-1087D	Pearrygin Lake Expansion Phase 1	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$2,186,352		\$2,186,352		\$442,120	\$1,315,120	\$2,186,352	\$2,186,352	\$2,186,352
8	8	36.88	10-1243A	Loomis Lake Acquisitions Phase 2	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$415,800		\$415,800				\$1,768	\$415,800	\$415,800
9	9	33.63	10-1305A	Millersylvania - Deep Lake Resort Acquisition	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$1,938,553		\$1,938,553					\$458,968	\$1,331,968
10	10	31.13	10-1559A	Mount Spokane - Forest Capital and Riley Creek	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$890,343		\$890,343						
11	11	29.75	10-1085D	Deception Pass - Kiket Island Initial Development	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$463,727		\$463,727						
12	12	27.88	10-1084A	Deception Pass - Whidbey Market Acquisition	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$539,450		\$539,450						
						<b>\$12,976,105</b>	<b>\$351,052</b>	<b>\$13,327,157</b>	<b>\$6,111,000</b>	<b>\$6,984,000</b>	<b>\$7,857,000</b>	<b>\$8,730,000</b>	<b>\$9,603,000</b>	<b>\$10,476,000</b>

**Trails**  
**Fiscal Year 2012**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

							Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	60.83	10-1591D	Skagit Riverwalk Trail Phase 2	Mount Vernon	\$781,200	\$781,200 \$1,562,400	\$781,200	\$781,200	\$781,200	\$781,200	\$781,200	\$781,200
2	59.56	10-1615D	East Lake Sammamish Trail Development	King County	\$500,000	\$1,017,653 \$1,517,653	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
3	58.39	10-1037D	Bud Blancher Trail	Eatonville	\$700,000	\$702,546 \$1,402,546	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000
4	57.44	10-1568A	Forest to Sky Trail Corridor 2	Bainbridge Island Park District	\$211,000	\$211,000 \$422,000	\$211,000	\$211,000	\$211,000	\$211,000	\$211,000	\$211,000
5	57.33	10-1364D	Railroad Bridge Trestle Extension	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	\$52,000	\$52,000 \$104,000	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000
6	57.11	10-1660D	Sumner Urban to Mountain Trail Section #4	Sumner	\$978,999	\$1,221,001 \$2,200,000	\$978,999	\$978,999	\$978,999	\$978,999	\$978,999	\$978,999
7	56.44	10-1113D	Entiat Waterfront Trail	Entiat	\$500,000	\$500,000 \$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
8	56.00	10-1038D	Big Gulch Trail - Gap Area	Mukilteo	\$220,000	\$301,505 \$521,505	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$220,000
9	55.56	10-1378A	Twisp Community Trail	Twisp	\$75,107	\$80,757 \$155,864	\$75,107	\$75,107	\$75,107	\$75,107	\$75,107	\$75,107
10	54.33	10-1596C	Naches Spur Rail to Trail	Yakima County	\$810,829	\$810,829 \$1,621,658	\$55,694	\$637,694	\$810,829	\$810,829	\$810,829	\$810,829
11	53.22	10-1713A	Deception Pass - Anacortes Community Forest Lands Connection	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$280,350	\$280,350			\$280,350	\$280,350	\$280,350	\$280,350
12	53.00	10-1307D	Willapa Hills Trail Bridge Decking Phase 2	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$770,000	\$770,000			\$128,515	\$710,515	\$770,000	\$770,000
13	52.22	10-1278D	Cushman Trail 2010	Gig Harbor	\$1,000,000	\$1,420,000 \$2,420,000					\$522,515	\$1,000,000
14	51.28	10-1088D	Centennial Trail Northwest Extension	State Parks	\$663,898	\$110,000 \$773,898						\$104,515
15	50.28	10-1267C	Cushman-Pierson Trails Connector	Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$922,025	\$922,026 \$1,844,051						
16	50.11	10-1505C	Prairie Line Trail Phase 1	Tacoma	\$1,746,015	\$2,246,015 \$3,992,030						
17	49.89	10-1240D	Cheney Wetland Trail	Cheney	\$37,500	\$37,500 \$75,000						
18	49.17	10-1257A	North Kitsap Heritage Park, Phase 2 Acquisition - Trails	Kitsap County	\$475,000	\$925,000 \$1,400,000						
19	46.78	10-1342D	Forbes Lake Park Trail Development	Kirkland	\$760,586	\$760,587 \$1,521,173						
20	45.72	10-1045D	Heron Bluff Trail	Moses Lake	\$183,891	\$183,891 \$367,782						
21	45.00	10-1594A	Barnes Creek Trail Acquisition Project	Des Moines	\$1,000,000	\$2,878,148 \$3,878,148						
22	45.00	10-1668D	Sumner Urban to Mountain Trail Section #6	Sumner	\$324,505	\$324,506 \$649,011						
23	44.39	10-1292D	Olympic Discovery Trail: Sequim Missing Link	Sequim	\$341,497	\$341,497 \$682,994						
24	43.83	10-1662D	Olallie Trail Development	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$1,173,822	\$1,173,822						
25	42.89	10-1604D	Mason County North Bay Trail 2010	Mason County	\$377,000	\$377,500 \$754,500						
October 2010					\$14,885,224	\$16,205,161 \$31,090,385	\$4,074,000	\$4,656,000	\$5,238,000	\$5,820,000	\$6,402,000	\$6,984,000

## Urban Wildlife Habitat

Fiscal Year 2012

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

								Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
Rank	Score	Project Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	62.88	10-1117A	Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area and Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve	State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,810,042		\$1,810,042	\$1,810,042	\$1,810,042	\$1,810,042	\$1,810,042	\$1,810,042	\$1,810,042
2	61.88	10-1641A	Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve	State Department of Natural Resources	\$2,041,500	\$2,041,500	\$4,083,000	\$230,760	\$812,760	\$285,158	\$517,958	\$750,758	\$983,558
3	60.75	10-1050A	Whispering Firs Bog	Vashon Park District	\$400,000	\$420,000	\$820,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000
4	60.13	10-1264A	Antoine Peak Phase 3 Acquisition	Spokane County Parks and Recreation	\$1,633,198	\$1,633,198	\$3,266,396	\$1,633,198	\$1,633,198	\$1,633,198	\$1,633,198	\$1,633,198	\$1,633,198
5	58.50	10-1277A	Wenatchee Foothills Phase 1	Wenatchee	\$2,052,750	\$2,052,750	\$4,105,500			\$1,109,602	\$1,458,802	\$1,808,002	\$2,157,202
6	58.38	10-1610A	Tukes Mountain	Clark County	\$278,650	\$278,650	\$557,300						
7	58.25	10-1147A	Amon Basin Phase 3	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,180,000		\$2,180,000						
8	56.38	10-1214A	Salmon/Morgan Creek Habitat Area	Clark County	\$1,056,720	\$1,056,720	\$2,113,440						
9	56.00	10-1255A	Grovers Creek Headwaters	Kitsap County Parks and Recreation	\$680,000	\$736,500	\$1,416,500						
10	54.38	10-1137A	Mica Peak	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$2,301,000		\$2,301,000						
11	51.25	10-1468A	Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area	State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,541,006		\$1,541,006						
12	50.75	10-1467A	Middle Fork Snoqualmie and Mt Si Natural Resource Conservation Areas	State Department of Natural Resources	\$1,693,754		\$1,693,754						
13	46.50	10-1681A	Tradition Plateau Natural Resource Conservation Area - Larson	Issaquah	\$200,000	\$203,000	\$403,000						
14	45.25	10-1151A	Ebey Island Acquisitions	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000						
15	43.13	10-1683D	Northwest Stream Center Interpretive Trail	Snohomish County	\$230,750	\$230,750	\$461,500						
16	42.75	10-1647A	Quimper Wildlife Corridor	Port Townsend	\$408,440	\$497,767	\$906,207						
17	35.13	10-1108A	North Star Conservation and Trail Easement	Mercer Island	\$175,000	\$219,037	\$394,037						
					<b>\$20,182,810</b>	<b>\$9,369,872</b>	<b>\$29,552,682</b>	<b>\$4,074,000</b>	<b>\$4,656,000</b>	<b>\$5,238,000</b>	<b>\$5,820,000</b>	<b>\$6,402,000</b>	<b>\$6,984,000</b>

**Water Access**  
**Fiscal Year 2012**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**

								Grants Awarded at Different Legislative Funding Levels					
Rank	Score	Number	Project Name	Grant Applicant	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total Amount	\$50M	\$60M	\$70M	\$80M	\$90M	\$100M
1	44.70	10-1271A	DeMolay Property Acquisition	Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$1,267,875	\$1,267,875	\$2,535,750	\$1,267,875	\$1,267,875	\$1,267,875	\$1,267,875	\$1,267,875	\$1,267,875
2	43.60	10-1348A	Clallam Bay Property Acquisition	Clallam County	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
3	43.20	10-1449A	Van Dyke Panther Lake Acquisition 2	Kent	\$310,800	\$310,800	\$621,600	\$310,800	\$310,800	\$310,800	\$310,800	\$310,800	\$310,800
4	42.90	10-1092A	Eagle Point Acquisition	Shelton	\$212,000	\$220,500	\$432,500	\$212,000	\$212,000	\$212,000	\$212,000	\$212,000	\$212,000
5	42.40	10-1212D	Don Morse Park Water Access Improvements	Chelan	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
6	41.20	10-1109C	Waterfront Park Expansion	Port of Allyn	\$291,000	\$360,400	\$651,400	\$291,000	\$291,000	\$291,000	\$291,000	\$291,000	\$291,000
7	41.00	10-1556A	Saint Edward - McDonald	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$2,163,603		\$2,163,603	\$423,825	\$860,325	\$1,296,825	\$1,733,325	\$2,163,603	\$2,163,603
8	39.50	10-1098D	Hathaway Boat Launch Replacement	Washougal	\$64,795	\$64,796	\$129,591					\$6,222	\$64,795
9	39.40	10-1312D	Taylor Bay Phase 1	Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District	\$244,000	\$244,000	\$488,000						\$132,873
9	39.40	10-1601A	Coulter Creek Park Acquisition 2010	Mason County	\$450,000	\$550,000	\$1,000,000						\$245,054
11	38.50	10-1730A	Manzanita Bay Park 2: Water Access	Bainbridge Island Park District	\$840,061	\$1,162,439	\$2,002,500						
12	38.10	10-1570C	Iron Horse, Yakima River - Palmer	State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$573,600		\$573,600						
13	33.50	10-1148A	Badlands and Badland Lakes	State Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000						
					\$7,967,734	\$4,730,810	\$12,698,544	\$3,055,500	\$3,492,000	\$3,928,500	\$4,365,000	\$4,801,500	\$5,238,000

# RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS, OCTOBER 28-29, 2010

## Agenda Items without Formal Action

Item	Board Request for Follow-up
Item 15: Conversion Policy Framework	Staff review of policies should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latitude regarding conversions that are discovered and proceed without permissions</li> <li>• Ways to create incentives and disincentives</li> <li>• Staff workload</li> </ul>

## Agenda Items with Formal Action

Item	Formal Action	Board Request for Follow-up
Item 1: Consent Calendar	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2010</li> <li>• Time Extension Request: Project #06-1778</li> <li>• Time Extension Request: Project #06-1679</li> <li>• Major Scope Change Request: Project #06-1816</li> <li>• Major Scope Change Request: Project #08-1505</li> </ul>	
Item 3: 2011 Schedule	APPROVED as Amended <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amended to place the travel meeting in either June or September, with a preference for September.</li> </ul>	
Item 5: WWRP Habitat and Conservation Grants	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved ranked lists for Critical Habitat Category, Natural Areas Category, State Lands Restoration Category, and Urban Wildlife Category for submission to Governor</li> </ul>	
Item 6: WWRP Riparian Protection Account Grants	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved Riparian Protection ranked list for submission to Governor</li> </ul>	
Item 7: WWRP Farmland Preservation Account Grants	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved Farmland Preservation ranked list for submission to Governor</li> </ul>	
Item 8: WWRP Outdoor Recreation Account Grants	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved ranked lists for Local Parks , State Lands Development, State Parks ,Trails , and Water Access categories for submission to Governor</li> </ul>	
Item 9: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Grants	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved ALEA ranked list for submission to Governor</li> </ul>	
Item 10: Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved LWCF ranked list and project funding</li> </ul>	
Item 11: Recreational Trails Program Grants	APPROVED as amended to remove sixth whereas statement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved RTP ranked list and project funding</li> </ul>	
Item 12: Recognition of Board Member Service	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolutions to recognize the service of Rex Derr, Karen Daubert, Jeff Parsons, and Bill Chapman</li> </ul>	
Item 13: Approve Acquisition Policy Updates and Changes for Manual 3	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sections 2 and 4 (Third Party Appraisals, and Statement of Value Less Than \$10,000 ) of Proposal 1 were approved without amendment. The remainder was deferred for future consideration.</li> <li>• Proposals 2 through 7 and Proposal 9 were approved without amendment.</li> <li>• Proposal 8 was approved as amended to offer an option of an affidavit certifying that the landowner had been contacted.</li> </ul>	Appraisal standards and appraisal “shelf life” to be further evaluated, including their link to conversion policy
Item 14: Approve Changes to Evaluation Questions for Boating Facilities Program	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changed to the scoring criteria used to review and evaluate grant proposals for the Boating Facilities Program.</li> </ul>	
Item 16: Conversion Request: WDFW, Project #68-603	APPROVED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approves the proposed conversion and directs staff to forward the recommendation on to the National Park Service for consideration</li> </ul>	

Item 17: Conversion Request: City of Newcastle, #91-211	APPROVED as Amended <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Amended to encourage the city to authorize and fund rerouting of the surface road north trail to the south side and tie into the Coal Creek Road Crossing</li></ul>	•
--	---	---



# RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

---

Date: October 28-29, 2010

Place: Room 175, Natural Resources Building, Olympia, WA

## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members Present:

<b>Bill Chapman, Chair</b>	Mercer Island	<b>Stephen Saunders</b>	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
<b>Jeff Parsons</b>	Leavenworth	<b>Rex Derr</b>	Director, State Parks
<b>Harriet Spanel</b>	Bellingham	<b>Jennifer Quan</b>	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Karen Daubert</b>	Seattle		
<b>Steven Drew</b>	Olympia		

Mr. Parsons and Mr. Drew arrived shortly after roll was called.

Mr. Derr left at the lunch break, following item #5. During his absence, Steve Hahn represented State Parks. Mr. Derr returned to the board at 3:30 p.m., as item #10 began.

**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.**

---

*Thursday, October 28, 2010*

## Opening and Management Report

Chair Bill Chapman called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Staff called roll, and a quorum was determined.

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) reviewed Resolution #2010-14, Consent Calendar. The consent calendar included the following:

- Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2010
- Time Extension Request: L.T. Murray Wenas Wildlife Area Rehabilitation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #06-1778
- Time Extension Request: Wind River Boat Ramp Improvements, Skamania County, Project #06-1679
- Major Scope Change Request: Skagit River Forks, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #06-1816
- Major Scope Change Request: Methow Watershed Phase Six, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #08-1505

**Resolution 2010-14 moved by: Parsons**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

**and seconded by: Daubert**

## Item 2: Management Report

Kaleen Cottingham introduced new staff and noted that the RCO would be hiring a fiscal staff person to address the audit findings. She also noted items from her director's reporting including the upcoming LWCF program review, the RCO's role in natural resources reform, and the sunset dates for the Biodiversity Council and Monitoring Forum.

Steve McLellan, Policy Director, provided an update on the policies in the memo, with an emphasis on work regarding sustainability. He discussed the budget situation, noting that there likely will be more cuts before the end of the biennium. He also noted likely reductions in the 2011-13 capital budget.

Scott Robinson and Marguerite Austin, Grant Section Managers, highlighted key information from their grant management report, including volunteer activity, inspections, BIG projects, and compliance. Marguerite noted that a new grant cycle will begin on November 15 for NOVA, BFP, and FARR. They have sent out notices and invited potential applicants to attend grant workshops. She also noted that staff will be proposing a policy change in February to allocate all of the money at the beginning of the biennium, rather than the typical annual cycle. Policy staff is seeking input from stakeholders.

Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison/Accountability Manager, presented the sponsor and applicant survey results. Board members were particularly interested in the application process and PRISM.

## State Agency Partner Reports

*Rex Derr, State Parks*, discussed the hiring process for a new state parks director and the development of a successor plan to the Centennial 2013 plan. He encouraged those in attendance to participate in the planning. They will be celebrating the state parks system in 2013.

*Stephen Saunders, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)*, noted that they sponsored a tour of the Michel property, which they purchased with board funding, and recently restored. He also noted the mixed effect of the economy on the agency's ability to acquire property and reminded the board that the lack of indirect cost reimbursement continues to be a challenge for DNR.

*Jennifer Quan, Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW)*, noted the budget impacts on DFW and the reductions in employees, fish production, land management, and other activities. She also discussed the agency's request legislation for increased fees.

## General Public Comment

*Mayor Bud Norris, Mount Vernon*, thanked the board for their time, and offered support to the lists they will provide to the legislature. The city appreciates both the staff and the process. He thanked the board for funding the Kiwanis Park Project, and described how the project is enjoyed by the community and connected to other projects.

## Board Briefings

### Item 4: WWRP Framework

Steve McLellan gave an overview of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation (WWRP) program, as described in the notebook. He handed out a revised list of projects that would be funded at various levels.

## Board Decisions

### Item 3: 2011 Meeting Schedule

Rebecca Connolly presented the schedule as discussed in the memo. Director Cottingham discussed the guidelines for travel, and recommended a tour of Okanogan County. Board members discussed the merits of travel and whether it should be during this fiscal year or next fiscal year.

**Resolution 2010-15, amended to place the travel meeting in either June or September  
moved by: Spanel and seconded by: Derr**

**Stephen Saunders offered a friendly amendment to prioritize September over June, pending availability of the facility. Daubert seconded.**

**Amendment APPROVED; Resolution APPROVED**

### Item 5: Habitat Conservation Account

Scott Robinson, Section Manager, introduced the Habitat Conservation Account policies and statistics.

#### 5A: Critical Habitat Category

Scott Robinson presented the Critical Habitat category, as described in the memo. He concluded with a discussion of the top two ranked projects in the category. The board discussed the effect of changing from private to public ownership with regard to hunting for project #10-1613A, Mountain View Property Phase 1. Member Derr also noted a concern with the ability of the state to manage the land as well as this very dedicated landowner, stating that that he does not oppose the acquisition, but wants to register a concern with future management.

Member Drew asked if projects ten and eleven (#10-1304A, Lewis River/Mud Lake and #10-1065C, Saltese Flats Wetland Restoration, respectively) could have competed better in another category, and suggested that staff look at the criteria to ensure that local governments are not at a disadvantage. Scott noted that staff works with all sponsors to ensure that the projects are put in the category that best matches the proposal. Director Cottingham and Chair Chapman noted that the board's decision to have no maximum grant amount created a situation in which fewer projects are funded, but that the intent was to fund the best.

**Resolution 2010-16 moved by: Parsons and seconded by: Daubert  
Resolution APPROVED**

5B: Natural Areas Category

Scott Robinson discussed the Natural Areas category, as presented in the memo. His presentation concluded with a discussion of the top two ranked projects in the category.

Member Daubert asked if the property owners affected by the top two projects (#10-1472A, Klickitat Canyon Natural Resource Conservation Area and #10-1458A, Dabob Bay Natural Area) were aware of the desire to purchase the property. Member Saunders noted that they have already started outreach to find willing sellers, including ensuring that the community is aware of what is proposed.

Member Parsons asked how DNR decided which projects went to Urban Wildlife versus this category, expressing a concern that local communities are at a disadvantage. Scott noted that it was likely based on population proximity. Kaleen Cottingham reminded the board that the Urban Wildlife category specifically sets aside 40 percent of funds for non-state agencies.

**Resolution 2010-17 moved by:       Drew                   and seconded by:       Parsons**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

5C: State Lands Restoration Category

Kim Sellers, Grant Manager, discussed the State Lands Restoration category, as presented in the memo. Her presentation concluded with a discussion of the top two ranked projects in the category. The board offered no comments or questions.

**Resolution 2010-18 moved by:       Derr                   and seconded by:       Saunders**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

5D: Urban Wildlife Category

Elizabeth Butler, Grant Manager, discussed the Urban Wildlife category, as presented in the memo. She also noted the effect of the projects over time. Her presentation concluded with a discussion of the top two ranked projects in the category.

Member Daubert noted that the board needs to be careful regarding population proximity in the category, because the intent is to have wildlife near urban areas. She suggested greater priority for this criterion. The board discussed the background of the policy and legislative distribution of funds, and the need to balance the urban/rural makeup of the evaluation team.

**Resolution 2010-19 moved by:       Drew                   and seconded by:       Spanel**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

Item 6: Riparian Protection Account

Kim Sellers, Grant Manager, discussed the Riparian Protection Account, as presented in the memo. Her presentation concluded with a discussion of the top two ranked projects in the category. The board offered no comments or questions.

**Resolution 2010-20 moved by: Parsons                   and seconded by:       Drew**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

#### Item 7: Farmland Preservation Protection Account

Kammie Bunes, Grant Manager, discussed the Farmland Preservation Protection Account, as presented in the memo. She discussed previous grant cycles, noting that all previously-funded projects involved easements, and then explained the statutory definition of "farmland," including the recent changes. She also noted that nonprofits are now eligible in the category. She concluded with a discussion of the top two ranked projects.

Member Drew asked if this category was submitted to the Puget Sound Partnership for review. Director Cottingham responded that it had not. Member Drew suggested that the board should discuss that at a future meeting. Member Quan asked if property could be purchased in fee. Director Cottingham responded that it cannot because of IRS rules.

#### Public Comment:

*Ken VanBuskirk, Citizen*, commented on project 10-1213, the Petersen Farm project, and asked the board to review the project evaluations and defer their decision. Chair Chapman noted that the project's score on agricultural values was lower. Mr. VanBuskirk responded that the farm has fallen into disrepair due to the death of the farm's owner, but that the new owner has plans to return it to good condition. Member Drew asked if there had been any changes at the farm since the evaluation. Kammie Bunes responded that it is a farm in transition; that is, the degree of farming had fallen in the past few years, but that lessees hope to farm it more aggressively. Member Parsons asked what it grown on the farm. Mr. VanBuskirk responded that it currently was row crops, and that it could grow a tremendous amount of produce for the local community because it is near the urban growth boundary.

**Resolution 2010-20 moved by:      Daubert      and seconded by:      Saunders**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

#### Item 8: Outdoor Recreation Account

Marguerite Austin, Section Manager, began the presentation with an overview of the account, its categories, history, and general policies regarding project type and sponsor eligibility. She noted key evaluation criteria in the categories. She compared this year's Outdoor Recreation Account applications to those in 2008, noting drops in the number of applications and requested funds. She also addressed the metrics that the sponsors now need to address.

#### 8A: Local Parks Category

Laura Moxham, Grant Manager, discussed the Local Parks category, as presented in the memo. Her presentation concluded with a discussion of the top two ranked projects in the category.

#### Public Comment:

*John Keats, Director Mason County Parks and Legislative Co-Chair WRPA*, described their project – #10-1064D, Mason County Recreation Area Park Infield Renovation, which ranked eighth on the list – and thanked the board. Renovating the fields will improve the complex, which was built in the 1970s. WRPA is developing their legislative platform, and they will support the \$100 million funding level for WWRP.

**Resolution 2010-22 moved by: Parsons and seconded by: Drew**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

8B: State Lands Development Category

Dan Haws, Grant Manager, discussed the State Lands Development category, as presented in the memo. He concluded by presenting the top two ranked projects in the category. Chair Chapman noted the positive impacts of bridges on ensuring stream quality. Member Saunders noted that they are trying to increase the compatibility of their recreation opportunities with environmental considerations.

**Resolution 2010-23 moved by: Drew and seconded by: Daubert**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

8C: State Parks Category

Myra Barker, Grant Manager, discussed the State Parks category, as presented in the memo. She concluded with a presentation of the top two ranked projects in the category.

Member Hahn explained that the State Parks Commission flipped the third and sixth projects (#10-1384D, Lake Sammamish Boardwalk Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program and #10-1308D, Cape Disappointment Multiple-Use Trail Extension, respectively) because the sixth project had already completed Phase I, but in its current state, the public was forced to walk along a state highway without a shoulder. The public safety risk resulted in the flip.

Member Parsons asked if there was any development in Eastern Washington. Member Hahn responded in the affirmative, so Parsons recused himself from the vote, citing conflict of interest given his wife's position with State Parks.

**Resolution 2010-24 moved by: Drew and seconded by: Spanel**  
**Resolution APPROVED, with Member Parsons abstaining.**

8D: Trails Category

Darrell Jennings, Grant Manager, presented the Trails category, as described in the memo. He concluded by presenting the top two ranked projects in the category. In response to board questions, he noted that there are no limits regarding acquisition or development. Chair Chapman asked about the balance between paved and unpaved trails. Darrell responded that he believes it is predominantly paved trails.

**Public Comment:**

*Larry Otis, Director of Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation*, noted that the board policies have changed over time but he has always felt that the process was fair, regardless of where they ranked. He stated that it doesn't have political ties and it is a national model. The problem is that there isn't enough money. He also noted that 31,000 people in his community use the parks, and that they couldn't do it without RCFB funding. Mr. Otis also noted that grant managers are knowledgeable, professional, and good at walking them through the process.

**Resolution 2010-25 moved by: Drew and seconded by: Daubert**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

8E: Water Access Category

Karl Jacobs, Grant Manager, presented the Water Access category, as described in the memo. He concluded by presenting the top two ranked projects in the category. The board offered no comment or questions.

Public Comment:

*Bonnie Knight, Exec. Director Port of Allyn*, stated that the port has been able to acquire 500 feet of shoreline and that it is a tremendous asset. Next year, they expect over 20,000 visitors to the park. They are very excited to be able to expand it.

**Resolution 2010-26 moved by: Parsons and seconded by: Quan**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

Item 9: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account

Leslie Ryan-Connelly, Grant Manager, began the presentation with an overview of the program, its goals, evaluation criteria, and general policies regarding project type and sponsor eligibility. She noted that this program is subject to the Puget Sound requirements in RCW 79.105.150. One project withdrew from consideration due to a potential conflict with the Action Agenda. She noted the distribution of projects statewide and in saltwater versus freshwater.

Member Drew asked how much of the funding comes from geoduck versus other revenues. Scott Robinson estimated that it was a 60/40 split.

Public Comment:

*John Botelli, Spokane County Parks and Recreation, and Pamela McKenzie, City of Spokane Parks Department*, testified regarding project #10-1497A, Spokane River Falls YMCA Site Acquisition, which ranked second on the list. Due to the way the acquisition is financed, the grant funds would allow them to take \$1 million off the purchase price, and leverage to a savings of \$1.8 million in principal and interest payments. Removing the building will be a major undertaking, and they hope to have bids in December. Board members commented that the park is a good feature of the city.

**Resolution 2010-27 moved by: Spanel and seconded by: Parsons**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

Member Derr returned to the board at 3:30 p.m., as item #10 began.

Item 10: Land and Water Conservation Fund

Sarah Thirtyacre, Grant Manager, began the presentation with an overview of the program, its history, and general policies regarding project type and sponsor eligibility. She explained the relationship to SCORP, source of funding, and National Park Service requirements. She concluded her presentation with a discussion of the top two ranked projects.

Director Cottingham noted that there is considerable discussion in Congress about the program, and that there is potential for greater revenues in the future. There are a number of sponsors who would be ineligible due to outstanding compliance issues, so some are motivated to resolve the issues.

Public Comment:

*John Keats, Director Mason County Parks*, discussed some features of project #10-1061A, Sunset Bluff Natural Area Park Acquisition, which is the number two project. The county discussed whether this was the best time for an acquisition, but ultimately decided that the benefit to the community was too great to pass on the opportunity.

**Resolution 2010-28 moved by: Derr and seconded by: Parsons**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

Item 11: Recreational Trails Program

Greg Lovelady, Grant Services Program Manager, began the presentation with an overview of the program, its categories, goals, history, the process for 2010, and general policies regarding project type and sponsor eligibility. He noted that there is some skepticism about whether there will be additional program funding for federal fiscal year 2011 (Table 1). He noted that the lines in Attachment C are hypothetical, and that so far, there is funding for only one of the 86 projects. Greg then explained the federally-mandated funding formula. He concluded his presentation with a discussion of the top projects by category. Greg also noted that the sixth "Whereas" statement in the resolution is no longer accurate because Congress has appropriated about \$100,000.

**Resolution 2010-29 as amended to remove the sixth paragraph**  
**moved by: Daubert and seconded by: Quan**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

Item 12: Recognition of Board Members' Service

Chair Chapman commented on Member Derr's service to the board, especially his insistence that we link actions to the strategic plan. He noted Derr's courage, statesmanship, and leadership, noting that everyone has tremendous respect for him.

Chair Chapman commented on Member Daubert's service to the board, in particular her work on the WWRP Urban Wildlife category policies. He noted she is known for working toward the right answers and establishing the right tone on the board.

Chair Chapman commented on Member Parson's service to the board, noting his thoughtfulness, ideas, and preparedness. He was known for representing the conservation community. He has the respect of all his colleagues.

Kaleen Cottingham commented on Chair Chapman's service to the board. She noted that his enthusiasm, leadership, and intellect benefit the board and are appreciated by staff. Other board members also acknowledged the contributions of the four members.



**Resolution 2010-30 moved by:      Daubert      and seconded by: Spanel**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

**Resolution 2010-31 moved by:      Daubert      and seconded by: Spanel**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

**Resolution 2010-32 moved by:      Daubert      and seconded by: Spanel**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

**Resolution 2010-33 moved by:      Daubert      and seconded by: Spanel**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

**Meeting adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m.**

---

*Friday, October 29, 2010*

## **Call to Order**

Chair Bill Chapman called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Staff called roll, and a quorum was determined. Member Derr arrived shortly after roll was called. All members were present at that time.

## **Board Briefings**

### Item 15: Conversion Policy Framework

Director Cottingham noted that conversions are staff intensive efforts, in part because we must rely on old documents. The policy is permissive, with the goal to replace lost property.

Scott Robinson, Section Manager, reminded the board that they asked staff in June to review the conversion policy and the board's authority. He then defined conversions, reviewed the board's authority and role, current policy, and how the policy is applied. He noted that equivalence often needs to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and cautioned against a policy that is overly punitive.

## **Board Decisions**

### Item 13: Manual 3, Acquisition Policy Changes

Leslie Ryan-Connelly, Grant Manager, presented information about the policy changes, as discussed in the notebook. Leslie noted that the board was considering the policy language, not the procedures. She directed the board and audience to Attachment A of the memo, noting that the language proposed is policy intent, and that the actual text for the manuals would be revised for plain language. Director Cottingham noted that Attachment C gave the background of current policy and the proposal sent out for public comment. Leslie then discussed the individual proposals and the public response.

#### Proposal #1: Appraisal and Review Appraisal Requirements

Member Drew asked if the third-party appraisal policy would apply to conversions. Leslie responded that the appraisal standards also would apply to the acquisition of property for conversions.

#### Proposal #2 - Environmental Audits and Contaminated Property

Member Parsons asked if environmental audits were required. Leslie responded that current board policy already requires an audit for each property, and defines the two ways that it could be done.

#### Proposal #5 - Interim Land Uses

Members Parsons and Derr asked for clarification of the word "review" in the third bullet, which read *"The second party's use will be phased out within three years of the date of acquisition. If the use will continue for more than three years, it must be reviewed under the compatible use policy."* Leslie said that the policy intent is to allow for the activities to continue for up to three years. Dominga Soliz, Policy Specialist, explained the progress and outreach regarding the compatible use policy.

Member Drew suggested that the acquisition policy was incomplete without a separate policy for conversions and compatible uses. The chair and staff acknowledged that they are related issues, and that staff is continuing to work on the issue separately.

Member Parsons asked if the expression "totally limit" under the life estate section could be changed to "preclude." Member Quan then asked about the implementation of the addition of "purpose of the Project Agreement or funding program." Director Cottingham noted that she would look for consistency and compatibility between the intent of the program and the interim land use. The board concluded that the first bullet in the life estate section should read: *The estate does not unreasonably limit public use or the achievement of the purpose of the project agreement or funding program.* Similar language was revised in the second bullet of the secondary party use policy as follows: *The use does not unreasonably limit public use or the achievement of the purpose of the project agreement or funding program.*

Member Quan asked about the intent of the limitation of life estates to the property owner only. She suggested the addition of "spouse and immediate family." The board discussed alternatives to fee less the life estate, property transfers, and the effect on property negotiations. Chair Chapman suggested that the language as proposed protected state funds more effectively.

#### Proposal #6 - Conservation Easement Compliance

Members Saunders and Quan expressed concern that their agencies do not have the funding to fulfill the proposed requirement to monitor the easements every five years. Member Parsons said it was illogical to put in place a requirement that would not be implemented, and suggested that the policy require the sponsor to develop a plan to monitor the easements and then comply with the plan they submit. The fourth bullet was removed and the third bullet of the proposed policy was revised as follows: *Require the project sponsor to develop and implement a plan to monitor RCO funded conservation easements.*

#### Proposal #8 - Landowner Acknowledgement

Leslie explained the proposal, and then handed out an alternate proposal that had been suggested after the notebook was distributed. Member Quan suggested that the proposal be amended to allow agencies to omit landowner names from the landowner willingness form. The board discussed whether it was possible to omit the names without conflict with public records.

#### Proposal # 9 - Acquisition of Future Use

Leslie explained that the proposal originally said three years, but was changed to five years based on stakeholder feedback. The project sponsor may propose a longer timeframe for large scale, multi-phased projects during the grant application process, and the director may issue extensions. Member Derr stated that it can take decades to develop properties; he cited examples, and noted that the property remains open for public enjoyment, regardless of development. Member Spanel noted that there can be extensions to reflect how much time it can take; she prefers that to no timeline at all.

#### Public Comment:

*Robert Meyer, Rainier*, provided a handout and commented on the value of property for endangered species such as spotted owls. He suggested that the board use the valuation methodologies already approved by the Legislature for habitat (i.e., Riparian Open Space Program). He asked the board to establish a policy for just compensation based on riparian open space formula for permanent easements in the future. His written comments suggested proposed policy language.

*Vicky Adams, real estate appraiser in Edmonds Washington*, discussed problems with the use of federal yellow-book standards in reaching a fair market value in a willing buyer/seller environment. She noted problems: how to deal with larger parcels, exclusion of other sales, and exclusion of different approaches. She suggested that if the policy is implemented, the RCO will need to facilitate communication between appraisers and reviewers to avoid different interpretations.

*Chris Hilton, Whidbey-Camano Land Trust*, also commented on the proposed use of federal yellow book standards for all appraisals. She stated that they heavily favor comparable sales approach, which is difficult for riparian, conservation easements, and wetlands. As a result, appraisers have to go too far outside of the market, and must take too many adjustments. She believes that USPAP allows greater flexibility. She noted appreciation for exemptions in the proposed policy.

*Glen Kost, City of Bellevue*, spoke regarding Item #9, which requires sponsors to develop within five years. The city doesn't believe it allows for long-range planning and seems to penalize agencies that are purchasing to address future needs. He stated that the policy puts RCO staff in the position of determining what is development or phased development on a case-by-case basis and creates a need for ongoing discussions. He and the board engaged in discussion about the policy with regard to land banking, conversions, project evaluation, and specific activities in the city.

*Doug Chase, Spokane County Parks*, made some general comments about the policies. He noted that a combination of specific intent and flexible implementation is the right approach. He supported the landowner acknowledgement form and approach; they work only with willing sellers. The alternative option – sending a notification – concerns him because it doesn't involve the property owner.



Proposal #1: Appraisal and Review Appraisal Requirements

Director Cottingham suggested that staff should review the public comment that there are differences for valuation of conservation easements, and bring it back at a later date. Member Drew asked that the review also include what the effect would be on conversions. Leslie Ryan-Connelly suggested that the board might want to consider subtopics #2 and #4 under the proposal at this meeting. Member Saunders expressed concern regarding third party appraisals. Subtopic #2 was revised as follows: *Allow for a third party (e.g., land trust or other agency assisting with negotiating the transaction or co-holding rights) to conduct the appraisal as long as the appraisal is conducted on behalf of the project sponsor, the project sponsor is listed as an intended user of the appraisal, and the project sponsor approves the third party to act on their behalf.*

**Member Drew moved to approved proposal #1, subtopic 2 as amended and subtopic 4. Member Quan seconded.**  
**Motion APPROVED.**

Item 14: Boating

Member Daubert noted that the board could approve the policy without additional presentation.

**Resolution 2010-35 moved by: Daubert                      and seconded by: Parsons**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

Item 16: Conversion Request: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #68-603

Jim Anest, Compliance Specialist, explained the proposed conversion as described in the memo, noting that the National Park Service (NPS) has final authority to approve the conversion. The conversion has not yet happened. The presentation also provided additional photos, maps, and property descriptions not in the board memo. NPS has reviewed the proposal and its initial response is favorable.

**Resolution 2010-36 moved by: Parsons                      and seconded by:      Derr**  
**Resolution APPROVED**

Item 17: Conversion Request: City of Newcastle

Director Cottingham noted that this is a conversion after the fact, that staff has done due diligence following the June meeting, and that staff believes that the conversion meets current board policy.

Laura Moxham, Grant Manager, explained the proposed conversion as described in the memo, noting that the board had rejected the conversion in June 2010, pending further review of board policy. The presentation provided additional photos, maps, and property descriptions not in the board memo. Further, she addressed the board's earlier concern regarding the decline in property values following the initial appraisals; an appraiser determined that the value of the replacement property likely declined by 10 percent, but was still higher than the value of the converted property.

Dawn Reitan, Newcastle City Attorney, and Michael Holly, Newcastle Park Director, testified that the city and staff have been working together for five years to resolve the mistake, which was made

before most of them were part of the city. Michael Holly stated that the existing trail is informal, and that the trails group wants to make it more formal.

Member Drew asked if the acquisitions would make a trail possible where it was not already feasible. He suggested that the trail could be put in place below the replacement property on existing open space so that it would be aligned with the original intent and the "experience" sought by users. Member Spanel and Chair Chapman asked for clarification of where the official trail met the proposed replacement property. Michael Holly noted that existing trail ended at an informal trail that crossed the proposed replacement property at the same grade, and that rerouting the trail below the replacement would be more technical and cross more difficult topography.

Member Drew stated that he thinks that the replacement property is good property, but that it does not support the original intent of the grant. He suggested that the city should move the connector trail to the south of the converted property as a condition of the board accepting the replacement property so that the trail corridor is more consistent with the original intent. Ms. Reitan reminded the board that their trail plan is part of their adopted Comprehensive Plan. They can bring the suggestions back to the city, but a decision would need to be made through a public process by the council, not staff.

Member Saunders noted that the replacement property still protects and preserves a wooded trail system, which was the original intent of the project. He suggested that the resolution include a recommendation that the city consider the proposal to move the connector trail.

Member Daubert noted that she is troubled by the conversion, but believes that the conversion meets the policy criteria that they are asked to evaluate. Chair Chapman noted that by purchasing the replacement property, they had kept the trail wooded.

**Resolution 2010-38 with a strong recommendation that the city evaluate a trail south of the converted property**

**moved by: Daubert**

**and seconded by: Saunders**

**Member Saunders made a friendly amendment to add "Be it further resolved, the board strongly encourages the city to authorize and fund rerouting of the surface road north trail to the south side and tie into the Coal Creek Road Crossing." Member Daubert accepted the amendment.**

**Chair Chapman asked staff to define site in the sixth paragraph.**

**Resolution APPROVED as Amended.**

The board asked for staff and legal analysis regarding:

- Latitude regarding conversions that are discovered and proceed without permissions
- Ways to create disincentives; what legislation is needed
- How do we address the workload on staff for later-discovered conversions
- Ways to incentivize bringing the issues to the board before the conversion takes place

Director Cottingham noted that compliance and conversions are already on the work plan, and that these concerns will be wrapped into that work.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.**

Approved by:

---

Bill Chapman, Chair

---

Date

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-14  
October 2010 Consent Agenda

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following October 2010 Consent Agenda items are approved:

- a. Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2010
- b. Time Extension Requests:
  - i. L.T. Murray Wenas Wildlife Area Rehabilitation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #06-1778
  - ii. Wind River Boat Ramp Improvements, Skamania County, Project #06-1679
- c. Major Scope Change Request: Skagit River Forks, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #06-1816
- d. Major Scope Change Request: Methow Watershed Phase Six, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Project #08-1505

Resolution moved by:	<u>Parsons</u>
Resolution seconded by:	<u>Daubert</u>
<u>Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)</u>	
Date:	<u>October 28, 2010</u>



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution # 2010-15  
2011 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 2011 regular meetings of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is hereby adopted; and,

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>
February 1, 2011	Conference Call
March 31 – April 1, 2011	Olympia
June 22 – 23, 2011	Olympia
September 21 – 22, 2011	Olympia or Okanogan
November 14 – 15, 2011	Olympia

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

Resolution moved by: Spanel

Resolution seconded by: Derr

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 28, 2010

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-16  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Critical Habitat Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, eleven Critical Habitat category projects are eligible for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Critical Habitat category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (Board) members; 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 eleven Critical Habitat category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation Account and Riparian Protection Account*, including criteria regarding public benefit and relationship to established plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects address a variety of critical habitat needs and their evaluation included information about the quality and function of the habitat and the demonstrated need to protect it for fish and/or wildlife, thereby supporting the Board's strategy to provide partners with funding for projects that help sustain Washington's biodiversity, protect "listed" species, and maintain fully functioning ecosystems;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Critical Habitat Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Critical Habitat category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by:	<u>Parsons</u>
Resolution seconded by:	<u>Daubert</u>
<u>Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)</u>	
Date:	<u>October 28, 2010</u>

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-17  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Natural Areas Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, nine Natural Areas category projects are eligible for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Natural Areas category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (Board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred through a written evaluation process approved by the board, supporting the board's strategy to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation; and

**WHEREAS**, all nine Natural Areas category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation Account and Riparian Protection Account*, including criteria regarding public benefit and relationship to established plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects address a variety of critical habitat needs and their evaluation included information about the quality and function of the habitat and the demonstrated need to protect it for fish and/or wildlife, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding for projects that help sustain Washington's biodiversity, protect "listed" species; and maintain fully functioning ecosystems,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Natural Areas Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Natural Areas category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by: Drew

Resolution seconded by: Parsons

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 28, 2010

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-18  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category, Fiscal Year 2012,  
Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, sixteen State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects are eligible for funding from the Habitat Conservation Category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these State Lands Restoration category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board); and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred through a written evaluation process approved by the board, supporting the board's strategy to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation; and

**WHEREAS**, all sixteen State Lands Restoration category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation Account and Riparian Protection Account: Policies and Project Selection, including public benefit and relationship to other plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects restore existing state lands to self-sustaining functionality, and their evaluation included the quality and function of the habitat, longer-term viability, and demonstrated need, thereby supporting the board's objectives to help sponsors maximize the useful life of board-funded projects and to fund projects that maintain fully functioning ecosystems;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by: Derr

Resolution seconded by: Saunders

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 28, 2010

---

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-19  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Urban Wildlife Habitat Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, seventeen Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects are eligible for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by the 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 seventeen Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation and Riparian Protection Accounts*, including criteria regarding public benefit and relationship to established plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects address a variety of Urban Wildlife habitat needs, and the evaluation included information about the quality and function of the habitat and the demonstrated need to protect it for fish and/or wildlife, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding for projects that help sustain Washington's biodiversity, protect "listed" species, and maintain fully functioning ecosystems;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Urban Wildlife Habitat Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by:                      Drew \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution seconded by:                      Spanel \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 28, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_

## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

## Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

## Riparian Protection Account, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twenty Riparian Protection account projects are eligible for funding from the Riparian Protection Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Riparian Protection account projects were evaluated using criteria approved by the 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 twenty Riparian Protection Account projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Habitat Conservation and Riparian Protection Account: Policies and Project Selection*; and

**WHEREAS**, those program requirements include criteria regarding riparian habitat benefits, public access and education, relationship to existing planning documents, and ongoing stewardship, such that providing funds to these projects would further the board's goals to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process and make strategic investments; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects provide habitat benefits for a variety of species, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to for projects that help sustain Washington's biodiversity; protect "listed" species, and maintain fully functioning ecosystems; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Riparian Protection Account Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Riparian Protection Account projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by: Parsons

Resolution seconded by: Drew

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 28, 2010

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-21  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Farmland Preservation Program, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twenty-four Farmland Preservation Program projects are eligible for funding from the Farmland Preservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and

**WHEREAS**, these Farmland Preservation Program projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members, 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 twenty-four Farmland Preservation Program projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10f, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program-Farmland Preservation Program*, including criteria regarding agricultural, environmental and community values, and

**WHEREAS**, all of the projects meet criteria that demonstrate preference for perpetual easements, thus supporting the board's strategic goal to maximize the useful life of board-funded projects; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Farmland Preservation Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Farmland Preservation Program projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by:	Daubert
Resolution seconded by:	Saunders
<u>Adopted/Defeated/Deferred</u> (underline one)	
Date:	October 28, 2010

---

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-22  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Local Parks Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, sixty-three Local Parks category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Local Parks category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred 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 sixty-three Local Parks category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual 10a: *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account*, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects involve acquisition, development, and/or renovation of properties for recreation, 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 of projects depicted in Table 1 – *WWRP, Local Parks Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Local Parks category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by: Parsons

Resolution seconded by: Drew

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 28, 2010

---



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-23  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
State Lands Development and Renovation Category, Fiscal Year 2012,  
Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, fourteen State Lands Development and Renovation category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these State Lands Development and Renovation category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred through a written evaluation process approved by the board, supporting the board's strategy to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation; and

**WHEREAS**, all fourteen State Lands Development and Renovation category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10a, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Outdoor Recreation Account: Policies and Project Selection*, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects involve development and renovation of public access sites on state lands, 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 of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Development and Renovation Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of State Lands Development and Renovation category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by: Drew

Resolution seconded by: Daubert

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 28, 2010

---

Resolution #2010-24  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
State Parks Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twelve State Parks category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these twelve State Parks category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission ranked the projects to place high priority on those that have an element of urgency; 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 State Parks category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account: Policies and Project Selection*, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects involve acquisition and development of properties for recreation, 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 of projects depicted in *Table 2 – WWRP, State Parks Commission Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor this ranked list of State Parks category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by:                      Drew \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution seconded by:                  Spanel \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 28, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-25  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Trails Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twenty-five Trails category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these Trails category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred 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 twenty-five Trails category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual #10, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program - Outdoor Recreation Account*, thereby supporting the board's goal to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, all of the projects acquire, develop or renovate pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian, or cross-country ski trails, thereby furthering the board's goal to provide funding for recreation opportunities statewide, including bicycling and walking facilities and facilities most conducive to improved health;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Trails Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Trails category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by:                      Drew \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution seconded by:                  Daubert \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 28, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-26  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Water Access Category, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, thirteen Water Access category projects are eligible for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, these thirteen Water Access category projects were evaluated using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) members; 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 thirteen Water Access category projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual 10a: *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account*, thus supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects involve acquisition, development, and/or renovation of properties for recreational access to water, 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 of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Water Access Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Water Access category projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by:	Parsons
Resolution seconded by:	Quan
<u>Adopted</u> /Defeated/Deferred (underline one)	
Date:	October 28, 2010

---

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-27

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Fiscal Year 2012, Ranked List of Projects

**WHEREAS**, for fiscal year 2012 of the 2011-2013 biennium, twenty-seven Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) program projects are eligible for funding; and

**WHEREAS**, these ALEA projects were evaluated using criteria approved by the 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 twenty-seven ALEA program projects meet program requirements as stipulated in Manual 21: *Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Grant Program: Policies And Project Selection*; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects enhance, improve, or protect aquatic lands and provide public access to such lands and associated waters, thereby supporting the board's strategies to provide partners with funding for both conservation and recreation opportunities statewide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – ALEA Ranked List of Projects, FY 2012*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of ALEA projects for further consideration.

Resolution moved by: Spanel

Resolution seconded by: Parsons

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 28, 2010

---

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-28  
Land and Water Conservation Fund  
Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2011 Projects

**WHEREAS**, for federal fiscal year 2011, fourteen 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 fourteen 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 2011; 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 and Fund Recommendation, Federal Fiscal Year 2011*; 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 2011 funds upon notification of the federal apportionment for this program.

Resolution moved by: Derr

Resolution seconded by: Parsons

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 28, 2010

---

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-29  
Federal Fiscal Year 2010 Recreational Trails Program Project Funding

**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 2011, 86 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 86 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**, if funded, the projects will provide for maintaining recreational trails, developing trailside 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 2011*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Director is instructed to seek authorization from the Federal Highway Administration to proceed with execution of applicable agreements and other appropriate steps to implement these projects, and on receipt of this authorization, to proceed with agreement execution.

Resolution moved by:                      Daubert  
\_\_\_\_\_

Resolution seconded by:                  Quan  
\_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 28, 2010  
\_\_\_\_\_

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-30

A Resolution to Recognize the Service of Rex Derr  
to the Residents of Washington State  
and the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

**WHEREAS**, from September 2002 through November 2010, Rex Derr served the residents of the state of Washington and the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission as the commission's designee on the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Derr helped the board embrace a new grant program, the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, and four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, with thoughtfulness and an eye toward customer service; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Derr always displayed gentlemanly qualities, dedication to his work and the needs of the people of Washington, and superbly colorful ties; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Derr provided the board with excellent advice, valuable insight, and strong leadership that assisted in the development of exemplary policies and funding decisions to award grants to 1,344 projects, creating a state investment of more than \$376 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Derr has announced his retirement from the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, and thus will be leaving the board; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Derr'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. Derr.

Resolution moved by:                      Daubert

Resolution seconded by:                  Spanel

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 28, 2010



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-31

A Resolution to Recognize the Service of Karen Daubert  
to the Residents of Washington State  
and the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

**WHEREAS**, from January 2004 through December 2010, Karen Daubert served the residents of the state of Washington as a member of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Daubert helped the board embrace four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and reconsider the proportion of funding allocated to local governments in other categories, with thoughtfulness, intelligence, patience, and creativity; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Daubert always displayed kindness to staff, creative problem solving skills, dedication to providing service to the public, and an enthusiasm for outdoor recreation that would let no mountain keep her down; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Daubert provided the board with grace, valuable insight, and excellent advice that assisted in the development of exemplary policies and decisions for funding projects that promoted sound investments of public funds; and

**WHEREAS**, during her term, the board approved 1,110 grants, creating a state investment of \$314 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Daubert's term on the board expires on December 31, 2010; and members of the board wish to recognize her support, leadership, and service, and wish her well in future endeavors;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Ms. Daubert's dedication and excellence in performing her 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 Ms. Daubert.

Resolution moved by:                      Daubert

Resolution seconded by:                Spanel

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 28, 2010

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-32

A Resolution to Recognize the Service of Jeff Parsons  
to the Residents of Washington State  
and the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

**WHEREAS**, from December 2004 through December 2010, Jeff Parsons served the residents of the state of Washington as a member of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Parsons helped the board embrace four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and was always willing to travel across the expanse of Eastern Washington to deliver a big check; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Parsons 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 sound investments of public funds; and

**WHEREAS**, during his term, the board approved 974 grants, creating a state investment of \$301 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Parsons' term on the board expires on December 31, 2010; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Parsons' 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. Parsons.

Resolution moved by:                      Daubert

Resolution seconded by:                  Spanel

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 28, 2010

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-32

A Resolution to Recognize the Service of Jeff Parsons  
to the Residents of Washington State  
and the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

**WHEREAS**, from November 2004 through February 2009, William Chapman served the residents of the state of Washington as a member of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board; and

**WHEREAS**, from March 2009 through December 2010, William Chapman served the residents of the state of Washington as the chair of the board; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Chapman's intellect, statesmanship, creativity, lawyerly debate skills, and general good thinking helped the board work through many challenging assignments, including embracing four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and a statewide study of acquisitions; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Chapman provided the board with valuable insight, leadership, and excellent advice that assisted in the development of exemplary policies and decisions to fund 980 grants, creating a state investment of \$304 million in Washington's great outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Chapman's current term as chair expires on December 31, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the board wish to recognize his support, leadership, and service;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Chapman'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. Chapman.

Resolution moved by:                      Daubert

Resolution seconded by:                  Spanel

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 28, 2010

## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

### Amended Resolution #2010-34

#### Adoption of Policy Updates and Changes Regarding Acquisitions (Manual 3)

**WHEREAS**, all projects funded by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) or the Salmon Recovery Funding Board that result in the acquisition of land or property rights must comply with policies adopted in *Manual #3: Acquiring Land*; and

**WHEREAS**, Manual #3 was last updated in March 2007, and Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff identified various clarifications, revisions, and new issues that warrant an update to the policies; and

**WHEREAS**, RCO staff developed and circulated eleven significant policy proposals and several additional procedural revisions for public review and comment, thereby supporting the board's goals to (1) ensure that its work is conducted in an open manner and (2) deliver successful projects by using broad public participation and feedback; and

**WHEREAS**, the public responses provided constructive suggestions for modifications to the drafts and were generally supportive of nine of the eleven significant policy changes proposed by RCO staff; and

**WHEREAS**, based on public comment, RCO staff adjusted the drafts as appropriate and is recommending that the board approve only nine of the eleven significant policy changes; and

**WHEREAS**, adopting this revision would improve the policies and procedures governing acquisitions, thereby advancing the board's goal to help its partners protect, restore, and develop habitat and recreation opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, the RCO director currently has authority to implement the procedural changes as recommended by staff, based on public feedback;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board does hereby adopt the statements of policy intent numbers two through eight shown in Attachment A as amended at the October 29, 2010 board meeting; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the board directs RCO staff to incorporate these policy statements into Manual 3 with language that reflects the policy intent; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that unless otherwise agreed to between a project sponsor and the RCO director, these policies shall be effective beginning January 1, 2011.

Resolution moved by: Daubert

Resolution seconded by: Spanel

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 29, 2010

---

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2010-35  
Critical Updates for Boating Facilities Program

**WHEREAS**, RCW 79A.25.080 authorizes the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to fund marine recreation land projects through the recreation resources account; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the state that RCO manage this program and funds based on a foundation of good data based on sound research, systematic analysis, and public involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Boating Grant Programs Policy Plan (Plan) was developed according to these principles; and

**WHEREAS**, in October 2009, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved the *Boating Programs Policy Plan*; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Boating Programs Policy Plan* states that the "Recreation and Conservation Funding Board shall encourage projects that best meet the needs of the boating public. .... Grant evaluation will be consistent with boater needs."; and

**WHEREAS**, RCO staff revised the scoring criteria for the Boating Facilities Program to align with the *Boating Programs Policy Plan*; and

**WHEREAS**, RCO staff circulated the policy revisions for public comment, thereby supporting the board's goal to ensure the work of the board and staff is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner, with broad public participation; and

**WHEREAS**, adopting this revision would further the boards' goal to develop strategic investment policies and plans so that projects selected for funding meet the state's recreation needs;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board does hereby adopt the new policy language shown in Attachment A to the October 2010 board memo to add one sentence to question #1, remove question #6, and adjust the point total accordingly; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the board directs RCO staff to implement this policy beginning with the 2011 grant cycle.

Resolution moved by:                      Daubert

Resolution seconded by:                  Parsons

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 29, 2010

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution 2010-36  
Approving Conversion for Statewide Water Access (RCO #68-603-A)

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) used a grant from the three separate funds (Land and Water Conservation Fund, bonds, and Boating Facilities) to acquire property on the Yakima River to provide public water access and fishing opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, WDFW faced a claim of adverse possession along its southern boundary and proposes to enter into a land exchange with the adjacent private landowner to avoid the costs and uncertainty of litigation; and

**WHEREAS**, WDFW proposes to grant the portion of the site on the east side of the Yakima River (9 acres) to the adjacent landowner in exchange for property of equal value and equal or superior recreational utility; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the relatively high value of the nine acres to be exchanged, the exchange presents the opportunity to purchase property at three sites: 26 acres directly across the Yakima River; more than 1,600 feet of river frontage in a three-acre parcel up-river near Thorp; and, more than 100 acres at Mesa Lake in Franklin County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) and staff have determined the proposed exchange meets the following factors: (a) all practical alternatives to the conversion have been evaluated and rejected on a sound basis, (b) the proposed replacement property meets the program eligibility requirements, (c) justification exists to show that the replacement sites have reasonably equivalent utility and location, and (d) the fair market value of the converted property has been established and the proposed replacement land is of at least equal fair market value; and

**WHEREAS**, meeting these factors supports the board's goal to protect, restore, and develop habitat and recreation opportunities that benefit people, wildlife, and ecosystems; 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; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board approves the partial conversion request and the proposed replacement sites for Project #68-603A Statewide Water Access and the submittal of the request to the National Park Service for final approval, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Director is authorized to execute the necessary amendments subject to National Park Service action.

Resolution moved by: Parsons

Resolution seconded by: Derr

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: October 29, 2010

---

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Amended Resolution 2010-38  
Approving Conversion for May Creek Trail Addition (RCO #91-211)

**WHEREAS**, King County (county) used a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Trails category to acquire property to extend the May Creek Trail and designated the areas as open space with public outdoor recreation purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, the county then transferred the property to the City of Newcastle (city) following the city's incorporation; and

**WHEREAS**, the city permitted conversion of a portion of the property to a surface water detention pond; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of this 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 converted property with a property that could extend the May Creek Trail, as envisioned in the original project scope; and

**WHEREAS**, the site (replacement property) will continue to provide opportunities as described in the original agreement, thereby supporting the board's goals to provide funding for projects that result in public outdoor recreation purposes and the expansion of trails;

**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; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Recreation and Conservation Funding Board approves the conversion request and the proposed replacement site for RCO Project #91-211A May Creek Trail Addition, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the board authorizes the director to execute the necessary amendments, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the board strongly encourages the city to authorize and fund rerouting of the surface road north trail to the south side and tie into the Coal Creek Road Crossing, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this approval is conditioned on the sponsor executing all necessary materials within 180 days of board approval or the action is reversed.

Resolution moved by:                      Daubert  
\_\_\_\_\_

Resolution seconded by:                  Saunders  
\_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:    October 29, 2010  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Rex Derr, State Parks Director  
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
1111 Israel Road S.W.  
Olympia, WA 98504-2650

October 28, 2010

Dear Director Derr:

It is with great appreciation that I thank you for your participation on the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board from September 2002 through 2010. Your service to Washington State helped us protect some of our most important wildlife habitat and provide opportunities for a variety of recreational pursuits statewide.

As the director of State Parks, you have a keen understanding of how our natural resources not only provide beauty and recreation, but also contribute to the broader economy. That insight and knowledge helped the board embrace a new grant program – the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account – as well as four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

You provided excellent advice that assisted in the development of key policies addressing project selection and long-term stewardship. You were an important presence on the board as the agency changed directors and implemented its first modern strategic plan, always promoting and encouraging clear accountability for board actions.

During your term, the board awarded 1,344 grants, totaling more than \$376 million. Not only did those grants help us protect some of the richest, most diverse and beautiful landscapes in the world – an important legacy to protect – but they provided local communities with vital funding to help ensure Washington remains a great place to live, work, and play.

Your participation on the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board ensured wise investments of Washington's tax dollars; efficient, effective, and open public meetings; and quality outdoor facilities for Washingtonians to enjoy for generations to come.

With sincere appreciation,

Christine Gregoire  
Governor



Ms. Karen Daubert, Member  
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
860 Terry Ave N Suite 231  
Seattle, WA 98109

October 28, 2010

Dear Ms. Daubert:

It is with great appreciation that I thank you for your participation on the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board from January 2004 through 2010.

Our natural resources not only provide beauty and recreation, they are the lifeblood of our economy. Your service to Washington State helped us protect some of our most important wildlife habitat and farmland, and provide opportunities for a variety of recreational pursuits statewide. You helped the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board with the creation of several new grant programs within the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program that ensure better protection of valuable farmland and riparian areas across our state. You provided valuable insight and excellent advice that assisted in the development of key policies addressing project selection and long-term stewardship.

During your term, the board awarded 1,110 grants, totaling more than \$314 million. Not only did those grants help us protect some of the richest, most diverse and beautiful landscapes in the world – an important legacy to protect – but they provided local communities with vital funding to help ensure Washington remains a great place to live, work, and play.

You provided an important presence on the board as the agency changed directors and implemented its first modern strategic plan. Your participation on the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board ensured wise investments of Washington's tax dollars; efficient, effective, and open public meetings; and quality outdoor facilities for Washingtonians to enjoy for generations to come.

With sincere appreciation,

Christine Gregoire  
Governor

Mr. Jeff Parsons, Member  
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
12665 Prowell St  
Leavenworth, WA 98826

October 28, 2010

Dear Mr. Parsons:

It is with great appreciation that I thank you for your participation on the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board from December 2004 through 2010.

Our natural resources not only provide beauty and recreation, they are the lifeblood of our economy. Your service to Washington State helped us protect some of our most important wildlife habitat and farmland, and provide opportunities for a variety of recreational pursuits statewide. During your term, the board awarded. Your perspective as a resident of central Washington was invaluable in helping the board to ensure that its policies balanced the needs and considerations of all Washingtonians.

You helped the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board with the creation of several new grant programs within the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program that ensure better protection of valuable farmland and riparian areas. You provided valuable insight and excellent advice that assisted in the development of key policies addressing project selection and long-term stewardship.

During your term, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board awarded 974 grants, totaling more than \$301 million. Not only did those grants help us protect some of the richest, most diverse and beautiful landscapes in the world – an important legacy to protect – but they provided local communities with vital funding to help ensure Washington remains a great place to live, work, and play.

You provided an important presence on the board as the agency changed directors and implemented its first modern strategic plan. Your participation ensured wise investments of Washington's tax dollars; efficient, effective, and open public meetings; and quality outdoor facilities for Washingtonians to enjoy for generations to come.

With sincere appreciation,

Christine Gregoire  
Governor

Mr. William Chapman, Chair  
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
925 4th Ave Ste 2900  
Seattle, WA 98104

October 28, 2010

Dear Mr. Chapman:

It is with great appreciation that I thank you for your leadership of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board, both as a member, and most recently, as its chair.

Our natural resources not only provide beauty and recreation, they are the lifeblood of our economy. Your service to Washington State helped us protect some of our most important wildlife habitat and farmland, and provide opportunities for a variety of recreational pursuits statewide. During your term, the board awarded 974 grants, totaling more than \$301 million.

Not only did those grants help us protect some of the richest, most diverse and beautiful landscapes in the world – an important legacy to protect – but they provided local communities with vital funding to help ensure Washington remains a great place to live, work, and play.

You provided an important presence on the board as the agency changed directors and implemented its first modern strategic plan. Your intellect and creativity helped the board work through many challenging assignments, including embracing four new categories in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and a statewide study of acquisitions. In addition, you provided valuable insight that has led the board to consider ways to incorporate the concept of sustainability into its long-term stewardship and project selection. Ensuring that the board discussed this topic with the State Parks Commission is testament to your statesmanship and ability to see the “big picture.”

Your participation ensured wise investments of Washington’s tax dollars; efficient, effective, and open public meetings; and quality outdoor facilities for Washingtonians to enjoy for generations to come.

With sincere appreciation,

Christine Gregoire  
Governor

Judith C. Kelley  
32905 SE 44th Street . Fall City, WA 98024  
Bus. Phone & Fax: 425-222-5401 . Mobile: 425-890-0739

Oct. 4, 2010

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

RE: Fall City Metropolitan Park District Request  
WWRP Grant Application No. 10-1674

Dear Ms. Connolly,

It has come to my attention that the FCMPD has submitted an application for a grant for a little less than one-half million dollars, with a request that the RCO provide matching funds to buy land for a park.

This is far beyond what I imagined when I voted 'Yes' at the polls. I mistakenly assumed that the Park District would provide upkeep for the parks they would inherit from King County. I took a chance that the District would keep in mind the folks who supported it and not raise our taxes beyond what was promised. I was wrong.

I am astounded that the District has taken on this aggressive stance. I believe there would be a public outcry if all of the facts had been made known to the taxpayers before the grant request was made. It will be a sad day if the District receives this grant and our taxes go up.

Please do not award this grant to the FCMPD until the District has a chance to fall back, regroup and tell it's constituents the whole story.

Thank you,

Judy Kelley



September 30, 2010

Ms. Dawn F. Reitan  
Inslee Best  
P.O. Box 90016  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9016

Re: City of Newcastle's Request for Approval of Recreational Land Conversion

Dear Ms. Reitan:

I am writing in regard to your letter dated September 16, 2010, in which you asked the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to reconsider its decision regarding the City of Newcastle's (city) request for a conversion on the May Creek Trail Addition (RCO project #91-211).

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff will again present the conversion for board consideration at the board's next regular meeting in October 2010. They are working diligently with city staff to respond to the questions raised by the board at its June meeting. We will provide that information, along with your letter, to the board in its preparatory materials in mid-October.

This discussion and decision is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, October 29. The meeting will be held in Room 172 of the Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington St. SE, in Olympia. My staff and I strongly encourage city representatives to attend and answer questions as they arise. Times are approximate, so you should plan to arrive early.

I encourage the city to continue working with RCO staff to prepare for the board meeting. If you have questions about the meeting itself, please contact the RCO's board liaison, Rebecca Connolly, at 360-902-2637 or at [rebecca.connolly@rco.wa.gov](mailto:rebecca.connolly@rco.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Kaleen Cottingham  
Director

cc:  
Bill Chapman, Chair, Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Marguerite Austin, RCO Recreation Grant Section Manager  
Laura Moxham, RCO Grant Manager  
Rob Wyman, City Manager, City of Newcastle



*Protecting our lands and waters for generations to come*

October 26, 2010

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Recreation and Conservation Office  
1111 Washington Street SE  
Olympia, Washington 98501

RE: WWRP Farmland Preservation Grants – 2010 Project Rankings

Dear RCFB:

We would like to comment on the draft 2010 Farmland Preservation project rankings for the public record. In particular, we urge you to reconsider the ranking for the Petersen Farm project #10-1213.

A community-wide partnership led by Great Peninsula Conservancy submitted a grant application this year to purchase an agricultural conservation easement on the Petersen Farm, located outside of Silverdale in Kitsap County. This property encompasses a unique mix of prime farmland, access to markets and water rights, as well as a salmon-bearing creek. It has been actively farmed for over 100 years and is currently threatened by development. Additionally, the farm currently is in estate status and **must** be sold. Its future is on the line.

Our partnership worked diligently to develop our application and believe the project's low ranking overlooks the importance of this farm to Kitsap County agriculture. Kitsap County agriculture is experiencing a remarkable resurgence. It includes a composite of small farms with producers concentrating on livestock and row crops – much of it feeding a booming local market. At 167 acres total (100 of which are covered by our grant application), the Petersen Farm is the largest farm in central Kitsap County where average farm size is 23 acres (per the USDA Ag Census). Losing a farm of this size would be devastating to local agriculture.

We believe our project's scoring in the agriculture viability area was unduly affected by the fact that the farm's owner, who died last year at the age of 94, was not working the land to its full potential. It is our belief that the WWRP Farmland Preservation program is about protecting prime farmland that is part of a viable agriculture economy – and the Petersen Farm meets this high standard. The next farmer to work the land will soon return the farm to its earlier heyday as an award-winning farm.

The Petersen Estate is committed to selling an agricultural conservation easement on the farm in order to ensure the farm's permanence. This transaction also will make the farm more affordable to one of several farmers who would like to buy the land. Without this reduction in the farm's sale price, only a developer will be able to afford the land. A recent appraisal of the farm places its value at \$2,660,000 – well outside the range of a farmer.

Beyond its agricultural importance, the Petersen Farm also is important to the community as a critical component of the Clear Creek watershed, as open space in an urbanizing landscape, and for its cultural significance as it incorporates portions of three historic homesteads.

3721 Kitsap Way, Suite 5, Bremerton, WA 98312  
(360) 373-3500 • (866) 373-3504 • [info@greatpeninsula.org](mailto:info@greatpeninsula.org) • [www.greatpeninsula.org](http://www.greatpeninsula.org)





Like many communities, our region is witnessing a demand for locally-produced agricultural products. To meet the needs of an urban population, farmers in Kitsap County are adopting sustainable methods of food production, not only supplying local markets, but also distributing agricultural products to the greater Puget Sound region and the world.

County leaders are committed to supporting agriculture and recently received funding from the Office of Farmland Preservation to advance an agricultural strategic plan for the County. The Petersen Farm has always been envisioned as a central part of Kitsap County's farm future. Without funding from a WWRP Farmland Preservation grant, the fate of this key farm is uncertain.

To remain relevant, we believe farmland preservation in Washington should not only support preservation of productive farmland in rural areas, but also support preservation of farmland close to urban populations. Rising transportation costs and threats of climate change will eventually shorten supply chains. As evidenced by recent trends, we believe agricultural operations perched on the urban edge will be important to future generations as a key source of local food.

We urge the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to reevaluate the ranking awarded to the Petersen Farm in order to preserve the variety of farmland that is important to Washington's future.

Sincerely,

Sandra Staples-Bortner  
Executive Director  
**Great Peninsula Conservancy**

Dorothy Lind  
Personal Representative  
**Estate of Gerald Petersen**

Steve Bauer  
County Commissioner  
**Kitsap County**

Marilyn Holt  
President  
**Kitsap Community & Agricultural Alliance**

Brian Stahl  
Technical Coordinator  
**Kitsap Conservation District**

Diane Fish  
Small Farms Team Member  
**WSU Kitsap County Extension Service**

Ken Van Buskirk  
Farm Manager  
**Davis Farm**