

**Proposed Agenda**  
**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board**

**April 27, 2021**  
**Online Meeting**

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**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](mailto:Wyatt.Lundquist@rco.wa.gov).**

**Registration Link:** [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_JqkQAGCrRSOwbHLmq3a6oA](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JqkQAGCrRSOwbHLmq3a6oA)

**Phone Option:** (669)900-6833 - **Webinar ID:** 967 5491 2108

**Location:** RCO will also have a public meeting location for members of the public to listen via phone as required by the Open Public Meeting Act, **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](mailto:Wyatt.Lundquist@rco.wa.gov).

**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](mailto:Leslie.Frank@rco.wa.gov); accommodation requests should be received April 13, 2021 to ensure availability.

## TUESDAY, April 27

### OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- 
- 9:00 a.m. Call to Order** *Chair Willhite*
- Roll Call and Determination of Quorum
  - Review and Approval of Agenda – April 27-28, 2021 (**Decision**)
  - **Introduce New RCO Director**
  - **Recognition Resolutions:**
    - Member Joe Stohr - [Resolution 2021-15](#)
    - Member Brock Milliern - [Resolution 2021-16](#)
    - RCO's Scott Chapman - [Resolution 2021-17](#)
  - **Introduction of New Members Amy Windrope and Angus Brodie**
  - Remarks of the Chair
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- 9:20 a.m. 1. Consent Agenda (Decision)** *Chair Willhite*
- A. Board Meeting Minutes – January 26, 2021
  - B. Time Extension Requests
  - C. Decision to hold the remainder of all 2021 Board Meetings Virtually
    - Cancelling Tour
- [Resolution 2021-05](#)
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- 9:25 a.m. 2. General Board Discussion** *Chair Willhite*
- Reflection on director selection process
  - Onboarding New Director
  - Preparing for June Retreat
    - Decision on which day
    - Facilitator?
    - Guest Speaker and Topic
    - Topics
- 
- 9:50 a.m. 3. Director's Report**
- A. Director's Report *Director Cottingham*
  - B. Legislative, Budget, and Policy Update *Wendy Brown*
  - C. Grant Management Report *Marguerite Austin*
  - D. Grant Services Report *Kyle Guzlas*
  - E. Communications Report *Susan Zemek*
  - F. Performance Report (written only) *Brent Hedden*
  - G. Fiscal Report (written only) *Mark Jarasitis*
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- 10:45 a.m. General Public Comment** for issues not identified as agenda items. Please limit comments to 3 minutes. *Chair Willhite*
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- 10:50 a.m. BREAK**
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**BOARD BUSINESS: EXECUTIVE SESSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION**

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**11:05 a.m. Board Executive Session – On Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club Conversion**

*Director Cottingham*

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**BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFING**

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**11:20 a.m. 4. Policy Updates:**

- SCORP
- Trail Plan
- YAF Program with Revenues from Stadium
- Road Usage Charge Implementation

*Wendy Brown*

*Ben Donatelle*

*Adam Cole*

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**12:00 a.m. LUNCH**

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**BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS**

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**12:45 p.m. 5. Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program: Approval of Ranked Lists**

*Brian Carpenter*

- A. Education and Enforcement Category  
Resolution 2021-06
- B. Nonhighway Road Category  
Resolution 2021-07
- C. Nonmotorized Category  
Resolution 2021-08
- D. Off-road Vehicle Category  
Resolution 2021-09

**Public comment** will occur prior to adopting each individual resolution.  
Please limit comments to three minutes.

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**1:15 p.m. 6. Recreational Trails Program (RTP): Approval of Ranked Lists**

*Jesse Sims*

Resolution 2021-10

**Public comment** will occur prior to adopting each individual resolution.  
Please limit comments to three minutes.

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**1:35 p.m. 7. Boating Facilities Program (BFP): Approval of Ranked Lists**

*Dan Haws*

Resolution 2021-11

**Public comment** will occur prior to adopting each individual resolution.  
Please limit comments to three minutes.

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**1:55 p.m. 8. Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR):  
Approval of Ranked List** *Michelle Burbidge*

Resolution 2021-12

**Public comment** will occur prior to adopting each individual resolution.  
Please limit comments to three minutes.

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**2:15 p.m. 9. Minor Revision to LWCF Compliance Criterion Proposed  
Revision** *Myra Barker*

Resolution 2021-13

**Public comment** will occur prior to adopting each individual  
resolution. Please limit comments to three minutes.

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**2:35 p.m. BREAK**

**BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFING**

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**2:50 p.m. 10. RCO's Approach to Cultural Resource Consultation and  
Tribal Relations** *Sarah Thirtyacre*

**3:20 p.m. 11. Featured Projects**

- Methow Conservancy, Lehman Uplands Conservation Easement ([16-1699](#))
- Port of Grapeview, Grapeview Property Acquisition, Development, and Boat Launch Renovation ([18-2420](#), [16-2774](#), [14-1866](#))

*Kim Sellers*

**3:35 p.m. 12. State Agency Partner Reports** (5 mins per report)

- Governor's Office
- Department of Natural Resources
- State Parks and Recreation Commission
- Department of Fish and Wildlife

*Jon Snyder*

*TBD*

*Peter Herzog*

*Amy Windrope*

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**4:00 p.m. 13. Celebration and Goodbyes for Retiring Director Kaleen  
Cottingham**

Resolution 2021-14

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**5:00 p.m. ADJOURN**

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**Next Meeting:**

June 29-30, 2021, Regular Meeting and Retreat, Online

# RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Item	Formal Action	Follow-up Action
<b>OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS</b>		
<p><b>Call to Order</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum</li> <li>B. Review and Approval of Agenda</li> <li>C. Remarks of the Chair</li> </ul>	<p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><u>Agenda</u></p> <p><b>Moved by:</b> Member Milliern</p> <p><b>Seconded by:</b> Member Shiosaki</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> Approved</p>	
<p><b>1. Consent Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Board Meeting Minutes: November 5, 2020</li> <li>B. Board Meeting Minutes: November 20 and December 9, 2020</li> <li>C. Correcting Resolution Numbers from November 5, 2020</li> <li>D. Time Extensions Requests</li> <li>E. Volunteer Recognitions</li> </ul>	<p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><u>Resolution 2021-01</u></p> <p><b>Moved by:</b> Member Shiosaki</p> <p><b>Seconded by:</b> Member Milliern</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> Approved</p>	
<p><b>2. Director's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Director's Report</li> <li>B. Legislative, Budget, &amp; Policy Update</li> <li>C. Grant Management Report</li> <li>D. Grant Services Report</li> <li>E. Fiscal Report</li> <li>F. Performance Report</li> </ul>		
<b>BOARD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION</b>		

<b>3. Policy Updates</b> A. SCORP B. Underserved Communities C. Environmental Justice Task Force Recommendations		
<b>4. Carbon Credit Policy Updates</b>	<b>Decision</b> <u>Resolution 2021-02</u> <b>Moved by:</b> Member Herzog <b>Seconded by:</b> Member Stohr <b>Decision:</b> Approved	<b>Task:</b> Ben Donatelle will add a self-reporting element on how funds will be used from projects enrolled under the Carbon Credits Policy
<b>5. Current Policies that Govern Commercial Use on Funded Projects</b>		<b>Task:</b> Hold time on one of the 2021 agendas to further discuss commercial uses/complimentary uses on funded projects
<b>BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS</b>		
<b>6. Annual Compliance Report</b>		
<b>BOARD BUSINESS: DECISIONS</b>		
<b>7. Steptoe Butte Policy Waiver Request</b>	<b>Decision</b> <u>Resolution 2021-03</u> <b>Moved by:</b> Member Gardow <b>Seconded by:</b> Member Burgess <b>Decision:</b> Approved as Amended	
<b>8. Seattle Red Barn Ranch Conservation Request</b>	<b>Decision</b> <u>Resolution 2021-04</u> <b>Moved by:</b> Member Milliern <b>Seconded by:</b> Member Gardow <b>Decision:</b> Approved as Amended	
<b>BOARD BUSINESS: EXECUTIVE SESSION</b>		
<b>ADJOURN</b>		

Next Meeting: April 27 and 28, 2021, Regular Meeting, Online - **Subject to change considering COVID**

## RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

**Date:** January 26, 2021

**Place:** Online

### Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members:

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

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**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. 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 acknowledging COVID-19, **Chair Willhite** thanked first responders, healthcare workers, and RCO staff for their continued efforts amid the pandemic. He also thanked and recognized volunteers who were bidding farewell after providing valuable analysis and program advice to the agency. Chair Willhite announced the retirement of RCO Director, **Kaleen Cottingham**, and gave an update on the Director recruitment process, noting that an executive session would be held toward the end of the meeting concerning that topic. Chair Willhite requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

**Motion:** Resolution 2021-01

**Moved by:** Member Shiosaki

**Seconded by:** Member Milliern

**Decision:** Approved

## Item 2: Director's Report

### Director's Report

**Kaleen Cottingham**, RCO Director, updated the Board on various RCO activities such as continued remote work and the holiday and recognition drive-by. She also showed the Open Government Key Award video from the Washington Coalition for Open Government that was given to RCO Policy Director, **Wendy Brown**, RCO Policy Specialist, **Brent Hedden**, and RCO Chief Information Officer and Information Technology Manager, **Greg Tudor** for their excellent work on the new Public Land Inventory website. This new Web application maps all publicly owned (federal, state, local) recreation and conservation lands in Washington.

Notably, Director Cottingham had been invited to provide an equity presentation to the National Governors Association concerning RCO's policy on grant match reduction associated with our work on underserved communities and underserved populations.

Director Cottingham gave updates on the governor's proposed budgets for 2021-2023 and the RCO Capital Budget, as well as updates on changes to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Youth Athletic Facilities programs. Director Cottingham also informed the Board of the status of the Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club (KRRC). KRRC has until the end of January to pay back their grant funds. If they fail to do so, the Attorney General will file an action in Thurston Superior County court.

**Scott Robinson**, RCO Deputy Director, gave an update on the Director recruitment process. RCO has hired a professional recruitment facilitator for the recruitment and vetting process. The candidates will be interviewed in early February and the Board will send the names of three candidates to the Governor for consideration.

### Legislative, Budget, and Policy Update

**Wendy Brown**, RCO Policy Director, gave updates on the 2021-23 proposed Governor's budgets and the beginning of the 2021 legislative session. Ms. Brown reminded the board that state agencies were asked by the Office of Financial Management (OFM) in September to submit a plan for a 15 percent cut to their general fund appropriations in the 2021-23 operating budget. In the Governor's proposed operating budget, only some of RCO's proposed cuts were taken. Ms. Brown also gave a summary of the Governor's capital budget related to recreation and conservation programs. To stimulate



the state's economy, the Governor's Office assumed an additional \$1.25 billion in new bond capacity next biennium, providing a total bond capacity of \$4.8 billion.

Ms. Brown also noted two budget provisos provided by the Governor that addressed outdoor equity and highlighted several bills of interest.

**Chair Willhite** thanked Ms. Brown and prompted questions and comments from Board members.

**Marguerite Austin**, Recreation and Conservation Grants Section Manager, presented a summary of the 2021 funding of the LWCF. The Washington state apportionment of the LWCF for federal fiscal year 2021 is over \$6 million for state, local, and tribal governments. The Board delegated authority to **Director Cottingham** to use funds for the next three fiscal years to fund the list of projects. Director Cottingham approved the first nine projects and RCO will use \$4.6 million that was approved for federal fiscal year 2020. The new \$6 million apportionment will allow RCO to fund the remaining 13 projects. The LWCF criteria in the new manual published last week could significantly impact RCO's plans if application reassessment is required based on the new criteria.

Next, Ms. Austin provided a summary of the Great American Outdoors Act, a new national grant program that would replace the LWCF Outdoor Legacy Partnership Program, which focuses on funding underserved communities in urban areas. \$150 million has been aside for this program. The grant limit ranges from \$500,000 to \$20 million and focuses on habitat conservation, endangered species protection, and the connectivity of boating, fishing, hunting, and shooting sports. Staff is working quickly to make sure they know what is needed to provide guidance to applicants.

In closing, Ms. Austin gave an update on the second round of the grant cycle. She detailed that in February and March, the Advisory Committee will evaluate 206 projects, requesting nearly \$41 million in grants.

**Chair Willhite** thanked Ms. Austin and prompted questions and comments from board members.

**Kyle Guzlas**, RCO Grants Services Section Manager, updated the Board on the electronic signature process. RCO established new agency procedures for electronic signature in April 2020. From mid-April until end of January, 100 percent of contracts and amendments in the Recreation and Conservation section have been electronic. Mr. Guzlas presented the improvements, applications, positive impacts, and time saving aspects of electronic signature.

Mr. Guzlas also gave updates on the No Child Left Inside (NCLI) active projects, highlighting how organizations have adapted activities during the pandemic such as

hosting art, journaling, and trip planning events via online meetings to keep kids engaged with the programs. Mr. Guzlas highlighted several programs that made adaptation, including the Salish Sea School, the Young Women Empowered, the Lopez Island Family Resources, and the Northwest Water Institute.

Next, Mr. Guzlas went over the 2021-2023 NCLI grant cycle, indicating that 184 applications were submitted in November 2020 for pre-application- the most applications submitted since 2015. The program is extremely competitive. Only 17% of applications were funded in the 2019-2021 grant cycle. RCO expects \$9.3 million in total grant request for the current grant cycle. Mr. Guzlas concluded that programs such as NCLI are extremely important and critical to our state's recovery from the pandemic. The pandemic has magnified the importance of getting youth outdoors to promote positive physical and mental health.

**Member Herzog** commented that in addition to RCO saving time by using electronic signature, it also saves time and streamlines the signature routing process for other agencies. Member Herzog thanked Mr. Guzlas and **Director Cottingham** for their work on the NCLI program, a great partnership between the agency and State Parks.

### **Performance Report**

**Brent Hedden**, RCO Policy Specialist, presented the fiscal year 2021 performance measure updates. The performance measure updates include:

- agreements mailed within 120 days
- projects under agreement within 180 days
- progress reports responded to within 15 days
- number of bills paid
- projects closed within 150 days
- projects in the backlog
- compliance inspection completed

**Director Cottingham** added that more details on compliance issues would be presented later in the meeting. **Member Gardow** inquired about the impacts of electronic signatures on the agreement performance measures. Mr. Hedden responded that the agency may have to revise some of the performance measures as RCO implements more electronic signatures to better suit the new processes. **Chair Willhite** thanked Mr. Hedden and invited anyone who may have additional questions.

*General Public Comment: No comment was provided at this time.*

### Item 3: Policy Updates

#### **Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Plan (SCORP)**

**Katie Pruitt**, RCO Planning and Policy Specialist, gave a brief overview of SCORP and presented the confirmed list of the steering committee members, which included members from local, state, and tribal governments, as well as nonprofit organizations and the board. Members also represent regions across the state. The next steps for SCORP is to meet throughout 2021 and have preliminary recommendations to the Board by January 2022. In conclusion, the 2023 SCORP will shape how Washington state invests in outdoor recreation and conservation for the future. The plan will identify funding priorities and create a road map to meet the needs of Washington residents. Ms. Pruitt also explained that RCO will work with Eastern Washington University again to create a participation demand survey for the upcoming SCORP to analyze the changes in trends from 2018 when the survey was last conducted.

**Chair Willhite** inquired if the SCORP plan will specifically look at the impact of COVID-19 and outdoor recreation. Ms. Pruitt responded that it will be part of analyzing and studying the trends and changes of outdoor recreation demands on public lands.

**Director Cottingham** communicated that **Member Burgess** and **Member Shiosaki** are a part of the steering committee.

#### **Underserved Communities and Environmental Justice Taskforce**

**Ben Donatelle**, RCO Natural Resources Policy Specialist, presented an overview of the Environmental Justice Taskforce Report, including the introduction, definition, measurable goals and model policies, health disparities map, and community engagement. Mr. Donatelle also discussed the recommendations from the report, which included developing a community engagement plan, integrating spatial, demographic, and health disparities data, and changing state laws that restrict agencies from purchasing goods and services that support broad community participation.

**Chair Willhite** invited comments and questions for Mr. Donatelle.

#### **Break: 10:30AM – 10:45AM**

*General Public Comment: No comment was provided at this time.*

### Item 4: Carbon Credits Policy Update

**Ben Donatelle**, RCO Natural Resources Policy Specialist, presented an overview of the final draft of the carbon credit policy for RCO. Mr. Donatelle discussed the purpose and intent of the carbon credit policy: to offset carbon emissions, take advantage of emerging market opportunities, and enable sponsors to secure stewardship funds.

**Chair Willhite** thanked Mr. Donatelle and invited public testimony.

*Public Comment:*

**Nicholas Norton**, the Executive Director of the Washington Association of Land Trust, testified. Mr. Norton, expressed gratitude to the RCFB for making a pathway for this policy, stating that carbon credits are seen as a way of proactive stewardship. Mr. Norton also commented that if a carbon credit project was secured through an enforceable contract rather than a deed restriction, it may make it easier for RCO to review these policies in the future.

**Chair Willhite** inquired if Mr. Donatelle could accommodate Mr. Norton's suggestion. Mr. Donatelle responded that the agency had already taken it into consideration in the development of the policy. **Member Gardow** inquired how RCO was going to enforce the policy, ensuring the funds would not be misused. She also requested clarification on the difference between a contract and a deed, and if the agency had a time frame of when to return and evaluate the policy's effectiveness. Mr. Donatelle responded that RCO would enforce the policy through the income use policy. The agency can track revenue the same way it tracks revenue from park parking fees or revenue from cell towers that pre-existed in a park. **Director Cottingham** added it would be a contractual violation to violate the income policy. Mr. Donatelle stated that RCO has enforcement rights for the agency's portion of the project. Crediting agencies also have enforcement mechanism through their contracts for the carbon credits issued. The sponsor is responsible to uphold the RCO and crediting agency's contracts. Director Cottingham asked the Board to not bind RCO to the priority of reviewing this policy in five years. Having a date requirement would affect other prioritization processes in policy review. Member Gardow inquired if it was possible to have monitoring reports on carbon credit projects. Mr. Donatelle responded that once the policy was approved, the implementation procedures will begin the tracking process in PRISM. Chair Willhite agreed with Director Cottingham on not putting a date requirement on policy review. **Member Herzog** expressed concerns on whether policy acknowledgement was sufficient to hold sponsors accountable and to ensure the proceeds were spent appropriately on conservation purposes. He inquired if it was possible to require sponsors to provide plans of how they intended to track the funds in the policy acknowledgement. Mr. Donatelle stated it was up to the Board to make this modification to the policy, pointing out that this modification would be inconsistent with other revenue generating activity policies. **Member Shiosaki** inquired if this program will be targeted towards land trusts or counties. Mr. Donatelle responded that

it would most likely be counties, larger municipalities, and land trusts. Member Herzog commented that with local governments, it would be more challenging to track the spending of the money compared to land trusts. Chair Willhite commented that accountability was needed to be incorporated into the policy to track sponsor spending. Director Cottingham requested **Ms. Austin** to explain the agency's current income policy implementation. Ms. Austin illustrated that the income policy allows income to be used for various maintenance on parks and facilities. RCO has never come across a sponsor that has received more revenue than it would take to maintain the entire park system. The policy is broad enough to use for taking care of entire park systems or habitat lands. RCO checks periodically on Boating Facilities Program projects where some commercial use activities are allowed. When a use certification is requested, RCO asks about the income use policy. Entities periodically send the agency revenue reports. Ms. Austin further confirmed that RCO can ask sponsors to disclose the intended use of funds. Chair Willhite wanted confirmation that this policy was consistent with RCO's other revenue policies and the agency has experience to maintain and implement the policy. Ms. Austin confirmed and explained that the agency also has self-reporting requirements, especially for habitat programs with conservation easements, where they are required to provide a report every five years. Because the Board expressed continued concern with funding reporting, Director Cottingham asked Mr. Donatelle to incorporate, as part of the review process, a reporting requirement on the funds. Member Gardow inquired about what to expect in the future. Chair Willhite responded that Mr. Donatelle would provide more information and reports so the Board could get a sense of what the market was like. Director Cottingham clarified that contract execution was not part of this policy. A sponsor would enter into a contractual agreement with a carbon credit agency and seek RCO's approval. Mr. Donatelle stated that the agency's implementation procedure will track the policy through PRISM.

**Motion:** Resolution 2021-02

**Moved by:** Member Herzog

**Seconded by:** Member Stohr

**Decision:** **Approved**

#### **Item 5: Current Policies that Govern Commercial Uses on Funded Projects**

**Adam Cole**, RCO Policy Specialist, presented the background and rules and policies that address Commercial Use on grant-funded projects (eligible expenses within a grant proposal) and on previously funded project sites. Mr. Cole then asked the Board if the current rules are sufficient for the needs of the grant recipients. **Chair Willhite** invited

questions and comments from Board members. **Member Gardow** expressed concerns on allowing advertisements in public spaces. **Member Shiosaki** stated that complementary uses could be beneficial in terms of keeping park users at the site longer, but they should only be intended for park users. **Member Milliern** agreed with Member Shiosaki and added that complementary uses such as skate rentals or small food vendors are needed to improve park functionality and experience of park users. After further remarks from Members Herzog and Stohr, Chair Willhite and **Director Cottingham** concluded that Mr. Cole will present further discussion on this topic at a future Board meeting.

**Break: 12:05PM -12:50PM**

#### **Item 6: Annual Compliance Report**

**Myra Barker**, RCO Compliance Specialist, presented the background, compliance portfolio, compliance inspections, 2020 compliance report, and the 2021 compliance program inspection strategy and workplan. Ms. Barker stated that 2020 presented a new challenge with travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Inspection protocols were modified to follow the agency's Safe Start Site Visits and Traveling Procedures. **Chair Willhite** prompted questions and comments from the board. **Member Gardow** inquired if developers had title information when reviewing development plans to know RCO's ownership boundaries. Ms. Barker responded that compliance issues often occur on older sites. Over time, grant boundaries become forgotten. Even though RCO reaches out to sponsors to remind them of their obligations, the sponsors often are not looking at title reports before acting. Formalizing the grant boundaries when closing out projects will help provide certainty to the agency and sponsors on what area is subject to grant program policy. Ms. Barker presented a video featuring **Ashly Arambul**, RCO Compliance Assistant, demonstrating the agency's compliance review and inspection processes.

#### **Item 7: Steptoe Butte Policy Waiver Request**

**DeAnn Beck**, RCO Outdoor Grants Manager, presented background information, a summary of 2020 Board briefing, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR)'s waiver request and justification, as well as options for Board consideration. The options included the Board denying the request, approving the request with a special condition, or approving the request as is.

**Chair Willhite** invited **Member Milliern** and **Member Herzog** to comment. Member Milliern stated this waiver request wasn't lightly requested by DNR. Several unique circumstances brought about this request. Member Milliern thanked and recognized

RCO staff including Ms. Beck's efforts on the matter. Member Herzog stated that the significance of the site is extraordinary.

*Public Comment:*

**John Gamon**, a DNR retiree, commented on his familiarity with the natural heritage program and the statewide natural areas policies. He stated that the approval of the waiver would bring invaluable conservation opportunity to the site. Mr. Gamon encouraged the Board to focus on the conservation outcomes and approve the request.

**Kent Bassett**, Property Owner, commented that the site was at risk due to weeds and invasive species, which need to be controlled to preserve the site. Without dedicated income for weed control, the site would deteriorate. Mr. Bassett stated that dedicated funds to control weeds would be the best alternative. The towers, in this case, would be an asset for the site.

**Joan Folwell**, Property Owner, gave a brief background on restoring land and habitats for conservation. She stated that weeds were the greatest threat to restoration. Ms. Folwell explained that the property had many visitors over the last year, which leads to seeds being brought in by vehicles and foot traffic. A funding resource dedicated to the maintenance of this site is crucial. Ms. Folwell explained the towers could provide a source of income for many years.

**Chair Willhite** inquired if there was a Board consensus of which option was preferred. Member Milliern preferred option 3, approving the request. Member Milliern clarified that the funds collected from the communication site leases would go to the Natural Resource Conservation Stewardship Account. Legislative authority would be needed to direct funds to the specific site. **Member Stohr** inquired if risk evaluation for option 2 was conducted or if the terms of the lease were examined. He also inquired about the costs of tower removal. **Ben Guss**, DNR Acquisition Specialist, went over the ownership and lease terms of the towers. **Member Stohr** inquired about the role the towers play in the area. Mr. Guss explained that the towers are critical infrastructure to the region and would be costly to relocate. **Member Gardow** expressed concerns about the resolution language not stating that the waiver would not become a common occurrence.

**Member Shiosaki** expressed his preference for option 2 since revenues will be involved. Member Herzog commented that the site also has cultural value and using the existing towers would minimize impact on the site. **Member Hix** expressed his preference for option 3, stating the site is a unique property and the issue at hand is a unique situation. **Member Burgess** expressed her preference for option 2 or 3, inquiring if DNR could secure legislative authority to dedicate funding to the specific site. Member Milliern



commented that it was DNR's intent to request stewardship funding to be directed to this site. Member Burgess stated her preference for option 3 if funding could be dedicated in perpetuity to this site. Chair Willhite thanked the Board members for their comments and expressed concerns regarding the use of public land for commercial purposes. **Director Cottingham** suggested additional language: *Whereas, this is a very unique, one-time authorization of these waivers, and does not change Board policy on incompatible uses.* Chair Willhite entertained a motion to approve the resolution with additional language in the fifth Whereas with the language presented by Director Cottingham.

**Motion:** Resolution 2021-03: Option 3

**Moved by:** Member Gardow

**Seconded by:** Member Burgess

**Decision:** *Approved as Amended*

#### **Item 8: Seattle Red Barn Ranch Conversion Request**

**Myra Barker**, RCO Compliance Specialist, presented the City of Seattle's request to approve a conversion of approximately 38.7 acres of property acquired near Auburn known as the Seattle Red Barn Ranch, using funding from State Bonds and an open space grant from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. Ms. Barker provided the Board with the project's background, the role of the Board, and details of the replacement property, North Rainier (Charlestown). **Member Shiosaki** discussed the issue of reasonably equivalent usefulness and expressed concerns about the size difference of the replacement property. He also stated a preference for the option of the entire site of the neighborhood park, not only the southwest corner proposed. **Member Gardow** also expressed concerns about size difference and what future conversion may look like on the site and how the agency would ensure fairness for future conversions. Ms. Barker explained that if the site was to be converted again, the sponsor would need to find a replacement that is equitable at the time. Recreational needs also change overtime and the sponsor would have to come to RCO for eligibility guidance. **Director Cottingham** added that it was not a question of fairness, but rather the nature of recreational utility. Ms. Barker commented that, upon development, the replacement property will provide various activities despite its small size. Ms. Barker resumed her presentation, discussing the public comments received and staff recommendation. Concluding the presentation, Ms. Barker summarized that the replacement property was significantly smaller, but the boundary would be expanded upon approval. Ms. Barker recommended the alternate resolution, 2021-04-A- 7<sup>th</sup>



Whereas, to the Board for approval. **Chair Willhite** asked **Max Jacobs** from Seattle Parks and Recreation to confirm the city's willingness to expand the boundary of the replacement property. Mr. Jacobs provided his confirmation and further explained that the city originally had secured a waiver of retroactivity for the .15-acre replacement property. The city understood the Board's concerns and appreciated the opportunity for flexibility for the rest of the site to respond to future needs. Chair Willhite thanked Mr. Jacobs and Ms. Barker. Member Gardow asked for clarification regarding RCO's control of the original site and the replacement site. Ms. Barker explained that once a conversion is approved, grant restrictions are lifted from the original site and are transferred to the replacement property. Chair Willhite entertained a motion for approval of the resolution as amended with the language proposed by Ms. Barker.

**Motion:** Resolution 2021-04

**Moved by:** Member Milliern

**Seconded by:** Member Gardow

**Decision:** *Approved as Amended*

#### **Executive Session: RCO Director Recruitment (Board Members Only)**

**Chair Willhite** announced that the Board was going into Executive Session, and read the statement as required by law, to discuss the RCO Director Recruitment. **Member Milliern and Member Herzog** recused themselves from the Executive Session. Permission was granted by Chair Willhite.

#### **Closing:**

Chair closed the meeting at 5:15PM

#### **ADJOURN- Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm**

*The next meeting will April 27-28, 2021. Online - Subject to change considering COVID*

**Approved by:**

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Ted Willhite, Chair

## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2021

**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:** 2021-05 (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, and
- Sponsor's progress on this and other funded projects.

There are two other crucial considerations for nearly all of these requested extensions.

### *1. Delayed approval of funding for these projects.*

The Washington State Legislature typically approves a state capital budget during the odd-numbered year. After the regular legislative session and extensions for three special sessions in 2017, the legislature approved an operating budget, but failed to agree upon a capital budget before adjourning. When legislators reconvened in 2018, they approved the capital budget, however, the approval was retroactive to July 1, 2017.

Except for eligible pre-agreement activities, Washington Administrative Code 286-13-060 prohibits applicants from starting work on a funded project before execution of the project agreement. Revised Code of Washington 79A.25.140 states that the board may not enter into an agreement until funds are available. Because of the budget delay and the time needed for RCO to issue agreements following budget approval, 2016 sponsors essentially lost anywhere from seven to eleven months of the biennium for project implementation.

### *2. The impact of COVID-19.*

When the pandemic caused the State of Washington to become a federally approved [major disaster area](#) on March 22, 2020, no one could have predicted the tremendous effect to all governmental jurisdictions and the people of the state. The Governor issued the [Stay Home, Stay Healthy Proclamation](#) on March 23, 2020, to begin mitigating the impact of COVID-19. This proclamation and its subsequent extensions have delayed the ability of most sponsors to implement board-funded projects because the entire state has had to adjust to a virtual work environment. The [Safe Start Plan](#) has begun easing restrictions and paving the way for organizations to begin working on board-funded projects. This delay has had a profound impact on the status of projects.

Staff believes the combination of the delayed capital budget and the pandemic require the board to give special consideration to the time extensions requested for the 87 projects included in Attachment A.

## **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

## Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

Project Number	Project Type	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Program and Category	Grant Funds Remaining	Percent of Grant Funds Remaining	Current End Date	Extension Requested
16-2009	Acquisition	Seachris Farm Easement	Blue Mountain Land Trust	WWRP Farmland	\$150,024	89%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1996	Acquisition Development	Lower Daybreak	Clark County	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$532,375	88%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1922	Acquisition	Blain Ranches	Conservation Commission	WWRP Farmland	\$749,381	96%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1923	Acquisition	Lazy Cross Ranch	Conservation Commission	WWRP Farmland	\$1,770,674	98%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1924	Acquisition	Schuster Hereford Ranch	Conservation Commission	WWRP Farmland	\$816,065	93%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1991	Development	Edgewood Community Park Phase 1	Edgewood	Land and Water Conservation Fund <sup>1</sup>	\$918,467	92%	6/30/2021	3/30/2022
16-1936	Development	Ferry County Rail Trail Phase 4	Ferry County	WWRP Trails	\$82,000	100%	4/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-2090	Acquisition	Little Skookum Inlet Forest and Shore Protection	Forterra	WWRP Forestland	\$1,370,538	95%	6/30/2021	6/30/2023
16-1834	Acquisition	Barnum Point West Tract Acquisition	Island County	WWRP Water Access	\$1,207,374	47%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-2106	Acquisition Development	Olympic Discovery Trail: Discovery Bay to Larry Scott Trail Connection	Jefferson County	RCO Recreation Grants: Trails	\$385,209	39%	4/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1637	Acquisition	Serendipity Farm	Jefferson Land Trust	WWRP Farmland	\$100,118	94%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1934	Development	Skyway Park Revitalization	King County	Land and Water Conservation Fund: Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership	\$323,260	91%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022

## Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Sponsor</b>	<b>Grant Program and Category</b>	<b>Grant Funds Remaining</b>	<b>Percent of Grant Funds Remaining</b>	<b>Current End Date</b>	<b>Extension Requested</b>
16-1363	Development	Cougar Mountain Precipice Trailhead Development	King County	WWRP Local Parks	\$416,667	83%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-1740	Development	Preston Mill Park Phase 2 Development	King County	WWRP Local Parks	\$168,333	83%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1824	Development	Harry Todd Waterfront Improvements	Lakewood	WWRP Water Access and ALEA	\$414,612	38%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-2067	Development	Ballinger Regional Park Water Access Development	Mountlake Terrace	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$345,092	69%	6/30/2021	3/31/2022
16-2404	Development	North Cascades Sportman's Club Rifle Pistol Range Expansion	North Cascades Sportman's Club	Firearms and Archery Range Recreation	\$72,083	99%	5/31/2021	12/31/2021
16-1470	Development Restoration	Clover Island Northshore Restoration and Riverwalk	Port of Kennewick	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$437,544	88%	6/30/2021	6/30/2023
16-2273	Development	Willow Grove Boat Launch Improvements	Port of Longview	Boating Facilities Program: Local	\$551,973	94%	4/30/2021	12/31/2021
14-1588	Development	Point Hudson Jetty Replacement	Port of Port Townsend	Boating Infrastructure Grant <sup>1</sup>	\$882,611	83%	6/30/2021	6/30/2023
16-2224	Development	Port of Poulsbo Public Boat Launch Rehab	Port of Poulsbo	Boating Facilities Program: Local	\$325,906	100%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-2414	Development	Tokeland Marina Boarding Redevelopment Phase 3	Port of Willapa Harbor	Boating Facilities Program: Local	\$268,645	42%	4/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1869	Development	Arboretum Waterfront Trail Redevelopment	Seattle	WWRP Trails	\$721,300	84%	7/31/2021	6/30/2023

## Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

Project Number	Project Type	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Program and Category	Grant Funds Remaining	Percent of Grant Funds Remaining	Current End Date	Extension Requested
16-2356	Development	Don Armeni Boat Launch Renovation	Seattle	Boating Facilities Program: Local	\$324,144	86%	5/31/2021	12/31/2022
16-1850	Development	Smith Cove Youth Playfield Renovation	Seattle	Youth Athletic Facilities: Renovation	\$235,396	94%	6/30/2021	6/30/2023
16-2386	Development	South Leschi Transient Moorage	Seattle	Boating Facilities Program: Local	\$981,064	98%	6/30/2021	6/30/2023
16-2357	Development	Stan Sayres Boat Launch Renovation	Seattle	Boating Facilities Program: Local	\$697,451	91%	6/30/2021	6/30/2023
16-2027	Development	North Creek Regional Trail	Shohomish County	WWRP Trails	\$1,000,000	100%	8/31/2021	6/30/2022
16-1730	Acquisition, Development, Restoration	Pressentin Park Trails, Bike Camp and Off Channel	Skagit County	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	\$2,387,177	83%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-2646	Planning	Lord Hill Regional Park Site and	Snohomish County	NOVA Nonmotorized	\$127,422	97%	5/31/2021	5/31/2022
16-1884	Acquisition Development	South Whidbey Campground Phase 1	South Whidbey Parks and Recreation District	WWRP Local Parks	\$207,803	50%	5/31/2021	12/31/2022
16-1471	Development	South Gorge Trail	Spokane	WWRP Trails	\$296,738	30%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
14-1693	Development	Owen Beach	Tacoma Metropolitan Park District	RCO Recreation Grants: Water Access	\$1,850,992	82%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1695	Development	Swan Creek Park Trail Network	Tacoma Metropolitan Park District	Land and Water Conservation Fund: Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership <sup>1</sup>	\$621,446	86%	6/30/2021	2/28/2022
16-1957	Acquisition	Clearwater Riparian Protection Phase 3	The Nature Conservancy	WWRP Riparian Protection	\$735,291	84%	6/1/2021	3/31/2022
16-2033	Development	Chief Tonasket Park Ball Field Complex Renovation	Tonasket Junior Baseball	Youth Athletic Facilities: Renovation	\$241,365	97%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022

## Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

Project Number	Project Type	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Program and Category	Grant Funds Remaining	Percent of Grant Funds Remaining	Current End Date	Extension Requested
16-2084	Development	Twisp Sports Complex Renovation Phase 1	Twisp	WWRP Local Parks	\$567,299	91%	4/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-2687	Development	Frog Mountain Trail Construction	US Forest Service, Mt Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	NOVA Nonmotorized	\$28,973	22%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-2793	Development	Greenwater Lakes Trail Bridge Replacement	US Forest Service, Mt Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	NOVA Nonmotorized	\$153,724	85%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
14-2111	Planning	North Summit Recreation Area	US Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District	NOVA Nonmotorized	\$42,788	91%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1949	Restoration	Big Bend Shrub Steppe Restoration	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP State Lands Development	\$128,410	77%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
14-1139	Acquisition	Chapman Lake	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$1,106,498	96%	6/30/2018	6/30/2023
16-2313	Development	Chapman Lake Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$847,000	100%		6/30/2023
16-1881	Restoration	Colockum Forest Health	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP State Lands Development	\$228,604	90%	4/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1344	Acquisition	Cowiche Watershed	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP Critical Habitat	\$2,411,270	80%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021



## Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

Project Number	Project Type	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Program and Category	Grant Funds Remaining	Percent of Grant Funds Remaining	Current End Date	Extension Requested
16-1343	Acquisition	Heart of the Cascades South Fork Manastash	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP Critical Habitat	\$515,997	34%	6/30/2021	6/30/2023
16-2305	Development	Luhr's Landing Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$366,790	76%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1333	Acquisition	Mid Columbia Grand Coulee	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP Critical Habitat	\$1,374,398	46%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-2308	Development	Point Whitney Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$341,963	63%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-1611	Restoration	Rock Creek Tieton Forest Restoration	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP State Lands Development	\$143,447	40%	4/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-1469	Development	Samish River Unit Parking and Recreation	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP State Lands Development	\$126,688	69%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1346	Acquisition	Simcoe	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP Critical Habitat	\$460,262	12%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1707	Development	Sinlahekin Wildlife Area Campground Renovations	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	WWRP State Lands Development	\$98,481	40%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-2544	Development	Skagit Wildlife Area Headquarters Boat Launch Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$367,681	84%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-2494	Development	Stanwood Hamilton Landing Access Development	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$412,786	77%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-2264	Development	Williams Lake Access Redevelopment	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$517,933	80%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1684	Development	Beverly Dunes Off-Road Vehicle Park Renovation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Development	\$154,783	50%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021

## Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

Project Number	Project Type	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Program and Category	Grant Funds Remaining	Percent of Grant Funds Remaining	Current End Date	Extension Requested
16-1636	Restoration	Camas Meadows Forest and Rare Plant Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Development	\$68,619	61%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-1953	Restoration	Coastal Forest Restoration Phase 2	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Development	\$155,839	89%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1417	Acquisition	Cypress Island Natural Area	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Natural Areas	\$1,126,161	94%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
14-1249	Acquisition	Dabob Bay Natural Area Shoreline	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Natural Areas	\$864,283	27%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-2400	Acquisition Development	Elbe Off-Road Vehicle Campground Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	NOVA Off-Road Vehicle	\$331,831	95%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-2434	Development	Indian Camp Campground Renovation and Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	NOVA Nonhighway Road	\$127,898	64%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1715	Restoration	Klickitat Canyon Natural Resources Conservation Areas Habitat Restoration	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Development	\$109,016	87%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-1419	Acquisition	Lacamas Prairie Natural Area	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Natural Areas	\$2,423,608	93%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-2447	Acquisition Development	Little Pend Oreille Radar Dome Trailhead	Washington Department of Natural Resources	NOVA Off-Road Vehicle	\$163,096	87%	4/30/2021	10/31/2021
16-1541	Development	Morning Star Trails and Campground Renovation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Development	\$70,415	48%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-1967	Development	Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area Green Mountain Trail and Civilian Conservation Corps Trail Bridges	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Development	\$316,688	97%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022

## Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

Project Number	Project Type	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Program and Category	Grant Funds Remaining	Percent of Grant Funds Remaining	Current End Date	Extension Requested
16-1662	Development	Point Doughty Campground Renovation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Development	\$28,132	25%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1827	Development	Raging River State Forest Trail System Development Phase 2	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Development	\$77,194	24%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-2301	Planning	Snoqualmie Corridor Gateway Facility and Trail Design	Washington Department of Natural Resources	NOVA Nonmotorized	\$98,541	58%	5/31/2021	12/31/2021
16-1440	Acquisition	Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Areas and Kitsap Forest Natural Areas Preserve	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Urban Wildlife	\$1,719,346	96%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1674	Restoration	Trout Lake Meadow Restoration Phase 3	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP State Lands Development	\$13,143	16%	6/30/2021	12/31/2022
16-1441	Acquisition	Washougal Oaks Natural Areas	Washington Department of Natural Resources	WWRP Natural Areas	\$347,296	26%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-2306	Development	Yacolt Burn Nonmotorized Trail Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	NOVA Nonmotorized	\$60,473	36%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-2451	Development	Yacolt Burn State Forest Off-Road Vehicle Trail Development	Washington Department of Natural Resources	NOVA Off-Road Vehicle	\$225,301	64%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-1358	Acquisition	Reiner Farm, Snohomish County	Washington Farmland Trust	WWRP Farmland	\$813,210	100%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
14-1641	Development	Cornet Bay Moorage Facility Replacement	Washington State Parks and Recreation	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$1,240,738	75%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-2462	Planning	Fort Worden State Park Boat Launch	Washington State Parks and Recreation	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$31,500	10%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1974	Acquisition	Inholdings and Adjacent Properties	Washington State Parks and Recreation	WWRP State Parks	\$1,000,000	100%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021

## Time Extension Requests for Board Approval

Project Number	Project Type	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Program and Category	Grant Funds Remaining	Percent of Grant Funds Remaining	Current End Date	Extension Requested
16-1975	Development	Lake Sammamish Picnic Area Sunset Beach Phase 7	Washington State Parks and Recreation	WWRP State Parks	\$2,637,268	96%	5/31/2021	6/30/2023
16-1985	Acquisition	Moran Lawrence Point Acquisition	Washington State Parks and Recreation	WWRP State Parks	\$2,833,016	99%	6/30/2021	12/31/2021
16-2565	Planning	Penrose Point Pier Replacement Plan	Washington State Parks and Recreation	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$66,941	25%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-2602	Planning	Stuart Island Moorage Replacement	Washington State Parks and Recreation	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$60,236	30%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-2605	Planning	Sucia Island Moorage Replacement	Washington State Parks and Recreation	Boating Facilities Program: State	\$60,863	30%	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
16-1887	Development	The Klickitat Trail Bridging the Final Gap	Washington State Parks and Recreation	WWRP State Parks	\$1,521,992	100%	6/30/2021	6/30/2023
12-1122	Acquisition Development	Susie Stephens Trail Phase 2	Winthrop	WWRP Trails	\$128,830	35%	6/30/2021	6/30/2023

<sup>1</sup>Pending approval of a federal time extension.

NOVA = Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

WWRP = Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program



## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2021

**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

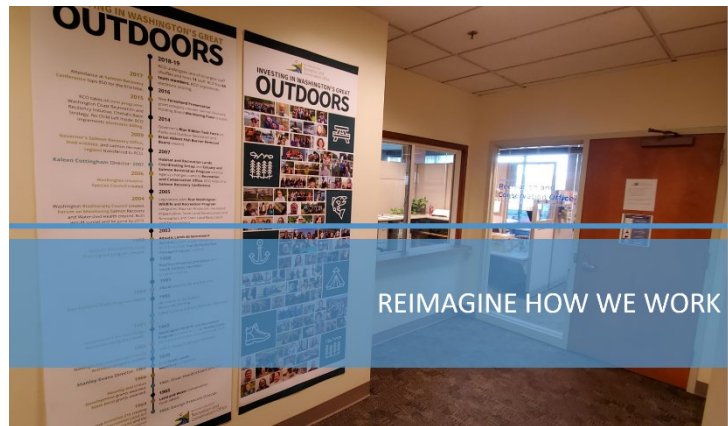
This item will be a:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- Briefing

### Agency Updates

#### Rethinking How RCO Works

What will the new "normal" look like after COVID-19 and how will we work in it? Grant Services staff initiated a project to "Reimagine How We Work" that will engage agency staff in discussing the future RCO work environment. This project will examine best practices and risks related to a remote and a hybrid workforce (working partly in the office and partly remotely). Staff will strive to maintain high employee satisfaction and productivity, a positive workplace, and an adaptable workplace culture. Staff took a survey and will be participating in discussions in the near future.





## And the Survey Says...

RCO has sent out three customer satisfaction surveys during the past several months to get feedback on our grant processes. We sent surveys to grant applicants and advisory committee members. The salmon survey results are finalized and have been shared. The two recreation surveys will be completed this spring after the second grant round wraps up.



## Significant Funding Possibly Headed to Youth Athletic Facilities

RCO soon will get a significant boost in funding—\$40 million—to invest in youth athletic fields. The funding will come from what is left after the \$300 million in bonds used to build the Seahawks stadium (now known as Lumen Field) are paid off. It all started when Paul Allen, co-founder of Microsoft, agreed to buy the Seahawks but only if a public partner would build a new stadium. As the deal worked its way through the Legislature and a vote of the public, the referendum required that some of the money pay for local athletic facilities for kids. The voters approved the new stadium and consequently RCO’s Youth Athletic Facilities grant program. An initial \$10 million donation by Paul Allen started the grant program, but that was soon spent. After lying dormant for several years, the Legislature decided to start funding the grant program with bond funds. Today the Legislature funds about \$12 million in grants a biennium. The demand always has been greater than funding, so the \$40 million will provide a much-needed boost to outdoor competitive sports. Read more about the stadium and its many benefits in this [Seattle Times article](#).



Photograph by Darrell Jennings

## Onboarding the New Director

With my retirement and the announcement of Megan Duffy being hired as my replacement, staff are working on resources and reference documents that may be used by Megan to get up-to-speed on the agency and its operations. Led by RCO’s Tammy Finch, each agency section has drafted a short document that introduces each staff member and explains the priorities for each workgroup. A master calendar, a folder of important plans and documents, fact sheets,



Megan Duffy

information on boards, and a list of partners also has been put together to assist the new director in the transition. These resources will be available primarily online, although a grab-and-go binder of printed materials is also being created.

### Employees on the Move

Brent Hedden moved from the Policy Section, where he was a policy and performance analyst, to take an in-training position as RCO's second-ever Data Section lead. Brent will take over the position from Scott Chapman, who announced his upcoming retirement. Scott has worked for RCO for 30 years. He started as a grants manager and then transitioned into the database manager. This section manages two important business tools, our PRISM grants management database and our Salmon Recovery Portal. Congrats Scott and Brent!



### News from the Boards

The **Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group** met for the first time in 2021 in February. The meeting was held online and was only the second meeting held since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The members shared updates on various land acquisition activities and heard about some new proposed acquisitions from the Department of Fish and Wildlife.



The **Washington Invasive Species Council** met March 18. Topics included a state agency legislative and budget update, a report on a Washington Natural Heritage Program invasive plant assessment project, a Bureau of Indian Affairs invasive species program update, and a briefing on British Columbia's response to Asian giant hornet in Canada.

The **Salmon Recovery Funding Board** met for its first time in 2021 on March 3. The board heard staff and partner reports, an overview of the update to the statewide salmon strategy, results of a customer survey about the 2020 grant round, a follow-up report on its monitoring program, and reports from the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board and the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program.

## Grant Management

### Reversing Last-Minute Changes to Federal Grant Programs

RCO's Director submitted a letter to Washington State's Congressional Delegation thanking the members for their quick efforts to reverse last minute changes to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) state assistance grant program. The outgoing Secretary of the Interior had issued Secretary Order 3388, which included changes that seemed to subvert the intent of the LWCF and the Great American Outdoors Act. The changes would have had an immediate and detrimental impact to Washington's pending grant applications for LWCF and Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership grants.

With the reversal, Marguerite Austin is again working with a national team to review and comment on administrative changes to the federal financial assistance manual for states. The work was delayed because of the impact of COVID-19 and the unexpected secretarial order.

### Grants Offered in 2021

RCO is accepting Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) applications. BIG provides funding to develop and renovate public boating facilities for transient recreational boats 26 feet and larger. Funds may also be used to provide information and enhance boater education.



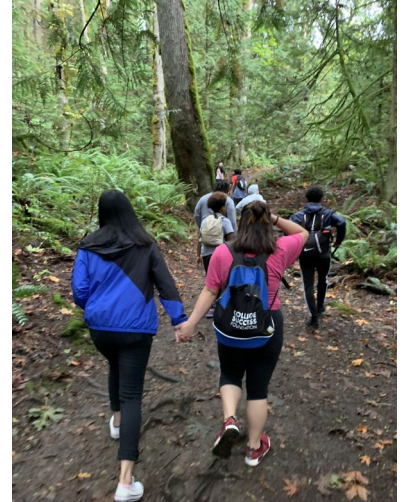
Port of Bremerton, Port Orchard Marina Breakwater #20-1855

Pre-applications for this federal grant program are due May 17. The final application deadline is July 7, provided the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service publishes its application notice with no substantial program changes. Staff plans to present the proposed projects to the board in June for consideration in an open public meeting.



## Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership

Congress has allocated \$125 million for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP). National Park Service (NPS) plans to offer grants for this nationally competitive program, which provides funds to purchase and develop facilities for public outdoor recreation. Projects must be located within or serve jurisdictions with a population of 50,000 or more. Projects also should be in or directly accessible to neighborhoods or communities that lack parks and recreation resources, and where there are significant populations of people who are economically disadvantaged. RCO will begin soliciting proposals for this new opportunity as additional details become available.



King County, GOAL #18-1156

Washington State responded to a survey asking states for input on application due dates, grant limits, number of proposals allowed per state, expanding eligibility, and how to boost participation in the ORLP Program. Staff submitted four local agency ORLP applications in 2020 and are still waiting for notice of grant awards. Enactment of the Great American Outdoor Act established mandatory funding for LWCF at the full authorization level of \$900 million. This has presented a challenge for program administration, especially during an ongoing pandemic. NPS has hired 15 new staff members to increase their capacity and ability to handle the workload.

## Regional Support for Federal Program

Several western states have organized themselves to meet monthly to discuss issues associated with the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant programs. Staff from Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington use these meetings as an opportunity to talk about program changes, compliance, cultural resources, program administration, and expectations by federal program officers at the National Park Service. Oregon's LWCF Program Coordinator currently serves as the meeting host. DeAnn Beck, Myra Barker, Sarah Thirtyacre represent RCO along with section managers Kyle Guzlas and Marguerite Austin.

## Fall Grant Cycle is Nearly Complete

Advisory committees have now completed their work for the 2020 grant cycle. The Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) and Recreational Trails Program (RTP) advisory committees met on March 11, to assess the results of scoring and ranking backcountry trail projects. The board will consider approving the committees ranked lists for NOVA and RTP and lists for the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) and Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR). Advisors ranked over 200 projects requesting nearly \$41 million. Items 5 thru 8 of the board's briefing materials provide a summary of the advisory committee's work.



Skookum Archers #20-2420

## Using Additional Delegated Authority to Address Emerging Issues

Considering the COVID-19 pandemic, the board delegated authority to the director to make project specific decisions necessary to address impacts caused by the pandemic or the economic downturn 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. The RCO director approved five waiver requests during this reporting period.

1. There were waiver requests to reduce the sponsor match for four projects. The sponsors, of these maintenance projects, were relying on volunteers to donate labor for project implementation. While volunteers did come out and work, with the social distancing protocols, there are fewer volunteer hours than originally planned. The director approved match reductions for the following projects:
  - Back Country Horseman Rescuing Threatened Trails (18-2254M)
  - Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, Eastern Washington Volunteer Trail Maintenance 2019-2021 (18-2345M)
  - Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, Western Washington Volunteer Trail Maintenance 2019-2021 (18-2587M)
  - U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District, Wilderness Non-motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation (18-2393M)
2. The State Parks and Recreation Commission requested approval to waive the permitting deliverables for the Fort Worden State Park Boat Launch Planning (16-2462P) project. State Parks will complete the environmental documentation and

prepare all permit applications and associated documents. They will wait to secure the actual permits closer to receipt of funding for development.

### 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	Director Approved Projects	Total Funded Projects
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)	22	0	25
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	59	1	61
Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG)	7	0	7
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR)	11	0	11
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	24	0	22
No Child Left Inside (NCLI)	25	0	25
Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)	102	0	111
Recreation & Conservation Office Recreation Grants (RRG)	6	0	3
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	37	1	43
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)	195	0	221
Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF)	36	3	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>529</b>

### Viewing Closed Projects

Attachment A lists projects that closed between January 1, 2021 and March 31, 2021. Click on the project number to view the project description, grant funds awarded, and other information (e.g., photos, maps, reports, etc.).

## Grant Services

### Advisory Committees

The 2020-21 grant cycle was like no other for RCO’s advisory committees. RCO relies on approximately 200 volunteers to serve on 18 different advisory committees to review

and evaluate grant applications. The pandemic pivot of shifting the in-person technical review and evaluation meetings to a virtual process was new for everyone. Our committee members played a vital role in the success of the new process from the very beginning.

In total, committee members contributed 4,877 hours of their time between June 2020 and March 2021. This includes time spent during the review and evaluation meetings, orientation and result meetings and additional time self-reported reviewing projects using the new PRISM Review and Evaluation Module. Committees include citizen, local agency, state agency, and other stakeholders. It cannot be stated enough how valuable this contribution is to the funding process and the fair and accountable grant making process.

Recruitment for new advisory committee members will begin during the summer of 2021 (in preparation for the 2022 grant cycle). Staff expects there to be approximately 40-50 vacancies that will need to be filled. During the 2019 recruitment period, over 70 positions were filled in advance of the grant cycle.

RCO staff is actively exploring the concept of providing stipends to advisory committee members. Stipends were identified during the recruitment strategy created in 2019 to help remove barriers and increase participation. Staff will provide an update to this effort at the April meeting.

## Fiscal Report

For July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020, actuals through February 28, 2021 (Fiscal Month 20). Percentage of biennium reported: 83.3 percent. The "Budget" column shows the state appropriations and any received federal awards.

Grant Program	BUDGET	COMMITTED		TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES	
	Includes Re-appropriations 2019-2021	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% Expended of Committed
<b>Grant Programs</b>							
ALEA	\$17,027,288	\$16,335,074	96%	\$692,214	4%	\$5,435,497	33%
BFP	\$32,120,671	\$29,194,890	91%	\$2,925,781	9%	\$7,272,252	25%
BIG	\$4,517,560	\$4,517,560	100%	\$0	0%	\$700,914	16%
FARR	\$1,432,948	\$1,077,774	75%	\$355,174	25%	\$187,352	17%
LWCF	\$8,754,323	\$8,754,323	100%	\$0	0%	\$4,037,192	46%
NOVA	\$21,330,670	\$20,429,823	96%	\$900,847	4%	\$8,239,934	40%
RTP	\$5,285,000	\$4,916,002	93%	\$368,998	7%	\$3,066,395	62%
WWRP	\$160,689,144	\$154,854,894	96%	\$5,834,250	4%	\$44,659,703	29%
RRG	\$12,711,254	\$12,419,691	98%	\$291,564	2%	\$4,000,595	32%
YAF	\$16,533,125	\$15,793,583	96%	\$739,542	4%	\$5,108,598	32%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$280,401,983</b>	<b>\$268,293,615</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>\$12,108,368</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>\$82,708,432</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>Administration</b>							
General	\$9,669,554						
Operating Funds	4	\$9,669,554	100%	\$0	0%	\$6,973,343	72%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$290,071,537</b>	<b>\$277,963,169</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>\$12,108,368</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>\$89,681,775</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Grant Program</b>						
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)	\$18,225,570	\$15,222,253	83.5%
Nonhighway, Off-Road Vehicle Program (NOVA)	\$13,324,901	\$11,081,118	83.2%
Firearms and Archery Range Rec Program (FARR)	\$560,800	\$447,062	79.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,111,271</b>	<b>\$26,750,433</b>	<b>83.3%</b>

### 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 March 2021. The next forecast is due in June 2021.

### WWRP Expenditure Rate by Organization (1990-Current)

Agency	Committed	Expenditures	% Expended
Local Agencies	\$323,734,960	\$303,734,208	94%
Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$217,666,679	\$198,035,401	91%
Department of Natural Resources	\$181,135,557	\$149,192,904	82%
State Parks and Recreation Commission	\$151,113,922	\$129,260,997	86%
Nonprofits	\$45,107,268	\$28,628,726	63%
Conservation Commission	\$4,570,758	\$965,661	21%
Tribes	\$2,241,411	\$741,411	33%
<b>Other</b>			
Special Projects	\$735,011	\$735,011	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$926,305,566</b>	<b>\$811,294,319</b>	<b>88%</b>

## 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 April 1, 2021.

### Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Performance Measures

Measure	Target	Fiscal Year-to-Date	Status	Notes
Grant agreements mailed within 120 days of funding	90%	<b>65%</b>	●	17 of 26 agreements have been mailed within 120 days.
Grants under agreement within 180 days of funding	95%	<b>81%</b>	●	22 of 27 agreements have been under agreement within 180 days.
Progress reports responded to within 15 days	90%	<b>86%</b>	●	RCFB staff received 716 progress reports and have responded to 707 of them in an average of 8 days.
Bills paid in 30 days	100%	<b>100%</b>	●	858 bills have come due and all were paid within 30 days. On average, staff paid bills within 15 days.
Projects closed within 150 days of funding end date	85%	<b>74%</b>	●	42 of 57 projects have closed on time.
Projects in Backlog	5	<b>24</b>	●	There are 24 RCFB projects in the backlog
Compliance inspections done	125	<b>2</b>	●	There have been two worksites inspected this fiscal year. Staff have until June 30, 2021 to reach the target.

## Projects Completed and Closed from January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
<a href="#">16-1837A</a>	Pearson Shoreline Acquisition	Island County	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	2/22/2021
<a href="#">16-1693D</a>	Rhododendron Park Float and Pathways	Kenmore	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	2/4/2021
<a href="#">14-1125C</a>	Stevenson Shoreline Restoration and Recreation Enhancement	Port of Skamania	Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	1/6/2021
<a href="#">16-2563P</a>	Kayak Point Boat Launch Renovation	Snohomish County	Boating Facilities Program, Local	1/22/2021
<a href="#">16-2596E</a>	Naches Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers 2017-19	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Education and Enforcement	3/31/2021
<a href="#">18-2274D</a>	Ice Caves Trail Boardwalk Installation Phase 2	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road	2/19/2021
<a href="#">16-2364D</a>	Seal Rock Campground Accessibility Enhancements	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest, Hood Canal Ranger District	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road	1/6/2021
<a href="#">16-2570D</a>	Mica Peak Trail System Development	Spokane County	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized	1/6/2021



Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
<a href="#">14-2156P</a>	Pacific Northwest Trail Bridge	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized	3/16/2021
<a href="#">16-2825D</a>	Fall Creek Trailhead Improvement and Expansion	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized	3/17/2021
<a href="#">18-2523D</a>	Horn Rapids Off-Road Vehicle Park Access Road Reconstruction	Richland	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Off-Road Vehicle	1/6/2021
<a href="#">16-2575M</a>	Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operation 2017-19	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Off-Road Vehicle	1/14/2021
<a href="#">19-1790E</a>	Middle Fork and Mt. Si Natural Resources Conservation Area Education	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Recreational Trails Program, Education	1/21/2021
<a href="#">16-2298M</a>	Cle Elum Winter Trail Maintenance 2017-19	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	Recreational Trails Program, General	2/3/2021
<a href="#">14-1629A</a>	Nelson Ranch Easement Acquisition	Capitol Land Trust	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation	2/1/2021
<a href="#">16-1908A</a>	Smith Family Farms Phase 1	North Olympic Land Trust	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation	1/7/2021
<a href="#">18-1421A</a>	Rengen Ranch, Snohomish County	Washington Farmland Trust	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation	2/12/2021
<a href="#">18-2060A</a>	McLeod Agricultural Conservation Easement	Whatcom County	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation	3/2/2021

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
<a href="#">18-2015A</a>	Roper Agricultural Conservation Easement	Whatcom County	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation	3/3/2021
<a href="#">18-1625A</a>	TeVelde Agricultural Conservation Easement	Whatcom County	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation	3/3/2021
<a href="#">16-1938A</a>	Brar Acquisition	Whatcom County	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation	3/3/2021
<a href="#">16-1660A</a>	Penn Cove Farmland	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation	3/31/2021
<a href="#">16-1310D</a>	Phil Johnson Ballfields Renovation	Everett	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Local Parks	2/22/2021
<a href="#">16-2008D</a>	McLane Creek Nature Trails Renovation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Lands Development	3/17/2021
<a href="#">16-1900D</a>	Teaway Campground Renovation	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Lands Development	3/5/2021
<a href="#">18-1558D</a>	Spruce Railroad Trail Final Phase	Clallam County	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Trails	1/6/2021
<a href="#">16-1390D</a>	Spruce Railroad Trail and Daley-Rankin Tunnel Restoration	Clallam County	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Trails	1/6/2021
<a href="#">18-1473D</a>	Lions Park Infields and Restroom Renovation	Othello	Youth Athletic Facilities, Large	2/9/2021
<a href="#">16-1851D</a>	Brighton Playfield Renovation and Turf Conversion	Seattle	Youth Athletic Facilities, Renovation	3/24/2021

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

## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2021

**Title:** Communications Plan Status Update

**Prepared By:** Susan Zemek, Communications Manager

#### Summary

This memo summarizes the progress of the implementation of the communications plan and outlines the work for 2021.

#### Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- Briefing

### Overview

RCO communications staff developed a 6-year, agency-wide, multi-board communications plan, which began in 2019. The plan has three goals:

- **Goal 1:** Build support for RCO's missions of salmon recovery, land conservation, recreation, and invasive species management.
- **Goal 2:** Strengthen agency partnerships
- **Goal 3:** Promote RCO's leadership, innovation, and continual improvement.

The plan also contains measures to gauge effectiveness of the actions and they are as follows:

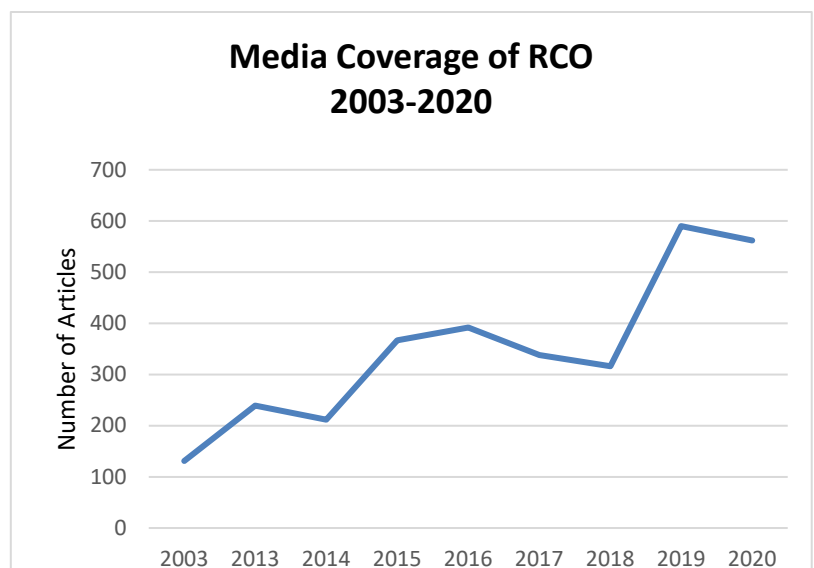
- Increased media coverage generated by RCO outreach efforts.
- Increased social media followers.
- Increased visits to places on the RCO Web sites targeted by social media.
- Consistent appearance by RCO at public events to share agency missions.

- Increased subscribership, open rates, and Web site click-through rates in newsletters.

Overall, implementation of the communications plan this year was affected by two major events, the pandemic and the loss of the communications specialist position (nearly all year). Those events caused a shift in the work to cover the essential tasks and did not allow much in the way of expansion or new projects. The pandemic also meant fewer public events, which resulted in declines in some of our measures of success.

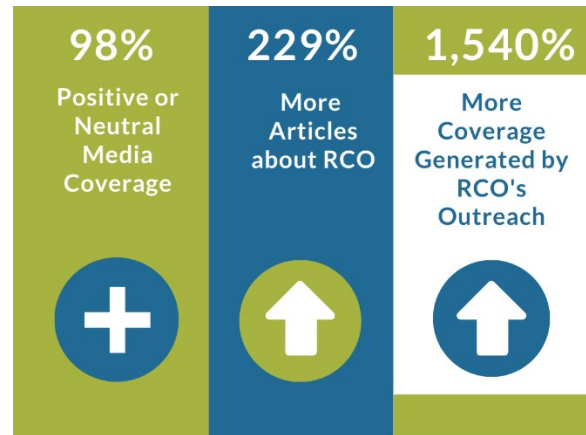
Despite the many challenges, the communications staff had several major accomplishments throughout the year.

- Successfully completed pandemic-related messaging on the agency’s Web site, social media, and director’s blog.
- Successfully launched the State of Salmon in Watersheds Web site (the fourth Web site launched in 15 months). Work included producing a printed Executive Summary, complete revamping of the Web site, publishing a news release and social media posts, and producing a video. Overall, this year’s release garnered more media coverage than in recent years, receiving international coverage and an article in the New York Times!
- Successfully announced two of RCO’s major studies—the update to the economics study of outdoor recreation and the hiking-biking study with news releases, social media posts, and Web information.
- Successfully launched a new grant program, the Community Forests Program.
- Successfully promoted both the recreation and conservation spring and fall grant rounds and the salmon grant round, which operated under a condensed schedule. Work included updating 21 grant manuals.



- Successfully edited, designed, and produced more than 100 documents for distribution internally and to the public in 2020.

The end of this item contains a complete list of the recreation- and conservation-related strategies, activities, and tasks used to implement the plan’s goals. Below is a summary of the measures of success



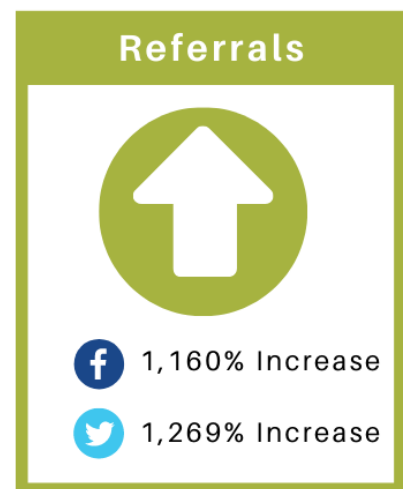
## Metrics: Measure of Success

### Metric: Increased Media Coverage Generated by RCO Outreach Efforts

Media coverage of RCO has improved significantly since the start of the communications program in 2003, but dipped by 5 percent in 2020. The number of news articles written about the agency increased 229 percent from 131 articles in 2003 to 562 articles in 2020. More than 5,800 articles have been written about RCO since the start of its communications program.

Not only are people seeing more about RCO, but what they are seeing is positive or neutral 98 percent of time.

In addition, RCO, through its news releases and social media posts, is generating more coverage of its boards, missions, and programs. The number of news articles resulting from RCO outreach dropped by 33 percent in 2020 but overall has improved 1,540 percent since 2003.



### Metric: Increased Social Media Followers

This metric had mixed results. The number of posts to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram remained about the same (623 in 2019 and 618 in 2020), but the reach varied. The 277 Facebook posts reached 288,207 people with a 35 percent increase in page likes (3,272 to 4,434) but a 21 percent decrease in engagement per post compared to 2019. The 185 Tweets reached 163,200 people.

### Metric: Increased Visits to RCO Web Sites Targeted by Social Media

To get people to learn more about RCO and its missions, the communications plan has social media posts drive people to the RCO Web site, where they can explore the agency more in-depth. RCO has seen referrals from social media to our Web site increase by half a percent from 2019 to 2020, which is significant considering Facebook

engagement decreased by 21 percent. Over time, social media has continued to grow as a referral method to the RCO Web site from less than 1 percent of referrals in 2013 to more than 5 percent in 2020.

**Metric: Consistent Appearance by RCO at Public Events to Share Agency Missions**

The pandemic ended nearly all public events, such as ribbon cuttings. RCO attended five events. This is a significant decrease from the 22 events in 2019.

**Metric: Increased Subscribership, Open Rates, and Web Site Click-Through Rates in Newsletters**

This metric was not tracked because staff delayed the expansion of the Director’s Blog to outside audiences.

**Communications Plan Status Report by Goal**

Activity	Tasks	Status
<b>Goal 1: Build support for RCO’s missions of salmon recovery, land conservation, recreation, and invasive species management.</b>		
<b>Strategy 1: Create compelling information about the benefit of investing in RCO’s missions.</b>		
Activity 1: Solicit compelling stories from staff and partners.	Task 1: Regularly reach out to staff to find stories and projects that exemplify the value of RCO’s missions.	Done. Major accomplishments sought monthly through the director’s blog.
	Task 2: Regularly mine partner news and social media posts to find stories about the benefit of investing in RCO’s missions.	Done
	Use photographs, videos, audio, and informational graphics to make the stories more compelling.	Done
Activity 2: Develop participatory or crowd-sourcing information to engage key audiences.	Task 1: Using important board policies, major agency events, news, or other venues, create ways for the public and other key audiences to engage with RCO.	Haven’t started
	Task 2: Maintain a calendar of events that will highlight the value of RCO’s mission and make RCO stories timely and engaging.	Done

Activity	Tasks	Status
	Task 3: Use an agency social media hashtag (#BestofWAOOutdoors) to encourage user-generated content on Instagram. Share crowd-sourced photos of grant-funded projects on our page.	Done
	Task 4: Consider the use of polls, photo contests, a Twitter Chat, Facebook Live, and other opportunities to engage with our audiences on social media. Consistently respond to comments, questions, and messages we receive on social media, when appropriate.	Regularly respond to comments, haven't initiated engagement events
Activity 3: Update agency publications to reflect benefit messages.		Done
Activity 4: Update the agency's Web sites to reflect the benefit of investing in RCO missions and to be more modern and accessible.	Task 1: Use social media to grow referrals to the Web site.	Done
<b>Strategy 2: Share the compelling messages with target audiences.</b>		
Activity 1: Develop and implement a social media strategy that will build out a presence for RCO.	Task 1: Use social media advertising to grow engagement and followers.	Started
	Task 2: Jump onto trending topics, current news stories, and trending hashtags, when appropriate, on social media to bring added relevance and awareness to agency business.	Done
Activity 2: Expand viewers of RCO's newsletters	Task 1: Redesign the newsletters to be more compelling with better graphics and targeted stories.	Started
	Task 2: Put the newsletters online with consistent publication deadlines.	Not started
	Task 3: Use Web site, presence at events, social media, and other avenues to solicit subscribers from RCO partners, user groups, and state and local leaders.	Not started

Activity	Tasks	Status
Activity 3: Share information about RCO projects, events, and accomplishments with agency partners.		Done. Regularly share with sister natural resource agencies and local government partners
Activity 4: Develop targeted information and distribution methods to reach underserved communities so they might participate in RCO grants and activities.	Task 1: Consider the use of social media advertising to reach specific audiences based on their location, page followings, and interests.	Not started
	Task 2: Aim to support accessibility by adding video captions and image alt text on platforms that offer these functions.	Done. Alt tags added to most photos on RCO Web sites and major publications
<b>Strategy 3: Engage the media in telling the story of RCO's missions.</b>		
Activity 1: Promote RCO's missions to the media through a combination of news releases, media advisories, radio and television interviews, editorial content, and reporter tours.		15 news releases and media advisories sent to nearly 500 media outlets in 2020.

Activity 2: Expand media list to include recreation user groups, recreation and conservation blogs and magazines, and other specialty publications and information networks. Maintain media list with new reporters when	Task 1: Increase media following of our social media pages, particularly Twitter, for brief, up-to-date information directly available to media.	Done
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Activity	Tasks	Status
outlets have staff turnover.		
<b>Goal 2: Strengthen Agency Partnerships</b>		
<b>Strategy 1: Increase partners' understanding of RCO activities.</b>		
Activity 1: Create materials about RCO that can be used by staff and board members when meeting with partners.	Task 1: Create two, high-level PowerPoint presentations about RCO and salmon recovery.	Not started
	Task 2: Help create a video to recruit evaluation committee volunteers.	Done
	Task 3: Create social media graphics and messaging tool kits that can be shared with partners for use on their channels.	Done
Activity 2: Develop standard protocols for communications about board policy changes.		Not started
<b>Strategy 2: Look for opportunities to join with partners in activities.</b>		
Activity 1: Seek opportunities for joint news releases or social media posts, or to participate in partner events.		Ongoing. Joint news releases concerning invasive species issues
Activity 2: Promote the good work of RCO partners through Bravo Awards.	Task 1: Schedule award ceremonies with the top-ranked projects in the majority of grant programs.	On hold due to pandemic
	Task 2: Promote Bravo Award ceremonies through news releases and social media.	On hold due to pandemic
	Task 3: Conduct testimonial-style interviews on video with representatives of Bravo Award recipients to speak to the impact of RCO funding in their community, and share those interviews in a variety of ways, such as on social media, the Web site, or in media releases.	On hold due to pandemic
Activity 3: Join partners at their celebration events.	Task 1: Share events on social and consider live video featuring our	Done although significantly

Activity	Tasks	Status
	remarks or grant-funded improvements.	fewer due to pandemic
<b>Goal 3: Promote RCO’s leadership, innovation, and continual improvement.</b>		
<b>Strategy 1: Ensure RCO maintains its brand as an exemplary grant agency with strong customer service.</b>		
Activity 1: Promote RCO’s efforts to improve its grant processes through Lean efforts, board policy changes, and other initiatives.		Done
Activity 2: Promote RCO’s customer service.	Task 1: Consider featuring grant managers and other employees to emphasize the dedication of its employees and their strong value of customer service.	Done in social media.
	Task 2: Ensure RCO Web sites, publications, social media, and news media efforts are up-to-date, easily understood by the public, and clearly explain our grant processes.	Done
	Task 3: Survey staff about internal communications tools to ensure they are getting the information and tools they need to provide outstanding customer service.	Survey drafted
	Task 4: Build relationships with media reporters to foster strong understanding of RCO and its mission.	Done
Activity 3: Consider updating the agency’s tagline: Investing in Washington’s Great Outdoors to something that is more benefit-oriented.		Not started
<b>Strategy 2: Strengthen agency branded identity</b>		
Activity 1: Develop a unified look for the agency’s Web site, publications,	Task 1: Develop graphic standards.	Started. We have begun moving the Web site design to agency

Activity	Tasks	Status
presentations, signs, newsletters, social media posts and cover photos, and in-office agency branding.		publications and social media.
	Task 2: Develop agency writing style guide.	Started
	Task 3: Design project signs to match branding.	Not funded

## Looking Ahead

In the coming year, staff will accomplish the following:

1. **Implement the communications plan:** While much of the work will be a continuation of normal duties, staff hopes to redesign the director’s newsletter and put it into electronic form so it can be shared with external stakeholders. Staff also hopes to develop targeted information and distribution methods to reach underserved communities so they might participate in RCO grants and activities.
2. **Social Media and Web site management:** Staff hopes to enhance two-way public engagement in social media and continue to build out a presence for RCO.
3. **Publication management:** Staff hopes to extend new graphic standards to more publications.
4. **Internal communications:** Staff hopes to survey staff about internal communications tools in order to keep those used by staff and redesign or eliminate ones with low use. Staff also hopes to continue developing writing style guidelines to help fellow staffers be better writers.

## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2021

**Title:** Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program:  
Approval of Preliminary Ranked Lists for the 2021-23 Biennium

**Prepared By:** Marguerite Austin, Recreation and Conservation Section Manager

#### Summary

Applicants submitted 112 projects for the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program. This memo describes the program, categories, evaluation process, and the resulting ranked lists. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the April meeting and will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked lists, which becomes the basis for board-approval of grants in June, following legislative appropriation of funds for the 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 #:** 2021-06, Education and Enforcement Category  
2021-07, Nonhighway Road Category  
2021-08, Nonmotorized Category  
2021-09, Off-road Vehicle Category

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

### Background

The Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) program is a motor vehicle fuel-tax refund grant program that provides grants for planning, acquiring land, constructing, and maintaining facilities for a variety of back-country recreational activities. This includes cross-country skiing, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, hunting, fishing, sightseeing, motorcycling, and riding all-terrain and four-wheel drive

vehicles. A portion of NOVA funding is set aside for grants that may be used for education and enforcement programs serving these recreationists, in order to preserve and protect NOVA recreation opportunities. In addition to fuel taxes, funds come from off-road vehicle use permits too.

The legislative authority for the NOVA program is the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 46.09 and Washington Administrative Code chapter 286-13. The board's [2018-2022 NOVA Plan](#) sets the priorities that guide the program policies and evaluation criteria. The board adopted these policies into [Manual #13, NOVA Education and Enforcement](#) and [Manual #14, NOVA Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-road Vehicles](#).

### **Program Summary**

The table on the following pages provide a summary of current program polices for each NOVA Program category.

## NOVA Categories

The NOVA program has four grant categories: 1) Education and Enforcement, 2) Nonhighway Road, 3) Nonmotorized, and 4) Off-road Vehicle. The program categories share some common and distinct characteristics as shown below:

Category	Education and Enforcement	Nonhighway Road	Nonmotorized	Off-road Vehicle
<b>Recreation Activities Targeted</b>	Information, education, and outreach programs for trail and back-road related outdoor recreation; encourages responsible recreational behavior; and may provide law enforcement for the benefit of outdoor recreationists.	Nonmotorized boating, camping, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, fishing, gathering, hunting, and picnicking.	Nonmotorized trail activities such as horseback riding, hiking, climbing, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing.	Motorized off-road activities including motorcycling and riding all-terrain and four-wheel drive vehicles on trails and in sport parks.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Native American tribes, and federal, state, and local governments.	Native American tribes, and federal, state, and local governments.	Native American tribes, and federal, state, and local governments.	Native American tribes, federal, state, and local governments, and nonprofit off-road vehicle organizations.
<b>Legal Opinion</b>	To participate in the program, an applicant must submit a legal opinion. <sup>1</sup>			
<b>Plan Required</b>	None	Applicants must have an adopted comprehensive outdoor recreation plan on file with RCO if the grant proposal involves planning, acquisition, or development of facilities.		

<sup>1</sup> First time applicants only.

<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	Education and law enforcement activities that target NOVA-eligible uses and recreationists.	Land acquisition <sup>2</sup> , development or renovation projects, maintenance and operation of facilities, and planning activities.		
<b>Fund Limits</b>	Up to \$200,000 per project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquisition, development, and planning projects are limited to \$200,000.</li> <li>Maintenance and operations projects are limited to \$150,000 for two-year projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquisition, development, and planning projects are limited to \$200,000.</li> <li>Maintenance and operations projects are limited to \$150,000 for two-year projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No fund limits for land acquisition, development, and planning projects.</li> <li>Maintenance and operations projects are limited to a maximum of \$200,000 for two-year projects.</li> </ul>
<b>Match</b>	By law, no matching share is required, but an evaluation criterion encourages non-RCO match contributions by awarding additional points.			
<b>Typical Project Elements</b>	Salaries, operating expenses, and capital equipment including vehicles.	Interpretive trails and related trailheads, picnic areas, day-use areas, viewpoints, campgrounds, and support structures including sanitary facilities and utilities.	Trails, trailheads, and structures including sanitary facilities and utilities that support nonmotorized trail recreation.	Trails, trailheads, day-use areas, sports parks, campgrounds, intensive use areas, and support structures including sanitary facilities and utilities.

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<sup>2</sup> Federal agencies are not permitted to purchase real property using NOVA funding.

Projects in the Nonhighway Road and Nonmotorized categories must be adjacent to, or accessed by, a nonhighway road. A nonhighway road is any road owned or managed by a public agency, a primitive road, or any private road for which the owner has granted an easement for public use. In addition, appropriations from the motor vehicle fund cannot be used for (a) original construction or reconstruction in the last twenty-five years; or (b) maintenance in the last four years of the nonhighway road.<sup>3</sup>

## Program Changes for 2020

There were a few changes to the NOVA Program that were implemented this grant cycle. Specifically, the board modified the evaluation criteria by:

- Increasing the maximum points for the *Maintenance* criterion to ensure equity with planning, development, acquisition, and combination projects.
- Increasing the maximum points for the *Site Suitability* criterion for acquisition only projects to ensure equity with planning, maintenance, development, and combination projects.
- Reducing the points and simplifying the *Sustainability* criterion, which now only applies to planning, development, and combination projects.
- Suspending use of the *Matching Share* evaluation criterion for 2020 applications to help mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19.

In addition to the board approved changes, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff split the *Population Proximity* criterion into two questions to accommodate electronic scoring. Staff updated PRISM Online to make the application process easier for applicants. And, this year the NOVA Advisory Committee used the PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module to score and rank projects.

## Analysis

### Evaluation Summary

The NOVA Advisory Committee evaluated 112 grant proposals between February 5 and March 5. The advisory committee has governmental representatives that manage land where NOVA activities occur, and a proportional representation of persons with recreational experiences in areas identified in the most recent fuel use study.<sup>4</sup> Advisory committee members, selected and appointed by the RCO director, are selected for their expertise, experience, and technical knowledge of NOVA-related recreation. Members participating in the review and evaluation include the following:

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<sup>3</sup> Revised Code of Washington 46.09.310(7)

<sup>4</sup> Revised Code of Washington 46.09.340(1)



Name	Representing	Location
Crystal Crowder	Citizen: motorized, 4 x 4	Ridgefield
Lance Hansen	Citizen: motorized, all-terrain vehicle	Lynden
Nancy Toenyan	Citizen: motorized, motorcycle	Mossyrock
Chris Baldini	Citizen: nonhighway road	Spokane Valley
John Spring	Citizen: nonhighway road	Mercer Island
Rosendo Guerrero*	Citizen: nonhighway road	Puyallup
Kathy Doubt	Citizen: nonmotorized, equestrian	Kent
Gary Paull	Citizen: nonmotorized, hiker	Darrington
Holly Weiler	Citizen: nonmotorized, hiker	Spokane
Yvonne Kraus	Citizen: nonmotorized, mountain bike	Seattle
Paul Willard	Federal agency, U.S. Forest Service	Chelan
Bryant Robinson	Local agency, Spokane County	Spokane
Patricia Jatczak	State agency and land manager Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Olympia
Leah Dobey	State agency and land manager Washington Department of Natural Resources	Olympia
Randy Kline*	State agency and land manager Washington State Parks and Recreation	Olympia

\* Evaluated Education and Enforcement Category projects only.

The committee evaluated the Education and Enforcement category using a written, score-at-home process. They evaluated Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-road Vehicle projects in virtual meetings that were broadcast live for members of the public. Advisors used board-adopted criteria, shown in Attachments C and I, to score projects. The resulting ranked lists are in Table 1 of each of the attached decision packages.

### Review of Process and Criteria

RCO staff hosted a virtual post-evaluation meeting with the NOVA Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the evaluation process and scoring results on March 11, 2021. The number of grant proposals submitted this cycle decreased by five percent from what was submitted in 2018. This did not make a big difference in the workload, however. Committee members appreciated using the new PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module, which made it easier for advisors to review and score projects.

### Evaluation Criteria

Committee members were comfortable with the evaluation criteria, although they recognized that they and applicants would have to get used to the revised *Sustainability* criterion.

When evaluating project proposals, the committee felt applicants did a good job of addressing the *Need* and *Need Fulfillment* criteria. Applicants described user needs, which are consistent across the state, for a variety of outdoor recreational pursuits. One noted factor was the advisory committee's interest in whether applicants had staff that met the qualifications for operating some of the heavy equipment needed to maintain trails. This was a concern and consideration as applicants addressed the *Need Fulfillment* criterion. This assessment led to a discussion of two criteria that carried more weight, with evaluators, than in past years – *Cost Benefits* and *Project Support*.

When considering *Cost Benefits*, one committee member commented that some applicants were doing an amazing job of maintaining trails and related facilities with very limited resources. Members suggested modifying the criterion to place more focus on the actual value or "bang-for-the-buck" for each project. Recognizing the challenges associated with maintaining trails for diverse recreational uses across the state, having a better idea of cost-per-mile might help with this criterion.

Also, evaluators paid close attention to how applicants addressed the *Project Support* criterion. They considered whether the applicant had letters of support, how many were provided, and whether the letters included endorsements from the primary users.

### Nonhighway Road Eligibility

A key eligibility requirement for the Nonhighway Road and Nonmotorized categories is that the facility a project benefits is adjacent to, or accessed by, a nonhighway road. This is still one of the most difficult aspects in determining project eligibility. Staff and the advisory committee struggle with this when the nonhighway road is short or could be viewed as a park access road or driveway from a highway to a parking lot. Committee members raised this eligibility issue because they want to ensure projects meet the legislative intent and purpose of NOVA as a fuel tax refund program intended to benefit users that pay into the program by driving and consuming fuel on backcountry roads.

### Evaluation Process

The advisory committee felt the evaluation process was organized, well-run, and fair. They appreciated the breaks and thought the virtual meeting was successful. While they recognize that RCO will continue to offer a virtual evaluation session, members discussed whether they should meet in-person to score projects in the future. Most represent specific recreational users. They found it challenging to discuss and learn about other uses and how to assess those project proposals in the virtual environment.

Advisors made one suggestion for applicants. When applicants bring their proposals for funding during the next cycle, committee members would like for applicants to share their successes from the previous grant cycle

While there were a few surprises, the advisory committee was comfortable with the resulting ranked list. Staff appreciates the time that the advisory committee dedicated to preparing for and participating fully in the written and in-person evaluation and grant results meetings.

Most of the NOVA Advisory Committee's discussion included suggestions on how applicants can do a better job of addressing the evaluation criteria. Staff has compiled a list for distribution to applicants in 2022 as they prepare for the next grant cycle.

### **Strategic Plan Link**

Consideration of these grant proposals supports the board's strategy to provide funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation. The criteria for selecting projects support strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of recreation opportunities.

Projects considered for NOVA funding directly support board adopted priorities in the *2018-2022 Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Plan* and the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022*.

### **Public Comment**

Letters of support or concern are in Attachment F for the Education and Enforcement Category, Attachment L for the Nonhighway Road Category, Attachment Q for the Nonmotorized Category, and Attachment V for the Off-road Vehicle Category. Any additional public comment will be shared at the April board meeting.

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the board approve the preliminary ranked list for the 2021-23 biennium for each NOVA category as referenced in the decision packages below:

1. NOVA Education and Enforcement Category
2. NOVA Nonhighway Road Category
3. NOVA Nonmotorized Category
4. NOVA Off-road Vehicle Category

### **Next Steps**

If the board approves the preliminary ranked lists, staff will move forward with preparing the projects for funding consideration following legislative approval of a capital budget

for the 2021-23 biennium. The board will approve the final list and make funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting.

## Attachments

### **Decision Package #1: NOVA Education and Enforcement Category**

- A. Resolution #2021-06
  - Table 1 – *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Education and Enforcement Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map of Projects
- C. Evaluation Criteria Summary: Education and Enforcement category
- D. Evaluation Scores
- E. Project Summaries
- F. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

### **Decision Package #2: NOVA Nonhighway Road Category**

- G. Resolution #2021-07
  - Table 1 – *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- H. State Map of Projects
- I. Evaluation Criteria Summary: Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-road Vehicle Categories
- J. Evaluation Scores
- K. Project Summaries
- L. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

### **Decision Package #3: NOVA Nonmotorized Category**

- M. Resolution #2021-08
  - Table 1 – *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Ranked List of Nonmotorized Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- N. State Map of Projects
- O. Evaluation Scores
- P. Project Summaries
- Q. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

### **Decision Package #4: NOVA Off-Road Vehicle Category**

- R. Resolution #2021-09
  - Table 1 – *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Off-Road Vehicle Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- S. State Map of Projects

- T. Evaluation Scores
- U. Project Summaries
- V. Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2021-06  
NOVA Program Education and Enforcement Category  
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked List of Projects for the 2021-23 Biennium**

**WHEREAS**, for the 2021-23 biennium, thirty-three Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement category projects are being considered for funding; and

**WHEREAS**, all thirty-three projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 13, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicles Activities: Education and Enforcement Category*; and

**WHEREAS**, these Education and Enforcement category projects were evaluated by fifteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee using Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation criteria, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the projects focus on protecting user needs and minimizing environmental impacts and conflict between user groups, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Education and Enforcement Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

*Resolution moved by:*

*Resolution seconded by:*

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:*

**Table 1: Education and Enforcement Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
1	55.07	20-2292 E	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Patrol	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000
2	53.67	20-2334 E	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Alpine Lakes Wilderness Backcountry Patrol	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
3	53.27	20-2124 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	Cle Elum Ranger District Off-Road Vehicle Education and Enforcement	\$186,000	\$47,000	\$233,000
4	52.80	20-2108 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	Cle Elum Ranger District Alpine Lakes Wilderness Education and Enforcement	\$150,000	\$65,000	\$215,000
5	52.47	20-2137 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District	Methow Valley Ranger District Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers	\$200,000	\$203,411	\$403,411
6	52.27	20-2159 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Capitol State Forest Education and Enforcement	\$197,500	\$133,000	\$330,500
7	52.20	20-1966 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Central Zone Backcountry Education and Enforcement	\$200,000	\$148,500	\$348,500
8	51.60	20-2130 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley Education and Enforcement	\$185,000	\$156,550	\$341,550
9	51.53	20-2105 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	Cle Elum Ranger District Front Country Education and Enforcement	\$111,700	\$77,000	\$188,700
10	50.40	20-2273 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Northwest Region Education and Enforcement North Zone	\$163,698	\$93,000	\$256,698
11	50.33	20-2210 E	U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest	Colville National Forest Off-Highway Vehicle Forest Ranger Program	\$200,000	\$176,000	\$376,000
12	50.07	20-2008 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Pacific Cascade Region Education and Enforcement	\$190,000	\$81,500	\$271,500
12	50.07	20-2260 E	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Riverside Education and Enforcement	\$164,256	\$125,400	\$289,656



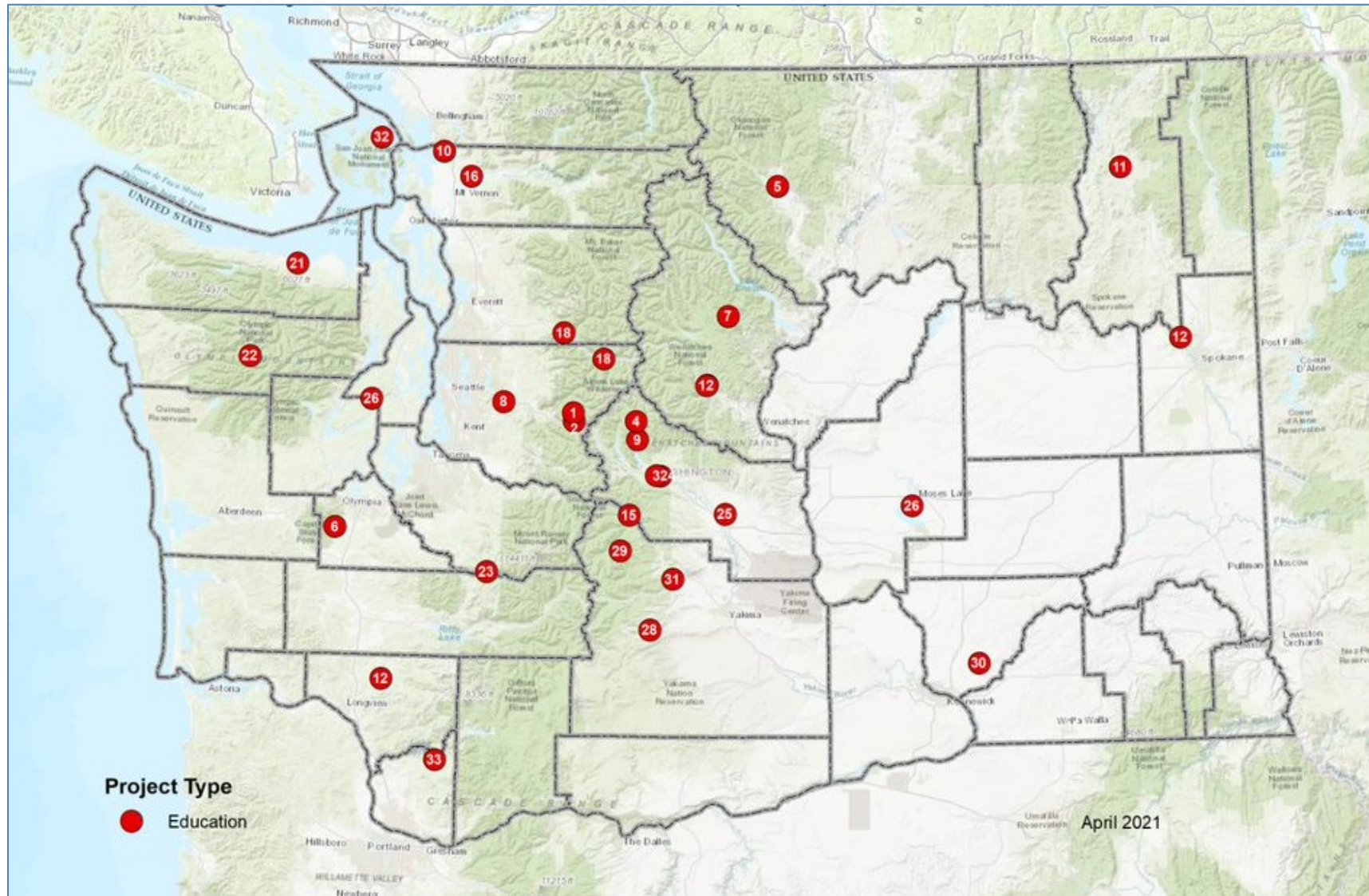
**Table 1: Education and Enforcement Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
12	50.07	20-2301 E	U.S Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	Wilderness and Backcountry Enchantments Emphasis	\$136,310	\$130,440	\$266,750
15	49.40	20-2200 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Naches Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers	\$200,000	\$204,000	\$404,000
16	49.07	20-2181 E	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	Mount Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers	\$174,100	\$82,800	\$256,900
17	48.47	20-2126 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District	Methow Valley Climbing Rangers	\$132,102	\$133,729	\$265,831
18	48.20	20-2103 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Northwest Region Education and Enforcement South Zone	\$180,000	\$122,900	\$302,900
18	48.20	20-2206 E	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	Skykomish Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement	\$82,000	\$64,640	\$146,640
20	46.33	20-2313 E	U.S Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	Climbing Ranger Education Program	\$122,120	\$120,528	\$242,648
21	46.20	20-1998 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Olympic Region Education and Enforcement	\$68,400	\$46,000	\$114,400
22	46.07	20-2162 E	U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest	Olympic National Forest Community Outreach and Education	\$100,000	\$51,000	\$151,000
23	45.73	20-2169 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Elbe Hills and Tahoma State Forests Education and Enforcement	\$100,000	\$66,000	\$166,000
24	45.53	20-2075 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	Cle Elum Ranger District Winter Education and Enforcement	\$47,800	\$50,100	\$97,900
25	44.80	20-2061 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Southeast Region Education and Enforcement North	\$200,000	\$87,500	\$287,500
26	44.67	20-1999 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Tahuya and Green Mountain Education and Enforcement	\$197,694	\$131,250	\$328,944

**Table 1: Education and Enforcement Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	
26	44.67	20-2311 E	Grant County	Grant County Off-Road Vehicle Area Education and Enforcement	\$200,000	\$350,300	\$550,300	
28	44.47	20-2182 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Southeast Region Education and Enforcement South	\$200,000	\$87,500	\$287,500	
29	44.20	20-2204 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Naches Wilderness Education and Enforcement Rangers	\$130,000	\$45,750	\$175,750	
30	43.60	20-2277 E	U.S. Bureau of Land Management	Bureau of Land Management Spokane District Juniper Dunes Saddle Mountain	\$151,400	\$7,000	\$158,400	
31	41.33	20-2150 E	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Region 3 Green Dot Road Off-Road Vehicle Education	\$99,500	\$16,500	\$116,000	
32	39.93	20-2112 E	State Parks and Recreation Commission	San Juan Area State Parks Trail Ranger	\$180,000	\$1,000	\$181,000	
33	31.67	20-2240 E	U.S. Forest Service Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Motorcycle Patrol	\$14,950	\$12,072	\$27,022	
Project type: E=Education					<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,014,530</b>	<b>\$3,467,370</b>	<b>\$8,481,900</b>

# State Map for NOVA Education and Enforcement Category Projects



The numbers represent ranked order.

## Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

### Education and Enforcement Evaluation Criteria Summary

<b>NOVA Education and Enforcement Evaluation Criteria Summary</b>				
<b>Scoring</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>NOVA Plan Policy</b>
Advisory Committee	1	Need	15	A-1, B-1, B-4
Advisory Committee	2	Need satisfaction	15	A-1, B-1, B-4
Advisory Committee	3	In-field contacts	10	B-2
Advisory Committee	4	Targeting current users	10	B-3
Advisory Committee	5	Project support	10	A-1, B-4
Advisory Committee	6	Non-government contributions	5	C-3
<b>Total Points Possible</b>			<b>65</b>	

**KEY:**

Item = Criteria title

NOVA Plan Policy = Criteria orientation in accordance with the NOVA Plan 2005-2011, which were carried forward to the 2018-2022 plan. The letter and number codes reference corresponding policies in the plan.

## Scoring Criteria, NOVA Education and Enforcement Category

### Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** What is the need for an education and enforcement project in the applicant's jurisdiction?
2. **Need Satisfaction.** To what extent will this project meet the service area's education and enforcement needs identified in Question 1, above?
3. **In-Field Contacts.** To what extent will the project address on-the-ground needs, including in-field contact with NOVA users during the high use season?
4. **Targeting Current NOVA Users.** To what extent will the project focus on needs created by current versus potential NOVA recreationists?
5. **Project Support.** To what extent do users and the public (statewide, community, or user groups) support the project?
6. **Non-Government Contributions.** Does this project reduce government costs through documented donations (labor, equipment, materials), signed cooperative agreements, or signed memoranda of understanding (including no cost leases, interagency agreements, donations, or similar cost saving arrangements)?



**Education and Enforcement Projects**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Satisfaction	3. In-Field Contacts	4. Targeting	5. Project	6. Non-	Total
						Current NOVA Users	Support	Government Contributions	
		Point Range	0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-5	
1	20-2292 E	Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Patrol	13	12.6	7.87	8.13	8.93	4.53	55.07
2	20-2334 E	Alpine Lakes Wilderness Backcountry Patrol	13.4	12	8.27	7.47	7.87	4.67	53.67
3	20-2124 E	Cle Elum Ranger District Off-Road Vehicle Education and Enforcement	12.6	12.4	8.13	8.4	8.4	3.33	53.27
4	20-2108 E	Cle Elum Ranger District Alpine Lakes Wilderness Education and Enforcement	12.2	12	8.4	7.6	8.4	4.2	52.80
5	20-2137 E	Methow Valley Ranger District Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers	12.6	11.8	7.6	7.6	8.67	4.2	52.47
6	20-2159 E	Capitol State Forest Education and Enforcement	12.6	11.6	7.87	8.13	8.93	3.13	52.27
7	20-1966 E	Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Central Zone Backcountry Education and Enforcement	12.2	12	8.27	8	8	3.73	52.20
8	20-2130 E	Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley Education and Enforcement	12.6	11.8	7.6	7.33	8.4	3.87	51.60
9	20-2105 E	Cle Elum Ranger District Frontcountry Education and Enforcement	12.2	13	7.2	8	8.13	3	51.53
10	20-2273 E	Northwest Region Education and Enforcement North Zone	11	11	7.87	8	8.8	3.73	50.40
11	20-2210 E	Colville National Forest Off-Highway Vehicle Forest Ranger Program	11.2	12.6	7.47	8	7.73	3.33	50.33
12	20-2260 E	Riverside Education and Enforcement	12.2	11.2	7.87	7.2	8.27	3.33	50.07
12	20-2008 E	Pacific Cascade Region Education and Enforcement	12.2	11.6	6.93	7.47	8.27	3.6	50.07
12	20-2301 E	Wilderness and Backcountry Enchantments Emphasis	12.8	11.2	8	7.6	6.93	3.53	50.07

**Education and Enforcement Projects**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Satisfaction	3. In-Field Contacts	4. Targeting Current NOVA Users	5. Project Support	6. Non-Government Contributions	Total
		Point Range	0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-5	
15	20-2200 E	Naches Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle Education and Enforcement Rangers	12.4	11.6	7.87	7.2	7.07	3.27	49.40
16	20-2181 E	Mount Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers	11.4	11.4	7.33	6.93	8.4	3.6	49.07
17	20-2126 E	Methow Valley Climbing Rangers	10.2	11.6	7.33	7.07	8.4	3.87	48.47
18	20-2206 E	Skykomish Ranger District Wilderness Education and Enforcement	12.2	11	7.2	7.33	7.07	3.4	48.20
18	20-2103 E	Northwest Region Education and Enforcement South Zone	11.6	10.4	6.93	7.33	8.93	3	48.20
20	20-2313 E	Climbing Ranger Education Program	9.8	11.8	7.47	6.67	7.2	3.4	46.33
21	20-1998 E	Olympic Region Education and Enforcement	10.6	10.4	7.2	7.2	7.87	2.93	46.20
22	20-2162 E	Olympic National Forest Community Outreach and Education	11	11.2	7.2	7.2	6.67	2.8	46.07
23	20-2169 E	Elbe Hills and Tahoma State Forests Education and Enforcement	12.2	10.4	6.67	6.53	7.87	2.07	45.73
24	20-2075 E	Cle Elum Ranger District Winter Education and Enforcement	10.6	11	6.4	7.07	7.87	2.6	45.53
25	20-2061 E	Southeast Region Education and Enforcement North	11	10.8	6.8	6.8	7.33	2.07	44.80
26	20-1999 E	Tahuya and Green Mountain Education and Enforcement	10.6	10.4	6	7.07	7.73	2.87	44.67
26	20-2311 E	Grant County Off-Road Vehicle Area Education and Enforcement	11.6	10.4	6.93	6.93	6.4	2.4	44.67
28	20-2182 E	Southeast Region Education and Enforcement South	12	10.8	7.07	6.8	6.13	1.67	44.47



**Education and Enforcement Projects**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Satisfaction	3. In-Field Contacts	4. Targeting Current NOVA Users	5. Project Support	6. Non-Government Contributions	Total
		Point Range	0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-5	
29	20-2204 E	Naches Wilderness Education and Enforcement Rangers	10.6	11	7.6	7.07	5.73	2.2	44.20
30	20-2277 E	Bureau of Land Management Spokane District Juniper Dunes Saddle Mountain	10.4	9.8	6.8	7.07	7.07	2.47	43.60
31	20-2150 E	Region 3 Green Dot Road Off-Road Vehicle Education	11	10.4	6.67	6.27	6	1	41.33
32	20-2112 E	San Juan Area State Parks Trail Ranger	10.4	9.6	6.4	6.53	5.47	1.53	39.93
33	20-2240 E	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Motorcycle Patrol	9.4	8.4	5.33	5.33	2.27	0.93	31.67

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-6

Project Type: E=Education

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



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#### U.S. Forest Service

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

#### Funding Front Country Patrols in the Snoqualmie Ranger District

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to pay for four officers and two volunteers from May through September for 2 years. The officers and volunteers will assist people visiting the 300,000 acres to hike, ride horses, camp, drive off-road vehicles, target shoot, and hunt at the districts 50 trailheads, 3 developed campgrounds, and thousands of dispersed camping sites. The presence of uniformed officers will decrease vandalism and forest infractions and improve the district's ability to respond to visitor needs. The Forest Service will contribute \$150,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2292)

#### U.S. Forest Service

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### Hiring Patrols in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to pay for four backcountry rangers and two interns to patrol trails in the Snoqualmie Ranger District for 2 years. The rangers will educate visitors hiking and biking to backcountry destinations in the 300,000-acre district. Rangers and volunteers will patrol more than 400 miles of trail and hundreds of destination lakes, streams, and summits, which provide a wide spectrum of recreation opportunities including hiking, backpacking, climbing, mountain biking, fishing, hunting, foraging, and horseback riding for more than 300,000 visitors a year. Rangers contact visitors in the field and monitor and protect natural and cultural resources and backcountry facilities. The Forest Service will contribute \$200,000 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2334)

#### U.S. Forest Service

**Grant Requested: \$186,000**

#### Supporting an Off-Road Vehicle Education Program

The Cle Elum Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to pay for staff in its off-road vehicle education program. The ranger district manages nearly 400 miles of off-road vehicle trails and works with volunteers to educate visitors about safety and environmental stewardship. The Forest Service will contribute \$47,000 in staff labor and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2124)

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **U.S. Forest Service**

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

#### **Hiring Rangers to Patrol the Alpine Lakes Wilderness**

The Cle Elum Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to partially fund a seasonal lead wilderness ranger, two rangers, two volunteer interns, and volunteers to patrol trails and camping areas in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. The ranger district's portion of Alpine Lakes Wilderness is one of the most popular areas in Washington, hosting more than 175,000 visits at its 16 trailheads, 200 miles of trail, multiple high-country routes, more than 60 lakes, and more than 900 wilderness campsites. The wilderness area is used for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, mountaineering, and mountain climbing. The rangers will educate visitors about how to protect the wilderness and trail resources. Through education and enforcement efforts, continued access to wilderness areas can be ensured without the need for additional regulation. The Forest Service will contribute \$65,000 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2108)

#### **U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### **Funding Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers**

The Methow Valley Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund two seasonal rangers, two AmeriCorps or similar rangers, and community volunteers to patrol high-use recreation areas for two seasons. The staff will educate visitors about environmental stewardship and will enforce regulations. Patrols will be by foot or stock and will focus on popular areas in the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, Pasayten and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness areas, Pacific Crest Trail, and Pacific Northwest Trail. Popularized in guidebooks and social media, the area attracts more than 100,000 visitor days annually. Recreationists include hikers, backpackers, mountain bikers, climbers, photographers, wildlife viewers, backcountry skiers, stock users, hunters, and anglers. Local businesses and the community support this project, and volunteers donate more than 3,000 hours annually. The Forest Service will contribute \$203,411 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2137)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

**Grant Requested: \$197,500**

#### **Hiring Wardens to Patrol the Capitol State Forest**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund one full-time and one half-time warden to patrol Capitol State Forest, near Olympia. The 110,000-acre forest has 168 miles of trail, 4 campgrounds, 6 trailheads, and more than 610 miles of forest roads. The wardens will

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



focus on off-road vehicles and correcting safety issues. Additionally, the wardens will support Forest Watch volunteers who educate visitors on safety and proper forest use. The wardens and Forest Watch volunteers manage events as well. The grant also will buy surveillance equipment to aid in criminal investigations. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$133,000 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2159)

#### **U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### **Hiring Backcountry Patrols**

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to hire staff to patrol multiuse trails and trailheads in the Chelan, Entiat, Methow Valley, and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan and Okanogan Counties. This grant will fund two, seasonal, off-highway vehicle rangers to patrol about 300 miles of multiuse trails, 7 campgrounds, and 29 trailheads. In addition, the grant will fund four AmeriCorps volunteer backcountry rangers to patrol 155 miles of wilderness trails. The staff will contact visitors and educate them on environmental stewardship and good riding practices. Much of the area has highly erosive pumice soil or fragile meadows. Field rangers contacting visitors helps prevent damage to these areas and ensures future use. The Forest Service will contribute \$148,500 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1966)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

**Grant Requested: \$185,000**

#### **Hiring a Patrol for the Snoqualmie Corridor**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund two education and enforcement specialists to patrol lands in the Interstate 90-Snoqualmie Corridor, in eastern King County, including the Marckworth State Forest, and federal lands in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. The specialist in the Snoqualmie Corridor will patrol more than 200 miles of trails, 9 regional trailheads, several day-use sites, and other informal parking areas. The specialist on the federal lands will patrol 115 miles of trails, 5 trailheads, multiple day-use sites, and 1 campground. The grant also will pay for small tools, minor equipment, and educational materials. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$156,550 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2130)

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$111,700**

#### **Hiring Front County Rangers in the Cle Elum Ranger District**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund four rangers, two law enforcement officers, and two volunteers to patrol high-use, dispersed camping areas, campgrounds, and trailheads in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Rangers will educate visitors on proper sanitation, respecting wildlife, campsite selection, fee compliance, and environmental stewardship. Patrols will focus on camping areas at ecologically sensitive streambanks and in designated critical habitat for threatened and endangered species such as bull trout. Experience has shown consistent field presence and one-on-one interactions with users is effective at reducing environmental degradation, limiting user conflicts, and fostering greater environmental stewardship. The Forest Service will contribute \$77,000 in a federal appropriation and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2105)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

**Grant Requested: \$163,698**

#### **Hiring a Warden to Patrol Recreation Areas in Northern Puget Sound**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a warden to patrol three major recreation areas in the northern Puget Sound area totaling more than 73,000 acres and more than 90 miles of trails. The areas include the Walker Valley ORV Area, Blanchard Mountain non-motorized recreation area, and Harry Osborne equestrian area. The warden will focus on user safety, education, and enforcement. Additionally, the warden will coordinate volunteer efforts to educate visitors about the rules and goals of environmental stewardship. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$93,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2273)

#### **U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### **Hiring Patrols for Off-Highway Areas in the Colville National Forest**

The Colville National Forest will use this grant to fund five trail rangers to provide education and enforcement for off-highway vehicles on 1,203 miles of open routes, 5 campgrounds, 10 trailheads, and 375 dispersed campsites. The rangers will focus on educating the public about off-highway vehicle regulations, responsible trail riding, and resource protection. The rangers also will oversee organized trail events and manage and grow the ambassador program to include all of the Colville National Forest. The ambassador volunteers help educate visitors, promote environmental stewardship, and build relationships with the off-highway vehicle community. The grant also will pay for updating educational materials. The Forest Service will

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



contribute \$176,000 in a federal appropriation and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2210)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$190,000** **Providing Education and Enforcement in the Pacific Cascade Region**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a warden to patrol the Pacific Cascade Region, which includes the Yaacolt Burn State Forest, in southwest Washington. The warden will patrol 770 miles of road, 126 miles of trail, 8 campgrounds, 11 trailheads, and 6 day-use areas on more than 480,000 acres. The warden will focus on identifying potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns; providing public outreach; engaging user groups; and providing an additional enforcement presence. The warden also will support Forest Watch volunteers, who educate visitors about the rules and environmental stewardship. The grant also will buy education materials and electronic equipment to deter crime and increase public safety. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$81,500 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2008)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$164,256** **Hiring a Trail Ranger in Spokane and Stevens Counties**

State Parks will use this grant to fund a ranger to patrol areas in Spokane and Stevens Counties at Riverside State Park, Spokane River Centennial State Park Trail, and Columbia Plateau State Park Trail from Fish Lake to Amber Lake. The ranger will patrol these areas, which are open year-round and collectively host more than 4 million visits annually. The ranger will focus on public safety including patrolling trailheads and areas with high levels of crime. The ranger also will educate visitors about park rules, COVID19 pandemic changes, trail etiquette, and environmental stewardship. In addition, the ranger will work with volunteers and help at the 100 events hosted annually. State Parks will contribute \$125,400 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2260)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$136,310** **Funding Wilderness and Backcountry Patrols**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund three seasonal rangers and volunteers to patrol high-use areas in the wilderness and backcountry areas of the district for two seasons. The rangers will educate visitors about environmental stewardship, safety, and forest regulations. The Wenatchee River Ranger District encompasses some of the most globally significant hiking, backpacking, and horse packing destinations in Washington, such as Stuart Lake, Spider Meadows, Lake Valhalla, Colchuck Lake,

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



and Ingalls Lake. Educational contacts are paramount to keep the public safe and the wilderness in tack. The Forest Service will contribute \$130,440 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2301)

#### **U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### **Hiring Rangers to Patrol Off-Highway Areas in the Naches Ranger District**

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to fund five rangers for 2 years, including transportation costs and supplies, to patrol portions of Kittitas and Yakima Counties in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The rangers will patrol off-highway campsites and staging areas and 250 miles of trails. The district's trail system provides an estimated 10 percent of all motorized trail opportunities in Washington. Its centralized location makes it one of the most highly used areas in the state. The Forest Service will contribute \$204,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2200)

#### **U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$174,100**

#### **Funding Mount Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers**

The Mount Baker Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to fund four backcountry rangers, two climbing rangers, two summer interns, and volunteers to patrol the district's trails, climbing routes, winter ski and snowshoe routes, and snow play areas in Whatcom and Skagit Counties. Locations include backcountry areas in the district, the Mount Baker and Noisy-Diobsud Wilderness, and the Mount Baker National Recreation Areas. The staff will patrol the areas and educate visitors on environmental stewardship and regulations. One of the backcountry rangers will manage the district's Mountain Stewards Program and its volunteers. The district is more than 500,000 acres and hosts more than 400,000 visitors who are hiking, backpacking, camping, riding horses, hunting, fishing, mountaineering, cross-country skiing, mountaineering, and snowshoeing year-round. The Forest Service will contribute \$82,800 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2181)

#### **U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$132,102**

#### **Funding Methow Valley Climbing Rangers**

The Methow Valley Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund its climbing ranger program. Climbing rangers and volunteer stewards contact visitors at high-use climbing areas including Washington Pass, North Cascades Scenic Corridor,



## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Goat Wall, and Mazama. The rangers educate users on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, identify and manage environmental impacts and educational needs, build relationships in the community and with climbing organizations, collect visitor use and resource data, and enforce regulations. The number of visitors to the climbing area has increased. It is renowned for indoor climbers transitioning from a gym to outdoor climbing and for novice climbers undertaking their first multi-pitch climbs and their first alpine climbs. The Forest Service will contribute \$133,729 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2126)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$180,000** **Providing Education and Enforcement in the Northwest Region**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a warden to patrol some of the most popular areas in Snohomish County: Reiter Foothills Forest, Morning Star Natural Resources Conservation Area, Sultan Basin, North Mountain Bike Trails, and Forest Glade. The warden will focus on identifying potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns; educating visitors about appropriate use and environmental stewardship; and enforcing regulations. Combined, these areas provide several hundred miles of road, about 75 miles of trail, 3 campgrounds, multiple dispersed campsites, and trailheads on more than 50,000 acres. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$122,900 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2103)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$82,000** **Funding Education and Enforcement in the Skykomish Ranger District**

The Skykomish Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to fund three wilderness rangers and an intern, and to coordinate 20 volunteers for 2 years in Snohomish and King Counties. The employees will enforce regulations, educate visitors on low-impact camping and proper waste disposal, host workshops for school groups, maintain backcountry toilets, clean and monitor campsites, document trail conditions, and develop informational handouts and trailhead posters. The ranger district has about 200,000 acres of the Wild Sky, Henry M Jackson, and Alpine Lakes Wilderness areas. It also is easily reached by more than 3 million people, making the areas attractive destinations for activities like climbing, hiking, fishing, hunting, and stock use. The Forest Service will contribute \$64,640 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2206)



## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### U.S. Forest Service

**Grant Requested: \$122,120**

#### Funding the Climbing Ranger Program

The Wenatchee River Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund four seasonal climbing rangers to patrol popular climbing areas near Leavenworth. Leavenworth is a nationally known climbing destination, drawing tens of thousands of climber visits each year. High use in concentrated climbing areas has led to severe impacts to natural resources, such as damage to sensitive and rare plants and disturbance of sensitive wildlife species, and to social impacts such as crowding and improper disposal of human waste. Rangers will educate users, assess use levels, monitor conditions on the ground, develop educational events, increase frequency of outreach to climbers, and pilot a program to reduce human waste. The Forest Service will contribute \$120,528 in staff labor, equipment, and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2313)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

**Grant Requested: \$68,400**

#### Providing Education and Enforcement in the Olympic Region

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a seasonal education and enforcement warden in the Olympic Region's Straits and Coast Districts, which cover portions of Clallam and Jefferson Counties. The warden will patrol the districts and help manage a volunteer Forest Watch program. The Olympic Region's lands are very fragmented and require dynamic management, partnerships, and staff to promote appropriate behavior and respond to inappropriate behavior. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$46,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1998)

#### U.S. Forest Service

**Grant Requested: \$100,000**

#### Hiring Community Outreach Staff in the Olympic National Forest

The Olympic National Forest will use this grant to pay for a part-time ranger who will focus on community engagement, a seasonal wilderness ranger, and field ranger interns. The employees will educate and assist visitors, mitigate safety concerns, clean and restore campsites, collect and record user data, patrol trails and roads, and help with special events. They also will conduct workshops on environmental stewardship for schools and other groups. The forest is seeing more inexperienced visitors who come for the family-friendly activities offered there. The Olympic National Forest hosts about 630,000 people a year. The Forest Service will contribute \$51,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2162)

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$100,000** **Providing Patrols for the Elbe Hills and Tahoma State Forests**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to partially fund three recreation staff to patrol Elbe Hills State Forest in Pierce County and Tahoma State Forest in Lewis County. The 22,140-acre Elbe forest draws about 35,000 people annually to ride off-road vehicles on its 13-mile trail system, hike on the 40 miles of trail, or ride horses, hunt, gather, target shoot, camp, and use the Sno-Park. The 32,600-acre Tahoma forest draws about 15,000 people annually to hunt, gather, camp, ride mountain bikes, hike, and use a Sno-Park to cross-country ski or snowshoe on 25 miles of groomed winter trails or use the three overnight primitive huts. During the summer, staff will focus on education and enforcement of rules for camping and target shooting, as well as preventing vandalism and dumping. During the winter, staff will place additional focus on hunting, gathering, and Sno-Park use. The grant also will pay to maintain printed information and signs. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$66,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2169)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$47,800** **Hiring Snow Rangers in the Cle Elum Ranger District**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund two snow rangers to patrol 10 Sno-Parks, 6 staging areas, 560 miles of winter trails, and about 300,000 backcountry acres open to winter recreation in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Snow rangers and volunteers educate users about safe and courteous recreating, trail conditions, avalanche awareness, winter survival, trail etiquette, and respect for non-motorized areas. Snow rangers also enforce regulations and attend club gatherings and public meetings. The Cle Elum Ranger District is the busiest winter recreation destination in Washington due to its proximity to the Puget Sound area, abundant snow, and long season. With thousands of users each season, minimizing user conflicts and providing education and safety messages is a priority. The Forest Service will contribute \$50,100 in a state grant and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2075)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$200,000** **Providing Education and Enforcement in the Southeast Region**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a warden to patrol department lands in Chelan, Grant, and Kittitas Counties, which includes the Teanaway Community Forest and the Naneum Ridge State Forest. The warden will patrol 241 miles of road, 34 miles of trail, 3 campgrounds, 3 day-use areas, and 3 trailheads on more than 120,000 acres. The warden will

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



focus on identifying potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns; providing public outreach; engaging user groups; and providing an additional enforcement presence. The warden also will support Forest Watch volunteers in efforts to educate forest visitors about rules and environmental stewardship. The grant also will buy educational materials and electronic equipment to deter crime and increase public safety. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$87,500 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2061)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$197,694** **Providing Education and Enforcement in Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a recreation warden and additional police services in the Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests and the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area, near Bremerton. The warden will patrol 200 miles of trail, 5 campgrounds, and 7 trailheads, focusing on off-road vehicle use and correcting safety concerns for all trail users. The warden also will support Forest Watch volunteers to educate visitors about rules and environmental stewardship. In addition, the warden will help manage organized trail events. Funding also will be used to buy equipment. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$131,250 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1999)

#### **Grant County** **Grant Requested: \$200,000** **Hiring Officers to Patrol Sand Dunes**

The Grant County Sheriff's Office will use this grant to fund two officers to patrol 8,500 acres of off-road vehicle areas in the Moses Lake and Beverly sand dunes. The officers will patrol the dunes and educate the public through various special events, brochures, the Internet, and signs. The dunes are used by off-road vehicle riders, equestrians, campers, hikers, anglers, snowmobilers, boaters, and beach goers. Grant County will contribute \$350,300 in cash, equipment, staff labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2311)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$200,000** **Hiring Staff to Patrol in Yakima County**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a warden to patrol department lands in Yakima County, which includes the Ahtanum State Forest. The warden will patrol 256 miles of road, 52 miles of trail, 9 campgrounds, 2 designated camping areas, and 4 trailheads on more than 190,500 acres. The warden will focus on identifying potential health,

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



safety, and resource damage concerns; providing public outreach; engaging user groups; and providing an additional enforcement presence. The warden also will support Forest Watch volunteers, who educate visitors about rules and environmental stewardship. The grant also will be used to buy educational materials and electronic equipment to deter crime and increase public safety. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$87,500 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2182)

#### **U.S. Forest Service Hiring Wilderness Rangers**

**Grant Requested: \$130,000**

The Naches Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund four seasonal rangers and up to four, part-time volunteers to patrol high-use areas in the wilderness and backcountry areas of the district. The rangers will provide education and enforcement to promote environmental stewardship and visitor safety. The Naches Ranger District encompasses some of the most popular day hiking, backpacking, and horse packing destinations in Washington. Areas such as Dewey Lakes, Twin Sisters Lakes, Warm Lake, and Surprise Lake have all been popularized in numerous guidebooks and other media. The Forest Service will contribute \$45,750 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2204)

#### **U.S. Bureau of Land Management Educating the Public at Juniper Dunes and Saddle Mountain**

**Grant Requested: \$151,400**

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management will use this grant to fund a seasonal park ranger, along with educational materials, equipment, supplies, and travel costs, to patrol off-highway vehicle areas at Juniper Dunes and Saddle Mountains in central Washington. The ranger will focus on educating the public about regulations, responsible riding, and resource protection. The ranger also will manage the clubs volunteer program, which educates the public, promotes good land stewardship, and builds relationships with the off-road community. The grant also will fund law enforcement patrols by county and Bureau staff. The Bureau of Land Management will contribute \$7,000 in donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2277)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Providing Off-road Vehicle Education**

**Grant Requested: \$99,500**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to fund an off-road vehicle ranger to patrol more than 400,000 acres across four wildlife areas in Chelan, Kittitas, and Yakima

## Education and Enforcement Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Counties. The ranger will focus on educating visitors and providing information on regulations. The wildlife areas contain hundreds of miles of roads that are used by all-terrain vehicles, off-road vehicles, and jeeps. Unfortunately, it is common for users to drive on closed roads and in adjacent meadows. The department also will update information at wildlife area entrances by adding new signs and maps, and will develop educational materials for visitors. The Department of Fish and Wildlife will contribute \$16,500 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2150)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$180,000** **Hiring a Trail Ranger for San Juan State Parks**

State Parks will use this grant to fund a ranger for Moran and Obstruction Pass State Parks in the San Juan Islands. Moran State Park hosts more than 1 million visitors a year and has more than 40 miles of trails. Obstruction Pass, which has hike-in camping, trails, and a trailhead parking lot that allows overnight campers, is routinely over capacity. The ranger will split time between contacting visitors at Moran's trailheads, campsites, and trails, and educating visitors at Obstruction Pass. The rangers will educate visitors about park rules, manage camping and day-use activities, post notifications at trailheads when sites are full, and update bulletin boards, signs, and informational brochures. State Parks will contribute \$1,000 in donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2112)

#### **U.S. Forest Service      Grant Requested: \$14,950** **Creating a Motorcycle Patrol for the Gifford Pinchot National Forest**

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest will use this grant to buy a motorcycle to help patrol the forest. The popularity of dual-sport motorcycles for exploring the national forest has been steadily increasing at the same time that road conditions have declined. Motorized activities largely are unmanaged because of the difficulty in reaching areas with a patrol car. Motorcycle patrols will help create a safer environment and minimize resource damage. The patrol would contact motorcycle and other off-road vehicle users to check equipment and registration. The Forest Service will contribute \$12,072 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2240)

## Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the NOVA Education and Enforcement 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.

### Education and Enforcement Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-2292E Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Patrol (8) Rank 1
- 20-2334E Alpine Lakes Wilderness Backcountry Patrol (5) Rank 2
- 20-2124E Cle Elum Ranger District Off-Road Vehicle (5) Rank 3
- 20-2137E Methow Valley Ranger District Wilderness (8) Rank 5
- 20-2159E Capitol State Forest Education and Enforcement (67) Rank 6
- 20-1966E Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Central Zone (5) Rank 7
- 20-2130E Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley (13) Rank 8
- 20-2210E Colville National Forest Off-Highway Vehicle Forest Ranger (6) Rank 11
- 20-2008E Pacific Cascade Region Education and Enforcement (7) Rank 12
- 20-2301E Wilderness and Backcountry Enchantments Emphasis (2) Rank 12
- 20-2181E Mount Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers (13) Rank 16
- 20-2126E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers (8) Rank 17
- 20-2103E Northwest Region Education and Enforcement South Zone (16) Rank 18
- 20-2313E Climbing Ranger Education Program (2) Rank 20
- 20-1998E Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (18) Rank 21
- 20-2162E Olympic National Forest Community Outreach and Education (5) Rank 22
- 20-2061E Southeast Region Education and Enforcement North (5) Rank 25
- 20-1999E Tahuya and Green Mountain Education and Enforcement (17) Rank 26
- 20-2311E Grant County Off-Road Vehicle Area (4) Rank 26
- 20-2277E Bureau of Land Management Spokane District (6) Rank 30
- 20-2150E Region 3 Green Dot Road Off-Road Vehicle Education (2) Rank 31

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2021-07  
NOVA Program Nonhighway Road Category  
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked List of Projects for the 2021-23 Biennium**

**WHEREAS**, for the 2021-23 biennium, twenty-three Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Nonhighway Road category projects are being considered for funding; and

**WHEREAS**, all twenty-three projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 14, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program*; and

**WHEREAS**, these Nonhighway Road category projects were evaluated by thirteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee using Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation criteria, thereby supporting the board’s strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred in open public meetings as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-04-065, thereby supporting the board’s strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects provide opportunities for recreationists that enjoy activities such as nonmotorized boating, camping, driving for pleasure, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, fishing, gathering, hunting, and picnicking, thereby supporting the board’s strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonhighway Road Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

*Resolution moved by:*

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

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

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



**Table 1: Nonhighway Road Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

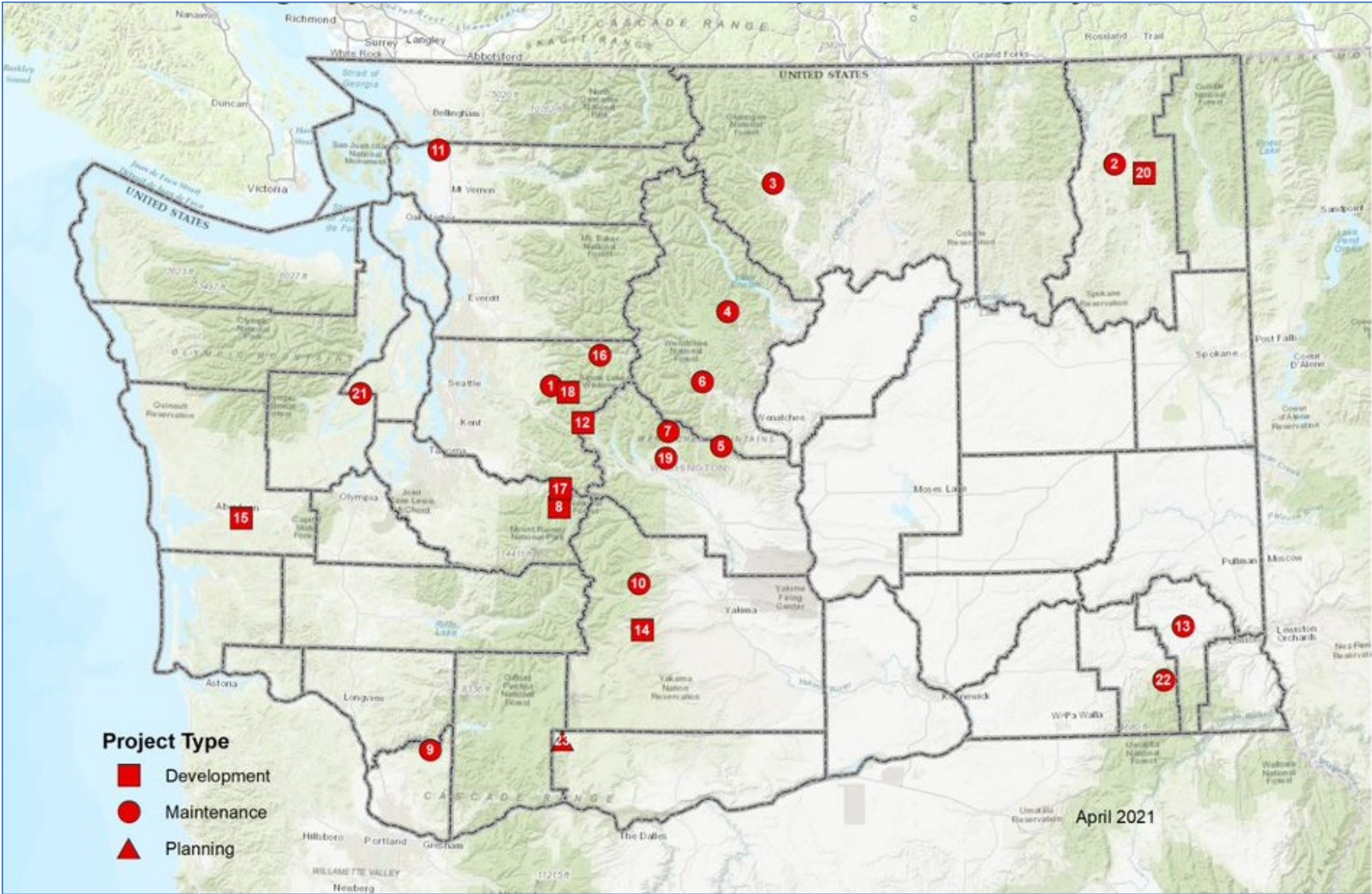
Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
1	62.69	20-2350 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Maintenance	\$115,400	\$51,000	\$166,400
2	62.31	20-2229 M	U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest	Colville National Forest Facility Maintenance and Operations	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000
3	60.69	20-2133 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District	Methow Valley Ranger District Developed Recreation Campground Maintenance	\$150,000	\$274,984	\$424,984
4	60.54	20-1964 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	Entiat Ranger District Campgrounds and Dispersed Maintenance and Operations	\$150,000	\$80,000	\$230,000
5	59.15	20-2064 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	Cle Elum Ranger District Front Country Maintenance and Operations	\$150,000	\$101,000	\$251,000
6	58.85	20-2316 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	Wenatchee River Ranger District Developed and Dispersed Maintenance and Operations	\$118,000	\$82,800	\$200,800
7	58.69	20-2106 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	Cle Elum Ranger District Sanitation Rentals	\$30,000	\$3,400	\$33,400
8	58.46	20-2392 D	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Suntop Lookout Accessibility	\$35,000	\$15,000	\$50,000
9	58.31	20-2011 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Capitol and Yacolt State Forests Facilities Maintenance and Operations	\$148,000	\$63,500	\$211,500
10	56.69	20-2148 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Naches Developed and Dispersed Campground Maintenance and Operations	\$150,000	\$239,500	\$389,500
11	54.77	20-2071 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Samish Overlook and Lily-Lizard Lakes Campgrounds	\$55,962	\$57,438	\$113,400
12	53.85	20-2355 D	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Denny Creek and Franklin Falls Parking Lot Expansion	\$200,000	\$495,000	\$695,000
13	53.23	20-2020 M	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	Pomeroy Ranger District Campgrounds, Concentrated Use, and Dispersed	\$40,000	\$50,000	\$90,000



**Table 1: Nonhighway Road Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	
14	52.92	20-2185 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Eagles Nest Vista Development	\$140,000	\$53,000	\$193,000	
15	52.15	20-2319 D	Port of Grays Harbor	Friends Landing Bridge Renovation	\$150,000	\$60,000	\$210,000	
16	52.08	20-2246 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	Skykomish Ranger District Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance	\$123,500	\$132,000	\$255,500	
17	51.69	20-2278 D	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Snoqualmie Ranger District Dispersed Campsites Improvements	\$200,000	\$104,710	\$304,710	
18	51.00	20-2307 D	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Middle Fork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub Improvements	\$200,000	\$40,000	\$240,000	
19	50.31	20-2102 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Southeast Region Maintenance and Operations North	\$150,000	\$103,000	\$253,000	
20	49.00	20-2304 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Starvation Lake Campground Renovation	\$100,000	\$25,000	\$125,000	
21	44.62	20-2218 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Hood Canal District Nonhighway Road Maintenance and Operation	\$82,383	\$27,000	\$109,383	
22	40.85	20-2423 M	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Camp Wooten Maintenance Program	\$147,700		\$147,700	
23	38.00	20-2091 P	U.S. Forest Service Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest	Lewis River Corridor Recreation Plan	\$40,000	\$30,000	\$70,000	
Project type: D=Development, M=Maintenance, P=Planning					<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,825,945</b>	<b>\$2,238,332</b>	<b>\$5,064,277</b>

# State Map for NOVA Nonhighway Road Category Projects



The numbers represent ranked order.

## Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

### Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-road Vehicle Categories Evaluation Criteria Summary

NOVA Evaluation Criteria Summary					
Scored By	Question	Title	Questions by Category and Project Type	Maximum Points	NOVA Plan Policy
Advisory Committee	1	Need	All	15	A-1, C-7
			Maintenance and Operation	25	
Advisory Committee	2	Need fulfillment	All	15	A-1, C-6, C-7
			Maintenance and Operation	25	
Advisory Committee	3	Site suitability	Acquisition	15	C-15
			Combination Acquisition and Development	5	
Advisory Committee	4	Project design	Development	10	C-1, C-5, C-7, C-8, C-14
			Combination Acquisition and Development	5	
Advisory Committee	5	Planning	Planning	10	C-6, C-15
Advisory Committee	6	Sustainability	All projects, except Maintenance	5	
Advisory Committee	7	Readiness to proceed	All projects, except Maintenance	5	
Advisory Committee	8	Predominately natural	Nonmotorized and Nonhighway Road categories only	5	C-13
Advisory Committee	9	Project support	All	10	C-3, C-4
Advisory Committee	10	Cost-benefit	All	5	A-1, C-3

<b>NOVA Evaluation Criteria Summary</b>					
<b>Scored By</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Questions by Category and Project Type</b>	<b>Maximum Points</b>	<b>NOVA Plan Policy</b>
RCO staff	11	County population density	All	1	C-4
RCO staff	12	Proximity to people	All	1	C-2
RCO staff	13	Growth Management Act preference	All	0	
<b>Nonhighway and Nonmotorized Total Points Possible</b>				<b>72</b>	
<b>Off-Road Vehicle Total Possible Points</b>				<b>67</b>	

## KEY:

All = includes acquisition, development, maintenance and operation, and planning project types.

NOVA Plan Policy = Criteria orientation in accordance with the NOVA Plan 2005-2011, which were carried forward to the 2018-2022 plan. The letter and number codes reference corresponding policies in the plan.

## Scoring Criteria for NOVA Nonhighway Road, Nonmotorized, and Off-Road Vehicle Categories

### Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** What is the need for new, improved, or maintained facilities?
2. **Need fulfillment.** How well will this project fulfill the service area's needs identified in Question 1?
3. **Site suitability.** To what extent is the site to be acquired well suited for the intended recreational activity? (*Acquisition projects*)
4. **Project design.** Is the proposal appropriately designed for intended uses and users? (*Development projects*)
5. **Planning.** To what extent will the proposed plan or study help provide opportunities and address sustainability of the natural environment? (*Planning projects*)?
6. **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?
7. **Readiness to proceed.** How soon after the grant is approved can the project begin?
8. **Predominately natural.** Is the project site in a predominately natural setting? (ORV applicants do not answer this question.)
9. **Project support.** To what extent do users and the public support the project?
10. **Cost-benefit.** Do the project's benefits outweigh its costs?

### Scored by RCO Staff

11. **County population density.** Is the project site in a county with a population density greater than 250 people per square mile?
12. **Population proximity.** Is the project site within 30 miles of a city with a population of 25,000 people or more?
13. **Growth Management Act preference.** Has the applicant<sup>5</sup> made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> County, city, town, and special district applicants only. This question does not apply to nonprofit organizations or state and federal agency applicants.

<sup>6</sup> Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250 (Growth Management Act-preference required)

**Nonhighway Road Projects**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need		4. Project Design	5. Planning	6. Sustainability	7. Readiness to Proceed	8. Predominantly Natural	9. Project Support	10. Cost-Benefit	11. Population Proximity		13. Growth Management		Total
			0-25	0-25								0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	
1	20-2350 M	Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Maintenance	23.46	20.77					4.23	8	4.23	1	1	0		62.69
2	20-2229 M	Colville National Forest Facility Maintenance and Operations	21.92	23.08					4.46	8	4.85	0	0	0		62.31
3	20-2133 M	Methow Valley Ranger District Developed Recreation Campground Maintenance	21.15	21.54					4.31	9.08	4.62	0	0	0		60.69
4	20-1964 M	Entiat Ranger District Campgrounds and Dispersed Maintenance and Operations	21.15	22.31					4.31	7.69	4.08	0	1	0		60.54
5	20-2064 M	Cle Elum Ranger District Front Country Maintenance and Operations	21.54	20.77					4	7.69	4.15	0	1	0		59.15
6	20-2316 M	Wenatchee River Ranger District Developed and Dispersed Maintenance and Operations	21.54	20.77					4.23	7.38	3.92	0	1	0		58.85



**Nonhighway Road Projects**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Project Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Fulfillment	4. Project Design	5. Planning	6. Sustainability	7. Readiness to Proceed	8. Predominantly Natural	9. Project Support	10. Cost-Benefit	11. Population Proximity County	12. Population Proximity City	13. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
		Point Range	0-25	0-25	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-1.0	0-1.0	-1-0.0	
7	20-2106 M	Cle Elum Ranger District Sanitation Rentals	21.15	21.15					3.62	7.69	4.08	0	1	0	58.69
8	20-2392 D	Suntop Lookout Accessibility	11.54	13.38	7.85		3.69	4.69	4.46	6.46	4.38	1	1	0	58.46
9	20-2011 M	Capitol and Yacolt State Forests Facilities Maintenance and Operations	19.62	20.38					3.85	8.77	3.69	1	1	0	58.31
10	20-2148 M	Naches Developed and Dispersed Campground Maintenance and Operations	20	20					4.08	7.54	4.08	0	1	0	56.69
11	20-2071 M	Samish Overlook and Lily-Lizard Lakes Campgrounds	17.69	20.38					3.77	8.46	3.46	0	1	0	54.77
12	20-2355 D	Denny Creek and Franklin Falls Parking Lot Expansion	13.15	11.08	6.92		3.31	3.85	3.08	6.62	3.85	1	1	0	53.85
13	20-2020 M	Pomeroy Ranger District Campgrounds, Concentrated Use, and Dispersed Maintenance	19.23	18.46					4.15	7.38	4	0	0	0	53.23

**Nonhighway Road Projects**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	2. Need		4. Project		5.		7. Readiness		8. Predominantly		9. Project		10. Cost-		11. Population		12. Population		13. Growth		Total
			1. Need	Fulfillment	Design	Planning	6. Sustainability	to Proceed	Natural	Support	Benefit	Proximity	Proximity	City	Act	Preference							
			Point Range	0-25	0-25	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-1.0	0-1.0	-1-0.0								
14	20-2185 D	Eagles Nest Vista Development	10.15	11.54	8.31		3.46	4.69	4.15	6.15	3.46	0	1	0	52.92								
15	20-2319 D	Friends Landing Bridge Renovation	11.31	11.54	7.23		3.69	3.77	4	7.08	3.54	0	0	0	52.15								
16	20-2246 M	Skykomish Ranger District Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance	19.23	16.92					4	5.85	4.08	1	1	0	52.08								
17	20-2278 D	Snoqualmie Ranger District Dispersed Campsites	11.31	10.62	6.77		3.46	4	4	6.31	3.23	1	1	0	51.69								
18	20-2307 D	Middle Fork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub Improvements	9.92	10.38	7.23		3.31	3.92	3.92	7.23	3.08	1	1	0	51.00								
19	20-2102 M	Southeast Region Maintenance and Operations North	17.69	18.08					3.62	6.46	3.46	0	1	0	50.31								
20	20-2304 D	Starvation Lake Campground	10.15	11.77	7.54		3.46	4.08	3.77	4.92	3.31	0	0	0	49.00								
21	20-2218 M	Hood Canal District Nonhighway Road Maintenance and Operation	16.54	15.38					3.54	4.92	3.23	0	1	0	44.62								



**Nonhighway Road Projects  
Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need Point Range	2. Need Fulfillment	4. Project Design	5. Planning	6. Sustainability	7. Readiness to Proceed	8. Predominantly Natural	9. Project Support	10. Cost-Benefit	11. Population Proximity County	12. Population Proximity City	13. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
			0-25	0-25	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-1.0	0-1.0	-1-0.0	
22	20-2423 M	Camp Wooten Maintenance Program	14.23	15.77					3.38	3.69	2.77	0	1	0	40.85
23	20-2091 P	Lewis River Corridor Recreation Plan	11.54	8.77		5.23	2.31	1.92	3.92	1.85	2.46	0	0	0	38.00

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-10; RCO staff scores Questions 11-13

Project type: D=Development, M=Maintenance, P=Planning

## Nonhighway Road Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### U.S. Forest Service

**Grant Requested: \$115,400**

#### Patrolling the Snoqualmie Area Front Country

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to hire four summer officers and two volunteers. The presence of uniformed officers will decrease vandalism and other crime and improve staff's ability to respond to visitor needs. The district encompasses 300,000 acres of which more than half are accessible to a broad range of visitors including hikers, equestrians, campers, off-road vehicle riders, target shooters, hunters, and many others. During the past several years, declining budgets and retiring employees have decreased staff's ability to respond to recreation needs. The Forest Service will contribute \$51,000 in staff labor and materials and donated labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2350)

#### U.S. Forest Service

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

#### Maintaining the Colville National Forest

The Colville National Forest will use this grant to hire temporary employees to maintain 42 campgrounds, 92 developed recreation sites and trailheads, and 830 dispersed campsites scattered across the forest. The crews will remove trash, clean toilets, remove hazardous trees and noxious weeds, repair and test water systems, and repair picnic tables, fire rings, signs, and bulletin boards. In addition, crews will connect with visitors. Because the forest is not considered close to an urban area, recreation funding is among the lowest of the national forests in Oregon and Washington. However, the forest is only 50 miles from Spokane, Washington's second largest city. The Forest Service will contribute \$150,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2229)

#### U.S. Forest Service

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

#### Maintaining Methow Valley Camping Areas

The Methow Valley Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain 26 campgrounds, 30 trailheads, 2 picnic areas, and the Washington Pass Scenic Overlook. Crews will clean toilets and campsites, control noxious weeds and remove hazardous trees, operate and maintain water systems, repair picnic tables and fire grates, maintain bulletin boards and visitor information, collect fees, mow, collect garbage, and provide security patrols. The goal is to provide clean, safe, well-maintained campgrounds and trailheads for people engaging in a wide variety of recreation activities including camping, picnicking, sightseeing, scenic driving, and more. The Forest Service will contribute \$274,984 in a federal

## Nonhighway Road Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



appropriation and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2133)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Maintaining Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Camping Areas**

The Entiat Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain camping areas in Chelan County. The ranger district will maintain and repair 7 campgrounds, 100 dispersed camping areas, a rental cabin, two lookout towers, two group sites, and informational signs. In addition, the ranger district will remove hazardous trees and trash, test water sources, and maintain a hand well. An estimated 60,000 campers visit the forest from spring to fall at the same time that funding has decreased 30 percent. The Forest Service will contribute \$80,000 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1964)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Maintaining Cle Elum Ranger District Front Country Areas**

The Cle Elum Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to pay for a six-person crew, volunteers, professional contractors, and partners to maintain 17 campgrounds, 30 trailheads, numerous dispersed camping and day-use sites, 5 boat launches, and 2 rental cabins in Kittitas County. The crews will remove hazardous trees, clean up trash and dumpsites, collect fees, clean restrooms, pump out toilets, and maintain signs and bulletin boards, parking lots, picnic tables, and fire rings. Crews also will protect important habitat next to recreation sites for the many threatened and endangered species in the forest such as spotted owls and bull trout. Because the forest is near Puget Sound, it hosts hundreds of thousands of summer visitors. The Forest Service will contribute \$101,000 in a federal appropriation, a federal grant, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2064)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$118,000**

#### **Maintaining Trailheads, Campgrounds, and Recreation Areas**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to add four staff to maintain trailheads, dispersed recreation sites, and campgrounds. The staff will remove trash, clean restrooms, maintain kiosks and bulletin boards, and remove hazardous trees. More than 1 million people annually visit the district's 26 campgrounds, 52 trailheads, and more than 300 dispersed recreation sites, and visitation continues to grow. The

## Nonhighway Road Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Forest Service will contribute \$82,800 in staff labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2316)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Renting Portable Toilets**

**Grant Requested: \$30,000**

The Cle Elum Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to rent portable toilets for high-use, dispersed camping areas during the summer. Doing so will help protect ecologically sensitive streambanks and threatened and endangered species such as bull trout. Dispersed camping takes place outside of formally constructed campgrounds. These campsites are created by campers, not planned by the Forest Service, and do not usually include amenities such as toilets. The Forest Service will contribute \$3,400 in a federal appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2106)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Making Suntop Lookout Accessible to People with Disabilities**

**Grant Requested: \$35,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to make the Suntop Lookout tower accessible to visitors with varying mobility needs—a first in the nation. An Eagle Scout has taken on the project and will build a trail from the parking lot to the lookout. The grant will pay for the design of the ramp, deck, and door to allow visitors with disabilities to access the cabin at Suntop Lookout. The lookout, which was a fire watch tower from 1934 until 1997, today receives more than 10,000 visitors a year when it's snow-free. The Forest Service will contribute \$15,000 in donated labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2392)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Maintaining Capitol and Yacolt Burn State Forests**

**Grant Requested: \$148,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain campgrounds and facilities in the Capitol and Yacolt Burn State Forests near Olympia and Vancouver as well as other campgrounds and facilities in the department's Pacific Cascade Region. Work will include maintaining McLane Creek nature trails in the Capitol State Forest, cleaning restrooms, pumping vault toilets, repairing and maintaining facilities, and removing litter in campgrounds and trailheads. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$63,500 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2011)

## Nonhighway Road Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Funding a Maintenance Crew in the Naches Ranger District**

The Naches Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to pay for a four-person crew for two summers to maintain its 42 recreation areas. The crew will repair deteriorated tables, bent fire ring grills, broken bulletin boards, and uprooted bollards. In addition, it will preserve site markers, paint signs and restrooms, and fix parking area delineators. Recreation use has been increasing with an estimated 134,400 people visiting the district's developed sites in 2019 for camping, hiking, picnicking, and boating. The Forest Service will contribute \$239,500 in a federal appropriation, equipment, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2148)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$55,962**

#### **Samish Overlook and Lily-Lizard Lakes Campgrounds**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for crews to maintain the Samish Overlook day-use area and Lily and Lizard Lake campgrounds in the Blanchard Forest Block, in Skagit County. The department will hire a maintenance steward and seasonal Washington Conservation Corps crews and support volunteers to remove litter, repair signs, repair and upgrade campsites, clean restrooms, and maintain two, free-flight launch areas. Support for the project comes from a diverse user base including the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the Back Country Horsemen of Washington, free-flight groups, mountain bike groups, and others. These groups donate thousands of hours a year towards the department's recreation maintenance efforts. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$57,438 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2071)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### **Expanding the Denny Creek and Franklin Falls Parking Lot**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to build a parking lot for up to 60 cars and 4 buses, construct a road to connect parking lots, build a small trail to one of the parking lots, and install a new toilet at the Denny Creek-Franklin Falls recreation hub. This expansion is the second phase of a project that built a similar-sized parking lot in 2015. Denny Creek and Franklin Falls are among the most popular recreation destinations in the national forest. More than 90,000 users visit the area in an average summer season. The Forest Service will contribute \$495,000 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2355)

## Nonhighway Road Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$40,000**

#### **Maintaining Pomeroy Ranger District Camping Areas**

The Pomeroy Ranger District in the Umatilla National Forest will use this grant to maintain 13 campgrounds, 5 areas of high use, and dispersed campsites. Work will include pumping out toilets, removing garbage, cleaning fire rings, repairing and painting picnic tables, maintaining feed mangers and hitching rails, and repairing bulletin boards and forest signs. The Forest Service will contribute \$50,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2020)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

**Grant Requested: \$140,000**

#### **Renovating the Eagles Nest Vista in the Ahtanum State Forest**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to renovate and improve safety at the Eagles Nest Vista in the Ahtanum State Forest, about 45 miles west of Yakima. The department will improve a pathway to make it accessible to people with disabilities, renovate a rock wall with interpretive panels, replace an aging kiosk, and rehabilitate short trails at the vista for habitat protection. The work will make the viewpoint accessible as well as improve safety for all visitors. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$53,000 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2185)

#### **Port of Grays Harbor**

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

#### **Repairing the Friends Landing Bridge**

The Port of Grays Harbor will use this grant to repair the supports under a pedestrian bridge on the 1.7-mile walking trail around Lake Quigg at Friends Landing. The bridge crosses an inlet from a slough that connects the Chehalis River to Lake Quigg. The north end of the bridge is supported by exposed pilings that could be damaged by floating logs and debris. The south end of the bridge is supported by a concrete abutment that is being undermined by an eroding bank. The Port will build a deflector to protect the north end of the bridge and replace the concrete abutment at the south end. The Port also will remove two concrete abutments that are no longer supporting the bridge. The Port of Grays Harbor will contribute \$60,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2319)

## Nonhighway Road Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Maintaining Trailheads and Dispersed Campsites**

**Grant Requested: \$123,500**

The Skykomish Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use the grant to fund a recreation crew to maintain and patrol trailheads and dispersed campsites in King and Snohomish Counties. The crew will clean and pump 12 toilets, pick up trash, clean campsites, and maintain trailheads. The work will prevent further damage to wetlands and sensitive areas along streams. There are 25 trailheads and nearly 300 dispersed campsites that serve more than 100,000 hikers, equestrians, campers, anglers, climbers, boaters, and hunters. The Forest Service will contribute \$132,000 in a federal appropriation and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2246)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Developing Dispersed Camping Sites**

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to develop dispersed campsites along three major Forest Service Roads—7000, 7010, and 7030. The ranger district will develop campsites, sign them with the universal camp symbol or a site number, install fire rings and picnic tables, replant bare spots, create parking spaces, and improve paths from the parking spots to the camping site. The work will protect the watershed, provide safe recreational opportunities, and limit damage caused by unregulated camping, such as uncontained campfires, improper disposal of human waste, loss of streambank vegetation, and littering. The Forest Service will contribute \$104,710 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2278)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Improving Trails in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub**

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will use this grant to complete four projects associated with the Middle Fork Trailhead Recreation Hub to improve access and provide enhanced opportunities. The work will include formalizing the trail to Otter Falls/Lipsy Lake, laying a surface on the Middle Fork Connector Trail, improving and expanding the picnic area viewpoint at the Middle Fork Trailhead for people with disabilities, and building a water access point and picnic area with a view of the iconic Middle Fork Bridge. The Middle Fork Snoqualmie River, recently designated as a Wild and Scenic River, is 35 minutes from Seattle. The 110,000-acre valley has been the focus of intense public acquisition, (98 percent is publicly owned), cleanup, and planning for the past 20 years. The Forest Service will contribute \$40,000 in a private grant.



## Nonhighway Road Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2307)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Maintaining Campgrounds in the Southeast Region**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for staff, equipment, and materials to maintain campgrounds in Chelan, Grant, and Kittitas Counties. The crews will clean restrooms, campsites, and day-use areas daily. In addition, the department will use the grant to buy small tools, minor equipment, and maintenance supplies. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$103,000 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2102)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$100,000**

#### **Renovating the Starvation Lake Campground**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to renovate the Starvation Lake Campground in the Little Pend Oreille State Forest. The department will replace crumbling concrete pathways and widen narrow trails to provide safer paths to the boat launch, fishing dock, campsites, and restrooms. In addition, the department will install two new toilets—one in the north loop and the other near the day-use area and fishing dock. The department will convert the campsite closest to the dock into a day-use area with two small picnic shelters and improve the camp host campsite. Starvation Lake has 13 primitive campsites, including a group site. The campground is a popular camping and fishing destination but cannot accommodate the current level of use. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$25,000 in equipment, staff labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2304)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$82,383**

#### **Maintaining Recreation Areas in the Hood Canal District**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain facilities and dispersed camping sites in the Hood Canal District in Mason and Kitsap Counties. Crews will clean restrooms, pump out toilets, remove litter, and maintain signs in day-use areas and dispersed camping sites. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$27,000 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2218)

## Nonhighway Road Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Project Summaries (In Rank Order)




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#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$147,700** **Maintaining Camp Wooten Environmental Learning Center**

State Parks will use this grant to pay for an employee for 2 years to update facilities, conduct invasive weed mitigation, provide fire prevention, and maintain hiking trails, creeks and levees, and facilities at Camp Wooten Environmental Learning Center, in the Umatilla National Forest in southeastern Washington. State Parks' largest Environmental Learning Center, Camp Wooten has extensive recreational opportunities and camping facilities for the public, but staff have been unable to keep up with all the needed maintenance. The goal of this position would be to establish a more manageable maintenance program and a yearly maintenance plan to help care for the park facilities, some of which date back to 1935 when the Civilian Conservation Corps established the location as Camp Pomeroy. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-2423)

#### **U.S. Forest Service      Grant Requested: \$40,000** **Developing a Lewis River Corridor Recreation Plan**

The Mount Adams Ranger District in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest will use this grant to develop a plan on how to manage recreation along a 13-mile stretch of the Lewis River. The ranger district's goal is to spread visitors throughout the corridor and not have them congregate in the Lower Falls Day Use Area, which is the current status. The ranger district is considering developing amenities, visitor information, more parking, and trailheads along the corridor; expanding campgrounds and diversify camping opportunities; and mitigating resource damage at the lower falls. The Forest Service will contribute \$30,000 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-2091)

## Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the NOVA Nonhighway Road 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.

### Nonhighway Road Category Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-2350M Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Maintenance (14) Rank 1
- 20-2229M Colville National Forest Facility Maintenance and Operations (5) Rank 2
- 20-2133M Methow Valley Ranger District Developed Recreation (8) Rank 3
- 20-2064M Cle Elum Ranger District Frontcountry (9) Rank 5
- 20-2316M Wenatchee River Ranger District Developed and Dispersed (1) Rank 6
- 20-2392D Suntop Lookout Accessibility (7) Rank 8
- 20-2011M Capitol and Yacolt State Forests Facilities (42) Rank 9
- 20-2071M Samish Overlook and Lily Lizard Lakes Campgrounds (8) Rank 11
- 20-2355D Denny Creek and Franklin Falls Parking Lot Expansion (5) Rank 12
- 20-2020M Pomeroy Ranger District Campgrounds (6) Rank 13
- 20-2185D Eagles Nest Vista Development (3) Rank 14
- 20-2246M Skykomish Ranger District Trailhead (3) Rank 16
- 20-2278D Snoqualmie Ranger District Dispersed Campsites (7) Rank 17
- 20-2307D Middle Fork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub Improvements (13) Rank 18
- 20-2102M Southeast Region Maintenance and Operations North (4) Rank 19
- 20-2304D Starvation Lake Campground Renovation (1) Rank 20
- 20-2218M Hood Canal District Nonhighway Road (4) Rank 21
- 20-2423M Camp Wooten Maintenance Program (1) Rank 22

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2021-08  
NOVA Program Nonmotorized Category  
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked List of Projects for the 2021-23 Biennium**

**WHEREAS**, for the 2021-23 biennium, twenty-nine Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Nonmotorized category projects are being considered for funding; and

**WHEREAS**, all twenty-nine projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 14, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program*; and

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

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred in open public meetings as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-04-065, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects provide opportunities for recreationists that enjoy nonmotorized trail activities such as horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking and cross-country skiing, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Nonmotorized Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

*Resolution moved by:*

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

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

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

**Table 1: Nonmotorized Category**  
**Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
1	64.23	20-2179 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	Mount Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$95,500	\$245,500
2	63.46	20-2134 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District	Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$154,345	\$304,345
3	62.23	20-2235 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities and Trails Maintenance and Operations	\$117,950	\$118,000	\$235,950
4	61.31	20-2245 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	Wenatchee River Ranger District Wilderness Trail Maintenance and Operations	\$145,000	\$101,000	\$246,000
5	61.00	20-2097 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Capitol Forest Nonmotorized Trail and Facility Maintenance	\$121,000	\$122,000	\$243,000
6	60.46	20-2021 M	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	Pomeroy Ranger District Wilderness and Backcountry Trails Maintenance and Operations	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$150,000
7	60.39	20-2275 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	High Point Trailhead Addition	\$200,000	\$525,000	\$725,000
8	60.15	20-2030 D	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District	Lake Chelan South Shore Access Trail Development	\$117,000	\$78,020	\$195,020
8	60.15	20-2201 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Naches Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operations	\$150,000	\$85,440	\$235,440
10	60.00	20-2057 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	Cle Elum Nonmotorized Trail Maintenance and Operations	\$124,720	\$45,000	\$169,720
11	59.54	20-2195 D	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	Number 2 Canyon Trail System Development Phase 3	\$188,346	\$396,200	\$584,546
12	59.46	20-2234 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District	Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$130,500	\$280,500

**Table 1: Nonmotorized Category**  
**Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
13	59.15	20-2241 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition	\$200,000	\$513,000	\$713,000
14	58.00	20-2028 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	Mountain Loop Trailhead and Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000
15	57.15	20-2070 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities Maintenance and Operations	\$137,200	\$143,600	\$280,800
16	56.85	20-2031 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Raging River State Forest Trail System Completion	\$146,520	\$429,000	\$575,520
17	55.69	20-2038 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Trail Bridges	\$125,000	\$31,300	\$156,300
18	55.54	20-1993 P	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Quincy Lakes Unit Trails Planning	\$189,697	\$50,000	\$239,697
19	54.92	20-2027 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	Canyon Creek Bridge and Pacific Crest Trail Repairs	\$72,000	\$33,000	\$105,000
20	54.69	20-2032 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Stewart Mountain Trail System Phase 1	\$78,000	\$85,000	\$163,000
21	54.00	20-2227 D	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Snoqualmie Ranger District and Mount Rainier National Park Trails Alliance	\$200,000	\$522,792	\$722,792
22	53.69	20-2009 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance	\$150,000	\$100,100	\$250,100
23	53.00	20-2166 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Elbe Hills Nonmotorized System Maintenance	\$140,000	\$114,600	\$254,600
24	52.69	20-2197 D	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Beacon Rock Hamilton Mountain Trail Reroute	\$98,000	\$50,000	\$148,000
25	52.31	20-2111 P	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Mount Spokane State Park Trail System Planning	\$158,000	\$23,000	\$181,000

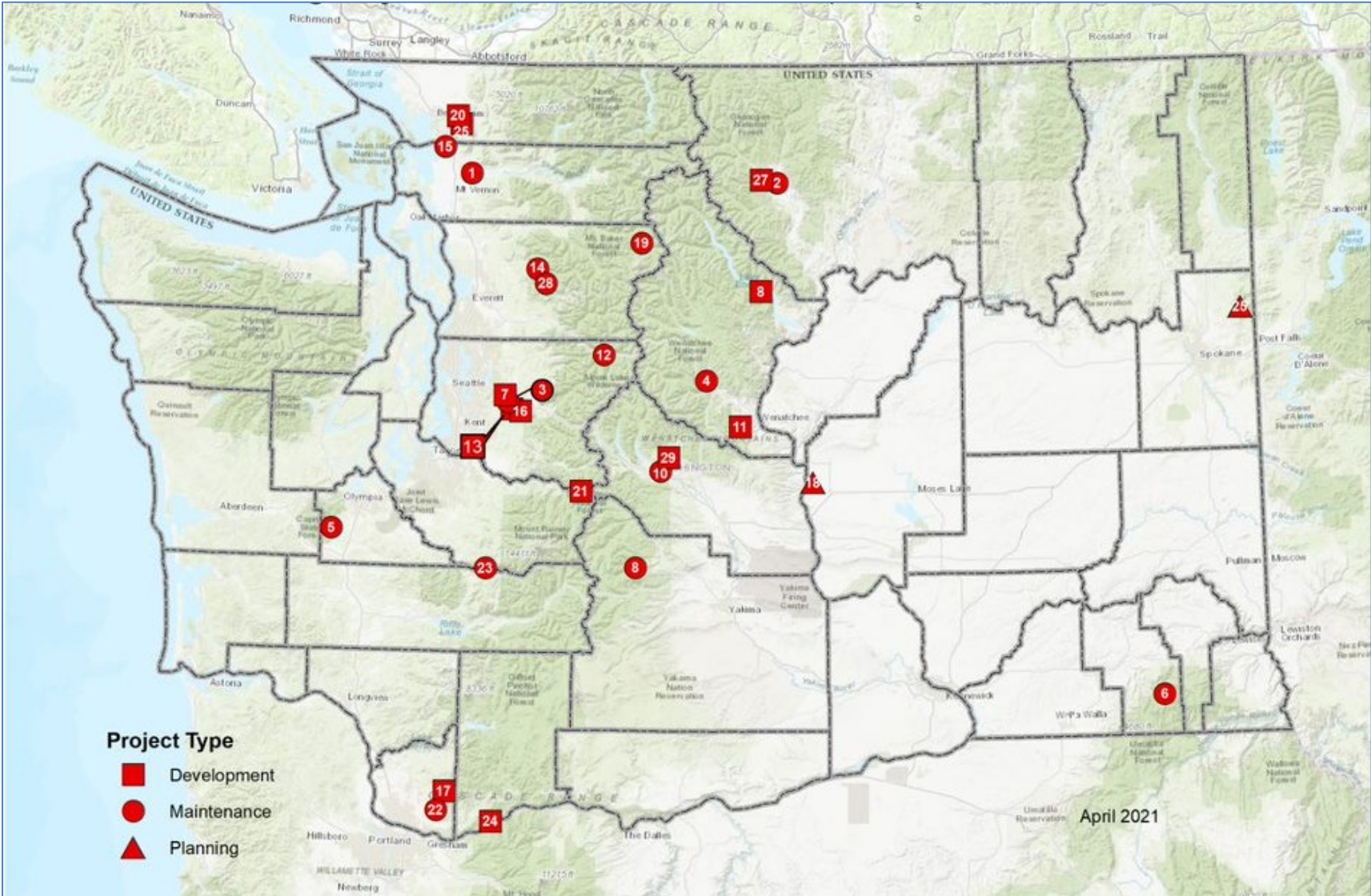
**Table 1: Nonmotorized Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023**

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
25	52.31	20-2172 D	Whatcom County	Lake Whatcom Park Trail Development	\$200,000	\$219,000	\$419,000
27	52.23	20-2033 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Methow Valley Virginian Ridge Access	\$55,000	\$78,000	\$133,000
28	50.77	20-2127 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Morning Star Trail Maintenance	\$55,500	\$56,500	\$112,000
29	49.46	20-2264 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Cheese Rock Trail Bridge Installation	\$43,370	\$45,000	\$88,370
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$3,887,303</b>	<b>\$4,569,897</b>	<b>\$8,457,200</b>

Project type: D=Development, M=Maintenance, P=Planning



# State Map for NOVA Nonmotorized Category Projects



The numbers represent ranked order.

**Nonmotorized Projects  
Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Fulfillment	4. Project Design	5. Planning	6. Sustainability	7. Readiness to Proceed	8. Predominantly Natural	9. Project Support	10. Cost-Benefit	11. Population Proximity County	12. Population Proximity City	13. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
		Point Range	0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-1.0	0-1.0	-1-0.0	
1	20-2179 M	Mount Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance	21.54	22.69					4.85	9.85	4.31	0	1	0	64.23
2	20-2134 M	Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance	23.08	21.92					4.85	9.08	4.54	0	0	0	63.46
3	20-2235 M	Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities and Trails Maintenance and Wenatchee River	22.69	20.77					4.08	8.31	4.38	1	1	0	62.23
4	20-2245 M	Ranger District Wilderness Trail Capitol Forest	23.08	21.15					4.77	6.92	4.38	0	1	0	61.31
5	20-2097 M	Nonmotorized Trail and Facility Maintenance Pomeroy Ranger District	20.38	21.15					3.77	9.54	4.15	1	1	0	61.00
6	20-2021 M	Wilderness and Backcountry Trails Maintenance	21.92	20.77					4.77	7.69	4.31	0	1	0	60.46
7	20-2275 D	High Point Trailhead Addition	12.69	13.15	9.08		4	3.77	3.38	8.62	3.69	1	1	0	60.38

**Nonmotorized Projects  
Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Fulfillment	4. Project Design	5. Planning	6. Sustainability	7. Readiness to Proceed	8. Predominantly Natural	9. Project Support	10. Cost-Benefit	11. Population Proximity County	12. Population Proximity City	13. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
		Point Range	0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-1.0	0-1.0	-1-0.0	
8	20-2030 D	Lake Chelan South Shore Access Trail Development	12.69	12.69	9.23		4	4.31	4.46	8.46	4.31	0	0	0	60.15
8	20-2201 M	Naches Wilderness Trails Maintenance and Operations	21.15	21.54					5	7.54	3.92	0	1	0	60.15
10	20-2057 M	Cle Elum Nonmotorized Trail	21.15	21.15					4.46	8.62	4.62	0	0	0	60.00
11	20-2195 D	Number 2 Canyon Trail System	11.08	12.46	8.62		4.08	4.62	4.08	9.08	4.54	0	1	0	59.54
12	20-2234 M	Skykomish Ranger District Trail	20.38	20.77					4.69	7.54	4.08	1	1	0	59.46
13	20-2241 D	Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition	13.38	11.77	8.31		4.15	4	3.38	8.31	3.85	1	1	0	59.15
14	20-2028 M	Mountain Loop Trailhead and Trail Maintenance	21.15	20.77					4.54	5.23	4.31	1	1	0	58.00
15	20-2070 M	Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities	19.62	20.38					4	8.46	3.69	0	1	0	57.15

**Nonmotorized Projects  
Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Project Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Fulfillment	4. Project Design	5. Planning	6. Sustainability	7. Readiness to Proceed	8. Predominantly Natural	9. Project Support	10. Cost-Benefit	11. Population Proximity County	12. Population Proximity City	13. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
		Point Range	0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-1.0	0-1.0	-1-0.0	
16	20-2031 D	Raging River State Forest Trail System Completion	11.54	11.77	8.46		4	4.23	3.38	7.69	3.77	1	1	0	56.85
17	20-2038 D	Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Trail Bridges	10.85	11.77	7.85		3.92	4.31	3.85	7.38	3.77	1	1	0	55.69
18	20-1993 P	Quincy Lakes Unit Trails Planning	12	12		7.23	3.54	4	4.08	8	3.69	0	1	0	55.54
19	20-2027 M	Canyon Creek Bridge and Pacific Crest Trail Repairs	18.46	21.92					4.92	4.77	3.85	1	0	0	54.92
20	20-2032 D	Stewart Mountain Trail System Phase 1	11.54	11.08	7.54		3.46	3.46	3.77	9.08	3.77	0	1	0	54.69
21	20-2227 D	Snoqualmie Ranger District and Mount Rainier National Park Trails Alliance	10.38	10.85	6.92		3.77	4.46	4.54	7.54	3.54	1	1	0	54.00
22	20-2009 M	Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance	18.08	19.62					3.85	7.69	3.46	0	1	0	53.69
23	20-2166 M	Elbe Hills Nonmotorized System Maintenance	18.08	18.85					3.92	6.77	3.38	1	1	0	53.00

**Nonmotorized Projects  
Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Project Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Fulfillment	4. Project Design	5. Planning	6. Sustainability	7. Readiness to Proceed	8. Predominantly Natural	9. Project Support	10. Cost-Benefit	11. Population Proximity County	12. Population Proximity City	13. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
		Point Range	0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-1.0	0-1.0	-1-0.0	
24	20-2197 D	Beacon Rock Hamilton Mountain	11.77	12	8		3.85	3.46	4.08	5.54	3	0	1	0	52.69
25	20-2111 P	Trail Reroute Mount Spokane State Park Trail	10.38	10.38		6.77	3.38	4.23	3.69	8.46	3	1	1	0	52.31
25	20-2172 D	Svstem Planning Lake Whatcom Park Trail Development	10.62	10.62	7.23		3.62	3.69	3.85	8.77	2.92	0	1	0	52.31
27	20-2033 D	Methow Valley Virginian Ridge Access	9.92	11.31	7.38		3.85	3.77	4.08	7.69	4.23	0	0	0	52.23
28	20-2127 M	Morning Star Trail Maintenance	17.69	18.08					4.15	5.69	3.15	1	1	0	50.77
29	20-2264 D	Cheese Rock Trail Bridge Installation	9.69	10.85	6.15		3.62	4	3.92	6.77	3.46	0	1	0	49.46

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-10; RCO staff scores Questions 11-12  
Project type: D=Development, M=Maintenance, P=Planning



## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **U.S. Forest Service**

#### **Maintaining Mount Baker Trails**

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

The Mount Baker Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to maintain 100 miles of wilderness and trails for non-motorized activities in Skagit and Whatcom Counties. Crews will remove fallen trees and overgrown brush, fix drainage structures, maintain trail surfaces, and repair boardwalks, retaining walls, and small bridges. The crews will focus on protecting natural resources and improving visitor safety. Work will occur in the Mount Baker, Noisy-Diobsud, and Glacier Peak Wildernesses, as well as in the Mount Baker National Recreation Area. About 200,000 visitors use these areas for hiking, backpacking, climbing, horseback riding, running, hunting, fishing, gathering, photography, and wildlife viewing. The Forest Service will contribute \$95,500 in a federal appropriation and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2179)

#### **U.S. Forest Service**

#### **Maintaining Methow Valley Trails**

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

The Methow Valley Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund a four-person crew plus pack support for two seasons to maintain trails in the Pasayten Wilderness, Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, and surrounding backcountry areas. The crew will work on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the Rainy Lake Trail, and popular hikes in the scenic north Cascades Mountains. The crew will remove fallen trees, repair trail surfaces and drainage structures, control erosion, and remove overgrown brush. The area is a highly sought-after destination with nearly 50 percent of visitors traveling more than 100 miles to get there. The area is used for hiking, horseback riding, and some mountain biking. The Forest Service will contribute \$154,345 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2134)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

#### **Caring for Snoqualmie Corridor Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$117,950**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund staff time, materials, and agreements with partners to maintain more than 150 miles of trails, 4 trailheads, and 2 day-use areas in multiple areas in eastern King County, outside North Bend. Work will be done in the West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area, Tiger Mountain and Raging River State Forests, Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area, and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Area. The work will be done on trails for non-motorized uses such as

## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



hiking, biking, horseback riding, rock climbing, and paragliding. The trails in this area are among Washington's most frequented, offering year-round recreational opportunities to the 4 million residents of the Puget Sound metropolitan area. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$118,000 in staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2235)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$145,000**

#### **Maintaining Wilderness Trails in the Wenatchee River Ranger District**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to help fund a four- to six-person crew to maintain some of the more than 500 miles of wilderness trails in Chelan County. The crew will remove fallen trees and overgrown brush, repair drainage structures and bridges, and fix trail surfaces. The grant also will be used to buy small tools, minor equipment, and stock animals to support the crew. The trails are used by hikers, climbers, mountain bikers, backpackers, horseback riders, and other outdoor enthusiasts. The Forest Service will contribute \$101,000 in staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2245)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$121,000**

#### **Maintaining Capitol Forest Trails and Facilities**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an equipment operator and seasonal crews to maintain 77 miles of trails, trailheads, and facilities in Capitol State Forest near Olympia. The crews will remove overgrowth brush, maintain culverts (large pipes and other structures that carry streams under roads), build grade reversals, re-shape eroded sections of trail, harden trail surfaces, and repair bridges, kiosks, and signs. The crews also will maintain restrooms, campsites, parking areas, and signs. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$122,000 in staff labor and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2097)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$75,000**

#### **Maintaining Wilderness and Backcountry Trails**

The Pomeroy Ranger District will use this grant to maintain wilderness trails in the Umatilla National Forest. Crews will remove fallen trees and overgrown brush, repair trail surfaces, maintain drainage structures, and inspect and maintain trail bridges. The work will allow continued public access, enhance safety, and protect natural resources. The work will be done in the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness and the Wenatchee backcountry, which are the only wilderness-backcountry areas in the southeast corner of Washington. The communities in



## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Asotin, Columbia, and Garfield Counties rely on the many visitors who come to the area to ride horses, hike, backpack, hunt, and fish. The Forest Service will contribute \$75,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2021)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Renovating the High Point Trailhead**

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to create a formal entry, expand parking, and add a shuttle stop and school bus loading zone, picnic area, toilet, and kiosks at the High Point Trailhead in the West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area in King County. The department will nearly double the parking to 158 parking spaces and build roads to trails and public lands on both sides of Interstate 90. The work will better accommodate the high use, improve safety, and reduce unauthorized camping and dumping at the forest's entry. The trailhead provides access to hiking trails and environmental education facilities in West Tiger Mountain, to the Issaquah-managed Tradition Plateau, and to regional hiking and mountain biking trails in King County-managed Grand Ridge Park. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$525,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, a state grant, and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2275)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Developing the Lake Chelan South Shore Access Trail**

**Grant Requested: \$117,000**

The Chelan Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to develop 4.3 miles of hiking trail accessible by both car and boat along the south shore of Lake Chelan. The proposed route will allow visitors to hike down a ridge with expansive views to a camping area on the shoreline. Visitors would be able to hike beyond the developed areas of lower Lake Chelan without taking a ferry. The Chelan area sees more than 2 million visitors a year. This route allows day and overnight hiking with a true wilderness feel. The route starts high above the shore. After a descent through rocky terrain, the route reaches a tranquil camping spot, tucked among trees and cliffs with swimming holes nearby. Kayakers and canoers also could pull in at the campsite with the opportunity for easy hikes. The Forest Service will contribute \$78,020 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2030)

## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Maintaining Naches Wilderness Trails**

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

The Naches Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund a four-person crew and volunteers to maintain 360 miles of wilderness trails for 2 years. The crew will clear logs and brush, restore trail surfaces and drainage, and build and maintain trail structures and signs. The work will decrease damage to the environment, increase safety, minimize conflicts between users, and extend the life of the trails. Located in Yakima County, the trail system offers scenic hiking and horseback riding through old-growth forests and alpine meadows with stunning vistas that include Mount Rainier and Mount Adams. The trails are used by an estimated 35,000 to 40,000 visitors annually. The Forest Service will contribute \$85,440 in a federal appropriation and a grant from the state Recreational Trails Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2201)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Maintaining Trails in the Cle Elum Ranger District**

**Grant Requested: \$124,720**

The Cle Elum Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund a four- to six-person crew to clear logs and brush, restore trail surfaces and drainage, construct and maintain trail structures, and build, install, and maintain trail signs along 326 miles of trails for non-motorized activities such as hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, and camping. In addition, the crew will tackle some backlog maintenance. The Forest Service will contribute \$45,000 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2057)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Developing Part of Number 2 Canyon Trail System**

**Grant Requested: \$188,346**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to build 6 miles of trail and a trailhead with a kiosk, picnic tables, and a toilet, as the third of four phases of development of the Number 2 Canyon Trail System, about 4 miles west of Wenatchee. In addition, the ranger district will decommission an old trail to improve habitat and install a day-use shelter and signs. When complete, the trail system will have more than 30 miles of trail for nonmotorized activities such as mountain biking, hiking, horseback riding, and trail running. The final phase will include building a mountain bike skill trail area for youth and beginners and another trailhead to accommodate horses. The Forest Service will contribute \$396,200 in staff labor, local and federal grants, and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2195)

## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### U.S. Forest Service

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

#### Maintaining Skykomish Ranger District Trails

The Skykomish Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to fund trail crews, contractors, and coordination of volunteer groups to maintain 144 miles of trails for 2 years. These trails include hiker and stock trails. Crews will remove fallen trees and overgrown brush, fix drainage structures, repair bridges, restore slide areas, remove boulders, and improve trail surfaces. Crews also will move a heavily eroded segment of Blanca Lake Trail. The trail system traverses the Alpine Lakes, Henry M. Jackson, and Wild Sky Wildernesses and their adjacent backcountry areas and includes the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and the Iron Goat Trail in the Stevens Pass Historic District. An estimated 200,000 visitors a year use the trails that wind through old-growth forests, along subalpine lakes and meadows, and near wild creeks and rivers. The Forest Service will contribute \$130,500 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2234)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### Renovating and Expanding the Tiger Summit Trailhead

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to renovate and expand the Tiger Summit Trailhead in Tiger Mountain State Forest in King County. The department will triple the parking capacity to 158 parking spaces with 6 spaces for horse trailers, add a toilet and refurbish a second one, and add two picnic areas, information kiosks, an equestrian mounting ramp, and a shuttle stop. With 250,000 visits annually, the existing 50-car gravel parking lot doesn't accommodate current use, forcing people to park along State Route 18 and county roads. The additional parking will provide access to more than 50 miles of mountain biking, equestrian, and hiking trails, and a soon-to-be constructed shelter with views of Mount Rainier and the Cascades Mountains. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$513,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, a state grant, and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2241)

#### U.S. Forest Service

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

#### Maintaining the Mountain Loop Trail

The Darrington Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to fund a supervisor and two seasonal employees for 2 years to maintain 21 trailheads, trails and dispersed campsites along the Mountain Loop Byway in the north Cascade Mountains. The Mountain Loop takes more than 100,000 visitors through the South Fork Stillaguamish River and Sauk River valleys. The combination of both easy and hard hikes, along with high mountain

## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



lakes, stunning vistas, and unique natural features has long made this a favorite with Seattle and Everett hikers, backpackers, picnickers, campers, hunters, and anglers. In addition to maintenance, the supervisor will be responsible for coordinating volunteers. The Forest Service will contribute \$150,000 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2028)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$137,200**

#### **Maintaining Trails in Blanchard and Harry Osborne State Forests**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a maintenance steward and seasonal Washington Conservation Corps crews to maintain trails and trailheads in the Blanchard State Forest and Harry Osborne State Forest in Skagit County. The crews will remove litter and maintain parking areas, restrooms, and signs. The crews also will re-contour trails, apply materials to harden trails, maintain culverts and other drainage structures, and inspect and maintain bridges. This work will protect natural resources, improve the life expectancy of recreational assets, and preserve safe and enjoyable recreation opportunities. Support for the project comes from the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the Back Country Horsemen of Washington, free-flight groups, mountain bike groups, and others who provide thousands of hours a year of maintenance. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$143,600 in 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](#). (20-2070)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$146,520**

#### **Completing the Raging River State Forest Trail System**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to build 10 miles of trail in the Raging River State Forest, completing a 45-mile trail system about 20 miles east of Seattle. The new trails will give visitors a safer alternative to using service roads, further develop important missing trail links, and provide downhill mountain biking trails and additional trail access mostly in the southern zone for horse riders and hikers. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$429,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, a state grant, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2031)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$125,000**

#### **Building Trail Bridges**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to build five trail bridges in western Yacolt Burn State Forest, about 10 miles northeast of Vancouver. The Tarbell Trail system and the Bells Mountain Trail have about 38 bridges that are more than 20 years old with several

## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



showing signs of failing substructures. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$31,300 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2038)

#### Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Planning Trails in the Quincy Lakes Unit

**Grant Requested: \$189,697**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to develop a trails management plan for its Quincy Lakes Unit. The unit boasts views of a rugged landscape resulting from the massive forces of the Ice Age floods. Visitors have created trails over time, resulting in a complicated trail network, with many trails having no particular destination and others causing navigation challenges. Still other trails cross private land and some damage natural resources. The department will designate a trail system, produce digital maps, and develop plans for signs and kiosks to help people navigated complex trails. The unit is used by hikers, bikers, and horseback riders. The Department of Fish and Wildlife will contribute \$50,000 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1993)

#### U.S. Forest Service Repairing the Canyon Creek Suspension Bridge

**Grant Requested: \$72,000**

The Darrington Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to replace decking, railing, and stringers on the Canyon Creek suspension bridge in the Glacier Peak Wilderness. The bridge provides safe passage for stock and hikers on the Suiattle River Trail, which provides access to the Pacific Crest Trail, one of two trails to do so in the Darrington Ranger District. The bridge spans a narrow, 80-foot-wide gorge, which is unsafe to cross in the spring and summer because of high water levels. The bridge's decking and most of the railing are deteriorating. The Forest Service will contribute \$33,000 in materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2027)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Planning the Development of Stewart Mountain Trails

**Grant Requested: \$78,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to complete initial work to plan construction of a trailhead and renovation and development of 7 miles of trail in the Stewart Mountain area, about 3 miles northeast of Bellingham. The department's plan is to renovate trail segments and build new trails to transform a disconnected, unsanctioned network into an official trail system for mountain biking, hiking, and horseback riding. This grant will pay to prepare schematic site plans, land and geo-tech surveys, site analysis, and state Environmental Policy Act compliance. The new trail system will provide a safer alternative to using service roads

## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



and will provide trail loops for users with different skill levels. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$85,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2032)

#### U.S. Forest Service

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### Joining Agencies to Repair Mount Rainier Trails

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, partnering with Mount Rainier National Park, will use this grant to repair trails where their lands connect. The agencies and other partners will complete highly technical trail work on a landscape long in need of work and on a trail that falls outside of any fee-associated area. The two agencies will replace a foot bridge and repair trail surfaces and drainage along 1 mile of the Naches Peak Loop trail. In addition, the two agencies will replace an 80-foot-long footbridge on the Greenwater Lakes Trail, replace two stock bridges damaged beyond repair by wildfire in the Norse Peak Wilderness, and repair trail surfaces along Deep Creek, Ranger Creek, and the Palisades Trails that also were affected by wildfire. Additional maintenance work will be done along trails shared between the two agencies, such as the Huckleberry Creek Trail and West Boundary Trail. The Forest Service will contribute \$522,792 in equipment, staff labor, materials, a grant from the federal Recreational Trails Program, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2227)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

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

#### Maintaining Trails and Facilities in the Pacific Cascade Region

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a natural resource technician and crew to maintain trails and trailheads for non-motorized uses in the Pacific Cascade Region in southwest Washington. The crew will remove overgrown brush, maintain drainage structures, lay gravel on trails, inspect and maintain bridges, and move small sections of trail. In addition, the crew will remove litter and maintain restrooms, signs, and other facility structures. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$100,100 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2009)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

**Grant Requested: \$140,000**

#### Maintaining Trails in Elbe Hills State Forest

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a recreation maintenance specialist, equipment operator, and a Washington Conservation Corps crew to maintain trails and facilities in Elbe Hills State Forest in Pierce County. The crew will work on 40 miles of trails



## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



for horses and hikers, 7 day-use areas, 3 trailheads, and 1 campground. The crew will remove overgrown brush and fallen trees, repair rutted trail surfaces, and maintain drainage structures, while using mostly hand tools. In addition, the crew will maintain signs and kiosks, paint structures, and maintain restrooms and campsites. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$114,600 in equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2166)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$98,000**

#### **Moving a Section of the Beacon Rock Hamilton Mountain Trail**

State Parks will use this grant to move a half-mile of trail and formalize other social trails on the Beacon Rock Hamilton Mountain Trail. The trail, near Vancouver, includes spectacular views of the Columbia River Gorge. State Parks will improve the trail surface to be a consistent 10 percent grade and will link a rerouted portion of the trail to the Hardy Creek Trail to create a loop. The reroute will eliminate 12 switchbacks with very uneven grades that were damaged by erosion. The work also will reduce maintenance and prevent the need to build expensive retaining walls and install new surfacing. State Parks will close some social trails and formalize others to prevent trampling of vulnerable "balds," which are rocky, open areas covered with fragile mosses, herbs, and rare plants and which people often use for resting and picnicking. State Parks will contribute \$50,000 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2197)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$158,000**

#### **Designing a Trail System in Mount Spokane State Park**

State Parks will use this grant to design and create construction documents for a trailhead in Mount Spokane State Park. In addition, State Parks will assess trail conditions and begin a public planning process to determine how best to integrate new technologies such as e-bikes and address trail density and recreation impacts on the fragile alpine habitat. The 14,000-acre Mount Spokane State Park is 23 miles from Spokane, the second largest metropolitan area in Washington, and serves 385,000 visitors a year. The park has 100 miles of biking, hiking, and horse trails, an alpine ski resort, and 32 miles of groomed cross-country and snowshoeing trails. Its popularity has led to trail crowding, limited parking, and the potential for friction between user groups. State Parks will contribute \$23,000 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2111)



## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### Whatcom County

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### Developing the Lake Whatcom Park Trail

The Whatcom County Parks & Recreation Department will use this grant to build up to 6 miles of foot, horse, and bike trail at Lake Whatcom Park near Bellingham. The trail provides a spectacular loop connection between the iconic Hertz Trail along the shoreline of Lake Whatcom and the new Chanterelle Trail. Lake Whatcom Park encompasses 4,800 acres of forest along the eastern shore of Lake Whatcom. The park has 11.5 miles of trail with plans for an additional 30 miles. Whatcom County will contribute \$219,000 in cash, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2172)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

**Grant Requested: \$55,000**

#### Renovating the Methow Valley's Virginian Ridge Trails

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to renovate three informal trailhead parking areas, develop a path accessible to people with disabilities to a new viewpoint shelter, provide river access, and renovate a 15-mile trail system in the Virginian Ridge area, about 5 miles west of Winthrop. The department will restore areas with resource damage, rebuild and renovate trail segments, and build new trails in an effort to transform a disconnected and unsanctioned network into an official trail system. The official trail system will have trails for mountain biking, hiking, and equestrian use, and a section where cars can drive to a short path to a viewpoint. This project is supported by the Methow Valley Trails Collaborative, which is a group of nonprofits, user groups, and agencies working to guide the organization of valley-wide trail projects. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$78,000 in a state appropriation, staff labor, and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2033)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

**Grant Requested: \$55,500**

#### Caring for the Morning Star Trail

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund part of an employee and supplies to manage maintenance of trails in the Morning Star Natural Resources Conservation Area in east Snohomish County. The crews will work at Ashland Lakes, Boulder-Greider Landscape, Cutthroat Lakes, and Bald Mountain. They will re-contour trails, harden trail surfaces, maintain drainage structures, inspect and maintain bridges, remove trash, and maintain parking areas, restrooms, and signs. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$56,500 in a state appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2127)

## Nonmotorized Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



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#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

##### Installing a Bridge on Cheese Rock Trail

**Grant Requested: \$43,370**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to install a 50-foot-long bridge over Carlson Creek, providing safe access on the Cheese Rock Trail and to an overlook in Kittitas County. The half-mile Cheese Rock Trail is one of the most impressive viewpoints in the Teanaway Community Forest but users must wade across Carlson Creek to reach the trailhead. This poses a danger to people during high flows and a danger to water quality, streamside habitat, and the animals that live in the creek. Carlson Creek is a tributary of the West Fork Teanaway River, which supports Chinook salmon and steelhead and cutthroat trout. The bridge will provide access to this popular trail near the highly trafficked Teanaway Campground. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$45,000 in materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2264)

## Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the NOVA Nonmotorized 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.

### Nonmotorized Category Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-2179M Mount Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance (11) Rank 1
- 20-2134M Methow Valley Ranger District Trail Maintenance (11) Rank 2
- 20-2235M Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities and Trails Maintenance (5) Rank 3
- 20-2021M Pomeroy Ranger District Wilderness and Backcountry Trails (6) Rank 6
- 20-2275D High Point Trailhead Addition (8) Rank 7
- 20-2030D Lake Chelan South Shore Access Trail Development (6) Rank 8
- 20-2234M Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance (4) Rank 12
- 20-2241D Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition (8) Rank 13
- 20-2070M Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities Maintenance (9) Rank 15
- 20-2031D Raging River State Forest Trail System Completion (3) Rank 16
- 20-2038D Pacific Cascades Non-Motorized Trail Bridges (5) Rank 17
- 20-2027M Canyon Creek Bridge and Pacific Crest Trail Repairs (1) Rank 19
- 20-2032D Stewart Mountain Trail System (13) Rank 20
- 20-2009M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance (4) Rank 22
- 20-2166M Elbe Hills Nonmotorized System Maintenance (8) Rank 23
- 20-2033D Methow Valley Virginian Ridge Access (4) Rank 27
- 20-2127M Morning Star Trail Maintenance (3) Rank 28
- 20-2264D Cheese Rock Trail Bridge Installation (4) Rank 29

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2021-09  
NOVA Program Off-Road Vehicle Category  
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked List of Projects for the 2021-23 Biennium**

**WHEREAS**, for the 2021-23 biennium, twenty-seven Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Off-Road Vehicle category projects are being considered for funding; and

**WHEREAS**, all twenty-seven projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 14, *Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program*; and

**WHEREAS**, these Off-Road Vehicle category projects were evaluated by thirteen members of the NOVA Advisory Committee using Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation criteria, thereby supporting the board's strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred in open public meetings as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-04-065, thereby supporting the board's strategy to ensure that its work is conducted with integrity and in a fair and open manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects provide opportunities for recreationists that enjoy motorized off-road activities, including motorcycling and riding all-terrain and four-wheel drive vehicles on trails and in competition sport parks, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked list of projects depicted in *Table 1 – Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Off-Road Vehicle Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

*Resolution moved by:*

*Resolution seconded by:*

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:*

**Table 1: Off-Road Vehicle Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
1	59.08	20-2104 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations	\$198,500	\$199,000	\$397,500
2	56.92	20-1965 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	Entiat and Chelan Multiuse Trail Maintenance and Operations	\$199,500	\$137,000	\$336,500
3	56.69	20-2212 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Walker Valley Off-Road Vehicle Trails Maintenance and Operation	\$199,000	\$333,500	\$532,500
4	56.54	20-2060 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	South Zone Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance	\$188,000	\$21,000	\$209,000
5	56.00	20-2058 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District	North Zone Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance	\$191,500	\$21,600	\$213,100
5	56.00	20-2306 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Capitol Forest Off-Road Vehicle Bridge Replacement	\$157,000	\$45,000	\$202,000
7	55.46	20-2161 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Capitol Forest Off-Road Vehicle Trail and Facility Maintenance	\$195,500	\$84,550	\$280,050
8	54.54	20-2259 M	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Riverside Off-Road Vehicle Area Maintenance and Operations	\$139,976	\$90,840	\$230,816
9	54.31	20-2409 M	Northwest Motorcycle Association	Northwest Motorcycle Association Heavy Maintenance Crew Statewide Maintenance	\$198,143	\$26,760	\$224,903
10	53.77	20-2156 M	U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Cowlitz Valley Ranger District	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Motorized Trails Operations and Maintenance	\$153,950	\$159,389	\$313,339
11	53.23	20-2337 M	Grant County	Grant County Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance and Operation	\$40,000	\$36,000	\$76,000
12	52.31	20-2039 D	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Jones Creek Off-Road Vehicle Trailhead Expansion	\$124,900	\$125,000	\$249,900
12	52.31	20-2170 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operations	\$150,000	\$162,000	\$312,000

**Table 1: Off-Road Vehicle Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Rod Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
14	52.08	20-2022 M	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	Pomeroy Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operations	\$50,000	\$58,000	\$108,000
15	51.92	20-2136 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District	Methow Valley Ranger District Motorized Trail Maintenance	\$79,111	\$54,965	\$134,076
15	51.92	20-2194 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Snoqualmie Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle and Motorized Recreation	\$200,000	\$116,000	\$316,000
17	51.46	20-2152 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Ahtanum Off-Road Vehicle Facilities and Trail Maintenance	\$200,000	\$68,500	\$268,500
18	51.31	20-1997 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Straits Off-Road Vehicle Trail and Facility Maintenance	\$163,008	\$111,508	\$274,516
19	49.85	20-2010 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance	\$199,500	\$85,600	\$285,100
20	49.00	20-2082 M	Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance	Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance 2 Track Heavy Maintenance Crew	\$199,977	\$18,468	\$218,445
21	48.77	20-2164 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Elbe Hills Off-Road Vehicle System Maintenance	\$182,000	\$131,000	\$313,000
22	46.23	20-2402 M	Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance	Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance 2-Track Volunteer Support	\$61,704	\$15,800	\$77,504
23	46.00	20-2248 P	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Elbe Hills Off-Road Vehicle Trail System Expansion Planning	\$38,000	\$26,000	\$64,000
24	44.54	20-2250 M	U.S Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee River Ranger District	Wenatchee River Ranger District Front Country and Multiuse Trails Maintenance and Operations	\$103,000	\$72,400	\$175,400
25	44.39	20-1983 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Tahuya 4x4 Trails Maintenance and Operation	\$146,521	\$97,500	\$244,021

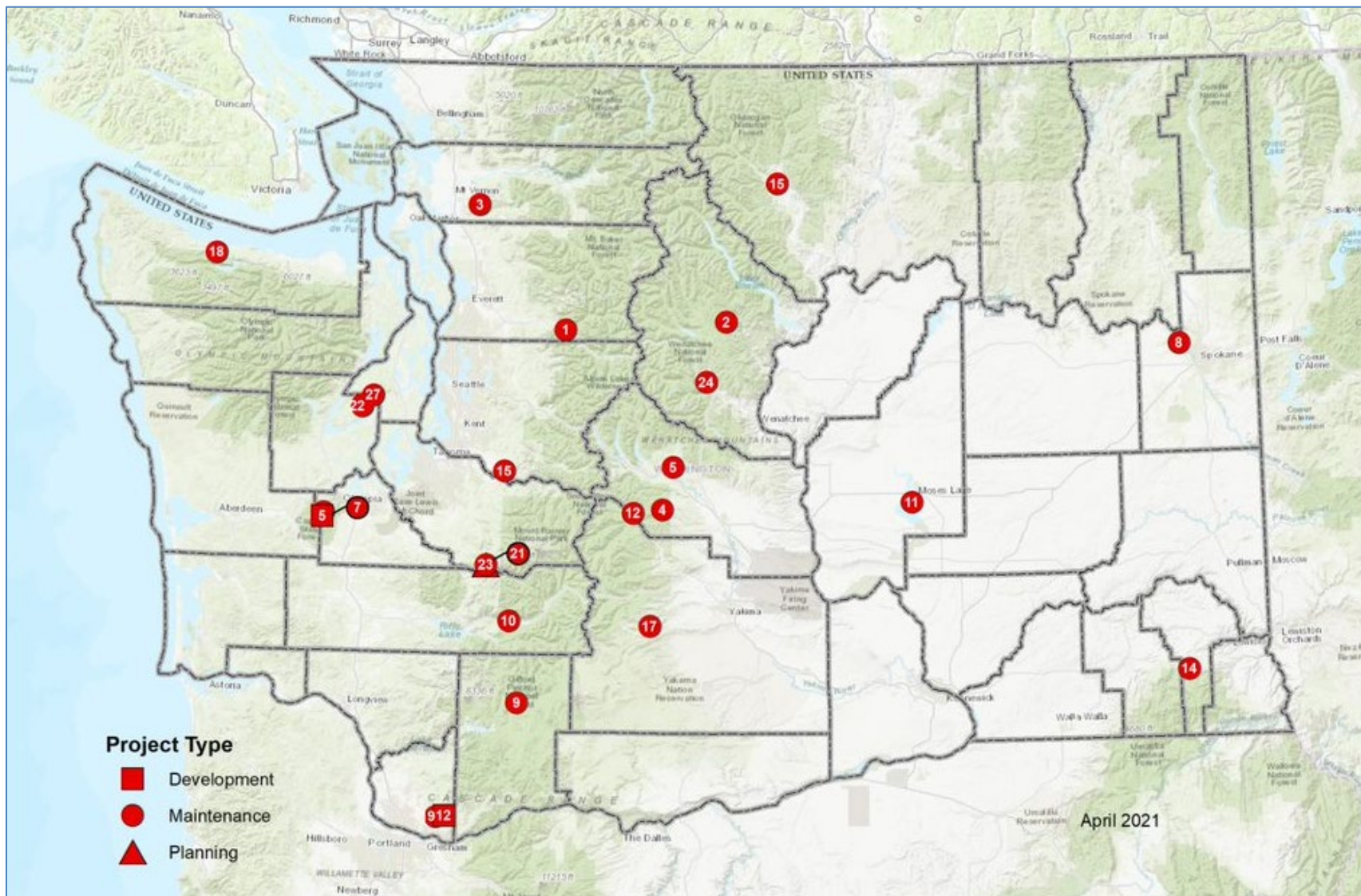
**Table 1: Off-Road Vehicle Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Nonhighway and Off-Rod Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
26	43.85	20-1957 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Tahuya and Green Mountain Trail and Facilities Maintenance	\$200,000	\$153,250	\$353,250
27	36.23	20-2003 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Tahuya and Green Mountain Water Quality	\$107,480	\$31,375	\$138,855
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$4,066,270</b>	<b>\$2,482,005</b>	<b>\$6,548,275</b>

Project type: D=Development, M=Maintenance, P=Planning



### State Map for NOVA Program Off-Road Vehicle Category Projects



The numbers represent ranked order.

**Off-Road Vehicle Projects  
Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type		1. Need		2. Need Fulfillment		4. Project Design		5. Planning		6. Sustainability		7. Readiness to Proceed		8. Project Support		9. Cost-Benefit		10. Population Proximity County		11. Population Proximity City		12. Growth Management Act Preference		Total
	Point Range	0-25	0-25	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-1.0	0-1.0	-1-0.0											
1	20-2104 M	Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations	21.54	22.31									9.54	3.69	1	1	0	59.08							
2	20-1965 M	Entiat and Chelan Multiuse Trail Maintenance and	21.92	21.54									8.31	4.15	0	1	0	56.92							
3	20-2212 M	Walker Valley Off-Road Vehicle Trails Maintenance	21.15	21.15									9.08	4.31	0	1	0	56.69							
4	20-2060 M	South Zone Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance	21.92	21.54									8.92	4.15	0	0	0	56.54							
5	20-2306 D	Capitol Forest Off-Road Vehicle Bridge	12	12.23	8.62		4	3.77					9.54	3.85	1	1	0	56.00							
5	20-2058 M	North Zone Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance	20.77	21.15									8.92	4.15	0	1	0	56.00							
7	20-2161 M	Capitol Forest Off-Road Vehicle Trail and Facility Maintenance	20.38	19.62									9.38	4.08	1	1	0	55.46							
8	20-2259 M	Riverside Off-Road Vehicle Area Maintenance and Northwest Motorcycle	20.77	20.38									7.54	3.85	1	1	0	54.54							
9	20-2409 M	Association Heavy Maintenance Crew	20.38	20.38									8.62	3.92	0	1	0	54.31							
10	20-2156 M	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Motorized Trails	20.77	21.54									6.92	4.54	0	0	0	53.77							
11	20-2337 M	Grant County Off-Road Vehicle Maintenance and	21.15	21.54									6.31	4.23	0	0	0	53.23							

**Off-Road Vehicle Projects  
Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	2. Need		4. Project		6. Sustainability	7. Readiness to Proceed	8. Project Support	9. Cost-Benefit	10. Population Proximity	11. Population Proximity City	12. Growth Management	Total
			1. Need	Fulfillment	Design	5. Planning					County	Act Preference		
		<b>Point Range</b>	<b>0-25</b>	<b>0-25</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-1.0</b>	<b>0-1.0</b>	<b>-1-0.0</b>	
12	20-2039 D	Jones Creek Off-Road Vehicle Trailhead Expansion	11.77	11.77	7.85		3.54	4.08	7.38	3.92	1	1	0	52.31
12	20-2170 M	Naches Motorized Trails Maintenance and Operations	20.38	19.62					8	4.31	0	0	0	52.31
14	20-2022 M	Pomeroy Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle Motorized Trails	19.23	20.77					7.69	4.38	0	0	0	52.08
15	20-2194 M	Snoqualmie Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle and Motorized Recreation	20	19.23					7.23	3.46	1	1	0	51.92
15	20-2136 M	Methow Valley Ranger District Motorized Trail Maintenance	18.46	20.38					8.77	4.31	0	0	0	51.92
17	20-2152 M	Ahtanum Off-Road Vehicle Facilities and Trail Maintenance	19.23	19.23					8.15	3.85	0	1	0	51.46
18	20-1997 M	Straits Off-Road Vehicle Trail and Facility Maintenance	19.62	19.62					8.46	3.62	0	0	0	51.31
19	20-2010 M	Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance	18.46	19.23					7.54	3.62	0	1	0	49.85
20	20-2082 M	Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance 2-Track Heavy Maintenance Crew	19.23	17.31					8.15	3.31	0	1	0	49.00

**Off-Road Vehicle Projects  
Evaluation Scores**  
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type		1. Need		2. Need Fulfillment		4. Project Design		5. Planning		6. Sustainability		7. Readiness to Proceed		8. Project Support		9. Cost-Benefit		10. Population Proximity County		11. Population Proximity City		12. Growth Management Act Preference		Total
	Point Range	0-25	0-25	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-10	0-5	0-1.0	0-1.0	-1-0.0											
21	20-2164 M	Elbe Hills Off-Road Vehicle System Maintenance	18.85	17.69									7.08	3.15	1	1	0	48.77							
22	20-2402 M	Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance 2-Track Volunteer Support	18.08	16.54									7.38	3.23	0	1	0	46.23							
23	20-2248 P	Elbe Hills Off-Road Vehicle Trail System Expansion Planning	11.54	9.46		5.85	2.77	3.23	8	3.15	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	46.00							
24	20-2250 M	Wenatchee River Ranger District Frontcountry and Multiuse Trails	17.31	17.31									5.54	3.38	0	1	0	44.54							
25	20-1983 M	Tahuya 4x4 Trails Maintenance and Operation	18.46	15.38									6.46	3.08	0	1	0	44.38							
26	20-1957 M	Tahuya and Green Mountain Trail and Facilities Maintenance	17.69	15.77									6.46	2.92	0	1	0	43.85							
27	20-2003 M	Tahuya and Green Mountain Water Quality	13.46	12.31									5.85	2.62	1	1	0	36.23							

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-9; RCO staff scores Questions 10-12

Project type: D=Development, M=Maintenance, P=Planning

## Off-Road Vehicle Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Caring for Trails in the Reiter Foothills Forest**

**Grant Requested: \$198,500**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an employee to coordinate volunteers, supervise Washington Conservation Corps crews, and maintain off-road vehicle trails in Reiter Foothills Forest near Gold Bar. The grant also will pay for trail building equipment rentals, materials, and supplies. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$199,000 in staff labor and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2104)

#### **U.S. Forest Service Maintaining Trails in the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts**

**Grant Requested: \$199,500**

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to support staff, volunteers, and the Northwest Youth Corps to maintain 195 miles of multiuse trails in the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan County. The crew will remove fallen trees, clear debris, repair and replace bridges and other trail structures, improve trail surfaces, and install signs. The trails are in the heart of the hugely popular, interconnected, 225-mile trail system that spans from Lake Wenatchee across the Entiat and Chelan Mountains to Lake Chelan. The Forest Service will contribute \$137,000 in equipment and staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1965)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Caring for the Walker Valley Off-road Vehicle Area**

**Grant Requested: \$199,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an employee to maintain 40 miles of off-road vehicle trails and trailheads in the Walker Valley ORV Area, east of Mount Vernon. The staff will clear downed trees, harden trail surfaces, clean toilets, repair signs, remove litter, grade and surface parking areas and roads, and maintain 22 bridges, drainage structures, and other infrastructure. The employee also will manage a Washington Conservation Corps crew and volunteers. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$333,500 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2212)

#### **U.S. Forest Service Caring for Southern Cle Elum Ranger District Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$188,000**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund a four-person crew, volunteers, and a youth crew or contractors to maintain 170 miles of multiuse trails in the Okanogan-Wenatchee



## Off-Road Vehicle Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



National Forest in Kittitas County. The crews will remove logs, clear trails of debris, repair trail structures, restore trail surfaces, and maintain trail signs. The grant also will pay for hand tools needed for trail maintenance. The Forest Service will contribute \$21,000 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2060)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$191,500**

#### **Maintaining Northern Cle Elum Ranger District Trails**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund a four-person crew, volunteers, and a youth crew or contractors to maintain 230 miles of multiuse trails in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Kittitas County. The crews will remove logs, clear trails of debris, maintain trail structures, restore trail surfaces, and repair trail signs. The work will allow the public to use the trails while protecting natural resources. The Forest Service will contribute \$21,600 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2058)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$157,000**

#### **Replacing Capitol State Forest Bridges**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to replace four bridges on its 91-mile trail system for motorized uses in Capitol State Forest near Olympia. The bridges have reached the end of their lifespan and pose a barrier for migrating fish. The new bridges, which will be built with long-lasting fiberglass, will allow for continued trail connectivity for years to come. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$45,000 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2306)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$195,500**

#### **Caring for Capitol State Forest Off-road Vehicle Trails and Facilities**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an equipment operator, prison crews, and equipment to maintain 91 miles of off-road vehicle trails, 1 campground, and 2 trailheads in Capitol State Forest near Olympia. The department will clear trails of debris, re-route sections of trail, install drainage features, harden trail surfaces, maintain bridges and other structures, install signs, and clean restrooms, campsites, parking areas. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$84,550 in staff labor and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2161)

## Off-Road Vehicle Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)




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#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$139,976**

#### **Supporting Maintenance of Riverside State Park Off-road Vehicle Area**

State Parks will use this grant to fund a park aide and ranger supervision to maintain facilities, protect natural resources, complete special maintenance projects, and provide customer service to visitors to Riverside State Park's off-road vehicle area in Spokane County. The off-road vehicle area is a 600-acre fenced area open to all types of off-road vehicles, including snowmobiles. Staff will clean restrooms, restock educational materials and fee envelopes, maintain fences and signs, pick up garbage, mow, plow snow, and maintain equipment and facilities. Staff also will complete special maintenance projects and work with volunteers. State Parks will contribute \$90,840 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2259)

#### **Northwest Motorcycle Association      Grant Requested: \$198,143**

#### **Repairing Trails in Need of Heavy Maintenance**

The Northwest Motorcycle Association will use this grant to fund a crew and equipment to perform heavy maintenance on 34 miles of damaged trail on lands owned by the Washington Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Forest Service in eight counties. The work will be done on trails open to off-road motorcycling and other uses in Chelan, King, Kittitas, Lewis, Pend Oreille, Skamania, Stevens, and Yakima Counties. The trails have been damaged by heavy use, rain, windstorms, wildfires, and logging. Existing crews cannot keep pace with the maintenance, which results in delayed maintenance, severe degradation of the trails, and increased resource damage. The crew will focus on water management and restoration of trail surfaces. The crew will remove ruts and trail braiding. The work will not only improve the user experience, but will prevent trail closures and improve safety. The Northwest Motorcycle Association will contribute \$26,760 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2409)

#### **U.S. Forest Service      Grant Requested: \$153,950**

#### **Caring for Trails for Motorized Uses in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest**

The Cowlitz Valley Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 230 miles of trails for motorized uses in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest for 2 years. The ranger district will remove fallen logs and clear debris, repair structures, and improve trail surfaces and water drainage. The work will allow continued public access, protect natural resources, and promote responsible use. The trails can be accessed from the towns of Randle and Trout Lake. The Forest Service will contribute \$159,389 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2156)



## Off-Road Vehicle Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### Grant County

**Grant Requested: \$40,000**

#### Maintaining the Moses Lake Sand Dunes

The Grant County Sheriff's Office will use this grant to maintain the Moses Lake Sand Dunes, which are south of Moses Lake and a popular spot for off-road vehicles. The sheriff's office will repair fences, clean bathrooms, repair and replace signs, control noxious weeds, and remove litter. Grant County will contribute \$36,000 in equipment, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2337)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

**Grant Requested: \$124,900**

#### Expanding Parking at Jones Creek ORV Trailhead

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to increase parking at the Jones Creek ORV Trailhead and day-use area in the Yacolt Burn State Forest. The department will add parking for about 31 additional vehicles, with a focus on space for vehicles hauling motorized equipment trailers. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$125,000 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2039)

#### U.S. Forest Service

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

#### Maintaining Motorcycle and Four-Wheel Drive Trails

The Naches Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to pay for a four-person trail crew and crew leader to maintain about 90 percent of its motorcycle and 4-wheel drive trails for 2 years. The crew will clear trails, remove overgrown brush, clean and repair drainage structures, repair trail surfaces, and maintain signs. The district's 140 miles of motorcycle and 170 miles of four-wheel drive trails see an estimated 45,000 recreationists a year. The trail system is centrally located in Washington and well known for its variety of trail opportunities and landscapes. The Forest Service will contribute \$162,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, materials, a grant from the state Recreational Trails Program, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2170)

#### U.S. Forest Service

**Requested: \$50,000**

#### Maintaining Off-road Vehicle Trails in the Blue Mountains

The Pomeroy Ranger District will use this grant to maintain off-road vehicle trails throughout the Umatilla National Forest. The ranger district will clear debris, fix trail surfaces, maintain trail structures, and inspect and maintain bridges. The work will help keep the trails open to the public, improve safety, and protect habitat. The district's trails provide the only off-highway

## Off-Road Vehicle Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities

#### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



vehicle opportunities on federal lands in the northern Blue Mountains. The Forest Service will contribute \$58,000 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, materials, and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2022)

#### U.S. Forest Service

**Grant Requested: \$79,111**

#### Caring for Trails in the Methow Valley

The Methow Valley Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund three employees and volunteers from the Northwest Motorcycle Association and other groups to maintain trails in the Sawtooth backcountry and the Lightning-Beaver Creek drainages. The crews will repair trail surfaces and drainage, remove fallen trees, and repair damaged bridges. The trails are used by motorcyclists, mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians. The Forest Service will contribute \$54,965 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2136)

#### U.S. Forest Service

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### Maintaining Trails in the Snoqualmie Ranger District

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to hire an equipment operator and a technician to support maintenance of the Evans Creek ORV Park and Campground and other trails for motorized activities along the State Route 410 corridor and throughout district. The Forest Service will contribute \$116,000 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2194)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

#### Maintaining Off-road Vehicle Facilities in the Ahtanum State Forest

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund two employees to maintain more than 42 miles of off-road vehicle trails, 12 campgrounds, and 3 trailheads in the Ahtanum State Forest, 30 miles west of Yakima. The staff will clear trails of debris, maintain trail structures and bridges, remove litter, clean toilets and campsites, and repair and replace kiosks, picnic tables, fire rings, and signs. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$68,500 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2152)

## Off-Road Vehicle Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining Northern Olympic Peninsula Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$163,008**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain 38 miles of off-road vehicle trails and trailheads in the Foothills and Sadie Creek trail systems near Port Angeles. The department will reroute sections of trail, clear trails, maintain trail structures, lay gravel to harden trail surfaces, inspect and maintain bridges and signs, remove litter, and maintain restrooms. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$111,508 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1997)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining Yacolt Burn State Forest Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$199,500**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund staff to maintain off-road vehicle trails and trailheads in the Yacolt Burn State Forest, east of Vancouver, and in the Elochoman Landscape, west of Longview. The staff will clear trails of debris, repair trail surfaces, lay gravel to harden trail surfaces, re-route small sections of trail, maintain bridges, remove litter, and clean restrooms. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$85,600 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2010)

#### **Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance Maintaining Trails Open to Off-Highway Vehicles**

**Grant Requested: \$199,977**

The Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance will use this grant to maintain a portion of more than 223 miles of multiuse, two-track trails open to off-highway vehicles in five counties. Alliance crews will repair trail surfaces and drainage structures and clear trails of debris and fallen trees. The work, which will be done on land managed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources, will reduce erosion of sediment to sensitive areas and streams and improve the trails for all visitors. The Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance will contribute \$18,468 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2082)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining Elbe Hills Off-road Vehicle Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$182,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a recreation maintenance specialist, equipment operator, and a Washington Conservation Corps crew to maintain 13 miles of off-road vehicle trails, 1 trailhead, and 1 campground in Elbe Hills State Forest in southeastern

## Off-Road Vehicle Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



Pierce County. The crew will clear trails of debris and hazardous trees, repair trail surfaces and drainage features, repair trail structures, maintain and replace signs, and maintain buildings, restrooms, and campsites. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$131,000 in equipment, staff labor, a private grant, and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2164)

#### **Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance** **Grant Requested: \$61,704** **Supporting Volunteer Work Parties to Maintain Trails in Four Counties**

The Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance will use this grant to support volunteer work parties on land owned by the Washington Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Forest Service in Grays Harbor, Kittitas, Mason, and Yakima Counties. The volunteers will remove overgrown brush, build bridges, haul rocks, remove garbage, and educate visitors on environmental stewardship. The alliance will recruit volunteers and support the work parties by improving its Web site to better recruit and track volunteers, buy a trailer and small equipment for trail work, schedule and promote activities, and provide supplies. The Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance will contribute \$15,800 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2402)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$38,000** **Planning Future Elbe Hills Off-road Vehicle Trails**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to develop a plan for a project to add off-road vehicle trails in Elbe Hills State Forest in Pierce County. The Elbe off-road vehicle system is one of the only public, 4x4 trail systems open year-round in western Washington. This project will enable staff to study site suitability, coordinate public meetings, develop a draft trail system map, and evaluate whether specific trails for off-road vehicles should be added to compliment the current 13 miles of mixed-use motorized recreation trails. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$26,000 in staff labor, equipment, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2248)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$103,000** **Caring for Front Country Trails in Chelan County**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to fund a four- to six-person trail crew to maintain 120 miles of front country and multiuse trails in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan County. The crew will remove fallen trees and clear debris, repair trail structures, and maintain signs. The grant also will buy hand tools and one to two motorcycles as the current fleet is more than 10 years old and has outlived its usefulness. The work will allow

## Off-Road Vehicle Category

### Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



continued use of trails for motorized activities, mountain bikers, hikers, and others. The Forest Service will contribute \$72,400 in staff labor, materials, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2250)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$146,521** **Maintaining 4x4 Trails in the Tahuya State Forest**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund portions of three staff to maintain 4x4 trails in the Tahuya State Forest in Mason County. The staff will clear trails of debris, repair trail surfaces, inspect and maintain bridges and other trail structures, add rocks to prevent erosion, remove litter, and repair signs and fencing. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$97,500 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1983)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$200,000** **Maintaining Trails in Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund portions of three staff to maintain 200 miles of trail, 5 campgrounds, and 7 trailheads for off-road vehicles in the Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests. The staff and volunteers will clear trails of debris, harden trail surfaces, reroute small sections of trail, maintain bridges, install signs, and clean restrooms, campsites, and parking areas. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$153,250 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1957)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Requested: \$107,480** **Reducing Erosion in the Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund a crew, building materials, and rental equipment to reduce erosion from off-road vehicle and multiuse trails in the Tahuya State Forest in Mason County and the Green Mountain State Forest in Kitsap County. The department will install water control devices and repair trail surfaces near sensitive areas to reduce erosion and improve the water quality in nearby streams. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$31,375 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2003)

## Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the NOVA Off-Road Vehicle 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.

### Off-Road Vehicle Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-2104M Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations (17) Rank 1
- 20-2212M Walker Valley Off-Road Vehicle Trails Maintenance (14) Rank 3
- 20-2156M Gifford Pinchot National Forest Motorized Trails Operations (6) Rank 10
- 20-2039D Jones Creek Off-Road Vehicle Trailhead Expansion (4) Rank 12
- 20-2022M Pomeroy Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle (6) Rank 14
- 20-2136M Methow Valley Ranger District Motorized Trail Maintenance (8) Rank 15
- 20-2194M Snoqualmie Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle (11) Rank 15
- 20-2152M Ahtanum Off-Road Vehicle Facilities and Trail Maintenance (4) Rank 17
- 20-1997M Straits Off-Road Vehicle Trail and Facility Maintenance (17) Rank 18
- 20-2010M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance (4) Rank 19
- 20-2082M Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance 2 Track Heavy (34) Rank 20
- 20-2402M Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance 2 Track Volunteer (34) Rank 22

## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2021

**Title:** Recreational Trails Program:  
Approval of Preliminary Ranked Lists for the 2021-23 Biennium

**Prepared By:** Marguerite Austin, Recreation and Conservation Section Manager

#### Summary

Applicants submitted fifty-eight projects for the Recreational Trails Program. This memo describes the program, evaluation process, categories, ranked lists and the proposed grant awards. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the April meeting and will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked lists, which will become the basis for awarding grants in June, following legislative approval of federal spending authority.

#### Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- Briefing

**Resolution #:** 2021-10

**Purpose of Resolution:** Approve the ranked lists of projects as shown in Tables 1 and 2.

### Background

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal assistance program to assist states in creating and maintaining motorized and nonmotorized recreational trails. The federal program supports recreational trail uses. These include walking, hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and off-road motorized vehicle driving, including off-road motorcycling, and all-terrain and four-wheel vehicle riding.

In the federal program, grants may be used to secure trail right of way; assess trail conditions; construct and maintain recreational trails, trailheads, and trailside facilities;



purchase equipment for constructing and maintaining trails; and conducting education programs for safety and environmental protection.

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

**Program Summary**

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

This table provides a general summary of the program.

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal agencies</li> <li>• Local agencies</li> <li>• Native American tribes</li> <li>• Nonprofit trail organizations</li> <li>• State agencies</li> </ul>
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Maintenance, renovation, and reconstruction</li> </ul>
<b>Match Requirements</b>	None. The board waived the 20 percent required match to help mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19.
<b>Grant Limits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The minimum fund request for a project is \$5,000</li> <li>• The maximum fund requests are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$20,000 – Education (education activities or signs)</li> <li>○ \$150,000 – General (development or maintenance)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Other Program Characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects must provide a backcountry experience.</li> <li>• The project setting should be predominately natural.</li> <li>• Funds are used for both motorized and nonmotorized recreation.</li> <li>• Development is limited to construction of new trailheads or short linking trails; replacement of trail structures; and renovation of existing trails and related facilities.</li> </ul>

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

In addition to eliminating the required match and removing the ten percent non-state, non-federal match requirement, this year the board made changes to the evaluation criteria. The changes included modifying the *Sustainability* criterion, which now only applies to development projects; increasing the maximum points for the *Maintenance* criterion to ensure equity with development projects; and suspending the *Matching Shares* criterion for all projects.

### Program Eligibility

There are two major requirements for states to be eligible to receive an apportionment of federal RTP funds:

1. The Governor of the state must designate the state agency that will be responsible for administering the grant program and funding; and
2. The state must establish a recreational trail advisory committee that represents both motorized and nonmotorized recreational trail users. The committee must meet at least once per federal fiscal year.

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

## Overview and Analysis

### Evaluation Summary

Washington’s RTP Advisory Committee evaluated 58 proposals totaling over \$5.7 million in grant requests. Advisory committee members, appointed by the RCO director, are selected for their expertise, experience, and technical knowledge related to recreational trails. Using the board adopted evaluation criteria, shown in Attachments D and F, committee members reviewed and evaluated grant proposals using a written, score-at-home process. Advisory committee members participating in the evaluation process this year included the following:

Name	Representing	Location
James Hall	Citizen: motorized, 4x4	Selah
Michael Calkins	Citizen: motorized, all-terrain vehicles	Seattle

James Morin	Citizen: motorized, off-road motorcycle	Olympia
Norris Boyd	Citizen: motorized, snowmobile	Newport
Jim Thode	Citizen: nonmotorized, equestrian	Onalaska
Ethan Lockwood	Citizen: nonmotorized, hiker	Ellensburg
Mat Lyons	Citizen: nonmotorized, mountain bike	Wenatchee
Don Crook	Citizen: nonmotorized, water access	Sammamish
Rusty Milholland	Citizen-at-large	Snoqualmie
Pete Teigen	Citizen-at-large	Leavenworth
John Hansen	Land manager: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Olympia
Janet Shonk	Land manager: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Olympia
Nicole Johnston	Local government: City of Anacortes	Anacortes
Charlotte Claybrooke	State government: Washington State Department of Transportation	Olympia

The resulting ranked list, for each category, is provided for board consideration in *Table 1 – Recreational Trails Program, Education Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*, and *Table 2 – Recreational Trails Program, General Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

### **Review of Process and Criteria**

Applicants submitted 58 grant proposals for RTP consideration. This is a ten percent decrease in the number of applications from the previous grant cycle. While there were fewer applications, the funds requested are just one percent lower. Only 60 percent of the advisory committee members evaluated projects during the last grant cycle, which raised concerns. However, this year that number was back up to 93 percent and included all motorized and nonmotorized representatives.

### **Education Category Projects**

Federal program guidelines give states the option of using up to five percent of the RTP allocation for education projects. Program legislation requires applicants to expend their entire Education Category grant within the federal fiscal year. Applicants submitting projects for winter recreation find this requirement a challenge because the funds typically become available in the spring. The board has approved an advanced implementation waiver to help applicants get a jump on implementing these projects. Despite the challenges, the RTP Advisory Committee recommends the board continue providing funds for the category.

## Evaluation Criteria

The *Cost Benefit* criterion presented a challenge for some evaluators. After looking at the same criterion that's used for the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities Program, evaluators have asked for a similar annotated explanation to help convey the intent of the criterion. This should also incorporate economic benefits to the local community.

Also, an advisor asked if the board would consider expanding the *Need* criterion to favor projects that address the needs of or provide additional opportunities for underserved populations. These include people of color, people with disabilities, and people who are economically disadvantaged.

The committee discussed whether there needs to be a *Matching Share* criterion. Currently, there is a *Cost Benefit* question (5 points), a *Cost Efficiencies* criterion (5 points), and a *Matching Share* criterion that is worth 10 points. Advisors are not certain the separate match criterion is necessary, however, there were advisors that felt the objective criteria was helpful.

## Observations

The advisory committee took a few minutes to talk about the program in general and discuss why some projects consistently rank lower. Here are some of the observations,

- New construction may not score well because of the concern that the applicant does not have the resources to maintain new trails
- There are quite a few overlapping projects. Land managers submit applications for maintenance on their lands and often a nonprofit organization brings in a project to help maintain some of the same areas. This can present a challenge.
- There were several projects that were not necessarily backcountry. They meet the eligibility criteria for backcountry, however, the actual location seemed to be off major roadways.
- Applicants need to strengthen their strategy for addressing the backlog by using quantitative data like the miles of trails in their backlog and better explain their rotational maintenance schedule.
- The winter recreation projects do not receive high scores and a significant factor for the advisory committee is the focus on "backlogged" maintenance. These projects involve grooming snow trails annually. While there may be some backlogged work on occasion, the primary work done is routine maintenance.

## Evaluation Process

Overall, the advisory committee felt the process was organized, well run, and fair. They really appreciated using the new PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module and many of the built-in features. Like other committees, they would like to see a tool that allows them to see all the scores. Another feature that the committee appreciated was the video recording of the pre-evaluation meeting and timely communications from RCO's volunteer coordinator, Tessa Cencula.

They were confident in the ranked list and felt that the process works. Staff appreciates the time that advisory committee members dedicated to preparing for and participating in the written evaluation process. The results are shown in Table 1 and 2.

Staff will evaluate and prioritize the RTP Advisory Committee's suggested changes to the evaluation criteria and will bring recommendations to the board later this year. Staff has compiled the list of observations for distribution to applicants in 2022 as they prepare for the next grant cycle. Staff believes this list could help applicants do a better job of packaging their proposals and addressing the evaluation criteria.

## Strategic Plan Link

Consideration of these projects 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 Trails Plan](#) and the [Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan 2018-2022](#).

## Public Comment

Letters of support or concern are included in Attachment J for the Education Category and in Attachment K for the General Category. Any additional public comment will be shared at the April board meeting.

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve Table 1 – *Recreational Trails Program, Education Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23* and Table 2 – *Recreational Trails Program, General Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

## Next Steps

If the board approves the preliminary ranked lists, staff will move forward with preparing the projects for funding consideration, following legislative approval of a capital budget for the 2021-23 biennium. The board will approve the final list and make funding decisions at the June 2021 meeting.

## Attachments

- A. Resolution #2021-10
  - Table 1 – *Recreational Trails Program, Education Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
  - Table 2 – *Recreational Trails Program, General Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map of Education Category Projects
- C. State Map of General Category Projects
- D. Evaluation Criteria Summary: Education Category
- E. Evaluation Scores Education Category 2021-23
- F. Evaluation Criteria Summary: General Category
- G. Evaluation Scores General Category 2021-23
- H. Project Summaries for Education Category
- I. Project Summaries for General Category
- J. Letters Submitted by the Public for Education Category Projects
- K. Letters Submitted by the Public for General Category Projects

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2021-10  
Recreational Trails Program  
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked Lists of Projects for the 2021-23**

**WHEREAS**, for the 2021-23 biennium, fifty-eight Recreational Trails Program (RTP) projects are being considered for funding; and

**WHEREAS**, all fifty-eight projects have met program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Federal Highways Administration’s *Recreational Trails Program Guidance*, Washington Administrative Code, and Manual 16, *Recreational Trails Program*; and

**WHEREAS**, these RTP projects were evaluated by fourteen members of the RTP Advisory Committee using Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approved and adopted evaluation process and criteria, thereby supporting the board’s strategy to fund the best projects as determined by the evaluation process; and

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

**WHEREAS**, if funded, the projects will provide for maintaining recreational trails, developing trailhead facilities, and operating environmental education and trail safety programs, thereby supporting the board’s strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the board hereby approves the preliminary ranked lists of projects as depicted in *Table 1 – Recreational Trails Program, Education Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23* and *Table 2 – Recreational Trails Program, General Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

*Resolution moved by:*

*Resolution seconded by:*

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:*



**Table 1: Education Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	
1	20.71	20-2282 E	Mountains to Sound Greenway	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trailhead Ambassadors	\$20,000	\$2,500	\$22,500	
2	20.00	20-2131 E	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Middle Fork and Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Areas Education	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	
3	19.36	20-2424 E	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	Heather Meadows Backcountry Snow Ranger Nonmotorized	\$20,000	\$14,500	\$34,500	
4	19.14	20-2408 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	Lake Wenatchee and Entiat Snow Rangers	\$20,000	\$12,900	\$32,900	
5	19.00	20-2283 E	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Naches Wilderness Education Rangers	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	
6	18.50	20-2007 E	Back Country Horsemen of Washington	Tread Lightly for Public Recreation	\$17,410	\$96,120	\$113,530	
7	17.86	20-2326 E	U.S Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District	Winter Education Patrols	\$18,800	\$18,000	\$36,800	
8	17.79	20-1980 E	Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive	Protect Trails and Educate Users with Spill Kits	\$7,890	\$3,799	\$11,689	
9	16.14	20-2289 E	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Palouse Falls Education Resource Development	\$19,247	\$2,948	\$22,195	
Project type: E=Education					<b>Total</b>	<b>\$163,347</b>	<b>\$160,767</b>	<b>\$324,114</b>



**Table 2: General Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
1	60.93	20-2099 M	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance	Western Washington Volunteer Trail Maintenance	\$125,000	\$380,000	\$505,000
1	60.93	20-2100 M	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance	Eastern Washington Volunteer Trail Maintenance	\$75,000	\$190,000	\$265,000
3	60.07	20-2004 M	Back Country Horsemen of Washington	Rehabilitating Olympic Peninsula Trails	\$82,486	\$207,974	\$290,460
4	59.64	20-1990 M	Washington Trails Association	Statewide Backcountry Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$581,280	\$731,280
5	59.21	20-1959 M	Back Country Horsemen of Washington	Reopening Threatened National Forest Trails	\$117,600	\$237,200	\$354,800
6	59.14	20-2308 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000
7	58.36	20-2320 D	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District	Mount Rainier National Park and Snoqualmie Ranger District Trails Alliance	\$150,000	\$572,792	\$722,792
8	58.14	20-2005 M	Back Country Horsemen of Washington	Maintaining Endangered Trails	\$57,817	\$111,500	\$169,317
9	58.00	20-1991 M	Washington Trails Association	Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$986,360	\$1,136,360
10	57.57	20-2262 M	Pacific Northwest Trail Association	Pacific Northwest Trail Statewide Stewardship	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000
10	57.57	20-2421 M	Northwest Motorcycle Association	Northwest Motorcycle Association Moto-Volunteer Central Washington Division	\$143,878	\$155,890	\$299,768
12	57.50	20-1989 M	Washington Trails Association	Statewide Youth Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$521,550	\$671,550



**Table 2: General Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
13	57.21	20-2187 M	Pacific Crest Trail Association	Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail Maintenance	\$107,000	\$126,000	\$233,000
14	56.79	20-2135 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District	Methow Valley Ranger District Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance	\$149,986	\$152,022	\$302,008
15	56.71	20-2281 M	Mountains to Sound Greenway	Mountains to Sound Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000
16	56.43	20-2184 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Naches Motorized Trails Deferred Maintenance and Operations	\$150,000	\$90,003	\$240,003
17	55.93	20-2419 M	Northwest Motorcycle Association	Northwest Motorcycle Association Heavy Maintenance Crew Statewide Maintenance	\$114,019	\$226,760	\$340,779
18	55.57	20-1985 M	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Northwest Region Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$87,460	\$237,460
19	55.21	20-2322 M	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Stampede Pass Multiple Use Sno-Park Trails	\$150,000		\$150,000
20	54.29	20-1955 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District	Lower Lake Chelan Summer and Winter Trails	\$150,000	\$130,000	\$280,000
21	53.79	20-2203 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Naches Wilderness Trails Deferred Maintenance and Operations	\$120,000	\$82,002	\$202,002
21	53.79	20-2379 D	Methow Valley Sport Trail Association	21 Horizon Flats Trailhead Development	\$144,000	\$145,000	\$289,000
23	52.57	20-1954 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District	Upper Lake Chelan Basin Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$108,500	\$258,500
23	52.57	20-2029 M	Nooksack Nordic Ski Club	Salmon Ridge Trail System Maintenance	\$23,500	\$59,680	\$83,180



**Table 2: General Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
25	52.50	20-2062 D	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Riverside State Park Knothead Loop Trailhead	\$148,065	\$48,000	\$196,065
26	52.29	20-2180 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Baker Ranger District	Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$80,000	\$230,000
26	52.29	20-2324 M	Spokane Nordic Ski Association	Spokane Nordic Trails Maintenance	\$77,400	\$55,180	\$132,580
28	52.21	20-2157 M	U.S Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Cowlitz Valley Ranger District	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wilderness Trails Operations and Maintenance	\$149,000	\$182,985	\$331,985
29	52.07	20-2015 M	U.S Forest Service, Colville National Forest	Colville National Forest Backcountry Multiuse Trail Maintenance	\$150,000	\$43,169	\$193,169
29	52.07	20-2113 M	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Cascadia Marine Trail Sign and Kiosk Replacement	\$24,350	\$3,150	\$27,500
29	52.07	20-2118 D	Chelan-Douglas Land Trust	Wenatchee Foothills Trail System Maintenance	\$56,223	\$21,822	\$78,045
29	52.07	20-2236 M	Washington Department of Natural Resources	East Snoqualmie Corridor Backcountry Maintenance	\$94,000	\$69,560	\$163,560
33	51.86	20-2401 M	Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance	Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance 2-Track Heavy Maintenance Crew	\$149,984	\$17,051	\$167,035
34	51.64	20-2297 M	National Forest Foundation	Connecting Youth and Improving the Mount Loop Highway	\$47,350	\$47,350	\$94,700
35	51.57	20-2026 M	U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District	Darrington Ranger District Backcountry Maintenance	\$150,000	\$151,000	\$301,000
36	50.86	20-2074 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Cle Elum Ranger District	Cle Elum Ranger District Winter Trail Maintenance	\$51,800	\$1,500	\$53,300



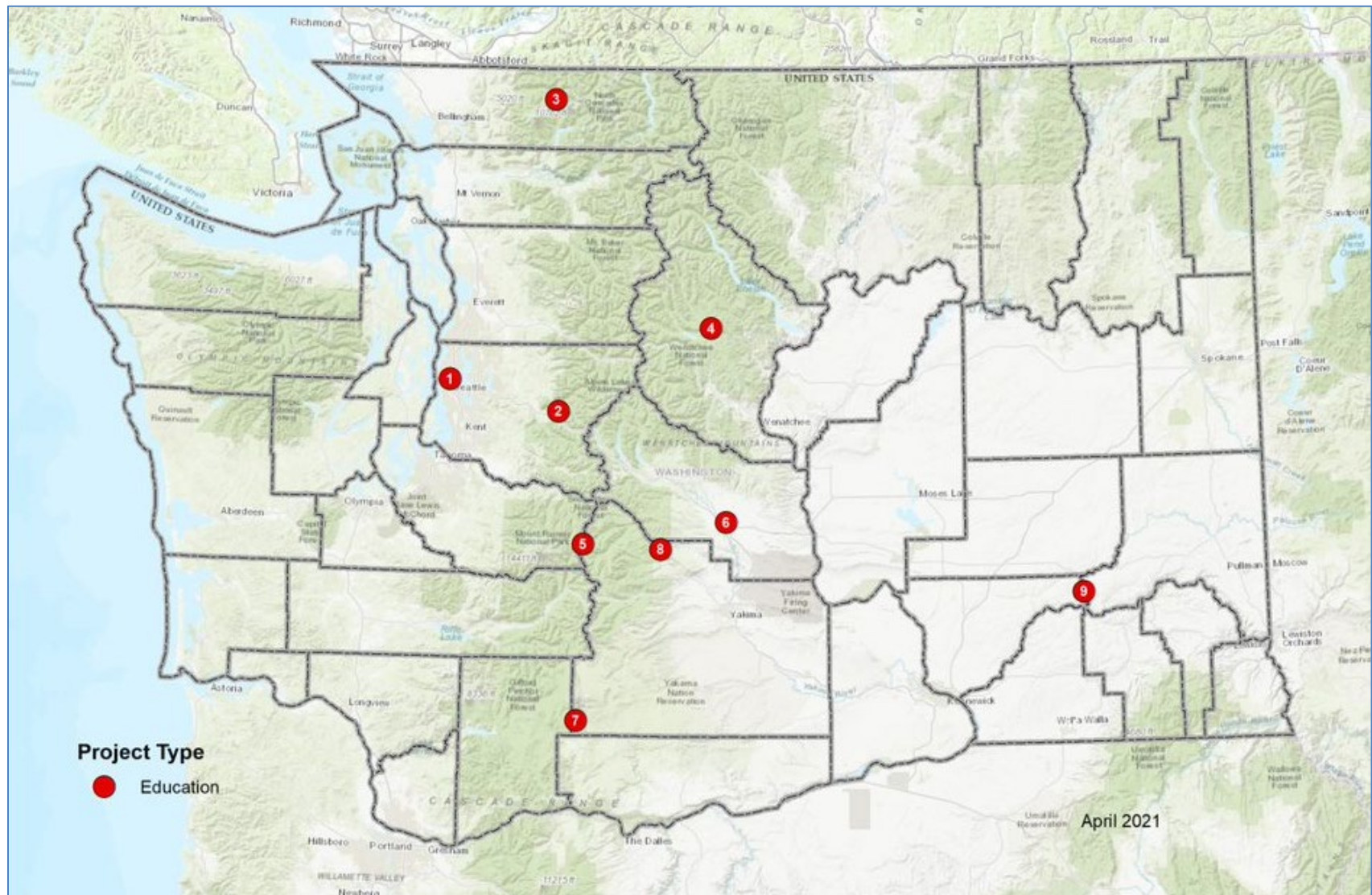
**Table 2: General Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total	
37	50.00	20-2221 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District	Snowmobile Trails Maintenance	\$102,000	\$122,000	\$224,000	
38	49.50	20-2066 M	Mount Tahoma Trails Association	Mount Tahoma Trails Maintenance	\$33,600	\$18,000	\$51,600	
39	49.14	20-2251 M	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Blue Mountains Snowmobile Trails	\$118,100	\$15,000	\$133,100	
40	48.57	20-2051 M	University of Washington Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest	Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest Trail Maintenance	\$119,549	\$18,402	\$137,951	
41	48.43	20-2019 M	U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District	Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming, Maintenance, and Operations	\$38,000	\$80,000	\$118,000	
42	48.21	20-2272 M	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Pyramid Peak Snowmobile Trails	\$140,000	\$10,000	\$150,000	
43	47.86	20-2261 M	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Mount Baker Snowmobile Sno-Parks and Trail Maintenance	\$132,000	\$20,000	\$152,000	
44	47.71	20-2271 M	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Selkirk Snowmobile Trails	\$133,000	\$20,000	\$153,000	
45	47.21	20-2002 M	North Olympic Land Trust	North Olympic Land Trust Trail Maintenance	\$27,408	\$12,672	\$40,080	
46	45.64	20-2267 D	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	Theler Wetlands Trail Connection	\$141,260	\$40,000	\$181,260	
47	45.36	20-1958 M	Mountain Trails Grooming Association	Snowmobile Trail Grooming Methow Valley	\$65,100	\$7,300	\$72,400	
48	44.79	20-2202 M	U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District	Naches Nordic Trails Maintenance and Operations	\$50,000	\$45,000	\$95,000	
49	42.36	20-2414 M	Columbia Springs	Columbia Springs Access Improvement	\$96,000	\$10,880	\$106,880	
					<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,504,475</b>	<b>\$6,741,994</b>	<b>\$12,246,469</b>

Project type: D=Development, M=Maintenance



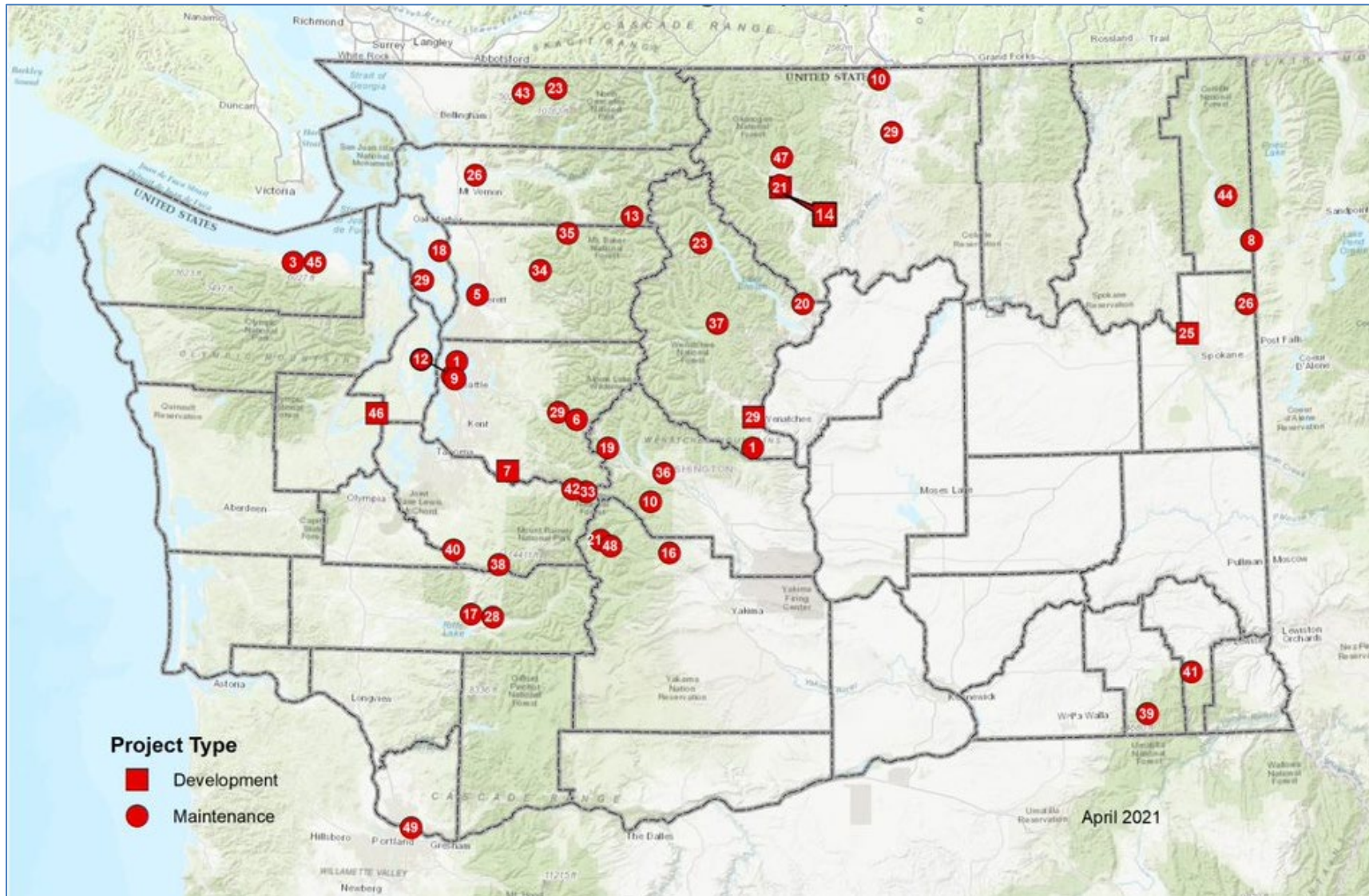
# State Map for Recreational Trails Program Education Category Projects



The numbers represent ranked order.



# State Map for Recreational Trails Program General Category Projects



The numbers represent ranked order.



## Recreational Trails Program

### Education Category

### Evaluation Criteria Summary

#### Evaluation Criteria Summary Table

Scored By	Question	Criteria Title	Maximum Points
Advisory Committee	1	Need	5
Advisory Committee	2	Need satisfaction	5
Advisory Committee	3	Applicant's ability	5
Advisory Committee	4	Cost-benefit	5
Advisory Committee	5	Support	5
<b>Total Points Possible</b>			<b>25</b>

#### Scoring Criteria: Education Category

##### Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** Describe the need for this project.
2. **Need satisfaction.** Describe the extent to which the project satisfies this need.
3. **Applicant's ability.** Describe the applicant's ability to accomplish the project.
4. **Cost-benefit.** Describe the project's cost-benefit.
5. **Support.** Describe the support for the project.

**Education Category**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Satisfaction	3. Applicant's Ability	4. Cost-Benefit	5. Support	Total
Point Range			0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	
1	20-2282 E	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trailhead Ambassadors	4.29	4.14	4.36	3.64	4.29	20.71
2	20-2131 E	Middle Fork and Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Areas Education	4.21	3.71	4.21	3.5	4.36	20.00
3	20-2424 E	Heather Meadows Backcountry Snow Ranger Nonmotorized	4.07	4	4.36	3.64	3.29	19.36
4	20-2408 E	Lake Wenatchee and Entiat Snow Rangers	3.79	4.07	4.5	3.5	3.29	19.14
5	20-2283 E	Naches Wilderness Education Rangers	3.93	3.79	4.29	3.71	3.29	19.00
6	20-2007 E	Tread Lightly for Public Recreation	3.93	3.43	4.07	3.86	3.21	18.50
7	20-2326 E	Winter Education Patrols	3.29	3.57	4.21	3.79	3	17.86
8	20-1980 E	Protect Trails and Educate Users with Spill Kits	3.71	3.43	4.21	3.43	3	17.79
9	20-2289 E	Palouse Falls Education Resource Development	3.14	3.43	3.93	2.86	2.79	16.14

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-5  
Project type: E=Education

## Recreational Trails Program

### General Category

### Evaluation Criteria Summary

**Evaluation Criteria Summary Table**

Scored by	Question	Criteria Title	Project Type Questions	Maximum Points
Advisory Committee	1	Need	All	15
Advisory Committee	2	Need satisfaction	All	15
Advisory Committee	3	Project design	Development	10
Advisory Committee	4	Maintenance	Maintenance	15
Advisory Committee	5	Sustainability	Development	5
Advisory Committee	6	Readiness to proceed	All	5
Advisory Committee	7	Cost-benefit	All	5
Advisory Committee	8	Cost efficiencies	All	5
Advisory Committee	9	Project support	All	10
RCO Staff	10	Growth Management Act preference	All	0
<b>Total Points Possible</b>				<b>70</b>

## Scoring Criteria: General Category

### Scored by Advisory Committee

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

### Scored by RCO Staff

10. **Growth Management Act Preference.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?

**General Category**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Project Number and Rank		Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Satisfaction	3. Project Design	4. Maintenance	5. Sustainability	6. Readiness to Proceed	7. Cost-Benefit	8. Cost Efficiencies	9. Project Support	10. Growth Management Act	Total
Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Need Satisfaction	3. Project Design	4. Maintenance	5. Sustainability	6. Readiness to Proceed	7. Cost-Benefit	8. Cost Efficiencies	9. Project Support	10. Growth Management Act	Total	
Point Range		0-15	0-15	0-10	0-15	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-10	-1-0.0		
1	20-2099 M	Western Washington Volunteer Trail Maintenance	12.86	12.86		12.64		4.43	4.43	4.43	9.29	0	60.93
1	20-2100 M	Eastern Washington Volunteer Trail Maintenance	12.43	13.07		13.07		4.43	4.36	4.29	9.29	0	60.93
3	20-2004 M	Rehabilitating Olympic Peninsula Trails	13.29	13.29		11.57		4.21	4.43	4.29	9	0	60.07
4	20-1990 M	Statewide Backcountry Trail Maintenance	12.43	12.86		12.64		4.29	4.14	4.14	9.14	0	59.64
5	20-1959 M	Reopening Threatened National Forest Trails	13.29	12.86		12.86		4.5	4.07	4.21	7.43	0	59.21
6	20-2308 M	Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance	13.29	12.86		12		4.57	4.07	4.07	8.29	0	59.14
7	20-2320 D	Mount Rainier National Park and Snoqualmie Ranger District Trails	13.29	12.86	7.29		3.86	4.14	3.64	4.29	9	0	58.36
8	20-2005 M	Maintaining Endangered Trails	11.79	12.86		12.21		4.29	4.21	4.36	8.43	0	58.14
9	20-1991 M	Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance	12.21	12		12.43		4.21	4.07	4.07	9	0	58.00
10	20-2262 M	Pacific Northwest Trail Statewide Stewardship	12.21	12.43		12.21		4.36	4	3.79	8.57	0	57.57
10	20-2421 M	Northwest Motorcycle Association Moto-Volunteer Central	12.21	12.86		12.21		4.43	3.86	4	8	0	57.57
12	20-1989 M	Statewide Youth Trail Maintenance	11.79	12.43		11.79		4.21	4.07	4.07	9.14	0	57.50
13	20-2187 M	Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail Maintenance	12.21	12.21		12.43		4.21	3.86	4	8.29	0	57.21

**General Category**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	General Category Evaluation Scores											
			1. Need	2. Need Satisfaction	3. Project Design	4. Maintenance	5. Sustainability	6. Readiness to Proceed	7. Cost-Benefit	8. Cost Efficiencies	9. Project Support	10. Growth Management Act	Total	
		<b>Point Range</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>-1-0.0</b>		
14	20-2135 M	Methow Valley Ranger District Mixed Use Deferred Trail	12.21	12		12.21			4.29	3.93	3.57	8.57	0	56.79
15	20-2281 M	Mountains to Sound Trail Maintenance	12.21	12.21		11.79			4.29	3.71	3.93	8.57	0	56.71
16	20-2184 M	Naches Motorized Trails Deferred Maintenance and Operations	11.36	12.43		12.86			4.36	3.71	3.71	8	0	56.43
17	20-2419 M	Northwest Motorcycle Association Heavy Maintenance Crew	11.14	12.43		12			4.29	3.71	3.93	8.43	0	55.93
18	20-1985 M	Northwest Region Trail Maintenance	11.36	11.79		11.79			4.36	3.64	3.64	9	0	55.57
19	20-2322 M	Stampede Pass Multiuse Sno-Park Trails	12.86	12.21		12			4.5	3.79	3.29	6.57	0	55.21
20	20-1955 M	Lower Lake Chelan Summer and Winter Trails	11.79	11.79		10.71			4.29	3.86	3.86	8	0	54.29
21	20-2379 D	21 Horizon Flats Trailhead Development	10.93	12.86	8.29			3.86	3.93	4.07	3.86	6	0	53.79
21	20-2203 M	Naches Wilderness Trails Deferred Maintenance and Operations	11.79	12.43		11.14			4.07	3.57	3.5	7.29	0	53.79
23	20-2029 M	Salmon Ridge Trail System Maintenance	10.71	12		10.29			4.14	3.36	3.64	8.43	0	52.57
23	20-1954 M	Upper Lake Chelan Basin Trail Maintenance	10.71	11.79		10.29			4.43	3.86	3.93	7.57	0	52.57
25	20-2062 D	Riverside State Park Knothead Loop Trailhead	11.14	11.57	8.29			3.71	3.64	3.5	3.36	7.29	0	52.50

**General Category**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	General Category Evaluation Scores										Total	
			1. Need	2. Need Satisfaction	3. Project Design	4. Maintenance	5. Sustainability	6. Readiness to Proceed	7. Cost-Benefit	8. Cost Efficiencies	9. Project Support	10. Growth Management Act		
		<b>Point Range</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>-1-0.0</b>		
26	20-2180 M	Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance	10.93	11.57		11.14			3.71	3.14	3.07	8.71	0	52.29
26	20-2324 M	Spokane Nordic Trails Maintenance	10.93	11.79		10.71			4	3.64	3.64	7.57	0	52.29
28	20-2157 M	Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wilderness Trails Operations and Maintenance	11.79	12.21		10.71			4.29	3.79	3.71	5.71	0	52.21
29	20-2015 M	Colville National Forest Backcountry Multiuse Trail	11.14	12		11.36			4.29	3.64	3.5	6.14	0	52.07
29	20-2113 M	Cascadia Marine Trail Sign and Kiosk Replacement	10.5	12.64		10.29			4.14	3.57	3.07	7.86	0	52.07
29	20-2118 D	Wenatchee Foothills Trail System Maintenance	11.36	11.57	7.57			3.79	3.57	3.43	3.21	7.57	0	52.07
29	20-2236 M	East Snoqualmie Corridor Backcountry Maintenance	12.21	10.5		9.86			4.29	3.5	3.57	8.14	0	52.07
33	20-2401 M	Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance 2-Track Heavy	11.57	11.36		10.71			3.5	3.64	3.21	7.86	0	51.86
34	20-2297 M	Connecting Youth and Improving the Mount Loop Highway	11.36	11.36		10.5			4.07	3.86	3.64	6.86	0	51.64
35	20-2026 M	Darrington Ranger District Backcountry Maintenance	12	12		9.43			4.07	3.57	3.36	7.14	0	51.57
36	20-2074 M	Cle Elum Ranger District Winter Trail Maintenance	10.93	11.57		10.5			3.93	3.36	2.71	7.86	0	50.86
37	20-2221 M	Snowmobile Trails Maintenance	10.93	11.14		10.07			4.14	3.5	3.64	6.57	0	50.00



**General Category**  
**Evaluation Scores**  
Recreational Trails Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	General Category Evaluation Scores											
			1. Need	2. Need Satisfaction	3. Project Design	4. Maintenance	5. Sustainability	6. Readiness to Proceed	7. Cost-Benefit	8. Cost Efficiencies	9. Project Support	10. Growth Management Act	Total	
		<b>Point Range</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>-1-0.0</b>		
38	20-2066 M	Mount Tahoma Trails Maintenance	10.5	11.14		9.43			4.21	3.57	3.5	7.14	0	49.50
39	20-2251 M	Blue Mountains Snowmobile Trails	10.07	10.93		10.5			4.43	3.5	3	6.71	0	49.14
40	20-2051 M	Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest Trail Maintenance	9.86	11.36		11.14			4.07	2.79	2.5	6.86	0	48.57
41	20-2019 M	Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming, Maintenance, and	9	10.29		9.86			4.36	3.36	3.71	7.86	0	48.43
42	20-2272 M	Pyramid Peak Snowmobile Trails	10.71	10.5		10.5			4.21	3.43	3	5.86	0	48.21
43	20-2261 M	Mount Baker Snowmobile Sno-Parks and Trail Maintenance	10.93	9.86		10.29			4.29	3.21	3	6.29	0	47.86
44	20-2271 M	Selkirk Snowmobile Trails	10.93	10.29		10.07			4.21	3.5	3.14	5.57	0	47.71
45	20-2002 M	North Olympic Land Trust Trail Maintenance	9.43	11.14		9.21			4.14	3.5	3.36	6.43	0	47.21
46	20-2267 D	Theler Wetlands Trail Connection	9.43	11.14	7.57		3.64		3.29	3	3	4.57	0	45.64
47	20-1958 M	Snowmobile Trail Grooming Methow Valley	9.43	9.86		9.43			4	3	3.07	6.57	0	45.36
48	20-2202 M	Naches Nordic Trails Maintenance and Operations	10.29	10.29		9.21			3.5	3.07	3	5.43	0	44.79
49	20-2414 M	Columbia Springs Access Improvement	7.71	10.71		9.64			4.21	2.71	2.5	4.86	0	42.36

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-9; RCO staff scores Question 10

Project type: D=Development, M=Maintenance

## Education Category

### Recreational Trails Program

### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)

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#### **Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust Recruiting Trailhead Ambassadors**

**Grant Requested: \$20,000**

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will use this grant to pay for staff and educational materials for use in its Mission Trailhead Ambassadors program, which recruits and teaches stewardship behaviors to those recreating on trails in the Snoqualmie River corridor. This is a collaborative program, encompassing land management agencies, nonprofits, and businesses in the Interstate 90-Snoqualmie River corridor. The trust will contribute \$2,500 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-2282)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Educating Visitors at two Natural Resources Conservation Areas in King County**

**Grant Requested: \$20,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund an educator to increase visitors' awareness in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Areas in east King County. The educator will patrol the popular backcountry trails and educate visitors about trail etiquette and regulations. The grant also will provide funding for educational materials to distribute to recreationists. Properly educated recreationists will decrease search-and-rescue missions, reduce harm to sensitive environments, and reduce misbehavior and crime. The department will contribute \$5,000 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-2131)

#### **U.S. Forest Service Hiring a Backcountry Snow Ranger**

**Grant Requested: \$20,000**

The Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to hire a backcountry snow ranger to increase visitor safety at Heather Meadows. Located at more than 4,000 feet elevation with an annual snowfall of more than 650 inches, Heather Meadows provides a variety of winter recreation opportunities and has seen use grow exponentially recently. Heather Meadows also is surrounded by areas of avalanches, which have killed several people in the past few years. The snow ranger will improve safety by installing signs, providing avalanche education and tips on how to travel safely in snow, educating through social media, and contacting visitors in person. The U.S. Forest Service will contribute \$14,500 in a federal appropriation and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (20-2424)

## Education Category

### Recreational Trails Program

### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$20,000**

#### **Investing in Two Snow Rangers for Wenatchee River and Entiat Ranger Districts**

The Wenatchee River and Entiat Ranger Districts in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund two snow rangers to improve safety and educate the public at five Sno-Parks, one highly visited parking area, and 185 miles of groomed winter trails across about 250,000 acres of backcountry area. The snow rangers, along with volunteers, educate visitors about safe and courteous snowmobile operation, trail conditions, trail etiquette, avalanche awareness, winter survival, winter wildlife, and respect for wilderness and other visitors. An estimated 500-700 people use the winter trails every weekend. The Forest Service will contribute \$12,900 in a federal appropriation, equipment, a state grant, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2408)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$20,000**

#### **Investing in Naches Wilderness Education**

The Naches Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund two seasonal education and enforcement rangers and up to four part-time volunteers to patrol high-use areas on weekends and holidays in the Naches Wilderness areas. High use has damaged sensitive and rare vegetation, disturbed sensitive wildlife, and led to crowding and improper disposal of human waste. Rangers will focus on education to promote environmental stewardship, resource protection, and visitor safety. The U.S. Forest Service will contribute \$5,000 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2283)

#### **Back Country Horsemen of Washington** **Grant Requested: \$17,410**

#### **Educating the Public about Stewardship of the Outdoors**

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will use this grant to spread awareness of environmental stewardship to encourage horseback riders, hikers, mountain bikers, campers, and other recreationist to be better caretakers of the outdoors. The organization encourages members in its 31 chapters to complete a 20-hour course, but wishes to expand its outreach to include other recreationists, especially those who have embraced the outdoors due to the COVID-19 pandemic and to youth in organizations such as scouts, 4-H, and those unaffiliated with traditional groups. The association will share this information, perhaps through video, at events across Washington State. The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will contribute \$96,120 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2007)

## Education Category

### Recreational Trails Program

### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Supporting Winter Education Patrols**

**Grant Requested: \$18,800**

The Mount Adams Ranger District in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest will use this grant to hire a ranger for two seasons to educate snowmobilers and other winter visitors. The ranger will focus education efforts on safe and responsible trail use, winter safety and avalanche hazards, Sno-Park education, and respecting all visitors. The U.S. Forest Service will contribute \$18,000 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2326)

#### **Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association** **Protecting Trails From Spills**

**Grant Requested: \$7,890**

The Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association will use this grant to spread awareness among off-highway vehicle enthusiasts about how to use a spill kit to dispose of waste and protect wildlife from harmful fluids following a spill. In addition to waste disposal information, the kits will convey information about how to practice environmental stewardship, recreate responsibly, and stay on designated trails. The association will contribute \$3,799 in cash and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1980)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Building Educational Displays**

**Grant Requested: \$19,247**

State Parks will use this grant to develop educational displays in Palouse Falls State Park. The agency will create models of the terrain and soil crust and aerial displays of the park and surrounding shrub-steppe landscape. These educational tools will enhance visitor awareness of park boundaries and increase understanding of the importance of avoiding off-trail activities as well as increase appreciation for the park's unique geology, natural and cultural resources, and delicate habitat. State Parks will contribute \$2,948 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2289)

## General Category

### Recreational Trails Program

### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)

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#### **Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance** **Grant Requested: \$125,000**

#### **Maintaining Mountain Biking Trails in Western Washington**

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance will use this grant to engage volunteers in 15,882 hours of maintenance on 350 miles of trails that serve mountain bikers, hikers, equestrians, and motorized activities in western Washington. Volunteers from four western Washington chapters of the alliance will maintain trails with supervision from crew leaders. The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance will contribute \$380,000 in a local and private grants and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2099)

#### **Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance** **Grant Requested: \$75,000**

#### **Engaging Eastern Washington Volunteers in Trail Maintenance**

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance will use this grant to engage volunteers in 8,824 hours of maintenance on 320 miles of trail of critical importance to mountain bikers, hikers, equestrians, and motorized recreation enthusiasts. The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance will contribute \$190,000 in local and private grants and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2100)

#### **Back Country Horsemen of Washington** **Grant Requested: \$82,486**

#### **Rehabilitating Olympic Peninsula Trails**

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will use this grant to engage volunteers in maintenance of about 574 miles of trail on the Olympic Peninsula. With more than 300 inches of rain annually and extremely fast-growing vegetation, the peninsula's trails can become unsafe quickly. Dangerous trail surfaces, unwanted water erosion, failing foot logs, damaged structures, missing signs, unclear corridors, and downed trees all pose hazards. This region hosts many visitors and offers adventures such as mountain biking, hiking, and horseback riding. The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will contribute \$207,974 in donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2004)

#### **Washington Trails Association** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Caring for Backcountry Trails Statewide**

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to engage volunteers in 30,000 hours of trail maintenance on 330 miles of trail throughout the Cascades, Olympics, and Blue Mountains. Backcountry crews will perform a wide variety of annual maintenance such as clearing trails of debris and improving trail surfaces, as well as technical projects such as clearing fallen trees and

## General Category

### Recreational Trails Program

### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)



moving short sections of trail to create safer and accessible trails for visitors. The Washington Trails Association will contribute \$581,280 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1990)

#### **Back Country Horsemen of Washington** **Grant Requested: \$117,600**

#### **Reopening Damaged National Forest Trails**

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will use this grant to maintain U.S. Forest Service trails damaged from flooding, fires, tree disease, and windstorms. The group will host at least three, large, volunteer events each year to clear trails of blocked logs and debris. The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will contribute \$237,200 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1959)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Addressing Backlogged Trail Maintenance in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to clear trail debris and improve trail surfaces and drainage on 150 miles of trails in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and surrounding backcountry. Work will be done in the watersheds of North, Middle, and South Forks of the Snoqualmie River, which include trails along the Interstate 90 corridor. More than 200,000 visitors use trails in the area each year. High visitor use, steep grades, dense forests, and winter storms created backlogged maintenance needs and existing Forest Service budgets are vastly insufficient. The Forest Service will contribute \$150,000 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2308)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Maintaining National Park and Forest Trails**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to maintain trails damaged by wildfires and those not in fee areas. Work will include clearing debris and improving trail surfaces and drainage in both Mount Rainier National Park and the national forest. Up to 200,000 visitors use these trails every year. High use and storms created backlogged maintenance needs that the budgets of the Forest Service and National Park Service cannot address. The trails are used by hikers, mountain bikers, snowshoers, cross-country skiers, horseback riders, and backpackers. The Forest Service will contribute \$572,792 in equipment, staff labor, materials, a grant from the state Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle activities program, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2320)

## General Category

### Recreational Trails Program

### Project Summaries (In Rank Order)

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#### **Back Country Horsemen of Washington Maintaining Damaged Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$57,817**

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will use this grant to engage volunteers in maintenance of 392 miles of trail in Capitol State Forest, Wenatchee National Forest, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Goat Rocks and Mount Adams Wilderness, and the Newport Ranger District. Volunteers will focus on clearing trails of debris, repairing trail surfaces and structures, improving water drainage, and replacing culverts, which are pipes or other structures that carry water under trails. The Backcountry Horsemen of Washington will contribute \$111,500 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2005)

#### **Washington Trails Association Engaging Volunteers in Statewide Trail Maintenance**

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

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to engage volunteers in 51,000 hours of trail maintenance on 280 miles of popular trails, most of which are near major urban areas of Puget Sound, Vancouver, and Spokane. Crews will perform a variety of maintenance such as clearing trails of debris and improving trail surfaces and structures. The Washington Trails Association will contribute \$986,360 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1991)

#### **Pacific Northwest Trail Association Supporting Stewardship of the Pacific Northwest Trail**

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

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association will use this grant to hire youth and young adult trail crews and engage volunteers from local communities to maintain the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail. Every year, some trail sections are damaged in wildfires, watersheds are in need of improvement, and bridges need to be built to maintain access for the ever-increasing number of outdoor enthusiasts. This project will address the maintenance backlog on hundreds of miles of trail used for hiking, horseback riding, cycling, hunting, and more. The Pacific Northwest Trail Association will contribute \$150,000 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2262)

#### **Northwest Motorcycle Association Maintaining Central Washington Single-track Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$143,878**

The Northwest Motorcycle Association will use this grant to provide coordination and training for volunteers to maintain multiuse, single-track trails in four ranger districts in central



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Washington. The association will assess trails, clear fallen trees, and repair trails. The Northwest Motorcycle Association will contribute \$155,890 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2421)

#### **Washington Trails Association** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Engaging Youth Volunteers in Statewide Trail Maintenance**

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant for youth work parties to maintain 92 miles of trail. The youth, who will contribute 27,000 hours of work, will address deferred maintenance backlogs to improve hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian opportunities on trails across Washington. The project will consist of day-long work parties on urban or front country trails, which typically are near major cities like Seattle, Spokane, Bellingham, and Vancouver, and week-long volunteer vacations in more remote backcountry areas. Each work party will vary in scope but will focus mainly on general maintenance activities such as removing overgrown brush, restoring trail surfaces, and improving drainage to create safer and accessible trails and mitigate damage. The Washington Trails Association will contribute \$521,550 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1989)

#### **Pacific Crest Trail Association** **Grant Requested: \$107,000**

#### **Caring for the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail**

The Pacific Crest Trail Association will use this grant to host multi-day, volunteer projects that will contribute more than 7,000 hours of labor to maintain more than 125 miles of trail in remote backcountry locations. Work will be done on the trail sections running through the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie, Okanogan-Wenatchee, and Gifford Pinchot National Forests. The work will make the trails more resistant to erosion and more accessible to the public. Volunteers will accomplish a wide range of work including improving trail surfaces and hauling out logs to enhance the trail for hikers, backpackers, and equestrians. The Pacific Crest Trail Association will contribute \$126,000 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2187)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$149,986**

#### **Maintaining Summer Trails in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

The Methow Valley Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain summer trails in the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, the Pasayten Wilderness, and the Twisp River drainage, including many trails that have been damaged by fires. The district also will maintain the Lone Fir Trail. The district will focus on trails in greatest

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danger of being lost due to deferred maintenance. Work will include clearing fallen trees, fixing trail surfaces and drainage, controlling erosion, and replacing trail structures such as turnpikes. The Forest Service will contribute \$152,022 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2135)

#### **Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Maintaining Trails in the Mountains to Sound Greenway**

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will use this grant to maintain 80 miles of hiking, biking, and horseback riding trails for 2 years in the Mountains to Sound Greenway in King and Kittitas Counties. Activities will include clearing logs and trail debris, replacing signs, and repairing drainage and trail surfaces in the Issaquah Alps (Cougar, Squak, Tiger, and Rattlesnake Mountains), destinations in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley, along the Pacific Crest Trail, in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, and other popular hiking trails along the Interstate 90 corridor. The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will contribute \$150,000 in a private grant and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2281)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Addressing Deferred Maintenance of Naches Ranger District Trails**

The Naches Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to pay for a five-person crew and supplies to maintain more than 300 miles of motorcycle and 4x4 trails in Yakima and Kittitas Counties. Work will include clearing brush, improving drainage, repairing trail structures, and enhancing trail signs. The Naches Ranger District's trails for motorized activities receive extensive use from an estimated 45,000 recreationists each year. The Forest Service will contribute \$90,003 in a federal appropriation, a grant from the state Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicles Activities program, materials, and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2184)

#### **Northwest Motorcycle Association** **Grant Requested: \$114,019**

#### **Caring for Single-Track Trails**

The Northwest Motorcycle Association will use this grant to maintain 34 miles of single-track trail on state and federal land in Chelan, King, Kittitas, Lewis, Pend Oreille, Stevens, and Yakima Counties. The association will focus on water management, restoration of trail surfaces, and removal of ruts and trail braiding. The work will prevent further trail damage and environmental impacts, improve safety, help prevent closures, and improve the visitor experience. The

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Northwest Motorcycle Association will contribute \$226,760 in a grant from the state Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicles Activities program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2419)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Caring for Trails in Northwestern Washington**

State Parks will use this grant to maintain 224 miles of trails in 13 state parks in northwestern Washington. The trails provide a backcountry experience to hikers, mountain bikers, runners, and horseback riders. The parks included are: Bridle Trails, Dash Point, Deception Pass, Fort Ebey, Larrabee, Mount Pilchuck, Squak Mountain, Twin Falls-Olallie, Saint Edward, Saltwater, South Whidbey, Moran, and Wallace Falls. Much of the work will include repairing and replacing trail and drainage structures, clearing debris, removing windfall, and maintaining trail surfaces. State Parks will contribute \$87,460 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1985)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Grooming Stampede Pass Trails**

State Parks will use this grant to groom trails at Stampede Pass, which is a mecca for snowmobile enthusiasts, and eliminate 6,200 groomed miles of maintenance backlog during two winters. Major snowstorms require clearing trails of fallen trees, removing snow drifts, and using snow removal equipment including snow cats, snow blowers, and plows all winter long. This backcountry area is close to multiple major cities and is quickly accessed via Interstate 90. Stampede Pass provides opportunities to enjoy all forms of non-motorized winter recreation including cross-country skiing, dog sledding, and fat tire biking. State Parks will contribute \$124,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2322)

#### **U.S. Forest Service      Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Caring for Lower Lake Chelan Summer and Winter Trails**

The Chelan Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain about 296 miles of trail used for hiking, Nordic skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, and motorized activities. Work will include clearing trails of debris, improving trail surfaces, and replacing trail elements, such as bridges. The project also will include grooming trails in the winter for snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and fat-tire biking. The Forest Service will contribute \$130,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donations

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of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1955)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$120,000**

#### **Caring for Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Trails**

The Naches Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to pay for a four- to six-person crew to maintain 360 miles of wilderness and adjacent trails for non-motorized activities in Yakima County. The crew will haul out logs, clear trails of debris, replace degraded trail structures, and improve trail surfaces. The ranger district also will buy small tools and materials. The Forest Service will contribute \$82,002 in a federal appropriation, a state grant from the Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicles Activities program, equipment, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2203)

#### **Methow Valley Sport Trail Association** **Grant Requested: \$144,000**

#### **Developing a Trailhead on Horizon Flats Road**

The Methow Valley Sport Trail Association will use this grant to develop a trailhead on 18 acres along Horizon Flats Road in Winthrop as a hub of trail-based recreation in the Methow Valley. The trailhead will provide parking, a bathroom, visitor information, and access to the Susie Stephens Trail, the Methow Community Trail, and eventually the proposed Twisp-to-Winthrop Trail, providing continuous trail access from Mazama to Twisp. The trailhead will serve non-motorized activities including cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, cycling, running, birdwatching, hiking, and horseback riding. The Methow Valley Sport Trail Association will contribute \$145,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2379)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Maintaining Upper Lake Chelan Basin Trails**

The Chelan Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain about 300 miles of trails for non-motorized activities in the upper Lake Chelan basin for two seasons. Work will include clearing trail debris, replacing and repairing trail signs, and improving trail elements, including water bars. The Forest Service will contribute \$108,500 in and staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1954)

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#### **Nooksack Nordic Ski Club** **Maintaining Salmon Ridge Trail System**

**Grant Requested: \$23,500**

The Nooksack Nordic Ski Club will use this grant to groom and maintain 15 miles of ski trails and 5 miles of snowshoe trails in the Salmon Ridge trail system near the Mount Baker Ski area off State Route 542 in Whatcom County. Maintenance activities include summer mowing and vegetation control and winter grooming to pack the snow and set ski tracks. The grant also will support volunteer work parties to remove overgrown bushes, install signs, and clean drainage systems to prevent trail erosion. The Salmon Ridge trail system is the only groomed and tracked cross-country ski trail in northwest Washington. The Nooksack Nordic Ski Club will contribute \$59,680 in a state grant and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2029)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Building the Knothead Loop Trailhead**

**Grant Requested: \$148,065**

State Parks will use this grant to build a trailhead for Knothead Loop in Riverside State Park, about one-quarter mile northeast of the Painted Rocks Trailhead. The new trailhead will include a paved entrance, two gravel parking areas with 40 spaces, a restroom, kiosks, fencing, a fee station, and trail access between the trailheads. Knothead Loop is one of the most popular loop trails in the park with breathtaking views of the Little Spokane River and ample opportunities for viewing wildlife. The trailhead for this area is frequently at capacity and at times more than 50 cars might be parked up and down the narrow country road causing unsafe conditions. State Parks will contribute \$48,000 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2062)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Maintaining Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trails**

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

The Mount Baker Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to maintain 22 miles of hiking trails in the Heather Meadows Recreation Area for two seasons. Located at the end of the Mount Baker Scenic Byway, Heather Meadows has been a popular recreation destination for a variety of visitors for more than 90 years. Work includes hauling out logs, clearing trail debris, replacing boardwalk and stairways, and improving drainage and trail surfaces. This work will improve safety, limit environmental impacts, and provide a better recreational experience. The Forest Service will contribute \$80,000 in a federal appropriation and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2180)

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#### **Spokane Nordic Ski Association** **Grant Requested: \$77,400**

#### **Renting Equipment to Maintain Spokane Nordic Trails**

The Spokane Nordic Ski Association will use this grant to rent a dozer, excavator, and hammer attachment for 6 weeks for 2 years to improve the Mount Spokane State Park's Nordic trails. The association will repair erosion, smooth the trail, and remove some tree stumps and rocks to accommodate winter snow groomers and horse riding, cycling, hiking, and running in other seasons. The Spokane Nordic Ski Association will contribute \$55,180 in staff labor and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2324)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$149,000**

#### **Caring for Wilderness Trails in Gifford Pinchot National Forest**

The Cowlitz Valley Ranger District in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest will use this grant to maintain 300 miles of trails in seven designated wilderness areas over 2 years. Maintenance will include clearing trails of debris and repairing drainage structures and trail surfaces. The trails, which can be accessed from the towns of Randle and Trout Lake, are used primarily by hikers and equestrians. The Forest Service will contribute \$182,985 in a federal appropriation, staff labor, and donate labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2157)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Improving Colville National Forest Backcountry Trails**

The Tonasket, Republic, Three Rivers, Newport, and Sullivan Lake Ranger Districts will use this grant to maintain backcountry trails throughout the Colville National Forest. Crews will remove overgrown vegetation, improve trail surfaces, remove fallen trees, and enhance trail drainage. The work would bring national forest trails up to Forest Service standards and support continued public access. The Forest Service will contribute \$43,169 in equipment, staff labor, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2015)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$24,350**

#### **Maintaining the Cascadia Marine Trail**

State Parks will use this grant to maintain 40 Cascadia Marine Trail day-use and camping sites. These popular sites are throughout Puget Sound and the San Juan Islands and attract kayakers and paddle boarders from around the country. State Parks will provide new signs and



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informational kiosks. This project is a partnership between State Parks, the Washington Department of Natural Resources, and the Washington Water Trails Association. State Parks will contribute \$3,150 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2113)

#### **Chelan-Douglas Land Trust** **Improving Wenatchee Foothills Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$56,223**

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust will use this grant to maintain about 14 miles of trail across the Wenatchee Foothills Trail System in Chelan County. Work will include using a small excavator to fix trail surfaces and stairs, add a small pipe to carry water under a trail, and improve drainage. In addition to trail maintenance, the land trust will survey for cultural resources to help guide decisions about trail maintenance that may disturb soils and future trail construction. This trail system accommodates multiple, non-motorized activities, including hiking, bicycling, and horse riding. The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust will contribute \$21,822 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2118)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Maintaining East Snoqualmie Corridor Backcountry Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$94,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain more than 36 miles of trail, 5 trailheads, and 4 day-use sites in the Mount Si and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Areas in eastern King County. The grant will pay for staff, materials, and agreements with partner organizations to maintain the trails and facilities. The trails are used for nonmotorized activities including hiking, biking, horseback riding, rock climbing, and paragliding. The trails and recreation sites are among Washington's most popular and offer year-round destinations with backcountry characteristics to the 4 million residents of the Puget Sound area. The Department of Natural Resources will contribute \$69,560 in staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2236)

#### **Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance** **Maintaining U.S. Forest Service Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$149,984**

The Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance will use this grant to maintain a portion of the more than 230 miles of multiuse, double-track trails open to off-highway vehicles in national forests. These trails have not been maintained due to inadequate governmental funding. The alliance will repair trail surfaces and drainage structures, clear debris, and haul out fallen logs. Trails will be maintained to enhance the experience for all visitors and reduce impacts to



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sensitive areas and streams. The Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance will contribute \$17,051 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2401)

#### **National Forest Foundation** **Grant Requested: \$47,350**

#### **Maintaining Trails along the South Fork Stillaguamish River**

The National Forest Foundation will use this grant to hire youth from EarthCorps to maintain 16 trails along the South Fork Stillaguamish River portion of the Mountain Loop Highway. In coordination with the U.S. Forest Service, crews will maintain 50 miles of high-use trails. Projected visitation increases stress the urgency for keeping up with the maintenance, especially when coupled with the high precipitation. The National Forest Foundation will contribute \$47,350 in cash donations. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2297)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$150,000**

#### **Maintaining Darrington Ranger District Backcountry Trails**

The Darrington Ranger District in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will use this grant to maintain 200 miles of trails off Mountain Loop Highway and Suiattle River Road. The trails offer day hikes to popular lakes and peaks, as well as remote overnight backcountry experiences, all within 2 hours of Everett and Seattle. The Forest Service will contribute \$151,000 in a federal appropriation and staff and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2026)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$51,800**

#### **Maintaining Trails in the Cle Elum Ranger District**

The Cle Elum Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund a two-person crew to maintain 500 miles of snowmobile trails and 60 miles of ski, snowshoe, and dogsled trails in Kittitas County. The crew will remove hazardous and fallen trees, groom trails, install and maintain signs and markers, and repair bridges and culverts, which are large pipes and other structures that carry streams under roads. The trails are used for snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, dogsledding, snow play, snowshoeing, and skijoring. The ranger district is one of the most heavily used winter recreation areas in the state, with easy access from population centers, abundant snow, and good weather. The Forest Service will contribute \$1,500 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2074)

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#### **U.S. Forest Service**

#### **Maintaining Snowmobile Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$102,000**

The Entiat Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain about 150 miles of trails. Work will include removing fallen trees, clearing trail debris, repairing minor washouts, and maintaining 250 trail signs. By keeping the trails and roads clear of debris, the district ensures snow groomers can keep the trails open in the winter. The Entiat and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts have more than 200 miles of trails that are groomed weekly during the winter. An estimated 45,000 people visit this area annually. The Forest Service will contribute \$122,000 in staff labor, a state grant, and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2221)

#### **Mount Tahoma Trails Association**

#### **Maintaining Mount Tahoma Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$33,600**

The Mount Tahoma Trails Association will use this grant to maintain more than 40 miles of trails near Ashford. The association will groom trails and remove fallen trees in the winter, and in the summer, remove encroaching plants and repair and replace signs that are critical to trail safety. Trails are for nonmotorized activities, primarily winter recreation, including access to four backcountry huts that provide places to sleep for skiers and snowshoers. The Mount Tahoma Trails Association will contribute \$18,000 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2066)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission**

#### **Maintaining Blue Mountains Snowmobile Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$118,100**

State Parks will use this grant to plow snow at four Sno-Parks, and groom 138 miles of snowmobile trails in the Umatilla National Forest. These trails tie into trail systems in Oregon and open riding opportunities into the mountains of northeastern Oregon. The unique terrain of this area provides open ridges with panoramic views and winding valleys with forests of Ponderosa pine and grand fir. State Parks will contribute \$15,000 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2251)

#### **University of Washington**

#### **Caring for Pack Forest Trails**

**Grant Requested: \$119,549**

The University of Washington's Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest will use this grant to maintain 15 miles of Pack Forest trails, which are in the heart of Pierce County, between Seattle and Mount Rainier National Park. With frequent Rainier vistas, Pack Forest is a sought-

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after destination for hikers in the greater Puget Sound. Work will include removing overgrown bushes, fixing drainage structures, and removing invasive species. Pack Forest contains a wide array of western Washington forest types, from Douglas-fir old-growth to red alder stands and multi-species cohorts. The University of Washington will contribute \$18,402 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2051)

#### **U.S. Forest Service** **Grant Requested: \$38,000**

#### **Grooming and Maintaining Trails in the Umatilla National Forest**

The Pomeroy Ranger District in the Umatilla National Forest will use this grant to fund a two-person crew and volunteers to provide winter grooming and maintain 138 miles of snowmobile trails in the Umatilla National Forest. The crew will remove fallen trees, clear debris, improve signs and trail markers, and install snow poles. The Forest Service will contribute \$80,000 in equipment, staff labor, materials, a state grant, and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2019)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$140,000**

#### **Caring for Pyramid Peak Snowmobile Trails**

State Parks will use this grant to clear snowmobile trails, remove winter storm and trail debris and snow drifts, and plow snow to provide safe and accessible parking for visitors to the 112-mile Pyramid Peak snowmobile trail system. The work will maintain around 5,800 miles of groomed trails for two winters plus keep five Sno-Parks and access roads plowed and safe for public use. The trail system lies on the west side of the Cascade Mountains, close to State Route 410, and provides quick access for Seattle and west side residents to ride groomed winter trails. State Parks will contribute \$10,000 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2272)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Requested: \$132,000**

#### **Maintaining Mount Baker Sno-Parks and Trails**

State Parks' Winter Recreation Program will use this grant to maintain six Sno-Parks and groom 7,600 miles of snowmobile trails in and around Mount Baker in Whatcom and Skagit Counties for two winters. The goal is to maintain safe and usable parking areas and trails for snowmobilers and other winter recreationists. State Parks will contribute \$20,000 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2261)

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#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$133,000**

#### **Grooming Selkirk Snowmobile Trails**

State Parks will use this grant to plow snow at seven Sno-Parks and groom 8,700 miles of snowmobile trails in the Colville National Forest and on Mount Spokane. Work will include plowing snow at parking lots and access roads, clearing trails of debris, and moving fallen trees. The goal is to maintain safe and usable parking areas and trails for snowmobilers and other winter recreationists. State Parks will contribute \$20,000 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2271)

#### **North Olympic Land Trust      Grant Requested: \$27,408**

#### **Maintaining North Olympic Land Trust Trails**

The North Olympic Land Trust will use this grant to maintain trails at six of its sites in Clallam County. The land trust will remove overgrown brush, lay gravel and fix trail surfaces, repair drainage structures and boardwalks, and replace signs. These trails take visitors through a multitude of landscapes, including forests, meadows, riverside habitats, wetlands, and estuaries. The North Olympic Land Trust will contribute \$12,672 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2002)

#### **Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group      Grant Requested: \$141,260**

#### **Connecting the Theler Wetlands Trail**

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to build 900 feet of trail to reconnect the 3.2-mile Theler Trail system on Hood Canal and the Union River estuary to surrounding Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife trails. The Theler Trail system is outside of Belfair and has been disconnected by a washout since 2012. To reach the other trail, hikers detour onto Roessel Road, which creates safety concerns. The salmon enhancement group will build a setback dike and elevate a gated emergency access road to serve as the new connecting trail. The work will resolve flooding and pollution issues. The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will contribute \$40,000 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2267)

#### **Mountain Trails Grooming Association      Grant Requested: \$65,100**

#### **Grooming Snowmobile Trails in the Methow Valley**

The Mountain Trails Grooming Association will use this grant to maintain 117 miles of trail in the Methow Valley. Work will include grooming, cutting overgrown brush, and maintaining signs for trails that provide a backcountry experience for snowmobilers, cross-country skiers, and hikers.

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This grant supplements state funding, which has declined by 10 percent in the past year. The Mountain Trails Grooming Association will contribute \$7,300 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1958)

#### **U.S. Forest Service**

**Grant Requested: \$50,000**

#### **Maintaining Naches Nordic Trails**

The Naches Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain 30 miles of trail for cross-country skiing and mountain biking. Activities include clearing trail debris, maintaining trail structures, improving signs, updating maps, grooming trails in the winter, and setting Nordic tracks. The trails provide a backcountry-type experience, although they are easily accessible, lying within 3 miles of U.S. Route 12 and next to State Route 410. The Forest Service will contribute \$45,000 in equipment, staff labor, a state grant, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2202)

#### **Columbia Springs**

**Grant Requested: \$96,000**

#### **Improving Access at Columbia Springs**

Columbia Springs will use this grant to restore and maintain trails throughout the nearly 100-acre Columbia Springs area at the historic Vancouver Trout Hatchery. The group will remove non-native plants along the trail and maintain drainage structures and bridges. Columbia Springs will contribute \$10,880 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2414)

## Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the RTP Education 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.

### Education Category Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-2282E Mountains to Sound Greenway Trailhead Ambassadors (1) Rank 1
- 20-2131E Middle Fork and Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation (11) Rank 2
- 20-2283E Naches Wilderness Education Rangers (1) Rank 5

## Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the Recreational Trails 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.

### General Category Letters are in Ranked Order

- 20-2004M Rehabilitating Olympic Peninsula Trails (20) Rank 3
- 20-1990M Statewide Backcountry Trail Maintenance (6) Rank 4
- 20-1959M Reopening Threatened National Forest Trails (2) Rank 5
- 20-2308M Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance (4) Rank 6
- 20-2320D Mount Rainier National Park and Snoqualmie Ranger (9) Rank 7
- 20-2005M Rehabilitating Endangered Trails (8) Rank 8
- 20-1991M Statewide Volunteer Trail Maintenance (6) Rank 9
- 20-2262M Pacific Northwest Trail Statewide Stewardship (8) Rank 10
- 20-2421M Northwest Motorcycle Association Moto-Volunteer (4) Rank 10
- 20-1989M Statewide Youth Trail Maintenance (7) Rank 12
- 20-2187M Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail Maintenance (6) Rank 13
- 20-2135M Methow Valley Ranger District Mixed Use Deferred Trail (11) Rank 14
- 20-2281M Mountains to Sound Trail Maintenance (1) Rank 15
- 20-2184M Naches Motorized Trails Deferred Maintenance (8) Rank 16
- 20-2419M Northwest Motorcycle Association Heavy Maintenance (8) Rank 17
- 20-1955M Lower Lake Chelan Summer and Winter Trails (7) Rank 20
- 20-2203M Naches Wilderness Trails Deferred Maintenance (6) Rank 21
- 20-1954M Upper Lake Chelan Basin Trail Maintenance (6) Rank 23
- 20-2029M Salmon Ridge Trail System Maintenance (5) Rank 23
- 20-2180M Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance (12) Rank 26
- 20-2324M Spokane Nordic Trails Maintenance (4) Rank 26
- 20-2236M East Snoqualmie Corridor Backcountry Maintenance (7) Rank 29
- 20-2297M Connecting Youth and Improving the Mountain Loop (2) Rank 34
- 20-2026M Darrington Ranger District Backcountry Maintenance (8) Rank 35
- 20-2074M Cle Elum Ranger District Winter Trail Maintenance (12) Rank 36
- 20-2066M Mount Tahoma Trails Maintenance (4) Rank 38



- 20-2066M Mount Tahoma Trails Maintenance (4) Rank 38
- 20-2251M Blue Mountains Snowmobile Trails (2) Rank 39
- 20-2051M Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest (3) Rank 40
- 20-2019M Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming Maintenance (6) Rank 41
- 20-2002M North Olympic Land Trust Trail Maintenance (3) Rank 45
- 20-1958M Snowmobile Trail Grooming Methow Valley (3) Rank 47

## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2021

**Title:** Boating Facilities Program:  
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked Lists for the 2021-23 Biennium

**Prepared By:** Dan Haws, Outdoor Grants Manager

#### Summary

Applicants submitted thirty projects for the Boating Facilities Program (BFP). This memo describes the program, evaluation process, categories, and the resulting ranked lists. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the April meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked lists, which becomes the basis for board approval of grants in June, following legislative appropriation of funds.

#### Board Action Requested

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

**Resolution #:** 2021-11

**Purpose of Resolution:** Approve the preliminary ranked lists of projects shown in Tables 1 and 2.

### Background

Washington State citizens, through Initiative 215, established the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) in 1964 with passage of the Marine Recreation Land Act. The Act authorizes the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to provide financial assistance for acquisition and development of recreational boating access on both fresh and salt waters.

State, local, and tribal governments may request grant funds to:

- Acquire real property for motorized recreational boating,

- Develop or renovate sites and facilities used exclusively or primarily by recreational boaters, and
- Complete the design and engineering, environmental and cultural resources reviews, and permitting activities required for a development project.

To participate in the program, an applicant must adopt a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. The board’s [Recreational Boating Programs Plan](#) sets the priorities that shape the program policies and evaluation criteria that the board adopted into [Manual #9, Boating Facilities Program](#). The legislative authority for this program is the Revised Code of Washington 75A.25 and Washington Administrative Code 286.

The following table provides a summary of the program:

Category	State Agency Category	Local Agency Category
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	State agencies	Municipal governments and Native American tribes
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	Planning, acquisition, development, and renovation projects.	Planning, acquisition, development, and renovation projects
<b>Grant Limits</b>	No limits on the maximum grant request for a project, but the total funds requested by an agency may not exceed twice the estimated funds available for the grants cycle.	The maximum request for a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning project is \$200,000, or 20 percent of the estimated construction cost (whichever is less).</li> <li>• Acquisition, development, or combination project is \$1 million.</li> </ul>
<b>Match Requirements</b>	No match required	A minimum twenty-five percent matching share is required.
<b>Public Access</b>	Required	Required
<b>Other Program Characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning projects must result in construction ready documents.</li> <li>• Property acquired, developed, or renovated must be retained for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity.</li> <li>• Multi-site projects are eligible.</li> <li>• Launch facilities are primarily for public, non-commercial recreational boat launching and retrieval.</li> </ul>	

- Commercial or non-recreational use between October and April may be allowed if the sponsor ensures it will not displace recreational boaters.
- Applicants must prorate costs for facilities used for both eligible and ineligible boating activities. For example, since long-term guest moorage is not eligible for funding, an applicant would prorate costs for a breakwater that protects transient recreational moorage and long-term moorage.

## Overview

### Evaluation Summary

Members of the Boating Programs Advisory Committee evaluated eleven state agency projects and sixteen local agency projects, requesting \$18,812,551 in grant funds. The committee used board-adopted criteria to review and rank projects in virtual meetings on February 17-18, 2021. Advisory committee members included the following representatives, all of whom are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge about recreational boating issues.

Advisory Committee Member	Representing
Karl Harris, Shelton	Citizen
Chris Cole, Poulsbo	Citizen
*Al Wolslegel, Olympia	Citizen
Doug Chase, Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf	Local Agency
Glenn Guy Jr., Port of Ilwaco and Port of Chinook	Local Agency
Tami Hayes, Port of Friday Harbor	Local Agency
Dennis Lefevre, City of Oak Harbor	Local Agency
Kim Noah, Port of Camas-Washougal	Local Agency
Sue Patterson, Port of Shelton	Local Agency
Shane Belson, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	State Agency
Lowell Dickson, Washington Department of Natural Resources	State Agency
Chris Guidotti, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	State Agency

\* Participated in the technical review meeting only.

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Local Agency Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*

and Table 2 – Boating Facilities Program, State Agency Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23 of the attached decision packages.

### **Review of Process and Criteria Modifications**

RCO staff hosted a virtual post-evaluation meeting with the Boating Programs Advisory Committee to debrief and assess the evaluation process and scoring results on February 22, 2021. Committee members appreciated using the new PRISM Online Review and Evaluation Module. The committee was satisfied with the information provided, the responsiveness of RCO staff to their follow-up questions, and the resulting ranked list.

They were comfortable with the evaluation criteria and spent time discussing the projects at the bottom of the BFP State Category list. The board-adopted evaluation criteria prioritize projects based on the fund source for this program. Boaters have the option of requesting a refund of the taxes they pay for gasoline. Many boaters do not request this refund and that money is used for BFP. To honor the fund source, the board adopted the *Boats on Trailers* criterion that rewards projects providing facilities for trailered vessels that use gasoline.

Committee members felt that the applicant submitting projects for the San Juan Islands, did not adequately show the range of vessels that would use the guest moorage facilities. Evaluators know large vessels to make up a good portion of the use, however, to score well, an applicant must provide good statistics on the number of trailered motorboats that launch and head out to this area for recreational use. Also, when presenting more costly projects, such as these, it is important for the applicant to describe the scale of use and include the number of guests served, to potentially increase their points the *Cost Benefit* criterion.

To improve the overall process, one member asked if staff could add additional time for evaluators to discuss projects between presentations and another asked about building in an alert for applicants to help them stay within the time limits. Staff will keep these suggestions in mind when preparing for the 2022 grant cycle. The advisory committee wrapped up the meeting by expressing their appreciation for Tessa Cencula, RCO's volunteer coordinator. They spoke about her patience, the way she kept them informed, and asked to convey their thanks for the extra work she put into communicating with them in a timely manner.

### **Strategic Plan Link**

Consideration of these projects 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 directly support board-adopted priorities in the board's [Recreational Boating Programs Plan](#).

## Public Comment

Letters of support or concern are in Attachment I, Local Agency Category and Attachment J, State Agency Category. Any additional public comment will be shared at the April board meeting.

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Local Agency Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23* and *Table 2 – Boating Facilities Program, State Agency Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, the lists will be available for funding consideration for the 2021-23 biennium. The Legislature will set the BFP funding authority in the state capital budget. The board will approve the final list and make its funding decisions at its June 2021 meeting.

## Attachments

- A. Resolution #2021-11
  - *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Local Agency Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
  - *Table 2 – Boating Facilities Program, State Agency Category, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Maps of Local Agency Category Projects
- C. State Map of State Agency Category Projects
- D. Evaluation Criteria Summary
- E. Evaluation Scores for Local Agency Category 2021-23
- F. Evaluation Scores for State Agency Category 2021-23
- G. Project Summaries for Local Agency Category
- H. Project Summaries for State Agency Category
- I. Letters Submitted by the Public for Local Agency Category Projects
- J. Letters Submitted by the Public for State Agency Category Projects

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2021-11  
Boating Facilities Program  
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked List of Projects for the 2021-23 Biennium**

**WHEREAS**, for the 2021-23 biennium, twenty-seven Boating Facilities Program (BFP) projects are being considered for funding; and

**WHEREAS**, all twenty-seven projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in *Manual 9, Boating Facilities Program*, and

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

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

**WHEREAS**, the projects provide for acquisition, planning, development, and renovation of motorized boating access areas and facilities, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list for the projects depicted in *Table 1 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of Local Agency Projects, 2021-23* and *Table 2 – Boating Facilities Program, Preliminary Ranked List of State Agency Projects, 2021-23*.

*Resolution moved by:*

*Resolution seconded by:*

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:*





**Table 1: Local Agency Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects  
Boating Facilities Program  
2021-2023**

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
1	61.55	20-2323 D	Kennewick	Columbia Park Boat Launch Boarding Float Rehabilitation	\$135,000	\$45,000	\$180,000
2	60.73	20-2095 D	Port of Chinook	Port of Chinook Boat Launch Replacement	\$944,439	\$241,110	\$1,185,549
3	59.73	20-2343 D	Snohomish County	Kayak Point Elevated Boat Launch	\$1,000,000	\$1,702,498	\$2,702,498
4	56.91	20-2083 D	Port of Port Townsend	Gardiner Boat Launch Improvement	\$539,877	\$134,970	\$674,847
5	56.18	20-2217 D	Port of Brownsville	Port of Brownsville Boating Facilities	\$86,025	\$28,675	\$114,700
6	55.91	20-2000 D	Port of Camas-Washougal	Parker's Landing Marina Breakwater Access Area	\$1,000,000	\$469,827	\$1,469,827
6	55.91	20-2115 D	Port of Whitman County	Boyer Park and Marina Dock Replacement	\$1,000,000	\$1,109,120	\$2,109,120
8	55.64	20-2101 P	Manson Park and Recreation District	Manson Bay Marina Breakwater Replacement	\$82,500	\$27,500	\$110,000
9	55.27	20-2059 D	Port of Illahee	Guest Moorage Improvements	\$851,065	\$299,000	\$1,150,065
10	54.91	20-2080 D	King County	Dockton Moorage Renovation Phase 2	\$1,000,000	\$2,250,000	\$3,250,000
11	52.00	20-2119 D	Port of Friday Harbor	Jackson Beach Parking Overlay and Restroom Upgrade	\$330,750	\$110,250	\$441,000
11	52.00	20-2142 D	Port of Silverdale	Silverdale Launch and Dock Facilities Upgrades	\$1,000,000	\$250,000	\$1,250,000
13	51.91	20-2153 A	Aberdeen	Southshore Public Waterfront	\$321,900	\$107,300	\$429,200
14	51.73	20-2384 D	Port of Kingston	Kingston Guest Moorage Floats	\$421,250	\$192,750	\$614,000
15	51.46	20-2158 D	Lake Stevens	North Cove Guest Moorage Development	\$116,245	\$40,000	\$156,245
16	45.91	20-2006 D	Port of Willapa Harbor	Tokeland Marina Fishers RV Park and Campground	\$764,000	\$531,000	\$1,295,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$9,593,051</b>	<b>\$7,539,000</b>	<b>\$17,132,051</b>

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

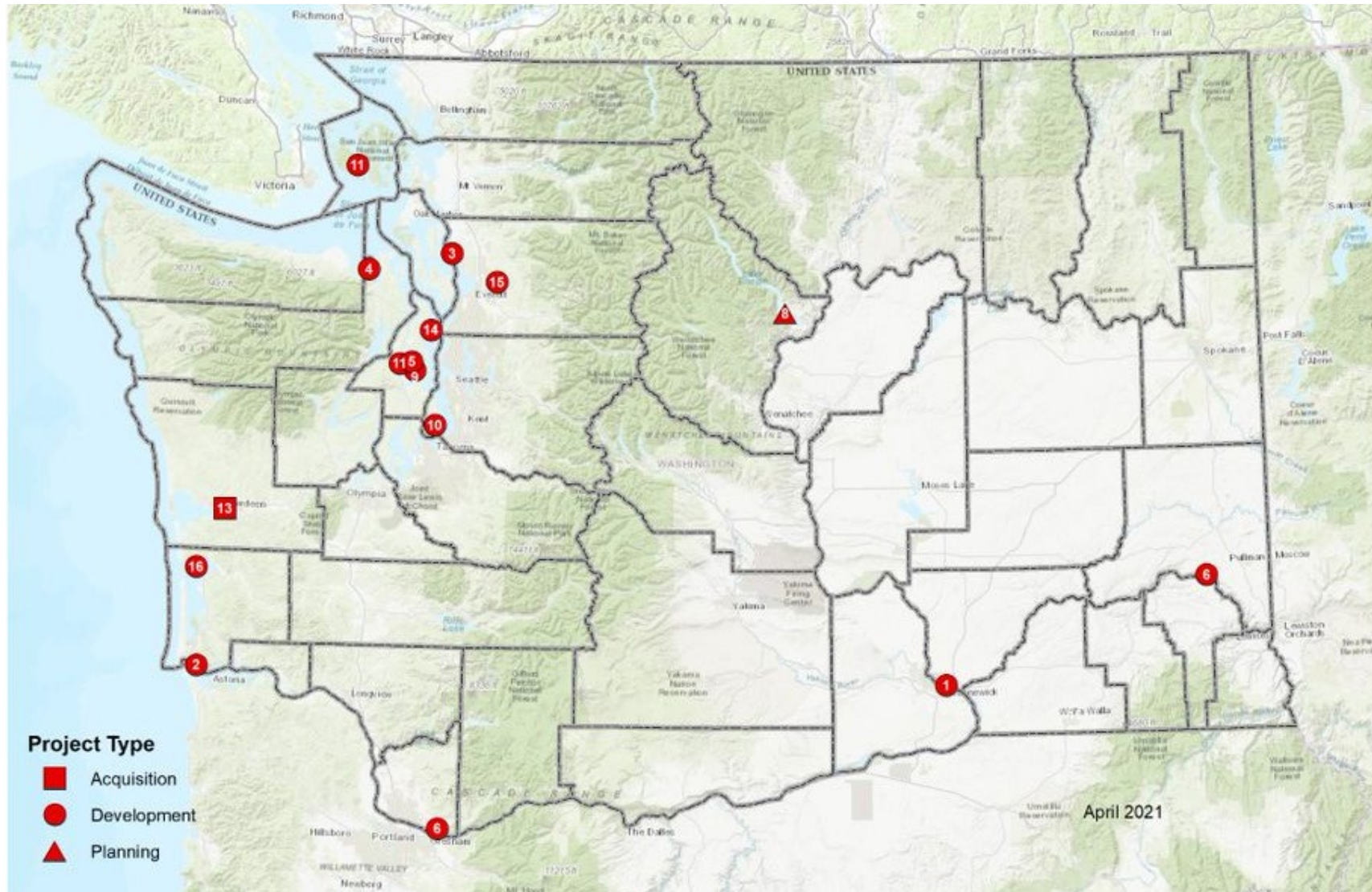


**Table 2: State Agency Category  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects**  
Boating Facilities Program  
2021-2023

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Total
1	56	20-2425 C	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Lakebay Marina Acquisition	\$1,776,000	\$1,776,000
2	55.091	20-2072 D	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Fuller Bridge Access Area Redevelopment	\$760,000	\$760,000
2	55.091	20-2302 P	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Twenty-Five Mile Creek Boat Ramp and Moorage Floats	\$200,000	\$200,000
4	54.182	20-2096 D	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Patterson Lake Access Area Redevelopment	\$880,000	\$880,000
5	52.546	20-2417 P	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Sacajawea Snake River Floats Planning	\$200,000	\$200,000
6	52.091	20-2340 P	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Sacajawea Moorage and Parking Improvements	\$200,000	\$200,000
7	52	20-2314 D	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Lake Terrell Boarding Float Replacement	\$360,000	\$360,000
8	49.909	20-2230 D	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Million Dollar Mile North Access Area Redevelopment	\$965,000	\$965,000
9	49.636	20-2191 P	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Marine Moorage Buoy Planning	\$291,000	\$291,000
10	49.091	20-2189 D	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Stuart Island-Reid Harbor Moorage Replacement	\$1,872,500	\$1,872,500
11	48	20-2190 D	State Parks and Recreation Commission	Sucia Island-Fossil Bay Moorage Replacement	\$1,715,000	\$1,715,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$9,219,500</b>	<b>\$9,219,500</b>

Project Types: C=Combination, D=Development, P=Planning

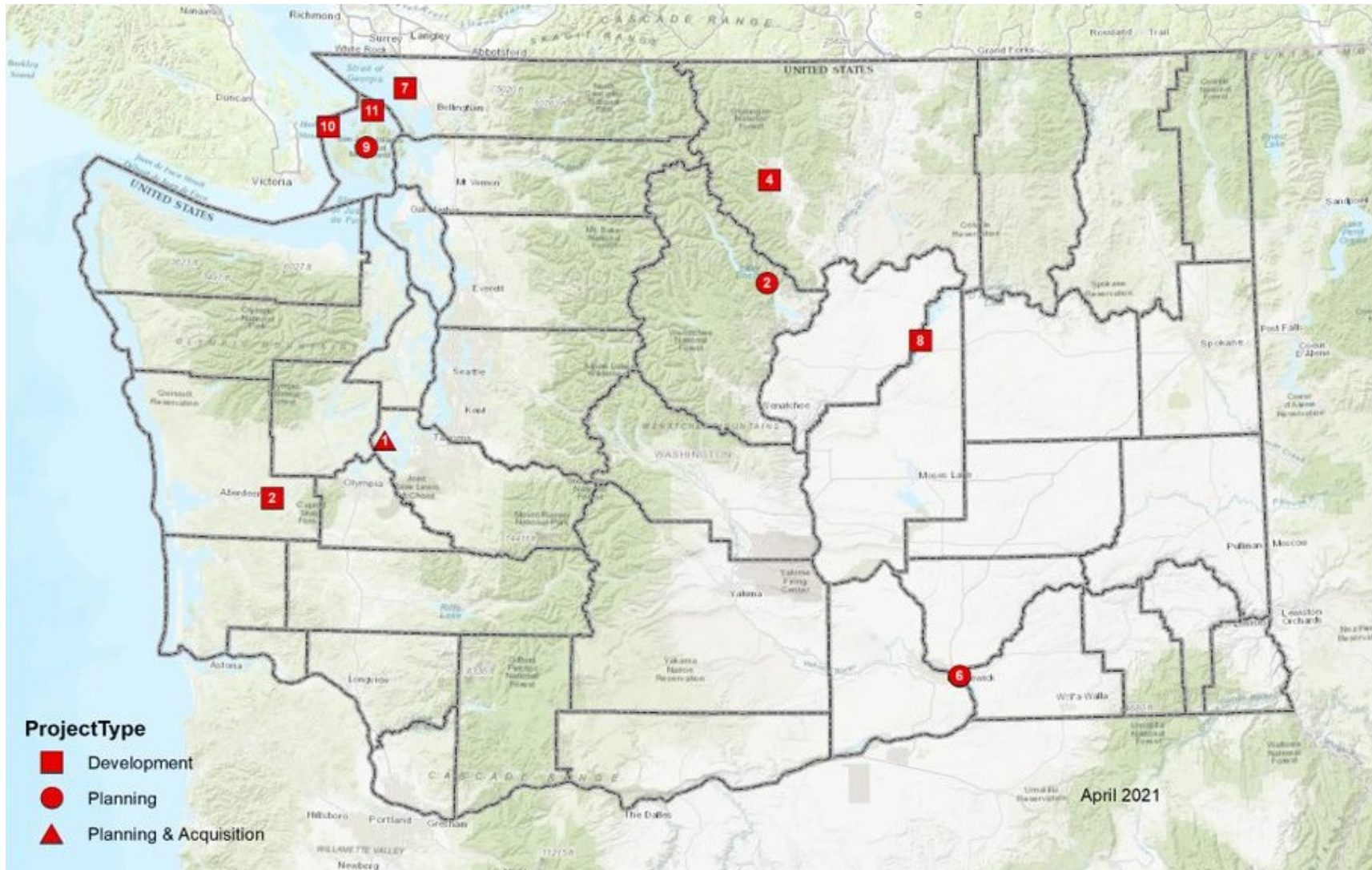
### State Map for Boating Facilities Program: Local Agency Category Projects



The numbers represent ranked order.



### State Map for Boating Facilities Program: State Agency Category Projects



The numbers represent ranked order.

## Boating Facilities Program

### Local Agency and State Agency Evaluation Criteria Summary

<b>BFP Evaluation Criteria Summary</b>				
<b>Scored by</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Project Type*</b>	<b>Possible Points</b>
Advisory Committee	1	Need	All	15
Advisory Committee	2	Site Suitability	Acquisition	20
			Combination, Development, Planning	15
Advisory Committee	3	Urgency	Acquisition	10
			Combination	5
Advisory Committee	4	Project Design	Development	10
			Combination of Acquisition and Development	5
Advisory Committee	5	Planning Success (architectural/engineering only)	Planning	10
			Combination of Acquisition and Planning	5
Advisory Committee	6	Sustainability	All	10
Advisory Committee	7	Cost-benefit	All	5
Advisory Committee	8	Boats on Trailers	All	5
Advisory Committee	9	Boating Experience	All	6
Advisory Committee	10	Readiness	All	5
RCO Staff	11	Proximity to People	All	1
RCO Staff	12	Growth Management Act Preference (local agencies)	All	0
<b>Total</b>				<b>72</b>

\*All project types=Acquisition, development or renovation, and planning (architecture-engineering or permit related). Combination projects include both acquisition of real property and either development or planning activities.

## Scoring Criteria for the Boating Facilities Program

### Scored by Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** Is the project needed?
2. **Site suitability.** Is the site well-suited for the intended recreational uses?
3. **Urgency** (any project with acquisition as a component). How urgent is the need for funding from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board?
4. **Project design** (development or acquisition and development projects only). Is the proposal appropriately designed for the intended use?
5. **Planning success** (planning or acquisition and planning projects only). What potential does this project have to successfully complete the required documents needed to start a development project?
6. **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?
7. **Cost-benefit.** Do the benefits of the project outweigh the costs?
8. **Boats on Trailers.** Does the proposed project predominantly serve boats on trailers?
9. **Boating experience.** How will the project affect the boating experience?
10. **Readiness.** Is the project ready to proceed?

### Scored by RCO Staff

11. **Proximity to people.** Is the project site in a populated area?
12. **Growth Management Act compliance.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act?<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250 (Growth Management Act preference required.)



**Local Agency Category Evaluation Scores**  
**Boating Facilities Program**  
 2021-2023

Attachment E

Project Number	Rank	Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Site Suitability	3. Urgency	4. Project Design	5. Planning Success	6. Sustainability	7. Cost-Benefit	8. Boats on Trailers	9. Boating Experience	10. Readiness	11. Proximity to People	12. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
Point Range				0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-10	0-5	-4-6	0-5	0-1.0	-1-0.0	
1	20-2323	D	Columbia Park Boat Launch Boarding Float	13.91	13.36		8.91		3.82	8.55	4.73	3.45	3.82	1.00	0.00	61.55
2	20-2095	D	Port of Chinook Boat Launch Replacement	13.64	13.36		8.91		3.91	7.82	4.73	4.73	3.64	0.00	0.00	60.73
3	20-2343	D	Kayak Point Elevated Boat Launch	12.27	11.73		9.09		4.18	8.18	4.82	4.55	3.91	1.00	0.00	59.73
4	20-2083	D	Gardiner Boat Launch Improvement	12.55	12.00		7.82		3.82	7.82	4.91	4.91	3.09	0.00	0.00	56.91
5	20-2217	D	Port of Brownsville Boating Facilities	10.64	12.82		8.00		3.64	8.00	4.55	3.45	4.09	1.00	0.00	56.18
6	20-2000	D	Parker's Landing Marina Breakwater Access Area	10.91	12.55		8.91		3.45	7.09	3.64	3.64	4.73	1.00	0.00	55.91
6	20-2115	D	Boyer Park and Marina Dock Replacement	11.45	12.27		8.00		3.73	7.27	4.18	4.36	4.64	0.00	0.00	55.91
8	20-2101	P	Manson Bay Marina Breakwater Replacement	11.73	12.27			7.82	3.82	7.82	4.27	4.36	3.55	0.00	0.00	55.64
9	20-2059	D	Guest Moorage Improvements	12.00	10.64		8.18		3.82	7.45	4.09	4.00	4.09	1.00	0.00	55.27
10	20-2080	D	Dockton Moorage Renovation Phase 2	12.27	12.27		7.64		3.73	7.64	3.09	3.82	3.45	1.00	0.00	54.91
11	20-2119	D	Jackson Beach Parking Overlay and Restroom	10.91	11.45		7.45		3.45	6.91	4.36	4.18	3.27	0.00	0.00	52.00
11	20-2142	D	Silverdale Launch and Dock Facilities Upgrades	11.18	11.18		6.73		3.45	6.91	4.00	4.00	3.55	1.00	0.00	52.00





**Local Agency Category Evaluation Scores**  
**Boating Facilities Program**  
 2021-2023

Project Number	Project Name	1. Need	2. Site Suitability	3. Urgency	4. Project Design	5. Planning Success	6. Sustainability	7. Cost-Benefit	8. Boats on Trailers	9. Boating Experience	10. Readiness	11. Proximity to People	12. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
Rank	And Type	Point Range	0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-10	0-5	-4-6	0-5	0-1.0	-1-0.0
13	20-2153 A	Southshore Public Waterfront	11.73	15.27	7.27			6.91	4.09	3.27	3.36	1.00	-1.00	51.91
14	20-2384 D	Kingston Guest Moorage Floats	11.45	10.91		7.09	3.36	7.27	3.45	3.64	3.55	1.00	0.00	51.73
15	20-2158 D	North Cove Guest Moorage Development	10.09	10.91		7.45	3.45	7.45	4.00	3.09	4.00	1.00	0.00	51.45
16	20-2006 D	Tokeland Marina Fishers RV Park and Campground	9.27	11.18		6.73	2.82	6.18	3.55	2.55	3.64	0.00	0.00	45.91

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-10; RCO staff scores Questions 11-12  
 Project Types: A=Acquisition, D=Development, P=Planning



**State Agency Category Evaluation Scores**  
**Boating Facilities Program**  
 2021-2023

Attachment F

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Site Suitability	3. Urgency	4. Project Design	5. Planning Success	6. Sustainability	7. Cost-Benefit	8. Boats on Trailers	9. Boating Experience	10. Readiness	11. Proximity to People	12. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
Point Range			0-15	0-15	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-5	0-10	0-5	-4-6	0-5	0-1.0	-1-0.0	
1	20-2425 C	Lakebay Marina Acquisition	12.00	12.00	4.09		3.45	3.55	7.09	3.55	5.27	4.00	1.00	0.00	56.000
2	20-2072 D	Fuller Bridge Access Area Redevelopment	12.55	11.73		8.00		3.55	7.09	4.73	4.00	3.45	0.00	0.00	55.091
2	20-2302 P	Twenty-Five Mile Creek Boat Ramp and Moorage	12.27	12.27			7.82	3.55	7.09	4.18	4.00	3.91	0.00	0.00	55.091
4	20-2096 D	Patterson Lake Access Area Redevelopment	11.73	12.55		7.82		3.36	7.09	4.45	3.45	3.73	0.00	0.00	54.182
5	20-2417 P	Sacajawea Snake River Floats Planning	11.73	10.91			7.27	3.73	6.36	3.73	4.00	3.82	1.00	0.00	52.545
6	20-2340 P	Sacajawea Moorage and Parking	10.36	12.27			7.45	3.27	6.55	4.00	3.45	3.73	1.00	0.00	52.091
7	20-2314 D	Lake Terrell Boarding Float Replacement	11.18	11.73		7.09		3.36	7.09	4.45	3.64	3.45	0.00	0.00	52.000
8	20-2230 D	Million Dollar Mile North Access Area Redevelopment	10.36	10.91		7.64		3.45	6.73	4.45	3.27	3.09	0.00	0.00	49.909
9	20-2191 P	Marine Moorage Buoy Planning	11.18	11.18			7.27	3.91	6.91	1.27	4.55	3.36	0.00	0.00	49.636



**State Agency Category Evaluation Scores**  
**Boating Facilities Program**  
 2021-2023

Rank	Project Number and Type	Project Name	1. Need	2. Site Suitability	3. Urgency	4. Project Design	5. Planning Success	6. Sustainability	7. Cost-Benefit	8. Boats on Trailers	9. Boating Experience	10. Readiness	11. Proximity to People	12. Growth Management Act Preference	Total
		<b>Point Range</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-15</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>-4-6</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-1.0</b>	<b>-1-0.0</b>	
10	20-2189 D	Stuart Island Reid Harbor Moorage Replacement	11.45	11.18		7.45		3.55	6.00	1.73	4.55	3.18	0.00	0.00	49.091
11	20-2190 D	Sucia Island Fossil Bay Moorage Replacement	10.64	11.18		7.45		3.45	5.64	1.82	4.73	3.09	0.00	0.00	48.000

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-10; RCO staff scores Questions 11-12  
 Project Types: C=Combination, D=Development, P=Planning

## Local Agency Project Summaries

### Boating Facilities Program (In Rank Order)



#### **Kennewick**

**Grant Requested: \$135,000**

#### **Renovating Columbia Park Boat Launch Boarding Floats**

The Kennewick Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate three boat launch boarding floats at Columbia Park boat launch. The City will replace the decking and floats to improve access to the Columbia and Snake Rivers. Kennewick will contribute \$45,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2323)

#### **Port of Chinook**

**Grant Requested: \$944,439**

#### **Replacing a Boat Launch**

The Port of Chinook will use this grant to replace its roughly 40-year-old boat launch. The Port will extend the ramp and add new surfacing, boarding floats, and piling. In addition, the Port will improve access for people with disabilities. The Port of Chinook will contribute \$241,110. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2095)

#### **Snohomish County**

**Grant Requested: \$1,000,000**

#### **Enhancing Kayak Point Park**

Snohomish County Parks, Recreation & Tourism will use this grant to enhance Kayak Point Park, near Stanwood. The County will replace a boat launch and amenities, including parking and a boat tiedown and rinse area. The County will elevate the boat launch and treat the stormwater from the upland before it runs into the Salish Sea. The elevated launch will improve ecological functions by moving the launch above beach sediments and allowing them to move with the tides and by creating uninterrupted fish habitat. The new launch also will eliminate the need to remove sediments from the launch lane and improve access for larger boats. Snohomish County will contribute \$1.7 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2343)

#### **Port of Port Townsend**

**Grant Requested: \$539,877**

#### **Improving the Gardiner Boat Launch**

The Port of Port Townsend will use this grant to replace and enhance access to the Gardiner Boat Launch, which is the only public recreational launch ramp on Discovery Bay. The launch is badly deteriorated, soon will be unsafe to use, and is not compliant for people with disabilities. The Port will build a new ramp, including a concrete access wedge and a seasonal boarding

## Local Agency Project Summaries

### Boating Facilities Program (In Rank Order)



float, both accessible to people with disabilities, which will make it easier for all boaters to launch and retrieve their boats. The new float will provide a place for boaters to temporarily tie up boats while retrieving their trailers, potentially preventing the beaching of boats. This project is the first of a two-phase effort with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. In the second phase, the department, which owns a parking lot next door, will add parking and restrooms. This two-phase project will support the future of the Olympic Peninsula Salmon Derby, a popular fishing derby that has been hosted at the launch for more than 40 years. The Port of Port Townsend will contribute \$134,970. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2083)

#### Port of Brownsville

**Grant Requested: \$86,025**

#### Enhancing Safety and Convenience at the Port of Brownsville

The Port of Brownsville will use this grant to install a credit card pay station at the boat launch and fuel dock at its facilities. In addition, the Port will add security cameras and lighting on the docks and breakwater and in the parking lot to improve safety and security. In the past, the Port used a cash box at the ramp and fuel dock, which led to the loss of thousands of dollars. The new pay stations will be more convenient for visitors. The Port of Brownsville will contribute \$28,675. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2217)

#### Port of Camas-Washougal

**Grant Requested: \$1,000,000**

#### Improving the Breakwater Access Area at Parker's Landing Marina

The Port of Camas-Washougal will use this grant to replace the breakwater access ramps at the Parker's Landing Marina. The Port will replace the concrete ramps with two, 80-foot-long, fiberglass grating ramps, which will be accessible to people with disabilities. In addition, the Port will replace the gangway with a wider structure. The Port also will build two overlook landings and renovate a third to connect the ramps and gangway. Finally, the Port will add water hook ups and eight electrical pedestals to expand amenities on the breakwater dock for guest boaters. The Port of Camas-Washougal will contribute \$469,827. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2000)

#### Port of Whitman County

**Grant Requested: \$1,000,000**

#### Replacing Docks at Boyer Park and Marina

The Port of Whitman County will use this grant to replace the fuel dock, two short-term moorage docks, an access pier, and a gangway at Boyer Park and Marina. The Port also will add

## Local Agency Project Summaries

### Boating Facilities Program

(In Rank Order)



navigation lights, electrical and water services, and a toilet. All of the new facilities will be accessible to people with disabilities. The new docks will provide a safer, more accessible, and more functional marina for boaters. Boyer Park is 20 miles southwest of Colfax and serves as the only boat ramp in Whitman County. The Port of Whitman County will contribute \$1.1 million in cash and staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2115)

#### **Manson** **Renovating Manson Bay Marina**

**Grant Requested: \$82,500**

The Manson Park and Recreation District will use this grant to develop a plan to replace the breakwater at its Mason Bay Marina in Manson Bay Park on Lake Chelan. The project will include a facility assessment, construction drawings, engineering, and required permits for the future renovation of the deteriorating breakwater, which will include removal of the tire floats. The plan also will assess the feasibility of expanding the breakwater to accommodate more marina slips. A variety of recreational boaters, from Jet Skiers to anglers to paddle boarders and kayakers, enjoy Lake Chelan year-round. The Manson Park and Recreation District will contribute \$27,500. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2101)

#### **Port of Illahee** **Improving Guest Moorage at Port Orchard Bay**

**Grant Requested: \$851,065**

The Port of Illahee will use this grant to create 11 slips for guest motorboats that are up to 26 feet long at the Port Orchard Bay moorage facility. The Port also will improve the configuration of the moorage to provide individual slips and better vessel maneuvering options. The Port recently bought a residential property with a boat launch ramp near the parking area that will provide the room to expand. The Port will use the land for more parking and a new toilet, and will open the launch ramp to public use. The Port will contribute \$299,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2059)

#### **King County** **Continuing Renovations of Dockton Moorage**

**Grant Requested: \$1,000,000**

The King County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate the dock and moorage slips at Dockton Park, which is on the shores of Quartermaster Harbor on Vashon-Maury Island in south Puget Sound. The County also will replace 36 pilings and 8 finger piers, renovate the breakwater pier with pre-fabricated floats, and install a fire safety system. Dockton Park's dock, moorage, and launching facilities were built in 1969 and renovated

## Local Agency Project Summaries

### Boating Facilities Program (In Rank Order)



in the mid-1980s, and the boat launch was replaced in the early 2000s. King County will contribute \$2.2 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2080)

#### **Port of Friday Harbor Upgrading the Jackson Beach Boat Launch**

**Grant Requested: \$330,750**

The Port of Friday Harbor will use this grant to pave parking areas and replace the restrooms at the Jackson Beach Boat Launch. The boat launch is near Friday Harbor and serves as the only boat launch with 72-hour free parking. Nestled in Griffin Bay, the boat launch area offers a shelter, restrooms, picnic areas, barbecue pits, open beach, and views of the Olympic Mountains. Currently, the boat launch has only three paved parking spaces for trucks and trailers, and the Port will expand that to 20. The Port of Friday Harbor will contribute \$110,250. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2119)

#### **Port of Silverdale Upgrading Silverdale Launch and Dock Facilities**

**Grant Requested: \$1,000,000**

The Port of Silverdale will use this grant to expand moorage and improve public access at its "Old Town" Silverdale Marina in Kitsap County. The Port will develop a design, dredge, extend a finger pier, install a gangway, and upgrade wiring, power pedestals, and plumbing. Extending the finger pier by 1,700 square feet will provide wind and wave protection and allow larger boats to tie up. Replacing the gangway from the existing pier to the marina dock with an aluminum gangway improves access to mooring floats during low tides and accommodates people with disabilities. The Port of Silverdale will contribute \$250,000 in staff labor and a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2142)

#### **Aberdeen Improving Southshore Public Waterfront**

**Grant Requested: \$321,900**

The City of Aberdeen will use this grant to buy 3.25 acres on West Front Street to develop a boat launch, dock, and amenities. The boat launch would be the city's only boat launch with access to both the Chehalis and Wishkah Rivers. The City will build the launch, docks, roads, parking lots, and stormwater facilities. The land is between city-owned property and the Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority. The City of Aberdeen will contribute \$107,300. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2153)



## Local Agency Project Summaries

### Boating Facilities Program

(In Rank Order)



#### Port of Kingston

**Grant Requested: \$421,250**

##### Replacing the Kingston Marina Yacht Float

The Port of Kingston will use this grant to replace a deteriorated float used for small boat storage and launching. The Port of Kingston will contribute \$192,750. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2384)

#### Lake Stevens

**Grant Requested: \$116,245**

##### Developing North Cove Guest Moorage

The City of Lake Stevens will use this grant to build nine guest moorage slips, for day use at its North Cove Park public pier. The City recently redeveloped North Cove Park and built a public venue (the Mill) to revitalize downtown Lake Stevens, which is becoming increasingly popular for shopping, outdoor recreation, and dining. The guest moorage would bring another form of transportation to this public park and the surrounding businesses. The City of Lake Stevens will contribute \$40,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#).

#### Port of Willapa Harbor

**Grant Requested: \$764,000**

##### Renovating the Tokeland Marina Fishers' RV Park

The Port of Willapa Harbor will use this grant to redevelop a 50-year-old campground for recreational vehicles (RVs) at its Tokeland Marina. The Port will add 34 sites for RVs and trailers, 2 sites for people with disabilities, and 5 walk-in sites, including one tent site. The Port also will renovate the road access, add parking, and build 500 feet of trail to a nearby road. In addition, the Port will install a new pay station, kiosk, utilities, and utility services at the RV sites. The Port will straighten the nearby boat launch area to improve vehicle backing and add two tie-down spaces. This project builds on previous improvements to the marina, which serves 1,000 launches a year for boaters hunting for salmon and Dungeness crab. With these improvements, the marina is expected to double or triple the anglers it can serve every year. The Port of Willapa Harbor will contribute \$531,000 in a local grant and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2006)

## State Agency Project Summaries

### Boating Facilities Program (In Rank Order)



#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Preserving Lakebay Marina

**Grant Requested: \$1,776,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 17.5 acres in Mayo Cove, near Lakebay, including the Lakebay Marina, and develop a plan to restore the area. The department will begin a planning process with the public to determine how to phase renovations. The new facilities likely will consist of a recreation and picnic area, restrooms, guest moorage, and pump-out and fueling amenities. The department expects the site to be used for a wide variety of outdoor recreation including boating, fishing, swimming, and paddle sports. Lakebay Marina is near Penrose Point State Park. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2425)

#### Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Redeveloping the Fuller Bridge Access Area

**Grant Requested: \$760,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to install a double boat ramp at its Chehalis River Fuller Bridge Access Area off Keys Road in Elma. The department also will level the gravel parking area, place barrier rocks, and move a sign to improve the parking lot and make it easier to launch and retrieve boats. The department also will replace the toilet with a restroom that is accessible to people with disabilities and add an accessible parking stall and walkway. The launch area is used mostly by motorize boats trying to access the Chehalis and Satsop Rivers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2072)

#### Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Planning Replacement of Guest Moorage at Twenty-Five Mile Creek State Park

**Grant Requested: \$200,000**

State Parks will use this grant to survey, permit, and produce designs to replace 16 guest moorage floats, a boarding float, and boat ramp decking at Twenty-Five Mile Creek State Park in Chelan County. Built in the 1990s, the floats are dilapidated, have exceeded their useful life, and require continual maintenance to replace wood decking and repair the bulkhead. The heavily used site is the farthest west launch point on Lake Chelan. Replacement of the failing floats is critical to support the primary recreational activity at this very popular state park. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2302)

#### Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Improving Patterson Lake Access Area

**Grant Requested: \$880,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to improve the Patterson Lake Access Area in northern Okanogan County near Winthrop and Sun Mountain Lodge. The department

## State Agency Project Summaries

### Boating Facilities Program

(In Rank Order)



will add a concrete plank boat launch, boarding float, restroom, and parking stalls for people with disabilities. In addition, the department will pave the launch approach, grade and improve the parking area, and install new kiosks and signs. The 160-acre lake is surrounded by sagebrush steppe, aspen groves, and conifer forests with sweeping views of the Cascade Mountains foothills. The lake and surrounding area provide year-round recreation opportunities, making this site one of the busiest recreation hotspots in all north-central Washington. The lake is a popular fishing spot for kokanee, tiger trout, small and largemouth bass, yellow perch, and bluegill, and for ice fishing in the winter. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2096)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$200,000** **Planning the Sacajawea Snake River Floats**

State Parks will use this grant to permit and design the replacement of three floats on the Snake River that have outlived their useful life, are not accessible to people with disabilities, and do not meet regulatory requirements for fish protection. Built in the 1990s, the wooden floats have deteriorated. New floats will be designed of sustainable materials, such as aluminum or steel, and designed to be accessible. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2417)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Requested: \$200,000** **Planning a Project to Improve Sacajawea Moorage and Parking**

State Parks will use this grant to permit and design a project to replace the moorage floats and pave the parking lot and access area at Sacajawea Historical State Park. The moorage floats have outlived their useful life, are not accessible to people with disabilities, and do not meet regulatory requirements for fish protection. State Parks will replace the floats with more sustainable materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2340)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife      Grant Requested: \$360,000** **Replacing the Lake Terrell Boarding Float**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to build a 60-foot-long boat launch float that will be accessible to people with disabilities and to pave the area between the road and boat ramp. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2314)

## State Agency Project Summaries

### Boating Facilities Program

(In Rank Order)



#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Redeveloping Million Dollar Mile North Access Area**

**Grant Requested: \$965,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Million Dollar North Access Area on Banks Lake in Grant County, about 9 miles north of Coulee City. The department will pave the entrance road and parking lot and install a restroom, loading platform, a concrete boat launch, and large boulders to denote boundaries. The department also will level and lay gravel on the parking and camping areas. The 3-acre access area is used by anglers, hunters, boaters, skiers, and all the other water sports. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2230)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission- Assessing Moorage Buoys in Puget Sound**

**Grant Requested: \$291,000**

State Parks will use this grant to assess long-term needs for moorage buoys in northwestern Puget Sound, including San Juan and Island Counties. The agency will inspect moorage buoys to determine what needs to be replaced or moved and where new buoys should be installed. The agency also will submit applications for environmental regulatory permits and produce construction specifications. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2191)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Replacing Stuart Island State Park Moorage**

**Grant Requested: \$1,872,500**

State Parks will use this grant to replace the moorage facility on the Reid Harbor side of Stuart Island State Park. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2189)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Replacing Fossil Bay Moorage at Sucia Island**

**Grant Requested: \$1,715,000**

State Parks will use this grant to replace the moorage facility at Sucia Island next to Mud Bay. The agency will replace the abutment, pier, gangway, floating dock, and support piles. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2190)

## Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the BFP Local Agency 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 Numerical Order

- 20-2323D Columbia Park Boat Launch Boarding Float Rehab (3) Rank 1
- 20-2083D Gardiner Boat Launch Improvement (8) Rank 4
- 20-2101P Manson Bay Marina Breakwater Replacement (5) Rank 8

## Letters Submitted by the Public Regarding Project Proposals for the BFP State Agency 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.

### **State Agency Category Letters are in Numerical Order**

- 20-2425C Lake Bay Marina Acquisition (14) Rank 1
- 20-2417P Sacajawea Snake River Floats Planning (1) Rank 5
- 20-2340P Sacajawea Moorage and Parking Improvements(1) Rank 6

## Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2021

**Title:** Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) Program:  
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked List for the 2021-23 Biennium

**Prepared By:** Karl Jacobs, Senior Outdoor Grants Manager

#### Summary

Applicants submitted seven projects for the Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) program. This memo describes the program, evaluation process, and preliminary ranked list. Staff will present additional information about the projects at the April meeting. Staff will ask the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board to approve the preliminary ranked list, which becomes the basis for board-approval of grants in June, following legislative appropriation of funds for the 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 #:** 2021-12

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

### Background

The Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) program provides funding to support firearm and archery recreation. This includes facilities for handgun, muzzleloader, rifle, shotgun, and archery activities. Established by the Legislature in 1990, the primary goals of the FARR program is to increase general public access to firearm and archery range facilities and provide hunter safety education. Recreation and Conservation Funding Board policies that guide this program are outlined in [Manual #11, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation](#). The legislative authority is the Revised Code of Washington 79A.25 and Washington Administrative Code 286.



## Program Summary

This table provides a summary of the program:

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	State and local agencies and qualified nonprofit shooting organizations
<b>Eligible Project Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquisition</li><li>• Development and renovation</li><li>• Combination projects involving both acquisition and development or renovation</li></ul>
<b>Grant Limits</b>	Grant requests are limited to \$150,000 per project.
<b>Match Requirements</b>	Applicant matching shares are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 33 percent for safety or noise abatement elements in range renovation projects.</li><li>• 50 percent for all other project costs.</li></ul>
<b>Public Access</b>	Facilities must be open to the general public for a minimum of eight hours per month, with special emphasis on access for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Hunter and safety education classes</li><li>○ Law enforcement personnel</li><li>○ Members of the public with concealed pistol License</li></ul>
<b>Other Program Characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indoor and outdoor ranges are eligible.</li><li>• Liability insurance is the only operational expense eligible for funding.</li><li>• A public hearing or meeting is required for projects that will:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Acquire or develop a range facility where one does not currently exist.</li><li>○ Result in substantial new external impact on the surrounding area of an existing range.</li></ul></li></ul>

## Program Changes for 2020

The primary changes to the FARR Program that were implemented this grant cycle included the board's decision to suspend the 10 percent non-state, non-federal match requirement and the *Applicant Match* criterion to help mitigate the impact of COVID-19. Other changes included updates to the PRISM Online application module and use of the new PRISM Online review and evaluation module.

## Overview

### Evaluation Summary

The FARR Advisory Committee evaluated seven FARR projects, requesting \$527,533, on February 17, 2021. The committee used board-adopted evaluation criteria to review and rank projects in a virtual meeting. The advisory committee includes the following representatives, all of whom are recognized for their expertise, experience, and knowledge about recreational shooting sports and hunter education:

Advisory Committee Member	Representing
Rachel Bouchillon, Olympia	Citizen
Jenny Bull, Bellingham	Citizen
Bill Cogley, Washougal	Citizen
Brian Schilt, Tenino	Citizen
Philip Shave, Olympia	Citizen
Ty Peterson, King County	Local Agency
Christopher Maurer, Department of Ecology	State Agency
Dave Whipple, Department of Fish and Wildlife	State Agency

The results of the evaluations, provided for board consideration, are in *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

### Review of the Process and Evaluation Criteria

Staff held a post-evaluation meeting, on February 22, with the advisory committee to share the preliminary ranked lists, debrief and assess the application process, the technical review and evaluation meetings, and the evaluation criteria. Outlined below is a summary of the discussion with committee members immediately after the evaluation meeting. Staff will share additional thoughts or comments at the April board meeting.

#### *Evaluation Process*

The advisory committee felt the process was organized and efficient. They understood the expectations, received the application materials early enough to conduct their preliminary reviews, and enjoyed participating in the process. Committee members discussed the value of the technical review meeting and expressed appreciation for the work applicants put into addressing questions raised during the technical reviews.

## *Evaluation Criteria*

The advisory committee discussed several evaluation questions. First, some members felt the *Budget Development* criterion was difficult to score. Without direct knowledge and expertise it did not seem appropriate to second guess or be too critical of the cost include in the proposals. Evaluators tended to trust the applicants and scored the projects the same.

The committee discussed the *Public Access* criterion. Some applicants describe how they go above and beyond the minimum requirements by opening up their facility to various organizations and offering public access to special events and so on, while others did not. It could help to revise the annotated explanation for the question to prompt applicants to provide these details. Another suggestion is to convert the criterion to a staff-scored question and give points based on the number of hours over the minimum requirement.

Finally, like after the last grant cycle in 2019, the committee discussed the *Mandated Uses* criterion, which focuses primarily on firearms recreation. The concern is whether this puts archery range projects at a disadvantage. This may be by design, since legislatively mandated users are concealed pistol license holders, hunter and firearm safety education class participants, and law enforcement. The board may want to consider revising the criterion to give archery range projects an opportunity to earn the same number of points. Or, because this is a basic eligibility requirement, it might be information that could be collected in the application and removed from evaluation.

Staff will evaluate and prioritize the FARR Advisory Committee's suggested changes to the evaluation criteria and will bring recommendations to the board later this year.

## **Strategic Plan Link**

Consideration of these projects supports the board's strategy to provide funding to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance recreation opportunities statewide. The grant process supports the board's strategy to conduct its work in a fair and open manner, as well as its goal to deliver successful projects by using broad public participation. The criteria for selecting projects support strategic investments in the protection, restoration, and development of recreation opportunities.

Projects considered for funding in the FARR program directly support board-adopted priorities in *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan, 2018-2022*.

## **Public Comment**

No public comment has been received to date. Staff will share any comments provided at the upcoming meeting.

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve Resolution 2021-12, including *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

## Next Steps

If approved by the board, the preliminary ranked list will be available for funding consideration for the 2021-23 biennium. The Legislature will set the FARR funding authority in the state capital budget. The board will approve the final list and make its funding decision at its June 2021 meeting.

## Attachments

- A. Resolution #2021-12
  - *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation, Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*
- B. State Map of FARR Projects
- C. FARR Evaluation Criteria Summary
- D. FARR Evaluation Scores 2021-2321
- E. FARR Project Summaries

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2021-12  
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation  
Approval of the Preliminary Ranked List of Projects for the 2021-23 Biennium**

**WHEREAS**, for the 2021-23 biennium, seven Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) projects are being considered for funding; and

**WHEREAS**, all seven projects meet program eligibility requirements as stipulated in Manual 11, *Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program*; and

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

**WHEREAS**, these evaluations occurred in an open public meeting as part of the competitive selection process outlined in Washington Administrative Code 286-13-020, 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 develop and renovate public outdoor recreation facilities, thereby supporting the board's strategy to provide partners with funding to enhance recreation opportunities statewide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board hereby approves the ranked list for the projects depicted in *Table 1 – Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Preliminary Ranked List of Projects, 2021-23*.

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

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

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

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



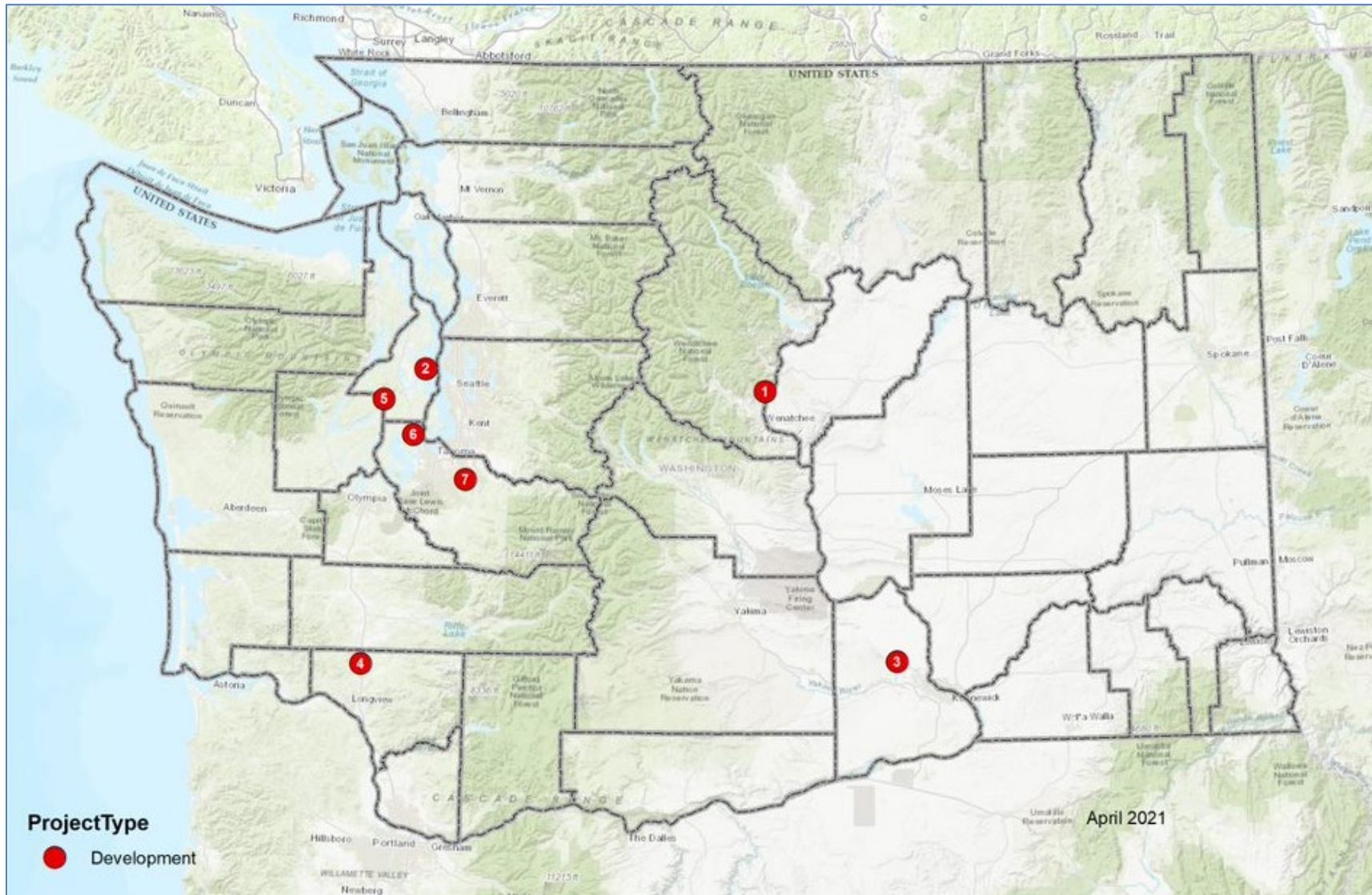
**Table 1: Firearms and Archery Range  
Recreation  
Preliminary Ranked List of Projects  
2021-2023**

Rank	Score	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
1	74.00	20-1995 D	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Swakane Canyon Rifle and Pistol Range Phase 2	\$90,000	\$180,000	\$270,000
2	72.62	20-1967 D	Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club	Pistol Caliber Range Berm Improvement	\$36,360	\$36,360	\$72,720
3	71.25	20-2049 D	Tri-Cities Shooting Association	Smallbore and High Powered Silhouette Rifle Range	\$77,878	\$82,022	\$159,900
4	70.75	20-1987 D	Cowlitz County	Cowlitz Public Shooting Range Phase 3	\$117,586	\$117,586	\$235,172
5	66.12	20-2353 D	KBH Archers Incorporated	Storage Building Replacement	\$60,959	\$60,960	\$121,919
6	65.88	20-2125 D	Gig Harbor Sportsmen's Club	Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club Clubhouse Reroof	\$23,250	\$23,250	\$46,500
7	64.12	20-2420 D	Skookum Archers	Americans with Disabilities Act Access and Course Improvements	\$121,500	\$121,500	\$243,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$527,533</b>	<b>\$621,678</b>	<b>\$1,149,211</b>

Project type: D=Development



# Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program State Map of Projects



The numbers represent ranked order.



## Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program Evaluation Criteria Summary

<b>FARR Evaluation Criteria Summary</b>				
<b>Scored by</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Maximum Points</b>	<b>Project Type</b>
Advisory Committee	1	Need	15	All
Advisory Committee	2	Immediacy of threat	10	Acquisition
			5	Combination
Advisory Committee	3	Project design	10	Development
			5	Combination
Advisory Committee	4	Impact on surrounding property*	5	All
Advisory Committee	5	Expansion or renovation	5	All
Advisory Committee	6	Health and safety	15	All
Advisory Committee	7	Budget development	5	All
Advisory Committee	8	Mandated uses	10	All
Advisory Committee	9	Public access	15	All
Advisory Committee	10	Need satisfaction	10	All
RCO Staff	11	Growth Management Act compliance	0	All
<b>Total Points Possible for Existing Sites=90</b>				All
<b>Total Points Possible for New Sites=85</b>				All

*\*Applies only to existing sites and projects certified as qualifying for a higher funding level. See Question 3.*

## Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program Detailed Scoring Criteria

### Scored by the Advisory Committee

1. **Need.** To what extent is this type of FARR project needed in the service area?
2. **Threat Immediacy (acquisition and combination projects only).** To what degree will implementation of this proposal reduce the impact of a threat to the future availability of this opportunity?
3. **Project Design (development and combination projects only).** Has this project been designed in a high quality manner?
4. **Impact on Surrounding Property.** How much will this project protect surrounding properties from noise impacts and/or projectile hazards originating from the range?
5. **Expansion and renovation.** Will the project effectively expand or renovate an existing facility?
6. **Health and Safety.** How much will this project improve the health and safety qualities of the range property?<sup>1</sup> How does your project address the safety guidelines required in the FARR program?
7. **Budget Development.** Is the budget appropriately developed with sufficient detail to ensure a successful, cost-effective project?
8. **Mandated Uses.** To what extent will the applicant make the facility available for range purposes to license holders, hunter or firearm education, or law enforcement?<sup>2</sup>
9. **Public Access.** To what extent will the FARR facility be available for access by the general public?<sup>3</sup>
10. **Need Satisfaction.** How well does this project satisfy the need identified in Question 1?

### Scored by RCO Staff

11. **Growth Management Act Compliance.** Has the applicant made progress toward meeting the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA)?<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Revised Code of Washington 79A.25.720

<sup>2</sup>Revised Code of Washington 79A.25.720, paragraph 3.

<sup>3</sup>Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Policy

<sup>4</sup>Revised Code of Washington 43.17.250 (Growth Management Act-preference required.)

**Evaluation Scores**  
**Firearms and Archery Range Recreation**  
2021-2023

Project Number	Project Name	1. Need	2. Immediacy of Threat	3. Project Design	4. Impact on Surrounding Property	5. Expansion and Renovation	6. Health and Safety	7. Budget Development	8. Mandated Uses	9. Public Access	10. Need Satisfaction	11. Growth Management Act Compliance	Total
Rank	and Type	Point Range	0-15	0-10	0-5	0-5	0-15	0-5	0-10	0-15	0-10	-1-0.0	
1	20-1995 D	Swakane Canyon Rifle and Pistol Range Phase 2	14.25	8.50		4.62	13.50	3.88	8.25	12.00	9.00	0.00	74.00
2	20-1967 D	Pistol Caliber Range Berm Improvement	12.38	8.25	4.12	4.00	12.38	4.25	7.50	11.25	8.50	0.00	72.63
3	20-2049 D	Smallbore and High Powered Silhouette Rifle Range	13.12	8.25		4.38	10.88	4.38	8.75	12.75	8.75	0.00	71.25
4	20-1987 D	Cowlitz Public Shooting Range	13.12	8.75		4.38	9.75	4.12	8.75	13.12	8.75	0.00	70.75
5	20-2353 D	Storage Building Replacement	12.00	6.25		3.62	13.12	2.88	7.75	12.75	7.75	0.00	66.13
6	20-2125 D	Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club Clubhouse Reroof	13.12	6.25		3.50	10.50	3.62	8.75	11.62	8.50	0.00	65.88
7	20-2420 D	Americans with Disabilities Act Access and Course Improvements	11.62	7.25		3.75	10.50	3.38	7.25	12.38	8.00	0.00	64.13

Advisory Committee scores Questions 1-10; RCO staff scores Question 11  
Project type: D=Development

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



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## **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Requested: \$90,000** **Developing the Swakane Canyon Rifle and Pistol Range**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to create a shooting range with parking, signs, and shooting lanes with berms and backstops at a range in Swakane Canyon in the Swakane Unit of the Chelan Wildlife Area. The facility features 25-yard, 100-yard, and 200-yard ranges. This marks the second phase in development for this range. The Department of Fish and Wildlife will contribute \$180,000 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1995)

## **Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club** **Grant Requested: \$36,360** **Renovating a Range Berm**

The Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club will use this grant to renovate the berm at its pistol caliber range. The club will clean up the lead and metals in the existing berm, remove the dirt and sand, and replace the berm with easier-to-maintain rubber berm trap material. This project will reduce dust dramatically, noticeably reduce noise, lessen ricochets, and make future metal harvests easier. The Bainbridge Island Sportsmen's Club will contribute \$36,360 from cash and a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1967)

## **Tri-Cities Shooting Association** **Grant Requested: \$77,878** **Building Range Facilities**

The Tri-Cities Shooting Association will use this grant to build a rifle range at the Rose Iris Range in the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility in Benton County. The association will build a small-bore rifle range and a high-power rifle silhouette range and pave the parking lot. The Tri-Cities Shooting Association will contribute \$82,022. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2049)

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



### **Cowlitz County**

**Grant Requested: \$117,586**

#### **Enhancing the Cowlitz Public Shooting Range**

The Cowlitz County Parks and Recreation Division will use this grant to add two trap facilities at its Cowlitz Public Shooting Range. The project also will include new electrical lines, professional range designs from acoustic engineers, and chip sealing the gravel roads and parking lots to reduce dust. These additions will allow the range to accommodate trap competitions for the community's school and club teams. Cowlitz County will contribute \$117,586. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1987)

### **KBH Archers Inc.**

**Grant Requested: \$60,959**

#### **Constructing a Storage Building**

KBH Archers Inc. will use this grant to demolish and remove a storage trailer and replace it with a single-story building with restrooms. KBH Archers Inc. will contribute \$60,960 in donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2353)

### **Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club**

**Grant Requested: \$23,250**

#### **Installing a New Roof at the Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club Clubhouse**

The Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club will use this grant to replace a leaky roof at its clubhouse on Burnham Drive. The clubhouse is used for club gatherings, training, shooter sign-in, administrative activities, food service, and storage. It also is used by other organizations for meetings and events. The Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club will contribute \$23,250 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2125)

### **Skookum Archers**

**Grant Requested: \$121,500**

#### **Improving Access for People with Disabilities**

Skookum Archers will use this grant to enhance access to an outdoor range and a field archery course for people with disabilities. In addition, the group will improve two other field archery courses at its facility on Shaw Road in Puyallup. The group will pour a concrete sidewalk and ramp for access to its flat range, improve the trail to its main field archery course, and install target sheds and bales on two other field archery courses.

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



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Skookum Archery sits on 39 acres and offers four, 14-target, walk-through field archery courses and a flat range. It hosts weekly introductions to archery for the public along with a youth development program, adaptive archery program, and college course offered through Pierce College. Skookum Archers will contribute \$121,500 in equipment and donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-2420)



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

**PROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**

**Meeting Date:** April 27, 2021

**Title:** Minor Revision to Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)  
Applicant Compliance Criterion

**Prepared By:** Myra Barker, Compliance Specialist

**Summary**

The evaluation criteria for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant program includes an applicant compliance criterion. The criterion is scored by RCO compliance staff after reviewing the compliance record for each applicant's portfolio of projects funded through the RCO or one of its boards. Staff is requesting board approval for a minor revision to this criterion. The proposed revision clarifies the condition when a sponsor would receive a negative score. The proposed revision does not change the point range for the criterion.

**Board Action Requested**

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

Resolution 2021-13

**Background and Summary**

In 2009, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) adopted the "applicant compliance" evaluation criterion for projects submitted for funding in the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant program. The criterion was added to meet National Park Service (NPS) policy that ties eligibility for grant funding to an "applicant's



performance history”<sup>1</sup> with LWCF grants. Sponsors who accept a LWCF grant have a perpetual obligation to comply with the terms of the grant agreement.

NPS policy specifies the factors to use when considering an “applicant’s performance history”. Those are:

- 1) Adequately completing or carrying out previous federally-assisted projects.
- 2) Protecting existing recreation resources.<sup>2</sup>
- 3) Operating and maintaining areas to acceptable standards.
- 4) Guiding new developments and preserving lands for open space and outdoor recreation purposes through the use of zoning and other rules, regulations and authorities will be considered.<sup>3</sup>

The criterion is scored by RCO compliance staff. Staff review the project documentation and inspection report data for each of a sponsor’s projects. The number of projects reviewed per sponsor ranges from a few to over one hundred.

To date, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB) has not applied an applicant compliance evaluation criterion to other grant programs.

## **Review of Sponsor Compliance: Process and Outcome**

RCO compliance staff start the review of LWCF applicants project data when the application is accepted as technically complete. Each sponsor is notified of their score and provided with an explanation for the score and are advised which project is out of compliance. Sponsors are asked to contact their outdoor grants manager to begin working to resolve any conversion or other compliance issues.

The criterion generates a variety of responses from sponsors. Sponsors may be unaware of compliance issues, including any conversions. Some sponsors start working actively with RCO staff to resolve any conversion issues. Some sponsors choose to leave the conversion unresolved.

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<sup>1</sup> National Park Service, Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program, Federal Financial Assistance Manual, Volume 71

<sup>2</sup> RCO’s compliance inspection addresses item 2 and 3. Any issue related to the funded project area use, function, maintenance, and management are described in the report and the sponsor is asked to follow-up with RCO staff on the findings.

<sup>3</sup> National Park Service, Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program, Federal Financial Assistance Manual, Volume 71

The current criterion has been used for several grant rounds. It has proven to be an incentive to encourage a sponsor to begin discussions with RCO on resolving any conversion.

Staff reviewed the evaluation scores for the past three (3) grant rounds to determine how the criterion impacts the ranking of a project. Staff found that the criterion did not change the ranking of a project.

**Proposed Revision to Applicant Compliance Criterion and Rationale**

Staff proposes to simplify the criterion. The score would be based on any unresolved or unapproved conversion/s. The strikethrough text in the current criterion would be removed.

<b>Current Applicant Compliance Criterion</b>	<b>Proposed Applicant Compliance Criterion</b>
<p><b>Applicant compliance.</b> Is the sponsor in compliance with its RCO grant agreements? When scoring this question, staff will consider the applicant’s record in all RCO-managed grant programs. Point Range: -2 to 0</p> <p>0 points: Sponsor has <del>no known compliance issues and</del> no unapproved conversions.</p> <p>-1 point: Sponsor has <del>one or more known compliance issues including at least one unapproved conversion,</del> but actively is working to correct the issues.</p> <p>-2 points: Sponsor has <del>one or more known compliance issues including at least one unapproved conversion,</del> but is not working actively to correct the issues; or the sponsor has been identified as a high-risk sponsor.</p>	<p><b>Applicant compliance.</b> Is the sponsor in compliance with its RCO grant agreements? When scoring this question, staff will consider the applicant’s record in all RCO-managed grant programs. Point Range: -2 to 0</p> <p>0 points: Sponsor has no unapproved conversions.</p> <p>-1 point: Sponsor has at least one unapproved conversion, but is actively working with RCO on resolving the conversion.</p> <p>-2 points: Sponsor has at least one unapproved conversion, but is not working actively with RCO on resolving the conversion; or the sponsor has been identified as a high-risk sponsor.</p>

**Rationale:** The revision would remove compliance issues from the criterion. Compliance issues vary in the impact to a project area's use and function. Many compliance issues can be resolved by administrative actions. Those include a sponsor change (for example, to transfer the grant agreement), scope change (for example, to address obsolete built elements), or installation of adequate signage and funding acknowledgement (for example, signing the project area as publicly-owned and available, or installing a grant funding sign).

The revision would result in a score based solely on the most serious form of non-compliance - a conversion. A conversion has the highest impact to a project area's use and function.

Additionally, the revision would streamline the compliance review as it would be focused on unapproved conversions.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommend the board approve the minor revision to the criterion. Resolution 2021-13 is provided for consideration.

### Next Steps

Staff will incorporate the revised criterion into the LWCF Manual upon board approval.

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board**  
**Resolution 2021-13**  
**Minor Revision to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**  
**Applicant Compliance Evaluation Criterion**

**WHEREAS**, the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant program is administered by the Recreation and Conservation Office;

**WHEREAS**, LWCF projects are evaluated 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 Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) approves evaluation criteria for the LWCF grant program; and

**WHEREAS**, the approval of this minor revision to the Applicant Compliance evaluation criterion 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 board solicited and heard public comments on the minor revision to the Applicant Compliance evaluation criterion recommended in this memorandum in an open public meeting held on April 26, 2021, and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board approves Resolution 2021-13 and the recommendation contained in this memorandum; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board authorizes the director revise the LWCF Applicant Compliance evaluation criterion and implement the revision in the next grant cycle.

*Resolution moved by:*

*Resolution seconded by:*

*Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)*

*Date:*

April 26, 2021



Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Briefing Memo

**APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**

**Meeting Date:** November 5, 2020

**Title:** Cultural Resources Review & Consultation

**Prepared By:** Sarah Thirtyacre, Cultural Resources Specialist

**Summary**

This memo serves as a summary of cultural resources requirements for most projects funded by this board. Staff will provide more information regarding the regulatory framework, agency methods and highlight a recent project during the board briefing.

**Board Action Requested**

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

**State and Federal Regulation**

**State Regulation:**

Washington Governor Jay Inslee signed [Executive Order 21-02](#) (EO 21-02) in April 2021. This order replaced and rescinded Executive Order 05-05 signed by Governor Christine Gregoire in November of 2005. EO 21-02 requires agencies to consult with the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) and affected tribes on the potential effects funded projects may have on cultural resources. "Cultural Resources" can be defined as any physical evidence or place of past human activity: site, object, landscape, structure; or a site, structure, landscape, object or natural feature of significance to a group of people traditionally associated with it. This consultation is required on any state-funded project involving construction or acquisition, but does not include projects with federal funding which are required to undergo a review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Section 106).

Agencies initiate consultation with DAHP and affected tribes early in the project planning process and must complete it prior to the expenditure of any state funds for construction, demolition, or acquisition. The goal of the Executive Order is to have the State be proactive in protecting our rich history for future generations and to use

taxpayer money wisely by avoiding unnecessary damage and loss of significant sites, structures, and buildings.

### **Federal Regulation:**

As massive government-sponsored construction projects, such as the interstate highway system and urban renewal in older cities, became commonplace after World War II, an estimated 25 percent of the nation's finest historic sites were lost. In response to growing public concern, Congress passed the [National Historic Preservation Act \(NHPA\) in 1966 \(16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.\)](#) The law established a national policy for the protection of important historic buildings and archeological sites, and outlined responsibilities for federal and state governments to preserve our nation's heritage.

Each state has a State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) who is mandated to represent the interests of the state when consulting with federal agencies under Section 106 of the NHPA and to maintain a database of historic properties. The NHPA also created the [Advisory Council on Historic Preservation \(ACHP\)](#), an independent federal agency in the executive branch that oversees the Section 106 review process. In addition to the views of the agencies and council, input from the general public and Native American tribes is also required. The responsibilities of all parties in the Section 106 review process are set forth in federal regulations.

The NHPA requires any agency issuing a federal permit or license, providing federal funds or otherwise providing assistance or approval to comply with Section 106. RCO administers a number of federal grant program and many of our state funded projects require a federal permit or are using federal funding as match, thus mandating RCO's compliance with Section 106.

### **RCO's Cultural Resource Program**

RCO<sup>1</sup> reviews restoration, construction, and acquisition projects for impact to cultural and historic resources in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order 21-02 (unless a federal nexus exists). Most projects are required to undergo extensive review to minimize impacts to cultural resources. RCO's goal is to facilitate a comprehensive consultation process that provides a thorough review view of funded projects.

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<sup>1</sup> Cultural resources review and compliance for State Agency sponsored projects, or projects occurring on State owned or managed lands (regardless of sponsor type) is the responsibility of the respective Agency. Documentation of compliance must be provided to RCO staff.

RCO, through an interagency agreement, contracts with archaeologists at the Washington State Department of Transportation for technical support. These archaeologists assist RCO staff in reviewing grant-funded projects for potential impacts to cultural resources. RCO's cultural resources coordinator conducts consultation with tribal councils, tribal cultural resources directors, and the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation. This consultation effort serves to identify potential impacts to cultural resources and to further enhance the government-to-government relationship with tribes.

RCO staff facilitates cultural resources trainings for grant recipients, participates in the annual Cultural Resources Protection Summit, frequently meets with tribal cultural resources staff and attends functions hosted by tribes.

RCO grant recipients are responsible for hiring consultants that meet the Secretary of Interior Standards to complete any cultural resources work for their projects. This work may include archaeological field surveys, historic property evaluations and inventories, mitigation plans, or obtaining permits through DAHP. All cultural resources work is an eligible item for reimbursement as part of the grant contracts; it is vital that grant sponsors include costs to address cultural resources in their applications and budget appropriately.

## **Project of Interest**

### **Owen Beach-WWRP Water Access**

Funded in part through a \$3 million dollar Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Water Access grant, Tacoma Metro Parks set out to renovate the existing Owen Beach Park which is located within Point Defiance Park. For more than 126 years, Owen Beach has been one of the few, true water access areas in Tacoma. Swimming, beachcombing, boating, and renting kayaks are just a few of the water-related activities offered. The renovation of Owen Beach also set out to redevelop the park in way that would provide long-term resiliency of the facilities as we take into consideration the scientific data for sea level rise occurring along the shoreline.

The updated design will provide access for people with mobility issues, allowing them to have closer experiences where they can be surrounded on three sides by views of the beach and Puget Sound. This concept evolved from conversations with Tribal members who shared that a feature of this nature would make it easier for elders with limited mobility to feel connected during culturally significant Canoe Journey ceremonies as Tribal members arrive at Owen Beach.



## History:

Owen Beach is located on Point Defiance, which is within the traditional use area of today's federally-recognized Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Nisqually Tribe, Squaxin Island Tribe, and Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. In the nineteenth century the U.S. Government entered into a series of treaties with Native people in the Puget Sound region. Under the 1854 Treaty of Medicine Creek, the U.S. Government grouped distinct villages within the treaty boundaries into larger entities, and then created different reservations to which these entities were assigned. This process created the individual entities known today as the Puyallup Tribe, Nisqually Tribe, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, and Squaxin Island Tribe (Riley 1974).<sup>2</sup>Members of these groups were traditionally connected in many ways such as marriage, shared language, cultural practices, religious practices, myths, and overlapping areas for hunting, fishing, and gathering; these connections continue today. Many geographical locations within and around today's Point Defiance Park have Lushootseed<sup>3</sup> names. These names provide some understanding of the ways in which the area was and is still used, and its associations with cultural practices.

The location of Owen Beach is unique on the Point Defiance peninsula. It is the only location where the beach is easily accessible from the uplands and in close association with a source of freshwater. The ability to access the marine environment for both transportation and resource gathering, along with access to fresh water resources, such as seasonal salmon runs, and upland resources, such as terrestrial mammals and plants, would have presented a unique and highly desirable location for indigenous peoples. Based on historic photographs it is apparent that Native peoples were still occupying the coastline of Point Defiance, likely at Owen Beach, until at least 1889.

Point Defiance Park began as a military reservation after the Wilkes Expedition visited Puget Sound in the 1840s to map the bays and estuaries. Captain Wilkes is thought to have noted that with a fort positioned at the point, and at Gig Harbor across the narrows, one could "defy" the world. The high cliffs and prominent location were never used for military operations. In 1888, President Grover Cleveland authorized its use as a public park. By 1890, streetcars brought visitors to wander among the gardens. In 1903, a waterfront pavilion was completed. By 1907, a seaside resort designed by Frederick Heath offered heated saltwater bathing in a pavilion called the Nereides Baths located on a bluff above the boathouse.

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<sup>2</sup> Riley, Carroll L. 1974 Ethnological Field Investigation and Analysis of Historical Material Relative to Group. Distribution and Utilization of Natural Resources Among Puget Sound Indians.

<sup>3</sup> Lushootseed is a member of the Salish language family, whose approximately twenty surviving languages are spoken from northern Oregon to central British Columbia.

### **Compliance and Consultation:**

Both state and federal cultural resources regulations direct agencies to consider cultural resources during the planning phase of a project. For RCFB Grants, RCO requires project sponsors to conduct cultural resources studies to inform the planning and design of their project. By aligning the cultural resources review, consultation and investigation with the overall project planning phase, the opportunity is created to design projects in a way that avoids and potentially protects cultural resources.

As a result of the RCO funded project, extensive cultural resources testing, and evaluation was undertaken to ensure that the project would not adversely affect resources. Archeological studies conducted as part of the project planning have resulted in the identification of the ethnographically noted habitation site. This complex cultural landscape has a challenging set of environmental, cultural and community priorities. Addressing both cultural and environmental issues leads to developing projects with both cultural and environmental integrity.

The project is currently under construction and project actions are being governed by a permit issued by DAHP in compliance with [RCW 27.44](#) and [RCW 27.53](#). RCO, Metro Parks Tacoma, consulting Tribes, and DAHP continue to actively work together to adjust the project design as the sponsor undertakes the construction phase of this project.

### **Strategic Plan Link**

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.

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**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE**

March 31, 2021

Kelly Wicker  
Office of the Governor  
Post Office Box 40002  
Olympia Washington 98504-0002

Dear Ms. Wicker:

It is with my sincere appreciation that I write to thank you for the thorough selection process for the new director of the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office. We have an excellent person that will be taking the helm of this small but important agency and I can't help but think that your work helped the selection panel arrive at this decision.

The new director, Megan Duffy, is a skillful leader, with the caring and passion for the agency's mission that will be needed to guide staff in the transition of leadership and in all the challenging work in natural resources ahead of us.

You were organized, clear, and provided a simple yet thorough process for the selection. I look forward to similar onboarding process.

Again, thank you and your team for all of your work. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ted Willhite".

Ted Willhite, Chair  
Washington State Recreation and Conservation  
Funding Board



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**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE**

March 31, 2021

Jim Reid  
1300 SW Webster St  
Seattle WA 98106

Wendy Brown  
Recreation and Conservation Office  
Post Office Box 40917  
Olympia Washington 98504-0917

Scott Robinson  
Recreation and Conservation Office  
Post Office Box 40917  
Olympia Washington 98504-0917

Dear Jim, Wendy, and Scott:

As you know, today we introduced Megan Duffy as the new director of the Recreation and Conservation Office. This announcement came after a lot of hard work. The recruitment process was well designed, well run, and worked as planned, thanks in part to you three.

Your dedication to this important hire will forever shape RCO's future. You should feel proud that the Governor selected an experienced, passionate candidate that shares in our vision of a Washington State with abundant places to play and healthy habitats for species.

Thank you again for all your great work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ted Willhite".

Ted Willhite, Chair  
Washington State Recreation and Conservation  
Funding Board





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

February 2, 2021

The Hon. Patty Murray  
The Hon. Maria Cantwell  
United States Senate

The Hon. Adam Smith  
The Hon. Rick Larsen  
The Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
The Hon. Jamie Herrera Beutler  
The Hon. Suzan DelBene  
The Hon. Derek Kilmer  
The Hon. Dan Newhouse  
The Hon. Pramila Jayapal  
The Hon. Kim Schrier  
The Hon. Marilyn Strickland  
United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of the Washington State Congressional Delegation:

I am writing to express serious concerns about last-minute actions taken by the outgoing Secretary of the Interior to Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant programs, and to seek your assistance in reversing these changes and restoring the programs to their original purpose.

Changes made in the final days of the Trump Administration by then-Secretary Bernhardt to the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) and Land and Water State and Local Assistance Program place local projects throughout our state at severe risk. These misguided changes, outlined in Secretarial Order 3388 and the LWCF State Assistance Program Manual dated 1/17/2021, effectively eliminate the role of states or stakeholders. The changes appear to subvert the intent of the LWCF and ORLP, as well as the intent of Congress in overwhelmingly passing the Great American Outdoors Act. Together these actions destroy the purpose of the outdoor recreation partnership between local, Tribal, state, and federal governments.

These changes have had an immediate and detrimental impact to nearly two dozen existing and proposed projects all across Washington state, as well as in communities across the nation. There are currently 4 proposed ORLP projects in the State of Washington awaiting final approval by the National Park Service that may now be invalidated by Secretarial Order 3388. A decision on these projects, which represent grant proposals from underserved communities first solicited in



2019, has been outstanding since they were submitted to the National Park Service ahead of the July 2020 deadline. These projects include:

- Lakewood: Wards Lake Park Enhancements Phase I
- Seattle: Maple Wood Playfield Renovation
- Seattle: North Rainier Park Development Land Banked Site
- Spokane: Riverfront Park South Suspension Bridge

In addition, in 2020 the State of Washington accepted, reviewed, evaluated, and ranked projects to be funded by our state's federal fiscal years 2020 and 2021 LWCF State and Local Assistance Program apportionments. These projects were reviewed under the previous criteria, and we are similarly concerned that they will be rejected as not complying with the new, last-minute criteria promulgated by the outgoing Secretary. Despite being told to submit our LWCF projects in December 2020, the National Park Service had not opened the grant system or provided guidance or a new application deadline at the time these changes were made public. The 9 projects slated for funding with Washington's federal fiscal year 2020 dollars are:

- Gig Harbor Gig Harbor Sports Complex Pickle Bo Spot
- Lakewood: Wards Lake Park Enhancements Phase 1\*
- Othello: Lions Park Pride Rock Playground
- Pierce County: Sprinker Rec. Center Outdoor Improvements
- Poulsbo: Play for All at Raab Park
- Renton: Gene Coulon Beach Park Trestle Bridge
- Seattle: Maple Wood Playfield Renovation\*
- Seattle: North Rainier Park Development Land Banked Site\*
- Spokane County: Make Beacon Hill Public

Three (\*) of the projects submitted for ORLP funding are also on the list for a LWCF grant.

Additionally, Washington plans to submit the remaining ranked projects for our federal fiscal year 2021 LWCF apportionment. However, these last-minute changes mean these projects as designed are likely not compliant with the new criteria. Substantial further delay will be incurred if we are forced to abandon these projects, which have been vetted and supported by their communities, and recruit anew. The 13 remaining projects are:

- Chelan: Lakeside Park Renovation
- College Place: Lions Park Trails and Fishing Pond
- Covington: Jenkins Creek Park Expansion
- Garfield Park and Recreation District: Garfield Pool Upgrades
- King County: Little Lake Forest Trailhead Amenities
- Lake Stevens: Eagle Ridge Park Development
- Mountlake Terrace: Evergreen Playfield Infield Turf and Lights Phase 2
- Peninsula Metropolitan Park District: Narrows Park West Acquisition
- Port of Anacortes: Cap Sante Marina RV Park
- Sedro Woolley: Olmsted Park Development
- University Place: Cirque Park Renovation
- Walla Walla: Heritage Square Park Redevelopment

- Zillah: Zillah Splash Park

Finally, the apportionment letter from former Secretary Bernhardt describes a completely new grant program with applications due in August 2021. To meet that deadline, we will have to design a whole new selection process and evaluation criteria, with very little guidance and under a tight timeline. Clear, quick guidance on the future of this proposed program will be necessary so that we can plan accordingly.

Collectively, the changes made by the outgoing administration create specific and significant problems to projects in the pipeline and processes in the future with a very short timeline. These changes will have an immediate negative impact on the communities listed above. Here is a summary of my concerns about the changes:

1. It eliminates the only federal cost share program for investments in public outdoor recreation.
2. It eliminates state and local process of using adopted plans to guide our prioritizations at the state level and replaces them with federal priorities. It also diminishes public input.
3. It duplicates existing habitat and endangered species programs.
4. It eliminates priority funding for urban parks in underserved neighborhoods.

I respectfully request that these actions be immediately suspended and that the relevant programs be restored to their original intent.

Thank you very much for your attention. If you have any questions or require further information, I am happy to discuss this matter with you or your staff. You can contact me at 360.280.0822.

Sincerely,



Kaleen Cottingham  
Director

cc: Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior  
Morgan Wilson, Director, Washington, D.C. Office, Governor Inslee