

Proposed Agenda
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

November 5, 2020
Online Meeting

ATTENTION:

Protecting the public, our partners, and our staff are of the utmost importance. Due to health concerns with the novel coronavirus this meeting will be held online. The public is encouraged to participate online and will be given opportunities to comment, as noted below.

If you wish to participate online, please click the link below to register and follow the instructions in advance of the meeting. Technical support for the meeting will be provided by RCO's board liaison who can be reached at Wyatt.Lundquist@rco.wa.gov.

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OFVAIBgpTyOyVwPjxoSIGw

Phone Option: (669)900-6833 - **Webinar ID:** 919 0504 8120

Location: RCO will also have a public meeting location for members of the public to listen via phone as required by OPMA, **unless this requirement is waived by gubernatorial executive order**. In order to enter the building, the public must not exhibit symptoms of the COVID-19 and will be required to comply with current state law around Personal Protective Equipment. RCO staff will meet the public in front of the main entrance to the natural resources building and escort them in.

**Additionally, RCO will record this meeting and would be happy to assist you after the meeting to gain access to the information.*

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

Public Comment: General public comment is encouraged to be submitted in advance to the meeting in written form. Public comment on agenda items is also permitted. If you wish to comment, you may e-mail your request or written comments to Wyatt.Lundquist@rco.wa.gov. You may also use the messenger in the Webinar to message Wyatt before the start of the item you wish to testify on. Comment for these items will be limited to 3 minutes per person.

Special Accommodations: People with disabilities needing an accommodation to participate in RCO public meetings are invited to contact Leslie Frank by phone (360) 902-0220 or e-mail Leslie.Frank@rco.wa.gov; accommodation requests should be received October 21, 2020 to ensure availability.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

OPENING AND CALL TO ORDER

9:00 a.m. Call to Order Chair

- Roll Call and Determination of Quorum
- Review and Approval of Agenda – November 5, 2020 (**Decision**)
- Remarks of the Chair

9:05 a.m. 1. Consent Agenda (Decision) Chair

- A. Board Meeting Minutes – [July 21, 2020](#) & [August 12, 2020](#)
- B. Correcting YAF administrative allocation to 4.12% (not 3%)
- C. [Time Extension Requests](#):
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation, Lake Sammamish Docks (RCO [14-1683](#))
 - King County, Dockton Park – Dock and Moorage (RCO [12-1952](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Taneum Creek Riparian (RCO [14-1092](#))

Resolution 2020-18

BOARD BUSINESS: DECISION AND REPORT

9:10 a.m. 2. [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement](#) Susan Zemek,

Resolution 2020-35

***Public comment.** Please limit comments to 3 minutes.

*Chair Willhite and
Kathryn Gardow*

9:30 a.m. 3. [Director's Report](#)

- Director's Report
- Legislative, Budget, and Policy Update (*written only*)
- Grant Management Report (*written only*)
- Grant Services Report (*written only*)
- Fiscal Report (*written only*)
- Performance Report (*written only*)

Kaleen Cottingham

9:40 a.m. General Public Comment for issues not identified as agenda items. Please limit comments to 3 minutes. Chair

BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFING

9:45 a.m. 4. Policy Updates:

- [Status of Policy Plan Implementation](#)
- [Carbon Credits Policy](#)
- [Follow-up on WRPA Request for Policy Changes](#)
- SCORP (5 mins)

*Wendy Brown
Ben Donatelle
Adam Cole
Katie Pruitt*

10:45 a.m. BREAK

BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS

- 11:00 a.m. 5. **Grant Program Framework** *Scott Robinson*
- Approach for presenting the ranked lists
 - WWRP Allocation Formulas
 - Letters of Support/Concern Received
-
- 11:15 a.m. 6. **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF): Approval of Ranked List and Grant Awards** *DeAnn Beck*
Resolution 2020-19
- *Public comment will occur after each category presented. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.*
-
- 11:30 a.m. 7. **Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA): Approval of Ranked List** *Allison Dellwo*
Resolution 2020-20
- *Public comment will occur after each category presented. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.*
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- 11:45 a.m. 8. **Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF): Approval of Ranked Lists** *Alison Greene*
A. Resolution 2020-21
- *Public comment will occur after each category presented. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.*
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- 12:00 p.m. LUNCH
-
- 12:45 p.m. 9. **Community Forests Program: Approval of Ranked List** *Ben Donatelle*
Resolution 2020-22
- *Public comment will occur after each category presented. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.*
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- 1:15 p.m. 10. **Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)
Farm and Forest Account: Approval of Ranked Lists**
- A. Forestland Preservation Category*..... Resolution 2020-23 *Kim Sellers*
- B. Farmland Preservation Category* Resolution 2020-24 *Michelle Burbidge*
- *Public comment will occur after each category presented. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.*
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- 1:35 p.m. 11. **Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)
Habitat Conservation Account: Approval of Ranked Lists**
- A. Critical Habitat Category*..... Resolution 2020-25 *Michelle Burbidge*
- B. Natural Areas Category* Resolution 2020-26 *DeAnn Beck*
- C. Riparian Protection Category* Resolution 2020-27 *Beth Auerbach*
- D. State Lands Restoration Category* Resolution 2020-28 *Alison Greene*
- E. Urban Wildlife Habitat Category*..... Resolution 2020-29 *Beth Auerbach*
- *Public comment will occur after each category presented. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.*
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**2:20 p.m. 12. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)
Outdoor Recreation Account: Approval of Ranked Lists**

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| A. Local Parks Category* | Resolution 2020-30 | <i>Brian Carpenter</i> |
| B. State Lands Development Category* | Resolution 2020-31 | <i>Dan Haws</i> |
| C. State Parks Category* | Resolution 2020-32 | <i>Karl Jacobs</i> |
| D. Trails Category* | Resolution 2020-33 | <i>Jesse Sims</i> |
| E. Water Access Category* | Resolution 2020-34 | <i>Allison Dellwo</i> |

**Public comment will occur after each category presented. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.*

3:00 p.m. BREAK

BOARD BUSINESS: UPDATE ON DELEGATED AUTHORITY

- 3:15 p.m. 13. [Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club](#) (RCO [03-1156](#))** *Kim Sellers and
Scott Robinson*
-

BOARD BUSINESS: EXECUTIVE SESSION

4:00 p.m. Executive Session: Director's Evaluation (Board Members Only)

5:00 p.m. ADJOURN

Next Meeting:

January 26-27, 2021, Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA, 98501 - **Subject to
change considering COVID**

[Correspondence for November 2020](#)

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

TUESDAY, July 21, 2020

| Item | Formal Action | Follow-up Action |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS | | |
| Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Roll Call and Determination of QuorumB. Overview of online meeting proceduresC. Review and Approval of AgendaD. Remarks of the Chair | Decision <u>Approval of July 2020 Agenda</u> Moved by: Member Shiosaki Seconded by: Member Milliern Decision: Approved | |
| 1. Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Board Meeting Minutes: April 21, 2020B. Time ExtensionsC. Cost Increase | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-12</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Burgess Decision: Approved | |
| 2. Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Director's ReportB. Legislative & Policy UpdateC. Grant Management ReportD. Grant Services ReportE. Performance ReportF. Fiscal Report | | Task: Designated board members will assist the communications director with the creation of the "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" resolution. |
| BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS | | |
| 3. Discussion with Local Park Directors on Current COVID-19 Situation | | Task: Discuss with WRPA agencies how to move forward in light of COVID-19 related difficulties. |
| 4. State Agency Partner Reports and COVID-19 Updates | | |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS | | |
| 5. Proposed Changes for the Second Grant Cycle Due to COVID-19 | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-13</u> Moved by: Member Shiosaki Seconded by: Member Gardow Decision: Approved | |
| 6. Proposed Changes with Existing Grants Due to COVID-19 | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-14</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Hix Decision: Approved | |
| BOARD BUSINESS: REQUEST FOR DIRECTION | | |
| 7. Budget | | Task: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring back data on historical completion rate for recreation and conservation projects. • Bring back multiple funding calculations concerning the WWRP funding levels |
| BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS | | |
| 8. Boating Infrastructure Grants: Application and Opportunity for Public Comment | | |
| 9. Overview of New Community Forest Grant Program | | Task: Bring list back to the board in November. |
| 10. Economic Study Presentation- Update to the 2015 Report | | |
| ADJOURN | | |

Next Meeting: Thursday November 5, 2020 – Online using Zoom. RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: July 21, 2020

Place: Online

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Ted Willhite, Chair | Seattle | Shiloh Burgess | Wenatchee |
| Kathryn Gardow | Mukilteo | Brock Milliern | Designee, Department of Natural Resources |
| Michael Shiosaki | Seattle | Peter Herzog | Designee, Washington State Parks |
| Henry Hix | Okanogan | Joe Stohr | Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife |

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

Call to Order

Chair Ted Willhite opened the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) meeting at 9 AM and invited the RCFB Administrative Assistant to call roll, determining quorum. Chair Willhite thanked all participants and audience members for joining the online meeting platform. Question and concerns from the public were welcomed and directed toward Board Liaison, **Wyatt Lundquist**. With permissions from Chair Willhite, Mr. Lundquist explained proper webinar etiquette and instructions. Chair Willhite then invited a RCFB member to make a motion to approve the meeting agenda.

Motion: Approval of July 21, 2020 Agenda

Moved by: Member Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Milliern

Decision: **Approved**

Chair Willhite then recognized two remarkable events of the present time; the COVID-19 pandemic and the awakening of the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. With a greater focus on the BLM movement, Chair Willhite reminded the audience of George Floyd's death, Juneteenth, and noted one of the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan's (SCORP) priorities- improve equity.

RCO Director, **Kaleen Cottingham**, explained that the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) had begun creating an internal "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" (DEI)

statement. To ensure the statement's intentions are carried through in all RCO activities, a staff advisory committee will be created.

Item 1: Consent Agenda

Chair Willhite requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion: Resolution 2020-12

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Burgess

Decision: **Approved**

Item 2: Director's Report

Director's Report

Before **Director Cottingham** gave an update on RCO's activities, she explained that **Susan Zemek**, RCO Communication's Director, would be creating a resolution to bring back to RCFB's November meeting. Member Gardow and Chair Willhite requested to be involved in the resolution creation.

Following, Director Cottingham explained that staff are now able to return to the office and some field work by following proper COVID-19 protocols.

Director Cottingham then moved to address the current biennium budget cuts and furlough days that affected most state agencies. During the month of July, RCO staff were directed to take one furlough day a week. Then, from August until November, four more furlough days must be taken. While these days will assist in cutting costs, a 15 percent general fund cut exercise was also required of RCO, mostly affecting RCO's salmon recovery efforts.

In closing, Director Cottingham explained that Tribal agreements were being updated due to concerns about sovereign immunity; RCO staff are creating the new Community Forest Grant program; and noted that the 2021 RCFB meeting calendar would need review by board members for approval in the August, 2020 meeting.

Legislative & Policy Update

Wendy Brown, RCO Policy Director, deferred her update until Item 7.

Grant Management Report

Due to technical connectivity issues, Director Cottingham updated the board on behalf of Marguerite Austin, RCO Grant Section Manager. She described the "director approved" changes through the RCFB's delegation of authority in light of COVID-19.

Since the last RCFB meeting, there had been two incidents where delegated authority was used: one for a waiver of the 10 percent non-federal, non-state match requirement for a farmland acquisition in Kittitas county; and the other for a waiver of the need for an appraiser to be onsite for an appraisal, as there was evidence that they had previously visited the site. For greater detail on the matter, Director Cottingham stated that this could be found in Grant Management Section of the Director's report.

Grant Services Report

Kyle Guzlas, RCO Grant Service section manager, gave an update on the online technical review meetings, cultural resource consultations, the work of the compliance team, and the status of the No Child Left Inside (NCLI) grant program.

For the first time ever, all technical review meetings were hosted and streamed online using Zoom and are available for viewing on YouTube. Mr. Guzlas explained that RCO hosted 20 technical review panel meetings, totaling 125 hours of meetings. Of the 109 Advisory Committee members, 96 members were able to participate in these meetings and they were able to provide valuable feedback to each of the applicants. The volunteer contribution to this process is amazing and is what makes this process special and important. Mr. Guzlas also highlighted the new PRISM Review and Evaluation Module that was developed by **Scott Chapman**, RCO's Data Section Manager, and the PRISM team. This tool proved to be even more critical for the success of the remote, online process.

Mr. Guzlas followed with a brief update on RCO's cultural resources consultation efforts. He detailed that RCO's Cultural Resource Coordinator, **Sarah Thirtyacre**, had continued consulting and maintaining relationships with the Tribes, paying more attention to those with active projects, as project timelines continue to change due to COVID-19 restrictions. Most tribal historic preservation officers are working remotely, and some are furloughed during these difficult times. Sarah has done a wonderful job in building and maintaining relationships with consulting parties to help keep construction schedules on time.

Concerning RCO's compliance team, Mr. Guzlas explained that **Myra Barker**, RCO Compliance Specialist, had continued responding to ongoing requests from sponsors concerning changes in uses that may not comply to RCO grant program policies. On average, there were about 10 compliance requests per month. Mr. Guzlas noted that Ms. Barker had also continued work on several active project conversions across the state.

During Washington's quarantine, compliance staff has been unable to complete field work, but as counties move toward Phase 3, compliance staff can begin work in the field while following social distancing protocols laid out by Governor Inslee.

In closing, Mr. Guzlas explained that the No Child Left Inside grant program will open for new applications on August 10. On the same day, State Parks and RCO will be hosting a new applicant webinar. Mr. Guzlas explained that funding for youth outdoor programming is more critical than ever and that this program can be a part of the mental health recovery and provide jobs for the citizens of Washington.

General Public Comment:

Christine Mahler, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition, commended RCO and RCFB on their work concerning diversity, equity, and inclusion. Ms. Mahler expressed the importance of holding this discussion with the natural resource agencies.

Ms. Mahler closed thanking RCO for their work and continued communication during the pandemic.

Item 3: Discussion with Local Park Directors on Current COVID-19 Situation

Adam Cole, RCO Policy Specialist, opened discussion with the Washington Recreation and Parks Association (WRPA) local parks directors. The directors provided an update on local parks and recreation agencies' responses to COVID-19 including impacts to operations as well as capital projects. They highlighted their slow recovery from the 2008 recession and speculated a similarity constrained budgetary environment post COVID-19.

Mr. Cole then introduced **Pete Mayer**, Metro Parks Tacoma, who led the discussion. Mr. Mayer explained that the following briefing would include discussion from himself, **Sally Brawly**, Eastmont Park and Recreation District, **Julie Parascondola**, City of Kent Parks and Recreation Department, **Jennifer Wills**, City of Longview Parks and Recreation Department, **Al Vorderbrueggen**, City of Spokane Parks and Recreation, and **Doug Levy**, Washington Recreation and Parks Association lobbyist.

Mr. Mayer followed by presenting RCFB with a greater understanding of the funding sources related to the operating budget, capital budget and other dedicated sources. He detailed that most of the funding sources will be negatively impacted. Sources such as property tax, sales tax, earned revenue and real-estate excise tax have proven to be unstable, yet this is what partially funds these agencies.

Mr. Mayer explained that alongside negative funding impacts, COVID-19's inconsistent spread made the Governor's response and local parks agency guidelines related to operations and services in the recreation sector difficult to develop. There had been many closures, cancellations, restrictions on mass gatherings, pause in capital development, furloughs, layoffs, and unpredictable federal aid. Mr. Mayer explained that issues related to COVID-19 will inevitably lead to a prolonged economic crisis.

Addressing the BLM movement, Mr. Mayer explained that because of racial and social injustices, the black community has faced food insecurity, environmental injustices, discriminatory policies and practices, and disproportionate COVID-19 health impacts.

The WRPA hopes to combat these injustices and recognized that being outdoors plays a critical role in the lives of all Washingtonians. Outdoor recreation provides mental and physical health benefits, jobs, a place for community expression, and brings about normalcy considering COVID-19. Parks and recreation can also bring in members of the community to engage in decision making when it comes to underserved communities.

In recent activities, Mr. Mayer explained that the WRPA had led the Western States Parks and Recreation Group that includes agencies from Washington, Oregon, Idaho and California. This group's monthly coordinating calls focused on statewide consistency concerning post-COVID-19 recovery. With the assistance of these states, the WRPA has created post-COVID-19 framework documents to share with Governor Inslee, where they have pledged to commit to public health guidance and placed emphasis on parks and recreation being a low cost and effective public health intervention.

Following, Mr. Mayer invited other WRPA members to speak on the opportunities and challenges faced during COVID-19. From each of their briefings, it was clear that the largest issue for each agency was financial instability leading to projects not being completed or postponement and staff furloughs or layoffs.

After hearing from each agency, Mr. Mayer invited the RCFB to collaborate on the following:

- Supporting more funding for maintenance and operations
- Regional collaboration on topics such as aquatic facilities and sports complexes
- An update and maintenance of the State Trails Database
- Ease grant policy considerations and requirements such as scope changes
- Flexibility with processes such as conversions as there may be partial closures that extend beyond two years
- Bolstering alignment with the Governor's Healthiest Next Generation
- Assuring equitable distribution of capital investments.

During discussion, Member Gardow expressed interest in recreation's role in boosting the economy. Ms. Parascondola explained that recreational agencies could boost the economy by keeping people employed through these agencies, but this will only be possible through funds allotted by the federal government.

Closing, Director Cottingham promised to initiate a conversation concerning the previously listed topics in order to map out a path forward for further analysis by the RCO and the RCFB and will work with the WRPA on those items where the board has the ability to act.

Break: 10:51AM-11:00AM

Item 4: State Agency Partner Reports and COVID-19 Updates

Jon Snyder, Governor's Office, was not available for an update.

Brock Milliern, Department of Natural Resources

Member Milliern briefed the RCFB on current and future impacts of COVID-19 on DNR. Because state lands have just begun to reopen between the months of May, June and July, there had an explosion of people utilizing the land. These reopening's were made possible with coordination between the land-owning agencies and the governor.

Member Milliern explained that while Discover Pass funding dipped during the state land closures, this funding source had now stabilized. Unfortunately, DNR's largest funding sources, the gas tax, had not met its normal funding level and remains unlikely to do so.

In his closing statement, Member Milliern addressed racial injustice, informing the board that DNR has hired a contractor that will assist DNR by looking through a lens of social justice.

Peter Herzog, State Parks and Recreation Commission

On behalf of State Parks and Recreation Commission, Mr. Herzog discussed COVID-19's impacts. These impacts included state lands closures from March to April, causing a decrease in funding. Just as DNR, State Parks did see an increase in camping funds and Discover Pass funding as the state lands began to reopen in the month of May. Member Herzog explained the importance of the Discover Pass sales, as it funds approximately half of what the agency does.

Concerning the budget, Member Herzog explained that State Parks was bracing for the 15 percent general fund reduction requested by the Office of Financial Management (OFM). For the 2021-2023 budget, Member Herzog explained that there would be a 21

percent increase requested in the operating budget submittal, with a total request of \$188,000,000. For the capital budget, State Parks will be submitting a request for \$97,000,000. The reasoning behind these budget requests is hope of stimulating the economy through recreation and conservation related jobs and activities.

Joe Stohr, Department of Fish and Wildlife

Member Stohr gave a brief update on the activities of WDFW in light of COVID-19. As the Governor requested the state agencies to begin working from home, WDFW staff moved to teleworking, with a limited number of staff continuing with work on the ground.

Addressing WDFW's budget, Member Stohr noted the 15 percent budget reduction for the next biennium requested by OFM, amounting to \$24,000,000. WDFW also expects a decrease in federal funding, such as the hatchery funding and utility funding, leading to a \$36,000,000 loss.

Member Stohr then explained that during the months of April, May and June, WDFW faced a \$7.5 million decrease in funding as hatcheries and hunting seasons remained closed. Fortunately, as these seasons subsequently opened, license sales increased dramatically, and WDFW experienced a \$2,000,000 increase from last year's revenue.

Closing, Member Stohr noted that WDFW had been an active participant in the DEI development for the past two years as they have an internal advisory committee to look at ways to improve culture. Member Stohr also explained that a DEI coordinator has been hired to help with programs and recruitment.

Item 5: Proposed Changes for the Second Grant Cycle Due to COVID-19

Marguerite Austin, RCO Section Manager, referred to Item 2 and gave a brief update concerning grant cycle changes due to COVID-19. For the first half of the 2020 grant round, the RCFB adopted a new policy to reduce match in order to make project funding easier for applicants submitting grant proposals. Ms. Austin displayed the table below, showing the number of applicants who are requesting reduced match.

| 2020 Grant Applications by Program/Category | Applications Submitted | Reduced Match | Percent Using Reduced Match |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account | 19 | 7 | 37% |
| WWRP Local Parks | 83 | 39 | 47% |
| WWRP Trails | 29 | 23 | 79% |
| WWRP Water Access | 17 | 10 | 59% |
| Youth Athletic Facilities: Large | 37 | 22 | 59% |
| Youth Athletic Facilities: Small | 10 | 8 | 80% |
| Total | 195 | 109 | 56% |

Moving forward to Item 5, Ms. Austin presented a proposal for match reduction for the second grant round of 2020. Beginning on August 10, RCO will begin accepting applications for the following four programs: Boating Facilities Program (BFP), Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR), Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA), and Recreation Trails Program (RTP). Following the November submission deadline, a ranked list of projects will be created and brought back to the April 2021 RCFB meeting for approval.

Ms. Austin went on to explain that on May 21, 2020, RCO staff met with the RTP Advisory Committee to discuss the impact of COVID-19 and what the RCO and the RCFB could do to assist applicants in the upcoming grant cycle. After hearing the concerns and suggestions from the committee, RCO staff proposed the following three match related items:

1. Reduce the required match for BFP and RTP. For BFP, staff recommended using the three match reduction policy pathways: Communities in Need, Counties in Need, and Underserved Populations, approved for Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program outdoor recreation projects. If approved, the BFP match would range from 10 to 25 percent for local agency applicants.

For RTP, after consulting with Rick Judd, program manager with the Federal Highway Administration, staff recommended using toll credits for match. The Washington State Department of Transportation, which generates toll credits, agreed with this option, which essentially means by substituting toll credits for match RTP applicants could request 100 percent grants.

Additional match policy caveats:

- a. Reduced match cannot exceed the grant limit or \$500,000 per project, whichever is less.
 - b. The minimum match is based on the primary sponsor.
 - c. The match reduction is limited to two projects per applicant for BFP.
2. Suspend the 10 percent non-state, non-federal match requirement for the fall grant programs.
 3. Suspend use of the "Matching Share" criterion for this grant cycle, which affects all four fall programs.

Chair Willhite commented that normally match reduction would be concerning but agreed that it was necessary considering the economic distress associated with COVID-19.

Public Comment: No comment

Resolution 2020-13

Moved by: Member Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Gardow

Decision: Approved

Item 6: Proposed Changes with Existing Grants Due to COVID-19

Scott Robinson, RCO Deputy Director, asked the board for the continuation of delegation of authority to the director in order to make prompt decisions on currently funded projects. The purpose of this delegation is to reduce the impact that COVID-19 is having on funded projects in a timely manner.

Mr. Robinson explained that RCO staff recommends the extension of the delegation of authority to the Director through June 30, 2021. All updates concerning project changes will be reported to the board at subsequent meetings.

Chair Willhite opened the item to discussion and RCFB members expressed concern with the language about RCO reporting project changes to the board. In response, Ms. Austin read through the resolution, where there was a detailed statement concerning the report of project changes at subsequent meetings. Because Member Gardow sought for greater clarification in the statement, the resolution was amended to include the phrase "each board meeting" versus "subsequent meetings".

Public Comment: No comment

Resolution 2020-14

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Hix

Decision: Approved as amended

Break: 12:00PM-12:30PM

Item 7: Budget

Wendy Brown, RCO Policy Director, gave an update concerning the current and future biennial budgets.

Ms. Brown explained that before signing the supplemental budget, Governor Inslee vetoed numerous new spending line items due to the COVID-19 economic impacts. For RCO, the funding to facilitate stewardship needs effort and funding for the advisory group on funding outdoor recreation were among some of the vetoes, totaling \$375,000.

Following the vetoes, the Economic and Revenue Council released an unofficial revenue forecast on April 30, 2020, estimating a decrease of \$7 billion in revenue collections over the next three years. Ms. Brown explained that this led OFM to direct state agencies to do an exercise to cut 15 percent from their FY21 general fund appropriation. OFM also directed state agencies to freeze hiring, avoid large equipment purchases, and not to create new personal services contracts. When the official forecast was released in June 2020, OFM directed RCO to make a 15 percent cut to RCO's maintenance operating budget in the 2021-2023 biennium.

For the FY21 (current biennium) budget exercise, RCO will delay the hiring of the new orca recovery position, return the funding for the implementation of House Bill 2311, and propose cuts to a limited number of salmon recovery efforts.

To further reduce general fund spending, Ms. Brown explained that OFM and the Governor rescinded general wage increases for some management employees and furloughed many state employees for eight days between the months of July-November, totaling \$138,000 in savings at RCO.

Ms. Brown explained that revenue for the operating budget comes from several tax sources, which ultimately affects the bond capacity in the capital budget.

Ms. Brown then began discussing options for funding the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) and Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) programs in 2021-23. For the WWRP, an average of \$82 million has been appropriated by legislature or 69 percent of the requested amount. In the past biennium, RCFB requested \$130 million and was appropriated 65 percent of that (\$85 million).

When setting a funding request for the 2021-2023 biennium, Ms. Brown displayed the following options:

- Option 1: Set the funding request based on a percent of bond capacity leading to a 127.4-million-dollar request.
- Option 2: Set the funding request on a per capital basis:
 - Average per capita: \$104.5 million
 - 10-Year projection: \$113 million
 - 20-Year projection: \$123 million
- Option 3: Set it based on the application received and funded:
 - All applications, 2020: \$174.6 million
 - 50 percent funded: \$87.3 million
 - 75 percent funded: 130.9 million
 - 50 percent in all categories: \$202 million

For YAF, Ms. Brown presented three options. The board could request \$11.3 million to fund all the projects, \$10 million to fund most of the projects, or chose a percentage of projects that the board would like to see funded and base the request on that percent.

In closing, Ms. Brown explained that RCFB would come back in August to decide on the final request amount for the recreation and conservation programs. This would also include funding for the new Community Forest Program.

When opened to discussion, Member Gardow expressed concern with fully funding each program, as some projects could end up falling off the list. RCO staff explained that this should not be an issue with these programs. Following, Member Shiosaki also expressed concern with fully funding programs, as economic turmoil in the coming years is a likely aftermath of COVID-19.

In juxtaposition, Members Stohr, Milliern and Burgess leaned in favor of a higher funding request. Although, Member Burgess requested that RCO staff come back with data portraying the historical completion rate for projects under these funding categories.

Public Comment:

Christine Mahler, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition (WWRC), thanked RCFB for their previous funding requests for WWRP funding. She explained that WWRC's board was currently developing their own advocacy recommendations for funding the WWRP. The metrics for developing that number include various measures, some of which aligned closely with RCO's. In total, WWRC estimated that there should be 130 million to 150 million dollar request for WWRP funding.

For the following meeting, Director Cottingham explained that RCO would bring back multiple calculations and processes concerning funding requests.

Ms. Brown suggested that RCFB discuss the YAF funding request. Chair Willhite and Member Milliern suggested fully funding the program, while Member Gardow suggested funding it at 10 million dollars, as it is typical for some projects to not make it across the finish line.

Item 8: Boating Infrastructure Grant: Applications Overview and Opportunity for Public Comment

Karl Jacobs, RCO Senior Outdoor Grants Manager, gave a brief report on the Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) program and projects.

This year, there were four projects submitted. Two of the projects were Tier One projects, with a request of approximately \$170,000. Mr. Jacobs explained that Tier One projects are only submitted every other year, unless extra funding remains. After review from the Boating Programs Advisory Committee (BPAC), RCO's director will select which projects will move forward.

The first project is from the Port of Camas-Washougal. There is a request of \$72,813, with \$24,271 provided in match to update a marina fuel dock. The second project is from the Port of Kingston, where a restroom needs to be replaced. The funding request is \$97,152, with a match of \$161,875.

Moving forward, Mr. Jacobs explained that Tier Two projects have an annual request for proposals. This year there were two projects with a request of 1.56 million dollars. These projects will also be reviewed by the BPAC and applications will be submitted to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for review in early September. These projects will be competing nationally for funding.

The first project is on Mercer Island to replace a pier. The BIG request is for \$334,000, with a match of \$111,910. The second project in Port Orchard is for replacement of 3000

feet of breakwater that also provides transient moorage. The request is for 1.2 million dollars and the match will be 5.1 million dollars.

Item 9: Overview for New Community Forest Grant Program

Ben Donatelle, RCO Natural Resources Policy specialist, gave a brief overview of the new Community Forest grant program. The proviso directed RCO to create the program and allow for the board to review the ranked list of projects. This list will be provided to the Board in their November meeting.

Giving a brief history of this community forest program, Mr. Donatelle explained that there had been a 2018 budget proviso that directed DNR to create an ownership and economic analysis of one existing community forest- Mount Adams community forest. This proviso also directed DNR to compile a list of potential community forests from around the state, creating a map known as the Northwest Community Forests map. From the list created by DNR, three of the projects were funded in the 19/21 biennial budget. The funding for these projects came through RCO. These projects were the Mount Adams community forest, the Gold Hill community forest, and Nanson Ridge community forest.

When moving forward into the 2020 supplemental session, there was a bill going through legislature (HB1946), which would have created this program and an account at RCO, establishing a biennial community forest program, but this bill did not pass. Instead, much of the language in the bill was taken and established in a budget proviso, directing RCO to create the program for this year through an advisory committee with a wide variety of organizations that work in forestry.

Mr. Donatelle provided a brief overview of the proviso, detailing that RCO had to:

- Develop funding criteria and a project list
- Develop accounting assurance
- Have RCFB review and approve the ranked list, which would be due by December 31st to legislature
- Follow these project requirements
 - Must acquire forestland
 - Must be a fee simple acquisition
 - Only local governments, Tribes, nonprofits, and state agencies were eligible and State agencies could only apply in partnership with the previously named entities
 - Must promote, enhance, or develop community and economic benefits

While including the above criteria, Mr. Donatelle explained that the program would allow for applicants to use a limited amount of funding toward restoration and recreation within the project. The program also kept match attributions low to encourage a wider variety of applicants.

Mr. Donatelle mentioned that the advisory committee's goals for the program included community driven governance and use, a balance of economic development with forest conservation, and they wanted each forest to establish self-sustaining forest management.

Community forests must have community driven priorities, which would be detailed in a community forest management plan. Mr. Donatelle explained that sponsors would have to create this plan using a fraction of the allocated project funds. This plan would follow the guidance of the Washington Integrative Forest Management Plan as well as a description of the public benefits, public engagement processes, and a financial management plan.

Mr. Donatelle stated that a community forest would provide forest products, forest restoration, ecosystem services, recreation opportunities and economic development.

Moving forward with the program, RCO's communication team has begun public outreach, informing applicants that applications will be accepted from September 1 through October 1. The communications team also helped with public comment on the program development. Following submission, there will be project evaluations completed from October 10-25, with a ranked list for board review being ready at the November 5th meeting. This list would then be submitted to legislature on or before December 31, 2020.

When opened to discussion, Member Gardow noticed that the Community Forest plan required a five-year monitoring report. She expressed interest in why it was a requirement.

Mr. Donatelle explained that any program that acquires a conservation easement is required to provide a five-year monitoring report because it helps provide transparency surrounding how the community forest revenue use is applied.

Item 10: Economic Study Presentation- Update to the 2015 Report

Wendy Brown gave a high-level overview of the updated [Economic Analysis of Outdoor Recreation](#) in Washington State. Through a partnership with DNR and Recreational Equipment, Inc (REI), RCO was able to update the 2015 Economic Analysis

by applying the same methodology using new participation data and updated spending profiles.

The updated economic analysis, as compared to the 2015 report, measured increases in the following: participation in outdoor recreation, consumer spending, jobs, taxes, total economic contribution, and ecosystem services value.

Ms. Brown went on to explain that the economic analysis also included a chart depicting the amount of spending and time that different land types acquire. For example, city parks may not gain a lot of revenue in daily use, but they have one of the higher rates of use.

She then displayed several maps; one expressed population participant days weighted by county populations, which displays hotspots where people visit most often. Another map displayed the percentage of recreation-based jobs per county. The final map displayed which counties have greater economic impacts.

Concerning ecosystem services, there was data that put a value on services such as aesthetic information, air quality, climate stability, cultural value, disaster risk reduction, food, habitat, science and education, soil retention, water quality, and water capture and supply. The total value was calculated at \$240 billion.

Further information on this topic can be found in the report itself.

Closing:

Chair closed the meeting at 2:31 pm

ADJOURN- Meeting adjourned at 2:31 pm

The next meeting will be Thursday August 12, 2020 – Online using Zoom

Approved by:

Ted Willhite, Chair

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

WEDNESDAY, August 12, 2020

| Item | Formal Action | Follow-up Action |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS | | |
| Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Roll Call and Determination of QuorumB. Overview of online meeting proceduresC. Review and Approval of AgendaD. Remarks of the Chair | Decision <u>Approval of August 2020 Agenda</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Shiosaki Decision: Approved | |
| 1. Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Time ExtensionB. Waiver Request | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-15</u> Moved by: Member Stohr Seconded by: Member Gardow Decision: Approved | |
| 2. Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Director's Report | | |
| BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS | | |

**3. Operating and Capital
Budget Request for 2021-
2023**

Decision

Resolution 2020-17

Moved by: Member Stohr

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: Approved

Resolution 2020-18

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Hix

Decision: Approved

Resolution 2020-19

Moved by: Member Hix

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: Approved

Resolution 2020-20

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Stohr

Decision: Approved

Resolution 2020-21

Moved by: Member Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Hix

Decision: Approved

ADJOURN

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: August 12, 2020

Place: Online

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Ted Willhite, Chair | Seattle | Shiloh Burgess | Wenatchee |
| Kathryn Gardow | Seattle | Brock Milliern | Designee, Department of Natural Resources |
| Michael Shiosaki | Seattle | Peter Herzog | Designee, Washington State Parks |
| Henry Hix | Okanogan | Joe Stohr | Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife |

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

Call to Order

Chair Ted Willhite opened the meeting and welcomed the audience and members of the board at 1:30 pm. After roll call and determination of quorum, Chair Willhite welcomed **Wyatt Lundquist**, Board Liaison, to explain webinar etiquette and protocol.

Item 1: Consent Agenda

Chair Willhite opened the first item of the agenda and requested a motion for approval of the August 2020 agenda.

Motion: Approval of August 2020 agenda:

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: **Approved**

Chair Willhite then requested a motion for approval of Resolution 2020-15, that would approve time extension for a Firearms and Archery Range Recreation project.

Motion: Approval of Resolution 2020-15

Moved by: Member Stohr

Seconded by: Member Gardow

Decision: **Approved**

Item 2: Director's Report

Kaleen Cottingham, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Director, gave a brief update on RCO's on goings. She detailed that RCO staff continued to work from home with limited staff completing field work and working from the office.

In the month of July, RCO had faced a 20 percent work reduction due to furlough. Director Cottingham detailed that this furlough would continue, with staff being furloughed four days between the months of August and November.

Moving forward, Director Cottingham addressed the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) meeting dates. Highlighting the November 5, 2020 meeting, Director Cottingham explained that it had been moved from a travel meeting toward an online platform.

Concerning the 2021 meetings, a calendar had been sent out before the August meeting to the RCFB to determine if conflict existed. As no conflicts were present, Chair Willhite invited RCO staff to submit these dates to the Code Reviser.

Item 3: Operating and Capital Budget Requests for 2021-2023

Wendy Brown, RCO Policy Director, gave a briefing concerning the capital budget request for the 2021-2023 biennium.

Addressing funding for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), Ms. Brown clarified that 45 percent of the allocation is dedicated to the Habitat Conservation Account, 45 percent is dedicated to the Outdoor Recreation Account, and 10 percent is dedicated to the Farm and Forest Account.

Ms. Brown then presented the board with several funding options:

- \$176.5 million to fund all submitted applications
- \$127 million using the Bond Capacity calculation
- \$105 million, \$113 million, or \$123 million using the Per Capita calculation
- \$87 million to fund 50 percent of projects or \$131 million to fund 75 percent of projects. Any other percent could also be funded.

Ms. Brown opened an opportunity for questions concerning WWRP. Member Gardow inquired whether all the accounts would have enough projects to use all allocated funding. Ms. Brown explained that the Farm and Forest Account typically has issues with using all the funding appropriated to it, but unused funds roll over into the next following biennium.

Member Burgess then asked for clarification on the percent of projects that are completed within four years, and Ms. Brown explained that it was approximately 32 percent of projects.

Continuing her briefing, Ms. Brown discussed the Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) program funding request. The options included:

- \$11.3 million dollar request to fund all projects
- \$10 million dollar request to fund most projects (Leaving 3-5 alternates).

Concerning the new Community Forest Program, Ms. Brown explained that a preliminary list of projects was created based on the suggestions made by Washington land trusts, leading to a \$24.3 million funding need. Ms. Brown relayed that all but three of these projects had a high degree of readiness, leading to what could be a \$20 million request. Overall, RCO staff recommended a funding request of \$22 million.

Ms. Brown then addressed another new program, the Outdoor Recreation for Communities Most in Need. This program would fund small-sized outdoor recreation projects of all types serving those communities most in need. Because the program has not been fully developed, there is a limited idea how the program would work, but staff recommended that there be a \$5 million funding request.

For the dedicated accounts, Ms. Brown presented the following table concerning funding requests:

| Program | 2021-2023 Funding Recommendations |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) | \$9.1 million-\$6.6 million in ALEA, \$2.5 million in bonds |
| Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicles (NOVA) | \$14.4 million |
| Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Activities (FARR) | \$0.67 million |
| Boating Facilities Program Account (BFP) | \$20.4 million |

Following the briefing, Chair Willhite requested commentary on the WWRP funding request.

Public Comment:

Christine Mahler, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition (WWRC), expressed that their board had adopted a \$140 million request and hoped that RCFB would adopt the same. Because of COVID-19, it is more important now than ever to fund WWRP, as being outdoors boosts people's mental and physical well-being. Ms. Mahler relayed that, unfortunately communities of color often have less access to these opportunities, but WWRP can help tackle this problem. Ms. Mahler also pointed out that funding this program will assist in stimulating the economy.

Doug Levy, Washington Recreation and Park Association (WRPA), expressed support for the \$140 million funding request. He noted RCO's outdoor recreation economic analysis, which portrays the economic contribution that outdoor recreation has on Washington state. Mr. Levy also noted that outdoor recreation is a place for all people regardless of their religion, race, or physical ability.

For YAF, Mr. Levy also expressed hope for fully funding each application, totaling in \$11.3 million.

In closing, Mr. Levy expressed support for ALEA's request for \$9.1 million and noted that the notion of the new outdoor recreation program for communities most in need is important.

Paul Simmons, Washington Recreation and Parks Association (WRPA), supported Mr. Levy's comments, noting that COVID-19 had helped establish how important the role of outdoor recreation is to Washingtonians.

Following comment, Chair Willhite opened discussion to the board concerning the WWRP funding. All RCFB members supported a \$140 million request. Member Burgess did note her hesitation in the large request but recognized the value of the program.

Motion: Approval of Resolution 2020-17 with the support of a 140-million-dollar request

Moved by: Member Stohr

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: **Approved**

Concerning YAF, Chair Willhite requested testimony from Doug Levy. Mr. Levy expressed that because YAF funding can be rolled into the next biennium's projects and that there are alternates in the 2021 biennium, the RCFB could request \$11.3 million without reason for worry.

Member Stohr asked for clarification surrounding the administrative fee percentage, noting that it was at 4.1 percent. Ms. Brown explained that, the percentage was incorrect, and it should be at 3 percent. Following, Member Herzog asked for clarifications on whether the YAF funding and Communities in Need program would be in competition. While Director Cottingham relayed that this was not the case, Paul Simmons provided clarification. Mr. Simmons relayed that the communities in need would not be in competition simply because they don't have the tools to apply for funding and it is unlikely that these communities would be looking to fund completely new projects.

Apart from Member Gardow, each of the present members supported requesting \$11.3 million for the YAF.

Motion: Approval of Resolution 2020-18 for 11.3 million with the amended administrative to 3%

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Hix

Decision: **Approved** ("Nay" from member Gardow)

The RCFB then discussed the funding levels of the dedicated accounts. These accounts include Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA), Boating Facilities Program (BFP), Nonmotorized Offroad Vehicle Account (NOVA), and Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR).

Member Gardow asked for clarification on how the ALEA, BFP, and Nova programs are. Director Cottingham relayed that ALEA come from revenues collected by the Department of Natural Resources from their aquatic lands account. Concerning BFP and NOVA, Director Cottingham relayed that they came from the gas tax, which RCO is keeping a close eye on.

Motion: Approval of Resolution 2020-2019

Moved by: Member Hix

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: **Approved**

Public Comment:

Nick Norton, Washington Association of Land Trust, expressed strong support for RCO staff's recommendation of requesting \$22 million in funding for the Community Forest Program. Expanding the number of community forests continues to be a high priority

for the Washington Association of Land Trusts (WALT). He commended RCO staff member, Ben Donatelle, for developing a strong program in a short time frame. Closing, Mr. Norton reminded RCFB of the letters of support for this program included in the board members materials.

Following comment, Member Gardow asked for detail on the timeline of the program. Director Cottingham relayed that applications would open on September 1 and a list will be provided in the November 5 meeting. Member Gardow also inquired how the program was different for the WWRP forestland programs. Director Cottingham relayed that the Community Forest Program will be a community owned and operated project, while the WWRP Forestland Program is typically run by small forestland owners.

Motion: Approval of 2020-20 for 22 million

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Stohr

Decision: **Approved**

Closing the discussion, RCFB discussed the new Outdoor Recreation for Communities Most in Need program.

Member Shiosaki inquired whether technical assistance would be a part of this grant program. Director Cottingham relayed hope that the program would be in partnership with non-profits. Ms. Brown also relayed that there may be staff at RCO dedicated to assist with that type of work.

Member Burgess asked for clarification on whether the program would exist each biennium or just in the 2021-2023, to which Director Cottingham relayed that it would only be in this 2021-2023 biennium unless legislature decided to appropriate funding in the next biennium.

With concern for program development, Member Gardow inquired on the amount of work RCO had put into the program thus far. As funding had not yet been appropriated, RCO has not fully developed the program.

Motion: Approval of Resolution 2020-21 for 5 million

Moved by: Member Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Hix

Decision: **Approved**

ADJOURN- Meeting adjourned at 3:19pm

The next meeting will be Thursday November 5, 2020 – Online using Zoom

Approved by:

Ted Willhite, Chair

DRAFT

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Time Extension Requests

Prepared By: Recreation and Conservation Outdoor Grants Managers

Summary

This is a request for the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to consider the proposed project time extensions shown in Attachment A.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution: 2020-18 (Consent Agenda)

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the requested time extensions.

Background

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

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

General considerations for approving time extension requests include:

- Receipt of a written request for the time extension;
- Reimbursements requested and approved;
- Date the board granted funding approval;
- Conditions surrounding the delay;

- Sponsor's reasons or justification for requesting the extension;
- Likelihood of sponsor completing the project within the extended period;
- Original dates for project completion;
- Current status of activities within the grant;
- Sponsor's progress on this and other funded projects;

Plan Link

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

Staff Recommendation

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

Attachments

A. Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

B. Resolution 2020-18

Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

| Project number and type | Project name | Grant program | Grant funds remaining | Current end date | Extension request |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 12-1952 Development | Dockton Park Dock and Moorage Renovation | Boating Facilities Program (BFP) | \$351,969 (94%) | 12/31/2020 | 12/31/2021 |

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks is requesting an extension to complete the dock and moorage renovation as outlined in their grant agreement. This includes dock and moorage slip renovations and a new sewer pump station. Permitting and design is nearly complete, but King County met a number of hurdles that impacted the project timeline.

Progress on this project has been delayed by three factors. First, King County ran into initial timeline issues related to permitting and the requirements set forth by the Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Lease. Second, due to a winter storm in early 2019, part of the project area and other areas of the marina are now in need of significant renovations above and beyond the original project scope. Third, scheduling delays due to COVID-19 and furloughs has further extended the project timeline.

King County completed a thorough review of the site and from that, developed a two phased approach to completing the project. The first phase of work will include the completion of all the RCO-funded elements. The second phase, outside of RCO's scope, will replace and renovate remaining elements, including a full replacement of the breakwater. King County plans to complete the RCO-funded work during the 2021 fish window, which is the period of time that in-water work is allowed by regulators in order to minimize impacts to listed fish species.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

| Project number and type | Project name | Grant program | Grant funds remaining | Current end date | Extension request |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>14-1092</u> Acquisition | Taneum Creek Riparian | WWRP – Riparian Protection | \$1,615,283 (95%) | 12/31/2020 | 6/30/2021 |

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is requesting a 6-month time extension to allow them more time to acquire approximately 319 acres of forest and riparian habitat along Taneum Creek in Kittitas County.

The project was delayed due to extensive negotiations with the landowner and the need for a boundary line adjustment to allow the landowner to retain a portion of the property. Unfortunately, this project was significantly delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic and logistics involved in getting surveyors out on site and engaging county office staff needed to process the boundary line adjustment. An additional six months will allow WDFW time to complete the boundary line adjustment, acquire the property and complete any necessary post-closing work such as fencing and noxious weed control.

Washington State Parks and Recreation

| Project number and type | Project name | Grant program | Grant funds remaining | Current end date | Extension request |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>14-1683</u> Development | Lake Sammamish Docks | Boating Facilities Program – State | \$955,756 (95.6%) | 12/31/2020 | 12/31/2021 |

Reasons for Delay and Justification of Request

State Parks will construct a short-term moorage facility at the Sunset Beach area of Lake Sammamish State Park. The project has been very challenging to permit, due to potential impacts to juvenile salmonids. State Parks has worked with the Army Corps of Engineers, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Muckleshoot Tribe, and the Snoqualmie Tribe to revise the project design to minimize impacts and to find suitable in-kind mitigation. They now have a viable option that will provide recreational benefits to boaters and have no net impact on salmon, but they do not yet have permits.

The required mitigation will include removal of pilings near Marymoor Park at the north end of Lake Sammamish. State Parks will also remove a derelict barge and add gravel to the nearshore habitat just north of the dock and swim beach. State Parks will need an Aquatic Use Authorization from the Department of Natural Resources since they manage the shore lands. The authorization will cover both the project area and the piling removal area. All permit documents were revised to include the new mitigation elements.

There is a very short summer in-water work window (mid-July through August) to minimize impacts to listed fish species. State Parks is requesting a time extension through December 31, 2021. The extension should allow them time to secure permits, time to complete the upland improvements, and time to construct the in-water elements during next summer's fish window, which is the period of time that in-water work is allowed by regulators in order to minimize impacts to listed fish species.

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-18
November 5, 2020 - Consent Agenda**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following November 5, 2020 Consent Agenda items are approved:

Resolution 2020-18

- A. Board Meeting Minutes: July 21, 2020 and August 12, 2020
- B. Correcting YAF administrative allocation to 4.12% (not 3%)
- C. Time Extensions:
 - Washington State Parks and Recreation, Lake Sammamish Docks (RCO [14-1683](#))
 - King County, Dockton Park – Dock and Moorage (RCO [12-1952](#))
 - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Taneum Creek Riparian (RCO [14-1092](#))

Resolution moved by: Member

Resolution seconded by: Member

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Approved Date: 7-21-2020

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

Prepared By: Susan Zemek, Communications Director

Presented By: Ted Willhite, Board Chair

Summary

This memo summarizes a draft proposal developed by a subcommittee of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board aimed at furthering the board's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Overview

At its July 21, 2020 meeting the Recreation and Funding Board (board) decided to form a subcommittee, that included RCO staff, to work on developing a draft Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) resolution for consideration at its November 2020 board meeting.

Subcommittee members:

Ted Willhite – Board Chair

Kathryn Gardow – Citizen Board Member

Susan Zemek – RCO Communications Director

Scott Robinson – RCO Deputy Director

The subcommittee met three times in preparation for the November meeting. The board will review a draft DEI resolution and continue its conversation around this important topic. If an agreement is reached, the board may adopt a resolution. If more work is required, staff will continue to assist the sub-committee with its efforts.

Attachments

Attachment A – Draft Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Resolution

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-35**

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board recognizes its obligation to ensure its programs and policies are equitable and inclusive; and

WHEREAS, the board has taken steps to address disparities by pledging in its *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022* to distribute funds equitably across the state to diverse communities and to manage grant programs to improve equity in state resources; and

WHEREAS, the board further reduced match for underserved communities to make recreation affordable to more people, and has provided guidance to its grant recipients about how to improve equity through a range of recommendations including building recreation facilities for underserved populations, enhancing safety at recreation sites so all feel welcome, creating new and diverse opportunities, accommodating active seniors, and getting more kids outside; and

WHEREAS, the board recognizes that society is urgently demanding new attention be brought to the issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion, including undoing systemic racism and ongoing violence against people of color, and that the board has much work to do—work which cannot be done in isolation but needs the full inclusion of its partners, particularly those of differing backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the board understands that embracing diverse perspectives will help it address today's complex challenges; and that the people of Washington State will be stronger and healthier if more of them can enjoy their favorite outdoor pastimes; and

WHEREAS, the board is aware that the issues today demand listening, learning, unlearning, and not shying away from difficult conversations if more equitable and inclusive solutions are to be found; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board will continue to examine its policies and reach out to diverse partners to ensure that Washington's investments are not only for a few but reflect the board's values of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one) _____

Date: _____



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Director's Report

Prepared By: Kaleen Cottingham, Director

Summary

This memo outlines key agency activities and happenings since the last board meeting.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

☐

Request for Decision

☐

Request for Direction

☒

Briefing

Agency Updates

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Formed

RCO has been addressing calls for a review of diversity, equity, and inclusion that resulted from the national George Floyd tragedy. To respond, RCO sent out a statement expressing some common core principles. In addition, RCO has established an employee-run committee to advise and educate executive management on these issues. Scott Robinson, RCO's deputy director, is working with staff to get this important group off the ground. We believe this group will play a key role in shaping the future of RCO's culture.



RCO Continues Flexible Schedules

Staff continue to work remotely during these challenging times. On average about five employees come into the office in the Natural Resources Building each day to work. Staff rotate



in and out depending on their needs. We have worked with individuals to allow flex schedules and hours and alternate work locations to meet the needs of team members as they try to balance office, customer, and family demands. RCO is committed to supporting 100 percent remote work into the foreseeable future.



In addition, RCO adopted guidelines in July to allow staff to inspect project sites as needed. All trips are voluntary if staff feel comfortable with travel. Before coming into the office or hitting the road, staff need to take a brief COVID-19 training, schedule with their supervisors, and complete a health screening self-assessment.

Staff Begin Furloughs

Following the Governor's order, RCO staff took 4 furlough days from June 28 to July 25 to help with the budget shortfall caused by COVID-19. Staff are taking a second set of 4 furlough days from August to November. We anticipate customer service to be slowed as a result of these actions but do not believe any grant timelines will be impacted.

COVID-19 Has Reduced Travel and Likely RCO's Funding

As you can imagine, folks are spending less money on gasoline during this pandemic. That results in less gas tax collections. This is important for RCO because two of our grant programs—Boating Facilities Program and Nonhighway Off-Road Vehicle Activities—are funded by the gas tax. These accounts are projected to be reduced by nearly \$2 million



for the current biennium. We are addressing this shortfall by not spending money left when a project doesn't use its entire grant. We also are looking for savings in general administration that is supported by these funds. In addition to reduced revenues, RCO was asked to do a 15 percent general fund reduction in the current fiscal year, and is saving money associated with the staff furloughs.

RCO Submits Biennial Budget with Cuts Due to COVID-19

In September, RCO submitted its budget request, which included the requested 15 percent reduction for activities funded by the General Fund in the next biennium. Driven by economic woes from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor's Office asked



all agencies to reduce general spending by 15 percent in the 2021-23 biennium. To meet that directive, RCO proposed delaying hiring two recently approved positions—an employee to coordinate orca recovery actions and an employee to develop a program for carbon sequestration. In addition, RCO’s proposed budget reduced funding for salmon recovery lead entities and agency administration costs. These proposed budget reductions are in addition to the 15 percent reduction RCO took in the current fiscal year, along with the loss of salary increases for some staff, furloughs for all staff, and freezes on all hiring, large equipment purchasing, and some new personal services contracts. In light of the economic forecast that predicts a \$4.4 billion reduction in the upcoming biennium, RCO expects the hiring freeze and furloughs to be extended.

On a positive note, in its budget request, RCO asked for funding for two new grant programs—\$22 million for the Community Forests Program, which was created this year, and \$5 million for a grant program to be called the Outdoor Recreation Equity Program, which will target underserved communities.

| Budget and Program | Agency Request |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| OPERATING | |
| General Fund-State | \$2,255,000 |
| General Fund-Federal | \$3,806,000 |
| General Fund-Private Local | \$24,000 |
| Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account | \$338,000 |
| Firearms and Archery Range Recreation | \$37,000 |
| Boating | \$4,182,000 |
| Nonhighway and Off-roads Vehicle Account | \$1,118,000 |
| Youth Athletic Facilities | \$6,000 |
| Operating Total | \$11,766,000 |
| CAPITAL | |
| RECREATION AND CONSERVATION | |
| Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program | \$140,000,000 |
| Youth Athletics Facilities | \$11,300,000 |
| Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account | \$9,100,000 |
| Outdoor Recreation Equity | \$5,000,000 |
| Community Forests Program | \$22,000,000 |
| Boating Facilities Program | \$16,200,000 |
| Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities | \$13,200,000 |
| Firearms and Archery Range Recreation | \$630,000 |
| SALMON RECOVERY | |
| Salmon Recovery Funding Board | \$80,000,000 |
| Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration | \$69,900,000 |
| Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program | \$20,000,000 |
| Family Forest Fish Passage Program | \$10,000,000 |
| Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board | \$65,600,000 |
| Washington Coastal Restoration and Resilience Initiative | \$15,000,000 |
| FEDERAL SPENDING AUTHORITY | |
| Land and Water Conservation Fund | \$20,000,000 |
| Recreational Trails Program | \$5,000,000 |
| Boating Infrastructure Grants | \$2,200,000 |
| Pacific Coastal Salmon Restoration Fund | \$50,000,000 |
| Capital Total | \$555,130,000 |

RCO requested funding for all its grant programs, including \$140 million for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and \$80 million for salmon recovery—the agency’s two largest grant programs.

RCO also is preparing a request to introduce legislation to extend the Washington Invasive Species Council for an additional 10 years to 2032.

Strong Showing in New Community Forests Program

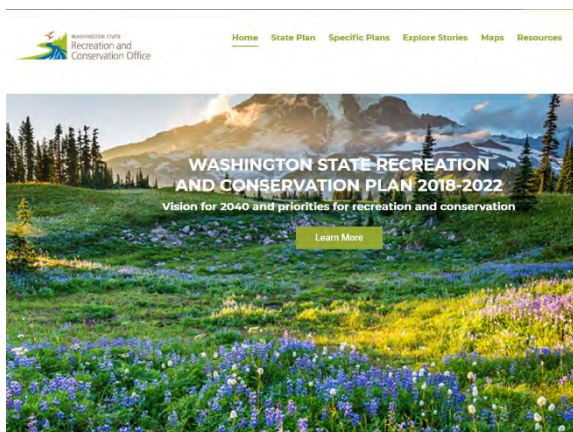
RCO’s newest grant program, the Community Forests Program, received 15 applications, a strong showing for a new program with only a 1-month application window. Earlier this year, the Legislature directed RCO to develop criteria and a ranked project list by December 31. RCO staffer Ben Donatelle worked at lightning speed to develop



criteria and establish the program. This program is designed to protect working forests from development and provide economic, environmental, and recreational benefits to communities. Grant applications this year requested \$33 million and would conserve 10,809 acres. An advisory committee will score the projects in October with the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board reviewing the list in November and sending recommendations to the Legislature in or before December. RCO submitted a budget request for \$22 million for the program.

Developing the State's Comprehensive Recreation and Conservation Plan

RCO is kicking off the next update to the statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation and conservation plan, also known as [SCORP](#). An update is required every 5 years to receive federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grants, but SCORP also guides all other Recreation and Conservation Funding Board grant programs. We currently are forming a steering committee, applying for financial planning assistance, and writing a Request for Proposals to update the recreational demand survey, which serves as a foundation for SCORP. After considering broad stakeholder and public input, the board will submit the updated plan for Governor approval and then to the National Park Service before 2023.



Orca Recovery Efforts Continue Despite Budget Cuts

Although the pandemic and resulting budget cuts have left the orca recovery position at RCO vacant, state agencies are moving forward on work critical to improve conditions for orcas. State agencies continue to meet to review and act on recommendations set forth by the Governor's Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force in its 2019 final report. This work has taken on additional importance after two new orca calves were born earlier this month.



News from the Boards

Salmon Recovery Funding Board: At its September meeting, the board approved \$18 million in grants, capping a grant round that was different than all previous rounds. First, project reviews were conducted during a pandemic, which changed in-person

meetings and site visits to online. Second, the Salmon Section simplified and shortened the process following recommendations from a Lean study. The number of reviews were decreased and the whole process was moved 2 months earlier, among other changes. The board also said goodbye to chair Phil Rockefeller, who left to spend more time with family. Rockefeller, a long-time salmon recovery advocate, is the second longest serving member in the board's 20-year history. He will be succeeded by Jeff Breckel, who directed the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board. The board will meet next online November 19.

Washington Invasive Species Council: The council met online in September and said goodbye to its chair, Ray Willard, who will lead his last meeting in December. Joe Maroney, the council's vice chair, will take over in January. The council also discussed online enforcement of plant health quarantines, heard a Pollinator Health Task Force briefing, and received overview of invasive species recommendations, Asian giant hornet citizen science trapping and response actions, an interagency feral swine response briefing, and much more. The council will meet next December 10.

Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group: The lands group will meet October 21, the first and only time the board has met since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Grant Management

Online Virtual Evaluation of Grant Proposals

Thirteen advisory committees participated in reviewing or evaluating 311 grant applications submitted by 130 local, state, and tribal governments and nonprofit conservation and recreation organizations.

RCO staff hosted more than 720 hours of online virtual meetings for the traditional "in-person" evaluation sessions for over 200 grant proposals, while advisors used a board-approved written evaluation process to score the remaining projects. Staff then hosted post-evaluation meetings with each of the advisory committees to discuss the process used and the hear their suggestions on changes they might recommend for the process or evaluation criteria. Staff will present preliminary ranked lists for the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Land and Water Conservation Fund, Youth Athletic Facilities, and Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program for board approval in November.

Applications Rolling In

Applications are rolling in for the fall grants cycle. Applicants, hoping to protect more than 9,700 acres of forests, submitted 15 grant proposals for the new Community Forests Program by the October 1st deadline. This program is designed to provide funds

to protect working forests from development and provide economic, environmental, and recreational benefits to communities throughout Washington. Staff will ask the board to approve the ranked list of projects in November (See Item 9).



Chelan Co Natural Resource; Nason Ridge Community Forest Acquisition (#20-2023)

Attachment #447971, Nason Ridge Community Forest - Lake Wenatchee.jpg

Applicants have completed nearly 120 pre-applications to acquire and develop boating access sites and shooting ranges or to maintain backcountry trails. RCO is accepting applications for the Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation, Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, and Recreational Trails Program. Applicants must submit their final proposals by November 1st. The board will approve ranked lists for these projects in the spring.

Safe Routes to School

Jesse Sims, Outdoor Grants Manager, along with members of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Program and the Safe Routes to School Grant Review Committee just completed evaluating more than 100 grant applications. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) offers grants to local agencies to plan for and develop trails or access routes so children can walk or bike to school safely. WSDOT administers this competitive grant program that also provides funds for technical assistance. The resulting ranked list of projects will be submitted to the 2021 Legislature for funding consideration. WSDOT expects up to \$20 million for these grants.

Using Additional Delegated Authority to Address Emerging Issues

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the board delegated new authority to the director to make project specific decisions necessary for project implementation provided the decisions were consistent with the program purpose, the intent of adopted policies, and in line with any statutory limitation. The board requested a summary of the director's

decisions. RCO's director approved one waiver request under this new delegation of authority as follows:

Little Skookum Inlet Easement Forest Shore Protection, RCO [16-2090A](#). Forterra requested approval to waive the field inspection of comparable sales for an appraisal review for a forestland easement. The director approved the request after considering several challenges: the comparable sales are spread out across Puget Sound, access to most of the comparable sales would require crossing private properties on decommissioned roads, physically visiting the properties is not required under the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice, and the reviews were conducted while there were mandatory travel restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic. The experienced reviewer used aerial and satellite imagery combined with county records to provide the assessment of forestlands for valuation.

Using Returned Funds for Alternate and Partially-Funded Projects

The director has approved grants for alternate and partially funded projects. The awards are comprised of unused funds from previously funded projects that did not use the full amount of their grant award. Attachment A, *Funds for Alternate and Partially-Funded Projects*, shows the grant awards for alternate projects (Table A-1) and the additional funding for partially funded projects (Table A-2).

Project Administration

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

| Program | Active Projects | Board and Director Approved Projects | Total Funded Projects |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) | 25 | 1 | 26 |
| Boating Facilities Program (BFP) | 60 | 1 | 61 |
| Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) | 11 | 0 | 11 |
| Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) | 18 | 5 | 23 |
| No Child Left Inside (NCLI) | 29 | 0 | 29 |

| | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) | 112 | 1 | 113 |
| Recreation & Conservation Office Recreation Grants (RRG) | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Recreational Trails Program (RTP) | 38 | 8 | 46 |
| Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) | 208 | 8 | 216 |
| Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) | 41 | 5 | 46 |
| Total | 549 | 32 | 581 |

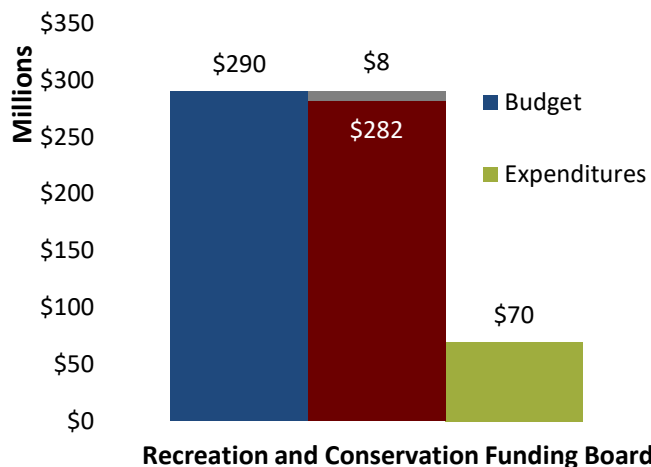
Viewing Closed Projects

Attachment B lists projects that closed between July 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020. Click on the project number to view the project description, grant funds awarded, and other information (e.g., photos, maps, reports, etc.).

Fiscal Report

For July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020, actuals through August 31, 2020 (Fiscal Month 14).
Percentage of biennium reported: 58.3 percent. The "Budget" column shows the state appropriations and any received federal awards.

| Grant Program | BUDGET | COMMITTED | | TO BE COMMITTED | | EXPENDITURES | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| | Re-appropriations 2019-2020 | Dollars | % of Budget | Dollars | % of Budget | Dollars | % Expended of Committed |
| Grant Programs | | | | | | | |
| ALEA | \$17,027,288 | \$16,735,074 | 98% | \$292,214 | 2% | \$3,759,143 | 22% |
| BFP | \$32,120,671 | \$29,248,944 | 91% | \$2,871,727 | 9% | \$5,534,796 | 19% |
| BIG | \$4,517,560 | \$4,517,560 | 100% | \$0 | 0% | \$654,306 | 14% |
| FARR | \$1,432,948 | \$1,077,774 | 75% | \$355,174 | 25% | \$160,535 | 15% |
| LWCF | \$8,754,323 | \$8,754,323 | 100% | \$0 | 0% | \$3,020,101 | 34% |
| NOVA | \$21,330,670 | \$20,671,654 | 97% | \$659,017 | 3% | \$6,654,704 | 32% |
| RTP | \$5,285,000 | \$4,914,961 | 93% | \$370,039 | 7% | \$2,308,996 | 47% |
| WWRP | \$160,689,144 | \$158,827,782 | 99% | \$1,861,362 | 1% | \$35,592,686 | 22% |
| RRG | \$12,711,254 | \$10,969,691 | 86% | \$1,741,564 | 14% | \$3,937,858 | 36% |
| YAF | \$16,533,125 | \$16,178,843 | 98% | \$354,282 | 2% | \$2,946,532 | 18% |
| Subtotal | \$280,401,983 | \$271,896,605 | 97% | \$8,505,378 | 3% | \$64,569,657 | 24% |
| Administration | | | | | | | |
| General | \$9,66 | | | | | | |
| Operating Funds | 9,554 | \$9,669,554 | 100% | \$0 | 0% | \$5,077,168 | 53% |
| Grand Total | \$290,071,537 | \$281,566,159 | 97% | \$8,505,378 | 3% | \$69,646,825 | 25% |



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

Board Revenue Report

For July 1, 2019-June 30, 2021, actuals through August 31, 2020 (Fiscal Month 14).
Percentage of biennium reported: 58.3%.

| Program | Biennial Forecast | Collections | |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | Estimate | Actual | % of Estimate |
| Boating Facilities Program (BFP) | \$18,866,692 | \$10,579,868 | 56.1% |
| Nonhighway, Off-Road Vehicle Program (NOVA) | \$13,526,324 | \$7,810,197 | 57.7% |
| Firearms and Archery Range Rec Program (FARR) | \$568,439 | \$271,408 | 47.7% |
| Total | \$32,961,455 | \$18,661,473 | 56.6% |

Revenue Notes:

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

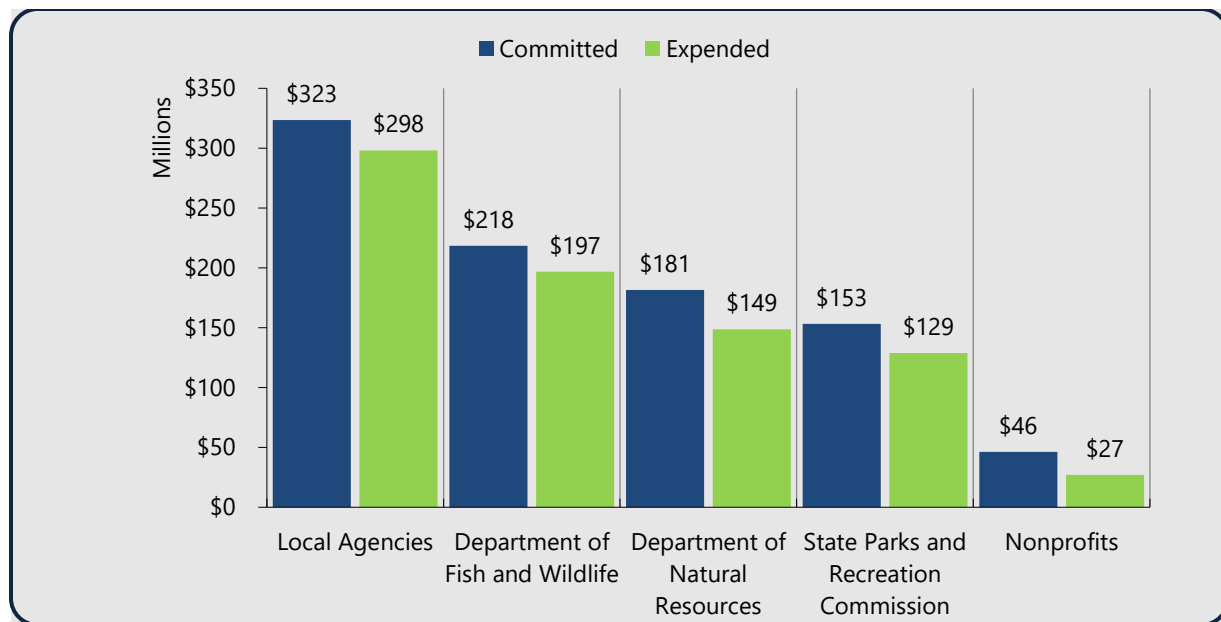
NOVA revenue is from the motor vehicle gasoline tax paid by users of off-road vehicles and nonhighway roads and from the amount paid for by off-road vehicle use permits. NOVA revenue is from the motor vehicle gasoline tax paid by users of off-road vehicles and nonhighway roads and from the amount paid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

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

This reflects the most recent revenue forecast of September 2020. The next forecast is due in November 2020.

WWRP Expenditure Rate by Organization (1990-Current)








| Agency | Committed | Expenditures | % Expended |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Local Agencies | \$323,376,604 | \$298,140,334 | 92% |
| Department of Fish and Wildlife | \$218,251,135 | \$196,817,841 | 90% |
| Department of Natural Resources | \$181,476,602 | \$148,541,659 | 82% |
| State Parks and Recreation Commission | \$153,262,581 | \$128,986,308 | 84% |
| Nonprofits | \$46,364,352 | \$27,030,107 | 58% |
| Conservation Commission | \$4,570,758 | \$515,943 | 11% |
| Tribes | \$2,241,411 | \$741,411 | 33% |
| Other | | | |
| Special Projects | \$735,011 | \$735,011 | 100% |
| Total | \$930,278,454 | \$801,508,615 | 86% |



Performance Measures for Fiscal Year 2021

The following performance data are for recreation and conservation projects in fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021). Data are current as of October 8, 2020.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Performance Measures

| Measure | Target | Fiscal Year-to-Date | Status | Notes |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Grant agreements mailed within 120 days of funding | 90% | N/A |  | No agreements have been due to be mailed. |
| Grants under agreement within 180 days of funding | 95% | 50% |  | 1 of 2 agreements have been under agreement within 180 days. |
| Progress reports responded to within 15 days | 90% | 87% |  | RCFB staff received 295 progress reports and have responded to 291 of them in an average of 9 days. |
| Bills paid in 30 days | 100% | 100% |  | 374 bills have come due and all were paid within 30 days. On average, staff paid bills within 13 days. |
| Projects closed within 150 days of funding end date | 85% | 80% |  | 8 of 10 projects have closed on time. |
| Projects in Backlog | 5 | 21 |  | There are 21 RCFB projects in the backlog |
| Compliance inspections done | 125 | 0 |  | There have been no worksites inspected this fiscal year. Staff have until June 30, 2021 to reach the target. |

Funds for Alternate and Partially Funded Projects

Table A-1: Funds for Alternate Projects,

| Project Number ⁱ | Project Name | Sponsor | Grant Request | Grant Award | Grant Program, Category |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 19-1462A | Breiler Ranch, Douglas County | Chelan-Douglas Land Trust | \$229,500 | \$229,500 | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation |
| 19-1431A | Fort Conservation Easement | Methow Conservancy | \$153,392 | \$153,392 | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation |
| 19-1542A | Bishop Agricultural Conservation Easement | Whatcom County | \$155,000 | \$144,275 | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation |
| 19-1537A | Rethlefsen Agricultural Conservation Easement | Whatcom County | \$150,000 | \$144,275 | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation |
| 18-2058D | Liberty Lake Public Access Renovation | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | \$89,000 | \$89,000 | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Lands Development and Renovation |
| 18-2045D | Little Spokane River Access Development | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | \$178,000 | \$178,000 | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Lands Development and Renovation |
| 18-1507D | Meadowdale Beach Park Access Development | Snohomish County | \$1,000,000 | \$500,000 | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Water Access |
| 18-1984D | Apas Goudy Youth Athletic Facility | Yakama Nation | \$133,812 | \$133,812 | Youth Athletic Facilities, Large |

Table A-2: Funds for Partially Funded Projects

| Project Number ⁱ | Project Name | Sponsor | Grant Request | Previous Grant Awards | Current Grant Funding | Grant Program, Category |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 18-2254M | Rescuing Threatened Trails | Backcountry Horsemen of Washington | \$102,490 | \$51,245 | \$102,490 | Recreational Trails Program, General |
| 18-1759D | Harry Todd Waterfront Improvements Phase 2 | Lakewood | \$626,718 | \$539,571 | \$626,718 | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Water Access |
| 18-1662A | Gazzam Nature Preserve Phase 7 | Bainbridge Island Land Trust | \$2,448,994 | \$968,189 | \$984,974 | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Water Access |

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

Projects Completed and Closed from July 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020

| Project Number ⁱ | Project Name | Sponsor | Program | Closed On |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 16-1393D | Meydenbauer Bay Park Ravine and Swim Area | Bellevue | Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account | 7/17/2020 |
| 16-2371P | Crow Butte Boater's Campground Planning | Port of Benton | Boating Facilities Program, Local | 8/6/2020 |
| 18-2282P | Washougal Breakwater Access Planning | Port of Camas-Washougal | Boating Facilities Program, Local | 9/3/2020 |
| 16-2164D | Wind River Boat Launch Facility | Skamania County | Boating Facilities Program, Local | 8/5/2020 (Not Completed) |
| 16-2493P | Boyer Park Dock Replacement Planning | Port of Whitman County | Boating Facilities Program, Local | 9/28/2020 |
| 16-2430P | Hopkins Ferry Access Development - Phase 1 Design | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Boating Facilities Program, State | 7/29/2020 (Not Completed) |
| 18-2262D | Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility Access | Tri-Cities Shooting Association | Firearms and Archery Range Recreation | 7/21/2020 |
| 19-1059E | Mini Camps for Youth with Disabilities | Camp Beausite Northwest | No Child Left Inside, Tier 1 | 7/7/2020 |
| 16-2586E | Skykomish Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Education and Enforcement | 9/14/2020 |

| Project Number ⁱ | Project Name | Sponsor | Program | Closed On |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 16-2228E | Central Zone Backcountry Education and Enforcement 2018-2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Education and Enforcement | 9/10/2020 |
| 16-2384E | Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2018-2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Education and Enforcement | 8/28/2020 |
| 16-2540E | Methow Valley Education and Enforcement 2018-2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Education and Enforcement | 8/28/2020 |
| 16-2347E | Wenatchee River Ranger District Climbing Ranger Education | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Education and Enforcement | 9/8/2020 |
| 16-2349E | Wilderness and Backcountry Education and Enforcement 2018-2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Education and Enforcement | 9/8/2020 |
| 16-2607M | Skykomish Dispersed Site and Trailhead Maintenance 2017 | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road | 8/28/2020 |
| 16-2777M | Snoqualmie Ranger District Accessible or Interpretive Facility Maintenance 2018-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road | 8/28/2020 |

| Project Number ⁱ | Project Name | Sponsor | Program | Closed On |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 16-2547M | Entiat Ranger District Campgrounds and Dispersed Maintenance and Operation 2018-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road | 9/8/2020 |
| 16-2526M | Methow Valley Ranger District Campground Maintenance 2018-2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road | 9/28/2020 |
| 16-2597M | Naches Campgrounds Maintenance and Operation 2017-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road | 9/21/2020 |
| 16-2226M | Tonasket Ranger District Campground Operation and Maintenance 2018-2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Tonasket Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road | 8/28/2020 |
| 14-1956P | Milk Creek Bridge Replacement and Trail Relocation | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized | 9/14/2020 |
| 16-2238M | Mountain Loop Byway Trailhead and Trail Maintenance | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized | 8/28/2020 |
| 14-1908P | Elbow Lake Trail Relocation and Bridge Replacement | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized | 9/4/2020 |

| Project Number ⁱ | Project Name | Sponsor | Program | Closed On |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 16-2546M | Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized | 9/1/2020 |
| 14-1979D | Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, South Fork Nooksack Phase 1 | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized | 9/10/2020 |
| 16-2751M | Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance 2017-2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized | 9/1/2020 |
| 14-2110P | Chickadee Non-Motorized Trails Planning | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized | 8/28/2020 |
| 16-2499M | Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance 2018-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized | 8/28/2020 |
| 16-2335 | Wilderness Non-Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation 2018-2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized | 8/14/2020 |
| 16-2223 | Entiat and Chelan Multiple Use Trail Maintenance and Operation 2018--2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Off-Road Vehicle | 9/10/2020 |

| Project Number ⁱ | Project Name | Sponsor | Program | Closed On |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 16-2768 | Naches District Sustainable Recreation Planning 2017-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District | Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Off-Road Vehicle | 8/14/2020 |
| 16-2654 | Winter Education Patrols | U.S. Forest Service, Gifford-Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, Education | 8/25/2020 |
| 16-2461E | Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers 2016 | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, Education | 8/28/2020 |
| 16-2469E | Mt. Baker Ranger District Mountain Stewards 2016 | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, Education | 8/28/2020 |
| 16-2548E | Entiat and Lake Wenatchee Snow Rangers 2017-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, Education | 8/20/2020 |
| 16-2464M | Gifford-Pinchot National Forest Wilderness Trails Maintenance | U.S. Forest Service, Gifford-Pinchot National Forest, Cowlitz Valley Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, General | 9/2/2020 |
| 16-2259M | Darrington Backcountry Trail Maintenance 2017-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, General | 9/1/2020 |

| Project Number ⁱ | Project Name | Sponsor | Program | Closed On |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 16-2429M | Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 2018-2019 | U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, General | 9/1/2020 |
| 16-2319 | Lower Lake Chelan Winter/Summer Trails | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, General | 9/1/2020 |
| 16-2700M | Snowmobile Trails Maintenance 2017-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, General | 9/1/2020 |
| 16-2504M | Naches Ranger District Motorized Trail Deferred Maintenance 2017-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, General | 7/28/2020 |
| 16-2577M | Naches Wilderness Trails Deferred Maintenance 2017-19 | U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District | Recreational Trails Program, General | 8/27/2020 |
| 16-1609D | Saint Edward Park Ballfields Renovation | Kenmore | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Local Parks | 7/7/2020 |
| 18-1668D | Puyallup Valley Sports Complex Field Improvement | Puyallup | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Local Parks | 8/11/2020 |
| 16-1500D | Wilkeson Roosevelt Park | Wilkeson | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Local Parks | 7/15/2020 |
| 16-1847D | South Tennant Lake Boardwalk Trail Development | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Lands Development | 7/13/2020 |

| Project Number ⁱ | Project Name | Sponsor | Program | Closed On |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 16-1859R | South Puget Sound Grassland Restoration | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Lands Restoration | 9/11/2020 |
| 16-2011R | Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve Rare Native Prairies Expansion | Washington Department of Natural Areas | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Lands Restoration | 7/16/2020 |
| 16-1813D | Whitehorse Trail Development Phase 2 | Snohomish County | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Trails | 7/28/2020 |
| 14-1965D | Meydenbauer Park Shoreline Access Development | Bellevue | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Water Access | 7/17/2020 |
| 18-1527D | Service Club Park Drainage | Kent | Youth Athletic Facilities, Large | 9/1/2020 |
| 18-1511D | Cedar Field Turf and Lighting Improvement | Marysville | Youth Athletic Facilities, Large | 7/16/2020 |
| 18-1921D | Culbertson Park Renovations | Long Beach | Youth Athletic Facilities, Small | 9/21/2020 |

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

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: RCFB Policy Work Plan Update

Prepared By: Wendy Brown, Policy and Legislative Director

Summary

This memo summarizes the work to date on the 2019-2021 RCFB policy workplan items.

Board Action Requested

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

Introduction

The table below provides an update to the 2019-21 RCO policy work plan. Every two years the full plan is created with priorities identified by our two funding boards – the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) and Salmon Recovery Funding Board – as well as the policy priorities of the Washington Invasive Species Council. We also include assignments given to us by the Legislature either from bills passed or as directed in budget provisos.

The policy topics shown below relate only to the work related to recreation and conservation. The **priorities identified by the board are highlighted in red**, **those from the Legislature are in green**, and those identified as important tasks by RCO staff are shown in black. As a reminder, the tiers identified in the work plan are defined as follows:

- Tier 1. Required by law, the Governor, or previous board direction and/or necessary for RCO operations.
- Tier 2. Priorities identified by staff and/or RCFB-approved plans.
- Tier 3. Assignments to be completed as time allows.

2019-21 Policy Work Plan, RCFB-Related Topics Only

| Tier | Assignment | Description | Status |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance | Complete the study that identifies recreational assets of statewide significance, where gaps in recreational assets exist, and investment strategies and options for addressing those gaps. | Complete |
| 1 | Hiking, Walking, Biking Study | Complete a study of the economic and health benefits of hiking, walking, and biking. | Complete |
| 1 | Nason Ridge Community Forest Management Plan | Assist Chelan County in developing a management plan for the proposed Nason Ridge Community Forest. | Complete |
| 1 | Pollinator Benefits in WWRP | Following passage of SSB 5552, include consideration of pollinator habitat benefits into the habitat conservation account categories. | Complete |
| 1 | Community Forests Program and Project List Development | As directed by the Legislature in the 2020 Supplemental Capital Budget, develop evaluation criteria and a list of community forest projects for the Legislature by December 2020. | Complete |
| 1 | Evaluation Criteria that Impact Multiple Programs- Phase 1 | Update evaluation criteria questions that apply to multiple grant programs and those of significance to a single grant program: sustainability and environmental stewardship. | Complete |
| 1 | WWRP Urban Wildlife Habitat and Riparian Category Updates Project Completion | Complete the update to the Urban Wildlife Habitat and Riparian categories of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program to ensure the most important projects are being funded. Include criteria related to climate change. | Complete |
| 1 | Underserved Communities and | Evaluate if grant programs are effectively addressing the needs of underserved communities and communities in need and | Complete |

2019-21 Policy Work Plan, RCFB-Related Topics Only

| Tier | Assignment | Description | Status |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Communities in Need | adjust as needed. Identify options for reduced planning requirements for small agencies, assess implementation of the population proximity statute, and improve program outreach as recommended in the Unified Strategy. | |
| 1 | Update to the 2015 Economic Study of Outdoor Recreation | Work with DNR and Governor's Office to update the 2015 economic study of outdoor recreation contributions. | Complete |
| 2 | Forestland Preservation Category | Identify potential changes to increase the pool of applicants in the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program -- Forestland Preservation category. | Complete |
| 1 | Update the Public Lands Inventory | Complete update to the GIS-based public lands inventory with current state agency land acquisition parcel and meta-data. | On track for completion in December |
| 2 | Investments in Climate Change Mitigation Projects (process led by OFM) | Participate in the OFM-led process to prioritize actions and investments that mitigate the effects of climate change and strengthen the resiliency of communities and the natural environment. The process will result in a funding list for the 2021-23 biennium. | On track for completion in December |
| 2 | Implementation of HB 2311 | Implementation of HB 2311 – identify opportunities to include carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation strategies in RCO granting activities. | Anticipate starting before June 2021 |
| 1 | Commercial Uses in Parks | Define and address the growing commercial uses in parks and incorporate into our existing policies on conversion, allowable use, and income generation. | Will bring to the board in Jan 2021 |

2019-21 Policy Work Plan, RCFB-Related Topics Only

| Tier | Assignment | Description | Status |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Inspections and Compliance | Following one year of employing a compliance assistant, investigate what we have learned from the increased number of on-site inspections and determine if there are additional tools that could be developed to address compliance issues, such as replacement alternatives. | Work has begun |
| 1 | Implement Actions from the State Plans, Phase 1 | Implement the following actions from the State Trails and Boating Plans: evaluate the state recreation trails designation program. | Anticipate starting before June 2021 |
| 1 | Grant Programs that are Oversubscribed | Address grant programs that are oversubscribed and the impacts on staff workload and volunteer advisory committees. Research other grant processes and approaches to scoring that could minimize impacts on advisory committee members and maintain the fair and open ranking process. | Deferred to next biennium |
| 2 | Evaluation Criteria that Impact Multiple Programs – Phase 2 | Update evaluation criteria questions that apply to multiple grant programs and those of significance to a single grant program, including immediacy of threat, readiness, matching shares, water access views and scenic values, and viability of site. | Not yet started |
| 2 | WWRP Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, and State Parks Category Updates | Review and update three more Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program categories – critical habitat, natural areas, and state parks. Incorporate climate change as was done for the Urban Wildlife Habitat and Riparian Protection categories. | Not yet started |
| 2 | ALEA Grant Evaluation Criteria | Review the effectiveness of using the current three different sets of evaluation criteria and potentially look for opportunities for streamlining. | Not yet started |

2019-21 Policy Work Plan, RCFB-Related Topics Only

| Tier | Assignment | Description | Status |
|------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 | Using the RASS Study Results in Grant Programs | Investigate options for using the results of the recreational assets of statewide significance study to modify recreation-focused grant programs. | Not yet started |
| 3 | Implement Actions from the State Plans, Phase 2 | Implement the following actions from the State Trails and Boating Plans: maintain high satisfaction around boating experiences and facilities, promote environmental stewardship and safety, fund development of multiple use sites that reduce user conflict, obligate grants in a single biennium in the Boating Facilities Program state agency category, support the paddle sports community and facility providers. | Not yet started |
| 2 | RCO Planning Manual | Revise the RCO planning manual, including evaluating an expedited or short-form plan for smaller, rural counties. | Anticipate starting before June 2021 |
| 3 | WWRP Trails Category Grant Maximum | Evaluate if there should be a grant limit in the WWRP Trails category. | Discussed by RCFB in January 2020 and added to policy work plan |

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Carbon credit projects on property acquired with RCO funding

Prepared By: Ben Donatelle, Natural Resources Policy Specialist

Summary

In April 2020 the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board reviewed the memo, "Carbon Credit Financing and RCO Funded Projects" but did not have the opportunity for discussion due to the impacts of COVID-19. This memo revisits the background information presented in April, discusses interim activity, and offers a policy proposal on developing carbon finance projects on property acquired with RCO funding assistance.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Introduction

Carbon and other ecosystem service markets are a burgeoning finance mechanism for land trusts and local governments to leverage their conservation activity. Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff have received several inquiries from RCO project sponsors seeking to develop carbon finance projects on properties acquired with RCO funding assistance.

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) had an opportunity to receive a brief introduction to carbon financing at the April 2020 Meeting, Item 2B (Attachment A). That memo gave a high-level overview of the carbon finance marketplace and potential for carbon finance projects to intersect with RCO. Carbon finance projects on property acquired with RCO assistance are guided by a framework of legal and policy requirements including income and income use, long-term obligations and compliance, and RCO's deed of right. Unfortunately, opportunity for discussion on this topic was removed from the agenda due to the impacts of COVID-19 and the Governor's "Stay

Home, Stay Healthy” order. Questions suggested for future board discussion at that time included:

- Does the board feel the need to develop a distinct policy to address carbon finance projects?
- Does the board want to pilot a policy in selected grant programs or decide initially which programs are compatible with carbon financing projects and which others may not be compatible?
- Would the board consider a complementary covenant placed on a property to secure a carbon finance project a conversion if the project is compatible with RCO’s deed of right and the primary purpose of the grant funding?
- Does the board want to retain or delegate to the director the authority to review and approve carbon finance projects that seek to use properties acquired with RCO funding assistance?
- What other sideboards would the board want to consider in developing a carbon finance policy?

Since April, RCO has continued to receive inquiries from sponsors pursuing carbon finance opportunities. To our knowledge, no carbon project has been enrolled that intersects with properties acquired with RCO funding assistance, but at least two are expected to execute an agreement with a carbon registry in the coming months.

The Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Forestland Preservation category and the new Community Forests Program specifically contain policies that enable carbon finance projects to be developed on property acquired with RCO funding. Based on the increasing frequency of inquiries, the questions previously raised, and Assistant Attorney General (AAG) recommendations, RCO staff recommends establishing a policy to guide carbon finance projects on property acquired with RCO funding assistance and create consistent policy and procedures across multiple grant programs.

Existing guidance and policy issue

After several inquiries by sponsors and consultation with our AAG, RCO staff prepared a preliminary, informal guidance document for sponsors seeking to develop carbon finance projects on RCO funded properties (see Attachment A). The guidance provides a framework for sponsors to inform RCO of their intent and established criteria for RCO’s review and potential determination that a project is compatible with the source of grant funding.

This guidance was developed with a provision that stated, "The action securing the carbon credits should not be recorded on title." That provision was included to avoid any perceived conflict with the board's policy on conversions which states in part, "...a conversion may be declared if,

- Property interests are conveyed for non-public outdoor recreation, habitat conservation, or salmon recovery uses.
- Property interests are conveyed to a third party not otherwise eligible to receive grants in the program from which funding was derived." ¹

At that time, the AAG suggested that RCO's Deed of Right and project agreement terms plainly allow for a property interest to be conveyed that is consistent with, or complimentary to, the purpose of the grant agreement. In fact, as described in the previous memo, the board has a long-established policy allowing complimentary covenants² for purposes of other funders' grant requirements, or for example, utility easements.

In most carbon finance projects the creation or conveyance of a property interest is not explicitly required. However, in some circumstances a carbon project developer may be required to secure the source of the carbon credits with a covenant or other restriction recorded on the property title. For example, a forest preservation or tree planting project may be required to record a restrictive covenant to specifically protect the trees from being cut. In other circumstances, the sponsor may receive a bonus award of credits or a reduction in their risk assessment if they voluntarily secure the action producing the carbon credits with a deed restriction. In these situations, a property interest may be created and/or conveyed to a third party that is not eligible to receive grant funding from RCO.

The policy question RCO staff brings to the board is one of clarification: Can a deed restriction recorded on a property title to secure a carbon finance project be permitted under the complimentary covenants policy?

¹ RCO Manual 7: Long Term Obligations, pg. 13

² RCO Manual 3: Acquisition Projects, pg. 59

Proposed Policy statement

To address the above question RCO staff is proposing the following policy statement regarding carbon finance and other payment for ecosystem services projects being developed on properties acquired with RCO funding assistance:

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board intends to enable RCO project sponsors to leverage state funding by enrolling in carbon and other payments for ecosystem service markets. Through such markets, property acquired with RCO funding assistance may be able to secure a source of income for ongoing stewardship and maintenance of existing conserved properties or future conservation acquisitions.

Upon review by RCO, the director may approve a carbon finance or other payment for ecosystem services project if the credit generating activity does not interfere with the purpose of RCO's grant award. In some cases, the rules governing the ecosystem service payment market requires and at other times rewards recording a restriction on the property title to secure the credit generating activity. In such cases and upon approval by the director, the sponsor may record such a deed restriction without conflicting with RCO's conversion policy or WAC 286-13-160, 170, or 180.

Provisions for approval of a carbon finance or payment for ecosystem services project:

Prior to committing to a carbon finance or other payment for ecosystem services project, the sponsor must provide RCO with notice and an opportunity to review:

- a) Which RCO funded properties will be subject to the carbon finance project; and
- b) The anticipated terms and time commitment of the project; and
- c) Any associated deed restrictions.

RCO will review to ensure compatibility with the primary purpose of RCO's funding. Upon satisfactory review and approval by the director:

- The carbon finance project and any associated covenants must not interfere or conflict with the primary purpose of RCO's funding.
- Income generated must be used in accordance with RCO's income and income use rules.³

³ Washington Administrative Code [286-13-110](#)

- If a deed restriction is used to secure the carbon financing at the time of closing with RCO funding or later, it must be subordinate to RCO's deed of right. Deed restriction must not impede on RCO's ability to recover the value of the property in the event of default on RCO's project agreement and subsequent declaration of conversion.

Analysis

RCO, in consultation with the AAG, has determined that in many cases carbon financing projects may be complementary to RCO funding. Carbon finance projects can further leverage RCO funds thus expanding the footprint of protected conservation lands or providing project sponsors with a valuable source of revenue to dedicate towards offsetting stewardship or maintenance costs. Because of the increasing frequency of inquiries, RCO's AAG has since advised that RCO develop a policy to specifically address carbon finance projects and include language on the issue in our grant manuals, project agreement and deed of right.

Under RCO's preliminary guidance, the sponsor is required to inform RCO that they intend to enter into a carbon finance project agreement prior to execution. The prohibition on recording a deed restriction to secure the carbon finance project was a temporary safeguard until such time as RCO could establish policies and procedures to guide carbon financing projects. In at least one case, this restriction has resulted in a project proponent not using RCO funded properties in a carbon finance project.

Since the sponsor would be enrolling the project after they acquire the property, a deed restriction would naturally be subordinate to RCO's interest on the chain of title. If however, the sponsor were acquiring a property with a previously funded carbon finance project (and associated deed restriction), RCO's deed of right would be subordinate, but the value of RCO's interest would be reflected in the appraisal and ultimate purchase price.

RCO's primary interest is lies in protecting the integrity of the state's investment as it intersects with the carbon financing. If the primary purpose for which RCO granted the funds (e.g. habitat conservation, public access) is compromised, RCO will maintain the authority to seek remedy based on the board's rules on conversions.⁴ Delegating approval authority to the director to review and ultimately approve of carbon finance

⁴ Washington Administrative Code [286-13-160](#)

projects is consistent with other director level decisions such as under the allowable uses policy.

Carbon creditors typically ensure the integrity of their investments through a contractual agreement with the project developer (in some cases RCO's sponsor such as a land trust or local government). In the event of a carbon credit reversal, the credit registry is remedied through repayment of the credits issued. It is extremely unlikely that the creditor would have any recourse that would impact the physical property or its value.

RCO's interests are often well-aligned with those seeking to develop carbon finance projects. In many cases, projects that enroll in carbon financing can be initiated because of RCO's conservation investments. By the same account, a conversion of RCO's project may also result in a reversal of carbon credits – thus exists a dual incentive to maintain the conservation value of the property.

To the extent that the state's investment can be leveraged and monetized by external sources to support stewardship of the property or further conservation investments the sponsor is generally encouraged to do so if such activity does not inhibit or conflict with the primary purpose of RCO's grant funding.

Strategic Plan Link

This issue intersects with several of the board's strategic plan objectives, including:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective 1A | Provide leadership to help our partners strategically invest in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat and recreation opportunities. |
| Objective 2A | Ensure funded projects and programs are managed efficiently, with integrity, in a fair and open manner, and in conformance with existing legal authorities. |
| Objective 2B | Support activities that promote continuous quality improvement. |

Next Steps

Pending the board's discussion and direction, RCO staff will finalize the policy statement and procedures outlining a sponsor's requirements and RCO's process for review and approval of carbon finance projects. RCO will bring final policy back for the board's review and approval in 2021.

Attachments

Attachment A – Item 2B from RCFB April 2020

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Policy Updates: Follow-up on WRPA Request for Policy Changes

Prepared By: Adam Cole, RCO Policy Specialist

Summary

This memo summarizes agency follow-up to a Washington Recreation and Parks Association presentation to the board in July that included the association's recommendations to improve RCO grant-making and adjust compliance policies in light of pandemic impacts and other current events. Staff will report on our way ahead on these items and our ongoing collaboration with WRPA.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Background

At its July meeting, the board had a presentation from local parks and recreation leaders around the state regarding impacts to programs, operations, and capital investments in light of the current pandemic and social justice issues. At the end of its presentation the Washington and Recreation and Parks Association (WRPA) included a short list of priorities for future board consideration to help support their mission in these challenging times. Below is a summary of these items and RCO's continuing collaborations with WRPA on these issues.

Follow-Up Items and Ways Ahead

Following the July presentation, RCO has met with leaders of the WRPA to discuss each of the items it presented for future consideration. Here is the list of those items along with a summary of our way ahead in partnership with the WRPA:

1. Preserve flexible funding for operations and maintenance for local governments.

- Many RCFB programs do not allow funding operations and maintenance because bond issuance rules prohibit such activities, however, the RCO will work with WRPA to clarify in our publications and policies eligible reimbursable expenses that are restoration focused such as those typically considered “major maintenance,” which are considered capital in nature. Examples of such allowable expenses in grants are the replacement of hardware and signage, ADA upgrades, roof replacement, utility work, and restoration of surfaces at recreation sites.
 - Programs in the state budget relying on dedicated funds (fuel taxes, for example) that do allow for maintenance and operations expenses include the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Account](#) (NOVA) and the [Recreational Trails Program](#) (RTP) so no change is needed for these programs.
2. Encourage regional collaboration on recreation funding through the board.
- The current board’s [State Recreation and Conservation Plan](#) (2018-2022, plan) ([application tool maps](#)) encourages cooperation from local governments. This issue will be included in the next generation of the plan, which will kick off in earnest in 2021 and completed in 2022. Through that planning process, grant criteria in applicable programs will be evaluated for inclusion of priority consideration for projects that accomplish regional and collaborative projects that meet the needs of more than one jurisdiction.
3. Update & maintain a State Trails Database.
- The RCO has resources on its website that provide a spatial inventory of existing trails in the state and an analysis of the level of service they provide. These are housed in the [Recreation Assets of Statewide Significance study \(2019\) \(map\)](#) and the State Recreation and Conservation Plan [application tool maps](#) available to all applicants and stakeholders.
 - In preparation for the next State Recreation and Conservation Plan, RCO will work with WRPA and others to update these inventories and potentially create a new platform contingent on stakeholder needs and available funding.
 - The RCFB is authorized to create trails plans and inventories to include identifying new trail routes and connections in collaboration with other agencies, and provide leadership on a statewide system of trails’ designation via the Washington State Recreational System ([RCW 79A.35](#)). RCO is required to plan for trails for the Nonhighway and Off-road Activities ([46.09.370](#)) grant program and the [Recreational Trails Program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highways Administration](#).
 - The United State Forest Service (USFS) has invited RCO to participate in a partnership engagement with other State agencies in an effort to advance a

regional trail strategy in WA. The meeting will allow for shared stewardship conversations, discussion of the state's needs and interests, and an overview of some of the upcoming trails work to be done by the USFS.

4. Ease requirements on conversions and allow scope changes in active projects in light of pandemic related operational and capital funding shortfalls.
 - The RCO will continue to work on a case-by-case basis with project sponsors on changes to active grants as well as long-term obligation responsibilities. Over the last few meetings, the board has approved policy changes that provide relief in this regard by extending allowable closures for up to two years without board consultation, and delegating to the Director expanded authority to approve scope changes and time extensions for active grants.
5. Bolster alignment with [Healthiest Next Generation](#)
 - Many grant programs include the benefits to public health initiatives in scoring criteria.
 - RCO staff will continue to include board support for public health initiatives in grant-making in its development of the next State Recreation and Conservation Plan.
6. Assure equitable distribution of capital investments.
 - RCO staff will work with the WRPA to continue to develop efforts to support equitable allocation of grant resources through the lenses of socioeconomic and geographic considerations. In particular, the RCO will consider updating policies and develop its mapping tools as part of the development of the next State Recreation and Conservation Plan.

Next Steps

The RCO will continue to consult with the WRPA to move forward these items of mutual interest and will include WRPA leadership on our Advisory Committee for the next State Recreation and Conservation Plan. RCO staff will continue to brief the board on these ongoing efforts.

Alignment with Strategic Plan

These items align with the [board's strategic plan](#) in Goals 1, 2, and 3:

1. We help our partners protect, restore, and develop habitat and recreation opportunities that benefit people, fish and wildlife, and ecosystems.

2. We achieve a high level of accountability in managing the resources and responsibilities entrusted to us.
3. We deliver successful projects by inviting competition and by using broad public participation and feedback, monitoring, assessment, and adaptive management.

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Grant Program Framework

Prepared By: Scott Robinson, Deputy Director

Summary

At its November 2020 meeting, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board will be asked to adopt the ranked lists of projects for the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA), the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) and the Youth Athletic Facilities Program (YAF). The board must submit these lists to the Governor by November 20, 2020 for consideration in his biennial budget. This memo summarizes the grant process and outlines the decisions that the board must make.

Board Action Requested

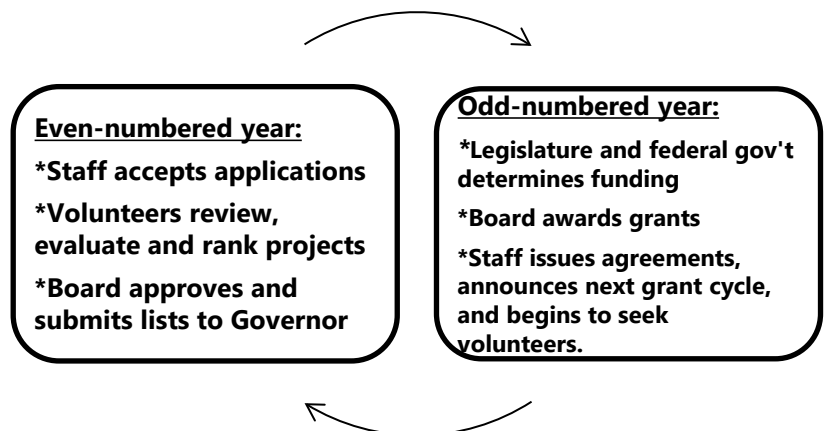
This item will be a:

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

Background

The spring/summer grants cycle was completed in early October 2020. Grants in the ALEA, LWCF, WWRP and YAF programs are used to purchase, develop, renovate, or restore parks, open space, athletic fields, trails, water access sites, farm and forest land, and habitat areas.

The 2020 round one grant process can be summarized as shown in this graphic. The process is described in detail in the following sections.



Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Accounts

The WWRP is divided into three accounts, encompassing twelve categories, as shown in Attachment A. The board will review all twelve categories at its November meeting.

Staff will brief the board on the funding allocation of the ALEA, LWCF and YAF programs during the program specific presentations in November.

Preparing for the 2020 Grant Cycle

Planning

Several of RCO's grant programs require the applicant have a valid recreation or conservation plan in place. In early 2019, staff sent notices to potential applicants with expired planning eligibility reminding them that they needed to update their comprehensive plans if they wished to apply for grant funding during the 2020 LWCF and WWRP grant cycle.

Volunteer Recruitment

Volunteer recruitment began in early 2019 with emails, social media posts, press releases, personal phone calls, and information on RCO's website. Stakeholders and other interested organizations supported our efforts by including the notices in their communications. Staff spent a considerable amount of time recruiting volunteers to conduct project reviews and evaluations for this grant cycle.

Altogether, 133 volunteers agreed to help with the 2020 round one grant cycle. Volunteers included federal, state, and local agency representatives, citizens, scientific experts, and representatives of organizations interested in parks, trails, farms, forests, and habitat conservation.

Our volunteers continue to provide an amazing service to the citizens of Washington State! The time (estimated at over 2,000 hours) and expertise they commit to reviewing and evaluating RCO grants helps to ensure we conduct a fair, open process and fund the best projects.

Announcement of 2020 Grant Cycle

In the fall of 2019, RCO staff began advertising the 2020 grant cycle. Staff issued press releases and posted notices on the agency Web site and various social media platforms. Additionally, the director and grants managers spoke to various interest groups, and potential applicants were notified via email, newsletters, and personal contact.

Application and Evaluation Process

Application Workshops

On February 13, 2020 staff conducted an online grant workshop. During the workshop, staff outlined the types of grants available, described the application, review, and evaluation processes, and answered questions. 259 individuals attended the virtual workshop. In addition, the presentation was recorded and made available on the agency's Web site for those that could not participate in real time.

Grants Manager Site Visits

Beginning in spring 2019 until the project review meetings in May/June 2020 grants managers met with applicants on site and online (after March 13, 2020) to review their projects and discuss eligibility and grant program requirements.

Application Deadline

RCO received 326 applications requesting around \$208 million by the June 1, 2020 deadline. (The deadline was extended one month due to the COVID-19 pandemic.) This represented a 14% decrease in the number of round one applications received as compared to two years ago.

| Grant Program | Project Proposals | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total Project Cost |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account | 19 | \$9,088,258 | \$25,608,612 | \$34,696,870 |
| Land and Water Conservation Fund | 27 | \$11,859,408 | \$52,138,922 | \$63,998,330 |
| Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program | 233 | \$176,296,607 | \$196,168,774 | \$372,465,381 |
| Youth Athletic Facilities | 47 | \$11,396,937 | \$26,771,140 | \$38,168,077 |
| | 326 | \$208,641,210 | \$300,687,448 | \$509,328,658 |

New for 2020

RCO rolled out its new PRISM Online review and scoring module this grants cycle. Instead of the paper-based process used since RCO's inception, volunteers provided comments and submitted scores directly into the PRISM database via an online portal. This new tool reduces the risk or error and expedites the sharing of information with applicants.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, RCO offered only online project review and evaluation meetings. The meetings were also broadcast live on YouTube and the director made surprise appearances to thank volunteers for their work.

Staff will highlight other board approved changes during the presentation of the ranked lists.

Project Review Meetings

RCO staff and teams of volunteers held technical review meetings in June and July. These meetings gave applicants an opportunity to present their projects and receive feedback on the technical merits of the proposal and suggestions about ways to refine the project scope, design, cost estimates, and presentation.

RCO used a board-approved written review process for three WWRP categories: State Lands Development and Renovation, State Lands Restoration and Enhancement, and State Parks. RCO staff reviewed the WWRP Natural Areas category and YAF projects. The reviews were done via online meetings.

After project review, grants manager's forwarded comments to each applicant outlining items that needed additional work, along with a schedule of key deadlines. Most applicants revised their grant proposals based on the comments and recommendations made during the project review. All changes were completed by the technical completion deadline, which varied by program or category.

Project Evaluation Meetings

During the month of September volunteer advisory committee members evaluated 307 proposed projects. (Note: As the process moved forward 19 projects were withdrawn by applicants or terminated by RCO staff because they were either ineligible, missed established deadlines or were simply not ready to proceed.)

Evaluations in some programs or categories (WWRP State Parks, WWRP State Lands Development and Renovation, WWRP State Lands Restoration and Enhancement, WWRP Natural Areas and YAF) were conducted through a written process. All others were via online meetings. During the on-line evaluations, applicants had 20 to 30 minutes to present their project by responding to board adopted evaluation criteria and answer advisory committee questions. Advisory committee members scored each criterion for each project.

After evaluations were complete, staff reviewed the overall scores for each project, and a few days later shared the results with the advisory committee members. Preliminary ranked lists were then made available to applicants and the public via the RCO Web site.

Public Comments

RCW 79A.15.110 requires state and local agencies and nonprofit conservancies to review proposed WWRP acquisitions and confer with the county or city legislative authority that has jurisdiction over the project area¹. The local legislative body may submit a letter to the board stating its position about the project. Staff makes these letters available to the Governor and to the Legislature.

Public correspondence received by RCO in advance of the November board meeting will be provided to the board. Although the comments are for WWRP grant applications, in some instances the same correspondence applies to matching grants submitted for the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Land and Water Conservation Fund, or the Youth Athletic Facilities grant program.

Attachment B includes public correspondence that will be sent over with the ranked lists to the Governor's Office. An additional opportunity for public comment will occur at the November board meeting.

Board Action Required in November 2020

In November, staff will ask the board to approve the ranked list for each program (a total of 307 projects).

By law, the board must approve ranked lists of WWRP projects for each of the funding categories and submit the lists to the Governor no later than November 1, 2020. Due to the pandemic, RCO was granted a 20-day extension of this deadline to November 20, 2020. The ALEA and YAF lists are also submitted to the Governor for consideration. Staff also input the lists into the capital budget request that is submitted to the Office of Financial Management. Because there are federal funds available for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, staff will be asking the board to approve the ranked list and award grants for the top ranked projects.

Ranked Lists and Alternates

Items 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12 on the November agenda present preliminary ranked lists of projects for each grant program, information about the program and evaluation, and a

¹ State or local agencies or nonprofit nature conservancies shall review the proposed project application and confer 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 this chapter.

brief summary of each proposal. The ranked lists include the project number, name, applicant, total score, grant request, match amount, and total amount. The far-right column of the list shows the cumulative grant request.

Policy states that the board will submit alternate projects for each WWRP category. The alternates must total 50 percent of the dollar amount requested for each category, with no fewer than six alternates when possible. The amount of funding for 2021-23 is still unknown, so projects are not marked as alternates on the preliminary ranked list.

To help ensure an adequate list of alternates are available should funds become available in the future staff recommends that the board submit the complete ranked list of approved projects for each grant program and category.

Next Steps

WWRP 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 2021 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.

The legislature also sets an appropriation level for ALEA and YAF, while the LWCF funding is determined by the Federal Government through the National Park Service. The legislature, as part of the capital budget, will authorize the expenditure of any federal funds.

Final Approval in 2021

Following the adoption of the budget next year, staff will return to ask the board to approve the final lists of projects and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Until the appropriation is known, it is difficult to predict which projects will receive funding. All parties are cautioned to not consider the lists approved by the board at the November 2020 meeting to be final.

Attachments

- A. Allocation of WWRP Funds
- B. Letters Regarding Project Proposals – To be added under “Late arriving materials” at https://www.rco.wa.gov/boards/rcfb_meetings.shtml

Allocation of Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Funds

Allocation by Account and Category (Set by Statute 79A.15)²

| 45% Habitat Conservation Account | 45% Outdoor Recreation Account | 10% Farm and Forest Account |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |  |
| Categories | | |
| 35% Critical Habitat 25% Natural Areas 15% Riparian Protection 10%* State Lands Restoration and Enhancement 15% Urban Wildlife Habitat *or \$3 million, whichever is less | 30% Local Parks 40%-50% must be acquisition 10%* State Lands Development and Renovation 30% State Parks 40%-50% must be acquisition 20% Trails 10% Water Access 75% must be acquisition *or \$3 million, whichever is less | 90% Farmland Preservation Category 10% Forestland Preservation Category |

² 79A.15 was revised and adopted by the Washington State Legislature in 2016.

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)

These attachments include public correspondence (letters of support or opposition) received by the Recreation and Conservation Office during the application process.

RCW 79A.15.110 requires state and local agencies and nonprofit conservancies to review proposed WWRP acquisitions and confer with the county or city legislative authority that has jurisdiction over the project area¹. The local legislative body may submit a letter to the board stating its position about the project. Staff makes these letters available to the Governor and to the Legislature.

Letters for Projects in Ranked Order by Category - County Commissioners

Farmland Preservation Category

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------|
| • 20-1681A Natembea Farm | Jefferson County | Rank 2 |
| • 20-1405A Hannan Farm | Jefferson County | Rank 3 |

Riparian Protection Category

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| • 20-1230A Upper Naneum Creek Farm | Kittitas County | Rank 7 |
| • 20-1333A Hoko River Watershed Conservation | Clallam County | Rank 5 |

Urban Wildlife Habitat Category

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------|
| • 20-1283A Quimper Wildlife Corridor | Jefferson County | Rank 8 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------|

¹ State or local agencies or nonprofit nature conservancies shall review the proposed project application and confer 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 this chapter.



Board of County Commissioners
1820 Jefferson Street
PO Box 1220
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Kate Dean, District 1

David Sullivan, District 2

Greg Brotherton, District 3

August 4, 2020

Re: State Farmland State Farmland Preservation Program
Project 20-1681 A

Dear Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office,

The Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners is writing to whole heartedly endorse efforts by the Natembea Farm landowners to work with Jefferson Land Trust to protect the 77-acre Natembea Farm for long term agricultural production and valuable wildlife habitat. The landowners David and Devon Cohn are interested in selling a conservation easement that will help to preserve the prime soils and habitat of one of the largest operating farms within the City of Port Townsend and adjacent unincorporated Jefferson County. This funding will reduce the large development potential of the farm, help the landowners reinvest in the farm infrastructure that supports 6 diverse farm operations, and help ensure that there is forever prime farmland available for food production in close proximity to Jefferson County's largest population center.

The preservation of Natembea Farm is supported by Jefferson County's goals as our county's Comprehensive Plan notes "It is Jefferson County's intent to protect and foster opportunities for the successful practice of agriculture. It is essential to maintain large contiguous parcels and ensure the compatibility of surrounding land uses." We want to continue to support the Natembea farmers' contribution to our important local agricultural economy.

The Natembea Farm conservation easement provides an amazing opportunity to preserve and enhance one of the largest farms in close proximity to our population center and support the creative farm operations leasing the land. Jefferson Land Trust has a history of successful efforts to protect our agricultural heritage and prime agricultural lands. The State Farmland Preservation Program funding has been critical to that success and we hope your approval of this project continues that effort. We strongly urge you to consider and approve Jefferson Land Trust's conservation easement grant request.

Sincerely,

Greg Brotherton, Chair
District 3 Commissioner

Kate Dean
District 1 Commissioner

David Sullivan
District 2 Commissioner



Board of County Commissioners
1820 Jefferson Street
PO Box 1220
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Kate Dean, District 1

David Sullivan, District 2

Greg Brotherton, District 3

August 4, 2020

Re: State Farmland State Farmland Preservation Program
Project 20-1405 A

Dear Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office,

The Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners is writing to support efforts by the Hannan Farm landowners to work with Jefferson Land Trust to protect the historic 115-acre Hannan Farm for long term agricultural production and valuable wildlife habitat. The landowners Laurie Hannan and daughter Julia Nottingham are interested in selling a conservation easement that will help to preserve the prime soils, important Chimacum Creek and tributary salmon habitat of one of the largest operating farms in Center Valley, Jefferson County. This funding will prevent subdivision and reduce future development of the farm, help the landowners reinvest in the farm infrastructure that includes a barn listed on the Historic Register, and help ensure that the farm is affordable for the next generation of farmers.

The preservation of Hannan Farm is supported by Jefferson County's goals as our county's Comprehensive Plan notes "It is Jefferson County's intent to protect and foster opportunities for the successful practice of agriculture. It is essential to maintain large contiguous parcels and ensure the compatibility of surrounding land uses." We want to continue to support the Hannan farmers' contribution to our important local agricultural economy.

The Hannan Farm project provides an amazing opportunity to preserve and enhance another one of the historic farms located in the fertile Chimacum agricultural area. Jefferson Land Trust has a history of successful efforts to protect our agricultural heritage and prime agricultural lands, and already preserves approximately 650-acres of agricultural land containing important salmon habitat in the Chimacum Watershed. The State Farmland Preservation Program funding has been critical to that success and we hope your approval of this project expands that effort. We strongly urge you to consider and approve Jefferson Land Trust's conservation easement grant request.

Sincerely,

Greg Brotherton, Chair
District 3 Commissioner

Kate Dean
District 1 Commissioner

David Sullivan
District 2 Commissioner



Kittitas County, Washington
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

District One
 Cory Wright

District Two
 Laura Osiadacz

District Three
 Brett Wachsmith

August 11, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
 Attn: Kaleen Cottingham, Director
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Subject: Support for Conservation of Upper Naneum Creek Farm

Director Cottingham,

Kittitas County is writing to support Forterra's efforts to conserve Upper Naneum Creek Farm.

This 150-acre family-owned farm is located northeast of Ellensburg in Kittitas County. Forterra's goal is to purchase a conservation easement, which would remove the development rights from the property, and in doing so, permanently protect the property as working farmland for current and future generations of farmers.

Upper Naneum Creek Farm includes prime farmland and significant agricultural soils, critical for the production of local crops in Kittitas County. In addition, the property includes substantial water rights, which are secured along with the land to ensure farming and ranching is viable on the site into the future. Upper Naneum Creek Farm currently supports a local family-run agricultural business, who is leasing the farm for irrigated pasture.

Kittitas County is one of the fastest-growing counties in the country – evidence of which can be seen in the most recent US Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture, which found that the County lost over 10,000 acres of farmland between 2012 and 2017. If left unprotected, Upper Naneum Creek Farm could contribute to the acreage lost.

Forterra is seeking a Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grant through the Farmland Preservation category. If awarded, this grant funding would support the permanent conservation of this productive family farm for generations of local farmers and ranchers.

Kittitas County supports Forterra's request for Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office funding, which would acquire a conservation easement over Upper Naneum Creek Farm. Kittitas County has not been asked, and is not able to commit, County resources to hold the easement for this project. We fully support voluntary actions by our residents to promote continued farmland uses and preserve agricultural and conservation values within our County.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RECEIVED

AUG 14 2020

WA STATE
 RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Brett Wachsmith, Chairman: District 3



Laura Osiadacz, Vice-Chairman: District 2



Cory Wright, Commissioner: District 1



MARK OZIAS, District 1, Chair
RANDY JOHNSON, District 2
BILL PEACH, District 3

Board of Clallam County Commissioners

223 East 4th Street, Suite 4
 Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015
 360.417.2233 Fax: 360.417.2493
 Email: commissioners@co.clallam.wa.us

RICH SILL, County Administrator

May 26, 2020

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

RE: Land acquisitions in Clallam County – Twin Rivers Nearshore and West Twin

Dear Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office:

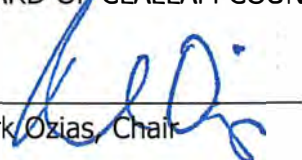
The Board of Clallam County Commissioners wish to share our support of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife land acquisition Twin Rivers Nearshore and West Twin, Clallam County. The proposed project will conserve 216 acres of land in the Lyre/Hoko Watershed along the West Twin River near Joyce. The property, bisected by Highway 112, was historically used for silica mining. Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife ownership of this property provides opportunity to protect a functionally intact habitat that supports the migratory corridor through the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the wildlife corridor connecting Olympic Mountains to the Strait.

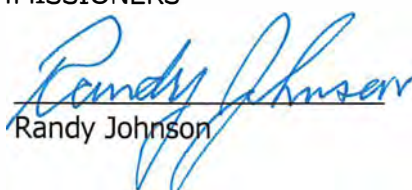
This acquisition will also provide the public with greater recreation opportunities. The property has potential use as a beach access site for fishing, kayaking, surfing, and shell fishing as well as upland recreation such as birding, hiking and waterfowl and big game hunting.

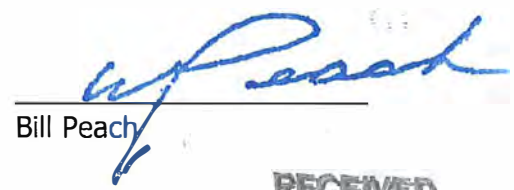
Thank you for considering the Twin Nearshore and West Twin acquisition project.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


 Mark Ozias, Chair


 Randy Johnson


 Bill Peach

RECEIVED

JUN 01 2020



MARK OZIAS, District 1, Chair
RANDY JOHNSON, District 2
BILL PEACH, District 3

Board of Clallam County Commissioners

223 East 4th Street, Suite 4
Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015
360.417.2233 Fax: 360.417.2493
Email: commissioners@co.clallam.wa.us

Rich Sill, County Administrator

File: A72

July 16, 2020

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

RE: Grant Funding for RCO projects #20-1145 and 20-1333

Dear Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office:

It is my pleasure to share my support for North Olympic Land Trust acquisitions 20-1145 and 20-1333, to acquire properties in the Hoko River watershed near Sekiu, WA, in Clallam County. Increasing funding for conservation was the reason the Clallam County Board of Commissioners **passed a "Conservation Futures" Ordinance last year, and I deeply appreciate the WA RCO's** commitment to funding conservation as well.

This grant funding would allow acquisition of approximately 229 acres of land in the Hoko River watershed that is identified as a high priority in the Western Strait of Juan de Fuca Salmonid Habitat Conservation Plan.

Thank you for considering the property acquisition grant.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Ozias".

Mark Ozias, Chair



Board of County Commissioners
1820 Jefferson Street
PO Box 1220
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Kate Dean, District 1

David Sullivan, District 2

Greg Brotherton, District 3

August 4, 2020

Re: WWRP Urban Wildlife Grant Program, Project 20-1283 A

Dear Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office,

The Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners is writing this letter in support of Jefferson Land Trust's application for support of the Quimper Wildlife Corridor project to Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program's 2020 Urban Wildlife Habitat grant program. Jefferson County has been working in partnership with Jefferson Land Trust, other agencies and the community on this project since the mid 1990's, and we are excited about these next efforts to preserve additional priority parcels in the Quimper Wildlife Corridor.

The Quimper Wildlife Corridor project is an effort to preserve a 3.5-mile greenbelt of native vegetation that spans the North Quimper Peninsula from Fort Worden State Park within the City of Port Townsend to McCurdy Point and Discovery Bay to the west in rural Jefferson County. The goal of the project is to preserve significant connected undeveloped forest and wetland habitats for multiple wildlife species within the Port Townsend Urban Growth Area and adjacent lands, while protecting the City's largest drainage corridor for natural stormwater filtration and storage. An extensive network of recreational trails crisscross the corridor and are appreciated by community and visitors for walking, bicycling, hiking, horseback riding, connecting neighborhoods, and educational programs for people of all ages.

Historic platting from the 1880s divided most of the land in the QWC into 50x100 foot lots without regard for topography or hydrology, resulting in hundreds of private parcels ranging from one lot to multiple lots. Adjacent development has increased dramatically in the last 20 years. Generational turnover in land ownership is threatening the corridor project while at the same time providing opportunities for acquisition not previously available. Since the inception of the QWC project 25 years ago, Jefferson Land Trust, Jefferson County, and the City of Port Townsend have acquired and preserved over 245 acres with funding provided by the community, The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Urban Wildlife Habitat Program, Jefferson County Conservation Futures Fund and numerous private foundations. This represents 50 transactions completed by the Land Trust alone. Recent outreach by the Land Trust to 120 landowners of prioritized parcels has resulted in over 30% response expressing interest in selling for the purpose of permanent preservation.

Support from the State Urban Wildlife Habitat Program is critical in this next big phase of acquisitions in the QWC, helping the Land Trust and project partners preserve this critical greenbelt for wildlife and humans to enjoy for years to come. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Brotherton, Chair
District 3 Commissioner

Kate Dean
District 1 Commissioner

David Sullivan
District 2 Commissioner

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Land and Water Conservation Fund
Approval of Final Ranked List and Delegation Authority for
Awarding Grants for 2021-23

Prepared By: DeAnn Beck, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Twenty-three project proposals for the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund are presented for fund consideration. This memo describes the program, review and evaluation process, and ranked list. Recreation and Conservation Office staff will present additional information about the projects at the meeting. There are currently funds available for grants and staff anticipates receipt of additional funds, pending Congressional approval of the budget for federal fiscal year 2021. Staff asks the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to (1) approve the final ranked list of projects, and (2) delegate authority to the director to award grants to projects meeting statutory and policy requirements.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution: 2020-19

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the final ranked list of projects as shown in Table 1 and delegate authority to RCO's director to award grants.

Background

The federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) provides matching grants to states to preserve and develop outdoor recreation resources for current and future generations. Rules governing the program are in the [LWCF State Assistance Program Federal Financial Assistance Manual](#). Grants fund the purchase of land and development of recreation facilities, including campgrounds, playgrounds, trails, fishing access,

swimming pools, ice-skating rinks, athletic fields, picnic sites, and various support amenities.

A prerequisite for a state's participation in this program is the adoption of a State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and development of an open project selection process. The National Park Service approved Washington's current [SCORP](#), *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022*, in November 2017. The SCORP sets priorities used to develop state program policies and the project evaluation criteria. The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board policies and the adopted evaluation criteria for LWCF are in Manual #15, *Land and Water Conservation Fund*.

Program Summary

There were several new policies for the LWCF Program, effective this year. The most significant changes involved:

- Updating the Grant Application Data Tool for the *Public Need* evaluation criterion to reflect more recent data,
- Simplifying and reducing the points for the *Sustainability* criterion (which now only applies to development and combination projects),
- Increasing the maximum points for the *Immediacy of Threat and Viability* criterion for acquisition only projects to ensure parity with scoring development and combination projects,
- Splitting the *Population Proximity* criterion into two questions to accommodate electronic scoring, and
- Requiring applicants to specify the pre-agreement costs included in the grant application to ensure federal approval of those costs for funded projects.

In addition, RCO modified PRISM Online to make the application process easier. A summary of program policies is shown in the table below.

| Land and Water Conservation Fund | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | State agencies, local agencies (cities/towns, counties, park, port, school and special purpose districts), and federally recognized Native American tribes |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition• Development or renovation of existing facilities• Combination projects involving both acquisition and development/renovation |
| Funding Limits | The minimum fund request is \$25,000 with a maximum request of \$500,000. |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Match Requirements | A minimum 1:1 non-federal matching share is required for all applicants. |
| Public Access | Public access is required. |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants must establish planning eligibility. • Property acquired must be developed within three years. • Property acquired, developed, or renovated must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. |

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

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

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Twenty-four LWCF project proposals, requesting \$11.4 million, were evaluated by members of the LWCF Advisory Committee on September 24 and 25. Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, included the following representatives, all of whom are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge about park and recreation resource management:

| Advisory Committee Member | Representing |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Lisa Clausen, Seattle | Citizen |
| Kitty Craig, Seattle | Citizen |
| Kevin Killeen, Bellevue | Citizen |
| Alanna Peterson, Seattle | Citizen |
| Jen Burbidge, Lacey Parks and Recreation Department | Local Government |
| Dave Erickson, Wenatchee Parks and Recreation | Local Government |
| Frana Milan, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks | Local Government |
| Al Vorderbrueggen, City of Spokane | Local Government |
| Nikki Fields, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission | State Government |
| Joe Rocchio, Washington Department of Natural Resources | State Government |
| Mark Teske, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | State Government |

| Advisory Committee Member | Representing |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Andrea Messam* National Park Service | Ex-Officio |

**Participated in the technical review meeting only*

Eleven advisory committee members reviewed the final grant proposals using video conferencing software for the virtual meeting, and RCO's PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module for scoring the projects. The scores given were based on criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board. The presentations were streamed live to a free internet site to support public transparency.

Unfortunately, following the post evaluation meeting, the National Park Service determined that the 10th ranked project, Snohomish County's State Route 530 (Oso Slide Memorial ([RCO #20-1685D](#)) did not meet the eligibility criteria because it is primarily a commemorative exhibit site.¹ The results of the evaluations, after removal of the Oso Slide Memorial project, are provided for board consideration in Table 1 – *Land and Water Conservation Fund, Final Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Program Funding

Congress approves funding for the LWCF grant program. The funds are from leases of offshore oil and gas resources, recreation fees, sale of surplus real property, and motorboat fuel taxes.

This summer, Congress approved, and the President signed, a landmark conservation bill, the Great American Outdoors Act. This Act, which was signed into law in August, has two key components. First, it provides permanent funding for the LWCF by investing \$900 million a year from offshore oil and natural gas royalties in conservation and recreation opportunities across the country. As a result, Washington State expects to receive \$7 to \$9 million annually in federal grant funds. Second, the Act dedicates up to \$1.9 billion per year for five years to fund deferred maintenance projects, identified by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Indian Education, on federal lands.

Current Funding

When the board approved the final ranked list for the 2019-21 biennium, the board delegated authority to the director to award grants using funds from federal fiscal years 2019 and 2020. The director awarded nearly \$6 million in grants to applicants who certified match and met the federal eligibility criteria. Two funded applicants withdrew their proposals and one applicant received its grant from the LWCF Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership, the nationwide competitive grant program. With all eligible projects underway, there remains nearly \$4 million in grant funds from federal fiscal year 2020.

¹ *LWCF State Assistance Program Federal Financial Assistance Manual, [Chapter 3.C.4\(i\)](#)*

Because RCO accepts applications once each biennium, with board approval RCO's director would use unspent funds and funds for two federal fiscal years (2021 and 2022) for the projects shown in Table 1. If it appears Washington State will receive a sizable apportionment of funds for federal fiscal year 2021, the director may authorize a supplemental grant cycle in 2021 and bring any subsequent ranked list to the board for approval to make sure Washington has enough eligible projects to use all available federal dollars. Staff will update the board on the total federal funds provided for this ranked list.

Certification of Match Required

State and local agency applicants must provide a minimum fifty percent or 1:1 match for a LWCF grant. Applicants must certify that they have matching funds available before the funding meeting.² Staff notified applicants of this requirement on October 19, 2020 and extended the certification deadline to November 2, 2020. Staff anticipates applicants will certify that their matching funds are available before the director awards grants.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

At the end of the evaluation meeting on September 25 and during the post-evaluation meeting on October 2, staff met with the LWCF Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results. They all liked the new PRISM Review and Evaluation Module.

The advisory committee felt the process was organized and efficient and they were comfortable with the resulting ranked list. They discussed the evaluation criteria and noted that the changes to the *Sustainability* criterion were helpful. They also shared thoughts about things that were somewhat challenging. For example, they felt like there was some overlap between *Need* and *Need Satisfaction*, especially if applicants did not clearly define the need or connect service area with need. Evaluators suggested allowing applicants to use a broader range of demographic measures than what is currently in the evaluation criteria to better represent the service area for the project.

Public Comment

There are several letters of support for LWCF projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

² Washington Administrative Code 286-13-040(3)

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant proposals 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 supports the board's goal of making strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of recreation opportunities. Also, projects considered for LWCF grants support board adopted priorities in SCORP.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve the final ranked list of projects shown in Table 1 – *Land and Water Conservation Fund, Final Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*. Also, staff recommends the board delegate authority to the RCO director to award grants, contingent on National Park Service review. In addition, with Congressional approval of funds for federal fiscal years 2021 and 2022 and Legislative approval of additional spending authority in the 2021-23 state capital budget, the director will award grants to remaining eligible alternates on the 2021-23 ranked list. Resolution #2020-19 is provided for board consideration.

Next Steps

If the board approves the final ranked list, the director will award grants to the ranked list of projects using monies currently available and any additional funds that become available for the next two federal fiscal years. The Legislature will set the LWCF funding authority in the state capital budget pending Congressional approval of stateside funding for federal fiscal years 2021 and 2022. The director will use additional federal funds for alternates on the board approved ranked list. The director will report on the funding decisions in the quarterly director's report.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-19, including Table 1 – *Land and Water Conservation Fund, Final Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map of Land and Water Conservation Fund Projects
- C. Land and Water Conservation Fund Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Land and Water Conservation Fund Evaluation Scores, 2021-23
- E. Land and Water Conservation Fund Project Descriptions, 2021-23
- F. Land and Water Conservation Fund Letters of Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-19
Land and Water Conservation Fund
Final Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23 and Delegation Authority**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, twenty-three Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, the projects acquire and develop public outdoor recreation areas and facilities, thereby supporting policies in the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022* and the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide; and

WHEREAS, these LWCF projects were evaluated by advisory committee members using the Open Project Selection Process approved and adopted by the National Park Service and the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, the approval of these grant proposals will occur 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 the board's principles to make strategic investments that are guided by community support and established priorities; and

WHEREAS, the projects in *Table 1 –Land and Water Conservation Fund, Final Ranked Lists of Projects, 2021-23* have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in the *Land and Water Conservation Fund Federal Financial Assistance Manual*, Washington Administrative Code 286, and Manual 15, *Land and Water Conservation Fund*; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington currently has a LWCF apportionment of \$3.5 million in federal funds and may receive additional apportionments for federal fiscal years 2021 and 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature enacted the 2019-21 state capital budget, which includes spending authority for federal Land and Water Conservation Funds for the current biennium and may approve additional spending authority for the 2021-23 biennium;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the final ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 - Land and Water Conservation Fund, Final Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23, and*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board delegates authority to the director to award the existing available funds and funds for federal fiscal years 2021 and 2022 to the projects based on the ranked list, subject to federal approval and Congressional funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board authorizes the director execute project agreements and amendments necessary to facilitate project implementation upon notification of the federal awards.

Resolution moved by:

Resolution seconded by:

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date:

Table 1: Land and Water Conservation

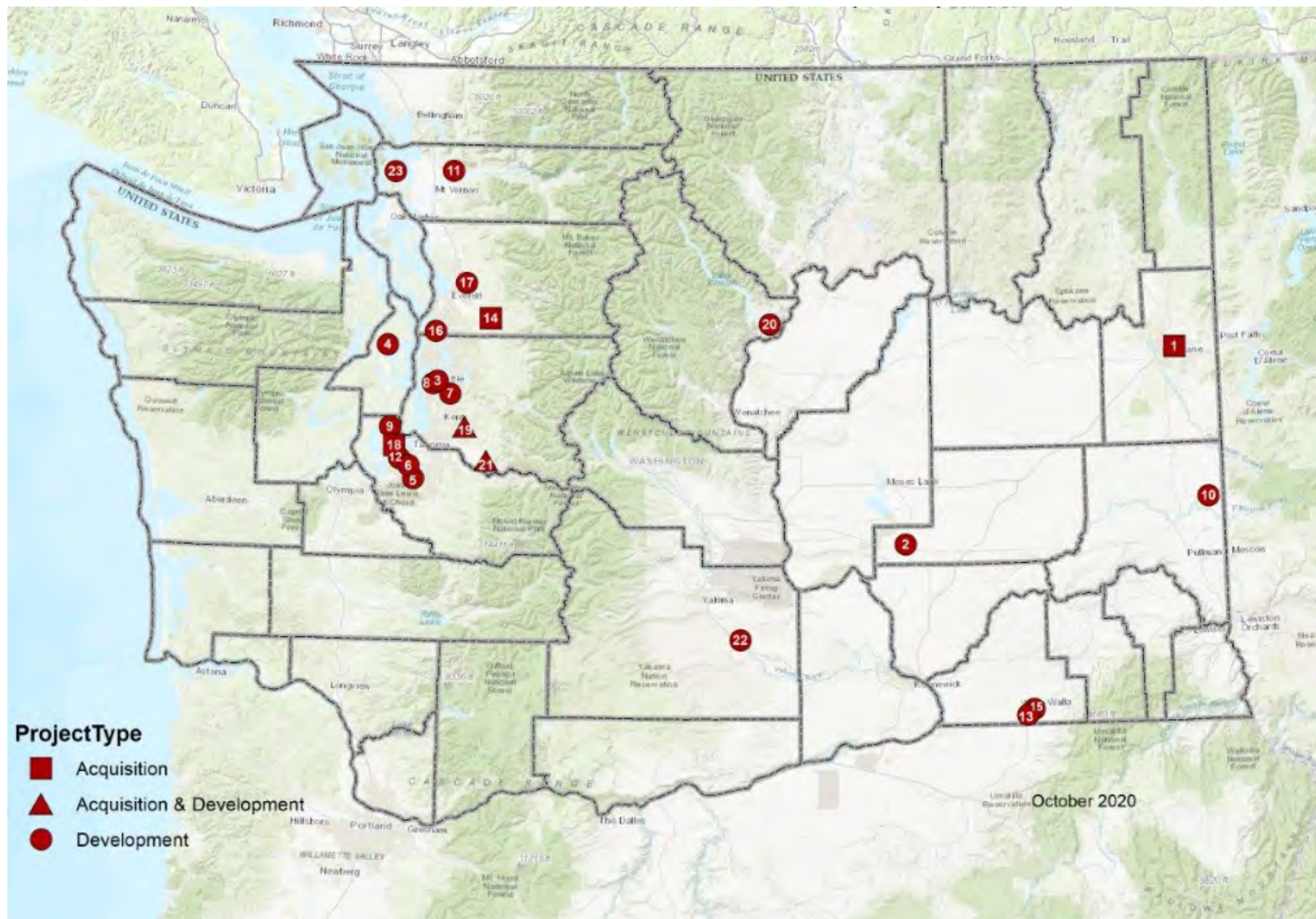
Resolution 2020-19

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects

2021-2023

| | | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 | 48.64 | 20-1276 A | Spokane County | Make Beacon Hill Public | \$500,000 | \$2,711,500 | \$3,211,500 | |
| 2 | 46.14 | 20-1363 D | Othello | Lions Park Pride Rock Playground | \$500,000 | \$509,000 | \$1,009,000 | |
| 3 | 45.55 | 20-1833 D | Seattle | North Rainier Land Banked Park | \$500,000 | \$2,618,428 | \$3,118,428 | |
| 4 | 45.27 | 20-1648 D | Poulsbo | Play for All at Raab Park | \$370,000 | \$379,824 | \$749,824 | |
| 5 | 45.05 | 20-1389 D | Pierce County | Sprinker Recreation Center Outdoor Improvements | \$500,000 | \$13,609,000 | \$14,109,000 | |
| 6 | 44.45 | 20-1763 D | Lakewood | Wards Lake Park Enhancements Phase 1 | \$500,000 | \$1,460,430 | \$1,960,430 | |
| 7 | 43.09 | 20-1731 D | Renton | Gene Coulon Beach Park Trestle Bridge | \$500,000 | \$999,572 | \$1,499,572 | |
| 8 | 42.91 | 20-1828 D | Seattle | Maple Wood Playfield Renovation | \$500,000 | \$2,801,615 | \$3,301,615 | |
| 9 | 42.73 | 20-1746 D | Gig Harbor | Gig Harbor Sports Complex Pickle Bo Spot | \$500,000 | \$2,664,100 | \$3,164,100 | |
| 10 | 41.73 | 20-1431 D | Garfield Park and Recreation District | Garfield Pool Upgrades | \$500,000 | \$500,000 | \$1,000,000 | |
| 11 | 40.77 | 20-1345 D | Sedro Woolley | Olmsted Park Development | \$500,000 | \$807,000 | \$1,307,000 | |
| 12 | 40.45 | 20-1618 D | University Place | Cirque Park Renovation | \$363,628 | \$363,629 | \$727,257 | |
| 13 | 40.23 | 20-1360 D | College Place | Lions Park Trails and Fishing Pond | \$500,000 | \$889,233 | \$1,389,233 | |
| 14 | 40.09 | 20-1286 A | Monroe | East Monroe Heritage Site | \$500,000 | \$2,317,500 | \$2,817,500 | |
| 15 | 40.05 | 20-1888 D | Walla Walla | Heritage Square Park Redevelopment | \$500,000 | \$1,973,181 | \$2,473,181 | |
| 16 | 40 | 20-1643 D | Mountlake Terrace | Evergreen Playfield Infield Turf and Lights Phase 2 | \$500,000 | \$979,000 | \$1,479,000 | |
| 17 | 39.09 | 20-1818 D | Lake Stevens | Eagle Ridge Park Development | \$428,210 | \$566,990 | \$995,200 | |
| 18 | 39.05 | 20-1798 A | Peninsula Metropolitan Park District | Narrows Park West Acquisition | \$500,000 | \$2,600,000 | \$3,100,000 | |
| 19 | 38.91 | 20-1858 C | Covington | Jenkins Creek Park Expansion | \$500,000 | \$2,918,360 | \$3,418,360 | |
| 20 | 38.55 | 20-1943 D | Chelan | Lakeside Park Renovation | \$500,000 | \$687,596 | \$1,187,596 | |
| 21 | 35.32 | 20-1533 C | King County | Little Lake Forest Trailhead Amenities | \$500,000 | \$826,065 | \$1,326,065 | |
| 22 | 32.91 | 20-1305 D | Zillah | Zillah Splash Park | \$255,170 | \$255,170 | \$510,340 | |
| 23 | 29.86 | 20-1671 D | Port of Anacortes | Cap Sante Marina RV Park | \$500,000 | \$1,811,971 | \$2,311,971 | |
| Project types: A=acquisition, C=combination, D=development | | | | | Total | \$10,917,008 | \$45,249,164 | \$56,166,172 |

State Map for Land and Water Conservation Fund Projects



Land and Water Conservation Fund Evaluation Criteria Summary

The *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022* and Recreation and Conservation Funding Board *Unifying Strategy* establish priorities for funding outdoor recreation in Washington State. The evaluation questions below incorporate the plans' priorities identified specifically for the LWCF. This priority rating system is part of the LWCF open project selection or evaluation process.

LWCF Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

| Scored by | # | Title | Project Type Questions | Maximum Points | Priority |
|-----------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Advisory Committee | 1 | Need | All projects | 15 | Recreation and Conservation Plan |
| Advisory Committee | 2 | Need satisfaction and diversity of recreation | All projects | 10 | Recreation and Conservation Plan |
| Advisory Committee | 3 | Immediacy of threat and viability | Acquisition | 10 | Board |
| | | | Combination | 5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 4 | Project design | Development | 10 | Recreation and Conservation Plan |
| | | | Combination | 5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 5 | Sustainability | Development and Combination | 5 | Recreation and Conservation Plan |
| Advisory Committee | 6 | Community support | All projects | 5 | Board |
| Advisory Committee | 7 | Cost efficiencies | All projects | 5 | Board |
| RCO Staff | 8 | Proximity to people | All projects | 1.5 | State law |
| RCO Staff | 9 | County population density | All projects | 1.5 | State law |
| RCO Staff | 10 | Applicant compliance | All projects | 0 | National Park Service |
| Total Points Possible = 58 | | | | | |

Land and Water Conservation Fund, Detailed Scoring Criteria

Scored by the Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** Considering the availability of existing outdoor recreation facilities within the service area, what is the need for new or improved facilities?
2. **Need Satisfaction and Diversity of Recreation.** To what extent does this project fill the need described in Question 1 and provide or contribute to the diversity of outdoor recreation assets within the service area area, and address the priorities for underserved populations and health recommendations in the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022?
3. **Immediacy of Threat and Viability.** Why purchase this particular property at this time? How viable are the anticipated future uses and benefits of the site? (acquisition and combination projects only)
4. **Project Design.** Is the project well designed? (development and combination projects only)
5. **Sustainability.** Please discuss how the project's location or design supports the applicant organization's sustainability plan or how the ecological, economic, and social benefits and impacts in the project plan were considered.
6. **Community Support.** To what extent has the community been provided with an adequate opportunity to become informed about the project and provide input?
7. **Cost efficiencies.** To what extent does this project demonstrate efficiencies or a reduction in government costs through documented use of donations or other resources?

Scored by RCO Staff

8. **Proximity to People.** Is the project in the urban growth area boundary of a city or town with a population of 5,000 or more?
9. **County Population Density.** Is the project in a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile?
10. **Applicant Compliance.** Is the sponsor in compliance with its RCO grant agreements?

Land and Water Conservation Fund
Evaluation Scores
2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need | 2. Need Satisfaction and Diversity of Recreation | 3. Immediacy of Threat and Viability | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Community Support | 7. Cost Efficiencies | 8. Proximity to People | 9. County Population Density | 10. Applicant Compliance | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-5 | 0-5 | 0-1 | 0-1 | -2-0 | |
| 1 | 20-1276 A | Make Beacon Hill Public | 13.36 | 8.18 | 14.73 | | | 4.82 | 4.55 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 48.64 |
| 2 | 20-1363 D | Lions Park Pride Rock Playground | 14.18 | 8.73 | | 9.09 | 4.27 | 4.64 | 3.73 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 46.14 |
| 3 | 20-1833 D | North Rainier Land Banked Park | 13.91 | 8.91 | | 9.09 | 3.82 | 4.00 | 3.82 | 1.50 | 1.50 | -1.00 | 45.55 |
| 4 | 20-1648 D | Play for All at Raab Park | 13.09 | 7.82 | | 8.91 | 3.36 | 4.55 | 4.55 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 45.27 |
| 5 | 20-1389 D | Sprinker Recreation Center Outdoor Improvements | 13.36 | 8.73 | | 9.09 | 4.27 | 4.45 | 3.64 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 45.05 |
| 6 | 20-1763 D | Wards Lake Park Enhancements Phase 1 | 12.82 | 8.91 | | 8.55 | 4.00 | 4.27 | 2.91 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 44.45 |
| 7 | 20-1731 D | Gene Coulon Beach Park Trestle Bridge | 13.09 | 8.00 | | 8.55 | 3.64 | 3.73 | 3.09 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 43.09 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need | 2. Need Satisfaction and Diversity of Recreation | 3. Immediacy of Threat and Viability | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Community Support | 7. Cost Efficiencies | 8. Proximity to People | 9. County Population Density | 10. Applicant Compliance | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| 8 | 20-1828 D | Maple Wood Playfield Renovation | 12.82 | 8.73 | | 8.18 | 3.64 | 4.27 | 3.27 | 1.50 | 1.50 | -1.00 | 42.91 |
| 9 | 20-1746 D | Gig Harbor Sports Complex Pickle Bo Spot | 11.18 | 8.00 | | 7.82 | 4.00 | 4.45 | 4.27 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 42.73 |
| 10 | 20-1431 D | Garfield Pool Upgrades | 13.64 | 8.91 | | 7.82 | 3.82 | 4.27 | 3.27 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 41.73 |
| 11 | 20-1345 D | Olmsted Park Development | 12.82 | 7.45 | | 7.45 | 3.18 | 4.45 | 3.91 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 40.77 |
| 12 | 20-1618 D | Cirque Park Renovation | 11.73 | 7.64 | | 8.00 | 2.82 | 4.09 | 3.18 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 40.45 |
| 13 | 20-1360 D | Lions Park Trails and Fishing Pond | 12.00 | 7.27 | | 8.00 | 4.00 | 4.45 | 4.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | -1.00 | 40.23 |
| 14 | 20-1286 A | East Monroe Heritage Site | 9.82 | 6.91 | 13.09 | | | 4.09 | 3.18 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 40.09 |
| 15 | 20-1888 D | Heritage Square Park Redevelopment | 11.18 | 7.64 | | 8.55 | 3.73 | 4.36 | 4.09 | 1.50 | 0.00 | -1.00 | 40.05 |
| 16 | 20-1643 D | Evergreen Playfield Infield Turf and Lights Phase 2 | 11.45 | 6.91 | | 7.64 | 3.73 | 4.09 | 3.18 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 40.00 |
| 17 | 20-1818 D | Eagle Ridge Park Development | 11.18 | 7.27 | | 7.64 | 3.55 | 3.82 | 2.64 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 39.09 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need | 2. Need Satisfaction and Diversity of Recreation | 3. Immediacy of Threat and Viability | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Community Support | 7. Cost Efficiencies | 8. Proximity to People | 9. County Population Density | 10. Applicant Compliance | Total |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| 18 | 20-1798 A | Narrows Park West Acquisition | 11.45 | 6.55 | 12.55 | | | 3.82 | 3.18 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 39.05 |
| 19 | 20-1858 C | Jenkins Creek Park Expansion | 10.64 | 7.09 | 3.73 | 3.82 | 3.73 | 3.82 | 3.09 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 38.91 |
| 20 | 20-1943 D | Lakeside Park Renovation | 11.73 | 8.18 | | 8.18 | 3.91 | 3.45 | 3.09 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 38.55 |
| 21 | 20-1533 C | Little Lake Forest Trailhead Amenities | 10.64 | 7.09 | 3.09 | 3.64 | 3.27 | 4.00 | 3.09 | 0.00 | 1.50 | -1.00 | 35.32 |
| 22 | 20-1305 D | Zillah Splash Park | 10.91 | 6.00 | | 6.91 | 2.73 | 3.36 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 32.91 |
| 23 | 20-1671 D | Cap Sante Marina RV Park | 7.64 | 5.09 | | 6.55 | 2.82 | 3.45 | 2.82 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 29.86 |

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-7; RCO staff scores Questions 8-10

Land and Water Conservation Fund Project Descriptions (In Rank Order) 2021-2023

Spokane County reserving Parkland on Beacon Hill

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department and the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 231 acres on Beacon Hill, connecting existing parks to create a contiguous 566-acre urban regional park. Located in the heart of Spokane County and the city of Spokane, Beacon Hill has been at the epicenter of mountain biking in the region for decades as well as a popular neighborhood area for hiking, dog walking, trail running, and more. This project not only will preserve miles of trail but also an urban space that serves one of Spokane's most distressed and disadvantaged neighborhoods. Spokane County will contribute more than \$2.7 million in Conservation Futures,³ a private grant, a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and donations of labor and land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1276)

Othello Developing Lions Park Pride Rock Playground

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Othello will use this grant to develop Pride Rock Playground in Lions Park. The new playground will replace unsafe 1950s equipment and grounds with safe play equipment and surfacing that are accessible to people with disabilities. The current play area will be redesigned for inclusion and efficiency, with landscaping and furnishings that offer shade and comfort during the hot Othello summers. The playground is geared towards children up to 12 years old. The project will directly benefit Othello's large youth population, 35 percent of whom live in poverty. Othello will contribute \$509,000 in cash, a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1363)

Seattle Developing North Rainier Land Banked Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to create a 1-acre park in the Rainier Valley neighborhood of southeast Seattle, one of the most demographically diverse regions in the nation. The project will enhance this dense, urban, under-represented, residential, and commercial neighborhood by creating a

³Conservation 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.

community recreation and gathering space. The park design includes a fitness zone, barbecue and picnic amenities, plantings and trees, and pathways for strolling, jogging, or skating. Seattle will contribute more than \$2.6 million in cash, council bonds, a private grant, and a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1833)

Poulsbo

Grant Requested: \$370,000

Building an Inclusive Playground in Raab Park

The City of Poulsbo will use this grant to develop an inclusive playground in the 21-acre Raab Park. The playground will include seven pieces of equipment and numerous sensory stations, all designed to accommodate people with physical disabilities and provide a sensory-rich experience. The equipment will include pieces such as a wheelchair friendly merry-go-round, inclusive teetertotter, extra wide slides, and swing seats. The equipment will be located next to the park's small playground, which is accessible to people with disabilities, but not fully inclusive. No play equipment will be removed. The 9,000-square-foot playground will feature a soft, padded synthetic surface and wheelchair accessible ramps. The inclusive playground is a community effort. The Poulsbo North Kitsap Rotary Club formed a partnership with the City and is co-leading this community project alongside the Kitsap Community Foundation, special interest groups, and citizens. Raab Park is a well-used, community park and hosts a variety of activities, including the community gardens, a dog park, a walking trail, sport courts, and a skate park. Poulsbo will contribute \$379,824 in cash, staff labor, private and state grants, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1648)

Pierce County

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Expanding Opportunities at the Sprinker Recreation Center

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to develop and renovate about 20 acres of the 44-acre Sprinker Recreation Center's outside area. The county will add synthetic turf ball fields, an entry plaza, a community event lawn, a playground, a spray park, sport courts, picnic shelters, and a trail connection to the Parkland Community Trail. In addition, the area will get new furnishings and restrooms will be renovated. This project will expand recreation opportunities and address the needs of a growing and diverse community. Dedicated in 1976, the center is in the Parkland and Spanaway communities and serves more than 167,000 people within 5 miles. Pierce County will contribute more than \$13.6 million in cash, state grants from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and the Youth Athletic Facilities program, and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (20 1389)

Lakewood
Developing Wards Lake Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Lakewood will use this grant to improve the 27-acre Wards Lake Park. Located in the northeast part of the city and next to Interstate 5, the park has expansive growth of invasive plants and sediment from incoming stormwater. It also has wetlands, oak prairie, and forest, along with trails and lawn areas. The city will build a paved, pump-track, a fenced 3-acre dog park, and 1 mile of loop trail, accessible to people with disabilities. In addition, the City will enhance the forest and native oak-prairie habitat areas and improve the critical wetlands. Finally, the City will improve pedestrian safety and add public art at the main entrance. Lakewood will contribute more than \$1.4 million in cash and state grants from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and the Youth Athletic Facilities program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1763)

Renton
Replacing the Trestle Bridge in Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Renton will use this grant to replace the trestle bridge in Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park on the south shore of Lake Washington. The park is Renton's most popular park, drawing more than 15,000 people for events and in a recent 6-hour count, more than 800 people were counted crossing the bridge. The bridge is a critical part of the park's pedestrian trail and a possible future connection to the regional Eastrail. The new bridge will provide a new viewpoint along the pedestrian trail and will include interpretive signs. The City will remove all 58 piles and the new bridge deck will allow light through, which is better for fish. Renton will contribute \$999,572 in council bonds. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1731)

Seattle
Renovating Maple Wood Playfield

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate the 9.4-acre Maple Wood Playfield in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of southeast Seattle. The City will add new drainage and irrigation, regrade the fields, and add a new grass playing surface, backstops, dugouts, and bleachers. The City will make improvements elsewhere too by installing play equipment and reconfiguring the play area to optimize accessibility, safety, and parental supervision. Finally, the City will make changes to parking and pathways to accommodate people with disabilities. Maple Wood Playfield is widely used by multiple groups, schools, and leagues for baseball, softball, soccer, and football. Seattle will contribute more than \$2.8 million in cash and state grants from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and the Youth Athletic Facilities program.

Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1828)

Gig Harbor

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Developing the Pickle Bo Spot in the Gig Harbor Sport Complex

The City of Gig Harbor will use this grant to continue development of its Pickle Bo Spot in the Gig Harbor Sports Complex, north of the YMCA parking lot. The City will build pickleball courts, bocce ball courts, a playground area, an event lawn, a sheltered performance stage, two covered picnic areas, and parking. Gig Harbor has experienced unprecedented growth in the past 10 years and is the third fastest growing city in Pierce County. The Gig Harbor Sports Complex will serve nearly 50,000 in the surrounding 5 miles. Gig Harbor will contribute more than \$2.6 million in cash, a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1746)

Garfield Park and Recreation District

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Improving Garfield Pool

The Garfield Park and Recreation District will use this grant to replace the 60-year-old pool facilities that serve as the only water recreation for the community. Currently the pool liner is leaking, the lighting cannot be turned on as it risks electrocuting patrons, the restroom and locker room areas are outdated and not universally accessible, and the wading pool does not function. The district will replace the restroom, rehabilitate the lap pool, and replace the wading pool with a splash pad. The objective of this project is to add 50 years of life to this facility. The Garfield Park and Recreation District will contribute \$500,000 in a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1431)

Sedro Woolley

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Developing Olmsted Park

The City of Sedro Woolley will use this grant to develop 14.81 acres, which were part of the Northern State Hospital Campus, into Olmsted Park. Park elements will include parking, restrooms, pathways, picnic tables, benches, and a fishing pond. Named in honor of the Olmsted brothers who were the designers of the original hospital campus, this park will be the city's second destination park. Sedro Woolley will contribute \$807,000 in cash and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1345)

University Place
Renovating Cirque Park

Grant Requested: \$363,628

The City of University Place will use this grant to renovate Cirque Park, the city's main park. The City will build a playground designed for kids ages 5 to 12 and develop new challenges at the skate park by adding four new concrete features. In addition, the City will pave the gravel walking path surrounding the park to make it accessible to people with disabilities and will add nine fitness stations there. University Place will contribute \$363,629. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1618)

College Place
Developing a Fitness Trail and Fishing Pond in Lions Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of College Place will use this grant to develop a quarter-mile fitness trail and restore the pond in Lions Park. The City will develop fitness zones along the trail that include resistant weight strengthening. In addition, the City will dredge the pond and restore the banks of the pond and creek, remove the fish weir, and add a fishing dock that is accessible to people with disabilities. Finally, the City will install stormwater treatment and lighting. College Place will contribute \$889,233 in cash and donations. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1360)

Monroe
Conserving an East Monroe Natural Area

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Monroe will use this grant to buy 43 acres of natural open space along the Skykomish River in Snohomish County. Located off U.S. Route 2, between Woods Creek Road and Calhoun Road, the land is a diverse compilation of bluffs, salmon-bearing oxbow channel, and wetlands, which provide critical places for fish to rest during high water flows. There is a natural connection to the Skykomish River and the 90-acre Al Borlin Park to the southwest. The landowner has requested to rezone the land to allow commercial and multiuse activities and previously had requested to clear the land and add 60,000 cubic yards of fill (about 6,000 truckloads of material). Monroe will contribute more than \$2.3 million in cash, Conservation Futures,⁴ and a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1286)

⁴Conservation 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.

Walla Walla
Redeveloping Heritage Square Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Walla Walla will use this grant to renovate and develop Heritage Square Park to transform an underused park in the city's historic and vibrant downtown into a centerpiece. The City will convert the park's parking lot into park space and install a water feature, performance stage, and restroom. Walla Walla will contribute nearly \$2 million in cash, a private grant, and a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1888)

Mountlake Terrace
Improving the Evergreen Playfield

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Mountlake Terrace will use this grant to redevelop Evergreen Playfield Number 3, in central Mountlake Terrace. The City will convert the dirt infield to synthetic turf with a grass outfield that will support baseball and softball. In addition, the City will add new field lights, fencing, backstop, dugouts, and other field amenities. The City will grade the area surrounding the field for new seating areas, parking, and landscaping. Mountlake Terrace will contribute \$979,000 in cash and a state Youth Athletic Facilities grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1643)

Lake Stevens
Finishing Eagle Ridge Park

Grant Requested: \$428,210

The City of Lake Stevens will use this grant to finish development of Eagle Ridge Park. The City will build an amphitheater, an outdoor classroom, a nature-themed playground, and restrooms. In addition, the City will install lights, build pedestrian pathways and parking, and landscape the park. Finally, the City will preserve and protect the park's wetland habitat that supports breeding nests for eagles. The park is used mostly for outdoor education, hiking, and playground use. Lake Stevens will contribute \$566,990 in cash and a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1818)

Peninsula Metropolitan Park District Grant
Expanding Narrows Park

Requested: \$500,000

The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to buy 116 acres of forested land, next to Narrows Park. The land includes 350 feet of shoreline on the Tacoma narrows, extending Narrows Park shoreline to more than a quarter mile. The land includes a seasonal stream, rolling uplands, steep banks to the water, and flatter upland areas for recreation. The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will contribute \$2.6 million

in Conservation Futures⁵ and a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1798)

Covington

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Creating an Entry to Jenkins Creek Park

The City of Covington will use this grant to buy nearly 2 acres and develop them as the main entry to the 22-acre Jenkins Creek Park. The park sits in the center of Covington but lacks visibility from a major street, suffers from no main entrance, and is not well used. The City will add parking, entry signs, a trailhead kiosk, garbage cans, lighting, and a gate. In addition, the City will restore a stream and improve the natural environment that is known for rare native plants and animals. The land is zoned for commercial use and is at risk of development. Covington will contribute more than \$2.9 million in cash, Conservation Futures,⁶ and a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1858)

Chelan

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Renovating Lakeside Park

The Chelan Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate Lakeside Park. The heavily used park provides significant public access to Lake Chelan. The goals of the renovation are to expand capacity, improve accessibility, and increase recreational opportunities. The City will add swim platforms and float lines, enhance the launch for nonmotorized boats, add parking, renovate the restroom, expand accessibility for people with disabilities with pathways and other improvements, renovate the playground with natural and sculptural elements, and expand the beach landward to increase access while decreasing erosion. Other sustainability features include a green roof and natural lighting in the restroom, native plants to improve habitat near the beach and for pollinator species, permeable paving in parking areas, and stormwater treatment. Chelan will contribute a \$687,596 in cash and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1943)

⁵Conservation 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.

⁶Conservation 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.

King County
Developing an Entry to Little Lake Forest Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The King County Parks and Recreation Division will use this grant to buy and develop 5.11 acres in unincorporated King County near Enumclaw as an entry to Little Lake Forest Park. The County bought the 155-acre forest in 2018 to increase public access to nature in south King County and to conserve this ecologically rich landscape. The County will install a play area, picnic shelter, seating areas, a restroom, native plants, and interpretive signs. King County will contribute \$826,065 in cash, Conservation Futures,⁷ and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1533)

Zillah
Building Zillah Splash Park

Grant Requested: \$255,170

The City of Zillah will use this grant to design and develop a splash park, complete with landscaping and seating, in Loges City Park. The proposed splash park will be off the main road that runs through Zillah on the northeast corner of the city park. This project will provide a safe alternative for people who would otherwise swim in the Yakima River. The project will be Zillah's first splash pad. In addition to providing outdoor recreation opportunities, the park also will serve as a gathering place for the community and visitors alike. Zillah will contribute \$255,170 in cash and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. [Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1305)

Port of Anacortes
Developing the Cap Sante Marina RV Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Port of Anacortes will use this grant to develop a recreational vehicle (RV) park in the Cap Sante Marina. The current RV park is a gravel lot with 22 spaces and no utility hook-ups, forcing drivers to run their motors for electrical power. The Port will create 25 spaces with hedges for privacy, add a garbage and recycling area, and install utility hook-ups for sewer, water, cable, and power. The hook-ups will eliminate the reliance on generators and reduce noise and air pollution. The Port also will collect and treat stormwater and pave roads and pathways. The new RV park will connect visitors to the marina restroom and laundry services and to waterfront parks and regional trails. The Port of Anacortes will contribute more than \$1.8 million in cash and a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1671)

⁷Conservation 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.

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • 20-1363 D Lions Park Pride Rock Playground (9) | Rank 2 |
| • 20-1648 D Play for All at Raab Park (5) | Rank 4 |
| • 20-1389 D Sprinker Recreation Center Outdoor Improvements (8) | Rank 5 |
| • 20-1763 D Wards Lake Park Enhancements Phase 1(5) | Rank 6 |
| • 20-1746 D Gig Harbor Sports Complex Pickle Bo Spot (9) | Rank 9 |
| • 20-1345 D Olmsted Park Development (5) | Rank 11 |
| • 20-1643 D Evergreen Playfield Infield Turf and Lights Phase (3) | Rank 16 |
| • 20-1818 D Eagle Ridge Park Development (6) | Rank 17 |
| • 20-1798 A Narrows Park West Acquisition (3) | Rank 18 |
| • 20-1858 C Jenkins Creek Park Expansion (3) | Rank 19 |
| • 20-1533 C Little Lake Forest Trailhead Amenities (3) | Rank 21 |
| • 20-1671 D Cap Sante Marina RV Park (3) | Rank 23 |

[View Letters Here](#)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account:
Approval of Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: Allison Dellwo, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Eighteen projects in the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the program, review and evaluation process, and preliminary ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which will then be forwarded to the Governor for inclusion in the 2021-23 capital budget.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution: 2020-20

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

The Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) provides funds for preservation, restoration, or enhancement of aquatic lands for public purposes. Grants may be used to acquire, develop, or renovate facilities that provide access to aquatic lands and associated waters. "Aquatic lands" means all tidelands, shorelands, harbor areas, and the beds of navigable waters. These lands were dedicated at statehood for maritime trade, transportation, agriculture, and commerce, and are vital to the state's economy.

The primary goals of the ALEA program are to re-establish natural, self-sustaining ecological functions on aquatic lands, to provide people with access to the water, and to increase public awareness of aquatic lands as an irreplaceable public heritage. Policies governing the program are outlined in [Manual #21, Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Grant Program](#).

Program Summary

The board approved two changes for the 2020 ALEA grant cycle, which is included in the “What’s new this year?” section of the ALEA Program summary table below.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | Native American tribes, local and state agencies |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition• Development or renovation of existing facilities• Restoration or habitat enhancement or creation• Combination projects involving:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Both acquisition and development or restoration○ Both development and restoration |
| Funding Limits | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$1,000,000 maximum for acquisition and combination (acquisition and development or restoration) projects. No more than \$500,000 may be for development or restoration costs.• \$500,000 for restoration or development projects and combination (restoration and development) projects. |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 50 percent matching share is required for <u>all</u> applicants• Exception: Because the entire state was deemed a federal disaster area, due to COVID-19, the match was set at 25 percent for applicants choosing the match reduction pathway for federal disaster areas. See Match Reduction below. |
| Public Access | Public access to aquatic lands must exist or be included in the project proposal. |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Projects must be adjacent to a “navigable”¹ water body.• Property acquired, developed, renovated or restored must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. |
| What’s new this year? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Board adopted a match reduction policy for federal disaster areas.• Board suspended the 10 percent non-state, non-federal match requirement.• RCO updated the Grant Application Data Tool for the <i>Need</i> evaluation criterion to reflect more recent data.• RCO re-numbered the evaluation criteria to accommodate electronic scoring.• RCO conducted online review and evaluation meetings only |

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

¹ Defined in Washington State Constitution, Article XVII, and 33 Code of Federal Regulations 32.

lands. Revenue sources include the 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.

Match Reduction

During this grant cycle, applicants were eligible for a match reduction via the board-adopted Federal Disaster pathway, which was designed to help mitigate the financial impacts of COVID-19. The board adopted a one-time match reduction policy for ALEA via Resolution 2020-09 at their April 2020 meeting. The match was set at 25 percent for all ALEA applicants for this grant cycle only.

Applicants for six proposals used the match reduction policy for a total reduction of \$641,550 in match. Eligible applicants who provided excess match did not benefit from the match reduction policy.

| ALEA Project Type | Number of Grant Proposals | Applications Qualified for Reduced Match | Applications Using Reduced Match | Total Match Reduction |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Acquisition or Combination | 2 | 2 | 2 | \$349,150 |
| Development | 13 | 12 | 3 | \$192,400 |
| Development and Restoration | 1 | 1 | 0 | \$0 |
| Restoration | 2 | 2 | 1 | \$100,000 |
| Total | 18 | 17 | 6 | \$641,550 |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Eighteen Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) projects, requesting over \$8.7 million, were submitted for funding consideration. The ALEA Advisory Committee used criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to review and rank projects on September 29 and 30 using video conferencing for the virtual evaluation

meetings. Twelve advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, include the following representatives all of whom are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge about public access to and enhancement and protection of aquatic resources:

| Advisory Committee Members | Representing | Affiliation |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Karen Borell, Seattle | Habitat | Citizen |
| Kim Bredensteiner, Nisqually Land Trust, Lacey | Habitat | Citizen |
| Dave Hays, Olympia | Habitat | Citizen |
| Mike Perfetti, City of Tukwilla | Habitat | Local Agency |
| Carrie Hite, Redmond Parks and Recreation | Recreation | Local Agency |
| Chris Mueller, Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo | Recreation | Local Agency |
| Ethan Newton, City of Covington | Recreation | Local Agency |
| Paul Simmons, Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation | Recreation | Local Agency |
| Nicole Czarnomski, Department of Fish and Wildlife | Habitat | State Agency |
| Maria Hunter, Department of Natural Resources | Habitat | State Agency |
| Heather Kapust, Department of Ecology | Habitat | State Agency |
| Jessica Logan, State Parks and Recreation Commission | Recreation | State Agency |

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

At the end of the evaluation meeting on September 30 and a follow-up meeting on October 1, staff met with the ALEA Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical review and evaluation meetings, evaluation criteria, and scoring results. Like all 2020 evaluators, the advisors used RCO's PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module to score grant proposals. The virtual meetings were streamed live to a free internet site to ensure the sessions were open to the public and transparent. The committee successfully used the new scoring tool and was very appreciative of the organization, training, and all the efforts of the PRISM workgroup. They took time to acknowledge Tessa Cencula for keeping them informed and Scott Chapman for all the wonderful enhancements to PRISM Online.

ALEA advisors felt applicants were very responsive to their suggested improvements following technical review and appreciated the extra effort that applicants put into preparing for the evaluation meeting.

Advisors talked about applicant's responses to the *Need for Public Access* criteria and are still concerned about how applicants might specifically address the health recommendations or the needs of the underserved. They thought it would be helpful if RCO could produce a report or map to provide the demographic measures for each grant application so evaluators would have a consistent picture of all projects.

The *Community Support* criteria spurred a lot of discussion. The focus was primarily on the applicant's efforts to reach out to people (especially those in underserved communities) to let them know about the proposed project. Then the attention was turned to what feedback did applicants get, how had they responded, and what had they done to incorporate those suggestions into their grant application.

The advisory committee recognized the challenge with scoring the *Urgency and Viability* criterion for acquisition or combination projects, particularly when the applicant had already purchased the property under a "waiver of retroactivity". In the pre-evaluation session, staff had reminded evaluators that they needed to consider the circumstances before an applicant moved forward to purchase a site in order to score this criterion fairly. Despite this challenge, the committee thought the evaluation criteria for ALEA works well and had no suggested changes board consideration.

Overall, the committee was pleased with the quality of the projects, the evaluation process, and the preliminary ranked list.

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 the board's goal of making strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat and recreation opportunities. Projects considered for funding in the ALEA program support board-adopted priorities in the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022*.

Public Comment

There are several letters of support for ALEA projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23* via Resolution #2020-20.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-2023 biennium. The Governor submits the list of ALEA projects to the Legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The board will approve the final list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting.

Attachments

- Attachment A: Resolution #2020-20, including Table 1 – *Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- Attachment B: State Map for Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Projects
- Attachment C: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Evaluation Criteria Summary
- Attachment D: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Evaluation Scores, 2021-23
- Attachment E: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Project Descriptions
- Attachment F: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Letters of Support

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-20
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, eighteen Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) program projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all eighteen ALEA projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 21, *Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Grant Program*; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the projects enhance, improve, or protect aquatic lands and provide public access to such lands and associated waters, thereby supporting policies in the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022 and the board's strategy to provide partners with funding for both conservation and recreation opportunities statewide;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*; 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)

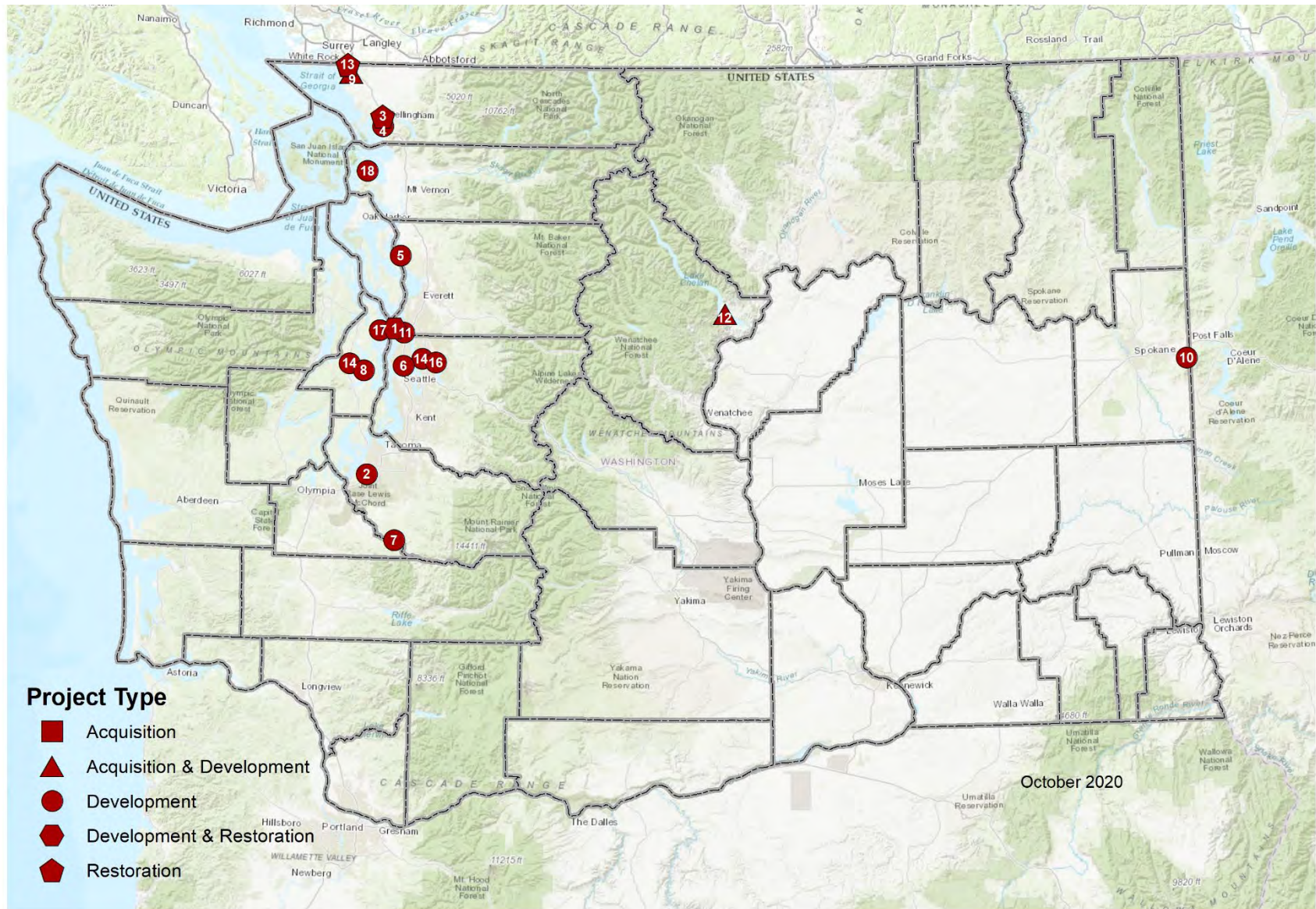
Date: _____

Table 1: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2021-2023

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 60.42 | 20-1322 C | Edmonds | Willow Creek at Marina Beach Park | \$500,000 | \$4,115,549 | \$4,615,549 |
| 2 | 59.83 | 20-1760 D | Lakewood | American Lake Park Waterfront Access Upgrades | \$500,000 | \$884,920 | \$1,384,920 |
| 3 | 57.83 | 20-1725 R | Bellingham | Little Squalicum Estuary | \$500,000 | \$2,098,640 | \$2,598,640 |
| 4 | 54.25 | 20-1709 D | Port of Bellingham | Fairhaven Small Watercraft Launch and Dock | \$500,000 | \$1,391,200 | \$1,891,200 |
| 5 | 53.33 | 20-1653 D | Snohomish County | Kayak Point Waterfront Improvements Phase 1 | \$500,000 | \$2,505,971 | \$3,005,971 |
| 6 | 53.08 | 20-1302 D | Seattle | Terry Pettus Park Renovation | \$500,000 | \$1,240,000 | \$1,740,000 |
| 7 | 52.5 | 20-1557 D | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Nisqually State Park | \$500,000 | \$2,197,772 | \$2,697,772 |
| 8 | 50.75 | 20-1711 D | Port of Illahee | Waterfront Access Improvements | \$500,000 | \$312,000 | \$812,000 |
| 9 | 50.58 | 20-1841 C | Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District | California Creek Estuary Park Phase 2 | \$425,300 | \$147,000 | \$572,300 |
| 10 | 49.92 | 20-1474 D | Spokane County | Liberty Lake Regional Park Phase 1 | \$500,000 | \$1,400,000 | \$1,900,000 |
| 11 | 49.58 | 20-1672 D | Mountlake Terrace | Ballinger Park Viewing Platform and Nature Trails | \$500,000 | \$418,000 | \$918,000 |
| 12 | 47.42 | 20-1483 C | Manson Park and Recreation District | Manson Bay Old Swim Hole Acquisition and Development | \$630,000 | \$210,000 | \$840,000 |
| 13 | 46.08 | 20-1751 R | Blaine | Marine Park Beach Naturalization | \$500,000 | \$300,000 | \$800,000 |
| 14 | 44.92 | 20-1758 D | Kirkland | David Brink Park Shoreline Renovation | \$500,000 | \$811,600 | \$1,311,600 |
| 14 | 44.92 | 20-1819 D | Port of Silverdale | Expand Silverdale Float Facilities and Enhance Beach | \$500,000 | \$571,181 | \$1,071,181 |
| 16 | 38.92 | 20-1530 D | King County | Marymoor Park Dock Replacement | \$500,000 | \$642,128 | \$1,142,128 |
| 17 | 33.67 | 20-1736 D | Port of Kingston | Guest Restroom Facility Replacement | \$172,200 | \$57,400 | \$229,600 |
| 18 | 31.33 | 20-1670 D | Port of Anacortes | Cap Sante Marina RV Park | \$500,000 | \$650,985 | \$1,150,985 |
| Total | | | | | \$8,727,500 | \$19,954,346 | \$28,681,846 |

Project types: A=acquisition, C=combination of two or more acquisition, development, or restoration elements, D=development, R=restoration

State Map for Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Projects



Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Evaluation Criteria Summary

The ALEA program strives to fund projects focused on two main program purposes:

1. Protection and Enhancement: to improve or protect aquatic lands for public purposes
2. Public Access: to provide and improve public access to aquatic lands.²

Applicants may submit projects that focus on a single purpose or a project that focuses on both. Here are the three separate scoring tables.

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*.

| Question | | Purpose | Project Type | Points |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Scored by the Advisory Committee | | | | |
| 1 | Fit with Protection Goals | Protection and Enhancement | All Project Types | 15 |
| 3 | Need for Protection | Protection and Enhancement | All Project Types | 20 |
| 5 | Suitability for Protection | Protection and Enhancement | All Project Types | 10 |
| 7 | Urgency and Viability | All | Acquisition | 10 |
| | | | Acquisition and Restoration | 5 |
| 8 | Restoration Design and Viability | Protection and Enhancement | Restoration | 10 |
| | | | Acquisition and Restoration | 5 |
| 10 | Community Support | All | All Project Types | 10 |
| Scored by RCO Staff | | | | |
| 11 | Growth Management Act Preference | All | All Project Types | 0 |
| 12 | Proximity to People | All | All Project Types | 1 |
| Total | | | | 66 |

²Revised Code of Washington 79.105.150(1)

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*.

| Question | | Purpose | Project Type | Points |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| Scored by the Advisory Committee | | | | |
| 2 | Fit with Public Access Goals | Public Access | All Project Types | 15 |
| 4 | Need for Public Access | Public Access | All Project Types | 20 |
| 6 | Suitability for Public Access | Public Access | All Project Types | 10 |
| 7 | Urgency and Viability | All | Acquisition | 10 |
| | | | Acquisition and Development | 5 |
| 9 | Development Design and Viability | Public Access | Development | 10 |
| | | | Acquisition and Development | 5 |
| 10 | Community Support | All | All Project Types | 10 |
| Scored by RCO Staff | | | | |
| 11 | Growth Management Act Preference | All | All Project Types | 0 |
| 12 | Proximity to People | All | All Project Types | 1 |
| | | | Total | 66 |

Projects Meeting Both Program Purposes Protection or Enhancement AND Public Access

Applicants whose projects meet both program purposes of protecting or enhancing aquatic lands and providing or improving public access to aquatic lands may receive up to five additional points by receiving a higher weighted score under Question 1.

| Question | | Purpose | Project Type | Points |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Scored by the Advisory Committee | | | | |
| 1 | Fit with Protection Goals | Protection and Enhancement | All Project Types | 10 |
| 2 | Fit with Public Access Goals | Public Access | All Project Types | 10 |
| 3 | Need for Protection | Protection and Enhancement | All Project Types | 10 |
| 4 | Need for Public Access | Public Access | All Project Types | 10 |
| 5 | Suitability for Protection | Protection and Enhancement | All Project Types | 5 |
| 6 | Suitability for Public Access | Public Access | All Project Types | 5 |
| 7 | Urgency and Viability | All Purposes | Acquisition | 10 |
| | | | Acquisition, Development, and Restoration | 5 |
| | | | Development and Restoration | 5 |
| 8 | Restoration Design and Viability | Protection and Enhancement | Acquisition, Development, and Restoration | 2.5 |
| | | | Development and Restoration | 5 |
| 9 | Development Design and Viability | Public Access | Acquisition, Development, and Restoration | 2.5 |
| | | | Development and Restoration | 5 |
| 10 | Community Support | All Purposes | All Project Types | 10 |
| Scored by RCO Staff | | | | |
| 11 | Growth Management Act Preference | All Purposes | All Project Types | 0 |
| 12 | Proximity to People | All Purposes | All Project Types | 1 |
| Total | | | | 71 |

ALEA Scoring Criteria

Advisory Committee Scored

- 1. Fit with ALEA Protection Goals** *(RCW 79.105.150)*
How well does this project fit the goals to enhance, improve, or protect aquatic lands? *(Protection or Enhancement projects or Both)*
- 2. Fit with Public Access Goals.** How well does this project improve or provide public access to aquatic lands? *(Public Access projects or Both)*
- 3. Need for Protection** *RCFB Resolution 2017-32*
What is the need for this project and how will this project address the priorities for underserved populations and health in the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022?* *(Protection or Enhancement projects or Both)*
- 4. Need for Public Access**

What is the need for this project and how will this project address the priorities for underserved populations and health in the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022?* *(Public Access projects or Both)*
- 5. Suitability for Protection**
Is the site well suited for the intended uses? *(Protection or Enhancement projects or Both)*
- 6. Suitability for Public Access**
Is the site well suited for the intended uses? *(Public Access or Both)*
- 7. Urgency and Viability.**
Why purchase this particular property at this time? How viable are the anticipated future uses and benefits of the site?

(All acquisition or combination projects answer this question.)
- 8. Restoration Design and Viability** *RCFB Resolution 2016-03*
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?

(All restoration and enhancement or combination projects answer this question.)

9. Development Design and Viability

RCFB Resolution 2016-03

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?

(All public access development or combination projects answer this question.)

10. Community 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? *(All projects)*

RCO Staff Scored (All projects)

11. Growth Management Act Preference

RCW 43.17.250

Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act? *(All projects)*

12. Proximity to People

RCW 79A.25.250

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. *(All projects)*

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Evaluation Scores 2021-23

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Fit with ALEA Program Goals - Protection | 2. Fit with ALEA Program Goals - Access | 3. Project Need - Protection | 4. Project Need - Access | 5. Site Suitability - Protection | 6. Site Suitability - Access | 7. Urgency and Viability | 8. Restoration Design and Viability - Protection | 9. Development Design and Viability - Access | 10. Community Support | 11. Growth Management Act Preference | 12. Proximity to People | Total |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-10 | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-20 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-10 | -1-0 | 0-1 | |
| 1 | 20-1322 C | Willow Creek at Marina Beach Park | 8.50 | 8.17 | 9.00 | 7.33 | 4.00 | 4.33 | | 4.00 | 4.42 | 9.67 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 60.42 |
| 2 | 20-1760 D | American Lake Park Waterfront Access Upgrades | | 13.00 | | 18.67 | | 9.17 | | | 8.33 | 9.67 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 59.83 |
| 3 | 20-1725 R | Little Squalicum Estuary | 14.00 | | 18.00 | | 8.67 | | | 8.83 | | 7.33 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 57.83 |
| 4 | 20-1709 D | Fairhaven Small Watercraft Launch and Dock | | 12.25 | | 14.33 | | 8.67 | | | 8.50 | 9.50 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 54.25 |
| 5 | 20-1653 D | Kayak Point Waterfront Improvements Phase 1 | | 13.00 | | 14.67 | | 8.17 | | | 8.50 | 8.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 53.33 |
| 6 | 20-1302 D | Terry Pettus Park Renovation | | 13.75 | | 15.00 | | 7.83 | | | 7.67 | 7.83 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 53.08 |
| 7 | 20-1557 D | Nisqually State Park | | 12.00 | | 16.67 | | 8.33 | | | 6.50 | 8.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 52.50 |
| 8 | 20-1711 D | Waterfront Access Improvements | | 11.75 | | 14.67 | | 7.50 | | | 7.33 | 8.50 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 50.75 |
| 9 | 20-1841 C | California Creek Estuary Park Phase 2 | | 12.75 | | 14.00 | | 8.50 | 3.83 | | 3.33 | 8.17 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 50.58 |
| 10 | 20-1474 D | Liberty Lake Regional Park Phase 1 | | 12.25 | | 13.67 | | 8.67 | | | 7.83 | 7.50 | -1.00 | 1.00 | 49.92 |
| 11 | 20-1672 D | Ballinger Park Viewing Platform and Nature Trails | | 11.75 | | 13.33 | | 8.00 | | | 7.33 | 8.17 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 49.58 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Fit with ALEA Program Goals - Protection | 2. Fit with ALEA Program Goals - Access | 3. Project Need - Protection | 4. Project Need - Access | 5. Site Suitability - Protection | 6. Site Suitability - Access | 7. Urgency and Viability | 8. Restoration Design and Viability - Protection | 9. Development Design and Viability - Access | 10. Community Support | 11. Growth Management Act Preference | 12. Proximity to People | Total |
|------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-10 | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-20 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-10 | -1-0 | 0-1 | |
| 12 | 20-1483 C | Manson Bay Old Swim Hole Acquisition and Development | | 11.25 | | 15.67 | | 7.17 | 3.17 | | 3.17 | 7.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 47.42 |
| 13 | 20-1751 R | Marine Park Beach Naturalization | 11.75 | | 12.33 | | 6.67 | | | 6.83 | | 7.50 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 46.08 |
| 14 | 20-1758 D | David Brink Park Shoreline Renovation | | 11.25 | | 12.00 | | 7.50 | | | 7.17 | 6.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 44.92 |
| 14 | 20-1819 D | Expand Silverdale Float Facilities and Enhance Beach | | 10.75 | | 13.67 | | 7.00 | | | 6.33 | 6.17 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 44.92 |
| 16 | 20-1530 D | Marymoor Park Dock Replacement | | 9.75 | | 10.67 | | 6.00 | | | 5.33 | 7.17 | -1.00 | 1.00 | 38.92 |
| 17 | 20-1736 D | Guest Restroom Facility Replacement | | 6.00 | | 9.33 | | 6.33 | | | 5.67 | 5.33 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 33.67 |
| 18 | 20-1670 D | Cap Sante Marina RV Park | | 4.50 | | 9.00 | | 5.50 | | | 5.00 | 6.33 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 31.33 |

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

Project types: A=acquisition, C=combination of two or more acquisition, development, or restoration elements, D=development, R=restoration

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Project Descriptions (In Rank Order) 2021-2023

Edmonds

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Redeveloping Marina Beach Park

The City of Edmonds will use this grant to redevelop the 5-acre Marina Beach Park. The City will open Willow Creek, which historically contained salmon and now is being piped under the park. The creekbanks will have native plantings, trails, and interpretive signs. The City will create scenic overlooks, improve pathways, and install restrooms at two new entry plazas and a boat launch access point at a parking lot to improve access to Puget Sound for hand-carried boats. The overall goal is to enhance the natural function of the nearby marsh-estuary complex by connecting it to Puget Sound via Willow Creek. Edmonds will contribute more than \$4.1 million in cash and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1322)

Lakewood

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Improving American Lake Park

The City of Lakewood will use this grant to improve the 5.5-acre American Lake Park. The city will build a boat launch, install a small shelter, replace a deteriorated stone retaining wall and bulkhead, add a restroom and entry plaza, and restore open spaces. In addition, the City will build a universally accessible walkway to the beach and boat launch as well as pathways to get people from the parking areas to the rest of the park. The goal of the project is to improve access to the lake and to the park itself. Located on the north side of the 1,200-acre American Lake and in an extremely low-income neighborhood, the park is the only community park in the area and the only park that provides a public boat launch and free waterfront access. Lakewood will contribute \$884,920 in cash and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1760)

Bellingham

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Expanding the Little Squalicum Estuary

The City of Bellingham will use this grant to expand the Little Squalicum estuary on Bellingham Bay. The City will excavate material and plant the area. The work will restore tidal and sedimentary processes, improve fish passage, and return 2.4 acres of saltmarsh, mudflat and estuary habitats to an area where these habitats have been lost. This project is in the Little Squalicum Park, which provides rare public access to, and

scenic views of, Puget Sound. The estuary will provide paces for salmon to eat, grow, hide from predators, and rest. The estuary is used by Puget Sound Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as other salmon species. The City also will supplement the beach with excavated material to enhance areas nearby where forage fish, which salmon eat, spawn. The Little Squalicum is one of the last remaining locations available for estuary expansion in Water Resource Inventory Area 1, because of an increasingly urbanized shoreline with competing uses such as marinas, industry, and railways. Bellingham will contribute more than \$2 million in cash and local, state, and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1725)

Port of Bellingham

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Building a Small Watercraft Launch and Dock in Fairhaven

The Port of Bellingham will use this grant to develop a small watercraft launch and dock in the Fairhaven neighborhood to provide access to Puget Sound. The launch, which will be next to the Community Boating Center, will be the first dock on saltwater in Whatcom County designed specifically for human-powered boats. The Port will install an 80-foot-long gangway, a floating dock and breakwater, and a universally accessible floating dock that will provide a smooth transition on and off the water for the smallest of boats. The new docks will be a safe distance from the Port's motorized launch, reducing conflicts between boaters and increasing safety, while providing access to Port-owned parking lots and restrooms. More than 9,000 kayakers, canoeists, rowers, and paddleboarder use the launch annually. The Port also will create a small pocket beach. The Port of Bellingham will contribute nearly \$1.4 million in cash and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1709)

Snohomish County

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Renovating Kayak Point Park Waterfront

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to renovate the entire day-use area and a pier in Kayak Point Park on the eastern shores of the Salish Sea, near Stanwood. In the day-use area, the County will move parking and roads off the shoreline, build a berm along the shore with native plants, and raise the entire site for long-term sea level rise resilience. The County also will renovate the pier. The planned improvements are intended to preserve and improve public use while also enhancing the natural environment and addressing outdated infrastructure. Snohomish County will contribute more than \$2.5 million in cash and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1653)

Seattle Renovating Terry Pettus Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to replace the failing retaining walls, seating, and dock in Terry Pettus Park, the largest waterfront park on east Lake Union. The department also will improve the paths connecting the Cheshiahud Lake Union Loop Trail and the access to the shoreline and dock for people using wheelchairs. This is the only park in Seattle's system that will provide free, waterfront access that is accessible to people with disabilities. Finally, the department will enhance landscaping features to improve lines of sight and safety. The park is popular for walking, biking, and participating in water activities and is a regional spot to launch hand-carried boats. The department also will restore native habitat and make shoreline improvements. The site is in disrepair with a deteriorating dock and corroded seating and retaining walls. Seattle will contribute \$1.2 million in cash and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1302)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$500,000 Providing Access to the Nisqually River

State Parks will use this grant to develop access to the Nisqually River in Nisqually State Park. State Parks will build a road to a small parking area near the river that will serve school groups, people with disabilities, and people with kayaks or rafts. A second parking area up the road will provide parking for vehicles with boat trailers. At a visitor area near the river, State Parks will install an interpretive kiosk, a toilet, and an interpretive trail that leads in one direction to a hand carry boat launch and a small beach for direct water access and in the other direction, to viewing platforms for people to see and learn about the river. Finally, State Parks will plant portions of the Nisqually River waterfront near the Ohop Creek confluence to improve habitat for salmon species, including Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are listed as at risk of extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. This will be one of the first day use facilities developed in this new state park. The project is designed to allow park visitors access to the river while also protecting and improving salmon habitat. State Parks will contribute nearly \$2.2 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1557)

Port of Illahee
Improving Access to the Waterfront

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Port of Illahee will use this grant to replace two recreational floats on the Illahee dock, expand parking, and improve pathways to the beach. The Illahee dock is a wood pier with gangways and two recreational floats, which have deteriorated and require immediate replacement. The upland area has a house, garage, and concrete boat ramp for small, nonmotorized boats. The Port will replace the floats in an improved configuration, demolish the house to expand parking, add new routes for people with disabilities, improve pathways to the beach, and install a toilet, educational signs, and viewpoints. The Port of Illahee will contribute \$312,000 in a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1711)

Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District
Developing California Creek Estuary Park

Grant Requested: \$425,300

The Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District will use this grant to buy 12 acres along California Creek for a day-use park between Birch Bay and Blaine, on the district's Bay to Bay Trail. The land surrounds land already owned by the district and combined they conserve 888 feet of saltwater shoreline open to the public on Drayton Harbor. In addition, the district will add a restroom, kayak launch, interpretive kiosk, and trails to the day-use California Creek Estuary Park. The tidelands and estuary are prime habitat for many species of salmon, forage fish, and many other animals. The Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District will contribute \$147,000 in cash, voter-approved bonds, a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1841)

Spokane County
Renovating Liberty Lake Regional Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department will use this grant to renovate the beach area in Liberty Lake Regional Park. The park has aging facilities, nearing the end of their life, and no facilities for people with disabilities at its beach area. The County will replace the dock with an expanded one that is accessible to people with disabilities and accommodates fishing. In addition, the County will install a new picnic shelter and replace a restroom. The County also will renovate parking, roads, and pathways to ensure they can be used by people with disabilities, including adding a kayak launch for people using wheelchairs. The work will create a new loading and unloading area for the beach, pave the beach access road, add a beach access pathway from the main parking lot, reconfigure the park entrance, install an automated parking

ticket system, improve irrigation and stormwater, and add landscaping and interpretive signs. This project will significantly expand and diversify public access to Liberty Lake for activities such as sunbathing, swimming, fishing, wildlife viewing, and boating for visitors of all ability levels. Spokane County will contribute \$1.4 million in cash and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1474)

Mountlake Terrace **Grant Requested: \$500,000**
Building a Viewing Platform and Trails in Ballinger Park

The City of Mountlake Terrace will use this grant to build a viewing platform and a series of connecting nature trails in Ballinger Park, which is in southwest Mountlake Terrace. The viewing platform will be built on Lake Ballinger in the southwest corner of the park connected by trails to the more sensitive portions of the park. Mountlake Terrace will contribute \$418,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1672)

Manson Park and Recreation District **Grant Requested: \$630,000**
Expanding Manson Bay Park

The Manson Park and Recreation District will use this grant to buy and then develop .17 acre next to Manson Bay Park, a property known locally as the "Old Swim Hole." Buying the land will enable the district to conserve dwindling waterfront park space in an area that is closed because of severe erosion and safety hazards. The district will restore the rapidly eroding shoreline, build a waterfront boardwalk, and add a dock to give nonmotorized watercraft access to Lake Chelan. The project area is unique in offering swimming and water access for both people and dogs, as part of a no-leash play area. The Manson Park and Recreation District will contribute \$210,000 in donations of equipment, labor, and land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1483)

Blaine **Grant Requested: \$500,000**
Revitalizing Marine Park Beach

The City of Blaine will use this grant to rebuild the beach in Marine Park, which is highly visible from the Peace Arch Border Crossing, the third busiest on the nation's border with Canada. The City will replace failing shoreline armoring and establish a naturally functioning shoreline with pocket beaches of sand, gravel, and cobbles nestled between boulder headlands on Semiahmoo Bay. The City also will build access and viewpoints to the tidelands and saltwater. The project's goals are to create near-shore habitat for fish and other wildlife, create public access, and protect infrastructure and park improvements. The project is ranked as the number one capital project on Blaine's

Strategic Economic Initiative. Blaine will contribute \$300,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1751)

Kirkland

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Renovating the Shoreline in David Brink Park

The City of Kirkland will use this grant to renovate the shoreline along Lake Washington in David Brink Park. The City will remove part of a bulkhead and create two pocket beaches with native plants and terraced rock walls. In addition, the City will install a new seat wall and viewing area, replace the stairs to the beach and part of the concrete bulkhead, remove derelict pilings near the shoreline, resurface the pier with grated decking, create a universally accessible pathway loop, and install signs to educate visitors about the shoreline restoration project. The goal is to enhance access to the lake. Kirkland will contribute \$811,600. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1758)

Port of Silverdale

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Adding a New Float in Silverdale and Restoring the Beach

The Port of Silverdale will use this grant to build a float and gangway in the "Old Town" Silverdale marina for hand-carried boats. The Port will install an 82-foot-long gangway from the existing pier leading to a new float that will be open to all non-motorized watercraft. The float will feature a low freeboard for easy access in and out of the water. Installing the new gangway will improve access during low tides and allow for use by people with disabilities. In addition, the Port will clean up derelict rock debris on the beach and restore the natural beach habitat to support species, including salmon, listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Port of Silverdale will contribute \$571,181 in a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1819)

King County

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Replacing a Dock in Marymoor Park

The King County Parks and Recreation Division will use this grant to replace a well-used dock at the mouth of the Sammamish River near the north end of Lake Sammamish in King County's Marymoor Park. The County will replace the 100-foot-long dock used annually by more than 3,000 kayakers, paddle boarders, and rowers, with a 200-foot-long dock and boat ramp. King County will contribute \$642,128 from a voter-approved tax levy and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1530)

**Port of Kingston
Replacing a Marina Restroom**

Grant Requested: \$172,200

The Port of Kingston will use this grant to replace its 1960s restroom, which is upland from the Port's marina and guest dock, with one that is accessible to people with disabilities. The restroom will be a prefabricated facility open to all port visitors. The Port of Kingston will contribute \$57,400. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1736)

**Port of Anacortes
Developing the Cap Sante Marina RV Park**

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Port of Anacortes will use this grant to develop a recreational vehicle (RV) park in the Cap Sante Marina. The current RV park is a gravel lot with 22 spaces and no utility hook-ups, forcing drivers to run their motors for electrical power. The Port will create 25 spaces with hedges for privacy, add a garbage and recycling area, and install utility hook-ups for sewer, water, cable, and power. The hook-ups will eliminate the reliance on generators and reduce noise and air pollution. The Port also will collect and treat stormwater and pave roads and pathways. The new RV park will connect visitors to the marina restroom and laundry services and to waterfront parks and regional trails. The Port of Anacortes will contribute \$1.8 million in cash and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1670)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • 20-1322C Willow Creek at Marina Beach Park (7) | Rank 1 |
| • 20-1760D American Lake Park Waterfront Access Upgrades (4) | Rank 2 |
| • 20-1302D Terry Pettus Park Renovation (1) | Rank 6 |
| • 20-1711D Waterfront Access Improvements (1) | Rank 8 |
| • 20-1841C California Creek Estuary Park Phase 2 (4) | Rank 9 |
| • 20-1483C Manson Bay Old Swim Hole Acquisition and Development (14) | Rank 12 |
| • 20-1751R Marine Park Beach Naturalization (1) | Rank 13 |
| • 20-1530D Marymoor Park Dock Replacement (1) | Rank 16 |
| • 20-1670D Cap Sante Marina RV Park (3) | Rank 18 |

[View Letters Here](#)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Youth Athletic Facilities: Approval of Preliminary Ranked Lists for 2021-2023

Prepared by: Alison Greene, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Applicants submitted thirty-eight Large Grants category and seven Small Grants category proposals for the Youth Athletic Facilities Program. This memo describes the program, evaluation process, and ranked lists. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked lists, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution #: 2020-21

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked lists of projects shown in Table 1 and Table 2

Background

The Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) Program provides funds for development of new outdoor athletic facilities, renovation of existing facilities, or a combination of acquisition of land and development or renovation of athletic facilities serving youth and communities. The program priority is to enhance or develop facilities that serve people through the age of eighteen who participate in sports and athletics.

The program encourages multi-generational use, which means applicants may submit proposals for facilities sized for adults, but which primarily serve youth. Improvements may include development or renovation of athletic fields, hard courts, outdoor swimming pools, running tracks, and support amenities such as restrooms and parking areas.

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board’s (board) policies for YAF focus on increasing participation in outdoor recreation, sustaining our state’s outdoor recreation assets, and recognizing the social, economic, and health benefits of outdoor recreation, particularly for our youth. These were areas of importance for the [Governor’s Blue Ribbon Task Force on Parks and Outdoor Recreation](#). A recommendation in the [Recreational Assets of Statewide Significance in Washington State](#), highlights the importance of preserving the state’s “foundational assets” that includes facilities for playing sports. The study recommends helping local governments add high-capacity sports fields as well as multifunctional turf fields that provide greater capacity and flexibility, which is a priority for YAF. Board-approved program policies and evaluation criteria are included in [Manual 17, Youth Athletic Facilities](#).

Program Summary

For this grant round, the board adopted several new policies for YAF which included: reducing the required match via revision to the match reduction policy for federal disaster areas, removing the ten percent non-state, non-federal match requirement, changing the *Sustainability* evaluation criterion, and suspending the Matching Shares criterion from the evaluation instrument. Additionally, RCO implemented several changes to PRISM Online to make the application process easier. A summary of current program policies is shown in the table below.

| | Large Grants | Small Grants |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities • Counties • Native American tribes • Park districts • Qualified nonprofit organizations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities (10,000 residents or fewer) • Counties (6,000 residents or fewer) • Native American tribes • Park districts (10,000 residents or fewer) • Qualified nonprofit organizations (The population of the jurisdiction where the project lies must meet the cities/counties criterion.) |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development or renovation • Combined land acquisition and development or renovation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development or renovation |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Funding Limits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$25,000 to \$350,000 • No limit on the total project cost. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$75,000 maximum • Total project cost may not exceed \$150,000. |
| Funding Source | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonds - 90% of total appropriation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonds - 10% of total appropriation |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 percent • Exception: Match may be reduced for communities in need, underserved populations, counties in need, or communities providing facilities in federal disaster areas. <p><u>Note:</u> Because the entire state was deemed a federal disaster area, due to COVID-19, the match was set at 25 percent for applicants choosing the federal disaster area pathway. See Match Reduction below.</p> | |
| Public Access | Required | |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects must include items found within the field of play that are essential for the competitive sport to occur. Exception: This requirement does not apply to stand-alone accessibility improvement projects in the Small Grants category. • Property acquired must be developed within five years and must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. • Facilities renovated or developed must remain for public outdoor recreation for a minimum of 20 years after RCO accepts the project as complete. | |

Match Reduction

During this grant cycle, all applicants were eligible for a match reduction via the board-adopted Federal Disaster pathway, which was designed to help mitigate the financial impacts of COVID-19. The board modified the match reduction policy for federal disaster areas via Resolution 2020-09 at their April 2020 meeting. The match was set at 25 percent for YAF applicants. Additionally, the Communities in Need, Counties in Need, and Underserved Population pathways were still available and, in some cases, provided a lower match option for qualified applicants.

As shown in the table below, applicants for 28 proposals used the match reduction policy for a total reduction of \$2,027,553 in match. Applicants who provided excess match did not benefit from the match reduction policy.

| YAF Category | Number of Grant Applications | Applications Using Federal Disaster Pathway | Applications Using Another Match Reduction Pathway | Total Match Reduction |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Large Grants | 38 | 15 | 6 | \$1,947,263 |
| Small Grants | 7 | 6 | 1 | \$80,290 |
| Total | 45 | 21 | 7 | \$2,027,553 |

Program Funding

YAF funding comes from the sale of general obligation bonds. When the board adopted policies for the Small Grants category in October 2017, the board decided to allocate 10 percent of the funds received to projects in the Small Grants Category. If the category is undersubscribed, the remaining funds would be allocated to the Large Grants Category. At the August 2020 meeting, the board agreed to request \$11.3 million as part of the state capital budget. If approved, that amount would provide funding for most of the applications submitted in 2020. RCO will not know the outcome of that request, until next year after the Legislature approves the budget.

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Forty-five project proposals, requesting nearly \$11.3 million, were evaluated by members of the YAF Advisory Committee between August 27 and September 30, 2020.

| YAF Category | Proposals | Grant Request | Sponsor Match | Total |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Large Grants | 38 | \$10,857,428 | \$25,296,155 | 36,153,583 |
| Small Grants | 7 | \$368,873 | \$224,294 | \$593,167 |
| Total | 45 | \$11,226,301 | \$25,520,449 | \$36,746,750 |

Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, include citizen and local agency representatives who have expertise and experience in local land use issues, park and recreation resource management, engineering and design, and community or youth athletics.

The following table lists the eleven advisory committee members who reviewed and evaluated projects using board-adopted evaluation criteria.

| Advisory Committee Member | Representing |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Michelle Bly, Lewiston | Citizen |
| Nic Mather, Longview | Citizen |
| Garrett Michaud, Seattle | Citizen |
| Brent Stenman, Poulsbo | Citizen |
| Lawrence Witkowski, Woodinville | Citizen |
| Sean Conway, City of Covington | Local Agency |
| Gary Cooper, City of University Place | Local Agency |
| Bob Leonard, City of Everett | Local Agency |
| NeSha Thomas-Schadt, Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services | Local Agency |
| Dustin South, Anacortes Parks and Recreation | Local Agency |
| Kevin Witte, City of Mountlake Terrace | Local Agency |

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in Attachment A: *Table 1 –Youth Athletic Facilities, Large Grants Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23* and *Table 2 –Youth Athletic Facilities, Small Grants Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

RCO staff hosted a virtual meeting with the YAF Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the evaluation process and scoring results on October 2, 2020. The number of grant proposals submitted this cycle had decreased by 20 percent from what was submitted in 2018, which made it easier for the advisors to review and score all projects.

Committee members appreciated using the new PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module. They were generally comfortable with the evaluation criteria, although they recognized that they along with applicants would have to get used to the new *Sustainability* criterion. Overall, members were satisfied with the materials provided, the responsiveness of RCO staff to their follow-up questions, and the resulting ranked list.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation. The criteria for selecting projects support strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of recreation opportunities. Projects considered for funding support board-adopted priorities in the [Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022](#).

Public Comment

There are several letters of support for the YAF projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve Resolution 2020-21, including *Table 1 – Youth Athletic Facilities, Preliminary Ranked List of Large Grants Category, 2021-23* and *Table 2 – Youth Athletic Facilities, Preliminary Ranked List of Small Grants Category, 2021-23*.

Next Steps

If the board approves the preliminary ranked lists, staff will forward the lists to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 biennium, as part of the proposed capital budget. The board will approve the final lists and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting.

Attachments

Youth Athletic Facilities

A. Resolution #2020-21

- *Table 1 – Youth Athletic Facilities, Large Grants Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects 2021-23*
- *Table 2 – Youth Athletic Facilities, Small Grants Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects 2021-23*

B. ~~State Map of Large Grants Category Projects~~

C. ~~State Map of Small Grants Category Projects~~

D. Youth Athletic Facilities Evaluation Criteria Summary

E. Evaluation Scores for Large Grants Category

F. Evaluation Scores for Small Grants Category

G. Project Descriptions for Large Grants Category

H. Project Descriptions for Small Grants Category

I. Letters of Support or Concern for Large Grants Category

J. Letters of Support or Concern for Small Grants Category

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution 2020-21
Youth Athletic Facilities
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked Lists of Projects for the 2021-23 Biennium**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, thirty-eight Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF), Large Grants Category projects are being considered for funding and seven YAF Small Grants Category projects are being considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, all forty-five YAF projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 17, *Youth Athletic Facilities*; and

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

WHEREAS, the results of these evaluations are being considered 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, the projects develop and renovate public outdoor recreation facilities, thereby supporting board priorities in the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022* and the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – Youth Athletic Facilities: Large Grants Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23* and *Table 2 – Youth Athletic Facilities: Small Grants Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Table 1: Youth Athletic Facilities: Large Grants Category

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects

2021-2023

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|------|-------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1 | 48 | 20-1361 D | Othello | Lions Park Basketball Zone | \$350,000 | \$132,000 | \$482,000 |
| 2 | 46.2 | 20-1664 D | Clark County | Curtin Creek Community Park Youth Athletic Fields | \$350,000 | \$1,935,130 | \$2,285,130 |
| 3 | 45.2 | 20-1263 D | Kent | Kent Memorial Park Renovation | \$350,000 | \$4,407,000 | \$4,757,000 |
| 3 | 45.2 | 20-1285 D | Pierce County | Sprinker Recreation Center Youth Ballfields Synthetic Turf | \$350,000 | \$3,617,000 | \$3,967,000 |
| 5 | 45.1 | 20-1323 D | Bremerton | Haddon Park Sport Court and Restroom Improvements | \$350,000 | \$64,195 | \$414,195 |
| 6 | 44.7 | 20-1553 D | Olympia | Little Baseball Association Park Field Number 2 Renovation | \$350,000 | \$364,034 | \$714,034 |
| 7 | 44.5 | 20-1890 D | Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe | Warrior Ridge Sports Park Field Number 1 Lighting | \$350,000 | \$3,631,700 | \$3,981,700 |
| 8 | 44.3 | 20-1765 D | Lakewood | Fort Steilacoom Park Artificial Turf Infields | \$350,000 | \$994,000 | \$1,344,000 |
| 9 | 44.2 | 20-1237 D | Port Angeles | Port Angeles Pump Track | \$350,000 | \$47,500 | \$397,500 |
| 10 | 43.9 | 20-1811 D | White Salmon Valley Pool Metropolitan Park District | White Salmon Valley Pool | \$350,000 | \$1,251,523 | \$1,601,523 |
| 11 | 43.7 | 20-1735 D | Whatcom County | East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Sports Court | \$350,000 | \$200,470 | \$550,470 |
| 12 | 43.3 | 20-1764 D | Lakewood | Wards Lake Pump Track | \$350,000 | \$38,907 | \$388,907 |
| 13 | 42.9 | 20-1268 D | Buckley | Rainier Gateway Court | \$75,000 | \$92,694 | \$167,694 |
| 14 | 42.8 | 20-1211 D | Boys and Girls Clubs of the Lewis Clark Valley | Clarkston Club Athletic Field Renovation | \$334,306 | \$38,146 | \$372,452 |
| 14 | 42.8 | 20-1773 D | Mountlake Terrace | Evergreen Tennis Courts Restoration | \$350,000 | \$209,000 | \$559,000 |
| 14 | 42.8 | 20-1886 D | Rj's Kids | Burton Adventure Recreation Center Pump Track | \$166,875 | \$69,425 | \$236,300 |
| 17 | 42.7 | 20-1642 D | Mountlake Terrace | Evergreen Playfield Phase 2 Infield Turf and Light | \$350,000 | \$1,129,000 | \$1,479,000 |
| 17 | 42.7 | 20-1829 D | Hoquiam | Olympic Stadium Repair and Preservation | \$350,000 | \$100,000 | \$450,000 |
| 19 | 42.6 | 20-1808 D | Ilwaco | Baseball and Basketball Improvements | \$190,933 | \$139,999 | \$330,932 |

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 20 | 42.4 | 20-1560 D | Peninsula Metropolitan Park District | Sehmel Homestead Park Turf Replacement | \$350,000 | \$637,466 | \$987,466 |
| 21 | 42.3 | 20-1303 D | Seattle | West Queen Anne Play Field Athletic Field Renovation | \$350,000 | \$441,000 | \$791,000 |
| 21 | 42.3 | 20-1810 D | Kalispel Tribe of Indians | Usk Basketball Courts | \$233,333 | \$116,667 | \$350,000 |
| 23 | 42.1 | 20-1356 D | Port Angeles | Volunteer Field Turf | \$350,000 | \$255,500 | \$605,500 |
| 24 | 41.8 | 20-1238 D | Wenatchee | Wenatchee City Pool Renovation | \$350,000 | \$538,000 | \$888,000 |
| 25 | 41.6 | 20-1434 D | Winthrop Rink | Winthrop Ice Rink Phase 3 | \$141,648 | \$47,217 | \$188,865 |
| 26 | 41.6 | 20-1639 D | Pasco | Highland Park Improvements Phase 2 | \$221,870 | \$82,000 | \$303,870 |
| 26 | 41.6 | 20-1712 D | Omak | Omak Eastside Park Skatepark Upgrade | \$350,000 | \$68,465 | \$418,465 |
| 28 | 41.5 | 20-1231 D | Sumner | Rainier View Park Covered Court | \$350,000 | \$587,500 | \$937,500 |
| 28 | 41.5 | 20-1826 D | Pacific Little League | So Kids Can Play 2.0 | \$128,432 | \$14,271 | \$142,703 |
| 30 | 41.4 | 20-1355 D | Aberdeen | Little League Field and Restroom | \$261,900 | \$39,960 | \$301,860 |
| 31 | 41.1 | 20-1298 D | Seattle | Maple Wood Playfield Renovation | \$350,000 | \$2,486,890 | \$301,860 |
| 32 | 39.6 | 20-1662 D | North Bonneville | Outdoor Community Sport Court and Public Restrooms | \$114,750 | \$38,250 | \$153,000 |
| 32 | 39.6 | 20-1675 D | Snohomish County | Fairfield Park Irrigation and Drainage | \$65,000 | \$35,000 | \$100,000 |
| 34 | 39.3 | 20-1729 D | South Bend | South Bend Athletic Field | \$350,000 | \$1,048,345 | \$1,398,345 |
| 35 | 38.5 | 20-1566 D | College Place | Lions Park Multi-Use Field and Restrooms | \$349,550 | \$117,614 | \$467,164 |
| 36 | 37.2 | 20-1579 D | Everett | Edgewater Park Sports Court | \$224,841 | \$74,947 | \$299,788 |
| 37 | 36 | 20-1290 D | Chuckanut Bay Rugby Club | Chuckanut Bay Access and Parking Improvement | \$140,475 | \$46,825 | \$187,300 |
| 38 | 29.2 | 20-1232 D | Fircrest | Fircrest Park Athletic Field Improvements | \$158,515 | \$158,515 | \$317,030 |

Total \$10,857,428 \$25,296,155 \$36,153,583

Project type: D=development

Table 2: Youth Athletic Facilities: Small Grants Category

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects

2021-2023

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 40.4 | 20-1437 D | Fircrest | Gene Goodwin Tennis Courts Resurfacing | \$16,000 | \$16,000 | \$32,000 |
| 2 | 40.3 | | Springdale | Springdale Park Athletic and Americans with Disabilities Act Upgrades | \$75,000 | \$58,700 | \$133,700 |
| 3 | 40.3 | 20-1880 D | Boys and Girls Clubs of Olympic Peninsula | Youth Outdoor Activity Area Sequim Boys and Girls | \$35,542 | \$11,848 | \$47,390 |
| 4 | 38.8 | 20-1747 D | Fairfield | The Pit Youth Facilities | \$33,000 | \$11,000 | \$44,000 |
| 5 | 37.4 | 20-1864 D | Milton | Milton Community Park Courts | \$75,000 | \$65,000 | \$140,000 |
| 6 | 35 | 20-1784 D | Colfax | Colfax Pool Renovation Phase 1 | \$75,000 | \$41,969 | \$116,969 |
| 7 | 34.3 | 20-1429 D | Wilbur | Wilbur Youth Rec Support Facilities | \$59,331 | \$19,777 | \$79,108 |
| Total | | | | | \$368,873 | \$224,294 | \$593,167 |

Project type: D=development

Youth Athletic Facilities Evaluation Criteria Summary

Youth Athletic Facilities Program provides for development and renovation of outdoor athletic facilities serving youth and communities.

| Youth Athletic Facilities Criteria Summary | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------|------------|-------|
| Scored by | # | Title | Maximum Points | Multiplier | Total |
| Advisory Committee | 1 | Need and Need Satisfaction | 5 | 3 | 15 |
| Advisory Committee | 2 | Design and Budget | 5 | 2 | 10 |
| Advisory Committee | 3 | Sustainability | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| Advisory Committee | 4 | Facility management | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| Advisory Committee | 5 | Availability | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| Advisory Committee | 6 | Readiness to proceed | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| Advisory Committee | 7 | Support and Partnerships | 5 | 2 | 10 |
| RCO Staff | 8 | Proximity to people | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| RCO Staff | 9 | Growth Management Act Preference | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Total possible points = 52 | | | | | |

Youth Athletic Facilities Scoring Criteria

Advisory Committee Scored Criteria

1. **Need and Need Satisfaction.** What is the community's need for the proposed renovated youth athletic facility? To what extent will the project satisfy the needs in the service area?
2. **Design and Cost Estimate.** How well is the project designed? Does the cost estimate accurately reflect the scope of work?
3. **Sustainability.** Will the project's location or design support the organization's sustainability plan? What ecological, economic, and social benefits and impacts were considered in the project plan?
4. **Facility Management.** Does the applicant have the ability to maintain the facility? How will the applicant maintain the facility?
5. **Availability.** When the project is complete, how often will it be available for competitive youth sports in a calendar year
6. **Readiness to Proceed.** What is the timeline for completing the project? Will the sponsor be able to complete the project within 3 years?
7. **Project Support and Partnerships.** To what extent do users and the public support the project?

RCO Staff Scored Criteria

8. **Proximity to People.** State law requires the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to give funding preference to projects 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.¹ Is the project in an area meeting this definition?
9. **Growth Management Act Preference.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)?²

¹Revised Code of Washington 79A.25.250

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

Youth Athletic Facilities: Large Grants Category
Evaluation Scores
2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need and Need Satisfaction | 2. Design and Cost Estimate | 3. Sustainability | 4. Facility Management | 5. Availability | 6. Readiness to Proceed | 7. Project Support and Partnerships | 8. Proximity to People | 9. Growth Management Act Preference | Total |
|------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-10 | 0-1 | -1-0 | |
| 1 | 20-1361 D | Lions Park Basketball Zone | 14.45 | 8.73 | 4.09 | 2.91 | 4.36 | 2.64 | 9.82 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 48.00 |
| 2 | 20-1664 D | Curtin Creek Community Park Youth Athletic Fields | 13.91 | 9.27 | 4.18 | 3.00 | 4.18 | 2.45 | 8.18 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 46.18 |
| 3 | 20-1263 D | Kent Memorial Park Renovation | 13.36 | 8.36 | 3.91 | 2.91 | 4.36 | 2.55 | 8.73 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 45.18 |
| 3 | 20-1285 D | Sprinker Recreation Center Youth Ballfields Synthetic Turf | 12.27 | 8.36 | 4.36 | 3.00 | 4.55 | 2.18 | 9.45 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 45.18 |
| 5 | 20-1323 D | Haddon Park Sport Court and Restroom Improvements | 13.64 | 8.00 | 4.36 | 2.82 | 4.18 | 2.55 | 8.55 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 45.09 |
| 6 | 20-1553 D | Little Baseball Association Park Field Number 2 Renovation | 12.82 | 8.18 | 4.36 | 2.64 | 3.91 | 2.36 | 9.45 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 44.73 |
| 7 | 20-1890 D | Warrior Ridge Sports Park Field Number 1 Lighting | 13.64 | 9.09 | 4.27 | 2.64 | 4.55 | 2.91 | 6.36 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 44.45 |
| 8 | 20-1765 D | Fort Steilacoom Park Artificial Turf Infields | 12.55 | 8.18 | 4.18 | 2.73 | 4.09 | 2.64 | 8.91 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 44.27 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need and Need Satisfaction | 2. Design and Cost Estimate | 3. Sustainability | 4. Facility Management | 5. Availability | 6. Readiness to Proceed | 7. Project Support and Partnerships | 8. Proximity to People | 9. Growth Management Act Preference | Total |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-10 | 0-1 | -1-0 | |
| 9 | 20-1237 D | Port Angeles Pump Track | 11.18 | 8.36 | 3.64 | 2.73 | 4.64 | 2.82 | 9.82 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 44.18 |
| 10 | 20-1811 D | White Salmon Valley Pool | 12.82 | 8.91 | 4.00 | 2.82 | 3.36 | 2.55 | 9.45 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 43.91 |
| 11 | 20-1735 D | East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Sports Court | 13.64 | 8.91 | 4.27 | 2.73 | 4.45 | 2.82 | 6.91 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 43.73 |
| 12 | 20-1764 D | Wards Lake Pump Track | 12.27 | 8.55 | 3.82 | 2.55 | 4.00 | 2.55 | 8.55 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 43.27 |
| 13 | 20-1268 D | Rainier Gateway Court | 12.55 | 8.18 | 3.64 | 2.55 | 4.09 | 2.55 | 8.36 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 42.91 |
| 14 | 20-1211 D | Clarkston Club Athletic Field Renovation | 13.64 | 7.82 | 3.64 | 2.64 | 3.91 | 2.45 | 8.73 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 42.82 |
| 14 | 20-1773 D | Evergreen Tennis Courts Restoration | 12.00 | 8.18 | 4.09 | 2.73 | 4.00 | 1.91 | 8.91 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 42.82 |
| 14 | 20-1886 D | Burton Adventure Recreation Center Pump Track | 10.09 | 8.91 | 3.82 | 2.73 | 4.36 | 2.64 | 9.27 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 42.82 |
| 17 | 20-1642 D | Evergreen Playfield Phase 2 Infield Turf and Light | 11.73 | 7.64 | 4.18 | 2.91 | 4.36 | 1.82 | 9.09 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 42.73 |
| 17 | 20-1829 D | Olympic Stadium Repair and Preservation | 12.82 | 8.18 | 3.36 | 2.64 | 4.00 | 2.64 | 9.09 | 1.00 | -1.00 | 42.73 |
| 19 | 20-1808 D | Baseball and Basketball Improvements | 13.09 | 8.36 | 3.64 | 2.55 | 3.91 | 2.64 | 9.45 | 0.00 | -1.00 | 42.64 |
| 20 | 20-1560 D | Sehmel Homestead Park Turf Replacement | 10.91 | 7.09 | 4.18 | 2.73 | 4.36 | 2.82 | 9.27 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 42.36 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need and Need Satisfaction | 2. Design and Cost Estimate | 3. Sustainability | 4. Facility Management | 5. Availability | 6. Readiness to Proceed | 7. Project Support and Partnerships | 8. Proximity to People | 9. Growth Management Act Preference | Total |
|------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-10 | 0-1 | -1-0 | |
| 21 | 20-1303 D | West Queen Anne Play Field Athletic Field Renovation | 13.09 | 7.64 | 4.27 | 3.00 | 4.18 | 2.55 | 6.55 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 42.27 |
| 21 | 20-1810 D | Usk Basketball Courts | 12.55 | 7.82 | 3.91 | 2.82 | 4.00 | 2.64 | 8.55 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 42.27 |
| 23 | 20-1356 D | Volunteer Field Turf | 11.73 | 7.45 | 3.82 | 2.73 | 3.82 | 2.64 | 8.91 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 42.09 |
| 24 | 20-1238 D | Wenatchee City Pool Renovation | 13.64 | 7.45 | 3.64 | 3.00 | 3.45 | 2.36 | 7.27 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 41.82 |
| 25 | 20-1434 D | Winthrop Ice Rink Phase 3 | 13.09 | 8.91 | 3.45 | 2.73 | 4.36 | 2.91 | 6.18 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 41.64 |
| 26 | 20-1639 D | Highland Park Improvements Phase 2 | 13.09 | 8.73 | 4.18 | 2.91 | 3.82 | 3.00 | 5.82 | 1.00 | -1.00 | 41.55 |
| 26 | 20-1712 D | Omak Eastside Park Skatepark Upgrade | 12.82 | 9.27 | 3.73 | 2.82 | 4.18 | 2.91 | 5.82 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 41.55 |
| 28 | 20-1826 D | So Kids Can Play 2.0 | 12.55 | 8.73 | 3.27 | 2.82 | 3.64 | 2.73 | 6.73 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 41.45 |
| 28 | 20-1231 D | Rainier View Park Covered Court | 10.09 | 7.45 | 3.64 | 2.82 | 4.27 | 2.73 | 9.45 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 41.45 |
| 30 | 20-1355 D | Little League Field and Restroom | 12.55 | 8.36 | 3.00 | 2.91 | 3.64 | 2.73 | 8.18 | 1.00 | -1.00 | 41.36 |
| 31 | 20-1298 D | Maple Wood Playfield Renovation | 12.27 | 7.64 | 3.64 | 2.91 | 3.45 | 2.82 | 5.64 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 39.55 |
| 32 | 20-1675 D | Fairfield Park Irrigation and Drainage | 11.45 | 8.36 | 4.27 | 2.55 | 3.45 | 2.82 | 5.64 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 39.55 |
| 32 | 20-1662 D | Outdoor Community Sport Court and Public Restrooms | 11.45 | 8.18 | 3.82 | 2.64 | 4.27 | 3.00 | 6.18 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 39.55 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need and Need Satisfaction | 2. Design and Cost Estimate | 3. Sustainability | 4. Facility Management | 5. Availability | 6. Readiness to Proceed | 7. Project Support and Partnerships | 8. Proximity to People | 9. Growth Management Act Preference | Total |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-10 | 0-1 | -1-0 | |
| 34 | 20-1729 D | South Bend Athletic Field | 13.09 | 7.82 | 4.36 | 2.27 | 3.27 | 2.27 | 6.18 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 39.27 |
| 35 | 20-1566 D | Lions Park Multi-Use Field and Restrooms | 10.36 | 7.09 | 3.73 | 2.18 | 2.73 | 2.45 | 8.91 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 38.45 |
| 36 | 20-1579 D | Edgewater Park Sports Court | 10.64 | 8.18 | 2.91 | 2.82 | 4.09 | 2.27 | 5.27 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 37.18 |
| 37 | 20-1290 D | Chuckanut Bay Access and Parking Improvement | 10.64 | 7.64 | 3.18 | 2.36 | 3.64 | 2.73 | 5.82 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 36.00 |
| 38 | 20-1232 D | Fircrest Park Athletic Field Improvements | 9.82 | 3.64 | 2.91 | 2.64 | 3.45 | 1.18 | 4.55 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 29.18 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-7; RCO staff score Questions 8-9
Project type: D=development

Youth Athletic Facilities: Small Grants Category
Evaluation Scores
2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need and Need Satisfaction | 2. Design and Cost Estimate | 3. Sustainability | 4. Facility Management | 5. Availability | 6. Readiness to Proceed | 7. Project Support and Partnerships | 8. Proximity to People | 9. Growth Management Act Preference | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-5 | 0-3 | 0-10 | 0-1 | -1-0 | |
| 1 | 20-1268 D | Rainier Gateway Court | 12.55 | 8.18 | 3.64 | 2.55 | 4.09 | 2.55 | 8.36 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 40.36 |
| 2 | 20-1880 D | Youth Outdoor Activity Area Sequim Boys and Girls | 13.09 | 7.64 | 4.27 | 2.73 | 4.09 | 2.36 | 5.09 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 40.27 |
| 3 | 20-1481 D | Springdale Park Athletic and Americans with Disabilities Act Upgrades | 12.55 | 8.36 | 4.09 | 2.45 | 3.91 | 2.64 | 6.36 | 0.00 | -1.00 | 39.36 |
| 4 | 20-1747 D | The Pit Youth Facilities | 13.36 | 7.09 | 2.82 | 2.45 | 3.82 | 2.55 | 6.73 | 1.00 | -1.00 | 38.82 |
| 5 | 20-1864 D | Milton Community Park Courts | 10.64 | 6.00 | 3.82 | 2.55 | 3.18 | 2.55 | 7.64 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 37.36 |
| 6 | 20-1784 D | Colfax Pool Renovation Phase 1 | 11.45 | 7.27 | 4.09 | 2.36 | 2.91 | 2.00 | 4.91 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 35.00 |
| 7 | 20-1429 D | Wilbur Youth Rec Support Facilities | 12.00 | 7.64 | 3.55 | 2.45 | 3.27 | 2.73 | 3.64 | 0.00 | -1.00 | 34.27 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-7; RCO staff score Questions 8-9
Project type: D=development

Youth Athletic Facilities: Large Grants Category

Project Descriptions (In Rank Order) 2021-2023

Othello

Grant Requested: \$350,000

Renovating Basketball Courts in Lions Park

The City of Othello will use this grant to develop a basketball zone at Lions Park. Two aging and deficient basketball courts originally installed in 1974 will be replaced by four, state-of-the-art courts, including a championship court with a decorative design, a grass seating area for spectators, and team benches. This project will meet two important needs in Othello and the region. Upgrading the court quality and doubling its capacity will improve the safety, playability, and availability of the facility. The project also will expand outdoor recreational opportunities for Othello's large, underserved youth population, 35 percent of whom live in poverty. Othello will contribute \$132,000 in cash and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1361)

Clark County

Grant Requested: \$350,000

Developing Sports Fields in Curtin Creek Community Park

The Clark County Department of Public Works will use this grant to build two multiuse fields in its new 16-acre Curtin Creek Community Park, in Vancouver. The County will build one natural multiuse field prioritized for rugby and one synthetic multiuse field with lighting for soccer and baseball. There is a deficit of 54 sport fields and no rugby fields in the county's current park system. The park includes gently rolling pasture with mountain views. The future development plan includes walking paths, a large parking lot, wildlife viewing areas, picnic shelters, benches, a combined restroom and maintenance building, and playground areas. Clark County will contribute more than \$1.9 million in cash and a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1664)

Kent

Grant Requested: \$350,000

Renovating Kent Memorial Park

The City of Kent will use this grant to help renovate Kent Memorial Park by replacing a grass baseball field with an artificial turf, multi-purpose field. The City also will replace field lighting, bleachers, and a restroom. The City will contribute more than \$4.4 million in cash and a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1263)

**Pierce County
Converting Sprinker Fields to Synthetic Turf****Grant Requested: \$350,000**

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to convert two ball fields from grass to multipurpose, synthetic turf with soccer and lacrosse overlays at the Sprinker Recreation Center. The County also will add lighting. The synthetic turf will expand youth athletic recreation opportunities by allowing soccer, lacrosse, and football practice. The new turf and lighting will allow year-round use. Dedicated in 1976, the center is in the Spanaway community and serves more than 167,000 people living within 5 miles. Pierce County will contribute more than \$3.6 million in cash, grants from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1285)

**Bremerton
Improving Access in Haddon Park****Grant Requested: \$350,000**

The City of Bremerton will use this grant to develop pathways throughout the park so people with disabilities can reach new park amenities including a restroom and multiuse sports court. Currently no part of the park is accessible to people with disabilities. The 4-acre Haddon Park is an aging neighborhood park with pathways and a sports court. Bremerton will contribute \$64,195 in cash, staff labor, a private grant, and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1323)

**Olympia
Renovating a Field in Little Baseball Association Park****Grant Requested: \$350,000**

The City of Olympia Parks, Arts, and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate a ball field in Little Baseball Association Park, known locally as LBA Park, in southeast Olympia. The City will install new backstops and dugouts, recondition both infield and outfield surfaces with a soil mix and turfgrass suited for high use athletic fields, improve access to the field and common areas for people with disabilities, replace aging irrigation components, and address drainage issues. The field was recently closed due to safety concerns with the playing surface that included soft spots due to poor drainage and mole and rodent damage contributing to player injuries in the outfield. This project will allow expanded use by thousands of youth annually. Olympia will contribute \$364,034. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1553)

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Developing Warrior Ridge Sports Park

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The Port Gamble SKlallam Tribe will use this grant to add lighting to a sports field in its 13-acre Warrior Ridge Sports Park, which it's building on tribal land. The lighting will greatly expand the year-round usability of the field and increase usage. The lighting is part of a larger project that will include building three, all-weather, baseball-softball, synthetic turf infields with grass outfields, a children's play area, a plaza, a perimeter walking trail, picnic and lawn areas, and parking. The Tribe is developing the sports park to serve the entire community. The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe will contribute more than \$3.6 million in cash, a federal grant, and a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1890)

Lakewood
Installing Artificial Turf on Ball Fields in Fort Steilacoom Park

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of Lakewood will use this grant to install synthetic turf on three dirt baseball infields in Fort Steilacoom Park to support youth sports. The baseball fields do not support high use and wet weather often leads to unsafe playing conditions and cancellations. Replacing the dirt infields with synthetic turf will make Fort Steilacoom Park a more desirable location for youth sport leagues, create a home field for collegiate athletics, increase the number of baseball and softball tournaments, and create more drop-in opportunities for our underprivileged citizens. Lakewood will contribute \$994,000 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1765)

Port Angeles
Building a Bicycle Pump Track

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of Port Angeles will use this grant to build a bicycle pump track in Erickson Playfield. A pump track is a series of looped paths that allows riders to build bicycle skills in a contained area away from traffic. With the loop design, parent easily can watch or ride and supervise kids with different skills and interests. A unique feature of this track is an inclusive loop with mild features suitable for beginning riders and people in wheelchairs, a first for pump tracks in Washington. Pump tracks in other locations are destination facilities for tourists and host competitive events. The City is partnering with world renown design-build team Velosolutions to ensure our track offers a great ride for kids and can host official competitions. Port Angeles will contribute \$47,500 in cash, local and private grants, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1237)

White Salmon Valley Park District
Building the White Salmon Valley Pool

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The White Salmon Valley Park District will use this grant to design and build a multi-lane, 25-yard swimming pool for competitive swimming programs. The park district also will build bathrooms, changing rooms, lockers, showers, a staff office, and an equipment room. The swimming pool is one of three pools in a larger pool facility project that includes a therapeutic pool, a wading and splash pool, a community room, and additional restrooms and showers, lockers, and changing rooms. The new pool complex will replace the closed White Salmon City Pool, which served the communities of the White Salmon Valley since its construction in 1934. When completed, the pool facility will meet the community needs for competitive youth swim programs, general swim recreation and exercise, and aquatic safety education. The White Salmon Valley Park District will contribute more than \$1.2 million in cash, a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and donations of cash and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1811)

Whatcom County
Building a Sports Court in the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The Whatcom County Parks & Recreation Department will use this grant to develop a multiuse sports court for basketball, pickleball, volleyball, and other activities in the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center. The court will have lighting and a roof with open sides to allow activities year-round in an area where 60 inches of rain falls annually. The sports court will serve a large, unincorporated, area with more than 4,000 residents, who have a relatively low median household income. The closest similar sports court is 30 miles away. Whatcom County will contribute \$200,470 in a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1735)

Lakewood
Building a Pump Track in Wards Lake Park

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of Lakewood will use this grant to build a paved pump track that can be used by bikes, skateboards, wheelchairs, and other wheeled devices. The City will develop a 10,000-square-foot facility in an underused part of the 27-acre Wards Lake Park. The City has spent the past 20 years acquiring land to create an open space in this densely populated area near Interstate 5, commercial areas, the International District, and an area deficient in park amenities. The surrounding community is economically distressed. Lakewood will contribute \$38,907. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1764)

Buckley
Building the Rainier Gateway Sports Court

Grant Requested: \$75,000

The City of Buckley will use this grant to build a multipurpose sports court next to the Foothills Trail and the Buckley Youth Activity Center in the heart of the city. The sports court will be lighted and designed for competitive basketball and pickle ball. The City also will add a pathway accessible to people with disabilities from the sports court to the center's parking lot and the trail. Buckley will contribute \$92,694. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1268)

Boys & Girls Clubs
Renovating the Clarkston Club Athletic Field

Grant Requested: \$334,306

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Lewis Clark Valley will use this grant to renovate two regulation-length soccer fields, increasing the athletic opportunities. The clubs will add new soil, irrigation, a concrete walkway around the field, and concrete viewing areas and an entrance for people with disabilities. The 2-acre field behind the Clarkston Club was built 17 years ago. The soil composition does not support the amount of traffic this field experiences and consistently has issues with grass growth, hydration, dirt patches, dry spots, and weeds. This field is also difficult to access for those with mobility issues. The Clarkston Club Unit provides programming to more than 1,200 kids. The Boys & Girls Clubs will contribute \$38,146. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1211)

Mountlake Terrace
Restoring Evergreen Playfield Tennis Courts

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of Mountlake Terrace will use this grant to redevelop the tennis courts in the Evergreen Playfield Complex. The City will repair, resurface, and line the existing courts and replace the lighting system. The City also will replace or improve fencing, gates, pathways, parking, and landscaping. Mountlake Terrace will contribute \$209,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1773)

Rj's Kids
Enhancing the Pump Track at the Burton Adventure Recreation Center

Grant Requested: \$166,875

Rj's Kids will use this grant to enhance the pump track at the Burton Adventure Recreation Center. The group will add a cross-path skate feature to the pump track and four pods with integrated skate features connected by a path. The improvements will enable the center to provide experiences for beginner and advanced users, allow for competitive bicycling and skateboarding for ages up to 18, and accommodate adult amateurs of all wheeled sports. The Burton Adventure Recreation Center features an indoor skate park, outdoor skate bowl, volleyball area, outdoor ping-pong table, mountain biking and walking trails, and a Frisbee disc golf course. Rj's Kids will

contribute \$69,425 in a private grant and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1886)

Mountlake Terrace
Improving the Evergreen Playfield

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of Mountlake Terrace will use this grant to redevelop Evergreen Playfield Number 3 in central Mountlake Terrace. The City will convert the dirt infield to synthetic turf with a grass outfield for baseball and softball. In addition, the City will add new field lights, fencing, backstop, dugouts, and other field amenities. The City will grade the area surrounding the field for new seating areas, parking, and landscaping. Mountlake Terrace will contribute more than \$1.1 million in cash and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1642)

Hoquiam
Repairing and Preserving Olympic Stadium

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of Hoquiam will use this grant to repair and preserve Olympic Stadium, one of the last remaining Works Progress Administration wooden stadiums in the country. The stadium is used year-round for football, baseball, and soccer. The City will repair and improve the fields and grandstands, fix and paint the siding, and improve access for people with disabilities. Hoquiam will contribute \$100,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1829)

Ilwaco
Improving the Baseball Field and Basketball Court

Grant Requested: \$190,933

The City of Ilwaco will use this grant to continue redevelopment of City Park by improving the baseball field and basketball court. To the baseball field, the City will add new dugouts, bleachers, infield surfacing, a batting cage, fencing, and a storage structure. The City also will renovate the 27-year-old basketball court. The baseball field is one of few local resources for competitive sports practice and games. This project is important to the community because City Park is the only park of its type on the south end of the Long Beach Peninsula. Ilwaco will contribute \$139,999 in cash, a private grant, and donations of cash, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1808)

Peninsula Metropolitan Park District
Replacing Turf in Sehmel Homestead Park

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to replace the synthetic turf at Sehmel Homestead Park's multipurpose field. Installed in 2010, the turf is showing wear—the turf fibers are lying flat in many areas and the field drains very slowly, often

leaving standing water, which cancels games. The field is used for soccer, football, lacrosse, and summer camps. The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will contribute \$637,466. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1560)

Seattle
Installing New Lights in West Queen Anne Playfield

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to improve lighting at the West Queen Anne Playfield's east fields. The playfield was built in 1971 and the lights, which are mounted on wood poles, have not been replaced since. The City will replace the field lights that surround two baseball fields and an overlapping soccer and ultimate Frisbee field. The playfield is in the central west part of Seattle that has the fewest number of lit turf fields in the city. The playfield is in very high demand by local Little Leagues and serves as a nexus of recreation activity, next to the commercial core of a dense residential neighborhood, and within site of the Queen Anne Community Center, Queen Anne Pool, and McClure Middle School. Seattle will contribute \$441,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1303)

Kalispel Tribe of Indians
Renovating Usk Basketball Courts

Grant Requested: \$233,333

The Kalispel Tribe will use this grant to renovate the basketball court area at the Kalispel Pow Wow Grounds for community use. The Tribe will renovate the more than 20-year-old basketball court area from its worn and rundown state to an extended sized with a new and refurbished dual playing court area. The new courts will provide needed playing areas for the community. The Kalispel Tribe will contribute \$116,667 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1810)

Port Angeles
Installing Synthetic Turf on a Baseball Field

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of Port Angeles Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to replace the grass on the baseball field with synthetic turf. Bad weather limits use of the field. Synthetic turf will allow the baseball field to host youth baseball and softball games. The renovation will increase use of the field and the number of participants. Port Angeles will contribute \$255,500 in cash, a private grant, equipment, and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1356)

Wenatchee
Renovating the Wenatchee City Pool

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of Wenatchee will use this grant to replace the plaster liner and tiles in the city pool to maximize safety, sustainability, and the visitor experience. The pool liner, which was replaced in 1996, is showing significant wear and requiring excessive maintenance, as well as leaking water into the ground. The pool is used by more than 25,000 people annually for swimming lessons, recreational and lap swimming, water fitness, special needs programming, swim teams, local and regional competitions, and the Apple Capital Swim Meet, one of the largest tourist events in the Wenatchee Valley. Wenatchee will contribute \$538,000 in cash and staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1238)

Winthrop Rink
Improving the Winthrop Ice Rink

Grant Requested: \$141,648

The Winthrop Rink will use this grant to replace worn out perimeter dasher boards and safety glass at the Winthrop Rink, a unique and popular outdoor skating facility. The boards are essential to the function of the rink for winter hockey, recreational ice skating, youth skills development programs, as well as summer pickle ball and roller skating. The existing boards were purchased used and are past their useful life, creating potentially unsafe conditions. Winthrop Rink will contribute \$47,217 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1434)

Pasco
Improving Goal Posts and Restrooms in Highland Park

Grant Requested: \$221,870

The City of Pasco will use this grant to install goal posts on two football fields and a restroom building in Highland Park. The new goal posts will be Y-shaped instead of H-shaped, improving safety by reducing on-field collision points. The restrooms, which will be accessible to people with disabilities, will be installed centrally, instead of at the current location at the far edges of the field. The current restrooms are outdated, undersized, and supplemented by portable toilets. Pasco will contribute \$82,000 in cash and donations of cash and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1639)

Omak
Replacing the Skatepark in Omak's Eastside Park

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of Omak will use this grant to remove the skatepark in Eastside Park and build a new one at a better location in the park. Twenty years ago, a high-quality concrete skatepark was an impossible goal, so the skatepark was built of wood ramps on a flat slab. The park has served generations of skaters, but the wood ramps have succumbed to the harsh weather. The new skatepark will be in ground and made of concrete and

steel. This project is the first phase of a multi phased effort to redevelop Omak's Eastside Park, a 76.6-acre destination park on the Colville Indian Reservation. Omak will contribute \$68,465 in cash and a grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1712)

Sumner

Grant Requested: \$350,000

Revamping Rainier View Park Basketball Court

The City of Sumner will use this grant to renovate the basketball court at Rainier View Park. The City will cover the entire court with a roof to encourage use in all weather conditions, paint and stripe the court for three pickleball courts and one volleyball court, and add four adjustable hoops to allow for one full or two half basketball courts. The renovation will increase access by adding a courtyard and route to the multi-sport court that will be accessible to people with disabilities. Additional project elements include skylights, lighting, and sitting walls to act as backstops for errant balls. Sumner will contribute \$587,500 in cash and a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1231)

Pacific Little League

Grant Requested: \$128,432

Preparing a Baseball Field for Improvements

The Pacific Little League will use this grant to convert two Little League fields into one large field on the 8.5-acre Veteran's Administration Medical Center campus in Walla Walla. The Little League will demolish the existing field's sprinkler systems, remove fencing, strip the infield and vegetation, and remove concrete benching and pathways. The Pacific Little League then will build an infield, install irrigation and fencing, and move the press box and storage building. This project will allow the Little League to add an intermediate division to its existing four playing levels and host regional and state tournaments. The Pacific Little League will contribute \$14,271 in donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1826)

Aberdeen

Grant Requested: \$261,900

Replacing Fencing and Restrooms in Pioneer Park

The City of Aberdeen will use this grant to replace the restrooms and fencing around the Little League field in Pioneer Park. The 4-foot-tall fencing was installed in the 1980s and will be replaced with 6-foot-tall fences. The 1970s restroom next to the Little League field is not accessible to people with disabilities and will be demolished. In its place, the City will install a pre-fabricated, concrete restroom building that is universally accessible along with a paved path from the park sidewalks to the restrooms. Aberdeen will contribute \$39,960 in cash, staff labor, and a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1355)

Seattle
Renovating Maple Wood Playfield

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate 5 acres in Maple Wood Playfield in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of southeast Seattle, one of the most diverse areas in the nation. The City will add new drainage and irrigation, regrade the fields, resurface the basketball court, and add a grass playing surface, backstops, dugouts, and bleachers. The City will make changes to parking and pathways to accommodate people with disabilities. The 9.4-acre Maple Wood Playfield is widely used by multiple groups, schools, and leagues for baseball, softball, soccer, and football. Seattle will contribute more than \$2.4 million in cash and grants from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1298)

North Bonneville
Renovating the Community Sport Court and Restrooms

Grant Requested: \$114,750

The City of North Bonneville in partnership with the Bonneville Trails Foundation will use this grant to move and update its basketball court and renovate the restroom in North Bonneville Community Park. The City will update the existing basketball court into a multiuse sport court. The restroom will be renovated and updated to accommodate people with disabilities. All the current facilities are more than 40 years old and the renovations will provide several new community athletic opportunities for youth, families, residents, and visitors alike. North Bonneville will contribute \$38,250. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1662)

Snohomish County
Installing Irrigation and Drainage in Fairfield Park

Grant Requested: \$65,000

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to renovate Fairfield Park in southeast Snohomish County. The County will update the playfield to add drainage and sprinkler systems. This will improve the fields and allow for multiple sports including soccer, lacrosse, and various other field sports or leisure play. Snohomish County will contribute \$35,000 in a private grant and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1675)

South Bend
Adding Synthetic Turf to a Ball Field

Grant Requested: \$350,000

The City of South Bend will use this grant to convert a grass athletic field to a synthetic turf, multiuse athletic field. The field is at the South Bend School District. The field's new surface will increase field use and allow the field to be used for community events and

youth athletic teams. South Bend will contribute more than \$1 million in cash and a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1729)

College Place

Grant Requested: \$349,550

Improving Lions Park Fields and Restrooms

The City of College Place will use this grant to restore and develop multi-use fields (soccer and baseball) and renovate the restrooms at Lions Park. The City also will replace the irrigation and security lighting. College Place will contribute \$117,614 in cash and a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1566)

Everett

Grant Requested: \$224,841

Building a Multiuse Sports Court in Edgewater Park

The City of Everett Parks and Community Services will use this grant to build a multiuse sports court at Edgewater Park. Development of the court will include designations for tennis, pickle ball, and basketball. The City also will build pathways accessible to people with disabilities and landscape the area. Everett will contribute \$74,947. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1579)

Chuckanut Bay Athletic Association

Grant Requested: \$140,475

Improving Access and Parking

The Chuckanut Bay Athletic Association will use this grant to improve the entrance, create a parking lot, and reseed a field at its 17-acre site in Ferndale. The association is building a three-field complex, complete with grandstands, locker rooms, and amenities for local youth teams. The association purchased the land in the first phase of this three-phase project and now proposed to begin construction. The facility is in constant use throughout the year and is overwhelmed in the spring and fall. The project will make more efficient use of the site, enable the fields to serve more people, and retain space for international matches and local play and practice. The Chuckanut Bay Athletic Association will contribute \$46,825 in local and private grants and donated equipment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1290)

Fircrest

Grant Requested: \$158,515

Improving the Fircrest Park Athletic Field

The City of Fircrest will use this grant to renovate the field lights and natural turf of five, multipurpose sport fields at Fircrest Park. The 7.8-acre community park provides fields that accommodate softball, Little League baseball, tee ball, and soccer. Completing this renovation will enhance the field playability, allow for nighttime play, and generally transform it into a better multisport park. Fircrest will contribute \$158,515 in voter-

approved bonds. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1232)

Youth Athletic Facilities: Small Grants Category Project Descriptions (In Rank Order) 2021-23

Fircrest

Grant Requested: \$16,000

Renovating Gene Goodwin's Tennis Courts

The City of Fircrest will use this grant to renovate three tennis courts and add stripping for pickleball in the 1.4-acre Fircrest neighborhood park called the Gene Goodwin Tot Lot. The renovation will ensure that tennis can continue to be offered to the community while expanding the users to include pickleball players. The popular park also includes a playground geared towards kids aged 1-6, bathrooms, picnic tables, and a walking path. Fircrest will contribute \$16,000 in voter-approved bonds. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1437)

Olympic Peninsula Boys & Girls Club

Grant Requested: \$35,542

Building a Multiuse Athletic Field

The Olympic Peninsula Boys & Girls Club will use this grant to build a multi-purpose athletic field next to the Sequim Boys & Girls Clubhouse on leased school district property. The field will be used for youth soccer and football, along with other physical activities. This project is part of the club's strategy to expand outdoor activities and will complement the club's organic garden, playground, and basketball half court. The Olympic Peninsula Boys & Girls will contribute \$11,848 in donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (20 1880)

Springdale

Grant Requested: \$75,000

Updating Amenities for Springdale's Basketball Court

The Town of Springdale will use this grant to improve the basketball court. The Town will install lighting, build a walkway that accommodates people with disabilities to the court, and replace the restrooms that serve the court. Springdale will contribute \$58,700. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1481)

Fairfield

Grant Requested: \$33,000

Irrigating "The Pit"

The Town of Fairfield will use this grant to install irrigation in a 3.6-acre park, known locally as "The Pit." The park has one baseball field and 2 acres of practice field. With no irrigation in place, the park turns dry and dusty in the summer. Adding an underground sprinkler system would be the first step in improving the park and increasing its use. The Town would like to turn "The Pit" into a mini-sports complex in the future. Fairfield will

contribute \$11,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1747)

Milton**Grant Requested: \$75,000****Renovating Milton Community Park Courts**

The City of Milton will use this grant to renovate its outdated and failing sports court area in Milton Community Park. The City will resurface the tennis and basketball courts and stripe the courts for tennis and pickle ball on one side and a full-sized basketball court and field hockey on the other. The City also would add fencing and lights and restore the landscaping. The current court is asphalt and in poor condition. Milton will contribute \$65,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1864)

Colfax**Grant Requested: \$75,000****Renovating the Colfax Pool Mechanical Room**

The City of Colfax will use this grant to upgrade mechanical systems at the Colfax Municipal Pool, which was built in 1969. The City will upgrade the filter system, motor and pump, chemical monitoring and application system, and the electrical system. The City wants to be able to reduce closures caused by mechanical failures and chemical imbalance. The Colfax Swim Team uses the pool for all of its training and swim meets with teams from communities in Whitman, Garfield, Columbia, and Adams Counties. Colfax will contribute \$41,969 in cash, equipment, staff labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1784)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Youth Athletic Facilities: Large Grants Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-1361D Lions Park Basketball Zone (12) Rank 1
- 20-1285D Sprinker Recreation Center Youth Ballfields Synthetic Turf (8) Rank 3
- 20-1323D Haddon Park Sport Court and Restroom Improvements (3) Rank 5
- 20-1553D Little Baseball Association Park Field Number 2 Renovation (8) Rank 6
- 20-1765D Fort Steilacoom Park Artificial Turf Infields (6) Rank 8
- 20-1237D Port Angeles Pump Track (10) Rank 9
- 20-1811D White Salmon Valley Pool (9) Rank 10
- 20-1764D Wards Lake Pump Track (5) Rank 12
- 20-1268D Rainier Gateway Court (5) Rank 13
- 20-1211D Clarkston Club Athletic Field Renovation(3) Rank 14
- 20-1773D Evergreen Tennis Courts Restoration (3) Rank 14
- 20-1886D Burton Adventure Recreation Center Pump Track (15) Rank 14
- 20-1642D Evergreen Playfield Phase 2 Infield Turf and Light (3) Rank 17
- 20-1829D Olympic Stadium Repair and Preservation (10) Rank 17
- 20-1808D Baseball and Basketball Improvements (6) Rank 19
- 20-1560D Sehmel Homestead Park Turf Replacement (4) Rank 20
- 20-1810D Usk Basketball Courts (2) Rank 21
- 20-1356D Volunteer Field Turf (2) Rank 23
- 20-1238D Wenatchee City Pool Renovation (2) Rank 24
- 20-1231D Rainier View Park Covered Court (6) Rank 28
- 20-1355D Little League Field and Restroom (1) Rank 30
- 20-1566D Lions Park Multi-Use Field and Restrooms (20) Rank 35

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Youth Athletic Facilities: Small Grants Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-1747D The Pit Youth Facilities (2) Rank 4

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Community Forests Program Review of Ranked List

Prepared By: Ben Donatelle, Natural Resources Policy Specialist

Summary

This memo describes the Community Forests Program evaluation process and offers a summary of the applications received between September 1 and October 1, 2020. This memo also provides an opportunity for the Recreation and Conservation Funding board to review the ranked lists of projects, in accordance with the budget proviso, prior to RCO submitting to the ranked list to the Legislature for funding consideration.

Board Action Requested

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

Resolution #: 2020-22

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary project list (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

In the 2020 supplemental capital budget, the Legislature directed the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to work with the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and other stakeholders to develop funding criteria and a ranked list of community forest projects for funding consideration in the 2021-23 biennial budget.

In July 2020, RCO staff briefed the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) on the Community Forests Advisory Committee's (advisory committee) process to establish the funding and evaluation criteria. Following the board meeting, the draft program guide and evaluation criteria were posted for public comment. After editing in response to public comments and a final review by the advisory committee, the final program guide and evaluation criteria was approved by the RCO director and posted on

RCO's website. The grant round was opened and proposals for funding were accepted between September 1 and October 1, 2020.

The budget proviso requires a review of project submissions by the board. Prior to submitting the funding criteria and ranked lists to the Legislature for funding consideration, RCO staff is requesting the board review the project list, as scored and ranked by the advisory committee. RCO must deliver the ranked list of projects to the Legislature by December 31, 2020.

Below is the program profile of the Community Forests Grant Program:

Community Forests Program Profile

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cities, counties, and other political subdivisions of the state• Nonprofit nature conservancies• State agencies working directly with one of the above |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Projects must acquire fee title to property• Combination projects involving acquisition, restoration and/or recreation development are also allowed |
| Funding Limits | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is no minimum request limit, maximum request is \$3,000,000.• Maximum cost for a community forest management plan is \$30,000.• The budget for restoration and development activities shall not exceed 10 percent of the total project budget. |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All applicants must contribute at least 15 percent match |
| Public Access | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public access is required |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funds are intended to preserve actively managed forests for economic, social and environmental benefits.• Projects must submit a Community Forest Management Plan prior to project completion.• Restoration and development work is allowed on acquired property.• The value of conservation easements or other less than fee interests that contribute to the community forest are eligible to satisfy the match requirement |

Evaluation Summary

Applicants submitted written answers to the evaluation questions in PRISM along with their application materials. In summary, applicants submitted 15 project proposals, requesting \$33,489,342 and proposing to acquire 11,357 acres. Applications were accepted between September 1 and October 1, 2020.

Using the evaluation criteria adopted by the RCO director, the advisory committee reviewed the final project proposals between October 12 – 25, 2020. Because of the late date of this evaluation process, the ranked list is not available at the time of writing this memo but will be attached to this memo prior to the November board meeting.

Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the RCO director, are recognized for their expertise and knowledge of community forests. The advisory committee members reviewing the project proposals this year are:

| Name | Organization |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Andrea Martin | Washington State Department of Natural Resources |
| Nick Norton | Washington Association of Land Trusts (WALT) |
| Kaola Swanson | Northwest Community Forest Coalition |
| Cathy Baker | Nature Conservancy |
| David Patton | Trust for Public Land |
| Jason Callahan | Washington Forest Protection Association |
| Matt Comisky | American Forest Resource Council |
| Phil Rigdon | Yakama Nation |
| Ray Entz | Kalispel Tribe |
| Loren Hiner | City of Montesano |
| Kate Dean | Jefferson County |

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Bob Bugert | Chelan County |
|------------|---------------|

The advisory committee submits for the board's review the Community Forests Program project list for fund consideration as shown in *Table 1- WWRP, Forestland Preservation Category, Preliminary Project List, 2019-21*.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of this grant proposal 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 the board's goal of making strategic investments of state funds.

Next Steps

The budget proviso directs RCO to submit the funding criteria and a ranked list of projects by December 31, 2020. After the board's review of the project list, RCO staff will compile a report, including the funding criteria and ranked list of projects, and submit it by the requested deadline to both the Office of Financial Management and the Legislature.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-22, including Table 1 – *Community Forests, Preliminary Project List, 2021-23*
- B. Community Forests Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

[View Correspondence Here](#)

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-22
Community Forest Program, Project List, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, in the 2020 supplemental budget the Washington State Legislature directed the Recreation and Conservation Office to establish funding criteria and a ranked list of community forest projects for funding consideration in the 21-23 budget; and

WHEREAS, RCO convened an advisory committee consisting of members of the public and a representative from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources to develop the funding criteria and review project proposals between May and October, 2020; and

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, fifteen Community Forests Program projects are being proposed for funding consideration; and

WHEREAS, the fifteen applications submitted in the Community Forests Program meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in the program guide which is published on RCO's website; and

WHEREAS, these Community Forests Program projects were reviewed by the advisory committee using criteria approved by the RCO director; and

WHEREAS, the Community Forests Program projects meet criteria for perpetual land acquisition, thus supporting the legislative goals to help sustain the community, economic and environmental benefits provided by Washington's working forestlands.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board has hereby reviewed the project list depicted in *Table 1 – Community Forests Program, Preliminary Project List, 2021-23*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board hereby acknowledges that this project list for the Community Forest Program is complete and ready for RCO to submit to the Legislature for further consideration as required by the budget proviso.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____



Preliminary Evaluation Ranking Community Forests Program 2021-2023

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 52.36 | 20-2023 A | Chelan County | Nason Ridge Community Forest Acquisition | \$3,000,000 | \$2,221,000 | \$5,221,000 |
| 2 | 51.55 | 20-2016 A | Jefferson Land Trust | Chimacum Ridge Community Forest | \$3,000,000 | \$897,500 | \$3,897,500 |
| 3 | 50.64 | 20-2089 A | Nisqually Community Forest | Nisqually Community Forest Phase 2 | \$2,313,250 | \$2,313,250 | \$4,626,500 |
| 4 | 49 | 20-2120 A | Mount Adams Resource Stewards | Mount Adams Community Forest: Conboy Lake South Tract | \$1,399,100 | \$246,900 | \$1,646,000 |
| 5 | 48 | 20-2044 A | Kittitas Conservation Trust | Cle Elum Ridge Community Forest Phase 1 | \$3,000,000 | \$800,250 | \$3,800,250 |
| 6 | 47.64 | 20-2035 A | Great Peninsula Conservancy | North Kitsap Divide Block Community Forest | \$2,935,000 | \$1,200,000 | \$4,135,000 |
| 7 | 47.27 | 20-2054 A | Ilwaco | Bear Ridge Community Forest | \$1,717,750 | \$600,000 | \$2,317,750 |
| 8 | 46.82 | 20-2017 A | Whatcom Land Trust | Stewart Mountain Community Forest: Riparian Reserve | \$1,737,252 | \$308,000 | \$2,045,252 |
| 9 | 46.36 | 20-2069 A | Hoquiam | Hoquiam Community Forest | \$3,000,000 | \$977,600 | \$3,977,600 |
| 10 | 46.27 | 20-2068 A | Aberdeen | Aberdeen Community Forest: Fry Creek Watershed | \$1,384,915 | \$245,585 | \$1,630,500 |
| 11 | 45.45 | 20-2079 A | San Juan County Land Bank | San Juan Island Northern Forestlands | \$1,546,000 | \$400,000 | \$1,946,000 |
| 12 | 44.36 | 20-2025 A | Great Peninsula Conservancy | Newberry Woods Community Forest Acquisition | \$2,900,000 | \$760,000 | \$3,660,000 |
| 13 | 42.55 | 20-2046 C | Dishman Hills Conservancy | Dishman Hills Community Forest | \$3,000,000 | \$529,412 | \$3,529,412 |
| 14 | 42.45 | 20-2055 A | Grays Harbor County | Doyle Brothers 80 | \$271,575 | \$47,925 | \$319,500 |
| 15 | 38.36 | 20-2077 A | Kitsap County | Illahee Preserve Community Forest Acquisitions | \$2,284,500 | \$503,000 | \$2,787,500 |
| Total | | | | | \$33,489,342 | \$12,050,422 | \$45,539,764 |



Evaluation Scores Community Forests Program 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Forestland Benefits | 2. Public Benefits | 3. Stewardship and Management | 4. Development and Restoration | 5. Community Engagement and Support | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-15 | 0-15 | 0-3 | 0-15 | |
| 1 | 20-2023 A | Nason Ridge Community Forest Acquisition | 13.00 | 12.82 | 12.91 | | 13.64 | 52.36 |
| 2 | 20-2016 A | Chimacum Ridge Community Forest | 12.18 | 13.00 | 13.00 | | 13.36 | 51.55 |
| 3 | 20-2089 A | Nisqually Community Forest Phase 2 | 12.55 | 12.91 | 12.91 | | 12.27 | 50.64 |
| 4 | 20-2120 A | Mount Adams Community Forest: Conboy Lake South Tract | 12.82 | 12.00 | 12.82 | | 11.36 | 49.00 |
| 5 | 20-2044 A | Cle Elum Ridge Community Forest Phase 1 | 12.82 | 11.55 | 11.18 | | 12.45 | 48.00 |
| 6 | 20-2035 A | North Kitsap Divide Block Community Forest | 12.73 | 11.82 | 11.18 | | 11.91 | 47.64 |
| 7 | 20-2054 A | Bear Ridge Community Forest | 11.82 | 12.09 | 11.45 | | 11.91 | 47.27 |
| 8 | 20-2017 A | Stewart Mountain Community Forest: Riparian Reserve | 12.09 | 11.82 | 11.18 | | 11.73 | 46.82 |
| 9 | 20-2069 A | Hoquiam Community Forest | 11.18 | 11.09 | 12.45 | | 11.64 | 46.36 |
| 10 | 20-2068 A | Aberdeen Community Forest: Fry Creek Watershed | 11.09 | 11.09 | 12.36 | | 11.73 | 46.27 |
| 11 | 20-2079 A | San Juan Island Northern Forestlands | 12.18 | 11.27 | 10.73 | | 11.27 | 45.45 |
| 12 | 20-2025 A | Newberry Woods Community Forest Acquisition | 11.45 | 11.09 | 10.82 | | 11.00 | 44.36 |
| 13 | 20-2046 C | Dishman Hills Community Forest | 10.91 | 10.00 | 9.45 | 2.09 | 10.09 | 42.55 |
| 14 | 20-2055 A | Doyle Brothers 80 | 10.55 | 11.00 | 11.36 | | 9.55 | 42.45 |
| 15 | 20-2077 A | Illahee Preserve Community Forest Acquisitions | 9.45 | 9.18 | 9.09 | | 10.64 | 38.36 |

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farm and Forest
Account: Forestland Preservation Category
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: Kim Sellers, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

This memo describes the Forestland Preservation category, the review process, and the projects submitted for funding consideration. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants, following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution #: 2020-23

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary project list (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

The primary focus of the Forestland Preservation category is to acquire development rights on working forestland in Washington and ensure the land remains available for timber production. A secondary goal is to support other benefits of preserving forestland such as jobs, recreation, protection of water and soil resources, carbon sequestration, habitat for wildlife, and scenic beauty.

The Forestland Preservation category receives ten percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) funds in the Farm and Forest Account.¹ The remaining ninety percent will be used for the Farmland Preservation category.

¹Chapter 79A.15.040(1)(b) RCW

Program Summary

In the fall of 2019 RCO staff contracted with John Mankowski of Mankowski Environmental, LLC to help bring awareness to this grant category in the hopes of bringing in more applications. Over the course of a six-month period, Mr. Mankowski conducted numerous meetings and held discussions with industrial and non-industrial forest landowners. Originally the intent was that Mr. Mankowski's efforts were to culminate in a practitioner's workshop in May 2020. Unfortunately, that workshop was postponed due to the pandemic.

However, the board did adopt one of Mr. Mankowski's recommendations, which was to increase the grant limit to \$500,000. The board adopted this change at their January 2020 meeting. This is the first grant round that included the new grant limit. Four applications were submitted this grant round; one of which requested the full \$500,000.

A summary of policies for this category is shown in the table below.

| Forestland Preservation Category | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | Cities, counties, qualified nonprofit nature conservancies, and the Washington State Conservation Commission |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition of property rights through a conservation easement• Combination projects involving both acquisition and restoration or habitat enhancement. |
| Funding Limits | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The maximum grant limit is \$500,000.• The maximum cost for a forest management plan is \$10,000.• The restoration or enhancement total shall not exceed more than half of the total acquisition costs, including match towards acquisition. |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cities, counties and nonprofit nature conservancies must provide a minimum 1:1 matching share.• No match required for the Washington State Conservation Commission. |
| Public Access | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Although public access is not required, it is allowed if explicitly provided for in the conservation easement. |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each parcel proposed for protection must be classified as either timberland or forestland under county property tax definitions (Revised Codes of Washington 84.34.020(3)) and 84.33.035(5).• Applicants must submit a county approved timber management plan if required by the county's tax program.• Projects, on property owned by a private, small forest landowner, must include correcting all fish passage barriers. |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

On September 14, the WWRP Forestland Preservation Advisory Committee reviewed four project proposals using video conferencing software for this virtual evaluation meeting. They accessed RCO's PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module to score projects using board-adopted criteria. The presentations were streamed live to a free internet site to support public transparency.

Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, are recognized for their expertise and knowledge of forestland preservation and management in Washington. The advisory committee members participating this grants cycle are:

| Evaluator | Affiliation |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Jeff DeBell, Olympia | Citizen |
| Sue Wright, Vancouver | Citizen |
| Gretchen Lech, Hancock Forest Management | Forest Landowner |
| Arno Bergstrom, Kitsap County | Local Government |
| Joe Kane, Nisqually Land Trust | Nonprofit Organization |
| Stephen Bernath, Department of Natural Resources | State Government |

Six advisory committee members, using criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), reviewed the final project proposals. Specifically, members were asked to comment on any fatal flaws with the applications and help ensure that all are worthy of fund consideration. The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in Table 1 – *WWRP, Forestland Preservation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

On September 18, RCO staff held a post evaluation meeting with the Forestland Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results.

The committee unanimously stated that the virtual process worked well and was well organized. The PRISM Review and Evaluation Module received excellent feedback for its functionality and usability. Advisors appreciated the layout, access to the important project information, and the ease of scoring and comparing criteria rankings. Additionally, committee members felt that the virtual format worked well for reviewing and evaluating projects. In the rare instance that committee members lost internet

connection for brief periods, they were able to view the recorded presentation shortly thereafter on the RCO YouTube channel.

The two key suggestions from this committee for the next grant round is to ask applicants to:

1. Provide a copy of their forest management plan, if available. Advisors felt this would help them assess the forest practices and determine long-term viability and productivity and the likelihood of the forest meeting the program purpose of timber production.
2. Make sure they invited their forester or someone that was well versed in forestry to help with the presentation. There were questions evaluators asked that the presenter could not answer, primarily because the questions were more technical in nature and a forester or someone with that level of expertise needed to help address the evaluation criteria and evaluator follow-up questions.

Public Comment

There are letters of support or concern for Forestland Preservation category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant proposals 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 the board's goal of making strategic investments of state funds.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Forestland Preservation Category, Preliminary Project List, 2021-23*, via Resolution #2020-23.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 biennium. The Governor then submits the Forestland Preservation project list to the Legislature as part of the proposed capital budget. The Governor may remove the project from the list but cannot add to the approved list. The Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the project list in the capital budget. The board will approve the final list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-23, including Table 1 – *WWRP, Forestland Preservation Category, Preliminary Project List, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for the Forestland Preservation Category Projects
- C. Forestland Preservation Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Forestland Preservation Category Evaluation Scores 2021-2023
- E. Forestland Preservation Category Project Descriptions 2021-2023
- F. Forestland Preservation Category Letters of Project Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-23
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
Forestland Preservation Category, Project List, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, four Forestland Preservation category projects are being considered for funding from the Farm and Forest Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, the four applications submitted in the Forestland Preservation category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in *Manual 10c, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Forestland Preservation*, including criteria regarding county tax designation as either forestland or timberland; and

WHEREAS, these Forestland Preservation category projects were reviewed by a team of citizens and government representatives using criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), thereby supporting the board's goal to fund the best projects as determined by the review process; and

WHEREAS, this review occurred in an online virtual meeting that was broadcast in real time, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, the forestland projects meet criteria for perpetual easements, thus supporting the board's strategic goal to maximize the useful life of board-funded projects and supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding for projects that help sustain Washington's fully functioning ecosystems.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board hereby approves the project list depicted in *Table 1 – Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Forestland Preservation Category, Preliminary Project List, 2021-23*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the project list for the Forestland Preservation category for further consideration.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Table 1: WWRP – Forestland Preservation Category

Resolution: 2020-23

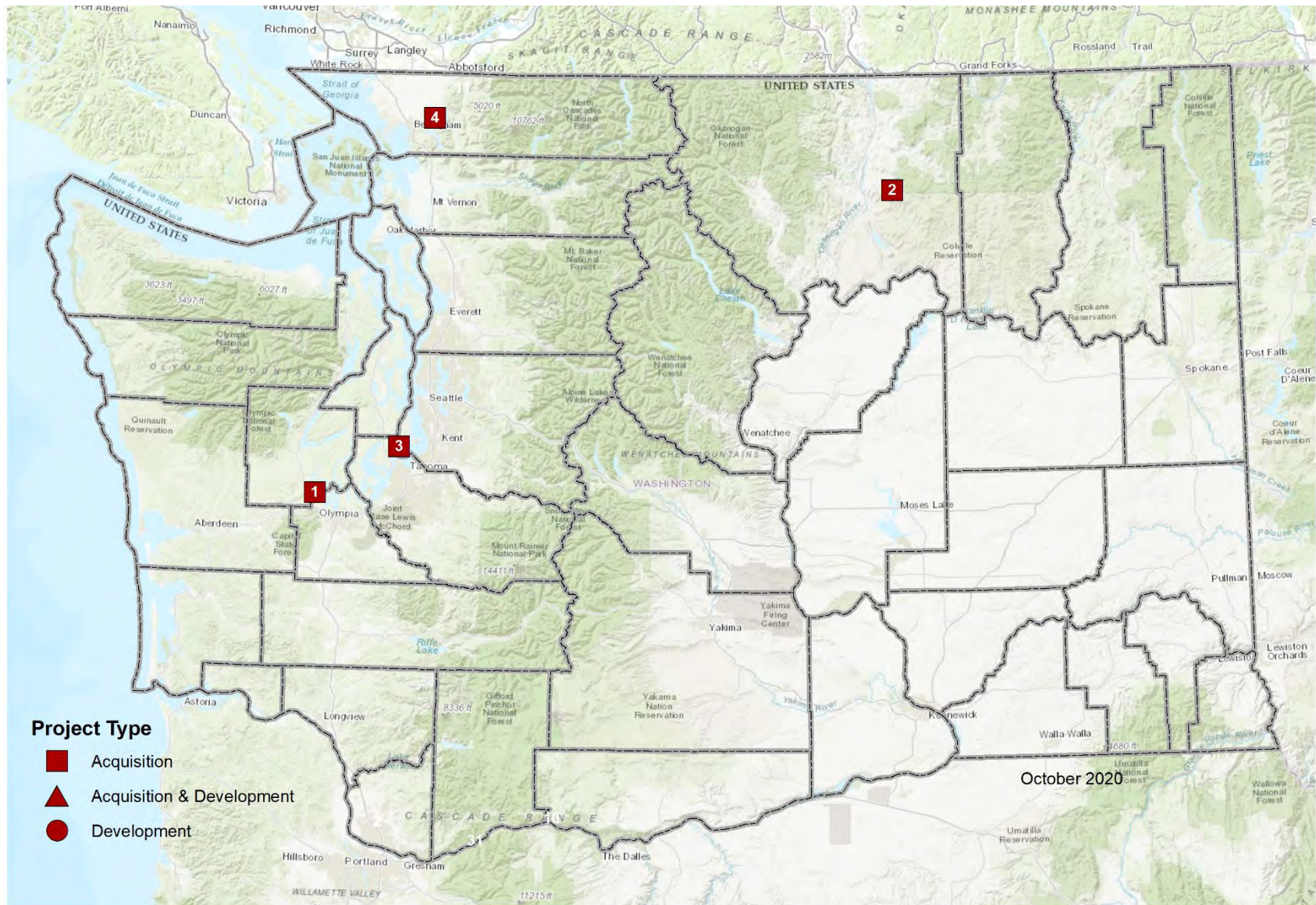
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects

2021-2023

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 36.33 | 20-1228 A | Forterra | Little Skookum Inlet Forest Protection Phase 2 | \$320,872 | \$395,003 | \$715,875 |
| 2 | 34.5 | 20-1805 A | Okanogan Land Trust | Anderson Forestland | \$86,880 | \$106,188 | \$193,068 |
| 3 | 33.33 | 20-1676 A | King County | Camp Sealth Conservation Easement Vashon Island | \$500,000 | \$3,085,000 | \$3,585,000 |
| 4 | 28.33 | 20-1585 A | Whatcom County | Moors Forestry Conservation Easement | \$141,775 | \$141,775 | \$283,550 |
| Total | | | | | \$1,049,527 | \$3,727,966 | \$4,777,493 |

Project type: A=acquisition

State Map for the Forestland Preservation Category Projects



Forestland Preservation Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

Forestland preservation means protection of any land designated as either timberland in RCW 84.34.020(3) or forestland in 84.33.035(5).²

Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

| Scored By | Number | Evaluation Criteria | Maximum Score |
|---------------------|---------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Advisory Committee | 1 | Viability of the Site | 15 |
| Advisory Committee | 2 | Forestland Stewardship | 8 |
| Advisory Committee | 3 | Stewardship Practices | 2 |
| Advisory Committee | 4 | Threat to the Land | 8 |
| Advisory Committee | 5 | Community Values | 4 |
| Advisory Committee | 6 | Community Support | 2 |
| Advisory Committee | 7 | Multiple Benefits | 2 |
| RCO Staff | 8 | Match | 2 |
| Total Points | | | 43 |

Forestland Preservation Category Detailed Scoring Criteria

Advisory Committee Scored Criteria

1. Viability of the Site

What is the viability of the site for commercial timber production?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130(10(h))

2. Forest Stewardship

What stewardship practices beyond the Forest Practices Act are in place that support timber production or provide ecologic benefits?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130(10(e-g))

3. Stewardship Practices

What voluntary stewardship practices (described in Question 2) will be included in the terms of the conservation easement or lease as required stewardship practices?

² Chapter 79A.15.010 (6)

4. Threat to the Land

What is the likelihood the land will be converted to some other use than forestland if it's not protected?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130(10(c))

5. Community Values

How will protecting the land for timber production provide benefits to the community? Do the community and area Native American tribes support the project?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130 (12)(a), (b), and (d)

6. Community Support

Are there one or more letters in the application that demonstrate community support for the project?

7. Multiple Benefits

Does the project include recreational uses that are compatible with habitat conservation?

Does the project include resource uses or management practices that are compatible with conservation and provide the ability to achieve additional conservation benefits?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (i) d

RCO Staff Scored Criteria

8. Match

Is the applicant providing additional match above the minimum requirement?

Forestland Preservation Category Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Viability of the Site | 2. Forestland Stewardship | 3. Stewardship Practices | 4. Threat of the Land | 5. Community Values | 6. Community Support | 7. Multiple Benefits | 8. Match | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-8 | 0-2 | 0-8 | 0-4 | 0-2 | 0-2 | 0-2 | |
| 1 | 20-1228 A | Little Skookum Inlet Forest Protection Phase 2 | 13.50 | 6.67 | 1.50 | 7.00 | 3.67 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 36.33 |
| 2 | 20-1805 A | Anderson Forestland | 13.17 | 7.33 | 1.50 | 4.33 | 3.33 | 1.67 | 1.17 | 2.00 | 34.50 |
| 3 | 20-1676 A | Camp Sealth Conservation Easement Vashon Island | 9.50 | 6.83 | 1.33 | 6.33 | 3.33 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 33.33 |
| 4 | 20-1585 A | Moors Forestry Conservation Easement | 10.17 | 5.17 | 1.17 | 6.17 | 2.67 | 1.67 | 1.33 | 0.00 | 28.33 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-7; RCO staff score Question 8
Project type: A=acquisition

Forestland Preservation Category

Project Description 2021-2023

Forterra

Grant Requested: \$320,872

Conserving Little Skookum Inlet Forest

Forterra will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 113 acres of forests and streambank habitat, including more than a quarter-mile of shoreline on Little Skookum Inlet. The shoreline and the bed lands of Little Skookum Inlet are highly productive shellfish growing areas and the streams on the land are home to fall chum salmon while the marine shoreline provides habitat for Chinook and coho salmon, and steelhead and cutthroat trout. The agreement will prevent development permanently and will expand buffers along the marine shoreline and fish-bearing streams to 150 feet, permanently protecting the habitat benefits. About 100 acres of upland forest will continue to be available for logging, keeping working forests and jobs in Mason County. Forterra will contribute \$395,003 in a private grant and grants from the state Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program and salmon recovery program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1228)

Okanogan Land Trust

Grant Requested: \$86,880

Conserving Anderson Forestland for Sharp-tailed Grouse

The Okanogan Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 225 acres of forestland in the Tunk Valley, about 20 miles northeast of Omak. The Anderson forestland is next to more than 1,660 acres that were conserved by the land trust in 2019, and is within 5 miles of two other areas that support some of the most robust sharp-tailed grouse leks in Washington State and are integral parts of one of the largest remaining blocks of contiguous shrub steppe habitat left in north central Washington. Due to the property's importance for mule deer and Canada Lynx movement, sharp-tailed grouse, and other wildlife, the Working for Wildlife partnership initiated by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has identified this property as a priority for conservation. The Okanogan Land Trust will contribute \$106,188 in a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1805)

King County

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Conserving the Forest in Vashon Island's Camp Sealth

The King County Parks and Recreation Division will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 280 acres of forestland at Camp Sealth. The agreement would prevent future residential development permanently. The 381-acre Camp Sealth contains mature second-growth

forest and is operated as a youth summer camp for 500 annual campers. For more than 25 years, Camp Sealth has cut trees, mostly to promote forest health, reduce the spread and threat from laminated root rot, and generate money for camp operations. King County will contribute more than \$3 million in cash and Conservation Futures.³ Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1676)

Whatcom County
Moors Forestry Conservation Easement

Grant Requested: \$141,775

Whatcom County will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 36.07 acres of forestland on the Moors property, 8 miles northeast of Bellingham, on Anderson Creek. The purchase will help meet Whatcom County's goal of supporting the rural economic base through natural resource-based industries, such as forestry. Whatcom County will contribute \$141,775 in Conservation Futures.⁴ Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1585)

³Conservation 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.

⁴Conservation 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.

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Forestland Preservation Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-1805A Anderson Forestland (4) Rank 2
- 20-1676A Camp Sealth Conservation Easement Vashon Island (8) Rank 3
- 20-1585A Moors Forestry Conservation Easement (1) Rank 4

[View Letters Here](#)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farm and Forest
Account: Farmland Preservation Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: Michelle Burbidge, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Thirteen project proposals in the Farmland Preservation category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the category, review and evaluation process, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution #: 2020-24

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

The primary focus of the Farmland Preservation category 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 category receives ninety percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) funds in the Farm and Forest Account. The remaining ten percent is set aside for the Forestland Preservation category.

Program Summary

There were no significant changes to the Farmland Preservation category this year, but some of RCO's general changes are as follows:

1. Changed PRISM Online to make submitting applications easier,
2. Conducted online review and evaluation meetings only, and
3. Renumbered the evaluation criteria to clearly show the bonus questions for *Farmland Stewardship* and *Benefits to the Community* and accommodate electronic scoring.

A summary of this category is shown in the table below.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | Cities, counties, qualified nonprofit nature conservancies, and the Washington State Conservation Commission |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition of property rights via a conservation easement• Acquisition and restoration or enhancement |
| Funding Limits | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is no minimum or maximum grant amount.• The restoration total shall not exceed more than half of the total acquisition costs, including match towards acquisition.• Maximum cost for a farm stewardship plan is \$10,000. |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cities, counties and nonprofit nature conservancies must provide a minimum 1:1 matching share.• No match required for the Washington State Conservation Commission. |
| Public Access | Although public access is not required, it is allowed if explicitly provided for in the conservation easement. |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each parcel proposed for protection must be classified as farm and agricultural land as defined in the Open Space Tax Act.• Preservation of agricultural lands must be a priority for the organization.• Applicants must have the ability to draft, acquire, monitor, and enforce conservation easements.• Development of a farm stewardship plan as part of an acquisition is eligible. |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Thirteen Farmland Preservation projects, requesting over \$5 million, were evaluated by members of the WWRP Farmland Preservation Advisory Committee on September 14-15, 2020. Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to agricultural production, agri-business, real estate, land

management, and community interests related to farming. The members who conducted the evaluations were as follows:

| Advisory Committee Members | Affiliation |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Julie Kintzi, Enumclaw | Farmer/Citizen |
| Tristan Klesick, Stanwood | Farmer/Citizen |
| Cynthia Nelson,* Orville | Farmer/Citizen |
| Addie Candib, American Farmland Trust, Bellingham | Local Agency |
| Jesika Harper, Northwest Farm Credit Services, Spokane | Local Agency |
| Perry Beale, Washington Department of Agriculture | State Agency |
| Mike Kuttel, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | State Agency |

**Participated in the review meeting but did not score projects.*

Six advisory committee members evaluated the proposals using video conferencing software for the virtual meeting, and RCO's PRISM system for scoring the projects according to criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board. The presentations were streamed live to a free internet site to support public transparency. The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Farmland Preservation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

At the end of the evaluation meeting on September 15 and during the post-evaluation meeting on September 18, staff met with the WWRP Farmland Preservation Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results. Advisory committee members were so appreciative of the seamless nature of the process in terms of organization and making the PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module available so they could score projects remotely. They felt the evaluation criteria was satisfactory, however, they provided a few thoughts about things that could make it even better.

For example, advisors wondered if there was a way to consider the contiguous nature of a farm to existing protected property, similarly to the way other evaluation instruments consider long-term viability, manageability, and connectivity.

They discussed *Threat to the Land* and the fact that it is not always about the pressure of development on properties the way it is experienced in western Washington, but sometimes the concern is tied to the scale of the operation. The ranches on the east side of the state need large tracks of land to be viable. When those properties are broken into smaller 20-acre parcels, it is no longer easy to support agricultural uses.

The *Benefits to the Community* criterion includes both the ecological and community factors. It would be nice if these were separate questions so advisors could more easily consider community ecology (habitat conservation plans, watershed plans, limiting factor analyses, etc.) and human related ecology (i.e., regional, state, shoreline, local land use plans, etc.) and how well does the human community support the proposed project. Advisors noted that not many applicants talked about their outreach efforts to make sure people knew about their projects. They specifically noted that there is not enough being done to engage Native American tribes.

Advisors did note that applications were down this year and part of that is attributed to the fact that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Services did not solicit grant proposals. This means some applicants are struggling to come up with matching resources. Advisors are hopeful that things will improve, and match will become available for this portfolio of projects.

In summary, the Farmland Preservation Advisory Committee was satisfied with the process and the resulting ranked list.

Public Comment

There are letters of support for Farmland Preservation category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the October board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant proposals 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 the board's goal of making strategic investments of state funds.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Farmland Preservation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, via Resolution #2020-24.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 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 approved list. The 2021

Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will approve the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-24, including Table 1 – *WWRP, Farmland Preservation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for Farmland Preservation Category Projects
- C. Farmland Preservation Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Farmland Preservation Category Projects, Evaluation Scores, 2021-23
- E. Farmland Preservation Category Project Descriptions 2021-23
- F. Farmland Preservation Category Letters of Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-24
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
Farmland Preservation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, thirteen Farmland Preservation category projects are being considered for funding from the Farm and Forest Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all thirteen Farmland Preservation category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in *Manual 10f, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Farmland Preservation*, including criteria regarding viability for continued agricultural production and community benefits; and

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

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

WHEREAS, all of the farmland 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 supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding for projects that help sustain Washington's fully functioning ecosystems;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Farmland Preservation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, and

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

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

Table 1: WWRP – Farmland Preservation Category

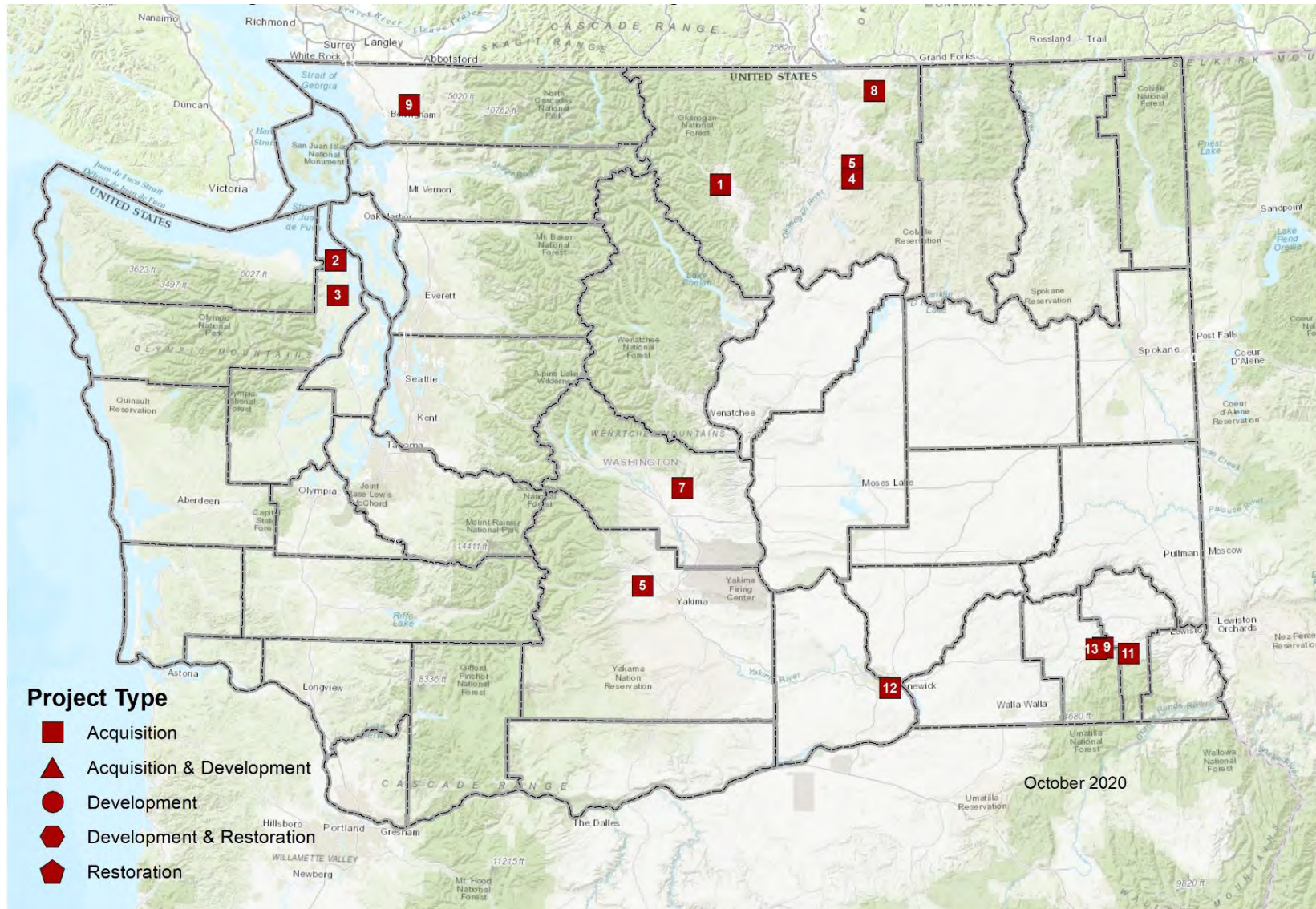
Resolution: 2020-24

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2021-2023

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 49 | 20-1573 A | Methow Conservancy | Wolf Creek Agricultural Conservation Easement Phase 1 | \$1,140,000 | \$1,189,046 | \$2,329,046 |
| 2 | 48.6 | 20-1681 A | Jefferson Land Trust | Natembea Farm Preservation | \$430,000 | \$530,800 | \$960,800 |
| 3 | 47.4 | 20-1405 A | Jefferson Land Trust | Hannan Farm | \$255,000 | \$319,800 | \$574,800 |
| 4 | 46.4 | 20-1493 A | Okanogan Land Trust | Synarep Rangeland | \$527,301 | \$644,479 | \$1,171,780 |
| 5 | 45.6 | 20-1546 A | Conservation Commission | Thornton Ranch Agricultural Easement | \$916,713 | | \$916,713 |
| 5 | 45.6 | 20-1781 A | Okanogan Land Trust | Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch | \$204,596 | \$250,062 | \$454,658 |
| 7 | 44 | 20-1230 A | Forterra | Upper Naneum Creek Farm | \$299,500 | \$366,084 | \$665,584 |
| 8 | 43.2 | 20-1619 A | Okanogan Land Trust | Teas Ranch | \$109,265 | \$133,547 | \$242,812 |
| 9 | 42.8 | 20-1584 A | Whatcom County | VanderWerff Agricultural Conservation Easement | \$113,775 | \$113,775 | \$227,550 |
| 9 | 42.8 | 20-1624 A | Blue Mountain Land Trust | Allen Family Ranch Farmland Preservation Easement | \$377,300 | \$377,300 | \$754,600 |
| 11 | 42 | 20-1817 A | Blue Mountain Land Trust | Leland Farmland Preservation Easement | \$240,800 | \$240,800 | \$481,600 |
| 12 | 39.8 | 20-1547 A | Conservation Commission | Hoch Family Farm Agricultural Easement | \$504,539 | | \$504,539 |
| 13 | 37.4 | 20-1435 A | Blue Mountain Land Trust | Peyton Ranch Conservation Easement | \$743,300 | \$743,300 | \$1,486,600 |
| Total | | | | | \$5,862,089 | \$4,908,993 | \$10,771,082 |

Project type: A=acquisition

State Map for Farmland Preservation Category Projects



Farmland Preservation Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

Farmland preservation means protection of any land defined as farm and agricultural land in RCW 84.34.020(2) and farm and agricultural conservation land in 84.34.020 (8).¹

| Evaluation Criteria Summary Table | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Scored By | Number | Evaluation Criteria | Maximum Score |
| Advisory Committee | 1 | Viability of the Site | 16 |
| Advisory Committee | 2 | Threat to the Land | 10 |
| Advisory Committee | 3 | Access to Markets | 4 |
| Advisory Committee | 4 | On-site Infrastructure | 4 |
| Advisory Committee | 5 | Building Envelope | 4 |
| Advisory Committee | 6 | Farmland Stewardship | 6 |
| Advisory Committee | 7 | Stewardship Practices | 2 |
| Advisory Committee | 8 | Benefits to the Community | 6 |
| Advisory Committee | 9 | Community Support | 2 |
| RCO Staff | 10 | Match | 2 |
| RCO Staff | 11 | Easement Duration | 0 |
| Total Points | | | 56 |

Farmland Preservation Category Detailed Scoring Criteria

Advisory Committee Scored Criteria

1. Viability of the Site

What is the viability of the site for agricultural production?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130(9(h))

2. Threat to the Land

What is the likelihood the land will not stay in agricultural use if it is not protected?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130(9(c))

¹ Chapter 79A.15.010 (5)

3. **Access to Markets**

How is the land's agricultural productivity supported by access to markets?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130(9(h))

4. **On-site Infrastructure**

How well is the land's agricultural productivity supported by on-site production and support facilities such as barns, irrigation systems, crop processing and storage facilities, wells, houses, livestock sheds, and other farming infrastructure?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130(9(h))

5. **Building Envelope**

How much of the property is included in the building envelope?

6. **Farmland Stewardship**

What stewardship practices are in place to benefit fish and other wildlife habitat?

7. **Stewardship Practices**

What stewardship practices (described in Question 6) will be included in the terms of the conservation easement as required stewardship practices for the duration of the easement?

8. **Benefits to the Community**

How will protecting the land for agricultural purposes provide other benefits to the community? Does the community and area Native American tribes support the project?

Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.130(9(a))

9. **Community Support**

Are there one or more letters in the application that demonstrate community support for the project?

RCO Staff Scored Criteria

10. **Match**

Is the applicant providing additional match above the minimum requirement?

11. **Easement Duration**

What is the duration of the conservation easement?

Farmland Preservation Category Projects Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Viability of the Site | 2. Threat to the Land | 3. Access to Markets | 4. On-site Infrastructure | 5. Building Envelope | 6. Farmland Stewardship | 7. Stewardship Practices | 8. Benefits to the Community | 9. Community Support | 10. Match | 11. Easement Duration | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|
| | | | Point Range 0-16 | 0-10 | 0-4 | 0-4 | 0-4 | 0-6 | 0-2 | 0-6 | 0-2 | 0-2 | -10-0 | |
| 1 | 20-1573 A | Wolf Creek Agricultural Conservation Easement Phase 1 | 15.20 | 9.20 | 3.40 | 4.00 | 3.60 | 4.40 | 2.00 | 5.20 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 49.00 |
| 2 | 20-1681 A | Natembea Farm Preservation | 14.60 | 8.00 | 3.60 | 3.40 | 3.40 | 4.60 | 1.60 | 5.60 | 1.80 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 48.60 |
| 3 | 20-1405 A | Hannan Farm | 14.40 | 7.00 | 3.40 | 3.40 | 3.40 | 5.40 | 1.80 | 4.60 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 47.40 |
| 4 | 20-1493 A | Synarep Rangeland | 13.20 | 7.00 | 3.40 | 3.80 | 4.00 | 4.40 | 2.00 | 4.60 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 46.40 |
| 5 | 20-1546 A | Thornton Ranch Agricultural Easement | 14.60 | 7.80 | 3.60 | 3.60 | 2.80 | 4.80 | 2.00 | 4.60 | 1.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 45.60 |
| 5 | 20-1781 A | Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch | 13.80 | 6.80 | 3.80 | 2.40 | 3.60 | 4.40 | 1.80 | 5.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 45.60 |
| 7 | 20-1230 A | Upper Naneum Creek Farm | 12.80 | 7.20 | 3.20 | 3.80 | 3.60 | 3.80 | 1.80 | 3.80 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 44.00 |
| 8 | 20-1619 A | Teas Ranch | 12.80 | 6.00 | 3.60 | 3.80 | 3.60 | 4.20 | 1.60 | 3.60 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 43.20 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Viability of the Site | 2. Threat to the Land | 3. Access to Markets | 4. On-site Infrastructure | 5. Building Envelope | 6. Farmland Stewardship | 7. Stewardship Practices | 8. Benefits to the Community | 9. Community Support | 10. Match | 11. Easement Duration | Total |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|
| 9 | 20-1584 A | VanderWerff Agricultural Conservation Easement | 13.00 | 8.00 | 3.80 | 4.00 | 2.60 | 4.20 | 1.60 | 3.80 | 1.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 42.80 |
| 9 | 20-1624 A | Allen Family Ranch Farmland Preservation Easement | 13.40 | 5.60 | 3.40 | 3.60 | 3.60 | 5.00 | 2.00 | 4.20 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 42.80 |
| 11 | 20-1817 A | Leland Farmland Preservation Easement | 13.60 | 6.80 | 3.40 | 2.20 | 3.40 | 4.60 | 1.80 | 4.20 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 42.00 |
| 12 | 20-1547 A | Hoch Family Farm Agricultural Easement | 12.00 | 8.00 | 3.20 | 3.00 | 3.20 | 3.40 | 1.00 | 4.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 39.80 |
| 13 | 20-1435 A | Peyton Ranch Conservation Easement | 12.40 | 5.20 | 3.40 | 1.20 | 3.80 | 4.00 | 2.00 | 3.40 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 37.40 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-9; RCO staff score Questions 10-11

Project type: A=acquisition

Farmland Preservation Category Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-2323

Methow Conservancy

Grant Requested: \$1,140,000

Conserving a Farm on Wolf Creek Road in the Methow Valley

The Methow Conservancy will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to permanently protect 390 acres that have been a farm for more than 100 years in the Methow Valley. The farm contains high-quality soils and senior water rights, which will be tied to the land forever as part of the agreement. The conservancy will keep two farmsteads but prevent further development on the land, part of which is zoned for 5-acre parcels and part of which is in a Planned Destination Resort Zone. Conserving the land also will protect signature scenic views along the Methow Community Trail and will protect wetlands that provide habitat for a wide range of wildlife. The Methow Conservancy will contribute more than \$1.1 million in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1573)

Jefferson Land Trust

Grant Requested: \$430,000

Conserving Port Townsend's Largest Farm

The Jefferson Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to permanently protect the 77-acre Natembea Farm, on the border of Port Townsend. The purchase will preserve the prime agricultural soils and productivity, wetlands, and the scenic character of the largest farm in Port Townsend. Natembea Farm provides land to six diverse operations that produce vegetables, fruit and nut trees, flowers, goat meat, and beef for local markets. The agreement will prevent the majority of future development and help ensure there is prime farmland available for food production near Jefferson County's largest population center. The Jefferson Land Trust will contribute \$530,800 in Conservation Futures² and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1681)

Jefferson Land Trust

Grant Requested: \$255,000

Conserving the Hannan Farm

The Jefferson Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to permanently protect the 115-acre Hannan Farm, 4 miles south of Chimacum. The agreement will preserve permanently one of the largest historical working farms in the Chimacum watershed by preventing subdivision of the land and future development. The agreement also will help protect

²Conservation 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.

nearly 1 mile of Chimacum Creek and seasonal streams. The farm is designated as farmland of statewide importance and has prime soils, salmon spawning habitat in Chimacum Creek, and scenic open space. The mother and daughter landowners are raising beef cattle and hay crops. The Jefferson Land Trust will contribute \$319,800 in local and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1405)

Okanogan Land Trust

Grant Requested: \$527,301

Conserving the Synarep Rangeland in the Tunk Valley

The Okanogan Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve permanently 2,904 acres of ranchland in the Tunk Valley, about 15 miles northeast of Riverside. The Synarep rangeland hosts a successful grazing operation and is designated as both farmland of statewide importance and farmland of unique importance. It also is important for wildlife. The land supports some of the most robust active sharp-tail leks in Washington State, is important for mule deer and Canada Lynx movement, and is an integral part of one of the largest remaining blocks of shrub steppe habitat in north central Washington. The Okanogan Land Trust will contribute \$644,479 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1493)

Washington State Conservation Commission

Grant Requested: \$916,713

Conserving the Thornton Ranch

The State Conservation Commission will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve the 107.7-acre Thornton Ranch, a livestock and hay ranch near Cowiche Creek. The land has prime farmland soils and is considered both farmland of statewide importance and farmland of unique importance. The ranch is bisected by more than a half-mile of Cowiche Creek, which is home to steelhead trout and Chinook and coho salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1546)

Okanogan Land Trust

Grant Requested: \$204,596

Conserving the Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch in the Tunk Valley

The Okanogan Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve forever the 1,051-acre Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch in the Tunk Valley, about 15 miles northeast of Riverside. The land contains significant prime farmland soils and is designated as both farmland of statewide and unique importance. The current farmer is the second generation to own the property, and the agreement would enable the family to solidify its ranching operation and pass it on to future generations, free from development pressures. The

ranch provides habitat for sharp-tail grouse, elk, moose, bear, deer, and a wide variety of birds. It also is important for mule deer and Canada Lynx movement. The Okanogan Land Trust will contribute \$250,061 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1781)

Forterra

Grant Requested: \$299,500

Conserving Forever the Upper Naneum Creek Farm

Forterra will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also known as a conservation easement, to conserve forever the 150-acre Upper Naneum Creek Farm, northeast of Ellensburg. With excellent soils, more than adequate water rights, significant acreage, and southern exposure, the farm is ideally suited for long-term agricultural use. Currently, the farm is irrigated pasture but is capable of supporting crops, pasture, and rangeland. The farm includes about 43 acres of important shrub steppe habitat, which is excluded from grazing and reserved for wildlife. The agreement will allow for future habitat improvements for wildlife and steelhead trout, which are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. Forterra will contribute \$366,084 in federal and local grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1230)

Okanogan Land Trust

Grant Requested: \$109,265

Conserving the Teas Ranch in the Okanogan Highlands

The Okanogan Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve forever 445 acres of agricultural land in the Okanogan Highlands, about 25 miles northeast of Tonasket. The Teas Ranch contains significant prime farmland soils and is designated as farmland of statewide importance. It also lies in an area designated as grasslands of special significance. The land has been in agricultural production for more than 100 years, and the owner is a fourth-generation rancher. The agreement would enable the owner to solidify the ranching operation and pass it on to the next generations, free from development pressures. The ranch provides habitat for elk, moose, bear, deer, and a wide variety of birds. The agreement also would preserve the scenic beauty of the landscape, including views of nearby Muskrat Lake and a historic homestead. The Okanogan Land Trust will contribute \$133,547 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest, and. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1619)

Whatcom County

Grant Requested: \$113,775

Conserving the VanderWerff Farm near Bellingham

Whatcom County will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 19.77 acres of prime agricultural soils

on the VanderWerff property, 8 miles northeast of Bellingham. The VanderWerff family farm raises cattle, pigs, and riding horses. The farm is next to farmland already conserved. Whatcom County will contribute \$113,775 in Conservation Futures.³ Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1584)

Blue Mountain Land Trust
Conserving the Allen Family Ranch

Grant Requested: \$377,300

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 941 acres of the 2,005-acre Allen Family Ranch outside Dayton. The ranch has prime farmland soil and is designated as farmland of statewide significance. It also contains habitat at the headwaters of north Patit Creek and straddles the ridge between the Patit Creek and Tucannon River basins. The ranch abuts the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area and would provide habitat connectivity between the wildlife area and the Blue Mountains. This project is part of a larger project to conserve three properties next to the wildlife area. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$377,300 in private and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1624)

Blue Mountain Land Trust
Conserving the Blue Mountain Ranch

Grant Requested: \$240,800

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 562 acres of the 2,593-acre Blue Mountain Ranch, which lies between Stevens Ridge, Pataha Creek Canyon, and the W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area. The ranch, which produces canola and wheat, has prime farmland soil and is designated as farmland of statewide significance. This project is part of a larger effort to conserve three properties next to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area to provide contiguous open space. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$240,800 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (201817)

Washington State Conservation Commission
Conserving the Hoch Family Farm in Kennewick

Grant Requested: \$504,539

The State Conservation Commission will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve a nearly 26-acre farm in Kennewick. The farm, which is used for raising livestock and produce,

³Conservation 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.

has important silt loam soils and has been agriculturally active since the 1930s. Through a partnership with Washington State University, the landowner has opened the farm to students for education and research purposes. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1547)

**Blue Mountain Land Trust
Conserving the Peyton Ranch**

Grant Requested: \$743,300

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve a 1,947-acre ranch. The ranch contains the headwaters of north Patit Creek and straddles the ridge between the Patit Creek and Tucannon River basins. The agreement will ensure the grazing land remains in agricultural use and that the ranch can't be subdivided. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$743,300 in a federal grant and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1435)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Farmland Preservation Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • 20-1573A Wolf Creek Agricultural Conservation Easement Phase 1 (3) | Rank 1 |
| • 20-1681A Natembea Farm Preservation (4) | Rank 2 |
| • 20-1405A Hannan Farm (3) | Rank 3 |
| • 20-1493A Synarep Rangeland (5) | Rank 4 |
| • 20-1781A Sunny Okanogan Angus Ranch (6) | Rank 5 |
| • 20-1230A Upper Naneum Creek Farm (5) | Rank 7 |
| • 20-1619A Teas Ranch (5) | Rank 8 |
| • 20-1624A Allen Family Ranch Farmland Preservation Easement (2) | Rank 9 |
| • 20-1817A Leland Farmland Preservation Easement (1) | Rank 11 |
| • 20-1547A Hoch Family Farm Agricultural Easement (1) | Rank 12 |
| • 20-1435A Peyton Ranch Conservation Easement (3) | Rank 13 |

[View Letters Here](#)

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**Meeting Date:** November 5, 2020**Title:** Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program,
Habitat Conservation Account: Critical Habitat Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23**Prepared By:** Michelle Burbidge, Outdoor Grants Manager**Summary**

Eleven projects in the Critical Habitat category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the evaluation process, category, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution: 2020-25**Purpose of Resolution:** Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.**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 receives thirty-five percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) funds in the Habitat Conservation Account.¹

¹ Chapter 79A.15.040(1)(a) RCW

Program Summary

There were no significant changes to the Critical Habitat category, however, there was a change to the evaluation criteria, which went into effect this year. The *Species or Communities with Special Status* criterion was expanded with the addition of a question that considers pollinators. A summary of this category is shown in the table below.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local and state² agencies• Native American tribes• Nonprofit nature conservancy organizations |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition• Development• Combination acquisition and development |
| Funding Limits | None |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No match required for state agencies• Local agencies, nonprofit nature conservancy organizations, and Native American tribes must provide a 50% matching share. |
| Public Access | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public use for both consumptive and non-consumptive activities is allowed.• Must be accessible for public recreation and outdoor education unless it meets the criteria outlined in the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board adopted policy for limiting public access to protect sensitive species, water quality, or public safety. |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comprehensive habitat conservation plan is required.• Livestock grazing is allowed.• Projects involving renovation of an existing facility or habitat creation, enhancement, or restoration are ineligible. |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Eleven Critical Habitat category projects requesting \$15.5 million were evaluated on September 16 and 17, 2020, in an open public meeting. Members of the WWRP Habitat Acquisition Advisory Committee used criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to review and rank each project. The advisory committee included the following individuals who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat enhancement and conservation:

² State agencies mean the State Parks and Recreation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Enterprise Services (formerly General Administration), and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

| Advisory Committee Members | Affiliation |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| John Gamon, Sumner | Citizen |
| Dave Hays, Olympia | Citizen |
| Kelly McCaffrey, Seattle | Citizen |
| Bill Robinson, Olympia | Citizen |
| Pene Speaks, Olympia | Citizen |
| Matt Tweedy, Yakima | Citizen |
| Lincoln Bormann, San Juan County Land Bank | Nonprofit Organization |
| Mickey Fleming, Chelan Douglas Land Trust | Nonprofit Organization |
| Lydia Mendoza, Columbia Land Trust | Nonprofit Organization |
| Pat Stevenson, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians | Tribal Government |
| Janet Gorrell, Department of Fish and Wildlife | State Government |
| Joe Rocchio, Department of Natural Resources | State Government |

The twelve advisory committee members reviewed the proposals using video conferencing software to conduct the meetings virtually, and RCO's PRISM Online Review and Evaluation module for scoring the projects according to criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board). The presentations were streamed live to a free internet site to support public transparency. The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Critical Habitat Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

Following the evaluation sessions, staff held a follow-up meeting on September 18 with the WWRP Habitat Acquisition Advisory Committee. This committee evaluates the Critical Habitat, Natural Areas, and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories. The purpose of this meeting was to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results. While most of their comments focused on the new board-adopted criteria for Urban Wildlife Habitat they did have a few thoughts about the virtual evaluation meetings and using the new scoring tool for the Critical Habitat category.

First and foremost, the committee was very appreciative of the work that RCO put into organizing and managing the review and evaluation sessions during a pandemic. They participated in a pre-evaluation meeting where they learned how to use the new PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module and best practices for using the virtual meeting tools. The advisory committee was pleased with the quality of the projects brought forward for evaluation and the resulting ranked list. Second, advisors highlighted what they missed or could use to make the process better:

1. The new Pollinator Habitat element of the *Species and Communities with Special Status* criterion was a challenge. Most of the applicants show pretty pictures of flowers and pollinators, however, they failed to describe or explain how pollinators would be better served as a result of the project proposal. Advisors are wondering if the criterion needed more sideboards to help applicants and evaluators. Note: *Updating the evaluation criteria for the Critical Habitat category is on the work plan. This may provide an opportunity to address this element.*
2. The opportunity for more collaboration between team members. This team of scientist with different areas of expertise typically consult with each other during breaks to discuss various habitat types, best management practices, the significance of threatened species, and more. With team members working remotely, they did not have very many of these spontaneous conversations, which is especially helpful for new evaluators. Note: *Staff added a survey question to help assess options for meeting this need.*
3. The need for a worksheet so advisors could get a big picture look at their scores for an individual category before they submitted them to RCO. Their goal is to make sure they are consistent in scoring all projects fairly. Note: *Staff created a worksheet and sent it to the team before they scored the next category.*
4. More time at the end of the day to look over their scores before turning them in. Note: *Staff extended the period for submitting scores for the next category to accommodate the team.*

Staff updated the advisory committee survey to give advisors an opportunity to share more about the review and evaluation process, use of virtual meeting tools, and to address their preferences for future evaluation meetings. We will share those results with the board early next year.

Public Comment

There are letters of support or concern for Critical Habitat category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant proposals 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 the board's goal of making

strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat opportunities statewide.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Critical Habitat Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23* via Resolution #2020-25.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 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 approved list. The 2021 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will approve the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-25, including Table 1 – *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Critical Habitat Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for Critical Habitat Category Projects
- C. Critical Habitat Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Critical Habitat Category Projects, Evaluation Scores 2021-23
- E. Critical Habitat Category Project Descriptions 2021-23
- F. Critical Habitat Category Letters of Project Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-25
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
Critical Habitat Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, eleven Critical Habitat category projects are being considered for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all eleven Critical Habitat category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Habitat Conservation Account*, including criteria regarding public benefit and community support, and relationship to established plans; and

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

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred in an open public meeting as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-04-065, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, the projects 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 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 Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023*, 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: _____

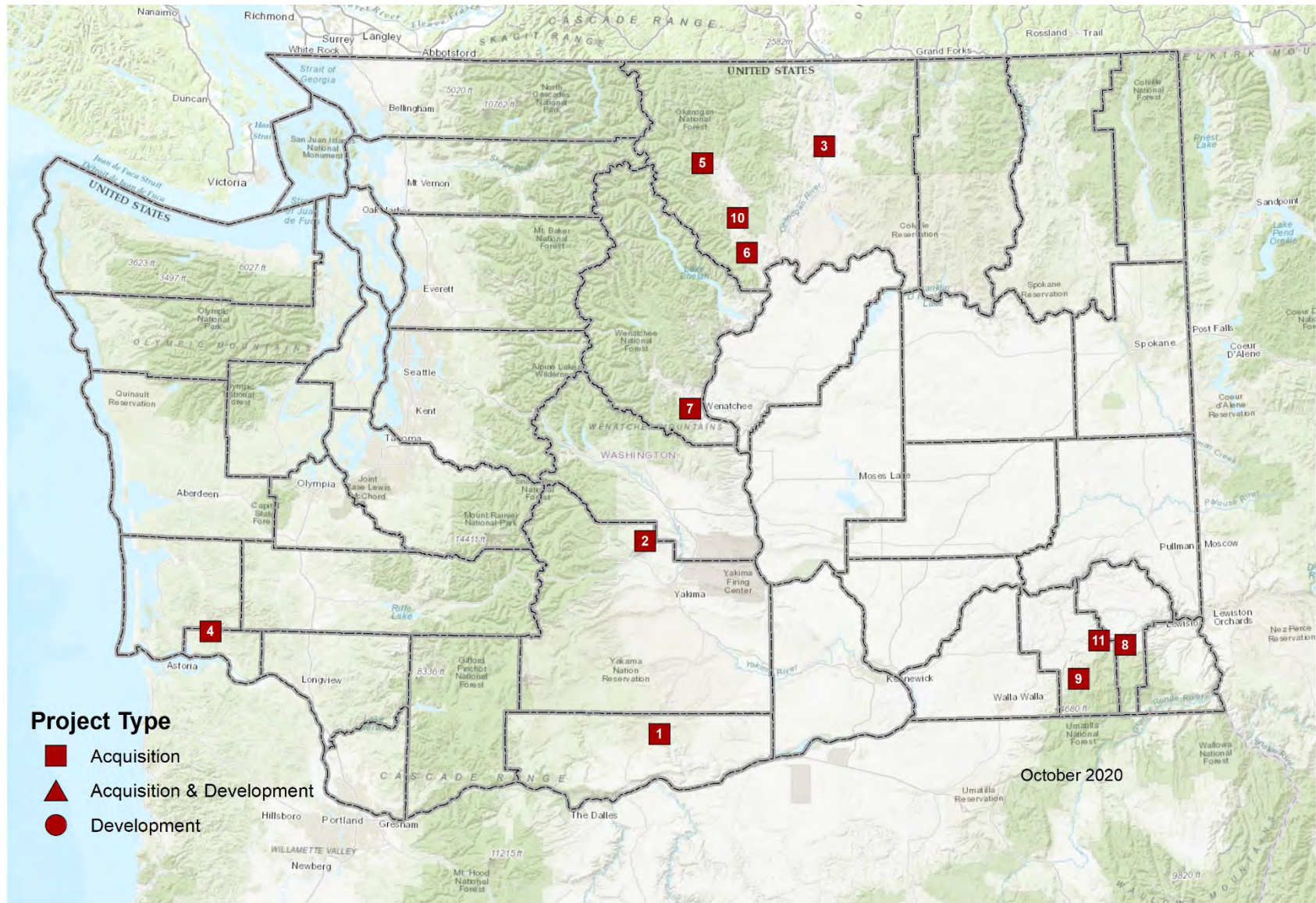
Table 1: WWRP Critical Habitat Category

Resolution: 2020-25

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2021-2023

| | | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1 | 47.27 | 20-1225 A | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Simcoe | \$4,000,000 | | \$4,000,000 | |
| 2 | 45.36 | 20-1227 A | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Wenas-Cleman Mountain | \$1,875,000 | | \$1,875,000 | |
| 3 | 44.55 | 20-1220 A | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | McLoughlin Falls West | \$1,500,000 | | \$1,500,000 | |
| 4 | 44 | 20-1509 A | Columbia Land Trust | Grays River Watershed West Fork Conservation Area | \$2,000,000 | \$3,162,572 | \$5,162,572 | |
| 5 | 39.91 | 20-1222 A | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Rendezvous Additions | \$1,275,000 | | \$1,275,000 | |
| 6 | 37.73 | 20-1219 A | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Hunter Mountain | \$650,000 | | \$650,000 | |
| 7 | 36.09 | 20-1487 A | Chelan-Douglas Land Trust | Chafey Mountain | \$590,000 | \$609,450 | \$1,199,450 | |
| 8 | 33.45 | 20-1816 A | Blue Mountain Land Trust | Leland Conservation Easement | \$770,050 | \$770,050 | \$1,540,100 | |
| 9 | 33.36 | 20-1669 A | Blue Mountain Land Trust | Wolf Fork Conservation Easement | \$496,800 | \$496,800 | \$993,600 | |
| 10 | 32.36 | 20-1217 A | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Golden Doe | \$1,900,000 | | \$1,900,000 | |
| 11 | 31.55 | 20-1436 A | Blue Mountain Land Trust | Allen Family Ranch Conservation Easement | \$423,800 | \$423,800 | \$847,600 | |
| Project type: A=acquisition | | | | | Total | \$15,480,650 | \$5,462,672 | \$20,943,322 |

State Map for Critical Habitat Category Projects



Critical Habitat Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

"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."³

| Critical Habitat Criteria Summary | | |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Criteria | Evaluation Elements | Possible Points |
| Project Introduction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project goals and objectives • Location maps | Not scored |
| 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bigger picture • Uniqueness or significance of the site • Fish and wildlife species and or communities • Quality of habitat | 20 |
| 2. Species and Communities with Special Status | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat to species or communities • Importance of acquisitions • Ecological roles • Taxonomic distinctness • Rarity • Pollinator habitat | 10 |
| 3. Manageability and Viability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat to the habitat • Consideration of a conservation easement • Long-term viability • Enhancement of existing protected land • Ongoing stewardship • Livestock grazing uses | 15 |
| 4. Public Benefit and Community Support | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community support • Educational and/or scientific value | 5 |
| 5. Multiple Benefits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation uses • Resource uses and management practices | 3 |
| | Total Points Possible | 53 |

³ RCW 79A.15.010

Critical Habitat Detailed Scoring Criteria

Advisory Committee Scores

1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics

Why is the site worthy of long-term conservation?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5)(a) (iii, v-vii, ix, xi, xiii, xiv, xvi)

2. Species or Communities with Special Status

What is the significance of each species or community listed on your Species and Communities with Special Status table?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (iv, vii, ix, xi, xiii, xv, xvii)

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 (5) (a) (ii, iv, vi, x)

4. Public Benefit and Community Support

To what degree do communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from or support the project?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (iii, xii, xiv)

5. Multiple Benefits

Does the project area include recreational uses that are compatible with habitat conservation?

Resource Uses and Management Practices: Does the project area include resource uses or management practices that are compatible with and provide the ability to achieve additional conservation benefits?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (i)

Critical Habitat Category Projects Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name and Type | 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics | 2. Species and Communities with Special Status | 3. Manageability and Viability | 4. Public Benefit and Community Support | 5. Multiple Benefits | Total |
|------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-20 | 0-10 | 0-15 | 0-5 | 0-3 | |
| 1 | 20-1225 A | Simcoe | 18.09 | 8.73 | 13.55 | 4.36 | 2.55 | 47.27 |
| 2 | 20-1227 A | Wenas-Cleman Mountain | 17.36 | 8.82 | 12.91 | 4.00 | 2.27 | 45.36 |
| 3 | 20-1220 A | McLoughlin Falls West | 16.82 | 8.18 | 13.00 | 4.09 | 2.45 | 44.55 |
| 4 | 20-1509 A | Grays River Watershed West Fork Conservation Area | 16.09 | 8.91 | 12.09 | 4.27 | 2.64 | 44.00 |
| 5 | 20-1222 A | Rendezvous Additions | 14.64 | 7.36 | 12.18 | 3.55 | 2.18 | 39.91 |
| 6 | 20-1219 A | Hunter Mountain | 13.82 | 7.00 | 11.64 | 3.64 | 1.64 | 37.73 |
| 7 | 20-1487 A | Chafey Mountain | 13.82 | 6.27 | 11.55 | 3.27 | 1.18 | 36.09 |
| 8 | 20-1816 A | Leland Conservation Easement | 13.55 | 6.55 | 10.27 | 2.00 | 1.09 | 33.45 |
| 9 | 20-1669 A | Wolf Fork Conservation Easement | 14.00 | 6.64 | 10.00 | 2.18 | 0.55 | 33.36 |
| 10 | 20-1217 A | Golden Doe | 11.36 | 6.18 | 10.18 | 3.00 | 1.64 | 32.36 |
| 11 | 20-1436 A | Allen Family Ranch Conservation Easement | 13.45 | 5.73 | 9.55 | 2.18 | 0.64 | 31.55 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-5

Project type: A=acquisition

Critical Habitat Category

Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-23

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Conserving Simcoe Mountain

Grant Requested: \$4,000,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy about 5,112 acres in the Simcoe Mountains. This unique, large-scale landscape includes mixed conifer trees, Oregon white oak, white alder, shrub steppe, grasslands, cliffs, and 26 miles of stream bank along Rock Creek, which is a tributary to the Columbia River, and its tributaries. The land and streams are used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as at risk of extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by western gray squirrel, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction by the State; and by mule deer, rainbow trout, northern goshawk, and western toad. The purchase of this land will allow nonmotorized recreation, such as hiking and hunting. This is the sixth phase of a multiphase project to conserve 20,000 acres. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1225)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Conserving Land Next to the Wenas Wildlife Area

Grant Requested: \$1,875,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy about 1,100 acres of shrub steppe and stream bank on the Cleman Mountain to conserve habitat for an extraordinary diversity of species. The land borders the Wenas Wildlife Area on two sides and connects to important shrub steppe core habitats. It also contains imperiled shrub steppe, stream, floodplain, aspen groves, and talus habitats. The diversity of bird species in this area is breathtaking. About 25 percent of the bird species that occur in the lower 48 states has been identified in this watershed. In addition, a significant component of the Yakima elk herd winters next to this land. The land is near Yakima, Selah, and Naches, and is a popular area for bird watching, wildlife viewing, hunting, and fishing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1227)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Conserving McLoughlin Falls West

Grant Requested: \$1,500,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy about 730 acres of critical sagebrush-steppe habitat in north central Okanogan County. Protecting this unique property will benefit several important sagebrush-steppe species such as mule deer, sharp-tailed grouse, and various migratory bird species. The land borders the Okanogan River for nearly 2.5 miles and conserving the land will help protect Chinook salmon and

steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Widespread community support exists for preserving this last wild segment of the Okanogan River. The land also contains a number of cultural resources, unique low-elevation ponderosa pine stands, and expansive talus and cliff habitat supporting golden eagles, peregrine falcons, and other species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1220)

Columbia Land Trust
Conserving Land in Grays River Watershed

Grant Requested: \$2,000,000

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to conserve 1,623 acres and 10 miles of salmon streams in Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties in southwest Washington. The wet and almost entirely forested Grays River watershed is essential to the recovery of species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act, including marbled murrelets, eulachon smelt, and lower Columbia River chum, coho, and fall Chinook salmon. The land is in the upper watershed and includes mature Sitka spruce forests, productive stream bank habitat, and wetlands. The purchase will create a corridor connecting two large blocks of state-owned land where murrelet conservation efforts in southwest Washington are concentrated. In addition, the purchase will enable more than 5 miles of river restoration to occur to support the most significant chum salmon population remaining in the lower Columbia River basin. The Columbia Land Trust will contribute more than \$3.1 million in a private, state, and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1509)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Conserving Land in the Methow Wildlife Area

Grant Requested: \$1,275,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 210 acres in the Rendezvous Unit and next to the Big Valley Unit of the Methow Wildlife Area. The purchase will protect state imperiled intermountain basins, big sagebrush steppe, ponderosa pine woodland, and savanna ecological systems. In addition, the land contains important Quaking aspen stands, a wetland where a number of amphibian species have been observed, a crucial mule deer migration corridor, and stop-over habitat for animals migrating to and from the higher elevations of the Okanogan National Forest. Development pressure is constant in the Methow Valley and preserving connections between habitats for wide-ranging species is critical. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1222)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Conserving Land on Hunter Mountain**

Grant Requested: \$650,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy about 400 acres of sagebrush-steppe habitat on Hunter Mountain near the town of Methow in the lower Methow Valley. The land also includes stream bank and ponderosa pine-Douglas fir sites used by several species of concern including Lewis and pileated woodpeckers. Conserving the land will protect and enhance critical habitat for wintering mule deer and other animals dependent on sagebrush. Protecting the land from development will bolster the north-south wildlife corridor connecting state and federal lands used by a variety of animals. These lands are popular for hunting, hiking, and wildlife watching and conserving them will provide a better experience and make it easier to access bordering public lands. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1219)

**Chelan-Douglas Land Trust
Conserving Land on Chafey Mountain near Wenatchee**

Grant Requested: \$590,000

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, on 600 acres of high-quality wildlife habitat near Wenatchee on Chafey Mountain. The land has been owned by the same family for more than 100 years, and the family is committed to protecting this unique property from the development that has spread into the canyons and foothills just outside Wenatchee and bordering this property in recent decades. Three sides of Chafey Mountain border land already protected from development, and this purchase would add corridors for animals to move to the larger protected lands. Habitat on the land includes stream bank, shrub steppe, and mixed conifer forests, and actively supports a healthy mule deer population, golden eagles, and migratory songbirds, as well as many others. The land trust is donating an additional 21 acres in the same canyon as part of this grant. Both properties also protect important viewsheds that enhance the recreational experience for users of local popular trail systems. The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust will contribute \$609,450 in donations of cash and land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1487)

**Blue Mountain Land Trust
Conserving the Blue Mountain Ranch**

Grant Requested: \$770,050

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 2,025 acres of critical wildlife habitat on the Blue Mountain Ranch. The ranch is between Stevens Ridge,

Pataha Creek canyon, and the W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area. About 1,100 acres are fenced for summer cattle grazing. The land encompasses 2 miles of Dry Pataha and Pataha Creeks, forestland, grassland, and riverine habitats. It also is important winter rangeland and calving grounds for Rocky Mountain elk and winter rangeland for mule deer and Northwest white-tailed deer. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$770,050 in a federal grant and donations of land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1816)

Blue Mountain Land Trust
Conserving Habitat on the Wolf Fork Ranch

Grant Requested: \$496,800

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 1,253 acres of critical wildlife habitat on the Wolf Fork Ranch. The land contains 3.25 miles of four freshwater streams that flow year-round and are home to steelhead and bull trout, and spring Chinook salmon. The 1,300-acre ranch has forest, grassland, shrub-scrub, and riverine habitat at the headwaters of Wolf Fork Creek, southeast of Dayton. The land borders the Umatilla National Forest and is important winter rangeland and calving grounds for Rocky Mountain elk and winter rangeland for mule deer and Northwest white-tailed deer. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$496,800 in private and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1669)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Conserving Land Near the Methow's Golden Doe Unit

Grant Requested: \$1,900,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to conserve 110 acres of sagebrush-steppe and grasslands surrounded by the Golden Doe Unit of the Methow Wildlife Area. The land is home to large, year-round populations and seasonal concentrations of mule deer as well as black bears, coyotes, and golden eagles. The potential for development here is high. The Golden Doe Unit has little public access. This purchase would provide much and improved access to the area. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1217)

Blue Mountain Land Trust
Conserving the Allen Family Ranch

Grant Requested: \$423,800

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to conserve 1,064 acres of critical wildlife habitat on the Allen Family Ranch that includes 1.4 miles of north Patit Creek and the Patit Creek watershed. The ranch consists of habitat at the headwaters of north

Patit Creek, straddling the ridge between the Patit Creek and Tucannon River basins. The land borders the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area, and includes forestland, grassland, and riverine habitats. Conserving the land will protect important winter rangeland and calving grounds for Rocky Mountain elk and winter rangeland for mule deer and Northwest white-tailed deer. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$423,800 in private and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1436)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Critical Habitat Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| • 20-1225A Simcoe (1) | Rank 1 |
| • 20-1487A Chafey Mountain (1) | Rank 7 |

[View Letters Here](#)

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program,
Habitat Conservation Account: Natural Areas Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: DeAnn Beck, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Eight project proposals in the Natural Areas category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the evaluation process, category, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution: 2020-26

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

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

The Natural Areas category receives twenty-five percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) funds in the Habitat Conservation Account.¹

¹ Chapter 79A.15.040(1)(b) RCW

Program Summary

There were no significant changes to the Natural Areas category, however, there was a change to the evaluation criteria, which went into effect this year. The *Species or Communities with Special Status* criterion was expanded with the addition of a question that considers pollinators. A summary of this category is shown in the table below.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• State agencies²• Qualified nonprofit nature conservancy organizations |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition• Development• Combination acquisition and development |
| Funding Limits | None |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• State agencies: no match required• Nonprofit nature conservancies: 50% match required |
| Public Access | Must be accessible for public recreation and outdoor education unless it meets the criteria outlined in the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board adopted policy for limiting public access to protect sensitive species, water quality, or public safety. |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must establish planning eligibility.• Property acquired or developed must be retained for habitat conservation purposes in perpetuity.• Areas must be managed primarily for resource preservation, protection, and study.• Projects involving renovation of an existing facility or habitat creation, enhancement, or restoration are ineligible.• Development is limited to public use facilities such as trails, interpretive signs, parking, and restrooms, where appropriate. |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Eight Natural Areas category projects requesting just over \$16.2 million were evaluated August 21 through September 16, 2020. WWRP Habitat Acquisition Advisory Committee members are selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director. These individuals are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat preservation and conservation. Members who evaluated projects this cycle include the following:

² State agencies mean the State Parks and Recreation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Enterprise Services and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

| Advisory Committee Members | Affiliation |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| John Gamon, Sumner | Citizen |
| Dave Hays, Olympia | Citizen |
| Kelly McCaffrey, Seattle | Citizen |
| Bill Robinson, Olympia | Citizen |
| Pene Speaks, Olympia | Citizen |
| Matt Tweedy, Yakima | Citizen |
| Lincoln Bormann, San Juan County Land Bank | Nonprofit Organization |
| Mickey Fleming, Chelan Douglas Land Trust | Nonprofit Organization |
| Lydia Mendoza, Columbia Land Trust | Nonprofit Organization |
| Pat Stevenson, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians | Tribal Government |
| Janet Gorrell, Department of Fish and Wildlife | State Government |
| Joe Rocchio, Department of Natural Resources | State Government |

To review and rank each project, twelve advisory committee members used a written evaluation process and RCO's PRISM Online Review and Evaluation module system for scoring the projects according to criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board). The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Natural Areas Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

During the post-evaluation meeting on September 18, RCO staff met with the WWRP Habitat Acquisition Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results.

Committee members, who also evaluate the Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories, were very appreciative of the work that RCO put into organizing and managing the written evaluation process during a pandemic. They participated in a pre-evaluation meeting for the Natural Areas category where they learned how to use the new PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module. They loved the feature that embeds the complete evaluation criteria into the scoring screen and the comparison tool that lets them see the scores they had given other projects for a single criterion. They would like to see if RCO could expand that tool to allow them to see all of their scores in one table, before they submit them to RCO.

The advisory committee previously suggested that there could be some benefit for using an in-person evaluation process for the Natural Areas category now that nonprofit

organizations are eligible applicants. However, they felt the written process was fine this year because there was one state agency applicant and lot of similarities and consistencies in how the applicant prepared the proposals and responded to the evaluation questions.

Public Comment

Although the applicant received letters of support for Natural Areas category projects, there were no letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff. The public will have an opportunity to comment at the November board meeting.

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 the board's goal of making strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat opportunities statewide.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Natural Areas Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, via Resolution #2020-26.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 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 approved list. The 2021 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will approve the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-26, including Table 1 – *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Natural Areas Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for Natural Areas Category Projects

- C. Natural Areas Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Natural Areas Category Projects, Evaluation Scores 2021-23
- E. Natural Areas Category Project Descriptions 2021-23

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-26
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
Natural Areas Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, eight Natural Areas category projects are being considered for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all eight Natural Areas category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Habitat Conservation Account*, including criteria regarding public benefit and community support, relationship to established plans; and

WHEREAS, these Natural Areas category projects were evaluated by a team of citizens and agency or organization representatives using evaluation criteria approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), thereby supporting the board's goal to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

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

WHEREAS, the projects address a variety of habitat needs and their evaluation included information about the quality and function of the habitats and the demonstrated need to protect it, 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 Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023*; 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: _____

Table 1: WWRP Natural Areas Category

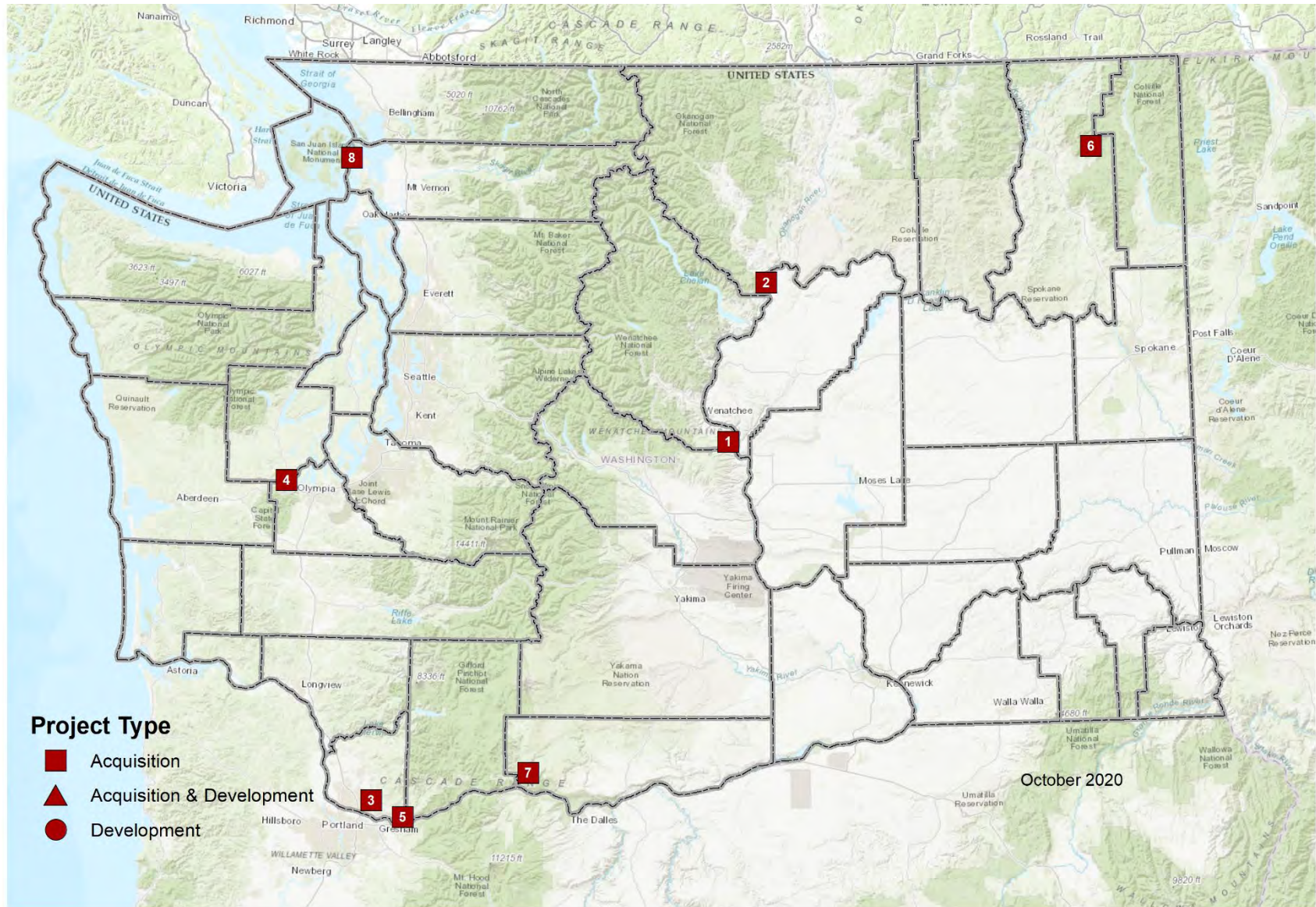
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2021-2023

Resolution: 2020-26

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Total |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 41.33 | 20-1335 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve | \$2,622,472 | \$2,622,472 |
| 2 | 41 | 20-1423 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve | \$2,594,003 | \$2,594,003 |
| 3 | 40.67 | 20-1334 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Lacamas Prairie Natural Area | \$2,910,430 | \$2,910,430 |
| 4 | 40.42 | 20-1422 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Kennedy Creek Natural Area | \$277,278 | \$277,278 |
| 5 | 38.33 | 20-1336 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Washougal Oaks Natural Area | \$2,805,920 | \$2,805,920 |
| 6 | 38.25 | 20-1426 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Onion Ridge Proposed Natural Area Preserve | \$1,618,496 | \$1,618,496 |
| 7 | 37.42 | 20-1338 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area | \$2,260,263 | \$2,260,263 |
| 8 | 36.83 | 20-1294 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Cypress Island Natural Area | \$1,148,179 | \$1,148,179 |
| Total | | | | | \$16,237,041 | \$16,237,041 |

Project type: A=acquisition

State Map for Natural Areas Category Projects



Natural Areas Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

"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."³

| Natural Areas Evaluation Summary | | |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Criteria | Evaluation Elements | Possible Points |
| Project Introduction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project goals and objectives • Location maps | Not scored |
| 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bigger picture • Uniqueness or significance of the site • Statewide significance • Species or communities • Quality of habitat and natural features | 20 |
| 2. Species and Communities with Special Status | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat to species or communities • Importance of acquisitions • Ecological roles • Taxonomic distinctness • Pollinator habitat | 10 |
| 3. Manageability and Viability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediacy of threat to the site • Consideration of a conservation easement • Long-term viability • Enhancement of existing protected land • Ongoing stewardship | 15 |
| 4. Public Benefit and Community Support | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community support • Educational and/or scientific value | 5 |
| 5. Multiple Benefits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation uses • Resource uses and management practices | 3 |
| Total Points Possible 53 | | |

³ RCW 79A.15.010

Natural Areas Category Detailed Scoring Criteria

Advisory Committee Scores

1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics

Why is the site worthy of long-term conservation?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5)(a) (iii, v-vii, ix, xi, xiii, xiv, xvi)

2. Species or Communities with Special Status

What is the significance of each species or community listed on the required Species or Communities with Special Status table?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (iv, vii, ix, xi, xiii, xv, xvii)

3. Manageability and Viability

What is the likelihood of the site remaining viable (functioning) over the long term and why is it important to secure it now?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (ii, iv, vi, x)

4. Public Benefit and Community Support

To what degree do communities, governments, landowners, constituent groups, or academia benefit from, or support, the project?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (iii, xii, xiv)

5. Multiple Benefits

Recreation Uses: Does the project area include recreational uses that are compatible with habitat conservation?

Resource Uses and Management Practices: Does the project area include resource uses or management practices that are compatible with and provide the ability to achieve additional conservation benefits?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (i)

Natural Areas Category Projects Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics | 2. Species and Communities with Special Status | 3. Manageability and Viability | 4. Public Benefit and Community Support | 5. Multiple Benefits | Total |
|------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-20 | 0-10 | 0-15 | 0-5 | 0-3 | |
| 1 | 20-1335 A | Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve | 16.00 | 9.00 | 11.42 | 3.58 | 1.33 | 41.33 |
| 2 | 20-1423 A | Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve | 16.67 | 7.08 | 12.08 | 3.58 | 1.58 | 41.00 |
| 3 | 20-1334 A | Lacamas Prairie Natural Area | 14.67 | 7.75 | 11.83 | 4.08 | 2.33 | 40.67 |
| 4 | 20-1422 A | Kennedy Creek Natural Area | 15.17 | 6.83 | 11.50 | 4.33 | 2.58 | 40.42 |
| 5 | 20-1336 A | Washougal Oaks Natural Area | 14.50 | 7.17 | 11.25 | 3.50 | 1.92 | 38.33 |
| 6 | 20-1426 A | Onion Ridge Proposed Natural Area Preserve | 16.17 | 6.50 | 11.67 | 2.75 | 1.17 | 38.25 |
| 7 | 20-1338 A | White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area | 14.50 | 6.67 | 10.75 | 3.42 | 2.08 | 37.42 |
| 8 | 20-1294 A | Cypress Island Natural Area | 13.50 | 6.17 | 11.33 | 3.75 | 2.08 | 36.83 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-5

Project type: A=acquisition

Natural Areas Category

Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-2023

Washington Department of Natural Resources Grant Requested: \$2,622,472 **Expanding the Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve to Protect a Rare Plant**

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 2,161 acres about 10 miles south of Wenatchee to expand the Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve. The preserve was established in 1989 to protect a rare endemic plant species, Whited's milkvetch, the entire global distribution of which is known only to live in less than 9 square miles centered around the preserve. The purchase will allow the department to conserve the land containing virtually all the plants, increasing the potential for the plant's long-term survival. There is great public support from the community in expanding the preserve and protecting this rare plant community. This expansion of the preserve also will offer exceptional research opportunities to study the population, biology, and ecology of an extremely rare species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1335)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Grant Requested: \$2,594,003 **Buying Land in the Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve to Protect Rare Plants**

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 569 acres of shrub steppe for inclusion in the Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve, conserving a rare plant community. The land is along the Columbia River, just downstream from its confluence with the Methow River. The land contains the largest of only three intact examples of the smooth sumac/bluebunch wheatgrass community in the state and the largest of only nine intact examples of the antelope bitterbrush/bluebunch wheatgrass community in the state. Several species of birds found on the land are listed as Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife State Wildlife Action Plan. The land also will improve public access from Starr Road and State Route 97. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1423)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Grant Requested: \$2,910,430 **Conserving the Lacamas Prairie Natural Area**

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy about 218 acres of oak forest, farmland, stream bank forest, and wetland for inclusion in the Lacamas Prairie Natural Area, northeast of Vancouver. The purchase will conserve a key part of a watershed that feeds a protected, rare remnant of Willamette Valley wet prairie, which is the only example of its size and quality in Washington. This plant

community, designated a priority one plant community by the Natural Heritage Program, is seriously threatened by one of the most rapidly urbanizing counties in the state. The department will restore the oak and stream bank forest and wet prairie and will enlarge the protected habitat and its buffers. The greater Lacamas Prairie Natural Area Preserve protects the second largest of 20 known populations of Bradshaw's Lomatium, a globally critically imperiled, federally endangered plant species. It also contains habitat for seven state sensitive plant species and one rare animal species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1334)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Preserving Kennedy Creek Natural Area**

Grant Requested: \$277,278

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 4 acres of creek and uplands for inclusion in the Kennedy Creek Natural Area. The purchase will protect the creek and its banks and enhance protection of the smaller Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve, which contains one of Washington's few remaining high-quality salt marsh communities. The purchase also will expand the highest quality salmon education trail in southern Puget Sound. The 1,461-acre Kennedy Creek Natural Area, located between Olympia and Shelton, includes both the Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve and the Kennedy Creek Natural Resources Conservation Area. The Natural Area provides key habitat for migrating shorebirds and salmon and protects water quality vital to the health of the regional shellfish economy. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1422)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Buying Land in the Washougal Oaks Natural Area**

Grant Requested: \$2,805,920

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 196.4 acres east of Washougal at the western edge of the Columbia River Gorge for inclusion in the Washougal Oaks Natural Area. This project is part of an ongoing effort to acquire land encompassing the largest, high-quality, native oak woodland remaining in western Washington. The woodland is of major conservation concern due to historic losses and ongoing degradation. In addition, a fish-bearing stream inside a steep forested ravine runs through the heart of the site. The land supports two state sensitive plant species and four rare or threatened animal species: slender-billed nuthatch, and lower Columbia River steelhead trout, coastal cutthroat trout, and coho salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-1336)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Creating the Onion Ridge Natural Area Preserve**

Grant Requested: \$1,618,496

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy about 700 acres, 16 miles north of Colville, which will establish the Onion Ridge Natural Area Preserve. The preserve supports numerous forest, bald, and wetland communities identified as priorities in the Washington Natural Heritage Program plan. The land contains freshwater wetlands, Idaho fescue/parsnip-flowered buckwheat grassland, western red cedar/wild sarsaparilla forest, and ponderosa pine, Douglas fir/bluebunch wheatgrass woodland. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1426)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Buying Land in the White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area**

Grant Requested: \$2,260,263

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 140 acres to for inclusion in the White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area, in the lower White Salmon River valley. The land contains a mixture of oak woodlands, mixed conifer-oak forests, and open grassland balds. In addition, the land supports a population of two state sensitive plant species and provides valuable habitat for the western gray squirrel, a state threatened species. The land also includes about 0.7 mile of the Weldon Wagon Trail used for hiking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1338)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Buying Land for the Cypress Island Natural Area**

Grant Requested: \$1,148,179

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 25.55 acres on Cypress Island. The department owns about 95 percent of the island and manages it as the Cypress Highlands Natural Area Preserve and the Cypress Island Natural Resources Conservation Area. In combination, these natural areas are unique because of their ecological diversity and their size relative to other undeveloped areas in the San Juan Islands. As the fifth largest and most undeveloped island in the San Juan archipelago, Cypress offers nearly 18 miles of undeveloped marine shoreline, old-growth forest stands, undisturbed wetlands, springs and lakes. It provides by far the largest protected area of contiguous habitat in the San Juan Islands and there is no other site like it. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1294)

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program,
Habitat Conservation Account: Riparian Protection Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: Beth Auerbach, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Nine project proposals in the Riparian Protection category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the category, review and evaluation process, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item will be ☒ Request for Decision
☐ Request for Direction
☐ Briefing

Resolution: 2020-27

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

Riparian Protection category projects provide habitat adjacent to water bodies for fish and wildlife species. These habitats include estuaries, lakes, rivers, streams, shorelines, tidelands, and wetlands. To be eligible for consideration, a project must include acquisition of real property (fee title, easement, or lease).

The Riparian Protection category receives fifteen percent of the funds allocated to the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

(WWRP). In addition, any amount above \$3 million in the State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category must be distributed to this category.

Program Summary

There were a few revisions to the Riparian Protection category's evaluation criteria that became effective this year. The changes were intended to focus on protecting ecologically diverse, functioning riparian habitat while accounting for the impacts of climate change. The new criteria are intended to accomplish several objectives:

- Reduce the redundancy and overlap of detailed criteria questions
- Clarify the intent of detailed questions and remove yes/no questions
- Ensure public access and other community benefits are compatible with the proposed conservation project, and
- Incorporate consideration of pollinator habitat.

A summary of this category is shown in the table below.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local and state agencies¹• Federally recognized Native American tribes• Nonprofit nature conservancy organizations• Special purpose districts, or other political subdivisions of the state that provide services to less than the entire state |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition• Acquisition and development• Acquisition and habitat restoration and enhancement• Development of a stewardship plan as part of an acquisition• Extension of Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) leases |
| Funding Limits | Applicants must request a minimum of \$25,000. There is no maximum request amount. |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local agencies, Native American tribes, and nonprofit conservancy applicants must provide a 1:1 matching share.• No match required for state agencies. |
| Public Access | Must be accessible for public access and outdoor education unless the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board specifically approves limiting public access to protect sensitive species, water quality, or public safety. |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must establish planning eligibility. |

¹ Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and Washington Departments of Enterprise Services, Fish and Wildlife, and Natural Resources. The Departments of Transportation and Corrections may enter into interagency agreements with state agencies to apply in partnership. RCW 79A.15.040(5)

- Projects must include acquisition of real property (fee title, conservation easement, or 25-year CREP leases).
- Projects may include restoration or enhancement of the property acquired to improve ecological function or restore historic conditions.
- Projects may include limited development for low impact public access facilities such as trails, trailheads, parking, restrooms, fencing, signs and kiosks.

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Nine Riparian Protection projects, requesting \$11 million, were evaluated by members of the WWRP Habitat Restoration Advisory Committee on September 16 at an online virtual meeting. Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, include state and local agency representatives and citizens who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat conservation and restoration. The following members participated this year:

| Advisory Committee Members | Affiliation |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| John Clark, Oak Harbor | Citizen |
| Glen Mendel, Dayton | Citizen |
| Todd McLaughlin, Reardan | Citizen |
| Debbie Rose, Seattle | Citizen |
| Cindy Wilson, Olympia | Citizen |
| Peter Guillozet, San Juan County Land Bank | Nonprofit Organization |
| Nate Ulrich, Columbia Land Trust | Nonprofit Organization |
| David Lindley, Confederated Bands and Tribes of the Yakama Nation | Tribal Government |
| Chrissy Bailey, Department of Ecology | State Agency |
| Curt Pavola, Department of Natural Resources | State Agency |
| Richard Tveten, Department of Fish and Wildlife | State Agency |

Using criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), eleven advisory committee members reviewed and ranked the projects in an open public meeting. The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Riparian Protection Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria

During the post-evaluation meeting on September 18, staff met with the WWRP Habitat Restoration Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results. The advisory committee felt the process was organized and efficient. They felt comfortable with the revised criteria and thought it worked well.

One concern raised this year was in regards to “community forestry” as an ongoing, revenue-earning activity for lands acquired in the Riparian Protection category. The new language for the “multiple benefits” question specifically includes “community forestry,” but there is usually a difference between “restoration forest prescriptions” and “community forestry.” This could become a concern if commercial forestry activities start to compromise the purpose of the Riparian Protection funding or ability to steward these lands over time. A continuing challenge for evaluators is appropriately scoring grant proposals that include the purchase of a sizable amount of upland acres when the focus of the category is on riparian habitat. Overall, advisors were satisfied with the process and the resulting ranked list.

Public Comment

There are letters of support for Riparian Protection category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant proposals 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 the board’s goal of making strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat opportunities.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Riparian Protection Account, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, via Resolution #2020-27.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 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 approved list. The 2021 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will approve the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-27, including Table 1 – *WWRP, Riparian Protection Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for Riparian Protection Category Projects
- C. Riparian Protection Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Riparian Protection Category Projects, Evaluation Scores 2021-23
- E. Riparian Protection Category Project Descriptions 2021-23
- F. Riparian Protection Category Letters of Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-27
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
Riparian Protection Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, nine Riparian Protection category projects are being considered for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all nine Riparian Protection category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in *Manual 10b, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Habitat Conservation Account*; and

WHEREAS, these Riparian Protection category projects were evaluated by a team of citizens and state and local agency representatives using criteria approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) that considers the riparian habitat benefits and relationship to existing plans, thereby supporting the board's goal to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

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

WHEREAS, the projects include acquisitions that provide habitat benefits for a variety of species, 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, Riparian Protection Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, and

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

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

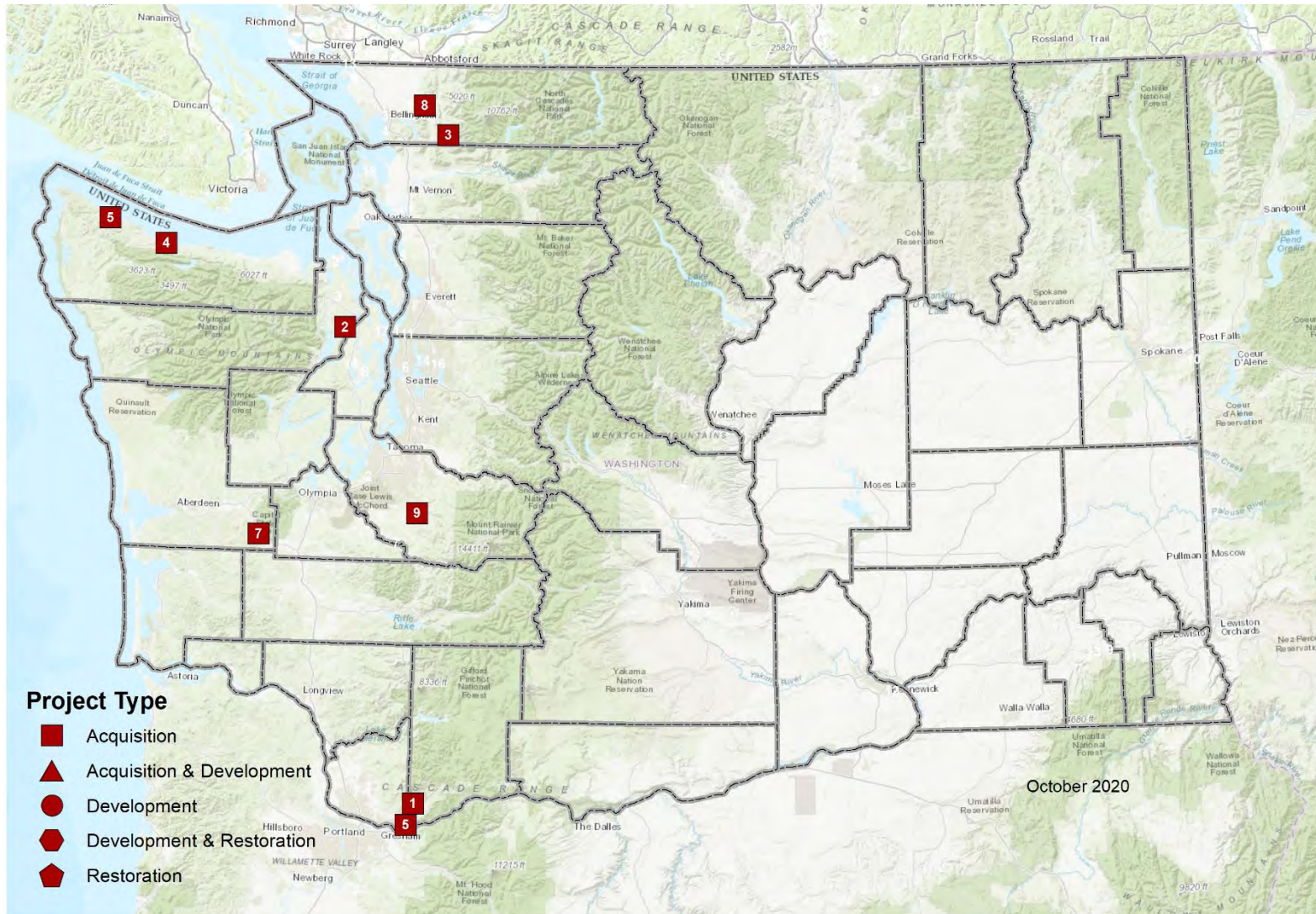
Table 1: WWRP – Riparian Protection Category Projects
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2021-2023

Resolution 2020-27

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 60.09 | 20-1347 A | Columbia Land Trust | Wildboy Forest and Kwoneesum Dam Acquisition | \$1,036,200 | \$2,189,400 | \$3,225,600 |
| 2 | 57.36 | 20-1421 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Dabob Bay Natural Area | \$2,265,532 | | \$2,265,532 |
| 3 | 55.45 | 20-1512 A | Whatcom Land Trust | Skookum Creek Acquisition 2 Upper Skookum Creek | \$875,000 | \$2,268,000 | \$3,143,000 |
| 4 | 54.09 | 20-1226 A | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Twin Rivers Nearshore and West Twin | \$500,000 | | \$500,000 |
| 5 | 52.82 | 20-1333 A | North Olympic Land Trust | Hoko River Watershed Conservation Phase 1 | \$566,020 | \$566,248 | \$1,132,268 |
| 5 | 52.82 | 20-1337 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Washougal Oaks Natural Area | \$2,100,343 | | \$2,100,343 |
| 7 | 51.82 | 20-1216 A | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Chehalis River Davis Creek Expansion | \$1,600,000 | | \$1,600,000 |
| 8 | 48.18 | 20-1513 A | Whatcom Land Trust | Stewart Mountain 1 Deming Main Stem | \$568,000 | \$568,000 | \$1,136,000 |
| 9 | 47 | 20-1785 A | Forterra | Lake Kapowsin Protection | \$1,613,087 | \$1,613,088 | \$3,226,175 |
| Total | | | | | \$11,124,182 | \$7,204,736 | \$18,328,918 |

Project type: A=acquisition

State Map for Riparian Protection Projects



Riparian Protection Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

"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.²

| Riparian Protection Evaluation Criteria Summary | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Criteria | Evaluation Elements | Project Type | Maximum Score |
| Scored by the Advisory Committee | | | |
| Project Introduction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map • Project goals and objectives | | Not Scored |
| 1. Acquisition Benefits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological makeup • Riparian habitat • Pollinator habitat • Surrounding land uses • Level of protection | All types | 20 |
| 2. Planning and Community Support | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan support • Community engagement | All types | 15 |
| 3. Stewardship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational capacity • Stewardship plan | Acquisition | 16 |
| | | Acquisition and Restoration | 8 |
| 4. Restoration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration plan | Acquisition and Restoration | 8 |
| 5. Threats to the Habitat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threats to the site • Immediacy of threat | All types | 15 |
| 6. Community Benefits and Public Access | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple Benefits • Public Access • Education and scientific opportunities | All types | 15 |
| Scored by RCO Staff | | | |
| 7. Matching Share | Other resources | All types | 10 |

²Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.010(8)

| Riparian Protection Evaluation Criteria Summary | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Criteria | Evaluation Elements | Project Type | Maximum Score |
| 8. Matching Share Bonus | Non-federal, non-state contribution | All types | 6 |
| 9. Growth Management Act | | All types | 4 |
| Total Possible Points | | | 70 |

Riparian Protection Detailed Scoring Criteria³

Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Acquisition Benefits**

What are the specific environmental benefits of this project?

2. **Planning and Community Support**

How does this project or its ecological characteristics support a current organizational plan or a coordinated state or regional prioritization effort?

3. **Stewardship**

Please describe what expertise and capacity the applicant's organization has for long-term management of the site including staff, volunteer, and finance resources and any other relevant factors.

4. **Restoration**

Please describe what expertise and capacity the applicant's organization has to conduct this riparian restoration project?

5. **Threats to the Habitat**

Characterize the threats to the site. Threats may be ecological, biological, human-caused, or related to climate change.

6. **Community Benefits and Public Access**

How does this project provide multiple benefits to the community, habitat, or surrounding ecological landscape?

Scored by RCO Staff

7. **Matching Share**

To what extent will the applicant any Recreation and Conservation Funding Board grant funds with other contributions?

8. **Matching Share Bonus**

Does the non-state, non-federal contribution described in the Matching Share criterion above equal more than 10 percent of the total project cost?

9. **Growth Management Act Compliance**

RCW 43.17.250

Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?

³ RCO 79A.15.060 (5)(c)

Riparian Protection Category Projects Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Acquisition Benefits | 2. Planning and Community Support | 3. Stewardship | 5. Threats to the Habitat | 6. Community Benefit and Public Access | 7. Matching Share | 8. Matching Share Bonus | 9. Growth Management Act | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-20 | 0-15 | 0-16 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-3 | 0-1 | -1-0 | |
| 1 | 20-1347 A | Wildboy Forest and Kwoneesum Dam Acquisition | 17.64 | 14.00 | 13.27 | 4.45 | 8.73 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 60.09 |
| 2 | 20-1421 A | Dabob Bay Natural Area | 17.82 | 13.73 | 14.45 | 3.73 | 7.64 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 57.36 |
| 3 | 20-1512 A | Skookum Creek Acquisition 2 Upper Skookum Creek | 16.27 | 13.00 | 11.91 | 3.36 | 6.91 | 3.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 55.45 |
| 4 | 20-1226 A | Twin Rivers Nearshore and West Twin | 16.73 | 12.73 | 13.36 | 3.36 | 7.91 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 54.09 |
| 5 | 20-1333 A | Hoko River Watershed Conservation Phase 1 | 16.45 | 12.82 | 13.18 | 2.82 | 6.55 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 52.82 |
| 5 | 20-1337 A | Washougal Oaks Natural Area | 15.45 | 12.73 | 13.45 | 3.18 | 8.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 52.82 |
| 7 | 20-1216 A | Chehalis River Davis Creek Expansion | 15.73 | 12.73 | 12.55 | 3.64 | 7.18 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 51.82 |
| 8 | 20-1513 A | Stewart Mountain 1 Deming Main Stem | 15.00 | 11.73 | 11.91 | 2.91 | 6.64 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 48.18 |
| 9 | 20-1785 A | Lake Kapowsin Protection | 13.36 | 11.27 | 11.82 | 3.36 | 6.18 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 47.00 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-6; RCO staff score Questions 7-9

Project type: A=acquisition

Riparian Protection

Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-2023

Columbia Land Trust

Grant Requested: \$1,036,200

Buying Wildboy Forest and Kwoneesum Dam

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to buy the 1,288-acre Wildboy forest including Kwoneesum Dam to enable dam removal and restoration of the forested watershed. The land encompasses 0.5 mile of the West Fork Washougal River, 2.5 miles of Wildboy Creek, and 0.9 mile of Texas Creek, all in the Washougal River watershed. The waterways are used by lower Columbia River steelhead trout and coho salmon, both of which are species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. Set within the west slopes of the Cascade Mountains, the steep, forested land was owned by a timber company and actively marketed for sale as a house site with the reservoir as a recreational amenity. The land trust partnered with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe with the shared goal of removing Kwoneesum dam, restoring Wildboy Creek, and opening 6.5 miles of tributaries above the dam. The dam will be the largest removed in Washington State since the Elwha dams in 2014. In addition, the purchase will protect a 7-acre beaver constructed wetland, prevent future rock mining, and open the entire property to public access. The Columbia Land Trust will contribute more than \$2.1 million in private and state grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1347)

Washington Department of Natural Resources **Conserving a Coastal Ecosystem at Dabob Bay**

Grant Requested: \$2,265,532

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy about 381 acres of the most threatened and ecologically important shoreline and forested uplands in the Dabob Bay Natural Area. Located in rapidly growing eastern Jefferson County, Dabob Bay is one of the most ecologically diverse and intact estuarine bays remaining in Puget Sound. The land includes property on Thorndyke Bay, which is a high-quality estuary identified within the Dabob Bay Natural Area for conservation by the Washington State Natural Heritage Program, and property along Anderson Creek, which is the last private land remaining within a high-priority restoration site along Dabob Bay. With this grant, the department can ensure protection and restoration of natural ecological processes and water quality at this site before further development greatly increases the costs and challenges of conserving this exceptional coastal ecosystem. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1421)

Whatcom Land Trust
Conserving Land Along Upper Skookum Creek

Grant Requested: \$875,000

The Whatcom Land Trust will use this grant to buy 990 acres along upper Skookum Creek, a major tributary to the South Fork Nooksack River. The purchase will protect 2.24 miles of Skookum Creek, adding to the 1,100 acres already conserved along lower Skookum Creek and creating a nearly uninterrupted protected corridor from the South Fork Nooksack River to its headwaters on the Twin Sisters. Conserving the land will allow the growth of mature creekbank forests that will shade and cool the water for salmon. Finally, the land provides vital habitat for a range of wildlife including golden eagle, Nooksack elk, Townsend's big eared bat, and the state-endangered marbled murrelet. The Whatcom Land Trust will contribute more than \$2.2 million in cash, Conservation Futures,⁴ and a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1512)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Conserving Habitat on the Strait of Juan de Fuca

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 216 acres of habitat for fish and other wildlife on the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The land includes shoreline, river, coastal wetlands, and forested uplands. Conservation will allow the department to protect the natural processes in one of the last remaining functional ecological systems in western Washington. The Twin Rivers reach has some of the most complex shorelines of the Salish Sea and the near-shore one of the most diverse. The waterways are used by bull trout and Chinook salmon, both of which are species listed as at-risk of extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by forage fish, steelhead and cutthroat trout, and coho salmon. In addition, the area has intact eelgrass and kelp beds, which are vital to salmon. The land also provides rich shorebird and migratory bird habitat and includes a flight corridor for marbled murrelet, which are listed under the Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1226)

North Olympic Land Trust
Conserving the Hoko River Watershed

Grant Requested: \$566,020

The North Olympic Land Trust, in collaboration with the Makah Tribe, will use this grant to buy 151 acres in the Hoko River watershed to conserve wildlife habitat. The land includes grazing habitat, mature forests, a large wetland complex, and 1.65 miles of

⁴Conservation 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.

streambank habitat. The waterways are used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead and cutthroat trout. In addition, the area is used by a wide variety of animals including river otter, small mammals (mice, chipmunks, squirrels, etc.), small mustelids (weasels, skunks, etc.), birds (hawks, eagles, waterfowl, heron, corvids, songbirds, migratory birds, etc.), deer, elk, coyote, bobcat, bear, and pollinators (bees, butterflies, and moths). There likely will be access for minimal impact recreational activities such as bird watching and fishing. The North Olympic Land Trust will contribute \$566,248 in a local grant and a grant from the state Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1333)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Expanding the Washougal Oaks Natural Area**

Grant Requested: \$2,100,343

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 149 acres at the western edge of the Columbia River Gorge for inclusion in the Washougal Oaks Natural Area. The land includes important streambank forest, oak forest and salmon habitat. A fish-bearing stream inside a steep forested ravine runs through the heart of the site. This project is part of an ongoing effort to acquire land encompassing the largest, high-quality, native oak woodland remaining in western Washington. The woodland is of major conservation concern due to historic losses and ongoing degradation. The land also supports two state sensitive plant species and four rare or threatened animal species: slender-billed nuthatch, and lower Columbia River steelhead trout, coastal cutthroat trout, and coho salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1337)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Expanding the Buffer Around the Davis Creek Wildlife Area**

Grant Requested: \$1,600,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy up to 416 acres of mostly floodplain habitat along the Chehalis River, near Oakville. The purchase will help expand the buffer around the department's Davis Creek Wildlife Area Unit and will connect two habitat corridors. It will connect about 4 miles of Chehalis riverbank to other habitat (including off-channel habitat and wetlands) that extend another 1.2 miles downstream and 1 mile upstream to a bridge. It also creates a permanent and near continuous north-south link between the Capitol State Forest and the Lower Chehalis State Forest. The land contains remnant oak woodland and historic prairie habitats. Bordering lands are known to support waterfowl, elk, beaver, salmon, band-tailed pigeon, wood ducks, and the Olympic mudminnow. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1216)

Whatcom Land Trust
Conserving the Nooksack River near Deming

Grant Requested: \$568,000

The Whatcom Land Trust will use this grant to buy about 420 acres, including about 2 miles of shoreline on the upper Nooksack River and its forested south bank by Deming. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which are listed as at risk of extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. This area of the river is important to salmon because it provides places for them to rest and grow. Also, the riverbank trees shade the water, cooling it for salmon. Unfortunately, the land also is contributing substantial sediment, which can bury spawning gravel, to the river. The purchase will allow for restoration of the site. In addition, it will allow trees to grow along the stream, correcting past logging practices. Trees and bushes along a river drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. The branches also slow the river, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water. The land trust plans to allow low-impact recreation and trails for non-motorized activities at the site. The Whatcom Land Trust will contribute \$568,000 in a grant from the salmon recovery program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1513)

Forterra
Protecting Lake Kapowsin

Grant Requested: \$1,613,087

Forterra will use this grant to buy nearly 176 acres primarily on the north and west sides of Lake Kapowsin, including about a half-mile of the lake's shoreline, conserving its habitat and environmental benefits. The land is comprised of wetlands, shoreline, and upland forests, which provide homes for salmon species, waterfowl, amphibians, cavity-nesting birds, and other wildlife. The purchase will remove the possibility of development, clear-cutting, and other harmful land uses along the largely undeveloped lake shore. Because of the lake's healthy ecology, it is a popular fishing location. The lake hosts some of the best warmwater fishing in western Washington for yellow perch, largemouth bass, black crappie, and other species. Acquisition will open another public access to the shoreline. Forterra will contribute more than \$1.6 million in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1785)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Riparian Protection Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-1226A Twin Rivers Nearshore and West Twin (1) Rank 4
- 20-1333A Hoko River Watershed Conservation Phase 1 (1) Rank 5

[View Letters Here](#)

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Habitat Conservation
Account: State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: Alison Greene, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Seventeen projects in the State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the category, evaluation process, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a: ☒ Request for Decision
☐
☐

Resolution: 2020-28**Purpose of Resolution:** Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.**Background**

State Lands Restoration and Enhancement 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 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.

The State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category receives ten percent or \$3 million (whichever is less) of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) funds in the Habitat Conservation Account.

Program Summary

There were no changes to the State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category this grant round. A summary of this category is shown in the table below.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Fish and Wildlife • Department of Natural Resources • State Parks and Recreation Commission |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of existing habitats • Enhancement or creation of habitats |
| Funding Limits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of \$25,000 per project • Maximum of \$500,000 per multi-site project • Maximum of \$1,000,000 per single-site project |
| Match Requirements | None |
| Public Access | Habitat areas must be accessible for public access and outdoor education unless it meets the criteria outlined in the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board policy for limiting public access to protect sensitive species, water quality, or public safety. |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants must establish planning eligibility • Properties must be state-owned and managed primarily for resource preservation and protection • Multi-site projects must be for similar habitat improvements (for example, wetland restoration, shrub-steppe enhancement, etc.) |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Seventeen State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects requesting nearly \$2.7 million were evaluated August 21 through September 16, 2020. WWRP Habitat Restoration Advisory Committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, included the following individuals who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat conservation, restoration, and enhancement:

| Advisory Committee Members | Affiliation |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| John Clark, Oak Harbor | Citizen |

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Todd McLaughlin, Reardan | Citizen |
| Glen Mendel, Dayton | Citizen |
| Debbie Rose, Seattle | Citizen |
| Cindy Wilson, Olympia | Citizen |
| Nate Ulrich, Columbia Land Trust | Citizen |
| Peter Guillozet, San Juan County Land Bank | Local Government |
| David Lindley, Confederated Bands and Tribes of the Yakama Nation | Tribal Government |
| Chrissy Bailey, Department of Ecology | State Government |
| Curt Pavola, Department of Natural Resources | State Government |
| Richard Tveten, Department of Fish and Wildlife | State Government |

To review and rank the projects, a team of eleven advisory committee members used a written evaluation process and criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board). The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

During the post-evaluation meeting on September 18, staff met with the advisory committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results. The advisory committee felt the process was organized and efficient. They were satisfied with the materials provided and felt reviewing projects using the PRISM Online Review and Evaluation module made the job easier. They were confident in the resulting ranked list and noted the projects that scored well were those that were collaborative or had more specific restoration work plans.

One challenge evaluators had was comparing and scoring the variety of habitat types in these applications. They also noted that it is helpful when applicants provide a map of other protected lands in the area surrounding a project to show context.

Public Comment

There are letters of support for State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO are included in Item Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

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 the board's goal of making strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat opportunities.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, via Resolution #2020-28.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-20231 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 approved list. The 2021 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will approve the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-28, including *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category Projects
- C. State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category, Evaluation Scores 2021-23
- E. State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category Descriptions 2021-23
- F. State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category Letters of Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-28
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, seventeen State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects are being considered for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all seventeen State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in *Manual 10b, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Habitat Conservation Account*, including criteria regarding public benefit and relationship to established plans; and

WHEREAS, these State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category projects were evaluated by a team of citizens and agency representatives using criteria approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), thereby supporting the board's goal to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

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

WHEREAS, the projects restore existing state lands to self-sustaining functionality, and their evaluation included the uniqueness or significance of the habitat, threat, 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 Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*; 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:

Table 1: WWRP–State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category

Resolution: 2020-28

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects

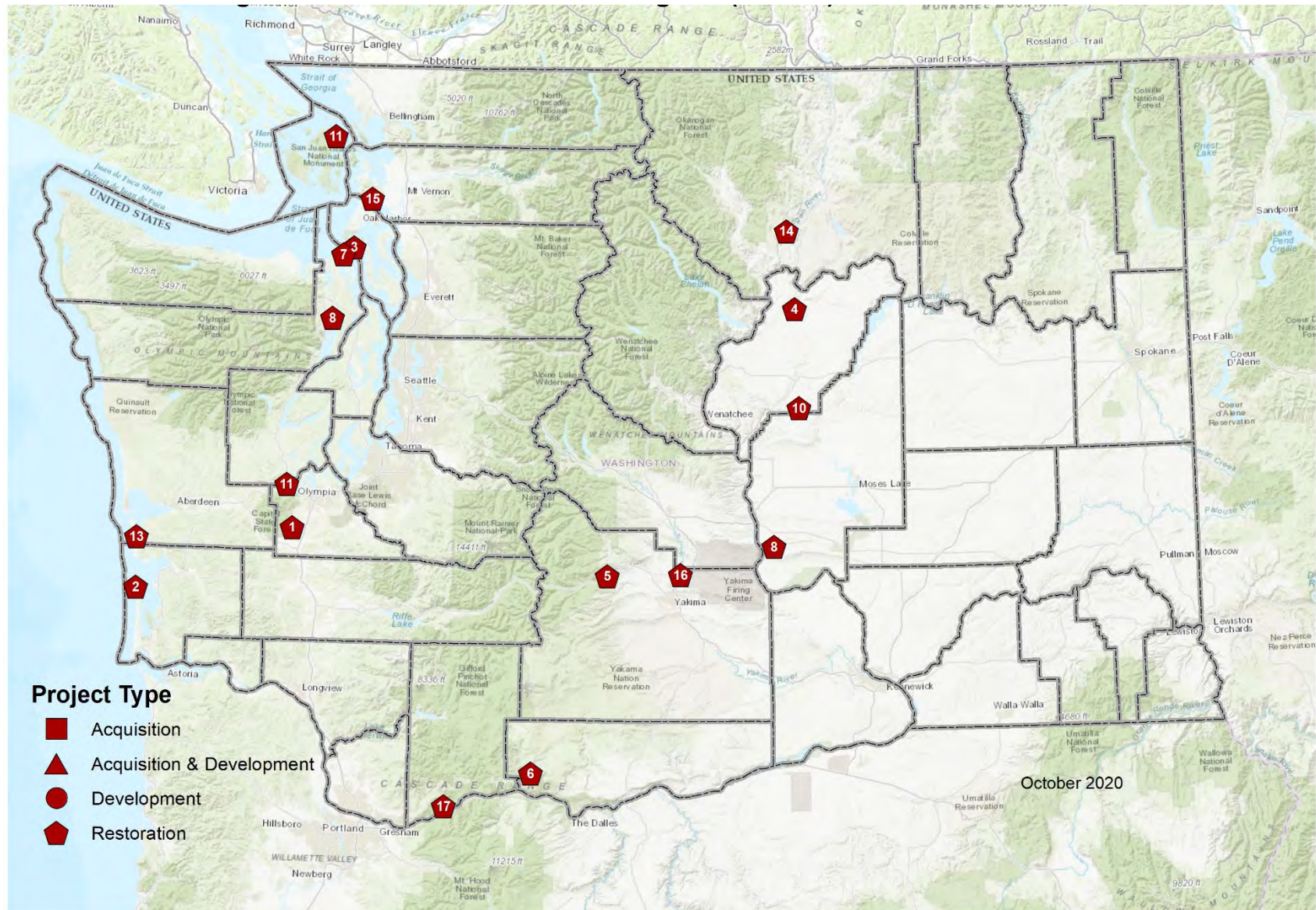
2021-2023

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 1 | 48.91 | 20-1521 R | Washington Department of Natural Resources | South Sound Prairie, Bald, and Oak Restoration | \$485,850 | | \$485,850 |
| 2 | 47 | 20-1575 R | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Leadbetter Point Coastal Dune Restoration | \$80,000 | | \$80,000 |
| 3 | 45.64 | 20-1592 R | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve Rare Prairies Restoration | \$56,000 | | \$56,000 |
| 4 | 45.55 | 20-1638 R | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | West Foster Creek Riparian Restoration | \$119,100 | | \$119,100 |
| 5 | 45.45 | 20-1689 R | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Oak Creek Wildlife Area Forest Restoration | \$427,600 | | \$427,600 |
| 6 | 45.27 | 20-1353 R | Washington Department of Natural Resources | White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area Oak Restoration | \$80,000 | | \$80,000 |
| 7 | 45.09 | 20-1586 R | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Sand Verbena Moth Habitat Restoration | \$136,741 | \$44,340 | \$181,081 |
| 8 | 44.45 | 20-1304 R | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Lower Crab Creek Restoration and Enhancement | \$195,100 | | \$195,100 |
| 8 | 44.45 | 20-1629 R | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Puget Lowland Forest Restoration | \$144,750 | | \$144,750 |
| 10 | 44.18 | 20-1640 R | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Pygmy Rabbit Habitat Enhancement | \$161,850 | | \$161,850 |

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 11 | 43.82 | 20-1587 R | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Prairie Restoration on San Juan Islands | \$107,400 | | \$107,400 |
| 11 | 43.82 | 20-1613 R | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Kennedy Creek Floodplain Forest Restoration | \$192,000 | | \$192,000 |
| 13 | 43 | 20-1417 R | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Elk River Unit Habitat Enhancements | \$96,200 | | \$96,200 |
| 14 | 42.82 | 20-1287 R | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Okanogan County Shrub Steppe Restoration | \$122,931 | | \$122,931 |
| 15 | 42.36 | 20-1591 R | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Hope Island Natural Area Preserve Restoration | \$91,144 | | \$91,144 |
| 16 | 42 | 20-1354 R | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Selah Cliffs Natural Area Preserve Shrub Steppe Restoration | \$70,000 | | \$70,000 |
| 17 | 38.64 | 20-1590 R | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Bald Restoration at Beacon Rock State Park | \$92,000 | | \$92,000 |
| Total | | | | | \$2,658,666 | \$44,340 | \$2,703,006 |

Project types: R=restoration

State Map for State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category Projects



State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

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

State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Detailed Scoring Criteria

Advisory Committee Scored

1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics

Describe why the site is worthy of long-term conservation.

2. Need for Restoration or Enhancement

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

3. Project Design

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

4. Planning

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

5. Public Benefit

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

State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category Projects

Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 0. Project Introduction | 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics | 2. Need for Restoration or Enhancement | 3. Project Design | 4. Planning | 5. Public Benefit and Support | Total |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-0 | 0-15 | 0-15 | 0-15 | 0-5 | 0-5 | |
| 1 | 20-1521 R | South Sound Prairie, Bald, and Oak Restoration | 0.00 | 13.91 | 13.00 | 13.27 | 4.45 | 4.27 | 48.91 |
| 2 | 20-1575 R | Leadbetter Point Coastal Dune Restoration | 0.00 | 12.91 | 13.45 | 12.91 | 3.91 | 3.82 | 47.00 |
| 3 | 20-1592 R | Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve Rare Prairies Restoration | 0.00 | 12.27 | 12.55 | 12.45 | 4.18 | 4.18 | 45.64 |
| 4 | 20-1638 R | West Foster Creek Riparian Restoration | 0.00 | 12.27 | 13.09 | 12.45 | 4.09 | 3.64 | 45.55 |
| 5 | 20-1689 R | Oak Creek Wildlife Area Forest Restoration | 0.00 | 11.82 | 12.18 | 13.09 | 4.27 | 4.09 | 45.45 |
| 6 | 20-1353 R | White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area Oak Restoration | 0.00 | 12.36 | 12.09 | 12.64 | 4.27 | 3.91 | 45.27 |
| 7 | 20-1586 R | Sand Verbena Moth Habitat Restoration | 0.00 | 12.27 | 12.27 | 12.91 | 4.00 | 3.64 | 45.09 |
| 8 | 20-1629 R | Puget Lowland Forest Restoration | 0.00 | 12.82 | 12.18 | 11.82 | 4.00 | 3.64 | 44.45 |
| 8 | 20-1304 R | Lower Crab Creek Restoration and Enhancement | 0.00 | 12.09 | 12.27 | 12.09 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 44.45 |
| 10 | 20-1640 R | Pygmy Rabbit Habitat Enhancement | 0.00 | 12.82 | 12.64 | 11.55 | 3.82 | 3.36 | 44.18 |
| 11 | 20-1587 R | Prairie Restoration on San Juan Islands | 0.00 | 12.45 | 11.64 | 11.91 | 4.09 | 3.73 | 43.82 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 0. Project Introduction | 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics | 2. Need for Restoration or Enhancement | 3. Project Design | 4. Planning | 5. Public Benefit and Support | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 11 | 20-1613 R | Kennedy Creek Floodplain Forest Restoration | 0.00 | 12.64 | 11.36 | 11.64 | 3.82 | 4.36 | 43.82 |
| 13 | 20-1417 R | Elk River Unit Habitat Enhancements | 0.00 | 11.09 | 11.82 | 12.00 | 4.18 | 3.91 | 43.00 |
| 14 | 20-1287 R | Okanogan County Shrub Steppe Restoration | 0.00 | 11.45 | 11.73 | 11.91 | 3.73 | 4.00 | 42.82 |
| 15 | 20-1591 R | Hope Island Natural Area Preserve Restoration | 0.00 | 13.00 | 10.55 | 11.82 | 3.45 | 3.55 | 42.36 |
| 16 | 20-1354 R | Selah Cliffs Natural Area Preserve Shrub Steppe Restoration | 0.00 | 11.91 | 10.91 | 11.91 | 3.45 | 3.82 | 42.00 |
| 17 | 20-1590 R | Bald Restoration at Beacon Rock State Park | 0.00 | 10.73 | 10.18 | 10.91 | 3.00 | 3.82 | 38.64 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-5

Project types: R=restoration

State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-23

Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$485,850

Restoring South Puget Sound Region Habitats

The Washington Department of Natural Resources and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to restore 800 acres of outwash prairie, grassland bald, and oak woodland habitat at five of the most significant conservation sites in the southern Puget Sound region: Bald Hill, Mima Mounds, Rocky Prairie, Scatter Creek, and West Rocky Prairie. These sites harbor some of the last remaining populations of plants and animals listed as threatened with extinction or as endangered as well as the Department of Fish and Wildlife's Species of Greatest Conservation in the region. The departments will get native seeds and transplants, prepare restoration areas for seeding through prescribed burning and controlling invasive plants, and then seed and replant the areas. In addition, the two departments will remove invasive species in some of the areas and enhance habitat for Oregon spotted frog at Rocky Prairie. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1521)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Grant Requested: \$80,000

Restoring the Leadbetter Point Coastal Dune

State Parks will use this grant to restore 55 acres of open dunes and 100 acres of shrub-dominated dunes in Leadbetter Point State Park. Leadbetter Point, the northernmost end of Long Beach peninsula, is the largest undeveloped coastal dune system in Washington. The dunes are a critically imperiled dune ecosystem and are used by endangered pink sand verbena and bear's foot sanicle and by western snowy plover and streaked horned lark, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. This work will build on the 500 acres of dune restored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the adjacent Willapa National Wildlife Refuge. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1575)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$56,000

Restoring Rare Prairies in the Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve

The Department of Natural Resources, partnering with the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, will use this grant to restore rare coastal prairie and endangered plant habitat in the Admiralty Inlet Natural Area Preserve, 2.5 miles south of Coupeville in the Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve on Whidbey Island. The department will remove invasive and non-native species and then reseed and plant native dominant prairie

species, including golden paintbrush. The rare prairies contain 2 of the only 12 naturally occurring populations of golden paintbrush, which is a species listed by the federal government as threatened with extinction under the Endangered Species Act and designated as endangered by the State. The department will restore more than 2 acres in two portions of the preserve. The work will help preserve and perpetuate the last native prairies in north Puget Sound, including one that is extraordinarily rare. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1592)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Restoring West Foster Creek

Grant Requested: \$119,100

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to place structures to mimic beaver dams in west Foster Creek in the Well Wildlife Area to help restore the creek. Beaver dams create ponds in fast-moving water, giving fish a place to rest. They also block and slow the water, keeping it at a stable level, even in drought. This reach of the creek has a deeply carved channel and the mock beaver dams will help reduce the erosion and improve water quality. In addition, the department will remove invasive Russian olive trees and plant native plants along the creekbanks. Planting trees and bushes long a creekbank helps shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects fish eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1638)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Thinning the Forest in the Oak Creek Wildlife Area

Grant Requested: \$427,600

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to thin the forest in the Oak Creek Wildlife Area. The department will thin 667 acres of forest south of the Tieton River and do a controlled burn of 593 acres in the Oak Creek drainage in previously thinned areas. The work will improve habitat for a wide variety of wildlife species, promote forest health, and improve ecological integrity so treated areas are resilient to stressors. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1689)

Washington Department of Natural Resources
Restoring the White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area

Grant Requested: \$80,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to restore Garry oak woodlands and mixed conifer-oak forests in the White Salmon Oak Natural Resources Conservation Area. Restoration work will include thinning, snag creation, prescribed burning, and invasive species control. This work will restore the critically imperiled east cascade oak-ponderosa pine forest and woodland and will benefit two priority species: western grey

squirrel and Surkdorfs desert parsley. Along with the benefits to these species, this work will increase climate change resiliency and fire resiliency. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1353)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$136,741
Restoring Moth Habitat

State Parks will use this grant to restore habitat for the sand-verbena moth by reducing invasive plants, increasing the abundance of sand-verbena, and redirecting recreational users away from critical habitat. The work is designed to restore habitat for the sand-verbena moth, a critically imperiled species known to live in fewer than 11 locations in North America, two of which are Fort Worden State Park and Deception Pass State Park. The sand-verbena moth only occurs in sand dune habitats with relatively high cover of yellow sand-verbena and few exotic plant species. Surveys suggest the moth populations in the two state parks are harmed by an increase in exotic plants and, potentially, trampling of sand-verbena. Trails through the restoration area will give the public an excellent opportunity to observe rare native species and communities and keep them from trampling the plants. State Parks will contribute \$44,340 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1586)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Grant Requested: \$195,100
Removing Russian Olive Trees in the Columbia Basin Wildlife Area

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to remove the highly invasive Russian olive trees and restore native species in the Lower Crab Creek Unit of the Columbia Basin Wildlife Area. The Columbia Basin Wildlife Area supports what is suspected to be the most significant monarch butterfly summer breeding site in the state and a natural area preserve established to protect an exemplary saltgrass-greasewood vegetation community. About 1,600 acres of the unit are infested with Russian olive trees, which are an aggressive noxious weed. Russian olive can transform relatively open streambank and wetland areas into forests, outcompeting native vegetation, including flowers used by monarch butterflies. The trees also hinder recreation because of their dense, thorny branches. The department will remove the trees and restore native species at a site next to the core monarch breeding site and on 30 acres of the preserve. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1304)

Washington Department of Natural Resources
Restoring Puget Lowland Forests

Grant Requested: \$144,750

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to restore the structure and composition of lowland forest communities in two natural areas—Dabob Bay Natural Area and Schumacher Creek Natural Area Preserve. The department will thin young, artificially regenerated forest stands; plant underrepresented tree and shrub species; and control of key invasive plants that threaten both the restoration areas and neighboring forests. These efforts will allow more natural development of the forests and faster development of important habitat features such as large trees, snags, and fallen trees. This will greatly enhance the diversity of these forests, improving the quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1629)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Improving Pygmy Rabbit Habitat

Grant Requested: \$161,850

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve 150 acres of shrub steppe habitat in the Sagebrush Flat Unit of the Sagebrush Flat Wildlife Area. The wildlife area is managed to recover three species: the endangered Columbia basin pygmy rabbit and the sage grouse and sharp-tailed grouse, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction by the State. The department will remove invasive plants, reseed areas with native vegetation, and do controlled burning. The unit is at increasing risk of high intensity wildlife because of climate forecasts, nearby housing development and agricultural practices, and sagebrush that is mature. Without proactive intervention to diversify the age of the sagebrush and efforts to alter the understory plants, pygmy rabbits face extinction. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1640)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
Restoring San Juan Island Prairies

Grant Requested: \$107,400

State Parks will use this grant to restore 120 acres of grassland balds and prairie habitat in Moran State Park on Orcas Island and Jones Island Marine State Park. The native prairie communities at both parks are threatened by tree encroachment and invasive species. State Parks will remove encroaching trees, control invasive plants, and restore treated areas with seeding and planting of native prairie species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1587)

Washington Department of Natural Resources
Restoring the Kennedy Creek Floodplain Forest

Grant Requested: \$192,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to restore 110 acres of floodplain and forest habitat in the 1,461-acre Kennedy Creek Natural Area, about 10 miles from Olympia. The department will plant trees on 88 acres and control weeds on 110 acres. In addition, the department will assess, design, and permit future projects to restore 22 acres of floodplain. The previous owner had logged the forest, graded the land, and removed the stumps, and now the land is infested with nonnative weeds. This project will energize a long-awaited effort to restore the area and improve floodplain and forest habitat connectivity. The Kennedy Creek Natural Area protects estuarine habitat, including rare salt marshes, mud flats, migratory shorebird habitat, and important salmon habitat. More than half the lowland floodplain forests in the north Pacific region are estimated to have been lost, and they are considered an imperiled ecosystem. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1613)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Improving Elk River Unit Habitat for Marbled Murrelets

Grant Requested: \$96,200

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to remove Scotch broom, reed canary grass, and other weeds in the Elk River Unit of the Johns River Wildlife Area to make the habitat more hospitable for marbled murrelet, dusky Canadian geese, and other wintering waterfowl. Murrelets need nesting sites near saltwater with trees tall enough to provide cover from predators. The extensive Scotch broom has prevented existing trees from growing tall enough and in greater number. In addition to removing Scotch broom, the department will plant trees in some areas. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1417)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Restoring Okanogan County Shrub Steppe

Grant Requested: \$122,931

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to convert about 212 acres of agricultural fields to native shrub steppe vegetation in the Methow and Sinlahekin Wildlife Areas. This project is part of an ongoing effort to preserve the northernmost shrub steppe habitat in Washington. These two wildlife areas provide vital habitat for species dependent on shrub steppe such as sage thrashers, sagebrush sparrows, loggerhead shrikes, sagebrush lizards, and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse. Additionally, these areas are used by the state's largest migratory mule deer herd due to the high-quality winter range habitat present. Once restored, the shrub steppe habitat will provide opportunities for recreation including hunting, wildlife and wildflower viewing,

and hiking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1287)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$91,144
Restoring the Hope Island Natural Area Preserve

State Parks will use this grant to remove invasive plants in the rare and high-quality forest and grassland habitats in the 176-acre Hope Island Natural Area Preserve. The natural area is dominated by two Douglas fir-western hemlock forest communities and a rare Pacific madrone forest community. These forests have been recognized as some of the best examples of lowland, old-growth forest in the Puget Trough ecoregions. Infestation of English holly and spurge laurel threaten the integrity of the ecosystems on the island. State Parks also will remove invasive plants encroaching on the globally rare grassland and bald plant community around the southwest coastline. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1591)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Grant Requested: \$70,000
Restoring Selah Cliffs Habitat

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to restore native plants on 30 acres of shrub steppe and 10 acres of creekbank habitat in the 300-acre Selah Cliffs Natural Area Preserve. The preserve was established in 1993 to protect the largest known population of basalt daisy, a species listed as threatened with extinction by the State and as a federal species of concern. This species is known to exist in only a 10-mile stretch of the Yakima River canyon and Selah Creek. The department will remove nonnative species and plant native grasses and forbs in the meadow and treated areas along the valley bottom. The preserve includes the rocky floodplain of Selah Creek at the foot of the cliffs and areas of shrub steppe habitat. The cliffs, much of which are covered by colorful lichens, provide nesting and roosting habitat for raptors including prairie falcons, golden eagles and kestrels. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1354)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$92,000
Restoring Balds at Beacon Rock State Park

State Parks will use this grant to restore 11 of the 32 acres of balds along the Hamilton Mountain Trail in Beacon Rock State Park in the Columbia River Gorge. The Washington Natural Heritage Program lists the north Pacific herbaceous balds and bluffs as vulnerable. They are characterized by rich and unusual collections of plant species and often support populations of special status species. The balds along the trail have been damaged by trampling, erosion, and weeds. State Parks will restore the balds during a project to redevelop the trail. State Parks will control invasive plants, close social trails,

and seed and plant the area with native bald species. State Parks also will develop management plans for special status species and interpretive signs and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1590)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • 20-1689R Oak Creek Wildlife Area Forest Restoration (5) | Rank 5 |
| • 20-1304R Lower Crab Creek Restoration and Enhancement (1) | Rank 8 |
| • 20-1287R Okanogan County Shrub Steppe Restoration (3) | Rank 14 |

[View Letters Here](#)

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program,
Habitat Conservation Account: Urban Wildlife Habitat Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: Beth Auerbach, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Eleven project proposals in the Urban Wildlife Habitat category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the category, evaluation process, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

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

Resolution: 2020-29

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

The Urban Wildlife Habitat category funds projects that protect functioning, native habitat near urban and urbanizing communities while providing opportunities for people to participate in nature-based activities. 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 in this category, the land must be located within 5 miles of one of the following:

- The designated urban growth area of a city or town with a population of 5,000 or more, or

- A designated urban cluster with a population of 5,000 or more, or
- An adopted urban growth boundary in a county that has a population density of 250 people per square mile or greater.

The Urban Wildlife Habitat category receives fifteen percent of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) funds in the Habitat Conservation Account.¹ The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board revised the funding formula² last year, and funds are now allocated as follows:

- 45 percent to local agencies, Native American tribes, and nonprofit organizations
- 45 percent to state agencies;
- 10 percent to fully fund partially funded local agency, Native American tribe, and nonprofit organization projects;
- Then funds may be used for partially funded state agency projects; and any remaining funds go to the next highest ranked project(s) regardless of sponsor.

Program Summary

Following the recommendations of a special Urban Wildlife Habitat Work Group in 2019, the category underwent major modifications to the eligible project locations, funding allocation, and evaluation criteria. The most significant changes include:

- The area where projects may be located is expanded to include urban clusters.
- The fund allocation formula was restructured to distribute grants more equitably between state and local entities.
- The new evaluation criteria prioritize projects that accomplish the following:
 - Provide refuge for all types of species, both rare and common, near urban areas
 - Include significant public engagement in the location and design of projects
 - Integrate multi-modal and active transportation access to sites
 - Provide access for people to participate in nature-based activities with an emphasis on underserved populations, and
 - Inclusion of the new legislatively mandated pollinator question.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local and state³ agencies • Federally recognized Native American tribes • Park and recreation districts • Qualified nonprofit nature conservancy organizations • Special purpose districts |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

¹Chapter 79A.15.040(2)(d) RCW

²Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Resolution 2019-27

³ State agencies mean the State Parks and Recreation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Enterprise Services (Formerly General Administration), and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition (in fee or perpetual conservation easement) • Development • Combination acquisition and development |
| Funding Limits | None |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local governments and nonprofit nature conservancy organizations must provide a 1:1 matching share. • No match required for state agencies. |
| Public Access | Must be accessible for passive public recreation, outdoor education, or citizen science unless it meets the criteria outlined in the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board policy for limiting public access due to conservation easements, or to protect sensitive species, water quality, or public safety. |
| Other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants must establish planning eligibility. • Property acquired or developed must be retained for habitat conservation purposes in perpetuity. • Development limited to facilities such as trails, interpretive signs, informational kiosks, restrooms, roads, and parking. • Projects involving renovation of existing facilities, habitat creation, enhancement or restoration are ineligible. |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Eleven Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects, requesting just over \$12.6 million, were evaluated by members of the WWRP Habitat Acquisition Advisory Committee over Zoom on September 17, 2020. Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, include state and local agency representatives and citizens who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to habitat protection, enhancement, and conservation. The following members participated this year:

| Advisory Committee Members | Affiliation |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| John Gamon, Sumner | Citizen |
| Dave Hays, Olympia | Citizen |
| Kelly McCaffrey, Seattle | Citizen |
| Bill Robinson, Olympia | Citizen |
| Pene Speaks, Olympia | Citizen |
| Matt Tweedy, Yakima | Citizen |
| Lincoln Bormann, San Juan Land Bank | Nonprofit Organization |
| Mickey Fleming, Chelan Douglas Land Trust | Nonprofit Organization |

| | |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Lydia Mendoza, Columbia Land Trust | Nonprofit Organization |
| Janet Gorrell, Department of Fish and Wildlife | State Agency |
| Joe Rocchio, Department of Natural Resources | State Agency |

The eleven advisory committee members reviewed the proposals using video conferencing and RCO's PRISM Online Review and Evaluation module for scoring the projects with criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board). The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are found in *Table 1 – WWRP, Urban Wildlife Habitat Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2019-21*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

At the end of the evaluation meeting on September 17 and during the post evaluation meeting on September 18, RCO staff met with WWRP Habitat Acquisition Advisory Committee members, who also evaluated the Critical Habitat, Natural Areas and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories. The meeting provided an opportunity to debrief and assess the technical review and evaluation process and the scoring results. As outlined in Item 11A, the committee was very appreciative of the work that RCO put into organizing and managing the review and evaluation sessions during a pandemic. Advisors valued the time policy specialist, Ben Donatelle put into revising the Urban Wildlife Habitat criteria, and discussed using the board-adopted evaluation instrument for the first time.

The scoring range for the first criterion, *Ecological and Biological Characteristics*, was 0-40 compared to 0-20 in past years. This initially proved to be somewhat overwhelming and evaluators had to "get into a groove" to comfortably use the full range. While one or two members suggested having fewer points others felt the scoring comparison tool did help them. The new Pollinator Habitat element of this criterion proved to be a challenge for applicants, since most failed to explain how the site would support feeding, nesting, or reproduction of pollinator species. Advisors complimented the staff presenting Capital Land Trust's Lower Henderson Inlet Habitat Conservation Phase 2 (Rank #2) for including important factors for what made up good habitat for pollinators and how their project could address the threat to these species.

What did garner a lot of discussion was the *Planning and Community Support* criterion. Advisors felt the applicants' efforts toward public engagement was very weak. While a few applicants addressed diversity, hardly anyone had taken the time to check in with underserved communities to discuss what they wanted or needed, nor did they make any effort to incorporate their input into the final proposal. While some did better than others, no one seemed to be proactive in soliciting community feedback. They noted that most underserved communities would not have the resources to put together these types of proposals, so involving them in project development is crucial. Advisors wondered if there is a role RCO could play in this area of outreach. Advisors discussed

the significance of a sub-question in this criterion, “What is the threat to the site’s ecological integrity?” Several said they used “threat” to help them make the distinction between the *Planning and Community Support* criterion and the *Management and Stewardship* criterion.

Despite some of the challenges with using the updated criteria, advisors noted that the overall evaluation instrument was designed to give the quality of the habitat values an edge over public access or public benefit because that is the statutory intent of the Habitat Conservation Account. They appreciated the additional scoring latitude even though some suggested it might be helpful to give scoring range to individual factors within the instrument.

In summary, evaluators were pleased with the process and the resulting ranked list. One evaluator’s assessment: “This is a highly competitive category... and a lot of good projects will fall off the table, without adequate funding.”

Public Comment

There are letters of support or concern for Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant proposals 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 the board’s goal of making strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of habitat opportunities.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Urban Wildlife Habitat Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23* via Resolution #2020-29.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 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 approved list. The 2021 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital

budget. The board will approve the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-29, including Table 1 – *WWRP, Urban Wildlife Habitat Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for Urban Wildlife Habitat Category Projects
- C. Urban Wildlife Habitat Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Urban Wildlife Habitat Category Projects, Evaluation Scores 2021-23
- E. Urban Wildlife Habitat Category Project Descriptions 2021-23
- F. Urban Wildlife Habitat Category Letters of Project Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-29**

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program

Urban Wildlife Habitat Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, eleven Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects are being considered for funding from the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all eleven Urban Wildlife Habitat category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 10b, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Habitat Conservation Account*, including criteria regarding public benefit and relationship to established plans; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the projects address a variety of 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 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 Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*; 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: _____

Table 1: WWRP Urban Wildlife Habitat Category

Resolution: 2020-29

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2021-2023

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | 98.2 | 20-1241 A | Spokane County | Antoine Peak Phase 4 Etter Ranch | \$1,061,380 | \$1,071,052 | \$2,132,432 |
| 2 | 91.6 | 20-1212 A | Capitol Land Trust | Lower Henderson Inlet Habitat Conservation Phase 2 | \$630,000 | \$692,000 | \$1,322,000 |
| 3 | 85.7 | 20-1258 A | Issaquah | Harvey Manning Park Expansion | \$2,658,961 | \$7,985,603 | \$10,644,564 |
| 4 | 84.6 | 20-1742 A | Kitsap County | Illahee Preserve Kitsap County Heritage Park | \$1,000,000 | \$1,000,000 | \$2,000,000 |
| 5 | 83.9 | 20-1427 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Stavis Natural Resource Conservation Area | \$611,073 | | \$611,073 |
| 6 | 83.4 | 20-1754 A | Bainbridge Island Land Trust | Rockaway Bluff Preserve Acquisition | \$1,374,552 | \$1,382,370 | \$2,756,922 |
| 7 | 82 | 20-1424 A | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area | \$1,338,671 | | \$1,338,671 |
| 8 | 81 | 20-1283 A | Jefferson Land Trust | Quimper Wildlife Corridor Additions | \$610,400 | \$610,401 | \$1,220,801 |
| 8 | 81 | 20-1514 A | Forterra | Saint Edward State Park Arrowhead Property | \$2,000,000 | \$2,000,000 | \$4,000,000 |

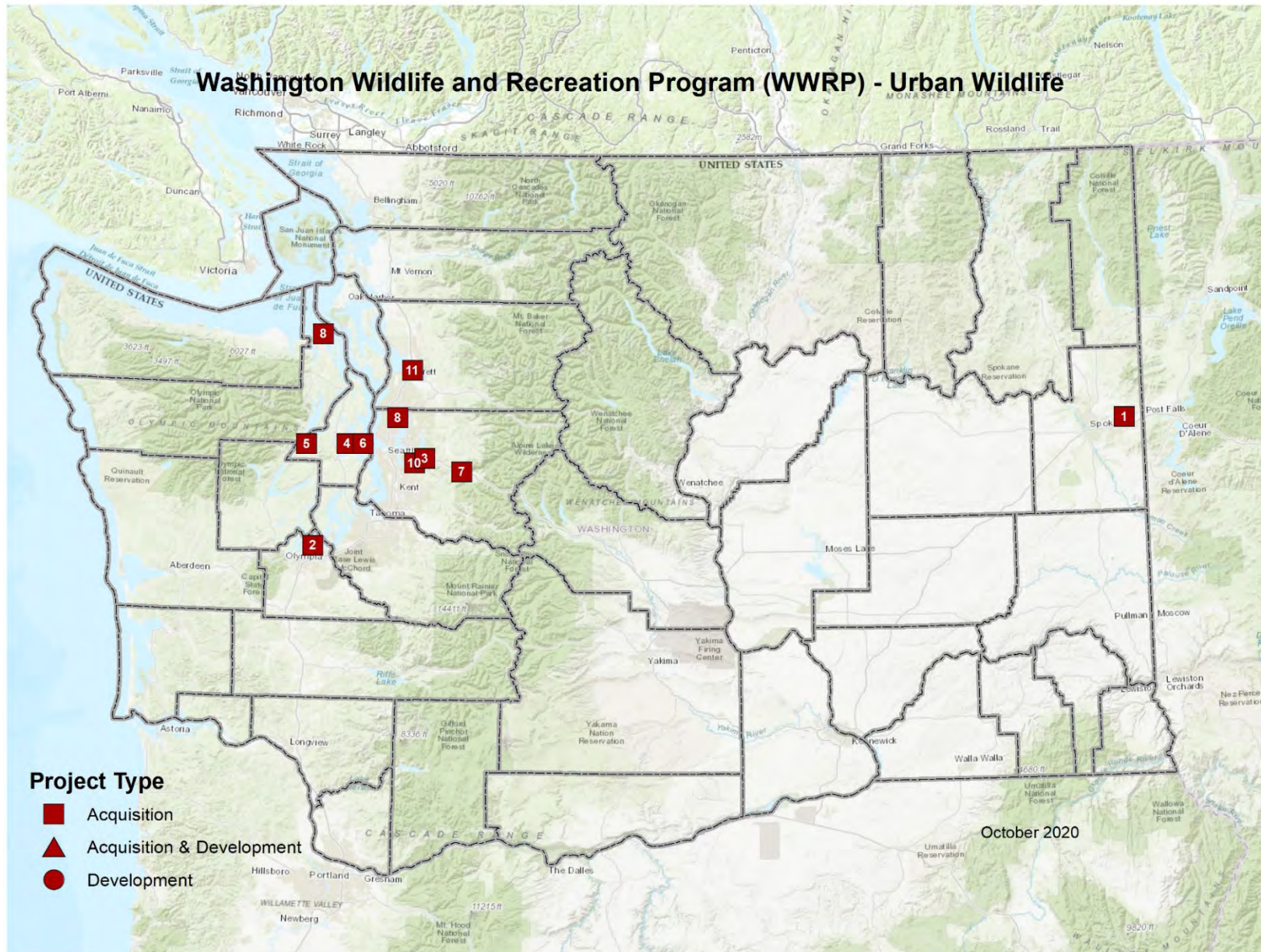
Table 1: WWRP Urban Wildlife Habitat Category

Resolution: 2020-29

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2021-2023

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 10 | 80.5 | 20-1843 A | Newcastle | DeLeo Wall Conservation | \$450,000 | \$851,205 | \$1,301,205 |
| 11 | 79.2 | 20-1637 A | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Ebey Island Wildlife Area Addition | \$950,000 | | \$950,000 |
| Project type: A=acquisition | Total | \$12,685,037 | \$15,592,631 | \$28,277,668 | | | |

State Map for Urban Wildlife Habitat Category Projects



Urban Wildlife Habitat Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

"Urban Wildlife Habitat means lands that provide habitat important to wildlife in proximity to a metropolitan area."⁴

| Urban Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Summary | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Criteria | Evaluation Elements | Possible Points |
| Scored by the Advisory Committee | | |
| Project Introduction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project goals and objectives Location maps | Not scored |
| 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project area composition Species and communities Pollinator habitat Landscape characteristics | 40 |
| 2. Planning and Community Support | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan support Public engagement Threat to the site Level of protection | 15 |
| 3. Community Benefits and Public Access | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public access, health, recreation, or cultural opportunities Education and citizen science Underserved communities Multiple benefits | 35 |
| 4. Management and Stewardship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management and stewardship plan Restoration needs Organizational capacity | 15 |
| Scored by RCO Staff | | |
| 5. Growth Management Act | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growth Management Act preference | 0 |
| 6. Population of Urban Area | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population of the nearest urban area | 5 |
| 7. Proximity to Urban Area | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proximity to the nearest urban area | 5 |
| Total Points Possible | | 115 |

⁴ RCW 79A.15.010 (15)

Urban Wildlife Habitat Detailed Scoring Criteria

Advisory Committee Scored

1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics

Describe the project area and the ecological makeup of the site(s).

RCW 79A.15.060 (5)(a) (i, v-vii, ix, xiv); (5)(b)(ii)

2. Planning and Community Support

How is this project supported by a current plan or a coordinated state or regional prioritization effort?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (IV, xi, xiii)

3. Community Benefits and Public Access

What public access, public health, recreational, educational, or cultural opportunities will this site provide?

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (ii, iv, vi, viii, x, xii)

4. Management and Stewardship

Describe the anticipated stewardship and management needs of the site, including those related to the species and ecosystems, public access, recreation, education, and cultural opportunities.

RCW 79A.15.060 (5) (a) (i, iii, xiv)

RCO Staff Scored

5. Growth Management Act Preference

RCW 43.17.250

Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?

6. Population of Urban Area

RCW 79A.25.250; RCW 79A.15.060 (5)(b)(i)

What is the population of the largest city, town, or urban cluster within 5 miles of the project?

7. Proximity of Urban Area

RCW 79A.25.250; RCW 79A.15.060 (5)(b)(i)

Where is this project located with respect to urban growth areas, cities, towns, and urban clusters?

Urban Wildlife Habitat Category Projects Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics | 2. Planning and Community Support | 3. Community Benefits and Public Access | 4. Management and Stewardship | 5. Growth Management Act | 6. Population of Urban Area | 7. Proximity to Urban Area | Total |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-40 | 0-15 | 0-35 | 0-15 | -1-0 | 0-5 | 0-5 | |
| 1 | 20-1241 A | Antoine Peak Phase 4 Etter Ranch | 32.64 | 12.82 | 31.00 | 12.73 | -1.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 98.18 |
| 2 | 20-1212 A | Lower Henderson Inlet Habitat Conservation Phase 2 | 32.18 | 12.36 | 27.09 | 11.91 | 0.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 91.55 |
| 3 | 20-1258 A | Harvey Manning Park Expansion | 24.27 | 12.27 | 26.82 | 12.36 | 0.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 85.73 |
| 4 | 20-1742 A | Illahee Preserve Kitsap County Heritage Park | 27.64 | 11.91 | 25.82 | 10.27 | 0.00 | 4.00 | 5.00 | 84.64 |
| 5 | 20-1427 A | Stavis Natural Resource Conservation Area | 30.00 | 12.00 | 22.36 | 13.55 | 0.00 | 4.00 | 2.00 | 83.91 |
| 6 | 20-1754 A | Rockaway Bluff Preserve Acquisition | 26.00 | 11.55 | 24.55 | 11.27 | 0.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 83.36 |
| 7 | 20-1424 A | Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area | 25.45 | 12.09 | 24.64 | 12.82 | 0.00 | 2.00 | 5.00 | 82.00 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Ecological and Biological Characteristics | 2. Planning and Community Support | 3. Community Benefits and Public Access | 4. Management and Stewardship | 5. Growth Management Act | 6. Population of Urban Area | 7. Proximity to Urban Area | Total |
|------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| 8 | 20-1283 A | Quimper Wildlife Corridor Additions | 25.55 | 11.73 | 26.55 | 11.18 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 81.00 |
| 8 | 20-1514 A | Saint Edward State Park Arrowhead Property | 24.55 | 11.09 | 23.27 | 12.09 | 0.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 81.00 |
| 10 | 20-1843 A | DeLeo Wall Conservation | 22.00 | 12.27 | 24.55 | 11.64 | 0.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 80.45 |
| 11 | 20-1637 A | Ebey Island Wildlife Area Addition | 26.91 | 9.45 | 22.45 | 10.36 | 0.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 79.18 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-4; RCO staff score Questions 5-7

Project type: A=acquisition

Urban Wildlife Habitat Category
Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-23

Spokane County
Expanding the Antoine Peak Conservation Area

Grant Requested: \$1,061,380

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department will use this grant to buy 231 acres to expand the Antoine Peak Conservation Area, preserving critical winter habitat for white-tailed deer, elk, moose, and other animals. The purchase also will extend the conservation area to the City of Spokane Valley's doorstep. In addition, the purchase will preserve close to 1 mile of streambank habitat. The site will provide an outdoor classroom for nearby schools and a possible location for trailhead parking and trails. Spokane County will contribute more than \$1 million in Conservation Futures,⁵ equipment, and staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1241)

Capitol Land Trust
Conserving Lower Henderson Inlet Habitat

\$630,000

The Capitol Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, for 94 acres on Henderson Inlet, the largest parcel not under conservation. The land has diverse habitats, from estuary and near-shore habitats to an agricultural field, to forests with trees up to 70 years old. It also includes 43.6 acres of wetlands, 39 acres of which are nationally decreasing wetlands, and more than a half-mile each of Meyer's Creek shoreline and Henderson Inlet shoreline. The area supports Chinook and Coho salmon and steelhead trout as well as multiple animal species listed as at risk of extinction on state and federal lists. Washington State University, which owns the land, plans to use it for field research and environmental education, with laboratories and dormitories. The Capitol Land Trust will contribute \$692,000 in federal and local grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1212)

Issaquah
Expanding Harvey Manning Park

Grant Requested: \$2,658,961

The City of Issaquah will use this grant to buy 33.53 acres to expand Harvey Manning Park, protecting forested Cougar Mountain open space from deforestation. The land contains a mature forest, 6 streams, 12 wetlands, and 31.5 acres of upland habitat. The forest contains a variety of tree species, varied understory plants, and many habitat structures, including snags and logs. The purchase will expand the park to 43.53 acres and will be managed as open space. The land is next to more than 5,000 acres of conserved land in the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, Squak Mountain State Park, and Cougar-Squak corridor. The land serves as a

⁵Conservation 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.

gateway to Cougar Mountain and connects to the regional transit station parking garage serving as a weekend trailhead. This project is widely supported by the Trust for Public Land, King County, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Save Cougar Mountain, Issaquah Alps Trails Club, Save Lake Sammamish, and Washington Trails Association. Issaquah will contribute nearly \$8 million in cash, Conservation Futures,⁶ and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1258)

Kitsap County

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

Expanding the Illahee Preserve, a Kitsap County Heritage Park

The Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy up to 46 acres bordering Bremerton to expand the 587-acre Illahee Preserve Heritage Park. The Illahee Preserve is a mature forest with deeply incised canyons and areas so pristine and wild it has been called "The Lost Continent." The preserve includes the nearly self-contained watershed of Illahee Creek, a wildlife preserve, and a system of trails for non-motorized uses. The land sought for purchase includes a homestead property with a pond and much of the South Fork Illahee Creek and a planned commercial development, that if purchased will save Steele Creek wetlands and the wildlife corridor connecting the preserve with Illahee State Park. These acquisitions will bring the Illahee Preserve, a Kitsap County heritage park, to within 95 percent of its preservation goals. Kitsap County will contribute \$1 million in Conservation Futures,⁷ a local grant, and a grant from the state Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1742)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$611,073

Buying Land in the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy about 27 acres for inclusion in the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area. The purchase will protect forests along the forks of Stavis, Seabeck, and Boyce Creeks, which are used by chum and Coho salmon on Hood Canal. The purchase also will protect rare forest communities in one of the most important corridors for biodiversity conservation in the Puget Trough. Both the conservation area and Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve, which is within the same conservation envelope, provide high-quality and rare wildlife habitat, making up a crucial part of a larger landscape of forests on the western Kitsap peninsula. The department will allow low-impact public use in the area, which provides stunning views of the Olympic Mountains and Hood Canal. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1427)

⁶Conservation 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.

⁷Conservation 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.

Bainbridge Island Land Trust
Buying the Rockaway Bluff Preserve

Grant Requested: \$1,374,552

The Bainbridge Island Land Trust will use this grant to conserve permanently the 35-acre Rockaway Bluff Preserve, an exceptional forest lying above Rockaway Beach on Bainbridge Island. The preserve forms the core of an extraordinary intact but unprotected forest. It features diverse habitats and is refuge for many species, particularly birds. The purchase would protect one of the last remaining intact and unprotected parcels more than 20 acres in size on the Island, preserving an important mature forest, a complex habitat network, watershed functions, and a wildlife corridor between Pritchard Park and Blakely Harbor Park. Left unprotected, the land is zoned for up to 17 homes. The land trust plans to allow low-impact public use. The Bainbridge Island Land Trust will contribute more than \$1.3 million in cash, Conservation Futures,⁸ staff labor, and donations of cash, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1754)

Washington Department of Natural Resources
Buying Land in the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area

Grant Requested: \$1,338,671

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 167.4 acres of privately owned land for inclusion in the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area in east King County. The land is highly threatened by residential development and provides crucial wildlife habitat in an urban area. The land is a part of the Mountains to Sound Greenway, a 100-mile corridor of forests, wildlife habitat, and open spaces along Interstate 90, which is a National Scenic Byway and National Heritage Area. Distinctive features of this site include mature Douglas fir forests, pockets of old-growth forests, snag-rich wildlife habitats, numerous streamside 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 region. The area is used by a variety of wildlife including northern spotted owls, pileated woodpecker, peregrine falcon, black bear, Roosevelt elk, bobcat, cougar, fox, coyote, osprey, black-tail deer, and a variety of other mammals, birds, insects, and amphibians. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1424)

Jefferson Land Trust
Conserving Missing Links in the Quimper Wildlife Corridor

Grant Requested: \$610,400

The Jefferson Land Trust will use this grant to buy 41.1 acres in the Quimper Wildlife Corridor in Port Townsend. Since the mid-1990s, Port Townsend, Jefferson County, the land trust, and the community have worked to conserve a 3.5-mile greenbelt of forest and wetlands stretching across the north Quimper peninsula along the city's largest drainage basin. To date, the partners have permanently preserved more than 245 acres. Recent outreach to remaining

⁸Conservation 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.

landowners resulted in interest from more than 40 people who wish to sell some of the missing links in the corridor's public ownership. The corridor is home to more than 130 bird species, including pileated woodpecker and bald and golden eagles, as well as to amphibians, mountain beaver, bobcat, cougar, deer, and elk. The corridor also has a beloved and extensive network of trails used for hiking, horse riding, biking, connecting neighborhoods, bird watching, school nature programs, and educational activities. The grant also will be used to support an update of the shared management plan and an inventory of rare, old-growth trees. The Jefferson Land Trust will contribute \$610,401 in Conservation Futures,⁹ local and private grants, and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1283)

Forterra **Grant Requested: \$2,000,000**
Conserving Lake Washington Shoreline Next to Saint Edward State Park

Forterra, in partnership with the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, will use this grant to buy nearly 13 acres, conserving one of the last undeveloped yet unprotected parcels of wildlife habitat on Lake Washington. This land is next to Saint Edward State Park and includes 288 feet of lake shoreline and more than one-third mile of streams in the Cedar River-Lake Washington watershed. The purchase will protect permanently a forest of Douglas fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, and madrone trees used as a wildlife corridor by coyote, bobcat, long-tailed weasel, river otter, mountain beaver, pileated woodpeckers, and many other smaller mammals, amphibians, and birds. State Parks will buy the land and Forterra will buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement. Forterra will contribute \$2 million in Conservation Futures.¹⁰ Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1514)

Newcastle **Grant Requested: \$450,000**
Conserving Part of the DeLeo Wall

The City of Newcastle will use this grant to buy more than 35 acres of undeveloped, high-quality forest next to the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, preventing the land from being clear-cut. Preventing logging will preserve the forest wildlife habitat and protect essential habitat for Chinook and Coho salmon. This land is significant because it contains a large portion of the DeLeo Wall, a distinctive geological feature that contributes to this unique habitat. At the top of the wall is a viewpoint overlooking May Valley and Mount Rainier, which is accessible by well-used trails. Newcastle will contribute \$851,205 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1843)

⁹Conservation 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.

¹⁰Conservation 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.

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Conserving Land on Ebey Island****Grant Requested: \$950,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 63 acres from willing landowners on Ebey Island, near Everett. The land is next to the department's more than 1,200-acre Snoqualmie Wildlife Area. The land includes 25 acres of wetland, 20 acres of forested wetland, and 5 acres of a residential property that will become a parking lot. The parking lot will connect to a county road, which will provide new access to more than 300 acres of department land that currently is accessible only by boat. The land is used by amphibians, shorebirds, raptors, and waterfowl. The land will be used for bird hunting, wildlife viewing and photography, and hiking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1637)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Urban Wildlife Habitat Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • 20-1258A Harvey Manning Park Expansion (1) | Rank 3 |
| • 20-1742A Illahee Preserve Kitsap County Heritage Park (6) | Rank 4 |
| • 20-1427A Stavis Natural Resource Conservation Area (13) | Rank 5 |
| • 20-1424A Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area (8) | Rank 7 |
| • 20-1283A Quimper Wildlife Corridor Additions (2) | Rank 8 |
| • 20-1514A Saint Edward State Park Arrowhead Property (2) | Rank 10 |

[View Letters Here](#)

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**Meeting Date:** November 5, 2020**Title:** Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program,
Outdoor Recreation Account: Local Parks Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23**Prepared By:** Brian Carpenter, Outdoor Grants Manager**Summary**

Eighty project proposals in the Local Parks category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the category, review and evaluation process, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution: 2020-30**Purpose of Resolution:** Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.**Background**

The Local Parks category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) provides grant funding to create or improve parks. Eligible project types include acquisition and development of new facilities, and renovation of existing facilities. Parks may include active or passive outdoor recreation facilities such as playgrounds, open space, picnic sites, skateparks and bike tracks, athletic fields, hard courts, and outdoor swimming pools; and support amenities such as restrooms, parking areas, and signs.

The Local Parks category receives thirty percent of the WWRP funds in the Outdoor Recreation Account. Forty percent of the funds allocated in this category must be used

for acquisition costs.¹ Meeting this statutory requirement may require skipping higher-ranked development projects in favor of acquisition projects.

Program Summary

There were several changes to the Local Parks category for this year. The most significant change involved implementing the board's Pandemic Response Match Relief policy (Resolution 2020-09) for the 2020 round. This policy made all applicants, for select grant programs, eligible for match reduction from 50 to 25 percent under the federal disaster pathway. Applicants eligible for a reduction below 25 percent remained eligible for that lower amount. Also, the board removed the requirement for a ten percent minimum match from non-governmental funds.

Also, there were changes to three criteria. The *Sustainability* criterion was streamlined and only applies to development and combination projects. The board increased the maximum points for the *Site Suitability* criterion for acquisition only projects to ensure equity with development and combination projects. Staff split the *Population Proximity* criterion into two questions to accommodate automatic electronic scoring. A summary of this WWRP category is shown in the table below.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Local agencies² (cities/towns, counties, park, port, and school districts, federally recognized Native American tribes, and special purpose districts) |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">AcquisitionDevelopment or renovation of existing facilitiesCombination projects involving both acquisition and development or renovation |
| Funding Limits | <ul style="list-style-type: none">\$500,000 for development or renovation projects\$1 million for acquisition and combination projects (maximum of \$500,000 for development) |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none">50 percentException: match may be reduced for communities in need, underserved populations, counties in need, or communities providing facilities in federal disaster areas. <p><u>Note:</u> Because the entire state was deemed a federal disaster area, due to COVID-19, the match was set at 25 percent for applicants choosing the federal disaster area pathway. See Match Reduction below.</p> |
| Public Access | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Required |

¹ Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.050(2)(b) and Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Resolution 2016-52

² Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.010(7) and Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Resolution 2016-52

**Other
Program
Characteristics**

- Applicants must establish planning eligibility.
 - Property acquired, developed, or renovated must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity.
 - Administrative offices, storage buildings, shops, and residences are eligible if they are essential to the operation and maintenance of the assisted site.
-

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Eighty Local Parks category projects, requesting \$38.5 million, were evaluated by members of the WWRP Local Parks Advisory Committee between September 21 and 25, 2020. Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, include 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. The following members participated this year:

| Evaluator | Representing |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Glen Kost, Bellevue | Citizen |
| Chaz Bates, City of Spokane Valley | Local Agency |
| John Bottelli, Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department | Local Agency |
| Doug Coutts, South Whidbey Park and Recreation District | Local Agency |
| Bryan Higgins, City of Kent | Local Agency |
| Jill Meis, City of Lake Stevens | Local Agency |
| Roxanne Miles, Pierce County Parks and Recreation | Local Agency |
| Sylvana Niehuser, City of Olympia | Local Agency |
| Dustin Madden, State Parks and Recreation Commission | State Agency |

Nine advisory committee members reviewed the proposals using video conferencing software to conduct the meetings virtually, and RCO's PRISM system for scoring the projects according to criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board). The presentations were streamed live to a free internet site to support public transparency. The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – WWRP, Local Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

At the end of the evaluation meeting on September 25 and during the post-evaluation meeting on October 1, 2020, staff met with the WWRP Local Parks Advisory Committee

to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results.

The advisory committee felt the process was organized, well-run, and fair. While the advisors spent a total of 10 days participating in virtual technical review and evaluation meetings for Local Parks category projects, they still felt the live presentation process was the most efficient way to score and rank projects, compared to other programs using pre-recorded presentations watched during individual, unscheduled times. RCO's virtual meeting systems were new and untested as technical review began but became better polished over the months leading up to the final evaluations. Opinions were mixed on whether to return to in-person meetings after the pandemic; the advisors appreciated the convenience of meeting virtually but missed the camaraderie of all working in the same room. They were satisfied with the materials provided and the responsiveness of many applicants to their suggested improvements following the technical review.

Advisors did take time to discuss the challenges associated with scoring some of the criteria. The *Need* criterion has so much packed into one question that it can be overwhelming. During technical review advisors asked applicants to use bar graphs to help address the factor associated with the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. The graphs helped advisors understand the demographics of the service area, but applicants did struggle to address how their project would help meet the needs of these populations when responding to the *Project Scope* criterion.

Like most evaluation teams, this team talked about the challenge of scoring *Immediacy of Threat*. They felt the discussion during the pre-evaluation session, helped them focus on the intent of the question and how to assess projects where the applicant had purchased the property in advance, using an RCO approved waiver of retroactivity.³

Advisors also discussed how the *Renovation and Expansion* criterion seems to prioritize development projects over acquisitions, how applicants need to do more outreach to let the community and underserved populations know about their proposed projects when addressing the *Project Support* criterion, and that it is difficult to give points under the *Project Design* criterion for some of the smaller communities when they have not provided a detailed site plan. There were a few challenges with the new *Sustainability* criterion, however, advisors hope it will be easier to use as they become more comfortable with looking at it from an economic, social and environmental perspective.

As expected, there were a few slight surprises with some of the rankings, however, the evaluators were confident in the resulting ranked list.

³ An applicant may get advance approval from RCO to purchase property and preserve eligibility of the acquisition costs incurred before an agreement is issued. There are no guarantees that the applicant will receive a grant.

Match Reduction

During this grant cycle, according to the board Pandemic Response Match Relief policy, all 80 project proposals qualified for reduced match. Applicants for 38 proposals used the match reduction policy for a total reduction of \$4.4 million in match. Applicants who provided excess match did not benefit from the match reduction policy.

| Local Parks Category Project Types | Number of Grant Proposals | Applications Qualified for Reduced Match | Applications Using Federal Reduced Match | Applications Using Other Reduced Match | Total Match Reduction |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Acquisition | 13 | 13 | 6 | 0 | \$759,163 |
| Combination | 8 | 8 | 4 | 1 | \$794,990 |
| Development | 59 | 59 | 22 | 5 | \$2,926,668 |
| Total | 80 | 80 | 32 | 6 | \$4,480,821 |

Public Comment

There are several letters of support or concern for Local Parks category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation. The criteria for selecting projects support the board's goal of making strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of recreation opportunities. Also, projects considered for funding in the Local Parks category support board priorities in *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022*.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Local Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023*, via Resolution #2020-30.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-2023 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 approved list. The 2021 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will approve the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-30, including *Table 1 – WWRP, Local Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023*
- B. State Map for Local Parks Category Projects
- C. Local Parks Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Local Parks Category Projects, Evaluation Scores, 2021-2023
- E. Local Parks Category Project Descriptions 2021-2023
- F. Local Parks Category Letters of Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-30
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
Local Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, eighty Local Parks category projects are being considered for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all eighty Local Parks category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in *Manual 10a, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account*; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the projects involve acquisition, development, and/or renovation of properties for recreation, thereby supporting board priorities in the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022 and the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Local Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23* 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: _____

Table 1–WWRP–Local Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023

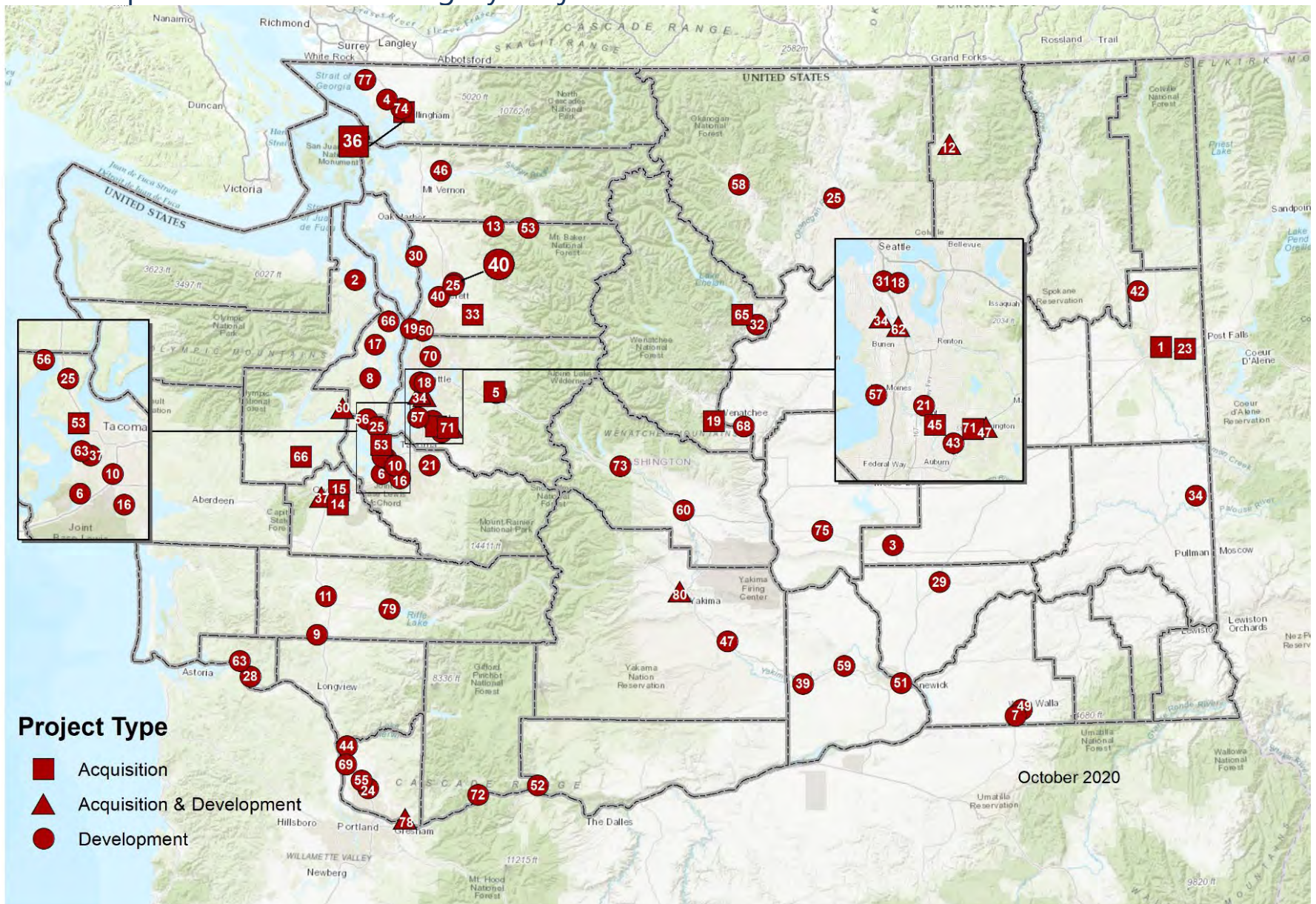
Resolution 2020-30

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|------|-------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | 64.56 | 20-1275 A | Spokane County | Make Beacon Hill Public | \$1,000,000 | \$2,311,963 | \$3,311,963 |
| 2 | 64.44 | 20-1210 D | Jefferson County | Jefferson County Universal Movement Playground | \$500,000 | \$286,615 | \$786,615 |
| 3 | 63.5 | 20-1362 D | Othello | Lions Park Pride Rock Playground | \$500,000 | \$509,000 | \$1,009,000 |
| 4 | 62.83 | 20-1802 D | Ferndale | Metalworks Skate Park | \$480,000 | \$81,850 | \$561,850 |
| 5 | 62.67 | 20-1739 D | Snoqualmie | Centennial Fields All-inclusive Playground | \$475,000 | \$495,400 | \$970,400 |
| 6 | 62.56 | 20-1349 D | Lakewood | American Lake Park Waterfront Access Upgrades | \$500,000 | \$884,920 | \$1,384,920 |
| 7 | 61.94 | 20-1743 D | College Place | Lions Park Splash Pad and Inclusive Playground | \$500,000 | \$900,286 | \$1,400,286 |
| 8 | 61.33 | 20-1289 D | Bremerton | Haddon Neighborhood Park Renovation | \$500,000 | \$449,625 | \$949,625 |
| 9 | 61.22 | 20-1307 D | Vader | Werden Park | \$283,143 | \$94,381 | \$377,524 |
| 10 | 61 | 20-1761 D | Lakewood | Wards Lake Park Enhancements Phase 1 | \$500,000 | \$1,460,430 | \$1,960,430 |
| 11 | 60.78 | 20-1311 D | Napavine | Mayme Shaddock Park | \$258,900 | \$86,503 | \$345,403 |
| 12 | 60.44 | 20-1632 C | Republic | Republic Skatepark | \$359,600 | \$44,000 | \$403,600 |
| 13 | 60.28 | 20-1686 D | Snohomish County | State Route 530 (Oso) Slide Memorial Park | \$500,000 | \$2,110,000 | \$2,610,000 |
| 14 | 60.22 | 20-1534 A | Olympia | Yelm Highway Community Park Acquisition | \$1,000,000 | \$6,035,057 | \$7,035,057 |
| 15 | 59.67 | 20-1542 A | Olympia | Lilly Road Parcel Acquisition | \$333,533 | \$111,180 | \$444,713 |
| 16 | 59.5 | 20-1279 D | Pierce County | Sprinker Recreation Center Outdoor Improvements | \$500,000 | \$13,609,000 | \$14,109,000 |
| 17 | 59.22 | 20-1430 D | Poulsbo | Play for All at Raab Park | \$500,000 | \$249,824 | \$749,824 |
| 18 | 58 | 20-1297 D | Seattle | North Rainier Land Banked Park | \$500,000 | \$2,618,428 | \$3,118,428 |
| 19 | 57.89 | 20-1296 D | Edmonds | Marina Beach Park Redevelopment | \$500,000 | \$4,502,003 | \$5,002,003 |
| 19 | 57.89 | 20-1446 A | Wenatchee | Wenatchee Foothills Regional Recreation Area | \$491,750 | \$491,750 | \$983,500 |
| 21 | 57.44 | 20-1254 D | Kent | Kent Memorial Park Renovation | \$500,000 | \$4,740,000 | \$5,240,000 |
| 21 | 57.44 | 20-1645 D | Puyallup | Van Lierop Park Playground | \$500,000 | \$299,857 | \$799,857 |
| 23 | 57.22 | 20-1308 A | Spokane Valley | Flora Road River Trail Property | \$1,000,000 | \$977,764 | \$1,977,764 |
| 24 | 57.11 | 20-1243 D | Clark County | Curtin Creek Community Park Phase 1 Development | \$500,000 | \$6,905,000 | \$7,405,000 |
| 25 | 56.89 | 20-1488 D | Gig Harbor | Gig Harbor Sports Complex Pickle Bo Spot | \$500,000 | \$2,664,100 | \$3,164,100 |
| 25 | 56.89 | 20-1772 D | Omak | Omak Eastside Park Skatepark Upgrade | \$401,070 | \$17,395 | \$418,465 |
| 25 | 56.89 | 20-1851 D | Lake Stevens | Frontier Heights Phase 2 | \$309,352 | \$103,118 | \$412,470 |

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|------|-------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 28 | 56.78 | 20-1253 D | Cathlamet | Cathlamet Waterfront Park | \$500,000 | \$166,000 | \$666,000 |
| 29 | 56.5 | 20-1910 D | Connell | Connell Pool Renovation and Americans with Disabilities Act Code Upgrades | \$500,000 | \$167,000 | \$667,000 |
| 30 | 56.28 | 20-1684 D | Snohomish County | Kayak Point Waterfront Shelter Restoration | \$195,000 | \$73,689 | \$268,689 |
| 31 | 56.22 | 20-1667 D | Seattle | Maple Wood Playfield Renovation | \$500,000 | \$2,801,615 | \$3,301,615 |
| 32 | 56.11 | 20-1698 D | Chelan | Lakeside Park Renovation | \$500,000 | \$687,596 | \$1,187,596 |
| 33 | 55.67 | 20-1288 A | Monroe | Monroe North Hill Park Site | \$1,000,000 | \$334,809 | \$1,334,809 |
| 34 | 55.56 | 20-1432 D | Garfield Park and Recreation District | Garfield Pool | \$500,000 | \$500,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| 34 | 55.56 | 20-1532 C | King County | Glendale Forest Acquisition and Development | \$407,500 | \$433,564 | \$841,064 |
| 36 | 55.28 | 20-1646 A | Bellingham | Bakerview Neighborhood Park Acquisition | \$1,000,000 | \$602,604 | \$1,602,604 |
| 37 | 55.22 | 20-1519 D | University Place | Cirque Park Renovation | \$363,629 | \$363,629 | \$727,257 |
| 37 | 55.22 | 20-1535 C | Olympia | Kaiser Woods Acquisition and Development | \$704,122 | \$234,708 | \$938,830 |
| 39 | 55.17 | 20-1246 D | Prosser | City Park Playground and Basketball Improvements | \$431,000 | \$143,737 | \$574,737 |
| 40 | 54.56 | 20-1348 D | Lake Stevens | Eagle Ridge Park | \$428,210 | \$566,990 | \$995,200 |
| 40 | 54.56 | 20-1891 D | Everett | Emma Yule Park | \$500,000 | \$1,517,044 | \$2,017,044 |
| 42 | 54.39 | 20-1477 D | Deer Park | Swinyard Park Splash Pad and Exercise Pathway | \$500,000 | \$215,000 | \$715,000 |
| 43 | 54.33 | 20-1518 D | Auburn | Jacobsen Tree Farm Park Development | \$500,000 | \$2,916,550 | \$3,416,550 |
| 44 | 54.11 | 20-1831 D | Woodland | Horseshoe Lake Park Americans with Disabilities Act Revitalization | \$500,000 | \$329,616 | \$829,616 |
| 45 | 54 | 20-1491 A | Kent | Upper Mill Creek Mendel Property Acquisition | \$463,500 | \$535,500 | \$999,000 |
| 46 | 53.94 | 20-1255 D | Sedro Woolley | Olmsted Park Development | \$500,000 | \$807,000 | \$1,307,000 |
| 47 | 53.89 | 20-1484 D | Zillah | Zillah Splash Park | \$204,170 | \$306,170 | \$510,340 |
| 47 | 53.89 | 20-1857 C | Covington | Jenkins Creek Park Expansion | \$1,000,000 | \$2,550,860 | \$3,550,860 |
| 49 | 53.83 | 20-1825 D | Walla Walla | Heritage Square Redevelopment | \$500,000 | \$1,973,181 | \$2,473,181 |
| 50 | 53.78 | 20-1682 D | Mountlake Terrace | Evergreen Playfield Complex Restroom Replacement | \$333,000 | \$112,000 | \$445,000 |
| 51 | 53.5 | 20-1869 D | Kennewick | Kennewick Public Pool Rehabilitation Phase 2 | \$500,000 | \$70,000 | \$570,000 |
| 52 | 53.44 | 20-1321 D | White Salmon Valley Park District | White Salmon Valley Pool | \$500,000 | \$1,895,636 | \$2,395,636 |
| 53 | 53.17 | 20-1641 D | Snohomish County | Whitehorse Campground Phase 2 | \$500,000 | \$502,345 | \$1,002,345 |

| | | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 53 | 53.17 | 20-1782 A | Peninsula Metropolitan Park District | Narrows Park West Acquisition | \$1,000,000 | \$2,140,000 | \$3,140,000 | |
| 55 | 52.89 | 20-1651 D | Clark County | Kozy Kamp Neighborhood Park Development | \$328,750 | \$1,300,000 | \$1,628,750 | |
| 56 | 52.83 | 20-1649 D | Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District | Gateway Park Phase 4 Synthetic Turf Field | \$500,000 | \$4,278,000 | \$4,778,000 | |
| 57 | 52.33 | 20-1551 D | Des Moines | Van Gasken Sound View Park Site Development | \$500,000 | \$410,017 | \$910,017 | |
| 58 | 52.11 | 20-1804 D | Winthrop | Meadowlark Natural Area Development | \$318,000 | \$106,000 | \$424,000 | |
| 59 | 52 | 20-1415 D | Benton City | Benton City Splash Pad | \$500,000 | \$233,243 | \$733,243 | |
| 60 | 51.94 | 20-1840 C | Port of Allyn | Sweetwater Creek Waterwheel Park | \$486,436 | \$288,813 | \$775,249 | |
| 60 | 51.94 | 20-1878 D | Ellensburg | Ellensburg Central Park | \$500,000 | \$1,007,409 | \$1,507,409 | |
| 62 | 51.78 | 20-1319 C | Tukwila | Duwamish Neighborhood and Green River Trail Park | \$500,000 | \$580,000 | \$1,080,000 | |
| 63 | 51.67 | 20-1539 D | University Place | Curran Apple Orchard Park Playground | \$116,469 | \$116,470 | \$232,939 | |
| 63 | 51.67 | 20-1812 D | Port of Wahkiakum County District 2 | Vista Park Nature Trail Foot Bridge | \$85,500 | \$9,500 | \$95,000 | |
| 65 | 51.33 | 20-1472 A | Manson Park and Recreation District | Leffler Field Acquisition | \$585,200 | \$750,000 | \$1,335,200 | |
| 66 | 51.28 | 20-1705 A | Shelton | Kneeland Park Expansion | \$77,300 | \$40,000 | \$117,300 | |
| 66 | 51.28 | 20-1885 D | Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe | Warrior Ridge Sports Park Field Northeast Little Boston | \$500,000 | \$3,481,700 | \$3,981,700 | |
| 68 | 50.11 | 20-1409 D | Rock Island | Schooler Park Enhancements | \$75,000 | \$25,000 | \$100,000 | |
| 69 | 48.89 | 20-1875 D | Ridgefield | Ridgefield Skate Park | \$490,000 | \$214,450 | \$704,450 | |
| 70 | 48.33 | 20-1598 D | Seattle | Magnuson Play Area Renovation | \$500,000 | \$772,000 | \$1,272,000 | |
| 71 | 47.56 | 20-1824 A | Covington | Welcome Park | \$260,775 | \$86,925 | \$347,700 | |
| 72 | 46.78 | 20-1879 D | Skamania County | Downtown Stevenson Park Plaza Development | \$500,000 | \$611,700 | \$1,111,700 | |
| 73 | 45.11 | 20-1549 D | Cle Elum | Washington State Horse Park Covered Arena | \$500,000 | \$375,000 | \$875,000 | |
| 74 | 44.61 | 20-1786 D | Bellingham | Cordata Community Park Phase Two | \$500,000 | \$2,183,328 | \$2,683,328 | |
| 75 | 44.56 | 20-1842 D | Royal City | Park Expansion Royal City | \$500,000 | \$250,000 | \$750,000 | |
| 76 | 43.89 | 20-1752 A | Snoqualmie | Riverview Park Acquisition | \$300,000 | \$315,000 | \$615,000 | |
| 77 | 42.11 | 20-1668 D | Whatcom County | Birch Bay Beach Park Development | \$305,868 | \$101,957 | \$407,825 | |
| 78 | 42.06 | 20-1359 C | Washougal | Washougal Main Street Park | \$418,873 | \$199,830 | \$618,703 | |
| 79 | 40 | 20-1277 D | Mossyrock | Veteran's Memorial Park | \$66,240 | \$7,360 | \$73,600 | |
| 80 | 37.94 | 20-1728 C | Yakima County Flood Control District | Naches Cowiche Confluence Park | \$682,150 | \$293,850 | \$976,000 | |
| Project type: A=acquisition, D=development, C=Combination | | | | | Total | \$38,519,040 | \$94,023,844 | \$132,542,883 |

State Map for Local Parks Category Projects



Sate 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 Summary | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Scored by | # | Title | Project Type Questions | Maximum Points | Focus* |
| Advisory Committee | 1 | Public Need | All | 15 | State, Local |
| Advisory Committee | 2 | Project Scope | All | 15 | Local |
| Advisory Committee | 3 | Immediacy of Threat | Acquisition | 10 | Local |
| | | | Combination | 5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 4 | Project Design | Development | 15 | Technical |
| | | | Combination | 7.5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 5 | Sustainability | Development | 5 | State |
| | | | Combination | 5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 6 | Site Suitability | Acquisition | 10 | Technical |
| | | | Combination | 2.5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 7 | Expansion/Renovation | All | 5 | Local |
| Advisory Committee | 8 | Project Support | All | 10 | State, Local |
| Advisory Committee | 9 | Cost Efficiencies | All | 5 | State, Local |
| RCO Staff | 10 | Growth Management Act Preference | All | 0 | State |
| RCO Staff | 11 | Proximity to People | All | 1.5 | State |

| Local Parks Criteria Summary | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|---------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| RCO Staff | 12 | County Population Density | All | 1.5 | State |
| Total Points Possible=73 | | | | | |

*Focus–Criteria orientation in accordance with the following priorities:

- State–Those that meet general statewide needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan [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

Advisory Committee 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 and how will this project address the priorities for underserved populations and health in the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022*?
2. **Project Scope.** Does the project scope meet deficient recreational opportunities within the service area as identified in Question 1, Public Need?
3. **Immediacy of Threat.** Is there a threat to the public availability of the resources the site possesses?
4. **Project Design.** Does the project demonstrate good design criteria? Does it make the best use of the site? (*Development/Combination only*)
5. **Sustainability.** Please discuss how your project's location or design supports your organization's sustainability plan or how you considered the ecological, economic, and social benefits and impacts in the project plan.
6. **Site Suitability.** Is the site to be acquired well suited for the intended recreational uses? (*Acquisition/Combination only*)
7. **Expansion or Renovation.** Will the acquisition or development project expand or renovate an existing recreation area or facility?
8. **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.
9. **Cost Efficiencies.** To what extent does this project demonstrates efficiencies or a reduction in government costs through documented use of donations or other resources?

RCO Staff Scored Criteria

10. **Growth Management Act Preference.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)?
11. **Proximity to People.** Is the project in the urban growth boundary of a city or town with a population of 5,000 or more?
12. **County Population Density.** Is the project in a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile?

Local Parks Category Projects, Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Project Scope | 3. Immediacy of Threat | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Site Suitability | 7. Expansion/Renovation | 8. Project Support | 9. Cost Efficiencies | 10. Growth Management Act Preference | 11. Proximity to people | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-15 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-5 | -1-0 | 0-1 | 0-1 | |
| 1 | 20-1275 A | Make Beacon Hill Public | 13.67 | 13.33 | 8.44 | | | 9.78 | 4.11 | 8.89 | 4.33 | -1.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 64.56 |
| 2 | 20-1210 D | Jefferson County Universal Movement Playground | 13.00 | 14.00 | | 14.33 | 4.44 | | 4.67 | 9.11 | 4.89 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 64.44 |
| 3 | 20-1362 D | Lions Park Pride Rock Playground | 14.00 | 13.33 | | 13.33 | 4.44 | | 4.56 | 8.67 | 3.67 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 63.50 |
| 4 | 20-1802 D | Metalworks Skate Park | 13.33 | 13.00 | | 14.00 | 3.67 | | 4.22 | 9.33 | 3.78 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 62.83 |
| 5 | 20-1739 D | Centennial Fields All-inclusive Playground | 11.33 | 14.00 | | 13.00 | 3.89 | | 4.44 | 8.67 | 4.33 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 62.67 |
| 6 | 20-1349 D | American Lake Park Waterfront Access Upgrades | 13.33 | 13.67 | | 13.00 | 3.44 | | 4.56 | 8.89 | 2.67 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 62.56 |
| 7 | 20-1743 D | Lions Park Splash Pad and Inclusive Playground | 12.67 | 13.33 | | 13.67 | 3.67 | | 4.56 | 8.89 | 3.67 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 61.94 |
| 8 | 20-1289 D | Haddon Neighborhood Park Renovation | 14.00 | 13.00 | | 12.00 | 3.78 | | 4.22 | 8.00 | 3.33 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 61.33 |
| 9 | 20-1307 D | Werden Park | 13.67 | 13.00 | | 13.67 | 4.00 | | 4.44 | 8.89 | 3.56 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 61.22 |
| 10 | 20-1761 D | Wards Lake Park Enhancements Phase 1 | 13.33 | 12.33 | | 13.00 | 3.89 | | 4.67 | 8.22 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 61.00 |
| 11 | 20-1311 D | Mayme Shaddock Park | 13.33 | 13.67 | | 12.67 | 4.00 | | 4.22 | 8.44 | 4.44 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 60.78 |
| 12 | 20-1632 C | Republic Skatepark | 13.33 | 13.67 | 3.78 | 6.67 | 3.89 | 2.11 | 3.00 | 9.56 | 4.44 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 60.44 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Project Scope | 3. Immediacy of Threat | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Site Suitability | 7. Expansion/Renovation | 8. Project Support | 9. Cost Efficiencies | 10. Growth Management Act Preference | 11. Proximity to people | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 13 | 20-1686 D | State Route 530 (Oso) Slide Memorial Park | 11.67 | 12.67 | | 13.33 | 4.11 | | 3.44 | 9.33 | 4.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 60.28 |
| 14 | 20-1534 A | Yelm Highway Community Park Acquisition | 11.33 | 12.33 | 8.22 | | | 9.11 | 3.56 | 9.33 | 3.33 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 60.22 |
| 15 | 20-1542 A | Lilly Road Parcel Acquisition | 14.00 | 13.00 | 8.00 | | | 9.11 | 2.00 | 8.00 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 59.67 |
| 16 | 20-1279 D | Sprinker Recreation Center Outdoor Improvements | 13.33 | 12.00 | | 13.33 | 4.00 | | 4.67 | 7.78 | 2.89 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 59.50 |
| 17 | 20-1430 D | Play for All at Raab Park | 10.67 | 12.33 | | 12.67 | 3.22 | | 4.33 | 8.44 | 4.56 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 59.22 |
| 18 | 20-1297 D | North Rainier Land Banked Park | 13.00 | 12.33 | | 12.00 | 4.11 | | 2.11 | 8.00 | 3.44 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 58.00 |
| 19 | 20-1296 D | Marina Beach Park Redevelopment | 9.33 | 12.00 | | 13.67 | 4.56 | | 4.44 | 8.44 | 2.44 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 57.89 |
| 19 | 20-1446 A | Wenatchee Foothills Regional Recreation Area | 13.00 | 12.67 | 6.44 | | | 9.11 | 3.67 | 9.11 | 3.89 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 57.89 |
| 21 | 20-1254 D | Kent Memorial Park Renovation | 13.00 | 12.00 | | 11.33 | 4.11 | | 4.56 | 7.33 | 2.11 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 57.44 |
| 21 | 20-1645 D | Van Lierop Park Playground | 11.33 | 11.67 | | 12.00 | 3.89 | | 4.00 | 8.67 | 2.89 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 57.44 |
| 23 | 20-1308 A | Flora Road River Trail Property | 11.67 | 12.67 | 6.67 | | | 9.33 | 3.11 | 8.22 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 57.22 |
| 24 | 20-1243 D | Curtin Creek Community Park Phase 1 Development | 11.67 | 12.00 | | 13.00 | 3.78 | | 2.00 | 8.89 | 2.78 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 57.11 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Project Scope | 3. Immediacy of Threat | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Site Suitability | 7. Expansion/Renovation | 8. Project Support | 9. Cost Efficiencies | 10. Growth Management Act Preference | 11. Proximity to people | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 25 | 20-1851 D | Frontier Heights Phase 2 | 12.33 | 11.67 | | 11.67 | 3.67 | | 4.22 | 7.78 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 56.89 |
| 25 | 20-1772 D | Omak Eastside Park Skatepark Upgrade | 13.33 | 12.67 | | 12.67 | 3.33 | | 4.11 | 8.00 | 2.78 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 56.89 |
| 25 | 20-1488 D | Gig Harbor Sports Complex Pickle Bo Spot | 10.00 | 12.00 | | 12.67 | 3.89 | | 2.89 | 8.44 | 4.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 56.89 |
| 28 | 20-1253 D | Cathlamet Waterfront Park | 12.67 | 11.67 | | 12.33 | 4.22 | | 4.11 | 8.22 | 3.56 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 56.78 |
| 29 | 20-1910 D | Connell Pool Renovation and Americans with Disabilities Act Code Upgrades | 12.67 | 11.00 | | 11.00 | 3.89 | | 4.56 | 8.67 | 3.22 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 56.50 |
| 30 | 20-1684 D | Kayak Point Waterfront Shelter Restoration | 12.67 | 11.67 | | 12.67 | 4.22 | | 4.00 | 7.33 | 2.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 56.28 |
| 31 | 20-1667 D | Maple Wood Playfield Renovation | 12.33 | 12.67 | | 12.33 | 3.67 | | 4.33 | 6.00 | 1.89 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 56.22 |
| 32 | 20-1698 D | Lakeside Park Renovation | 12.00 | 13.33 | | 12.67 | 4.33 | | 4.33 | 6.89 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 56.11 |
| 33 | 20-1288 A | Monroe North Hill Park Site | 11.00 | 12.33 | 8.44 | | | 9.11 | 1.89 | 8.00 | 1.89 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 55.67 |
| 34 | 20-1432 D | Garfield Pool | 12.00 | 12.67 | | 11.33 | 3.89 | | 4.00 | 8.44 | 3.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 55.56 |
| 34 | 20-1532 C | Glendale Forest Acquisition and Development | 13.00 | 11.33 | 3.78 | 6.00 | 4.33 | 2.11 | 1.22 | 8.67 | 3.11 | -1.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 55.56 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Project Scope | 3. Immediacy of Threat | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Site Suitability | 7. Expansion/Renovation | 8. Project Support | 9. Cost Efficiencies | 10. Growth Management Act Preference | 11. Proximity to people | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 36 | 20-1646 A | Bakerview Neighborhood Park Acquisition | 13.33 | 12.67 | 8.00 | | | 8.44 | 2.22 | 6.89 | 2.22 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 55.28 |
| 37 | 20-1519 D | Cirque Park Renovation | 11.33 | 11.67 | | 12.00 | 2.67 | | 4.67 | 8.00 | 1.89 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 55.22 |
| 37 | 20-1535 C | Kaiser Woods Acquisition and Development | 11.33 | 11.67 | 2.33 | 6.00 | 3.78 | 2.11 | 3.89 | 8.00 | 3.11 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 55.22 |
| 39 | 20-1246 D | City Park Playground and Basketball Improvements | 11.67 | 12.33 | | 12.00 | 3.44 | | 4.11 | 7.33 | 2.78 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 55.17 |
| 40 | 20-1348 D | Eagle Ridge Park | 10.00 | 12.33 | | 11.33 | 3.89 | | 4.11 | 7.33 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 54.56 |
| 40 | 20-1891 D | Emma Yule Park | 11.33 | 11.67 | | 13.00 | 4.00 | | 3.22 | 6.00 | 2.33 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 54.56 |
| 42 | 20-1477 D | Swinyard Park Splash Pad and Exercise Pathway | 13.00 | 12.33 | | 11.00 | 3.22 | | 4.33 | 6.44 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 54.39 |
| 43 | 20-1518 D | Jacobsen Tree Farm Park Development | 13.67 | 12.00 | | 10.67 | 3.67 | | 1.89 | 7.33 | 2.11 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 54.33 |
| 44 | 20-1831 D | Horseshoe Lake Park Americans with Disabilities Act Revitalization | 10.33 | 11.67 | | 11.00 | 3.22 | | 3.89 | 7.11 | 3.89 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 54.11 |
| 45 | 20-1491 A | Upper Mill Creek Mendel Property Acquisition | 12.33 | 11.67 | 6.22 | | | 8.67 | 3.78 | 6.22 | 2.11 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 54.00 |
| 46 | 20-1255 D | Olmsted Park Development | 12.33 | 12.00 | | 11.00 | 3.22 | | 2.89 | 8.00 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 53.94 |
| 47 | 20-1484 D | Zillah Splash Park | 11.33 | 11.00 | | 12.00 | 3.44 | | 4.00 | 8.22 | 3.89 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 53.89 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Project Scope | 3. Immediacy of Threat | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Site Suitability | 7. Expansion/Renovation | 8. Project Support | 9. Cost Efficiencies | 10. Growth Management Act Preference | 11. Proximity to people | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 47 | 20-1857 C | Jenkins Creek Park Expansion | 11.33 | 11.67 | 3.67 | 5.50 | 3.56 | 2.06 | 3.56 | 7.33 | 2.22 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 53.89 |
| 49 | 20-1825 D | Heritage Square Redevelopment | 10.00 | 11.67 | | 12.00 | 3.67 | | 4.22 | 7.11 | 3.67 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 53.83 |
| 50 | 20-1682 D | Evergreen Playfield Complex Restroom Replacement | 10.00 | 11.33 | | 11.33 | 3.67 | | 3.78 | 7.56 | 3.11 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 53.78 |
| 51 | 20-1869 D | Kennewick Public Pool Rehabilitation Phase 2 | 12.67 | 11.00 | | 11.33 | 3.67 | | 3.67 | 7.56 | 2.11 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 53.50 |
| 52 | 20-1321 D | White Salmon Valley Pool | 10.00 | 11.67 | | 11.67 | 3.89 | | 3.00 | 9.33 | 3.89 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 53.44 |
| 53 | 20-1782 A | Narrows Park West Acquisition | 10.33 | 11.67 | 7.56 | | | 8.44 | 3.33 | 7.56 | 2.78 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 53.17 |
| 53 | 20-1641 D | Whitehorse Campground Phase 2 | 11.33 | 11.00 | | 11.67 | 3.78 | | 4.22 | 7.56 | 2.11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 53.17 |
| 55 | 20-1651 D | Kozy Kamp Neighborhood Park Development | 11.00 | 11.00 | | 12.33 | 3.56 | | 2.11 | 7.78 | 2.11 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 52.89 |
| 56 | 20-1649 D | Gateway Park Phase 4 Synthetic Turf Field | 11.67 | 12.00 | | 11.33 | 3.89 | | 3.11 | 7.11 | 2.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 52.83 |
| 57 | 20-1551 D | Van Gasken Sound View Park Site Development | 10.67 | 10.00 | | 11.33 | 3.67 | | 3.11 | 8.00 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 52.33 |
| 58 | 20-1804 D | Meadowlark Natural Area Development | 10.67 | 11.00 | | 12.00 | 4.00 | | 3.78 | 7.78 | 3.89 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 52.11 |
| 59 | 20-1415 D | Benton City Splash Pad | 14.00 | 12.67 | | 10.67 | 3.56 | | 1.89 | 7.11 | 2.11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 52.00 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Project Scope | 3. Immediacy of Threat | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Site Suitability | 7. Expansion/Renovation | 8. Project Support | 9. Cost Efficiencies | 10. Growth Management Act Preference | 11. Proximity to people | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 60 | 20-1840 C | Sweetwater Creek Waterwheel Park | 10.33 | 10.67 | 3.00 | 5.67 | 4.33 | 1.94 | 3.78 | 8.00 | 4.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 51.94 |
| 60 | 20-1878 D | Ellensburg Central Park | 10.67 | 11.67 | | 11.33 | 4.11 | | 3.78 | 6.67 | 2.22 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 51.94 |
| 62 | 20-1319 C | Duwamish Neighborhood and Green River Trail Park | 12.00 | 10.67 | 3.22 | 5.00 | 3.44 | 1.89 | 2.89 | 7.33 | 2.33 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 51.78 |
| 63 | 20-1539 D | Curran Apple Orchard Park Playground | 11.33 | 10.67 | | 11.00 | 2.78 | | 3.33 | 7.78 | 1.78 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 51.67 |
| 63 | 20-1812 D | Vista Park Nature Trail Foot Bridge | 11.67 | 11.33 | | 11.67 | 3.67 | | 3.89 | 7.11 | 2.33 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 51.67 |
| 65 | 20-1472 A | Leffler Field Acquisition | 11.33 | 11.00 | 7.78 | | | 8.44 | 2.11 | 7.78 | 2.89 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 51.33 |
| 66 | 20-1885 D | Warrior Ridge Sports Park Field Northeast Little Boston | 11.33 | 12.67 | | 11.33 | 4.00 | | 1.78 | 6.44 | 2.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 51.28 |
| 66 | 20-1705 A | Kneeland Park Expansion | 12.33 | 11.00 | 4.67 | | | 8.67 | 3.67 | 7.56 | 2.89 | -1.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 51.28 |
| 68 | 20-1409 D | Schooler Park Enhancements | 12.33 | 10.67 | | 11.00 | 2.67 | | 3.78 | 7.33 | 2.33 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 50.11 |
| 69 | 20-1875 D | Ridgefield Skate Park | 9.00 | 10.67 | | 10.67 | 3.22 | | 3.89 | 6.00 | 2.44 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 48.89 |
| 70 | 20-1598 D | Magnuson Play Area Renovation | 9.67 | 10.33 | | 8.67 | 3.67 | | 4.11 | 6.89 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 48.33 |
| 71 | 20-1824 A | Welcome Park | 10.00 | 9.00 | 6.67 | | | 7.33 | 2.78 | 6.44 | 2.33 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 47.56 |
| 72 | 20-1879 D | Downtown Stevenson Park Plaza Development | 8.67 | 9.00 | | 11.00 | 3.56 | | 3.22 | 7.56 | 3.78 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 46.78 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Project Scope | 3. Immediacy of Threat | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability | 6. Site Suitability | 7. Expansion/Renovation | 8. Project Support | 9. Cost Efficiencies | 10. Growth Management Act Preference | 11. Proximity to people | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 73 | 20-1549 D | Washington State Horse Park Covered Arena | 9.67 | 10.00 | | 10.33 | 2.89 | | 2.78 | 7.33 | 3.11 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 45.11 |
| 74 | 20-1786 D | Cordata Community Park Phase Two | 7.67 | 9.67 | | 10.00 | 3.33 | | 3.67 | 6.44 | 2.33 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 44.61 |
| 75 | 20-1842 D | Park Expansion Royal City | 11.00 | 9.33 | | 9.67 | 2.44 | | 3.67 | 6.22 | 2.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 44.56 |
| 76 | 20-1752 A | Riverview Park Acquisition | 8.00 | 9.00 | 6.22 | | | 7.33 | 3.33 | 5.11 | 1.89 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 43.89 |
| 77 | 20-1668 D | Birch Bay Beach Park Development | 8.67 | 9.00 | | 8.67 | 3.22 | | 3.22 | 7.33 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 42.11 |
| 78 | 20-1359 C | Washougal Main Street Park | 8.33 | 10.00 | 1.67 | 6.00 | 3.56 | 1.61 | 1.22 | 6.00 | 0.67 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 42.06 |
| 79 | 20-1277 D | Veteran's Memorial Park | 8.33 | 7.67 | | 8.67 | 2.78 | | 3.33 | 6.44 | 3.78 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 40.00 |
| 80 | 20-1728 C | Naches Cowiche Confluence Park | 9.00 | 8.33 | 2.00 | 3.17 | 2.44 | 1.72 | 2.00 | 6.00 | 1.78 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 37.94 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-9; RCO staff score Questions 10-12

Project type: A=acquisition, D=development, C=Combination

Local Parks Category Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-2023

Spokane County

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

Preserving Parkland on Beacon Hill

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department and the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 250 acres on Beacon Hill, connecting existing parks to create a contiguous 566-acre urban regional park. Located in the heart of Spokane County and the city of Spokane, Beacon Hill has been at the epicenter of mountain biking in the region for decades as well as a popular neighborhood area for hiking, dog-walking, trail running, and more. This project not only will preserve miles of trail but also an urban space that serves one of Spokane's most distressed and disadvantaged neighborhoods. The County will contribute more than \$2.3 million in Conservation Futures,⁴ a private grant, a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and donations of labor and land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1275)

Jefferson County

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Building Jefferson Universal Movement Playground

Jefferson County Parks and Recreation will use this grant to build the first phase of the Jefferson Universal Movement Playground in HJ Carroll Park. The playground will expand outdoor recreation opportunities for children with disabilities who have no accessible playgrounds within an hour's drive. The playground will include an elevated play structure, a net climber, a merry-go-round, two spring riders, musical instruments, a disk swing, an elevated play mound with roller slide, and three connected climbing rocks. The County will install interpretive panels and small plankton sculptures to represent a sea theme and add seating, tables, and drinking fountains. Additional accessible features include parking and a pull-through, drop-off area. The County also will build pathways to connect the playground to Chimacum Creek, picnic shelters, a bicycle area, trails, athletic fields, and a bus stop. The County will contribute \$286,615 from private grants, community donations, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1210)

⁴Conservation Futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areal, forests, wetlands, and farms.

Othello
Developing Lions Park Pride Rock Playground

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Othello will use this grant to develop Pride Rock Playground in Lions Park. The new playground will replace unsafe 1950s equipment and grounds with safe play equipment and surfacing that are accessible to people with disabilities. The current play area will be redesigned for inclusion and efficiency, with landscaping and furnishings that offer shade and comfort during the hot Othello summers. The playground is geared towards children up to 12 years old. The project will directly benefit Othello's large youth population, 35 percent of whom live in poverty. Othello will contribute \$509,000 in cash, a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1362)

Ferndale
Developing Metalworks Skate Park

Grant Requested: \$480,000

The City of Ferndale will use this grant to develop Metalworks Skate Park. The 10,000-square-foot skate and bike park will be in the Pioneer Park complex and near the Boys and Girls Clubhouse, an elementary school, ball fields, and another playground. Ferndale is one of the fastest growing cities in the state, but has few recreational amenities for teenagers, aside from organized sports. The City also will install landscaping. The park will recognize the community's industrial heritage with design and art features. Ferndale will contribute \$81,850 in cash and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1802)

Snoqualmie
Developing Centennial Fields All-inclusive Playground

Grant Requested: \$475,000

The City of Snoqualmie will use this grant to develop an all-inclusive play area within Centennial Fields Park. No parks in the city or valley are designed for all-inclusive play. Centennial Fields is next to Snoqualmie Elementary School, which houses the special education team, which serves more than 500 elementary school students. The park will offer 15 play equipment pieces, including ramps for wheelchair access, equipment for those with mobility impairments (spinal muscular atrophy, cerebral palsy), and tactile and musical equipment for youth who are autistic or have sight impairments. The City also will improve the parking lot for safety and access by designating additional spaces as accessible to people with disabilities and installing perimeter fencing. Snoqualmie will contribute \$495,400 in cash and local and private grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1739)

Lakewood
Upgrading American Lake Park Waterfront Access

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Lakewood will use this grant to improve the 5.5-acre American Lake Park. The city will build a boat launch, install a small shelter, replace a deteriorated stone retaining wall and bulkhead, and add a restroom and entry plaza. In addition, the City will build a universally accessible walkway to the beach and boat launch as well as pathways to get people from the parking areas to the rest of the park. The goal of the project is to improve access to the lake and to the park itself. Located on the north side of the 1,200-acre American Lake and in an extremely low-income neighborhood, the park is the only community park in the area and the only park that provides a public boat launch and free waterfront access. Lakewood will contribute \$884,920 in cash and a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1349)

College Place
Building the Lions Park Splash Pad and Inclusive Playground

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of College Place will use this grant to develop a splash pad and inclusive playground at Lions Park. The City also will build walkways and install a picnic shelter, restrooms, lighting, and park signs. The work will improve park safety, access, and aesthetics. College Place will contribute \$900,286 in cash and a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1743)

Bremerton
Renovating Haddon Neighborhood Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Bremerton will use this grant to develop pathways throughout Haddon Park so people with disabilities can reach places in the park, including a playground, restroom, shelter, and multiuse sports court. Currently no part of the park is accessible to people with disabilities. The 4-acre park is an aging neighborhood park with pathways and a sports court. Bremerton will contribute \$449,625 in cash, staff labor, a local grant, and a grant from the state Youth Athletic Facilities program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1289)

Vader
Developing Werden Park

Grant Requested: \$283,143

The City of Vader will use this grant to develop J.K. Werden Memorial Park. The City will install three main playground structures, a looped walking pathway, and several shaded picnicking areas. In addition, the City will add fencing and pave a parking lot. Werden

Park is in Vader's town center off State Route 506. Developing this park is key to providing an under-served and low-income community with healthy forms of entertainment, physical activity, and social connectivity within walking distance. Vader will contribute \$94,381 in cash, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1307)

Lakewood
Developing Wards Lake Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Lakewood will use this grant to improve the 27-acre Wards Lake Park. Located in the northeast part of the city and next to Interstate 5, the park has expansive growth of invasive plants and sediment from incoming stormwater. It also has wetlands, oak prairie, and forest, along with trails and lawn areas. The city will build a paved, pump track, a fenced 3-acre dog park, and 1 mile of loop trail, accessible to people with disabilities. In addition, the City will enhance the forest and native oak prairie habitat areas and improve the critical wetland areas. Finally, the City will improve pedestrian safety and add public art at the main entrance. Lakewood will contribute more than \$1.4 million in cash and grants from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and the state Youth Athletic Facilities program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1761)

Napavine
Improving Mayme Shaddock Park

Grant Requested: \$258,900

The City of Napavine will use this grant to develop a covered shelter that includes a kitchen with restrooms at Mayme Shaddock Park, in the town center. The improvements will make the park accessible to people with disabilities and will better serve the community as a gathering place for elementary school children, community events, weddings, and other celebrations. Napavine will contribute \$86,503 in cash and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1311)

Republic
Developing Republic Skatepark

Grant Requested: \$359,600

The City of Republic will use this grant to buy and develop land for a skatepark near the Golden Tiger Trail and across from the Republic School Complex. With the nearest skate park more than 40 miles away, this will be Ferry County's first skatepark. The park will accommodate beginner, intermediate, and advanced skill levels for skateboards, BMX bicycles, scooters, and inline skates as well as a place for people to relax and spectate. The park will include two shaded viewing areas with benches and a bike rack. Republic

will contribute \$44,000 in a private grant and donations of labor and land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1632)

Snohomish County

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Continuing Development of the Oso Landslide Memorial

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to build the second phase of a memorial park on the site of the deadly Oso landslide along State Route 530, 16 miles east of Arlington. The County will build a community gathering plaza and shelter and circulating pathways that take visitors through the memorial. The County also will install interpretive signs that explain what happened geologically, give tribute to the responders who assisted in the rescue efforts, tell stories from those rescued, and memorialize the 43 people who lost their lives. Additionally, the County will add benches, bollards, landscaping, retaining walls, and other small structures. The proposed development will give the many visitors to the site the opportunity to walk through the area and learn about what happened and understand the gravity of the event. The families of the victims have been intimately involved in the planning and fundraising for this memorial. Snohomish County will contribute more than \$2.1 million in cash, a private grant, a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1686)

Olympia

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

Buying Land for a Yelm Highway Community Park

The City of Olympia will use this grant to buy 63 acres for an athletic field-oriented community park near Wiggins Road. The City will build three, full-size soccer fields, which currently are unavailable in the city's park system. The city's newest athletic field complex, Yauger Park, was built in 1982. Since then, Olympia's population has grown by nearly 80 percent and youth soccer participation has grown along with it. There are more than 220 youth soccer teams and 2,600 youth soccer participants in one Olympia club alone. The City has seen similar growth in other sports that will use these fields such as lacrosse, ultimate Frisbee, youth football, and flag football. Olympia will contribute more than \$6 million in voter-approved bonds. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1534)

Olympia
Buying Land for a Lilly Road Park

Grant Requested: \$333,533

The City of Olympia will use this grant to buy 4.89 acres for a neighborhood park in northeast Olympia near single and multifamily housing and numerous medical offices. The 22-mile Chehalis Western Trail, a regional multiuse trail, is nearby. This neighborhood park likely will include a small parking lot, playground, sport court, and walking loop trail. Olympia will contribute \$111,180. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1542)

Pierce County
Expanding Opportunities at Sprinker Recreation Center

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to develop and renovate about 20 acres of the 44-acre Sprinker Recreation Center's outside area. The county will add synthetic turf ball fields, an entry plaza, a community event lawn, a playground, a spray park, sport courts, picnic shelters, and a trail connection to the Parkland Community Trail. In addition, the area will get new furnishings and restrooms will be renovated. This project will expand recreation opportunities and address the needs of a growing and diverse community. Dedicated in 1976, the center is in the Parkland and Spanaway communities and serves more than 167,000 people within 5 miles. The County will contribute more than \$13.6 million in cash, grants from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and state Youth Athletic Facilities program, and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1279)

Poulsbo
Building an Inclusive Playground in Raab Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Poulsbo will use this grant to develop an inclusive playground in the 21-acre Raab Park. The new playground will include seven new pieces of equipment and numerous sensory stations, all of which are designed to accommodate people with physical disabilities and provide a sensory-rich experience. The 9,000-square-foot playground will feature a soft, padded synthetic surface and wheelchair accessible ramps. The new equipment will include pieces such as a wheelchair-friendly merry-go-round, inclusive teetertotter, extra wide slides, and swing seats. The new equipment will be next to the park's small playground, which is accessible to people with disabilities, but not fully inclusive. No play equipment will be removed. The inclusive playground is a community effort. The Poulsbo North Kitsap Rotary Club formed a partnership with the City and is co-leading this project alongside the Kitsap Community Foundation, special

interest groups, and citizens. Raab Park is a well-used, community park and hosts a variety of activities, including the community gardens, a dog park, a walking trail, basketball, volleyball, picnicking, and a skate park. Poulsbo will contribute \$249,824 in cash, staff labor, a private grant, a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1430)

Seattle

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Developing North Rainier Land Banked Park

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to create a 1-acre park in the Rainier Valley neighborhood of southeast Seattle, one of the most demographically diverse regions in the nation. The project will enhance this dense, urban, under-represented, residential, and commercial neighborhood by creating a community recreation and gathering space. The park design includes a fitness zone, barbecue and picnic amenities, plantings and trees, and pathways for strolling, jogging, or skating. Seattle will contribute more than \$2.6 million in cash, council bonds, a private grant, and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1297)

Edmonds

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Redeveloping Marina Beach Park

The City of Edmonds will use this grant to redevelop Marina Beach Park, a 4.94-acre waterfront park. The City will install a playground, add and renovate scenic overlooks, renovate the dog park, improve parking and pedestrian pathways, create a nonmotorized boat launch, and install restrooms at two new entry plazas. The City also will create an open tidal channel for Willow Creek, a historically salmon-bearing stream currently piped under the park, by returning it to the surface, planting its banks with native plants, and adding interpretive signs along walking trails. Edmonds will contribute more than \$4.5 million in cash and a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1296)

Wenatchee

Grant Requested: \$491,750

Expanding the Wenatchee Foothills Regional Recreation Area

The City of Wenatchee will use this grant to buy 650 acres on the southern edge of the city. The land, which people historically trespass on to reach Saddle Rock and U.S. Forest Service land, is one of the final pieces needed to complete the Foothills Trails System. The land likely will be used year-round for horseback riding, hiking, wildlife viewing,

snowshoeing, mountain biking, and outdoor education. In addition, the purchase will provide expanded outdoor recreation and environmental educational space, preserve habitat, create a consolidated block of public properties, and provide critical trail links in the Wenatchee foothills. Wenatchee will contribute \$491,750 in cash, staff labor, and donations of labor and property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1446)

Kent
Renovating Kent Memorial Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Kent will use this grant to help renovate Kent Memorial Park by replacing a grass baseball field with an artificial turf, multi-purpose field. The City also will replace lighting, bleachers, and a restroom. In addition, the City will renovate two smaller softball fields north of the main field to maximize opportunities in the area. Kent will contribute more than \$4.7 million in cash and a grant from the state Youth Athletic Facilities program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1254)

Puyallup
Creating Van Lierop Park Playground

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Puyallup will use this grant to develop a farm-themed playground at Van Lierop Park, formerly the Van Lierop bulb farm. The playground will serve children ages 2 to 12 and will be accessible to people with disabilities. It will feature two barn play structures as well as a tractor and swings to honor the farming heritage of the Puyallup Valley. Puyallup will contribute \$299,857 in cash and a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1645)

Spokane Valley
Acquiring Parkland near the Spokane River

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

The City of Spokane Valley will use this grant to buy 44 acres near the Spokane River. This project will expand park space within city limits and provide water access and recreation opportunities currently unavailable in Spokane Valley. The site will provide environmental education, interpretive trails, and opportunities for new trail connections, picnic shelters, public beach areas, and more. Spokane Valley will contribute \$977,764. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1308)

Clark County
Developing Curtin Creek Community Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Clark County Department of Public Works will use this grant to develop the first phase of Curtin Creek Community Park, located on 72nd Avenue in Vancouver. The 16.18-acre area includes gently rolling pasture with mountain views. The development plan includes walking paths, a large parking lot, wildlife viewing areas, picnic shelters, benches, a combined restroom and maintenance building, playground, sports fields, and sport court amenities. The County will contribute more than \$6.9 million in cash and a grant from the state Youth Athletic Facilities program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1243)

Gig Harbor
Developing Pickle Bo Spot in the Gig Harbor Sport Complex

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Gig Harbor will use this grant to continue development of its Pickle Bo Spot in the Gig Harbor Sports Complex, north of the YMCA parking lot. The City will build pickleball courts, bocce ball courts, a playground area, an event lawn, a sheltered performance stage, two covered picnic areas, and parking. Gig Harbor has experienced unprecedented growth in the past 10 years and is the third fastest growing city in Pierce County. The Gig Harbor Sports Complex will serve nearly 50,000 in the surrounding 5 miles. Gig Harbor will contribute more than \$2.6 million in cash, a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1488)

Omak
Replacing the Skatepark in Eastside Park

Grant Requested: \$401,070

The City of Omak will use this grant to remove the skatepark in Eastside Park and build a new one at a better location in the park. Twenty years ago, a high-quality concrete skatepark was an impossible goal, so the skatepark was built of wood ramps on a flat slab. The park has served generations of skaters, but the wood ramps have succumbed to the harsh weather. The new skatepark will be in-ground and made of concrete and steel. This project is the first phase of a multi-phased effort to redevelop Eastside Park, a 76.6-acre destination park on the Colville Indian Reservation. Omak will contribute \$17,395. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1772)

Lake Stevens
Continuing to Develop Frontier Heights Park

Grant Requested: \$309,352

The City of Lake Stevens will use this grant to complete the second phase of development of Frontier Heights Park. The City will build a sport court, multiuse athletic field, viewing labyrinth and sensory garden. In addition, it will add parking, exercise equipment, and landscaping. Frontier Heights Park is in the lowest income area of Lake Stevens. There are no other parks in this area. Lake Stevens will contribute \$103,118. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1851)

Cathlamet
Developing Cathlamet Waterfront Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Town of Cathlamet will use this grant to develop and restore the last piece of town-owned waterfront and the former site of the town's sewer lagoons into a scenic 7-acre space for visitors to relax and experience the beauty of the Columbia River. The land is on Second Street. The Town will add walking paths, lighting, signs, a pavilion with picnic tables and benches, and a viewing shelter. The Town also will enhance and restore the wetlands at the mouth of Birnie Creek by removing invasive species and replanting native shrubs and plants. This project will merge an existing park into the larger, newly designed, waterfront park to promote tourism and economic vitality. Cathlamet will contribute \$166,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1253)

Connell
Renovating the Connell Pool

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Connell will use this grant to renovate the outdoor pool in Pioneer Park, which has aged and needs upgrades to stay open. Without this pool, Connell residents would have to drive more than 30 minutes to the nearest pool. Situated in the city's largest park, the pool is important during the very hot and dry summers for swim team practice, open swim, exercise and skill-building, and affordable swim lessons. The City will refinish the pool's crumbling bottom, replace pool plaster, remove an unsafe water slide, improve fixtures in the main pool building and mechanical building, and build a new bathroom. Connell will contribute \$167,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1910)

Snohomish County
Restoring Kayak Point Waterfront Shelter

Grant Requested: \$195,000

The Snohomish County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate a shelter and restroom building at Kayak Point Park, south of Stanwood. The County will replace the siding, roofing, screening, restroom fixtures, and plumbing and make the building more accessible to people with disabilities. The shelter will accommodate 100 people and provide views of the shoreline and surrounding area. Snohomish County will contribute \$73,689. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1684)

Seattle
Renovating Maple Wood Playfield

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate the 9.4-acre Maple Wood Playfield in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of southeast Seattle. The City will add new drainage and irrigation, regrade the fields, and add a new grass playing surface, backstops, dugouts, and bleachers. The City will make improvements elsewhere too by installing play equipment and reconfiguring the play area to optimize accessibility, safety, and parental supervision. Finally, the City will make changes to parking and pathways to accommodate people with disabilities. Maple Wood Playfield is widely used by multiple groups, schools, and leagues for baseball, softball, soccer, and football. Seattle will contribute more than \$2.8 million in cash and grants from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and the state Youth Athletic Facilities program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1667)

Chelan
Renovating Lakeside Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Chelan Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate Lakeside Park. The City will relocate the T-dock, add swim platforms and float lines, enhance the launch for non-motorized boats, renovate the restroom, and add parking. In addition, the City will expand the beach, improve accessibility for people with disabilities, and plant native plants to improve habitat near the beach and for pollinator species. Finally, the City will provide stormwater treatment. The heavily used park provides significant public access to Lake Chelan. The goals of the renovations are to expand capacity, improve accessibility, and increase recreational opportunities. Chelan will contribute \$687,596 in cash and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1698)

Monroe
Developing a Park on Monroe's North Hill

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

The City of Monroe will use this grant to buy 5 acres for a community park in the North Hill neighborhood. The site is under significant development pressure and has an owner who is motivated to sell. Monroe will contribute \$334,809. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1288)

Garfield Parks and Recreation District
Improving Garfield Pool

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Garfield Park and Recreation District will use this grant to improve 40-year-old pool facilities that serve as the only aquatic recreation for the community. The pool serves as a regional recreation hub for swim team and swim lesson activities. The Town will replace the wading pool with a splash pad, reline the pool, renovate or replace the restrooms and lockers, and replace electrical lines, decking, and fencing. The Garfield Park and Recreation District will contribute \$500,000 in a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1432)

King County
Buying the Glendale Forest for a Neighborhood Park

Grant Requested: \$407,500

The King County Parks and Recreation Division will use this grant to buy and develop a 5-acre urban forest threatened to be developed into apartments in a Glendale neighborhood, which has no public parks or greenspace. The purchase will protect a mature forest, wetlands, and a year-round stream that provides habitat for songbirds, raptors, and amphibians. The County will build a half-mile trail and install a bridge across the stream, kiosks, interpretive signs, and benches. Three blocks from an elementary and middle school, the forest is surrounded by homes and large apartment complexes. The County will contribute \$433,564 in cash and Conservation Futures.⁵ Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1532)

Bellingham
Buying Land for Bakerview Neighborhood Park

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

The City of Bellingham will use this grant to buy 27.5 acres about 2 miles north of the city center for a neighborhood park. Buying this land will help connect existing and

⁵Conservation 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.

future trails in the city's greenway network. The area contains a mix of both cleared, level ground suitable for playgrounds, restrooms, sport courts, and recreation facilities as well as forested areas and wetlands that can support a loop trail. Future park development will include park facilities, sport courts, and nonmotorized trails. Bellingham will contribute \$602,604. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1646)

**University Place
Renovating Cirque Park**

Grant Requested: \$363,629

The City of University Place will use this grant to renovate Cirque Park's skate park by developing new features and challenges, adding four above-ground concrete features, and making the park's gravel pathway accessible to people with disabilities. The City also will build a playground and add nine fitness stations along the walking path. University Place will contribute \$363,628. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1519)

**Olympia
Buying and Developing a Park in Kaiser Woods**

Grant Requested: \$704,122

The City of Olympia will use this grant to buy and develop Kaiser Woods Park, a forested hiking and mountain biking park. Kaiser Woods is an undeveloped, 68-acre, forested park in southwest Olympia, west of Ken Lake. The City will build dedicated mountain bike trails, dedicated hiking trails, and walking trails. The City also will acquire 2.5 acres on the south side to create a paved parking lot, trailhead, and access road. The City lacks any dedicated mountain bike trails in its park system, so these trails will meet the needs of this rapidly growing sport. Olympia will contribute \$234,708. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1535)

**Prosser
Improving City Park Playground and Basketball Court**

Grant Requested: \$431,000

The City of Prosser will use this grant to replace a 20-year-old, deteriorating, wooden play structure and basketball half court in its City Park. The new playground will provide 44 play components, 17 of which are appropriate for children of all abilities. The City will move the playground area about 75 feet from its current location to improve child safety. The City will build a full-size basketball court near the new playground, pave pathways, and install lighting, benches, picnic tables, grills, bike racks, and water fountains. Prosser will contribute \$143,737 in cash and staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1246)

Lake Stevens
Enhancing Eagle Ridge Park

Grant Requested: \$428,210

The City of Lake Stevens will use this grant to finish development of Eagle Ridge Park. The City will build an amphitheater, an outdoor classroom, a nature-themed playground, and restrooms. In addition, the City will install lights, build pedestrian pathways and parking, and landscape the park. Finally, the City will preserve and protect the park's wetland, which supports breeding nests for eagles. The park is used mostly for outdoor education, hiking, and playground use. Lake Stevens will contribute \$566,990 in cash and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1348)

Everett
Developing Emma Yule Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Everett will use this grant to build a neighborhood park on Rucker Avenue in the Glacier View neighborhood. The City will build walking paths, a playground area, gathering plaza, a demonstration rain garden, a fitness course, and install park furnishings and interpretive signs. Everett will contribute more than \$1.5 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1891)

Deer Park
Developing Swinyard Park Splash Pad and Exercise Pathway

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Deer Park will use this grant to remove a 1950s wading pool and build a splash pad near the city's swimming pool in Swinyard Park. The City also will install a 0.3-mile exercise pathway around the park to connect the splash pad and swimming pool to the restrooms, providing access to all facilities for people with disabilities. Water play areas are rare in northern Spokane County. Deer Park will contribute \$215,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1477)

Auburn
Developing Jacobsen Tree Farm Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Auburn Parks, Arts and Recreation Department will use this grant to develop the 28.67-acre Jacobsen Tree Farm Park. This first phase is focused on a 10-acre area where the City will develop a great lawn for community and family gatherings, performances, and non-structured recreation. The City also will build an accessible loop path around the lawn, add a restroom, shelter, and park plaza, which will have expansive views of Mount Rainier. The City will build a play area and add parking for up to 60 cars. Formerly

a Christmas tree farm, the area features rows and groves of trees, which the City will try to retain. Auburn will contribute more than \$2.9 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1518)

Woodland
Revitalizing Horseshoe Lake Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Woodland will use this grant to make amenities at Horseshoe Lake Park accessible to people with disabilities. The City will add a splash zone, fishing dock, and restrooms, as well as picnic tables and a path along the northeast edge of the lake-all accessible to people with disabilities. The City also will add garbage and recycle receptacles. Woodland will contribute \$329,616 in cash, a state appropriation, and donations of equipment and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1831)

Kent
Developing a Trailhead in Mill Creek Canyon Park

Grant Requested: \$463,500

The City of Kent will use this grant to develop a trailhead at the south end of Mill Creek Canyon Park. This project will create a pedestrian connection from downtown Kent to the east hill of Kent. The project will include buying the land, demolishing a house and septic system, and grading the site. Kent will contribute \$535,500 in cash and Conservation Futures.⁶ Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1491)

Sedro-Woolley
Developing Olmsted Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Sedro-Woolley will use this grant to develop a 14.81-acre area, formerly part of the Northern State Hospital Campus, into Olmsted Park. Park elements will include parking, restrooms, pathways, picnic tables, benches, and a fishing pond. Named in honor of the Olmsted brothers, who were the designers of the original hospital campus, this park will be the city's second destination park. Sedro-Woolley will contribute \$807,000 in cash and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1255)

⁶Conservation 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.

Zillah Building a Splash Park

Grant Requested: \$204,170

The City of Zillah will use this grant to design and develop a splash park, complete with landscaping and seating, in Loges City Park. The proposed splash park will be off the main road that runs through Zillah on the northeast corner of the city park. This project will provide a safe alternative for people who would otherwise swim in the Yakima River. The project will be Zillah's first splash pad. In addition to providing outdoor recreation opportunities, the park also will serve as a gathering place for the community and visitors alike. Zillah will contribute \$306,170 in cash and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1484)

Covington Creating an Entry to Jenkins Creek Park

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

The City of Covington will use this grant to buy nearly 2 acres and develop them as the main entry to the 22-acre Jenkins Creek Park. The park sits in the center of Covington but lacks visibility from a major street, suffers from no main entrance, and is not well used. The City will add parking, entry signs, a trailhead kiosk, garbage cans, lighting, and a gate. In addition, the City will restore a stream and improve the natural environment that is known for rare native plants and animals. The land is zoned for commercial use and is at risk of development. Covington will contribute more than \$2.5 million in cash, Conservation Futures,⁷ and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1857)

Walla Walla Redeveloping Heritage Square Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Walla Walla will use this grant to renovate and develop Heritage Square Park to transform an underused park in the city's historic and vibrant downtown into a centerpiece. The City will convert the park's parking lot into park space and install a water feature, performance stage, and restroom. Walla Walla will contribute nearly \$2 million in cash, a private grant, and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1825)

⁷Conservation 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.

Mountlake Terrace
Replacing Facilities at Evergreen Playfield Complex

Grant Requested: \$333,000

The City of Mountlake Terrace will use this grant to replace restrooms and a neighboring utility storage building at the Evergreen Playfield Complex. The new facilities will feature enhanced capacity and accessibility. The City also will construct hard-surface pathways. Mountlake Terrace will contribute \$112,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1682)

Kennewick
Improving Kennewick Public Pool

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Kennewick will use this grant to continue renovations of its Kenneth Serier Memorial Pool and bathhouse in east Kennewick. The City will replace heat pumps for energy efficiency, add a sunshade structure, resurface the deck to improve traction and cool the surface, update the spectator viewing area, install fencing, and treat the concrete floors in the lobby, locker rooms, and guard room. The only public pool in Kennewick, this pool serves 82,000 people in swim lessons, open swim sessions, lifeguard training, novice swim team activities, lap swim, competitive swimming by the three local high schools teams, and regional competitive swim meets. Kennewick will contribute \$70,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1869)

White Salmon Valley Pool Metropolitan Park District
Building the White Salmon Valley Pool

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The White Salmon Valley Pool Metropolitan Park District will use the grant to design and build an outdoor pool facility. The facility will include a multi-lane, 25-yard swimming pool for recreation, exercise, and competitive swimming; a therapy pool for instructive and therapeutic use; a children's wading and splash pool; a bathhouse office building; and parking on a 1.4-acre site. Replacing the town's original pool facility built in 1934, the new facility will meet the community needs for swim recreation and exercise, competitive swimming, aquatic safety education, as well as provide a place for social gatherings. The district will contribute nearly \$1.9 million in cash, a private grant, a grant from the state Youth Athletic Facilities program, and donations of cash, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1321)

Snohomish County
Continuing to Develop Whitehorse Campground

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Snohomish County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to continue development of Whitehorse County Park, near Darrington. The County will build a tent camping loop, restroom, and showers. The 83-acre park provides three ball fields with plans for an additional multipurpose field, off-leash dog area, amphitheater, and playground. The park is located at one end of the 28-mile Whitehorse Regional Trail, near Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest. Snohomish County will contribute \$502,345. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1641)

Peninsula Metropolitan Park
Expanding Narrows Park

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to buy 116 acres of forested land, next to Narrows Park. The land includes 350 feet of shoreline on the Tacoma narrows, extending Narrows Park shoreline to more than a quarter-mile. The land includes a seasonal stream, rolling uplands, steep banks to the water, and flatter upland areas for recreation. The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will contribute \$2.6 million in Conservation Futures⁸ and a grant from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1782)

Clark County
Developing Kozy Kamp Neighborhood Park

Grant Requested: \$328,750

The Clark County Department of Public Works will use this grant to develop its 5-acre Kozy Kamp Neighborhood Park, in Ridgefield. The area features gently rolling pasture amidst several new home developments. The park will include walking paths, seating areas with benches, picnic tables, inclusive and natural playground areas with slides built into a berm, and a sport court. Paths and sidewalks will connect the park to the neighborhood. Clark County will contribute \$1.3 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1651)

⁸Conservation 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.

Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District
Building a Lighted Synthetic Field at Gateway Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to develop a lighted, synthetic turf sports field, parking, restrooms, a walking trail, and roads in its 72-acre Gateway Park. The lighted field will expand opportunities for spring baseball, youth and adult football, soccer and lacrosse in the fall and winter, and provide the district's only outdoor, accessible surface for adaptive sports. Other nearby lighted synthetic turf fields are fully scheduled or unavailable for public use. The Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will contribute more than \$4.2 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1649)

Des Moines
Developing Van Gasken Sound View Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Des Moines will use this grant to develop its Van Gasken Sound View Park site on 222nd Street. The City will build walking paths, a viewpoint, a viewing area, lawn spaces, and a seating wall with accent planting. In addition, the City will install landscaping and benches. The park offers views of Puget Sound, Vashon Island, Maury Island, and the Olympic Mountains. The park connects the city's downtown marina district to its waterfront, parks, and open space system. Des Moines will contribute \$410,017. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1551)

Winthrop
Developing Meadowlark Natural Area

Grant Requested: \$318,000

The Town of Winthrop will use this grant to develop Meadowlark Natural Area, a 140-acre, open space park. The Town will develop a quarter-mile trail, a picnic area with fantastic views of the north Cascade Mountains, two viewing areas with benches and interpretive signs, and a 24-car parking lot with a toilet. Winthrop will contribute \$106,000 in cash, staff labor, and donations of cash, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1804)

Benton City
Building a Park and Splash Pad in Benton City

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Benton City will use this grant to build a park in a 63-lot housing development. The park will include a splash pad with ten play elements, a restroom, two sheltered picnic areas, and parking. The park will provide children with a safe place for water play in this fast-

growing community. Benton City will contribute \$233,243 in cash and staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1415)

Port of Allyn

Grant Requested: \$486,436

Developing Sweetwater Creek Waterwheel Park

The Port of Allyn will use this grant to develop a park in north Mason County, accessible to people with disabilities. The park will include restrooms, a fishing dock, a natural playground, and a picnic shelter. In addition, the Port will restore an historic waterwheel and include interpretive displays within the waterwheel generator house about the importance of hydropower to the Pacific Northwest. Finally, the Port will open 1.2 miles of stream to migrating salmon and protect nearly 1 acre of spawning habitat for coho salmon. The Port of Allyn will contribute \$288,813 in local and federal grants and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1840)

Ellensburg

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Developing Ellensburg Central Park

The Ellensburg Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to build a half-acre park in the heart of historic downtown Ellensburg. The park will include restrooms, a water feature, a shade structure, seating, and an open area for hosting outdoor performances. Since 1980, the property has served as a drive-thru bank with a small parking lot, a small gazebo and seating area, the site for community cultural events, and most famously the home to a bull sculpture. Ellensburg contribute more than \$1 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1878)

Tukwila

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Enhancing Duwamish Neighborhood and Green River Trail Park

The City of Tukwila will use this grant to develop a park in the Duwamish River Habitat Corridor, an important conservation area. The City will build pedestrian paths and viewing areas, improve the wildlife habitat, landscape, and install interpretive signs, site furnishings, and fencing. This project will restore habitat, improve outdoor recreation for neighborhood residents and regional trail users, and strengthen the greenbelt between Codiga Park and North Winds Weir. This site, in connection with other restoration projects along the river, will enhance the streambank habitat and complement salmon recovery efforts along the Duwamish River corridor. Tukwila will contribute \$580,000 in

donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1319)

University Place

Grant Requested: \$116,469

Building Curran Apple Orchard Park Playground

The City of University Place will use this grant to build a playground at Curran Apple Orchard Park for children 5 to 12 years old. The multi-age, agricultural-themed playground will feature natural play elements, slides and climbing areas. University Place will contribute \$116,470. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1539)

Port of Wahkiakum District 2

Grant Requested: \$85,000

Building a Footbridge on the Vista Park Nature Trail

The Port of Wahkiakum will use this grant to build a footbridge on the Vista Park Nature Trail. Currently, the trail has a section near its start that is accessible only by climbing a hillside with the aid of a rope. The Port will install a 60-foot-long bridge to allow more access to the rest of the trail for the public and for park staff to maintain the trail. The trail is the only public hiking trail in Wahkiakum County making it a vital asset for outdoor recreation. Since it opened in 1981, Vista Park has been a part of Wahkiakum County. It is the largest and one of only a few spaces for outdoor recreation in the community. The park offers camping, a public beach along the Columbia River, boat ramp, sports fields, and showers. When completed, the trail will run 1 mile and end at a secluded pebble beach. The Port of Wahkiakum will contribute \$9,500. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1812)

Manson Parks and Recreation District

Grant Requested: \$585,200

Buying Leffler Field

The Manson Parks and Recreation District will use this grant to buy Leffler Field, a nearly 5-acre field in the town of Manson. The purchase will preserve a beloved, much-used property, which served as a community park and event space for more than 20 years. Leffler Field will feature open space for events as well as areas for sports such as sand volleyball and Frisbee golf. The Manson Parks and Recreation District will contribute \$750,000 in cash and a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1472)

Shelton
Expanding Kneeland Park

Grant Requested: \$77,300

The City of Shelton will use this grant to buy 7.28 acres to expand the city's most popular park, Kneeland Park. Buying this land will enable the City to meet the need for increased open space, habitat preservation, nature trails, and trails from a nearby neighborhood to downtown. The land features Douglas fir, big leaf maple, and cedar trees and is home to deer, squirrels, birds, and other small mammals. The land also provides stormwater retention for Goldsborough Creek. If purchased, the land may be used for nature trails and expansion of the Kneeland Park off-leash dog area. Shelton will contribute \$40,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1705)

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Developing a Field in Warrior Ridge Sports Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Port Gamble SKlallam Tribe will use this grant to develop a sports field in its 13-acre Warrior Ridge Sports Park, which it's building on tribal land. The field will have a synthetic turf infield and natural grass outfield. The field is part of a larger project that will include building three, all-weather baseball-softball synthetic turf infields with grass outfields, a children's play area, a plaza, a perimeter walking trail, picnic and lawn areas, and parking. The Tribe is developing the sports park to serve the entire community. The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe will contribute more than \$3.4 million in cash, a federal grant, and a grant from the state Youth Athletic Facilities program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1885)

Rock Island
Enhancing Schooler Park

Grant Requested: \$75,000

The City of Rock Island will use this grant to build a playground at Schooler Community Park, currently the city's only playground. The park's playground equipment is no longer safe and must be demolished. In addition to the new playground, Rock Island will renovate the swing set and install a bike rack, shade shelter, and picnic table. Rock Island will contribute \$25,000 in cash and a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1409)

Ridgefield
Creating Ridgefield Skate Park

Grant Requested: \$490,000

The City of Ridgefield will use this grant to develop a skate park and restroom in Davis Park in downtown Ridgefield. The park will replace a small skate park made of portable metal ramps in Community Park, two blocks south of Davis Park. The City will install concrete ramps to provide a better ride for skaters, move the portable ramps to the new skate park, and add lighting for evening use. The City will demolish a building on site and build a restroom in its place. An entrance mural, to be designed by local artists, will welcome users to the new park area. Finally, the City will seal and stripe the existing parking lot. Ridgefield will contribute \$214,450 in cash and staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1875)

Seattle
Renovating Magnuson Play Area

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate the Magnuson Park play area, which was built in 1999. The City will redesign and replace the play equipment, renovate the plaza, and install benches, picnic tables, barbecue grills, and bike racks. Finally, the City will renovate pathways, landscaping, and the irrigation system. The new play area will provide a more inclusive play experience. The City also will update the nearby parking stalls for use by people with disabilities. As a regional designation park, Magnuson Park attracts some of the highest visitation numbers in the city's park system for athletic events, arts and cultural festivals, and community gatherings. Seattle will contribute \$772,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1598)

Covington
Preserving Land for a Welcome Park

Grant Requested: \$260,775

The City of Covington will use this grant to buy nearly an acre to develop an area that welcomes people visiting the town by road or trail and serves as a trailhead for future connections to King County's regional Soos Creek Trail. The area is near a quickly developing commercial area and is highly desirable land at risk of being rezoned and developed. Buying this land will add to contiguous, public land in the Soos Creek corridor, including the immediately nearby 21 acres owned by King County. Covington will contribute \$86,925. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1824)

Skamania County
Building Downtown Stevenson Park Plaza

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Skamania County will use this grant to develop a performing arts amphitheater, pathway, and picnic areas on a half-acre of its county courthouse lawn, which its redeveloping into a centrally located park plaza with views of river and mountain. The County will restore the native plants and improved stormwater management. The park will be used for picnicking, walking, sightseeing, and attending performing arts and cultural events in downtown Stevenson. The park also will connect the downtown district to the Columbia River Waterfront Park, a future overlook, and several walkable and accessible loops. Skamania County will contribute \$611,700 in cash, a state appropriation, a private grant, and donations of cash and material. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1879)

Cle Elum
Building a Covered Arena at the Washington State Horse Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The City of Cle Elum will use this grant to develop a covered arena at the Washington State Horse Park. This large, weather-protected structure will supplement four outdoor arenas. The state's various English and western horse disciplines need this arena in order to ride year-round and host larger shows in a high-quality facility. The arena will be the largest covered structure in Kittitas County and will provide a venue for equine events as well as concerts, fairs, shows, expos, sports tournaments, food and brew fests, and emergency uses. The City will install riding arena fencing and sand, perform electrical work, extend water lines, and install perimeter drainage, a restroom, and weather screens. The horse park attracts 30,000 visitors annually from around the Pacific Northwest and produces \$3 million in annual economic benefits. The covered arena will allow the operating season to run nearly year-round. Cle Elum will contribute \$375,000 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1549)

Bellingham
Improving Cordata Community Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

The Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to improve Cordata Community Park. The City will add a park pavilion with restrooms, children's activity area, picnic shelter, covered stage and lawn area, basketball and pickleball courts, a parking lot, and signs. In addition, the City will landscape and build stormwater facilities. The park is in the Cordata neighborhood, one of the newest and fastest growing residential areas of Bellingham and is the city's first developed park north of Interstate 5.

Bellingham will contribute more than \$2.1 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1786)

Royal City
Expanding South Center Area Public Park

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Royal City will use this grant to develop 3.8 acres east of South Center Area Public Park. The City will build soccer fields and pathways and add site furnishings. Royal City will contribute \$250,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1842)

Snoqualmie
Expanding Riverview Park

Grant Requested: \$300,000

The City of Snoqualmie will use this grant to buy 0.19 acre in a residential area to expand Riverview Park. The City will remove residential structures and barriers then will grade and seed the area, add soccer goals for pickup youth soccer games, and plant trees along boundary. This project is part of a larger effort to buy land along the Snoqualmie River to build a river walk. With this purchase, only five houses will remain between the park and a continuous 5-acre open space area, a quarter-mile from the historic Meadowbrook Bridge, with connections to the Snoqualmie Valley Trail. Snoqualmie will contribute \$315,000 in cash and a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1752)

Whatcom County
Improving Birch Bay Beach Park

Grant Requested: \$305,868

Whatcom County will use this grant to improve Birch Bay Beach Park by adding pedestrian walkways, picnic tables, enhanced landscaping, signs, and a large lawn for a wide variety of day-use activities and large community events. The improvements will better accommodate the Kite Festival, Sandcastle Competition, Discovery Days, and Rollback Days, all of which have used the park. Whatcom County will contribute \$101,957. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1668)

Washougal
Building Washougal Main Street Park

Grant Requested: \$418,873

The City of Washougal will use this grant to develop a park in its scenic and historic downtown. The City will install a playground that showcases nature scenes, a stormwater education center, rain garden, and a covered picnic shelter. The areas around the site

are gradually transitioning to commercial and high-density residential development, making this proposed downtown park an attractive green space for community recreation. The goal is for visitors to enjoy a softer contrast to the diverse buildings, pavement, and hard surfaces of downtown while embracing the natural beauty and history of Washougal. Washougal will contribute \$199,830. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1359)

Mossyrock

Grant Requested: \$66,240

Improving Veteran's Memorial Park

The City of Mossyrock will use this grant to add plants, a walking path, lights, flag poles, and a parking area to Veteran's Memorial Park. In 2018, the veterans installed the two memorial walls. Mossyrock will contribute \$7,360 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1277)

Yakima County

Grant Requested: \$682,150

Designing and Developing Naches Cowiche Confluence Park

The Yakima County Flood Control District will use this grant to buy a 37-acre orchard and design and develop a boat launch, shoreline access, and trails to the Naches River in Yakima. The design will focus on creating an open space park with native plants and room for more intensive development in the future. The district will improve access, safety, and parking and convert parts of the orchard to native vegetation. The project improves floodplain and river habitats, restores areas of Cowiche Creek, and removes barriers to migrating fish. The Flood Control District will contribute \$293,850 in donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1728)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Local Parks Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • 20-1210D Jefferson County Universal Movement Playground (6) | Rank 2 |
| • 20-1362D Lions Park Pride Rock Playground (9) | Rank 3 |
| • 20-1739D Centennial Fields All-inclusive Playground (9) | Rank 5 |
| • 20-1349D American Lake Park Waterfront Access Upgrades (4) | Rank 6 |
| • 20-1743D Lions Park Splash Pad and Inclusive Playground (20) | Rank 7 |
| • 20-1289D Haddon Neighborhood Park Renovation (3) | Rank 8 |
| • 20-1761D Wards Lake Park Enhancements Phase 1(6) | Rank 10 |
| • 20-1632 C Republic Skatepark (25) | Rank 12 |
| • 20-1534A Yelm Highway Community Park Acquisition (12) | Rank 14 |
| • 20-1542A Lilly Road Parcel Acquisition (8) | Rank 15 |
| • 20-1279D Sprinker Recreation Center Outdoor Improvements (8) | Rank 16 |
| • 20-1297D North Rainier Land Banked Park (1) | Rank 18 |
| • 20-1296D Marina Beach Park Redevelopment (7) | Rank 19 |
| • 20-1645D Van Lierop Park Playground (7) | Rank 21 |
| • 20-1308A Flora Road River Trail Property (1) | Rank 23 |
| • 20-1488D Gig Harbor Sports Complex Pickle Bo Spot (9) | Rank 25 |
| • 20-1851D Frontier Heights Phase 2 (6) | Rank 25 |
| • 20-1532C Glendale Forest Acquisition and Development (6) | Rank 34 |
| • 20-1646A Bakerview Neighborhood Park Acquisition (2) | Rank 36 |
| • 20-1535C Kaiser Woods Acquisition and Development (9) | Rank 37 |
| • 20-1246D City Park Playground and Basketball Improvements (2) | Rank 39 |
| • 20-1348D Eagle Ridge Park (6) | Rank 40 |
| • 20-1518D Jacobsen Tree Farm Park Development | Rank 43 |
| • 20-1831D Horseshoe Lake Americans with Disabilities Revitalization (2) | Rank 44 |
| • 20-1255D Olmstead Park Development (6) | Rank 46 |
| • 20-1857C Jenkins Creek Park Expansion (3) | Rank 47 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • 20-1825D Heritage Square Redevelopment (2) | Rank 49 |
| • 20-1682D Evergreen Playfield Complex Restroom Replacement (2) | Rank 50 |
| • 20-1869D Kennewick Public Pool Rehabilitation Phase 2 (2) | Rank 51 |
| • 20-1321D White Salmon Valley Pool (9) | Rank 52 |
| • 20-1782A Narrows Park West Acquisition (3) | Rank 53 |
| • 20-1649D Gateway Park Phase 4 Synthetic Turf Fields (1) | Rank 56 |
| • 20-1551D Van Gasken Sound View Park Site Development (4) | Rank 57 |
| • 20-1415D Benton City Splash Pad (3) | Rank 59 |
| • 20-1840C Sweetwater Creek Waterwheel Park (8) | Rank 60 |
| • 20-1812D Vista Park Nature Trail Foot Bridge (5) | Rank 63 |
| • 20-1472A Leffler Field Acquisition (5) | Rank 65 |
| • 20-1824A Welcome Park (4) | Rank 71 |
| • 20-1879D Downtown Stevenson Park Plaza Development (4) | Rank 72 |
| • 20-1786D Cordata Community Park Phase Two (3) | Rank 74 |
| • 20-1668D Birch Bay Beach Park Development (1) | Rank 77 |

[View Letters Here](#)

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Outdoor Recreation
Account: State Lands Development and Renovation Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: Dan Haws, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Fourteen project proposals in the State Lands Development and Renovation category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the category, evaluation process, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution: 2020-31

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

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, boating access, picnic sites, and wildlife viewing blinds.

The State Lands Development and Renovation category receives ten percent or \$3 million (whichever is less) of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) funds in the Outdoor Recreation Account.

Program Summary

There were two changes to the State Lands Development and Renovation Category this year. There was a change to PRISM Online to make the applications easier and the *Sustainability* criterion was simplified, which also included a reduction in the point values. A summary of the State lands Development category is shown in the table below.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| Eligible Project Types | Development and renovation |
| Funding Limits | Minimum of \$25,000 and a maximum of \$325,000 per project |
| Match Requirements | None |
| Public Access | Required |
| Another Program Characteristic | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants must establish planning eligibility• Multi-site projects allowed<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Elements must be the same at each site (fishing docks, vault toilets, interpretive kiosk)○ Sites limited to no more than two adjacent counties○ Elements must meet capital project criteria○ No more than \$100,000 per site○ No more than five sites per project• Trail related projects must meet the criteria for the WWRP Trails category. |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Fourteen State Lands Development and Renovation category projects, requesting \$3.9 million, were evaluated by members of the WWRP State Lands Development Advisory Committee between September 4 and September 28, 2020, through a written evaluation process. Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, include state and local agency representatives and citizens who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge related to outdoor recreation. The following members participated this year:

| Advisory Committee Members | Representing |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Kurt Danison, Okanogan | Citizen |
| Bill Grimes, Spokane | Citizen |
| Erin Komo, Mill Creek | Citizen |

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Peter Sherrill, Bellevue | Citizen |
| Amanda Tainio, Spokane Valley | Citizen |
| Michael Aronowitz, Seattle City Light | Local Agency |
| Sharon Swan, Snohomish County Parks and Recreation | Local Agency |
| Shane Belson, Department of Fish and Wildlife | State Agency |
| Rex Hapala, Department of Natural Resources | State Agency |
| Michael Hankinson, State Parks and Recreation Commission | State Agency |

Using criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), a team of ten evaluators reviewed and ranked the projects. The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Development and Renovation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

RCO staff hosted a post evaluation meeting for the WWRP State Lands Development Advisory Committee on October 2. The committee took time to debrief and assess the technical review and evaluation process, and the scoring results. Members felt the process was organized and efficient, they received the materials needed, felt using the online tools made the job easier, and were satisfied with the resulting ranked list.

The committee participated in a pre-evaluation meeting, on September 4, where staff provided an overview of the evaluation criteria and training on using the new PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module. Advisors appreciated the time spent discussing the evaluation criteria at that meeting, and in particular the new *Sustainability* question. Upon seeing the results of the evaluation, they noted that there was not a widespread in scoring for this question, however, the revised criterion provided different things to consider with the inclusion of social and economic factors.

As in past years, advisors discussed why the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) projects appear to score higher than those submitted by the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Committee members believe the two key factors are that:

1. DNR gets higher scores on the *Public Benefit and Project Support* criterion because they can demonstrate support with their matching resources; and
2. DNR proposals are typically located closer to urban areas, which makes it easier to demonstrate need score better on the *Public Need* criterion.

The committee discussed whether this places WDFW proposals, which involve mostly access sites in eastern Washington, at a disadvantage. There was no definitive conclusion.

Public Comment

There are several letters of support or concern for State Lands Development and Renovation projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

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

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Development and Renovation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, via Resolution #2020-31.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 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 approved list. The 2021 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will approve the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-31, including *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Development and Renovation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for State Lands Development and Renovation Category Projects
- C. State Lands Development and Renovation Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. State Lands Development and Renovation Category Projects, Evaluation Scores, 2021-23
- E. State Lands Development and Renovation Project Descriptions
- F. State Lands Development and Renovation Letters of Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-31
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
State Lands Development and Renovation Category
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, fourteen State Lands Development and Renovation category projects are being considered for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all fourteen State Lands Development and Renovation category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in *Manual 10a, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program- Outdoor Recreation Account*, and

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

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred through a written evaluation process as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-13-020, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity in a fair and open manner; 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 preliminary ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, State Lands Development and Renovation Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, 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: _____

WWRP–Local Parks Category

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023

Resolution 2020-31

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 1 | 53.3 | 20-1501 D | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition | \$325,000 | \$388,000 | \$713,000 |
| 2 | 52.6 | 20-1503 D | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Highpoint Trailhead Addition | \$325,000 | \$400,000 | \$725,000 |
| 3 | 51.1 | 20-1445 D | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Raging River State Forest Trail System Development Final Phase | \$260,000 | \$269,000 | \$529,000 |
| 4 | 49.4 | 20-1256 D | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Blanchard State Forest Sustainable Toilets | \$90,400 | \$41,000 | \$131,400 |
| 5 | 49.2 | 20-1410 D | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Leyendecker Access Area Redevelopment | \$325,000 | | \$325,000 |
| 6 | 48.3 | 20-1291 D | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Boulder Lake Trail and Campsite Renovations | \$290,720 | \$21,520 | \$312,240 |
| 7 | 47.7 | 20-1749 D | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Ponds 4 and 5 Access Area Redevelopment | \$325,000 | | \$325,000 |
| 8 | 47.3 | 20-1504 D | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Mclane Creek Board Walk Replacement Phase 2 | \$239,000 | \$36,000 | \$275,000 |
| 9 | 46.5 | 20-1538 D | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Lewis Butte-Riser Lake Trailhead Development | \$325,000 | | \$325,000 |
| 10 | 46.3 | 20-1257 D | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Similkameen River Water Access Improvement | \$281,200 | | \$281,200 |
| 11 | 46 | 20-1292 D | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Gothic Basin Trail and Camping Area Development | \$289,340 | \$21,520 | \$310,860 |
| 12 | 44.6 | 20-1567 D | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Samish Unit Public Access Improvements | \$325,000 | | \$325,000 |

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 13 | 44.4 | 20-1665 D | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Buzzard Lake Access Area Redevelopment | \$211,500 | | \$211,500 |
| 14 | 41.4 | 20-1616 D | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Lily Lake Access Development | \$325,000 | | \$325,000 |
| Project type: D=development | | | | | Total | \$3,937,160 | \$1,177,040 |
| | | | | | | | \$5,114,200 |

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.¹

| State Lands Development and Renovation Criteria Summary | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Scored by | # | Question | Project Type | Maximum Points | Focus* |
| Advisory Committee | 1 | Public Need | Development and Renovation | 20 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 2 | Site Suitability and Design | Development and Renovation | 15 | Technical |
| Advisory Committee | 3 | Sustainability | Development and Renovation | 5 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 4 | Diversity and Compatibility | Development and Renovation | 10 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 5 | Performance Measure | Development and Renovation | 5 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 6 | Public Benefit | Development and Renovation | 5 | State |
| RCO Staff | 7 | Population Proximity | Development and Renovation | 1 | State |
| Total Points Possible: 61 | | | | | |

* Focus: Criteria orientation in accordance with the following priorities:

- State – those that meet general statewide needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP))
- Technical – those that meet technical considerations (usually more objective decisions than those of policy).

¹ Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.050

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?

2. **Site Suitability and Design**

Does the project demonstrate good design criteria? Does it make the best use of the site?

3. **Sustainability**

Resolution 2020-06

Please discuss how your project's location or design supports your organization's sustainability plan or how you considered the ecological, economic, and social benefits and impacts in the project plan.

4. **Diversity of and Compatibility of Recreational Uses**

To what extent does this project provide diversity of possible recreational uses?

5. **Outcome-Focused Performance Measures**

To what extent does the project result in measurable progress toward goals and objectives for the recreation or access area?

6. **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

7. **Proximity to Human Populations**

RCW 79A.25.250

Is the project in a populated area?

State Lands Development and Renovation Category Projects, Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Site Suitability and Design | 3. Sustainability | 4. Diversity and Compatibility | 5. Outcome-Focused Performance Measure | 6. Public Benefit and Project Support | 7. Population Proximity | Total |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-20 | 0-15 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-5 | 0-1 | |
| 1 | 20-1501 D | Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition | 18.40 | 13.50 | 4.00 | 8.00 | 3.90 | 4.50 | 1.00 | 53.30 |
| 2 | 20-1503 D | Highpoint Trailhead Addition | 18.40 | 12.90 | 3.80 | 8.00 | 3.70 | 4.80 | 1.00 | 52.60 |
| 3 | 20-1445 D | Raging River State Forest Trail System Development Final Phase | 18.00 | 12.60 | 3.80 | 7.20 | 3.90 | 4.60 | 1.00 | 51.10 |
| 4 | 20-1256 D | Blanchard State Forest Sustainable Toilets | 18.00 | 12.60 | 3.90 | 7.20 | 3.30 | 4.40 | 0.00 | 49.40 |
| 5 | 20-1410 D | Leyendecker Access Area Redevelopment | 16.40 | 12.60 | 4.00 | 8.20 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00 | 49.20 |
| 6 | 20-1291 D | Boulder Lake Trail and Campsite Renovations | 16.40 | 12.30 | 3.70 | 7.20 | 3.60 | 4.10 | 1.00 | 48.30 |
| 7 | 20-1749 D | Ponds 4 and 5 Access Area Redevelopment | 17.60 | 11.70 | 3.40 | 7.40 | 3.80 | 3.80 | 0.00 | 47.70 |
| 8 | 20-1504 D | Mclane Creek Board Walk Replacement Phase 2 | 15.20 | 11.40 | 3.70 | 7.80 | 3.60 | 4.60 | 1.00 | 47.30 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Site Suitability and Design | 3. Sustainability | 4. Diversity and Compatibility | 5. Outcome-Focused Performance Measure | 6. Public Benefit and Project Support | 7. Population Proximity | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| 9 | 20-1538 D | Lewis Butte-Riser Lake Trailhead Development | 15.60 | 12.60 | 3.80 | 7.60 | 3.60 | 3.30 | 0.00 | 46.50 |
| 10 | 20-1257 D | Similkameen River Water Access Improvement | 16.00 | 12.00 | 3.90 | 7.80 | 3.30 | 3.30 | 0.00 | 46.30 |
| 11 | 20-1292 D | Gothic Basin Trail and Camping Area Development | 16.00 | 11.40 | 3.80 | 6.40 | 3.50 | 3.90 | 1.00 | 46.00 |
| 12 | 20-1567 D | Samish Unit Public Access Improvements | 15.60 | 11.10 | 3.20 | 7.40 | 3.80 | 3.50 | 0.00 | 44.60 |
| 13 | 20-1665 D | Buzzard Lake Access Area Redevelopment | 14.80 | 11.40 | 3.50 | 7.80 | 3.30 | 3.60 | 0.00 | 44.40 |
| 14 | 20-1616 D | Lily Lake Access Development | 14.80 | 10.50 | 3.50 | 6.20 | 3.50 | 2.90 | 0.00 | 41.40 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-6; RCO staff score Question 7. Project type: D=development

State Lands Development and Renovation Category Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-2023

Washington Department of Natural Resources Renovating the Tiger Summit Trailhead

Grant Requested: \$325,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to renovate the Tiger Summit Trailhead, in Tiger Mountain State Forest, about 25 miles from Seattle. The department will add 144 parking spaces and an equestrian parking area with spaces for six horse trailers, install a toilet, develop picnic areas, install information kiosks, add an equestrian mounting ramp, and build a shuttle stop. In addition, the department will improve access to the trail system and to a new shelter with views of Mount Rainier and the Cascade Mountains. With continued regional population growth and record use levels approaching 250,000 visits a year, the 50-car gravel trailhead, which was built more than 30 years ago, is no longer adequate and people are parking along the highway and county roads. Tiger Mountain offers more than 50 miles of mountain biking, equestrian, and hiking trails and an accessible interpretive loop. The additional parking that is proposed is urgently needed to improve access and safety and to provide a high-quality outdoor recreation experience. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$388,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, a grant from RCO's Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicles Activities program, and donations of materials and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1501)

Washington Department of Natural Resources Expanding the Highpoint Trailhead

Grant Requested: \$325,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to expand the Highpoint Trailhead in the West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area. The department will create a formal entry roundabout, add 158 parking spaces, add a shuttle stop and school bus loading zone, create a picnic area, and install a toilet and informational kiosks. In addition, the department will build connections to hiking trails and environmental education facilities within the conservation area and in Issaquah's Tradition Plateau on the south side of Interstate 90, and to hiking and mountain biking trails in King County's Grand Ridge Park on the north side of the interstate. The work will accommodate high use, improve public safety, and reduce unauthorized camping and dumping at the forest's entry. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$400,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, a grant from the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program, and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1503)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Completing Trails in Raging River State Forest**

Grant Requested: \$260,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to build the final 10 miles of a 45-mile trail network in Raging River State Forest, about 20 miles east of Seattle. The trail is for non-motorized uses, such as hiking, bicycling, and riding horses. The proposed new trails will give visitors a safer alternative to using service roads, develop missing trail links, provide under-served downhill mountain biking trails, and provide more trail access mostly for equestrian and hiking use. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$269,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, a grant from the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities program, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1445)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Installing Toilets in Blanchard State Forest**

Grant Requested: \$90,400

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to install campground and trailhead restrooms in the Blanchard State Forest, in western Skagit County. The department will install two toilets in the Lily and Lizard Lake backcountry campgrounds and one at the Blanchard Upper Trailhead parking area. The new toilets will reduce environmental impacts from the increase in public use to the state forest. Blanchard State Forest provides non-motorized recreation on 15 miles of trail and primitive camping opportunities for recreation users from all over Washington. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$41,000 in a state appropriation, equipment, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1256)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Redeveloping the Leyendecker Access Area**

Grant Requested: \$325,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Leyendecker Access Area on the Bogachiel River. The department will install a new toilet, add parking and a loading platform for people with disabilities, install a new ramp at a better location, and remove hazardous trees. People use the access area for boating, fishing from the riverbank, wildlife viewing, and photographing nature. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1410)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Improving Boulder Lake Trails and Camping Area**

Grant Requested: \$290,720

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to renovate the trails and campsites at Boulder Lake, a popular hiking destination in the Morning Star Natural Resources Conservation Area, about 25 miles east of Everett. The department will install a backcountry toilet and renovate nine campsites and 0.5 mile of trail in the Boulder Lake Camping Area. In addition, the department will renovate 3.8 miles of the Boulder Lake Trail. The work will improve public safety and mitigate environmental impacts from public use. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$21,520 in a state appropriation and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1291)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Redeveloping the Access Area for Ponds 4 and 5**

Grant Requested: \$325,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the water access site in the Sunnyside/Snake River Wildlife Area's Interstate 82 Ponds Unit, known as the Ponds 4 and 5 Water Access Site. This popular fishing site in the lower Yakima Valley provides access to the Yakima River, near Toppenish, Wapato, Buena, and Yakima. The department will install a toilet, parking, pathway, and fishing platform on Pond 4—all accessible to people with disabilities. In addition, the department will improve the dirt boat launch on Pond 4 and the dirt path around Pond 4 for easier access and use. Finally, the department will build a boat hand-launch between Ponds 4 and 5 to give boats access to Pond 5. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1749)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Replacing McLane Creek Boardwalks**

Grant Requested: \$239,000

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to replace the boardwalk at the McLane Creek Nature Trails in Capitol State Forest, near Olympia. The nature trails have extensive boardwalks and viewing areas over the perennial ponds and streams, giving visitors a close view of wetlands, streams, wildlife, native plants, and salmon, without disrupting the natural environment. Many schools, from pre-schools to college classes, use McLane Creek for environmental education, research, and other learning purposes. The new boardwalk will ensure trail connections, enhance safety, and increase user enjoyment for thousands of people for many years to come. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$36,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1504)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Improving the Lewis Butte-Riser Lake Trailhead**

Grant Requested: \$325,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve the Lewis Butte-Riser Lake Trailhead. The department will replace the toilet, make the start of the trail more accessible to people with disabilities, and improve the kiosk, signs, and trail markers. In addition, the department will improve the parking area by add parking, improving the road into the parking area, installing fencing next to the parking area, and adding a gate. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1538)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Improving Access to the Similkameen River**

Grant Requested: \$281,200

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve three water access sites along the Similkameen River. The sites were purchased in 1969 and have had few improvements. The department will lay gravel in the parking areas, renovate the access roads, improve signs, and update fences and barrier rocks to keep visitors from impacting surrounding habitat. The work would be done along the river from nearly the Canadian border to Bureau of Land Management sites 10 miles downstream. This constitutes the bulk of the Similkameen Water Trail. Kayaking, canoeing, fishing, wildlife watching, picnicking, photographing nature, and general day-use of these sites is expected to increase with improved facilities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1257)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources
Improving the Gothic Basin Trail and Camping Area**

Grant Requested: \$289,340

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to renovate 2 miles of the Gothic Basin Trail and build six designated campsites and a composting restroom in the Gothic Basin camping area, in the Morningstar Natural Resources Conservation Area, about 25 miles east of Everett. The work will improve protection of the environment and the user experience. The trail and camping area are used for hiking, climbing and backcountry camping. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$21,520 in a state appropriation and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1292)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Improving Duck Hunting Access in the Skagit Wildlife Area**

Grant Requested: \$325,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to develop a waterfowl hunting and wildlife viewing site accessible to people with disabilities in the Samish Unit of the Skagit Wildlife Area. The department will build an entry pathway into two new waterfowl hunting blinds and wildlife viewing platforms, install a toilet, and build a parking pad next to the parking lot—all accessible to people with disabilities. In addition, the department will improve access routes (farm roads and berm) and trail surfaces. No hunting opportunities accessible to people with disabilities are offered on public lands in Skagit County. The department has more than 160,000 hunters, anglers, and recreational users in its Disability Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1567)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Redeveloping the Buzzard Lake Access Area**

Grant Requested: \$211,500

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Buzzard Lake Unit of the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area, which is a popular destination for anglers, campers, off-road vehicle riders, and outdoor enthusiasts. The department will install a toilet, harden the parking area, renovate the camping sites, install a boating hand-launch site to replace a very primitive launch area, and place barrier rocks to protect habitats where risk of off-road driving is high. The work would renovate key areas, provide for broader recreation opportunities, and improve facilities for people with disabilities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1665)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Improving Parking at Lily Lake**

Grant Requested: \$325,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve parking and access at the Lily Lake Reservoir, south of Wenatchee. The department will improve the access road to the lake, create two gravel parking lots with one for snowmobiles, and build picnic sites at the reservoir. Lily Lake is an irrigation reservoir on department land and has a long history of public use for trout fishing in the spring and camping nearby. Unfortunately, the area also suffers from chronic garbage issues, 4X4 vehicle mudding, and trash and wooden pallet bonfires. This project is an effort to reduce the undesirable activities and provide a clean, safe, day-use area for people to recreate. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1616)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the State Lands Development and Renovation Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| • 20-1501D Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition (9) | Rank 1 |
| • 20-1503D Highpoint Trailhead Addition (8) | Rank 2 |
| • 20-1445D Raging River State Forest Trail System Final Phase (4) | Rank 3 |
| • 20-1256D Blanchard State Forest Sustainable Toilets (5) | Rank 4 |
| • 20-1410D Leyendecker Access Area Redevelopment (1) | Rank 5 |
| • 20-1291D Boulder Lake Trail and Campsite Renovations (5) | Rank 6 |
| • 20-1504D Mclane Creek Board Walk Replacement Phase 2 (15) | Rank 8 |
| • 20-1538D Lewis Butte-Riser Lake Trailhead Development (1) | Rank 9 |
| • 20-1257D Similkameen River Water Access Improvement (3) | Rank10 |

[View Letters Here](#)

APPROVED RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**Meeting Date:** November 5, 2020**Title:** Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program,
Outdoor Recreation Account: State Parks Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23**Prepared By:** Karl Jacobs, Senior Outdoor Grants Manager**Summary**

Ten project proposals in the State Parks category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the category, review and evaluation process, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Resolution: 2020-32**Purpose of Resolution:** Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.**Background**

The State Parks category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) provides funds for acquiring and developing active and passive outdoor recreation areas. Facilities may include campgrounds, fishing sites, picnic areas, swim beaches, trails, and support amenities including administrative and maintenance structures.

The State Parks category receives thirty percent of the funds in the WWRP Outdoor Recreation Account. Fifty percent of the funds allocated in this category must be used

for acquisition.¹ Meeting this statutory requirement may require skipping higher-ranked development projects in favor of acquisition projects.

Program Summary

There were changes to the State Parks category that went into effect this year. The changes involved using a written evaluation process and making a few minor modifications or clarifications to the evaluation criteria to reflect current State Parks' planning documents and priorities.

A summary of this WWRP category is shown in the table below.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicant | State Parks and Recreation Commission |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition• Development• Combination projects (acquisition and development)• Renovation is not eligible |
| Funding Limits | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No limits |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None required |
| Public Access | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Required |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicant must establish planning eligibility.• Property acquired or developed must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity.• Administrative offices, storage buildings, shops, and residences are eligible if they are essential to the operation and maintenance of the assisted site. |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Ten State Parks category projects, requesting over \$16.4 million, were evaluated by members of the WWRP State Parks Advisory Committee in Olympia. As shown in the following table, the advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, included six State Parks staff, three individuals representing local government, and two citizen volunteers. The members have expertise and experience in planning, land use issues, parks and recreation resource management, engineering, and design.

¹ Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.050(2)(a) and Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Resolution 2016-52

| Advisory Committee Member | Representing |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Thomas Bradley, Spokane | Citizen |
| Janice Sears, Seattle | Citizen |
| Mary Dodsworth, City of Lakewood | Local Agency |
| Carolyn Hope, City of Burien | Local Agency |
| Ken Wilkinson, City of Yakima | Local Agency |
| Ken Graham, Olympia | State Parks |
| Bob Gratias, Olympia | State Parks |
| Larry Mallo, Olympia | State Parks |
| Janet Shonk, Lakebay | State Parks |
| Todd Tatum, Olympia | State Parks |
| Sam Wotipka, Olympia | State Parks |

Advisory committee members reviewed the project proposals and scored the projects using board-adopted evaluation criteria from August 17 to September 18, 2020. At the September 17 State Parks Commission meeting, the Commission scored the board-adopted evaluation criterion that addresses how well a project implements the Commission's priorities. The Commission's score was combined with the advisory committee's scores to create a ranked list for board consideration. The results are shown in *Table 1 – WWRP, State Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of the Evaluation Process and Criteria

During the post evaluation meeting on October 1, State Parks Advisory Committee members provided feedback on the review and evaluation process. They were generally satisfied with the results, although some were surprised with a few of the rankings. Advisors spoke about the value of technical review and expressed their appreciation to State Parks staff for using the feedback to improve their project proposals.

While the evaluation criteria work well, and the revisions made this year helped, some thought that the *Partnerships or Match* criterion overlaps too much with *Project Support*. It would help if the criteria were clarified to be more distinct.

They also noted that the Inholdings project that is proposed every grant cycle is unique and can therefore be difficult to score. They understand the value and importance of this project and wondered if some funding could simply be dedicated to that project, rather than competing with the other projects.

Overall, the advisory committee was satisfied with the process and with the results. They liked using a written process this year and felt like they had plenty of time to read, review, and score the proposals.

Public Comment

There are letters of support or concern for State Parks category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the October board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

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

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, State Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, via Resolution #2020-32.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 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 approved list. The 2021 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 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-32, including Table 1 – *WWRP State Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for State Parks Category Projects
- C. State Parks Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. State Parks Category Projects, Evaluation Summary, 2021-23
- E. State Parks Category Project Descriptions 2021-23
- F. State Parks Category Letters of Support or Concern 2021-23

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-32
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
State Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-23 biennium, ten State Parks category projects are being considered for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all ten State Parks category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 10a, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Outdoor Recreation Account*; and

WHEREAS, these State Parks category projects were evaluated by a team comprised of State Parks staff, local agency representatives, and citizen volunteers using evaluation criteria approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), thereby supporting the board's goal to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

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

WHEREAS, the projects involve acquisition and development of properties for public outdoor recreation, thereby supporting priorities in the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022* and 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 Parks Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, 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: _____

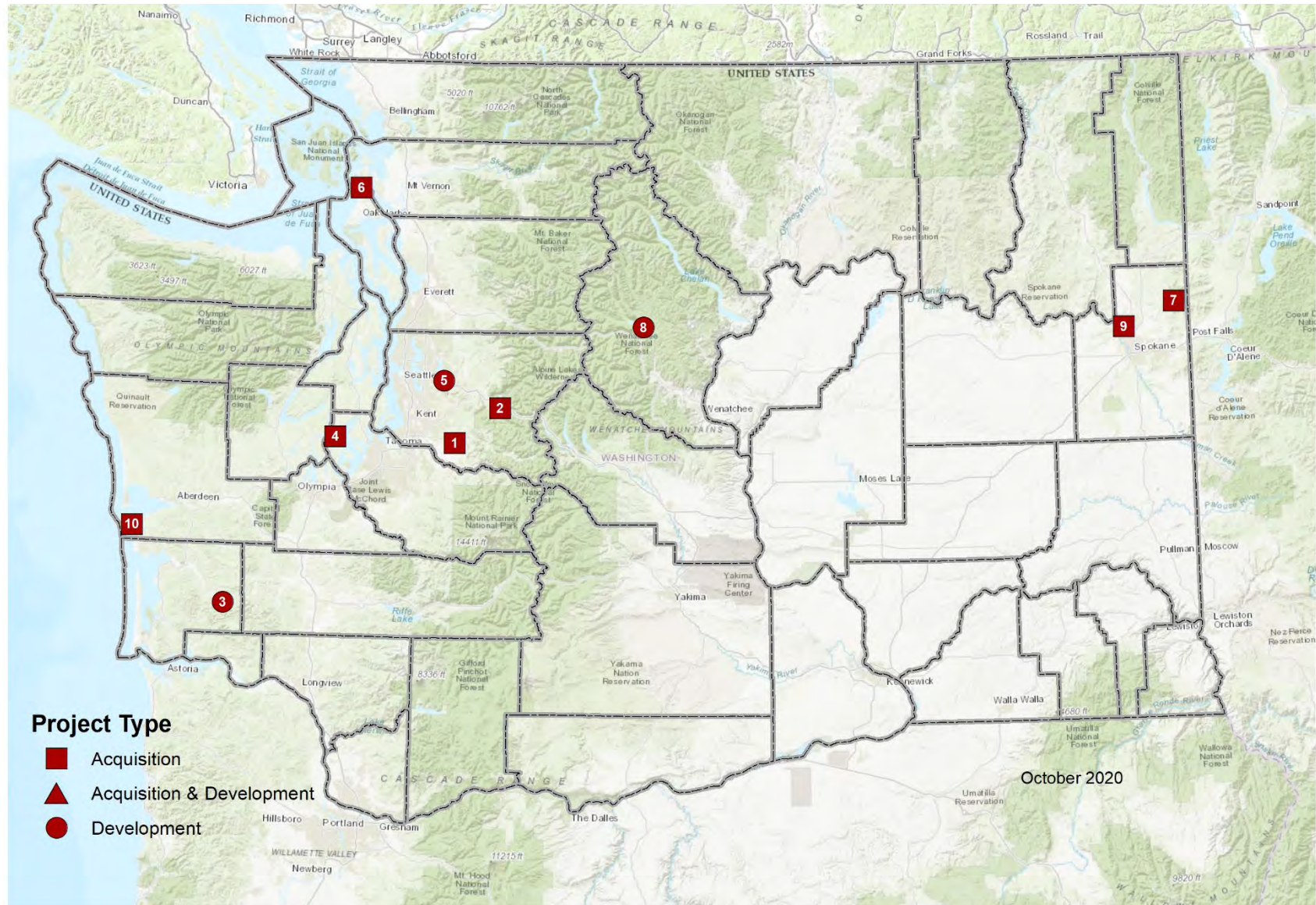
WWRP – State Parks Category
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects
2021-2023

Resolution 2020-32

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|--------------|-------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 66.26 | 20-1555 A | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Green River Gorge Icy Creek Ridge | \$1,972,500 | \$727,500 | \$2,700,000 |
| 2 | 66.06 | 20-1433 A | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Olallie State Park Mount Washington | \$898,906 | \$27,750 | \$926,656 |
| 3 | 64.51 | 20-1312 D | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Willapa Hills Trail Pacific County Bridges | \$1,157,250 | \$65,000 | \$1,222,250 |
| 4 | 63.99 | 20-1293 A | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Inholdings and Adjacent Properties | \$1,000,000 | | \$1,000,000 |
| 5 | 63.98 | 20-1556 D | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Lake Sammamish Issaquah Creek Loop Trail | \$2,617,968 | \$110,000 | \$2,727,968 |
| 6 | 62.27 | 20-1223 A | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Deception Pass State Park Nyberg Property | \$1,953,750 | \$25,000 | \$1,978,750 |
| 7 | 58.86 | 20-1593 A | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Mount Spokane Bear Creek | \$2,724,200 | | \$2,724,200 |
| 8 | 57.58 | 20-1603 D | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Lake Wenatchee Pedestrian Bridge | \$2,520,000 | | \$2,520,000 |
| 9 | 53.83 | 20-1528 A | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Riverside Little Spokane River Robinson Property | \$858,100 | | \$858,100 |
| 10 | 46.98 | 20-1599 A | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Twin Harbors State Park Residential Acquisition | \$733,785 | | \$733,785 |
| Total | | | | | \$16,436,459 | \$955,250 | \$17,391,709 |

Project type: A=acquisition, D=development

State Map for State Parks Category Projects



State Parks Category Evaluation Criteria Summary

This project category is reserved for the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for acquisition and/or development of state parks.²

| State Parks Criteria Summary | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|----------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Score | | Question | Project Type | Maximum Points Possible | Focus* |
| Advisory Committee | 1 | Public Need and Need Satisfaction | All | 5 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 2 | Project Significance | All | 15 | Agency |
| Advisory Committee | 3 | Threat and Impact | Acquisition | 10 | State |
| | | | Combination | 5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 4 | Project Design | Development | 10 | Technical |
| | | | Combination | 5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 5 | Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship | All | 10 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 6 | Expansion/Phased Project | All | 15 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 7 | Project Support | All | 10 | Agency |
| Advisory Committee | 8 | Partnership or Match | All | 5 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 9 | Readiness to Proceed | All | 10 | Agency |
| State Parks Commission | 10 | Commission Priorities | All | 6 | Agency |
| RCO Staff | 11 | Proximity to People | All | 1.5 | State |
| RCO Staff | 12 | County Population Density | All | 1.5 | State |
| Total Points Possible=89 | | | | | |

*Focus–Criteria orientation in accordance with the following priorities:

- State–those that meet general statewide needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP))
- Agency–those that meet agency needs (usually an item of narrower purview, often called for in the State Parks and Recreation Commission’s plans)
- Technical–those that meet technical considerations (usually more objective decisions than those of policy).

² Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.050

Scoring Criteria, State Parks Category

Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Public Need and Need Satisfaction** What is the need for the proposed project? To what extent will the project satisfy the need?

Resolution 2016-20. Updated April 2020, per Delegation Authority, Resolution 2020-10

2. **Project Significance** Describe how this project supports State Parks' strategic goals. Does it support one or more of the goals of State Parks' Statewide Acquisition and Development Strategy? *Resolution 2014-07.*

Updated April 2020, per Delegation Authority, Resolution 2020-10

3. **Threat and Impacts.**
Describe why it is important to acquire the property now. (Acquisition/Combination only)

Updated April 2020, per Delegation Authority, Resolution 2020-10

4. **Project Design.**
Is the project well designed? (Development/Combination only)

Updated April 2020, per Delegation Authority, Resolution 2020-10

5. **Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship**
What techniques or resources are proposed to ensure the project will result in a quality, sustainable, recreational, heritage preservation, or educational opportunity, while protecting the integrity of the environment?

Resolution 2016-20. Updated April 2020, per Delegation Authority, Resolution 2020-10.

6. **Expansion/Phased Project**
Does this project implement an important phase of a previous project, represent an important first phase, or expand or improve an existing site?

Resolution 2016-20

7. **Project Support**
What is the extent to which the public (statewide, community, or user groups) has been provided with an adequate opportunity to become informed, or support for the project seems apparent?

Resolution 2016-20

8. Partnerships or Match

Describe how this project supports strategic partnerships or leverages matching funds.

9. Readiness to Proceed

Describe the project's timeline. Is the project ready to proceed?

Resolution 2016-20. Updated April 2020, per Delegation Authority, Resolution 2020-10

Scored by Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

10. Commission's Priority

How well does this project implement the commission's priorities?

Resolution 2016-20

Scored by RCO Staff

11. Proximity to People

Is this project in the urban growth boundary of a city or town with a population of 5,000 or more?

RCW 79A.25.250

12. County Population Density

Is the project in a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile?

RCW 79A.25.250

State Parks Category Projects, Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need and Need Satisfaction | 2. Project Significance | 3. Threat and Impact | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship | 6. Expansion/ Phased | 7. Project Support | 8. Partnership or Match | 9. Readiness to Proceed | 10. Commission Priorities | 11. Population Proximity | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-5 | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-10 | 0-10 | 0-15 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-6 | 0-1 | 0-1 | |
| 1 | 20-1555 A | Green River Gorge Icy Creek Ridge | 4.18 | 12.55 | 8.91 | | 6.36 | 11.45 | 7.82 | 4.36 | 6.73 | 2.40 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 66.26 |
| 2 | 20-1433 A | Olallie State Park Mount Washington | 4.64 | 12.27 | 7.27 | | 6.55 | 11.45 | 8.36 | 3.45 | 6.36 | 4.20 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 66.06 |
| 3 | 20-1312 D | Willapa Hills Trail Pacific County Bridges | 4.27 | 12.27 | | 7.64 | 7.27 | 13.09 | 7.82 | 3.09 | 5.45 | 3.60 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 64.51 |
| 4 | 20-1293 A | Inholdings and Adjacent Properties | 4.36 | 12.27 | 8.73 | | 6.00 | 10.09 | 6.00 | 2.00 | 7.64 | 5.40 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 63.99 |
| 5 | 20-1556 D | Lake Sammamish Issaquah Creek Loop Trail | 4.00 | 11.18 | | 6.73 | 8.00 | 12.27 | 8.18 | 3.55 | 5.27 | 1.80 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 63.98 |
| 6 | 20-1223 A | Deception Pass State Park Nyberg Property | 3.73 | 10.09 | 9.45 | | 6.18 | 9.82 | 7.82 | 2.82 | 6.36 | 6.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 62.27 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Public Need and Need Satisfaction | 2. Project Significance | 3. Threat and Impact | 4. Project Design | 5. Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship | 6. Expansion/ Phased | 7. Project Support | 8. Partnership or Match | 9. Readiness to Proceed | 10. Commission Priorities | 11. Population Proximity | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 7 | 20-1593 A | Mount Spokane Bear Creek | 4.00 | 12.82 | 6.55 | | 4.91 | 10.36 | 6.73 | 2.45 | 6.55 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 58.86 |
| 8 | 20-1603 D | Lake Wenatchee Pedestrian Bridge | 4.09 | 13.09 | | 6.00 | 6.73 | 9.55 | 6.73 | 1.45 | 4.55 | 5.40 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 57.58 |
| 9 | 20-1528 A | Riverside Little Spokane River Robinson Property | 3.91 | 10.36 | 7.09 | | 6.18 | 9.82 | 5.82 | 2.18 | 6.36 | 0.60 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 53.83 |
| 10 | 20-1599 A | Twin Harbors State Park Residential Acquisition | 3.36 | 9.55 | 6.91 | | 6.36 | 7.91 | 4.55 | 1.27 | 5.27 | 1.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 46.98 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-9; RCO staff score Questions 10-12
Project type: A=acquisition, D=development

State Parks Category

Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-2023

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$1,972,500 **Buying Land for a Trail in the Green River Gorge**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 44 acres near Black Diamond, in the Green River Gorge Conservation Area. The land in Icy Creek Ridge is some of the last needed before State Parks can build a trail along the south rim of the gorge, from Kanaskat-Palmer State Park to Flaming Geyser State Park. The landowner has developed roads and has 14 building sites. The purchase will prevent the development and protect habitat corridors between the Green River and King County's Bass Lake complex to the south. The road will provide access to a future trailhead. The landowner is a willing seller. The State Parks and Recreation Commission will contribute \$727,500 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1555)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$898,906 **Buying Land within Olallie State Park**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 150 acres in Olallie State Park, ensuring this popular recreation area is protected forever for public use. Located just east of North Bend and within an hour's drive from Seattle, Olallie State Park is in the heart of the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area. Each season, thousands of hikers and rock climbers unknowingly traverse this private property, which includes 1 mile of the Mount Washington Trail, on their way to Mount Washington's summit or to more than 70 sport climbing routes in the Mount Washington Climbing Area. Though regularly used by hikers and climbers, no agreement is in place with the owner to ensure permitted access, nor is there an alternative access point given the site's topography. The State Parks and Recreation Commission will contribute \$27,750 in a private grant and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1433)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$1,157,250 **Installing Bridges on the Willapa Hills Trail**

State Parks will use this grant to develop 11 miles of the Willapa Hills State Park Trail, creating more than 40 miles of continuous trail between Chehalis and Menlo. State Parks will improve three railroad bridges, install another, and lay gravel on short segments. On the three bridges, State Parks will remove rotten wood and install concrete decking and metal and wood safety rails. A new, 65-foot-long bridge will be placed near Lebam and about 1 mile of the trail will be surfaced there. Finally, State

Parks will lay gravel and dig ditches to prevent flooding at five short segments. The Willapa Hills Trail runs 56 miles between Chehalis and South Bend. The State Parks and Recreation Commission will contribute \$65,000 in donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1312)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$1,000,000
Buying Land within or next to Current Parks

State Parks will use this grant to buy high-priority properties within or next to current state parks. It is intended to be a flexible source of funding for smaller, lower cost, priority land purchases that present themselves during the biennium. It will allow State Parks to act quickly when land comes on the market, and it will facilitate the purchase of smaller properties that might not score well as individual projects but that are essential to park operations. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1293)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$2,617,968
Building the Issaquah Creek Loop Trail

State Parks will use this grant to develop a 1.25-mile loop trail near Issaquah Creek in Lake Sammamish State Park. State Parks will put a bridge over Issaquah Creek and shorter bridges over two drainage ditches. The trail will be crushed rock, except where it crosses through wetlands, where it will be boardwalk. State Parks also will remove some trail sections that are too close to the creek, including one that washed out in February 2020. Lake Sammamish had more than 1.3 million visitors in 2019, making it one of the most visited state parks. Most visitors stay in the more heavily developed areas of the park and are unaware of the beautiful wetlands, streams, and forested areas the park offers. This trail will allow visitors to venture into the park's natural areas on a short and easy loop trail that is accessible to people with disabilities. The trail also will link to other park trails to make larger loops. The State Parks and Recreation Commission will contribute \$110,000 in donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1556)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$1,953,750
Expanding Deception Pass State Park

State Parks will use this grant to buy 83 acres on the north end of Deception Pass, within the long-term boundary of Deception Pass State Park. The land would be used for trails and would protect views. The landowner has the land for sale and intends to log and subdivide it for houses. The land is visible from the park and development would harm the views in the park. Deception Pass is Washington's most-visited state park with more than 3.4 million visits annually. The 3,854-acre marine and camping park boasts nearly

15 miles of saltwater shoreline and more than 6 miles of freshwater shoreline on three lakes. The State Parks and Recreation Commission will contribute \$25,000 in council bonds and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1223)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$2,724,200
Buying Bear Creek Lodge on Mount Spokane

State Parks will use this grant to buy the 15-room Bear Creek Lodge and associated campground, tubing hill, and surrounding 110 acres, on the boundary of Mount Spokane State Park. State Parks will partner with another group to operate the lodge and tubing hill. The purchase will allow State Parks to operate park offices, a welcome center to orientate users to the mountain, a meeting room, and a public transportation hub to accommodate visitors. It also would free up an existing building needed for ranger housing. The purchase would allow State Parks to better manage the increasing use of Mount Spokane, which has popular trails for both summer and winter recreation. Mount Spokane is the largest state park and a new freeway is being built that will provide easier access to the mountain. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1593)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$2,520,000
Building a Pedestrian Bridge in Lake Wenatchee State Park

State Parks will use this grant to build a pedestrian bridge in Lake Wenatchee State Park, dramatically transforming one of Washington's most stunning and popular destinations. The bridge will link the northern and southern portions of the park, which are separated by the Wenatchee River. Sited at the previously disturbed location of an old abandoned roadway alignment, the new bridge and its approaches to existing trails will improve user safety and experience by allowing them to move freely between the more developed southern portion and the more natural northern portion without having to walk along a 1.1-mile stretch of State Route 207. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1603)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$858,100
Buying Land in Riverside State Park

State Parks will use this grant to buy 8.6 acres within Riverside State Park. Spokane's rapid and steady growth continues to apply pressure to the Little Spokane River and associated Natural Area, both within the park. The purchase will allow State Parks to convert a house to a ranger residence resulting in 24-hour oversight, provide boat-in access and sanitation facilities, and conserve uplands and wetlands adding to the quality

and quantity of the Natural Area. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1528)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$733,785
Expanding Twin Harbors State Park

State Parks will use this grant to buy 4.42 acres, including a nearly 2,000-square-foot house and several outbuildings as part of Twin Harbors State Park, in Westport. The land is within the park's proposed long-term boundary, north of the Schafer Island Beach Approach. The purchase will extend ocean beach frontage north by 238 feet and create new opportunities for visitors to enjoy more uplands and beach for wildlife viewing and recreation on new trails. Importantly, the land is higher in elevation and will allow for reliable, year-round access. The current park housing will be closed in the coming years and all park amenities, along with administrative and maintenance functions, will be moved out of the area due to flooding. The new property would provide some space for park storage and maintenance uses. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1599)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the State Parks Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| • 20-1555A Green River Gorge Icy Creek Ridge (12) | Rank 1 |
| • 20-1433A Olallie State Park Mount Washington (1,252) | Rank 2 |
| • 20-1312D Willapa Hills Trail Pacific County Bridges (3) | Rank 3 |
| • 20-1556D Lake Sammamish Issaquah Creek Loop Trail (13) | Rank 5 |

[View Letters Here](#)

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program,
Outdoor Recreation Account: Trails Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: Jesse Sims, Outdoor Grants Manager
Kyle Guzlas, Grants Services Section Manager

Summary

Twenty-nine project proposals in the Trails category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the category, review and evaluation process, and the ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list that becomes the basis for grant funding after legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

This item is a:

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

Resolution: 2020-33

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

The Trails category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) provides funds for community and regional pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian or cross-country ski trails. The intent of this funding source is to construct, renovate, and secure right-of-way for statewide, regional, and community-oriented recreational trails that provide linkages between communities or other trails.

Trails must be for non-motorized use and cannot be part of a city, street, or county road ("roadway") such as a sidewalk, unprotected road shoulder, or any other area on the roadway such as a designated bike or combination bike and pedestrian lane. Trails adjacent to a roadway must be separated by space and potentially physical barriers to ensure a quality recreational experience¹.

The Trails category receives twenty percent of the funds from the Outdoor Recreation Account.

Program Summary

Staff implemented several new board-adopted policies for the 2020 grant cycle, which included:

- Revising the match reduction policy for federal disaster areas
- Removing the ten percent non-state, non-federal match requirement
- Modifying the *Sustainability* evaluation criterion that now applies to development and combination projects only, and
- Increasing the maximum points for the *Immediacy of Threat* criterion for acquisition only projects.

In addition, RCO modified PRISM Online to make the application process easier. A summary of current Trail policies is shown in the table below.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | Local and state ² agencies, federally recognized Native American tribes, park districts, and special purpose districts. |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition • Development or renovation of existing facilities • Combination projects involving both acquisition and development or renovation |
| Funding Limits | No limits |
| Match Requirements | <p>50 percent match required with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match may be reduced for communities in need, underserved populations, counties in need, or communities providing facilities in federal disaster areas. <p><u>Note</u>: Because the entire state was deemed a federal disaster area, due to COVID-19, the match was set at 25 percent for applicants choosing the federal disaster area pathway. See Match Reduction below.</p> |

¹When the space is less than 10', there must be a physical barrier.

² State agencies eligible are Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and Washington State Departments of Enterprise Services, Fish and Wildlife, and Natural Resources.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no match requirement for state agencies. |
| Public Access | Required |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants must establish planning eligibility. • Property acquired, developed, or renovated must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. • Trails must be for nonmotorized use only. • Trails may have hard or natural surfacing. • Grant may be used to construct necessary support infrastructure such as trailheads, restrooms, picnic areas, or viewing areas that are directly related to an existing or proposed public trail. |

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Twenty-nine Trails category projects, requesting \$34 million in grant funding, were evaluated by the WWRP Trails Advisory Committee from September 21 to 23. Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, are recognized for their expertise, experience, and technical knowledge related to public recreational trails. The team included the following:

| Evaluator | Representing |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Greg Fowler, Winthrop | Citizen |
| Michelle Griffin, Spokane | Citizen |
| Andy Stevenson, Port Angeles | Citizen |
| Mike Town, Duvall | Citizen |
| Betsy Anderson, City of Bellevue | Local agency |
| Angie Feser, City of Edmonds | Local agency |
| Jillian Marshall, Colville Parks and Recreation Department | Local agency |
| Sam Jarrett, Washington Department of Natural Resources | State agency |
| Melinda Posner, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission | State agency |
| Lauri Vigue, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | State agency |
| Brian Wood, Washington State Department of Transportation | State agency |

Eleven advisory committee members reviewed the proposals using video conferencing software to conduct the meetings virtually. They used RCO's PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module to score the projects using board-approved criteria. The project presentations were streamed live to a free internet site to support public transparency. The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – WWRP, Trails Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

Immediately following the evaluation meeting on September 23 and during the post evaluation meeting on October 1, staff met with the Trails Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results.

Virtual Tools

The committee felt the virtual process worked well and was organized. The PRISM Review and Evaluation Module received excellent feedback for its functionality and usability. Advisors appreciated the layout, access to the important project information, and the ease of scoring and comparing criteria rankings. Additionally, committee members felt that the Zoom format worked well for reviewing and evaluating projects. Several members lost Internet connection for brief periods of time, however they were able to view the recorded presentations shortly thereafter on the RCO YouTube channel.

Components Embedded in Some Criteria

During the evaluation debrief and post evaluation meeting several topics were discussed by the committee. The initial discussion focused on the amount of questions that are included in Criteria #1 *Need*. This criterion includes five major components: inventory, use, meeting the need, vision, and underserved populations. Several evaluators commented on the fact that since there are so many components to this question most projects scored relatively high.

Scoring Range

The committee discussed in some detail the idea of expanding the range that evaluators are given for scoring “core” evaluation criteria (#1: *Need*, #4: *Threat*, and #5: *Design*). Currently, evaluators score projects 0-5 and multipliers are used to weight the criterion. This includes a multiplier of 3 for *Need*, 4 for *Threat*, and a multiplier of 3 for *Design*. Evaluators noted that scoring criteria 0-5 leaves little distinction for higher weighted criteria and they believe a broader range of points would be helpful. This could mean eliminating the multiplier (i.e. scoring 0-15) or potentially allowing for half (0.5) points and still using a multiplier.

Scoring New Development versus Renovation

Several committee members commented on the challenge associated with scoring new development projects versus renovation projects. This has been a consistent comment from previous grant cycles. The challenge stems from evaluating use and capacity. New projects attract new users while renovation projects serve existing users and potentially expands use (i.e. converting a soft surface trail to a hard surface trail for enhanced accessibility and ease of maintenance). It was noted that renovation of regional trails may become an increasing priority in future grant cycles since some sponsors have very limited long-term maintenance budgets. Several evaluators questioned if there should

be another evaluation criterion that is specific to renovation, similar to how there are specific criteria for acquisition projects.

Scoring Combination and High Cost Projects

The committee also discussed the difficulty of understanding and scoring large, complex projects that include both acquisition and development. Several members felt some of these projects could have been phased. As mentioned earlier, this category does not have a grant limit. Fifteen of the 29 projects evaluated this year are requesting more than \$1.0 million. The average grant request in 2020 is \$1,191,222. In 2018 the average amount requested was \$910,284 and in 2016 the average request was \$830,300. It is clear the average request is going up.

At the board's January 2020 meeting, staff asked the board for direction on whether the board should consider imposing a grant maximum for this category ([Item 10](#)). The board discussed the negative effect a cap would have on larger trails, the potential for funding more projects if there were a limit, and the positive and negative impacts of phasing trail projects. Ultimately, the board did not provide conclusive direction about this issue, instead, the board asked staff to add this topic to the policy work plan for possible consideration in 2021.

Scoring Immediacy of Threat

The committee also discussed some challenges evaluating the *Immediacy of Threat*. There were 5 projects that included acquisition components and several of these properties have already been acquired through an approved waiver of retroactivity. Some evaluators find it very challenging to evaluate threat when the property is already acquired and protected. To ensure parity with development projects, the board increased the point value for the *Immediacy of Threat* criterion in 2020 after adopting a new *Sustainability* criterion that no longer applied to "acquisition only" projects. The top two acquisition projects (Clallam County and the City of Colville) ranked #1 and #3 respectively. RCO will monitor this shift in criterion weighting in future grant cycles to ensure development and acquisition projects receive an equal and fair assessment.

In summary, the advisory committee felt the process was well-organized, enjoyable, and fair. They were confident in the resulting ranked list and felt that the use of such a diverse team of evaluators seems to compensate for any individual biases for or against specific project proposals.

Match Reduction

During this grant cycle, all applicants were eligible for a match reduction via the board-adopted Federal Disaster pathway, which was designed to help mitigate the financial impacts of COVID-19. In addition to applicants meeting the qualifications for a 25 percent match, the Communities in Need, Counties in Need, and Underserved Populations pathways were still available and in some cases provided additional match

reductions beyond the 25 percent. Applicants used the match reduction policy for 20 projects resulting in a total reduction of \$6.4 million. Seventeen applicants used the Federal Disaster pathway. Three qualified for a lower match using one of the other pathways. Applicants who provided excess match did not benefit from the match reduction policy.

| Trails Category Project Types | Number of Grant Proposals | Applications Qualified for Reduced Match | Applications Using Reduced Match | Total Match Reduction |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Acquisition | 2 | 2 | 2 | \$352,996 |
| Combination | 3 | 3 | 3 | \$994,701 |
| Development | 24 | 21 | 15 | \$5,080,892 |
| Total | 29 | 26 | 20 | \$6,428,559 |

The top five projects were eligible for match reduction. Most notably the third ranked project, which came from a County in Need, qualifies for a match reduction down to 20 percent. This indicates that while match reduction eligibility helps individual sponsors, it does not seem to sway the evaluation results.

Public Comment

There are letters of support or concern for Trails category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation. The criteria for selecting projects support the board's goal of making strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of recreation opportunities. Projects considered for funding in the Trails category directly support board adopted priorities in *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022*.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Trails Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, via Resolution #2020-33.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 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 approved list. The 2021 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will approval the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-33, including Table 1 – *WWRP, Trails Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for Trails Category Projects
- C. Trails Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Trails Category Projects, Evaluation Summary, 2020-23
- E. Trails Category Project Descriptions 2020-23
- F. Trails Category Letters of Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-33
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
Trails Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-2023 biennium, twenty-nine Trails category project proposals are being considered for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all twenty-nine Trails category project proposals meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 10a, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program - Outdoor Recreation Account*; and

WHEREAS, these Trails category project proposals were evaluated by an independent team of evaluators representing state and local agency agencies and citizens-at-large using evaluation criteria approved by Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board), thereby supporting the board's goal to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, these evaluations occurred in open public meetings as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-04-020, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

WHEREAS, the projects acquire, construct or renovate non-motorized recreational trails, thereby supporting priorities in the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022*, and the board's strategy to provide partners with funding for recreation opportunities statewide;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Trails Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board hereby recommends to the Governor the ranked list of Trails category projects for funding consideration.

Resolution moved by: _____

Resolution seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____

WWRP Trails Category

Preliminary Ranked List of Projects

2021-2023

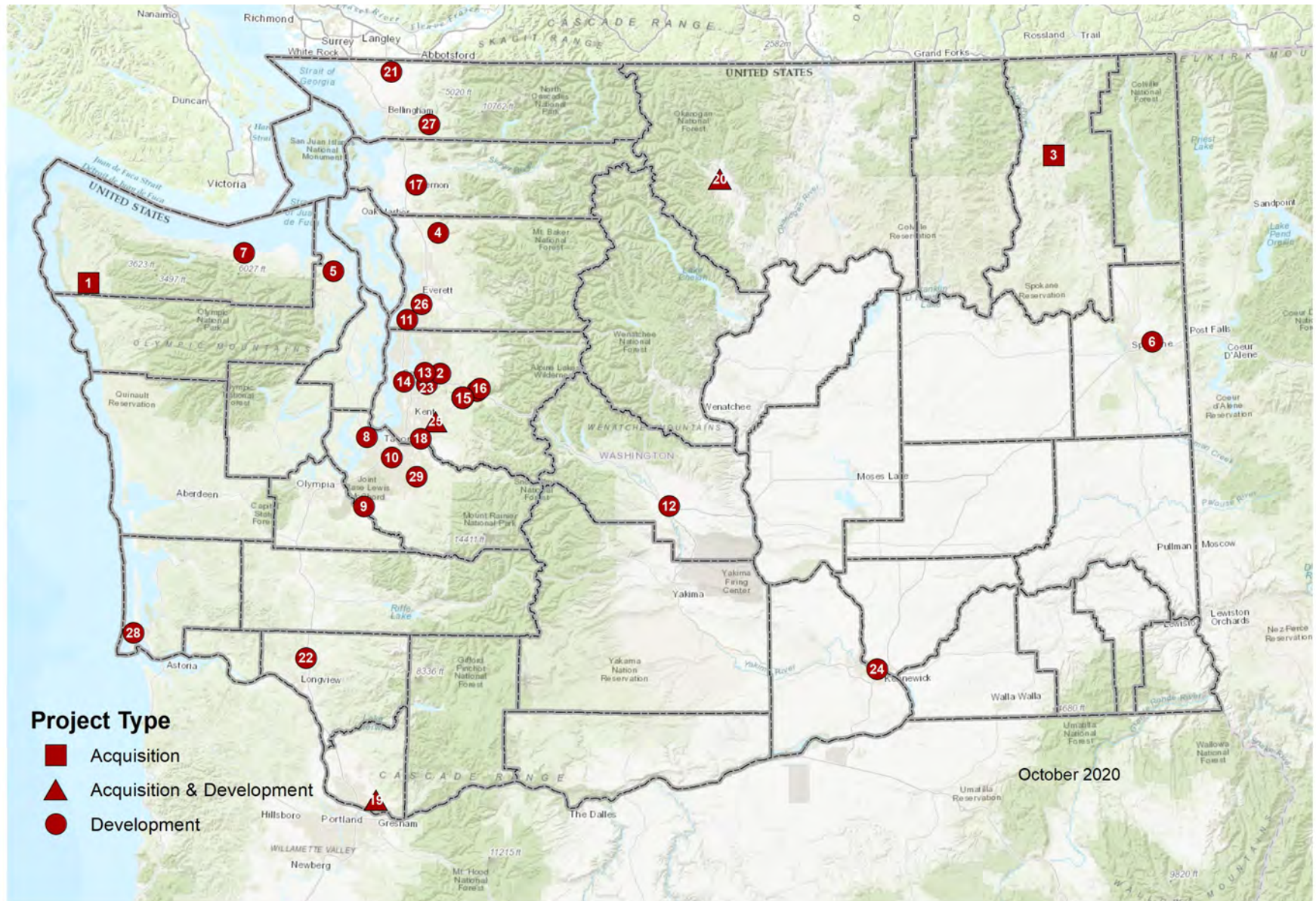
Resolution #2020-33

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|------|-------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | 68.82 | 20-1494 A | Clallam County | Olympic Discovery Trail Forks to La Push | \$905,456 | \$301,819 | \$1,207,275 |
| 2 | 65.14 | 20-1465 D | King County | East Lake Sammamish Trail South Segment B Part 1 | \$1,000,000 | \$13,905,815 | \$14,905,815 |
| 3 | 62.73 | 20-1440 A | Colville | Colville Mountain Trailhead Land Acquisition | \$136,392 | \$34,098 | \$170,490 |
| 4 | 62.68 | 20-1656 D | Snohomish County | Whitehorse Trail Redevelopment | \$1,050,000 | \$1,050,000 | \$2,100,000 |
| 5 | 61.86 | 20-1745 D | Jefferson County | Olympic Discovery Trail Anderson Lake Connection | \$2,189,021 | \$1,189,021 | \$3,378,041 |
| 6 | 61.45 | 20-1452 D | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Spokane River Centennial Trail Phase 1 Renovation | \$1,987,200 | \$210,000 | \$2,197,200 |
| 7 | 60.77 | 20-1778 D | Port Angeles | Race Street to Olympic National Park Shared Use Trail | \$400,000 | \$3,186,871 | \$3,586,871 |
| 8 | 60.45 | 20-1867 D | Peninsula Metropolitan Park District | Cushman Trail 14th Avenue to 24th Street Northwest | \$500,000 | \$560,000 | \$1,060,000 |
| 9 | 60.09 | 20-1314 D | Yelm | Phase 2 Yelm Prairie Line Regional Trail | \$1,440,000 | \$360,002 | \$1,800,002 |
| 10 | 59.59 | 20-1282 D | Pierce County | Pipeline Trail Phase 1 | \$2,281,760 | \$1,521,173 | \$3,802,933 |
| 11 | 59.5 | 20-1753 D | Lynnwood | Scriber Lake Park Trail Rehabilitation | \$1,670,250 | \$670,251 | \$2,340,501 |
| 12 | 58.77 | 20-1351 D | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Palouse to Cascades Trail Surfacing and Trailheads | \$1,072,000 | \$150,000 | \$1,222,000 |
| 13 | 58.68 | 20-1770 D | Bellevue | Eastrail to Mountains to Sound Trail Connector | \$1,182,390 | \$394,130 | \$1,576,520 |
| 14 | 58.59 | 20-1803 D | Seattle | Flume Trail Development | \$910,445 | \$400,000 | \$1,310,445 |

| Rank | Score | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 15 | 58.36 | 20-1495 D | Washington Department of Natural Resources | Evergreenway Route Phase 1 North Bend Connection | \$900,000 | \$155,000 | \$1,055,000 |
| 16 | 58.23 | 20-1650 D | North Bend | Meadowbrook Farm Prairie Loop Trail | \$634,650 | \$344,500 | \$979,150 |
| 17 | 58.14 | 20-1419 D | Skagit County | Centennial Trail Phase 1 Barney Lake to Clear Lake | \$1,517,000 | \$550,000 | \$2,067,000 |
| 18 | 57.91 | 20-1734 D | Auburn | White River Pedestrian Bridge Trail Connection | \$478,000 | \$1,858,350 | \$2,336,350 |
| 19 | 56.09 | 20-1680 C | Clark County | Camp Currie to Lacamas Heritage Trail | \$1,997,000 | \$1,402,148 | \$3,399,148 |
| 20 | 55.68 | 20-1707 C | Winthrop | RiverWalk Phase 2 | \$692,550 | \$298,000 | \$990,550 |
| 21 | 53.91 | 20-1511 D | Lynden | Jim Kaemingk Sr. Trail Missing Link Depot Road to 8 | \$1,272,411 | \$424,138 | \$1,696,549 |
| 22 | 53.27 | 20-1719 D | Castle Rock | Riverfront Trail Phase 3 | \$401,775 | \$133,925 | \$535,700 |
| 23 | 52.82 | 20-1516 D | Newcastle | CrossTown Trail in Lake Boren Park | \$995,321 | \$333,000 | \$1,328,321 |
| 24 | 52.73 | 20-1871 D | Pasco | Sacajawea Heritage Trail Shared Use Improvements | \$1,827,000 | \$830,000 | \$2,657,000 |
| 25 | 49.41 | 20-1453 C | Covington | Jenkins Creek Trail Corridor | \$3,279,845 | \$2,279,845 | \$5,559,690 |
| 26 | 48.59 | 20-1589 D | Everett | Silver Lake Trail | \$500,000 | \$478,599 | \$978,599 |
| 27 | 46.32 | 20-1696 D | Whatcom County | South Fork Park Trail Development | \$490,000 | \$176,500 | \$666,500 |
| 28 | 44.41 | 20-1240 D | Long Beach | Boardwalk Reconstruction | \$835,000 | \$180,000 | \$1,015,000 |
| 29 | 36.91 | 20-1866 D | Orting | Orting to Tehaleh Phase 1 | \$2,000,000 | \$3,000,000 | \$5,000,000 |
| Total | | | | | \$34,545,466 | \$36,377,185 | \$70,922,650 |

Project type: A=acquisition, D=development, C=Combination

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".³

| Trails Criteria Summary | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Score | # | Question | Project Type | Maximum Points Possible | Focus* |
| Advisory Committee | 1 | Need | All | 15 | State, Local |
| Advisory Committee | 2 | Linkages Between Trails | All | 7.5 | State, Local |
| Advisory Committee | 3 | Linkages Between Communities | All | 7.5 | State, Local |
| Advisory Committee | 4 | Immediacy of Threat | Acquisition | 20 | Local |
| | | | Combination | 7.5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 5 | Project Design | Development | 15 | Technical |
| | | | Combination | 7.5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 6 | Sustainability | Development | 5 | State |
| | | | Combination | 5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 7 | Water Access or Views | All | 3 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 8 | Scenic Values | All | 7 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 9 | Enhancement of Wildlife Habitat | All | 5 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 10 | Project Support | All | 10 | State, Local |
| Advisory Committee | 11 | Cost Efficiencies | All | 5 | State, Local |

³ Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.010

| Trails Criteria Summary | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| RCO Staff | 12 | Growth Management Act Preference | All | 0 | State |
| RCO Staff | 13 | Population Proximity | All | 1.5 | State |
| RCO Staff | 14 | County Population Density | All | 1.5 | State |
| Total Points Possible: 83 | | | | | |

*Focus: Criteria orientation in accordance with the following priorities:

- State – those that meet general statewide needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (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, Trails Category

Advisory Committee Scored Criteria

1. **Need** *RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(v-vi)*
Is the project needed?
2. **Linkage Between Trails** *RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(iv)*
Does the project connect existing trails?
3. **Linkage Between Communities** *RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(iii)*
Does the trail project connect communities?
4. **Immediacy of Threat** *RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(ii)*
Does a threat to the public availability of a part of the trail exist?
(Acquisition/Combination projects only)
5. **Project Design** *RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(v)*
Is the proposal appropriately designed for the intended use(s)?
(Development/Combination projects only)
6. **Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship** *Resolution 2016-08*
Will the project result in a quality, sustainable, recreational opportunity while protecting the integrity of the environment?
7. **Water Access or Views** *RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(vii)*
Does the project provide direct access to water (physical access by person or boat) or views?
8. **Scenic Values** *RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(ix)*
Does the project provide scenic values?
9. **Enhancement of Wildlife Habitat** *RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(viii)*
How will this proposal enhance wildlife habitat beyond what may be required by a development or land use authority such as statute, ordinance, permit, rule and regulation, mitigation requirement, etc.?
10. **Project Support** *RCW 79A.15.070(6)(a)(i)*
The extent that the public (statewide, community, or user groups) has been provided with an adequate *opportunity to become informed*, and/or *support* for the project seems apparent.
11. **Cost Efficiencies** *Board Resolution 2016-08*
To what extent does this project demonstrates efficiencies or a reduction in government costs through documented use of donations or other resources?

RCO Staff Scored Criteria

12. **Growth Management Act Preference** *RCW 43.17.250 (GMA-preference required)*
Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)?
13. **Proximity to People** *RCW 79A.25.250*
Is the project in the urban growth boundary of a city or town with a population of 5,000 or more?
14. **County Population Density** *RCW 79A.25.250*
Is the project in a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile?

Trails Category Projects, Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

Questions 1-7

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need | 2. Linkages Between Trails | 3. Linkages Between Communities | 4. Immediacy of Threat | 5. Project Design | 6. Sustainability | 7. Water Access or Views |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-7 | 0-7 | 0-20 | 0-15 | 0-5 | 0-3 |
| 1 | 20-1494 A | Olympic Discovery Trail Forks to La Push | 14.45 | 6.27 | 6.00 | 18.55 | | | 2.64 |
| 2 | 20-1465 D | East Lake Sammamish Trail South Segment B Part 1 | 12.27 | 5.73 | 6.14 | | 12.27 | 4.27 | 2.36 |
| 3 | 20-1440 A | Colville Mountain Trailhead Land Acquisition | 13.09 | 4.50 | 4.77 | 17.09 | | | 1.00 |
| 4 | 20-1656 D | Whitehorse Trail Redevelopment | 13.09 | 6.27 | 6.27 | | 9.27 | 3.00 | 2.82 |
| 5 | 20-1745 D | Olympic Discovery Trail Anderson Lake Connection | 13.09 | 6.14 | 4.91 | | 13.36 | 3.82 | 1.91 |
| 6 | 20-1452 D | Spokane River Centennial Trail Phase 1 Renovation | 10.91 | 5.32 | 5.59 | | 12.55 | 3.45 | 2.45 |
| 7 | 20-1778 D | Race Street to Olympic National Park Shared Use Trail | 11.73 | 5.73 | 5.73 | | 12.27 | 4.18 | 2.09 |
| 8 | 20-1867 D | Cushman Trail 14th Avenue to 24th Street Northwest | 12.27 | 6.00 | 6.14 | | 12.27 | 3.55 | 1.64 |
| 9 | 20-1314 D | Phase 2 Yelm Prairie Line Regional Trail | 12.27 | 6.27 | 5.32 | | 11.45 | 3.27 | 2.45 |
| 10 | 20-1282 D | Pipeline Trail Phase 1 | 12.55 | 5.32 | 5.59 | | 11.18 | 3.91 | 2.00 |
| 11 | 20-1753 D | Scriber Lake Park Trail Rehabilitation | 11.45 | 3.95 | 4.36 | | 12.55 | 3.91 | 2.73 |
| 12 | 20-1351 D | Palouse to Cascades Trail Surfacing and Trailheads | 12.00 | 5.45 | 5.45 | | 12.27 | 3.27 | 1.18 |
| 13 | 20-1770 D | Eastrail to Mountains to Sound Trail Connector | 10.64 | 5.86 | 5.45 | | 11.73 | 3.18 | 2.27 |
| 14 | 20-1803 D | Flume Trail Development | 12.82 | 5.05 | 5.18 | | 12.27 | 3.91 | 1.00 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 1. Need | 2. Linkages Between Trails | 3. Linkages Between Communities | 4. Immediacy of Threat | 5. Project Design | 6. Sustainability | 7. Water Access or Views |
|------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 15 | 20-1495 D | Evergreenway Route Phase 1 North Bend Connection | 11.45 | 6.41 | 5.18 | | 10.64 | 3.36 | 1.55 |
| 16 | 20-1650 D | Meadowbrook Farm Prairie Loop Trail | 10.09 | 4.50 | 4.64 | | 11.18 | 3.27 | 1.73 |
| 17 | 20-1419 D | Centennial Trail Phase 1 Barney Lake to Clear Lake | 11.73 | 4.36 | 4.50 | | 12.27 | 3.27 | 2.55 |
| 18 | 20-1734 D | White River Pedestrian Bridge Trail Connection | 11.73 | 5.05 | 5.05 | | 11.73 | 3.36 | 2.64 |
| 19 | 20-1680 C | Camp Currie to Lacamas Heritage Trail | 10.64 | 5.18 | 4.77 | 4.50 | 4.64 | 3.00 | 2.73 |
| 20 | 20-1707 C | RiverWalk Phase 2 | 10.91 | 5.18 | 4.09 | 5.05 | 5.18 | 3.00 | 2.91 |
| 21 | 20-1511 D | Jim Kaemingk Sr. Trail Missing Link Depot Road to 8 | 10.09 | 4.50 | 4.91 | | 11.18 | 2.82 | 2.36 |
| 22 | 20-1719 D | Riverfront Trail Phase 3 | 10.36 | 4.77 | 4.50 | | 9.82 | 3.82 | 2.91 |
| 23 | 20-1516 D | CrossTown Trail in Lake Boren Park | 8.73 | 4.23 | 3.41 | | 10.91 | 3.45 | 2.64 |
| 24 | 20-1871 D | Sacajawea Heritage Trail Shared Use Improvements | 10.09 | 3.55 | 4.50 | | 12.27 | 3.27 | 2.82 |
| 25 | 20-1453 C | Jenkins Creek Trail Corridor | 10.64 | 3.41 | 4.36 | 4.23 | 4.23 | 3.00 | 2.18 |
| 26 | 20-1589 D | Silver Lake Trail | 9.55 | 3.55 | 3.68 | | 9.55 | 3.00 | 2.82 |
| 27 | 20-1696 D | South Fork Park Trail Development | 9.55 | 3.55 | 2.59 | | 9.55 | 2.73 | 2.27 |
| 28 | 20-1240 D | Boardwalk Reconstruction | 8.45 | 3.14 | 3.27 | | 8.45 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| 29 | 20-1866 D | Orting to Tehaleh Phase 1 | 6.55 | 3.27 | 3.82 | | 6.00 | 2.18 | 1.09 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-11; RCO staff score Questions 12-14

Project type: A=acquisition, D=development, C=Combination

Questions 8-14

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 8. Scenic Values | 9. Enhancement of Wildlife Habitat | 10. Project Support | 11. Cost Efficiencies | 12. Growth Management Act Preferences | 13. Population to People | 14. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-7 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-5 | -1-0 | 0-1 | 0-1 | |
| 1 | 20-1494 A | Olympic Discovery Trail Forks to La Push | 5.73 | 2.91 | 9.09 | 4.18 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 68.82 |
| 2 | 20-1465 D | East Lake Sammamish Trail South Segment B Part 1 | 4.36 | 2.91 | 9.27 | 3.55 | -1.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 65.14 |
| 3 | 20-1440 A | Colville Mountain Trailhead Land Acquisition | 6.09 | 3.64 | 9.82 | 3.73 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 62.73 |
| 4 | 20-1656 D | Whitehorse Trail Redevelopment | 5.64 | 3.00 | 8.91 | 2.91 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 62.68 |
| 5 | 20-1745 D | Olympic Discovery Trail Anderson Lake Connection | 4.36 | 2.36 | 8.91 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 61.86 |
| 6 | 20-1452 D | Spokane River Centennial Trail Phase 1 Renovation | 4.91 | 1.18 | 9.09 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 61.45 |
| 7 | 20-1778 D | Race Street to Olympic National Park Shared Use Trail | 4.45 | 2.18 | 8.36 | 2.55 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 60.77 |
| 8 | 20-1867 D | Cushman Trail 14th Avenue to 24th Street Northwest | 3.64 | 2.36 | 8.18 | 2.91 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 60.45 |
| 9 | 20-1314 D | Phase 2 Yelm Prairie Line Regional Trail | 4.18 | 1.64 | 8.91 | 2.82 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 60.09 |
| 10 | 20-1282 D | Pipeline Trail Phase 1 | 4.45 | 2.27 | 7.82 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 59.59 |
| 11 | 20-1753 D | Scriber Lake Park Trail Rehabilitation | 4.36 | 3.27 | 7.27 | 2.64 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 59.50 |
| 12 | 20-1351 D | Palouse to Cascades Trail Surfacing and Trailheads | 4.91 | 1.55 | 8.00 | 3.18 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 58.77 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 8. Scenic Values | 9. Enhancement of Wildlife Habitat | 10. Project Support | 11. Cost Efficiencies | 12. Growth Management Act Preferences | 13. Population to People | 14. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 13 | 20-1770 D | Eastrail to Mountains to Sound Trail Connector | 3.55 | 2.00 | 8.36 | 2.64 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 58.68 |
| 14 | 20-1803 D | Flume Trail Development | 2.00 | 2.36 | 7.82 | 3.18 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 58.59 |
| 15 | 20-1495 D | Evergreenway Route Phase 1 North Bend Connection | 4.09 | 2.45 | 8.73 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 58.36 |
| 16 | 20-1650 D | Meadowbrook Farm Prairie Loop Trail | 5.73 | 2.73 | 7.64 | 3.73 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 58.23 |
| 17 | 20-1419 D | Centennial Trail Phase 1 Barney Lake to Clear Lake | 5.27 | 2.73 | 8.00 | 3.45 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 58.14 |
| 18 | 20-1734 D | White River Pedestrian Bridge Trail Connection | 4.00 | 2.00 | 5.64 | 3.73 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 57.91 |
| 19 | 20-1680 C | Camp Currie to Lacamas Heritage Trail | 4.36 | 2.82 | 6.91 | 3.55 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 56.09 |
| 20 | 20-1707 C | RiverWalk Phase 2 | 5.73 | 2.36 | 8.18 | 4.09 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 55.68 |
| 21 | 20-1511 D | Jim Kaemingk Sr. Trail Missing Link Depot Road to 8 | 3.82 | 2.00 | 8.00 | 2.73 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 53.91 |
| 22 | 20-1719 D | Riverfront Trail Phase 3 | 4.00 | 3.00 | 7.45 | 3.64 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 53.27 |
| 23 | 20-1516 D | CrossTown Trail in Lake Boren Park | 4.18 | 3.09 | 6.73 | 2.45 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 52.82 |
| 24 | 20-1871 D | Sacajawea Heritage Trail Shared Use Improvements | 4.45 | 1.82 | 7.45 | 2.00 | -1.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 52.73 |
| 25 | 20-1453 C | Jenkins Creek Trail Corridor | 3.27 | 3.00 | 6.18 | 1.91 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 49.41 |
| 26 | 20-1589 D | Silver Lake Trail | 3.36 | 1.91 | 6.18 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 48.59 |
| 27 | 20-1696 D | South Fork Park Trail Development | 4.91 | 1.82 | 6.73 | 2.64 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 46.32 |

| Rank | Project Number and Type | Project Name | 8. Scenic Values | 9. Enhancement of Wildlife Habitat | 10. Project Support | 11. Cost Efficiencies | 12. Growth Management Act Preferences | 13. Population to People | 14. County Population Density | Total |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 28 | 20-1240 D | Boardwalk Reconstruction | 5.64 | 0.82 | 7.45 | 2.18 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 44.41 |
| 29 | 20-1866 D | Orting to Tehaleh Phase 1 | 2.18 | 0.73 | 6.73 | 1.36 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 36.91 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-11; RCO staff score Questions 12-14

Project type: A=acquisition, D=development, C=Combination

Trails Category

Project Descriptions (In Rank Order) 2021-2023

Clallam County

Grant Requested: \$905,456

Extending the Olympic Discovery Trail from Forks to La Push

The Clallam County Public Works Department will use this grant to buy 196.3 acres to complete the 12-mile western end of the Olympic Discovery Trail. The new trail segment will connect Forks to the Quileute Tribe in La Push and the popular second and third beach trailheads in Olympic National Park. The new section will run on undeveloped forestland along the south side of State Route 110 between U.S. Highway 101 in Forks and the national park boundary. The trail will provide a buffer to the highway and logging areas. The trail will be 10 feet wide and paved with a 4-foot-wide gravel equestrian path and a 2-foot-wide gravel shoulder. The Olympic Discovery Trail is planned to run 130 miles from Port Townsend to the Pacific Ocean at La Push, connecting communities, parks, and other destinations. The trail is 61 percent complete. Clallam County will contribute \$301,819. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1494)

King County

Grant Requested: \$1,000,000

Building Part of the East Lake Sammamish Trail

The King County Parks and Recreation Division will use this grant to complete site preparations and pave the 1.65-mile "South Segment B Part 1" portion of the 11-mile East Lake Sammamish Trail, which runs along an abandoned railroad corridor on the east side of Lake Sammamish. The new segment runs from Southeast 33rd Street to just past the intersection with East Lake Sammamish Shore Lane Southeast in the city of Sammamish. The trail will be 12 feet wide and paved, with 2-foot-wide gravel shoulders on each side. The County also will improve drainage and install a retaining wall, landscaping, fencing, and traffic controls. When eventually complete, the trail will connect the cities of Redmond, Sammamish, and Issaquah. The East Lake Sammamish Trail is part of a larger, 44-mile trail system extending from Puget Sound in Seattle to the Cascade foothills. Supporters of the project include the City of Redmond, Cascade Bicycle Club, Forterra, and Friends of the East Lake Sammamish Trail. King County will contribute nearly \$14 million in voter-approved levy and a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1465)

Colville

Grant Requested: \$136,392

Buying Land for the Colville Mountain Trailhead

The City of Colville will use this grant to buy 38.37 acres for a trailhead in the Colville Mountain Recreation Area in Stevens County. There is no permanent, legal access to the

recreation area and its trail system. The land will connect city right-of-way to the current trail system. Colville will contribute \$34,098 in cash, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1440)

Snohomish County

Grant Requested: \$1,050,000

Redeveloping the Whitehorse Trail

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to repair damage from two landslides and a bank wash out in a section of the Whitehorse Regional Trail. The work will include engineering, design, permitting, and repair of the 2.6-mile segment of the trail between its junction with the Centennial Trail in Arlington and the Tin Bridge, just west of the Trafton Trailhead. The trail will be gravel and 12 feet wide with 2-foot-wide soft shoulders, narrowing to 10 feet with no shoulders at all water crossings. The Whitehorse Trail is a 28-mile, regional, multiuse trail that winds through the North Fork Stillaguamish River valley along a rail corridor. A 22-mile stretch of trail was resurfaced in the past few years until a landslide and bank failure along the edge of the Stillaguamish River closed 2.6 miles of it. Snohomish County will contribute more than \$1 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1656)

Jefferson County

Grant Requested: \$2,189,021

Connecting Olympic Discovery Trail to Anderson Lake State Park

The Jefferson County Department of Public Works will use this grant to build 2.7 miles of the Olympic Discovery Trail. This segment runs from the trailhead at the Jefferson Transit Authority facility through Pope Timber uplands to Anderson Lake State Park. Building this segment will allow trail users to reach the state park on 10 miles of trail, with only one-third mile of non-trail travel. The Olympic Discovery Trail is planned to run 130 miles from Port Townsend to the Pacific Ocean at La Push. The trail is 61 percent complete. Jefferson County will contribute more than \$1.1 million in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1745)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Grant Requested: \$1,987,200

Beginning Renovation of the Spokane River Centennial Trail

State Parks will use this grant to improve 12 miles of the Spokane River Centennial Trail from the Idaho border west. The trail was paved in the early 1990s and has reached the end of its useful life. State Parks will repave the trail segment, paint lanes, and install kiosks with maps, mile markers, bollards, and bike repair stations. The Centennial Trail receives more than 1.5 million visits a year. State Parks will contribute \$210,000. [Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1452)

Port Angeles**Grant Requested: \$400,000****Building the Race Street Trail to Olympic National Park**

The City of Port Angeles will use this grant to build the Race Street Trail, a multiuse trail that connects Olympic Discovery Trail to the Olympic National Park Visitor and Back Country Information Center. As the first trail spur to bisect Port Angeles in a north-south direction, the 2.7-mile Race Street Trail will provide an essential spine for a trail network that will connect users to recreational opportunities both within and outside the city. Special care will be given to landscape elements to extend the aesthetics of the national park further into the community via the new trail. The trail also will connect two major parks—Civic Field and Erickson Park—through a curb-less design. The project has been designed as a showcase that demonstrates that trail users do not have to drive to a trailhead when entry points are linked to their neighborhoods. Port Angeles will contribute more than \$3.1 million in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1778)

Peninsula Metropolitan Park District**Grant Requested: \$500,000****Extending the Cushman Powerline Trail**

The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to extend the Cushman Powerline Trail a half-mile from 14th Avenue Northwest to 24th Street Northwest. The trail segment will be paved, 12 feet wide, and include trailhead parking, benches, bike racks, and landscaping. The new segment is at a former golf driving range and will provide a missing link to connect the existing trail to Narrows Bridge. The Cushman Powerline Trail follows the Tacoma Public Utilities' Potlatch (also known as Cushman) transmission line route, which runs from Lake Cushman on the western edge of the Olympic Mountains to Tacoma. The Cushman Trail is used by hikers, bicyclists, skaters, and families with strollers as they connect to the Tacoma Narrows Bridge. The Peninsula Metropolitan Park District will contribute \$560,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1867)

Yelm**Grant Requested: \$1,440,000****Building Part of the Yelm Prairie Line Regional Trail**

The City of Yelm will use this grant to build 1.2 miles of the Yelm Prairie Line Regional Trail. The new segment will extend the regional trail from the northeastern end of the Yelm Tenino Trail at Yelm Avenue (State Route 507) across the Centralia Power Canal and across the Nisqually River to the county line. The regional trail will provide the only nonmotorized and fully protected connection between Thurston and Pierce Counties. Completed portions of the regional trail connect Yelm, Rainier, and Tenino. The long-term goal is to link the trail networks in Lewis, Pierce, and Thurston Counties, improve access to Joint Base Lewis McChord, and alleviate dangerous pedestrian and cycling

conditions along State Route 507. Yelm will contribute \$360,002 in cash, equipment, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1314)

Pierce County

Grant Requested: \$2,281,760

Beginning Construction of the Pipeline Trail

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to build the first 1.6 miles of its Pipeline Trail, a paved trail for non-motorized uses that will end with a trailhead in the 147-acre Orangegate Park. This trail will connect to the City of Tacoma's Pipeline Trail and extend it into unincorporated Pierce County where farmland and mountain vistas offer trail users reprieve from the urban intensities of Tacoma and Puyallup. The trail will be in an area in unincorporated Pierce County that is experiencing the greatest growth and has one of the lowest rates of trail miles per 1,000 people. The Pipeline Trail will be paved and 12 feet wide with a parallel 5-foot-wide equestrian trail along Tacoma Public Utilities' water pipeline corridor. Pierce County will contribute more than \$1.5 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1282)

Lynnwood

Grant Requested: \$1,670,250

Rehabilitating Scriber Lake Park Trail

The City of Lynnwood will use this grant to build about one-third mile of boardwalk and redevelop wildlife viewpoints on the north side of Scriber Lake in Scriber Lake Park. The boardwalk trail will be accessible to people with disabilities, improve the connections to a floating dock, and provide a separated loop trail in the park. The City also will redevelop the lake and marsh viewpoints and make habitat improvements. Scriber Lake Park is a cool, green oasis in the heart of downtown Lynnwood. With nearly 25 acres of wetlands, lake, ponds, streams, trails, forest, and hillsides, Scriber Lake Park provides a haven for wildlife and a respite from the urban environment for visitors. This project is a key component to providing year-round recreation and access to nature for city residents, especially those living within a quarter-mile of the park in the lowest income neighborhood in the city. Lynnwood will contribute \$670,251. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1753)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Grant Requested: \$1,072,000

Renovating the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail

State Parks will use this grant to resurface 11 miles of the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail and improve two trailheads. State Parks will grade and compact the trail surface, improve the Kittitas trailhead, renovate the restrooms in the historic Kittitas Depot, and improve the trailhead east of the soon-to-be-renovated Renslow trestle that spans Interstate 90. When finished, the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail will run

280 miles, making it one of the longest rail-trails in the United States and an important link in the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's vision for a Great American Rail Trail spanning the entire country. Currently, the trail provides both day-use and overnight camping and received more than 300,000 visits in 2019. State Parks will contribute \$150,000 in donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1351)

Bellevue

Grant Requested: \$1,182,390

Connecting the Eastrail to the Mountains-to-Sound Trail

The City of Bellevue will use this grant to develop 665 feet of trail to connect two regional trails. Intersecting at Mercer Slough Nature Park, the 42-mile Eastrail, running from Woodinville to Renton, meets the 100-mile Mountains to Sound Trail, which links Seattle to Ellensburg. While the Eastrail master plan calls for an elevated structure to connect the trails, which are separated by 60 feet in elevation, it is not likely to be built for many years. The City will build a small section of trail along the eastern edge of Mercer Slough, bordering 118th Avenue Southeast, which will connect the Mountains to Sound Trail to Southeast 32nd Street, where King County is building a ramp to the Eastrail at the 32nd Street Trestle. In addition to connecting the regional trails, a trail in this location would fill a long-standing gap in the Mercer Slough Nature Park internal trail system and serve as part of the city's Lake to Lake Trail. The new trail affords scenic views of the 320-acre Mercer Slough, Lake Washington's largest wetland. Bellevue will contribute \$394,130. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1770)

Seattle

Grant Requested: \$910,445

Developing the Flume Trail

The Seattle Department of Transportation will use this grant to renovate an abandoned Seattle City Light property on East Marginal Way in the Duwamish Manufacturing and Industrial Center into a dog off-leash area and trail. The new Flume Trail would link Georgetown and South Park neighborhoods. Seattle will contribute \$400,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20 1803)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$900,000

Connecting the Evergreenway Route in North Bend

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to develop a trail segment that will link the Snoqualmie Valley Trail to downtown North Bend, to Tennant Trailhead Park, and further to the Raging River State Forest trail system. The department will design and build 5.65 miles of trail with 14 trail bridges. The new segment will connect communities to eight trail systems with more than 140 trail miles. The connection in

North Bend helps link a future, 70-mile segment of Evergreenway Route, which is a regional trail that will connect to the 3,700-mile Great American Rail Trail that spans the country. This proposal's western end, 18 miles east of Seattle, will link to Issaquah and nearby transit options in Preston. The trail will be used primarily by mountain bikers, trail runners, and hikers. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$155,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1495)

North Bend

Grant Requested: \$634,650

Completing the Meadowbrook Farm Prairie Loop Trail

The Cities of North Bend and Snoqualmie along with the Si View Metropolitan Park District will use this grant to complete a pedestrian trail through undeveloped areas of Meadowbrook Farm, a public park and natural space between the two cities. Work will include paving three-quarter mile of a gravel trail, building about a half-mile of an asphalt trail, and laying gravel on another quarter-mile of new trail. Crews also will build two boardwalks, replace two deteriorated bridges crossing wetlands, and install interpretive signs describing the wildlife and the history of the area, which was a prairie for hunting and gathering. The 8-foot-wide trail will connect with other trails to form a continuous, 2.6-mile loop around Meadowbrook Farm, with connections to the Meadowbrook Farm Interpretive Center, Centennial Fields Park in Snoqualmie, and Snoqualmie Middle School. The work will open backcountry areas of Meadowbrook Farm to public use that are inaccessible and complete a loop trail accessible to people with disabilities. North Bend will contribute \$344,500 in cash, staff labor, and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1650)

Skagit County

Grant Requested: \$1,517,000

Building the First Section of Centennial Trail

The Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to build the first section of Centennial Trail, which will run 2.4 miles between the communities of Mount Vernon and Clear Lake. The County will build a 10-foot-wide, multiuse trail and two trailheads. This segment of the trail passes through farmlands and forests and near wetlands and streams. The southern portion is rich in birding opportunities with trumpeter swans visible for half the year. This project will provide an important north-south transportation route for commuting between Mount Vernon and the communities of Clear Lake and Sedro-Woolley. Skagit County will contribute \$550,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1419)

Auburn**Grant Requested: \$478,000****Building Amenities to White River Pedestrian Bridge Trail**

The Auburn Parks, Arts and Recreation Department will use this grant to build trail-related elements associated with a pedestrian bridge over the White River that will connect two busy multiuse trail systems. The bridge will connect Game Farm Park and Game Farm Wilderness Park, the two largest parks in Auburn with a combined 5.5 miles of paved trails. Auburn will contribute more than \$1.8 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1734)

Clark County**Grant Requested: \$1,997,000****Building a Trailhead and Connections to the Lacamas Heritage Trail**

Clark County will use this grant to buy 37 acres on Lacamas Lake for a trailhead and trail connections. The County will buy 23 acres on the northeast side of the lake to develop a regional trailhead. The County will build the trailhead with parking, a restroom, and a crosswalk to Leadbetter Road and Northeast 232nd Avenue, which connects to the 250-acre Camp Currie. On the northwest side of the lake, the County will buy 14 acres and build a half-mile of trail, including a 150-foot-long bridge over Lacamas Creek, to connect to the Lacamas Heritage Trail. There are no trail connections between the two sides of Lacamas Lake on the northern end. This project is part of a 20-year vision to build a 7-mile trail around the 250-acre Lacamas Lake. Clark County will contribute more than \$1.4 million in cash, Conservation Futures,⁴ and donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1680)

Winthrop**Grant Requested: \$692,550****Buying a Gateway to the RiverWalk**

The Town of Winthrop will use this grant to extend its RiverWalk by 1,000 feet to the Susie Stephens Trail and a fully developed gateway park. This will complete a contiguous trail of more than 1 mile, reaching from the southern end of town up to Sa Teekh Wa Park in the north, linking to community recreation sites and the Methow Trails cross-country ski routes. The gateway to the RiverWalk, known as Confluence Park, was donated to the town in 2016. This quarter-acre park enables people with disabilities to travel between downtown boardwalks and the RiverWalk. The RiverWalk is a 6-foot-wide pedestrian path along the riverbank and features extensive views of the confluence of the Chewuch and Methow Rivers in the town's downtown. The Town also will restore some of the shoreline as part of this project. Winthrop will contribute \$298,000 in

⁴Conservation 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.

donated land or property interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1707)

Lynden

Grant Requested: \$1,272,411

Completing the Jim Kaemingk Sr. Trail

The City of Lynden will use this grant to finish designing and then build the final half-mile of the Jim Kaemingk Sr. Trail. This last section of trail will be 10 feet wide and will run through a field along the scenic Fishtrap Creek and include a steel bridge over the creek. Lynden incrementally has completed the eastern segments of the trail and Safe Routes to School connections to the west, but a gap between these two remains. The trail would support the continued protection of the creek and its shoreline buffers while also providing a natural area for residents to enjoy. Lynden will contribute \$424,138. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1511)

Castle Rock

Grant Requested: \$401,775

Developing Riverfront Trail

The City of Castle Rock will use this grant to develop three sections of the Riverfront Trail system, which is a multiuse trail system used by walkers, runners, bicyclists, skaters, skate boarders, and wheelchair users. For the first section, the City will build 1 mile of gravel trail on the west side of the Cowlitz River, extending the trail from Whittle Creek to Arkansas Creek and then to the Westside Trailhead at the Westside Highway. The City will add three picnic sites and two water access sites. This is part of a planned regional trail called the Castle Rock/Lexington Loop Trail, which, when completed, will connect Castle Rock with north Kelso. For the second section, the City will build nearly a half-mile of gravel trail, some picnic sites, and one water access site in the Westside Trail system. For the third section, the City will build a picnic shelter with restrooms and storage at a trailhead on the Riverfront Trail system along the eastside of the river, which is part of the developing Six Rivers Regional Trail System that eventually will connect the north and south ends of Cowlitz County. Castle Rock will contribute \$133,925 in cash, equipment, staff labor, materials, and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1719)

Newcastle

Grant Requested: \$995,321

Filling Gaps in Two Lake Boren Park Trails

The City of Newcastle will use this grant to build a 0.15-mile trail to complete the missing links in two trails. Located in the heart of Newcastle' Lake Boren Park, the city's largest, most visited park, this trail segment will be a combination of pathways and boardwalks that will complete the 1.2-mile Lake Boren Loop and the 2.1-mile Cross

Town Trail. The trail will be in a wetland and stream complex at the lake's southern edge. To restore the area, the City will remove invasive species, plant native plants, install bird and bat boxes, and place large woody materials to encourage habitat diversity. The Lake Boren wetland is next to Boren Creek and Lake Boren, which both contain the priority species of coho salmon and cutthroat trout. The trail will offer birdwatching, fishing, picnicking, running, and walking. Newcastle will contribute \$333,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1516)

Pasco

Grant Requested: \$1,827,000

Widening a Segment of the Sacajawea Heritage Trail

The City of Pasco will use this grant to build 1.25 miles of the Sacajawea Heritage Trail between Roads 54 and 72. This segment of the trail does not meet safety standards for mixed bicycle-pedestrian use. The City will lower a levee and widen the trail to 12 feet, 4 feet wider than the existing trail, to meet safety standards. The wider trail then will match already improved adjacent segments of trail. With few exceptions, the Sacajawea Heritage Trail runs along the Columbia River from Chiawana Park to Sacajawea State Park, connecting the population centers of three cities. The Sacajawea Trail is used by walkers, runners, bikers, and other users with nonmotorized modes of transportation. Pasco will contribute \$830,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1871)

Covington

Grant Requested: \$3,279,845

Building the Jenkins Creek Trail

The City of Covington will use this grant to buy nearly 2 acres and then develop the first mile of the Jenkins Creek Trail in the heart of the city. The trail will connect neighborhoods, parks, schools, and the city's downtown. Trail users will experience the serenity of the creek corridor, wetlands, and natural areas. Covington will contribute more than \$2.2 million in cash and a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1453)

Everett

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Completing the Silver Lake Trail

Everett Parks and Community Services will use this grant to build the final one-third mile of a trail around Silver Lake. The multiuse trail will be 10 feet wide and will complete the 2-mile lake trail. The City also will provide for stormwater and install signs and landscaping. Everett will contribute \$478,599. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1589)

Whatcom County**Grant Requested: \$490,000****Developing a Trail in South Fork Park**

The Whatcom County Parks & Recreation Department will use this grant to build 5 miles of multiuse trail in South Fork Park, near the town of Acme. The new trail will connect the trailhead at Galbraith Farm to the Overby and Nessel Farms, all historic homesteads. The trail connection will provide public access to parklands that are difficult to reach because of deed restrictions, adjacent private property, and nearby logging. When completed, this trail will be open to hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, and others. Whatcom County will contribute \$176,500. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1696)

Long Beach**Grant Requested: \$835,000****Rebuilding the Long Beach Boardwalk**

The City of Long Beach will use this grant to renovate its regionally famous boardwalk. The boardwalk, which is 10 feet wide, nearly a half-mile long, and runs along the dune west of the city's downtown, offers unbelievable views of the Pacific Ocean and headlands. Built in 1990, the boardwalk has exceeded its expected lifespan. The City will remove all decking and substructure, leaving most of the pilings. Then, the City will add substructure, decking, and railings. Long Beach will contribute \$180,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1240)

Orting**Grant Requested: \$2,000,000****Building a Trail Bridge**

The City of Orting will use this grant to build a bridge for trail users over Washington Avenue North/State Route 162. The multiuse trail will link the 21-mile Foothills Trail, city parks, and the Puyallup River and the Carbon River Levee Trail System. The bridge will connect residential areas to the city's downtown, providing access to restaurants and shops and it will also serve as a safe path for students and parents to reach Orting Middle School and Ptarmigan Ridge Intermediate School. Finally, the bridge will give trail users an alternative to the crosswalk that can be unsafe during low light and commuting hours. Orting will contribute \$3 million in a state appropriation and a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1866)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Trails Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • 20-1494A Olympic Discovery Trail Forks to La Push (3) | Rank 1 |
| • 20-1440A Colville Mountain Trailhead Land Acquisition (13) | Rank 3 |
| • 20-1656D Whitehorse Trail Redevelopment (2) | Rank 4 |
| • 20-1778D Race Street to Olympic National Park Shared Use Trail (3) | Rank 7 |
| • 20-1867D Cushman Trail 14th Avenue to 24th Street Northwest (4) | Rank 8 |
| • 20-1314D Phase 2 Yelm Prairie Line Regional Trail (1) | Rank 9 |
| • 20-1282D Pipeline Trail Phase 1 (6) | Rank 10 |
| • 20-1753D Scriber Lake Park Trail Rehabilitation (3) | Rank 11 |
| • 20-1770D Eastrail to Mountains to Sound Trail Connector (4) | Rank 13 |
| • 20-1495D Evergreenway Route Phase 1 North Bend Connection (5) | Rank 15 |
| • 20-1650D Meadowbrook Farm Prairie Loop Trail (9) | Rank 16 |
| • 20-1419D Centennial Trail Phase 1 Barney Lake to Clear Lake (2) | Rank 17 |
| • 20-1734D White River Pedestrian Bridge Trail Connection (1) | Rank 18 |
| • 20-1511D Jim Kaemingk Sr. Trail Missing Link Depot Road to 8 (9) | Rank 21 |
| • 20-1516D CrossTown Trail in Lake Boren Park (1) | Rank 23 |
| • 20-1453C Jenkins Creek Trail Corridor (3) | Rank 25 |
| • 20-1589D Silver Lake Trail (2) | Rank 26 |
| • 20-1240D Boardwalk Reconstruction (1) | Rank 28 |

[View Letters Here](#)

APPROVED BY THE RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program,
Outdoor Recreation Account: Water Access Category
Approval of Preliminary Ranked List for 2021-23

Prepared By: Allison Dellwo, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary:

Fourteen project proposals in the Water Access category have been evaluated and ranked. This memo describes the category, review and evaluation process, and ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the November meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for awarding grants following legislative appropriation of funds for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Board Action Requested

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

Resolution: 2020-34

Purpose of Resolution: Approve the preliminary ranked list of projects (Table 1) for submission to the Governor.

Background

The Water Access category of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) provides funds for projects that provide physical access to shorelines for non-motorized, water-related recreation activities. These include boating, fishing, swimming, and beachcombing.

Grants may be used to acquire land or develop facilities that support, water-dependent recreation such as fishing piers and platforms, boat access facilities, beaches, and water trails for canoes and kayaks.

The Water Access category receives ten percent of the WWRP funds in the Outdoor Recreation Account. 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.

Program Summary

There were several changes to the Water Access category that went into effect this year. The most significant changes involved reducing the required sponsor match, suspending the 10 percent non-state, non-federal match requirement, conducting online review and evaluations, updating the Grant Application Data Tool, simplifying the *Sustainability* criterion, and increasing the maximum points for the *Site Suitability* criterion for acquisition only projects.

A summary of this WWRP category is shown in the table below.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eligible Applicants | Local agencies (cities/towns, counties, federally recognized Native American tribes, and park, port, school, and special purpose districts) and state ¹ agencies |
| Eligible Project Types | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition • Development or renovation of water access sites • Combination projects involving both acquisition and development or renovation |
| Funding Limits | No limits |
| Match Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 percent match required with the following exceptions: Exception: Match may be reduced for communities in need, underserved populations, counties in need, or communities providing facilities in federal disaster areas. <u>Note:</u> Because the entire state was deemed a federal disaster area, due to COVID-19, the match was set at 25 percent for applicants choosing the federal disaster area pathway. See Match Reduction below. • There is no match requirement for state agencies. |
| Public Access | Required |
| Other Program Characteristics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants must establish planning eligibility. • Property acquired, developed, or renovated must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. • Multi-site water access trails are eligible. |

¹ State agencies mean the State Parks and Recreation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Enterprise Services, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Analysis

Evaluation Summary

Fourteen Water Access category projects requesting nearly \$11 million were evaluated by members of the WWRP Water Access Advisory Committee on September 29-30, 2020. Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director, include local agency representatives and citizens who are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge in local land use issues and water related recreation. The following members participated this year:

| Advisory Committee Member | Representing |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| James Horan, Olympia | Citizen |
| Eric Jensen, Kirkland | Citizen |
| David Martin, Gold Bar | Citizen |
| Reed Waite, Seattle | Citizen |
| Kristi Evans, Metro Parks Tacoma | Local Agency |
| Sarah Olson, Lynwood Parks and Recreation Department | Local Agency |
| Anjali Myer, City of Sammamish | Local Agency |
| Shane Belson, Department of Fish and Wildlife | State Agency |
| Jamie Van de Vanter, State Parks and Recreation Commission | State Agency |
| David Pater, Department of Ecology | State Agency |
| Lowell Dickson, Department of Natural Resources | State Agency |

The advisory committee members reviewed the project proposals using video conferencing software to conduct the meetings virtually, and RCO's PRISM system for scoring the projects according to criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board. The presentations were streamed live to a free internet site to support public transparency. The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – WWRP, Water Access Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

Review of Process and Criteria Modifications

At the end of the evaluation meeting on September 30 and during the post-evaluation meeting on October 1, staff met with the WWRP Water Access Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the application materials provided, technical and evaluation meeting processes, and scoring results. Overall, advisory committee members were comfortable with the process, satisfied with the materials provided, and pleased with the resulting ranked list.

Evaluators acknowledge that larger communities may have an advantage since it's likely they have more capacity or staff resources to do some upfront design work and

dedicate more time to their applications. They also suggested that applicants briefly introduce and orient the committee to each project; some did, but it was not consistent, and many introductions were too long and lacked clarity. They also thought that including metric data for the linear feet of shoreline in a project would be helpful. Finally, evaluators suggested adding the Do Not Fund Recommendation policy to this category.

While the evaluation criteria worked well and the revisions made this year helped, there were suggestions for improvements. In responding to *Public Need*, applicants were not consistent in displaying the 15-mile inventories or the demographic measures and health indicators. It may be helpful for RCO to provide additional guidance to applicants so it's easier for evaluators to digest the information quickly. The *Expansion* criterion was a bit challenging for some projects since it is not clear if this should be limited to an expansion of a water access site specifically, or simply recreation site in general. Also, the *Project Support* and *Cost Efficiencies* criteria overlap to some extent. Finally, it was suggested that the *Cost Efficiencies* criterion be re-named to something that better captures the intent of the question to reduce government costs.

Match Reduction

During this grant cycle, 12 projects met the requirements for a match reduction via the board-approved Federal Disaster pathway, which was designed to help mitigate the impact of COVID-19. All local agency jurisdictions qualified for this 25 percent match. Additionally, the Communities in Need, Counties in Need, and Underserved Populations pathways were still available to applicants and in some cases provided additional match beyond the 25 percent. Applicants for eight proposals used the pandemic relief policy for a total reduction of \$973,000 in match. Eligible applicants who provided excess match did not benefit from the match reduction policy.

| Water Access Project Type | Number of Grant Proposals | Applications Qualified for Reduced Match | Applications Using Federal Reduced Match | Total Match Reduction |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Acquisition | 4 | 3 | 3 | \$304,863 |
| Combination | 2 | 1 | 1 | \$139,150 |
| Development | 8 | 8 | 4 | \$528,987 |
| Total | 14 | 12 | 8 | \$973,000 |

Public Comment

There are letters of support or concern for Water Access category projects. The letters addressed to the board, advisory committee members, or RCO staff are included in

Attachment F. Any additional public comment will be shared at the November board meeting.

Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these grant awards supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation. The criteria for selecting projects support the board's goal of making strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of recreation opportunities. Projects considered for funding in the Water Access category also support board priorities in *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022*.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – WWRP, Water Access Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, via Resolution #2020-34.

Next Steps

If approved by the board, staff will forward Table 1 to the Governor for funding consideration for the 2021-23 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 approved list. The 2021 Legislature will set the WWRP appropriation and approve the list of projects in the capital budget. The board will approve the final ranked list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting. Item 5 in the board materials describes the full WWRP funding process.

Attachments

- A. Resolution #2020-34, including Table 1 – *WWRP, Water Access Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map for Water Access Category Projects
- C. Water Access Category Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. Water Access Category Projects, Evaluation Scores, 2021-23
- E. Water Access Category Project Descriptions, 2021-23
- F. Water Access Category Letters of Support or Concern

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution #2020-34
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program
Water Access Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023**

WHEREAS, for the 2021-2023 biennium, fourteen Water Access category projects are being considered for funding from the Outdoor Recreation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP); and

WHEREAS, all fourteen Water Access category projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 10a, *Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Outdoor Recreation Account*; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the projects involve acquisition, development, and/or renovation of properties for recreational access to water, thereby supporting priorities in the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022* and the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – WWRP, Water Access Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-2023*; 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)

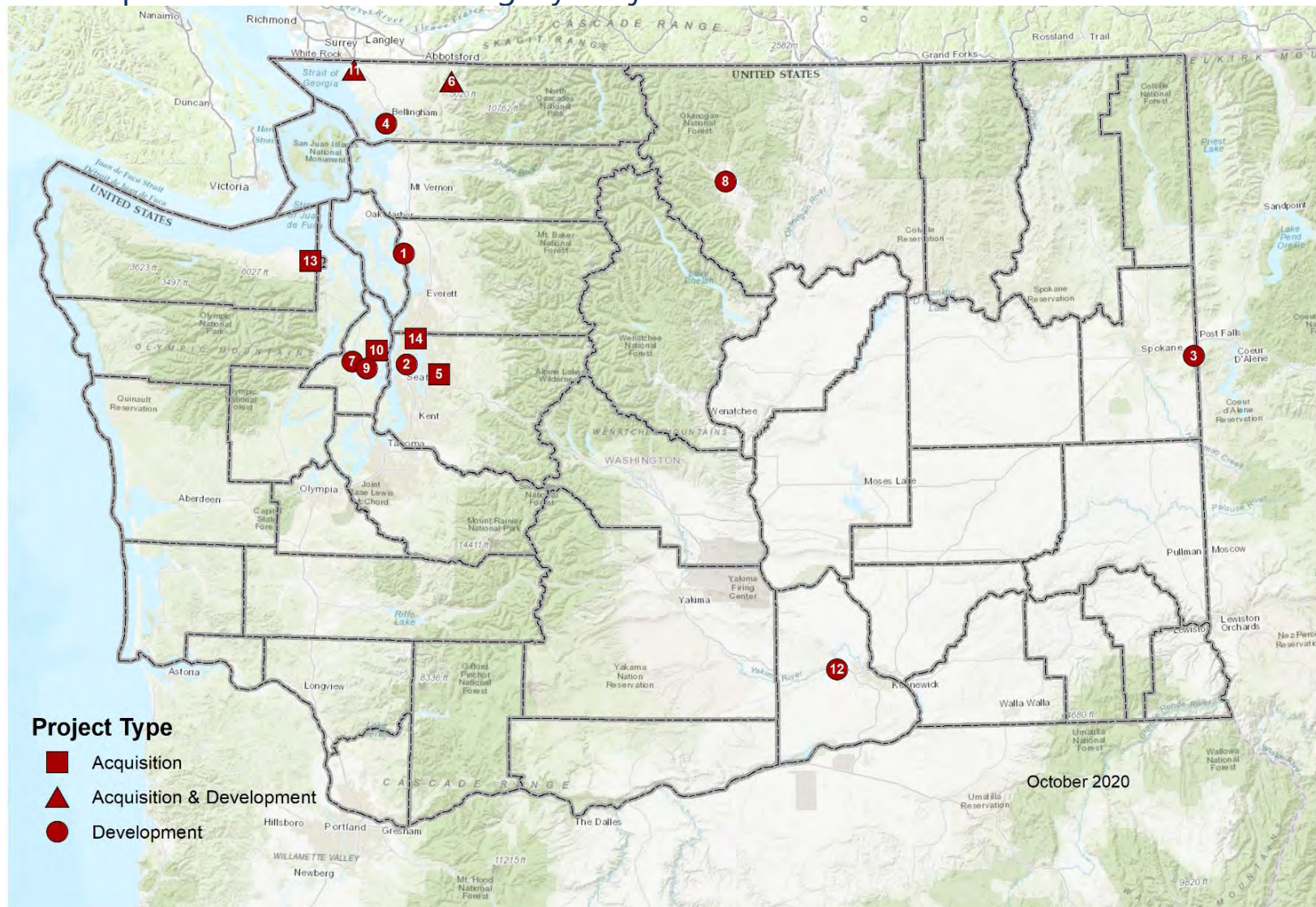
Date: _____

WWRP–Water Access Category
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects 2021-2023

Resolution 2020-34

| | | Project Number and Type | Grant Applicant | Project Name | Grant Request | Applicant Match | Total | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 | 53.6 | 20-1655 D | Snohomish County | Kayak Point Waterfront Improvements Phase 1 | \$500,000 | \$2,702,985 | \$3,202,985 | |
| 2 | 52.3 | 20-1759 D | Seattle | Terry Pettus Park Renovation | \$500,000 | \$1,240,000 | \$1,740,000 | |
| 3 | 50.9 | 20-1252 D | Spokane County | Liberty Lake Regional Park Phase 1 | \$950,000 | \$950,000 | \$1,900,000 | |
| 4 | 50.6 | 20-1710 D | Port of Bellingham | Fairhaven Nonmotorized Watercraft Launch and Dock | \$500,000 | \$1,391,200 | \$1,891,200 | |
| 5 | 50 | 20-1809 A | Bellevue | Lake Sammamish Property Acquisition | \$1,850,000 | \$1,843,000 | \$3,693,000 | |
| 6 | 48.15 | 20-1259 C | Washington Department of Natural Resources | North Fork Nooksack River Access | \$201,600 | \$61,550 | \$263,150 | |
| 7 | 47.8 | 20-1821 D | Port of Silverdale | Expand Float Facilities and Enhance Beach Access | \$571,181 | \$500,000 | \$1,071,181 | |
| 8 | 46.2 | 20-1792 D | Winthrop | Mack Lloyd Park Water Access | \$441,000 | \$147,000 | \$588,000 | |
| 9 | 45.5 | 20-1713 D | Port of Illahee | Waterfront Access Improvements | \$600,880 | \$211,120 | \$812,000 | |
| 10 | 45.3 | 20-1835 A | Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park and Recreation District | Hidden Cove 2 | \$749,750 | \$250,025 | \$999,775 | |
| 11 | 44.95 | 20-1757 C | Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District | California Creek Estuary Park Phase 2 | \$425,300 | \$147,000 | \$572,300 | |
| 12 | 44.6 | 20-1239 D | Benton City | Riverfront Park Development | \$456,000 | \$152,967 | \$608,967 | |
| 13 | 43 | 20-1295 A | State Parks and Recreation Commission | Miller Peninsula Jones Trust Property | \$621,173 | | \$621,173 | |
| 14 | 41.9 | 20-1862 A | Lake Forest Park | Lake Front Property | \$2,603,000 | \$2,500,000 | \$5,103,000 | |
| Project type: A=acquisition, D=development, C=Combination | | | | | Total | \$10,969,884 | \$12,096,847 | \$23,066,731 |

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".¹

| Water Access Criteria Summary | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Score | # | Question | Project Type | Maximum Points Possible | Focus |
| Advisory Committee | 1 | Public Need | All | 15 | State, Local |
| Advisory Committee | 2 | Immediacy of Threat | Acquisition | 15 | Local |
| | | | Combination | 7.5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 3 | Project Design | Development | 10 | Technical |
| | | | Combination | 5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 4 | Sustainability | Development or Combination | 5 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 5 | Site Suitability | Acquisition | 15 | Technical |
| | | | Development or Combination | 10 | |
| Advisory Committee | 6 | Expansion | All | 5 | State |
| Advisory Committee | 7 | Diversity of Recreational Uses | Development | 5 | State |
| | | | Combination | 2.5 | |
| Advisory Committee | 8 | Project Support | All | 10 | State, Local |
| Advisory Committee | 9 | Cost Efficiencies | All | 5 | State, Local |
| RCO Staff | 10 | Growth Management Act Preference | All | 0 | State |
| RCO Staff | 11 | Proximity to People | All | 1.5 | State |
| RCO Staff | 12 | County Population Density | All | 1.5 | State |
| Total Points Possible=68 | | | | | |

*Focus: Criteria orientation in accordance with the following priorities:

¹ Revised Code of Washington 79A.15.010

- State – those that meet general statewide needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (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)(ii,v-vi)
2. **Immediacy of Threat.** To what extent will this project reduce a threat to the public availability of water access? Acquisition/Combination only
RCW 79A.15.070(6)(b)(iii)
3. **Project Design.** Does the project demonstrate good design criteria; does it make the best use of the site? Development/Combination only
4. **Sustainability.** Please discuss how your project's location or design supports your organization's sustainability plan or how you considered the ecological, economic, and social benefits and impacts in the project plan.
Board Resolution 2020-06
5. **Site Suitability.** Is the site well suited for the intended recreational uses?
RCW 79A.15.070(6)(b)(v)
6. **Expansion.** Will the project expand an existing recreation area or facility?
7. **Diversity of Recreational Uses.** To what extent does this project provide diversity of possible water based recreational activities? Development/Combination only
RCW 79A.15.070(6)(b)(iv)
8. **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)

9. **Cost Efficiencies.** To what extent does this project demonstrate efficiencies or a reduction in government costs through documented use of donations or other resources?

Board Resolution 2016-05

Scored by RCO Staff

10. **Growth Management Act Preference.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)?

RCW 43.17.250 (GMA-preference required.)

11. **Proximity to People.** Is the project in the urban growth boundary of a city or town with a population of 5,000 or more?

RCW 79A.25.250

12. **County Population Density.** Is the project in a county with a population density of 250 or more people per square mile?

RCW 79A.25.250

Water Access Category Projects
Evaluation Scores 2021-2023

| Rank | Project Number | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Immediacy of Threat | 3. Project Design | 4. Sustainability | 5. Site Suitability | 6. Expansion / Renovation | 7. Diversity of Recreational Uses | 8. Project Support | 9. Cost Efficiencies | 10. Growth Management Act Preferences | 11. Proximity to people | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | | Point Range | 0-15 | 0-7 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-5 | 0-5 | 0-10 | 0-5 | -1-0 | 0-1 | 0-1 | |
| 1 | 20-1655 D | Kayak Point Waterfront Improvements Phase 1 | 12.60 | | 8.40 | 4.20 | 8.60 | 3.70 | 4.10 | 7.80 | 2.70 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 53.60 |
| 2 | 20-1759 D | Terry Pettus Park Renovation | 9.60 | | 8.80 | 4.40 | 8.20 | 4.20 | 3.60 | 7.80 | 2.70 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 52.30 |
| 3 | 20-1252 D | Liberty Lake Regional Park Phase 1 | 10.50 | | 8.80 | 3.90 | 8.40 | 4.40 | 4.10 | 8.00 | 2.30 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 50.90 |
| 4 | 20-1710 D | Fairhaven Nonmotorized Watercraft Launch and Dock | 10.80 | | 8.00 | 4.00 | 8.00 | 3.90 | 2.60 | 9.00 | 2.80 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 50.60 |
| 5 | 20-1809 A | Lake Sammamish Property Acquisition | 11.70 | 12.60 | | | 11.40 | 3.00 | | 6.20 | 2.10 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 50.00 |
| 6 | 20-1259 C | North Fork Nooksack River Access | 11.10 | 4.05 | 3.90 | 3.40 | 8.40 | 3.20 | 1.70 | 8.60 | 3.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 48.15 |
| 7 | 20-1821 D | Expand Float Facilities and Enhance Beach Access | 10.20 | | 7.00 | 3.80 | 8.20 | 4.00 | 3.60 | 7.40 | 2.10 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 47.80 |
| 8 | 20-1792 D | Mack Lloyd Park Water Access | 11.40 | | 6.80 | 3.10 | 7.80 | 3.80 | 3.40 | 7.80 | 3.10 | -1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 46.20 |
| 9 | 20-1713 D | Waterfront Access Improvements | 9.30 | | 7.00 | 3.20 | 7.60 | 4.40 | 4.10 | 6.60 | 1.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 45.50 |
| 10 | 20-1835 A | Hidden Cove 2 | 8.70 | 6.90 | | | 12.30 | 4.50 | | 6.80 | 3.10 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 45.30 |

| Rank | Project Number | Project Name | 1. Public Need | 2. Immediacy of Threat | 3. Project Design | 4. Sustainability | 5. Site Suitability | 6. Expansion / Renovation | 7. Diversity of Recreational Uses | 8. Project Support | 9. Cost Efficiencies | 10. Growth Management Act Preferences | 11. Proximity to people | 12. County Population Density | Total |
|------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 11 | 20-1757 C | California Creek Estuary Park Phase 2 | 9.60 | 4.50 | 2.90 | 4.00 | 7.80 | 3.50 | 1.65 | 7.40 | 3.60 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 44.95 |
| 12 | 20-1239 D | Riverfront Park Development | 11.70 | | 6.00 | 2.70 | 7.80 | 3.20 | 3.70 | 7.20 | 2.30 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 44.60 |
| 13 | 20-1295 A | Miller Peninsula Jones Trust Property | 8.10 | 10.80 | | | 9.90 | 4.50 | | 7.00 | 2.70 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 43.00 |
| 14 | 20-1862 A | Lake Front Property | 9.00 | 12.00 | | | 9.90 | 2.10 | | 5.00 | 1.90 | -1.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 41.90 |

Advisory committee scores Questions 1-9; RCO staff score Questions 10-12

Project type: A=acquisition, D=development, C=Combination

Water Access Category

Project Descriptions (in rank order) 2021-2023

Snohomish County

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Improving Kayak Point Park

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to renovate and develop Kayak Point Park on the eastern shore of the Salish Sea, near Stanwood. The County will renovate the park's day-use area by moving parking and roadways off the shoreline, building a soft-shore berm with native plants, and raising the entire site for long-term sea level rise resiliency. The County also will renovate the fishing pier. The County will contribute more than \$2.9 million in cash and a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1655)

Seattle

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Renovating Terry Pettus Park

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to replace the failing retaining walls, seating, and dock in Terry Pettus Park, the largest waterfront park on east Lake Union. The department also will improve the paths connecting the Cheshiahud Lake Union Loop Trail and to the shoreline and dock for people using wheelchairs. This is the only park in Seattle's system that will provide free, waterfront access that is accessible to people with disabilities. Finally, the department will enhance landscaping features to improve lines of sight and safety. The park is popular for walking, biking, and participating in water activities and is a regional spot to launch hand-carried boats. The department also will restore native habitat and make shoreline improvements. The site is in disrepair with a deteriorating dock and corroded seating and retaining walls. Seattle will contribute more than \$1.2 million in cash and a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1759)

Spokane County

Grant Requested: \$950,000

Renovating Liberty Lake Regional Park

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department will use this grant to renovate the beach area in Liberty Lake Regional Park. The park has aging facilities, nearing the end of their life, and no facilities for people with disabilities at its beach area. The County will add a boat launch and a kayak launch that are accessible to people with disabilities and a fishing pier. The County also will renovate parking, roads, and pathways to ensure they can be used by people with disabilities. The work will create a new loading and unloading area for the beach, pave the beach access road, add a pathway from the main parking lot to the beach, reconfigure the park entrance, expand

parking, install an automated parking ticket system, replace a restroom, improve irrigation, landscape, and install interpretive signs and a picnic shelter. The County will contribute \$950,000 in cash and a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1252)

Port of Bellingham

Grant Requested: \$500,000

Building a Small Watercraft Launch and Dock in Fairhaven

The Port of Bellingham will use this grant to develop a small watercraft launch and dock in the Fairhaven neighborhood to provide access to Puget Sound. The launch, which will be next to the Community Boating Center, will be the first dock on saltwater in Whatcom County designed specifically for human-powered boats. The Port will install an 80-foot-long gangway, a floating dock and breakwater, and a universally accessible floating dock that will provide a smooth transition on and off the water for the smallest of boats. The new docks will be a safe distance from the Port's motorized launch, reducing conflicts between boaters and increasing safety, while providing access to port-owned parking lots and restrooms. More than 9,000 kayakers, canoeists, rowers, and paddleboarder use the launch annually. The Port also will create a small pocket beach. The Port of Bellingham will contribute nearly \$1.4 million in cash and a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1710)

Bellevue

Grant Requested: \$1,850,000

Buying Lake Sammamish Waterfront

The City of Bellevue will use this grant to buy a half-acre on the western shore of Lake Sammamish. The land will expand and connect two park properties, the 90-acre Weowna Park and 1.2 acres of undeveloped, city-owned land on the lake. This is part of a larger project to build Bellevue's first park on Lake Sammamish, which is surrounded by mostly private land with limited public access points. Bellevue will contribute more than \$1.8 million in cash and Conservation Futures.³ Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1809)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Requested: \$201,600

Improving Water Access along the North Fork Nooksack River

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy and develop land along the North Fork Nooksack River into a day-use, river access site. The department will build a parking lot, trail, and pathway to the river. The department also

³Conservation 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.

will restore the area around the river. This land is an important launching area for a kayaking and rafting run on the river east of Maple Falls. The department will contribute \$61,550 in a state appropriation, staff labor, equipment, and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1259)

Port of Silverdale

Grant Requested: \$571,181

Adding a New Float in Silverdale and Restoring the Beach

The Port of Silverdale will use this grant to build a float and gangway in the "Old Town" Silverdale marina for hand-carried boats. The Port will install an 82-foot-long gangway from the existing pier leading to a new float that will be open to all non-motorized watercraft. The float will feature a low freeboard for easy access in and out of the water. Installing the new gangway will improve access during low tides and allow for use by people with disabilities. In addition, the Port will clean up derelict rock debris on the beach and restore the natural beach habitat to support species, including salmon, listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Port of Silverdale will contribute \$500,000 in a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1821)

Winthrop

Grant Requested: \$441,000

Improving Access to the River in Mack Lloyd Park

The Town of Winthrop will use this grant to develop access to the Methow River in Mack Lloyd Park. The Town will install a ramp to the river, plant native vegetation along the riverbank, build two restrooms, improve a parking area, and add signs. The work will create the only access for recreational boating and paddle sports in the upper reach of the Methow River. The nearest access, 11 miles downstream, is minimally developed and lacks restrooms. Winthrop will contribute \$147,000 in cash, staff labor, and donations of cash, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1792)

Port of Illahee

Grant Requested: \$600,880

Improving Access to the Waterfront

The Port of Illahee will use this grant to replace two recreational floats on the Illahee dock, rebuild a fishing and nonmotorized vessel dock, expand parking, and improve pathways to the beach. The Illahee dock is a wood pier with gangways and two recreational floats, which have deteriorated and require immediate replacement. The upland area has a house, garage, and concrete boat ramp for small, nonmotorized boats. The Port will replace the floats in an improved configuration, demolish the house to expand parking, add new routes for people with disabilities, improve pathways to the beach, and install a toilet, educational signs, and viewpoints. The Port will contribute

\$211,120 in a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1713)

**Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Parks
and Recreation District
Expanding Hidden Cove Park**

Grant Requested: \$749,750

The Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Parks and Recreation District will use this grant to buy a half-acre near Hidden Cove Park along the Cascade Marine Trail. The land will support a community boating program with a large dock, a shelter for instruction, equipment storage, and expanded access to the waterfront. The Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Parks and Recreation District will contribute \$250,025 in voter-approved bonds and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1835)

**Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District
Buying land to Develop California Creek Estuary Park**

Grant Requested: \$425,300

The Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District will use this grant to buy 12 acres along California Creek and 230 feet of saltwater shoreline along Drayton Harbor for a day-use park between Birch Bay and Blaine, on the district's Bay to Bay Trail. The land surrounds land already owned by the district and combined they conserve 888 feet of saltwater shoreline open to the public on Drayton Harbor. In addition, the district will add a restroom, kayak launch, interpretive kiosk, and trails to the day-use California Creek Estuary Park. The tidelands and estuary are prime habitat for many species of salmon, forage fish, and many other animals. The Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District will contribute \$147,000 in cash, voter-approved bonds, a grant from the state Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1757)

**Benton City
Developing Riverfront Park**

Grant Requested: \$456,000

Benton City will use this grant to build the 13-acre Riverfront Park along the west bank of the Yakima River in Benton City. The City will build a segment of the City's walking and bike path, a launch for hand-carried boats, three fishing spots, two viewing platforms accessible to people with disabilities, restrooms, a parking lot, and pathways. The City also will install three picnic tables and grills and a bike rack. The City will contribute \$152,967. [Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1239)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Grant Requested: \$621,173
Expanding Miller Peninsula State Park

State Parks will use this grant to buy 21 acres near Miller Peninsula State Park. The land will provide more than a quarter-mile of shoreline to the public and a second, much needed water access. The property near Sequim includes about 2,800 acres of the north Olympic Peninsula and a trail system popular with hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and wildlife viewers. The land to be purchased is one of the few places along the north side of the Miller Peninsula with low enough bank to build access to the beach. Much of the existing state park property is on a very high bank. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1295)

Lake Forest Park Grant Requested: \$2,603,000
Buying Land Along Lake Washington

The City of Lake Forest Park will use this grant to buy 1.91 acres on the northwest shore of Lake Washington near the city's center, the Burke-Gilman Trail, and the Lyon Creek Waterfront Preserve. The purchase will help the City improve its low ratio of park acres to population while providing public access to the water and walkable park space. The land will provide a lawn, about 150 feet of sandy beach, a dock, and the lake. The City will contribute \$2.5 million in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1862)

Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Water Access Category

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

Letters are in Ranked Order

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • 20-1759D Terry Pettus Park Renovation (1) | Rank 2 |
| • 20-1259C North Fork Nooksack River Access (11) | Rank 6 |
| • 20-1821D Expand Float Facilities and Enhance Beach Access (2) | Rank 7 |
| • 20-1713D Waterfront Access Improvements (1) | Rank 9 |
| • 20-1835A Hidden Cove 2 (4) | Rank 10 |
| • 20-1757C California Creek Estuary Park Phase 2 (4) | Rank 11 |
| • 20-1239D Riverfront Park Development (8) | Rank 12 |

[View Letters Here](#)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Meeting Date: November 5, 2020

Title: Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club Update

Prepared By: Scott Robinson, Deputy Director
Kim Sellers, Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary

Staff will brief the board on the status of the Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club (club) project and their progress towards re-opening the facility to full public use.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Background

The board awarded grant funding to the Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club (club) on November 21, 2003, to renovate an existing 200-yard rifle line to improve sound attenuation and safety. The club completed those improvements in early 2009, apparently without obtaining the permits Kitsap County (county) required for, among other things, building, grading, excavation, storm water, and wetlands fill. Section 9 of the General Provisions of the FARR Project Agreement (agreement) (RCO #03-1156D) requires the club to comply with all local laws. The club obtained its final reimbursement from RCO on February 10, 2009.

For substantial periods of time from 2012 to the present, the club had been shut down to shooting firearms due to several injunctions that the county obtained on grounds of public nuisance and the failure to obtain required permits. The grant agreement requires the club to operate a shooting range for ten years from the final reimbursement, which would have been February 10, 2019. Failure to meet these obligations was viewed as a conversion.

In January 2018, staff brought this conversion to the board for consideration. The board elected to allow the club more time to work through their permitting issues with the

county. The board adopted Resolution 2018-05, as amended (Attachment A). This resolution and the subsequently signed amendment to the club's agreement (Attachment B) stated, in part, that **if the club fails to reopen to the public for the purposes of shooting firearms¹ for at least 60 consecutive days prior to January 1, 2021, the Director may declare a conversion requiring the club to repay the entire grant award of \$46,965.16.** Additionally, the club must submit bi-monthly progress reports starting in May of 2018 and show diligent pursuit and good faith progress in obtaining any permits required to resume public shooting of firearms. If the club fails to do so, the board may declare a conversion.

Sixty days prior to January 1, 2021, is November 2, 2020. Therefore, per grant agreement #03-1156D, as amended, the Club needs to have the facilities that were paid for by RCO grant funds open and available for the shooting of firearms by that date if there is any chance of meeting the 60 day requirement.

The club submitted their latest progress report (Attachment C) on September 12, 2020, and it was clear from that report that little, if any, progress has been accomplished by the club towards reopening. On October 1, 2020, RCO's Deputy Director sent a letter to the club reminding them of the deadlines described in their agreement (Attachment D)

Update

Staff will provide the board an update to the issues and outline next steps at the November 5, 2020 meeting via Zoom. More information regarding Zoom access can be found on the [agenda](#).

Attachments

- A. Resolution 2018-05 adopted by the board on January 31, 2018
- B. Amendment number seven to project agreement #03-1156
- C. September 2020 progress report submitted by the club
- D. Letter from Scott Robinson to Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club, October 1, 2020

¹ The term "firearm" means any weapon or device from which a project or projectiles may be fired by an explosive such as gunpowder. "Firearm" does not include air guns of any type. The terms "shooting" or "shoot" as referenced by RCO is meant to describe the shooting of a firearm.

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Resolution 2018-05 as amended
Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club- Declaration of Conversion**

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board ("Board") provided grant funding through the Firearms and Archery Range Recreation program for grant #03-1156, Rifle Line Re-orientation Sound Cover sponsored by Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club ("Club"); and

WHEREAS, the Firearms and Archery Range Recreation program requires grant funded facilities be open and available to the public for a period of 10 years following final reimbursement, or in the case of grant #03-1156 until February 10, 2019; and

WHEREAS, it has come to the Board's attention that in the case of grant #03-1156 the sponsor, the Club, has failed to keep this facility open and available for firearms shooting as required under the project agreement and applicable rules; and

WHEREAS, Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club have been largely unresponsive to the efforts of staff at the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to work together to come to cure these closures. However, the Board is desirous of affording the Club a last opportunity prior to a conversion to reach an acceptable Amendment to the project agreement with the RCO to address the facility closure and to fully and faithfully carry out that Amendment;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

The Board hereby finds and orders, that effective March 1, 2018, the Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club shall be declared to have converted the grant funds paid for grant #03-1156 and per RCW 79A.25.210 and WAC 286-30-040, and that the Club shall fully reimburse the Firearms and Archery Range Recreation program the amount of \$46,965.16 in grant funding; provided this declaration shall not take effect if prior to the effective date, this Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club enters an amendment to the project agreement acceptable to the RCO, which provides at a minimum for the following:

(1) extension of the existing 10 year period to cover days when the range has been or is closed to public firearms shooting based upon criteria for determining days closed that are acceptable to the RCO Director. Such extension shall require full cooperation and disclosure by the Club of the number of days of such closure that have already occurred and/or may occur in the future;

(2) the Club must commit (i) to make bi-monthly detailed reports to the RCO showing diligent pursuit and good faith progress toward obtaining any permits required to resume public shooting of firearms at the Club improvements funded by the grant, and (ii) to provide the RCO timely and complete responses to its information requests;

(3) establishment of a date certain by which the funded range improvements must be open to the public for firearms shooting, and provision for declaration of conversion by the Director if in the judgment of the Director, the Club has failed to meet this deadline; and

(4) provision for declaration of conversion prior to the date certain if the Board determines, in its sole judgment, that the Club has failed to comply with the conditions above or to show diligent pursuit and good faith progress in obtaining any permits required to resume public shooting of firearms at the range improvements funded by the grant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director is authorized to seek to negotiate such an amendment with the Club and to enter any such amendment as it determines to be acceptable and appropriate consistent with the above conditions.

Resolution moved by: Michael Shiosaki

Resolution seconded by: Mike Deller

Adopted/*Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

Date: January 31st, 2018

Attachment B



Amendment to Project Agreement

Project Sponsor: Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club
Project Title: Rifle Line Re-orientation & Sound Cover

Project Number: 03-1156D
Amendment Number: 7

Amendment Type:

Special Conditions Change

Amendment Description:

The project agreement is amended to address the sponsor's failure to keep the facilities at which the project improvements occurred open for the shooting of firearms consistent with the action of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) on January 31, 2018, described in Resolution 2018-05 as amended. The terms and conditions of this amendment are set forth in Attachment A. In all other respects, except as inconsistent with this Amendment, the Agreement, to which this is an Amendment, and attachments thereto, shall remain in full force and effect.

Agreement Terms

In all other respects the Agreement, to which this is an Amendment, and attachments thereto, shall remain in full force and effect. In witness whereof the parties hereto have executed this Amendment.

State Of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office

BY: Kaleen Cottingham

Kaleen Cottingham

TITLE: Director

DATE: 3/8/18

BY: ISI

Pre-approved as to form:

Assistant Attorney General

Project Sponsor

AGENCY: Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club

BY: Dorothy O'Dell Bell

Reserved

TITLE: Vice President

DATE: FEB. 23, 2018

Originally signed & dated
under Duress March 8, 2018
with no Presidice
Ex. 10/1/18

RECEIVED

APR 16 2018

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

RECEIVED

MAR - 8 2018

WA STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

FARR Project Special Conditions Change Amendment
Firearms Range Account
AMENAGR2.RPT

RCW 79A.25, WAC 298

Attachment A – Special Conditions Change (Amendment 7)

This Attachment sets forth the terms and conditions of Amendment 7 to Agreement #03-1156 that is entered between the Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club ("Club" or "Project Sponsor") and the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), collectively the "parties."

WHEREAS, the Club was provided grant funding through the Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) program under Project #03-1156, for the purposes of constructing improvements for the shooting of firearms; and

WHEREAS, the Project Agreement for #03-1156 and the FARR statute, regulations, and program manual require the sponsor of grant funded facilities for the shooting of firearms to keep the facilities open and available to the public for that purpose for a period of 10 years following final reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, the final reimbursement for Project #03-1156 occurred on February 10, 2009; and accordingly, the Club was required to keep the facilities at which the improvements occurred open for shooting of firearms until February 10, 2019; and

WHEREAS, due to court injunctions against the Club relating to its failure to obtain various permits, the facilities at which the improvements occurred have been closed to the shooting of firearms from 2012 forward for extensive periods of times and such facilities are currently closed for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2018, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (Board) passed Resolution 2018-05 as amended which declared that a conversion of Project #03-1156 shall be deemed to have occurred as of March 1, 2018, requiring full repayment of the grant amount of \$46,965.16, unless prior to that date the Club and the RCO enter an amendment to the Project Agreement that complies with following four conditions:

(1) extension of the existing 10 year period to cover days when the range has been or is closed to public firearms shooting based upon criteria for determining days closed that are acceptable to the RCO Director. Such extension shall require full cooperation and disclosure by the Club of the number of days of such closure that have already occurred and/or may occur in the future;

(2) the Club must commit (i) to make bi-monthly detailed reports to the RCO showing diligent pursuit and good faith progress toward obtaining any permits required to resume public shooting of firearms at the Club improvements funded by

the grant, and (ii) to provide the RCO timely and complete responses to its information requests;

(3) establishment of a date certain by which the funded range improvements must be open to the public for firearms shooting, and provision for declaration of conversion by the Director if, in the judgment of the Director, the Club has failed to meet this deadline; and

(4) provision for the declaration of conversion prior to the date certain if the Board determines, in its sole judgment, that the Club has failed to comply with the conditions above or to show diligent pursuit and good faith progress in obtaining any permits required to resume public shooting of firearms at the range improvements funded by the grant.

WHEREAS, the parties are desirous of entering such an amendment, and

THEREFORE, AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

(1) Extension of the 10 year period.

- a. The 10 year period during which the facilities improved must be open to public firearms shooting is extended to include the following:
 1. All days prior to the effective date of this Amendment that Club has been closed to firearms shooting at the facilities improved after February 9, 2009, which the parties agree is 841 days.
 2. All days after the effective date of this agreement that the Club is closed to firearms shooting at the facilities improved, subject to the provisions below.
- b. The term "firearm" means a weapon or device from which a projectile or projectiles may be fired by an explosive such as gunpowder. "Firearm" does not include air guns of any type. The terms "shooting" or "shoot" as used herein shall mean the shooting of a firearm.
- c. A day on which the facilities improved are not subject to any injunction or legal requirement prohibiting firearms shooting and on which the facilities are in fact open to the public during normal hours for that purpose shall count as day in which the facilities are open for shooting firearms. Otherwise the day shall count as a closed day.
- d. The Club shall provide RCO full and accurate information in the reports required below of all days on which the improved facilities were open or closed to the public for shooting of firearms.

Attachment A
Page 2 of 3

(2) Reporting.

- a. The Club shall, starting 30 days after the effective date of this Amendment and thereafter every other month from that date, submit a report by attaching it to project number 03-1156 in RCO's PRISM database, or such other address as RCO may designate, which contains the following:
 1. A detailed statement of the efforts and actions that the Club has made in the prior 60 days to obtain (i) any permits required to resume public shooting of firearms at the facilities and/or (ii) any funding needed for that purpose.
 2. A detailed statement of the efforts and actions that the Club has made to satisfy or lift the injunctions preventing the Club from resuming shooting of firearms in the prior 60 days.
 3. An accounting of all days since the effective date of the Amendment in which the Club has been closed or open to shooting of firearms.
- b. The Club shall provide responses to information requests of the RCO related to the above (which may include backup documentation), no later than 10 days after the Club receives the request, unless the RCO grants an extension. RCO requests may be sent by email to the Club at info@gunsafety.org or such other email as the Club may designate in writing.

(3) Date certain by which the Club must be open to shooting of firearms.

Notwithstanding the extension of the 10 year period provided above, if the Club is not open to the shooting of firearms for at least 60 consecutive days, by January 1, 2021, the Director of the RCO may declare a conversion has occurred and require that the Club repay the entire grant amount of \$46,965.16, as of the date of such declaration.

(4) Reservation of the right of the Board to declare a conversion.

If the Board determines, in its sole judgment, that the Club has failed to comply with the conditions above or to show diligent pursuit and good faith progress in obtaining any permits required to resume public shooting of firearms at the facilities improved, it may declare a conversion requiring the Club to repay the entire grant amount of \$46,965.16, as of the date of such declaration.

Attachment C

¶
¶
¶
¶

KITSAP RIFLE & REVOLVER CLUB

BREMERTON, WASH

Organized Nov. 11th, 1926



For Sport and National Defense

→ → ¶

September 12, 2020¶

¶
¶

To: → State of Washington
Recreation and Conservation Office¶
→ Kaleen Cottingham — Director←

¶

¶

Re: → RCO #03-1156D¶

¶

Dear Sirs,¶

The following constitutes KRRC's submission of its bimonthly report to RCO. KRRC has once again remained open nearly every day to the public for rifle shooting. We are maintaining the facility and working toward resolutions of all issues with the County. Our next hearing before the COA is October 19, 2020. ←

¶

Sincerely, ←

¶

Marcus Carter — Executive Officer¶

marcus@gunschool.com ←

360-710-8763¶



**Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club
Bi-Monthly Report to the
Recreation and Conservation Office**

Reporting Period: 07/13/2020 To 09/12/2020

Submitted by: Dorothy O'Dell

Number of days during this reporting period the Club was subject to an injunction or legal requirement prohibiting firearms shooting: 60

Number of days during this reporting period the Club was NOT subject to an injunction or legal requirement prohibiting firearms shooting: 0

Site Development Activity Permit (SDAP)

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Do you have a current application submitted for a SDAP? | | YES <input type="radio"/> | NO <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| If no, please move to question 2. | | | |
| Date of most recent application _____ | | If this is new, please attach a copy to PRISM | |
| Status <u>No Change. Waiting on Kitsap County</u> | | | |
| What correspondence has the county sent the Club regarding this recent application? | | Please attach a copy to PRISM. | |
| What correspondence has the Club sent the county regarding this recent application? | | Please attach a copy to PRISM. | |
| 2. If you do not have a current application submitted, do you plan to submit another SDAP application? | | | |
| YES <input type="radio"/> | | NO <input checked="" type="radio"/> | |
| If yes, when do you anticipate submitting an application? | | If no, what is keeping you from doing so? | |
| | | <u>No Change. Waiting on Kitsap County</u> | |

Operating Permit

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3. Do you have a current application submitted for an Operating Permit? | | YES <input type="radio"/> | NO <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| If no, please move to question 4. | | | |
| Date of most recent application _____ | | If this is new, please attach a copy to PRISM. | |
| Status <u>No Change. Waiting on Kitsap County</u> | | | |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| What correspondence has the county sent the Club regarding this recent application? See attached form | | Please attach a copy to PRISM. |
| What correspondence has the Club sent to the county regarding this recent application? See attached form | | Please attach a copy to PRISM |
| 4. If you do not currently have an application submitted, do you plan to submit another Operating Permit application? | | |
| YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> | | NO <input type="radio"/> |
| If yes, when do you anticipate submitting an application? See attached form | If no, what is keeping you from doing so? | |

Legal Action

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 5. Has the Club appeared in court since you submitted your last report? YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/> | |
| Nature of the appearance : <u>See attached form</u> | Please attach a copy to PRISM. |
| What rulings, opinions, report or other has the court made since your last report? | |
| What is the status of your most recent legal action with the county? | Please attach a copy to PRISM |
| 6. Do you anticipate that you will appear in court before the next reporting date? If yes, when? | |
| See attached form | |
| Do you plan to file a motion with the court before the next reporting date? If yes, what and when? | |
| Are there any other court actions pending? Please explain: | |



Further Information Requested by County or Court

What further plans, reports, information, applications, etc. has the county or court requested? What is the status of each and how do you plan to address that request?

| Date Requested (if known) | What is requested? | What is the Club's plan to address this request? |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Please describe in full any other work planned for the next reporting period toward reopening your facility for shooting. |
| |

By signing below, I certify that to the best of my ability that I have provided full and accurate information above. I also certify that I have followed the spirit and intent of Agreement #03-1156D Amendment 7 and its Attachment A.

BY: DOROTHY ODELL Digitally signed by DOROTHY ODELL
Date: 2020.09.12 12:16:13 -07'00'

TITLE: VICE PRESIDENT Digitally signed by VICE PRESIDENT
Date: 2020.09.12 12:16:47 -07'00'

DATE: _____

Please attach this completed form to project number 03-1156 in the PRISM database.

Attachment D

Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
1111 Washington St. S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501



(360) 902-3000
E-mail: info@rco.wa.gov
Web-site: www.rco.wa.gov

STATE OF WASHINGTON
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

SENT VIA EMAIL IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE DELIVERY

October 1, 2020

Mr. Brad Smith, President
Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club
4900 Seabeck Hwy NW
Bremerton, WA 98312
info@gunsafety.org

Re: Rifle Line Re-orientation & Sound Cover, RCO #03-1156D
Amendment #7

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is to remind you of an important upcoming deadline and to provide you notice that Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff will be providing an update to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (Board) concerning the status of RCO grant #03-1156D Amendment #7 at their November 5, 2020 meeting.

As you are aware, at their January 31, 2018 meeting, the Board declared a conversion of use regarding grant agreement #03-1156D between the Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club (Club) and RCO (Resolution 2018-05 - attached). However, at the same meeting the board agreed to provide the Club additional time to correct the issues keeping the facilities closed by entering into an amendment to the agreement (Amendment #7 - attached).

Among other things, this amendment directed a date certain by which the Club must be open to the shooting of firearms. As a reminder, that amendment directs "... *if the Club is not open to the shooting of firearms for at least 60 consecutive days, by January 1, 2021, the Director of the RCO may declare a conversion has occurred and require the Club to repay the entire grant amount... as of the date of the declaration.*"

Sixty days prior to January 1, 2021 is November 2, 2020. Therefore, per grant agreement #03-1156D, as amended, the Club needs to have the facilities that were paid for by RCO grant funds open and available for the shooting of firearms by that date if there is any chance of meeting the 60 day requirement. As stated above, RCO staff will provide an update to the Board on

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board • Salmon Recovery Funding Board
Washington Invasive Species Council • Governor's Salmon Recovery Office
Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group



Mr. Brad Smith
October 1, 2020
Page 2

November 5, 2020. This meeting will occur online, and you are more than welcome to attend and provide comment during the public comment portion of the briefing. The meeting agenda and materials will be posted on [RCO's Web site](#) two weeks before the meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Sellers, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, at (360) 280-6466 or kim.sellers@rco.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott T. Robinson".

Scott T. Robinson
Deputy Director

Enclosures (2)

cc: Marcus Carter, Executive Officer, KRRC
marcus@gunschool.com

Dorothy O'Dell, Vice President, KRRC
krrc.dorothy@gmail.com

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

Thursday, November 5, 2020

| Item | Formal Action | Follow-up Action |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS | | |
| Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Roll Call and Determination of QuorumB. Review and Approval of AgendaC. Remarks of the Chair | Decision <u>Agenda</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Shiosaki Decision: Approved | |
| 1. Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Board Meeting Minutes: July 21, 2020 & August 12, 2020B. Correcting YAF administrative allocation to 4.12% (not 3%)C. Time Extensions Requests | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-18</u> Moved by: Member Burgess Seconded by: Member Shiosaki Decision: Approved | |
| BOARD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION | | |
| 2. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-35</u> Moved by: Member Gardow Seconded by: Member Milliern Decision: Approved | |
| 3. Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Director's ReportB. Legislative, Budget, & Policy UpdateC. Grant Management ReportD. Grant Services ReportE. Fiscal ReportF. Performance Report | | |

BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS

4. Policy Updates:

- A. Status of Policy Plan Implementation
- B. Carbon Credits Policy
- C. Follow-Up on WRPA Request for Policy Changes
- D. SCORP

Task:

4B: Member Milliern will connect with Ben Donatelle to further discuss carbon credit at DNR.

4D: Find two board members to serve on the SCORP steering committee.

BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS

5. Grant Program Framework

- A. Approach for presenting the ranked lists
- B. WWRP Allocation Formulas
- C. Letters of Support/Concern Received

6. Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF): Approval of Ranked List and Grant Awards

Decision

Resolution 2020-19

Moved by: Member Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Gardow

Decision: Approved

7. Aquatic Lands and Water Enhancement Account (ALEA): Approval of Ranked List

Decision

Resolution 2020-20

Moved by: Member Herzog

Seconded by: Member Milliern

Decision: Approved

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| 8. Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF): Approval of Ranked Lists | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-21</u> Moved by: Member Hix Seconded by: Member Milliern Decision: Approved | |
| 9. Community Forests Program: Approval of Ranked Lists | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-22</u> Moved by: Member Hix Seconded by: Member Shiosaki Decision: Approved | |
| 10. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Farm and Forest Account: Approval of Ranked Lists A. Forestland Preservation B. Farmland Preservation | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-23</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Gardow Decision: Approved <u>Resolution 2020-24</u> Moved by: Member Hix Seconded by: Member Gardow Decision: Approved | |
| 11. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Habitat Conservation Account: Approval of Ranked Lists A. Critical Habitat | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-25</u> Moved by: Member Stohr Seconded by: Member Shiosaki Decision: Approved | Task: 11B: Chair Willhite would like to discuss opportunity to work with private landowner to trade land for conservation at the next board retreat. |

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| B. Natural Areas | <u>Resolution 2020-26</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Shiosaki Decision: Approved | |
| C. Riparian Protection | <u>Resolution 2020-27</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Hix Decision: Approved | |
| D. State Lands Restoration | <u>Resolution 2020-28</u> Moved by: Member Shiosaki Seconded by: Member Hix Decision: Approved <u>Resolution 2020-29</u> | |
| E. Urban Wildlife Habitat | Moved by: Member Hix Seconded by: Member Gardow Decision: Approved | |
| 12. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Outdoor Recreation Account: Approval of Ranked Lists A. Local Parks | Decision <u>Resolution 2020-30</u> Moved by: Member Shiosaki Seconded by: Member Hix Decision: Approved | Task: 12D: Marguerite Austin to keep Mr. Vorse's letter and talk to Wendy Brown about his involvement as we move forward and form an advisory committee for the proposed equity program. |
| B. State Lands Development | <u>Resolution 2020-31</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Stohr | |

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| C. State Parks | Decision: Approved <u>Resolution 2020-32</u> Moved by: Member Herzog Seconded by: Member Shiosaki Decision: Approved | |
| D. Trails | <u>Resolution 2020-33</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Gardow Decision: Approved | |
| E. Water Access | <u>Resolution 2020-34</u> Moved by: Member Milliern Seconded by: Member Hix Decision: Approved | |
| BOARD BUSINESS: UPDATE ON DELEGATED AUTHORITY | | |
| 13. Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club (RCO 03-1156) | | |
| BOARD BUSINESS: EXECUTIVE SESSION | | |
| ADJOURN | | |

Next Meeting: January 26-27, 2021, Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA, 98501 - Subject to change considering COVID

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: November 5, 2020

Place: Online

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Ted Willhite, Chair | Seattle | Shiloh Burgess | Wenatchee |
| Kathryn Gardow | Seattle | Brock Milliern | Designee, Department of Natural Resources |
| Michael Shiosaki | Seattle | Peter Herzog | Designee, Washington State Parks |
| Henry Hix | Okanogan | Joe Stohr | Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife |

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

Call to Order

Chair Ted Willhite opened the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB or Board) meeting at 9 AM and invited the Interim Board Liaison, **Julia McNamara**, to call roll, determining quorum. Chair Willhite thanked all participants and audience members for joining the online meeting platform. It was noted that Member Burgess may be dismissed from the meeting for a family matter. Chair Willhite mentioned that questions and concerns from the public were welcomed and should be directed toward Ms. McNamara. Ms. McNamara then explained proper webinar etiquette and instructions.

Item 1: Consent Agenda

Following a brief history of the RCFB and remarks concerning COVID-19, climate change, and the recent forest fires, **Chair Willhite** requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion: Resolution 2020-18

Moved by: Member Burgess

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: **Approved**

Item 2: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

Opening, **Chair Willhite** explained that in the RCFB's August 2020 meeting, the Black Lives Matter movement had been discussed, leading to the formation of a sub-committee to create a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) statement to improve social justice within the board's authorities.

The subcommittee met three times and approved a draft statement to be considered today. Chair Willhite highlighted the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) for Washington State 2018-2022, which included five priorities. Chair Willhite focused on the priority "Improve Equity". To improve equity, Chair Willhite indicated that the board would be looking inside the agency as well as the public view of agency output.

Scott Robinson, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Deputy Director, provided an update on the actions that RCO has been taking to improve equity, which included looking at agency operations and the office culture, as well as reviewing the grant work that RCO does. Mr. Robinson explained that RCO has been in contact with other agencies, such as the State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks), Department of Enterprise Services (DES), and the Office of Minority in Women's Business Enterprises, read books and articles, and created an internal staff committee to better understand how to move forward.

Following the presentation, Chair Willhite called on board members to provide discussion and commentary.

Member Stohr stated that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) continues allocating resources towards stewardship of future needs and making the agency more accessible to the public. Within WDFW's lands process and strategic plan, they recognized the importance of addressing access, cultural sensitivity, underprivileged populations, and DEI implementation. WDFW is excited about its strategic plan that will allow the agency to serve a broader population across the state.

Member Herzog stated that State Parks is looking into the employment and service delivery side of DEI to make the agency more diverse and inclusive. Member Herzog expressed the importance of making parks more accessible, as with greater accessibility to the outdoors, the likelihood of people pursuing careers in natural sciences would increase.

On the internal side, State Parks is working on their strategic plan and their DEI policies,

staff trainings, and job outreach demographics. Notably, staff resources have been put towards fulfilling a DEI coordinator position. On the service delivery side, State Parks has continued finding ways to remove financial barriers for those who do not have access to state parks. These include Discover Pass free days, Discover Pass discount programs, and the Check Out Washington program where patrons can borrow a Discover Pass from local libraries. On the programmatic side, Member Herzog stated that the agency works with partners to create ethnically diverse programs for the public to enjoy.

Member Milliern explained that the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) had developed an equity scoring system that looks at land use populations and demographics. The results showed that land use did not reflect the local community. To address this issue, DNR signed a 15-month contract with a DEI consultant to work with staff to better gain common understanding of how to better serve the public.

Chair Willhite thanked RCO's Communications Manager, **Susan Zemek, Director Kaleen Cottingham** and **Member Shiosaki** for their contributions to the DEI statement.

Motion: Resolution 2020-35

Moved by: Member Gardow

Seconded by: Member Milliern

Decision: **Approved**

Item 3: Director's Report

Director's Report

Kaleen Cottingham, RCO Director, gave a brief update on RCO's activities. She provided details on staff working from home, budget reductions, the capital budget request for the 2021-2023 biennium and requests to legislature.

Director Cottingham detailed that RCO staff continued to work from home with a limited number of staff completing field work or working in the office.

To help with the budget shortfall caused by COVID-19, RCO staff took four furlough days from June 28 to July 25, 2020, with four additional days being carried out between the months of August through November. Director Cottingham then noted that the Boating Facilities Program and the Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities program would be impacted by reduced revenues based on gas tax collections, resulting in a \$2 million dollar reduction. The agency is managing the reduction carefully to ensure sufficient funds remain for active projects.

Moving forward, Ms. Cottingham addressed RCO's operating budget request, which included a 15 percent reduction package for the general fund in the 2021-2023 biennium. The package includes the delayed hiring of the Orca recovery coordinator position and staff to develop a carbon sequestration program, and reduced funding for the salmon recovery lead entities and agency administration costs.

While RCO requested funding for each of its recreation and conservation programs, two new programs were added this year: The Community Forests Program, with a request of \$22 million, and the proposed Outdoor Recreation Equity Program, with a request of \$5 million. The Community Forests Program, which was quickly and meticulously developed by **Ben Donatelle**, RCO Policy Specialist, had already received 15 applications within a one-month application window.

In closing, Ms. Cottingham mentioned one bill request being worked on for the legislative session, which is the extension of the Washington Invasive Species Council by 10 years to 2032.

General Public Comment: No comment was provided at this time.

Item 4: Policy Updates

Status of Policy Plan Implementation

Wendy Brown, RCO Policy Director, gave a briefing on the 2019-2021 RCFB policy workplan. Ms. Brown explained the three tiers identified in the workplan (see below) and identified which policy items had been completed and which remained for completion by the end of the biennium. Ms. Brown reminded the board that they will identify and rank policy priorities for the 2021-2023 biennium during their board retreat in 2021.

Tier 1: Required by law, the Governor, or previous board direction and/or necessary for RCO operations.

Tier 2: Priorities identified by staff and/or RCFB-approved plans.

Tier 3: Assignments to be completed as time allows.

Carbon Credits Policy

Mr. Donatelle provided background information concerning carbon credits presented at the RCFB April 2020 meeting as item 2A and offered a policy proposal on developing carbon finance projects. Based on the increasing frequency of inquiries, the questions previously raised, and Assistant Attorney General (AAG) recommendations, RCO staff recommends establishing a policy to guide carbon finance projects on property acquired with RCO funding and to create consistent policy and procedures across

multiple grant programs. The policy will provide a framework for sponsors to inform RCO of their intent and establish criteria for RCO's review.

RCO staff will finalize the policy statement and procedures outlining a sponsor's requirements and RCO's process for review and approval of carbon finance projects. RCO will bring the final policy back for the board's review and approval in 2021.

Following Mr. Donatelle's briefing, **Chair Willhite** prompted questions and comments from board members.

Member Gardow asked how carbon credits would be enforced and how RCO plans to protect its interest. Mr. Donatelle explained the projects are conservation projects and the program will provide additional protection against conversion. If trees that generate carbon credits are cut down intentionally, the project developers are responsible for replacing habitat value and replacing carbon credits that have been issued. The enforcement from carbon registry is a legal contract. RCO enforces its interests through deeds of right and project agreements. Member Gardow then inquired about who the registries were. Mr. Donatelle explained that the agency would require project developers to let RCO know which registry they are working with. **Member Shiosaki** inquired about the value carbon credits provide to landowners. Mr. Donatelle explained that carbon credits do not outweigh timber value. Following, **Member Herzog** asked about the use of income and how closely it is associated with protecting the initial RCO asset. Mr. Donatelle explained that it is part of RCO's current income use policy. Chair Willhite asked if Mr. Donatelle has been collaborating with the DNR on this matter, to which **Member Milliern** offered to connect with Mr. Donatelle for further discussion.

Follow-up on WWRP Request for Policy Changes

Adam Cole, RCO Policy Specialist, provided a follow-up to July's Washington Recreation and Park Association (WRPA) presentation to the board that included the association's recommendations to improve RCO grant-making and adjust compliance policies due to pandemic impacts and other current events.

Mr. Cole gave a list of priorities for future board consideration to help support WRPA's mission:

1. Preserve flexible funding for operations and maintenance for local governments.
2. Encourage regional collaboration on recreation funding through the board.
3. Update and maintain a State Trails Database.
4. Ease requirements on conversions and allow scope changes in active projects.
This is in light of the pandemic and is related to operational and capital funding shortfalls.
5. Bolster alignment with Healthiest Next Generation.

6. Assure equitable distribution of capital investments.

Mr. Cole explained that the RCO will continue to consult with the WRPA to move forward the items of mutual interest and will include WRPA leadership on its advisory committee for the next SCORP. RCO staff will continue to brief the board on these ongoing efforts.

Following Mr. Cole's briefing, **Chair Willhite** welcomed discussion from the board.

Member Gardow expressed excitement about the State Trails Database. **Member Shiosaki** inquired if the State Trails Database had been scheduled into the workload. Mr. Cole explained that it has been incorporated in the RCO agency work plan in various ways but not exactly as described by WRPA and WRPA would be involved with the next development of the SCORP where this issue will receive attention and action.

SCORP

Katie Pruitt, RCO Planning and Policy Specialist, gave a brief overview of SCORP and explained that it is required every five years to maintain the state's eligibility for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). SCORP sets priorities used to develop state program policies and the project evaluation criteria. The RCO develops the plan and the board reviews it. The next two years will include two phases: development and review. Ms. Pruitt explained that the outdoor recreation and conservation supply and demand will be evaluated around November/December 2020 to June 2021 and that the review phase should begin around February 2022 and last until October 2022. By December 2022, the RCO should have a 2023 adopted SCORP.

In the next few months, RCO will form a steering committee, apply for National Park Service funding, and contract for a demand survey.

Ms. Pruitt requested two board members to volunteer to participate on the committee. Staff will reach out to members to get two for the steering committee.

Break: 10:45AM-11:10AM

Item 5: Grant Program Framework

Mr. Robinson gave an overview of the 2020 grant program framework. He noted the 2020 grant round would not have been possible without the expertise and commitment from RCO's 133 volunteers. All grant-related meetings had been held online, and the new PRISM Online review and scoring module had allowed the advisory committee members to review and score applications online.

Mr. Robinson informed the board that they will be asked to approve the ranked lists for each grant program, then explained the allocation formula for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP).

In closing, **Director Cottingham** added that RCO expects an increase in the LWCF and might do a second grant round if funding materializes.

Item 6: Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF): Approval of Ranked List and Grant Awards

DeAnn Beck, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented the history and an overview of the LWCF program. This year, 23 projects requesting \$10.9 million were presented for Board consideration. There are 18 development projects, 3 acquisitions, and 2 combination projects

Ms. Beck shared a limited number of LWCF projects and highlighted some trends in the 2020 grant round, then presented the top ranked project: Make Beacon Hill Public. Ms. Beck detailed that this privately owned property is part of the largest and most heavily used trail system in Spokane County. This 231-acre acquisition project involves two local agencies, five landowners, and three existing parks. Through the partnership between the City of Spokane and Spokane County, over 560 acres of contiguous park space will be preserved.

Ms. Beck concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the LWCF category.

Motion: Resolution 2020-19

Moved by: Member Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Gardow

Decision: **Approved**

Item 7: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA): Approval of Ranked List

Allison Dellwo, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented the eligibility requirements and an overview of the ALEA program. This year, RCO received 18 applications, requesting nearly \$9 million. Applicants are bringing just under \$20 million in matching resources for a total of \$29 million.

Ms. Dellwo expressed that there are a few items of note for 2020. During the grant cycle, applicants were eligible for a match reduction via the board-adopted Federal Disaster pathway, which was designed to help mitigate the financial impacts of COVID-19. Six applicants used the policy for a total match reduction of \$641,550.

Ms. Dellwo shared highlights of some projects and presented the top ranked project: Willow Creek at Marina Beach Park, sponsored by the City of Edmonds. Marina Beach Park is a 4.9-acre park located along the shoreline of Puget Sound. This project will redevelop the park by creating an open-air, tidal channel for Willow Creek with interpretive signage and provide hand-carried boat access to Puget Sound. Additional development will include scenic overlooks, restroom facilities, and a reconfiguration of the pathways and parking. This project is unique within the ALEA program because it was able to fully satisfy the criteria requirements of both public access and protection and enhancement. The total cost of this project is \$4.6 million. The City is requesting \$500,000 from the ALEA program.

Ms. Dellwo concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the ALEA category.

Member Gardow inquired how the concerns of underserved communities were addressed in this category. **Marguerite Austin**, Section Manager, explained that during technical review and evaluation, the advisory committee focused on the different diversity elements that were included in the SCORP priority for underserved communities in the *Need* evaluation criteria.

Motion: Resolution 2020-20

Moved by: Member Herzog

Seconded by: Member Milliern

Decision: **Approved**

Item 8: Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF): Approval of Ranked Lists

Alison Greene, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented an overview of the Youth Athletic Facilities Program (YAF) and the differences between the Large and Small categories. This year applicants submitted 45 development projects requesting \$11 million. Of these 45 projects, 21 applicants used the board's modified Federal Disaster Pathway, while 7 applicants used another pathway, which provided for an even lower match requirement. Although 62 percent of the projects have reduced match, applicants are providing more than twice the amount requested.

Ms. Greene shared some of the highlights of a few projects and presented the top ranked project in the Large category: Lion's Park Basketball Zone from the City of Othello. Funded with several grants from RCO, this park features group picnic sites, a street hockey rink, a handball court, a playground, and tennis and basketball courts. The total cost of the basketball court renovation project is \$482,000. The top ranked project

in the Small category is the Gene Goodwin Tennis Court Resurfacing project from the City of Fircrest. Fircrest is requesting \$16,000 to renovate three tennis courts and add striping for pickle ball. The City will provide 50 percent in match for a total project cost of \$32,000.

Ms. Greene concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the YAF category.

Motion: Resolution 2020-21

Moved by: Member Hix

Seconded by: Member Milliern

Decision: **Approved**

Lunch: 12:05PM-12:55PM

Item 9: Community Forests Program: Approval of Ranked Lists

Mr. Donatelle presented the Community Forests Program overview. He detailed that fifteen applications were submitted, requesting \$33.5 million, providing \$12 million in match, for a total budget of \$45.5 million. From this, 11,356 acres may be acquired.

The top ranked project was the Nason Ridge project from Chelan County. The project request is \$3 million with \$2.2 million in match to acquire 3,714 acres. The primary type of habitat to be protected is Cascade transition zone forests and 2.5 miles of Nason Creek, a tributary to the Wenatchee River and habitat for federally listed salmon and steelhead.

Mr. Donatelle concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the Community Forests Program category.

Motion: Resolution 2020-22

Moved by: Member Hix

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: **Approved**

Item 10: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Farm and Forest Account: Approval of Ranked Lists

A: Forestland Preservation Category

Kim Sellers, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented an overview of the WWRP Forestland Preservation category. Ms. Sellers explained the differences between the Forestland category and the Community Forests program. This year there were four

grant applications with a total combined investment of almost \$4.8 million. The top ranked project is phase two of the Little Skookum Inlet Forest brought in by Forterra, who is requesting \$320,872. Although not required, this project received additional points from the evaluators because the landowner, Port Blakely, allows public access on their property.

Ms. Sellers concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the WWRP Forestland Preservation category.

Member Gardow inquired if a sponsor could apply for this program and apply for the Community Forests program.

Ms. Sellers explained that they could apply for the Community Forests program for the purchase of land and use Forestland Preservation as match. Director Cottingham further explained that the differences for these two programs has to do with what property rights the applicant can purchase.

Motion: Resolution 2020-23

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Gardow

Decision: **Approved**

B: Farmland Preservation Category

Michelle Burbidge, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented the eligibility criteria and an overview of the Farmland Preservation category. Ms. Burbidge shared some project highlights and presented the top ranked project for this year: Wolf Creek Agricultural Conservation Easement, Phase 1 by the Methow Conservancy. This project site contains high quality soils and adjudicated water rights, which will be tied to the land into perpetuity. The project is requesting \$1.1 million with \$1.2 million in match. The total project cost is \$2.3 million.

Ms. Burbidge concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the WWRP Farmland Preservation category.

Motion: Resolution 2020-24

Moved by: Member Hix

Seconded by: Member Gardow

Decision: **Approved**

Item 11: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Habitat Conservation Account: Approval of Ranked Lists

Item 11 A: Critical Habitat Category

Ms. Burbidge presented the overview of the WWRP Critical Habitat category. Ms. Burbidge mentioned that this year, RCO received 11 applications, requesting a total of \$15.5 million in grant funding. Grant sponsors will contribute \$5.5 million, bringing the total project costs to \$21 million. If all 11 projects are fully funded, a total of 14,210 acres would be protected, along with 89 miles of shoreline. Ms. Burbidge shared this year's trends, project highlights, and presented the top ranked project: Simcoe 2020, proposed by the WDFW. This is the 6th phase of a 20,000-acre acquisition. This project will secure over 5,000 acres of critical habitat in the Simcoe Mountains, located in Klickitat County.

Ms. Burbidge concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the WWRP Critical Habitat category.

Member Gardow inquired about the evaluators' comments regarding the new pollinator criteria. **Ms. Austin** responded that more explanation will be presented in the Natural Areas category.

Motion: Resolution 2020-25

Moved by: Member Stohr

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: **Approved**

Item 11 B: Natural Areas Category

Ms. Beck presented the overview of the WWRP Natural Areas category. This year, the DNR was the only applicant in this category. Ms. Beck highlighted that the species and communities with special status criterion was expanded to include pollinators. DNR addressed this expanded criteria thoroughly, noting that Natural Areas are widely recognized as critical for pollinator protection, playing an important role as long-term refugia for pollinators experiencing declines in floral diversity and habitat, urbanization, invasive species, climate change, pesticide use, disease, and parasites. DNR requested \$16.2 million this year to fund 8 acquisition projects. 4,017 total acres were proposed for protection. The top ranked project this year is the Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve acquisition project. The project will acquire multiple parcels to expand protection for the Whited's milkvetch, a Priority 1 in Washington's Natural Heritage Plan, and a relatively intact expanse of shrub-steppe ecosystem. The site is in Chelan County

ten miles south of Wenatchee. This project will acquire 1,000 acres of DNR trust land and 1,161 acres of private land.

Ms. Beck concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the WWRP Natural Areas category.

Member Milliern commented that the top-ranked project is critical for the continuation of the White's milkvetch species. DNR had an opportunity to conserve land in that area and worked closely with a private landowner to trade land with the goal that it would be set aside for conservation. **Chair Willhite** added that the board should discuss this type of opportunity to work with private landowners to trade land for conservation at the next board retreat.

Motion: Resolution 2020-26

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Shiosaki

Decision: **Approved**

Item 11 C: Riparian Protection Category

Beth Auerbach, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented the eligibility criteria and an overview of the Riparian Protection category of the WWRP. This year, the RCO received nine projects, requesting \$11 million, with a total investment of \$18 million. 4,178 acres were proposed for protection. Ms. Auerbach noted changes made to the evaluation criteria that intend to refine the focus on protecting ecologically diverse and functioning habitat while accounting for the impacts of climate change and ensuring public access and other community benefits are compatible with the proposed conservation project. The top ranked project is the Wildlboy Forest and Kwoneesum Dam acquisition, sponsored by the Columbia Land Trust and requesting just over \$1 million with a \$2 million match. Ms. Auerbach shared that the Cowlitz Indian Tribe will remove the dam and restore 6.5 miles of salmon spawning habitat.

Ms. Auerbach concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the WWRP Riparian Protection category.

Public Comment:

Michele Canale, North Olympic Land Trust, expressed excitement about the potential grant award. Ms. Canale made herself available to answer any questions regarding the Hoko River Watershed Conservation project, RCO #20-1333.

Member Gardow commented on the advisory committee's feedback on the challenge of upland work versus lowland work and inquired if this concern is in the review process.

Director Cottingham responded that this topic has been on the list of policies to address and is more common for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

Motion: Resolution 2020-27

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Hix

Decision: **Approved**

Item 11 D: State Lands Restoration and Enhancement Category

Ms. Greene presented an overview of the State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category of the WWRP. This year applicants submitted 17 grant proposals and requested just over \$2.6 million. Ms. Greene shared some project highlights and the top ranked project: a joint application submitted by the DNR and WDFW. The agencies plan to restore more than 800 acres of prairie, bald, oak woodland, and wetland habitat in the South Puget Sound prairie-oak landscape. This project occurs just south of the greater Olympia area. The partnership will allow for efficiencies in spending. This would be the seventh phase of the project. The total project cost is \$485,850.

Ms. Greene concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the WWRP State Lands Restoration and Enhancement category.

Motion: Resolution 2020-28

Moved by: Member Shiosaki

Seconded by: Member Hix

Decision: **Approved**

Item 11e: Urban Wildlife Habitat Category

Ms. Auerbach presented an overview of the Urban Wildlife Habitat category of the WWRP. This category was overhauled in 2019 following the board's request to maintain the category's original focus of protecting native habitat, while increasing the number of local applicants who apply for funding. Ms. Auerbach explained the three main areas that were modified. This year, 11 projects were evaluated. The top ranked project was Phase 4 of the Antoine Peak Conservation Area, a 230-acre acquisition project. Spokane County is requesting just over \$1 million and will be contributing 50 percent match. The project area borders the City of Spokane Valley and will connect the City to 1,100 acres of existing public conservation land where there is a 14-mile trail network. Once

acquired, the County will develop a new trailhead, trails, and an access road that will connect to the existing conservation area, as well as sites for outdoor classrooms.

Ms. Auerbach concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the Urban Wildlife Habitat category.

Motion: Resolution 2020-29
Moved by: Member Hix
Seconded by: Member Gardow
Decision: **Approved**

Item 12: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Outdoor Recreation Account: Approval of Ranked Lists

Item 12A: Local Parks Category

Brian Carpenter, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented an overview of the Local Parks category of the WWRP. Mr. Carpenter stated that the top ranked project: Spokane County's "Make Beacon Hill Public" was also the top-ranked project in the LWCF program. Because this project was already presented, Mr. Carpenter shared highlights of the second ranked project: Jefferson County's Universal Movement Playground, also known as JUMP. This project is representative of a theme shown among the applications this year: a strong, positive focus on accessibility for people of all abilities, especially by building inclusive playgrounds.

Mr. Carpenter concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the Local Parks category.

Member Gardow inquired about the evaluators' comments regarding if there was a plan to evaluate the effectiveness of this evaluation process. **Director Cottingham** responded that Ms. Austin plans to compile together the evaluators' comments after the grant rounds RCO will send a survey to applicants and the evaluators for feedback. Member Gardow further asked when the Local Parks category evaluation process was last reviewed. Director Cottingham answered that it has not been reviewed in a long time.

Motion: Resolution 2020-30
Moved by: Member Shiosaki
Seconded by: Member Hix
Decision: **Approved**

Item 12B: State Lands Development Category

Dan Haws, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented an overview of the State Lands Development and Renovation category of the WWRP. This year, both the DNR and WDFW submitted seven applications each, requesting just over \$3.9 million in grant funding, with a total cost of over \$5.1 million. The top ranked project is the DNR's Tiger Mountain Summit Trailhead Renovation. The new trailhead will be designed with both upper and lower parking areas. It will expand the current 50 vehicle parking capacity to 150 new parking spaces. These improvements will allow the trailhead to accommodate more visitors at one time while decreasing the impact to the natural resources of the surrounding area.

Mr. Haws concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the State Lands Development and Renovation category.

Motion: Resolution 2020-31

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Stohr

Decision: **Approved**

Item 12C: State Parks Category

Karl Jacobs, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented an overview of the State Parks category of the WWRP. Ten applications were submitted this year, requesting just over \$16.4 million, with the applicant providing over \$955,000 match. If all ten projects were funded, over 440 acres would be purchased, 9 acres would be developed, 46 miles of new trails built, and the applicant would restore 1,400 feet of shoreline. The top ranked project is an acquisition in the Green River Gorge along the Icy Creek Ridge near Black Diamond. Purchase of this property will prevent residential development and allow for trail construction. The acquisition will make significant progress toward realizing the vision of the legislature that State Parks has been pursuing for over 50 years.

Mr. Jacobs concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the State Parks category.

Member Gardow inquired if ranking the inholdings project in the evaluation process is necessary. Mr. Jacobs responded that it would require work by policy staff to see if the board has the authority to just fund the inholdings project. **Mr. Herzog** commented that the project usually ranks within the funding level.

Motion: Resolution 2020-32
Moved by: Member Herzog
Seconded by: Member Shiosaki
Decision: **Approved**

Item 12D: Trails Category

Jesse Sims, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented an overview of the Trails category of the WWRP. Mr. Sims shared some project highlights and presented the top ranked project: Clallam County's western terminus of the Olympic Discovery Trail. The County is requesting just over \$900,000 to acquire the trail corridor for one of the last remaining links in the 135-mile long Olympic Discovery Trail. The County will be matching their request with \$300,000. This important segment will link two small communities together almost entirely off-road and will also tie into the popular Olympic National Park's second and third beach trailheads.

Mr. Sims concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the Trails category.

Member Gardow asked about the last time the board reviewed the evaluation process for the Trails category. **Director Cottingham** responded that the review process will be a topic at the next retreat.

Motion: Resolution 2020-33
Moved by: Member Milliern
Seconded by: Member Gardow
Decision: **Approved**

Item 12E: Water Access Category

Ms. Dellwo presented an overview of the Water Access category of the WWRP. 12 projects met the requirements for a match reduction via the board-approved federal disaster pathway. Ms. Dellwo shared some project highlights and the top ranked project: Kayak Point Waterfront Improvements, Phase 1, by Snohomish County Parks and Recreation. The project will renovate the area by moving parking and roadways off the shoreline, constructing a soft shore berm with native plant enhancements, and renovating the 300-foot fishing pier. The total project cost is \$3.2 million, and the sponsor is requesting \$500,000. The combination restroom/picnic shelter is currently a separate 2020 proposed renovation project under the WWRP Local Parks category. The other recreation amenities will be completed in a future phase.

Ms. Dellwo concluded the presentation by asking the board to approve the ranked list of projects for the Water Access category.

Member Gardow inquired, based on comments from the evaluators, if there should be a do-not-fund option. **Director Cottingham** responded that some of RCO's grant programs have a do-not-fund option, which is a process RCO goes through before bringing the ranked lists to the board; however, this option is not available for WWRP projects. **Ms. Austin** added that the "do not fund" comment came from an evaluator concerned about the eligibility of a project to renovate an RV camp.

Staff determined the project was eligible and the advisory committee didn't make any recommendations to not fund any of the projects.

Motion: Resolution 2020-34

Moved by: Member Milliern

Seconded by: Member Hix

Decision: **Approved**

Public Comment:

David Vorse, City of Castle Rock, stated that he sent a letter regarding the WWRP Trails Category applications submitted for 2020. The letter discussed the grant processes managed by RCO and deals with the staff scored criteria. Mr. Vorse pointed out the perceived disadvantage for small communities. Most small communities do not have the dedicated staff or resources to support the preparation or submission of these grants. Mr. Vorse wanted to see if there was any interest in having a discussion on these criteria. Additionally, Mr. Vorse offered his availability as part of a committee to help brainstorm solutions, if requested.

Chair Willhite stated that the board has been trying to address this concern from many different perspectives and it is a continuing effort for the agency and the board.

Director Cottingham commented that if included in the Governor's budget, the agency has been looking into a new equity program to use as a pilot program on topics such as shorter application processes and more staff-intensive involvement for smaller jurisdictions such as Castle Rock. RCO will keep Mr. Vorse's name in mind for the advisory committee formed. This topic will also be discussed at the board's retreat.

Break: 3:15PM-3:30PM

Item 13: Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club (RCO 03-1156)

Ms. Sellers presented an update on the status of the Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club (KRRRC), the project background, and KRRRC's progress towards reopening for the shooting of firearms. **Mr. Robinson** stated that RCO staff brought this compliance issue to the board on January 31, 2018. Staff's recommendation at the time was to declare this a conversion and seek repayment of the entire grant. After staff's presentation and testimonies from several club members, the board decided to give the club more time, resulting in the creation and execution of Amendment 7. This amendment was signed by both the club and RCO. The conditions of the Amendment were explained. Mr. Robinson stated that RCO sent notice to the KRRRC on October 1st about the approaching obligation and this discussion item. Up until 5 minutes before this topic, RCO had received no reply. The board does not need to take action at this time. The board has already delegated authority to Director Cottingham to act. The Director intends to discuss the best course of action with RCO's legal counsel after expiration of the time period set forth in the amendment (January 1, 2021). Staff will provide an update at the January 2021 meeting.

Public Comment:

Marcus Carter, Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club, apologized for not sending a letter to RCO sooner and asked the board to review the letter and any other upcoming materials before the next board meeting. Mr. Carter stated that the "No Shooting" sign posted in the presentation was a picture that was highly prejudicial. The sign was up for a short period of time. Mr. Carter explained that the court decision was not just overturned, but the judge's decision was vacated. It was said by staff that the club received permits for the RCO work that was done, but the ongoing court action is for the work that was done with RCO's grant funding. The work was inspected and reviewed by various agencies. These agencies issued no notice to the club that it should have done anything differently. The club did not decide to take court action. Due to COVID-19, the hearing was delayed, and KRRRC is waiting for the determination from the Court of Appeals. KRRRC expects the trial courts to be overturned again and the county to direct which permit for RCO work is needed. The club has applied for various permits as recommended by the county and was denied multiple times. The club has fulfilled its obligations to RCO. The facility has always been open. Certain types of rifles have not been allowed due to court order, not because of the club. The club is working diligently to restore all of its historic use. Mr. Carter invited the board to visit the club.

Barbara Butterson, Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club stated that this year has been unusual due of COVID-19. Hearings were delayed and that the club appealed the court's decision right away. In the event that everything had been approved by the Court of Appeals, the club would still have been closed due to the Governor's Stay Home Order. Ms. Butterson requested the board to take this into consideration.

Chair Willhite thanked Ms. Butterson and stated that RCO has received the letter sent in by Mr. Carter a few moments ago.

Executive Session: Director's Evaluation (Board Members Only)

Chair Willhite announced that the board was going into Executive Session, and read the statement as required by law, to review the performance of Director Cottingham.

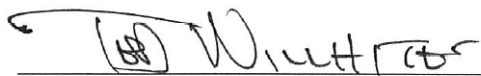
Closing:

Chair closed the meeting at 4:33 pm

ADJOURN- Meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm

The next meeting will January 26-27, 2021, Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA, 98501 - Subject to change considering COVID

Approved by:



Theodore Willhite, Chair

1-26-2021

Date