

## **Pandemic Response**

## Changes to Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Grants

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board recognizes that we are facing challenging times and that many grant applicants are having difficulty meeting the match requirements. We want to help. To make it easier to fund your projects, the board has approved the changes below. These changes apply only to the following categories:







- Reduced the required match for local governments (cities, counties, Native American tribes, and special purpose districts such as park and recreation, port, and school districts) from 50 percent to 25 percent of the total project costs.
- Eliminated the requirement that at least 10 percent of your total project cost come from non-state and non-federal sources.

## Other Details to Know

- RCO will not reduce your match by more than \$500,000 for each project.
- You may get reduced match only on two projects in each grant program.
- Reduced match will be allowed only for applications submitted by June 1, 2020.

- Grant applicants may apply for further <u>match reductions</u> if they meet the criteria of "Communities in Need," "Counties in Need," or "Underserved Populations." Check the Web site for details.
- The minimum match is determined by who is the primary sponsor when a grant application is submitted jointly by two or more organizations.

## **Another Change**

• In January, the board revised the Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship project evaluation criterion. This policy change resulted in an unintended favoring of development projects. The board rebalanced the points awarded for each project type. The change will not alter the evaluation questions, only the point values. The revised scoring sheet will be published in an updated manual in early May.