

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



#### Projects in Adams County

##### **Othello** **Grant Awarded: \$500,000** **Adding a Spray Park and Renovating Trails in Kiwanis Park**

Othello will use this grant to build a spray park, renovate walking trails, and add lights in Kiwanis Park, one of only two active parks in the community of nearly 9,000 residents. The project's goal is to make this family-oriented park, which is known for its informal recreation, an appealing, safe, accessible park that will be more useable for all ages of users. This project also will meet the residents' desire for free, safe, healthy, youth-centric activities in a community, where kids are 39 percent of the population, the poverty rate is 27 percent, and 88 percent of students qualify for free and reduced lunch. The spray park, which will be designed primarily for children twelve and younger, will be a welcome cooling center during Othello's hot summers. Installing lights throughout the park will improve security, address a significant graffiti problem, and extend the useable hours for activities. The walking trails have deteriorated since they were built in the 1970s and are no longer accessible for anyone using a wheelchair, pushing a stroller, or riding a bike. The City will resurface the trails to restore connections that tie together all park areas. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1642)

##### **Othello** **Grant Awarded: \$350,000** **Developing a Futsal Court in Kiwanis Park**

The City of Othello will use this grant to develop its first official, dedicated Futsal Court in Kiwanis Park. Futsal is a fast-paced, soccer-associated game played on a hard court between two teams of five players each, including a goalkeeper. The City also will renovate nearby restrooms and build a concrete sidewalk to connect the new court with pedestrian trails. Futsal methods are excellent training techniques for improving soccer skills. The connection between soccer and futsal and, the well-known importance of each in Hispanic and Latinx cultures, is a unique and compelling aspect of this project. The court will be used by kids ages four to eighteen, who are 27 percent of Othello's population. With this court, they will have the opportunity to participate in a new City-sponsored Summer Youth Futsal League. The court also will be open for club team and adult league tournaments, scrimmages, practices, off-season conditioning, and recreational play. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1651)

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#### Projects in Asotin County

##### Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Building Campsites in the Asotin Creek Wildlife Area

**Grant Awarded: \$446,017**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use two grants to build two primitive camping areas and install toilets in the Asotin Creek Wildlife Area. The department will build parking pads and install fire rings, toilets, and kiosks in the Foredyce and Cabin Gulch campgrounds. The work will create designated places to camp and provide restrooms to consolidate the human impacts on the land. In addition, the department will install vault toilets at three access points in the wildlife area. The department will install toilets and a kiosk at the North Fork Asotin Creek Trailhead and toilets at the North-South Fork Asotin Creek Junction and the Smoothing Iron parking area. Asotin Creek and its tributaries are important for Endangered Species Act-listed salmon species and bull trout, and the surrounding wildlife area is home to elk, mule deer, bighorn sheep, and other wildlife. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshots [here](#) and [here](#) for more information and photographs of this project. The grants are from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1440 and 22-1784)

#### Projects in Chelan County

##### Chelan County Buying Land for a Malaga Waterfront Park

**Grant Awarded: \$1,133,595**

Chelan County will use two grants to buy 38.5 acres of waterfront and 0.25 mile of shoreline along the Columbia River in Malaga for a future waterfront park. The park will provide access to the Columbia River for both motorized and non-motorized boats. It also will offer field sports, wildlife viewing, trails, scenic vistas with benches, picnic shelters, and playgrounds. Despite being on the Columbia River, Malaga has no shoreline parks, trails, or boating facilities and is the highest-need community in Chelan County for shoreline access. The grants are from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#) and the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). Visit RCO's online Project Snapshots [here](#) for [here](#) for more information and photographs of this project. (22-1732 and 22-1325)

##### Chelan-Douglas Land Trust Conserving Castle Rock Ridge

**Grant Awarded: \$660,000**

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust will use this grant to buy 398 acres of shrub-steppe habitat in the Cascade Mountain foothills of Wenatchee. This land includes habitat for a diverse array of plants as well as species of state and federal concern, including mule deer and golden eagles.

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Additionally, this land provides hiking access between the Wenatchee's Lower Castle Rock Natural Area and U.S. Forest Service lands. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1274)

#### **Leavenworth Winter Sports Club** **Grant Awarded: \$258,000**

#### **Improving Restrooms and Lighting on the Leavenworth Ski Hill**

The Leavenworth Winter Sports Club will use this grant to build a restroom that will be accessible to people with disabilities next to the historic Ski Hill Lodge and improve lighting in the alpine skiing area of the Leavenworth Ski Hill. The Leavenworth Ski Hill is one mile from downtown Leavenworth and serves toddlers to Nordic Olympians in training. The ski hill trails have become increasingly popular year-round and serve as the home facility and practice location for the Leavenworth Middle and High School cross-county teams and Icicle Bicycle Youth Mountain Bike Team. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1735)

#### **Manson Parks and Recreation District** **Grant Awarded: \$574,550**

#### **Buying Leffler Field**

The Manson Parks and Recreation District will use this grant to buy the nearly five-acre Leffler Field, private land that has served as a community space for more than twenty years. The purchase preserves a beloved, much-used property, and ensures the expansion of public recreation in an underserved community. Undeveloped property of this size, within walking distance of downtown Manson, is scarce. Due to the resulting urgency, the Manson School District bought the land until the district could get a grant. Manson's Chamber of Commerce and community members raised money to support the acquisition. If not for the swift action of the school district, this property would now house commercial buildings. Future improvements may include trails, a natural play area, a restroom, and an amphitheater. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1650)

#### **Tall Timber Ranch** **Grant Awarded: \$10,000**

#### **Teaching Outdoor Ethics to Students**

The nonprofit Tall Timber Ranch will use this grant to design and provide outdoor ethics education programs to students in first through twelfth grades. Nestled between the White and Napeequa Rivers in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, Tall Timber Ranch welcomed 1,800 people to its camp in 2022. Ranch staff will use the grant to train staff, redevelop its curriculum and materials

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to promote environmental stewardship, host “Leave No Trace” workshops, and customize handouts to the local area and most popular trail uses that the students can take with them when they leave. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2352)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Caring for Lower Lake Chelan Trails** **Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

The Chelan Ranger District will use this grant to maintain about 296 miles of trails in the lower Lake Chelan valley, which hosts more than 2 million visitors a year. Crews will remove overgrown brush and fallen logs, fix drainage structures and bridges, and reconstruct trail surfaces. In addition, crews will groom winter trails for snowmobilers, cross-country skiers, snowshoers, and fat tire bikers. The trails are used for hiking, Nordic skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, and motorized trail activities. The work will improve access for very diverse trail users in all seasons and maintain high-quality trail experiences on unique trails such as Echo Ridge Nordic Trails and multiuse trails in the Sawtooth Backcountry and Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2145)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Completing a Canyon Trail System** **Grant Awarded: \$185,506**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to build a mountain bike skill-building area for youth and beginning riders and the final six miles of trail, install a toilet, and improve a trailhead, completing a more than thirty-mile trail system for nonmotorized uses just four miles west of Wenatchee. The new trail system will be used by mountain bikers, hikers, equestrians, and trail runners. Upon completion of this final phase, this diverse trail network will encompass many connected, nonmotorized, and multiuse trail opportunities. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2199)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Entiat and Chelan Multiuse Trails** **Grant Awarded: \$99,750**

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to fund a crew and support volunteers to maintain 195 miles of multiuse trails in the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts. The area’s high elevation and volcanic soil make the trails and surrounding environment susceptible to resource damage. Crews will remove fallen trees and cut overgrown brush, repair and replace bridges, maintain drainage structures, restore trail surfaces, and maintain signs and trailheads. These trails are in

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the heart of the hugely popular, interconnected, 225-mile, multiuse trail system that runs from Lake Wenatchee across the Entiat and Chelan Mountains to Lake Chelan. The multiuse trail system is primarily in a roadless setting allowing all type of trail users to experience the high elevation environment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2223)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining the Entiat Ranger District Camping Areas** Grant Awarded: \$47,500

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to increase staffing to maintain eleven campgrounds, one rental cabin, two lookout towers, two group sites, and one hundred dispersed sites. An estimated 60,000 campers visit from April through October each year, a number which is increasing. Meanwhile, funding has decreased 30 percent in the past ten years and campground fees have remained unchanged. The employees will remove trash, clean restrooms and campsites, remove dangerous trees, test water quality and maintain wells, replace barriers, and fix picnic tables and signs. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2227)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Snowmobile Trails** Grant Awarded: \$55,500

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to maintain up to 200 miles of trail. Crews will remove fallen trees, clear overgrown brush, clean drainage structures, repair minor washouts, and install and maintain more than 250 trail signs. Work will focus on cutting back overgrown brush to provide easier access for snow groomers in the winter. The Lake Wenatchee snowmobile trail system is one of the most popular and diverse in the state, with 24 percent of all riders selecting it as the "area most often ridden." The Entiat and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts groom their trails weekly during the winter and host more than 45,000 visitors annually. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2367)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Trails for Motorized Uses** Grant Awarded: \$149,980

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to fund a crew and support volunteers to maintain 120 miles of multi-use trails in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The crew will remove fallen trees, clear overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, and maintain signs. The

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ranger district also will use the grant to buy small tools, minor equipment, and two electric bikes. Changing environmental conditions and more fires have taken their toll on trails, making it harder to keep up with routine removal of fallen trees and restoration of trail surfaces. Wenatchee River Ranger District is two hours from the greater Puget Sound area. Visitors flock there to hike, bike, ride horses, and ride off-road vehicles on the trails. One of the main motorcycle trails is part of a larger, 225-mile, multiuse trail system that extends to the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2136)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Upper Lake Chelan Basin Trail** **Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

The Chelan Ranger District will use this grant to maintain about 350 miles of trails for non-motorized activities in the upper Lake Chelan basin and the Entiat portion of the Glacier Peak Wilderness over two seasons. Crews will remove fallen trees, clear brush, repair trail surfaces and bridges, and replace and repair trail signs and drain structures. The work will improve trail access and user safety, retain access on burned trails, and protect natural resources. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2147)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Wenatchee River Recreation Areas** **Grant Awarded: \$123,000**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to pay for five seasonal employees to maintain trailheads, campgrounds, day-use sites, and dispersed recreation sites in Chelan County. Crews will remove trash, maintain restrooms and bulletin boards, remove dangerous trees, and clean campsites, day-use areas, and trailheads. The Wenatchee River Ranger District sees more than 1 million visits annually to its 26 campgrounds, 56 trailheads, and more than 300 dispersed recreation sites. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2037)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Wilderness and Multiuse Trails** **Grant Awarded: \$149,602**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to pay for a trail crew, animal packer, and volunteer group support to maintain some of the more than 500 miles of multiuse trails in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Work will include removing fallen trees, clearing



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overgrown brush, restoring trail surfaces, cleaning and repairing drainage structures, and maintaining small bridges. As the climate continues to change and wildfires continue to burn larger and more intensely, routine trail maintenance and clearing of trails are getting increasingly more dangerous and challenging. Larger crews are needed to accomplish the highly technical jackstraw and avalanche debris piles. The trails are used for hiking, backpacking, climbing, fishing, trail running, hunting, horse riding, and wildlife viewing and photographing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2139)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

#### **Providing Snow Rangers**

**Grant Awarded: \$10,000**

The Wenatchee River and Entiat Ranger Districts will use this grant to fund two snow rangers to patrol Sno Parks, parking areas, and 185 miles of groomed winter trails on 250,000 acres of backcountry area. The Forest Service estimates 500-700 visitors use the trail system on a busy weekend. The snow rangers will educate winter users about safe and courteous snowmobile operation, trail conditions, trail etiquette, avalanche awareness, winter survival, winter wildlife, and respect for wilderness and other trail users. The snow ranger program provides a consistent presence and personal interaction with trail users, which helps reduce user conflicts and provides safety education on this heavily used snowmobile riding area. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2371)

### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

#### **Providing Wilderness Rangers**

**Grant Awarded: \$197,596**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to fund four seasonal wilderness rangers to patrol high-use areas in the Alpine Lakes, Henry M. Jackson, and Glacier Peak Wilderness Areas for two field seasons. Rangers teach visitors how to recreate while creating little to no environmental impact and enforce regulations. The patrols will focus on the Enchantments permit area because of its popularity with relatively new wilderness visitors. The wilderness areas offer hiking, backpacking, climbing, horseback riding, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, and fishing. By focusing rangers in high use areas on weekends and holidays, they will reach large numbers of visitors, especially the less experienced recreationists. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2040)

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#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Planning Upper Wenatchee Valley Trails** **Grant Awarded: \$195,000**

The Wenatchee River Ranger District will use this grant to hire contractors to conduct environmental analysis, facilitate public participation, and manage a project to plan the improvements to trails and their amenities in the upper Wenatchee valley. The contractor will collaboratively identify gaps in trail-based recreation needs of communities and visitors, develop plans to address those gaps, and conduct environmental analysis to create shovel-ready projects. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2375)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$325,000** **Continuing Redevelopment of the Roses Lake Access Area**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to install a fishing float and gangway at Roses Lake, near Manson in Chelan County. The float will expand the limited shoreline access for anglers, wildlife watchers, people with disabilities, the elderly, and users without access to boats. The department will eliminate unsafe, makeshift trails that are hazardous for travel and to native shore grasses, willow, and cattail. Mallards and other waterfowl use cattail stands yearly for raising their young. This is the final critical piece in the redevelopment of this public access site. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1691)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$1,927,277** **Protecting a Plant Found Nowhere Else in the World**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 1,513 acres to expand the Upper Dry Gulch Natural Area Preserve, which is about ten miles south of Wenatchee. The preserve was established in 1989 to protect a rare plant species, Whited's milkvetch, which exists nowhere else in the world besides in the less than nine square miles centered around the existing preserve. This is the second phase of acquisition, after which 95 percent of Whited's milkvetch will be protected in the preserve. The preserve provides exceptional opportunities for scientific research and environmental education for school groups and the public. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1380)



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## Washington Farmland Trust Conserving the Parlette Cherry Orchard

**Grant Awarded: \$528,175**

Washington Farmland Trust will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>1</sup> on Parlette Orchard in the Wenatchee Heights area, southeast of Wenatchee. The easement will extinguish eleven development rights and permanently protect the sixty-seven-acre farm with an established cherry orchard for agricultural production forever. Chelan County's nationally valuable irrigated orchard lands are under enormous development pressure. Located on soils of statewide significance for orchard production, with senior water rights, and ideal elevation, the Parlette Orchard is in a location uniquely resilient to the impacts of a changing climate. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1722)

## Wenatchee Conserving Bighorn Ridge

**Grant Awarded: \$750,000**

The City of Wenatchee will use this grant to buy more than 134 acres of Bighorn Ridge to expand outdoor recreation access, preserve threatened habitats, and provide critical trail linkages to a growing and underserved part of the Wenatchee valley. With trails, natural attributes, and connection to other public land, the site is prime for recreation and habitat purposes. Visitors of all ages can observe the unique flora and fauna on the easy to traverse trails. The site will serve as a regional, year-round recreation destination for a variety of outdoor recreation and educational purposes ranging from snowshoeing, horseback riding, and hiking, to nature viewing and educational programs. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1323)

**More projects in Chelan County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

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<sup>1</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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#### Projects in Clallam County

##### Clallam County Renovating Lake Pleasant Dock

**Grant Awarded: \$110,625**

The Clallam County Parks, Fair and Facilities Department will use this grant to replace storm-damaged pilings and repair and refloat the boat dock structure at Lake Pleasant County Park. The boat launch is the only public access to Lake Pleasant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2063)

##### Forks Upgrading Spartan Field

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The City of Forks, in partnership with the Quillayute Valley School District, will use this grant to add a bathroom, fencing, and paving at Spartan Field. The City will replace the outdated barbed wired and chain link fence around the field and play area. The City will pave the grass area to the northwest and around the new bathroom to tie these areas to the grandstand. The field is the hub of the community and used regularly for programmed events to everyday youth pick-up games. Multi-generational families enjoy the facility because it is a safe and clean environment for them to experience a healthy outdoor experience. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1637)

##### North Olympic Land Trust Conserving a Dungeness Hub Farm

**Grant Awarded: \$137,631**

The North Olympic Land Trust will use grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>2</sup> to conserve the 9.79-acre Dungeness Hub, owned by Nash's Organic Produce, one of the first organic farms in western Washington. The Dungeness area of Sequim is renowned as the agricultural heart of Clallam County, which is at great risk of development. The farm contains prime agricultural soil and serves as a hub by supporting several surrounding farms with infrastructure, including a packing shed, large walk-in cooler, office space, greenhouses, and ready access to water in an area that receives less than twenty inches of rain annually. The farm is in the middle of 600 acres of already conserved land for farming, waterfowl, and river restoration. Visit RCO's online Project

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Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1533)

#### **North Olympic Land Trust Preserving Mid Valley Farm**

**Grant Awarded: \$421,180**

The North Olympic Land Trust will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>3</sup> for the fifty-four-acre Mid Valley Farm. The farm is on the edge of the rapidly expanding Sequim, and is integral to Maple View Farm, one of the last two dairies in Clallam County. Preservation of Mid Valley Farm will protect this critically important link to the agricultural history of western Washington, preserve prime agricultural soils, and extinguish at least nine development rights on lands best suited for agriculture. The conservation of Mid Valley Farm also will meet recreation goals by preserving rural scenic vistas for bicyclists and drivers along this busy route, and for birders who enjoy the state-protected trumpeter and tundra swans that use fields in the winter. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1524)

#### **Port of Port Angeles Replacing the John Wayne Marina Boarding Float**

**Grant Awarded: \$257,250**

The Port of Port Angeles will use this grant to replace the thirty-seven-year-old boarding float at the John Wayne Marina public boat launch. The environmentally compliant new float will be accessible to people with disabilities. The 300-slip marina was built in 1985 and has a public, two-lane boat ramp, boarding floats, picnic area, restrooms, beach access, and parking lot for the public to enjoy the recreational activities on Sequim Bay and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-1823)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Buying Land Along the Sol Duc River**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,000,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy about thirty-eight acres just north of Forks to provide access to the world renowned Sol Duc River for boating and fishing. The land is in a large turn of the river and contains old-growth trees, more than a half-mile of waterfront, an opening on the south end with a natural boat launch area, and a partially cleared area to accommodate tent and trailer camping. It is downriver of the Sol Duc Hatchery boat launch and

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<sup>3</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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Maxfield Road Access site and would provide the only public access below these two launches for more than 16 miles. It also would provide an extremely important area for taking out boats before the river becomes more technical and unnavigable for many boaters. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1734)

### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Conserving Twin River**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,095,250**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 216 acres of habitat along West Twin River directly adjacent to the Salish Sea. The site includes some of the most complex and diverse shorelines of the Salish Sea. The land includes shoreline, river, coastal wetland, and forest habitat on the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Acquisition will protect and enhance the natural processes in one of the remaining functional ecological systems in western Washington. Many fish use the shoreline, including Chinook, coho and chum salmon; cutthroat, steelhead, and bull trout; and forage fish. In addition, it has intact eelgrass and kelp beds and provides rich shorebird and migratory bird habitat, including a flight corridor for federally listed marbled murrelet. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1240)

### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining Trails near Port Angeles**

**Grant Awarded: \$184,800**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain forty-four miles of off-road vehicle trails and trailheads in the Foothills and Sadie Creek trail systems in the Port Angeles area on the north Olympic Peninsula. Crews will reroute trail sections, clear trails, maintain drainage structures, lay crushed rock to harden sections of trail, inspect and maintain bridges and signs, remove litter, and maintain and repair restrooms and signs. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2013)

### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Expanding Hoko River State Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,036,711**

State Parks will use this grant to buy about seventeen acres in the long-term boundary of Hoko River State Park. The land is critical for the protection and restoration of the Hoko River and its floodplain. State Parks is working with partners to improve salmon and other wildlife habitat along the Hoko River, and this purchase will help facilitate restoration and provide opportunities for low-impact recreational use. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and](#)

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[photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1723)

**More projects in Clallam County are listed in the “Multiple Counties” section at the end of this document.**

#### Projects in Clark County

##### **Camas** **Grant Awarded: \$1,250,000** **Completing the Missing Link in the Green Mountain Greenbelt**

The City of Camas will use this grant to buy fifty-five acres of forest, the missing link needed to create a continuous, protected greenbelt when combined with the Green Mountain area and partner-owned lands to the east and west. The land will support a variety of recreational activities including hiking, jogging, biking, and nature watching, as well as opportunities for scenic viewpoints. Additionally, this land connects to the Lacamas Lake trail system and has the potential to connect regionally to Camp Bonneville and to the Lake-to-Lake future trail systems. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1604)

##### **Camas** **Grant Awarded: \$500,000** **Improving Lacamas Creek Trailhead**

The City of Camas will use this grant to improve the Lacamas Creek trailhead on the south end of Lacamas Lake Regional Park. The City will add paved parking, a restroom, pathways accessible to people with disabilities, picnic areas, signs, landscaping, and improved stormwater systems. Visit RCO’s online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1469)

##### **Camas** **Grant Awarded: \$500,000** **Rejuvenating Crown Park**

The City of Camas will use this grant to begin renovating Crown Park, a 7.3-acre park in a residential neighborhood on the north side of downtown Camas. The City will build an interactive water play feature, inclusive play areas, a restroom, and pathways and install some furnishings. Donated to the city in 1934, Crown Park is an aging, developed park with mature fir trees, a picnic shelter, two play areas, a basketball half-court, two tennis courts, and Scout Hall. It is also the community’s gathering space, especially for summer events such as concerts and movies. As a legacy park for Camas, the park is ready for rejuvenation. Visit RCO’s online Project

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Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1468)

#### Vancouver

**Grant Awarded: \$1,000,000**

#### Buying Land for a Fenton Community Park

The Vancouver Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department will use this grant to buy forty-four acres for a community park in east Vancouver, the most underserved community in the city. The site includes expansive open fields, a high-quality wooded wetland, meadows, Oregon white oaks (protected species), a fish-bearing stream, and abundant wildlife. The future development of the land might include wetland- and woodland-themed play structures, sports fields, picnic areas, walking trails, environmental interpretive signs, and boardwalks and viewpoints into the wetlands. The creek, a tributary of Fifth Plain Creek, offers a potential destination for the regional trail system. The land is next to elementary and middle schools, which offers opportunities for expanded pedestrian paths, environmental education, and shared parking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [Vancouver Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1496)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources

**Grant Awarded: \$65,000**

#### Making Trail Repairs

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to demolish and rebuild a bridge and repair the surface of the Cedar Creek Americans with Disabilities Act Trail in the western Yaocolt Burn State Forest, about twenty miles northeast of Vancouver. The department also will restore a viewing platform at an overlook and install interpretive and information signs. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1952)

**More projects in Clark County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### Projects in Columbia County

#### Columbia County

**Grant Awarded: \$143,000**

#### Improving Irrigation at the Touchet Valley Golf Course

Columbia County will use this grant to install underground sprinklers on half of the nine-hole Touchet Valley Golf Course. The new system will eliminate moving sprinklers by hand, decrease



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sprinkler conflict with users, resolve a water supply issue, and keep more water in the Touchet River, which is home to multiple endangered species. Underground sprinklers are being installed on the part of the golf course not owned by the County. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1536)

### Projects in Cowlitz County

#### **Cowlitz County** **Grant Awarded: \$77,250** **Replacing a Restroom at the Cowlitz Public Shooting Range**

The Cowlitz County Parks and Recreation Division will use this grant to replace a portapotty with a restroom accessible to people with disabilities at its trap range at the Cowlitz Public Shooting Range. The current restrooms are about one-fifth mile from the trap range. Work will include installing a new septic system and extending a water line and electricity to the new restroom. This will allow the range to accommodate expanded practice group events and trap shooting competitions. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Firearms and Archery Range Recreation grant program](#). (22-2252)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest** **Grant Awarded: \$140,000** **Maintaining Mount Saint Helens Front Country Trails**

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest will use this grant to maintain trails in the Mount Saint Helens National Volcanic Monument. Crews will repair trail surfaces, install and maintain retaining structures and signs, remove fallen trees and overgrown brush, and maintain drainage structures. More than 200,000 people annually visit the monument, which is one of the most iconic and memorable locations in Washington State. In 1982 Congress created the 110,000-acre monument to protect and preserve this unique backcountry landscape. The monument's trail network is critical to providing hikers, recreationists, educators, and scientists access to Mount St. Helens' unique landscape, while limiting the impacts of off-trail activities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-1990)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$533,000** **Restoring the Banks of the Toutle River**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to install log structures in a three-mile stretch of the North Fork Toutle River, in the Mudflow Unit of the Mount Saint Helens Wildlife Area. The department will place lateral log wall structures in the river to move the water away

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from eroding banks and small logjams in the river to slow the water and create a more stable river channel. This work will slow bank erosion and allow recovery of the forest along the riverbank, ultimately improving habitat for salmon species and wintering elk. Logjams create places for salmon to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom to create spawning areas. Finally, they change the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The department also will plant trees along the banks, which shades the water, keeping it cool for salmon. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother spawning gravel. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1689)

#### Woodland

**Grant Awarded: \$308,914**

#### Adding Artificial Turf to a Scott Hill Park Soccer Field

The City of Woodland will use this grant to install artificial turf on one of three soccer fields in the new Scott Hill Park and Sports Complex in the northeast part of town, off Scott Hill Road. When finished, the complex will be home to about forty acres of sports fields, paved trails, restrooms, a covered shelter, a batting cage, concessions, and 450 parking stalls. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1639)

**More projects in Cowlitz County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### Projects in Douglas County

#### Bridgeport

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

#### Beginning Renovation of Berryman Park

The City of Bridgeport will use this grant to complete the first phase of the renovation of Berryman Park by replacing outdated playground equipment, restrooms, a picnic shelter, and a sports court. The City also will build connecting pathways, add lights, and improve parking. The existing amenities, particularly the restroom, picnic shelter, and play equipment, have exceeded their lifespans and need to be replaced for safety and functionality. The City will install a resilient ground surface at the playground; resurface and stripe the sports court for multiple sports including basketball, pickle ball, and tennis; and renovate or replace the fence. The new pathways will be accessible to people with disabilities and will connect each of the amenities

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with a new handicapped parking space. Finally, the City will install a new entry sign and an interpretative sign describing the history of the park and the military hardware that is featured prominently in the park. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1563)

#### **Chelan-Douglas Land Trust Conserving Kane Ranch**

**Grant Awarded: \$298,500**

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, on the 3,040-acre Kane Ranch in the Badger Mountain area in East Wenatchee. The land includes critical habitat for sage-grouse and is an integral piece of the habitat protections and investments already in place on adjacent land. The 2020 Pearl Hill fire burned more than 50 percent of all known sage-grouse leks in Douglas County and more than 40 percent of all existing habitat. The Badger Mountain area now contains the state's largest known active lek. Sage-grouse rely on large intact landscapes of shrub-steppe habitat, largely tied to private lands and rural agriculture. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1275)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Restoring the Banks of West Foster and China Creeks**

**Grant Awarded: \$229,700**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to restore 0.35 mile of West Foster Creek in the Wells Wildlife Area and 0.4 mile of China Creek in the Big Bend Wildlife Area. Floods and wildfires have damaged these creeks and creek-side plants, especially water birch. Water birch is the preferred winter forage habitat for the endangered Columbian sharp-tailed grouse. Fires destroyed many water birch stands, forcing the grouse elsewhere in search of food. The department will install beaver dam replicas and post structures to slow water flow, reduce erosion, and allow the water to reconnect with adjacent plant communities. In addition, the department will remove invasive vegetation and plant native trees, shrubs, and forbs along the creek banks. Planting the creek banks will help reduce erosion because the plant roots hold back sediment. Long-term, the project will allow the creeks to meander, improve water quality, increase groundwater recharge, expand creek bank buffer areas, and reestablish habitat preferred by the endangered grouse. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1690)

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#### Washington Department of Natural Resources **Grant Awarded: \$1,729,255**

#### Buying Shrub-Steppe in the Two Steppe Natural Area

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy and manage 1,380 acres in Two Steppe Natural Area Preserve in Douglas County. The preserve was established in 1997 to protect three, high-quality plant communities and to provide habitat for species listed on both federal and state endangered species lists, including sage grouse, sage sparrow, sage thrasher, and golden eagle. Shrub-steppe has been fragmented by conversion to farms, altered by invasive species, and degraded by incompatible land management practices. The preserve is in the Moses Coulee National Sage Grouse Priority Area for Conservation and in the breeding area of the Douglas-Grant County greater sage-grouse population. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1293)

**More projects in Douglas County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

#### Projects in Ferry County

#### Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation **Grant Awarded: \$180,000**

#### Developing Rogers Bar as a Boating Destination

The Colville Tribes will use this grant to help plan recreational boating facilities at Rogers Bar, twenty miles south of the town of Inchelium, on the shores of Lake Roosevelt. The Tribe will conduct outreach to identify priorities such as launches, docks, and campsites for developing a portion of this 300-acre site that has been a camping and recreation area for more than sixty years. The area is used for motorboating, water skiing, swimming, hiking, fishing, and camping. The Colville Indian Reservation is very remote and a developed recreation site at Rogers Bar will be a major addition to local services and recreation in the area. The site is unique because it is primarily accessible by boat only. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2190)

**More projects in Ferry County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

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### Projects in Garfield County

#### **Pomeroy Lighting Ball Fields**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The City of Pomeroy will use this grant to light three of the ball fields in the Pomeroy baseball/softball complex. There are no lights at the facility. Lighting the fields will allow more time for practice by Little League teams and allow games to be held later in the day so parents can watch their kids' games after work. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1698)

#### **Pomeroy Improving the Pomeroy Football Field**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The City of Pomeroy will use this grant to improve the football and track facility. The City will replace the field lights and poles, pave the parking lot, update the entrance, and repair and update the press box and storage building. If the lights aren't replaced soon, they will have to be taken down, preventing the Youth Football Program from practicing. There are no other fields in town. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1699)

### Projects in Grant County

#### **Grant County Maintaining the Moses Lake Sand Dunes Recreation Area**

**Grant Awarded: \$59,990**

The Grant County Sheriff's Office will use this grant to operate and maintain offroad vehicle use at the Moses Lake Sand Dunes. Employees will repair fences, clean restroom, repair and replace signs, control noxious weeds, and remove litter. This project is important to the local community as the deputies will be able to be service various user groups, protect the land, and promote responsible offroad vehicle use at the dunes. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2157)

#### **Royal City Building a Soccer Field in Lions Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

Royal City will use this grant to develop a soccer field in Lions Park. The soccer field will be a natural turf field with movable goals, a perimeter fence, and parking. The field will allow the City

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to better meet youth sports needs and expand the outdoor recreational opportunities for residents. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1704)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

#### **Developing a Shooting Range at Lake Lenore**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to develop a target shooting site at Lake Lenore in the Sun Lakes Unit of the Columbia Basin Wildlife Area, about 5.4 miles north of the town of Soap Lake. The site will have a 100- and 200-yard berm, covered shooting pads, shooting benches, and a fire line perimeter that is treated and mowed to prevent fires. Much of the habitat in this area has turned into grassland because of wildfires started from an existing shooting site. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Firearms and Archery Range Recreation grant program](#). (22-1979)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$1,465,000**

#### **Developing the Glen Williams Access Site**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to complete the renovation of the Glen Williams access site on Potholes Reservoir in Grant County. The department will install three toilets and a boat-loading float and pave the parking areas. This site receives the highest public use of any access site on Potholes Reservoir and is the only public access usable during reservoir drawdown. It is in need of redevelopment after many years of maximum use. As one of the premiere recreational destinations in the Pacific Northwest, Glenn Williams access serves anglers, hunters, and watersport enthusiasts year-round at Potholes Reservoir. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2029)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$200,000**

#### **Planning the Redevelopment of the Vernita Bridge Boat Launch**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to plan the redevelopment of a primitive boat launch, just upstream of Vernita Bridge on the north side of the Columbia River, about 10 miles southeast of Mattawa. The department will conduct environmental and cultural resource surveys and consult with tribes to develop a site plan and design. No developed boat ramp or formal parking, fluctuating water levels, insufficient areas to beach boats, and crowding has meant that visitors are launching from inappropriate areas and damaging the surrounding area. The redeveloped site is expected to have a plank boat ramp, a delineated access route and parking area, toilets, kiosks, and interpretive signs. The site is used as a launch point for salmon



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fishing, camping, and boating. The nearest launch is 18.5 river miles downstream at the Saddle Mountain National Wildlife Refuge. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-1984)

**More projects in Grant County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

#### Projects in Grays Harbor County

##### Forterra Northwest Conserving Polson Heritage Forest

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

Forterra will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>2</sup> on eighty acres of forestland known as the Polson Heritage Forest, in Grays Harbor County. The land has second-growth trees, a wetland, a small pond, and streams. If not protected, the land faces increasing threats of rural residential development. Forterra is partnering with the Polson Museum and Girl Scouts of Western Washington to showcase the local, cultural, and historical resources of the region and site. The Polson Museum is a respected local nonprofit leader in historical and educational programming, including a mobile sawmill. These kinds of tourism and educational opportunities will support community programming and generate long-term revenue to complement and enhance forest management. The Girl Scout camp infrastructure, including a lodge, A-frame cabins, and open-air sleeping bunks, will be used recreationally. Conservation of the forest will preserve the forest legacy that characterizes the region. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#). This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1622)

##### Forterra Northwest Expanding Montesano's Community Forest

**Grant Awarded: \$1,612,450**

Forterra will use this grant to buy 240 acres in Montesano to expand the City's community forest, the Chaplin Collins Memorial Forest. The forest will be managed to sustainably harvest timber to support the quality of life for current and future generations of Montesano residents. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Community Forests Program](#). (22-1568)

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#### **Port of Grays Harbor** **Grant Awarded: \$117,500**

#### **Renovating Friends Landing Boat Launch**

The Port of Grays Harbor will use this grant to design, engineer, and permit the redevelopment of the boat launch at Friends Landing, just outside of Montesano. The Port's plans call for construction of a concrete boarding ramp in the existing boat launch parking area and paving of the existing parking area for boat trailer parking. Friends Landing was developed as the first of its kind, universally accessible, outdoor recreation facility in the early 1990s. It is used as a boat launch for recreational boating and fishing in the Chehalis River. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2196)

#### **Port of Grays Harbor** **Grant Awarded: \$1,000,000**

#### **Replacing Westport Float 21 Guest Moorage**

The Port of Grays Harbor will use this grant to add guest moorage at a small waterfront property in the southeast portion of the Westport Marina in Westport. The Port will provide fourteen recreational guest moorage slips with a gangway that will allow people with disabilities access to a nearby boat launch, parking lot, and plaza. The guest moorage will simplify the overall use of the neighboring facilities in the midst of a heavy commercial area, drastically improving boater usability. The Port also will add signs and lights to ensure safety during early morning and often challenging weather conditions associated with ocean fishing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2039)

#### **Washington Farmland Trust** **Grant Awarded: \$401,562**

#### **Conserving the Torres Dairy**

Washington Farmland Trust will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>4</sup> to preserve more than 350 acres of prime farmland and critical habitat in the Chehalis River basin and help ensure a dairy remains forever. Jose Torres started on the farm as a milker when the Goeres family owned and operated the entire operation. During the past decade, the Torres family has taken on more of the operation, and eventually purchased the business. An easement on the entirety of the land that supports the dairy will facilitate the sale of the remainder of the land and buildings to the Torres family by making it more affordable. Visit RCO's online Project

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<sup>4</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1711)

#### **Westport Building a Skatepark and Pump Track**

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The City of Westport will use this grant to develop a skatepark and pump track in the heart of town at Druzianich Park. This facility will be the first of its kind in the rural coastal community of Westport, filling a need for an outdoor space where people can enjoy activities such as skateboarding, rollerblading, biking, and scooters. The facility will be constructed of concrete for durability and low maintenance. Druzianich Park was selected as the location because it is on the Grays Harbor Transit line and near the local grocery store, library, and Little League field. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1413)

**More projects in Grays Harbor County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### **Projects in Island County**

#### **Back Country Horsemen of Washington Launching the Scouts and Stock on the Trail Program**

**Grant Awarded: \$7,000**

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will use this grant to host a series of outdoor and classroom events for scout troops to introduce them to horsemanship and trail stewardship activities such as trail construction and maintenance, civic engagement, outdoor safety, and environmental stewardship. The pilot program will begin in Island County and once fully developed, expand to other Back Country Horsemen chapters across the state. The goal is to recruit the next generation of volunteer trail stewards and enhance relationships between the horsemen and local scouts in a fun, hands-on environment where scouts can learn how to safely interact with horses and mules. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2386)

#### **South Whidbey Parks and Recreation District Building Pickleball Courts at the Sports Complex**

**Grant Awarded: \$451,800**

The South Whidbey Parks and Recreation District will use two grants to design and build six pickleball courts with a paved walkway and storage building for court maintenance equipment at the Sports Complex. Two years ago, a small group of people approached district staff to paint

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two pickleball courts in the Sports Complex parking lot. Since then, the district has been approached twice more to add more courts in the parking lot. The four courts painted there now have displaced needed parking. This project will provide a permanent place for pickleball and free up parking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. The grants are from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#) and the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program (22-1455)

#### **Whidbey Camano Land Trust Expanding Bell's Farm**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,069,250**

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust will use this grant to buy conservation easements<sup>5</sup> on 214 acres of historic, working farmland near Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve on Whidbey Island. The purchase would expand the historic Bell's Farm, which was purchased by the Mueller family in 1946. The farm raises about 35 head of ancient white park cattle, 125 sheep, 60 hogs, 6 acres of strawberries, and 2 acres of market garden as well as producing hay for the animals. The farm employs eleven full-time workers and more than forty seasonal workers. Its sweet, June strawberries are a renowned Whidbey Island tradition. Since, the farm owners have reinvigorated Bell's with a focus on organic, regenerative practices, turning around a struggling operation into a thriving hub of local food production and education. Using the animals in a rotational grazing system combined with regular soil testing, Bell's uses no synthetic fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides. Conservation of the additional land will allow Bell's to expand and provide more public access and an incubator site for beginning farmers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1662)

**More projects in Island County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

#### **Projects in Jefferson County**

#### **Jefferson Land Trust Expanding the Quimper Wildlife Corridor**

**Grant Awarded: \$490,214**

The Jefferson Land Trust will use this grant to buy nearly 50 acres to expand the 245-acre Quimper Wildlife Corridor, in Port Townsend. Jefferson County, Port Townsend, and the land trust have worked since the mid-1990s to conserve a 3.5-mile corridor of forest and wetlands

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<sup>5</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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that follows the city's largest drainage basin across the north Quimper Peninsula. The corridor provides habitat for more than 130 bird species, including state priority species Vaux's swift and golden eagle, as well as amphibians, mountain beaver, bobcat, cougar, deer, elk, and other wildlife. An extensive network of trails through the corridor provide access to the public for hiking, horse riding, biking, bird watching, school nature programs, and educational activities. The land trust also will use the grant to update a management plan and inventory the rare, old-growth trees scattered in the forest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1415)

#### **Jefferson Land Trust Preserving Quilcene Farmland**

**Grant Awarded: \$750,000**

The Jefferson Land Trust will use this grant to buy conservation easements<sup>6</sup> on Humbleberry and Schmidt Farms, located next to each other about one mile northeast of Quilcene at the head of Quilcene Bay. The farms have 115 acres of working farmland, prime agricultural soils, parts of salmon-spawning Jakeway and Donovan Creeks, and wetlands. The farms are next to other permanently protected fish habitat, farmland, and working forestland properties. Conserving the land will prevent subdivision and eliminate the estimated four remaining development rights. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1408)

#### **Port Townsend Replacing Herb Beck Marina Boat Launch**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,000,000**

The Port of Port Townsend will use this grant to replace and enhance the Herb Beck Marina Boat Launch, which serves Quilcene and Dabob Bays. The existing facilities are not accessible to people with disabilities and need repairs. The Port will install an improved ramp, access wedge, and handling float, which will allow a wider range of trailered boats to safely use the facility, ease launching and retrieval, provide float space for temporary tie ups, and free up space in the marina for up to four overnight moorage slips. In addition, the Port will upgrade the parking area and renovate the restroom. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2095)

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<sup>6</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Expanding the Dabob Bay Natural Area

**Grant Awarded: \$642,896**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy nearly eight acres, including saltwater shoreline, mature forest, and streams in the Dabob Bay Natural Area, in Jefferson County. The purchase will protect permanently the natural processes that occur on a shoreline, such as moving sediment and woody materials, to aid the bay's high-quality coastal spits. The land has 5.7 acres of uplands and 809 feet of shoreline, including 652 feet of streams. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1289)

#### Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Extending Olympic Discovery Trail

**Grant Awarded: \$1,397,000**

State Parks will use this grant to build a trail link in Anderson Lake State Park to the Olympic Discovery Trail and enhance the trailhead to create a new access point in the park. The trail is used for walking, running, bicycling, horseback riding, wildlife watching. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1483)

**More projects in Jefferson County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### Projects in King County

#### Black Diamond Building a Black Diamond Skate Park

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The City of Black Diamond will use this grant to replace a popular skate park that was removed from behind Black Diamond Elementary School in 2021 because it was unsafe. The City will build an in-ground, concrete skate park in the same location as the previous skate park. The City also will build a restroom, improve parking, and add pathways, benches, picnic tables, and lighting. The skate park's features will incorporate history, such as a coal car and black diamonds within the ramps and bowls. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1753)



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#### **Covington** **Expanding SoCo Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$908,000**

The City of Covington will use this grant to buy 1.7 acres to expand SoCo Park. The land is next to the park and in a high-demand area for commercially developable land. The City plans to use the land for open lawns, trails, pickleball courts, play spaces, park shelters, restrooms, and parking. Purchase of the land will protect environmentally sensitive areas associated with Jenkins Creek and provide for a future segment of the Jenkins Creek trail that will run through the city connecting neighborhoods and commercial centers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1628)

#### **Des Moines** **Replacing the Restroom at the Redondo Boat Launch**

**Grant Awarded: \$681,903**

The City of Des Moines will use this grant to replace the Redondo boat launch restroom with one in the parking lot across Redondo Beach Drive. The City also will add a boat wash station, landscape, and make minor parking lot improvements to accommodate the new restroom. The new restroom is in a location that is less affected by tides and earthquake concerns than the current, over-water location. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-1865)

#### **Kent** **Buying Land for a Trailhead at Mill Creek Canyon Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$475,000**

The City of Kent will use this grant to buy 2.25 acres for a trailhead park at the south end of Mill Creek Canyon Park. Buying the land fulfills a long-term goal of creating a pedestrian connection from downtown to the East Hill of Kent. Additionally, this location provides an important anchor for the Mill Creek Canyon trail system. The City will buy the land, demolish a residence and septic system, and grade the site for use as a public open space park. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1362)

#### **Kent** **Buying the Ruth Property at Clark Lake Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,000,000**

The City of Kent will use this grant to buy the remaining seventeen acres of private land at Clark Lake Park, completing city ownership of 150 acres for the park. Located on the East Hill of Kent, Clark Lake Park is surrounded by dense residential development. The addition of the seventeen

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acres will allow for completion of a loop trail with views of Clark Lake and opportunities for a more formal use area in the park. The park is used primarily for walking, hiking, birdwatching, and other passive-use recreation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1478)

#### **Kent** **Renovating Springwood Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The City of Kent will use this grant to redevelop the 10-acre Springwood Park on the southeast hill of Kent. This park was developed initially in 1992 by King County and transferred to Kent in 1996. The City will expand the children's play area and add walking paths, a community gathering space, a shelter, picnic tables, open lawns, barbecue grills, stormwater infrastructure, a sports court, and benches. Kent will contribute \$2.5 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1372)

#### **King County** **Installing Trail Bridges in Taylor Mountain Forest**

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

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks will use this grant to install three trail bridges in Taylor Mountain Forest. Installation of two bridges will ensure the southern trail system stays open. A current undersized bridge is at risk of failure, and if closed, would sever access to a two-mile trail loop. A third trail bridge will improve protection of a fish-bearing stream and provide a safe year-round crossing on the main trail leaving the trailhead. The nearly 2,000-acre park features thirty miles of trails for riding horses, hiking, trail running, and mountain biking, about twenty-five miles southeast of Seattle. It is part of the popular "Issaquah Alps" and is next to Raging River and Tiger Mountain State Forests. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) program. (22-1950)

#### **Mercer Island** **Renovating Luther Burbank Park's Waterfront**

**Grant Awarded: \$3,000,000**

The City of Mercer Island will use three grants to renovate the waterfront in Luther Burbank Park. The City will replace the portion of the park dock that serves powerboats on Lake Washington. The dock was built in 1974 and needs extensive repairs to meet the needs of small powerboat recreators. The City will install a ten-foot-wide concrete floating dock with two finger piers designed to lessen the force of boat wakes that have damaged the current dock. The City also

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will install a floating dock for non-motorized small craft, overwater stairs, a viewing deck and outdoor classroom, and restrooms. Finally, the City will expand the cobble beach with a route accessible to people with disabilities, pave the plaza, and add furnishings, landscaping, signs, and art. The work is part of a larger initiative to renovate the fifty-year-old waterfront for a range of activities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshots for [here](#) and [here](#) for more information and photographs of these projects. These grants are from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, Boating Facilities Program](#), and the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-2033 and 22-1611)

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

**Grant Awarded: \$10,000**

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will use this grant to support its Trailhead Ambassador Program. These ambassadors teach visitors about how to protect public lands in the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area, which is a corridor of natural and recreation lands and communities spanning 1.5 million acres from Seattle to Ellensburg along Interstate 90. Trailhead Ambassadors aim to inspire the next generation of public land stewards and reduce the damage caused by crowds at popular trails and trailheads. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2368)

#### **Renton Building Pickleball Courts in Talbot Hill Reservoir Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The City of Renton will use this grant to design and improve tennis and pickleball courts in Talbot Hill Reservoir Park, which is 1.5 miles south of downtown near the interchange of Interstate 405 and State Route 167. The courts are the only dedicated pickleball courts in the city, but are in poor condition, with slopes, lack of barriers between the court backlines, and pooling water that creates slippery conditions. The City will convert a tennis court to two pickleball courts and improve drainage and the court surface on the existing pickleball courts. The City also will install fencing, a covered seating area, a water fountain, a bike rack, benches, garbage containers, and paddle holders. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1696)

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#### Seattle Building a Rail Overpass at Carkeek Park

**Grant Awarded: \$2,300,000**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use two grants to replace a pedestrian bridge in Carkeek Park that provides the only safe access over railroad tracks to the beach. The bridge has corroded steel and cracked concrete. The 220-acre Carkeek Park is one of three Environmental Learning Centers in Seattle's parks system, providing year-round environmental education, stewardship, and conservation programming to a large number of visitors and school groups. The bridge provides a vital connection to the shoreline, beach, and a salmon-spawning creek. The department will install a cable-stayed style bridge with a gentle ramp leading to a viewing platform overlooking the trains below and Puget Sound. The bridge will be fully accessible to people with disabilities. The current design also provides stairs to the beach. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. The grants are from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#) and the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1256)

#### Seattle Building a Rainier Beach Playfield Skatepark

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to build a skateboard area in Rainier Beach Playfield in southeast Seattle. Rainier Beach is one of the most demographically diverse communities in Seattle and among the most underserved in park resources. The grant will help pay for demolition, erosion control, grading, and installation of stormwater infrastructure, a skateboard facility, picnic shelters, a circular pathway, seating, tables, and landscaping. There are two public schools next to the playfield. The project is community driven with residents bringing project ideas to the department, securing funding for the planning and design stages using Seattle Neighborhood Matching Funds, and participating in outreach including large public meetings, classroom visits, and events at the site. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1255)

#### Seattle Building South Leschi Guest Moorage

**Grant Awarded: \$1,000,000**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to build a dock for guest moorage at Leschi Park, on the western shore of Lake Washington. The L-shaped dock will accommodate up to fifty-three boat and will have power, potable water, and a fire suppression system. This guest moorage will be the only public guest moorage float along the twenty miles of Seattle shoreline of Lake Washington from the existing marina to the Leschi community. The

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new dock will increase guest moorage on the lake by 22 percent. Old creosote-contaminated materials such as pilings and docks will be removed from the lake. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2052)

#### **Seattle** **Improving Little Brook Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate the one-acre Little Brook Park to include a play area, community garden, seating walls, gathering space, a central lawn, picnic tables and grills, and a looped walking path—all interwoven under large trees with views of a stream. This community-led project will improve this northeast Seattle park, which is the only public green space in a high-density, diverse, low-income neighborhood. Separate projects will provide interpretive signs about stream water quality and complete the street frontage as a park extension. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1259)

#### **Seattle** **Redeveloping Stan Sayres Boat Launch**

**Grant Awarded: \$820,000**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to redevelop the Stan Sayres boat launch, one of only two public boat launches, on Lake Washington. The department will create four launch lanes and add boarding floats to two piers to create queuing space and make entering and exiting boats easier. The department also will add grated gangways to connect the piers to the boarding floats, making it safer and easier to access. The site is nearly unusable today. Two launch lanes have been blocked off, two have concrete blocks in place to protect boat launchers from huge potholes, and another section is unstable and sliding. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2051)

#### **Seattle** **Renovating the Colman Pool Bathhouse**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to upgrade the bathhouse and facilities at Colman Pool in Lincoln Park. Originally built in 1941, Colman Pool is one of only two public outdoor pools in Seattle and the only public saltwater pool in King County. The pool is used regularly for practice by swim teams and recreational lap swimmers. The locker rooms remain largely unchanged since they were installed and present a barrier to people with

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disabilities. Many of the cast-iron pipes and components of the sand filter system that draws water from Puget Sound for swimming also are original. The City will renovate the locker rooms to increase access for people of all abilities, provide restrooms and changing areas (none exist), improve the caretaker residence, and provide several other improvements throughout the bathhouse and on the pool deck to increase access to all users. The City also will update the filter equipment and reinforce the bathhouse walls to withstand an earthquake. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1252)

#### Seattle

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

#### Renovating Soundview Playfield

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to renovate a grass playfield in the 10-acre Soundview Park in northwest Seattle. The City will install about 114,000 square feet of multi-purpose, all-weather synthetic turf and field amenities including lights, a looped walking path, bleachers, and seat walls. The City also will improve the stormwater, electrical, and irrigation systems. The project's goal is to upgrade a well-loved park's field that frequently is unplayable because of wet and muddy conditions. This project will enhance playability, improve safety, and create an accessible facility. This project is important to the community because youth participation in active sports is growing, while land for new sports facilities is limited. Game-quality fields and accessible facilities are particularly lacking in this area of Seattle, where the demand is high and most nearby playfields are grass. This project will support Little Leagues, youth baseball and softball, soccer, football, lacrosse, and ultimate Frisbee. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1261)

#### Seattle Public Utilities

**Grant Awarded: \$1,476,676**

#### Expanding Upper Royal Arch Reach

Seattle Public Utilities will use two grants to buy twenty acres of floodplain on the Upper Royal Arch Reach of the Cedar River, west of Maple Valley, to improve resting and rearing habitat for Chinook and other salmon and trout species. This includes 720 feet of riverfront to be used for future restoration. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. These grants are from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#) and the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1593)

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#### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest**

##### **Maintaining Highway 2 Trails and Campsites** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Skykomish Ranger District will use the grant to fund a crew to maintain recreation facilities in King and Snohomish Counties. The crew will clean twelve vault toilets, pick up trash, clean campsites, and maintain twenty-five trailheads. There are nearly 300 dispersed campsites that serve more than 200,000 hikers, equestrians, campers, climbers, kayakers, rafters, anglers, and hunters. This project will prevent further damage to sensitive streamside areas, wetlands, and stream habitats while providing a safe recreational experience to the public. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2154)

#### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest**

##### **Providing an Alpine Lakes Wilderness Patrol** **Grant Awarded: \$200,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to pay for four backcountry rangers and two interns to patrol trails on the Snoqualmie Ranger District for two years. Rangers will educate visitors and enforce regulations while hiking and biking to backcountry destinations in the 300,000-acre district, which includes 111,000 acres in the Alpine Lakes, Norse Peak, and Clearwater Wilderness areas. Rangers and volunteers will patrol more than 400 miles of trail and hundreds of destination lakes, streams, and summits that provide a wide spectrum of recreation opportunities including hiking, backpacking, climbing, mountain biking, fishing, hunting, foraging, and horseback riding for more than 300,000 users each year. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2222)

#### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest**

##### **Providing Front Country Patrols** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to help support ten seasonal officers and volunteers to deliver a robust education program that includes lookout tower staffing and educational patrols during the summer and winter for two years. The employees and volunteers are expected to make well more than 25,000 visitor contacts, with an emphasis on educating novice visitors about environmental stewardship. The district typically hosts more than 1 million users annually and steadily declining budgets and retiring employees have decreased its ability to respond to recreation needs in these high-use areas along Interstate 90 and State Route 410. The district encompasses 300,000 acres of which 189,000 are non-wilderness and accessible to a broad range of visitors including campers, hikers, equestrians, off-road vehicles riders, recreational target shooters, and hunters. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more](#)



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[information and photographs of this project.](#) This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2233)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest** **Improving Greenwater Campsites** **Grant Awarded: \$86,310**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to improve dispersed campsites along three major forest service roads crossing the forest, from the town of Greenwater toward Naches. Each campsite will be developed with a metal fire ring, picnic table, and graveled parking area. Paths to the campsites will be improved to protect the streamside plants. The work will protect the environment from uncontained campfires, improper disposal of human waste, loss of streambank plants, and garbage dumping in these popular recreation areas, while also making it more manageable for staff to maintain. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project.](#) This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2239)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest** **Maintaining Evans Creek and Snoqualmie Riding Areas** **Grant Awarded: \$200,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to maintain the Evans Creek ORV Park and Campground and trails along State Route 410. Crews will maintain twenty-five miles of four-wheel-drive and twenty-one miles of single-track trails at the Evans Creek park and twenty-six miles of trail for motorized uses accessed from State Route 410. These include iconic trails such as Suntop, Christoff, Divide Colquhuin, Grass Mountain, and the historic Naches Pass Four Wheel Drive Trail. Combining maintenance of these two areas will allow the ranger district more flexibility to address the many challenges present along the White River corridor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1986)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest** **Maintaining Skykomish Ranger District Trails** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Skykomish Ranger District will use this grant to fund trail crews, contractors, and volunteers to maintain about 144 miles of hiking and stock trails in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Work will include removing fallen trees, clearing overgrown brush, restoring trail surfaces, maintaining drainage structures, repairing bridges, removing boulders, restoring slides, and fixing safety hazards. The 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 Wilderness Areas and adjacent backcountry areas, and includes the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and the

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barrier-free Iron Goat Trail. An estimated 200,000 visitors use the trails annually. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2146)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest**

#### **Maintaining the Alpine Lakes Trails**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 150 miles of recreation trails in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and surrounding backcountry. Crews will clear overgrown brush and downed trees and repair trail surfaces and drainage structures. The work will be done during two years on trails for non-motorized use in the watersheds of the North, Middle, and South Forks of the Snoqualmie River, which include trails along Interstate 90. More than 300,000 visitors use these trails each year. High visitor use, steep grades, dense forests, and winter storms create ongoing maintenance needs. The work will reduce safety hazards, erosion, and vegetation loss, and preserve trail structures and enhance public access to Seattle's prized "backdoor wilderness." Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2202)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest**

#### **Maintaining the Snoqualmie Front Country**

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

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to support two seasonal staff for two years to maintain more than fifty trailheads, eight campgrounds, and hundreds of dispersed campsites used by more than 500,000 visitors annually. The crews will maintain trailheads, repair facilities, mitigate hazards, repair vandalism, and clean campsites. Throughout the year, visitors from the Seattle area flock to the district for hiking, horseback riding, camping, off-road vehicle riding, recreational target shooting, hunting and fishing, and climbing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2232)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest**

#### **Rehabilitating the Denny Creek Trail**

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

The Snoqualmie Ranger District will use this grant to rebuild 2.5 miles of the Denny Creek Trail at Hemlock Pass. A lack of maintenance and extremely high use in the past 20 years has caused the trail to erode and rock structures to break. Nearly 30,000 hikers use the Denny Creek Trail every summer to reach the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, see waterfalls, swim in creeks, and visit Melakwa Lake. It is a uniquely diverse trail less than one hour from downtown Seattle. Visit

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RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2240)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Studying Visitor Use of Alpine Lakes** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Mount Baker-Snoqualmie and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests will use this grant to assess visitor use and management options in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness during the next two years. The Forest Service has limited visitor use data and no objective method for evaluating ways to mitigate trail deterioration, congestion at trailheads, and increasing density of backcountry campsites. The study will examine how visitor use will respond to different interventions and infrastructure improvements, and how these could affect the visitor experience. The work will help managers at the two forests decide how best to increase access to the Wilderness, address congestion at trailheads, and improve the condition of trails and camping areas. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1956)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$325,000** **Building Trails Connecting to North Bend**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to design and build four miles of trail and fourteen small trail bridges that will connect North Bend to the Raging River State Forest Trail system in King County. The new trail will link Tennant Trailhead Park to Snoqualmie Point Park and the Raging River State Forest Trail system. The trails are used for mountain biking, gravel biking, trail running, and walking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1559)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$200,000** **Educating Visitors to the Snoqualmie Corridor**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for one full-time education and enforcement specialist to patrol about 150 miles of trail, 5 trailheads, and several day-use sites in the Interstate 90-Snoqualmie corridor, in eastern King County. Funding will cover the purchase of small tools, minor equipment, and educational materials. This grant also will fund a seasonal specialist to work in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and seasonal outreach interns to work with Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust's Trailhead Ambassador program, which provides information to visitors to state and

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federal recreational sites in the Snoqualmie corridor and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2077)

### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$4,042,562** **Expanding Natural Resources Conservation Areas in King County**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 38 acres at Mount Si, 330 acres at Middle Fork Snoqualmie, and 114 acres at West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Areas in east King County. The goal is to conserve land in the Mountains to Sound Greenway that provides crucial habitat and is highly threatened by residential development. The greenway is a 100-mile landscape of forests, wildlife habitat, and open areas along Interstate 90, a National Scenic Byway. The conservation areas' distinctive features include talus, high-elevation lakes, streams, wetlands, old-growth and mature forests, cliffs, and landscape connections for wildlife. Large mammals known to use the conservation areas include cougars, bobcats, mountain goats, black bears, coyotes, and elk. Red-tailed hawks, ospreys, barred owls, pygmy owls, and pileated woodpeckers also have been observed. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1378)

### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$149,900** **Maintaining Snoqualmie Corridor Trails and Facilities**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain more than 150 miles of trail, 4 trailheads, and 2 day-use areas in the West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area, Tiger Mountain State Forest, Raging River State Forest, Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area, and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Resources Conservation Area, in eastern King County outside North Bend. These trails and recreation sites for nonmotorized users are among Washington's most frequented and offer year-round recreational opportunities to the 4 million residents of the Puget Sound metropolitan area. Many of western Washington's most iconic recreational destinations are in this area, including: West Tiger #3, Mailbox Peak, and Dirty Harry's Balcony and Peak for hikers and trail runners; East Tiger Mountain and Raging River mountain bike trail systems; Poo Poo Point for free flight pilots, paragliders, and hang gliders; and Exit 38-Far Side Climbing Area for climbing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2076)

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#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission    Grant Awarded: \$1,687,770** **Conserving the Green River Gorge**

State Parks will use this grant to buy about fifty-two acres of the Icy Creek Ridge in the Green River Gorge Conservation Area, near Black Diamond in King County. State Parks plans to use the land for a trail along the south rim of the gorge, from Kanaskat-Palmer State Park to Flaming Geyser State Park. This land is some of the last needed before trail development will be possible. The landowner has platted the area into fourteen building sites for houses and developed roads. Purchase of the land will prevent this development and the road will provide access for a future trailhead for the South Rim Trail. The landowner is a willing seller. The Washington State Legislature established the Green River Gorge Conservation Area in 1969 and directed State Parks to begin buying land along the river. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1569)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission    Grant Awarded: \$1,669,100** **Expanding Saint Edward State Park**

State Parks, with support from Forterra, will use this grant to buy a 6.4-acre forest in Kenmore for inclusion in Saint Edward State Park. The two organizations will work to conserve one of the last undeveloped and unprotected parcels of Lake Washington's shoreline. Forterra will buy a conservation easement<sup>7</sup> on the land, preventing development, and then State Parks will buy the land. The land is next to the park's northwest boundary and in the park's long-term boundary. Known as the Arrowhead property, the land includes 250 feet of undeveloped shoreline and 870 feet along two unnamed streams and their confluence. The project will conserve forever a forest of Douglas fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, and madrone trees. The land functions as a wildlife corridor for a range of species, including coyote, bobcat, long-tailed weasel, river otter, mountain beaver, and pileated woodpecker, along with other smaller mammals, amphibians, and birds. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1529)

**More projects in King County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

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<sup>7</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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#### Projects in Kitsap County

##### **Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park and Recreation District**

##### **Adding a Waterfront Park Dock**

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park and Recreation District will use this grant to add a dock for non-motorized sailing and paddle boards at the existing city dock in Eagle Harbor. This will expand public access and provide space for sailing and paddle sport instruction. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#). (22-1532)

##### **Bainbridge Island Land Trust**

##### **Conserving Rockaway Bluff**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,850,000**

The Bainbridge Island Land Trust will use this grant to buy the forty-five-acre Rockaway Bluff Preserve, an exceptional forest lying upland of Rockaway Beach on Bainbridge Island. The preserve forms the core of an extraordinary forest with wetland habitat and provides a stunning visual impression of the island from the ferry. It serves as a refuge for many species, particularly birds, displaced by development. The preserve is in the long plateau between two already conserved public parks—Pritchard Park and Blakely Harbor Park—and its purchase will conserve habitat connectivity permanently. This project protects one of the last eight parcels larger than twenty acres, permanently protects key parts of a complex habitat network, supports watershed functions and bluff stability, and ensures an enjoyable pedestrian trail network into the future. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1518)

##### **Bremerton Trap & Skeet Club**

##### **Upgrading a Bremerton Range**

**Grant Awarded: \$70,000**

The Bremerton Trap & Skeet Club will use this grant to rebuild one of its skeet houses, erect a pole building for storage, and replace the fence between skeet fields. The club, in existence since 1939, provides safe, family friendly recreational access to the public to engage in the shotgun sports of trap, skeet, five stand, and sporting clays. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Firearms and Archery Range Recreation grant program](#). (22-1872)



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#### **Kitsap County** **Expanding Illahee Preserve Heritage Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$655,000**

The Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy up to 30 acres bordering Bremerton to expand the 618-acre Illahee Preserve Heritage Park. Located in the heart of the most densely populated area of Kitsap County, the preserve is a mature forest with unique natural features, such as deeply incised canyons and areas so pristine and wild it has been called "The Lost Continent." The land to be purchased is prime wildlife habitat and includes a nearly half-mile of stream and stream bank and wildlife corridors connecting the preserve with Illahee State Park. The purchase will bring the preserve within 98 percent of its ultimate size. Public access is provided by a trail system. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1613)

#### **North Kitsap Little League** **Renovating North Kitsap Little League Ball Fields**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The North Kitsap Little League will use this grant to renovate two baseball/softball fields at Snider Park, near Poulsbo. The league will convert the infields to synthetic turf and add field lighting. The North Kitsap Little League has five fields at Snider Park but only one has lights and none have synthetic turf. The lack of lighting and poor drainage of the dirt infields, limits the number of games and playability of the fields. The renovations will improve the reliability and availability of the fields for use throughout the year. In addition, the North Kitsap Little League hosts the Challengers program, which is an opportunity for children with special needs to play baseball and softball. The synthetic turf would make the infield accessible to children using wheelchairs. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1721)

#### **Port of Illahee** **Replacing the Pilings at the Port of Illahee Public Pier**

**Grant Awarded: \$191,000**

The Port of Illahee will use this grant to replace twenty severely deteriorated pilings supporting the public pier at the Illahee dock. As one of a handful of public access points to the waterfront between Bremerton and Brownsville, the Illahee dock has played a vital role in the Illahee community, providing moorage and recreational access opportunities since 1916. Piling replacement is critical to maintain public safety and access to this historic recreational destination on the Puget Sound. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2038)



# Recreation and Conservation

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#### **Port Orchard** **Enhancing Port Orchard Waterfront Plaza**

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The City of Port Orchard will use this grant to develop the downtown waterfront. The City will remove an old seawall, armoring, and debris; regrade the shoreline to a gently sloping beach area; and build a viewpoint. The City also will replace an aging waterfront sidewalk and remove a commercial structure and parking lot. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#). (22-1648)

#### **Port Orchard** **Remodeling a Sport Court in Givens Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$147,000**

The City of Port Orchard will use this grant to replace a deteriorated basketball court with a combined futsal and basketball court, resurface two tennis courts to serve as both tennis and pickleball courts, install seating, and create a path to the courts that is accessible to people with disabilities in Givens Park. The City also will add fencing, lights, goals, and hoops to the basketball court. This project seeks to satisfy two needs identified during the City's public park planning process. The community enthusiastically supported adding pickleball courts and a Port Orchard eighth-grader, named Isaac Nguyen, presented the City with a petition signed by 229 people asking for a futsal court. Futsal is a fast-paced, soccer-associated game played on a hard court between two teams of five players each, including a goalkeeper. There are no outdoor futsal courts on the Olympic or Kitsap Peninsulas and the nearest outdoor futsal facilities are in King County. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1588)

#### **Port of Poulsbo** **Moving Poulsbo Guest Moorage**

**Grant Awarded: \$548,000**

The Port of Poulsbo will use this grant to move its guest moorage facilities further into Liberty Bay. Originally built in the 1980s, the guest moorage is too close to the shoreline, the floats often get grounded, and a steep gangway isn't accessible to people with disabilities. The Port will move the moorage facilities further waterward to prevent damage caused by grounding of moorage floats and to enable proper access by vessels and people at all tide levels. This popular moorage facility is next to the historic, Norwegian-themed downtown Poulsbo, which sees 6,000 boat nights a year. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2105)

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

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#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$3,884,685**

#### **Buying Hood Canal Shoreline in the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 169 acres along Hood Canal in the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area, near Seabeck in Kitsap County. The purchase will add to the conservation area and the Kitsap Forest Natural Area Preserve, which combined provide high-quality and regionally diminishing wildlife habitat and are a crucial part of a larger landscape of forestlands on the western Kitsap Peninsula. Acquisition will support wildlife in an urbanizing area and protect Puget Sound shoreline habitat, mature forests, and critical wetlands. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1295)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$164,901**

#### **Providing Education and Enforcement on Hood Canal**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund one full-time recreation warden and additional police services to patrol eighty-five miles of trail, five campgrounds, seven trailheads, and a multitude of dispersed and seasonal day-use areas in the Tahuya, Green Mountain, and Hood Canal State Forests, the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area, and other areas in Kitsap and Mason Counties. The staff will focus on enforcing off-road vehicle use compliance and correcting safety issues. The warden also will support Forest Watch and camp host volunteers in educating visitors about rules, regulations, and good stewardship principals, and will help manage trail events in the forests. Funding also will be used to buy equipment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2104)

**More projects in Kitsap County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### **Projects in Kittitas County**

#### **Trust for Public Land** **Grant Awarded: \$14,000,000**

#### **Conserving Springwood Ranch**

The Trust for Public Land will use this grant to conserve 3,600 acres, known as Springwood Ranch, near Thorp. The land, formerly owned by cattle rancher and restaurateur Stuart Anderson, is uniquely situated from Thorp to Elk Heights between Interstate 90 and the Yakima River. It includes a variety of landscapes including irrigated agricultural lands, pasture, shrub steppe, as well as the lower portion of Taneum Creek where it connects with the Yakima River.

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The property is near or next to other protected land and the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail. In addition to conserving streambank and shrub steppe habitat and habitat for salmon and other fish, conservation of the land could enable it to serve store water, providing flows for migrating fish and extending the irrigation season for pro-ratable water users.

## **Kittitas Conservation Trust**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,245,089**

### **Conserving a Yakima River Reach in Thorp**

The Kittitas Conservation Trust will use this grant to buy 235 acres of floodplain including 1 mile along the Yakima River in Thorp. This project will better protect multiple habitats and migration corridors for steelhead, rainbow, cutthroat and bull trout, and Chinook and coho salmon as well as many native fish and aquatic species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1245)

## **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

### **Educating Off-Highway Vehicle Riders**

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

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to pay for five rangers to educate off-highway vehicle riders about responsible use of campsites, staging areas, and more than 250 miles of trail in Kittitas and Yakima Counties. The rangers will be in field talking to visitors on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day through late October for two years. The grant also will pay for supplies, such as signs, safety gear, motorcycle tires, and motorcycle and jeep maintenance. The Naches district trail system provides an estimated 10 percent of all trail opportunities for motorized uses in Washington. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2286)

## **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

### **Maintaining Naches Trails for Motorized Uses**

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

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to pay for crews to clear 290 miles of trail and maintain 250 miles of trail in two years. The maintenance would include clearing overgrown brush, repairing drainage structures, restoring trail surfaces, and maintaining signs. Regular maintenance reduces the need for costly reconstruction projects. The district's trail system receives extensive use from an estimated 45,000 recreationists each year on its motorcycle and four-wheel-drive trails. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2279)

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### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Redeveloping the Mattoon Lake Access Area**

**Grant Awarded: \$325,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to redevelop the Mattoon Lake Water Access Site in Ellensburg. Located next to Interstate 90, the site is easy to get to and very popular in the local community. The site has a parking lot, two vault toilets, a failing fishing dock, and a boat launch. The department will install a larger fishing float, replace one of the toilets and add access for people with disabilities, replace the entrance sign, and upgrade the parking area and line it with rocks to reduce damage to adjacent habitat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1474)

### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Restoring the Taneum River Floodplain**

**Grant Awarded: \$380,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife, in partnership with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, will use this grant to place logjams in Taneum Creek, remove old road materials from the floodplain, and realign a private road to reduce the amount of road fill in the historic floodplain. The work is in a reach of the creek that has been straightened by humans and become steeper. As a result, the water leaves the area quickly instead of being stored and released as cold water late in the summer when young salmon are trying to grow before heading to the ocean. The work will change the channel bed, reconnect the floodplain with the creek more frequently, and restore former wet meadow habitat, providing resting and growing areas for salmon. The department also will plant 3,000-5,000 plants in the floodplain. Planting trees and bushes along the creek bank shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother spawning gravel. The creek is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and for Chinook and coho salmon, westslope cutthroat and resident rainbow trout, and lamprey. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1626)

### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Building a West Fork Teanaway Trailhead**

**Grant Awarded: \$305,138**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to build a trailhead in the Teanaway Community Forest, on the north side of the West Fork Teanaway Road, next to the West Fork trail system. The department will build sixty-five parking stalls, a restroom, and two

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

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informational kiosks. This new trailhead will serve non-motorized users for both summer and winter recreation providing access to more than sixty miles of trail. The trails are used by hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1348)

#### **Washington State Conservation Commission Conserving Swauk Prairie Farms**

**Grant Awarded: \$6,373,917**

The State Conservation Commission will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>8</sup> on 601 acres to preserve Swauk Prairie Farms and allow farming to continue into the future. Designated a State Centennial Farm, the farm produces hay and is used for livestock grazing. Conserving the farm will protect three "habitats of greatest conservation need" including Columbia Basin foothill riparian woodland and shrubland, inter-mountain basins big sagebrush steppe habitat, and northern Rocky Mountain ponderosa pine woodland. The farm also is 1.5 miles from the Teanaway Community Forest, a 50,241-acre landscape that lies at the headwaters of the Yakima River Basin watershed. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1544)

#### **U.S. Forest Service Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining the Cle Elum Front Country**

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

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to pay for volunteers, contractors, partners, and six employees to maintain seventeen campgrounds, thirty trailheads, numerous dispersed camping and day-use sites, five boat launches, and two rental cabins in Kittitas County. Crews will remove dangerous trees, clean up trash and dump sites, collect fees, clean restrooms, install signs and bulletin boards, repair facilities and parking lots, and maintain picnic tables and fire rings. The closeness to Puget Sound, coupled with a diverse array of outdoor recreation opportunities, brings hundreds of thousands of summer visitors to the district. This work will provide upkeep and basic operation of these high-use sites, protect natural areas next to recreation sites, and prevent degradation of areas critical to threatened and endangered species, such as spotted owls and bull trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2135)

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<sup>8</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

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#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Cle Elum Trails for Nonmotorized Uses      Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to pay for a trail crew to maintain 326 miles of trail for nonmotorized uses. The crew will remove fallen trees, clear overgrown brush, restore trail surfaces, repair drainage structures, install signs, reroute small sections of trail, and repair stream approaches. This work is necessary to mitigate hazards, prevent resource damage, and provide for enjoyable user experiences in wilderness and other backcountry settings. The trails are used for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and packing, mountain biking, and trail running. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2133)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining North Cle Elum Off-Road Vehicle Trails      Grant Awarded: \$191,500**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to pay for a crew and support volunteers to maintain 230 miles of multiuse trails in the northern Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The crews will remove fallen trees, clear overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, restore trail surfaces, and maintain trail signs. As one of the state's most popular off-road vehicle areas, maintenance is critical to ensuring sustainable use and long-term access. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2131)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining South Cle Elum Off-Road Vehicle Trails      Grant Awarded: \$188,000**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to pay for a crew and support volunteers to maintain 170 miles of multiuse trails in the southern Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The crews will remove fallen trees, clear overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, restore trail surfaces, and maintain trail signs. The ranger district also will buy minor equipment such as hand-tools needed for trail maintenance. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2132)



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#### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Providing Cle Elum Front Country Rangers Grant Awarded: \$113,700**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund four rangers and support two volunteers to patrol high-use recreation areas, major trailheads, and campgrounds in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The rangers and volunteers will focus on educating visitors about proper sanitation, campsite selection, fee compliance, and environmental stewardship. A consistent field presence in these areas has proven to reduce environmental degradation, limit conflicts, and foster greater environmental stewardship. In addition, the rangers and volunteers will promote the "Respect the River" program, which educates users about how to minimize damage to streambanks and the importance of protecting bull trout and other water habitat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2134)

#### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Providing Off-Road Vehicle Patrols Grant Awarded: \$185,500**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to pay for one full-time ranger, two seasonal rangers, support for volunteers, and two electric mountain bikes for two years to patrol nearly 400 miles of off-highway vehicle trails in Kittitas County. The rangers work with volunteers to patrol the front country trail system, seven campgrounds, and more than thirty trailheads. Located just eighty miles west of the state's most densely populated areas, the multiuse trail system is one of the most heavily used in Washington. The rangers and their partners provide information and assistance and teach safe motorized travel principles. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2087)

#### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Providing Rangers for the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to fund three rangers and support two volunteer interns to patrol the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. The rangers and volunteers will educate visitors about how to protect the wilderness and trails. The popular Alpine Lakes Wilderness and adjacent areas host 16 trailheads, 200 miles of trail, multiple high-country routes, more than 60 lakes, and more than 900 campsites. Due to rapid population increases, the area now receives greater than 80,000 annual visits. The area is used for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, horse packing, hunting, fishing, mountaineering, and climbing. Visit RCO's online Project



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Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2082)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Renting Portable Bathrooms** **Grant Awarded: \$33,400**

The Cle Elum Ranger District will use this grant to rent portable toilets to be placed in high-use dispersed camping areas from Memorial Day to Labor Day. 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. Providing sanitation in areas with very heavy recreational use will reduce public health hazards and protect ecologically sensitive stream banks and streams used by species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act, such as bull trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2137)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000** **Building a Target Shooting Range in Kittitas County**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to build a target shooting range on Durr Road in Kittitas County in the Wenas Wildlife Area, less than ten miles outside of Ellensburg. The range will have ten firing lines each for twenty-five-yard and hundred-yard ranges, backstops, target stands, concrete shooting pads, signs, and a parking lot. Currently, people target shoot at several informal areas scattered throughout the north end of the wildlife area that do not have backstops, resulting in the public shooting into hiking and biking trails. Having an established site will give the public a safe and designated place to target shoot, lower the risk of wildfires because the site will have backstops, and protect the surrounding shrub steppe habitat used by elk, mule deer, and birds. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Firearms and Archery Range Recreation grant program](#). (22-2088)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$84,500** **Building a Trail in Teanaway Community Forest**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to build fifteen miles of trails for nonmotorized uses in the Teanaway Community Forest, ten miles northeast of Cle Elum. The new trail will create connections to towns such as Roslyn, Ronald, and Cle Elum and provide loop connections to hiking trails in the forest. This project is part of a five phase, multi-year construction plan. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of](#)

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[this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1991)

**More projects in Kittitas County are listed in the “Multiple Counties” section at the end of this document.**

## Projects in Klickitat County

### Columbia Land Trust Conserving Klickitat Oaks

**Grant Awarded: \$4,328,900**

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to buy 2,666 acres above the Klickitat River near Klickitat. This unique landscape includes priority oak woodland, savanna, and mixed oak and conifer forest. The conservation of this land will help protect priority plant communities associated with Oregon white oak and the birds and other wildlife they support. Priority species supported include Lewis's woodpecker, western gray squirrel, acorn woodpecker, and fisher. It also is a critical link in the Pacific Flyway and source of food for neotropical migratory birds in decline. Additionally, the project site will be available to members of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation for traditional uses. This is the first phase of a multiphase project to conserve 8,000 acres. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1630)

### Columbia Land Trust Preserving Centennial Farm

**Grant Awarded: \$1,605,000**

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to conserve 1,983 acres of one of the oldest farm ownerships in Washington State—Centennial Farm, called such because it has been managed continuously by the same family for more than 100 years. The farm is five miles west of Goldendale and contains irrigated pasture for hay, cattle, and chickens. More than 80 percent of the farm's soils are classified as prime or Washington Farmland of Statewide Importance. In addition to its agricultural values, the easement will help protect irrigation practices that provide much-needed late season water in the Little Klickitat River for mid-Columbia River summer steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The conservation easement will remove up to ninety-nine potential development rights in a rapidly developing corner of the state to ensure that the property remains viable for farming forever. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1681)

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

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#### Washington State Conservation Commission Conserving Davenport Cattle

**Grant Awarded: \$3,492,195**

The State Conservation Commission will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>9</sup> to permanently protect 5,867 acres of Davenport Cattle, a multi-generational, family-owned farm and ranch established in 1876 in Klickitat County. The farm produces cattle, hay, and grain. The easement will extinguish 958 development rights. The farm is one of the largest and oldest farms in Klickitat County and likely in Washington State. The proposed project consists of twenty-seven separate parcels under two different family ownerships that support different aspects of the overall operation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1541)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Protecting Frogs in the Trout Lake Natural Area Preserve

**Grant Awarded: \$870,024**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy and manage 126 acres of private land within the Trout Lake Natural Area Preserve's approved boundary. The preserve contains high-quality freshwater wetlands and supports a large population of the Oregon spotted frog, which is a state endangered species and a species listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. The preserve also is a nesting and foraging area for the greater sandhill crane, a state endangered species. In addition, several rare plants are found in the seasonally wet meadows and adjacent oak woodlands. This grant would protect permanently all the remaining privately-owned Oregon spotted frog breeding habitat in the Trout Lake watershed to protect the species from future habitat loss and ensure the ability of biologists to continue monitoring breeding populations. The preserve provides exceptional opportunities for scientific research and environmental education for school groups and the public. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1294)

#### Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Buying Land for the Klickitat State Park Trail

**Grant Awarded: \$1,323,060**

State Parks will use this grant to buy land in or next to the Klickitat State Park Trail, which runs thirty-one miles from Lyle to Warwick. This funding allows State Parks to buy smaller, lower-cost land when opportunities arise. In the past, these small properties next to the trail were offered to

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<sup>9</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

# Recreation and Conservation Grants Awarded 2023-2025



State Parks but the agency was unable to buy them because of the timing of the grant program. Combining the purchases will help the agency buy smaller properties that might not score well as individual, competitive grants but that are essential for preserving the trail corridor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1597)

## Projects in Lewis County

### Washington Farmland Trust Conserving Spencer Farm Near Chehalis

**Grant Awarded: \$271,750**

Washington Farmland Trust will use grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>10</sup> on about 130 acres of prime farmland near Chehalis. The Spencer Farm is surrounded on three sides by the Newaukum River, and its closeness to Napavine makes it attractive for rural development. The easement will extinguish twelve development rights, permit the current landowner to continue farming his family's farm, and conserve agricultural land along the river. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1649)

**More projects in Lewis County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

## Projects in Lincoln County

**Projects in Lincoln County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

## Projects in Mason County

### Great Peninsula Conservancy Conserving the Tahuya River

**Grant Awarded: \$1,113,600**

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant to buy the lower four miles of the Tahuya River in Mason County. The Tahuya is the largest river flowing into the east side of Hood Canal and the lower four miles are privately owned, mostly in unsubdivided large parcels. They are

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<sup>10</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



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important as the watershed's only spawning and rearing habitat for Hood Canal summer chum and Chinook salmon, both of which are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. The project represents a rare opportunity to conserve the entire lower part of a large, undeveloped river system in Puget Sound. The conservancy will buy 145 acres and conservation easements<sup>11</sup> on another 27 acres, covering 172 acres and 1.5 miles of riverfront and tributaries. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1369)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$675,209** **Expanding the Skookum Inlet Natural Areas to Conserve Rare Salt Marshes**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy eleven acres in the Skookum Inlet Natural Area Preserve to protect rare salt marshes in Little Skookum Inlet, six miles from Shelton in Mason County. The preserve protects two salt marsh types along with their associated plant communities, which are important, high-quality examples of wetlands in southern Puget Sound. The site also protects tide flats, second-growth forest buffer, chum and coho salmon, and resident cutthroat trout. Winter steelhead, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, is found in Skookum Creek, the major tributary to the inlet. The preserve provides opportunities for environmental education and research. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1292)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$20,495** **Maintaining Hood Canal Area Trails**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain trails for nonmotorized recreation in the Tahuya, Green Mountain, and Hood Canal State Forests, the Stavis Natural Resources Conservation Area, and other dispersed properties in Kitsap and Mason Counties. The grant will fund part of the salaries of three staff, support volunteers and events, and fund trail and facility maintenance. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2166)

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<sup>11</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



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#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining Tahuya and Green Mountain Trails

**Grant Awarded: \$167,425**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for a crew and volunteer support to maintain 200 miles of trails, 4 campgrounds, 7 trailheads, and day-use areas in the Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forests. Crews will cut overgrown brush, maintain drainage structures, harden trail surfaces, move small sections of trail, maintain bridges, install signs, and clean restrooms, campsites, parking areas, and signs. The Tahuya and Green Mountain State Forest off-road trails are open year-round, providing many opportunities for off-roading in the winter when most other off-road trails and facilities are closed. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2019)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining the 4x4 Trails in the Tahuya State Forest

**Grant Awarded: \$165,146**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain Tahuya State Forest's four-by-four trails and facilities, which include fifteen miles of trail, one campground, two trailheads, and four restrooms. Crews will cut overgrown brush, inspect and maintain bridges and drainage structures, lay gravel to harden trail surfaces and prevent erosion into nearby streams and wetlands, clean and remove litter, and repair signs and fences. The Tahuya four-by-four trail system is a heavily used and beloved year-round four-by-four destination, providing high-quality off-road experiences in the winter when other trails are closed. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2018)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Protecting a Forested Bog by Expanding Schumacher Creek Natural Area Preserve

**Grant Awarded: \$524,558**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 2.6 acres of forested wetland buffer for inclusion in the Schumacher Creek Natural Area Preserve in Mason County. The land is next to a protected wetland and will protect the wetland's water quality from stormwater runoff and wastewater leaching. The preserve protects a rare example of Puget lowland wetland and forested bog, along with the southern headwaters of fish-bearing Schumacher Creek. In addition, the preserve conserves three rare plant communities. One of the those—Sitka alder/skunk cabbage-water parsley community—is only found in the Puget lowlands and is critically imperiled globally. The second community, the shore pine/bog Labrador tea/Sphagnum community, is ranked as globally vulnerable. The third community is the red alder/salmonberry/slough sedge/skunk cabbage community. Visit RCO's online Project

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Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1376)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$3,595,349**

#### **Protecting a Salt Marsh and Salmon Runs in the Kennedy Creek Natural Area**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 173 acres in the 1,460-acre Kennedy Creek Natural Area, in Mason and Thurston Counties. Buying the land will help permanently protect one of the few remaining high-quality salt marshes and one of the most abundant fall chum salmon runs in southern Puget Sound, with average of 30,000 fish. Kennedy Creek also supports coho salmon and coastal and resident cutthroat trout and winter trout. After spawning, the salmon carcasses provide important nutrients and supplement the diets of 120 different wildlife species, including northern river otter, bobcat, and red-tailed hawk. The mudflats in the natural area provide critical feeding habitat for more than 150 species of birds. In a single day, 10,000 migratory shorebirds have been counted in the Kennedy estuary and 2,000-5,000 dunlin winter there each year—the largest concentration in central and southern Puget Sound. Each November, more than 5,000 people, including 3,500 students, visit the Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail, which is in the Natural Area and between the land to be purchased. The trail offers the best salmon education option for school children in southern Puget Sound. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1290)

**More projects in Mason County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### **Projects in Okanogan County**

#### **Mountain Trails Grooming Association** **Grant Awarded: \$122,968**

#### **Grooming Methow Valley Snowmobile Trails**

The Mountain Trails Grooming Association will use this grant to maintain and groom snowmobile trails in the Methow Valley. The association will cut overgrown brush, install signs, and groom more than 177 miles of mountain trails. The Methow Valley is a destination for thousands of outdoor winter enthusiasts and economic analysis show visitors spend more than \$18 million annually on trail-related recreation in the area. These trails provide access by snowmobile trails for backcountry and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, walking, and snowmobiling. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2176)



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#### **Okanogan Land Trust Conserving the Similkameen-Wahl Ranch**

**Grant Awarded: \$648,375**

The Okanogan Land Trust will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>12</sup> to protect 464 acres of agricultural land along the Similkameen River, about 13 miles north of Loomis in Okanogan County. The Similkameen-Wahl Ranch includes significant acreage of both Prime Farmland Soils and Farmland of Statewide Importance. Farmed for more than one hundred years, the land is owned by a multi-generation ranching family. The easement would enable the owners to solidify their ranching operation and pass it to the next generation, free from subdivision and development pressures. The land is next to the Similkameen-Chopaka Wildlife Unit, which is owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and near other lands protected by government, tribe, and nonprofits. It provides a substantial corridor of protection along the Similkameen River. In addition, the seasonal grazing pastures and irrigated meadows provide habitat for elk, moose, bear, deer, and a wide variety of bird species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1617)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Building North Summit Trails**

**Grant Awarded: \$199,974**

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to build forty-nine miles of trail for bikers, equestrians, Nordic skiers, hikers, hunters, and campers. The project will connect existing trails in the Lightning and Beaver Creek areas to a recreational hub centered around Bear Mountain, Little Buck Mountain, and the Loup Loup Ski area. The project also connects the new North Summit Horse camp to improve the popular equestrian resources in the region. The work will improve the summer and winter visitor recreation experience through development of a connected and sustainable trail network and will provide summer access to recreational opportunities in the Loup Loup pass area. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2042)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Methow Valley Recreation Areas**

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

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to maintain twenty-five campgrounds, thirty trailheads, two picnic areas, and the Washington Pass Scenic Overlook. Crews will clean

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<sup>12</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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toilets and campsites, control noxious weeds and remove dangerous trees, maintain water systems, mow, provide visitor information, collect fees, provide security patrols, collect garbage, and repair picnic tables, fire grates, and bulletin boards. The area has long attracted recreationists to its variety of habitats, from river valleys to mountain passes, to flowery meadows high on the Pacific Crest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2129)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Methow Valley Trails for Motorized Uses** Grant Awarded: \$99,215

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to pay for three summer employees to maintain trails primarily for motorized use in the Sawtooth backcountry and the Lightning and Beaver Creek drainages. The crew will remove fallen trees, repair drainage structures, restore trail surfaces, and build two bridges in a wetland area. The work will improve recreational opportunities for motorcyclists, mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians. An estimated 118,642 motorcycle riders spend more than 1.4 million user days on trail riding, and they come from all around the state to participate in trail riding in the Methow Valley. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2113)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Providing a Trail Crew** Grant Awarded: \$149,997

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to pay for a full-time trail crew and pack support to work for two seasons. The crew will remove fallen trees, clear overgrown brush, restore trail surfaces, clean and repair drainage structures, and control erosion on the highest priority trails in the Pasayten Wilderness, the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, and surrounding backcountry areas. This includes the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the Rainy Lake accessible trail, and popular hikes in the scenic north Cascade Mountains. The trails are used for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, and mountain biking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2112)

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#### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Providing Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers Grant Awarded: \$200,000**

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to pay for five seasonal rangers and support volunteers to provide education and enforcement in high-use recreation areas for two field seasons. Staff and volunteers educate visitors about how to recreate with little to no environmental impact and they will enforce regulations. Patrols will focus on popular recreation areas on the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, Pasayten and Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness areas, Pacific Crest Trail, and Pacific Northwest Trail. This area receives more than 190,000 visitor use days annually. Recreationists include hikers, backpackers, mountain bikers, climbers, photographers, wildlife viewers, backcountry skiers, stock users, hunters, and anglers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2111)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Grant Awarded: \$454,000 Building Boating Facilities at Spectacle Lake**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to build boating facilities at Spectacle Lake, about ten miles west of Tonasket in northern Okanogan County. The 365-acre lake provides boating and water recreation for a large portion of north central Washington and serves the cities of Loomis, Okanogan, Omak, Oroville, and Tonasket. The department will build a boat loading ramp, toilet, a second boat launch, and formal parking lot and install signs. Currently, parking is scattered throughout the site and the launch gets congested. A second, smaller craft launch will make it easier to get on the water. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2244)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Grant Awarded: \$295,000 Buying Habitat Inholdings in North Okanogan County**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy nearly fifty-four acres to protect important wildlife species. The department will buy thirty-seven acres next to the Similkameen-Chopaka Unit of the Scotch Creek Wildlife Area that is surrounded on all sides by department land and the last non-department owned 16.5 acres on Eyhott Island, which is in the Driscoll-Eyhott Island Unit of the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area. Buying the land will allow the department to protect critical habitat along water bodies; the state imperiled, inter-mountain basins big sagebrush steppe and ponderosa pine woodland; and savanna ecological systems. These habitats support a diverse array of birds including wood ducks, hooded mergansers, and woodpeckers, in addition to Columbia River steelhead trout, Pacific lamprey, kokanee salmon,

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and freshwater mussels. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1238)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$4,500,000** **Conserving Hunter Mountain North**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy about 520 acres in Okanogan County to protect critical shrub-steppe habitat in the lower Methow Valley. Protecting the land will conserve sagebrush-steppe habitat for mule deer and other species, including the endangered gray wolf. It also improves the east-west wildlife corridor connecting state and federal lands for wildlife travel and makes the land easier to manage. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1235)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$325,000** **Expanding Camping Sites in the Green Lake Access Area Campground**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to expand the number of camping sites from four up to twelve in the Green Lake campground and water access area in Okanogan County. The department will add steel fire rings and curbed and graveled surfaces making identifying campsites easy for users. In addition, the department will improve parking and access to the lake. The department will make walking from the campground to the shore less steep, address erosion, and install a vault toilet and information kiosk. Located less than fifteen minutes from Omak and Okanogan, the campground is a popular destination for fishing, swimming, and general water access. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1708)

**More projects in Okanogan County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### **Projects in Pacific County**

#### **Pacific County** **Grant Awarded: \$72,000** **Renovating Lions Park Field**

Pacific County will use this grant to renovate about two acres of school district-owned baseball fields on Knappton Road in Naselle. Over time, the fields have become uneven with many low

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areas, making play unsafe. The County will fill the low spots with dirt, smooth and level the outfields, then replant with grass. The work will provide enhanced, year-round, outdoor recreation opportunities for nearly 150 underserved youth ages seven to eighteen and community members in a high poverty county. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1539)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$3,950,000** **Conserving North Willapa Bay Estuaries and Shoreline**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy up to 1,500 acres of forest and wetlands along the northern shore of Willapa Bay, between the mouths of the Willapa and North Rivers. The purchase will help provide nearly uninterrupted connectivity over a fragmented ten miles of department-owned shoreline and riverbanks. The land is used by wildlife designated as Species of Greatest Conservation Need such as marbled murrelet, dusky Canada goose, band-tailed pigeon, and game species such as Roosevelt elk and Columbia black-tailed deer, and a variety of waterfowl. The land overlaps the mouths of ten, fish-bearing, freshwater streams used by chum and coho salmon and steelhead trout. Additionally, the land includes tidally influenced areas of Willapa Bay that are identified as critical habitat for green sturgeon, which are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1239)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Awarded: \$633,960** **Buying Land for a Trailhead in Willapa Hills State Park Trail**

State Parks will use this grant to buy 2.6 acres in South Bend for a trailhead for Willapa Hills State Park Trail. The land is on Robert Bush Drive East, which is known as State Route 101. The trailhead will be designed to accommodate single vehicles for visitors coming to recreate on this multi-use trail. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1605)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Awarded: \$130,000** **Completing Restoration of Leadbetter Point Coastal Dunes**

State Parks will use this grant to complete restoration of fifty-five acres of native coastal dune habitat in Leadbetter Point State Park. State Parks will control invasive plants to restore the native dune topography, processes, plants, and habitat for four species of concern and an imperiled ecosystem. The dunes are home to the western snowy plover and the streaked horned

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lark, two species that are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and the pink sand verbena and bear's-foot sanicle, both of which are on the state endangered species list. The work also will benefit the critically imperiled dune ecosystem, the North Pacific Maritime Coastal Sand Dune and Strand. This work builds on extensive restoration by State Parks and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of more than 850 acres of herb- and shrub-dominated dunes at the north end of the Long Beach peninsula. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1589)

### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Awarded: \$2,663,767** **Laying Gravel on the Willapa Hills Trail**

State Parks will use this grant to lay gravel on the Willapa Hills Trail, which stretches 56.5 miles from Chehalis to South Bend. State Parks will lay 17 miles of compacted gravel in two sections of trail—an 11-mile section from Pluvius to Half Moon Creek Road and a 6-mile section from the Willapa River Bridge to the Bullard Road in Menlo. State Parks also will add wayfinding, orientation, and interpretative signs. The trail traverses over century-old trestle bridges and through river valleys, thick forests, and rich farmland. The trail is used by hikers, bikers, and equestrians. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1606)

### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Awarded: \$387,474** **Linking Three Waters Trail in Cape Disappointment State Park**

State Parks will use this grant to build a short segment of trail to link two separate ends of the Three Waters Trail in Cape Disappointment State Park, in Ilwaco. The trail link, east of Robert Gray Drive, will create a half-mile of continuous trail and separate people from vehicles, making it safer. Designed by American designer and sculptor Maya Lin, the Three Waters Trail links the park's three waters—the Columbia River at one end, wetlands and lake, and the Pacific Ocean at the other end—together at their confluence. State Parks also will add interpretative signs that weave the history of Native American presence with Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1607)

### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife      Grant Awarded: \$325,000** **Developing Access to the Nemah Tidelands**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to build an access area to the Nemah tidelands, which are about twenty miles south of Raymond on the eastern shore of Willapa Bay,

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for the public to harvest clams and oysters. The department will pave a sixteen-stall parking lot, install a vault toilet, pave a trail from the cliff to the beach, and build a platform from which people with disabilities can harvest shellfish. RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1436)

**More projects in Pacific County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

#### Projects in Pend Oreille County

##### Town of Metaline

**Grant Awarded: \$67,500**

##### Building Pickleball Courts at Eagle Field

The Town of Metaline will use this grant to add two pickleball courts at Eagle Field. With pickleball being the fastest growing sport in the United States and Governor Jay Inslee signing a bill declaring pickleball the official state sport, Metaline has the space to offer people of all ages a place to play. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1719)

**More projects in Pend Oreille County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

#### Projects in Pierce County

##### Edgewood

**Grant Awarded: \$3,000,000**

##### Developing the Edgewood Missing Link of the Interurban Trail

The City of Edgewood will use this grant to design and develop one mile of the Interurban Trail in Edgewood. This missing east-west segment will link to the twenty-four-mile northern section of the Interurban Trail that connects the cities of Shoreline, Mountlake Terrace, Edmonds, and Lynnwood and to the nineteen-mile southern section of the Interurban Trail that connects the cities of Tukwila, Kent, Auburn, Algona, and Pacific. The trail provides non-motorized commuter options and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1674)



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**Fife** **Grant Awarded: \$918,328**  
**Building a Splash Pad and Expanding Colburn Park**

The City of Fife will use this grant to build a splash pad with up to eighteen spray features and two restrooms in Colburn Park, which is outside of the Fife Aquatic Center. In addition, the City will buy land next to the park being sold by the Fife School District. The City will use the land for a play structure, picnic shelters, and parking in the future. Overall, the City wants to enhance this area to provide an even safer and more secure outdoor facility offering free recreational opportunities for residents of Fife and the neighboring areas. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1349)

**Fife** **Grant Awarded: \$77,000**  
**Resurfacing Tennis Courts in Dacca Park**

The City of Fife will use this grant to resurface three tennis courts, add a backboard, replace fencing, and add pickleball lines to the resurfaced court in Dacca Park. Significant cracking has compromised the quality of the tennis courts and weeds are beginning to grow up through the cracks. The surface also is faded badly and includes low spots where water pools. This can create a dangerous playing surface for users. The fence posts are buried in the perimeter court surface, requiring a replacement to occur as part of the resurfacing. The project will include the addition of a backstop on the south edge of the courts to allow solo play, as well as the addition of pickleball markings to ensure alternate use of the courts. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1636)

**Gig Harbor Sportsmen's Club** **Grant Awarded: \$7,550**  
**Improving a Five-Stand Target Range**

The Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club will use this grant to upgrade its five-stand range. The club will buy two new target launchers to replace two old and unreliable ones, two new launcher mobility carts, and a target launch controller. In addition, the club will renovate the range by moving two target launchers and replacing flooring, siding, and access. These renovations will make the range operation more reliable and safer and allow the club to serve more shooters. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Firearms and Archery Range Recreation grant program](#). (22-2360)

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#### **Lakewood** **Adding Pickleball Courts to Harry Todd Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The City of Lakewood will use this grant to convert an aging and underused tennis court in Harry Todd Park into four pickleball courts. The City also will add parking stalls and a route to the new pickleball courts for people with disabilities. Harry Todd Park is a seventeen-acre community park in the south side of the city along American Lake. Military bases, Interstate 5, and the lake create geographical barriers that isolate this area from the rest of the city. The park, which is the only park in this part of Lakewood, is critical to the economically disadvantaged and diverse community members who live there. The park was created in the 1950s and the tennis courts were original park amenities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1632)

#### **Lakewood** **Building a Bike Racing Track in Wards Lake Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The City of Lakewood will use this grant to build a BMX (dirt bicycle racing) track at Wards Lake Park, a twenty-seven-acre park in the northeastern part of the city. The City will build the 0.6-mile-long, soft-surface, BMX track in an underused and difficult to manage area. The City has identified the park as an area anticipating population growth and a high-priority for upgrades to improve level of service, diversity of activities, and quality of park experiences. This part of Lakewood is deficient in park and recreational sites and amenities and has high proportion of minority and low-income residents. The City wants to introduce the sport of biking to youth at an early age and create ways for them to advance their skills, prepare for competitions, and create a lifelong love for the sport. The closest BMX facility is more than seventeen miles away and is expected to move. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1743)

#### **Lakewood** **Continuing Development of Wards Lake Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The City of Lakewood will use this grant to continue development of the twenty-seven-acre Wards Lake Park, which is a natural area park in a very diverse, low-income, and underserved area of the city. The City will build two, nature-based adventure playgrounds; a restroom; and trails and pathways to connect and expand access throughout the park. In addition, the City will separate a soon-to-be-built BMX (dirt bike racing) track from walking trails and sensitive areas with fencing and other natural materials. The City also will open heavily vegetated areas to create safe lines of sight while preserving and enhancing the wetland buffers, old-growth forest, and oak prairie areas there. Finally, the City will expand parking at the main entrance, extend

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sidewalks, and add a parking area and trailhead in the southern part of the park. The City will furnish the park with picnic shelters, tables, benches, bike racks, lights, garbage cans, and wayfinding and interpretive signs. The work is intended to enhance underused and difficult to manage areas, remove and replace aging infrastructure, and add elements to make the park more inviting and accessible to all. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1720)

#### **Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma** **Grant Awarded: \$400,000**

#### **Designing the Replacement of the Dash Point Pier**

Metro Parks will use this grant to conduct engineering, permitting, and schematic design work in preparation for replacement of the concrete deck of the Dash Point Pier. The pier provides the public with access to the shoreline and is one of the few deep-water fishing piers available for public use in the urban environment of the South Sound region. The design work will include other necessary improvements to the pier and its support infrastructure for long-term sustainability. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#). (22-1652)

#### **Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma** **Grant Awarded: \$195,000**

#### **Expanding the Stewart Heights Skate Park**

Metro Parks will use this grant to expand the skate park in Stewart Heights Park, which is in one of the most ethnically diverse and least-served neighborhoods in Tacoma. This project will add and diversify features tailored to beginner and experienced skaters. This project is the first skate park developed in cooperation with the roller skating community. The recent influx of roller skaters to skate parks is adding new users and increasing diversity at skate parks. This grant will help complete the second phase of a three-phase project to bring the park in line with contemporary standards for public skate parks. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1566)

#### **Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma** **Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

#### **Improving First Creek Park**

Metro Parks Tacoma will use this grant to develop a fitness and gathering space at First Creek Community Park in Tacoma's Eastside Neighborhood in Pierce County. The space will provide trailheads to the Pipeline Trail, which is a regional, paved, non-motorized commuter trail connecting Tacoma to South Hill, and to Swan Creek Park's hiking and mountain biking trails.

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Metro Parks Tacoma will continue partnering with the Trust for Public Land to install fitness equipment, nature play elements for children, and seating and picnic tables for community gatherings. Metro Parks Tacoma also will remove invasive weeds that encroach on the Pipeline Trail, install wayfinding signs and cycling support amenities, and add a pedestrian entry to Swan Creek Park. The community rarely uses these public spaces due to safety concerns. The project's goal is to create an open, inviting, multi-generational community space that expands access to public spaces and promotes greater physical activity. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1433)

#### **National Park Service** **Grant Awarded: \$200,000**

#### **Maintaining Carbon River and Mowich Entrance Trails**

Mount Rainier National Park will use this grant to replace seven trail bridges and boardwalks on the Rainforest Loop Trail, three bridges on West Boundary Trail, and one bridge on the Paul Peak Trail. The work will reduce the maintenance backlog, resolve major safety issues, protect natural and cultural resources, and restore a high level of service to the thousands of trail users in the Carbon River corridor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2217)

#### **National Park Service** **Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

#### **Maintaining Mount Rainier National Park Entrance Trails**

Mount Rainier National Park will use this grant to maintain the Rainforest Loop Trail, the Paul Peak Trail, and 4.5 miles of the West Boundary Trail, which weaves in and out of the national park and the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, connecting the Carbon River and Mowich Lake Entrances of the park. Crews will clear overgrown vegetation, repair trail surfaces and drainage structures, and replace components of boardwalks and bridges. The goal is to return these trails to good condition for the thousands of hikers that visit Mount Rainier each year. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2216)

#### **Nisqually Indian Tribe** **Grant Awarded: \$2,873,200**

#### **Expanding Nisqually Community Forest**

The Nisqually Indian Tribe will use this grant to buy 1,042 acres to expand the Nisqually Community Forest. The land adjoins the existing community forest along Busy Wild Creek, which is the highest priority for protection in the Nisqually Chinook salmon and steelhead trout

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recovery plans. Both species are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act, and a portion of Busy Wild Creek that will be purchased is federally designated as critical habitat for steelhead. The Nisqually Community Forest Management Plan supports local, family-wage forestry jobs through a program of sustainable forest management that generates steady annual production of commercial timber. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Community Forests Program](#). (22-1535)

### Pierce County

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

#### Beginning Development of Orangegate Park

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to begin development of the 150-acre Orangegate Park, which now is a forest with informal trails in the Summit-Waller community at the intersection of 84th Street East and 46th Avenue East. A half-mile of the Pipeline Trail, which is a regional, paved, non-motorized commuter trail connecting Tacoma to South Hill, will cross through the park. The County will build ninety-seven parking spaces, a universally inclusive nature play area, picnic shelters, a restroom, a five-acre enclosed dog park, trails, and signs. The County also will add a safe road crossing at 84th Street East with a trail connection south to the Pipeline Trail. The park will serve a variety of users, including pedestrians, dog walkers, bicyclists, and equestrians. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1309)

### Pierce County

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

#### Developing Half Dollar Park

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to develop the 3.5-acre Half Dollar Park, which is partially forested and partially a grass field in the South Hill community. The park is split by the Pipeline Trail, which is a regional, paved, non-motorized commuter trail connecting Tacoma to South Hill. The County will build a parking area, a restroom, and a plaza on the south side of the Pipeline Trail and install benches and bicycle racks. On the north side of the Pipeline Trail, the County will build a nature play area, picnic and viewing area of Mount Rainier, a soft-surface bike skills course, and an interpretive loop trail. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1303)

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



#### **Pierce County** **Extending the Pipeline Trail**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,500,000**

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to build 1.6 miles of paved Pipeline Trail, extending it into the county, and to build a trailhead at Orangegate Park. The 160-acre park offers access to trails, a dog park, and other recreational amenities. When fully built, the Pipeline Trail will offer more than fifteen miles of recreational and commuter trail connecting communities, both rural and urban, to employment centers, transit networks, parks, and public lands. The completed trail will link downtown Tacoma to Puyallup's South Hill. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1311)

#### **Puyallup** **Improving Clarks Creek North Ball Field**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The Puyallup Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to convert the natural surfaces of the Clarks Creek North ball field to synthetic turf. The conversion will allow the field to be used year-round for a multitude of sports including baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, and football. The field is shut down in the fall and winter to prevent damage. Converting the field to synthetic turf will increase its use by more than 50 percent and provide play opportunities for an additional 2,300 youth. It also will allow the City to offer a fully accessible playing surface for athletes with disabilities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1603)

#### **Steilacoom** **Restoring Garrison Springs Creek and Estuary**

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The Town of Steilacoom will use this grant to restore about a quarter-mile of Garrison Springs Creek and estuarine habitat that was lost to industrial development more than 100 years ago. The creek flows through several culverts and under a derelict paper mill before running into Chambers Bay and Puget Sound. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry water under roads. The Town will bring the creek back to the surface and reroute it to a more natural location. Restoring the creek and establishing an off-channel pocket estuary will provide much needed fish habitat in Puget Sound. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#). (22-1713)

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



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#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$400,000**

#### **Replacing Pierce County Boating Access Restrooms**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to replace four outdated and dilapidated outhouses at four different water access sites in Pierce County. This project will upgrade these more than fifty-year-old structures with log cabin-style restrooms and a paved parking stall next to each. These toilets will be replaced at Crescent, Harts, Rapjohn, and Tanwax Lakes. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2181)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$148,188**

#### **Maintaining Elbe's Horse Trail System**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay a maintenance manager to plan and conduct maintenance on the Nicholson Horse Trail system. That trail system has forty miles of equestrian and hiking trails, seven day-use areas, three trailheads, and one campground in the Elbe Hills State Forest. Work will include removing fallen trees, clearing overgrown brush, restoring trail surfaces, maintaining drainage structures, replacing rotten bridge decking, maintaining and replacing signs, painting structures, and maintaining restrooms and campsites. The Nicholson Horse Trail system provides multiple, interconnected loop trails with attached equestrian service facilities, which provide users with optional day and overnight recreational opportunities. The department will use this grant to maintain this crucial, rare asset for the equestrian and hiking community. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2211)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$147,726**

#### **Maintaining Elbe Off-Road Vehicle Trails**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for employees to maintain thirteen miles of off-road vehicle trails, one trailhead, and one campground in the 22,140-acre Elbe Hills State Forest in southeastern Pierce County. The crew will remove fallen trees, clear overgrown brush, maintain and repair drainage structures, restore and harden trail surfaces, and maintain signs, buildings, restrooms, and campsites. The Elbe Hills trail system is one of very few public, four-by-four recreation opportunities open year-round in western Washington. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2210)



# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



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#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$149,039**

#### **Providing Education and Enforcement in Elbe Hills and Tahoma State Forests**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund one warden, who will provide public information, education, and enforcement year-round in the 22,140-acre Elbe Hills and 32,600-acre Tahoma State Forests. Funding also will be used to print, buy, and distribute informational materials. These efforts will focus on off-road vehicle users, equestrians, hikers, hunters, campers, target shooters, cross-country skiers, and snowshoers. The warden will educate and enforce trail use, camping, campfire, and target shooting rules as well as address issues around Discover Pass use, vandalism, hunting, resource gathering, dumping, and Sno Park use. Both state forests have seen increased use, vandalism, dumping, illegal travel, and user conflict in the past four years. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2209)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission** **Grant Awarded: \$2,999,000**

#### **Building Trails and an Overlook in Nisqually State Park**

State Parks will use this grant to build trails and an overlook at Nisqually State Park in Eatonville. State Parks will pave a 1.7-mile trail and lay rock for an adjacent equestrian trail that leads to a cantilevered platform with a grated floor. The platform will give visitors the feel of walking over the edge of the slope and floating in air. From there, visitors will be able to see the Mashel River Valley and Mount Rainier. State Parks also will add benches and interpretive signs. This is the third phase of development for this 1,200-acre park at the confluence of the Nisqually River, Mashel River, and Ohop Creek. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1530)

**More projects in Pierce County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### **Projects in San Juan County**

#### **San Juan County** **Grant Awarded: \$545,200**

#### **Replacing the Hunter Bay Float and Gangway**

The San Juan County Public Works Department will use this grant to replace a storm-damaged float and gangway at the Hunter Bay Marine Facility on Lopez Island. The department will install a steel pier, gangway, and float structure further to the north and in deeper water to eliminate

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



grounding at extreme low tides. The new float will double tie-up space for boaters. The new marine facility will have a thirty-two-foot-long pier with an eighty-foot-long gangway connecting to a fullwidth, fiberglass grate on two, forty-foot-long pontoon floats. The current dock will be removed after construction of the new facility is complete. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-1907)

#### **San Juan County Land Bank Conserving Watmough Bay**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,000,000**

The San Juan County Land Bank will use this grant to buy nearly one-third mile of low to mid-bank, undeveloped shoreline between Watmough Bay and Rosario Strait. Along with adjacent conservation holdings, this purchase would protect a total of nearly two miles of shoreline. The site has a long history of use by Coast Salish peoples, includes two pocket beaches and tidelands, is used by Chinook salmon and the fish they eat, and has extensive eelgrass beds and bull kelp. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#). (22-1672)

#### **Washington State Parks Recreation Commission Replacing Moorage in Fossil Bay at Sucia Island**

**Grant Awarded: \$2,505,000**

State Parks will use this grant to replace the moorage facility in Fossil Bay at Sucia Island State Park. Located in the San Juan Islands, a world class boating destination and one of the premier recreational resources in the state, the Sucia Island Moorage Facilities are the most heavily used in the region and well past their useful life. Built with creosote timber in the 1960s, the facilities will be removed and replaced with landing floats, gangway, and a pier with new piles. Sucia Island is positioned to serve as the hub in the San Juan's, accommodating thousands of boats a year from Washington and Canada. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2417)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Replacing Prevost Harbor Moorage at Stuart Island**

**Grant Awarded: \$2,410,000**

State Parks will use this grant to replace the moorage facility in Prevost Harbor at Stuart Island State Park. Located in the San Juan Islands, a world class boating destination and one of the premier recreational resources in the state, the Stuart Island Moorage Facilities are one of the most heavily used in the region and well past their useful life. Built with creosote timber in the 1960s, the facilities will be removed and replaced with landing floats, gangway, and a pier with new piles. Stuart Island is the furthest out in the San Juan's, accommodating thousands of boats

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



a year from Washington and Canada. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2416)

**More projects in San Juan County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### Projects in Skagit County

#### Burlington

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

#### Continuing Development of Rotary Park's Inclusive Playground

The City of Burlington will use this grant to continue development of Rotary Park as the city's and Skagit County's first inclusive playground for people with disabilities. The City will build a restroom, innovative playground equipment, flooring that doesn't limit mobility devices, and thoughtful sensory integration. With an above average rate of disability, Burlington and the county have an extensive need for engaging people with disabilities. Rotary Park is centrally located for many residents and walking distance from often-used Skagit River Park. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1315)

#### U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

#### Maintaining Mount Baker-Snoqualmie Trail

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

The Mount Baker Ranger District will use this grant to pay a trail crew and support volunteers to maintain one hundred miles of trail for nonmotorized uses in the Mount Baker Wilderness Area, the Mount Baker National Recreation Area, and the heavily used forests surrounding these areas. These trails range in elevation from 1,000 feet to almost 7,000 feet, which creates a variety of challenges. Low elevation trails open early, have high use, and high precipitation. Higher elevation trails open late due to snow and have a very short maintenance season. Extremely high use on these sensitive subalpine trails creates ongoing issues for trail surfaces and drainage that need to be addressed annually. The crews will remove fallen trees, clear overgrown brush, restoring trail surfaces, maintain drainage structures, and repair boardwalks, bridges, and retaining walls. The trails are used for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, and climbing access. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2108)

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



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#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining the Blanchard Forest Block

**Grant Awarded: \$70,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for staff and support volunteers to maintain the Samish Overlook day-use area and Lily and Lizard Lake campgrounds in the Blanchard Forest Block. Crews will repair signs, remove litter, repair and upgrade campsites, clean restrooms, and maintain two free-flight launch areas. By providing timely routine and preventative maintenance, the department can protect natural resources, extend the useful life of recreation facilities, and provide safe and enjoyable recreation opportunities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2014)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining Trails in Blanchard and Harry Osborne Forests

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

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain trails and trailheads for nonmotorized uses in Blanchard State Forest and the Harry Osborne Forest. Crews will recontour and harden trails, maintain drainage structures, inspect and maintain bridges, remove litter, and maintain parking areas, restrooms, and signs. By providing timely, routine, and preventative maintenance, this project allows the department to protect natural resources, increase the life expectancy of facilities, and provide safe recreation opportunities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2015)

#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining Walker Valley Off Road Vehicle Trails

**Grant Awarded: \$192,000**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for a maintenance steward to maintain forty miles of off-road vehicle trails and trailheads in the Walker Valley ORV Trails Area, east of Mount Vernon. Work will include cutting overgrown brush, laying gravel to harden trail surfaces, maintaining bridges and drainage structures, removing litter, cleaning and maintaining toilets and signs, and grading parking areas and roads. The maintenance steward also will identify and direct work projects for Washington Conservation Corps and volunteers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2115)

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

2023-2025



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### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Awarded: \$160,000** **Restoring the Hope Island Natural Area Preserve**

State Parks will use this grant to restore imperiled grassland balds and rare and high-quality forests on Hope Island Natural Area Preserve, in Skagit County. State Parks will remove invasive annual grasses and encroaching trees and then seed and plant native forbs and grasses. This project builds on past restoration efforts, with a goal of increasing the cover and resilience of native plant communities to a point where only spot treatments of invasives will be needed. The grassland balds support more than fifty native plant species, including Washington's largest population of Indian Valley brodiaea, a species thought to extirpated from the state until re-discovered in 2021. The majority of Hope Island is dominated by two Douglas-fir-western hemlock forests and a rare Pacific madrone forest, in a mosaic of old-growth and maturing second-growth trees arising from past fires and wind events. These forests have been recognized as some of the best examples of lowland, old-growth forest in the Puget Trough ecoregion. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1585)

**More projects in Skagit County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### **Projects in Skamania County**

#### **Columbia Land Trust      Grant Awarded: \$1,500,000** **Conserving the Oldest Private Forest on the West Fork Washougal River**

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to buy 307 acres in Skamania County to preserve one of the oldest and largest remaining private forests in the Washougal River watershed. The purchase also will conserve more than three miles of shoreline habitat on the West Fork Washougal River and perennial tributary Jackson Creek for salmon species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. The land has steeply sloped forests of mature Douglas-fir, cedar, and hemlock. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1623)

#### **Skamania County      Grant Awarded: \$150,000** **Replacing Wind River Dock**

Skamania County will use this grant to replace the boat docks at the Wind River Boat Launch in Skamania County. The existing boat docks lack buoyancy, are in disrepair, and need to be

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

2023-2025



replaced. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2334)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest** **Grant Awarded: \$149,700** **Caring for Gifford Pinchot National Forest Trails**

The Cowlitz Valley Ranger District will use this grant to pay for a three-person crew to maintain 300 miles of wilderness trails and trails for nonmotorized uses. The crew will focus on high-priority needs, particularly in the Goat Rocks and Mount Adams Wildernesses, the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, trails near campgrounds and other facilities, and the Mount Saint Helens National Volcanic Monument. Work will include removing fallen trees, clearing overgrown brush, restoring trail surfaces, maintaining drainage structures, and repairing other structures. The Gifford Pinchot is home to some of the most scenic trails, with stunning views of Mount Adams, Mount Saint Helens, and Mount Rainier. The work will balance resource protection with hiking, biking, and equestrian opportunities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2272)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest** **Grant Awarded: \$195,700** **Maintaining Gifford Pinchot National Forest Trails for Motorized Uses**

The Cowlitz Valley Ranger District will use this grant to pay for a crew to maintain 230 miles of trail in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The crew will remove fallen trees, clear overgrown brush, repair drainage and other structures, and restore trail surfaces. The Gifford Pinchot is home to some of the most expert-level riding trails in southwest Washington. The crew will focus on high-priority needs, particularly in the Dark Divide, High Lakes, and Blue Lake Areas. The work will enhance protection of resources while still providing motorcycle and all-terrain vehicle riding opportunities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2271)

**More projects in Skamania County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



#### Projects in Snohomish County

##### **Forterra Northwest Conserving Woods Lake Habitat**

**Grant Awarded: \$297,425**

Forterra, in partnership with the Tulalip Tribes, will use this grant to buy forty acres, including part of Woods Lake, near Monroe. Woods Lake is a pristine, twenty-one-acre freshwater lake surrounded by a forested wetland featuring bog-related species. Freshwater bogs are considered imperiled by the Washington Natural Heritage Program and many have been eliminated by development. The land supports many plants unique to freshwater bogs including healthy, dense stands of bog labrador tea, western bog laurel, bog cranberry, and round-leaf sundew. The land is next to state forestlands and its purchase would protect nearly all the lake's shoreline. The Tulalip Tribes will own the land and use it for cultural access and traditional uses and will allow some limited public and educational access. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1600)

##### **Lake Stevens Developing a Sports Field and Pickleball Courts in Frontier Heights Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$850,000**

The City of Lake Stevens will use two grants to develop a multiuse, synthetic turf, athletic field; four pickleball courts; and parking in Frontier Heights Park. The park is in an underserved area next to an urban growth center. This project will provide a year-round field for various sports. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. The grants are from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#) and the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1746)

##### **Lynnwood Expanding Sprague's Pond Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$659,729**

The Lynnwood Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Department will use this grant to buy 1.7 acres on the eastern shore of Sprague's Pond for fishing and wildlife viewing. The land is on one of only two water bodies in the city limits and contains 461 feet of shoreline, which is rare in this urban area. Just under half of the site is open water. The goal is to transform the adjacent Sprague's Pond Mini-Park into a regional destination for trout and largemouth bass fishing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1266)



# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



#### **Lynnwood** **Rehabilitating Scriber Creek Trail**

**Grant Awarded: \$2,000,000**

The Lynnwood Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Department will use this grant to renovate 0.3 mile of the Scriber Creek Trail that connects the City Center Neighborhood, the future City Center Light Rail Station, and south Lynnwood. The existing trail is narrow and prone to flooding, making it unsuitable for biking and year-round use. The City will widen the trail to up to sixteen feet wide and connect it to four parks along Scriber Creek. The trail is used for walking, cycling, and nature viewing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1265)

#### **Lynnwood** **Building a Boardwalk Trail in Scriber Lake Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The City of Lynnwood Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Department will use this grant to build an accessible boardwalk and two wildlife viewpoints on the shore of Scriber Lake in Scriber Lake Park. The City will build about a quarter-mile of elevated boardwalk and lake viewpoints, improve connections to a floating dock, update two parking stalls and the route from the parking lot to the boardwalk to be accessible to people with disabilities, and restore the lake's natural hydrology and habitat. With twenty-four acres of wetlands, a lake, streams, trails, forest, and hillsides, Scriber Lake Park provides a haven for wildlife and a respite from the city for people. The city's only public lake supports a variety of waterfowl, osprey, largemouth bass, perch, river otter, and beaver. The goal of the project is to provide year-round access to the natural environment for residents of the city's lowest income neighborhood. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1618)

#### **Mountlake Terrace** **Replacing Field Lights at Evergreen Playfield**

**Grant Awarded: \$241,000**

The City of Mountlake Terrace will use this grant to replace the lights on Field 5 in the Evergreen Playfield Complex. The City will install three metal poles with LED (light-emitting diode) lights and retrofit four other poles with LED lighting. The work will allow the field to be used more hours and will improve safety for youth baseball, softball, and soccer players. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1385)

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



#### **Port of Edmonds Developing North Portwalk**

**Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The Port of Edmonds will use this grant to renovate a 900-foot-long section of deteriorated waterfront boardwalk that runs between the Port of Edmonds Administration Building and Olympic Beach. The replacement boardwalk will be elevated to create better separate pedestrians from the fire lane and to improve pedestrian accessibility. The port also will install restrooms, landscaping, lighting, wayfinding signs, and parking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#). (22-1731)

#### **Snohomish County Lighting a Willis Tucker Park Ball Field**

**Grant Awarded: \$302,500**

Snohomish County Parks, Recreation and Tourism will use this grant to add lights to a ball field in Willis Tucker Park, near the City of Mill Creek. The ball field is a natural grass field that is used only during the day. Lights will expand field use by allowing games and practices to start earlier in the spring, go later in the day, and go into the fall for both Little League and softball. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1426)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Caring for the Mountain Loop Scenic Byway**

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

The Darrington Ranger District will use this grant to pay for up to four seasonal employees for two years to maintain twenty-one trailheads, multiple day-use areas, and hundreds of dispersed campsites along the Mountain Loop Scenic Byway. The byway annually receives more than 230,000 outdoor enthusiasts visiting the South Fork Stillaguamish and Sauk River valleys. The combination of hard and easy hikes, high mountain lakes, stunning vistas, and unique natural features has long made this a favorite with the Seattle and Everett communities. Visitors enjoy the byway for many activities including hiking, backpacking, picnicking, camping, hunting, fishing, rock climbing, scenic driving, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. The Mountain Loop Byway stands apart in the region with areas of unpaved mountainside camping and some of the most stunning and remote backcountry experiences one can offer close to cities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1972)

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



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#### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Maintaining the Darrington Front Country** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Darrington Ranger District will use this grant to hire four seasonal trail crew members for two years to work with volunteers and youth groups to maintain 140 miles of hiking trails in the Stillaguamish and Sauk River watersheds. An hour east of Everett, the area provides a spectrum of year-round day hiking opportunities from riverwalks to scenic vistas. An estimated 215,000 visitors annually, combined with up to 130 inches of precipitation and sporadic maintenance, has resulted in many of these trails needing major repairs and maintenance. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1971)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Providing a Wilderness Trail Crew** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Darrington Ranger District will use this grant to support crews to maintain one hundred miles of wilderness trails in the Glacier Peak and Henry M. Jackson Wildernesses, which include the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. These trails access some of the most remote areas in the north Cascade Mountains and require multiweek backcountry campouts to complete the work. In some areas, floods, fires, and landslides have closed roads and trails for years, adding to a backlog of trail maintenance. The work includes blasting bedrock, root wads, large rocks, and trees; regrading large stretches that have slumped due to snow or brush; rebuilding stream fords; and repairing bridges. This work requires heavy tools and stock support, but trail conditions are too dangerous for a pack string. The work will restore trails to allow pack animals passage. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1996)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Building the Hamilton Landing Boat Launch** **Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to develop a launch for motorized boats on the two-acre Hamilton Landing property near the confluence of the Stillaguamish River with Port Susan and Skagit Bay, in Stanwood. The department will build a concrete plank boat ramp, a parking area, and restroom. The land is undeveloped except for a primitive boat launch that is used rarely due to disrepair and a relict smokestack. The site will be used by boaters for waterfowl hunting and by people for viewing wildlife on the more than 7,000 acres of department-owned land in the Stillaguamish and Skagit Bay estuaries, which have no usable

# Recreation and Conservation

## Grants Awarded

### 2023-2025



boat launch in the area. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Boating Facilities Program](#). (22-2075)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$1,044,000**

#### **Building a Trailhead in Reiter Foothills State Forest**

The Department of Natural Resources will use two grants to build a trailhead in Reiter Foothills State Forest, located between the towns of Gold Bar and Index. The new trailhead will provide access to more than thirty-three miles of off-road vehicle, hiking, equestrian, and mountain biking trails. The trailhead will include seventy parking stalls, two informational kiosks, and restrooms. Reiter Foothills Forest was closed in 2009 due to overuse that resulted in environmental damage and public safety issues. Since then, the forest was reopened and the department built a safe and sustainable trail system but the parking was not adequate. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). The grants are from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program and the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-2064 and 22-1549)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$191,208**

#### **Maintaining Reiter Foothills Forest Trails and Facilities**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to maintain more than thirty-three miles of trail, two vista sites, two trailheads, and two restrooms in Reiter Foothills Forest. Crews will cut overgrown brush and fallen branches and trees, maintain drainage structures, restore trail surfaces, install signs, and clean restrooms and parking areas. The department also will use this grant to buy equipment, tools, and materials. Mountain bikers, equestrians, trail runners, and rock climbers use these trails. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2251)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$191,208**

#### **Patrolling Snohomish County Recreation Areas**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund one recreation warden to patrol some of the most popular department-owed areas in Snohomish County: Reiter Foothills Forest, Forest Glade, Morning Star Natural Resources Conservation Area, and Sultan Basin. The warden will focus on identifying potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns while educating visitors about appropriate use and environmental stewardship principles. Combined, these areas provide several hundred miles of road, about seventy-five miles of trail, seven campgrounds, multiple dispersed campsites, and trailheads on more than 50,000 acres. These areas support a

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wide diversity of outdoor opportunities, including off-road vehicle riding, hiking, backpacking, camping, horseback riding, fishing, foraging, hunting, motorcycling, mountain biking, sightseeing, and snow activities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2184)

**More projects in Snohomish County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### Projects in Spokane County

#### Spokane

**Grant Awarded: \$731,744**

#### Connecting Rimrock to Riverside

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department will use this grant to buy 118 acres to expand and connect Palisades Park to Riverside State Park, preserving an extensive wildlife corridor. The land contains forest, shrub-steppe, wetland, and cliff habitat and is a corridor for moose, elk, and white-tailed deer. In addition, the purchase will allow the County to expand trail opportunities, such as hiking and mountain biking, just one-third mile from Spokane. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1464)

#### Spokane

**Grant Awarded: \$330,000**

#### Rehabilitating a Sport Court in Underhill Park

The Spokane Parks and Recreation Division, in partnership with the nonprofit Spokane Hoopfest Association, will use this grant to redevelop a dilapidated sports court in Underhill Park in the East Central Neighborhood of Spokane. The City will replace and lengthen two basketball courts, add two additional hoops, and supply new basketball hoops, backboards, and nets. The City also will convert an unused tennis court into four pickleball courts with heavy-duty, movable nets to accommodate growing demand for the sport. The City will replace the existing court fencing and build a concrete path from the courts to the corner of the park, making access to the courts accessible to people with disabilities. Sport court lights will be replaced with more energy-efficient lights. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1537)

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#### **Spokane County** **Grant Awarded: \$157,400**

#### **Providing Education and Enforcement in Spokane County**

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department will use this grant to pay for two full-time seasonal park aids. Along with other staff, the park aids will provide service to more than 11,000 acres, including urban, suburban, and rural wilderness park settings throughout the county. These sites support more than 350 miles of trails and include two lakes, river access points, a campground, and two off-road vehicle parks with an expected 1.3 million visitations annually. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2187)

#### **Spokane County** **Grant Awarded: \$336,320**

#### **Renovating Airway Heights ORV Park**

Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department will use this grant to improve the access road and main entrance at the Airway Heights ORV Park. The thirty-year-old road is deteriorating and too narrow, especially for vehicles towing trailers. The department will realign and build about one-third mile of an access road. The new road will be straight, which will improve safety and traffic flow at the entrance and accommodate future expansion of much-needed campsites in the southern portion of the park. The department also will remove a security gate at the park's entrance and an unused gate house, which will allow the entry gate to be moved, improving access during special events. The department will replace the dilapidated entrance sign and improve landscaping to create an inviting park entrance. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (222081)

#### **Spokane Valley** **Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

#### **Continuing Development of Greenacres Community Park**

The City of Spokane Valley will use this grant to continue development of Greenacres Community Park by adding a tennis court, six pickleball courts, two basketball courts, a backstop, a community garden, shade structures, and trees. The City also will expand the playground and splash pad, add seventeen parking spaces, pave an existing perimeter path, and renovate the disc golf course to create a three-hole introductory course with practice green. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1693)

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#### **Spokane Valley HUB Providing a Synthetic Turf Field in the HUB**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

Spokane Valley HUB will use this grant to design, do earthwork, and buy synthetic turf for a multiuse field at its Liberty Lake facility. There are only two accessible synthetic turf fields for public use in Spokane County, which has more than 500,000 residents. The multiuse field will support soccer, lacrosse, football, rugby, ultimate Frisbee, T-ball, and general exercise. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1633)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Improving Riverside State Park's Off-Road Vehicle Area**

**Grant Awarded: \$320,000**

State Parks will use this grant to plan a parking area for off-road vehicle users in Riverside State Park. A paved parking area for off-road vehicles is on the east side of Inland Road and when it gets full, visitors park among trees on the west side of the road. As a result, visitors are out of their vehicles among the fast-moving off-road vehicles, creating safety concerns. In addition, visitors are quite a distance from restrooms and trash cans, resulting in trash and waste left behind. In addition to the new fenced-in parking lot west of Inland Road, State Parks will install a toilet and trash cans to mitigate sanitation challenges. The off-road vehicle area saw more than 85,000 visitors in 2021. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2270)

#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Providing a Riverside State Park Patrol**

**Grant Awarded: \$183,160**

State Parks will use this grant to pay for one full-time ranger to patrol Riverside State Park, Spokane River Centennial State Park Trail, and their trailheads for two years. These areas are open year-round and see more than 3 million visits a year. The ranger will promote public safety, focusing on trailheads and areas near the city interface, which have more crime. The ranger will educate users about park rules and regulations, trail etiquette, wildlife, and environmental stewardship, and will patrol park events, of which there are about one hundred annually. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2141)



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#### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Awarded: \$156,768** **Providing Staff at Riverside State Park's Off-Road Vehicle Area**

State Parks will use this grant to pay for employees to maintain facilities, protect natural resources, complete special maintenance projects, and provide customer service at Riverside State Park's off-road vehicle area for two years. Riverside's off-road vehicle area is a 600-acre, fenced area open year-round to all types of off-road vehicle use and receives 86,556 vehicles a year. The employees would clean restrooms, restock educational materials and fee envelopes, maintain fences and signs, pick up garbage, shovel and plow snow, mow, control noxious weeds, and maintain equipment and facilities. In addition, they would complete special maintenance projects and work with volunteers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2173)

**More projects in Spokane County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

#### **Projects in Stevens County**

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest      Grant Awarded: \$150,000** **Caring for the Colville National Forest Facilities**

The Colville National Forest will use this grant to hire seasonal 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, identify and remove dangerous trees, treat noxious weeds, repair water systems, and fix or replace picnic tables, fire rings, signs, and information boards. The Colville National Forest lies just fifty miles from Spokane, the second largest city in Washington, and contains parts of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail and the International Selkirk Loop, which attract many visitors. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2348)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources      Grant Awarded: \$1,219,995** **Expanding the Onion Ridge Natural Area to Conserve Important Landscapes**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to buy 300 acres to protect three priority landscapes as the initial acquisition to create the Onion Ridge Natural Area, 16 miles north of Colville in Stevens County. The purchase will target Idaho fescue/parsnip-flowered buckwheat grassland, which is found on ridgetops or around rock outcrops. It is extremely rare

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to find high-quality examples of this grassland type, which is being protected in only two other areas. The purchase also will target ponderosa pine-Douglas fir/bluebunch wheatgrass woodland, which occurs around balds and on shallow soils. It is not known whether this dry forest community type is protected elsewhere. Finally, the purchase will target western redcedar/wild sarsaparilla forest. Protecting this priority land will ensure that the best examples of these bald and forest communities are protected from logging planned for forests immediately outside the approved preserve boundary. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1379)

**More projects in Stevens County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

#### Projects in Thurston County

##### Capitol Land Trust Conserving Hudson Cove Habitat

**Grant Awarded: \$2,122,000**

The Capitol Land Trust will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>13</sup> on nearly 228 acres of mostly undeveloped shoreline, pocket estuary, salt marsh, and forest on Totten Inlet in Olympia. Known as Hudson Cove, this is the largest property on the inlet under private ownership. The cove provides sheltered habitat for juvenile salmon species migrating to the Pacific Ocean, spawning areas for the fish salmon eat, and important nesting and foraging habitat in the salt marsh and mud flat for shorebirds. Fifteen species listed on state and federal endangered species lists rely on the land's important habitat at some point in their lives. The land hosts more than 1.5 miles of largely undeveloped, forested, marine shoreline, a 7.8-acre pocket estuary, and 0.8 mile of streams. The land is zoned for houses and faces a high likelihood of development. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1241)

##### Evergreen Sportsmen's Club Improving Rifle and Pistol Range Safety

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

The Evergreen Sportsmen's Club will use this grant to install a range safety control building with a firing line public address system, toilet, parking, and pathways to target stations at its fifty-year-old facility in Littlerock. The club also will improve its range stormwater drainage and

<sup>13</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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projectile containment berm and install "no blue sky" projectile barriers, cement shooting benches, firing station lighting and heating, and fifteen rifle racks. The work will improve safety and update the rifle and pistol range to better accommodate use in the rainy seasons. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Firearms and Archery Range Recreation grant program](#). (22-2179)

#### **Lacey** **Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

#### **Beginning Development of Greg Cuoio Park**

The City of Lacey will use this grant to plan and begin development of the 139-acre Greg Cuoio Park, which is partially in the city and partially in Thurston County, between the intersections of Draham and Carpenter Roads to the south and Hawks Prairie and Carpenter Roads to the north. The City will develop safe entry off a busy county road, fifty parking stalls, about two miles of trails, eighteen holes of disc golf, a park shelter, sitting and open play areas, and the first phase of a large playground. The City also will add signs, a portable restroom enclosure, and maintenance and emergency access. The project's goal is to provide public access to outdoor recreation space with a focus on passive use and protecting the wetlands, sensitive habitat areas, and streams. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1298)

#### **Olympia** **Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

#### **Beginning Development of the Yelm Highway Community Park**

The City of Olympia will use this grant to begin developing the sixty-acre Yelm Highway Community Park. In this first phase of development, the City will build a rectangular field with synthetic turf and lights, a playground, two basketball courts, six pickleball courts, 1.25 miles of walking paths, a restroom, a picnic shelter, and a 176-stall parking lot. This first phase will coincide with the Olympia School District's construction of a lit, synthetic turf, rectangular field and track on abutting land. Combined, the two fields will lay the groundwork for the future addition of two more fields on the park property to fully build out a soccer complex. These will be Olympia's first dedicated rectangular fields in its park system. Soccer players have long requested dedicated, quality fields in Olympia. Additionally, other rectangular field sports, such as lacrosse, rugby, football, and ultimate Frisbee, are on the rise and need field space. While serving primarily soccer, the fields will be open to a variety of other park users year-round. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1445)

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**Olympia** **Grant Awarded: \$350,000**  
**Building a Multiuse Field at Yelm Highway Community Park**

The City of Olympia will use this grant to build a rectangular, multiuse field at the new sixty-acre Yelm Highway Community Park. The City will build a full-size, synthetic turf, multiuse field with lighting, a restroom, a kiosk, and eighty-eight parking stalls. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1443)

**Olympia** **Grant Awarded: \$673,497**  
**Developing Kaiser Woods Park**

The City of Olympia will use this grant to develop the seventy-acre Kaiser Woods Park into a forested hiking and mountain biking park in southwest Olympia, west of Ken Lake. The City will build dedicated mountain bike trails, walking trails, a paved parking lot trailhead, and a paved access road. Olympia does not have any dedicated mountain bike trails in its park system. In addition, the City will buy 2.5 acres for the trailhead and primary access off Black Lake Boulevard. The only access to the park is off a residential street. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1543)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$3,345,000**  
**Conserving South Sound Prairies**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 217 acres in the historic violet and rock prairie region of south Thurston County. The land includes four ecological systems of concern—Willamette Valley upland prairie, Willamette Valley wet prairie, north Pacific oak woodland, and temperate Pacific freshwater marsh—as well as critical habitat for Taylor's checkerspot butterfly and Mazama pocket gopher. Additionally, this land will provide access to recreation activities including hiking, hunting, and horseback riding. This is the final phase of a multiphase project. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1234)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$195,550**  
**Maintaining Capitol Forest Off-Road Vehicle Trails**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for crews to maintain ninety-four miles of trail, two campgrounds, and three trailheads in Capitol State Forest near Olympia. Crews will reroute small sections of trail, install and maintain drainage features, cut overgrown brush,

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lay gravel to harden trail surfaces, maintain bridges, install signs, and take care of restrooms, campsites, parking areas, and signs. These trails are used by off-road vehicle riders, hikers, and mountain bikers. Capitol Forest saw more than 1.4 million visitors from 2019 to mid-2021. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2120)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$149,100**

#### **Maintaining Capitol Forest Trails**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for crews to maintain eighty-one miles of trail for nonmotorized use, trailheads, and facilities in Capitol State Forest, near Olympia. Work will include clearing overgrown brush, maintaining drainage structures, reshaping eroded sections of trail, hardening trail surfaces, and repairing bridges, kiosks, and signs. The crews also will maintain restrooms, campsites, and parking area. From 2019 to mid-2021, Capitol Forest saw more than 1.4 million visitors. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2119)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$197,500**

#### **Providing Patrols in Capitol State Forest**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for one full-time and one half-time warden to patrol the 110,000-acre Capitol State Forest near Olympia. The forest hosts 176 miles of trail, 4 campgrounds, 6 trailheads, and more than 610 miles of forest roads. The recreation wardens will concentrate on enforcing off-road vehicle use compliance and correcting safety issues. Additionally, the wardens will support Forest Watch volunteers who help educate visitors about safety and proper forest use and who help manage events. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2117)

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$502,500**

#### **Restoring Grassland and Oak Woodlands in South Sound**

The Washington Department of Natural Resources, in partnership with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to restore more than 700 acres of outwash prairie, grassland bald, oak woodland, and wetland habitat at five of the most significant conservation sites in the south Puget Sound region: Scatter Creek Wildlife Area, Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve, West Rocky Prairie Wildlife Area, Rocky Prairie Natural Area Preserve, and Bald Hill Natural Area Preserve. The agencies will acquire native seeds and transplants; prepare

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restoration areas for seeding through burning, mowing, and controlling invasive plants; and then seed and replant these areas. These sites harbor some of the last remaining populations of federal- and state-listed threatened and endangered plants and animals and Department of Fish and Wildlife's Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the region. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1554)

#### Yelm

**Grant Awarded: \$1,292,000**

#### Extending the Yelm Prairie Line Trail

The City of Yelm will use this grant to extend the Yelm Prairie Line Trail across the Nisqually River bridge and into Pierce County. This trail will be part of the historic Prairie Line Railroad corridor and will connect the communities of Yelm, Rainier, and Tenino, supplying recreational and transportation options to residents and visitors of Thurston County. Additionally, it will provide potential opportunities for public water access and environmental education by linking to Nisqually Land Trust properties. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1562)

**More projects in Thurston County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### Projects in Wahkiakum County

#### Cathlamet

**Grant Awarded: \$95,404**

#### Renovating Cathlamet Skate Park

The Town of Cathlamet will use this grant to renovate an 8,000-square-foot, above-ground skate park in Erickson Park. The Town will add skateboarding equipment, including half and quarter pipes, bank ramps, grind rails, and ledges. In 2004 and 2006, volunteers raised nearly \$31,500 to build the concrete slab and skating equipment next to Wahkiakum County High School, an area with limited outdoor recreational opportunities. This project will provide the community's youth and recreational users of all skill levels with a safe and user-friendly space for outdoor skateboarding and biking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [more information and photographs](#) for of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1540)

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#### Projects in Walla Walla County

##### **Blue Mountain Land Trust Conserving Welcome Table Farm**

**Grant Awarded: \$345,500**

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to buy an agricultural conservation easement<sup>14</sup> on the twenty-five-acre Welcome Table Farm, on Old Milton Highway in Walla Walla. Welcome Table Farm has been growing a variety of fruits, vegetables, and flowers for ten years. The farm also hosts college interns, annual kids' summer camps, and educational events for the community, highlighting the importance of locally produced food. In addition, the farm includes about a half-mile of Yellow Hawk Creek, which is an important tributary for steelhead and bull trout, which are listed under the Endangered Species Act, trying to reach Mill Creek. While the area has historically been farmland, increasing development and conversion to non-farm uses has occurred nearby in recent years. An agricultural easement on this property will ensure that the productive farmland remains in agricultural use. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1643)

##### **College Place Renovating Veterans Park**

**Grant Awarded: \$281,023**

The City of College Place will use this grant to renovate 3.4 acres of Veterans Park. The City will add restrooms, a full-size basketball court, and two pickleball courts. This is the only park serving the Homestead community, which has more than 300 homes and is 25 percent youth. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1705)

##### **Walla Walla Improving the Mill Creek Sportsplex**

**Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

The City of Walla Walla will use this grant to renovate the region's primary youth athletic complex—the Mill Creek Sportsplex. Originally opened in 2002, the Mill Creek Sportsplex includes three softball/baseball fields, two soccer fields, a skate park, and supporting amenities. The City will convert ball field lighting to LED (light-emitting diode), add shade structures throughout the site, improve pedestrian routes, and reconstruct three softball/baseball backstops. Visit RCO's

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<sup>14</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.



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online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1737)

#### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$242,900**

#### **Restoring the Little Walla Walla River**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife, in cooperation with the Tri-State Steelheaders and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, will use this grant to restore about a quarter-mile of the West Little Walla Walla River and surrounding uplands in the Swegle Unit of the W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area, in Walla Walla County. The department will place wood structures in the river, remove reed canary grass and poison hemlock from the riverbank, and plant trees and shrubs along the riverbank and in the surrounding upland to improve habitat for pollinators and other wildlife species. Planting the banks will help restore the degraded Columbia Basin Foothill Riparian Woodland and Shrubland habitat type found in the area. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1517)

### **Projects in Whatcom County**

#### **Bellingham** **Grant Awarded: \$764,081**

#### **Building Sunset Pond Trail**

The City of Bellingham will use this grant to build a half-mile Sunset Pond Trail, which will connect three different neighborhoods to the Squalicum Creek Trail and to Sunset Pond Park. The project is in an area that lacks access to trails. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1417)

#### **Bellingham** **Grant Awarded: \$500,000**

#### **Enhancing Boulevard Park Shoreline and Improving Access**

The City of Bellingham will use this grant to restore and enhance two beaches in Bellingham. For the eastern beach, the City will install a rock revetment further inland and move an eroding trail. Utilities and a storm drain trench also will be moved within the park. For the western beach, the City will install a small rock revetment and remove invasive blackberry bushes. This will increase safe access to the shoreline. For each site, the City will remove riprap, add sand and gravel in the backshore, and install educational signs and plants. The plants will aid in mitigating the impacts from sea-level rise and coastal erosion. Surf smelt will benefit from the project and have been

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documented to spawn at the site. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account](#). (22-1475)

**Nooksack Nordic Ski Club** **Grant Awarded: \$12,750**  
**Maintaining Mount Baker Trails**

The Nooksack Nordic Ski Club will use this grant to groom and maintain fifteen 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. Work will include mowing and vegetation control in the summer, packing snow and setting ski tracks once or twice a week in the winter, removing overgrown brush, installing signs, and cleaning drainage systems to prevent trail erosion. The Salmon Ridge trail system is the only groomed and tracked cross-country ski trail in northwest Washington. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2101)

**Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Grant Awarded: \$150,830**  
**Installing a Bridge over Olsen Creek**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to install an eighty-foot-long bridge across Olsen Creek, in the Olsen Creek Forest Block, about six miles west of Bellingham. Installation of this bridge will provide access to the southern half of the forest block and is a critical component of the planned trail developments for this area. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2016)

**Washington Farmland Trust** **Grant Awarded: \$146,750**  
**Preserving Coyote Bank Farm**

Washington Farmland Trust will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>15</sup> on Coyote Bank Farm, conserving about 11 acres and extinguishing the farm's remaining development right. This project is a high priority because it preserves a smaller farm, which will be more affordable to future generations of farmers. Located outside of Acme, Coyote Bank Farm is next to Jones Creek and surrounded by several hundred acres of agricultural land and open space that is being conserved as part of a larger initiative of Whatcom County. The easement will protect the farm and allow for compatible wildlife habitat restoration. Washington Farmland Trust will contribute \$146,750 in a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more](#)

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<sup>15</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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[information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1668)

#### **Whatcom County Conserving a Dairy Farm**

**Grant Awarded: \$169,650**

Whatcom County will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>16</sup> on one hundred acres of prime agricultural soils and forestland on the Jacoby property, thirteen miles east of Bellingham. The land supports Coldstream Farm, a dairy that is a leader in environmental sustainability. The purchase will remove two development rights and protect working lands in an area of increasing development pressure. The land is next to land owned by the Washington Department of Natural Resources and Whatcom County South Fork Park. Conservation of the land will move Whatcom County closer to its goal of protecting 100,000 acres of land for agriculture. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1322)

#### **Whatcom Land Trust Conserving Sensitive Land in the Stewart Mountain Community Forest**

**Grant Awarded: \$665,402**

The Whatcom Land Trust will use this grant to buy 550 acres of salmon-bearing tributaries, forest, and floodplain in the South Fork Nooksack River valley as the first phase of building the Stewart Mountain Community Forest. The community forest is a collaborative effort to convert 5,500 acres of forestland into local ownership to be managed as a working forest that supports a range of uses and community benefits. The land to be purchased contains nearly two miles of stream bank on the South Fork Nooksack River and more than one mile of fish-bearing tributaries in steep inner gorges. In 2021, severe weather led to deaths of 2,500 Chinook salmon, debris flow, and a stream leaving its channel, all showing a pressing need to conserve the land and protect both wildlife and people in the Nooksack River valley. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1279)

#### **Whatcom Land Trust Expanding Stewart Mountain Community Forest**

**Grant Awarded: \$3,000,000**

The Whatcom Land Trust will use this grant to buy 1,615 acres to expand the Stewart Mountain Community Forest. The trust plans to expand the community forest to about 6,000 acres, which

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<sup>16</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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will be managed as a working forest that provides a range of community benefits. The forest will support sustainable local forestry jobs, enhance watershed health and resilience, expand recreational access and connectivity, and promote local control of forest resources. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Community Forests Program](#). (22-1301)

#### **Whatcom Snowmobile Association** **Grant Awarded: \$26,060**

#### **Preparing Snowmobile Trails in North Fork Nooksack Glacier Area**

The Whatcom Snowmobile Association will use this grant to prepare two U.S. Forest Service road systems for snowmobile use. The association will remove overgrown brush, rocks, and wood debris; install signs; and clean out water drainage structures in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest's Glacier Creek and Canyon Creek basins. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2389)

**More projects in Whatcom County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section at the end of this document.**

### Projects in Whitman County

#### **Colfax** **Grant Awarded: \$350,000**

#### **Upgrading Colfax City Pool**

The City of Colfax will use this grant to rehabilitate the Colfax City Pool in Schmuck Park, off State Route 195 on the Palouse River. The City will fix a 35,000 gallons per day leak, create an entry for people with disabilities, and renovate the locker room. These improvements will provide access to the facilities for people with disabilities and reduce operational and maintenance costs. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Youth Athletic Facilities](#) program. (22-1487)

#### **Palouse Land Trust** **Grant Awarded: \$249,278**

#### **Conserving Zakarison Farmland**

The Palouse Land Trust will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>17</sup> on about 607 acres of the Zakarison family farm on State Route 27, about five miles north of Pullman. With close

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<sup>17</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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proximity to Pullman and sweeping views of Kamiak Butte and Moscow Mountain, the land will become increasingly desirable for future home sites if not conserved. The farm produces wheat, hay, oats, poultry, and lamb and hosts a feed grain business that serves dozens of families. The Zakarison family experiments with growing a rotation of specialty grains, oil seed crops, and cover crops to increase the fertility of soil, and integrates livestock as part of the regenerative strategy. The land trust intends to buy all but one development right and eliminate future division of this agricultural land. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1435)

### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission      Grant Awarded: \$2,018,261**

#### **Improving the Palouse to Cascades Trail**

State Parks will use this grant to improve the Palouse to Cascades Trail between Malden and the historic site known as Kenova. This five-mile section of trail includes three trestles that burned in the Babb Road Fire in 2020. State Parks will restore and fireproof the bridge trestles, upgrade the trail surface, reinstate drainage, and develop a trailhead and access point at Kenova. This segment of trail will connect to a trailhead being built in Malden, and when combined, will provide about fourteen miles of contiguous trail through this dramatic eastern Washington landscape. Part of the Great American Rail Trail that stretches across the United States, the Palouse to Cascades Trail runs more than 285 miles across Washington. It is used for non-motorized activities such as bicycling, walking, bird watching, and horseback riding. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1480)

### **Projects in Yakima County**

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

#### **Maintaining Naches Campsites      Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to retain a crew of four employees for five months during two years to maintain forty-two recreation areas. The crew will repair deteriorated tables, bent fire ring grills, broken bulletin boards, and uprooted bollards, and preserve site markers, paint signs and bathrooms, and fix parking area delineators. An estimated 147,840 people recreated at the forty-two sites, participating in a range of activities including camping, hiking, picnicking, boating, wildlife viewing, and fishing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2237)

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#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources** **Restoring the Deer Creek Wetland**

**Grant Awarded: \$111,500**

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to restore the 122-acre Deer Creek wetland in the Klickitat Canyon Natural Resources Conservation Area, three miles northeast of Glenwood. The wetland is used by the greater sandhill crane, a state endangered species. One of only five sandhill crane nesting areas in Washington is near the project site. The site provides important foraging habitat during the nesting season. The Deer Creek wetland has been seriously damaged by ditching, roads, livestock grazing, and invasion by non-native species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1405)

#### **Washington State Conservation Commission** **Preserving Emerick Rangeland**

**Grant Awarded: \$1,460,550**

The State Conservation Commission will use this grant to buy a conservation easement<sup>18</sup> on 2,576 acres of rangeland in Yakima County. The land supports quality grazing opportunities for 150 cows. The easement will protect the early spring and summer pasture permanently, which is a critical piece of the overall farm business. In addition, the land provides critical habitat to many animals and plant communities, several of which are unique to this landscape and listed as endangered or threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. The landowners already have the fourth and fifth generations lined up to continue the operation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1545)

#### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest** **Caring for Naches Wilderness Trails**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to fund a trail crew to maintain 360 miles of wilderness and other trails for nonmotorized use in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Yakima County. The wilderness areas offer scenic hiking and horseback riding through old-growth forests and alpine meadows with stunning vistas of Mount Rainier and Mount Adams. The crew will remove fallen trees, clear brush, replace and repair water drainage structures and small bridges, and rebuild trail surfaces. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2284)

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<sup>18</sup>This is a voluntary agreement to sell the right to develop the land and permanently prevent future development and subdivision by placing a restriction on the property title.

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### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

#### **Maintaining Naches Motorized Trails**

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

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to fund a trail crew to maintain 75 percent of its more than 300 miles of motorcycle and four-by-four trails in Yakima and Kittitas Counties. The district also will complete larger maintenance projects on about one hundred miles of trail in two years. Crews will remove overgrown brush and fallen trees, repair drainage structures and trail surfaces, and maintain signs. The trails annually host 45,000 motorcycle, jeep, and off-road vehicle riders, who enjoy its variety of trails, diverse landscapes, sunny weather, and closeness to urban centers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2282)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

#### **Maintaining Naches Wilderness Trails**

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

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to pay for a crew and support volunteers to maintain about 360 miles of wilderness trails for two years. Work will include removing fallen trees, clearing overgrown brush, restoring trail surfaces, maintaining drainage structures, and building and maintaining signs and trail structures. About 40,000 visitors recreate annually in these wilderness areas, which offer scenic hiking and horseback riding through old-growth forests and alpine meadows with stunning vistas of Mount Rainier and Mount Adams. The system also includes eighty miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2283)

### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

#### **Providing Naches Wilderness Education Rangers**

**Grant Awarded: \$10,000**

The Naches Ranger District will use this grant to partially fund up to four rangers and volunteers seasonally to patrol high-use areas in the wilderness and backcountry of the district. The rangers will educate visitors and provide enforcement to protect the natural resources and visitor safety. The Naches Ranger District encompasses some of the most popular day hiking, backpacking, and horse packing destinations in Washington including Dewey, Twin Sisters, Warm, and Surprise Lakes, which have been popularized in numerous guidebooks. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2285)



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#### Washington Department of Natural Resources Grant Awarded: \$200,000

#### Maintaining Ahtanum Off-Road Vehicle Facilities and Trails

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to pay for two employees to maintain more than forty-two miles of off-road vehicle trails, twelve campgrounds, and four trailheads in the Ahtanum State Forest, thirty miles west of Yakima. The employees will clear overgrown brush, repair drainage structures, inspect and maintain bridges, remove litter, and maintain fire rings, signs, and campsites. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1878)

#### Yakima Grant Awarded: \$500,000

#### Building a Pool in Martin Luther King Jr. Park

The Yakima Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to build a swimming pool, a zero-depth entry wading area, possible water slides, restrooms, showers, and changing areas in Martin Luther King Jr. Park, in east Yakima. The park once contained a pool, but it was removed because of aging infrastructure. Yakima will contribute \$7.50 million in a state appropriation, cash, and donated cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1453)

**More projects in Yakima County are listed in the "Multiple Counties" section below.**

### Projects in Multiple Counties

**Chelan, Clark, Ferry, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kittitas, Okanogan, Pierce, San Juan, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties**

#### Washington Trails Association Grant Awarded: \$75,000

#### Providing Youth Crews to Maintain Urban Trails

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to provide 27,916 hours of youth (ages ten through twenty-five) labor to maintain eighty-eight miles of trails over two years. The association believes that hikers will protect the places they love to hike, which means the future of Washington's trails depends on encouraging the next generation to get outside and give back. The youth crews will tackle the state's most pressing trail maintenance issues on hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian trails. The crews will clear overgrown brush, repair trail surfaces, and improve drainage. The project will consist of daylong work parties on urban or front-

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country trails, which typically are near major cities like Bellingham, Seattle, Spokane, and Vancouver and weeklong, youth volunteer vacations in more remote backcountry areas across the state. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-1896)

**Chelan, Clark, Kittitas, Lewis, Mason, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Pierce, Skagit, Skamania, Stevens, Thurston, and Yakima Counties**

#### **Northwest Motorcycle Association Grant Awarded: \$107,480** **Supporting Volunteer Crews to Maintain Motorcycle Trails**

The Northwest Motorcycle Association Motorized will use this grant to support a volunteer crew to maintain multiuse, singletrack trails across Washington. The crews will restore trail surfaces and clear overgrown brush and fallen trees. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2421)

**Chelan, Cowlitz, Douglas, Ferry, Jefferson, King, Kittitas, Lewis, Mason, Okanogan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Stevens, and Yakima Counties**

#### **Northwest Motorcycle Association Grant Awarded: \$121,195** **Maintaining Trails for Motorized Uses Statewide**

The Northwest Motorcycle Association Motorized will use this grant to provide volunteers to maintain trails for motorized uses. The crews will remove overgrown brush and fallen trees and repair trail surfaces. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2422)

**Chelan, Cowlitz, King, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lewis, Mason, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Skagit, Stevens, Thurston, and Yakima Counties**

#### **Northwest Motorcycle Association Grant Awarded: \$150,000** **Completing Heavy Maintenance on Motorcycle Trails Statewide**

The Northwest Motorcycle Association will use this grant to support a crew to complete heavy maintenance projects for two years on forty miles of off-road motorcycling trails across the state. There are about 1,500 miles of singletrack trail on public lands, which also are used for cross-country running, mountain biking, hiking, and horseback riding. The trails have been used heavily for decades and the recent increase in outdoor recreationists has accelerated trail degradation. Estimates put 27 percent of the trails in a degraded condition. Visit RCO's online

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Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2420)

**Chelan, Ferry, King, Kittitas, Lincoln, Okanogan, Spokane, and Yakima Counties**

#### **Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance Maintaining Eastern Washington Trails**

**Grant Awarded: \$50,000**

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance will use this grant to provide nearly 9,000 hours of volunteer labor to maintain more than 200 miles of trails for nonmotorized uses and more than 120 miles for motorized uses at recreation sites throughout eastern Washington important to mountain bikers, hikers, equestrians, motorcycles, and others. The volunteers will respond to emergency repairs needed because of fires and storms. The crews also help prepare trails for early season openings and catch up on maintenance backlogs. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2195)

**Chelan, Grant, and Kittitas Counties**

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Maintaining Recreation Facilities in Eastern Washington**

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

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. Staff will maintain 20 toilets, 187 campsites, 4 day-use areas and trailheads, and dispersed recreation areas in three, department-owned blocks of land. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1880)

**Chelan, Grays Harbor, Kittitas, Lewis, Mason, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Pierce, Skagit, Skamania, and Stevens Counties**

#### **Northwest Motorcycle Association Supporting a Heavy Maintenance Crew**

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

The Northwest Motorcycle Association will use this grant to support a crew to complete heavy maintenance projects for two years on forty miles of off-road motorcycling trails across the state. There are about 1,500 miles of single-track trail on public lands, which also are used for cross-country running, mountain biking, hiking, and horseback riding. The trails have been used heavily for decades and the recent increase in outdoor recreationists, natural forces, and logging

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has accelerated trail degradation and obliterated the water control features. Estimates put 27 percent of the trails in a degraded condition. The crew will resolve water control issues and restore trail surface. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2027)

#### **Chelan, Lewis, Pend Oreille, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties**

##### **Back Country Horsemen of Washington Maintaining Endangered Trails**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will use this grant to clear and maintain 355 miles of trails on public lands across the state. Crews will remove downed trees, clear overgrown brush, and repair trail surfaces and drainage structures. Addressing trail hazards will be the highest priority to ensure safe access for all users. The horsemen volunteers will provide pack support to partner groups. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-1892)

##### **Back Country Horsemen of Washington Reopening At-Risk Trails Statewide**

**Grant Awarded: \$63,750**

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will use this grant to repair trails in five national forest severely damaged by fires, flooding, tree disease, and windstorms. The group will organize at least six regional work parties each year to clear trails blocked with logs and debris. Back Country Horsemen use stock to pack tools and supplies far into the backcountry to maintain trails, which, once blocked, typically remain blocked for many years and face permanent closure. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-1982)

#### **Chelan and Okanogan Counties**

##### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

##### **Providing Patrols for the Central Zone Backcountry**

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

The Entiat Ranger District will use this grant to pay for two full-time seasonal rangers and support four AmeriCorps volunteer rangers to patrol about 300 miles of multiuse trails, including 7 campgrounds and 29 trailheads. The rangers will patrol in the Entiat, Wenatchee River, Chelan, and Methow Valley Ranger Districts in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan and Okanogan Counties. The rangers will patrol on weekends and high-use times to teach visitors how to recreate responsibly and have good riding behavior on multiuse trails.

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Many of the trails are in highly erosive pumice soil or fragile meadows, and the rangers will teach off-road vehicle riders, horse rides, mountain bikers, and hikers how best to use the trails. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2228)

#### **Clallam, Ferry, Okanogan, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties**

##### **Pacific Northwest Trail Association**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

##### **Caring for the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail**

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association will use this grant to hire trail crews to maintain more than one hundred miles of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail and its feeder trails. The crews will perform annual and deferred maintenance on trails for hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking. The trail traverses five national forests, two national parks, and numerous federal, state, and local management areas from the Salmo Priest Wilderness on the Washington-Idaho border to the Pacific Coast on the Olympic Peninsula. The association's crews are especially adept at servicing hard-to-reach places like the Pasayten Wilderness and north Cascade Mountains. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2164)

#### **Clallam, Jefferson, and Mason Counties**

##### **Back Country Horsemen of Washington**

**Grant Awarded: \$62,282**

##### **Restoring and Maintaining Olympic Peninsula Trails**

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will use this grant to provide volunteer labor to rehabilitate about 550 miles of trail in the Olympic Peninsula. This region gets more than 300 inches of rain annually and vegetation on the Peninsula is extremely fast growing, which can create unsafe trails, (such as those with dangerous tread, unwanted erosion, failing foot logs, damaged drainage structures, missing signs, unclear corridors, and downed trees). Crews will clear fallen trees and brush, improve stream crossings, fix trail surfaces, and rebuild failing drainage structures. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-1822)

#### **Clark, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, and Snohomish Counties**

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#### **Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance Maintaining Western Washington Trails**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance will use this grant to provide 15,556 hours of volunteer labor to maintain more than 300 miles of trails for non-motorized uses and more than 50 miles for motorized uses at recreation sites throughout western Washington important to mountain bikers but that also serve hikers, equestrians, and motorized uses. The volunteers will respond to emergency repairs needed because of fires and storms, help prepare trails for early season openings, and help ready more than twenty miles of new trails set to open this year. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2194)

#### **Washington Trails Association Maintaining Backcountry Trails Statewide**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to provide 4,500 volunteers performing more than 28,000 hours of maintenance on 315 miles of backcountry trails. Through multi day work parties, the crews will remove overgrown brush and downed trees, repair trail surfaces, build retaining walls, and reroute small sections of trail. Two million hikers and backpackers use backcountry trails in Washington annually, making backcountry trails an essential part of the state's trail system. However, these trails do not receive enough maintenance to keep up with visitor demand and the damage caused by extreme winters and fires. Without immediate maintenance, many of these trails are at risk of being lost. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-1898)

#### **Cowlitz and Skamania Counties**

#### **Mount Saint Helens Institute Creating Educational Videos Promoting Responsible Recreation**

**Grant Awarded: \$7,500**

The Mount St. Helens Institute will use this grant to train its volunteer Mountain Stewards to engage trail users on being prepared, responding to medical and other incidents, and caring for the environment. In addition, the institute's volunteers will create short videos about environmental stewardship, equity in the outdoors, the cultural and research value of the mountain, and resource protection. The goal is to increase visitor awareness and decrease damage to infrastructure and cultural areas. Mount St. Helens is an iconic Washington landscape, part of the state's rich natural and cultural heritage, and a laboratory for understanding geological and ecological processes following the volcano's eruption in 1980.

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Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2309)

#### **Cowlitz and Thurston Counties**

#### **Washington Department of Natural Resources Grant Awarded: \$148,000** **Maintaining Capitol and Yacolt Burn State Forests**

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, respectively, as well as other recreation facilities in the department's Pacific Cascade Region. Crews will clean restrooms, repair facilities, pump vault toilets, remove litter, and maintain the McLane Creek interpretive nature trails. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more [information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-1946)

#### **Grays Harbor, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Pierce, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, and Whatcom Counties**

#### **Washington Trails Association Grant Awarded: \$75,000** **Maintaining Front Country Trails**

The Washington Trails Association will use this grant to provide 4,500 volunteers to perform nearly 39,000 hours of maintenance on 152 miles of backpacking, hiking, and equestrian trails, most of which are near the major urban areas of Puget Sound, Vancouver, and Spokane. Crews will remove overgrown brush and downed trees and repair trail surfaces and drainage structures. These front country trails are suffering from overuse, which has created significant trail maintenance backlogs on Washington's most popular trails. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-1897)

#### **Grays Harbor, King, Kittitas, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, and Thurston Counties**

#### **Pacific Northwest Four Wheel Drive Association Grant Awarded: \$7,380** **Providing Spill Kits to Off-Road Vehicle Enthusiasts**

The Pacific Northwest Four Wheel Drive Association will use this grant to provide spill kits for trail visitors to use to remove soil contaminated by oil and antifreeze. The kits will be a tool to educate visitors about how to recreate responsibly and protect the environment when driving



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off-highway vehicles. The kits will be handed out at the association's year-round events and provide trail users with a way to dispose of waste and protect wildlife from harmful fluids. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2288)

#### **King and Kittitas Counties**

##### **Mountains to Sound Greenway**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

##### **Maintaining the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trails**

The Greenway Trust will use this grant to maintain eighty miles of hiking, biking, and equestrian trails for two years in the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area. The 1.5 million-acre greenway stretches from Puget Sound across the Cascade Mountains to central Washington and includes 1,000 miles of some of the most popular trails in the state. Crews will clear downed trees and overgrown brush, replace signs, and repair trail surfaces and drainage structures 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. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2262)

#### **Kittitas, Mason, Pend Oreille, Pierce, Skamania, and Yakima Counties**

##### **Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance Providing a Heavy Maintenance Crew**

**Grant Awarded: \$196,508**

The Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance will use this grant to provide heavy maintenance on a portion of more than 223 miles of multiuse, two-track trails open to off-highway vehicles on U.S. Forest Service and Washington Department of Natural Resources' land. These trails have not been maintained due to inadequate funding. The alliance crews will restore trail surfaces and drainage structures, remove fallen trees, and clear overgrown brush. The work will enhance the trail user experience and reduce erosion in sensitive areas and streams. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2200)

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#### **Kittitas, Mason, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, and Thurston Counties**

##### **Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance Supporting Volunteer Trail Maintenance Efforts**

**Grant Awarded: \$66,575**

The Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance will use this grant to support volunteer crews to maintain two-track trails on U.S. Forest Service and Washington Department of Natural Resources' lands. The crews will clear overgrown brush, haul out garbage, build bridges, haul rock, and teach environmental stewardship. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the [Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities](#) grant program. (22-2201)

#### **Lewis and Pierce Counties**

##### **Mount Tahoma Trails Association Grooming and Maintaining Ashford Area Trails**

**Grant Awarded: \$15,000**

The Mount Tahoma Trails Association will use this grant to maintain twenty-nine miles of backcountry trails surrounding Ashford. The trails are used mostly for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in winter and hiking and mountain biking in summer. The area has four backcountry huts providing overnight accommodations for skiers, snowshoers, and hikers. Work will include grooming, removing downed trees, and repairing trail signs. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2337)

#### **Skagit, Okanogan, and Whatcom Counties**

##### **U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Maintaining Trails in the Methow Valley**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 166 miles of summer trails in Okanogan, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties. Crews will remove downed trees and repair trail surfaces and drainage structures. The work will focus on portions of the Lake Chelan Sawtooth and Pasayten Wilderness areas and the North Cascades Scenic Highway corridor. The trail system is a significant draw for recreationists and benefits the rural communities' businesses, supporting up to 30 percent of the jobs in one county. The trail system is used by hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). This grant is from the federal [Recreational Trails Program](#). (22-2114)

# Recreation and Conservation Grants Awarded 2023-2025



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## Statewide

### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission    Grant Awarded: \$1,500,000** **Buying Land in or Next to State Parks**

State Parks will use this grant to buy high-priority land in or next to state parks. This funding allows State Parks to buy smaller, lower-cost land when opportunities arise. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs](#) of this project. This grant is from the [Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program](#). (22-1438)